

Tuhoe roll out their Urewera welcome

AN enthusiastic crowd of locals braved inclement weather to celebrate the unveiling of three new Welcome to Te Urewera signs.

Officiating at the ceremony was Waikaremoana Tribal Authority chairman Lance Winitana-Rurehe.

He was assisted by Tuhoe youngster 10-year-old Whakamoe Lackner-Wagner, and the chief executive of Te Uru Taumatua, Kirsti Luke.

In addition, the Hopuruahine Bridge was re-opened at Lake Waikaremoana after a cable failure closed it last October.

Three tourists fell eight metres when a cable gave way, causing the 65-metre bridge to flip to one side. The tourists were unharmed. Now the Hopuruahine Bridge is reinstated and ready for manuhiri (visitors) as they head off on their Waikaremoana adventures.

❑ Even the driving rain couldn't dampen the spirits of those who gathered at Onepoto for the unveiling of the new welcome sign to Te Urewera — one of three planned for the Lake Waikaremoana surrounds.

