

# Waka on Avon



## LEARN TO WAKA

*Education Package Schools*

## RESOURCE PACK





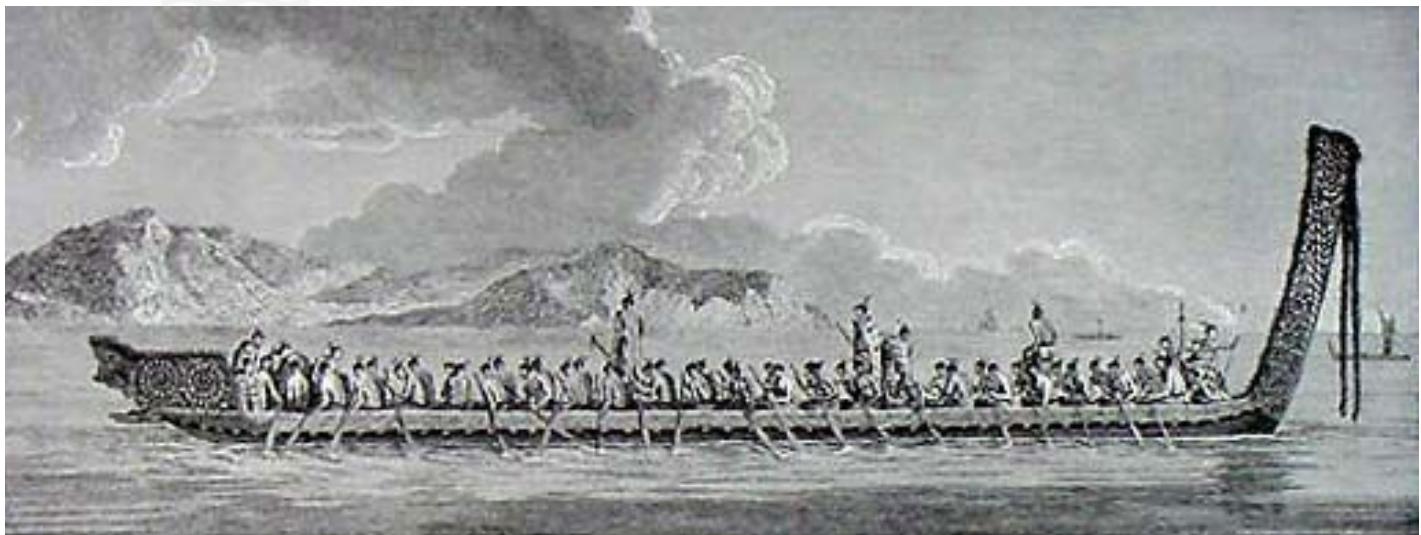
## **WAKA TYPES**

Waka were of various sizes and designs, depending on use and waters travelled in. They were powered by both sail and paddle; river waka would also be poled. The forests of Aotearoa New Zealand produced a wide range of trees suitable for making waka. Harakeke – New Zealand flax, which grew almost everywhere, provided fibre for sails and cordage. Waka hourua, with decks fitted across them, were used for long-distance voyaging; once Māori had established themselves in Aotearoa, there was not the same need to carry people and their goods for weeks and double-hulled waka became rarer.



### **Waka taua (war canoe)**

These were the biggest waka between 9-30 metres long and could hold 100 people. They were decorated with intricate carvings on the bow (front) and stern (back) and used by warriors to go to battle. Hulls (body of the waka often consisted of three sections held together by a haumi (mortise and tenon joint) and lashed in place.





## **Waka tētē (or waka pakoko)**

Shorter and planer than the waka taua, these waka were once very common and were used to carry goods, produce and people along many of the coastal and inland waterways. The bow piece and stern post were less intricately carved and the bow piece was usually a face with a protruding tongue.



## **Waka tīwai (or waka kōpapa)**

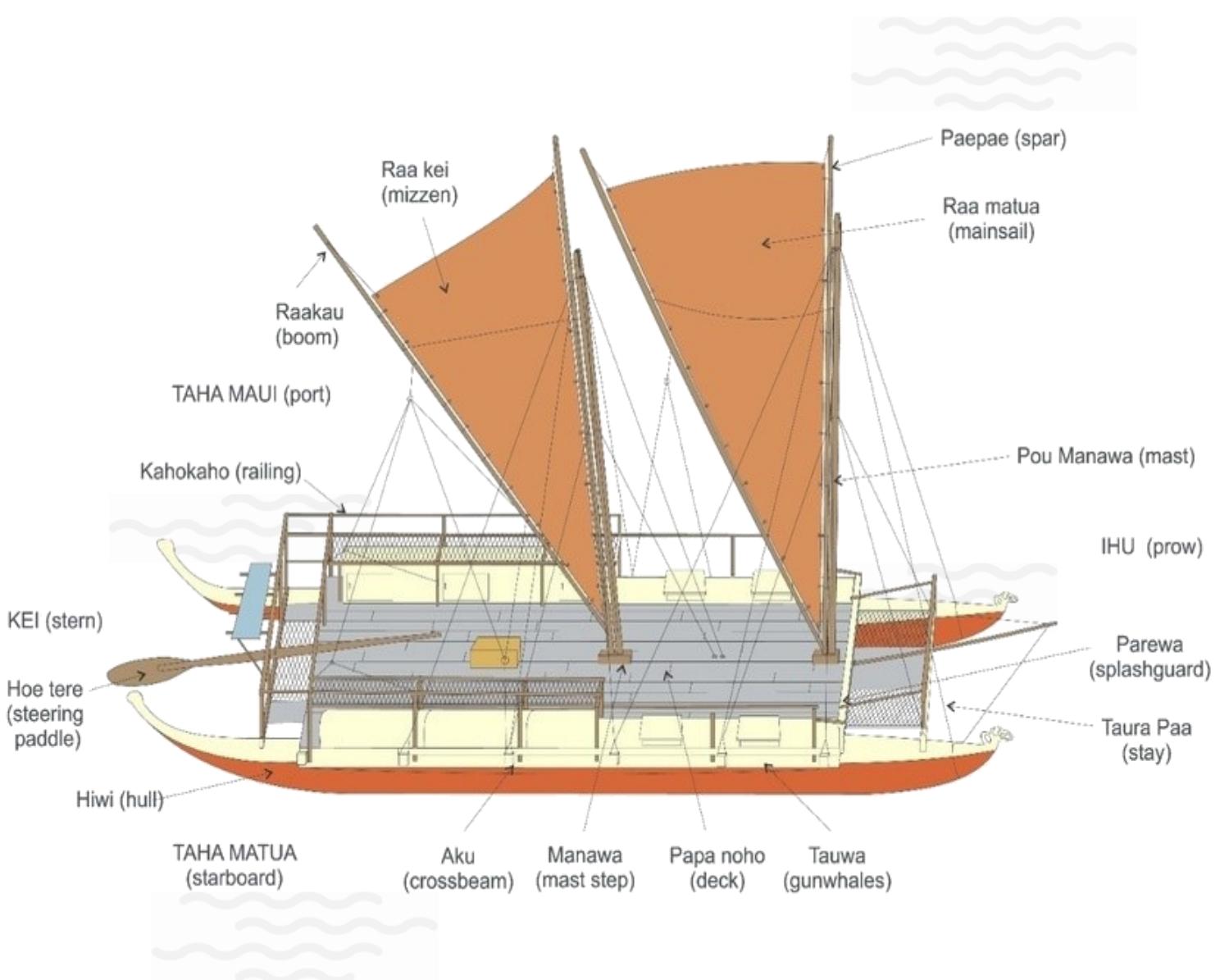
These waka were shorter than the waka taua and waka tētē. They were the most common and were formed from a hollowed-out log, with no gunwales, carvings, bow or stern pieces. They were used for moving small groups of people and their belongings up and down rivers, and across harbours.

This type of waka were the waka that the Deans and early Ngai Tuahuriri would have used to move supplies up and down the river.



## Waka hourua

These waka are double hulled with one or two sails and used for travelling great distances. Polynesian people used these waka between 3,000 and 4,000 years ago to populate the Pacific. The main structure consists of the two hulls and crossbeams lashed together. Not one nail or bolt was used in the construction. Lashing the waka with fibres meant that, in heavy seas, the waka could flex with the waves, absorbing the pressure.



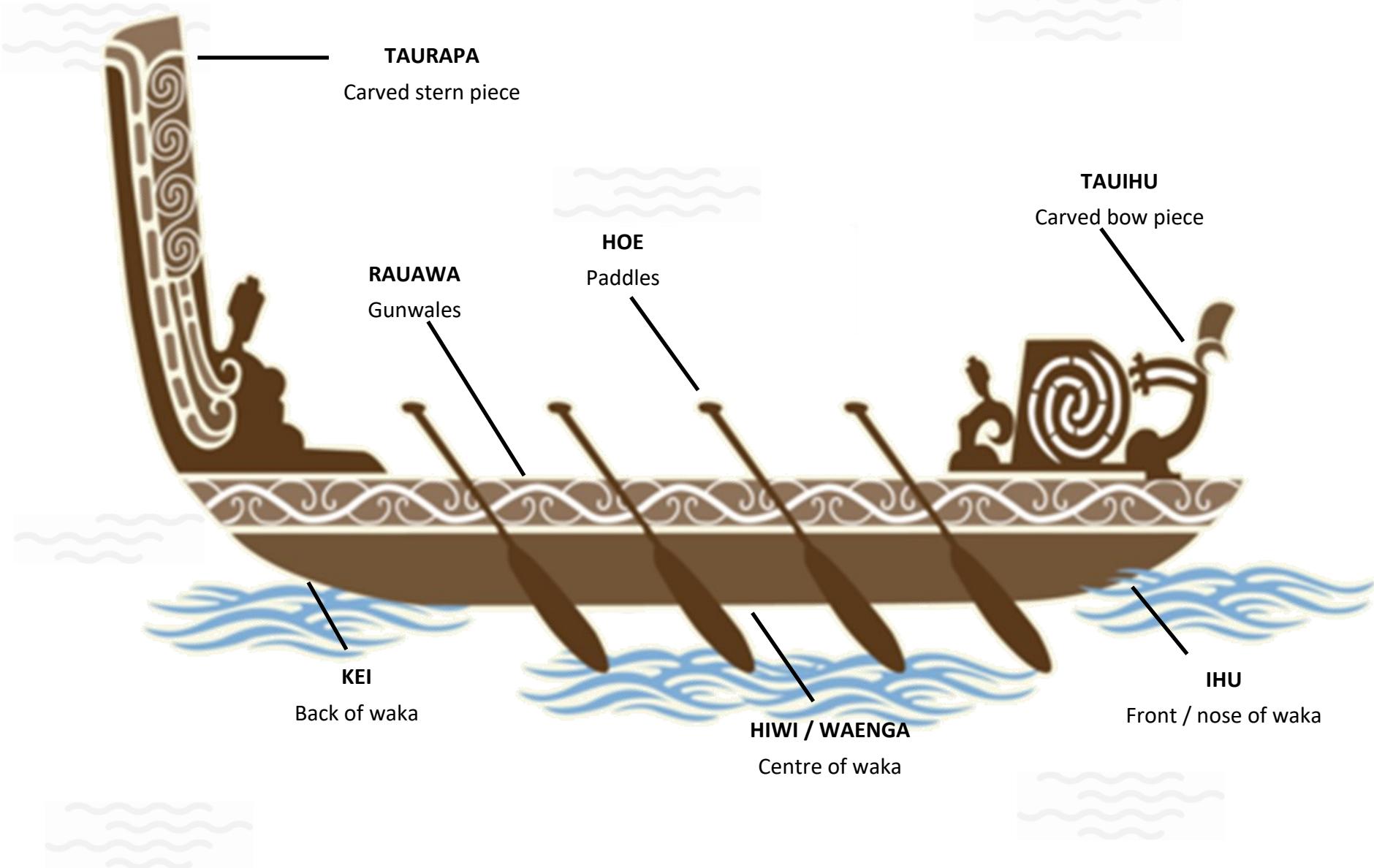
## Te Waipounamu mōkihi

One type of raft was more specific to the South Island tribes. Made of raupō (bulrush) and harakeke (flax), the mōkihi, or mōkī, had two forms. The first was a bundle of dry bulrushes or flax flower stalks on which a person would sit, paddling with his hands or a piece of wood. The second was bigger and more elaborate – several bundles were lashed together to resemble a boat.

These rafts were used to transport people and goods along the South Island's inland waterways. They did not last as long as canoes of tōtara or kauri, but the materials were usually handy to waterways, the rafts were quick to make, and they made an excellent temporary means of transportation.



## **WAKA PARTS**



## **HOE / PADDLE PARTS**



**KAKAU**  
Handle of the hoe

**TINANA**  
Body of the hoe

**RAPA**  
Blade of the hoe

**KOINGA**  
Tip of the hoe



## **HOE / PADDLE COMMANDS**

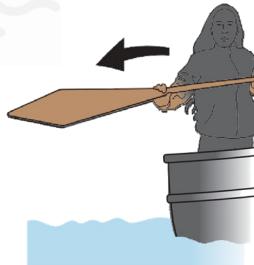
**Hoe ki Rungā**  
Hoe Up



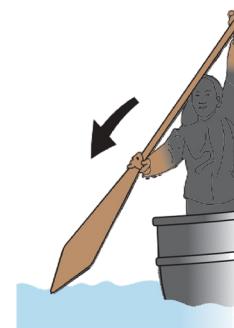
**Hoe ki Raro**  
Hoe Down



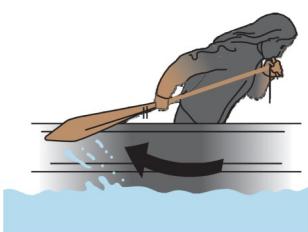
**Hoe Panene**  
Rapa Forward



**Hoe Kiarite**  
Rapa Down



**Oha Salute 1**



**Oha Salute 2**



**Oha Salute 3**



## GLOSSARY

• Kia Ora	Greeting / Hello ( <i>informal</i> )	• Ngāi Tahu	Main South Island Iwi
• Pōwhiri	Welcome / Greeting Ceremony	• Ngāi Tūāhuriri	Resident Hapū
• Waka	Canoe	• Hapū	A subtribe
• Ōtakaro	Avon *	• Manawhenua	Resident Hapū
• Awa	River	• Ōtautahi	Christchurch *
• Hoe	Paddle	• Kai Hoe	Paddlers
• Kaihautū	Instructor	• Waiata	Song / Chant
• Puari	Victoria Square *	• Manuhiri	Visitors / Teams / Schools / Public
• Aroha	Love / compassion	• Mā te Wā	See you again

\*not a translation