

## Timaru Herald – 31 July 1919

### AROWHENUA

#### MAORI SOLDIERS; HONOURED

On Tuesday evening a welcome was tendered to Private W. H. Taipana, Maori Pioneer Battalion, and Private Tapui Reihana, 6th Australian Light Horse by the Maoris of the Arowhenua Pa, the function taking place in the Maori Hall, Arowhenua. There was a good representative attendance, the hall being comfortably filled. Excellent music was provided by Misses T. Gray and V. Hopkinson, extras kindly, played by Mrs Todd and Master Torepe and Mr J. Solomon carried out the duties of M.C.

Just before supper a halt was made for the presentation of gold medals to the guests. Mr James Paiki called on the Mayor of Temuka, to make the presentations.

Mr Gunnion said it was always a pleasure to him to visit the pa.. Private Reihana left Temuka about eight years ago, and joined the Australian Light Horse at the beginning of the war. Private Taipana went with the 21st Reinforcements, and both the lads had done their duty well. On behalf of their Maori friends, he had very much pleasure in presenting them with gold medals, and hoped they would live long to wear them. Amidst applause the medals were pinned on the soldiers' coats by Miss Priscilla Pyke and Miss Kaihaut Taipana, after which "For They are Jolly Good Follows" was sung.

Private Taipana, for his comrade and himself, said that he regarded the gift not merely as a personal honour, but it included those who had gone and done their duty, but would not return.

A nice supper was then provided by the ladies, and dancing was resumed and continued for several hours. The promoters, Messrs H. Torepe, H.T. Paiki and H. Kemara. are to be congratulated on the success of the evening.