



- Title:** “Veils, Mist & Monochromes”
- Short Description:** Kanuka trees silhouetted in the mist at Pūrākaunui
- Photographer:** Tim Heath
- Where and when:** Pūrākaunui, January, 2018
- Sustainability:** Māori called the coastline by Purākaunui where we live, Te Pari Rehu. It means misty cliffs, like in this photograph.

Place names are a big deal. In 2010 I went to a Masterclass for architects in Sydney. The attendees came from all over the world. We were asked to create designs in response to a beautiful river site just out of Sydney. What struck me was that none of the maps had aboriginal place names. In NZ, we are increasingly fortunate to have place names that are descriptors of place and typically embrace a physical presence or cultural memory. This is a basis for an oral history.

Place names inform us and help us to read landscapes. Charlie Challenger, was an inspiring teacher at Lincoln University where I took a landscape architecture degree. He would take a bus load of students to the Canterbury Plains, pitch us out, and ask us to read the landscape. He then pointed out subtle variations of vegetation colour and type, hinting at water availability and ground contour. The way a farmer can read crops and stock. There were other things – the tilt of fence posts maybe suggesting ground movement etc. Charlie was a fantastic Reader of landscape, literally and also his

academic title. All of these people have an admirable understanding of biophysical and layered systems.

Once people have lived in one place for long enough, they start to tell their stories and history through place names. Often those names reflect social or ecological connections, environmental history, even ecological warnings – Te Pari Rehu is forecasting weather and grey. The name Pūrākaunui could refer to an uncomfortable past. It may refer to a massacre when northern Māori raided the nearby Mapoutahi Pā. Residents were said to have been thrown over the cliffs at the edge of the fortified site. The bodies were ‘stacked up on the beach like sticks.’

Photographer’s notes: iPhone 6+

Exposure: 1/1600s, f/2.2, 4.15 mm, ISO 32

Digital specs: 1,280 x 1,280 (6MP)

Key words: Kanuka, mist, place names, Te Pari Rehu, Pūrākaunui, landscape connectivity, Tim Heath, Aotearoa, New Zealand, Ecosystems Photography, Sustainability.

Price: \$100 donation. Visit www.ecosystemsphotography/sales for details & to order, or to get a quote if you want a high-quality print.

Donation: The price is made up entirely by a \$100 donation to a sustainability organisation or project of your choice, or otherwise for the *Orokonui Ecosanctuary* <https://orokonui.nz/>

We recommend that the donation goes to the *Orokonui Ecosanctuary* because they are working hard to restore the bird, reptile and insect life at the reserve near to Purakaunui where this photograph was taken. Scores of volunteers contribute and the sanctuary is a hub for education as well as eco-tourism. Predator control at Orokonui will trigger spillover of the animals into Pūrākaunui to reinstate some of the original ecosystem services that used to sustain the ecological communities at Pūrākaunui.

Image Ref: TH#013 (please use this reference in all orders and correspondence).

Tim Heath
9 December 2021