

## Waiata aroha

- ① Waiata aroha is a song of love often written for a person. At times, the lyrics can often categorise the waiata as a waiata tangi or song of lament.
- ② *E Te Hokowhitu a Tū* was written by Tuini Ngāwai (Te Whānau a Ruataupare, Tokomaru Bay) to recruit and encourage the 28<sup>th</sup> New Zealand (Māori) Battalion at the time of WWII.
- ③ To the tune of the English song *In The Mood*, the waiata was first performed at the memorial hui for Moana-nui-a-Kiwa Ngārimu, Ruatōrea, 1943. A popular waiata that continues to be sung today, it can be categorised as a waiata whakangahau. The melody is easily recognisable and one that incites a sense of entertainment when it is performed.

There is a sense of aroha in the waiata where Ngāwai writes 'E te Hokowhitu a Tū kia kaha rā, kāti rā te hingahinga ki raro rā' – *Oh brave band of Tū be strong, do not let yourselves be struck down* – and where she writes 'Ngā marae e tū noa nei, ngā maunga e tū noa nei, auē rā e tama mā, te mamae te pouri nui, e patu nei i ahau inā, kia kotahi rā' – *Lonely stands our marae, lonely stands our mountains, ah, for you, our sons, the pain and deep sadness, that*

- ② *beats deep within me, stand together as one.*