

# The Edwards Family – Taa and Tony

**Ethnicity :** Maori/Cook Island Maori

**Children:** Jade (11), Zane (9)

**Other family members:** Fraser and Rita (24)

**Interview Date:** Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009

**Course Attended:** E-Learning Porirua CiH Course 27 (February – April 2008)

**Computer Access Point:** Porirua RSA

Taa Edwards found out about Computers in Homes through her friends. Taa says she has always wanted to buy a computer and learn how to use it but could never afford to do a course or buy a computer. She couldn't believe her ears when her friends told her that she may be eligible to enrol on a course offering training, technical support and a computer to use at home for a very low fee.



Taa Edwards has worked as a retailer in a department store for over ten years. Since attending Computers in Homes Taa is inspired to develop her career and move on from the retail as the job she works in pays minimum wage. The biggest challenge for Taa was learning how to use the computer. "I had never ever used a computer before in my life, now I am quite confident. On the first day of the course Taa was nervous, she did not know anybody there but she was not going to let that stop her learn about the computer. Taa says the course she attended was very helpful for somebody who did not know anything about computers. She enjoyed it so much that she has decided to do more courses this year.

**"I think computers are the way to go, they are the future"**

Taa says "The day I bought the computer home, the kids were jumping up and down. Three weeks later, my son Fraser was jumping up even higher. One night he decided to go the internet, he went to [www.airnz.co.nz](http://www.airnz.co.nz) and

found himself a job just like that. I could not believe it."

Taa says she is thankful that she was given the opportunity to learn and buy a computer through Computers in Homes. She says she would never have been able to afford a computer otherwise.

**"The course was very helpful for somebody who didn't know anything about computers"**

Taa likes to email family and friends, listen to music, play card games; she says the computer helps her mind wind down from work.

Taa is much more appreciative of the opportunities her children now have. She says her children are more enthusiastic about doing homework. They produce some really good looking projects. Taa also mentions that in her family they all help each other on the computer. "There are lots of things I do not know how to do, but my children help me, in return, I help my children to locate information they might need to complete homework. It is a win-win situation"

