

**Report to the 2010 AGM** for the period 22 September 2009 to 4 November 2010

*Network Waitangi Otautahi's particular emphasis is on encouraging those who do not have Maori ancestry to understand the Treaty of Waitangi. We promote Strong Sustainability and are committed to taking a Community Development approach, so our workshops and other activities are designed to start where people are at and are non-confrontational.*

*We are a voluntary group, an educational incorporated society with charitable status. We are part of a wider national network of groups and individuals who are working towards a Treaty-based Aotearoa New Zealand.*

*NWO accepts koha in recognition of our work on the basis of what individuals and groups can afford, while taking into account the need to ensure that any amounts paid to us will not disadvantage mana whenua planning and will not put people off engaging in the workshops and other activities.*

*Apart from relevant legislation, NWO is independent of government, business interests and political parties.*

*The Organising Group has five members and meets approximately fortnightly for two hours.*

*The membership of NWO is 58 and members continue to receive email news. Our website is <[www.nwo.org.nz](http://www.nwo.org.nz)>.*

We continue to print and distribute descriptive posters of the Declaration of Independence and the Treaty of Waitangi. To date .... of the Declaration posters and .... of the Treaty posters have been distributed. We invite comment on the wording of the commentary on the Treaty poster.

A major aspect of this last year's work has been follow-up enquiries from readers of the Network Waitangi Handbooks *The Treaty of Waitangi Questions and Answers*. NWO has now printed and distributed (at \$5 each) 4700 and we have 300 on hand. Local and nationwide links maintained and established through this work have been valuable. The feedback from the publication, which is available to download free from our website, has been overwhelmingly positive. For some it has provided an introduction to the Treaty. Others, who have done previous work on the Treaty, report that the Handbook has deepened their understanding of its meaning.

This follow-up work led us to have had a banner made which includes our website and promotes our motto *Understanding the Treaty*. It has also resulted in two new written resources - our *Basic Summary* and a working paper *Understanding the Treaty with those who are not of Maori descent*. Both of these are available on our website and comment is welcome. We emphasise that all 5 aspects of the Treaty:

**Preamble:** *Peace with justice for all peoples*

**Article 1:** *Practising KAWANATANGA for all peoples*

**Article 2:** *Promoting RANGATIRATANGA for tangata whenua*

**Article 3:** *Maori participation in ways determined by Maori in relation to tikanga*

**Article 4:** *Everybody's belief systems upheld*

need to be taken together as a whole and understood as a follow-on to the 1835 Declaration. Another emphasis has been to illuminate the way

- *Equal/equitable development*
- *Culture, cultural differences, cultural safety and intercultural development*
- *Biculturalism*
- *Understanding history and colonisation*
- *Treaty settlements*
- *Principles of the Treaty e.g. Partnership, Protection and Participation*
- *The English Version of The Treaty (which was not present on 6 February 1840).*

are part of understanding but **are not substitutes for Treaty-based development.**

Moana Jackson's address to our last year's AGM has been a highlight for this ensuing year and his generosity has continued to resource us.

We continue to participate in the national Treaty People Network and attended *The Critical Whiteness Weekend* in Wellington in May 2010. At that Weekend NWO Organising Group member Helen Gibson made a presentation (based on her doctoral thesis) about silences as a significant discourse in her interviews with the Pakeha women participants, and considered these silences and their implications for understanding Pakeha racialisation. Network Waitangi Whangarei organised our attendance from 10-14 October 2010 at the Waitangi Tribunal Hearing of the Nga Puhi claim which was held at at Whitiara marae at Te Tii, Mangonui. Moana Jackson's contextualisation of the "erection of the imperium", and Patu Hohepa's dissertation on linguistics were particular highlights. Sharing of new thinking through these national Treaty networks develops our collective wisdom and helps sustain us for the year to come.

We are also inspired by attendance at conferences in related areas - for example the *Ethical Foundations of Public Policy* in Wellington, December 2009, *From Militarism and Consumerism to Building Just and Peaceful Communities* in Wanaka, January 2010, the Environmental Defence Society's *Effective Resource Management Participation* in Christchurch, February and the ECO conference *Environment, Conservation and Economy: Foundations for the Future* at Living Springs, June.

Other national networks are also vital in both providing the opportunity for us to share our resources and to contextualise our education - the Association of NGOs continues to provide useful newsletters from their monthly Round Tables and their Research Fora, *ComVoices* daily and the Community Sector Taskforce (CSTF) weekly news *Te Harakeke*, have been useful. We have continued to work with the CSTF in their commitment to develop a Treaty Relationships Framework. The NZ Council of Christian Social Services *Policy Watch*, the Adult and Community Education (ACE) Aotearoa Association who organised the national ACE conference and provide a regular newsletter, as well as the Australia NZ Third Sector Association and the *Tangata Whenua, Community and Voluntary Sector Research Centre* all provide useful background for groups such as ours who do not operate in Wellington or Auckland. This information is vital for our participation in national

events such as the Community/Government Forum and the following work on the Community/Government Relationship Agreement, which is still proceeding.

This year has involved developing a closer relationship with those in the Human Rights Commission working on the Treaty. We had a display at the national HRC Diversity Forum held in Christchurch in August and have followed up with the HRC work on Te Mana i Waitangi and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We were pleased to note the current Government affirmation for the UN Declaration but believe that there is much work still to be done on this. Peace Movement Aotearoa has provided excellent background material for us on this.

We have continued to keep abreast of legislative developments. In April we made a presentation to the panel the consulting on "Reviewing of the Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004" and are pleased legislation to repeal the Act and to universally recognise mana tuku iho has been drafted. We have deep concerns about other aspects of the draft legislation in terms of consistency with Treaty-based development. We also submitted on the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Bill that the legal requirement for community consultation must be retained.

While our website has been very useful, face to face educational opportunities are still the most valuable. We really value having our office in *Te Whakaruruhau ki Otautahi Christchurch Community House*. Being able to office-share until recently with MensTrust and now with Te Runaka ki Otautahi o Kai Tahu provides further networking opportunities and we would like to place on record our thanks to the House Manager, Mike Asmussen, and his staff for their willingness to support our work. We continue to contribute to the Treaty subcommittee of the Tenants Trust and express our thanks to Ken Clearwater for his leadership of that work. Most of our face to face work is to support individuals and groups to locate resources to assist them in their journey of understanding the implications of the Treaty. We take this opportunity to acknowledge the closure of the NZ Film Archive and that they gave us their Treaty DVDs.

We have continued to undertake introductory workshops with groups as diverse as Stepping Stone Trust, Anglican Care, the final year of Natural Resources Engineering at Canterbury University, and Vision College, and led shorter sessions with the Social Sciences Teachers national conference, Pattle, Delamore and Partners, Canterbury branch of the United Nations Association, Metlife Care, Repromed, Supergrans, NZ Federation of Multicultural Councils, Christchurch Multicultural Council, University Of Kansas (USA) students visiting the University of Canterbury, Literacy Aotearoa, OSCAR, Community House Tenants Trust, University of Canterbury Centre for Teaching and Learning and Bishopdale CAB. Involvement in Third Age networks, including University of the Third Age has revealed the lack of understanding of Te Tiriti amongst many older citizens.

Other groups that we have worked with in the past year which are not mentioned elsewhere in this report include Rangi Ruru Early Childhood, Rudolf Steiner School, Pacific Youth Leadership and Training Group, Christchurch Adult and Community Education (ACE) Network, Barnados, Canterbury WEA Council, the Christchurch International Association for Public Participation and recently Christchurch

Resettlement Services. We have also supported Darryl Stone in his preparation for his role in the Polytechnic Students Association and had a useful meeting with Angus Macfarlane at Canterbury University who found the Handbooks useful. The Healthy Christchurch network also provides valuable networking opportunities. We support the Christchurch Council of Social Service and in particular the work of Sharon Torstonson and Helen Gatonyi in creating opportunities for collaboration - the Musical Chairs seminars <[www.neweconomics.org.nz](http://www.neweconomics.org.nz)> have been seminal in enabling exploration of learning opportunities for the future.

NWO continues to be represented at bimonthly meetings of Te Runaka ki Otautahi o Kai Tahu, which was established in 1936. Our relationship with the Runaka began in 1984 and the meetings continue to resource and inspire us. The recent unexpected formal recognition of our work by the Runaka is most appreciated. We continue to support Hui Whakamana Tiriti, which was set up by this Runaka. These meetings provide an opportunity for sharing information and for conversation on key Treaty education matters.

Mark Solomon, Kaiwhakahaere of Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu (TRONT) is kept informed of our work and recently his nominee to the Refugee and New Migrant Forum, Sally Pitama, asked us to be involved in the Department of Labour Resettlement Services Tangata Tiriti workshop. Relationships with Sacha McMeeking, TRONT General Manager Strategy and Influence have been maintained. Te Karaka and Te Panui Runaka have also been much appreciated in keeping us informed of their mahi. Maree Willetts in the Environment section of TRONT was most helpful in preparation for our meeting with Donald Couch, Environment Commissioner for Environment Canterbury (ECAN) which followed our submission on the use of our Treaty handbooks with ECAN. We have also kept in touch with both Angelia Ria and Koa Mantell in He Oranga Pounamu.

Our relationship with Andrea Lobb, General Manager of Mahaanui Kurataiao (MKT) Ltd - a company owned by the six papatipu Runaka in and around Christchurch - has continued. We led a workshop for the people involved with MKT in the Christchurch City Council heritage plan for Takapuneke reserve. This connection with MKT has, along with our involvement in the executive of Sustainable Otautahi Christchurch (SOC) and the recent report by Sustainable Aotearoa NZ *Strong Sustainability for NZ*, has resourced our commitment to making links between Strong Sustainability and Treaty-based development. The SOC initiative of the bimonthly Transition Forum has provided useful learning opportunities for this new thinking and effective actions to be shared.

On Waitangi Day, we made our posters available and the Treaty *Questions and Answers* Handbooks at both the Willowbank Family Day and at the Ngai Tuahuriri commemorations organised by Ben Brennan at Kaiapoi where we were invited to speak. We also had a display at Culture Galore as part of the celebration of Race Relations Day on 21 March

Eileen Shewan, John Peet, Katherine Peet, Helen Gibson, Averil Williams

*NWO Organising Group*

Christchurch Community House  
Te Whakaruruhau ki Otautahi  
141 Hereford Street, Otautahi (Christchurch)  
Telephone (03) 365 5266 Fax (03) 366 8535  
Website: <[www.nwo.org.nz](http://www.nwo.org.nz)> Email:<[organisers@nwo.org.nz](mailto:organisers@nwo.org.nz)>