

ANNUAL REPORT 2003-2004

*Please note that, due to our registering as an Incorporated Society in December 2003, this report covers 15 months - October 2002 to December 2004.
(Our financial report however continues to cover July 2003 - June 2004.)*

About Us

Network Waitangi Otautahi is a voluntary group, part of a wider national movement of groups and individuals who are working for a society based on Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Our particular focus is on Pakeha responsibility under the Treaty.

There are 4 of us in the Organising Group (Eileen Shewan, Katherine Peet, John Peet and Averil Williams).

Our primary accountability is to one another and to te Runaka ki Otautahi Te Runaka ki Otautahi, which was established in 1936 by kaumatua of Ngai Tuahuriri and is the local Kai Tahu tribal council for Christchurch city (Otautahi), its meetings bringing in people from all the local hapu as well as other tribes and Tauwiwi organisations. Our relationship with them results in various activities, both in the Maori community and with Tauwiwi organisations – they are our inspiration and guide.

Our secondary accountability is to Treaty workers of all stripes.

Our Activities

While we do still lead introductory workshops, more and more of our work is done in the networks that we are part of, and our expertise is often called on by people who have done an introductory workshop, either with us or with other Treaty education providers. Katherine does almost all of the workshops, with Eileen leading 1 full 2-day introductory and a couple of shorter ones in this last period. Katherine and John attend the monthly Runaka meetings, reporting and resourcing as requested.

Workshops

Since the last Annual Report (of September 2003) we have done 6 full 16-contact-hour introductory workshops with a wide variety of groups, the groups/classes being: University of Canterbury Science Faculty staff; Christchurch Community House (with tenant groups' board members, staff & volunteers, and the Tenants' Trust volunteers, staff & Board members, as well as members of the public); Stepping Stone Trust; University of Canterbury Engineering School students; the Green Party, and the Chch Polytech Institute of Technology with Overseas Registered nurses. We also led a 10-hour course on the Treaty with students of the Tai Poutini Polytech Audio Technicians course. Implementation workshops were held with staff of the Science Faculty of the University of Canterbury and Christchurch Community House Tenants' Trust Board members.

Other Education

Katherine also did some shorter (e.g. 4 hours) sessions on the implications of/operationalising the Treaty and related subjects with e.g. the postgraduate class of Ecological Engineering and the Peace Studies class, both at Canterbury University, and shorter ones at a local resthome which has connections to the inner-city community house, Te Whare Roimata, and at the CAB.

We did a submission on the Seabed and Foreshore Bill which promoted another way forward – one of dialogue rather than unilaterality. Katherine and John met with our local MP Tim Barnett on this issue at his invitation.

Eileen presented a 3-hour introductory workshop at the Home Birth Association conference and resourced a 1 day workshop at Canterbury University with international students. We resourced a university Masters student's paper entitled "Seeking the Broad Pathway: a discussion on two Pakeha/Tauwi perspectives on Treaty issues" which we are awaiting. Many other groups approached us for reflection and advice.

Te Hui Whakamana Tiriti

The kaupapa of this gathering of local Treaty Workers, Maori and Tauwi, which was established in 2002 by te Runaka ki Otautahi, is "to support the restoration and enhancement of Tino Rakatirataka and to continue the discussion by working through the Treaty to achieve a collective vision and lay the foundation for the future". The original working groups have been replaced by 4 new ones: Treaty, Bicultural, Leadership and Community (as in community groups), although the Models of Treaty Training & an Inventory of Local Treaty Trainers group from before is still pursuing its task. NWO has continued to be involved in this gathering and sees it has potential for Treaty development in our region, especially in improving relationships and reducing competitiveness.

Intercultural Assembly

Our links with Mark Solomon, Kaiwhakahaere of Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu, led us to being invited to speak about the Treaty to the Intercultural Assembly which we regularly attend. Several approaches by members of the Assembly have been made both before but particularly following that input.

Treaty Worker/Educator Gatherings

We again attended the annual Treaty Conference at Manukau, hosted by Christine Herzog et al., and the Tauwi Treaty Worker hui at Napier, hosted by Mereana Pitman and Linda Campbell. We continue to network with the participants between gatherings, the next of which will be in April 2005.

Conferences and Other Networks outside Christchurch/Otautahi

At the Adult and Community Education Assn national conference we led a workshop on Pakeha identity as Tangata Tiriti.

We attended the Social Policy Research and Evaluation conference "What Works?". Two particular themes emerged: first, the need to build evidence in a climate where policy is required to be "evidence-based", and second, to collect data recognising people's contributions not just their compliance with existing policy.

We are also involved with the developing national network "Sustainable Aotearoa New Zealand" and have attended associated conferences.

We continue to value our membership of the Association of Non-Government Organisations in Aotearoa and Kotare: Research and Education for Social Change.

Posters

We continue to send hundreds of copies of our posters of the texts of the Declaration of Independence/He Wakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirenī and Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi all over the country. We currently have very good stocks of these – in 2004 we reprinted 10,000 copies of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, courtesy of a grant from Community Learning in Aotearoa/New Zealand, and 10,000 Declaration of Independence posters courtesy of The Canterbury Community Trust and Christchurch City Council Community Development Fund. Commentary on the Declaration posters came to us via the Maori

Congress so we do not change this, but we do invite comments on our own commentary on the Treaty posters, which we update at each printing if needed, after consultation with the Upoko of Te Runaka ki Otautahi. Bulk copies of these posters have been handed out at local and national Seabed and Foreshore protests/occupations and local community events such as cultural festivals. Other Treaty educators, Maori and Tauwiwi, also use them in their education work.

Incorporation

As mentioned above, in December 2003 we registered as an Incorporated Society. We did this because we lost our national umbrella, Network Waitangi Inc., which had resolved to fold. We also pursued and won Charitable Status with Inland Revenue, as an organisation dedicated to education.

Money

Koha

As an educational tool we operate as much as we can on the basis of koha; that is, we do not charge a fee for our work but invite people calling on our help to give a sum of money that reflects both their reality, our need to continue to be able to resource the work we do, and their need to resource further work with mana whenua. We receive substantial income from koha made in relation to workshops and some as a result of other work we do, and some minor amounts from sending off posters. We share 50:50 with Te Runaka ki Otautahi and other kaitiaki the surplus from doing introductory Treaty workshops.

We sometimes koha any 'spare' money to one of the relevant causes we come across from time to time.

We still have no paid workers, although we do offer koha in thanks for smallish tasks done for us from time to time, such as the photocopying for several workshops at a time.

The money we receive as a result of leading Treaty workshops and doing other resourcing lets us interpret "Treaty vision" generously. Grants and donations from funders received for specific purposes cover some of the basic costs of running the organisation and free up "our" money for us to use as we see fit, often for purposes funders do not cover, such as the koha mentioned above.

Volunteer Expenses

We continue to offer reimbursement to volunteers for any costs involved in any way with work they do that relates to our vision of a Treaty-based society, while of course adhering to the normal standards of financial accountability. Our policy of workshop leaders (currently Katherine & Eileen) being offered the opportunity to claim payment for contact workshop hours still stands, but again this year neither has.

Operating Costs

Because we are tenants of the Christchurch Community House our rent costs are very small while the other benefits of tenancy here are enormous e.g. access to a wonderful photocopier, to volunteers who will copy and co-ordinate the huge amount of photocopying each workshop requires, and to opportunities to network around the Treaty and related issues. We have not managed to find a suitable group to share our under-utilised office and contribute to the rent, although the Adult and Community Education Association does continue to use gratis a few shelves in the corner.

Major Grants and Donations

In the last 15 months we received: \$2080 from the Community Organisation Grants Scheme (COGS) towards operating/administration costs; \$2238 from Community Learning Aotearoa/New Zealand (CLANZ) towards reprinting the Treaty posters and attending the 2004 Treaty Workers hui; \$500 from The Canterbury Community Trust towards reprinting the Declaration posters and photocopying costs; \$600 from the Chch City Council Community Development Fund towards reprinting the Declaration posters; \$2500 from COGS towards operating/administration costs; \$1534 from the Ministry of Education's community Tutor Hours scheme via Hagley Community College in recognition of 50 hours of the non-formal education we have done. We also received an unsolicited, anonymous donation of \$1667 (to use as we wish!). This makes over \$11,000 received in the 15 months!

The State of Our Finances

You will see from our Audited Accounts for 1/7/2003 – 30/6/2004 that we operated at a surplus of \$2189. At the end of December 2004 we had about \$10,981 in the bank, after the Runaka's share of the nett workshop surplus relating to the 2003-4 financial year had come out. Because we do not (at the moment) pay wages, and because our expenses are low due to the fantastic and cheap resources of our "landlady" the Christchurch Community House/Te Whakaruruhau ki Otautahi, we can operate with quite low levels of income. We certainly have adequate financial resources at the moment.

Even more than in previous years we can say that it is not the lack of money that limits our effectiveness; rather it is the lack of suitably skilled and dedicated personnel with the time available to take on the constant learning that we must do together in order to stay up with the play in our ever-developing area, as well as resourcing others' learning, and the normal tasks of running a voluntary organisation, that being on the NWO Organising Group entails.

Eileen, Katherine John and Averil