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Kia ora <<First Name>>,  
Welcome to the latest edition of SNIPPETS  
Treaty news from around the network.  
Issue 2025, No. 7

In this resource, we share information about current conversations and issues;  
local, national and sometimes international.

Please note, NWŌ is not aligned with any political party or religious affiliation.

NWŌ does not necessarily agree with all of the content in some articles, but we  
include them because they are current and often just the best online resource we  
could find on particular topics; please feel free to direct us to better ones, including  
to books, articles, podcasts, etc.

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### Rainbows and Rangatira

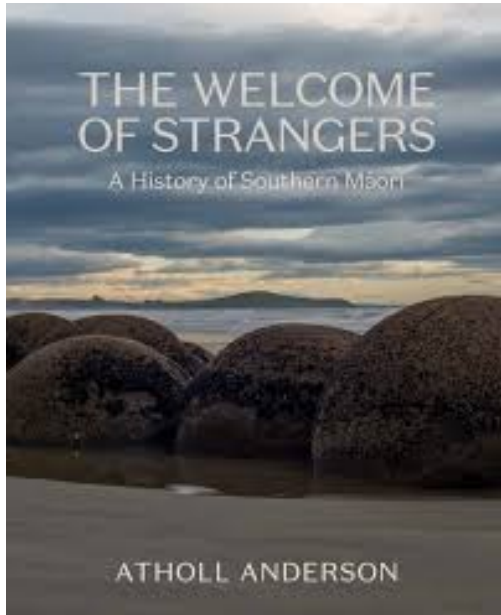
*“The bombing of the  
Rainbow Warrior was an  
act of international  
sabotage. It reverberated  
around the globe. But for  
Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, it  
landed, literally and  
emotionally, on their  
doorstep.” — Moana  
Maniapoto - [Read more](#)*



### Regulatory Standards Bill

**RSB, the Bill that won't die: Lawyer Maia Te Hira, Sykes & Co - [Read more](#)**

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### **Essential reading for the descendants of Tahu Pōtiki**

An extraordinary and authoritative achievement by distinguished archaeologist Atholl Anderson (Kāi Te Atawhiua, Kāi Tahu) with the assistance of the Ngāi Tahu Archive team, *The Welcome of Strangers* has now been republished, bringing together new research, rich illustrations, and detailed maps.

**[Read more](#)**

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## **South Island rūnanga looks to Japan as lake's taonga species face critical decline**

Wairewa Rūnanga travelled to Japan to learn from experts about tuna conservation, sustainable fishing, and the cultural importance of tuna - part of efforts to revive their own local populations as taonga species face critical decline.- **[Read more](#)**

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### **This government is going out of its way to attack Māori**

“For a government to announce it will overrule the courts of law, in order to make it nigh on impossible for Māori to attempt to claim our customary rights, takes us back to the dark ages,” says Justin Tipa, Chair of Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu - **[Read more](#)**

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## **Axe falls on history: Ministry for Culture and Heritage restructure sparks outrage**

listen [here](#)

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### The bill that will torch Māori-Crown relations

The government's proposed changes to the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 — the MACA Act — represent a serious step backwards for Māori rights, for constitutional integrity, and for the relationship between the Crown and tangata whenua

[Read more](#)



### Māori wards: how the Hobson's Pledge campaign relies on a 'historical fiction'

"...when translated by someone for whom Māori is their first language, "He iwi tahi tātou" might be **better understood to mean** "We are peoples together". Which is largely where contemporary debates about the Treaty's meaning begin, not end."

Richard Shaw - [read more](#)

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Māori economies offer powerful leadership, values and practices that can seed a more just, regenerative economic future for all - one grounded in care for people, place, and future generations. - [Read more](#)



## 'We are patient': Te Whānau a Apanui commit to wait after Govt U-turn

East Coast iwi Te Whānau a Apanui is willing to play the long game to finalise its treaty settlement after the Government's "unprecedented" U-turn on a major settlement at the final hurdle reconsiders its law to restrict such rights.- by Tim Murphy - [Read more](#)



Te Tiriti o Watangi resources

Community Research have compiled a list of resources and trusted sources you can engage with to expand your understand of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.- [Read more](#)

## International indigenous rights protections

Watch HRC's Rongomau Taketake, Dayle Takitimu, and Tina Ngata talking about EMRIP and other international Indigenous rights protections with Scotty Morrison on Marae - [here](#)

## 'The government tried to get rid of us': How New Zealand nearly lost the Māori Wardens"

In the 1970s Māori Wardens were described as 'a form of apartheid' and efforts were made to eliminate them for good.- [Read more](#)

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### **Māori coastal rights Supreme Court decision could set precedent - lawyer**

A Treaty lawyer says today's Supreme Court judgement on Māori coastal rights could set a precedent for more Māori customary rights claims over riverbeds. The court found **riverbeds deemed to be part of the marine area**, such as river mouths, can be included in Māori customary marine title orders, if other legal tests are met.

[Read more](#)

### **“International Embarrassment” Māori leaders condemn coalition government in Geneva**

[Read more](#)



The Human Rights Commission is this week attending the 18th session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples - [Read more](#)

### **‘Seymour’s letter is about avoiding accountability’**

David Seymour “referred to himself as an ‘Indigenous New Zealander’ . . . He was employing a tactic we’ve seen domestically many times: invoking his ancestry to deflect criticism of his racist behaviour.” — Tina Ngata - [Read more](#)



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**Councillors to vote on new co-governance agreement of Lake Taupō and the Upper Waikato River with local iwi. - [Read more](#)**

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### **Honouring Treaty settlements - until they get in the way**

The coalition government says it will honour past Treaty settlements, a commitment made in the agreement between New Zealand First and National. But since the election, several government moves have raised serious doubts about whether that promise still holds, writes Melanie Nelson - [Read more](#)

**Maire Leadbeater:  
Our Government is wrong to  
attack the UN Special Rapporteur  
for doing his job - [Read more](#)**



**Disregard for indigenous rights  
comes straight from the top**

**Opinion:** Earlier this week, Prime Minister Christopher Luxon said he “fully agrees” with a letter the Minister of Regulation David Seymour wrote to Dr Albert K Barume, the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Barume recently criticised New Zealand for breaching international human rights standards relating to Indigenous peoples. writes Luke Fitzmaurice-Brown - [Read more](#)

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### **UPCOMING NWŌ 2-DAY OPPORTUNITY**

### **UNDERSTANDING THE TREATY IN 2025**

**Network Waitangi Ōtautahi**

**Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 September 2025**

**9.30am - 4.30pm**

**\$70**

**Venue: CWEA, 59 Gloucester Street, Christchurch**

**This is organised by Canterbury WEA and will be run by**

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### Taranaki Regional councillors urged to quit election over Treaty Principles fiasco

Councillors involved in quashing debate over the Treaty Principles Bill at the Taranaki Regional Council have received a dressing down at a fiery meeting in Stratford. - [Read more](#)



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### We keep measuring the Māori economy – but what are we actually counting?

Last week, **yet another report was released** outlining the prowess and potential of the Māori economy. “The ‘Māori economy’ is thriving and diversifying,” the report from WEAll Aotearoa begins, following with many impressive figures and statistics: “contribution of \$32 billion... asset base of \$126bn”. So what are these numbers, how are they measured, and what purpose does dissecting and analysing the Māori economy as a standalone sector of our capitalist system serve? writes Liam Ratana [Read more](#)

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Te Wānanga o Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau is under scrutiny following an Environment Court decision over who holds mana whenua status in parts of Tāmaki Makaurau. The question is, who gets to decide who is mana whenua in the region - iwi or Council? - [Read more](#)

### Tāmaki Makaurau mana whenua butt heads over consultation process



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*“The systems of government that run this country today were never designed with Māori in mind. They were created by colonial lawmakers to manage and control land, resources and people.” — Shonelle Wana - [Read more](#)*

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## Navigating the tipping point

A tipping point in society offers sudden and dramatic change. It can be an idea whose time has come, or a critical mass of circumstances whose timing will not be denied. We’ve seen such tipping points in Aotearoa, in the language movement and Matariki, as Tainui Stephens writes. [Read more](#)

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## Ngarino Ellis: We draw strength from our art

Ngarino’s most recent work — in collaboration with [Deidre Brown](#) and the late Jonathan Mane-Wheoki — is the monumental, 600-page landmark book *Toi Te Mana: An Indigenous History of Māori Art*, which won this year’s award for Illustrated Non-Fiction at the Ockham book awards. Here she is having a kōrero with Dale

[Read more](#)



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## Business as usual for racism in schools

“There’s a bitter irony when those who benefit most from a racist education system are the ones deciding whether we count the data — and how we talk about it.” — Ara Alam-Simmons. - [Read more](#)

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The Wairau Bar, or Te Pokohiwi o Kupe in Marlborough, one of the oldest and most significant archaeological sites in New Zealand, is at risk of being flooded by rising sea levels, according to a new study. - [Read more](#)

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**NWŌ recognises the text in te reo Māori as the Treaty.**

**No English language version was signed at Waitangi on 6 February 1840.**

**Any NWŌ references to the Treaty/Te Tiriti are to that text in te reo Māori.**

**A modern, accurate expression in English of its text in te reo Māori is available on the [NWŌ website](#).**

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