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Kia ora <<First Name>>,
Welcome to the latest edition of SNIPPETS
Treaty news from around the network.
Issue 2026, No. 5

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 - see **NWŌ IN A NUTSHELL**.

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.

Please see our [website](#) or follow NWŌ on [Facebook](#) and [X](#)

Celebrating Matariki in Canterbury

Let creativity be a guiding star this Matariki. Celebrate Matariki with talented artists from Ōtautahi and beyond, featuring live performances, visual art, kapa haka, night māketē and so much more. - [Read more](#)

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Image source: Wikipedia

Teacher, scholar, leader, and institution-builder, Tā Hirini helped shape mātauranga Māori. A distinguished professor, author, artist and tribal leader of Ngāti Awa, Ngāi Tūhoe, Ngāti Tūwharetoa and Tūhourangi descent he is being remembered as being a master mind who shaped Te Ao Māori

[Read more](#)

Widely regarded as one of the most influential Māori thinkers and leaders of his generation, Winiata dedicated decades of his life to advancing Māori development, strengthening iwi aspirations and rebuilding the place of te reo Māori within education and public life. - [Read more](#)

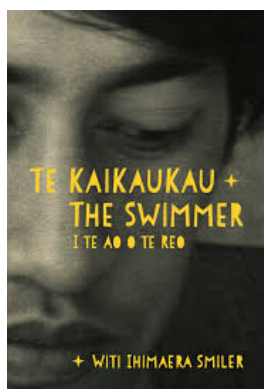
Te ao Māori mourns the loss of Professor Whatarangi Winiata



Māori should be the kingmakers at the next election – but we need to vote

"The power lies with the people. Whether we harness it is up to us."

Liam Rātana - [Read more](#)



Witi Ihimaera Smiler: In honour of the octopus

Witi Ihimaera Smiler, author of **Te Kaikaukau: The Swimmer I Te Ao O Te Reo**, explains why the wheke is so central to his philosophy of language and life. - [Read more](#)

Matariki Herenga Waka: Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Invites Everyone To Celebrate Matariki

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei is welcoming people from across Tāmaki Makaurau and beyond to come together for Matariki Herenga Waka, a city-wide celebration of the Māori New Year led by mātauranga Māori and open to everyone. - [Read more](#) and [watch here](#)

Livestreamed on TVNZ and Whakaata Māori 10 July 2026 at dawn

How Akaroa's wastewater battle was won

A marae near Christchurch took strategic advice from a former mayor to help convince councillors to make a \$150 million decision. [Read more](#)



Image source: Keelan Walker/Loud Noise Media

Deepening Te Tiriti Responsiveness in your Mahi – Online Community of Practice

Facilitated by Moko Morris and Gwyn John, this small-group series offers a reflective space for collective learning, honest kōrero and shared exploration. Together, participants will exchange insights, stories and practical approaches, while connecting with others navigating similar journeys across Aotearoa.

Running across five online sessions from July to November, this is an opportunity to deepen your understanding, strengthen relationships and continue growing Te Tiriti-led community practice alongside a supportive peer group.

For more details and registration click [here](#)

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Image source: E-tangata

[This is corrosive to democracy](#)

“Once again, we’re seeing the machinery of government being used to protect entrenched interests from legal scrutiny.” Mike Smith, climate change activist, whose right to sue the country’s largest emitters will be removed by the coalition government. -

[Read more](#)

Matike Tāhono Reading Rōpū

A group of tauira (pupils) coming together to read through He Whakaaro Here Whakaumu mo Aotearoa, the often-cited report completed by the Matike Mai Working Group. Tāhono has set out on this journey to respond to the divisive rhetoric around our current constitution, and the simple fact that this report provides a framework of relationship between Tangata Whenua and Tauwiwi. More info and register [here](#)

First session: Thursday, 23 July, 7:00 pm (online)

Commitment: Five monthly Thursday evening sessions

Spaces are limited: Please register only if you can commit to the full kaupapa

This is more than a reading group—it’s an opportunity to reflect on our own journeys and consider how we might contribute to constitutional transformation in Aotearoa.

Check out Community Research's fantastic [Matike Mai Resource Hub](#).

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star compass to teach next generation of astronomers

A traditional Māori star compass, built to teach the next generation how to read the skies and live by the stars, has been unveiled at a Ngāti Rangi kura in Ohakune

[Read more](#)



Image source - RNZ.

Ngāti Rangi researcher Rauroha Brown with the whana tongitongi, or traditional star compass, built at Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngāti Rangi in Ohakune. Photo: LDR / Moana Ellis

In Between the Boxes: Decolonising Research and Data from a Tangata Tiriti of Colour Lens

Date: Friday 19th June 2026

Time: Noon to 1 pm

Location: Online.- free

[Read more](#)



You **must be registered to vote before October 25th** this year in order to vote in the general election on November 7th. You can no longer register to vote during the early election period nor on election day.. To enrol or check you're registered go to **Vote NZ**

Te Arikinui First Nations Major Projects Coalition Conference Speech

Te Arikinui Kuini Nga wai hono i te po delivered her first international speech in Toronto, speaking to more than 1,800 global leaders at the First Nations Major Projects Coalition Conference. Her message was a call to lead with intergenerational vision, grounded in Indigenous values. - [Watch here](#)

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UPCOMING NWŌ 2-DAY OPPORTUNITY

UNDERSTANDING THE TREATY IN 2026

8 and 15 October 2026

9.30am - 4.30pm

\$70

- * ancestry, cultural difference and cultural safety
- * pre-Treaty and post-Treaty history
- * colonisation and social statistics; and
- * new ways of thinking, living and working

To register click [here](#)

Recent review [here](#)

Government updates official branding to highlight English over te reo Māori

The government has updated its official branding to give greater prominence to English over te reo Māori, following a directive from new Public Service Minister Paul Goldsmith. - [Read more](#)



Race is a junk word

“Race may make no biological sense, but this does not reduce the power and reach of the idea that it does.” — Richard Shaw, from his new book of essays “The Good Settler”. - [Read more](#)

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Community Research Award ceremony at Government House.

Dame Cindy Kiro refers to how during her career, she grew aware that the experiences, knowledge, and aspirations of tangata whenua – and indeed many tangata tiriti communities – were often overlooked during public decision-making processes in Aotearoa: Read speech [here](#)

Increasing anger over government's approach to Māori rights

A series of actions by the coalition government has drawn criticism this week, with iwi leaders, health experts and MPs accusing it of deliberately and systematically dismantling Māori rights and protections, Henry Oliver writes in today's excerpt from The Bulletin. - [Read more](#)

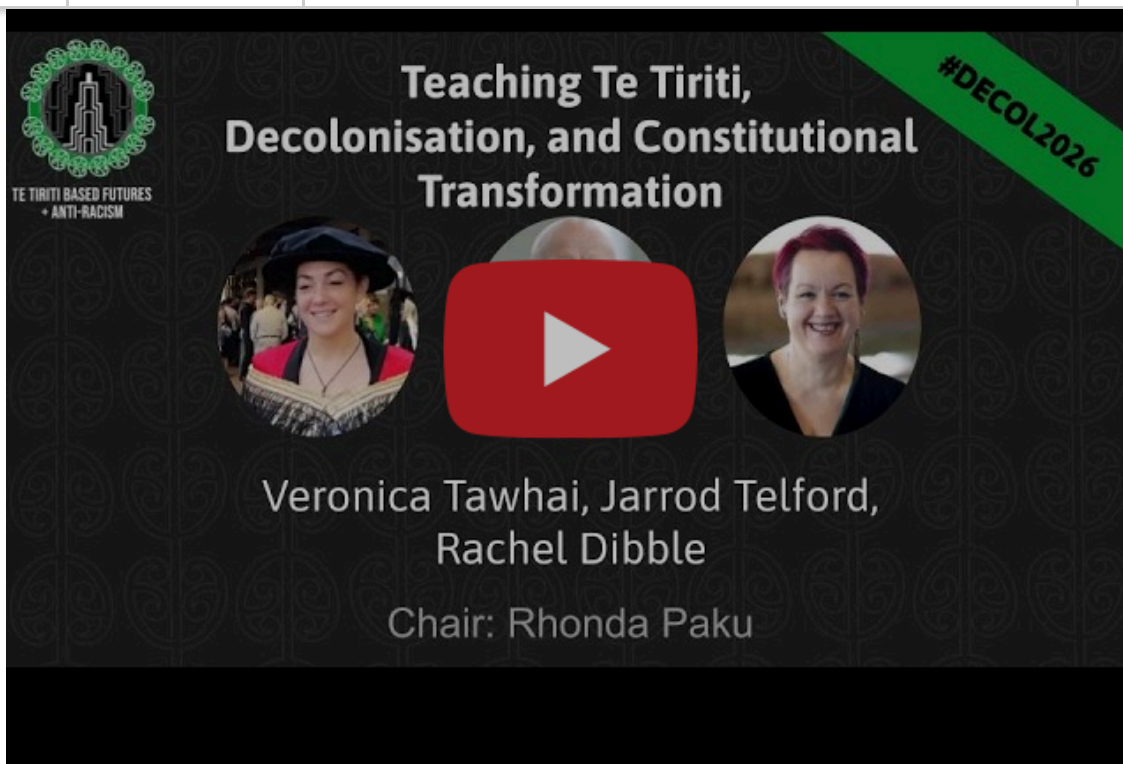
First wāhine Māori Anglican bishop of Te Waipounamu follows dad's footsteps

Susan Wallace has become the first wāhine Māori Anglican bishop of Te Waipounamu, the third Pīhopa ki Te Hui Amorangi ki Te Waipounamu and the second wahine - [Read more](#)



Shilo Kino: Indigenising writers' festivals

"Literary spaces have largely been Pākehā, but things are shifting, and to me, literature and storytelling are deeply connected to the wider work of decolonising and indigenising our spaces." — Shilo Kino - [Read more](#)



Another video from the Te Tiriti-based Futures conference. To see more videos click [here](#)

Defence Minister's brother weighs in on Army's polarising bicultural framework

"The Treaty is a founding document and ... the additional strength the Māori culture brings has almost always been part of the army's strength," - Army chief major-general Rose King - [Read more](#)

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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