

1892

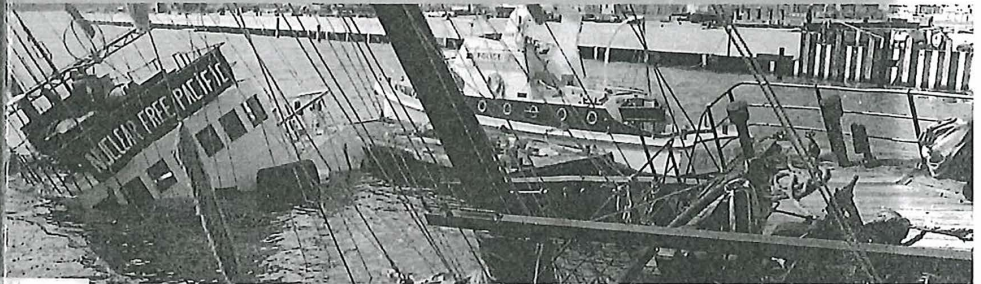
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# Essential DATES



*A TIMELINE OF NEW ZEALAND HISTORY*

Alison Dench



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1892

- April 14** The Paremata Maori (Maori parliament) is established at a hui of 96 chiefs at Te Tiriti o Waitangi marae, Pewhairangi. The most successful manifestation of the kotahitanga movement aims to unify tribes politically and ensure the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are upheld.
- April 16** The New Zealand Rugby Football Union is founded at a meeting in Wellington — although Otago and Canterbury will immediately withdraw their support.
- June 7** The Earl of Glasgow assumes office as governor. The navy man will eventually resign office on the grounds the salary is too small.
- June 14** The Paremata Maori meets for the first time at Waipatu, Hawke's Bay.
- July 15** A second WCTU women's suffrage petition (20,000 women's signatures) is presented at Parliament.
- October 11** The Land Act passes into law. Among other things, the legislation enshrines the right of public access to rivers, lakes and coasts, and forests and mountains.

1893

- April 17** Te Kooti dies at Te Karaka, on the Ohiwa Harbour. The final 20 years of the great military leader's life have been devoted to peace and faith.
- April 27** Premier John Ballance dies from cancer.
- May 1** The dynamic Richard Seddon (Liberal) assumes office as premier. During his term the position will be officially retitled 'prime minister'.
- July 8** The New Zealand Racing Conference approves the formation of the New Zealand Jockey Club. The new body, which will control horse racing, has taken 20 years to establish.

- July 28** A third women's suffrage petition is presented at Parliament. This one contains nearly 32,000 signatures — almost a quarter of the adult European female population in New Zealand.
- September 8** The Legislative Council votes 20 to 18 to allow all women to vote, despite the opposition of Richard Seddon and several of his ministers.
- September 19** The Electoral Act is signed into law by the governor, and New Zealand becomes the first self-governing nation where women have a parliamentary vote.
- October 2** The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act passes into law, allowing the public a say in the availability of alcohol. The first poll will be held the following year.
- November 28** More than 90,000 women vote for the first time in a general election. In the poll, James Carroll wins Waipatu for the Liberal Party and becomes the first Maori to be elected to a general, rather than a Maori, seat. He will hold the seat for 25 years.
- December 20** Elizabeth Yates is installed as mayor of Onehunga, Auckland. She is the first woman in the British Empire to be elected mayor.

**Women voting in the local body elections of November 29, 1893. In the Onehunga election Elizabeth Yates will be elected the first woman mayor.**

