

NATION DATES

Significant
events that
have shaped
the nation of
New Zealand



SECOND EDITION

WENDY MCGUINNESS & MIRIAM WHITE

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Lastly, the significant events we have chosen have, in reality, already been selected and polished by those before us. Our challenge has been to ensure we honour the work of the many historians who have committed their working lives to understanding our past, and then reported these events in such a way that they can be found and understood by researchers today. We thank those past and present, for making this book possible. Naturally any errors or matters of opinion remain the responsibility of the authors.

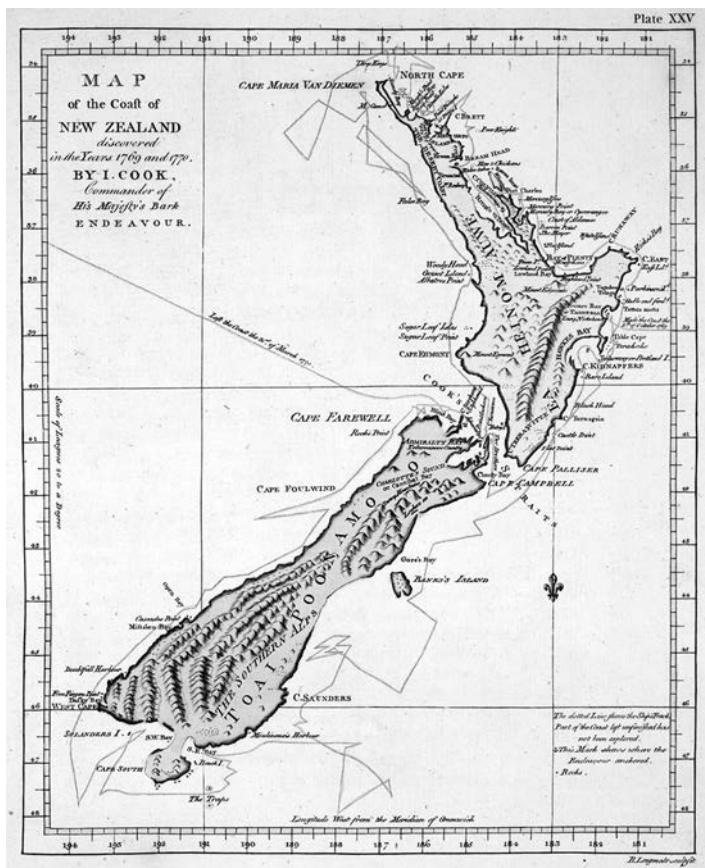
Preface

Mark Twain once famously said, ‘History doesn’t repeat itself, but it does rhyme.’ A deeper understanding of the patterns in our nation’s history can help us appreciate and prepare for the challenges and opportunities ahead. Events viewed together form patterns, what we have called historical threads, that eventually give us insights into the possibility of new models for change and action.

We have made this work available as a record of our nation’s past, with a view to providing a useful context for shaping our future. We believe that this is particularly relevant in light of the constitutional review that is currently in progress in New Zealand. We hope it might provide a useful resource for those interested in working today to improve the lives of New Zealanders tomorrow.

Many of the events documented on these pages are the result of the efforts of a large number of courageous men and women who have worked hard to shape our nation. I hope this book will inspire New Zealanders living today to follow in their footsteps.

Wendy McGuinness
Chief Executive
McGuinness Institute



Map of the coast of New Zealand charted in 1769 and 1770
Lieutenant James Cook
1773

The name for the North Island is given as 'Ea hei nom auwe', which is either a version of He ahi nō Māui (meaning fire from Māui) or He mea hī nō Māui (meaning fished up by Māui). The name of the South Island is 'Toai Poonamo o'. This is believed to be a corruption of Te Wai Pounamu, which means the greenstone waters. (Taonui, 2011) [See 1770, page 8]

Introduction

The timeline presented in this book details significant events from 1770 to 2012 that have shaped the nation of New Zealand. The Institute first undertook the creation of this timeline to provide a platform for our work programme; however, it quickly evolved into a project with a life of its own. After the initial timeline was drafted, it became clear that it could be expanded to provide a useful snapshot of important events in our history – a pocket-sized historical reference point for specific facts, general knowledge and an understanding of New Zealand’s past and present.

Below we set out the historical context by briefly explaining the naming of New Zealand and why we take 1770 as the starting date of our nation. We then explain how to navigate the eleven chapters of this book.

The naming of New Zealand

Prior to European settlement, Māori had no collective name for New Zealand, although names did exist for the North and South Islands. Names for the North Island often included a reference to Māui (such as Te Ika a Māui [the Fish of Māui] or similar; see page 2) or Aotea (Aotearoa). Names for the South Island included Te Waka-a-Aoraki (the canoe of Aoraki) and Te Wai Pounamu (the greenstone waters).

Abel Tasman, who was the first European to discover New Zealand, in 1642, initially thought it was connected to land off the southern tip of South America and called it ‘Staten Land’. When the Dutch mapmakers discovered this was not the case, they still believed it to be a continent, and changed the name to the Latin ‘Zeelandia Nova’, or in Dutch, ‘Nieuw Zeeland’, after the Dutch province. This later evolved into ‘New Zealand’, as shown on the map charted by Lieutenant James Cook, reproduced on page 2.

The word ‘Aotearoa’ is now frequently placed in front of New Zealand, to read ‘Aotearoa New Zealand’. The first written record of ‘Aotearoa’ does not appear until the late 19th century. In 1898, William Pember Reeves noted in his history of New Zealand, *The Long White Cloud (Ao Tea Roa)*, ‘Ao-Tea-Roa [is] the Maori name of New Zealand’. Further, historian Michael King believed Māori only came to embrace ‘Aotearoa’ as a pre-European name for New Zealand due to the widespread publication of the story of Kupe in New Zealand primary school journals in the early 20th century (see page 65).

In writing this book, we have endeavoured to report the facts as they stand, and as the official name of this country is New Zealand, this is the term we have used. In addition, we have maintained the original forms of historical terms such as the titles of institutions and Acts of Parliament; this means, for example, that macrons have not been added where they do not occur in the original.

The recognition of New Zealand as one nation

Although New Zealand has a rich history that predates 1770, this date was selected for the beginning of the timeline as it is when this isolated group of islands was first claimed to be one nation, a claim evidenced in the journal of Lieutenant James Cook. The Lieutenant had been instructed to undertake a scientific expedition to observe the transit of Venus across the sun at Tahiti in June 1769, but he also travelled with secret

instructions authorising him to take possession of ‘a Continent or Land of great extent’ thought to exist in southern latitudes.

Cook charted the coastline of New Zealand, proving that the land was a group of islands, rather than one continent. Before leaving, he proclaimed British possession of New Zealand, firstly at Mercury Bay on the Coromandel Peninsula on 15 November 1769, and secondly at Motuara Island in Queen Charlotte Sound on 31 January 1770 (see page 9). In raising the British flag, Cook claimed the lands in the name of King George III. This appears to have been the first time one party has laid claim to both islands, signalling the concept underlying ‘one nation’, and it was this initial idea of sovereignty that led to the Treaty of Waitangi. For this reason the year 1770 marks the starting point of our journey to record the events that have shaped this nation.

The timeline

The Institute defines significant events as those that are important milestones in the evolution of our nation. The selection of events listed in Chapter 1 is not totally comprehensive, and we acknowledge that there are many more dates worthy of inclusion. We also appreciate that there will not necessarily be universal agreement as to the validity of different events (such as the third oil shock); however, we have endeavoured to make a considered selection.

The timeline has been constructed on a national rather than a regional basis, keeping the focus on New Zealand as a whole. Our aim is to provide a concise overview, while offering readers the opportunity to delve into more detail as required. To set the context for the timeline we have compiled lists of key information in Chapters 2–9: Heads of State, Governors and Governors-General, Premiers and Prime Ministers, political parties, Royal Commissions, referenda, Treaty settlement and peace support operations.

Historical threads

An event in isolation gives us limited information, but when joined with other data, patterns begin to emerge. Chapter 10 documents these patterns through the identification of common ‘threads’. We identified 65 historical threads which we have grouped under 12 major headings. Many of these threads will continue onward into the future and provide a useful tool for developing foresight.

The timeline can either be read consecutively, as 525 events from 1770 to 2012, or by following one of the 65 historical threads. Every entry closes with a square bracket, identifying the number of the thread, as in ‘t1’, followed by the year in which the thread is next mentioned. Although there are clearly many more linkages, for simplicity we have selected what we believe is the most relevant thread for each entry on the timeline. Further, we acknowledge there are many different ways such events could be grouped, but we put forward our suggestions in the hope that these threads provide a useful insight when exploring New Zealand’s long-term future.

The last word

Our hope is that *Nation Dates* will give readers a deeper understanding of our constitutional history. Chapter 11 outlines the constitutional review currently in progress.

Nation Dates is an evolving project designed to leave you considering what future events we should be working hard towards – either together or individually. In view of this we provide space at the end of the book for you to suggest significant dates for subsequent editions and to record events you would like to see happen in the future.

— Adapted from King, 2003: 35–36, 90–91, 95; MCH, n.d.[a];
Moon, 2010: 16; National Archives of Australia, 2005;
Reeves, 1898: 25; South Seas, 2004; Taonui, 2011

1 Timeline

The following timeline provides an overview of 525 significant events that have contributed to the development of New Zealand as a nation over the past 242 years.

To read the book by threads, follow the brackets (a full list of the 65 threads can be found in Chapter 10). For example, the first entry is the beginning of the second thread, called ‘Constitutional developments’. The next year in the thread is 1801. This is abbreviated in the text to [t2–1801].

To conserve paper and make the web-based references easily accessible, a list of references identified in the text is available on the book’s website: www.nationdates.org

- 1770** James Cook proclaims British sovereignty over New Zealand
- In 1769–1770 Lieutenant James Cook charts the coastline, proving that the land is a group of islands, rather than one continent. Cook proclaims British possession of New Zealand, firstly at Mercury Bay on the Coromandel Peninsula on 15 November 1769, and secondly at Motuara Island in Queen Charlotte Sound on 31 January 1770. [t2–1801]
(MCH, 2009a; South Seas, 2004)
- 1773** Sheep, pigs and goats introduced to New Zealand
- During his second voyage to New Zealand, Cook (now officially Captain James Cook) releases a ram, a ewe, and a number of boars and sows in Queen Charlotte Sound. This is the first time sheep set foot on New Zealand soil, and they only survive a few days. In the same year Cook releases a pair of goats. [t11–1777]
(MCH, n.d.[b]; Petrie, 2009)
- 1777** Rabbits introduced
- Rabbits are introduced by Captain James Cook on his third voyage, for sport, food and fur. Their population rapidly increases, leading to rabbit plagues in the 1870s, 1920s, 1940s, and 1980s. The introduction of rabbits has had negative ecological, agricultural and economic impacts. [t11–1791]
(HBRC, 2003; Peden, 2009; Wilson, J., 2009a)
- 1791** Earliest record of whaling in New Zealand
- The ship *William and Ann* is the first to be recorded hunting whales in New Zealand waters. The ship originally departed from England bound for Australia with convicts on board. It then went on to Doubtless Bay to hunt sperm whales. Whale and seal oil were to become two of New Zealand's most important early exports, along with sealskins, timber, and flax – with tattooed Māori heads a gruesome additional item. [t11–1814]
(McLintock, 1966a; Phillips, 2009a; Saunders, 1926)



Captain James Cook
Sir Nathaniel Dance Holland
1800

‘... we took it up to the highest part of the Island and after fixing it fast in the ground hoisted thereon the Union flag and I dignified this Inlet with the name of Queen Charlottes Sound and [took] formal pos[s]ession of it and the adjacent lands in the name and for the use of his Majesty.’

— Lieutenant James Cook, 31 January 1770

- 1801** **Māori are first referred to collectively as ‘Maori’**
 The first written record is in the journal of the ship *Royal Admiral* in the Firth of Thames. By the 1830s the majority of the population is using the term ‘Maori’. Europeans are known as ‘Pakeha’, probably coming from ‘the pre-European word pakepakeha, denoting mythical light-skinned beings’. [t2–1829]
(King, 2003: 146–147)
- 1809** **Boyd incident**
 While moored at Whangaroa Harbour, the sailing ship *Boyd* is attacked by local Māori. The attack is sparked when the son of a Whangaroa chief is flogged after refusing to work in exchange for his passage. His kin seek revenge, leading to the deaths of most of the Europeans onboard. [t63–1818]
(MCH, 2012a)
- 1814** **First recorded Christian service in New Zealand**
 On Christmas Day, Samuel Marsden holds the first recorded Christian service in New Zealand. See 1838 image on page 13. [t58–1941]
(Sharp, 2009)
- 1814** **Cattle and horses introduced to New Zealand**
 Samuel Marsden brings a bull and two heifers to New Zealand. In the same year, the first horses, a stallion and two mares, are introduced in the Bay of Islands. [t11–1832]
(Fonterra, n.d.; Keane, 2009)
- 1815** **First book in Māori published**
 The first book in Māori is printed and published in Sydney by George Howe. It is entitled *A Korao no New Zealand; or, the New Zealander’s first book; being an attempt to compose some lessons for the instruction of the natives*. [t52–1835]
(Moon, 2010: 20)



Three paddles, Sydney Parkinson
 From a collection of drawings made during
 Cook's first voyage.
 1769

‘Kia hora te marino,
 Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana,
 Kia tere te kārohirohi.’

‘May the calm be widespread,
 May the sea glisten like the greenstone,
 And may the shimmer of summer
 dance across thy pathway.’

— Rangawhenua Tawhaki, Miringa Te Kakara, TeTiroa 1884

- 1818** **Musket Wars begin**
 The Musket Wars refer to a period of internal fighting between iwi. Māori enter into an arms race, with many iwi competing to obtain muskets – usually through trading with Europeans. Between 1818 and the early 1830s, around 20,000 Māori lose their lives. [t63–1843]
(Keane, 2011; MCH, 2011a)
- 1829** **Wakefield publishes *A Letter from Sydney***
 Edward Gibbon Wakefield publishes a book entitled *A Letter from Sydney*, which is the first important document to suggest that Australasia be systematically colonised by the British to alleviate poverty and population growth in England. [t2–1835]
(Moon, 2010: 22)
- 1831** **Thirteen rangatira sign a petition to King William IV**
 A meeting of 13 rangatira of the north at Kerikeri sign a petition to the King – to ask him to ‘Look after his hapū who are behaving in an uncivilised manner.’ [t33–1882]
(Network Waitangi Taranaki, 2000)
- 1832** **First shipment of wool**
 The first shipment of wool leaves the Bay of Islands. [t11–1837]
(DOC, n.d.[a])
- 1833** **Busby becomes British Resident in New Zealand**
 The New South Wales government, with the agreement of the British government, appoints James Busby British Resident in New Zealand, the equivalent of a consular officer. He arrives in New Zealand in 1833. [t41–1839]
(MCH, 2007a)
- 1834** **United Tribes of New Zealand flag chosen**
 ‘Northern chiefs gather at Busby’s house at Waitangi to choose a Flag of the United Tribes of New Zealand to fly on New Zealand-built trading ships.’ [t37–1902]
(MCH, 2009b)



Samuel Marsden
Born 28 July, 1764; died 12 May, 1838

**‘Some civilized Government
must take New Zealand under
its protection, or the most
dreadful evils will be committed
by runaway convicts, sailors
and publicans.’**

— Samuel Marsden, 1837

- 1835 Declaration of Independence of New Zealand (He Wakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirene)**
 ‘A Declaration of Independence of New Zealand is drawn up by Busby without authorisation from his superiors. This asserts the independence of New Zealand, with all sovereign power and authority resting with the hereditary chiefs and tribes.’ The declaration is sent by Busby to King William IV and formally signed by the Crown in 1836. By 1839, this declaration has been signed by 52 Māori chiefs. The declaration has since been seen by many Māori as British recognition of an independent Māori nation. [t2–1837]
 (MCH, 2009b; 2009c)
- 1835 Charles Darwin visits New Zealand**
 HMS *Beagle* spends nine days in the Bay of Islands during its five-year voyage of exploration. Charles Darwin is on board. He goes on to write *On the Origin of Species* (1859), considered by many to be the most important scientific work of the 19th century. [t52–1856]
 (MCH, n.d.[c]; Watson, 2005: inside cover)
- 1835 First book printed in New Zealand**
 In 1835, William Colenso prints a Māori translation of the *Epistles of Paul to the Philippians and to the Ephesians*. [t48–1840]
 (McLintock, 1966b)
- 1837 Baron de Thierry proclaims himself Sovereign Chief of New Zealand**
 On his arrival from France, Baron Charles de Thierry proclaims himself ‘Sovereign Chief of New Zealand’. Although his actions are viewed with derision, the event highlights concerns by both English and Māori regarding French influence in New Zealand. [t2–1838]
 (Orange, 2009)

- 1837** **Possums introduced to New Zealand**
 The Australian brushtail possum is introduced to New Zealand at Riverton, Southland, to contribute to the fur trade. [t11–1838]
(Brockie, 2009)
- 1838** **House of Lords' Select Committee Report on the State of New Zealand published**
 A select committee of the British House of Lords hears evidence on the state of New Zealand and submissions from interested parties on the future of the country. The committee concludes by issuing a report entitled *Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords on the Present State of the Islands of New Zealand*, which recommends a treaty be entered into with Māori to extend British rule over New Zealand while protecting the rights of Māori. [t2–1839]
(Moon, 2010: 36)
- 1838** **Gorse introduced to New Zealand**
 By 1838 gorse has been introduced as a hedge plant. It spreads quickly, and in 1900 it is declared a weed by Act of Parliament. [t11–1843]
(Hill et al., 2000: 909–910)
- 1839** **King Louis-Philippe approves a French colony at Akaroa**
 Jean Francois Langlois establishes a French settlement at Akaroa, where he has purchased land from local Māori. This event puts pressure on the British government to secure the colony. [t2–1839]
(Copland, 2009)

1839

Letters Patent establish New Zealand as a territory of New South Wales

‘*Letters Patent* altering and enlarging the limits of the territory of New South Wales so as to include Norfolk Island and any territory which may be acquired in sovereignty by Her Majesty, her heirs or successors, within that group of islands in the Pacific Ocean commonly called New Zealand, lying between the latitudes of 94° 30’ and 47° 10’ S, and 166° 5’ and 179° E longitude from the meridian of Greenwich, &c.’ [t2–1839]

(*Brookers Public Law Handbook*, 2012)

1839

Hobson appointed British consul

‘The British Government appoints William Hobson as consul to New Zealand, with instructions to obtain sovereignty with the consent of a “sufficient number” of chiefs.’ This follows a report written by Hobson in 1837 on the prospects for New Zealand, undertaken for Sir Richard Bourke, Governor of the Colony of New South Wales. [t41–1841]

(*Elder*, 1932: 528; *MCH*, 2009b; *Moon*, 2010: 34)

1839

First New Zealand Company settlement

A proposal to establish colonies of British settlers in New Zealand is made by Edward Wakefield and the New Zealand Association (later the New Zealand Company). A land-buying expedition is dispatched in May 1839 and led by Wakefield’s brother William. A deed for the purchase of land in the Port Nicholson (Wellington) area is concluded with local Māori chiefs. On 22 January 1840, the first New Zealand Company settlers arrive in the Wellington area. [t2–1839]

(*Hutt City Council*, n.d.; *Moon*, 2010: 38; *Sorrenson*, 1986: B–8)

1839 Lord Normanby issues instructions on a potential treaty

Lord Normanby, the British Colonial Secretary, issues instructions to ‘conclude a treaty between the British Crown and the Maori chiefs’. These instructions recognise Māori sovereignty and the need to regulate European settlers.

[t2–1840]

(Moon, 2010: 40)

1840 Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi) signed

The Treaty of Waitangi is signed between the ‘Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland’ and the ‘Native Chiefs and Tribes of New Zealand’. [t2–1840]

(MCH, 2011b)

1840 First newspaper, the *New Zealand Gazette*, printed in New Zealand

Owned and edited by Samuel Revans, the newspaper is the mouthpiece of the New Zealand Company, supporting the company in its on-going feuds with the Auckland colonial administration. The first issue of the *New Zealand Gazette* had been published in London the year before, but the second, published in 1840, was the first newspaper printed in New Zealand. [t48–1898]

(NLNZ, n.d.[a])

1840 Hobson proclaims British sovereignty over New Zealand

‘On 21 May Lieutenant-Governor Hobson proclaims British sovereignty over all of New Zealand: over the North Island on the basis of cession through the Treaty of Waitangi and over the southern islands by right of discovery.’ Under the New South Wales Continuance Act 1840, New Zealand becomes a dependency of New South Wales. The currently named North, South and Stewart islands are to be named ‘New Ulster’, ‘New Munster’, and ‘New Leinster’, respectively. This is the second proclamation by the British, following that of Captain Cook in 1770. [t2–1840]

(MCH, 2009b; n.d.[d]; Moon, 2010: 62)

- 1840** **Russell becomes capital of New Zealand**
 Lieutenant-Governor Hobson establishes his seat of government near Okiato and names the first capital Russell. [t39–1840]
(NZ Govt, n.d.[a]; Wilson, J., 2009b)
- 1840** **First bank established in New Zealand**
 In September, the New Zealand Banking Company, the first bank to be founded in New Zealand, is established in Kororāreka. A few months earlier, in March, New Zealand's first trading bank, the Union Bank of Australia, opens on the Petone foreshore and begins issuing the first bank notes. [t23–1861]
(Grant, D., 2010; Moon, 2010: 60; Tripe, 2010)
- 1840** **Eight-hour work day first established**
 Carpenter Samuel Parnell negotiates with his employer, George Hunter, for an 'eight-hour work day' for himself and others. [t53–1890]
(MCH, 2010a; 2010b)
- 1840** **Auckland becomes capital of New Zealand**
 In September 1840, Hobson moves the seat of government to the shores of the Waitematā Harbour, founding Auckland as the second capital. [t39–1865]
(Wilson, J., 2009b)
- 1840** **Charter of 1840 establishes a Legislative Council and an Executive Council**
 'Charter for erecting the colony of New Zealand, and for creating and establishing a Legislative Council and an Executive Council, and for granting certain powers and authorities to the Governor for the time being of the said colony'. [t2–1841]
(Brookers Public Law Handbook, 2012)

1841 New Zealand becomes a separate Crown Colony

New Zealand becomes a separate Crown Colony, bringing its connection with New South Wales to an end. [t2–1841]
(MCH, 2009b)

1841 First New Zealand tariff system introduced

The Customs Regulation Ordinance introduces the first tariff in the new colony. Before 1841, New Zealand came under the jurisdiction of the New South Wales tariff regulations. [t26–1845]
(Goldsmith, 2008:18)

1841 Treaty of Waitangi first incorporated into legislation

Treaty provisions are incorporated into legislation under the Land Claims Ordinance 1841. [t2–1846]
(Jamieson, 2004: 113)

1841 Hobson becomes first Governor

William Hobson becomes Governor and appoints an Executive Council, consisting of a Colonial Secretary, Treasurer and Attorney-General, and a Legislative Council. The latter consists of the above three plus three Justices of the Peace. ‘All were Pakeha, land owning men.’ [t41–1845]
(Network Waitangi Taranaki, 2000)

1842 First use of the death penalty

A 16-year-old Māori boy is the first person to be executed in New Zealand. In accordance with English common law, people could be sentenced to death if they were guilty of murder, piracy or treason. [t50–1846]
(MCH, 2010c; Newbold, 2011)

1842 Gold discovered

Whalers and one of Arthur Wakefield's survey parties almost simultaneously find traces of gold in the Coromandel and in the Takaka River, near Nelson, respectively. The discovery of gold, and the following gold rush, precipitates an increase in immigration. [t17–1856]

(*McLintock, 1966c; Tourism NZ, n.d.[a]*)

1843 Merino sheep introduced

Large-scale sheep farming begins when 300 merino sheep are brought over from Australia. [t11–1871]

(*McLintock, 1966d*)

1843 Wairau incident

A confrontation results in the deaths of least 22 Europeans and 4 Māori. The New Zealand Company sends surveyors onto tribal land on the Wairau plains near Nelson. Ngāti Toa chiefs evict the surveyors and burn their shelters. Captain Arthur Wakefield, brother of William Wakefield (principal agent of the New Zealand Company), responds by mobilising a settler militia, who attempt to arrest the chiefs responsible. [t63–1844]

(*Mitchell & Mitchell, 2009*)

1844 Hone Heke assaults the flagstaff at Kororāreka

Heke makes his first assault on the flagstaff in July 1844 when it is chopped down by his right-hand man, Te Haratua. This signifies his dissatisfaction with the effects of European colonisation. Following its re-erection by the British it is attacked again twice, on 10 and 19 January 1845. Heke's final attack on the flagstaff on 11 March 1845 leads to an outbreak of war in the north. Heke was also a renowned politician and a skilled orator, who was held in high regard by many Māori and Pākehā. [t63–1845]

(*MCH, n.d.[e]; Whakamiharo Lindauer, n.d.*)

- 1844** **First New Zealand debenture notes issued**
 To address debts accrued during Hobson's regime his successor, Governor Fitzroy, issues an ordinance which authorises the issuing of debenture notes. These are effectively New Zealand's first state-approved currency. [t24–1858]
(Moon, 2010: 70)
- 1844** **First settlement under the Treaty of Waitangi**
 Māori land owners in Taranaki have their land returned to them after Governor Fitzroy declares its purchase by the New Zealand Company to have been conducted unlawfully and in breach of the Treaty of Waitangi. [t34–1847]
(Moon, 2010: 72)
- 1844** **European diseases significantly affect the Māori population**
 The arrival of Europeans brings diseases such as measles, influenza, typhoid fever and tuberculosis. During the decade 1844 to 1854, decimating epidemics sweep through Māori villages. The 19th-century historian Elsdon Best noted: '... many villages [were] almost depopulated, and many settlements were decimated on account of the scourge. Natives of several parts of the North Island have told me that when the famous rewharewha (influenza) was ravaging the land the dead were often so numerous that they were left in the houses unburied, while the survivors fled in terror to seek a new home elsewhere.' [t7–1890]
(Lange, R., 2011; Royal Society NZ, 1904)
- 1845** **Kororāreka whaling post destroyed**
 After war breaks out in the north, Kororāreka is attacked. The whaling port, with a reputation as 'the hell-hole of the Pacific', is largely destroyed. [t63–1860]
(MCH, 2009d)



Skeleton of the extinct moa (*Dinornis*)
1850

‘I think we may safely infer that the islands of New Zealand were densely peopled ... by tribes of gigantic ostrich-like birds, of species and genera which have long since been obliterated ...’

— Palaeontologist Gideon Mantell

1845 Grey becomes Governor

Between 1845 and 1879 George Grey holds the positions of Governor-in-Chief, Governor of New Zealand (twice) and Premier. [t41–1856]

(New Zealand Parliament, n.d.[a]; NZ Govt, n.d.[a])

1845 First local government rates system attempted

The Public Roads and Works Ordinance represents the first attempt to establish a system whereby local authorities could levy rates to pay for things such as roads, bridges, waterworks and markets. This was followed by several pieces of legislation in the 1860s, including the Municipal Corporations Act 1867, that aimed to consolidate local authorities and establish road boards. [t26–1866]

(Goldsmith, 2008: 48–50)

1846 New Zealand Constitution Act 1846 (UK)

The Act divides New Zealand into two provinces, New Ulster (North Island) and New Munster (South Island). The Act also sets out a complex three-tiered system of government, with elected municipal corporations, provincial assemblies and a general assembly. [t2–1846]

(MCH, n.d.[ff]; RCES, 1986: A–8)

1846 Armed police force established

A more organised and centralised structure is implemented by Governor Grey to preserve order and suppress rebellion in the infant colony. It replaces the New South Wales system, where police magistrates recruited forces at a local level. [t50–1854]

(Hill, 2012)

1846 Charter of 1846 endorses local self-government

This Act proposes the creation of a complex hierarchy of representative institutes with direct and indirect elections. It was never fully implemented and was superseded by the New Zealand Constitution Act 1852 (UK). [t2–1847]

(Brookers Public Law Handbook, 2012; Joseph, 2007: 105–106)

1847 New Zealand Constitution Act 1846 (UK) suspended

Grey suspends the introduction of the 1846 Act, ‘claiming that the settler population of 13,000 could not be trusted to pass measures that would protect the interests of the 100,000-plus Māori population’. He was concerned this could lead to conflict so delayed the implementation of the provisions relating to provincial and general assemblies for five years. [t2–1849]

(*MCH, n.d.ff*); *RCEs, 1986: A–9*)

1847 Legal decision: R v Symonds

This case establishes the status of Māori land rights after the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi. Justice Chapman finds that Māori have ‘Native title’ rights to their land, which exist independent of the Treaty. These rights ensure that Māori ownership of land cannot be extinguished without their free consent, and that the Crown has the first right to purchase the land if and when the decision is made to sell it. [t34–1860]

(*Ward, 1997: 476*)

1849 Settlers Constitutional Associations established

Associations are formed by wealthy and influential settlers to introduce representative government. [t2–1850]

(*Network Waitangi Taranaki, 2000*)

1850 New Zealand Company’s charter surrendered

The Company’s existence as a colonising body ends on 5 July 1850. The Company had come into financial strife and been unable to recoup its losses, leaving it no choice but to surrender its charter. [t2–1852]

(*Waitangi Tribunal, 2003: 256*)

1852 New Zealand Constitution Act 1852 (UK)

A system of representative government for New Zealand is established by the New Zealand Constitution Act 1852 (UK). Six provinces (later extended to 10), each with their own elected superintendents and provincial councils, are established. A national General Assembly is established, with a Crown-appointed Legislative Council and a House of Representatives to be elected every five years by males who own, lease or rent property of a minimum value and are over the age of 21. [t2–1858]

(MCH, 2009b; n.d.[ff])

1852 Kīngitanga movement established

Tamihana Te Rauparaha and Matene Te Whiwhi first introduce to North Island iwi the idea of a ‘Kīngitanga movement to establish a Māori nation’. Not all iwi give their support to the movement. [t32–1858]

(MCH, 2007b; Network Waitangi Taranaki, 2000)

1853 First general election held

The House of Representatives’ first 37 Members of Parliament are elected. Sir George Grey is criticised for calling the provincial councils to meet before the General Assembly, as this is seen by some to indicate a bias towards provincial government. [t20–1867]

(MCH, 2009b; n.d.[ff])

1854 First meeting of the General Assembly

The General Assembly meets for the first time in Auckland. It consists of a Legislative Council appointed by the Crown, and a House of Representatives to be elected every five years. [t40–1856]

(MCH, 2009b; n.d.[ff])

1854 Volunteer fire brigade established

The first volunteer fire brigade is established in Auckland. Previously, fire brigades had been organised by insurance companies to fight fires only in buildings they insured. Some regions had regulations requiring citizens to have two buckets of water on hand at all times. [t50–1957]
(*Swarbrick, 2010*)

1855 Wairarapa earthquake

A magnitude 8.2 earthquake occurs in the southern part of the North Island, altering the landscape of the Wellington region. New land is raised above sea level which has a significant effect on the city's urban development. [t6–1886]
(*McSaveney, 2009a*)

1856 Responsible government established

'Responsible' government begins in New Zealand. This means the Executive is supported by a majority in the House of Representatives. The Governor continues to retain responsibility for defence and Māori affairs.
[t40–1857]
(*MCH, 2009b*)

1856 Sewell becomes the first Premier

Henry Sewell becomes New Zealand's first Premier, but his administration lasts only a fortnight due to his belief that the provinces must be subordinate to the central 'general government', which was contested by a narrow majority of 'provincialists'. [t41–1870]
(*Grant, I.F., 2003: 26; McLauchlan, 2009: 198*)

1856 Collingwood-Takaka gold rush begins

Following the discovery of gold in the Aorere Valley, a gold rush to the Collingwood-Takaka district ensues. By May 1857, 1500 miners are working in the district, and by August 1859 gold to the value of approximately £150,000 has been exported from Nelson. [t17–1861]
(*McLintock, 1966c; MED, n.d.[a]*)

1856 Moa skeleton given to British Museum

Walter Mantell gives his large collection of moa bones, including the largest moa skeleton yet recovered, to the British Museum. The giant moa, *Dinornis robustus*, is thought to be the tallest bird that ever lived. While the British Museum now retains possession of New Zealand's largest moa, Te Papa Tongarewa retains possession of the first dinosaur fossil found in England, an iguanodon tooth. This was part of a collection held by Walter's father, Gideon Mantell, a respected English doctor, palaeontologist and geologist. The moa is mentioned in Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* (1859). See 1850 image on page 22. [t52–1865] (*Cadbury*, 2000: 324; *Sorrenson*, 2010; *TerraNature Trust*, 2010)

1857 Government begins appointing Legislative Council members

After the establishment of 'responsible' government, the Government begins appointing Legislative Council members, and immediately starts 'stacking' the Council with its own supporters. The Legislative Council is the Upper House of New Zealand's Parliament, and is modelled on England's House of Lords. The aim is to ensure legislation is not passed in haste. [t40–1872] (*New Zealand Parliament*, 2006a)

1858 English Laws Act 1858

This Act of the General Assembly confirmed that the colony of New Zealand inherited all English statute and common law as existing on 14 January 1840 that was applicable to the circumstances of New Zealand. This wording left continuing uncertainty as to which imperial statutes New Zealand had inherited. The Imperial Laws Application Act 1988 finally allayed the uncertainty by specifying the imperial statutes that applied as law. [t2–1876]

(*Joseph*, 2007: 22–23; *Waitangi Tribunal*, 2010)

1858 British coins become legal tender

The English Laws Act 1858 retrospectively applies the Coinage Act 1816 (UK) as existing on 14 January 1840. This eliminates legal uncertainty and results in British coins becoming legal tender in New Zealand retrospectively. [t24–1868]

(Matthews, 2003: 42)

1858 Population reaches 115,462

The Census Act 1858 establishes centralised collection of population data and three-yearly censuses. This was amended to every five years in 1877. Since then, there have only been three times when the national census has not been conducted as scheduled: in 1931 during the Great Depression; in 1941 during World War II, and in 2011 due to the Christchurch earthquakes. The 1858 census is also the first to include the Māori population. It shows the total population for New Zealand as 115,462, of whom 49% are Māori and 51% Pākehā. 1858 is considered to be the point at which Māori became a minority. [t51–1886]

(McLintock, 1966e; Moon, 2010: 78; Statistics NZ, n.d.[a])

1858 First Māori King

‘The Waikato chief Te Wherowhero becomes the first Māori King, taking the name Pōtatau. The rise of Te Kīngitanga reflects Māori desires for a leader to unite the tribes, protect land from further sales and make laws for Māori.’ [t32–1860]

(MCH, 2009b)

1860 Land Wars begin

The New Zealand Land Wars begin. Key battles during this time include the Battle of Waireka (1860), the Battle of Rangiriri (1863), the Battle of Ōrākau (1864) and the Battle of Gate Pa, Tauranga (1864). [t63–1863]

(MCH, 2010d; NZ Museums, n.d.; Rutherford, 2009)

1860

Second Māori King

Tukaroto Matutaera Pōtatau Te Wherowhero Tāwhiao inherits the kingship following the death of his father Pōtatau, the first Māori King. See c. 1880 image on page 30. [t32–1894]
(*Mabuta*, 2010)

1860

Kohimarama hui

Over 200 Māori leaders hold a conference under government patronage during which officials make efforts to clarify the clauses within the Treaty of Waitangi through ‘presenting it in the most benevolent light’. [t34–1861]
(*Network Waitangi Taranaki*, 2000)

1861

Ministry of Maori Affairs established

Responsibility for Māori Affairs is transferred to a local ministry. [t55–1892]
(*Sorrenson*, 1986: B–14)

1861

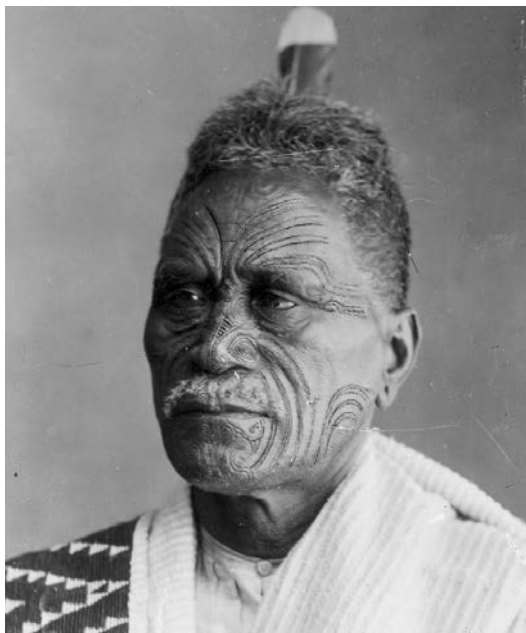
Otago gold rush begins

In May, Australian prospector Gabriel Read discovers gold in Otago. By December the population has increased from around 13,000 to 30,000, with many miners coming from Australia. [t17–1862]
(*McLintock*, 1966f)

1861

Walter Mantell appointed Native Minister and seeks fulfilment of Ngāi Tahu promises

Walter Mantell (son of Gideon Mantell [see 1856 and image on page 22]) agrees to take the post of Native Minister on the condition that unfulfilled promises he made to the Ngāi Tahu iwi in 1848, when acquiring vast areas of land for the New Zealand government, would be finally resolved. Six months later he resigns as his condition has not been met and the promises to Ngāi Tahu remain unfulfilled. [t34–1862]
(*MCH*, 2009e)



Tukaroto Matutaera Pōtatau Te Wherowhero Tāwhiao
Second Māori King
c. 1880

‘Ki te kāhore he whakakitenga
ka ngaro te iwi’

‘Without foresight or vision the
people will be lost’

— King Tāwhiao

1861

Bank of New Zealand established

The New Zealand Bank Act 1861, an initiative of Aucklanders Thomas Russell, establishes the Bank of New Zealand (BNZ). The aim of the Act is to create a national institution to rival the Bank of New South Wales and Union Bank of Australia (UBA), and by 1865 the BNZ eclipses these two Australian institutions. [t23–1934]
(*Rice, 1992: 67*)

1862

First telegraph line

The first telegraph line in New Zealand is established between Lyttelton and Christchurch. [t14–1866]
(*Wilson, A. C., 2010a*)

1862

Native Lands Act 1862

The Native Lands Act 1862 sets up the Native Land Court, a court of Māori chiefs chaired by a Pakeha magistrate. The Act allows Māori to deal directly with settlers over land. Because it contravenes the Treaty, it needs to be approved in London. The Act is barely implemented before it is replaced in 1865. [t34–1863]
(*MCH, 2010d*)

1862

Wakamarina and West Coast gold rush begins

Miners first begin to migrate to the West Coast in 1862. By September 1865 there are 16,000 miners scattered around gold fields throughout the region. [t17–1875]
(*McLintock, 1966g*)

1862

New Zealand Steam Navigation Company established

In 1862, the first big coastal shipping company is formed, the New Zealand Steam Navigation Company. From this point steamers begin to dominate the coastline. By the 1870s, steam-powered ships make up half the vessels in New Zealand coastal waters. [t18–1863]
(*McLean, 2009*)

1863 New Zealand Settlements Act 1863

‘[A] parent statute which allowed the governor to proclaim districts that had been “in rebellion” and then to set apart within such districts “eligible sites for colonisation”; persons owning land taken were entitled to compensation except those “engaged in levying or making war or carrying arms” against the Crown (s5); the Act established the Compensation Courts (s8).’ [t34–1865]

(*Boast, 2009: 263*)

1863 New Zealand’s first public railway opens

The first steam railway joins Christchurch with Ferrymead. [t18–1865]

(*Atkinson, 2010a; Wilson, J., 2009c*)

1863 British troops invade Waikato

British troops cross the Mangatawhiri stream on 12 July 1863. The Māori King Movement (Kingitanga) has declared this to be an ‘aukati’ (a line that should not be crossed) and considers any breach to be an act of war. The intention of the British is to ‘dig around the Kingitanga’ until it falls; the movement is viewed as a ‘separatist movement that challenged British sovereignty’ and ‘an anti-land-selling league’. The conflict culminates in a battle at Ōrākau after which the Waikato people are forced into a pocket of land that becomes known as the King Country and the Waikato lands are confiscated by the government. [t63–1870]

(*MCH, n.d.[g]; Royal, 2010*)

1863 Boundaries of colony fixed

An imperial statute fixes the boundaries of the colony of New Zealand for constitutional purposes. These include a number of scattered islands and groups of islands. [t5–1900]

(*Stout & Stout, 1911: 1*)

1863 HMS *Orpheus* disaster

HMS *Orpheus* is wrecked on the Manukau Harbour bar, resulting in the deaths of 189 crew members. It remains New Zealand's worst maritime disaster. [t10–1953]
(CCL, n.d.[a])

1865 Wellington becomes capital of New Zealand

The seat of government moves from Auckland to Wellington, which becomes the country's third capital. [t39 ends]
(Wilson, J., 2009b)

1865 Changes to the Native Land Court

The Native Lands Act 1865 replaces the Native Lands Act 1862, which set the foundations for the Native Land Court. In determining ownership of land under the new Act, 'the court was required to name no more than 10 owners, regardless of block size. All other tribal members who may have been owners were effectively dispossessed.' [t34–1872]
(MCH, 2010d)

1865 All Māori declared British subjects

The Native Rights Act 1865 declares all Māori to be British-born subjects, giving effect to Article Three of the Treaty of Waitangi. The Act confirms Māori are to have the same rights and privileges as British subjects, as if natural-born subjects of the Crown. [t1–1948]
(Green, 2009a; Joseph, 2008: 8)

1865 Colonial Museum and New Zealand Geological Survey established

The Colonial Museum and New Zealand Geological Survey are established under the directorship of geologist and naturalist James Hector, who believed that '[o]ne of the most important duties in connection with the geological survey of a new country is the formation of a scientific museum.' In its first nine months, the museum receives 1600 visitors and accumulates 14,000 specimens and artifacts in its collections. The New Zealand Geological Survey produces annual reports of geological exploration, and assesses various areas of New Zealand for their scientific or economic importance. The search for gold and coal is of particular importance. In 1892 responsibility for geology and mining moves to the Mines Department and the Survey is no longer funded. [t52–1867] (*Nathan, 2009; Te Papa, n.d.[a]*)

1865 Construction begins on a section of the South Island Main Trunk line

Large crowds celebrate the turning of the 'first sod' in the construction of the railway between Christchurch and Timaru. [t18–1871] (*Atkinson, 2010b*)

1866 First Cook Strait cable laid

The first Cook Strait cable is laid between Lyall Bay and Whites Bay and timely communication between the North and South Islands becomes possible. [t14–1876] (*Stephens, 2008; Wilson, A.C., 2010a*)

1866 First oil struck at New Plymouth

The first oil well in New Zealand is dug at Moturoa, on the New Plymouth foreshore, in 1865. In 1866, oil is struck at 20 metres. [t16–1964] (*Envirohistory NZ, 2011*)

1866 Stamp and death duties introduced

The first permanent direct taxes are introduced as a consequence of the high cost of the 1860s land wars. Stamp duties tax documents such as mortgage deeds. Death duties tax inheritance; these existed in some form until 1992 when they were abolished by Minister of Finance Ruth Richardson. [t26–1878]

(*Goldsmith, 2008: 308–309; 2010a*)

1867 Community primary schooling for Māori established

The Native Schools Act 1867 establishes a national state-controlled system of primary schools for Māori. English is the dominant language, and many Māori are supportive of their children learning English. However, the policy is later enforced rigorously, with many reports of punishment for children speaking Māori at schools. [t52–1867]

(*King, 2003: 211; NZETC, 1867a*)

1867 New Zealand Institute Act 1867

This Act is designed to co-ordinate and assist the activities of a number of regional research societies including the Auckland Institute, the Wellington Philosophical Society and the Otago Institute. The director of the Colonial Museum automatically becomes the manager of the New Zealand Institute and oversees the production of the Institute's journal, *Transactions*. Contributors to the journal include James Hector, William Colenso, Charles Fleming, Thomas Hocken and Ernest Rutherford. [t52–1869]

(*NLNZ, n.d.[b]; Te Papa, n.d.[a]*)

1867 Māori seats created for a five-year duration

The Maori Representation Act 1867 is passed to provide for ‘the better Representation of the Native Aboriginal Inhabitants of the Colony of New Zealand’. Four Māori electoral districts are created, ‘as a temporary measure until such time as the fact that the tribal nature of Māori land ownership denied Māori the vote was rendered irrelevant by the issue of Crown grants.’ This provision is to have a five-year duration. [t20–1868]

(*NZETC, 1867b; RCES, 1986: A–29*)

1867 British Victoria Cross awarded to a New Zealander

Charles Heaphy becomes the first colonial recipient of the British Victoria Cross (VC) in recognition of his gallantry as a member of the Auckland Volunteer Rifles at Waiari, near Te Awamutu. Heaphy had gone to the aid of a wounded soldier under fire. The VC was introduced in 1859 by Queen Victoria and is the highest British award, presented for valour in the face of enemy action. It had previously been unavailable to colonial troops. To date, there have been 21 New Zealand recipients of the VC. In 1869 the New Zealand Cross was established, and awarded to 23 men who served during the New Zealand Land Wars. These were the only recipients of this rare military honour. [t65–1999]

(*MCH, 2012b; 2012c; 2012d*)

1868 First elections with Māori electorate seats

The first elections are held with the Māori seats. [t20–1870]

(*MCH, 2010d*)

1868 Standardisation of time

The advent of the telegraph increases the need for accurate time-keeping, prompting the adoption of an official, countrywide time. Originally set at 11½ hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), this changed to GMT + 12 hours during the Second World War. [t24–1927]

(*DIA, n.d.; McKinnon, 2012a*)

1869 New Zealand's first university established

New Zealand's first university, the University of Otago, is founded by an ordinance of the Otago Provincial Council. An area encompassing 100,000 acres of pastoral land is endowed upon the university, which is authorised to grant degrees in Arts, Medicine, Law and Music. [t52–1871]
(*University of Otago, n.d.*)

1870 Voting by secret ballot introduced for European seats

Although a show of hands is still retained, the Regulation of Elections Act 1870 requires voting by secret ballot if a poll is demanded. The Act is considered to be one of the most important electoral reforms in New Zealand's history. It acknowledges the vote as an individual right rather than a public trust, undermining one of the strongest arguments against universal suffrage. 'The adoption of the secret ballot opened the door for the progressive extension of the franchise to all adult men and – eventually – to women.'
[t20–1872]
(*Atkinson, 2003: 55*)

1870 Last British imperial troops leave New Zealand

As the New Zealand Land Wars draw to a close the British government withdraws its imperial troops, leaving the New Zealand government to make its own military arrangements. [t63–1881]
(*Moon, 2010: 84*)

1870

Vogel actions public works plan

On 28 June 1870 Julius Vogel proposes a scheme for the development of New Zealand's public infrastructure. 'We recognize that the great wants of the Colony are – public works, in the shape of roads and railways; and immigration ... the two are, or ought to be, inseparably united ...' The development would be financed by £10 million to be borrowed on overseas markets. Prior to this the economy had been depressed for a number of years, and prices for gold production, wool and wheat were declining. The low level of immigration was also a concern. Years later, Vogel also noted that he had hoped employment of Māori through his public works scheme would help promote peaceful relations between Māori and non-Māori. Vogel goes on to write the utopian novel *Anno Domini 2000* or *Woman's Destiny*, about New Zealand in the year 2000. [t41–1900]

(Armstrong, W.R., 2009; Dalziel, R., 1986: 104–105; Vogel, 2000)

1871

Vogel makes first official visit to the United States to establish a steamer service

During this first official visit to the United States, Vogel signs a contract with New York shipping contractor W.H. Webb for the commencement of a steamer service between New Zealand and San Francisco. Vogel intends to increase trade between the two countries and requires that the American contractor lobby the United States government for lower trade tariffs on wool and flax from New Zealand. Between 1870 and 1872 the value of New Zealand exports to the United States increases from £37,000 to £337,915, with wool the greatest export by a significant margin. [t18–1872]

(Dalziel, R., 1986: 115–119)

1871

University of Otago opens all classes to women

It is the first university in Australasia and the United Kingdom to do so. [t52–1877]

(Hughes & Abern, 1993: 9)

1871 First dairy co-operative established

The first dairy co-operative is established in Otago. Dairy co-operatives pool available resources and manage the marketing aspect of the members' operations. By 1920, 85 percent of New Zealand's dairy factories are managed by dairy co-operatives. These co-operatives gradually merge until only four large organisations remain in the late 1990s. [t11–1882]

(Fonterra, n.d.; Stringleman & Scrimgeour, 2009)

1872 Māori seats extended another five years

The Maori Representation Act Amendment and Continuance Act 1872 extends the duration of the Māori seats for a further five years. This follows the expiry of the Maori Representation Act 1867. [t20–1876]

(RCES, 1986: A–30)

1872 Two Māori Members of Parliament join the Legislative Council

In addition to the four Māori seats established in 1867, two Māori Members of Parliament are appointed to the Legislative Council. [t40–1892]

(Durie, 2003: 117)

1872 First New Zealand shipping line established

The desire for a nationally based shipping company to manage the rapid growth of trade in New Zealand leads businessmen in each of the four main cities to found a provincial shipping line. The first line to be established is the Auckland-based New Zealand Freight Company in July 1872. A year later the Auckland-, Wellington-, Christchurch- and Dunedin-based provincial companies merge to form a single national company called the New Zealand Shipping Company. In addition, in 1875 The Union Steam Ship Company is established in Dunedin and plays a key role in inter-colonial trade between New Zealand and Australia in the late 1800s. [t18–1885]

(Rakaia, n.d.; Rice, 1992: 80)

- 1872** **Native Affairs Committee established to hear petitions**
 The committee is set up to ‘handle the flood of Māori petitions that poured into the House’. The committee is ‘invariably outvoted on large issues – like the return of the confiscated lands’. Unable to speak English and often ignored, the Māori members are ‘little more than a token representation’.
 [t34–1877]
(Sorrenson, 1986: B–25, B–26)
- 1875** **Waihi gold rush begins**
 The Waihi area becomes open for prospecting and a subsequent gold rush ensues. [t17–1887]
(MED, n.d.[a])
- 1876** **‘One man, one vote’ proposed by Sir George Grey**
 Sir George Grey introduces a ‘one man, one vote’ Bill. The Bill is defeated, meaning voters still need property to qualify. [t20–1876]
(McLauchlan, 2009: 199)
- 1876** **Debate on Māori representation in the House**
 A Bill is introduced providing for an increase in Māori representation in the House to seven members, but is not passed. In the same year, close to 400 members of the Ngāti Kahungunu iwi petition Parliament ‘asking for Māori representation to be “in the same proportion as the representation is of the European race by European members” and for Māori electorates to be based on tribal boundaries’.
 [t20–1876]
(Sorrenson, 1986: B–24)
- 1876** **Māori seats now extended indefinitely**
 The existence of Māori seats is extended indefinitely. There are no moves to abolish the Māori seats amid fears that a flood of Māori voters on the European rolls would affect the chances of Europeans in those seats. [t20–1879]
(Sorrenson 1986: B–24)

1876 Abolition of the provinces

The provinces are abolished. This leaves central government as the only law-making authority, resulting in the creation of a number of local bodies. [t2–1901]

(MCH, 2009b)

1876 First trans-Tasman cable laid

A communications cable is laid from Australia to New Zealand, landing north of Nelson at Cable Bay. On 21 February it opens for public use; 54 telegrams are received and 93 are sent during this first day. Cable news direct from England appears the next day for the first time in New Zealand newspapers. [t14–1878]

(Wilson, A.C., 2010b)

1876 ‘God Defend New Zealand’ is first performed

‘God Defend New Zealand’ is first performed publicly.

The words are written by Thomas Bracken and the music composed by John Woods. In 1940 the government buys the rights to the song, declaring it the national hymn, and in 1977 it becomes one of two national anthems. [t35–1977]

(Cryer, 2004)

1877 Legal decision: Wi Parata v Bishop of Wellington

The case of Wi Parata v Bishop of Wellington concerns Ngāti Toa land which was gifted to the Anglican Bishop for a Māori school at Porirua that was never built. Parata seeks the return of the land, however Chief Justice Prendergast declares Māori to be ‘a primitive tribal society possessing no laws capable of recognition or protection by the Courts’. He holds that the Treaty of Waitangi is no more than a ‘simple nullity’ and does not recognise any native title. [t34–1889]

(MCH, 2009f)

- 1877** **Free primary school education established**
 The Education Act 1877 legislates for free, compulsory education for children at primary school level. Approximately 730 public primary schools are set up by regional education boards. Māori children can now attend state schools. [t52–1895]
(Swarbrick, 2009a)
- 1878** **Land tax introduced**
 Premier Sir George Grey introduces a land tax to shift the burden of taxation off the poor. This is replaced the following year with a broader property tax that covers the value of land, herds and personal possessions. Over time, income tax becomes the dominant form of taxation of personal wealth. [t26–1891]
(Goldsmith, 2010a; McAlister et al., 2012)
- 1878** **Long depression begins**
 The City Bank in Glasgow collapses leading to a reduction in available credit for New Zealand. The long depression lasts until the early 1890s. [t15–1929]
(Easton, 2010)
- 1878** **First telephone communication made**
 Electrician Charles Henry organises a ‘talking telegraph’ test using a telephone instrument and wire between the Dunedin Telegraph office and the Tokomairiro office in Milton, 57 kilometres away. He asks numerous questions and receives instantaneous responses. [t14–1960]
(Newman, 2010)
- 1879** **Universal suffrage for European men**
 The vote is extended to all non-Māori adult males. Māori can only vote in a European electorate if they hold a £25 freehold estate or are a ratepayer. [t20–1881]
(Vasil, 1990: 173)

1879 Term of Parliament shortened from five to three years

The parliamentary term, previously lasting five years, is shortened to three years. [t4–1934]

(Stout & Stout, 1911: 95–96)

1881 Country quota established

A ‘country quota’ is established to reduce the marginalisation of rural interests as New Zealand becomes more urbanised. The quota – under which 33% was added to the rural population for the purpose of determining electoral boundaries – is intended to maintain the ‘existing balance between urban and rural parliamentary constituencies’. The quota was decreased in 1887, increased in 1889 and eventually abolished in 1945. [t20–1881]

(McLintock, 1966b)

1881 Single-member electoral districts established

Under the Representation Act 1881, 91 European electoral districts are created, each returning one member. [t20–1887]

(RCES, 1986: A–39)

1881 Attack on Parihaka

A military force of 1589 men invades the Taranaki settlement, whose people are dedicated to passive resistance in their opposition to the confiscation of Māori land. The Governor of New Zealand, Sir Arthur Gordon, had been dispatched by Britain to calm the mounting tensions. However, Native Minister John Bryce takes the opportunity afforded by the Governor’s visit to Fiji to bring matters to a head. Bryce leads the invasion ‘mounted on a white charger, with sabre and full military uniform’; he is peacefully greeted by more than 2000 villagers. The government is clearly uncomfortable with the attack and an information blackout suppresses official reports for over two years. Those reports eventually reveal that ‘Parihaka had been taken without resistance; that it was “completely broken up”; that about 1500 men, women and children had been arrested; and that six were imprisoned, including Te Whiti and Tohu, who were held on charges of sedition.’ [t63 ends]

(MCH, n.d.[b]; Waitangi Tribunal, 1996)

- 1882 Ngā Puhi present a petition to Queen Victoria**
 A deputation travels to London to petition Queen Victoria to ‘appoint a “Royal English Commission” to investigate and rectify laws that contravened the Treaty’. The petition also seeks permission to establish a Māori parliament. [t33–1884]
 (Orange, 2004: 100–101)
- 1882 First shipment of frozen meat to Britain**
 ‘The success of the sailing ship *Dunedin*’s first shipment of frozen meat from Canterbury to Britain in 1882 ... paved the way for the trade in frozen meat and dairy products that was to become the cornerstone of New Zealand’s 20th-century economy.’ [t11–1882]
 (MCH, n.d.[i])
- 1882 First large dairy factory built**
 The New Zealand and Australian Land Company transforms an unprofitable sheep station into several smaller dairy farms and soon builds the first large-scale dairy factory in the country – the Edendale Dairy Factory. [t11–1899]
 (Nightingale, 2009a)
- 1884 Waikato present a petition to Queen Victoria**
 The Māori King, Tāwhiao, travels to London to petition Queen Victoria on similar issues to those expressed by the Ngā Puhi deputation in 1882. [t33–1914]
 (Orange, 2004: 102)
- 1885 Women’s Temperance Union established**
 The first national women’s organisation is established and advocates for stricter alcohol laws. Issues surrounding the use and abuse of alcohol particularly affect women in this period as they are largely dependent on men for their income. The Women’s Christian Temperance Union also campaigns for women’s rights and plays an important part in helping women win the vote in 1893. [t61–1896]
 (Cook, 2011a; MCH, 2012e)

- 1885** **Construction of the North Island Main Trunk line begins**
Premier Robert Stout, Ngāti Maniapoto leaders, and others gather at Puniu to launch the construction of the central section of the North Island Main Trunk railway. [t18–1908] (*MCH, 2008a*)
- 1885** **Russian scare leads to military fortifications**
New Zealand builds major fortifications along its coast in response to a fear of a Russian invasion due to Anglo–Russian rivalry in Afghanistan. [t62–1899] (*Wilson, J., 2009d*)
- 1886** **Mt Tarawera eruption**
The eruption lasts over six hours, killing approximately 120 people, and destroying villages and the Pink and White Terraces. [t6–1931] (*McSaveney et al., 2009a*)
- 1886** **New Zealand-born residents become the majority**
The majority of non-Māori people living in New Zealand are now born in the country rather than being immigrants. [t51–1901] (*MCH, 2010e*)
- 1887** **Electoral boundary review of European seats**
The Representation Act 1887 creates the Representation Commission and establishes that, following each five-yearly population census, the Commission will review the size and boundaries of the European electorates. [t20–1890] (*Otago Witness, 1887: 16; Wilson, J., 2009e: 14*)

1887 First national park established

Tongariro becomes the first national park in New Zealand and the fourth in the world. Today it also holds dual status as a World Heritage Area, being recognised for its outstanding volcanic features and its Māori cultural and spiritual associations. There are currently 14 national parks in New Zealand. [t17–1901]

(DOC, n.d.[b]; n.d.[c])

1889 Maori Union of Waitangi formed

A series of hui are held to discuss issues such as the British demand for land, the Native Land Court and relevant legislation, culminating in a meeting in Waitangi in 1889. The Maori Union of Waitangi was established in an effort to institutionalise proceedings. [t34–1900]

(Sorenson, 1986: B–27)

1890 Voting by secret ballot compulsory for European seats

From 1870 voting by secret ballot had been adopted when a poll was demanded, but it is now compulsory across all contested European seats. The compulsory secret ballot does not extend to Māori voters until 1937. [t20–1890]

(Atkinson, 2003: 55; Electoral Commission, 2005a; Wilson, J., 2009e: 13)

1890 First Liberal Government elected

The Liberal Party is elected into government for the first time, with John Ballance heading the party from January 1891. In 1893 he is replaced by Richard Seddon, who leads the party until 1906. Significant reforms are made in the areas of farming, pensions and workers' dwellings. Before this time candidates generally stood independently rather than as part of a political party. [t43–1909]

(Grant, I.F., 2003: 199; Miller, 2005: 27; Wilson, J., 2009f)

1890 First 'one man, one vote' election held for European seats

The first election to implement the 'one man, one vote' system occurs in 1890. This means men who have property in more than one electoral district are only allowed one vote. Previously, 'plural voting' had been legal where a man owned property in multiple electoral districts. However, this new law would not apply to Māori until 1893.

[t20–1893]

(MCH, *n.d.*[fj])

1890 Influenza pandemics

Three waves of influenza pandemics hit New Zealand between 1890 and 1894, resulting in hundreds of deaths.

[t7–1918]

(MCH, 2009g)

1890 Labour Day established

The recently established Maritime Council declares a general strike in sympathy with Australian maritime unionists, with whom they are affiliated. The strike involves an estimated 8000 unionists and is the first major nationwide labour dispute in New Zealand. The first Labour Day, 28 October 1890, marks the first anniversary of the establishment of the Maritime Council. In 1900 Labour Day becomes a national holiday. [t53–1894]

(MCH, 2010a; 2012f; Roth, 2010)

1891 Income tax introduced

The Liberal Party comes to power promising to introduce progressive income tax. Anyone who earns less than £300 per year is exempt from paying tax on income, which includes the majority of the population. Income tax increasingly becomes the largest source of government revenue. [t26–1927]

(Goldsmith, 2010b; McAlister et al., 2012)

1892

Kotahitanga (Māori Parliament) is formed

Māori leaders meet with the New Zealand Parliament in Wellington and agree to form a Māori Parliament ‘to be composed of a lower house of 96 elected members, and an upper house of 50 members, chosen by the lower house ... The Maori Parliament held its first session at Waipatu in Hawke’s Bay later in the year. It continued to meet annually in different Maori settlements for the next 11 years.’ [t55–1900]

(Sorrenson, 1986: B–38)

1892

Legislative Council and House of Representatives disagree

On resigning as Premier, Harry Atkinson appointed seven new members to the Legislative Council who he knew would vote in such a way as to frustrate legislation proposed by the new Premier, John Ballance. After the Governor refused to appoint new members in order to rectify the situation, Ballance applied to the Colonial Office in London which overruled the Governor’s decision and thus created a precedent that Governors must take the advice of Ministers when appointing members to the Legislative Council. ‘The Secretary of State for the Colonies instructed the Governor that he must accept his premier’s advice in all matters not touching Imperial interests.’ This was the last known occasion of a Governor, or Governor-General, rejecting ministerial advice. [t40–1950]

(Joseph, 2007: 117, 221; Moon, 2010: 86)

1893

Plural voting for Māori property owners abolished

Under the Electoral Act 1893, ‘one man, one vote’ now applies to Māori property owners who are entitled to vote. In addition, from 1893 until 1975, ‘those persons of more than half Māori descent were not allowed to vote in a European electorate. Those of less than half Māori descent did not qualify to vote in a Māori electorate and had to cast a vote in a European electorate.’ [t20–1893]

(Electoral Commission, 2005a; Wilson, J., 2009e: 19)



National Council of Women, Christchurch
1896

‘Do not think your single vote
does not matter much. The
rain that refreshes the parched
ground is made up of
single drops.’

— Kate Sheppard (shown seated in middle of
photograph, with hair ribbon)

1893 First Māori elected to a European seat

Ngāti Kahungunu leader James Carroll becomes the first Māori to win a European electorate seat. He goes on to serve as a Cabinet Minister, becoming Minister of Māori Affairs in 1899. He is the only Māori to hold a European seat until 1975. This is when National's Ben Couch (Wairarapa) and Rex Austin (Awarua) successfully contest general electorate seats, as European seats came to be known in 1975. [t20–1893]

(Electoral Commission, 2005b; 2005c; Parker, 2005: 91)

1893 Women given the same voting rights as men

The Electoral Act 1893 grants universal suffrage to all women over 21, including Māori. 'New Zealand becomes the first self-governing country to grant the right to vote to all adult women.' Other developments in women's rights include the Married Women Property Act 1884 and the Divorce Act 1898, which gave married women the right to keep their own property and the same rights as men in relation to divorce. [t20–1896]

(MCH, 2009b; Parker, 2005: 92)

1893 *New Zealand Official Year Book* first published

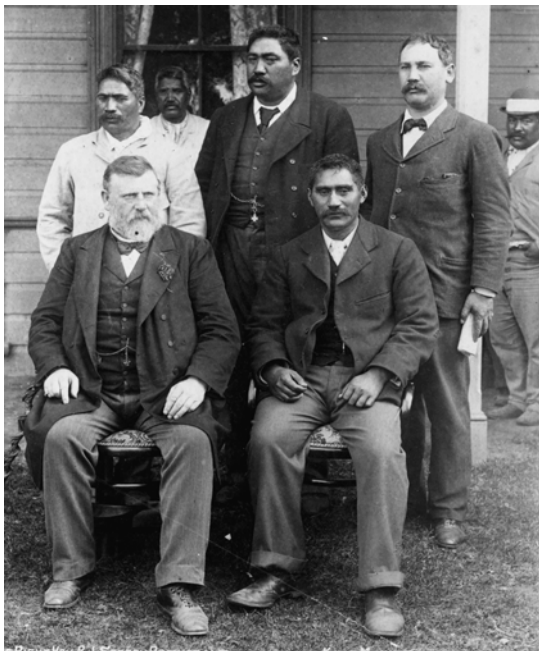
The yearbook, a compendium of facts and figures on New Zealand, has been published most years since 1893. From 2010 it moved to a digital format. See 1896 image on page 49. [t59–1926]

(McLintock, 1966i; Statistics NZ, n.d.[b]; n.d.[c])

1894 Third Māori King

Mahuta Tāwhiao Pōtatau Te Wherowhero, second son of Tāwhiao, is elected as the third Māori King. [t32–1903]

(Foster, 2009a)



Prime Minister Richard Seddon and the third Māori King, Mahuta Tāwhiao Pōtatau Te Wherowhero (both seated). In 1893, James Carroll (top right) was the first Māori to win a European electorate seat. 1898

‘Just leaving for God’s own country’

— Prime Minister Richard Seddon
(his famous words sent via telegram to Thomas Bent, the Victorian Premier, on the eve of his departure from Australia for New Zealand in 1906. Sadly he passed away during this voyage)

- 1894** **Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1894**
 New Zealand becomes the first country in the world to outlaw strikes and make arbitration compulsory. This Act is the brainchild of Minister of Labour William Pember Reeves. Industrial conflict is now to be resolved by District Boards of Conciliation and, failing that, the national Court of Arbitration. The Act is replaced by the Industrial Relations Act 1973. [t53–1912]
(MCH, 2012g)
- 1895** **Mark Twain visits New Zealand**
 American writer Mark Twain speaks in Dunedin's City Hall. In 1897 he publishes the book *Following the Equator* in which he describes his trip to New Zealand. [t52–1907]
(Swarbrick, 2009b)
- 1896** **National Council of Women of New Zealand established**
 The Council's founding members are women who contributed to gaining suffrage for women in New Zealand, with Kate Sheppard as the first president. See 1896 image on page 49. [t61–1898]
(MCH, n.d.[k])
- 1896** **Non-residential qualifications for voting abolished**
 The Electoral Act Amendment Act 1896 abolishes the non-residential qualification for voting. This qualification was defined as 'a freehold or leasehold qualification ... of which residence forms no part'. Richard Seddon objected to 'a preference to property over manhood'. [t20–1908]
(RCES, 1986: A–45)
- 1896** **Brunner mine accident**
 An explosion at the Brunner mine kills 65 coal miners. The death toll remains the largest from any industrial accident in New Zealand. [t8–1914]
(Sherwood & Phillips, 2010)

1898 Old Age Pension Act 1898

The Act provides for those over 65 ‘who during the prime of life have helped to bear the public burdens of the colony ... and to open up its resources ... [to] receive from the colony a pension in their old age’. This Act is the first of this nature in the British Empire and is regarded by some as the birth of social security in New Zealand. However, there are still many restrictions on eligibility; recipients must not own property worth over £50 and must have resided in New Zealand for the previous 25 years. Persons of Chinese descent are specifically excluded and this is not removed until the passing of the Social Security Act 1938. [t61–1907] (*MCH, n.d.[f]*; *McLintock, 1966*; *NZETC, 1898*)

1898 First New Zealand film

The first film to be made in New Zealand is shot by Alfred Whiteman, a travelling showman, who films the opening of the Auckland Industrial and Mining Exhibition on December 1, 1898. In 1899, Whiteman writes to the Colonial Secretary, James Carroll, ‘I have the first and only camera in New Zealand for taking animated pictures for the Kinematograph.’ [t48–1904] (*Kaye, 2001*)

1899 Troops sent to the Boer War

New Zealand sends troops to serve in an external colonial conflict for the first time. The first contingent of 215 men departs on 21 October 1899. This is followed by nine more contingents over the next three years. [t62–1914] (*Moon, 2010: 90*)

1899 Farmers’ Union established

The New Zealand Farmers’ Union meets for the first time at Kaitiā to promote farmers’ interests in government. A Women’s Division of the New Zealand Farmers’ Union is established in 1925. In 1944 the Farmers’ Union unites with the Sheepowners’ Federation to become the Federated Farmers of New Zealand, and in 1946 the Women’s Division of Federated Farmers is established. [t11–1922] (*Smith & Kelly, 2009a; 2009b*)

- 1900 Maori Councils Act 1900**
An Act establishing a form of local self-governance for Māori, which authorises the Māori people ‘to frame for themselves such rules and Regulations on matters of local concernment, or relating to their social economy as may appear best adapted to their own special [needs].’ [t55–1902]
- 1900 Cook Islands claimed**
‘New Zealand claims the Cook Islands and annexes several other territories.’ [t5–1920]
(*MCH, 2009b*)
- 1900 Maori Lands Administration Act 1900**
An Act establishing ‘Māori-controlled land boards to develop Māori land and lease any surplus’. It has the ‘effect of halting alienation of Māori land – only 6,773 acres of land had been leased to Europeans by 1905’. [t34–1907]
(*Sorrenson, 1986: B–30*)
- 1900 Seddon becomes the first Prime Minister**
Richard Seddon is the first Premier to use the title ‘Prime Minister’. See 1898 image on page 51. [t41–1919]
(*McLintock, 1966k*)
- 1901 New Zealand decides against joining Australia**
A Royal Commission is established ‘to examine the issues associated with federation with Australia’. Following this, the Commonwealth of Australia formally comes into being with New Zealand choosing to remain independent. [t2–1907]
(*Moon, 2010: 92*)
- 1901 Population reaches 830,800**
Following the 1901 census, the population is estimated at 830,800, of whom 5% are Māori and 93% are Pakehā. The Chinese population is estimated to be 2846. [t51–1951]
(*Bloomfield, 1984: 42; Registrar-General, 1902: 205*)

- 1901** Department of Tourist and Health Resorts established
New Zealand becomes the first country to establish a national tourism organisation. The department is charged with promoting New Zealand overseas and developing infrastructure to attract visitors. [t17–1923]
(*Tourism NZ, 2011*)
- 1902** Kotahitanga (Māori Parliament) is disbanded
This is decided at a hui at Waioamatatini marae. [t55–1920]
(*Lange, R., 1999: 204*)
- 1902** National flag adopted
New Zealand adopts an official national flag. [t37–2009]
(*MCH, 2009b*)
- 1903** The Māori King joins the Legislative Council
Following land negotiations with Prime Minister Richard Seddon, King Mahuta Tāwhiao Pōtatau Te Wherowhero accepts a seat on the Legislative Council. [t32–1907]
(*Foster, 2009a*)
- 1904** Manapouri power station first suggested
Mr P.S. Hay of the Public Works Department suggests that there is potential for hydro generation at Manapouri. [t13–1956]
(*Meridian Energy, 2008*)
- 1904** First use of the kiwi as an unofficial symbol of the nation
Following New Zealand's win against an Anglo-Welsh rugby team, the *New Zealand Free Lance* publishes a cartoon featuring a kiwi. It is the earliest record of a cartoon kiwi being used as a symbol of the nation. In 1905, Trevor Lloyd solidifies the kiwi's symbolic status when he begins to use the bird in his sporting cartoons. See 1908 image on page 59. [t48–1920]
(*Phillips, 2011*)

1905

First state house built

In the early 1900s, under the Liberal administration of Richard Seddon, several hundred state houses are built, but the scheme fails to prosper. [t54–1937]

(*Housing New Zealand*, 2006; *MCH*, 2007c)

1905

The Originals rugby team tour

New Zealand's first national rugby team to play in Britain is known as the 'The Originals'. The team is given the nickname 'All Blacks' by a reporter because 'of their sombre football garb', and by the end of the tour everyone is using it. The tour also popularises the 'Ka Mate' haka, composed by the Ngāti Toa chief Te Rauparaha in the early 1820s.

In March 2011, the body representing Ngāti Toa rangatira, and the New Zealand Rugby Union, sign 'a new agreement which formalises the century-old relationship built on the performance of Ka Mate by the All Blacks'. [t60–1908]

(*BBC*, n.d.; *MCH*, n.d.[m]; *NZRU*, 2005; *Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira*, 2010; 2011; *The Haka Book*, n.d.; *Zawodny*, 2011)

1906

Pearse's flying machine patented

Richard Pearse is granted NZ Patent No. 21476 for 'An improved aerial or flying machine'. His innovative design features moveable flaps on the plane's wings, known as ailerons. [t12–1936]

(*Derby*, 2012a)

1907

New Zealand becomes a dominion

'Prime Minister Sir Joseph Ward reads a proclamation announcing that New Zealand has ceased to be a colony and is now a dominion.' The shift from colony to dominion has no practical effect. [t2–1917]

(*MCH*, 2009b; 2010f)



THE
NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE
EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

WELLINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1907.

Colony of New Zealand to be styled Dominion of New Zealand.

Prime Minister's Office,
Wellington, 26th September, 1907.

THE following Proclamation by His Majesty the King, which appeared in the
London Gazette, is published for general information.

JOSEPH GEORGE WARD,
Prime Minister.

BY THE KING.

A PROCLAMATION.

EDWARD R. & I.

WHEREAS We have, on the petition of the members of the Legislative Council and House of Representatives of Our Colony of New Zealand, determined that the title of the Dominion of New Zealand shall be substituted for that of the Colony of New Zealand as the designation of the said colony: We have therefore, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council, thought fit to issue this Our Royal Proclamation, and We do ordain, declare, and command that on and after the twenty-sixth day of September, one thousand nine hundred and seven, the said Colony of New Zealand and the territory belonging thereto shall be called and known by the title of the Dominion of New Zealand, and We hereby give Our commands to all Public Departments accordingly.

Given at Our Court, at Buckingham Palace, this ninth day of
September, in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred
and seven, in the seventh year of Our reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

By Authority: JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.

Notice reproduced in the *New Zealand Gazette*, 26 September 1907,
proclaiming New Zealand's establishment as a dominion.

1907

Stout-Ngata Commission established

‘[T]he Stout-Ngata Commission was appointed to determine how much land should be retained for Māori use and how much could be made available for European settlement.’ The Commission was renowned for being ‘sympathetic’ to Māori. One of the recommendations was that Māori retain large tracts of their remaining lands.

[t34–1926]

(*MCH, 2009b; Sorrenson, 1986: B–30*)

1907

Kīngitanga movement revitalised

At a convention at Waahi Pa, under the guidance of Tupu Taingakawa Te Waharoa, the King movement is revitalised.

[t32–1910]

(*Foster, 2009a*)

1907

Dominion Museum established

Formerly known as the Colonial Museum, this small museum remains in a little building behind Parliament for just over 70 years. In 1936, a new building to house the Dominion Museum and new National Art Gallery opens in Buckle Street, Wellington. [t52–1907]

(*TVNZ, 2011a*)

1907

Tohunga Suppression Act 1907

The Act states that ‘Every person who gathers Maoris [*sic*] around him by practising on their superstition or credulity, or who misleads or attempts to mislead any Maori by professing or pretending to possess supernatural powers in the treatment or cure of any disease, or in the foretelling of future events, or otherwise, is liable on summary conviction before a Magistrate to a fine not exceeding twenty-five pounds or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months.’ The Act is supported by the four Māori Members of Parliament. It is not until 1962 that this Act is repealed. [t52– 1907]

(*Jones, 2009*)



An early cartoon by Trevor Lloyd, celebrating the All Blacks' victory over the Anglo-Welsh rugby team.
1908

**‘Once you pull the black jersey on,
your life changes forever.’**

— Sir Wilson Whineray, who captained
the All Blacks between 1957 and 1965

- 1907** ***The School Journal* established**
The School Journal is established by the Ministry of Education to provide children with New Zealand-based reading material. [t52–1916]
(Learning Media, 2007)
- 1907** **Plunket Society established**
 Founded by Sir Frederic Truby King, the society aims to assist mothers and prevent babies dying from malnutrition and disease. In 2011, parents of over 90% of newborns utilise at least one of Plunket’s Well Child health services. [t61–1908]
(Plunket, 2011)
- 1908** **Second ballot established for when a candidate fails to gain a majority**
 The Second Ballot Act 1908 provides that no candidate should be elected to Parliament unless he has over 50% of the votes. ‘Where that did not occur in the first ballot a second ballot was to be held in which the only candidates would be the [two] who polled highest in the first ballot.’ This provision was abolished under the Legislative Amendment Act 1913. [t20–1910]
(RCES, 1986: A–50)
- 1908** **Ernest Rutherford wins the Nobel Prize in Chemistry**
 Ernest Rutherford is awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry ‘for his investigations into the disintegration of the elements, and the chemistry of radioactive substances’. [t56–1917]
(MCH, n.d.[n]; Nobel Prize, 2012)
- 1908** **First New Zealand Olympic involvement**
 New Zealand competes in the Olympic Games for the first time as part of an Australasian team. [t60–1920]
(MCH, 2008b)

1908

North Island Main Trunk line opens

The first train to travel the length of the North Island Main Trunk railway leaves Wellington bound for Auckland. The line is completed just in time to carry Members of Parliament north to greet the US Navy's Great White Fleet in Auckland. [t18–1923]
(MCH, 2008a)

1908

Boy Scouts and Girl Peace Scouts founded

Lieutenant Colonel David Cossgrove and his wife Selina introduce scouting to New Zealand. The Girl Peace Scouts later become the Girl Guides. [t61–1917]
(Dollery, 2012)

1909

Young Maori Party founded

The Young Maori Party, 'a loose association of like-minded individuals who were committed to working within the system to improve Maori health, develop Maori land with state assistance and foster Maori arts and crafts', is formally constituted as a political party. [t43–1912]
(Foster, 2009b; MCH, 2007d)

1910

The Māori King's membership of the Legislative Council lapses

The third Māori King, Mahuta Tāwhiao Pōtatau Te Wherowhero, is not reappointed to the council. [t32–1912]
(Foster, 2009a)

1910

Voting by declaration rather than show of hands in Māori seats

The Legislative Amendment Act 1910 does away with voting by show of hands in Māori seats in favour of voting by declaration. This Act also provides for an electoral census. [t20–1924]
(RCES, 1986: A–52; Vasil, 1990: 173)

1911 New Zealand Coat of Arms adopted

The first Coat of Arms of New Zealand is warranted on 26 August after a design competition is held in 1908. The winning entry is a design by James McDonald, a draughtsman in the Department of Tourist and Health Resorts. [t36–1956] (*MCH, 2011c*)

1912 Fourth Māori King

Te Rata Mahuta Pōtatau Te Wherowhero succeeds his father as King, becoming the fourth leader of the Māori King Movement. [t32–1933] (*Ballara, 2010a*)

1912 Waihi strike

In March a group of Waihi miners form a breakaway union under the Arbitration Act. ‘The 1,000 members of the Waihi Miners Union stopped work in protest. The strike became a violent conflict after the anti-union government headed by William Massey took office in May.’ [t53–1913] (*Derby, 2010a*)

1912 Liberal Government replaced by Reform Government

Liberal rule ends when William Massey leads the Reform Party to power. [t43–1918] (*Foster, 2009c*)

1912 Public Services Act 1912

The Public Services Act improves the management of the civil service, which had become inefficient due to ineffective regulations and ‘back door’ employment. Foremost among the changes is the creation of a Public Service Commissioner, who heads a non-political, independent body that controls the employment and management of civil servants. [t25–1982] (*State Services Commission, n.d.[a]*)

1913 Waterfront strikes

Influenced by the idea of revolutionary industrial unionism, a group of about 16,000 watersiders, miners, labourers, drivers and others go on strike, mostly in Wellington, Auckland and Christchurch. The wharves are closed and the country is on the brink of violent revolution. After six weeks, with Auckland still on strike, the government arrests the main leaders and the strike comes to a close. [t53–1935]
(Derby, 2010a)

1914 Huntly mine accident

Forty-three coal miners are killed in an explosion at Ralph's Mine in the Waikato. [t8–2010]
(MCH, 2011d)

1914 The Māori King has an audience with King George V

Te Rata Mahuta Pōtatau Te Wherowhero is granted an audience with the King of England on condition that grievances are not discussed. This defeats the aim of the meeting and indicates the extent to which officialdom could set the Treaty aside. [t33–1924]
(Orange, 2004: 102–103)

1914 First World War begins

King George V declares war on Germany on 4 August 1914, marking the outbreak of what is to become known as the First World War, or the Great War. [t62–1915]
(MCH, 2010g)



NEW ZEALAND.—EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

The School Journal.

PART I.—FOR CLASSES I AND II.

At least one copy of each Part should be filed in the school as
a School Record.

VOL. X.—No. 1.] WELLINGTON. [FEBRUARY, 1916.

The School Journal
1916

‘For many years, men in Ha-wai-ki would talk of the strange far land that Kupe found; but still no canoe went so far again. The story of New Zealand – of “Aotearoa,” as Kupe called it – became like a dream, or like a fairy-tale told to children round the fire.’

— Anonymous (excerpt from ‘The Coming of the Maoris’,
a short story published in *The School Journal*)

1915 Gallipoli campaign

On the 25th of April troops land at Gallipoli on the coast of Turkey as part of a British offensive during the First World War. Among them are many Australian and New Zealand soldiers. As a result of the difficult terrain and unexpected attacks from Turkish troops, the landing is a disaster. The campaign, which lasts until September 1915, is unsuccessful and results in the death of more than 120,000 soldiers, 2721 of them New Zealanders. In 1916, 25 April becomes known as ANZAC Day, commemorating the sacrifice of the troops who fight in national and international conflicts. [t62–1918] (*MCH, 2011e; 2011f; 2011g*)

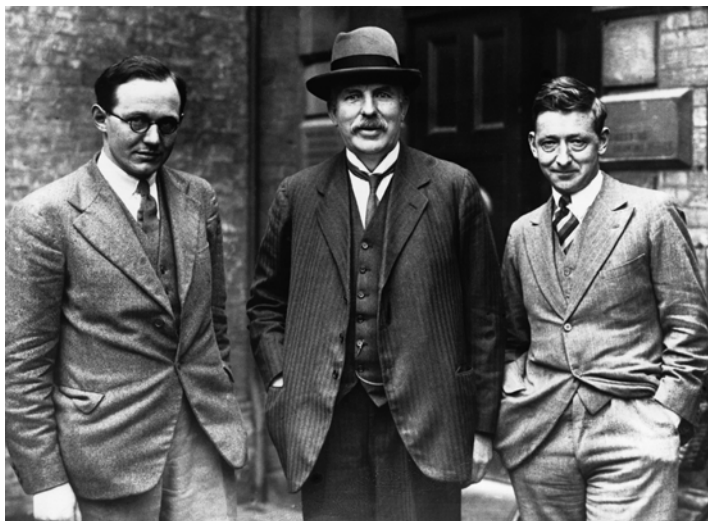
1916 *The School Journal* popularises the term 'Aotearoa' as the Māori name for New Zealand

The journal publishes the short story 'The Coming of the Maoris'. Historian Michael King believed both Māori and Pākehā came to embrace the name 'Aotearoa' as a pre-European name for New Zealand as a result of the myth's widespread distribution through primary school journals in the early to mid 20th century. [t52–1918] (*King, 2003: 32, 35; New Zealand Education Department, 1916: 13*)

1917 Letters Patent introduce the term 'Governor-General'

The title of Governor is changed to Governor-General under the Letters Patent and Royal Instructions of 11 May 1917. Further instructions and amendments were made, such as *Letters Patent Relating to the Office of Governor-General Instructions 1917* and *Letters Patent Amending Letters Patent Relating to the Office of Governor-General 1918*. It was not until 1983 that the 1917 Letters Patent and Instructions were revoked, although some of the 1917 Instructions were carried over. [t2–1917] (*Brookers Public Law Handbook, 2012: 79–86; Joseph, 2007: 492, 733–734; MCH, 2009b*)

- 1917** **Recognition of the dominions as autonomous nations of an Imperial Commonwealth**
 The Imperial War Cabinet (IWC) meets in London, attended by Prime Minister William Massey. It ‘resolves to convene a post-war imperial conference to readjust the internal relations of the Empire based upon the full recognition of the dominions as autonomous nations, with a voice in imperial foreign policy.’ The meeting runs until 1918. [t2–1926]
(MCH, 2009b)
- 1917** **Ernest Rutherford splits the atom**
 Ernest Rutherford splits the atom, contributing enormously to the development of nuclear physics. [t56–1962]
(MCH, n.d.[n])
- 1917** **‘Six o’clock swill’ begins**
 Six o’clock closing is introduced during the First World War as a measure to promote sobriety and increase efficiency. It continues until it is voted out by referendum in 1967. [t61–1937]
(MCH, 2012b)
- 1918** **First World War ends – Armistice Day**
 The First World War ends on 11 November 1918 with the signing of the Armistice. In total 18,500 New Zealanders have lost their lives. [t62–1939]
(MCH, 2010b; n.d.[o])
- 1918** **Influenza pandemic (Spanish flu)**
 An influenza pandemic spreads across the globe, the spread of infection increased by soldiers returning from the First World War. The pandemic reaches its height in November, when it is estimated that between one-third and a half of all New Zealanders have been infected with the virus. As a result of the influenza, over 8000 New Zealanders die. [t7–1947]
(CCL, n.d.[b])



Sir Ernest Rutherford, flanked by John Cockcroft (left) and Ernest Walton, who had just successfully split the nucleus of a lithium atom.
1932

**‘We haven’t got the money, so
we’ve got to think!’**

— Sir Ernest Rutherford

1918 Rātana movement founded

In November Tahupōtiki Wiremu Rātana has visions that lead to the foundation of the Rātana Church. Its goals are economic advancement, modernisation, and ratification of the Treaty of Waitangi. Rātana goes on to form a political party which aligns itself with the Labour Party in the 1930s. By 1943 all four Māori seats were held by the Rātana/Labour alliance. [t43–1931]

(MCH, 2011b)

1918 Alexander Turnbull bequeathes his book collection to the Crown

Alexander Turnbull bequeathes 55,000 books and manuscripts to the nation. They are initially housed in his home on Wellington's Bowen Street, and in 1920 this library is opened to the public as the Alexander Turnbull Library. Turnbull's generosity follows that of other great collectors, notably Sir George Grey, who in 1898 bequeathed 15,000 books to the future Auckland City Library, and Dr Thomas Hocken, the Dunedin coroner who bequeathed 4500 books to the University of Otago in 1907. [t52–1922]

(MCH, 2012i; Traue, 2010)

1919 Women are able to stand for Parliament

Women gain the right to stand as candidates for parliamentary seats. [t41–1933]

(MCH, 2009b)

1920 Maori Trustee Act 1920

An Act establishing the Maori Trust Office – 'a separate Department to manage Maori Reserves and Estates'.

[t55–1934]

(Levine & Vasil, 1985: 36)



Alexander Turnbull Library, Bowen Street, Wellington.
c1930

‘My books and manuscripts
I hope will assist future Searchers
after the truth.’

— Alexander Turnbull, 1912

1920 First New Zealand team at the Olympics

The first official New Zealand team competes at the Olympic Games in 1920. [t60–1924]

(MCH, 2008b)

1920 New Zealand becomes a founding member of the League of Nations

The League is born out of ‘the destruction and disillusionment arising from World War One’. This is an ambitious attempt to construct a peaceful global order. However, after the Second World War, the Allies ‘rejected any idea of restoring the League’ and established the United Nations in 1945.

[t27–1944]

(League of Nations Archives, 2002; Townshend, 2011)

1920 New Zealand gains administration of Western Samoa

Prior to the outbreak of the First World War, Western Samoa had been in German hands. The New Zealand military gained control on British orders in 1914. On 1 May 1920, the Samoa Constitution Order replaces the New Zealand military occupation with a civil administration. In December 1920, the League of Nations formally allocates New Zealand the Class C mandate of Western Samoa.

Consultation with Samoan leaders does not occur. [t5–1923]

(MCH, 2010i)

1920 Katherine Mansfield's *Bliss and Other Stories* published

Katherine Mansfield becomes known for writing short stories without a conventional plot, and is recognised as being part of a ‘new dawn’ in English literature. [t48–1921]

(Katherine Mansfield Birthplace Society, 2005a; 2005b)

1921 First radio broadcast

The first licensed broadcaster, Professor Robert Jack, a physicist at Otago University, transmits the first of a series of concerts that include live music and gramophone recordings. In 1923 the Radio Broadcasting Company is founded, providing national radio coverage. [t48–1937]
(RSM, 2011; Swarbrick, 2009c)

1922 First producer board established

The government establishes the Meat Board in 1922, followed by the Dairy Board in 1923 and the Wool Board in 1944. The boards are designed to co-ordinate the marketing of these key exports in the UK. [t11–1949]
(Nightingale, 2009b)

1922 Government funds book on the New Zealand Wars

Written by James Cowan, *The New Zealand Wars* is the first book of its kind to be subsidised by the government and signifies its increasing interest in ‘recording and promoting New Zealand’s historical heritage’. [t52–1926]
(MCH, 2012j)

1923 New Zealand jurisdiction extended to Antarctica

‘At British request, New Zealand extends its jurisdiction to cover the Ross Dependency in Antarctica.’ [t5–1957]
(MCH, 2009b)

1923 First electric railway opened

On the Midland line a 14-kilometre section of railway is electrified. This is to avoid smoke in the Ōtira tunnel, normally caused by steam locomotives. [t18–1945]
(Atkinson, 2010c)

1923

First conservation organisation established

The Native Bird Protection Society is established at a public meeting after Captain Val Sanderson, revisiting his childhood home on Kapiti Island, found his forest playground devastated by stoats, rats and possums. In 1935, it became the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, known more simply as Forest & Bird. [t17–1987]

(Forest & Bird, n.d.)

1924

‘The Invincibles’ All Blacks rugby tour

The 1924 All Blacks rugby team becomes known as ‘The Invincibles’ when it tours the United Kingdom, Ireland, France and Canada and wins all 32 of its games. [t60–1936]

(MCH, 2010j)

1924

Compulsory enrolment is applied to European voters

The Legislature Amendment Act (No. 2) 1924 makes enrolment and registration of European voters compulsory. A further amendment, the Legislature Amendment Act 1927, introduces postal (special) voting. Enrolment and registration does not become compulsory for Māori until 1956. [t20–1937]

(RCES, 1986: A–57, A–58; Sorrenson, 1986: B–47)

1924

Rātana takes a petition to England

Tahupotiki Wiremu Rātana, ‘leader of a new Māori religious and political movement that based its rights on the Treaty’, takes a petition to England. Although this petition is not received by either King George V or the League of Nations in Geneva, it does contribute to the decision to set up the Sim Commission in 1926. [t33–1975]

(MCH, 2010k; Orange, 2004: 103)

1926 Royal Commission on confiscated lands established

Known as the ‘Sim Commission’, it is set up to enquire into the confiscation of Waikato land belonging to any tribe that had rebelled against the Queen’s authority. It investigates ‘whether the land confiscated [under the New Zealand Settlements Act 1863] “exceeded in quantity what was fair and just”, and if so, how much compensation should be offered.’ [t34–1953]

(MCH, 2007e; 2010l)

1926 The Balfour Declaration

‘The Balfour Declaration defines the (white) dominions as “autonomous Communities within the British Empire, equal in status, in no way subordinate one to another in any aspect of their domestic or external affairs, though united by a common allegiance to the Crown, and freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations.”’ [t2–1931]

(MCH, 2009b)

1926 Department of Scientific and Industrial Research established

Based on the British organisation of the same name, the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) focuses on science in support of industry. Notably, in the late 20s and into the 30s, alongside the Department of Agriculture, the DSIR develops pasture plants that become the basis of the ‘grasslands revolution’. In 1989 the DSIR was split so that policy, purchase and provision were overseen by different government bodies – the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology (MoRST), Foundation for Science and Technology (FRST) and Crown Research Institutes (CRIs). [t52–1933]

(Galbreath, 2009a; 2009b; McGuinness Institute, 2012: 23)

1926 National archive established

The Dominion Archives is established in response to the government's growing interest in 'managing and protecting the nation's cultural resources'. It later becomes the National Archives and is now known as Archives New Zealand. [t59–1962]

(MCH, 2012k)

1927 Motor-Spirits Taxation Act 1927

As car ownership increases, a tax on petrol is introduced, justified by the need to fund new roads. Petrol has been taxed ever since. [t26–1930]

(Goldsmith, 2008: 158)

1927 Daylight saving introduced

After reintroducing his Member's Bill to Parliament every year for 20 years, Sir Thomas Sidey is finally successful when the Summer Time Act 1927 is passed. Clocks are authorised to be put forward one hour between November 6 and March 4. Over the years this has gradually been extended. From 2007, daylight saving has operated from the last Sunday in September until the first Sunday in April. [t24–1964]

(DLA, n.d.)

1928 Trade agreement with Japan signed – New Zealand's first international treaty

By 1928, New Zealand's exports to Japan are worth approximately £600,000, with around the same amount entering this country from Japan. As a result, a trade treaty is signed between the two countries. This is the first treaty to be signed by New Zealand as a dominion. [t30–1948]

(Moon, 2010: 104)

1929 Great Depression begins

The worldwide Great Depression hits New Zealand hard, with export prices collapsing, farmers facing difficulties over their mortgages, and urban unemployment quickly increasing. The resulting discontent leads to a series of riots. [t15–1987]

(Wilson, J., 2009f)

1930 Poll tax introduced to create funds for unemployment relief

The government imposes a £1 10s poll tax on every male over the age of 20. ‘Poll’ is an old English term for ‘head’, hence a ‘poll tax’ is a fixed amount per person. In 1931 an additional 1.25% flat income tax is introduced as an ‘Emergency Unemployment Charge’. This is the first time all citizens have been asked to pay some direct taxation. [t26–1933]

(Goldsmith, 2010c)

1931 Statute of Westminster 1931 (UK)

‘The British Parliament passes the Statute of Westminster, which removes London’s right to legislate for the dominions unless they ask it to do so. New Zealand declines to ratify the statute until 1947.’ [t2–1939]

(MCH, 2009b)

1931 Hawke’s Bay earthquake

In 1931 a magnitude 7.8 earthquake devastates the cities of Napier and Hastings. At least 256 people lose their lives and thousands require medical treatment. [t6–1936]

(McSaveney, 2009b)

- 1931** **Coalition between United (Liberal) and Reform parties**
 Prime Minister George Forbes of the United Party (Liberal) puts pressure on Gordon Coates of the Reform Party to form a coalition government with him in order to better combat the depression. A coalition is formed in September 1931. [t43–1935]
(Gardner, 2009a; 2009b)
- 1933** **Fifth Māori King**
 Korokī Te Rata Mahuta Tāwhiao Pōtatau Te Wherowhero, eldest son of Te Rata, succeeds his father as King. [t32–1966]
(Ballara, 2010b)
- 1933** **Royal Society of New Zealand Act 1933**
 This Act replaces the New Zealand Institute Act 1867. Later, the Royal Society of New Zealand Act 1965 and the Royal Society of New Zealand Act 1997 modernised the structure of the Royal Society of New Zealand. [t52–1960]
- 1933** **McCombs becomes first elected woman Member of Parliament**
 Labour's Elizabeth McCombs wins the Lyttelton seat in a by-election, the first successful attempt by a woman to enter the House of Representatives. [t41–1977]
(MCH, n.d.[p])
- 1933** **Sales tax introduced**
 A 5% sales tax is introduced on all goods sold, with the exception of most everyday food items and items used by farmers. This is one of the first indirect taxes that is not levied at the border. [t26–1958]
(Goldsmith, 2008: 175; 2010c)

1934 First Waitangi Day held

The first Waitangi Day is held to celebrate Governor-General Lord Bledisloe's gift of the Treaty House and the grounds at Waitangi to the nation, a gesture that was intended to symbolise the Treaty's influence in creating a unique relationship between the indigenous and the colonising peoples. Waitangi Day became a public holiday in 1974 and is now known as New Zealand's national day.

[t38–1974]

(MCH, 2009b; 2011i)

1934 Reserve Bank established

The Reserve Bank is established to regulate the banking system, centralise the control of exchange rates and circulate currency. Initially owned two-thirds by the government and one-third by private shareholders, in 1936 the bank came entirely under government ownership.

[t23–1981]

(RBNZ, 2007; Singleton, 2012)

1934 Air force becomes Royal New Zealand Air Force

King George VI gives permission for the New Zealand Permanent Air Force (NZPAF) to adopt the title Royal New Zealand Air Force. [t3–1941]

(RNZAF, 2011)

1934 Four-year parliamentary term introduced

The parliamentary term is extended to four years. [t4–1937]

(RCES, 1986: A–58)

1934 Maori Trust Office amalgamates with the Native Department

'This provides the basis for the present-day situation, where the permanent head of the Maori Affairs Department has held the position of Māori Trustee as well.' [t55–1934]

(Levine & Vasil, 1985: 36)

1934 Maori Purposes Fund Board established

The Maori Purposes Act 1934 combines the Maori Ethnological Research Board, the Maori Purposes Fund Control Board, and the Maori Arts and Crafts Council Board. The creation of these boards in the 1920s and 30s is largely due to the efforts of Sir Āpirana Ngata, who worked hard to preserve Māori art and culture. Today the Minister of Māori Affairs is Chairperson of the Māori Purposes Fund Board. [t55–1947]

(MCH, 2012; MoJ, n.d.[a]; Te Puni Kōkiri, n.d.)

1935 First Labour Government takes office

The first Labour Government assumes office under the leadership of Michael Joseph Savage. This government is best remembered for its landmark social welfare reforms, in particular the Social Security Act 1938. This also marks the beginning of a period where Keynesian economic policies prevailed, reflecting the philosophies of economist John Maynard Keynes, who advocated government interventionism and high taxation. [t43–1949]

(MCH, n.d.[q]; Roper, 2005: 121–123)

1935 Workers' unions become legal and compulsory

The Labour Government extends the arbitration system and nationwide unions became legal, with union membership compulsory for those affected by a union. Compulsory arbitration is reinstated in 1936. [t53–1936]

(Derby, 2010b)

1936 40-hour working week enforced by government

The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1894 is amended, establishing a 40-hour working week and compulsory union membership. [t53–1944]

(Evans, 2010a)

- 1936** **New Zealand's first major airline begins operation**
Union Airways of New Zealand Ltd is formed and begins operations officially on 5 January. [t12–1940]
(*McLintock, 1966l*)
- 1936** **The Great Cyclone**
A major cyclone in February causes rivers in the North Island to flood, resulting in widespread damage. [t6–1988]
(*MFE, n.d.*)
- 1936** **Parliament broadcast on the radio**
This regular radio broadcast of parliamentary proceedings is a world first. [t46–2007]
(*Martin, 2004: 205–206*)
- 1936** **Jean Batten completes the first direct flight from England to New Zealand**
Jean Batten completes the first-ever direct flight from England to New Zealand. In 1935 she was the first woman to fly solo across the South Atlantic. [t60–1953]
(*MCH, 2010m*)
- 1937** **Three-year parliamentary term restored**
The parliamentary term is restored to three years. This prevailed except in 1941 and 1942. During the Second World War both parties agreed that Parliament should be extended by one year. [t4 ends]
(*RCES, 1986: A–59; Sorrenson, 1986: B–155*)
- 1937** **Voting by secret ballot compulsory for Māori seats**
Under the Electoral Amendment Act 1937, Māori are now required to vote by secret ballot. This became compulsory for Europeans in 1890. [t20–1948]
(*Vasil, 1990: 173; Wilson, J., 2009e: 12, 13*)

1937 State housing scheme prospers

John A. Lee, the Under-Secretary for Housing, leads the Labour Government's state housing construction scheme. This scheme secures hundreds of hectares across suburban New Zealand, upon which private builders will erect thousands of high-quality modern state houses in the coming years. [t54–1991]

(MCH, 2007c; 2008c)

1937 Free school milk scheme begins

The school milk scheme means that each New Zealand child is now provided with half a pint of milk at school each day. The scheme runs for 30 years. [t61–1938]

(CCL, n.d.[c])

1937 Karl Popper takes up a lectureship in philosophy at Canterbury University College, Christchurch

The political philosopher Karl Popper writes his second major work, *The Open Society and its Enemies*, while in Christchurch. He believes that the best and most effective science is characterised by people who test hypotheses, but who refuse to believe their own hypotheses. To Popper, there is no absolute knowledge, either in science or in other areas of human activity. He also advocates for research and teaching in universities to be treated 'as complementary parts of a single activity'. In 1945, Popper and five other academics prepare and sign a pamphlet titled *Research and the University: A statement by a group of teachers in the University of New Zealand*. They argue that 'the University has inescapable duties to the most talented members of each generation, that is, to those capable of making contributions to the development of knowledge. We believe that the University fails in this obligation if the teaching it provides is not imbued with the spirit of enquiry as it is embodied in the tradition of research.' [t48–1940]

(Allan et al., 1945; Munz, 2010; Penny, 2012: 15)

1938 Social Security Act 1938

This Act is central to the Labour Government's welfare reforms under Prime Minister Michael Joseph Savage. As well as introducing a free-at-the-point-of-use health system it revises pensions and extends benefits for families, invalids and the unemployed. The Act establishes a Social Security Department to administer financial aid and makes Māori eligible for the child benefit on the same basis as Europeans. This Act contributes to New Zealand's growing reputation for innovative social reforms. [t61–1953]

(MCH, n.d.[r]; Sorrenson, 1986: B–44)

1939 Britain appoints its first High Commissioner to New Zealand

With the appointment of the British High Commissioner to New Zealand, the last of the Governor-General's ambassadorial functions are removed. [t2–1940]

(MCH, 2009b)

1939 Second World War begins

New Zealand formally declares war on Germany on 3 September. It is one of the first countries to become involved in the global conflict following Germany's invasion of Poland on 1 September. [t62–1939]

(MCH, 2009i)

1939 Rationing begins

In September petrol begins to be rationed in New Zealand as part of the war effort. As of 1 May 1942 rationing broadens to include sugar, clothing, boots, hosiery and knitting yarns. [t62–1940]

(MCH, 2008d)

1940 Frances Hodgkins is invited to present her work at the Venice Biennale

Frances Hodgkins is invited to exhibit at the prestigious 1940 Venice Biennale on behalf of Britain. She is known for her unique treatment of landscape, still life and portraiture. Due to wartime travel restrictions her work never makes it to Venice. [t48–1941]
(CAG, 2006; *Te Papa*, n.d.[b])

1940 Māori Battalion recruited

In response to the outbreak of war in Europe, and later in the Pacific, 'a Māori Battalion was recruited and sent overseas in May 1940. At home a Māori War Effort Organisation was formed ...' The organisation's primary concerns are 'recruitment and support for the Māori Battalion, but it also planned for rehabilitation of returned servicemen after the war'. [t62–1945]
(Sorrenson, 1986: B–44)

1940 New Zealand Centennial Exhibition

The New Zealand Centennial Exhibition celebrates the 100-year anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi. The exhibition runs from 8 November 1939 to 4 May 1940. An average of 17,149 people attend daily, with a total of 2,641,043 people attending during the six months it is open. The celebrations focus primarily on material progress. Alongside the celebrations, the government produces 11 *Centennial Surveys*, which chronicle New Zealand's history since the Treaty of Waitangi. [t2–1947]
(MCH, 2008e; 2009b; 2012m)

1940 Tasman Empire Airways Limited (TEAL) established

Jointly owned by Union Airways, Imperial Airways, Qantas Empire Airways and the New Zealand government, TEAL is formed on 26 April. [t12–1961]
(McLintock, 1966l)



Prime Minister Michael Joseph Savage (front row, middle, with glasses)
at the site of the 1940 New Zealand Centennial Exhibition.
1938

‘We are only a small and a
young nation, but we are one
and all a band of brothers, and
we march forward with a union
of hearts and wills to a
common destiny.’

— Prime Minister Michael Joseph Savage, 1939

1941 Naval reserve becomes Royal New Zealand Navy

On 1 October, the New Zealand naval reserve officially becomes the Royal New Zealand Navy by order of King George VI. [t3–1953]

(Moon, 2010: 108)

1941 National Council of Churches established

The National Council of Churches is created to foster unity between the different Christian denominations within New Zealand, including: the Church of England, the Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church, the Baptist Union, the Associated Churches of Christ, the Congregational Union, the Salvation Army, the Society of Friends, the Greek Orthodox Church, and the Cook Islands Christian Church. The Council was disbanded in 1988. [t58 ends]

(Brash, 2009; Van Echten, 1991)

1941 National Film Unit established

The government establishes the Unit in order to publicise the New Zealand war effort. Government-funded filmmaking continues until 1990 when the Unit is sold.

[t48–1946]

(Archives New Zealand, n.d.)

1944 Annual leave introduced

The Annual Holidays Act 1944 establishes two weeks' paid leave for all workers. In 1975 this is increased to three weeks. The Act was later replaced by the Holidays Act 2003, which made four weeks' annual leave mandatory from 2007. [t53–1951]

(Baker, J., 1965; NZOYB, 1975: 894)

1944 Canberra Pact signed

'In the wake of Japan's expansion across the Pacific Ocean during the Second World War, the New Zealand and Australian governments saw the value of working together more closely to enhance their joint influence. The Australia–New Zealand Agreement ("Canberra Pact") was an undertaking by both countries to co-operate on international matters, especially in the Pacific.' [t27–1945] (*MCH, n.d.[s]*)

1945 Second World War ends

On 8 May 1945 Germany capitulates, followed by Japan on 15 August. This ends New Zealand's involvement in the conflict, which resulted in 11,928 fatalities out of the 140,000 New Zealanders who served. [t62–1948] (*MCH, 2009j*)

1945 New Zealand joins the United Nations

New Zealand joins the United Nations as simply 'New Zealand', dropping the term 'dominion'. [t27–1951] (*MCH, 2009b*)

1945 South Island Main Trunk line completed

The South Island Main Trunk line is completed, connecting lines all the way from Picton to Invercargill. The railway now covers most of the length of New Zealand's two main islands. [t18 ends] (*Atkinson, 2010b*)

1946 National Orchestra of New Zealand established

The orchestra, which initially has 65 musicians, puts on its first public performance in the Wellington Town Hall in March 1947. In 1988, now named the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, it becomes a Crown entity. [t48–1953] (*MCH, 2011j*)

1947 'Native' now referred to as 'Maori'

The government changes official usage from 'Native' to 'Maori'. This encompasses a number of organisations such as the Native Land Court, which becomes the Maori Land Court; the Department of Native Affairs, which is replaced by the Department of Maori Affairs, and the Native Affairs Committee, which becomes the Maori Affairs Committee. [t55–1951]

(*Levine & Vasil, 1985: 35; MCH, 2007e*)

1947 Statute of Westminster adopted

New Zealand adopts the Statute of Westminster 1931 (UK), gaining 'legal and formal independence from Britain in the exercise of its external affairs'. The delay in signing could be attributed to 'concerns about New Zealand's relationship with Britain, a lack of practical difficulties until wartime emergencies presented them, and New Zealand's desire to abolish its upper house.' [t2–1953]

(*MCH, 2009b; Wilson, J., 2007: 2, 8*)

1947 Polio epidemic

A polio epidemic forces all North Island schools to close for four months. Between 1914 and 1961 approximately 10,000 cases of polio are identified in New Zealand. Virtually complete immunisation is achieved by 1961 after the introduction of the Salk and Sabin vaccines. [t7–2009]

(*MCH, 2007f; Post-Polio Support Society, n.d.*)

1948 Māori electoral roll created

The Electoral Amendment Act 1948 provides for 'the creation of Maori rolls, while at the same time providing for the retention of the Maori right to vote by declaration. It also provide[s] that the preparation of the Maori rolls be centralised in the Chief Electoral Office.' The Act also clarifies the position of 'half-castes', giving them the option of registering and voting on either the European or the Māori roll. [t20–1950]

(*RCES, 1986: A–67*)

1948 Malayan Emergency

The Malayan Communist Party attempts to take control of the British colony, leading to a 12-year military campaign to suppress the communist threat. New Zealand soldiers, sailors and airmen are deployed to Malaya throughout the conflict, resulting in 22 New Zealand fatalities. [t62–1950] (*MCH, 2012n*)

1948 British Nationality and New Zealand Citizenship Act 1948

This Act is passed on 6 September 1948, establishing the concept of ‘New Zealand citizenship’. Before this time, people born in New Zealand were British subjects. [t1–1977] (*DIA, 2011a*)

1948 New Zealand joins the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade is established to foster and support global economic and trade relations. GATT is later absorbed by the World Trade Organization (WTO) on its establishment in 1995. [t30–1983] (*McKinnon, 2010a; McLintock, 1966m*)

1949 Commercial aerial topdressing begins

Airwork (NZ) Ltd undertakes the first commercial aerial topdressing operation at Sir Heaton Rhodes’ farm, Otahuna, in Canterbury. Topdressing makes hilly land easier to farm and increases the overall efficiency and profitability of farming. However, over time evidence has increasingly shown negative impacts on the environment from fertiliser nutrients. For example, increased levels of nitrogen or phosphorus in lakes or rivers can cause a rapid increase in algal or weed growth. These impacts are now managed by the Resource Management Act 1991 through regional council plans and consent processes. [t11–1959] (*Maber, 2009a; 2009b*)

1949

First National Government takes office

The National Party wins the election and party leader Sidney Holland becomes Prime Minister in the First National Government. Since this time the Labour and National parties have dominated the political landscape in New Zealand. Between 1935, when the First Labour Government was elected, and 2012, the National Party has held office for a total of 42 years, and the Labour Party 35 years. [t43–1972] (*MCH, 2012o*)

1950

Adjustment of method for calculating European seat numbers

The Electoral Amendment Act 1950 provides for seat numbers to be adjusted according to the European population. Prior to this amendment, seat numbers were based on total adult population. This Act also allows for Māori and European voting to occur on the same day. [t20–1956] (*RCES, 1986: A–68; Vasil, 1990: 173*)

1950

Korean War begins

New Zealand has a military presence in Korea from 1950 to 1957. This is first as part of a United Nations ‘police action’ to repel North Korea’s invasion of South Korea, and secondly, after the armistice in July 1953, in a garrison role. This is not a peace support operation (as listed in Chapter 9). [t62–1950] (*MCH, 2011k*)

1950

Rationing ends

The end of petrol and butter rationing means New Zealand is free from all restrictions imposed during the war. [t62–1964] (*MCH, 2011l*)

1950 Legislative Council Abolition Act 1950

An Act to abolish the Upper House of Parliament, the Legislative Council, effective from 1 January 1951. This leaves just the House of Representatives to represent New Zealanders and pass the country's laws. [t40 ends]
(MCH, 2009b; OCHR, 2010)

1951 Population reaches 1,939,472

In the 1951 census, the population is 1,939,472, of whom 93% are European and 6% are Māori. One percent of the population identify as being of another descent, such as Pacific or Asian. [t51–2001]
(CSODNZ, 1953: 1032)

1951 Maori Women's Welfare League established

A group of Māori women come together with the aim of supporting Māori society in areas such as health, housing and education. [t55–1955]
(Higgins & Meredith, 2011; Sorrenson, 1986: B–45)

1951 Waterfront dispute lasts 151 days

The biggest industrial action in the nation's history, involving 22,000 waterside workers and other unionists, takes place after decades of unrest on New Zealand wharves over wages and working conditions. Although it is not as violent as the waterfront strike of 1913, it lasts longer and involves more workers. [t53–1974]
(Derby, 2012b; MCH, 2011m)

- 1951** **Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty (ANZUS) signed**
 Australia, New Zealand and the United States sign the ANZUS treaty, an alliance that acknowledges that if one member is attacked in the Pacific area the peace and safety of all would be endangered. Each member pledges to ‘act to meet the common danger’. The Treaty reflects a decreasing confidence in the British Empire’s ability to protect the Pacific region. In 1985, the United States responds to New Zealand’s nuclear-free stance by no longer guaranteeing security to New Zealand, although the ANZUS Treaty structure remains in place today. [t27–1954]
(MCH, n.d.[t]; n.d.[u])
- 1953** **Maori Affairs Act 1953 addresses use of Māori land**
 An Act to force unproductive Māori land into use. ‘Anyone who could show the Maori Land Court that a piece of good land was not being used could apply to have it vested in trustees.’ [t34–1974]
(MCH, 2009k)
- 1953** **Realm of New Zealand established**
 New Zealand’s name changes in official usage from simply ‘New Zealand’ to the ‘Realm of New Zealand’. [t2–1977]
(MCH, 2009b)
- 1953** **Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing climb Everest**
 New Zealander Edmund Hillary and Nepali Sherpa Tenzing Norgay are the first people to reach the 8848-metre-high summit of Mt Everest, the world’s highest peak. [t60–1958]
(MCH, n.d.[v])
- 1953** **First Family Planning Association clinic opens**
 New Zealand’s first birth control clinic is established in Auckland by the Family Planning Association. [t61–1967]
(Tolerton, 2011)

1953 First official visit by the Head of State

The newly crowned Queen Elizabeth II and her husband Prince Philip make an official visit to New Zealand, arriving in December. During this visit the Queen makes her global Christmas broadcast from Auckland. The Queen has visited New Zealand on ten occasions: 1953–1954, 1963, 1970, 1974, 1977, 1981, 1986, 1990, 1995 and 2002. [t3–1974] (*MCH, 2010n; Royal Household, 2009; 2011a*)

1953 Tangiwai rail disaster

On Christmas Eve 1953, the debris at the outlet of the Mt Ruapehu crater lake collapses creating a volcanic mudflow, known as a lahar, which smashes into the main trunk railway bridge at Tangiwai knocking out the concrete piers and partially collapsing the bridge. A passenger express coming from Wellington, packed with 285 people, fails to stop in time and the engine and five carriages are plunged into the river. New Zealanders wake on Christmas morning to the shocking news that 151 lives have been lost. [t10–1968] (*McSaveney et al., 2009b*)

1953 New Zealand Ballet established

The New Zealand Ballet is founded by Poul Gnatt, a principal dancer with the Danish Royal Ballet. In 1984 the company is the recipient of a Royal charter, becoming the Royal New Zealand Ballet. It has been funded by the Crown since 1998. [t48–1957] (*MCH, 2011n*)

1954 Manila Pact signed

The South-East Asia Collective Defence Treaty, or Manila Pact, aims to contain the spread of communism. Australia, England, France, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and the United States are all signatories. The South-East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) is established as the official institution of the agreement. [t27–1962]

(MCH, n.d.[w])

1955 Maori Trust Boards Act 1955

‘An Act to make better provision for the administration of certain Maori Trust Boards.’ [t55–1961]

1956 Compulsory enrolment is extended to Māori voters

The Electoral Act 1956 consolidates and amends ‘the enactments relating to the election of members of the House of Representatives.’ Māori enrolment is made compulsory, in line with European enrolment, which has been compulsory since 1927. [t20–1967]

(Sorrenson, 1986: B–47)

1956 Interest expressed in aluminium smelting

Consolidated Zinc Proprietary Limited advises the New Zealand government that it is interested in using Manapouri hydro power for the smelting of alumina. [t13–1963]

(Fitzgerald, 2000: 2)

1956 New Zealand Coat of Arms amended

New Zealand’s first Coat of Arms, known as the 1911 Arms, undergoes minor adjustments. During the 1940s it was found that multiple versions were in use. The resulting design contains a shield with symbols reflecting the Southern Cross and the importance of sea trade and agriculture. Beside the shield is a Māori chief with a taiaha and a European woman holding the New Zealand ensign. St Edward’s crown floats above, representing our current Queen’s coronation. See image on page 123. [t36 ends]

(MCH, 2011c; SFI, 2011a: 33)



Sir Edmund Hillary onboard the Royal New Zealand Navy ship *Endeavour*, which transported his party to Antarctica for the Trans-Antarctic Expedition.
1957

‘[I am] hell-bent for the South Pole — God willing and crevasses permitting.’

— Sir Edmund Hillary

- 1957** **Scott Base established**
 New Zealand opens its first Antarctic research station, named 'Scott Base'. It is designed to house the members of the privately run Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition (CTAE). [t5–1965]
(MCH, n.d.[xi])
- 1957** **Last death penalty execution**
 Walter Bolton is the last person to be executed under the death penalty. [t50–1961]
(Newbold, 2011)
- 1957** **Bruce Mason's play *The Pohutukawa Tree* is first performed**
The Pohutukawa Tree explores the tensions between Māori and European cultural values. [t48–1961]
(Dowling, 2010)
- 1958** **Edmund Hillary reaches the South Pole**
 Edmund Hillary and his New Zealand party reach the South Pole. See 1957 image on page 93. [t60–1976]
(MCH, 2009l)
- 1958** **Black Budget introduces PAYE and increases indirect taxation**
 The incoming Minister of Finance, Arnold Nordmeyer, introduces the Black Budget in response to the balance of payments crisis. The budget introduces the PAYE (Pay As You Earn) system for income tax and doubles duties on beer, spirits, tobacco and cars. 'The outcome was an 18 per cent increase in taxation.' [t26–1986]
(Goldsmith, 2010d; McKinnon, 2003: 219–220)

- 1959** **Antarctic Treaty signed**
 The Antarctic Treaty is signed in Washington on 1 December 1959 by representatives of the 12 countries whose scientists have been active in and around Antarctica during the International Geophysical Year of 1957–58. The treaty comes into force in 1961 and by 2011 there are 48 signatories. [t28–1963] (*Secretariat of the Antarctic Treaty, 2011*)
- 1959** **Chinese gooseberry renamed kiwifruit**
 The Turners and Growers produce company announces that the Chinese gooseberry will now be exported as ‘kiwifruit’. [t11–1964] (*MCH, n.d.[y]*)
- 1960** **Television becomes available in New Zealand**
 On January 28, the government announces its plan to operate a television service in New Zealand, and by August regular transmissions begin. [t14–1987] (*MCH, 2010a*)
- 1960** **World's first nuclear submarine visits New Zealand**
 The first nuclear-powered submarine in the world, the USS *Halibut*, visits Auckland and Wellington. [t22–1964] (*Priestley, 2012: 155*)
- 1960** **Separate Māori school system is phased out**
 In the 1960s, the separate school system for Māori comes to an end. [t52–1965] (*Swarbrick, 2009a*)
- 1961** **Death penalty abolished**
 Parliament holds a free vote to amend the Crimes Act 1961, leading to the abolishment of the death penalty. Capital punishment is retained only for treason until 1989. [t50–1976] (*MCH, 2010c*)

- 1961 New Zealand Government purchases Tasman Empire Airways Limited (TEAL)
The government purchases full ownership of Tasman Empire Airways Limited (TEAL). [t12–1965]
(*Air New Zealand, n.d.*)
- 1961 Hunn *Report on Department of Maori Affairs* published
J.K. Hunn's report, although 'strictly speaking a review of the department, [makes] more far-reaching recommendations on social reforms affecting the Maori people.' 'By 1961 the Maori Education Foundation was established because education was the key to integration as set forth in the Hunn Report ... From 1961 separate registration of Maori births and deaths was abolished and Maori became eligible for jury service.' [t55–1962]
(*Meredith, 2009a; 2011; Sorrenson, 1986: B–92*)
- 1961 Len Lye exhibits at New York's Museum of Modern Art
Len Lye is known internationally for both his innovative films and his kinetic sculptures. [t48–1971]
(*Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, n.d.*)
- 1962 Maori Community Development Act 1962
'An Act to provide for the constitution of Maori Associations, to define their powers and functions, and to consolidate and amend the Maori Social and Economic Advancement Act 1945.' The words 'Community Development' are replaced by the word 'Welfare' in Section 19(2) of the later Maori Purposes Act 1979. [t55–1962]

1962 New Zealand Maori Council established

The Maori Council, which was predominantly a male confederation of tribal committees (in conjunction with the Maori Women's Welfare League), grew out of the remains of the Maori War Effort Organisation formed in 1942. The council acted principally as an advisory board. [t55–1967] (*Sorrenson, 1986: B–45*)

1962 Maurice Wilkins wins the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

Maurice Wilkins is awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, along with Francis Crick and James Watson, for their work on 'the molecular structure of nucleic acids and its significance for information transfer in living material'. [t56–2000] (*Nobel Prize, 2011a*)

1962 Treaty of Friendship signed with Western Samoa

The Treaty of Friendship between New Zealand and Samoa is signed on 1 August 1962, seven months after Samoa gains full independence. Samoa had been a colony of Germany from 1900–1919; a League of Nations mandate of New Zealand 1919–1945, and finally a United Nations trusteeship of New Zealand 1945–1962. [t27–1971] (*MCH, 2010i; MFAT, 2010a*)

1962 First New Zealand Ombudsman appointed

The Ombudsmen initially only investigated complaints about central government departments and organisations, but this has since been extended to local government authorities and Crown entities. New Zealand was the fourth country, after Sweden, Finland and Denmark, to establish the office of Ombudsman. [t59–1966] (*Office of the Ombudsman, n.d.*)

1963

Manapouri-Te Anau Development Act 1963

‘An Act to validate an agreement between Her Majesty the Queen and Consolidated Zinc Proprietary Limited in respect of the utilisation by the Crown of the water resources of Lakes Manapouri and Te Anau and of the Waiau and Mararoa rivers for the generation of electrical power for industrial and other purposes.’ Under this Act, operating guidelines, based on recommendations submitted ‘by the Guardians of Lakes Manapouri and Te Anau and the corporation, for the levels of those lakes aimed to protect the existing patterns, ecological stability, and recreational values of their vulnerable shorelines and to optimise the energy output of the Manapouri power station’, come into force. [t13–1970]

1963

(Nuclear) Test Ban Treaty signed

The Test Ban Treaty prohibits nuclear weapons tests ‘or any other nuclear explosion’ in the atmosphere, in outer space, and under water. While not banning tests underground, the treaty does prohibit nuclear explosions in this environment if they cause ‘radioactive debris to be present outside the territorial limits of the State under whose jurisdiction or control’ they are conducted. In accepting limitations on testing, the nuclear powers accepted as a common goal ‘an end to the contamination of man’s environment by radioactive substances’. The British and Americans had been carrying out nuclear testing in the Pacific since 1946. Between 1946 and 1958 the Americans carried out 67 nuclear tests at Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands. The French did not sign the treaty and from 1966 to 1974 conducted 41 atmospheric nuclear tests in the Pacific, mostly at Mururoa Atoll. [t28–1982] (*MCH*, 2012p; *Priestley*, 2012: 215; *UNESCO*, n.d.; *US Department of State*, n.d.)



Christine Foxall, an office worker at the Royal Forest and Bird Society in Wellington, with forms signed by people who opposed the plan to raise the level of Lake Manapouri.
1970

‘There is no doubt that the resolution of the Manapouri conflict, by integrating conservation with the demands of hydro-electric development, was a milestone in sustainable management of important natural resources.’

— Professor Sir Alan Mark, 2009

1964 Whaling in New Zealand ends

The last whale is caught in New Zealand waters. New Zealand goes on to take a strong international position supporting a moratorium on commercial whaling and opposing 'scientific' whaling. [t11–1970]

(International Whaling Commission, 2011; Phillips, 2009b)

1964 New Zealand becomes involved in the Vietnam War

Approximately 3500 New Zealand military personnel serve in South Vietnam between June 1964 and December 1972.

There are 37 New Zealand casualties and 187 wounded during active service. This is not a peace support operation (as listed in Chapter 9). [t62–1965]

(MCH, 2008f)

1964 Decimal currency system introduced

The Decimal Currency Act 1964 prescribes the designs, diameters and standard weights of New Zealand's new decimal coinage system, which is introduced into circulation on 10 July 1967. [t24 ends]

(RBNZ, n.d.)

1964 Marsden Point Refinery opens

The 1958 'Black Budget' forces a review of oil prices which leads to Shell being asked to look into the viability of a New Zealand refinery. Competitors raise concerns over Shell's possible competitive advantage so the government decides to build a refinery with all the oil companies represented. The result is one of the world's first integrated refineries. [t16–1965]

(NZRC, 2009a; 2009b)

1964 Nuclear reactor established at the University of Canterbury

New Zealand's only nuclear reactor becomes operational at the University of Canterbury School of Engineering. The reactor is gifted to the university by the United States Atomic Energy Commission (USAEC) on condition that any research results are provided to the US. The reactor attracted no significant controversy and on university open days was said to draw 'long queues of people waiting to climb the steps and peer into the reactor tank'. In 1981 the reactor was dismantled and the plutonium went to the physics department at Canterbury where it was used until it reached the end of its 30-year life span and was returned to the US. [t22–1973]

(Priestley, 2012: 178–183)

1965 Troops sent to Borneo to support Great Britain

A small Special Air Service detachment and the 1st Battalion Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment are sent to Borneo to support Britain's plans for uniting Malaya, Singapore, Brunei and Borneo, which are contested by Indonesia. This is not a peace support operation (as listed in Chapter 9). [t62–1991]

(MCH, 2012q; 2012r)

1965 National Library of New Zealand established

'The National Library Act 1965 brings together the General Assembly Library, the Alexander Turnbull Library and the National Library Service to form the National Library of New Zealand.' [t52–1972]

(NLNZ, n.d.[c])

1965 High Voltage cable links the North and South Islands

The cable creates a more reliable energy supply, carrying energy from Benmore Station in the South Island to the more populous North Island. The cable is the third of its kind in the world. [t16–1969]

(Priestley, 2012: 192)

- 1965** **Cook Islands gain full self-government in free association with New Zealand**
 The relationship between the two countries was defined to the United Nations as follows: ‘The Cook Islands people, because of their many natural links with New Zealand, have determined to exercise their right of self-government or self-rule or independence – call it what you will – but not at this time as a separate, sovereign State ... This new status is not sovereign independence in the juridical sense, for the Cook Islanders wish to remain New Zealand citizens.’ [t5–1977]
(Government of the Cook Islands, n.d.)
- 1965** **Tasman Empire Airways Limited (TEAL) renamed Air New Zealand**
 The national airline is renamed Air New Zealand. [t12–1989]
(Air New Zealand, n.d.)
- 1966** **First Māori Queen**
 King Koroki’s daughter becomes the first Māori Queen, Te Arikinui Dame Te Atairangikaahu. [t32–2006]
(MCH, 2011o)
- 1966** **International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) signed**
 ICERD is signed in 1966 and then ratified on 22 November 1972. The Convention aims to eradicate all forms of racial discrimination and promote understanding among all races. [t29–1968]
(ICERD, 1966: 2[1]; MFAT, 1997: 240)
- 1966** ***Encyclopaedia of New Zealand* published**
 Edited by the parliamentary historian A.H. McLintock, the three-volume *Encyclopaedia* comprises more than 1800 essays from 359 authors. [t59–1982]
(Bohan, 2010)

1967 All seats contestable by both Māori and European candidates

The Electoral Amendment Act 1967 allows Māori to stand as candidates in European electorates, as well as Europeans to stand in Māori electorates. [t20–1975]
(*Vasil, 1990: 174*)

1967 Maori and Island Affairs Department established

The Department of Maori Affairs ‘merged with the Department of Island Territories to form the Maori and Island Affairs Department. The Islands Division was transferred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in April 1975, with the Maori Affairs Department retaining responsibility for Pacific Islanders’ housing and welfare in New Zealand.’ [t55–1984]
(*Levine & Vasil, 1985: 35*)

1967 Free school milk scheme ends

The government’s delivery of free milk in schools ends. In 2012, New Zealand’s largest dairy company introduced a pilot ‘Fonterra Milk for Schools’ scheme in Northland offering free milk to all primary school aged children in the region. Fonterra has indicated that if successful, the scheme could be introduced nationwide. [t61–1967]
(*Fonterra, 2012; MCH, n.d.[z]*)

1967 ‘Six o’clock swill’ ends

Following a referendum, the 6 o’clock closing time introduced in 1917 is repealed and public houses are now able to remain open until 10 pm. The legislation in 2012 enables the hours of trading to be determined by the Liquor Licensing Authority according to local conditions. [t61–2004]
(*MoJ, n.d.[b]; Phillips, 2009c*)

- 1968** **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) signed**
 The ICCPR is signed on 12 November 1968, and ratified on 28 December 1978. The covenant has since been incorporated into the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. [t29–1980]
(ICCPR, 1966; MFAT, 1997: 242–243)
- 1968** ***Wahine* disaster**
 Cyclone Giselle causes the sinking of the Lyttelton–Wellington ferry *Wahine* on 10 April, resulting in 53 people losing their lives. Images of the disaster are televised, marking a turning point for television news broadcasting in New Zealand. [t10–1979]
(Brenstrum, 2009; MCH, 2010p)
- 1969** **Voting age lowered from 21 to 20**
 The Electoral Amendment Act 1969 lowers the voting age to 20. [t19–1974]
(RCES, 1986: A–83)
- 1969** **Maui gas field discovered**
 The Maui gas field is discovered by Shell, BP and Todd Petroleum. [t16–1973]
(Todd Energy, 2009)
- 1970** **Manapouri petition presented**
 In May 1970 the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society presents a petition with more than 260,000 signatures to Parliament. The petition opposes the 8-metre raising of Lake Manapouri to generate hydroelectric power for a new aluminium smelter at Tiwai Point, Bluff. The opposition to this scheme marks New Zealand’s first widespread environmental movement. In 1972 legislation is passed to protect the level of the lake. [t13–1971]
(MCH, 2010q)

1970 First deer farm

M.P. Giles is the recipient of the first licence to farm deer at his property near Taupo. The New Zealand Deer Farmers Association is established in 1975. By 1980, there are 1540 deer farms and a total domesticated deer population of 120,000.

[t11–1973]

(*DINZ, n.d.; Drew, 2009*)

1971 Tiwai Point Aluminium Smelter opens

This is New Zealand's only aluminium smelter. [t13–1973]

(*Cook, 2010a*)

1971 Kiri Te Kanawa performs at Covent Garden

Opera singer Kiri Te Kanawa rises to international prominence after singing at Covent Garden, and later goes on to sing at the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer. Traditional and contemporary Māori songs such as 'Pokarekare ana' assist her in gaining international exposure. [t48–1978]

(*Black Barn Vineyards, 2009; MCH, 2008g*)

1971 Pacific Islands Forum established

Formerly known as the South Pacific Forum, this body aims to co-ordinate the implementation of the Pacific Plan for strengthening regional co-operation and integration. In 2011, it comprises 16 independent and self-governing states in the Pacific and is responsible for the signing of a number of treaties. [t27–1973]

(*PIFS, n.d.[a]; n.d.[b]*)

1972 National Museum established

The Dominion Museum is renamed the National Museum. By the 1980s the Buckle Street building is too small to act as a repository for the growing collection and there are calls for a new and improved building to protect New Zealand's national treasures. [t52–1986]

(*New Zealand National Herbarium Network, 2011; TVNZ, 2011a*)

- 1972** **Values Party founded**
 Tony Brunt, a student at Victoria University, forms the Values Party. Described as a ‘quality of life’ party, it is arguably the first national ‘green’ party in the world. [t43–1980]
(Curtin & Miller, 2012; Dann, 1999)
- 1973** **United Kingdom joins the European Union**
 The UK joins the European Union in 1973 and introduces quotas for New Zealand lamb, cheese and butter exports, which forces New Zealand to seek alternative markets. Prior to 1973, the UK was New Zealand’s biggest export partner. [t11–1978]
(McKinnon, 2010b)
- 1973** **Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement established**
 The 1973 Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement allows citizens of Australia and New Zealand to travel freely between the two countries. [t31–1981]
(DIAC, 2010)
- 1973** **New Zealand joins the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**
 The OECD aims to provide the ‘setting for democratic and market oriented countries to study and develop economic and social policies with the aim of maximising economic growth.’ New Zealand is one of 34 member countries. [t27 ends]
(MFAT, 2012)
- 1973** **‘Damn the Dam’ protest song released**
 John Hanlon releases ‘Damn the Dam’, which is adopted as the official protest song for those opposing the Manapouri Dam. It reaches number five on the national charts and Hanlon wins what is now called a Recording Arts Talent Award (RATA) for Single of the Year. [t13–1996]
(New Zealand Folk Song, 2008; RIANZ, 2008)

1973 Norman Kirk sends frigates to Mururoa Atoll

In response to the French disobeying the International Court of Justice interim injunction against nuclear testing in the South Pacific, Prime Minister Norman Kirk sends a government representative (Cabinet Minister Fraser Colman) and two frigates (HMNZS *Otago* and HMNZS *Canterbury*) to retain a presence close to Mururoa Atoll. 'What we aim to do is publicise what is happening in this remote part of the world, so as to stimulate world opinion and attract support for the rights of smaller nations.' [t22–1985]

(*Hayward, 1981: 143–144, 159*)

1973 Expansion of Marsden Point Oil Refinery approved

The government gives tacit approval to a \$160 million expansion at Marsden Point Oil Refinery, with the intention of ending the country's dependence on expensive imported components and finished products. [t16–1973] (*NZRC, 2009c*)

1973 First oil shock

International crude oil prices increase from US\$3 to approximately US\$20 per barrel. New Zealand maintains a security of supply, even with the higher crude and product costs. The high price of crude oil creates a serious balance of payments crisis. [t16–1973] (*McKinnon, 2003: 247; NZRC, 2009c*)

1973 Maui pipeline commissioned

A high-pressure gas transmission pipeline is commissioned to run from the Oaonui Production Station to Huntly Power Station. The pipeline is to transfer gas to electricity generators and large plants and is the largest capacity high-pressure gas transmission pipeline in New Zealand. [t16–1979] (*Maui Development Limited, n.d.*)

1974 Royal Titles Act 1974

An Act proclaiming the royal title ‘Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God Queen of New Zealand and Her Other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith’ for use in relation to New Zealand.

[t3–2000]

(MCH, 2009b)

1974 Voting age lowered from 20 to 18

The Electoral Amendment Act 1974 lowers the voting age to 18. [t19 ends]

(RCES, 1986: A–85)

1974 Waitangi Day becomes a national holiday

‘Waitangi Day (then known as New Zealand Day) becomes a national holiday.’ [t38 ends]

(MCH, 2009b)

1974 Accident Compensation scheme established

The establishment of the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) sees New Zealand workers lose their right to sue in exchange for significantly improved medical and rehabilitative cover. [t53–1991]

(Roper, 2005: 216)

1974 ‘Maori’ extended to include descendants of Maori

The Maori Affairs Amendment Act 1974 broadens the definition of a Maori to include ‘any person of the Maori race of New Zealand and includes any descendant of such a person.’ [t34–1975]

(RCES, 1986: A–86; Sorrenson, 1986: B–52)

- 1975** British nationality is no longer a qualification to vote
Under the Electoral Amendment Act 1975, all New Zealand citizens and permanent residents are entitled to vote. The Act also replaces the term ‘European’ with the term ‘General’, and Māori can now choose to register on either this roll or the Māori roll. This becomes known as the Māori electoral option and is to be exercised at the next census. [t20–1981]
(*Electoral Commission, 2005b; RCES, 1986: A–85; Sorrenson, 1986: B–52*)
- 1975** The Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975 establishes the Waitangi Tribunal
The Act provides for ‘the observance, and confirmation, of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi by establishing a Tribunal to make recommendations on claims relating to the practical application of the Treaty and to determine whether certain matters are inconsistent with the principles of the Treaty.’ [t34–1983]
- 1975** Māori land hīkoi
The protest march, led by Whina Cooper, aims to call for a halt to the alienation of Māori land. However, its impact is far more widespread. See 1975 image on page 111.
[t33–1977]
(*Royal, 2009*)
- 1976** Boycott of the Montreal Olympic Games
Following the All Blacks’ tour of apartheid South Africa, many African nations request a ban on New Zealand’s participation in the Olympics. When their request is denied, 26 African countries as well as Iraq and Guyana boycott the 1976 Games. [t60–1981]
(*MCH, 2012s; Romanos, 2012*)

1976

Wanganui Computer Centre Act 1976

The Act establishes the country's first centralised electronic database – the New Zealand Police Law Enforcement System. The Minister of Police, Alan McCready, describes it as 'probably the most significant crime-fighting weapon ever brought to bear against lawlessness in this country'. It raises questions about the state's ability to gather information on its citizens, with slogans such as 'Big Brother is Watching' being quoted in the media. In 1982 a protester blew himself up during an attempt to destroy the computer, which he regarded as a symbol of the 'police state'. The computer centre and the subsequent debate were arguably precursors to the Official Information Act 1982 and the Privacy Act 1993. [t50–2007]
(MCH, 2012t; *Privacy Commissioner, 1998: 337–338*)

1977

Occupation of Bastion Point

An occupation of Bastion Point reserve is begun by local iwi Ngāti Whātua following the Crown's decision to sell the land and turn it into a housing development. The iwi disputes the lawful acquisition of the land, which had once been a Ngāti Whātua reserve. After 506 days, the police and the army remove 218 occupants. However, a Waitangi Tribunal inquiry results in Ngāti Whātua regaining much of the land in 1988. [t33–2004]
(MCH, n.d.[aa]; n.d.[bb])

1977

'God Defend New Zealand' becomes national anthem

In 1977 'God Defend New Zealand' is given equal status with 'God Save the Queen'. During the 1972 Olympics 'God Defend New Zealand' had been played during a medal ceremony, creating controversy. A petition was presented to Parliament in 1976, resulting in the decision to make 'God Defend New Zealand' the country's second official anthem. [t35 ends]
(CCL, n.d.[d]; *Hewitson, 2004*)



Protesters on the Maori Land March,
College Hill, Auckland.
22 September 1975

‘I can’t sleep at night, because
even at night I’m worrying about
things and planning things. It’s
the mana, you see. If you’ve got
it, it never lets you alone.’

— Dame Whina Cooper, 1983

1977

Constitutional crisis: Robert Muldoon appoints Sir Keith Holyoake Governor-General

Prime Minister Robert Muldoon appoints serving Cabinet Minister Sir Keith Holyoake to the position of Governor-General. This sets 'a precedent that New Zealand could do without', as the role of Governor-General should be non-partisan, leaving the 'business' of government to Cabinet and the Prime Minister. It is believed that the British monarchy is displeased with the appointment. The Leader of the Opposition is not informed prior to the appointment and the public is dissatisfied with the decision. Although Holyoake performs neutrally, and resigns from Parliament the same year, both civil servants and the throne take steps to ensure that a serving politician will not again be made Governor-General. [t2-1983]

(MCH, 2007g; NZ Govt, n.d.[b]; Wood, 2010)

1977

Citizenship Act 1977

The Citizenship Act 1977 means citizenship is now granted based on 'length of residence in New Zealand, character, and knowledge of the English language'. The Act distinguishes New Zealand citizens from the rest of the Commonwealth, and the expression 'British subject' is removed from New Zealand passports. Also in this year, the government passes the Seal of New Zealand Act 1977. This Act establishes a 'Seal of New Zealand', arguably reflecting the country's growing constitutional self-image. [t1-2005]

(Green, 2009b; Joseph, 2007: 738)

1977

200-mile economic zone established

The Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Act 1977 extends New Zealand's commercial fishing zone a further 188 miles. This extension makes the economic zone 15 times the size of the land area of New Zealand, and the fourth largest in the world. [t5-2008]

(Moon, 2010: 122)

1977 Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Act 1977

This Act provides for women to undergo an abortion after they have seen two certifying medical practitioners. Abortion was first legalised in the 1930s for women whose life or mental health was endangered. By the 1970s abortions were progressively more attainable, and the issue was increasingly debated. Although in practice the 1977 legislation initially made access to an abortion more difficult, it was soon amended to provide for a safer, more regulated system.

[t47 ends]

(Cook, 2011b)

1977 Commission for the Future established

The Commission for the Future and the Planning Council are established under the New Zealand Planning Act 1977. The aim is to study ‘possibilities for the long-term economic and social development of New Zealand’, and to make the findings available to the government and the general public. The Commission’s March 1982 report *Future Contingencies: Nuclear Disaster* was not well received by the National Government, which disbanded the Commission later that year, saying ‘recent publications show that the commission’s work is no longer relevant to the issues facing New Zealand’. The Planning Council continued until 1991. [t41–1980]

(Priestley, 2012: 243–244; SFI, 2011b: 65–67)

1978 Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978

Whales within New Zealand’s 200-nautical-mile (370 km) Exclusive Economic Zone become protected under the Marine Mammals Protection Act. [t11–1989]

(DOC, 2006)

1978 New Zealand Film Commission Act 1978

The Act establishes the New Zealand Film Commission, which is set up to make, promote and distribute New Zealand films. [t48–1980]

(NZFC, n.d.)

1979

Mt Erebus disaster

On 28 November an Air New Zealand sightseeing flight to Antarctica crashes into the lower slopes of Mt Erebus. All 237 passengers and 20 crew lose their lives. [t10–1995]

(MCH, 2009m)

1979

Second oil shock and ‘car-less days’ begin

Crude oil prices rise from around US\$13 to a high of US\$32 per barrel. The international oil shortage results in ‘car-less days’ in New Zealand and, coupled with ‘Think Big’ projects, provides a stimulant for expansions in New Zealand fuel production. [t16–1996]

(NZRC, 2009d)

1980

Māori political party, Mana Motuhake, founded

Matiu Rata, a former Labour Cabinet Minister, establishes the Mana Motuhake party, advocating Māori autonomy.

[t43 ends]

(MCH, 2009k)

1980

United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) signed

New Zealand signs CEDAW on 17 July 1980, and it is ratified on 10 January 1985. Signing the Convention shows New Zealand’s commitment to eliminating inequalities between women and men. [t29–2002]

(CEDAW, 1979; MFAT, 1997: 309)

1980

Muldoon’s ‘Think Big’ scheme introduced

In 1980 economist Brian Easton noted that there were in effect two strategies for dealing with the impending oil crisis: ‘think big’ and ‘small is beautiful’. Robert Muldoon’s government favoured the ‘Think Big’ policy and invested significantly in it. However, the energy-focused scheme left the government with serious debts and led to subsequent sales of state assets. [t41–1990]

(Hembry, 2011)

1980 Greg McGee's play *Foreskin's Lament* is performed

The play highlights the way in which New Zealand's rugby culture reflects social values, and is particularly poignant in the context of the 1981 Springbok tour. [t48–1985]
(NZBC, n.d.[a])

1981 Springbok rugby tour sparks nationwide protests

New Zealand is divided as race relations issues are raised over the Springbok rugby tour of the country in 1981. Those opposed to the tour argue that New Zealand is condoning apartheid and infecting our own society with South Africa's racial attitudes. Others, including many players, stress that sport and politics should remain separate. During July, August and September 1981 more than 150,000 people take part in over 200 demonstrations in 28 centres, and 1500 are charged with offences stemming from these protests. The country is again divided in 1986 by the Cavaliers' rebel tour to South Africa. The international sports community continues to raise concerns about apartheid and when the inaugural Rugby World Cup is hosted by Australia and New Zealand in 1987, South Africa is unable to compete. New Zealand goes on to win the World Cup and rugby again becomes a source of national pride. [t60–1981]
(MCH, 2009n; 2010r; *Rugby News Service*, 2007)

1981 Electoral boundary review for Māori seats introduced

The Electoral Amendment Act 1981 introduces a review every five years for Māori electorate seats. [t20–1985]
(Wilson, J., 2009e: 12)

1981 Underarm bowling incident

During the Benson & Hedges World Series Cup at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, the Australian team bowls the final ball underarm. This makes it impossible for the New Zealand team to achieve the six runs necessary to tie the match. Although not strictly against the rules, this is considered extremely unsportsmanlike, and leads to a low point in trans-Tasman sporting relations. [t60–1987]

(MCG, n.d.; MCH, 2012u)

1981 Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement amended

Passports are now needed to travel to Australia, to stop exploitation of the Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement. However, it is still unnecessary to apply for an Australian visa. [t31 ends]

(McPhee, 1981)

1981 Sharebrokers Amendment Act 1981

This Act establishes the New Zealand Stock Exchange as a body corporate. On 30 May 2003 New Zealand Stock Exchange Limited formally changed its name to New Zealand Exchange Limited, trading as NZX, and on 3 June 2003 listed its own securities on its main equity market.

[t23–1989]

(New Zealand Parliament, 2001; NZX, personal communication, 30 October 2012)

1982 Official Information Act 1982

The Act covers access to official information and is governed by the ‘Principle of availability’, which states that the information requested ‘shall be made available unless there is good reason for withholding it’. This was extended to include local authorities through the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. [t59–1993]

(State Services Commission, n.d.[b])

1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) signed

Under this agreement New Zealand attains the rights to control the resources in a broad area near its coasts, and to apply these rights to small islands as well as larger land masses. [t28–1985]

(*Mansfield, 2009*)

1982 Muldoon imposes a wage and price freeze

‘The most dramatic peacetime example of price control in New Zealand was the wage and price freeze imposed by Minister of Finance (and Prime Minister) Robert Muldoon in June 1982.’ [t25–1984]

(*Evans, 2010b*)

1983 Waitangi Tribunal releases Motunui-Waitara Report

The Waitangi Tribunal’s first major publication is released, in which ‘the relevance of the Treaty to contemporary New Zealand was articulated in terms that made sense to Māori, to jurists, and to local communities’. [t34–1985]

(*Durie, 2009: 4; Waitangi Tribunal, 2011a*)

1983 Letters Patent Constituting the Office of Governor-General of New Zealand

Following the Review of the Letters Patent 1917, the Governor-Generalship becomes a purely New Zealand office. The Letters Patent define ‘Our Realm of New Zealand’ as: ‘(a) New Zealand; and (b) The self-governing state of the Cook Islands; and (c) The self-governing state of Niue; and (d) Tokelau; and (e) The Ross Dependency’. Further amendments were made in 1986 and 2006 to ensure the Letters Patent are aligned with current business practices. [t2–1984]

(*Joseph, 2007: 492, 733–734; MCH, 2007g; 2009b; PCO, 2007*)

1983

Australia-New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement (ANZCERTA) signed

The CER (as it is commonly known), a comprehensive bilateral trade agreement between New Zealand and Australia, is signed on 28 March. This strengthens the existing New Zealand Australia Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) (in place since 1966) and paves the way for free trade in goods and nearly all services to be established by 1990. [t30–2008] (*MCH, n.d.[cc]*)

1984

Constitutional crisis: Devaluation by 20%

New Zealand is in the throes of a financial crisis. Prime Minister Muldoon calls a snap election on July 14 and the National Party loses to Labour. Officials inform the outgoing and incoming governments that an immediate devaluation is necessary. The Reserve Bank stops the flow of money out of the country by suspending all foreign exchange dealings. Muldoon refuses to take the advice of the incoming government to devalue, but capitulates when his Attorney-General, Jim McLay, states publicly on July 17 that a defeated government ‘will undertake no new policy initiatives; [and] that it will act on the advice of the incoming government on any matter of such great constitutional, economic, or other significance that cannot be delayed until the new government formally takes office – even if the outgoing government disagrees with the course of action proposed.’ On July 18, the dollar is devalued by 20%. This statement by Jim McLay becomes known as the ‘Caretaker Convention’, and is described in section 6.24 of the 2008 *Cabinet Manual*. [t2–1986]

(*Cabinet Manual*, 2008: 179; *Joseph*, 2007: 227; *McKinnon*, 2003: 308; *Palmer & Palmer*, 1997: 4, 34)

1984

Economic summit held

The new Labour government holds an economic summit, inviting prominent industry representatives to take part in planning development. The summit is viewed negatively by some branches of government, including the Treasury. [t25–1984]

(*Cook*, 2011c)



The Hon. Jim McLay discusses the 'Caretaker Convention' created during the 1984 constitutional crisis, at *EmpowerNZ: Drafting a Constitution for the 21st Century*.
2012

**'If a convention did "emerge",
then I can only adopt the original
"Streaker's Defence": it seemed
like a good idea at the time.'**

— The Hon. Jim McLay, 2012

1984

First Hui Taumata – Māori Economic Development Summit Conference

This national conference, involving participants from throughout Māoridom, examines the economic situation of New Zealand as it affects Māori, assesses the economic strengths and weaknesses of Māori in New Zealand, and supports policy changes necessary to obtain socio-economic parity between Māori and non-Māori. [t55–1989]

(Levine & Vasil, 1985: 197)

1984

Roger Douglas introduces economic reforms

The incoming Minister of Finance, Roger Douglas, introduces ‘an extensive programme of economic reforms’, commonly known as Rogernomics. The financial market is deregulated, with controls on foreign exchange and subsidies removed. The aim is in part to improve the responsiveness of New Zealand producers to changes in the spending patterns of domestic and overseas consumers.

[t25–1986]

(Dalziel, P., 2010; RBNZ, 1985: 572; Stringleman & Peden, 2009)

1985

Keri Hulme wins the Booker Prize for *The Bone People*

Keri Hulme’s *The Bone People* wins the Booker Prize, the first time a New Zealand novel has ever won the prize.

[t48–2002]

(MCH, n.d.[dd])

1985

David Lange wins Oxford Union Debate

David Lange argues successfully that ‘nuclear weapons are morally indefensible’. [t22–1985]

(Phillips, 2009d)



Oxford University Debating Chamber
David Lange was invited to debate here in 1985 on the proposition that 'nuclear weapons are morally indefensible'.

'A system of defence serves its purpose if it guarantees the security of those it protects. A system of nuclear defence guarantees only insecurity.'

— Prime Minister David Lange, 1985

- 1985** *Rainbow Warrior* sunk in Auckland Harbour
Two bombs are planted onboard the Greenpeace boat *Rainbow Warrior* by French agents to prevent it taking part in a protest at Mururoa Atoll where the French are carrying out nuclear testing. Portuguese photographer Fernando Pereira is killed in the explosions. [t22–1985]
(MCH, n.d.[ee]; NZPA, 2006)
- 1985** South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty signed
The South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty calls for the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific and to ‘keep the region free of environmental pollution by radioactive wastes’. [t28–2002]
(MFE, 2007)
- 1985** USS *Buchanan* refused entry on grounds of nuclear capability
The government denies the USS *Buchanan* entry to New Zealand due to the United States’ unwillingness to either confirm or deny that the warship has nuclear capability. [t22–1987]
(MCH, n.d.[u])
- 1985** Royal Commission on the Electoral System
A Royal Commission is established to enquire into New Zealand’s electoral system. Its 1986 report makes a number of recommendations and suggests criteria for judging voting systems. It recommends that a referendum be held on changing the voting system from first-past-the-post (FPP) to a Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) system. [t20–1993]
(RCES, 1986: 64)



Coat of Arms of New Zealand, 1956
[See 1956, page 92]

‘The people choose from among themselves those who are to have the powers and responsibilities of Government. The process of choice should to the fullest extent possible give each member of the community an equal part in the choice of the Government and a fair opportunity to participate in the process.’

— Royal Commission on the Electoral System, 1986

1985 Waitangi Tribunal given power to investigate historical Treaty claims

The Tribunal is now empowered to investigate Treaty claims back to 1840. Initially the Tribunal was created only to report on ‘contemporary Maori claims to government, to suggest settlements, and to ensure that future legislation was consistent with the Treaty’. It is also now able to commission research and to appoint legal counsel for claimants. [t34–1987]

(MCH, 2009k; n.d.[fff])

1986 Goods and Services Tax of 10% introduced

As part of the Labour Government’s economic reforms, a 10% tax is added to most goods and services, increasing the reliance on consumption tax for government revenue. This tax increased to 12.5% in 1989, and then to 15% in 2010.

[t26 ends]

(MCH, n.d.[gg])

1986 State-Owned Enterprises Act 1986

‘An Act to promote improved performance in respect of Government trading activities ... to specify principles governing the operation of State enterprises ... authorise the formation of companies to carry on certain Government activities and control the ownership thereof; and establish requirements about the accountability of State enterprises, and the responsibility of Ministers.’ The Act is also a ‘key piece of legislation to incorporate a reference to the Treaty of Waitangi ... This has given the Treaty far-reaching recognition in national and local government.’ Section 9 of the Act states that nothing in the Act permits the ‘Crown to act in a manner that is inconsistent with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi’. [t25–1988]

(MCH, 2009k)

1986

Constitution Act 1986

‘An Act to reform the constitutional law of New Zealand, to bring together ... certain provisions of constitutional significance, and to provide that the New Zealand Constitution Act 1852 of the Parliament of the United Kingdom shall cease to have effect as part of the laws of New Zealand.’ This Act sets out the basic elements of the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary, as the three branches of government. The Act is intended to provide a formal statement of existing statutes and institutions, and declares the allocation of power for these institutions. Former Prime Minister Sir Geoffrey Palmer notes that this Act is not entrenched, ‘in the sense that it can be changed relatively easily by Parliament’. He believes New Zealand should have a written entrenched constitution, one that is only alterable by a referendum or 75% majority in Parliament. He also believes ‘it should include the Treaty of Waitangi and the New Zealand Bill of Rights’. In 2012, New Zealand remains one of only three countries with an unwritten constitution; the others are the United Kingdom and Israel. [t2–1990]

(Electoral Commission, 2007; Palmer, 2002: 11, 75; Parliamentary Library, 2005)

1986

Homosexual Law Reform Act 1986

This Act legalises consensual sex between men aged 16 and older. The initial Bill is introduced by Labour MP Fran Wilde in 1985 and passed on 9 July 1986. [t49–2004]

(MCH, 2009o)

- 1986** James Belich's *The New Zealand Wars* is published
Belich's book and television series, *The New Zealand Wars*, contributed significantly to a deeper understanding of Māori/Pākehā relations. This builds on the earlier work of historian Sir Keith Sinclair, whose books include *The Origins of the Maori Wars*. In 1987 Belich's book won the Trevor Reese Memorial Prize for historical scholarship, and in 2011 Belich was appointed the Beit Professor of Commonwealth and Imperial History at Oxford University. [t52–1987] (NZBC, n.d.[b]; n.d.[c]; NZPA, 2011)
- 1987** Long recession begins
'The 1987 stock market crash, extensive economic restructuring, and a shift in focus by policymakers to concentrate primarily on reducing inflation, constrain economic growth and [lead] to rising unemployment over the late-1980s and early-1990s.' [t15–1997] (DOL, n.d.)
- 1987** Maori Language Act 1987
'An Act to declare the Maori language to be an official language of New Zealand, to confer the right to speak Maori in certain legal proceedings, and to establish Te Komihana Mo Te Reo Maori and define its functions and powers.' In 2006, sign language becomes the third official language in New Zealand, as legislated under the New Zealand Sign Language Act 2006. [t52–1987]
- 1987** A.J. Hackett bungy-jumps off the Eiffel Tower
A.J. Hackett bungy-jumps off the top of the Eiffel Tower, making international headlines and building on New Zealand's reputation as an adventurous country. [t60–1995] (A.J. Hackett Bungy, n.d.)

1987 Legal decision: New Zealand Maori Council v Attorney-General

The Maori Council seeks enforcement of Section 9 of the State-Owned Enterprises Act 1986. As a result, the Court of Appeal sets out a number of principles derived from the Treaty to be used as tools of statutory interpretation. This includes the key principle of ‘partnership’ and the Court concludes that the Crown has certain obligations and duties to Māori under the Treaty regarding the transfer of Crown land to State-Owned Enterprises. [t34–1991]

(MCH, 2009k; *Parliamentary Library*, 2005: 5)

1987 Claudia Orange’s *The Treaty of Waitangi* is published

The publication of this book makes the Treaty accessible to the public. Specifically, it promotes awareness of the problem surrounding interpretation of key terms that were written and translated between English and Māori. In 1988, the book wins the Goodman Fielder Wattie Book Award. [t52–1992]

(CCL, n.d.[e]; *Falconer*, 2008; *Taonui*, n.d.)

1987 New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone, Disarmament, and Arms Control Act 1987

The Act secures New Zealand’s nuclear-free status, inspiring the United States Congress to retaliate with the Broomfield Act. This downgrades New Zealand’s status from ally to friend. However, this has little effect on the country’s nuclear-free stance, and in 1989 52% of New Zealanders indicate that they would rather break defence ties with the US than allow nuclear-armed ships into their harbours.

[t22 ends]

(MCH, 2008b)

1987 Telecom New Zealand established

Telecom, previously part of the New Zealand Post Office, is established as a state-owned enterprise. [t14–1990]

(*Wilson*, A.C., 2010c)

1987 Conservation Act 1987

This Act establishes the Department of Conservation, which is dedicated to the preservation of New Zealand's natural and historic heritage. [t17–1987]

(DOC, n.d.[d])

1987 Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment appointed

In 1972, a Commission for the Environment had been established under the Minister for the Environment, with the purpose of auditing the environmental impacts of proposed Crown developments. The appointment of a Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment gives the Commissioner 'statutory independence', strengthening this audit role considerably. [t17–1991]

(PCE, n.d.)

1988 State Sector Act 1988

The Act aims to improve the operation of public sector employment and accountability. [t25–1989]

1988 Cyclone Bola

In March 1988, severe winds and rain cause widespread flooding and damage in Gisborne, Hawke's Bay and Northland. Three people die when their car is swept away in the floods. [t6–2011]

(Napier City Council, n.d.)

1989 Maori Fisheries Act 1989

'This Act expressly states that it is intended to make better provision for Maori fishing rights secured by the Treaty and to facilitate the entry of Maori into, and the development by Maori of, the business and activity of fishing. This is a welcome statutory acknowledgment by the Crown of Maori sea fishing rights guaranteed by the Treaty.' [t11–1999]

(Waitangi Tribunal, 1992)

1989 Accrual accounting introduced into government

The new wave of reforms build on the changes first initiated in 1984. The Public Finance Act 1989 aims to improve the use of public financial resources, requiring public sector financial statements and forecast financial statements to 'be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice'. This is believed to be the first time a government has required accrual accounting to be applied to public sector reporting anywhere in the world.

[t25–2002]

(*Lye, 1998: 2; McKinnon, 2003: 324–408; 2012b*)

1989 Reserve Bank is made more independent of government

The Reserve Bank Act 1989 aims to formulate and implement monetary policy in order 'to promote stability in the general level of prices, while recognising the Crown's right to determine economic policy'. This Act gives the Reserve Bank more independence from government policy.

[t23–2002]

(*McKinnon, 2012b*)

1989 Maori Affairs Restructuring Act 1989

'An Act to provide for the restructuring of the Department of Maori Affairs to form the Iwi Transition Agency, to abolish the Board of Maori Affairs and transfer its programmes to the general manager of the Iwi Transition Agency, and to transfer the administration of the Maori Land Courts to the Department of Justice.' [t55–1990]

1989 Air New Zealand privatised

Air New Zealand is privatised in April 1989 with its sale to a consortium comprising Brierley Investments Ltd, Qantas, Japan Airlines and American Airlines. After the company experiences financial troubles, the government announces in October 2001 that it will provide the airline with a NZ\$885 million rescue package in return for 83% ownership. [t12 ends]

(*Air New Zealand, n.d.; BBC, 2001*)

1990 New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990

‘An Act ... to affirm, protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms in New Zealand; and to affirm New Zealand’s commitment to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.’ The Bill of Rights Act 1990 is often criticised for lacking constitutional authority above ordinary legislation. If the Act had become supreme law, the courts could strike down any existing or proposed laws that conflict with it. [t2–1993]

(*Haywood, 2011*)

1990 Telecom New Zealand privatised

Telecom is sold to two United States-based telecommunications companies, Bell Atlantic and Ameritech, and two New Zealand partners, Fay Richwhite Holdings and Freightway Holdings, for NZ\$4.25 billion. A year earlier, the telecommunications services market had been fully opened up to competition, resulting in a number of legal disputes. [t14–1998]

(*MED, n.d.[b]; Wilson, A.C., 2010c*)

1990 Tizard becomes first female Governor-General

Dame Catherine Tizard is appointed by Queen Elizabeth II to the position of Governor-General of New Zealand.

[t41–1997]

(*NZ Govt, n.d.[b]; Tizard, 2010: 203–205*)

1990 Runanga Iwi Act 1990

An Act to acknowledge the importance of iwi and to provide for the incorporation of rŭnanga to represent iwi in accordance with iwi charters. The Act was subsequently repealed due to concerns that it was too prescriptive on Māoridom. [t55–1991]

(*Hansard, 1991*)

1991

Runanga Iwi Repeal Act 1991

An Act to repeal the Runanga Iwi Act 1990. Winston Peters (Minister of Maori Affairs) considered a better alternative was ‘to put in its place a policy in which the tribes could voluntarily liaise, work, and co-operate with the Government, but there would be no compulsion about the shape, character, and form of government.’ [t55–1991] (*Hansard*, 1991)

1991

Ministry of Maori Development Act 1991

An Act establishing Te Puni Kōkiri, the Ministry of Maori Development. [t55–2005] (*Te Puni Kōkiri*, 2007)

1991

The Ngāi Tahu Report

The Waitangi Tribunal publishes a report in response to a number of claims identifying Ngāi Tahu’s grievances about land purchases. These claims led to the Tribunal’s most extensive treatment of an inquiry to date. This is followed up in 1992 with findings on the tribal claim to the fisheries. In 1993 the Waitangi Tribunal publishes the final report on the smaller claims to reserves. [t34–1992] (*Tau*, 2009; *Waitangi Tribunal*, 2011b)

1991

Employment Contracts Act 1991

This Act establishes the Employment Court and brings together all types of employment contracts under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Court. Legislation previously only covered employees on collective contracts who were represented by registered unions, and excluded those on individually negotiated contracts. As a result union membership is no longer compulsory. [t53 ends] (*ECNZ*, n.d.; *Olssen*, 2010)

- 1991** **The government introduces market rents for state houses**
 The removal of income-related rents and an accommodation supplement is initiated by government. The aim is to make the rental market more equitable and reduce the dependency of state tenants. [t54 ends]
(MCH, 2007c)
- 1991** **US Congress votes for war in Iraq**
 The Iraqi occupation of Kuwait leads to the New Zealand government providing troops and aircraft to the multinational Coalition Forces whose mission is to remove Iraqi forces from Kuwait and stabilise the Gulf region. [t62 ends]
(NZ Army, 2008a)
- 1991** **Resource Management Act 1991**
 The purpose of this Act is to ‘promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources’, which means ‘managing the use, development, and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being and for their health and safety while – (a) sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources (excluding minerals) to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; and (b) safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil, and ecosystems; and (c) avoiding, remedying, or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment.’ [t17–2009]
- 1992** **Student loan scheme introduced**
 A student loan scheme is introduced to replace the universal living allowance. The scheme provides living and course-related costs for students undertaking tertiary education. By 2011, a total of 621,000 people have an existing student loan, while 306,000 loans have been fully repaid. [t52–1992]
(Education Counts, 2012; MoE, 2012; Roper, 2005: 217)

1992 Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa Act 1992

This Act establishes Te Papa Tongarewa, literally meaning ‘container of treasures’. The Act brings together the National Museum and the National Art Gallery as one entity. Te Papa Tongarewa is built on Cable Street, Wellington and opens to the public on 14 February 1998. [t52–2003]

(Te Papa, n.d.[c]; TVNZ, 2011a)

1992 Sealord settlement

A final fisheries Treaty settlement of Māori claims to commercial fisheries is made. This grants Māori a 50% share in Sealord Products, New Zealand’s largest fishing company. This follows a 1989 interim agreement that awarded Māori 10% of the fishing quota, and a cash settlement. [t34–1993]

(Meredith, 2009b)

1993 Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993

The Act ‘makes it difficult to purchase Maori land, and it seeks to overcome the problems of fragmentation of titles among multiple owners by providing for various kinds of trusts for managing the land.’ [t34–1996]

(MCH, 2009k)

1993 Electoral Act 1993

The Electoral Act reforms the electoral system, proposing the introduction of MMP. This is carried at the referendum held under the Electoral Referendum Act 1993, the result being ‘[a] binding referendum [that] changes New Zealand’s voting system from FPP to MMP.’ [t20–1996]

(Electoral Commission, 2008; MCH, 2009b)

1993 Human Rights Act 1993

The Act provides ‘better protection of human rights in New Zealand in general accordance with United Nations Covenants or Conventions on Human Rights.’ Further, the Human Rights Amendment Act 2001 significantly improves the observance of human rights in the public sector. [t2–2003]

(Joseph, 2007: 270)

1993 Privacy Act 1993

The Act regulates the collection and use of personal information through the application of 12 principles. Principle 1 states that: 'Personal information shall not be collected by any agency unless —

- (a) the information is collected for a lawful purpose connected with a function or activity of the agency; and
- (b) the collection of the information is necessary for that purpose.' [t59–1995]

1995 Treaty policy papers and Cabinet minutes released

A range of government policies relevant to Treaty of Waitangi settlements are released under the Official Information Act and published as *Policy papers for Crown proposals for the settlement of Treaty of Waitangi claims*. [t59 ends]

(University of Auckland Library, n.d.: 9.7)

1995 *Black Magic* wins the America's Cup

Peter Blake and Russell Coutts lead Team New Zealand to victory in the 1995 America's Cup, and defend it in 2000. New Zealand is the second country other than the US to win the cup in its 144-year existence, the first being Australia. Peter Blake was knighted in 1995 and went on to create Blakexpeditions, with the aim of visiting key waterways around the world, to raise awareness of their importance for humankind. In July 2001 he was made a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Special Envoy, and while visiting the Antarctic noted 'Earth is a water planet on which the quality of water defines the quality of life – Good water, good life. Poor water, poor life. No water, no life.' Sir Peter was killed in December 2001 while on an environmental exploration trip in South America. The Sir Peter Blake Trust continues his work through programmes that aim to identify and celebrate the next generation of New Zealand leaders, adventurers and environmental stewards. [t60 ends]

(Sir Peter Blake Trust, n.d.[a]; n.d.[b]; n.d.[c]; TVNZ, 2007)



Sir Peter Blake hanging red socks on a clothesline. Red socks were adopted by New Zealanders as a symbol of support for Team New Zealand during the America's Cup challenge. 1995

‘Having vision is not enough.
Change comes through realising
the vision and turning it
into reality.’

— Sir Peter Blake

1995

Cave Creek disaster

A scenic viewing platform in Paparoa National Park collapses under the weight of 17 students and one Department of Conservation (DOC) worker, sending them plunging 30 metres down onto the valley floor; 13 students and the DOC worker are killed. The report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry finds that the Department of Conservation was seriously under-funded and under-resourced at the time. The Commission also finds systemic problems with the platform's construction, including the design and supervision of its installation, none of which was overseen by any qualified engineers or builders. [t10–2011] (*CCL, n.d[ff]; DIA, 1995*)

1996

First MMP election held

The first MMP election results in the first coalition government for more than 60 years. In 2011 a referendum on the electoral system was held, and the electorate voted to retain MMP. As a result, the Electoral Commission conducted a review of MMP, and its report was published in November 2012. Significant recommendations included reducing the party vote threshold from 5% to 4%, and abolishing the single electorate seat threshold and the provision for overhang seats. [t20 ends] (*Electoral Commission, 2012; MCH, 2009b*)

1996

Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1996

The Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu Act is passed. This legislation recognises a tribal group as a political entity for the first time in New Zealand. Two years later, the Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act establishes the final settlement. [t34–2004] (*Tau, 2009*)

- 1996** **Manapouri Power Station granted further resource consents**
 The Manapouri Power Station is granted six resource consents under the Resource Management Act 1991, subject to a number of conditions, including compliance with the Gazetted guidelines. The consents have a 35-year term, expiring in 2031. [t13 ends]
(MED, 2005)
- 1996** **New Zealand's first wind farm built**
 Hau Nui, New Zealand's first commercial wind farm, is built. It begins generating electricity in the Wairarapa in 1997. [t16–2008]
(Cook, 2010b; Schrader, 2009)
- 1996** **Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act 1996**
 This Act aims to prevent or manage adverse effects from hazardous substances and new organisms in an attempt to protect both the environment and community health and safety. This is thought to be the first legislation internationally that requires risk to be measured against benefits. [t21–2000]
- 1997** **Shipley becomes first female Prime Minister**
 Following a coup against Jim Bolger, New Zealand's first female prime minister, Jenny Shipley, comes to power. [t41–1999]
(MCH, 2010s)
- 1997** **Asian financial market crisis**
 An unprecedented financial crisis in East Asia develops following the collapse of the Thai baht in July. New Zealand's flexible exchange rate acts as a buffer against depreciation of the New Zealand dollar. [t15–2008]
(Moreno, 1998; Treasury, 2011)

1998

Auckland power crisis

A five-week-long power outage starting on 20 January affects almost all of downtown Auckland. [t9–2006]

(*Civil Defence, 2007: 105*)

1998

First fibre optic cable commissioned

The Southern Cross Cable Network (SCCN), a trans-Pacific network of telecommunications cables, is commissioned.

The fibre optic cable network links Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Hawaii directly to the internet on the US West Coast. SCCN is an independent company owned by Telecom New Zealand (50%), SingTel Optus (40%) and Verizon Business (10%). [t14–2008]

(*SCCN, 2006*)

1999

Fitzsimons becomes first ‘Green’ MP in the world to win a constituency seat

Jeanette Fitzsimons wins the Coromandel seat, making her ‘the first Green to win a constituency seat in a first-past-the-post race’. [t41–1999]

(*Green Party, 2011*)

1999

Victoria Cross for New Zealand introduced

The award is introduced to create a New Zealand equivalent of the British Victoria Cross. In 2007 Corporal Bill (Willie) Apiata becomes the first recipient of the Victoria Cross for New Zealand for his ‘personal courage under fire’ while serving in Afghanistan in 2004. [t65 ends]

(*NZDF, n.d.; Te Papa, n.d.*)

1999

Clark becomes first elected female Prime Minister

Labour’s Helen Clark becomes the second female prime minister of New Zealand and the first to win office at an election. [t41–2005]

(*MCH, 2010t*)

1999 Painted apple moth discovered

The painted apple moth, a native of Australia, is found in Auckland in May. A controversial spray programme is carried out and eradicates the moth. [t11–2000]

(MAF, 2008a; Te Papa, 2006)

2000 Alan MacDiarmid wins the Nobel Prize in Chemistry

Alan MacDiarmid is awarded the Nobel Prize for chemistry jointly with Alan Heeger and Hideki Shirakawa for their discovery and work on conductive polymers. [t56 ends]

(Nobel Prize, 2011b)

2000 Royal Commission on Genetic Modification

A Royal Commission is established to enquire into the use of genetic modification. The 2001 report makes 49 recommendations, including three major proposals to ensure ongoing oversight: a Bioethics Council; a Parliamentary Commissioner on Biotechnology, and a biotechnology strategy. The Bioethics Council is established in 2002 but disbanded in 2009; the role of Parliamentary Commissioner is never created, and a strategy is published in 2003. [t21–2001]

(MFE, 2006; RCGM, 2001: 342; SFI, 2008a: 83–87)

2000 Varroa mite discovered

A parasite that attacks honey bees is discovered in both the North Island and the South Island in April. The varroa mite is classed as a ‘Notifiable and Unwanted Organism’ under the Biosecurity Act 1993. [t11–2001]

(MAF, 2000; 2009)

2000 Titular honours dropped

Titular honours are dropped from the top levels of the honours system by the Labour Government but are reinstated by the National Government in 2009. [t3 ends]

(Key, 2009; NZPA, 2009)

2001

Fonterra established

The New Zealand Dairy Board, New Zealand Dairy Group and Kiwi Co-operative Dairies merge to form Fonterra Co-operative Group Limited. The co-operative represents approximately 96% of dairy farmers in New Zealand.

[t11–2003]

(*Fonterra, n.d.*)

2001

GE-free hīkoi

Over two hundred people arrive at Parliament on 1 November 2001 as the culmination of a hīkoi beginning in October. This is specifically in response to genetically modified (GM) tamarillo field tests carried out by HortResearch in Kerikeri, and the lifting of a voluntary moratorium on GM applications. The group calls for the resignation of Māori MPs, saying that they failed to stop the government allowing GM field tests. A second GE-free hīkoi begins on 22 August 2003 and ends with hundreds of protesters gathering at Parliament on 23 October. This hīkoi calls for a complete ban on GM in New Zealand, and is in response to the planned lifting of the moratorium on the release of genetically modified crops. [t21 ends]

(*Bradford, 2001; SFI, 2008b*)

2001

Population reaches 3,737,280

In the 2001 census, the population is 3,737,280, of whom 77% are European, 14% are Māori, 6% are Pacific and 6% are Asian. Almost 1% identify as belonging to another ethnic group. [t51–2006]

(*Statistics NZ, 2001*)

2002

Government apologises to Chinese

On 12 February 2002, the government apologises for past discrimination against Chinese immigrants, and in particular the Chinese Immigrants Act 1881, which introduced a £10 poll tax. This Act was not repealed until 1944. [t29–2002]

(*Ip, 2010; Wilfrid Laurier University, 2012*)



Dame Silvia Cartwright, the second woman to be appointed Governor-General, receives a hongi from the first Māori Governor-General, Sir Paul Reeves. 2001

‘We can survive as a population
only if we conserve, develop
sustainably, and protect
the world’s resources.’

— Dame Silvia Cartwright, 2002

2002 Government apologises to Samoa

On 3 June 2002, the government apologises to Samoa ‘for the injustices arising from New Zealand’s administration of Samoa in its earlier years’. Of particular concern was New Zealand’s failure to quarantine the SS *Talune*, which allowed influenza to spread to Samoa, causing the deaths of more than a fifth of the population. [t29–2010]

(*Anae*, 2012; *Fraenkel*, 2012; *Wilfrid Laurier University*, 2012)

2002 Local Government Act 2002

The Local Government Act 2002 aims to deliver ‘democratic and effective local government’ and ‘provides for local authorities to play a broad role in promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of their communities, taking a sustainable development approach’. [t25–2006]

2002 *Lord of the Rings* wins Oscars

The Fellowship of the Ring wins four Oscars and promotes the New Zealand film industry, as well as our diverse landscapes. *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy goes on to win 17 Oscars in total. [t48 ends]

(*BBC*, 2002; 2009; *Tourism NZ*, n.d.[b])

2002 Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change signed

New Zealand ratifies the Kyoto Protocol on 19 February. The Protocol sets greenhouse gas emission limitations or reduction targets for developed countries and economies in transition to be achieved in the first commitment period from 2008 to 2012, ‘with a view to reducing their overall emissions of such gases by at least 5% below 1990 levels during this period’. There are currently negotiations underway to establish the second commitment period. New Zealand has put in place mechanisms to try to ensure it meets its commitments. [t28 ends]

(*MFAT*, 2011: 40–41)

2002 Kiwibank established

Kiwibank Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of the state-owned enterprise New Zealand Post Limited. The bank is initiated as part of Alliance policy under Jim Anderton as part of the 1999–2002 Labour–Alliance coalition agreement. [t23 ends]

(*Kiwibank*, n.d.; *NZIM*, 2007: 57; *Pannett*, 2005)

2003 Gypsy moth discovered

The gypsy moth, an invasive species with potentially disastrous effects on New Zealand agriculture, is discovered in Hamilton. An aerial spraying programme by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is carried out over the city and the moth is eradicated by 2005. [t11–2004]

(*MAF*, 2008b)

2003 Prostitution Reform Act 2003

The Act decriminalises prostitution, repealing the Massage Parlours Act 1978 and associated regulations. It replaces the previous legislation, removing voluntary adult (18 years of age) prostitution from the criminal law and replacing it with civil law at both national and local level. The first significant intervention into prostitution in New Zealand was the Contagious Diseases Act 1869 under which any woman considered to be a ‘common prostitute’ could be subjected to ‘forcible medical examination and detention’. [t57 ends]

(*Goodyear*, 2009: 23; *Jordan*, 2005)

2003 Supreme Court Act 2003

An Act ‘abolishing the right of appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London and establishing a New Zealand-based court of final appeal, the Supreme Court.’ [t2–2004]

(*MCH*, 2009b)

2003 Michael King's *The Penguin History of New Zealand* is published

A key theme of this book is Māori–Pakehā interaction and how today's bicultural relationship has its 'seeds' in the first moments of contact between the cultures. In an earlier book, *Being Pakeha Now* (1999), King stated: 'For me, then, to be Pakeha on the cusp of the twenty-first century is not to be European; it is not to be an alien or a stranger in my own country. It is to be a non-Maori New Zealander who is aware of and proud of my antecedents, but who identifies as intimately with this land, as intensively and as strongly, as anybody Maori. It is to be ... another kind of indigenous New Zealander.' [t52 ends]

(Howe, n.d.; King, 1999: 239; NZBC, n.d.[d])

2003 Smoke-free Environments Amendment Act 2003

This Act restricts cigarette smoking in all indoor public workplaces and inside hospitality venues. [t61 ends]

2004 Foreshore and Seabed hīkoi

'In April 2004 a hīkoi began in Northland in protest against proposed government legislation which would vest ownership of New Zealand's foreshore and seabed in the Crown. The hīkoi arrived in Wellington on 5 May 2004, after picking up numerous supporters on the way south.' [t33 ends]

(MCH, 2010u)

2004 Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004

The Foreshore and Seabed Act grants the Crown 'full legal and beneficial ownership of the public foreshore and seabed'. It provides for the recognition and protection of customary rights and for the opportunity to apply for redress or to participate in the administration of a reserve if those rights are not met. It also provides for the rights of general public access. [t34–2009]

2004 Civil Union Act 2004

The Civil Union Bill is passed by Parliament on 9 December 2004, establishing the institution of a civil union for same-sex and heterosexual couples. The Act comes into force on 26 April 2005. On 29 August 2012, the Marriage (Definition of Marriage) Amendment Bill, which ‘aims to ensure that all people, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity will have the opportunity to marry if they so choose’, passed its first reading. [t49 ends]

(New Zealand Parliament, 2012a; NZPA, 2004)

2004 Didymo discovered

Didymo is found for the first time in the southern hemisphere. In 2005, Biosecurity New Zealand declares the entire South Island a ‘Controlled Area’ for didymo to restrict its spread. [t11 ends]

(MAF, 2005; 2008c; n.d.)

2004 Inquiry to review New Zealand’s existing constitutional arrangements

The Inquiry is conducted by a committee with members from the following parties: New Zealand Labour (4), Green Party (1), ACT New Zealand (1), and United Future (1). Peter Dunne is the chairperson. The report is published in 2005; see recommendations on page 219. [t2–2008]

(New Zealand Parliament, 2005: 6)

2005 Second Hui Taumata – Māori Economic Development Summit Conference

The second Māori economic development summit conference reflects on achievements since the first Hui Taumata in 1984, and sets a path for Māori economic development for the next 20 years. [t55–2005]

(Treasury, 2005)

- 2005** **First Iwi Chairs Forum hui convened at Takahanga Marae in Kaikōura**
 The Forum meets regularly to discuss and enable Māori development aspirations, and by 2008 represents more than 400,000 Māori. [t55 ends]
(Iwi Chairs Forum, 2008)
- 2005** **Wilson becomes first female Speaker of the House of Representatives**
 Under the Labour Government Margaret Wilson is appointed Speaker of the House of Representatives. [t41–2011]
(New Zealand Parliament, n.d.[b])
- 2005** **Citizenship Amendment Act 2005**
 The Citizenship Amendment Act 2005 introduces more stringent requirements for New Zealand citizenship. These include increasing the standard period of residence in New Zealand prior to gaining citizenship from three years to five years. [t1 ends]
(DIA, 2005)
- 2006** **Sixth Māori King**
 Te Arikinui Dame Te Atairangikaahu is succeeded by her eldest son, Te Arikinui Tuheitia Pahi. [t32 ends]
(MCH, 2008i)
- 2006** **First Statement on Long-term Fiscal Position published**
 ‘In 2004, the Public Finance Act was amended to require the Treasury, at least once every four years, to prepare a statement on New Zealand’s long-term fiscal position. The Statement must look out over at least a 40-year horizon.’ The second statement was published in 2009, with the third scheduled for publication in mid-2013. [t25–2007]
(Treasury, 2006: 3; 2012)

2006 Auckland blackout

A massive electrical blackout in Auckland on 12 June lasts around eight hours, leaving 750,000 people without power.

[t9 ends]

(Lewis, 2006)

2006 Citizens increasingly identify as 'New Zealanders'

In the 2006 census, 11.1% of the population give the response 'New Zealander' to the ethnicity question, whereas in the 2001 census, this figure was 2.4%. The census also shows that New Zealand's population has continued to change. Although European (67.6%) and Māori (14.6%) still make up the two largest ethnic groups, significant numbers of New Zealanders identify as Asian (9.2%, an increase of 48.9%) and Pacific Islander (6.9%, an increase of 14.7%).

[t51-2010]

(Statistics NZ, 2007: 1; n.d.[d])

2007 Crimes (Substituted Section 59) Amendment Act 2007 (anti-smacking)

A Bill, commonly referred to as the 'Anti-smacking Bill', amends the Crimes Act 1961. The amendment removes the legal defence of 'reasonable force' for parents prosecuted for assault on their children. [t50 ends]

(Baker, M., 2011)

2007 KiwiSaver introduced

The Taxation (KiwiSaver) Act 2007 is passed and introduces KiwiSaver, a voluntary savings scheme designed to help people save for their retirement. KiwiSaver providers are required by the Act to disclose their approach to 'responsible investment, in a social and environmental context'. [t25 ends]

(Treasury, 2007)

2007 Parliament TV established

Parliament TV is launched, with all parliamentary proceedings being made available on free-to-air television and online. Previously, only the opening of Parliament and Question Time were broadcast on television. [t46 ends]

(MCH, 2012v; New Zealand Parliament, 2012b)

2008 Relationship and Confidence and Supply Agreement formed between the National Party and the Māori Party

A 'Relationship and Confidence and Supply Agreement' is formed between the National Party and the Māori Party following the 2008 national election. As a part of this, the parties agree to the 'establishment ... by no later than early 2010 of a group to consider constitutional issues including Māori representation'. [t2–2010]

(New Zealand Parliament, 2008: 2)

2008 United Nations recognises extended seabed rights

'New Zealand's right to approximately 1.7 million square kilometres of extended continental shelf seabed has been confirmed by the United Nations Commission ... about six times New Zealand's total land area.' [t5 ends]

(MFAT, 2010b)

2008 Free Trade Agreement with China signed

The Chinese and New Zealand governments sign a Free Trade Agreement (FTA). New Zealand is the first country in the developed world to negotiate an agreement of this kind with China. The agreement promotes 'mutually beneficial concessions in the area of trade of goods, services and investment'. [t30–2010]

(MFAT, 2010c)



Dame Dr Claudia Orange addresses the *EmpowerNZ: Drafting a Constitution for the 21st Century* workshop, held in response to the constitutional review begun in 2010.
2012

‘For the first time in our country, we New Zealanders are being asked to have a national conversation on our constitutional provisions. This is a unique opportunity.’

— Dame Dr Claudia Orange, 2012

2008 Telecom New Zealand restructured

Telecom is operationally separated into three divisions under the 2006 changes to the Telecommunications Act 2001 – Telecom Retail; Telecom Wholesale; and Chorus, the network infrastructure division. [t14 ends]

(Cunliffe, 2006; Telecom New Zealand, 2009: 50)

2008 Global financial crisis

New Zealand's exchange rate depreciates to a position below its long-term average for a short period in 2008. Following this, in February 2009, the exchange rate appreciates. This is attributed to the recovery in commodity prices and the poor economic state of other major economies. [t15 ends]

(Treasury, 2011)

2008 Third oil shock

Nubuo Tanaka, Executive Director of the International Energy Association (IEA), notes that the world is in the midst of a 'third oil shock'. [t16 ends]

(SENZ, 2008: 11)

2009 Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) established

The Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Act 2009 aims to streamline decision-making around proposals of 'national significance' through the establishment of an Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). The first commercial application under this new regime to be sent to the Board of Inquiry is received in 2011. New Zealand King Salmon wishes to expand its salmon farming operations significantly into areas of the Marlborough Sounds that are currently zoned to prevent aquaculture. The Marlborough District Council is against the proposal, stating that it is 'inconsistent with, and contrary to, the community based planning processes'. The EPA receives 1273 submissions on the proposal. Its decision is expected to be released early in 2013. [t17 ends]

(EPA, 2011; 2012; n.d.; MDC, 2003; 2012: 2–3)

2009 **Review of Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004**
 A review of the Foreshore and Seabed Act is announced.
 [t34–2011]
(Finlayson, 2009)

2009 **Influenza pandemic (swine flu)**
 More than three thousand cases of ‘swine flu’ are diagnosed in New Zealand and 20 deaths are attributed to the disease. Government agencies undertake widespread preparations in case the pandemic escalates. [t7 ends]
(MOH, 2009; Rice, 2011)

2009 **National Māori flag adopted**
 In 2009, 21 public hui are held nationwide and submissions are invited from Māori and other interested New Zealanders to determine a preferred national Māori flag. The Māori (tino rangatiratanga) flag gains support from 80.1% of respondents. On 14 December 2009 Cabinet accepts Dr Sharples’ recommendation that this flag be flown on Waitangi Day. ‘On Waitangi Day 2010 the national Māori flag [flies] over the Auckland Harbour Bridge for the first time. It also flies at other nationally significant sites including Parliament, the Beehive, the National War Memorial, Te Papa, the National Library of New Zealand, and a number of government buildings.’ See 2010 image on page 152. [t37 ends]
(Key & Sharples, 2009; MCH, 2010v)

2009 **Environment Canterbury (ECan) review**
 A performance review of Environment Canterbury is announced on 28 October under Section 24A of the Resource Management Act 1991. The reason cited is that a delay in processing resource consents is holding the region back. The review results in the government appointing a panel of commissioners to replace the elected councillors. In 2012, the Minister of Local Government announces that ECan elections will not happen until 2016, raising concerns in some quarters about public consultation and democratic representation. [t42–2010]
(Smith, 2010; Smith & Hide, 2009; Young & Cairns, 2012)



The Māori (tino rangatiratanga) flag flies over the Auckland Harbour Bridge alongside New Zealand's national flag. 2010

‘The Māori flag will not replace the New Zealand flag, but fly alongside it, to recognise the partnership the Crown and Māori entered into when signing the Treaty of Waitangi.’

— Prime Minister John Key, 2009

- 2010** **United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) endorsed**
 After initially voting against the adoption of UNDRIP in 2007, the government endorses the declaration, but describes it as an expression of aspiration and states that it will not interfere with existing national frameworks. [t29 ends]
(Armstrong, J., 2010; Key, 2010; UNESCO, 2010)
- 2010** **Pike River mine accident**
 Two explosions, on 19 and 24 November, result in the deaths of 29 coal miners at the Pike River mine on the West Coast of the South Island. A Royal Commission is established and begins inquiries in 2010. [t8–2012]
(MCH, 2011d)
- 2010** **Population projected to reach 5,500,000 in 2026**
 For the period 2006–2026, Māori population, with a high birth rate and increasing life expectancy, is set to grow at a steady rate. The Māori population is projected to make up 16% of the total New Zealand population by 2026. Asian and Pacific Island populations are expected to grow at a much faster rate, with the Asian population expected to be similar to that of Māori by 2026. In contrast, the ‘European or Other’ population is both ageing and proportionately in decline. [t51 ends]
(Statistics NZ, 2010: 1–8)
- 2010** **Auckland ‘Super City’ established**
 A Royal Commission is established in 2007 to inquire into Auckland’s local government arrangements, and recommend how these can contribute to regional and national objectives in a cost-effective manner. As a result of the report’s recommendations, the Auckland Council is established from the merger of the Auckland City Council with six territorial authorities — a region comprising 1.4 million people. [t42 ends]
(Derby, 2012c; RCAG, 2009)

2010

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA) signed

New Zealand, Australian and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' trade ministers sign the AANZFTA. The agreement is significant for New Zealand as it shows the ongoing and developing regional relationship this country has with Asia. [t30 ends]
(*MFAT, 2010d*)

2010

National and Māori Party constitutional review announced

The government announces its intention to conduct a wide-ranging review of New Zealand's constitutional arrangements. The review, which is to be led by Deputy Prime Minister Bill English and Māori Affairs Minister Pita Sharples, is part of the Confidence and Supply agreement between the National and Māori parties. It is to be deliberately wide-ranging and will include matters 'such as the size of Parliament, the length of the electoral term, Māori representation, the role of the Treaty of Waitangi and whether New Zealand needs a written constitution'. [t2 ends]
(*English & Sharples, 2010*)

2011

Christchurch earthquakes

A magnitude 6.3 earthquake occurs on a faultline close to the city centre and at a shallow depth on Tuesday 22 February at 12.51 p.m. Already weakened by a magnitude 7.1 earthquake on 4 September 2010, the city is left severely damaged, with 182 people losing their lives and thousands left homeless. This leads to New Zealand's first national state of emergency being declared on Wednesday 23 February. [t6-2012]
(*McSaveney, 2011; RNZ, 2011a*)

2011

Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011

This Act replaces the Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004 and ‘restores the right of iwi to seek customary title in particular areas of the Common Marine and Coastal Area’. It also ‘guarantees the rights of all New Zealanders in the common marine and coastal area’. The Bill is moved by Māori Party co-leader Tariana Turia in 2010, and builds on the confidence and supply agreement signed by the National and Māori parties in November 2008. [t34–2012] (*Finlayson, 2010; TVNZ, 2011b*)

2011

A New Zealand prime minister addresses the Australian Parliament for the first time

Prime Minister John Key addresses the Australian Parliament in June 2011, thanking the government for its support during the aftermath of both the Pike River mining disaster and the Canterbury earthquakes. Key is the first New Zealand prime minister to address the Australian Parliament. This follows Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard’s historic address to Parliament on February 2011. Although her address was not during a formal sitting of Parliament, she was the first Australian Prime Minister to address the New Zealand Parliament. [t41 ends] (*Murray, 2011; RNZ, 2011b*)

2011

Rena oil spill

On 5 October, the *Rena*, a container ship holding over 1700 tonnes of oil and more than 1300 shipping containers, grounds on the Astrolabe Reef in the Bay of Plenty. This results in significant environmental damage, necessitating a large-scale clean-up of the coastline. In 2012 the ship’s captain Mauro Balomaga and navigation officer Leonil Relon are sentenced to seven months’ jail after pleading guilty to 11 charges related to the grounding. Daina Shipping, owners of the *Rena*, are fined \$300,000 under the Resource Management Act 1991 for discharging harmful substances. [t10 ends] (*MFE, 2012; MNZ, 2012: 14–15*)

2012 Waitangi Tribunal report on the Wai 262 claim released

Lodged on 9 October 1991 by six claimants, the Wai 262 claim concerns the place of Māori knowledge, culture and identity in New Zealand's laws. The Wai 262 report recommends, among other things, the establishment of new partnership bodies in education, conservation, and culture and heritage; a new commission to protect Māori cultural works against derogatory or offensive uses and unauthorised commercial uses; a new funding agent for mātauranga Māori in science; and expanded roles for some existing bodies. [t34 ends]

(Waitangi Tribunal, 2012)

2012 Christchurch Central Recovery Plan released

The plan outlines the future development of central Christchurch, in response to the devastation caused by the 2010 and 2011 earthquakes and subsequent aftershocks. It incorporates a spatial Blueprint Plan that describes the form in which the central city can be rebuilt, and defines the locations of 'anchor' projects that will stimulate further development. [t6 ends]

(CCDU, 2012)

2012 Royal Commission Report on the Pike River Mine Disaster released

The Royal Commission reports serious systemic failures on the part of both the Department of Labour and the mining company, including an absence of advance planning for a coal mine emergency and a failure to properly implement the principles of the New Zealand Co-ordinated Incident Management System (CIMS). The report makes 16 primary recommendations. [t8 ends]

(Royal Commission, 2012: 12–15)



Christ Church Cathedral after the 6.3 magnitude earthquake struck Christchurch at 12:51 p.m. on Tuesday 22 February 2011.

‘You often see in these worst of times
the best in human beings.’

— Dean of Christ Church Cathedral Peter Beck, 2011

2 Heads of State

New Zealand's Head of State is the sovereign; together the sovereign and the House of Representatives comprise Parliament. Since the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840, the reigning British monarch has been New Zealand's sovereign.

Since 1974 the current sovereign has been styled 'Queen of New Zealand', or in full 'Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God Queen of New Zealand and Her Other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith'. In addition to being New Zealand's queen, Elizabeth II is also the queen of Australia, Canada, Jamaica, Papua New Guinea, the United Kingdom and ten other countries.

— Adapted from Commonwealth Secretariat, n.d.;
Constitution Act 1986: s2(1); s14(1); Royal Household, 2011b;
Royal Titles Act 1974: s2

Term	Name
1840–1901	Queen Victoria of New Zealand
1901–1910	King Edward VII of New Zealand
1910–1936	King George V of New Zealand
1936–1936	King Edward VIII of New Zealand
1936–1952	King George VI of New Zealand
1953–	Queen Elizabeth II of New Zealand

— Commonwealth Secretariat, n.d.; Royal Household, 2011c;
2011d; 2011e; 2011f; 2011g; 2011h

3 Governors and Governors-General

The Sovereign appoints a Governor-General to be their representative in New Zealand. Every power conferred upon the Governor-General is a royal power, which can either be exercised by the Governor-General on the Sovereign's behalf or by the Sovereign in person if they are in the country. The Governor-General has a non-partisan role, often differentiated from government by the saying 'while the Sovereign reigns, the Government rules'.

Governors-General are required to take the following oath under regulation 6(b) of the Letters Patent (2006):

I, [name], swear that, as Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Realm of New Zealand, comprising New Zealand; the self-governing states of the Cook Islands and Niue; Tokelau; and the Ross Dependency, I will faithfully and impartially serve Her [or His] Majesty [specify the name of the reigning Sovereign, as thus: Queen Elizabeth the Second], Queen of New Zealand [or King of New Zealand], Her [or His] heirs and successors, and the people of the Realm of New Zealand, in accordance with their respective laws and customs. So help me God.

— Adapted from NZ Govt, n.d.(b)

	Term	Name
		Lieutenant-Governor
1840 Dependency of New South Wales	1840–1841	Captain William Hobson
		Governor
1841	1841–1842	Captain William Hobson
Separate	1843–1845	Captain Robert Fitzroy
Crown Colony	1845–1847	Captain George Grey
		Governor-in-Chief
	1848–1853	Sir George Grey
		Governor of New Zealand
1853	1853–1853	Sir George Grey
Self-governing	1855–1861	Colonel Thomas Gore Browne
Colony	1861–1868	Sir George Grey
	1868–1873	Sir George Ferguson Bowen
	1873–1874	The Rt Hon Sir James Fergusson
	1875–1879	The Marquess of Normanby
	1879–1880	Sir Hercules George Robert Robinson
	1880–1882	The Hon Sir Arthur Hamilton Gordon
	1883–1889	Lt General Sir William Francis Drummond Jervois
	1889–1892	The Earl of Onslow
	1892–1897	The Earl of Glasgow
	1897–1904	The Earl of Ranfurly
1907	1904–1910	Lord Plunket
Dominion of	1910–1912	Lord Islington
New Zealand	1912–1917	The Earl of Liverpool

	Term	Name
1953 Realm of New Zealand		Governor-General of New Zealand
	1917–1920	The Earl of Liverpool
	1920–1924	Viscount Jellicoe
	1924–1930	General Sir Charles Fergusson
	1930–1935	Viscount Bledisloe
	1935–1941	Viscount Galway
	1941–1946	Marshal of the RAF Sir Cyril Louis Norton Newall
	1946–1952	Lt General Lord Freyberg
	1952–1957	Lt General Lord Norrie
	1957–1962	Viscount Cobham
	1962–1967	Brigadier Sir Bernard Fergusson
	1967–1972	Sir Arthur Espie Porritt (first New Zealand born)
	1972–1977	Sir (Edward) Denis Blundell (first full New Zealand resident)
	1977–1980	The Rt Hon Sir Keith Jacka Holyoake (first politician)
	1980–1985	The Hon Sir David Stuart Beattie
	1985–1990	The Rt Rev & the Hon Sir Paul Alfred Reeves (first Māori)
	1990–1996	The Hon Dame Catherine Anne Tizard (first woman)
	1996–2001	The Rt Hon Sir Michael Hardie Boys
	2001–2006	The Hon Dame Silvia Cartwright
	2006–2011	Sir Anand Satyanand (first of Indian or Pacific Island descent)
	2011–	Lt General Jerry Mateparae

— Adapted from MCH, 2007g; NZ Govt, n.d.(a); n.d.(c);
n.d.(d); n.d.(e); n.d.(f); n.d.(g)

4 Premiers and Prime Ministers

What follows is a list of premiers and prime ministers in New Zealand and, where appropriate, the parties that held power. Until the Liberal Government of 1891, candidates generally stood independently. However, mounting pressure for leaders to clarify their direction for the government led to the emergence of a party-based structure.

Prime ministers and other members of the Executive Council are required to take the following oath under the Oaths and Declarations Act 1957:

I, [name], being chosen and admitted of the Executive Council of New Zealand, swear that I will to the best of my judgment, at all times, when thereto required, freely give my counsel and advice to the Governor-General for the time being, for the good management of the affairs of New Zealand. That I will not directly nor indirectly reveal such matters as shall be debated in Council and committed to my secrecy, but that I will in all things be a true and faithful Councillor. So help me God.

— Adapted from Miller, 2005

Term	Name
	Premier
7–20 May 1856	Henry Sewell
20 May 1856–2 June 1856	William Fox
2 June 1856–12 July 1861	Edward Stafford
12 July 1861–6 August 1862	William Fox
6 August 1862–30 October 1863	Alfred Domett
30 October 1863–24 November 1864	Frederick Whitaker
24 November 1864–16 October 1865	Frederick Weld
16 October 1865–28 June 1869	Edward Stafford
28 June 1869–10 September 1872	William Fox
10 September 1872–11 October 1872	Edward Stafford
11 October 1872–3 March 1873	George Waterhouse
3 March 1873–8 April 1873	William Fox
8 April 1873–6 July 1875	Julius Vogel
6 July 1875–15 February 1876	Daniel Pollen
15 February 1876–1 September 1876	Julius Vogel
1 September 1876–13 October 1877	Harry Atkinson
13 October 1877–8 October 1879	George Grey
8 October 1879–21 April 1882	John Hall
21 April 1882–25 September 1883	Frederick Whitaker
25 September 1883–16 August 1884	Harry Atkinson
16 August 1884–28 August 1884	Robert Stout
28 August 1884–3 September 1884	Harry Atkinson
3 September 1884–8 October 1887	Robert Stout
8 October 1887–24 January 1891	Harry Atkinson
24 January 1891–27 April 1893	John Ballance (Liberal)
	Prime Minister
1 May 1893–10 June 1906	Richard Seddon (Liberal)
21 June 1906–6 August 1906	William Hall-Jones (Liberal)
6 August 1906–12 March 1912	Joseph Ward (Liberal)
28 March 1912–10 July 1912	Thomas Mackenzie (Liberal)
10 July 1912–12 August 1915	William Massey (Reform)
12 August 1915–25 August 1919	William Massey (National Government)
25 August 1919–10 May 1925	William Massey (Reform)

14 May 1925–30 May 1925	Francis Bell (Reform)
30 May 1925–10 December 1928	Gordon Coates (Reform)
10 December 1928–28 May 1930	Joseph Ward (United)
28 May 1930–22 September 1931	George Forbes (United)
22 September 1931–6 December 1935	George Forbes (Coalition)
6 December 1935–27 March 1940	Michael Savage (Labour)
27 March 1940–13 December 1949	Peter Fraser (Labour)
13 December 1949–20 September 1957	Sidney Holland (National)
20 September 1957–12 December 1957	Keith Holyoake (National)
12 December 1957–12 December 1960	Walter Nash (Labour)
12 December 1960–7 February 1972	Keith Holyoake (National)
7 February 1972–8 December 1972	John Marshall (National)
8 December 1972–31 August 1974	Norman Kirk (Labour)
6 September 1974–12 December 1975	Wallace Rowling (Labour)
12 December 1975–26 July 1984	Robert Muldoon (National)
26 July 1984–8 August 1989	David Lange (Labour)
8 August 1989–4 September 1990	Geoffrey Palmer (Labour)
4 September 1990–2 November 1990	Michael Moore (Labour)
2 November 1990–28 February 1996	James Bolger (National)
28 February 1996–16 December 1996	James Bolger (National/United)
16 December 1996–8 December 1997	James Bolger (National/NZ First)
8 December 1997–26 August 1998	Jennifer Shipley (National/NZ First)
28 August 1998–5 December 1999	Jennifer Shipley (National-led minority)
5 December 1999–15 August 2002	Helen Clark (Labour/Alliance)
15 August 2002–17 September 2005	Helen Clark (Labour/Progressive)
17 September 2005–19 November 2008	Helen Clark (Labour/Progressive)
19 November 2008–	John Key (National/ Act/United Future/Māori Party)

— Adapted from Grant, I.F., 2003: 199–200; McLintock, 1966n;
MCH, 2011p; Parliament of Australia, 2005: 1

5 Political Parties

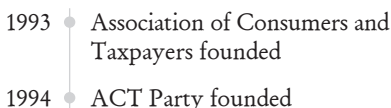
The following is a brief history of the genealogy of political parties that have been elected to Parliament since the adoption of the MMP electoral system in 1996. We have not included independent MPs, or electorate MPs who left one party to create their own party and were not subsequently re-elected. Members of Parliament are required to take the following oath under Section 11 of the Constitution Act 1986.

A Member of Parliament shall not be permitted to sit or vote in the House of Representatives until that Member has taken the Oath of Allegiance in the form prescribed in Section 17 of the Oaths and Declarations Act 1957.

This Oath of Allegiance states:

I, [name], swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her [or His] Majesty [Specify the name of the reigning Sovereign, as thus: Queen Elizabeth the Second], Her [or His] heirs and successors, according to law. So help me God.

ACT Party

- 
- A vertical timeline with two entries. The first entry is for 1993, with a grey dot and the text 'Association of Consumers and Taxpayers founded'. The second entry is for 1994, with a grey dot and the text 'ACT Party founded'. A vertical line connects the two dots.
- 1993 • Association of Consumers and Taxpayers founded
 - 1994 • ACT Party founded

— Adapted from ACT Party, n.d.; Douglas, 2010

Green Party

- 1972 • Values Party founded
- 1990 • Green Party founded
- 1992 • Green Party joins Alliance
- 1997 • Green Party splits from Alliance

— Adapted from Green Party, 2011

Labour Party

- 1901 • Socialist Party
- 1905 • Independent Political Labour League
- 1910 • (Original) Labour Party founded
- 1912 • United Labour Party founded
- 1913 • Social Democratic Party founded
- 1916 • Labour Party founded

— Adapted from Brown, 2009; Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2011a; Roth, 2009a; 2009b

Mana Party

- 2004 • Māori Party founded
- 2011 • Mana Party founded, after splitting from Māori Party

— Adapted from Electoral Commission, 2004; Watkins & Chapman, 2011

Māori Party

2004 • Māori Party founded

— Adapted from Electoral Commission, 2004

National Party



— Adapted from Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2011b; 2011c; Gardner, 2009b; NZNP, n.d.

New Zealand First Party

1993 • NZ First Party founded mainly from former members of the National and Labour Parties

— Adapted from Faber, 2000

Progressive Party



— Adapted from Faber, 2000; MCH, 2009k; Parliamentary Library, 2011; Steward, 1998; University of Otago Library, n.d.: 4

United Future New Zealand Party



— Adapted from Faber, 2000; James, 2002; United Future, 2011

6 Royal Commissions

The Commissioners' Powers Act 1867 led to the introduction of Commissions of Inquiry in New Zealand. The purpose of Commissions is to assist governments in maintaining a balance between citizens' rights and the Crown's duties. Once an inquiry is in motion, governments cannot influence its direction or findings. According to the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1908:

'The Governor-General may ... appoint any person or persons to be a Commission to inquire into and report upon any question arising out of or concerning –

- (a) The administration of the Government; or
- (b) The working of any existing law; or
- (c) The necessity or expediency of any legislation; or
- (d) The conduct of any officer in the service of the Crown; or
- (e) Any disaster or accident (whether due to natural causes or otherwise) in which members of the public were killed or injured or were or might have been exposed to risk of death or injury;
- (f) Any other matter of public importance.'

— Adapted from DIA, 2001: 7, 10

The following list sets out, by year of publication, all reports of New Zealand's Royal Commissions of Inquiry.

- 1868 ● Royal Commission on prisons
- 1874 ● Royal Commission on ship 'Scimitar'
- Royal Commission to inquire into the boiler accident at the Kurunui Battery, Thames gold-field, and into the machinery and boilers on the field generally
- 1876 ● Royal Commission on claims to compensation by owners of tramways
- Royal Commission to decide upon a proper site for the new General Assembly Library
- 1877 ● Royal Commission to inquire into charges made by Thomas Butler, late Keeper, Nelson Lunatic Asylum
- Royal Commission to secure the representation of New Zealand at the Philadelphia Centennial International Exhibition of 1876
- 1878 ● Royal Commission to enquire into the working of the Employment of Females Act
- Royal Commission to inquire into the petition of James Makintosh & Son
- 1879 ● Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon the operations of the University of New Zealand, and its relations to the secondary schools of the colony
- Royal Commission to inquire into certain matters connected with the electoral roll of Mongonui and Bay of Islands District
- 1880 ● Royal Commission to inquire and report upon the Civil Service of NZ
- Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon the operations of the University of New Zealand, and its relations to the secondary schools of the colony
- Royal Commission under 'The Confiscated Lands Inquiry and Maori Prisoners' Trials Act, 1879'
- 1888 ● Royal Commission on Middle Island native land question
- 1889 ● Royal Commission to inquire into certain matters connected with the hearing of the Taupouuiatia Block
- Royal Commission to inquire into the matter of land taken for defence purposes at Point Resolution
- 1890 ● Royal Commission to inquire into certain relations between the employers of certain kinds of labour and the persons employed therein
- 1893 ● Royal Commission on Westport Colliery Reserve
- Royal Commission to inquire into the charges made by Mr. G. W. Ell against Mr. Bloxam, Registrar of the Supreme Court, Christchurch and Mr. E. C. Latter, lately Official Assignee, Christchurch

- 1894 ● Royal Commission on the Fox correspondence
- 1896 ● Royal Commission to inquire into Brunner coal mine disaster on 26th March, 1896
- 1897 ● Royal Commission on charges against Inspector John Emerson
● Royal Commission on private benefit societies
- 1898 ● Royal Commission on kauri gum industry
● Royal Commission on the Police Force of New Zealand
- 1900 ● Royal Commission on Stoke Industrial School, Nelson
- 1901 ● Royal Commission on federation (with Australia)
● Royal Commission on the alleged delays in inspection of ships 'G. M. Tucker' and 'Monowai'
● Royal Commission on the New Zealand Midland Railway
● Royal Commission on the staffs of schools and salaries of public school teachers
● Royal Commission to inquire and report on the working of coal-mines of New Zealand
- 1904 ● Royal Commission appointed under Section 18 of the 'Native Land Adjustment Act, 1901'
● Royal Commission on Te Akau Block
- 1905 ● Royal Commission appointed under Section 11 of the 'Maori Land Claims Adjustment and Laws Amendment Act, 1904'
● Royal Commission on land tenure, land-settlement, and other matters affecting the Crown Lands of the Colony
● Royal Commission on the Police Force of New Zealand
● Royal Commission on the Porirua, Otaki, Waikato, Kaikokirikiri and Motueka School Trusts
- 1906 ● Royal Commission of inquiry into the alleged usury on loans to Maori
● Royal Commission on complaints against the Public Trustee in connection with administration of the West Coast Settlement Reserves
● Royal Commission on fires on ships
● Royal Commission on the Te Aute and Wanganui School Trusts
- 1907 ● Royal Commission to inquire into fires on wool ships
● Royal Commission to inquire into the Nightcaps coal mine disaster on the 21st June, 1907
- 1908 ● Royal Commission to inquire into the efficiency and working of the brakes on the Auckland electric tramways

- 1909 ● Royal Commission on lands and native land tenure
● Royal Commission on the Police Force of New Zealand
- 1910 ● Royal Commission to inquire into the efficiency of the brakes, and suitability of the brake systems, adopted on the Auckland City and suburban electric tramways
- 1911 ● Royal Commission on the Kaiapoi Reserve
- 1912 ● Royal Commission on mines
- 1913 ● Royal Commission on forestry
- 1914 ● Royal Commission of inquiry into the care and carriage of explosives in New Zealand
● Royal Commission on the Huntly mining accident
● Royal Commission to inquire into the administration and disposal of Crown land, forests, and timber in Hauraki mining district; also land-tenures in Te Aroha township
● Royal Commission to inquire into the administration and disposal of the land, forests and timber belonging to the Crown, situated within the mining districts in Nelson, Marlborough, and Westland
- 1924 ● Royal Commission to inquire into the subject of land and income taxation in New Zealand
- 1925 ● Royal Commission in connection with the inquiry into the sale of the Poverty Bay Farmers' Meat Company (Limited) to Messrs Vestey Bros (Limited) and other matters
● Royal Commission on university education in New Zealand
- 1926 ● Royal Commission on rural credits
- 1927 ● Royal Commission on Dobson Colliery disaster
● Royal Commission on harbour board matters at Napier
● Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon the water supplies for the metropolitan area and the city of Auckland
- 1928 ● Royal Commission concerning the administration of Western Samoa
● Royal Commission to inquire into confiscations of native lands and other grievances alleged by natives
- 1929 ● Royal Commission to inquire into matters relating to leases of native lands in Waikato-Maniapoto Native Land Court
- 1930 ● Royal Commission to inquire into Waitemata Harbour transit facilities

- 1930
Cont. ● Royal Commission appointed pursuant to Section III of 'The Land and Income Tax Amendment Act, 1929' to inquire and report as to any cases of hardship arising from the imposition of special land-tax
- 1939 ● Royal Commission to inquire into and report as to grievances alleged by Maoris with regard to certain lands at Orakei, in the city of Auckland
- 1941 ● Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon colliery accident at Ten-Mile Creek, near Greymouth
- 1944 ● Royal Commission to inquire into ... suggested works near mouth of the Hutt River
- 1946 ● Royal Commission on licensing
- Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon certain matters arising out of the acquisition and disposal of surplus assets by the War Assets Realization Board
- Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon trans-harbour facilities in the Auckland metropolitan area and the approaches thereto
- 1948 ● Royal Commission to inquire into and report on claims preferred by members of the Maori race touching certain lands known as surplus lands of the Crown
- Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the Mahia Block
- Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the Mokau (Manginangina) Block
- Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the Pukeroa-Oruawhata (Rotorua Township) Block
- Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon gaming and racing matters in New Zealand
- Royal Commission on the Ballantyne fire, Christchurch
- Royal Commission on the assessment of rentals under the West Coast Settlement Reserves Leases
- 1949 ● Royal Commission on the sheep-farming industry in New Zealand
- 1950 ● Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon claims made by certain Maoris in respect of the Wanganui River
- 1951 ● Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the Mohaka Block

- 1951
Cont.
 - Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the payment of certain moneys by the Aotea District Maori Land Board in respect of the West Taupo timber lands
 - Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants in respect of the Tarawera and Tatarakina Blocks
 - Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon matters and questions relating to certain leases of Maori lands vested in Maori Land Boards
 - Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon the desirability of establishing an additional meat-export slaughterhouse in Southland
 - Royal Commission upon parliamentary salaries and allowances
 - Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon claims preferred by certain Maori claimants concerning the Opouturi Block
- 1952
 - Royal Commission of inquiry into the waterfront industry
 - Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon the New Zealand Government Railways
- 1955
 - Royal Commission upon parliamentary salaries and allowances
- 1956
 - Royal Commission on monetary, banking and credit systems
- 1957
 - Royal Commission on the D.I.C. scaffolding accident, Wellington
- 1958
 - Royal Commission upon parliamentary salaries and allowances
- 1959
 - Royal Commission on local authority finance
 - Royal Commission upon parliamentary salaries and allowances
- 1961
 - Royal Commission on parliamentary salaries and allowances
- 1962
 - Royal Commission on the state services in New Zealand
- 1964
 - Royal Commission on parliamentary salaries and allowances
- 1967
 - Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon workers' compensation
 - Royal Commission upon parliamentary salaries and allowances
- 1968
 - Royal Commission on salary and wage fixing procedures in the New Zealand State Services
 - Royal Commission upon parliamentary salaries and allowances
- 1970
 - Royal Commission of inquiry into horse racing, trotting and dog racing in New Zealand
 - Royal Commission on parliamentary salaries and allowances

- 1972 ● Royal Commission of inquiry on handling of containers, sea freighters and unitised cargo (containers commission)
- Royal Commission of inquiry on salary and wage fixing procedures in the New Zealand State Services
- Royal Commission of inquiry on social security in New Zealand
- 1973 ● Royal Commission of inquiry into hospital and related services
- Royal Commission on parliamentary salaries and allowances
- 1974 ● Royal Commission on the future use of Rangitira B and C Blocks
- 1975 ● Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon the sale of liquor in New Zealand
- 1977 ● Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon contraception, sterilisation and abortion
- 1978 ● Royal Commission of inquiry on nuclear power generation
- Royal Commission on the courts
- 1980 ● Royal Commission of inquiry on the Maori land courts
- Royal Commission to inquire into the circumstances of the convictions of Arthur Allan Thomas for the murders of David Harvey Crewe and Jeanette Lenore Crewe
- 1981 ● Royal Commission to inquire into the crash on Mt Erebus, Antarctica of a DC10 aircraft operated by Air New Zealand Limited
- 1983 ● Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon certain matters related to drug trafficking
- 1986 ● Royal Commission on broadcasting and related telecommunications
- Royal Commission on the electoral system
- 1988 ● Royal Commission on social policy
- 2001 ● Royal Commission on genetic modification
- 2007 ● Royal Commission on Auckland governance
- Royal Commission of inquiry into police conduct
- 2010 ● Royal Commission on the Pike River mine disaster
- 2011 ● Royal Commission on the 2011 Christchurch earthquake (in progress)

— Adapted from DIA, 2001; 2011b; Robertson & Hughes, 1982

7 Referenda

A referendum can result from either an initiative of government or a successful petition under the Citizens Initiated Referenda Act 1993. Prior to 1949, Māori were excluded from voting in referenda. Between 1911 and 1987, a referendum on national prohibition of alcohol was held in conjunction with every general election except in 1931 and 1951. The other referenda are as follows:

Date	Topic
9 March 1949	Allowing off-course betting
3 August 1949	Compulsory military training
23 September 1967	Term of Parliament
27 October 1990	Term of Parliament
19 September 1992	Voting system
6 November 1993	Voting system
2 December 1995	Number of firefighters
5–26 September 1997	Compulsory Retirement Savings Scheme
27 November 1999	Size of the House of Representatives
27 November 1999	Justice system reform
31 July–21 August 2009	The smacking of children
26 November 2011	Voting system

— Adapted from Electoral Commission, 2009; Wilson, J., 2009e: 14

8 Treaty Settlements

The Waitangi Tribunal was established in 1975. Its purpose was to consider claims by Māori against the Crown regarding breaches of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. Originally, the Tribunal only considered contemporary issues; however, from 1985 its powers were extended to address historic claims dating back to 1840. To date, more than 2000 claims have been lodged with the Tribunal. In 1994 the government set a ‘fiscal envelope’ of \$1 billion, but this was abandoned in 1996. Treaty payments now total over \$1 billion.

In 2000, the Tribunal introduced a ‘new approach’ to address inefficiencies in the Tribunal process. Claimants and the Crown would now clarify specific points of contention at a conference before the official hearing, which streamlined the hearing process.

The table on pages 180–183 shows progress by claimant groups towards settlement of their historical Treaty claims, as at 30 September 2012. In order for a claim to be settled, the Deed of Settlement must be agreed upon by the Crown and the claimant group. Once the Deed of Settlement has been signed, it is enacted through legislation.

The National Government has set the ‘aspirational goal’ of completing all Treaty settlements by 2014, creating an expectation of a more positive Treaty partnership in the medium term.

Justice Joe Williams, the former chair of the Waitangi Tribunal, put it this way:

Over the next decade or so, the Crown–Māori relationship, still currently fixed on Māori grievances, must shift to a less negative and more future-focused relationship at all levels. This change is expected and intended. It will reflect growing Māori confidence, driven from continued demographic change and settlement-based tribal economic renewal. – Justice Joe Williams, Wai 262, 2011



— Adapted from Gardiner, n.d.; Gower, 2012; MCH, 2012w; National Party, 2011; Orange, 2004: 250–251; Te Puni Kōkiri, 2012; Waitangi Tribunal, 2011c: 16

Claimant Groups	Status as at 30 September 2012			
	Agreement yet to be reached	Agreement in Principle signed	Deed of Settlement signed	Enacted through legislation
Te Taitokerau				
Te Uri o Hau				●
Te Roroa				●
Te Rarawa		●		
Te Aupōuri			●	
Ngāti Kahu		●		
Ngāi Takoto		●		
Ngāti Kuri		●		
Ngātikahu ki Whangaroa		●		
Tamaki Makaurau				
Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei			●	
Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara			●	
Te Kawerau a Maki		●		
Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua	●			
Ngāti Manuhiri			●	
Ngāti Rehua		●		
Tāmaki Collective			●	
Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki		●		
Ngāti Tamaoho		●		
Ngāti Te Ata		●		
Hauraki Collective		●		
Ngāti Rahiri Tumutumu		●		
Ngāti Hako		●		
Ngāti Hei		●		
Ngāti Pāoa		●		
Ngāti Porou ki Harataunga ki Mataora		●		
Ngāti Tara Tokanui		●		
Ngāti Whanaunga		●		
Te Patukirikiri		●		
Ngāti Tamatera		●		
Ngāti Maru		●		
Te Aki Tai Waiohūa	●			

Claimant
Groups

Status as at 30 September 2012

	Agreement yet to be reached	Agreement in Principle signed	Deed of Settlement signed	Enacted through legislation
Waikato				
Waikato-Tainui (Raupatu Claim)				●
Waikato-Tainui (River interests)				●
Raukawa (River interests)				●
Te Pūmautanga o Te Arawa (River interests)				●
Ngāti Tūwharetoa (River interests)				●
Ngāti Maniapoto (River interests)				●
Raukawa (Comprehensive)			●	
Ngāti Koroki Kahukura		●		
Ngāti Hauā	●			
Maraeroa A and B Blocks (Rereahu)				●
Te Moana a Toi				
Ngāti Tūwharetoa (Bay of Plenty)				●
Ngāti Awa				●
Ngāti Ranginui			●	
Ngāti Pukenga	●			
Ngāi Te Rangi	●			
CNI/Te Arawa				
Central North Island Collective				●
Te Arawa Lakes				●
Te Arawa Affiliates				●
Pouakani				●
Ngāti Tūrangitukua				●
Ngāti Manawa				●
Ngāti Whare				●
Ngāti Māhino				●
Waitaha			●	
Ngāi Tūhoe		●		
Ngāti Rangiteaorere (Te Tokotoru)		●		
Tapuika (Te Tokotoru)		●		
Ngāti Rangiwehi (Te Tokotoru)		●		
Ngāti Whakaue	●			
Ngāti Tūwharetoa	●			

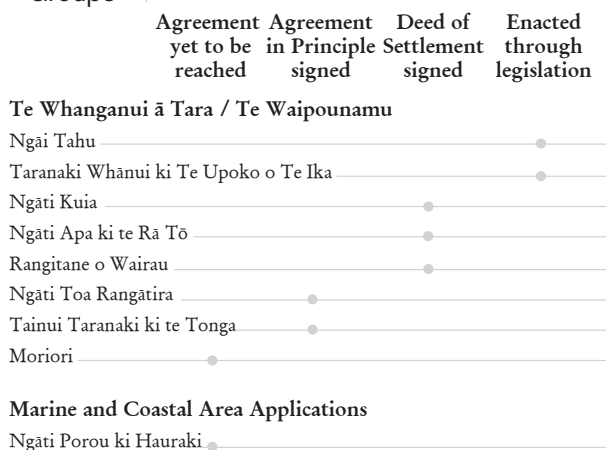
Claimant Groups

Status as at 30 September 2012

	Agreement yet to be reached	Agreement in Principle signed	Deed of Settlement signed	Enacted through legislation
Te Tairāwhiti				
Tūranganui-a-Kiwa		●		
Rongowhakaata				●
Ngāi Tamanuhiri				●
Ngāti Porou				●
Takitimu				
Ngāti Pahauwera				●
Ngāti Tu		●		
Ngāti Hineuru	●			
Ahuriri hapū	●			
Ngāti Kahungunu ki				
Heretaunga Tamatea	●			
Te Tira Whakaemi				
o Te Wairoa	●			
Rangitāne o Wairarapa	●			
Te Tai Hauāuru				
Ngāti Ruanui				●
Ngāti Tama				●
Ngaa Rauru Kiihahi				●
Ngāti Mutunga				●
Ngāti Apa (North Island)				●
Te Iwi o Whanganui (River Claim)		●		
Rangitāne o Manawatu		●		
Te Atiawa (Taranaki)	●			
Taranaki Iwi	●			
Ngā Ruahine	●			

Claimant
Groups

Status as at 30 September 2012



— Adapted from OTS, 2012

9 Peace Support Operations

New Zealand was a founding member of the United Nations, and has maintained a commitment to peace support operations (PSOs) since the 1950s. These missions represent New Zealand's most tangible commitment to collective international security. Both New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) troops and New Zealand Police Officers participate in peacekeeping and observer missions, the former referring to armed missions, the latter unarmed. Before engaging in a PSO, New Zealand considers:

- (i) strategic implications of the operation, including its effect on security, the humanitarian situation and New Zealand's relationships with other countries;
- (ii) the nature of the mission – the legality of the proposed mission and mandate under international law;
- (iii) repercussions for New Zealand agencies involved in the proposed PSO; and
- (iv) whether New Zealand can assist the fragile or post-conflict state in other ways.

— Adapted from MFAT, 2010e

1951–1976	Kashmir (India/Pakistan) In 1951 the decision was made to contribute to the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP); military personnel arrived in the region in January 1952.
1953–on-going	South Korea NZDF officers continue to support the United Nations Military Armistice Commission (UNMAC), which monitors compliance of the armistice agreement in force between North and South Korea since 1953. There are currently three NZDF officers serving in the region.
1954–on-going	Middle East NZDF officers continue to serve with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO) in the Middle East. These personnel work as military observers and are based in Syria, Israel and Southern Lebanon.
1964–1967	Cyprus A volunteer force of 20 police officers joined the United Nations mission in Cyprus. Their role was to act as liaison between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot police.
1979–1980	Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) A contingent of 74 Army personnel joined the Commonwealth Monitoring Force in Rhodesia, in the region that is now Zimbabwe. The contingent supervised the ceasefire during the period leading up to national elections.
1981–on-going	Egypt The New Zealand contingent of Multinational Force & Observers (MFO) helps supervise the implementation of security provisions under the Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty. There are currently 27 NZDF personnel in Sinai, Egypt.
1988–1991	Iran/Iraq Ten officers served in the United Nations Iran-Iraq Observer Group (UNIIMOG), supervising a ceasefire. New Zealand also committed an RNZAF Andover transport aircraft and 18 Air Force personnel.

- 1989–1990

Namibia
 Army engineers and members of the NZ Police were sent to Namibia as part of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG).
- 1989–1991

Pakistan/Afghanistan
 Five personnel served with the United Nations Mine Clearance Training Team in Pakistan and Afghanistan (UNMCTT).
- 1991–1997

Angola
 Military observers and 18 members of a mining team joined the United Nations Angola Verification Mission II and III (UNAVEM II and III) which aimed to restore peace and achieve national reconciliation.
- 1992–1993

Cambodia
 97 personnel were sent to Cambodia to take part in the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). Previously, New Zealand had made a small contribution to the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC).
- 1992–1994

Somalia
 New Zealand provided an RNZAF detachment which included three Andover transport aircraft and 62 personnel, as well as four Army personnel, to the Unified Task Force (UNITAF). In addition, an NZDF contingent was sent to support the United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM).
- 1992–2007

Former Yugoslavia
 NZDF officers first went to Bosnia in 1992 as United Nations Military Observers. In 1994 they contributed to the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), and later the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) Stabilisation Force (SFOR), then from 2004 the European Union Force (EUFOR). This was New Zealand's largest overseas mission since the Vietnam War, with a company of 250 deployed at the height of the mission.

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- 1994–1995** ● **Mozambique**
New Zealand Army mine clearance experts were deployed as part of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique.
- 1994–1995** ● **Haiti**
Four Army officers served with the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH) to help maintain stability in the region and assist with the establishment of a new police force and the reform of the Haitian Army. Over time the operation ended up having a wider role.
- 1997–2003** ● **Bougainville**
A New Zealand-led Truce Monitoring Group (TMG) was deployed to the island of Bougainville in 1997 to help restore peace following conflict between secessionist groups and the Papua New Guinea government. The NZDF forces left the region in 2003, however some officers of the NZ Police returned to the region in 2005.
- 1999–2008** ● **Kosovo**
One New Zealand military officer served at the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) in Pristina from its establishment in 1999. New Zealand's contribution to the Balkans region ended in 2008.
- 1999–2012** ● **Timor Leste**
New Zealand contributed 1100 military personnel to the United Nations peacekeeping force in Timor Leste. The NZDF battalion was withdrawn in 2002, with four personnel remaining in the region as military observers. NZDF troops and a NZ Police contingent were redeployed to Timor Leste in 2006 following riots in the capital, Dili, and remained in the region until November 2012.
- 2000–on-going** ● **Solomon Islands**
The NZDF first entered the Solomon Islands in 2000 as part of the International Peace Monitoring Team (IPMT). In 2001 they were joined by members of the NZ Police. Since 2003, New Zealand has been contributing to the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI) at the invitation of the Solomon Islands government.

2003–on-going	Afghanistan NZDF and NZ Police personnel make up the NZ Provincial Reconstruction Team (NZ PRT) in Afghanistan. The NZDF is currently committed to Afghanistan until 2013. The operation in Afghanistan was the largest deployment of New Zealand forces in the 2000s.
2003–on-going	Iraq 53 NZDF officers were initially deployed to Iraq to support the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), which contributes to humanitarian and reconstruction work. In 2012 there was only one officer in the region.
2005–on-going	Sudan Two NZDF officers were deployed as observers in 2005 to assist the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS). Since the birth of the Republic of South Sudan in 2011, NZDF personnel have worked alongside the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS). There are currently three officers serving with this mission.
2006–on-going	Tonga A contingent of 72 NZ Army personnel and 45 NZ Police officers was deployed to Tonga to provide security following civil unrest in 2006. Since then a small contingent of NZ Police officers has been maintained in and around Nuku'alofa to help support the Tongan police force.
2007–2008	Lebanon A specialist team of 10 NZDF battlefield clearance experts was deployed to Lebanon in June 2007. The contingent worked in support of the United Nations Mine Action Coordination Centre in Southern Lebanon.

— Adapted from John Crawford, NZDF, personal communication, 30 October 2012; Burton, 2003; Capie, 2012; MFAT, 2010e; NZ Army, 2008b–d; 2009a–d; 2010; NZDF, 2003; 2012a–i; NZ Police, n.d.[a–f]; Sabin, 2012; United Nations, 1997; 2003a–b

10 Historical Threads

To illustrate the connections between events, entries in the timeline are linked by the following ‘threads’.

Constitution

1. Citizenship and passports
2. Constitutional developments
3. Head of State: Events of significance after the 1840 treaty
4. Parliamentary terms
5. Territory

Disasters

6. Natural disasters
7. Epidemics
8. Mine accidents
9. Power cuts
10. Transport and construction

Economy

11. Agriculture and fisheries
12. Air travel
13. Aluminium smelter
14. Communication infrastructure
15. Depressions and recessions
16. Energy and power
17. Natural resources
18. Railways and shipping

Electoral reform

19. Age
20. Electoral policy and legislation

Environmental movements

21. Genetic modification
22. Nuclear

Financial

23. Banks and stock exchange
24. Currency and time
25. Initiatives and institutions
26. Tax

International relations

27. Co-operation and security
28. Environment
29. Rights and responsibilities
30. Trade
31. Travel

Māori leadership

32. Kingitanga movement
33. Petitions and protests
34. Treaty settlements

Official national symbols

35. Anthems
36. Coat of Arms
37. Flags
38. National day

Parliament

39. Capital cities
40. Central institutions

41. Central leadership
42. Local governance
43. Political parties
44. Referenda
45. Royal Commissions
46. Transparency

Society

47. Abortion
48. Art and literature
49. Civil union and homosexual law reform
50. Crime and capital punishment
51. Demographics
52. Education and knowledge
53. Employment
54. Housing
55. Māori institutions and reforms
56. Nobel Prize winners
57. Prostitution
58. Religion
59. Information and statistics
60. Sport and adventure
61. Welfare

War and peace

62. International wars
63. New Zealand wars
64. Peace support operations
65. Victoria Cross

Constitution

1. Citizenship and passports

- 1865 ● All Māori declared British subjects
- 1948 ● British Nationality and New Zealand Citizenship Act 1948
- 1977 ● Citizenship Act 1977
- 2005 ● Citizenship Amendment Act 2005

2. Constitutional developments

See also Chapter 3: Governors and Governors-General, pages 160–162 and Chapter 4: Premiers and Prime Ministers, pages 163–165.

- 1770 ● James Cook proclaims British sovereignty over New Zealand
- 1801 ● Māori are first referred to collectively as ‘Maori’
- 1829 ● Wakefield publishes *A Letter from Sydney*
- 1835 ● Declaration of Independence of New Zealand (He Wakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirene)
- 1837 ● Baron de Thierry proclaims himself Sovereign Chief of New Zealand
- 1838 ● House of Lords’ Select Committee Report on the *State of New Zealand* published
- 1839 ● King Louis-Philippe approves a French colony at Akaroa
- 1839 ● Letters Patent establish New Zealand as a territory of New South Wales
- 1839 ● First New Zealand Company settlement
- 1839 ● Lord Normanby issues instructions on a potential treaty
- 1840 ● Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi) signed
- 1840 ● Hobson proclaims British sovereignty over New Zealand

- 
- 1840 ● Charter of 1840 establishes a Legislative Council and an Executive Council
 - 1841 ● New Zealand becomes a separate Crown Colony
 - 1841 ● Treaty of Waitangi first incorporated into legislation
 - 1846 ● New Zealand Constitution Act 1846 (UK)
 - 1846 ● Charter of 1846 endorses local self-government
 - 1847 ● New Zealand Constitution Act 1846 (UK) suspended
 - 1849 ● Settlers Constitutional Associations established
 - 1850 ● New Zealand Company's charter surrendered
 - 1852 ● New Zealand Constitution Act 1852 (UK)
 - 1858 ● English Laws Act 1858
 - 1876 ● Abolition of the provinces
 - 1901 ● New Zealand decides against joining Australia
 - 1907 ● New Zealand becomes a dominion
 - 1917 ● Letters Patent introduce the term 'Governor-General'
 - 1917 ● Recognition of the dominions as autonomous nations of an Imperial Commonwealth
 - 1926 ● The Balfour Declaration
 - 1931 ● Statute of Westminster 1931 (UK)
 - 1939 ● Britain appoints its first High Commissioner to New Zealand
 - 1940 ● New Zealand Centennial Exhibition
 - 1947 ● Statute of Westminster adopted
 - 1953 ● Realm of New Zealand established

- 1977 • Constitutional crisis: Robert Muldoon appoints Sir Keith Holyoake Governor-General
- 1983 • Letters Patent Constituting the Office of Governor-General of New Zealand
- 1984 • Constitutional crisis: Devaluation by 20%
- 1986 • Constitution Act 1986
- 1990 • New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990
- 1993 • Human Rights Act 1993
- 2003 • Supreme Court Act 2003
- 2004 • Inquiry to review New Zealand's existing constitutional arrangements
- 2008 • Relationship and Confidence and Supply Agreement formed between the National Party and the Māori Party
- 2010 • National and Māori Party constitutional review announced

3. Head of State: Events of significance after the 1840 treaty

See also Chapter 2: Heads of State, pages 158–159.

- 1934 • Air force becomes Royal New Zealand Air Force
- 1941 • Naval reserve becomes Royal New Zealand Navy
- 1953 • First official visit by the Head of State
- 1974 • Royal Titles Act 1974
- 2000 • Titular honours dropped

4. Parliamentary terms

- 1879 • Term of Parliament shortened from five to three years
- 1934 • Four-year parliamentary term introduced
- 1937 • Three-year parliamentary term restored

5. Territory

See also History of Landcover and History of Seabed (back cover).

- 1863 ● Boundaries of colony fixed
- 1900 ● Cook Islands claimed
- 1920 ● New Zealand gains administration of Western Samoa
- 1923 ● New Zealand jurisdiction extended to Antarctica
- 1957 ● Scott Base established
- 1965 ● Cook Islands gain full self-government in free association with New Zealand
- 1977 ● 200-mile economic zone established
- 2008 ● United Nations recognises extended seabed rights

Disasters

6. Natural disasters

- 1855 ● Wairarapa earthquake
- 1886 ● Mt Tarawera eruption
- 1931 ● Hawke's Bay earthquake
- 1936 ● The Great Cyclone
- 1988 ● Cyclone Bola
- 2011 ● Christchurch earthquakes
- 2012 ● *Christchurch Central Recovery Plan* released

7. Epidemics

- 1844 ● European diseases significantly affect the Māori population
- 1890 ● Influenza pandemics
- 1918 ● Influenza pandemic (Spanish flu)

- 1947 ● Polio epidemic
- 2009 ● Influenza pandemic (swine flu)

8. Mine accidents

- 1896 ● Brunner mine accident
- 1914 ● Huntly mine accident
- 2010 ● Pike River mine accident
- 2012 ● *Royal Commission Report on Pike River mine disaster* released

9. Power cuts

See also Historical Thread 16: Energy and power.

- 1998 ● Auckland power crisis
- 2006 ● Auckland blackout

10. Transport and construction

- 1863 ● HMS *Orpheus* disaster
- 1953 ● Tangiwai rail disaster
- 1968 ● *Wahine* disaster
- 1979 ● Mt Erebus disaster
- 1995 ● Cave Creek disaster
- 2011 ● *Rena* oil spill

Economy

11. Agriculture and fisheries

- 1773 ● Sheep, pigs and goats introduced to New Zealand

- 1777 ● Rabbits introduced
- 1791 ● Earliest record of whaling in New Zealand
- 1814 ● Cattle and horses introduced to New Zealand
- 1832 ● First shipment of wool
- 1837 ● Possums introduced to New Zealand
- 1838 ● Gorse introduced to New Zealand
- 1843 ● Merino sheep introduced
- 1871 ● First dairy co-operative established
- 1882 ● First shipment of frozen meat to Britain
- 1882 ● First large dairy factory built
- 1899 ● Farmers' Union established
- 1922 ● First producer board established
- 1949 ● Commercial aerial topdressing begins
- 1959 ● Chinese gooseberry renamed kiwifruit
- 1964 ● Whaling in New Zealand ends
- 1970 ● First deer farm
- 1973 ● United Kingdom joins the European Union
- 1978 ● Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978
- 1989 ● Maori Fisheries Act 1989
- 1999 ● Painted apple moth discovered
- 2000 ● Varroa mite discovered
- 2001 ● Fonterra established
- 2003 ● Gypsy moth discovered
- 2004 ● Didymo discovered

12. Air travel

- 1906 ● Pearse's flying machine patented
- 1936 ● New Zealand's first major airline begins operation
- 1940 ● Tasman Empire Airways Limited (TEAL) established
- 1961 ● New Zealand government purchases Tasman Empire Airways Limited (TEAL)
- 1965 ● Tasman Empire Airways Limited (TEAL) renamed Air New Zealand
- 1989 ● Air New Zealand privatised

13. Aluminium smelter

- 1904 ● Manapouri power station first suggested
- 1956 ● Interest expressed in aluminium smelting
- 1963 ● Manapouri-Te Anau Development Act 1963
- 1970 ● Manapouri petition presented
- 1971 ● Tiwai Point Aluminium Smelter opens
- 1973 ● 'Damn the Dam' protest song released
- 1996 ● Manapouri Power Station granted further resource consents

14. Communication infrastructure

- 1862 ● First telegraph line
- 1866 ● First Cook Strait cable laid
- 1876 ● First trans-Tasman cable laid
- 1878 ● First telephone communication made
- 1960 ● Television becomes available in New Zealand
- 1987 ● Telecom New Zealand established
- 1990 ● Telecom New Zealand privatised

- 1998 ● First fibre optic cable commissioned
- 2008 ● Telecom New Zealand restructured

15. Depressions and recessions

- 1878 ● Long depression begins
- 1929 ● Great Depression begins
- 1987 ● Long recession begins
- 1997 ● Asian financial market crisis
- 2008 ● Global financial crisis

16. Energy and power

See also Historical Thread 13: Aluminium smelter.

- 1866 ● First oil struck at New Plymouth
- 1964 ● Marsden Point Refinery opens
- 1965 ● High Voltage cable links the North and South Islands
- 1969 ● Maui gas field discovered
- 1973 ● Expansion of Marsden Point Oil Refinery approved
- 1973 ● First oil shock
- 1973 ● Maui pipeline commissioned
- 1979 ● Second oil shock and 'car-less days' begin
- 1996 ● New Zealand's first wind farm built
- 2008 ● Third oil shock

17. Natural resources

- 1842 ● Gold discovered
- 1856 ● Collingwood-Takaka gold rush begins
- 1861 ● Otago gold rush begins
- 1862 ● Wakamarina and West Coast gold rush begins
- 1875 ● Waihi gold rush begins
- 1887 ● First national park established
- 1901 ● Department of Tourist and Health Resorts established
- 1923 ● First conservation organisation established
- 1987 ● Conservation Act 1987
- 1987 ● Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment appointed
- 1991 ● Resource Management Act 1991
- 2009 ● Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) established

18. Railways and shipping

- 1862 ● New Zealand Steam Navigation Company established
- 1863 ● New Zealand's first public railway opens
- 1865 ● Construction begins on a section of the South Island Main Trunk line
- 1871 ● Vogel makes first official visit to the United States to establish a steamer service
- 1872 ● First New Zealand shipping line established
- 1885 ● Construction of the North Island Main Trunk line begins
- 1908 ● North Island Main Trunk line opens
- 1923 ● First electric railway opened
- 1945 ● South Island Main Trunk line completed

Electoral reform

19. Age

- 1969 ● Voting age lowered from 21 to 20
- 1974 ● Voting age lowered from 20 to 18

20. Electoral policy and legislation

- 1853 ● First general election held
- 1867 ● Māori seats created for a five-year duration
- 1868 ● First elections with Māori electorate seats
- 1870 ● Voting by secret ballot introduced for European seats
- 1872 ● Māori seats extended another five years
- 1876 ● 'One man, one vote' proposed by Sir George Grey
- 1876 ● Debate on Māori representation in the House
- 1876 ● Māori seats now extended indefinitely
- 1879 ● Universal suffrage for European men
- 1881 ● Country quota established
- 1881 ● Single-member electoral districts established
- 1887 ● Electoral boundary review of European seats
- 1890 ● Voting by secret ballot compulsory for European seats
- 1890 ● First 'one man, one vote' election held for European seats
- 1893 ● Plural voting for Māori property owners abolished
- 1893 ● First Māori elected to a European seat
- 1893 ● Women given the same voting rights as men
- 1896 ● Non-residential qualifications for voting abolished

- 1908 ● Second ballot established for when a candidate fails to gain a majority
- 1910 ● Voting by declaration rather than show of hands in Māori seats
- 1924 ● Compulsory enrolment is applied to European voters
- 1937 ● Voting by secret ballot compulsory for Māori seats
- 1948 ● Māori electoral roll created
- 1950 ● Adjustment of method for calculating European seat numbers
- 1956 ● Compulsory enrolment is extended to Māori voters
- 1967 ● All seats contestable by both Māori and European candidates
- 1975 ● British nationality is no longer a qualification to vote
- 1981 ● Electoral boundary review for Māori seats introduced
- 1985 ● Royal Commission on the Electoral System
- 1993 ● Electoral Act 1993
- 1996 ● First MMP election held

Environmental movements

See also Historical Thread 13: Aluminium smelter.

21. Genetic modification

- 1996 ● Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act 1996
- 2000 ● Royal Commission on Genetic Modification
- 2001 ● GE-free hikoi

22. Nuclear

See also Historical Thread 28: Environment.

- 1960 ● World's first nuclear submarine visits New Zealand

- 1964 • Nuclear reactor established at the University of Canterbury
- 1973 • Norman Kirk sends frigates to Mururoa Atoll
- 1985 • David Lange wins Oxford Union Debate
- 1985 • *Rainbow Warrior* sunk in Auckland Harbour
- 1985 • USS *Buchanan* refused entry on grounds of nuclear capability
- 1987 • New Zealand Nuclear Free Zone, Disarmament, and Arms Control Act 1987

Financial

23. Banks and stock exchange

- 1840 • First bank established in New Zealand
- 1861 • Bank of New Zealand established
- 1934 • Reserve Bank established
- 1981 • Sharebrokers Amendment Act 1981
- 1989 • Reserve Bank is made more independent of government
- 2002 • Kiwibank established

24. Currency and time

- 1844 • First New Zealand debenture notes issued
- 1858 • British coins become legal tender
- 1868 • Standardisation of time
- 1927 • Daylight saving introduced
- 1964 • Decimal currency system introduced

25. Initiatives and institutions

- 1912 ● Public Services Act 1912
- 1982 ● Muldoon imposes a wage and price freeze
- 1984 ● Economic summit held
- 1984 ● Roger Douglas introduces economic reforms
- 1986 ● State-Owned Enterprises Act 1986
- 1988 ● State Sector Act 1988
- 1989 ● Accrual accounting introduced into government
- 2002 ● Local Government Act 2002
- 2006 ● *First Statement on Long-term Fiscal Position* published
- 2007 ● KiwiSaver introduced

26. Tax

- 1841 ● First New Zealand tariff system introduced
- 1845 ● First local government rates system attempted
- 1866 ● Stamp and death duties introduced
- 1878 ● Land tax introduced
- 1891 ● Income tax introduced
- 1927 ● Motor-Spirits Taxation Act 1927
- 1930 ● Poll tax introduced to create funds for unemployment relief
- 1933 ● Sales tax introduced
- 1958 ● Black Budget introduces PAYE and increases indirect taxation
- 1986 ● Goods and Services Tax introduced

International relations

27. Co-operation and security

- 1920 ● New Zealand becomes a founding member of the League of Nations
- 1944 ● Canberra Pact signed
- 1945 ● New Zealand joins the United Nations
- 1951 ● Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty (ANZUS) signed
- 1954 ● Manila Pact signed
- 1962 ● Treaty of Friendship signed with Western Samoa
- 1971 ● Pacific Islands Forum established
- 1973 ● New Zealand joins the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

28. Environment

- 1959 ● Antarctic Treaty signed
- 1963 ● (Nuclear) Test Ban Treaty signed
- 1982 ● United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) signed
- 1985 ● South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty signed
- 2002 ● Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change signed

29. Rights and responsibilities

- 1966 ● International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) signed
- 1968 ● International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) signed

- 1980 • United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) signed
- 2002 • Government apologises to Chinese
- 2002 • Government apologises to Samoa
- 2010 • United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) endorsed

30. Trade

- 1928 • Trade agreement with Japan signed – New Zealand's first international treaty
- 1948 • New Zealand joins the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
- 1983 • Australia-New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement (ANZCERTA) signed
- 2008 • Free Trade Agreement with China signed
- 2010 • Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA) signed

31. Travel

- 1973 • Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement established
- 1981 • Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement amended

Māori leadership

32. Kīngitanga movement

- 1852 • Kīngitanga movement established
- 1858 • First Māori King
- 1860 • Second Māori King
- 1894 • Third Māori King

- 1903 ● The Māori King joins the Legislative Council
- 1907 ● Kīngitanga movement revitalised
- 1910 ● The Māori King's membership of the Legislative Council lapses
- 1912 ● Fourth Māori King
- 1933 ● Fifth Māori King
- 1966 ● First Māori Queen
- 2006 ● Sixth Māori King

33. Petitions and protests

- 1831 ● Thirteen rangatira sign a petition to King William IV
- 1882 ● Ngā Puhi present a petition to Queen Victoria
- 1884 ● Waikato present a petition to Queen Victoria
- 1914 ● The Māori King has an audience with King George V
- 1924 ● Rātana takes a petition to England
- 1975 ● Māori land hikoi
- 1977 ● Occupation of Bastion Point
- 2004 ● Foreshore and Seabed hikoi

34. Treaty settlements

See also Chapter 8: Treaty Settlements, pages 178–183.

- 1844 ● First settlement under the Treaty of Waitangi
- 1847 ● Legal decision: R v Symonds
- 1860 ● Kohimarama hui
- 1861 ● Walter Mantell appointed Native Minister and seeks fulfilment of Ngāi Tahu promises

1862	●	Native Lands Act 1862
1863	●	New Zealand Settlements Act 1863
1865	●	Changes to the Native Land Court
1872	●	Native Affairs Committee established to hear petitions
1877	●	Legal decision: <i>Wi Parata v Bishop of Wellington</i>
1889	●	Maori Union of Waitangi formed
1900	●	Maori Lands Administration Act 1900
1907	●	Stout-Ngata Commission established
1926	●	Royal Commission on confiscated lands established
1953	●	Maori Affairs Act 1953 addresses use of Māori land
1974	●	‘Maori’ extended to include descendants of Maori
1975	●	The Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975 establishes the Waitangi Tribunal
1983	●	Waitangi Tribunal releases Motunui-Waitara Report
1985	●	Waitangi Tribunal given power to investigate historical Treaty claims
1987	●	Legal decision: <i>New Zealand Maori Council v Attorney-General</i>
1991	●	The Ngāi Tahu Report
1992	●	Sealord settlement
1993	●	Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993
1996	●	Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1996
2004	●	Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004
2009	●	Review of Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004
2011	●	Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011
2012	●	Waitangi Tribunal report on the Wai 262 claim released

Official national symbols

35. Anthems

- 1876 ● 'God Defend New Zealand' is first performed
- 1977 ● 'God Defend New Zealand' becomes national anthem

36. Coat of Arms

- 1911 ● New Zealand Coat of Arms adopted
- 1956 ● New Zealand Coat of Arms amended

37. Flags

- 1834 ● United Tribes of New Zealand flag chosen
- 1902 ● National flag adopted
- 2009 ● National Māori flag adopted

38. National day

- 1934 ● First Waitangi Day held
- 1974 ● Waitangi Day becomes a national holiday

Parliament

39. Capital cities

- 1840 ● Russell becomes capital of New Zealand
- 1840 ● Auckland becomes capital of New Zealand
- 1865 ● Wellington becomes capital of New Zealand

40. Central institutions

- 1854 ● First meeting of the General Assembly
- 1856 ● Responsible government established
- 1857 ● Government begins appointing Legislative Council members
- 1872 ● Two Māori Members of Parliament join the Legislative Council
- 1892 ● Legislative Council and House of Representatives disagree
- 1950 ● Legislative Council Abolition Act 1950

41. Central leadership

See also Chapter 3: Governors and Governors-General, pages 160–162 and Chapter 4: Premiers and Prime Ministers, pages 163–165.

- 1833 ● Busby becomes British Resident in New Zealand
- 1839 ● Hobson appointed British consul
- 1841 ● Hobson becomes first Governor
- 1845 ● Grey becomes Governor
- 1856 ● Sewell becomes the first Premier
- 1870 ● Vogel actions public works plan
- 1900 ● Seddon becomes the first Prime Minister
- 1919 ● Women are able to stand for Parliament
- 1933 ● McCombs becomes first elected female Member of Parliament
- 1977 ● Commission for the Future established
- 1980 ● Muldoon's 'Think Big' scheme introduced
- 1990 ● Tizard becomes first female Governor-General
- 1997 ● Shipley becomes first female Prime Minister
- 1999 ● Fitzsimons becomes first 'Green' MP in the world to win a constituency seat

- 1999 ● Clark becomes first elected female Prime Minister
- 2005 ● Wilson becomes first female Speaker of the House of Representatives
- 2011 ● A New Zealand prime minister addresses the Australian Parliament for the first time

42. Local governance

- 2009 ● Environment Canterbury (ECan) review
- 2010 ● Auckland ‘Super City’ established

43. Political parties

See also Chapter 5: Political Parties, pages 166–169.

- 1890 ● First Liberal Government elected
- 1909 ● Young Maori Party founded
- 1912 ● Liberal Government replaced by Reform Government
- 1918 ● Rātana movement founded
- 1931 ● Coalition between United (Liberal) and Reform parties
- 1935 ● First Labour Government takes office
- 1949 ● First National Government takes office
- 1972 ● Values Party founded
- 1980 ● Māori political party, Mana Motuhake, founded

44. Referenda

See list in Chapter 7: Referenda, page 177.

45. Royal Commissions

See list in Chapter 6: Royal Commissions, pages 170–176.

46. Transparency

- 1936 ● Parliament broadcast on the radio
- 2007 ● Parliament TV established

Society

47. Abortion

- 1977 ● Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Act 1977

48. Art and literature

- 1835 ● First book printed in New Zealand
- 1840 ● First newspaper, the *New Zealand Gazette*, printed in New Zealand
- 1898 ● First New Zealand film
- 1904 ● First use of the kiwi as an unofficial symbol of the nation
- 1920 ● Katherine Mansfield's *Bliss and Other Stories* published
- 1921 ● First radio broadcast
- 1937 ● Karl Popper takes up a lectureship in philosophy at Canterbury University College, Christchurch
- 1940 ● Frances Hodgkins is invited to present her work at the Venice Biennale
- 1941 ● National Film Unit established
- 1946 ● National Orchestra of New Zealand established
- 1953 ● New Zealand Ballet established
- 1957 ● Bruce Mason's play *The Pohutukawa Tree* is first performed
- 1961 ● Len Lye exhibits at New York's Museum of Modern Art
- 1971 ● Kiri Te Kanawa performs at Covent Garden

- 1978 ● New Zealand Film Commission Act 1978
- 1980 ● Greg McGee's play *Foreskin's Lament* is performed
- 1985 ● Keri Hulme wins the Booker Prize for *The Bone People*
- 2002 ● *Lord of the Rings* wins Oscars

49. Civil union and homosexual law reform

- 1986 ● Homosexual Law Reform Act 1986
- 2004 ● Civil Union Act 2004

50. Crime and capital punishment

- 1842 ● First use of the death penalty
- 1846 ● Armed police force established
- 1854 ● Volunteer fire brigade established
- 1957 ● Last death penalty execution
- 1961 ● Death penalty abolished
- 1976 ● Wanganui Computer Centre Act 1976
- 2007 ● Crimes (Substituted Section 59) Amendment Act 2007 (anti-smacking)

51. Demographics

- 1858 ● Population reaches 115,462
- 1886 ● New Zealand-born residents become the majority
- 1901 ● Population reaches 830,800
- 1951 ● Population reaches 1,939,472
- 2001 ● Population reaches 3,737,280
- 2006 ● Citizens increasingly identify as 'New Zealanders'
- 2010 ● Population projected to reach 5,500,000 in 2026

52. Education and knowledge

- 1815 ● First book in Māori published
- 1835 ● Charles Darwin visits New Zealand
- 1856 ● Moa skeleton given to British Museum
- 1865 ● Colonial Museum and New Zealand Geological Survey established
- 1867 ● Community primary schooling for Māori established
- 1867 ● New Zealand Institute Act 1867
- 1869 ● New Zealand's first university established
- 1871 ● University of Otago opens all classes to women
- 1877 ● Free primary school education established
- 1895 ● Mark Twain visits New Zealand
- 1907 ● Dominion Museum established
- 1907 ● Tohunga Suppression Act 1907
- 1907 ● *The School Journal* established
- 1916 ● *The School Journal* popularises the term 'Aotearoa' as the Māori name for New Zealand
- 1918 ● Alexander Turnbull bequeaths his book collection to the Crown
- 1922 ● Government funds book on the New Zealand Wars
- 1926 ● Department of Scientific and Industrial Research established
- 1933 ● Royal Society of New Zealand Act 1933
- 1960 ● Separate Māori school system is phased out
- 1965 ● National Library of New Zealand established
- 1972 ● National Museum established
- 1986 ● James Belich's *The New Zealand Wars* is published
- 1987 ● Māori Language Act 1987

- 1987 ● Claudia Orange's *The Treaty of Waitangi* is published
- 1992 ● Student loan scheme introduced
- 1992 ● Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa Act 1992
- 2003 ● Michael King's *The Penguin History of New Zealand* is published

53. Employment

- 1840 ● Eight-hour work day first established
- 1890 ● Labour Day established
- 1894 ● Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1894
- 1912 ● Waihi strike
- 1913 ● Waterfront strikes
- 1935 ● Workers' unions become legal and compulsory
- 1936 ● 40-hour working week enforced by government
- 1944 ● Annual leave introduced
- 1951 ● Waterfront dispute lasts 151 days
- 1974 ● Accident Compensation scheme established
- 1991 ● Employment Contracts Act 1991

54. Housing

- 1905 ● First state house built
- 1937 ● State housing scheme prospers
- 1991 ● The government introduces market rents for state houses

55. Māori institutions and reforms

- 1861 ● Ministry of Maori Affairs established
- 1892 ● Kotahitanga (Māori Parliament) is formed

1900	●	Maori Councils Act 1900
1902	●	Kotahitanga (Māori Parliament) is disbanded
1920	●	Maori Trustee Act 1920
1934	●	Maori Trust Office amalgamates with the Native Department
1934	●	Maori Purposes Fund Board established
1947	●	'Native' now referred to as 'Maori'
1951	●	Maori Women's Welfare League established
1955	●	Maori Trust Boards Act 1955
1961	●	<i>Hunn Report on Department of Maori Affairs</i> published
1962	●	Maori Community Development Act 1962
1962	●	New Zealand Maori Council established
1967	●	Maori and Island Affairs Department established
1984	●	First Hui Taumata – Māori Economic Development Summit Conference
1989	●	Maori Affairs Restructuring Act 1989
1990	●	Runanga Iwi Act 1990
1991	●	Runanga Iwi Repeal Act 1991
1991	●	Ministry of Maori Development Act 1991
2005	●	Second Hui Taumata – Māori Economic Development Summit Conference
2005	●	First Iwi Chairs Forum hui convened at Takahanga Marae in Kaikōura

56. Nobel Prize winners

1908	●	Ernest Rutherford wins the Nobel Prize in Chemistry
1917	●	Ernest Rutherford splits the atom

- 1962 ● Maurice Wilkins wins the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine
- 2000 ● Alan MacDiarmid wins the Nobel Prize in Chemistry

57. Prostitution

- 2003 ● Prostitution Reform Act 2003

58. Religion

- 1814 ● First recorded Christian service in New Zealand
- 1941 ● National Council of Churches established

59. Information and statistics

- 1893 ● *New Zealand Official Year Book* first published
- 1926 ● National archive established
- 1962 ● First New Zealand Ombudsman appointed
- 1966 ● *Encyclopaedia of New Zealand* published
- 1982 ● Official Information Act 1982
- 1993 ● Privacy Act 1993
- 1995 ● Treaty policy papers and Cabinet minutes released

60. Sport and adventure

- 1905 ● The Originals rugby team tour
- 1908 ● First New Zealand Olympic involvement
- 1920 ● First New Zealand team at the Olympics
- 1924 ● 'The Invincibles' All Blacks rugby tour
- 1936 ● Jean Batten completes the first direct flight from England to New Zealand

- 1953 ● Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing climb Everest
- 1958 ● Edmund Hillary reaches the South Pole
- 1976 ● Boycott of the Montreal Olympic Games
- 1981 ● Springbok rugby tour sparks nationwide protests
- 1981 ● Underarm bowling incident
- 1987 ● A.J. Hackett bungy-jumps off the Eiffel Tower
- 1995 ● *Black Magic* wins the America's Cup

61. Welfare

- 1885 ● Women's Temperance Union established
- 1896 ● National Council of Women of New Zealand established
- 1898 ● Old Age Pension Act 1898
- 1907 ● Plunket Society established
- 1908 ● Boy Scouts and Girl Peace Scouts founded
- 1917 ● 'Six o'clock swill' begins
- 1937 ● Free school milk scheme begins
- 1938 ● Social Security Act 1938
- 1953 ● First Family Planning Association clinic opens
- 1967 ● Free school milk scheme ends
- 1967 ● 'Six o'clock swill' ends
- 2003 ● Smoke-free Environments Amendment Act 2003

War and peace

62. International wars

See also Chapter 9: Peace Support Operations, pages 184–188.

- 1885 ● Russian scare leads to military fortifications
- 1899 ● Troops sent to the Boer War
- 1914 ● First World War begins
- 1915 ● Gallipoli campaign
- 1918 ● First World War ends – Armistice Day
- 1939 ● Second World War begins
- 1939 ● Rationing begins
- 1940 ● Māori Battalion recruited
- 1945 ● Second World War ends
- 1948 ● Malayan Emergency
- 1950 ● Korean War begins
- 1950 ● Rationing ends
- 1964 ● New Zealand becomes involved in the Vietnam War
- 1965 ● Troops sent to Borneo to support Great Britain
- 1991 ● US Congress votes for war in Iraq

63. New Zealand wars

- 1809 ● *Boyd* incident
- 1818 ● Musket Wars begin
- 1843 ● Wairau incident
- 1844 ● Hone Heke assaults the flagstaff at Kororāreka
- 1845 ● Kororāreka whaling post destroyed

- 1860 ● Land Wars begin
- 1863 ● British troops invade Waikato
- 1870 ● Last British imperial troops leave New Zealand
- 1881 ● Attack on Parihaka

64. Peace support operations

See Chapter 9: Peace Support Operations, pages 184–188.

65. Victoria Cross

- 1867 ● British Victoria Cross awarded to a New Zealander
- 1999 ● Victoria Cross for New Zealand introduced

11 The Last Word

Readers interested in learning more about New Zealand's constitution and the current constitutional review may be interested in the 2005 *Inquiry to review New Zealand's existing constitutional arrangements*, which made three recommendations:

- (i) Some generic principles should underpin all discussions of constitutional change in the absence of any prescribed process,
- (ii) To foster greater understanding of our constitutional arrangements in the long term, increased effort should be made to improve civics and citizenship education in schools to provide young people with the knowledge needed to become responsible and engaged citizens, and
- (iii) The Government might consider whether an independent institute could foster better public understanding of, and informed debate on, New Zealand's constitutional arrangements.

The government's response in 2006 supported the first and second recommendations, but did not support the third recommendation.

In December 2010, the government announced a constitutional review as part of the confidence and supply agreement between the National Party and the Māori Party. Bill English and Pita Sharples, who will lead the review in consultation with a cross-party reference group of MPs, stated in 2010 that:

The review is deliberately wide-ranging and will include matters such as the size of Parliament, the length of the electoral term, Māori representation, the role of the Treaty of Waitangi and whether New Zealand needs a written constitution ... The review will also be open to considering other issues and perspectives that are raised during public engagement. For example, this may include public interest in whether New Zealand should move to a republic, or the relationship between central and local government.

A final report will be presented to Cabinet at the end of 2013.

— Adapted from English & Sharples, 2010; New Zealand Parliament, 2006b

Looking forward

New Zealand's past is 'in us' and links us all. In the same way that we look back and reflect on the leadership of the past, New Zealanders in the future will look back on our generation.

Importantly, our ancestors did what they did in the name of progress, therefore the challenge for every generation is to define what progress means in today's terms and then to pursue that definition. To this end, we close this book with a personal reflection by the late Professor Sir Paul Callaghan, Kiwibank's 2011 New Zealander of the Year.



Professor Sir Paul Callaghan speaking at the Sustainable Future Institute's event *StrategyNZ: Mapping our Future*.
30 March 2011

‘So my take is,
we simply push on,
ignore the pessimism,
and lead by example.
Then suddenly we find
ourselves surrounded by
success and telling ourselves
that it was always meant
to be this way.’

— Professor Sir Paul Callaghan, Kiwibank's 2011
New Zealander of the Year

Abbreviations

ACC	Accident Compensation Corporation
ACT	Association of Consumers and Taxpayers
ANZAC	Australia and New Zealand Army Corporation
BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
CAG	Christchurch Art Gallery
CCL	Christchurch City Libraries
CRI	Crown Research Institute
CSODNZ	Census and Statistics Office of the Dominion of New Zealand
DIA	Department of Internal Affairs
DIAC	Department of Immigration and Citizenship (Australia)
DOC	Department of Conservation
DOL	Department of Labour
DSIR	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research
ECNZ	Employment Court of New Zealand
FPP	First-past-the-post
FRST	Foundation for Science and Technology
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GMT	Greenwich Mean Time

Abbreviations

MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MCH	Ministry for Culture and Heritage
MED	Ministry of Economic Development
MFAT	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
MFE	Ministry for the Environment
MMP	Mixed Member Proportional
MP	Member of Parliament
MoRST	Ministry of Research, Science and Technology
NLNZ	National Library of New Zealand
NZBC	New Zealand Book Council
NZDF	New Zealand Defence Force
NZETC	New Zealand Electronic Text Centre
NZ Govt	New Zealand Government
NZIM	New Zealand Institute of Management
NZNP	New Zealand National Party
NZPA	New Zealand Press Association
NZRC	New Zealand Refining Company Ltd
NZRU	New Zealand Rugby Union
NZX	New Zealand Exchange Limited
OCHR	Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OTS	Office of Treaty Settlements
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
PCE	Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment
PCO	Parliamentary Counsel Office
PSO	Peace Support Operation
RBNZ	Reserve Bank of New Zealand
RCAG	Royal Commission on Auckland Governance
RCGM	Royal Commission on Genetic Modification

RCES	Royal Commission on the Electoral System
RNZ	Radio New Zealand
RNZAF	Royal New Zealand Air Force
SENZ	Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd
TEAL	Tasman Empire Airways Limited
TVNZ	Television New Zealand
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNESC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
US	United States
USAEC	United States Atomic Energy Commission
VC	Victoria Cross
WTO	World Trade Organization

Images and Quotations

- p. 2 Image: *1728–1779: Map of the coast of New Zealand discovered in the years 1769 and 1770*. James Cook (artist) and Longmate Barak (engraver). Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. PUBL-0037-25.
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Quote: Lt James Cook, cited in South Seas, 2004.
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Quote: Mantell, 1848: 235.

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Quote: Anonymous. ‘The Coming of the Maoris’ was published by the New Zealand Education Department, 1916.
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Quote: Sir Ernest Rutherford, cited in Thinkexist, n.d.
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Quote: Sir Edmund Hillary, cited in Baker, B., 2008.
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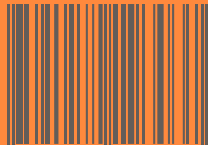
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