

4. APPOINTMENT OF KAUMATUA

Officer responsible Libraries Manager	Author Sue Sutherland, DDI 372-7851
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The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the appointment of Dr Terry Ryan as Kaumatua to Christchurch City Libraries and to provide background information on the development of a bicultural approach to services over the past ten years.

DR TERRY RYAN

Terry Ryan is currently the Kawai Kaitiaki of the Whakapapa Unit, Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu. He recently received an honorary Doctorate of Science from Lincoln University for his contribution to genealogy. He is proud of all his lines of descent, Celtic and Maori and his family's affiliations with Te Tai Tokerau, Waikato and Te Waipounamu. Terry also received the MBE in 1995.

His association with the Library has been a long one, both as a user of the collections in the Aotearoa New Zealand Collection and as a supporter of our various initiatives in providing services to Maori. He wrote the mihi mihi for our Whakapapa Guide and *Ti Kouka Whenua* (<http://library.christchurch.org.nz/TiKoukaWhenua/>), the electronic guide to Christchurch and Canterbury Maori history.

I regard it as a great honour that Terry has agreed to be our Kaumatua. His appointment comes with the blessing and good will of Mark Solomon of Ngai Tahu.

TOWARDS MAHI NGATAHI: A BICULTURAL JOURNEY

The Library has been on a bicultural journey for many years. It is important to see this appointment in the context of progress that has been made over a period of time.

1989 to 1995

During this period the Library began to develop its understanding of and commitment to what it means to take seriously the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

In April 1989, Dorothea Brown, City Librarian, documented her personal and professional perspectives on the issue and outlined some of the initiatives that the library had undertaken, or was about to implement in 1990. These included the establishment of a Bicultural Group, programmes to improve staff awareness, bilingual initiatives (including signage and Maori translations of some of our guide material), and a joint Treaty poster/calendar project to mark 1990. She also signalled the Library's desire to recruit a Maori Specialist position.

Until this point, the Library's approach had been to focus on multicultural services and it had included Maori in this group. Following this watershed document the special place of the indigenous people was recognised, with the library having a particular role to play in preservation of Te Reo and the documentary heritage, and as "a neutral forum ...for public airing of the issues (to) help break down barriers and raise awareness without stridency".

At the same time, Maori began to see the Library as a place they could use, both for research and for storing their treasures. In June 1989 the Ngai Tahu Maori Trust Board deposited the documentation that was presented as evidence to the Waitangi Tribunal.

During the early 1990s the library contributed financially to the research and publication of Te Ara Tika, had an affirmative action programme to recruit young Maori and speakers of Te Reo into the organisation, and supported colleagues attending an immersion Te Reo course. The library also had an active Bicultural Group that organised a Te Reo Roadshow, Treaty Training, Marae visits and other initiatives to improve staff knowledge and awareness.

This period in the Library's journey culminated in Maori Language Year in 1995 and the funding by Council of a new position devoted to Maori Resources.

The first phase in the Library's development was about improving staff knowledge and awareness. It had a focus on Te Reo and heritage preservation and endeavoured to recruit more Maori to better reflect the make-up of the population in general.

1996 to 2000

Haneta Pierce's appointment in January 1996 as Maori Resources Librarian in the New Zealand Collection marks the second phase in the Library's bicultural journey.

If the first phase was about Te Reo and staff awareness, the second phase has been about service developments for Maori, the building of relationships and networks, the establishment of resources, both physical and more recently digital, and the development of the Library's first Bicultural Plan.

The Plan was reviewed in June 2000 and the following noted as achievements during the period:

Services

- Development of Nga Taonga Maori collections.
- Establishment of a ten-hour position, Kai Awhina Māori.
- Maori Art in the Library – commissioned pieces, NTM mural, Michael Reed and Grace Voller's work.
- Bilingual names for all Libraries.
- He Manawa o Te Reo - Maori language newsletter.

Partnerships and relationships

- Relationship with Te Ropu Whakahau established.
- Work begun on building relationships with Ngai Tahu, Christchurch Polytechnic.
- Links established with Council's Maori Club, Te Ropu Topeki and with Maria Tait, Maori Liaison Officer.

Resources

- Ara Ipurangi – Maori resources website.
- Ti Kouka Whenua – Website for historical Maori sites around Canterbury.
- Whakapapa brochure published.
- Development of new Māori subject headings.
- Introduction of Māori software for public terminals (e.g. dictionary).

I want to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of all staff involved in services to Maori and our various bicultural initiatives, but particularly want to mention the untiring devotion that Haneta Pierce has shown since her appointment in 1996. Haneta will represent Christchurch City Libraries, the Council and the Library profession from this region when she attends the 2nd Indigenous Library Conference in Jokkmokk, Sweden, in September 2001. She will present a session on the developments at Christchurch City Libraries and in New Zealand generally. En route to the conference she will also visit libraries in Canada which are progressive in this area.

2001 and beyond

With the completion of the first Bicultural Plan, the time is right to take stock and to refocus the organisation on the best approach for the next stage of the journey. Over the next three years the Library will focus on three goal areas on our journey 'Towards Mahi Ngatahi':

- Organisational readiness and culture
- Service Development
- Relationships

A new Bicultural Plan will be developed. The involvement of Dr Terry Ryan with his wisdom and support will add greatly to ensuring that goals and targets in the plan are truly meeting the needs of Maori and have the support of the Maori communities we are serving.

CEREMONY OF WELCOME

A ceremony of welcome for Dr Ryan will be held in the Central City Library on 24 August 2001 at 4.30pm.

I am delighted that someone with the mana and respect of Dr Ryan has agreed to be the Kaumatua of the Library. We are looking forward to a long and fruitful relationship with Ngai Tahu through his involvement with us.

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the Committee welcome and thank Dr Ryan for his agreement to act as Kaumatua for Christchurch City Libraries.