



TE TAHA MĀORI

Information and Reporting Back

Ka ngaro ratou, ka ngaro ratou.

Ko Muliaina Foepapa, Ken Christiansen, Roy Hasseldine, Irwin Fowler, Dorothy Allen, Kathleen Gilmore, Colin Leadley, Nellie Cramond, Ivan Hall, James McGeorge, Melva Flyger, Dave Armstrong, Frank Walters, Mabel Grocott, Laura Blundell, Dorothy Ford, Joan Lawry, Harkness Letoa, Judith Patterson,

Sister Rona Collins, ko wai atu, ko wai atu.

Ko te hunga piripono ki a Ihu Karaiti. Haere koutou.

Te hunga ora e hui nei, tena koutou katoa.

Theology in Aotearoa/Education and Training

Thinking and doing theology takes place in a variety of settings. At the beginning of each meeting Te Taha Maori takes the time to reflect theologically on what is happening around us, the issues that we have to address and the ways in which we interact in church and community.

Following the passing of so many of our members in 2007, it has been important for Te Taha Maori to momentarily pause and take stock of our future directions. This has meant that as part of our ongoing work, we have deliberately focussed our theology sessions at Hui Poari around the following themes:

- Recalling our Te Taha Maori and Methodist history/memory;
- Re-examining our structures;
- Strengthening our governance and management procedures;
- A deliberate focus on our visioning, strategy and goals;
- Our overall future directions.

In addition to all the above we have also spent time looking at other issues such as:

- HIV and AIDS;
- Key Connexional reports – Commissioner's report, Law and Property, Stipends Review, Local Shared Ministry, Models of Presidency, Anglican Methodist Covenant.

Education programmes and training wananga continue to be the way in which Te Taha Maori strives to achieve its goals of *enabling every member to be a minister – within his/her own whanau and community/rohe and producing our own resources for nurture and growth in the faith; for continuing education, ministry and mission in the world.*

Development hui for Kaikarakia and candidates training to be Minita-a-lwi continue at a Rohe level. A national Minita-a-lwi event is planned for the end of September to be held at Whakatuora Centre.

Te Taha Maori has been ably assisted by the Rev Morehu Te Whare in training candidates for Minita-a-lwi from the Rohe Potae area. It is with pleasure we announce that **Ella Nelson, Solomon Nelson and Thomas Waaka** have completed their Minita-a-lwi training and will be received as Minita-a-lwi at this year's Conference.

In August at a Special Meeting of Hui Poari, it was unanimously agreed that **Rex Nathan** go forward as a candidate for Ordination at Conference 2009.

Te Taha Maori recognises this is a significant spiritual journey for each candidate and rejoices in their achievements.

Rangatahi

In February, **Keita Hotere** concluded her position as National Rangatahi Worker. Te Taha Maori acknowledges and pays tribute to Keita for her work and ministry amongst the Rangatahi of our Rohe. Her work on national boards and committees has also been valued. We wish Keita many blessings for her future endeavours. Hui Poari continues to work on the future ministry of Rangatahi and Tai Tamariki.

Activities that have occurred/will happen for Rangatahi since last Conference include:

- A Tai Tokerau Rohe wananga for their Rangatahi and Tai Tamariki at St John's Co-operating Parish Whangarei;
- Participation at MYC08;
- Representation on Connexional Boards and Committees as well as Hui Poari;
- An upcoming hui in October for Tamaki.

Te Taha Maori has been invited to send a representative group with Tauwi Young People to attend the National Christian Youth Convention in early January in Melbourne, Australia. Details for a group to participate are being finalised.

Finance and Properties

Finances: Te Taha Maori Budget Working Group continues to meet during the year to consider the income and expenditure for the life and work of Te Taha Maori. The Work Group makes adjustments accordingly. Te Taha Maori makes no requests for funding from the Connexional Budget. It does however, contribute to the Connexional Budget and has done so for a number of years.

Te Taha Maori once again wishes to record its thanks and appreciation to the Grey Institute Trust, Kurahuna Committee, Margaret and Bruce Gordon Fund and the Wellington Methodist Charitable Educational and Endowments Trust for their financial support. A number of students have received grants from these funds/trusts which assist them with their education.

Furthermore we also record our thanks to Dina McCarthy for the monitoring of our accounts and finances on a daily basis.

Properties: Te Taha Maori continues to regularly maintain our properties particularly our key Centres – Te Atawhai in Kawakawa, Whakatuora in Mangere East, Te Rahui in Hamilton and Tahupotiki in Hawera. Ongoing work and discussions are continuing with regards to Te Patunga Church, Te Huinga Centre, Te Waitere Land and finding an appropriate property for Tai Tokerau Rohe. Te Taha Maori are indebted to the Rev Bob Short for his continued commitment in carrying out the work on the development project at Kawhia. We hope to have this project completed in time for the 75th anniversary of Kawhia Church.

Ecumenical Concerns

Te Runanga Whakawhanaunga I Nga Haahi O Aotearoa: Rev Rua Rakena continues as Interim Administrator for this organisation. Advisors have met sporadically during the year. An invitation was extended by Te Aka Puaho for Te Runanga to meet in Ohope in June. The objective was to meet with students of Te Wananga-A-Rangi as well as recall the history and discuss the future of Te Runanga.

Key National Events: Te Taha Maori for many years has supported these key annual national events – the Ratana celebrations, Waitangi and Koroneihana (coronation of Kingi Tuheitia). These keys national events have strong affiliations to our Methodist Church. We encourage our church to learn about these occasions and participate.

Methodist Mission & Ecumenical Committee: Hui Poari at its May meeting took the time to workshop on the issues of HIV and AIDS. There was robust dialogue and Rohe members were asked to continue engaging with the issues noting education and awareness is the key.

World Council of Churches: The Tumuaki and Lana Lazarus were part of a group that met to consider the WCC Ecclesiology Texts.

Connexional Matters

Te Taha Maori records its sincere thanks to **Jill van de Geer** for her significant contribution to the life and work of the Methodist Church of New Zealand-Te Haahi Weteriana O Aotearoa during her term as General Secretary. We wish Jill well with her future endeavours.

Te Taha Maori remains convinced that the Bicultural Journey emerges out of a deeper acknowledgment of the gospel for Aotearoa. Therefore we persevere and expend the necessary time and energy required. Significant involvements this year have included:

- Keita Hotere and Lana Lazarus along with the Tauwi Youth Facilitator were part of the Organising Committee for MYC08.
- 4+4 Connexional Appointment for Principal of Trinity Methodist Theological College;
- Representation on the Board of Administration, Connexional Budget Task Group, Council of Conference, Grey Institute Trust, Kurahuna Committee, Methodist Mission and Ecumenical

Committee, PAC Distribution Group, PAC Media and Communication Committee, Pastoral Committee, Te Runanga Whakawhanaunga I Nga Haahi O Aotearoa, Wellington Methodist Charitable Educational and Endowments Trust and the Wesley College Trust Board.

- The Tumuaki has also represented Te Taha Maori on the Advisory Committee to the Commissioner, Dr John Hinchcliffe.
- The Tumuaki along with Lana Lazarus co-facilitated sessions at the Bicultural Orientation Workshop earlier this year.
- The Tumuaki and Lana Lazarus along with the Taiwi Executive Officer, Nigel Hanscamp and Taiwi Co-Convenor, Tovia Aumua led a training workshop for existing and new members of Council of Conference as well as substitutes.
- Bella Ngaha made a presentation at the request of Superintendent John Murray to the Managers of Methodist Mission Northern on "Methodist Bicultural Journey in Practice" in May.

Te Taha Maori takes its Connexional responsibilities and partnership obligations seriously. At times it feels like this same commitment is not matched by our Partner.

Looking Forward

The areas of Te Taha Māori work, which we continue to develop are:

1. Visioning, strategy, structures, governance and management.
2. Rangatahi and Tai Tamariki Ministry;
3. Rangatahi Co-ordinators planning a national Rangatahi Hui;
4. Kaikarakia and Minita-a-lwi training;
5. Other forms of development that may be appropriate for our people;
6. Maintaining our bicultural and partnership relationships;
7. Awareness and participation to social and political events in this country.

Suggested Decisions:

1. The report be received.
2. Conference thanks Keita Hotere for her work and contribution to the life and ministry of Rangatahi.
3. The 2009 membership and officers of *Hui Poari* be Tumuaki Diana Tana, Lana Lazarus, Rangatahi: Raiha (Dorta) Cassidy, Julie-Anne Barney-Katene, Tiraroa Toki; Tai Tokerau: Raiha (Dorta) Cassidy, Rex Nathan; Tamaki: Gillian Laird, Bella Ngaha; Waikato: Pari Waaka, Evelyn Kingi; Taranaki: Frances Kingi-Katene, Jim George; Otautahi-Te Waipounamu: Sonny Livingstone and one further representative and two representatives each from Te Rohe Potae and Poneke to be appointed by the President.
4. The 2009 offices of *Rohe* shall be Tai Tokerau: Raiha (Dorta) Cassidy; Tamaki: Gillian Laird; Waikato: Pari Waaka; Taranaki: Frances Kingi-Katene; Otautahi-Te Waipounamu: Sonny Livingstone.
5. That the 2009 membership of *Te Runanga Whakawhanaunga I Nga Haahi O Aotearoa* shall be Tumuaki Diana Tana, Keita Hotere and Lana Lazarus.

GREY INSTITUTE TRUST

The year to June 2008 has been a year of significant change for the Grey Institute Trust.

The Trust was sad to record the passing of long serving Trustee Rev Moke Couch who died just before Conference 2007, and former Trust Chair Rev Len Willing.

The Trust and the Church are indebted for the love and dedication shown in the service of all of our former trustees.

Lease Renewals

The ground leases for the 193 sections owned by the Grey Institute Trust in New Plymouth came up for renewal in December 2007. In terms of the lease documents the Trust had to give a year's notice of the renewal to each lessee and to commence proceedings leading to the review of the rental payable by each lessee which would remain unchanged for the next 21 year lease term.

At the time of the previous rent review in 1986 the Trust looked at the possibility of being able to offer lessees the option of purchase of the freehold of their sections. With many questions surrounding the purchasing the original property by the Trust and possibly competing interests of local Iwi and hapu the advice of Te Taha Maori was that freeholding the sections was inappropriate at that time. Over the course of the next twenty years significant progress was made both in understanding the relationship of Trust to its property and to any outstanding issues between the Church and Ngati Te Whiti the tangatawhenua. As was proper in terms of the Church's bicultural journey Te Taha Maori took the lead in resolving these issues and matters progressed to the stage where as trustees contemplated the 2007 renewal, there was sufficient accord for the Trust to make an offer to each lessee for the purchase of the freehold of their property.

The Trustees believed that the ability to purchase the freehold interest in their land would enable the lessees to have more confidence in the "ownership" of their property and ultimately to lead to the improvement of the neighbourhood as leasehold tenure did not always enjoy the highest regard by property purchasers and lead to reduced capital investment in the improvements.

The offer of freeholding was not a provision of the lease but was a voluntary offer made by the Trust as an alternative to the right to renew the lease for a further 21 years with the rent to be set by agreement or failing that by arbitration. It was decided that each property would be individually assessed and a non negotiable offer be made to each lessee for the freeholding of their section.

The renewal of the leases and the offer of the freeholding attracted significant publicity in New Plymouth (as was to be expected) and whilst the freeholding option did not suit all lessees nearly 80% chose to take up the freeholding offer.

The remaining 20% of the properties had their leases renewed for a further 21 years with all but the last two or three ground rentals having been settled by 30 June 2008.

Obviously the freeholding of the land will significantly change the dynamics of the Trust. It is a long standing decision of Conference that the surplus income earned by the Trust be made available to Te Taha Maori each year and pending a full review of the future directions of the Trust but it is not intended to seek any change in Conference's current instructions.

It is anticipated that a full review and recommendations will be brought to Conference 2009.

Relations with Ngati Te Whiti Hapu

As mentioned previously Te Taha Maori was responsible for resolving questions with tangatawhenua relating to the church's ownership of the Grey Institute Trust property. It is understood by the Trust that there are no bona fide claims or reservations of title with regard to the Trust property. The opportunity arose however for the Trust to purchase a piece of former railway land declared surplus by the Crown that had been acquired from the Trust under the Public Works Act in the 1930s. This land adjoined property already owned by Ngati Te Whiti in Bayly Road and the property was repurchased by the Trust and given to the Bayly Road Trust together with a Koha from Te Taha Maori representing funds that had been put aside from the annual income of the Grey Trust over many years awaiting the freeholding of the sections.

The Trust has also sought to agree the future of the Rangiatea property with the Ngati Te Whiti hapu.

Discussions have been delayed as there was no one group with a mandate to represent the entire hapu.

The Trustees are delighted to advise Conference that with Ngati Te Whiti being able to nominate an appropriate Group to represent it discussions on the gifting of the former Rangiatea Hostel property – now occupied by a number of education providers focused on Maori education plus some sports fields leased to Spotswood College – have progressed very quickly.

The gift on behalf of the Grey Trust and Te Hahi Weteriana has been offered and accepted with a formal transfer of the property likely to occur in early 2009.

The Grey Trust has now been able to transfer both land and an economic base to Ngati Te Whiti from whom the original Grey Trust lands were purchased in 1840.

Conclusion

In conclusion the Trustees are mindful of the turmoil created by the 21 year review of rental and the offer of freeholding extended to lessees. The Trustees believe that the high level of take up of the freeholding offer indicates that it met a significant aspiration of the vast majority of its lessees. The Trustees acknowledge with gratitude the work of the Trust Secretary Pauline Lockett and her staff at P.W.C. (especially Raewyn Greening) the Trust's Solicitor John Konijn and Valuer Mike Myers. They all provided excellent advice and assistance to the Trust during what were testing times.

The Trustees also record their appreciation to the careful and wise leadership provided by Rev Alan Upson as Chairperson of the Trust.

Suggested Decisions:

1. That the report be received.
2. That the members of the Grey Institute Trust for the 2009 year be: The Superintendent of the New Plymouth Methodist Parish (Chairperson), currently Rev Alan Upson, Rev Diana Tana, Julie-Anne Barney-Katene, Juanita Bishop, Doreen Erueti, John Honeyfield, Aroha Houston and Greg Wright. Another member (or members may be added to the Trust to assist with changes in the work of the Trust during the coming year).

THE BOARD OF THE WELLINGTON METHODIST CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENTS

The Board approved the following grants during the financial year ended 30 June - all grants are required to be targeted for the benefit of children or youth –

	\$
Te Taha Maori - Moutoa Scholarship	20,000
Rangatahi worker	30,000
Educational Resource Work	10,000
Masterton Christian Childcare Programme	20,000
Methodist Youth Conference 2008	5,000
Schools (5)	15,500
Gifted Kids Programme	8,000
Activate Trust – 'High Five' Programme	1,080
Te Waipuna Trust – Team Xtreme	2,000
St John's Avalon Uniting Church	4,258
Youth Development Trust	5,000
SPELD Association Hutt Valley Inc.	4,000
Gracefield Early Childhood Centre	1,740
Wesley Methodist Samoan Sunday School	4,500
Methodist Social Services, Palmerston North	5,000
Wesley Community Action –	
Porirua Youth Development Initiative	<u>20,000</u>
	\$156,078

This amount compares with \$138,230 in the 2007 year, and \$119,700 in the 2006 year – when applications received did not fully match our income.

We have continued to invite applications for grants from (a) Kura Kaupapa, Maori Immersion Units, Decile 3 Schools, and (b) Community Groups.

The Board's farm at Moutoa, near Foxton, continues to be well managed.

Barrie Woods, Chairperson
Neville Price, Secretary

Suggested Decisions:

1. That the Report be received.
2. The membership of the Board for 2009 is: Lynne Frith, Nola Hanson, Heather Lumsden-Ratu, Diana Tana, Bunny Willing, Trevor Dine, Owen Prior, Matthew Roberts, Lani Tupu, Barrie Woods (Chairperson), Neville Price (Secretary), and any others appointed by the President.