Mr William Macdonald (Mac) Taylor, QSM, of Waimakau South, Hokianga, has been appointed to the Waitangi Tribunal. Mr Taylor, 65, replaces Mr Turirangi Te Kani who died earlier this year.

Mac Taylor, of Te Rarawa and Ngapuhi descent, was born at Panguru, North Hokianga, and raised by his grandparents, Hone Perea Teihi and Raiha. He owes his Christian name, William, to an uncle of Ngati Kahu descent, his middle name, Macdonald, to a Catholic priest at Panguru, while his surname comes from his father, Edward Norris Taylor, son of Raniera Teira.

Mac attended Panguru Convent School until standard six, and, at the age of 16, left Panguru to live with his parents in Whangarei where he began work in a sawmill. In 1940, he moved with his parents to the Northern Wairoa district, where he worked for the Maori Affairs Farm Units until 1960, under the supervision of his father. During this time, Mac worked as a drover and a bulldozer driver, and maintained his keen interest in sport, representing Northern Wairoa in both junior and senior rugby. While stationed in Northern Wairoa, he also became an active member of the Oturei Tribal Committee.

In 1950, he married Queenie Subritzky and 10 years later moved with his wife and five children to Auckland, where he joined the construction and maintenance branch of the Post Office in Newmarket. Mac was later transferred to the Otahuhu branch, where he worked until the death of his wife in 1975. With the total responsibility of raising eight children now upon him, Mac chose to become a full-time parent.

However, he continued to work among Maori people in various capacities, including organising Whai Ora Marae, and working with Patariki Harrison, the tohunga carver at Tipene College and the University of Auckland Marae. In 1979, Mac was appointed Cultural Officer for the Department of Maori Affairs, Wiri, South Auckland.

Throughout his personal life Mac has learnt from his elders, listening to and working with many great orators. In particular, he was closely associated with the late Sir James Henare, acting as companion and confidant. He also travelled with the late Hone Rangihau to Tai Tokerau with the kaupapa of Te Kohanga Reo. In 1986, he was a member of the group that travelled to the Vatican and successfully petitioned the Pope for the appointment of a Maori Bishop, and in the same year, he organised the Pope's visit to Auckland.

Later, he transferred to Kaikohe to become Cultural Officer for Tai Tokerau, a position he held until December last year.

Mac Taylor is closely involved with all things Maori, especially in the Tai Tokerau district. He sees himself as a co-ordinator, particularly for the Ngapuhi runanga of which he is kaumatua, but he says he is willing to help any group within Tai Tokerau.

In 1984, he married Gladys Anne Peters, and moved to a 17-acre farmlet in Tai Tokerau near the Waipoua Forest and overlooking Waimamaku.

Recently he has been involved with the Te Ao Marama Trust, a work training scheme based at his home outside Waimamaku. The Trust, which currently has 14 trainees, provides training for young people in traditional areas such as bone, wood and greenstone carving, and also sewing.

Mac would like to bring a straightforward approach to the work of the Tribunal. He believes in seeking out the truth behind the claims to the Tribunal. 'That is the only way to deal with these things,' he says.

He is not a complete stranger to the work of the Tribunal, having been present at every hearing of the Te Roroa claim which covers the Maunganui Bluff, Waipoua, Waimamaku area. The claim is still in hearing.

We offer Mr Taylor our congratulations on his appointment and look forward to working with him in the future.

No reira e pa, Te Teira, hoea mai o waka ki tenei tauranga ki Te Roopu Whakamana i te Tiriti. Anei, au tamariki e tatari ana i uta. Haere mai, haere mai. Nga mihi nui, nga aroha nui ki a koe.
DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

Opening of the Raupatu hearings

On Monday 3 September, staff from the Division travelled to the opening of the Raupatu hearings at Owae Marae, Waitara, to tautoko Chief Judge Durie and the kaumatua of the Tribunal. It was a privilege to be present (see report on page 3).

Raupatu research team

The Raupatu hearings will take up much of the Division's time and resources over the next few years. To co-ordinate the Division's research programme and manage the large number of Raupatu claims, a small team has been established within the Division. The Raupatu research team is headed by Senior Researcher, Cathy Marr. She is assisted by Researchers, Aroha Harris and Janine Ford, while Noel Harris will look after mapping and associated matters. It is likely that the research team will be assisted by contract researchers in the field, although these details have yet to be decided. I am sure that over the next few months, those of you associated with the Raupatu claims will come to know our team very well.

Walter Mantell Exhibition

Accompanied by six members of the Tribunal and Judge Russell of the Maori Land Court (presiding officer for Wai 33, the Pouakani claim), most of the Division staff attended a viewing of the Walter Mantell Exhibition, hosted by the National Library. The occasion was to allow Tribunal members and Division staff a leisurely look at the work of government surveyor Walter Mantell and the purchase of Ngai Tahu lands 1848-1853.

The exhibition had particular relevance for those members of the Tribunal and Division who are associated with Wai 27, the Ngai Tahu claim. Included in the exhibition were some of the actual sale documents, along with notes, maps and sketches made by Mantell during his time in the South Island. The exhibition is to tour other centres later in the year.

Visitors to the Division

The Tribunal offices have apparently become a fixture on the overseas visitor circuit - the Ministry of External Relations and Trade has organised several such visits lately. There is a lot of overseas interest in the work of the Tribunal and in recent weeks we have seen Michael Lee, Labour MP for Dolbell, New South Wales, and Monsieur Joseph Caihe from New Caledonia. Chris Laidlaw, the Race Relations Conciliator, has also visited.

Another welcome group of visitors are claimant researchers. We are really pleased to see Iwi visitors because it gives us an opportunity to meet Iwi members and put a 'face' to our work. Working away in the Division it is easy to forget that 'claimants' are real people too. We sometimes need to be reminded of that.

We have some limited work space available and researchers are welcome to any information that we hold in the Division. Where time permits, staff are also pleased to offer advice with research problems, or to direct researchers to particular information.

Attention all users of National Archives

All National Archives offices are due to move to new accommodation next year. This will cause some disruption to services.

In Christchurch, a purpose-built archives repository has been built in Peterborough Street.

In the Wellington offices, in Atlas House and the Air New Zealand Building, there will be reductions in services in preparation for the move to Archives House in Mulgrave Street, Wellington (the old Government Printing Office). In particular, written and phoned reference enquiries have been suspended from 1 September 1990. From 1 December 1990 production of archives in both reading rooms will cease at 12.30 pm and a reading-only service will operate each afternoon. Further reductions to reading room services will become necessary when the move takes place during 1991.

TRIBUNAL EVENTS
(Not open to the public)
September – December 1990

WAI 32 NGATI TE RANGI TEORERE
Friday 14 September – Friday 28 September
Meetings in Rotorua

WAI 130 TELECOM
Tuesday 18 September
Conference in Wellington

WAI 27 NGAI TAHU
Wednesday 25 September – Friday 28 September
Monday 5 November – Thursday 8 November
Meetings in Wellington

WAI 55 NAPIER INNER HARBOUR
Friday 28 September
Conference in Napier

WAI 116 TAEMARO
Sunday 7 October – Monday 8 October
Mediation in Kaitaia

Kia ora
Buddy Mikaere
Director
HEARINGS BEGIN IN Taranaki

The first of the muru raupatu claims to be heard

The Taranaki muru raupatu claims were opened with a powhiri at Owae Marae, Waitara, on Monday, 3 September 1990. Claimants from other confiscated land areas were present to support Taranaki. These included representatives from Ngati Porou, Tainui, Ngati Awa, Ngati Ranginui, Ngai Te Rangi, Ngati Pahauwera and Tuwharetoa te Atua Reretahi ki Kawerau, who gave an overview of their grievances on the opening days. (Their claims will later be given a full hearing.)

The Governor-General, Sir Paul Reeves, (a member of Te Atiawa,) also attended the opening in his official capacity. The Solicitor-General, John McGrath was there to represent the Crown. Also present was Shonagh Kenderdine, recently appointed a judge of the District Court and assigned to the Planning Tribunal, who began her legal career at Owae Marae in 1980. At that time she was appearing on behalf of the Commission for the Environment in support of Te Atiawa’s claim in respect of the coastal fishing reefs. That claim was the first major claim to be heard by the Tribunal, so it is significant that the muru raupatu claim hearings also opened at Owae Marae.

During the week-long hearing local tribes spoke to the Tribunal about their particular grievances. The theme throughout was the ongoing detrimental effects of muru raupatu on the physical, economic, spiritual and cultural well-being of the people.

Chief Judge Edward Durie is the presiding officer for the Taranaki claim. Other Tribunal members hearing the claim are Bishop Manuhuia Bennett, Emarina Manuel, Professor Gordon Orr and Professor Keith Sorrenson.

The next hearing is scheduled for November.

MURIWHENUA LAND HEARINGS

6-9 August 1990

The Muriwhenua land claim (Wai 45) hearings opened at the Potahi Marae in Te Kao on Tuesday 7 August 1990. Tribunal members hearing this claim included Chief Judge Durie (presiding), Sir Monita Delamere, Dr Evelyn Stokes, Ms Joanne Morris, with Bishop Manuhuia Bennett as a reserve member.

Following the formal powhiri at the Potahi Marae, the Tribunal heard testimony from Ngati Kuri, Te Aupouri and Te Rarawa. On Tuesday 7 August, proceedings moved to Whatuphiwhi where Ngati Kahu submitted oral evidence relating to their part of the larger claim.

On Wednesday 8 August, Ngati Kahu escorted the Tribunal on a series of site visits which started on the Karikari Peninsula and ended at Peria. The following day, a second set of site visits at the northern end of the claim area began first at Waitiki Landing, then the Tribunal visited Kapo Wairua, and finally on to Reinga and Ninety Mile Beach before returning to the Potahi Marae in Te Kao on Thursday.

These Muriwhenua hearings will continue into 1991. The next formal hearings will take place in Kaitaia in early December, to be followed by evidence relating to the Ninety Mile Beach in March 1991.
TRIBUNAL'S KAITUNA RIVER RECOMMENDATIONS ACCEPTED

In November 1984, the Waitangi Tribunal recommended to Government that the plan to discharge effluent into the Kaituna River be abandoned.

Following is an article that appeared in The New Zealand Herald, 6 July 1990.

Rotorua residents, indeed the whole country, will be thankful that the heart of our best-known tourist area may soon have no reason to be likened to an 'unflushed toilet' - although not for a while yet. After 20 years of pumping treated sewage into the once crystal-clear waters of Lake Rotorua, it will take some time before the lake sheds that description given nearly a decade ago by a visiting scientist.

But a $34.6 million land-based treatment plant, to be finished next month, promises at last to restore the waters to a condition that swimmers, rather than algal blooms, may enjoy. Waste water from the plant sprayed on the 350ha Whakarewarewa Forest will reduce the level of nutrient running into the lake from the present 500kg of nitrogen a day to a minimal 25kg in ground seepage.

If it has taken shamefully long to clean up what is unquestionably an important national asset - as reflected in the Government paying for three-quarters of the scheme - the final result is not without some additional benefits. One may be the manner in which the impasse over what to do with the city sewage was resolved.

It took the 'non-adversarial' forum of the Waitangi Tribunal to bury finally ill-conceived plans to divert treated sewage down the Kaituna River and to encourage acceptance of a sensible alternative. A welter of reports, public objections, environmental lobbying and known Maori sensitivities had previously been unable to stop that scheme by more conventional means, or to curb the squabbling between local authorities and national politicians.

Yet before the Tribunal, whose interest primarily lay in protecting traditional food-gathering along the Kaituna River, an agreement emerged. With it came a lesson, perhaps, in how best to resolve similar local and regional conflicts. Under the jurisdiction of the Tribunal, the parties actually talked to each other; consultation, rather than confrontation, cleaned the lake.

The 5000 sprinklers that will spray 20,000 cubic metres of treated effluent a day on the Whakarewarewa Forest - the largest spray disposal system in the country - may also provide an answer for other cities facing sewage-disposal problems. While Rotorua is fortunate to have permeable soil and large wooded areas at its back doorstep, its clean lake should encourage others to find a means of flushing their waste that does not pollute natural waterways.

HEARING DATES

September – December 1990

Note: The dates of hearings are subject to change.

WAI 143 TARANAKI
Monday 3 September – Friday 7 September
Owee Marae, Waitara
Claimants' opening submissions

Monday 26 November – Friday 30 November
Venue and agenda to be arranged

WAI 38 TE ROROA
Tuesday 4 September – Friday 7 September
Matatina Marae, Waipoua
Submissions from Historic Places Trust, Auckland
Institute and Museum and Department of Conservation

Monday 19 November – Wednesday 21 November
Whakamaharatanga Marae, Waimamaku
Crown evidence relating to Waipoua archaeology and Waimamaku aspects of the claim. Additional Historic Places Trust evidence

Thursday 22 November – Friday 23 November
Rabiri Marae, Dargaville
Crown's evidence relating to Taharoa aspects of the claim

Monday 10 December – Tuesday 11 December
Venue to be arranged
Claimant counsel's summing up of evidence

Monday 17 December – Tuesday 18 December
Venue to be arranged
Crown counsel's summing up of evidence

Wednesday 19 December
Claimant counsel's final summing up

WAI 150 BROADCASTING
Monday 23 October – Friday 2 November
Waiwhetu Marae, Lower Hutt

WAI 45 MURIWHENUA
Monday 3 December – Friday 7 December
Venue and agenda to be arranged

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