ISN’T IT TIME TO LOOK AT THE TREATY OF WAITANGI?

SEE WHAT IT ACTUALLY SAYS. AFTER ALL, IT’S ONLY ONE PAGE.

If you belong to a book club, suggest it as a topic for your next meeting.

Or why not get a few people together for an hour or two.

4 STEPS

1 SPREAD THE WORD
Tell your friends or colleagues you’re keen to learn more and invite them to a meeting.

2 CHOOSE A LOCATION

3 MAKE A PLAN
Like 7-9 with a cuppa in the middle, or Sunday afternoon finishing by 5.

4 PRINT SOME COPIES of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and a recent translation on the following pages.

• When you meet, do a round of introductions.
• Have a look at each section. Keep an eye on the time so you can cover all the sections.
• What is it saying? How do you feel about it?
• Is any of it new to you?
• Where do you go from here?

A WORD OF WARNING

If you’re tempted to Google it, you will find heaps of old-fashioned mistakes about the so-called English text, which is in no way a translation of te Tiriti, and got us into the mess in the first place.
Victoria, the Queen of England, in her gracious thoughtfulness to the Rangatira and Hapu of New Zealand, and in her desire to record both her recognition of their paramount authority and that the lands are theirs, so that all may live in peace and good order, has thought it right to send an officer to make arrangements with the Maori people of New Zealand. Let the Rangatira agree to the Kawanatanga (governorship – the delegated duty to govern Pakeha and other non-Maori) of the Queen to all parts of this land and its islands.

This is to be done because a great number of her people have settled in this country, and others will come.

The Queen desires to arrange Kawanatanga so that no evil will come to the Maori people or to the Pakeha, who are living here in a state of lawlessness.

Now the Queen has been pleased to send me, William Hobson, a Captain in the Royal Navy, to be the Kawana for all parts of New Zealand which have been allocated, or shall be allocated, to the Queen. And she says to the Rangatira of the Confederation of the Hapu of New Zealand and the other Rangatira, these are the laws spoken of:

The Rangatira of the Confederation and all the other Rangatira who have not joined that Confederation delegate Kawanatanga to the Queen of England forever for lands entrusted to Pakeha and other non-Maori.
KO TE TUARUA

Ko te Kuini o Ingarani ka wakarite ka wakaae ki nga Rangatira, ki nga Hapu, ki nga tangata katoa o Nu Tirani, te tino Rangatiratanga o o ratou wenua o ratou kainga me o ratou taonga katoa. Otiia ko nga Rangatira o te Wakaminenga, me nga Rangatira katoa atu ka tuku ki te Kuini te hokonga o era wahi wenua e pai ai te tangata nona te wenua ki te ritenga o te utu e wakaritea ai e ratou, ko te kaihoko e meatia nei e te Kuini hei kaihoko mono.

THIS IS THE SECOND

The Queen of England will make the arrangements and recognises the Tino Rangatiratanga (retained paramount and ultimate authority, which includes sovereignty) of the Rangatira, Hapu and all the people of New Zealand over their lands, villages and everything else that is held precious. But the Rangatira of the Confederation and all the other Rangatira allow the Queen to trade for the use of those pieces of land that the owners consent to allocate, subject to agreement over payment which will be agreed to between the Rangatira and an agent who will be appointed by the Queen.

KO TE TUATORU

Hei wakaritenga mai hoki tenei mo te wakaaetanga ki te Kawanatanga o te Kuini. Ka tiakina e te Kuini o Ingarani nga tangata Maori katoa o Nu Tirani. Ka tukua ki a ratou nga tikanga katoa rite tahi ki ana mea, ki nga tangata a Ingarani.

THIS IS THE THIRD

This is the arrangement for the agreement to the Queen’s Kawanatanga. The Queen will care for all the Maori people of New Zealand and ensure that they have the same access to the laws and customs as the people of England.

KO TE TUAWA

E mea ana te Kawana ko nga wakapono katoa o Ingarani, o nga Weteriana, o Roma, me te ritenga Maori hoki e tiakina ngatahitia e ia.

THIS IS THE FOURTH

The Governor says that all faiths - those of England, of the Wesleyans, of Rome and also Maori custom and religion - shall all alike be protected by him.

Na, ko matou, ko nga Rangatira o te Wakaminenga o nga Hapu o Nu Tirani, ka huihui nei ki Waitangi. Ko matou hoki ko nga Rangatira o Nu Tirani, ka kite nei i te ritenga o enei kupu ka tangohia, ka wakaaetia katoatia e matou. Koia ka tohungia ai o matou ingoa o matou tohu.

Ka meatia tenei ki Waitangi, i te ono o nga ra o Pepueri, i te tau kotahi mano, e waru, e wa tekau o to tatou Ariki.

Now we, the Rangatira of the Confederation of the Hapu of New Zealand, assembled here at Waitangi and we, the other Rangatira of New Zealand, understand the intent of these words and agree to their entirety, and so we put here our names and our marks.

Done at Waitangi on the 6th day of February in the year of our Lord 1840.

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