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Sunday, 2 April 1995

Alison Parr
Radio Aotearoa New Zealand

c/- fax (04) 474 1454

Barmaids, Alexandra and 'Aotearoa'

As usual I was enjoying your 'Sunday Morning' programme on National Radio this morning, when I discovered that you are "geographically embarrassed" (i.e., "lost"). You referred to 'Barmaids' being performed in Alexandra at the start of a tour of 'Aotearoa'. I assure you that Alexandra (I'm a frequent visitor!) is in the South Island, not on that other island north of the ditch.

To be historically correct, rather than politically correct, the name 'Aotearoa' applies to only the North Island. It is one of several Maori names for that offshore Island. Historically, and pre-historically, there was no singular name for the three islands now known as New Zealand. This is because, pre-European contact, there was no Maori concept of one place or land encompassing the North, South, and Stewart Islands. Maori were not a single nation and therefore had no words or geographic description that reflected unity.

It is interesting to note that the Maori version of the Treaty of Waitangi uses the name 'Nu Tirani' which appears to be a transliteration of 'New Zealand'. There is also the variation 'Niu Tireni'.

It appears that the first time 'Aotearoa' was applied to mean all of New Zealand was in 1861 when a newspaper 'Ko Aotearoa' or the Maori Recorder was published. That was 21 years after the signing of the Treaty and 198 years after the name 'Zeelandia Nova' appeared on Dutch maps.

I hope this short road map helps you restore Alexandra to its rightful island!

Yours in appreciation



Bruce Mason

Bruce Mason

Wednesday, 29 March 1995

The Editor
Star Community Newspapers
Allied Press Building
Stuart Street
DUNEDIN

'Aotearoa' and The Treaty

I usually find Phyllis Stevens' 'Maori Community News' a factual presentation that assists community knowledge and understanding of Maori activities and concerns. Her willingness to run a politically incorrect view (February 12) is to be applauded, that historically the name 'Aotearoa' applies to only the North Island. It is interesting to note that the Maori version of the Treaty of Waitangi uses the name 'Nu Tirani' which appears to be a transliteration of 'New Zealand'. From my preliminary delvings it appears that the first time 'Aotearoa' was applied to mean all of the country was in 1861 when a newspaper 'Ko Aotearoa' or the Maori Recorder was published. That was 21 years after signing of the Treaty and 219 years after Abel Tasman visited and named these lands 'New Zealand'. No doubt readers could throw further light on this subject.

In a departure from the column's usual standards of accuracy, in the March 26 issue of the 'Weekender', a time-line of events is reproduced from the Church magazine 'Crosslink'. Under the heading '1840', it states that the Maori version of the Treaty "confirms tino rangatiratanga or Maori sovereignty over all things Maori". I believe this statement to be a misreading of the Treaty and a distortion beyond belief.

The Treaty, in Maori and English versions, consists of a preamble, three articles, and an epilogue. To obtain full understanding of the relationship struck between Maori and the Crown, each Article must be read in its entirety, related to other articles, then to the purposes of the Treaty as set out in the preamble.

On the ceding to the Crown the right of complete sovereignty *or* government (Article I) and the granting of exclusive pre-emptive (purchase) rights of land to the Crown (Article II), Maori would retain *either* exclusive and undisturbed possession of their lands and estates forests fisheries and other properties so long as it is their wish to retain the same in their possession *or* the unqualified exercise of chieftainship over all their lands, villages and all other treasures (Article II). In consideration of the foregoing Maori were granted the same rights, priveleges, and duties of citizenship as the people of England (Article III). The '*either*' '*ors*' arise from the different versions of the Treaty. In my view the versions don't materially differ if all their content is taken into account.

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Bruce Mason



for Foveaux Straits. By H. A. Anglin, lately commanding the *Royal Mail*." (Anglem's name is spelled in a variety of ways in contemporary documents.)

When referring to his survey of the southern part of New Zealand in 1850, Captain Stokes wrote: "Ruapuke was found to be laid down forty miles west of its true position, and similar incorrectness was observed in all parts of Foveaux Strait. So material change indeed will our survey effect in the geography of the southern end of the New Zealand Islands, that it may almost be looked upon as a new country. Only one spot, the southern cape of Stewart Island, seen by Cook, did we find correctly laid down. I must, however, except from this censure the sketch made by Mr Anglem, a person of considerable talent and education, who, remarkably enough, terminated a wild eventful life in the seclusion of Stewart Island. To its highest part, having 3,300 feet altitude, we gave his name in memorial of the great assistance derived from his chart."

Aniseed Valley: *Nelson*, 24km from Nelson. Probably called by this name because of the presence of a native plant popularly called aniseed.

Anita Bay: *Otago*, in Milford Sound. The bay was named after the vessel *Anita* which called here while quantities of greenstone were being sought. It seems likely that the *Anita* was commanded by Captain Fox, after whom the nearby Fox Point is named. In the *History of Northern Southland*, however, it is said that the *Anita* was commanded by Captain McKay, who gave the name when he anchored there in 1851.

Maori name: Hupokeka, the name of a chief.

Aniwaniwa Falls: *Hawke's Bay*, Lake Waikaremoana. *Lit.* rainbow.

Ann River: *Nelson*. Named by W. T. L. Travers.

Annas Island: Stewart Island, Port Pegasus. Named by Lieutenant Thomas McDonnell RN. Anna was the name both of his wife and eldest daughter.

Annat: *Canterbury*, 64km from Christchurch. After Annat, a hamlet at the head of Loch Torridon in Rosshire, Scotland. Formerly known as Malvern.

Anne River: *Marlborough*, a tributary of the Hunter River. Named by W. T. L. Travers and C. Maling in February 1860.

Annesbrook: *Nelson*, 5km from Nelson. The land was originally owned by the Stafford family. A stream, now known as Jenkins Stream, ran through the property, and was called Anne's Brook after Anne Stafford. There is conflict of opinion on whether she was the wife or daughter of the landowner.

Annick Peak: *Fiordland*, in the Earl Mountains. Named by James McKerrow after Annick Lodge near Kilmarnock, and after Annick Water which flows through the Eglinton estate.

Anthill, The: Murchison Valley, Mount Cook. Named by H. O. Frind because of its resemblance to an anthill. See also under Armadillo Saddle.

Antipodes Islands: about 650km from Stewart Island. The islands were first named the Penantipodes by Captain Waterhouse of HMS *Reliance* in 1800. The islands are situated at the antipodes of England. The term comes from two Greek words meaning against and foot.

Antonios Flat: *Nelson*. After Antonio Lardi, the discoverer of gold on the flat. *Ao:* A common component of many names, usually bearing the meaning cloud or day.

Aohanga: *Wellington*, near Cape Turnagain. **Aohanga River:** The name of the

Ohonga Ferry post office was changed to Ohonga in the 1870s, then to Ohanga, and in 1896 to Aohanga, which is itself a corruption of Owahanga: *lit.* o: place of; *wahanga:* burden.

Aokautere: *Wellington*, 8km from Palmerston North. *Lit.* *ao:* cloud; *kautere:* to float about freely or swiftly. However, the name came from that of a Maori chief who lived in the district.

At one time it was known as Fitzherbert East; after Sir William Fitzherbert. **Aongatete:** *Auckland*, 26km from Tauranga. *Lit.* *ao:* cloud; *ngatete:* to move.

Aorangi: *Wellington*, 1½km from Feilding. *Lit.* *ao:* cloud; *rangi:* sky. The famous explorer Tamatea-pokai-whenua was on his way to Whanganui, when he left a lizard here and called the place Aorangi, possibly after the lizard. The name is most famous as that of Mount Cook, *q.v.*

Aorere: *Nelson*, 11km from Collingwood. *Lit.* *ao:* cloud; *rere:* to fly. The name probably comes from an observation of flying clouds. With some ingenuity Maoris of later days devised the words *aorere* and *manurere* (flying bird) for aircraft.

Aoroa: *Auckland*, 5km from Dargaville. *Lit.* *ao:* cloud; *roa:* long.

Aotea: *Auckland*, 25km from Raglan. **Aotea Harbour:** *Lit.* *ao:* cloud or day; *tea:* white or clear. The Maori settlement and harbour were named after the *Aotea* canoe commanded by Turi, which made the long journey from the Homeland and finally arrived at this sheltered spot.

Aotea is also the name for Great Barrier Island, *q.v.* A farming district in Marlborough was also named by Archdeacon Grace, in this case, he said, the meaning being sunny spot. The settlement of Aotea has also borne the name Ruapuke, *lit.* *rua:* two; *puke:* hills, but is little used.

Aotearoa: The accepted traditional name for New Zealand. When Kupe, the Polynesian discoverer of these islands, arrived in sight of land, his wife Kearoa cried, "He ao!" (A cloud!) when she caught sight of the land on the horizon. It is thought that the words of her exclamation were expanded by *tea* (white) and *roa* (long). At least, that is the usual explanation, but it must be admitted that two adjectives do not normally follow a noun. It may be that *Aotea*, *q.v.*, was treated as one word, followed by the adjective long.

The name has become famous as Land of the Long White Cloud; but each of the component syllables has a number of meanings. It may therefore also be rendered: Long clear day; Long white world; Long bright world; Land of long-lingering daylight (which it would certainly be to voyagers from nearer the equator); Land of shimmering twilight; Big glaring light; Continuously clear light; Long bright land.

When Kupe returned to Hawaiki he was asked why he had not called the islands he had discovered after his homeland. "I preferred the warm breast to the cold one," he replied, "the new land to the land forsaken."

Aparima River: *Southland*. *Lit.* *apa:* slave or workman; *rima:* five. There are several theories to account for this name, but it is almost certainly that of a celebrated Waitaha chieftainess. However, it has been suggested that it is the Maori form of Apolima, an island in the Pacific known to the Maoris before the migration to New Zealand. Yet another interesting but suspect conjecture is that it means five streams or five ridges, because the river receives five tributaries, the district being known as Five Rivers, *q.v.* Normally, though,

Place Names of NZ
AW Reed
1975.

south, but the latter included the Wellington settlement. The charter was not proclaimed until the end of 1847 and became legally effective in January 1848.

New Zealand: The islands were named *Staten Landt* by Abel Tasman, but changed to *Nova Zelandia* or *Nieuw Zeeland*. (An early name for the Dutch was people of *Holland* and *Zeeland*.) When *Australia* was called *New Holland* it was natural to give the name of the other Dutch province to the land to the east. Tasman gave his reasons for bestowing the name *Staten Landt*: "In honour of Their High Mightinesses the States-General we gave to this land the name of *Staten Landt*, since we deemed it possible that this land is a part of the great *Staten Landt*, though this is not certain." *Staten Landt* was a mysterious will-o'-the-wisp of the Dutch navigators of the seventeenth century. The other *Staten Landt*, subsequently discovered to be a small island, but believed to be part of the great unknown southern continent, was to the east of *Tierra del Fuego*. Although there is no certainty as to who bestowed the name or when, it appeared in the form *Zeelandia Nova* on Thevenot's map in 1663. *Nieuw Zeeland* was obviously analogous in Dutch minds with *Nieuw Holland*. The survivors of Marion du Fresne's expedition gave the name *Austral-France* to *New Zealand*.

Maori name: *Aotearoa*, *q.v.*

Newbury: *Wellington*, 6km from *Palmerston North*. The first settler in this *Kairanga* township was *George Parr*, who arrived in *New Zealand* in 1874. He came from *Newbury* (*lit.* new castle) in *Berkshire*. He worked first as a farmhand at *Bulls*, but eighteen months later took up a block of 40 ha in thick bush and cleared a track to the *Rangitikei* River. When a road was put through *Parr* was asked to name the area and chose *Newbury* after the city where he and his wife had lived.

Newcome River: *Marlborough*, a tributary of the *Acheron* River. Named by *W. M. Mitchell* in 1850 after an acquaintance, *Major Newcome*, who had taken part in the defensive arrangements of *Nelson* after the *Wairau* Affair. He later resided in the *Awatere* Valley.

Newlands: *Wellington*, a suburb of *Wellington*. Named after *Thomas Newland*, manager of one of the departments of the meatworks at *Ngauranga*, who arrived in *Wellington* in 1875. He established a glue and oil manufacturing business at *Johnsonville* and built a house in the district that now bears his name. Visitors were accustomed to say, "We're going over to *Newland's*."

Newman: *Wellington*, 38km from *Woodville*. After *Dr Alfred Kingcombe Newman*, MHR for various *Wellington* seats.

Newmarket: *Auckland*, a suburb of *Auckland*. As the name implies, a new commercial, and later an industrial, area was established at the foot of *Khyber Pass*. An ancient cabbage-tree (see *Maori name notes* below) stood apart from the other trees within legendary or historic times. It was located on property known as *Highwic* or *Highwick*, belonging to *Alfred Buckland*, and was felled in 1908 as its condition was deteriorating. *Colonel A. Morrow*, who married *Miss Marianne Harris Buckland*, removed the trunk to his property about 180m from the *Buckland* homestead, and managed to restore it. It still stands beside the motorway into *Auckland*.

Maori name: *Te Titutahi*; *lit. te:* the; *ti:* cabbage-tree (*Cordyline*); *tu:* to stand, or standing; *tahi:* alone.

Newstead: *Auckland*, 8km from *Hamilton*. This name was given to one of the

two larger properties created after the *Waikato* War as militia settlements. The other was *Marshmeadows*, which was farmed by *Captain James Runciman*.

Newton: *Auckland*, a suburb of *Auckland*. While there is some uncertainty about the origin of the name, it is felt that it originated from *Newton* in the county of *Monmouth*. The postal address of the primary school is *Monmouth Street*, and other streets in the district bear English names such as *Surrey*, *Sussex*, *Essex*, etc. See also under *Grey Lynn*.

Newton, Mount: *Nelson*. Named by *Julius von Haast* after *Sir Isaac Newton*.

Newtown: *Wellington*, a suburb of *Wellington*. In the days when the district was still "out in the country", a *Mr Moodie* built a hotel here and expressed the hope that a new town would grow up round it.

Nga: In the majority of cases the prefix *nga* in the following names is the plural definite article, meaning "the". Unlike the singular *te*, it usually becomes part of the name instead of as a separate word.

Ngaere: *Taranaki*, 5km from *Eltham*. *Lit.* swamp. *Ngaere* and *Eltham* settlements were once part of a vast swamp, from which *Ngaere* takes its name. According to legend, when the mountain *Taranaki* fled from the enraged *Tongariro* down the channel of the *Whanganui* River, which he scooped out during his flight, and moved up the coast, he rested for a while and caused the huge depression which became the *Ngaere* swamp. There is another *Ngaere* in *North Auckland*.

Ngahape: *Auckland*, 22km from *Otorohanga*. *Lit. nga:* the; *hape:* cripples or hunchbacks. Here, and in another locality of the same name in *Masterton* County, the name was possibly given because of cripples or hunchbacks who lived there, though it may have been applied because of the shape of the hills in the neighbourhood.

Ngahauranga: See *Ngauranga*.

Ngahere: *Nelson*, 24km from *Greymouth*. *Lit.* forest.

Ngahinapouri: *Auckland*, 25km from *Hamilton*. Possibly a corruption of *Ngahinepouri*; *lit. nga:* the; *hine:* girls; *pouri:* sad. *R. M. Startup* says that a *Maori* resident said that a woman who lost her husband or lover in a tribal battle refused to be comforted. She left the tribe and built a *whare* on one of the two flats and lived alone. If this tradition is correct *hina*, which means grey hair, was evidently used to describe the woman.

Ngaio: *Wellington*, a suburb of *Wellington*. *Lit.* a native tree (*Myoporum laetum*). *Sir William Fox* built his home here and called it *Crofton*. He later purchased land at *Marton* and built another house which he also called *Crofton*. In order to avoid confusion, the name *Crofton* in *Wellington* was changed to *Ngaio* on 12 August 1908, while the earlier name *Crofton* was retained for the mini-suburb *Crofton Downs*.

Ngaiouni: *Marlborough*, 10km from *Ward*. *Lit. ngaio:* a native tree (see above); *nui:* large, or many.

Ngakawau: *Nelson*, 30km from *Westport*. *Lit. nga:* the; *kawau:* shags (*Phalacrocorax* of several species). The nearby river was a favourite resort for shags.

Ngakuru: *Auckland*, 24km from *Rotorua*. *Lit.* to drop off, to be set (as fruit).

Ngakuta Bay: *Marlborough*, *Port Underwood*. The name seems to have


Macandrew Bay
Dunedin

Monday, 15 May 1995

The Chief Executive
~~Aotearoa~~ New Zealand Post
Wellington

Fax (04) 496 ~~4000~~ 4418

'Aotearoa New Zealand'

Today I purchased a new series of 80 cent stamps and was surprised to find that New Zealand has a dual name of 'Aotearoa New Zealand'.

For the reasons outlined below, does this mean that your trading operations are now confined to the North Island and that stamps posted in Te Wai Pounamu (South Island) and Rakiura (Stewart Island) are no longer accepted as 'legal tender'?

To be historically correct, the name 'Aotearoa' applies to only the North Island. It is one of several Maori names for that offshore Island. Historically, and pre-historically, there was no singular Maori name for the three islands now known as New Zealand. This is because, pre-European contact, there was no Maori concept of one place or land encompassing the North, South, and Stewart Islands. Maori were not a single nation and therefore had no words or geographic description that reflected unity.

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I suggest that in future New Zealand Post fully researches the wording of its stamps before jumping on a 'politically correct' bandwagon and causing us mainlanders geographical confusion!

Yours sincerely



Bruce Mason
Researcher

New Zealand Post

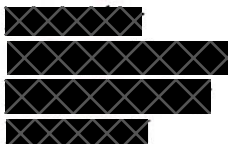


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17 May 1995

Bruce Mason Esq



Dear Bruce

Thank you for your letter of 15 May 1995 concerning Aotearoa New Zealand. I have noted your comments and suggestions.

The New Zealandia Encyclopaedia third edition Page 21 states "Aotearoa is the Maori name for NZ, although originally it was used only for the North Island ..." [underlining mine].

Editorial staff of the Encyclopaedia consist of Margaret Forde, Tracey Borgfeldt, Janet Bateman, Hamish Keith, Professor Frank Newhook, Claudia Orange, Meremere Penfold and Joan Robb.

The publisher's note states the publisher welcomes any views or information which will enhance future editions. You may wish to take the matter up in a more learned forum.

Yours sincerely

ELMAR TOIME
Chief Executive

3 pages total

To Kim Hill (04) 474 1876
National Radio

Some further background
to your coverage on
this issue this morning

Monday, 15 May 1995

The Chief Executive
Aotearoa New Zealand Post
Wellington

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Reed AW

*1 ✓ A dict. of M. place names 1961
Cen PL / 6465 / 25 / R985

ditto 1908-1979.

Hoc. / PL / 6465 / 25 / R986 / 1985 *

✓ Reed AW

Place Names of NZ 1908-1979
Cen DU / 414 / R986

" " Supplem. to Place Names of NZ

Cen DU / 414 / R986 / Suppl.



M. pl. names: their origins & meanings 1992. *

Hoc DU / 412 / R4 / M928

Hoc open 27/2 / 95

*1 North Island = Eahiomaawe
Nukuro
Te Ika-a-Maui

South Island = Arahura
Arapoqa
Kaikoura
Mahunui
Te Wai Pounamu
Te Waka-a-Maui

Stewart Island = Rakiura
Te Puka-a-Maui

Fletcher, H.J.

Index to Maori names

Tea Rora - One of the Maori names of NZ. A canoe.

Polynesian Journal

1892 I. 66. 216

1893 II. 204. 230. 247

1894 III 14. ~~37. 59. 64. 65. 71~~

V. 235

VII 58. 63 — p. 63. alternative name = Hukurangi

— ~~III~~ 175. 188. 197

— VIII. 114. 179. 183

1900 IX 180. 200. 203. ~~226~~1901 X 110. 114-119. ~~135. 165~~Te Whanga-nui-A-Tara pp 107-165
p. 114 Aotearoa - "The great White World"

XI 52. 253

XII 61. 121

XVI 46. 52. 59. 120. 146. 193. 196. 200. 220

XIX 212. 219. 200

XXII 127. 130. 149. 151. 190. 195

XXIII 12. 16. 31. 76. 112. 177. 206-217

XXIV 21. 28. 43. 104. 111

XXVI 146. 156

XXVII 105

XXVIII 16-19

XXIX 29. 31. 140

XXXII 118. 212

XXXIII 330

1st. issue
336 Ko Aotearoa, (or the) Maori Recorder / Hanover.
pp 24. Jan. 1861

Second no Jan. 1862 called "Recorder ad Aotearoa"
pp 16.

paper edited & published by Mr C.O. Davis

Series.

Dom. Museum Monograph No. 7.

A bibliography of printed Maori to 1900
(and supplement)

Herbert W. Williams
ATR Shearer, Govt. printer, 1975

Claim that Aotearoa for (all of NZ) by Kupe!