

He korero iti

Maori TV documentary

Television New Zealand is embarked on a major documentary called the Natural World of the Maori scheduled for release in 1985. The documentary covers pre-pakeha times to the present day and is being produced by Ray Waru.

Both kaumatua and the media get a look at the filming plans at a hui on Ihumatao marae, Mangere on February 18 and 19th.

Ray Waru says up until now the crew has been filming wildlife footage, and the main filming should be underway after discussion at the hui on how some subject areas should be treated.

Marae visit

A marae visit featured as part of the Asia Pacific Broadcasting conference which was recently held in Auckland.

About 120 delegates from all over the Pacific and other parts of the world attended the conference to come together and discuss developments in broadcasting. In the last stage of their two-week conference they were given a tour around Auckland. "We wanted to relax the delegates just for one day and show them what New Zealand is really about," said Mr Bill Earl, one of the coordinators of the conference.

The delegates were taken to sheep shearing and top dressing displays, a deer farm, a dog show and then a trip to the Hoani Waititi marae in West Auckland.

"These people are used to such diversity in their own countries and we wanted to show them our bi-cultural society," said Mr Earl. "They were very interested in the marae and asked many questions about it."

"We were grateful to be able to learn about the marae and the meeting house," said Mr Abdullah Mohamad, the Director-General of Broadcasting in Malaysia. "It was overwhelming. I feel

the meeting house is more than that, it is a spiritual house."

After tea, the delegates were entertained by the Maori culture group from Avondale High School who came second in the Auckland Secondary Schools' Polynesian Festival. Afterwards, Dr Peter Sharples and two workers from the marae demonstrated the use of the taiaha.

Maatua whangai

A programme to decrease the number of young Maori people going into penal institutions is now underway.

Maatua Whangai, which means foster parenting, is a programme designed to use the whanau (extended family) of each community to care for and support individual families and young people at risk. Instead of sending these young people to institutions, they may be diverted to suitable fostering families for care and attention.

This system was used successfully by the Maori tribal committees from the 1930's to 1950's. It has now been officially recognised by the government as a way to cut down the high percentage of young Maori offenders in New Zealand institutions.

There are many families throughout NZ able to provide whanau care for these Maori youth. Already New Zealanders have seen the success of Te Kohanga Reo, Kokiri units and Tu Tangata showing Kokiritia, the advancement of the Maori people.

Many of the young people appearing in court have either unstable family lives or cannot, for some reason or another, live at home. Here are some typical case studies.

One boy is staying with relatives who already have a large immediate family to care for. He has turned to drinking heavily and burglary because he has no job or income.

A young girl's parents work overtime and are often irate when they get home. If she does something wrong she is beaten. She runs away from home and sleeps at the homes of friends.

Another case load is of a young lady whose only misfortune was to be born a Maori then adopted by European parents when very young.

As the parents became very prominent in society this lady became an embarrassment. Feeling unwanted and lost, she ran away and was passed from family to family.

These are the kind of young people needing a stable home and family to offer security.

If you are interested in this programme or know of any family who may be interested, please contact your local Maori Affairs or Social Welfare office.

Art being used as therapy

A Wellington woman is using art to give confidence to young people under the umbrella of the matua whangai programme. Tui Hamon says a lot of the young people that she has worked with have untapped talent in the art field. She has been granted money for a three month work programme which utilises referrals from the courts.

Tui speaks highly of her pupils from the Epuni Boys Home and what they have achieved. Several murals have been completed for community groups and Tui says people are enthusiastic about the change in the pupils.

"Instead of young people being institutionalised and made to feel worthless, they see that there is something of value that they can do."

Tui who is an artist herself, says the therapeutic value of the artwork cancels out the sense of personal inadequacy.

She encourages emotional free form work, and then hard edge murals where the routines are kept simple. She's had most success with this type of therapy where boredom and even aggressiveness are relieved by the outlet of painting.

Korero iti

The real revelation for me among the indigenous five-minute spaces was *Te Karere*. Just as I'd never watched *See Here* before, so I'd never watched the News in Maori before. It was a salutary shock to feel an illiterate in my own country. It was a shock also to watch five minutes of a totally professional presentation with occasional moments of comprehension and to realise that as far as I can ascertain, none of those items appeared on the Network News. What price separatism?

I've no idea how Maori people feel about *Te Karere*; whether for them it's a service, a token, an obligation or a fingerhold. I found it dislocating, strangely impressive and unmistakably rich. I also found it followed by *The Young Doctors*.

David Hill NZ Listener

Design a logo for Te Kohanga Reo Trust Incorporated

A design logo is needed for Te Kohanga Reo and \$150 is offered to the successful designer. The competition is open to all, with the main requirement being that the design incorporate the ideals of Te Kohanga Reo, the language nest.

Entries should be finished artwork in black and white or colour. The competition closes Friday March 16, 1984 and the judging will be carried out by the Te Kohanga Reo executive committee.