

Winner of te Kohanga Reo logo competition

Te Purapura Pai Kohanga Reo, Birkdale College, Auckland has won the 'design a logo for the Te Kohanga Reo competition,' worth \$150.

The Kohanga is based at the whare wananga and shares with students, weaving and carving work skills development trainees and cultural and community groups.

In 1983 a young trainee created the Kohanga design. The carving supervisor carved the design, now displayed in the whareniui.

Judging of the many design entries was done by the Te Kohanga Reo executive committee and the logo will be used nationwide.

Some of the design entries are shown in the following feature.



Kohanga Reo

In the following paragraphs you will meet nine fictitious characters. Let them introduce themselves, then use your own imagination to write the play which might follow.

Lorraine Tarrant

Kuini

'My mokopuna, they go to te kohanga reo. It warms my heart to hear them korero. My own kids, no, when they were little it wasn't right for them to speak maori. Koro and me wanted them to make good in this pakeha world, and in their pakeha school. And they did, most of them, Our Rose, she got School Cert., she's got a job at the Post Office now. We're proud of our Rose. She works hard, and she's a good mother to our moko. When I went to school the teacher growled us if we spoke maori, so we learned english pretty quick. But at home it was always maori. Ah yes, music to these old ears to hear my mokopuna run to their nanny with their singing voices.'

Rose

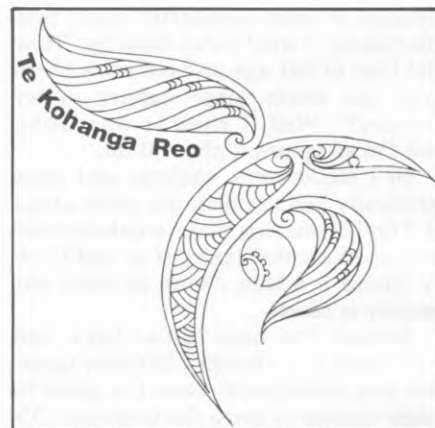
I read a lot of things in the papers these days. We want things better in schools for our children. They say there are going to be bilingual schools, that they're going to train people and get more maori teachers. That'll be good. My two youngest are at the kohanga reo. It's great. They've got something precious that I missed out on. I only wish I could speak maori too — but they talk english to me. When they talk to mum, she makes them speak maori, and

they understand what she's saying. Terangi went to kohanga reo too, but he's gone to school now. His teacher's pakeha.

Sonny and mum get cross at how Terangi pronounces his maori words sometimes, because his teacher does it wrong. But for me, secretly, I feel ashamed. I know she's going to night classes to learn maori. She says it's hard, and asked me if I'd help her. I was too whakama to tell her I don't know much myself. I should be doing what she's doing. But what with four kids and a full time job, I don't have the time. Anyway I'd feel really stink, going to classes where there's a whole lot of pakehas, and me being maori, and not knowing my own language.'

Sonny

'I speak a bit of maori. I wouldn't speak on the marae, but I know enough to get by. My kids are going to speak it better than me. Boy... you should hear those little ones. Rose's mum says it's like music to her ears... and she's right. Trouble is, Terangi comes home with these words all wrong. That pakeha teacher of his... boy she's got a bloody cheek. I told Rose to go and give her a good telling off, but you know what



women are.... It's our language, and our people are the only ones who have the right to teach it. The schools should get maori teachers or leave it alone.'

Terangi

'I'm five, I'm big now. When I was only little, I went to te kohanga reo. It was neat there; lots of singing, and playing, and all the nannies. I'm big now. I go to school. I've got a flash school-bag and a red lunch-box. My teacher, she's nice to us. She keeps asking me how to say things. Sometimes I don't know what she's talking about. I learnt another way to say hello, it's Tena Kway. There's a song about it too. I thought it was neat, but Day got real cross when I sang it. Maybe it's just a school song.'

Aroha

'I'm seven. I'm in room 4 and Mrs Smith is my teacher. We do lots of stuff at school — pictures that go all over the walls, and speriments, and plays and lots of games, and I'm in the Rainbow