Maori Actor Wows Critics

Expatriate kiwis form the basis of a New Zealand play that wowed the critics in Britain and is due for showing in this country. 'Leaving home' written and presented by Kiwi/Londoner Barbara Ewing features herself and fellow New Zealand actors Martyn Sanderson and Hemi Ropata.

Based on about 40 New Zealanders who did 'leave home', it took a year of research and writing with the subjects ranging from writers like Katherine Mansfield to scientists (Earnest Rutherford), mountaineers (Edmund Hilary) and sportsmen (Chris Laidlaw).

Half a dozen are maori including Te Rangi Hiroa (Sir Peter Buck), Inia Te Wiata and Maggie Papakura, a Ngati Wahiao princess from Rotorua who came to England in 1911.

Hemi Ropata says the show was a great hit at the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland and also in London. He says reviewers made amusing remarks about the fact that there was a 'live' maori in the show and audiences were even more amazed to discover that he spoke perfect English, wore clothes, and didn't go around all day with a protruding tongue and grass skirt.

In the play Hemi plays pakeha and Maori parts, and his performance moved one reviewer to remark "his rendition of the Maori war cry sends fear up the spine".

Letters To The Editor

Tena Koe

In your first issue, an article by Selwyn Muru, namely "Ratana Birth Rebirth", states Mr Reo Hura, the President of the Church as being "the last surviving member of Ratana's children".

Mrs Pikiora Tamou is T.W. Ratana's youngest daughter and she still lives in Ratana, thus two children survive, not one as the article implies.

Kia Ora Raewyn Tararoa (Turakina)

Dear Editor

Thank you for the chance to inform your readers of my candidacy. I hope to meet as many of them as possible before the election as well as after.

All candidates this election must be particularly sensitive to the needs of youth. I have enjoyed some great discussions with young maoris on such areas as education, employment and remedial policies, moral issues, fm radio and sales tax on records and taxation. The 1981 election will be the most important in modern times, and Tu Tangata magazine provides a vital service in allowing readers to assess their vote and their future.

Yours Sincerely, Charles Little, Eastern Maori Candidate.

Dear Editor

Greetings. I would like to introduce myself to you; your magazine and the Maori people; as being something I believe, no other Maori person has achieved before. That is I have been contracted to ride for Team Honda Australia (Queensland) in all national road racing events here in Australia. This year I will be riding a 750cc production (road going model) bike, next

year will see the release of some incredible new ideas in 2 wheeled transports.

I was back in New Zealand last November for the Castrol 6-hour race at Manfield. My father had a copy of your magazine which I thought was very interesting. But what I thought may add some interest was news on Maori people abroad as we are ambassadors to our race as much as the New Zealand. So this is the reason why I am

writing to you, hoping to make my name familiar to the people back home.

The past 2 seasons have been my most serious years, competing all over Australia and New Zealand gaining 2 lap records this year with many wins and placings. I have 2 Queensland titles to my credit, a 250cc and a 750cc production title.

Charles Wilkie Australia.

TU TANGATA WANTS YOU

Tu Tangata welcomes contributions to the magazine, be they articles, letters or photographs. We want to know what interests you the reader and how we can share the interest.

Tu Tangata wants to reflect the interests and opinions of a wide section of the Maori community and to do this needs readers' support. We're on the lookout for good photographs, stories, poetry and news items and to give a guideline of what we want, we've prepared some tips.

- a. Copy (i.e. articles, stories, etc.) should be presented as follows:—
- 1. Typed double-spaced.
- 2. One side of the paper only.
- 3. A margin of at least 1 inch either side.
- Pages clearly headed and numbered.

While final editorial checking will be done within Maori Affairs, due care should be taken by contributors to ensure that text is properly spelt, punctuated, etc., and that typing is clean and legible. Typesetters and printers are almost always unfamiliar with Maori, so names, phrases etc. should be typed with particular care.

b. Photographs should be black and white glossy prints: colour prints do not reproduce very well when printed in black and white for the magazine.

All photographs should whereever possible, be fully captioned, e.g. identifying venue, occasion, full names of people, etc.

- 1. Be specific about dates, places and names.
- 2. Remember that the kind of language used for official reports may not be suitable for a magazine. Readers are reading for entertainment as well as for information.
- 3. Conversely, avoid being overchatty or using slang.
- Paragraphs and sentences are best kept reasonably short.

For further information or advice, contact the Editor, Philip Whaanga at Maori Affairs 720-588, ext. 27