

Te Tiriti ki te Manuao Herara

Herald–Bunbury sheet

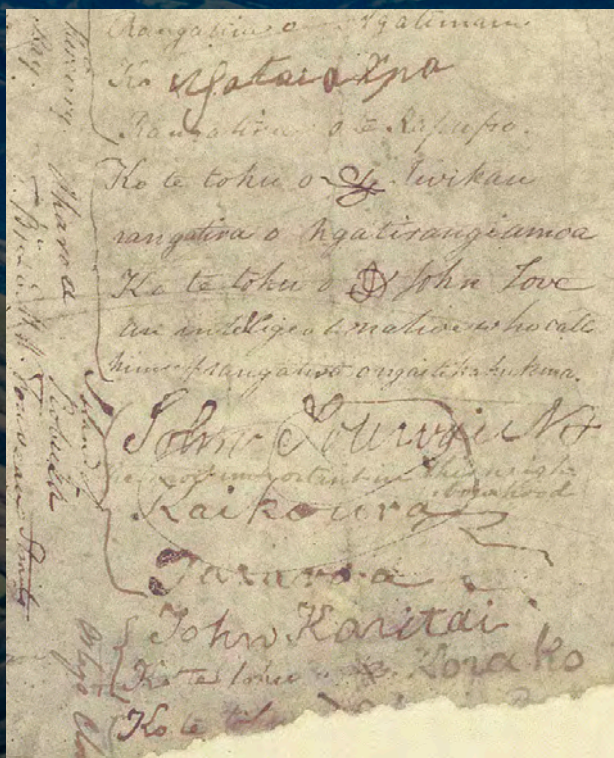


Te Rūnanga o NGĀI TAHU

Herald–Bunbury sheet

The document subsequently known as Te Tiriti o Waitangi was negotiated and first signed at a large meeting at Waitangi, in the Bay of Islands, during 5-6 February 1840. This document was then taken to further meetings in the north for additional signatures. Longhand copies were also made and dispatched for signing in other parts of Te Ika a Māui (North Island) and Te Waipounamu (South Island). Among these copies was Te Tiriti ki te Manuao Hērara, the Herald-Bunbury sheet. Seven Ngāi Tahu rangatira signed this copy.

The Herald-Bunbury sheet is a copy of the Māori-language version of Te Tiriti. The Māori text was prepared by the missionary Henry Williams and his son Edward who were fluent in the Ngāpuhi dialect but unfamiliar with the language of southern Māori. Edward Williams joined the *Herald* as interpreter but some accounts suggest he struggled to communicate with Ngāi Tahu on account of dialectical differences. The *Herald's* pilot, William Stewart, who was acquainted with Ngāi Tahu communities, was present at all of the Ngāi Tahu signings and is likely to have assisted with communication. According to historian Robert McNab, a Māori with knowledge of the Ngāpuhi dialect also assisted the Crown officials in their conversation with Tūhawaiki at Ruapuke.



Detail of ngā tohu rangatira, the Ngāi Tahu signatures on Te Tiriti ki te Manuao Hērara (the Herald-Bunbury Treaty Sheet). Te Tiriti ki te Manuao Hērara - HMS Herald sheet (R25403768) 1840 – 1840, ACGO 8341 Box 8/9 - Sheet 7, Archives New Zealand.



Ngā Tohu Rangatira

The Ngāi Tahu signatories

On 29 April 1840 Major Thomas Bunbury left the Bay of Islands on HMS *Herald* captained by Joseph Nias to obtain signatures on Te Tiriti. Bunbury was accompanied by Edward Marsh Williams as interpreter. En route to Te Waipounamu, Bunbury obtained signatures from rangatira at Coromandel and off the Mercury Islands. At the Mercury Islands, a former sealer William Stewart joined the *Herald* as pilot. He had spent time in Te Waipounamu and had a knowledge of southern Māori communities and the southern dialect.

The *Herald* then headed south to Akaroa where Iwikau and Tikao signed Te Tiriti at Ōnuku on 30 May by placing their marks beside their respective names which were written by Williams as 'Iwikau' and 'John Love'. The *Herald* proceeded to Rakiura (Stewart Island) where British sovereignty was claimed by right of discovery on 5 June. Notwithstanding this declaration, the vessel sailed to Ruapuke Island to seek further signatures.

On 9 June, Tūhawaiki boarded the *Herald* and placed his mark on Te Tiriti. His name, appearing as 'John Touwaik', was written on the parchment by a Mr Hesketh, who was 'secretary' for Tūhawaiki and agent of whaling magnate John Jones. The following day, at the request of Tūhawaiki, two other chiefs at Ruapuke also 'signed' Te Tiriti on board the ship. Their names, 'Kaikoura' and 'Taiaroa/Tararoa', were written on the parchment by William Stewart.

The *Herald* then headed north to Ōtākou where the signatures of 'Karitai' and 'Korako' were obtained. Their names were also written on the Treaty by Williams. Korako marked his name but Karetai did not. Despite this, Ngāi Tahu have always regarded Karetai as a signatory. This brought the total number of Ngāi Tahu signatories to seven.

The tohu (signatures) made by the Ngāi Tahu rangatira alongside their names on Te Tiriti are highlighted in red in this document to make them more visible. On the original Herald-Bunbury sheet, the names and tohu are written in brown ink.

Akaroa, 30 May 1840

*Ko te tohu o Iwikau
rangatira o ngatirangiamoa*

Iwikau

Iwikau signed Te Tiriti at Ōnuku in Akaroa harbor on 30 May 1840. He was from Kaiapoi and resident at Puari in Koukourarata (Port Levy) where he was the acknowledged leader of several hundred people who had settled there following a series of battles with Ngāti Toa. His status among the people of Horomaka (Banks Peninsula) was such that land sales on the peninsula to the French or the English did not proceed unless he agreed. During his lifetime, Iwikau was a major advocate for his people. A note next to his name on Te Tiriti describes Iwikau as a 'rangatira o ngatirangiamoa', a chief of Ngāti Rakiamoa, an eminent hapū of Ngāi Tahu.



Iwikau by Charles Meryon. Trustees of the British Museum.

*He te tohu o John Love
an intelligent native who calls
himself rangatira o ngai tikahukura.*

Tikao

Tikao, also known as John Love, Hone Tikao and Piuraki, signed Te Tiriti at Ōnuku in Akaroa harbour on 30 May 1840. He was born at Tikao Bay and lived at various places on Horomaka throughout his lifetime. In the 1830s he travelled as a sailor on a whaling ship, where he adopted the English name John Love. He visited Europe where he acquired skills in mathematics and European languages. As negotiations for the sale of vast amounts of Ngāi Tahu land proceeded in the 1840s, Tikao consistently protested against the Crown negotiators, and sometimes his own people, for accepting underpayment. He had a good understanding of land values and knew that Ngāi Tahu were being poorly treated. A note next to his name on Te Tiriti describes him as 'an intelligent native who calls himself rangatira o ngatikahukura'. Thomas Bunbury reported that Tikao was well-dressed, intelligent, and spoke English better than any other Māori he had met.



Tikao by Charles Meryon. Rex Nan Kivell Collection, National Library of Australia, Canberra.

Rakiura, 5 June 1840



H.M.S. Herald in Sylvan Cove, Stewart Island, 1840. Sketch by E. M. Williams, A-083-005 Alexander Turnbull Library.

On 4 June 1840 the *Herald* anchored at Pikihatiti (Port Pegasus) at the southern end of Rakiura (Stewart Island), which its pilot William Stewart knew well. Finding the area uninhabited, Bunbury concluded it was unlikely they would find any Ngāi Tahu on the island. He and Captain Nias therefore declared British sovereignty over Rakiura by right of Captain Cook's 'discovery'. However, many Ngāi Tahu were living on Rakiura at the time, especially in the vicinity of Te Whaka a Te Wera (Paterson Inlet) to the north-east.

On 5 June Bunbury and a number of marines landed near their Pikihatiti anchorage, raised the Union Jack and read a proclamation. The original copy of the proclamation was put inside a bottle and buried on an island nearby that became a peninsula at low water. HMS *Herald* then fired a salute.



The proclamation in a bottle has been searched for many times over the years. In the 1930s, historian Lindsay Buick and the New Zealand Navy made an unsuccessful attempt to find it. Its location remains a mystery. Despite the apparent annexation of Rakiura, Bunbury then set about acquiring signatures from rangatira in the Te Ara a Kiwa (Foveaux Strait) region.

SEARCH FOR A BOTTLE

LOST PROCLAMATION

BRITISH SOVEREIGNTY AT PEGASUS

MR T. L. BUICK'S QUEST

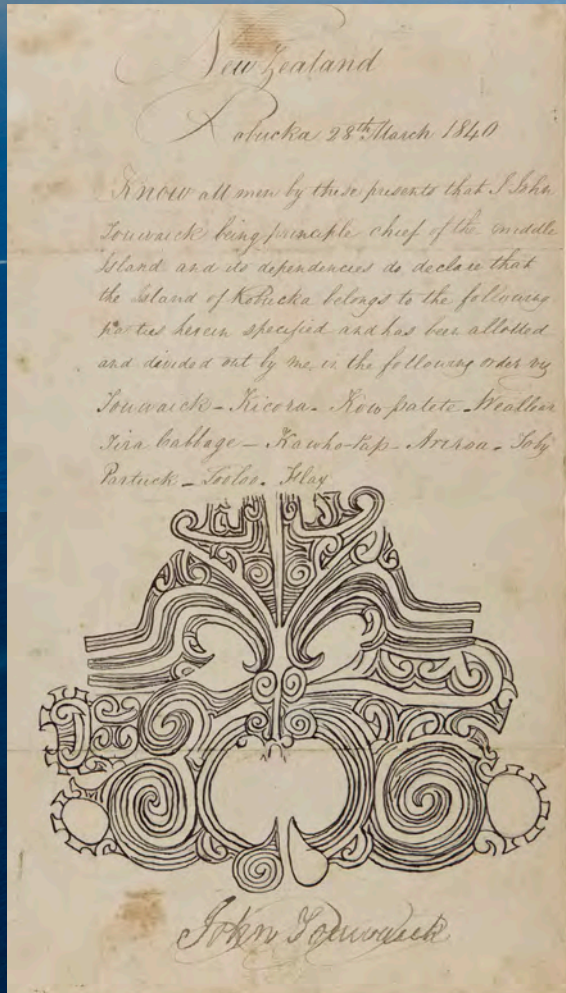
A search for a copy of the proclamation declaring British sovereignty which is believed to have been buried at Port Pegasus, Stewart Island, will be made this week by the ship's company of H.M.S. Dunedin under the direction of Mr T. Lindsay Buick, C.M.G., the New Zealand historian. Captain Nias, commander of H.M.S. Herald, read the proclamation in June, 1840, and left a copy of it in a bottle which he buried in a spot described in the ship's log. Mr Buick has extracts from the log and he hopes from these directions to find the document.

H.M.S. Dunedin, which is the flagship of Commodore the Hon. E. R. Drummond, will leave Bluff for Port Pegasus at 9 o'clock this morning. She is not making a special visit to the island to locate the proclamation. She was scheduled to call there, and the request of Mr Buick to go to Port Pegasus with her was readily agreed to. Also on board is Mr Edgar Stead, of Christchurch, the well-known authority on New Zealand bird life.


The directions contained in H.M.S. Herald's log are not very clear, and difficulty will probably be experienced in finding the bottle. It is buried on an island which becomes a peninsula at low water. The exact place where the bottle is buried is not known, and the fact that the bays and inlets of Port Pegasus, in many instances, carry more than one name will add to the searchers' difficulties.

*Unprovenanced newspaper clipping, 9 March 1936,
Alexander Turnbull Library, MS 1817-4.*

Ruapuke, 9-10 June 1840



The moko of Tūhawaiki on the Declaration of ownership of Robucka (Ruapuke Island) by Tūhawaiki, 28 March 1840, Hocken Library, University of Otago, MS-0808/B.



John Tūhawaiki

Tūhawaiki

Tūhawaiki signed Te Tiriti on board the *Herald* at Ruapuke on 9 June 1840. Known as 'Bloody Jack' by whalers, Tūhawaiki was the most powerful rangatira in southern Te Waipounamu at the time. He signed wearing 'a full dress staff uniform of a British aide-de-camp, with gold lace trousers, cocked hat, and plume'. He had his own trained bodyguard of 20 men, clothed and equipped as British soldiers. A note next to his name on Te Tiriti describes this rangatira as 'the most important in the neighbourhood'. Tūhawaiki was an astute businessman and highly influential figure in the early years of sustained European contact. At the time of signing, Tūhawaiki also produced his own written declaration confirming that Ruapuke belonged to him.



Kaikōura

Kaikōura

Kaikōura signed Te Tiriti on board the *Herald* at Ruapuke on 10 June 1840. The identity of this signatory is uncertain. Descendants of Kaikōura-based rangatira Kaikōura Whakatau believe it records his name. The Otago-based rangatira Kaikōareare (also known as Whaikai or 'Bigfellow'), who was a frequent companion of Tūhawaiki, is another possible candidate. Kaikōareare signed several land sales documents between 1839 and 1844 on which variant spellings of his name appear, including 'Kicora.' A man named Timoti Kaikōura is also a possibility. A further explanation is that Tūhawaiki, cognisant of the significance of the document, placed the name of Kaikōura on the document by proxy – a practice he employed four years later on the Otago Deed.

Taiaroa

Taiaroa

Taiaroa (or Tararoa) also signed Te Tiriti on board the *Herald* on 10 June 1840. Like Kaikōura, the identity of this signatory is unclear. The Otago-based rangatira Te Mātenga Taiaroa is the obvious candidate, but there is evidence that he was not at Ruapuke at the time. In fact, Major Bunbury called in at Ōtākou in an attempt to find him but was told that he was further north at Moeraki. As with Kaikōura, it is also possible that Tūhawaiki placed the name of Taiaroa on the document by proxy. Some have suggested that the name is actually 'Tararoa' however there is no record of a person of this name in Ngāi Tahu whakapapa.

Ōtākou, 13 June 1840

Ko te tohu o  Korako

Korako

Korako signed Te Tiriti at Otago Heads on 13 June 1840. Again, there are several potential candidates for the identity of this signatory. Hone Wetere Korako and Korako Karetai were both senior rangatira living at Pukekura (Taiaroa Head) at the time. 'Old Korako' is another possibility: an elderly rangatira who lived at Waikouaiti and who may have been visiting Pukekura.



Ships at anchor near Ōtākou pā, 1840. Hand coloured lithograph by P. Blanchard after a drawing by Louis Le Breton, Hocken Library, University of Otago, 91/40.



John Karetai

Karetai

Karetai signed Te Tiriti at Otago Heads on 13 June 1840. Known by whalers as 'Jacky White', Karetai was a leading rangatira at Ōtākou on the Otago Peninsula when the Weller Brothers' whaling station operated there in the 1830s and 1840s. In 1833, with Tūhawaiki, he participated in the first successful counter-attack against Te Rauparaha in northern Te Waipounamu. Karetai visited Sydney on several occasions and engaged in a number of land sales prior to the signing of Te Tiriti. He later signed several official land sale deeds. Edward Marsh Williams noted that Karetai was 'a man of some consequence' in the Otago region.

He Rā Whakamahara

Te Tiriti o Waitangi frames Ngāi Tahu understandings of New Zealand's constitution and governance frameworks. As such, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu marks Waitangi Day – a public holiday held each year on 6 February – with rotational hui on each of the papatipu marae closest to the three places

Ngāi Tahu rangatira signed the Herald-Bunbury copy of Te Tiriti. These events are thus shared in turn by Ōnuku (near Akaroa on Banks Peninsula), Awarua (Bluff), and Ōtākou (near Dunedin). Hosted by Ngāi Tahu whānau, these gatherings are important forums for reflecting on the place of Te Tiriti in our shared past, present and future.



Te Rūnanga o NGĀI TAHU

Produced by the Ngāi Tahu Archive team 2019.

This information draws upon research undertaken by the team for *He Tohu* at the National Library of New Zealand.