



# 1970s Protest Photos Exhibition

## — TIMELINES —

This exhibition provides a glimpse of protest action in Aotearoa New Zealand in the 1970s. The timelines in this booklet detail key events, as a reference while you look at the photos. You are welcome to take it away — we suggest a \$5 donation — or you can return it to the box provided.

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# 1970s Protest Photos NZ

This booklet was first produced to accompany the 1970s Protest Photos NZ ‘*Where were you in ’72?*’ exhibition held in Wellington in 2023. We are excited to be holding a second exhibition in Palmerston North at Square Edge Community Arts Centre from 1–26 May 2024.

The 1970s Protest Photos NZ steering group believe it is important to record and keep alive information from the 1970s. Some of us are photographers and most of us were active in social movements back then. You can view the photos, text and timelines from both exhibitions on our website: [www.1970sprotestphotos.nz](http://www.1970sprotestphotos.nz)

**To contact** the 1970s Protest Photos Archive Project with offers of assistance, information or enquiries:

- email: [enquiry@1970sprotestphotos.nz](mailto:enquiry@1970sprotestphotos.nz)
- see also our Facebook page: [1970sprotestphotosNZ](https://www.facebook.com/1970sprotestphotosNZ)

**Feedback welcome:** If you spot any *factual errors* in these timelines, or notice *omissions* (and there are many!), please email us so we can make corrections and additions.

*The Anti-Apartheid timeline* was written by Trevor Richards. He has also provided a longer version: NZ Anti-Apartheid Timeline II. You can access that on our website, [www.1970sprotestphotos.nz](http://www.1970sprotestphotos.nz).

## Thanks to

- The group who initiated the 1970s Protest Photos NZ project: Anne Gilbert, David Jenkins, Chris Lipscombe, Chris Livesey, Jenny Rouse, Sue Ryall, Roger Steele, Keith Stewart, Paul Tolich & Hilary Watson.
- The group who put together the *1970s: Decade of Protest* exhibition in Manawatū: Dion Martin, Maryanne Mechen, Hilary Watson, Linda Burgess, Keith Stewart & Roger Steele.
- Workers and volunteers at Manawatū Heritage at the Palmerston North City Library who searched for protest photos and stories from that decade in the archives of the *Manawatū Standard*.
- The photographers: Gil Hanly, John Johnstone, John M Miller, Morrie Peacock, Patricia Sarr, Chris Slater, Keith Stewart, Hilary Watson, Ans Westra, and the newspaper photographers who captured some of these events.
- Others who contributed time, skills and knowledge: Margy-Jean Malcolm, Trish Hall, Therese O’Connell, Trevor Richards, Marie Russell, Dick Werry, Gavin Young & more who gave support in all sorts of ways.
- The courageous people from all walks of life who took action for change in the past, and those are doing so today.
- Square Edge Community Arts Centre for hosting the exhibition.

The exhibition *1970s: Decade of Protest* at Square Edge Manawatū is supported by Unions Manawatū and the *Manawatū Standard*, courtesy of Stuff Ltd, with assistance from NZCTU, Palmerston North City Library & Manawatū Heritage.

**Manawatū Standard**



# ANTI-APARTHEID timeline

## I. The backstory to NZ's opposition to apartheid

- 1921** During their first NZ tour the Springboks offend Māori with racist words and actions. For Māori the insults cut deep and are not forgotten.
- The NZ Rugby Football Union (NZRFU) bows to South African wishes and for more than thirty years refuses to select Māori for the 1928, 1949 and 1960 tours of South Africa. By 1960, opposition to such tours is substantial.
- 1959** In response to the NZRFU accepting another invitation to send an all-white team to South Africa, the Citizens' All Black Tour Association (CABTA) is formed to oppose racist sporting contacts. For more on this, see the Anti-Racism timeline.
- 1966** As the NZRFU prepares to send another all-white All Blacks team to South Africa in 1967, the NZ government intervenes: 'In this country we are one people; as such, as a nation, we cannot as a nation be truly represented in any sphere by a group chosen on racial lines.' The NZRFU declines the invitation to tour in 1967.

## II. The 1970 All Blacks tour of South Africa

- 1968** *May* NZ Federation of Māori Students passes a resolution at its annual conference opposing the 1970 All Blacks tour of South Africa.
- August* CARE (Citizens' Association for Racial Equality), formed in 1964, launches a national campaign against sporting contacts with South Africa.
- 1969** *February* Dennis Brutus, the exiled president of SANROC (South Africa Non-Racial Olympic Committee) tours NZ.
- 21 March* 2000 march in Auckland against the proposed 1970 All Blacks tour.
- April* University of Auckland Māori Club hires a bus and tours marae across the North Island, debating the All Blacks tour issue.
- 14 July* HART (Halt All Racist Tours) formed.
- September* Judith Todd, anti-apartheid campaigner and daughter of NZ-born Garfield Todd, Rhodesian prime minister 1953–58, tours NZ.
- 24 October* On United Nations Day, 1000 rally in Auckland to oppose the 1970 tour.
- 1970** *February* The NZ Race Relations Council formed in Hamilton. Sir Edmund Hillary is appointed Patron. Vice-presidents include the Māori Queen Dame Te Atairangikaahu. The Council expresses its unanimous opposition to the 1970 All Blacks tour of South Africa.
- May* 700 leading citizens take out full-page advertisements in daily newspapers in the four main centres publicising the United Nations call for NZ to stop supporting racist sport.
- May* Prime Minister Keith Holyoake meets delegation opposed to 1970 All Blacks tour.
- May* Protesters invade rugby field at All Blacks trials in Wellington.
- May* HART presents a petition to Parliament opposing 1970 tour.
- 11 June* Tour opponents rally outside Parliament at the farewell for the All Blacks.
- 12 June* On the eve of the All Blacks' departure, protesters march on Parliament and the NZRFU before gathering outside the All Blacks' hotel in central Wellington.
- 13 June* Protest at Wellington Airport as the All Blacks fly off to South Africa.

**13 June–August** All Blacks tour SA, Southern Rhodesia (today Zimbabwe) and South West Africa (today Namibia). Three Māori players and one of Samoan descent are regarded by South Africa as honorary whites.

### III. The 1973 Springboks tour of New Zealand

1971

**13 March** Visiting South African surf lifesavers compete against NZ at Waihi Beach. Two protesters carrying a poster proclaiming *South African Surf Brings Out the Team All White* walk onto the sand and into the line of the Grand Parade.

**31 March** By the end of March, both HART and CARE have announced policies of non-violent disruption of apartheid sport.

**26 June** A rally to mark South African Freedom Day draws 500 onto the streets in central Auckland protesting against forthcoming visits by SA women's hockey and golf teams.

**June** Deputy Prime Minister Jack Marshall says apartheid could be better countered by building bridges than by building walls.

**July** HART publishes a Protesters Guidebook to promote its policy of non-violent disruption. The visit to NZ by a South African women's hockey team is cancelled.

**September** South Africa cancels participation in the NZ Centennial Golf tournament.

**31 December** 100 demonstrate at Wellington airport as NZ women cricketers leave for a tour of South Africa.

1972

**Mid-February** The NZRFU writes to the whites-only South African Rugby Board (SARB) extending a formal invitation to South Africa to tour NZ in 1973.

**March** 500 attend APARTHEID — a conference to examine NZ's relationship with Racism and Colonialism in Southern Africa. High-ranked ANC official Frene Ginwala, visiting NZ on a nationwide tour, is a key speaker.

**21 March** Tom Newnham, Pat Hōhepa and Trevor Richards attend United Nations Special Committee Against Apartheid meeting in New York to discuss future action. Attendance at UN conferences becomes a feature of NZ anti-apartheid campaigning.

**April** 500 rally outside NZRFU AGM opposing 1973 tour.

**May** New prime minister Jack Marshall holds a conference of pro and anti-tour groups. His objective is to isolate HART and CARE from the more 'moderate' anti-apartheid voices. His strategy fails when Bishop Brian Ashby refuses to condemn the policies of HART and CARE.

**May** *HART News* begins publication as a monthly tabloid. First issue sells 7000 copies.

**September** The Rapporteur of the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid, Dr Barakat Ahmad, visits NZ on a ten-day speaking tour at the invitation of HART.

**November** During the 1972 general election campaign the ruling National Party declares in a full-page advertisements that it will 'not be blackmailed into cancelling the Springbok tour ... Not by the Federation of Labour ... Not by HART and CARE.'

**25 November** After twelve years of conservative National Party rule, Labour is elected with a 23-seat majority.

1973

**3 January** The Supreme Council for Sport in Africa (SCSA) calls on all Commonwealth countries in Africa to withdraw from participating in the 1974 Commonwealth Games in Christchurch, if NZ persists in receiving teams from racist sports organisations in South Africa.

**23 January** The prime minister sends NZRFU a report on the implications the tour has for law and order, NZ's international standing, and internal race relations.

**25 January** The Commonwealth Games Organising Committee writes to NZRFU advising that 20 or more countries will boycott the games if the rugby tour proceeds.

**5 February** NZRFU confirms 'arrangements for the tour are proceeding.'

**22 February** SARB rejects multi-racial trials.

**27 February** Norman Kirk tells a delegation from the pro-tour lobby that 'There is no evidence that I can find, that supports in any way the continuation of the tour.'

**9 April** Rugby grandstand at Papakura burnt down.

**10 April** At a crowded press conference, Norman Kirk announces that the Springboks tour is off. HART calls the decision 'a victory for the oppressed people of South Africa' and pledges to continue to work in their interests. In NZ in 1995, South African president Nelson Mandela tells Phillip Kirk, son of Norman Kirk, that learning of the 1973 tour's cancellation from his prison cell on Robben Island was the first time he thought that apartheid might actually be able to be ended within his lifetime.

#### IV. The 1975 general election

Prime Minister Norman Kirk dies on 31 August 1974. In the 1975 general election campaign National promises that if elected it will welcome the Springboks to NZ even if there are threats of violence and civil strife. On 29 November the National Party wins the 1975 election with a 23-seat majority.

#### V. The 1976 All Blacks tour of South Africa

1976

**January** Tanzanian 1500m world champion Filbert Bayi pulls out of a scheduled Auckland clash with NZ mile record holder John Walker because of NZ's policies on apartheid sport.

HART launches an international campaign against the visit of a South African softball team. Mexico and the Philippines withdraw. South African softballers participate in the World Cup series in Lower Hutt. They are the first apartheid team in five years to visit NZ. Over the period 1976–85, HART seeks to ensure the world understands NZ policies.

**March** SCSA president Abraham Ordia tells the *NZ Herald*, 'If New Zealand persists in its support for racist South Africa ... we will not take part in any competitions that New Zealand is also taking part in.' Prime Minister Muldoon says 'time will tell.' In January he had said he doubted whether African governments are very concerned by apartheid sport.

**May** Rallies against the rugby tour draw 4000 in Wellington; 3000 in Auckland; 2500 in Christchurch.

**4 June** Abraham Ordia invited by TV2 to NZ. Following the programme the prime minister attacks Ordia, who cuts short his visit. He is not going to stay to be insulted.

**16 June** High school students in Soweto, Johannesburg's largest black satellite city, protest against the introduction of Afrikaans as the medium of instruction in schools. At least 23 people are killed and 220 injured.

**22 June** The All Blacks depart for SA. Five Māori players and one of Samoan descent selected for the team are regarded by South Africa as honorary whites.

**29 June** Organisation of African Unity calls on the International Olympic Committee 'to bar NZ from competing at Montreal.'

**10 July** Tanzania announces that it is withdrawing from the Olympics.

**16 July** The IOC refuses to bar NZ from the games.

**17 July** Prime Minister Muldoon says the All Blacks have gone to SA with the government's 'blessing and goodwill'.

**18 July** Around 30 nations walk out of the Montreal Olympics.

**22 July** Muldoon alleges in Parliament that the international activities of certain 'dissident' New Zealanders, such as HART and CARE, 'border on treason'.

**November** Abraham Ordia tells a London press conference that none of the 14 black African Commonwealth nations will take part in the 1978 Edmonton Commonwealth Games unless NZ rejects, 'with words backed up by action' its current policies.

## VI. Drawing a curtain across the past

**1977** **28 May** Prime Minister Muldoon says he does not expect the issue of sporting contacts with South Africa to figure prominently at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in London.

**7 June** Leading up to CHOGM, HART distributes an international backgrounder outlining NZ's current sports policy to Commonwealth governments.

**12 June** New Zealanders protest outside Muldoon's hotel in London.

**15 June** At the prime ministers' retreat at Gleneagles in Scotland, a Commonwealth Declaration on Apartheid in Sport is discussed and adopted. In it, all Commonwealth states pledge to take 'every practical step to discourage contact or competition by their nationals with sporting organisations, teams or sportsmen from South Africa.'

**1 July** At Auckland airport on his return, the prime minister is repeatedly asked if there has been a change in the government's sports policy. An exasperated Muldoon replies, 'You'll have to work that out for yourselves.'

**August** At the United Nations World Conference Against Apartheid in Lagos, Nigeria's sports minister tells HART, 'Your man Muldoon insisted that each government must choose its own means as to how to stop sporting contacts, but it was accepted by all that by whatever means used, sporting contacts would be stopped.'

**1978** **May** Nigeria announces it will boycott the Edmonton Commonwealth Games. The government calls HART and CARE traitors and accuses them of 'sending overseas the usual low-grade, low-quality propaganda masquerading as fact.'

## VII. The 1981 Springboks tour of New Zealand

**1978** **October** HART announces a three-year campaign to stop the 1981 Springboks tour. In response, the prime minister says, 'It's very much up to the Rugby Union and they'll make up their own minds.'

**1979** HART launches an international campaign promoting a strengthened Gleneagles Agreement.

**February** Pretoria's Board of Censors bans all HART publications in South Africa.

**April** NZRFU AGM votes in favour of 1981 tour, but does not issue invitation.

**September** HART 'Stop the '81 Tour' planning conference held in Porirua.

**12 September** NZRFU issues an invitation to South Africa to tour NZ in 1981.

- 1980** Throughout 1980 the government is divided over the tour. Foreign Minister Brian Talboys urges the NZRFU not to proceed, but makes it clear the government will not interfere in the granting of visas. Backbench MPs and some cabinet ministers publicly support the tour.
- October* SANROC president Sam Ramsamy tours NZ. Over three weeks he visits and speaks in 14 centres.
- December* NZRFU releases the itinerary for the 1981 tour. It will run from 16 July to 12 September. There will be 16 matches, including three tests.
- 1981** The education work of anti-apartheid groups substantially increases. Hundreds of thousands of leaflets are published. Visiting speakers include SA newspaper editor Donald Woods and Andrew Molotsane from the black Allied Workers Union.
- 1 May** Between 65,000–75,000 march in a nationwide mobilisation against the tour — four times as large as the 1976 mobilisation.
- May* HART attends UN Conference for Sanctions Against Apartheid in Paris. The conference calls on the NZ government to deny visas to the Springboks.
- June* Sir Garfield Todd appeals to Muldoon to stop the tour. Everyone in the country has a view. Secondary teachers oppose the tour. City councils are split. Nurses are divided: 42 branches of the Nurses' Association are in favour of the tour; 39 against. All Blacks captain Graham Mourie and seven former All Blacks oppose the tour.
- June* In Parliament the Labour Party moves that, 'In the national interests of NZ, this House urges the NZRFU not to proceed with the proposed tour of NZ by the Springboks rugby team.' The government opposes the motion and the resolution is not passed.
- 3 July** 30 centres participate in a second national mobilisation against the 1981 tour. Police estimate up to 30,000 march in Auckland.
- 11 July** The opposition that the impending 1981 tour generates is unprecedented, but it fails to stop the tour. Anti-apartheid groups prepare to disrupt the tour.
- 16 July–12 September** Over the 56 days that the Springboks are in NZ, two matches are cancelled. Close on 2000 arrests are made. NZ comes close to civil war. The NZRFU makes a tax-free profit of \$900,000. In June 1982 the government discloses that the amount of public monies spent to defend the tour was \$7.2 million.
- October* The *NZ Herald* printed what it termed 'the final score': 54% against the tour; 42% in favour. The Springboks are not to return to NZ for another 13 years.

## VIII. 1982–94: The last years of apartheid

- 1982** The Commonwealth introduces a Code of Conduct that enables it to stop a country taking part in future Games 'for gross non-fulfilment of the objectives of the Gleneagles Agreement.'
- 1984** Labour wins the 1984 general election and immediately reimposes a ban on SA teams visiting NZ. The NZRFU votes to proceed with next year's All Blacks tour to South Africa.
- 1985** The High Court grants an injunction and stops the 1985 tour.
- 1990** In February, South African president FW de Klerk announces that he is unbanning the African National Congress, the South African Communist Party, and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), releasing Nelson Mandela, ending censorship and suspending executions.
- 1994** In South Africa's first non-racial, democratic elections, the ANC wins 62.65% of the vote. On 10 May, Nelson Mandela is sworn in as president of South Africa.

(See note on page 2 about extended timeline.)

# ANTI-RACISM timeline

*Discrimination against Māori in Aotearoa New Zealand remained widespread well into the 20th century. For example, in Pukekohe, South Auckland, Māori were barred from hotel bars and barbershops and restricted to the back stalls of the movie theatre until the early 1960s.*

- 1959** NZ's first organised nationwide opposition to racist sporting contacts in response to the Rugby Football Union accepting another invitation to send an all-white team to South Africa. Many prominent New Zealanders formed the Citizens' All Black Tour Association (CABTA).  
CABTA established more than 20 regional branches and mounted a vigorous campaign with the slogan, 'No Maoris, no tour.' Around 160,000 New Zealanders signed an anti-tour petition, and thousands around the country marched in protest. This was the biggest protest against racially selected sports teams in the world at that time. However, it did not persuade NZ's government to intervene to stop the tour, which went ahead in 1960.
- 1964** NZ's first specifically anti-racist organisation, Citizens Association for Racial Equality (CARE), was formed, led by Tom Newnham. CARE aimed to devote equal attention to racial questions in NZ and abroad. As well as protesting against the 1965 Springboks tour to NZ and an all-white All Blacks tour to South Africa planned for 1967, they began considering the problems faced by Māori and Pasifika people moving to the cities.  
CARE helps set up the first Citizens Advice Bureau and makes a submission opposing the Māori Affairs Amendment Act 1967, which allowed the confiscation of unused Māori land, but not unused land owned by Europeans.
- 1967** Māori Organisation On Human Rights (MOOHR) formed by Tama Te Kapua (Tom) Poata and members of the Wellington Drivers' Union.
- 1970** Ngā Tamatoa formed to campaign about Māori land, Māori language, and breaches of the Treaty of Waitangi.  
The All Blacks tour South Africa with Māori team members, who are declared to be 'honorary whites'. The same happened in 1976.
- 1971** The Polynesian Panthers Party is formed to target inequality and racial discrimination against Māori and Pacific Islanders in Auckland. As well as engaging in peaceful protests, the Panthers helped provide their communities with education, legal aid, and other social resources such as ESOL classes and youth community programmes.  
The Race Relations Act 1971 establishes the Office of the Race Relations Conciliator to promote positive race relations in NZ and to settle complaints of racial discrimination, racial harassment and incitement of racial disharmony.
- 1972** First Race Relations Conciliator Sir Guy Powles is appointed.
- 1973** The Labour government creates a special police task force to target Pacific Islanders whose temporary work permits have expired ('overstayers').  
Dawn raids by police on the homes of Pacific Island overstayers were a major concern of anti-racist groups.
- 1973** The Auckland Committee on Racism & Discrimination (ACORD) is established to research and expose institutional racism in the education, health and social welfare systems, as well as the police and the courts, and to promote biculturalism.  
Together with Ngā Tamatoa and the Polynesian Panther Party, ACORD helps set up the New Perspectives on Race group to provide anti-racism workshops in churches, community groups and government departments.



- 1974 CARE, Ngā Tamatoa, the Polynesian Panthers, trade unions and other groups picket the *Ocean Monarch* in Auckland to prevent it deporting Tongan overstayers. The ship's British crew supports the picket and refuses to sail with the overstayers on board. The government rushes through a new immigration policy the following day.
- Duty Solicitor Scheme set up to provide rostered solicitors in magistrate's and children's courts to provide legal information to defendants before they appear in courts.
- 1976 Amnesty Aroha formed in Wellington to defend the rights of Pasifika people and to oppose police raids on 'overstayers'.
- 1977 Human Rights Commission formed.
- 1978 Double Take and Urban Training to Combat Racism formed in Wellington, and Fight Against Institutional Racism formed in Palmerston North.
- 1982 Members of mainstream churches launch the Programme on Racism to educate fellow churchgoers.
- 1985 Project Waitangi, a national anti-racism programme, launched to educate NZ communities on the Treaty of Waitangi.
- 2021 Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern makes a formal government apology for the 1970s dawn raids.

**No sport with apartheid**

In March 1973 All Black Bob Burgess (Manawatū), recently returned from the All Blacks' tour of the UK and France, was invited to speak to the Anti-Apartheid Conference in Wellington. He is on the right, talking to Tom Newnham from the Citizens' Association for Racial Equality (CARE), left, and Trevor Richards of Halt All Racist Tours (HART).

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**Squash apartheid sport** — Protesters at the entrance to the Palmerston North Squash Centre in Linton Street in 1977. Bill Barton is third from the left and Karen Sole holds the main banner.

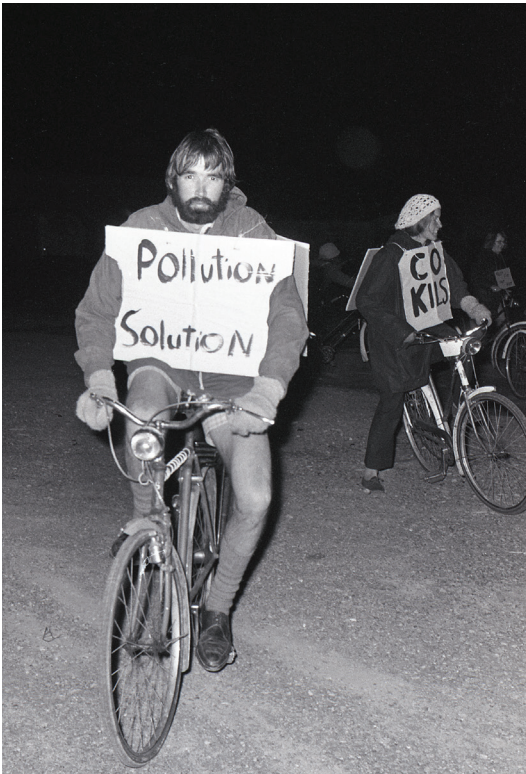
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# ENVIRONMENT timeline

- 1960 The government signs an agreement with Consolidated Zinc, handing over water rights to Lakes Manapōuri and Te Anau for 99 years to generate electricity for an aluminium smelter. The agreement includes the right to raise the level of Lake Manapōuri by up to 30 metres.
- 1969 'Save Manapōuri' campaign is launched.
- 1970 A petition with 265,000 signatures is presented to Parliament calling for Lake Manapōuri not to be raised. At the time, this was the largest petition ever presented to Parliament.
- 1971 The NZ Forest Service presents its proposal for large scale 'utilisation' of South Island beech forests (the 'Beech Scheme') to Parliament.
- 1972 The newly elected Kirk Labour government halts the plan to raise Manapōuri.
- 1972–79 Campaign to protect Whirinaki native forests from logging.
- 1973 The Beech Forest Action Committee (BFAC) is formed.  
The text of the Maruia Declaration is negotiated within the BFAC.  
The Maruia Declaration is launched and BFAC is reconstituted as the Native Forest Action Council (NFAC).  
The 'Beech Scheme' is sidelined by the government.  
The NZ Forest Service agrees to supply a sawmill in Whataroa, close to Ōkārīto, with 250,000 cubic metres of rimu and miro over 14 years.
- 1975–77 Campaign to protect the native forests around Ōkārīto from logging.
- 1975–87 Campaign to protect the native forests of the Paparoa Range from logging, resulting in the creation of the Paparoa National Park.
- 1976–78 Campaign to protect Pureora forest, home to giant podocarps and endangered birds such as kōkako, from logging.
- 1977 Horohoro native forest near Rotorua is saved.  
The Maruia Declaration petition with 340,000 signatures is presented to Parliament.
- 1978 A tree-top protest in Pureora forest halts logging in a final remnant of podocarp forest and draws national attention to the plight of the kōkako.  
'Clutha Rescue' campaign and many others oppose the building of the Clyde hydro-electric dam on the Clutha River.
- 1980 Logging in Puketī kauri forest in Northland is suspended and a moratorium declared.
- 1981 Ōkārīto and Waikūkupa native forests between Westland National Park and the sea are saved, later to be added to the National Park.
- 1982 Legal protection is finally given to Pureora and Waihāhā native forests west of Lake Taupō.
- 1983 The NZ Forest Service halts its burn-off programme of native forest in the Ōpārara valley near Karamea.
- 1984 Feltex pulls out of its contract to log the Waitutu native forest along the southern coast of the South Island.  
The newly elected Lange Labour government starts a process to reform environmental management in NZ.
- 1985 The government ends native logging in Whirinaki State Forest.

- 1986 The West Coast Accord is signed by conservationists, West Coast millers, mayors and the government, to save nearly 200,000 ha of native forest.
- 1986–87 The Environment Act 1986 and the Conservation Act 1987 establish new government organisations to manage the environment: the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, the Ministry for the Environment and the Department of Conservation.
- 1987 The NZ Forest Service is abolished and state-owned forests are made the responsibility of the Department of Conservation (forests that are not to be logged) and the Forestry Corporation of NZ (forests that are open for logging).



Sharing the front page with the high school students during Conservation Week in 1972, forty cyclists biked around the Square several times in a demonstration against the pollution caused by cars. Since then, cycle helmets have been made compulsory and car numbers have risen threefold.

Manawatu Standard/Stuff Ltd



Showing an interest which continues with secondary school students 50 years later, 3rd form (year 9) students from Feilding Agricultural High School march through Feilding demonstrating against litter polluting the environment as part of Conservation Week in 1972. They formed a “12-foot long green bug.”

Manawatu Standard/Stuff Ltd

# **GAY RIGHTS timeline**

- 1967** The NZ Homosexual Law Reform Society is formed following a public meeting in Wellington. It is the first lobby group in NZ focused on changing the laws that prohibit sex between men.
- 1968** NZ Homosexual Law Reform Society presents a petition to Parliament urging homosexual law reform, signed by 75 prominent people.
- 1972** Auckland Gay Liberation Front is formed. Other Gay Liberation groups soon form in Christchurch and Wellington.  
First National Gay liberation conference held in Auckland.  
Christchurch gay activist Robin Duff stands in the general election for the Values Party in Hastings as the first openly gay candidate.
- 1973** First national lesbian association Sisters for Homophile Equality (SHE) formed.  
First Gay Pride week and march in NZ.
- 1974** Venn Young, National MP for Egmont, puts forward a private member's bill amending the Crimes Act 1961, proposing decriminalisation of homosexual acts between consenting males over the age of 21. Dr Gerald Wall, Labour MP for Porirua, proposes an amendment prohibiting telling anyone under 20 that homosexuality is 'normal'. The bill is defeated at its second reading in 1975.
- 1977** Carmen stands for Mayor of Wellington as a 'drag queen'; the term 'transgender' was not commonly used at the time.  
Human Rights Commission Act passes, establishing the Human Rights Commission. It prohibits discrimination on several grounds but not sexual orientation.  
National Gay Rights Coalition of NZ (NGRC), an umbrella group and the first national gay organisation, formed (78,000 members a year later).
- 1979** Warren Freer, Labour MP for Mt Albert, proposes amendments to the Crimes Act 1961 decriminalising sex between men with age of consent 20 years. NGRC opposes it for not providing equality with heterosexual age of consent of 16. The bill is dropped.
- 1980** Warren Freer proposes another bill with age of consent 18 years. NGRC and others oppose it for not providing equality. The bill is dropped.
- 1981** Dr Ian Scott stands for the Labour Party in Auckland's Eden electorate as the first openly gay candidate for a major party.
- 1985** Fran Wilde introduces Homosexual Law Reform Bill to decriminalise homosexual activity between men over 16 and add sexual orientation to the Human Rights Commission Act as a ground for complaint of discrimination.
- 1986** Parliament decriminalises sex between men over 16 but drops the Human Rights Commission part of Fran Wilde's Homosexual Law Reform Bill.
- 1993** Parliament amends the Human Rights Act to add sexual orientation. The move is shepherded by Katherine O'Regan, National MP for Waipā.
- 1995** Georgina Beyer elected mayor of Carterton — the world's first openly transgender mayor.
- 2004** Civil Union Act passed, establishing civil unions for same-sex and opposite-sex couples.
- 2005** Georgina Beyer becomes the world's first openly transgender member of Parliament.
- 2013** Marriage Equality (Definition of Marriage) Amendment Act passed, allowing same-sex couples to marry.

2018 Criminal Records (Expungement of Convictions for Historical Homosexual Offences) Act passed. It allows men prosecuted for consensual sex with other men to have their convictions expunged.

2022 Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Act passed. The law makes it a criminal offence to attempt to change or suppress a person's sexual orientation or gender identity through harmful therapy practices.



◀Dr Gerald Wall, Labour MP for Porirua, addresses an angry crowd protesting in June 1975 against his amendment to the Crimes Amendment Bill, which would have prohibited telling anyone under 20 that homosexuality is “normal”.

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◀A picket outside the Puss-in-Boots Bar in the Regent Tavern, Wellington, in November 1979 alerts the public to the manager's refusal of entry to lesbians, gay men and their friends.

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# HOUSING timeline

- 1969** Inner City Ministry in Wellington (ICM) established. Four inner-city churches — Anglican, Presbyterian, Methodist and (a few years later) the Quakers — join in response to rapidly changing needs of the inner city. ICM brings a particular focus on empowering those who are marginalised to take greater control over their lives.
- 1972–** Auckland Tenants' Protection Association (TPA) established. TPAs follow in Wellington and Christchurch. The Ponsonby People's Union also takes an active role in protecting tenants' rights. Tenants' organisations and activists resist unjust evictions and campaign for decent housing standards.
- Wellington TPA organises multiple tenants of Wellington slumlord Madhav Rama into a rent strike. Landlords and thugs backed by the Wellington Property Investors Association (in which Pat Rippin and Bob — later Sir Robert — Jones take prominent roles), seize tenants' property ... which TPA liberates in a raid.
- 1973** Rent Appeal Act passed by the Labour government in an attempt to improve tenants' rights.
- 1975** ICM plays strong role in Wellington City Council's public participation process 'Capital Plan' around the City Council's District Scheme review.
- June* Melksham Towers protest attended by 70 residents. The 10-storey development had demolished four homes to provide short-term temporary accommodation for business and conference visitors.
- 1976** WCC Town Planning Dept publishes *You, Mt Victoria and the Future* as part of community consultation around District Scheme review, including results of two extensive surveys of residents.
- WCC proposes changes to District Scheme to remove non-residential land uses and to make buildings over 12 metres high and motels, serviced apartments and boarding houses conditional uses.
- 1977** *17 March* Mt Victoria Progressive Association meeting discusses Admirals Motel proposal and Council's Urban Renewal Policy.
- 13 and 21 April* Admirals Motel publicly advertises for resource consent to build a 7-storey motel with 123 units, a restaurant and bar across most of the block below Melksham Towers, demolishing seven houses in Ellice St and two in Moir St.
- 27 April* Affected Ellice and Moir St residents receive letters advising them of the motel development and that they have until 13 May to object.
- 7 May* Public meeting in Kent Tce Presbyterian Church Hall about Admirals Motel. More than 50 individual objections lodged with Council.
- May* Apollo Motel in Majoribanks St applies for resource consent to extend their small existing motel with a new 7-storey block, demolishing four houses. Progressive Association opposes this proposal also.
- 21 June* Public Wellington City Council hearing of Ellice/Moir St motel proposal.
- 18 July* Public Wellington City Council hearing of the Apollo Lodge motel application.
- June* Kent Terrace Presbyterian Church applies for consent to use 46 Brougham St as a church/ community centre with 2 flats upstairs.
- Housing Corp provides Home Improvement Loans of up to \$5000.

- 10 August** Wellington City Council decides not to allow either of the two motel developments and changes the zoning regulations to limit building heights to 12 metres and impose restrictions on motels.
- 29 September** Mt Victoria Progressive Association annual meeting discusses need for community facilities including play areas, pre-school facilities and a community centre, and notes a growing number of young couples buying and restoring houses in the area.
- 15 October** Mt Victoria Fair held in Queen St as a community celebration. Funds raised support newsletters and other local groups.
- November** Admirals Motel appeals WCC decision. Mt Victoria residents and Progressive Association raise funds to hire a specialist town planning lawyer to present case in support of Council's decision.
- 1978** **February** Admirals Motel appeal hearing by the Town and Country Planning Appeal Board. Residents lobby Housing Corp in support of tenants saving to buy in the area, who are then finding mortgage finance hard to get on older homes.
- May** Admirals Motel developer wins appeal. 200 local residents attend public meeting and lobby Council to appeal to Supreme Court and to change the District Scheme to disallow such motel developments and erosion of housing stock.
- July** Council agrees to take the Admirals Motel Development case to the Supreme Court.
- September** Crossways opens as joint church/community centre including playgroup/crèche, Friday night community café (starts March 1979), along with other community activities. Upstairs two flats used to provide temporary supported living for people in urgent housing need.
- 1979** **April** Supreme Court hearing of Admirals Motel appeal. Appeal is subsequently lost. Judge considers effect on neighbouring properties minimal and hardship for developer significant. Application made for leave to appeal to the Court of Appeal.
- 1980** **June** Wellington Motorway Action group formed from a coalition of groups to try and change motorway proposals to better address needs of pedestrians, inner city residents, businesses, cyclists and users of public transport — not just private motorists.
- December** WCC decides to build 12 rental flats in Elizabeth St.
- Mt Victoria Residents Association continues to campaign about Mt Victoria houses threatened by motorway plans.
- 1981** The land Admirals Motel was to be built on is sold. Eight of the nine timber-built, resilient, character houses in Ellice St and Moir St escape demolition and are still there today (2023).
- Mt Victoria Housing Trust set up to provide secure, affordable rental housing in renovated local houses, starting with the purchase of two houses. Renamed DWELL, it currently (2023) provides homes across Wellington for over 200 people, in 42 homes it owns and 41 others it manages on behalf of other owners.
- 1986** Residential Tenancies Act made law. It defines the rights and obligations of landlords and tenants of residential properties, and establishes a disputes tribunal and a bond fund.

# PEACE timeline

*After World War II the United States, along with its French and British allies, frequently tested nuclear weapons in the Pacific region.*

*Following the 1954 Geneva Accords, the withdrawal of the French from Indochina and failure to hold the agreed nationwide elections in Vietnam, conflict developed between North and South Vietnam. The United States responded by steadily increasing its military support to South Vietnam during the late 1950s and 1960s.*

- 1959** NZ Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) formed.
- 1962** NZ government sends a civilian surgical team to Vietnam.
- 1964** NZ government sends a team of non-combat army engineers to Vietnam.
- 1965** *February* The US bombs North Vietnam.
- Easter* A large demonstration takes place outside the Wellington hotel where the visiting US Ambassador to South Vietnam is staying.
- May* NZ government announces that it will send an artillery battery of approximately 120 men to Vietnam. Prime Minister Holyoake's office is invaded by protesters who sit on the floor.
- August* The first two NZ soldiers die in Vietnam.
- 1966** President Lyndon Johnson visits to shore up NZ's support for US genocide in Vietnam.
- 1966–74** France begins atmospheric tests of nuclear weapons in French Polynesia.
- 1968** *30 March–12 April* Peace Power and Politics conference held, timed to coincide with a meeting of the South East Asia Treaty Organisation (SEATO) in Wellington.
- 1970–** CAFMANZ, the Committee Against Foreign Military Activities in NZ, protests against a spy base at Woodbourne Air Force base (Blenheim), and against covert US military activities at Harewood airport (Christchurch). Later the Campaign Against Foreign Control in NZ and then CAFCA (... Aotearoa) extend this arm of protest beyond the focus on military intervention.
- 1970** *January* US vice-president Spiro Agnew visits NZ, provoking protests. A violent incident takes place outside the Hotel Intercontinental in Auckland where police are reported to have 'waded into' demonstrators who were opposing Agnew's visit.
- 1972** *February* OHMS (Organisation to Halt Military Service) begins.
- March* National anti-base demonstration, 'The Battle of Mt John'. Some 250 activists travel to the Mt John observatory near Tekapō to protest at a US Air Force satellite tracking station.
- November* The newly elected Kirk Labour government confirms 'the severance of NZ military involvement in Vietnam' and ends compulsory national military service in NZ.
- December* The last NZ troops are withdrawn from Vietnam.
- 1973** RAVPOC (Release All Vietnamese Prisoners of Conscience) formed.
- March 24* Activists from all over NZ converge on Christchurch to protest against the biggest and longest-established US military base at Harewood airport.
- 1974** The French president orders that the atmospheric nuclear tests in French Polynesia move underground.
- 1976–** Protests take place against the visits of the USS *Truxtun* and other US warships that are suspected of carrying nuclear weapons.
- 1987** The NZ Nuclear Free Zone, Disarmament, and Arms Control Act passes.



# TINO RANGITIRATANGA timeline

*In the 1970s, Māori-led groups increased the clamour for the Treaty of Waitangi to be honoured, for land sales to stop, and for past and present injustices to Māori to be remedied.*

- 1970 The activist group Ngā Tamatoa forms and gives a new radical edge to Māori protest in its calls for the Treaty of Waitangi to be ratified. It builds on the work of the Māori Organisation On Human Rights and other groups fighting for Māori rights.
- 1971 Ngā Tamatoa disrupts the Waitangi Day ceremony and the following year stages a walkout.
- 1972 With the survival of te reo Māori under threat, Ngā Tamatoa and Victoria University's Te Reo Māori Society, along with Te Huinga Rangatahi (the NZ Māori Students' Association) gather 30,000 signatures from across Aotearoa and on 14 September deliver Te Petihana Reo Māori — the Māori Language petition — to Parliament with the support of many kaumātua. The petition asks for active recognition of te reo Māori.
- 14 September declared Māori Language Day, which in 1975 becomes Māori Language Week. Māori-language revitalisation programmes follow.
- 1973 The Auckland Committee on Racism & Discrimination forms in Auckland. For many years it campaigns to expose institutional racism in the police, the courts, the social welfare system and in mental health institutions. It builds on and extends the work of groups such as the Auckland Māori Council and the Citizens Association for Racial Equality (CARE), which formed in the 1960s.
- 1975 **Land March.** Te Rōpū Matakite o Aotearoa ('Those with Foresight') launched at a hui convened by Whina Cooper at Māngere Marae. The Māori land march, led by Te Rōpū Matakite, starts in Northland on 14 September, travels the length of Te Ika a Māui and arrives at Parliament on 13 October. The main aim of the hīkoi (march) is to protest against the continuing loss of Māori land. About 5000 marchers present a memorial of rights from Māori elders to Labour prime minister Bill Rowling with a petition supporting the objectives of the march signed by 60,000 people.
- After the march, protesters set up a Māori tent embassy at Parliament. Against Whina Cooper's wishes, they remain there for two months. Whina writes to (newly elected) National Party prime minister Muldoon asking that the embassy be removed. Police arrest 36 protesters on Christmas Eve and clear the tents.
- The Labour government establishes the Waitangi Tribunal to hear Māori claims of breaches of the Treaty of Waitangi.
- 1977 **Bastion Point — Takaparawhā.** This promontory in Auckland comes to symbolise Māori land issues. It had been given to the Crown by Ngāti Whātua as a defence site during the Russian scare of 1885. A 506-day protest against a proposed Crown land sale for expensive housing begins there.
- 1978 On 25 May the government sends in a massive force of police and army personnel to evict the occupiers. They arrest 222 protesters and demolish their meeting house, buildings and gardens.
- 1978 **Whāingaroa (Raglan)** Eva Rickard leads protests about the use of Māori land for a golf course. The land was originally taken during World War II for a military airfield. It was not needed for this purpose but, instead of being returned to its owners, part of the land was turned into a golf course in 1969. The land is eventually returned to Tainui-ā-Whiro.
- 1979 On 1 May, twenty members of the He Taua protest group disrupt Auckland University engineering students' offensive annual 'haka party'. Despite a decade of complaints, the students have persisted in performing their own version of the *Ka Mate* haka while drunk,

with obscenities painted on their bodies and wearing hard hats, boots and grass skirts. He Taua confronts 20 to 30 students, resulting in hospital admissions, stitches and broken bones. He Taua members are charged with a number of offences, including rioting. It is the last time the derisory 'haka' is performed.

- 1982 The Kōhanga Reo movement opens language nests to immerse children in te reo from infancy to school age.
- 1985 Kura Kaupapa Māori (year 1 to 8 schools conducted in te reo) begin, and later Wharekura (years 7–13).  
The Waitangi Tribunal hears the claim about te reo Māori — that te reo is a taonga (treasure) the government must protect under the Treaty of Waitangi. The Tribunal finds in favour of the claimants and recommends legislative and policy remedies.
- 1987 On 1 August — fifteen years after the 1972 petition — the Māori Language Act comes into force, making te reo Māori an official language of NZ. The Act also establishes the Māori Language Commission, renamed Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori in 1991, to promote te reo.
- 1988 The Waitangi Tribunal supports Māori claims to the Bastion Point land. The government announces that it agrees to the Tribunal's recommendation that Takaparawhā be returned to Ngāti Whātua.



The Māori Land March arrives at the Square via Rangitikei Street. Rangitāne kaumātua Rōpata Eruera Kawana (Bob Governor) offers the microphone to Whina Cooper. Bob's welcome speech on behalf of the tangata whenua acknowledged the wairua and kotahitanga the hikoi brought to the region.

After two nights in Manawātū, the marchers continued on Wellington, where they presented a memorial of rights signed by 60,000 people to Prime Minister Bill Rowling at Parliament. It asked that all statutes that could alienate land be repealed, and that remaining tribal land be invested in Māori in perpetuity.

# WOMEN'S RIGHTS timeline

- 1893 Women's struggle for the vote succeeds.
- 1896 National Council of Women established.
- 1951 Māori Women's Welfare League established.
- 1960 Government Service Equal Pay Act passed.
- 1966 Society for Research on Women (SROW) established.
- 1967 National Advisory Council on the Employment of Women established.
- 1970 Wellington Women's Liberation Front established. Activities include newsletters, media releases, talks to service organisations and occupying male-only public bars.  
Demonstration for equal pay at Victoria University of Wellington.  
Women for Equality set up at University of Auckland for students and workers.
- 1971 Auckland Women's Liberation established at Auckland University.  
19 September: Suffrage Day celebrated for the first time.
- 1972 Whetū Tirikātene-Sullivan, Labour MP for Southern Māori, becomes the first female Māori cabinet minister.  
The NZ National Organisation for Women launched.  
*Broadsheet* monthly magazine founded in Auckland, and fortnightly *Woman* newsletter in Dunedin.  
First National Women's Liberation Conference held in Wellington.  
Equal Pay Act passed.
- 1973 Social Security Amendment Act establishes the Domestic Purposes Benefit (DPB).  
Council for the Single Mother and her Child established.  
Lesbian organisation Sisters for Homophile Equality (SHE) and its magazine, *Circle*, established.  
Women's National Abortion Action Campaign (WONAAC) and Organisation for Women's Health established.  
First United Women's Convention held in Auckland.  
Select Committee on Women's Rights announced (reported in 1975).
- 1974 Women's centres set up in Dunedin and Christchurch.  
First women's refuge established in Christchurch.  
Government begins Domestic Purposes Benefit payments.
- 1975 International Women's Year. More support centres set up in cities and regions for women's health, refuge and Rape Crisis.  
Government sets up the Committee on Women, later Advisory Committee on Women's Affairs.  
Women's Electoral Lobby (WEL) starts work on electoral politics.  
Working Women's Alliance (socialist feminists) established.  
Second United Women's Convention, in Wellington. Over 3000 women attend from all over NZ.
- 1976 Royal Commission on Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion set up.

Matrimonial Property Act provides for equal share to wives of matrimonial home and assets after marriage breakup.

1977 Contraception, Sterilisation, and Abortion (CS&A) Act passed. In response, Sisters Overseas Service (SOS) established to help women declined an abortion to travel to Australia for a termination.

Young Māori Leaders Conference held; twice as many women as men attend.

The first *Herstory Diary* published and first women's bookshop opens, both in Dunedin.

Women's Studies Association, Media Women, and Women's Health Network are established.

Third United Women's Convention, in Christchurch, sees conflicts between 'radical' and 'liberal' feminists.

1979 Feminist Teachers established. First Trades Council Women's Sub-Committee formed (Wellington).

Fourth and final United Women's Convention, held in Hamilton. Māori women attendees stage protests.

1980 Working Women's Charter adopted by NZ Federation of Labour and Labour Party.

First National Black Women's Hui held.



The women's liberation movement found a natural partner in the performing arts. Hard-hitting satire explored topics of vital concern to women. In August 1976 the Backstreet Theatre Group visited Palmerston North and more than 25 other NZ centres from Auckland to Invercargill.

Depo-Provera was an injection providing three months' contraception. Maggie Eyre is shown administering protection to Sharon Alston. Other performers, from left, are Miranda Coates, Rosemary Wood, with Ruth Mary, and Deborah Filler on the guitar.

Manawātū Standard/Stuff Ltd