



Who were the key people in New Zealand's history before, during and after the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840? What did they do and what did they say? By browsing this and the quotes section and conducting guided research, students will discover their stories, and involvement in the changing events?

We use the biography and quotes section of the website to learn more about these key figures and their role in the history of the Treaty of Waitangi.

[www.treatyofwaitangi.govt.nz](http://www.treatyofwaitangi.govt.nz) > **Select Key People**

## A cast of colourful characters

- Use the *Key People in Treaty History* section to put the Treaty – a document, into a human setting of living and colourful characters who all had (or have) differing views, expectations and interpretations of the Treaty from pre 1840 to the present day.
- Divide students into groups and have them select Key People – one or two from each section, to clearly show how their beliefs and actions played a major part in our Treaty history. Have students look for:
  - *differing or changing views and interpretations of the Treaty*
  - *what actions each person took that demonstrated their views and interpretations*
  - *events that occurred because of their beliefs and actions*
  - *the consequences of these events*
- To assist students, work through the following research project as an example of how they can present their findings.

## Sample research project findings

### Hone Heke – Nga Puhī Chief - lived c1800 - 1850

- Hone Heke was very much in favour of the Treaty and probably persuaded many chiefs to sign it.
- Hone Heke was converted to Christianity by missionary Henry Williams.
- Because he trusted Williams he signed the Treaty thinking that the authority of the chiefs would be protected.
- Hone Heke was worried that the French would overrun Maori and Maori needed to be protected from the rum sellers.
- He believed that Maori would become prosperous because of British colonisation. When this did not happen, he organised a famous series of protests – cutting down the British flagpole 4 times.
- This protest action led to a bitter war between northern Maori and British troops.

### George Grey – Governor - lived 1812 - 1898

- George Grey became interested in native peoples and believed they could and should be assimilated.
- He tried out these theories as governor of South Australia. He was a good money manager but was not able to handle race relations well.
- When he was appointed Governor of New Zealand, in 1845 unlike previous governors, he was given money and troops to help him govern New Zealand.
- Grey set up the first provincial and national governments in New Zealand and was made a knight by the British Crown.

### KEY PEOPLE IN TREATY HISTORY

128 biographies



- Grey took the side of the settlers when he invaded Waikato. Historians do not agree whether or not this was justified.
- The huge land confiscations after the war led to decades of bitterness. This grievance has been settled today.

### QUOTES

What were people saying about the events surrounding the Treaty?

## Using the Quotes section sample

### Quotations 1980-1990 section

- Have students read the quotes of historian Keith Sinclair and contrast it with the quote of Whetu Tirikatene-Sullivan.
- Discuss the reasons that Sinclair gives for the British government involving Maori in the signing of the Treaty rather than just annexing (colonising) New Zealand as Britain had done to other colonies.
- How does Sinclair think that these good intentions have turned out? What clue does he give to support the idea that most Pakeha believed that race relations in New Zealand were good?
- How does Sinclair think we have changed and what does he suggest we do about it?
- Tell students that Whetu Tirikaene-Sullivan is speaking about letting the Waitangi Tribunal investigate grievances that go back as far as 1840.
- When comparing this with Keith Sinclair's words, how does this show the difference in thinking between two cultures.
- Spend time examining further quotations in this section, *eg*
  - *do the students think that Mr McLean - member for Tarawera is right in saying that the future of Maori (and race relations) will not be helped by looking back rather than forwards?*
- Contrast his view with the view of Sir Geoffrey Palmer. What does he believe is the purpose of a parliament?
- Where do the comments of Erua Stirling fit into the discussion?
- In teams, have students debate the proposition: 'Nothing will be gained for the future by looking back into the past'



**Section 1: Timeline > NZ Events 1800-1849**

1. The legendary homeland of Maori is called:  
A. Hawaii B. Hawera C. Hawaiki
2. The first European explorer to discover New Zealand was Captain Cook:  
A. True B. False
3. The first major on-shore industry established in 1827 in which both Maori and European worked was:  
A. Dairying B. Whaling C. Sheep Farming

**Section 2: Timeline > Treaty Events 1800-1849**

4. The number of Maori in New Zealand around the 1800s is estimated to be:  
A. 1 Million B. 500,000 C. 100,000
5. Thomas Kendall was the first magistrate appointed in New Zealand. He was appointed:  
A. To protect whalers and sealers from Maori  
B. To protect Maori from offences committed  
C. To protect the missionaries
6. The first British representative in New Zealand before the first governor was:  
A. Hobson B. Busby C. Marsden
7. He was appointed because of growing lawlessness to help protect:  
A. Maori B. Settlers C. Maori & Settlers
8. The Maori version of the Treaty was prepared by:  
A. Williams B. Busby C. Hone Heke
9. About how many chiefs has signed the Treaty by September 1840?  
A. 50 B. 100 C. 500
10. War broke out in the North because of trade and land disagreements. It was won by:  
A. British B. Maori C. No clear winner

**Section 3: Key People > Maori Leaders 1840-1900**

11. The Maori leader who is credited with having the most influence on persuading the chiefs to sign the Treaty was:  
A. Te Kooti B. Tamati Waka Nene C. Rewi Maniopotu
12. Nireaha Tamaki is most famous for:  
A. Building a railway line  
B. Winning an appeal to the Privy Council in London  
C. Losing a Native Land Court case.
13. Meri Te Tai Mangakahia believed women should be part of and be able to speak to the Maori parliament because:  
A. They owned land in their own right  
B. Her husband was a chief  
C. She founded the Maori Womens Welfare League

**Section 4: Key People > Politicians, Judges, Officials**

14. Hobson's pledge to what missionary is often called the 4th and unwritten article of the Treaty?  
A. Selwyn B. Pompailliar C. Fitzroy
15. The person who masterminded the New Zealand Company settlements and the huge land purchases in New Zealand was:  
A. Wakefield B. Grey C. Williams

**Section 5: Quotes > 1980-1990**

16. When Whetu Tirikatene-Sullivan told parliament in August 1985 "The pakeha attitude is frequently that people should not rake over old coals. However, in the Maori world the fires still burn brightly, ..." she was talking about:  
A. Maori remember things better than pakeha  
B. The need to settle grievances back to 1840  
C. It is sensible to only settle recent grievances
17. The 1988 Royal Commission on Social Policy believed the Treaty was:  
A. an interesting social document  
B. a beacon for future race relations  
C. of fundamental importance to our history and our future development (country and peoples)
18. When Queen Elizabeth II spoke at Waitangi in 1990 she said the following things about the Treaty:  
A. She was a descendant of one of the Treaty partners  
B. We are strong enough and honest enough to learn the lessons of the last 150 years  
C. Both B&C
19. When Simon Upton stated to parliament in 1990 "So...what does the treaty mean for me? My starting-point is that there is no room for guilt" is he going on to say:  
A. Compensation should be negotiated  
B. What is past is past  
C. The Treaty has no significance today
20. Who told Queen Elizabeth II at Waitangi in 1990 that he believed this was "a time of hope"?  
A. Bishop Verco B. Sir Graham Latimer

**ANSWERS**

1C, 2B, 3B, 4C, 5B, 6B, 7C, 8A, 9C, 10C, 11B, 12B, 13A, 14B, 15A, 16B, 17C, 18C, 19A, 20B