

Guest Editorial

DAVID TIPENE-LEACH*

He honore, he kororia, he maungarongo ki runga i te whenua, he whakaaro pai ki nga tangata katoa.

He mihi nui tenei kia koutou ko nga takuta, nga nehi me nga kaimahi hauora katoa e whakarata ana i nga maiu iuitanga o to tatou iwi Maori. No reira, tena koutou katoa.

He mihi whakahirahira tenei kia koutou kua hoki atu ki tua o te arai, kua otia nei e koutou a koutou mahi hauora mo te iwi, aa, ko tatou tonu kei te waimarie.

He mihi tenei ki nga taangata Pasifika i homai nei tenei wahanga hai marae mo a tatou korero i tenei wa. No reira, tena koutou e nga tuakana.

Pacific Health Dialog is a journal about health in the Pacific. This edition is sponsored by Te Ora, the Maori Medical Practitioners Association and the HFA (Maori Health) and indeed it is our privilege to have this edition of the *Pacific Health Dialog* devoted to Maori health issues and Maori medical writers. Rightly or wrongly – it is a medical journal with the peculiar illness related slant that we medics have on the world and our experience in tampering with it. But this issue doesn't deal only to illness but to strategic development, epidemiology, qualitative research, kaupapa Maori theory, traditional medicine and service development, not to mention the reviews. Viewpoints and Short Communications. There is ample fare for all.

My own association with this journal goes back to working in Micronesia with colleague and *Pacific Health Dialog* editor Sitaleki Finau. We were at a small medical school where the texts and journals (when available) related mainly to highly developed societies with advanced technological medicine. The *Pacific Health Dialog* was to be the "textbook" for the Pacific – a place where Pacific health professionals could read about their own communities, health problems and developments. Sitaleki then came (with his editorship of

the PHD) to the Department of Maori and Pacific Health in Auckland University and has been the first to recognise and acknowledge that Pacific people are, to some extent, riding on a waka Maori with regard to medical education and training. Now it is our turn to ride the waka Pasifika with regard to medical writing and publishing. Nga mihi nui kia koutou, na, kia koe Sitaleki.

Nga mihi ki nga taangata Maori o te HFA, na ratou i homai te putea kia rere tika ai te manu nei.

Editing this edition has been a harrowing experience for an inexperienced writer and editor. We Maori doctors are generally not good writers, nor do we perform well to publication timeframes. Many thanks to those of you who have had dozens of e-mails clogging up your computer about the article that you finally did or did not finish. Even more so - thanks to those of you whose articles were not accepted for publication and who still talk to me down at the marae!!

It would, however, not be right a to leave the other end of this continuum without mention, that is the small group of excellent Maori health and medical writers who are coming "of age" recently. People like Rhys Jones, Sue Crengle, Helen Moewaka-Barnes are able to whip up high quality stuff in a defined period. So far we only have Mason Durie who does this on a regular basis. We older ones Pat Ngata, Rees Tapsell, Papaarangi Reid, John Broughton, Rob Cooper and myself – although sometimes we needed a bomb to get us going - we get things done.

I'd also like to welcome Nicole Coupe, Lis Ellison-Loschmann and Teena Brown-Pulu as newer faces in the Maori medical literature. It is also great to see students being published – David Jansen's final year general practice report is significant because it's written in Maori and Frances Robbins and Jade Tamatea have contributed a greatly informative piece. Finally we should not forget our co-workers and colleagues who we write with – people like Carman Jones, Sally Abel and Neil Pearce whose wealth of experience we lean on in developing our research and writing skills.

The reprints are also important. The Maui Pomare article from Te Pipiwharauoa (1901) on alcohol is so relevant it could have been written yesterday and the New Ethicals article on Deprivation Index in New Zealand is a great move away from the contemporary victim blaming/individualistic approach that Western medicine takes. In addition, the wide range of relevant material in our professional area is not bounded necessarily by time and often does not date. The Pomare article sits very comfortably next to Durie's strategic planning article – they could have been written on the same day!!

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Finally the need for an ongoing journal is not lost. We need something solid, that is not bounded by commercial objectives to keep the exchange going – e ki nei te korero – hai marae mo tatou.

No reira, nga mihi nui kia kia koutou, heoi ano kia tatou, e whai nei ki enei tu momo mahi, te mahi takuta me te tuhituhi ranei mo nga mahi whakarata i te tangata, i te whanau, i to tatou iwi Maori. No reira tena tatou katoa.

He Maimai Aroha

A traditional lament

Kimihia kimihia rangahaua e
Kei hea koutou kua ngaro nei
Ha ! Ko koe tena ko huri ki tua ki Paerau
I te huihuinga o te Kahurangi
Hui e Taiki e

I te Noema o te tau kua pahemo ake nei ki muri, i mate tetahi o nga takuta Maori rongonui katoa o tenei ao, a **Takuta Henare Bennett**.

Mai i a Ngati Whakauae me Ngati Pikiaro no roto i Te Arawa, i tipu ake ai te koroua nei i Kohupatiki, i te rohe o Heretaunga. I te Kura Tamatane o Nepia, koia tonu te "head boy". Koia tonu tetahi tamaiti ka taea ki te haere ki Te Kura Rata I Otakou. I te pakanga tuarua ka kuhu, a takuta, aia ki roto i te Hokowhitu a Tu, a, ka timata tana mahi whakarata i te hinengaro. Mai tera wa koira tana mahi tuturu, tona tohungatanga, te whakarata i te hinengaro, i te ngakau ranei. Mai te Wai Pounamu ki Ahitereiria ki Tamakimakaurau ka tae atu aia ki Tokanui i Te Awamutu, hei rangatira mo nga rua tekau tau.

He rahi ona mahi whakahirahira. Koia tonu te tangata, nana i timata i nga mahi Maori o roto o tena tumomo mahi hauora Pakeha, psychiatry. Ki raro tonu ki tona kaokao ka tipu ake ai te kaupapa e kua nei ko Whaiora. Atu ki tena, ka rere te mahi mo nga tangata whaiora i raro tonu ki tona ingoa, ara, te Henry Rongomau Bennett Centre. Ko hoatu na e te Kuini he QSM, he CBE, me te Whare Wananga o Waikato, he Takutatanga ano.

Kua nehua i te urupa o Kauae i te taha o tona tino hoa rangatira, Alice.

Heoi ano e te rangatira, haere, haere, haere.
Haere ki te wahi tika mo te tangata,
Ki nga puke I mamao
Ki te toka tumoana,
Ki te rata whakaruruhau
Ki te Hawaiki e mohiotia nei,
Ki te Hono I Wairua.
Waiho hia mai kia matau, te whakahaere i ou mahi
whakahirahira mo te tangata,
Tena ka huri ki tua ki Paerau,
Ki te huihuinga o te Kahurangi,
Ka oti atu ra e koro.