



2020 – 2021

EDITOR'S & WEBMASTER'S REPORT Māori Interest Group AGM Sunday 4th July 2021 NZSG FAMILY RESEARCH CENTRE

Kia ora and welcome to our 2021 AGM. It is my pleasure to present this, my 19th Report on both our newsletter and website.



TE REO – As always, the structure of the newsletter in both electronic (pdf) and hardcopy format continued to remain constant throughout the year and I am always extremely grateful to those members whom continue to contribute material for publication, especially our greatly esteemed member Don HAYWARD and Dena JACOB (Auckland Libraries) has also been an invaluable contributor with her regular column introduced this year. Likewise, Lorraine and Brenda continue to support me in the background which is an immense reassurance to me personally.

The deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month prior to printing, and the past twelve-months has again seen the newsletter printed on a better time frame. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 pandemic continues to have a massive impact on mail services, with the February issue in particular taking far too long to arrive - therefore, this is a timely reminder that *Te Reo* is also available online in full colour via the NZSG website. Nevertheless, the Black & White hardcopy issues of *Te Reo* are still a vital and more importantly, permanent record of the group's activities despite the costs and any delivery delays.

Hardcopy details of the newsletter (May 2020 to February 2021) are as follows;

- **MAY 2020 40 Hardcopies/32pages A\$ 88.00**
- **AUG 2020 40 Hardcopies/28pages A\$108.24**
- **NOV 2020 45 Hardcopies/28pages A\$143.66**
- **FEB 2021 40 Hardcopies/32pages A\$140.00**

This represents **165 hardcopies** with a total printing cost of **A\$479.90** or approximately **A\$2.91 per booklet** – again, an increase on the previous year's printing costs and postage prices have also increased.

Printing receipts have been deposited with the Secretary for inspection. *N.B. The Covers and any AGM Inserts on Green reflex paper are slightly more expensive than the inside B&W pages.*

WEBSITE – This year we have had some functionality issues with the website as we found that our version of Joomla system software (a free and open-source content management system for publishing web content on websites) was too outdated and this required a software update and a site rebuild. We have now migrated the MIG website to HostPapa (a Canadian-based privately owned web hosting company) which offers us better Security and at a greatly reduced price. Although some aspects of the website may still be temporarily unavailable with the inevitable technical glitches and I urge all users to please point out any broken links and/or errors to us – as we may not always see what you may see due to our host caching.

Users of the site will also note a different web address (rcyachts.net.au/backup/). This is only temporary until the domain name www.nzsgmig.com is transferred to our new host - www.nzsgmig.com is still totally valid and users are only temporarily being automatically bounced.

The “Can you help?” tab is one function which I have been struggling with for a very long time now... I am desperately trying to come up with a solution where we can have much better access to Member’s Interests and more regular up-to-date information in this tab portal!

It cannot be understated how grateful I am for the support I receive from our Committee, MIG members and friends of MIG for the items supplied to keep the MIG homepage flicking over. As I have mentioned before, these articles, graphics and photographs are the backbone of the website and newsletter.

Likewise, I am well aware that I constantly ‘harp-on’ about photos and reports from MIG and FH events, but there are two very important reasons for this;

1. We absolutely need photos/graphics to 'hang' the text off, on the MIG homepage and
2. Ever changing photos/graphics on the MIG homepage not only attract the user's attention but are an important indicator that the MIG site is still fresh and changing – there is nothing worse than visiting a stale website that has not been updated for months or even years!



I am also grateful to the NZSG webmaster for promptly uploading the pdf newsletter to the NZSG website as required.

As always, we are extremely grateful and very fortunate to have the ongoing support of Eduard COWELL; Eddie continues to **personally fund** both our ISP (website) hosting space (through his personal rc yacht club website) and the annual renewal of our web address name www.nzsgmig.com. From the Committee and all our members, thank you so very much Eddie for your ongoing financial and technical support all these many years.

Thank you all again for your support throughout the year, and please do continue to send in your articles and material for *Te Reo*. Remember this is your group, your newsletter and your say and contributions are always welcome.

Good luck with your research this year and I look forward to receiving all those **photos and reports** of your successes for *Te Reo* in coming weeks – Really Big Hint!

Haere ra

Bruce MATHERS
NZSG MIG Editor & Webmaster
4th July 2021