

# Workshop for women

Radio Taranaki will be the subject of a workshop organised for 30 local women in New Plymouth today.

The workshop is a collaborative effort between the staff of the radio station, the New Plymouth Women's Centre and is being organised by Ms N. M. Crutchley, from the National Council of Adult Education in Wellington.

Ms Crutchley said yesterday the workshop aimed at showing people in the community how to make best use of their local radio station and to also familiarise them with how the station operates.

The radio station manager and programme director will address the forum. Later, the workshop is to discuss topics like radio news, coping with being interviewed for radio and other aspects of radio such as talkback, said Ms Crutchley.

Ms Crutchley has worked with the council for about



Ms N. Crutchley.

four years and has organised numerous seminars throughout the country.

She said seminars such as today's usually had dual benefits — people in the community felt more confident about contacting the radio station and the radio station experienced more community feedback.

A plan of the Ken Tonks memorial design as it will appear on the Assembly Hall at the Manukorihi Intermediate School.

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# Proposed Ken Tonks Memorial Mural

Before his death in January 1982, Mr Ken Tonks, Principal of Manukorihi Intermediate, drafted a scheme that was initiated by an Education Board Circular based on Innovative Proposals Scheme. Having gathered ideas from the children and staff, the following ideas were to be incorporated -

That a mural be considered to be constructed and positioned on the outside west wall of the assembly hall. The mural was to:

1. Show appreciation of the school's cultural background.
2. Beautify a blank wall.
3. Acknowledge contributions to the various cultures to the school and unite them in a forceful yet harmonious visual form.
4. Feature the two Maori figures, Sir Peter Buck and Sir Maui Pomare.
5. Increase pupil and staff pride in their surroundings.
6. Reflect the positive attributes of its students.
7. Make the school a more pleasant place to work and visit.
8. Have eye-catching aesthetic appeal and further enhance the school.

Despite his death the proposal as drafted should go on. From this draft proposal Mr John Ford, Artist and Master Carver, was approached by the Acting Principal for the first term 1982, Mr J. Niwa, to formulate a mural based on the above ideas.

The following proposed ideas for the mural are outlined:  
The design consists of a diagonal span of aluminium Metric roofing going from the base of the wall to its roof. A parallel span of the same material coming from the roof to approximately 1/3rd of the way down the wall, and two totara wood panels in the shape of ancient Maori porch pieces placed beneath the curved end of the second span.

The long diagonal span will be painted with British Paints Baking Paint to represent the carving pattern puwerewere one that is particularly

associated with the earliest known carvings from the North Taranaki area. This pattern therefore provides a link with the Maori past, with special reference to the great art works of early times.

The diagonal thrust from ground to the top of the building is, amongst other things, a reference to the origins of the Te Atiawa people. It recalls that Tamarau te Heketanga a Rangidescended from heaven to become the father of Awanui a Rangī the eponymous ancestor of the tribe.

This diagonal also represents the upthrusting primal energy that lies in the land itself and the inherent combined energies of the people who now live in Waitara. It is also a direct statement of the aims of the school itself - a call to attain higher academic goals.

The smaller span shows the puwerewere pattern returning down from the sky, from Rangī-nui a benediction as it were. It's soft rainbow-like end curve encloses the carvings of those two great figures that spanned both Maori and European cultures, Sir Maui Pomare and Te Rangī Hiroa (Sir Peter Buck).

The manaia beaks that each carved figure is biting, reminds us that both Maui and Te Rangī Hiroa were doctors capable of overcoming the ills that beset men. The right-hand carving is Maui and shows him holding in his right-hand a scroll representing his position as a Minister of the Crown. Te Rangī Hiroa, on the left, has his left hand resting on a South Pacific Stick Chart used by the ancient navigators of the South Pacific. This relates to his skills in Anthropology and in partic-

ular to his historic publications, Vikings of the Sunrise and the Coming of the Maori.

Whereas the diagonal panels are made of contemporary materials and are arranged in a manner consistent with contemporary art styles the carvings are done in totara and are in an old Te Atiawa carving style.

Therefore in this mural we make reference to past and present and the artist hopes that his design contains these in a unity that will give them a significance for the future.

Above all, I hope that this design will realise the concept that the late Ken Tonks had of the project and serve therefore as a fitting memorial to him.

John Bevan Ford,  
Senior Lecturer  
Faculty of Social Sciences  
Massey University.

Plans for the construction of the mural are dependent on a fund of \$2500 being available. This cost is for materials only.

Labour will be voluntary and will be overseen by Mr John Ford. Local Master Carvers, Mr Rangī Bailey and Phillip Tippins, will help out in this aspect. It is expected that the mural will involve 324 man hours.

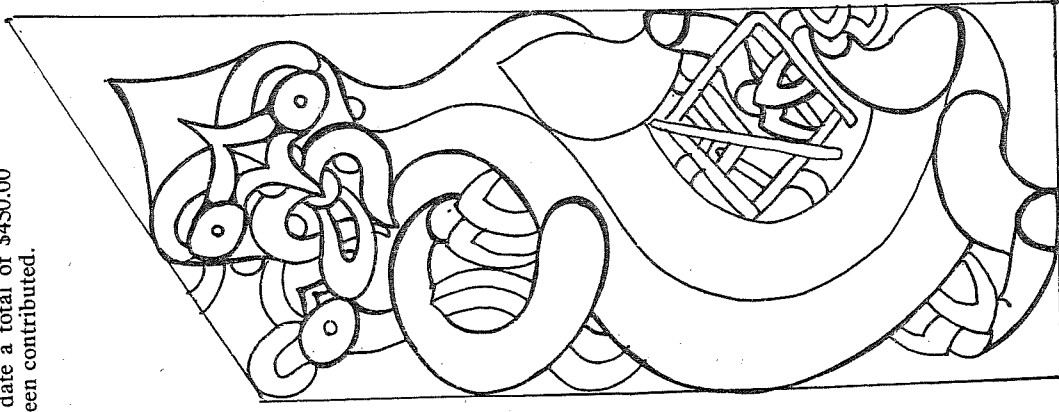
The contemporary aspect of the design will be completed in Palmerston North while the carving, in traditional form, will proceed at the Intermediate School. It is envisaged that the mural will be erected within three months from the starting date.

A Committee has been established to organise and administer the Memorial Trust Fund. They are as follows:  
Mr John Niwa (Chairman),  
Ms Ira Herangi (Secretary),  
Mr Dave Pollock (Treasurer),

Mr Gary Hemmings and Mr Norm Fleet.

Should any members of the public wish to contribute towards the 'Memorial Mural Fund' they may deposit their donation at the Waitara Branch of the National Bank or contact any member of the above Committee.

To date a total of \$450.00 has been contributed.



A plan of the two carved wooden panels which will be incorporated in the Ken Tonks Memorial.