

Ka eke panuku, ka eke Tangaroa: Steering Māori Subject Headings into the future

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Slide 1: Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku: Māori Subject Headings

Introduction

Libraries play an instrumental role in connecting people to information and library professionals are ethically bound by the communities they serve to provide such access (*Access To Information*, LIANZA, 2002). Māori Subject Headings (MSH) provide pathways for library users in finding and locating Māori materials within library catalogues. This presentation, *Ka eke panuku, ka eke Tangaroa: Steering Māori Subject Headings into the future*, provides a glimpse into the developmental work involved in creating MSH by te Kaitiaki o Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku (MSH Librarian), Te Rōpū o Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku (MSH Project Team), and Te Kōmiti Whakahaere o Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku (MSH Governance Group). In addition, this presentation examines the construction of Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku, the MSH thesaurus, and briefly demonstrates how MSH are applied to everyday library work. Furthermore, details and future directions of the MSH project will be discussed.

Slide 2: Te anga: Structure

This presentation has been arranged into four parts. The first, discusses the role of the MSH Governance Group, the MSH Librarian, and the MSH Project Team. The second section focuses on MSH thesaurus construction work, while the third covers MSH application in library work. The concluding section talks about future plans for the MSH project.

Slide 3: Who is involved with MSH project?

Here we begin with those directly involved with helping steer the MSH waka. Leading the way is the MSH Governance Group made up of three representatives, Lorraine Johnston for LIANZA, Jenny Barnett for Te Rōpū Whakahau and Alison Elliot for NLNZ. Their job is to advise the Project Team and MSH Librarian.

My role as Kaitiaki / MSH Librarian is to research and develop new headings, examine and resolve issues within the hierarchy, provide advice on MSH application to cataloguers, report to the Governance Group on a quarterly basis, and promote the headings to the wider community.

Slide 4: Who is involved with MSH project?

My role also includes being part of the MSH Project Team which consists of three NLNZ senior cataloguers (Judy Keats, Robyn East and Charlotte Stretton, Project Team Leader) and three te reo specialists (Ann Reweti, Rangiriia Hedley and Raewyn Paewai). Our team has been together since May 2009, and we have worked on 283 headings. We meet three times a year to discuss issues relating to the thesaurus, investigate new headings to be added, make changes to existing terms if needed, and any other general concerns librarians may have with MSH.

We have resolved hierarchical problems to make way for requested headings all while ensuring that any changes remains true to the intention to reflect a Māori world view. Hierarchical changes resulted in revised scope notes and whakamārama, and, creating additional broader headings to allow requested headings to be placed in the hierarchy.

A major example was when we exchanged **Ora** (formerly a Top Term) and **Hauora**, enabling us to add headings requests covering a wider range of health-related terms, such as Asthma (**Huango**), Nurses (**Nēhi**), Respiratory system (**Pūnaha arahau**), etc. This year, we are looking at developing headings under **Ohaoha** (Economics/Business) and investigating where a heading for *Taonga*¹ can be placed in the thesaurus. There is a total of 1366 MSH (preferred terms) in Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku, excluding English Used For, Tukutuku (Māori Used For) and Reo ā-iwi (Dialectal terms).

LIANZA, Te Rōpū Whakahau and NLNZ continue to provide support to the project. Te Rōpū Whakahau and LIANZA have had a lot of involvement with the MSH Governance Group and the MSH Librarian. NLNZ Senior Cataloguers, Information Technology technicians and members of Te Rōpū Māori (NLNZ Māori Staff Network) have volunteered their time and expertise to the project. So in essence, many people with different skills are involved with the development of Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku which have helped us in our individual roles in the development of MSH.

Slide 5: MSH Development work

MSH development work relies heavily on combining the skills of a range of people from subject cataloguing specialists, IT technicians, Librarians and Te Reo and tikanga advisers in one hand, and hapū, iwi and the wider community in the other. In terms of the work we are doing for MSH, feedback is very important to developing the MSH thesaurus. Part of that feedback includes requests for new headings that arrive via the Reo e-mailbox², with a supporting literary warrant (context), and a kupu suggestion.

Kupu hou (new words) are cross-referenced across a selection of Māori dictionaries and Te Reo publications (of all levels). New terminology are usually taken from the source item, or otherwise official publications released by government departments such as the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Te Puni Kōkiri, Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori, etc. Māori Television programmes in te reo are often a helpful source of kupu hou.

Kupu are tested by keyword searching the proposed term on google, to examine context of the kupu. Sometimes, kupu are sourced from Te Reo experts around the country; they are only consulted when we can't resolve a conflict within the hierarchy.

The research of new terms is collated and presented to the MSH Project Team at the upcoming project team hui where the work is approved, deferred or denied.

Slide 6: Ngā Ūpoko file structure

Once we have our kupu, it becomes a heading. Thesaurus construction principles apply at certain times and I have to work out what semantic relationships a heading may have. A thesaurus is a structured and defined list of terms which

¹Covering tangible objects and intangible concepts of significant value to Māori

² Requests for new headings are sent to reo@dia.govt.nz.

standardises words used for cataloguing and indexing (Russell, 2010). Thesauri features include, preferred terms, arrangement into a hierarchy, and relationships between terms. Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku is distinct; because it is a multi-lingual thesaurus, it has polyhierarchies (multiple Broader Terms) and it also has a number of terms with qualifiers³.

As a user of Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku, you have the option of moving up or down the hierarchy where you can select general or specific terms. Kaupapa are preferred terms that have a Tāhuhu (Broader Term) and sometimes a Heke (Narrower Term). Kaupapa usually have an English equivalent term, Tukutuku and Reo ā-iwi, where the purpose of these terms is to guide users to preferred terms. When arranging terms into the hierarchy, relationships to other terms are also worked out, and these are called Kaho. The perforated arrows show Kaho between groups of other related terms.

Slide 7: File structure of Pānuitanga whakatairanga (Advertising)

Here is an example of a heading we recently established covering advertisements, public notices, advertising. The phrase *pānuitanga whakatairanga* featured in *Te hoko whakapoapoa me te pānuitanga whakatairanga*, written by Hana Pōmare and was about the different ways organisations advertise their businesses.

After reviewing this text, we accepted the provided kupu. Scope Notes and Whakamārama were written and presented to the Project Team. The Tukutuku, *Pānuitanga hoko*, was found in the Wakareo ā-ipurangi online dictionary, but the Project Team favoured the provided term because the reader had been circulated throughout all kura in the country. The Project Team also agreed to multiple Tāhuhu of **Aō Pāpāho** (News media), **Pouaka whakaata** (Television) and **Reo irirangi** (Radio). Pānuitanga whakatairanga has a semantic relationship (Kaho) to **Mahi hokohoko** (Marketing), which currently sits under the subject area of **Ohaoha** (Economics).

Slide 8: Applying MSH to library work

Mā te kimi ka kite, mā te kite ka mōhio, mā te mōhio ka mārama.
Search and you'll find, Find and you'll discover, Discover and you will be enlightened.
(Te Rōpū Whakahau waiata, nā Hinureina Mangan ngā kupu, nā Rangiiiria Hedley te rangi, 1998)

This phrase stood to me because it supports the philosophy that gaining knowledge is essentially gaining power. For me, this highlights the underlining kaupapa of MSH, that the headings allow whānau, hapū and iwi to gain access to knowledge hidden inside the walls of libraries, knowledge that has the ability to empower Māori people to become stronger leaders within their communities.

Slide 9: MSH application to records: helpful hints when indexing and cataloguing

Helpful hints from the perspective of a cataloguer and indexer.

³a qualifier is a word or words used with a term to make the specific meaning unambiguous (Russell, 2010). Qualifiers are enclosed in brackets and are part of the term. eg Mōkai meaning pets, Mōkai (Whanaungatanga) meaning favoured child. We are aware that mōkai also means slave or captive, but this term is yet to be requested.

1. Analysis: analyse what you have in front of you. What are you describing? What is the item about? Title of books, journals, journal articles, etc won't always give you an indication of what headings to select. Select a term that best describes the source you have in front of you. Select the broader term headings, if narrower terms are unavailable. Blurbs and introductions can help you with headings selection. Additionally, it helps to think about phrases that readers may search for in library and archive catalogues (in English and Māori).
 2. Familiarise yourself with Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku. Become proficient with the technology. Explore the hierarchy, learn what subject areas each of the Top Terms (broadest terms cover), and basically practice moving up and down the hierarchy.
 3. General knowledge of the hierarchy can help you select terms. Terms are grouped with other terms which help colour their meanings, so if you are uncertain about selecting a term, check out what its 'sister', 'brother' or parent term covers.
 4. Follow the Kaho / Related Terms links. These terms will always appear on the term records if known.
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Slide 10: Hei tauira: Examples

This slide is to show an example of a 'fake' indexing record I created, using a whakataukī (quotations, sayings) selected from *Ngā Pēpeha a Ngā Tūpuna* (Mead & Grove, 2001, p.325).

Ngā mahi a Rauru - The workmanship of Rauru. Rauru, son of Toi, is credited with the origination of the art of wood carving. He was also the ancestor of Ngāti Kahungunu and responsible for its tribal knowledge of carving.

The idea here is that this is what an indexing record would look like in my fake database collection of whakataukī, whakatauākī, pēpeha (quotations, proverbs, tribal motto etc). After analysing the description of this whakataukī, it has become clear that it speaks of the art of wood carving, so the first MSH to choose is **Tā** (Carving, Art of). The next heading is **Whakairo** (Carvings), simply because the searchers of the database will identify with this word. The third heading selected is **Tohunga whakairo** (Master carvers), which would probably be picked up by a person with an advanced level of Te Reo, who might see that this whakataukī is used in reference to an expert carver.

Slide 11: Reference query for books relating to Marae.

This is an example of a reference query from a library patron who was searching for information about the marae, in particular, etiquette/protocol on the marae. By searching through Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku, you would first select **Marae**. Now you can enter Marae into the catalogue and search by Subject, which would return every resource catalogued with this heading. With the addition of **Tikanga** or **Kawa** to cover etiquette or protocol, your subject search in a catalogue is narrowed down to specific materials. By combining Marae with Tikanga, I was able to locate 21 records using both these terms⁴.

Slide 12: Future MSH development plans

⁴ Terms were searched using the National Union Catalogue (NZNUC), formerly Te Puna catalogue.

Since commencing the role of Kaitiaki, promotional work of Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku has been part of my duties in addition to creating subject headings.

I have attended conferences (LIANZA, Huia te Reo⁵) to advertise the headings, and to talk about the MSH project and respond to questions about the headings. As a result of the feedback, the Governance Group and I met in February to discuss facilitating training workshops with librarians this year. We are in the initial stages of planning half-day workshops and we are also opening up discussions with the Te Rōpū Whakahau Tūmuaki about providing support of the MSH sessions in the BoK11 Mātauranga Māori workshops. We are looking at avenues for providing online support to Librarians through our Upokotukutuku blog⁶, or else a public MSH wiki where we would publish solved requests and problems.

Slide 13: Kupu whakatepe: Conclusion

In conclusion, libraries today are shifting from being cold, monolingual and monocultural institutions and are now playing a huge part in the development of an Aotearoa-New Zealand bicultural landscape. MSH asserts the basic rights of *Access To Information* and the MSH project has allowed librarian gatekeepers to become door openers to information, fostering the learning of the communities they serve.

The aim of this presentation was to provide a perspective of the work that the Project Team, Gov Group, LIANZA, Te Rōpū Whakahau and NLNZ are putting into developing MSH terms. Development of Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku will continue to grow; new terms will be established and we will endeavour to arm cataloguers and indexers with the knowledge they require in knowing how to assign our headings with confidence and ease.

It is great to see that a commitment to supporting this project persists. Using MSH in your libraries, educating your colleagues about MSH application, and informing your customers about MSH is contributing to the overall kaupapa of the project, to provide access to Māori resources. We need your feedback, because those of us involved with MSH development cannot see what is happening on the ground level.

Ā kāti, e te whānau, mā te kimi ka kite, mā te kite ka mōhio, mā te mōhio ka mārama. Nō reira, tēna koutou, tēna koutou, tēna hoki tātou katoa.

⁵Huia te Reo National Māori Language Event hosted by Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori / The Māori Language Commission, 8-9 October 2010, Rotorua.

⁶<http://upokotukutuku.livejournal.com/> was a live blog that was created in 2009.

Ngā tohutoro : References

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Mead, H.M & Grove, N. (2001). *Ngā pēpeha a ngā tīpuna: The sayings of the ancestors*. Wellington, New Zealand: Victoria University Press.

Russell, M. (2011, February). Thesaurus construction workshop. Paper presented at the workshop of Australia and New Zealand Society of Indexers, Wellington, New Zealand.

Te Rōpū Whakahaui. (1996-2011). *Ngā waiata mō Te Rōpū Whakahaui*. Retrieved March 11, 2011 from <http://www.trw.org.nz/waiata.php>

Images from Slides 5:

Ngata Dictionary image <http://reostore.haemata.co.nz/ngata-english-m-ori-dictionary-6/>

He Pātaka Kupu image <http://www.gumboot.co.nz/product/he-pataka-kupu-book/>

Te Aka Māori-English, English-Māori Dictionary image <http://www.maoridictionary.co.nz/>

Wakareo ā-ipurangi (on-line) Māori-English-Māori lexicon by Whakairo Kupu (Wordstream) image <http://www.reotupu.co.nz/wslivewakareo/default.aspx>

Dictionary of the Māori language (H.W. Williams) image <http://www.amazon.com/Dictionary-Maori-Language/dp/1869560450>

Images from Slides 9:

Google Books Database: <http://books.google.co.nz>

To request headings for inclusion in Ngā Ūpoko Tukutuku thesaurus, please email reo@dia.govt.nz. For further information about this presentation or the MSH Project please contact:

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