

BEFORE THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL

WAI 2180

WAI 662

WAI 1835

WAI 1868

IN THE MATTER OF
AND

the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

IN THE MATTER OF

the Taihape Rangitīkei ki Rangipō
District Inquiry

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

a claim by **Peter Steedman, Herbert Steedman** and **Jordan Winiata-Haines** on behalf of themselves and the descendants of Winiata Te Whaaro and hapū of Ngāti Paki (**WAI 662**)

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

a claim by **Lewis Winiata, Ngahapeaparatuae Roy Lomax, Herbert Steedman, Patricia Anne Te Kiriwai Cross** and **Christine Teariki** on behalf of themselves and the descendants of Ngāti Paki me Ngāti Hinemanu (**WAI 1835**)

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

a claim brought by **Waina Raumaewa Hoet, Grace Hoet, Elizabeth Cox, Piaterihi Beatrice Munroe, Terira Vini, Rangimarie Harris** and **Frederick Hoet** on behalf of themselves, their whānau and all descendants of Raumaewa Te Rango, Whatu and Pango Raumaewa (**WAI 1868**)

BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF BILL BEAMISH

Dated this 4th day of February
2020

RECEIVED Waitangi Tribunal
<i>4 Feb 2020</i>
Ministry of Justice WELLINGTON

ANNETTE
SYKES & Co.
barristers & solicitors8 – Unit 1 Marguerita Street
Rotorua, 3010

Phone: 07-460-0433

Fax: 07-460-0434

Counsel Acting: Annette Sykes / Jordan Chaney / Kalei Delamere-Ririnui
Email: asykes@annetsykes.com / jordan@annetsykes.com / kalei@annetsykes.com

MAY IT PLEASE THE TRIBUNAL

Introduction

1. My name is Bill Beamish. I along with my wife and family manage and operate my family farm in Whanawhana which is on the eastern side of the Ruahine ranges. The Beamish family have occupied this farm at Whanawhana since 1878.
2. On the 11th of November 2019, I met with members of Ngāti Hinemanu and Ngāti Paki including Terence Steedman, Lewis Winiata, Mervyn Steedman, Rose Wallbank, Maurini Haines-Winiata, Hineaka Winiata, Ian Cross and Patricia Cross. My family and I had the pleasure of welcoming these people into our family homestead at Whanawhana. During their visit, I was able to show them some old family heirlooms including our family diaries, maps, a korowai, hieke and more. All of which have been kept and maintained by our family for generations. We were also able to discuss the stories that we were taught and were able to make connections in regards to our ancestors.
3. I understand that some members of Ngāti Hinemanu and Ngāti Paki have prepared evidence outlining their connections to the Kaweka and Gwavas Crown Forest Licensed lands. I have had the pleasure of reading the evidence prepared by Patricia Cross which discusses their visit to our family farm. I whole heartedly support the contents of this Brief of Evidence.
4. The writers of our family diaries were my Great grandfather and his brothers who were all joint managers of the land. This form of account keeping went on for many years. There are many extracts within the diaries that I haven't even been able to read because there are so many diaries. I came into possession of these diaries because they were handed down through the generations right to down to myself.
5. I want to address a section mentioned in the evidence of Patricia Cross relating to some derogatory statements used in our family diaries. I want to firstly make clear that those statements do not reflect what I stand for. I do not support the use of that language in any context. I do however acknowledge the fact that this language was used in our family diaries. Unfortunately, I do not know why this particular language was used and I cannot provide any context.
6. I have always been under the impression that my family have always had strong relationships with Māori in the area. There was mutual respect from both parties. My ancestors were very fortunate to receive beautiful taonga from Māori which have been

handed down through many generations. My family and I have been extremely fortunate to be able to preserve these relations with groups like Ngāti Hinemanu and Ngāti Paki.

7. I wish to also expand more on some of the history of my family in relation to their ancestor, Winiata Te Whaaro. I do not know how much interaction my ancestors had with Winiata Te Whaaro other than what Patricia Cross has already alluded to. I do however know that my family had many business dealings with Renata Kawepo and Noa Huke.
8. Patricia discusses in her evidence that Winiata Te Whaaro earmarked sheep in Beamishes stockyards in Whanawhana which were not owned by the Beamish family at the time. I cannot be sure that this was done at Whanawhana or Okawa Station because there are no records on this. She also stated that my family leased and operated Okawa Station. This is not completely correct. My family were in fact managing the Okawa Station.
9. Patricia Cross also discusses a story that I had mentioned to the members of Ngāti Hinemanu and Ngāti Paki in regards to a Taihape man who died not far from our family farm while travelling back home to Taihape. I would just like to state that his name was in fact Henare Hapurana, not Henare Hapuana. His grave and name is actually marked on an old parched handwritten map that my Great grandfather drew. I do not know much about this man but it is my understanding that he had connections to Omahu and Owahaoko.
10. I would like to end my brief by simply saying that my intention in providing this evidence is not to offend any party but to assist the claim in any way that I can.

Bill Beamish