

A History of New Zealand Women

By *Barbara Brookes*

General Notes

Teachers and
Librarians

What would a history of New Zealand look like that shifted the angle of vision and looked at the past through the eyes of women? One that started from the viewpoints of wives and daughters, grandmothers and sisters? That considered their lives as distinct from those of history's 'great men'?

This groundbreaking history is more than a narrative of women's rights, achievements and the struggle for equality. It is the story of individual women in different times and places, and their involvement in events ranging from Māori land issues, through world wars, to the creative industries.

The book is full of wonderful stories, within an overarching narrative. This first chronological history of New Zealand women traces the factors driving change over time. It includes the diversity of New Zealand women's experiences – Māori, Pākehā, Pasifika and gay women.

The illustrations offer a history in themselves – making the book accessible for readers at both junior and senior secondary levels.

BOOK FEATURES

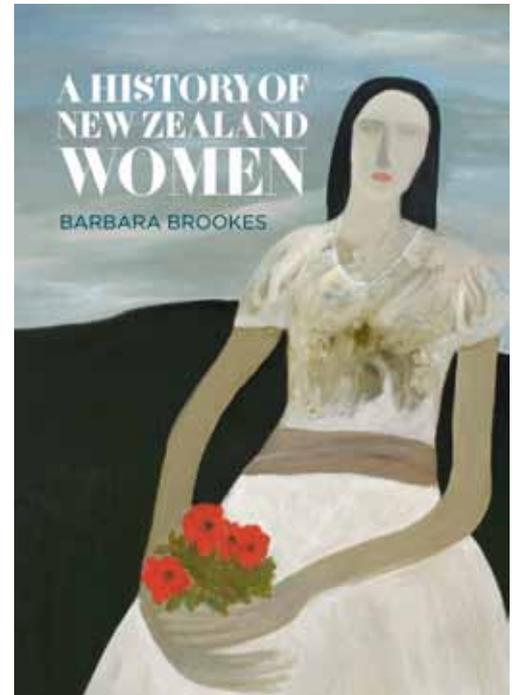
- Fourteen chapters in chronological order starting before 1814 and going up to 2015
- Full colour, illustrated with photographs, posters, magazine covers, documents, art works, artefacts
- Includes endnotes and index

THEMES

Gender issues, equality, early Māori–European contact, missionaries, colonisation, domestic and work life in early New Zealand, suffrage, New Zealand during wartime, health, sexuality, education, social welfare, activism, women's rights, famous women, women in the arts

CURRICULUM LINKS

History, social studies, art, health and physical education, general reference



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Barbara Brookes is a Professor of History at the University of Otago. Her research, writing and teaching have contributed significantly to new perspectives on women's history.



Books in School Libraries

RELATED TEXTS

Atholl Anderson, Judith Binney and Aroha Harris, *Tangata Whenua: An Illustrated History*, Bridget Williams Books, Wellington, 2014

Charlotte Macdonald and Frances Porter (eds), *My Hand will Write what my Heart Dictates: The Unsettled Lives of Women in Nineteenth-Century New Zealand As Revealed to Sisters, Family and Friends*, Bridget Williams Books, Wellington, 1996 (available as an ebook in 2018)

Bridget Williams, Charlotte Macdonald and Merimeri Penfold (eds), *The Book of New Zealand Women/Ko Kui Ma Te Kaupapa*, Bridget Williams Books, Wellington, 1991 (available as an ebook in 2018)

TEACHING SUGGESTIONS

History

See attached Notes for Teaching History.

Social Studies

Use as a reference for topics related to social justice, cultural interaction, human rights, cultural change and adaptation.

Arts

Use as reference material for researching arts in context.

Health and Physical Education

Use as a reference for analysis of beliefs, attitudes, societal influences, social organisation, local and national organisations.

■ BWB Publishing Trust would like to thank Etomia Wilson for these notes.

The BWB Publishing Trust: Books in School Libraries

Books in School Libraries sets out to enrich school library collections and enhance New Zealand students' understanding of their country. The project allows supporters to sponsor titles from the Bridget Williams Books catalogue for donation to secondary school libraries.

The Freemasons Foundation

We thank the Freemasons Foundation for their generous support for *A History of New Zealand Women* in the Books in School Libraries Programme.