

DUNEDIN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

TAIEHU COLLECTION POLICY 2011

SCOPE

This policy is concerned with the Taiehu Collection in the City Library. Its principles will also apply to smaller Māori collections held in Community Libraries throughout the Dunedin Public Libraries network.

1. Collection Scope

The collection aims to provide resources on a broad range of topics with a Māori focus. It is primarily an adult non-fiction collection with a research focus directed at the interested non-specialist. More specialised materials relating to academic or whakapapa research and government information may be consulted in the Heritage Collections.

Where fiction is included in the collection it will be as aids to extending language skills rather than as examples of works by Māori or non-Māori authors. Fiction written by Māori authors in Te Reo Māori and English may be included in the general lending collections as well as the Taiehu collection.

2. Collection Purpose

The aim of the collection is twofold: to support southern Māori in mātauranga and to foster a deeper understanding of tikanga Māori or 'the Māori way of doing things', within the wider community. As a non-fiction collection, the purpose of the collection is primarily educational rather than recreational. It is expected that the collection will be used by local iwi and interested members of the public, including students and those interested in learning Te Reo Māori.

The strength of the Taiehu collection is that it brings together items that would otherwise be widely separated, so that books on Māori arts and crafts, for example, can be found located very close to books on Māori mythology.

3. History

The Taiehu Collection was established in 1986 in consultation with local tangata whenua. The section was officially opened on 8 November 1986 with a ceremony conducted by local tangata whenua. It is named after the captain of one of the first canoes to reach Te Wai Pounamu (the South Island). Taiehu cut through the waves with his axe, Pakitua, and with his karakia, opened a path for others to follow. The hill at Otākou which shelters the church, marae and wharehau 'Tamatea' is also named Te Atua o Taiehu.

The collection focus has changed slightly over time to reflect changes in publishing and the usage of Māori language materials. Children's materials in Te Reo Māori are now housed within the Children's section where they are more accessible to children and their care givers.

4. Description of Collection

The collection contains a range of resources covering subjects of importance in Te Ao Māori including books on traditional arts and crafts, biographies of Māori leaders, language materials, health, education and politics. It includes a small amount of adult fiction including poetry, magazines and audio visual materials. Most popular items are duplicated elsewhere in the collections and are for lending unless otherwise specified.

5. Housing

The collection was originally located on the Ground Floor of the City Library. In 1998 it was moved to its present location, on the Second Floor. A table and chairs are provided to facilitate study.

6. Valuation

Valuation for insurance purposes is revised regularly. Lending collections are depreciated at the rate of 20% of the purchase price over five years.

7. Collection Management

Responsibility for selection rests with the Collection Specialist responsible for selection for the Heritage Collections with input from other Collection Specialists, as appropriate. Collection Specialists will coordinate orders for new material when items are duplicated in different collections, eg Taiehu and Fiction.

7.1 Selection Tools

Resources used to aid selection include:

- Suggestions from the public – print and online
- Trade, library, general, and special interest magazines – print and online
- Publishers' and booksellers' catalogues – print and online
- Special interest websites
- Online newsletters, eg Booksellers' Brief
- New Zealand National Bibliography
- Titles on approval from local suppliers
- Te Rōpū Whakahau listserv

7.2 Selection Guidelines

In selecting titles for the Taiehu collection criteria include general selection criteria contained in the Collection Development Policy 2009 and specifically the following:

- Relevance to local iwi
- Te Reo Māori content
- New Zealand or Pacific content or relevance
- Local interest
- Significant updating of an older work
- Expected status as a 'standard work' or classic text
- Literary or artistic merit

7.3. Deselection

Because of the special significance of Māori materials, deselection is carried out sparingly and due consideration is given to the replacement of materials removed from the collection because of loss, damage, or wear. Items deselected from the Taiehu Collection are considered for possible addition to the McNab Collection or offered to community groups before being discarded.

8. Formats

Materials are provided in the following formats:

- Books (hardback, paperback)
- Magazines
- Compact discs including MP3 and M4B
- DVDs

Note: Where sound recordings are provided it is expected that the purpose will be for educational rather than recreational use, eg recordings of performance rather than recordings by individual Māori artists.

9. Acquisitions and Purchasing

- 9.1** Suppliers are chosen on the basis of cost, discounts, range and scope of materials offered, speed and reliability of delivery, and general level of customer service.

9.2 To maximise efficiency the number of suppliers (local, New Zealand, Australian, UK, and USA) is kept as small as possible.

10. Standing Orders
Not applicable

11. Donations
Donations are gratefully received by the Library, and may on some occasions be actively sought. Their retention however is subject to the judgement of relevant Collection Specialists. The Library reserves the right to make decisions concerning suitability for the collections, and acceptance will be guided by the relevant selection guidelines.

12. Preservation and Repair
Collection items will be repaired and rebound appropriate to their age, condition and expected future use. Items will be replaced wherever possible, by new or second hand copies.

13. Review
This policy will be reviewed within five years.