
waitangi day Auck. Waitangi Day Celebrations

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A free multi-cultural event will be held at 10:30 am February 6th 1997 at St. Matthews in the city to commemorate Waitangi Day, New Zealand's national holiday. Following the success of last years Auckland Waitangi Commemoration, the WAIATA ARTISTS INC TRUST will again organise Auckland city's official function, financed by the Department of Internal Affairs, at St Mathews in the City. Confirmed from last years line-up are top group Hello Sailor and reggae master Tigi Ness, joined by singer-songwriter Emma Paki, TVNZ Showcase finalists Jamoa Jam, and a 200 strong choir culled from combined Tongan Methodist Churches. Last year Tigi Ness, leader of I Unity Band and former 12 Tribes of Israel member, was joined by his son Che (aka Che Fu), who is unable to attend this year because of commitments to The Big Day Out in Australia. Since his appearance at last years Auckland Waitangi Day Commemoration, Che (the former Supergroove lead singer) has collaborated with DLT, topping the charts with Chains. This year Tigi will team up with nine year old daughter Miriam who, with her school friends has already released, with her school mates a cassingle Bombjour Jaques Chirac. Speakers include new Alliance MP Pam Corkery and representing Ngati Whatua Grant Hawke. Other speakers to be announced. Speakers will concentrate on this nations founding document The Treaty of Waitangi and what it means to be a Kiwi in the 1990's. For the first time, this year will see awards given out to Aucklanders who have attempted to bridge the gaps between New Zealand's multifarious cultures. More information next week. The Auckland Waitangi Day comemoration is intended for all New Zealanders, hence the multi cultural format of the event, and a korero (discussion) is encouraged. Refreshments will be available.
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