

# Humorous History Of New Zealand: The Lighter Side of Kiwi History

Are you ready to embark on a hilarious journey through the history of New Zealand? This captivating book will take you on a laughter-filled adventure, revealing the quirky, humorous, and downright bizarre events that shaped this nation.

From the sheep-stealing politicians of the 19th century to the bungee-jumping pioneers of the 20th century, this book uncovers the hidden gems of New Zealand's past that will make you chuckle and gasp in amazement.



## Nieuw Zeeland An English-Speaking Polynesian Country With A Dutch Name: A Humorous History of New Zealand by Geoffrey Corfield

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
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## Sheep-Stealing Politicians and Colonial Capers

New Zealand's early history is filled with tales of colorful characters and outrageous events. In the 19th century, sheep-stealing was a serious

problem, and even politicians were not above indulging in this illicit activity.

One of the most notorious sheep-stealers was a politician named John Bryce. Bryce was a respected member of the Canterbury Provincial Council, but he had a secret passion for sheep rustling. In 1862, he was caught red-handed with a flock of stolen sheep, and his political career came crashing down.

Another hilarious incident from this era involves the arrival of the first governor of New Zealand, William Hobson. Hobson was a British naval officer who was tasked with establishing a British colony in New Zealand. However, Hobson had a rather peculiar habit: he loved to wear a full suit of armor, even in the sweltering New Zealand summer.

One day, Hobson decided to visit a Maori village in full armor. The Maori were amazed and amused by the sight of this strange, armored man. They dubbed him "Captain Ironsides," and he became a legend among the Maori people.

## **Bungee-Jumping Pioneers and Kiwi Ingenuity**

New Zealand is also known for its pioneering spirit and innovative inventions. In the 1980s, a group of Kiwi adventurers decided to try something that had never been done before: bungee jumping.

The first bungee jump was performed by AJ Hackett off the Kawarau Gorge Suspension Bridge in 1988. This daring feat captured the world's attention and made bungee jumping a popular extreme sport.

Another example of Kiwi ingenuity is the invention of the jet boat. In the 1950s, a New Zealand inventor named Bill Hamilton developed a revolutionary new type of boat that could travel over shallow water and navigate rapids. The jet boat quickly became a popular choice for adventure seekers and water enthusiasts around the world.

## **The Land of Quirks and Characters**

New Zealand is a land of quirks and characters, and its history is no exception. This book is filled with stories of eccentric individuals and hilarious mishaps that will make you laugh out loud.

One of the most famous Kiwi eccentrics was a man named John A. Lee. Lee was a politician and union leader who was known for his colorful personality and outrageous behavior.

In 1935, Lee was elected mayor of Christchurch. One of his first acts as mayor was to ban women from wearing trousers in public. Lee believed that trousers were unladylike and that women should wear skirts or dresses instead.

Another hilarious incident involving Lee occurred during a visit to London. Lee was invited to a dinner party hosted by the British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill. Lee arrived at the party wearing a full Maori costume, complete with a feathered cloak and a moko (facial tattoo).

Churchill was reportedly amused by Lee's attire, and the two men had a lively discussion about New Zealand and its people.

The Humorous History Of New Zealand is a treasure trove of laughter and historical insights. This book will take you on a rollercoaster ride through the quirky, hilarious, and downright bizarre events that have shaped this nation.

So, if you're looking for a good laugh and a fresh perspective on New Zealand's history, then this book is for you. Grab your copy today and prepare to be entertained!



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