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20-24 July THE WEEK IN NEW ZEALAND'S HISTORY

July

20

1892

[Steam locomotive sets world speed record](#)

The Wellington and Manawatu Railway (WMR) Company's locomotive No. 10 established a world speed record for the narrow 3 foot 6 inch (1067 mm) gauge, averaging 68 km per hour on a two-hour run and hitting a top speed of 103 kph.

[Read the full story about this Event](#)

1965

[Riots rock Mt Eden prison](#)

The disturbance followed a botched escape attempt and lasted into the next day. Prisoners took several warders hostage and fire gutted part of the prison.

[Read the full story about this Event](#)

2023

[Football Ferns achieve historic win at FIFA World Cup](#)

The Football Ferns' 1–0 victory over Norway at Eden Park, Auckland, was the first win by a senior New Zealand team at a World Cup finals tournament.

[Read the full story about this Event](#)

Jul

21

1865

[Capture of Weraroa pā](#)

Governor George Grey led a small force that captured a Pai Mārire (Hauhau) pā at Weraroa, near Waitōtara. The pā had long lost its strategic significance, and its small garrison had seemed willing to surrender.

[Read the full story about this Event](#)

1925

[Te Haahi Rātana established as a church](#)

Founded in 1918 by Tahupōtiki Wiremu Rātana (1873–1939), the religious movement that bore his name gave hope to many dispossessed Māori and later became a political force.

[Read the full story about this Event](#)

Jul

22

1987

[Lotto goes on sale for first time](#)

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[Read the full story about this Event](#)

Jul

23

1851

[*Maria* wrecked near Cape Terawhiti](#)

Twenty-six lives were lost when the barque *Maria* was wrecked near Cape Terawhiti. This provided more ammunition for Wellington settlers who were trying to convince the government of the need for a lighthouse.

[Read the full story about this Event](#)

1952

[Yvette Williams leaps to gold at Helsinki](#)

Yvette Williams (later Corlett) won the long jump to become New Zealand's first female Olympic medallist.

[Read the full story about this Event](#)

Jul

24

2000

[New Zealand soldier killed in East Timor](#)

Private Leonard Manning was the first New Zealander killed in combat since the Vietnam War.

[Read the full story about this Event](#)

Jul

25

1981

[Anti-Springbok protesters block Hamilton match](#)

Anti-tour demonstrators invaded Hamilton's Rugby Park, forcing the abandonment of the Springboks–Waikato match.

[Read the full story about this Event](#)

