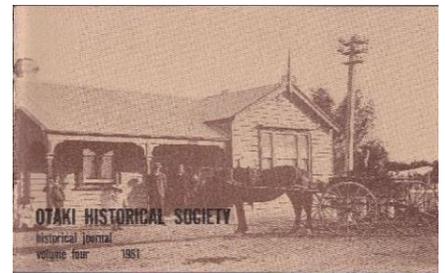
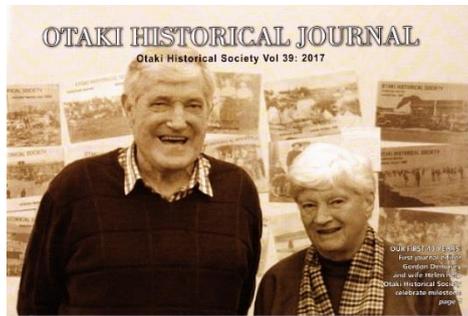


Otaki Historical Society

Newsletter • September 2018 • otakihistoricalsociety.org.nz

NEXT MEETING: 2 October 2018: Rotary Hall 7.30 p.m.



Next Meeting 2 October 2018

Our speaker will be Emerson Vandy from the National Library. Emerson is the Digital Services Manager at the National Library, involved in the digitisation of New Zealand's Newspapers. Papers Past contains more than five million pages of digitised New Zealand newspapers and periodicals. The collection covers the years 1839 to 1945 and includes over 120 publications from all regions of New Zealand.

Of special interest will be the recent availability on Papers Past of the Otaki Mail newspapers from 1919 to 1945 which until digitised were unavailable to the public as they are stored by the society at the Otaki Museum.

Learn tips and tricks on how to make most of your searches!

This press at Te Papa was donated by the proprietors of The Chronicle, Levin. It had been used by this newspaper since 1946 as a proof press. Before then it had been at Otaki since 1892 where it was used successively by the Horowhenua Times, the Otaki Times, and the Otaki Mail.



Last Meeting

The speaker at our August public meeting was Brent Bythell who gave us a great insight (including many interesting stats and examples) of the workings of our local Fire Brigade since 1918. The Otaki Fire Brigade has celebrated their centenary with several functions and events during the year. Included amongst these has been the placing of a commemorative plaque on the site of the original fire station, an excellent exhibition at the Otaki Museum and a reunion of past and present members.

OHS Committee Update

The August meeting was also our 40th AGM.

Of special note was the recognition of the service given to the society by Jan Harris who retired after 17 years involvement. Jan had held many positions on the committee and had also edited the OHS Journal and provided the historical updates to the Otaki Mail.

A qualified historian, Jan also fielded and answered the majority of the queries and requests that came to the society during her time. Jan's contribution was recognised with the awarding of life membership and the presentation of a book voucher by President, Meagan Roach. Thank you Jan! We hope you enjoy the extra time you will have.



The following officers were elected for the 2018 – 2019 year.

Position	Name	Nominated and seconded by
Patron	Anne Thorpe	Patsy Whenuaroa/Meagan Roach
President	Meagan Roach	Jan Harris/Annie Bythell
Vice Presidents	Annie Bythell Patsy Whenuaroa	Jeanette Carpenter/Gail Hall
Secretary	Sarah Maclean	Meagan Roach/Di Buchan
Treasurer	No nominations-carried over	
Committee Members	Ian Cooksley Alan Stead Jeanette Carpenter	Annie Bythell/Patsy Whenuaroa Jeanette Carpenter/B. Bythell Meagan Roach/Annie Bythell

Note: At the committee meeting held on 4 September Neil Greenwood was elected to the position of treasurer. A career accountant Neil and his wife have recently moved to Otaki from Wellington. We welcome them to the society

Points of interest from AGM

- Neale Ames was reappointed as Auditor
- Subscription to remain the same at \$15 (individual) and \$20 (family)
- Janice King asked that the society record its appreciation of Ian and Debbi Carson's several years work on the journal.
- Meagan Roach advised the following changes to the OHS Journal responsibilities:
 - Editor: Sarah Maclean
 - Graphic Designer: Lynn Peck
 - Advertising Liaison: Annie Bythell



Previous Journals

The society has a number of past journals available for sale at varying prices (from \$5). Please contact us to confirm the availability and cost of any of these journals you are interested in.

Note: Digitised copies of out of print journals and/or articles from any of our journals can be purchased from the society. Contact us for costs and further details:

OHS Website and Index

The updated 1978 -2017 index is now available on the website. www.otakihistoricalsociety.org.nz The index is a valuable tool for researchers and members seeking information relating to the content of our 39 journals. Use the index to see if your interest (or family) are mentioned. If you find relevant information, refer to your journals or contact the Society. We continue to receive an increasing number of queries and new members through the site.

OHS Facebook Page

63 photos from our archives were recently added to Facebook. This resulted in an amazing 1700 visits, over 1000

likes and 87 comments during the first week alone. It is pleasing to see many Otaki people now living overseas and in different parts of NZ enjoying the photos and reconnecting with old friends.

<https://www.facebook.com/otakihistoricalsociety/>



Upcoming Events

Public Meeting

October 2 2018. Emerson Vandy speaking on Papers Past

Heritage Week

The following invitation was received from Wellington Heritage Week.

Wellington Heritage Week 2018 returns for 22–28 October with over 30 events throughout the region that celebrate its people, places and stories. Events include walking tours, property tours, exhibitions, films and public talks on a range of topics. Highlights include:

The Great War: Profiteering, Patriotism & Peril: Hear three talks on the lesser known New Zealand experiences of WW1. Presented by staff at the Great War Exhibition, talks include tales of patriotism that gripped New Zealand from the outset of war, thrilling tales of the medieval walls of Les Quesnay, and the stories of those who used the tragedy of war as a way to grow their personal fortune. *6:30pm Thursday 25 Oct. Booking requested but not required.*

Archaeological Walking Tour: Mary O’Keeffe is an archaeologist and has been investigating Wellington’s archaeology for over 20 years. In this guided walk Mary will take you to various sites in inner-city Wellington that she’s explored over the years and share the stories that each site has revealed. This event booked out last year. *2pm Monday 22 October. Booking required.*

Truby King House and Garden Tours: Visit the former home of Sir Truby King and Lady Isabella King, the founders of the Plunket Society. Sir Truby is widely remembered for his contribution to improving the health of children. *10am-4pm Monday 22 October. Booking required.*

Upper Hutt Blockhouse Open Day: Visit Upper Hutt’s historic Blockhouse and its special exhibition. Built in 1860 during the New Zealand Wars to protect colonial settlement in the Hutt Valley, the Blockhouse is one of very few of its type remaining in NZ. The special exhibition is housed in the Blockhouse explores the unique history of the Blockhouse, the site, and the New Zealand Wars in the Hutt Valley. *11am-3pm Sunday 28 October. No booking is required.*

From Pito-one to Petone Tour: Join a free heritage tour on the history of Petone from 1800’s to today. Together we’ll step back in time and tour through industrialisation, the settler’s ship Aurora, Te Atiawa’s long standing settlements around our beautiful harbor, and share a lovely cup of tea together. *12pm Tuesday 23 & Thursday 25 October. Booking is required.*

Bookings can be made via the hosts listed on www.wellingtonheritageweek.co.nz.

Sponsored by Wellington City Council, Museums Wellington, Wellington Civic Trust, and Wellington Community Trust, Wellington Heritage Week is a community sourced heritage festival organized by the Wellington Heritage Week Trust.



Upper Hutt Blockhouse

<http://visit.upperhuttcity.com/blockhouse>

Museum

'The Otaki Scholar and Otaki: a legacy of World War One' exhibition continues until late in October.

Concurrently between 12 September and 27 October an exhibition marking the 125th anniversary of women's suffrage in NZ will be held at the museum. Mid November sees the opening of the Museum Building exhibition.

New Book

We received an anonymous donation of the booklet 'Maoris of By-gone Days' by Octavius Hadfield. This is a valuable and interesting addition to our library.

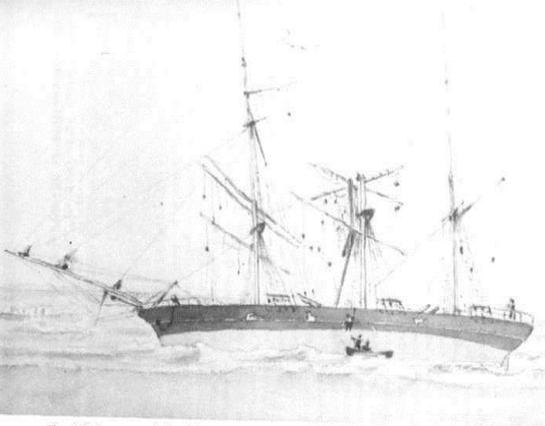


Reminder

The Society warmly welcomes:

- Ideas and articles for future journals.
- Photographs, manuscripts, and documents etc. relating to the history of Otaki and its surrounds.
- New members.

Contact us at: otakihistoricalsociety@yahoo.com

Historical Otaki related snippets from the press: Oct-Nov	Courtesy Papers Past et al
<p>1878 <i>Immigrant ship 'City of Auckland' founders off Otaki Beach.</i></p> <p>Follow these links to read interesting articles: https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/EP18781028.2.17?end_date=28-10-1878&page=2&query=city+of+auckland&start_date=28-10-1878 https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/NZTIM18781025.2.12?end_date=25-10-1878&page=2&query=city+of+auckland&start_date=25-10-1878 http://stagebarn.com/naomi/auckland.html https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/EP18781023.2.9.1?end_date=23-10-1878&query=256+immigrants&start_date=23-10-1878</p>	 <p><i>'City of Auckland'</i></p>
<p>1878 <i>Barque Felixstowe aground at Otaki Beach</i></p> <p>Newspaper report below: https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/EP18781014.2.22?end_date=14-10-1878&query=felixstowe+otaki&start_date=14-10-1878&title=EP</p>  <p><i>Memorial Cairn at Otaki Beach acknowledging the two shipwrecks</i></p>	 <p><i>The Felixstowe overwhelmed by the surf – a water colour by J. T. Stewart (Wanganui Regional Museum).</i></p> <p><i>Sketch of Felixstowe by JT Stewart</i></p>

Deaths from the influenza epidemic continued unabated during November and December 1918 affecting many local families.

1918

(following extract from NZ Times 13 November 1918)

Private Arthur A. Bright, a member of the 46th Reinforcement, died yesterday at the Featherston Camp Hospital from Influenza. Over two thousand soldiers in the Featherston Camp are reported to be suffering from influenza.

Private Bright, who was one of the most popular young men in the Otaki district, was the son of the late Mr and Mrs Fred Bright, known as pioneer settlers in the Horowhenua district. He was a well known bowler and at various times owned racehorses.

He was a brother to Mrs Byron Brown and Mrs E. T. Daniel of Wellington and brother to Mr F.H. Bright, of Otaki. He leaves a wife and one daughter to mourn their loss. In view of Private Bright's death the peace celebrations at Otaki were allowed to pass off quietly.

His mother, Mary Ann Bright, was one of the Otaki women who voted in the historic 1893 election.



Inscription on local woman's headstone on Motuihe Island

*Only daughter of G.V. Kemsley Esq.
and Mrs Kemsley of Waikanae
Wife of E. J. Browning
"Her Life for Others"*

*(Ethel had been voluntarily nursing influenza patients from the H.M.S. Makura whom had been quarantined to the island.)
(ex-postmistress Te Horo, great aunt of Patsy Whenuaroa OHS)*



Interesting Historical References and Resources

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/comment/106609659/family-memories-can-be-so-much-more-important-than-we-think>

Interesting article on Stuff re family history

<http://wellington.recollect.co.nz>

Wellington City Recollect website, a database of heritage photos, books, maps and related ephemera reflecting the Capital's past

<https://wellington.govt.nz/your-council/archives>

Wellington City Archives is a primary information resource for the history of Wellington.

<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers>

Go to Papers Past to search the recently digitised the Otaki Mail

<https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/libraries/heritage-maori/>

A reminder to visit this site which has a wealth of local history and many photographs



ORDER YOUR HISTORICAL JOURNAL 2017 NOW

Order by:

- Internet banking to: Otaki Historical Society, account no: 38 9004 0987739 00.
(Please ensure your name and 'JOURNAL 2017' is included in the reference field.) Then send us an email with your name, address and phone number. (otakihistoricalsociety@yahoo.com)
- Emailing Maurice King at jandmking@xtra.co.nz (please include name, address, phone number and email address).
- Filling in this form and posting it with your cheque to: Otaki Historical Society, PO Box 50, Otaki 5542.
- Emailing otakihistoricalsociety@yahoo.com

NAME/S:

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EMAIL:

Cost: \$25 Copy: Number required Postage NZ: \$4 (per copy): Aus \$10 (per copy) Total \$

MEMBERSHIP YEAR AUGUST 2018 TO JULY 2019

Please note that yearly fees for the Otaki Historical Society are set at the AGM in August and all fees are due thereafter. Single membership is \$15, family membership is \$20. Fees may be paid at the bimonthly meetings, or by mail to PO Box 50, Otaki 5542, or by internet banking. The Otaki Historical Society account no is: 38 9004 0987739 00 (please ensure your Name and 'Subs 2017-18' is included in the reference field).

NAME/S:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

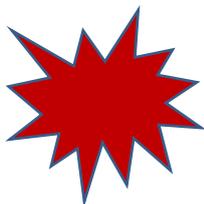
EMAIL:

Subscription \$

Donation \$

Total \$

(\$15 INDIVIDUAL OR \$20 FAMILY Subscription for 2017 – 2018)



Remember to include your name in the reference field when paying your subscriptions online !!

Email address reminder: The society now has an email address: otakihistoricalsociety@yahoo.com Use this address or the postal address, Otaki Historical Society, PO Box 50, Otaki 5542, to contact the society on any subject.

Acknowledgments: Papers Past, Te Papa, Kerr Page, KCDC, nzetc.victoria.ac.nz