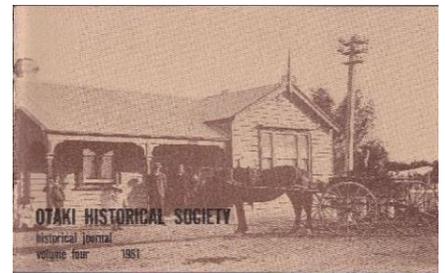
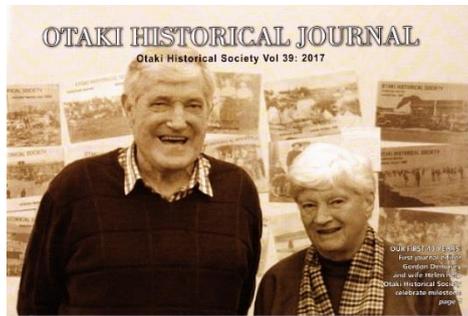


Otaki Historical Society

Newsletter • July 2018 • otakihistoricalsociety.org.nz

NEXT MEETING: 7 August 2018: Rotary Hall 7.30 p.m.



Next Meeting 7 August 2018

AGM

This meeting is our AGM and we invite all members and friends to consider joining our very active committee. During the last twelve months we have unfortunately lost the services of two of our long term and valued committee members. We recognise and appreciate the service our members give during the time spent working for the society but realise there will always come a time when it is necessary for them to step down from official duties. Please give some thought to assisting with continuing the work of the OHS as they embark on another 40 years.

Speaker:

The speaker at this meeting will be Brent Bythell. Brent, who has been a member of the Otaki Fire Brigade for many years will speak on the history of the brigade over the past 100 years. The centenary celebrations were held recently and over the past three months the Otaki Heritage Bank Museum hosted a great exhibition featuring the brigade.

This promises to be a very interesting presentation.



Last Meeting

The speaker at our June public meeting was John Taylor. John entertained the audience with his memories of growing up in the Convent Road – Bennett's Road area. His father was a drover with three horses and several dogs. There were six children in the Taylor family and life was busy with all heating and cooking provided by a wood and coal range. Firewood cutting was a daily job for all. The family had hens and a house cow which was milked by hand. Mrs. Taylor made butter. Toheroa and pipi supplemented the diet. Friday night was movie night and children from the area which included Tainui marae walked into town and back. A hazard in the dark were the brumbies which roamed freely around the area and often appeared on the road. The family participated in the sports clubs and had after school jobs in the market gardens. John's father had a contract with McBeth's Butchery and drove the required stock over the Akatarawa Road and north to Otaki, then through the stock route of Dunstan street and County Road.

Following the meeting the audience enjoyed a time of reminiscing over supper.

Courtesy Jan Harris.

OHS Committee Update

- The series of interviews with Coast Access Radio discussing OHS and local history in general is continuing this year. As earlier reported these interviews are part of Coast Access Radio's 'Conversations' segment which is broadcast on 104.7 FM on Saturday mornings at 9 am. These sessions are held monthly. If you miss the radio programme, you can listen to it online. Go to <http://coastaccessradio.org.nz/> and follow the instructions on the home page.
- We continue to receive requests for journals, information, advice and photographs from genealogists, historians and people interested in Otaki's history.
- The committee is continuing to review our policies and procedures to ensure they meet current requirements. e.g Privacy Act, Copyright etc. We have also met with the Museum to confirm the arrangements we have with them in relation to the collections housed at the museum, our room rental etc. A memorandum of understanding has been signed between our two organisations.
- The copies of the Otaki Mail newspaper which have been stored by the Society for many years have now been digitised on Papers Past. We acknowledge the investment by the Otaki Heritage Bank Museum in working with the National Library to enable this to occur.

Other Updates

OHS Journals

The 2017 journal continues to sell well. Discussions and research are underway in preparation for the next issue.

Purchase of 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.

Upcoming Events

Public Meeting: **Aug 7th 2018. AGM and Guest Speaker. Brent Bythell speaking on the centenary of the Otaki Fire Brigade**

Museum

The popular Fire Brigade exhibition closed on June 30. The next exhibition, 'The Otaki Scholar and Otaki: a legacy of World War One' opens on July 20.

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: Aug - Sep

Courtesy Papers Past et al

1848

'Mr. Skipwith's sheep have been driven to Otaki, from Manawatu under orders from Rangihaeata. A drove of pigs belonging to Mr. Webb have also been detained by Rangihaeata.'

'His Excellency the Governor in Chief proceeded to Otaki forthwith, where it is believed arrangements will be made with the natives for the purchase of the district'

Right: Rangihaeata holding his mere Te Tuhiwai and Governor George Grey



1858

The Wellington Independent published a critical article relating to Archdeacon Hadfield refusing to allow the Otaki School and Industrial Farm to be inspected. The school which was founded in c1850 for natives and half-castes had received funding under certain conditions. Read the interesting article at:

https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/WI18580811.2.5?end_date=30-09-1858&phrase=0&query=otaki&start_date=01-08-1858

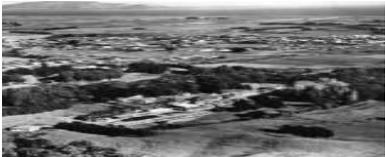


Rev Hadfield

1908

Walter Davis who had recently relocated to Otaki fainted and died at the Hockey Club dance. The unfortunate individual had played hockey earlier in the day for the Otaki men's team.

Mrs. JE Brown (recently deceased) whose late husband was an MP had left a generous bequest of 1,000 pounds to the Otaki Consumptive Hospital



Otaki Sanatorium from the air 1957



An early Otaki Hockey Team

1918

All Saints Church held a special commemoration service to acknowledge the nearly 50 men of the parish who had made the supreme sacrifice during WW1

The Otaki Patriotic Society continued to raise money to assist returning soldiers

An inquest into the death of Frank Walker from the Otaki Mail was held. Mr Walker had been injured at work on July 16 and went missing on July 19, his body was found in the Waitohu River. Read the article at:

https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/newspapers/HC19180820.2.16?end_date=30-09-1918&page=19&phrase=0&query=otaki&start_date=01-08-1918

Right: Otaki School and public War Memorials



Frank Walker's Headstone Otaki cemetery



Interesting References and Resources

<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

Do you receive your newsletter by mail? If you would prefer to receive it by email, please advise us at:

otakihistoricalsociety@yahoo.com

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MEMBERSHIP YEAR AUGUST 2017 TO JULY 2018		
<p>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).</p>		
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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, 111emergency.co.nz, ufba.org.nz, nzhistory.org.ketehorowhenua.