

THE BIRKENHEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(Incorporated 1979)

PO Box 34419

Birkenhead

Auckland 0746



September / October 2013 NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

I do hope you are all keeping warm and dry, if you are like me waiting for the weather to get warmer and reading library books, when I am not doing local history and family tree research.

Thomas Cotter and other Committee members have almost finished a complete stock take of all items we have stored in the Museum, Anne then will enter them all onto a data base to be placed in the Museum computer sometime soon. We will be able to commence labelling all items and improving our display within the many cabinets and shelves. Brian has both computers up and running well at present, and has fitted a new front door lock. Printer is next to be upgraded.

Gina Casey, our new Committee member, has generously donated new curtains for the lounge and bedroom, and her husband has replaced the handrail on the ramp at no cost to us, many thanks for doing this.

On August 24th we hosted the Auckland Area Heritage Day for the N.Z Federation of Historical Societies at Zion Hill Church, with about 44 guests attending.

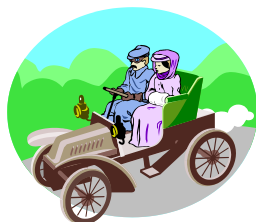
Coral gave a presentation on the history of the Church and a guided tour of the Church and hall and Brian gave a very informative presentation on Birkenhead around 1880 or thereabouts.

Our Committee really did a fantastic job providing all the refreshments – quite an undertaking!!!

During the Auckland Heritage Festival this year Brian will give a presentation on the Birkenhead Coastline at the Birkenhead Library, on 29th September 1.30 - 2.30pm.

Look at back page for details of our upcoming trip

If you have not paid your annual subscription these are *NOW OVERDUE*, a form is on the back of this newsletter. We do appreciate you paying promptly as the funds will be spent on the upkeep of the Museum which we hope will be a permanent reminder of our history.



Thames Trip – Going for Gold - What an amazing day I think everyone that was there would agree.



Our first stop on way to Thames



Sitting a spell before carrying on



Brian with our tour guide at the mines



Fish for dinner tonight

Auckland Area Heritage Day Regional Gathering at Zion Hill



Are railways to be scrapped in the near future?

Mr H. G Wells, writing in the February issue of "The Strand Magazine, says that they will probably be scrapped within another half century as slow and wasteful."

Mr Wells considers development may occur in road material, in aeroplanes, in airships, and wireless. "But there will be nothing beyond the aeroplane; and in wireless. Only an improved aeroplane. Nothing beyond wire-borne or wireless telegraphy; only speedier and more effective transmission.

"If I could revisit the world in A.D. 2424 five hundred years from now (he writes), I doubt if I should find travel more than twice as fast as it is possible to travel to day, or any great further developments of material inventions, but I am sure that I should find schools that would have the same relation to the schools of to-day that an aeroplane has to the travelling coach that took Sterne to Paris; I should find prisons and lunatic asylums almost completely swept away; I should find the relations of man to man no longer complicated by the intervention of old gentlemen in wigs and scarlet; I should find the economic system unencumbered by a bitter scramble for mere possessions, and war a fading tradition on the memories of men."

Mr Wells think that, following the material achievements of the past century, man will become introspective, and turn his practical attention to himself. He believes that the coming century will be essential one of applied psychology.

Food for thought.

COMING EVENTS

Mini Mystery Tour
21 September 2013
Cost \$20

We leave Verran's Corner 9.30am then via Birkdale Road around Beach Haven and depart the Museum 10.00am travelling on to Silverdale for morning tea (your expense) Kings Plant Barn Café, Then on to Whangaparaoa. Depending on weather on the day will determine were we stop for lunch (could be anywhere, that's the mystery). Don't forget to bring your lunch.
Please telephone Mavis 483 7230 to book your seat.

October - Heritage Weeks – Saturday 28 September until Sunday 13 October 2013.

23 November – Christmas Party – St Andrews

Thank you to those who have supplied an email address for us to send the newsletters to. If anyone else would like to receive the newsletter electronically please don't hesitate to contact us with your email address.

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