



Keeping in Touch

Newsletter for New Zealand History Federation Inc

Te Kotahitanga o nga Hitori o Aotearoa

Patron: Robin Astridge QSM KIT Editor: Lisa Truttman

nzhistoryfederation@gmail.com

www.nzhistoricalsocieties.org.nz

June 2022

2022 NZHF Conference and AGM



Onehunga, from the time of trams. Postcard from Editor's collection

Summary by Lisa Truttman. These are my personal views, and should not be taken to reflect the views of the executive committee of the NZ History Federation.

We needed to have an AGM this year, by regulation and our rules, and the conference usually takes place right along with the AGM. In these weird and shifting times, an Auckland location for 2022 seemed best (we are making tentative plans for future conferences, over the next couple of years, to be elsewhere on the North Island), and Onehunga seemed a likely spot.

However, organising and hosting a conference takes local manpower. The Onehunga & Fencible Historical Society, when approached earlier this year, firmly said that they didn't feel up to the task of taking on such a task, which is totally understandable. I'd been involved with the Auckland conference of 2016 with Avondale-Waterview and Mt Roskill co-hosting, and know from first-hand experience that it is quite involved.

So, novel idea number one, the Federation itself stepped in as the host society. In a way, this has happened before now, one instance being in 2015 when there was also limited assistance from local societies in the Wellington area (aside from Onslow Historical Society who provided us with the room for the AGM, and very kindly provided lunch and refreshments). That conference was double-billed as co-hosted by both Onslow and the Federation. In the case of the 2022 AGM and conference, though — it was organised and hosted by the Federation, with afternoon and evening attractions provided by both the Onehunga & Fencible Historical Society and the Railway Enthusiasts Society.

Novel idea number two, in the light of this situation where all the hall-hiring, dinner venue finding, catering (apart from afternoon tea at the Railway Enthusiasts), administration, registration tracking, enquiries fielding, furniture arranging, grocery buying and delivery, negotiating etc was being undertaken by Federation (and by Federation here, I mean myself and our Treasurer Alan Bray), I put to the executive committee that everything to do with the conference apart from the dinners be subsidised 100% by us. This was for two reasons — to simplify a huge task to be carried out by just two people (with a committee spread over two regions), and to give a form of “thank you” to you, our members, for your support over this past year.

All in all, despite hiccups, it did work out. OFHS eventually came to agree during the course of the pre-game flurry of organisation that, while organising the conference was beyond them, they would open up their houses and the blockhouse on Jellicoe Park. Initial doubts from their quarter about that though involved a misconception that an annual conference is the same as a regional gathering. The latter Onehunga had hosted before now, and on that occasion when they opened their houses after the morning’s session at the Onehunga Community House, many of those attending had opted to leave early as there was nothing else taking place afterward. But, as I assured their President — an annual conference is different, and especially this year’s one-day event, where there was a dinner at the end to entice participants to stay. Fortunately, Onehunga did have a change of heart. Our thanks to Onehunga & Fencible Historic Society for their assistance in that regard — and special thanks to Cyril Skilton who assisted with the video presentation at the dinner.

Alan secured agreement from the Railway Enthusiasts for their rooms to be used as the afternoon tea stop on the bus tour which Alan arranged and planned without any assistance from me. Thank you as well to the Railway Enthusiasts, who I hear put on a really nice tea.

The dinner preparations got caught up with both the pandemic alert levels, and that for a long while the Club Onehunga 2020 had no caterer. While there is another venue in Onehunga, The Landing near the harbourside, that one had a dinner room that was only accessible via stairs, and we of course have to consider those attendees who have issues with that. Fortunately, in the final weeks, a caterer returned to Club Onehunga, and dinner was sorted. Accompanied by a showing of “The Onehunga Story” afterward, thanks to Alan and Cyril of OFHS.

One thing about folks attending these sorts of things I find — they have great heart, and are full of caring. At 8.30 am on the morning of the conference, two members of OFHS, Laurence and Marlene Mathews, came up to me, saw I was under tremendous strain at that point, and helped Alan and me by setting to with getting cups and saucers ready as well as helping when the catering supplies came, and were absolutely fabulous and supportive during the day and into the evening. Laurence and Marlene — thank you! Other attendees freely helped out as well. It reminded me a lot of the days back in the early 2000s when my home society’s members from Avondale-Waterview, part of the older more community-minded generation, would see a problem, and simply muck in to help out almost without being asked. The Onehunga Community House caretaker Miguel, seeing on the Friday before when we set up that Alan and I did not have the manpower behind us, helped us out then and on the Saturday because of his wonderfully kind and professional manner. He freely offered to help out with the dishwasher during the Saturday morning — I’m truly grateful to him, who did everything he could to make the event less stressful for us.

Your committee for 2022/2023 are:

Patron: Robin Astridge

President: Lisa Truttman

Vice-President: Kenneth Stringer

Secretary: Kenneth Stringer

Treasurer: Alan Bray

Committee:

Robin Astridge

Kathryn Parsons

David Wong

(Unfortunately, since the AGM, Robin has tendered his resignation from all offices due to personal circumstances.)

There were 17 registered delegates in attendance at the AGM, with another 27 registered observers. The following Federation member organisations were represented: Avondale-Waterview, NZ Fencible, Franklin Heritage Forum, Papakura, Devonport Museum, Tairua, Onehunga, Torbay, Birkenhead, North Shore, Mangere, Ōtāhuhu, Waikato, Chinese NZ Oral History Foundation, Norwest Heritage, Pt Chevalier, West Auckland, Waiuku, Bulls, Parnell Heritage, Cambridge, and Mokau Museum.

NZ History Federation Annual General Meeting 14 May 2022: Presidents Report

I don't think I need write anything about how the past two years have been a challenge for the local heritage organisation sector in New Zealand. Those of you reading this will have experienced the effects on your administration, your committees, your meetings, your membership numbers and many other parts of the system by which organisations like ours keep on opening the doors, producing the leaflets, books and newsletters, and generally keep putting our areas' stories out there for the rest of New Zealand.

Following on from the 2021 AGFM and Conference at Waiuku last year, the Federation's executive committee took on board the direction from those who attended then that we should continue to rebuild and do what we can to correct the circumstances we found ourselves in after decisions made since the 2010s. The AGM delegates then voted that the subscriptions remained the same, even though we were no longer producing *NZ Legacy* as the very costly and over-expensive drain on our finances that it had been for years before we realised the fact.

I'm pleased to say that because of that decision by the delegates, the Federation's finances have improved markedly, reaching a total in the bank of well over \$9000 this year. Hence – our decision to offer part of this back to our membership, in the form of a subsidy for the 2022 conference. It is very much a sincere thank you for your support.

The Federation's membership register, for many years up to mid 2019 a jumble of organisations with categories of "society," "institution," "subscriber" and "associate" and the record of the years membership was paid just as muddled – has now been straightened out. An Excel spreadsheet is kept and updated, years and amounts paid noted in columns, and the register is divided into "full"

members (those members who are organisations, paying either \$50 or \$25 up to the date of this report, as per decision made by each AGM), and “associates” or individual members. The lengthy process of sorting out the register was started by David and Susan Verran during their time on our committee from 2019 until last year, and I’ve taken on the register myself since the AGM in 2021. We have 67 full members, and 12 associates. There have been four full member resignations, one associate has resigned, and two new members (Tairua Heritage and Morrinsville Museum) added.

We know which members appear to have dropped off over the past few years, with no word of definite resignation – in many cases, simply because they may think they are up to date with their membership subscriptions, when they aren’t. Approaching them and re-establishing contact with them will be a task for the incoming committee as the register continues to be rebuilt.

The frequency and regularity of Executive committee meetings, always held physically at various locations up until February this year, has been especially affected by the pandemic conditions, on top of the usual challenge of organising to get people who live in different regions into the same room on a specific time and day. In February, though, we finally bit the bullet, took out a Zoom subscription, and since then had two meetings via that platform that were successful and took less time than previous ones. Much less! My thanks to Robin Astridge, our Patron, past President and current committee member who did keep on saying that digital was a good option. Yes, Robin, you were absolutely correct! We will still have physical meetings from time to time, but for now, the Zoom platform does help us greatly with administration.

Small details missed by executive officers from past years still crop up, the latest being that it had been missed for eight years (since 2014) that the old name for the Federation still appears on our bank statements generated by the BNZ. The bank has now been notified, and the error pointed out to them. The incoming committee will continue to liaise with the bank to get that sorted.

Uptake of our new email account, changed because requests for access to the previous one failed, has been great. The confusion out there died down quickly, especially as the new email address features on the website. Ah, but the website! Set up in 2008, this now needs to be rehomed with a new hosting system, due to the imminent retirement of our current webmaster later this year. A good opportunity, though, to create a replacement with greater usability for the Federation committee to make necessary changes, rather than have them always done by an agent, with an extra cost. Another challenge for the incoming committee.

At some point soon, the incoming committee will also have another major piece of work on their hands – studying the requirements of the new Incorporated Societies Act, in terms of finalising a raft of changes to our constitution, and then bringing these changes to the membership, likely not at a regular AGM, but at a special general meeting devoted to that purpose. I’m sure those of you who are also incorporated societies are already gearing up for the task for your own organisations.

All said and done, I heartily thank the Federation executive committee of 2021-2022 for all their hard work and help over the past year: our Vice President and Secretary Kenneth Stringer, our Treasurer Alan Bray, and committee members Robin Astridge, Kathryn Parsons and David Wong. As always, (and as all the past Presidents have said in years gone by) I appeal to our membership for new members for the committee. There is a lot of work to do, but with skill, competence and energy, we can get things done.

Lisa J Truttman, President

The New Incorporated Societies Act

By now, many of you would have received information from the Companies office regarding how the transition period will play out.

There is now a transition period to allow regulations to be developed and give societies time to become familiar with the new regime. Societies don't need to do anything just yet, but there are things you could do now so that you are better prepared once it's time to reregister.



So, in summary: over the course of May 2022 to September 2023, the regulations that will fit into the new Act will be formulated. These regulations are mainly to do with financial reporting. What had been mentioned during the readings in Parliament was that regulations which the Act will refer to would govern the limits that define “small societies” from large ones, the latter requiring more stringent accounting practices and reporting.

Straight after the conference last month, I went to the new Act and had a bit of a read, and made notes based on **Section 26** of that act, where what is required as a base for the constitution of an incorporated society are set out.

In conjunction with the following notes, here's the link to the Act online:
<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2022/0012/latest/LMS100809.html>

Contents of Constitutions

Section 26 in the new Act provides a guide for what a Constitution has to contain at bare minimum.

What constitution must contain

(1) The constitution must contain the following matters:

- (a) the name of the society (see [section 11](#)) **[this is standard as with the current situation. If the name of the society would contravene legislation, is the same as another society, likely to mislead the public, is offensive or does not include the words “Incorporated”, “Inc” or “Manatōpū”, it will be rejected.]**; and
- (b) the purposes of the society (see [section 12](#)) **[if the purposes are unlawful or for financial gain of members, they will be rejected]**; and
- (c) how a person becomes a member of the society, including a requirement that a person must consent to be a member (see [section 76](#)) **[a person must consent to become a member of the society, and consent of a body corporate to be a member of a society may be given in writing on the behalf by someone acting on their express or implied authority]**; and
- (d) how a person ceases to be a member of the society; and
- (e) arrangements for keeping the society's register of members up to date (see [section 79](#)) **[the**

register to contain name of members, last known contact details, date on which each person became a member, and all other info required by regulations]; and

(f) the composition, roles, functions, powers, and procedures of the committee of the society, including—

(i) the number of members that must or may be on the committee (see [section 45](#));

[Every officer has to be a natural person. Consent from each person to be an officer must be obtained in writing, and the person must certify that they are not disqualified from election or appointment. Grounds for disqualification includes:

*** If under age 16**

***An undischarged bankrupt**

***A person prohibited from being a director or promoter of an incorporated or unincorporated body under the Companies Act 1993, the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2023, or the Takeovers Act 1993.**

***A person disqualified from being an officer of a charitable entity**

*** A person convicted of, and sentenced for the following, within last 7 years:**

- false statements

- crime involving dishonesty

- tax offences

- financial gain from a society

- similar offences in other countries or territories

- money laundering

*** A person subject to court imposed banning orders, an order under the Credit Contracts and Consumer Finance Act 2003, a forfeiture order under the Criminal Proceeds (Recovery) Act 2009, a property order made under the Protection of Personal Property Rights Act 1988**

***A person subject to any similar orders in other countries or territories**

*** A person who does not comply with qualifications required in the constitution]**

and

(ii) the election or appointment of officers; and

(iii) the terms of office of the officers; and

(iv) the functions and powers of the committee (see [section 46](#)); **[The operation and affairs of a society must be managed by, or under the direction or supervision of, its committee. The committee has all the powers necessary for managing, and for directing and supervising the management of, the operation and affairs of the society.]**

and

(v) grounds for removal from office of officers (see [section 50\(1\)\(b\)](#)); **[An officer may resign, be removed from office in accordance with the constitution, become disqualified, die, or otherwise vacates in accordance with the constitution. Resignation can be in manner provided for in the constitution, or if not so provided, by written notice.]**

and

(vi) how the chairperson (if any) will be elected or appointed and whether that person will have a casting vote if there is an equality of votes; and

(vii) the quorum and procedure for committee meetings, including voting procedures; and

(g) how the contact person or persons will be elected or appointed (see [section 113](#)); **[Every society must at all times have at least 1 contact person (and may have up to 3 contact persons).]**

and

(h) how the society will control and manage its finances; and

(i) the method by which the constitution may be amended (see [sections 30](#) and [31](#)); [Standard amendments to the constitution as we proceed now continues – amendment in writing, approved at general meeting by resolution by simple majority of those members entitled to vote. BUT with an additional regarding “Minor or Technical Amendments.” These are defined as amendments with no more than a minor effect or which corrects technical errors or makes technical alterations. In accordance with the constitution, written notice of the amendment is sent to every member of the society, stating the text of the amendment and the member’s right to object. If no objections are received within 20 working days of the date the notice is sent (or any longer period as stated in the constitution), then the committee makes the amendment. An objection however stops the amendment being made in this way.]

and

(j) procedures for resolving disputes, including providing for how a complaint may be made (see [sections 38 to 44](#));

[The new Act handily provides the following as suggested clauses to include in a constitution as a disputes procedure:

How complaint is made

(1) A member or an officer may make a complaint by giving to the committee (or a complaints subcommittee) a notice in writing that—

(a) states that the member or officer is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the society’s constitution; and

(b) sets out the allegation to which the dispute relates and whom the allegation is against; and

(c) sets out any other information reasonably required by the society.

(2) The society may make a complaint involving an allegation against a member or an officer by giving to the member or officer a notice in writing that—

(a) states that the society is starting a procedure for resolving a dispute in accordance with the society’s constitution; and

(b) sets out the allegation to which the dispute relates.

(3) The information given under subclause (1)(b) or (2)(b) must be enough to ensure that a person against whom an allegation is made is fairly advised of the allegation concerning them, with sufficient details given to enable them to prepare a response.

(4) A complaint may be made in any other reasonable manner permitted by the society’s constitution.

Person who makes complaint has right to be heard

(1) A member or an officer who makes a complaint has a right to be heard before the complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined.

(2) If the society makes a complaint,—

(a) the society has a right to be heard before the complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined; and

(b) an officer may exercise that right on behalf of the society.

(3) Without limiting the manner in which the member, officer, or society may be given the right to be heard, they must be taken to have been given the right if—

(a) they have a reasonable opportunity to be heard in writing or at an oral hearing (if one is held); and

(b) an oral hearing is held if the decision maker considers that an oral hearing is needed to ensure an adequate hearing; and

(c) an oral hearing (if any) is held before the decision maker; and

(d) the member’s, officer’s, or society’s written statement or submissions (if any) are considered

by the decision maker.

Person who is subject of complaint has right to be heard

(1) This clause applies if a complaint involves an allegation that a member, an officer, or the society (the respondent)—

- (a) has engaged in misconduct; or
 - (b) has breached, or is likely to breach, a duty under the society's constitution or bylaws or this Act; or
 - (c) has damaged the rights or interests of a member or the rights or interests of members generally.
- (2) The respondent has a right to be heard before the complaint is resolved or any outcome is determined.
- (3) If the respondent is the society, an officer may exercise the right on behalf of the society.
- (4) Without limiting the manner in which a respondent may be given a right to be heard, a respondent must be taken to have been given the right if—
- (a) the respondent is fairly advised of all allegations concerning the respondent, with sufficient details and time given to enable the respondent to prepare a response; and
 - (b) the respondent has a reasonable opportunity to be heard in writing or at an oral hearing (if one is held); and
 - (c) an oral hearing is held if the decision maker considers that an oral hearing is needed to ensure an adequate hearing; and
 - (d) an oral hearing (if any) is held before the decision maker; and
 - (e) the respondent's written statement or submissions (if any) are considered by the decision maker.

Investigating and determining dispute

(1) A society must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after receiving or becoming aware of a complaint made in accordance with its constitution, ensure that the dispute is investigated and determined.

(2) Disputes must be dealt with under the constitution in a fair, efficient, and effective manner.

Society may decide not to proceed further with complaint

A society may decide not to proceed further with a complaint if—

- (a) the complaint is trivial; or
- (b) the complaint does not appear to disclose or involve any allegation of the following kind:
 - (i) that a member or an officer has engaged in material misconduct;
 - (ii) that a member, an officer, or the society has materially breached, or is likely to materially breach, a duty under the society's constitution or bylaws or this Act;
 - (iii) that a member's rights or interests or members' rights or interests generally have been materially damaged;
- (c) the complaint appears to be without foundation or there is no apparent evidence to support it; or
- (d) the person who makes the complaint has an insignificant interest in the matter; or
- (e) the conduct, incident, event, or issue giving rise to the complaint has already been investigated and dealt with under the constitution; or
- (f) there has been an undue delay in making the complaint.

Society may refer complaint

(1) A society may refer a complaint to—

- (a) a subcommittee or an external person to investigate and report; or
- (b) a subcommittee, an arbitral tribunal, or an external person to investigate and make a decision.

(2) A society may, with the consent of all parties to a complaint, refer the complaint to any type of consensual dispute resolution (for example, mediation, facilitation, or a tikanga-based practice).

Decision makers

A person may not act as a decision maker in relation to a complaint if 2 or more members of the committee or a complaints subcommittee consider that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the person may not be—

(a) impartial; or

(b) able to consider the matter without a predetermined view.]

and

(k) arrangements and requirements for general meetings (see [sections 84 to 93](#)), including—

(i) the intervals between annual general meetings; **[AGMs to be no later than 6 months after the society's balance date, and no later than 15 months after previous AGM. The meeting must be held on the date given in the notice of the meeting, and minutes of the meeting must be kept.]**

and

(ii) the information that must be presented at general meetings; and

(iii) when minutes are required to be kept; and

(iv) the manner of calling general meetings; and

(v) whether and, if so, how written resolutions may be passed in lieu of a general meeting for the purposes of [section 89](#); and

(vi) the time within which, and manner in which, notices of general meetings and notices of motion must be notified; and

(vii) the quorum and procedure for general meetings, including voting procedures (for example, whether votes may be cast by post or by electronic means), procedures for proxies (if any), and whether the quorum takes into account members present by proxy or casting postal votes or votes by electronic means; and

(viii) the arrangements and requirements for special general meetings under [section 64\(3\)](#) (unless that provision has been negated under [section 67](#));

[If 50% or more of committee members are prevented from voting on a matter due to conflict of interest or a registered interest, the matter is decided by a special general meeting of the society.]

and

(l) the nomination of a not-for-profit entity **[as defined in the Act]**, or a class or description of not-for-profit entities, to which any surplus assets of the society should be distributed on a liquidation of the society or on, or to enable, the removal of the society from the register (see [section 5\(3\)](#) and [subpart 5](#) of Part 5).

Financial reporting

Financial statements must be prepared within 6 months of balance date, and signed and dated on behalf of the society by 2 members of the committee. In the case of a **small society**, the financial statement is prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice; or a non-GAAP standard, or by minimum standard as in:

“the financial statements for an accounting period must contain the income and expenditure, or

receipts and payments, of the society during the accounting period, the assets and liabilities of the society at the close of the accounting period, and all mortgages, charges, and other security interests of any description affecting any of the property of the society at the close of the accounting period.” [Section 104]

A small society is defined as one where “in each of the 2 preceding accounting periods of the society, the total operating payments of the society are less than \$50,000; and as at the balance date of each of the 2 preceding accounting periods, the total current assets of the society are less than \$50,000” and the society is not a donee organisation.

So — what can an incorporated society do now?

Take a look at your constitution/rules. Compare what you have now with what is required under Section 26 of the new Act. Make draft additions, and hold committee meetings to discuss the changes and anything else your organisation may want to add at the same time as an update. From next year, you’ll be asked to start the process of re-registration.

Would a workshop with other historical societies help you? If so, let us know. The Federation could help by organising regional workshop days to help answer questions and get everyone on board with the requirements and changes.

Contact Lisa Truttman at nzhistoryfederation@gmail.com, or call 027 4040804

News from the members

Avondale-Waterview

Local Avondale group Bike Avondale organised a Tree Tour on Sunday 1 May, which turned out to be a fabulous event, extremely well-organised, and so full of heart and community spirit. At each stop on the two hour tour, three speakers (an arborist Hannah, Jenny and AWHs President Lisa Truttman) would relate snippets of facts about the trees, their story and the story of each site. It was a wonderful morning where the children asked questions, and were encouraged to take notes, draw, and generally enjoy themselves.

Sincere thanks to Ina and the Bike Avondale team for asking us to participate and for helping me get around on such a great morning full of community spirit and public interest in our heritage, both social and natural. There should be more such events where cycling, nature and history can converge, in my opinion. I really do hope that another is organised, and that Auckland Council, Auckland Transport and the Whau Local Board continue to support such a great initiative.

We’ve had a downturn in numbers turning up to our regular Society meetings due to the pandemic, and a number of members have passed on, so overall membership numbers have dropped. The shift away from cheques hasn’t affected us too much, however — as we are with Kiwibank, we started early down the internet banking road. As with many societies, our next main challenge will be re-registering under the new Incorporated Societies Act, but we have special committee meetings being planned, and hope to have a draft constitution ready by next year.

Birkenhead

(Report presented by Brian Potter at 2022 Conference)

Greetings.

Our report is tempered with concerns for the future and we will need to do some things differently as we go forward. We are saying it “like it is” as we are looking to engage with other societies here to share experiences and possibly discover new approaches that work.

In the last 12 months we, in common with other societies, have been out of action from a member perspective due to being unable to hold in person meetings and open our museum. This has had a significant negative impact on the services we can deliver to members and the wider public. We have also seen the passing of some six of our older members, including in this last week, Anne Farrington who was a long time committee member, account reviewer, and financial adviser. We are gaining some new members but our net membership is falling, mainly due to bereavements.

Our committee once numbered around 15, now we have six. Bus trips, once very popular and a good revenue source, are no longer viable due to increased hireage cost and inability to get sufficient passengers. Insurance premium for our museum continues to rise, as does all insurance. The nearby Glenfield Historical Society closed during the year. Although we were pleased to receive some proceeds from this we were saddened that it had become necessary.

On the other hand we have some positives:

- * Members engage well in our monthly meetings (31 present last time) and engage with speakers really well.
- * Despite the difficulties with numbers on trips we carried out a very successful car transported trip to MOTAT looking at Telecoms history as most everyone has a phone or telegram story to tell.
- * Our President, Marcia, has created some member workshop sessions for our monthly meetings “where did my family come from” being one. These have been well received.
- * We continue to receive heritage questions from the community and the council. These can be a double edged sword in that they can absorb much time that often has no direct benefit to us. Very occasionally we are offered a donation on completion; sometimes even a thank you is lacking.
- * Our newsletter is well received by our members.

So, going forward, we need to make some changes. These are in early draft but are generally like this:

- * Seeking regular grant money from the council (Local Board) and other Community Trust organisations to cover some operating costs.
- * Reducing member meeting frequency slightly from the current 9 or 10 per year.
- * Possibly reducing newsletter frequency slightly.
- * Needing to significantly extend our engagement with Schools, the Local Board, and Community Groups to increase the awareness of local heritage, and generate increased visits and use of our Museum.
- * Instituting a charge for non-member research queries.
- * Possibly contracting out our repairs and maintenance.

We detect from Federation correspondence that other societies are experiencing similar issues. Therefore we would like to hear from others about their experiences and how they have been managed.

Franklin Heritage Forum

(Reports from Forum members, read out by their delegate at the 2022 Conference.)

Awhitu Peninsula History Group

Our group has not met this year. The book *They Came Home from World War 1: Remembering those who are buried in the Waiuku and Awhitu Peninsula Cemeteries* by the Franklin branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists [see below] was donated to the group at the launch held on Saturday 30 April at the Lions' Den in Waiuku. Clyde Hamilton received the copy on its behalf from Mark Ball, Patron RSA Franklin. He has been a member of the group for many years (and is now a life member) and his father William Clover Hamilton was one of the soldiers written about in the book as were Bill's brother, brother-in-law and cousins. Clyde assisted the researchers to find family of the soldiers for information and photos which they commented was invaluable.

Franklin Branch NZ Society of Genealogists has produced two books over the last two months - the culmination of 18 months work by a large team of our members assisted by family of the WW1 Returned Soldiers who are buried in the district. One book covers those buried in Pukekohe and the second book to be launched on April 30th, contains the 113 men and one woman who are buried in Waiuku or Awhitu Peninsula cemeteries. We have donated copies to local libraries, museums and historic societies so that they will be a resource for future generations. We are now holding our monthly meetings at the RSA on the second Wednesday of the month as the Franklin Centre room is no longer available to the public.

Franklin Historical Society

Our Pioneer Cottage on the grounds of Roulston Park Pukekohe has been reopened with an average number of visitors. Discussions are ongoing with the Auckland Council concerning the upgrade of this Park. The proposed plan, accepted by the Franklin Board in 2019 has been redrawn and the shed we had wished for is no longer on this new draft. In spite of our best efforts, the ... Pukekohe Railway Station ... is now going to Mr Mowbray's complex at Matangi. Our monthly meetings have now recommenced after the Covid shutdowns.

Patumahoe History Group

As we are a digital history group not a lot has been happening over these Covid-interrupted nine months. We seem to be mostly posting obituaries of elderly Patumahoe residents who have passed away in this period. Long time residents Dawn and Allan Stichbury, Maureen and Ian Laing and Lorna Syme who was the voice of the Patumahoe telephone exchange and was Post Mistress until the Post Office was closed in 1988. These people have given sterling service to the Patumahoe district. Also, we managed to get in during the Lockdown period a further (with corrections) 250 copies of our successful *Patumahoe History and Memories* book printed. We took online orders and to date we have sold 80% with requests for more copies arriving daily.

Queen's Redoubt

We were open for some of the time earlier this year but the unsuspected introduction of Covid by one of our Trustees at a meeting in February meant we had to close the Education Centre for about a month. Our new book about Queen's Redoubt and the invasion of the Waikato arrived from the printer in China at the end of October and is now in bookshops. We also sell them from the Education Centre on Sundays. So far 384 have been sold through bookshops and about 50 from the Education Centre. Cost is \$50 each. (It has been well received.)

The permit to do further archaeological investigations over the next few years at Queen's Redoubt has been granted, and we are in the process of planning what needs to be done. Our current

project is the reconstruction of the blockhouse on the SE corner of the redoubt. It is well underway and we are managing one workday each month on this. School and other group visits begin again this month.

Rangiriri

The Rangiriri Trenches was recently open through traditional Maaori karakia and protocols. The Newly Built Rangiriri Trenches have been built on private land and will be available for public tours during the month of May. Please note that the trenches are a tourism venture and not a public park. The gates are locked and cannot be accessed. **Bookings are essential, please email office@rangiriri.com for further details.**

The cafe in the village, Fixate Eatery next to the hotel, is open from 7am - 2pm. The museum is closed but there are displays on the walls of the cafe. There is also a Gift Shop.

Tuakau and District Museum are now open again every Sunday afternoon and Thursday morning as well as by appointment. Covid has had a negative effect on our income in the last financial year - donations and door takings are definitely down on previous years. The volunteers made good use of the time the museum was closed and we open with many refreshed displays and lots of new photos on the walls. We regularly have a group of 10 volunteers arrive on Thursday mornings eager to contribute. We now have Past Perfect museum collection software on our computer and hope to begin adding the thousands of artifacts in the museum to the database soon.

Mangere

(Report presented by Val Payne at the 2022 Conference)

Mangere Historical Society is suffering from the same problems as many other groups these days. Older members who are not able to do quite as much as they would like, have moved into retirement villages and rest homes, or to be closer to their children. We have letters accompanying our monthly newsletters going out to our retired members to keep them in touch with news of their MHS friends and they appreciate this. There are approximately 30 members but there only be 15 at a meeting because of health issues, transport requirements etc. Our archives have been widely used to our delight by government and local people who are delving into their family history and have roots in the Mangere locality. We meet at a local hall in the afternoon and this seems to suit most members, not wanting to drive at night. On the whole they are a friendly bunch of people who all mix well and support each other.

Norwest Heritage

(From info sent by the Society)

My name is Peter Biggs and I'm the Chairman of the NorWest Heritage Society. Our aim is to help preserve the history of the area. The Committee has met almost every month, including a Zoom meeting during the COVID lockdowns. In November we began meeting more regularly again.

Our achievements since the last AGM last year are:

- * Our website is now up and running. It is Norwestheritage.org.nz. On it you will find historical photographs, our newsletters, committee information and much more.
- * A Christmas Picnic with Vintage Fords was arranged for 18 December. It was a great day, and the Fords were beautiful and interesting.
- * Because our presentations and presence at two last year's shows, at Kumeu Showgrounds, had had a very positive response, we looked to have display stands again at the three

shows in the summer of 2022. We arranged to be at the Kumeu Show (2022) and the Very Vintage Day Out, but both were cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

- * However, we did have a stand at the Kumeu Classic Car & Hot Rod Festival in January, and got many more positive responses and new members.
- * We organised a Classic Tractor and Haybaling Event for 22nd January which was warmly received. In fact, the sales of hay bales fetched around \$2000 which was a welcome addition to our finances. The event also featured in the Kumeu Courier.

Throughout the last year, despite the difficulties of lockdowns and COVID, the Committee meetings have been lively and forward looking.

Papakura

(From their latest newsletter)

“Here we are, halfway through the year. Things are beginning to settle down and activity in the Museum is up. The Mighty Small Mighty Bright exhibition has brought large numbers of youthful visitors to the Museum, with parents during the holidays, and since then with their teachers and teacher aides. MSMB came from MOTAT and coincided with the International Day of Light on Saturday 14 May, brought to us by Andy Wang of Dodd-Walls Institute. That day saw a constant stream of young families with a lot of Wow!, as people of all ages generated electricity, played with a gyroscope and saw a different world of luminescence, ultraviolet, lasers and multifaceted lenses. Another youngster who appeared briefly was Lone’s wee boy William with his mother and a train of admirers. Museum baby has broken the ice.

“And now we are preparing an exhibition of our own, a team collaboration of Alan, our Curator, with Kara, Wendy, Corallie, Caroline and Rob, called Lens on Papakura and District. It’s about local photographers and photography and is generating quite a bit of interest. Thanks to those who have shared information and materials on local photographers. We are learning more about Howard, Payne and others that people remember ...

“Meetings continue to be held. In April Wendy gave an interesting talk on the Society’s 60 years—celebration planned to coincide with the Museum’s 50th later in the year.”

Papatoetoe

Their museum “is currently being relocated from The Depot, 91 Cambridge Tce to the Papatoetoe Chambers, 35 St George St, Papatoetoe (next to the Papatoetoe Town Hall) and has to be completed by 30 June 2022. Once the museum has been re-established, members and the wider community will be informed of the new opening hours and times. In the meantime in order to keep a presence in Papatoetoe a series of exhibitions will be held in the Exhibition Room at the Papatoetoe Chambers. Each exhibition will be advertised separately ...

“The *Lest We Forget* exhibition, about Papatoetoe’s military history, was well supported by a cross section of the community during April-May. There were visits from the Boys and Girls Brigade based at the Papatoetoe Methodist Church, English Language Partners, Come Walking Group, Auckland Cambodian Youth and Recreation Trust, Community Budgeting Service, some children from six Early Childhood Education Centres, Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board members and the general public. Joyce Wei and Rose Weir from the Papatoetoe Garden & Floral Art Society organised three floral art arrangements over the course of the exhibition. A great effort by those involved. Thanks to the exhibition team of Indu, Eileen, Bronwyn and Jenny.” *(Info from their June newsletter)*



Obituary: Gladys Wilma Madgwick (1933-2022)

(From the May newsletter of the Ōtāhuhu Historical Society)

The society mourns the loss of Wilma Madgwick aged 92 who passed away in March. She was the wife of Bruce who passed away in October 2020. Wilma and Bruce celebrated 65 years of marriage in 2020 for which they received messages of congratulations from the Queen. They lived at Waikare Road, formerly Moana St, bringing up five children in a small brick house, which is still there,

for most of those years before moving into Elmwood Resthome where, true to form, Wilma immediately became involved with the residents' organisation.

Wilma was a great organiser and was involved with a great many local organisations and schools her whole adult life. She was secretary of the Ōtāhuhu Historical Society from 1984 until 2013. Wilma received a number of awards acknowledging her extraordinary contribution to the community, most notably a Queen's Service Medal in 2003 and the Paul Harris Fellowship Rotary Award which is an internationally recognised award.

Wilma was adopted at birth into a very loving family, growing up in Papatoetoe and attending Epsom Girls Grammar. As she grew up, she became deeply interested in genealogy and history. Wilma and Bruce who met in 1951 both shared this love of history. Bruce, being a mechanic working for International Harvester, was especially interested in the history of machines and the property in Waikare Road soon housed a collection of classic vehicles and machinery. Their association with the Horseless Carriage and Vintage Car Club led to a love for overseas travel where they participated in vintage car rallies across Europe and America.

It wasn't just all fun, they both worked tirelessly together for the society. They contributed to *A Passing Parade* which documents the history of Ōtāhuhu from the early European settlers. Now known as *The Book*, it was a massive undertaking. Bruce also collated the names of all the servicemen from both World Wars who gave Ōtāhuhu as their address when enlisting. This document which would have taken many hours to produce is another well used resource. Wilma also wrote numerous letters to the local council about sites under threat that had historic connections for Ōtāhuhu. These are all carefully archived and from reading them it is interesting to see Wilma's dogged persistence gave the local council quite a headache.

Although Wilma was no longer active in the society in recent years, she was always available for consultation with a hasty last minute phone call to check a detail or two before sending anything to print. Her contribution to the society is incalculable in terms of keeping the records organised in the considerable archive that has accumulated over the 40 years of the society's existence. The system Wilma created meant that records were quickly and easily accessed. Probably because of this very ease of access we have never until now needed to create a digital archive of our records. Wilma and Bruce's contribution to preserving Ōtāhuhu history is recognised by the wider Ōtāhuhu community in the Madgwick Room at the library in the Toia Complex on Mason Ave which opened in 2014.

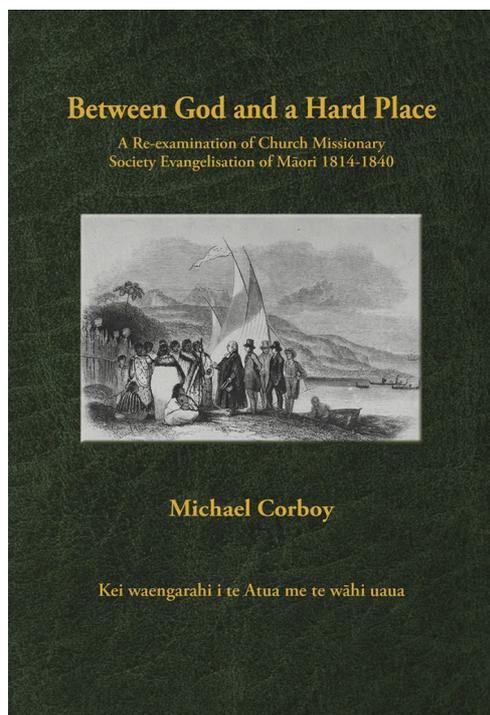
Obituary: Donald Clow Gallagher (1936-2022)

(This from the NZ Fencibles Society website)

Donald Clow GALLAGHER, President of the New Zealand Fencible Society Inc., sadly passed away Tuesday 26th April 2022. Don had been our President since 1997, a total service in the role of 23 years, prior to that he was also Vice President for one year. In 2004 Don also took on the role of Editor, a position he ably filled right up to his passing, having just completed the Mar–Apr issue. He also undertook many speaking engagements promoting our Society.

Don was a ‘joiner’, filling numerous positions over the years in many organisations. He was an active member of his much loved church, All Saints Birkenhead. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge and was active in the Genealogy Computing Group, Probus and the residents committee at the Waterford Retirement Village where he lived. He will be greatly missed by all these groups for his willingness to step up and undertake whatever was required of him. We will also miss him for his warm friendly personality.

Rest in peace Don.



***Between God and a Hard Place: A Re-examination of Church Missionary Society Evangelisation of Māori 1814-1840*, Michael Corboy, 2020. 482 pp, \$60.**

The amount of research and use of primary documentation that went into this book is clear right from the start. When I was asked to put together a review of the book, yet another on the effects of missionaries on the early pre-colonial history of New Zealand, I came away pleasantly surprised and delighted with this as a reference work, as well as a good retelling of the personal trials, tribulations, and disagreements between those who came here with a purpose under the CMS banner.

The Anglican Church Missionary Society itself had an interesting origin. In a room on the first floor of a London pub named the Castle & Falcon in Aldersgate Street in 1799, 16 clergymen and nine laymen met and formed a society that initially went by the name of “The Society For Missions To Africa and The East.” It came to be called colloquially the “Church Missionary Society” (CMS), and as

popular names tend to do, this stuck. That name was officially adopted in 1812. New Zealand was but one of the Imperial theatres in which the CMS were involved. The mission project here was delayed by the *Boyd* massacre of 1809, until William Hall and Thomas Kendall visited the Bay of Islands briefly in 1814, following by Samuel Marsden’s land purchases later that year.

Conroy provides a lively account of the story of the CMS missions, through to the Treaty of Waitangi and all the change that brought, and their interaction with Māori. His book is the result of six years of research and writing, and definitely fills a gap in the previously published sources. As his bio says in the book: “He has felt that secular historians have not given sufficient space to missionary history, considering they were one of the main groups of Europeans to interact with Maori prior to 1840.”

— Lisa J Truttman