



Keeping in Touch

Newsletter for New Zealand History Federation Inc

Te Kotahitanga o nga Hitori o Aotearoa

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August 2021

Museums and firearms: changing regulations

Kathryn Parsons, one of our executive committee members and the manager at Cambridge Museum, has pointed out the following of which many linked with Museums Aotearoa are probably already aware: the **Arms Legislation Act 2020** is now in effect, which has amended the Arms Act 1983. Whereas museums possessing, storing and/or displaying firearms required having a firearms licence to do so, now if the museum in question has firearms that were made in 1899 or later, a firearms dealer's licence is required as well, and this needs to be renewed annually. Quoting the FAQ from NZ Police: *"you do not need a dealer's licence if you only have antique firearms in your collection. Firearms can be classified as antiques if they are manufactured before 1899 and is not capable of firing ammunition."*



Some of the "Thames 15" on display at the Treasury, Thames.

Applications for a dealer's licence must be made before Monday 23rd August to continue storing or displaying arms items legally.

Links to more information:

Firearms licencing changes for museums: info and Q&A for museum directors and curators (Museums Aotearoa)

<https://www.museumsaotearoa.org.nz/news-and-events/news/firearms-licencing-changes-museums-info-and-qa-museum-directors-and-curators>

NZ Police Q & A:

<https://www.museumsaotearoa.org.nz/sites/default/files/inline-files/Police%20-%20Q%26A%20for%20Museum%20Directors%20and%20Curators.pdf>

NZ Museums blog article: "Deadline to meet licence changes for museums holding firearms."

<https://blog.nzmuseums.co.nz/deadline-to-meet-licence-changes-for-museums-holding-firearms/>

New Members on the Executive Committee, arranging meetings ... oh, and yes, shifting over to Internet Banking

Your Federation executive committee have now met for the first time since the May AGM. It took a bit of planning, as it always does, to get folks together who do come from two regions. I have no idea how things were sorted back in the days when the Federation was starting out in the 1970s, with representation spread across islands, not just regions within an island. I seriously admire our predecessors' skills, experience and their determination to see the organisation survive, for the benefit of our nation's heritage.

Reading Robin Astridge's book which he put together for the 50th anniversary of the NZ History Federation brings home the message that our Federation is about people first, people and their stories being of course the cornerstone of local and national history. Right now, you have a positive, hard working and enthusiastic team on your committee, the members of which I admire greatly for the work they do to actively promote and preserve our heritage and our stories.

We have co-opted two new members: **Alan Bray**, from Onehunga and Fencible Historical Society, also a member of Mangere Historical Society (his intro later in this newsletter) as our new Treasurer, replacing Susan Verran and her husband David, and **David Wong Hop**, from the Chinese NZ Oral History Foundation, author of a number of books compiling and presenting information about early Chinese immigrants and the poll tax in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The Committee decided to release Robin's digital version of *NZ Legacy* to our members, as you will have seen from the earlier email sent, and I must say the response received by Robin and myself has been most encouraging, thank you all. Most importantly, there have been offers of assistance, folks getting in behind Robin's idea to see if we can keep that flagship publication of the Federation going in a new format. My thanks to all concerned.

We were able to get our committee meeting completed promptly, with time to get to the nearest BNZ for our arranged appointment to adjust our signatories, adding Alan as Treasurer. Once the bank realised that we do have not only a committee membership, but also signatories that go across the regional boundary between Auckland and Waikato, they assisted us with an appointment that would suit the opportunity when we were physically together — and the signing process to add Alan as Treasurer went smoothly. We're still going through the process of access to the Federation's account via their online banking (still with double authentication required, two out of the three signatories) but it will be worth it once complete. For the first time there will be access to information on deposits and withdrawals between the production dates of bank statements, meaning more transparency for the information of the committee in administering the organisation, better oversight regarding subscriptions received, and also for other monies received such as conference registrations.

I hope the transitions your own organisations may have had to make this year financially have gone smoothly.

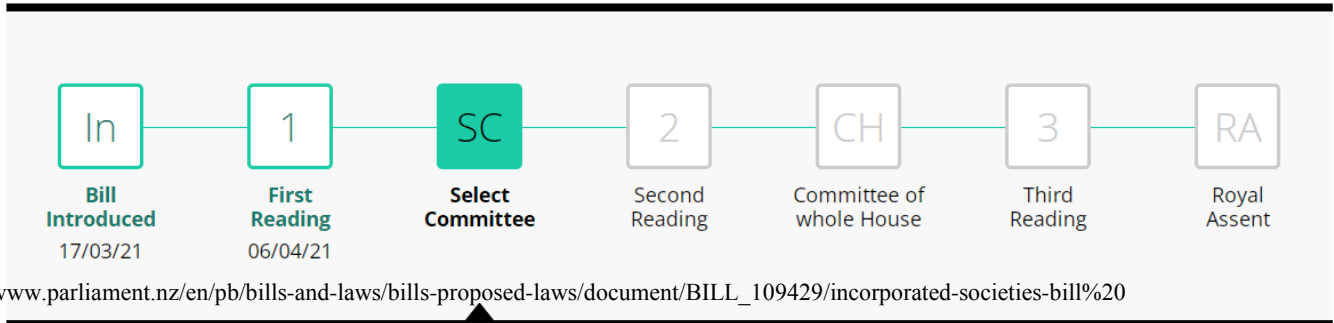
If you're in the Auckland region, or have transport to make it to our part of the island, I hope you have registered or are considering to register for the Regional Gathering on August 20, held by Silverdale and District Historical Society. Yes, a gathering on Friday is a departure from the usual, some folks have asked about that, but Silverdale's committee preferred to go for that day. It does keep their usual Saturday clear for public visits to their pioneer village, an important consideration in these still unsettled times. If you can come along and support your fellow Federation member and a fellow historical society, I'm sure they will be looking forward to seeing you as much as I will.

Lisa J Truttman
President & KIT Editor

The process of the Incorporated Societies Bill grinds on

At the moment, the Incorporated Societies Bill, to replace the current 1908 Act, is with the Economic Development, Science and Innovation Committee in Parliament, with their report back due on 6 October. The NZ Parliament website does provide a handy chart of the Bill's progress.

Progress of the bill



As soon as the bill becomes law, which should (hopefully) happen by early next year if not before, we will pass on what information does come to hand on the required changes to society constitutions.



Meet Our New Treasurer: Alan Bray

Edited from notes supplied by Alan. Image also supplied by him.

Alan was born in Remuera, and grew up in Te Papapa / Onehunga. His family descend from pioneers who arrived at New Plymouth on the 31st of March 1841, on the first ship named the *William Bryan* as part of settlers who founded that city. His ancestors went on to getting into business, and ended up with a cartage firm in Onehunga, 1865, back in the days when lugging coal was the main preoccupation with most Kiwis, as it was used for cooking, heating, and industry. Alan's grandfather, farther and his two uncles worked for NZ Railways.

After leaving Onehunga High school in 1962 Alan worked for hardware shops and learned window dressing, then moved into the motor trade for a few years and in September 1974 started working for NZ

Railways at Auckland station, travelling to work always by bus.

Alan started off recording the movement of trains and was involved with parcel accounts, then moved outwards goods accounts, then moved to the suburban ticket office taking in the guards' ticket sales money. Then moved again to the booking office taking phone call bookings for all over NZ for trains, Interisland ferries and road service buses.

Alan joined the Railway Enthusiasts Society Inc at the Royal Easter Show in 1963 and after a few years was elected committee member at the AGM held in the railway social hall, Newmarket and later on publications officer. One of the society trips that Alan organised was a double headed DSCs diesel locomotives, nine carriages and a guards van from Auckland via Newmarket to the Glenbrook Steel Mill where members had a conducted tour through the mill before returning back to Auckland.

Today, he remains a keen supporter of the Railway Enthusiasts' Society Inc and the Glenbrook Vintage Railway. After a few years from retiring from railways, Alan went to Law School at AUT in the early 2000s but didn't pass all his exams. He has however retained a keen interest in legal matters, including the preparation and amendment of society constitutions.

Another interest of Alan's was organising single club's day time and night time dances all over Auckland twice a week. These were enormously popular with young and old singles who enjoyed dancing. With the help of his late mother Edith, he hired popular bands that had played for other dances around Auckland and planned out the programmes with them a fortnight before the dance, advertising in the *NZ Herald*.

Alan joined the Onehunga branch of the Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows Lodge on the 30th October 1962 known as the (M.U.I.O.O.F). Alan also joined the Onehunga and District Caledonian Society Inc in 1969 and served on the committee for a number of years, including as secretary for 10 years. He was made a Life Member in 1986. Alan met his wife Mary from Scotland in 1977 at the society dance in the Royal Oak School Hall. The society is now in recess. There used to be many Caledonian Societies around Auckland, but many have now closed, so Alan and Mary enjoy attending the Otahuhu and District Caledonian Society Inc dances on the third Saturday of the month, March to November, Nikau Rd, Otahuhu Pipe Band Hall.

From 2007 to 2009 Alan was President of the Auckland Robert Burns Association Inc. For 25 years, Alan was on the Auckland Highland Games Association Inc committee and for a number of years, looked after the advertising.

Alan and Mary have been attending St James Anglican Church at Mangere Bridge for 36 years, and for about the last ten years or so, once a month, they have been part of the ministry team. Alan has been on the church committee for many years, the last three years as their health & safety officer. He's been involved with cleaning the church and the hall once a month for many years and in charge of the flowers and cleaning roster, as well as helping to organise many of the twice a year church fairs.

Alan has served on the Onehunga Fencible and Historical Society Inc's committee for a number of years, including as Treasurer for two years, and currently their health and safety officer. Alan is also a member of the Mangere Historical Society, the Mangere Residents and Rate Payers Association Inc. This year, he's also taken on the role of Secretary for Auckland Greypower.

Auckland Heritage Festival 2021

Many of our members in the Auckland Region will be gearing up now for the Festival, which takes place from 2 October to 17 October this year, with the theme of "Topography." All the very best to those of you readers out there participating in this year's Festival!

The programme should appear on the Festival's website within the next few weeks:
www.heritagefestival.co.nz/

Do YOU have an important event coming up in the next 12 months (or longer)???

Let us know, so we can promote YOUR EVENT via special "KIT Extra" email to our members, or on the NZ History Federation's Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/nzhistoryfederation

Auckland Regional Gathering 2021 at Silverdale

Just a reminder that that this year's gathering will be on Friday 20 August, date arranged and event hosted by the Silverdale and Districts Historical Society, at the Pioneer Village, 15 Wainui Road, Silverdale. We look forward to seeing you there.

Programme

- 9.30am Registration & Morning Tea in the Parsonage
- 10 am Meeting in the Chapel
Welcome SDHS President Ian Hacking
Update NZHF - Lisa Truttman
- 11.am Presentations from member societies
- 12.00pm Lunch Break – there are many local cafes to explore or if you prefer to bring your own lunch and join us back in the Parsonage - tea and coffee will be provided.
- 1pm Guest Speaker – Robin Grover (author of “Makers of the Wade”) will present a talk on early Silverdale
- 2pm Afternoon tea and opportunity to explore the Silverdale Pioneer Village.

Registration Details:

Cost: \$10 per head (*Please pay by 13th August*)

Payment: online banking is best (*sorry cheques no longer accepted*)
Acc: 12-3046-0176822-00
(*Please include your name and NZHF in the reference for our bank statement*)

RSVP: Please register by email to pioneervillage1968@gmail.com
by 13 August 2021

Morning & Afternoon Tea included


Getting there: By car – exit at Silverdale off ramp, proceed past Pak n Save and up the hill, turn left at Wainui Road (*Burger King on the corner, opp. BP*). The Pioneer village is on the left.
There is only limited parking at the Village entrance. If full, suggest parking in the Silverdale Centre parking and walking through to Wainui Road on the corner between Rib n Roast and Mexico.
By Bus – Northern Express to Hibiscus Station, then any of the routes that come through Silverdale (981,982,983,984,985) get off at stop 4501 outside Stella Maris School and walk back to Wainui Road Roundabout or in Silverdale village (the Silverdale Street entrance to the Pioneer Village is opp St John's Ambulance)

The Digital *NZ Legacy*

Thanks to all of you who have responded so positively up to the time of writing to Robin Astridge's efforts in compiling the sample digital version of *NZ Legacy*, and especially to those of you who have come through and offered both lending hands and future content!

As I said in my covering email, while the delegates at the AGM this year at Waiuku voted to maintain the suspension of *NZ Legacy*, the executive committee agreed to give Robin's work a release, to see if a digital version (which would greatly reduce the immense costs of hardcopy production which was one of the main causes of the reduction in our financial asset base for the ten years up to 2019) could work and be sustained by content from our member societies and organisations.

Contact Robin if you have anything to contribute to another issue: chrisrobin@xtra.co.nz



Te Ngutu O Te Manu, Memorial
(Beak of the Bird)
South Taranaki

This Pa was attacked twice in August 1868 and again in September 1868, by Militia forces. Each attack was repulsed by Maori warriors led by Riwha Titokowaru

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THE FIRST
FIFTY YEARS
1971 TO 2021



**NEW ZEALAND HISTORY
FEDERATION INC.**
(FORMERLY - N.Z. FEDERATION OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES INC.)

Compiled by:- Robin Astridge (Patron) and Lisa Truttman (President)

The First Fifty Years of the NZ History Federation Inc

It was agreed by the executive committee at our latest meeting that if our members would like a copy of Robin's book (and yes, all the hard work putting this together was his, despite my name on the cover), we'll send it free on payment of the postage (NZ only) of \$4.

There are only 17 copies left.

As you know, it is now a no-cheque zone with things, so please make your payment direct to our bank account:

NZ History Federation
BNZ 02 0959 0041718 00

And please send an email with your order to:
nzhistoryfederation@gmail.com

Remember, this is our new email address, as we have had to open a new email account this year.

The Case of the Missing Mayor



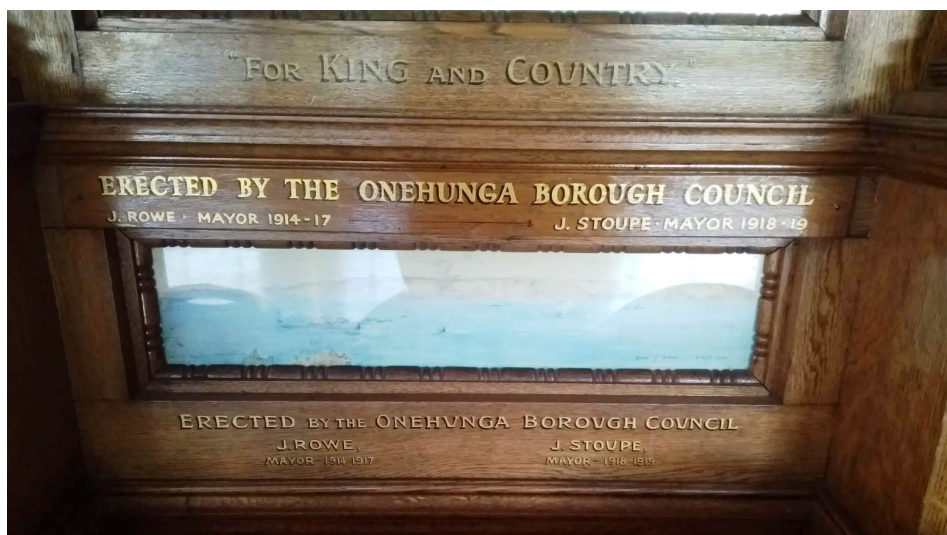
It can be interesting, the things spotted while out on Federation business. Take, for example, the surviving 1919 Roll of Honour for Onehunga, presently lodged with Club Onehunga (former RSA).

“An interesting ceremony took place at Onehunga yesterday afternoon, when a Roll of Honour containing 460 names of local soldiers was unveiled in the Carnegie Library ...

“The design of the roll of honour is of the Ionic order of architecture. It is half an octagon in shape, having a projection from the wall of 3ft, is 8ft wide, and over 13ft in height. Two massive fluted columns support each side of the centre panel, which is surmounted by a semi-circular Ionic arch. Under this arch, on the facade, is a carved shield, bearing the Onehunga Borough Council monogram. The centre panel, which contains 340 names, is surmounted by a ribbon scroll bearing the words: "Roll of Honour," under which are

the words: "Onehunga's response to Empire's call." On the bottom of this panel is placed: "Erected by Onehunga Borough Council, J. Rowe, Mayor, 1914-17; J. Stoupe, Mayor, 1918-1919." The centre panel bears reproductions of the White Ensign and Union Jack, representing the navy and army. At each side of columns and the returns of structure are two panels similarly illuminated, and bearing together 220 names. “The base of the roll has six scenes, the general view of Gallipoli, Anzac Cove, two other views of Gallipoli, and two depicting the navy and army. The main memorial is in solid oak, and is a beautiful example of the cabinetmaker and carver's art, being surmounted with a lion in the centre lying at ease and symbolical of Britain in peace time. On the right of this is a group of a woman and four children, depicting the widows and orphans; while on the left is a group of three soldiers, one in the act of lifting a wounded hero, and symbolising the stretcher-bearers in the field.” (NZ Herald 26 April 1919)

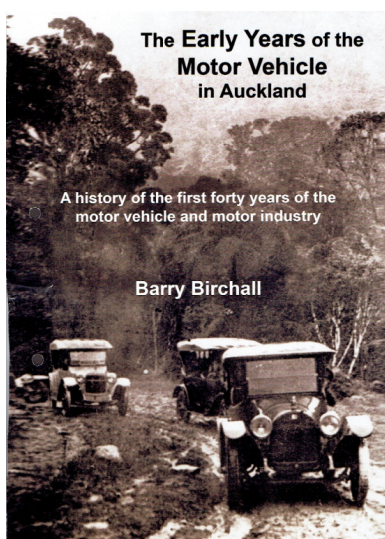
This memorial, though, has a particular quirk of local history to it: a missing Mayor. Note (below) how they've memorialised Rowe's name as Mayor up to 1917, and Stoupe's name for 1918-1919. Almost as if one took over office from the other. But -- that wasn't what happened.



In April 1917, on Rowe deciding not to seek re-election, it was John James Boyd who won that year, triumphing over his opponent Davis by 883 votes to 669. But Boyd would go on to break a rule about using his mayoral casting vote in an evenly split council on a matter with which he had direct pecuniary benefit -- and that was with regard to his beloved Royal Oak Zoo, and the vote to rescind the anti-zoo local by-law from Rowe's administration which had stood to shut his business down. Boyd got slapped by the courts for breaching the Municipal Corporations Act, and declined to return to council meetings from August 1917 until he handed back his keys in July 1918. Stoupe was then appointed as acting Mayor, until the 1919 election which brought in John Park (who designed the roll of honour, as it happens).

Should Boyd's name, as a duly elected Mayor of Onehunga Borough, have been included on the roll of honour, between those of Rowe and Stoupe? I think that it should have. After all, his election as Mayor wasn't annulled by the court action, and even today his name appears on a list of past Onehunga Mayors kept by Auckland Archives. But that his name wasn't included back in 1919, when they unveiled this magnificent roll memorial, does rather speak volumes.

Lisa J Truttman



The Early Years of the Motor Vehicle in Auckland

I bought one sight unseen because other "early years of motor vehicles" books I've seen haven't concentrated on Auckland as this one does -- and Auckland tends to be the centre of the research I do, both for my own stuff, and professionally. I wasn't disappointed.

There are images galore in this 270-page work, many previously unpublished and from private collections. A real asset, I feel, is that Barry discusses in summary the business careers of early motor manufacturers and assemblers in the region, and places them in the book in alphabetical order.

From the blurb he's sent me:

"This 270 page book sells at a great price for only \$40.00 per copy. Please pay by cash or internet banking.

If you need your copy posted to you, you will need to add \$10 to cover the new NZ Post standard charge (within New Zealand) for the sized package required (up to two copies per package). If you have an RD address, you will need to add a further \$5 to cover NZ Post's \$5 surcharge for rural delivery (\$15 total for postage to a rural address).

Bank account number for payments through internet: 12-3049-0018619-01

When making payments by internet please provide your name for "Their Statement". For "Reference" please enter "Book". Please contact Barry Birchall on making the payment on (09) 8188755, or email barrybirchall@xtra.co.nz

He will then send you your copy."