Kapiti Coast MUSEUM

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2022

Queen Elizabeth the Second's Platinum Jubilee

On 6th February this year Her Majesty The *Queen* became the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms and the Commonwealth. To celebrate this unprecedented anniversary, events and initiatives have taken place in Great Britain, culminating in a four day bank holiday weekend from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June.

Here on the Kapiti Coast in New Zealand our little museum has put together a small display of Royal memorabilia, including a **Princess Elizabeth Royal Standard.**

This flag is one of many made in New Zealand for the visit of Princess Elizabeth, which was due to take place in 1952. It was never used, as Her Highness's tour was cut short while she was in Kenya, due to the death of her father King George VI on 6 February 1952. In 1953, with the Duke of Edinburgh, she visited New Zealand as Queen.

This, the Royal Standard of Princess Elizabeth, Duchess of Edinburgh, includes a three-point label (the band on the left as the standard is displayed here), the first and third points charged with the Cross of St. George, the second point charged with a Tudor rose.

NZ POST OFFICE—Display of Artefacts

We've recently acquired a new small display cabinet, and this is now being used to show some of the artefacts in our collection that were associated with the NZ Post Office. One item of particular interest is a Wartime Gratuities Pass Book. These were issued to service personnel returning from WW II duties. Our display includes details on the way these were used. There is also a photocopy of a 2001 Miniature Sheet of 10 40c stamps celebrating '100 years of Moving the Mail'. The description of each stamp, taken from the back of the sheet, is also displayed.

Heritage Weekends and Opening Hours

The committee is reviewing the possibility of the museum once again opening to the public on Fridays, from 1.00PM until 4.00PM. This would bring us back to the pre-Covid opening hours, 1.00PM to 4.00PM, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Decision soon.

We have been invited to be part of two heritage events in the next 6 months:

1. Wellington Heritage Weeks—we will open at our usual times for this on 28—30 October and 4-6 November. We do not plan to have any new displays. Our event description is *'Extensive regular displays of social history of the last 100 years, plus a military display utilising radio and communications equipment from our collection (World War II, Lancaster Bomber radio operator, Pacific Island Allied Army troops).'*

2. Discover Kapiti Heritage Group Weekend—this is to be on Wellington Anniversary Weekend, 21-23 January 2023. This event involves all the museums on the Kapiti Coast (Otaki to Paekakariki). There will be a competition encouraging the public to visit as many of the museums as possible. We will open, 1.00PM to 4.00PM, Friday the 20th to Monday the 23rd. Again, no new displays are planned before this weekend (but changes are in the pipeline for February/March).

Volunteers' Morning Tea at Relish Cafe

On 13th July 13 of the museum's committee and volunteers shared an enjoyable hot drink and food at Relish Cafe, across the road from our building. This was an excellent opportunity for us to get to know one another better, as we don't all get to be at the museum at the same time. Also, it was a chance for Mark to advise us of his resignation from the role of chairman, and his reasons (personal) for doing so. We thanked him with applause for his work over the last two and a half years. Mark remains a member of the museum.

We were really appreciative of the offer from cafe owner Ian, who insisted that the food and beverages were his donation to us—a wonderful gesture! We have a museum poster in the cafe, and we receive a number of visitors to the museum from cafe customers. Reciprocating, we have a poster in the museum advising others that the cafe over the road is well worth a visit.

NEW DRAFT CONSTITUTION FOR KAPITI COAST MUSEUM INC.

A new Incorporated Societies Act was passed in April 2022.

From May 2022 until September 2023 the Government will pass new regulations to give effect to the new Act. Then, from October 2023 until April 2026 all NZ incorporated societies, including our museum, will have to re-register under the new Act and its regulations, or cease to exist. Part of re-registration requires a rewrite of the museum's Constitution rules to meet the new requirements.

The Committee agreed to a rewrite of the Museum's existing Constitution in order to be more prepared when October 2023 comes around. Following several iterations produced using an on-line tool provided by the Companies Office, the Committee approved a final; draft new Constitution for circulation and comment by Kapiti Coast Museum members.

Members are encouraged to provide feedback on the draft, which was emailed out to all members on 27 July 2022.

MUSEUM HOURS: **FRIDAY 1-4PM (pending committee decision)**
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1-4PM

NB—while life in NZ is disrupted by Govt restrictions as we deal with Covid-19 our opening hours will be restricted. Check our website for the latest information. Masks must be worn if over the age of 12 (unless an exemption is applicable).

PRIVATE & GROUP VISITS BY ARRANGEMENT

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Our Chairman Resigns

It was with regret that, at our committee meeting on the 15th of July, the committee members present accepted Mark Holland's resignation from the position of chairman for various personal reasons. A vote of thanks was passed at the meeting, acknowledging Mark's excellent contribution to the running of the museum over the last two and a half years.

Until our AGM in November our acting Chairman will be committee member Neville Queree.

Improvements within the Museum

1. Lighting—many of our overhead lights have been replaced by more efficient, cooler-running, longer-lasting LED units. The extra brilliance is noticeable.
2. Our computer printer was not performing well. It has been replaced by a Brother machine. This is much more satisfactory.
3. We have received funding and placed an order for new shelving for the safe, where a lot of items that are not on display are kept. The old wooden shelving was showing signs of borer infestation, so once the new shelving arrives it will be replaced. This exercise could take a number of days and will require careful planning.

Volunteer Receptionists

When the museum is open we prefer to have 2 people on duty. The committee is finding that each month an extra volunteer or two would be desirable. If you could offer assistance on a once a month basis, please email manager@kapiticoastmuseum.org.nz, and we will discuss how you could help.