Kapiti Coast MUSEUM

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2024

Our Military Display

Our two cabinets devoted to military matters were looking a bit cramped and disorganised. Fortunately a young lady by the name of Amber van der Heyden has approached us and asked if she can help. She has an interest in creating effective displays, so the museum has been happy to give her a project to work on. The photo shows part of the first display cabinet she has tackled—it is looking so much more co-ordinated, with labelling of items being a consistent font and size. As at the end of March, the second military display cabinet is a work in progress. The committee appreciate Amber's work very much—long may it continue! We are grateful to Spotlight Paraparaumu for donating material that is now the backdrop for the two military display cabinets.

ANZAC Day 2024 is Thursday April the 25th

Try to attend one of the parades and/or services on the Kapiti Coast—we must never forget the contribution to our lifestyles from the many men and women in the NZ armed forces who served in theatres of conflict overseas in both the distant and recent past.

From the Chair's Notepad – Autumn 2024

Autumn is upon us and the change of season means that the deciduous trees in the adjacent park are starting to shed their leaves and make the Museum more visible to passersby. As the temperatures cool, we hope that increasing numbers of visitors will decide to investigate our Museum and enjoy the warm ambience provided by the new heat pumps.

Also more visible will be the new, colourful mural which is nearing completion on the Greenaway extension at the rear of the Museum. This artwork has been created by young Māori artist, Vianney Parata, and is based on the old saying that "many hands make light work" for which there is a parallel proverb in te reo Māori - a very apt saying given our Museum exists because of the work and support of our network of volunteers. The KCDC Advisor Arts, Museums and Heritage, Rosie Salas, continues to be very supportive and is organizing a heritage board to explain the story behind the artwork elements which will be affixed alongside the mural.

During the last month we have benefited from the input of a young world traveller, Ignacio Miranda, from Argentina. Ignacio is a qualified IT communications expert with a particular interest in museums. It was only natural that he popped into our museum while he stayed on the Kapiti Coast for a few weeks and offered to help wherever we needed it. Ignacio has spent time with volunteers on duty, reviewed our social media efforts and provided a framework for us to use in undertaking museum activities. He says he has been learning things as well, and never more so than when he assisted Judy Grayson-Moore and her team host 58 excited junior pupils from Kapakapanui School at the Museum for a school visit! Thank you to all involved.

Finally, can I ask all volunteers to read and take note of the Museum's new Health & Safety Policy which is on display in the Reception area. We each have a responsibility to maintain our excellent safety record. See page 4 for more about this. Any questions, don't hesitate to ask myself or a Committee member.

Neville Queree
Chair

Photographic Overload—a check of some of the museum's storage has highlighted that we have quite a lot of photographic equipment. Sadly, digital technology has rendered most of it obsolete. We will keep some of local relevance while also looking for interested collectors or other museums who could provide a good home for duplicate models, etc.. Pictured are a Nikon F401 SLR, ca 1990, and a Canon Autozoom 814 Super 8 Movie camera, ca 1968.

Our ‘Home Entertainment in the 1900s’ Display

This display in the museum’s Greenaway Room is proving popular with visitors, but we are finding that young people would be interested in certain items that we do not have, especially those that are not really very old (how fast technology is changing)!

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We’ve had a Sony Walkman donated (that's from about 1990), but we do not have a VCR player or a DVD player or an old cathode ray tube TV. Other more recent ‘in home’ electronic equipment could also enhance our display.

If you have something that could be useful to us and which you’d be pleased to donate, please contact us, we’d love the opportunity to incorporate a good example into our display.

UNUSUAL ITEMS IN OUR COLLECTION

Here’s an item recently retrieved from storage. The bulb is labelled ‘Plunket Syringe’ but we are not sure about the lens it is attached to, or what it was used for. Any ideas? Please advise editor Scott Stevenson, email **dsskaka27@gmail.com**

This item is a Weston Lightometer, model 703. Was it used for photography? If it was, how did it relate to a camera’s exposure settings? If not, what was it for? All information gratefully received.

MUSEUM HOURS: FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1-4PM

PRIVATE & GROUP VISITS BY ARRANGEMENT

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FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/kapiticoastmuseum
INSTAGRAM: www.instagram.com/museumonkapiticoast/

Kapiti Coast MUSEUM

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

Although the museum is not covered by the Health and Safety in Employment Act 2015, we are committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all volunteers, visitors and invited third parties.

Our committee and our volunteers are responsible for ensuring that our Health and Safety policy is adhered to. The museum, in collaboration with our landlord, Kapiti Coast District Council, will also ensure that any issues that should be addressed by KCDC are in fact addressed.

A well-stocked First Aid kit is present in the cupboard behind Reception.

Our Health and Safety Policy is able to be viewed on a poster behind the Reception Desk. It will be reviewed every two years.

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.