Kapiti Coast MUSEUM

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2024

Two Generous Donations

This solid oak roll-top writing desk is believed to date from the 1890s. It came from Paraparaumu via Menzshed, where some repairs and renovation were carried out. The committee is grateful for work done by Ian at Menzshed and to Murray Cardie, a Menzshed stalwart, for helping us get the desk to the museum and into its resting place—it was a very tight fit through a couple of doors!

This is a mahogany hall stand from the 1920s, kindly donated by Michael McKelvie, Paraparaumu Beach—in fact, that's Michael photographing it! It's a lovely old thing, with provision for hats, coats, umbrellas, walking sticks and knick-knacks—just the thing for the hallway in your 1920s villa.

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.

From the Chair's Notepad – Spring 2024

Greetings to all members, both old and new. Well Spring has sprung, and the weather is slowly warming up and people are getting out and about a little more. Hopefully this translates into more visitors to our wonderful local Museum. I can describe it as wonderful because that is what visitors tell us when leaving a comment in our Visitors' Book. Seeking feedback from visitors is very important and Museum hosts should always invite visitors to leave a message in the Visitors' Book before departing. The other must do for Museum hosts is to remember to greet visitors when they arrive and ask the usual questions such as "is this your first visit?", "are you local or from further afield?" etc.

Talking of visitors, one of our newer members, Dee Halliday, has been busy preparing a spreadsheet to keep track of visitor numbers so we can now analyse changes in visitor numbers throughout the year, whether adult or child, and the day of visit. We have to report this information in our annual report to Charities Services so it's great to have it at our fingertips now. So, for the year ending September 2024 we can report a 10% increase in visitors over the previous year and children represented 27% of total visitors.

We have been most fortunate to receive some interesting accessions, both big and small, into our collection in recent months. Amongst these were items including a world travelled portable typewriter from David Barber, a local retired foreign correspondent /journalist, who was present on the frigate Otago during French nuclear testing at Mururoa Atoll. A handsome English mahogany 1920's wall stand and mirror has been generously donated by Mr M. McKelvie. Finally, members who have visited the Museum recently will have seen the imposing roll top desk refurbished with the invaluable help of MenzShed Kapiti.

Committee members have been progressing the KCDC funded projects mentioned in the Winter newsletter – developing a new, more lively and interactive website with Tiziana Stoto from Kolorato.Com, a major refresh of the Port Family display and replacing the two large, perspex display cabinets in the Reception area by more practical, fit for purpose glass display cabinets. Other projects underway include new storyboards for the montage of photos of the Wellington Manawatu Railway bridge at Waikanae over the years and the replacement of the nearby Waikanae sporting trophy display. With a bit of luck most of these projects will be completed by the end of the year.

Finally, don't forget the Kāpiti Coast Museum's AGM on Saturday 9th November at 10:00am at the Museum.

STOP PRESS
We have just been advised that the Museum has been successful in its latest application to KCDC's Museum and Heritage Development Fund 2024/2025. The grant approved is the biggest in recent times and will be put towards a major project to commence early next year. More details in the Summer 2025 Newsletter!!

Neville Queree
Chair

Our Strategy Defined

The Committee held a strategy meeting in mid-September to ensure our strategic objectives were transparent and agreed. We came up with short strategic statements that we believe define what the Museum is about and that enable us to ensure that our busy work programme is moving us in the right direction.

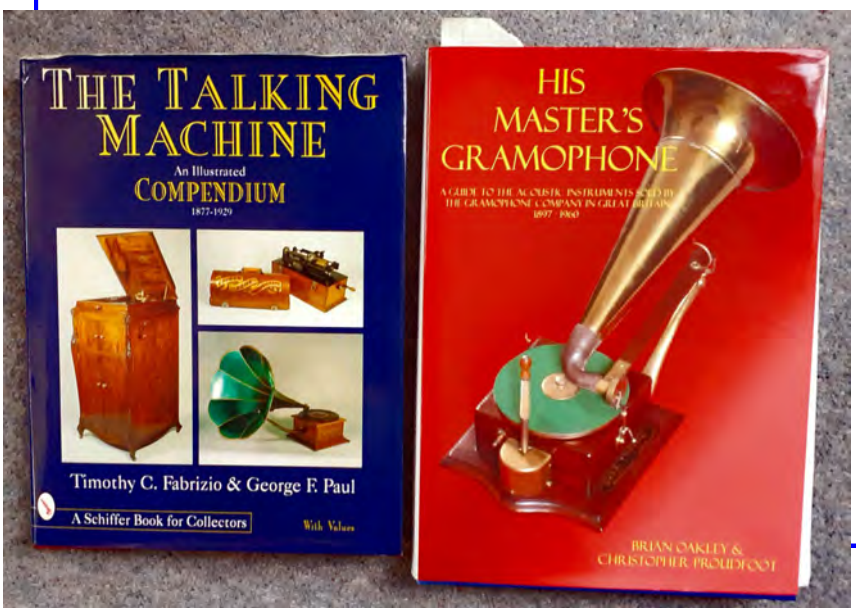
Purpose
Bringing Kāpiti's social history to locals and visitors.
Vision
To be a successful, volunteer-run museum that enables all visitors to know about the Kāpiti region's special place in the story of New Zealand.
Mission
Using a relevant and well-organised collection, provide information and exhibits that engage increasing numbers of visitors with important Kāpiti stories illustrated with items of cultural or historical significance.

Raumati South KEAS

On Tuesday 20th August, Kea Leader, Belinda Tompkinson (left), brought her group to Kapiti Coast Museum. They were introduced to artefacts and customs of earlier days by volunteer Judy Grayburn-Moore.

Gramophone Books

We were recently fortunate to obtain some books from an estate in Paraparaumu. The two shown here are particularly interesting in that they enable us to more accurately identify some of the old record players held by the museum.



It's fascinating to read how much competition and copyright infringement went on as the development of recorded music took place.

These lavishly illustrated books will be in our library and can be borrowed if desired.

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

PRIVATE & GROUP VISITS BY ARRANGEMENT

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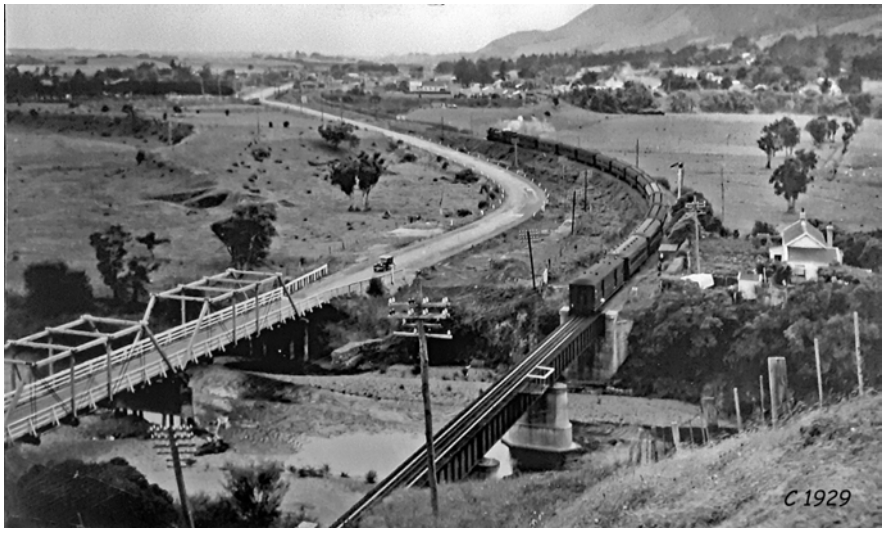
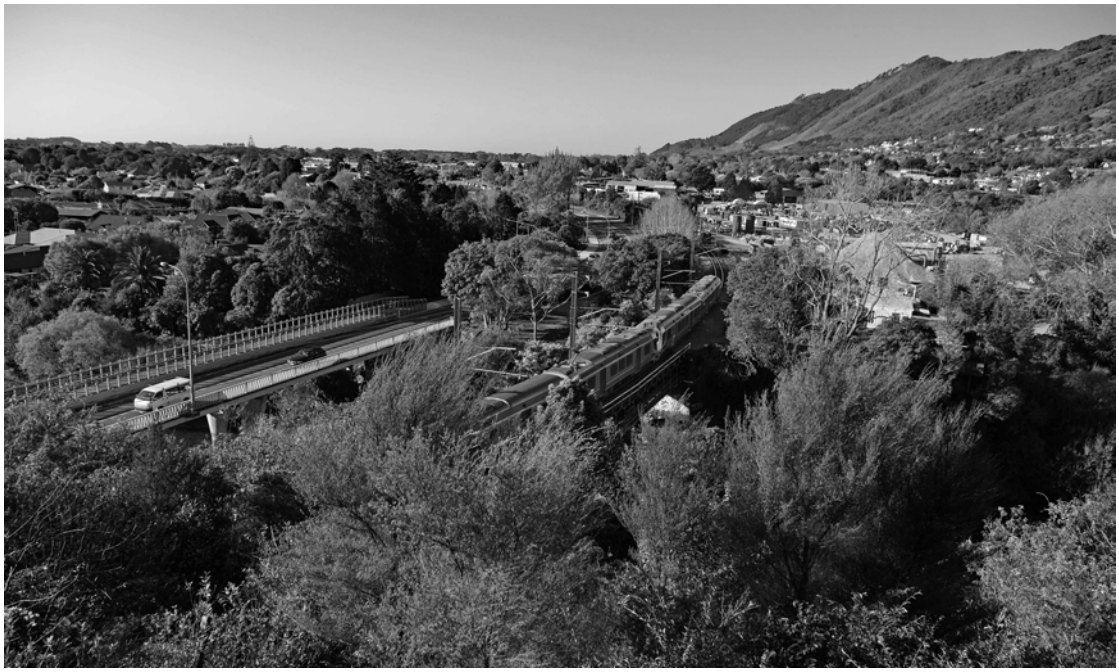
ADDRESS: 9 Elizabeth St, Waikanae
WEBSITE: www.kapiticoastmuseum.org.nz
EMAIL: manager@kapiticoastmuseum.org.nz
FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/kapiticoastmuseum
INSTAGRAM: www.instagram.com/museumonkapiticoast/



OUR PLAN TO ENHANCE OUR PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAY SHOWING CHANGES SINCE 1886 FROM A VIEWPOINT ABOVE THE WAIKANAE RIVER RAIL AND ROAD BRIDGES IS MAKING PROGRESS!



The Waikanae River Bridges

The top photo is from 1929 and the bottom photo was taken in September 2024 (after a small amount of bush-whacking)! Both photos, and seven or eight others taken between 1886 and 2011 will be incorporated in a big montage currently being produced for us by Web2Print, Otaki.