

# *The Kaipara Pioneer*

**Newsletter of the  
Helensville & District Historical Society (Inc)  
May 2011**

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Waitoki  
School just  
arrived on  
site



## This year's programme of events

The Winter Lectures will be held at the Father Sakey Centre, Catholic Church, 1 Puriri St, Helensville at 1.30 pm, cost \$8

	Event / Activity
Wednesday 15th June	AGM at Helensville Hall 7.30pm
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	WINTER LECTURE 2 Wayne Reyburn Kaipara and Auckland
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	WINTER LECTURE 3 Grev Walker, Helensville business Ups And Downs
Sunday 28th August	Open day in Hall possibly launch of SKPW
Saturday October 8th	Fund Raising event? HERITAGE /RUGBY WORLD CUP DAY

The first **Winter Lecture** was held on Sunday 15th May. About 70 people packed into the hall to see Alan Scott showing short films by A Brackebush. These included an Anzac Day parade as well as other building and shipping scenes. Many of the audience were thrilled to see people they knew from their childhood. Although Alan had been able to name quite a number of people in the films he appreciated help from the audience to identify or confirm more.

Alan kindly gave some CD's containing 116 photos taken from the films. These are available for a donation to the Museum and there are a few left. Phone the Museum to reserve one. It can be posted if you send \$10 (includes donation and postage).



**Bus trip** to Henderson, Corbans Estate and Art Centre and historic church, Saturday 28th May departing at 9.30 am and returning from Henderson at 4pm. Cost \$27. Book by phoning or e-mailing the Museum

The **AGM** will be held on 15th June at the supper room, Helensville War Memorial Hall. Will you consider going onto the committee? We need more men on the committee and more younger folk (under 70)!

We are looking for more people able and willing to make preserves of all kinds to sell at the museum. There are jars and sugar available. We are still looking for people willing to show our visitors around. The commitment is two and a half hours per month. Please phone or e-mail the Museum if you can help.



There have been several groups who have visited the Museum lately. These have included a group of Asian people from Central Auckland. Some of them have included a trip on the Kaipara River in their visit and some have had one of our volunteers showing them around the historic parts of Helensville. If you live out of the Helensville area you may know of a group who would enjoy a visit. There are special rates for groups of more than 20. Contact Glenyss Blackshaw (see back page).

It's Here!

There was great excitement when the new copies of '**Men Came Voyaging**' arrived. Everyone who had ordered a copy has been contacted but not everyone has collected their copy. These are available at the Museum for \$45, plus \$6 if you require it posted. The index has been greatly expanded and the soft cover strengthened. Now, work is at hand for the new printing of 'Pioneering Women of South Kaipara'. This should be available by the end of July. We also have the popular books 'Tall Spars, Steamers and Gum' (\$40), a history of Kaipara 1854—1947 and 'From the Other End of the World' (\$30), short stories about immigrants who arrived from UK in mid 20th century.

Books can be obtained by calling into the Museum or posting a cheque to the address on the back, with your name, address and book required (p&p \$6). Alternatively, you can pay directly into our bank account 12 3139 0003816 00.



Make sure you include your name. Other details can be emailed.

Modcom: it is hoped that this will be moved on site shortly.

**Trivial Pursuits:** more than 100 people took part in 14 teams on the evening of 8th April. There were many prizes and raffles and a good time was had by all. Thanks to Donna Glasson for organising and reading the questions and to her supporting team of helpers. The next events are the 'Winter Lectures' on the 3rd Sunday of May, June and July.

**Removals in the night.**

At last, the historical “sunshine” block at Waitoki School has been moved on site. (see photo on front page) The removal was a real community effort and businesses and residents donated their time and skills to get the building moved the 17km from Waitoki to Mill Rd Helensville. There were 13 vehicles and many people. The roof was too high and a portion had to be removed. Beams had to be cut through. It was also too wide so locals Leo and Angela Lemmen acted as pilots in their cars. Local house mover Eurovision donated their time and vehicle to move the building. Power and telephone lines had to be moved to allow the building through the streets overnight. The building was built in 1939 as a second classroom. Since then it has been used as a storeroom, a temporary classroom and a library. It is now waiting to be restored before being opened to the public. Any donations for this will be gratefully received.

**Member’s addresses.**

Quite a number of pieces of mail are returned to the Museum marked ‘insufficient address’ or ‘re-forwarding expired’. If you move home please let us know, especially if you also have a new phone number. Also, the post office will no longer deliver to rural or small town addresses without a full address. Gone are the days when the postman knew where you lived!

## OUR IMPORTANT VOLUNTEERS



Robin and Margaret Truman, (aka John and Helen McLeod) are the latest **important volunteers**. Not only are they enthusiastic museum attendants, they also happily dress in posh Victorian garb and parade as Helen and John on special occasions.

Robin is one of Ron's Hec's Barn team, and every Wednesday leaves the top hat behind and rolls up his sleeves to help paint, scrub, clean, move rusty heaps, and do what ever is required. At present Margaret is busy making mob caps and aprons for the museum. (The last lot disappeared after the last Heritage Day.)

Robin and Margaret left Nottingham, in UK, 30 years ago to start a new life in South Africa with their 2 young children Stephen and Alison. Robin was an engineer, and Margaret a talented dressmaker and pattern cutter.

The children grew up and, like their adventurous parents, went looking for pastures new. Stephen now lives in Australia, and Alison in New Zealand. Luckily for us the parents followed and now live in Parakai.

Thank you both for all you do for the Museum. Your efforts are truly appreciated.

Thank you to all those who have sent in your membership subscription. By now you should have received your membership card. A special thanks to those who were also able to give a donation, it is greatly appreciated. If you forgot to send it in, please cut out and fill in the form below and send it with your cheque. If you prefer electronic banking you can pay to account 12 3139 0003816 00. Make sure you include your name and that it is for subs. Further newsletters may not be sent if your subscription is not renewed. Please make sure we have your correct, full address and current phone number.

Helensville & District  
Historical Society Inc  
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*Our Mission Statement*

*To promote, understand & preserve the history & heritage of the District & its intrinsic values. Our past is our future.*

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