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Jean Robinson (101), Jean Narbey (102), both members and Murdoch McLeod (99) cutting the cake.
CHRISTMAS GIFTS FROM THE MUSEUM

Remember that we have several books in stock. Besides our local books of ‘Men Came Voyaging’ ($45), ‘Pioneering Women of South Kaipara’ ($40) and ‘Tall Spars, steamers and Gums’, ($40) we also have a very interesting book, ‘From the other end of the world’ ($30) which has short stories about people who came from UK in 1950’s and 60’s.

This year we are again selling the ‘Heritage Calendar’. It is still $16. Postage and packing costs are $6 per book ($8 for 2 to the same address) and $3 for a calendar or our own spiral bound books ‘Helensville North and South’ and ‘Why Helensville’ (both $6). You can order by sending a cheque to Box 133, Helensville 0840, or by sending details on an email and paying into our account 12 3139 0003816 00.

EDITORS’ NOTES

We have another full newsletter, including a report on the 150th; the pleasing progress on the Archives building; plans for an exciting exhibition for 2013; and a tragic story from a century ago. This was inspired by another of the “Trade Me” postcards (as mentioned in the last issue).

The programme for 2013 is on page 5- so please add this to your diary.

We are always pleased to hear your reactions to our stories - so we include Beth Fox’s memories of the “Why Not”.

Wynne and Sue

This will be my last newsletter to you. I hope I have made a difference to the administration in the Museum and office. I will miss the contact but need to be at home more.

Sue
Successful Celebrations

Labour Weekend played its usual game of serving up unpredictable weather, but it did not detract from the overall success of the Helensville 150th celebrations.

Friday was a busy day of preparation all round the town, and the official programme began with a wine and cheese evening in the War Memorial Hall. The entertainment for the evening was in the hands of the Scott family - with the interesting photo and film displays (Alan and Jeannete) and a highly effective fashion parade (Donelle).

Saturday was bright and clear - ideal weather for the street parade, which was for many the highlight of the weekend. A wide variety of floats and vehicles, colourful costumes, dancers, and various bands kept the crowds entertained.

A range of activities continued in the main street, while the Hist Soc people moved back to River Reserve to welcome the public to the variety of activities at the Museum grounds - the farm show, craft and colonial displays in the barn, Hedley House and the Schoolhouse and photographic displays in the courthouse and the archival building.

Sunday’s church service and Parakai slide show gave the opportunity to view the spectacular floral displays at St Matthews (a floral carpet) and St Josephs (wedding flowers).

A full house appreciated Dianne McLeod’s presentation of “The Hot Water Story”.

Dianne presented the society with two copies of her very effective Parakai photo album

Thank you Dianne.
**SS Puke Back on the Kaipara**

This small steam tug was built by E. Thompson and Son at Aratapu on the Northern Kaipara about 140 years ago. It is believed that it was used for logging in the area.

*SS Puke* returned to the Kaipara to join the 150th Celebrations. It came by truck to join the parade in the main street. The *Puke* was launched at Parakai and was then available for rides from the Kaipara Cruising Club wharf, down the river as far as the Creek Lane wharf and back. This was a great ride for just the cost of a gold coin. It was to run each day but Sunday’s weather prevented trips, However more people got the chance on Monday. A high tide was needed.

*SS Puke* belongs to Voyager Maritime Museum, Auckland. If you missed the ride at Helensville see their website for when you can have a ride on the Auckland Harbour. It is well worth it.

**Changes in the Office**

Sue Hadwin, who has been efficiently running the office for the Society for two years, tendered her resignation in November. There was wide interest in the Office Admin job when we advertised, and the appointment process was a vigorous one, with so many applications received.

We are pleased to introduce **Lynn Millar** as the new face in the office. Lynn and her family moved to Helensville about 18 months ago, but have been in the area about 7 years (formerly at Waimauku). Lynn has had experience in office and financial administration and has worked as a volunteer in various organisations (RSA, and Plunket, for example).

Lynn will be starting on Monday 3 December, and is looking forward to the challenge of running the Museum office and of meeting new people.

Sue was farewelled by the Committee at their meeting on Friday 30 November; thanked for her work, and presented with flowers. We are looking forward to keeping in touch with her through our various events.
EVENTS PROGRAMME FOR 2013

The draft programme for 2013 was approved at the 30 November meeting. Some details are awaiting confirmation and a full table will be available for the February newsletter.

FEBRUARY 23 Feb - A & P show usual displays

MARCH 16 February 10 am - 3 pm Children’s Day

APRIL Weekend mid-April - Art and Craft Exhibition

MAY Friday 10 May - Bingo Night
Sunday 19 May 2pm Winter Lecture Stewart family

JUNE AGM (daytime meeting with speaker)
Sunday 16 June Winter Lecture Margaret Kawharu
Treaty Claims Revisited

JULY Sunday 21 July: Winter Lecture - Alan Scott
Helensville Street names

AUGUST Trivial Pursuits evening

SEPTEMBER Bus Trip

OCTOBER Heritage Day Activities (in with Auckland Festival)

NOVEMBER High Tea celebration

EVENTS STILL TO BE PLACED

Waitoki Variety Concert (to support Sunshine Block renovations)

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P W S K OFF TO AUSTRALIA: Former Helensville resident, Lesley Smith, of Garfield Road has been back from Perth visiting friends and relations. She was excited to find “Pioneering Women of South Kaipara”, describing it as a treasure trove of local stories, and has taken a copy back to Australia, to enjoy. Lesley’s husband Don, well known in Helensville as a businessman and sporting enthusiast, died in Australia in January.
MODCOM PROGRESS

With the grant from ASB Community Trust approved, work soon started on the modcom.

Firstly, the building had to have foundations. Then the building was lowered onto the foundations. The extension at the back for storage was added.

A verandah has been added at the front to make it more like the existing buildings. There has been some work on the roof too, to make it more in keeping with the old buildings. With the outside just about completed, the inside rooms now need to be prepared.

More funds will be necessary to provide room divisions, shelving, and plumbing.

Special thanks are due for the generosity of several members -
- Hans Jnr and Renee Van Duyn for lowering the building on to piles.
- Alan and Joy Moore for providing the timber for the decking.
- Malcolm Pickering for his assistance.

Thanks also to builder Bryce Coles and his team for their co-operation and support in dealing with the job promptly and efficiently.

CONGRATULATIONS - to our good friends at Helensville News who produced their 150th issue at the same time as the Helensville 150th celebrations! Helensville News (in its present form*) printed its first issue in April 1999 - a 4 paged, photo-copied paper. By the 75th issue in February 2006, it was a 16 paged printed paper - very similar format to the present day. The late Peter Reeves, an active HDHS member, was an earlier editor. Present owner-editor is Dave Addison.

*Helensville News was also the name of an earlier paper in the town - but from memory it was a tabloid size.
EXCITING PROPOSAL FOR 2013
ART AND CRAFT EXHIBITION

Following a suggestion by Barbara Waller and a generous offer by Trudi King and Leda Daniel to act as convenors, it has been decided to stage an art and craft exhibition about mid April 2013. The exhibition will be an opportunity for local artists and craftspeople to show their work, much of which will be for sale.

The event will run from a Friday evening until Sunday. Barbara is organising for a prominent artist personality to be the weekend guest.

Details will be available for the February newsletter.

MORE ABOUT THE WHYNOT CAFÉ

Beth Fox (nee Jordan) sent in her memories:

Living on Jordan’s Island (Kaukapakapa) as children, it was a great treat to make a trip to Helensville. After a visit to the school dental clinic and some shopping at Screatons, the climax was LUNCH AT THE WHY NOT! Here we sat in a booth and waited with excitement for the tiered cake stand holding tiny white bread sandwiches and a variety of iced cakes, cream cakes and jam tarts. Too soon, together with a pot of tea for the adults and those jewelled soft drinks for the children, it was all devoured and it was time for us to hop on to the back of the truck and head for home.

Many years later the tea shop was owned by the Kung family. I did not live in the district at that time, but I think it was known as “The Swiss Chalet”. Following their time there the Kung family bought a farm near Dargaville and became our close neighbours. When in Switzerland in 1987, we stayed in a charming village in a Swiss chalet. Our guests were the Kungs equally charming parents.

MORE THANK YOUS

To Lois Pavish for donations to set up the Ken Pavish Memorial Post Office at the Courthouse. Story and photos in the February newsletter.
To Dianne McLeod, Jean Lea and Anne Keane for the big clean and polish session on the silver in the courthouse and Hedley House.
A TRAGIC CHRISTMAS AT PARAKAI

It was 4.30pm Christmas Day 1910. All was quiet in Stirling House (Mrs Cash’s Boarding House) in Parakai, because after a lunch with family and friends the ladies had gone to the Hot Springs to take the waters. Such a relaxing end to the day before everyone headed home.

Sadly that wasn’t the end of the day. The true story may never be known but the New Zealand Truth (always known for lurid reporting) headlined the articles on the murder: Love, Jealousy, Murder and Attempted Suicide. Homicidal Husband’s Horrible Hatred. “— Captain Cash Before the Court— A Mysterious Letter— Its Remarkable Disappearance - Dr Meinhold’s Evidence”— "Is Woods More than Your Friend?"— Was Cash Insane?— Was Passionately Fond of his Wife—"That Viper Woods!"— Coroner Fosbrooke’s Testimony— Guard Woods on Oath — Cash Committed for Trial --Bail Refused”

Capt. Cash had consumption and stayed in a tent outside for health reasons – a tent kindly lent by Mr Woods (a boarder). Apparently the relationship between Woods and Mrs Cash was the ‘the subject of much comment in Helensville’ at that time. Witnesses said that Captain Cash was very fond of his wife, and was very good to her –(including financially). In his own evidence, Capt. Cash said he had become suspicious about the relationship between Woods and his wife.

On Christmas Day the story took a turn for the worse. Witnesses told how after returning from the Hot Springs screams were heard from Mrs Cash’s room and it was found to be locked from the inside. The men forced the room open to find Mrs Cash with her throat cut and Captain Cash in the process of attempting to do the same to himself after having had one failed attempt.

Capt. Cash said he was maddened after finding a letter to his wife from Mr Woods with references to a room they stayed in together in Mt Albert. Some witnesses say they’d seen a part of a letter but nothing of consequence, others deny any knowledge of the letter’s existence. The letter never appeared as evidence.

Was there something going on with Mr Woods and Mrs Cash or was it the fevered mind of the consumptive Capt Cash that had wrongly filled in the gaps of a naïve friendship? Look for the New Zealand Truth January 14, 1911 on the Papers Past website and read the accounts of various witnesses.* There is no question that Captain Cash murdered his wife—but did a number of wit-
Postcard bought from “Trade Me” by Leigh Bosch, October 2012. The script on the back of the card - from Mrs Channon to her son John in Rotorua, describes this as “Cash’s Boarding House”.

**FOOTNOTE:** The boarding house was the second established at Parakai - after Mrs Goad’s,(1908)., In *Papers Past* it is named as “Stirling House”, but after the murder was known as “Mrs Cash’s Boarding House”. After being empty for some months the house was bought by the Eddleston family, and renamed “Springside”. The postcard (see above) establishes the connection.

Captain Albert Cash was master of the tug “SS Sterling” on the Kaipara, but in October 1910 the *Sterling’s* master was named as Capt Joseph Murray, which fits in with the Cash Story, as in December that year Capt Cash had returned from a period of treatment at the Cambridge Sanatorium. We question whether *Stirling House* had been possibly named for Capt Cash’s “*Sterling*”.

Mrs Charlotte Cash was a distant relative of Alan Scott (Morris family). Members of the Morris family were named as witnesses at Capt Cash’s trial. Alfred Woods was a guard on the Railways.

The version of the story in *Men Came Voyaging* (page 149) varies in some parts from the *Papers Past* report. * A copy of the full version from “*Papers Past*” is available at the Helensville Museum for reading. *

**THANKS TO** Alan Scott, Dianne McLeod, “*Papers Past*”, Tall Spars, Steamers and Gum”, “Men Came Voyaging” for information.

*Story by Wynne HaySmith and Leigh Bosch*

**MUSEUM HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS**

Once again the Museum will close from mid December until after the New Year break. The last day for 2012 will be 16 December. From Friday 4 January until Anniversary weekend the Museum will be open Wednesday, Friday Saturday and Sunday afternoons.
OFFICERS OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PATRONS:
Doris Jenkins was an early member of the society and the secretary for a number of years.

Gay Hildreth was involved with the Woodhill area and started the oral history section. She is still involved whenever she is able.

Barbara Waller involved with South Head, maps and documents and particularly Maori history. Has donated many interesting things to the Museum.

Roy Young has been involved with the society for many years and was part of the “summer wine” group. He was involved with Parakai history.

COMMITTEE: 2012-2013
President /Accessions  John Smith
Vice President/Treasurer  Glenyss Blackshaw
Secretary  Judy Lloyd
Archives/Library  Lesley Holt
Family History  Isla Willis
“Past Perfect” catalogues  Leigh Bosch
Heritage tours  Julie Colville
Hospitality  Rhonda Grace
Accessions/gardens  Jean Davidson
Newsletter/events  Wynne HaySmith
“Past Perfect”/media  Jennifer McCann
Roster organizer  Mike Hadwin

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TAIL PIECE - for the computer geeks. Supplied by Mike Hadwin

Eye halve a spelling chequer,
It came with my pea sea. 
It plainly marques four my revue,
Miss steaks eye kin not sea.

Eye strike a key and type a word, 
And weight four it to say,
Weather eye am wrong oar write,
It shows me straight a weigh.

As soon as a mist ache is maid,
It nose bee four two long,
And eye can put the era rite,
Its rare lea ever wrong.

Eye have run this poem threw it,
Am shore your please two no,
Its letter perfect awl the weigh,
My chequer has tolled me sew!
Would you like to join the Society?

Please include your full name(s), postal address and phone number on the back of the form below. Include any special interests you have and whether you are willing to help as an attendant, a worker and/or committee member.

Post to the address below with your cheque, or make a payment to the Society via Account number 12 3139 0003816 00 (include name and ‘subs’ and send your details via email to helensvillemuseum@xtra.co.nz)

As a member you will receive our quarterly newsletter, which will keep you updated on news, projects and activities and gain free entry to the Museum (except for special functions).

Cut out the form below and check that your address on the back is correct. To pay electronically, see above.

MEMBERSHIP: Accounts will be sent in February
If you receive the newsletter by email and you are not sure if you have paid, check with the office by email. If you now have email please include it so that we can send the newsletter that way.

Helensville & District Historical Society Inc
Box 133,
Helensville 0840

Subscription Single: $15 or Family $20 (circle one)
Research Donation $........... Garden Donation $...........
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Alterations/additions to address
________________________________________________________________________
Our Mission Statement

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

The Helensville Museum
P O Box 133, Helensville 0840.
Ph (09) 420 7881
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