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**Gift to the Museum**

This framed print of a sepia painting of Judge Rogan was presented by the wife of the artist. Her grandmother lived at Te Makiri, originally the home of Judge Rogan.

**The Judge returns**

Thanks to Natalie Carroll, the Judge was back at his post in the Courthouse, in time for Heritage Day.

Not surprisingly, (given his age!) he is in a delicate state, and Natalie requests that if the Judge’s chair has to be moved it is done with great care.

**Changes to opening dates over the Christmas/summer holidays.**

The committee has decided that the Pioneer Museum will be closed from Wednesday 14th December 2011 to Monday 2nd January 2012 (inclusive). It will then be open on Mondays and Fridays as well as the usual days of Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday in January 2012. The times will remain the same: 1pm—3.30pm.

Mike Hadwin (09 420 6553) m.s.hadwin@clear.net.nz) has taken over the roster. He is hoping that those who miss out on a turn in December will be able to do 2 days in January. If you can help, please contact him. We are always in need of more people to go on the roster. If you live a little distance away you might consider doing a 5th week in the month, which only occurs 4 times a year.

In the past year, two of our rosterers have died, two have lost their husbands and several have had to take a break due to illness or broken bones or extended holidays. If you have had a change in circumstance and are now available for this vital work, please contact Mike.

**Morning tea for volunteers is Wednesday 30 November at 10am. We look forward to seeing you at the Museum that morning.**
Financial matters

Ever hopeful With the change in local government in the Auckland region, we are hopeful that we may be able to get some funding to assist us with ongoing expenses. We have just received a $1,000 grant from COGS (local community funding) for running costs.

Buildings As you will be aware, we have two buildings on our property which are awaiting finance to prepare them for use.

The modcom needs the greatest finance as it is to be prepared to become the archive storage, reading and research area, accession area, and an office. This is needed urgently if we are to go forward. Some of our archives are being affected by damp where they are now stored. We have applied for an ASB Grant to help with this project.

The other building that needs restoration is the Sunshine Block we moved from Waitoki School with generous help from members and the community.

Thanks for support We are very grateful to those of you who are able to give donations to keep improving the Museum. The setting up of the telephone exchange (courthouse side room) has been helped by Lois Pavish’s donation in memory of her husband Ken.

Membership/Subscriptions

As you will be aware, the Historical Society and Museum depend on subscriptions and donations to keep running, and we value the generous support of members with their extra donations to help cover the basic costs like power, security telephones, insurance, etc.

However, despite many reminders, we are still owed between $600-$800 in subscriptions this financial year. This newsletter takes several hours work to produce. Then, for the printed ones, there is the cost of printing, folding and posting. We are very thankful to those of you who receive the newsletter by email. If you owe subs, (and a few owe for two years) then you will find this written on your address label. (For emails there will be a list on the email). If there is NOTHING hand written on your address label, then you DO NOT owe subs. As I now place reminder notices in the May and August magazines, some of you have paid twice. Anyone now sending in a further sub they do not owe will have it credited to next year, and you will receive your receipt and card in March/April.

Please phone me if you are not sure. Sue Hadwin, 09 420 7881
At last we have the new, enlarged edition of Pioneering Women of South Kaipara. It arrived in time for the Launch on Saturday 8 October, in the Courthouse at 12 noon, as part of Heritage Day.

Leigh Bosch presented a photo gallery of the 16 new entries including Helensville’s first businesswoman, (Isabella Nelson) the Auckland Rugby Referee’s Association first woman member, (Mary Ellen Keane) Waimauku’s first Postmistress (Mary White), and the first registered woman veterinarian in New Zealand (Ann Leighton). Some members of families added to the book were present.

Flora Thirkettle, who is one of the district’s worthy pioneers, spoke briefly about her time in Helensville and officially launched the new edition.

“Is it worth buying this new volume, if we have the first edition?”
The answer is that it is up to you! If you have family among the new entries, I’m sure you’ll want a copy! This is a superior edition in the quality of paper, the clarity of text and photos, and a stronger, laminated cover.

But the main improvement is the addition of a 14 page extensive index—a must for librarians, genealogists and researchers. The women are listed by both maiden and married surnames, which is a bonus.

Of course if you didn’t get a copy first time round there is no doubt that this is a “must” on your Christmas shopping list.

The book is well illustrated throughout, the photographs of the women neatly complementing the stories, each one giving future generations of readers an idea of what life was like as pioneers. These women worked hard for their families and for the greater community.

PWSK is available from the Helensville & District Historical Society, Box 133 Helensville 0840, $40 plus $6 p&p ($8 for 2 copies)
The book can also be ordered via email, with online payment available to account 12 3139 0003816 00.
**Christmas gifts**

The Museum holds several books which are available for sale and make excellent Christmas presents. Our most popular books are

‘**Men came Voyaging’ at $45 and Pioneering Women at $40**

Another good book is ‘From the Other End of the World’, a collection of short stories from people who came to NZ in the mid 1900’s ($30). We also have Wayne Ryburn’s book ‘Tall Spars, Steamers and Gums’ ($40) and a number of other books. The full list is on our website.

We also have a **Heritage Calendar**, with 12 ‘Heritage’ photos of different parts of NZ. These calendars cost $16 + P & P and the Historical Soc keeps a portion of this, so this is “double” gift!. They can be sent direct to a recipient if you require.

We also have other ‘Heritage’ items for sale from $2 each. Pop in and see our selection.
Heritage Day, Saturday 8 October

The weather was overcast and unfortunately a shower arrived during the opening ceremony, but did not dampen the spirit of the day. The Kahurangi Ki Kaipara Kapa Haka group performed before Jeff Thomson, the well-known sculptor, declared the Heritage Day open in front of a group of interested people. The young Maori folk were very interested in the Museum, and some of them had never been before.

Colonial crafts were well represented at the Museum and we were pleased to welcome a flax weaver, spinner, rug maker, embroiderer and some wood turners with some very interesting carvings. Some of our volunteers were also involved with buttermaking.

In the Courthouse Wynne HaySmith presented a series of pictorial talks on Helensville, which were well received (presided over by the improved figure of Judge Rogan). The book launch was also held there.

Jennifer McCann provided entertainment for the children in the form of old games like marbles, hopscotch and stilts. Other more modern diversions - face painting, pony rides, pool fishing and a bouncy castle were popular. A good number of people including many family groups went through the Museum.

There were several food trucks to supply the needs of the hungry, and a variety of musical entertainment ranging from ukeleles and accordions, to a local trio, performed at the Schoolhouse deck.

There was transport to take visitors to the centre of town or on to the Station. Shops were open in town as were many stalls. There was a pipe band parade at mid-day when the haggis was addressed.

One of our members, Mike Hadwin, conducted tours of the ‘Grand’ Hotel. These were well attended, with about 100 people looking over the renovated building.

Heritage Day 2012 will see the 150th celebrations of the McLeod families arriving in Helensville, and a wide range of activities are being planned so watch out for information.
**S S Tuirangi**

Built for Messrs Sellars and Allen in the famous boat yards of Chas Bailey Snr, she was one of the later arrivals in the Kaipara harbour. In November 1908, on her delivery trip, she grounded on the bar of the Kaipara harbour and her cargo of 4 tons of sugar was ruined. Eventually she carried passengers, ran excursions, delivered wool bales, apples, mail and gum among many others for the Sellars and Allen line.

The ship was involved in some rescues, including towing the beacon at the river mouth to Mt Rex and the rescue of a man who had jumped overboard opposite Pouto. The steamer, *Aotea*, grounded opposite The Springs Hotel, Parakai and the *Tuirangi* was used to remove the 80 passengers.

In 1916, police unsuccessfully tried to prosecute the steward for selling two bottles of whiskey to passengers on a Sunday afternoon.

The ship weighed 124 tons and was just 25 metres from stem to stern. Her Piha Regatta trips were popular, as were excursions from Dargaville advertised in 1909.

In 1935 she was sold to NZ Refrigeration Company and fitted as a motor ship in Auckland. She had plied the Kaipara for 27 years.

The model of *Tuirangi* was made by Gordon Handriksen and presented to the Helensville & District Historical Soc in June 2011. It is on display, along with a number of other models, in the Schoolhouse which is part of the Pioneer Museum.

*Part of article taken from ‘Kaipara Harbour Watch’ written by Brian Eastwood.*
Patrons: Doris Jenkins, Gay Hildreth, Barbara Waller, Roy Young.

Meet our committee.

President: John Smith, works hard organizing anything which needs doing, including getting quotes for workmen. He also attends many meetings on our behalf and oversees the Barn. ph 09 420 8428

Vice President and treasurer: Glenyss Blackshaw looks after the finances, arranges group tours around the Museum and is involved in many other areas, including care of the Schoolhouse. ph 09 420 8513

Judy Lloyd: Judy is still the secretary and is also involved with overseeing the courthouse. ph 09 420 5276

Jean Davidson: looks after the gardens, which are frequently admired. She is also in charge of accessions. She is always ready to help when we have groups of visitors, a fount of information. ph 09 420 8407

Julie Colville: until recently was in charge of membership, which has now been handed over to our office administrator, Sue. Julie also takes responsibility for Hedley House. ph 09 420 8475

Isla Willis: Isla looks after Family Histories and is the person to contact if you have any queries. She also helps in Hedley House. Ph 09 420 5114

Rhonda Grace: Helps keep the Schoolhouse clean and tidy and keeps us in touch with the local board on council. ph 09 420 8969

Mary Massara: a good liaison person with outside contacts. Mary is partly responsible for the Courthouse. ph 09 420 8819

Lesley Holt: Lesley is in charge of the archives, library and volunteer helpers who come on Wednesdays to help with the archives. ph 09 420 7102

Leigh Bosch: Despite often being overseas, Leigh does much behind the scenes work. She has been very involved with the new edition of Pioneering Women of South Kaipara. ph 09 420 6146
Jennifer McCann: our newest member is now settling in and starting to be involved with several areas. Ph 021 110 6361

Non-Committee members with responsibilities

Laurel North: involved with photos and archives. Ph 420 6062

Ron Iles: General handyman and Barn Boss. Ph 420 9363

Margaret Gray: in charge of Oral History ph 420 2700

Mike Hadwin: in charge of the attendants roster ph 420 6553

Noel Smith: Keeps an eye on the place and responds to security alerts. Ph 420 7349

Wynne HaySmith: on the finance committee and involved with Heritage. Attends meetings and write articles for the newspapers and this newsletter. Ph 09 427 8199

Sue Hadwin: office administrator ph 09 420 8771

Of course, our Historical Society could not function without YOU, our valuable members, especially those able to volunteer to help with the archives, grounds and as rostered attendants. Even if you are not able to help physically, just paying your subs and sending donations when you can all helps us keep going.
Here and There

Welcome back to our secretary, Judy Lloyd, who has returned from a three month trip to Europe. We look forward to hearing about her adventures.

Condolences We extend out sympathy to the families of Evelyn Strong and Joan McLeod, members who recently passed away.

Thanks to our good friends Kees and Adriana Van Der Broeks, who have donated a further 3 lamps for the Museum site. Once we have the road extended to run past our two new buildings, we will be able to install the lamps. They also supplied some information about a carriage on display in Hec’s Barn. They had previously donated the carriage.

More farm machinery and a windmill Ron Iles and his team have completed the windmill. It is now on display near the Barn and hopefully will be working soon. More farm machinery has also arrived.

The post office/telephone exchange set up is almost complete in the room off the Courthouse verandah. Another room of exhibits off the courtroom is now open. Wynne HaySmith has made blackout curtains for all the courthouse windows and Natalie Carroll has repaired the judge, who looks very smart.

Hedley House annexe A new display of the different Lodges around Helensville was set up in time for Heritage Day. Our thanks to Natalie Carroll.

Living stories We have been given a DVD of a “living history” project carried out in Blockhouse Bay. It consists of video footage of people telling stories about themselves and their area, photos and other images. We would like to make a similar DVD of oral histories connected to our own past. If you know of anyone who would be willing to talk on camera of their experiences growing up/living in Helensville district please let us know. Our new commit-tee member, Jennifer McCann has experience and qualifications in filming and media work.
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).

Please see report on page 3 re membership

Helensville & District
Historical Society Inc
Box 133, Helensville 0840

Subscription 2011 (April–March)

Single: $15    Family: $20
Research Donation: $.........
Garden Donation: $.........
Other: $.........

Name: ____________________________________________________________

E-mail: ____________________________________________________________
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
www.helensvillemuseum.org.nz
helensvillemuseum@xtra.co.nz

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