

NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY INC.



Taranaki Branch

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Hello everyone,

NEXT MEETING

**Friday 29 November 2024 Christmas Lunch at Cobb & Co, New Plymouth 12.30pm
Please RSVP to me no later than Friday 22 November so I can confirm the numbers.**

There will be a raffle available at the meeting. \$2 per ticket.

Our last meeting saw a smaller than usual number of members present which was a bit disappointing, however the timing doesn't always suit everyone.

We shared printed information from Ian McGregor in Hastings, who has family origins here in Taranaki. While no-one had family names in common, it certainly generated some good discussion on locations and local information.

Many thanks to Ian for allowing us access to his information.

Records Management.

There was discussion on how to best store our old minute books and financial records for the future. Currently, these are all held at our home, and I suggested that as the library won't store them on our behalf that we digitise them and can then dispose of the hard copies. The proposal is that we spreadsheet the AGM office bearer's appointments and have a document itemising any special activities over the years. An example could be the memorial plaque on the Coastal walkway, hosting National AGM's etc. This would enable the information to be stored electronically without cluttering up or risking dumping in the event of the holder of them becoming unwell or deceased.

It was moved by D. Heazlewood and seconded by J. White that the Secretary could proceed with electronically storing this information and that hard copies could be disposed of. Financial records need to be retained for 7 years. Reviewed accounts are already available electronically. The meeting agreed. It was agreed to digitize some of our earlier records.

Christmas memories

What Christmas must have been like for our early arrivals. Here is an excerpt from a letter <https://teara.govt.nz/en/public-holidays/page-2>

Wrong side up

Some first-generation settlers enjoyed the novelty of a summer Christmas, but for others it was a symbol of the painful upheaval of emigration. In 1852 Jemima Martin of Tāmaki wrote to her sister in England: 'The change of seasons, Xmas in the middle of summer & winter in August gives one an uncomfortable sensation of being turned upside down & I cannot get over it & I don't think I ever shall.'¹

Many settlers insisted on the traditional mid-winter feast of roast beef, plum pudding, Christmas cake and mince pies, washed down with wine, beer and spirits. However, summer foods such as new potatoes, peas, berries and cold puddings soon made their way onto the menu. Lamb and, later, chicken and turkey began to supplant beef, and local delicacies such as eel were provided at Māori Christmas hākari (feasts). In the 2000s barbecues rivalled formal dinners. New Zealand Christmas practices remained a blend of old and new.



Taranaki Regional Council Facebook 14 Oct. 2024

We're going back to just after the turn of the last century for this week's Monday Memory. The photo is from New Year's Day on 1901 and shows crowds gathered on Ngāmotu Beach. Check out the buses in the foreground with one sign saying 'Vogeltown'. The boat on the horizon is HMS Cambrian but we don't have any details about the other vessels. Comment below if you know more.

[#taranakimondaymemories](#)  [Puke Arika](#)

Inglewood 150 years celebrations in January 2025.

It was agreed that we explore the opportunity to participate with Founders information as a roadside kiosk if agreeable to the organisers. The secretary is to make enquiries with the organisers. A question was asked as to whether there is a book being published. This will be asked when contact is made.

National AGM in New Plymouth March 22nd, 2025

Idea's for

1. A local 2–3 hour bus tour on the Saturday for those attending would be appreciated.
2. Venue options.
3. Anyone willing to assist in the planning, the Friday evening dinner hosts, Saturday hosts.
4. Display material for the meeting room.
5. Options for sightseeing on the Saturday morning for partners who do not wish to attend the AGM.

This was further discussed, suggestions of hotels to be explored, with Judith White and Carol Cowling.

Bus trip, ideas around the Bowl of Brooklands, Pukekura Park were commented on.

If you have friends, neighbours or know of anyone who may enjoy our events, please bring them along. The more the better if we want to grow our connections.

Carol Cowling, (on behalf of your committee)