



Bulletin

Number 67 1996

New Zealand Founders Society Inc.



Sir John Mowbray with his wife, daughter and two grandchildren

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CHRISTMAS IN THE 19th CENTURY

Our early settlers all seemed to make a point of celebrating Christmas wherever they were. The form of celebration, however, was very different from today. At the beginning of the 19th century, Christmas cards, Christmas presents and Christmas trees were unknown in England, although Samuel Coleridge on a visit to Germany described a yew bough decorated with coloured paper and tapers under which the children placed presents which they had made themselves for their parents, the reverse of what happens today. The first Christmas tree in England appears to have been at Windsor Castle in 1844, when Queen Victoria's German husband, Prince Albert arranged it for the royal children. The sending of Christmas cards also began in the 1840s (penny postage having begun in England in 1840) and soon became fashionable. However the main emphasis at Christmas, then and now, seems to have been an over-indulgence in food and drink. Even on board emigrant ships, an effort was made to provide extra food and some kind of drink. *(Continued on Page 3)*

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the fifty-seventh Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Founders Society Inc will be held at the Loaves and Fishes Hall, Wellington Cathedral of St Pauls, 45 Molesworth Street, Wellington on Monday, 15 July 1996 at 5.30 pm.

BUSINESS

1. Confirmation of Minutes of last Annual General Meeting
2. Adoption of Annual Report
3. Adoption of Annual Accounts
4. Election of Officers
 - National President
 - Deputy National President
 - Executive Committee
5. Appointment of Auditor
6. Research Award
7. General Business

The meeting will be followed by a guest speaker and a social function.

For and on behalf of the National Council

P.O. Box 10-290, Wellington
17 June 1996

Helen Kelly
National Secretary

THE FOUNDERS CREED

We pledge ourselves to foster, promote and inculcate in rising generations that hardy will and spirit of enterprise, responsibility, work and faith so abundantly possessed by the actual Founders, which has been so important a factor in the life and progress of New Zealand.

Dr Henry Weekes, the surgeon on the "William Bryan", wrote in 1840:-

"The warmest Christmas Day I ever spent. (83°) The steerage passengers (141 people) have had an additional quantity of raisins and flour, preserved meat and grog. A very pleasant day and a good dinner (for the cabin passengers, seven in number) - first, Mock Turtle Soup; second, Salmon; third, Roast Beef, Boiled Fowls and Beef; fourth, Plum Pudding; fifth, Bread (very good) and Cheese; sixth, Almonds, Raisins, Nuts etc. Good Wine." (Continued on page 8)

THE FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL
PRESIDENT

I am pleased to report on activities for the year ended 31st March 1996. It was an eventful year with investment and financial issues, the initial implementation of the Greenwood Report, the re-cataloguing of the Library and moves to make books in the library more freely available to members, among many matters dealt with by the Executive Committee.

An early preoccupation was the investment of the Society's funds. It was decided to withdraw from the Sovereign Fund investment and so as to obtain diversity, invest in a mix of fixed interest, equity shares and property, in the form of listed property shares. This follows a somewhat traditional well-tested mix, and ratios of 45% for fixed interest and equities with 10% in property were selected.

It was decided also to manage the resulting portfolios "in house" to save management fees, obviate possible disadvantages following decisions in recent court cases taken by the Inland Revenue and to gain maximum advantage from imputation credits and withholding taxes which would be available to offset the tax losses held by the Society. So far the operation has gone smoothly and alleviated natural concerns that the Society may not have been able to marshal skills to manage such a move.

The annual accounts show a substantial loss, occasioned by a capital loss on the withdrawal from the Sovereign Fund, liabilities incurred following a GST audit by Inland Revenue and expenses not covered in the first half of the year when there was no investment income. The GST audit assessed that claims by the Society for tax on levies paid by the branches and on rent paid for the premises we occupy were not valid. We had to conclude reluctantly that there was no real case to challenge that assessment. Thus the Society has been faced with paying back what was claimed previously, together with penalties. Possible GST deregistration will be looked at.

That is the bad news. There is some news that is a little better. Since the change in investments, cash flows have been positive and would seem likely to continue that way. Also there should be an extra cash flow benefit from tax refunds as imputation credits and withholding taxes are utilised to offset tax losses. The Society also held Trustbank shares and the payout following the takeover by Westpac will provide a realised capital gain of several thousand dollars.

A public relations firm has been engaged to implement the initial stages suggested in the Greenwood Report and a number of branches have already been visited to obtain reactions to a questionnaire designed to provide answers as to how best to proceed from now on. It is important for any organisation from time to time to take stock as to how successful it is in achieving its objects and to the degree it remains vital in the role it looks for in society. The N.Z. Founders Society owes a large debt of gratitude to Ron Greenwood for the work and constructive effort he has put into the initiative, looking basically to at least stemming the decline in membership numbers which concerned everyone. Membership at 31/3/96 stood at 1428 as against 1527 in 1995, made up as follows:-

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Auckland	188	157	124	104
Bay of Plenty	116	116	117	113
Canterbury	46	40	51	42
Hawkes Bay	376	327	292	263
Northland	62	59	43	40
Poverty Bay	44	46	50	46
Taranaki	138	125	119	108
Waikato	121	123	124	125
Wairarapa	188	157	189	171
Whanganui	119	102	108	119
Wellington	274	286	310	297
	1670	1547	1527	1428

The Library is a valuable asset and resource for the Society but one, which it can probably be said, has been under-utilised. Nancy McDonald and Annette Fairweather have been doing great work in sorting and re-organising the Library and preparing a new catalogue. When this latter is finished it will be copied to branches so as to be available to members who then, through the agency of branch secretaries, can borrow books. Certain books of high value or rarity will not be allowed to be taken out of the library but, of course, can be read there. A small amount has been budgeted to allow for annual purchases of books. A valuation of more valuable books will be made and the level of insurance looked into.

There was no allocation from the Research Award Trust again this year, but a previously awarded project has been completed from 1991. Two projects for the years 1992 and 1993 remain outstanding.

The British High Commission has what is called the "Link Project", designed to celebrate in 1997 the 50th anniversary of the British Council in New Zealand. Funding will be available for projects which place an emphasis on the links between the United Kingdom and New Zealand. The Society has suggested that one such project could be a book to traverse the whole range and diversity of settlement from the British Isles to New Zealand and its historical importance. Discussions are proceeding and it could be that some of the accumulated income from the Research Award Trust would be used to support such a publication. We are grateful to the Waikato Branch for a further contribution to the capital of the Trust Fund.

Some liaison has occurred with kindred organisations with heritage objectives. These approaches have been well received in the main.

I have much pleasure in advising that our new Governor General, Sir Michael Hardie Boys, GCMG has agreed to be our Patron. Both Sir Michael and Lady Hardie Boys come from pioneering New Zealand families. Our previous Patron, Dame Catherine Tizard, took a lively interest in the Society and on her relinquishing office, we wrote to thank her for this.

There are many others to thank for work during the year. The Executive Committee and the Finance Sub-Committee have given great support and guidance to myself as someone comparatively new to the Founders Society affairs. Dennis Kirkcaldie, a senior Wellington banker with an investment background and a Wellington Branch member, was seconded on the Finance Sub-Committee and his help was invaluable in setting up the new investment portfolios and will be equally valuable in monitoring the performance in future.

We needed an auditor and we have to be most grateful that through the good offices of Mr Tim Fairhall, a senior partner of Coopers and Lybrand, that firm has agreed to undertake this role on an honorary basis. Don Harper has taken on the work of supervising and preparing the accounts, as well as being Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee.

Mr Graeme Reeves, a member of the Executive Committee, has advised he will not be standing for re-election as he is renewing political activities. His contribution on special issues during the year was most valuable and we wish him well for the future.

Joyce Mackenzie has continued her high key role in the Society with the preparing and publication of the "Bulletin" and maintaining close liaison with branches and members. She is a wonderfully effective and efficient person with an infectious enthusiasm.

Helen Kelly is also most efficient and motivated. I am sure she has a good rapport with branches and I have found it a great pleasure to work with her.

My wife and I have been able to accept invitations to visit several branches and wish it had been possible to increase that number. We have been delighted to meet so many members and to learn at first hand the spirit and common interest which so drives the N.Z. Founders Society.

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A PROFILE OF OUR NEW PRESIDENT

Sir John Mowbray is a descendant of two Scottish families who came from Edinburgh to New Zealand. The first, William Cargill, arrived in Port Chalmers in 1847 on the "John Wickliffe" and was the virtual founder of Dunedin and the first Superintendent of the Otago Province. The Mowbrays arrived in Auckland in 1864 on the "British Trident".

Sir John was born in Auckland and was educated at King's School, King's College and Auckland University where he gained a Bachelor of Commerce degree. He went on to take his Accountancy Professional examinations and also gained a Diploma in Banking. In 1934 he joined the National Bank of New Zealand where he remained for the rest of his working life, becoming the General Manager in 1966 and retiring in 1976. The only break was between 1940 and 1946 when he served as an officer in the 6th and 4th Field Regiments, N.Z. Artillery, in the Middle East, Greece and Italy.

His wider banking work includes the chairmanship of the N.Z. Institute of Bankers. Apart from banking, he has served on the board of a number of well-known New Zealand companies, often as chairman, and has been chairman of several business and economic councils, especially ones dealing with Asia, Japan and the Pacific.

Sir John has a third range of interests, that of community service. This includes the Anglican Church, Dr Barnardo's, the Arthritis Foundation, the Waitangi Foundation and of course the Founders Society. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a Trustee of the N.Z. Portrait Gallery. He was made a Knight Bachelor in 1983. This is by no means a full list of his work and interests.

On a personal level, he married Audrey Burt Steel and has two sons and one daughter. He lives in Wellington and lists his hobbies as golf, bridge and gardening.

**AUCKLAND** No Report has been received

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CANTERBURY-WESTLAND

A mid-winter dinner was held at Godley House, Diamond Harbour, members crossing Lyttelton Harbour by ferry.

At the end of November, our members combined as usual with members of the Sumner-Redcliff Historical Society to enjoy their annual Christmas dinner.

In January, a delightful day was enjoyed at Homebush, the mid-Canterbury property of the Deans family. The day began with lunch in the Restaurant which, with the Craft Shop, is housed in the former stables. Then after a brief historical review, we strolled through the grounds, bush and orchard attached to the property.

December saw our President, Mr Thwaites and his wife attend an evening function for the launching of the book "By His Own Merits - Sir John Hall, Pioneer, Pastoralist and Premier." by Jean Garner. The author, a tutor in History at Canterbury University, was a recipient of our Founders Study Grant to assist in the writing of this book.

The 1996 AGM was held at the Bishopdale Tavern and was preceded by dinner. It was noted that thanks to our early members our Housing Funds were showing a healthy return.

Mavis Mateer, Branch Secretary

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Edward Jerningham Wakefield wrote, also in 1840:-

About noon on Christmas Day, we reached Kapiti. Twenty or thirty whalers, who had chosen to remain till the next season and were holding high holiday on the island, ran out and launched a boat to tow me to the anchorage. They insisted on our partaking of their Christmas feast, and we landed amidst a salute of musketry and of some small cannon on the flagstaff mound. No one, except two or three of the headsmen, was sober and I was glad to get to the chief headsmen's house out of the way of the reckless firing. My crew and surveying men were made welcome under a spacious awning of boat-sails. We were feasted on roast sucking pig, ducks and plum pudding, and re-embarked at night, the breeze having freshened up. The men were got off as soon as they were fit to be bundled like dead sheep into the hold and we sailed away. *(Continued on page 36)*



## BAY OF PLENTY

In reporting the past year's activities, I must first thank those members who took my place while I was overseas, in particular Mrs Alison Heath and Mr Lloyd Hunter, Vice-Presidents.

The 1995 AGM was held in March with 62 members present at a luncheon at the Historic Village, Tauranga. Mr Brian Carter, who has made a special study of the Battle of Gate Pa, spoke very interestingly about the reasons for the British defeat.

In May, 41 members met at Trapps Restaurant, Papamoa Beach, and heard Mr Barry McNaughton, a District Councillor, speak about early Papamoa from its beginnings as a settlement through to today's large housing developments. The main difficulty to overcome was the land's close proximity to sea level.

Following lunch in July at the Lake Plaza Hotel in Rotorua, Mr Dick Judd, Vice-President and Rotorua Convenor, welcomed 50 members and guests and introduced Ann Somerville, author of "Daughters of the Land". It is an account covering 100 years of the lives of pioneer women and of the extreme hardships which they endured with an incredible spirit of community support.

In September, 43 members met for luncheon at Timberlands Hotel, Tokoroa, where Mr Brian Burmester, formerly of South Waikato Times, but currently a media consultant to several Canadian newspapers, gave a most interesting and very informative talk, emphasising amongst other things the effects of advertising on people in general and our children in particular.

The November meeting was held at Bayfair, Mt Maunganui, where a special early Christmas lunch was enjoyed by 56 members. The President, Mrs Armstrong gave a talk about Shetland from where the forebears of many New Zealanders came. Many played important parts in the development of the country.

I wish to thank all our members for their interest and support in attending the luncheons, many of them travelling quite considerable distances in our widespread area. My thanks are due to Mr Graham Eteveneaux, Past President, who acted as convenor of functions, and also to Mr Owen Gwilliam who has helped to publicise the N.Z. Founders Society in this area where there must be many descendants of early settlers. Over the past year membership has fallen from 114 to 109, due mainly to retirement from the district. I hope this can be reversed. Mr Winston Hall, the Branch Secretary-Treasurer deserves my sincere thanks for the work he has undertaken during this past year and in particular for the help he has given me. Most unfortunately he is unable to continue.

Adelaide Armstrong, Branch Chairwoman

## HAWKES BAY

I wish to thank the members of the committee for their support during the year and especially my Treasurer-Secretary for his efficiency and attention to detail. The Branch is financially sound despite a continuing drop in membership. With recommendation and encouragement, I feel we could increase our membership especially among the younger generation. We were pleased to be able to reduce the subscription for 1996 to \$16.00. We welcome the four members who have joined this year.

In September 1995, members had an enjoyable weekend in Taupo where we visited gardens, baths, the prawn farm and a thermal area and had a wonderful trip on the "African Queen". On our final night we had a barbecue meal at the Wairakei Thermal Area, arranged by Mary Richards, a member who now resides in Taupo.

In February 105 members attended the Founders Day dinner. Our speaker was local Dr Reekie who spoke on his work in Kandi, Nepal.

We were fortunate in March to be able to attend the New Zealand Kite Festival held in Taradale. Mr John Clark, a member, arranged for us to have lunch at the Church Road Vineyards. He spoke on the history of the vineyards in this area and we were able to visit the factory and museum.

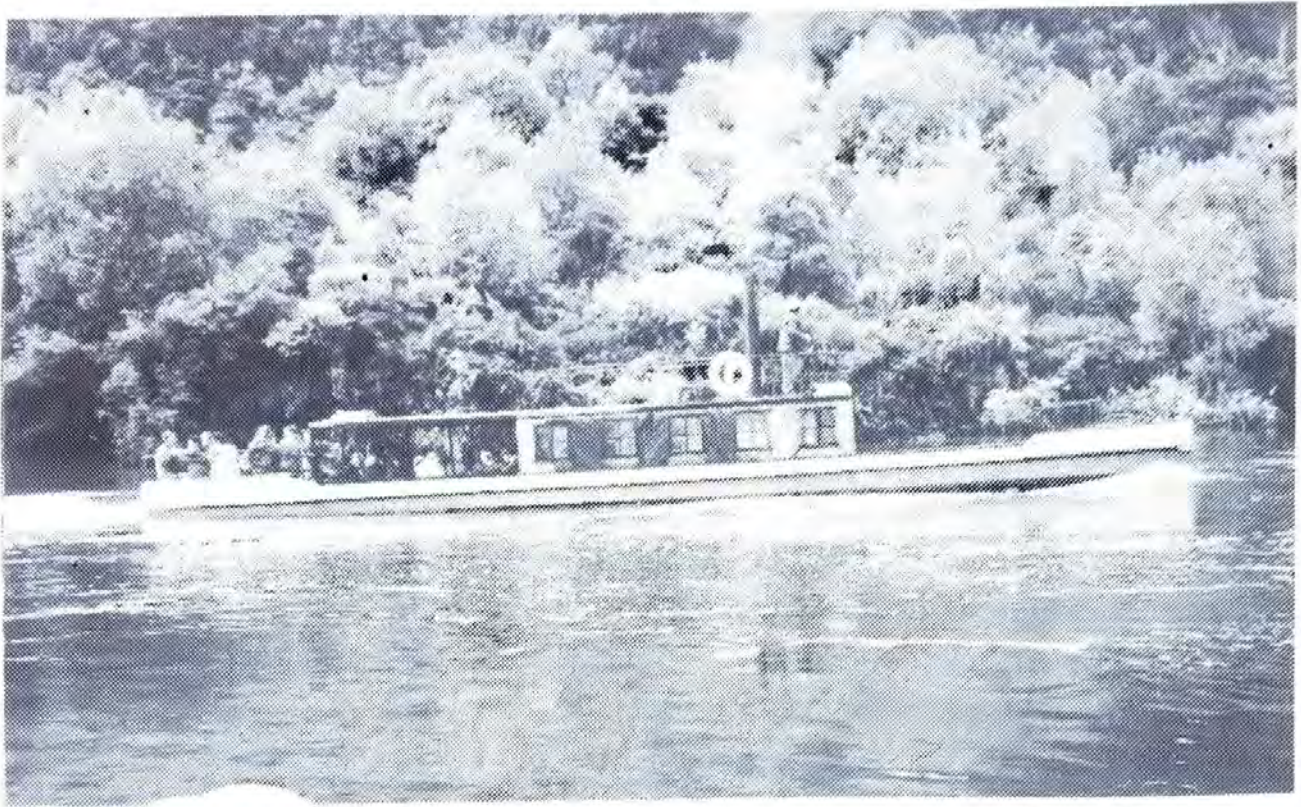
In June a visit to the local Music Society's production of "The Gondoliers" proved very popular. Entertainment by music students from the local High School concluded our mid-winter luncheon held in July.

A wonderful day's outing to Kairakau Beach, Central Hawkes Bay, and a picnic at Smedley Station were two highlights of our year's activities.

I wish to thank members for arranging such enjoyable outings during the year. We welcome any new ideas for venues and speakers. Your continuing support for the activities planned is appreciated by the committee. I look forward to an active and interesting coming year.

Nanette Roberts, Branch Chairwoman

The "African Queen" on the Waikato River near Taupo.



Photo, Nanette Roberts

Editor's Note

*Members may be interested to know that this boat was once one of the Hatrick Company fleet on the Whanganui River. It was then named the "Waireka" and was built in Scotland in 1908. It was specially designed for working in the shallow water and rapids of the upper Whanganui River and even when laden drew only 12 inches of water. It usually sailed between Taumarunui and the confluence of the Ohura River where the Houseboat was anchored. It was 62 feet long, with a small wooden cabin topped by a tiny bridge and carried 46 passengers. It was gutted by fire in 1916 but duly repaired. In 1941 it was laid up, as the river boats were being superseded by rail and road transport, but brought back to service after a few years. From 1960 for 20 years or so, the "Waireka" had several owners and was used mainly for the tourist trade between Wanganui and Hipango Park, a reserve about 20 miles up the river which is inaccessible by road.*

*Sadly the "Waireka" is now lost to Wanganui but there is still one of Hatrick's boats working for the tourist trade on the river, the "Otunui". Next year it is hoped there will be another, the "Wairua" and by the year 2000, a third, the "Waimarie". Both of these boats sank while laid up alongside the river bank, but have since been raised and are being restored.*

## NORTHLAND

At the April meeting two of our members, Joe Tennant and Isabella Hill, related the history of the Windsor Hotel, Whangarei. In the 1920s a gentleman from England decided to build a hotel-cum-boarding house in Whangarei. After the fire which destroyed the Reotahi freezing works, he saw the building used for the accommodation of workers there and arranged for the building to be demolished in sections and barged to the Whangarei Town Basin. It was rebuilt on the corner of Walton Street and Maunu Road in 1923. It was on the move again in 1992, once more in sections, this time to a new home in Ngararatunua. It is again a boarding house, as well as a delightful place for club luncheons etc.

Several members of the Branch attended the Victoria League church service and luncheon to celebrate Commonwealth Day.

At our May meeting, Donald McGregor spoke about his life and teaching in Saudi Arabia, a very interesting and informative talk.

Mr and Mrs Ellinson, who spent three years on the island of St Helena, teaching and working with the people, spoke at our June meeting. St Helena has no harbour or air-strip, so everything has to be ferried ashore from passing ships. This was followed by a special luncheon to celebrate our President's 80th birthday.

In July, Mrs June Turner told us about her journey through Molesworth Station, accompanied by 150 other campervans. What a trip! *(See next page)*

At our August meeting, Isobel Carter gave her report on the National Council meeting in Wellington and then told us about her and her husband's trip to Australia to visit family and friends. She described their trip by express from Gosford to Grafton and return, as well as their flight home from Auckland in a small plane at night flying through a thunderstorm.

September was a "show and tell" meeting. Once again what wonderful treasures some of our members have and are happy to share their history with other members.

In October our latest member, Madge Malcolm, who has written several books, told us how she became a writer and urged members to have a go. Family records and stories of early lives are most precious and should be written down before they are lost and forgotten.

In November Joan McInnes, who with her husband had visited their daughter in Ontario, Canada, told of their drive to Nova Scotia where their ancestors had lived for some thirty years before migrating to New Zealand. Our trading table was very successful.

The Christmas luncheon was well attended and enjoyed by all.

In February once again we shared delightful photographs and memories of places we had visited.

This year we have had some very interesting books donated, including Pam Crimp's manuscript of the Mair family. My grateful thanks to all who have made the sandwiches for our lunches, the secretary and committee for their support and willingness to help whenever necessary. To those who have lost dear ones, our sympathy.

M.I. Carter, Branch Chairwoman

### *Editor's Note*

*The photograph below is of the Acheron Accommodation House on Molesworth Station, the principal memorial of the overland route from Nelson to Canterbury. It was built in 1863 of cob, a mixture of clay, dung, straw and salt, with a roof of tussock thatch over beech rafters. This can still be seen in places but is today protected by a corrugated iron roof. In the old days, drovers could stay overnight in this eight-room house for 2/6d, which bought a bunk of beech and manuka poles, a meal, and stabling for the horses.*



Photo, Arthur Bates

## POVERTY BAY

Our 1995 AGM was held at the Poverty Bay Club in March but there was a very poor attendance. However we have had an active year.

March: A bus trip to the Motu Falls and a picnic lunch at the new foot bridge over the Motu River.

April: Lunch at Sandown Hotel. The guest speaker, Barrie Gordon, spoke on his career as a stock agent and auctioneer.

June: A pot luck lunch at the home of Kevin and Bonnie Dwyer. A very happy day with 27 present.

July: Lunch at Sandown Hotel. The guest speaker was Mr Greg Macmanus, the Director of the Gisborne Museum. There were 29 present.

August: Lunch at Sandown Hotel. The guest speaker was Nelson Cooper who spoke on his droving and mustering days in Poverty Bay.

October: A bus trip to Mr and Mrs Seymour's Wensleydale garden, Waiomoko Road where we had a cup of tea. Then on to Panikau garden and the home of Mr and Mrs Peter Murphy where we had lunch. These are two of the older stations on the East Coast.

November: A pot luck barbecue at Ray and Grace Newman's home, Otoko. Members also visited the private museum of Marlene and Brian Pitt. Members do enjoy a trip out to the country.

February: Lunch at the Tolaga Bay Hotel. We had no guest speaker but Judith Ellmers, Bonnie Dwyer, Jim Holdsworth and myself mentioned topics of interest in the district. We also visited the wharf and some members walked to the end of it.

I would like to thank the committee for their support and those people who phoned members and helped to make functions a success. To those committee members who are not seeking re-election, I thank you and hope you may return. Thanks also to Beryl Lyle, our National Delegate and to Bill Harding, our Honorary Auditor. To members who have had family pass away during the year, we offer our condolences. We look forward to a busy and happy 1996.

Frank Gaukroger, Branch Chairman

The very long wharf (717 yards) at Tolaga Bay, built in the days when sea transport was the easiest way to send wool, meat and stock to the market.



Photo, Joyce Mackenzie

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

After the 1995 Bulletin was published, it was suggested that I should include a photograph of myself in the 1996 issue so that members could see who the editor was and be encouraged to contribute to the Bulletin. So here is the photograph. Whether members will be encouraged to send in articles, photographs or letters of historical interest is questionable, but I would appreciate it if they did. This is your magazine and the direction it takes is up to you. There must be a wealth of unpublished historical material in all areas.

Joyce Mackenzie

Photo, Heather Kyle



## TARANAKI

It is with regret that we record the deaths of three of our members. Firstly, the late Mr Don Standish, our Immediate Past President. He had been a staunch member of our Society, eleven years as President and always willing and helpful to the betterment of our branch. Secondly, the late Mr Dick Wilson. Dick was always reliable and helpful. His Waitara Mayoral achievements will be his permanent memorial. Thirdly, the late Mrs Lois Wynyard, a kindly caring lady with a wealth of knowledge of Taranaki history.

Our membership over recent years has reduced as a result of resignations and deaths. It is now 109 but our members are in good heart, friendly and co-operative. Mr Peter Putt who was elected our Honorary Auditor in 1960, has retired after 35 years of sterling service to our Taranaki Branch. In appreciation of his valuable and honorary services, we presented him with an adjustable reading lamp. Peter has always been most co-operative, efficient and obliging. We especially convey our thanks to the T.S.B. Bank Community Trust for the continuance of their financial support with a donation of \$250. At the National Council meeting in Wellington on 31st July 1995, our Branch was represented by Mr Murray Moorhead and myself.

Monthly meetings, held from May to November inclusive in the Beach Street Hall at Fitzroy were enjoyable gatherings. An additional function was organised by our secretary, Murray Moorhead on 25th February 1995 when a group of our members visited the Stratford Pioneer Village. For most members it was their first visit and took them into the nostalgic era. It was very enjoyable and most interesting viewing those beautifully restored shops, offices, surgery, church and cottages of farms dating back to the 1850s. It was an especial thrill to our Vice-President, Trevor Bright, to find there the last remaining cottage from the Tataramaika Block, similar to the house his great-grandparents had lived in on their farm between 1851 and 1860.

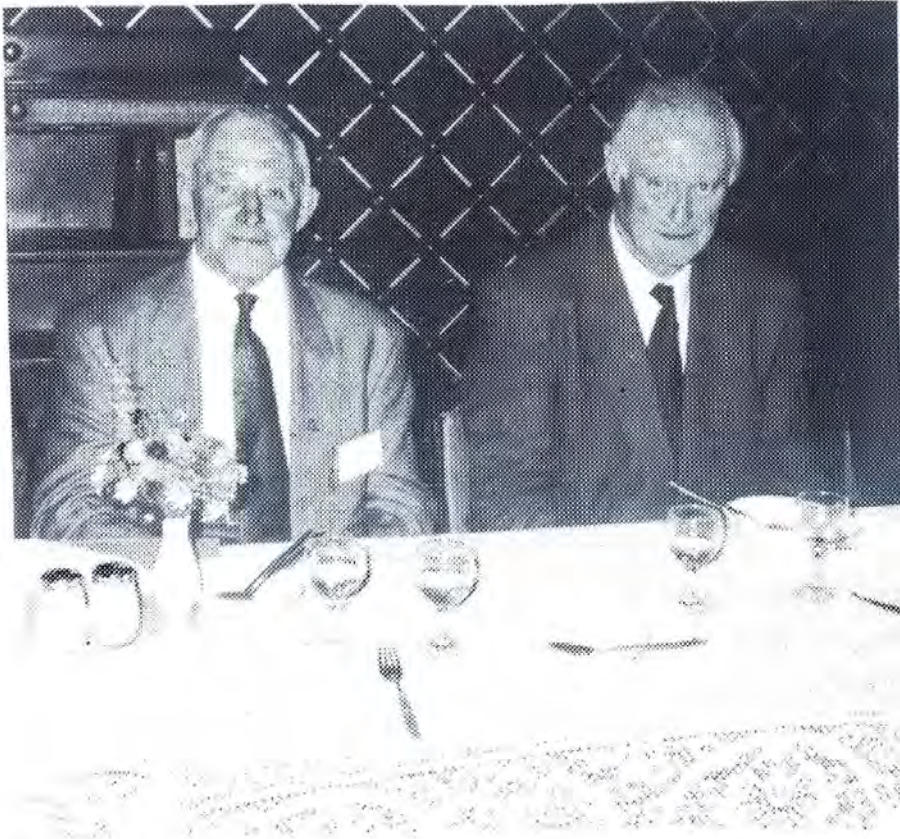
Our annual celebrations (Taranaki Founders Day) commenced with a service in St James Presbyterian church on 17th March conducted by the Rev. Ralph Penno. During the service reference was made to the ordeals and hardships experienced by the Founders forebears during their four month sea voyages in small sailing ships. I was invited to read the lesson. The luncheon at the Braemar Restaurant was greatly appreciated. As Branch President I extended a very cordial welcome to our new National President, Sir John Mowbray and his wife Lady Mowbray on their first official visit to our Taranaki Branch,



and also to Mrs Joyce Mackenzie, editor of the Founders Society Bulletin and her husband Hugh of Wanganui. Our members were delighted to enjoy the company of these guests.

Wilfred Faull, Branch Chairman

The retiring Chairman of the Taranaki Branch, Mr Wilfred Faull and the National President, Sir John Mowbray at the 40th Anniversary dinner.



Photo, Hugh Mackenzie

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### THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE TARANAKI BRANCH

Mr Greenwood, the then National President, called the first meeting in New Plymouth for Sunday, 22 April 1956 at 8.30 p.m. Fourteen people attended and Mr Greenwood presided. He explained the formation procedure and the aims and functions of the Society. Mr R.G. Jamieson proposed that an application be made to the Dominion Council for the formation of a branch of the Society to be called the Taranaki Branch. It was seconded by Mr W.L. Faull.

Mr A.C. Barnes proposed the membership be drawn from the Taranaki Provincial area and that district north from Awakino to Mokau. Mr J.R. Davidson seconded. Mr Barnes conveyed the best wishes of the Whanganui Branch. Mr B. Sinclair-Lockhart voiced appreciation of the attendance of Mr and Mrs Greenwood.

## WAIKATO

Looking back on our activities for the year, our branch has been quite successful in bringing together a group of people who have joined because of their common interest in what happened so many years ago - our ancestors arriving in New Zealand after leaving their homeland and setting off on that so hazardous journey to a little-known country that was going to give them and their descendants a much better life than that they were leaving behind.

We started our April 1995 meeting with a talk by Mr Shane Noyes, Director of Hamilton Zoo which was enjoyed by all. Following our luncheon, our AGM took place. Our subscription was maintained at \$15.

At our luncheon in June, two members spoke about their respective families and their settling in New Zealand. Two totally different stories, but something that members were able to relate to the stories that have been recounted to them through the years. At our next meeting the speaker was Mrs Pauline Cotton who spoke about her journey upon the Silk Road through Karokoran and Pakistan in company with ten other women, including a Founders member, Mrs Effie Purdy.

Unfortunately our annual bus tour had to be cancelled so our next meeting was in November when we had our annual Christmas luncheon at Ferrybank Lounge. We were entertained by a talented group of musicians, the Lyric Players.

The annual Garden Party was at Parnassus Gardens in Huntly. It was a beautiful afternoon and the gardens were at their best. After a stroll around the park-like grounds, we enjoyed a beautiful home-cooked country-style afternoon tea and were then entertained by Margaret Mathieson and a friend with songs from well-known musicals, followed by two songs written by Margaret commemorating her Irish grandmother leaving her homeland to settle in New Zealand.

At the end of my first year as Chairwoman, I feel it has been a successful year. All our meetings have been well attended. Our membership stands at about 130 and our finances have been ably managed by Peter Mowbray. During the year we have made the following donations:- Study Award - \$100, Trustbank Air Ambulance - \$50, Hamilton Zoo - \$100. Our National Councillor, Peter Mowbray represented us as usual in Wellington on 31st July. My thanks to the committee and especially Peter for all the work they have put in during the year.

It would be very nice to welcome some new members. Have you not family, friends or neighbours you could introduce to the Founders Society?

Delcie Dodds, Branch Chairwoman

## WAIRARAPA

As this will be my last report as President, I would like to say that during my term of office, sixteen years as Secretary and two years as President, I have made many friends and visited many interesting and lovely places which I would not have otherwise seen. I will retain many happy memories of the years spent while in office. Unfortunately our visits to kindred societies fell by the wayside owing to lack of support, but maybe in the foreseeable future these enjoyable get-togethers may be resumed.

We had a varied programme for 1995, with social gatherings and speakers, also coach trips which I know those who attended enjoyed. I thank my Secretary, Treasurer, Enrolment Officer and Publicity Officer for arranging the programme. Without their good work we would not have a Society. My thanks also to the Committee and all past committee members for their help given to me throughout the years. A big thank you too to those members who deliver our newsletters, cutting down on postage costs. A special thanks to our Vice-President, Maurice Watson, for the use of his home for our committee meetings and his support to me throughout the year. In conclusion I would like to wish the Society a successful and enjoyable year.

Violet Watson, Branch Chairwoman

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A NOTE FROM MRS SANDFORD OF THE WAIKATO BRANCH

11 April 1996

Our Founders member, Sheila Aronsen, celebrated her 75th birthday last Friday and tomorrow will be capped B.A. from Waikato University, together with her grandson who will be capped for law.

Sheila, a long time member of the N.Z. Women Writers' Society and still a member of the Waikato Women's Branch, went to University in the 1980s to take a poetry course and despite the demands of considerable family and some health problems plus overseas travel time, later continued with further studies including history and women's status. She is an astute writer in the Press under her maiden name, Sheila Bracken.

An example of "Learning from the Past prepares us for the Future".

WHANGANUI

I am happy to report that membership has again increased and now stands at 117, up nine from last year. We have welcomed twelve new members and as a result of our invitation to our 50th Anniversary, three former members have rejoined but sadly five our members have died.

Over the last year we have had seven meetings and three outings. We seem to have managed quite well without an official chairman. All of the meetings were organised by various members of the committee. Norm Hubbard showed slides of historic Wanganui sites at our AGM, Hugh Mackenzie showed video tapes of some of our outings in May, Mrs Anne Aylett spoke about her research into and recording of the Royal Family in June, and Mrs Mavis McDougall spoke about the history of St Peters Anglican Church which we visited in August. At our mid-winter lunch, members brought and talked about some of their interesting mementoes.

In September we celebrated our 50th Anniversary with a luncheon at the Palm Lounge, which was attended by the Mayor, Mr Poynter and his wife. We took the opportunity to honour two long-serving committee members, Mrs Marjorie Purves and Mr Barry Nixon. At our Christmas luncheon at which the National President, Sir John Mowbray and his wife were present, we honoured two others, Mrs Merle Higgle and Mrs Kathleen McDonald. Mrs Higgle was presented with a "For Service " badge, having been a member for 50 years, 36 of them on the committee. We expressed our appreciation of another long-serving committee member, secretary and chairman, Mrs Dorothy Marks, at our July meeting when she became our Patron. This also marked her 90th birthday.

The three outings were organised as usual by Bill and Marjorie Purves. for which we are all very appreciative. The first in October was mainly sight-seeing in the Turakina district with afternoon tea at Koitiata Beach. The second in November to the Hunterville area included the garden developed on the former railway station site, the Simpson reserve and the Lambert property in the Poukiore Valley.

On Waitangi Day we travelled to Raetihi where Dorothy Battersby, one of our members had arranged a visit to the Museum and a lavish lunch at the Classic Country Lodge. She then spoke about the history of the area. We had afternoon tea outside the Conservation Department headquarters on Mount Ruapehu.

I attended the National Council meeting and AGM in Wellington in July as your representative. Also in this capacity, I attended the Wanganui Archives opening at the Library, the Museum Centenary and the Waimarie Riverboat Centre opening. I also represent our branch at a monthly meeting of the District Council Archives Consultative Committee.

Once again thanks are due to all the committee for telephoning members, delivering booklets, organising meetings and speakers, looking after the name cards and serving afternoon teas. They are always willing to do anything that is asked of them and I am grateful.

Joyce Mackenzie, Branch Secretary

Sir John Mowbray and Mrs Merle Higgin after the presentation of the For Service badge.



Photo, Heather Kyle

WELLINGTON

Over the past year we have had eight gatherings, of which five were field trips and three were meetings at Shell House. We were fortunate to have the Duke and Duchess of Wellington for our AGM which made it an enjoyable evening. In August, Brian Waddell, the cricket commentator, returned to give an update on the state of N.Z. cricket and finally we had "Bubbles for Christmas", a champagne tasting evening which was compered by Raymond Chan of Glengarrys.

On the field trips, we went on the Heritage Trail up the Gold Coast in February and on a garden tour around parts of the Wairarapa in October. Once again we filled the bus to capacity and it was most enjoyable. This is something we believe we should do every year as it is most popular.

The other field trips included a trip to Melody Farm to hear old-time organ music and also to view antique musical instruments. Our visit to "Treasures in Trust" at the Turnbull Library enabled us to view articles that had been stored in the basement of the National Library and had not been on display previously.

Over the past year, your committee has worked hard in preparing these meetings and ensuring that they are successful and well run. Patricia Schuring, our secretary, has ensured that all the administration matters have been taken care of and I would like to thank her and the committee for making this year a successful and enjoyable one. Because of increased participation and attendance by members, we have been able to make a small profit from the functions this year and it is our intention to put these profits back into the meetings and to continue the good standard.

The year 1996 is the 200th anniversary of Edward Gibbon Wakefield's birth and during the year there will be a seminar on the history of the man. This seminar will take place about the month of August. This year also we are having a membership drive. We are looking particularly for the next generation of members and hope that your children and/or grandchildren may be interested in becoming members of the N.Z. Founders Society.

Neil Hollebhone, Branch Chairman

AN AWARD FROM THE HISTORIC PLACES TRUST

Recognition of a 40 year association was recently awarded to the N.Z. Founders Society by the N.Z. Historic Places Trust.

The Chairman of the Historic Places Trust, Professor Tim Beaglehole, attended the Society's 1995 Annual General Meeting and presented the Society with a "Certificate of Appreciation" for its sustained support of the Trust since its inception in 1955. "This year the Trust celebrates 40 years of heritage conservation in New Zealand. It is appropriate that we recognise those other organisations who have supported the Trust, both morally and financially, over this long period," said Professor Beaglehole.

He also took the opportunity to talk to the large group about the development of the Trust over the past 40 years, including past achievements and future challenges. "New Zealand's historical past is a key to the future development of this country. I hope that positive associations such as that which we enjoy with the N.Z. Founders Society will continue well into the future. These sorts of partnerships bode well for heritage conservation in the years ahead," he said.

N.Z. Founders Society President, Ron Garrod receiving the Certificate of Appreciation from the Trust Chairman, Tim Beaglehole.



THE FOUNDERS LIBRARY

The lending of books from the N.Z. Founders Library is soon to become a reality. The library has recently been changed from an author alphabetical sequence to a subject arrangement.

e.g. 920 Biography
 993 New Zealand
 993.3 Regions and Towns of New Zealand

The reason for the reorganisation is mainly for ease of access for our secretary when answering queries from visitors to the library and also once the lending of books to members becomes operational.

After valuation and insurance of the books, the secretary will release to branches a list of books held in the library to permit members to borrow. There will be some books not available for borrowing, but available for research purposes at the office.

The procedure suggested for borrowing will be only through your branch secretary. The borrower will be responsible for the cost of the N.Z. Post courier delivery and return to the library. A specified time that the book can be lent will also be advised. The details of the procedure will be finalised at the AGM in July.

I am indebted to the valuable assistance received from Miss Annette Fairweather, a retired librarian and a recent member of the National Executive, who has guided me with this project.

Nancy McDonald

STATUS OF MEMBERS

	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>
Honorary	222	210	220	256
Life	71	68	67	66
Senior	1152	1084	1067	953
Junior	10	7	4	4
Associate	194	159	144	127
Hon. Associate	4	3	2	-
Hon. for Service	17	16	23	22
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1670	1547	1527	1428

RESEARCH AWARD

A note and photograph from Veronica McSweeney of the Canterbury Branch:-

In December 1995 the launching of the book "By His Own Merits - Sir John Hall, Pioneer, Pastoralist and Premier" by Jean Garner was attended by our President, Mr Thwaites and myself. Mr and Mrs Thwaites attended the evening presentation and my husband, daughter and I attended the morning signing which was held at Hororata where Sir John Hall had farmed. My husband took the gold watch which was presented to his grandfather by Sir John for long and faithful service. Jean Garner thanked us for taking the watch and being able to personally thank a Founders Society representative for her Research Award.

Mrs McSweeney with her husband and daughter at the launching of the book, a copy of which each of them is holding. Mr McSweeney is also holding the gold watch.



Photo, Jean Garner

NEW ZEALAND'S FIRST SURGEON

The information for this article was provided by a Wanganui member of Founders, Mrs Olive Macdonald, a great-grand-daughter of Dr Samuel Ford.

Samuel Ford was born in England in 1811 and became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons at Guy's Hospital in 1832. After his marriage to Martha Wilcox, a clergyman's daughter, they sailed for New Zealand, arriving in 1837 at Paihia where Samuel became the surgeon to the mission station there. In 1842 he left the mission because of poor health and began a private practice. After the sacking of Kororareka by Hone Heke in 1845 they moved to Auckland, but returned to the Bay of Islands in 1849. They then lived at Russell where, for the rest of his life Dr Ford practised surgery and medicine, assisted by his wife. They kept open house for visitors to Russell, entertained the local residents with musical and dancing evenings and nursed those who had nowhere else to go in their own home. Dr Ford was also a lay reader for the Christ of England and a magistrate

Christ Church, Russell. This is the oldest church in New Zealand, having been built in 1836.



Photo, Joyce Mackenzie

They had ten children but only one, Ernest, grew to adulthood. He became a shipping agent and trader. Samuel died in 1876 and Martha in 1894. Both are buried in Christ Churchyard at Russell next to the grave of Tamati Waka Nene who was a close friend. In the Russell Museum their portraits and some mementoes of their lives are to be found.

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### TARANAKI'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

Members of the Taranaki Branch were privileged to have Sir John and Lady Mowbray as their guests at their annual Founders Day luncheon on 17 March 1996. Their presence on this day was of particular significance as 1996 is the Branch's 40th year and also marks the final year in office of the retiring president Wilf Faull, who was present at the inaugural meeting of the Taranaki Branch back in 1956.

Sir John gave a brief and much appreciated summary of what is going on at national level in such fields as investments and cash flows. the Founders Library, the Greenwood Report, the Wakefield Bi-Centenary and the proposed setting up of N.Z.-U.K. linkages.

The day's main speaker was a most appropriate one, considering the significance of 17 March to those of Irish descent. He was the Rev. Dennis Gordon, a recent arrival in New Zealand from Northern Ireland. In a quite delightful talk, using the actual words of a cross section of Ulster residents, he tried to convey some of the thoughts and feelings of a people who have endured 25 years of bitter sectarian conflict, followed by the hardest blow of all - a truce, so hopefully brought about but since so cruelly broken.

We heard the words of a young Protestant paramilitary who had grown up accepting the hatred and killings as a normal way of life. And those of a mother whose young son had meddled frivolously with the IRA and paid for his rashness with his life. We shared the feelings of the principal of one of only two integrated secondary schools in Northern Ireland, who knew what it meant to live and teach in a community which is traditionally divided by religion into segregated schools from the age of five.

These, and others, told the story of one of the world's greatest sectarian tragedies. Yet, as the Rev. Gordon said in conclusion, the irony of the situation is that, if there is ever a funny twist to be found anywhere in all of this, the Northern Irishman will be the first to recognise it and the first to laugh at it.

## PICNIC AT MOTU FALLS

In March 1995, the Poverty Bay Branch had an expedition to Motu. In a hired bus we travelled north from Gisborne on State Highway Two (towards Opotiki) with a commentary on the history of the defunct Motuhora-Gisborne railway, the route of which is still discernible winding its way up the valley. At Matawai we left S.H.2 and turned right towards Motu.

The first settlers arrived in the Motu district in the late 1880s. The only access was by bridle track from Poverty Bay to the Bay of Plenty. This had been developed by the military during the Hau Hau uprising in the late 1860s. Motu was originally a saw-milling town. There was a vast forest of kahikatea, rimu and matai. To get this timber to Gisborne a railway was built, as the early roads were impassable in winter and not too good in summer owing to the boggy nature of the terrain. The railway was completed in 1917 with its terminus at Motuhora.

So we went there and inspected the site of the railway station and yards. Not much to see! It is all farmland. We viewed the site of the Motuhora School, open from 1917 to 1954. It was a two-classroom school with rolls peaking at some 150 pupils. Now there is just a paddock. And of the township of Motuhora, there is now no sign of the numerous mill houses, shops and hall or the many timber mills. A quarry had been established at the base of Mt Motuhora. Our bus driver drove us right into this quarry which is still functioning. There are great awesome cliffs of multicoloured greywacke stone, ideal for district roading and railway ballast. The crushed metal was freighted out on the railway.

Then we were shown the route of the famous Kowhai Track used by Rev. William Williams in 1840 on his first and subsequent travels on the East Coast. In 1845 his two sons, Leonard aged 15 and Sydney aged 14, with their cousin Samuel and their Maori guides walked this track from Gisborne to the Bay of Plenty on their way to St John's College in Auckland.

We continued on to Motu township, once a thriving community with a large hotel, blacksmiths and merchants' shops. This was the halfway stop for travellers and coaches and the centre for bushmen and sawmillers living locally. The early road to the Bay of Plenty departed from Motu and crossed the Motu River at the Falls, today a well-known tourist attraction. Here we had lunch at the picnic area. We admired the waterfalls and walked over the new footbridge which replaces three previous bridges washed away in floods. Some wandered up the old coach road, now a popular walkway meandering through the renowned bush of Winray Park.

Next we went on to the Motu Cemetery to reminisce over the headstones of the early pioneers and their wives and children who overcame the hardships and loneliness of the once isolated Motu district.

Finally we called at the Matawai hotel, part of the original Motu hotel, which was shifted in 1933 when the main road was diverted through to the Waioeka Gorge. The mini museum there with photos and relics of pioneering days and the friendliness of the publican and staff completed a satisfactory day. And then away home to Gisborne.

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### THREE VISITS IN 1994 BY THE WAIRARAPA BRANCH

#### PUKEMARAMA

Pukemarama, owned by the McKelvie family, may be reached from either Bulls or Sanson. Built for James McKelvie in 1900 of native timber, the 6000 square foot house has a commanding view of the garden which is open to visitors. The main features are a perennial sunken garden sheltered by old English trees, a summer house, a pergola with pink climbing roses, a bricked terrace with 51 steps leading up to the house and aviary of doves.

Members of the Wairarapa Branch, Colin and Betty Williams, Mary Thom, Nola Jones and Vi Watson at Pukemarama.



Photo, Lesley Keil

## THE GOLDER COTTAGE

This remarkable little cottage, called Straven, was originally the home of John Golder whose parents, William and Mary Golder arrived in New Zealand on the "Bengal Merchant" in 1840. John, born in 1849 in Lower Hutt, built the cottage in 1876 and by the following year had married Jane Martin, the first white girl born in Upper Hutt. John, with a growing family, found it necessary to add on a kitchen and a bedroom by the late 1880s and then two more rooms to the front, plus a verandah in 1900. Tragically, two years later John was killed on the main road when his horse bolted and his trap overturned. Jane, a widow at 47, had eleven children to bring up without a father, the twelfth having died just a month before the father's fatal accident. The eldest son, Alexander did the best he could to take over his father's role and consequently never married. Jane died in 1942 at the age of 86, and an unmarried daughter, Theresa, continued to live in the cottage until 1985 when she moved to a home for the elderly at the age of 92.

The Upper Hutt City Council purchased the cottage for \$53,000, eventually donating the building to the newly-formed Golder Homestead Society. Carefully restored to its former glory, the cottage was opened to the public in 1990. The most remarkable thing about this cottage is the fact that many of the household contents were originally owned by the Golder family, including the toys displayed in the upstairs bedroom. A feature of the parlour are the two large, beautifully hand-coloured portrait photographs of John and Jane Golder. Also on display is an eight-roomed doll's house complete with tiny dolls made by Alec Crawford 65 years ago and donated to the cottage by Miss Marie Benge.



Photo, Lesley Keil

## THE GEAR HOMESTEAD

Administered by the Porirua City Council, this wooden colonial homestead, overlooking the Porirua Harbour was built by James Gear who established the Gear Meat Preserving and Freezing Company in 1882. Set in 10 acres of bushland and garden, it was named Okowai, which translated means "muddy water". The house is built from matai and heart totara with 12 foot studs, kauri floors and Italian marble fireplaces. Though the furniture is in keeping with the age of the homestead, the only article of original furniture is the wooden box sauna once belonging to James Gear. When being used, his manservant had to be at hand to open up the ventilation shutter should it become too hot. Hearing a song by Harry Lauder on an old 1908 phonograph set the scene for us.

The homestead remained in the Gear family until 1969 and after being owned by the Wellington Education Board and the Housing Corporation, it was deeded to the Porirua City Council in 1977. It is open to the public by arrangement and used for functions such as weddings and funerals.



Photo, Lesley Keil

## HARD WORK AND HAPPINESS AND A LITTLE PETTICOAT.

*The following is the transcript of a talk given to the Wairarapa Branch by Mrs Jean Quinn (nee Edwards) of Carterton, when members were asked to bring an article of historical interest or loving workmanship.*

New Zealand at last! Land of ferns and honey, glistening waters, sunshine and birds, mountains and tall trees. As the "Akaroa" drew into Wellington Harbour in 1848 and the emigrants landed on Petone Beach, what a very different scene from what they expected, grey skies, mist and fog, a cold wintery outlook, mud and slush, bitter southerly winds. Mary Jones had married John Edwards in Wales four years previously. With their two children, a stout heart, plenty of courage and a soul full of adventure, when the opportunity arose, they left their homeland for that lovely tropical island in the South Pacific, Aotearoa, the land of the long white cloud. Alas, their two children had been stricken with fever on the way out and died, so it was with a sad heart and a feeling of depression that Mary and John took up their section in the Taita Valley.

John was a carpenter with a bag of tools on his back and Mary had her belongings in a cane dress basket tied with a leather strap. Both were willing workers and soon had a little log cabin built, with a camp oven and a dirt floor, on the banks of the Hutt river. With the rich fertile land they soon managed a good garden of vegetables and flowers, and with happiness once more in their hearts, their son Robert was born. With John's strength and knowledge of building and Mary's frugal housekeeping, they soon advanced to become well known and respected citizens of the valley, and friends of both Maori and Pakeha.

Thomas, the second of their ten children, was born at what is now "Masons Gardens" in 1852 and married Philadelphia Benge in 1875. By this time things were vastly improved and John was able to set Thomas and his wife up on a piece of land covered in standing bush in the Mangaroa Valley. Thomas and Philadelphia worked hard and in time had a herd of Ayrshire cows, sending their milk to Wellington's town supply. Thomas was an outgoing person, becoming a County Councillor and being elected to the Wellington Racing Club, a sport he loved.

Philadelphia however was the sound character, her feet firmly on the ground. In fact my mother used to say she would spend all day plodding round in little button up boots with a sack apron tied round her waist. Delicious food was served on a large well-scrubbed table to a large well-scrubbed family.



Any form of music, singing or dancing that has cropped up in our family surely never came from our paternal grandmother. She was a sensible, no-nonsense person with a kindly heart. She was a devout member of the Anglican Church and the land where the little church stands at Trentham was given by Thomas Edwards, as was the land on which St Hilda's Church in Upper Hutt was built. The little churchyard at Trentham is filled by Edwards, Benges and Whitemans.

The oldest son of Thomas and Philadelphia was my father, born at Mangaroa in 1876. Philadelphia made a little petticoat by hand for him to wear under his christening gown. This makes this wee garment 120 years old. Every member of Philadelphia's family wore it and then it was passed down to our family and each branch used it for their babies. My children, my grandchildren and my friend's children were christened in it. The next one to wear it will be a sixth generation baby of the Edwards family. The actual christening gown was destroyed, making the wee petticoat all the more precious, especially when you see the exquisite stitching all done by hand and even more, as I have seen those hard-working gnarled old hands. That makes me realise how really precious it is and also how wonderful those pioneers of our country were and how they toiled on the land.

*The sweetest bird works near the ground,  
The loveliest flower in the earth must grow,  
And we must work for happiness,  
If we its worth would know.*

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## TWO VISITS BY THE WELLINGTON BRANCH IN 1996

### A TOUR OF "WRIGHT'S HILL FORTRESS"

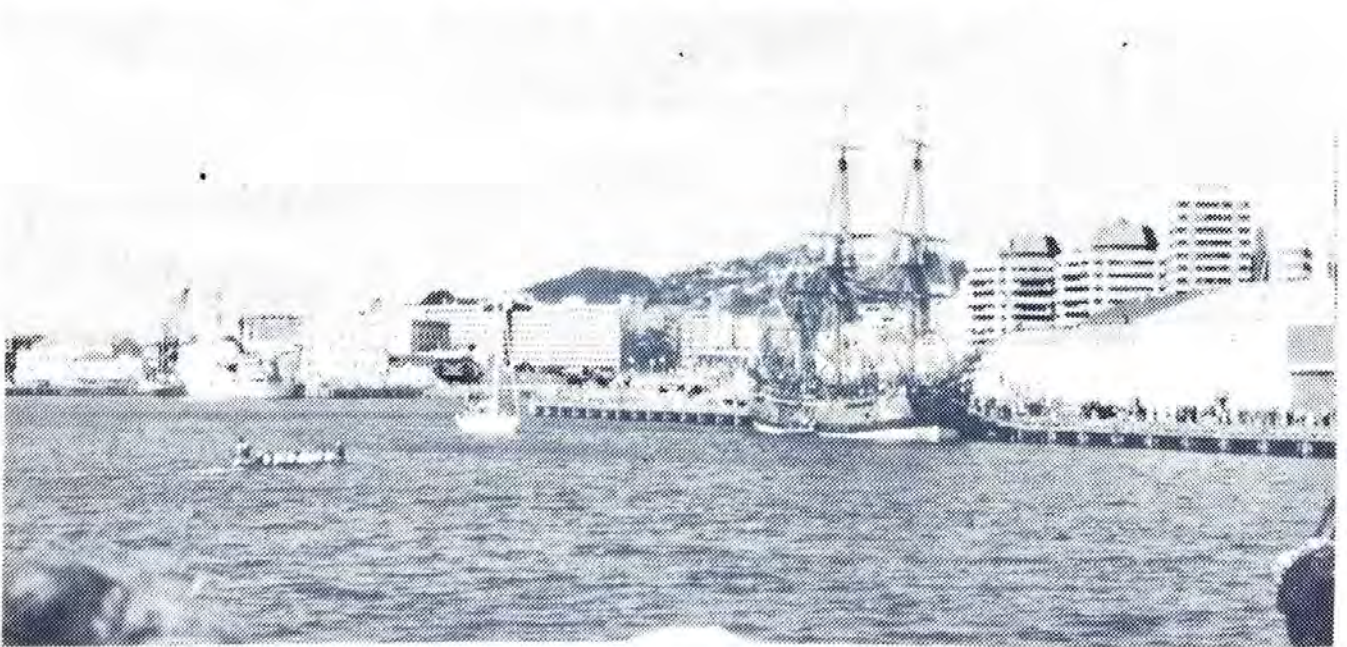
Wright's Hill Fortress stands high in the hills above Karori. It is a labyrinth of underground tunnels, ammunition storage, cannons and bunkrooms, built during World War Two to protect Wellington from possible invasion. Three 9.2 inch guns were installed in 1942. They could fire a 380lb shell up to 18 miles to the entrance of Wellington Harbour and across towards Tory Channel in the Marlborough Sounds. There were similar guns placed on the top of Somes Island in the middle of Wellington Harbour to cover the entrance.

## A TOUR OF THE "ENDEAVOUR" REPLICA

This ship was built in Perth, Western Australia to the original design of the "Endeavour" which Captain Cook navigated to New Zealand on the first of his three voyages. Cook was chosen to lead an expedition to the South Pacific in 1768 and was given two aims by the Admiralty. The first was to obtain astronomical data that would enable scientists to calculate the earth's distance from the sun, a measurement then unknown. The second was to search for the great unknown Southern Continent (Terra Australis Incognita). Upon Cook's advice, the ship chosen for the purpose was a sturdy, plain-looking collier which was purchased for the price of £2840 10 11d. It weighed 368 tons and was 97 feet overall. The "Endeavour" sailed from Plymouth on 26 August 1768 with a crew of 71, 12 marines and a scientific party of 9 civilians.

The first glimpse of New Zealand was on 7th October 1769 when twelve year old Nicholas Young, the surgeon's son, who was on lookout duty, sighted land and as the "Endeavour" sailed into Poverty Bay, Cook conferred the name "Young Nick's Head" on the most conspicuous feature, the southern headland.

The replica "Endeavour" in Wellington Harbour



Photo, Joyce Mackenzie

## WATSON RE-UNION

Emma Ann Watson nee Young (1815-1896) emigrated to New Zealand on the 820 ton sailing ship "Clifton" with husband John and four young children, John, David, George Henry and Sidney Young. Their former address in England was given as the "Patent Coal Manufactory, Bow Common", and John's occupation as printer and labourer. They departed from Blackwall Buoys, Gravesend, London on 2nd October 1841 and arrived at Port Nicholson, Wellington on 23rd February 1842 after nearly five months at sea.

Emma's husband John was one of the first pressmen for the "Spectator" and subsequently with the "Independent" and the "Evening Post". A copy of Grant No 24 from the Lands and Deeds Office, Wellington shows that John Watson was granted part of town section No 400 in the settlement of Wellington on 22nd June 1852. This section was situated on Mount Victoria overlooking Wellington harbour and was where Emma wrote her poem titled "Mount Victoria" (published in the 1995 Bulletin).

Nine of their thirteen children were born in Wellington - Isabella (Mrs Charles McIntyre), Charles Henry, William who died in infancy, Sarah Jane (Mrs Charles Lett), Walter Samuel, Emma Ann (Mrs John Lett), Samuel, Margaret Margery (Mrs Henry Sexton), and Rose who died when she was only five years old. The Watson sisters Sarah and Emma married Lett brothers.

In later life, Emma Watson lived in Renwicktown, Marlborough where a number of her sons had settled and that is where she wrote many of her poems about her children, her parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters including the poem, "Ho for New Zealand". Her poetry book, commenced as early as 1831, has been handed down through the McIntyre family.

Contact is wanted with the direct descendants of John and Emma Watson for a proposed family re-union to be held on 11th and 12th October 1996 at Renwick, Marlborough in memory of Emma who died 100 years ago this year. If you are interested in this re-union, please communicate with:-

Lesley Keil (nee Lett),  
85 Church Street, Masterton.  
Phone 06 378 8419

EMMA ANN WATSON



Correction:- In the 1995 Bulletin, one of Emma Watson's poems was published on page 39 with a mistake in the second verse. The line, "Then to labour all prepare." should read, "Then to labour all repair." Members may like to correct their copy.

One of Emma's poems, "Ho for New Zealand", written in 1873, is printed on the next page with the kind permission of Lorraine McIntyre.

~~~~~  
Mrs Hobson, the wife of Governor Hobson, wrote, also in 1840:

We had a large party on Christmas day when we drank the health of our friends in England. You will hardly fancy us among the cannibals when I tell you that our Christmas dinner consisted of turtle soup, with the accompaniment of lemon punch, roast beef, boiled turkeys, roast ducks and green peas, apple tart, plum pudding, custards and a great variety of other tempting things, and I assure you, not one bit of pork on the table. (*Obviously they were tired of eating pork.*)

Now the sails are unfurled and the "Clifton" heavy freighted
With fathers and mothers and children not a few.
To the white cliffs of Dover and dear old England
To friends whom they loved bid a last long adieu.

O'er the widespread Atlantic they are bound for New Zealand
To struggle and toil to gain a new home.
But weary and long was the voyage to the emigrants.
They knew by experience how far they must roam.

They stopped at Penam Buca for some light refreshment.
The natives came oft with their oranges fine,
But many more days they must bear their confinement
Of shipboard, ere reaching the climate so fine.

They buoyed up their minds with the thoughts of how healthy
Their children would be with the life-giving breeze,
But when they arrived there, the troubles they met with
Cooled all their warm feelings, made their blood almost freeze.

They had heard from all quarters the climate was delightful,
So they reached it still hoping the tale might be true,
But the natives soon turned on the confiding settlers
And their treacherous acts gave them reason to rue.

How many a settler in cold blood was murdered?
How many a home was burnt to the ground?
Children have mourned for their parents just tomahawked
And wives for their husbands look vainly around.

There and much more are the records now printed,
Taken from facts on the New Zealand shore.
Still there are some who have kept on the surface,
Who in years yet to come find some comfort in store.

Let us hope for the best and be truly united,
Nor weep for the sorrows that now have gone by.
Look forward to blessings that loom in the distance.
To cheer and make happy each other we'll try.

NEW MEMBERS FROM 1 JUNE 1995 TO 31 MAY 1996

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Mr J O Viles	Porirua	Arab	1841	Josiah & Sophia VILE(S)
Mr C R Bensemam	Hastings	St Pauli	1843	Cordt H BENSEMANN
Mr T H Pittams	Wanganui	Amelia Thompson	1841	Capt Leyson H DAVY
		Timandra	1842	Daniel & Louisa BISHOP
		Himalaya	1843	Charles DAVY
		Cashmere	1854	Erasmus W ARMITAGE
Mrs J P Graham	Hastings	Mary Ann	1835	Capt William HINGSTON
Mrs G Cody	Mt Maunganui	Fatima	1851	Alfred DOBSON
Mr J G Mathieson	Tauranga	?	1854	Alexander MATHIESON
Mrs O J Mathieson	Tauranga	Associate		
Mrs M A Clarke	Hamilton	Annie Wilson	1863	Edward & Eliza BROWNE
Mrs E E Neilson	Hamilton	Tyne	1841	Simon & Susannah ROWE
Mrs D D Johns	Hamilton	Mary Ann	1842	Daniel & Jane EYLES
Mrs A Sloman	Auckland	Sir Edward Paget	1850	Alfred & Eliza BUCKLAND
Mr J S Sloman	Auckland	London	1840	George & Priscilla CURTIS
Mrs A P Curry	Wanganui	Martha Ridgway	1842	John & Martha HANDLEY
Mrs J S Hodder	Wanganui	Red Jacket	1860	William & Janet SINTON
Mr A A Hodder	Wanganui	London	1842	Walter & Emma HODDER
Mrs C J Smith	Tawa	Thomas Harrison	1842	John & Elizabeth HAYCOCK
Mrs C M Bretherton	Wanganui	Berkshire	1850	John MORGAN
Mr T StC Bull	Germany	Lady Nugent	1841	Thomas BEVAN
Mrs D K Coombe	Raumati	Birman	1842	Andrew H GILLESPIE
Mr D M Kirkcaldie	Upper Hutt	Bengal Merchant	1840	Capt Frederick G MOORE
Mr M H Gibbs	Hastings	Mary Ann	1859	John ROGERS
Mrs M S Malcolm	Kamo	Blenheim	1842	Richard & Elizabeth JULIAN
		Phoebe	1843	Benjamin & Mary JACKSON
Mrs J A Twisleton	Gisborne	London	1842	William & Mary BARRATT
Mrs D V Matthews	Hastings	?	1855	Thomas & Sarah REYNOLDS
Mrs B J Sloan	Gisborne	Maori	1855	William DENHOLM
Mrs J A Ingram	Tauranga	?	1855	John HODGE
Ms L Mortland	Wanganui	London	1842	Thomas CHAMBERLAIN
Mrs M E MacKay	Hastings	Red Jacket	1860	Thomas & Margaret POWDRELL

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Mrs C N Switzer	Wellington	Timandra	1842	Joseph & Mary HART
		Essex	1843	John & Mary ROGERS
Mrs R A Cooper- Singleton	Wellington	Travancore	1851	George & Mary COOPER
Mrs J M Ball	Wanganui	Slains Castle	1841	William & Jane HAIR
		Olympus	1841	Thomas & Mary HIGGIE
Mrs J Abraham	Mangaweka	Bangalore	1843	William J HAMILTON
Mrs S Buck	Wellington	Aurora	1840	William E WALLACE
Mrs V E Ready	Mt Maunganui	Vixen	1855	Mary Ann WOOLNER
Mrs M E Surgenor	Taupiri	Duchess of Argyle	1842	Alex & Mary MUIR
		Jane Gifford	1842	George HILL
Mrs J S Strange	Wellington	Sir George Seymour	1850	Robert M CRESSWELL
Mrs R L Carr	Auckland	Sir George Seymour	1850	Robert M CRESSWELL
Mr H G R Cresswell	Paraparaumu	Sir George Seymour	1850	Robert M CRESSWELL
Mrs O Macdonald	Wanganui	City of Edinburgh	1837	Dr Samuel H FORD
Mr R W Starr	Hamilton	Columbus	1864	Robert JAMES
Mr A J Hoy	Havelock Nth	Catherine Stewart Forbes	1841	Richard MUDGWAY
Mrs A W Hoy	Havelock Nth	Associate		
Mrs G J Low	Gisborne	Sir George Seymour	1850	John & Ann DENTON
Mrs T Wells	Gisborne	Zealandia	1863	Hans & Eliza DIXON
Mrs M F P Cave	Wanganui	Duke of Roxburgh	1840	George & Barbara HUNTER
Mr T O Cave	Wanganui	Mandarin	1841	John Alex. GILFILLAN
Mrs H J Lowe	Tauranga	William Hyde	1852	Henry & Elizabeth WRIGHT
Mrs C R Southey	Masterton	Martha Ridgway	1840	Alfred William RENALL
Mrs J E Gray	Masterton	Lady Nugent	1841	James & Amy SMITH
Mrs C Hamlin	Masterton	Clifford	1842	Bernard & Mary GAPPER
Mrs M M Drysdale	Wairarapa	Associate		
Mrs J B Morrin	Havelock Nth	Queen of the Avon	1859	Robert WELLWOOD
Mrs A Quaid-Hynes	Australia	Cressy	1850	William & Hannah PARISH
Mrs N J Whitehead	Tawa	Jura	1858	Jasper & Agnes CLARK

THE NEW ZEALAND COMPANY

Many Founders members are descendants of the settlers brought to New Zealand by the N.Z. Company. Most of us do not know a great deal about the Company, but the following list of the surnames of the Directors will be very familiar to many members, especially those from Wellington:- Durham, Somes, Petre, Baring, Boulcott, Buckle, Ellice, Gordon, Hutt, Marjoribanks, Molesworth, Nairne, Pirie, Sinclair, Abel Smith, Thompson, Webb, Willis, Young, Ward. (the secretary). Petre was, of course, the original name for Wanganui.

NEW ZEALAND FOUNDERS SOCIETY INC.

National Council (as from August 1995)

National President - Sir John Mowbray, K.T.

National Deputy President - Mr R L Greville

National Immediate Past President - Mr R M Garrod

National Councillors

Mr R D Greenwood *

Mr D E Harper *

Ms S Lowden

Mrs N M McDonald

Mr G L Reeves

Mr R G Ward *

Mr J P Webster (Auckland)

Mr G Eteveneaux (Bay of Plenty)

Miss M Mateer (Canterbury)

Mrs N Roberts (Hawkes Bay)

Mrs I Carter (Northland)

Mrs B Lyle (Poverty Bay)

Mr T Bright (Taranaki)

Mr P Mowbray (Waikato)

Mr M Watson (Wairarapa)

Mrs J Mackenzie (Whanganui)

Mr N Hollebhone (Wellington)

* *Former National President*

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Auckland

Mrs C Rhodes

193 Princes Street

Otahuhu, Auckland 6

Northland

Mrs B L Walsh

6 Thompson Place

Tikipunga, Whangarei

Waikato

Mr P Mowbray

31 Marnane Terrace

Hamilton

Bay of Plenty

Mrs A Hart

111 Maxwell Road

Otumoetai, Tauranga

Poverty Bay

Mrs B Currie

33 Murphy Road

Wainui Beach, Gisborne

Wairarapa

Miss C Roff

17 Rugby Street

Masterton

Canterbury

Miss M Mateer

1/367 Gloucester Street

Christchurch

Taranaki

Mr M Moorhead

12 Kauri Street

New Plymouth

Whanganui

Mrs J Mackenzie

23 Balgownie Avenue

Wanganui

Hawkes Bay

Mr W Doreen

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