

## Dates to Remember

**28 May - AGM and Special Meeting**

**24 to 29 October  
Bookarama**

## What's On

Nice Day for a Photograph —  
McCaw family farming photos

Waimate Remembers -  
Objects & Stories of  
the First World War

## BOOKARAMA

- ♦ Books
- ♦ Magazines
- ♦ White Elephant
- ♦ DVDs & CDs
- ♦ Jigsaws
- ♦ Games
- ♦ Toys

**Drop off your donations of these items during normal museum hours or, if you need them picked up, please call us on (03) 689 7832.**

# 60th AGM &

**Special Meeting  
7.30pm  
Thursday  
28th May  
at**

**St John's  
Rooms  
Shearman  
Street**

All members and supporters are invited to join us for our 60th AGM.

The AGM will be preceded by a special meeting to discuss a change to the constitution with a view to reducing the number on committee from 10 to 8.

After the formal part of the evening we are delighted to announce that Joy Langston will deliver a talk entitled:

## OH NO! - not another load of boring old rocks and fossils



Joy Langston

Joy is an archaeologist who also studied geology at university. She has set up the new geology display in the Rolleston Gallery of the Lilian Marshall building based around the Engelbrecht and Bagrie collections given to the museum.

## Wanted — New Committee Members

Are you interested in preserving the history of the Waimate District?

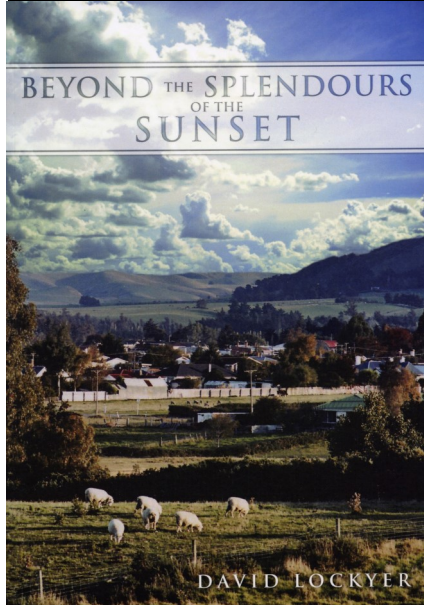
Do you have business, governance or organisational skills?

If you answered yes to any of the above questions then please consider nomination as a member of the Waimate Historical Society Committee.

A number of current committee members are not seeking re-election for a variety of reasons so there is an urgent need to find suitable people to replace them. If we are unable to form a committee the viability of the Society would be at risk.

Apologies to our members that they were not informed about the need for committee members before the information became available through the media. This was not our intention.

## Beyond the Splendours of the Sunset



### **Beyond the Splendours of the Sunset: A biography of Margaret Barnett Cruickshank**

**Cruikshank** by David Lockyer captures not only the life of Dr Cruickshank but also the history of the Waimate district at the beginning of the last century. Much of the research for the book was done at the Waimate Archives and it features many images from the Museum's photographic collection.

Priced at \$48 it will make a wonderful gift or lasting memento. Purchase your copy from the Museum or Archives.



## Dead Man's Penny

### **William Henry Wilke's Memorial Plaque**

Memorial plaques were given to the next of kin of those soldiers of the British Empire who had died during World War One. They were made of bronze, and were often called a Dead Man's Penny because they were similar in appearance to a penny coin. 1,355,000 plaques were issued after the WWI. (1) The one pictured was issued for William Henry Wilkes who, though a New Zealander, served with the Australian Imperial Force. His parents did however live in Waimate, and William was their only child.

William's mother, Mrs Helen Wilkes, wrote two letters, the first one complaining about how her son was not receiving the mail she had sent him, and she thought that he had received a fraction of what had been sent. The following is a quote from her letter as she felt more should be done "...when the Boys are Giving their lives to the Country they ought to get their mails when their parents pays the postage."

Another letter was addressed to the Australian Minister of Defence, dated June 6th 1917, written by Mrs Wilkes asking if there was a mistake about William's death, and were they sure he had been killed. She also asked for further information about the circumstances of his death.

Naturally Mrs Wilkes was heartbroken at the loss of her son, and she did not want to receive his medals and turned down requests to do so. In 1923, the authorities wrote to her husband, and she finally signed for them.

This plaque was found in Wellington and was purchased by the donor from an antiques shop in 2000. The donor felt it was wrong that it was being sold so began to research the history behind the plaque. It was offered to the Waimate Museum in 2013. The plaque, by this time, was in the United Kingdom, and was sent from there. The penny has been entered onto our nz museums website.

Find it at: <http://www.nz museums.co.nz/account/3188>

Source – (1) Wikipedia



## Cyberspace

### **Facebook**

Keep up to date with all the latest information about exhibitions, projects and interesting objects. We would love your support in liking and sharing our Facebook page and letting us know what you would like to see in the future.  
[www.facebook.com/Waimate Museum & Archives](http://www.facebook.com/WaimateMuseum&Archives)

### **Website**

The museum and archives now have a website:

[www.waimatemuseumandarchives.org.nz](http://www.waimatemuseumandarchives.org.nz)

Easy to navigate, informative and pretty cool really!

Go online and have a look.

Let us know what you think.



## Staff Training

Ongoing training for staff is always important and over the last few months Sue Hanham, Archivist, Maria Henry, Office Co-ordinator and volunteers Sandra Coles (who looks after the picture and photographs) and Suzanne Duffy (who organizes the objects collection) have attended a number of workshops and a conference.

In October 2014 Sue attended the ARANZ/ASA 2014 Conference (Archives and Records Association of New Zealand and Australian Association of Archivists) in Christchurch. Travel subsidy was provided by National Services Te Paerangi with additional funds provided by Waimate District Council grant. Sue's conference report can be read at <http://www.nz museums.co.nz/news/aranzasa-2014-conference/>

In November 2014 Maria and Suzanne attended a workshop in Dunedin on Mounting Textiles for Display which had a focus on good practice for display, preventative conservation for textiles, and simple mounting solutions.

In February Sue and Sandra went to Dunedin for a workshop on Preservation of Cellulosic Film Materials presented by Mark Strange, Senior Conservator of Photographs at the Alexander Turnbull Library, National Library of New Zealand.

Sue went straight from a week's leave in April to a Labelling workshop in Christchurch presented by NZ's top paper and object conservators Lynn Campbell and Emily Fryer.

Most recently, in April, Sue, Maria and Suzanne attended a Copyright and Copyright Management workshop in Dunedin presented by Victoria Leachman, Te Papa's copyright assessment and licensing administrator. Travel subsidy was provided by National Services Te Paerangi.

## Christmas at The Museum

The 2014 Christmas Display — Classic Kiwi Christmas — was a great success. All New Zealanders can relate to spending some time over Christmas in a tent near the bush. Santa and his helpers were very popular with our younger visitors as always. As well as the Christmas Tree Competition there was a new competition for hand made Christmas cards. The calibre of these was very high and made judging them difficult.

A Children's Craft day held in February saw the children making edible buildings out of biscuits, icing and sweets; placemats; poppies; decorated vases and much more. A fine time was had by all.

Special thanks to Creative Communities NZ for funding the Christmas display and crafts day.

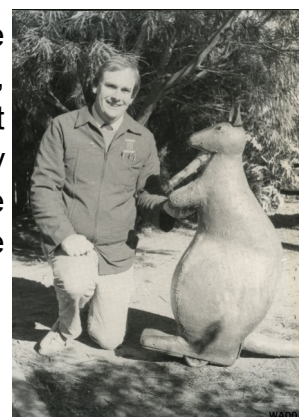


## Wallabies



Three wallabies on wheels now reside at the museum. They are made of fibreglass, amongst other things, and were used for street racing in the late 1980's. They weren't very successful because the small wheels made them wobble and fall over, hence the sad state of their ears.

Left: the 3 wheeled wallabies today in the museum and right, from our photograph collection, one of the wallabies in its original state



**Waimate Museum**  
 28 Shearman Street  
 Waimate 7924  
 Ph (03) 689 7832  
 Email: wtemus@xtra.co.nz

Opening Hours:  
 Tues to Fri 12 to 3pm  
 Sunday/Stat Days  
 1pm to 3pm  
 Summer Saturdays  
 1pm to 3pm

**Waimate Archives**  
 9 Innes Street  
 Waimate 7924  
 Ph (03) 689 7842

Email:  
 waimatearchives@xtra.co.nz

Opening Hours:  
 Tues to Thurs  
 1.30pm to 4pm

## Email Address

Do we have an email address for you?  
 If you would like to forward your email address to us we can keep you in touch with what's happening at the Museum.

Email your details to  
 wtemus@xtra.co.nz  
 or  
 Phone 036 89 7832  
 or visit us.  
 We would love to see you.

# Waimate Archives

## WWI Access Enhancement and Digitisation Project

Last year we saw an increase in WWI research enquiries and this year is no different. These enquiries have not only been about individuals involved in the war but also about what images and objects we have and the stories behind them from organisations involved in developing WWI programmes (e.g. Weta Workshops, TVNZ, Canterbury Museums) . These can be complex and time consuming enquiries to answer. We realised that we needed to enhance the way our WWI collections were catalogued and better yet, catalogue those that weren't. We also wanted to make our collections as accessible as possible, not just to those who contact us directly but to the online audience. At about the same time South Canterbury Museum was seeking support and contribution to the SCROLL database to develop short biographies for all South Cantabrians who served their country during World War One.

We have been fortunate to secure funding from the Lotteries Grant Board to undertake an audit and access enhancement and digitisation project. The project will allow us and a wider public audience to have a better understanding of the First World War collections at the Waimate Museum and Archives and within the Waimate community. The digitisation of this material will enable us to share the collection to an online audience and provide a digital preservation record.

Online images will be showcased on:

NZMuseums website (<http://www.nz museums.co.nz/account/3188>)

'All that Remains' website (<http://www.allthatremains.net.nz/>).

South Canterbury Roll Project - SCROLL (<https://museum.timaru.govt.nz>)

NZ Cenotaph online database (<http://muse.aucklandmuseum.com>)



We encourage members of the public to share their First World War collections and stories with us. This can be done by the donation of artefacts, or by the digitisation of artefacts whereby the items remain with the owner and permission is granted to the Historical Society to use the digitised material for research and display purposes (onsite and online).

As a result of this project we have begun to showcase our collections in the Courtroom through the exhibition Waimate Remembers: Objects and Stories of the First World War.



## Waimate Advertiser collection

Progress continues with processing the Advertiser Collection. Currently volunteers are sorting, housing, digitising and cataloguing photographs. But we need help from the public to identify people and events in some of the images. We will be displaying these images on our Facebook site and in the Museum Courthouse. We look forward to your assistance.

We are closer towards getting the Waimate Advertiser 1901-1919 digitised onto the PapersPast website. The National Library's Collaborative Digitisation Programme has accepted us into their programme for these years. This programme involves a 50/50 cost split between the National Library and the Waimate Historical Society. We are currently applying for grants for the additional funds. Providing access to this local newspaper for the era will help unlock a wealth of detail that will feed into WWI and other projects.

Photo shows Denise Campbell transcribing a war diary & Ailsa McKenzie digitising photos in Archives

