



MUSEUM MUSINGS

News from Okains Bay Maori & Colonial Museum

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Lonely Planet 2017

The Museum is proud to be listed in the 18th edition of the Lonely Planet New Zealand guidebook. This inclusion is based purely on merit and comes about from positive reviews received from visitors.

“Brings it to life; even though they are all dead!”

A visit to the Dunedin New Settlers’ Museum gave an inspiration to hang all the historical family portraits the museum had been holding for quite some time. Judy Thacker attended a recent framing workshop in Akaroa and put her new found skills into restoring and gilding the frames, renewing mats and replacing glass. Hanging the portraits high up in the Harris Cottage utilised the men amongst us and David and Wayne “followed instructions” to create a fine result.

Custodian House – refurbishment

Over a few rainy winter days museum volunteers sourced curtains and track for the custodian house behind the museum complex. This involved a fun trip to town resulting in a house-load of curtains and track which were revamped into quite inventive creations, including tiebacks. Many thanks to our support team who visited and cheered us on. “Many hands makes it feel like light work!”

Donations for renovations to museum buildings:

The Museum has 3 houses, a grandstand with accommodation and many buildings to maintain so donations of light shades, paint, heaters, ceiling and/or under floor insulation are always needed.

With the advent of several new projects a visit to Jan Shuttleworth to view his photo emporium of historic Banks Peninsula photos was a must.



Projected Road Board collection

Ngāi Tahu Women and their Whaler Husbands



In the pipeline is a poster on the women in Okains Bay of Ngāi Tahu descent. If anyone would like to contribute information on the background of these women, please contact the museum.

Pheobe Howland, daughter of Seth Howland and Hari Tiki - became 2nd wife of whaler John Fleurty



Cruise ships tours to the Bay include a shearing exhibition, morning tea and visit to the Museum including a harakeke putiputi weaving activity.



John Stewart driving loader, and Council’s new Commer Truck 1950

The photos will tell the Road Board/ Local Government story accompany a collection displaying, amongst other things, early local body working equipment and how roads, bridges and drains were planned and constructed.



1950 Okains Bay Sports with the pavilion

We were grateful to receive a number of photos from the Mason family of early cricket and rugby occasions.