



Season's Greetings from our President.

Have you been into the museum lately? Lots of exciting things happening and our volunteers are a happy lot and so willing to show you around and help with your enquiries. A couple of weeks ago some visitors from the U.K. came in and asked if we had any information on the Warmouth family, I was delighted to be able to help as my grandmother on my father's side was Jane Marshall Warmouth, so we had a great time looking at photos of where they had come from and she is sending her side of the family research to the museum and I got busy and sent her our side. What a thrill. Our Founder's Day, which we held Monday 13th November went off well with 17 folk coming and enjoying the fellowship and BBQ, we hope to have another open day in the New Year, but this time on a week-end, when hopefully it will be more convenient for more people to come. We are hoping that lots of our projects will be completed by then, or at least well on the way. My many thanks to Sandra and Ray for the many hours they spend working hard to make the museum interesting and more up-to-date.

Megan for her contribution and skills.

Shirley with the scrap books.

Fran. Using her muscles.

Dorothy on the computer

Wishing you all the best for 2018

Kind Regards,

Gwenda.

A message from Sandra

Another action packed 6 months at the museum. What we lack in numbers of volunteers we make up for in enthusiasm. We are constantly coming up with ideas to try to make the museum more appealing and with this in mind we decided to paint the interior walkway. This ended up being a rather radical move as, with advice from Steve Austin from Marlborough Museum, we decided on heritage colours for the walls and a black ceiling. We cannot believe how amazing it looks, the displays now stand out against the darker colours, and we have had many favourable comments. Please call in and see what you think. Another project that has been really successful has been the preservation of the bullocks and dray display on the outside of the museum which has been in place for 50 years. We wanted to clean up the front and make it easier to care for and to achieve this the display was removed for some much needed TLC. The dray has had a little repair work done to it along with 2 coats of linseed oil liberally painted all over it. It now looks and smells wonderful and is back in place on the upgraded base. The bullocks have had some repair work done to them, mostly some new feet as the old ones had rusted away, and are awaiting a new coat of paint before they are connected to the dray. None of this would have happened without the kind help of TRS of High Street, Renwick, who gave us the use of Josh and a forklift for all the heavy work, also Fulton Hogan of Renwick who kindly donated a load of rocks for the display to stand on. Also we are very grateful for the help freely given, by Fran and John, without whom this project would not have been completed.

A message from Ray

Well Christmas is here once again and it seems to arrive sooner every year. A great deal has happened at the museum this year and one of the most significant developments is the retirement of Paul Watson and his wife and their move to Blenheim. This has meant that the land at the rear of the museum has now become available for museum usage. After much discussion and some research into the original gift conditions, it was decided to clear the land and use it to create museum gardens. The idea was for a living museum piece showcasing some of the older varieties of plant that the pioneers would have brought with them and some of the indigenous plants that were important to the establishment of Renwick. So far the area has been fenced and the ground cleared our next job being to get it tilled and sown with grass to make it easy to keep tidy whilst the gardens themselves are planned out. The objective is to create an area for townsfolk and tourists alike to use that is both pleasing and informative. In the future we also hope to build a new workroom here so that the majority of the main museum building can be opened up for displays.



A message from Megan

The end of another year and lots of changes at the Renwick Museum. The displays have been refreshed and a coat of paint has made a huge difference.

Out the back I have continued to catalogue the new items as they are donated.

Paul Watson moved from next door and is now living in Springlands. Before he left he donated several items to the museum including a collection of photographs taken by Herbert Watson while he was teaching at the Flat Creek School at Rai. These snapshots can be seen online at

https://virtualexhibit.marlboroughmuseum.org.nz/recently_added.html

or you can access them through the Marlborough Museum website.

Megan Ross

Become a Volunteer

If you have a keen interest in the history of Renwick please consider becoming a volunteer. At the moment we open on a Monday but we are flexible about this if Monday is a difficult day for you. We need help with every aspect of the museum from housekeeping through to cataloguing. Please email us if you are interested in joining our small and happy team.



The Museum

This museum is run entirely by volunteers. We rely solely on grants and donation to keep the museum running on a day to day level as well as to upgrade our displays.

Services available at the museum

LOCAL FAMILY HISTORY

GENERAL LOCAL HISTORY

ARCHIVES

MEMORIAL LIBRARY

PUBLIC LENDING LIBRARY



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Christmas Greetings

from
Renwick Museum
and
Watson Memorial Library



2017

WE WISH YOU A
VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR