



Lyttelton Museum



NEWSLETTER - Winter 2020

PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTION

THE NEW LYTTTELTON MUSEUM

The committee has made great progress in recent months on plans for the new Museum. Our application for resource consent is being prepared and it will be lodged in the very near future. Achieving resource consent is our next major milestone and it will allow us to get seriously down to work on making the new Lyttelton Museum a reality.

FUNDRAISING TASKFORCE

Meanwhile, we are working with a professional consultant to plan the fundraising campaign for the new Museum, which we hope to launch in spring.

Alongside that, we are establishing a Fundraising Taskforce – a group of committed individuals who will drive the work and make the connections to get us to our funding target for the new building.

NEW FACES

We are also excited to welcome two new contractors who will support the Task Force and the wider Museum project – Gill Hay (Fundraising Coordinator) and Bec McMaster (Museum Project Support).

Gill has a stellar track record helping to deliver successful Lyttelton Harbour projects, particularly Sculpture on the Peninsula and the Cholmondeley redevelopment. While Bec is a museum professional, graphic designer and project manager whose achievements include work at NZ Ice Fest, the Air Force Museum and Otago Museum.

We are very fortunate to have Gill and Bec's skills and energy on our team – welcome aboard!

AND WE NEED YOU!

As a Lyttelton Historical Museum Society member or supporter, you are also a vital part of the new Museum project. We have a big and exciting challenge ahead and we need all of you to be ambassadors in the community. Please spread the word, share our social media posts, come to events, and get involved in any way you can. We need everyone to get behind this project and help us deliver an exciting new world-class facility for our town.



1. Unidentified man at the corner of Simeon and Godley Quays (from a postcard). Photographer: Unknown. Date Made: ca 1900. Lyttelton Museum Ref: 14625.114

AGM

You will be able to hear the latest about the new Museum project at our AGM. We're looking forward to seeing you there.

Kerry McCarthy
President



AGM

2pm - Saturday 25 July
Lyttelton Volunteer Fire Station

We'd love you to come along and hear about our plans for the future and have your say on our new building.

If you want to get involved more formally with the committee or with fundraising, please do get in touch. We'd love to hear from you. You can contact us at: info@lytteltonmuseum.co.nz or send us a message through the Lyttelton Museum website or Facebook page.



Image by Warren & Mahoney Architects

HARBOUR PLACES

OUR NEW HOME

Our plan is for the Museum to include exhibition spaces, tenanted spaces, a research area, meeting and event rooms, as well as storage for our collection.

OUR STORIES

Work has begun on the stories that will feature in our new museum. They will celebrate Whakaraupō Lyttelton Harbour and its people, past and present, acknowledging Ngāti Wheke as mana whenua and all the generations who have made this place home. Special attention will be given to Lyttelton's links with Antarctic exploration and science, and, of course, our maritime and waterfront history. There are so many fabulous stories to share – we can't wait to get started!

ICONIC AND WELCOMING

Architects Warren & Mahoney have designed a museum that will help us tell the rich stories of our diverse community and protect our taonga (treasures) for generations to come. Our new museum will be a landmark on London Street. Like us, it is fiercely proud of our heritage and boldly optimistic about the future of our town.

UPDATES

Stay up-to-date with our progressing plans on our new home by subscribing to our newsletter, following us on Facebook and Instagram or checking in on our website for updates. Our full contact details are listed at the end of this newsletter.

“The new Museum building embodies the unique personality of the town and harbour, a place to be proud of and inspired by.”

- Dr Kerry McCarthy,
President, Lyttelton Museum



Looking back towards London Street from our site with the artwork designed by Amber Moke. Local tamariki were asked to contribute to the design as well, giving us the best looking steps in town!

HARBOUR STORIES

HARBOUR PEOPLE

12,000 IMAGES NOW ONLINE

In case you missed it, we recently completed a major project to digitise the Lyttelton Museum image collection. You can now access over 12,000 historically significant Lyttelton pictures via the Museum's online database on eHive.

Made possible through the support of Lottery Environment and Heritage funding, this project took us 14 months to complete, with the help of New Zealand Micrographic Services. The original collection items remain in secure storage at the Air Force Museum of New Zealand until Lyttelton Museum has a new building of its own.

In the meantime, we hope the community will enjoy exploring these previously hidden treasures online, and will add comments to help us learn more about the pictures.

View the Lyttelton Museum Collection Online:
www.bit.ly/LytteltonMuseumOnline

MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to our loyal members for their ongoing support. Membership subs for the year 1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021 are now due.

To continue your membership, please renew your subscription in one of the following ways:

1. Pay online through our website
www.lytteltonmuseum.co.nz/membership
2. Download the form on our website and send to: PO Box 95, Lyttelton 8841.

Your support is so important to us, now more than ever.

LOCALEYES

ONLINE EXHIBITION

To celebrate the launch of the online repository, the Museum is running a series of online exhibitions called 'LocalEyes', featuring images from the collection selected by Lyttelton locals.

The first guest curator is well known New Zealander and Lyttelton local Joe Bennett.

LAST CHANCE TO SEE
Joe's 'LocalEyes'
exhibition on our website:
www.lytteltonmuseum.co.nz/localeyes-exhibition



"Who knows where this was taken, or when, or why? You've just got to love the grins." - Joe Bennett. Lyttelton Museum ref. 14777.1



Joe Bennett

Our next local curator for our second and upcoming 'LocalEyes' exhibition – Winsome Dormer.

Due to launch on our website on 25 July 2020.



A sneak peek at one of Winsome's exhibition picks (right).

The horses Glen and Mona pulling the mail and passenger coach from Lyttelton to Allandale driven by Robert Harris, front seat passenger is John Radcliffe. Taken at Lyttelton Railway station. Date: 1900-1950. Photographer, unknown (cropped).
Lyttelton Museum ref. 12184.1



MEET THE COMMITTEE

Murray McGuigan Committee Member

Why did you get involved with the committee?

Initially, I worked for them! When the collection was stored at the Canterbury Cultural Collections Recovery Centre at the Air Force Museum of NZ, I was one of two technicians who worked to catalogue and prepare it for storage. Shortly after we finished that project, I was approached by Therese Angelo, who was Director of the Air Force Museum and a member of the Lyttelton Committee, to see if I might like to join. Having put the collection into boxes, I was pretty keen to have some involvement in taking it out again, but even more, to be involved with creating a new museum, an opportunity that doesn't come along very often.

What's your background and skills?

Beginning when I was a uni student, I spent 13 years at Otago Museum working in a variety of roles, including four years as chief butterfly wrangler in the museum's Tropical Forest exhibit. I joined Lyttelton Museum after a brief stint of training and working as a baker, and I now work as a Collections Technician at the Air Force Museum.

The best exhibition you've seen and where?

The gallery devoted to Hieronymus Bosch at the Prado in Madrid, Frank Lloyd Wright's studio in Chicago, the Vasa museum in Stockholm (built around a 17th century warship), and the stuffed moa at Otago Museum, which I was obsessed with as a kid.

Your favourite object from the Lyttelton Museum collection and why?

There's a long list of favourites, but I really like the items that tell the story of the J.T. Norton bakery, tearooms and egg preserver empire. No one preserves eggs anymore, but I like how a Lyttelton baker's need for a constant supply of eggs grew into a product that was once sold around the country.

Metal can of Norton's Premier Egg Preservative. Maker unknown. Date made unknown. Lyttelton Museum ref: 3878.1



Wendy McKay Committee Member

Why did you get involved with the committee?

I was asked if I could supply some items from the Suffrage Centenary Celebrations of 1993 for the "Through the glass ceiling" exhibition at the Tin Palace in March 2015, after that I was invited to join the

committee.

What's your background and skills?

A Lyttelton (Cass Bay) resident for 40+ years. I co-own and administer a small engineering company. I've been involved with the community in a number of different roles, I was the Co-ordinator of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Celebration for Lyttelton and Chairperson of the "Celebration Lyttelton 150 years" in 2000. Served a term as a Community Board Member for Mt Herbert Lyttelton for the BPDC in 1989 and in the 90s worked at the Lyttelton Rec Centre as a Community Activities Officer. More recently I organized Matariki Celebrations and assisted with Parihaka Commemorations for Lyttelton Community House.

The best exhibition you've ever seen and where?

He Tohu Exhibition at the National Library of NZ in Wellington. He Tohu is a permanent exhibition of three iconic constitutional documents that shape Aotearoa New Zealand. All three documents are housed in this most beautiful room inspired by waka huia / treasure box, that looks and feels like a Rimu tree. My experience of it was very moving.

Your favourite object from the Lyttelton Museum collection and why?

The leather high-back chair reminds me of the time I spent on the community board. Our meetings were held in the old library where LAF now stands. We sat on old leather chairs so big, slippery and tall, at a beautiful carved wooden table. The then Mayor, Noeline Allan, sat on a similar high-backed chair.

High-backed chair with carved wooden frame, Lyttelton Harbour Board insignia and leather upholstery. Maker unknown. Date made unknown. Lyttelton Museum ref: 61.1



FIND US HERE

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