

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2023

Our new organisation, Ōtaki Heritage, Te Whare Pouhere Taonga o Ōtaki, combining the activities of the Otaki Museum and the Otaki Historical Society, is now up and running. Rawiri Rikihana, representing Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, launched it at our AGM in October. At the meeting we presented the last annual reports of the museum and the OHS and acknowledged all those who have been involved with both groups over the years. The new trust deed, setting out our aims, objectives and how we operate was accepted and new trustees elected.

Our new chair is David Ledson. Other trustees are Judith Miller, Liz Brown, Sarah Maclean, Jeanette Carpenter, Len Nicholls and Chris Papps.

This is an exciting time for us as we continue to present stories of the Ōtaki district and preserve our heritage for all to share.

We were proud to launch volume 44 of the long-running Otaki Historical Journal recently. It covers an interesting variety of topics, beginning with the archaeology of the Peka Peka to Ōtaki expressway which uncovered Ngāi Tara artefacts from the 1500s. There are also articles about the soldier settlement farms at Te Horo after World War 1, an entrepreneur in the early 20th century, and the development of the Sunny Ōtaki brand name.

The journals are on sale at: Ōtaki Museum, Ōtaki Bookshop, Ōtaki Post Shop, and Books & Co. They're also available through our new website www.otakiheritage.org.nz.



We have a new website (www.otakiheritage.org.nz) and Facebook page which will help to present our new face to the public. Take a look at these - we'll be updating them regularly with news and features of interest.

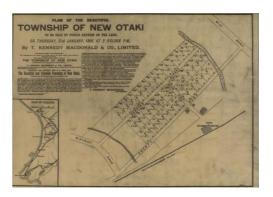








If you haven't seen our current exhibition *Te Wāhi Ara Tereina* | *the Railway* it's well worth a visit. It presents stories of the people who have lived and worked in this community, their homes and businesses and some of the changes over the years.



Continuing the theme of $\bar{O}taki$ - he $k\bar{a}inga$ takitoru, he $h\bar{a}pori$ takitahi| $\bar{O}taki$ - three villages, one community we've now started work on our next exhibition featuring the $\bar{O}taki$ beach community. If you have any stories or memorabilia you'd like to share, please get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.



Opening of the beach pavilion, 1938 (photo: W Hall Raine)

With the launch of Ōtaki Heritage we're updating our mailing list. Please let us know if you've changed or added an email address or if you no longer wish to receive our newsletters.

And if you're interested in our heritage activities and would like to become more involved, do contact us (ph: 06 364 6886; email: admin@otakimuseum.co.nz)