



## Annual Report 2023

It is with mixed emotions that I pen this – the final Annual Report of the Otaki Historical Society.

I feel humbled to have attended the inaugural meeting of the society in 1977 and now to have contributed in a small way to the formation of a new and modern heritage group,

In accordance with the agreement of our members, the past twelve months has seen an extraordinary effort by the appointed members of the Otaki Heritage Bank Preservation Trust and the Otaki Historical Society to ensure our two organisations could be legally merged to form a new entity to continue the work of preserving Otaki's history.

This amalgamation team has spent many hours investigating and debating the best way forward. I am sure that the decisions they have made will be fully endorsed by all our members and will provide an excellent service to all members and public alike.

I would like to acknowledge the committees, editors, and members who over 46 years have built such a strong society and provided the district with great historical resources.

As well as the amalgamation tasks, our small committee under the guidance of editor Sarah Maclean has once again produced an excellent Historical Journal.

Jeanette Carpenter has researched, collated, and submitted monthly articles which were printed in the Otaki Mail. Neil Greenwood has undertaken the selling and distribution of the 2022 journal resulting in the selling of almost the entire production.

Ian Cooksley along with other committee members has assisted the Museum group by accessioning items and helping setup and remove the exhibitions etc.

We have responded to online and email requests for information relating to Otaki and its people.

In conclusion I would like to apologise for not being able to complete my tasks as required during the past three to four months due to personal reasons. I sincerely thank the other four OHS committee members and the Amalgamation group for their support and understanding.

I am sure the new organisation will prove to be the leading heritage group in the wider Wellington area. I wish all concerned my congratulations and best wishes for the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Whenuaroa', is written in a cursive style.

Patsy Whenuaroa

OHS President