

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2013

NEWS AND VIEWS

Rolling on to Rangitikei Day

On 18-19 May 2013, Rangitikei Day will be held again. All museums will be open some time over the weekend. If it has been a while since you looked around the museum, or any of the others in the District, this is a great opportunity to come and visit.

To help promote Rangitikei Day, the Rangitikei Heritage Group (which Marton is a member of) are developing a new brochure of all of the museums to use. The brochure will be available from information centres, libraries, motels and other tourist destinations.

Building repairs shaping up nicely

Over the last few months, we have been making the most of the generous grant from the JBS Dudding Trust, and have just about completed the repairs to the workshop. Several of the weatherboards have been replaced, and the door to the newspaper room has been repaired.

Huntley History well remembered

Last month about a dozen members of the Marton Historic Society were hosted by Mr Dave Abraham on their visit to Huntley School. They visited the school museum the little historic cottage and the chapel. The cottage and chapel have been well maintained over the years, and both are still in use today. It is fantastic to see these historic buildings being so well maintained and still in use, and valued by the Huntley School community.

AGM and stories of Marton

The AGM was held on Tuesday 23 April 2013 at 2pm. It was pleasing to see so many members attend this year.. Rebecca has retired from the committee. We wish her well in her new job and thank her for all she has done for the Society. We would welcome any members onto the committee who are interested as we do not have a full compliment at present.

CALENDAR OF



SPONSORSHIP

Sponsor our newsletter! Only \$20 per issue.

SOCIETY UPDATES

Thanks to our volunteers

A big thanks to all involved in helping with research, village visits and with keeping the village tidy. Thanks to:

Maureen, Margaret, Heather, Franklin, Peter, Elaine, Kylie, Lynne and Pat.

Collection management

We are still on the lookout for more furniture for the Cottage.

Thank you for the donation of the eiderdown and blankets. They will be displayed in the Cottage shortly.

As always, if you know of anyone who is **downsizing, moving house, or having a clear out** please ask them to keep the Historic Society in mind. We can arrange to collect items if necessary.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Society membership

We would love to get some new members on board – so please mention Marton Historical Society to your friends and family. If they are interested, we can provide them with an information pack. If you have any ideas about recruiting new members, please let us know!

Donations and sponsorship

Thank you for the generous support from the following:

- Dudding Trust – insurance and building maintenance
- Pub Charities – Plaque for Frae Ona Park
- Keep Marton Beautiful – Tree for Frae Ona Park
- COGs for their grant that pays towards our running costs.

We appreciate all of the support from these generous sponsors, who help us to keep the Society operating.

HELP WANTED

Do you have any of the following items that you could donate to the Society?

- ⇒ Matching bedside tables
- ⇒ Lowboy chest of drawers for adults bedroom
- ⇒ Kitchen shelves
- ⇒ What-not display rack
- ⇒ Display rack (suitable for holding pamphlets)
- ⇒ Plates, Bowls, Cups and cutlery

STORAGE

Do you know of some free, secure space (e.g. garage, spare room, office, shed)?

We need to store some of our collections off-site. Please ask around your friends, family and contacts, and let us know!

ROD'S REFLECTIONS

SCHOOL BANKING

The Post Office Savings Bank's school banking service was intended to teach children the value of thrift and savings. It achieved this aim quite well (for that minority that joined the scheme) but it had some interesting quirks.

The system advertised that once a child had saved the magnificent total of 19 shillings, the bank would make a "special deposit" of 1 shilling to make the total up to a "whole pound" – wow! I took this very literally and deposited 19 shillings (borrowed from my Dad) on the day I opened my account, naively expecting an extra shilling to show up pretty soon after.

Presumably it's part of one's education that promises of this type (whether from government agencies, or anyone else) shouldn't be taken too literally.

The "special deposit" of 1 shilling did show up eventually, at the end of year, by which time my balance was rather more than one pound anyway.

Then, shock horror, one day I wanted to withdraw some of my savings for something.

The system was set up to encourage savings – fair enough – but it looked as if it hadn't occurred to anybody that savings were no use unless they could be withdrawn when required. The systems and safeguards necessary to handle withdrawals did not seem to have been invented – not in little old Marton anyway.

I went in to the Post Office with my bank book and asked for some money from it.

It was like Oliver Twist asking for "more" – or like Border Patrol on the box where they leave suspects to cool their heels to see what they will do.

Much consternation! After a while, the door marked "Post Master" eased open and a face peered around at me. It went away and another waiting period ensued. Maybe they were consulting the Pentagon.

Eventually I got my money.

These days, it seems like a child just has to grab Mummy's eftpos card and wheedle the PIN out of her, to get pretty much what they want.

NEXT MEMBERS MEETING

Tuesday 11th June 2 pm in Archives Room.
Looking forward to seeing you there.

Yours Historically
Rod and the Committee

MARTON AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Membership application

- ☐ Individual (\$20)
- ☐ Couple or family (\$30)
- ☐ Junior - school age (\$10)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Attach payment and send to:
Attn: Membership Officer
Marton and District Historical Society
PO Box 117
Marton 4741

Membership benefits include:

- ✓ Bi-monthly newsletter
- ✓ Access to Museum Archives
- ✓ Free entry to Museum Invites to all society events and activities
- ✓ Afternoon heritage talks
- ✓ Complimentary information about the local area
- ✓ Access to heritage training courses