



New President

At this year's AGM, Rod Cornelius stepped down and Alastair Fletcher has taken over as President.

A huge thank you to Rod, who has served as our society President for 26 of the past 32 years. Rod was part of the initial committee when the Society was formed back in 1977 and was part of the team responsible for setting up the Museum and has been working tirelessly for us ever since. Rod stays with us on the committee but will now be able to spend



**Alastair Fletcher
Incoming President**

more time focusing on the ever increasing research requests that we field at the Museum.

Alastair has a long history with the Museum and has been on the roster for about seven years. A retired headmaster with 40 years teaching experience, Alastair has been keen to become more involved for some time and now that he is able to do so, we look forward to working with him.



**Rod Cornelius
Outgoing President**



Above: Left to right—Tom Smith, Barry Brickell and Alastair Fletcher



Top left: Barry Brickell speaking at the Museum in July

Bottom left: Audience at the event

Upcoming event

Heritage Week Open Day

Sunday, 11 October 2009
11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

We've had a blast the last two years with a couple of hundred people coming along each time. Mark it in your diary now and come along and join in the fun.

Event report

Barry Brickell at the Devonport Museum

Thanks to all of you who came along to the very successful talk by Barry Brickell, potter and artist, held at the Museum in July. There were about 80 or 90 people in attendance and it was standing room only!

Barry talked of his early years in Devonport, from his arrival as an 8 year old in 1943, his schooling at Devonport, Vauxhall and Takapuna Grammar, and on to his involvement with the Devonport Gas and Brickworks and Duders Brickworks.

Barry's father encouraged his potting and a kiln was built in the back garden and Barry's parents were the founders of the Devonport Arts Festival.

Barry has been a writer in residence at the Michael King Writers' Centre and has been working on his autobiography.

[Editor's note: Thanks to Libby Eaglesome for her notes summarising Barry's talk, which have been abridged here and which have been added in full to the Museum's collection.]

Pottery at the Museum

We would like to acquire a small sample of Devonport pottery, from Devonport potters or with significance to Devonport. If you have any items you would be willing to donate, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Alastair on alastair@devonportmuseum.org.nz or 4457092.

Acquisitions

Substantial new acquisition of photographs from the Flagstaff newspaper

We are very excited to be able to report that the Flagstaff newspaper has donated all their photographs to the Museum. This not only includes photographs and the corresponding issue that the photo appeared in, but other, unpublished photographs, taken at the same time that never made it to print.

This is a fantastic resource for the Museum and the Devonport Community and we are thrilled to accept this. Many thanks to Rob Drent and the Flagstaff!

Are you involved with a local club or society?

The Devonport Museum has a large collection of Club and Society records, photographs, memorabilia and paraphernalia and we endeavour to collect as much of this as possible.

All too often, valuable information or items are lost when an organisation winds up or shifts premises or such like. We appeal for the Community to think of us to help you out when you are considering the long term future of your organisational records and history or if you are closing your doors for the final time and don't know what to do with all your records and photographs and other items.

If you think you might have something we might be interested in, please contact Alastair Fletcher at alastair@devonportmuseum.org.nz or ph: 445 7092 and he can discuss this with you and come to assess your material.

Word find

Find the following words: Brickell, Fletcher, Isabel Maud Peacocke (3 separate words, not necessarily together), BeanRock, Veterans, Flagstaff, Huia

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 Y Z F L E T C H E R A I I U W S O
 H I B N J E U A I U H S O P C X T
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Sub committee updates

Volunteers

We have a new volunteer this month who has started work on a transcription project that has been in the wings for a while—what we'll be doing is transcribing data from the accession registers into a computer file that can then be imported into our accessions database. This will have a huge favourable impact on our ability to answer research requests, furnish accurate records as to what we hold, and manage the collections more efficiently. It will also assist the team currently working their way around the Museum adding items to the database.

This is a long term project and I know that a number of you have, in the past, expressed interest in doing this sort of data entry for us. This will be able to be done in the comfort of your own home, at your own pace, if you have a computer—so if you would like to help us out with this project please let me know—sandy@devonportmuseum.org.nz

Fabrics

We are very fortunate to have a relatively new volunteer with experience and an interest in fabric conservation, and she has recently started to assess the state of our fabric collection—this includes clothing, flags, banners, and other cloth items.

Membership

Tom has recently sent membership reminders to those of us who may not yet have paid our subs. He tells us that these are coming in nicely but if you are still intending to send yours back here's just another gentle reminder. You're ongoing support of the Museum and activities is greatly appreciated.

Displays

After a very successful and fascinating talk at the Annual General Meeting back in May, Warren's fantastic Bean Rock Light-house model is now at home in the Museum.

Also, in the coming months a number of existing Museum displays will be getting an overhaul.

Oral history

Oral histories are ticking along with one completed this month. Should you know of anyone that you think has stories and knowledge of Devonport worthy of preserving in this manner, please contact Coralie at coralie@devonportmuseum.org.nz

Titchener's Beginnings For Sale

We still have some copies of the Beginnings Series by Paul Titchener for sale in the Museum.

\$3 per copy, \$100 per full signed set, and \$50 for an unsigned set.

Email Newsletters

If you would like to receive newsletters via email, (receive them more quickly and see photos in colour) please email your address to tom.smith@xtra.co.nz

Devonport Museum

Open weekends 2 — 4 pm.

33A Vauxhall Rd Ph: 445 2661 Postal address: P.O. Box 32 044, Devonport

<http://www.devonportmuseum.org.nz> Website kindly hosted by iSERVE

