



ARCHIVES CENTRAL

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2019

Issue #40

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COMBINING OUR PAST CREATING OUR FUTURE

Foxton Public Library, Council Chambers and Town Hall under threat of fire in 1933 - Foxton Historical Society

FROM THE ARCHIVES: ALMOST LOST

Sadly, not all of the records of councils have survived the passage of time. Records have been lost due to neglect, while some have been deliberately destroyed and others have been accidentally destroyed. The third volume of the minutes of the Waimarino County Council is one of the latter.

A huge fire swept through the Waimarino area in March 1918 and destroyed many homes and businesses. A large part of Raetihi was destroyed, including the offices of the Waimarino County Council. The remnants of this volume are a testament to the fierceness of the fire.

Now carefully boxed in an acid-free enclosure and wrapped to keep all fragments of the book together, access is impractical as any attempt to open the flaking and charred pages would further damage the volume.

This minute book is high on the priority list for conservation treatment to stabilise it, allowing digitisation and access to the content.



Waimarino Minute Book, Volume 3

WELCOME

Welcome to the 40th issue of the Archives Central monthly newsletter. This month we detail a conservation concern we face working in archives, war memorials to NZ soldiers, and one of the many bridges over the Manawatū River. Behind the scenes, the team at Archives Central continues work on digitising aerial photographs, arranging and describing accessions, as well as initial work on a replacement system for the current website, archivescentral.org.nz.

OUR WAR MEMORIALS

There are few towns in NZ without a memorial to the fallen of wars. New Zealand soldiers have been involved in in the 20th century. The form they take varies and includes monuments, gates, halls and bridges.

New Zealand's national day of remembrance was initially Armistice Day, but during the 1920s the focus switched to ANZAC Day after the Returned

(Continued on Pg 2...)



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ARCHIVESCENTRAL.ORG.NZ STATISTICS FOR MARCH

2137 **3209** **123,308**

Unique Visitors

Number of Visits

Page Views



Feilding Soldier's Memorial

OUR WAR MEMORIALS

(...Continued from Pg 1)

Services (RSA) and local councils lobbied central government. These are the unveiling dates for just some of the memorials throughout our region:

Apiti	25 Apr	1934
Bunnythorpe	12 Dec	1920
Cheltenham	9 Nov	1919
Colyton	28 Sep	1919
Dannevirke	25 Apr	1924
Feilding	3 Oct	1923
Foxton	1 Jun	1920
Halcombe	28 Jul	1921
Huntermville	15 Apr	1923
Kaiparoro ANZAC Bridge	25 Apr	1923
Kaitieke	22 Jan	1923
Kimbolton	4 Feb	1921
Levin	15 Mar	1923
Manakau	25 Apr	1922
Marton	25 Apr	1922
Moutoa	13 Jul	1926
Norsewood	28 Oct	1928
Ohingaiti	24 Apr	1922
Pahiatua	20 Jul	1922
Palmerston North	7 Feb	1926
Rewa	27 Mar	1920
Rongotea	28 Nov	1921
Sanson	31 Aug	1924
Shannon	25 Apr	1924
Taihape	17 May	1927
Taonui School	26 Sep	1920
Taumarunui	25 Apr	1922
Weraroa Memorial Gates	21 Mar	1923

A comprehensive list and map of regional memorials is available on NewZealandHistory.govt.nz

OOPS!

In our March newsletter article, "100 Years of Marton History", we erroneously noted that the town of Marton was in the Manawatū District rather than the Rangitikei District. We hope our error has not caused too much consternation to our neighbors! Thanks to His Worship, Mayor Andy Watson, for picking up on this.

FACEBOOK

If you haven't already, please like and follow us on Facebook. We enjoy keeping our friends and colleagues informed about special finds, events and projects we are undertaking.

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MANAWATŪ RIVER BRIDGE

Shown here is an image of the old Manawatū River Bridge and Whirokino Trestle Bridge circa 1943. The River Bridge was hit by a Jeep driven by an American Marine, causing the centre span to collapse. The jeep ended up in the river, as did another car and two cyclists that were following. Fortunately, none of those involved were killed.

The present day bridge was built as a replacement shortly after. In this photo you can see the temporary foot bridge across the span which was destroyed that was installed for locals in the interim. Vehicle traffic heading to Foxton along State Highway 1 had to divert and travel via the Foxton-Shannon Road during the rebuild.

