

**Bringing the Past to the Future**

# THOSE WERE THE DAYS

NEWSLETTER OF THE UPPER CLUTHA  
HISTORICAL RECORDS SOCIETY INC.

(Upper Clutha includes Cardrona, Albert Town, Luggate, Queensberry, Tarras, Hawea,  
Makarora, Wanaka and Lakes Wanaka and Hawea)

SUMMER 2019 - VOLUME EIGHT

DECEMBER 2019



Another Festive Season and New Year is just about upon us. The members of the Society's committee all wish you a happy and joyful time and hope that 2020 brings you even more joy with your family and friends. Hopefully the world is a better place next year.

## UPPER CLUTHA HISTORY PRIZE

Congratulations to Olly Williams-Holloway of Mt Aspiring College for winning the Society's annual prize with his paper on gold-dredging history.

## FINDING OUR WAY AROUND – OUR MAP COLLECTION

The Society has accumulated a comprehensive collection of maps, with wide ranging types, purposes, scales, and dating back to the simplest of 'memory' sketches drawn in 1843 in pencil, by a

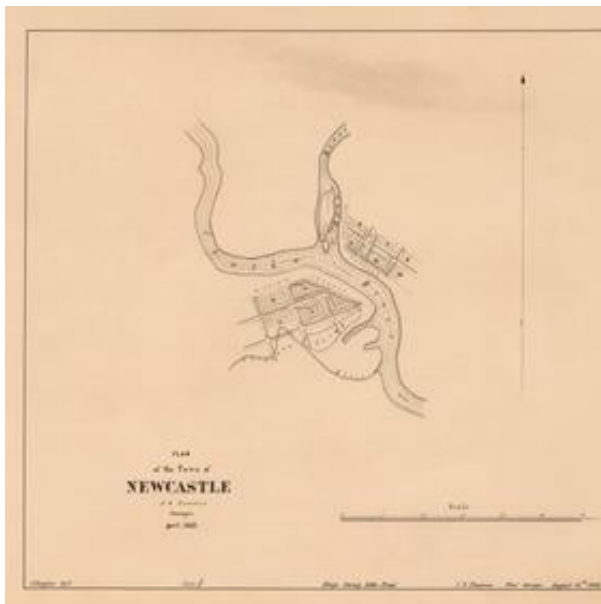
Maori named Huru-huru. These are all held in the Records Room at the Wanaka Library.

Different types include –

- ❖ Early attempts at producing topographical maps with no contour lines.
- ❖ Crown Grant Index Record Maps which were produced up until the early 1930s and based on survey data dating back to the 1860s. They record the names of the first occupiers of various Blocks and Sections in each settlement, granted to them by the Crown in one of the following ways:
  - Outright fee simple purchase.
  - Deferred Payment Licence – based on a predetermined price (usually by auction), with half yearly payments spread over 10 - 15yrs. (DPL)
  - Leasehold agreement – e.g. Lease in Perpetuity (LIP),
  - Crown Renewable Lease, or Pastoral Lease.

They also indicate various parcels of land in each settlement set aside for reserves.

- ❖ There are examples of the more recent Survey (Cadastral) and Topographical series maps.



The above is John Connell's map of Newcastle as he planned Albert Town to be. Note the sections on the intersection of the Hawea River with the Clutha. That is where Albert Town was originally based but the Great Flood of 1878 put paid to that (and parts of the town that had moved over the Clutha). This is the location of the Lower Ferry and the bridge as we know it today, is to the left of the confluence of the two rivers.

Maps are for a variety of purposes, e.g.:

- A map produced in 1883 at the time of breaking up for sale of Morven Hills and Ardgour Runs. (Subject of the story that follows).
- Maps produced in 1903 designating areas set aside for settlement by 'Landless Natives'.
- Those produced specifically for the Ministry of Works at the time of hydro development in the Upper Clutha.

The maps are stored in three ways:

1. Hard copies filed in a suite of designated map drawers.
2. Bound folios of maps donated by Society member Richie Hewitt, or
3. In digital form.

All can be accessed through our database system.

### **The Subdivision of the Morven Hills/ Ardgour Runs.**

In 1883 at the request of auctioneers Wright Stephenson & Co, this extremely interesting map was published by Dalgety and Co of Dunedin and Christchurch, and Dalgety, Blackwood and Co of Melbourne and Sydney. A copy was given to the Society in 2010 by Anne and Graeme Rive of the Ardgour Valley, Tarras. Anne is a granddaughter of David S Middleton of Northburn Run, Cromwell, and D S Middleton took it over from James Cowan who occupied the lease at the time of the above auction. Amazingly, the map remained hidden for many years, until in 2007 it was discovered in a recess at the back of an old writing desk which originally came from Northburn and is now in Anne and Graeme's possession.

Apart from a survey plan of the entire area (scale 1 inch to 2 miles), the map features the original settlement names, i.e. Gladstone, (John Creek), Newcastle (Albert Town) and Wakefield (Bendigo), and the proposed route for a future Cromwell-Hawea railway line. Detail includes the Lindis gold diggings and hotel, Maori ovens on the Timburn, the Luggate Hotel, and Mt Grandview, from which Otago's Chief Surveyor, J T Thomson, first viewed the Upper Clutha region.

(Thanks to David Simmers for this article)

## **BREMNER BAY**

We get many requests for information but some turn out to be more interesting than others.

Ruth Highet recently shifted to Wanaka and came to the Library looking for information on the naming of Bremner Bay. An elderly uncle had been compiling their family tree and Ruth shared his interest. They were both intrigued that the Bay was probably named after Bremner relatives who had lived in Wanaka in the early days and appeared to be pretty ordinary folk.

According to "Skirt Tales", the Bay was named after Hannah (Annie) and Joseph Allan Bremner who, in 1917, took over the property bounded by Eely Point Road and Kidson Lane from a Mr Alexander Wilson. Their house is still standing. It turned out we had quite a bit of information relating to Annie and Allen.

Family Tree information from Hazel Pearce revealed that Alexander Wilson was Annie's father and also that she had previously been married to Alfred Trevathan who died aged just 22 years on 12 July 1897. They had two sons. The elder son, Alfred Earnest Trevathan, was killed in World War One and his story is recorded in our book "Courageous and Free". Our copy of the Trevathan family tree does not list Alfred (Snr) and his family but does show how he is connected to them. J E Weavers skippered boats on Lake Wanaka and recorded his experiences in "The Launchmaster's Tale" which is held in our Archives. He married Annie and Allan's daughter Reta.

The Wanaka Genealogical Group's School Admission Records lists four of Annie and Allen's eight children.

Ruth and her Uncle are still working through Hazel's family tree information to see how they are connected, but in the meantime, Ruth has joined both our group and the Wanaka Genealogical Group as well.

(Thanks to Margaret Thomlinson for this article).

## **LAKE HAWEA ARCHIVES ROOM STORY**

Well known Lake Hawea local historian and author, Barbara Chinn, has been working on a new project to create an Archives Room for the Hawea District at the Lake Hawea Community Centre. Thanks to Doug Brensell, the new room has been built in the basement of the Community Centre and fitted out.

The project has been financed by the Contact Epic Fund and the local Dip Trust who have generously each made a contribution of \$1,000. This has enabled Barbara to purchase a laptop, a scanner and accessories for the facility. File boxes have also been bought, so that when the records have been sorted, recorded and scanned, they can be stored in labelled boxes.

It is intended that the records (including historical photographs) currently held in various places can all be put together in the one place, indexed and scanned so that anyone, such as school pupils and people researching their family history, can get easy access to them. Hopefully it will also be helpful to anyone researching aspects of the history of the settlement of Lake Hawea and Hawea Flat.

Already, there are minutes of several local organisations, as well as some family records held, and it is hoped that, in the

future, up-to-date minutes etc will be deposited here.

To protect the original paper records and photographs, they will all be scanned and kept on the computer in the Archives Room. An off-site back-up system of these digital records will be maintained.

At present, the Archives Room is not available because there has been a flood which soaked the carpet tiles. The tiles are yet to be re-laid. Once that has happened, access to the records will be available. Requests for access should be made to Barbara (email [b.chinnhawe@gmail.com](mailto:b.chinnhawe@gmail.com) , or via the Upper Clutha Historical Records Society which has been assisting Barbara with the project). The Society already holds some records of the Hawea area but there is no intention of moving them to the new Archives Room.

If anyone wishes to deposit Hawea historical records or photographs, please contact Barbara direct.

## RECENT OBITUARIES

### David G. JAQUIERY 1932 - 2019

David and his family shifted to Wanaka in May 1966 when he was appointed Headmaster of Wanaka District High School. There were 120 primary and 30 secondary school pupils. The school roll increased rapidly to 305 pupils in 1976 when it became one of the first Area Schools. David continued as Principal until he retired in 1979. He was a keen photographer and had purchased Wanaka Cameracraft from Toby Winderlove in 1975. The business grew and finally became Print It which introduced the publication of the Upper Clutha Messenger. All the early copies of the Messenger were given to the Upper Clutha Historical

Records Society. (UCHRS). The negatives from when Toby Winderlove had the business (1965 – 1975) through until David sold it to Paul and Keith Miller in 2004 were given to the UCHRS later in 2015. They form an extensive and valuable record of those years.

### June Doris HYDE 1930 - 2019

June died peacefully at the Ripponburn Hospital and Rest Home on 2 September. She was a valued, long serving member of our Society having attended her first meeting on 9 March 1995. June was a strong supporter of the Historical Tours we held during January each year at that time. She encouraged friends to attend making sure the trips were financially viable. The Society's minutes in January 1999, and again in March 2000 note June and Peg Mathieson suggesting daffodil bulbs should be planted around the Tree Nursery Plaque in the Cardrona Valley. The February 2001 minutes finally record that Peg and June had taken spades up the valley and planted daffodil bulbs around the Plaque.

## A PUZZLE

From a book of 1821 Epitaphs:

*Here Lie:*

*Two grandmothers with their two grand-  
daughters,*

*Two husbands with their two wives,*

*Two fathers with their two daughters,*

*Two mothers with their two sons,*

*Two maidens with their two mothers,*

*Two sisters with their two brothers,*

*Yet but six corps in all lie buried here,*

*All born legitimate, and from incest clear.*

The explanation comes later in this newsletter in case you cannot work it out – it will certainly tax the brain!

### JO'S NOTES AND UPDATES

The last Wednesday morning research session for the year will be at the Library on 4 December. At 10am we will head to Beanies for a coffee.

We will start the new year sessions on 5 February 2020.

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Wednesday research sessions and all those who did research etc. in their own time.

### 100 YEARS AGO

Henry Maidman, a well known resident of Mt Barker passed away. He was one of the first residents in the Upper Clutha and built the original Luggate Store and Hotel (not the existing buildings).

Cromwell Argus 15 Dec 1919:

Work has started on the Pembroke telephone exchange. There are four men at work at present, the number to be increased after New Year. The department has had difficulty in getting the material, chiefly in regard to the long poles, but the engineer considers he now has sufficient for the work. The exchange will be a boon to the district.

Otago Witness 13 Jan 1920:

(see next column)

Visitors to the goldfields during the holidays state that a number of cloudbursts occurred in the Cromwell and Wanaka districts on New Year's Day. At the Kawarau station the water fell in such volume as to practically ruin the garden, and it flooded out a picnic party which was having a holiday near the station. A baby which was sleeping in a trap was rescued in the nick of time, the water having reached the flooring of the vehicle. Considerable damage was done in other parts of the two districts named.—(Otago Times.)

Crop prospects have materially improved by a heavy downfall of rain during the holidays (writes the Hawea correspondent of the Lake County Press). The fertility of Hawea and Upper Clutha land was never better illustrated than during the past unfavourable season, when very little moisture was in evidence, and bitter drying winds prevailed almost continuously during the late spring and early months of summer. Cutting commenced at New Year and some fair yields should result, although the bleached appearance of patches through the fields shows that not all the grain escaped the later frosts.

### SCATTERED SEEDS

The Wanaka Library staff put us on to a website run by the Dunedin Library that may be a source of information/photos etc of your family. I found an article on my great grandfather that I had not seen before.

In 2015 The Dunedin Lebanese Community generously donated a gift to the Dunedin Public Libraries to establish a Digitisation Centre at the City Library and develop this archive 'Scattered Seeds – He Purapura Marara'. The aim in bringing you this site is to collect the memories, mementos and stories of the people – individuals, whanau/hapu, ethnic groups and cultures – fruits of the seeds scattered on the four winds from all over the world, that have landed here, taken root and come to call

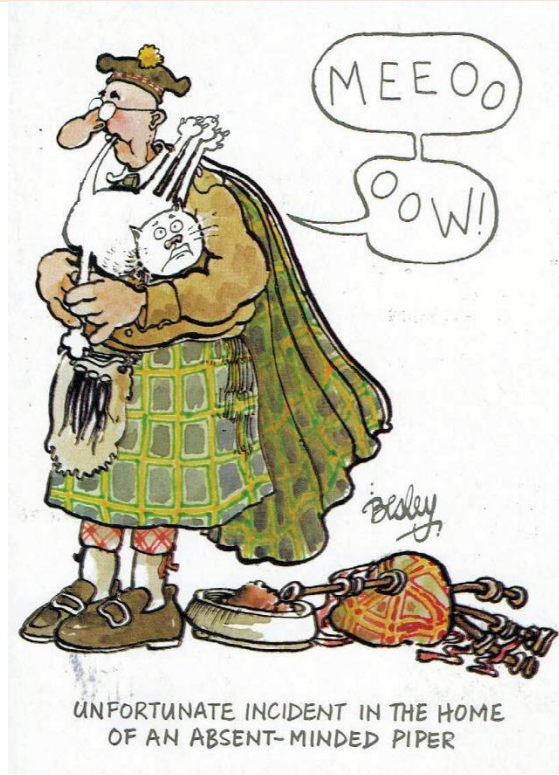


Dunedin home. This archive will develop and grow in perpetuity.

Have a look at:

<https://dunedin.recollect.co.nz/>

## SCOTTISH 'MATTERS'



## EPITAPH EXPLANATION

Two widows that were sisters-in-law, had each a son, who married each other's mother, and by them had each a daughter.

Suppose one widow's name was Mary, and her son's name John, and the other widow's name Sarah, and her son's name James – this answers the fourth line.

Then suppose John married Sarah, and had a daughter by her, and James married Mary, and had a daughter also. These marriages answer the first, second, third, fifth and sixth lines of the epitaph.

What a nightmare for a genealogist/historian following the family tree!

## SOME HELP PLEASE

One of the many photos recently donated by John Turnbull included the one below. It was apparently called "Post Office Rock" and may have been situated at the bottom of Mt Roy (the track?). It dates from 1941.

Can anyone help us out with any information?



## OUR PUBLICATIONS

The Society has published a small number of books and booklets over the years. Three are still for sale:

**Skirt Tales – Historical Stories from the Upper Clutha** - \$25. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition and is available from the Society, Paperplus Wanaka, and the libraries at Wanaka and Hawea.

**125, Look Alive – 125 Years of Schooling in the Wanaka District** - \$12.00. Available from the Society or the Wanaka Library.

**The Upper Clutha – 150 Years** - \$5. A short history of the Upper Clutha district. Available from the Society or the Wanaka Library.

**Courageous and Free** – Stories of Upper Clutha WW1 Soldiers and Nurse – **Sold Out!** – but we are investigating publishing another edition.

Postage is extra – please enquire from the Society.

## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription remains at \$10 (which in reality is a very small amount compared to other organisations).

**Please - Subscriptions for this financial year are now due.** Please pay these via internet banking if at all possible. The account number is 03-1739-0012311-00 and record your name in the Reference Field. It makes the Treasurer's job that much easier. If you cannot pay by internet banking, drop your payment into the Library on a Wednesday morning (9-11am) when the Records Room will be open.

## WHO ARE WE?

**President:** Graham Dickson

**Vice President:** Jo Wilton

**Secretary:** David Simmers

**Treasurer:** Ken Allan

**Committee Members:** Ken and Margaret Thomlinson, Bruce Foulds.

The Society was established in 1985 and Incorporated in 2010, to collect and preserve records and images of the history of the Upper Clutha region and make them available to members of the public. The records are held in a special room in the Wanaka Library and a team of volunteers provides research assistance (appointments are necessary) to members

of the public who may be looking for their family history or for persons searching for aspects of NZ history. Copying costs apply.

Please contact a Librarian at the Wanaka Library who will pass on the request, or send us an email to [uchrsoc@gmail.com](mailto:uchrsoc@gmail.com).

The Society is Incorporated and is a Registered Charity. Funding is reliant on the assistance of a variety of community funders and individual gifts. Donations are very welcome, as are new members.

**Donations may be made to our bank account 03-1739-0012311-00 with the reference – Donation. As we are a Registered Charity, donations over \$5 are tax deductible – please ask for a receipt.**

Membership Subscriptions for year ending 31/3/2020 are \$10-00.

**Website:**

<http://www.uppercluthahistory.org/>

**Email:** [uchrsoc@gmail.com](mailto:uchrsoc@gmail.com)