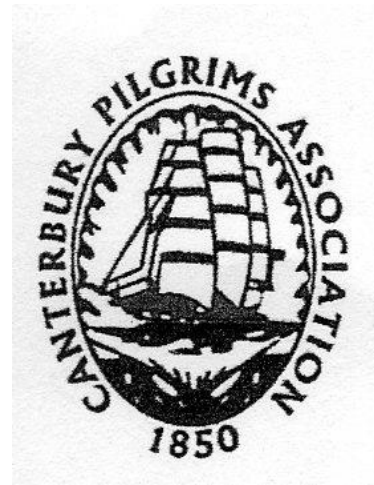


PILGRIMS PRESS

Official Newsletter for Canterbury
Pilgrims & Early Settlers
Association Inc.



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February 2020

Meetings and Outings

Unless otherwise notified meetings and outings are held on the third Sunday of each month, with meetings being held in the, Te Hāpua Halswell Library Centre, Halswell Road at 2pm.

2020 Meeting and Outing Dates

February 16	March 15 AGM	
April 19	May 17	June 21
July 19	August 16	September 20
October 18	November 15	December 16

This Pilgrims Press is printed for **February and March**

Contributions need to be received early for inclusion in upcoming issues.

CANTERBURY PILGRIMS & EARLY SETTLERS ASSOC INC

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Canterbury Museum Trust Board 3 Year Representative

Beverley Bolland

Committee Meetings

Generally the committee meets directly after each meeting in the Te Hāpua Halswell Library Centre, Halswell, or on the following Thursday morning.

DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in any letters or articles in this newsletter are the authors own and are not necessarily those of the Canterbury Pilgrims & Early Settlers Association Inc or the Editor

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Dear Members,

Welcome to 2020! Now that you all are nice and relaxed from the Christmas break it's time to get out your new diary and mark off the 3rd Sunday in each month for Pilgrims. It is also time to pay your sub. The accounts are on their way. Prompt payment makes it so much easier to efficiently run our Association. For those of you who get their newsletter posted out don't forget there is an extra \$10. required to cover the additional postal/printing costs. This was discussed at our last

AGM and comes into force this financial year.

Some of you may remember an article that that we did on the early complaints about goats on Banks Peninsular. One person at the time remarking that his goats would be easily identified by their '*curly coats and blue eyes*' which made me laugh, they sounded quite delightful. Well, there were still goat complaints coming from Banks Peninsular in 2019. Feral goats number approximately 1000, and they are to be culled by Ecan. The south east of the peninsular from Duvauchelle and Akaroa is mainly feral-goat free. So it seems 100 years or so later some of our problems haven't changed much.

The Australian bush fires are devastating as we have all seen on various media. The effects are felt here in NZ as we have all experienced in a small way the smoke and poor air quality. Fires are frightening and no respecter of persons or property, our hearts go out to all those affected.

This year is going to be my year of collecting family photos! I was given some un-named family photos to see if I could track down who they were. Baby photos are never going to be named unless when I show them around someone pipes up and says "I've got one of those too it's....." There have been a couple of false starts, but after much peering with a magnifying glass, checking of dates, referring to family, I am hopefully on track. The upshot of all this of course to remind everyone to name their photos on the back. Not with biro, use a pencil or one of those special photo pens that are now easily available.

The Canterbury Museum has a wonderful collection of photos that have been donated over the years. Not just personal family donations by individuals but professional studio photographers from Christchurch who are now no longer in business. So if you have an un-named photo check if the studio is one of those whose records are held by the Museum, you might be in luck! Try Papers Past online also, tick just the illustration box, it reduces the number of 'hits' for a name, folk often had their picture in the paper for weddings and sporting events, and of course talk to all your family/cousins/elderly aunts you might be pleasantly surprised.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all again this year at our meetings. It promises to be a great year, the committee has been working hard on your behalf organizing the program.

Kindest Regards, Beverley.

February 16

Timeball Station. Lyttelton. 1.30pm

Please note the earlier than usual time



The suggestion for a Timeball Station originally came from John Peacock in 1870 and was the third in the country to be built. The Timeball station was finally built in 1876, with three additions to it in later years, but the earthquakes in 2010/11 irreparably damaged it. In 2017 it was demolished completely, with the Tower rebuild

being completed in 2018 and it is this, still working tower, that we can see again today on the Lyttelton skyline. The ball drops on the dot of 1 O'clock each day. Of particular pleasure is that the ball has been repainted in its original colours. The Timeball function was to give mariners a correct time to set their marine chronometers by, thus ensuring their longitude was correct for navigation. The original clock used was British.

We are car sharing this time as we will approach the Timeball station from Sumner via the Evans Pass Road that has now reopened and the newly repaired Lyttelton Sumner Road. There are designated viewing points on the new road and the views over the harbour from them are fabulous so bring your camera.

An Invitation from the John Robert Godley Memorial Trust. 3pm.

We are invited as a group to a function at the **St Saviour Holy Trinity Church Lyttelton at 3pm** where the John Robert Godley Memorial Trust are making a book set presentation of Godley Gifts to the community of Lyttelton. Andrew Turner, Ruth Dyson, Jenny May and various other dignitaries are also invited, they anticipate approx 100 people, so it should be an interesting afternoon for all. Well worth turning up for.

Please **phone Linda** or **email Beverley** and we will do our best to organize a ride for you if you need it. Afternoon tea can be in Lyttelton before returning home via the tunnel if you would like to do that.

Notice of meeting.

NINETYSIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

15 March 2020

The President and Committee invite members to enjoy an afternoon tea with us.

AGENDA :

1. Notice of meeting
2. Welcome
3. Apologies
4. In Remembrance
5. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 17 March 2019
6. Matters Arising
7. Correspondence
8. Presentation and Adoption of Presidents Report
9. Presentation and Adoption of Museum Report
10. Presentation and Adoption of the Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended December 31st 2019
11. Election of Officers and Committee
12. Nomination of Auditor
13. General Business
14. Any other Matters

March AGM
15 March
2pm The Hao Room
Te Hāpua: Halswell Centre
341 Halswell Road

Our AGM is the time you have to tell us how we are doing in the running of your Association. What you like and what and how we could improve. Like most Associations we are slowly evolving with the times and hopefully getting better each year. We do need your input. If you are shy about making suggestions at the meeting please approach a committee member and it will be discussed. The last few years the committee has been busy trying to spread the word and get new members. Our Facebook page that Linda runs has been a big success, not to mention interesting, as has the website that our member John Walker set up for us, huge improvement on the old one. We would like to see more of you contribute to both these media, it keeps it interesting! We still need to be a bit more proactive though so all suggestions gratefully received.

Your committee works hard to make our Association worth joining with an informative series of meetings and outings so if there is anything you would like included in our program of events please don't hesitate to say so, we will do our best to see that it happens. May not be immediate but it will certainly be taken on board.



Henry & Elizabeth Flatman

We would like you to bring the oldest family photo you have, we will put them all out on a table and perhaps you can give us quick intro to them just before we have a cup of tea after the AGM. Not all of us have painted portraits like John Thacker, further in this issue ,but it would be nice to see some of your ancestors just the same and a quick bio on them. Nothing formal.

We look forward to seeing everyone again for our 2020 AGM.

Pilgrims Rock

16 December 2020



Pleasant weather again this year for our ceremony. We had a good turn out and the current Vicar, John McLister, for St Saviours Holy Trinity Lyttelton joined us giving a prayer at the end of the ceremony. John Thacker brought along a pair of paintings of his early ancestors. This would have been the spot on which they disembarked!

You will all note the cruise liner in the background, and while the juxtaposition of the new shipping at an old site is good, the pole out of the top of John's head leaves something to be desired. My photographic skills could be better! Have to say Johns' beard is much more

lustrous and curly (and detachable) than his forebears. It made everyone smile. Thanks John.



Pilgrims flag flying in Albion Square, Lyttelton with the kind permission of the Lyttelton RSA on their flagpole.

Lyttelton.

I had hoped that the Church bell would be ringing out last Dec 16th and when I approached Rev John McLister he explained that while the Belfry is complete with bell, they would like a small ceremony to celebrate and thank all those who had contributed.

To this end they are having the **Mariners Bell Tower Blessing on Sunday March 29th.**

The time has not at the moment been set, perhaps it will incorporate their Sunday Service but we will be advised. We will have the time no doubt before our AGM so will let you know then. Given that we donated \$5000 to the fund raising for the tower it would be really nice to hear the bell ringing out during the year over there, a good nostalgic sound for everyone, descendant or not of the early Pilgrims and Settlers. The Bell has a Latin inscription that has been translated as follows; *I praise the true God, I call the people, I gather together the clergy, I lament the dead, I put plaque to flight, I mark the festivals with joy, Thomas Summers Cocks and Sarah Louise his wife ,together presented this bell AD1850 Mears of London made it..* A name that lives on in Christchurch today.

Our Flag.

I have been approached by a member regarding a purchase of our Pilgrims Flag, to fly on his personal flag pole. If I had a flag pole I would fly it too but if anyone else would like our flag to have or fly please get in touch. It is one of those things where numbers make a difference, 5 has been bandied about as the most cost effective number when design costs are involved, however we know what ours looks like so that shouldn't be a problem. I enquired from the guy who flies our flag for the council and it would be sensible to take his recommendation re a flag company to approach, so if you want to purchase/fly our flag privately please get in touch and you can all band together, sharing costs.

As some of you know, but perhaps not our new members, our flag is really the Soames house flag. It was awarded to Joseph Soames, a shipping owner, as a reward to him for services to the Government (England) in time of need. Joseph Soames was chief promoter of the New Zealand Company and the Canterbury settlement. His widow bought fifty acres for £150 and at the ballot hers was the first drawn. She stated that the land was to used for religious and useful learning. It was the start of Christ's College. We know it as the Charlotte Jane flag so perhaps that ship was under charter from Soames Shipping Company.