

# PILGRIMS PRESS

Official Newsletter for Canterbury  
Pilgrims & Early Settlers  
Association Inc.

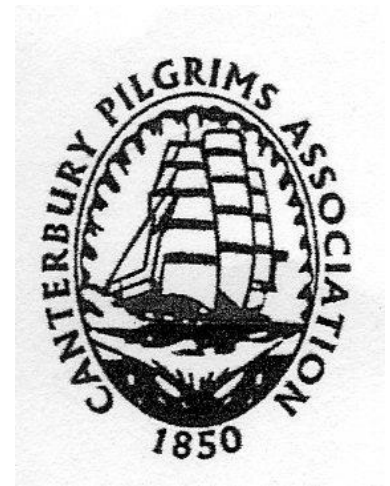
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## July 2021

### Meetings and Outings

Unless otherwise notified meetings and outings are held on the third Sunday of each month, with meetings being held at Knights Stream School, 1 Killarney Road Halswell.

### 2021 Meeting and Outing Dates

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

This Pilgrims Press is printed for **July, August and September**  
Contributions need to be received early for inclusion in upcoming issues.

# CANTERBURY PILGRIMS & EARLY SETTLERS ASSOC INC

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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### Treasurer

<b>Committee</b>	Elizabeth Dixon	03 312 5705
	Brian Dixon	03 312 5705
	Andrea King	03 383 5488
	Judy Pethig	03 354 8352

**Auditor** Mr Victor Sykes (C.A Ret'd)

### Canterbury Museum Trust Board 3 Year term Representative

Beverley Bolland

### Committee Meetings

Generally the committee meets directly after each meeting in Knights Stream School, Halswell, or on the following Thursday morning after an outing.

### Bank Account

BNZ 020800-0183140-00 for all transactions.

### 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,

I hope you are all keeping well and thinking about organizing yourself for your Covid -19 vaccinations, they are on the horizon!

After so much rain lately I started to think we were in for the proverbial 40 days and 40 nights of rain but it has, as I write this, turned frosty. I have had ice on the fishpond for the first time this winter.

Our program this quarter has a distinct 'building' theme to it with Richard Gardiner and his fascinating models and the Edmonds factory and gardens so mark off your diary and come along and join us . We look forward to seeing you all again in a warm environment now it is the middle of winter.

It is with real regret that Michelle has stepped down from the position of Treasurer due to pressures from her family business work. They are busy. Michelle has done a tremendous job with our accounts, we are all set up for online internet banking, with payments and expenses being clearly shown. Magic I think. We do, however, need someone to take over and continue the good work. Do you have a background in accounting or bookkeeping? Could you come to our aid in our **98th year** ? Have you been a treasurer for another club at some stage? We need someone to put their hand up and do this, we cannot run without a Treasurer. Please consider this as a personal request from me and all the committee, don't sit back and think someone else will do it, it is you we need now.

We are starting to think about our 100th birthday too, so all ideas and suggestions will be taken on board for consideration. Any ideas on the subject? It goes without saying of course that a dinner is part of the celebration!

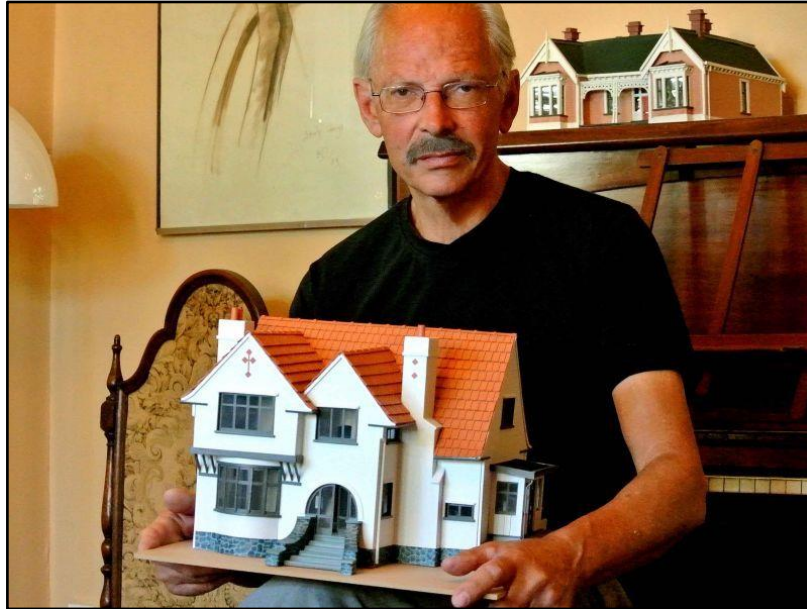
Canterbury Museum has some interesting exhibitions on at the moment, the Standish and Preece exhibition celebrating NZ's longest running photography studio is a must to see.. Hopefully you have looked at the photos online, anyone you recognize there?

Take care

Kindest Regards, Beverley Bolland *Hon President.*

**July18**  
**Knights Stream School**  
**1 Killarney Road, Halswell. 2pm**

**Richard Gardiner**



We are been lucky enough to have Richard an architectural model maker agree to come along to our meeting this Sunday to talk about and show us some of the scale model buildings he makes. It started after he made a much admired model of his own home.

He has been asked to make a replicas of houses and buildings that have been damaged in the earthquakes by owners, who like all of us, have an emotional attachment to their homes and it has spread from there. They are quite fascinating. Richard works from photographs and records to make these scale models. He also does some commercial work for Architects since his retirement as an Art Teacher at Burnside High School.



Make sure you set aside time to come to this meeting, Richard is an accomplished and interesting speaker and not to be missed, you will enjoy it I promise. On the left is a scale model of the old Lyttelton Police Station.

**August 15**  
**Wigram Airforce Museum**  
**45 Harvard Avenue Wigram**  
**1.30pm**



**Please note the earlier start time. Don't be late!**  
**The Museum closes at 4pm, the Cafe at 3.30pm.**

Second time lucky! Last year we were all unexpectedly returned to lockdown and couldn't make our outing to the museum happen in August so we are going to go this year instead as we are all fit and well.

Things have been happening at this Museum since we last visited 6 years ago. It has always been an interesting place so you will not be disappointed. It is warm and inviting with plenty of free parking and easy access so no matter what the weather throws at us this year we should be dry. Mind you with all this recent rain it may be famous last words!

Please be sure to **wear your badges** as we are expected, and are having a free guided tour.

The cafe has had a revamp with the tables now located inside the previous exhibition area and you get the benefit of the big windows and light as well as the fun of having a coffee surrounded by full sized restored aircraft.

Make sure you have this marked off in your Diary as a must do and come and join us. I'm looking forward to seeing you all again.

Are you aware that the new Archives Building is right next door? It will be closed on Sunday but if you ever need to use their records it well worth a visit. They have some nice etched glass panels as part of their architecture. It is another nice warm building so don't let winter put you off from some research out there.

**19 September**  
**Knights Stream School**  
**1 Killarney Road, Halswell. 2pm**  
**John & Jenny Hoskin**  
**Friends of the Edmonds Gardens**

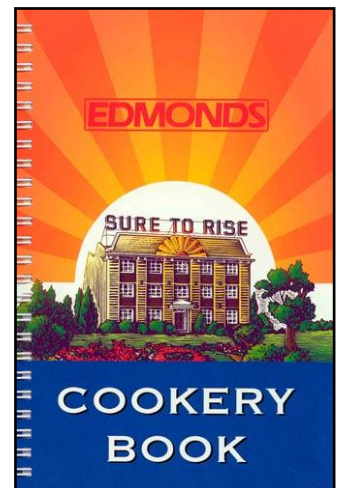


John and Jenny are longtime advocates for the Edmonds Factory Gardens and have a huge knowledge of the old factory and its gardens that stood there until around the 1990's. They will be bringing a model of the factory for a show and tell as well.

Thomas Edmonds arrived in Christchurch and started manufacturing in 1879 the Sure to Rise baking powder that is still in production today. His new Factory in Ferry Road is the one that we all associate with his Sure to Rise brand today. It was built around 1923 with the accompanying show stopping gardens.

I am sure you all have an Edmonds Cookery Book on a kitchen shelf somewhere. I have several, the first one being printed in 1968 when I married. It has been around the world with me and shows it, being somewhat well thumbed and battered. I gave my daughter a copy when she married 10 years ago and she has her Grandmother's copy as well

Edmonds Cookery Book moved with the times, changing and altering recipes as times demanded.



Come along for a trip down memory lane and learn a little of the iconic Edmonds Factory history with John and Jenny, you won't regret it.

# MERCHISTON



I am sure some of you will who live in Christchurch recall Merchiston at 80 Riverlaw Terrace in St Martins. I thought it must have been damaged in the earthquakes and subsequently bulldozed so you can imagine my delight to discover it still stands today and has been repaired by the family. Being of wooden construction it survived remarkably well, the chimneys fell over of course etc but was par for the course in Christchurch everywhere wasn't it.

I was fortunate enough to see in and around Merchiston before the earthquakes and loved it. It was one of those houses that had a happy vibe. It felt cosy and full of memories of past families, somewhat cluttered with furniture etc but those houses are sometimes. The garden was a bit overgrown but the bones were good, the wisterias would have put on a magnificent display each year in October.

It all started in 1850 when Henry Phillips who arrived in the George Seymour bought into the St Martins area. When Henry sub divided, Andrew Anderson of Andersons Engineering bought five acres. Andrew was the second son of John Anderson who was the second Mayor of Christchurch. John Anderson originally had a forge at The Bricks landing place, before establishing a foundry in the area that we all knew as the Guthrie Building in Cashel Street. The Guthrie Building was demolished after the earthquakes in 2011. The history of engineering in New Zealand is really the history of Andersons in Christchurch. They were involved with some massive engineering projects throughout both the North and South islands.

Theodore Jacobsen was the architect of the 4 roomed home in 1879.

Andrew called his home Merchiston after the school he attended in Scotland. Merchiston Castle. He also instructed his young bride Laura to keep a loaded pistol near her all day while he was away on engineering construction, such as the Waiiau Bridge to Hanmer. They extended their house as their family increased, adding servants quarters and a men's room. The Anderson women were supporters of the Christian Temperance Union and nonsmokers. When their daughter became a widow they added an upstairs wing for her and her children.

In 1927 Ewart Smith bought Merchiston. Ewart was an ironmonger in lower High Street for 50 years and his wife Grace née Lomas was a Wigmaker and Hairdresser in A J Whites building in the 1920's.

Ewart joined the second addition to the main house which meant no more going to the toilet in the rain! Merchiston was one of the first houses in Christchurch to have flushing toilets. One for the men and one for the women! Electrical installations were made around this time so the wonder of electric lights must have made an appearance then too.

In 1977 Merchiston was put in a family Trust for future generations. Merchiston is used by various Christian fellowship groups, Girls Brigade, family occasions and friends. The no smoking and teetotal tradition is still maintained on these premises.

Merchiston is on Facebook and I have used one of their pictures at the beginning of this article. Maintaining an old home is a never ending job so it is good to see Merchiston looking so good.