

NEWSLETTER

April 2019



BI-MONTHLY MEETING

Sunday 5th May 2019

Learning Centre, Level 1, Ashburton Art
Gallery and Heritage Centre

2.00pm

Guest Speaker:

Prof. Geoffrey Rice

**Topic: The 1918 Influenza
Epidemic**

*Please bring a plate for
afternoon tea.*

Visitors welcome.

*As we are inviting other groups to join
us, please RSVP to Liz on 308 0392 or
lizq2011@hotmail.com if you plan
on attending*

**ASHBURTON
MUSEUM AND
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY INC.**

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BI-MONTHLY MEETING REPORT

John Hill gave a most interesting talk about the history of the Ashburton airfield as a training ground during World War 2 and the formation of the Ashburton Aviation Museum at our March bi-monthly meeting.



On the 29th October 1974, a meeting of interest-

ed parties was convened at the Ashburton Library by a young Peter McQuarters, then a typographer at the Ashburton Guardian. Nine attended (Jim Chivers, Joe Hopwood, Peter McQuarters, Ray McCausland, Michael Perkins, Alastair Perkins, Ian Royds, Earl Beresford and Eldin Jackson). Many of these remain today as members of the Ashburton Aviation Museum.

Initial plans were to locate the museum at the Tinwald Domain. In 1982, the committee gave up negotiations and the decision was made to locate the museum at the Ashburton airfield. Construction of a hangar began in 1984 with volunteer labour and many local firms offering services at discount rates. The second building was acquired and paid off in 2000.

The first acquisition was a Bofors AA gun donated by Burnett's Motors and the most recent a Chrisslea Super Ace aircraft, one of only 17 of this model ever built. The first plane purchased from the Air Force was a RNZAF Harvard. At a cost of \$2,500 and only \$150 in the bank, a mammoth fundraising effort ensued to come up with the remaining funds.

The first hangar was opened in April 1991 by Syd Lister, a life member and pioneer aviator in the district. While it was first considered a hangar to the value of \$6,000 was sufficient, when it opened the \$60,000 hangar already was home to seven planes. There are now over 35, including the Southern DC3 Trust's DC3 ZK-AMY.

The Air Force Mobilisation Scheme proposed establishing the No. 3 Elementary Flying Training School at the airfield, some eighteen weeks after the outbreak of hostilities, in August 1939. However with the lack of aircraft and Flying Instructors, the new base was not commenced until February 1942. In October, the No. 2 E.F.T.S. moved in and the training of 136 pilots began on the 22nd. There were nearly 50 Tiger Moths and 30 Instructors. During the two years of its operation, the base trained 1,192 pilots. With the need for pilots greatly reduced, the decision was made to close the base in October 1944. The original tarmac and tie-down rings are still there today. A popular stop for aircraft refuelling on the way to the Warbirds Over Wanaka, the airfield has recently hosted the bi-ennial Plains Fly-In.

Five airmen - Pilot Officer B.C. Levet, Leading Aircraftsman G.A. Gunn, Pilot Officer H. Eagleson, Pilot Officer A.A. Wiblin and Flight Sergeant H.A. Bonniface lost their lives while stationed here.

The museum now has 400 members, 150 of those local. It is open to the public from 1.00pm to 3.00pm; with Wednesday and Saturday being from 10.00am to 3.00pm. The admission cost is \$10 for adults, children free. The museum holds one of the best aviation libraries in the country, with thousands of books having been donated or bequeathed by members.

President's Platform



What makes a successful, active and forward looking special interest group, club or Society? It probably comes down to shared interests, commitment and proactive engagement. The more you engage with the activities of your Society the stronger and more creative and innovative it gets. This is known in the jargon as social engagement or participation. Engagement can even be measured by counting the number of times a member participates in an activity or whether they are involved in committee work etc etc. Your committee work hard to organise activities for shared interests and enjoy seeing large numbers turn up to such activities as bi-monthly meetings and bus trips and we welcome your ideas and suggestions for improving membership engagement. Pick up the phone and let your committee know your ideas. The study of history is open to everyone but history is rarely simple. Perhaps the AMHSoc can help you get started or even finished in that historical question you have been interested in? The following website is worth a read when looking at the "Problems of History". <https://alphahistory.com/problems-of-history/> . I was particularly interested in the section on the 'militarisation of history' especially for Australia and NZ. Like many clubs and societies, we sometimes struggle to fill vacant positions. One of these positions is that of treasurer, so if you have skills and interests in this area and would like to contribute and engage in committee work, please let me or a committee member know.

The aims and objectives of the AMHSoc

are clearly outlined in the constitution and they include such things as promoting "a sense of history and awareness of the museum collection and the importance of the nation's heritage with particular reference to the Ashburton District". The Society also aims to "encourage new opportunities and innovative ways of presenting Ashburton District history to the public". Guided by a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ashburton District Council since 2014, being owners and trustees of the Museum Collection of archives and objects is only a small (but important) part of the wider aims of the AMHSoc. Your Society has moved beyond a 19th and 20th century collection and management mode to a 21st century mode of promoting and educating the public and members about our rich local social history. It was my pleasure recently to address the Methven Historical Society



John Hill (left) and Glenn Vallender at our March bi-monthly meeting

at their AGM on “60+ years of the AMHSoc and a bit of Science history”. It was also my pleasure to attend on Saturday April 13, 2019, the opening of the Fire Museum extensions. The AMHSoc would like to publicly congratulate the team of dedicated people, sponsors and ‘grey watch’ volunteers who have made their dream a reality. These things don’t just happen and this official opening was a great example of how local heritage groups can add significantly to the ‘social capital’ and heritage to and for the

Ashburton District. If you haven’t visited the Museum go and visit or even better, get involved or be a donor.

I would just like to end by thanking all those members who willingly offered to help for the Easter raffle and Liz especially for organising it. Enjoy this issue of the AMHSoc Newsletter and I look forward to seeing you at the next bi-monthly meeting.

Best wishes.

Glenn Vallender

Phone: 308 8373



**Ever ready, every willing
Always eager, always brave,
Never failing, never shirking,
Striving with a will to save.**



preserving the foundations of tomorrow's Ashburton

What's Happening at the Museum...

SNAP!
THE GLASS PLATE
NEGATIVE PROJECT

**AUTUMN
EXHIBITION**

Ashburton Museum
Open 10am-4pm
329 West Street (SH1)
Ashburton

Ashburton
DISTRICT COUNCIL

ashburton
museum

Kate & Hank
Murney Room

Stratford Evening Post, 19
November 1929, page 5
ASHBURTON TO HAVE AN
AIRPORT
BOROUGH AND COUNTY
PURCHASE LAND.

Press Association – Copyright.
ASHBURTON, This Day.

The County and Borough Councils have agreed to purchase jointly fifty acres for the formation of an airport with another 43 acres available free for five years, with an option of purchase. This is the first local body-owned airport in the South Island.

BLenheim WAS THE FIRST.

Press Association – Copyright.
BLenheim, This Day.

In reference to the Ashburton telegram announcing the purchase of ground for an airport, the claim that it is the first local body airport in the South Island cannot be substantiated. The Blenheim Borough Council opened the first municipal airport in the southern hemisphere two years ago.

**If you would like your
newsletter emailed, please
send a message to
lizq2011@hotmail.com**

Press, 29 November 1929, page 7
MID-CANTERBURY
ASHBURTON.

Approval of Airport Site.

Leaving Christchurch at 8 a.m. yesterday, in a Moth machine, Wing-Commander Grant-Dalton, Director of Air Services, accompanied by Captain M. Buckley, Officer Commanding Wigram Aerodrome, intended to fly to Dunedin to inspect the Green Island Aerodrome and meet officers of the Otago Aero Club, but on reaching Hampden, heavy rain was encountered, and they turned back and headed for Ashburton, where Commander Grant-Dalton had arranged to view the new airport site, in the afternoon. They reached Ashburton about 11.30 a.m., without sufficient petrol to taxi across the aerodrome. The Commander and Captain Buckley had to wait about ten minutes before the officials of the club, who had not expected them till later, arrived at the ground.

Commander Grant-Dalton expressed satisfaction with the area chosen for the airport, and stated that the district surrounding Ashburton was wonderful flying country. After luncheon the aeroplane left for Christchurch.



EASTER RAFFLE

Thank you to all members who have helped with our Easter Raffle, either donating items, selling or buying tickets. To date, the total is \$1,017. Unfortunately, due to a double booking, we had to cancel our Saturday selling at Countdown.

Press, 29 April 1930, page 10

General News.

The official opening of the Ashburton airport will take place on May 17th at 2 p.m. The Mayor of Christchurch (Mr J.K. Archer) and the City Council last night decided to accept an invitation to attend the function.

Press, 15 May 1930, page 7

MID-CANTERBURY

ASHBURTON.

Ashburton Airport Opening.

A "red letter" day in the history of Ashburton will be held on Saturday, when the official opening of the Ashburton Airport will take place. The celebrations will take the form of a miniature pageant.

It is anticipated that at least ten aeroplanes will fly over Ashburton in mass formation. At 1.30 p.m. a circular race approximately nine miles will be held round Ashburton. The airport will be officially opened by the Mayor (Mr R. Galbraith), and the chairman of the Ashburton County Council (Mr J. Carr). An invitation has been extended to representatives of all local bodies to be present. The Mayors and a number of Councillors of Christchurch and Timaru, will also be present, while it is probably that the Hon. P.A. de la Perrelle, Minister for Internal Affairs, will attend as the Government's representative. The Ashburton Silver Band will be in attendance.

Following the opening, exhibitions of aerobatics and sham bombing will be given. A novelty race will then be held and visiting aeroplanes will leave Ashburton at about 4 p.m.

NZ Herald, 19 May 1930, page 11

AIRPORT AT ASHBURTON.

OPENING CEREMONY MARRED.

[BY TELEGRAPH. - PRESS ASSOCIATION.]

ASHBURTON, Saturday.

Thick misty rain marred the opening of the Ashburton airport this afternoon, causing the abandonment of the programme of races and displays. Seven aeroplanes flew over the town, but it was found advisable not to have them in the air owing to the poor visibility. The county chairman, Mr. James Carr; the Mayor, Mr. R. Galbraith; Mr. T.D. Burnett, M.P.; Mr. W. Angland, Mayor of Timaru; Mr. G. Dash, Mayor of Waimate, and Sir Francis Boys, were speakers at the opening ceremony.

The airport comprises 93 acres, owned by the county and borough councils, and handed over to Mr. E.B. Newton, president of the Mid-Canterbury Aero club, for operation.

Visiting pilots had an unenviable trip to their home aerodromes after the ceremony.



Frederick de Carteret Malet

The above gentleman came to my attention several years ago when I was assisting Alan Sim and Shirley Wallace with research on the history of Valetta. His association was through the Estate of Rev. James Wilson which he controlled. The following is his obituary from the Press dated 22nd March 1912.—Liz

Very general regret was expressed in business and other circles yesterday at the announcement of the death of Mr Frederick de Carteret Malet who, for many years, has been closely connected with the commercial, ecclesiastical, and educational interests of the city. Mr Malet had been ill for the past eighteen months, but nevertheless his demise came somewhat in the nature of a shock to all with whom he had been brought in contact.

The late Mr Malet was a native of St. Heliers, Jersey, and came of an old family well-known in the Channel Islands. He arrived in Auckland in 1861, when about 23 years of age. He went through many of the experiences of the pioneers of the Dominion, and for four years after his arrival in the Dominion engaged in pastoral pursuits, including the rough work of a bullock-driver in Canterbury and Otago. In 1865, the then Superintendent of the Province of Canterbury, the late Hon. W. Rolleston, appointed him clerk of the Warden's Court, at Hokitika. Subsequently, he was appointed by the Government Clerk to the Resident Magistrate's Court in Hokitika, and in 1868 he was transferred to a similar position in the Resident Magistrate's Court at Christchurch. This position he held till 1876. From 1872 to 1874 he was Registrar of the New Zealand University, and from 1873 to 1876 he was

secretary to the Board of Governors of Canterbury College. In 1876 Mr Malet was appointed Registrar of the Supreme Court at Christchurch, and the same year he was elected to the Board of Governors of Canterbury College, of which body he was chairman from 1885 to 1894, resigning from the Board in 1895. In 1881 Mr Malet was admitted to the bar, and practised in the city from that year to 1887. In 1888-9 he paid a visit to England. From 1891 to 1893 he was managing-director of the "Lyttelton Times" Company. He served as a member of the Canterbury Agricultural (Lincoln) College Board of Governors from 1895 to 1897. He was appointed one of the Government directors of the Bank of New Zealand in 1898 and from 1902 to 1906 was chairman of directors of that institution. In December, 1901, Mr Malet was elected a director of the Christchurch Meat Company, and in February of the following year he was elected chairman of directors, a position he held till the annual meeting held last February, when he retired owing to ill-health. Mr Malet was also a director for many years of the New Zealand Shipping Company and the Permanent Investment and Loan Association.

Of the late Mr Malet's business acumen those who came in close contact with him speak in terms of the highest praise. Some of the public companies with which he was connected were in a critical condition, but owing to Mr Malet's grasp of financial matters they were put on a sound basis. Mr Malet's natural bent was decidedly towards finance rather than the law, and the work done by him when chairman of directors of the Bank of New Zealand was of a most valuable character, not only to the

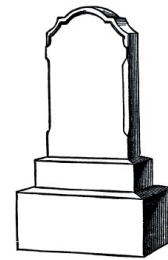
bank itself but to the shareholders. The same remark applies to his work on the directorate of the Christchurch Meat Company as well as the other concerns with which he was connected. Mr Malet, in business matters, was most punctilious. Whenever he made an appointment he kept it, and expected others to be equally punctual. He was a man who never undertook anything in a perfunctory way, but either did a thing or left it alone; whatever he undertook he did thoroughly.

In diocesan matters the late Mr Malet took a keen interest. He was a member of the Church Property Trustees, and, with Mr W.H. Hargreaves, was the executive of the trustees, and transacted all business that arose between the monthly meetings. He was also a lay member of the Diocesan Synod, of which he was one of its ablest members. He was also a member of the Standing Committee of the Diocese, on which he

did good work.

The late Mr Malet married a daughter of the late Archdeacon Wilson, and Mrs Malet and three sons and one daughter survive to mourn their loss. The eldest son is Mr Leonard de C. Malet, of Clearwell station, on the Hinds river; the second son is Captain Robert James Malet, of the 64th Pioneers (Indian Army); and the third son is Mr William de C. Malet, a subaltern in the 14th Jat Lancers. Mr Malet's daughter is Mrs Randall, relict of the late Mr J.A. Randall, one time in charge of the Christchurch Meat Company's London office.

The funeral will take place this afternoon, the cortege leaving the house at 2 p.m. for the Riccarton churchyard.



DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy to Doreen Stalker and her family on the recent death of her husband John, until recently a member of our society and a former volunteer.



Ashburton Guardian, 03 January, page

Although the influenza epidemic is now apparently quite stamped out, its after-effects are still with us. In these busy days of the holiday season and during the hot weather this is particularly noticeable in lack of energy, weariness, and general weakness. The whole system needs toning up. Totty's Quinine and Iron Tonic is especially suited for this purpose, containing, as it does, only the best drugs obtainable. With the high cost of living father must not miss his work, and mother must be fit to see to her duties at home. A bottle of this tonic will give new vitality to the nervous system and new strength to the whole body. Get a halfcrown bottle to-day from R. Totty, Burnett Street.

RNZAF STATION ASHBURTON

No. 2 Elementary Flying Training School

In Memory of

Pilot Officer B.C. LEVET
Leading Aircraftsman G.A. GUNN
Pilot Officer H. EAGLESON
Pilot Officer A.A. WIBLIN
Flight Sergeant H.A. BONNIFACE

“PER ARDUA AD ASTRA”



TPR. R. H. LAMBIE,
of Ashburton,
Killed in action.

In Memory of
Trooper

Robert Harry Lambie

7/1255, Canterbury
Mounted Rifles, N.Z.E.F.
who died on 09 August
1916. Age 28.

Son of John and Jane
Lambie , of Rakaia, New
Zealand.

Remembered with Honour

Kantara War
Memorial
Cemetery



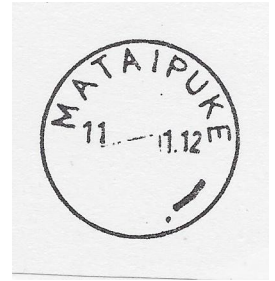
POSTAL HISTORY

By Viv Hanson

In the years since the opening in 1858 of the first Post Office in Ashburton County, there have been over 80 post or telephone offices. With much improved and modernised transport and communications, the number has been reduced to a single main post office with agencies operating from shops and business houses throughout the district. In the near future, a local stationer is to commence operating all services carried out by the local Post Office, signalling the final closure of this facility.

In the early years, owing to the bankruptcy laws of the day, authorities were reluctant to appoint women as postmistress, consequently most of the district offices which were on farms and in schoolhouses, were listed with farmers and schoolmasters as postmasters, when in fact all the postal duties were usually conducted by wives and daughters. There were two or three exceptions when in 1863 Nora Walters was appointed postmistress at South Rakaia; Mary Marshall at Rangitata (later Ealing) in 1865 and Catherine O'Malley at Dromore in 1889.

From the mid 1890s, following the Emancipation of Women Act of 1893, the policy of appointing males as postmasters disappeared and more and more women began



Ashburton Air Force

The No. 2 Elementary Flying Training Scholl (EFTS) was moved from New Plymouth to Ashburton in 1942.

Initially, the station on the airfield off Seafield Road had 600-700 personnel.

This increased to 2,000-3,000 at the peak.

The Post Office opened on the 1st December 1942 in the YMCA Recreational Hut. YMCA Secretary, Lawrence K.M. Broadbent, was the postmaster. Mails were exchanged with Ashburton.

The office was moved in January 1942 to alternative accommodation when the Recreational hut was dismantled and moved to another site.

On the 17th April 1944 it moved from these temporary quarters to a new building within the station.

This was to be a short term move, with the office closing on the 13th November 1944 following the disbandment of the EFTS.

to appear in the records. One office - Lynnford - warrants mention for not only during the whole term of its existence from 1913 to 1949 was it operated by females, they were of the one family, in turn Elizabeth Ann, Queenie Charlotte and Myrtle Agnes Dell.

Now closed and almost forgotten are the farm type post offices and telephone bureaux with Maori names. They were (with the district they served) - Poroteko (Mt Somers), Mataipuke (Carew), Porowhita (Winchmore), Pukewaro (Montalto), Ouihi Digby's Bridge) and of course Hakatere (serving the Ashburton River Mouth settlement).

CORRECTION TO THE LAST NEWSLETTER

Ashburton Guardian, 03 January 1919, page 4

There are exceptions on both sides, of course, and I ought to say that we pay good wages and get the best class of girl. We don't employ flighty 'flappers.'

Mortimer JARRETT

The photo below from the Winton Cemetery appeared in a post by Alison Loye on a genealogy Facebook page. It piqued my interest into who this “Man of upright life whose guiltless heart was free from all dishonest deeds and thoughts of vanity”. I didn’t think I would find an obituary for such a young man but because he was accidentally killed there were reports of the accident. Here is what I found.—Liz

The first record I found of Mortimer was on page 2 of the Southland Times on 18th July 1907. It recorded his entry in the Bantam and Feather-weight classes of the Southland Boxing Championships to be held later that month. It also recorded the entry of his brother Frank in the Light-weight class.

A later entry on page 2 of the Western Star on 2nd August 1907 recorded that he had been selected by the Southland Boxing Association to represent the province at the New Zealand Championships in Auckland the following month but that he would not make the trip and declined the offer.



The accident was reported on page 4 of the Maitava Ensign on the 29th January 1910. It was also reported in the Southern Cross on the 5th February and the Referee, Sydney on the 9th February. The article read: **ACCIDENTS AND FATALITIES.**

WELL-KNOWN BOXER KILLED.
An accident, which terminated fatally, occurred at Winton late on Thursday night, when an express containing nine young fellows as being drive from Winton to Lochiel at the conclusion of a performance in the Winton Town Hall. While some of the men in the back were skylarking Mortimer Jarrett, well-known in boxing circles, fell out and was run over. He was quickly picked up, and as he complained of internal pains, he was drive to Dr Dalziel (Winton) with all possible speed, but expired shortly after arrival.

Deceased, who was 26 years of age, was a native of Melbourne, but has been employed on Mr Thomson’s farm at Lochiel for the past five years.

Contd.,

A simple death notice appeared on page 57 of the Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser on the 9th February.

An In Memoriam notice was in the Sydney Morning Herald on the 26th January 1912. It read:

JARRETT. – In loving memory of Mortimer Jarrett, who died at Winton, New Zealand, 26th January 1910, aged 26 years.

Unto the upright there ariseth

Light in the darkness,

Inserted by his loving parents, sisters, and brothers, N.S.W. and Victoria.



Another In Memoriam notice on page 4 of the Southland Times on the 26th January 1917 records that of a friend Giller Taylor,

IN MEMORIAM.

In loving memory of Mortimer Jarrett, aged 26, accidentally killed, Winton, January 26, 1910; also his dearest friend, Giller Taylor, aged 33, killed in action, France, September 25, 1916, Both late of Melbourne.

For not by eastern windows only

When daylight comes, comes in the light;

In front the sun climbs slow, how slowly

But west'ard, look, the land is bright.

Inserted by loving brothers and friends.

From the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website (www.cwgc.org) I found the following:

According to Wikipedia, **Auburn** is a suburb in western Sydney, in the state of New South Wales, Australia. Auburn is located 24 kilometres west of the Sydney central business district and is in the local government area of Cumberland Council, having previously been the administrative centre of Auburn Council.

In Memory of Private Gilbert Taylor; 8/3418, 1st Bn., Otago Regiment, N.Z.E.F. who died on 25 September 1916; Son of David and Agnes Taylor, of 13, Schild St., Yarraville, Victoria, Australia. Remembered with Honour Caterpillar Valley (New Zealand) Memorial.

So who were Mortimer's family? A chance find was the death notice for his sister in The Argus (Melbourne) on the 14th October 1918 and which gave me that information. Caroline GRIMES died on the 18th August at St. Vincent's Private Hospital, New York City,. She was the dearly beloved wife of William Grimes, of 684 Fifth avenue, New York City, and beloved eldest daughter of Frederick and Mary Jarrett, of 48 Roseberry street, Auburn; much loved sister of William, Henry, Edward, Reuben, Mark, Alfred, Frank, and the late Mortimer Jarrett, and Mrs H. Shewring, of Auburn. The death notice asked New South Wales papers to copy.

His father Frederick died on the 10th May 1934, his wife having predeceased him. His children Nellie, Caroline, and Mortimer also predeceased him. He was aged 95 years and reported to be the oldest member of the MUIOOF in Victoria. He was buried in the Box Hill Cemetery on the 11th May.

There are a couple of discrepancies with the children between the death notices for Caroline and Frederick. Maybe a job for another day. Not bad for a couple of hours research. I wonder how long it would of taken in the "old" days of researching. Without the internet

Thank you to Alison Loye for her kind permission to use her photo.

R.I.P. Mortimer.



The Evening Echo.

VOL. I.—No. 1.

ASHBURTON, MONDAY, MARCH 11, 1878.

(DAILY.)

PRICE ONE PENNY.

The Evening Echo, 11 March 1878, page 2

We are sanguine enough to believe that the time has arrived when Ashburton can and will support a daily paper. To those engaged in agricultural pursuits a daily paper is, in the present day, not a luxury but a positive necessity. No man who intends to succeed in any business can afford to be a few days, or even a few hours, behind his competitors in that knowledge of the world's events which electricity now sends so rapidly to all who put themselves in the line of communication with it; and, it is not to be expected, that the largest producing district in New Zealand, and a town that will soon be second to no inland town in the colony, could much longer remain without what has now become one of the prime necessities of civilization. It is not for us to say how completely and efficiently we expect to supply this necessity, but having placed ourselves in direct communication with the most important centres of population, and appointed vigilant correspondents in the surrounding counties and colonies, we have every confidence that our subscribers will find themselves supplied, at the earliest possible date, with every item of important information affecting their interests; whilst the number of subscribers already secured, ensures a wide circulation to any advertisements that may be inserted in our columns. As the organ of a very large agricultural population, we shall deem it one of our most important duties to supply our readers with the earliest information of every useful discovery or improvement in this very old, very important, and yet very improving and improvable occupation. In the exceedingly difficult business of accurately reporting market prices, we shall spare no trouble or expense to obtain early and reliable information for our readers. We are kindly promised the assistance of some of our most competent business men. We hope at least to avoid the too common practice of allowing our reports to be made a medium of influencing transactions in the private interests of either buyers or sellers. We shall be thankful for any information, from any quarter, that will guide us in forming a correct opinion, and enable us to place the real truth before our readers; more especially for reliable reports of actual transactions; but to those who may wish us to report in their private interest, we hope always to hold the high language of Washington:- "I am not worth purchasing but such as I am the King of England is not rich enough to buy me."

As a family paper, we shall at least aim at a high standard; nothing will be admitted to our columns of an impure, or immoral character. Here we intend, at least negatively, to succeed, and to make the paper one that even a fastidious parent would not regret to see daily lying on his family table.

Our pages will be open to correspondence on any questions (sic) of public or general interest, discussed in a temperate manner, and free from personalities or vulgarities.

In politics, our motto will be, “the greatest good for the greatest number,” which we believe to be attainable only by the strictest justice to all, and the elevation of no class, high or low, at the expense of the natural rights of any other class. We have less faith in party cries and party leaders than in the great advantage to be conferred on our County and Colony by a more general and intelligent interest in public questions on the part of the great body of our fellow-settlers, and we regard it as the great duty of a paper that aspires to enlighten its readers on public questions, to supply them with truthful information, to furnish correct reports of what may be said and done by our public men or public bodies – ungarbled, either in the interests of party, or in the meaner hope of obtaining the patronage of any of the performers. In a community governed by such an extended suffrage as ours, we never shall be well governed, nor have we any right to expect it unless those who vote will also think; unless the right to elect representatives carries with it a sense of responsibility in the exercise of that privilege; unless that great majority of our electors learn that they are not honest to themselves, to their neighbors (sic), or to their country if they elect not men for their fitness for the duties of their public positions, not from any personal feeling towards them or for any personal favors (sic) to be received from them. When this great principle was recognised and practised in America she was governed by patriots, and in her comparatively feeble infancy she became the admiration of the world. Now that the electors have forsaken it and are not ashamed to ride to the poll in a gaudy chariot at the candidates expense, when votes are indirectly bought and sold, begged by hired canvassers or bullied by hired ruffians, she has been governed by swindlers, and the same institutions that were once so honored (sic), are now the least successful that have been adopted by an English speaking race. With greatly increased numbers and wealth, she no longer commands the same degree of respect and admiration, and the system that once placed her revenues in the hands of a Washington have since placed them in the hands of a Tweed. In advocating reiform (sic) we would direct our attention to the root rather than to the branch, to the tree rather than to its fruit. Give us honest electors, and we shall have honest representatives, and we shall have honest laws administered by an honest Executive.





**Ashburton Museum & Historical
Society Inc.**

P O Box 573

Ashburton 7740

New Zealand

NZ Charities Commission CC31182

IN BRIEF...

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are now due for the **2019 year** and invoices are included with this newsletter. Your **prompt** payment would be appreciated.

Those who receive their newsletter via email will receive their invoice by separate email.

Please Note: We are unable to accept Eftpos or credit card payments.

**CHANGE OF YOUR CONTACT
DETAILS**

If your contact details change, please phone or email our membership co-ordinator, Liz Quaid, directly on **308 0392** or **lizq2011@hotmail.com** or complete a change of details form at **museum reception**.

Adult Membership

(Per Person)

\$15.00

Family Membership

*(Two or more people at the same
address)*

\$20.00

Student Membership

*(Secondary school or university
students)*

\$5.00

Corporate Membership

\$35.00

Life Membership

\$250 per person

\$400 per couple

*The Newsletter of the
Ashburton Museum &
Historical Society Inc.*