

HISTORICAL SOCIETIES IN THE HUTT VALLEY

There are five Historical Societies in the Hutt Valley and they are all active in the preservation of memorabilia and records of their particular area.

- Petone
- Upper Hutt Golders Cottage
- Eastbourne
- Lower Hutt
- Wainuiomata

Petone Historical Society

The Petone Historical Society is affiliated to the New Zealand Federation of Historical Societies. In 1982 a steering committee headed by Mr Roy Hewson initiated the Petone society which now has close links with the Petone Settlers' Museum. At present the society's holdings are small and un-catalogued.

Type of records held

- Cassette tape recording of Sir Ralph Love's commentary on the history of Te Puni Cemetery
- A collection of slides of early Petone houses
- A miscellaneous collection of memorabilia

Contact details

Petone Historical Society C/- 7 Riddlers Crescent Petone 6303. For enquiries please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Golders Cottage Upper Hutt

Golder's cottage is one of the few original historical cottages to survive into the late twentieth century. The house was built by John Golder for his bride Jane Martin in 1876. It was originally named "Straven Cottage". Additions to the cottage were first made in the late 1880's again in 1900 and the 1920's with a scullery being added. The alterations have always been in keeping with the style of the time that each addition was completed.

In 1990 the Golder's Cottage opened to the public as a historical museum. Up until 1985 the cottage had remained in the ownership of the Golder family.

Type of record held

- John Golder's five diaries 1873 to 1902. These contain a day by day account of John's working and personal life and give clear insight to the Provincial Government and later Hutt County Council (John Golder's employers).

Other Features of the Cottage

- Furniture = Much of the original furnishings of the cottage are retained with some period furniture being made by the very versatile John Golder.
- Photographs = The collection includes photographs of Upper Hutt and surrounding districts about 1900 along with photographs of the Golder family.
- Period Dress = Costumes of early this century are displayed at the cottage these having been donated by local historian Stanley Northcote-Bade.

Address

Golders Cottage 707 Fergusson Drive Upper Hutt phone 04 526 6304

- Open every Saturday 1.30pm to 4.00 pm
- Groups by arrangement phone 04 528 2932

Contact details

Golder's Homestead Museum Society Inc., Secretary C/- 1214 Fergusson Drive Upper Hutt. For enquiries please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Hutt Historical Society

Currently there is only a small membership who do not have regular meetings. Members have acted as pressure groups in keeping historical artifacts and documents intact. The society (founded 1981) has influenced local Hutt Council and the Dowse Art Museum in showing historical items. Collections have become a resource in places such as the Lower Hutt War Memorial Library - Petone Settler's - and the Dowse Museum.

Contact details

Hutt Historical Society C/- 42 Pilmuir Street Lower Hutt phone 04 566 2390

Wainuiomata Historical Society

A small museum of historical memorabilia and records are housed in two old classrooms one restored to its original state and set out as a classroom of last century.

Address

Wainuiomata Museum Main Road Wainuiomata

- Open Sunday 2 pm to 4 pm
- Group by arrangement phone 04 564 8939 and/or 04 564 5209
- Entry is free but a donation to help in the upkeep of the museum is appreciated.

Contact details

Wainuiomata Museum Main Road Wainuiomata C/- phone 04 564 8939 and/or 04 564 5209

Eastbourne Historical Society

Founded in 1981 and in 1991 the Society procured their own premises and members are now indexing and filing records. If it is thought the society's holdings could be of value to a researcher contact the secretary prior to a visit to arrange for the librarian next door to unlock the premises.

Type of records held

- Photographs scrapbooks of newspaper excerpts publications pertaining to early Eastbourne background details of all the organisations of the district. There are also historical books of a general nature and a small collection of cassette tapes of reminiscences by other residents. Albums of photographs of historical field trips made by society members are indexed.
- Work currently being carried out is the collation of material and information about women of Eastbourne. This will add to the archives to commemorate the centenary of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand in 1993

Address

Eastbourne Historical Society Local studies Room Eastbourne Library Rimu Street Eastbourne

- Open Monday Wednesday and Thursday 10 am to 5.30 pm
- Tuesday and Friday 10 am to 8 pm
- Saturday 10 am to 2 pm

Contact details

Eastbourne Historical Society Secretary C/- 439 Muritai Road Eastbourne phone 04 562 7165
