

BIRKENHEAD HERITAGE SOCIETY

✉ P O Box 34419, Birkenhead, Auckland 0746

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NEXT EVENT

Sunday 18th February 2018

NOTE: Change of day & date in Feb.

**Museum of Transport and
Technology (MOTAT) – ‘Live Day’**

Total Cost : Super Gold Card = \$15

Children = \$25

Adult without Gold Card = \$34

Pick up Verrans Cnr. 9.30am: Return by 4pm.

Bookings: robs.mdn@xtra.co.nz or

Ph. Marcia 418 0397 RSVP 14th Feb.

PLANNED EVENTS

Saturday 10th March 2pm

Stories Day ; St Andrews Church

Hall 172 Hinemoa Street

Saturday 14th April Bus Trip

to Silverdale Pioneer Museum

*Our appreciation for sponsoring printing to
Trish Love trishlove@premium.co.nz L.R.E.S.*

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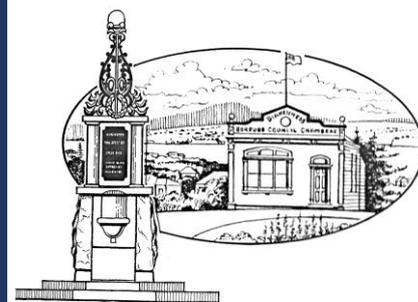
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CONTACT US

President – Marcia Roberts 418 0397

Vice President – Brian Potter 483 3400
Vice President – Colleen Durham 483 4001



January -
February
2018

PAST EVENT

Ancient to Modern History

At the end of year meeting an appreciative audience enjoyed viewing costumes, jewellery and textiles, and hearing about Uzbekistan from our Guest Speaker Janice Chandler. Here are more facts about the interesting area.

The **Republic of Uzbekistan** is a doubly landlocked Central Asian state. It is a secular, unitary constitutional republic of 12 provinces, an autonomous republic, with a capital city. Uzbekistan is bordered by five landlocked countries: Kazakhstan to the north; Kyrgyzstan northeast; Tajikistan southeast; Afghanistan south and Turkmenistan to the southwest.

What is now Uzbekistan was in ancient times part of the predominantly Iranian-speaking region of Transoxiana, with cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, and Khiva growing rich from the Silk Road leading on to China.

The first settlers to this territory are known as Scythians. The earliest civilizations include Khwarezm, Bactria and Sogdia all (8th to 6th B.C). Fergana (3rd B.C. to 4th A.D.) and Margiana (3rd B.C. to 4th A.D.), founded by the East Iranian nomads.

■ Ancient to Modern History ctd.

The area was incorporated into the Persian Empire, which saw its fall with the Muslim conquest in the 7th century, turning the majority of the population into Islam. Following the succession of the local rulers of Khwarezmian dynasty in the 11th century, the region fell to the Mongol invasion in the 13th century.

The city of Shahrīsabz was the birthplace of Timur, who in 14th century established the Timurid Empire and was proclaimed the Supreme Emir of Turan. The area was conquered by Uzbek Shaybanids in the 16th century, moving the centre of power from Samarkand to Bukhara. The region was split into three states: Khanate of Khiva, Khanate of Kokand, and Emirate of Bukhara. It was gradually incorporated into the Russian Empire during the 19th century, with Tashkent becoming the political centre of Russian Turkestan. In 1924, after national delimitation the constituent republic of the Soviet Union known as the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic was created.

Following the breakup of the Soviet Union, it declared independence as the Republic of Uzbekistan on 31 August 1991. Uzbekistan has a diverse cultural heritage due to its storied history and strategic location. Its official language is Uzbek, a Turkic language written in the Latin alphabet and spoken natively by approximately 85% of the population. Russian has widespread use; it is the most widely taught second language.

Uzbeks constitute 81% of the population, followed by Russians (5.4%), Tajiks (4.0%), Kazakhs (3.0%), and others (6.5%). Muslims constitute 79% of the population while 5% of the population follow Russian Orthodox Christianity, and 16% of the population follow other religions and non-religious. A majority of Uzbeks are non-denominational Muslims.

Uzbekistan is a member of United Nations. Uzbek economy is in a gradual transition to the market economy with foreign trade policy being based on import substitution. . In September 2017, the country's currency became fully convertible in the market rates. Uzbekistan is a major producer and exporter of cotton. The country also operates the largest open-pit gold mine in the world. With the gigantic power-generation facilities of the Soviet era and an ample supply of natural gas. Uzbekistan has become the largest electricity producer in Central Asia. Renewable energy constitutes more than 23% of the country's energy sector, with hydroelectricity and solar energy having 21.4% and 2% respectively.

We enjoyed Janice's enthusiasm for traditional and colourful clothes from this lesser known region, and thanked her for an interesting presentation.



Photo by Colleen Durham

Musical Notes

BY Sharyn Palmer

From the Farrington House collection a sheet of Music was randomly selected, called *Capricante* by Paul Wachs, and shown to a former Auckland Librarian involved in the Music Collections. Here is her interesting response about how the music was catalogued.

"The Auckland Library only holds one piece by Paul Wachs -- a piano duet . At the time of the cataloguing entry a basic author and title was typed - typists were employed in the early 1980's to transfer the old card catalogue onto a computer. The typists used to set the machine on capitals and power away. Later, when time allowed, I would update the composer's names and add their birth and death dates, which someone has done for this entry. The "19" (below) would be written thus by a cataloguer today [19--?]. Meaning we guess it was published at some point in the 1900's. Anything not on the actual item is put in square brackets - cataloguers' jargon! 1900 might be a guess,. It probably is from the 1800's!

The E & S is short for Enoch & Sons. The number, E & S 4646, is what we call the publisher's number a world-wide identifier that helps publishers, suppliers, and libraries, locate, order and track published material. Today it is replaced by an ISBN -- International standard book number -- a 13 digit number unique assigned to that item -- every book or piece of music has to have one these days, except music has an ISMN -- International standard music number.

The name Monsieur DELABORDE appeared; this is the person the composer has dedicated the work to -- sounds like a respected music professor who perhaps taught the composer.

Here is the Auckland Library entry. LES MUSCADINS; MARCHE ELEGANTE, POUR DEUX PIANO A 4 MAINS Wachs, Paul, 1851-1915 mediaName Printed music. Available at Central City Basement-Large music-ASK AT DESK (786.46 WAC)

By typing the number in Google the following came up with The National Library of Australia's entry for this very work:

Title: Capricante : marche de concert / Paul Wachs. / Wachs, Paul.

Published Paris : Enoch & Co., <19-->

Medium [music]

Physical Description 1 score (7 p.) ; 31 cm.

Subjects Piano music.

Notes Caption title.

Pl. no.: E. & S. 4646.

Language French

Dewey Number 786.4054

Libraries Australia ID 6589467

Contributed by Libraries Australia"

Hence it is possible to research the music scores donated to our small museum.

About the Composer:

Paul Étienne Victor Wachs (born September 19, 1851, in Paris, died July 6, 1915) was a French composer who played predominantly the organ and piano. He is most remembered for salon compositions for piano, and the author of several educational works on harmony, counterpoint and fugue.* Paul Wachs was the son of the French composer Frédéric Wachs (born 1825, died 1899). He was a student at the Conservatoire de Paris where he was taught by multiple teachers, including Victor Masse, Antoine Francois Marmontel and Cesar Franck.

1800s - early 1900s

The composer Paul E. V. Wachs ctd.

He won first prize in the Paris Conservatoire 1872 after only a few months tuition by Cesar Frank. After his days of study, he became the second organist at the Church of Saint-Sulpice. In 1874, he left to be the choirmaster at the Church of Saint-Merri. Formerly held by the famous composer Camille Saint-Saens. He held this position until 1896. In 1908, Wachs bought a large property, which he named *Les Myrtles* after one of his pieces. He lived here with his family until he died in 1915.

Visit by Noel Williams

On Friday 18th January Birkenhead Heritage Society hosted Noel Williams from Scotland, expert on local early resident and meteorologist Clement Wragge, at St. Andrews Hall at 7.30pm.



Noel spoke of Wragge's earlier years in Scotland, climbing Ben Nevis to make weather observations 1882-83.

He showed historic photos and updates of ruins on Ben Nevis from that period, and shared his research on the life and work of Clement Wragge in Australia and New Zealand

Noel stands below trees planted by Clement Wragge at his Birkenhead residence 1910-22. Photo: M.Roberts

It was not possible to contact all our members, and some unable to attend an evening event. However through members, contacts and friends 36 attended and enjoyed an excellent presentation. Meeting Noel as well as two descendants from Clement Wragges family made for a very special occasion. Noel was taken to visit Farrington House Museum, and Clement Wragge's family grave. Permission was received to visit the grounds of former Waiata Gardens where Clement Wragge had developed his observatory, and tropical gardens.

We remember two former local residents who passed away recently, Aileen V. Fitzpatrick in her 106th year, and Adalene A. Tanner aged 97.

MOTAT where there is something for everyone.

MOTAT has two venues (MOTAT 1 in Great North Road and MOTAT 2 in Meola Road), with the tram service between.

Your bus will drop you off at MOTAT 1, and pick up later at Motat 1 and 2. This enables selection of items that best interest you.

The day chosen is a "live day" when extra things happen – the **Blacksmiths Forge** and **Print shop** operate, **fire** and **rescue services** in action, **pumphouse**, and **handicrafts** are demonstrated.

There are massively varied exhibits – **MOTAT 1 – Steam engines, trams, fire engines, pioneer village, trains, polar exhibition, telecommunications** (Brian Potter, section volunteer, reports is really good), special displays. **Coffee Shop and Café** for those who decide not to provide their own lunch.

MOTAT 2 – Aircraft military and civilian, displays and Aircraft restoration area.

Join Our Bus Trip Sunday 18th February

Editor: Marcia Roberts