



**Ōamaru's Annual Celebration of  
Colonial Victorian History**

**Victorian Literature**  
**11-15 November 2020**  
**Ōamaru, NZ**



**Bookings and event information at  
[VHC.CO.NZ](http://VHC.CO.NZ)**

# Acknowledgements

**The annual Ōamaru Victorian Heritage Celebrations, showcasing Waitaki District's Victorian heritage and history, only happens thanks to a huge team effort.**

Thank you to Waitaki District Council and our other sponsors - whose logos can be seen throughout this booklet - for support, assistance and funding.

Thank you to the individuals, groups and organisations who put their hands up to provide a full and fascinating programme.

And thank you to the volunteers and supporters, who give their time during the Ōamaru Victorian Heritage Celebrations to share heritage stories with visitors and locals alike.





## Let the Celebrations Begin!

*"It is a fair, even-handed, noble adjustment of things, that while there is infection in disease and sorrow, there is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good-humour."*

Some timely words written by  
Charles Dickens in 'A Christmas Carol'!

Greetings, everyone,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Ōamaru Victorian Heritage Celebrations, and the theme of Victorian Literature will bring with it some great opportunities to escape into the stories, adventures and discoveries of Victorian times.

When the world is focussed on the effects of Covid-19, it can be difficult to take time out to enjoy the good things in life, and to be with people having fun. This year's Heritage Celebrations promises to deliver just that, with many of the usual events, and a good number of new ones, to entertain, educate, and to just escape from the challenging time we are living in.

I look forward to greeting everyone to our district, and encourage you to get to as many events as you can, dress up if you want, and, quite simply, to have a darn good time!

Best wishes,  
**Gary Kircher**  
Mayor for Waitaki



## Victorian Literature

During the 19th century, the novel became the leading form of literature for Victorian readers. Due to new more efficient printing machines, reading for pleasure was no longer just the privilege of the wealthy. Books, magazines and newspapers were now readily available.

Literature of the Victorian era gives insight into the society at the time. Writers reflected the social changes of the era, including the industrial revolution, scientific discoveries, social movements and religious thought.

Writers such as Charles Dickens and George Elliot used their novels to mirror society portraying realistic scenes with complex character development. This was intertwined with connections to the romantic era with works by the Bronte sisters.

Lewis Carroll, Edward Lear, Bram Stoker and Robert Louis Stevenson brought us fantasy, horror, adventure and nonsense. Science fiction also appeared during this era, with scientific developments available via lectures and articles inspiring Victorian authors like Jules Verne and H.G.Wells.

Join us in recognising the diversity and the imagination of this Victorian literature overall as part of the 2020 Ōamaru Victorian Heritage Celebrations!



# Ticket Booking

For events organised by the **Ōamaru Victorian Heritage Committee (OVHC)**, bookings and ticket purchases can be made online at [vhc.co.nz](http://vhc.co.nz) or in person at Rose's General Store, 5 Tyne St, Ōamaru.



For **Associated Events**, which have been organised by groups or organisations other than OVHC, details for booking and ticket purchase are given in the information for each individual event provided in this booklet.

Tickets are on sale from 4 September 2020.

No tickets will be refunded unless the event is cancelled by the organisers.

If events need to be cancelled for any reason, including Covid-19 restrictions, ticket purchasers will be notified via email and refunds of ticket price (not including transaction and booking fees) will be processed.

# Costume Hire

Step out in style and add to the atmosphere by dressing in Victorian costume. Clothing and accessories are available for every member of the family from **The Victorian Wardrobe**.

The Victorian Wardrobe is at 4B Harbour Street, Ōamaru. It is open Thursdays (10am-4pm), and Sundays (10am-4pm) from first weekend of October for fittings and bookings, and also every day from Sunday 10 to Sunday 20 November (10am-4pm), as well as Monday 18 November (10am-4pm) for costume returns.



Facebook: The Victorian Wardrobe.  
Wardrobe Mistress Dawn Sutherland 027 426 7930.

# Retail Window Display Competition

Working with the Ōamaru Business Collective, the Ōamaru Victorian Heritage Celebrations are keen to bring a Victorian theme to retail businesses throughout Ōamaru. We invite all local retailers to dress their windows in theme and show off their talents. Take a wander around Ōamaru and meet our warm and friendly local business owners.

Businesses that participate go into the draw for a \$750 advertising package from sponsor Real Radio 104FM. Winners to be announced at The Great Photo Opportunity, Lower Wansbeck St, Saturday 14 November at 1pm.



# Event Sponsors

Support, assistance and funding from Waitaki District Council and our other sponsors - whose logos can be seen throughout this booklet - ensures that we showcase the best of the Waitaki District's Victorian buildings and heritage and share these stories with visitors and locals alike.

**The Ōamaru Victorian Heritage Celebrations Committee is enormously grateful for this - thank you!**

# Contact Us

## Ōamaru Victorian Heritage Celebrations

Coordinator - Anisha Lee  
PO Box 580, Ōamaru 9444  
Ph. 0275822686  
[vhc.co.nz](http://vhc.co.nz) • [ovhcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:ovhcommittee@gmail.com)

## Network Waitaki Victorian Fête

Coordinator - Frances McMillan  
2 Harbour Street, Ōamaru  
Ph 03 434 5385,  
[victorianoamaru.co.nz](http://victorianoamaru.co.nz) • [frances@victorianoamaru.co.nz](mailto:frances@victorianoamaru.co.nz)

# EVENT TIMETABLE

## Wednesday 11 November

10am-12pm	Of Ships, Sheep and Grain Walking Tour
10am-2.30pm	Ōamaru Steam & Rail Workshop Open Day
12.05pm	Ōamaru Garrison Band & Women's Club Choir
6pm-7pm	The Literary Life of William Henry Sherwood Roberts

## Thursday 12 November

10am-12pm	Classical Architecture Walking Tour
10am-4pm	Steel Bike Exhibition NZ
12.05pm	Waitaki Valley Singers
12.30pm-5pm	Explore our Rural History - Bus Tour
6pm-7.30pm	Victorian Literature with Fiona Farrell
8.30pm-Late	Gentlemen's Relish

## Friday 13 November

9.30am-11am	Celebration Ball Practice
10am-12pm	Cafe Promenade
10am-12pm	EAT YOUR WORDS: Morning Tea at Ōamaru Opera House
10am-12pm	Character Costume Competition Photos
10am-2pm	Elevenes With Eliza
10am-3pm	Customs House Gallery
10am-4pm	Steel Bike Exhibition NZ
10.30am-3.30pm	North Otago Floral Art Society Display
1pm-2pm	Forrester & Lemon Memorial Lecture with Helen Stead: Live in the Past, Present & the Future
1pm-2pm	Where We Went & Adventures We Had
1.30pm-3.30pm	Croquet in the Gardens
2.30pm-3.30pm	Crombie & Price Victorian Garden Party
5pm	The Engineering of Meeks Elevator Building
8pm-Late	It's Friday the 13th! The London Thirteen Club 130 year Celebration Ball

## Saturday 14 November

8am	Vintage Car Club Swapmeet
10am-2.30pm	Grandma's Treasures Sale
10am-3pm	Custom House Gallery
10am-3.30pm	Heritage Book Display
10am-4pm	Ōamaru Steam and Rail Trip
10am-4pm	Steel Bike Exhibition NZ
10.30am-3.30pm	North Otago Floral Art Society Display
12pm-12.45pm	SouthRoads Grand Parade
12.45pm	Great Photo Opportunity
1pm-3pm	Shepherd's Picnic at Totara Estate
1pm-4pm	Masonic Lodge Open to View
1pm-4.30pm	Bus Excursion Special Offer to Totara Estate and Clarks Mill, including Shepherd's Picnic
1.30pm	26th Heritage Bicycle Championship
2pm-3pm	The Secret Lives of Stencils: Wool Bale Stencil Exhibition Opening at Totara Estate
2.30pm-3.30pm	Victorian Influences on Janet Frame's writing
5.30pm	From Here to There
8pm-Late	Servants' Shindig and Shenanigans

## Sunday 15 November

9.30am-10.30am	Mass at St Patrick's Basilica
9.45am-10.30am	Organ Recital
10am-11am	St Paul's Victorian Heritage Church Service
10am-4pm	Steel Bike Exhibition NZ
10am-4pm	Heritage Book Display
10am-4pm	Custom House Gallery and Cafe
10am-4pm	Network Waitaki Victorian Fete
10.30am-11.30am	St Luke's Heritage Church Service
11am-4pm	Ōamaru Steam and Rail Trip
11.45am-3.30pm	North Otago Floral Art Society Display
1pm-3pm	Clarks Mill Open and Operational
2pm-3pm	Headstones and Stories Walking Tour
2.45pm-3.30pm	Victorian Hymn Singing
4pm	Rail Land

# DAILY EVENTS

## Steel Bicycle Exhibition NZ

Every year, steel bicycle owners assemble at Ōamaru's Heritage Week to display some of the best steel bicycles in New Zealand. A large number of these bicycles, built between the 1900s and 1990s, have a great history, with some having been raced by well-known competitive cyclists. Steel bicycle activities include daily group rides, as well as the annual cycling events on Saturday 14 November on Tyne St where steel bicycles and penny farthings compete for honours.

*Ōamaru Squash Club, 14 Tyne St, from Thursday 12 November to Sunday 15 November (10am-4pm). Gold coin donation.*

## Customs House Gallery

Visit the Customs House Gallery and admire this beautifully restored historic building and the local artwork inside, which is available to purchase.

*29 Tyne St, open Friday 13 and Saturday 14 November (10am-3pm) and Sunday 15 November (10am-4pm). FREE.*

## Heritage Book Display

Whitestone City will be displaying historic books, including some from the original Ōamaru Athenaeum.

*12 Harbour St, Saturday 14 November and Sunday 15 November (10am-4pm). Entry by donation.*

## North Otago Floral Art Society Display

Come and see St Luke's Church (est.1865), filled with wonderful floral art displays that set off the majesty of this historic building and the beauty of the stained glass windows.

*Cnr of Tees St & Itchen St, Friday 13 November and Saturday 14 November (10.30am-3.30pm), and Sunday 15 November (11.45am-3.30pm). FREE.*

# OVHC EVENTS

## Thursday 12 November

**12.30pm-5.00pm**

### Explore our Rural History

Join us for a bus tour through the Waireka and Awamoko Valleys with local guide Mike Gray, exploring this amazing limestone landscape with its rich farming heritage and ancient marine stories. Visit the Māori rock art at Takiroa, and Vanished World Fossil Centre and Nicol's Blacksmith in Duntroon (entry fees included in event ticket).

*Departing and returning to the bus stop opposite Star and Garter Restaurant, 9 Itchen St. Tickets \$35+booking fees from Rose's General Store or online at [vhc.co.nz](http://vhc.co.nz).*



Photo: M. Gray

**8.30pm**

### Gentlemen's Relish (R18 - risqué, adult themes)

Experience the 'other side' of society in Victorian Ōamaru with a night of burlesque, circus and comedy from the talented performers from 'Lads on Tour' Cabaret and other guests. This year there will be more performers and a few surprises!

*The Scottish Hall, 10 Tyne St. Tickets \$25+booking fees from Rose's General Store or online at [vhc.co.nz](http://vhc.co.nz).*

## Friday 13 November

10am – 12pm

### Character Costume Competition

Dress as your favourite character or author from Victorian Literature (1837 – 1901) and come along to the Ōamaru Public Library to have your photo taken. Remember: to enter the competition, you MUST be carrying a copy of the book that your character is taken from! The judges will announce the winning costume at the Great Photo Opportunity, after the SouthRoads Grand Parade, Lower Wansbeck St, Saturday 14 November.

*Entry forms at the Ōamaru Library on the day. FREE.*



10am – 12pm

### Café Promenade

Stroll the streets and study the window displays of businesses taking part in the Retail Window Display Competition, sponsored by Real Radio 104 and supported by the Ōamaru Business Collective. Don't forget to sample the fare at our local cafes as you wander around!

10am – 2pm

### Elevenes with Eliza

Join us for a cuppa and a slice from Eliza Acton's kitchen, topped off with a small glass of Madeira. Try your hand at Victorian parlour games, or just relax and have a chat.

*Early Settlers' Hall, Severn Street, just behind the Opera House. \$10 per serving.*

2.30pm – 3.30pm

### Crombie & Price Victorian Garden Party

Enjoy the delightful elegance of the ever popular Victorian Garden Party at the Ōamaru Public Gardens. Partake of light refreshments and entertainment while admiring the costumes.

*Chelmer St. Gold coin donation for entry & for refreshments.*



## Saturday 14 November

12pm - 12.45pm

### SouthRoads Grand Street Parade

Everyone is invited to join (if in costume), or to watch (if not), the SouthRoads Grand Street Parade as it travels through the Victorian Precinct and lower Thames Street. Victorian costumes, machinery, fun and frivolity will all be proudly on show. Do you, or an organisation you belong to, want to take part? Contact [ovhcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:ovhcommittee@gmail.com) if you would like to join the Parade.

*Parade assembly 11.30am at corner Tyne St & Wansbeck St, travelling to Meek St and return. FREE.*



12.45pm - 1pm

### Great Photo Opportunity

Join Ōamaru's heritage family for a group photograph in costume at the conclusion of the SouthRoads Grand Street Parade. Presentations will also be made to the winners of the Character Costume Competition and Retail Window Display Competition.

*Lower Wansbeck St. FREE.*

8pm - late

### Servants' Shindig and Shenanigans

Escape from your daily toil and join your fellow workers for a night of fun and dancing. Let your hair down and have a knees-up until the midnight hour. Christchurch's Black Velvet Band will provide the music to get your toes tapping. A hearty repast will be served and liquid refreshments can be purchased. Doors open at 7.30pm.

*The Scottish Hall, 10 Tyne St. Limited places, booking recommended. Tickets \$45+booking fees from Rose's General Store or online at [vhc.co.nz](http://vhc.co.nz).*

# ASSOCIATED EVENTS

## Wednesday 11 November

**10am - 12pm**

### **Of Ships, Sheep and Grain Walking Tour**

From an open roadstead, Ōamaru Harbour welcomed migrants, stock and building materials from the 1840s. Then, as the breakwater and wharves were built, wool, grain and frozen meat was exported to the world until 1970. From tents on the beach to Ōamaru stone buildings for merchants, bankers and millers, the town and district grew rapidly.

*Meet on corner of Harbour St & Wansbeck St. Tickets*

*\$25+booking fees from Rose's General Store or online at vhc.co.nz.*

**10am - 2.30pm**

### **Ōamaru Steam and Rail Workshop Open Day**

Explore the inner workings of the Ōamaru Steam and Rail Workshop. See how things are made and maintained to keep these historic engines running around the harbour. *Steam and Rail Workshop behind Steampunk HQ. Gold coin donation.*

**12.05pm**

### **Ōamaru Garrison Band and Women's Club Choir**

Music at St Paul's Church features Ōamaru Garrison Band with the Women's Club Choir. Tea and coffee provided, so bring your lunch, and come and go as you wish.

*5 Coquet St. Gold coin donation.*

**6pm - 7pm**

### **The Literary Life of William Henry Sherwood Roberts**

This talk will explore the varied and wide reaching literary life of an original Victorian renaissance man, Ōamaru's own William Henry Sherwood Roberts. Among other works, Roberts penned 'The History of Ōamaru and North Otago, New Zealand, from 1853 to the end of 1889'

*Ōamaru Public Library, 62 Thames St. FREE.*

## Thursday 12 November

**10am - 12pm**

### **Ōamaru's Classical Architecture Walking Tour**

Conservation historian Helen Stead takes you under, through, and past some of Ōamaru's magnificent historic buildings, linking classical and humble structures created by artisans and pioneers rejoicing in the local availability of the easily worked limestone that gives historic Ōamaru its distinctive character.

*Meet at 1 Thames St. Tickets \$25+booking fees from Rose's General Store or online at vhc.co.nz.*

**12.05pm**

### **Waitaki Valley Singers**

Enjoy Waitaki Valley Singers' first midday concert at St Paul's Church. Tea and coffee are provided, so bring your lunch and come and go as you wish.

*5 Coquet St. Gold coin donation.*

**6pm - 7.30pm**

### **Victorian Literature with Fiona Farrell**

Ōamaru born and bred Fiona Farrell is one of New Zealand best known and acclaimed poets, fiction writers and playwrights. Fiona has a unique perspective on the history of the Ōamaru Library, having worked in the original Athenaeum during her high school years. Fiona will be talking about Victorian literature, poetry and plays.

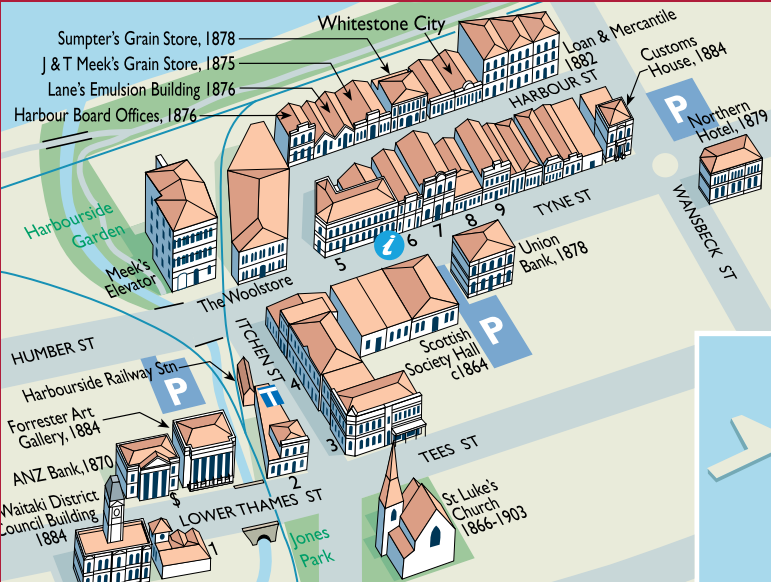
*Ōamaru Public Library, 62 Thames St. FREE.*

### **Horse and Carriage Rides**

Whitestone Funerals are sponsoring Horse and Carriage rides for rest home residents during the week and also making this memorable opportunity available for the general public during the garden party. Look for the carriage on your way into the Ōamaru Gardens tomorrow.







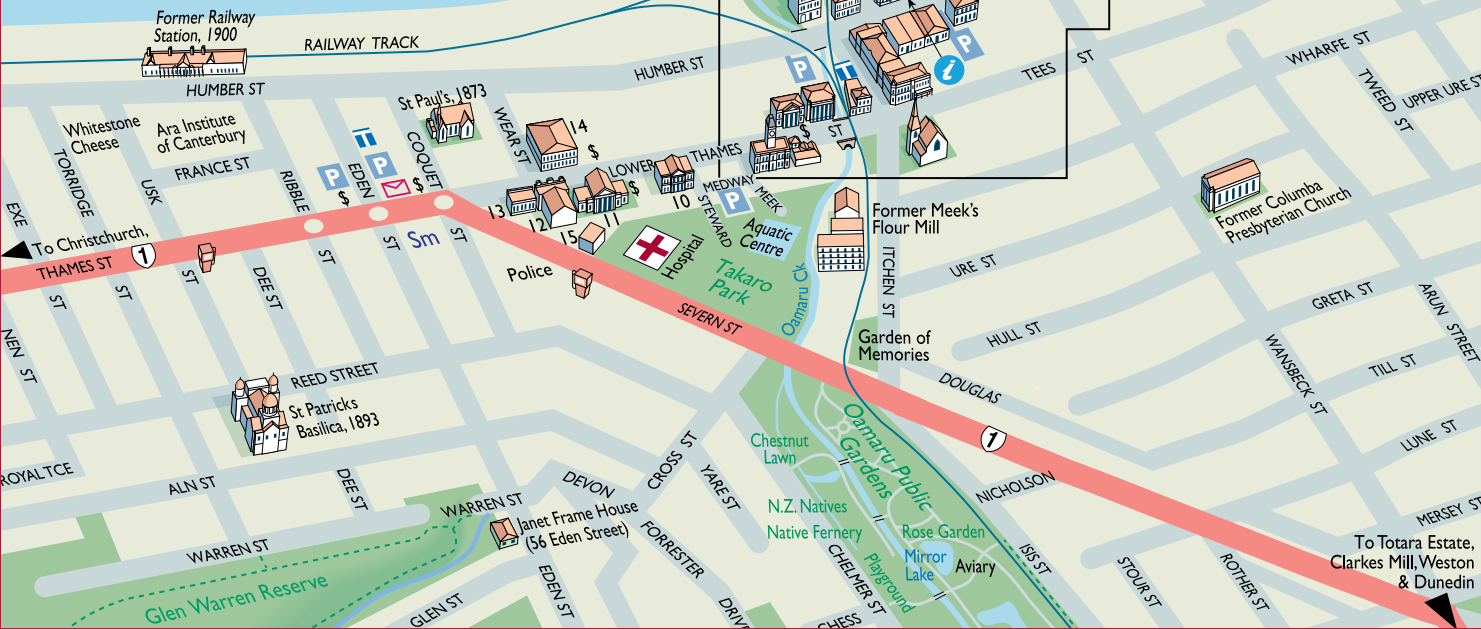
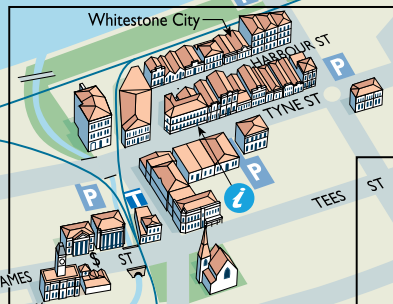
- SYMBOL KEY**
- State Highway One
  - Visitor Information
  - Public Toilets
  - Off Street Parking
  - Service Station
  - Post Shop
  - Supermarket
  - ATM Machines
  - Walking Track

- KEY TO NUMBERED BUILDINGS ON INSET MAP ABOVE**
1. First Post Office, c1864
  2. Former Colonial Bank, c1878
  3. AMP Building, 1874
  4. Star & Garter
  5. Criterion Hotel, 1877
  6. Union Office, c1878
  7. Smith's Grain Store, 1882
  8. National Mortgage & Agency c1875
  9. Exchange Chambers, 1889

- KEY TO NUMBERED BUILDINGS ON MAP BELOW**
10. Museum, 1882
  11. Former Courthouse, 1883
  12. Oamaru Opera House, 1907
  13. Community House
  14. Kingsgate Hotel, 1880s
  15. Early Settlers Hall



SEE INSET ABOVE



To Totara Estate, Clarkes Mill, Weston & Dunedin

# Friday 13 November

**9.30am - 11am**

## **Celebration Ball Practice**

Make the most of this opportunity to learn or practice for this evening's Celebration Ball. The dance list is at [vhc.co.nz](http://vhc.co.nz), Facebook page, or by email to [heritagedanceoamaru@gmail.com](mailto:heritagedanceoamaru@gmail.com)

*The Scottish Hall, 10 Tyne St. Gold coin entry donation.*

**10am - 12pm**

## **EAT YOUR WORDS!**

### **Morning Tea at Ōamaru Opera House**

A literary (and literal) feast. Step into Ōamaru's heritage and join the intelligentsia at the Opera House Café for a morning tea amongst the inkhorns and bookworms.

*Ōamaru Opera House, 94 Thames St. Refreshments as charged.*

**1pm**

### **Forrester & Lemon Memorial Lecture with Helen Stead: Live in the Past, Present & the Future**

A free public event organised by the Ōamaru Whitestone Civic Trust, this year the Forrester & Lemon Memorial Lecture features a personal perspective on historic Ōamaru and Waitaki heritage with historian Helen Stead.

*Ink Box, Ōamaru Opera House, 94 Thames St. FREE.*

**1pm - 2pm**

### **Where We Went and the Adventures We Had**

The Ōamaru Ordinary Cycle Club members present their passion for the 'ordinary cycle' (penny farthing), recounting their adventures on the Heritage Cycle Tour and other thrilling stories.

*Ōamaru Library, 62 Thames St. FREE.*

**1.30pm - 3.30pm**

### **Croquet in the Gardens**

Have a go at the popular Victorian pastime of croquet, with assistance from Awamoa Gardens Croquet Club members.

*Ōamaru Public Gardens, Chelmer St. FREE.*

**5pm**

### **The Engineering of Meeks Elevator Building**

An illustrated evening lecture revealing the inner workings of the Elevator Building (now Steampunk HQ), in particular the American engineering technology that allowed this building to function, and the Meek merchant family who were behind this 1880s undertaking.

*Ink Box, Ōamaru Opera House, 94 Thames St. FREE.*

**8pm to late**

### **It's Friday the 13th! The London Thirteen Club 130 Year Celebration Ball**

In 1890, the London Thirteen Club was established.

We invite you to carry on the tradition of defying and debunking superstition by dancing under ladders, displaying open umbrellas and walls decked with black cats. Tonica, a quartet from Dunedin, has been engaged to provide demystifying music. A four course buffet supper will be served throughout the evening and a variety of liquid refreshments may be purchased. Dress code is formal Victorian ball attire or dress uniform. Ballroom opens at 7pm. Grand March commences at 8pm.

*The Scottish Hall, 10 Tyne St. Tickets are limited, and no door sales. Tickets \$75+booking fees from Rose's General Store or online at [vhc.co.nz](http://vhc.co.nz).*



Photo: L. Sprenger

# Saturday 14 November

**8am**

## **Vintage Car Club Swapmeet**

The North Otago Vintage Car Club is hosting their annual swapmeet, a treasure-trove of delights for all vintage and veteran enthusiasts, with something for everyone.

*A and P Showgrounds, Caledonian Rd. Entry \$5 at gate.*

**10am - 2.30pm**

## **Grandma's Treasures Sale**

A range of Grandma's treasures have been dusted off for sale - come and see what delightful piece of china or art you might like to purchase! Home-made preserves and baking are also for sale, and a Victorian morning tea is available while you contemplate your purchases.

*St Luke's Church, Cnr of Tees St & Itchen St, Morning tea \$5.*

**10am - 4pm**

## **Ōamaru Steam and Rail Trip**

Welcome aboard the vintage train that will take you on a return trip from the Harbourside Station to the Quarry Siding in the harbour area. Train leaves every 30 minutes.

*Adults \$10, children \$4, family (2 adults + 2 children) \$24.*

*Tickets at Harbourside Station, pedestrian access via Itchen St. Weather dependent.*

**1pm - 4pm**

## **Masonic Lodge Open to View**

Victorian authors and poets, including Rudyard Kipling, Oscar Wilde, Arthur Conan Doyle, and Alfred Lord Tennyson, once shared the bond of freemasonry membership. This is your opportunity to enjoy the unique architecture of Ōamaru Masonic Lodge and chat to a 21st century Freemason while relaxing with tea or coffee and a biscuit or two.

*10 Wansbeck St. Gold coin entry & refreshment donation.*

**1pm - 4.30pm**

## **Bus Excursion Heritage Combination: Special Offer**

Combine the Shepherd's Picnic at Totara Estate, the Wool Bale Stencil Exhibition opening, and a tour of Clarks Mill while it's operating (details of each of these on following pages) in one bus tour from Ōamaru, and pay one price for all. You will be accompanied by a costumed guide who will provide you with the information you need to make your afternoon both enjoyable and entertaining. Numbers restricted so please book early.

*Bus departing from Scotts Brewery after the Southroads Grand Parade at 1pm and returning at 4.30pm. Adults \$55, students \$30, children (5-15) \$20, Heritage NZ members \$25 (booking fees apply). Book at Rose's General Store or online at [vhc.co.nz](http://vhc.co.nz).*

**1.30pm**

## **The 26th Heritage Bicycle Championship**

New Zealand's foremost heritage cycling event promises high drama, attracting wheelmen (and women) from all around the globe to take part in sprints, slaloms, relays, slow races, and the ghastly Tyne Street Grunter. Riders, collect your entry forms from the club trailer on Tyne Street prior to 1pm on the day. All riders are encouraged to wear traditional riding attire and the emphasis is on participation and enjoyment. Prize-giving for each race will be held after each event's championship race. Enquiries to [oamaruordinary@gmail.com](mailto:oamaruordinary@gmail.com) or 027 2931059.

*Tyne St & Harbour St. FREE.*



# Otago Daily Times

**1pm - 3pm**

**Shepherd's Picnic at Totara Estate featuring Wool Bale Stencil Exhibition Opening**

Much of New Zealand's early Victorian literature was written against the backdrop of the vast new sheep stations of the era, where gentlemen farmers, many of them classics scholars, now had to live in isolated but magnificent conditions while attempting to make their fortunes off the sheep's back. Not all the novels and poems, stories and songs devised at this time could necessarily be called 'literature', but they were ways the musterers, shearers, cooks, even the Boss, would pass the time around the campfire in the long lonely evenings. Here is your chance to visit Totara Estate, one of the mighty estates of this era. Sit round the campfire and perhaps enjoy a yarn or two, chat to the musterer or the swagger, and watch the shearer at work while you enjoy a delicious rustic picnic. This will include the Stencil Exhibition Opening, as detailed below. *Totara Estate, 565 Alma-Maheno Rd. Adults \$25, children (age 5-10) \$10, students \$15, Heritage NZ members \$15 (booking fees apply and bookings essential). Book at Rose's General Store or online at [vhc.co.nz](http://vhc.co.nz).*

**2pm - 3pm**

**The Secret Lives of Stencils: Wool Bale Stencil Exhibition Opening at Totara Estate**

We are excited to host this small touring exhibition, devised from the research by Dr Annette O'Sullivan, Senior Lecturer in Design from Massey University. Dr O'Sullivan has identified the fact that it is important to record this history sooner rather than later, as the objects are being lost or separated from their context as farms change hands and the knowledge is lost. Today is your chance to meet the curator, hear her speak about her work, and maybe contribute some knowledge of your own. This project is a partnership between Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga and Massey University College of Creative Arts, and features the history of wool bale stencils and associated branding in New Zealand.

*Totara Estate, 565 Alma-Maheno Rd. Gate sales, no booking required. Adults \$10, students \$6, children and Heritage NZ members free.*

# SECRET OF LIVES STENCILS

**New Zealand  
wool bale stencil  
exhibition**

The Granary  
Totara Estate  
Oamaru

**Opening**

2pm Saturday 14 November  
and runs till 31 May 2021

**Cost**

Included in the entry  
to Totara Estate  
Adults \$10, students \$6,  
children and members free

**Information**

Ph 03 433 1269  
[totaraestate@heritage.org.nz](mailto:totaraestate@heritage.org.nz)  
Facebook Totara Estate



**2.30pm – 3.30pm**

**Victorian Influences on Janet Frame's writing**

Join us at Janet Frame's childhood home to hear Ralph Sherwood read excerpts from Victorian prose and poetry. Janet Frame was inspired by many authors who wrote during the Victorian era, so this is a unique opportunity to experience some of those influences while immersed in the home where she grew to love the written word.

*56 Eden Street. Entry & refreshments \$5, door sales. Also open rest of Heritage Week (2pm-4pm), entry \$5.*

**5.30pm**

**From Here to There**

Join us for a talk on local writers and famous literary visitors in Victorian Oamaru - Twain, Trollope and even Barney White Rats!

*Grainstore Gallery, 9 Harbour St. FREE.*

## Sunday 15 November

**9.30am - 10.30am**

**Mass at St Patrick's Basilica**

Catholic mass followed by morning tea. All welcome, Victorian dress optional.

*Reed Street. FREE.*

**9.30am - 1pm**

**Ōamaru Farmers' Market**

Meet the growers, farmers and producers of the best seasonal produce the Waitaki region has to offer. You'll find a fantastic selection of fruits and vegetables, preserves, baking, meat and plants plus hot food and coffee.

*Crn Wansbeck St & Tyne St. FREE entry.*

**9.45am - 10.30am**

**Organ Recital**

Enjoy the magnificent sound of the organ at the historic St Luke's Anglican Church, as Dr Ron Newton plays a selection of music that would have been popular in the Victorian era. Stay for the service that follows (see below).

*Cnr of Tees St & Itchen St. FREE.*

**10.30am**

**St Luke's Anglican Church Heritage Service**

Dress up in your finery and enjoy a church service that moves from Victorian liturgy to modern times, followed by a Victorian morning tea.

*Cnr of Tees St & Itchen St. FREE.*

**10am**

**St Paul's Presbyterian Church Heritage Service**

*5 Coquet Street. FREE.*

**10am - 4pm**

**Customs House Gallery and Café**

Relax and enjoy the refreshments at our cafe and admire and purchase local art in our gallery.

*29 Tyne St. Refreshments as priced.*

**10am – 4pm**

**The Network Waitaki Victorian Fete**

The Network Waitaki Victorian Fete is a day jam-packed with fun for the whole family. You will be thrilled with the incredible Victorian costumes, limestone sawing, street performers, magicians and stilt walkers around every corner, ensuring the day is one to remember. Come along and join in all the fun of the fair! Dress up in your Victorian best and support a great cause - this event is the annual fundraiser for the Oamaru Whitestone Civic Trust with proceeds going towards preserving New Zealand's best collection of Victorian heritage buildings here in Ōamaru.

*Harbour St. Entry at gate \$10 for adults, under 18s FREE.*



# Totara Estate

Visit this heritage attraction to find out how this once-grand estate played a significant role in the making of New Zealand as we know it today.

Open daily from 10 'til 4

Explore beautiful stone farm buildings

Tours and tea available from Cookhouse Cafe

## Clarks Mill

Originally part of the mighty Totara Estate, Clarks Mill is a rare example of a fully restored flour mill dating from 1866.

Open Sundays 1-3 p.m. from Labour Weekend to April, and by arrangement for groups. See event listings for special Heritage Weekend opening hours

## Daily Guided Tours at Totara Estate

Join our Daily Guided Tour from 10:00-11:45, as history comes to life! Includes character guided tour with tea and scones

11am - 4pm

### Ōamaru Steam and Rail Trip

Welcome aboard the vintage train that will take you on a return trip from the Harbourside Station to the Quarry Siding in the harbour area. Train leaves every 30 minutes. *Adults \$10, children \$4, family (2 adults + 2 children) \$24. Tickets at Harbourside Station, pedestrian access via Itchen Street. Weather dependent.*

1pm - 3pm

### Clarks Mill Open and Operating

You will find many references in Victorian literature to industry and 'the Mill', but you are more likely to find a 'green and pleasant land' rather than a 'dark satanic mill' when you visit this extraordinary flour mill today. Built around 1866 as part of the growing entrepreneurial business of the Scottish owners of Totara Estate, the limestone building was rebuilt in the late 1970s by the then Historic Places Trust (now Heritage New Zealand) and the machinery restored by a team of volunteers. Many of those volunteers will be on hand today to guide you around the four floors of machinery, wheels and belts, and then there will be opportunity to see it in action.

*Clarks Mill, Maheno, 12 kms South of Ōamaru on SH1. Adults \$10, Heritage NZ Members free, children free but must be supervised. Gate sales, no bookings necessary.*

2pm - 4pm

### Headstones and Stories Walking Tour

Conservation historian Helen Stead's final event on the Heritage Celebration calendar is a two-hour walk through the old cemetery. Laid out in denominational areas, this cemetery is full of stories of individuals, families and district endeavours, which live on through carved names and dates inscribed in stone.

*Meet at Cemetery entrance, opposite 63 Greta Street. Tickets \$25+booking fees from Rose's General Store or online at vhc.co.nz.*

**Email** [totaraestate@heritage.org.nz](mailto:totaraestate@heritage.org.nz)

**Phone** 03 433 1269



Totara Estate  
Clarks Mill



HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND  
POUHERE TAONGA

**2.45pm - 3.30pm**

### **Victorian Hymn Singing at St Luke's Church**

Come along and join us as we sing a range of hymns from Victorian times - Ancient and Modern, Wesleyan, and Revival - while Ron Newton plays the Bechstein grand piano.  
*Cnr of Tees St & Itchen St. FREE.*

**4pm**

### **Rail Land**

Experience a journey of the mind, through song and story, about New Zealand's on-and-off love affair with passenger rail. Critically acclaimed musician Anthonie Tonnon celebrates passenger rail in Aotearoa in a poetic exploration of rail, and a meditation on what it means to us in the modern era.  
*The Inkbox, Ōamaru Opera House. Tickets \$25+booking fees, from the Opera House, or call 03 433 0779.*



Photo: A. McEwen

## **Post-Celebrations Events**

### **Penny Farthing and Vintage Cycle Tour 16 -22 November 2020**

This year Ōamaru Ordinary Cycle Club will complete a tour of the wild West Coast on the 'Westcoast Wilderness Cycle Tour'. For more details, contact 027 2931059, oamaruordinary@gmail.com, or visit oocc.org.nz.

## **Places to Drink and Eat**

There are plenty of wonderful restaurants, cafes and tasting rooms within walking distance of most Heritage Celebration events. If you have limited time between events it is advisable to reserve a table.

### **The Criterion Hotel**

*3 Tyne St*

### **Scotts Brewery**

*03-434 2244, 1 Wansbeck St*

### **The Galley Cafe**

*03-434 0475, Esplanade*

### **Harbour Street Collective Cafe**

*03-434 3246, 8 Harbour St*

### **The Last Post Restaurant**

*03-434 8080, 12 Thames St*

### **Star and Garter Restaurant**

*03-434 5246, 9 Itchen St*

### **Fat Sally's Pub & Restaurant**

*03-434 8368, 84 Thames St*

Also try locally made beers and cheese tasting at **Craftwork Brewery, Harbour St**



Photo: L. Sprenger

# Ōamaru Library and The Athenaeum



Ōamaru Athenaeum and Mechanics' Institute, Thames Street, mid 1890s.  
*Collection of the Waitaki Archive. Id 101941*

In December 1864 a group was formed to establish an Athenaeum and Mechanic's Institute. In 1865, rooms were rented for this purpose, but closed after only 6 months, as plans were in place to build a bespoke premises that would both house the Athenaeum and have space for lectures to be given. Architectural design for the Athenaeum was completed by Forrester & Lemon, with construction beginning in 1867. By 1879, a larger building was required, and fund raising through bazaars and exhibitions funded the above building (now housing the North Otago Museum). The new building was opened in 1882 with 4000 volumes purchased. Lending of these books began in 1883, and evening classes started in 1887.

In 1945 a large petition was presented to the council that the Athenaeum should become a municipal library. By 1948 the Atheneum became a free public library connected with The Country Library Service.

As the collection and demand grew the library required more space, moving to the current Ōamaru Public Library building in 1975.

A vibrant red Victorian-themed poster for a 'VICTORIAN FETE' event. The poster features a woman in a red Victorian dress and hat on the left, and a man in a dark suit and white shirt on the right. At the top, two banners read 'UNDER 18 FREE ADULTS TEN DOLLARS' and 'FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY'. The 'Network Waitaki' logo is positioned above the large, stylized text 'VICTORIAN FETE'. Below the title, the event details are listed: 'SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER 10AM TO 4PM IN OAMARU'S VICTORIAN PRECINCT'. At the bottom, the event activities are listed: 'LIVE MUSIC', 'STALLS', 'FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT', 'COMPETITIONS', and 'GREAT FOOD'. The entire poster is framed by a red curtain with gold fringe.

UNDER 18 FREE  
ADULTS TEN DOLLARS

FUN FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY

Network  
Waitaki

# VICTORIAN FETE

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER 10AM TO 4PM  
IN OAMARU'S VICTORIAN PRECINCT

LIVE MUSIC

STALLS

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

COMPETITIONS

GREAT FOOD





Discover the  
**Culture  
Waitaki**  
activities in this  
programme...

*No. 2020*

**CULTURE  
WAITAKI  
2020**

FORRESTER GALLERY  
ŌAMARU OPERA HOUSE  
WAITAKI MUSEUM & ARCHIVE  
WAITAKI DISTRICT LIBRARIES

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[WWW.CULTUREWAITAKI.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.CULTUREWAITAKI.ORG.NZ)