



THE EPSOM & EDEN DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

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Patron: Her Excellency Susan Satyanand
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NEWSLETTER : APRIL 2008

MOTAT

Our next outing - Sunday 4 May 2008
We will meet at the MOTAT admission gates at 2pm.

As well as looking at exhibits that have particular interest for each of us individually, we can visit the **Potter Cottage** which was dismantled, stone by stone, removed from its site at **457 Manukau Road, Epsom** and re-erected in the **Pioneer Village**.

*See: The History of Epsom, pages 410-11.**

MOTAT's development began with a meeting in 1960, chaired by the Mayor, Dove Myer Robinson. The Old-time Preservation Transport League of Matakoho, the Royal Aeronautical Society (New Zealand Division) and the Historic Auckland Society, together with representatives from other interested organisations, agreed to bring together various historical collections, and the largest museum of transport, technology and social history in New Zealand, was opened in 1964.

We remember and honour former member of the EEDHS, the late **Harold Stone**, who was a stalwart of MOTAT from its inception.



Admission:

Senior Citizens \$7

Adults \$14

Children (under 16) \$7

Family (2 adults and up to 4 children) \$30

Children under 5 years are free

All tickets now include free tram rides and entry to the Tactile Dome!

All tickets give access to both MOTAT sites. If you only have time to visit one site, keep your ticket and receive free entry to the other site on another day of your choosing. Valid for one year.

* Members of the Society can purchase copies of *The History of Epsom* at the special price of \$60.00. Contact Bryan Boon, ph. 625 6465, or Christine Black ph. 630 5554. The book will also be available at our meetings.

OUR APRIL MEETING

City Council Heritage Manager Nicola Short gave a most interesting talk to members at our April meeting about the work of the Heritage Team in protecting and conserving Auckland's historic places – those that have been shaped both by natural and cultural processes and by events. The city has been endowed with an inheritance of heritage assets, not only of buildings and structures, but also of landscapes and important Maori sites – ‘repositories of memory’ – defined as ‘places where something happened’. Officially recognised sites include iconic structures like the Civic Theatre, but also encompass the interiors of buildings, and extend to surroundings such as the gardens around Old Government House, and zones or streets with a particular character, eg Burnley Terrace. Landscape heritage features include the many volcanic cones and their sight lines, parks, scheduled trees, for example the great Kauri in Owens Road, geological sites such as the Mortimer Pass lava cave, and ecological sites like the Manukau Harbour. Protected heritage views are not only those that focus on natural features such as the volcanic cones, but also can be those of streets – Wellesley Street and Victoria Street.

The Heritage team is currently involved in evaluating approximately 374 consultations, issues, and applications that are at varying stages of process.

Three main areas, the Central Area, the Isthmus, and the Hauraki Gulf Islands are each reviewed every 10 years to determine what features deserve protection and conservation. Research information is collated, and our area, as included within the Isthmus, is currently under review; so that as a society or as individuals we can make submissions about what we consider of historic interest and importance.

As well as plaques and publications, part of the team's work involves arranging the annual Heritage Festival in September, which marks the anniversary of the city's founding. This year the theme is ‘A Sense of Place’ – about discerning and celebrating what is special and great about Auckland. This offers the Society an opportunity to again consider what is special about our area of Mt Eden and Epsom and to contribute to the Festival.

Prospect 2008 is now at the editing/printing stage, and will be available for members at our August AGM.

Jeanette Grant ph.638 8566 welcomes contributions for our next issue.

Next Meeting:
Monday 2 June 2008 at 7:30 pm

Please check in at door as you enter where you will be welcomed and entered in the attendance book. This is a new system that is proving most successful and enables the committee member on duty to meet more members.