

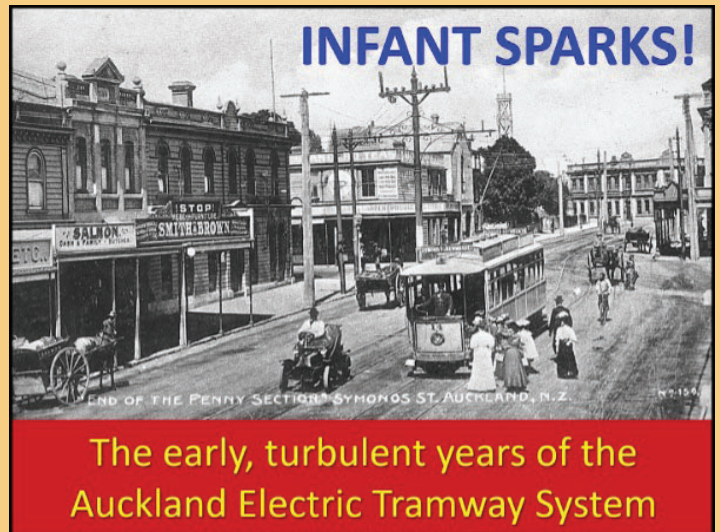
NEXT MEETING -

The Blockhouse Bay Historical Society next meeting is on **Wednesday 6TH August at 1.15 pm.** in the Blockhouse Bay Community Centre.

Guest Speaker – James Duncan MOTAT presents

INFANT SPARKS -

The story behind the arrival of electric trams in Auckland – the trials, tribulations, tragedies, battles, and successes of bringing what was then “space-age” technology to NZ’s largest city. The story is brought to life with a large number of digital images, many rare and not seen previously, of this revolutionary form of street transport – this large vehicle that could propel itself along as if by magic, without horses or a steam engine in front!”



AGM

The Next meeting will also be our AGM. The Agenda can be found on our Website but there are a couple of points you need to consider:

- We have revised the whole Constitution as we need to re-register later this year. It is a lot longer than it used to be as there are now a number of mandatory clauses we need to include. This can also be found on the Society website.

- There will be a motion to increase the annual fees. These currently sit at

Single \$15 Couple \$20 Corporate \$25

The motions will be to increase these to

Single \$20 Couple \$25 Corporate \$25

Please consider these and come along ready to vote. If you have any queries we can help with beforehand ask one of the Committee Members.

At the AGM we will be electing our Committee. We are in need of a Secretary and a Treasurer so if you can give a small amount of your time and stand for office, our Society will be able to continue to run smoothly and not place too much pressure on a few people.

Krystene Vickers; krys@ekiwi.com
Mary Marshall; marymarshall55@gmail.com
Anne Bell; 627 8619
Tony Joyce; 626 6445 tony.joyce@xtra.co.nz

Life Members;
Eileen Rusden, Yvonne Dabb, Alan Cole & Brian Goodwin
Visit our website;
www.blockhousebayhistoricalsociety.com

Society News

Blockhouse Bay Library reopened in June and a Village celebration was held on 28 June. Armanasco house was able to be open and many visitors took that opportunity.

The House was also able to be open on Saturday 5 and 12 July. Our thanks to those who acted as docents. Our next Saturdays are 27 September and 4 October.

New shops: it is no longer a case of the butcher, the baker and the candlestick maker. The three newest shops in the Village are a Barber Shop, a Tattoo Parlour and a Beauty Salon

We were all saddened to hear of the passing of Sheila Sekula at age 101. You may recall the article about Sheila in our June 2016 Newsletter. We are very fortunate that Sheila had recorded her memories of her long life for our Archives, both her story in England in WW2, and then her commitment to her community in Blockhouse Bay. Sheila had been a member of our Society since the beginning.



The Society has applied for a Whau Local Board Grant to help with reframing and restoring current photos. No response as of yet.

Blockhouse Bay Heaphy street roadworks

Blockhouse Bay residents, especially those in Heaphy Street and Donovan Street have had their roads dug up and closed off, on and off since October 2023.

The Heaphy Street section was finally completed on 30 April 2025

A final piece of Watercare's \$115 million new watermain carrying water to west and central Auckland was slotted into place on 30 April 2025 after a six-year construction effort spanning seven suburbs.

The 914mm-diameter Huia 1 watermain begins at the Titirangi reservoirs and carries water all the way to Gillies Ave in Epsom, supplying communities along its 15.5-kilometre route.

Watercare head of water Sharon Danks was there to see the final four-metre section of pipe lowered into the ground in Heaphy St, Blockhouse Bay. She said, "It's really exciting to have our new Huia 1 watermain about to go into service. It replaces an old pipeline built in the 1940s that was nearing the end of its life, and also adds capacity to our water network to support new housing.

To start with it will carry on average 30 million litres of water a day – water that originated in the western dams and we've treated at our Huia Water Treatment Plant. But we've futureproofed the Huia 1 pipeline to accommodate population growth."

Watercare capital delivery general manager Suzanne Lucas says the project had an approved budget of \$143.5m but was delivered for considerably less. It's tracking at \$115m – almost a \$30m saving on the budgeted cost.

Crews installed the pipe in stages, and not in a linear fashion. Most of the watermain is within the roading network.

Parts of the pipe were brought into service along the way, so communities have already been seeing the benefit of this new watermain, though they may not have known it

Watercare said, "We recognise this project was disruptive to communities and commuters along the route, and we'd really like to thank everyone for their patience while we built this critical watermain. It goes a long way to improving the resilience of our water network in these areas and will supply drinking water to western and central communities for generations to come."



Above: Old Huia watermain pipe being lifted out of Heaphy St

Below: The final piece being lowered into place in Heaphy St



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09 627 9970