

THE DIGITAL QUILL



Researching, writing and publishing local heritage with pride

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CELEBRATING TAUMARUNUI BOROUGH'S CENTENNIAL 1910-2010



John Poole's nicely restored Chevrolet truck in the parade that was part of the official Borough Centennial celebrations in early October. More about both inside.

Taumarunui & Districts Historical Society Inc

Taumarunui & Districts **HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc**

P.O.Box 329 Taumarunui
www.rollbacktheyears.co.nz/

Jim Walker (Chairman)
Audrey Walker (Treasurer)
David Wimms (Secretary)
Committee members:
Ann Cribb, Lyndsay McMillan,
Christina Jilesen, David Robinson,
John Poole, Rose Clark and Len
Goodwin.

Editor - David Robinson

Don't forget to check out the web site:
www.rollbacktheyears.co.nz/



Unless otherwise mentioned photography is by David Robinson

Message From The Chairman

As the new chairman elected at the recent AGM I would like to take this opportunity to thank Len Cooke for his two and a half years of chairmanship of the Society.

From the point of realisation that we needed to do something positive for the history of our district Len has lead us through all the processes of setting up and getting underway.

Our thanks go to Len for his knowledge and skills. Under Len's stewardship we have been able to publish three books, with two more well under way, and sell a combined total of over 1400 copies.

No easy task.

We now have to carry on the good work and luckily Len will still be actively participating in the Society.

Jim Walker, Chairman

Roll Back The Years Vol. 2 out now!!

See the website for details



History Comes Down!

King Country Radio first started in 1966 with the call sign 1ZU. Local content on the station was limited to mornings only, outside this time the station broadcast 1ZH from Hamilton or National Radio. During the late 1980s and 1990s the station shared air time with Radio Waitomo .

In 1998 King Country Radio became part of the Community Radio Network then became part of Classic Hits FM network. At this point the station became known as Classic Hits King Country Radio.

On February 8, 2010, it was announced the station would close at the end of March, due to declining commercial revenues. The stations frequencies were sold to Raetihi based Peak FM. *source Wikipedia*



The radio transmitter mast being demolished 8 April 2010 - photos Don Tidswell

History Goes Up!

Globalisation comes to Taumarunui. A new McDonalds is due to open in December 2010 next to the BP station at the western end of Hahiaha Street.



photo David Robinson

Then and Now - Hakiha Street, Taumarunui



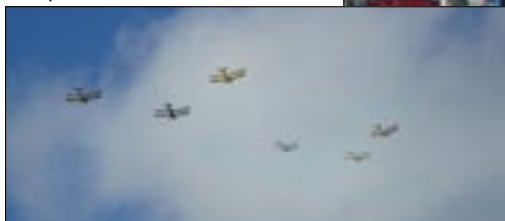
Both photographs show a "Taumarunui Bakery" - however they are not the same building. The one in the top photo is on the site where Paper Plus now stands. It is interesting to note that the current Taumarunui Bakery is in a building that was standing at the time of the older photograph - its distinctive curved facade can be seen in other photographs taken in the same period. The Cash Store is now T M P Fashion on the corner of Manu aute Street. The old photograph must have been taken on a Sunday as there is no traffic to be seen apart from a young man on a horse and a small dog. The pedestrians seem to be dressed in their Sunday best. *1910's photograph Roll Back the Years Archives, 2010 photograph David Robinson.*

Taumarunui Borough Centennial Celebrations 2 October 2010



The Mayor, Sue Morris, addressing the crowd with past and present councillors looking on.

A formation of Tiger Moths that were part of a flyover of vintage aeroplanes.



Len Goodwin in his restored steam roller leading a parade of old vehicles.

A Well Travelled Piece of History

Rob and Sue Carter, Kirikau, have recently built a small mill on their farm. Rob had his eye on an old Robinson planer from Taumarunui Timber but it had already gone to a local marae. Later he purchased one on Trade Me from Waipukurau only to find a tag saying that it came from Taumarunui Timber. It was the same one - which had been to Cambridge in the meantime!

all photos David Robinson



Colin Poole Ltd



All the Poole brothers, Hector, Ian and Colin were involved in trucking in and around Taumarunui from the 1940's to the late 1980's - *all photos John Poole*



Colin's first truck was a 1942 Chevrolet working for Carter's Mill



John Poole joined his father in 1971 carting livestock. Six months later the business concentrated solely on logging, which continued until the last forests were felled in 1989.



For the full story look out for the first volume of **From Low Gear to Overdrive** which will be published in the near future.

A highly desirable souvenir of the Taumarunui Borough Centenary.



With over 70 photographs, many in colour, informative captions and an index of personalities.

Price: \$46



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SOCIETY Inc.**

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roll back the years....



has been reprinted

The original 860 pages, compiled by Ron Cooke and published during the 1980s, is being digitised and will be reprinted as a series of six volumes over the next three years.

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