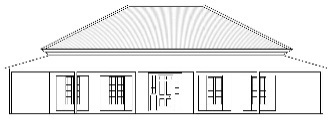
The Henry and William Williams Memorial Museum Trust

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New Zealand



**NEWSLETTER #8 SEPTEMBER 2017**

Dear Family and Friends,

The twelve months that have elapsed since our last newsletter have been very busy, with positive outcomes for the restoration of the Retreat. The roof replacement, which was signaled in the last newsletter has now been completed – a vast improvement on the old one, and now able to protect the interior from leaks. There is a bit of tidying up to do, painting and restoring a few areas in the interior that had been previously water damaged. Thanks again to the Lotteries Environment and Heritage Fund, and the JN Williams and Turanga Trusts for support for this work. Photos of the new roof are attached below.

We have also started work on replacing deteriorating window and door joinery that was unable to be completed in an earlier round, funded by the ASB Community Trust. This time the amount of work required exceeded our expectations – and so did the quote for the work. We are indebted to the Frimley Foundation who gave us a generous grant towards this latest project, which has enabled us to get under way.

Our plan, if we can find the funds, is to complete interior restoration in 2019. We are also looking at restoring a couple of cabinets that we believe date back to Henry and Marianne’s occupation of the house.

Once this work is completed we will have only a couple of large projects (including an exterior repaint) to finish before preparing ourselves for our role in the 2023 bicentennial. Needless to say, we still have more routine calls on our resources for on-going maintenance, such as the replacement of external plumbing to the house and garden, tidying up the occasional fallen poplar, and other works in the garden.

A couple of other things of significance: we have been in the possession of three plaques that come from the Henry Williams Memorial in the St Paul’s churchyard at Paihia. These plaques needed replacement due to heavy weathering. We have decided to mount the weathered originals next to the Henry Williams gravestone in the Pavilion in the Retreat garden- a quote has been received.

At the same time we decided to get a quote for the replacement of a dedicatory plaque mounted in the Holy Trinity Church across the road. It has long been acknowledged that the plaque, which refers to the erection of the church by Henry Williams’ sons, in memory of their father, contains incorrect information. Our role is as a facilitator – it is a Williams’ family issue rather than one for our Museum Trust. The cost will be around $900. Donations from family members will be welcome. Remember donations are tax deductible and we will issue an appropriate receipt. Cheques should be sent to our post box but for internet banking please direct credit the H & W Williams Memorial Museum Trust, a/c number 03 0518 0168756 00 – note in the transfer your name and put ‘donation’ in the reference panel.

Last November we held a very successful **Open Day**, which we are repeating this year on **Sunday, 5 November**  from 10.00 am – 4.00 pm. Everyone is welcome to come and see the exterior of the house in its garden setting and we particularly welcome family members who have never seen the property.

Our **museum** **web-site** ([www.williamsmuseum.org](http://www.williamsmuseum.org)) continues to attract attention, with regular visits to the site each week. Research for additional material for the website is ongoing and more will be added soon. From time to time members of the family have contacted us about items of Williams memorabilia they have in their possession, which they wish to donate to the Museum collection-either now or in the future. Please get in touch if you would like to contribute something

And again looking forward to the Bicentenary in 2023, for which planning is already underway, please remember to send us your emails (and changes of email) to keep our list up to date. We can be contacted on [williamsdescendants@gmail.com](mailto:williamsdescendants@gmail.com) or

[williamsmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:williamsmuseum@gmail.com)

Finally some news of interest to those who have been to the Treaty exhibition newly installed at the National Library in Wellington –and to others who might go there. A careless mistake in a video is derogatory of Henry Williams, who translated the Treaty into Maori for the signing. Caroline Fitzgerald drew this to our attention, and the relevant authorities have been alerted. Caroline and Professor Michael Belgrave, a Treaty expert, have been on the case, and the matter is already being attended to.

With kind regards,

John Andrews,

On behalf of the Trustees of the Henry and William Williams Memorial Museum Trust

21.9.17



