

## Mugshot Wall Research Project

The mugshot wall is a source of fascination for visitors to the New Zealand Police Museum and is the catalyst for interesting questions about topics as specific as fingerprinting, phrenology and criminal photography and as broad as New Zealand society in the 1880s.

Installed as part of the Museum-wide refurbishment in 2009, it has since taken on a life of its own. The mugshots are from a prison book in the Museum's collection dating between 1886 and 1890.

Following intense interest from visitors the Museum staff decided to undertake further research. To create a framework for the research the Museum embarked on an interactive project asking visitors to choose who and what to research. Visitors used post-it notes to pick the individual who stood out to them and to tell Museum staff what they'd like to know about them. Most visitors wanted to know what crime the person committed, but there were also more difficult questions asked such as: what happened to them after they served their sentence? Why did they commit the crime? Or, how did they get their broken nose?

The Museum is now undertaking the initial research to see which of the individuals chosen will make the best subjects for more in-depth research. From there Museum staff will be able to answer the questions posed by visitors and eventually profile some of the more compelling stories that the research reveals.

The sources for the research project include the Police Gazettes and the National Library's collection of digitised newspapers, which is available online at <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>. The research is being undertaken by Museum volunteer Peter Layne.

A few of the individuals on the mugshot wall are already featured in an online exhibition, 'Suspicious Looking', on the Museum's website. Check it out at <http://sites.google.com/site/newzealandpolicemuseum/>



Visitors were asked to choose the criminals they wanted to know more about and to ask questions about them.

# News in Brief

## New Zealand Police Museum Governance Discussion

In November 2011 a group of New Zealand Police Museum stakeholders were invited to join a discussion about the Museum's governance. Participants came from diverse backgrounds such as Police (executives and staff), the museum and education sectors, affiliated Police bodies, and iwi.

Discussions were robust and the future direction of the Museum debated. Everything from the Museum's location to outreach across New Zealand was broached. The Museum's funding and ownership of the collections were also discussed. Currently the Museum is funded out of The Royal New Zealand Police College budget and the collections are owned by the New Zealand Police with the Police Commissioner as their representative.

A proposal on the most suitable style and model of governance has been developed and submitted to the Police executive.

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## Collection Management

A comprehensive collection management policy has been developed, incorporating every area of the New Zealand Police Museum's collection and guiding the standard operating procedure.

In the past several policy documents have been used for individual collections. The new policy covers ethics and directs procedure for collection development, maintenance and deaccessioning. The policy has introduced forms for receipting items and a Deed of Gift. These are already being used to ensure the legal transfer of ownership. Another new form is used to acknowledge transferral of possession, so that if an item was issued by the New Zealand Police but is in private hands, then the possession is transferred back to Police.

Under the new policy, the Museum will no longer accept items on long-term loan unless the item is required for an exhibition or research. This will prevent some of the situations that have arisen where it was never made clear to donors that the item was accepted as a gift and that ownership had been transferred to the Museum.

# Prevention First

## New Zealand Police National Operating Strategy 2011-2015

The roll out of the Prevention First operating strategy has started to gather speed with presentations directed at Police employees nationwide. The key message is that New Zealand Police's primary roles have not changed, that is responding to and investigating crime and crashes, but Prevention First is about putting prevention at the forefront of everything we do to reduce offending and victimisation. It aims to achieve a 13% decrease in recorded crime and a 19% decrease in the number of cases entering the Justice Sector pipeline by 2014/15.

Did you know that 54% of all crime in New Zealand is perpetrated against only 6% of the population? Therefore, identifying those at risk of becoming criminals or a victim of crime needs to be done proactively, thinking ahead as to how we can prevent an incident from happening in the first place, or happening again. All Police staff are collectively responsible for implementing the strategy.

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## Museum's Contribution to Prevention First

So, how can the New Zealand Police Museum support this strategy? Quite simply we are in a unique position; we represent the most positive side of Police work by exhibiting cases of policing excellence. We also provide non-threatening education programmes that are easily accessible. We are working hard to buddy up with community groups and Neighbourhood Policing Teams, Youth Aid Officers and teachers in low-decile schools to target at-risk youth, and to invite them into the Museum. We are having discussions with those on the frontline to help us develop the most effective and safe educational programmes.

Over the last month we have worked with groups from Picton to Whanganui and the feedback has been very encouraging. One of our goals is to have these young people feel comfortable enough to come back and visit, bringing their friends and family with them, and enjoy being within an aspirational Police environment.



# School Holidays Success

The recent April school holidays were a resounding success at the New Zealand Police Museum. We reached a new record for school holiday visitor numbers with over 920 visitors during the school holidays. April 2012 has now toppled October 2011 as the busiest school holiday period with a decisive 24% increase in visitors.

Over the school holidays almost half of the visitors to the museum were children; an indication that our public programming is going down a treat! As well as our regular Junior Detective Mystery and other free public programming we also ran our daily Fingerprint Fun Holiday Workshops. These were extraordinarily well attended with over 230 children taking part; a 53% increase in attendees compared to when we first ran the workshops in October 2011.

Much of the success of the recent school holidays can be attributed to the many schools that featured our holiday programming in their newsletters as well as the word of mouth our happy visitors are generating.

We are already thinking about how to make the next school holidays an even bigger success – there will be new mysteries to solve and our workshops will be on offer again too. To get up-to-date information about what's on at the museum you can check out our online events listings at <http://www.eventfinder.co.nz/venue/new-zealand-police-museum-wellington>

*Roll mouse over filmstrip images to enlarge photos and see captions.*



*Click on image above to view video.*

## Programme Feedback

### **Bulls School 5 March 2012**

*Engaged students = happy teacher!  
I will tell others about this, excellent resource!*

### **Wainuiomata Intermediate (hosted by Constable Tony Shearer) 21 March 2012**

*Just wanted to say thanks again for the programme you ran yesterday, the kids had a blast.*

### **South Pacific Education 17 March 2012**

*Just a note that our classes love your guided tour of the police museum - they came back with excellent feedback and full of stories about what they have seen.*

### **Mission for Youth School (hosted by Youth Aid Officers, Wellington Central) 24 April 2012**

*As a first timer to the museum I was surprised how interactive it was and was very impressed with the quality of exhibits. The students that attended appeared to be very interested in what was being said and were very interested in participating in the interactive exercises.*

### **Brownies Group 1 May 2012**

*You were really wonderful and incredibly patient with the girls thank you so much. I loved how they were all hugging you like they had known you for years! Very cute and a great compliment to you.*

### **Waipawa School 8 May 2012**

*Great visit and a favourite of many students.*



# Happy Visitors at the New Zealand Police Museum

With such a wide variety of visitors we offer a range of public programmes to suit casual visitors and booked groups. Casual visitors with children in tow can grab a clipboard and complete one, or all, of our free activities for children including the Junior Detective Mystery or one of our Operation series. These activities are changed regularly to make sure our repeat visitors have something new to do. Casual visitors in the school holidays are also offered something extra with the option of completing one of our Scene of Crime Officer Workshops for just \$2 per child, where they will learn the techniques of the SOCO using real police equipment.

The Museum hosts pre-arranged groups; from primary and secondary schools to Probus clubs, car clubs and wing reunions, we do it all. Fingerprinting remains the most popular programme with primary school groups, while secondary school groups have been choosing programmes that link into their class work such as the Springbok Tour, Rainbow Warrior bombing and the Wahine disaster.

We are very fortunate to have the support of staff at the Police College and Police in the Wellington region. Lois Wong and Jude Johnston conduct tours of the Police College while the Driving Instructors host groups at their workshop and even demonstrate their skills on the skid pad. This is a real highlight for many groups! Occasionally the Wellington Police Dog Section has provided demonstrations and question and answer sessions for some very lucky schools visiting the Museum from out of town.

*Roll mouse over filmstrip images to enlarge photos and see captions.*

## The New Zealand Police Museum Activity Book

As well as our long-established Junior Detective Mystery, the Museum offers additional activities to suit all age groups. Families can come in, grab an Activity Book, and complete one, or all three, of our free activities.

Older children can attempt to unravel a complicated kidnapping plot in the latest Junior Detective Mystery, Case Missing. Younger children locate, trace and identify a series of impression prints in Operation Track & Trace and those younger still can follow a trail of mysterious and exotic paw prints in Operation Break Out.

New activities are developed every term and offer a fun and educational way to explore the New Zealand Police Museum.



# Traffic Policing Photograph Project

Exactly 135 traffic policing photographs have been catalogued, scanned and are now loaded on the Museum's Vernon CMS database. Volunteer Lou Forhecz dedicated 75 hours of his own time, coming to the museum for two and a half hours on Saturday mornings for several months to complete this project.

The collection includes images from the City of Auckland Traffic Department, Ministry of Transport and Police. While this project didn't include the entire Museum collection of traffic policing photographs it is a great start and an example of how a collection can be documented and cared for.

The project gave Lou an opportunity to show his strengths – his interest in the history of traffic policing in New Zealand and his computer skills. He also enjoyed the challenge of learning new skills in museum practice, including safe handling and archival storage and using the Museum's collection database.

*Roll over photos below to enlarge and read captions.*

# Museums Aotearoa Delegates Enjoy Visit

The theme for this year's Museums Aotearoa Conference was Collaboration in Practice. Wellington was the host city and so the New Zealand Police Museum participated in the conference planning. "It was a great opportunity to increase our visibility within the sector, and to show how innovative we are as a small museum," commented Museum Manager Rowan Carroll.

The Museum became part of the North West Bus Tour - destination Porirua - along with Pataka and the Porirua Hospital Museum.

The delegates were overwhelmed by the dozens of children taking part in our school holiday fingerprinting programme, and as a result many nearly missed the bus because they were having a go too.

They were also given the opportunity to test our new smart phone app Clue Done It. "We are perhaps the smallest museum in the country to develop this kind of technology," said Rowan. "Being small doesn't mean you can't be cutting edge!"



Museums Aotearoa Conference delegates learn about our Prevention First programming.



Museums Aotearoa Delegates learn about examples of Policing Excellence.

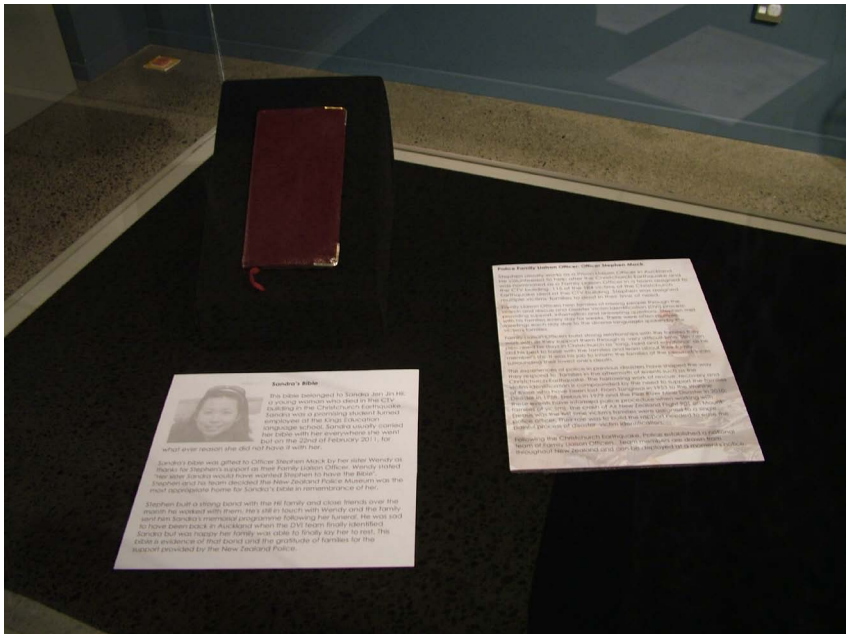
# Sandra's Bible

To date, the museum has had one collection object donated relating to the Christchurch earthquakes. This object, a bible, was put on display for the anniversary of the February Quake alongside its story.

The bible belonged to Sandra Hii, a young woman who died in the CTV building in the February earthquake. Sandra usually carried her bible with her everywhere she went but on 22 February 2011 she left it at home.

Sandra's bible was gifted to Family Liaison Officer Stephen Mack by her sister Wendy as thanks for the support he gave their family. Stephen accepted the gift but later offered it back, feeling that it would be better with the family. However, Wendy insisted and Stephen and his sergeant decided the New Zealand Police Museum was the most appropriate home for Sandra's bible.

Stephen built a strong bond with the Hii family over the month he worked with them. He's still in touch with Wendy and the family sent him Sandra's memorial programme following her funeral. He was sad to have been back in Auckland when the Disaster Victim Identification team finally identified Sandra, but was happy her family was able to finally lay her to rest. This bible is evidence of that bond and of the gratitude of families for the support provided by police such as Stephen.



Christchurch Earthquake display with Sandra's Bible.

## The New Zealand Police Museum now has a smartphone app

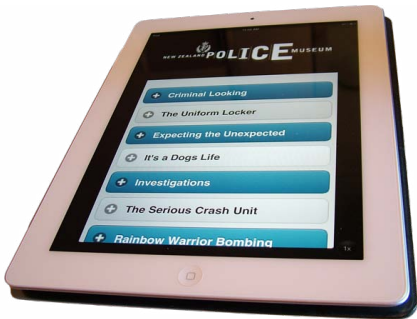
Go to the App Store and download Clue Done It

Check out this application on the App Store:



Clue Done It  
GroovyApps UK  
Category: Education  
Updated: 26 Apr 2012

- A great way to explore the New Zealand Police Museum
- Visual clues lead to exciting artefacts
- The app reveals layers of information; learn while you enjoy
- Collect points and earn a prize



# EVIDENCE OF HISTORY IN ACTION

Please contact us for more information and for updates visit:  
[www.police.govt.nz/service/museum](http://www.police.govt.nz/service/museum)

