

## Condition reporting at MOTAT

In August new Museum Manager Rowan Carroll and Collection Officer Sophie Giddens travelled to the Museum of Transport and Technology (MOTAT) in Auckland to assess 36 vehicles that have been on loan to MOTAT since 2005.

Condition reports were completed for all of the vehicles on loan. This is an important part of museum work as it ensures we can capture the condition of an object at a certain point in time. Condition reporting involves museum staff looking closely at each vehicle, taking detailed photographs and notes of the vehicle and comparing any damage or changes to previous condition reports carried out at intervals during the loan. The objects are being prepared for return because the loan to MOTAT expires in September this year.

A 1955 Humber Supersnipe police car was on display at MOTAT in an exhibition of British-made cars from the mid-20th century. It was very well received and a favourite among visitors and staff. Currently a Model T prison van can be seen in their "Scene of Crime" exhibition.



Sophie making notes about the 1955 Humber Supersnipe.



Sophie examining MOT motorcycle Honda CB750.

The vehicles on loan to MOTAT are Ministry of Transport and Police motorcycles and cars including the iconic grey HQ Holden Kingswood police car and a Mitsubishi branded with integration livery marking the joining of MOT's Traffic Safety Service and Police on 1 July 1992.

Several of the vehicles are significant because they are time capsules of technology used by police. There is potential for some of the stars in this collection to be returned to exhibition standard.

### Other vehicles in the Police Museum collection

The New Zealand Police Museum vehicle collection also includes two bicycles, one of which belonged to Wairarapa policeman Andrew Gregor. It is unusual because it had to be extended as he was extremely tall. The other belonged to Whanganui policeman Jack Wakelin. Along with a 1952 Velocette motorcycle these vehicles are in collection storage at the New Zealand Police Museum. However, when you visit the Museum one of the star attractions is the Honda CB650 motorcycle, which visitors are welcome to 'ride' on. It makes for a great photo opportunity! A horse drawn buggy of the type used to transport gold in the gold fields is currently on loan to the Manawatu Historic Vehicle Trust in Feilding.

# Farewell to Kamaya Yates... Hello from Kamaya Crawford

Having worked for the NZ Police for over 10 years, following a family tradition of serving in the Police and Fire Service, Kamaya resigned from her role as Museum Manager on 31 January 2011 to move to the West Coast of the South Island.

"It was my great honour and privilege to manage the New Zealand Police Museum and work there for 10 years. The museum has always been blessed with fantastic people and I really miss all my friends and colleagues! It makes me happy to know that the museum is in a safe pair of hands and I wish Rowan and all the staff and volunteers the best for the future," says Kamaya.

Kamaya remains passionate about the Museum and sees it as a wonderful resource for Police. The response to the Museum redevelopment she led has been overwhelmingly positive. The changes she made over the last five years have shown how the Museum can reassure and challenge the public about the role and calibre of Police, educate children and adults and interest them in policing as a career. She remembers asking one young chap if he had ever thought about joining the Police and he said, "Not until I came here I didn't, but this is cool", and another moment where a visitor who was overcome with emotion and in tears stated that being at the museum was "a wake up call".

Another example of how the museum has developed under Kamaya's management is its use as the setting for Solemn Undertakings and Attestations. "Where better to ask our new Police to be the best they can be - surrounded by the stories of Police who have ultimately put their life on the line to make a difference. Policing is an honourable and proud vocation and our new police officers and employees need to understand that their actions contribute to that tradition," says Kamaya.

Since moving south Kamaya has married her partner Tim Crawford, who is the Police Sub Area Manager for the West Coast. She also has a new job with the Westland District Council as a Communications Advisor.

"I'm going to be responsible for community engagement and consultation around the Council's Long Term Plan. The team I work with are really great and we are looking forward to an amazing LTP! (That is council talk for Long Term Plan.)

"I hope to visit the Police Museum for a coffee and cake next time I'm in Porirua. Put the jug on!"



# Introducing Naias Mingo

Naias joined the New Zealand Police Museum team in January in the role of Interpretation & Experience Officer. She came to us from the Air Force Museum of New Zealand in Wigram, Christchurch, where she held the position of Front of House Projects. This role saw her doing everything and anything from taking education groups and holiday programmes to organising events and public programmes, meeting and greeting museum visitors and championing sustainability! She and her husband have both relocated to the capital to take up new positions here.

Her first six months have already seen her host over 60 groups at the Museum, develop new public programmes, add two new cases to our regular Junior Detective Mysteries, boost volunteer numbers, answer countless enquiries and update museum policy and procedures. In the next six months Naias looks forward to the challenges of her diverse role and working with our new team. Most of all, Naias is looking forward to providing all visitors to the New Zealand Police Museum with an exceptional experience.



## New volunteers

The last six months have seen a fantastic boost to our volunteer numbers with Cerys, Sharon, Gemma and Lou joining the team. Cerys, Sharon and Gemma are Museum Volunteer Hosts and provide invaluable support to daily operations including operating reception and assisting with visiting groups and education programmes. Lou is undertaking a traffic policing photograph cataloguing project and is making great progress. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome them to the team and thank them for their generous support.

We have also been sad to see two of our volunteers depart in the last six months. Julie has taken up a position with a local business and Annika has moved to Australia. We wish them all the best in their new endeavours.

# Hammond family visits the Police Museum

Mayday! Mayday! Mayday! The distress call took on a deeper meaning for the Hammond family as they gathered on Sunday 1 May 2011 at Owhiro Bay and then at the New Zealand Police Museum to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the shipwreck of the SS Progress.

Through a display of bravery medals awarded to police, the Museum honours the two policemen Walter Hammond and Frederick Baker who helped to rescue the ship's crew. They were awarded the Royal Humane Society Silver Medal and the King's Police Medal for their efforts that day.

## About the shipwreck

The damaged steamer struck rocks at Owhiro Bay and broke in two. Crew members clung to wreckage in the sea and despite valiant rescue efforts four of the crew died.

Constable Hammond of the Taranaki Street Police saw that one of the crew had jumped from the ship and injured himself. Hammond warmed himself with a swig of whisky then swam out with a line towards two men clinging to rocks. He reached a nearby rock but was repeatedly submerged by huge waves. Although making further attempts to reach the men he was washed from one rock to another in the swirling water. He received a severe buffeting, resulting in injuries to his hands and back and abrasions to his legs, and he was finally rescued by a boat crew.

Hammond and Baker became the first policemen to be awarded the King's Police Medal for their bravery. The medals were presented publicly by Governor-General Lord Bledisloe at Government House on 6 May 1932 in recognition of conspicuous bravery.



Members of the Hammond family.

# Introducing Rowan Carroll

Coming to us from the North Otago Museum in Oamaru, Rowan Carroll is the new manager of the New Zealand Police Museum. Rowan has 20 years experience in museums, starting at Otago Museum in the early 1990s.



"I spent my early working life travelling the world and working in hotels and restaurants, but when my daughter was born I decided to launch a new career."

Rowan decided a Bachelor of Education degree, focusing on museum education, would be useful and when that was completed she started on her Postgraduate Diploma in Museum Studies. "I was really lucky at that stage to become the director of the Port Chalmers Maritime Museum. I developed education programmes that had students out on the water in a magnificent old whaler, and a really fun pirate education programme."

Rowan moved on to the Whanganui Regional Museum in 2002, managing the education team there and facilitating community liaison, public programmes, and marketing and promotion. "The opportunity to work in a bi-cultural museum was really eye-opening. I learnt a huge amount and it really established professional ways of working that I continue to use every day," she says. Rowan moved to Oamaru, and the North Otago Museum, at the end of 2006 and completed her masters degree shortly afterwards. The role of director there was a big challenge as the museum was quite run down. It took some time to establish positive ways of working, including policy and practice, and to upgrade the building and exhibitions.

Rowan believes the major work to be done at the New Zealand Police Museum is in the collections, which need a lot of care and attention. Fortunately the work that previous manager Kamaya Yates achieved with the exhibitions and public programmes means the public areas are current, informative and very user friendly. "I am really impressed with the changes that have been made in the exhibition galleries. Kamaya's team achieved a very creditable result."

# Medal care and recognition workshop

In March the New Zealand Police Museum hosted a medal care and recognition workshop presented by the New Zealand Defence Force and supported by Museums Aotearoa and National Services Te Paerangi.

It was an opportunity for representatives from museums, heritage organisations, iwi organisations, and others in the region to learn useful new skills and share ideas.

The interactive presentation by NZDF staff involved real medals with real problems being presented for participants to resolve. The workshop covered recognition and identification of medals, care of medals including security, mounting and display, and provenance and valuation for medals.

Presenters Mr Jack Hayes, Mr David Baguley, and Major Peter Stit shared with the group their passion for medals and military history. Their wide-ranging role in the NZDF is to improve the knowledge and understanding of the function that medals can play in “telling a story”.

*Roll mouse over medal images to view additional information.*



Mr David Baguley and Major Peter Stit discussing how ‘chatter marks’ result from wear on medals mounted together.



Major Peter Stit helping Museum assistants Sue Shaw and Megan Wallis (seated) identify medals in a set.

## This month in crime history

**8 October 1941** Stanley Graham disappeared into the bush at Kowhitirangi after shooting four policemen, a civilian and two home guardsmen. The situation had escalated after police called on Graham to ask him to surrender his firearms for the war effort. Two hundred searchers were involved and after a 12-day hunt Graham was found and mortally wounded by police.

**14 October 1979** The body of Christopher Martin (Marty) Johnstone, leader of the Mr Asia drug syndicate, was discovered in a disused quarry in Lancashire, UK. His execution had been ordered by a drug dealer, New Zealander Terry Clark. Clark had become very wealthy on drug dealing operations and was rumoured to be paying off witnesses for other murder charges. Clark was convicted in New Zealand of Johnstone’s murder and died in prison in 1983.

# School holiday fun

The recent school holidays had the Museum abuzz with activity. With over 615 visitors, including 114 on booked tours or programmes, visitation was up 67% on the last school holidays. Our ears should be burning; everyone’s talking about us and it’s all good! 70% of the visitors during the holidays had heard about the Museum via word of mouth.

Visitors had a great range of activities to choose from with something for all ages. Families followed a trail of ‘evidence’ and apprehended a (furry) suspect in Operation K-9, identified a series of mysterious fingerprints in Operation Digit, and unravelled the mystery of Case Panther! With all the usual favourites on offer including the uniforms and motorbike, a hit with big and little kids alike, plus free admission, where else would you want to be?!

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



## Fingerprint Fun Workshops

Come along to the New Zealand Police Museum and learn how to identify, dust and lift fingerprints like a Scene of Crime Officer! In this half-hour workshop our newest recruits will learn the tricks of the trade using real police equipment.

Wednesday to Saturday in the school holidays, 2pm. \$2 per child. Suitable for children aged 5 to 13 years, adult supervision required.



## Junior Detective Mystery

Pit your detective skills against our latest Junior Detective Mystery and see if you’ve got what it takes! Locate the evidence, identify your suspect, solve the mystery and win a prize!

FREE, available Wednesday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm, suitable for ages 7 to 12 years.



## Operation Digit

A series of prints have been left around the museum by a suspicious visitor. We need your help to locate these prints and identify them. They are important evidence in top secret Operation Digit!

FREE, available Wednesday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm, suitable for ages 5 to 10 years.



## Operation K-9

Museum staff have found some suspicious prints in the mornings when they open up the museum. Who could be leaving these prints when the museum is closed and locked up for the night? See if you can track all the ‘evidence’ and identify the main suspect!

FREE, available Wednesday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm, suitable for ages 3 to 6 years.

# Great feedback

We have been very happy to receive some fantastic feedback from general visitors and groups over the past months. Here is a selection of what our visitors are saying about us:

- “Naias, to the Museum staff, you wouldn’t credit it! Amazing! Previously intelligent, articulate young men and women reduced to kids in a dress-up box in a matter of minutes. Brilliant!”
- “Wow!! Thank you so much for your help, this is perfect for what I am looking for. This material will be of great assistance.”
- “If other groups were offered this opportunity they should take it with both hands.”
- “Fantastic. The kids really enjoyed themselves and learnt heaps.”

fashion Museum  
**BLACK IN FASHION**  
WEARING THE COLOUR BLACK IN NEW ZEALAND

A New Zealand Police uniform dating from 1951-1974 features in the *Black in Fashion* exhibition showing now until 24 October 2011 at Auckland's Britomart Precinct.

*Black in Fashion: Wearing the Colour Black* in New Zealand has been designed and realised by the New Zealand Fashion Museum. Timed to coincide with the Rugby World Cup, the exhibition is part of the Real NZ 2011 Festival.

The exhibition considers the questions of why and how black has become part of our identity as New Zealanders. The exhibition resonates with a wide range of visitors from New Zealand and overseas who are well aware of the representation of New Zealanders in black.

The New Zealand Fashion Museum owns neither a collection nor a building. Instead it seeks to tell the stories of New Zealand's heritage through pop-up exhibitions of garments from private and public collections and to bring those stories to life for a broad audience. Exhibitions are housed in unconventional but accessible spaces. *Black in Fashion* is being hosted in the Britomart precinct in Auckland and provides the New Zealand Police Museum with an opportunity to display objects from our collection in another context.

The uniform on loan from the New Zealand Police Museum includes an open necked tunic with flapped, buttoned breast pockets and cord epaulettes and a NZ Police badge sewn on the shoulder. The Police numbers would have been worn on the collar. It is shown with a helmet and regulation trousers.

In 1951 the whole uniform was redesigned in a style similar to that adopted by the British police a year or two earlier. Over the 1950s and 1960s some concessions were made to the comfort of the wearer during hot summer weather, such as short sleeved and open necked shirts and permission to wear shorts in some locations, but the basic uniform was still heavy wool and very uncomfortable.



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[www.fashionmuseum.org.nz](http://www.fashionmuseum.org.nz)

## 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)

  
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