

**Date:** Tuesday 28 October 2014  
**Time:** 9.30am  
**Meeting Room:** Local Board Chambers  
**Venue:** Pukekohe Service Centre  
82 Manukau Road  
Pukekohe

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## Franklin Local Board

# OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Waiuku 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WW1

Request to Franklin Local Board on behalf of the Waiuku WW1 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee for support

Background

Following the 2014 ANZAC Parade & Service in Waiuku a number of people suggested that community should form a committee of reps to try and improve items of ANZAC significance as part of the upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WW1

Committee formed April 2014 with reps from Waiuku RSA, Waiuku ANZAC Committee, West Franklin Community Trust, Waiuku Museum, Waiuku Theatre group and Waiuku Business Development Association. Over the duration additional reps have been added as ideas have developed

Projects in April 2015 for 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

1 – Restore, Sign write and relocate WW1 Honours Board from high on wall above stairs, and relocate WW2 Honours Board from Hall foyer into Main Hall located each side of the Main double door entrance. Install appropriate LED downlights to maximise access and visibility for all – Covered by this request for Lottery Board / Dept of Internal Affairs grant as both the Honours Boards and the complete Waiuku War Memorial Town Hall are now all DIA listed as “ War memorial” in register

2 – Cenotaph – Get power to cenotaph area to allow installation of power supply to run a portable sound system to improve involvement & understanding with ANZAC service attendees. If possible would be great to have lighting of cenotaph and back wall with in ground lights – This project is being discussed with Counties Power Trust

3 – Music Hall show – Waiuku Theatre group running shows for 1 week before 2015 ANZAC including a Gala Dinner show with catering by Waiuku Service Clubs

4 – Waiuku Museum – Open all week before ANZAC 2015 with special displays and with photos and details of servicemen and their family histories.

5 – Businesses – Special events all week leading up to ANZAC 2015 – window dressing, colouring competitions, 1915 Family business links to volunteers with window photo's & stories. Looking to re-enact the departure of the first 5 local's going off to camp on horseback (original photo in Waiuku Museum) with descendants of the families keen to be involved in re-enactment

6 – RSA Field of Remembrance & Centennial Tree planting - support the nationwide Field of Remembrance project with supply of and ongoing care of crosses till 2018. Consider the planting of 2 100year memorial trees in lawn area of cenotaph by oldest RSA members and youngest school children – plaque to be installed – trees to be registered as centennial on DIA War memorial database.

7 – Military Day – proposed on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> or Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – to combine GVR train, Re-enactment Army display, Black powder cannons, military vehicle displays, Army band, etc – permission from Waiuku Cosi Club to use their grounds with Club room open for food & refreshments.

Dan Lynch & Barry Gibbon  
Waiuku WW1 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee reps



Attention Franklin Local Board,  
Attention Ms. Lucy Ullich, Auckland Council Parks.

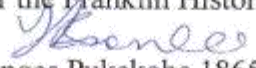
The year 2015 will be the 150<sup>th</sup> year of the Pukekohe we know today.

Though 13 ships brought settlers for the then Government's immigration scheme to our district in 1864-5 the encampment of Clipper Ship Ganges passengers at The Paddock on Pukekohe Hills lower slopes was most central to the town's beginning. Both Thomas Moore and the brothers James and William Preston of the Ganges opened trading stores across Ward Street and our first school was located where Ward and Queen Streets meet.

The Franklin Historic Society has adopted the concept of naming a  
"Clipper Ship Ganges Childrens' Playground"  
To Celebrate 150 years of Pukekohe as we know it.  
To recognize the cost to the early community of the loss of those Children.  
To remember what was a tragedy in a positive light.

The existing playground in the North East corner of Bledisloe Park is an excellent site favoured by our Society and by canvassed Ganges descendants. It is centrally situated and in constant use. The 'naming' here could be appreciated by Franklin people and allow newer residents an insight into the history of the town they have adopted.

To place a dedication plaque at the playground in 2015, our 150<sup>th</sup> year would be ideal. With the construction of the Bledisloe Society Building nearby and adjustment in the perimeters of the playground likely proceeding that may not be possible. The knowledge that the Franklin Hist. Soc. could when circumstances permit proceed to dedicate that playground is our imperative.

For the Franklin Historic Society  
 Tom Brownlee.  
Ganges Pukekohe 1865 Steering Group.

# Clipper Ship Ganges Children's Playground

Dedicated in 2015 in memory of the sixty children whose lives were lost from the 102 day 1865 voyage of the Ganges from Queenstown, County Cork, Ireland to Auckland, New Zealand.

## THE VOYAGE

Departing Queenstown, County Cork, Ireland on November the 4<sup>th</sup>, 1864, The Ganges was overcrowded with 474 passengers.

The basic provisions were procured from the very new meat canning industry, and especially digestible Sago and Arrowroot augmented the children's diet.

Time proved the quality of the preserved meat variable to the extent that many cans burst. On complaint from the general passengers the Captain allowed the issue the children's rations as dessert! Consequent to the Purser's laxity in this the digestibles ran out and so, for the last 6 weeks the children were on adult rations.

Whooping cough and a chest rash afflicted many of them. Tragically, of the 140 children who embarked or were born during the voyage 60 did not survive it's rigours, and the general debility of all the passengers dictated an extended 3 month stay where there was medical help, in the Onchunga immigration

## THE PADDOCK

In former times the 'Rohe' of Ngati Tamahōia; a garden clearing.

The Pukekohe we know today began with the encampment of settlers from the Ganges on what became known as 'The Paddock', that same clearing on the lower slopes of Pukekohe Hill. Even here mortality accompanied them and so The Paddock became the Cemetery. Only over time did their resilience allow their community to heal.

Difficulties in surveying allotments and the time it took settlers to clear some of their land for planting lengthened the life of the camp.

## THE GANGES

The Ganges was an American Clipper ship built in 1855 in Boston by Hugh Robert McKay. It was 1211 tons and was 200ft long with a 36 1/2ft beam. The 'tween decks were 9 1/2feet and the steerage area was divided into three compartments - single men, married couples and single females.

