

PRESENTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MANAWATU & WEST COAST A&P ASSOCIATION



MANAWATU AG EXPO 2025

FEBRUARY 22ND & 23RD 2025
MANFIELD PARK, SOUTH STREET, FEILDING

• GATES OPEN 9.00 AM DAILY •
 TRACTORS • STATIONARY ENGINES
 VINTAGE CARS • CLASSIC CARS
 TRUCKS • FOOD STALLS • CRAFT STALLS
 CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
 FARM MACHINERY • WORKING DISPLAYS

CELEBRATING THE BOOMING 50'S
 ENTRY \$15.00
 CHILDREN UNDER 16 FREE

AND 100 YEARS OF CATERPILLAR

• PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY •




Contact our Club - manawatu.vmc@gmail.com | ManawatuVMC

The Manawatu Vintage Machinery club in conjunction with the Manawatu A & P Assn. are proud to present the vintage machinery event. Every four years our club hosts this event celebrating vintage stationary engines; plant and equipment; trucks and tractors along with activities used to develop our country during the 20th century. Special to this event is the celebration of 100 years of the Caterpillar tractors with a large contingent of dozers, scrapers, graders old and new, playing in their freshly supplied earth pit. Numerous displays will take place in other areas. A children's cycle arena, vintage lawn mowing, tractor

tug o'war, food stalls, trade displays and a continuous commentary via loudspeaker will advise of events and display information. Manfield is an ideal venue with easy access off South Street for vehicles and walkers. Exhibitor entry off Kawakawa Road. Adults \$15 entry with under 16 being free. Opens 9am daily. *Information, thanks to Don Gates, MVC president.*

HAPPENING AT THE MUSEUM IN FEBRUARY 2025

**Last chance to see Michael Angel o's Art Exhibition
 February 15 , 2025**

Classic Movies: A few changes this year. The movie will be advertised at 'smoko', poster, Facebook and The Chronicle but please make payment at CHM front counter at least four days prior to the movie session. Costs may vary depending on catering requests but will usually remain at \$5 pp for most sessions in the Hunter Room with tea/coffee provided. **Commencing March ...**



Newsletter of The Coach House Museum February 2025
 In association with Feilding & Districts Community Archive

- One month of 2025 behind us already! Let's make this a better year than 2024. An overdue wish for all members and prospective members – **BEST WISHES FOR 2025**



**MAKE HAPPY MEMORIES
 AND ENJOY GOOD HEALTH.**

There are several plans to enhance the experience when visiting the museum. The legendary, Russian Jack (Barrett Krumer 1878 -1968), well known in Manawatu and Wairarapa, will soon be coming to the museum, hopefully for a long stay. A bronze statue of Russian Jack is in Masterton where he died. He spent three years in the Buchanan ward of Greytown hospital after initially being admitted to Pahiatua Hospital with frostbitten feet. It was felt, as he spent periods of his life roaming the Manawatu, he was part of this area's history too. Many Thursday smoko sessions have been spent discussing his exploits. Any photographs or information of him or places he slept would be appreciated. Len Gray is creating Krumer's story.

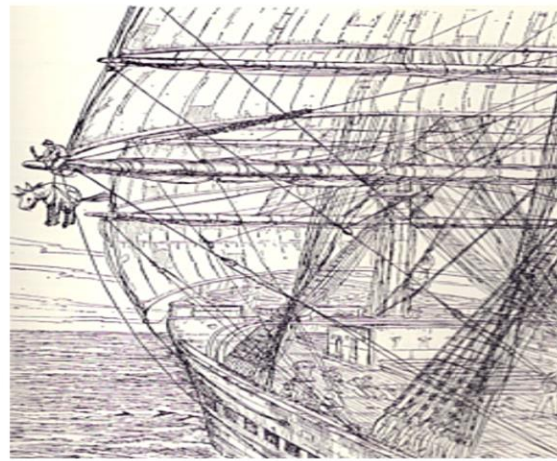
The carving of a Pataka is underway and should soon be a feature as one enters the museum. The totara log has been waiting for the correct person to do the carving. The ultimate plan is to include as many aspects as possible of Feilding and district

The Lanz Bulldog tractor has thump, thumped back into life after those with the knowledge required to restore old machinery succeeded with this project.

Selected entries from Charlotte Couchman's diary (thanks to Diane Vincent for enabling readers to share in the journey aboard the Arethusa to New Zealand in 1879). Extracts will be shared until Charlotte arrives in New Zealand, as there have been requests for more from her diary.

Thursday 25th September Another night passed in safety and all well. Thank God. We are now 4,000 miles from England nearing Cape Verde Islands. We are only halfway to the Cape of Good Hope and then we shall be halfway to New Zealand.

We see such lots of flying fish they are like herrings with wings – they come out of the water in shoals and fly along a distance and then dive down and fly out again like swallows. Dear Sisters and Brothers I hope you will all see my diary and read it and say my sister wrote this to us when she was on the sea on her 50th birthday. What a foolish old woman to go from England but I don't wish myself back again yet.



Sunday 28th We are preparing for our church service on deck. Inspection first and then prayers and singing. I Sunday 28th We are preparing for our church service on deck. Inspection first and then prayers and singing. I do enjoy it so much.
To be continued.

**What is a Dead Horse in nautical terms ?
Obsolete term used by seamen to describe the period of work on board ship for which they had been paid in advance when signing their articles. Having worked off the 'Dead Horse' the crew celebrated by parading around the decks an effigy of a horse stuffed with straw.**

**A traditional ceremony that marked when a ship's crew paid off their debt to the ship. The ceremony involved hoisting a horse up to the yardarm, singing a sea shanty, and then dropping the horse into the sea. 'flogging a dead horse' = futile effort.
Explanations thanks to 'Google'**

We have had fine fun this evening. The sailors have been riding the *Dead Horse* round the deck by moonlight – the procession passed round with their tins and drums three times and then drew him up to the yard arm and set him on fire.

At the same time a lighted tar barrel was thrown over and we could see them burning from miles away. The meaning of it is this. When the ship sailed from London Docks the sailors drew a month's pay in advance, so they have been working off a *Dead Horse* all this month. Now they have made away with the '*Dead Horse*' and are going on afresh.

Well, this is Saturday. 27th. I am sorry to say we are becalmed 300 miles from any land. We expect to cross the line tomorrow then I hope we shall catch the trade winds and get along better. This evening, we have had a grand concert on the main deck - 24 men all dressed like niggers with black faces came forward first singing a song they have composed themselves about the brave '*Arethusa*' and her crew. They were encouraged to sing it again and then came several good songs and recitations Acting the barbershop was a laughable farce. Well, it all helped to pass the time away – it was kept up until 10 o'clock.



Celebrating 100 years of the Caterpillar Tractors in 2025 .

This photo shows part of the New Zealand Caterpillar Experience, Rotorua. Lindsay Willis opened this exhibition in 2006 but it closed in 2013. The collection is now in Wanaka. Gough, Gough and Hamer became NZ dealers in 1932 and in 1937, 38 & 39 they topped world sales. Sold to a Malaysian company in 2019 for \$211 million dollars (unsure whether NZ or US dollars.)