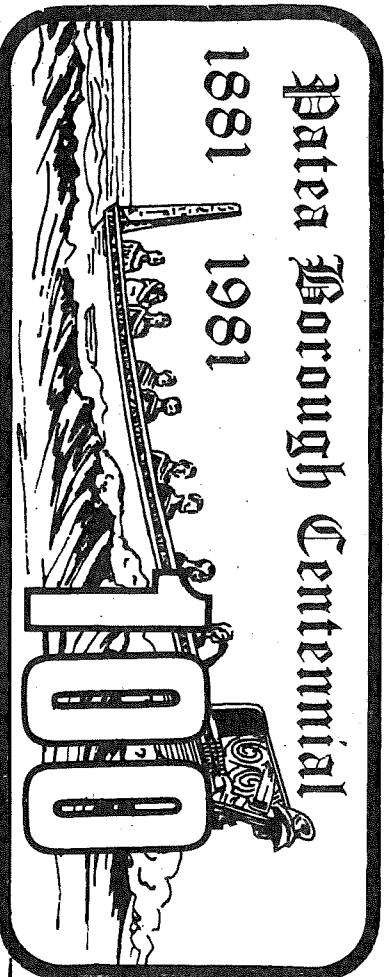


# The Pateta Mail

Official News Paper Published Weekly at 11.35  
Newspaper First Published April 10th 1872

PATEA THE GATEWAY TO TARANAKI WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th, 1981 No. 78



## FOURTH SECTION

# THE PATEA PRESBYTERIAN AND METHODIST CHURCH

settlement. The Rev. Isaac

Harding of Wanganui held monthly services in the Pateta District in 1867. After the Government sale of the Township of Carlyle in 1870 the Methodists were alert enough (as were the Anglicans and Roman Catholics) to get the free grant of a section for a church, in 1875. This was added to in 1876 by the purchase of the adjoining section for a Parsonage. The church was built in 1875 and the Parsonage (the 2 storeyed residence adjacent to the church) in 1881. Since the amalgamation with the Presbyterians in 1962, the church has been the Maori Methodist Centre.

The Rev. T. F. Reeve was the first Methodist Minister, appointed in February 1874. Services were held in the Billiard Room of the Albion Hotel or the Court House until the Church was built. The original circuit included Waverley and Hawera. In 1882, a second minister, The Rev. Mr. En-

sor was appointed, residing at Hawera. During the depression of the 1880s and after, much of the burden fell on the shoulders of the Rev. T. G. Hammond of the West Coast Maori Mission. From 1906 until 1953 Pateta

was separate from Hawera but rejoined at the beginning of 1953. On 10th June, 1962, Whitsunday, a special inaugural service of the Combined Presbyterian and Methodist Church was held in the Presbyterian Church. The Presbyterian minister was the Rev. Ivor McIvor and the Methodist minister, the Rev. Colin Clark, Hawera. The Basis of Co-operation has worked so successfully that the arrangement has every appearance of being a permanent one.

The Presbyterian Church in Carlyle also dates from very early in 1874, when the Rev. Neil McCallum took charge of the Pateta Parish, at the invitation of the Rev. John Elmslie, of St Paul's Church, Wanganui, under whose oversight the district then was, taking up his residence at Carlyle. The Parish extended from Kai Iwi to the Waingongoro River beyond Hawera, with six Church Committees situated at Maxwelltown, Waeroa, Carlyle, Kakarama, Manutahi and Hawera, each Committee contributing to Mr McCallum's stipend such sums as it felt able from time to time to afford. Under such an arrangement it is not surprising that his stipend was in a more or less permanent state of arrears.

In August 1874, Mr McCallum suffered the untimely bereavement of his young wife, and in May 1875, he made Waverley the headquarters of the Parish. There was no church building at any time during Mr McCallum's ministry. In April 1876, he resigned the charge, being followed in June 1877 by the Rev. R. J. Allsworth. Towards the end of 1877 the parish was divided at the Whenuakura River, Mr Allsworth remaining in charge at Waverley and the Rev. James Torry accepting a call to Pateta, taking up residence in Hawera in November 1877, a church having been opened there the previous January. It was during Mr Torry's ministry that the church in Carlyle was opened in November 1879, the two sections on which it stands having been bought in 1877. The Presbyterians were too late on the scene to obtain a free grant.

In 1881 the parish was further divided at the Manawapou Stream, into the Hawera and Pateta parishes. By that time the Waimate Plains were settled and added to Hawera, with services at Manana. The Rev. Alexander Thomson took over Pateta parish in 1883 and the boundaries remain the same today.

One of the more noteworthy Presbyterian ministers was the Rev. A. M. Beatie (1893-1898). He had been Moderator of the General Assembly in 1889 and was very proud of the fact that he had preached before Queen Victoria. His ministry marked the beginning of organised women's involvement in Presbyterian church work in Pateta.

In 1905 the first Manse was built and the first Session elected. In 1911 the Vestry was built at a cost of £150, largely contributed by the Ladies Society. These events took place during the ministry of the Rev. Francis Rule. In 1935 the church hall was built by voluntary labour, during the ministry of the Rev. H. B. Burnett. In 1958, the present Manse was dedicated, the original one having been sold for removal and relocated on a section near the High School in Kent Street, where it still stands. In 1963, a legacy from the Williamson family of Kakarama enabled an extension to be made to the Church Hall. This was built by voluntary labour and dedicated as 'The Williamson Rooms'. These events took place during the ministry of the Rev. Ivor McIvor. The present church vestibule was dedicated on 5th November 1971, to be the first stage of a new church when it becomes necessary to replace the present 102-year-old building. This was during the ministry of the Rev. R. J. Kerr.

During the ministry of the Rev. M. A. Aiken Centennial Celebrations were held for both churches, the Methodist in July 1974, commemorating the first quarterly meeting in July 1874 and the Presbyterian in November 1978. In June 1979, showing customary discernment and forward thinking, the congregation called a lady minister for the first time in its history, the Rev. Molly E. McClesney, the present incumbent.

### DINNER

The Borough Council is organising the official Centennial Dinner to be held in the High School Hall on Tuesday, October 13th, the Borough's 100th birthday. This is open to all past and present mayors and councillors, borough staff and residents of the borough. Tickets may be purchased from the Borough Office or from any councillor.

### PARADE

This will be led by the R.N.Z.A.F. Ohakea band and will include at least three Pipe bands and a brass band. Many floats have been promised, but more can be catered for yet.

The Wanganui Savings Bank have donated prizes for the floats, and the Pateta Mail is presenting Certificates to all children who participate in the Parade. There will also be prizes for the children — best fancy dress, best decorated bicycle, tricycle, pram, and anything else we haven't thought of.

### OTHER EVENTS

The Centennial Church service will be held in St George's Church at 2pm on Sunday, October 11th. This is a combined interdenominational service.

The junior Maori festival had to be cancelled due to the visiting teams not being able to visit Pateta on the day, but the local club will be giving a display at the Gala day.

The display in the Centennial shop has been changed and now features Von Tempusky.

Organisations who wish to have a stall may still do so, but please advise the town clerk no later than Monday, September 21st.

### HOBBIES

The hobbies display is set down for Saturday, October 17. This will be based in the Old Folks Hall, but other Halls will be used if required, and displays may be set up during the week if desired, and may be opened to the public if suitable "looker-afters", can be found. Please advise the town clerk if you want space by September 21.

### HELP

The committee will need a lot of extra help over the next few weeks. Would any one who can help please contact the Town Clerk by September 21st.

### DONATION

All these activities cost money, but with the exception of the dinner there is no charge to the public. There will be donation boxes at the Hobbies display and the Gala day and we ask the public to show their appreciation with a suitable donation.

### CYCLE RACE

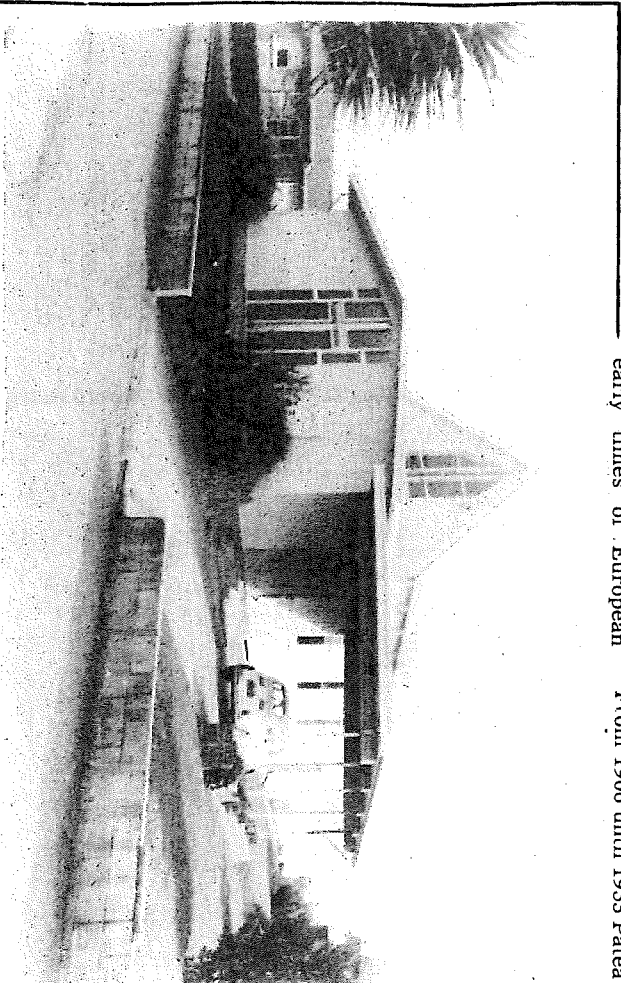
The Hawera Cycling Club are organising a race from Hawera to Pateta on the morning of the Parade, and they will join in the parade after the race, and present a message from the Mayor of Hawera to our Mayor.

### SEPT. 21st

If you want to have a stall at the gala day, enter a float in the parade, participate in the Hobbies display or if you can assist the centennial Committee in any way please let the Town Clerk know by Monday, September 21st.

### BEARDS

Mrs South Taranaki has been asked to judge the Beards and this will be done, with the prizes presented at the Gala day.



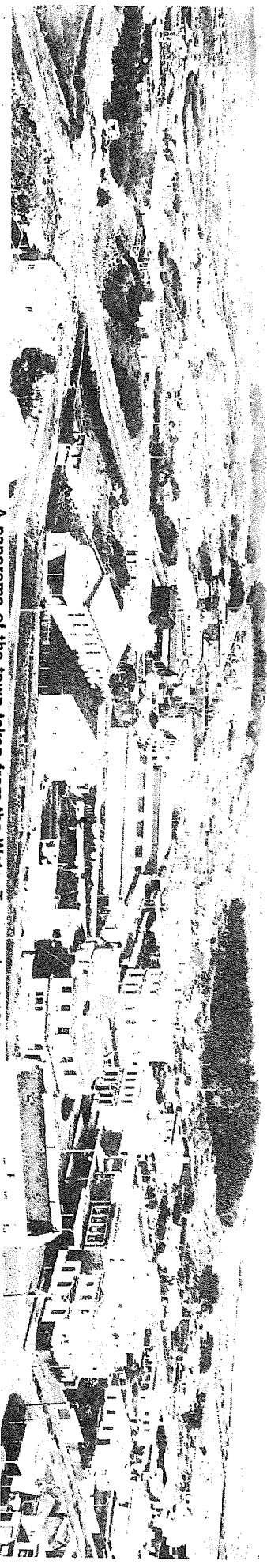
Knox Presbyterian—Methodist Church.

6 March 1916: The Mayor reported on a meeting of the Council with the Executive of the Patriotic Society, held to further the recruiting scheme. It was decided to engage a paid canvasser, the cost to be born by the Local Authorities.

8 June 1931: Public Meeting to be held on Monday 15 June to make arrangements for fittingly celebrating the 50th anniversary of the constitution of the Borough. Representatives of the Maori people specially invited.

## 112 Pages

Response to our request for articles for this special issue has been so great that instead of 100 pages we have to expand to 112 pages, giving us 100 EXTRA pages for our centennial issue.



A panorama of the town taken from the Water Tower, about 1920.