



September 2012

Fundraising Events for Heritage Centre

A heritage homes tour kicks off a very busy few months of fundraising events for the Waikouaiti Coast Heritage Centre.

The Centre's governing body, the Waikouaiti District Museum Society, is planning a series of events to boost the coffers of its redevelopment programme.

The Society is planning to build a new exhibition centre behind the current museum building on Waikouaiti's Main Street.

Once the new centre is complete the existing building will be refurbished and undergo structural strengthening before being reopened. It is currently being considered by the Historic Places Trust for a Category One designation, which will put it on a par with Matanaka Farm and St John's church.

Fundraising for the project began in earnest earlier this year with several events raising more than \$40,000. When complete, the project will be worth more than \$1 million.

Next month, the Museum Society's fundraising committee is holding a tour of Waikouaiti Coast heritage homes and properties. Nine properties from Goodwood to Warrington will be open for viewing on Saturday October 13 between 10am and 4pm.

They include both privately owned and public buildings, and at some the gardens will also be open.

Committee chair Judy Irving says such tours have been popular fundraisers for other groups. "People seem to enjoy looking around other people's houses. And at these properties there's the added fascination of learning how life might have been lived in former times without today's modern conveniences and appliances."

Tickets for the tour cost \$25 with all proceeds going to the redevelopment fund.

Judy says, "Many people are giving up their time to make this event a success. We are expecting people from all over the region to come along."

The ticket price includes Devonshire tea and details about the houses open for viewing.

Further information on the event can be found at the Heritage Centre website, www.wchc.org.nz (go to the events page in the redevelopment update).

Other events in the planning stages include a giant auction in November, a long lunch in December and a region-wide food festival next April.