The Explorer, the Doctor, the Whaler and the Priest. An Evening of Readings from 1840
Friday 16 October, 7pm
1840 was an eventful year in Akaroa - British sovereignty was declared at Green’s Point, the Treaty of Waitangi was signed at Onuku and a shipload of French and German settlers arrived to stay. Other travellers arrived in the harbour - explorers, whalers and officials. Some of these travellers recorded their experiences in journals and letters and some of these writings survived for us to discover them today. During this evening event talented locals will read from these documents, bringing to life the fledgling settlement of Akaroa in 1840.

The price is $15 and includes light refreshments.
- Start time is 7pm (expected finish 9.30pm)
- Venue is the Akaroa Bowling Club
- Tickets from Akaroa Museum - bookings essential. 03 304 1013, akaroa.museum@ccc.govt.nz

Walking Tours of Historic Akaroa with Historians John Wilson and Steve Lowndes
Saturday 17 October
The Civic Trust will host 2 - 4 walking tours of Historic Akaroa with Historian John Wilson and the Trust’s Chairman, Steve Lowndes. The walk will take in central Akaroa, starting at the French landing site, passing the Main Wharf and including the original site of the immigration barracks. The tour will focus on how people arrived in the town in the 19th century, by sea and by coach.

The Akaroa Civic Trust is working with the Akaroa Lighthouse Society and the Akaroa Hydro Generating Set Trust to organise three events for public and community participation on October 17 for an active day out in Akaroa. Numbers limited to 15 per walk. $10 per person.
Book with Rosie Davidson on rosiedavidson77@gmail.com or phone 021 1160259.
If weather is bad-cancellation date is 24 October.

Black Cat Cruises Celebrates 30 years of Cruising on Akaroa Harbour
October
Black Cat Cruises first started cruising Akaroa Harbour on the 26th October 1985. It was the vision of Ron Bingham who loved Akaroa Harbour and the Hector’s Dolphins so much that he decided to share it with locals and tourists alike. Recognised as the 1st ecotourism operator in New Zealand, Black Cat Cruises will be celebrating its 30th Birthday this October.

Check out their website for celebration details (including discounted tickets!) www.blackcat.co.nz

Akaroa Lighthouse
Open on 10 & 11, 17 & 18, 24 & 25 October. 1.30-4.30pm
The Akaroa Preservation Lighthouse Society will open the Akaroa lighthouse on those extra days. Discounted entry rates apply.

The Akaroa Hydro Generating Set Trust
17 October 4.15pm
The Akaroa Hydro Generating Set Trust will give a short public talk and demonstration of the restored equipment. Saturday, 17 October 4.15pm. No charge.
Contact person: John Dodgshun, Chairman. akaroaelw@vodafone.co.nz
The week preceding this talk and the week after, there will be an exhibition in the Orion Powerhouse Gallery, of vintage electrical equipment.
The Explorer, the Doctor, the Whaler and the Priest. An Evening of Readings from 1840
Friday 14 August, 7pm
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The Landing Day Luncheon Event
Sunday 16 August, 11.30am
Celebrating 175 years since the arrival of the Comte de Paris and her French and German settlers. The lunch will commence at 11.30am at the Akaroa Area School Gymnasium. It will include a finger food luncheon catered by Bully Hayes Restaurant, a short talk from the very knowledgeable Peter Tremewan about the settlers and the interactions of the time, a continuous slide show of historic photos and a table of memorabilia with items for sale.

The cost of this event is $30 and tickets may be purchased at either the Akaroa Museum 03 304 1013, akaroa.museum@ccc.govt.nz or by phoning Linda Sunderland on 03 337 5045.

At the conclusion of the lunch there will be a procession up to the Garden of Tane on Rue Jolie at 2.30pm.

Commemorative Tree Planting
Sunday 16 August 2.30pm
At the conclusion of the Landing Day Luncheon there will be a procession up to the Garden of Tane at 2.30pm when descendants will plant a walnut tree in remembrance of their ancestors and other hardy souls who helped contribute to the very successful settlement of Akaroa and Banks Peninsula. The walnut will commemorate the walnuts brought to Akaroa by the French and German settlers in 1840.

Any one is welcome to join in, and they will need to be at the Garden of Tane entrance on Rue Jolie at 2.30pm.

Commemorative Mass at St Patrick’s Church, Akaroa
Sunday 23 August, 9.30am
On Sunday 23 August Bishop Barry Jones DD of Christchurch will join the Parish at St Patrick’s Church to commemorate the first Mass celebrated at Akaroa on that date in 1840. He will lead the Sunday Mass at 9.30am and share some social time with all who attend. It is hoped Akaroa citizens and some local Church and Civic leaders will share in the celebration which will be part of the 175th celebrations.

Enquiries to Fr Paul Shannahan sm PP 03 304 7083, paulshan@xtra.co.nz

French Festival 2015
9-11 October
A celebration of all things Gallic, the festival embraces the unique beauty, culture and heritage of New Zealand’s sole French settlement and boutique destination. Visitors can delve into Akaroa’s 19th Century history while reveling in all the contemporary colour and fun that the 2015 French Fest brings to this harbour-side village.

The festival kicks off on the Friday night, 9 October, on Beach Road from 6pm with ‘Fête des Lumières’, an evening of lights and fire, music and entertainment.

On Saturday, 10 October, the day starts at 10am with the landing re-enactment at the main beach followed by the parade to the Recreation Ground where the official opening is held. Le Jour du Marché (Market Day) will run all day with food, entertainment, music and activities and a heritage area that is dedicated to educating people about the history of Akaroa.

On Saturday evening enjoy a French cabaret show, the 175th fireworks display and plenty of dancing and entertainment.

Sunday is a family sports day where Ki-o-rahi (a traditional Maori game that was taught to the French), a petanque competition, and the traditional French games will be held.

Don’t miss this biennial French Festival weekend!
French Fest is produced by the Christchurch City Council on behalf of the Akaroa Heritage Festival Society.

Service of Celebration for 150th Anniversary of St Peters Church in Akaroa
Sunday 11 October, 9.30am-11am
A celebratory Eucharist service will be held at St Peter’s Church in Akaroa to mark its 150th anniversary. Built from local Totara by Checkley, Bates and Newton in 1864, this beautiful Selwyn church features stained glass windows from England and one of the earliest pipe organs still in use. A Category 1 Historic Building, it has recently been repainted and restored to its former glory.

All are welcome to attend the service which will focus on the history of the church and its ties to the community. Enquiries to Allison Craw, 03 304 8482, alli-ivan@clear.net.nz