

## **Celebrating 175 years of Manchester Unity in New Zealand**

### **The importance of celebrations...**

Ever since the establishment of Manchester Unity in Nelson, celebrations have played an important role in the fraternal side of the Lodge.

For many years the Province's Anniversary weekend - 1<sup>st</sup> February - was celebrated with bands and street parades, and Manchester Unity was well represented on these occasions.

It is interesting to note that Nelson Lodge was established in the same year as the Province - 1842 - with only nine weeks separating the two events.



The end of the First and Second World Wars were also greeted in this manner, with floats being hastily created for the processions which wound their way through the city streets, accompanied by the sound of the music from the Bands, and the laughter and hand-clapping from participants and spectators alike.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee was held in April 1892 in conjunction with a Conference and Church Parade. The total cost of the 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee and the Conference was 45 pounds 18 shillings and 3 pence - considerably less than the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary currently being organised!

In 1942 there was another combined event with the 20<sup>th</sup> Movable Conference and the Centennial Celebrations being held in Nelson. Five hundred people attended a Memorial Service at the Majestic Theatre.

Following the conference a visit was made to the Cawthron Institute to view the many practical experiments taking place.

To be continued...

**Excerpts from the Booklet "Trials and Triumphs" -  
1842 to 2017**

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