

# GOLDEN GOSSIP

Issue #1 - May 2010

**Welcome to the first issue of Golden Gossip: the newsletter that will keep you up to date with the progress of the planning for Gabriel's Gully Goldrush 150th, a four-day golden celebration next March, with drama, music, historical tours, walks and displays.**

Here's an interesting fact: During the first year of operation 12.5 tonnes of gold were extracted from Gabriel's Gully – equivalent to around \$640 million dollars in today's world – with that bit of information, it is easy to understand the economic significance of the Goldrush and why this event is an important part of our heritage.

With only 10 months to go before this national celebration in Lawrence, the event office is busy completing funding applications and seeking sponsorship, to ensure the nation can truly celebrate the anniversary of the first discovery of payable gold in New Zealand. Interested in sponsoring and being part of this national event? Then contact Katy Macpherson on 021 154 5511 or email [jeanette.paterson@cluthadc.govt.nz](mailto:jeanette.paterson@cluthadc.govt.nz)



**Lawrence Town Hall Building C1900. Photo courtesy of Tuapeka Goldfields Museum Incorporated**

The Gabriel's Gully Goldrush programme is shaping up to be very diverse and suit audiences from the very young to the not-quite-so-young-anymore. One key focus of the event planning at the moment is on the Goldrush Heritage Centre, a large marquee housing an eclectic mix of historical displays, arts and crafts, giving the audience a true sense of our golden heritage.

For the Goldrush Heritage Centre, we are interested to hear from descendants and relations of the early goldminers and prospectors, or anyone who wishes to share their historical information on the Tuapeka Goldfields area. We would welcome their information/presence at this event and invite applications for consideration. Interested parties can download an application from the website for further details. We look forward to hearing your news.

People create our heritage but not all is written down. Sometimes stories need to be told to get a true sense of our heritage. Pioneer Stories is on the event programme and we want you to tell us your story from the Goldrush

days. Email us your story to [jeanette.paterson@cluthadc.govt.nz](mailto:jeanette.paterson@cluthadc.govt.nz)

The final event programme is to be released at the end of this year along with details of ticket purchases for various events. You'll hear about the programme release via this newsletter so send this email to your friends and family so they keep abreast of the plans. To sign up select the link at the bottom of this page.

Gabriel's Gully Goldrush 150th runs from 18th to 21st March 2011 and features drama, treks and walks, music, historical tours and displays, visual art and family games and fun. For more information visit the website [www.lawrence.co.nz](http://www.lawrence.co.nz)

Be part of this golden celebration, connecting the past with the present - Lawrence, NZ. Diary the date now - 18th to 21st March 2011.



**The largest load of wool brought over Raes Junction hill in 1880's. Driver "Bloom Leslie" with Alex Stiven and George Leslie by the horses. Photo courtesy of Tuapeka Goldfields Museum Incorporated**

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