

Report of the 'Celebrate our History' event held at Community House on Saturday, May 23rd:

Report by David Armstrong

As with the event two weeks earlier around celebrating our parks and reserves, this afternoon event was one that was already scheduled to take place - a monthly meeting of the Motueka and District Historical Association. The Association's meeting organiser kindly agreed to allow us to piggyback their event with the intention of highlighting to a wider audience the importance of recognising and celebrating our history while we look toward the future.

As it happened, the Association had already lined up a speaker who had a lot of experience and knowledge about the past operations of Motueka's port, which most people in Motueka recognise as a key part of our history. The Association is also preparing a book on the history of the Port, to mark its centennial early next year. Vision Motueka felt this made this event one worth drawing to the attention of the town more widely.

As a result of including the event in the Motueka 2030 program, and associated publicity with flyers on shop windows et cetera, the audience for the speech by Robbie Williams was about three times their normal audience for such meetings, being a record crowd of about 40 people.

The contents of the meeting, while very interesting, have nothing directly relevant to the Motueka 2030 program, and so the details will not be reported here. To read an account of the talk given by Robbie Williams, visit www.motuekaonline.org.nz/news/stories15/260515s1.html



Some of the audience at the meeting.