



Altar in St Paul's Lutheran Church,

## Church History

The original **St Paul's Lutheran Church** was built in 1864. The congregation commissioned the casting of a church bell from Hamburg, Germany, which was inscribed in German and named 'Anna', after Pastor Heine's wife. The church was built of kahikatea which became severely damaged by woodworm and was replaced in 1905 with the present day church. St Paul's, the very essence which formed the fabric of Upper Moutere.

## On your guided tour

- Examine the intricate hand carved wooden panel, depicting the traditions of working the land
- See the **Gottfried Lindauer** painting 'The Crown of Thorns' bought by the church from the artist for five pounds in 1875
- View the display of old photos dating back to 1853
- Hear stories and history about the settlers.

## Moutere Inn

The Moutere Inn was built on its present site in 1850 by Cordt Bensmann to provide a resting place for drivers, passengers and animals on the long haul from Richmond to Motueka.

## Wypersfontein

Wypersfontein served travellers to the Baton Goldfields 1860 -1879. This Inn still stands alongside the road at Neudorf, at the foot of Blackbird Valley.



Photos from top: Original Church, Lutheran Church 1905, Moutere Inn, Wypersfontein.

## Your Bookings Essential

Our guides offer their time voluntarily and donations from the tour go towards preservation of our heritage church building and cemetery. Tours available November to April or by arrangement. For bookings and tour prices please contact **027 779 6242** or [stpaulstours@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulstours@gmail.com)

Distance to Upper Moutere Village from Nelson 35kms, Motueka 17kms

**St Paul's Lutheran Community Church**  
Supplejack Valley Road  
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Phone/Fax (03)543 2839



**Lutheran Church of New Zealand** [www.lutheran.org.nz](http://www.lutheran.org.nz)

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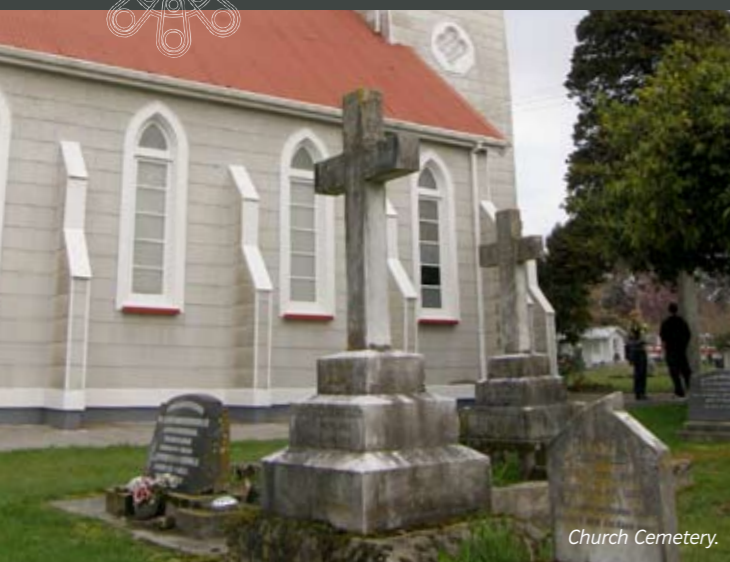
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# "Saranu"

Historic Village of Upper Moutere



Church Cemetery.



An Early German Settlement in New Zealand 1850

We welcome your visit and offer **Guided Tours** of St Paul's Lutheran Community Church and Cemetery.



J & A Heine next to their 15 roomed home.

# Settlement of Upper Moutere

In the early 1840's the New Zealand Company sought migrants from England and Germany to settle in Nelson and the outlying areas. The first European settlers in the Moutere Valley were English, and these were followed in 1843 by migrants predominately from Northern Germany. In 1843 the **North German Mission Society** sent **J.W.C. Heine** and three other missionaries to establish a Lutheran Mission Station to Maori. The house they built and their land at **St. Paulidorf** (now **Harakeke**) had to be abandoned due to repeated flooding. Heine was the only missionary to remain in the area. In 1853 he and his wife, Anna, daughter of Moutere innkeeper, Cordt Bensemann, purchased land in Sarau (Upper Moutere).

As for many pioneers, early life in the Moutere was difficult and largely subsistence. With hard work and commitment, a thriving farming economy and rural community developed, based on pastoral farming, pip-fruit, hops and tobacco. Descendants of the early settlers still live and farm in the Moutere Valley and German names continue to be found in the area.

## Upper Moutere School

Before the first school was built in 1857 on land donated by **Pastor Heine**, school lessons took place in the Heine's 15 roomed house. The name **Sarau**, which originated in Germany, was used until 1917. The present school was built in 1929, and consisted of two classrooms. A new school house was built in 1939-40. The original classroom of 1856 was towed by traction engine to its present site on the school grounds, and is thought to be the oldest classroom still in use in New Zealand.



As one drives into the village of Upper Moutere,

formerly named **Sarau**, the spire of **St Paul's Lutheran Church** dominates the picturesque scene, reminiscent of many European villages. Tranquil settings and peaceful valleys, a place where artisans get inspiration. Take time to look around the local crafts and meet the friendly community. Relax and enjoy a picnic under the trees in the church grounds.



## Legend

### Existing Landmarks:

- 01. Moutere Inn - Main Road
- 02. Lutheran Church - Corner Supplejack Valley Road/Main Road
- 03. Upper Moutere School (Sarau School) - Corner Supplejack Valley Road/Main Road
- 04. Moutere Hills Community Centre - Main Road
- 05. Domain and War Memorial
- 06. Moutere Hills Cemetery - Corner Gardner Valley Road
- 07. Neudorf Hall (now Bed & Breakfast and Sculpture Gallery)
- 08. Somerset Cottage - George Harvey Road, off Dominion Road
- 09. Wypersfontein (Neudorf Hotel) - Neudorf Road
- 10. Sarau Lodge (1878 School Teacher's home) - Main Road

### Historic Sites:

- A. Harakeke School site
- B. Central Moutere School
- C. Wills Road School
- D. Hewetson Timber Mill
- E. NZ Company Store
- F. Foundation of first Lutheran Church (1843)
- G. St. Paulidorf Settlement (1843-44)
- H. Green Man Tavern
- I. Anthony Crossroad (Prices Corner)
- J. Flax Mill / Mission Settlement

### Sponsors:

- a. Anna Barnett Pottery (3kms from Sunrise Road) - Follow sign at Sunrise Road
- b. Moutere Gold - The Old Post Office, Gourmet preserves and more, Main Road in village
- c. Moutere Motors - Main Road in village
- d. Moutere Store and Coffee Shop - Main Road in village
- e. Owen Bartlett & Katie Gold Pottery (1893 Bensemann home) - Opposite Supplejack Valley Road on Main Road
- f. Kahurangi Estate, Wine Cellar - Corner Sunrise Road and Main Road
- g. Himmelsfeld Vineyard, Wine Cellar - Corner Gardner Valley Road/Best Road
- h. Neudorf Vineyards, Wine Cellar - Neudorf Road
- i. Peg Leg Woodwork (1km from Blackbird Valley Road) - Neudorf Road past Blackbird Valley Road

- H Helicopter landing pad

Photos from top: Peace day celebration, Bensemann home, Hop harvesting, Upper Moutere School 1890.