



80 YEARS

Remembering the 'friendly invasion'

80th Anniversary of US Marines in New Zealand event in St Peter's Village Hall Tuesday June 21 2022

1pm Hall Open

2pm 1st Film screening

5.30pm Film screening

You are warmly invited to an 80th Anniversary event featuring two live screenings of Steve La Hood's new short film **Meet New Zealand** - show-casing highlights of the recently acquired **Norm Hatch Collection**. This short film introduces highlights of films and photographs shot in New Zealand of US Marines in 1943 by US combat cameraman Sgt Norm Hatch and his team.

The Kapiti Brass Band will play music of the day, we will serve refreshments and you can also see an **Exhibition of local WWII Marines photographs and memorabilia curated by Dave Johnston from the Paekākāriki Station Museum Trust.**

This is an opportunity to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of the U.S. Marines encampment in New Zealand during WWII and see the first public screening of **Meet New Zealand** – a collaboration between Steve La Hood and the Kapiti US Marines Trust with the aid of a grant from the **Lottery Grants Board**. Most of the footage has not been seen by the public and was restored in America and brought to New Zealand by Steve La Hood and the Trust.

Of local, regional and national significance the Collection shows: the visit of U.S. First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt to New Zealand; Marines being hosted at Whakarewarewa by Guide Rangi Dennam; training manoeuvres on sand hills and local beaches; concerts, dances and a wide range of other footage. Councils will be interested to see photographs of camps or facilities they've never seen before and members of the public will have a chance to re-kindle memories, share stories and enliven a shared history of 'the friendly invasion' from 1942-44.

The collection was gifted to **Ngā Taonga Sound & Film Archive** by KUSMT and launched on-line on Tuesday (14/6). Much of it will also be featured on a new KUSMT Norm Hatch Collection website to be launched next month.

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