

30.5.1955, contin.

"That Mr. Arthur Williams be asked to prepare a report of his services for the past 50 years, and that a recommendation be sent to the New Zealand Brass Bands Association, that Mr. Williams be awarded the long service medal."

On July 19, 1955, tenders went to C.E. Potterton, builder, of Thames, as the successful applicant., for demolition of the old Post Office and renovations and additions to the Courthouse. The work was organised in stages, so that the Justice Department staff could continue to have accommodation as building and demolition continued. The 1870 Courthouse was raised, and the levels of the additions organised to provide against floods. (Thames Star, summarised.)

(For the Court job for Justice Department, I was able to make tracing of the plans, kindly provided by the son of C.E. Potterton.)

25 July, 1955. Special Meeting, Monday, in Band Room.

"That H.J. Buckthought and E.S. Williams be appointed Trustees of the National Savings account."

#### "OPENING OF THE BANDROOM.

"The Thames Citizens' Band's new Bandroom, Queen Street, Thames, was officially opened, free of debt, on Saturday, October 8th, 1955, at 2 p.m. Official speakers were Mr. J.S. Brooks, Chairman of the Building Committee; Mr. S. Ensor, Mayor and Patron of the Band; and Mr. A.C. Tremain, Secretary of the South Auckland Brass Bands Association. The door was officially opened by Mrs. J.S. Brooks

Committee, BANDROOM, Tues., 18 October, 1955.

L. Beilby, D. Donnelly, H. Buckthought, A. Campbell, K. Brownlee, E. Wenham, E.S. Williams.

"That a record of the opening of the new Bandroom be placed in the Minute Book.

"That a letter be sent to Mr. and Mrs. Underwood, thanking them for the use of their piano at the opening of the Bandroom."

Three months leave granted to R. Wells.

"That the Committee make arrangements for a bonfire on Guy Fawkes night."

Special Meeting, Bandroom, Thurs., 27 October, 1955.

"That arrangements for Guy Fawkes night be abandoned.

"That a letter be sent to the Borough Council informing them that the Bandroom was ready to be vested in the Council, and requesting them to draw up the necessary documents to have same completed. It was also decided to ask the Council if they would be prepared to accept responsibility for payment of insurance of Band property."

7.11.55. "That the amount of £25, received from the Government grant, be placed in the piano fund."

"That the money in the Post Office Savings account be transferred to the Band account."

(The new Bandroom on the waterfront was close to an open space where members of the Thames Volunteer Fire Brigade, with which the Band had long had very friendly relations, held practices, if somewhat less tureful than those of the Band. While the Brigade naturally came into the news with matters like spectacular fires, both it and the Band tended to be taken for granted, like the sun and the wind, and therefore not to usually figure in the news.)