



*The Save the Karori Campus Group seeks to protect the interests of current community users of the campus, and to achieve a repurposing of the campus land and buildings that creates the most benefit for the Karori community and the city.*

**Save the Karori Campus Group Update 15**  
**13 December 2017**

**Ryman's Plans for the Campus**

We have now spoken with Ryman. They are sensitive to public opinion as regards their purchase and say they want to accommodate the clubs who use the campus while they prepare plans for development. Our first impressions are that they are open to a dialogue which we welcome, and being Christchurch – based, they are not overly familiar with the long and winding road that we have been travelling.

Ryman has 31 villages across New Zealand and one in Australia where it is expanding rapidly. It is one of NZ's largest listed companies with a market capitalisation of over \$4 billion and a reported profit in the last year of \$360million. The Karori project will be one of about 20 in development.

The proposed retirement village will be secured, presumably with a perimeter fence, and there will be no public access between Donald and Campbell Street. Ryman say they are interested in talking to us about not demolishing some of the campus buildings, especially around the Quad and including the Hall, and that they are interested in community access.

The small park will go, along with the courts and the cricket wickets. The prefab buildings and the gym will be demolished, as will the earthquake prone tall Malcolm Block. We expect Ryman will also want to demolish the Panckhurst Block with its extraordinary library, and also the Theatre Block, though they have said they are interested in discussing these with us. The future of the Waghorn, with all its craft facilities is unclear, and we have yet to discuss the Oldershaw music block and its facilities.

Ryman intend to visit Wellington before Xmas for a multitude of meetings especially with the WCC, and we presume Heritage NZ. We look forward to opening the conversation with Ryman and exploring how to maximise community involvement and outcomes from the development. We are not sure their senior managers are that familiar with the campus buildings and we will try to secure an opportunity to visit the campus with them.

We remind readers that heritage listing generally means that the building is protected in the District Plan and that demolition requires a proper consent, potentially with public hearings. The campus buildings are not listed, but their status is currently being reviewed by Heritage NZ.

Finally, it is now clear we have lost the netball and tennis courts, and we will soon begin discussions with the WCC on a long-term solution to replace them.

**PUBLIC MEETING 7.00pm Monday January 29<sup>th</sup>**

The Save the Karori Campus Group will organise a forum at 7.00pm on Monday January 29<sup>th</sup> to enable a general discussion of the situation. Please diary! Location to be confirmed.

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