NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY 9 AUGUST, AT 5.45 PM (Refreshments from 5.15 pm)
AT ST ANDREWS ON THE TERRACE, WELLINGTON CITY

The entrance ramp is to the right of the church. Take the lift or stairs to the upper floor.

Please come in time for a glass of wine before the AGM. The meeting should not take long and will be followed immediately by a talk from Barbara Mulligan entitled:

The Karori Cemetery and the 1918 Flu Epidemic

Barbara Mulligan, who lives next door to the Karori Cemetery with her dog (yes, the dog is part of the story) has adopted the cemetery as a special project over recent years. This has led her to focus this year on victims of the 1918 “Spanish” influenza pandemic.

In two months, New Zealand lost about half as many people to influenza as it had in the whole of the First World War. No event has killed so many New Zealanders in such a short time. Barbara has been involved in restoring gravesites and tracking down descendants of some of the 800 Wellingtonians who died from influenza between October and December 1918. There will be a series of events over the centenary to remind those now living in the capital of the devastation wrought by this pandemic and which affected so many families.

The Karori Cemetery is one of the biggest cemeteries in New Zealand and is a great asset to Wellington, not just as an open wooded space but also as an important heritage site containing graves of Prime Ministers and other leaders, memorials to tragedies and many other stories. Have you done the Penguin Walk? Have you met Mrs Chippie? Find out what else this cemetery holds and why Barbara feels so passionately about it as a treasure house of history.
Some views of Karori Cemetery. How many sites can you name? (Photos: Barbara Mulligan)
AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF HISTORIC PLACES WELLINGTON INC, FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 2018

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Sixth Annual General Meeting 2017*
3. Committee’s Annual Report – Statement of Service Performance**
4. Treasurer’s Annual Financial Statement*
5. Election of Committee
6. Appointment of representative to Historic Places Aotearoa AGM
7. General business

* The minutes and full financial statement are circulated separately to members with this email.
** See page 3, below.

Please bring to the meeting this newsletter and any other papers that will assist you for full participation in the discussion.

Note for item 5.

Current Committee members who have indicated willingness to stand for re-election are: Deborah Cranko; Peter Dowell; Sally Hasell; Nigel Isaacs; Christina Mackay; Vivienne Morrell; Ben Schrader; Felicity Wong. Under our Rules the AGM has to elect a minimum of six and maximum of twelve committee members. Office holders are subsequently elected by the Committee. We welcome hearing from other potential committee members who are interested in heritage issues and like working collaboratively.

Note for item 4 Annual Financial Statement

Statement of Financial Position to 30 June 2018:

Balance as at 30 June 2017 $26,434.41
Cheque account including net interest $7,202.05
Bonus Saver including interest $31.73
Term deposit 1 rolled over Feb 2018 $10,755.16
Term deposit 2 $10,000
TOTAL $27,988.94

Annual Committee Report July 2017- June 2018

Under our rules the Committee is obligated to report to its membership annually about activities over the past financial year. We are also obligated to report annually to the Charities Services on “service performance” so this report is designed to meet both requirements.

The Committee held seven meetings during the year. Twelve members were elected to the committee at the AGM held in August 2017 – the maximum permitted by the Rules and a very welcome broadening of the skills base. Office bearers appointed by the committee were: Chairman – Priscilla Williams; Vice Chairman – John Daniels, then Felicity Wong; Minutes Secretary – Vivienne
Morrell, then Sally Hasell; Treasurer and Membership Secretary – Deb Cranko. The committee was depleted by two resignations at the beginning of 2018. The appointment of Jamie Jacobs as Director of the Central Region of Heritage NZ necessitated his withdrawal from the committee, although we were delighted by his appointment. Sadly John Daniels retired about the same time because of ill health; his vast knowledge of heritage issues has been a great loss, both to HPW and the wider heritage community.

Two committee members were on the executive of Historic Places Aotearoa and reported on the HPA deliberations throughout the year. Four members of the Wellington committee attended the AGM of HPA in Timaru. An idea presented there by one of the local members, for Blue Plaques on heritage structures, is under consideration by our committee.

Membership numbers at the end of the financial year were as follows: 65 single members, 30 family members and 10 life members (105 in total). This is a slight drop from last year’s total of 111 members.

In contrast the figures for our website and facebook page show a growing audience and a considerable interest in heritage issues. On the website also is an expanding photographic library of historic places in the Wellington region. From July 2017 to June 2018 we had 2,954 visitors to the website (an average of 246 per month) making 12,925 views (or an average of 4.4 views per visitor). Last year’s figures were 10,970 views from 2,259 visitors. As at July 2018 we have 526 followers on Facebook (compared with 176 a year ago). It is interesting to track which issues attract the most viewers. One of our most popular posts was about the Nott House in Glenside, built around 1860, which reached 2,896 people. A post about demolition starting at the former Erskine College reached 1,630 people.

Advocacy issues have dominated the committee’s work over the year, with a growing number of buildings on the committee’s list for action. There has been good news and bad news. On the positive side the Cricket Museum Stand at the Basin Reserve is now likely to be restored by the City Council, while the transfer of Turnbull House to Heritage NZ has ensured its future. It is good to see the Harcourts Building now fully restored as an elegant mid-town boutique hotel.

The bad news however continues to dominate, the worst of which is the decision to allow demolition of the main college building in the Erskine complex. This is a listed Category 1 building and thus its demolition, within the context of the Special Housing Area legislation, sets a highly unfortunate precedent. Other buildings for which we have advocated include: the Marines Hall at Titahi Bay (now likely to be demolished), two houses in Rugby St owned by the Chinese Government, Nott House at Glenside, the ex-Teachers’ Training college at Karori designed by architect Bill Toomath and the former GHQ building in Buckle St still surrounded by containers and owned by the Ministry of Defence. Among other advocacy work, we submitted comments to the WCC on their ten year draft plan and more recently to the Ministry for Culture and Heritage on strengthening heritage protection. We also wrote submissions on three proposals for heritage listing by Heritage NZ – Athfield House and Office, Ashleigh Court Hotel and the Karori college campus.

HPW hosted four events for members during the year and in addition publicised other heritage events held within the Wellington region. One of our events, a talk by Ben Schrader on Residential E and the Saving of Thorndon was co-hosted by the Thorndon Society and such co-hosting might be a good option for the future. One major event during the year was the inaugural Wellington City Heritage Week held 23-29 October 2017, managed ably by David Batchelor, committee member of HPW. This week was an initiative by HPW which, together with Heritage NZ, put money into the development of its website and branding. Wellington City Council and Museums Wellington also provided support. David has reported that over 4,000 people in all attended these events.

Four newsletters were issued at quarterly intervals, sent either digitally or by post to all members. These contain news stories and commentaries about HPW’s activities and about historic places in the Wellington region, illustrating these when possible by photographs. These newsletters complement other written material put out by Heritage NZ and by the Wellington Regional Promotional Council (which funds Heritage Today – a bimonthly publication).
Comments by the Chairman

This is not a formal report but some thoughts about this organisation as I am standing down from the committee this year after eight years of helping to nurture HPW through its formative stages.

At an annual meeting of the Wellington Branch Committee of the then Historic Places Trust in September 2010, it became abundantly clear to me that if this committee was to morph into a stand-alone organisation of the type envisaged under pending Government legislation, some extra assistance would be needed. I therefore did a deal with John Daniels that he and I would go on the committee and stay on it until the transformation was completed. The smartest part of this deal was of course roping in the extensive skills and experience of John, especially in the key area of heritage legislation – mine being mainly a backing part. My tribute to John later in this newsletter tries to describe how much he has brought to this organisation and to the heritage sector in general.

All 21 branch committees of HPT struggled to make the changes required under the Bill, subsequently passed as the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014. Not all of them succeeded and of those which did become independent organisations, the Wellington society emerged as one of the fittest for purpose. It remains of considerable concern that probably only half of NZ is covered by regional NGOs focussed on heritage protection. Historic places in many cities and towns are at serious risk without independent and voluntary societies that can champion their cause. We in Wellington have tried to encourage other centres to form such groups and it is of great pleasure that Heritage Wairarapa was formed during the past year under the able guidance of David Kernohan. HPW is a regional organisation with responsibilities covering five local territorial authorities but heritage is really best protected by those in the immediate vicinity.

In the first few years of HPW’s existence, the committee was preoccupied with the legislative changes to the new structure, which is now workable although not entirely satisfactory at a national level. We have more recently been able to focus on the two main aims of our organisation which are to promote the identification, protection and conservation of historic places and to inform, advise and educate the public of their significance. Or, more briefly, to advocate and to educate. We work closely with Heritage New Zealand in both these areas but have the advantage as an NGO of not being constrained by Government policy in what we say or how we say it. There is the downside that like all other NGOs our volunteers have busy lives and cannot always give the time needed to issues of concern.

You will see from the committee report above that the advocacy work is taking up more of HPW’s time and attention. This is not surprising, given that Wellington’s heritage is under considerable threat from the new earthquake strengthening requirements. The recent decision to allow demolition of a Category One listed building shows how fragile the legal protections are, even for the most important of our heritage buildings. There are, however, encouraging signs that the current Government is willing to strengthen the legislation; our participation in a recent workshop on this subject indicates positive action is likely. Watch this space.

So this seems a good time to withdraw from the committee especially as those willing to stand again for election are a skilled and collaborative group who will cope ably with the difficult challenges ahead. I should like to thank all members, and particularly the committee for your support over the past year.

Priscilla Williams

John Daniels, Heritage Hero

John Daniels, Committee Member and first Chairman of HPW, died on 9 July 2018. The committee had decided at its meeting on 23 January to put forward to the AGM a recommendation of Honorary Life Membership for John who would have been our first such nominee. His unexpectedly early death means we cannot proceed with the recommendation but it is appropriate to pay tribute at this stage to his extensive work in the heritage sector and particularly to this organisation.
He was director of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust from 1971-1988, a position he held with distinction during a very challenging period for heritage preservation in New Zealand. During John’s 16 year tenure the breadth of work of the Trust expanded hugely. During the 1980s a property boom put very considerable pressure on heritage buildings and John led the Trust in many battles nationally to save significant heritage buildings from demolition. As well as achieving long term heritage protection for landmark buildings, he devised methods of providing heritage funding nationally to help local communities preserve the heritage character of towns. After retiring as Director he took up a senior policy role at the Department of Conservation, developing historic resources policy and assisting in the passage of the 1993 Historic Places Act through Parliament. From 1994-1997 John represented DoC on the Board of the NZHPT. In 2004 he was made an Honorary Life Member of NZHPT (now Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga).

Despite the demands of his professional career, throughout his life John put aside much of his time to serve the heritage interests of New Zealand in a voluntary capacity. His work in the voluntary sector can only be described as heroic. Organisations in which he was active included the Archaeological Society, the Onslow Historical Society and the Friends of Old St Paul’s. His work in respect of Old St Paul’s has helped to save this very important heritage building and ensure its viability for future generations.

One particular project of concern to John has been the preservation of Wellington’s historic cemetery, now known as the Bolton St Cemetery. During the 1960s its future was under threat from the construction of the urban motorway. John joined the Friends of the Cemetery in 1980 and was Chairman from 1983 until 1989. These were particularly difficult years as a land deal needed to be implemented. John’s leadership in the negotiations and his willingness to cooperate with all interested parties was fundamental to the successful completion of the project finally in 1990. John continued to serve on the committee until 2009, a record service of almost 30 years to an important part of Wellington’s early history.

John decided at that time that his years of voluntary service were over but when approached two years later he agreed to join the Wellington Branch Committee of Historic Places Trust in 2011 in order to assist with the challenging task of changing that committee to a fully independent non-governmental organisation as was required by the Government legislation which was subsequently passed as Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014. Over these difficult few years John had primary responsibility for shaping the role of the new organisation, Historic Places Wellington, and its relationship with the national body of Historic Places Aotearoa, as well as engaging with the Government on the heritage legislation. John stepped down from the chairmanship after passage of the legislation but took over the job of Treasurer for the next two years as well as serving on the Executive of Historic Places Aotearoa until 2017. In his latter capacity he wrote policies and strategies for this new organisation set up to provide a New Zealand-wide advocacy association for heritage.

In all of the above John brought to the table his deep knowledge of the heritage sector – both Governmental and non-governmental - drawn from his many years of work. Just as important was his personality as a team player who valued the contribution of others and worked as a leader to bring out the best in his colleagues. He was constantly encouraging, helpful, knowledgeable and supportive. In all this work he was ably and willingly supported by his wife, Jenny. We wish to
express our sincere condolences to Jenny and their three sons, Richard, Geoff and Robert, on the untimely death of their husband and father, a true heritage hero of New Zealand.

Priscilla Williams

**Advocacy update**

As our chairperson mentioned in her report, HPW has been involved in a number of advocacy issues recently. Here is the latest update on three of them.

**WCC Ten Year Plan**

As stated in the last newsletter, HPW put a submission into Wellington City Council’s Ten Year Draft Plan. We wanted the Council to boost its support for built heritage in the city and not reduce its Built Heritage Incentive Fund. On 24 May, committee member Ben Schrader spoke to a Council hearing on the plan and received a sympathetic hearing. On 27 July we received an email from the Council thanking us for our submission and informing us that it had been forwarded to the relevant official for review. We were promised a specific response in August. We will let you know what this is in due course.

**Karori Teachers’ Training College (Karori Campus)**

On 18 June we sent a letter to the Chair of Heritage New Zealand Board, Rt. Hon. Wyatt Creech, asking that Heritage New Zealand place a Heritage Order over the Karori Campus site. In May, the Wellington City Council had issued a Certificate of Compliance to the site’s owner Ryman Healthcare. This allows it to demolish up to 50 percent of the buildings on the site. Under present law a heritage building or place can only be protected from demolition if it’s listed in the local territorial authority district plan. The Karori Campus isn’t on the WCC District Plan. However, under the Resource Management Act (1991) a Heritage Protection Authority (like HNZ) can issue a Heritage Order over a historic place that is at risk of destruction. This protects the place for as long as the order is operative; places like Premier House in Thorndon were saved this way. We asked the Board to issue a Heritage Order over the Karori Campus until the site is listed on the District Plan.

In early July, the HNZ Board listed the Karori Campus as a Category 1 historic place, confirming its very high heritage values. If demolition does proceed it will be the second Category 1 place (after Erskine College Main Teaching Block) to be lost in Wellington. HPW continues to work with Councillor Andy Foster, Richard Bentley (Save Karori Campus) and other parties to encourage Ryman to think creatively about retaining both public access to the site and its existing built fabric.

We have not yet had a reply from Mr Creech.

**Strengthening Heritage Protection Workshop**

On 13 July, HPW Committee members, Felicity Wong, Sally Hasell, Peter Dowell and Ben Schrader attended a Ministry for Culture and Heritage workshop on strengthening protection for built heritage in Aotearoa New Zealand at the Pukeahu Education Centre. Other attendees included representatives from Heritage New Zealand, the Wellington and Lower Hutt city councils, other Ministry officials and architect Deb Cranko. The event was chaired by Stefan Corbett (the Ministry’s new heritage policy manager). He opened the session by making the point that the Prime Minister and Minister for Culture and Heritage, Jacinda Ardern, was a strong supporter of built heritage and wanted new ideas about how to better protect it. What followed was a roundtable discussion about what was wrong with the current heritage protection framework and how it might be fixed. Many of us made the point that Heritage Orders weren’t working and this needs to be fixed. There was also talk about whether to reform existing legislation, develop a National Policy Statement for built heritage, or even create a new Historic Places Act. Stefan and his team are holding similar workshops in the other main centres and we look forward to hearing what might be proposed.
Chapman-Taylor houses in Upper Hutt

In our May 2018 newsletter we included an item about heritage-listed Chapman-Taylor houses in Wellington. We had a query from a member about Chapman-Taylor’s houses in Upper Hutt. One reason we focussed only on Wellington is that Wellington City Council has a searchable online heritage list whereas neither Hutt City (Lower Hutt) nor Upper Hutt City councils do.

We have made enquiries with Upper Hutt City Council and found that it lists the following three Chapman-Taylor houses: Tweed House, Woodhill and Restormel.

These three plus two others are listed by Heritage New Zealand:

**Tweed House** (Category 1) 5 Brentwood Street, Trentham - [http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/4152](http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/4152). Tweed House was built in 1929-1930 and is considered to be a very significant example of Chapman-Taylor’s work in the Heretaunga-Silverstream area. The two-storeyed house was built from reinforced concrete with a plaster finish. Jarrah timber was used throughout. This is now Brentwood Manor and used for accommodation ([http://www.brentwoodmanor.co.nz/](http://www.brentwoodmanor.co.nz/))

**Woodhill** (Category 1) 71 Chatsworth Road, Silverstream [http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/4153](http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/4153). Woodhill was built in 1932-1933. Built in an open L-shape to face northwest, the plan is based on the ‘sun trap’ design that had been used extensively by Voysey in England.

**Restormel** (Category 2), 53 Chatsworth Road, Silverstream [http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/4149](http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/4149). In 1928 Chapman-Taylor designed this Arts and Crafts-style house and he and his son Rex Chapman-Taylor built it. Restormel is the second house to be built to James Chapman-Taylor’s ‘suntrap’ plan, which was essentially an open L-shaped design.

**House 1** Chatsworth Road, Silverstream, (Category 2) [http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/4146](http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/4146) Chapman-Taylor designed this Arts and Crafts-style house and Rex Chapman-Taylor built the house in 1939-1940.

**House 24A** Chatsworth Road, Silverstream (Category 2), [http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/4148](http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/4148) Chapman-Taylor designed and built this house as a country retreat for himself and his family. It is the first of a number of houses he designed and built in the Silverstream area.

**Upcoming Events**

**Lecture on ‘Exploring the Terawhiti Goldfields’ by Vivienne Morrell.**

Tuesday 25 September at 7pm. VUW School of Architecture, 139 Vivian St, Lecture Theatre 2. Doors open 6:30pm.

Terawhiti is the mostly rural area to the west of Wellington that most Wellingtonians would only know by flying over it or seeing it from the Cook Strait ferry. At various times from the 1850s to the 1910s the area was a site for gold prospecting – it is the lower North Island’s only example of a large area that includes a range of gold-related sites. Vivienne researched the history of this area for Heritage New Zealand (formerly Historic Places Trust) and wrote the report for the historic listing of the Albion Goldmining Company remains. Vivienne will give a presentation on the history of the area and, in particular, the goldmining.

Vivienne is on the committee of Historic Places Wellington and once a year teaches an evening class at Wellington High School called ‘City Stories: Wellington’s Architectural Heritage’.

**2018 Heritage Week**

This is being held between 22 and 28 October 2018. The programme is still to be finalised but initial information is available at the [Wellington Heritage Trust’s website](http://www.wellingtonheritage.nz).