



**FRIENDS of
BOLTON STREET
MEMORIAL PARK
INCORPORATED
PO BOX 2336 WELLINGTON**

NEWSLETTER No 56 December 2003 Editors: Nick Perrin and John Daniels

A Very Special Piece of Land

Morva William's bequest to the Bolton Street Memorial Cemetery is a very special gift from a Wellington identity who died last year aged 95.



Morva Williams and the magnolia tree in the block of land she gifted to the Memorial Park

Morva lived next to the Easdale Street entrance of the historic settlers' cemetery for more than 60 years, and gifted almost half of her property to the Wellington City Council before she died as she wanted to preserve the unique environment of trees and birds which she had created.

Morva a former teacher and librarian, was a great walker, and never owned or drove a car. She was a pioneer of organic gardening methods and the garden is a fascinating example of her interpretation of a subtropical eco system in the Wellington environment. The trees and plants including mature magnolias, nikau palms, taros and a papaya are a testimony to her composting and organic gardening interests. Morva derived great pleasure from her garden and the birds which she fed there every day. Woodpigeons were her favorite callers. To feed the soil she collected seaweed from Lyall Bay and to keep her magnificent *Magnolia campbelli* healthy she inserted a copper rod into the trunk in order to ward off x-rays from the local medical centre which she believed would kill the tree.

The plants will be appreciated by the garden staff from Wellington City Council, who will be in charge of developing and opening the area to the public in the near future.

This innovative and generous gift to the people of Wellington may be an example of how the park can be developed in future.

The Friends gratefully acknowledge the donation of all the subdivision survey work that was coordinated by Ben Schwartz. We also acknowledge Hannah Schwartz, "Organic" column, Dominion Post.



Helen Carey and David Dunsheath inspecting the land donated by Morva (Photo Neil Price, WCC)

Forster Goring (1810-1893) – Clerk to the Executive Council

Forster Goring, the fourth son of Sir Charles Goring, 7th Baronet, was born in London on 9 April 1810. On 30 November 1829 his father Sir Charles Goring made application for his son to enter the army by way of purchase of a commission, but it was not until 12 July 1832 that he joined the 1st Dragoon Guards at the age of 22 years. The price of the commission was £800 and this amount was lodged with bankers Greenland & Co. His rank was Cornet. For



some unknown reason Goring sold his commission and retired from the army on 23 January 1834. It is not known what his occupation was meantime but in May 1839 he was listed as a Cornet in the Royal Sussex Militia – his brother Harry Dent Goring being a Captain.

On 19 July 1839 he married the Hon Sydney Eloise, daughter of the 3rd Viscount Avonmore and on 20 August 1860 he arrived in Auckland from London with his wife and six children, on the ship Persia of 1684 tons, Captained by J. H. Smith.

In 1862 he was appointed Clerk of the Executive Council of the colony, in place of James Holt who had resigned. His salary was £150 per annum. In the civil list of 1871 his annual salary was increased to £250 and in 1874 further increased to £300. He retired on 30 May 1889 on superannuation of £150 per annum.

His wife Sydney Eloise Goring died at "The Cottage, Kaiwarra" on 13 March 1883 of paralysis.

Forster Goring holds the record for being the longest serving Clerk – nearly 27 years. As Clerk, Goring counter-signed the Order in Council dated 10 March 1869 instituting the New Zealand Cross. The Order was in breach of the Sovereign's prerogative as the "Fount of all Honour" and resulted in the Secretary of State for the Colonies informing the Governor Sir George Bowen that he had exceeded his authority!



Goring's name is perpetuated in a Thorndon street. In "The Streets of my City" F. L. Irvine Smith records that Goring Street, off George Street, cut through the property of Walter Johnston and was named after his father-in-law Forster Goring.

At the date of his death three of Forster Goring's family lived in New Zealand – Forster Yelverton Goring, later Colonel, Mrs W.W. Johnston who lived with her husband at Highden near Feilding and Barry Y. Goring. The other three children lived in England.

Forster Goring died in Hawkstone Street on 10 December 1893 and is buried with his wife in the Bolton Street Cemetery.

A.W. McCormick

Note- The Goring Grave is Block 33 plot 3, grid K15 02 on the modern map. It is 15 m south of the Wakefield grave.

We thank Mrs Jean Goring Johnston for the photographs.

We are a charitable society

Further to the Rule changes passed at the last AGM, the Inland Revenue Dept has approved our Society "for a charitable exemption" that qualifies us for various issues including:

- Subscriptions, and donations, over \$5 qualify for the personal taxation rebate (you must present your receipt at the time of claiming).
- An exemption from Gift Duty in relation to gifts to the Society [pursuant to section 73(1) of the Estate & Gift Duties Act 1986].

Please note that all receipts for all subscriptions and donations have now been posted to you, the majority of which were included with either the June 03 newsletter or this newsletter.

Your new committee

We welcome Priscilla Williams to our committee. Priscilla brings many interests and strengths including historical research and associated writing. Your committee currently comprises:

David Dunsheath:	Chairperson, Membership, Tour guide	04 472 8405 symbian@xtra.co.nz
Anne Brosnahan:	Bulk mailing	04 472 1333
Helen Carey:	WCC park liaison (maintenance & development work)	Helen.Carey@wcc.govt.nz
John Daniels:	Heritage conservation, Co-editor, Tour guide	04 938 7971 jr.daniels@xtra.co.nz
Judy Bale:	Heritage conservation & Works programme, Tours coordination, Tour guide	04 499 8588 Sommerfields@paradise.net.nz
Nick Perrin:	Burial list research, Co-editor, Biographies, Tour guide	04 472 3767 n.perrin@xtra.co.nz
Priscilla Williams:	Historical research, Biographies, Tour guide	04 977 4667 priscilla.williams@paradise.net.nz
Rachel Brown:	Minutes secretary, Friends promotion	04 473 0482 rachel.brown@wine-searcher.com
Warwick Greenwood:	Treasurer	04 472 3495 wjgreen@attglobal.net

Presentations

Nick Perrin has given presentations on behalf of the Friends, to the Kilbirnie Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists on 3rd September, and Wellington Branch of the Historic Places Trust AGM on 30 September. These provided an

insight into the researching of the Bolton Street Burial List together with Park history and biographical information.

Park tours

Park tours this year have been variously guided by Nick Perrin, John Daniels and David Dunsheath. Two tour tours were provided as part of the Spring Festival that netted substantial donations. Of these, the mid-week evening tour on 24th September proved overwhelmingly popular (estimated attendance of over 70) in spite of the blustery, moon-less conditions. It has prompted us to investigate the purchase of a portable sound system.

As a follow-up to Nick Perrin's presentation to the Kilbirnie Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists, they were given a guided tour on 5th November.

Park developments

Recent visitors to the Park will have noticed within the Jewish Cemetery area, the trial of a commercial cleaning process for headstones. John Daniels is co-ordinating the Friends, in partnership with the Council, to assess the success and inherent risks of this process, before more cleaning is done. We are working towards the future adoption of a suitable heritage conservation plan/guide that will strengthen the current intuitive approach to repairs and maintenance of heritage fabric.

Visitors might also have seen the Council's improvements to gravel paths adjacent to the upper end of the Dennis McGrath pedestrian bridge.

City Council liaison issues

1) The need for a fool-proof process for on-going administration of the Burial List, and associated updating of the paper printout in the Chapel, is still being sought after a further meeting in September. Meantime, the electronic version of the Burial List has been recently updated with all the amendments submitted by Nick Perrin to the Karori Sexton.

2) The Friends have drafted various material for the Council's proposed upgrading of its web pages, including descriptive and historical information for promotion of the Park. We have also sought to have a separate Friends webpage within the Council website where we can provide information and promotion material about our Society.

**Minutes of the 27th Annual General Meeting of the Friends of
Bolton Street Memorial Park (Incorporated)
held at Turnbull House
Wellington on Monday 7 July 2003**

Present

Warwick Greenwood (Treasurer)	David Dunsheath (Chair)
John Daniels	Helen Carey
Margaret Alington	Bill Alington
Mike Oates	Joy Dunsheath
Nick Perrin	Esther Einhorn
Anne Brosnahan	James Farmon
Karl Bale	Judy Bale
Rachel Brown (Secretary)	Priscilla Williams

The Chair, David Dunsheath, welcomed all to the AGM with particular mention of WCC staff present - Mike Oates, and Helen Carey (ex officio committee member).

1. Apologies

Jane Aim, Mac McCormick,

2. Minutes of the 2002 AGM (published in newsletter #54, March 2003)

Moved Warwick Greenwood, seconded by John Daniels that the minutes are a true and correct record of the 2002 Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park.

CARRIED

3. Matters arising from the previous minutes

There were no substantive matters arising from the minutes of the previous AGM. The ideas raised for action at the 2002 AGM and the 2003 AGM will be further referred to by the committee through the coming year.

4. Chairperson's report

The Friends have made quiet progress in the last year, which I hope will underpin tangible achievements in the forthcoming year. The Committee has met twice during the year to consider administrative and cemetery matters, and has published two newsletters (November 02 and March 03). At the time of writing we estimate a subscribing membership of 77, the majority of whom are fully financial up to 31 March 2004. We extend once again, our appreciation to members for their continued loyalty during the second part of our subscriptions catch up in March this year, which will return us to normality in April 2004.

We continue to maintain a dialogue with Wellington City Council on management of the burial list, Park promotion and other issues. The Council has progressed with grave restorations with enthusiasm, in addition to their enormously important general maintenance and planting work that is appreciated by all Park users.

During the year we established first contact with the Dunedin based Historic Cemeteries Conservation Trust of New Zealand. This may develop into a relationship that will help the Friends in conjunction with the WCC, to develop a conservation policy and guideline for the extent and nature of future restoration work to be undertaken on graves, memorials and other heritage items within the Park.

As previously reported, gifting of neighbouring land to the Park by the late Morva Williams is about to be finalised after two and a half years.

Our committee was strengthened at the last AGM with the addition of Judy and Karl Bale. My thanks also go to committee members Anne Brosnahan, Rachel Brown, Helen Carey, John Daniels, Warwick Greenwood and Nick Perrin for their various valued contributions during the year.

Moved Warwick Greenwood and seconded by Bill Alington that the Chairperson's Report be accepted. There being no further discussion the motion was put.

CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements

The Treasurer, Warwick Greenwood, spoke to his Financial Report and Statements (see below). Various matters were raised:

- The Society has sufficient funds to meet its current requirements.
- The Society is now paying for the accounts to be audited. In reply to a question, Warwick noted that it is good practice for this organisation to audit its accounts for the purpose of its credibility.
- One other comment was that instead of Profit/Loss it maybe more appropriate to use the terms Surplus/Loss.
- Warwick noted that it maybe appropriate to increase subscriptions in the future, as there has been an increase in costs over the year.

Moved Warwick Greenwood, seconded by John Daniels that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

CARRIED

6. Report by the Wellington City Council

Mike Oates presented an oral report on the activities of the Wellington City Council in the Bolton Street Memorial Park. His comments included:

- Tony Williams and Amber Wilkie both resigned about two months ago. Replacements are currently being sought.
- Grave restoration continues with the contracted help of Mr Bob Lamb. There is a need for future prioritisation. There is a management plan and conservation plan being prepared for the Karori Cemetery. It is appropriate that the same protocols operate in the two cemeteries.
- Possibility of developing some special tours, eg those whose lives was lost on the *Penguin*.
- Shortly there will be a press release on the gifting of the land at 2 Easdale Street. There are plans afoot for landscaping including a seat.
- Horticulturally, 45 new roses have been planted. Cleaning up behind the cottage continues. The conservation plan on the sexton's cottage needs to be revisited to ensure it is fully implemented.
- Management arrangements for the burial list database are still being worked on.
- Improving signage in the Memorial Park is still a priority.
- The redevelopment of the Begonia House will be opened in eight weeks.
- Mike emphasised the need for the Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park to comment on the Karori Cemetery Management plan when it is released.
- In the financial year 2004/05 the linkage between the Rose Garden and the Memorial Park will be improved.

7. Change of Rules

It was moved by David Dunsheath and seconded by Warwick Greenwood that the changes to the society's rules, as set out as Motion 1 on page 5 in newsletter no 55 June 2003, be treated as a block and that the changed rules be accepted.

CARRIED

It was moved by Margaret Alington and seconded by Warwick Greenwood that the changes to the society's rules, as set out as Motion 2 on page 5 in newsletter no 55 June 2003, be treated as a block and that the changed rules be accepted.

CARRIED

8. Election of Committee

Current members of the committee are available for 2003/2004 - David Dunsheath (chair), Warwick Greenwood (treasurer), Rachel Brown (minutes secretary), Anne Brosnahan, John Daniels, Nick Perrin and Judy Bale. All offered their services for the current year to the Friends Of Bolton Street Memorial Park. Helen Carey will again represent WCC as ex officio member of the Committee.

It was moved by Warwick Greenwood and seconded by Bill Alington that this Committee be elected.

CARRIED

9. Appointment of Auditor

It was moved by Warwick Greenwood and seconded by David Dunsheath that Terence Leamy be reappointed as auditor for the year 2003/04.

CARRIED

10. General Business

It was suggested that an update on the checklist of suggested activities from the last AGM, be updated to the members each year.

The meeting closed at 7.00 pm.

The meeting was followed by a presentation by Ron and Lorraine Clare, convenors of the Heritage Rose Society, and Helen Carey.

Originally roses were planted around the graves to prevent wandering stock from damaging the surrounds but many roses have since been added to the area and thanks to the work of Ron and Lorraine and the Wellington City Council Garden Staff, led by Helen Carey, the collection has been declared a World Heritage Rose site.

A list of the roses in the Park and a site map of their positions is available from the Tree House in the Botanic Gardens.

The best time to view this outstanding collection is during November when most of the roses are in full bloom.

Thank you Ron and Lorraine for your interesting talk.

Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements

A) Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 March 2003

		31 March 2003	31 March 2002
	\$	\$	\$
Income:			
Donations	213		390
Subscriptions - 2003	544		-
- 2002	86		434
Interest	-		26
		<u>843</u>	<u>850</u>
Less Expenses			
Audit fee	140		-
Bank charges	2		-
AGM function	106		72
Entertainment	-		200
Hire of meeting rooms	88		28
General expenses	-		40
Postage	127		-
PO Box rental	62		62
Photocopying	-		106
Printing and stationery	<u>79</u>		<u>-</u>
		<u>604</u>	<u>508</u>
Profit for the year		<u>\$239</u>	<u>\$342</u>

B) Statement of movements in equity for the year ended 31 March 2003

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
Accumulated Funds - at start of year	3,007	2,665
Add Profit for the year	<u>239</u>	<u>342</u>
Accumulated funds at end of year	<u>\$3,246</u>	<u>\$3,007</u>

C) Statement of Financial Position at 31 March 2003

	31 March 2003	31 March 2002
	\$	\$
Accumulated Funds	<u>\$3,246</u>	<u>\$3,007</u>
Represented by:		
Current Assets		
Westpac Trust Banking Corpn	3,007	2,373
Subscriptions owing	<u>468</u>	<u>634</u>
	3,475	3,007
Less Current Liabilities		
Sundry creditors	<u>229</u>	
Net assets and working capital	<u>\$3,246</u>	<u>\$3,007</u>