



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

NEWSLETTER No 52

JULY 2002

EDITORIAL

Various circumstances have meant that activity has been at low levels of visibility within the Friends in the last year, and we have to apologise for not having sent you this newsletter much sooner after the last AGM, but our work continues, despite appearances. We value your continued support to achieve our goals in the preservation and enhancement of Bolton Street Memorial Park. Notice of an annual general meeting will be sent out in 6 to 8 weeks. In the meantime we are enclosing invoices for membership subscriptions with this issue.

Also in this issue is the complete text of Margaret Alington's history of the Friends that was published in a shortened form in "New Zealand Historic Places" magazine, Number 82, August 2001.

In the last year we were sorry to note the deaths of two of our founding committee members- Anne Burnett on 1st September 2001 aged 82, and Lindsay Buick-Constable on 4th July 2001 aged 81.

Besides her participation on the committee, Anne could always be found in the Memorial Park picking up litter and was the leading organiser of headstone-scrubbing working bees. She was also very active in the Colonial Cottage Museum Society, and the Friends of Bolton Street were pleased to add their support to the nomination of the Colonial Cottage Museum Society, which gained an Absolutely

Positively Wellington Award for Anne several years ago. She was also an active member of the New Zealand Founders Society.

Lindsay was an active heritage campaigner, borough councillor, and JP. He was public affairs officer for the Canadian High Commission in Wellington for almost 20 years, and was awarded a QSM in 1989. He edited the Bulletin of the New Zealand Founders Society, and, like Anne, served for many years on the committee of the Friends from its inception.

Nick Perrin

"RESERVE V" MEMORIAL PLAQUE UNVEILED

56 individuals who had been buried in "Public Cemetery Reserve V" in 1890-1891 were moved in 1906 to make way for the formation of Anderson Park, and the location of their re-interment was subsequently forgotten. But after considerable detective work, and the use of ground-penetrating radar, we found them and managed to determine their names and dates of death. Some background information on each of the disinterred is held by the Friends. The bronze plaque (pictured below) is inscribed with their names and placed beside the grave at the end of Kinross Street. It was unveiled on 25 June 2001.

IN MEMORY OF

These "Vityals" persons who died between October 1890 and September 1891, were originally buried in Reserve V of the Public Cemetery (towards Tinsford Road) and re-interred on this site in 1906 to make way for the formation of Anderson Park. Please of the quiet earth, to you.

Name	Age	Date of Death	Name	Age	Date of Death
ALBRIGHT, Walter Leonard	34	15-04-1891	ATKINSON, Andrew	72	17-07-1891
BIDMEAD, Carlisle	71	18-04-1891	BARTLEY, George Victoria	13	17-08-1891
BODINE, Louis	46	15-02-1891	BATHURST, Susan	13	21-08-1891
BRADLEY, Alfred George	18	15-04-1891	MEYERS, John	12	20-03-1891
BRAD, Lucy Mary	7	21-03-1891	MILLER, John	31	14-07-1891
BRONSTADT, Niels Holsten	70	10-08-1891	MILLER, John	31	14-07-1891
BROWN, William Thomas	24	1-01-1891	MILNE, Peter	24	12-02-1891
BUCHANAN, Ellen Caroline	26	20-03-1891	MILSON, Charles	48	13-10-1891
CALLAN, William Richard	37	24-03-1891	MILSON, Alfred William	13	04-12-1891
COLMAN, Louisa Marion	24	24-03-1891	MORSE	11	17-03-1891
CROOKFORD, Christine	51	14-07-1891	PATCHING, Peter Henry	13	07-01-1891
DALTON, Janet Mary	64	18-02-1891	PETERSON, William	45	21-02-1891
FOOTE, Samuel Barton	17	2-09-1891	PIERSON, August	22	1-02-1891
FORSTYTH, James Montague	27	4-05-1891	RICKARD, Calina Emma	26	1-02-1891
FOSTER, Emma	44	14-12-1891	SPEARMAN, Olive Annie	17	10-01-1891
FOSTER, Hannah	61	10-10-1891	TAMURATHI	45	1-02-1891
GIFIN, Duncan	61	17-02-1891	TAYLOR, William Alexander Marjorie	34	21-01-1891
GOODET, John	adult	14-06-1891	THOMAS, Peter	38	23-12-1891
GRANT, Alexander	adult	12-02-1891	TROBENTON, Ann	47	22-01-1891
HAGGETT, Lancaster William Edward	54	17-08-1891	THOMAS, George Allen	16	14-01-1891
HODGUE, Arthur Edwin	24	8-07-1891	TOLLEY, Silvia	17	15-04-1891
MACPHER, Margaret	8	27-10-1891	TUCKER, Thomas	17	23-12-1891
JAMES, Maggie	21	7-03-1891	WALL, Hannah	46	1-03-1891
MACBEE, Winifred Alma	14	11-07-1891	WILLIAMS, R.E. (Miss James DEVEN)	32	15-03-1891
LITTLE, Mary Ann	62	1-01-1891	WILSON, Joseph	70	20-12-1891
LOHAS, William Vincent	36	20-08-1891	The following were moved to Tinsford Cemetery		
MACANDREW, William	21	21-05-1891	BOWEN, John Edward	40	10-09-1891
MACBONE, Catherine	96	10-01-1891	CAUDIN, George William	50	15-05-1891
MACDONALD, William	30	4-12-1891			

This plaque was erected in June 2001

Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Bolton
Street Memorial Park (Incorporated)
held at Cricket Pavilion, Anderson Park,
Wellington on Monday 25 June 2001

The AGM followed a ceremony for the unveiling of a plaque in memory of those who were disinterred in 1906 from Reserve V (where buried in 1890-91) to the previously unmarked, combined plot adjacent to Kinross Street. Reverend John Murray led the ceremony.

Present

Warwick Greenwood	* David Dunsheath
* John Daniels	Jenny Daniels
Margaret Alington	Bili Alington
** Esther Einhorn	David Luke
Frances Verrity	Jane Aim
Nick Perrin	* Hugh Fullarton
Marjorie Fullarton	* John Murray
Mac McCormick	Jan Fullarton
David Fullarton	Mary Runton
Susan Byford	Anne Brosnahan
Mary Love	Don Frew
Jenny Frew	Tony Williams
Michael Mulholland	Heather Williams
Leane Killalea	Keith Matthews

The Chair, David Dunsheath, welcomed all those attending the AGM and noted that four (*) of the Friends' five chairpersons were present as well as the widow (**) of the founding chairman.

1. Apologies

David Loeber, Vivienne Bogle, Annette Fairweather, Paul Ell, Wendi Henderson, Gillian Wellings, Diane Comber,

2. Minutes of the 2000 Annual General Meeting

Moved Warwick Greenwood, seconded by John Daniels that the minutes are a true and correct record of the 2000 Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park.

CARRIED

3. Matters Arising

Hugh Fullarton inquired about the amount remaining of the \$500,000 given to WCC to restore the cemetery park. It was noted that this figure is in the WCC report presented later in the evening.

4. Chairperson's Report

Margaret Alington's fascinating essay "*The Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park - the First 25 Years*" prepared independently of the committee, provides us all with a fitting conclusion to this past year and offers a fascinating read. It is an authoritative extension to the history of the Park previously captured in Margaret's "*Unquiet Earth*" spanning from 1840 to the mid 1970s.

The committee decided to review and update our twenty-five year old Society's Rules. It transpires that no substantive changes are needed as we continue to preserve, protect and develop aspects of the Park and its historic records. Details of the proposed changes are as notified in Newsletter #51 (a remit for the AGM).

The Society has approximately 80 members following a gradual decline over the years. With Rachel Brown's marketing initiatives, e.g. membership application brochures placed in the Chapel and around town, we have gained nearly a dozen new members to offset a similar number of resignations and deceased. The Friends web site developed by Nick Perrin last year, continues to provide a steady stream of enquiries resulting in further research as well as new members. Two newsletters (#50 and #51) were published this year.

The 'official' copy of the Burial List (installed last year on the Karori Cemetery records system) is being inevitably superseded by on-going research conducted under Nick's careful management and considerable knowledge. In conjunction with the Wellington City Council, a further step was taken to finalise the Friends' protocol and guidelines initiative for the reliable future management of the burial list. In this regard, voluntary assistance by Peter Quinn of Sievwrights law firm is gratefully acknowledged.

Our intention to generate a sustainable supply of biographical material under Diane Comber's stewardship for a monthly newspaper feature, is not yet fulfilled following Diane departure from Wellington. However, various contributions drafted by Mac McCormick, Frances Verrity, Diane and others are available for this purpose. Separate consideration was given to resurrecting a proposed pictorial book publication of the Park as originally drafted by Helmet Einhorn (our first chairman). No direction is identified at this stage other than to photocopy the material to ensure it is safeguarded in Turnbull Library.

A plaque-unveiling ceremony, to be held immediately prior to the AGM, will honour the 56 persons first buried in 1890-91 in the so called 'Reserve V' site and disinterred in 1906 to their current, unmarked, resting place near Kinross Street. Identification of each person and their exact whereabouts has been researched by Nick Perrin over several years, recently aided by Rachel Brown. My thanks to Anne Brosnahan and others for assisting with ceremony preparations and to past chairman, John Murray who will lead the unveiling service. We thank 'Bunches' of Lambton Square for gifting of flowers for placement around the plaque.

A 'works programme' of 80 conservation and restoration projects within the Park has been developed for sharing with the Wellington City Council, led by Wendi Henderson. It aims to identify priorities for a) enhancement of graves selected for their particular interest or merit, and b) management of vegetation that threatens damage to plots.

To complement the prioritisation and management of entries within the works programme, the drafting of a Conservation Policy is being led by John Daniels. It aims to provide a greater degree of conservation and restoration guidance to Wellington City Council than is currently available within the 'Combined Management Plan for the Botanical Gardens and Memorial Park'.

The committee has been grateful for opportunities to contribute to various Council projects as co-ordinated by John Daniels, including:

- Heritage Trail pamphlet
- Sextons cottage conservation

- 10 year Landscape Development Plan for the Botanic Gardens, Anderson Park and the Memorial Park.

An exciting and generous gift of land to the Park from Mrs Williams is progressing after a Council sub-committee gave conditional approval. It involves 200 square metres in the valley behind the Stafford & Tucker (Masonic) memorial located on the Easdale Street path. With its magnificent Magnolia tree and other species, this gifted land offers the opportunity to enhance that gully area over the years to come after suitable planning.

I wish to thank the committee for their dedication to the diverse issues we addressed at 7 committee meetings and between times. In particular I wish to acknowledge Rachel Brown for her timely preparation of the minutes that have spurred committee members to achieve our action points in a timely manner. My thanks is extended to out-going committee members, Frances Verrity, Diane Comber, and Wendi Henderson for their energy and support through the year.

David Dunsheath, Chairperson

Moved David Dunsheath and seconded by Warwick Greenwood that the Chairperson's Report be accepted.

There being no further discussion the motion was put.

CARRIED

5. Treasurer's Report

Warwick apologised for the small number of copies but the number of attending was more than expected. He also noted that subscription invoices were not sent out during the 2000/2001 financial year.

Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 March 2001

		31 March 2001	31 March 2000
		\$	\$
Income			
Donations	249		140
Subscriptions	460		356
Interest	39		39
		748	535
Less Expenses			
Bank Charge	3		-
AGM	61		55
Hire of meeting room	212		105
General expenses	297		-
Postage	41		101
PO Box Rental	62		60
Printing & stationery	144		195
		820	516
Profit (Loss)		72	19
Less prior year's unpaid subscriptions written off as irrecoverable		-	190
		(72)	(171)

**Statement of movements in equity
for the year ended 31 March 2001**

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Accumulated Funds - at start of year	2737	2908
Less loss	72	171
Accumulated funds at end of year	2665	2737

**Statement of Financial Position
at 31 March 2001**

	31 March 2001	31 March 2000
	\$	\$
Accumulated Funds	2,665	2,737
Represented by:		
Current Assets		
Westpac Trust Banking Corpn	2439	2616
Sundry Debtor - donation	-	35
Subscriptions owing	316	152
	2,755	2,803
Less Current liabilities		
Sundry creditor	90	66
Net assets and working capital	2,665	2,737

Moved Warwick Greenwood and seconded Jane Aim that the Treasurer's report be accepted.

CARRIED

6. Election of Committee

Diane Comber, Frances Verrity and Wendi Henderson are retiring from the Committee. The other members of the committee are available for 2001/2002 - David Dunsheath (chair), Warwick Greenwood (treasurer), Rachel Brown, Anne Brosnahan, Mac McCormick, John Daniels, and Nick Perrin. It was moved by Warwick Greenwood and seconded by Bill Alington that the existing Committee be elected.

CARRIED

It was moved by Hugh Fullarton and seconded by Warwick Greenwood that this meeting gives the committee the power to informally co-opt further members.

CARRIED

It was noted that the involvement of Wendi Henderson (WCC Team Leader at the Park) with the Friends was positive and it was hoped that her replacement will also join the committee.

7. Appointment of Auditor

Rey Byrne who has been the honorary auditor for 25 years of the Friends is prepared to continue with this task.

Warwick will convey to Rey Byrne the Friends' appreciation of his work.

It was proposed by Warwick Greenwood and seconded by David Dunsheath that Rey Byrne be appointed as honorary auditor.

CARRIED

8. Changes to the Society's Rules

It was moved by John Daniels and seconded by Bill Alington that the changes to the society's rules be treated as a block and that the rules be amended as set out in the newsletter.

CARRIED

9. General Business

David Luke noted that with the proposed granting of land at 2 Easdale Street into the Bolton Street Memorial Park some investigation of the possibility of burials within the granted land be investigated.

10. Report by Wellington City Council

Mike Oates presented the report of the Wellington City Council to the meeting as follows:

Major work during the year has included:

- ☐ Completion of the Seddon Entrance redevelopment
- ☐ Development of the Historic Trail with associated signage on significant sites. This project was started last year and will finally be completed in July.
- ☐ Completion of a conservation plan for the Sexton's cottage and work on the priority maintenance issues including replacement of rotting weatherboards and sash windows.

Headstone Restoration

Bob Lamb spent time working through the list of restoration of graves compiled by the Friends of Bolton St and Wendi Henderson. Some of the work completed was:

- Unfinished graves from last financial year on the main path- Top cemetery
- Reinstatement of 2 crosses- Lower cemetery
- Movement of some headstones back off main paths- Lower cemetery

Bob has now started work on graves behind the sexton's cottage, lower cemetery. He will continue with this in the new financial year.

Plant collections

The summer drought effected the cemetery as it did throughout the Wellington region. We lost a few old roses which have gone onto the winter replacement list. Plans are underway for the development of the garden outside the sexton's cottage as well as the front entrance on Bolton St.

More spring bulbs were planted around the place to add more colour.

Records database

Management guidelines have been agreed with the Friends of Bolton Street for the long-term maintenance of the burial records. These are now on line at Karori Cemetery and information can be accessed from there. A slave copy will be provided to the Friends along with software required to run it.

General maintenance

Continuing vandalism of the new path signs has prompted a look at their design. It has been decided to modify the design with the possible addition of another leg.

The top end of Powles Path from the Easdale Street entrance has been sealed.

The current status of the Early Settlers Memorial Park account is \$243,701.

Mike Oates
Curator Manager

Wendi Henderson
Team Leader Rose Garden & Bolton Street

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm

There followed a presentation by Nick Perrin on the investigation about the re-interment of graves from Reserve V to other space within the cemetery in 1906. Rachel Brown also spoke of the final part of the research to check the names, ages and burial dates of those reinterred.



Original Block Plan Showing location of Reserve V Reinterments

THE FRIENDS OF BOLTON STREET MEMORIAL PARK: THE FIRST 25 YEARS

In the 1960s, Wellington stood to lose a major slice of its visible history when the planned urban motorway entered the town's early cemetery. People up and down the country reacted strongly. Those with family members buried there were naturally upset, and the loss of so much green space within the city was deplored by the newly-formed Bolton Street Cemetery Preservation Society. In the 1970s, while the motorway was under construction, another group felt that, despite the destruction within this burial-ground, the remnants on either side of the motorway cut became doubly significant and every effort should be made to see that they were restored and cared for in perpetuity.

The decision to take the motorway through the cemetery was made by the Wellington City Council after consultation with the Ministry of Works and Development and the National Roads Board. The legislation in 1967 that allowed the motorway to go through the cemetery took about 1.5 hectares of a total of 3.3 hectares. Although the Bolton Street Cemetery Preservation Society (chaired by Professor J.T. Salmon) had not been able to prevent the motorway's intrusion, it did succeed in getting attention paid to compensation for the land taken free of charge and to designs for the restoration of the area. As a result, when the Ministry's plans for the area were made public in May 1965, they were favourably received by all, largely on account of the compensations and special aesthetic treatment offered.

The Ministry's plans included the commissioning of a history of the cemetery. This appeared in 1978 under the title, *Unquiet Earth*. In the course of its preparation the author was struck by the wealth of social history revealed on the headstones and realised that these must be saved at all costs. There were over 8000

burials covering Wellington society between the 1840s and the 1960s, and these were represented by about 1700 headstones. The first step in ensuring their survival was to transcribe all the inscriptions, with the help of local members of the Historic Places Trust and others. These transcripts provided a valuable resource as time went by, and were used in many ways for information about the graves. They were in existence by 1977 when those concerned for the future of the remnants came together to form a support group.

By courtesy of the New Zealand Founders' Society, a meeting was held at Wakefield House on The Terrace on 17 March 1977, and the Friends of Bolton Street Cemetery, Inc. as the society was then called, came into being. Their general aim was to help preserve, protect and develop the wooded and historic atmosphere of the area that remained as a cemetery-park for the benefit of all. This seemingly modest goal included making sure that compensatory land promised by the National Roads Board in 1965 was not lost sight of and did in fact become part of the cemetery-park. As events turned out, it came to include also the preparation and display of a list, required by law, of all those whose remains had had to be disinterred. In working towards these aims, the Friends saw themselves as a support group to the two institutions involved with the immediate future of the area, the Wellington City Council (WCC) which administered it, and the Ministry of Works and Development (MWD) which was responsible for restoring the ground once the cemetery section of the motorway was completed in May 1978. Both needed guidance and help from time to time on historical matters, which the Friends were able to supply.

It needs to be said at the outset that the Friends society, which was incorporated, was very fortunate in its chairpersons. The first was Helmut Einhorn (1977-80), retired senior architect and town planner with the MWD who had been responsible for much of the design and landscaping for the motorway and for the projected piazza across the motorway. He was followed by Hugh A. Fullarton, CMG, (1980-83), who before his retirement had been District Commissioner of Works during the construction of the motorway. His knowledge, insights and perseverance during the land negotiations were invaluable. John R.S. Daniels (1983-89) was director of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and experienced in dealing with government departments. He has served on the committee since 1979. The Very Revd John S. Murray (1989-90) was the minister at St Andrew's Church on The Terrace and a concerned neighbour. He saw to it that the opening of the finished park was conducted with dignity and appropriate ceremony. N.D. (Nick) Perrin (1990-99), a geologist with computer skills, made an extra-ordinary contribution by spending his ten years coordinating, producing and checking the burial list. The current chairman is David H.J. Dunsheath (1999-), neighbour to the cemetery and a long-serving member of the committee who has also been a secretary. All these chairmen contributed also, in the early years, to cemetery work-days, which included scrubbing dirty headstones and digging out noxious weeds. Helmut Einhorn, with his drawing skills, sketched scattered fragments of broken headstones in the storage areas so that the stones could be repaired and saved. In addition to David Dunsheath, other secretaries were David Kiddey, Barbara Pohl, Vivienne Bogle, Betty Krebs, Christine McGrath, Sue Upton and Frances Verrity. A.W. (Mac) McCormick was a loyal treasurer who also carried out research that was published in the newsletter. The auditor for the entire 25 years was Rey

Byrne. Members of the original committee in addition to Helmut Einhorn were Margaret Alington, Lindsay Buick-Constable, Anne Burnett, Alan Fleming (deputy-chair), Genny Fraser (treasurer), David Kiddey (secretary), Betty Krebs, A.W. McCormick, and Lady Eileen Powles. Anne Burnett always carried a plastic bag with her into the cemetery and picked up the ever-present rubbish blown about by the wind. A small society, the membership did not rise above 100 or so, many of them resident outside Wellington.

In the beginning, it seemed important to demonstrate to the authorities and to the public that there were people who took the survival of the remnants of this historic cemetery very seriously and who were prepared to put in some time clearing debris and noxious weeds from the remaining graves, cleaning headstones and painting iron grave fences. What was achieved in this respect by a few amateurs on a series of workdays in the weekends was probably minimal in the face of the rank growth that had accumulated during the years of motorway construction, but the enthusiasm and the determination shown were important. The mayor, Sir Michael Fowler, showed interest, and several organisations came to their aid including the local Rotarians, the National Council of Women, the history group of the New Zealand Federation of University Women, as well as the local members of the Historic Places Trust. Many individuals with family graves in the cemetery, both Maori and Pakeha, showed keen appreciation that something creative was being done following the devastation. Over the years the Friends, working in co-operation with the Parks Department of the WCC, sought to make the area more intelligible and attractive to the general public who do not respond readily to the idea of a cemetery as a place to visit for pleasure. An important step in maintenance took place when Ian D. Galloway, director of parks, arranged for the area to be designated an historic reserve

rather than a cemetery. His staff could then assume the care of the total area and not just the paths. The name was changed in 1990 to the Bolton Street Memorial Park, and soon after the Friends brought their name into line to become Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park, Inc.

Among the maintenance and interpretative matters to which the Friends contributed with their knowledge of the area were the naming of the paths, photographing the undisturbed graves in the remnants, biographical research based on the transcripts, identifying the Maori graves (the work of Lady Fleming assisted by Maori), guided tours, a guide leaflet, wording for bronze plaques for special features, an annual inspection with the Director of Parks, a permanent display on the cemetery's history, a map and index of the graves (WCC Map B217) and measuring the removed headstones for the MWD architect responsible for the arrangement of the stones back in the park. Many hours were spent with the foreman of works during this restoration, making sure that every stone (there were about 1000) was returned to its appropriate part of the park, depending on whether it had come from the old Anglican cemetery or the old public cemetery. This process was carried out scrupulously by the MWD with the Friends' help, one of the happier results being the 'discovery' of the stone of W.R. Tyrrell (died 1841), which proved to be the earliest surviving headstone. Concurrently with all these projects, was the major one of the acquisition of the strip of land along the eastern boundary of the old cemetery (Mowbray Street), then owned by the Dairy and Meat Producer Boards, the WCC and the Reserve Bank and used as a car park. A further section was occupied by the University Grants Committee (UGC) building. These were formidable groups with which to do business.

As personnel in WCC and government offices changed over the years, the

compensatory land of the 1965 plan for the cemetery's future tended to recede into the background and almost certainly would have been forgotten had it not been for the Friends under the knowledgeable and watchful eye of their chairpersons. Helmut Einhorn, while in the MWD, had been part of the design team that drew up the 1965 plan and Hugh Fullarton, as District Commissioner of Works knew exactly what had been intended, but ensuring that the intentions were carried out two decades later proved to be a daunting and demanding task. Hugh Fullarton in particular spent his term as chairman tirelessly leading deputation after deputation of Friends to Ministers of the Crown, Members of Parliament, the National Roads Board, the Wellington City Council and the Producer Boards. At the same time he and the secretary, Vivienne Bogle, aided by a lawyer on the committee, Gerard McGreevy of Brandon Brookfield, kept up a lively correspondence with the mayor and with the other bodies involved, none of the bodies being allowed to forget that they had unfinished business in the area. Several inadequate offers of compensation were rejected, but in 1981 the National Roads Board agreed to pay \$500,000 to the WCC, plus \$50,000 to rebuild the mortuary chapel. This was accepted by the WCC and specified as an 'Early Settlers Account'. During John Daniels' chairmanship, an acceptable compromise emerged. The WCC asked Fletcher Development & Construction to arrange a deal with the landowners, and after several modifications and court cases, a six level underground car park was formed along Mowbray Street, and the UGC building was replaced with a 12 storey office building. The land over the car park was landscaped to form an additional area to the memorial park, and on this area a replica of the Anglican cemetery's mortuary chapel was erected. Ron Flook and the firm of Boffa, Miskell handled this. Money that remained in the 'Early Settlers Account' was used for special projects for the park.

Twenty-five years after the original concept of the compensatory land and thirteen years after the formation of the Friends, the extended park was opened in March 1990. The Revd J.S. Murray was chairperson at the time and he saw to it that the ceremony was conducted with dignity and propriety. Members of the Early Settlers' and Historical Association were present. The mass grave, under the Early Settlers Memorial Lawn, was consecrated for both Maori and Pakeha, the rebuilt chapel was dedicated, a bronze 'book' was unveiled commemorating the early settlers and speeches were given by the mayor, Sir James Belich and the historian of the cemetery, Margaret Alington. Although full compensation was not achieved (the UGC site was lost), the acquisition of this land for the city had been no mean achievement on the part of all concerned. The chapel was open daily. On its walls was displayed a record of the park's history in pictures, compiled by the Friends, and other cemetery memorabilia. There was also a copy of the map and index of the graves for the use of visitors.

When Nick Perrin became chairperson, he turned the Friends' attention to the editing and collating of the cemetery's burial records. As existing lists were imperfect, much correlation and correcting was required to bring them to a standard from

which the names of those disinterred could be extracted, printed and exhibited. The routine work was shared among the Friends. Names were checked against the Registrar-General's records, and Annette Fairweather helped to solve the problems. After years of meticulous checking, the names were printed onto a permanent plastic sheet using a laser process and placed in the chapel for public reference and as a memorial. A ceremony marked the occasion, which took place in August 1999. At the same time a revised display, designed by Isobel Gabitea and associates was opened, and plans for proposed signage throughout the park were presented.

In 1998, when the Friends had been in existence for 21 years and their main aims had been met, some soul-searching took place about their future. Membership had dropped over the years and many of the existing committee had served for a long time. Any such thoughts were laid aside, however, at the annual meeting which was the largest for some years and included four former chairpersons and four former secretaries. Those present voted to continue as an incorporated society. Mike Oates, curator of the Botanic Garden, emphasised the importance to the WCC of the group's advisory capacity, and with David Dunsheath in the chair, the committee set its course for the future.

The author, Margaret Alington, wrote a history of the Bolton Street Cemetery, *Unquiet Earth*, which was published in 1978. She is a founding member of the Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park and was closely involved in the recording and reinstating of the headstones.

Wellington, May 2001