



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

---

**NEWSLETTER No 53**

**November 2002**

---

## **Notice of 26<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**

The 2002 Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park Incorporated Society is to be held at:

- 6:15 pm, Monday 18 November 2002 at
- Turnbull House, 25 Bowen Street, Wellington.

Refreshments will be served from 5:30 pm.

### **Agenda**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2001 Annual General Meeting (as published in Newsletter No. 52, dated July 2002)
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Chairperson's report
5. Treasurer's report and financial statements
6. Report by Wellington City Council
7. Election of committee
8. Appointment of Auditor
9. General business

David Dunsheath (Chairperson)

Tel: 04 472 8405 (home), Fax 04 471 2489, E-mail: [symbian@xtra.co.nz](mailto:symbian@xtra.co.nz).

# **EDWARD HEYDELBACK DAVIS, FCS, FGS,**

by Nick Perrin

Edward was a young geologist employed by James Hector in the Geological Survey Department in 1870, who unfortunately died by drowning while participating in field work in the Greymouth area. His body was brought back to Wellington, and he was buried in the Church of England Cemetery (Bolton Street). He was subsequently joined in this plot by relatives (probably a brother and sister-in-law)



The DAVIS grave, plot 4302 (grid E11 08). Left- stone of Edward Heydelback, centre- Caroline Jemima, right- James.

The headstones read-

Sacred to the memory of Edward Heydelback Davis, FCS, FGS,  
who was accidentally drowned 9 February 1871, in the 26<sup>th</sup> year  
of his age. "Now he is comforted"- Luke XVI.25

Sacred to the memory of Caroline Jemima, beloved wife of W.H. Davis, died 22 December 1880, aged 37

In memory of James Davis, late of the Civil Service of New Zealand, who died 14 February 1875, aged 42. This stone is erected by his brother officers in Wellington, by whom he will ever be held in affectionate remembrance. (G. Munro, Dunedin)

The "Transactions and Proceedings of the New Zealand Institute, 1870, Vol III", Issued May 1871, has an article on page 278 "Art. L. -*Notes on the Geology of White Island*. By James Hector, MD, FRS, Director Geological Survey of New Zealand. *With Observations on the Crystalline forms of the Specimens of Sulphur obtained*. By E.H. Davis, FGS, FCS,\* of the Geological Survey Department."

A footnote records "\* While this volume is in the press, the small staff of scientific workers in New Zealand, on the 9<sup>th</sup> Ult., suffered a great loss, through the accidental death, by drowning, of this talented and promising geologist, while engaged in surveying the Grey River coal field, on the west coast of Nelson. -Ed. March, 1871." (The "Ed." in question is James Hector himself.)

Indeed, the article and drawings of sulphur crystals by Davis do reveal him to be talented, and the following article by Davis (Art LI, -*On the Nomenclature of Rocks*), reveals that he was not only well schooled in such matters, but he was quite authoritative for one so young.

In his short career (1870 to early 1871), besides the above mentioned papers, Davis published on the Thames gold fields, the geology of "certain districts" of Nelson Province, notes on the crystallisation of mono-hydrate of chloride of Barium, and "*On a New Form of Iron-pyrites*." He was undoubtedly talented, and could have become an eminent scientist had he survived.

His headstone is a well-inscribed slab of dark slate, and can be found one grave over from the path at the bend where the Tucker/Stafford masonic monument features so prominently on the Powles Path below Easdale Street.

---

### Chairperson's Report 2001/02

Following our busy previous year, I regret to report that your committee has been somewhat dormant in spite good intentions. It met twice during the year to monitor more pressing administrative and cemetery matters rather than attempting to address any major initiatives. Two newsletters were published (July and November 2002) together with catch-up invoicing for subscriptions spanning both 2000/01 and 2001/02 years (for the majority of members). Our listed membership is currently 85 of whom two thirds are fully paid up (as at early November).

Checking and verification of the accuracy of the Bolton Street Burial List has continued, this year largely prompted by queries received from relatives and others. We are very aware that copies of the list for public viewing in the Bolton Street Chapel and at the National Library, are both several years out of date compared to the official WCC (Wellington City Council) computerised list that we contribute to. We aim to persuade WCC and National Library to update these copies as soon as practicable.

Committee representatives met with WCC staff in September 02 to 'walk-through' the Park for liaison on improvements planned for the year ending June 2003. These include:

- Updating of burial details on public display in the Chapel.
- More grave repairs, in continuation of the good progress made last year.
- Headstone cleaning by a contracted stonemason (priorities yet to be determined).
- Improvements to Woodward Path (upper side of the motorway near Bowen Street).
- Completion of the Sexton's Cottage restoration.
- Possible additional seating.

We regret to report the passing of Morva Williams in August 2002 in her knowledge that her gifting of land to the Park had been accepted by WCC. However, public acknowledgement of this very generous gift is still delayed pending completion of the Certificate of Title.

Our small committee welcomed Helen Carey as the new WCC representative. My thanks go to Warwick Greenwood for his continued dedication to our financial affairs; to Nick Perrin for his ever-expanding knowledge of the occupants of the cemetery, his Burial List expertise and his newsletter editorship; to John Daniels for AGM arrangements and co-ordination of projects; Rachel Brown for newsletter mailing and promotional skills; Anne Brosnahan for hosting and general support; and Mac McCormick for his many years of active service on the committee.

*David Dunsheath (Chairperson), November 2002*

### Nominations for Committee

Vital to the future of the Friends is an active committee with new enthusiasm. WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY YOUR HAND AT biographical research, writing, editing, conservation/restoration policy, publicity/promotion, minutes, membership records, tour guide, etc? IF SO, please contact David Dunsheath Tel: 04 472 8405 (home) to find out more.

### Subscriptions

Thanks to those members who have already paid their membership subscriptions (notices were enclosed with the July 02 newsletter). Many donations have also been gratefully received. Receipts are intended to be enclosed with this newsletter. Enquires to David Dunsheath on Tel: 04 472 8405 (home) or E-mail: [symbian@xtra.co.nz](mailto:symbian@xtra.co.nz) or Fax 04 471 2489.