



# FRIENDS of BOLTON STREET CEMETERY INCORPORATED

**PO BOX 12 426, WELLINGTON, 6144, NEW ZEALAND**

<http://www.boltoncemetery.org.nz>

**NEWSLETTER No 91 JUNE 2021**

**Editor: Kate Fortune**

## NOTICE OF 45th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**5.45 pm Thursday 8 July 2021 at**

**ST ANDREW'S CENTRE, 30 THE TERRACE**

*Refreshments will be offered at this meeting. This newsletter contains essential information for the AGM. (Bring your own copy – but spare copies will be available.)*



*The self-guided World War I walk drew visitors to the Cemetery around ANZAC Day once again this year.*

*Photo: Kate Fortune*

### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

AGM agenda & details	2	Seddon Memorial Update	8
Committee contacts	2	David G Reid: A Soldier's Tale	8
Report from the President, 2020-21	3	Performance Report 2020-21	9
Hutchinson Family of Mt Victoria	4	Minutes of the 44 <sup>th</sup> AGM	10
Eliza Eade: A Hospital Error	5	New Memorial Seat in Cemetery	12
Working Bees	7	Museum Concept Design under way	12

## AGENDA FOR AGM

Agenda for the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting on **Thursday 8 July** at 5.45pm.

1. Present and apologies
2. Minutes of the 44<sup>th</sup> AGM (see page 10 of this newsletter)
3. Matters arising from Minutes
4. Report from the President (see page 3 of this newsletter)
5. Report by the Manager Botanic Garden, Wellington City Council
6. Performance Report and Financial Statements (see page 9 of this newsletter)
7. Election of Committee (see below for current committee)
8. General Business

### TALK TO FOLLOW BUSINESS OF AGM:

**Rosemary Bromley** will present a short illustrated talk on the **Hutchinson Family who arrived in Wellington in 1851** (see story on page 4.) Rosemary first learned about Walter and Barbara Hutchinson after the *Mt Victoria Heritage Study Report* was produced in 1917 for the Wellington City Council. She found she lived directly behind the Hutchinson's original 1856 home on Mt Victoria. Rosemary became "increasingly impressed with the Hutchinsons, and convinced their history should be made more widely known. In particular, the story of Barbara and her daughters Margaret, Anna and Agnes gives us insight into what life was like for women then." **Hear this intriguing story after our AGM. Please join us at 30 The Terrace.**

### COMMITTEE CONTACTS 2020–21

Jenny Button <i>President</i>	Policy & strategies, tours support, Museum steering group	jennifer.button.nz@gmail.com Tel (04) 476 5759
Priscilla Williams <i>Vice President</i>	Repairs, research, Museum steering group	priscillawilliams.nz@gmail.com Tel (04) 977 4667
Kate Fortune <i>Treasurer</i>	Membership Secretary, guide, editor <i>Newsletter</i> , Museum steering group	kate_fortune@hotmail.com Tel (04) 970 0024, 021 109 4001
Karl Bale	Garden liaison, guide	karlsbale@gmail.com Tel (04) 499 8588
David Dunsheath	Tours support, Museum steering group	ddunsheath@gmail.com Tel (04) 472 8405
Elizabeth Fletcher	Minutes Secretary	elizabethfletcher1@gmail.com Tel: (04) 934 5113
Nick Perrin	Biographical & burial list research, guide	n.perrin@xtra.co.nz Tel (04) 472 3767
Anne Phillips	Community & iwi liaison; garden liaison.	filmaphillips@gmail.com Tel 022 124 0683
Jennifer Robinson	Working bees, guide	jennif.robinson@gmail.com Tel (04) 973 8137

## REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT 2020–21

It gives me great pleasure to present this Annual Report, to be read in relation to the Statement of Performance (*see page 9*), for the 2020-21 year.

Our major focus this year has been developing the Museum Project (*see p.12*), with Lara Simmons, Trestle Creative (formerly LRS Consulting). It is a unique story we have to tell through the lives of people at New Zealand's oldest cemetery and we want to make it more accessible, more engaging for those with family connections, those visiting, those keen to explore and learn about our history. It is a wonderful heritage and historic resource that Wellingtonians have on their doorstep. A highlight for us has been the wide consultation between our project steering group, stakeholders, iwi and interested parties for the preliminary concept definition, so it is now very exciting to move on to the Concept Design in order to begin planning for the implementation programme.

Meantime another impressive year of cemetery maintenance has been completed. Visitors remark on the tidy appearance of the cemetery reflecting the hard work involved, while people searching for family relatives have been positive about their experiences. This is due in no small part to the conservation and repair of graves undertaken to a high standard under Priscilla's vigilant guidance. There has also been great effort put in by working bees to tidy up graves, weed and remove rubbish. Committee members and loyal volunteers, under Jennifer's efficient organisation, are once again to be commended. Nick with his incredible knowledge continues to respond successfully to the amazing number of enquiries from the public.

In the spring the cemetery will be further enhanced by daffodil plantings identified by Karl and Anne's new strategy in consultation with the Botanic Garden, the cost to be underwritten by the Judy Bale Trust. Daffodil bulbs will be purchased for planting in appropriate defined areas in order to give the greatest impact around the cemetery.

Although the spring festival was cancelled because of Covid 19, popular cemetery tours were conducted as well as the self-guided Anzac tours. There have also been very successful private tours on request, including one young primary school group.

As you will see in the Statement of Financial Performance, our finances continue to be kept at a healthy level through Kate's successful financial management assisted by Friends' generosity. It is encouraging also that new members continue to join us.

I thank all committee members who give outstanding commitment in a variety of ways. I want to acknowledge those not already mentioned: Elizabeth, Minutes Secretary and David, tours support. Indeed, all members have put in significant time and energy.

We value the warm collaboration we have with the Wellington City Council, and thank David Sole (Gardens Manager) who attends our meetings, his team, especially Franz Tischler & Dale Such; and Karl Noldan (Public Art & Memorials Specialist).

Finally, to all Friends may I say how much we value your enthusiastic support. We appreciate your interest and strong financial backing. I do hope you will join us for our AGM and I look forward to seeing you.

**Jenny Button**



## THE HUTCHINSON FAMILY OF MT VICTORIA

Walter and Barbara Hutchinson arrived in Wellington from Banffshire, Scotland, in March 1851. I first learned of this couple about three years ago when I read the *Mt Victoria Heritage Study Report*. This was an investigation carried out in 2016-2017 into the historical and architectural value of buildings to be found dotted over Mt Victoria led by Michael Kelly, historian and heritage consultant, for the Wellington City Council. The first thing that stood out for me in this report was I found our home is located directly behind the Hutchinson's original home on land they bought on Mt Victoria in 1856.

Even more curious (for me) was to read that they went on to build another dwelling on this Town Acre 337, and called it *Banff House*. The name intrigued me as I was then looking into the life of my great-grandfather, John Middleton Collie. He and my great-grandmother, Margaret, had both grown up near Banff in North-East Scotland, and from 1876 to 1888 they lived in Majoribanks St. I wondered if there was any personal connection between the Hutchinsons and the Collies, although I have now concluded there was not.

**Right: The Hutchinson (wooden) headstone**  
**Photo: Kate Fortune**



But I became increasingly convinced that their history should be more widely known for what it tells us about the family, and about life in Wellington in the first hundred years of European settlement. Their story actually revolves around Barbara and three daughters Margaret, Anna and Agnes. Barbara was left a widow in 1864 with very young children to care for in a rudimentary dwelling on the scrubby slopes of Mt Victoria, with no running water except that provided by a stream running through her property, a long drop to contend with, fuel and food to be found, and no other family around for support.

Thankfully Walter bequeathed his property to Barbara. Help was potentially at hand in the person of Denison Cochran, a law clerk, whom she married in 1871. Pondering the outcome of this marriage I learned much about the legal, social and religious ramifications for a woman when she married back then.

Thankfully Barbara was ultimately able to retain control of her property, and deal with it with the confidence and acumen of a seasoned property developer. When she died in 1896 she left the management of the family's estate to her daughter Agnes who went forth with her mother's skill and determination. Agnes trained as a nurse in the 1890s, then turned *Banff House* into a private hospital. The daughters retained ownership of this and other houses on Mt Victoria, never married, and retired to live in Seatoun, and later the Hutt Valley. All three died having lived long and respected lives, and able to bestow their considerable wealth on many individuals and charities.

When Walter died the epitaph on his tombstone read: *Beloved by all who knew him*. The obituaries written for his wife and later for his daughters suggest this sentiment could be attributed to all the Hutchinsons.

**Rosemary Bromley**

## ELIZA EADE: A HOSPITAL ERROR

*We are indebted to Eliza Eade's descendants for details of this sad story behind one of the wooden crosses in the Bolton Street Cemetery.*



**Eliza LAMB**, born in 1833 in Bethnal Green, London, England, married John William Sarancke Bunn EADE on 16 Nov 1852 at St Matthew's Church in Bethnal Green. They had nine children, all of whom survived to adulthood. After her husband John died of pneumonia on 25 Dec 1873 at Bethnal Green, Eliza (who had trained as a nurse in a London Hospital) found work with the London Bible Women's Mission as a 'Bible Woman', making door-to-door visits. Some of Eliza and John's children had previously migrated to New Zealand, and they encouraged Eliza and their younger siblings to join them. Eventually, ten years after being widowed, Eliza boarded the SS *Westland* with her younger children on 9 Aug 1883. Because there had been a case of smallpox on board they were all quarantined for a few days in Wellington on their arrival on 31 Oct 1883, after 83 days at sea.

After being released from quarantine, the family proceeded to Foxton via the coastal steamer SS *Jane Douglass* and then overland to join the two sons, John and Alfred, who had started up a furniture factory in Feilding. Eliza almost immediately decided to live in Wellington, however, where she worked in her previous London role as a 'Bible Woman' for the Wellington Ladies Christian Association.

In 1885 Eliza was diagnosed with breast cancer and arranged for a mastectomy at the Wellington Public Hospital without telling any of her children. Unluckily for Eliza, while she was recovering in the surgical ward, a woman named Kate Kelly, who was suffering from puerperal fever, was carelessly admitted to this surgical ward due to a shortage of beds. The house surgeon was absent, taking a bath, and the referring doctor was later accused of providing insufficient details about Kate's condition.

Kate Kelly, an unmarried 26-year-old Irish immigrant, had given birth to a child nine days before admission, and the doctor who had delivered her baby suspected a lung infection. He later claimed that he had expected the house surgeon to conduct an examination on admission; but instead she was admitted without examination, and it was the Matron who noticed her dire condition. By the time her true complaint of puerperal fever had been diagnosed, three patients, including Eliza Eade, had been dangerously infected with sepsis, via nurses treating Kate Kelly and then attending to the surgical patients' dressings without adequately disinfecting themselves.

Kate Kelly died within hours of her admission. Then Eliza Eade died in great pain (of blood poisoning on top of breast cancer) on 23 Feb 1885, just eight days after contracting the deadly fever. The other two infected patients (both men) survived.

There was a huge public outcry over Eliza's death. There was a government enquiry that resulted in the censure of Kate Kelly's admitting doctor, after an exchange of accusations between two of the doctors involved that featured in the newspapers. In the end, however, there was a recommendation for an improvement in procedures.

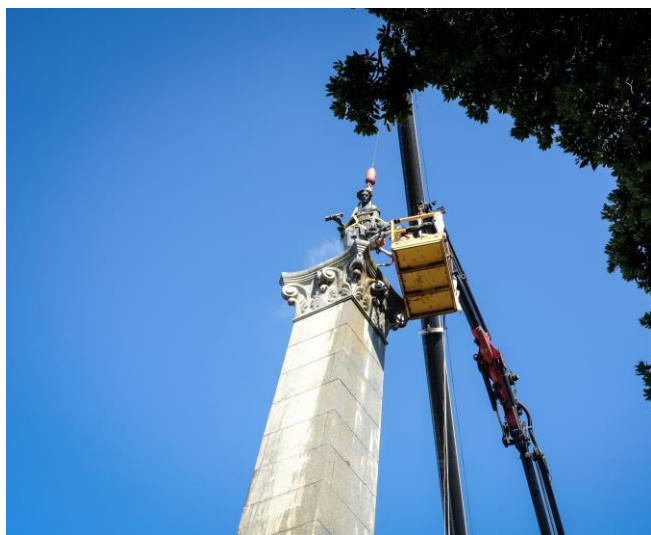
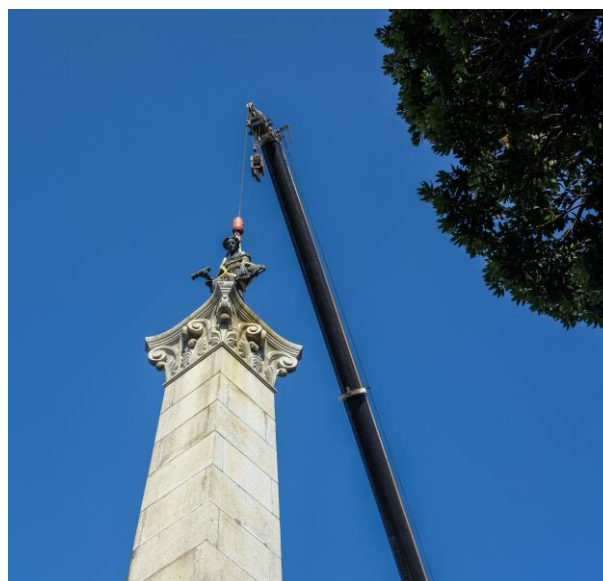


Eliza's family – shocked to learn of her death following the surgery they had not even known about – buried her on 25 Feb 1885 in Plot 120.B of the Public Cemetery, then unofficially known as the Sydney Street Cemetery. They were “absolutely devastated over the unnecessary loss of their much loved, highly thought of, cheerful, kind and lively mother.” Her Salvation Army funeral was attended by about 200 Salvation Army Officers and a band, and her funeral attracted considerable attention.

Eliza was buried beside an infant grandson, Alfred William Eade, who had died in Jan 1878 aged 34 days, and then later, a granddaughter aged 12 years (*pictured right*), **Jessie Eliza Eade**, was buried with her on 24 Nov 1891. Their graves at plots 119 and 120.B were disinterred for the motorway on 20 Feb 1969 and their remains transferred to the mass grave. The wooden cross from Eliza's grave was reinstated at grid ref P10 16.



*Tracie Rolfe-Collins* (using official records and excerpts from the diary of Eliza's son, Alfred Sarancke Bunn Eade); **with additional research by Nick Perrin**



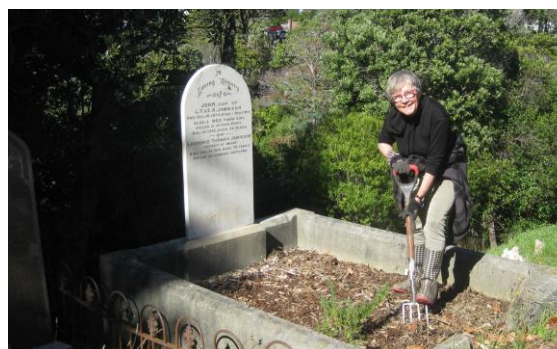
### ***What's happening up at the Seddon memorial?***

*If you've been up at the Botanicals side of the Bolton Street Cemetery recently, you'll be aware that something is amiss with the Seddon Memorial. It's missing the statue at the top and some key stonework and plaques from its side. Manatū Taonga, the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, has been working to conserve and seismically strengthen the memorial. **See story, page 8.***



## WORKING BEES

After the strange year that was 2020 we have generally gone back to basics with our working bees. We had sessions at the end of February and at the end of March, there was good weather on both days, everyone enjoyed working in the sunshine and the two hours went very quickly. There was certainly lots to be done with many graves badly in need of a good tidy up; weeds do not take any notice of Covid 19 lockdowns and the number of overgrown graves reflected this. We therefore concentrated on weeding and headstone cleaning, mainly in areas close to the main path in the upper cemetery.



*Scenes from working bees held over the summer*

We had another working bee in April so that we could check and tidy the Anzac graves ahead of the Anzac Day self-guided walk and we also put out the named white crosses at each grave. Thanks to Dale and the other Botanic Garden staff for putting out the Anzac walk pamphlets and for setting up the information panels at each site, these tell the story of each of the servicemen who are commemorated in the walk.

There is still plenty of weeding and cleaning needed throughout the cemetery so we may try and fit in another working bee before the weather gets too cold. We also have the prospect of some exciting tasks in the area overlooking the motorway below Woodward Path where there are some graves that have been covered with vegetation for many years. We would like to be able to sort this area out so that so that all graves are visible and accounted for, and records are correct.

If anyone is not already on my working bee emailing list and would be interested in joining us, or if you have any queries, please let me know.

***Story and photos: Jennifer Robinson***

## **SEDDON MEMORIAL UPDATE**

The Seddon Memorial, built in 1908 by the government, is a gravesite. It includes a crypt which contains the remains of former Premier the late Rt Hon Richard Seddon and family members. Richard Seddon served as Premier of New Zealand for just over 13 years, from 1893 until his death in 1906.

Manatū Taonga Ministry of Culture & Heritage is responsible for its maintenance and upkeep as a national memorial. In recent years it has become apparent that the memorial has been subject to water ingress resulting in gradual deterioration of parts of the monument, and more recently it was also found to be earthquake prone. So the Ministry has taken steps to address both seismic and conservation concerns, working closely with a heritage architect and seismic engineering experts to investigate various remediation options for both the strengthening and conservation of the memorial.

A range of factors have been considered in developing the approach including the memorial's heritage values, cost, timeframes, stakeholder satisfaction, and the structure's resilience and safety. The first stage of this work has now been completed. The statue has been removed to reduce risk to a neighbouring property, structural investigations have been undertaken, and the seismic design is now being reviewed.

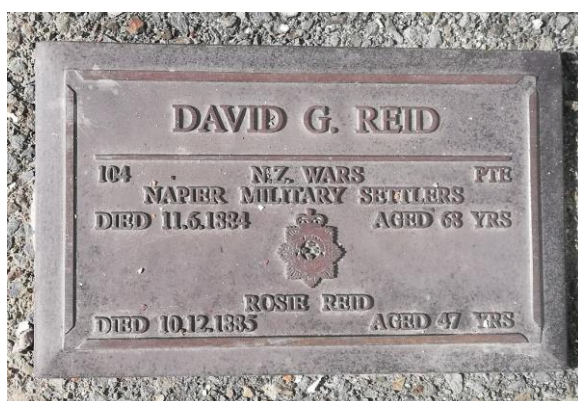
Stage 2 will be the meat of the project – conserving and making a more resilient memorial for the future. The start date of stage 2 is yet to be confirmed, as it is still in the planning and costing process. While this work is in progress, passers-by are advised not to linger beside the memorial. If anyone has any questions about this work, they are welcome to contact the Ministry on 04 499 4229.

*Story (and photos on page 6) courtesy of Manatū Taonga Ministry of Culture & Heritage*

---

## **DAVID G REID: A SOLDIER'S TALE**

David Glen REID, formerly Private No. 104 in the Napier Military Settlers, died on 11 June 1884 in Wellington, and on 14 June his funeral left his late residence, Brook Street, off Murphy Street, for Bolton Street Cemetery (part of Brook St still exists beside Wellington Girl's College). The following year, his wife Rose Reid died on 10 December 1885, aged 47, and was also buried at Bolton Street. Whether or not she was buried with David is unknown, as there is no record of their burial locations in the Church of England Cemetery, nor any known memorial.



Despite the absence of any memorial to David and Rose at Bolton Street, there is a recent bronze plaque in the soldiers' section at Karori Cemetery. It is located behind the graves of Boer War veterans adjacent to the north-west corner of the Main Crematorium Chapel. However, their bodies remain lost somewhere at Bolton Street Cemetery, perhaps amongst the many unidentified burials removed for the motorway and placed in the mass grave.

*Story and photo: Nick Perrin*



## PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

### PART I: STATEMENT OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE:

- The Society held eight guided tours during the year, including one for a Probus group, two for Wellington's Heritage Week, and one for the Spring Festival. We also offered the self-guided tour over 10 days around ANZAC Day, which was well publicised in the *DominionPost*.
- Our website holding a searchable burial database of more than 8600 names was further updated during the Lockdown period, adding a further 600 photographs and grave descriptions. About 55 enquiries about ancestors were answered with detailed research notes and photographs.
- The Friends arranged four working bees this year for members.
- The WCC allocates \$20,000 each year for repairs to heritage graves. We assist by identifying and prioritising the most urgent repairs, providing advice on the methods to be used and assessing the results. This year's priority conservation work included repairs to some wooden memorials.
- During the year we made significant progress on planning new displays for the replica chapel on Bolton Street, now renamed the Bolton Street Cemetery Museum. We have contracted a professional team to prepare the concept design.
- Two issues of the Society's newsletter were published during the year.
- Committee members volunteer their own time and skills to carry out the Society's operations. We estimate that on average, there have been eight volunteers donating at least thirty-six hours every month during the year – totalling close to 450 hours during the year.

### PART II: STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE:

		<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Income	Subscriptions (current + arrears)	1,235	1,335
	Book sales	20	0
	Donations (individuals)	2,320	3,411
	Donations (conservation & repairs)	1,500	0
	Interest	215	265
	Koha from tour groups	<u>1,118</u>	<u>1,368</u>
	Total Income	<u>\$6,408</u>	<u>\$6,379</u>
LESS Expenses			
	Annual General Meeting	418	395
	Membership Heritage Promotion Council	0	30
	Membership Volunteer Wellington	30	50
	Miscellaneous	3	74
	P O Box rental	95	60
	Printing, stationery, copying	367	297
	Project: Memorial stone wall	0	5,620
	Project: Museum	5,500	0
	Project: WWI white crosses	270	0
	Website, incl. Burial list inscriptions	<u>110</u>	<u>139</u>
	Total Expenses	<u>\$6,763</u>	<u>\$6,305</u>
	Surplus (deficit) for the year	<u>(355)</u>	<u>74</u>

### STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY AT 31 MARCH 2021

Accumulated Funds – at start of year	17,455	17,381
Plus Surplus for the year	<u>(355)</u>	<u>74</u>
Accumulated Funds – at end of year	<u>\$17,100</u>	<u>\$17,455</u>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT 31 MARCH 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Accumulated Funds	\$17,100	\$17,455
Represented By: Current Assets		
Westpac Trust Banking Corporation – Current	3,168	675
– Bonus Saver	8,506	8,442
– Term Deposit	<u>8,466</u>	<u>8,258</u>
	<u>20,140</u>	<u>17,375</u>
PLUS Sundry Debtors	<u>0</u>	<u>120</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>20,140</u>	<u>17,495</u>
LESS Current Liabilities		
Sundry creditors	3,000	0
Subscriptions in advance	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>3,040</u>	<u>40</u>
Net Assets and Working Capital	<u>\$17,100</u>	<u>\$17,455</u>

Kate Fortune (Treasurer) 7 June 2021

## MINUTES OF THE 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Thursday 9 July 2020 at St Andrew's Centre on the Terrace at 6:15 pm

### 1 Present

Jenny Button (Chair), Nick Perrin, Kate Fortune, Jennifer Robinson, Elizabeth Fletcher (Minutes), David & Joy Dunsheath, Karl Bale, Priscilla & Sheila Williams, Bill Alington, Jillian Wellings, Jane Aim, Judith & Ann Trotter, Avenal, Malcolm & John McKinnon, Philip Porritt, Anne Phillips, Ann Reweti, Roger Swanson, (total 22); Barbara Mulligan, Guest speaker; plus David Sole and Karl Noldan from Wellington City Council.

### 2 Apologies

Rewi Elliot, Sasha (Alex) McKinnon, Karen Adair, Suzanne Sutton-Cummings, Pauline Swann, Caroline McDonald, Alan Martin, Rachel Underwood, Bill Mansfield, Denise Almao, Nicola Young, Caroline & William Aliaga-Kelly, Jocelyn Brandon, Lynn Pomare, Angela Hill and Penny Porritt. AGREED that these apologies be received. (Jenny Button / Jane Aim)

### 3 Minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting

MOVED that the minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> AGM held on 11 July 2019 be taken as read and approved as a true and correct record. (J Button / S Williams) CARRIED

### 4 President's Report

President Jenny Button proposed her report be taken as read and briefly summarised key aspects. MOVED that the President's report be accepted (J Button/ P Williams) CARRIED

### 5 Report by Manager of the Botanic Gardens, Wellington City Council

David Sole presented his report, acknowledging many collaborative achievements during the year between the Friends and his Botanic Gardens team.

In responding to questions, he commented:

- Regarding installation of a tap in the lower cemetery, discussions are ongoing as to the possibility of installing a drinking fountain at the entrance on Bolton Street;
- Revision of the Cemeteries Management Plan (submissions due by 31 July) covers Karori, Makara and Tawa Cemeteries, but not Bolton St Cemetery which is covered by the Botanic Gardens Management Plan.

Jenny thanked David for his continuing support of the Friends' activities.      **MOVED** that the BG Manager's Report be received      (Jane Aim/ Joy Dunsheath)      **CARRIED**

## **6      Performance Report (Service Performance & Financial Performance)**

Treasurer Kate Fortune tabled the Performance Reports for year ended 31 March 2020. She commented on significant donations gratefully received, including from the Judy Bale Trust and Walk Wellington. **MOVED** that the Performance Report for year ending 31 March 2020 be approved      (K Fortune/ K Bale). **CARRIED**

## **7      Election of Committee**

Elizabeth Fletcher took the Chair for election of President.

**MOVED** that Jenny Button be re-elected as President (K Fortune / N Perrin).

No further nominations.

**CARRIED** with acclamation.

Jenny Button then resumed the Chair.

Nominations were tabled for remainder of committee as follows:

- Vice-President: Priscilla Williams (N Perrin / J Robinson)
- Secretary (Minutes): Elizabeth Fletcher (K Fortune / J Robinson)
- Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Kate Fortune (J Robinson / N Perrin)
- Committee: Karl Bale, David Dunsheath, Nick Perrin, Jennifer Robinson (K Fortune / J Button)

Further nominations were invited:

Anne Phillips was nominated by Ann Reweti (A Reweti/ Kate Fortune)

**MOVED** that the above nominations be closed and this committee be elected, with ability to co-opt additional committee members as appropriate.      **CARRIED**

Jenny noted our appreciation of Karen Adair's presence on the committee and the connection with Mount Street Cemetery, but she was not standing because of her difficulty attending meetings.

## **8      General Business**

There was no general business.

The meeting closed at 6:20 pm

**Guest speakers, Priscilla Williams and Barbara Mulligan** presented "**Two Taphophiles on Tour**". This was a summary of their recent heritage cemeteries tour up the West Coast of the North Island. They visited more than 20 cemeteries over five days. They discovered both hidden gems and some amazing graveside vistas. The comparisons with the work done in Bolton St Cemetery were fascinating.



## NEW MEMORIAL SEAT IN THE CEMETERY

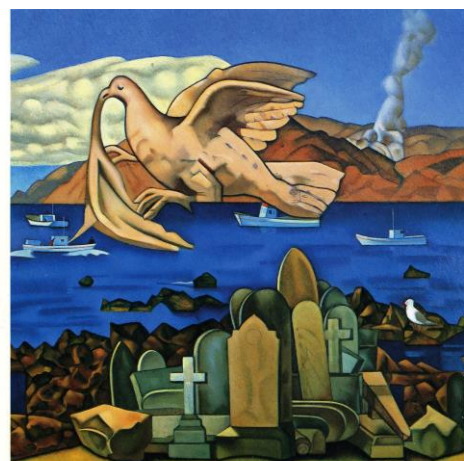
A new seat near the top of the Denis McGrath overbridge has been presented by Chris McGrath and family, in memory of **Sir John McGrath** (1945-2018). Sir John had a long career in the law, including being solicitor-general, and ultimately serving as a judge of the Supreme Court of New Zealand. Born in Wellington, he was influenced by his father, Denis, a lawyer in private practice who served as a Wellington city councillor, including a term as deputy mayor. The seat recognises the family's long connection to the Cemetery and marks the judge's regular walking route to work.



*Story and photos: Kate Fortune*



## MUSEUM CONCEPT DESIGN UNDER WAY



Planning of the revamped interior of the Bolton Street Cemetery Museum will be one of the main activities to be pursued by the incoming committee following this year's AGM. A broad concept design has been developed after consultation with tangata whenua and various community groups, and this consultative process will continue after funds have been secured for the redevelopment.

***Our Vision: 'Wellington's unique story is told through the lives of people at New Zealand's oldest public cemetery.'***

Ideas and images are being debated under the experienced guidance of Lara Simmons (Trestle Creative), who has stressed that some displays will be permanent but others will be regularly reviewed and updated.

***Kate Fortune***