



# FRIENDS of BOLTON STREET MEMORIAL PARK Incorporated

P O Box 2336, Wellington  
<http://mysite.xtra.co.nz/~perrin/page2.html>

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NEWSLETTER NO. 50

January 2001

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**Note on numbering:** Our last Newsletter was incorrectly numbered 44 instead of 48.  
We regret this mistake.

**Minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Bolton  
Street Memorial Park (Incorporated)**  
Held at Turnbull House, Bowen Street, Wellington on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2000

**Present:**

Warwick Greenwood  
Vivienne Bogle  
Gregory Aim  
Jane Aim  
Bill Alington  
Margaret Alington  
Mac McCormick  
Anne Brosnahan

Philip Porritt  
Jenny Daniels  
John Daniels  
Gavin McLean  
Mike Oates  
Ester Einhorn  
Nick Perrin  
Frances Verrity  
David Dunsheath

1 **Apologies**

Keith Matthews, Diane Comber, Miss E M McPhee, Annette Fairweather,  
Wendi Henderson, Leanne Killalea, Rachel Brown, Rodney Read, Hugh and  
Marjorie Fullarton, Joy Dunsheath, Ted Verrity, David Luke

2 **Minutes of 1999 Annual General Meeting**

Moved Warwick Greenwood, Seconded John Daniels that the minutes of the  
1999 Annual General Meeting be confirmed.

3 **Matters Arising**

Nil

4 **Chairperson's Report**

Annual Report 1999-2000

Our updated listing in the Wellington City Council publication 'Branch Out' prompted  
a quick review of what The Friends' are currently about. I share our findings with you.  
We seek to achieve the following aims:

- Preserve, protect and develop the wooded and historic atmosphere of the three  
cemeteries (that formerly occupied the Memorial Park area).
- Support Wellington City Council in maintaining the graves, and in developing  
and promoting the Park.

- Encourage families and groups to repair damaged graves, to sponsor grave repairs and to support the Society.

These aims have evolved since our original formation, in 1977, in reaction to the motorway construction that devastated large areas of the cemeteries. I would like to thank our dedicated committee for their substantial achievements this last year towards fulfilling these aims, as I will now summarise.

Significant progress has been made towards integrating the Friends' stand-alone burial list within the Council's Cemeteries Records System, for greater physical security and wider access to its content. (This follows thousands of volunteer hours spanning more than a decade by members under Nick Perrin's untiring stewardship, to compile and verify the list.). We are sure the list will continue to evolve, albeit much more slowly, as further information comes to light. We are still drafting an associated management plan/protocol encompassing a partnership between the Council and the Friends, to safeguard the integrity of the burial list data that now provides a definitive advance over the source records (some of which are proven to be inaccurate and conflicting).

The initial stage of park interpretation was the new Chapel display completed last year. This has been followed by our liaison with the Council (and Isobel Gabites of Boffa Miskell) to develop several interpretation panels for placement within the Park. Our role has been to review draft texts for accuracy and balance of both factual and 'human interest' details, seek additional appraisals as appropriate, and offer recommended changes. These panels are a prelude to next year's third stage of interpretation, comprising a self-guide Heritage Trail throughout the Park.

The Friends conducted three guided historical-interest tours of the Park at the request of various groups. We have spread the Friends' tour guiding capabilities among several committee members, and so thanks are due to Nick Perrin, John Daniels, Annette Fairweather and Diane Comber for their contributions to this role.

A new project for the publication of biographical material was tentatively explored. Dialogue with the Dominion Newspaper was established regarding our proposed regular contributions to a column (perhaps monthly) on selected Wellington entities within the Burial List. This is considered a useful form of publicity for the Park and its historical significance, particularly if we can include relevant illustrations. We envisage assembling readily-available information on selected personalities, from our previous newsletter articles and other sources as appropriate. We will strive for a balance of factual and 'human interest' material. To this end we are keen to involve volunteers who would like to actively help with various aspects of this project, i.e. compiling written and photographic material, preparing the texts, reviewing drafts and project managing all these activities to ensure we can meet relevant deadlines.

This year has seen the creation of a listing of preservation & restoration projects within the Park from our liaison with the Council. It currently comprises about 70 individual entries relating to individual graves, access paths and vegetation issues. We envisage it to be a resource to be shared between the Council and the Friends for communication of project priorities and overall smarter decision making. It is intended that we periodically update the list as some projects are completed, others' priorities are adjusted, and yet other projects are identified for the first time.

We have recognised, through Margaret Alington and others, the importance of retaining the unique heritage environment attributable to not only the grave stones and materials but also their fenced surrounds that we must endeavour to repair and replace as traditionally as practicable. To this end we will need to develop guidelines on aspects of this work, as well as research how we might:

- retain/enhance the legibility of headstone/headboard/monument inscriptions affected by moss and decay without inadvertent damage to the stone or wood itself,
  - restore/repair metal and wooden railings as faithfully as possible to their original design,
  - relocate selected treasured items for better protection from decay and/or vandalism, in a safer environment,
- all in an economic, reliable and safe manner. This is a challenge for us next year.

Three newsletters were prepared during the year as our sole means of communicating our direction and progress to our members and akin organisations. Our declining membership (approximately 60) is of on-going concern. We are seeking new members interested in contributing to the Society's aims, plus additional families of those tied within the Park. Closer relations with akin organisations is also a goal. At the invitation of the Friends of Botanical Gardens, several committee and other members attended a very pleasant cocktail evening in the Begonia House in February.

I would like to conclude with a further thank you to all members of the committee for their support through participation in the diverse range of activities we have progressed. Our particular thanks goes to Annette Fairweather who wishes to step down from the committee after several years' of valuable contributions.

David Dunsheath (Chairperson)

Moved David Dunsheath, Seconded Warwick Greenwood that the Chairperson's Report be accepted.

5 **Treasurer's Report**

Statement of Financial Performance for  
the Year Ended 31 March, 2000

		31 March 2000 \$	31 March 1999 \$
Income			
Donations	140		24
Subscriptions	356		443
Interest	39		126
		535	593
Less Expenses			
Annual General Meeting	55		389
Hire of Meeting Room	105		115
Postage	101		72
PO Box Rental	60		110
Printing & Stationery	195		96
		516	782
Profit (Loss) for the year		19	(189)
Less prior year's unpaid subscriptions written off as irrecoverable		190	-
Total (LOSS)		\$(171)	\$(189)

Statement of Movements in Equity for the  
Year Ended 31 March 2000

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Accumulated Funds – at start of year	2,908	3,097
LESS loss	<u>171</u>	<u>171</u>
Accumulated Funds at end of year	<u>\$2,737</u>	<u>\$2,908</u>

Statement of Financial Position At 31 March, 2000

	31 March 2000 \$	31 March 1999 \$
Accumulated Funds	\$2,737	\$2,908
Represented by:		
Current assets		
Westpac Trust Banking Corporation	2,616	2,574
Sundry Debtor – Donation	35	-
Subscriptions owing	152	334
	2,803	2,908
LESS Current Liabilities		
Sundry Creditor	66	-
Net Assets and Working Capital	\$2,737	\$2,908

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

**6 Report by Wellington City Council**

Over the past nine months since the last AGM development has slowed following the refurbishment of the chapel and construction of the viewing deck. Implementation of the Interpretation and Wayfinding Strategy continues. Major projects include:

- Redevelopment of the Seddon Entrance with plans finalised and work due to begin in early July
- Development of the Historic Trail with associated signage on significant sites. This project has started with signage due for completion by the end of June.

**Headstone Restoration**

No grave restorations took place this year. Funding has been set aside for work to continue from July 2000.

### **Plant collections**

Plantings around the chapel have been renovated and a new *Camellia sasanqua* hedge planted on the eastern side and a *Buxus* hedge on the southern side.

Irrigation has been installed in the Seddon Garden and the system repaired around the chapel.

### **General maintenance**

Several flights of steps have been installed to improve access to certain areas. These include behind the Sexton's cottage and in the rose species area below Sydney Street Path.

Areas below the new deck and under the acacias on the motorway edge have been planted with natives.

There has been some vandalism of the new path signs. These have been replaced and strengthened with a wider base.

The map board at the Easdale Street Entrance was damaged and was removed for repairs.

Mike Oates  
Curator Manager

Wendi Henderson  
Team Leader Rose Garden & Bolton Street  
Memorial Park

Moved Mike Oates Seconded Margaret Alington that the Wellington City Council report be accepted.

### **7 Election of Committee**

There being no need for an election, the following committee was appointed:

Chairperson	David Dunsheath
Treasurer	Warwick Greenwood
Secretary	Rachel Brown
Committee	Nick Perrin
	Frances Verrity
	John Daniels
	Diane Comber
	Wendi Henderson
	Mac McCormick
	Ann Brosnahan

The meeting noted that Annette Fairweather was standing down from the committee after many years, and it was agreed that a presentation would be made.

## 8 Appointment of Auditor

Moved Warwick Greenwood, seconded Margaret Alington, that Rey Byrne be reappointed as auditor. It was agreed that a note of gratitude to Rey Byrne for his service to the Friends be sent to Mr Byrne from the Chair.

## 9 Notice of Motion

Moved Warwick Greenwood, seconded John Daniels, that,

in accordance with Rule 5 of the Rules of the Society, Rule 6.i be changed by the deletion of the word "sixty" and replacement by the words "one hundred and twenty".

*Note: this is to give 4 months rather than 2 months, after each financial year ended 31 March, in which to hold the annual general meeting.*

Carried.

## 10 General Business

New member Philip Porritt was welcomed.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

There followed a lecture by Gavin McLean.

### Officers:

President:	David Dunsheath	472 8405	sybian@xtra.co.nz
Secretary:	Rachel Brown	473 0482	rsb@xtra.co.nz
Treasurer:	Warwick Greenwood	472 3495	wjgreen@attglobal.net
Committee:	Ann Brosnahan	472 1333	
	Diane Comber	479 622	kendicomber@xtra.co.nz
	Frances Verrity	475 9421	verrity@actrix.gen.nz
	John Daniels	938 7971	jr.daniels@xtra.co.nz
	Mac McCormick	479 3328	
	Nick Perrin	472 3767	n.perrin@xtra.co.nz
	Wendi Henderson	388 6698	weedi@voyager.co.nz



## **Bolton Street on the Internet**

See the page on <http://mysite.xtra.co.nz/~perrin/page2.html>

### **DO YOU KNOW OF POTENTIAL MEMBERS?**

The Friends wish to grow its membership to sustain itself as an active and knowledgeable society. We seek to recruit:

- Family members of the deceased within the Park, and in particular the sons and daughters of current older members.
- Historians and other researchers who can share our knowledge as well as contribute further to it.
- Other people with special interests and skills who may wish to assist with research for biographical articles, research for grave restorations, etc.
- Members of other societies and organisations that have historical, horticultural and other links to the Park.
- Commuters, neighbours and others who enjoy the Park and/or are concerned about aspects of it.

Please contact Rachel Brown 6 Easdale Street, Kelburn, Wellington (phone 43 0482, email [rsb@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rsb@xtra.co.nz)) for membership application forms.

**Peter Mieart Andersen**

by Nick Perrin

In the Public Cemetery Register, it was recorded under entry 858 that one Peter M. Anderson, aged 48 was buried by the Reverend Ogg (Presbyterian) on 11th November 1877. No plot was recorded, and the only other information was that the undertaker was Hutchins.

Mr Shotter, the City Sexton, took a photograph of the grave at plot 39.B that he called "Grave of Anderson (first name unknown)". The wooden cross on this grave had traces of a painted inscription, and after the grave was removed for the motorway, the cross was taken to DSIR Forensic Division at Gracefield to see if they could decipher it. From the transcript in the National Library, this is what they found-

HIRUNDER HVILE SLOVEL AF  
PETER MIEART ANDERSEN  
FODL I KJARTMINDE I DANMARK DEN 28<sup>DE</sup> SEPTEMBER 1829  
DOD I WELLINGTON DEN 8<sup>DE</sup> NOVEMBER 1877  
ELI TUBI KUN GAVEL FORUD

Since the inscription was obviously Danish, I got a Danish colleague at work to translate it, and correct any deciphering errors, if possible. She suggested the following, but could make no sense of the last line-

HIRUNDER HVILE SJÆL(EN) AF  
PETER MIEART ANDERSEN  
FØDT I KJERTEMINDE I DANMARK DEN 28<sup>DE</sup> SEPTEMBER 1829  
DØD I WELLINGTON DEN 8<sup>DE</sup> NOVEMBER 1877  
ELI TUBI KUN GAVEL (or 'savel'?) FORUD

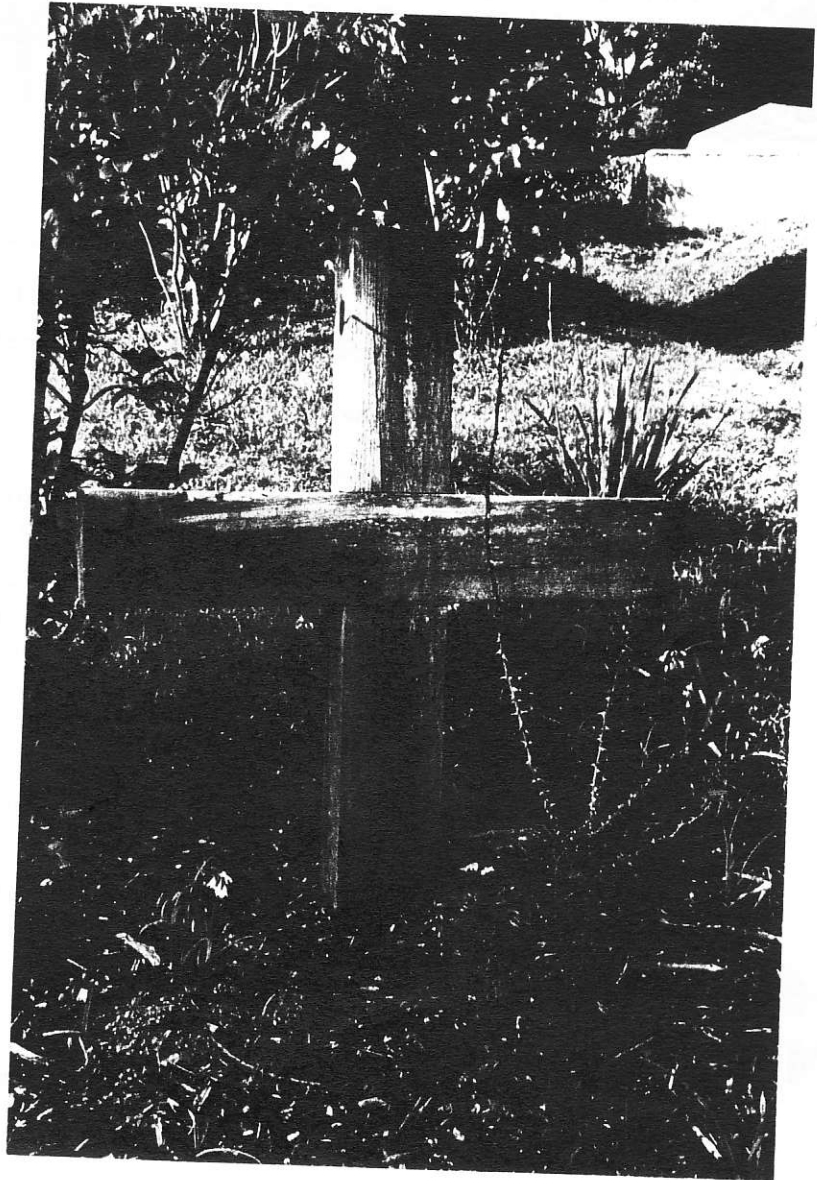
The translation (thanks to Pi Willumsen):

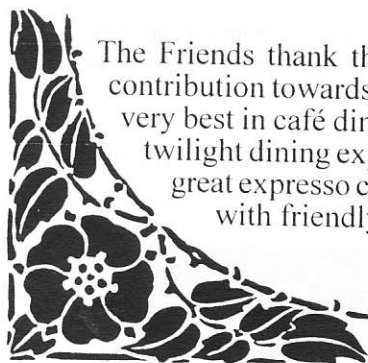
Below rests the soul of  
Peter Mieart Andersen  
Born in Kjerteminde in Denmark on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1829  
Died in Wellington on 8<sup>th</sup> November 1871  
[Eli tubi= ?? (Latin?)] (kun=only/alone)[gavel=??](forud=forward)

"Kjerteminde" (Kerteminde) is a small coastal town on the island of Fyn (the large island between Zealand and the Jutland peninsula). It is likely that Peter was a sailor on a passing ship, and that his inscription was painted by his crew mates. Perhaps they were Norwegian, which might explain the mis-spelling of Kerteminde?

If anyone is prepared to hazard a guess as to what the last line might mean, bearing in mind that the deciphering might be very faulty, and that it could be Latin or Danish, then I would be interested. Perhaps it includes the name of his ship.

I can see no trace of the inscription on the reinstated wooden cross at grid P10 10 (see photo), but more biographical work is planned.





The Friends thank the new-look Botanic Gardens Cafe for their contribution towards newsletter costs. The cafe is now offering the very best in café dining, light luncheons, and soon-to-be-released twilight dining experience. Accompanied by a new wine list and great espresso coffee, experience the refurbished surroundings with friendly effective service. Tel 471 2444



If undelivered return to Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park, P O  
Box 2336, Wellington