



FRIENDS of
BOLTON STREET
CEMETERY INCORPORATED
PO BOX 2445 WELLINGTON

NEWSLETTER NO. 29 MARCH 1990

BOLTON STREET MEMORIAL PARK OPENING

Tuesday 27 March 1990

Members will be delighted to know that the new park will be officially opened on Tuesday 27 March 1990 at 12 noon. All members are warmly invited to the ceremony, which will be held in the park area at the corner of Bolton and Mowbray Streets.

The key elements of the park are the new landscaped garden area, the rebuilt chapel, and the memorial to those whose remains were disinterred for motorway construction. The garden and the chapel are both nearly completed. The memorial will be installed in time for the opening. It is in the form of an open book, in bronze mounted on stone, with an appropriate simple inscription.

The opening ceremony will begin with a reconsecration of the common grave, followed by the unveiling of the memorial and the dedication of the chapel. Speakers will be the Mayor, Mr. Jim Belich, and Mrs. Margaret AJington, historian of the cemetery. Then will follow lunch and outdoor entertainment.

There will be a display in the chapel on the history of the cemetery and its role today.

Please try to attend this ceremony, which will mark the successful end of much hard work and perseverance by all concerned.

Index to graves and memorials

The computerised index of all visible graves and memorials in the cemetery will be on view at the opening. The index is the result of much hard work by researchers over many years. Its computerisation has been made a reality through the efforts of committee members and staff of the National Library. The index will be housed in the Library along with other historical records of the cemetery in the Alexander Turnbull Library, and in some other suitable repositories.

Our thanks are due to the staff of the National Library for making the index a reality in time for the opening of the park.

Work Days

A small but enthusiastic band of workers has spent several days over recent months in the lower part of the cemetery, cleaning down gravestones and doing other tidying work. The work has been done under the supervision of committee member Anne Bunnett. Their work has made the historical gravestones much more legible and presentable. Further work-days will be held in the spring, and we will advise members of the dates.

Research

Research will begin soon on a complete listing of all burials from the motorway area, as indicated in the last newsletter. The aim is to compile a computerised list on the lines of the index of graves and memorials referred to earlier in this Newsletter. This will form the basis of a memorial book which will record the names of all those reburied in the common grave.

Members who indicated an interest in research on their membership renewal forms will be contacted soon to see if they are able to help in this project.

Lt. George Eliot-Lockhart, R.N.

Members will recall the interesting article on Lieutenant Eliot-Lockhart by committee member Mac McCormick, in Newsletter 26 (September 1988).

Mac has since obtained further information on Lockhart. This is set out on the opposite page.

by A.W. McCormick

The following are extracts from the Navy List, the official publication of the Royal Navy in reference to Lt Elliott-Lockhart.

- 23 October 1861 - Commissioned Sub Lieutenant (acting) and appointment confirmed on 12 April 1862.
- 24 July 1862 - Appointed to HMS Severn, frigate 2767 tons and serving in the East Indies and China.
- 12 July 1864 - Appointed to HMS Wasp, sloop 374 tons and serving in the East Indies and Cape of Good Hope.
- 9 October 1866 - Appointed to HMS Pantaloon, sloop 574 tons and serving in the East Indies.
- 11 February 1867 - Appointed to HMS Research, 1253 tons on a particular service which is not stated. Lt Lockhart a sub lieutenant supernumerary.
- 5 September 1867 - Commissioned Lieutenant.
- 2 May 1868 - Appointed to HMS Caledonian, ship armed plated 4125 tons, the flagship of Mediterranean Station (Vice Admiral Rt Hon Lord Clarence). Lt Lockhart the most junior of seven lieutenants.

It may be of interest that in 1868 the annual basic pay for a lieutenant was 152 pounds ten shillings (\$304.50).

Lt Lockhart appears to have had a drinking problem. For non payment of a mess bill his conduct to be reported on every three months and further complaints to lead to dismissal, but the debts having been paid the quarterly reports to be discontinued. On 2 April 1866 he was to be tried on charges of drunkenness but on 12 October 1866 the order was cancelled in consequence of a good report of his conduct on the HMS Pantaloon. He was then appointed to shore for 6 weeks and then to a ship on probation and on 19 July 1867 his conduct was reported as satisfactory. He was later reported as to an excessive wine account and on 12 October 1868 he was sent home under surveillance and to have three shillings (30¢) per day half pay. In October 1868 he was acquitted for want of evidence when tried on charge of Delirium Tremens. He was sent on sick leave on 27 November 1869 on half pay.

Elliott Lockhart died on 4 September 1871 and he was reported as being in Wellington "for about a year". We do not know about his movements from November 1869 to September 1870.