



**FRIENDS of
BOLTON STREET
CEMETERY** INCORPORATED
PO BOX 2336 WELLINGTON

NEWSLETTER No 38

June 1994

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 12 July 1994 at 7.45 pm

ST ANDREW'S ON THE TERRACE LOUNGE

**GUEST SPEAKER
Mrs Frances Porter**

"My Hand Will Write What My Heart Dictates"

wrote desperately lonely Anne Wilson to her "elsewhere" husband.

Charlotte McDonald, Frances Porter and Tui MacDonald (Maori researcher) are using Anne's remark as the title of a forthcoming publication about the private lives of nineteenth and early twentieth century women. Relationships, attitudes, life events - such as marriage, childbirth and death - are the focus rather than women's organisations and movements.

Frances Porter will give a "work in progress" talk about this book.

This promises to be a fascinating and different talk by a very interesting speaker. We recommend it to members.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1994

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of the 1993 Annual General Meeting
- 3 Matters arising from the minutes
- 4 Chairperson's Report
- 5 Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement
- 6 WCC Parks and Recreation Department Report
- 7 Election of Committee
- 8 Election of Auditor
- 9 Name of the Society*
- 10 Address by Frances Porter

*PROPOSED NAME CHANGE

At the 1993 AGM it was suggested that we should change the name of our organisation from "Friends of Bolton Street Cemetery" to "Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park". The logic behind this suggestion is that the Wellington City Council officially refers to the area in question as "Bolton Street Memorial Park". It should be noted that not only is the area no longer legally a cemetery, but "Bolton Street Cemetery" applied only to the Church of England section, the public section being known as "Sydney Street Cemetery". The whole area of burial ground was often referred to after 1891 as the "Town Cemetery" to differentiate it from Karori.

Although the whole area was long popularly known as "Bolton Street Cemetery", this is not strictly correct, and it has been suggested that we should bring ourselves into line by using the official title "Bolton Street Memorial Park". As a name change is a constitutional matter, the Committee considers this matter should be discussed by members before any formal proposal for change is considered.

RESEARCH PROJECT: CEMETERY BURIAL RECORDS

Research of the burial records has been in progress by the Friends for some years, under the guidance of Margaret Alington (author of *Unquiet Earth - a history of the Bolton Street Cemetery*). A specific aim of this project is to compile an edited list of all burials within the Bolton Street Memorial Park for purposes of general research, in addition to meeting a legal requirement to list all disinterments undertaken between 1968 and 1972 at the time of construction of the motorway.

Stage I of the project comprised the preparation of an index to the "Map of Visible Graves and Memorials" (WCC Parks & Recreation Dept Licence B217, completed in 1987). This index was compiled by Margaret Alington between 1984 to 1990 and placed on computer with additional assistance from the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, Giles Alington and Myles Breen. Approximately 3,350 names are recorded, the principal source of which were transcripts of legible inscriptions on headstones prepared in the 1970s. The index and transcripts are available in the Wellington Public Library and in the Alexander Turnbull Library. The index and associated map is now available to the public in the Bolton Street Memorial Park Chapel.

Stage 2, commenced in 1991 and now nearing completion, involves adding the remaining burials to computer (nearly 5,300 unedited entries at present). Many of these relate to disinterments from unidentified graves, the remains from which now rest in the "Mass Grave" situated adjacent to the Chapel. All names have been sourced from the earliest surviving burial records on index cards retained at the Karori Cemetery, photocopies of which are in the Alexander Turnbull Library. Listing from the original "Public Cemetery" and "Jewish Cemetery" records has been undertaken by Annette Fairweather, Nick Perrin, Betty Krebs, John Daniels, Hugh and Marjorie Fullarton, Christine McGrath and David Dunsheath. Listing from the original "Church of England Cemetery" records has been undertaken by Margaret Alington.

Stage 3 is now being planned to edit every name identified from the previous two stages, against the Registrar General's national deaths records and other relevant sources. The indexes to the national deaths records are available on microfiche in the Wellington Public Library and in the Alexander Turnbull Library, and may be purchased in this format. [Continued over]

This research is intended to eliminate duplications, incorrect spellings and other errors and to identify the status of members of families recorded on headstones who were, in fact, buried elsewhere or lost at sea.

Volunteers for this Stage 3 research are invited to contact any of the following Friends committee members:

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|-----------------------|---------------|
| ■ Sue Upton | (04) 479 5416 |
| ■ Annette Fairweather | (04) 476 8768 |
| ■ David Dunsheath | (04) 472 8405 |

The loan of microfiche reading machines is also being sought by the Friends to facilitate this research. Can you suggest where these machines might be available from?



RESEARCH REPORT: PHOTOGRAPHS

A W McCormick reports that the following photographs have been deposited with the Alexander Turnbull Library - Photographic Section. All of those listed have connections with the Cemetery.

- **Walter Helyer**, a monumental mason, and his wife **Eliza**.
- **Walter James Helyer**, son of the above, who carried on his father's business.
- **William Galwey**, a railway engineer who constructed railways in India and Japan, and came to New Zealand for his health and died here.
- **Mrs Henry Smith** (nee **Mary Eleanor Galwey**), a school teacher who became Principal of Chilton House School at 255 The Terrace.