



**FRIENDS of  
BOLTON STREET  
CEMETERY INCORPORATED**

PO BOX 12 426, WELLINGTON, 6144, NEW ZEALAND  
<http://boltoncemetery.org.nz>

NEWSLETTER No 99 JUNE 2025

Editor: Kate Fortune

**NOTICE OF 49th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**2.00 pm on Saturday 5 July 2025 at**

**SEMINAR ROOM, THE TREEHOUSE, BOTANIC GARDEN**

*within easy walking to Treehouse lift from Glenmore Street parking & Bus Route 2*

*Refer to pages 7-11 for AGM Agenda and other AGM papers*



*Significant national graves and memorials in New Zealand come under the care and protection of the Ministry of Culture and Heritage. Come along to the Treehouse at 2.00pm on 5 July and hear about this aspect of New Zealand's heritage in a talk by our AGM guest speaker, Becky Masters-Ramsay, who is Senior Advisor, War Graves and National Memorials. (See page 8 for details.)*

*As part of her role, the Wakefield family grave (left) in the lower cemetery has recently been renovated with newly painted railings.*

*Photo: Kate Fortune*

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## JOSEPH NANCARROW, ENGINEER (1816-1879)

Extensive repairs to the NANCARROW grave structure were carried out in 2024 after the high footwall had become dangerously unstable (see Newsletter No 98 and p12 in this issue). Joseph Nancarrow was born in 1816 in the ancient tin and copper mining village of St Agnes, Cornwall, to John Nancarrow and his wife Jennifer, née Gripe (according to an on-line family tree). Nancarrow is a classic old Cornish name meaning ‘valley of the deer’.

Obituaries said he ‘*had a decided taste for engineering*’ as a youngster, probably having been an apprentice with steam engines for dewatering the mines that were a major Cornish industry. Then as a young man he obtained a government appointment to the island of Ascension as an engineer. Ascension is a strategic British post in the middle of the Atlantic, governed by the Royal Marines since 1823, and previously designated as HMS Ascension (‘*Stone Sloop of War*’), since Britain first occupied this formerly uninhabited island in 1815. It is still a British naval and air base. Joseph would have been occupied in engineering works for the Royal Navy, most likely involving steam boilers.

Joseph’s employment on Ascension was probably before his marriage to Emily Porter at Woolwich in 1842, or at least before the birth of their daughter at Woolwich in 1845. This daughter, Emily Jane, died in 1852. In 1853 Joseph left Woolwich with his wife and their son, Richard, aged about 10 years, and travelled to Nelson, New Zealand, on board the newly-built steamer *Nelson*, as the ship’s engineer.

The Nelson Provincial Council had commissioned the building of the *Nelson*, a 200-ton iron-hulled screw steamer at Glasgow, but there were problems, and the ship finally arrived in Nelson after somewhat desperate re-financing, on 5 April 1854. It had made the voyage from London under sail, and the screw (propeller) was fitted at Nelson where the first trials under steam power took place. (Note: This 1853 vessel was often confused with a later steamer *Nelson*, built in 1864, and also serving Nelson.)

Joseph and family settled in Nelson where he established a farm as well as working as the engineer on the *Nelson*. The ship operated successfully between Nelson, Wellington, the West Coast and New Plymouth until mid-1855, when it was sent back to Britain to serve as a transport during the Crimean War. This loss left Nelson without a dedicated passenger and goods shipping service, but the paddle-steamer *Zingari*, a much inferior vessel, took up the Nelson trade until the arrival of the paddle-steamer *Tasmanian Maid* in June 1857.



*The paddle steamer Tasmanian Maid in 1860 (detail above), from a painting by Edwin Harris (1810?-1895)  
Ref: Alexander Turnbull Library C-030-013*



Joseph was a member of the committee of the Nelson Trust Fund that approved the purchase of the *Tasmanian Maid* to ensure it continued to serve Nelson. The *Tasmanian Maid* operated successfully between 1857 and 1864, when it was taken over by the colonial government, converted to a gunboat at Auckland and renamed HMS *Sandfly*. It seems Joseph was the engineer on the *Tasmanian Maid* from 1857 until January 1863, when he was appointed as one of three Engineer Surveyors, and began travelling regularly to inspect steamships and other steam-driven machinery.

During his time as engineer on the *Tasmanian Maid*, Joseph conducted tests on the efficiency of Grey River Coal, which he reported in late 1861 to be superior to all but the best of British and Australian coal for steamships. This report undoubtedly influenced the development of the Grey Coalfields.

*A sketch (detail) by A E Williams of the renamed paddle steamer, HMS Sandfly, in 1864.*

*Ref: Alexander Turnbull Library E349-105/106*



In 1860, Joseph seems to have considered that his future lay in farming in Nelson Province, and paid 15 pounds deposit for a 'depasturage' (grazing) licence for 10,000 acres in Moutere-Waimea West area. However, his appointment as Engineer Surveyor in 1863 meant that he had to give up his residency in Nelson and move to Wellington, where he bought a house on Wellington Terrace (now 230 The Terrace) in 1864. His son, Joseph Jnr stayed as a boarder at Nelson College aged about 11 in 1865. (His older son, Richard, had already left home, later becoming a noted Greymouth businessman who served two terms as Mayor. Joseph Jnr became an insurance agent and eventually moved to Australia.)

Now based in Wellington, which had become the capital of New Zealand in 1865, Joseph travelled extensively in the course of his employment as Engineer Surveyor, and was appointed an Inspector of Steam Vessels, and also an 'Engineer Surveyor for the Colony of NZ' in 1866 (one of three).



As well as investigating all sorts of steamship disasters, he was a witness at two notable inquiries into shipwrecks on which he was actually a passenger. The first of these was the SS *Taranaki*, which struck a rock on 18 August 1868 after leaving Wellington for Picton, and foundered after being towed into Worsler Bay. (It was later refloated and then finally totally wrecked off Tauranga on 29 November 1878.)

*A painting of the SS Taranaki by William Forster, gifted to Te Papa by Capt. Ferdinand Holm in 1966.*  
*Ref: Te Papa 1992-0035-1942*

A fellow passenger on the *Taranaki* was the Bishop of Lichfield – better known today as George Augustus Selwyn, who was on a farewell tour of New Zealand before taking up his new post. It was Bishop Selwyn who settled the dispute between the Anglicans and non-Anglicans over subdivision of Bolton Street Cemetery in 1849, and whose signature in the C of E burial register is 'G A New Zealand' (Bishop of New Zealand).

The second case where Joseph was a passenger in a disaster was the wreck of the SS *Rangitoto* while on a voyage from Nelson to Wellington on 31 July 1873. The ship ran aground and became a total loss. The Inquiry took place the next day!

In April 1874, Joseph was one of three commissioners investigating the boiler explosion at the Kuranui stamping battery in the Thames goldfields which resulted in three fatalities. The

outcome of their report led to the passing of the *Inspection of Machinery Act* of 1874. Joseph was appointed Chief Inspector of Machinery for the Colony, which finally removed the separation of marine and land-based machinery inspection, widening the scope of Joseph's official duties. Earlier in 1874 he had also been appointed Examiner of Engineers under the *Merchant Ship Officers' Examination Act* of 1870.



Emily Nancarrow died at 230 The Terrace on 30 July 1877 and was buried in Sydney Street Cemetery. A few months later, the widowed Joseph applied for a year's leave of absence. He was farewelled by friends at the Occidental Hotel on 1 March 1878, receiving a handsome illuminated address and a substantial sum of money on the eve of his departure for England. He arrived back in New Zealand in early 1879 and resumed his duties.

*The Nancarrows' house at 230 The Terrace in Wellington still exists (being the small part on the left) but has had extensive additions in the Edwardian era. Photo: Charles Collins, WCC*

Joseph remarried on 7 November 1883 in Tauranga, to Annie Hewitt, daughter of the late Thomas Hewitt RN, of Dublin. There were two sons from this marriage – Frederick John Hewitt 1885, and Arthur James Hewitt 1887 (wrongly named in our burial list as Arthur John Hewitt). At this time Joseph was also active as a Wesleyan Church trustee in Wellington.

In 1884, the 'marine engineers of the colony' were reported to be commissioning an oil painting of Joseph. This painting, said to be still held by descendants, is his only known portrait. Joseph retired two years later after a long and distinguished career in engineering, and was presented with a 'solid silver set' by colleagues and friends on 3 December 1886. He then tried his hand at politics, being nominated for the Te Aro seat in the House of Representatives, but came a distant third behind Francis H Fraser (the winner) in the 1887 elections. However, he was appointed a Justice of the Peace in the same year. In 1888 he was expected to replace John Duthie on the Harbour Board, but came third once again. At the time of his death, he was chairman of the Willis St School committee and a director of the Wellington Gas Co.

On 21 June 1889 Joseph died of apoplexy at his residence, Willis Street, aged 73. His obituary in the *New Zealand Times* of 22 June 1889 concludes '*Mr Nancarrow was a man of deep feeling, and although at times apt to be brusque in his manner, he had a sympathetic nature, and earned the respect of all who intimately knew him.*'

Joseph was buried in plot 107.K of the Public Cemetery (grid L10 05) on 24 June 1889 with his first wife, Emily (died 1877), infant daughter Hilda Emily Elaine (died 1882) and infant granddaughter Winifred Mary Georgina (died 1882). Later burials in this plot were his widow, Annie (died 1941), and Joseph and Annie's son, Arthur James Hewitt Nancarrow (died 1944). Of these, only Emily, Joseph and Annie are commemorated on the headstone.

*Nick Perrin*

#### *References:*

*Papers Past*; Cemetery Records; Wikipedia; NZ Maritime Association ('Dr Watt's Lists'); Ancestry.com; the Archaeological report on the Nancarrow Grave; WCC Heritage.

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## REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT 2024–25

What a surprise to find myself writing this report already – the first year as President of the Friends has simply flown by! I guess that means I've been having too much fun so this is a good time to reflect on the year behind us as well as look ahead to next year.

The cemetery is not just a place – it's all about people. The Friends' committee is at the core of our work and what a great team! I'd especially like to acknowledge Kate Fortune for her amazing work across all aspects of our work; the title of treasurer simply does not tell the story! I'd also like to thank Elizabeth who not only takes our meeting minutes, but provides support to many projects and discussions. Other committee members were all involved in our various projects – more of that below.

**Membership.** We welcome new members and hope to inspire more to get involved in the life of the cemetery. The AGM is a great social occasion and chance to meet other members and learn more about Bolton Street and other heritage cemeteries. (Feel free to bring a friend.)

**Descendants' involvement.** One of the highlights of our work is connecting families with their ancestors (and sometimes even with each other). The Robertson grave restoration project was led by Peter McHardy working along with the council heritage experts, the BG team, various contractors and several descendants to protect and paint the railings, restore the brass plaque and locate appropriate Victorian-era ground cover plants (see p12).

**Burials and memorials.** The stories of those buried in the cemetery bring our history to life. Every week, Nick Perrin uncovers new information, joins dots between people and plots – thrilling descendants with new information and updating the formal records.

**Our guided tours, and Facebook pages** are managed by Barbara Mulligan and Kate Fortune. These are key to sharing the stories of those buried and remembered here while connecting with the every-day lives of those who enjoy the cemetery now. New tours are in development – a great way to continue learning about and enjoying the cemetery.

**The Botanic Garden team.** We acknowledge with gratitude the enormous contribution of David Sole, who retired as Botanic Garden Manager in February 2025 after 28 years of service to the Wellington City Council. Bec Ramsey has now taken over the leadership of the Botanic Garden, and we value her advice and the support of her team. Special mention must go to Kai Yuan and the heritage gardens team who have made huge improvements in the cemetery.

**Our working bees** provide an opportunity for us to work alongside the gardens team. This is a practical way for members to contribute their time and energy to the cemetery – a big *thankyou* to the fantastic group of Friends who come along on Sunday mornings.

This year we offered to help plant bulbs for the ongoing **Daffodil project** which is led by Anne Phillips – an offer gratefully accepted by the busy Botanic Gardens team.

**New Constitution.** Like all Incorporated Societies we are required to revise our rules into a new constitution under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. This work is now complete and special thanks must go to David Dunsheath for his leadership through this process.

The next few years promise to be active and exciting for the Friends. 2027 will be our 50-year anniversary and we are starting to think about how to celebrate this in a way that recognises the special place of the cemetery in Wellington's culture and history. We have already embarked on a project to improve the archiving and sharing of information about the cemetery and its inhabitants. We continue to work with the Heritage Gardens team to improve

the environment and collaborate on projects. There's always an endless list of grave and headstone repairs and conservation, regular enquiries from descendants, plus opportunities to work closely with schools and heritage groups in Wellington. To achieve all this, we do need a few more helping hands. Please think about joining the committee!

Finally, on a personal note, I acknowledge that this year has been a huge learning curve as my first time in a role such as this. I'd like to thank Jenny Button (past president) for a wonderful handover, our experienced committee for their guidance and support as well as the membership for entrusting me with this important role.

*Christine Harper (President)*



*Most of the committee were able to meet up with Jenny Button last year.*

*From left: David Dunsheath, Anne Phillips, Kate Fortune, Jenny Button, Barbara Mulligan, Christine Harper, Elizabeth Fletcher-McNabb, Nick Perrin. Absent: Peter McHardy*

### **JOIN THE FRIENDS COMMITTEE:**

*Many hands make light work and we need 2-3 more people on the Friends committee. We have a wide range of projects underway or planned and people with interests in memorials and conservation are always valuable. Skills in IT, archiving, web development or events would complement the talents of the current committee. The committee work is collegial, interesting and fun! Drop us a line at [friendsbolton@gmail.com](mailto:friendsbolton@gmail.com) to discuss before the AGM.*

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### **IN MEMORIAM: PRISCILLA WILLIAMS QSO (1940-2024)**



After a distinguished career as one of New Zealand's leading diplomats, Priscilla Williams joined the committee of the Friends of the Bolton Street Cemetery in 2003. She lived in Kinross Street and had a keen interest in historical research, eventually taking up the portfolio of conservation and repairs. She served as an extremely energetic President from 2005 to 2015, and continued as Past-President until her death on 7 June 2024. Priscilla was a fierce champion and guardian of the cemetery, earning respect and admiration from her colleagues and from WCC Botanic Gardens staff.

Born in Whanganui, younger daughter of Canon Nigel and Nora Williams, Priscilla was a direct descendant of William Williams, the first Bishop of Waiapu (East Coast). She had a long involvement with the Henry and William Williams Museum Trust, deeply committed to the purchase and restoration of the Bay of Islands home of Henry and Marianne Williams.

With her strong, forthright personality, Priscilla often acted decisively. John McKinnon, a close friend and a former Ambassador for New Zealand, noted that *'her way was the only way in getting things done, which often put her in the firing line with her superiors and others who associated with her.'* But Priscilla also had a very warm heart, she was an excellent mentor, caring for others, and always working to help achieve good outcomes for heritage recognition, conservation, and protection. Her contribution to the cemetery was immense. She received a Queen's Service Order (QSO) for services to the Government and the community in 2004.

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### IN MEMORIAM: SHEILA WILLIAMS (1938-2025)

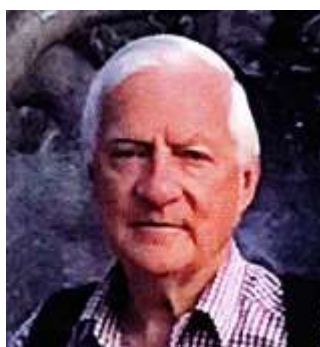


Sheila Williams, Priscilla's older sister, who died on 31 March 2025, was a longstanding member of the Friends of Bolton Street Cemetery. As a former Turnbull staff member, she was happy to apply her skills and knowledge to assist with researching our cemetery records held in Turnbull collections. This was immensely valuable in building up our database of biographical information.

Sheila had strong ties to the Turnbull Library: her grandfather was a friend of Alexander Turnbull, and her father was a former president (1965-1971) of the Friends of the Turnbull Library. Sheila's career at the Library culminated in her becoming Chief Cataloguer. She was later honoured as a Fellow of the Library and Information Association of NZ (1980-89), and was a dedicated committee member of the Friends of the Turnbull Library for 31 years (1993-2024). The Friends of the Bolton Street Cemetery acknowledge her expertise with gratitude.

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### IN MEMORIAM: KARL BALE (1947-2025)



Karl and Judy Bale moved to Kinross Street about 25 years ago, and came to know the Cemetery well. At the Friends' AGM in 2002 it was recorded that Karl and Judy first offered their joint services to committee membership, although subsequently it was Judy who became an ongoing committee member, making a huge contribution to the Friends' activities from 2003 until her death in 2018 (see Newsletter 86). Karl then rejoined the committee in 2019 and was a regular and valuable contributor to working bees, as well as helping us to follow up Judy's passion for heritage roses.

Later, Karl's attention became closely focussed on daffodils, and he initiated a major effort to brighten the Cemetery with beautiful displays of these golden heritage blooms.



Karl's health steadily declined over recent years, and obliged him to resign from the committee in 2023. He continued to walk the familiar paths of the Cemetery with his dog Walter, until his death on 5 May 2025. His kind, gentle and modest personality will be greatly missed, as will his extensive knowledge contributing to interesting and robust discussions.

Thanks to Karl (who worked with Anne Phillips on this project), this celebration of heritage daffodils has now become a very successful annual project, in coordination with the WCC Heritage Gardens team. It remains as a visibly glorious legacy for both Karl and Judy.

We offer our condolences to Karl's two sons and family.

*[These three obituaries were collated by committee members, with photos provided.]*

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Our 49<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting will be held Saturday 5 July 2025 at 2:00 pm at the Seminar Room within the Treehouse Visitor Centre, the Botanic Garden.**

*Use the Treehouse lift within easy walking from Glenmore Street  
(for parking and No. 2 Karori bus stop).*

***Printed copies of this newsletter with information for the AGM will be provided.***

### **Agenda**

1. Present and apologies
2. Minutes of the 48<sup>th</sup> AGM (see page 10 of this newsletter)
3. Matters arising from Minutes
4. Report from the President (see page 8 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

The AGM will be followed by a delicious afternoon tea and the talk from our guest speaker.

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## PRESENTATION TO FOLLOW THE AGM:

### ***Preserving Monuments and Memories***

**Becky Masters-Ramsay** is our AGM guest speaker. Our cemeteries tell the stories of influential and ordinary people who shaped Aotearoa. Preserving those stories for the future motivates the work of the Ministry of Culture and Heritage where Becky is the Senior Advisor, War Graves and National Memorials. In this illustrated talk she will share her passion for cemeteries as a repository for history, and insights from projects in New Zealand and overseas, including the Seddon Memorial and Wakefield Grave.

*Please join us and bring a friend to the Treehouse Seminar Room on 5 July.*

Hear this interesting illustrated presentation after the business of our AGM, take the opportunity to chat to committee members and enjoy a delicious afternoon tea.

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## COMMITTEE LIST 2024-2025

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Christine Harper <i>President</i>     | Policies, Working bees, Constitutional Review  |
| David Dunsheath <i>Vice President</i> | Constitutional Review                          |
| Kate Fortune <i>Treasurer</i>         | Membership Secretary, Guide, Newsletter editor |
| Elizabeth Fletcher-McNabb             | Minutes Secretary                              |
| Peter McHardy                         | Conservation & Repairs                         |
| Barbara Mulligan                      | Tours support, Guide                           |
| Nick Perrin QSM                       | Biographical & burial list, Research           |
| Anne Phillips                         | Daffodil project, Constitutional Review        |

## PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

### PART I: STATEMENT OF SERVICE PERFORMANCE:

- Many of our activities during the year continued to focus on using the Bolton Street Cemetery Museum for visits and tours drawing attention to the museum displays.
- We held 17 guided tours during the year, including nine for Wellington’s Heritage Week and two for Wellington Anniversary Weekend. We also offered our self-guided WWI tour over 10 days around Anzac Day, and again around Remembrance Day in November.
- Working bees this year continued the strategy of meeting on the first Sunday of each month. There were 11 well-attended working bees.
- We assist the WCC by identifying urgent repairs to heritage graves, and liaison on methods to be used. During the year, conservation repairs to the Nancarrow grave brickwork and railings were at last completed, and several more minor repairs were carried out. The Friends also offered guidance and support for several private conservation projects on memorials and graves.
- Our searchable burial database of about 9300 names was further updated with the addition of many “age at death” entries and about 50 photographs and grave descriptions. About 80 enquiries about burials were answered with detailed notes and a few photographs. This research has also resulted in adding more names and correcting spelling errors in surnames on the burial list.
- Many members volunteer their own time and skills to the Society’s activities. In all, this amounted to an average of 120 hours per month – totalling over 1400 hours in 2024/25.

### PART II: STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE:

|                                   | Notes                | <u>2025</u>     | <u>2024</u>    |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Revenue                           |                      |                 |                |
| Subscriptions (current + arrears) |                      | 1,255           | 1,260          |
| Bequest (PJ Williams Estate)      |                      | 20,000          | 0              |
| Book sales                        |                      | 0               | 30             |
| Donations (individual)            |                      | 3,916           | 4,112          |
| Income from tours                 |                      | 3,444           | 3,800          |
| Interest                          |                      | <u>735</u>      | <u>284</u>     |
|                                   | Total Revenue        | <u>\$29,350</u> | <u>\$9,486</u> |
| LESS Expenditure                  |                      |                 |                |
| Annual General Meeting            |                      | 206             | 265            |
| Charities Services fee            |                      | 0               | 51             |
| Cleaning products                 |                      | 226             | 192            |
| P O Box rental                    | 1                    | 210             | 105            |
| Printing, stationery, copying     |                      | 666             | 867            |
| Project: White crosses            |                      | 0               | 239            |
| Tours reimbursement               |                      | 90              | 0              |
| Website, hosting & domain name    |                      | <u>126</u>      | <u>104</u>     |
|                                   | Total Expenditure    | <u>\$1,524</u>  | <u>\$1,823</u> |
|                                   | Surplus for the year | <u>27,826</u>   | <u>7,663</u>   |

Note 1: Actual rental of \$210 shared with another organisation last year only, not this year.

### STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY AT 31 MARCH 2025

|                                      |                 |                 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Accumulated Funds – at start of year | 18,525          | 10,862          |
| Plus Surplus for the year            | <u>27,826</u>   | <u>7,663</u>    |
|                                      | <u>\$46,351</u> | <u>\$18,525</u> |



MOVED that the President's report be accepted (J Button/Barbara Mulligan) CARRIED

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

David Sole presented his report (to be summarised in Newsletter No 98) by acknowledging the passing of both Priscilla Williams and Bill Alington, and the various collaborative achievements during the year, between the Friends and his Botanic Gardens team.

Responding to a question from Barbara Mulligan, he commented that when the damaged macrocarpa in the lower cemetery was removed it would be replaced by a suitable native tree.

Jenny thanked David for his continuing supportive activities in coordination with the Friends.

MOVED that the BG Manager's Report be received (D Sole/ J Trotter) CARRIED

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

Treasurer Kate Fortune tabled the Performance Reports for Year Ended 31 March 2024 (p9/10 of Newsletter 97). She commented on:

- A transcription error in one of the columns, which did not change the end values.
- Healthy state of finances, with a significant total of donations gratefully received.

MOVED that the Performance Report for year ending 31 March 2024 be approved (K. Fortune/ D. Cuthbert) CARRIED

## 7 Election of Committee

Jenny Button said she was not standing again this year, but that one nomination for the presidency had been received. MOVED that Christine Harper be elected as President.

Further nominations were invited but none were forthcoming. CARRIED

Nominations were tabled for remainder of committee as follows:

- Vice-President: David Dunsheath
- Secretary (Minutes): Elizabeth Fletcher-McNabb
- Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Kate Fortune
- Committee: Nick Perrin, Jillian Wellings, Anne Phillips, Barbara Mulligan

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

Christine Harper moved a vote of thanks to Jennifer Button for many years of dedication and support to the Friends. CARRIED with acclamation

## 8 General Business

**Draft Constitution** – MOVED that the Committee recommendations for changes required to the Constitution, as set out in the draft document, be approved in principle.

(David Dunsheath/ John McKinnon) AGREED

*Comments and questions from the Floor*

Michael Alexander thanked the Friends for their commitment to the upkeep of the cemetery.

There was no further general business.

The meeting closed at 2:30 pm.

After a break for refreshments, **Guest speakers, John and Mary Stevens** spoke about Christ Church Taita, its very early history and its graveyard.

## RECENT HAPPENINGS IN THE CEMETERY



*Left:* Final repair work on the front wall of the **Nancarrow** grave (L10 05) was completed in March this year. Nick Perrin's research into **Joseph Nancarrow** and his family – not all of whom are named on the headstone – is our feature story in this Newsletter.

*Below:* These are some of the wonderful volunteers who have turned up at our **Working Bees** on Sunday mornings over the warmer months. Their efforts make a huge difference to the appearance of the cemetery, and the WCC Heritage Gardens team are most appreciative. In the photo *below left*, the Nancarrow grave was weeded before the railings were put back in place.



*Above left:* Some descendants gathered at the Robertson grave on 21 May to complete the latest restoration work instigated by John Bedkober. The railings had been painted and the planting of ground cover was carried out by family members and Heritage Gardens staff. From left, the family group is Greta Shanks, Sophia Shanks, Rob Macklin, John Bedkober, Sarah Macklin. *Above right:* Dale and Jack accepting ground cover plants from Sarah. *Photos: Christine Harper & Kate Fortune*