



June 2019



Dear Members

We hope you all keeping well and flu-free. The photo of Parnell above shows how draughty it must have been travelling the roads in all weather! Although perhaps the lack of pollution would have been a bonus, and how peaceful too!

Several of you expressed dismay at the removal of the two houses next to the Cathedral. Sadly, the demolition took place quickly with little publicity despite Julie Hill's best efforts and her interview for *The New Zealand Herald*.

We held a very enjoyable afternoon at Holy Trinity recently to view the Wallace Collection artworks. Full details follow in this Newsletter.

Remember, if you would like to take a more active role in Parnell Heritage or to help in any way, please contact Sue (who looks after our administration) on andreassensue@gmail.com / 09 846 7661 / 022 647 5155.

With best wishes,

Co-Chairs: Mary Barry and Julie Hill



2019 Parnell Heritage Events

Wallace Collection Artworks

We are very grateful to the Holy Trinity Cathedral for letting us view these artworks and use the Bishop Monteith Visitors' Centre. There are nine artworks displayed in the crypt, all painted between 1978 and 1998. They have been provided on a permanent revolving loan basis and are on display in the recently opened John Wilson Gallery.



To start the event, the art critic, correspondent and curator, John Daly-Peoples (photo on left with Julie Hill), gave us an interesting presentation on Sir James Wallace and his vast collection of New Zealand art. This was started in the 1960's and a painting by Toss Woollaston, two of whose works we viewed, was the first in the collection. By the 1980's Sir James had about 4,000 works in the collection, and today it comprises over 9,000 items. Many are displayed at Rannoch, Sir James' house in Epsom, and at Pah Homestead in Hillsborough. He chooses each piece personally and commissions works

also, including sculptures. There is a huge range of artworks in the collection by artists who all interpret their subjects differently.

Sir James is a great philanthropist, sponsoring many young artists to help them become established and takes paintings in return. Sir James has created a diary of works bought from young painters so that in future one can see how these painters have progressed.



Toss Woollaston - *The Remarkables*, 1974



The Wallace Art Awards are presented each year with around \$200,000 given in prize money by the James Wallace Trust. In addition, artists from around the world can get help and resources.



Denys Watkins – detail of *New World*, 1990

After viewing the artworks in the crypt, John spoke about each of the artists whose paintings were on display: Toss Woollaston, Ian Scott, Michael Browne, Peter Gibson-Smith, Eion Stevens, Denys Watkins, Philip Trusstum and Reuben Pillsbury.

And then we all enjoyed a very welcome afternoon tea.

Future Events

- On Thursday 5th September we will hold our Annual General Meeting at 7pm at the Quality Hotel. Auckland Councillor, Desley Simpson, will give a presentation, and we are hoping Polly Smith, researcher at The University of Auckland School of Architecture and Planning, will be able to present also.
- The theme of the 2019 Auckland Heritage Festival, that runs from 5th to 28th October 2019, is *Journeys – the stories of how our people travelled to Tāmaki Makaurau by sea, by air or by land, to create a shared future together*. We will hold an evening with wine and nibbles at the Arcadia Bookshop, Newmarket, on Thursday 10th October 2019, in conjunction with Remuera Heritage and the Epsom and Eden Historical Society. Our journals and publications will be displayed along with those from the other Societies, and short presentations will be given by the authors of some of the articles, particularly regarding the theme of this year's Festival. The publications will be on sale, as well as the excellent range of books stocked by Arcadia Bookshop. Numbers will be limited so, if you would like to attend, it is essential you advise us via enquiries@parnellheritage.org.nz.
- We are investigating the possibility of a tour at the War Memorial Museum featuring the Museum Director's personal choice of items.



- In November, we will take part in the Parnell Rose Festival by holding a stall, and we plan to hold stalls at the Parnell Farmers' Market at least twice during the year.

If you have any suggestions for future events, or local places/history/people in which you are interested, and which might be suitable subjects for events, please don't hesitate to contact Sue via the details given below.

www.parnellheritage.org.nz

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