



June 2017

Dear Members

We hope you will enjoy this newsletter and we aim to send you regular updates throughout the year. The first half of 2017 has gone very well for Parnell Heritage Inc. Our Journal No. 6 is flying off the shelves since its launch last year and we enjoyed a busy time at our Parnell Farmers' Market stall in February. We now offer packs of 5 journals at \$20 per pack, these comprise Journals Nos 1 to 5 and make unique and fascinating gifts. We now have a Mail Order section on our website where you can buy cards, journals and the charming Parnell Baths Book online. And watch out for Journal No. 7 which is now underway!

In March we enjoyed a delightful evening at the Selwyn Library when Anglican Bishop Ross Bay joined us and gave insights into life at the Library, both past and present. A description of this event with some photos follows.

Following many years' service after setting up Parnell Heritage, Rendell McIntosh has stepped down from his role as Patron. Our community is indebted for his vision and work. We are delighted to announce that Stephen Goodman has agreed to become our new Patron and a short biography of Stephen follows in this newsletter.

Another person who has given great service since Parnell Heritage started in March 2005 is Dr Warren Limbrick. At our Selwyn Library event we were pleased to bestow an Honorary Lifetime Membership on Dr Limbrick.

Due to other commitments, Executive and Events sub-committee member Ann Littlejohn has resigned from the Executive. We thank her for her cheerful and tireless work. We are delighted to announce that Dr Martin Putterill has agreed to join the Executive in her place.

In the months ahead, our work on protecting the local heritage will continue - currently our focus is on Parnell Cliffs, the Bentley Steps and other issues as they arise. We are keen to present an interesting and varied programme of events – these include a type of 'Antiques Roadshow', an event during the Auckland Heritage Festival and a celebration of a famous Parnell milliner.

Our team of Executive members continues to meet each month to address current local issues and to plan events. We welcome new members, and also current members' input on any relevant matter and especially your suggestions for future events - please email enquiries@parnellheritage.org.nz or call secretary Sue on 09 846 7661.

With best wishes,

Co-Chairs Mary Barry and Julie Hill



An Evening at the Selwyn Library

A very convivial evening at the historic and beautiful Selwyn Library on Thursday 16th March 2017 provided a perfect venue to learn about the historic building and Bishop Selwyn's work for the Anglican Church community in Auckland.

Over 40 people attended and enjoyed the company, the array of drinks and delicious food provided by the Parnell Executive team, along with stories of the early church.



This photograph shows the original Library and its shelves of books as well as canoes which were slung in the ceiling. Today the books and canoes have gone: the canoes to destinations unknown, the books mostly to St John's College and perhaps some returned to England with Bishop Selwyn.

We were most grateful to Bishop Ross Bay (right), the current Anglican Bishop, who gave many insights into the history of Bishop Selwyn's time in 19th Century Auckland and the buildings he inspired. Bishop Bay, a volunteer fireman no less, described what it is like to live in the Selwyn buildings today and the slightly quirky aspects of living in such an historic environment.



After answering questions from a lively audience Bishop Ross went off to cook dinner for his wife and guests. Dr Warren Limbrick then took the floor and presented further background to Bishop Selwyn's tireless work. Dr Limbrick is producing a second edition of his *History of St Stephen's Chapel at Judges Bay* with the support of Parnell Heritage. He has a wealth of knowledge of the Selwyn era in 19th Century Auckland and added fascinating detail to the stories.



Stephen Goodman, Patron of Parnell Heritage

Stephen has had a long family history in Parnell. The family has lived almost continuously in the area since his grandparents moved here in the early 1930's. Having "Robbie", Sir Dove-Myer Robinson, as a great-uncle, a father who was an Auckland Councillor for 11 years, as well as being Deputy Mayor, and a mother who was Mayoress for 12 years and then an Auckland Councillor for a further 12 years, it was inevitable that he would take an active interest in the local community. He has a strong belief in ensuring Parnell remains the best suburb in which to live and that its past is not forgotten.



Stephen's involvements include:

- 19 years on the Parnell Community Committee, including chair
- Hobson Community Board
- Ewelme Cottage Management
- Kinder House Committee
- Founding member of Parnell Heritage Committee in 2005 and, later, its chair.

So there is no doubt that Stephen is committed to represent local interests and residents. He strives to preserve our heritage and respect property rights. He is an advocate for a vibrant, culturally diverse and safe community for everyone to enjoy.

Dr Warren Limbrick, Life Member

As mentioned earlier, Dr Warren Limbrick was presented with Honorary Life Membership of Parnell Heritage in recognition for his years of service since the society's inception. The photo shows Dr Limbrick holding a perfect Parnell Heritage rose and his Certificate, with Co-Chair Julie Hill at the end of the ceremony at the Selwyn Library.



Dr Limbrick has since commented, "I was moved and honoured by your presenting me with Life Membership at the meeting last week.

"Certainly, I'm proud of having been at the founding meeting and sharing in the work of the Executive in those earliest years, and helping to launch a few events and participating in many. As I said to Bishop Ross, Parnell Heritage is a *companionable* organisation in my experience – with friendships nurtured with some and simple acquaintanceship with others respected. Such things are the building blocks of community."



Dr Limbrick's 2nd Edition of *A History of St Stephen's Chapel, Judges Bay*

If you are interested in this book and would like to be invited to its launch later in the year, please email your details to enquiries@parnellheritage.org.nz.

Future Parnell Heritage Events include:

Thursday 29th June 2017

'Antiques Roadshow' style event

September 2017

Parnell Heritage Inc. Annual General Meeting

Auckland Heritage Week 13th September to 15th October 2017

Sunday 1st October at 3.00pm

An event to celebrate the Heritage Week theme of transport from days past. We will display a WWI ambulance along with presentations and photographs featuring local early transport. Venue will be the unique Selwyn Library, St Stephen's Avenue.

Sunday 5th November 2017

A celebration of the Hats of Lindsay Kennett and an opportunity to enjoy and wear hats in general!

ALSO a 10 year birthday celebration for Parnell Heritage since its incorporation in September 2007. Tea and cakes for all!

Please note: dates/times of these events are yet to be confirmed