



September 2020



Springtime!!

Dear Members

By now, we should be reporting on our AGM, as well as the event at 4 Takutai Street, but the effects of Covid continue to get in the way. Let's hope our events will now go ahead as planned – details follow.

Parnell's heritage buildings continue to be under threat. We have made a submission against the development of 401-403 Parnell Road – see page 2.

Remember, if you would like to take a more active role in Parnell Heritage and join our friendly Executive team, 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,
Chair: Julie Hill



Erebus Memorial Update

We understand that the Ministry for Culture and Heritage has been granted Heritage NZ approval to re-contour 534 square metres in the historic Dove-Myer Robinson Park to accommodate the large Erebus memorial.



The Ministry still needs to get Landowner Consent from the Local Waitematā Board who owns the land on behalf of us all. The Board vote is likely to take place at its meeting in October or November. Whilst everyone is sympathetic to Erebus families for the need to have a memorial, we understand that many people are concerned about the scale of the proposed monument in such a small park with the resulting destruction of terraces and pathways dating back many years. Unfortunately, public opinion has not been sought so if you would like to send your views to the Waitematā Local Board, their email addresses follow:

Richard Northey (Chair) richard.northey@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Alexandra Bonham (Planning and Heritage) alexandra.bonham@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Marriott's Grocery Store, 401-403 Parnell Road

At the top of Parnell Road is the inter-war art deco style Marriott's Building, home more recently to London Hair Salon.

Some years ago, the building was sold and the new owner obtained consent to demolish the building and build a two-storied apartment with a height that complied with the overlay for Parnell Road's character town centre. Now, however, the current owner has presented plans to Auckland Council for a six-storied building. This proposal is not compliant and requires a publicly notified resource consent. Parnell Heritage, along with Parnell Community Committee, has made a submission to oppose a build of that height and bulk.



2020 Parnell Heritage Events

Launch of Journal 8

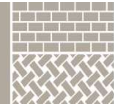
On a delightful evening at the end of July in the Parnell Library, we launched Journal No. 8. Nearly fifty people attended, and we all enjoyed the drinks and nibbles and the welcoming hospitality of the Library staff members. Julie Hill thanked Joanna Boileau and her Journal team, Jenny Leatham, Graham Bush and Rendell McIntosh, for the meticulous work needed to create such a high-class publication. The topics covered include details on a new life for Parnell's disused rail tunnel, Auckland's earliest hospital at Taurarua Judges' Bay and The Ernest and Marion Davis Library. If you missed the event and would like to buy the journal, please contact Sue – details at the end of this Newsletter.



At the launch we were delighted to welcome Susan Buckland, biographer of Sir Ernest Davis. As a memorial to his wife who died in 1955, Sir Ernest donated funds to build The Ernest and Marion Davis Library in the grounds of Auckland Hospital. This opened in 1961 to promote postgraduate medical education. Susan gave fascinating insights into Sir Ernest's life and interests. Born in Nelson in 1872, in his ninety years he lived through many changing times. A keen sailor throughout his life, she said he lived life to the full. He amassed his fortune by running the brewing firm Hancock and Company and became well-known for his philanthropy and spontaneous acts of generosity. He left a significant fund to help Auckland's most vulnerable people and this legacy continues today to help those most in need.

Rob Roche, retired Parnell GP, and a member of the Parnell Heritage executive, then gave a most amusing account of his time as a medical student at Otago University. These included the hysterical description of 'The World's First Bungee Jumper' – you had to be there!!!!



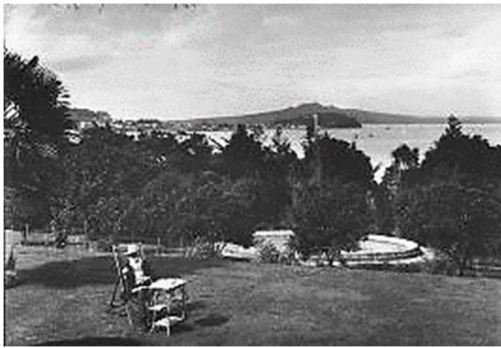


Event at 4 Takutai Street

Rescheduled twice already, we *hope* this will go ahead on Sunday 4th October at 3.00pm. All the tickets have been sold for this popular event but contact Sue if you would like to be added to the waiting list in case of cancellations.

Auckland Heritage Week

This year the Festival runs from Saturday 26th September to Sunday 11th October with the theme, ***Uncover the secrets and stories of Tāmaki Makaurau's past.***



Sir John Logan Campbell enjoying his garden...
(Photo: Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections 7-A4580)

Parnell Heritage has arranged a guided tour of the Dove-Myer Robinson Park led by historian John Adam, on 10th October 2020 from 2.00pm to 3.00pm. There will be no charge for the event, but numbers are limited and almost at capacity. Contact Sue to register.

2020 Annual General Meeting

Please mark your diaries – our AGM will now take place on Thursday 22nd October at The Parnell Hotel (previously The Quality Hotel), 10-20 Gladstone Road. Come along at 7.00pm and enjoy a free drink with us all, and the meeting will start at 7.30pm. Details of presenters will be sent out nearer the date of the event.



Future Events

We will take part in the Parnell Rose Festival again this year – Sunday 15th November 11.30am to 4.30pm. Other events are being considered too. If you have any suggestions for future events, or local places/history/people in which you are interested and that might be suitable subjects for events, please don't hesitate to contact Sue via the details given below.