



NEWSLETTER NO. 1, MAY 2017

Civic Trust Auckland

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Patron: Hamish Keith

This is the first newsletter for 2017 and has been compiled by Audrey. For up-to-date news about CTA activities and the wider world of heritage, make regular visits to our website at <http://civitrustauckland.org.nz/>

Winter Lecture Series

We are delighted to bring you visits to two historic buildings that are not normally open to the public. RSVP for both events to Margaret at margb@ihug.co.nz or 631 5260.

Selwyn Court and Library, Sunday 2 July

We will meet at the Selwyn Library at 3pm, at the entrance on St Stephens Ave, Parnell, opposite the west end of the cathedral. A talk will be given by an expert on Selwyn Court, which comprises the extensive Bishopscourt, a private church residence, linked to the library by a long corridor and very interesting architecturally.

After the talk, by kind permission of Bishop Ross Bay, we will be given the opportunity to visit the main rooms in Bishopscourt: the drawing room and dining room, which are of extreme architectural significance. We will round off the afternoon with refreshments back in the library, and would expect to finish about 5pm.

There is ample parking in the cathedral car park around the corner in Brighton Road and there are bus stops nearby also.



photo - craigsyd - www.flickr.com

photo - Mark Smith



Donner House, Sunday 30 July

Donner House was built in the late 1940s by Tibor Karl Donner, chief architect to the Auckland City Council between 1946 and 1967. It is considered to be one of the finest examples of post war modernism in the country.

We will meet at the house at 50 Kohu Rd, Titi-rangi at 3pm. The owner, Paul Jenkin, who has restored the building, will give a presentation, after which we will be able to look around at leisure. We will finish off the afternoon with refreshments, in the garden, if weather permits. Parking is available on Kohu Rd.

Our Newest Board Member



Bill Rayner joined the Board at the AGM in November. He is a chartered accountant, retired from a career in international shipping and aviation. Bill has been active in community heritage issues, mainly through Devonport Heritage and the museum sector. He is a past board member, aviation curator, and chair of the MOTAT Society; member of the Auckland Museum Institute Council; Lopdell House Art Gallery Board; and Board of the International Association of Transport Museum; and was an advisor to the Ministry of Culture and Heritage on the review of the Antiquities Act, and a member of Te Papa's Sector Standards Advisory Panel. He is a current member of Auckland Council's Heritage Advisory Panel.

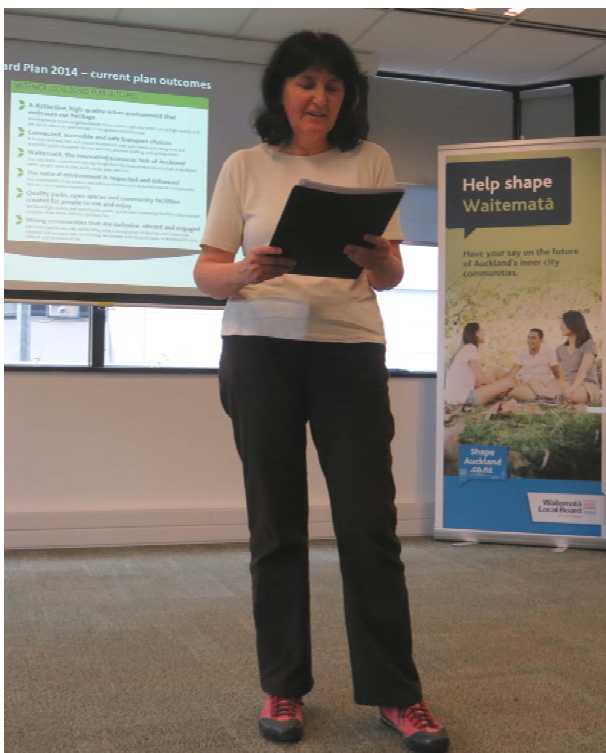


photo - Allan Matson

Submissions

Recent submissions on behalf of CTA are as follows, with a quote from each.

Point England Development Enabling Bill

In our view, the loss of 11.69 hectares of recreational reserve land at Point England Recreation Reserve to enable housing development is undesirable. While we understand the need for housing, there are other measures that may help solve the housing shortage without the need to remove reserve land from the public realm.

Managing Microbeads in Personal Care Products

Civic Trust Auckland agrees with the Government's proposal [to prohibit the manufacture and sale of personal care products containing microbeads] because industry and individuals should not continue to pollute the oceans to the degree we have already. We depend on them as a food source, and the many animals living in the oceans need a clean and safe environment.

Auckland Council Annual Budget 2017/2018

We take encouragement from the written assurance accompanying this consultation process that, "Every piece of feedback is important and past consultations have shown that public feedback can and does change how the elected members make decisions."

Notified Resource Consent Application to authorise the demolition of the St James Church Hall

CTA suggests that the heritage values of the site will suffer a major adverse effect, with the demolition of the oldest, and arguably more significant building on the site.

National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management

CTA supports standards for our rivers and lakes that will make them safe for everybody to swim in at all times, and so this amenity will also be available to future generations.

These submissions are on the CTA website.

Helen, Allan and Audrey attended the Waitematā Local Board feedback session on their local plan on 23 March, each speaking on a number of matters, focusing on protection of city centre heritage. (The photo is of Audrey.)

Feijoas!

The CTA Board was approached as "a key group in the neighbourhood" to enter a photo in a competition featuring feijoas - see below. In keeping with the light-hearted nature of this competition, we ignored some of the guidelines, e.g. substituting many small feijoas (gathered from a sole specimen in the Auckland University grounds) for one large one.

The supreme winner of the competition will be presented with the Feijoa Guild's celebratory jug, which is large enough to hold the juice of many feijoas.

A Most Unanticipated Feijoa Festival, a gathering of neighbours, takes place on Wednesday 31 May at Tabac, 6 Mills Lane, Central Auckland.

Free entry, free nibbles, and a cash bar.

Guest speaker: Hannah "Caught Short" - a Brief History of Auckland's Heritage Toilets.

photo - Allan Matson



Petitions

CTA has supported the Christchurch Civic Trust's view that the **Christchurch Cathedral** should be restored, not demolished. The Stuff website is polling readers on this very question, and currently 56% are in favour of restoration. Add your voice via [this link](#).



photo - Iain McGregor

Margan Reserve in New Lynn is under threat of being used for roads into an adjoining housing development, with the removal of 14 mature pohutukawa and the loss of 30% of this public reserve. You can sign the petition against this decision [here](#).



Cherry Raymond's QSM Medal

Cherry Raymond was the chair of the steering committee that formed CTA and served for three years as vice president and president. She was a well-known freelance radio and television presenter and regular columnist for the NZ Women's Weekly. She contributed to many other community and arts groups, including Zonta. Several years back, Zonta asked if CTA would look after Cherry's medal, a role which Munroe undertook. Earlier this month, the medal was gifted to the Auckland Museum.

Illumination for Remembrance - St David's Memorial Church

The evening of April 24 saw this well attended event held outside St David's in Khyber Pass, the church that CTA submitted on in the Unitary Plan, the future of which seems much more certain as a result of the Friends of St David's fundraising success, under the leadership of Paul Baragwanath.

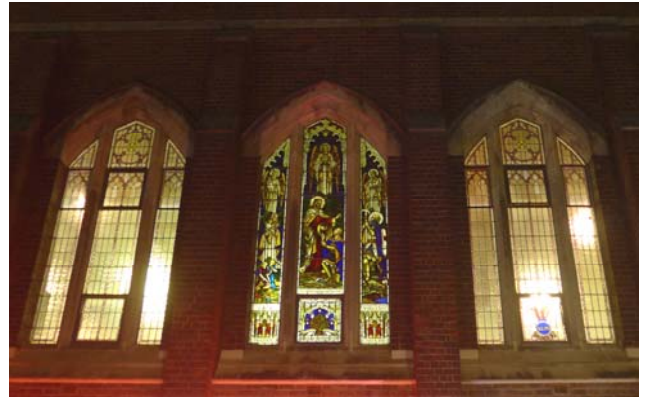
This event was one of a number that have been held to celebrate the church and raise money for its restoration, at the same time as commemorating soldiers who died in World War One.

The highlight was when the lights of the church were turned on, at the command of Nikki Kaye, MP for Auckland Central. She had spoken in support of the restoration project, as had other speakers, including Pippa Coom, the chair of the Waitematā Local Board; and Mike Lee, councillor for the Waitematā & Gulf Ward.

Musical items were performed by the Souls and the Gay and Lesbian Singers of Auckland. The Last Post was played on a World War One bugle, and bagpipes opened and concluded the formal part of the event. Audrey had played her flute as guests arrived.

Heritage architect Graeme Burgess then took a tour of the outside of the building, describing the details of the stained glass windows and the work involved in producing them.

CTA has supported the Art of Remembrance project in a variety of ways, and it was good to see a number of CTA members attend.



photos - Helen Geary



CTA newsletters from 2010 onwards are available at www.civitrustauckland.org.nz



Subscriptions

If you would like to join Civic Trust Auckland please supply the following information to cta@civitrustauckland.org.nz

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

Interests:

Qualifications:

Either post a cheque to:

Civic Trust Auckland, PO Box 74049 Greenlane, Auckland 1543 or transfer to the Trust's account: 389010 0336852 00, including your name in the reference field.

Membership categories are: Individual (\$30) / Family (\$45) / Student/Senior (\$15)