



The Nurses' Memorial Chapel Newsletter

April 2018

website: www.cnmc.org.nz
Email: chapelfoc@gmail.com
Facebook: [Nurses' memorial Chapel](https://www.facebook.com/NursesMemorialChapel)

Hello to all our Members and Supporters and welcome to the first newsletter of 2018. I hope you have all had a very happy Easter and now are ready to hunker down and embrace the Canterbury winter after truly stunning summer weather wise.

AGM- All Welcome

Saturday 12th May-10.00am, Poppy Room
Christchurch RSA, Armagh Street

Cards will be on sale - cash required

Richie Moyle, Programme Manager - Heritage
Christchurch City Council will be presenting on the progress of the Chapel Restoration.

Chapel Restoration



6th April visit to see progress

The restoration of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel continues. For those who have been passed the Chapel recently you will have noticed that it has been completely encased in white plastic.

A visit to the Chapel on Friday 6th April gave us an insight into the enormity of this restoration. The work being carried out is extensive and complicated yet progress is steady.

The structural basement work and asbestos removal has been completed and there has been major

deconstruction of the walls and roof. With the discovery of and the need to remove the Asbestos a change in the sequence of work was required, thus starting at the end of the Chapel and working back to the entry.

Deconstruction will be completed by mid-April at which time reconstruction will commence.

Despite the changes and revisions to the construction details resulting in amendments to the Heritage Works Plan for approval, the work is currently on target.

News from the Trust

(David Morrell Chair Chapel Trust)

With a Vice Regal re-opening secured, the display of the Walton (Mt Felix) Tapestry in the Canterbury Museum agreed, and the writing of a book on the Marquette and the history of the Chapel by a very knowledgeable and well known author in hand, some significant things are underway - without even mentioning the thorough on-going restoration of the building itself. We owe particular thanks to the Christchurch City Council and the contractors at this point. The latter have agreed to put additional teams on the job in order to work towards our time frame – and for this in particular we owe them our thanks – as we do to Richie Moyle and Richard Bullet who have also worked towards this end. Added to this has been discussion regarding power outlets, computer lines and hearing loops. It feels very much as though the future is almost upon us and is quite exciting.

A comment was made to me recently to the effect that not only has the chapel stayed alive during this 7-year hiatus; it has taken a whole new lease on life. The centenary of the Marquette sinking helped, as has the WW 1 centenary as a whole, and those in turn have brought a new level of recognition from the RSA.

Altogether, the chapel will re-open to a whole new phase of its existence, in which it is a much more widely recognised memorial and a more widely appreciated piece of the city's heritage than it has been previously, - and in an era when what we have left of our heritage will be more deeply appreciated than before.

A huge number of people have put their effort into this, and there can be wide satisfaction at what has been achieved.



Museum Update

(Nanette Ainge Convener Museum Sub-committee)

Joy Holdsworth played a leading role in establishing the small museum in the west vestry of the Chapel. While the contents of the museum are safely stored at Wigram, a small group is working through the many museum items to consider how best to prepare for the re-opening.

The west vestry is quite small and there are many items, so the most suitable exhibits will be selected for display at the re-opening of the Memorial Chapel.

In January Beverley Rayna and Nanette Ainge attended a very useful event held for regional museums in Canterbury. This network, supported by Canterbury Museum and Air force Museum of NZ staff, enables small museums to share expertise, training and development and hands on skills. It was very apparent at this event that the small museums face similar challenges.

Members of our group comprise Beth Wynn-Williams (Trust), Andrea Grieve (Friends of the Chapel Committee), Ray Wootton (Immediate Past President and Trustee), Beverley Rayna, (passed Friends of Chapel Committee) and Jude Turner (Trust).

Felix Tapestry Tour

This beautiful community tapestry tells the story of the ANZAC Hospital at Mount Felix in Walton on Thames England. It is a tribute to the ANZAC soldiers, nurses, doctors and people of Walton 100 years ago.

In the four years it was open during WW1 over 27,000 wounded New Zealand soldiers were cared for at Mount Felix and were welcomed into the heart of Walton on Thames.

The tapestry panels each depict a story and represent work by a large number of people.

Newsletter April 10th 2018

The following are of particular interest:

Panel 26 – Poppy’s Story: Surviving the Sinking of the Marquette.

Panel 27 – Poppy’s Story: “On The Wards” depicts Sister Edith Popplewell on duty in the 24-bed ward of which she was in charge.

Panel 31 Lt. Col. Hugh Acland: Survived the sinking of the “Marquette” and is said to have performed some 4,000 operations during the war.

The Felix Tapestry will be touring New Zealand later this year. It will be on display at the Canterbury Museum from October 6th until November 3rd 2018 Level III – Visitors Centre.

Hester MacLean Window

Hester Maclean (1859-1932) was Matron-in-Chief of the New Zealand Army Nursing Service (NZANS) during the First World War and led the first contingent of 50 NZANS overseas in April 1915.

A new stained glass window has been designed to commemorate 100 years of NZNO in Canterbury of which Hester MacLean was the founder.

The window has been approved by the Trust at its last meeting and has now been forwarded to Heritage NZ for approval.

It is hoped this new Hester MacLean window will be installed at the same time as the other windows during restoration. This will bring the total of beautiful stained glass windows in the Memorial Chapel to 12.

“New Book”

A new book is currently being written by Anna Rogers.

This book will provide a history of the Nurses’ Memorial Chapel and an account of the sinking of the Marquette. The book captures an insight into the lives of those nurses and medics who served on the Marquette including amazing stories and letters from those who lost their lives and those who returned. It also covers the influenza epidemic and remembers those nurses who lost their lives to this severe illness. The title of this book has yet to be confirmed.



Important Dates to Remember

Chapel Re-opening

The Nurses' Chapel will be re-opened by her Excellency the Rt. Hon. Dame Patsy Reddy GCMG, QSO Governor-General of New Zealand on Saturday 27th October at 2pm.

Invitations to dignitaries and members will be sent in August. There will be limited seating inside the Chapel however extra seating will be available on the grass outside the Chapel.

Book Launch

The launch of the new book by Anna Rogers will take place on an open day Sunday October 28th at the Nurses' Memorial Chapel. The launch will provide an opportunity to visit the restored Chapel and view this wonderful new book.

AGM

12th May Poppy Room RSA Armagh Street 10.00am

Volunteers

As the re-opening of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel draws closer we will be looking for Volunteers who may be interested in being part of the roster at the Chapel during its opening hours. It is expected the Chapel will be open each day during the afternoon for visitors and will also be available once again for weddings, christenings and other events.

If you are interested in playing an integral part of the running of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel, please contact one of the following committee members:

Stephanie Cook: Stephanie.Cook@cdhb.health.nz

Andrea Grieve: andreagrieve@xtra.co.nz

Pip Mason: pipmason@xtra.co.nz

Remember to Renew your Membership

The Friends subscription year is a calendar year therefore subscriptions for 2018 are now due. Your continued support of the Chapel is very much appreciated by the Nurses' Memorial Chapel Committee.

Please make cheques out to:

Friends of the Chapel Incorporated

Post:

PO Box 33357, Barrington Mall, Christchurch 8244

Please do not send any cash through the post

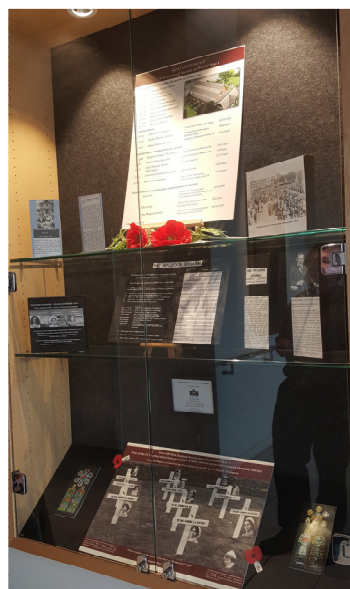
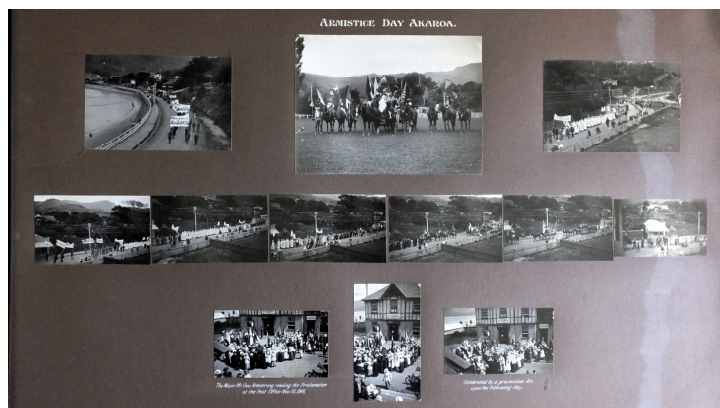
Internet Banking:

Bank deposit: 03 1707 0017417 000

Please include your name and type of sub payment

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM on Saturday May 12th 2018

Nurses' Chapel display at Christchurch RSA



Best wishes

Pip Mason

President

Friends of Nurses Chapel

David Morrell

Chair

Chapel Trust

FRIENDS OF THE CHAPEL
Annual General Meeting, May 12 2018

AGENDA

Welcome

Apologies

Minutes of the previous AGM May 13 2017

Matters Arising

Reports

- **President** Pip Mason
- **Treasurer** Ann Morrison
- **Subcommittees** Museum Acquisitions, Nanette Ainge
- **Chapel Trust** David Morrell

Election of Office holders

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Publicity Officer

Committee

Annual Subscription

Constitution changes

It is proposed that the following rules in our constitution are amended;

- Rule 1 The name of the association is changed to “Friends of the Nurses’ Memorial Chapel”
- Rule 4 Registered Office of the Society is changed to 99 Rose Street, Christchurch 8022.
- Rule 9 Reviewer added to the reference to Auditor to read;
- receipt of the annual audited/reviewed financial statement and report;
 - appointment of an auditor/reviewer;

General Business

- Update on restoration/CCC draft annual plan

Closure – Join us for a cup of tea and viewing the displays and our recent research