

IN TOUCH

Nurses' Memorial Chapel Newsletter

November 2017

Website: www.cnmc.org.nz
email: chapelfoc@gmail.com
Facebook : Nurses' Memorial Chapel

HERITAGE WEEK

Our Heritage week display was held on 14th October in the Poppy Room at the Christchurch Memorial RSA in Armagh Street. It was a quiet event with only a few people taking the opportunity to enjoy our wonderful display and reading the many stories with interest. One family of significant importance visited our display and spoke of their relative Emily Hodges. Emily, a Christchurch trained nurse who survived the sinking of the Marquette, was Matron of Hanmer Hospital between the 1st and 2nd world wars. Emily's WW1 medals were given to the Waiouru Army Museum by her sister a number of years ago. Emily's remaining family would now like to see these medals returned as they believe they have more relevance and can be displayed in the Nurses Chapel alongside other artifacts. A rose is also planted in the garden of the Memorial Chapel in memory of Emily. We have offered our support to help the family see these medals returned.

CHAPEL RESTORATION



Ritchie Moyle, CCC Heritage provides monthly progress reports. The Chapel restoration programme has finally been started. The 1.8 million restoration of the earthquake damaged Chapel will undergo a year of repair and strengthening work before reopening to the public later in 2018. Extensive investigation and preparation work has been undertaken to determine the full extent of the work required. The work to be done is complex and

intricate and includes the deconstruction of a number of existing walls, with a raft of new reinforcing work to strengthen the building followed by the replacement of original paneling parquet flooring and other interior fittings. The discovery and removal of Asbestos has been a slight set back. However the sequencing of the construction work has been changed to allow the contractors to remain on schedule.

The project Manager Richard Bullett is a specialist who has been with the project from its earliest days post quake. The engineer from Beca, is the grandson of Williamson who built the Chapel. He is intensely interested, and requested the job. Our usual Heritage architect Tony Ussher is the architect. Tony has known the building from early in its Heritage days and all involved have great faith in him. The contracting building company (Max) regards this as a high profile job and although new to the role of main contractor they have lengthy experience as a large sub-contracting company.

We are fortunate to have a very motivated group working on this building and looks likely to provide us with an excellent outcome.

David Morrell

AUSTRALASIAN NURSE EDUCATOR CONFERENCE



Kia whakatōmuri te haere whakamua

My past is my present is my future I walk backwards into the future with my eyes fixed on my past: Transition Technology Transformation

This conference was held at St Margaret's College in Christchurch at the end of September. The Friends of the Chapel supported this conference by loaning a number of Marquette display items. The conference gave the delegates an insight into embracing and moving forward into the future of healthcare education incorporating the expanding of knowledge, innovation and technology. Our display encouraged the looking back learning from, and honouring what has gone before.

LOTTERIES COMMISSION SUBMISSION

Thanks to Nanette Ainge we were able to resubmit our application to the Lotteries Commission for funding to assist with updating and improving resources available to visitors to the Chapel including educational material, brochures and a guide book.

It has just been announced that our application has been successful.

A big thank you to Nanette once again for her sterling effort to complete this application and submit it on our behalf.

THE WALTON TAPESTRY



No. 26 Poppy's Story surviving the sinking of the Marquette

This tapestry has now been completed and tells the story of the ANZAC hospital at Mount Felix in Walton on Thames throughout WW1. The Mount Felix Hospital (*New Zealand General Hospital 2*) was created for soldiers from New Zealand wounded at Gallipoli and other battles.

The tapestry will be brought to New Zealand in 2018 and will be on display throughout the country. The Canterbury Museum will host the display when the tapestry visits Christchurch.

The tapestry is large, comprising 44 panels each about 65 centimeters in size, and is based around five central characters one of which is Sister Edith Popplewell, a Marquette Survivor.

PASSCHENDAELE

The Passchendaele Centenary event was held on 12th October. This provided the first occasion when a wreath was laid on behalf of the nurses. A most courteous letter was received from Peter Dawson the President of Christchurch Memorial RSA extending a standing invitation. The wreath this year representing the nurses was laid by Diana-Francis Casey and Pip Mason.

AGM - ALL WELCOME

Cranmer Square ANZAC Day



THE MARQUETTE STORY

Anna Rogers has been commissioned to write a book on the sinking of the Marquette to be made available for visitors once the Chapel has reopened. An initial meeting has been held with Anna who is very keen to pursue this project but feels strongly that it is important for not only the nurses but also the medics and the history of the Chapel to be included in this book.

It is hoped the book will be launched on the 23rd October 2018 - Marquette Day.

A BIG THANK YOU

As you are all aware the Chapel has been closed since September 2010. During this time it has been a mission of ours to keep the Chapel "Alive" and at the forefront of our thoughts. Restoration discussions have been uncertain and long and we thank the Christchurch City Council for their tenacity in seeing the importance of restoring this beautiful building. We also thank those who have continued to donate money to the Chapel over the last 7 years. We have been beneficiaries on a number of occasions and in addition have received significant donations from Nurses conferences, study days, school plays and nurses groups. We thank you all for all your kindness and helping us to keep our Nurses' Memorial Chapel an important part of our Canterbury Heritage.

Saturday 12th May 2018 10am -12 midday
Poppy Room
Christchurch RSA Armagh Street

Displays and a presentation on the progress of the restoration of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel will formulate part of this meeting.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you to everyone for your contributions to the Christmas Appeal. As at October 31st 2017 we have received just under \$6,500 towards updating our resources in preparation for the reopening of the Memorial Chapel. You are still welcome to contribute to this appeal. If you wish to do so please email chapelfoc@gmail.com.

BOOKS OF INTEREST;

Make Her Praises Heard Afar by Jane Tolerton tells the stories of New Zealand women overseas in World War 1.

All Guts No Glory – Nelson Tasman Nurses and Chaplains of World War One compiled by Cheryl Carnahan.

OCTOBER 2018

THE ARMISTICE ON WW1'S EASTERN FRONT

After a very successful tour in 2015, Wild Earth Travel has organised a voyage to commemorate the end of WW1 from the 11th to 20 October 2018. The voyage starts in Thessaloniki, and finishes in Athens with visits to Lemnos, Gallipoli, Crete and much more.

Website:

<https://www.wildearth-travel.com/trip/armistice-wwis-eastern-fronts/>



2015 the Tour Group arriving on Lemnos Island



*1915, Australian nurses arriving at Lemnos Island
Matron Grace Wilson leads the nurses.*

MEMBERSHIP

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

If subscribing by cheque please make cheques out to;
Friends of the Chapel Incorporated

Post

PO Box 33357 Barrington Mall Christchurch 8244

Internet Banking: Bank deposit: 03-1707-0017417-000

Please include your name and type of subscription. If you are also making a donation with your subscription please indicate if you require a receipt.



David Morrell and I wish you all a very happy and safe festive season and we look forward to seeing you again in 2018.

Best wishes

Pip Mason

President

Friends of the Chapel

David Morrell

Chair Chapel Trust



Friends of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel Membership Form



The Nurses' Memorial Chapel sustained significant damage in the earthquakes of 2010/2011 and has remained closed. The contents of the chapel and its museum are in safe storage at the Cultural Collections Recovery Centre at Wigram Air Force Museum. Members of the Friends of the Chapel continue to work on cataloguing and conserving these items.

The Nurses' Memorial Chapel Trust has established a Chapel Restoration Fund in preparation for the reinstatement of the Chapel contents, displays and education material when the Christchurch City Council have completed the repairs. Donations specifically for this fund may be made using the form below, with or without a membership subscription.

Your support of the Chapel is much appreciated by the Friends Committee. Members receive a bi-annual newsletter to keep them informed of chapel activities. Even if you are renewing your subscription please complete all details so our membership database remains up-to-date

Miss/Ms/Mrs/Mr/Dr First Name(s) _____ Last Name _____
(delete as applicable)

Address _____
_____ Postcode _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Do let us know if you have a special connection with the Chapel

Amount Enclosed: Subscription _____ (Single: \$10 Double/Family: \$15 Group: \$20 all GST inclusive)
 Tick if you require a receipt

Donation _____ (receipt will be sent for amounts over \$5)

Total _____ cash/cheque (delete as applicable)

Date _____ 201_

Please make cheques out to Friends of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel. Do not mail cash

Bank Deposit: 03 1707 0017417 000

GST Number: 52-504-449

Hand to any committee member or mail to: The Membership Secretary
 Friends of the Nurses' Memorial Chapel
 PO Box 33357
 Barrington Mall
 Christchurch 8244

Membership Secretary: chapelfoc@gmail.com

Phone: Ann Morrison 03 331 6210
 or Cheryl Jenkins 027 960 4688 or 03 960 4688