

MT COOK! MOBILISED

Mt Cook Mobilised

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No 12 - August 2012

Welcome to Mt Cook Mobilised, your residents' and community group. We invite your input (via the email above) on any Mt Cook issue. Next issue will bring good news on the bus review. We urge all owners to paint out graffiti immediately and look out for neighbours. Many thanks again to the Southern Cross, 39 Abel Smith St, for sponsoring the printing. **Peter Cooke**

PAYS TO PERSIST

Striving for the best and not settling for less. Over five years Mt Cook Mobilised has taken this approach to Memorial Park – and it has paid off!

Members were overjoyed on 7 August to hear the Prime Minister announce that Buckle St will be trenched and covered. This has been our call since the beginning and we commend the Government for making the correct choice.

Mt Cook Mobilised was established in part to oppose aspects of the park as first announced in 2007. We felt the first plan to move the road up to Mt Cook School's boundary would have adverse effects – and we said so. The global financial crisis took over in 2008 and then Christchurch's understandable priority further pushed the park into the background. The temporary interim parade ground was opened in April 2011 - we call it the 'petanque court'. And throughout this we kept saying – trench the road and build a contemplative park of world standard!

The side-issue of the traffic solution down at the Basin Reserve promised to overshadow the park, both in timing and cost. NZTA gained dominance over its Culture & Heritage sibling – it seemed for a bleak moment that road-makers might define how 30,000 dead Kiwis would be commemorated.

But fortunately the Government has seen the light (and only months after deciding to keep

the north Miramar reserve for public use). The announcement on 7 August said:

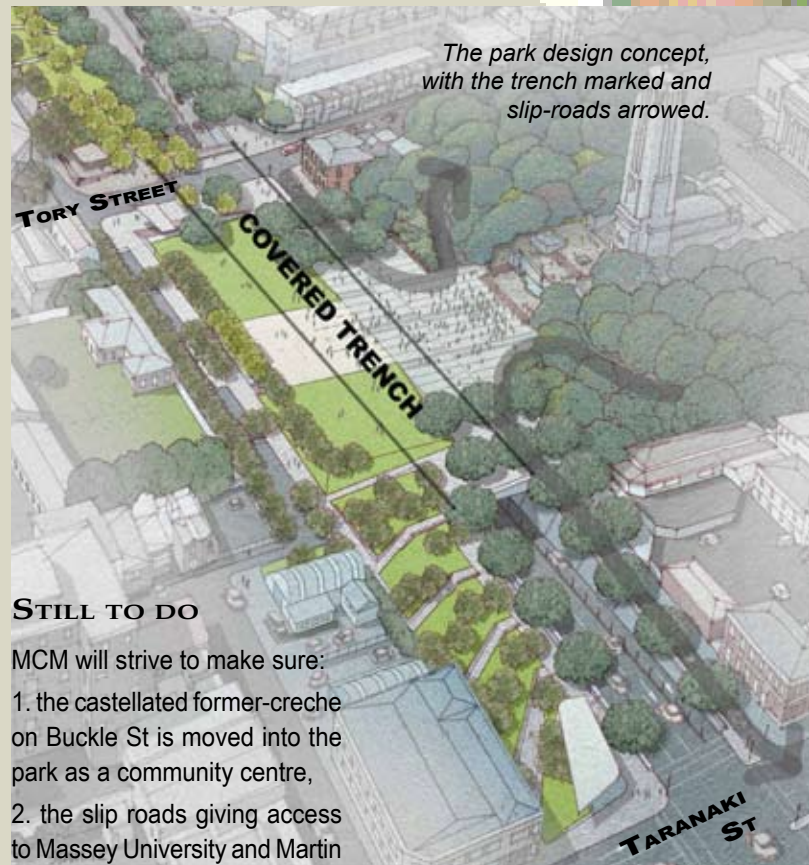
"A National War Memorial Park in central Wellington will be the Government's key project to commemorate the Centenary of the First World War and the centrepiece of Anzac Day commemorations in 2015....

"The National War Memorial Park precinct... will be brought together by undergrounding the state highway on Buckle Street between Tory and Taranaki Streets in Wellington. The Australian Government is also planning a memorial to Australian servicemen on this site and further memorials may be developed over time....

"[U]ndergrounding the road that currently runs alongside the National War Memorial was the only sensible option.... [It] will unite the precinct; increase the accessibility of the National War Memorial, and limit the effects of traffic on visitors as they contemplate history....

"[C]onstruction will start in October this year.... State Highway 1 will be diverted via a temporary road to the north of its current alignment.... Construction of the main undergrounding work will begin in early 2013. Landscaping of the park itself and establishing structures (such as the Australian memorial) will begin in late 2014."

We also thank the Wellington City Council, Architectural Centre, Wellington Civic Trust, Grant Robertson MP and others for their foresight on the park.



The park design concept, with the trench marked and slip-roads arrowed.

STILL TO DO

MCM will strive to make sure:

1. the castellated former-creche on Buckle St is moved into the park as a community centre,
2. the slip roads giving access to Massey University and Martin Square do not become rat-runs for cars from Tory/Tasman St to Karo Drive and Taranaki St,
3. the appropriate archaeological work is carried out (on a buried cannon and rifle range),
4. the brick building on the corner of Taranaki and Buckle St becomes the interpretation

centre for the park, and
5. safety and care is taken during construction.

Below Mt Cook takes centre stage as John Key declares that SH1 will not come between the National War Memorial Park and Gallipoli centenary.





ELAINE MARLAND

CROWDS WALK MT COOK HISTORY

A public hanging, air raid shelters, the first steam and horse tram route out of central Wellington, sought-after 19th century pottery, the imprisonment of Taranaki Maori, oyster shells from Nelson and the longest uninterrupted military presence on any site in NZ were just a few of the items presented in a history walk around Mt Cook on 17 June 2012.

Eerily, it was revealed that on 17 June 1850 William Goode was the last man to be publicly hanged at Mt Cook Gaol (now the Wellington High School car park). Fifty people learned many fascinating snippets - there isn't room for more than a few here - of Mt Cook history from military historian Peter Cooke, brick and ceramics expert John Morrison and conservation historian Michael Kelly.

The walk began at the National War Memorial, moved through Wellington High School to the site of the former brick and pottery works between Hargreaves and Rolleston Streets, and down to King St and Myrtle Cres. It finished with a look through the heritage Emeny house in Ranfurly Tce.

British soldiers first camped in 1843 on the lower slopes of Mt Cook below what is now the National War Memorial.

A crowd gathers to hear Peter Cooke kick off the first Mt Cook History Walk from the National War Memorial.

A continuous military presence has remained for 169 years, with the naval training facility at HMNZS *Olphert* still on the same site. A gaol was built further back on top of the hill.

We saw old photos of the Hill (later Hutson) brickworks on Wallace St, with the 1888 manager's house on the Hargreaves

The brickworks used barge-loads of shells from Nelson to make lime for mortar, with the local clay providing the raw material for bricks. Heaps of the shells still turn up in local gardens.

The barns for the tram horses were near what now is Myrtle Cres, until electric trams came at the start of the 20th century.

St corner still there and lived in. Later the works concentrated on pipes and pottery, with the pottery now being collectors' items.

The settlement of Adelaide Rd and King and Hanson Streets began in 1867 firstly with steam trams and two years later horse-drawn trams from central Wellington to King St, and later to Newtown.

The Ranfurly Tce house built in 1898 by Charles Emeny who was a skilled plasterer has amazing interior decoration, and the house is being carefully preserved and restored by the present owners.

Feedback about the walk has been very positive, and it is hoped to repeat it early in 2013.

There are still air raid shelters beneath parts of the Wellington High School and Massey grounds.

THE MURPHY HOUSES

Bricks and Mt Cook have long been associated. Well known names such as Tonks of Webb Street, Murphy of Taranaki St, Hill of Rolleston Street, Banks & Overend of Hanson and Tasman Streets, have all had a hand in creating a lasting image of Wellington from the clays of Mt Cook. Earthquakes progressively influenced the move away from brick as a preferred building material, but brick continues to have an enduring charm through the many remaining brick houses that grace Wellington suburbs with their

class, grandeur and warmth.

All legacies come at a cost and Murphy Bros founder, William

Murphy, was tragically killed in an accident in 1905 when extensions to their kiln in Taranaki Street collapsed. His family members John William, Robert James, Charles Frederick and Harold Murphy

lived on as builders and brick and pipe makers. Two prominent houses that bear tribute to the Murphys' skill and determination can be seen in Mount

Cook on the rise at the top of Taranaki Street, opposite Wellington High School. No.2 Bidwill and 2 Wallace Street were built by Harold Murphy in 1915-16 and 1925-26 respectively and remained as one property until the land was subdivided in 1993.

The Murphy houses commanded prime position overlooking the family's brick-making empire. They had offices at 304

Taranaki Street (now the site of the Wellington City Mission night-shelter); the Factory at 217 Taranaki Street (now student accommodation); and a quarry (on the west face of Mt Cook). The Wellington High School playing field was created following the closure of the Murphy Brick-

One of the earliest military buildings was a munitions store on the slope above Tasman St. The building was damaged in the 1848 earthquake. It was still being used as a Wellington Technical School classroom 110 years later.

works in 1952. The Bidwill & Wallace Street houses are not the only Murphy buildings remaining in Wellington. Addresses such as 282 Oriental Parade, 2 Toru Street Lyall Bay, 43 Rolleston Street, 6 Wellington Road, and 530 Evans Bay Parade, to name a few,

all bear the Murphy mark. No.2 Wallace Street originally boasted a substantial billiard room and office on the lower

The prison became a barracks for military personnel until it was demolished to make way for the Dominion Museum and National Gallery (now the Massey Museum building), opened in 1936.

level, and generous living- and bedrooms on the upper storey. In 1956 it was converted into a house and flat (lower level) but was returned to a single dwelling in the mid 1990s. Since then it has served as a family residence, home stay and, more recently, as the Brick House Bed & Breakfast.

If you check the clay pipes and old chimney pots on your property or around your neigh-

Irene Emeny was born in 1898 in the Ranfurly Tce house her father was building. With her sisters, she lived there all her life, and died in 2006 at the age of 108 in the room where she was born.

bourhood, you are bound to find the Murphy Bros stamp imprinted on them. Indeed, many can still be found as collectibles among the pots of many Wellington gardens.

If you remember any of the Murphy Bros or live in a house built with their bricks, you may like to share your story with the current owners of 2 Wallace Street. They can be contacted at <miles.family@xtra.co.nz>.

TK ON TASMAN

Te Kainganui Early Education Centre has been at 64 Tasman Street for over 30 years. The sweet smell of daphne at the gate greets visitors. The old villa has been heavily modified - walls partially removed to create separate play spaces with visibility and easy movement between them. The back doors open onto a big wooden deck and an all-weather yard that is about as long as the house. A generous grant from the Lion Foundation enabled a set of canvas blinds with transparent windows to be installed around the deck. These blinds can be zipped up.

Along with the play equipment, the backyard has a worm farm, compost bin and garden. Last summer the children were eating crackers topped with tomatoes they grew themselves. In the winter they grow carrots. Learning about healthy eating is a serious matter here, where salty or sweet spreads have no place.

Te Kainganui can take up to 22 children, who come to play and learn at least two days a week. TK is small enough to have a family atmosphere. As a non-profit parent co-operative, the collective whanau lend their skills, from updating the website, to gifting beautiful pottery or teaching tikanga Maori. TK's teachers pride themselves on providing a diverse range of learning experiences, and are always ready to let planned activities change tack when it is right for the group of children.

Pippy and Rakau at Te Kainganui.



BIDWILL TRAFFIC

Following recent exchanges of view with residents of Bidwill Street, the City Council has implemented some changes:

- Five low level speed humps have been installed
- Signage has been improved
- The traffic lights at the foot of the street have been upgraded and their phasing changed to make it easier for pedestrians to cross Wallace Street.
- A yellow 'hatched' area has been painted at the intersection of the upper and lower parts of Bidwill Street, thus allowing traffic to exit lower Bidwill Street in peak hours more easily.

These changes have reduced speeds and improved safety and ease of movement. However they have not reduced the traffic volume which is still a matter of concern to residents.

We will continue to urge the Council to undertake the following measures:

- Undertake traffic modeling on the effect of possible changes to traffic directions at adjacent intersections (such as the Willis/ Webb/Aro St intersections) and ascertain whether these might help to reduce the traffic flows on Bidwill Street.
- Investigate making the upper part of Bidwill Street a one-way street.
- Consider whether other measures that will denote Bidwill Street as a residential area, not a through-route, are feasible. Residential signage or other road treatment should indicate a slow-speed zone.
- Install 'School' signs on Bidwill Street indicating the presence of Wellington High School. School signs would alert drivers on Bidwill Street to the greater requirement for pedestrian safety.

WHAT IS A WALKING SCHOOL BUS?

It is a group of children walking to school accompanied by adults. It can be several families taking turns or a more structured event with meeting points, a timetable and a schedule of trained volunteers. Either way the system is flexible, fun and a good way to help build community. A variation is the bicycle train, in which children ride their bikes/scooters to school, under adult supervision. A 10-page co-ordinators' guide can be downloaded from <www.feetfirst.govt.nz>.

WHAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT ITEM IN YOUR EMERGENCY KIT?

Recent disasters have reminded us again about the need for family emergency plans. It is important to have supplies and a plan so that everyone knows what they would do. Disasters are always unexpected. **Neighbours are essential in a disaster or emergency...**

Christchurch demonstrates very clearly that people on the spot are incredibly important both immediately and long term in a disaster. Being able to check how people near you have been affected and offering to help each other are vital for quick response and recovery.

And this works best when we already know each other and know what resources exist in our community.

On 5 May Mt Cook Mobilised organised our first Mt Cook Expo in the new Mt Cook School hall. There is a lot going on in this community – and the range of displays about preschool, churches, emergency preparedness, the Massey gym as well as the MCM Papawai reserve working bees, social petanque group and regular residents meetings made great use of the welcoming space in the hall.

There were also very interesting workshops on topics related to community preparedness:

Wellington Emergency Management Office - being prepared at home and work

Arlington Resilience group – about the preparations they have made

Disaster research - courses on offer from Massey University

Water harvesting - an essential element in emergency planning



How to build a solar oven – local resident Clyde Lambourn demonstrates the deluxe Solar Cooker, to MCM's Tina (above right). Dinner cooked while you work - for free!

Community patrol - regular volunteer patrols in the southern suburbs.

It was an interesting, fun day – helped along by excellent coffee from L'Affare and baking from school committee members.

Watch out for us next year! And in the meantime remember there is a Mt Cook school hall available for hire for local events (contact the school office) - and keep up the emergency plans.

A Walking School Bus with driver Kirsty (right rear).



THANKS CITY COUNCIL

MCM acknowledges with thanks a grant from WCC's Community Venue Assistance fund, to assist with rental costs of our six-weekly public meetings.

BURGLARY 101

For the fourth year running Mt Cook is Wellington's burglary hot spot. Police have begun collecting longitudinal data which is highlighting that some flats are targeted annually by savvy burglars. Sloppy domestic security arrangements are the drawcard for burglars – front doors left unlocked or wedged permanently open with a brick, bathroom or other windows open without security stays, and overloaded letter boxes. The Neighbourhood Support website has a list of basic things to do to keep your flat off the radar. Check it out; it's not rocket science.

MASSIVE, the Massey University Students' Association magazine, publishes a Crime Map covering a 1.5km radius from Massey, including Mt Cook and parts of Mt Victoria, Newtown and the central city. The Police-supplied data includes burglaries, thefts from cars, physical and sexual assaults.

Wellington South Community Constable, Dean Adams, reminds people that it is important to report crimes because every incident adds to the bigger picture – the contact number is (04) 381 2000. Building up a picture of Mt Cook burglaries over the last four years has prompted Dean to take the extra step of visiting some flats which appear to be annual targets.

The old mantra, get to know your neighbours, is invaluable if a street is hit by a spate of burglaries. Professional burglars tend to move from door-to-door taking their chances as they present themselves. Dean is happy to help neighbours get started with setting-up a neighbourhood support group. Dean is also available to speak to groups who have concerns about burglary or other unwanted activity in the Mt Cook area. Contact Dean on <dean.adams@police.govt.nz> or phone (04) 381 2000.

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community

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Performances of ballet and contemporary dance at Te Whaea: National Dance & Drama Centre, 11 Hutchison Road, Newtown

www.nzschoolofdance.ac.nz


FITNESS TIMETABLE

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
7:30am		Power		
12:00pm	Circuit	Yoga	Circuit	Yoga
4:00pm	Circuit	Circuit	Circuit	Circuit
5:00pm				NIA
5:15pm	Pump	FightDo	X55	FightDo
6:30pm		Step	FightDo	Step


www.bpmfitness.co.nz
Gate C Massey Uni

SUNDAY ROAST

\$18 WITH A HAVANA COFFEE



SOUTHERNCROSS
GARDEN BAR RESTAURANT



Mt Cook's Annual Spring Fling



Sunday 28 October 2012 **11 – 2pm**

novelty races, face painting & crafts for kids
bring a picnic, BYO
L'Affare coffee & home baking

WHERE: Papawai Reserve (off Salisbury Tce)

CAFFE L'AFFARE
THE COFFEE BUSINESS EST. 1999

Absolutely POSITIVELY
ME HEKE KI PŌNEKE WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

PART-TIME NANNIES/ DEMI AU PAIRS - FAMILIES WANTED SEPTEMBER 2012

The Campbell Institute has experienced Demi Au Pairs arriving, who will work for families up to 20 hours per week, in return for full board, transport costs to our school and NZ\$60.00 pocket money. This programme suits busy families needing an extra pair of hands.

**If you are interested, please contact
The Campbell Institute:
Raewin Ormond • PH: 04 – 803 3434
demipair@campbell.ac.nz**