

MT COOK! MOBILISED

Mt Cook Mobilised

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MCM • PO Box 9724 • Wellington 6141



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This newsletter gets to every home in Mt Cook - your opportunity to engage with over 6000 people. Advertising and sponsorship packages available.

No 17 - May 2015

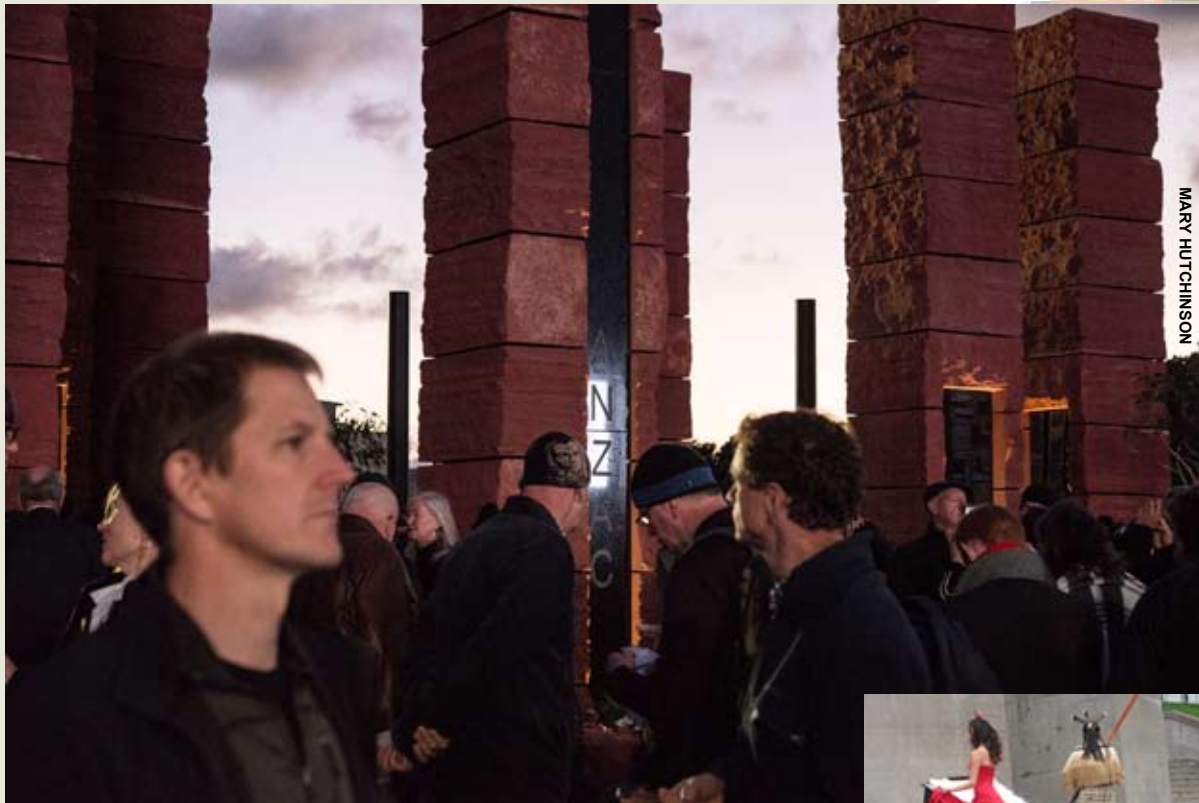
Welcome to Mt Cook Mobilised, your resident community group. We invite your input (via the email above) on any Mt Cook issue. We urge all owners to paint out graffiti immediately and look out for neighbours. In this issue we celebrate the opening of our war memorial park, which we have supported since 2007. **Peter Cooke**



BLESSED PEACE

A haunting karanga welcomed us to a dawn blessing of Pukeahu National War Memorial park on 25 March. The Carillon and Australian Memorial were stark and beautiful, lit against a clear dark sky. Many locals joined a thousand people to be the first entering the new park. We followed the blessing of the four winds and corners, unveiling tangata whenua gardens and the statue of Hinerangi - a sorrowing woman representing those waiting at home.

We finished with breakfast in Mt Cook



MARY HUTCHINSON

School Hall, hearing from Hon Maggie Barry, the Minister of Arts, Culture & Heritage, the Mayor of Wellington, and Sandy McCallum the Principal of Mt Cook School. The construction of the park has seen a great linkage between the school, MCH and Memorial Park Alliance, with many visits and discussions about the construction work, the significance of the park and first-hand experience of a site of national significance.

of the museum and carillon.

Mt Cook is the focus this year

for Anzac commemorations, and the glorious tones of the carillon will again float from our sky.

Wellingtonians have flocked to the park, making this a strong people-based place, enjoying the sanctity and contemplation.

As the Governor-General reminded us, Pukeahu is a sacred hill and, for many reasons, "is an appropriate place in our capital city to commemorate the sacrifice of those who served during times of war and conflict. Pukeahu, more than anywhere else, reminds us how precious peace is to us all."

The street parade on 24 April culminated at the park, leaving the dawn and national services of commemoration on Anzac day to say it all. Lest We Forget, and congratulations to everyone involved!



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The Australian memorial (top left), carillon bathed in art (above), two PMs (below) unveiling the memorial to Anzacdom (below left), and at the dawn blessing (left) L-to-R the mana wahine Mayor Celia Wade-Brown, Heritage Minister Maggie Barry, and Regional Chair Fran Wilde with iwi rangatira Morrie Love.





Today's soldiers salute the flags and *Last Post* (above), and Hinerangi (right) emerges from the portal of our military past as represented by the NZ Defence Force's fine GHQ Building (above right).

PETER COOKE/
CAROL COMBER



The old museum becomes a new museum (below).

MT COOK PRESCHOOL

Mt Cook Preschool stands where there was once a school pool in the grounds of Mt Cook School. The Preschool takes 3- and 4-year-olds, and is a feeder preschool for Mt Cook primary. There are lots of linkages between the two schools; the school librarian reads to the pre-schoolers once a week, Mt Cook School students practise peer-reading to the littlies, and in return are proudly shown the preschool's collection of outdoor bugs and creepy crawlies. By the time the preschoolers make the move to Mt Cook School they are very comfortable in their new surroundings.

One of the jewels in the crown of the Preschool is that most of the teachers speak at least one other language. Teachers are often called upon to translate for the Preschool community, or sometimes for Mt Cook School. The sharing of cultural values is second nature. As is the Preschool's focus on sustainability – the children learn about composting, worm farms and insect lifecycles. The Preschool has embraced technology for sharing the children's learning with parents. Teachers use an online resource called Storypark to build e-profiles, uploading children's pictures and stories, which parents can share online with other family members.

Mt Cook Preschool is community-run, has a small roll of around 24 children, and is open until 2:45 in the afternoon. Prospective students and their whanau are welcome to call in. Contact the Preschool on 021 158 4606 (or phone Mt Cook School on 385 9432 and ask for the Preschool), visit their website :

<http://mtcookpreschool.org.nz> or look on Facebook.

HOUSING NZ'S NEIGHBOURLY DAY

On 28 March Housing NZ held a Neighbours' Day event at their complex in Rolleston St. Both Rolleston and Hargreaves Streets were leafleted inviting the community to join the activities. HNZ provided bins for a rubbish cleanup, a sausage sizzle, car wash, and activities for the kids, which included croquet, chalk drawing and a visit from the fire service.

Fifteen-to-20 HNZ staff turned up to volunteer on the Saturday morning and were joined by residents and neighbours. Mt Cook Mobilised was involved with the clearing and planting of more than 60 donated native plants with some coming from Friends of Owhiro Stream (for which, many thanks). These were planted on the bank above the Hargreaves St car park.

Further planting of the banks is planned to take place at a later date and maybe some more fruit trees provided.

MT COOK! MOBILISED community



MOUNT COOK

160 Tory Street, Wellington
(04) 385 9432
 021 158 4606

www.mtcookpreschool.org.nz

We welcome visitors, so contact us soon to arrange a good time to come and join us!

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RUBBISH COLLECTION

Every second month volunteers from MCM spend an hour on a weekend picking up rubbish which is later collected by the Council. It is always good to notice the difference in the appearance of our streets after this. Of course most people tidy their own street frontages and immediate surrounds and a number of residents can be spotted 'picking up' further afield. One full supermarket bag makes a big difference as does

ensuring that recycling material is put out on the right day and in the right container. MCM volunteers meet on the first weekend of each even month, usually alternating between Saturday and Sunday, at 11am outside the Mount Cook Cafe in Wallace Street. Our next collection will be on **Sunday 7th June** and all helpers will be most welcome. Bring your gardening gloves.