



Friends of Waikumete

Newsletter September 2012

Chairman's Report

My last report in 2011 brought to the fore the Commemoration Day for the first burial in Waikumete Cemetery. With the support from the Cemetery Management and Events Team from Auckland Council, it was a very successful day. The Chapel Of Faith In The Oaks was opened for the community to view and this was, we hope, the first of many times it will be used by the community.

This year has been marked by a series of a much more active commitment by the new members in conjunction with the more established ones – in short, a very well balanced committee, not only talented, but also very modest. It is not appropriate to single out anyone, but all facets of our activities are operating extremely well.

As always, our big push is to expand our membership and increase the size of our working parties. We need to be more creative financially to expand on future projects to maintain the Heritage experience for our communities.

This coming year will bring its challenges, but consolidation and very importantly our relationship with all stakeholders and working towards maintaining our heritage status must be paramount. A thought in mind is that Waikumete Cemetery is diverse enough to be everything to all users and we can emphasize that we are “The Friends.”

Gary Marshall

Service at Chapel of Faith in the Oaks to mark restoration of gravesites

Thirteen plaques with a scrap metal value of only a couple of hundred dollars, were ripped off headstones. The police recovered them, but they were not in good enough condition to be reattached. Avondale police organised a group of family businesses to restore the gravesites with new engravings.

On Sunday August 26, about 60 family members with Constables Jodie Browne and Adrian Heffernan met and dedicated new memorials to their loved ones, replacing brass plaques stolen from them. “The Friends” wish to applaud all those involved in the kind act of restoration. Not only were the police able to prosecute the thieves, they also gave the victims of this crime healing and comfort. Families received a recast cross made out of the damaged metal.



Step by Step Instructions for Cleaning & repainting Granite Memorial Headstones

1. Cleaning Headstone

- a. **Things you will need:** 1x wire brush, water (bucket or hose)
- b. **Clean the Inscription** gently using the wire brush and water, wash out the mould and debris (any loose paint) from the inscribed areas

2. Painting Headstone

- a. **Things you will need:** Black oil based paint (enough to cover inscribed area), 1 x inch wide paintbrush: White oil based paint (enough for 2-3 coats)
- b. **Paint it Black:** make sure the stone is dry, then paint a thin layer of black over the entire inscribed area
- c. **Wait at least one day** for paint to dry
- d. **First coat of white :** only on a warm day, come back and paint a thin coat of white over the letters using an inch wide brush, making sure to cover the entire general area not just the individual letters
- e. **Wait 10-20 minutes** or until the paint is very tacky
- f. **Second Coat of white:** paint a second thin coat of white over the first. **Don't paint too thickly** or the paint will dribble and form lumps at the bottom of the letters
- g. **Leave at least a day to dry**

3. Cleaning Paint

- a. **Things you will need:** 1x wet towel, 1xscraper, 1x sand soap (Solvol) or Pumice, water
- b. **Sweat the Paint:** take a wet towel and lay it over the face of the stone for 20-30 minutes
- c. **Scrape the paint off:** with a razor blade paint scraper. (you can skip this step if you wish)
- d. **Rub off with Sand soap:** using sand soap and water clean the face of the stone, if you don't have sand soap you can use pumice

Never use sandpaper or abrasives designed to cut

1. If it all turns to custard you can apply paint stripper and start again, but it is easy. The Black paint fills any small imperfections in the face and stops the spotting if you use just the white.
2. DON'T use water base paint if you want it to last. Use **Enamel** Based Paint
3. For Roses and other Graphics you can use the appropriate colours

Thankyou to T Morton and Artline Memorials, Hamilton's Headstone Shop Ltd for your clear instructions.

www.artline.co.nz

N.B. Please refer to Historical Cemetery Conservation Trust of NZ, Best Practice guidelines for old Headstones. Easily found on the internet



We hope you enjoy these "Unusual Headstones" and Headstones from a Mexican Cemetery.



**GUSTAVA
GUMERSINDA
GUTIERREZ
GUZMAN**
1934-1989

Rest in peace

A memory from all
your sons(except
Ricardo who did not
pay any money)



**TOMAS
JIMOTEO
CHINCHILLA**

1967-1989

Rest in peace,

Now you are in Lord's arms.

Lord, watch your wallet



Here is resting my
dearest wife,

**BRUNILDA
JALAMONTE**

1973-1997

Lord, please
welcome

her with the same
joy I send her to you.



Here rests
**PANCRAZIO
JUVENALES**
1968-1993

He was a good

husband, a wonderful

father, but a bad

electrician



Adriana Vilareal of Dos de Mayo, Argentina, lost her husband two years ago but makes a point to visit his tomb about four times a year, and not just briefly, Vilareal brings bedding, an internet connection and a small stove so she can stay three or four days at each visit. "When you love someone, you do all sorts of things," she said. (Source: News of the Weird)

Patrons
Bob Harvey

Matthew Gray

President
Gary Marshall
818-5707

Vice President
Barbara Harvey
818-5629

Secretary/ Treasurer
Colleen Ducker
813-4104

Committee

Colin Bradshaw 818-0413
Aranne Donald

Alan Ducker 813-4104

Noeline Erceg 838-5429

Ray Kernaghan
818-8767

Kathleen Kingswood
813-4104

Gayle Marshall 818-5707

John Snashall
021-457-490

Ruth Snashall
818-4352

Honorary Life Members
Laurel North

Cynthia Shirtcliffe,

Aranne Donald

Walks
John Snashall

Newsletter
Noeline Erceg

P.O Box 20109
Glen Eden
Waitakere City

Walks Programme Spring/Summer 2012

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Pioneers and Settlers | Saturday 15 th September 2.30 |
| Heritage Walk | Saturday 6 th October 2.00 |
| Wildflowers | Saturday 27 th October 2.00 |
| All Souls | Saturday 3 rd November 2.00 |
| Tragic | Saturday 1 st December 2.00 |

Please confirm dates and times in "What's On" column of the Western & Central Leader, the week before advertised date.

Please meet at Chapel of Faith in the Oaks for all Walks

ADOPT A GRAVE TO TEND

On the third Saturday of the month
Meet by the Chapel in the Oaks, 9am
Weather permitting
Need: Appropriate clothing e.g. Sunhat
Brush, bucket, spade, broom.
Volunteers will be welcome
Next dates: **20 October, 17 Nov, 15 Dec**

Sue Perich, my dear mum and committee member from about 1996 passed away peacefully on August 19 2012, aged 85 years. She introduced "All Souls Day" to Waikumete in 2000 and co-ordinated a ceremony inspired by being in Croatia on their "Dan Mrtvih." She saw Altars were draped in black. Cemeteries were decorated with flowers. The first ceremony had about 60 people gathered by the viewfinder and Father James Shanaghan led everyone in prayer. People were invited to name their loved ones. They then placed flowers on graves. Sister Kate Franich continued this Universal Catholic tradition at Chapel of Faith in the Oaks.

**During the
"All Souls Day Walk"
sprigs of Rosemary
are placed on the
graves visited.
Rosemary signifies
Remembrance.**

Any member who is able to help with easy treasurer's tasks, please make yourself known to us.



REMEMBERING: Sister Kate Franich, left, and Sue Perich invite west Aucklanders to All Souls Day at Waikumete Cemetery.
Photo: JEFF EVANS