



Friends of Waikumete

October 2016

**Summer Walks Programme
First Sunday of each month**

Theme for the summer season

“Ghosts of our Past”

First walk: Sunday 6th November 2016

The Deadly Scourge

Meet at the Chapel of Faith in the Oaks

Morning Walk: 10am-12pm

Afternoon Walk: 4pm-6pm (repeat of morning walk)

GOLD COIN DONATION which will go towards a grave restoration project

Contact: John 027 535 1959 or Ruth (09) 818 4352

Check details of current walk/cancellations on:

Friends of Waikumete Facebook Page or

Cemetery Office Display Window

Dress for weather, sun or rain protection. Bring water/drinks/snack
No bookings required, parking available in cemetery, dogs on leads.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Some content may not be suitable for children.

Patrons
Bob Harvey
Matthew Gray

Co-Presidents

Gary Marshall
Gayle Marshall
818-5707

Vice President

Barbara Harvey
818-5629

Secretary

Elaine Talbot

Treasurer

Leanne Appleby
lappleby@ihug.co.nz
813-0608

Committee

Renee Bird
021-2882-969

Colin Bradshaw
818-0413

Noeline Erceg (Newsletter)
noeline_erceg@xtra.co.nz

838-5429

John Snashall

027 535 1959

Ruth Snashall

818-4352

Honorary Life Members

Laurel North

Cynthia Shirtcliffe,

Aranne Donald

P.O Box 20109

Glen Eden
Waitakere City

Membership

\$15 single

\$25 Couple

We welcome your support



Christmas in the Chapel

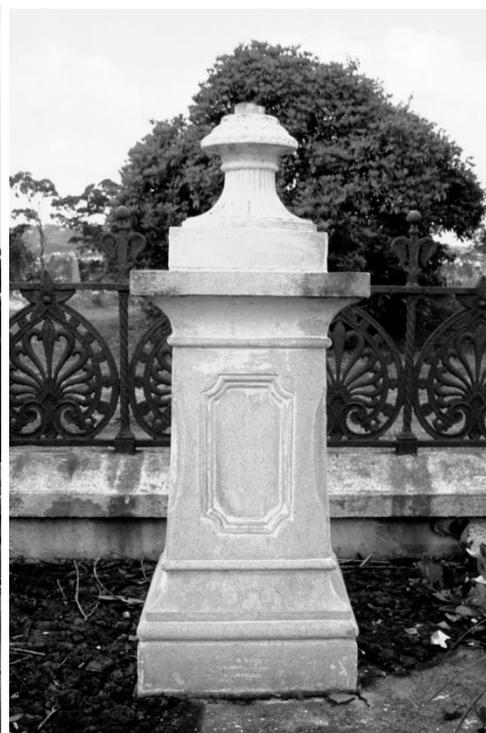
3rd December 2016

7:00pm

Enjoy the feeling of Goodwill
in our chapel setting:
The Chapel of Faith in the Oaks



A message from Roscoe Webb, The Manager of Waikumete Cemetery.
With great disappointment, we have to advise that on late Friday afternoon, 29 October, the replacement headstone at the James Cross Grave was vandalised along with three other headstones in the area. The police are investigating and we are in discussion to look for options for repair. We are appealing for witnesses and will be taking steps to contact any descendents from the other three graves. Many thanks to those who have already offered support.



The Boyd Plinths as photographed on the Boyd Grave They have been returned to Waikumete and are in Secure Glass cases for our viewing pleasure and in accordance to high security standards.



On September 24, 2016 Friends, family, and community supporters gathered around and unveiled the new **James Cross Headstone**. Tastefully designed to fit in with Heritage. Congratulations on a job completed and well done. Thank you for caring and showing your opposition towards the act of vandalism that desecrated the grave of a fine sailor.

Chairman's Report 2016

Since the last AGM we have two new Executive members who have firmly taken charge of their respective roles. Leanne Appleby, the treasurer and Elaine Talbot, the secretary. Thankyou for the enthusiasm you have shown for the Friends of Waikumete.

We have lost a few of our members who have chosen to work in their own way.

The Open Day for Waikumete Cemetery was a success and the visitors to the cemetery had a wide choice of happening events they could attend.

We will be having the welcoming of the Boyd Plinths coming home before the end of this year. Thanks to Barbara Harvey, Roscoe Webb and all who were involved as to making sure such an important part of Waikumete's history was returned.

The Friends have been, and are working on a book around the first military burials and the opening of the soldier's cemetery. We have the privilege of having well known Historian, Lisa Truttman, researching for us. This is a very exciting undertaking and we aim for a book that does justice to those who gave their lives and freedom for the good of New Zealand.

Thankyou to the Waitakere ranges Local Board who commissioned the FOW to undertake this project.

As always, we welcome new ideas and members.

The damage of headstones is very depressing and the weather makes it difficult to maintain areas. There is a concern as to the affect "The Twin Towers Development" may have on the cemetery and it may be time to meet with Council as to defining the cemetery boundaries with fencing.

We continue to have a good relationship with the Cemetery management and congratulate them on the opening of the new Eco Burial Area.

Gary Marshall/Chairman



John Mayall's Headstone has fallen! Wesley Division B Row 6 plot 34.

The headstone is laying face down, the grave has a concrete surround. The grass protrudes through the ornate lattice pattern.

A rescue plan is to have a sloping slab of concrete with the headstone laid on top. The broken pieces can be fitted together and held safe by the concrete base.

Money from "The Walks" will go towards Grave Restoration projects.

John Mayall died on 28 November 1906, in Auckland Hospital. A victim of the Calliope Dock accident, he had sustained internal injuries and injuries to the head.

The ship had been brought into the dry dock for repairs and was being stabilised while the water around it was pumped back out to sea. Somehow it slipped from its blocks causing a swell of sea water that swept numerous workers off their feet.

Matthew Gray, in his book "**Tales from the Crypt**" page 78, writes about two other victims, **William Craig May**, buried at Waikumete Anglican Division B Row 8-41b, and also **Robert Clark**, not buried in Waikumete.

They were crushed and their bodies were swept out to the Waitemata harbour. Problems arose when the bodies were unclaimed. The contractor believed the Harbour Board should pay for the funeral. William's family was found but Robert Clark was not so fortunate. "His body lay unattended among crates of bottles in a lean to at the back of the Devonport hotel until someone noticed it being feasted on by swarms of rats." Public outcry swiftly settled the embarrassed warring parties and Robert was given a proper burial at O'Neil's Cemetery Bayswater.

Thankyou to those who "like" our Facebook Pages.