

Our next meeting is being held on Tuesday 4 December 2018

at St Ninian's, Newcombe Crescent, Karori at 7.45 pm.

Members and friends welcome

*Recognising the 1918
Influenza Pandemic - the
Karori Cemetery project*

Celebrations on Sunday 18 and 25 November will mark the culmination of more than two years hard work to clear, clean, research and remember those in Karori Cemetery who died in the 1918 Influenza Pandemic. Since late 2016 volunteers, coordinated and led by Barbara Mulligan, have worked tirelessly to clean and tidy plots, clean headstones, and research the family histories of those who died in the pandemic.



Karori Historical Society has also supported this work by helping secure a Wellington City Council grant to contribute towards the work. We have also keenly promoted regular activities and through our social media and newsletters encourage members to get involved.

Barbara has agreed to talk at our December meeting, to give us an overview of the project as a whole, talk us through the work to clean and clear the cemetery, as well as share some stories of the people and families buried in Karori Cemetery.

With Barbara's enthusiasm and huge knowledge this is sure to be a fantastic talk, so I hope you can join us!

To find out more about the upcoming events on November 18 and 25 please check out the project's really informative [website](#). From here you can access the [programme of events](#), and find out more about those who died from influenza and are [buried in the cemetery](#). Make sure you mark these dates in your calendar and get along!

**Supper will be served after the meeting. We look forward to seeing you on
Tuesday 4 December**

September meeting – Christine Grace and the history of Makara / Ohariu

The Society has always had a strong interest in the history of Makara. Every Stockade contains references or articles about Makara. In 1996 we published James Brodie's 'Terawhiti and the Goldfields'. The Society's new committee thought it a good time to meet with Makara community leaders, to get an update on the development of Makara and to see whether the Society could better help resident's record and interpret their history.

22 members braved a dreadful winter's night to hear Christine Grace speak about the history and life in the Makara and Ohariu Valleys. Christine is Chairperson of the Makara and Ohariu Community Board, and is a third generation Makara resident tracing her family's farm alongside the lower Makara Stream to the early 1900s.



Christine spoke of the evolving nature of the region – from the extensive Maori heritage, through the early development and the fishing and dairy farm businesses supplying Wellington, the shift from dairy to sheep and cattle, the military camp and gun emplacements above Opau Bay during the 40's, the significance of the Post Office's receiving stations and the village it spawned in the 50's and 60s, and the increasing number of new residents who like the rural life style but who work in the city. Today Makara and Ohariu has a population of only 850 although it accounts for 60% of the land area of Wellington. She described the school as in a boom phase and reflected on the number of children coming across from Karori to be educated in a rural environment.

Christine also reflected on the wind farm - which most had opposed - but she said they had come to live with it, and the ongoing contributions of Meridian into the community fund had been extremely useful in tackling numerous community projects.

A current issue is the erosion problems facing Makara Beach and the track around to Fisherman's Bay. The damage caused by Cyclone Gita earlier this year was unprecedented and several houses were inundated by the sea for the first time ever.

There appears to be unfinished business in interpreting family histories and around identifying and listing historic buildings throughout Makara and Ohariu Valley. Some families are into their fifth generation living in the area and the Monk family for example is planning to restore the old church hall into a museum using some of their family's history. The committee plans further discussions with Christine on ways the Society can assist the Makara and Ohariu communities.

Make sure you get your subscription paid!

We still have a number of outstanding subscriptions for the 2018-2019 year. If you haven't got round to paying, or may have forgotten, we're asking you to get it paid! The annual rate is the same as it was last year, which is

\$20 for individual membership

\$25 for a family membership.

You can pay via online banking, our account number is below. Please enter your Name and phone number in the 3 panel payer space

Bank account: 06 0501 0208280 00

If you're not sure whether you have paid please contact either myself (Adrian Humphris, adrianinka02@gmail.com) or Geoff Slack (gs12119@xtra.co.nz), who can check for you. Otherwise, we will be sending reminders out in the next week or two

Our 50th Stockade!

Work is well underway on the Stockade, and we hope to have it ready to give out at our December meeting.

As always we rely on our members to contribute articles, images or stories. You may have a family connection to Karori you could share, or an early image or document people will find interesting. You could also uncover an untold story or fact about Karori via our Society archives; you can find these on the top floor of the Karori Library.

If you do have something to share or are prepared to write an article, please let the Committee know. Remember also you can browse copies of earlier Stockades online, via the following link:

<http://www.wrhpc.org.nz/archive/khsindex.htm>.

Don't forget to check out our website and see what's new

A reminder a wealth of information about the society and our activities can be found online at our website, <http://www.karorihistory.org.nz/>. We are also on Facebook; check it out and contribute! <https://www.facebook.com/Karori-Historical-Society-184528484931598/>

Adrian Humphris
President