

**The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6 December 2016
at St Ninian's, Newcombe Crescent, Karori**

at 7.30 pm.

'Playing Bingo in Karori Cemetery – Walk and ye shall find'

The speaker at our December meeting will be Gordon Tait.

Gordon is a life-long Karori resident. He attended Karori Normal School in the 1950s and has seen a multitude of changes in the suburb over the past 60 years.

His talk will centre around one of the jewels in Karori's crown – our cemetery – which he sees as a treasure trove of Karori and New Zealand history, and a snapshot in time which shows how cemeteries have developed and changed over the past century or so.

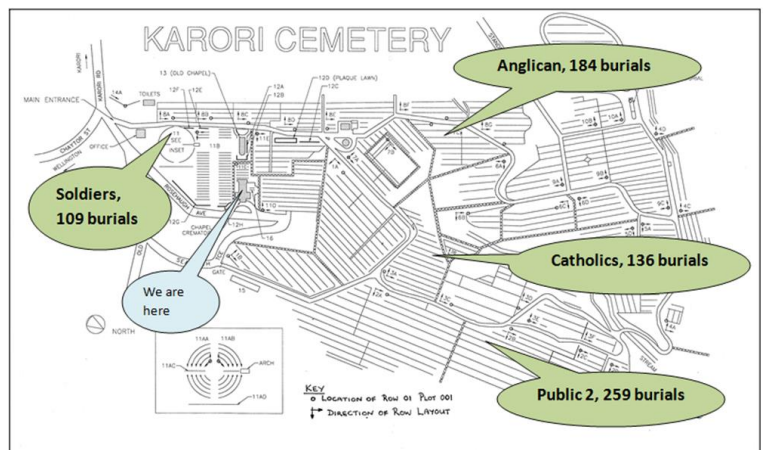


Supper will be served after Gordon's Talk.

Remembering the Influenza Epidemic

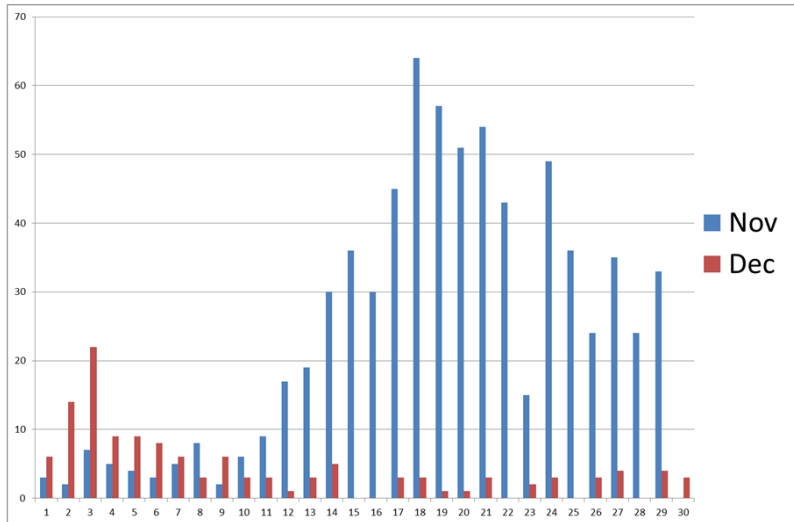
Also focusing on Karori Cemetery, an ambitious project focusing on Karori Cemetery's burial sites for victims of the 1918 influenza pandemic started at the end of November.

The project coordinated by local resident Barbara Mulligan, aims are to



progressively clear and clean the main burial sites for greater public access, as well as research the lives and family circumstances of at least 75 people who died. The results of the research will appear on a community website dedicated to the victims buried at Karori Cemetery.

BURIALS PER DAY AT KARORI



Between October and December 1918 a lethal influenza pandemic caused the death of around 8,600 people throughout New Zealand. This was about half as many New Zealanders as had been killed during the whole of the First World War. In the Wellington area the death rate was highest at the military camp at Trentham, described as “by far the most dangerous place to be in 1918”. At least 720 of those who succumbed to influenza in Wellington were buried at Karori cemetery.

The first volunteer working bee was held on Sunday 13 November, with 19 enthusiastic individuals present. The next scheduled working bee is SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER, meeting at the crematorium chapel at 2.00pm. From there participants will make their way to the Anglican section to start some work. Jarod Cohen from Guardian Memorials will be running an on-site workshop for the first 40 minutes or so, showing how best to clean headstones and plaques - and what not to do! Work for the day will finish by about 4.00pm.

These workshops will continue on a monthly basis, and there will also be a number of talks based on the topic throughout 2017. The project’s completion will coincide with the centenary of the Armistice of WW1 on 11 November 2018.

If people want to help and become involved, they can contact Barbara Mulligan at flu1918karori@gmail.com. Barbara has also have also set up a Facebook page as below so please take a look and do some “liking”.

<https://www.facebook.com/1918-Influenza-Project-Karori-Cemetery>

We are also looking at Barbara giving the Society an overview of this project early next year, as well as looking at what other support we can provide.

Talk and tour of City Archives

For our September meeting we had a tour of the Wellington City Council's Archives, based at 28 Barker Street near to the Basin Reserve.

City Archives is a treasure trove of information documenting the history and development of Wellington. Primarily holding records of the Wellington City Council and its predecessor organisations (including Karori Borough Council), the Archives also hold the records of the Union Steamship Company on behalf of Museum Wellington, as well as a small collection of community archives.

After a talk by the president outlining the work Archives does, what records they hold and how the collection can be accessed and researched, members got to browse selected items from the collection and go on a tour throughout the premises.

The Archives are located at 28 Barker Street, which is off Cambridge Terrace by the Basin Reserve. You can find out more via the Council website:

<http://wellington.govt.nz/your-council/archives>



We remember Michael Foster

Members may be aware that Michael Foster passed away on Tuesday 1 November. Michael was a Committee member for the Society for five years, and was deeply involved in comprehensive research and writing on a variety of subjects.

His meticulous attention to detail helped to make the second edition of "Karori and its People" a better book than the first. We also remember his Stockade articles: "A chapter of accidents:

Karori in the 1800s" in no. 43 p.31-37 (2011) and "The story of the Karori Honours Board" in no. 45 p.32-37 (2013).

His own website, <http://homepages.paradise.net.nz/mikefost/>, has detail on his various other works, on Shell Oil, the Boer War, errors in British records of births, deaths and marriages, and Cook Strait tides.

He was also deeply involved in and restoring and amending the Karori Borough Council Honours Board, which after a hard life was rescued by the Karori RSA. As well as restoring the Board Michael was researching the names on it, as well as identifying and adding those who had not been remembered.

We pass on our condolences to Michael's wife Joyce and extended family, our thoughts are with them.



Walks or tours

As well as our talks we are still looking at organizing a walking tour of Karori Cemetery, possibly when it is more settled in the early New Year.



We have also had a suggestion of a day trip up to Waikanae, touring historical sites there such as little St. Andrew's church, Reikorangi, the old Parata Street village and Kapiti Museum. Whether this is a day trip or afternoon drive it could be a great opportunity to take in some local history in the Kapiti Coast. Let me know via inkagh@clear.net.nz if you'd like to go, and if there is enough interest we will work on the idea.

and Hall

Stall at the Mall for Christmas

Christmas is approaching and we are planning on having a stall in Karori Mall on Saturday 3 December. This will be an opportunity to sell some of our publications, but also have a presence to share what the Society does to prospective member. If you are likely to be in the mall please drop by to say hello.

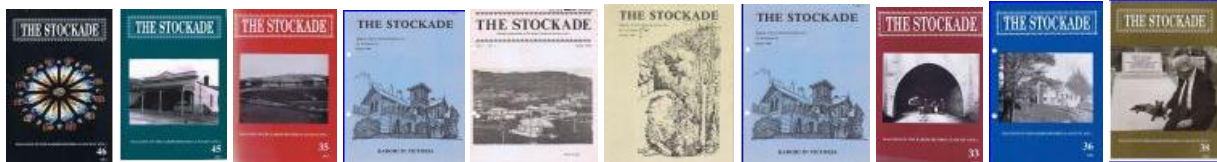
The next Stockade

Work on this year's Stockade is currently underway, and we hope to send it out by the end of the year.

The committee has also been discussing the best way to distribute the Stockade, and whether people would prefer the traditional hard copy booklet or a digital pdf (or possibly even both!). If you have any strong thoughts about either please let us know; we want to send it out the best way for our members. You can send comments to Adrian at inkagh@clear.net.nz.

Remember also you can browse copies of earlier Stockades online, via the following link:

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



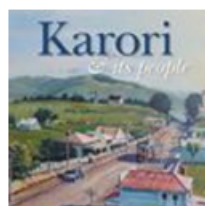
Don't forget to check us out online and see what's new

A reminder a wealth of information about the society and our activities can be found online at our website, <http://www.karorihistory.org.nz/>.

Here you can check previous newsletters and speakers see what is coming up at the next quarterly meeting, as well as viewing a selection of historic images held in our archive collection.

We are also on facebook; check it out and contribute!

<https://www.facebook.com/Karori-Historical-Society-184528484931598/>



Karori Historical Society

Community

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