

JULY 2024

Honorary Life Membership Award For Ross Gray



On 24th June Ross was presented with his Honorary Life Membership Award by Hamish Gilchrist

At the Civic Trust AGM Ross Gray tendered his letter of resignation from the board due to ill health, ending 18 years of dedicated service. Ross was a board member from 1995-1999 and was elected again in 2011. He served as Deputy Chair from 2016 and has been Chair since 2021. In the same year, the city recognised his efforts with a CCC award for Heritage Preservation.

His willingness to get involved in so many causes is a true measure of his character and dedication to our city. Ross has been a stalwart campaigner for heritage building retention and conservation and will be greatly missed on the board. No-one deserves this award more.

We all wish him well in his recovery to full health.

From the Chair



This is the first newsletter after our Annual General Meeting on the 19th of June.

I felt it was a very successful night. It was a good turnout given the rather nasty weather and a big thank you to all the board for bringing along a wonderful selection of food for supper.

Those who made it along were treated to a very interesting presentation by Dr Ian Lochhead on the Canterbury Provincial Buildings, seen here receiving a gift of appreciation for his presentation. (In case you were wondering; No, we didn't give Ian a nice kete bag – the rather flavoursome gift was inside).

A few items of note from the last Board meeting were membership and appointments of the subcommittees.

I have now been officially elected unopposed as Chair of CCT. Everyone's role has basically stayed the same except for Rob Watson who has undertaken the role of Convener of the Heritage, Urban Design and Resource Management group. Thank you Rob.

Mark Belton has offered to become our representative on the board of The Port Hills Trust after the sad passing of Oscar Alpers.

We've been waiting patiently for the Council's LTP to be finalised, but at last, CCT has finally secured the very last parcel of funding to be allocated from the Heritage Intangible Grant Scheme from the Heritage Team at the Christchurch City Council for the reprinting of the City and Peninsula book.

A big thank you to Victoria Bliss, Deborah Cosgrove and Brendan Smyth at the Heritage Team for keeping us at the top of their list.

Last, but by no means least, the Council has settled on a blanket metered parking

scheme for all the car parks in North Hagley Park (\$4.60 for 3 hours), to deter office workers and school pupils from clogging up parks for genuine users of Hagley Park. We supported this for some of the parks, but not for the large car park adjacent to the Gardens, accessed from Armagh Street. This, in our minds, may be a deterrent to the



Ian Lochhead with Hamish Gilchrist

people intending to come to the Gardens and the park in general. They didn't take up our more targeted idea of simply keeping the Armagh Street gate closed until 9am, thereby leaving more parks for the public.

That's it for now, until next newsletter...

Hamish Gilchrist

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Christ Church Cathedral Update

A special meeting of the Christchurch Anglican Diocese Synod has been held and we welcome the decision to scale back the earthquake resilience to save on costs. The seismic capacity will be reduced and the auxiliary buildings and sunken courtyard on the north side will be put aside - maybe to be revisited in the future as finance allows. The meeting was called to decide on various cost-cutting measures to avoid the rebuild project being mothballed, or scrapped.

For a full update of the announcement, please see the link below:

<https://www.thepress>

AGM Meeting Report

Held on Wednesday, 19th June 2024

It was truly a winter's night for the Civic Trust AGM this year. Cold and wet! But the heaters were on early at the WEA rooms in Gloucester Street.

An excellent turnout of members braved the weather - no doubt enticed by the wonderful food on offer and by the presentation of guest speaker - Ian Lochhead.

It was drinks and nibbles from 5.30pm, with Judith manning the teapot and the conversation was flowing.

The AGM only took three quarters of an hour and all members will have received a copy of the Annual Report, emailed to you recently.

The Board remains the same, except for the retirement of Ross Gray as Chair (referred to on page one).

Hamish Gilchrist (former Deputy Chair) who had been filling in for Ross, has been appointed the new Chair.

This does leave the role of Deputy Chair vacant at present.

The presentation by Ian Lochhead on the historic Christchurch Provincial Council Buildings was very informative, both on the original history of the buildings, their usage over time, and the subsequent damage from the Christchurch Earthquakes. Ian showed some photos of the destruction - a very sad sight indeed, but some fabulous news just recently is that the CCC has earmarked \$20 million for stage one of the restoration project.

For more information on the Christchurch Provincial Council Buildings - please see the link below.

www.heritage.org.nz/list-details/45/Listing

Movie Recommendation

I was told that I would enjoy this movie - 'Maurice & I' and I have to say I was not disappointed.

The movie is a recent feature length documentary celebrating the hugely influential architectural partnership of Sir Miles Warren and Maurice Mahoney and their legacy that was all but lost in the devastating Christchurch earthquakes.

Watch out for the glimpse of our very own Ross Gray!

Well worth seeing.

Erin Oakley

CIVIC TRUST AWARDS

2024

Members are invited to nominate recent outstanding heritage and environmental projects to be considered for an award later this year by the Civic Trust.

Nominations close on 30 August

Please send your nominations to:

secretary@christchurchcivictrust.org.nz

A link to the awards page on our website

<https://christchurchcivictrust.org.nz/christchurch-civic-trust-awards/>

The 2024 Awards evening will be on

9th October at the South Library.

Save this Date

Christchurch Arts Centre Funding

The Christchurch City Council has announced its decisions on the Long Term Plan.

The Christchurch Arts Centre requested funding of \$1.8m and have received \$750,000 for two years, \$500,000 for the following eight years and a continuance of an existing \$110,000 Strengthening Communities grant for the next two years.

The Christchurch Arts Centre is immensely grateful to the thousands of submitters who clearly signalled to the Christchurch City Council the strong community support. The number of submitters was unprecedented and the message was clear: please fund The Arts Centre.

For more information –please check out the link:

<https://www.artscentre.org.nz/support/save-the-arts-centre/>

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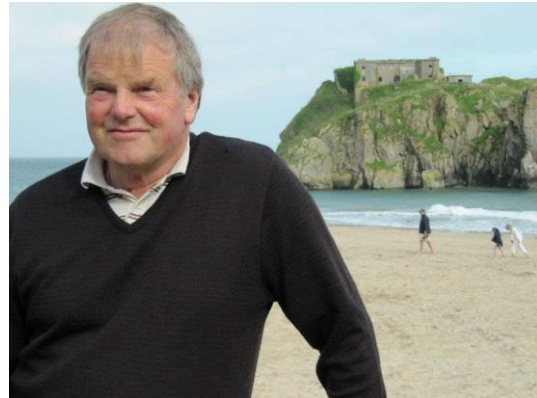
Long Term Plan Announcement

Given speaker Ian Lochhead's subject at our AGM, it was encouraging to see the Provincial Chambers receiving \$20 million from the CCC in the long term plan.<https://newsline.ccc.govt.nz/news/story/whats-being-delivered-this-decade> \$51 million on repairing and restoring heritage items around Christchurch and Banks Peninsula, including \$20 million on the first stage of the Canterbury Provincial Chambers, \$9 million on the Cunningham House in the Botanic Gardens, and \$15 million on strengthening and base isolation for the Robert McDougall Gallery.

OBITUARIES

Oscar Thorwald Alpers

25/07/1946 – 21/06/2024



Oscar was a valued member of the Christchurch Civic Trust and our representative on the Port Hills Trust Board. For these charitable organisations he provided leadership and pro bono legal services of considerable assistance in the pursuit of various trust mandates to protect, preserve and advance the use of public space for the enjoyment of our communities. Oscar initiated the purchase of Port Hills land and proposed the idea of establishing an Adventure Park. Such a stalwart supporter of civic pride, whether as a councillor, legal professional, or a hands on volunteer, deserves to be widely appreciated. We extend our sympathy to his family and join colleagues to say farewell Oscar, rest in peace, sage friend.

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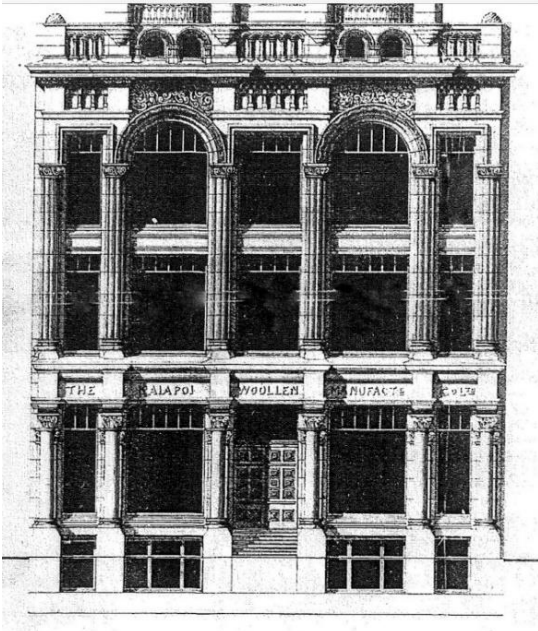
Janet Elizabeth Begg

1937 – 2024

Janet was a respected member of the board of the Civic Trust from 2002 – 2005. She was also an active member of the Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens and campaigned vigorously in 2003 – 2004 to have the Robert McDougall Art Gallery leased to the Christchurch Botanical Gardens for a Botanical Centre. Janet died in Christchurch on 12 June.

The Kaiapoi Woollen Manufacturing Co Building Remembered

The first time I recall being incensed at the destruction of a beautiful historic building was the demolition of Kaiapoi Woollen Manufacturing Co. on the east side of Manchester Street between Allen Street and Eaton Street, Christchurch.



Alan Tunnicliffe Photo 1979

How this stunning building was demolished in 1996 for a car yard beggars belief. It's a scenario repeated often, to this day. Harley Chambers on the corner of Worcester St and Cambridge Tce will probably fall to the wrecker's ball before too long. The image

above left appeared in the Weekly Press in 1908. It is an architect's rendering of the façade elevation of Kaiapoi Woollen Company's new factory and warehouse in Manchester Street. The new factory and warehouse that opened in 1908 designed by England Bros, with the façade designed by Luttrell Bros, was built to replace premises in Cashel Street which burnt down in November 1907.

Sandra Shaw

SAVE THIS DATE

Karma Keg held at Moon Under Water bar and restaurant
152 Somerfield Street, Somerfield.

Saturday 16th November. 3pm - 5pm

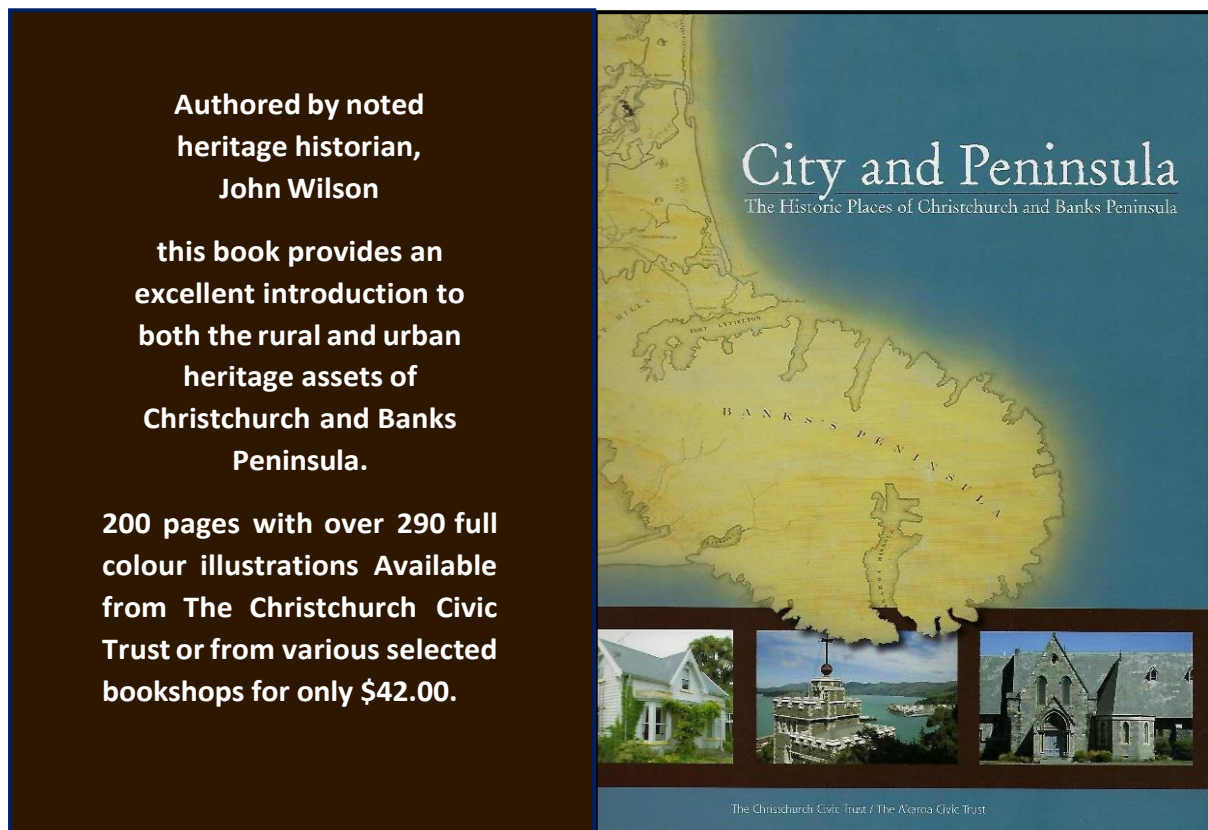
Come and help us on our annual fundraiser.

A New Reprint of City and Peninsula

Many of you will be familiar with the wonderful book, *City and Peninsula*, which was a joint publishing venture between Christchurch Civic Trust and Akaroa Civic Trust in 2007.

The book has been popular and sales continue to add much needed income for the Trust. As supplies of the first reprint of the book were getting low, we applied to Christchurch City Council for an Heritage Grant for another reprint. We are very pleased to have succeeded. Sincere thanks to Victoria Bliss and Deborah Cosgrove, of the Christchurch City Council Heritage Team, for their invaluable help in getting our application over the line.

We currently supply six bookshops in the city and Lyttelton and the book is also available for purchase on the Civic Trust website: www.christchurchcivictrust.org.nz



Authored by noted heritage historian, John Wilson

this book provides an excellent introduction to both the rural and urban heritage assets of Christchurch and Banks Peninsula.

200 pages with over 290 full colour illustrations Available from The Christchurch Civic Trust or from various selected bookshops for only \$42.00.

City and Peninsula
The Historic Places of Christchurch and Banks Peninsula

The Christchurch Civic Trust / The Akaroa Civic Trust

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