



Photo: Ann Devereaux

## “Deconstruction” Dawns in CBD

During the time the Christchurch CBD cordon has been in place, little hard information has surfaced about the fate of over 877 heritage buildings in the city, protected in the District Plan and/or registered by the NZ Historic Places Trust.

To date, aerial photos in the print media and photos captured by fleeing CBD workers have provided a narrow glimpse of the damage wrought on the city's heritage buildings by the 22 February quake.

Last Tuesday evening's media advisory from ECANZ and Christchurch City revealed a list of 21 damaged buildings city wide that have been scheduled for deconstruction. No list of buildings substantially demolished by the quake or demolished for public

safety reasons since 22 February has yet been released. Civil Defence National Controller John Hamilton has advised however that 139 buildings have been approved for demolition, deconstruction or dismantling and that in 17 cases this has been done without the owner's consent as 'it had proved impossible to reach them' he told NZPA last week.

It appears that the distinction made between 'deconstruction' and 'demolition' has already proved problematic in the case of Wood's Mill (HPT Category 2, ) in Addington, which led demolition contractor Barry Foster of Foster's Demolition to describe the process as a 'train wreck' when speaking to *The Press* last Wednesday.

Foster claimed he had arranged with the owner to deconstruct and recover materials from the building only to find the CD National Controller had approved its

demolition. Later that day Christchurch Heritage Trust director Anna Crighton warned that deconstruction done professionally took "months", with each piece of a building removed separately to be recorded and reused.

Her comments followed a meeting of heritage professionals with the CD National Controller, where concerns were expressed that the proper protocols for demolishing heritage buildings were not being followed.

On Thursday a group of about 30 irate Christchurch building owners marched on the Civil Defence base demanding to speak to Gerry Brownlee, who remained inside.

A three-day demolition moratorium was in place by Friday, to allow building owners access to collect property and collections from their damaged premises. This has now been extended to Friday 25 March.

# First to fall

## Provincial Hotel 1903

274 Cashel  
Street.  
CCC Group 2  
Photo: Kete  
Christchurch



## Dwelling c 1880

112 Centaurus  
Road  
CCC Group 3;  
NZHPT  
Category II  
Photo: Google Earth



## Cathedral Grammar Stratham Building 1928

8 Chester  
Street West.  
CCC Group 1;  
NZHPT  
Category II  
Photo: NZHPT



## Austral Building 1910

603 – 615  
Colombo  
Street (includes  
170 Tuam  
Street)  
CCC Group 4  
Photo: Kete  
Christchurch



## Bean Bags and Beyond 1876

626 Colombo  
Street  
CCC Group 3  
Photo:  
<http://wozawanderer.blogspot.com>



## 625 – 629 Colombo Street c1890

Commercial  
buildings  
CCC Group 4  
Photo: Kete  
Christchurch



## Wave House/Winnie Bagoes 1905

194 Gloucester  
Street  
CCC Group 3;  
NZHPT  
Category II  
Photo: Google Earth



## Rhodes Memorial Hospital 1866

2 Overdale  
Drive,  
Cashmere  
CCC Group 3  
Photo:  
[www.rhodesoncashmere.co.nz](http://www.rhodesoncashmere.co.nz)



## Hereford Court 1920

116 Hereford St  
CCC Group 4  
Photo: Kete  
Christchurch



**Piko Whole Foods c1900**

229 Kilmore Street

CCC Group 3

Photo: <http://canterburyheritage.blogspot.com>



**Park Lane Handbags c1900**

111 – 113 Lichfield Street

CCC Group 4

Photo: [oldchristchurchnz.com](http://oldchristchurchnz.com)



**Former Ridley Building c 1900**

116 Lichfield Street

CCC Group 4

Photo: Kete Christchurch



**Former Nurse Maude Building 1919**

192 Madras Street

CCC Group 3

Photo: <http://oldchristchurchnz.com>



**Charlie B's Backpackers – former YWCA 1914**

268 Madras Street

CCC Group 4;

NZHPT Cat II

Photo: [accommodationbooking.co.nz](http://accommodationbooking.co.nz)



**Former City Council Offices 1899: 198**

Manchester St

CCC Group 2;

NZHPT Cat II

Photo: <http://canterburyheritage.blogspot.com/>



**Forbes Building**

17 Norwich Quay, Lyttleton  
Protected  
Banks Peninsula District Plan  
NZHPT  
Category II  
Photo: Google earth



**Edison Hall, Workshop c 1900**

230 – 232 Tuam St

CCC Group 4

Photo: D Reynolds



**Domo [Former A.J. White] 1902**

236 Tuam St

CCC Group 2;

NZHPT

Category I

Photo: D Reynolds



**Fuller Brothers Ltd 1906**

180 Tuam Street

CCC Group 4

Photo: [earlycanterbury.blogspot.com](http://earlycanterbury.blogspot.com)



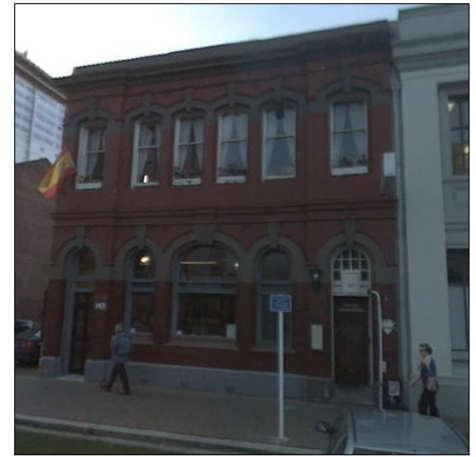
**Addington  
Flour Mill 1891-  
1924**

14 Wise Street  
CCC Group 2;  
NZHPT  
Category II  
Photo: TV3 screenshot



**Gopal's  
Restaurant and  
Pedro's  
Restaurant  
c1910**

143 Worcester  
Street  
CCC Group 4  
Photo: Google earth



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## International Day for Monuments and Sites 18 April 2011

### “The Cultural Heritage of Water”

# Preliminary list of Events

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## Wellington

**Sunday 17 April from 2pm and  
Monday 18 April from 10am**

Michael Kelly, Wellington historian is leading two waterfront historic tours leaving the Wellington Railway Station and walking along the wharves to Clyde Quay – (20 people max per group).

**Saturday 16 April**

A Film evening at Film Archives Taranaki St \*(5pm start to be confirmed) – ‘Toehold on the Harbour’ on Saturday 16 April – 110 persons max. \$15 per person with \$7 going to the Earthquake Heritage Fund for Christchurch.

Contact Kayleigh in NZHPT national office re making prior payment ph 470 8061. No money taken on the day at Film Archives.

**Sunday 17 April and Monday 18 April**

Doco film – ‘NZ Lighthouse Keepers’, producer Howard Taylor – will screen at the Museum of Wellington City & Sea Queens Wharf during the day on Sunday 17 April and Monday 18 April. Contact Paul Thompson at City & Sea for more information.

**Sunday 17 April and Monday 18 April**

The historic crane ‘Hikitea’ will be open to the public at Taranaki Wharf on Sunday 17 April and Monday 18 April to view restoration work – gold coin entry.

**The Archaeology of Water** – Three of Wellington’s heritage experts will talk about the archaeology of water – Museum of Wellington City & Sea 7.30pm Monday 18 April – Andy Dodd ‘Coastal Steamers on the New Zealand Wars’; Kevin Jones – ‘Water and gold mining in the upper Shotover’, Central Otago and Mary O’Keeffe – ‘Two Unexpected Shipwrecks’.  
Gold coin for supper after.

**To be confirmed:** talk at the Evans Bay Patent Slip, either Sunday 17 April or Monday 18 April on the history of the Patent slip and work on vessels.

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## Nelson



Photo: John Warren

**Sunday 17 April  
Boathouse Celebration  
326 Wakefield Quay 1pm – 4pm**

Unveiling of a new interpretative panel about the history of The Boathouse, classic boat displays inside and on the water, free entertainment with Footnote Dance and musicians Jiggery Folkery, and exhibition relating to the Boulder Bank. Café open to purchase afternoon teas.

**The Boulder Bank exhibition** will be of school children’s art after visiting this heritage site and photos from Historic Places Trust and author Karen Warren who wrote the book Rolling Stones when researching the site for listing. The Boathouse itself is

Historic Places Trust listed and we'll celebrate its place in history.

### Sunday 17 April

#### **Quay Art Walk Free Guided walk 10am and 3pm**

The art along the adjacent Quayside links to settlers arrivals, navigation, perils at sea and more!

### Monday 18 April

#### **Swimming in History Riverside Pool, Riverside drive 10am – 2pm**

Join us 10am when the Mayor revisits the opening ceremony of 1927 of the Municipal pool (now Riverside Pool). Relive your memories of the start of the Nelson Swimming Club which opened its rooms here in 1956. Come in 20's attire and stay for a free swim and fun activities for the kids. Historic displays at pool and at Elma Turner Public Library.

Water is the medium for exercise and meeting people; from the old Salt Water Baths now long gone to the local pool now almost completely renovated. We look through the eyes of Harry Davy, the 'Munies' pool superintendant and the development of the Swimming Club.

### Tracing the Tideway 9am and 2pm

Free guided walk following the section of 1840s shoreline underneath the central city. Limited spaces. Book at Council Customer Services.

### Saturday 23 April

#### **Brook Waterworks Walk 10am Brook Motor camp 600 Brook St**

Free guided walk from Brook Sanctuary with Alan Winwood of Kidson Construction Ltd.

#### **Heritage tour of the Brook Stream waterworks.**

Meet at outdoor deck of the Brook Sanctuary building. Follow Sanctuary signs on road to the far end of the Brook Motor Camp which is adjacent to the dam. Parking available at dam car-park or on the

# ICOMOS 18 APRIL

International Day for Monuments and Sites 2011



The 1877 beam engine at the former Auckland Waterworks and Pumping Station at MOTAT, Western Springs.

ICOMOS New Zealand invites you to join  
with 110 countries in celebrating  
the Cultural Heritage of Water on  
18 April 2011 - the world heritage day

ICOMOS New Zealand (Inc) ♦ Te Mana O Nga Pouwhenua O Te Ao - the New Zealand National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites. [www.icomos.org.nz](http://www.icomos.org.nz)

Brook Valley road leading to the camp. Participants to bring sturdy footwear and warm clothing if cool. No bookings required.

Tour will take up to two hours. Starting with a talk, then a walk up to the furthest dam and on up to the original weir within the Waimarama Sanctuary track. The Kidson family are descended from Mr. Charles Kidson, Nelson City Engineer – there is a memorial to him at the Brook camp ground, next to the old water reservoir (which is now filled in).

**For a full list of events  
check the ICOMOS NZ  
website**

[www.icomos.org.nz](http://www.icomos.org.nz)

# Conferences

## Pacific Conference on Earthquake Engineering Auckland 14-16 April 2011

The New Zealand Society for Earthquake Engineering is hosting the Ninth Pacific Conference on Earthquake Engineering (PCEE) in Auckland, New Zealand.

The April 2011 conference provides a forum for practitioners and researchers to present and evaluate the latest developments and experience in mitigating the effects of earthquake and earthquake related hazards. The conference theme is "*Building an Earthquake Resilient Society*".

Keynote presentations will be presented by eminent speakers in Earthquake Engineering each day of the conference. There will be a special session on the lessons from the Darfield Earthquake Sequence.

Due to low uptake, the pre-conference and post-conference technical tours have been cancelled.

The Society invites you to inspect the [<First call for Abstract>](#), and the [<Second Announcement>](#).

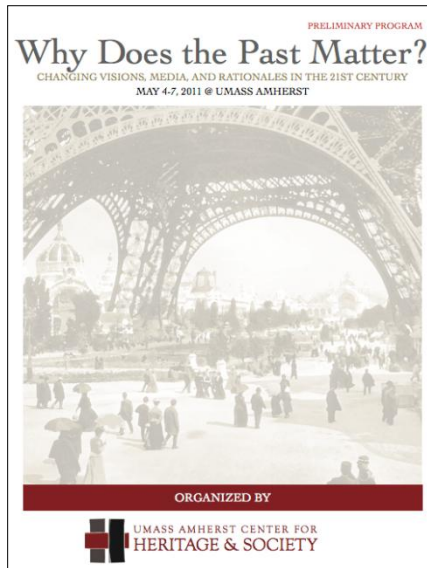
For More information, please visit the [Conference Website](#)



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**Editor:** David Reynolds

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Board of ICOMOS NZ Inc.



4-7 May 2011 – Amherst (USA)

### **Why Does the Past Matter?**

Conference organised by the UMass Center for Heritage and Society with the cooperation of the ICOMOS International Committee on Interpretation and Presentation.

**Info at:**

[www.whyydoesthepastmatter.org](http://www.whyydoesthepastmatter.org)

22-24 June 2011 – Paris (France)

Jardins de Pierres –

### **Conservation of stone in Parks, Gardens and Cemeteries.**

Conference organised by the ICOMOS International Committee on Stone and the French section of the International Institute of Conservation.

**Info at:** [www.sfiic.fr](http://www.sfiic.fr)

20-22 September 2011 - Tbilisi (Georgia)

### **Community and Historic Environment**

Conference organised by ICOMOS Georgia with the support of the Cultural Heritage Directorate of Norway.

**Info at:**

[www.icomos.org.ge/conference/](http://www.icomos.org.ge/conference/)

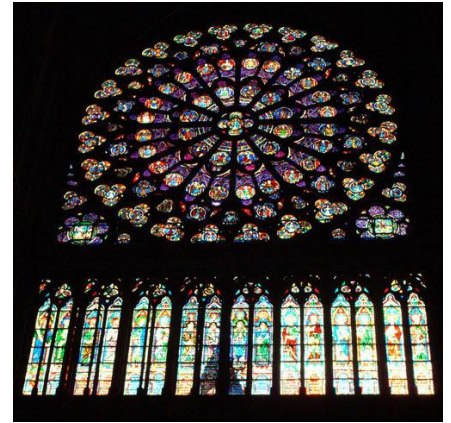
4-5 May 2011 - Marseille (France)

### **European Symposium "Building with Earth: From Historical Heritage to Contemporary Architecture"**

organised by ICOMOS France in partnership with Terra (in)Cognita

**Contact:**

[icomos.france@wanadoo.fr](mailto:icomos.france@wanadoo.fr)



Cityphoto

## ICOMOS General Assembly, Paris 2011

The 17th General Assembly and Scientific Symposium of ICOMOS will be held from 27 November to 2 December 2011 in Paris (France). The symposium theme will be "Heritage, as an engine for development".

The Executive Committee is particularly pleased to announce that the event will be held under the patronage of Mrs. Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO and that both the General Assembly and Scientific Symposium will be located at UNESCO headquarters. On behalf of the members, the ICOMOS Executive Committee expresses its thanks to ICOMOS France for organizing this event. This is the first time that the General Assembly will be held in Paris, home of our headquarters.

The members of the Advisory and Executive Committees should note that the meetings prior to the General Assembly will take place on 26 and 27 November for the Advisory Committee, and 25 and 27 November for the Executive Committee.

A more detailed programme will be presented at the Advisory Committee meeting in Dublin

(October 2010) but we invite you to block out the date now as we count on your participation.

# Conferences

## Inaugural ICOMOS Conference on Shared Built Heritage in Africa Cape Town, South Africa 3 – 8 July 2011

The ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Shared Built Heritage (ISC SBH) in association with ICOMOS South Africa, in collaboration with South African heritage organisations are organising the first International Scientific Conference on Shared Built Heritage in South Africa, regarding Shared Built Heritage in Africa.

The conference will take place in Cape Town, from 3 – 8 July 2011 and will include, amongst other events, site visits to significant heritage sites that best reflect the built heritage that South Africa shares with other countries and cultures. Similarly, sites that demonstrate some of the challenges and provide insight into innovative programmes that are geared towards achieving a more holistic approach in conservation management, will be discussed.

For further information, see the [Inaugural ICOMOS Conference on Shared Built Heritage in Africa – call for papers](#)

## SAHANZ Conference

**AUDIENCE:** The 28th Annual Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians, Australia and New Zealand,

Brisbane, July 6-9, 2011

### Information:

<http://www.sahanz.net/conferences/index.html>

## ICOMOS and ICOM sign a MOU

ICOMOS and ICOM (the International Council on Museums) formalised their longstanding cooperation by signing a Memorandum of Understanding on

the occasion of the Advisory Committee meeting, October 2010 in Dublin. The agreement provides for better liaison between our respective International Committees, foresees the organisation of joint events on specific subjects such as cultural diversity and archaeology, the mutual exchange of membership benefits (e.g. reduced conference registration fees). The ICOMOS International Committees will shortly receive the request to designate their respective liaison person with the corresponding ICOM International Committee. 



Photo: D Reynolds

## Palace Hotel collapse referred for possible prosecution

An investigation by Auckland Council, supported by three independent engineering consultancies, has found that the collapse of the Palace Hotel was caused by its basement walls not being adequately supported during its renovation by the Chow Group.

The investigation shows that the building owners failed to do all that was necessary to ensure the building was being safely renovated, and that the owners' site engineers and architects should have recognised the building was being placed at risk.

Auckland Council's Building Control Manager Ian McCormick says: "The investigation shows the movement of the basement walls was due to a loss of lateral support caused by the removal of the timber floor, an over excavation of the foundations and the removal of concrete basement floor designated to be retained in the approved plans.

"It was this combination of factors that caused the building to collapse."

The report explains the course of events leading to the collapse and the danger that the building's structural failure presented to the public and nearby properties.

"On the night of 18 November last year the council sought independent advice and were advised that a controlled demolition of the building was the only course of action to prevent it falling on to Victoria Street West or the buildings next door.


"The evidence shows the council had no option but to demolish the building in a controlled manner in the interests of public safety."

Mr McCormick says the building had rotated and was constantly moving by up to 5 millimetres an hour towards the street. Large cracks had appeared in the building façade and windows were spontaneously breaking.

Just a day before its collapse on 17 November, a regular council inspection had taken place. The inspector was so concerned at the evident lack of support in the basement area that an instruction was issued citing non-compliance and the inspection failed. He instructed that no work was to be undertaken in the area of concern until the site engineer was available to inspect the works and report against the plans.

Auckland Council General Counsel Wendy Brandon says the council's report has been referred to the Crown Solicitor for advice on the possible prosecution of the building owner or any other person(s).

"A bill for the council's costs arising from the building's collapse has also been sent to the Chow Group."

The report is also being referred to the Institute of Professional Engineers New Zealand (IPENZ) and the New Zealand Institute of Architects. 



## Website of the month

The city of Gary, Indiana was founded as a booming steel city as the twentieth century passed, and areas downtown saw the construction of several impressive buildings during these prosperous early years. In 1925, a cornerstone ceremony took place at 577 Washington St. to commemorate the construction of a Gothic Revival church called City Methodist. It was completed 21 months later, at the cost of one million dollars - \$385,000 of which was contributed by the United States Steel Corp. (which also founded the city).

Elbert Gary, the chairman of U.S. Steel and origin of the city's name, donated a Skinner organ as well. The Bedford limestone structure consisted of a 50-foot tall sanctuary nave and elaborate stonework, and was able to seat 950 worshippers; City Methodist had a congregation of nearly 3,000 members in its heyday. Storefronts were built into the building, with hopes that the

income would offset the enormous maintenance costs.

During the 1920s, Pastor William Seaman rallied against the power of the Ku Klux Klan in Indiana, and welcomed black worshippers into City Methodist during a time when African Americans were not permitted in "white churches."

Gary entered a downward spiral during the 1960s. As U.S. Steel employment dwindled, the residents of Gary moved to nearby suburbs; then as jobs left downtown, city many residents moved out altogether while crime and poverty rose. By 1973 the church's congregation had only 300 members and by 1975 the Methodists moved out of the



structure. City Methodist was burned in the Great Gary Arson of 1997, resulting in a large portion of the roof collapsed or missing. It is now owned by the city of Gary, and its future remains unclear.

In 2009, parts of a remake of the movie *A Nightmare On Elm Street* were filmed at the church. In the same year the old town section of the city, still littered with deteriorating buildings and roads which have not been occupied or used for three decades, was featured in episode 2 of The History Channel's series *Life After People*, as an example of how quickly Chicago might deteriorate after human beings had vanished off of Earth, thanks largely to the effects of Lake Michigan on steel and reinforced concrete structures.

You can visit Gary Indiana on <http://www.flickr.com/photos/slworking2/sets/72157624076348593/with/4669741947/>

Photos Flickr/slworking2



# Viewpoints



Photos: David Reynolds

**From top:** Christ Church Cathedral, Former Municipal Chambers, Provincial Council Chamber, former Canterbury University College.

“ Some may claim the site should be cleared and used for something else. Some may claim there should be a new tower, but in the "modern idiom", which nowadays usually means a spike, a lump of concrete, a rolled-steel joist or a corkscrew.

Why should the gaping scars of other people's tragedies be left unrepaired, so some pundit can exult in "the pleasure of ruins"? A readiness to restore, to make amends, to gather up the nerve-endings of history to help a community resume normal life, these are surely the best future for a devastated past.

Scott's cathedral tower should be reconstructed as a matter of priority. That way Christchurch will recover quickest from its trauma. ”

- **Simon Jenkins in The Guardian 24 February 2011**

“ Conservation Architect Ian Bowman says the heritage buildings were the heart and soul of Christchurch and will be a huge loss.

He doesn't think they should all be demolished and says there are half a dozen key buildings, including the cathedral, arts centre, provincial buildings and Christ's College, that should be saved.

"We just don't want a knee-jerk reaction, the priority obviously is people, but once that's been sorted out, hopefully in the next few weeks, and we get all the services back on, that's when I think we can start looking at heritage, what needs to be kept and how to save it." ”

- **The Press 5 March 2011**

“ "Deconstruction is just a euphemism for demolition," Christchurch Heritage Trust director Anna Crighton said. Deconstruction done professionally took "months", with each piece of a building removed separately to be recorded and reused, she said. ... "When they go in gung-ho to demolish anything as significant as our heritage, they need to have a bit more supervision." ”

- **The Press 16 March 2011**

## 'A Fissure-King for this Disaster'

The Christchurch earthquake has spawned a number of extraordinary responses in the print and electronic media, [see ICOMOS NZ News, December], to lighten up life for Cantabrians in these troubled times.



Scoop claims to have recently unearthed what they describe as "a horribly bootlegged version of the Canterbury Tales, penned by one Ailfrid of Mule."

Tales, penned by one Ailfrid of Mule."

Guaranteed to raise a smile. You can find it at <http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/HL1009/S00173/scoop-satire-a-canterbury-tale.htm> <http://www.scoop.co.nz/>

And if you enjoyed that, sample Lyndon Hood's deliciously illuminating offering, The Christchurch Dialogues at <http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/HL1009/S00120/scoop-satire-the-christchurch-dialogues.htm>



## Your 15 minutes of fame is guaranteed

when you contribute to this page! Dredge your archives for the extraordinary, exotic, and bizarre (with a vaguely heritage flavour) and rush them to David Reynolds, at [reynolds@hug.co.nz](mailto:reynolds@hug.co.nz)

## Big stuff rules OK?

P aeroa has its L&P bottle, Rakaia its whopping salmon, Cromwell its big fruit and Tirau its tin sheep; but no one does it quite like our Australian cousins when it comes to giant eye-catchers, designed to put the most inconspicuous country town firmly on the map.

Now there's a website to commemorate the 146 unique contributions to the Ocker cultural landscape, called, unremarkably *Australian Big Things*, to be found at <http://www.bigthings.com.au/>,



Here you can enjoy the Tully (QLD) 8 metre Golden Gumboot (which survived the January 2011 floods), and marvel at Ozzie the Mozzie in Hexham NSW.



Photos: Australian Big Things

Should you have a head for statistics, *Australian Big Things* reveals that there are 18.98 big things for every million square kilometres of that vast and lucky land.

Godzone by comparison has a mere nine big things, ten if you count the dog alongside the Tirau sheep, which gives us 0.372 big things for every million square kilometres of land, (were we lucky enough to be so big.) So we have a fair bit of catching up to do.



Photo Phillip Capper/ Wikimedia Commons

Shrewd observers will note the tendency towards utility with New Zealand's examples of this ever-expanding contribution to the architectural milieu. The Tirau landmarks are quite habitable, unlike the Bundaberg rum bottle or the Glenrowan Ned Kelly.



Photo: Avenue/Wikimedia Commons

We now understand a Dargaville practitioner has in mind a giant kumara to be erected at the gateway to the Kaipara Capital, popular support and council funding permitting, which might mean quite a wait.

To be fashioned from a column of massive sewer pipes clad in chicken netting and purple fibreglass, this mega-tuber will be the ultimate in utility. It is proposed it will have a door to allow visitors to pop inside and wile away the time studying an interpretive display about – none other than - the construction of the giant kumara.