

Teresa Oman looks out on a vacant Cathedral Square in this mural by Melbourne street artist Rone.

## Cathedral Working Group report released

The Minister supporting Greater Christchurch Regeneration Nicky Wagner released the Cathedral Working Group Recommendation Report on 26 May.

"I firmly believe we need an agreed solution on the future of the cathedral, and we need it sooner rather than later," Ms Wagner said.

"As the original negotiations around the cathedral have now ceased, the Cathedral Working



Group Recommendation Report can be released.

"This further demonstrates my commitment to the people of Christchurch to be open, transparent and a strong advocate for progress.

"About half of Christchurch wants to see the cathedral

reinstated, the other half wants something new and more modern, but really, everyone just needs a decision.

"Agreement is vital because any decision that ties everyone up in the courts for five to 10 years is no decision at all."

## Inside

Scribbles from the Chair	2
Geoffrey Garth Thornton	3
Cathedral Working Group	4
Latest Cathedral funding offer	6
Synod to decide future	7
It's not the Taj Mahal	8
Happy 30 <sup>th</sup> birthday to us	9
Hands-on World Heritage	10
New members	13
Courses & Conferences	15
Up North	17
Kiwi WW1 UK Sites Protected	18

The report recommends reinstatement of the cathedral at an estimated cost of \$105 million, to be funded by philanthropic and public donations, the Church's insurance proceeds and support from central and local Government.

"As a resident of Christchurch, I understand and share the community's frustration over the lack of tangible progress. I am committed to breaking the current deadlock and doing so quickly, which means not re-litigating the past," Ms Wagner said.



Ms Wagner has now hosted a meeting with all Christchurch Members of Parliament to seek cross-party support for the Government's commitment to brokering a solution.

"I will continue to work closely with the Anglican Church, the Christchurch City Council and other key stakeholders to discuss all possible solutions," Ms Wagner said.

The Cathedral Working Group Recommendation Report is available at:  
<http://www.dpmc.govt.nz/cwg-report>

## Scribblings from the Chair

At the risk of appearing to repeat topics of my last scribblings



we have continued engaging with our Australian ICOMOS contacts and also with Heritage New Zealand CEO, Andrew Coleman. I had a very useful and informative Skype session with Australian President Ian Travers. They have a very good record of contacts and influence with state governments, to the extent that they are invited to give advice. An example was Ian having 3 days of meetings in Perth with various departments to coincide with one of the Executive Board meetings. We have a bit of work to do on that front in NZ.

Australia ICOMOS is forging ahead with organising their 2018 AGM in Fiji and have asked if we would be interested in either attending or helping in some way or both. The overall theme, which is still being discussed, is "collaboration of ICOMOS Committees in the Pacific". The first week in October is likely to be the date, should any New Zealanders wish to attend. They are obviously keen to have as many people attend as possible. Our Board is keen to assist and I have been delegated to explore how we might help.

Mary O'Keeffe and I had a second meeting with Andrew Coleman, this time a joint meeting with Historic Places Aotearoa (HPA) members, including their Chair James

Blackburne. Similar issues were canvassed as with our first meeting but also ways our three organisations can work together. One major outcome was the agreement to establish a small Reference Group with a representative of our three organisations and other related groups to meet regularly to discuss current issues and respond to specific issues.

Mary and I also attended HPA's AGM the following day. Again, a very fruitful day. We saw particular opportunities this election year to further conservation issues such as the need for a National Policy Statement, how Crown-owned heritage is managed, the development of a nationally agreed assessment process and how we might assist in developing a national community of heritage NGOs.

The strategic plan prepared by a small sub group of Mary O'Keeffe, Chessa Stevens, Amanda Mulligan and me was presented to the last Board meeting. It was agreed that, as it is such a significant document, we should have a half-day workshop with a facilitator. This will be held as part of the August board meeting.

The AGM preparations are gathering apace. Laura Kellaway and Mary O'Keeffe have pretty much completed all arrangements. The registration forms have been circulated and we hope as many members as possible can attend, place to be confirmed.

In brief other activities include:

- making submissions on the HNZ guidelines for assessment of Historic places



- supporting the candidature of Professor Yukio Nishimura for President of ICOMOS
- endorsing Peter Phillips for the position of Secretary-General of ICOMOS
- making suggestions to relevant groups on reviewing World Heritage nomination for Napier
- recommending that a joint Australian and New Zealand Cultural Heritage Risk Preparedness Working Group be established
- welcoming two new members, Anthony Matthews and Jamie Jacobs.

Lastly, members may have heard of the recent death of Geoff Thornton. He was a stalwart of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust for many years and a prolific author. David is including his obituary in the news, but from a personal point of view, I found his knowledge on all things connected with historic buildings quite breath-taking.

He was always happy to give advice when contacted and his memory was quite phenomenal. He will be sadly missed by the heritage community. 🌍

Best wishes  
Ian  
Chairman

## Geoffrey Garth Thornton MBE

17/07/1922 -  
13/06/2017



Taranaki born Geoffrey Thornton was the son of a distinguished engineer Onslow Garth Thornton. He returned from service with the NZ Army Engineers in Egypt and Italy during WW2 and studied architecture at Auckland University from 1947-1952.

Geoffrey joined the Ministry of Works as a cadet in 1940, and was appointed Assistant Government Architect in 1973 - a role that involved him working closely with engineers on major public infrastructure projects.

He represented the Ministry of Works and the New Zealand institute of Architects on the Board of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust for 19 years, 14 of which were spent as Chairman of the Trust's Buildings Classifications Committee.

On his retirement from the Ministry of Works in 1980 Geoffrey embarked on a writing career, drawing on his wide experience of heritage places up and down the country and concentrating his focus on subjects that were close to his heart but which had had little serious light shone on them up till then.

His first two books, *New Zealand's industrial heritage* (1982); and *The New Zealand heritage of farm buildings* (1986) were welcome additions to the bookshelves of heritage professionals and public alike.

These were followed by *Cast in Concrete: concrete construction in New Zealand, 1850-1939* (1996); *Bridging the Gap: Early Bridges in New Zealand 1830-1939* (2001) and *Worship in the Wilderness: Early Country Churches in New Zealand* (2003).

In 1989 Geoffrey was awarded the MBE for services to the preservation of the architectural heritage of New Zealand.

He received an Honorary Life Membership of the Historic Places Trust in 1990, a Certificate of Appreciation in 2002, and a 50th anniversary Heritage Award in 2005.

Geoffrey shared his extensive knowledge of engineering heritage on the IPENZ National Committee for Engineering Heritage from 1983 until 2009, for which contribution he was made an IPENZ Honorary Fellow in 2000.

He was also honoured in 2014 by the University of Auckland for his contribution to the recording New Zealand engineering heritage. 🌍



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# Inside the Cathedral Working Group report

David Reynolds

The Cathedral Working Group Report provides an opportunity to evaluate the document for ICOMOS-user friendliness; thankfully the ICOMOS NZ Charter 2010 is part of the discussion and underpins proposed conservation processes and practices for the damaged cathedral.

The report has four mentions of ICOMOS, first in the **Costings and Funding** section on page 5 where ICOMOS principles are seen by fundraisers as crucial to the fund-raising process:

*"But our fundraising advice is clear –that the donors contacted (including international donors) are much more disposed to a full reinstatement of the original building (as based on ICOMOS Principles) than to other possibilities that do not retain the heritage fabric."*

Further on in the summary of the **Structural Review** Page 21 it addresses conservation processes and practices:

*"To develop the design in detail will require further investigation onsite with collaboration between the design team and contractor to provide for the integration of design outcomes with construction methodologies. In summary, the solution as outlined below involves a combined consideration of stabilisation measures together with strengthening work:*

1. Progressive **stabilisation** works starting at the west end of the building.

2. **Reinstatement/repair** involving a combination of conventional strengthening techniques together with base isolation undertaken in

accordance with the ICOMOS New Zealand Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Heritage Value 2010.

3. Construction of a replacement, seismically separated tower, located adjacent to the Cathedral from a combination of reinforced concrete walls at the lower level and a braced steel structure above."

Clearly the NZ Charter is seen to have relevance in the world of seismic damage, subsequent stabilisation and strengthening. In the section on strengthening, Page 23, under the heading **"Guiding Principles for Reinstatement"**

1. The ICOMOS New Zealand Charter is to be followed to the extent practicable.

(While practicable is not a Charter term, it has the meaning of 'able to be done or put into practice successfully.')

2. The exterior of the Cathedral is to be retained or restored to its original appearance, except for any elements noted in the assumptions contained within the Holmes Consulting Report.

The importance of the Charter is further highlighted in section 10.3.1 **The Case for Public Gifting Support** where the Working Group concludes:

*"For the Cathedral fundraising campaign to be successful it will need to be founded on a well-organised programme and a unified message that appeals to a variety of forms of philanthropy, including domestic and international business and philanthropic interests. Alignment with the ICOMOS Principals (sic) in relation to the conservation and protection of historic sites will also be important to secure international donations."*

The Charter also receives mention in **Appendix 2**, the Archaeological Assessment of Effects by Dr Andrea

Farminer MCIfA, Origin Consultants Ltd which records

*"The proposals have been prepared in full acknowledgement of the ICOMOS New Zealand Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Heritage Value (2010) and with a view to following these guidelines wherever practicable."*

[Above-ground stabilisation and reinstatement proposals Page 38].

## ...the industry standard for work involving heritage buildings...

In **Appendix 3**, the Heritage Report by Origin Consultants Ltd makes reference to the 2010 NZ Charter, noting that

*"In the normal way of things, the ICOMOS NZ Charter and a Conservation Plan would provide the guidance necessary for such work. However, the ICOMOS NZ Charter, which is the industry standard for work involving heritage buildings, focusses on conservation and repair, usually arising from wear and tear or minor damage..."*

and asserts

*"... it does not provide guidance for the treatment of disaster damaged buildings."* [Page 14]

The Charter does, however provide a clear steer on Risk Mitigation, first in **Article 4, Planning for conservation** and in a detailed way in **Article 24, Risk mitigation**. It's clear the Cathedral planned for earthquake risk and implemented accordingly with the 2007 strengthening programme, hence the bulk of the building still stands today.

The appendix acknowledges that

*'The methodology for identifying heritage significance is common to all these documents and is based on the following key documents:*

- ICOMOS NZ Charter
- The Burra Charter of Australia and
- "The Conservation Plan"

# What's in the detail?

## New Materials

Where elements such as gables need to be rebuilt, lightweight steel structure may be considered, with exterior and interior veneers of the original stone material. This will generally be limited to stonework above the main roof eaves level.

## Strengthening from interior

Where the existing walls may be retained in situ, the exterior should be retained in place, with strengthening being implemented from the interior face.

## Re-use of materials

Where walls are to be reconstructed, the original exterior materials should be used to the extent practicable.

## Interior works

The interior is to be retained or restored to its original appearance, except for any elements noted in the assumptions contained within the Holmes Consulting Report. Where applicable (and necessary) the interior shall have lower priority than the exterior.

## New materials

Where major elements of structure are being repaired or strengthened, the interior ashlar linings may need to be removed and may be replaced using modern techniques and materials. The original material will be reused to the extent practicable.

## Conservation preferences and cost considerations

Preference will be given to methods which may retain significant features in place where practicable and where the cost impact of doing so is moderate.

## Allowance for future conservation works

Where the replacement of interior ashlar linings is not immediately practicable, sufficient allowance will be made to restore the interior at a future date. (Note the ashlar will get badly damaged during deconstruction so new limestone ashlar will be required (based on 1999 strengthening works experience).

Ornamentation and appendages (for example crosses on gables, finials etc.) will be reinstated to the extent practicable within the budget, or otherwise allowance will be made to reinstate them later.

**Source:** Appendix 5: The Stabilisation and Reinstatement of The Cathedral – Concept Review

by James Semple Kerr".

Significant in this appendix is a discussion of the approach of Holmes Consulting Group to the removal or retention of heritage fabric damaged in the earthquake.

“A bald statement that all fabric and features have high or exceptional significance does not help...”

**Appendix 3** raises the perplexing question of how to approach the sheer bulk of damaged fabric of significance and the difficulty of dealing with it:

*“The documents describing the heritage significance of the Cathedral noted above were written before the Canterbury seismic events and did not contemplate the extent or type of damage that the building owners now face. A bald statement that all fabric and features have high or exceptional significance does not help when presented with the catastrophic extent of damage resulting from the earthquakes.”*

It advocates

*“a more pragmatic approach ... which accepts the unavoidable loss of some heritage fabric if it is balanced against a nett gain in the retention of the heritage significance of the Cathedral as a whole. Without such an approach, the status of the cathedral would remain in limbo and its condition will continue to deteriorate.”*

Those driving this project may lose considerable sleep over this balancing act.

The two appendices to Origin's report provide an opportunity to examine in more detail the effects of proposed remedial works.

Holmes Consulting Group in **Appendix 5** outline their approach in base isolating the building, and detail the effects this work will have on the interior of the cathedral, particularly the floors. HCG say their approach is



*"premised on the assumption that the building should be retained and that interventions should be kept to a minimum. There will have to be some losses of heritage fabric, but these are outweighed by other measures that ensure the long term survival of the Cathedral."*

Other documents in the release include Win Clark's useful **Peer Review Appendix 6**, undertaken for Heritage New Zealand, which focuses largely on Holmes Consulting Group's methodology.

Clark supports base isolation as making

*'... sound technical and economic sense...' and '... a high level of certainty with respect to achieving an acceptable earthquake resistant performance.'*

but seeks further work to better understand the underlying soils and their behaviour during earthquakes, a better understanding of engineering characteristics of stone rubble masonry that forms much of the structure, further detail of the building structure and its earthquake performance and reviewing proposed works to maximise retention of heritage fabric.

## Latest Cathedral Reinstatement Offer

On Tuesday 4 July the Minister supporting Greater Christchurch Regeneration Nicky Wagner reiterated her commitment to finding an agreed solution for the ChristChurch Cathedral by releasing an offer of reinstatement.

"The Cathedral sits at the very heart of Christchurch — it's the city's namesake, an icon, a place of worship, a community facility, a tourist attraction and a beloved heritage building," Ms Wagner said.

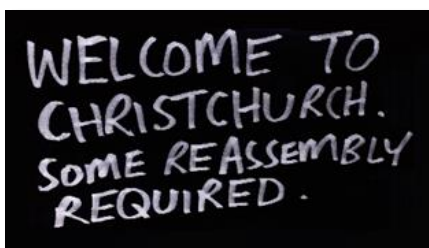


Photo: Geol Williams Wikipedia Creative Commons

"This offer builds on the Cathedral Working Group Recommendation Report, released last month, which recommended reinstatement at an estimated cost of \$104 million.

"This not about favouring reinstatement over restoration or a contemporary new-build. It's about finding a way forward that doesn't leave everyone tied up in court for five to 10 years.

"I've presented the offer to Bishop Victoria Matthews and she's agreed to take it to the Synod in September."



The offer includes:

- Crown cash contribution of \$10 million;
- Crown-funded interest free suspensory loan of \$15 million. Repayment of the loan will be suspended and forgiven if the loan conditions are fulfilled;
- Christchurch City Council grant of \$10 million — subject to public consultation;

- Great Christchurch Buildings Trust pledge of \$13.7 million;
- An independent Fundraising Trust;
- Legislation to streamline project consenting and approval processes; and
- A Joint Venture between the Church Property Trust and the Fundraising Trust to govern and manage the project.

"All up, with contributions from the Government, the Council, and the Great Christchurch Buildings Trust, as well as the church's insurance proceeds of \$42 million, we have about \$90 million — enough to complete the Cathedral and Ancillary Buildings," Ms Wagner said.

"This offer gives the Bishop and the Synod a clear and detailed option for consideration, and provides some security and certainty, particularly around funding.

"The Government contribution is a significant amount of money, but we need to balance the property rights of the church with the historical value of the building and the need to break this deadlock.

It's time to move forward, and I think this is our best option."

## Synod now to decide Cathedral Future

The Diocese of Christchurch has announced that the 225 members of its Diocesan Synod will make the decision on the future of ChristChurch Cathedral at a meeting in early September 2017.

Making the announcement on 21 May Bishop Victoria Mathews said,

"We are very aware that the city and beyond is very frustrated with the amount of time it has taken to reach a decision on the future of our beloved Cathedral. Church Property Trustees (CPT) and the entire Diocese share that frustration.

"After much thought and prayer I have decided to reserve the question on the future of the Cathedral in the Square to September 2017 for our diocesan Synod's decision. This means that the members of the Synod will decide on the future of the Cathedral, rather than the Church Property Trustees.

'As the ChristChurch Cathedral is a church building above all else, and a place of worship, the decision on its future should be made by the membership of the Synod comprising the gathered clergy and laity of the diocese who will be using the Cathedral forever.

"One of the factors that influenced my decision was the strong recommendation of the diocesan clergy at our recent clergy conference to take the matter to our Synod. I acknowledge and thank the clergy who were present for their prayer, support and advice.

"To date the view of the Church has been that we should proceed with a contemporary Cathedral. In 2013 our Synod voted for an inspirational Cathedral. Recently the Standing Committee expressed its view that a new Cathedral, costing no more than the insurance proceeds received for the Cathedral building in the Square, is its preferred option."

Members of Synod will make a decision on whether to accept an offer to assist with reinstatement from the New Zealand Government or construct an inspirational contemporary cathedral to a design that is, as yet, undecided but the cost of which will be within the \$42 million insurance fund.

"For the past six and a half years Church Property Trustees and its staff have done extraordinary due diligence on different options regarding the future of the Cathedral. This includes engineering investigations, quantity surveying and research into fundraising options. Along the way there has been active and passionate debate on what should be done.

"We recently undertook a scientific survey of public preferences among residents from greater Christchurch on the future of the ChristChurch Cathedral. The results of the research were clear. People's preferences change when they are fully informed, but there is still no overwhelming preference. People are still divided over whether to reinstate the Cathedral building in the Square or to commit to building a contemporary Cathedral that is inspirational and fit for purpose.

We will soon release the survey results.

"Church Property Trustees have carefully sought expert advice on all aspects of a possible reinstatement and considered the Government's offer towards potential reinstatement," says Bishop Victoria. "A majority of the Church Property Trustees are inclined to support the contemporary option however these preferences are still not decisive. This is a vitally important question for our Diocese, the Canterbury community and impacts the regeneration of Christchurch which is why I have now made the decision to take the vote to Synod."

### Footnote

*When more than 220 Diocesan representatives attending the 2013 Synod were polled on design options for the damaged cathedral no one chose the restoration option, about six or seven people opted for the traditional option and an overwhelming majority put their hands up for the contemporary design offered.*

*The June 2017 Research First survey, commissioned by the Church Property Trustees, reported 59 per cent of respondents felt Anglicans should not make the decision alone. About 48 per cent of respondents believed the Government should intervene in the future of the cathedral.*

*The Government has offered both a \$10 million grant and a \$15m loan towards cathedral restoration and the Great Christchurch Buildings Trust has promised to raise \$15m.*

*The Anglican Church has almost \$42m in insurance money that can be applied to the restoration project, with about \$30m yet left to raise. - Editor*



## ‘...it’s not the Taj Mahal.’

After pleading for a week for Bishop Victoria Matthews to come on his drive-time show, following her announcement that the Synod would decide the cathedral’s future, RNZ National’s host John Campbell got his wish on May 29.

After a lengthy discussion on the morality of the Anglican church spending money restoring the cathedral against applying it to helping people, Bishop Matthews strayed into the realm of architectural significance, forever quicksand for the uninitiated.

Echoing a comment once heard in Anglo-Catholic architectural circles on Oxford Terrace when former Bishop Alwyn Warren was being difficult about Popish practices at St. Michaels in the 1960s, Bishop Matthews asked “*Is this the time to reinstate a heritage building that in England would be seen as a large parish church? In terms of a global significance, it’s not the Taj Mahal.*” she said.

The interview makes gripping listening, particularly from 20.25 minutes in, and can be found at [https://youtu.be/qfb6\\_S3ab2o](https://youtu.be/qfb6_S3ab2o)

## The Numbers Game

### New CPT Poll on Future of ChristChurch Cathedral

Christchurch residents have once more been polled on their attitudes towards retention of the Cathedral. A June 13 *Research First* poll undertaken for the Church Property Trustees (CPT) revealed 58% favoured reinstatement. However, this figure dropped to 35% when they were given information on the consequences of their choice.

“Once people understood the consequences, such as the costs of reinstatement, the timeframe to build a contemporary cathedral, and that a new build would not require any government or council funding, 49 per cent preferred a new build, while the number preferring reinstatement dropped to 43 per cent,” CPT general manager Gavin Holley said.

This result contrasts with earlier polls where possibly the questions were a little less complex. What is clear is that with the passage of time Christchurch residents appear to

be shifting their stance on restoration though at times the shift may seem more apparent than real as comparability is difficult when auxiliary questions are posed. Only if the pollsters reveal more about their survey method sample size and the questions posed will we have a better idea what weight to put on the results.

To place the latest poll in its historical context, an April 2013 poll found 45% preferred a new contemporary cathedral with 29% favouring restoration. This (non-scientific) online poll conducted by *The Press* attracted nearly 12,000 respondents.

In September 2013, a *Press/Research First* poll found 32% electing to go modern and 15% favouring restoration.

The following year brought forth two polls. An April 2014 *Press* online poll showed more than 50% favoured a restored cathedral ‘retaining the same look’ and a Colmar Brunton survey undertaken for the Great Christchurch Buildings Trust found that 51% favoured restoring the cathedral and that this increased to 66% if the restoration costs were met by private donations rather than ratepayer funding.

You can download the CPT survey here: <http://anglicanlife.org.nz/download/download-the-cpt-cathedral-survey-2017-here/>



## Happy 30<sup>th</sup> to us!

There's nothing like a major filing exercise in our 30<sup>th</sup> year, to flush out early documents such as our 1987 incorporation application (right) and to remind us of some of the things we don't have in our archive... particularly 'real' photographs printed on paper!



Looking back to the days when you had to make a conscious decision to lug a film camera around with you, posed pictures of ICOMITES visiting important places such as the Old Government Buildings in Wellington (above) are fairly rare. Nowadays digital images tend to overwhelm us.

Board members with dredge buckets we do have but it may be that you have a hidden stash of slides or prints or a bunch of digital images that record some of the great moments in ICOMOS New Zealand history that you'd like to share.

We'd love to be overwhelmed by them.

Contact [editor@icomos.org.nz](mailto:editor@icomos.org.nz)

Comm Aff 3

### APPLICATION FOR INCORPORATION

We, the several persons whose names are subscribed hereto, being members of the above-mentioned society, hereby make application for the incorporation of the society under the foregoing rules, in accordance with the Incorporated Societies Act, 1908.

Dated this Fourth day of June, 1987.

Signature, Occupation, and Address of Applicant	Signature, Occupation, and Address of witness
1. <u>David Foster, Archaeologist,</u> <u>18 Roma St, Mt Eden, Auckland</u>	<u>Wynne Legg</u> <u>BOARD MEMBER</u> <u>1/39, Rongak Rd</u> <u>Mission Bay Auckland 5</u>
2. <u>Anna Bolger, Archaeologist</u> <u>414 Clarence St, Devonport Auckland 9</u>	
3. <u>APRIL PROBERT, ARCHITECT</u> <u>P.O. Box 37216 AUCKLAND</u>	
4. <u>Alan La Roche, Dental Surgeon</u> <u>18 Lini Vale Rd, Howick, Auckland</u>	
5. <u>David RUMWOLD, EDUCATION OFFICER</u> <u>13 Cuthbertson Cres, Panmure, Auckland</u>	
6. <u>Sherry Reynolds, Museum Assistant</u> <u>13 G. Balla Cres, Panmure, Auckland</u>	<u>John Prince, Secretary</u> <u>1/123 Owens Road</u> <u>Epsom Auckland 3</u> <u>Jane Couch (Jane Couch)</u> <u>Researcher</u> <u>102 Historic Places Trust</u> <u>2 Gormons Way, Milford, Auckland 9</u> <u>Markus HANFELT</u> <u>16 Bk 2307 AUCKLAND</u> <u>Nigel Rickett - archaeologist</u> <u>Auckland Museum, Private Bag, Auckland</u> <u>Jane Couch</u> <u>Researcher for Historic Places Trust, Auckland</u> <u>2 Gormons Way, Milford, Auckland</u>
7. <u>D. Holman, Exec. Director, Auckland Heritage Trust</u> <u>38 Clarence Rd, Northcote, Auckland 9</u>	
8. <u>STEPHEN CASHMORE, INTERIOR DESIGNER</u> <u>C/O Box 4184 AUCKLAND</u>	
9. <u>John Burns, Architect</u> <u>27 Ireland St, Auckland</u>	
10. <u>John Wainwright, Architect</u> <u>6 Wakarua St, Auckland</u>	
11. <u>G.L. JONNIE, Lecturer</u> <u>56 B. Kynah St, Rongak, Auckland</u>	
12. <u>John Caldwell, Architect</u> <u>14 Glen Road, Devonport, Auckland 9</u>	
13. <u>Genny Banton, Conservator</u> <u>Auckland Museum, Private Bag, Auckland</u>	
14. <u>Sabine Weir, Conservator</u> <u>40 Wright Rd, Point Chevalier, Auckland 2</u>	
15. <u>Robert Stewart, Regional Officer</u> <u>16 Maxwell Ave, Historic Places Trust, Auckland</u>	

TWO copies of this application are required. Members should sign in the same place in each copy.  
A witness may not be a signatory.



# The Longford Academy: Hands-on World Heritage Conservation

*Amanda Mulligan, recipient of the 2016 ICOMOS NZ Travel Scholarship reports back on her time at the Longford Academy, held at the World Heritage Sites of Woolmers and Brickendon in northeast Tasmania.*

Amanda Mulligan

**T**hanks to the ICOMOS NZ travel scholarship, I was able to attend the 2016 Longford Academy - an annual five-day course in the conservation of traditional structures and fabric at the World Heritage Sites of Woolmers and Brickendon in northeast Tasmania. The Australasian Branch of the Association for Preservation Technology has been running the course for seven years and it attracts attendees from across Australia and the Asia Pacific region.

## Who attended?

In 2016, there were forty-three participants from Tasmania and mainland Australia, and from Kuala Lumpur, Auckland, Dunedin and Wellington. The other attendees from New Zealand were Marcus Wainwright, a stonemason from Dunedin and the late Bruce Petry, a conservation architect from Auckland.

There were also nine presenters and coordinators (professionals, tradespeople and contractors with heritage expertise), led by Australian heritage consultants David Young and Donald Ellesmore.

Attendees were about 50/50:

- sayers – consultants, architects, heritage advisors, site managers
- and doers – carpenters, plasterers, stonemasons, painter/decorators, builders.



## About Brickendon and Woolmers

Woolmers and Brickendon estates are two of the eleven places included in the serial UNESCO World Heritage Listing for Australian Convict sites in 2010.

During the last decades of the twentieth century, it became more acceptable in Australia to acknowledge convict heritage, rather than conceal it in the manner of previous generations and it even became increasingly fashionable to uncover a convict ancestor.

The Australian community of today identifies with the convict past and this seems to be

particularly strongly felt in Tasmania.

In the case of Brickendon and Woolmers, the places have been deemed as valuable to the World community – demonstrated by the statement of universal value and inscription on the World heritage list. UNESCO says: 'the Australian Convict Sites presents the best surviving examples of large-scale convict transportation and the colonial expansion of European powers through the presence and labour of convicts. Around 166,000 men, women and children were sent to Australia over 80 years between 1787 and 1868, condemned by British justice to transportation to the



convict colonies. Each of the sites had a specific purpose, in terms both of punitive imprisonment and of rehabilitation through forced labour to help build the colony'. The listing includes eleven penal sites, among the thousands established by the British Empire on Australian soil in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The sites are spread across Australia, from Fremantle in Western Australia to Kingston and Arthur's Vale on Norfolk Island in the east; and from areas around Sydney in New South Wales in the north, to sites located in Tasmania in the south.

The Brickendon and Woolmers sites are about 30 minutes' drive from Launceston and are significant for their association with the use of convict labour through the assignment system, which provided labour to settlers in exchange for food and clothing.

Both retain early homesteads and substantial collections of timber and brick ancillary buildings.



**Woolmers**

Woolmers Estate is one of the most intact 19th century homesteads in Australia. It was continuously farmed by six generations of the Archer family until to the death of the last heir in 1994. It was settled in 1817 by

Thomas Archer and has a two-part manor house, coach house, extensive outbuildings and convict cottages and formal gardens. The main house consists of a brick nog weatherboard homestead, built in 1819, with an extensive addition in Italianate style, built in 1842-1843.



**Brickendon**

Another Archer farm, Brickendon is one of Tasmania's oldest farming properties. It was settled in 1824 by Thomas' brother William Archer, and the farm has been continuously operated and lived on by his direct descendants, now in their 7th generation. Brickendon is a classic example of an early Colonial, pre-1840, country property with a village and an 1830 manor house, as well as 465 hectare working farm.

### **What did we do?**

Attendees spent a lot of time outdoors participating in hands on conservation demonstrations and attending lectures indoors (when it was raining) on subjects such as galvanic corrosion, cleaning stonework, heritage nails and managing salt damp.

David Young lectured us on the science and showed us the practice of making and using Lime mortars and plasters – aged Lime putty – reaction of slaked lime with sand - Lime mortar - lime water – plastering — harling – lime wash – repointing



Painting and colouring workshop was led by Donald Ellesmore – copperas – ferrous sulphate used to colour harling at Woolmers



Wood working using traditional tools, methods and techniques to split timber shingles and lay them led by Allan Coates from Tasmania and Gary Waller from Sydney

Traditional roofing and roof plumbing practices were explained and demonstrated by Greg Owen, an experienced builder and licensed roof plumber from Stanley in Victoria

There were also recording and conservation planning workgroups who made detailed records of the Woolmers





woolshed and outhouse and planned conservation of the Woolmers blacksmith cottage, toilets and brick granary at Brickendon.

### Outcomes

The Longford Academy has both tangible and intangible outcomes.

It is essentially a reciprocal arrangement:

- buildings at the Woolmers and Brickendon world heritage sites get conserved
- and heritage practitioners get some hands-on experience

The annual gathering of a disparate group of members of the heritage conservation community, including tradespeople, scientists, architects, planner and historians, has had a markedly positive effect on Brickendon and Woolmers; not only by conserving the physical structures but in documentation and consciousness-raising through contact with visitors, locals and colleagues in our home cities. An event like this can also help other heritage places, because when specifiers

and specialist advisors learn about professional trades and meet practitioners, they are more likely to engage those practitioners and traditional structures are more likely to be conserved.



Outcomes for attendees are more intangible but no less positive. We not only learned traditional conservation techniques and put our recording and planning skills into practice but we also became more aware of the challenges faced by other members of the heritage conservation community. Friendships and potential working relationships were forged, along with a lasting connection to the World Heritage Sites we worked upon.

For me, the course will help immeasurably when I am dealing with Wellington's heritage buildings that have traditional materials. Getting practical experience on site was also a major boon. This can be limited for Council officers as we are often only involved when changes requiring Resource Consent are proposed. Traditional repairs and

maintenance using traditional materials and methods are permitted under the Wellington District Plan so often there is no Council involvement.

### Conclusion

There are obvious conservation benefits for heritage places when a multiskilled community gathers together to learn. At Longford, attendees pursued a common goal – to share knowledge and apply it to conserving Brickendon and Woolmers - by recording, analysing and planning conservation works, by participating in demonstrations of traditional trades and by attending lectures when it rained! When a community of practitioners comes together, a wealth of knowledge can be shared, this community of ideas, and a community of workers ensures survival.

Illustrated lectures and reference documents used at the Academy are available via Drop Box which I am able to share. 📁

*Amanda Mulligan is a Senior Heritage Advisor at Wellington City Council. She joined Council in mid-2015 following five years working in heritage in Melbourne and then at Heritage New Zealand. Amanda has experience in a number of areas of heritage practice, but her main focus has been on assessing significance and the impacts of development. A historian by training, Amanda also has qualifications in architectural history and building conservation. Amanda's trip to Tasmania was made possible by the ICOMOS NZ Travel Scholarship.*

# New Members

## Individual Members

### Deborah Cranko

**D**eborah Cranko is a practising registered architect and Fellow of the NZ Institute of Architects, whose firm provides heritage and other architecture services. Heritage practice work is both for residential and commercial projects and in recent years has included incorporating seismic strengthening. Her projects are mainly in the Wellington area.



Deborah is a graduate of David Young's 'Conservation of Traditional Buildings' Summer School, held in January 2011. She was awarded the BRANZ Travel Award in 1985 studying the economic incentives available for heritage buildings, with case studies in the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy and Germany. This was followed by publications and talks around NZIA branches, and much of the material has been deposited in Heritage New Zealand's library. She is a member of informal network groups including ConCon and Contechi in the Wellington area.

Deborah's firm has worked on a large number of residential projects taking heritage principles into account.

Recent heritage work has included various Heritage impact assessments for buildings in Wellington (many unreinforced masonry); Refurbishment and restoration at Weir House (William Weir wing and Catering facilities (1990- 2000); Refurbishment and restoration Andrea Brander house; Courtenay Place Design Guide (1987); Wellington Trades Hall Conservation Plan (2010 and 2019) and expert witness work for Heritage NZPT and private owners.

She was awarded the National Association of Women's Professional Woman of the Year in 2015.

Deborah has also had long-standing governance involvement in related architecture including Deputy Chair of the New Zealand Registered Architects' Board, chairing its complaints and discipline process from (1997-2014). Deborah chairs the Audit Committee of the NZ Architects' Co-operative Society, (professional indemnity insurance) and has been a board member since 1998. She is Deputy Chair of the Engineering Associates Registration Board.

She is a member of the Karori Brooklyn Charitable Trust, following many years with community involvement. Deborah has a long-standing interest in architectural education and most recently chaired the Professions Advisory Group to the School of Architecture and Design at Victoria University of Wellington.

### Cass Goodwin

**C**ass is a senior structural engineer at Ruamoko Solutions based in Christchurch.



He began his working life as a part time builder's apprentice at age 15 in 1996, completed concurrent engineering and architecture degrees at the University of Auckland in 2007 and a master of architecture in 2008. He also completed a summer school at the University of Rome on conservation of cultural heritage. His thesis focused on explaining the principles and importance of conservation of heritage value and architectural character to non-architects- particularly engineers- when engaging in seismic strengthening of unreinforced masonry buildings.

He also worked for the University as a Professional Teaching Fellow, attempting to explain engineering principles and concepts to architecture students.



Cass worked in Auckland for several years as a structural engineer and gained registration as a Chartered Professional Engineer before moving to Christchurch in 2013 in the wake of the Canterbury Earthquakes to become involved in the Christchurch rebuild. Since his arrival he has worked on many new and heritage projects; notably the Canterbury Provincial Chambers, ChristChurch Cathedral, University of Canterbury Butterfly Building, Lyttelton Timeball Tower, Edmonds Band Rotunda, Ohinetahi, and the Ferrymead Cob Cottage.

Cass very much enjoys the process of understanding heritage buildings and is often happily poking around in dusty places trying to figure out how things have been made. Due to the unorthodox scope of his career, Cass has found himself as something of an intermediary between stakeholders, architects, engineers, and conservators. This has placed him in good stead to assist in repairing and rebuilding some of Christchurch's valuable heritage and he hopes to be able to continue to do so.

## Individual Member Young Professional

### Sum Yee Ling

Sum Yee is currently studying for a Master of Heritage Conservation, specialising in Built Heritage, at the University Auckland. She will be completing her study in July 2017. She also completed a Bachelor of Arts major in Archaeology and Geography from the University of Sydney in 2015.

During her undergraduate and postgraduate studies, Sum Yee has developed skills and knowledge in historical research, site recording, artefact identification and processing, heritage assessment and

conservation planning, diagnosis and adaptation, conservation of materials and legislation for urban planning and heritage conservation. Apart from the compulsory courses, she has taken urban planning, sociology, museum and exhibition studies and environmental studies as her elective courses.

Sum Yee worked as a surveyor assistant at Silverbeet Design and Consultancy in July to October 2016. She also completed an internship in July to October 2016 at the Auckland Council with the Heritage Unit as an Intern Specialist Built Heritage. She completed a Historic Heritage Assessment during her internship. The work experiences have enabled her to apply heritage knowledge and skills in practice and increased her understanding of heritage conservation in Auckland. Sum Yee plans to pursue her career in the field of heritage conservation after her study.

## ICOMOS NZ Travel Scholarship 2017

The ICOMOS New Zealand Travel Scholarship was established to encourage and assist heritage professionals and students to undertake further education or

professional development in subjects relevant to the conservation and management of New Zealand's heritage.

The scholarship, financially supported by Heritage Management Services of Christchurch, is for up to \$1,000 awarded on an annual basis and is a travelling scholarship – national or international – though it may include a contribution towards tuition or course fees if the travel costs are under \$1,000.

The purpose of the scholarship is for training so it can be used for attending seminars, training or educational courses or undertaking research on heritage or other related subjects that support the development of heritage expertise within New Zealand. It cannot be used for conference fees or accommodation costs.

Applicants do not have to be a member of ICOMOS NZ to apply. Consider applying, or if you know of suitable candidates that would be interested in the scholarship, please let them know. For more details on applications and deadlines contact Robin Byron at [RByron@heritage.org.nz](mailto:RByron@heritage.org.nz)





# Courses & conferences

## ICOMOS NZ AGM Hamilton 27-29 October 2017

### Heritage on The Edge

This year's conference aims to increase awareness about heritage places and ideas that are on the periphery of our attention as practitioners, or which lie at the margins in other ways.

The heritage involved may be physically 'on the edge' – for example, situated around the edges of New Zealand in inter-tidal zones or underwater, or at the fringes of settlements, complexes or individual places. Or it may be subject to lesser focus for alternative reasons, as with recent fabric, 'uncomfortable' heritage and ephemeral or informal remains (such as graffiti or temporary 'fixes').

Alternatively, the heritage might be liminal in other ways, for example at the boundary of planning zones or jurisdictions; or at the threshold of change.

Explorations could include those related to communities that are themselves at the margins. The theme also embraces notions of 'cutting edge', encouraging discussion of new ideas, approaches and technology that have yet to make their way into mainstream activity. In New Zealand, there is special value in exploring approaches taken within both Te ao Māori and the Pākehā world.

**Registration and payment is due 1 October 2017.**

**Non-members please contact [secretariat@icomos.org.nz](mailto:secretariat@icomos.org.nz) for registration details**



### 2017 CONFERENCE

Launceston,  
Tasmania  
10 - 14 October  
2017



### Travelling Stories: connecting people and landscapes

Travelling Stories: connecting people and landscapes is the first joint conference of Interpretation Australia and the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology. It aims to pull together folk with the ultimate aim of creating a greater understanding for all of the environments in which we live.

This will be a conference with a difference, one that will travel in its venues from Launceston to Hobart via key natural and cultural heritage places through Tasmania!

Details at  
<http://www.asha.org.au/2017-asha-ia-conference>

### September 2017

### Garden Heritage: Restoration - Care - Presentation 21-24 September 2017

The ISCCL, in collaboration with the Czech Republic's National Heritage Institute, is organising a conference titled 'Garden Heritage: Restoration - Care - Presentation' (Czech

Republic; 21-24 September 2017).

A call for papers has been issued see [http://www.icomos.org.ru/sites/default/files/Call%20for%20papers\\_EN.pdf](http://www.icomos.org.ru/sites/default/files/Call%20for%20papers_EN.pdf) for details.



## Longford Academy Spring Programme

The APT Australasia Chapter is pleased to announce the APT Longford Academy Spring Program will again run in 2017. Masterclasses will be held at Woolmers and Brickendon Estates, Tasmania, from 28 August to 2 September 2017.

**Gary Waller** will lead a masterclass on carpentry and joinery repair focussing on repairing the ornate pine gates to the walled garden of Woolmers mansion, and sundry related wood repairs.

**Michael Bremer-Trainor** will lead a masterclass on decorative painting techniques involving wood graining and traditional painting techniques.

**David Young** will deliver a masterclass on lime mortar repair methods, assisted by Ray Wiltshire and Brian Maxwell.

The APT Longford Spring Masterclasses will be held over six days, and include a focussed workshop on Saturday 2

September. This workshop will deal with the broader framework of heritage conservation practice and the role of trades specialists in achieving high quality conservation outcomes.

Participants actively involved in the trades of carpentry, joinery, house painting, decorative painting, bricklaying, stonemasonry, plastering and heritage conservation work are encouraged to attend. Non-trade practitioners who have attended a previous Longford Academy or completed a relevant program elsewhere are also eligible to attend.

For more details, [download](#) the 2017 APT Longford Academy Spring Masterclasses registration information sheet below.

[Carpentry and joinery](#) with Gary Waller

[Traditional and decorative painting](#) with Michael Bremer-Trainor

[Lime mortar repair methods](#) with David Young

Registrations now open, and will close on 11 August 2017. Enquiries regarding the Longford Academy Spring Masterclasses should be directed to the Convenor by [email](#).

## December 2017


### Shared Built Heritage Study Tour, West Bengal, 1-8 December 2017

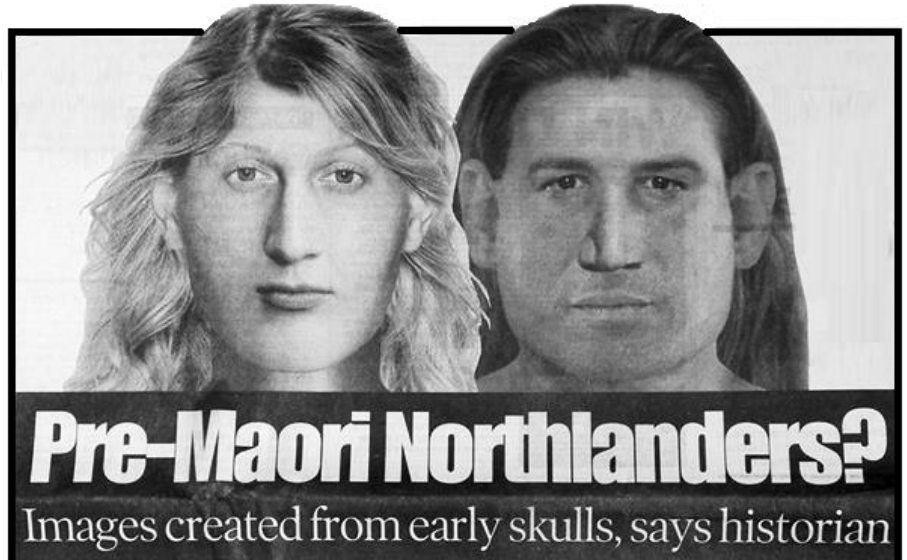
With the Indian National Scientific Committee for Shared Built Heritage (NSC SBH), the International Scientific Committee on Shared Built Heritage (ISC SBH), has organised another annual study tour, this time of West Bengal, to take place on 1-8 December 2017.

"This landscape is a physical testimony to the rise and fall of colonial ambitions in India, beginning with the Mughal capital of Bengal at Murshidabad, followed by colonial trading posts of the French at Chandernagore, Danish at Serampore, Dutch at Chinsurah and the Portuguese at Bandel, and finally the British capital at Calcutta (now Kolkata).

The tour is planned to explore the shared built heritage of each of these settlements that is linked by the Hooghly river and the symposium shall provide the opportunity to explore the issues and challenges faced for their conservation and development. The tour will be stationed in Calcutta, also the symposium venue, and short trips would be designed to familiarise the participants with the area as well as the context of this heritage."

The symposium provides the occasion to meet local practitioners, NCOs and government persons, and for these people a rare chance to have dialogue about heritage management with others from around the world.

**NOTE:** The study tour is the WEEK PRIOR to the ICOMOS General Assembly in Delhi, India ISC SBH will hold an Asian general meeting on Saturday 9 December 2017 in Delhi, India Study tour numbers are limited – see the [NSC Shared Built Heritage Tour and Symposium Flyer](#) for the programme and examples of sites. NSC SBH & ICOMOS India will also provide information on the [official GA website](#). 



he Kaipara is not terribly well known. Think 'Holiday Highway' and keep driving north from Auckland then head west at Brynderwyn. The Great Northern Wairoa will take you through Ruawai to Dargaville. You can shorten your journey to North Head and wait all day for the Raupo-Tikinui ferry but it hasn't run since 1971. No one will tell you that. A hideout for dubious characters, once known to many as 'The Land of the Lost', the Kaipara is riddled with stories of lakes created by bouncing meteors, ley lines, elusive Portuguese caravels, ancient wisdom and ancient ancestors.

So, for those whose Sunday morning is incomplete without 35 minutes of **Colin Peacock** on **Mediawatch**, after the 9 O'clock news, the 21 May and 4 June offerings on the latest Kaipara revelations make compelling listening, particularly if you have a fascination about alternative first peoples in New Zealand, this time Welsh!

Peacock takes the normally quite sensible Whangarei paper, the *Northern Advocate*, to task for a story highlighting an alleged reconstruction by an unidentified Scottish pathologist, of a Welsh couple found somewhere on the Kaipara and allegedly removed from an archaeological context.

You can find these podcast gems here:  
*When the facts get in the way of a good story:*

[http://www.radionz.co.nz/audio/player?audio\\_id=201844449](http://www.radionz.co.nz/audio/player?audio_id=201844449)  
and

*Fake history makes front-page 'news':*

[http://www.radionz.co.nz/audio/player?audio\\_id=201845995#](http://www.radionz.co.nz/audio/player?audio_id=201845995#)

To check the identity of these Gaulish good-looking, ICOMOS NZ design staff, ever keen to try out new technology, enlisted the help of the newly launched **Google Image Search**, the latest in a range of handy apps created by Google to amuse and waste inordinate amounts of one's time.

Simply upload an image, they say, and Google Image search will find you a range of similar (if not identical) images. Well more often than not, far from identical.

In the case of the black and white halftone image of the handsome couple above - I'd swear I have met them somewhere - Google served up over 385 handsome halftones as male matches which included Alfred Hitchcock, Elvis Presley, Barack Obama and Freddie Mercury.

The image search for the woman produced 13 similar images, five of which were men, including a near doppelganger for Donald Trump in the form of obstetrician, Dr. Henry Ramini, a chemtrail believer from Hikurangi, 19th-century US activist Dorothea Dix and, wait for it, the actual image above. Spooky.



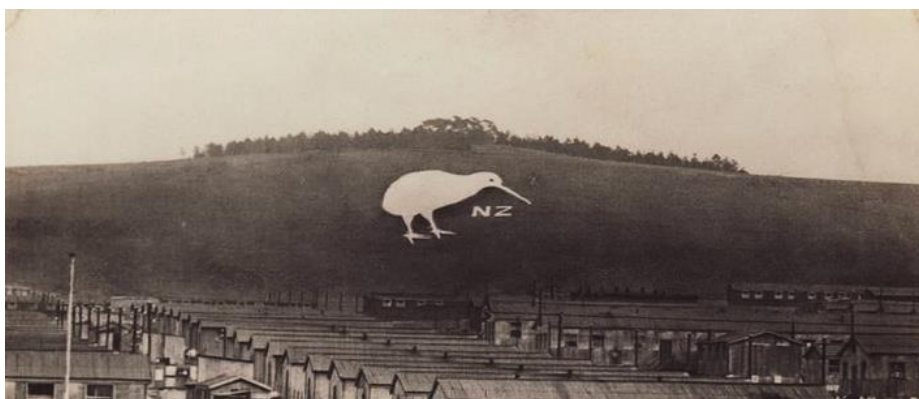


Photo: Public Domain/Wikipedia

## Two Sites Protected to Commemorate New Zealand Lives Lost in the Battle of Messines

To mark the centenary of the Battle of Messines, the Bulford Kiwi, a large white chalk figure carved by New Zealand troops into the hillside above Bulford Camp, near Stonehenge, has been protected as a scheduled monument by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport on the advice of Historic England.

The chalk Kiwi stands 420 feet high (130m) and has a 150 feet (46m) long beak. It was created by New Zealand soldiers stationed at Bulford Camp in Wiltshire at the end of the First World War while they were waiting to go home. It commemorates the lives lost and sacrifices made in the war.

A second monument, known as The Terrain Model of Messines in Cannock Chase in Staffordshire, which survives as archaeological remains has also been granted protection on Historic England's advice. It was an accurate scale model of the battlefield created by the New Zealand Rifle Brigade to celebrate the important victory at the Battle of Messines and to train new recruits at Brocton Camp. It was constructed by

The freshly cut Bulford Kiwi once proudly maintained by the Kiwi Polish Company.

German Prisoners of War using soil, concrete, bricks and pebbles to capture every detail of the town, surrounding farms and natural features as they were on the night before the battle began. The model became a popular tourist attraction following the dismantling of the camp at the end of the First World War, but it became neglected and was lost until it was recently excavated, studied and recorded as the only known model of its type.

It was covered over in order to protect it from damage or erosion and there are plans to mark the site as part of a heritage trail to celebrate the significant

achievements of both the battle and the model that it inspired.

Roger Bowdler, Director of Listing at Historic England said: "These two monuments pay tribute to the bravery of New Zealand's fighting forces in the First World War and we are delighted that they are now being protected for the future. The Bulford Kiwi was cut into the chalk at the end of the war by Kiwi soldiers themselves, to mark the presence of their forces in England, and their achievements at the front.

Roger Bowdler continued: "It is an incredibly touching sight, and a moving tribute to men who lost their lives far from home. The taking of the Messines ridge was one of the war's most stirring attacks, and this model lay-out remains as testimony to the planning which made possible the victory. Like so much of our historic environment, these lasting reminders enable us to connect with lives and events from the past that made us who we are as a nation. One hundred years on, it is right to remember New Zealand's valour."



The huts of Brocton Camp give scale to the Messines Ridge model.





### Excavations at Cannock Chase

1. Two volunteers working on part of the town, with the crossroads and ruined buildings clearly visible.
2. The NZ Defence Attaché laying a wreath on the depiction of Fanny's Farm on the model. The Farm was the furthest extent of the NZ Rifle Brigade advance on 7th June 1917 during the Battle of Messines.
3. A view across the monument with the houses rendered in brick ends and roads in pebbles.
4. Fanny's Farm shows the farm buildings (and wreath) with volunteers working on the excavation. A pebble road and concreted depictions of the crenelated fire trench can also be seen.

**Martin Brown** Principal Archaeologist with WYG commented 'The model is unique. Although tactical models were made throughout the Great War, none survive. This model was created in Spring 1918 by the NZ Rifle Brigade to support the training of officers and NCOs in terrain. However, it's clear that the model was also a representation of unit pride, depicting the Brigade's first battle honour, a scene of triumph and the place where Kiwi Lance Corporal Sam Frickeleton won his VC. It was also a memorial, commemorating the men lost; at the end of the war the departing Kiwis gave the care of the model to the local populace as a memorial. Sadly, it was lost during the Second World War when the Chase was again used to train troops, but we're proud to have been part of its study and conservation.'

**Thanks** to Rebecca Harfield of WYG Environment Planning and Historic England. **Images:** WYG