Mt Victoria Historical Society News - November 1995

P.O. Box 6276 Te Aro, Wellington

Greetings

Thanks to all those who took time out to attend our inaugural meeting. A Steering Committee has been formed and we have met to get things organised.

Two journalists were at the inaugural meeting and an article by Tim Birks has appeared in the Cook Strait Times of 23rd October. The Society also had a one sentence mention in an article by Lydia Zatorski in the Evening Post of 7-10-95, which discussed the demolishing of a small old cottage in Moir St and its replacement with two two-storied family homes.

Our next meeting has been organised for **Sunday 3rd December, 3 o'clock at Crossways** and has been advertised in November's Mt Victoria Newsletter. **Ian Bowman**, a well known architect and building conservation expert will give a talk, with slides, about the different architectural housing styles we have here in Mt Victoria. Come along and hear about where your house fits into the grand scheme of things.

Ian Bowman compiled the list of heritage buildings for the Wellington District Plan. He has also been involved in many projects in Wellington over the last few years, including the refurbishment of the Old Town Hall and the restoration of the Rowing Club buildings by the lagoon. One of his latest projects has been writing a colour guide for heritage homes for the paint company Resene. Called "Heritage Colours", it details authentic colour choices for the different housing styles. If you are thinking of painting your house this summer, you would find this brochure interesting.

We have been in contact with Judy Siers of the Onslow Historical Society. She has kindly invited the Steering Committee and any society members who are interested, to visit the Old Khandallah Telephone Exchange. This is located at 86 Khandallah Road and is the focal point of their Society's activities. Judy has offered to talk to us about their aims, how they run their society and the things they have achieved in their approximate 30 years of existence. We will also have a chance to view their current exhibition. The date for this is visit has been arranged for **Thursday 9th November at 7-30**. We realise this is very short notice but it has been difficult finding a time that suits everyone. If anyone would like to come with the steering committee please ring Alan or Julie (Ph 3851022) asap. We need to know approximately how many will be attending. If you want to go and don't have transport we will probably be able to arrange some.

The steering committee is working on drafting a constitution. We aim to have that discussed, oked by the membership, and formalised in time for an AGM in March. At that time we can decide subscription rates and get established financially. Meanwhile our koha box will appear at meetings. So far our only costs are our post office box and cost of listing the Society in the telephone book. The $43 dollars from the inaugural meeting will be banked and used to help with these expenses.

The committee is working on organising activities for next year. We have been invited to visit the main building of Wellington East Girls college at some time. This building dates from 1925 and is a listed building. Christina van Bohemen, a Victoria architecture student who recently did her thesis on Mount Victoria's townscape, is going to give us a talk early next year. We are also hoping to have a speaker on Heritage gardening.

Walking tours seems to be a popular suggested activity. As well as the usual one of historic buildings, it has been suggested that these could have a theme - eg "Crime sites of Mount Victoria". Even Mt Vic has had its brushes with the law in times gone by. We all know about the body recovered from the Tunnel infill in 1931, but do you know about the Marie West murder up on the Town Belt behind Doctors Common in the 1940's or the earlier 1889 unresolved murder of one Thomas Hawkins. These events are all mentioned in "Pat Lawlor's Wellington", published in 1976.

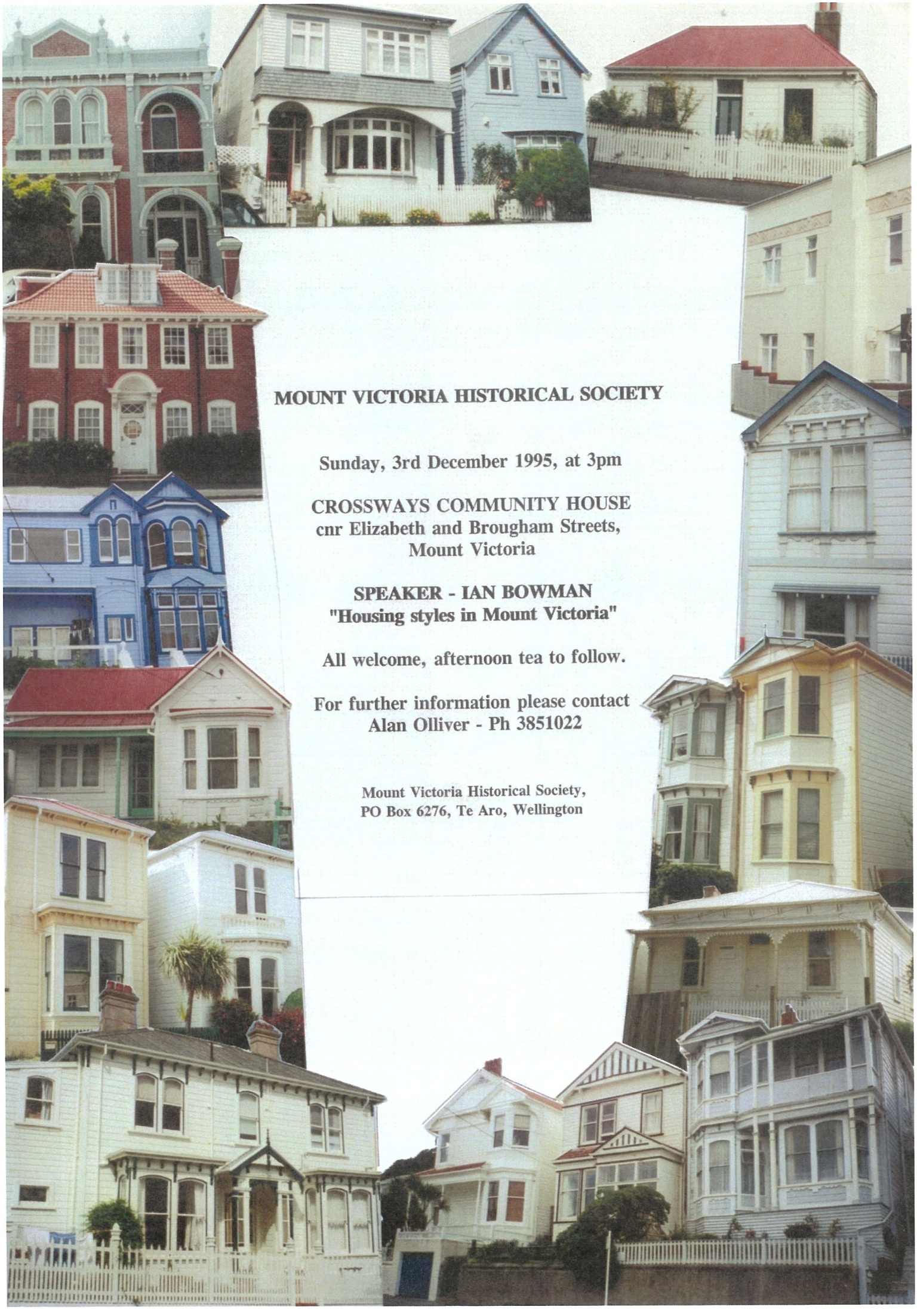
MAILING LIST

We will endeavour to put notices about the Society's activities in the Mt Victoria Newsletter. However, if you know of anyone who would like to be on our mailing list, please let a committee member know or drop the details to our Post Office box.

Steering Committee

Alan Olliver - Convener	37 Ellice St	Ph 3851022
Julie Middleton - Secretary	37 Ellice St	Ph 3851022
Anna-Maria Sviatko - Treasurer	12/36 Austin St	Ph 8016329
Jim Harper	68 Brougham St	Ph 3858377
Euan Harris	Crossways	Ph 3844770
Christine Marshall	104 Elizabeth St	Ph 3842513
Jo Newman	20 Porritt St	Ph 3852254

Julie Middleton, Steering Committee



MOUNT VICTORIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sunday, 3rd December 1995, at 3pm

CROSSWAYS COMMUNITY HOUSE
cnr Elizabeth and Brougham Streets,
Mount Victoria

SPEAKER - IAN BOWMAN
"Housing styles in Mount Victoria"

All welcome, afternoon tea to follow.

For further information please contact
Alan Olliver - Ph 3851022

Mount Victoria Historical Society,
PO Box 6276, Te Aro, Wellington