MOUNT VICTORIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS
No. 7 October 1997

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

Thank-you to all those who have recently renewed their subscriptions or joined the Society. Our Treasurer Jo Newman has been busy ringing everyone on our mailing list.

We have deliberately kept sending newsletters to all those who originally showed interest in our Society. We now reluctantly wish to cull our mailing list to keep our costs in check.

We would encourage everyone to join the Society. However, we do advertise our meetings/events in the monthly Mt Victoria Newsletter, City Voice events/talks page and the Evening Post's Thursday What's On column. Those who decide not to join are always welcome to come along to the occasional talk or event that interests them. Visitors are always welcome.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES for the 1997/8 year are -

INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY	$20-00
STUDENT/UNWAGED	$10-00
NEWSLETTER ONLY	$10-00

Please send your subscription along with address and phone number to our Treasurer at 20 Porritt St, ph 3852254, or see her at the AGM. THANKS

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

AGM & GUEST SPEAKER

As you will have read in the October Mount Victoria Newsletter, our annual general meeting will be held this Sunday 19th October at 3pm at Crossways.

Our guest speaker will be Mr Arthur Ashenden, who was born in Mt Victoria and has lived all his life in the suburb. He has clear recollections of local events dating back to the early 1920s. Maybe he will be able to inspire other people to recount events from times gone by. This type of rich heritage of local information is not found in the history books. Arthur speaks in an entertaining manner and can pull out of his box of tricks interesting photographs and other memorabilia.

The agenda for the AGM will include:

- Minutes of the previous AGM
- Convenor 's and Treasurer's report
- Election of Committee
- General Business

All the current committee are willing to stand again for another year. Anyone else willing to join the committee please forward your name to the Secretary, Julie Middleton before the AGM (☎ 3851022)

CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

Note Wednesday 10th December in your diary now. Please bring yourself and a plate of food to share -savory or sweet, preferable things that do not need heating as facilities in the Crossways kitchen are limited. Drinks will be provided. Socialise with your friends and neighbours and try out your knowledge of local history with the quizzes we will provide.

RECENT EVENTS

MT VICTORIA"S MARITIME LINKS

In June we were privileged to have Roger Carter of the Maritime Museum talk to us. He explained the functions of the Mt Victoria's maritime signal station - differing flags for different company vessels, for vessel types etc. He also covered the history of the Clyde Quay and Oriental Bay areas.

A former Royal Navy officer and berthing master with the Wellington Harbour Board, Roger was very knowledgable speaker. Not only are we all now more familiar with the suburbs maritime links, but we now know more about ship riggings and ship types, to name but a few of the interesting points we learnt during his talk.

MVHS GOES TO THE MOVIES

The August Film Centre visit was a great success. Steve Russell, the Film Archives Visitor Programmes Coordinator, gave an introductory talk about the Film Centre, describing its functions of acquiring and restoring our film heritage, and making these available to the public through exhibitions, film screenings and the library facility.

Alan spent some time at the Film Centre prior to the visit, choosing the films we then viewed. Although there are none specifically on Mt Victoria, each of the films showed something of interest. The films we saw were -*Hapuka Fishing 1925*, featuring fishing at Island Bay, *The Maritme City 1930* and *Around Port Nicholson 1934*, featuring views around the city's hills including a very denuded and bare Mt Victoria, *Bigger and Better Wellington 1936*, showing the old Band Rotunda at Oriental Bay, *Honouring a Venerable Patriarch 1934* showing fleeting glances of Kent and Cambridge Terrace as the procession celebrating Archbishop Redwood's Diamond Jubilee service arrived at the Basin Reserve for an open air mass, and *Crown of the City 1946*, showing the Carillon and views of the houses in Molesworth Street prior to the building of the new cathedral. Finally we saw *Toehold on a Harbour 1966*, featuring a young Kate Harcourt, amongst others commenting on living in Wellington.

Steve then showed us through the Film Centre Reference Library. This facility is open to the public who are welcome to view the films many of which are on video, and to use the books and magazines.

The Society would like to thank Steve and Piki Anderson for their help in organizing this visit.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

The City Council has just filed another Resource Consent Application to relocate the Queen Victoria Statue back to Post Office Square. You may have seen the Evening Post article on the 11-10-97 or seen Alan on the TV3 News on Sunday 12th.

The Society made an objecting submission in 1996 when the Council last tried this. We believe the statue has far more significance in its current site and should stay where it is. If the Council wants a piece of "Art" for P.O Square it should commission something new such as the Plimmer Statue in Plimmer steps.

Arguments that she is being returned to her original site are ridiculous as the current and planned developments of P.O. Square will make it completely different to what it once was. The Statue will be lost amongst the large trees and extended Clarrie Gibbons building.

The Society will again be making an objecting submission. We want the statue to stay on its current site and be cleaned up, her lean fixed and the area around her tied up.

Julie Middleton, Secretary

MOUNT VICTORIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sunday 19th October at 3-00pm
Crossways Community House

AGM & GUEST SPEAKER Arthur Ashenden

Arthur is a born and bred Mt Victorian, and will recount personal memories of his life in the suburb from the 1920's including -

- daring games in the Ellice St Quarry, rabbit shooting in the Town Belt, Clyde Quay School "Water Rats" swimming team, fishing and boating at Clyde Quay.
- the Queen St fires, NZ sporting greats of Queen Street, and founding the Mt Victoria Progressive Association (fore-runner of the MVRA).

For further information regarding the AGM contact the secretary Julie Middleton ☎ 3851022. Membership inquiries contact the treasurer Jo Newman - 22 Porritt Ave or ☎ 3852254

Mt Victoria Historical Society, 37 Ellice St, Mt Victoria. Contact Alan Olliver ☎ 3851022.

MOUNT VICTORIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CHRISTMAS FUNCTION
POT LUCK DINNER

Wednesday 10th December at 6.30pm
Crossways Community House

Bring cold food to share, socialise and try your knowledge of local history with a quiz or two, maybe even win a prize.

Please contact Christine Marshall (☎ 3842513) or Jo Newman (☎ 3852254) for more details.

Mount Victoria Historical Society, 37 Ellice St, Mt Victoria, contact 3851022.