

Mt Victoria Historical Society Inc

ANNUAL REPORT

2014-15

Mt Victoria Historical Society committee considers it has had another successful year, as we have worked to deliver on the Society's key aims of fostering and promoting interest in, and knowledge of, the Mount Victoria area; researching and recording its history; and encouraging protection of its natural and built heritage. In particular, we hope members feel they have received value and enjoyment from their subscriptions.

Our key activities and achievements for July 2014 to June 2015 are set out below.

Newsletters

Our standard four newsletters for the year were delivered to members, the majority electronically these days. Articles on Mt Victoria history included ones on the Rehabilitation League and the Greek Cathedral of the Annunciation in Hania Street, continuing our work on writing up research on all the places highlighted on the Embassy panel. There was also one on a young Mt Victoria man's experience of World War I, research for which contributes to our project to create another heritage panel on the Embassy Majoribanks Street wall. Finally, snippets of Clyde Quay School history were presented, following their 125th anniversary celebrations.

Events

We provided more than the standard number of four events for members on Sunday afternoons last year. Mary O'Keefe gave an entertaining and fascinating talk about conducting archaeological investigations in and around Wellington. Simon Nathan, one of the Society's members, an author and academic, also gave an extremely interesting illustrated talk on Sir James Hector. Hilda MacDonnell, a local historian talked about researching early inns & innkeepers of Port Nicholson between 1840-1855. Finally, Imelda Bargas and Tim Shoebridge, Senior Historians at the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, talked about their book 'New Zealand's First World War Heritage' and places of local and national interest. They were joined by Moira Smith from Wellington City Council, who spoke about the Council's World War I heritage trail. In addition, a number of members visited the Triptych conservation laboratory to learn about and see paper conservation of documents and books in progress.

In June we held a Victorian Gaiety at the Long Room in the Basin Reserve as a fundraiser for High Court costs of the appeal taken by NZTA of the Basin Bridge Board of Inquiry decision. It was attended by many members as well as other guests and was great fun, with professional musical entertainment, creative costumes and a silent auction of quirky historical items. The event and related activities raised \$3392. We are very grateful to members who donated items for the auction.

Heritage advocacy

As indicated above, we continued to be involved in the case to stop a flyover being built alongside the Basin Reserve and damaging this nationally recognised Wellington heritage area. Mt Victoria Historical Society was a party to the Appeal, and is grateful for the pro bono services of lawyer, Tom Bennion, in preparing a written submission focusing on heritage legal issues on our behalf. We chose not to be represented at the hearing, however.

We also put in submissions to Wellington City Council on the draft Long-term Plan, the Mt Victoria Matairangi Master Plan and the Urban Growth Plan; and to Greater Wellington Regional Council on the Regional Land Transport Plan. All submissions focused on heritage matters, in line with the Society's aims.

One of the more obviously successful outcomes of our recent advocacy is that we can now celebrate the allocation of \$50,000 for a heritage audit/study of Mt Victoria in Wellington City Council's Long-Term Plan. This is something we have been advocating for many years, in conjunction with Mt Victoria Residents' Association.

Members Matters

At the beginning of 2015 we conducted an online survey of members, with a response rate of 29. Responses to the key questions are attached in the Appendix for your information. Despite the responses to Q3 on what sort of events are interesting to you, we have noticed that numbers attending Sunday afternoon talks have dropped off recently. If this trend continues, it may become appropriate for the committee to review timing, frequency, content etc of such meetings with members again.

Other

Our project to develop another heritage panel for the Embassy Theatre, aligning with Wellington City Council's grant programme for community projects relating to World War I commemorations, did get underway but has not progressed past initial research yet. We do intend to get something in before 2018, however.

Conclusion

Once again, huge thanks to the committee of the past year for all their work. I'd particularly like to acknowledge Jane O'Loughlin and David McCrone for all their work on the website, Sue Watt for her meticulous financial and membership management, and David Lee for drafting our submission on the Mt Victoria/Matairangi Master Plan.

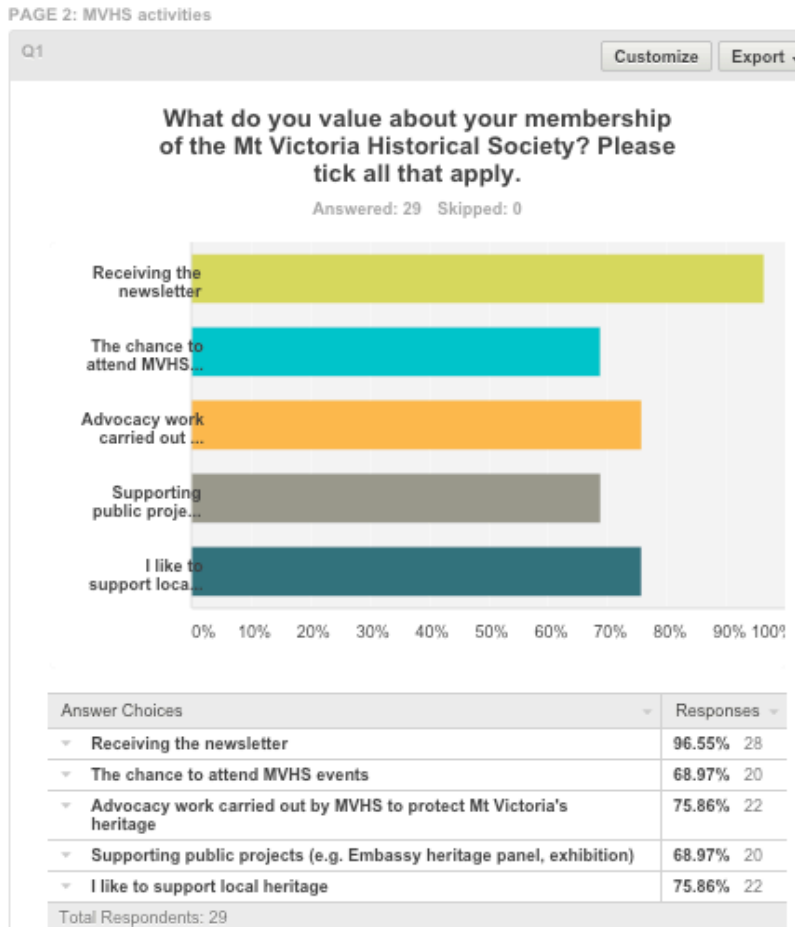
Thank you also to members for your support and we look forward to your continued involvement.

Joanna M.A. Newman

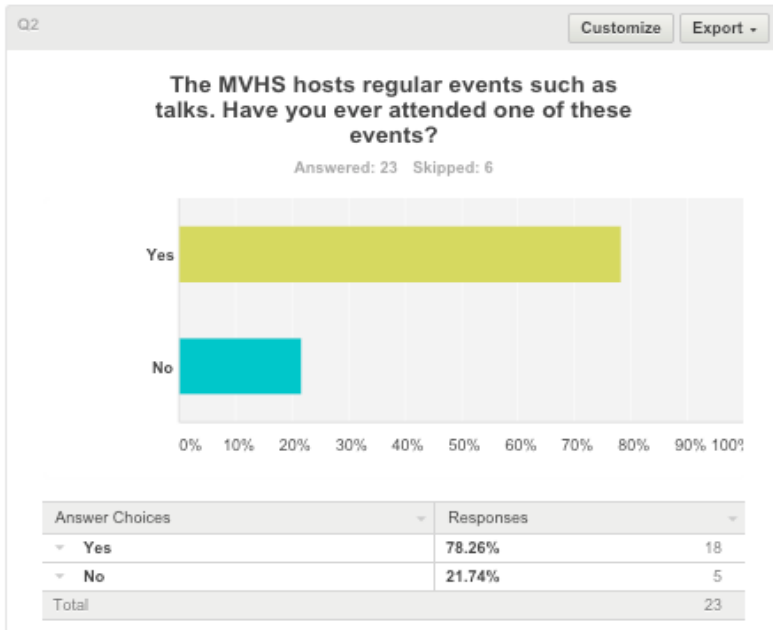
Convenor

August 2015

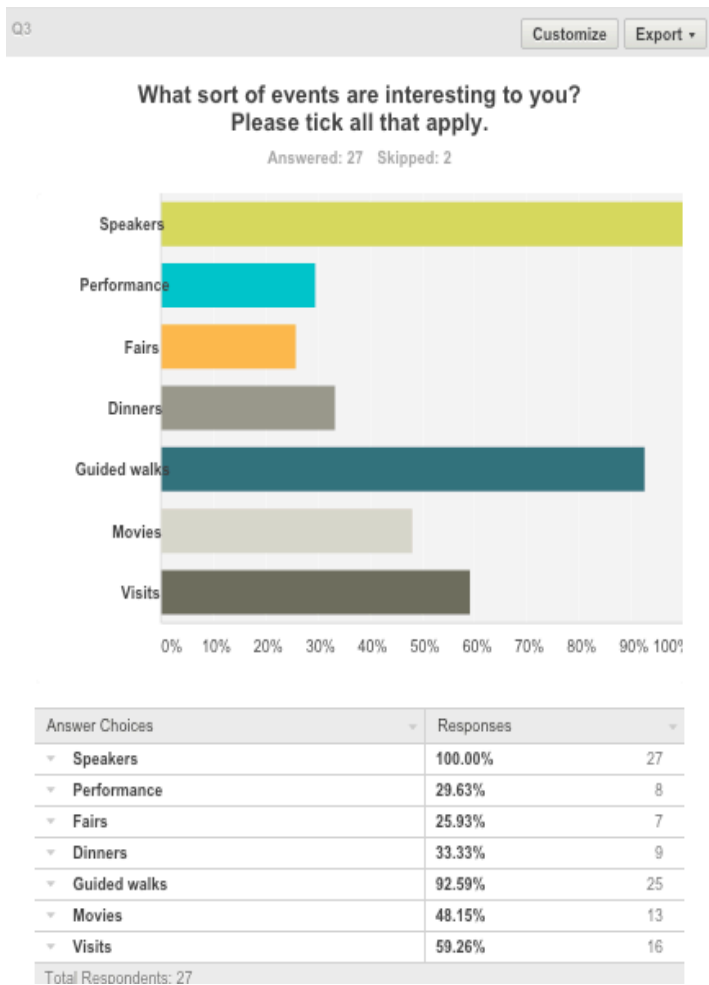
Q1



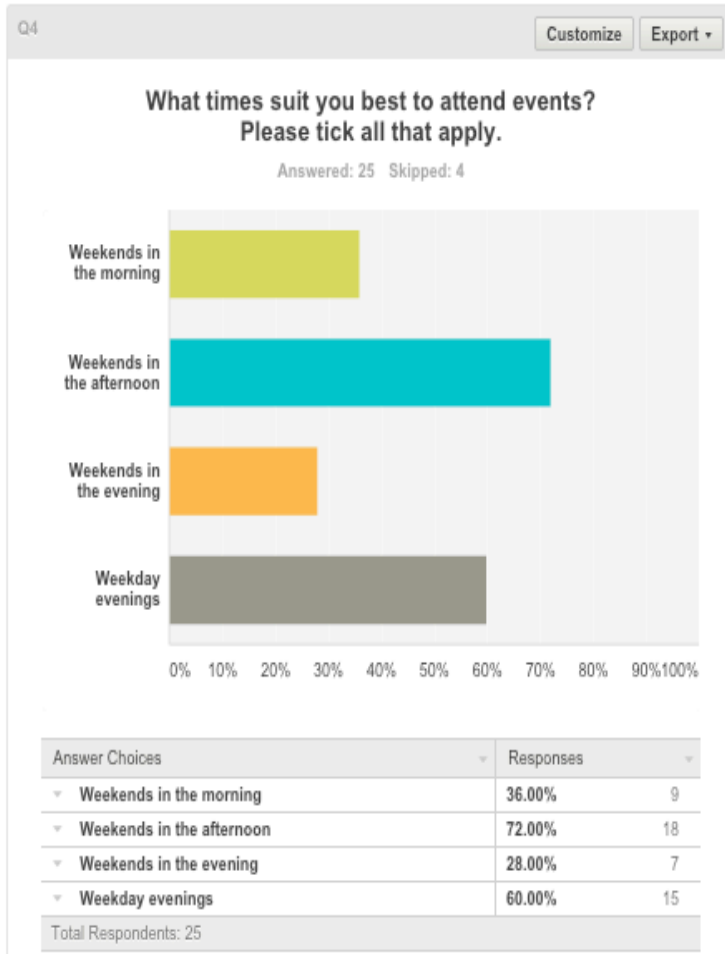
Q2



Q3

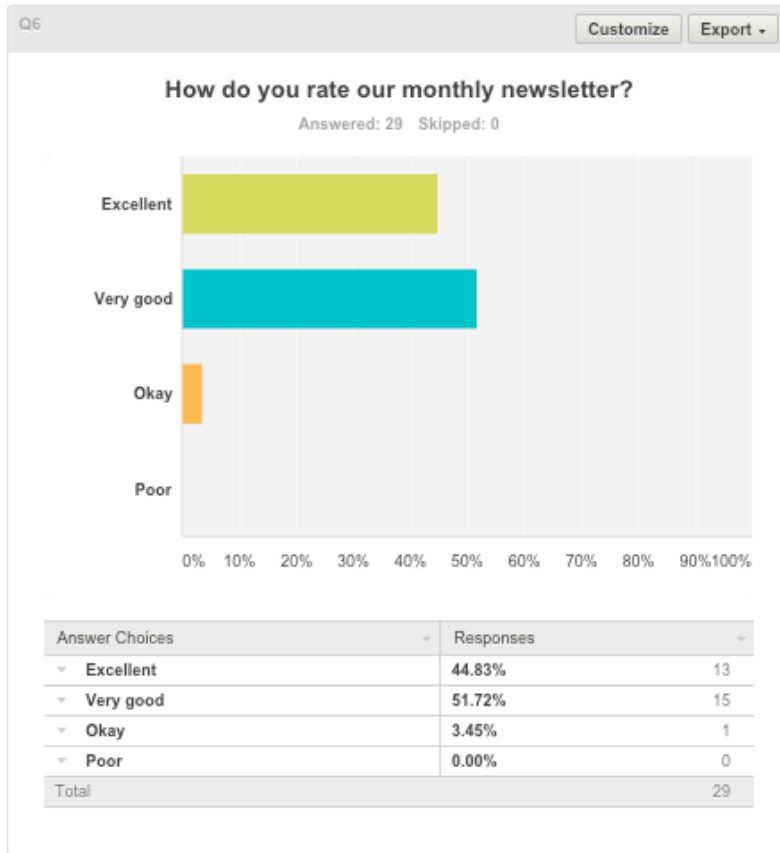


Q4



Q6

PAGE 4: Newsletter



Mount Victoria Historical Society Inc

Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2015

Statement of accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice and on the basis of historical cost. There have been no changes in accounting policy during the current year and the accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous year.

Differential reporting

In terms of the Framework for Differential Reporting, an entity is exempted from certain requirements of Financial Reporting Standards if it satisfies the criteria laid down in the Framework; such an entity is called a qualifying entity. The Mount Victoria Historical Society is a qualifying entity for differential reporting by virtue of the fact that it has no public accountability and is not large (as defined in the Framework). Accordingly, all available differential reporting exemptions have been applied.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

As the revenue and expense streams fell below the qualifying requirement for filing for GST, the financial statements were prepared on a GST inclusive basis.

Statement of commitments

The Society has an obligation to pay the net proceeds of the Victorian Gaiety event (\$3,392) towards the costs of the Basin Reserve flyover High Court appeal. The Committee is in the process of determining the recipient(s). There are no other major commitments.

Notes to the Financial Statements

- 1 **Charitable status.** The Society is registered with the Charities Commission as a charitable entity. The financial statements for 2013/14 were submitted to the Commission and appear on the Charities Register at www.charities.govt.nz.
- 2 **Audit:** These financial statements have not been audited as auditing is not a requirement under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908. At a Special General Meeting of the Society held on 19 May 2002, rule 7.9 of the Society's Constitution was amended to remove the requirement that the accounts be audited.
- 3 **Subscriptions:** There were 52 paid subscriptions from individuals and families and a total number of 68 paid members for the year, including three new members. Fourteen of these people have been members since 1996 when the Society was founded.
- 4 **Donations.** Members have made generous donations in addition to their subscriptions. Donors can claim a tax credit from the Inland Revenue Department.
- 5 **Book sales:** 1000 copies of "Streets of Mt Victoria" were published and expensed in the financial year ended 30 June 1999. Since then, copies have been sold, members have received free copies, and other copies have been given to libraries, schools, historical societies and people who have assisted the Society. There is a remaining stock of about 23 copies, which have a sale value of \$3 per copy.
- 6 **Interest:** The Society has obtained a tax exemption statement from the Inland Revenue Department and as a result no tax was deducted from the interest earned in the current financial year.
- 7 **Victorian Gaiety dinner.** This was a fundraiser towards the costs of the Basin Reserve flyover High Court appeal, and raised a net of \$3,392. Receipts totalling \$5,607 came from ticket sales \$3,080, donations \$1,640, and the silent auction \$887, and expenses of the venue, food etc. were \$2,215.

MOUNT VICTORIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2014/15

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS				
for the year ended 30 June 2015				
2013/14		Notes	2014/15	
\$			\$	\$
	RECEIPTS			
830.00	Subscriptions	3	910.00	
131.00	Donations	4	389.00	
	Victorian Gaiety dinner receipts	7	5,607.00	
	Book sales	5	19.00	
34.38	Bank interest	6	29.44	
995.38	Total receipts			6,954.44
	Less PAYMENTS			
197.77	Website expenses including new site development & design		2,444.15	
	Victorian Gaiety dinner expenses	7	2,215.00	
150.00	Gifts for speakers and others		614.99	
41.46	Postage, stationery & photocopying		68.64	
18.00	Meeting expenses		0.00	
	Wellington Regional Heritage Promotion Council subscription		25.00	
	Embassy panel window cleaning		80.00	
407.23	Total payments			5,447.78
588.15	EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS			1,506.66

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION				
as at 30 June 2015				
2013/14		Notes	2014/15	
\$			\$	\$
	ASSETS			
5,105.80	Cash at bank		6,612.46	
5,105.80	Total assets			6,612.46
	SOCIETY'S FUNDS			
4,517.65	Funds brought forward		5,105.80	
588.15	Plus excess of receipts over payments		1,506.66	
5,105.80	Net Society's funds			6,612.46

Susan Watt
Treasurer

These statements should be read in conjunction with the notes.