

Mt Victoria Historical Society News

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November Event

The last event for the year is a strictly-member's-only garden tour. We have put together a walking tour of six beautiful, interesting and varied gardens in historical Mount Victoria, whose owners are happy to share them with us.

Garden Tour - Sunday November 21

The tour will start at 78 Roxburgh Street at 2.00 pm and the group will move en masse from there to the tour's end in Porritt Avenue (about 5.00 pm). At the last address in Porritt Avenue there will be a cup of tea for those who wish.

If a postponement is necessary due to bad weather, participants will be advised by midday on November 21. If that happens, the tour will be held instead on Sunday November 28 at the same time.

RSVPs are essential, so we can advise our hosts and note attendance. Please phone Joanna Newman on 385 2254 or Rachel McFarlane on 384 4388 by Wednesday November 17 if you would like to come.

New Committee

At the AGM in September most members of the committee stood for re-election but unfortunately Christine Marshall resigned as secretary. We now welcome Ursula Curtis, however, as a new committee member.

Submission on the District Plan

The Society recently made an oral submission on variation 14 of the District Plan, following an earlier written submission. Essentially, our submission sought confirmation of the rule restricting demolition of older buildings and control on the design of new multi-unit development as set out in original proposal for Variation 14. In addition, we also sought the insertion of a requirement for demolition of pre-1930 houses to be notified.

The reason for this was that we believe it is essential that the whole character of Mt Victoria be protected and the entire area be accorded heritage status, not just small enclaves. We agreed that, as stated in the Design Guide for Multi-unit Housing, certain areas have "a visual amenity and heritage value which warrants a greater degree of care and consideration in design" but not that the rules should apply only to these character sub-areas.

The tribunal's decision has been released since our last committee meeting, but it does not allow for notification of demolition. No decision has yet been made on what, if any, further action will be taken.

Streets of Mount Victoria

There has been huge interest in our booklet, "Streets of Mount Victoria". If you haven't received your free copy yet, or would like copies for friends or other reasons, please contact Joanna Newman on 385 2254. Price to non-members is \$3.00.