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Dear Members, Supporters and Friends,

Welcome to our 3rd eNewsletter. We will be sending these out twice a year, in between producing our hard copy newsletters. Below you will find updates on projects, events, fundraisers and general Sculpture Trust News.

The fifth 4 Plinths sculpture is launched



A dramatic mix of history and high-tech is the mainstay of the newest sculpture on the 4 Plinths, on the forecourt outside Te Papa. Named *a (very) short history of aotearoa* the work by Tauranga artist Kereama Taepa was opened by Arts Councillor Ray Ahipene-Mercer and Trust Chair Sue Elliott on 24 February 2016 in the lead-up to the International Arts Festival.

The sculpture features four aluminium pieces, one on each plinth, in pixelated “space invaders” shapes. They show a Māori meeting house representing Māori habitation; a mitre, representing the missionaries and early European settlement; a crown, representing the Queen and the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi; and the Beehive representing our current government.

Today’s technology is further conveyed by large QR codes fixed to the outward sides of each plinth. These take the

viewer with a smart phone device to a web-based game in the popular space invaders format with icons similar to the sculptures above the plinths.

The sculpture was chosen from a range of submissions with the artist receiving an award of \$40,000 to fabricate and install the work. It is the fifth in the series and will remain on site for up to two years. The selection process for its successor, to be installed in February 2018, will commence soon.

You can view more images on our website here: [4 Plinths 5](#)

Visit to Queenstown Area

On a glorious sunny autumn day, Sculpture Trust members and friends recently visited several private sculpture collections in the Queenstown-Lake Hayes area and The Hills golf course at Arrowtown.

Over the course of the day we saw many striking works both by New Zealand and international sculptors as well as some fine paintings in host's residences. With the stunning natural backdrop that this part of our country affords, it was interesting to see how the sculptures had been placed for great visual impact in beautifully landscaped settings.

It is always good to see new works 'in the flesh', in particular the works of international sculptors which are unfamiliar to us.

The day ended with our buzzing around the beautiful Hills golf course in a train of golf carts to view the sculptures dotted around the course.

With a background of autumn colours and the golden glow of the late afternoon sun it was a wonderful conclusion to a truly memorable day.

Sculptures at The Hills may be viewed here: <http://www.thehills.co.nz/sculptures/index.html>







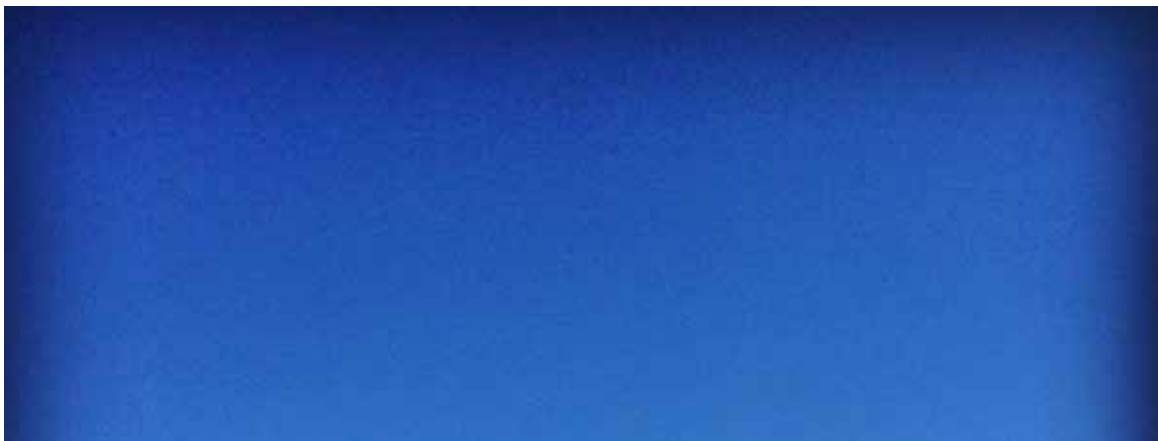
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Public Art Talk (PAT)

We have arranged a talk for members by Anton Parsons, the sculptor who sculpted "Invisible City", the braille-type work (<http://www.sculpture.org.nz/the-sculptures/invisible-city>) funded by the Trust and located on the corner of Lambton Quay and Grey Street. He has also sculpted a number of other public sculptures located elsewhere in New Zealand. The following link contains more information about Anton: <http://www.creativegiants.co.nz/view/artist-index/p/anton-parsons.php>

We are hoping that this PAT may be the first of a series by sculptors and other relevant experts about the role of public art in an urban environment and how an artist approaches an opportunity to produce a work of this nature. We hope to work with dealer galleries and other relevant arts institutions in arranging PAT events, holding a couple each year.

This first one is being organised with the support of David Alsop at {Suite} Art Gallery in Cuba Street. It will take place at the gallery on Thursday 19 May. There will be some larger works of Anton's in the back courtyard of the gallery as well

as smaller works in the main indoor areas of the gallery. You are invited to the gallery at 5.30 pm for a glass of wine and an opportunity to look at these works. Anton's talk, facilitated by an expert in the arts field, will commence at 6.00 pm and finish by 7.00 pm.

If you would like to attend, please register with the Trust by Wednesday 11 May, after this date the remaining places at the event will be opened up to {Suite} Gallery's mailing list.

Event: PAT 1

Speaker: Anton Parsons

Venue: {Suite} Art Gallery, 241 Cuba Street, Wellington

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Plimmer's Ark Wood - Sculpture Project

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We have asked nine artists to submit a proposal for the design of a new sculpture to be located on the Wellington Waterfront.

This project involves using the recently acquired ship timbers and artifacts from the remains of The Inconstant that was shipwrecked in Wellington Harbour in 1849. John Plimmer famously turned the wreck of the ship into Noah's Ark trading venue that became known as Plimmer's Ark. Some of the remains of Plimmer's Ark can be seen under the Old Bank Arcade on Lambton Quay; we have acquired some of the rest, which consists of intact portions of the ship, individual timbers and a number of artefacts such as nails, shoe leather and casings. The ship's timber is of great historical significance to Wellington City.

We have passed on to the artists that the sculpture must be predominantly made from this wood and speak to the wood's history. The artwork may include narrative, literally through text, or through abstract or realistic imagery.

At this stage there are two proposed sites on the waterfront – The soon to be developed northern end of Kumutoto Plaza, or on the corner of Waitangi Park where Oriental Parade and Cable Street connect.

We look forward to seeing the proposals.

Ferns II

We are excited to be able to report that we are dangerously close to commissioning Ferns II. Neil Dawson and the engineers have completed a scale model and the engineering drawings which will be presented to the Trust and the Wellington City Council early next month.

There has been a huge amount of interest in the original Ferns, but we have put on hold any thoughts about the future of Ferns I until we have the commissioning of the new work underway. The decision on what happens next will be made

following discussions with Neil Dawson with a view to fundraising for the new work.

Water Whirler is Whirring

Our Len Lye is up and running again in time to wow a large number of Wellingtonians and cruise ship visitors who have been enjoying our great summer. There are still teething problems with the way the motors are running and its gyrations are not reaching the same frenzy at the end of the programme. This is being addressed.

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Chris Booth at Bowen Gallery

Chris was one of the first artists the Trust commissioned a work from, *Peacemaker* in 1991, and his career has gone from strength to strength since then both within New Zealand and internationally. An exhibition, *Redwood & Rock* opens at Bowen Gallery on Monday 2 May at 5.50pm and runs until 22 May.

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