



wellington sculpture trust
for a city of sculpture

SCULPTURE NEWS

December 2015

THE PHILANTHROPIST'S STONE LIGHTS UP LOWER CUBA



The Philanthropist's Stone by Scott Eady. Image by Shaun Waugh

The opening of *The Philanthropist's Stone*, held on 12 August, was well attended with a birds-eye view of Scott Eady's work from an elevated venue across the road. As we hoped, it has claimed and energised this end of Cuba Street and is already loved for its quirky Wellington-ness, telling the story of T G Macarthy. Have a look at our website for more images and information on the work.

THE RETURN OF FERNS



The original *Ferns* as it sits currently.

There has been no end to the reporting on *Ferns*, and much of it misleading, so here is where things are at.

The Trust, Council and Artist, Neil Dawson, have been as one investigating and repairing the existing *Ferns*. When that proved not to be an enduring option, we began work to replace it with a new *Ferns* that would look exactly the same to the 'untrained eye'.

The structural problem with *Ferns* is the way in which the fern fronds

curl around each other, producing a weakness when suspended under tension. While this could be fixed, and was done about 5 years ago, it was going to be a costly ongoing problem.

We are working with Neil Dawson and the engineers to prepare a fully engineered and costed proposal for a new work. We expect to see this before Christmas.

The Council will be a major funder, however, the Trust are looking to

raise the remaining money from the community once we have a final budget.

One of the fundraising possibilities is to use the sale of the existing *Ferns* to raise money. It cannot be elevated again and requires some structural work, but is still an exquisite sculpture that could sit beautifully in a private space.

We will keep you all informed!

PARK(ING) DAY WELLINGTON 2016

Once again the Wellington Sculpture Trust, in association with the Wellington City Council, is organising a Wellington version of PARK(ing) Day, to coincide with our National Walk to Work Day - **Wednesday 9 March 2016**.

We are seeking submissions from people or groups who would like

to take over an inner city car park for this day.

Submissions are due by Sunday 31 January 2016.

For more information and to get a copy of the brief contact Jhana Millers, the Trust administrator, at wellingtonsculpture@xtra.co.nz or on our website: sculpture.org.nz

SCULPTURE UPDATE

WATER WHIRLER

The Trust is planning to make the operation of *Water Whirler* a priority as it has stood dormant for far too long. City Shaper is responsible for the work but we are talking with Athfield Architects about mechanisms and signage to stop people swinging on the pole. Early in the New Year we are hoping to have a round table discussion with all parties to resolve the mechanical issues. *Water Whirler* is too much a jewel in Wellington's crown to stay still any longer.

NGA KINA

The lights for *Nga Kina* have been problematic since the work was installed in November 2012. However, we have installed new underwater lights and the Kina shells can now be seen both day and night.

AKAU TANGI

All the cones of *Akau Tangi* are to be dismantled for repairs due

to failures in the section of pipe that supports the cones on the top of the poles. The location in Evans Bay doesn't make it easy on the sculpture but we expected the work to be made to cope with the conditions. It may take some considerable time before the cones are ready to go back up although we hope this will be corrected as soon as possible.

WOMAN OF WORDS

At a recent Civic Trust Awards ceremony in Wellington, *Woman of Words*, by Virginia King, received the People's Choice award for Best Art in the City.

ZEPHYROMETER

The wild blasts of November have given the reinstated *Zephyrometer* a good work out. The sculpture is safe as it is, but we don't want to frighten people. Therefore the Council is working on installing either more weight into the bulb, or putting an 11° stopper on the work so it doesn't swing to a flat horizontal position.

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4 PLINTHS 5 SCULPTURE AWARD

The contract has been signed for the 5th iteration of the 4 Plinths Sculpture Award: *a (very) brief history of aotearoa*. Tauranga based artist Kereama Taepa has begun fabrication on the work and it is due to be installed in February 2016. The opening will be on the 24th of February.



a (very) brief history of aotearoa, artist's impression

NEW TRUSTEES

JANE BLACK

Jane Black is an urban planner with wide experience in the development of public spaces in Wellington. She has had a long involvement in the Wellington Waterfront Project and was on the Technical Advisory Group before being a Director of the Board of Wellington Waterfront Limited. She works on city centre and town revitalisation projects.



JULIAN LUDBROOK

Julian Ludbrook has had a career in the public service with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, working mainly in the law, human rights and trade areas. In his last posting in Hong Kong, as New Zealand Consul-General, he was involved in promoting bonds between New Zealand and Hong Kong and Macao in the arts and creative spaces. He promoted Wellington's diverse body of public art as a model of possible interest for Hong Kong.



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