

OTARI-WILTON'S BUSH TRUST

News and Views August, 2006

Check the web site to keep up-to-date with events: www.owb.co.nz

For all walks meet at the Information Centre, Te Marae o Tane

For information re walks and seminars contact the Treehouse on (04) 499 1400

The first Saturday of each month. 9am	Plant Care Work Party. 2 September, 7 October, 4 November, 2 December. Be at the information centre at 9am. <i>Leaders: Bronwen Wall, Jonathan Kennett, ph 472 5891</i>
Friday 8, 15, 22, 29 September. 7.30pm	Glow Worm Walks: Meet at the Otari car park, Wilton Road, at 7.30 pm. Booking details, see page 11. <i>Leader: Dr. David Burton.</i> Cost \$4.00. Children 10 and under \$2.00 (must be supervised by an adult)
Otari-Wilton's Bush Walks for Spring For all walks, meet at the Information Centre, Wilton Road.	
16 & 21 September 9am	Cleanup NZ: Saturday, 16 Sept: Clean up the Kaiwharawhara Stream and banks Thursday, 21 Sept: Clean up the street boundaries of Otari. Volunteers for both activities meet at 9 am at the Information Centre.
Sunday 24 September, 2pm	This is a good time for flowering and fruiting of native plants. Come and check things out from the Wild Garden through to the planted gardens below the lookout. <i>Leader: John Dawson.</i> Cost \$3 (free to Trust members).
Sunday, 1 October. from 9 am.	Open Day: Plant Sale and Cake Stall. 3 pm: Afternoon tea for Trust members. Walks 10 am., 11 am, 12 noon, 2 pm, 3 pm. <i>Leader: John Dawson.</i> Cost \$3 (free to Trust members).
Sunday, 29 October, 2pm	For the last few years we have given you reports on the Revegetation project down in the valley. Come and explore this very successful project.. <i>Leaders: Jonathan Kennett and Bronwen Wall.</i> Cost \$3 (free to Trust members).
Sunday 26 November, 2pm	The Southern Tracks. A substantial walk from The Information Centre along the valley and into the cemetery. This will be a pilgrimage to Andy McKay's grave-(the first caretaker) where a tribute will be laid in The Soldier's Cemetery, and home by The Blue Trail. The party can be met half-way.Cup of tea. Gold coin. <i>Leaders: John Riseborough 478-9813 & Stan Pillar 479-6789</i>



Report from the Chairman

On Friday evening 18th August, the official launch of the celebrations to mark the 100 years since the first block of land in Otari Wilton's Bush was gazetted as a reserve, was held. The information centre was very tastefully transformed for this reception with large photos (provided by Tim O'Leary) of plants adorning the walls and the kitchen area screened off. I had the pleasure of welcoming some 70 invited guests including the mayor, Kerry Prendergast, two members of parliament and five councillors from Wellington and Greater Wellington Councils. In launching the celebrations, Kerry spoke enthusiastically about the reserve and thanked the Trust and volunteers for their support. The speakers who followed, Al Morrison, Acting Director General of the Department of Conservation, covered, with enthusiasm, the wider role of Otari Wilton's Bush in relation to conservation and Dr John Dawson covered the history of Otari including the vision of the early contributors as well as his own vision for the future. (see text later in this newsletter)

Overall the function provided a very positive launch for the celebrations and I would like to thank all those who contributed to the organization of the event.

A programme of events currently being planned for the year is covered in this newsletter or may be accessed on the website www.Otari100.org.nz. Other events may be incorporated as the year progresses depending on available funding. In this regard, we have applied for Council grants to assist with the funding of the History and BioBlitz events and will know the outcome of these applications in early October. You may have suggestions for further events or projects and/or you may wish to make a special contribution to help with funding a particular project (either to be publicly acknowledged or anonymous). - If so, I will be pleased to discuss this with you. (telephone 472 8417)

In relation to the review of the 10 Year Plan for Otari Wilton's Bush, we have had discussions with council staff and other interested groups at a workshop early August. The feedback will be incorporated in the Draft Plan expected to be issued late September and there will be an opportunity to make further submissions before the plan is finalized. It may be helpful for individuals who propose to make submissions, to be aware of the Trust's detailed submissions on the Discussion Paper issued in May – a copy is available on request (telephone or email either myself or Margaret Crimp).

A new series of Cards for sale is currently being printed and will be available shortly. This will increase the range to 24 cards and I would appreciate assistance in marketing these. If you have any suggestions and can assist, please contact me.

Athol Swann

Trust Board 2006-2007

Contacts:

The Trust Board: Postal Address: 160 Wilton Rd, Wilton, Wellington.

- **Chairman:** Athol Swann: Phone: 472 8417 athol.swann@paradise.net.nz
- **Deputy Chair:** Jock Fleming, Phone: 475 7396 jockfleming@paradise.net.nz
- **Secretary:** Margaret Crimp: Phone: 475 3263 m.crimp@xtra.co.nz
- **Treasurer:** Johanne McComish Phone: 476 2925, 027 2278357
mccomish@paradise.net.nz

The trustees welcome individual communications from members on any matters relating to Otari-Wilton's Bush Reserve or the Trust, particularly from those who would like to assist and participate in our activities.

Newsletter: Vera Burton. Phone 9388207 Email davee@paradise.net.nz

Dear Otari Wilton's Bush Trust members

We now have our own centenary website to celebrate the **100th birthday of Otari Wilton's Bush** as a Reserve.

www.otari100.org.nz

The date of gazetting as a reserve was 23 August 1906. As you know, we are celebrating the centenary from August 2006 to August 2007.

www.otari100.org.nz

Pass on the website to your friends and email contacts and ask them to join in Otari100 events, and join the Trust too.

www.otari100.org.nz

from

the Otari Wilton's Bush Trust Centenary Committee

www.otari100.org.nz

Manager's Otari Report

Hi everybody

A lot of hard work by Trust members paid off with the successful centenary celebration launch on Friday 18 August. What a way to kick off the events the Trust has planned for the centenary year. Well done to all involved. All the staff at Otari thank you for your efforts, and we look forward to more successful events throughout the year.

Also high on our agenda at present is the review of the Otari Management Plan. The Council's Planner for Ecology And Biodiversity, Amber Bill, who is managing the review, recently held workshops at Otari for submitters. It was great to see her work on this coming together and so much enthusiasm for Otari expressed by those who took part.

Several key themes emerged from the workshops. The presence of both plant collections and ancient forest was consistently mentioned as being the essence of Otari-Wilton's Bush; its accessibility and closeness to the city was mentioned; and education and promotion were identified by many as being important ways of enhancing the visitor experience.

A new draft management plan will now be developed that ties in with the Council's strategic priorities and takes into account public and staff feedback. The draft plan will be considered by the Council's Strategy and Policy Committee in late September. Once approved, it will then be open for public comment. All going well, the plan will be finalised in December.

Our planting season is drawing to a close and we have had some great planting days this year, particularly Wednesday 12 July, when around 1500 plants were planted. Council staff and volunteers have also planted revegetation species at the corner where Churchill Drive and Wilton Road meet, where a large pine was recently removed, and battled vertigo on the slopes of IZARD Park. Thank you all for your efforts.

On the subject of planting, the annual Otari Open Day is fast approaching, make sure to leave Saturday 23 September free (9.30am – 2pm) so you can come and buy some of New Zealand's best plants.

The open day is part of the Council's Spring Festival, which is on during the school holidays (23 September – 8 October) at the Botanic Garden and Otari.

The festival is chock full of fun, family friendly entertainment and activities. For more information visit www.Wellington.govt.nz, pick up a brochure from Otari or city libraries (available from 1 September) or phone 499 4444 and we will send you one.

All the best,

Rewi Elliot

Curator/Manager. Otari-Wilton's Bush. Phone: 475 3245

Help!!! Open Day, is Saturday, 23 September. The **Cake stall/ refreshment stand** is one of our great fundraisers but it can only be successful if you can help by bringing along cakes, muffins, loaves, biscuits, etc. for willing helpers to sell. Contributions can be left in the meeting room of the Information Centre on Friday afternoon, 22 September, or delivered to the cake stall on Saturday morning.

Volunteers are needed to run a sausage sizzle. If you can help or have any questions please contact Liz Dovey, 499 1044. Email; cweag.dovey@xtra.co.nz

Words from the Valley

The past two months have been a great time for action down in the valley. Don't be fooled by the atrocious weather. It hasn't seemed to put the volunteers off one iota. Even on the thunderously ominous Saturday mornings, when we thought "Surely no one will turn up today", we'd turn the corner onto the Information Centre deck, and find a few hardy souls eagerly waiting. Not a single work party was cancelled, and the results have been tremendous.

Almost a thousand trees have gone into site 0, and it is looking great (a big thanks to Otari School for helping out there). We have also planted a few hundred trees in the gaps around what we call the 'reveg picnic area'. Once the plants take off, it will make for a lovely spot to escape the hustle and bustle of the new and improved Troup Picnic area. At the corner of Churchill Drive and Blackbridge Road, two areas have been peppered with a few hundred seedlings each. We are unable to finish planting this site until a fish passage has been built, as contractors working on the fish passage will need plenty of space to access the culvert through which Kaiwharawhara Stream flows. Unfortunately there have been funding difficulties, and this work is proceeding at a glacial pace.

Further up the valley, at sites 18 and 19, there has been a large slip right down to the edge of the stream. It has damaged quite a bit of naturally regenerating bush as well as several planted seedlings. The slip was the result of years of Karori Cemetery staff dumping soil and garden waste from cemetery works into the bush and was triggered by recent heavy rain. The Trust has written to the council about this poor land management practice as any further movement could have serious impacts for the stream.

Looking to the future, we will be holding Plant Care work parties on the first Saturday of every month. You are all welcome. We meet at 9am at the Information Centre, wander down to tend recently planted trees and then head back at 11am for a cup of tea and a biscuit.

Hope to see you there.

Bronwen and Jonathan



Centenary programme

Website: all information will be available on our special Centenary website – www.otari100.org.nz

We need lots more help with most of the events below and any other events you might like to suggest and take responsibility for.

Please get in touch with any of the Trust Board Members to offer any help – everything is welcome. The Trust Board Members who make up the Centenary Subcommittee are Alastair Bisley, Johanne McComish and Maggy Wassilieff, and they, of course, are especially keen to hear from you!

Trust Members' Afternoon tea - BRING A NEW MEMBER!

We're having a celebratory afternoon tea for all members at the Information Centre at 3.00pm on Open Day (23 September). Please come along with the whole family, and bring along a friend or work mate too. You can sign them up as a member on the spot and pay our very modest subscription as a gift for them and a boost to the Trust's membership. Taking a lead from the Karori Sanctuary's success in attracting members, we should multiply our membership by at least x10!

We won't bore the children with long speeches but we will tell you about the Bioblitz and how to join in, and more about the other events too. So come along and celebrate Otari on 23 September.

RSVP to Margaret Crimp 475 3263 by Wednesday, September 20, if planning to attend.

History

Jonathan Kennett has agreed to run the history project. There are several parts to this. In the first instance, he will record Otari's oral history, and lodge the tapes in the Oral History archives. Building on this material he will prepare a written history. He will also prepare some material in a form in which it can be placed on a website – perhaps as a commentary on different sites marked on a map. He will in any case have a high quality map of Otari prepared, and will draft an historical and biological commentary which will be printed on the reverse side.

BioBlitz

The BioBlitz is likely to be the most spectacular of the centenary events. It is tentatively scheduled for 23/24 March 2007. This event will run over 24 hours and effectively will be a bio-diversity census of all living organisms in Otari. It will involve many people and, we hope, all of you Otari Wilton's Bush Trust members.

100 Photos

Planning continues for an event to record Otari in photographs. The plan is to involve members, the public, and kids as much as possible. We'll have input and participation from experienced and professional photographers, using digital photos and a web gallery for displays.

100 Kilometers

This initiative runs throughout the centenary year. With the help of the Wellington City Council, maps are being prepared showing track distances. Those of you who love to exercise in Otari can record the distances that you cover walking or running, and when you complete your 100 km we'll record your name in our 100 Kilometer Centenary Ledger, or on the website www.otari100.org.nz if you're more into digital records than pen and paper.

Centenary Babes in the Bush

Planning continues to record the names of babies born in the centenary year, and notified to the Trust, so that they can be associated with a marked area of revegetation. Babies' (or families') names will be recorded in a ledger, and the babies concerned can watch the little patch of new bush grow as they do. We imagine that by the time they are about 3 years old they'll be accosting passers-by to tell them that they were born at the same time as that little bit of bush there!

Do you have nephews, nieces, grandchildren, godchildren, or favourite new babies who you can record as Centenary Babes? Spread the word.

100 Poems

Planning continues for a poetry event to be held at Otari during the centenary year. The poems will be published in some way as the participants decide.

Launch Otari 100

Otari-Wilton's Bush Chairman, Athol Swann's, introductory remarks

Your Worship the Mayor of Wellington, Members of Parliament, Councillors, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

I would like to welcome you all to this ceremony to mark the beginning of the centenary year of Otari-Wilton's Bush.

I do so as the Chair of the OWB Trust, which was established in year 2000 as a community based, voluntary organisation whose members contribute their time, expertise and enthusiasm to support the Council in the development and protection of the Reserve, to educate the public about native plants and their environment, and to encourage study, teaching and research based on the collections and the native bush in which they stand.

Much has been achieved at Otari since it received scenic reserve status 100 years ago. Otari-Wilton's Bush is now a vital part of the city's green belt and a star in Wellington's cluster of marvellous visitor attractions. It is also a national taonga – a unique collection of native plants set in an historic remnant of native bush. We are proud of it, and of the Trust's contribution (in partnership with council managers), towards improving it and showing it off to Wellingtonians and to visitors to the city.

The idea of celebrating the centenary with a number of special events during the year came from our members, and you will hear more about these events later.

Also, coincidentally in this centenary year, a revised 10 year Plan for Otari Wilton's Bush must be prepared and the Trust has been working with the Council on this. The main items we would like included in this plan are - the clear defining of the boundaries of the Reserve, as well as improved facilities that we believe are necessary for it to fulfil its roles of plant research, conservation and education, as well as enhancing the visitor experience.

The Trust will continue to strengthen the relationships with local citizens and organisations which have an interest in the reserve; with neighbours in the Kaiwharawhara Catchment, (including of course the Karori Sanctuary); and also with the local and national educational institutions such as Victoria University and Te Papa. We see this as important, as it helps to reinforce the branding of Otari Wilton's Bush as a 'Garden of National Significance'

I would now like to introduce our mayor Kerry and in doing so, I congratulate her on the way in which her Council has discharged its responsibility for management of the Reserve.

Kerry, I invite you to speak and launch these Otari 100 celebrations.



Knightia excelsa

Rewarewa, New Zealand honeysuckle.

Rewarewa has been chosen for the logo for the Centenary year. It is a tall tree with a columnar habit, often seen emerging above second growth bush. It can reach 30m, with a trunk up to 1m through. The flowers are odd and spectacular, dark red with pale yellow anthers and stigma, from which four long narrow petals peel back to end tightly curled at the base of the style. Flowers are borne in spring and are bird pollinated; this is a good bird attracting tree to plant but only if you have a large garden! Flowers are followed by a velvety brown capsule, and the seeds are wind dispersed. Rewarewa is a very hardy tree which turns up readily all over Wellington.

A GOLDEN FUTURE FOR OTARI-WILTON'S BUSH

In my contribution at the launch of the Centennial Year I suggested that people looking back in generations to come might see recent years as the beginning of a golden era for Otari-Wilton's Bush. A number of events about six years ago led to this enhanced state. A generous grant from the Plimmer Trust enabled a number of physical improvements – a redesigned Information Centre, a deck extending from it, a zig-zag Treetop Walkway from the deck across the deep gully to the main garden area, improvements to the carpark and behind it a handsome Alpine Garden, complete with an artificial waterfall that looks remarkably natural. At about the same time the Friends of Otari-Wilton's Bush, which became the O-WB Trust, came into existence along with volunteers of many kinds – tour guides, weekend hosts, tree planters, plant nursery workers, all of them helping the dedicated and enthusiastic staff to look after a garden and forest estate of considerable extent and also to assist the visiting public from Wellington, elsewhere in New Zealand, and increasingly from overseas.

As a result Otari-Wilton's Bush became a more welcoming and interesting place and visitor numbers increased tremendously and are being maintained. I think it is no longer a place most Wellingtonians have never heard of.

The improvements continue, some of them funded or partly funded by the Trust – the viewing stand at the waterfall, the deck around the large northern rata in the Wild Garden, improvements to the Circular Walk and, right now, the redevelopment of the Troup Picnic area, which has been a favourite spot for Wellingtonians for more than 100 years.

At the moment there is much thought and discussion about how Otari-Wilton's Bush should develop in the future.

The area that is of most interest to me is Public Education. We already do this to some extent. Our guided walks are educational. There is also a self-guiding brochure for the Nature Trail and it is proposed to produce others for other trails and the planted gardens.

But, I think we need to do more than this as I believe there are many people out there who are interested in the natural environment and want to learn more about it. We need to offer short courses of 4 or 5 weeks concerned with New Zealand plants as a whole or with particular plant groups, or special aspects such as Maori knowledge of native plants and how they made use of them, and the cultivation of native plants. I think most people don't want to be tied up for too long with longer and more formal courses. The emphasis should be on field trips so that you are among the plants when you are learning their stories, but also identification workshops back at base and a few lectures to appreciate the bigger picture.

In recent years, too, a number of schools have been coming with large classes from primers to high school and have required assistance.

The problem with all this is that at the moment we don't have proper teaching facilities. Our present building works well as a visitor centre and to accommodate the staff, but something more is needed for teaching. So it is good to hear that the former curator's house is being considered for conversion into an Education Centre. We await the results of this investigation with interest.

The other point I want to make is that there are a number of other organisations like Otari in the Wellington Region, private and public, some concerned with native animals, some with native plants and some with both. There has been a tendency to see them as rivals, and in our case, particularly with the Karori Sanctuary. I don't think such rivalry serves any useful purpose and it would be much more worthwhile for these groups to co-operate with each other, especially in the area of Public Education.

The other thing that needs to be appreciated is that the Wellington Region is one of the best places in New Zealand for a wide range of natural habitats. There is a range native forest types, some very extensive and a significant proportion near original, from the warm end at the Kapiti Coast to the cold end up in the Tararuas. Higher up in the southern Tararuas there is even good alpine vegetation, unfortunately not readily accessible. Elsewhere there are good wetland areas, from salt to fresh water, coastal habitats, and, along the south coast, one of the richest marine environments in New Zealand for both marine plants and animals. The Wellington Region could hardly be a better place for courses on our native New Zealand plants and animals.

I think there are exciting and rewarding times ahead for everyone concerned with Otari-Wilton's Bush. So, let's get on with it.

Dr John Dawson

Glow Worm Walks.

Dr. David Burton has agreed to lead walks to view the Otari glow worms every Friday evening in September from September 8. It has been decided to limit the groups to 20 people. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Participants must book at the Treehouse before 1 pm Friday. The Treehouse staff will supply the tour leader with a list of names of those booked on each tour. Cost: \$4, \$2 for children. In the event of bad weather for cancellations ring 499 4444 after 5 pm.

Otari-Wilton's Bush Trust Bioblitz

The Otari-Wilton's Bush Trust is running a Bioblitz in Otari in 2007 (tentatively 23/24 March) as part of the Centenary celebrations (August 2006-August 2007).

The Bioblitz will be a lot of fun, very exciting, and a marvellous opportunity to find out a lot more about what is living in the reserve. The Wellington City Council is very excited about the Bioblitz too, and is providing lots of support (tangible) and encouragement! The Royal Society is involved and the Regional Council is supporting us as well. And the School of Biological Sciences at Victoria University is providing the scientific back-up without which we couldn't go ahead.

We need help from many more enthusiastic individuals to organise and run the Bioblitz. Please volunteer yourself, or suggest others who may like to be involved. There are jobs of every conceivable sort to be done – from scientific investigation to organising food, signs, keeping records, and assisting the public on the day.

At previous Bioblitzes in Auckland between 1000 and 2000 people have attended on the Bioblitz Day. You can see there is plenty of excitement, and plenty of work involved.

About Bioblitzes

A Bioblitz is all about urban biodiversity. It takes place in a 24 hour period when teams of scientists work with school groups and members of the public to locate and identify as many species as possible in the defined reserve area.

With the clock ticking, and working right through the night, the challenge is to find as many species as possible within the 24 hours! Amazingly, some previously unknown species are usually found. What unknown things will be found living at Otari?

A base camp is set up at the reserve with technical equipment and other resources for identifying and recording species. We've booked the Otari School hall for this purpose and we expect that the students from Otari (and several other schools) will be closely involved.

Bioblitz is a USA concept for promoting urban biodiversity research and public awareness. In New Zealand, protocols and other planning materials are held by Landcare Research in Auckland. They will be guiding us in the planning. The materials address such issues as health and safety, protection of the environment, handling and return of specimens, and data recording. (See <http://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/research/biodiversity/bioblitz/index.asp>)

If you Google Bioblitz you will find quite a number of interesting records of previous Bioblitzes in US cities, where they are regular events. As planning proceeds for the Otari Bioblitz we'll keep updating information on www.otari100.org.nz – so keep checking.

Biological experts

We have quite group of scientists now to help oversee the project. There is the School of Biological Sciences, Victoria University, the Royal Society to co-ordinate the work with schools, the Wellington Botanical Society, the Ornithological Society, the Regional Council, individuals from Massey University, Te Papa, DOC, and other organisations. And we have the essential support and enthusiasm of the Wellington City Council.

We are having a meeting on Friday 15 September at 4pm at Victoria University with Peter Buchanan from Landcare Research to go over the Bioblitz procedures, and sort out a small core organising group to carry on.

Any members (or your friends) who have scientific expertise to contribute to the Bioblitz - please come along to the meeting. Contact Johanne McComish (see below).

Volunteers required

If you

- are a biological scientist (amateur or professional), or
- have some useful technical skills you can offer for the Bioblitz, or
- are a keen events organiser, or
- want to help out on the day, or the week, before,

- we need you!

It will be fun to come along to the Bioblitz – but it will be even more fun to be involved in making it happen.

Contact: Johanne McComish

mccomish@paradise.net.nz

476 2925

0272278357

VOLUNTEERS are needed for Cleanup NZ Week.

We are planning two projects. On Thursday, 21 September, meet at the Information Centre at 9am to clean up the roadside boundaries. On Saturday, 16 September, meet at the Information centre at 9am to clean up the Kaiwharawhara Stream. Bags and gloves will be provided. If you can help please contact Jock Fleming, 475 7396, or jockfleming@paradise.net.nz

8b Cassis Place
Chartwell
Wellington

20th June 2006.

Dear Editor,

I was delighted to see in the most recent OWBT newsletter the news of the Otari 100 celebration but was a little disturbed at the confusion displayed about what was being celebrated.

In August 1906 a new scenic reserve was gazetted called Wilton's Bush (Otari Native Reserve) under the NZ Scenic Reserve Act 1903. The owners of the land which became a reserve were in fact descendants of Te Ati Awa people who lived at the Pipitea Pa in Thorndon. The correct name of the area was in fact the Pipitea Block of the Otari Native Reserve of 1847 and it became a government reserve. Records of payments made to the owners can be found in the Maori Land Court records. It was an act of early twentieth century paternalism that referred to the area as Wiltons Bush.

Almanacs published in the late 1800s list Mr H Pitt as living at Blackbridge for this was the way in which one of the Maori Owners referred to the area. Later the name was retained only in reference to a specific street in Wadestown.

In the same year but a few months later, in November 1906, part of Job Wilton's farm which included the area of original bush was surveyed into 88 sections and offered for sale by William Turnbull. Fortunately a new benefactor arrived on the scene. He was called Martin Chapman and had been born at Karori but spent a lot of his life in Australia and England. He had returned to Wellington to establish a legal firm now known as Chapman Tripp. Martin Chapman bought the whole subdivision and ran the area as Chapman's gardens with a caretaker who lived in a very small one room house or whare on the site. When Martin Chapman died in 1924 his land was sold to the city council for L6700. At that point Leonard Cockayne was commissioned to write a management plan for the reserve. That plan is still the basis for the development of the Botanic Garden. With further payment by the Wellington City Council to government the two areas of land were formed into a special reserve for growing native plants. As a result the Otari Wilton's Bush Native Plant Museum was opened in October 1926. The Maori Reserve and Wilton's farm were clearly divided by the Kaiwharawhara Stream. The details of a number of subsequent land additions to Otari including Education Board land in 2004 call for a separate detailed study.

The Pipitea families who sold the first piece of land to the government are now represented in the area by the Wellington Tenths Trust who gave the waharoa at the entrance to the Otari redevelopment project in 1999 and at a more specific level Henry Pitt Porutu is now represented in the area by the well known Puketapu family of Lower Hutt. This family have been closely associated with the developments at Waiwhetu where there is a significant Maori arts and crafts school.

There is also a modern style cafe called Galleria Cafe at 58 Guthrie Street where examples of locally made jewellery and craft can be bought. The same group is the only private organization in the Wellington area which has in recent years built its own special archives building to preserve their tribal records.

I trust that our Otari 100 celebration will be able to acknowledge the foresight of the local Te Ati Awa families as well as the contribution made by the Chapman and Wilton families in preserving the forest area. Probably the contribution of the Iazard family should also be noted.

I would like to acknowledge the many years of research that Helen Waugh now of Timaru did to establish the details of the Wilton family contribution to the area.

Sandra Clarke

Email listings.

Recently an email was sent to those members whose email addresses we have telling them about the new website - www.otari100.org.nz.

If you didn't get this message but would be happy to have occasional notices like this by email, please let us know by sending your email address to mccomish@paradise.net.nz.

If on the other hand, you weren't pleased to get the message and would not like any future emails, please let us know.

While on the subject of email, it costs over \$5 a year per member to print and post out the newsletter. If you would be just as happy to receive your newsletter by email, please let us know - mccomish@paradise.net.nz. The files are not usually very big and shouldn't cause any difficulty to your dial up connections.

OTARI-WILTON'S BUSH TRUST

Membership Application Form

Our membership year is from 1 April to 31 March. New members joining after 1 January will have the membership accredited to the following year. Membership entitles you to receive our newsletter and receive notification of all forthcoming activities at Otari - Wilton's Bush.

I wish to join the Trust
 (name of new member)

Postal Address

Telephone ().....(Home) E-mail.....

Billing Name and Address
 (if different from above)

Subscription:	Corporate	\$30	
	Double/Family	\$15	
	Individual	\$10	
	Student/Unwaged	\$5	
Donation:		\$	
Total Payment:	(please enclose your cheque)		\$

The Trust is registered as a Charitable organisation and donations over \$5.00 are tax deductible. We will automatically send you a receipt for tax purposes. We regret we cannot process payments by Credit Card.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please indicate the areas of interest to you from the following list:

- Work parties Weekend hosting at Otari Information Centre
 Fund raising

Please send your application to: The Treasurer,
 Otari-Wilton's Bush,
 160 Wilton Road,
 Wilton,
 Wellington.