



Troopers' Memorial restoration underway



Troopers' memorial is currently surrounded by scaffolding and white plastic as restoration work is carried out. Communications Advisor - Digital Media Daniel Tobin was invited to scale the scaffolding and see the work up close.

STANDING next to the soldier on top of Troopers' memorial is one of the highlights of my year.

At the top I met Marcus Wainwright of Dunedin-based Wainwright & Co Stonemasons who is chipping away at stone surrounding rusted metal.

Marcus has been restoring monuments around Otago since 2006 as well as regular ongoing building strengthening and structural work.

Starting his career as a headstone maker, he is now in demand for the more unusual and tricky jobs like his recent work on a large West Coast coal mining chimney.

Standing eye to eye with the Trooper I was impressed with the detail the sculptor put into the figure, details that cannot been seen from the street, like stirrups on his boots and veins lining his hands.

The main issue Marcus needs to contend with on Troopers' is corrosion of the inner steel.

"I try to get to as much rust as I can, find a product to repair it, then cover."

One thing he has noticed about memorials is often they started life as a central point of a community but over time the community changes, wooden houses rot away but the stone still stands.

"You sometimes forget it's a memorial to people who died overseas, that it is their only headstone, built by families whose children never returned," he said.

As I was taking photos Marcus suggested I take one over the Troopers' shoulder showing his view.

"The Troopers' memorial is interesting, you always see it in pictures of Invercargill, it becomes a symbol of the town.

"So much is changing in Invercargill, but this doesn't change. When you look at the view over his shoulder you get a feeling of all the years the soldier has been looking down on."

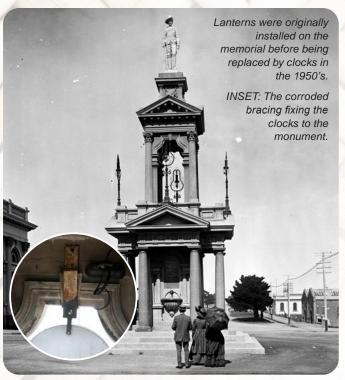
Invercargill City Council has received \$688,000 from Provincial Growth Fund for the restoration of seven memorials.







Troopers' clocks to be removed



THE Troopers' Memorial on the Tay and Dee Street roundabout will be restored to its original state with the removal of four clocks.

During recent inspections it was discovered the metal bracing attaching the clocks to the monument has corroded, which is both damaging the structure and not securing the clocks effectively.

The Troopers' Memorial was unveiled in 1908 with the clocks being a later 1953 addition, installed as part of modernising the memorial for the royal visit of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip.

It is hoped the clocks will be re-established nearby as part of the CBD redevelopment.

Meanwhile, the restoration and improvement work is going well, with repairs to the masonry, stonework and wrought iron components well underway. The project timeline is difficult to determine, as the experts pull away any damaged stonework it can reveal more issues which need attention.

The last time repairs were made to the memorial was in the 1970s, this is because the skilled specialists able to undertake the work are quite rare. The memorial has not had any significant work done to it in the 112 years it has been standing.

The costs of repairs, estimated to be \$196,000, has been covered by a grant from the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF).

PGF awarded Council \$688,000 for repairs to seven different memorials throughout the city district.

To learn more about these special monuments, and their stories, visit www.icc.govt.nz/parks-and-reserves/war-memorials/

21 Day Recycle Challenge success

TO celebrate Recycle Week (19-25 October), WasteNet Southland launched the 21 Day Recycle Challenge, to help improve our recycling habits.

Everyday a new tip was posted on the WasteNet Facebook page, like the three easiest things to recycle: No, paper towels are not recyclable but yes, pizza boxes are.

SIT environmental management students also joined in as champions and influencers posting on the Wastenet Instagram account using the hashtag #21dayrecyclechallengenz.

Senior Waste Officer Donna Peterson said the challenge Ambassadors did a tremendous job posting every day for 3 weeks, creating 103 unique posts on Instagram alone.

"Their journey took them from tossing lids to fitting recycling

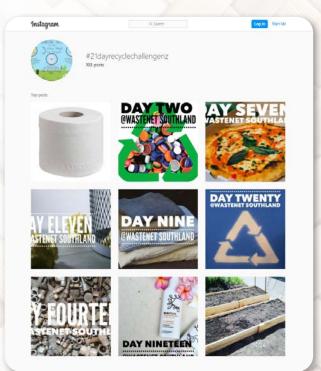
into their lifestyle, from adding extra recycling bins into their homes and stopping wishcycling.

"MoreFM even came on board and incorporated eight recycling tips into the parody song they created for us called 'WasteNets Back'", she said.

If you would like tips on how to improve your recycling habits, take up the 21 Day Recycle Challenge available on wastenet.org.

nz and share your journey on #21dayrecyclechallengenz.









Executive Leadership Team visit Splash Palace



ABOVE: Plant Supervisor Stephen Cook (second from left) shows Chief Executive Clare Hadley and members of the management team the work progress.

BY RENEE POU Health and Safey Co-ordinator

ON Wednesday 28 October ELT were hosted on a site visit of Splash Palace by Stephen Cook and Peter Thompson.

The purpose of the visit was to observe risks on the Hydroslide construction site and to view how the risks were mitigated and controlled.

On this visit we also learnt that Splash Palace has been recognised as a national example for supervision of children under 8 years old, adding the coloured wrist bands for extra visibility.

This has considerably reduced the number of near

misses to members of the public.

Another stand out from our visit was finding out that we also lead the way in effective heating and use of woodchips by NIAGRA Timber.

They regularly show their customers a good example at Splash Palace of Health and Safety practises, and the efficient heating of the swimming pool.

These visits will happen regularly and are a nice way to show off the amazing efforts our team put in to our facilities.

Long Term Plan digital Engagement

BY BONNIE MAGER Manager - Digital and Communication

AS a part of the preengagement process for the LTP, a new digital engagement tool was launched called "How would you get our city pumping?"

The tool asked members of the public to spend an allocated budget on a series of potential Council projects.

Given its own dedicated website, this simple app was designed to improve digital engagement with the community.

As of 10 November;

- 444 people have used the tool
- · Bluff Projects is the most

popular project, with 17,055 coins given to the project by 301 different people

 Post-covid community support is the least popular project with 1,950 coins allocated by 92 people.

The tools will be active until March, when Long Term Plan consultation begins. At this time, the questions or projects being consulted on may change.

You can check out the tool at www.ourcitywithheart.co.nz









ABOVE: The He Waka Tuia team.

He Waka Tuia's first exhibition draws crowds

BY DAVID DUDFIELD

Curator Manager

SINCE opening to the public in September, He Waka Tuia (art + museum) has been a hive of activity.

In October the combined Invercargill Public Art Gallery (IPAG) and Southland Museum and Art Gallery (SMAG) team have welcomed 2,000 visitors through the doors at He Waka Tuia, including numerous school groups, whanau (families), and curious folk from near and far.

The first exhibition, CHOICE, has proved to be very popular.

This exhibition features a diversity of collections from IPAG and SMAG and was developed from consultation documents

(Art in the Heart 2017 and Our Tale 2018) to reflect the community's desires to experience and engage with their museums and galleries.

This has been an excellent opportunity for our team to test new exhibition ideas, to work with community groups and iwi, to work on and provide public access to the collections, and to gather valuable feedback for future developments.

Stay tuned for a new exhibition in 2021!