



# WATERFRONT WATCH INC

PO Box 19045, Courtenay Place, Wellington 6149

Founded in 1995

[waterfrontwatch@xtra.co.nz](mailto:waterfrontwatch@xtra.co.nz)

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## NEWSLETTER 74 – December 2010

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The Committee wishes to thank you for your welcome expressions of support and generous donations during the year. In moments when it seems we are making little progress in our endeavours to keep the Waterfront free from more buildings this encouragement is what sustains us.

We are fortunate to have among our members and friends the team of Mary Varnham, Russell Tregonning, Charlotte Hird and David Hamilton (photography) who designed and wrote the excellent pamphlets outlining the impact on the Waterfront of the proposed Plan Change -Variation 11. We thank the volunteers who delivered pamphlets to letterboxes in many areas resulting in new supporters and generous donations.

### **Variation 11 Appeal:**

It is now 12 months since we filed the Appeal and to date there has been no advice of Court directed mediation. In June we attended informal talks with council and Wellington Waterfront Ltd (WWL) to give both parties the opportunity to consider respective positions. If our position could be accommodated this would offer resolution. To date, no response has been received. Our lawyer has had two preliminary discussions with the urban design council officer and at our request has called for another meeting in the New Year. With so little information available this is the reason for the lateness of this newsletter.

The Historic Places Trust is the other appellant in the Appeal to the Environment Court and, they too, have had no follow-up to their original “without prejudice” meeting.

### **Wellington Waterfront Ltd:**

Wellington City Council is to consider a recommendation from the Board of Wellington Waterfront Ltd (WWL) that the company be reviewed next year in light of the effect of the global financial crisis on property development. The report on the proposed review is to be considered by the Council on 15<sup>th</sup> December and is expected to take up to six

weeks. We recommend an article in Wellington Scoop, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010, “The end is near on the waterfront”. <http://wellington.scoop.co.nz/?p=30005>

### **Blue Skies Competition:**

Many of our members submitted ideas to the competition for the Queens Wharf area over 12 months ago and although winning designs were published there has been no official press release of the final decisions. In July a press release from WWL Steering Group advised that the TSB Arena was facing the wrecking ball. However, in November there was a press release from the Council City Services Director about a survey whether to build a bigger TSB Bank Arena.

### **Meet the Mayor:**

Pauline Swann and Chris Greenwood recently attended a “Meet the Mayor and Councillors” meeting which was based on small group conversations dealing with the aims and aspirations of the various groups present. As a result of the resolution passed at our AGM our focus was on how Waterfront Watch and the Council could work together. We requested regular meetings with increased opportunities for real dialogue; involvement in the policy direction of the Waterfront with a Council Liaison Officer; and suggested that bringing Council Controlled Organisations back into council would save money. We also made the point, that with the increase in inner city living the waterfront is the future playground of Wellington.

### **Fundraising Subcommittee:**

We were pleased to welcome Alana Bowman and John Galloway to our subcommittee and under Pat Linney’s direction we held two successful functions at Crossways with guest speakers, Peter McLeavey and Christopher Salmon. We have also held several pre-loved clothing and book sales and once again thank members for your contributions. We plan to continue fundraising next year.

### **Port Nicholson Yacht Club proposal for Clyde Quay Boat Harbour:**

We attended the Open Day and recommend you visit their website [www.rpnyc.org.nz](http://www.rpnyc.org.nz) or visit their clubhouse to view the design brief.

**NB: Please find enclosed a further copy of the pamphlet as we appreciate not all areas were covered in the letterbox drops.**

We extend our best wishes to you for the holiday season and express our appreciation for your support.

**President: Pauline Swann, Vice-President: David Lee Secretary: Chris Greenwood  
Committee: Ron Oliver, Pat Linney, Katie Underwood, Norman Fraser, Johnny Williams,  
Mary McNamara**