

The Friends of Old St Paul's Society Inc

*Newsletter and
Notice of AGM 28 March 2023*



Dear Friends,

The new OSP Altar Frontals

We look forward to welcoming you to the Friends AGM on Tuesday 28 March, at 5.30pm in Old St Paul's Church, Mulgrave Street, Thorndon. The Notice of Meeting/Agenda is attached to this newsletter.

Last month saw a very special event to officially unveil Old St Paul's beautiful new altar frontals. Created and skilfully stitched by Margaret Cull, Dorothy Bradey and Anne Williams of the Wellington Cathedral Linen Guild, with design input from Matt Lawrence, the ivory silk damask lights up the Sanctuary. Exquisitely embroidered red, white, and blue native flowers run along the altar, while on the three panels below Christian symbols reference OSP's 98 years as the Anglican Thorndon Parish Church and Diocesan Pro-Cathedral.

The old frontals will now be conserved and protected with St Paul's collection of historic textiles. The oldest date back to 1886, and even the newest to 1940. Check them out in the textile cabinet in the north transept.



We are delighted that Margaret Cull will be **guest speaker at the AGM. Come and join us** to hear the story behind the design and creation of these beautiful new taonga.

After the disruption of the past two years, it was wonderful to welcome so many of you back to our annual Citizens Christmas Carol Service in December. A huge thank you to all who contributed their talents to a lovely service – the nimble-fingered bell ringers of the Wellington Combined Society of Bellringers, the terrific Hutt City Brass Band with Director Matthew Stein and the magnificent Bach Choir of Wellington with Director Shawn Condon, and the Three Kings soloists.

A huge thank you also to Acting Dean Canon Katie Lawrence for leading the service and to the Friend's own Musical Director, David Trott, for his usual superb organisation, and to all the excellent readers. Singing Christmas Carols in a beautifully decorated Old St Paul's is always a magical start to the festive season.



2022 Christmas Carols at Old St Pauls, with the Wellington Bach Choir and a flock of angelic children.

And finally, a huge thank you also for your generous support of our traditional pantry goods collection, which this year went to the Wellington City Mission for their new Social Supermarket. City Missioner Murray Edridge and his team send you their grateful thanks.

Be sure to mark your diary now for this year's Friends' **Citizens Carol Service, Tuesday 5 December 2023 at 6.30 pm.**



After the quiet years of pandemic disruption, it is exciting to see cruise ships arriving daily in our harbour, and know that Old St Paul's Property Lead, Tamara Patten, her staff, and team of dedicated volunteer hosts are again very busy with visitors and exciting events, and weddings!

We are delighted that OSO's very popular **Thursday lunch-time Winter Concerts** will return mid-May. Watch out for details on the OSP webpage and come and enjoy some exciting musicians.

If you have received this newsletter by post and would like to receive it by e-mail, please contact the FOSP Secretary Carla - membership@friendsofoldstpauls.org.nz

Going electronic enables us to quickly update you with news and exciting events at Old St Paul's and brings significant cost savings.

Please feel free to share this newsletter with family and friends. And do encourage them to join the Friends so that we can continue to support the preservation of Wellington's most magnificent heritage building. If you would be interested in joining the Committee, please also get in touch.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Friends AGM on Tuesday 28 March 2023.

Ngā mihi nui,

Elizabeth Kay, Chair

The Friends of Old St Paul's Society Inc.

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