

## St Mary of the Angels re-strengthened and restored to full glory



### Public thanks

*Just a note of thanks from a Wellington resident to your company, its management and its staff for the great job you have done on St Mary of the Angels and your other earlier work on heritage buildings in Wellington, quite apart from your commercial undertakings. Wellington is fortunate to have you.*

*- Tony Doogue*

The re-opening of St Mary of the Angels in Boulcott Street after four years' re-strengthening featured on national television on 12 April.

The church looks magnificent with no indication of the massive structural works behind the new paint and plaster that have brought it up to nearly 100% of the building code.

St Mary's was closed after earthquakes in 2013. The \$9.5 million re-strengthening was funded out of grants and donations so tight budgets put a lot of pressure on the job. As a result, the LTM team came up with several innovations.

A key one was a rolling gantry, similar to a huge waterfront crane, that supported the roof and walls while each of the 10 massive portals and their columns were worked on.

Traditional methods would have meant putting up extensive scaffolding for each portal, dismantling it then re-erecting it for the next one. But rolling the gantry from portal to portal slashed months off the programme. With the constant risk of further earthquakes, the gantry also provided a safe overhead structure for the workers below.

The scale of the job was huge. For the foundations alone, about 100 truckloads of concrete were poured around 140 tonnes of reinforcing steel in the ground beams that

run the length of the church. These groundworks could progress while the gantry was rolled along through the church. St Mary's passed its first big test, a 7.8 earthquake in November last year after the structural works had been completed, with flying colours. Engineers couldn't find a single crack.

The LTM team takes a lot of pride in the fact that most visitors who marvel at the restored interior think the portals and columns are originals.

Wellington has around 600 earthquake-prone buildings and many owners are looking at St Mary's as an example of what can be achieved. Visitors from Christchurch and Auckland, including Anglican church members, city officials and engineers, have also come to see what can be learnt.



## Les 'the Legend' retires

Les Taylor started working for LTM in 1992. The contract was Honda Cars on Kent Terrace. His company, Steel Structures, had previously carried out major contracts in Wellington including the RA Vance stand at the Basin Reserve and large cool stores in Seaview.

The Honda contract had significant structural challenges including exposed curved steelwork which Les completed successfully. From then on, Les became a fixture around LTM sites. He's been involved in Odlins, Moore Wilsons, Shed 22 and Clyde Quay



Les (centre) at his farewell with Peter and Brian McGuinness on 21 April. Les, 88, first worked for LTM as a youthful 64-year-old.

Wharf, to name but a few.

What makes Les so special is the fact he is retiring at 88 years of age, after 70 years in the industry. This is an incredible work record which rightly gives Les the right to be called a 'legend'. His work ethic, positive attitude and excellent health have been an inspiration to us all. It's said he visited a doctor for the first time in his life three years ago.

In his retirement Les will spend more time with his lovely wife Joy. However, not all is lost - his other role will be captain of the LTM Business House Bowls team. Les is looking forward to time on the green and inspiring the team to further success.

Best wishes from us all, Les, in your retirement.



At the same function, two LTM apprentices were presented with their carpenter's tickets. At left is Phillip Stevens with Sean McGuinness.

Far left: Evan Anderson is presented his certificate by Bill Manuel.

## Bowen time capsule hits the headlines

A chance find by LTM quantity surveyor Russell Mulder ended up on national news in



TV cameras zoom in as Russell gets the cutters on to the time capsule.

April. Russell and his team were salvaging parts of the Bowen State Building lobby when they came across a time capsule that had been placed behind a plaque before the building was opened in 1962.

It was quite easy to remove, Russell says, although it took Heritage, Arts and Culture Minister Maggie Barry 10 minutes to open it with the help of metal cutters when TVNZ news covered the event.

As well as coins and an *Evening Post* newspaper,

the 100mm copper pipe held documents with building specifications, official site records, and photos of the building during construction. Whoever stored that material would never have dreamt that one day it would all be available online.

Similar capsules have been found during construction on Old St Paul's church and the Supreme Court but this is the first on an LTM job.



Aaron McGuinness (blue hat, right) showed a large group of carpentry students from Whitireia and Weltec polytechs and their tutors around the Cub-Dixon site in February.

## Great day out to mark Dion's 30 years with LTM

Dion Russell's 30-plus years with LTM were marked by a day on the Mornington golf course at the end of March. Dion started on 7 August 1986 and the occasion was celebrated by lunch and golf with over 30 workmates, then dinner where family and friends further swelled the numbers.

The hosts enjoyed the occasion too, with caterer



Angie Stain saying she had a great day looking after everyone. "I was particularly moved by Peter [McGuinness]'s speech about Dion and the obvious high esteem in which he is held, as shown by the spontaneous haka for him."

Dion, a Site and Project Manager, thanked everyone and said a good day and night was had by all: "It was just what I wanted to celebrate the milestone".



## Health and safety prizes: be in to win!

*'Make it your mission not to work in unsafe conditions'.*

A simple but true statement. Why work in an unsafe situation if you can do something about it?!

Through Site Improvement notices you can advise management of a situation *and* go in for a prize draw at the end of the month.

Some great prizes given to sub-contractors and LTM people alike over the past few months include a Weber BBQ won by James Leach on the Bowen Project. Recent green-card prizes on other jobs include a Bluetooth Bose speaker system, tools, equipment, vouchers and a bike (*see right*).

LTM encourages and rewards those who go the extra mile to ensure the safety of themselves and others. Those people are the backbone of a safety culture in the business, so become one and help make our sites safer and happier places to work.

You know what they say: 'You've got to be in it to win', so pick up a Safety Improvement Form from the sign-in area on your site today. Fill in the steps you've taken to manage a hazard/risk you have identified, and tell us what you've done to rectify it (if safe to do so).

Then give the completed form to your manager or Health and Safety Officer who will give you a green card and enter you into the prize draw. You never

know your luck; you may be the next winner!



**PRIZE-WINNING GENEROSITY:** Multi Civil driver Les donated his green-card prize to Latham.

Latham Granville, a young man who washes the Multi Civil guys' trucks on Sundays for pocket money, recently benefitted from a great act of generosity by Les, one of the drivers.

Every day, Latham cycles from Trentham to WelTec in Petone. However, after his bike broke he was finding the daily train commute pretty costly.

Meanwhile, Les had won a flash new bike in the health and safety draw for green-card winners on the Bowen campus. Knowing of Latham's plight, Les decided to donate his prize to Latham.

## From brewing to exercise science

The old timbers in Lion's former Newmarket brewery will get a new lease of life when the timber truss building is converted into a state-of-the-art exercise science facility.

The eight-month project, B907, with Steve Armstrong and John Harrison leading the site management team, is LTM's second for the University of Auckland.

The first step will see strengthening of the original timber trusses, which support a roof built from old barrels. Then new concrete foundations, blockwork



An artist's impression of the converted brewery.

and a new timber-framed mezzanine floor will be built. Aluminium windows will clad the new exterior openings while internally, laboratories, offices, meeting rooms and a large new gym are fitted out.

## RLB bag second Bowen Cup

RLB won the Bowen Cup for the second time after a fun-packed evening of bowling hosted by Warren & Mahoney. RLB's first cup victory may have been controversial but this time they were worthy winners beating the second-placed LTM team by over 100 points.

NDY were touted as early favourites, with Francisco rumoured to be an ex-pro after he was spotted warming up while the other bowlers supped a pre-match beer.

Consistency was the downfall of many players but WAM's David G managed some double strikes and even a Turkey (triple strike).

The evening's highlight came from a premature victory celebration by RLB's Rob. Not realising a second game was due, Rob went to claim the Cup from the well-oiled lanes where everybody could see it. His eyes were not so focused, however. No injuries were sustained in his tumble.

The second game saw new tactics from LTM's Chris, who utilised the kids' ramp to convert a spare. But no one could catch RLB and Rob, Hayden and Bevan finished the job with ease.

At the other end of the table, an unbelievable 175 by WAM's Scott sealed Precinct's fate as wooden spooners. Thanks to WAM for organising it all, and the Bowen team looks forward to the next clash.

**Results: 1 RLB. 2 LTM. 3 RCP. Wooden Spoon Precinct.**

### JOB FOR AN EXPERT:

You might think anyone can wave a watering can over the plants in LTM's newly-refurbished offices in Francis Place. But if you want an expert, green-fingered Dave Aldred, who has a degree in horticulture, is the man for the job.



## Joe's perfectionist eye pays off

The architect on a job at 157 Lambton Quay has told the building owner they would waive the remaining \$800 of their fixed fee proposal for contract observation of the bathrooms on L12.

"LT McGuinness did such a great quality job we simply did not need to be involved," the architect said. He added, "It is easy to pay attention to the big jobs but Joe from LTM is a perfectionist and a great finisher on a small messy job."

The happy owner said it reflects having the right people on the team. "Thanks to you all for such a great project, but particularly Scotty and Joe for the proactive 'no trouble' approach."

## Award winners

### Award-winning student:

LTM Project Manager Bob Walker (left) with Whitireia student, Hugo Sorenson, who won one of three scholarships that LTM



sponsors as part

of the Whitireia Foundation Scholarships. Bob presented the award at a ceremony in March on the Porirua campus. Hugo is studying for a NZ Certificate in Construction Trade Skills.

**Award-winning project:** the Cenotaph Precinct won the top award in its category of 'Urban Spaces' at the New Zealand of Landscape Architects awards in April 2017. Architects Wraight + Associates passed on their thanks to LTM: "Congrats, as you were 99.9% responsible for the project's success."

