

Canterbury SOCIETY OF ARTS Newsletter

Nov 1964
11

Notice is hereby given that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society will be held at the Durham Street Art Gallery on MONDAY 21st day of DECEMBER 1964 at 8 p.m.

BUSINESS - NEW GALLERY

1. To consider and if thought fit to pass the following resolution to be moved by the President on behalf of the Council.

"That the Council of the Society be empowered to sell the Society's property at the corner of Durham and Armagh Streets, Christchurch, to the Department of Justice for a sum not less than £23,000. and upon such other terms and conditions as the Council thinks fit; and the Council be further empowered to purchase or otherwise acquire a suitable site for the Society's New Gallery upon such terms and conditions as the Council thinks fit and to erect thereon a New Gallery for the Society".

*Carried
unanimously
proposed
by Chairman
Seconded
by Mr
GCC
Sawston*

Art Gallery, Durham Street
P. O. Box 772,
Christchurch.
3rd December, 1964.

Barbara Brooke
Acting Secretary Treasurer

In accordance with the Society's rules, it is necessary for the Council to obtain the consent of members at a special meeting called for the purpose to sell the property of the Society, and to buy land replacing the present site.

The Council greatly regrets the necessity of moving from our present site and gallery, which has served us well for many years and has a very good location, but the Council is unanimous in its view that our Gallery is quite inadequate for the future needs of the Society in our growing city. The Council has found that the cost of restoring the present gallery to anything like the requirements of the future is well beyond the resources of the Society and we are unable to borrow for the purpose.

The reason for this is that our land was granted to the Society pursuant to special Acts of Parliament in 1889 and 1891 whereby we hold the property in trust to be used solely for the purposes of fine arts. Because of this very restrictive clause on our title to the property, the Council is unable to borrow money to rebuild on our present site or to carry out the extensive alterations that would be essential to restore our inadequate gallery for the future. The Society has only about £2,000. in the rebuilding fund, which is far from sufficient.

Members have already been informed that a grant of £20,000. will be made by the Trustees of the Golden Kiwi Lottery Board to enable us to rebuild

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ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY OF ARTS

Notice is hereby given that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society will be held at the Durham Street Art Gallery on MONDAY first day of DECEMBER 1984 at 8 p.m.

BUSINESS - NEW GALLERY

1. To consider and if thought fit to pass the following resolution to be moved by the President on behalf of the Council:

"That the Council of the Society be empowered to sell the Society's property at the corner of Durham and Arnscliffe Streets, Christchurch, to the Department of Justice for a sum not less than £25,000, and upon such other terms and conditions as the Council think fit; and the Council be further empowered to purchase or otherwise acquire a suitable site for the Society's New Gallery upon such terms and conditions as the Council think fit and to erect thereon a New Gallery for the Society."

Barbara Brooks
Acting Secretary
Treasurer

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Acting Secretary/Treasurer

Art Gallery, Durham Street
P. O. Box 772,
Christchurch.
3rd December, 1984.

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Members have already been informed that a grant of £20,000 will be made by the Trustees of the Golden Fleece Lottery Board to enable us to rebuild

elsewhere. In addition, an offer of £23,000. has been made for the Society's property by the Department of Justice which wishes to acquire our land and building for extensions to the Law Courts.

IF THEREFORE THE SOCIETY ACCEPTS THE OFFER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THUS RECEIVES THE GRANT OF £20,000., A TOTAL SUM OF £43,000. WILL BE OBTAINED WITH WHICH TO ACQUIRE A NEW SITE AND A NEW GALLERY.

It has been estimated by the Council's advisers that about £60,000. may be required to enable us to buy a suitable site and build. This means that a further amount of approximately £20,000. may need to be raised. The Council has made enquiries from the Canterbury Savings Bank, which adopts a public spirited attitude toward our project, and is prepared to consider making available to us a suitable loan on first mortgage on the security of freehold property of the Society. The Society's income is sufficient to enable us to meet the annual interest charges on a loan of say £20,000. and it is expected that rentals and other income available to the Society in the future will further supplement our income.

THE PLAN OUTLINED ABOVE IS THEREFORE A PRACTICAL PLAN WHICH CAN BE IMPLEMENTED WITH LITTLE DELAY IF THE ABOVE RESOLUTION IS APPROVED BY MEMBERS.

Your attendance at the Special Meeting on 21st December is requested.

IF THE RESOLUTION IS APPROVED, MEMBERS CAN LOOK FORWARD TO A NEW GALLERY SOME TIME IN 1966. THE COUNCIL SUPPORTS THE RESOLUTION. BY VOTING IN FAVOUR OF THE RESOLUTION YOU CAN SUPPORT TWO FINE OBJECTIVES IN CHRISTCHURCH - A NEW GALLERY AND NEW LAW COURTS BUILDINGS.

The Council is anxious to acquire the best site available and wishes to assure all members of this. We are investigating several possibilities with this intention.

NOTE: The Meeting is a domestic one and members only should attend.

The Meeting is not open to the press.

PERMANENT COLLECTION

At present showing in the Gallery, Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. is a major part of the Permanent Collection of the Society. The Council feels this exhibition will be of interest to members, as these are works of art bought or donated over a period from 1880 to the present day.

Works showing in the North Gallery include a portrait by J.L. Balfour of Captain Christopher Garsia, the first Secretary-Treasurer of the Society (1885 - 1896), a watercolour of the Nelson district (1881) by John Gully, given to the Society by Mrs. Garsia, several paintings by W. Menzies Gibb, some by J.M. Madden, a painting of Lake Wakatipu by T. S. Cousins bought in 1885, a large oil of Mt Cook from the Tasman Valley, by L.W. Wilson, bought in 1887, a portrait of the late W. Menzies Gibb by the late Archibald Nicoll O.B.E., and a bronze bust of Archibald Nicoll by Francis A. Shurrock (a memorial to Mr. Nicoll). There are several watercolours by the late Miss M. O. Stoddart, the large oil, "Otira", by Van der Velden, purchased in 1912, and more recent acquisitions, on exhibition in the South Gallery.

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| Mr. R.D. Clark | Miss Eileen Mayo |
| Mr. J.P. Dool | Mr. R.A. Mark |
| Mr. L.J. Milnes | Mr. R.K. Panofsky |
| Mr. Green-Smyth | Mr. I. Flawright |
| | Mrs. John Wilcox |

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Works showing in the North Gallery include a portrait by J.L. Ballou of Captain Christopher Garcia, the first Secretary-Treasurer of the Society (1885 - 1895), a watercolour of the Nelson district (1881) by John Gully, given to the Society by Mr. Gully, several paintings by W. Menzies Gibb, some by J.M. Hobden, a painting of Lake Wakatipu by T.S. Coomans bought in 1885, a large oil of Mt Cook from the Tasman Valley, by J.V. Wilson, bought in 1887, a portrait of the late W. Menzies Gibb by the late Archibald Nicoll (O.B.E.), and a bronze bust of Archibald Nicoll by Francis A. Sparrock (a memorial to Mr. Nicoll). There are several watercolours by the late Miss M. O. Stoddart, the large oil, "Utira", by Van der Velden, purchased in 1912, and more recent acquisitions, an exhibition in the South Gallery.