

## 10. ANDREW JOHNSON: PROPOSED MEMORIAL

<b>Officer responsible</b> Parks and Waterways Manager	<b>Author</b> Warwick Scadden, Parks and Waterways Area Advocate, DDI 941 6614
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The purpose of this report is to obtain the Board's approval for a proposed memorial in honour of Andrew Johnson on the Heathcote riverbank.

### BACKGROUND

At the Board meeting of 6 August 2003, when considering a report on the children's playground at Radley Street, the Board resolved:

1. That the matter be deferred until a permanent memorial to Andrew Johnson is established in the area previously known as 'Johnson's Fishponds'.
2. That the children's playground in Radley Street be renamed McCombs Memorial Children's Playground once a memorial to Andrew Johnson has been established.
3. That the Board engage with local iwi regarding progressing naming part of the Heathcote riverbank as a memorial to Andrew Johnson.

### DISCUSSIONS WITH LOCAL IWI

In discussion with Otautahi representatives, Reverend Maurice Gray and Louise Tankersley, it has been suggested that a cairn or seat incorporating aspects of Andrew Johnson's work would be appropriate placed on the Heathcote riverbank.

### PROPOSAL

A plan has been prepared by Landscape Architect Dennis Preston for a site on the Heathcote riverbank on Clarendon Terrace at the junction with Sheldon Street. Andrew Johnson's property ('Troutdale Farm') was in the block bounded by Sheldon, Radley, Marshall Streets and Clarendon Terrace. The proposal incorporates a curved concrete backed seat, four metres long, with a timber seat base. A mosaic of images associated with Andrew Johnston's pleasure grounds, hatchery and aquariums established at Troutdale Farm, could be incorporated into the seat back. The mosaic could be produced from drawings supplied by a local school or commissioned.

A plaque set in the seating area could record Mr Johnson's early association with the Acclimatisation Society, and the link with the hatchery in Hagley Park, together with the resulting introduction of trout to the Canterbury area.

As shown on the attached plan, the seating area could provide delightful views along the Heathcote River, and because the site chosen is among the widest grassed areas of riverbank, the intrusion of vehicular noise would be minimal.

An estimated cost for the work is \$12,000.

### SUMMARY

It is considered that the proposed seating area, mosaic and plaque would be a suitable permanent memorial to Andrew Johnson.

Furthermore, if approved, it would allow the resolution of the Board on 6 August 2003 regarding the Radley Playground, to be implemented.

**Staff****Recommendation:**

1. That the plan for a memorial to Andrew Johnson on the Heathcote Riverbank at the junction of Clarendon Terrace and Sheldon Street be approved.
2. That consultation be conducted with local residents on the position and orientation of the memorial.
3. That an application be made for \$8,000 from the Integrated Artworks Fund for this project.

**Chairperson's****Recommendation:**

For discussion.