The Bridge of Remembrance – of sacrifices made

Originally designed and built to mark the sacrifice of those who served in the Great War (World War One, 1914 – 1918) this has become a place where later conflicts have also been commemorated.

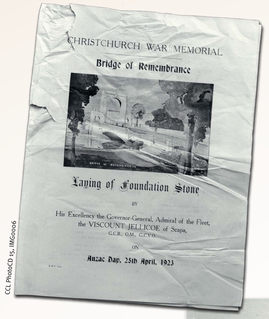
An uncertain beginning, until agreement at last

Following the end of World War One (1914-18) debate raged for months over several proposals for memorials at different locations.

A Bridge of Remembrance in Cashel Street was proposed in a letter to the *Press* by L. W. Irwin in July 1919.

It was reported in June 1920 that plans and fundraising for a memorial at the site would go ahead.

The winning design came from Auckland architect, W.H. Gummer of Messrs Prouse and Gummer.


CHRISTCHURCH WAR MEMORIAL

Bridge of Remembrance

Laying of Foundation Stone

BY

His Excellency the Governor General, Admiral of the Fleet, the VISCOUNT JELLICOE of Scapa, G.C.B., G.M., G.C.V.O.

ON

Anzac Day, 25th April, 1923

CCL PhotoCD 15, IMG0006

The laying of the foundation stone of the Bridge of Remembrance took place on 25 April 1923, with the full dedication on 11 November 1924.

CCL PhotoCD 15, IMG0008

Major-General Sir Andrew Russell makes a stirring speech to those assembled at the foundation stone ceremony, Bridge of Remembrance.

CCL PhotoCD 17, IMG0007

The Territorials cross the Bridge of Remembrance on the way to King Edward Barracks, 25 April 1926.

Bridge of Remembrance, the Memorial Arch and the Canterbury Earthquakes

The Bridge of Remembrance was structurally damaged in the 22 February 2011 earthquake. There was no apparent worsening of the structure as a result of the aftershocks on 13 June and 23 December 2011.

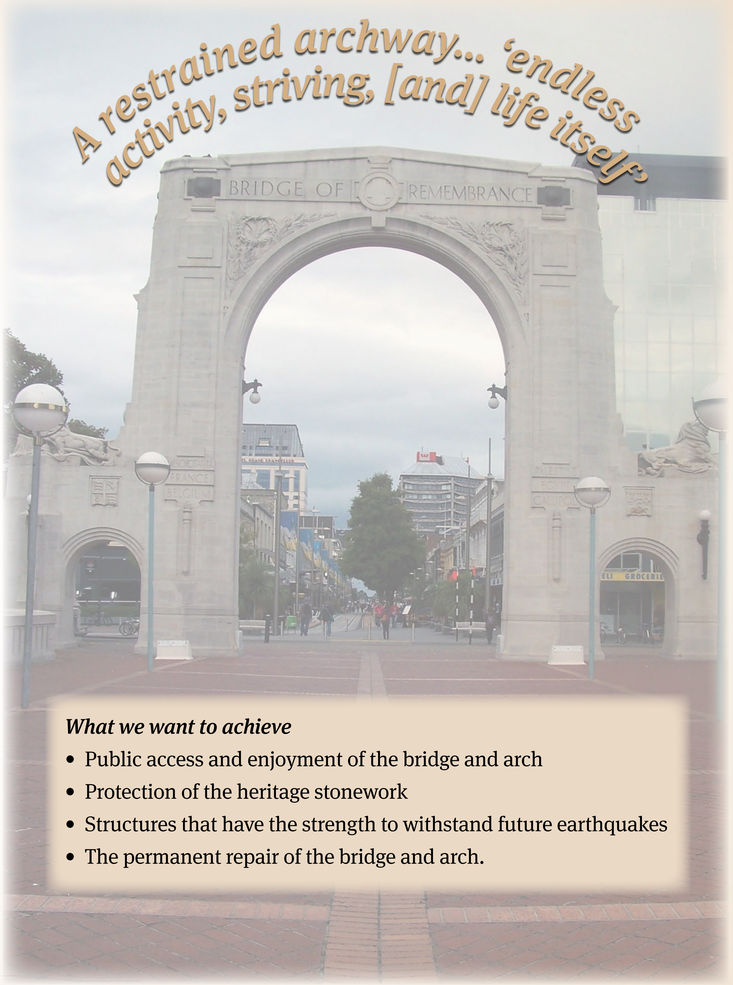
For information about the Bridge of Remembrance following the Canterbury Earthquakes please go to: **www.ccc.govt.nz/councilheritageassets**

...“symbolising in a most appropriate and beautiful form the ideals for which our soldiers fought”

Wyn Irwin,
secretary of the Bridge of Remembrance Committee

Laurel wreaths (for victory) ...rosemary (for remembrance)

Imperial lions



What we want to achieve

- Public access and enjoyment of the bridge and arch
- Protection of the heritage stonework
- Structures that have the strength to withstand future earthquakes
- The permanent repair of the bridge and arch.

Christchurch City Council