

Celebrating Wellington Cable Car's Engineering Heritage

A plaque celebrating the engineering heritage of Wellington's iconic Cable Car was unveiled on 15 April by the capital's Mayor, Celia Wade-Brown.

Speakers at the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (IPENZ) event held in the Cable Car's Kelburn Terminus included Simon Fleisher, Wellington Cable Car Limited's Chief Executive Officer, who outlined some of the Cable Car's history.

Opened in 1902 as a combined cable tramway and funicular, the Cable Car is one of the best-known works of prominent New Zealand engineer James Fulton. Although it has been extensively modernised, the Cable Car still uses the original tunnels and formation. Residents and Victoria University of Wellington students use it daily and it is a popular tourist attraction.

Roy Sharp, IPENZ's Wellington Heritage Chapter Chair, said the IPENZ plaque recognises the Cable Car as "one of New Zealand's engineering achievements of outstanding heritage significance." Wellingtonians know it is a special feature of the city, but today's plaque unveiling was a way of formally acknowledging and celebrating the Cable Car's importance.

Further information about the Cable Car's engineering heritage values can be found on the IPENZ website: www.ipenz.org.nz/heritage/itemdetail.cfm?itemid=207



Roy Sharp and Mayor Celia Wade-Brown unveiling the plaque.

