



Whirinaki
Whare Taonga
ARTS | CULTURE | EVENTS

Annual Report 2024-2025 **Financial and Non-Financial Performance**

SUBMITTED TO UPPER HUTT CITY COUNCIL

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Our Vision

To build social cohesion and improve citizen well-being through engaging, enriching, inspiring, and connecting people with arts, culture, and events in the Upper Hutt community.

Mā ngā mahi toi, mā te ahurea, mā te huihuinga tāngata te hāpori e mīharo, e tūmeke, e tūhono ai.

From the Chair

Kia Ora Tatou,

Happy Birthday! Whirinaki turned 21 this year and it was a pleasure to celebrate the milestone alongside all the previous Board Chairs, Mayor Guppy, Councillors, past and present staff and board members, and the public. Whirinaki has evolved and matured over those 21 years and the vision and determination of many individuals over the years has been inspirational. I am excited to see how the Trust, facility and programmes will continue to grow in the coming years to meet the growing and diverse needs of our community here in Upper Hutt.

The year began with new Trustee Alicia Rosevear joining the board and the successful signing of the Council/Trustee agreement in the Council Chambers in July. This gives the Trust three years funding security from 2024-2027 as outlined in the Council's Long-Term Plan and in the Whirinaki Statement of Intent. This allows the Trust to continue to operate and open its doors. The extra funding for inspirational exhibitions, musical and artistic performances come from donations, sponsorship, venue hire, shops sales, and funding grant applications. In the current climate with increasing costs, charitable trusts such as Whirinaki are very much reliant on these extra sources and the creativity of the entire Whirinaki staff team.

As such the Trust is very grateful to the following local businesses who have agreed to support and sponsor us through naming rights renewed in 2024: The Mitre 10 Gallery for another 10 years, Mangaroa Farms Gallery for 10 years and the Dan and Mark Professionals Recreation Hall for five years.

Whirinaki like many other charities has had to cut its cloth to meet the funds available. As such the Upper Hutt site closed in June/July 2024 and new opening times were introduced along with closures on some public holidays. Despite this we continue to provide

free educational outside the classroom programmes for school students in Upper Hutt!

As Chair I was thrilled with the distinction and opportunity offered to our Director Leanne Wickham to be a keynote speaker at the Museum Connection conference in Paris, in January 2025. Leanne took Upper Hutt and New Zealand to the rest of the world, and brought back connections, ideas and inspiration you will see at Whirinaki in the coming years. The board and I are excited to see what comes from these connections over the coming years.

The 2024-2025 programme of events and exhibitions continued the high calibre that the Upper Hutt community has come to expect. We started the year with Medieval to Metal: the art and evolution of the guitar. A first for this exhibition to be shown outside America with some unique and rare instruments. Following this we embraced the Upper Hutt's notorious 'Bogan' history with the self-curated exhibition Bodgies to Bogans which was covered well by national media.

This annual report outlines how the venue continues to be centre of the community with many events bringing huge crowds to Upper Hutt, with local sports, dance, craft and art groups bringing a wide diversity of events and people into the facility. Please continue to support the team, events, exhibitions, and performances available to you through the year.

*Nga Mihi nui
Zoe Juniper
Chair*



From the Director

Over the past year, our whare has continued to thrive as a hub for creativity, learning, and connection. With each exhibition, performance, workshop, and gathering, we have welcomed thousands of visitors through our doors—each bringing with them their stories, curiosity, and a shared love of the arts and culture.

This year has been one of exciting new experiences. We've seen the new parts of our community engage with the space in new and meaningful ways, and we've worked hard to ensure that Whirinaki Whare Taonga remains a place where people of all ages, backgrounds, and experiences feel seen, heard, and inspired. We saw this with the magnificent exhibition *Medieval to Metal* from the National Guitar Museum based in New York, featuring 40 Guitars spanning 400 years. This was a show designed to attract new audiences, and it did just that. I loved seeing people who had never visited before coming into the galleries and having a new and inspiring experience. The other bold exhibition that we hosted this year was *Bodgies to Bogans*. This also had the same effect: people in our community (mostly wearing black T-shirts) mostly for the first time and seeing their story on the walls of the gallery. Both these exhibitions are what we are all about, inspiring new people in new ways.

In our performing arts spaces, it has been wonderful to experience the diversity of theatre, dance, and music on offer. From the Royal New Zealand Ballet to local Rock and Roll, comedy cabaret to classical concert and our intimate Late Night Sound Bite series to sold-out children's shows, it has been great to be able to present such diversity.

The 2024 year also saw Whirinaki celebrate our 21st Birthday with a suite of exhibition ranging from Shane Cotton (who we also showcased on our opening week in 2003) and 21 works from 21 Upper Hutt artists. On 26 September we threw a party and invited people in our community, stakeholders, funders, colleagues, artists, and friends to celebrate what the community achieved to get this centre open 21 years ago and to showcase the highlights since then. The speeches, showreel and slide show really spoke to the great work and energy put into the centre, especially from Council, and the team and trustees here at Whirinaki.

As Director I have been at Whirinaki for half of those 21 years and it has been a privilege to lead this amazing team and serve this fabulous community over the last decade. For me personally a highlight this year saw me attend and speak at The Museum Connection conference in Paris, January 2025. The Museum Connection Conference is an international trade fair, focusing on the business and sustainable challenges of museums, cultural and touristic venues, highlighting trends and innovations to imagine tomorrow's visitors' experiences. There were over 5,000 international participants, 383 exhibitors in the trade show and 124 speakers coming from around the world and it was a delight to represent New Zealand as a Keynote speaker about 'Welcoming the Unengaged Visitor'. It truly was an incredible experience, and I thank National Services Professional Development Fund and The French Embassy for their support.

Before I close, I welcome Nathan Keen as our new Exhibition and Events Technician who started in September 2024. We have an amazing team and supportive community and it's such an honour to serve our people. Thank you to the Upper Hutt community and to all our supporters for walking with us through another fabulous year.

Kia kaha, ka kite ano au i a koutou.

Kind regards

Leanne Wickham

Director





Meet the Trustees

Chair: Zoe Juniper

Zoe Juniper has lived in Upper Hutt with her family since immigrating to New Zealand in 2007. Zoe is a talented crafter, working with wool fibres to make and promote wool fibre crafts in the Wellington region. As a member of the Upper Hutt Spinners and Weavers, Zoe is one of the organisers of the annual Capital Fibre Fest. Zoe works for the New Zealand Government as a professionally trained Emergency Manager and Geophysicist, with an MSc in Disaster, Risk & Resilience. Zoe brings a range of skills in governance, planning, and risk management to support Whirinaki Whare Taonga.

Emma Chatterton

Emma Chatterton has lived in Avalon with her husband and four children for the last five years. She is a parliamentary Advisor and has been the Strategic Project Lead for ImpactLab, a Wellington-based company that helps to make investment work for communities. Emma is also an Advisory Board member for Women of Worth charity in Lower Hutt. To the board of Whirinaki, Emma brings the experience of being a professional musician as a pianist and trained teacher; her knowledge of the charitable and philanthropic sector, strategic planning, and public relations; and an understanding of business fundamentals. She holds a Master of Arts (Music) from the University of

Cambridge (UK), a BA(Hons) in English Literature from Victoria University (Wellington), PGCE in Secondary Teaching from Buckingham University (UK), and CORE qualification in Economics, Business Analytics and Financial Accounting from Harvard Business School Online (USA). Emma is a strong advocate of arts education and has facilitated workshops for Music Education New Zealand (MENZA) as well as regularly volunteering in her children's schools and ECE centres as a specialist music teacher.

Angele Toomey

Policy thought leader, diversity champion, evaluator, and poet - Angele Toomey joined the Board in July 2022. Angele is experienced in community-led design and people-centred design principles, as well as governance and strategy development. As a poet, Angele performs regularly around the Wellington region and on Community Access Radio. Angele's first anthology of original work, Harbour, was published in May 2021.

Tim Thorpe

Tim Thorpe is currently the New Zealand manager for an Australian forestry company, the sector in which he originally trained. He has also worked in or consulted for the film, television, and video games sectors over several years as well as in music and museums, including a range of government departments and industry associations. Tim is an amateur musician and a former committee member of the Upper Hutt Mainly Acoustic Music Club. He has lived in Upper Hutt for over 20 years.



Stephen Ward

Stephen is proven senior leader with extensive experience in leadership and management across both private and public sectors in New Zealand and the UK. He is currently the Head of Technology Workforce for BNZ, a role where he is passionate about workforce strategy, leadership practice, culture, and engagement. Stephen has had involvement in the arts for over 20 years, finding a passion in performing arts and musical theatre. Stephen has performed in several productions across both Dunedin and Wellington and also contributed off-stage to various capacities, including serving as a board member. Bringing a wealth of experience in leadership, governance, and strategy, Stephen is pleased to be able to share this with Whirinaki Whare Taonga and make a contribution to the future of arts and culture in Upper Hutt.

Alicia Rosevear

Alicia is currently working as a senior legal counsel for Meridian Energy, providing advice on corporate and commercial issues and navigating the regulatory and governance landscape. She has previously worked in private practice law firms focusing on financial markets and commercial transactions. Alicia is involved in numerous community groups providing governance and strategy support, or as an active participant. She lives in Upper Hutt with her family and is pleased to bring together her passion for the arts and professional experience.

Tania Jones

Tania is the Managing Director of ClearThinking Coaching Ltd and the Business Development lead for Powerdigm the consulting arm of Inspiring Communities. She is currently on sabbatical undertaking PhD research through the School of Management at Victoria University of Wellington, focusing on volunteer involvement in organisations. Tania has had various management, project management, and economic/community development-focused roles, as well as being involved with local government, central government, community, and tertiary education collaborative partnerships. She has had extensive operational experience with the education sector within and across both secondary and tertiary providers particularly with partnerships focused on enterprise education, young entrepreneurs, skill development pathways, industry training, and research/information sharing for improved decision-making and planning.

Orongomai Marae (Special Trust Advisor): Hine Poa

Hine Poa is Orongomai Marae's representative on the Board of Whirinaki. Hine Poa is of Tūhoe and Ngāti Kahungunu descent and is part of the Kaumatua group at Orongomai Marae. Hine was a founding member of the renowned Kapa Haka group Māwai Hakona and has been instrumental in teaching many children throughout the region in te reo and kapa haka. She was involved in the Māori Women's Welfare League and Rimutaka Prison for many years and brings to Whirinaki support and advice in Tikanga Maori and Kaupapa Maori.

Pumpkin Cottage Advisors (Special Trust Advisor): Suzanne Beehre and Nicole Cosgrove

Suzanne Beehre is an art consultant with over 25 years' experience in the art industry. She is the previous owner of Ngaio Fine Arts and has vast experience and knowledge of the Pumpkin Cottage Collection. Suzanne and her father, Max Beer, bought the Lewis-Paape Gallery in Lower Hutt in the early 1980s, developing it into a reputable quality art gallery representing many of New Zealand's best traditional and impressionist artists. They specialised in early investment work with clients throughout New Zealand. Nicole Cosgrove is the current family representative (as per the gift of artwork to the collection from the Cosgrove in 2008). Suzanne and Nicole support Whirinaki with advice and assessment of gifts and bequests of artwork to the Pumpkin Cottage Collection.

Music Advisor (Special Trust Advisor): Sian Williamson

Originally Sian was a pharmacist in the UK and arrived in New Zealand in 1975 with her husband and three children. Since then, she has been a music teacher in Upper Hutt, teaching piano privately and in schools and colleges and was also involved in church music. For many years, Sian has served the Institute of Registered Music Teachers at local and national levels. She organised several national music teacher conferences, engaging internationally acclaimed musicians as presenters. Sian brings a lifetime of experience and contacts throughout New Zealand and beyond to the role of advisor for the classical series.



YAKISHIME

Earth Metamorphosis



Where Shadow
Meets Form 2015-01
Ikura Takashi
2015

Nov 23-Jan 19

Free Entry

Handwritten signature of Ikura Takashi.



Non-Financial Performance

Introduction

This report is prepared to comply with the Trust's agreement with Upper Hutt City Council and the Local Government Act 2002 requirements.

The Trust aims to build social cohesion and improve citizen well-being through engaging, enriching, inspiring, and connecting people with arts, culture, and events in the Upper Hutt community. The Trust is contracted to deliver a quality performing and visual arts programme that promotes an exciting range of activities to respond to and challenge the cultural, recreational, and commercial needs of the community.

The Trust's activities are grouped under headings which indicate the major elements of the Trust's operations as outlined in the Trust's Strategic Framework and the 2024-2025 Statement of Intent. These are:

- To provide arts, culture, and event opportunities and learning for people in Upper Hutt and beyond.
- To be an integral part of the Upper Hutt community, attracting diverse audiences.
- To bring to life art, culture, heritage, and recreation and promote the utilisation of the Centre.
- To be the welcoming face and point of contact for Upper Hutt.
- To provide stewardship, education, and promotion of the Pumpkin Cottage Collection.
- To celebrate and showcase our local Upper Hutt stories across all cultures

The 2024-2027 Statement of Intent also aligns with the seven goals of Upper Hutt City Council's 2022 Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy, which are:

- Support art, culture, and heritage organisations and practitioners.
- Identify, protect, and conserve Upper Hutt's arts, culture, and heritage.
- Grow community participation in and engagement with the arts.
- Grow community understanding of and engagement with Upper Hutt's heritage.
- Showcase Upper Hutt's Māori history and cultural activities.
- Celebrate Upper Hutt's cultural diversity.
- Support destination marketing for the city.

This report covers the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

2024 STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

PURPOSE STATEMENT

(this is why we are here)

To build social cohesion and improve citizen wellbeing through engaging, enriching, inspiring and connecting people with art, culture and events in the Upper Hutt community.

OBJECTIVES OF THE TRUST

(this is what we do)

1. To provide arts, cultural and event opportunities, and learning for the people in Upper Hutt and beyond
2. To be an integral part of the Upper Hutt Community, attracting diverse audiences
3. To bring to life art, culture, heritage, and recreation, and promote the utilisation of the Centre
4. To provide stewardship, education, and promotion of the Pumpkin Cottage Collection
5. To celebrate and showcase our local Upper Hutt stories across all cultures

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

(this is what guides what we do and our decisions)

1. Accessible: we will meet the needs of the community by being accessible
2. Quality: everything we do will be of a professional standard
3. Diverse: we will have broad community and cultural appeal with a popular, engaging, and inclusive programme
4. Inspiring: our exhibitions and events will challenge us and our audiences
5. Bicultural: we will embrace the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
6. Sustainable: we will consider the environment in our operations

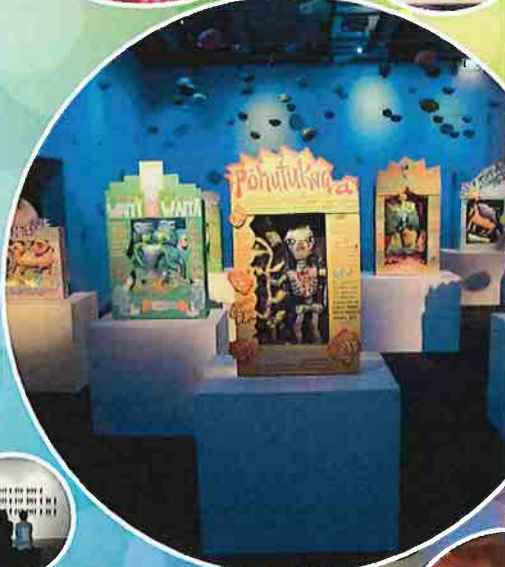
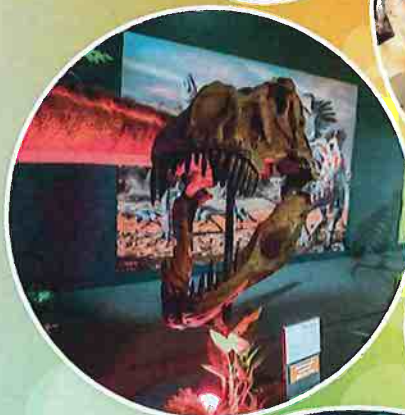
OUR VALUES

(this is how we do what we do)

1. Creative: we will be inspiring, passionate, and nurture creativity
2. Welcoming: we will be customer centered within our team and with those we work with
3. Innovative: we will be clever and resourceful, with a can do, positive attitude
4. Responsive: we will work with each other and with community with openness and flexibility
5. Responsible: we will be stewards of this great asset and run a financially (efficient and effective) organisation
6. Kind: we will look after each other and ensure our people's wellbeing is not harmed

 **Whirinaki Whare Taonga**

ARTS | CULTURE | EVENTS



VISITATION

142,139

142,139 VISITORS

LEARNING



3,235 tamariki attended education programmes (for free)

10 toddlers learned about art every week



EXHIBITIONS



13 EXHIBITIONS

329 artworks and taonga exhibited

140 ARTISTS REPRESENTED



\$7,300

in gallery door donations

135 Friends of Whirinaki

MARKETING & COMMUNICATION



3,588

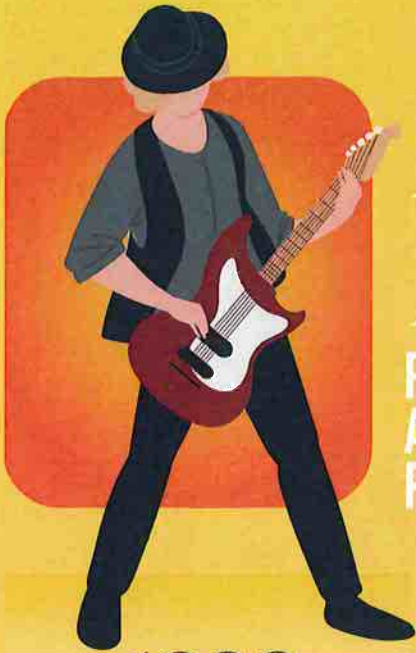
people emailed monthly



Website_users: 31,978
Page_views: 116,743

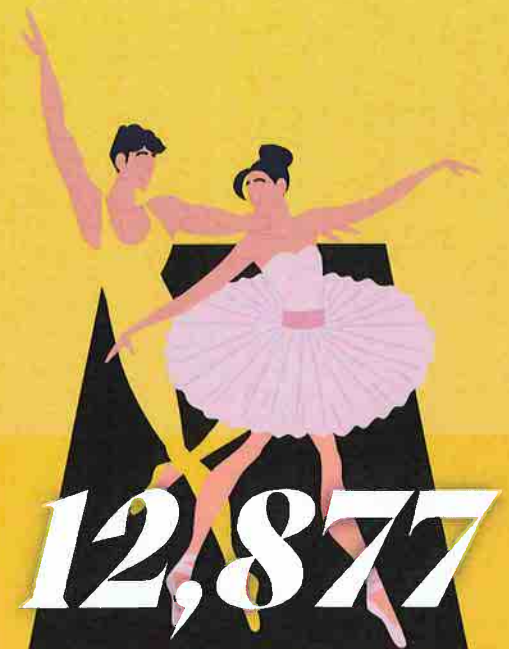


EVENTS



148

PERFORMING
ARTS SHOWS
PRESENTED



12,877

dancers danced on stage

1020
volunteer
hours



1,070 hours
of music, theatre,
and dance performed

TEN
PUBLIC
PROGRAMMES

**63% OF OUR
EVENTS WERE
FREE**

FINANCES

2024-2025

TICKETS SOLD
11,000

836 FERGUSSON DRIVE



ADMISSION



**26% of total
income** was
generated by
the Trust



377 JOBS
CREATED OR
CONTRIBUTED TO

**GREAT
DEAL**
\$23,000
ONLY



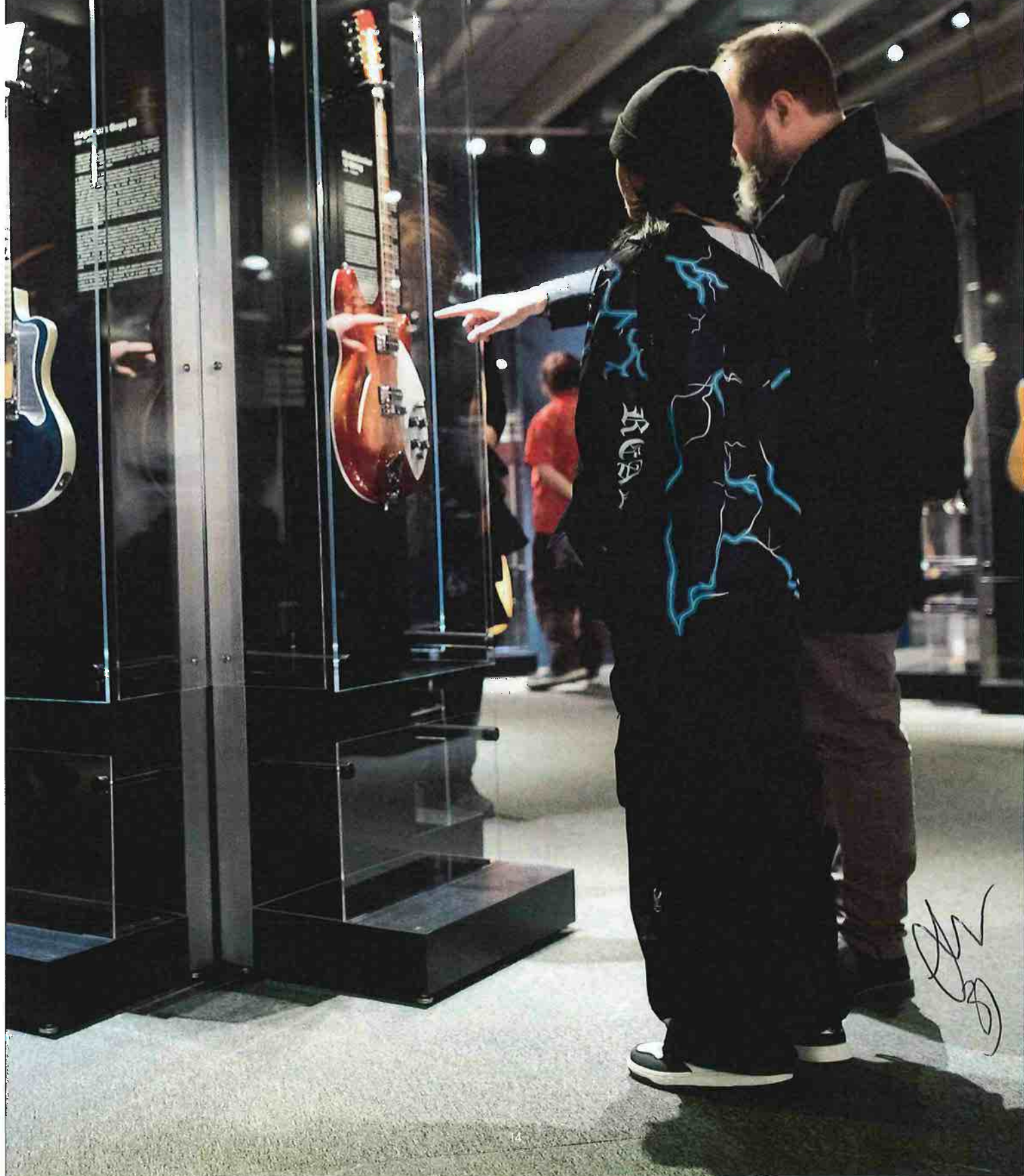
\$6.70
COST TO
COUNCIL
PER VISITOR

2,669 occupied hours

**18 different sponsors
and funding bodies**

\$23,000 (gross)
in shop sales

*1. To provide arts, culture and event opportunities
and learning for people in Upper Hutt and beyond*



Exhibitions Report

13 exhibitions were hosted over the 2024-25 year. There were several highlights from this programme.

Visitors to Whirinaki experienced a wide range of exhibitions and events ranging from Bogans to embroidery, 50 Guitars spanning 400 years, to ancient Japanese pottery.

Medieval to Metal was the highlight exhibition of our year. *Medieval to Metal: The Art & Evolution of the Guitar* featured 40 guitars spanning 400 years, tracing the guitar's beginnings in Asia and Europe through to today's blues, country and rock 'n roll. From the intricately inlaid Moorish oud to the modern Italian design of the Eko and transparent acrylic body of California's BC Rich guitars, the exhibition took visitors through the history and design of an object that is one of the most recognisable items on the planet. The opening was attended by over 140 people and included speeches from HP Newquist, Director of the National Guitar Museum in New York and Steve Joll, presenter from The Breeze. It was an exclusive to Upper Hutt Exhibition which draws a new and unique set of visitors: outside of our usual audience.

Another exhibition that has attracted new audiences was *Bodgies to Bogans*, our major social history exhibition, opening in March 2025. *Bodgies to Bogans* tells the story of youth subculture in Aotearoa, New Zealand. From the juvenile delinquencies and teenager rebellion of the 1950s to the Bogans of the 1980s this exhibition gives a voice to New Zealand youth of the past and of today and celebrates the life of young New Zealanders in changing and challenging times. Whether you were listening to rock and roll, riding motorcycles and drinking milk shakes at milk bars, or growing a mullet and thrashing out the leathers to heavy metal, this exhibition documents the history of youth culture and identity in New Zealand and explores what it means to be a teenager in Aotearoa. This exhibition was curated by the Director with the help and support of many local and national organisations

such as Double Bass and Upper Hutt City Libraries Recollect, and private companies such as Panhead Custom Ales, MC3 Motorcycles, Saturnia Tattoos and Take Me Back.

As part of our 21st birthday we presented a unique suite of exhibitions with a signature showing of works by Shane Cotton, who also featured in our opening exhibition program in 2003. *Shane Cotton: From Here To Now, Mai I Konei Ki Tenei Wa* opened 21 years later on 26 September. Shane Cotton (Ngāti Rangi, Ngāti Hine, Te Uri Taniwha) is a prominent New Zealand artist renowned for his captivating contributions to contemporary art. Born in Upper Hutt, New Zealand, in 1964, Cotton's artistic journey traces its roots back to the formative years spent in this region during the '60s and '70s. Today, Shane Cotton stands as a luminary in the art world, continuously inspiring audiences with thought-provoking creations that seamlessly bridge the traditional and the contemporary.

In celebration of Whirinaki Whare Taonga 21st birthday, we honoured one of Upper Hutt's most renowned artists with a collection of artworks spanning Shane's illustrious career. *21 Small Works by 21 Upper Hutt Artists* also featured for our birthday, a vibrant and eclectic exhibition that celebrates the rich diversity, boundless creativity, and unique perspectives of 21 talented artists from Upper Hutt.

Art Lab, a dedicated space for children to make and create opened on the 15 Feb. For three months this gallery has been transformed into a creative space for children and their families. Featuring hands-on activities and creative play challenges, the community is invited to build, shape, make and play, with building blocks, Lego build tables and activities inspired by our collection.



Medieval to Metal

25 May to 1 September 2024

Medieval to Metal: The Art & Evolution of the Guitar was an exhibition developed by the National Guitar Museum in the USA. Featuring 40 guitars spanning 400 years, Medieval to Metal traced the guitar's beginnings in Asia and Europe through to today's blues, country and rock 'n roll. From the intricately inlaid Moorish oud to the modern Italian design of the Eko and transparent acrylic body of California's BC Rich guitars, the exhibition takes visitors through the history and design of an object that is one of the most recognisable items on the planet. The exhibition also included illustrations of historically important guitar designs from noted artist Gerard Huerta and photographs of acclaimed musicians and their guitars from Neil Zlozower, one of the world's premier concert photographers.

Take a Moment With Us

6 July to 22 September 2024

This exhibition featured photographs of people with intellectual disabilities by Christchurch documentary maker and photographer Bridgit Anderson and video footage by Sam Morrison, Tania McKenzie Bellam and Jasper O'Donnell. Visitors were encouraged to think about what our communities could be like if we focussed on ability not disability. Proudly presented in conjunction with IHC.

Rooms by Gillian Cronin

27 July to 15 September 2024

This exhibition delved into the concept of architectural spaces and how the rooms we live in can either enhance or restrict our lives. This imaginative exploration has been an enjoyable process for Gillian, and she invites viewers to dream and imagine with her through her paintings.



The Wellington Regional Arts Review

7 September to 17 November 2024

The Wellington Regional Arts Review is our signature art exhibition and has become well-known for showcasing the region's best emerging and established artists. Held bi-annually, entries are selected by a different independent panel of judges for each Review. This was our 6th Review and this year we received 163 submissions by artists living and working in the Greater Wellington Region including Kapiti and Wairarapa. This year's judges were Mark Amery: Art critic, writer (The Post and various), editor, curator, and broadcaster/producer (Radio New Zealand, Daniel Sanders: Director of Enjoy Contemporary Art Space and Sharon Hall: Restricted Programmes Delivery Mentor at the Learning Connexion. Wellington Regional Arts Review. This year's Supreme Award winner was Jeanette Verster for her meticulously crafted artwork, 'Double Crossed'.



Mai i Konei ki Tenei Wa Shane Cotton: From Here To Now

28 September 2024 to 2 February 2025

Shane Cotton is a prominent New Zealand artist renowned for his captivating contributions to contemporary art. Born in Upper Hutt in 1964, this exhibition traced Cotton's artistic journey from his roots and formative years spent in Upper Hutt during the 1960s and 1970s, to today. It was also in celebration of our 21st birthday, honouring one of Upper Hutt's most renowned artists with a collection of artworks spanning his illustrious career.



21 Artists: Small Works From 21 Upper Hutt Artists

21 September to 1 December 2024

21 Artists was a celebration of the diversity, creativity, and unique perspectives of 21 Upper Hutt artists for our 21st birthday. Featuring a broad spectrum of mediums reflecting the artistic depth and individual viewpoints this exhibition put a spotlight on the wealth of talent in Upper Hutt.



Clever Crustaceans

7 December 2024 to 16 February 2025

Crabs, lobsters, shrimp – they are Aotearoa New Zealand's most famous crustaceans. In this exhibition for children we met them all, from barnacles with superglue to slaters in the backyard, visitors could explore the unique features of five marine crustaceans and take a dive into their world.



Yakishime – Earth Metamorphosis

23 November 2024 to 19 January 2025

This exhibition focussed on Yakishime wares, as part of Japan's traditional culture, and presents their history from the earliest examples to the present through Yakishime tea vessels, food vessels, and works that are transformations of Yakishime into non-utilitarian objects of art. Yakishime was curated by Iwai Mieko, from Panasonic Shiodome Museum and presented by The Japanese Embassy and The Japan Foundation.



Kupe Sites

1 February to 8 June 2025

A thousand years ago, the great voyager Kupe made an epic journey from the eastern Pacific across the ocean to a new land. Kupe Sites presented 36 stunning black-and-white evocative photographs that showed physical landmarks associated with Kupe's voyage to Aotearoa including Wairarapa, Wellington, and northern South Island. Developed and toured by the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa.



ART LAB Build – Shape – Make – Create

15 February to 3 June 2025

For three months one of the galleries was transformed into a creative space for children and their families. Featuring hands-on activities and creative play challenges, children were invited to build, shape, make and play, with building blocks, LEGO build tables and activities inspired by our collection. Proudly supported by Heretaunga Book Fest Trust and Pelorus Trust.



40 Years of Stitch in Upper Hutt

2 February to 4 May 2025

This exhibition marked a significant milestone – 40 years of the Upper Hutt Stitching Guild, a community that has nurtured creativity, craftsmanship, and connection through the art of stitching. Showcasing a rich variety of works from intricate, fine art pieces to playful, accessible designs, each work told a story of personal expression, skill, and the creative journey of its maker.



Bodgies to Bogans

8 March 2025 to 19 July 2026

Bodgies to Bogans tells the story of the juvenile delinquencies and teenager rebellion of the 1950s to the Bogans of the 1980s. Whether you were listening to rock and roll, riding motorcycles and drinking milk shakes at milk bars in the 50s or growing a mullet and thrashing out the leathers to heavy metal in the 80s, this exhibition documented the history of youth culture in Upper Hutt, and New Zealand. Curated and developed by Whirinaki Whare Taonga and proudly supported by The Rimutaka Trust.



Komitimiti

10 May to 27 July 2025

Kōmitimiti was an exhibition by Sheree Willman (Ngāti Kahungunu, Rangitāne), a contemporary Māori artist based in Te Whanganui-a-Tara, Wellington. Drawing inspiration from the ancestral practices of tāniko, raranga, kowhaiwhai, and whakairo, Willman's work sought to re-establish a deep connection to her cultural identity. Each artwork embodies the living essence of Te Ao Māori, forging a dialogue between past and present, while honouring the ancestral ties that continue to guide her artistic journey.

Sheree Willman

"The Embroidery was very inspiring as in Kupe Sites. Appreciate it"

Gallery Visitor

"Amazing exhibition, very impressed. Hope to see more"

Gallery Visitor

"Medieval to Metal, awesome exhibition, beautifully curated. More please"

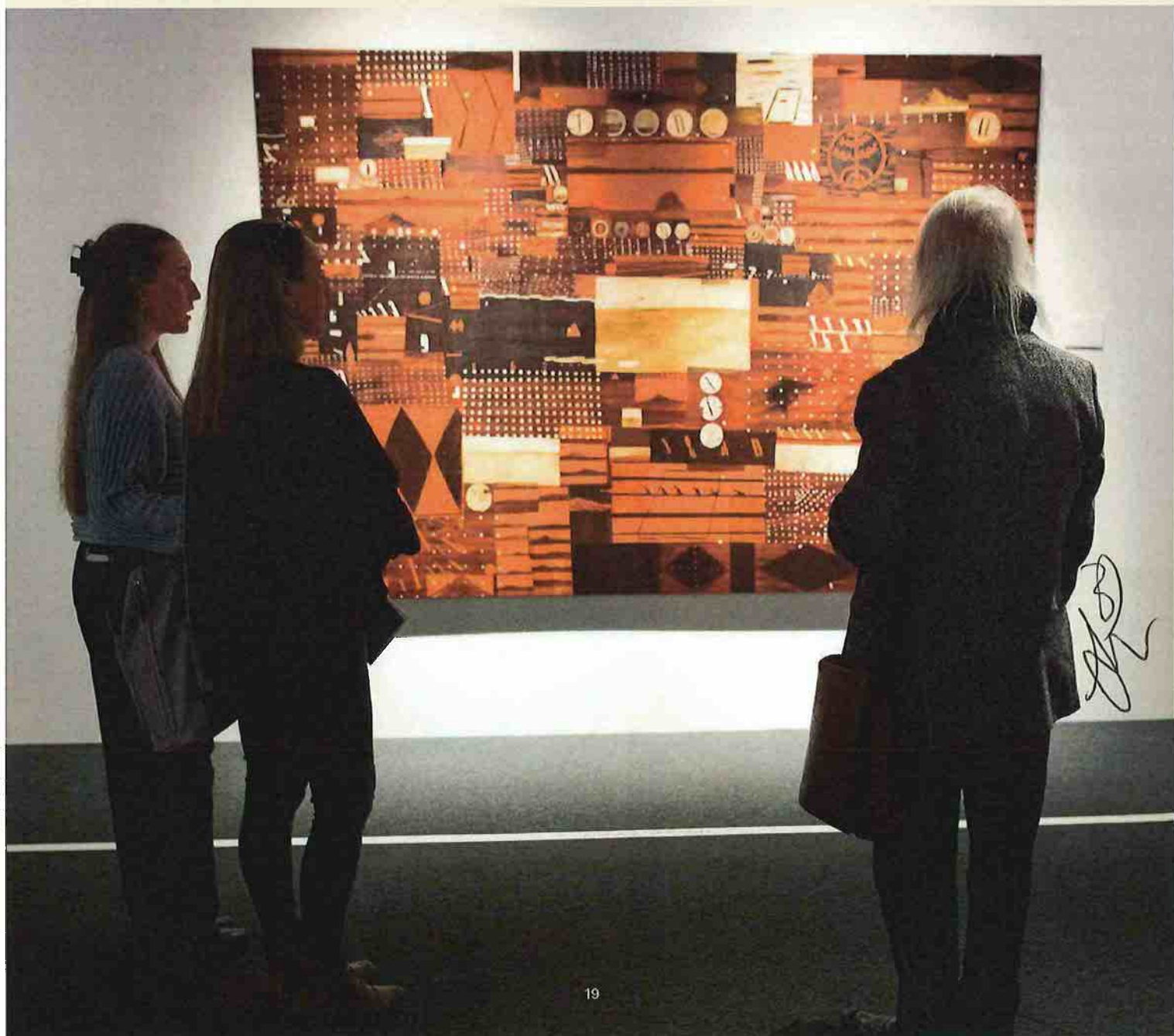
Comment in visitor book

"It was a pleasure and an honour to be included in the show. The lighting was beautiful, making the work pop off the walls - a really wonderful exhibition. A big thanks and shout out to you and your team for putting on a brilliant Wellington Regional Arts Review 2024"

Artist

"Fantastic exhibition. Such great photos and explanation of Bodgies and Widgies."

Gallery Visitor



Performing Arts Report

Whirinaki continued to host and present a range of performing art experiences during the 2024-2025 season.

148 performing arts shows happened across the centre—an increase on last year. As always, the centre's performing arts programme offered a diverse range from children's shows to award-winning drama, comedy, and dance. The regular Classical Expressions, Theatre@whirinaki, Expressions Live!, Sunday Strum, and Late Nite Sound Bite were still popular and continued to add variety and delight and we were pleased to present once again the UH Music Festival over the Kings Birthday long weekend.

Programmes that were free or by donation continue, such as the monthly Ukulele Strum and the music programme Late Nite Sound Bite continued.

Several highlight shows have been presented in the theatre. During the April 2025 school holidays and in conjunction with U Play Whirinaki presents a children theatre show; *Aya and the Butterfly*. This beautiful theatre show was based on a children's book by Ōtautahi/Christchurch author Dr Maysoon Salama, who wrote the story for her granddaughter Aya, after Aya lost her father in the Christchurch Mosque attacks six years ago. Another highlight was *Dazzlehands* by the Royal NZ Ballet which presented three shows on the 23 April that all sold out.

Jason Henderson's *Getting to Noel You* on 26 April also sold out. Following an award-winning run in New York City, via London, Upper Hutt lad Jason Henderson

bought home the show listed 'Top Ten Cabaret Shows of 2023' by the Times Square Chronicles.

Whirinaki Whare Taonga was delighted to once again present a four-show season in conjunction with the New Zealand School of Dance. This bi-annual joint venture is a great way to bring professional dancing to Upper Hutt with over 50 dancers on stage, arriving from Wellington by the bus load. And the Capital City United Rock and Roll held their annual dance competition for 200 hundred people as well as the The NZ Federation of Dance took place in the hall: 250 ballroom dancers from around NZ.

A highlight for October was The Japanese Film Festival which came back to Upper Hutt. This film festival provides insight into the culture, customs, and traditions of Japan, alongside what is popular with Japan's society today, through film. All films were free and were screened in Japanese with English subtitles.

Dance season saw six dance schools in the theatre from October to December, resulting in a very busy time for the theatre and FOH team. The six schools are Caroline Stewart School of Dance (31 October–5 November), The Studio (6–12 November), Danzworks (17–26 November), Anita's Dance Academy (29 November–2 December), The Eighth Count (4–10 December), and Mundra Dance (15–17 December).



THEATRE@WHIRINAKI

The listings below present all events that were booked by Whirinaki.



Red Heavens Sunday

11 August 2024

Red Heavens portrayed the true story of an Italian pioneering immigrant on D'Urville Island, whose fate is intertwined with the forces of nature and her deep connection with a Ariki-Tapairu Māori woman. A bitter, but beautiful tale.



Mundi Trio Sunday

2 February 2025

Mundi performed music that weaved together the two oldest instruments in human's history – flutes and percussion- into a sizzling array of duelling Brazilian/ African percussion and vocal melodies.

Presented by Whirinaki in association with Arts on Tour.



Aya and the Butterfly

16 April 2025

An exquisite puppet show using live music, and lots of giant caterpillar fun. This was a heart-warming, joyful story about a girl who finds happiness through the metamorphosis of the Monarch Butterfly.

Presented by Whirinaki in association with Arts on Tour.



Jason Henderson: Getting to Noël You

26 April 2025

Following an award-winning run in New York City, via London, Upper Hutt lad Jason Henderson bought home the show listed 'Top Ten Cabaret Shows of 2023' by the Times Square Chronicles. Noël Coward's witty, erudite and funny songs are re-framed for the 21st century in this award-winning cabaret comedy

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Henderson'.

CLASSICAL EXPRESSIONS

The programme for Classical Expressions reflected a refresh and a focus on a 'Classical for the People' approach.

Andrew Joyce & Jian Liu

27 June 2024

Renowned New Zealand based musicians Andrew Joyce and Jian Liu crafted an ambitious programme that celebrates their musical and cultural heritages.



NZ Army Band

8 August 2024

New Zealand's only professional brass band with international recognition performed a programme of work sure to delight and entertain.



Muriwai

10 October 2024

Muriwai was a single movement work which explored strong kaupapa Māori concepts combining Māori and Celtic musical traditions through Celtic harp, vocals, and taonga puoro by award winning musicians Ariana Tikao (Kāi Tahu) and Bob Bickerton.



The Amici Quartet with Jian Liu

20 March 2025

Amici bought two mighty works for chamber music: Francaix - *String Trio*, Faure - *Piano Quartet No. 2 in G minor* and Brahms - *Piano Quartet in no. 3 in C minor*.



The New Zealand Youth Choir

ANZAC Day 25 April 2025

The New Zealand Youth Choir bought music of commemoration and remembrance.



John Chen

26 June 2025

A solo show with French Romantic Masterpieces including Francis Poulenc and Gabriel Fauré.



Whirinaki was pleased to present the Upper Hutt Music Festival 2025, Upper Hutt's Long weekend of Music, Kings Birthday Weekend 30 May–3 June. Ranging from the Big City Big Band extravaganza to the iconic rock chick Julia Deans (of Fur Patrol Fame), the music of Ella Fitzgerald and Joe Pass, to a free Ukulele strum along, this festival had something for everyone.

The Jazz Gala Concert

30 May 2025

A Big Band Extravaganza! Capital City Big Band was a 19-piece big band playing jazz hits from the big band era as well as contemporary jazz arrangements. Playing a large toe-tapping repertoire packed with everything from classic swing and Latino to funk, the Jazz Gala was a great event.

Julia Deans

31 May 2025

After exploding onto the scene as the powerful front woman for Fur Patrol, the past decade has seen Julia Deans transition from iconic rock chick to glorious songbird. This was a special and captivating solo performance with a NZ Music Award winner featuring evocative songwriting, and a distinctive voice both haunting and powerful.

Ella & Joe

1 June 2025

Award-winning singer Ali Harper and guitarist Harry Harrison reimagined the legendary partnership between Ella Fitzgerald and distinguished guitarist Joe Pass. From sultry standards to playful scat, this show paid tribute to their extraordinary chemistry as they perform classics from the Great American Songbook including Misty, I Ain't Got Nothing But The Blues, and Stormy Weather.

Sunday Strum

1 June 2025

This was a ukulele jam with the Ukulele Institute as part of the festival. Visitors could drop by for a listen or join in. Use one of our Ukes or bring your own. Beginners to advanced players, ages 5 to 95, all welcome with hits from the 60s, 70s, and today.

LUNCHTIME LIVE!

Lunchtime Live! was brought to Whirinaki in partnership with The Upper Hutt Grand Piano Trust and Te Kōi New Zealand School of Music. These free lunchtime concerts were attended consistently by over 120 people each month, with donations encouraged.



This is a free event held in the Rotary Foyer on the first Sunday of every month, where the Ukulele Institute presented Sunday Strum, a ukulele jam featuring tunes ranging from The Rolling Stones to Johnny Cash, Bruno Mars to Grease. Visitors can listen or join in, using one of our ukuleles or their own. This attracted between 30 to 50 people each month over the 10 months, with donations encouraged.

EVERY FRIDAY

LATE NITE SOUND BITE

MUSIC STARTS 5.30PM
KOHA ENTRY

7 FEBRUARY	LISA TOMLINS & WADE REEVE DUO	NZ Music Legend, Soul and pop
14 FEBRUARY	WAYNE MASON	Upper Hutt Legend and NZ music icon
21 FEBRUARY	BURGIN, KERR & NORMAN	Americana and roots trio
28 FEBRUARY	ANDREW LONDON DUO	Sophisticated Satirical Songs

GALLERIES AND DOUGH BAKERY OPEN | 836 FERGUSON DRIVE, UPPER HUTT
04 527 2168 | WHIRINAKIARTS.ORG.NZ

Late Nite Sound Bite is a once-a-week late-night opening on Fridays for the month of February 2025, featuring fresh New Zealand musicians with all galleries, café and shop open until 8 pm. Entry is by koha, and it is casual/family-friendly. Late Nite Sound Bite was attended consistently by between 30-50 people from all walks of life.

7 Feb **Lisa Tomlins & Friends**

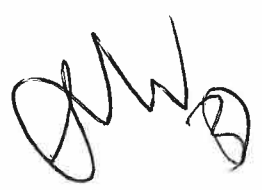
14 Feb **Wayne Mason**

21 Feb **Paddy Burgin**

28 Feb **Andrew London Duo**

To provide arts, culture, and event opportunities and learning for people in Upper Hutt and beyond.

Objective	Full year objective 2024-2025	Achievement 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025
Objective 1.1: present a dynamic, responsive, balanced, and excellent exhibition programme which showcases a broad range of creative practice.	<p>Measure: Ten (10) exhibitions are presented annually.</p>	<p>Achieved: THIRTEEN (13) exhibitions were presented:</p> <p>MEDIEVAL TO METAL 25 May – 1 Sep 2024</p> <p>TAKE A MOMENT WITH US 6 Jul – 22 Sep 2024</p> <p>ROOMS GILLIAN CRONIN 27 Jul – 15 Sep 2024</p> <p>THE WELLINGTON REGION ARTS REVIEW 7 Sep – 17 Nov 2024</p> <p>MAI I KONEI KI TENEI WA SHANE COTTON 28 Sep 2024–2 Feb 2025</p> <p>21 ARTISTS 21 Sep – 1 Dec 2024</p> <p>CLEVER CRUSTACEANS 7 Dec 2024 – 16 Feb 2025</p> <p>YAKISHIME – EARTH METAMORPHOSIS 23 Nov 2024 – 19 Jan 2025</p> <p>KUPE SITES 1 Feb – 8 Jun 2025</p> <p>ART LAB 15 Feb – 3 Jun 2025</p> <p>BODGIES TO BOGANS 8 Mar 2025 – 19 Jul 2026</p> <p>40 YEARS OF STITCH 2 Feb – 4 May 2025</p> <p>KOMITIMITI 10 May – 27 Jul 2025</p> <p>2023/2024: Achieved 14 exhibitions.</p>
	<p>Measure: Present a significant exhibition (blockbuster) annually.</p>	<p>Achieved: Medieval To Metal was our blockbuster exhibition presented from the USA and drawing great crowds 25 May – 1 Sept 2024.</p> <p>2023/2024: Achieved 1 major exhibition.</p>
	<p>Measure: A semi-permanent interactive art space will be developed aimed at children and family audiences. At least one (1) other of the 10 exhibitions will have an interactive or alternative engagement elements specifically aimed at children and family audiences.</p>	<p>Achieved: Art Lab was our was fully interactive and aimed at children. Clever Crustaceans was also aimed at children.</p> <p>2023/2024: Achieved 2 interactive exhibitions.</p>



Objective 1.2: Develop touring exhibitions to enhance the artistic reputation of the city.

Measure: One exhibition will tour every two (2) years.

Not Achieved: No tours took place in the 2024-2025 year.

2023/2024: No tours took place in the 2023-2024 year.

Objective 1.3: Strive to meet the cultural, artistic and recreational needs of the Upper Hutt community and contribute to their social cohesion and wellbeing.

Measure: 90% of respondents are satisfied with the range and quality of events and exhibitions at Whirinaki as outlined in the Council's Community Satisfaction Survey.

Achieved: 90% of respondents were satisfied with the range and quality of events and exhibitions at Whirinaki as outlined in the Council's Community Satisfaction Survey.

2023/2024: Not Achieved 88% satisfaction.

Measure: Visitors tell us about the positive impact their participation in Whirinaki exhibitions, experiences and programmes has had on them.

Achieved: Positive feedback has been received in the visitor comments book at reception, on online media posts, and engagements and reviews. Specifically, feedback from Bodgies to Bogans was noted.

2023/2024: Achieved

Objective 1.4: Provide access to programmes that connect people to their culture, and which provide connection for increased well-being and social cohesion.

Measure: Three (3) performing arts programmes are presented and work to strengthen the diversity of the theatre. This may include Whirinaki Live! Classical Expressions, King's Birthday Music Festival, Theatre@Whirinaki Whare Taonga Season, and a contemporary (non-classical) music programme.

Achieved: Six (6) performing arts programmes were presented. Expressions Live! Classical Expressions, Theatre@Whirinaki, UH Music Festival, Late Nite Sound Bite, and Sunday Strum were presented.

2023/2024: Achieved 6 performing arts programmes.

Just a quick note to say, LNSB is excellent. A great message to inspire the support of Arts in our city. Go for it!"

"It's my first visit to Upper Hutt's Gillies Group Theatre in the Whirinaki Whare Taonga complex and I'm impressed by the concert chamber."

SOUNZ videographer Chris Watson.



*2. To be an integral part of the
Upper Hutt community attracting diverse audiences*



Education Report

In the 2024-2025-year Whirinaki provided educational experiences to 3,235 students.

During the year our new Learning Programmes Specialist Charlotte Smith presented range of a self-funded education programmes and had over 1800 school students visit the exhibition, many of them from Upper Hutt, all for free. The highlights of the

year was the programme presented alongside our Shane Cotton exhibition which included making lino cut prints and the Medieval to Metal activity where students made a collaborative sound scape.



Public Programmes Report

10 public programmes were presented throughout the year. A highlight was our 21st Birthday celebration day where we welcomed over 300 people for cake and crafts. Another highlight was having the Dr of Boganology give a talk to over 50 people about the history of bogans and Kumiko Jacolin, a maker of ceramics and PhD student in Victoria University of Wellington about the ancient technique of Yakishime.

Mad Dog Mike's weekly tours through Medieval to Metal was attended by an eclectic mix of people with a marked increase of male attendance.

Whirinaki has 135 friends and provides regular newsletters and invitations to events and openings.

U-Play

During the each of the school holidays Whirinaki, together with Activation, took part in four play-focused days in the Professionals Recreation Hall. All days had between 100- 250 people each day.

Little Whirinaki

Little Whirinaki, an art programme aimed at 3-4-year-olds, continued for the year. Little Whirinaki is a weekly preschool art session running for an hour during term time to encourage visual and performing arts.

Art Meet-ups

Four Art Meet ups were held on during the year for approximately 30-50 artists. This was convened by a volunteer but supported by Whirinaki and is aimed at supporting our local artists.

Whirinaki Visual & Performing Art Awards

Until 2002, the Upper Hutt Community Gallery Inc. made an annual award to a student who studied Fine Arts, Design, or similar courses. Upon winding up, the former Community Gallery Committee asked the Trustees of Whirinaki to continue allocating an Art Award and gifted the funds to support it. The capital amount in the Awards Fund is currently \$38,000 and is gaining approx. \$1000 in interest each year. In 2016, it was agreed by the Trust to work with Upper Hutt City Council with their annual Youth Awards to sponsor a performing arts and visual arts category. This has a value of \$1000 per year. This year the awards are late in taking place and are scheduled for October 2025.

Volunteers

Whirinaki relies on our volunteers! During Volunteer Week in June 2025, we hosted a volunteer lunch at the local Pizza restaurant where we shouted our volunteers lunch and formally thanked them for their help and support.



Friends Events

A Talk With Director of the Dowse Karl Chitham Sunday 29 September 2024

Director of The Dowse Karl Chitham (Ngā Puhi, Te Uriroro) is a champion for the arts in New Zealand and has a specific interest in toi Māori and was able to talk about the Shane Cotton exhibition with the friends.

Sip, Shop and Save: A Friends Shopping Night Monday 16 December 2024

Friends were invited to do their Christmas shopping in style at a Friend's shopping night with 20% store wide discount, a glass of bubbles and Christmas treats.

An Invitation to Hear Insights From Paris Tuesday 25 March 2025

The Director shared some of the outcomes and experiences she had on her professional development at The Museums Connections conference with croissants and coffee.

The Re-Launch of the Friends of Whirinaki Friday 27 June 2025

This was a special relaunch event with nibbles and bubbles in the new Friends Foyer.

Public Programmes

Medieval to Metal with Mad Dog Mike

Wednesdays in July 2024

Visitors were able to take a tour with Mad Dog Mike through 40 Guitars spanning 400 years, and hear the insights and secret stories behind the exhibition.

Photo Frame Fun

9 July 2024

Children could create their very own beautiful photo frame in celebration of our Home exhibition.

Special Abilities Afternoon Tea

11 August 2024

In conjunction with Take a Moment with Us, we invited the IHC and special ability communities and their whanau for an afternoon tea and exclusive viewing of the exhibition.

21st Birthday Celebration

28 September 2024

For our 21st Birthday we held a special day to celebrate featuring 21 Artists: small works from 21 Upper Hutt artists, 21 Tickets to give away: if you turned 21 in 2024 get a free theatre ticket, 21 Friends of Whirinaki memberships to give away a 21st Birthday Cake to share and some 21st birthday Crafts.

Japanese Pottery

1 December 2024

A talk by Kumiko Jacolin, a maker of ceramics and PhD student in Victoria University of Wellington was presented about the ancient technique of Yakishime

Crazy Crab Creations

14 January 2025

Celebrating the Clever Crustaceans exhibition visitors could create a fun under the sea craft!

Stitch In

8 March & 12 April 2025

The Upper Hutt Embroidery group gave lessons and demonstrations on the techniques of embroidery.

Dr of Bogan-Ology

9 March 2025

We heard from Dr Dave Snell, New Zealand's official Doctor of Bogan-ology and author of the book Bogans, on all thing's bogan; complete with bogan style refreshments.

Bogan Bingo

5 April 2025

More than your traditional Bingo, this included old school rock songs, together with air guitar competitions, head banging comedy, and the chance to win prizes.

Māori Pūrākau Kupe Craft

15 & 16 April 2025

Children joined us in the gallery as we created a craft about the Māori Pūrākau Kupe and the Giant Wheke.



To be an integral part of the Upper Hutt community, attracting diverse audiences.

Objective	Full year objective 2024-2025	Achievement 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025
Objective 2.1: Attract audiences to the Centre from across different demographic groups and cater for a diverse range of interests and expectations.	Measure: A minimum of two (2) exhibitions annually will reflect the diverse and distinctive characteristics of the Upper Hutt community.	Achieved: Two (2) exhibitions reflected the diverse and distinct characteristics of Upper Hutt. Bodgies to Bogans told the story of the juvenile delinquencies and teenager rebellion in the Hutt Valley and 40 Years of Stitch marked 40 years of the Upper Hutt Stitching Guild. <i>2023/2024: Achieved 2 Upper Hutt community-focused exhibitions.</i>
Objective 2.2: Support arts, culture organisations, and practitioners.	Measure: Provide opportunities for local and national artists to sell work with at least four (4) exhibitions having works for sale.	Achieved: Four (4) exhibitions had works for sale: ROOMS GILLIAN CRONIN 27 July – 15 Sept 2024 THE WELLINGTON REGION ARTS REVIEW 7 Sept – 17 Nov 2024 21 ARTISTS 21 Sept – 1 Dec 2024 40 YEARS OF STITCH 2 Feb – 4 May 2025 <i>2023/2024: Achieved</i>
Objective 2.3: Offer an attractive and meaningful exhibition-based public programme that aids interpretation of the exhibition programme and engages and educates the visitor.	Measure: 10 different public programmes are presented.	Achieved: 10 public programmes have been presented MEDIEVAL TO METAL WITH MAD DOG MIKE Wed in July 2024 PHOTO FRAME FUN 9 Jul 2024 SPECIAL ABILITIES AFTERNOON TEA 11 Aug 2024 JAPANESE POTTERY 1 Dec 2024 CRAZY CRAB CREATIONS 14 Jan 2025 21ST BIRTHDAY SATURDAY 28 Sep 2024 DR OF BOGAN-ODOGY 9 Mar 2025 BOGAN BINGO 5 Apr 2025 STITCH IN 8 Mar & 12 Apr 2025 MĀORI PŪRĀKAU KUPE CRAFT 15 & 16 Apr 2025 <i>2024/2025: Achieved 14 Public Programmes were presented.</i>
	Measure: A regular gallery programme for preschool children 'Little Whirinaki' is presented.	Achieved: Little Whirinaki ran for the whole year. <i>2023/2024: Achieved</i>

“The Japanese Ceramics is stunning. Fantastic exhibition”.

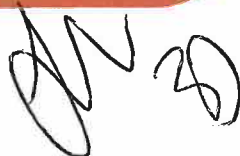
Gallery Visitor

“Brilliant Japan exhibition: All NZ potters should see it!”

Gallery Visitor

“Beautiful setup and feeling in this place; Thanks.”

Comment in visitor's book.



Objective 2.4: Offer a curriculum-based education programme throughout the year.

Measure: Education programmes are presented to at least 2000 students each year.

Achieved: Education programmes were developed and directly promoted to schools; 3235 students visited as school groups during this financial year.

2023/2024: Achieved 4200 student visitors.

Objective 2.5: Offer an annual art award in collaboration with the Upper Hutt City Youth Awards.

Measure: An annual art award is provided.

Not Achieved: The Upper Hutt City Council Youth Art Award will be held in October 2025.

2023/2024: The Upper Hutt City Council Youth Art Award was held on 13 September 2023.

Objective 2.6: Operate a Friends of Whirinaki loyalty programme.

Measure: Four (4) Friends of Whirinaki events are held annually and four (4) newsletters are presented.

Achieved: Four (4) Friends of Whirinaki events were held, and four (4) newsletters were presented:

- A talk with Director of The Dowse, 29 September 2024
- Friends shopping night, 16 December 2024
- Insight to Paris talk, 25 March 2025
- Relaunch of Friends, 27 June 2025

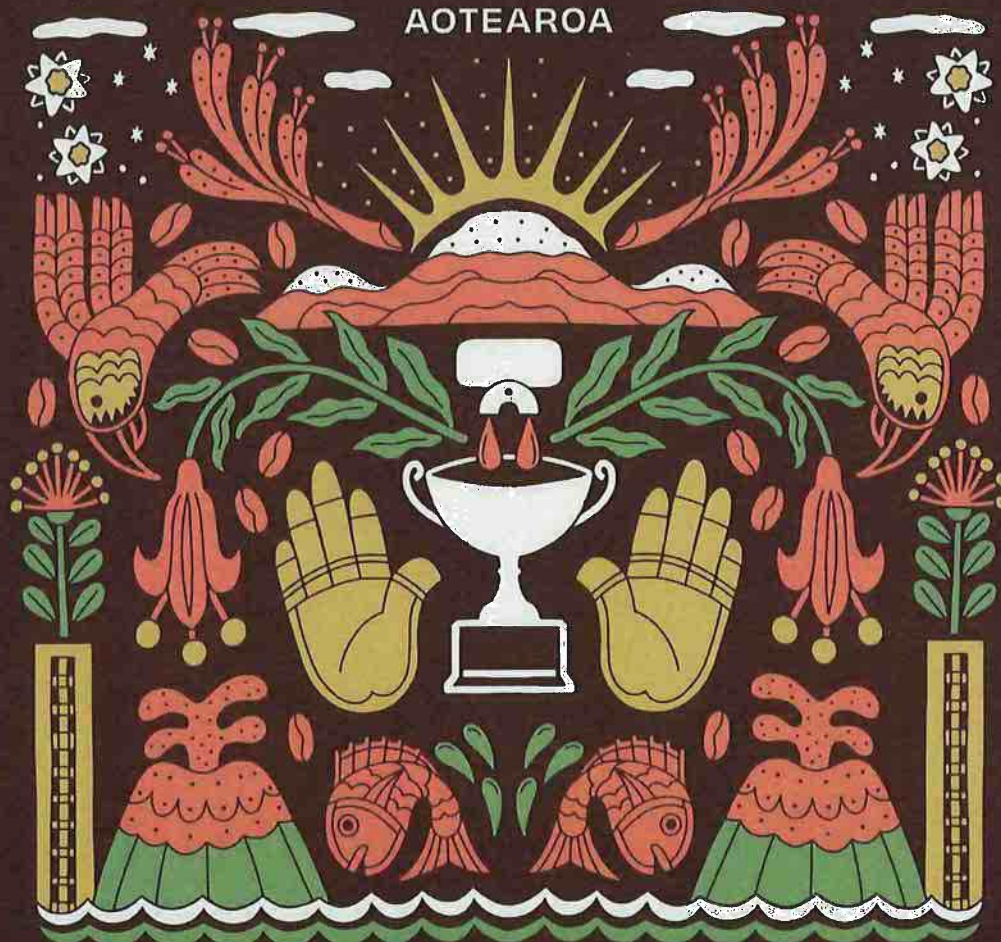
2023/2024: Achieved 4 events / 4 newsletters.



3. To bring to life art, culture, heritage and recreation and promote the utilisation of the centre

BARISTA CHAMPS

AOTEAROA



Whirinaki Whare Taonga Centre • 836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt
See the best coffee makers in NZ • 8am – 4pm • Nau mai, Haere mai



5 & 6 OCTOBER
2024



ACME



MILKLAB



MONIN

Cofinet

[Handwritten signature]

Utilisation Report

A total of 142,139 people visited Whirinaki during the reporting period, exceeding the target of 95,000.

Visitation was spread across the gallery visitors, event visitors, and customers to the Café.

The Professionals Recreation Hall hosted several major national and regional events such as the Well-Made Craft Fair, and The National Bottle and Collectable 20-22 September with visitors coming from as far away as Invercargill and Whangarei, (as seen by the campervans in the carpark both here and at The UH Cossie Club). Another major event this year was The Taoist Tai Chi Society of New Zealand 2025 gathering that was held over a four-day period, 26 - 30 March 2025. This saw over 100 people from around the country undertaking workshops and events in the Professionals Recreation Hall.

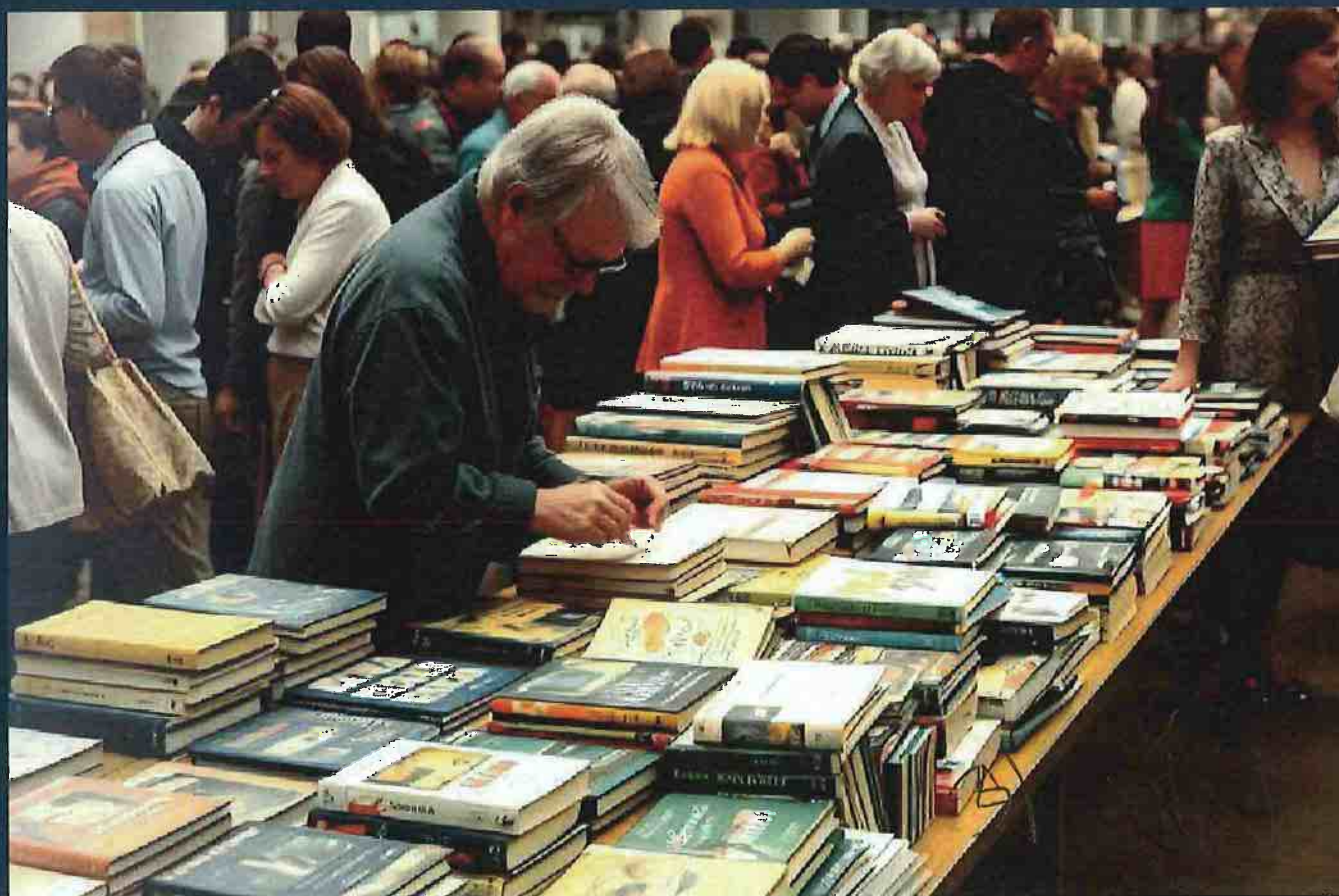
A highlight of the year was hosting Capital Fibre Fest, which saw thousands of visitors through the Centre as well as the Rotary Book Fair which attracted over 5000 people, both which have queues down the road. The venue has been the home of several cultural festivals including the Upper Hutt Multicultural Festival Lunar New Year and annual Multicultural Festival and a Nigerian community event in November for over 400

people.

During two weeks in February 2025 Barbarian Productions hired the theatre for use as a rehearsal/development space, part of a new strategy to increase venue for hire income. This was followed throughout the by a number of dance competition Societies.

Whirinaki has also been the venue for the OKCNZ Orientation and Presentations, an international students' agency who organise homestay for Japanese students who come to NZ to study. Higgins continue to hire the venue for their training, the Upper Hutt Schools Cluster for a workshop (as in the past) and Whirinaki is the new venue for the Football NZ Women under 19 Training programme and the annual Capital Pro Wrestling Match sold out.

Regular hirers of our spaces continue such as Natraj Indian dance lessons, the Multicultural Council and Menz Shed meetings, and badminton, floorball, roller skating and speed skating, Repair Café, steppers, yoga and aerobics, and model flying.



Well-Made Contemporary Craft Festival

The Well-Made Craft Festival had a refresh this year with a move from a fair to a festival and with the addition of workshops and demonstrations. The festival was a great success with over 1000 attending and anecdotal mention of good sales for many. The addition of the workshops and demonstrations added a great vibe and many in the workshop came as father/son/daughter/family groups. The festival ran on the same weekend as The Upper Hutt Art Trail to make it a 'weekend of arts' in Upper Hutt.

Dough Bakery

Dough Bakery continues as the onsite eatery in the centre and draws regular crowds. The Café license was renewed by Dough Bakery end of September 2023 and has been signed by Dough Bakery for further three years.

Sustainability

Sustainability was at the forefront of much of exhibition development the team looking to upcycling materials and recycled display cases.

21



To bring to life art, culture, heritage and recreation and promote the utilisation of the Centre.

Objective	Full year objective 2024-2025	Achievement 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025
Objective 3.1: Maximise overall attendance at the Centre.	Measure: 95,000 visitors to the Centre during 2024-2025 (by Whirinaki in-house monitoring).	Achieved: Visitors to the Centre for the period were 142,139. <i>2023/2024: Achieved 180,366 visitors.</i>
Objective 3.2: Ensure The Professionals Recreation Hall is responsive to the needs of active recreation and sports hirers, by working in collaboration with Council's Recreation Services division.	Measure: Monitor hours of active recreation use.	Achieved: Hours of active recreation have increased from the previous year to 932 hours. <i>2023/2024: Achieved 932 active hours</i>
Objective 3.3: Manage the café on-site license in order to attract Centre usage.	Measure: The Café licensee is retained on site.	Achieved: The Café license was re-issued to Dough Bakery in September 2023. <i>2023/2024: Achieved</i>
Objective 3.4: Develop and promote the use of the Centre and its assets as a venue for hire.	Measure: Actively promote the centre to potential hirers, both commercial and community.	Achieved: Actively promoted the centre to potential hirers, both commercial and community. A marketing campaign for venue hire has been developed including promotion in The Wellington Guide, NZ Venues, Shared Spaces, and the Neat Guide and a direct mail out to training providers, Government departments and performing arts companies. <i>2023/2024: Achieved</i>
	Measure: The Whirinaki Whare Taonga website is updated, and usage data and online activity is reported. A new website will be developed in the 2024-2025 year. (Budget reliant)	Not Achieved: Funding for a new website was not secured. <i>2023/2024: Not Achieved. Funding for a new website was not secured.</i> Achieved: Website use had 31,978 users and 116,743 page views. <i>2023/2024: Achieved 41,000 users, 146,318 page views.</i>



Objective 3.5: Generate operational revenue from venue hire, venue hire services, café lease, gallery sales commission, in-house events, ticketing services, sponsorship, grants and donations.

Measure: Budget revenues are met as per budget.

Not Achieved: Budget revenues were not met as per budget.

2023/2024: Achieved

Objective 3.6: Maintain governance, administrative, financial, reporting and operational systems to protect the Centre, its assets, its visitors and its staff.

Measure: Operate the venue consistent with practices in the ETNZ and National Services Te Paerangi New Zealand Museum Standards.

Achieved: Compliance with industry procedures and practice is current.

2023/2024: Achieved

Measure: The Board receives regular organisational health measures covering financial, HR, and operational matters

Achieved: Health, Safety, and Staff well-being, performance and/or issues and mitigations were reported in Director Reports. Quarterly Health and Safety meetings are held.

2023/2024: Achieved

Measure: The team actively looks for opportunities to adopt environmental sustainability practices throughout their operations, reported on in Director reports.

Achieved: Sustainability was at the forefront of much of exhibition development the team looking to upcycling materials and recycled display cases.

2023/2024: Achieved

Measure: The Board regularly undertakes a risk management framework review in the context of the Centre aims and objectives, to protect and enhance the reputation and safety of the Centre. This framework review includes the review of all risks identified on the risk register, reassessment of those risks, and mitigations in place to remove or reduce identified risks (as per risk register) across the operations of the Trust.

Achieved: The Board reviewed the Risk Management Framework in Feb 20254.

2023/2024: Achieved



Our Partners and Sponsors

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Gillies Theatre with the **Gillies Group**



Mitre 10 Gallery with **Mitre 10 MEGA Upper Hutt**



Professionals Recreation Hall
with **Blundell and Mark Realty**



Mangaroa
FARMS
Mangaroa Farms Gallery with **Mangaroa Farms**

Rotary Foyer
with **Upper Hutt Rotary**

Heretaunga Gallery
with **Heretaunga Rotary**

Gillies Gallery with the **Gillies Family Trust**

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The Lion Foundation	Fest Charitable Trust
Expressions Foundation	John Illot Trust

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Embassy of Japan	Multicultural Society
IHC New Zealand	Upper Hutt Grand
Te Papa Tongarewa	Piano Trust
Arts on Tour	National Services
Chamber Music New Zealand	Te Paerangi New Zealand



*5. To provide stewardship, education, and
promotion of the Pumpkin Cottage Collection*



Pumpkin Cottage Collection

During the 2024-2025 year, the Trust welcomed five new gifts to the collection.

The works were gifted by John Middlebrook, nephew of Bessie Ellen Chapple. The donation includes three oil paintings, one watercolour, and a framed photograph of Bessie Ellen Chapple. Suzanne Beer noted that the Cyril Chapple painting depicting a boy playing the piano and the untitled still life were particularly strong examples of Bessie’s work.

As part of the commitment to increasing access to the

collection, the Pumpkin Cottage collection remained online via our website.

Pumpkin Cottage Merchandise

In September we launched our new Pumpkin Cottage Collection merchandise with a range of tea towels, aprons, cushions and bags. This is a new development for our retail operation, relying on the specific skills of one of our Front of House team members who has overseen this project.

Objective	Full year objective 2024-2025	Achievement 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025
Objective 5.1: Build the Pumpkin Cottage Collection and proactively promote access to the Pumpkin Cottage Collection.	Measure: Potential gifts have been accessed.	Achieved: Five gifts were offered and accepted in this financial year. <i>2023/2024 Achieved</i>
	Measure: One (1) exhibition every two years features work from the Collection.	Achieved: An exhibition featuring Pumpkin Cottage artist Nugent Welch will show in April 2026. <i>2023/2024 Achieved</i>
	Measure: A curriculum-based Pumpkin Cottage education programme is offered to local schools.	Achieved: A curriculum-based Pumpkin Cottage education programme was offered to local schools. <i>2023/2024 Achieved</i>



6. *To celebrate and showcase our local Upper Hutt stories across all cultures*

BODGIES

TO

BOGANS



**FREE
ENTRY**

FROM 07 MAR

836 FERGUSON DRIVE, UPPER HUTT
WWW.WHIRINAKIARTS.ORG.NZ

Celebrating Culture

Bodgies to Bogans was our signature history exhibition during 2024-2025.

Bodgies to Bogans told the story of Bodgies (teenagers in the 1950s) to the Bogans of the 1980s. Young men and women from the Hutt Valley were central to the idea of 'The Teenager' in 1950s Aotearoa. American pop culture was popular, and young people began experimenting with new hair styles, clothes and pastimes. The Bodgie grew from The United States of America and the United Kingdom where the 'Greaser' or 'Teddy Boys' wore slicked back hair, white t-shirts and stovepipe trousers. These teenagers were known as Bodgies (boys) and Widges (girls). They had leisure time and money to spend and were deemed the rebels of the 1950s. So much so that in 1954 a report was commissioned by the New Zealand Government to investigate 'the Hutt Valley situation' of teenager delinquency. Written by Oswald Mazengarb and delivered to almost every home in New Zealand the report linked the cause of the 'crisis' to comics, Hollywood movies, single mothers, poor parenting and suggestive love songs.

Bodgies to Bogans celebrated the real stories of the Bodgies, the notorious Milk Bars and the Milk

Bar cowboys that hung out there (think The Naenae Boys and The Cuba Street Yanks), Jazz, Jiving, and Rock and Roll Fever and the music of the 1950s. Jump ahead thirty years and the Bogan appeared, also prevalent in the Hutt Valley. Both pop culture icon, working-class heroes and heavy metal fan, wearing jeans and black t-shirts, with mullets blowing in the wind the Bogan developed from the colonial history of Aotearoa. Bogans first appeared in the 1980s, sharing many common features of New Zealand's national identity, such as an appreciation of hard work and a Do-It-Yourself mentality, and a laid-back person with a perceived underdog status. The exhibition explored the fashion, cars, music and culture of Boganism and questions if perhaps, there is a little bit of bogan in us all.

Bodgies to Bogans was curated by Director Leanne Wickham and developed by Whirinaki Whare Taonga in the hope that it celebrates a unique part of Upper Hutt's culture.



Objective	Full year objective 2024-2025	Achievement 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025
Objective 6.1: Provide a platform to tell local historical/cultural stories.	Measure: An exhibition with a local social/cultural/ history focus will be presented annually.	Achieved: Bodgies to Bogans told the story of the juvenile delinquencies and teenager rebellion in the Hutt Valley and opened in March 2025. <i>2023/2024: Achieved 1 local exhibition.</i>
Objective 6.2: Toi Maori is reflected within the annual arts and event programme.	Measure: Local iwi and the Orongomai Marae community are involved with curatorial practice and presentation of programmes through consultation and engagement where appropriate, as per the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.	Achieved: Orongomai Marae and iwi were involved in the planning of the Muriwai Concert 10 October 2024. <i>2023/2024: Achieved</i>
	Measure: Advisory Trustee from Orongomai Marae is appointed to the Board.	Achieved: Trustee placement continues on the Board. <i>2023/2024: Achieved</i>
	Measure: Te Reo is visible across the Centre.	Achieved: Kupe Sites and Clever Crustaceans featured bi-lingual commentary. Te Reo continues in signage across the facility. Te Reo and Tikanga is embedded into our education programmes. <i>2023/2024: Achieved</i>
	Measure: At least three (3) Te Ao Maori exhibitions are presented throughout the year.	Achieved: Shane Cotton, 28 Sept 2024–2 Feb 2025, Komitimiti, 10 May - 27 July 2025 and Kupe Sites 1 Feb – 8 June 2025 were all Te Ao Maori exhibitions. <i>2023/2024: Achieved</i>



"Kia Ora. Loved the exhibition and the video: korero and purakau connecting with the artists photography. Taking special time to spend with Nga Kaumatua. Nga Mihi"

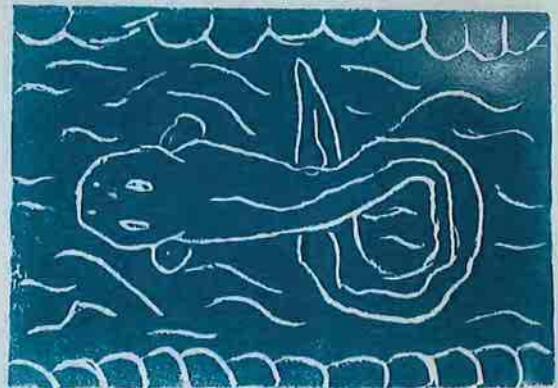
Gallery visitor

"Such interesting and contrasting exhibitions on today. Thank you for representing the breath of culture in our Land. Ka Pai te Mahi!" "

Gallery visitor

"Bogans to Bodgies is a sweet, funny celebration of youth culture and bogan culture here in the Hutt. From mullets to motorcycles to Metallica there's a lot to like."

Online comment



1/2 The eel in the water aches



Whirinaki Whare Taonga Trust

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Trust Directory

1.	Trustees	Zoe Juniper (Chairperson) Alicia Rosevear Emma Chatterton Angele Toomey Tim Thorpe Tania Jones Stephen Ward
	Special Trust Advisors	Sian Williamson (Music Special Trust Advisor) Hine Poa (Marae Representative) Nicole Cosgrove (Pumpkin Cottage Collection Special Trust Advisor) Suzanne Beer (Pumpkin Cottage Collection Special Trust Advisor)
2.	Trading Activity	Art, Culture and Events
3.	Bank	ANZ Bank UPPER HUTT
4.	Accountant	Chapman Upchurch Accountants Limited, Upper Hutt
5.	Auditor	Moore Markhams

Entity Information

Legal Name

Whirinaki Whare Taonga Trust (the Trust).

Type of Entity and Legal Basis

The Trust is incorporated in New Zealand under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957. The Trust is controlled by Upper Hutt City Council and is a Council Controlled Organisation as defined under section 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Purpose or Mission

The purpose of the Centre is to build social cohesion and improve citizen well-being through engaging, enriching, inspiring and connecting people with arts, culture, and events in the Upper Hutt community.

The primary objective of the Trust is the operation of a cultural centre facility for use in purposes associated with arts, culture, and events, including the promotion of and education in those areas, as well as performances, exhibitions, conferences, and other activities of a leisure nature for the local community or social benefit rather than making a financial return.

Structure of the Trust's Operations, including Governance Arrangements

The Trust comprises a Board of seven Trustees who oversee the governance of the Trust, the Director who is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Trust and reports to the Trustees, three full-time staff, and ten part-time staff who support the Director in delivering against the Trust's objectives. The Trustees are appointed by the Upper Hutt City Council.

Main Sources of the Trust's Cash and Resources

Operating grants received from the Upper City Council are the primary sources of funding for the Trust. The Trust also receives funds from operational activities, public donations, and non-government grants.

Financial Reports

Whirinaki Whare Taonga
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Prepared by Chapman Upchurch Accountants Limited

Contents

3	Compilation Report
4	Trust Directory
5	Entity Information
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7	Statement of Service Performance
8	Statement of Financial Performance
9	Statement of Financial Position
11	Statement of Cash Flows
12	Statement of Accounting Policies
15	Notes to the Performance Report

Compilation Report

Whirinaki Whare Taonga For the year ended 30 June 2025

Compilation Report to the Directors of Whirinaki Whare Taonga Trust.

Scope

On the basis of information provided and in accordance with Service Engagement Standard 2 Compilation of Financial Information, we have compiled the financial statements of Whirinaki Whare Taonga Trust for the year ended 30 June 2025.

These statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in the Notes to these financial statements.

Responsibilities

The Trustees are solely responsible for the information contained in this financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet your needs and for the purpose that the financial statements were prepared.

The financial statements were prepared exclusively for your benefit. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the financial statements.

No Audit or Review Engagement Undertaken

Our procedures use accounting expertise to undertake the compilation of the financial statements from information you provided. Our procedures do not include verification or validation procedures. No audit or review engagement has been performed and accordingly no assurance is expressed.

Independence

We have no involvement with Whirinaki Whare Taonga Trust other than for the preparation of financial statements and management reports and offering advice based on the financial information provided.

Disclaimer

We have compiled these financial statements based on information provided which has not been subject to an audit or review engagement. Accordingly, we do not accept any responsibility for the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the compiled financial information contained in the financial statements. Nor do we accept any liability of any kind whatsoever, including liability by reason of negligence, to any person for losses incurred as a result of placing reliance on this financial report.

Chapman Upchurch Accountants Limited

108 Main Street
Upper Hutt 5018

Dated: 2 September 2025

Trust Directory

Whirinaki Whare Taonga

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Nature of Business

Arts, Culture & Events

Address

836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt, New Zealand, 5018

Trustees

Zoe Juniper (Chair)
Angela Toomey
Tim Thorpe
Stephen Ward
Alicia Rosevear
Emma Chatterton
Tania Jones

Special Trust Advisors

Hine Poa (Marae Representative)
Suzanne Beere (Pumpkin Cottage Collection Advisory Trustee)
Sian Williamson (Music Advisor)

IRD Number

081-492-336

Chartered Accountant

Chapman Upchurch Accountants

Bankers

ANZ Bank, Upper Hutt

Auditor

Moore Markhams

Entity Information

Whirinaki Whare Taonga

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Legal Name

Whirinaki Whare Taonga Trust

Type and Legal Basis

The Trust is incorporated in New Zealand under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957. The Trust is controlled by Upper Hutt City Council and is a Council Controlled Organisation as defined under section 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Charitable Trust Registration Number

CC25076

Purpose or Mission

The purpose of the Centre is to build social cohesion and improve citizen wellbeing through engaging, enriching, inspiring and connecting people with arts, culture and events in the Upper Hutt community.

The primary objective of the Trust is the operation of a cultural centre facility for use in purposes associated with arts, culture and events, including the promotion of and education in those areas, as well as performances, exhibitions, conferences and other activities of a leisure nature for the local community or social benefit rather than making a financial return.

The Entity's Governance Arrangements (i.e. who makes the key decisions on behalf of the entity)

The Trust comprises a Board of seven Trustees who oversee the governance of the Trust, the Director who is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Trust and reporting to the Trustees, three full-time staff and ten part-time staff who support the Director in delivering against the Trust's objectives. The Trustees are appointed by the Upper Hutt City Council.

Main Sources of Cash and Resources

Operating grants received from the Upper City Council are the primary sources of funding to the Trust. The Trust also receives funds from operational activities, public donations and non-government grants.

Reliance on Volunteers and Donated Goods or Services

The Trust has volunteers that assist with specific events and ushering

Physical Address

836 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt, New Zealand, 5018

Postal Address

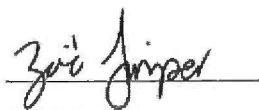
PO Box 40594, Upper Hutt, New Zealand, 5140

Approval of Financial Report

Whirinaki Whare Taonga For the year ended 30 June 2025

The Trustees are pleased to present the approved financial report including the historical financial statements of Whirinaki Whare Taonga Trust for year ended 30 June 2025.

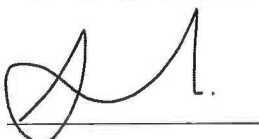
APPROVED



Zoe Juniper

Trustee

Date 2 September 2025



Stephen Ward

Trustee

2 September 2025
Date

Statement of Service Performance

Whirinaki Whare Taonga

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Description of medium to long term objectives

Commentary on the key objectives for the Trust is covered earlier in the Annual Report

Statement of Financial Performance

Whirinaki Whare Taonga

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	NOTES	2025	2025 BUDGET	2024
Revenue				
Council Funding	1	954,206	954,204	1,112,164
Revenue from Commercial Activities	1	244,938	270,600	254,215
Donations, and other fundraising activities		46,691	75,000	221,253
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue		11,776	8,000	15,602
Total Revenue		1,257,611	1,307,804	1,603,234
Expenses				
Employee Remuneration, Volunteer & Related Expenses	2	705,608	728,500	823,725
Expenses related to commercial activities	2	182,913	224,200	492,401
Other expenses	2	349,744	369,500	362,646
Total Expenses		1,238,265	1,322,200	1,678,772
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		19,345	(14,396)	(75,538)

Major variancea

Explanations of the major variance's to budget are provided in Note 16 of the financial statements.

Statement of Financial Position

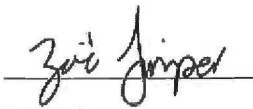
Whirinaki Whare Taonga

As at 30 June 2025

	NOTES	30 JUN 2025	30 JUN 2024
Assets			
Current Assets			
Bank accounts and cash	3	235,708	142,131
Debtors and prepayments	4	37,266	113,794
Inventory		21,958	19,836
Term Deposits	5	137,956	137,956
Goods and services tax		8,657	12,594
Total Current Assets		441,545	426,311
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	6	59,039	77,661
Permanent Art Collection	7	58,815	58,815
Total Non-Current Assets		117,854	136,476
Total Assets		559,399	562,787
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and accrued expenses			
Trade payables	8	105,606	144,497
Credit Cards Payable		1,779	1,018
Holding accounts		378	6,834
Total Creditors and accrued expenses		107,763	152,350
Employee entitlements	9	43,682	59,040
Deferred revenue	10	47,869	12,679
Total Current Liabilities		199,314	224,069
Total Liabilities		199,314	224,069
Total Assets less Total Liabilities (Net Assets)		360,085	338,718

	NOTES	30 JUN 2025	30 JUN 2024
Accumulated Funds			
Capital contributed by owners or members		10	10
Accumulated surpluses or (deficits)		285,997	266,652
Arts Scholarship Reserve	11	44,058	42,036
Artwork Revaluation Reserve	11	30,020	30,020
Total Accumulated Funds		360,085	338,718

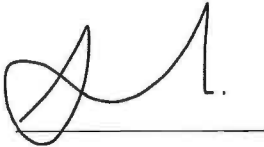
For and on behalf of the Board,



Zoe Juniper

Trustee

Date 2 September 2025



Stephen Ward

Trustee

2 September 2025
Date

Statement of Cash Flows

Whirinaki Whare Taonga

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Cash was provided from:		
Council Funding	954,206	1,112,164
Donations, fundraising and other similar receipts	79,191	92,520
Gross sales from commercial activities	244,264	253,251
Interest, dividends and other investment receipts	12,584	14,952
GST Net	-	5,976
Total Cash was provided from:	1,290,244	1,478,863
Cash was applied to:		
Employee remuneration and other related payments	(728,822)	(811,424)
Payments related to commercial activities	(462,959)	(769,171)
GST Net	(2,385)	-
Total Cash was applied to:	(1,194,167)	(1,580,595)
Total Cash Flows from Operating Activities	96,077	(101,732)
Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities		
Arts Scholarship Reserve	2,022	1,119
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment	(4,523)	(23,580)
Cash flows from other investing and financing activities	-	-
Total Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities	(2,501)	(22,461)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash	93,577	(124,193)
Bank Accounts and Cash		
Opening cash	142,131	266,324
Net change in cash for period	93,577	(124,193)
Closing cash	235,708	142,131

Statement of Accounting Policies

Whirinaki Whare Taonga

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Basis of Preparation

This performance report is prepared in accordance with the XRB's Tier 3 (PS) Standard. The entity is eligible to apply these requirements as it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses of less than \$5,000,000.

All transactions in the performance report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting.

This performance report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The entity is registered for GST. All amounts are stated exclusive of goods and services tax (GST) except for accounts payable and accounts receivable which are stated inclusive of GST.

Income

Council Funding and grants are recognised as revenue when they become receivable unless there are performance expectations attached to the grant. If there are expectations, the grants are initially recorded as special funds in the Statement of Financial Position and recognised as revenue when performance expectations attached to the grant are satisfied.

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the goods are sold to the customer.

Revenue from donated assets is recognised upon receipt of the asset if the asset has a useful life of 12 months or more, and the value of the asset is obtainable and significant.

Interest revenue is recorded as it is earned during the year.

Employment Expenses

Wages, salaries and annual leave are recorded as an expense as staff provide services and become entitled to wages, salaries and leave entitlements.

Volunteer services received are not recognised as revenue or expenditure as the Trust is unable to reliably measure the fair value of the services received.

Other Expenses

Expenses relating to commercial activities and other expenses are recognised when the related service has been received.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivables are initially recorded at the amount owed.

When it is likely the amount owed (or some portion) will not be collected, a provision for impairment is recognised and the loss is recorded as a bad debt expense.

Inventory

Inventory is initially recorded at cost. Goods held for sale are subsequently measured at the lower of cost and their selling price. Goods for use or distribution are subsequently measured at cost and written down if they become obsolete.

Fixed Assets

All fixed assets are recorded at cost price and depreciated on a straight-line basis using the estimated useful life as set by the Inland Revenue Department.

Donated assets are recognised upon receipt of the asset if the asset has a useful life of 12 months or more, and the current value of the asset is readily obtainable and significant. Significant donated assets for which current values are not readily obtainable are not recognised.

For an asset to be sold, the asset is impaired if the market price for an equivalent asset falls below its carrying amount.

For an asset to be used by the Trust, the asset is impaired if the value to the Trust in using the asset falls below the carrying amount of the asset.

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis at rates that will write off the cost of the assets over their useful lives. The useful lives and associated depreciation rates of major classes of assets have been estimated as follows:

Furniture & Fittings	7 to 12 years	8.5% to 67%
Office Equipment	3 to 30 years	1% to 67%
Plant & Equipment	2 to 25 years	4% to 67%

The residual value and useful life of an asset is reviewed, and adjusted if applicable, at each financial year-end.

Works of Art (Permanent Art Collection)

Works of art are revalued every five years based on an estimate of current market value by an independent registered valuer.

Revaluations are conducted more frequently if, at any balance date, the fair value differs materially from the carrying amount. Increases in the value of works of art are transferred to the asset revaluation reserve. A decrease in value is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the period it arises where it exceeds the increase previously recognised in the asset revaluation reserve. In subsequent periods, any revaluation surplus that reverses previous revaluation deficits is recognised as a credit to expenditure in the Statement of Financial Performance up to its original value.

Accounts Payable

Accounts Payable are measured at the amount owed.

Employee Entitlements

A liability for employee entitlements payable is recognised when an employee has earned the entitlement.

These include salaries and wages accrued up to balance date and annual leave earned but not yet taken at balance date. A liability and expense for long service leave and retirement gratuities is recognised when the entitlement becomes available to the employee.

Income Tax

The Trust is registered as a charity under the Charities Act 2005 and is exempt from income tax.

Budget Figures

The budget figures are derived from the Statement of Intent as approved by the Board at the beginning of the financial year. The budget figures have been prepared in accordance with Tier 3 standards, using accounting policies that are consistent with those adopted by the Board in preparing these financial statements.

Tier 2 PBE Accounting Standards Applied

The Trust has applied Tier 2 PBE IPSAS 17 for the valuation of the pumpkin cottage art collection. The Trust has not applied any other Tier 2 Accounting Standards in preparing its financial statements.

Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies. Policies have been applied on a consistent basis with those of the previous reporting period.

Notes to the Performance Report

Whirinaki Whare Taonga

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
1. Analysis of Revenue		
Council Funding		
Operational Grants	928,206	1,006,164
Community Arts Funding	-	80,000
Maintenance Management Fee	21,500	21,500
Permanent Collection Subsidy	4,500	4,500
Total Council Funding	954,206	1,112,164
Sales from Commercial Activities		
Sponsorship	8,239	14,441
Other Operational Revenues	236,698	239,774
Total Sales from Commercial Activities	244,938	254,215
	2025	2024
2. Analysis of Expenses		
Employee Remuneration, Volunteer & Related Expenses		
Salaries and Wages	663,275	725,802
Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements	(15,359)	11,147
Other Expenses	57,692	86,776
Total Employee Remuneration, Volunteer & Related Expenses	705,608	823,725
Expenses related to commercial activities		
Direct Operational Expenses	182,913	492,401
Total Expenses related to commercial activities	182,913	492,401
Other expenses		
Occupancy	192,340	159,347
Office and Administration	57,667	59,018
Advertising and Promotion	24,243	62,642
Depreciation	15,614	27,337
Loss on Disposal	7,108	-
Insurance	10,234	10,360
Audit Fees	17,003	16,405
Bad Debts	-	477
Other Expenses	25,536	27,058
Total Other expenses	349,744	362,646
Total Analysis of Expenses	1,238,265	1,678,772

	2025	2024
3. Bank Accounts and Cash		
ANZ Business Premium Current Account	110,351	23,285
ANZ Online Call Account	124,380	116,498
Other bank balances and cash	977	2,348
Total Bank Accounts and Cash	235,708	142,131

	2025	2024
4. Debtors and prepayments		
Accounts Receivable	17,626	14,100
Accrued Interest	2,446	3,254
Prepayments	17,194	96,440
Total Debtors and prepayments	37,266	113,794

	2025	2024
5. Term Deposits		
ANZ Term Deposit - 83 (Art)	37,956	37,956
ANZ Term Deposit 7595-1000	100,000	100,000
Total Term Deposits	137,956	137,956

Term Deposit	2025	2024
ANZ Term Deposit 83 (Art)		
Maturity	367 days	365 days
Interest Rate	4.90%	6.10%
ANZ Term Deposit 7595-1000		
Maturity	182 days	180 days
Interest Rate	5.65%	6.00%

	2025	2024
6. Property, Plant and Equipment		
Furniture and Fittings		
Opening Balance	33,299	23,559
Additions/(Disposals)	4,100	15,000
Depreciation Expense	(5,181)	(5,260)
Total Furniture and Fittings	32,217	33,299

	2025	2024
Office Equipment		
Opening Balance	1,923	2,186
Additions/(Disposals)	(1,892)	-
Depreciation Expense	1,629	(264)
Total Office Equipment	1,659	1,923
Plant and Equipment		
Opening Balance	42,440	55,250
Additions/(Disposals)	(14,862)	9,003
Depreciation Expense	(2,415)	(21,813)
Total Plant and Equipment	25,163	42,440
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	59,039	77,661
	2025	2024

7. Permanent Art Collection

Pumpkin Cottage Paintings	58,815	58,815
Total Permanent Art Collection	58,815	58,815

The Pumpkin Cottage Art Collection was donated in the 2008/2009 year and was valued at \$26,095 by an independent registered valuer in September 2009. The collection has since been revalued by independent valuers Art + Object to the current recorded value, based on current fair market value. The recorded value shown is the fair market value as per the valuation i.e. the cost which the asset could reasonably be expected to sell for at auction. The collection's current insurance value is \$97,965. No disclosures have been made about significant or critical judgements, significant forward-looking assumptions or other sources of estimation uncertainty.

	2025	2024
8. Trade Payables		
Accounts Payable	88,503	126,345
Accruals	17,103	18,153
Total Trade Payables	105,606	144,497

Accounts payable are non-interest bearing and are normally settled on 30-day terms, therefore the carrying value of accounts payable approximates their fair value.

	2025	2024
9. Employee costs payable		
Annual Leave	43,682	59,040
Total Employee costs payable	43,682	59,040

Unutilised sick leave days accrued to employees has amounted to \$126,782 (2024: \$20,512).

The Council has instituted a new payroll system during the year. This new system has highlighted previous discrepancies in the reporting of sick leave balances. This has resulted in a higher balance of unutilised sick leave than in previous year ends.

	2025	2024
10. Deferred Revenue		
Receipts in Advance		
Deposits	4,750	3,250
Vouchers	228	228
Bonds	2,000	-
Venue Hire	-	810
Total Receipts in Advance	6,978	4,288
Special Funds		
Curation Fund	37,500	5,000
Technical Asset Fund	3,392	3,392
Total Special Funds	40,892	8,392
Total Deferred Revenue	47,869	12,679

Special Funds

During the 2024/2025 year, the Trust received funds from grants for the specific purpose of subsidising future in-house event costs.

Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance
\$5,000	\$47,500	\$15,000	\$37,500

Technical Asset Fund

During the 20234/2025 year, the Trust held funds donated for the specific purpose of contributing towards a major technical asset for the theatre.

Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance
\$3,392	-	-	\$3,392

	2025	2024
11. Reserves		
Arts Scholarship Reserve	44,058	42,036
Artwork Revaluation Reserve	30,020	30,020
Total Reserves	74,078	72,056

The Arts Scholarship Fund of \$31,303 was gifted by the former Community Gallery, to be held in trust, with the interest earned on the term deposit to be awarded as an art scholarship.

Opening Balance	Receipts	Payments	Closing Balance
\$42,035	\$2,022	-	\$44,058

Works of art are revalued every five years based on an estimate of current market value by an independent registered valuer.

Revaluations are conducted more frequently if, at any balance date, the fair value differs materially from the carrying amount. Increases in the value of works of art are transferred to the asset revaluation reserve. A decrease in value is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the period it arises where it exceeds the increase previously recognised in the asset revaluation reserve. In subsequent periods, any revaluation surplus that reverses previous revaluation deficits is recognised as a credit to expenditure in the Statement of Financial Performance up to its original value.

	2025	2024
12. Commitments		
Operating Commitments not later than one year		
Dinosaurs Surviving Extinction (15 September to 16 December 2025)	75,000	-
Total Operating Commitments not later than one year	75,000	-
Operating Commitments later than one year and not later than five years		
Scheduled exhibitions opening in September 2024 and May 2025	-	111,834
Total Operating Commitments later than one year and not later than five years	-	111,834

13. Contingent Liabilities and Guarantees

There are no contingent liabilities or guarantees as at 30 June 2025 (2024: Nil).

14. Related Party Transactions

Related-party disclosures have not been made for transactions with related parties that are within a normal supplier or client/recipient relationship on terms and conditions no more or less favourable than those that it is reasonable to expect the Trust would have adopted in dealing with the party at arm's length in the same circumstances.

The Trust was settled by the Upper Hutt City Council and receives a significant amount in operating grants from the Council to deliver its objectives as specified in the Trust Deed. The Upper Hutt City Council is the ultimate controlling party of the Trust.

The following related-party transactions significant to the Trust require disclosure:

1. The Upper Hutt City Council received discounted or free venue hire and related services from the Trust.
2. The Trust has entered into a three-year operating lease with the Upper Hutt City Council for the building which expires 30 June 2026. Lease payments are not market based and are set at \$1 per annum.
3. The Trust pays piano rental of \$3,200 to the Upper Hutt Concert Grand Piano Trust for the 2025 year, well below normal market rates, and provided the Upper Hutt Concert Grand Piano Trust with free event hire. The Upper Hutt Concert Grand Piano Trust is a related party to Whirinaki Whare Taonga due to Trustees in common.

15. Events After the Balance Date

There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report (2024: Nil).

16. Major Variations to Budget

Total Income was \$50k lower than forecast due to the following factors:

- Donations were \$28k lower than budget due to donations dedicated to the Medieval to Metal exhibition, (the block buster exhibition for the 2024-2025 year), being reallocated from the 2024-2025 year to the 2023-2024 year. This followed the audit process last year where one month of the exhibition occurred in the current year. Donations to events were also \$11k lower than forecast.
- Revenue from commercial activities was \$26k lower than budget reflecting the tougher economic environment impacting consumer spending. Sponsorship income, ticket sales and retail sales have all been impacted to varying degrees. There is however a positive variance arising from Venue Hire of \$20k
- Interest was \$3,776 higher than budget due to increased interest rates and the level of the term deposits.

Total Expenses are \$84k lower than forecast due to a combination of the following factors:

- Expenses related to commercial activities are \$41k lower than budget. The main contributor to this were the reallocation of costs associated with the Medieval to Metal exhibition following the audit process last year as referred to above.
- Advertising and Promotion are \$4k lower than budget due cost savings across-the-board including cancellation of coverage in the Leader.
- Depreciation is \$15k higher than budget due to the scrapping of a number of low value assets no longer held by the trust.
- Employment Costs are \$23k lower than budget due to a position kept vacant for 6 months and lower than forecast use of Supporting Gallery Technicians as part of across-the-board costs savings.
- Insurance is \$5k lower than budget due to expected costs remaining steady instead of increasing as budgeted for.
- Occupancy Costs are \$20k lower than budget due to changes occurring with the Gas (heating) supply associated with the H20xtream upgrade, together with restricted Repair and Maintenance and Cleaning Programme's.
- Professional and Financial is \$3k higher than budget due to an increased in Membership and Subscription Fees and Accounting Fees.

The factors detailed above have resulted in a net surplus \$33,741 higher than budget noting that \$54k of this relates to timing differences associated with the Medieval to Metal exhibition explained above.

Independent auditor's report

To the readers of the Whirinaki Whare Taonga's Financial Statements and Performance Information for the year ended 30 June 2025

The Auditor-General is the auditor of the Whirinaki Whare Taonga. The Auditor-General has appointed me, Andrew Steel, using the staff and resources of Moore Markhams Wellington Audit, to carry out the audit of the financial statements and the performance information, of the Trust on the Auditor-General's behalf.

Opinion

We have audited:

- the financial statements of the Trust on pages 53 to 65, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- the performance information of the Trust, comprising the objectives, full year objectives and achievements listed table format on pages 25 to 44.

In our opinion:

- the financial statements of the Trust on pages 53 to 65:
 - present fairly, in all material respects:
 - its financial position as 30 June 2025; and
 - its financial performance and cash flows for the year that ended; and
 - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with the XRB's Tier 3 (PS) Standard; and
- the performance information of the Trust, comprising the objectives, full year objectives and achievements listed in table format on pages 25 to 44 presents fairly, in all material respects, the Trust's actual performance compared against the performance targets and other measures in the Trust's statement of intent for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Our audit was completed on 8 September 2025. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis for our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Trustees and our responsibilities relating to the financial statements, we comment on other information, and we explain our independence.

Basis for our opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Responsibilities of the Auditor section of our report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of the Trustees for the financial statements and the performance information

The Trustees are responsible on behalf of the Trust for preparing financial statements and performance information that are fairly presented and that comply with generally accepted accounting practices in New Zealand.

The Trustees are responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare financial statements and performance information that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements and the performance information, the Trustees are responsible on behalf of the Trust for assessing the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless there is an intention to liquidate the Trust or to cease operations, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Trustees' responsibilities arise from the Local Governments Act 2002, the Charitable Trusts Act 1957, the Charities Act 2005 and the Whirinaki Whare Taonga's Deed.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements and the performance information

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and the performance information, as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of these financial statements and performance information.

For the budget information reported in the financial statements and the performance information, our procedures were limited to checking that the information agreed with the Trust's statement of performance expectations.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the financial statements and the performance information.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and the performance information, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control.

- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Trustees and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements and the performance information or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Trust to cease to continue as a going concern.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements and the performance information, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements and the performance information represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of performance information, including the disclosures, and assess whether the performance information achieves its statutory purpose of enabling the Trust's readers to judge the actual performance of the Trust against its objectives in its statement of intent.

We communicate with the Trustees regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other Information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included on pages 1 to 52 but does not include the financial statements and the performance information, and our auditor's report thereon.

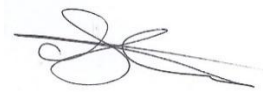
Our opinion on the financial statements and the performance information does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements and the performance information, our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements and the performance information, or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independence

We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than the audit, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Trust.



Andrew Steel
Moore Markhams Wellington Audit
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Wellington, New Zealand