

MINUTES

39th Annual General Meeting of Friends of the Christchurch Art Gallery
Philip Carter Family Auditorium
Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū
7:30pm Wednesday 31 March 2021

1. Apologies

Marianne Hargreaves, Ina Johann

2. Minutes of the 2020 AGM

Minutes from the 38th AGM were read out – *correction for spelling of Philip Trusttum's name.*

MOTION: That minutes of the 2020 AGM be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Grant Banbury. Seconded: Pip Voeller. CARRIED.

3. Annual report – President's Report

Sarah Anderson presented the President's Report.

Friends of Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū President's Report for 2020

Ka tangi te tītī
Ka tangi te kākā
Ka tangi hoki ko au
Tihei Mauriora!

Tēnā Koutou ki aku hoa
Kua haere mai ki te Puna o Waiwhetu. Kua mine mai nei tēnei rōpu, ki te poipoi i ngā wawata hei pounamu mā te hunga nei. Kei te manawa reka ahau ki te tuku karanga ki a koutou e tautoko ana i ā tātou kia eke panuku.

Nō rēira Tēnā koutou.

Ko Ngāti Pākeha tōku iwi
No Ōtautahi ahau
Ko Lincoln tōku kāinga ināiane
Ko Anderson tōku ingoa whānau
Ko Sarah tōku ingoa

Nō rēira Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa

2020 was the strangest of years, dominated by the Covid19 pandemic. Despite this the Friends managed to achieve a surprising amount, probably the hardest hit events in our annual calendar were the Speaker of the Month and Coffee + Art. Running six out of ten scheduled SOM and seven of ten Coffee + Art. Postponement, re-jigging and nimble thinking became the order of the day.

During the lockdown itself the committee continued our Monthly meetings, embracing the technology of ZOOM style get-togethers.

Our 2020 AGM was postponed until June, due to the restrictions of lockdown and was run in level 2. It was a subdued affair with no post AGM gathering. It is a delight to be able to run a 'normal' event this year.

The most disappointing casualty of the lockdown for me, was the cancellation of the much anticipated Auckland Art Trip, scheduled for what turned out to be the first weekend of lockdown. I'm pleased to report that we have now successfully run that trip, neatly and nail bitingly slipping it in as Auckland downgraded from Level Two to Level One during the weekend of the event!

We have completed our backlog of postponed SOM events with the last of the 2020 calendar taking place this month. We were able to enjoy an insightful tour through the Frances Hodgkins exhibition with well known Art Historian and curator Mary Kreisler, little did we realise how short lived that show's run would be as it shut down a mere few weeks after! Later in the year we were treated to some wonderful insights into Louise Henderson's life and practice by our very own Lead Curator, Felicity Milburn. This and the tour of the Te wheke exhibition were followed by morning tea in Universo and were the first of our new Curator + Morning Tea events. This combination is proving to be very successful and allows the opportunity to compare notes and catch-up post talk, so far these have been sell out events and we are continuing them as a regular activity.

Day trips to Ashburton & Timaru/Oxford were run successfully and were neatly dovetailed around Covid disruptions (by luck rather than design). Our annual quiz night was well subscribed and enjoyed by all, a big thank-you to the Gallery Librarian Tim Jones for doing his usual stellar job as quiz master. Tim also ran an online/zoom quiz event during lockdown which was a lot of fun. David Sheldon & Bojana Rimbovska held a workshop event aimed at attracting more students to sign up as members, this is an ongoing project, but a great start has been made. The Friends are also working closely with the University of Canterbury through their internship programme to collate and present a history of the Friends. Marianne Hargreaves and Tim Jones are assisting the student interns in this task which was begun in 2020 and is ongoing. We are conscious of the 50th anniversary of the Friends late in 2021 and we are aiming to have a presentable history ready for those celebrations.

Other events held in 2020 include two studio visits to Philip Trusttum, one of which formed part of our Christmas event - An Inner City Exploration. This consisted of a tour of two private residences and also the studios of Julia Morison and Phil Trusttum. I would like to extend a big thank-you to Quentin & Francis Roake and Garry & Margaret Forward who generously opened their homes to a flood of Friends along with the aforementioned artists.

I would like to thank and acknowledge the continued support of our two patrons, Gabrielle Tasman & Philip Trusttum, who have both consented to continue as our Patrons. Their generosity and advocacy for the Friends is very much appreciated.

Further highlights of the 2020 year include successfully running the inaugural Julie King Memorial Lecture. We were delighted to be able to host Julia Waite as our first speaker, the auditorium was packed and all those attending were treated to a fascinating talk. A great start to a very special

annual event in the Friends calendar. We thank Jenny May for her generosity in supporting this lecture series.

Sadly 2020 saw the loss of June Goldstein, June was a stalwart and committed member of the Friends. She will be remembered by many as she was a regular attender of events and a great supporter of the arts. June was the recipient of a Christchurch Civic Award and her contributions and presence are missed. We would also like to acknowledge the loss to the Friends of other members who have passed away in 2020.

As we contemplate loss, I would also like to speak about the contribution the Friends are making to the Gallery's purchase of Bill Hammond's spectacular 'Boneyard Open Home, Cave Painting 4, Convocation of Eagles' and the accompanying 2nd volume publication of Bill's work. The Friends have donated \$15,000 towards this publication and have pledged a further \$15,000 towards the completion of the purchase of 'Boneyard Open Home'. These two projects will enhance both our Gallery's collection and be a fitting tribute to the legacy of work left by Bill.

We are also thrilled to report the Friends purchase of three of Louise Henderson's 'Twelve months' series and subsequent gift by us to the Gallery. We were delighted to enable this purchase from their previous owner Peter Hoosjaard. Peter recognised their importance within the canon of New Zealand art and was delighted to assist in finding them a permanent home in our public collection. This brings the total number now in the Gallery's collection to seven of the extant eleven - August is permanently damaged so a suite of twelve is no longer possible. Louise's daughter Diane McKegg is thrilled to know that three more of the months have joined the four that she and her family donated initially.

In December 2020 we bid farewell to our administrator Airi Hashimoto and wished her well in her new adventure in Sydney. Airi was with the Friends for a little over two years and was a great asset to us. In January 2021 we welcomed Annie De Senna to the team as our new Administrator and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Annie to you all. If you have any questions about membership, booking for events and so forth then please don't hesitate to ask Annie.

Our membership is slowly increasing year on year and we are creeping ever closer to the 1000+ threshold. I am hoping 2021 will see us bump over that magic number and to climb still further. You, our members are the bedrock of this group and we need you and many more like you. The support we offer the gallery is important and without you all joining, attending events, trips, auctions and so forth the Gallery would miss out on our contributions to acquisitions, publications and staff professional development. So I am delighted to report that despite a difficult year all events have raised funds. We have managed to keep our head above water, to contribute in meaningful ways to the gallery and also to the cultural life of our membership.

I'd like to thank all the committee for supporting me this year, this is a voluntary organisation and we appreciate all the time the members invest in making the events possible.

Thank-you for being members, for supporting the gallery through your participation and for being here this evening.

Sarah Anderson
President

MOTION: That the president's report be adopted.

Moved: Christine Lo. Seconded: Peter Scholes. ADOPTED.

4. Gallery Update

Gallery Director Blair Jackson gave an update on behalf of the Gallery.

Kia ora koutou.

It's very good to be here with no social distancing and no masks. It's been such a crazy and unpredictable year, I'm not sure many of us ever imagined that the past 12 months would be so disruptive and disrupted! Although here at the Gallery, the disruption and reduction in visitation has been far less than experienced by many of our colleagues overseas. Our visitation is down by 28% on the previous year. Internationally that reduction in visitors averages at 77%.

As freight and border closures derailed a number of our plans, we were forced to make a range of quick changes to our exhibitions programming. This allowed new opportunities to expand our focus on local and New Zealand based artists, and offered the space to bring projects, such as Graham Bennett's *Seeking a Balance* forward in our schedule. Planning for these changes began as soon as New Zealand went into Lock down this time last year.

Aside from schedule re-planning, the Gallery team presented a whole range of lock-down web-based programmes through social media, our website and Zoom...such a well-known tool to all of us now but new to many one year ago.

Post lock-down, over the past 12 months we have presented exhibitions by Louise Henderson, Dane Mitchell, Max Gimblett, Judy Darragh and Sean Kerr, Areta Wilkinson, Conor Clarke, Emma Fitts and Oliver Perkins.

Sadly, one of opportunities we lost was a grand community-focused celebration for the opening of *Te Wheke: Pathways Across Oceania*, our current collection-focused exhibition. However, the exhibition itself has attracted much positive feedback and strong and diverse visitation. We are now well in the planning stages for the next collection rehang to replace *Te Wheke* in the first part of next year.

Another sad note during the past 12 months was the loss of a number of artists represented in the Gallery's collection, including Maurice Askew, Audrey Parker, Peter Roche, John Nixon, Douglas MacDiarmid, Pauline Trengrove, Rosemary Perry, Peter Nichols and of course, one of our finest painters, Bill Hammond.

We were privileged to be able to host a memorial event for Bill. The event was extremely well attended, a real indication as to just how much Bill was loved as an artist and person. We are still actively fundraising to acquire the collection *Bone Yard Open Home Cave Painting 4*, Bill's significant painting from 2008. My thanks to the Friends for supporting our fundraising efforts and also supporting *Before The Moon Falls*, our new publication on Bill's work that follows on from 2007's

Jingle Jangle Morning. The book, which I promise will be extremely beautiful, will be launched in late August of this year.

Last weekend we were delighted to finally open *Ralph Hotere: Ātete*, an exhibition that we developed in a partnership with the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. We've been collectively working on this exhibition for over two years now and there were certainly a few COVID induced speedbumps along the way. *Ātete* is a wonderful exhibition and one that I'm extremely proud of. It was good to see so many Friends at what was a very special opening on Friday evening.

Another highlight for me has been the recent establishment of our artist-in-residency programme based in Richmond at the former home of W.A Sutton. It's very early days for the programme but we are delighted to have had Francis Upritchard in the house over the past few months working towards a major project that will open here later this year.

As many of you know, the City Council's Long Term Plan is currently out in the community for feedback and submissions. There are a number of proposed changes to the Gallery's agreed Levels of Service. I'd encourage everyone to have a good look at this and provide feedback as part of the consultation process. The proposed changes will certainly have an impact on the Gallery.

My thanks to all of you as Friends of the Christchurch Art Gallery. I greatly value the Friends' long history of support for the Gallery. I'd also like to thank Sarah and the Friends committee, I know how hard they all work on behalf of the Friends as a group, and the Gallery itself. It's greatly appreciated.

Thank you everyone.

Blair then thanked Sarah personally for her work in securing the Louise Henderson works.

5. Treasurer's Report

Dan Trochez presented the Treasurer's Report. Copies of the Financial Statement and the Auditor's performance report were presented on screen (paper copies were made available).

Statement of Financial Performance

Total income for 2020: \$58,403. Expenses for 2020 were \$57,042. Result for the year was a surplus of \$1,361.

Income from donations, fundraising events, and tours, breakfasts: there was a decrease from the previous year due to COVID-19.

Membership income: \$30,990 in 2020 – up by \$9,526 from 2019 (\$21,464). Thank you to committee for working hard to secure more memberships.

Interest Dividends: there is a reduction because the term deposit was not doing anything. We took \$50,000 out and allocated \$15,000 to the donation for Bill Hammond's piece of art and allocated the remaining amount to the operational expenses bank account.

Expenses - Grants and donations made: this is donations for acquisitions.

Statement of Financial Position

Assets: Bank Accounts and Cash Assets have increased because we have withdrawn money from the term deposit. We have also received more money from events throughout year. We are in a strong position.

Liabilities: current liabilities are the credit card transactions throughout year. Income in advance is income from the Auckland trip.

Term Deposit: There was \$100,712 in Term Deposit at the end of the year. The reduction is due to the allocations mentioned earlier.

The total in bank accounts at the end of the year was \$206,317.

We are doing really well financially considering how tough 2020 was. Having good leadership on the executive team has been really good. This year is hopefully going to be better due to being able to host some fundraising events.

MOTION: That the Treasurer's Report be adopted.

Moved: Margaret Dunanc. Seconded: Margaret Johns. ADOPTED

MOTION: That Smith + Jack are appointed as auditors for 2022 .

Moved: Dan Trochez. Seconded: Kirsten McFarlane. CARRIED.

6. Appointment of the Patrons

MOTION: That the current patrons Philip Trusttum and Gabrielle Tasman be appointed for another year.

Moved: Joanna Bowley. Seconded: Annel de Kort. CARRIED.

7. Election of Officers

We have the required number of nominees so there was no election.

Existing committee:

President – Sarah Anderson

Vice president – Marianne Hargreaves

Treasurer – Dan Trochez

Julianne Eason, Ina Johann, Ruth Leslie, Kirsten MacFarlane, Bojana Rimbovska, Charrette van Eekelen

MOTION: That the existing members continue on the committee.

Carried by Majority vote. CARRIED.

8. General Business

- Reminder to make your submission about the CCC Long Term Plan. Blair spoke to this: the cuts affect the hours that the gallery is open with late night Wednesdays being reduced from every week to once a month; there is also a proposed 20% reduction in levels of service to education and public programmes. Questions were raised regarding alternatives. Blair wasn't able to give feedback on these.

Sarah declared the meeting closed at 8.17pm

DRAFT