

**Friends of Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū**  
**Minutes of the 41st Annual General Meeting**

Wednesday 29 March 2023, 7pm

Philip Carter Family Auditorium, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Special mention made to one of our patrons in attendance, Philip Trusttum; to the Gallery Director, Blair Jackson; speaker Gina Irish and the Executive Committee.

**2. Apologies**

Sue Le Mesurier, Annabel de Kort, Alistair and Susan Stokes, Robynanne Milford, Gabrielle Tasman

**3. Minutes of the previous AGM**

Minutes of the 40<sup>th</sup> AGM were available for perusal online, in advance.

**Motion that the Minutes be accepted:** Sarah Anderson | **Carried**

**4. Matters arising from the minutes**

None

**5. Annual Report** presented by the Friends President, Sarah Anderson

Tēnā Koutou katoa, Nau mai, haere mai.

Welcome to the 41st AGM of the Friends of Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū. I have been reflecting on 2022 and what we may experience as we progress through 2023 - the fourth year of Covid. During 2022 we continued to experience disruption to events because of the pandemic. I have no doubt this will continue to some extent this year as well. However we are all learning to adapt and to be flexible and understanding. Technology has certainly saved the day especially with the Julie King Memorial Lecture, this would have been cancelled had it not been for the availability of live stream. We were also lucky that Deidre Brown was not so ill that she couldn't deliver her talk.

The Friends of Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū have 3 objectives clearly stated in the Friends Rules.

They are:

- *To support and promote the Gallery and promote it within the community*
- *To provide educational opportunities in conjunction with the Gallery*
- *To provide members with the opportunity to enjoy arts and culture*

As president I am always conscious of these core principles and ensuring that we *stick to our knitting*. Our mandate to support and promote the gallery is why we have such a focus on fundraising. The Friends have developed and are continuing to refine a model that enables us to provide our other objectives

while actively raising funds. We aim to run every event at a profit, with the occasional exception and that is usually something closely aligned to supporting a gallery initiated function.

So although some events were either cancelled or postponed as Omicron progressed we still managed to run a pretty full and fun calendar. The Art at Home/Artist at Work Saturday morning series proved, and continues to be, a great success. These events routinely sell-out and often have waiting lists. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved for their generosity in opening up their private spaces to our membership. I would also like to thank Mark Flowerday, Charrette van Eekelen and Ina Johann for all the work they do to organise and run the events.

Due largely (again) to Covid we only planned one trip last year. However it was a roaring success and enjoyed by all who attended. The trip exemplified what makes these trips special as it provided an entrée to several stunning, but very private properties, in the Queenstown area. Again I marvel at the generosity of those who are prepared to open up their homes and gardens to our membership and I am still gutted that I was unable to join the group - thank-you Covid!

Our annual quiz night was once again a raging success, despite our veteran quiz master being away doing good works in the islands. We are looking forward to seeing Tim Jones back on form this year, so keep an eye out for the upcoming 2023 mid-winter quiz night. I would like to thank Julieanne Eason for all the work she does pulling these events together, without her efforts they wouldn't happen.

We were treated to a fascinating morning in the company of Rānui Ngārimu guiding us through the Te Puna Waiora exhibition. Rānui added so much to the experience through her generous sharing of knowledge and personal anecdotes. This was a well-attended Curator Talk + Morning Tea. This is a model that allows members the opportunity to meet with key personnel/curators involved in the shows and to get a highly personalised insight into the featured exhibition, followed by the chance to relax and debrief over a cuppa afterwards. We are hoping to offer more of these events in 2023.

As mentioned in my introduction, we were delighted to finally welcome Deidre Brown as our annual JKM lecturer. However, true to form with this event it was not without drama as Deidre tested Covid positive the day before the talk. Our stellar administrator Annie came to the rescue and pulled together the necessary technology to enable Deidre to be beamed in remotely and the show went on - attended by close to 100 people. I would like to extend my thanks to Jenny May for instigating and fully supporting this important annual lecture series. I would also like to extend thanks to Marianne Hargreaves and Annie de Senna for persevering to make it actually happen.

The Speaker of the Month series was also somewhat disrupted throughout the year, but we still managed to enjoy some fascinating talks. The year kicked off with a celebration of the History of the Friends. A cross section of presidents past & present shared their memories. This was a great talk, well attended, and it was lovely to host at least one thing that actually celebrated the Friends 50th milestone. I would like to thank all those who contributed their time as speakers. Speakers are not paid and give these talks in the spirit of sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm. Thanks to all those on the committee who help out with the running of the events, especially Ina Johann, Bojana Rimbovska & Sue le Mesurier.

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

We rounded off 2022 with a very pleasant Christmas party at Kate Sheppard House, this was well attended and a wonderfully relaxed way to see out the year. In recognition of the now abandoned plans for a 50th Anniversary bash we distributed the bespoke Julia Morison designed t-towels & celebration

badges. These had been intended for goodie bags at the 50th Party, so it was great to finally have an opportunity to distribute them.

We are grateful for the continued support of our members, in June 2021 our total membership exceeded 1000! Unfortunately that pinnacle was brief. We need members and we need more of them, so please spread the word, give a membership as a gift, persuade a friend to join. If every member joined one more person, we would double our numbers! It doesn't take much to increase our group and we are working hard to provide a valued added experience.

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 but one event raised funds. We have contributed in meaningful ways to support the gallery and also the cultural life of our membership. Two significant contributions have been gifting \$85,000 to the gallery acquisition fund, this enabled them to purchase a suite of culturally important photos which has plugged an identified gap in the collection. If you attended last year's AGM you would have heard the delight expressed by curator Melanie Oliver with regard to receiving this funding boost from the Friends.

The Friends also support gallery staff professional development and this year we have funded gallery registrar Gina Irish to study (on-line) the Diploma Art Profession Law and Ethics delivered by the Institute of Art Law (London). Gina is going to share some of her excitement with us this evening, as this course is enabling her to get right up to speed in this critical area.

Please also engage in the wonderful social media posts that committee member Bojana Rimbovska organises. Bojana is our social media guru and I for one am incredibly grateful to her for stepping into the role. I would also like to take a moment to acknowledge Ruth Leslie who formats our monthly newsletter.

I'd like to thank all the committee for supporting me in my role as President, and for taking on all the various roles that combined provide the Friends calendar of events.

This is a voluntary organisation and we appreciate all the time the members invest in making our events possible. Thank-you for being members, for supporting the gallery through your participation and for joining us this evening.

Sarah Anderson  
President

**Motion:** to accept the Annual Report as a true and accurate record of 2022

**Moved:** Christine Low | **Seconded:** Marianne Hargreaves | **Carried**

6. **Gallery Update** by Gallery Director, Blair Jackson

Blair gave an update on the Gallery and thanked the Friends for their continued support over the past year.

7. **Speaker:** Gina Irish Gallery Registrar

With the support of the Friends, Gina has been accepted into the Diploma Art Profession Law and Ethics delivered by the Institute of Art Law (London). Gina outlined her research priorities, referencing key legal precedents and ethical frameworks relevant to collection management at the Gallery, and more generally professional practice in New Zealand.

8. **Financial Report** presented by the Treasurer, Mark Flowerday  
Copies of the Financial Statement and Auditor's performance report were presented on screen.

**Motion:** To accept the Financial Report as a true and accurate record

**Moved:** Peter Scholes | **Seconded** Beverley Cocks | **Carried**

**Motion:** To re-appoint Smith & Jack Chartered Accountants as auditors for the year ending 2023.

**Moved:** Sarah Anderson | **Carried**

## 9. Re-Appointment of Patrons

**Motion:** To re-appoint Gabrielle Tasman and Philip Trusttun as Patrons

**Moved:** Sarah Anderson | **Carried**

## 10. Elections of Officers

The current members have opted to stay on the committee. There were no other nominations.

**Motion:** To retain the current committee

**Moved:** Grant Banbury | **Seconded:** Margaret Duncan | **Carried**

### The committee is:

Sarah Anderson (President), Marianne Hargreaves (Vice-President), Mark Flowerday (Treasurer) and committee members – Julieanne Eason, Ina Johann, Sue Le Mesurier, Ruth Leslie, Bojana Rimbovska, Charrette van Eekelen

## 11. Close of Meeting

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.52pm