

Spiral Collectives Trust

Annual Report 2026



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This is an expanded version of our annual report as required by the Charities Commission.

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Cover image: Some of Spiral's new generation at Moeraki, May 2025.

CONTENTS

About Spiral	1
Our Work This Year	6
Spiral's resources: individuals, entities & cash	16
Spiral Collectives	23

ABOUT SPIRAL



*Spiral meeting, St Gerard's Monastery Te Whanganui-a-Tara March 2026 L-R
Joanna Osborne, Cusbla Parekowhai, Cathasaigh O'Fiannachta, Becca Barnes,
Marian Evans, Fran McGowan.*

OUR STORY

Spiral has created, supported and held public spaces for work by women artists and writers for over 50 years, as a national, artist-led and volunteer-based non-profit.

Today, we educate about women's and nonbinary people's creative practices and legacies and support them with publications, exhibitions, events, moving image, websites and archives. We also umbrella autonomous and self-funding collectives, with awahi and the use of the Spiral logo.

Local and international readers can access our publications online, without cost, at the Te Puna o Waiwhetū the Christchurch Art Gallery site.¹



Spiral Issue 8: Setting the [work] table (2025)



Spiral Collectives Projects 1975-2025: Some Stories (2025)



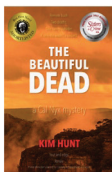
Spiral Collectives Projects 1975-2025: Catalogue (2025)



Women's Film Festivals and #WomeninFilm Databases (2025)



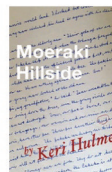
Adapting Keri Hulme's The Bone People into a graphic novel (2025)



Kim Hunt: The Beautiful Dead (2024)



Keri Hulme: Our Kuru Pounamu (2022-4)



Moeraki Hillside by Keri Hulme (2024)

Some of our publications, in a screenshot from the Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū site.

1. <https://christchurchartgallery.org.nz/about/library/spiral>

LEGAL NAME & LEGAL BASIS

Spiral Collectives Trust, a registered Charitable Trust, registration number CC62215.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Biz Hayman (from 22 April 2026)

Cathasaigh O'Fiannachta (from 17 April 2026)

Cushla Parekowhai

Fran McGowan

Joanna Osborne

Kim Hunt (from 22 April 2026)

Marian Evans

TRUSTEE CHANGES

Spiral has always been a series of collectives and is now has a series of trustees. Each trustee comes with an arts practice of at least a decade and having completed at least one Spiral Collectives project.

On 30 April Cushla Parekowhai resigned as a trustee, completing a decade of intense and warmly appreciated commitment to Spiral that started when she drove Heather McPherson's archives from Tāmaki Makaurau to Pōneke, with Marian Evans.



Breaking the journey at Taupo, 2016. L-R Marian Evans, Cusbla Parekowhai. Selfie.

Cusbla initiated *This Joyous Chaotic Place He Waiata Tangi-ā-Tabu*, a Mokopōpaki and Spiral exhibition and publication to celebrate Heather McPherson and her peers. She later worked on early development of *the bone people* adaptation, and the creation of our charitable trust. Her ideas and manaakitanga were and are special to us and we're very glad she's still a beloved Spiral.

Fran McGowan resigned on April 30 as well, after several years of intense work establishing the trust and its necessary systems, with deeply appreciated patience and skill and collegiality. She also initiated *Spiral Collectives Projects 1975-2025 — Catalogue*, a comprehensive and fully illustrated survey of our work. She too remains a beloved Spiral.



*L-R Joanna Osborne and Fran McGowan 2026, in Fran's happy place,
St Gerard's Library.*

A warm welcome to our new trustees Biz Hayman, Cathasaigh O'Fiannachta and Kim Hunt.

OUR WORK THIS YEAR

This year, in our research and development, exhibitions, publications and archival work, we celebrated 50 years' work with love and gratitude and moved towards the future, welcoming a new generation of artists and writers.



From the new generation: Cathasaigh O'Fiannachta and Becca Barnes in the St Gerard's library 2026.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Adaptation of Keri Hulme's *the bone people*, as a graphic novel to become the basis for an animation, led by Becca Barnes (Narra-

tive Facilitator), Cathasaigh O’Fiannachta (Fundraise Facilitator) and Madison Kelly (Visual Facilitator). This heritage project’s kaupapa is to safeguard and uphold the mana of this literary taonga in adaptations Keri would love, made by a new generation and for new audiences.

We spent a weekend at Moeraki with the Hulme whānau, to confirm the kaupapa and the parameters of our accountability to Keri, to *the bone people* and to the whānau, the kaitiaki of Keri’s legacy. We also prepared a prospectus/pitch document for potential donors to the project’s next phase, a pilot segment of the graphic novel. In this phase, we will establish safe, sustainable, whānau-friendly and effective processes for completing the work as a collective of writers and artists.¹

A new edition of *Women’s Film Festivals and Women in Film Databases: A Handbook*, to include a section about #directedbywomen #Aotearoa.

Our new website, designed by Biz Hayman.

Research support for Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū’s Spiral Collectives exhibition, curated by librarian and archivist Tim Jones; for Glen Eden Library’s Pride Month exhibition; for international academics researching Spiral-related topics and individuals; and for crowd-sourced identification of still and

1. <https://www.spiralcollectives.org/concept>; <https://christchurchartgallery.org.nz/about/library/spiral/keri-hulme-the-bone-people-a-graphic-novel>

moving images held in our archives at the Alexander Turnbull Library.

Anniversary publications and exhibition: *Spiral 8: Setting the [Work] Table*; *Spiral Collectives Projects 1975-2025 — Some Stories*; and *Spiral Collectives Projects 1975-2025 — Catalogue*. The exhibition, coordinated by Joanna Osborne, and the first two books, present in-depth sections on 19 cherished artists and writers who lived sometime between 1929 and 2024 and contributed significantly to Spiral—

“ Jacquie (J.C.) Sturm; Renée; Arapera Blank; Gladys Gurney (Saj); Frances Cherry; Marilyn Webb; Heather McPherson; Keri Kaa; Rosemary Johnson; Pauline Neale; Miriama Evans; Joanna Margaret Paul; Juanita Ketchel; Irihapeti Ramsden; Keri Hulme; Sharon Alston; Hilary Baxter; Allie Eagle; Lynne Ciochetto.

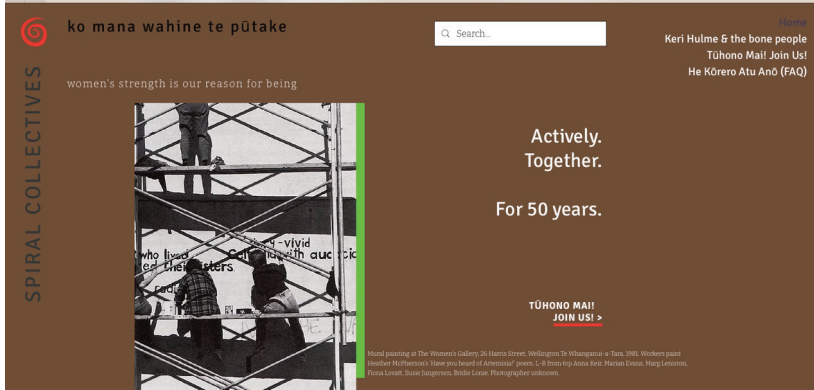
The third book, a Fran McGowan initiative, is a richly illustrated resource that details our collective projects.

PUBLICATIONS

We released five books on the Te Puna o Waiwhetū Christchurch Art Gallery website: *Women's Film Festivals and Women in Film Databases: A Handbook*; *Spiral 8: Setting the [Work] Table*; *Spiral Collectives Projects 1975-2025 — Some Stories*; *Spiral Collectives Projects 1975-2025 — Catalogue*; and *Adapting Keri Hulme's the bone people, from novel to graphic novel*.

Kim Hunt — whose publications Spiral umbrellas — again used the Spiral imprint to publish her first crime novel set in Aotearoa, *The Corrector*.²

Our new Biz Hayman-made website went live.³



From the website: detail.

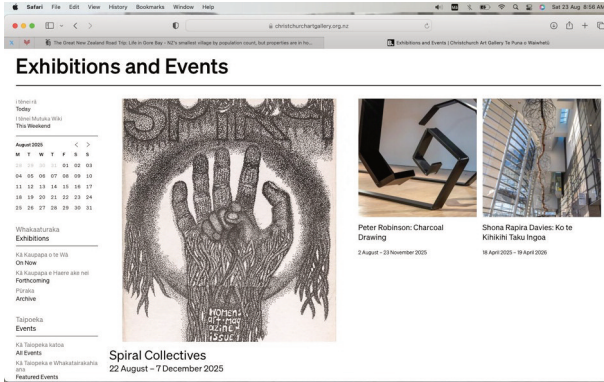
EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS



Spiral Collectives in the Archive Lounge, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Wairāwhetū 2025.

2. <https://www.kimhuntauthor.com/the-corrector>
3. <https://www.spiralcollectives.org/>

Te Puna o Waiwhetū Christchurch Art Gallery held its *Spiral Collectives* exhibition, visited by many friends and relations and strangers.



Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū 2025.

The exhibition’s curator, Tim Jones, organised an event to celebrate the 40th anniversary of *the bone people* winning the Booker Prize and Spiral’s 50th anniversary. Some Spiral workers — Becca Barnes, Cathasaigh O’Fiannachta and Marian Evans — participated, alongside early women’s art movement legend Tiffany Thornley, speaking with Gwyn Porter; and Keri Hulme’s sister Kate brought some much-appreciated books from Keri’s library to share among the audience.

We installed our own 50th anniversary exhibition at two venues, with associated events: Charlotte Museum Te Whare Takatāpui-Wahine o Aotearoa Tāmaki Makaurau and St Gerard’s Monastery Te Whanganui-a-Tara. (It will also show at Dunedin Public Library July-October 2026.)



*Spiral 50th anniversary exhibition Charlotte Museum Te Whare
Takatāpui-Wahine o Aotearoa Tāmaki Makaurau 2025.*



*Spiral 50th anniversary exhibition St Gerard's Monastery, Te
Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington 2026.*



Joanna at work, St Gerard's decommissioned domestic chapel 2026.

Contributors to the Charlotte Museum events included Becca Barnes, Cathasaigh O'Fiannachta, Cushla Parekowhai, Joanna Osborne and Marian Evans; two Spiral-associated poets, Sue Fitchett and Janet Charman; poet and artist Miriam Saphira who founded the Charlotte Museum; and Mokopōpaki, whose manaakitanga included a Spiral anniversary cake made by Prairie.



Mokopōpaki's Prairie cuts the Spiral anniversary cake she made, Charlotte Museum 2025.

. . .



Cushla at work, St Gerard's kitchen 2026.

Contributors to the St Gerard's events were Becca Barnes, Bianca Grizhar, Cathasaigh O'Fiannachta, Cushla Parekowhai, Fran Richardson, Joanna Osborne, Kate Salmons, Kim Hunt and Marian Evans.



Góúter in the St Gerard's Library 2026.

Support for St Gerard's Trust's manaakitanga came from Cushla Parekowhai for Spiral and — among others — Becca Barnes, Bianca Grizhar, Cathasaigh O'Fiannachta, Deborah Stewart, Fran McGowan, Jackie McAuliffe, Jeanette Hanson, Joanna Osborne, Kim Hunt, Marian Evans, Marilyn Head and Phillip Tremewan.

We celebrated adjacent birth days of Spiral workers from the past, Irihapeti Ramsden (born 27 February 1946) and Keri Hulme (born 9 March 1947). Keri's sister Kate again joined us with books from Keri's library to distribute among our guests, who again were delighted by this generous gesture.



L-R Bianca Grizhar, Kate Salmons, St Gerard's Library 2026.

ARCHIVES

We continue to collect and maintain our archives and to present them to the public wherever possible. For instance, as well as this year's publications and exhibitions we have made archival material available on YouTube, some public and some private-link-only.⁴

4. <https://www.youtube.com/@spiralcollectives6077>

OTHER ACTIVITIES

We continue to amplify others' publications and events on our social media; and to respond to calls from artists and writers for advice and support. This includes research support to academics and archivists; advice about artist and writer archives; our programme that supplies kindly donated second-hand devices to artists and writers who need them; tautoko for Jane Zusters' new Mokopōpaki publication *Matters Arising* and its related exhibition,⁵ and for a campaign to restore a significant painting by another artist and activist associated with Spiral, the late Sharon Alston.⁶



The Board out to celebrate Jane Zusters' Matters Arising L-R Fran McGowan, Cushla Parekowhai, Marian Evans, Joanna Osborne. Photograph Jane Zusters.

5. <https://salonshop.mokopopaki.co.nz/post/791016074420371456/matters-arising-is-a-new-book-co-published-by>

6. <https://medium.com/spiral-collectives/sharon-alstons-which-way-4bce3bc6407e>

SPIRAL'S RESOURCES: INDIVIDUALS, ENTITIES & CASH

For most of our work we rely on generous volunteers and collaborations with other entities. But our exhibition costs this year were underwritten by last year's significant donation from the Heather McPherson Estate; our travel costs were reduced thanks the Keri Hulme Estate; and Barbara Strathdee and Fran Richardson kept us going, too. Kā mihi nui to them all for their kindness, and to the individuals and entities listed below; and to those who work within the entities. We warmly appreciate our relationships with all our supporters.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Our cherished volunteers make our work possible: we conservatively calculated our volunteer hours for this year at about 3130, for professional services at modest rates between \$40 and \$65ph — \$125,200-\$203,450.

In addition, whānau and friends have provided accommodation, art works, photographs and texts, permissions, research, transport and

other support. For an almost-complete list, see the Introduction to *Spiral 8*.¹



Fran Richardson cuts a cake to celebrate the recent birth day of Iribapeti Ramsden, born on 27 February 1946. Philip Tremewan, who baked for the bone people launch in 1984 made this cake too. St Gerard's 2026. Behind, L-R Barbara Strathdee, Maureen MacIver, Jeanette Hanson, Marilyn Head.

DONATIONS IN KIND TO THE ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

Bridie Lonie provided a selection of undistributed Spiral publications from the 1980s, to sell and donate at events.

The **Keri Hulme Estate** gave two large collections of books from Keri's library, to give or sell at events.

Tom Bond donated frames.

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1. <https://christchurchartgallery.org.nz/about/library/spiral/spiral-8-setting-the-work-table>

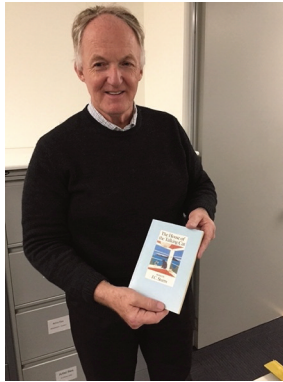
Speedprint, Ōtepoti Dunedin gave a substantial discount on each of the many prints required.

COLLABORATIONS WITH OTHER ENTITIES

These entities add incalculable value to our work.

Alexander Turnbull Library Host for our archives in many formats, 1978-present; and most recently responsible for the digitisation of our sound and moving image analogue tapes from 1980s-2010; ongoing research support.

Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū Website host for 31 items, published 1976-2025.²



Tim Jones unwraps J.C.Sturm's The House of the Talking Cat (Spiral 1983) to digitise for the library's website.

2. <https://christchurchartgallery.org.nz/about/library/spiral>

Spiral Collectives 50th anniversary archival exhibition, curated by archivist and librarian Tim Jones and team, with our research support; and an event celebrating the 40th anniversary of *the bone people* winning the Booker Prize and Spiral's 50th anniversary.



Our founder Heather McPherson's son Rick with Fiona Clark's image of a group outside the Women's Gallery in 1980, the Archive Lounge, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwābetū 2025.

Charlotte Museum Te Whare Takatāpui-Wahine o Aotearoa Tāmaki Makaurau Exhibition, event space and support from the museum's Megan Bishop and others, for Spiral anniversary exhibition and events co-ordinated by Joanna Osborne.

Daphne Brasell Associates Research support and donation of *Spiral* 7 copies for sale at exhibitions and events.

Gift Collective There for us for crowdfunding and administrative assistance, as part of the Open Collective, a global infrastructure for transparency, collaboration, and shared financial stewardship.

Glen Eden Library Exhibition co-ordinated with library by Joanna Osborne.



Glen Eden Library exhibition 2025.

Keri Hulme Estate The Keri Hulme Estate continues with its gracious and many-faceted support of our adaptation of *the bone people* by and for new generations.

Media Claire Mabey in *The Spinoff* re *the bone people* anniversary (31 October 2025)³; Philip Matthews in the Press re *the bone people* anniversary (25 October 2025)⁴; *Waatea News* 1 (excerpt inter-

3. <https://thespinoff.co.nz/books/31-10-2025/youre-pulling-my-leg-forty-years-ago-today-keri-hulme-won-the-booker-prize>

4. <https://www.thepress.co.nz/nz-news/360859542/keri-was-ahead-her-time-bone-peoples-past-and-future>

view 29 October 2025)⁵; *Waatea News* 2 (Dale Husband interview with Cathasaigh O'Fiannachta 29 October 2025)⁶

McMillan Brown Library, University of Canterbury Research support for *the bone people* project.

Mokopōpaki Manaakitanga associated with the Charlotte Museum exhibition and events.

St Gerard's Trust, Te Whānganui-a-Tara A secular and community-oriented host for our anniversary exhibition and events at the former monastery, including 9 nights accommodation for Spiral workers, with on-site support from Bianca Grizhar and others.

Wellington Pride Festival Our anniversary exhibition at St Gerard's Monastery was also a Wellington Pride event.

MAIN METHODS USED TO RAISE FUNDS

Spiral's half-century year was very busy. With limited time for fundraising we were deeply grateful for accumulated funds and unsolicited donations from those who wanted to support our work.

5. <https://waateanews.com/2025/10/29/the-bone-people-reimagined-as-graphic-novel-and-animated-series/>

6. <https://waateanews.com/2025/10/29/cathasaigh-o-fiannacht-writer-director-and-producer/>

BALANCE DATE

28 April 2026.

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIVED AND CASH PAID

Cash received 2782.15; Cash paid 10,049.95.

SPIRAL COLLECTIVES

Poet Heather McPherson founded Spiral in 1975. A series of independent collectives, we are now a small artist-led registered charity (CC62215).

Perhaps best-known for publishing Keri Hulme's Booker Prize-winning *the bone people*, we educate about the storytelling practices and legacies of women and nonbinary people. Working as volunteers, we cherish these as much as we can: we awahi and tautoko and embrace and support them with publications, exhibitions, events, moving image, websites and archives. And patience.

Almost all of our out-of-print publications are available to read and download at Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū, without cost.¹

We welcome and deeply appreciate donations to our running costs, in our 38-9026-0058551-00 SPIRAL COLLECTIVES TRUST account. The dedicated account for our graphic novel adaptation of Keri Hulme's *the bone people* is 38-9026-0058551-04. If you donate, please email us so we can send you a receipt to use to claim a charitable donation tax benefit.

www.spiralcollectives.org

1. <https://christchurchartgallery.org.nz/about/library/spiral>

