

Hynds Foundation

Impact Report 2025/2026

Issue 5



Impact endures within resourcing constraints.

In a year when funding has been constrained, a necessary pragmatism has guided our approach. Across every pillar of our work, the need for support has grown. We anticipated a difficult economy and held back from new commitments. Global volatility confirmed that caution was right.

It has meant a year of deepening what already exists. Our long-standing partnerships and programmes carried the weight of our funding impact. There was less room for new local initiatives. It clarified that consistency of partnerships, sustained over time, is itself a form of scale.

The Hynds business intends to be 100 years in family ownership. Hynds Foundation is woven into that commitment. Impact endures even when resourcing is constrained.

This Impact Report is a demonstration of people and programmes delivering meaningful outcomes across the pillars of Arts, Community Wellbeing, Education, the Environment, and Health. We are happy to share their insights and progress.

John Hynds

Chair of the Hynds Foundation

**Improving care
for children at
Middlemore's
Kidz First**
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Our cover photo:

The Crisis Cafe at Whakamaru -
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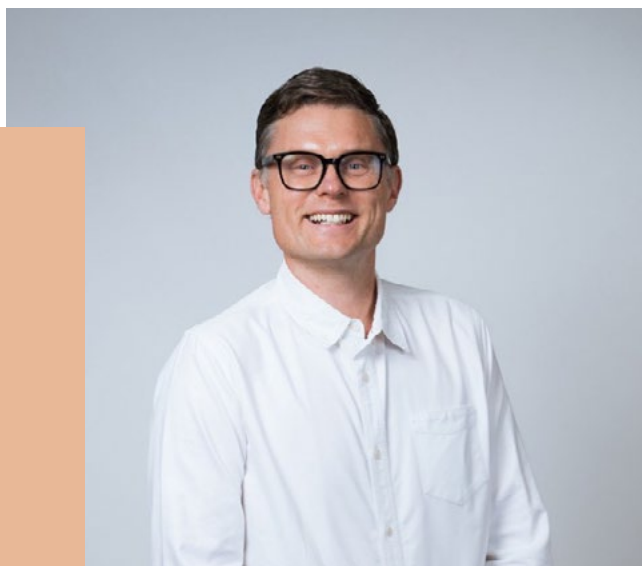
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01

Major Projects



Andrew Reynolds.

First fellowship has impact in nurturing researchers, and creating new knowledge

"It's really been a phenomenal three years; I've done more than I thought possible and see great opportunities to continue this work."

- Associate Professor Andrew Reynolds – Inaugural Heart Foundation-Hynds Fellow.

Andrew has studied the relationship between what we eat and globally relevant diseases, including heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, and some cancers. His objective has been to respond to new and emerging challenges to the food supply. Over the course of his research, he has been running trials on providing free healthy groceries to people recovering from a heart attack; alongside looking at supported weight loss options for people with Type 2 diabetes and obesity who want to lose weight. He has also studied the effects of food processing on whole grains.

In the last year, Andrew has completed three new research trials, as well as worked to support dietary guidelines and advice from the World Health Organisation, Australia, and the Heart Foundation

here in New Zealand. He has also taken on more PhD students to explore some of the new findings we discovered during the Heart Foundation-Hynds Senior Research Fellowship. It is these students that Andrew is most proud of.

"I am currently working with eight PhD students and have two in their final weeks – they are very busy writing up the work we have done together during the Senior Research Fellowship. All of their work is to prevent heart disease and other non-communicable diseases or improve their management. Each student brings their own skills and particular areas of interest – it's a pleasure to be able to work with them."

One of the research trials launched over the course of his Senior Research Fellowship is GluCoast, run by PhD Candidate Kate Campbell. The GluCoast study has explored different ways of eating that might help people with Type 2 diabetes manage their blood sugar levels.

"Kate's been amazing, running trials in diabetes and heart disease management in Dunedin, the West Coast, and across the bottom half of the South Island. She's worked really hard, and we are all excited to see what she does next." Kate now has

her own Research Fellowship applications under review, to continue working in New Zealand after her PhD in diabetes management.



Kate Campbell.



Altaf Hossain.

Another PhD student, Altaf Hossain, has had a particularly busy last year running a trial in Dunedin to see if a maximally fortified bread high in both fibre and protein helps diabetes management. Altaf says: “The results have been really interesting, not just in terms of blood glucose control, but also changes in the gut microbiome and how it interacts with us as its host. I’ve really enjoyed working with my participants too over the last 10 months. They all come to the clinic with their stories and ideas – it’s been great learning for me to meet them and work with them.” After handing in his thesis, Altaf and his family will return home to Bangladesh for him to take up a role at a university and continue his research.

“I have no doubt Kate and Altaf both have very bright futures ahead of them,” Andrew says.

Andrew’s remaining PhD students are studying a range of topics - from the effects on cardiovascular disease of the new drug classes available for weight loss, to aspects of fibre and diet quality, to new work on ultra processed foods, Māori health, and nutrition communication.

“It has been an honour to be the first recipient of this Heart Foundation-Hynds Senior Research Fellowship. And it was really exciting to find out that Dr Nikki Earle is the next recipient, bringing her skills with genomics, large data sets and focus on women’s cardiovascular health to the position. I also think she is a wonderful person, having first met her at a Heart Foundation event for young researchers nearly 10 years ago.”

About the fellowship

In 2023, the National Heart Foundation of New Zealand and Hynds Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding to support leading-edge research through a new fellowship in perpetuity. The two organisations shared equally in an investment of \$2 million.

The programme built on a long and productive partnership between the Hynds family, and the two foundations. In the previous decade, Hynds had contributed to:

- Establishing the Chair of Heart Health at the University of Auckland.
- Three-year funding of Dr Katrina Poppe’s Senior Clinical Fellowship.
- Dr Roy Hoerara’s Māori Cardiovascular Research.

The goal of the fellowship is to create permanent and enduring change. Hynds Foundation chair John Hynds commends Andrew Reynolds for ensuring the inaugural fellowship has achieved profound and lasting impact.

Closing the gap in women's heart health

Heart Foundation – Hynds Senior Research Fellow – Dr Nikki Earle.

Alongside well-known heart disease risk factors such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity and smoking, women have some sex-specific risk factors that put them at higher risk of heart disease.

These include menopause, gestational diabetes, pre-term delivery and a genetic condition known as familial hypercholesterolaemia.

Dr Nikki Earle, the latest recipient of the Heart Foundation Hynds Senior Fellowship, says many of these risk factors aren't widely understood.

"Currently, the cardiovascular risk assessment models that are done when you go to your GP don't take any of these factors into account."

Women can experience different heart symptoms to men. In heart attacks, women are less likely to present with crushing chest pain and more likely to show up with anxiety, shortness of breath, upset stomach, pain in the shoulder, back or arm, or unusual tiredness and weakness.

Dr Earle's work, which is being generously funded by the Hynds Foundation over the next three



Dr Nikki Earle.

years, is aimed at addressing some of this inequity.

Part of Nikki's research includes a study into undiagnosed familial hypercholesterolaemia, a genetic condition causing very high cholesterol, significantly increasing premature heart disease in women.

By analysing data from more than 4,400 heart attack patients, the research will estimate how many have this condition without knowing it.

Her research will also trial routine screening at Auckland City Hospital, including testing family members of affected patients. Early identification would allow preventative treatment, such as cholesterol-lowering medication,



Left to right, Jaimi Fraser (Heart Foundation), Mami Hynds, Léonie Hynds, Dr Nikki Earle, Robyn Hynds, Chloe Milloy (Heart Foundation).

to begin sooner and substantially reduce the risk of future heart events.

Dr Earle is investigating how heart attacks differ by sex, and to identify risk markers for subsequent events that are specific to women.

Using data from more than 35,000 heart attack cases, the study will examine differences between men and women in symptoms, treatment, and outcomes.

It will also develop recommendations to better incorporate female-specific risk factors into clinical guidelines, helping to improve prevention

and care for women.

Dr Earle says it's been surprising to see how big the research gap is for women's specific conditions when it comes to heart disease.

Women on average have their first heart attack seven years later than men. But after menopause, their risk is heightened because of the loss of the heart-protective effect of oestrogen.

"When you compare the outcomes for men and women all the way up to age 75, women actually have far worse outcomes. And the situation is even more dire for Māori and Pasifika women," she says.

"More women die or are re-admitted to hospital for cardiovascular causes than men. And that's particularly bad for younger women (aged under 55) compared with younger men. Our research is trying to understand why this is."

Thank you to the Hynds Foundation for generously supporting inspiring researchers, like Dr Earle, and helping make their vital work possible. The Heart Foundation is incredibly grateful for their ongoing contribution in the fight against heart disease.



Examples of the modern specialist paediatric cot. It supports continuous observation, rapid response, infection control, and safe recovery.

Improving care for children at Middlemore's Kidz First

For 25 years, Kidz First at Middlemore Hospital has been a constant presence for South Auckland's tamariki and their whānau - through illness and recovery, complexity and resilience, and nearly 700,000 patient journeys.

2026 marks this significant milestone. It's a moment to celebrate a quarter-century of care, and to connect two Hynds Foundation investments - first in the people who deliver care, and next in the infrastructure that enables them to deliver it with excellence.

In 2024, Hynds Foundation supported a pilot scholarships programme for secondary-school graduates of the Pacific Health Science Academy and the Cadet Programme. The pilot helped to strengthen pathways into health careers for Pacific taurā. One outcome has been that some of the Pacific health professionals supported are now working at Middlemore – as nurses, allied health professionals, and emerging leaders delivering care



to their own communities.

This year, Hynds Foundation funding for a paediatric cot is providing much-needed modern equipment. Many of the paediatric cots in use at Kidz First were installed when the hospital opened over 25 years ago. They lacked compatibility with modern integrated monitoring systems, didn't meet contemporary safety standards, and provided limited adaptability for complex cases.

Children's clinical needs have evolved significantly over 25 years. Care environments must evolve too.

A modern specialist paediatric cot is essential clinical infrastructure supporting continuous observation, rapid response, infection control, and safe recovery.

Amias' story

Five-year-old Amias and his whānau know this reality well. At just six months old, Amias was diagnosed with a lung condition requiring regular hospital admissions. Though he's now in a big-boy bed, his mum remembers the old cots too well. She is thrilled to hear that babies will be held safe in new specialist paediatric cots equipped for 21st-century care.

Amias (right) with big brother Princeton, helping to kick off Jammies for June at the Warriors on 18 April 2026.



Baby Jayson's story

14-month-old Jayson was rushed to Kidz First in winter 2025 struggling to breathe, and battling a high fever with his heart racing. It was incredibly scary for his mum, Sonya, who called an ambulance for her baby boy and was by his side the whole time he was in hospital.

Jayson had been admitted to Kidz First before. At just seven months old, doctors gave him a devastating diagnosis: bronchiectasis. Normally an active and chatty baby, Jayson was subdued, just laying in bed - a scary sight for his mum who is used to seeing him dance and wiggle at every opportunity.

"The Kidz First staff have been really good," Sonya notes. "They remember Jayson from last year and recognised us when we came in. They're always asking if we need anything."

Baby Jayson pictured in one of the old-style cots.



Community Wellbeing

Proving the case for public funding

Auckland City Mission – Te Tāpui Atawhai is deeply grateful for the Hynds Foundation and its commitment to strengthening our communities. Philanthropy plays a vital role in addressing needs that fall outside the scope of public funding, which is often constrained by strict criteria and processes. When essential initiatives cannot be supported through traditional channels, philanthropic partners step in to bridge the gap.

This is exactly what occurred with the Hynds Foundation's support for the Mission's Community Mental Health Nurse role. Every day, we see the profound

impact of trauma, mental distress, and addiction. Many of the people we serve face multiple, overlapping challenges and often struggle to access public services due to behavioural barriers or a lack of trust.

With Hynds Foundation's support, we were able to employ Theresa Fa'afiu Morgan, who worked directly with people at HomeGround, in the Calder Centre, and with community walk-ins. Over the two-year pilot, Theresa built critical connections for individuals who were otherwise disconnected from care, and we saw significant improvements in their overall wellbeing. The success of this role enabled us to present the outcomes to the Auckland Primary Health Organisation, which has now committed to funding the position long term.

Building on this success, we are now developing a harm reduction initiative through a dedicated community Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Practitioner. Substance use is a significant and complex issue within our community, and mainstream services are often not equipped to provide the level of support required. This role, like the Mental Health Nurse, will meet people where they are and provide evidence-based, practical support that reduces harm and strengthens pathways into care.

We are grateful that the Hynds Foundation has chosen to support this next step, and we look forward to creating another meaningful and measurable impact together.

Ngā mihi

Brendan Short

Director of Housing & Health Services
Auckland City Mission – Te Tāpui Atawhai



Brendan Short.



More than anyone could have imagined

Wellington City Mission (WCM) opened its new community hub, Whakamaru, in late 2024.

By early 2026 it had welcomed 80,000 guests through the front door. They may come for connection and sustenance, a shower, health services, or a temporary home. They may come to have all of those needs met. What's certain is that the number is growing, according to WCM's daily tracking data.

One of the new services established when Whakamaru opened was a Crisis Recovery Cafe. WCM's director of community services, Pip Rea, says before the service existed there were limited options for people in distress.

"Usually they are picked up by police or ambulance and taken to hospital where they might not be seen unless there is a significant risk. This unintentionally teaches people they can't receive support until their distress is higher," she says.

"Mental health distress escalates when people are isolated, which is why it's so important to create community and belonging."

In the Crisis Cafe, peer support workers are available

day or night to provide support. In its first year, that amounted to 735 people presenting in distress. Most peer support workers have lived experience and have been beneficiaries of the Mission's services. Denis is one of them. With the help of the Mission, he got his life on track. Now he appreciates helping others to heal, and how that creates further healing in himself. "Most people who come here feel alone, and they just want someone who will listen. Having lived experience is huge in this work because if someone is a bit standoffish, when they find out about my history, it makes them feel more comfortable to open up."

Having been helped to move beyond a crisis, many come back for ongoing connection and to access workshops designed to grow their confidence and move them into independence, Pip says.

The constrained funding environment that charities are facing creates a need to focus on what works to create outcomes that are wanted. Whakamaru has delivered more than anyone could have imagined in creating impactful outcomes for people with complex needs. But there are growing pressure points – such as in youth mental health and access to food.

Numbers alone cannot capture the depth of our work

Christchurch City Missioner Corinne Haines explains how the Mission's work has had to change to adapt to clients' problems becoming more complex.

Every day, we meet individuals and whānau whose lives are shaped by multiple, and complex challenges - housing insecurity, rising living costs, trauma, family issues, health issues, and social isolation, to name a few. These pressures do not come along one at a time, but as a mix of difficulties that require thoughtful, coordinated responses from our team of dedicated employees.

In the face of this growing complexity, the Mission draws on the strength of the cross-functional nature of our services. No single solution can meet the full breadth of someone's needs, but the combined attention of our teams - social workers, foodbank staff, addiction services, emergency accommodation, financial mentoring, community workers, our retail and social enterprises, and many others - creates a network of care that wraps around each person who walks through our doors.

It is this ability to respond holistically and with great care and with respect and dignity for each person, that defines our work.

Statistics help illustrate the scale of what we do.

In 2025:

- 12,500 people used our services more than 91,000 times.
- 4500 people came to us for the first time.
- Their ages range from 14 to 98.
- 21,800 food parcels valued at \$3.7 million were supplied to clients.
- 429 people stayed in our emergency accommodation an average of 16 nights each.
- 3000 sessions in our learning hub.

Statistics are important - each number representing real pressure on our services and real evidence of community need. But numbers alone can never capture the depth of our daily work, nor the professionalism, compassion, and skill our staff bring to each interaction.

For us, impact is measured not only in outputs but in the moments of interface, and personal connection with those coming to us: a conversation that restores confidence, a safe place to sleep, a sense of being seen and valued, and the hope that we give them for the future.

Despite the sheer volume of people seeking help, our commitment remains unchanged: every person is met as an individual, with their own individual issues, and every person matters.



Corinne Haines.





Support for Ukraine is a humanitarian act

ACT leader and deputy prime minister David Seymour has championed fundraising to support humanitarian efforts in Ukraine. He explains what it does and why it matters to New Zealand.

When did this support begin?

The first fundraiser was held in 2022 when Nataliya Shchetkova hosted our first fundraising dinner at La Vista Restaurant in St Heliers, Auckland. Since then, that relationship has grown into an ongoing effort to support Ukraine, including annual fundraising dinners which have helped raise more than \$165,000 for humanitarian and frontline efforts.

Was there a specific concern – this might sound obvious but maybe it's not?

The Ukrainians are fighting for their own lives, but in many ways, all of our freedom, because if large powers can just redraw boundaries anywhere on the map, that's a big problem for countries like New Zealand, and the only way to protect ourselves is to stand beside people who come under similar challenges to our own.

How did it become a partnership?

It became a partnership through shared purpose to help the people of Ukraine. I got to know Nataliya from previously helping her with a family residency case. She has continued to host the dinner each year, supporters have continued to give, and over time we've built relationships with trusted people and organisations doing work on the ground.

Which organisations are involved?

Organisations include Humanity Ukraine, working with Owen Pomana, Kiwi K.A.R.E which is led by Tenby Powell, and the Ukrainian Association of New Zealand. Funds from the dinner go directly to those trusted organisations and individuals working on the ground.

What does the funding support?

The funding supports frontline humanitarian work. In Owen Pomana's case, rescue and support missions for civilians in dangerous areas. In Tenby Powell's case, Kiwi K.A.R.E as a last-mile humanitarian and medical aid organisation operating in Ukraine's red zones, delivering aid to frontline hospitals, medical centres, and residents, while also maintaining evacuation capability. More broadly, the purpose of the dinner proceeds is to support aid, warm clothing, medical supplies, and practical assistance for people affected by the war.

What are learnings over the years of involvement?

We've learnt that New Zealanders have not forgotten Ukraine, and that people are willing to help when it's for a good cause.

At the recent dinner, what were key insights shared?

I noted that this dinner sold out faster than any of the previous five. It shows that Kiwis are in this for the long haul, where it would be so easy to move on and forget about Ukrainians' plight. I think deep down people know that a threat to freedom anywhere is a threat to freedom everywhere.

A community built with books

The annual Featherston Booktown celebrated its 11th year in May 2026, with a record visitor engagement of 10,000 people who came to enjoy ideas shared by 75 writers, provocateurs and presenters. The guests were hosted with the support of 140 volunteers.

Among the visitors were 500 children from South Wairarapa schools, each bearing a \$20 voucher they could redeem for books of their choice. Funding raised for the book-voucher programme also supports school buses to bring children to the event.

Early reports are indicating that not only was this Festival the most well-attended yet, it also resulted in many booksellers in the region having record weekends. Also, according to survey results, the 2026 Festival has inspired a significant portion of its audience to read more New Zealand literature.

Founded as a community-building initiative, an economic model shows the event generated an estimated \$2.7 million for the local South Wairarapa economy, according to a local media report.





Big ideas grow from small places

St Patrick's Primary School in Taupō is on an elevated site looking across to Tauhara Maunga, and each day the mountain draws the attention of curious young kaitiaki. From a distance, they see a mountain scape that's barely cloaked. But they are encouraged to imagine better, with the help of education coordinators from Kids Greening Taupō, who passionately share their knowledge through facilitating programmes like Trees for Survival in local schools.

St Patrick's students learn about techniques in local seed sourcing, seedraising and nursery tasks. Each year they produce around 800-1000 shrubs and flaxes which they plant out around the maunga. Their mahi contributes to a big ambition for Mt Tauhara and the surrounding whenua, in a project known as Tauhara Ngahau. Led by a collective of neighbouring Ahuwhenua land trusts, the aim over the next decade is to restore and regenerate at least 60 hectares, extending the native cloak ['korowai'] of Tauhara Maunga to the surrounding whenua and linking up biodiversity corridors across Taupō. It's only the first step towards a 500 year vision to restore, reconnect and regenerate the wellbeing of the maunga and surrounding whenua.

Hynds Regional Sales Support Jim Dyson put forward the Trees for Survival programme for support through the Regional Community Fund. Jim has spent many hours in the bush as a keen hunter, and recognises the value of the programme in meeting big conservation challenges. "Working alongside these youngsters, you can see how



important it is for them to have this educational experience. They aren't going to become adults who wreck the environment.

They will be able to come back to Tauhara throughout their lives, and know they made a difference."

Trees for Survival was founded by a Rotary club in 1991. This year it celebrated a milestone of one million trees planted over the last 10 years and over two million since its official counts began. It aims for a third million over the next five years by expanding its national network of partner schools. Currently it has 233 school partners across the country.



Spokesperson Sally Clegg says the programme helps learners to understand the connections between their local native plants, birds and waterways, and be proactive about environmental solutions. "It allows them to make a contribution to their local areas with trees they've grown on site in their school. If every school was able to do this, we'd start to make a significant difference for biodiversity across the country."



A new season at Waterview School

In May 2025, Hynds Pipes and the Hynds Foundation supported OKE Charity's garden build for Waterview School, alongside Hynds business partners. The set-up included an irrigation system, implements shed, greenhouse, garden beds, and tree planting. Almost a year later, it was great to get an update from Michelle Turner at OKE on how well the garden is being integrated into the school routine under the care of enthusiastic staff and students.

"I have been impressed to see the compost system going well, and they had a bumper crop of various tomatoes, herbs, leafy greens and squash over the summer. Now they are removing the spent summer crops and replacing them with the autumn and winter vegetables such as silverbeet, cauliflower, broccoli and carrots. They have done some great companion planting, and are getting the tunnel house all ready for seedlings as the weather cools down."

Michelle says the school organises students into learning hubs, and each is responsible for a section of the garden. Students can also spend break times attending to garden tasks.

As well as being an engaging learning experience, the garden is valued for developing knowledge of earth systems. "In the first term of 2026, students were doing Inquiry Learning about the weather, which fits very well into gardening and growing food. I am heading back out to the school later this week to give them a rain gauge so they can measure the rainfall."

The support OKE provides to schools helps to ensure ongoing impact. At Waterview, the first teacher-leader left and a new one has now stepped

in. Michelle is supporting him to create a spring planting plan, which flows back into tasks in the tunnelhouse and bed preparation. "The new teacher is very enthusiastic and has some wonderful ideas for the space going forward."



From backyard gardens to a community farm

Te Whare Awhere (Hope House) is a multi-service agency offering support to communities in Hornby, on the outskirts of Christchurch, that are facing many social and economic challenges.

Since 2023, the agency has developed its focus on food security initiatives, according to its director Carey Ewing. An early emphasis on supporting people to grow veggies in their own backyards has gained momentum. Now, Te Whare Awhere is ready to build on this success with the development of an urban farm and community gardens that link in Hornby High School, Christchurch City Council and community growers.

“The goal is to scale up production of fresh fruit and vegetables, which can enhance food security for vulnerable whānau, and provide local schools with a learning opportunity,” says Carey.

For the project, Hynds Foundation supported a Regional Community Fund application from Hornby branch manager Kenny Hill. This has contributed towards funding of a part-time coordinator, Georgia Fitzpatrick, who brings local passion plus knowledge from her Master of Parks Management, which focuses on the connection of people and the environment.

Community gardens are multi-faceted undertakings. As well as knowledge necessary for growing healthy crops, they are social places where inclusion must be carefully managed. They must also have channels to ensure that produce reaches people. The project’s location, on a high-frequency road that is home to the school and a library / recreation centre, is helpful for distribution.

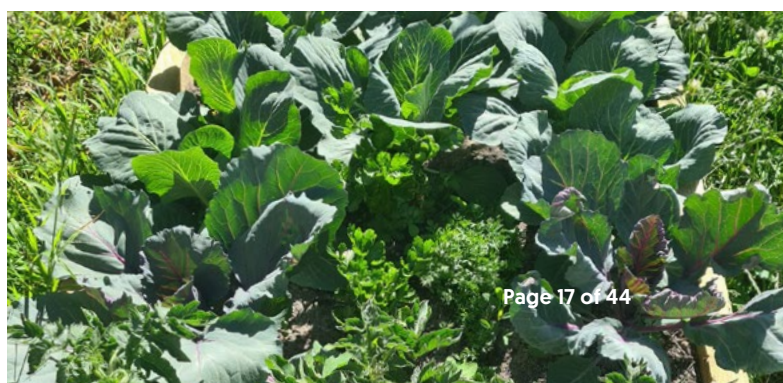
Target outcomes in the coming year are to scale up a production system from seedlings to harvest, progress a learning programme, and start to deliver on longer-term goals of generating income through sales of produce. Georgia says: “My mum asked me if it was an overwhelming task. But I said it wasn’t



Carey Ewing and Georgia Fitzpatrick are champions of food security in Hornby.

because the whole community was behind us.”

Kenny Hill sees the urban farm as a place where the Hynds Pipe Systems Hornby team can support in an ongoing way through working bees, help with irrigation set up and service, and spreading awareness (and compost!) to build community engagement.





Paroa Park kids pumping over new track

Paroa Park is a growing area of Greymouth that has attracted families, and among them was a group of determined parents who wanted to build a pump bike track for their children. The group formed the Paroa Park Redevelopment Trust to enable fundraising and Hynds was one of the organisations to jump on board.

The first stage of the Paroa Park pump bike track was completed in November 2025, and local children quickly put it to the test, applying their skills on scooters, bikes and skateboards. The *Greymouth Star* reported feedback: "It's better than what we ever envisaged it to be."

Poppy Gibson, coordinator of the Paroa Park Redevelopment Committee, says the park has quickly become an asset to the community, giving young children somewhere safe to ride their bikes and try activities that boost their confidence. The park is currently being enjoyed by 30-40 children per day and is becoming very popular even with people from outside the area.

Hynds Pipe Systems Greymouth manager Mike Rockhouse championed the project for Regional Community Fund support. "Hynds staff were involved in the early stages with helping design the drainage plan for the pump track. We will also help with future working bees when the landscaping and planting gets underway in stage 2."

The second stage involves installing picnic tables and sunshades along with landscaping which includes planting some shrubs and fencing around

the park. According to the *Greymouth Star*, in March the Grey District Council approved the next stage under a special assets policy, which means the improvements eventually will be maintained as part of the council's wider parks network. Councillors valued seeing an idea become a vibrant, family-friendly space shaped by the people who use it most.



Poppy Gibson and Elena Hofman of Paroa Park Redevelopment Committee with Hynds branch manager Mike Rockhouse at the Paroa Park pump bike track.



Education resource builds connection with local water

House of Science (HOS) is a charity that aims to see every child in New Zealand become scientifically literate. To meet its goal, it offers schools library-style access to more than 40 different kits that help to develop critical thinking, curiosity and engagement for science concepts and processes.

In the Tairāwhiti region, Hynds branch customer service officer Rachel Ward volunteered for the programme, helping the local HOS team to fulfil school bookings for the Water Analysis kits. Over the past year, it's proven to be one of the most popular kits, according to HOS Tairāwhiti manager Silvia Spieksma.

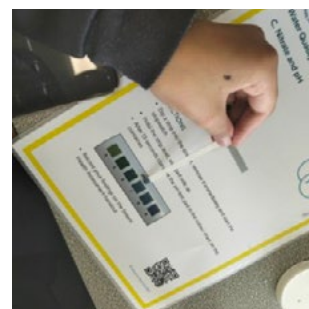
"The kit encourages students to think about cause and effect – how rain, surfaces, and human activity influence water quality. These are the same considerations that sit behind decisions about water management design, pipe capacity and long-term infrastructure planning.

"In this way, the learning moves beyond testing water to understanding why investment in well-designed stormwater infrastructure is essential."

Silvia collected some teacher feedback that describes the value of the kits for learning:

- "An amazing resource - we use last year's data from this kit then compare the data with our results this year. The kit is well organised and instructions are very easy to follow. My students truly enjoy the experience."
- "We focused on what our kaupapa was - the preservation of the Te Arai river Manutuke. We did a soil survey of the banks of the Te Arai and the comparison to our field that is 200m from the river; and water testing not only of the river but that of our kura and surrounding houses with water tanks, with some interesting results."

Rachel says she enjoyed volunteering in the programme, which broadened her community awareness and connections.



Event brings families and businesses together

Hynds Pipe Systems' Taupō branch has appreciated being part of the Children's Day celebration coordinated annually by the Taupō Family Centre. The team sees it as a good opportunity to connect with the community, including families and event partners.

Korey Crake became the branch manager in 2025 and April 9, 2026 was his first experience of the event.

"I felt quite proud that I could represent Hynds in the community," Korey says.

"It was awesome to see the glow from families when they received food parcels, especially those in need of a bit of help in the tougher times we have had lately.

"I also loved seeing the kids having fun with their Teddy Swap and kids packs."

The Family Centre sent out a note of thanks to its supporters:



→ Kia ora koutou

What an incredible day! We want to send a huge THANK YOU to our sponsors, partners and wider community for helping make our Children's Day celebration such a success.

Thanks to your support, we welcomed over 350 tamariki, with many more whānau coming along to enjoy the fun, laughter and connection throughout the day. The smiles, energy and community spirit were something really special.

A massive thank you to Property Brokers for your continued support and for the amazing BBQ services that kept everyone well fed!

Special shout outs also go to Iron Man NZ, Taupō Cosmopolitan Club, Pāmu Farms, and HYNDs Taupō for your generosity and support.

We are truly grateful to our incredible local community who donated vouchers, prizes and time. We genuinely couldn't do this without you and we're so lucky to have such a supportive, kind and generous community around our tamariki.

Ngā mihi nui



Children enjoy the Teddy Bear swap.

Korey Crake at the Taupō Family Centre Children's Day.



Education

Tread Lightly across Auckland

In 2025, the Tread Lightly Caravan continued to deliver hands-on environmental education across Auckland - Tāmaki Makaurau, while also stepping into a new chapter as part of the Beautification Trust. This shift strengthens the long-term reach and sustainability of the programme, supporting more tamariki and whānau to take action for the earth / te taiao.

Key impacts

- 6030 students educated.
- 260 school classes engaged.
- 27 schools visited.

Expanding reach and access

Support from funding partners enabled the programme to reach schools in communities facing higher socioeconomic barriers, helping ensure wide access to environmental education. This mahi strengthens long-term behaviour change and builds more resilient communities.

Growing community impact

Alongside school delivery, Tread Lightly expanded its reach into the wider community through:

- Zero waste workshops and activations delivered across Auckland, giving people practical tools to reduce waste and rethink consumption.
- New recycling initiatives, including school-based collection hubs, which are making it easier for communities to recycle correctly and reduce contamination.
- Community-led action, such as container return trials, which show how simple systems can reduce litter and increase recycling.

These initiatives support Aucklanders to take practical steps that reduce emissions, protect waterways and reduce waste to landfill.

Supporting behaviour change

Tread Lightly continues to focus on real, everyday actions. Workshops and activations are designed to build understanding of:

- Waste and its impact on the environment.
- How to recycle correctly.
- How small behaviour changes can lead to lasting outcomes.

This approach helps turn knowledge into action across schools and communities.



Stronger foundations for the future

In July 2025, Tread Lightly became part of the Beautification Trust. This integration brings together shared values and experience, strengthening the delivery of environmental education across the region.

With a refreshed brand and continued investment in new programme materials, Tread Lightly is well placed to grow its impact and reach more tamariki, rangatahi and whānau in the years ahead.

The support of partners like Hynds plays an important role in enabling this mahi, helping to inspire the next generation to care for and protect our environment.

How the Business Academy grows its impact.

Emma O’Riordan, director of the Hynds Foundation Business Academy, updates on programme innovations and partnerships that deepen the impact of the Business Academy in developing future entrepreneurs and pathways to employment.

Programme Innovations

Entrepreneur Week



Emma O’Riordan

Language Weeks are a popular way for schools to connect with the cultures represented in their communities. The Business Academy contributes to these weeks with activities in the Makerspace, where students can make and sell products that integrate their cultural identity.

At Papakura High, we adopted the Language Week concept to create a week-long focus on Entrepreneurship for Year 9 students, aiming to support their decision to choose Business as a subject option in Year 10.

Entrepreneur Week brought in four powerful speakers to share their journeys:

- Swade Fenton from Spartan HQ [gym].
- Chris Pongi from Taufamana [a chess game and wellbeing resource].
- Floyd Retzlaff [a current student] from Fretz Cookies.
- Lynne Vatau from Fale de Keke [cake bakery].

Many of their messages were consistent, which helped the Year 9s to realise that the same pressures affect different types of businesses. They also learnt about entrepreneurs’ motivations to start and continue their businesses. The speakers were open about the sacrifices and challenges: long nights, mistakes, and setbacks. They showed that resilience, consistency and staying true to yourself can turn small beginnings into something remarkable. The key lessons students took away included:

- You’re never too young to start putting ideas into action.
- Practise your craft consistently, don’t hide your talents, it’s what leads to growth.
- Innovation is about doing things differently, not just following the crowd.
- Mistakes are not failures but learning opportunities.
- Be innovative, stay authentic, and learn from every step.
- You will face doubt - most of it from yourself.
- Success doesn’t come overnight - it’s about putting in the mahi, being flexible, and taking risks.

We’re proud of how engaged the Year 9s were in the talks. They asked good questions, made connections, and saw that entrepreneurship is as much about mindset as it is about business.



Alli brings her 'A game' to share about the sharemarket

Sharenanigans is a board game designed for young players that aims to spark an initial interest in investing, and ultimately teach them how to make smarter financial choices. We had a great opportunity to build students' interest in the game, when its founder, Alli Kennedy joined us in the classroom.

Alli says she wasn't taught about investing in school or by her parents. By the time she was introduced to investing, she had created perceived barriers leading her to believe she didn't fit the 'mould' of who you need to be to invest. While at the University of Canterbury, she began working on a solution. Originally starting as an app, Sharenanigans shifted to a board game format to enable family collaboration, faster development and greater creative control.

The board game is now sold in retailers across New Zealand including The Warehouse.

Alli's honest storytelling captivated students, offering a behind-the-scenes look at what it really takes to bring an idea to life. From navigating crowdfunding campaigns and grant applications to learning through trial and error, Alli highlighted both the

Game creator Alli Kennedy joined us in the classroom to build students' engagement with entrepreneurship, and sharemarket investment.



Playing the game: Sharenanigans develops financial literacy, with a focus on teaching the principles of sharemarket investment.

challenges and rewards of entrepreneurship. Her message was clear: determination, creativity, and a willingness to share ideas can take you far.

The visit left students energised, empowered, and full of ideas for their own ventures.



Makerspace enterprise growth

Makerspace is a place where ideas turn into products, combining skills in technology and entrepreneurship. As we enter our third year in the Papakura High Makerspace, demand is growing from teachers and students keen to utilise the space for learning programmes. The visibility of work created leads to people across the school and wider community seeing what's possible.

While creating more makers is a key goal, we also aim to set an entrepreneurial example through the sale of products. We have been developing our system to ensure a high-quality standard, which includes training students as production assistants.

Awareness led to a large order from Blue Light, a local community organisation that assists Police to achieve its youth and community objectives. Blue Light engaged Makerspace students to produce trophies for a trolley dash event. Students had a valuable opportunity to work to a real brief, manage timelines, and deliver at scale.



Makerspace students fulfilled an order from Blue Light, producing trophies for its trolley dash community event.

Another opportunity was the production of gifts for teachers who supported at Polyfest, with a focus on incorporating culturally meaningful elements. This work has helped shape thinking around how the Makerspace can respond to cultural contexts in a thoughtful and authentic way.

These projects have laid the groundwork for developing a small product range that can be offered for purchase. Income can be invested back into the Makerspace, supporting resources, equipment, and future programmes.

Case studies in business learning partnerships

Bastion Shine

The collaboration between the Hynds Foundation Business Academy and Bastion Shine has continued to grow year on year in collaboration with Year 12 English. The programme follows a clear structure that introduces the core functions of an advertising agency:

- Hui 1: what happens behind the scenes of a campaign.
- Hui 2: becoming a strategist - how asking the right questions and thinking like a detective forms the foundation of any great idea.
- Hui 3 and 4: creative development phases - refining ideas, testing concepts and preparing to pitch a final campaign.
- Hui 5: final presentations to a real-life client.

Throughout this journey, English teacher Jacqui Swney plays a key role, bridging classroom learning with industry experience. Her leadership ensures the project is aligned with NCEA standards while giving students genuine ownership of their ideas. One outcome of a sustained programme has been a big shift in students' confidence to create their own campaigns.

Extending the experience, students who intend to follow a pathway into Creative Industries can apply for a one-day internship at the agency, held during the school holidays.

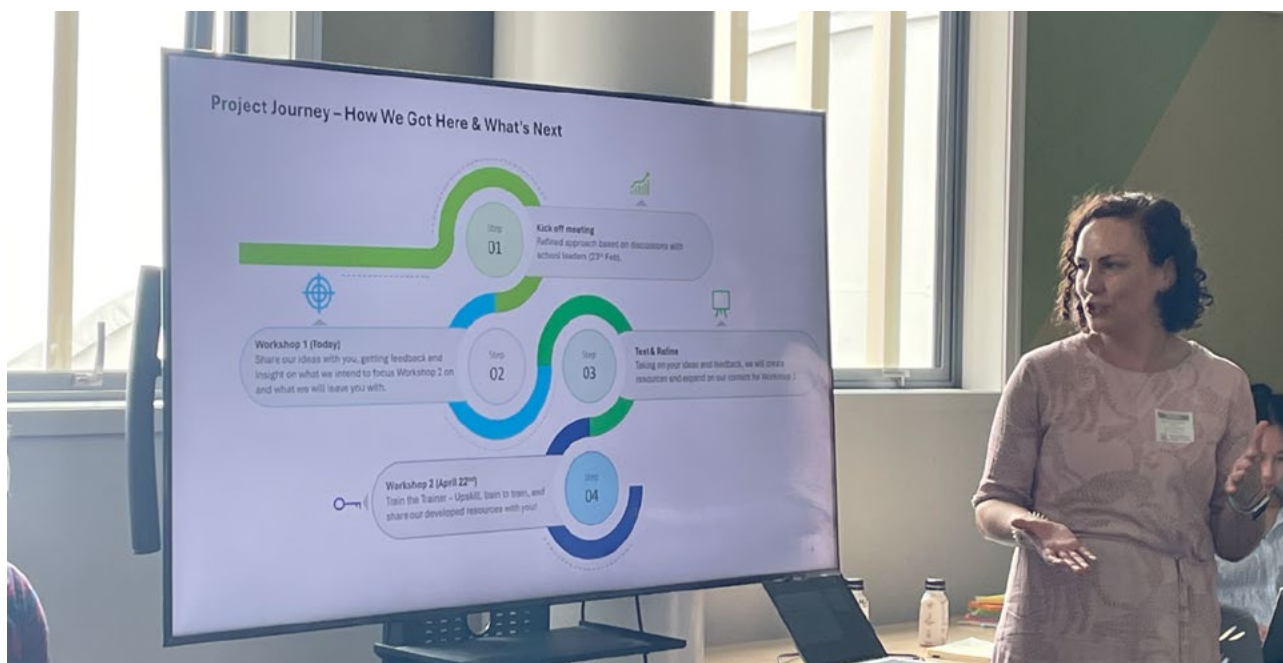
This partnership represents more than a single project - it's a model for how schools and business can work together beyond work experience - in this case by connecting the English curriculum with a real-world application to demonstrate the subject relevance. It also builds creative confidence, and shows young people that their voices and ideas matter.



Bastion Shine's workshops begin in the classroom and give Year 12 students the confidence to design their own advertising campaigns.



For students set on a pathway in the Creative Industries, an internship at Bastion Shine gets them working alongside industry professionals.



Deloitte

Mariette Van Niekerk, Deloitte's Director - Trustworthy AI, led the collaboration. Over three workshops, the Deloitte team ensured effective teacher engagement.

Our partnership with Deloitte began in 2023, initially through integration of the Deloitte Grow programme, in which facilitators support students to work collaboratively to 'grow' seed capital for an entrepreneurial venture.

Together we have also worked to pilot new programmes that leverage Deloitte's capability and partnerships to develop skills with emerging technologies.

In 2025, we launched the Deloitte Hackathon in partnership with AWS. It brought together students from seven Auckland schools for an intensive day where they learnt to use technology to solve community problems. Students responded well with the support of mentors, bringing to life prototype tech applications. In 2026, Hackathons were run for schools in Auckland, Hamilton and Wellington.

In Term 1 of 2026, we piloted 'AI for Educators', aiming to support schools in their understanding and use of artificial intelligence. Manurewa High and Papakura High were keen to be part of the pilot. With their input, it was decided to focus on supporting teachers, rather than students. The three-workshop programme was iterated as knowledge grew through each phase:

- Workshop One brought together Deloitte, Hynds, and the senior leadership teams of both schools. This session drew out understanding of the schools' AI-related policies.
- Workshop Two expanded the group to include

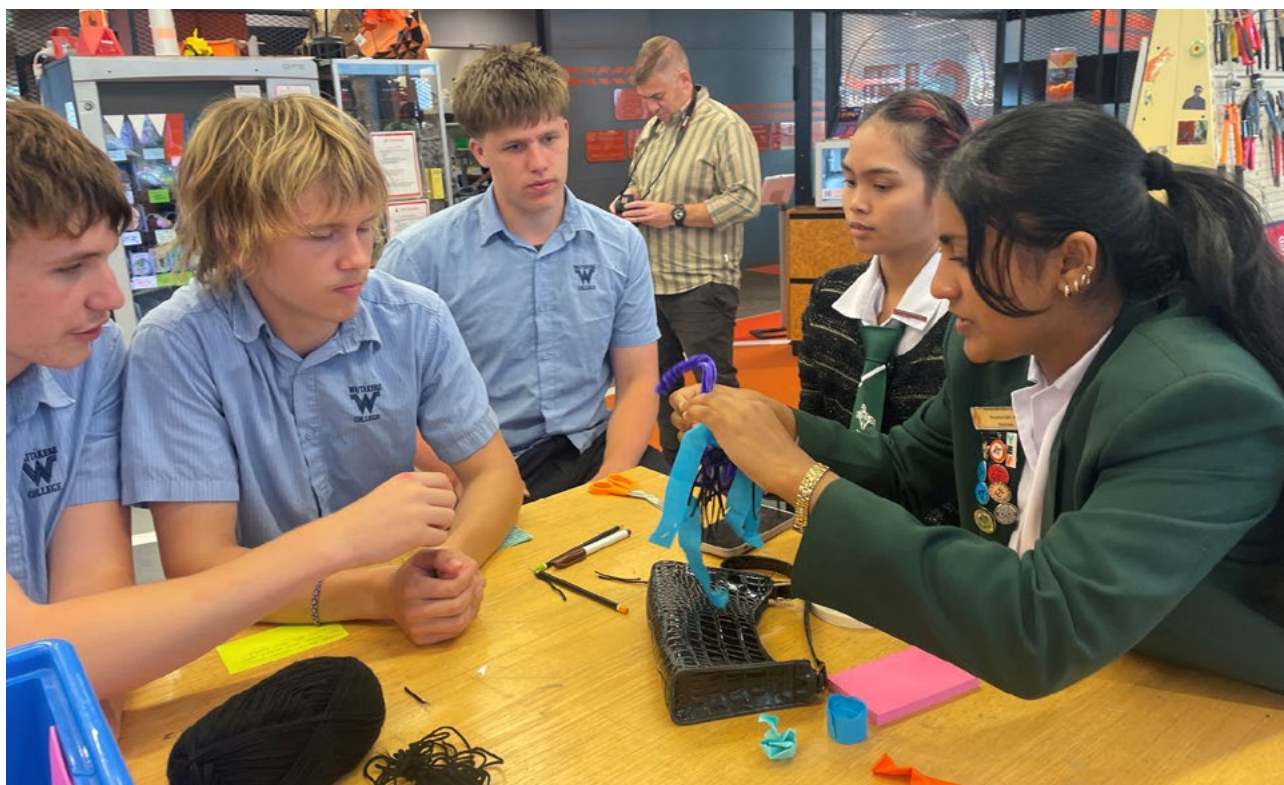


Facilitated by Deloitte's Responsible AI team, teachers from Papakura High and Manurewa High work on scenarios for use of AI in their curriculum.

each school's AI champions, approximately three teachers per school. It shared insights on existing strengths and areas of uncertainty in AI use in education.

- Workshop Three integrated 45 teachers from across the two schools to work through real world scenarios they had identified as challenges. The collaboration between the two schools proved highly valuable, enabling broader perspectives, richer discussion, and more efficient use of Deloitte's expertise.

The outputs of the pilot are AI policies that reflect each school's values and context. The policies integrate a traffic-light system that teachers can tailor to their curricula, and guide students for when and how to use AI in different subjects.



University of Auckland Business School

The university's Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE) has been a valued learning partner of the Business Academy since 2017. Within the CIE, its Unleash space was a flagship for our establishment of Makerspace programmes. Students have also enjoyed being in the CIE environment, which introduces them to innovation concepts based around collaboration, learning from others, and learning by doing.

A recent example was an Innovation Day that integrated inspiring speakers followed by a practical Design Thinking workshop. The day began with a talk by Mahesh Muralidhar, an early leader at Canva – the Australian-founded design platform. When he returned home to New Zealand, Mahesh set up his own company, Phase One Ventures, which supports high-growth Kiwi startups.

Mahesh shared how he had gone through very hard times, making the point that success often comes after failure, setbacks and discomfort. He challenged students to rethink what success looks like – not to wait for perfect plans, but set specific goals and focus on deeply understanding customers' problems.

Taking cue from this wisdom, workshop mentors then worked with students to run with a "terrible

The Innovation Day at the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship took students through a process from basic ideas to working prototype.



Mahesh Muralidhar challenged Papakura High School students with a message to see themselves as capable and entrepreneurial.

idea", think creatively, take risks, and let go of the pressure to be right. By focusing on idea generation and iteration, students collaborated across groups and experienced a practical example of innovation in action.

After the workshop, we walked around the Business and Arts buildings to absorb student life. An impactful moment came from an informal interaction with two first-year university students. Their willingness to share their experiences, and offer of ongoing connection, made our students feel welcomed and included.

Te Ngahere

Established in 2018, Ngahere Communities is a kaupapa-led community and innovation hub based in Manukau, South Auckland, dedicated to supporting Māori and Moana entrepreneurs, creators, and community-led businesses. It provides physical workspaces, event venues, and digital programmes designed to bridge the participation gap for indigenous people in tech, creative, and digital sectors. Te Ngahere and its CEO, Manawa Udy, have been an important part of our business learning ecosystem. Manawa has always welcomed and valued students in the Te Ngahere space.

We jumped at the chance to join a Te Ngahere event convened for Design Week. The event brought together indigenous designers to share their journeys of creating products, building brands, and expressing identity through design. Students were exposed to perspectives on how design can be both culturally meaningful and commercially viable.

The event challenged traditional perceptions of design and highlighted the importance of indigenous knowledge systems, storytelling, and identity in creative practice.

Key outcomes I noticed back in the classroom:

- Shifts in thinking: Students moved from surface-level design ideas to considering how their own culture, identity and lived experiences could inform their work.
- Immediate application to learning: Several students have already refined or redirected their NCEA art portfolios, demonstrating stronger conceptual thinking and a clearer sense of purpose.
- Understanding of real-world pathways: Hearing directly from indigenous creatives who have built successful brands helped students see how creative work can translate into viable career pathways.
- Example of individual impact: One student, initially developing a generic sports brand, was influenced by a speaker's work with Moana Pasifika. He is now creating a more targeted youth-focused brand grounded in his own identity and community. This shift reflects increased audience awareness, cultural connection, and higher-level design thinking.
- Connection to place and community: The event reinforced South Auckland as a space of design excellence, helping students recognise that high-quality, globally relevant creative work can come from their own communities.



Papakura High Business students soak up the knowledge shared by Māori and Pacifica creative entrepreneurs at the Te Ngahere Design Day event.



At the Hynds Takanini branch: Emmanuel, Prince, Siale and Joey are students who have connected with Hynds through cadetship and scholarship programmes.

Hynds Pipe Systems

As we expand the Business Academy to new schools, Hynds Pipe Systems is a key business partner in a range of ways:

- Through the Hynds Pipes branch network, there are opportunities for internships for students in their final year, which can lead to a two-year cadetship for school leavers.
- Tours of the manufacturing plant at Pōkeno provide insights for futures in engineering and highly skilled production careers.
- The Hynds IT team has supported a programme funded through the Tindall Foundation to develop pathways into tech employment, a sector where South Auckland communities have very low levels of representation.
- Hynds businesses support the Hynds Foundation tertiary education scholarship for students from Manurewa High School or Papakura High School. The broad degree pathways are in areas that are used by the Hynds business functions (such as Supply Chain, Marketing, Human Resources, IT, Operations, Technology [CAD], Science [Materials], Manufacturing, and Engineering. Hynds provides a mentor for the scholar, along with a minimum of two weeks' paid work experience per year at a relevant business site.



Seeing the pipe-making process in action develops curiosity for pathways in engineering and production.

Scholars currently in the programme are Emmanuel Banatu (first year Engineering), Joey Hung (second year Engineering), and Sara Abo Nass (fourth year Engineering). Recent graduate Jeremie Babayan now works for Hynds – his story follows on Page 30.

A test of resilience passed, a pathway forged

Jeremie Babayan, a Hynds graduate engineer, came to the business via a Hynds tertiary education scholarship. As his career gains momentum, he reflects on what he's learnt.

How does a scholarship support a young person from Manurewa High?

The Hynds Foundation Scholarship provides a great opportunity for young people from Manurewa High School to enter the engineering field and receive support throughout their time there.

The scholarship allowed both my mother and I to not worry as much about extra income to fund my education. My mother works long hours as a social worker and is already under constant pressure as the sole caretaker of my sister and me. The financial support brought her to [happy] tears knowing that my education was taken care of and that I was going to be okay. For myself, the scholarship let me focus my energy on my studies without having to get a second part-time job or worry about debt. I struggled a lot throughout university, and being able to dedicate more time to my studies helped me stay afloat and make it through all four years without failing a single paper.

On top of the financial support, Hynds provides the scholarship recipient with a mentor from the engineering team. The mentor is an experienced engineer who has also been through university and the workforce transition. My mentor, Ray Dong, has been a massive help both in my time at university as well as a graduate at Hynds. Ray provided me with guidance on different career paths when I was unsure about which path to follow. His advice helped me solidify my choice to enter Civil Engineering, and to delve into my interests in civil infrastructure. He also helped me stick with studies in times I had doubts about continuing.

The scholarship also provides paid work experience, which gives you an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of Hynds and our industry.

I believe the Hynds Foundation Scholarship is a life-changing opportunity that could ideally be extended to more students to help more low-



Jeremie (far left) with members of the Hynds Pipe Systems Technical Engineering Team.

income students enter and flourish in the world of engineering.

Looking back to the transition from high school to uni, what do you wish you'd known and what do you value having learnt?

The transition between high school and university was a tough change for me. From my experience, the jumps in workload, difficulty of content, and tighter deadlines were immense, and I struggled to adjust to it. While I found high school quite relaxed, first-year Engineering was a huge wake-up call. I wish I had known how much more effort I needed to put in and to prepare myself better to succeed.

I also should have taken more advantage of the university networking events. These events help students find internships, learn more about the different specialisations in Engineering, and connect with other students. I knew they were available, but I did not participate in these. These would have helped me find more opportunities to connect and reach out to professionals and other students.

The importance of balancing study and personal time was also something I needed to learn. I burnt out quite often and was constantly stressed about my workload. Learning to plan my days out better and take breaks when needed were also an adjustment I needed to make.

I also should have taken part in extra-curricular opportunities at university. The clubs, engineering

societies, and social events were all things I should have attended more to make more friends within my degree and enjoy the university life.

Despite these challenges, I value having learnt from them to both develop my character and to also be able to share my experiences with current and future students who may find my experiences helpful.

What's it like as a graduate working at Hynds?

A graduate at Hynds can expect lots of support, learning, and work on a daily basis. Typical work I can expect within the Technical function consists of engineering drawings, reinforced concrete design, study and referring to AS/NZS design standards, and on-the-job development. The Technical Team is always getting new jobs, so I am often busy with tasks.

As I develop, I am constantly supported by the senior team members and taught new concepts or ways of thinking that I can use to improve my skills. The team is always happy to pass on their knowledge, should I ask them for it. While the work is generally done solo, it is open to collaboration to ensure the best solutions are produced. The team is close-knit and we are well suited to working with each other.

Opportunities to work on smaller projects that require bespoke design solutions are commonplace and are good challenges to use my skills and refine my strategies. Large projects also come around on occasion; it's a great feeling to be able to contribute to these. Hynds also helps my professional development through Engineering New Zealand. There are many opportunities to add hours of Continued Professional Development [CPD].

Learning has been a constant part of my journey as a graduate at Hynds. There are plenty of products to understand, standards to understand and learn, best practices to implement, judgement calls to be made, and so on. Every day I find myself learning something new about Hynds, design, or the wider industry. As Hynds plays such a big part of civil infrastructure in Aotearoa New Zealand, there are always opportunities to learn. Curiosity has been the significant driver of my growth at Hynds, and I encourage future graduates to also have a good mindset for learning.

How did your degree prepare you for this pathway?

I studied the Bachelor of Engineering [Honours] in Civil Engineering. This degree equipped me with

knowledge in the many Civil Engineering sub-disciplines ranging from traffic, geotechnical, water, environmental, and structural, as well as the skills to collaborate within a team.

My learning from the degree gave me a solid foundation to understand the design principles of Hynds' concrete products, as well as a general understanding of the systems these products are part of. From manhole lids to box culverts, I use the knowledge from the degree to understand the design principles behind each Hynds product and help me design a cost-effective solution to suit our customers' needs that also meet the AS/NZS design standards.

Background knowledge on different engineered solutions like pipelines, roads, and retaining walls, for example, supplement the design process and give context to the expected use cases and working environments of my own designs. All this knowledge ensures that the products I design are robust and will deliver exceptional results for our customers.

In addition to working in the Technical Team, I have had a six-week stint at the Hynds Pōkeno factory. This shift moved me away from design work and towards production management and quality assurance. My focus during this time was increasing production efficiency and quality, while improving the environment to make work easier and safer for workers; it was a role that applied creative thinking and knowledge of the system to drive innovation.

A Structural Engineering degree would have also been very beneficial for the design side of my work, but going through Civil Engineering gave me a background on the civil infrastructure and systems, some base in structural design, as well as production management. Both pathways still ensure future graduates can understand different engineering roles in their time at Hynds.

Collaborating in group assignments at university has made the transition to working in a team environment much smoother, whether it be collaborating within my team, internal clients, or external clients. Having practised soft skills extensively at university has adjusted me well to working in a team environment.

My degree has certainly prepared me for the graduate role I have with Hynds, and I am able to thrive at work by both having the fundamentals and being able to build my design skills from that.

Empowering the next generation of innovators

Since 2017, the Hynds Foundation has played a catalytic role in helping Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland grow a distinctive approach to entrepreneurship education through the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE). Through the Hynds Entrepreneurial Fellows Programme, the Foundation continues to enable students from across disciplines to develop the confidence, creativity and practical capability needed to innovate within their own fields and contribute to New Zealand's future prosperity.

In 2025, the programme delivered nine courses reaching 2212 students in partnerships across the university. The programme's strength continues to lie in its discipline-specific approach, embedding entrepreneurial thinking into authentic learning contexts so that students can apply innovation tools directly to the challenges, opportunities and industries most relevant to them.

A major focus in the past year has been expanding entrepreneurship education into new areas within the Faculty of Arts and Education. Fellow Dr Marissa Kaloga collaborated with academic staff to develop innovative new learning experiences in Global Studies and Music, reflecting the growing importance of social and creative entrepreneurship in New Zealand and globally.

GLOBAL 250: Social Entrepreneurship and Systems Change

In this course, students explore how entrepreneurial approaches can be used to tackle complex societal challenges including climate change, inequality and homelessness. They created 'zines for change' to communicate systems-level issues, and developed their own social-venture concepts addressing gaps they identified in existing solutions. The course also introduced students to forensic case studies examining where social enterprises can unintentionally fail to deliver positive impact, encouraging deeper critical thinking around innovation and systems change.



Dr Marissa Kaloga.

MUSIC 365: Music Industry and Business

This course challenged students to apply entrepreneurial thinking directly to their creative practices. Students experimented with real-world entrepreneurial activities ranging from producing events on zero-budget to developing home-recording studios and collaborating with game designers on soundtracks. Industry-facing podcast interviews with music entrepreneurs helped bring concepts such as 'opportunity recognition' and 'value creation' to life in ways students found highly relatable and contemporary.

Alongside these new curricular partnerships, the Hynds Fellows Programme continued to support large-scale entrepreneurial capability-building across the University.

In 2025, the programme enabled 1981 Stage One Business students in B112: Managing Sustainable Growth to learn core prototyping principles through a hands-on makerspace assignment. Students developed, refined and reflected on innovative packaging prototypes of their own creation, helping build practical design-thinking and experimentation skills at scale.

The programme also supported hackathon activity integrating employability, innovation and entrepreneurship into academic learning experiences, helping students strengthen collaboration, problem-solving and industry engagement skills in fast-paced, multidisciplinary environments.

Since its establishment, the Hynds Entrepreneurial Fellows Programme has now reached nearly 13,000 students across 17 courses and collaborated with every faculty at the university.

Arts & Culture

Day One – Hāpai te Haeata

Participation in the Day One Challenge hit record levels in 2025, with 536 participants and 140 films submitted across two rounds.

Our Annual Report frames this as a return to pre-pandemic strength and beyond, which is worth sitting with for a moment. Covid didn't just disrupt schools temporarily; it gave teachers and kaiako permission to shed commitments they'd been sustaining on goodwill, and many of those commitments haven't come back. Extra-curricular creative kaupapa was often the first thing dropped and, it seems, among the last to be restored. Day One's growth into that space has been deliberate, and is reflected in the increase in younger participants this year - children aged 7–14 now making up 18% of Challenge entrants.

'How To' resources were designed specifically to be useful to an overcommitted teacher. They are modular, adaptable, and accessible.

The geographic spread is changing too, slowly but visibly. Auckland still accounts for 51% of participants, but Waikato at 11.8% and Wellington at 15.8% are growing centres of activity, and the presence of participants from Southland, Taranaki and the West Coast, small numbers but real ones, points to reach that extends well beyond the main cities.

Ethnically, the communities showing up are genuinely diverse. Across the Challenge, Māori participants made up 11.3%, Asian participants 20.1%, African participants 2.2%. In Day One Shorts, Māori representation climbs to 16.2%, with Pacific, Middle Eastern and Central or South American communities all present among participants and their crews.

The more structural shift is the pathway that's becoming visible between early participation and funded production. People who entered the Challenge as teenagers are now returning as funded filmmakers, moving into NZ Film Commission development, international festival slots and feature-writing residencies. That kind of

progression doesn't happen by accident; it's the result of a programme long enough to follow people through.

Meanwhile the screen sector is contracting and creative education in schools remains under pressure. Day One is, increasingly, where access to this work actually lives for many young people.



Creative responses at a time of creative challenges.



Younger participants are the growth factor in an overall growing participation rate.



Day One Annual Report provides performance data and wider context driving key trends.

Reflections from SCAPE – Ōtautahi Christchurch

Stepping into the Executive Director role at SCAPE Public Art in 2025, I've been struck by the depth of artistic journeys that SCAPE helps to shape, and the way our city continues to evolve through public art. It's an exciting time for Ōtautahi, where the city feels alive with the sense of possibility.

A standout story is that of local artist Mollie Shaw. Five years ago, as a high school student, Mollie was named a winner of SCAPE's Aspiring Artist Competition for her concept *The Strong Woman*. With the support of SCAPE and our partners, her idea was realised as a temporary sculpture on a plinth in the city centre – an experience Mollie describes as “mind-blowing” and formative in shaping her belief that there are no limits to where art can take you.

In 2025, Mollie returned to SCAPE as a professional ‘Season’ artist. Her work was selected by then Managing Curator Tyson Campbell, without knowledge of her teenage competition success. Her journey – from student winner to professional artist – shows how experiences like SCAPE can open young people's eyes to what is possible, helping them imagine pathways from the classroom into professional practice.

Also in SCAPE's 2025 Season, an interactive artwork by another young aspiring artist won SCAPE's People's Choice Award. At just 10 years old, Noëlle Nash Austrin designed *Play With Your Words* to encourage adults to play alongside children as a way to help communication. Over the summer, people of all ages had a go on the rainbow swing installation at the Arts Centre. The winning student works from 2025 have now been relocated to Christchurch's Climate Action Campus, where they continue to be enjoyed.

We're equally proud to support artists at different stages of their careers. Established practitioners Vaimaila Urale, Nichola Shanley, and Sabin Holloway created their first public artworks with SCAPE this year, expanding their practices into new territory and contributing fresh perspectives to the city's cultural landscape.

We're deeply grateful for the continued support of partners like the Hynds Foundation, whose contribution helps make this work possible.

Rachel Jefferies, Executive Director



Mollie Shaw – in five years progresses from student winner to a professional season in SCAPE.



The Strong Woman – Mollie Shaw's prize-winning sculpture [SCAPE 2020].



Play With Your Words – designed by 10 year-old Noëlle Nash Austrin to encourage adults to play alongside children.

Te Uru

Through our education programmes, we continue to build partnerships across our community, making sure the gallery remains inclusive and welcoming.

A new monthly initiative, Baby Friendly Art Tours for parents and caregivers, creates a supportive space to engage with contemporary art while acknowledging the realities of attending with young children.

There is great interest in this unique opportunity, indicating a demand for accessible and diverse ways to experience art.

Building on this, we are developing a monthly programme for Gold Card holders, offering free guided tours and hands-on workshops. This initiative will support social connection, lifelong learning, and creative participation for our local retired community, while reducing financial and social barriers to engagement with the gallery.

For Matariki 2026, we are collaborating with artist Nikau Hindin as part of her exhibition *Cosmologies*, alongside First Nations Australian artist Naminapu



Maymuru-White. Hindin will lead kite-making workshops grounded in her research into traditional star navigation and her practice with aute (bark cloth). These workshops provide a meaningful platform for sharing mātauranga Māori and connecting participants to the cultural significance of Matariki through hands-on learning.

Our education team is also working with approximately 700 students from Kaurilands School on a large-scale mask-making project exploring identity across cultures. This will culminate in a public exhibition at the gallery, celebrating each student's work and voice. Presenting this work in a professional setting elevates young people's creative voices and strengthens school–community connections.

We have also guided 124 students from Oratia School through Bill Hammond's retrospective, and will welcome 145 students from Titirangi Primary School, alongside sponsoring workshops for 40 students from Glenavon School with strong artistic potential. In partnership with Sony, we continue to deliver six annual workshops for senior students from high Equity Index schools; each participating school receives a Sony Alpha ZV-E10 camera, creating a lasting resource for future learners.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate our commitment to accessibility, cultural exchange, and community-led engagement, positioning the gallery as a vital hub for learning, connection, and creativity across generations.



Te Tuhi

The past year at Te Tuhi has been defined by a celebration of the past and excitement for the future. In May 2025, we marked the beginning of our 50th anniversary with the Founders Brunch, hosted by Director Hiraani Himona alongside founders Lois Perry, Bev Smaill and the Iris Fisher Family. The event brought together long-standing contributors and supporters to honour the gallery's five-decade-long journey. This spirit continued with 50 Years On, an exhibition of ephemera from our archive, tracing Te Tuhi's evolution from the Pakuranga Arts Centre [1975] and the Fisher Gallery [1984] to the present day.

Soon after, an unexpected flooding incident linked to nearby construction briefly interrupted our programme. While parts of the building were affected, all artworks remained safe thanks to the swift response from our team. We used this moment as an opportunity for a short pause and significant refresh, reopening on 9 February 2026. Grounded in gratitude and focused on the future, this marked a new chapter with revitalised spaces and renewed energy.

This momentum continues into 2026 as we extend our anniversary celebrations. In June, we launch the Nanette Cameron Digital Archive, made possible through the generous support of the Hynds Foundation, followed by the release of our forthcoming publication, *They Covered the House in Stories: 50 years of Exhibiting Contemporary Art* in July. Together, these projects preserve and share Te Tuhi's creative history.



Alongside the 50th milestone, Te Tuhi continues to deliver a strong exhibition programme.

Alongside these milestones, Te Tuhi continues to deliver a strong exhibition programme. Our first season of 2026 opened on 28 February, marking the return of audiences to our refreshed spaces. The season featured six new exhibitions, including five new commissions, across a range of media by early to mid-career artists. We are now working towards our second season, opening on 23 May 2026. Our international work continues through Paerangi: Venice, extending our reach beyond Aotearoa while remaining grounded locally.

A year on from our 50th anniversary, Te Tuhi continues to reflect on its history while actively shaping its future.



Guests honouring Te Tuhi's 50 year journey.



Ngaroma Riley with her work *Tihei Mauri ora!...* in the exhibition *Echo*.



GAMER, part of *Parallax: Reiterating forms of gathering*, Curatorial Internship Programme 2025, led by Jingcheng Zhao.



Visit to Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, Te Awamutu as part of the exhibition *The tongue to them*, 2025.



2025 Volunteer Cohort at their end-of-year exhibition in The Kit.

Artspace Aotearoa

As a significant giver to our work, Hynds Foundation is part of our Enduring Circle which means contribution is made across all aspects of our mahi - production, international engagement, and outreach. The foundation is especially interested in our work in outreach and education. Here are some highlights from our outreach in 2025:

- Successfully delivering our first curatorial Interns programme in our lower ground floor space, The Kit. This programme, led by early career practitioners, allows for focused engagement on new audiences and emerging practitioners. It drew an additional 600 visitors to our gallery, many of whom were first-time visitors.
- Bringing Te Reo Māori permanently into the gallery.
- 25% growth in event attendance.
- Growing engagement with high-school and tertiary learners with close to 500 learners visiting our site.
- Connecting with the regions by partnering with

Te Wānanga o Aotearoa - Te Awamutu and Te Whare Toi o Heretaunga - Hastings Art Gallery.

- Strengthening our relationship with Karangahape Rd Business Association – bringing new audiences to our precinct through regular tours organised with arts groups.
- Introducing 'Alt-text' to our electronic communications and website.
- Working with our volunteers, E H McCormick Library Intern, and the E H McCormick Librarian to improve the accessibility of our archive.
- Leading the collaborative East St Block Party to celebrate our entire community.

In 2026, we're pleased to continue to work to reduce barriers to accessing our work by introducing a sensory adjustable visiting slot on a weekly basis and trialling regular open-late hours. We will also continue to strengthen our Volunteers Programme and the close engagement with new members of our community that this enables. We also intend to strengthen our partnerships-based approach to connect with new audiences locally, nationally, and internationally, including developing a targeted high school and tertiary learning strategy.



John Hynds, second from left, leads the Ōamaru arts community in celebrating Paula and Zac and their achievements during Crucible Artist Residency 3.

Sparks and monkeys fly in Crucible Residency 3

The third Crucible Artist Residency, with Paula Collier and Zac Whiteside, showed the magic that can happen in collaborations between artists and the skilled craftsmen at Gillies Metaltech.

Zac Whiteside's *Barrel of Monkeys* project saw him recreate the familiar childhood game on an industrial scale. During his residency, Zac made 15 large-scale cast-iron monkeys and a barrel to house them, then staged a live performance to hook the monkeys using a spider crane. A skilled crane operator won the game, hooking 11 off the ground, but Zac says he was proud of his effort to hook seven.

The project had percolated in Zac's imagination for some time before the residency, yet revealed the unexpected to him in the making. "The experience in the foundry made me think of the work differently. The monkeys mimic 'S' hooks, and seeing the number of cranes used at every stage of production, made it feel even more suitable for me to display my work on a crane and pilot the performance."

Zac studied at Dunedin School of Art, graduating in 2023 and moving on to develop art, cofound a gallery and run a multimedia business. Post the



Zac Whiteside: Hooked on a Barrel of Monkeys.

residency, Zac received an early career grant from Creative New Zealand and has returned to Wellington, where he grew up, aiming to develop another large-scale work that will also have a public performance.

Paula Collier's exhibition, *Average of 3 sparks*, took its title from the electric testing method used to determine the ratio of chemical elements in molten metal. She created a series of works utilising materials she discovered in the foundry – crafting computer printouts into plaster sculptures, casting iron slats from displaced roof rafters, and weaving found metals into surprising places. The diverse body of work she created was spread across three Crucible galleries and a nearby building on Tees Street, which once housed foundry workers.

Paula completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts at Elam in 1997, and a Master of Fine Arts at Massey University in 2024. As well as having a family connection with Ōamaru and foundry work, Paula brought with her experience working as a textile artist in the film industry which had provided opportunities for incorporating repurposed or waste materials into her artworks. In addition, her interest in the dynamic relationship between materials, architectural scale, and the unique light qualities of sites was well served in the Gillies precinct.

Paula says she approaches the role of the artist as a facilitator or conduit, aiming to meet the space and light in mutuality, searching for a material kinship between the architecture and the introduced objects or materials.

"My time here allowed for experimentation with materials previously unknown to me. I saw the possibilities of the machinery that could manipulate the metal in different ways. I was able to work at a large scale because of the volume of materials available and I have for the first time considered outdoor work because of the robust nature of the materials I worked with."

Paula says being able to connect with the foundry team was a real highlight. "I had some really amazing chats with many of them, they were generous with their knowledge and made me feel welcome. That was a real highlight for me - because of my family connection to this kind of work and my own experiences in the workplace. My art practice is closely connected to material and process and I realised there wasn't much difference between what I do and the way work gets done in the foundry."



Paula Collier: lost materials repurposed, with curiosity, trial and error.

Impact through a thriving ecology

Since the Hynds Foundation launched the residency in 2024, six artists residents have gained new skills and knowledge in the foundry context. The programme has proven its impact for artistic creativity, believes Léonie Hynds. "We're also delighted with how the Ōamaru arts community has wrapped around the residency, regularly attending our events and offering support and connection for artists who are living away from their homes for an extended period."

The residency's impact extends to the growth in the Gillies team's capabilities, along with its reputation in arts fabrication. Commissions have been successfully executed for high-profile artists like Sonya Lacey for an exhibition in Queenstown, and Ana Iti, for a sculpture for a Wellington building. A small crucible setup for brass and bronze is now in action, which adds to the foundry's offerings for arts and other commercial work.

Excitement for the next residency

The fourth residency will run from 24 August to 22 November. A high level of high-quality applications was received, and the residency was awarded to Auckland artist, Emma Stretch.

Environment



A snapshot of progress at Pōkeno: It's looking *better* than ever!

An Ecological Reserve and Sculpture Park at Pōkeno is an investment by the Hynds Foundation that extends our charitable work across four of our pillars – Environment, Education, Community Wellbeing, and Arts and Culture.

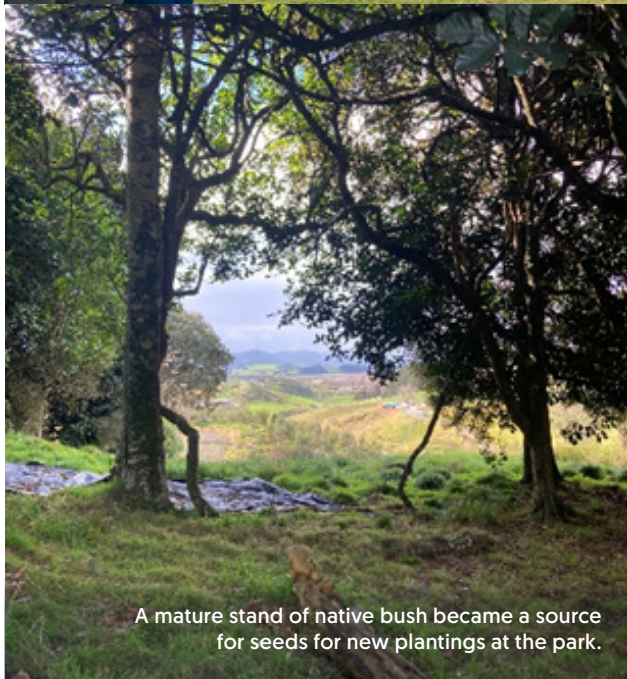
At the beginning of 2026, we reached a stage where we could begin to welcome community on an invitation basis. This phase allows us to understand how different groups interact with the environment, which will inform the park's development. The transformation of two working hobby farms is not completed, but it has certainly come a long way.

2018:

- 62 and 10 Bluff Road are two hobby farms with extensive wetlands.

2020:

- Hynds acquires both farms to extend its charitable support under the Environment pillar.
- Plan for ecological and civil engineering outcomes.
- Improved track access for park maintenance.
- Seed sourcing from a mature stand of bush harvested for seedlings.
- Prepared the ground for new planting.



2021:

- Ecological regeneration plan underway.
- Planting of 40,000 native shrubs, small trees and aquatic grasses with the support of Native Awa.
- Pest control (rabbits, stoats, ferrets, rats).
- Sculpture Park ambitions emerge.
- Leo Lornie takes up residence with his wife Helen as the first park superintendent.

2022:

- Ecological management – weeding and pest control.
- 60,000 additional plantings.

2023:

- Boffa Miskell landscape consultancy commenced.
- 40,000 further new plantings.
- Maturity of existing planting creates environment for specimen trees.
- Weeding and pest control.
- Walkways and roading progressed.
- Acquisitions of the first 4 sculptures.

2024:

- Boffa Miskell landscape plan completed.
- Guardian Chief, Agnes, In Bloom and Palms x 3 installed.
- Soil health is improving.
- Planting is doing well – leading to reduced sediment runoff into waterways and increased birdlife.
- Weeds and pests are under control.

2025:

- 6 sculptures relocated (3 by helicopter) from their previous home at Connells Bay, Waiheke.
- 7 new sculpture acquisitions.
- Installation processes completed.
- Further trail development.

2026:

- Ecological management is advanced – park is on track for a sustainable system within a decade.
- A trail map produced of our fully installed sculpture family – the first 4 has become 17.
- We have begun to invite community groups in on a controlled and limited basis.
- A design for the Visitor Centre is ready.
- Leo and Helen move to Waiuku; into retirement but still close at hand.

A sculptures update

Pōkeno Park is now home to 17 works by established and emerging New Zealand artists: Amie Redpath, Wendy Hannah, Chris Moore, Jane Downes, Graham Bennett, Rob Suisted, Neil Dawson, Jae Hoon Lee, Rebecca Rose, Matthew Buscke, Matthew Williams, Isaac Watson, Sherie Kemp, Iain Cheesman, Simon Lewis Wards and Phil Dadson. The majority of works have been installed on the western side of the park, which was the first area of focus for native regeneration.



Above:
The viewer's eye is drawn from Patina [Matthew Buscke] to Look Beyond [Graham Bennett], shifting left to Jane Downes' Palms x 3, and up to Reason to Return [Graham Bennett].

Below Left:
Reason to Return
[Graham Bennett].

Below Right:
'Tenantennae', by Phil Dadson,
reaches out over a waterway on the
lower-lying eastern side of the park.



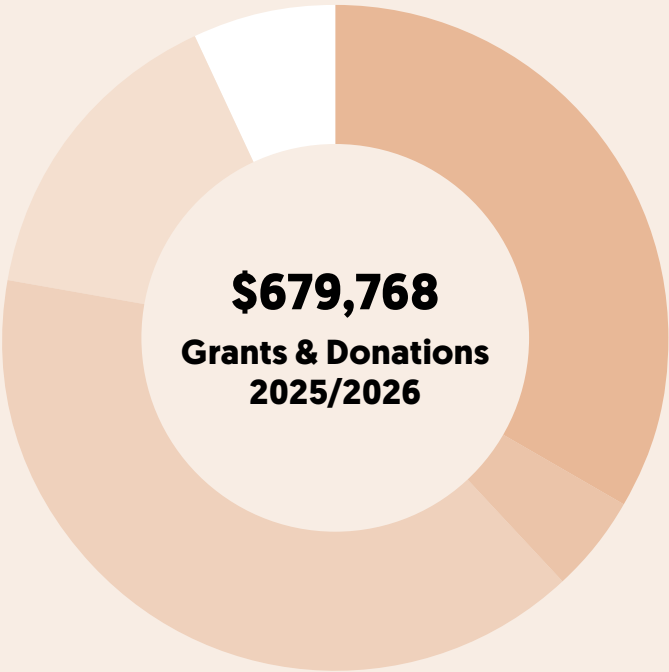
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Financial Overview 2025/2026

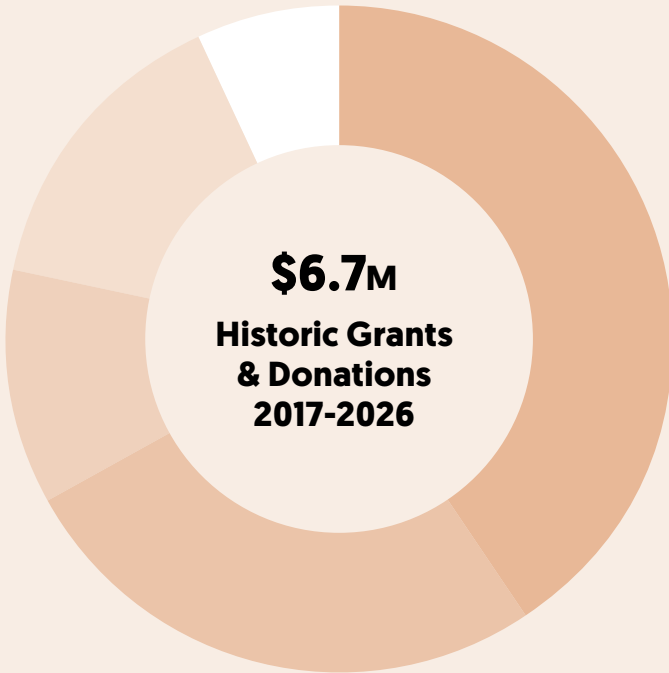
Past Year Grants and Donations (2025/2026)



Note: Environment charitable giving commenced 2022.



Historic Grants & Donations (2017-2026)



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