

KUMEU ARTS

Annual Report

July 2022 – June 2023



Our Objectives

“To Promote and Foster a Creative Community”

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Jesse Smith – New World

Exhibitions at Kumeu Arts

It has been excellent to see our exhibition schedule return to normal again after the many disruptions Covid caused in previous years. With twenty two fantastic and varied exhibitions across both our galleries that have included collaborations with schools, Art Centre Helensville and Kumeu Library. We've held eight exhibitions for our members, including one new themed printmaking show and one of our favourites 'Art on Record' which returned to our schedule to celebrate NZ Music Month. Entries to members' exhibitions have been higher than ever before with over 100 artworks in both 'the Affordable Art Sale' and 'Our Aotearoa'. We've also had a number of other group shows bringing the total number of artists exhibiting in the galleries to 308.

Attendance at opening events has also been excellent, some becoming memorable community events such as the combined opening for Collected Identity and Matariki, the World of Cultures and Music Month. Sales have not been as high as previous years but this is indicative of the financial climate. We have still managed to sell \$25,000 worth of art through the galleries this year, approx. \$10K more than last year (refer to Graph 7. Page 29). Regardless, commission is not our main objective or motivation and lots of the exhibitions have been stimulating and thought provoking such as Leanne Rogerson's 'Containment', which had a profound effect on many visitors, as did Mette Hay's sound installation and Kathy Servian's reflection on Covid. In response to feedback we've included more artist's talks, which have come from celebrated local artists such as Arwen Flowers and Michelle Reid.

Our objective to support emerging artists was realised through our work with young artist Jesse Smith. Exhibitions have also been diverse in terms of media and style including contemporary and traditional work, Whakairo Sculpture, photography and ceramics offering visitors a range of experiences. Over the last twelve months Kumeu Arts has once again highlighted the breadth of art practice and the people who make it.

Trash2ART

Timatanga Community School

19th July - 13th August

Main Gallery



Inspirational for teachers, parents and children, this exhibition presented new and exciting ways to turn household rubbish into playful, original and beautiful works of art. Supported by Trash to Fashion expert Sue Scarf, the tamariki (Year 1 through to Year 7), worked for a term to explore various trash materials and experiment with ways to transform them. The school sold 117 A5 cards during the exhibition. Visitors marveled at the creativity on display.

Containment

Leanne Rogerson

19th July - 13th August

Pod Gallery



This exhibition centered on women's issues and Leanne's interpretation using discarded items and repurposing them into 3D assemblages. . Leanne also invited the women who nurtured Leanne as she transitioned through her 'expected roles' to submit one piece reflecting their understanding of what the empty nest means to them. This was an incredibly powerful and moving exhibition that received huge praise from visitors. One wrote... "within this small room you have brought about wildly varying emotions. From calm to joy, agony, curiosity and bemusement. Thankyou'. Leanne sold six artworks, totalling \$320.

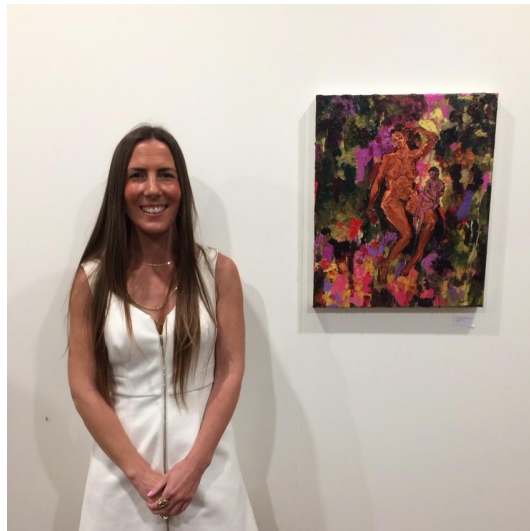
Get Fired - Ceramics
17th August - 10th September
Main Gallery



Work by KACI member's

Our annual members ceramics exhibition featured the work of 12 artists who, between them, entered 65 pieces. There was a wonderfully diverse range of work both functional and decorative. Visitors loved this 'cash and carry' style exhibition purchasing 22 pieces for \$1,485.00. One wrote "So many yummy things to see!".

Triumphant Regression
Yvonne Abercrombie
17th August - 10th September
Pod Gallery



Our previous Art Administrator, Yvonne, returned to Kumeu Arts with this collection of new paintings. "Fraught and contentious figures subside in the comfort of their colourful surroundings of lavishly buttered oil paint." Visitors wrote "Superb Exhibition", "Fab well-considered work", "Such a beautiful show". Yvonne sold 6 artworks, \$829 worth.

NEW WORLD

JESSE SMITH

13th September - 1st October

Main Gallery



We invited young, prolific artist Jesse Smith to hold his first ever exhibition. Our manager Jago Neal worked closely with Jesse on the development of his show, visiting him in his studio and selecting pieces to display. Jago wrote about Jesse "His work is fresh, free and raw. Teeming with explosive energy. Paint runs and drips over solid colour blocks - lyrical like Nas is to hip hop. Lines jump around as playful as a child in the sand - experimental as jazz. Ripped up, unabashed, paintings as punk as the Pistols." The exhibition was a huge success! It was brilliant to see so many young people here for Jesse's opening. Approximately 85 people attended that night. Jesse sold a staggering \$2,109.00 worth of art, 11 artworks.

INKED

Printmaking in the Pod

14th September - 1st October

Pod Gallery



A new initiative by our arts administrator to include printmaking as one of our members' exhibitions. This celebration of printmaking in all its forms proved very popular. It was a lovely display and even encouraged new members to join us. We also ran a printmaking workshop to coincide with the exhibition. One visitor wrote "Very cool, loving this mahi". We sold 14 artworks for \$796.00.

Paper Dolls
Arwen Flowers
4th - 22nd October
Main Gallery



We were privileged to host acclaimed local artist Arwen Flowers once again at Kumeu Arts. For this show Arwen wrote... "The expressions of culture around us can create a sense of belonging, or alienation. By choosing the symbol of the paper dolls as a reference to humanity I examine notions of belonging, and the process of becoming culturally and socially inclusive people, while also affirming diversity." Her thoughtful work was warmly received by visitors who wrote "So good!" and "Beautiful, beautiful show". Arwen gave a fascinating artist's talk and shared more about her process and ideas. She sold one collage and four pieces of jewelry for \$455.

Through the Lens of a Quirky Imagination
A Phantasmagorical View of Pandemic Life by Kathy Servian
4th - 22nd October
Pod Gallery



A personal reflection by local, award winning photographer Kathy Servian on nearly three years living with Covid. This, coincided with Arwen Flower's show, to provide another stimulating and thought provoking experience for visitors. Each surreal tableaux image used was a metaphor designed to encourage thought, reflection, and discussion on our personal and shared experiences. While we did not sell any work we did receive extremely positive feedback about this exhibition. One group who came to see it on a bus tour called us afterwards to say just how much they appreciated Kathy's work.

The Kumeu Arts Awards 2022

1st - 26th November

Both Galleries



Now in its sixth year, our awards went ahead as normal after being forced online in 2021. The event aims to highlight our talented community of artists and recognise their achievements, linking art with local businesses who kindly donate prizes. We had an excellent response for our call for entries, receiving 145 submissions. We selected 111 of these to hang across both our galleries. Our visitors marveled at the volume and quality of the work which seems to improve each year. Comments read... "Well done Kumeu Arts for pulling together a wonderful awards show", "Great event", "looks amazing! Superbly curated".

The Affordable Arts Sale 2022

Member's Exhibition

November 29th – Dec 23rd

Both Galleries



We always have a great response from our members for this annual cash and carry art sale. This year there were 115 works entered by 41 local artists. We sold \$1,774.00 worth of work and comments read... "Great exhibition - colourful, beautiful and so varied", "Very creative, lots of talent."

Our Aotearoa
Member's Exhibition
25th January – 26th February 2022
Main Gallery



This was another wonderful response to our call for entries with 44 Artists entering a staggering 102 Artworks. This year because our neighbouring Art Centre Helensville remained closed for building work we also took entries from their members for our first ever combined exhibition. 10 of their members entered and we enjoyed a wonderful opening night bringing our two communities together. We sold \$1148.44 worth of work. Comments read... "Looks fabulous" and "Looking amazing!"

KAA Winners Exhibition
21 Feb - 11 March 2023
Both Galleries



Young artist Ronald Wang with his work

Kumeu Arts Awards prize packages now include the opportunity to take part in this annual group exhibition. Winning artists (including youth artists) are invited to enter 2-3 new works. This was a fantastic exhibition that included photography, sculpture, weaving painting and drawings by Stephanie Nierstenhoefer, Stefanie Robinson, Riki Waugh, Davina Wang, Rachel Cullen, Victoria Johnston, Kirsten Reid and Ronald Wang. Sales totalled \$550 for two artworks.

Mette Hay
The Invisible Visible - You are Hear
14 March - 1 April
Main gallery



Mette Hay recorded soundscapes from Muriwai at moments in time and translated them into crafted material forms revealing the invisible element of sound. She also created an interactive artwork which grew throughout the duration of the exhibition across the gallery walls as she added the voices of participants. Mette Hay's installation proved to be very popular with visitors who gave extremely positive feedback. One said that Mette's work was like 'painting with sound'. Over 100 people took part in the interactive sound recordings. Mette did not sell any work.

World of Cultures Exhibition
14 March - 10 April
Pod gallery



Jago Neal with Prize Winner Rachel Tan her painting 'Chinese Opera'

For the Auckland Council World of Cultures Festival we asked artists to submit artworks which reflected the theme culture or cultural experiences. Images of these artworks were then displayed at Kumeu Library and visitors to the library were invited to respond to the artwork through writing. No information was provided about the artworks. People interpreted them based solely on the picture provided. The original artworks were then displayed here alongside the accompanying writing. More details about the artist or picture were included in the exhibition. Also, work made by local tamariki reflecting their ideas on culture was included. During the exhibition we one painting sold by Coral Noel Yang for \$625.00

Tipua Sculpture Tour
Courtesy of Lakehouse Arts
4 – 29 April
Main Gallery



This touring exhibition of contemporary and traditional Whakairo Sculptures was created by a collection of Auckland-based artists during the nationwide lockdown. We were the last stop for this tour, which came to us courtesy of Lake House Arts and funding from Auckland Council. It was warmly received by our visitors, including over 100 students from Huapai school (seen above). During the exhibition we sold 3 small sculptures by Paul Brunton for \$452

Val Enger
18 – 29 April
Pod Gallery



Val Enger was born and resides in West Auckland and is a long-standing member of Kumeu Arts. She paints onto canvas or board in acrylic, pastels and watercolour. Val says "Lately I have been moving into abstract paintings which are still inspired by the land around me. I am searching for a visual "truth that finds its place between the observed and the deeply personal and transitory nature of the experience." Val's colourful, bold work was a pleasure for viewers to see. Three paintings sold for \$1,428.

Michelle Reid

Remnants and Sanctuaries

18 – 29 April

Main Gallery



For this exhibition, local artist and Kumeu Arts committee member Michelle, visited local Kumeu growers to gather visual resources while questioning the weathering effects of the climate and the industrious nature of plants. Michelle gave a fascinating artist talk to coincide with her opening event which around 35 people attended. This interesting and thoughtful collection of work was warmly received by visitors and Michelle sold 3 artworks totalling \$1100.

Art on Record

8 May – 3 June

Pod Gallery



We were happy to bring back one of our favorite events this year (after 3 years) 'Art on Record' is a themed member's exhibition to coincide with NZ music month. Members were asked to create an artwork for a past, present or future band or musician - real or imagined. All artworks needed to be within the format and dimensions of an LP Album cover. 18 Members entered this fun, and diverse exhibition linking music and art. The drawing seen above 'Te Aho Matua' by Rikki Hunia was her first ever entry into one of our member's exhibitions. Seven artworks sold for a total of \$1008.

Kumeu In Focus

The Auckland Festival of Photography
31 May - 24 June
Main Gallery



We had 53 photographs entered into Kumeu in Focus from 9 members of the Photography group, 2 Helensville Members and 12 Kumeu Arts Members. The exhibition featured a retrospective by the Kumeu Photography Group, celebrating their 10th year with a selection of their favourite images. A section of the show was given to the festival theme inviting interpretations of Resistance [ātete]. While the 'Open' category allowed Kumeu Arts members the freedom to display photography of their choosing. Around 50 people came along to the opening night and we sold 1 photograph.

Feminine Traditions - Modern World
Rebecca Hawthorn, Linley Wilkinson, Iulia Simtion
7th June – 24th June
Pod gallery



This group exhibition explored with curiosity, modern day and personal ideas of femininity, through the practices of weaving, ceramics and painting. We saw another great turnout for the opening event on a sunny winter Saturday afternoon with approx. 60 friends and family of the three exhibiting artists coming along to support them. Sales were excellent too, with 13 works selling from the exhibition plus shop sales. One visitor wrote "breathtaking exhibit. Every second, every look around captures something beautiful, very amazed".

Collected Identity: Portraits of the Northwest

27th June – 22nd July

Main gallery



This modern take on portraiture brought together the work of six local artists: Natalie Gelder, Mark Whippy, Carly Jade Anderson, Tanya Blong, Tracey Roberts and Abbie Cossey. Curated by Jago Neal the exhibition included paintings, photography and ceramic representations of people seen to reflect the community and a distinct local voice. The artists involved all approached the brief differently but considerately, each offering something unique. The collection overall was coherent and unifying. We sold \$6435.00 worth of art, one of them the largest individual sale of an artwork we've ever made. One visitor wrote simply "looks amazing"

Matariki Exhibition

27th June – 22nd July

Pod gallery



We invited our members to interpret Matariki and enter works that reflected the themes of the Māori New Year. We had twelve very different responses including paintings, drawings, ceramics and sculptural mixed media work. This was a respectful and thoughtful exhibition that allowed our community to contribute to, and reflect on Matariki together. One comment read "Great show! Good Matariki vibes and truly beautiful work". We did not make any sales from this exhibition.

Events



After the disruptions of Covid it has been wonderful to be able to run numerous events again over the last year. We've seen very high numbers of people take part in some really memorable occasions. Exhibition openings have been busy. Often we've scheduled two across both galleries, offering visitors the chance to view both new exhibitions at one event. Happily we were able to run our Awards Ceremony again which is always a big night on our calendar. Collaborations with Art Centre Helensville, Muriwai Arts Open Studios and Kumeu Library have all increased our ability to reach more people. Events are integral to what we do at Kumeu Arts which is bringing the community together. We thoroughly enjoy being a place where people come to celebrate art, music, community and diversity.

The BIG Reveal - Mural Launch

16th September 2022



We invited our community to the 'Big Reveal' for an 'unveiling' of our new mural 'A Mural for the People'. Many of the participants in the project and their families came along to this event. The mural features the faces of twenty-four people representing the different user groups at Kumeu Arts, including; staff, tutors, committee and founding members, artists, the knitting group, the Kumeu Children's Art Club, Goodwood Park Health.

A grant from the Creative Communities Scheme enabled us to successfully collaborate with stakeholder Creative Matters during the development and workshop stages and work with local

company Lee Design to transfer the images onto the panels. A highlight was being able to invite 12 children of various ages to participate on the artwork/painting stage of the project. One participant read "The Mural for the People is such a fun and relevant project for the wider Kumeu Community. As someone who is learning to paint at the Centre and sells creations in the wonderful shop it really makes me feel part of the community".

Thank you to the Creative Communities Scheme for funding this project. Also, Creative Matters and Lee Design.

Kumeu Arts Awards Ceremony

October 29th 2022



Around 180 people came along on a beautiful evening to the ceremony for our Awards. Our Chairperson Christine Rose and judge Janet Mazenier spoke to a packed audience and awarded prizes. It was a lovely, celebratory affair with good food, wine and lots of smiles. We have received warm feedback for both the ceremony and exhibition. Thanks so much to our committee, Sarah and Kyra for all their help on the night.

Judge Janet Mazenier awarded prizes as follows:

Supreme Winner - Prize value \$1300 - Stephanie Nierstenhoefer - for 'Wellesley Street West'
Second Place - Prize value \$800 - Stefanie Robinson for 'Woven landscape'
Third Place - Prize value \$400 - Riki Waugh for 'Point of View'
Highly Commended - Prize value \$300 - Davina Wang for 'My Eyes'
Highly Commended Photography - Prize value \$300 - Rachel Cullen for 'Exit'
Runner Up - Prize value \$100 - Victoria Johnston for 'Fancy Lashes'
Runner Up - Prize value \$100 - Kirsten Ried for 'Bygone'
Runner Up - Prize value \$100 - Babrara von Sedia for "... the Light of Purity"
Young artist (16-18) - Prize value \$100 - Jessica Gurnsey for 'Lights! Camera! ...'
Young Artist (12-15) -Prize value \$100 - Ronald Wang for 'Portrait'
People's Choice - Prize value \$100 - Jessica Gurnsey for 'Lights! Camera! ...'

Thank you to all our committee for their help and our sponsors: Gordon Harris, The Picture Framers NZ, Art News, New World, Hallertau, Rollercoaster, Print Art, and Creative Matters, as well as our funders; The Rodney Local Board, Foundation North, and The Lotteries Grants Board.

Muriwai Arts Trail

5th November 2022



This year Kumeu Arts were part of the Muriwai Arts Open Studio weekend. This meant we were included in the map of the Trail and people were able to view our awards exhibition. This was very valuable to us as we had around 60 people through on Saturday the 5th which is approx 5 times more than usual. Next year we will schedule being open for both days of the trail.

Maker's Markets

December 9th 2022



17 makers held stalls selling arts and crafts. This new initiative aimed to further promote our members and provide them another opportunity to sell their work. The markets were successful despite poor weather which meant we had to keep all stalls inside and fewer people attended the event. We surveyed our stall holders to get their feedback and it was overwhelmingly positive. 85% said they would run another next year and gave us their suggestions for improvements. We aim to make this an annual event and build on it.

The World of Cultures Community Event

5th November 2022



As mentioned earlier, we collaborated with Kumeu Library to take part in Auckland Council's World of Cultures Festival, working with them to organise an exhibition and writing competition across our two venues. Approx 45-50 people came along to this community event and prize giving, which included all of the staff from the Kumeu library, families and children who took part in the competition. They enjoyed 'world food' from local vendors and took part in a free Batik activity run by Sri-Lankan artist Monisha Gallange. A communal piece of art was made on the night that is now displayed in our Pod workroom. Prizes (donated by local real estate agent Courtney & Co) were awarded at what was a lovely celebratory occasion.

Art on Record Launch Party

May 12th 2023



We celebrated the Art on Record exhibition by putting on this 'launch party' with 2 DJ's and a live performance by local band Blue Honey (seen above). Artist Corry Louise also provided projections and interactive visuals for people to engage with. Over 100 people came along to this lively event. Feedback read... "Such a beautiful night thank you for having me", "A great evening as always Kumeu Arts", "It was lovely - well done to all involved".

Give a Kid a Blanket

May- June 2023



We support this cause every year and have become a collection point for donations. We had a huge response this year and our cupboards filled twice with blankets and winter clothing. We were very happy to be able to contribute once again.

Matariki Celebration

30th June 2023



Around 100 people came to a truly memorable opening event for our Matariki celebration which coincided with our Collected Identity exhibition opening. We heard a beautiful karakia from our chairperson Christine Rose, shared kai and conversation, the manager's mulled wine and beers donated by our friends at Hallertau, when we came together with Art Centre Helensville for another combined members exhibition. We even had a glowing painting by artist Rachel Tan which we enjoyed viewing with the lights out. One comment read "That was such a great night. Warming inside and out"

Kumeu Live Concerts and Comedy Night Periodically throughout 2022-2023



Our music night Kumeu Live has been less frequent than in previous years due to the commitments of its organisers Guy and Michelle Wishart. However, the concerts that have happened over the last 12 months have all been hugely successful. Guy Wishart's own album release was one of them which reached maximum capacity with just over 100 people coming to support him. Other concerts have included Paul Obana Jones, Renne Millner w/- Sophie Gibson, American band Jenny Don't and The Spurs, Grant Haula and crowd favourite Caitlin Smith amongst others. Kumeu Live also hosted a brilliant 'The Two Pauls' comedy night with Paul Ego and Paul Douglas.

About

Progress & Strategy

Over the last year, while we've welcomed less disruptions caused by Covid, the weather has brought new challenges. We demonstrated our ability to serve our community and respond to their needs by taking quick action after Cyclone Gabrielle. The week after the devastating weather event we put out messages and posts offering power, water, internet and a hot drink to people in need. Our workrooms quickly filled, and our wi-fi limit reached. While our local library and council offices remained shut, people came to us and we witnessed first-hand the damage done, especially to many of our friends and members in neighbouring Muriwai. Some of these displaced people are still using our rooms free of charge.

"The value and environment that Kumeu Arts offers have been irreplaceable, promoting health and hauora through art, manakitanga, relationship, mutual respect, and community engagement."
Muriwai resident

Other initiatives to support local people included a drop-in resource in our Pod gallery for people to create and send 'Love Letters to Muriwai'. We also had a collaboration with local print company Bowring Print to sell 'Waves of Resilience' tee shirts and other merchandise through our shop, donating proceeds to fundraising for Muriwai. We've also hosted the displaced Muriwai open mic night.

Another important 'climate emergency' response was our work in term two, 2023 with Whitecliffe College and sand-play specialist Jean Parkinson to offer Art Therapy and Sand-play for children affected by flooding or the cyclone. This eight-week course has given 11 children invaluable support through this difficult time.

This new relationship with Creative Arts Therapies Masters students and graduates of Whitecliffe is now set to continue. We are currently in the process of planning a specific 'youth club' or space for teenagers and young people at Kumeu Arts. We have identified a specific need in our community to assist this age group. Our Local Board and other partners also recognise this group as one desperately in need of more support. In a recent webinar (Widening youth participation at community venues with Spacetoco) we learnt the importance of removing the barriers that might stop them from doing so, E.G; transport, costs and timing. 'Youth Engagement' is now one of the 'focus areas' in our new 5 year strategic plan.

Kumeu Arts last strategic plan was written in July 2021 in the midst of COVID. In hindsight, this was a hard time to communicate and our manager, Jago Neal, was working on the document largely in isolation. Last year Jago undertook a course with the Ministry of Culture called 'Building Great Strategy' during which time he decided the existing plan was too broad and set unrealistic goals. Also, much of the document was related to day to day business rather than aspirations. Therefore, he decided to revise it and towards the end of 2022, worked closely with staff and a sub-committee group to develop a new 5-year plan (2023-2028). Other outcomes of the strategic review process include online documents that outline 'Ongoing Tasks' (to be used internally by staff), a visual that highlights the main goals of Kumeu Arts and easily communicate our intentions (seen below), an

online working doc for setting strategy that includes; Actions, Resources Required, Who will do the Mahi with timelines. Also, methods for regularly reporting progress to the committee.

KUMEU ARTS FUTURE FOCUS - OUR GOALS

INCREASE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Support young people, offer a safe space, and remove barriers.



BUILD & SUSTAIN A VIBRANT EVENT SCHEDULE

Encourage Community Collaboration.



INCREASE DIVERSITY

Widen participation, and engagement with a broader demographic.



IMPROVE OUR SPACE

Add value and improvements to the exterior and interior spaces.



Another adverse occurrence (like the weather events) which has brought our community closer is the threat from Auckland Council to the funding that Kumeu Arts receives. The Auckland Mayor's Budget proposal included cuts to the arts and culture sector, as well as Local Board funding, that could potentially impact our sustainability along with many other organisations. After this announcement, the arts community came together to create a unified response. Kumeu Arts were part of strategic meetings with other arts partners and stakeholders to discuss how we should oppose the draft Budget. We asked our members and supporters to advocate for Kumeu Arts and mention us in their submissions. We had a very good response to this request for support and people came out strongly to voice their concerns.

"How terrible to think that communities might lose places like Kumeū Arts and alike that play such important roles in the places we call home." Bernie Harfleet (CEO, Co-founder & Trustee of Give A Kid a Blanket)

In December, the manager gave a deputation to the Rodney Local Board as he felt it important and timely to share with the newly appointed Local Board our purpose and achievements. With threats to our funding from Auckland Council it was imperative to convey the outcomes of our work. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Rodney Local Board for their consistent support and acknowledge the importance of the funding we receive from Auckland Council (and the lease) in providing us with confidence, especially in times of uncertainty.

A new staff member, artist and designer, Mette Hay, took on the role of 'Retail and Marketing Assistant' at the end of September. Since joining our team Mette has worked closely with the

manager to develop a 'brand kit' with templates, and marketing tools. This has led to more cohesive and consistent advertisements and in turn increased participation in programmes, higher attendance and a greater awareness of our organisation. Our online presence has grown significantly and we have built a bigger audience on social media with 2.2K followers on Facebook and 1.4K on Instagram.

Our Arts Administrator, Emma Springford-Gough (appointed in January of last year) has continued to develop our gallery shop with her outstanding curation of the arts and crafts supplied by our members. This means sales have been excellent. In December alone we sold \$5,000 worth of items and paid out \$3500 in commission, the highest ever recorded sales in one month through our shop. This year's total sales through the shop far surpasses any previous year (refer to Graph 7. Page 29). Emma is also instrumental in actively encouraging more people to display their work, teach or visit here. This includes regular visits from local schools (such as Huapai Primary seen below) who now bring their students to our galleries each term.

"A huge thank you to Kumeu Art Centre for working with our students! The expertise, enthusiasm and caring nature of the team is simply the best. Our junior students looked at a range of art including Maori sculpture and were engaged with a worksheet to consolidate their learning. They bubbled over with stories about their trip to the Art Gallery on their return. Our senior students found inspiration from the record covers for their own learning and record cover artwork at school."
Maree Lloyd, Deputy Principal, Huapai School



Another major achievement was the addition of air conditioning units to our main gallery and workshop. The project was funded entirely by a Lotteries Community grant and we were thrilled to have installed three large heat pumps this January, just in time for the summer. This improvement

has already made a big difference to participants in classes, people working here and our visitors who are now more comfortable.

Other purchases in technology which have increased productivity and efficiency include a new laptop, ipad and i-phone. which are all used daily. While systems for recording sales have also been improved with a new point of sale system (Shopify) being introduced. We have also added a credit card facility to our Eftpos.

We've continued to develop the exterior space with new murals and features such as this beautiful ceramic piece (seen below) installed on a new tree planter box in June. The tiles were made by children attending the Kumeu Children's Art Club to highlight marine conservation.



Our

Part time book-keeper Sarah Ellis-Kirifi continues to work closely with the manager and committee to maintain excellent accountability and financial management. Last year, we changed our accountants to Evolve Accountants finding their systems to be more advanced and communication better than our previous accountants. Last December, we completed an audit of our EOY accounts with another firm McLaren Guise Associates Ltd to further ensure we meet our obligations to our funders.

Among the regular venue hirers, another highlight of this period was when the Prime Minister used our facility in March to hold a meeting with local community members and groups, Rodney Local Board members and others involved in the recent flood response.

Our numbers have continued to steadily climb throughout the year since Covid lockdowns and participation here has been increasing every month. The number of visitors in February 2023 (1170) doubled that of February 2022 (597). The number of people attending workshops and classes has also doubled in the last year with 367 (Feb 2022) and 767 (Feb 2023). The graphs below show a sustained dip against the trend because of Covid. However, a steady increase over the last year means we can now report our highest ever numbers recorded including total visitors, participants in programmes, and programmes which all surpass other years making this our busiest ever at Kumeu Arts. Income for venue hire and retail sales are also higher than previously. Most importantly the feedback we've been receiving (some on the next page) has been excellent. In general it's been a fantastic year leaving everyone involved at Kumeu Arts feeling very optimistic about our future.

Things People Have Said about Kumeu Arts over the last year:

"Thank you for being so welcoming - it feels really special to be part of the Kumeu Arts Centre"

New member

"Many thanks for the opportunity to exhibit at the gallery. I love the vibe and look forward to exhibiting at Kumeu Arts in the future".

Artist

"Fantastic to meet other makers and talk about their interests, motivations and experiences"

Artist

Your mahi inspired primal art pieces from our tamariki at AGE School.

Thank you!

Teacher

"Aria and Rosie love this session. They get up early every Thursday"

Parent of pre-schoolers attending classes

"That's absolutely fabulous. Well done everyone, keeping Kumeu/ Huapai township looking beautiful."

Ceramic feature admirer

"My thanks to you and Emma for being incredibly supportive hosts. This is my first gallery exhibition and what a positive experience it has been!"

Artist

"I had a fabulous day with 7 lovely ladies at my 'Make a Nature Journal' workshop at Kumeu Arts."

Workshop participant

Synopsis and Graphs

From 1st July 2022 to 30th June 2023 Kumeu Arts had:

- 929 Programmes on offer
- 9229 Participants in programmes
- 13,032 Total visitors

See the graphs below for seven year comparisons.

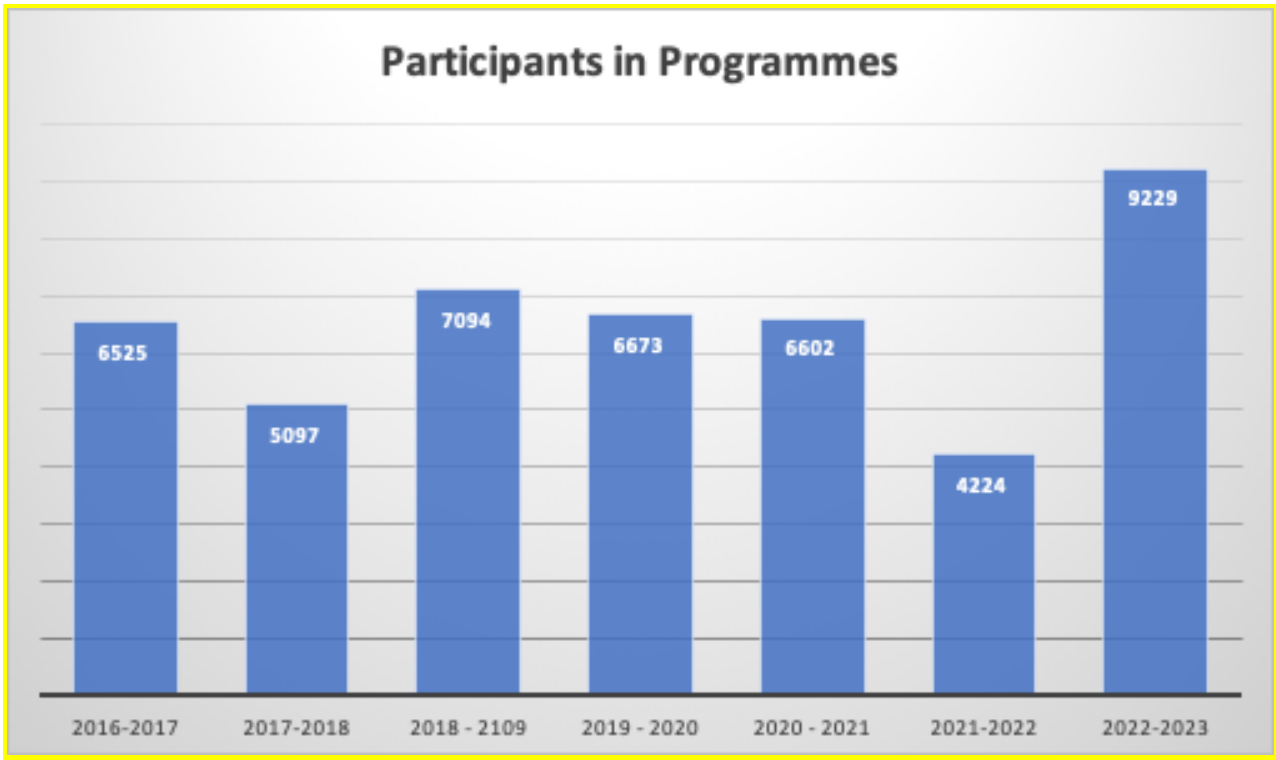
As of June 30th 2023 Kumeu Arts has:

- 210 paid (active) members and 12 Life Members
- 1310 people in our database receiving information regarding our events and activities via email
- 2,261 page followers on Facebook
- 1398 Instagram followers

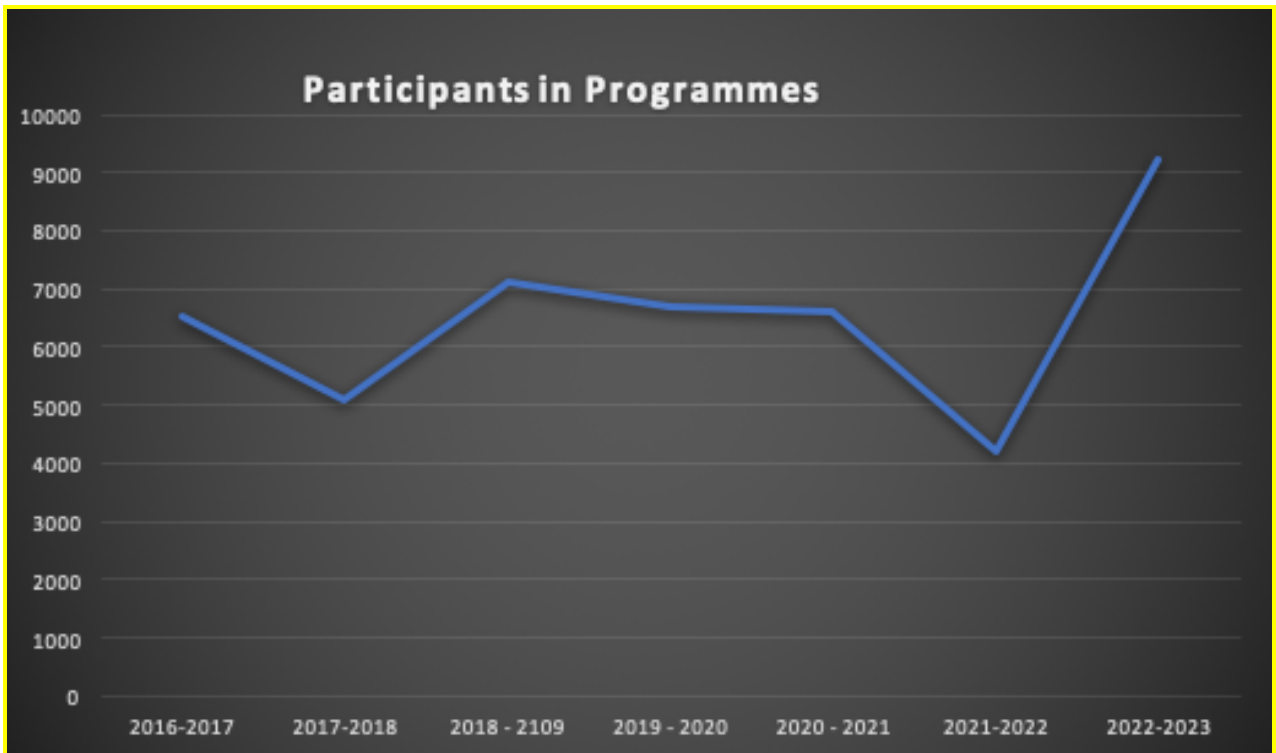
GRAPH 1



GRAPH 2



GRAPH 3



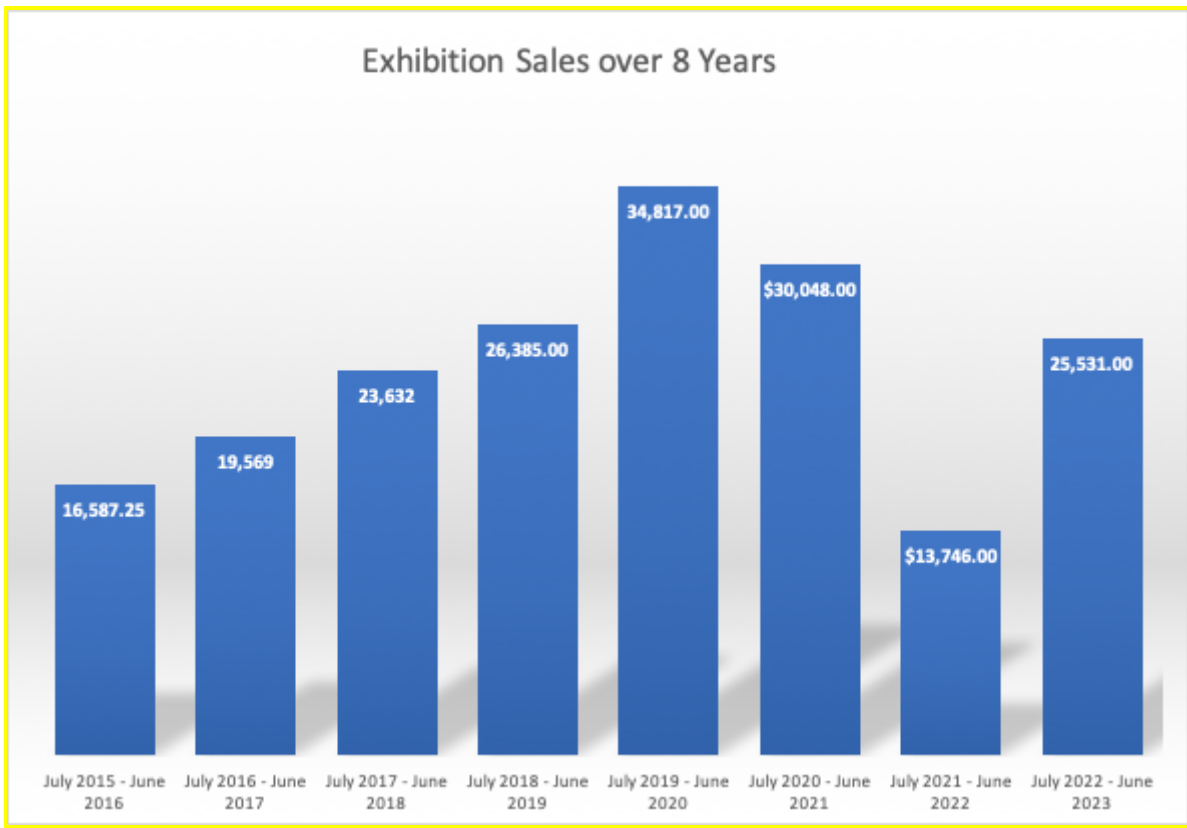
GRAPH 4



GRAPH 5



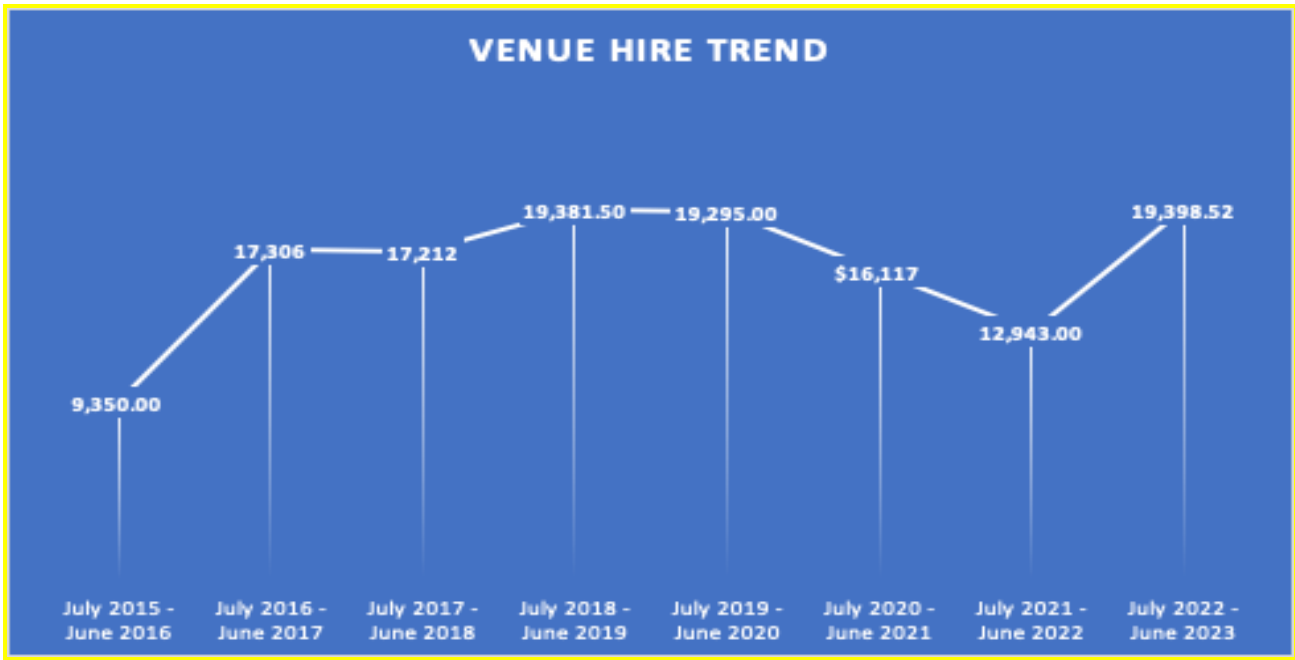
GRAPH 6



GRAPH 7



GRAPH 8



User Groups/Classes at Kumeu Arts Centre

Kumeu Arts is the home for many artistic and community groups. These include both unstructured groups and tutored classes. Over the last year this has included a huge range of fabulous creative offerings. Kumeu Arts continue to offer venue hire and run our own programmes including; ceramics and the Kumeu Children’s Art Club. From July 2022 to June 2023 these groups included:

Ongoing Classes:

Amber Emm Painting	Weekly Classes (five sessions per week)
Art Therapy - Flood Response	Weekly Classes (three sessions per week)
Botanical Art	Weekly Classes
Chinese Language School	Weekly Classes (one per week)
Clay Classes	Weekly Classes (two sessions per week)
Life Drawing Course	Weekly Classes (6-week courses)
Meditation Evenings	Fortnightly Classes
Songbird Singing tuition	Weekly Classes (3-5 sessions per week)
The Art Garden - Preschool art class	Weekly Classes (two sessions per week)
The Painter’s Studio with Michelle Reid	Weekly Classes (Started May 2022)

School Holiday Classes:

Brain Play:	Stem, technology and robotics each school holiday period.
Creative Matters:	Art workshops each school holiday period.

Ongoing User Groups:

Clay Club	Weekly sessions (as attended)
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Dalliance Francaise (language grp)	Weekly from June 2022
Goodwood Park Health Care Group:	Weekly sessions
Helen Dol's Knitting Class	Weekly sessions
Kindred Family Services	Weekly sessions (7 week course) 2022 - 2023
Kindred Family Services - Creche	Weekly sessions (7 week course) 2022 - 2023
Kumeu Photography Group:	Monthly sessions
KumeuKnitty	Weekly sessions
Pro Care	Fortnightly sessions 2023

Periodic and one off classes/workshops/User Groups:

Amber Emm Tipple and Dabble Workshop	Periodically through 2022 - 2023
Cold Wax workshops with Janet Mazenier	Periodically through 2022
Creative Matters Tutors workshops	Periodically through 2022 - 2023
Expressive Drawing Workshops with Janet Mazenier	Periodically through 2022
Goodwood Park Staff Day	Periodically through 2022 - 2023
Jewelry Workshop with Susie Cropper	Periodically through 2023
Kumeu Live	Periodically through 2022 - 2023
Macrame Workshops	Periodically through 2022
Markplan Meeting	Periodically through 2022 - 2023
Nature Journaling with Lesly Alexander	Periodically through 2023
Public Meetings – Kumeu Community Action	Periodically in 2022
Resin Art with Sally Lewis	Periodically through 2022
School Visits	Periodically through 2022 - 2023
Stein Workshops	Periodically through 2022
Supporting Growth Meetings	Periodically from June 2022
Tanya Blong Painting workshops	Periodically through 2022 - 2023
Thermomix Workshops	Periodically through 2022 – 2023
Expressive Mark-Making with Sally Cole	March 2023
Gently Loved Markets	February 2023



Thanks to:

Kumeu Arts is hugely grateful to our dedicated volunteer base who have supported the Centre in many ways. This includes our tutors, gallery minders as well as more permanent volunteers. Throughout the year we've been supported as always by our committee. Heartfelt thanks to the KA committee and members, who volunteer their time, energy and skills.

Our thanks also to the following funders and their financial support of our organisation –

August 2022	Rodney Local Board	\$40,000	Operational Costs
October 2022	NZ Lotteries Board	\$80,000	Operational & Capex
April 2023	Foundation North	\$20,000	Operational costs
May 2022	Creative Communities Scheme	\$3,928	The Art Garden
May 2023	Creative Communities Scheme	\$5,437	The Art Garden
July 2023	Rodney Local Board	\$40,000	Operational yr 23/24

These funds are gratefully received. They are a continual support and recognition of our services to the community and are much appreciated. Without this funding, we would no longer manage to sustain our services and continue them in the future. We rely on these grants to provide our services and to cover the significant ongoing costs of administration, maintenance and coordination, they also enable us to provide continuous improvement and investments in assets to further enhance the experience of our members.

Thank you to our Sponsors...

