

MANGAWHAI ARTISTS

ANNUAL REPORT 2019 - 2020



1 April 2019 - 31 March 2020

Nurturing and celebrating creativity and community well-being through art

Our purpose

Nurturing and celebrating creativity and community well-being through art

Our vision

- To create an enduring presence and legacy in Mangawhai
- Be inspiring at all times
- Promote all artists
- Mangawhai Artists will be the best Northland art experience and destination

Our mission

We will provide exhibition and learning opportunities, resources and social connections for artists and the community

Our strategic objectives

- Programmes to support, promote and nurture creativity and Mangawhai artists
- Providing Inspiring and adequate facilities
- Create artists' workspaces, and sustainable long-term Gallery space
- Enhance the Gateway to Northland

Enablers

- Passion, teamwork and optimism
- Effective governance
- Financial Sustainability
- Technology and creativity
- Sponsors and volunteers

MAI Committee 2019-2020

Mary-Anne Boyd, Chair

Grace Cheng, Funding Opportunities and Accountability

Chris den Hartogh, Gallery

Jan Grover, Treasurer

Wendy Leach, Communication, Website, Social / Media

Lynn Middleton, Deputy Chair (to October 2019)

Grant Mitchell, Development

Raewyn Vague, Learning Opportunities and WorkSpace

Belinda Vernon, Deputy Chair & FOMA (from January 2020)

Overview

I am honoured to present the Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2020 on behalf of Mangawhai Artists Inc Committee.

Highlights of the year were:

- A successful Pledgeme campaign closing off
- An implementation plan to extend the rented Gallery so a workspace can be created
- Kaipara Art Awards presented by Dr Jason Smith, Mayor; Hinurewa te Hau, CEO Creative Northland , Calvin Collins of The French Art Shop and judge Dr Carole Shepheard ONZM
- An impressive programme of exhibitions by over 50 artists spread over much of the year
- Excellent classes and inspiring learning over the Winter Workshop season

Mangawhai Artists’ Inc Committee comprises energised volunteers with diverse and considerable experience, talents and skills. The chair and deputy chair shared the secretary role for a period and we were delighted to welcome Clare Wells and her kindness, energy and capabilities as our new secretary.

The Committee meets monthly with subcommittee meetings between. Additional members contribute to a range of subcommittees and activities. The Committee structure is depicted below.



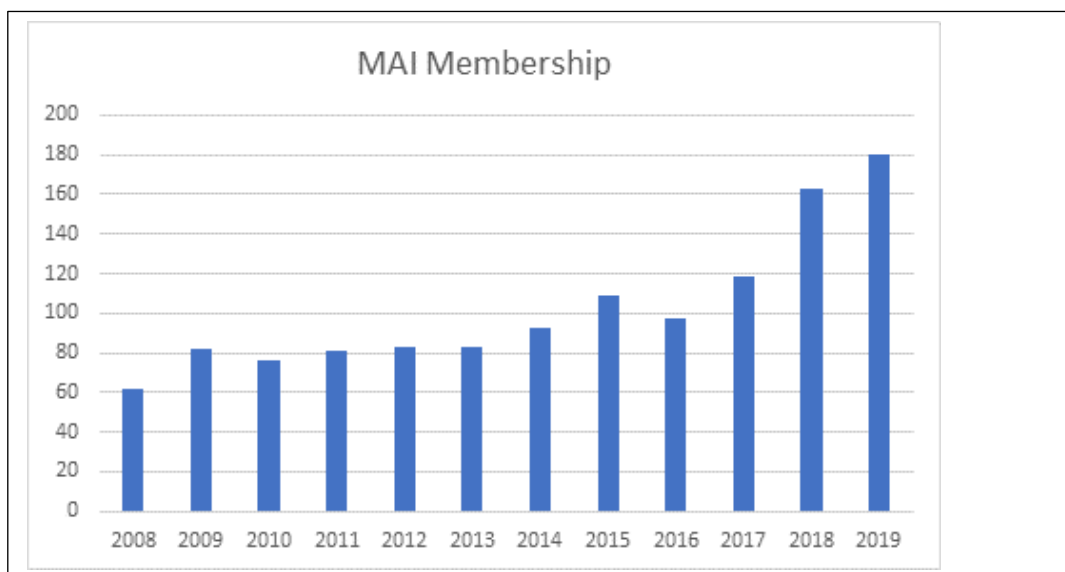
We were deeply saddened in October 2019 by the sudden untimely death of Lynn Middleton, deputy chair. Lynn was a relatively recent arrival in Mangawhai but in that time made a huge impact. She was full of life, enthusiastically engaged in Mangawhai Artists, great to work with and contributed proactively and strongly during her time on the Committee. We miss her greatly and pay tribute to her contributions.



In February 2020 we were further saddened by the unexpected death of Brenda Adams. Brenda was secretary of Mangawhai Artists Inc Committee for a number of years until 2019 and a consistent and passionate Committee member who helped create the rented Gallery space we enjoy today. Brenda worked with Jeanette Vickers as a dedicated team making the Gallery work for its initial years. We salute and greatly appreciate Brenda’s significant wonderful positive contributions over many years.

Membership

Full membership of Mangawhai Artists Inc has continued to grow as the population has increased and we are delighted to welcome new members. Mangawhai Artists is a vibrant connecting point for people interested in the arts and a deciding factor that brings some newcomers to the area.



Note: in the 2016-2017 year some subscription invoices were not sent out and this is reflected in the dip

Exhibitions

There were 19 exhibitions in the Gallery and we can all be proud that the quality of art exhibited work is constantly stepping up. Exhibition openings are lively social and cultural events anticipated by members, friends and the community, and enjoyed by all. Local media are responsive to our releases and with a lot of volunteer work on the part of Wendy Leach in particular, we promote artists through social media and the website. In September 2019, the committee acknowledged how well the Gallery was working, thanking Ann Connew for the kitchen clean-up and Chris den Hartogh for reorganising the Gallery space. Chris has brought her organising skills to the Gallery management, albeit the number of artists now means it is a shared responsibility with those exhibiting. EFTPOS facilities and other initiatives are working well.

In October 2019, Dr Carole Shepheard ONZM was the invited judge of the prestigious **Kaipara Art Awards** which we co-host with Dargaville Arts Association. Mangawhai Artists Inc organised the annual Awards in 2019, with a well-attended opening function in Bennetts Café courtyard. Our thanks to Belinda Vernon who chaired this year's Awards and John Pickworth and colleagues from Dargaville. Our grateful thanks to generous sponsors for a stunning line-up of Awards, and we are very grateful to Creative Northland, The French Art Shop, Gordon Harris, Westmorland Homes, Eyes on the Heads Mangawhai Optometrists, Kaipara Lifestyler, Mangawhai Focus, Bennetts of Mangawhai and Kaipara District Council.

Volunteering

Volunteering is at the heart of Mangawhai Artists. The Gallery management and continued absence of commission on sales for exhibitions is only possible because of the goodwill of artists and volunteers. This is a key factor in our success and we encourage all members to offer to host (Gallery duty) whether you are exhibiting or no, and take other opportunities to contribute. It is a great way to meet interesting people, promote art, and nurture creativity, kindness and support in our community.

Sculpture Art Weekend

The fund-raising Sculpture Weekend was a stimulating event codeveloped with the Te Whai Community Trust. Pauline Mann is an inspiring leader within both organisations and with Isobel and Brian Hollis set the scene for this success. We were very grateful for the contributions of Lynn Middleton, Bridget Mintoff and Puti Hookings and all who exhibited and helped with the special and successful community event. It will be held every two years, and in future is an identified project within our annual plan.

Mangawhai Art Trail

The 2019 Mangawhai Art Trail continued the exciting tradition of offering an inclusive and informal way of sharing art, nurturing creativity and strengthening our community's well-being. Guests were invited to 19 artists' studios and venues with over 30 artists on the Art Trail. A feature in 2019 was a cluster of venues around a *Stylish* show home, Mangawhai Museum and the Pioneer Village, coinciding with the Mangawhai Museum Book Fair. Our many thanks to Kim Hamilton who volunteered his time to lead the 2019 Art Trail organising group, and to all who were involved.

Website

The website is our 24 hour 'front door' and is widely and often viewed. Artist profiles are important and members are encouraged to update profiles periodically. In the three years since this new website the content has continued to grow, telling the stories of artists and their work, and nurturing creativity in Mangawhai. The website is a tribute to the volunteer work of Wendy Leach.

Learning opportunities

Highly successful Winter Workshops in 2019 were held for painting, jewellery making, mosaic work, claywork and other tuition. With mainly talented local tutors it was also good to see visiting tutors come into our space to stimulate learning. We greatly appreciated demonstration classes from The French Art Shop and Gordon Harris. The upcoming extension and Artists' WorkSpace will enable workshops year round and we have much energy for this! We acknowledge the capable volunteer work of Raewyn Vague in coordinating the workshops and classes.

Finance

We started the year on 1 April with the final hours of our ambitious and successful PledgeMe Campaign which closed with \$110,625. After costs, plus other fund-raising we raised just over \$135,000 for the extension to the community-owned building leased as the Mangawhai Artists Gallery.

During the year we affirmed the benefits of a fit-for-purpose accounting package and undertook research on whether to continue with MYOB or transition to XERO. We have been refining budget codes and affirmed the requirement for EFTPOS and credit card payment capability, the latter with a minor cost passed on to the artist who benefits from the sale. Jan Grover has made a huge contribution as treasurer and we are very grateful to her. The attached documents summarise our financial situation and we are indebted to John Webby for carefully reviewing the accounts. Belinda Vernon and Raewyn Vague, together with Jan Grover, are highly valued members of our finance subcommittee and we much appreciated all their responsible volunteer work this year.

Development

As we look towards the future we have continued our two-stage strategy of extending the rented Gallery to create an Artists' Workspace (ten years) , and for the longer term (fifty years), we are continuing background work on creating and owning a purpose-built Mangawhai Community Art Centre for the community.

a. Short Term Strategy - Extension to the Gallery

During 2019 Mangawhai Artists Inc fundraised to build an extension behind the Mangawhai Artists Gallery, at 45 Moir St, Mangawhai, which will be known as Mangawhai Art Workspace, and used for art workshops, meetings and groups.

In July 2019 we confirmed a lease Agreement with the Mangawai (sic) Library Committee setting the scene for a ten-year lease with 5 + 5 options and a rental of \$700 a year. It includes responsibility for maintenance of the whole building, and an Agreement that Mangawhai Artists Inc obtain all consents, raise all funds, manage and create an extension that will double the size of the building.

Importantly the addition will include an accessible WC which will greatly enhance the use of the building far into the future. The added space is suitable for workshops. It has potential for rentable mini studio spaces or other compatible uses at a future time when enhanced Gallery space is available in the proposed Mangawhai Community Art Centre. The first turfs were dug by outstanding development volunteer Grant Mitchell and landlord chair Rosemary Browne in September 2019, and Matua Ben Hita blessed the ground and the building process.

b. Long Term Strategy – Mangawhai Community Art Centre

Mangawhai Artists Inc, as anticipated since 2012, will have a lease or licence to occupy a discrete part of the publicly-owned land in the evolving Mangawhai Community Park (adjacent to the Museum) in Molesworth Drive. During 2019 -2020 Grant Mitchell and Mary-Anne Boyd have continued meeting with the *Friends of Mangawhai Community Park*, on which the Kaipara District Council's Governance Group is represented. Councillor Anna Curnow is the Governance chair. Mangawhai Artists Inc applied last year for \$32,000 funding from Council's annual park contribution to meet costs of survey/geotechnical reporting and initial preparation of area for Mangawhai Community Art Centre. This was granted and a geotechnical report of the site was completed. Our request that the remainder of the agreed amount be carried over to the Council's 2020 year, for a feasibility study was agreed to.

Next steps are confirmation of a lease and/or development agreement (with legal advice), collaboration with Iwi and a Te Reo name and a feasibility study suited to support our approaches to large-scale funders. This will enable expressions of interest to entities such as Foundation North, Lotteries Capital Works grants and any national level Creative NZ schemes.

Applying for funds is an on-going and time-consuming activity and Grace Cheng has maintained an up to date listing of relevant granting bodies.

After submitting a costed application with three quotes and detailed implementation plans to Mangawhai Opportunity Factory, we were grateful to receive a grant, and we were grateful for Pub Charities Grant for windows and Chisholm Whitney for the roofing and ceiling.

The year ended with a lockdown for COVID-19 with a less certain future.

Friends of Mangawhai Artists FOMA

Friends of Mangawhai Artists (FOMA) is a growing and important group that continues encourage participation and to promote and support the arts and creativity. We held a function in March 2020, before the COVID-19 lockdown and we are always thrilled to see FOMA at exhibition openings and returning to see exhibitions through the year.

Thanks and Appreciation

We are so grateful to all the members who have had the energy and inspiration to make great suggestions and to do something about them, to all who contributed to fundraising for the extension and to making it happen.

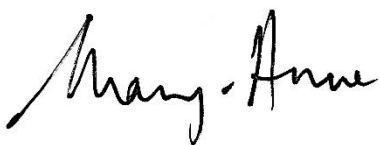
We have very much valued the support of John Gair and the local Mangawhai Placemakers as supply partners for our extension project. We will have a special thanks at the opening of the extension to local tradespeople and all who have contributed.

We are very grateful to curators and mentors for exhibitions, to all who have exhibited and are planning and working towards their next exhibitions!

We greatly appreciate the support of Kaipara Lifestyler, Mangawhai Focus and Mangawhai Memo.

We are especially grateful to Tara Iti Golf Course, to Mangawhai Opportunity Factory, to Craig Matheson Barfoot & Thompson, Mangawhai Central and Mangawhai Landscape Supplies who have supported us with their encouragement and kind donations.

And to our wonderful patrons, Joanna and Malcolm Roberts for continued support and gestures including work in their gumboots with spades to help with the extension or sponsoring an exhibition!



Mary-Anne Boyd MPhil (hons) MBIE, MPP, DipEd, TDipOT, MInstD

Chair

