

Chairmans Annual Report 2023-2024

110th Anniversary

2024 marks 110 years of the Greenhithe Community Hall and the association responsible for its upkeep. The Greenhithe Resident's Association committee and members are proud to be carrying on the tradition of the Greenhithe Social Hall Club and the Settler's Hall. We stand tall on the shoulders of giants and thank and acknowledge all who have previously been committee members.

I trust you enjoyed seeing the variety of organisations and businesses that use our hall and I ask you stay until the end of the AGM where we will have two short dance exhibitions from the dance schools that use our hall.

We are now well into our rejuvenation work on the hall and could not be happier to have been able to keep and revive our beautiful floor which I know holds many fond memories of dances, weddings, and celebrations in years past for a number of residents.

As always, we ask for the communities help to keep this asset locally-owned and controlled for the benefit of all who will come after us.

Committee

Your committee have conscientiously worked upgrading the halls this year and the main projects will be completed by the end of June. They have pursued the communities' interests with Council, Watercare and Auckland Transport through our Local Board.

A warm thank you to immediate past Treasurer Adele Piper, who continued in a caretaker finance management role for almost the full year until a replacement could be found.

The committee recently co-opted local resident Cameron Powell, a Chartered Accountant, as our new treasurer and we are grateful for him offering his time and energy.

I wish to thank Trish Cassone for her work as deputy chair. Due to other life commitments Trish is stepping down as Deputy but I am delighted Trish can

continue as a committee member. I very much appreciate Jackie Miles stepping into the Deputy Chair role.

Committee Secretary Tricia Moore continues her tireless work in supporting the administration functions of the committee and keeping the communication channels flowing.

I am grateful the committee all contributes whatever and whenever they can, but I wish to make special acknowledgements to Nika Osborne designed our wonderful new signage including our AGM signs and Chris Fraser who has been both fundraising and a key advisor and organizer of hall refurbishment projects.

Lastly, but not least, no GRA annual meeting should pass without an acknowledgement of the work of immediate past Chairman Brian Carran, who continues his ongoing service to our community as GRA's resident handyman.

Hall Projects

We are grateful to the Upper Harbour Local Board for its contribution of \$15,000 towards our rejuvenation project. Thank you, local board, and Auckland Council.

Construction costs continue to rise, but we will do as much as possible of the following works:

- Community Village Hall
- Complete: New signage, fire doors, Floor Refurbishment, chairs, ramp, and entryway.
- Due June 24: interior Hall painting, recarpet Hall foyer, new curtains, and blinds.
- Future / Potential: wi-fi, extend the carpark, emergency use upgrades.

- Old School Building
- Near Future: New heaters & curtains
- 1 – 2 years: Replace the roof and pipework.

In whatever capacity some of you could assist in making our funds stretch further through offering some of your time, advice or lowering materials

costs we would gladly welcome your support. This committee is made up of local people, offering whatever they can give to keep Greenhithe's community, a community.

Hall Management

Huge thanks are extended to Michelle Heald for managing the Halls and increasing the revenue from rental this year.

Michelle is a great asset to this committee and this community.

Finance

The accounts to March 31st, 2024, show an increase in Hall trading income to \$43,048. This was better than budget but still below pre-covid levels. Our overall net result for the year was almost break even, after receiving the rates rebate and council grant towards our repairs. For 2025 we expect a loss as the remainder of the refurbishment is completed. From 2026 we are hopeful that we will be able to sustain surpluses again into the future.

We are cognisant though that the councils' rates remission, future ability to deliver grants and other support will be adversely impacted by budget cuts in the new long-term plan. The committee will be identifying fundraising and grant opportunities to offset this.

Insurance premiums on these buildings continue to rise, as they do for you at home and for next year will be \$1,000 per month. This will force us to review our very accessible pricing for hall hire and how and if we can keep both facilities running. We do hope for an increase in patronage once the latest refurbishment is complete.

We still require Association members to maintain this organization that owns the hall! Membership dues are \$20 per household, and we would appreciate your support in keeping these facilities open to locals and in walking distance for many.

Membership, apart from helping fund these facilities, gives you a vote on the new constitution we are required to prepare, and this will happen before the end of 2024.

Council and Local Board

Thanks go to Uzra Balouch and Anna Atkinson who have regularly attended GRA meetings. There has been tremendous upheaval and budgetary pressures with council that has prevented much of anything new this year. We are glad they have Greenhithe's interests and its access to local facilities at heart. The Residents Assn owes Uzra and Anna a great debt of gratitude for their relentless support of our Assn and our community.

While Plan Change 78 has now gone, key issues of the impact of council budget cuts on community facilities and groups, improving public transport in our area and the resilience of the area in an emergency remain.

Celebrate your Hall!

Our community hall has long served as a central gathering place for various events, activities, and meetings. It has been the heart of our neighborhood, bringing people together and strengthening our sense of belonging. Whether it's hosting cultural celebrations, organizing community forums, or providing a safe space during emergencies, the community hall has consistently proven its value.

It provides a platform for residents to connect, share experiences, and support one another. The hall's inclusive nature fosters a sense of belonging, which is crucial for the well-being and resilience of our community.

Moreover, the community hall plays a vital role during emergencies and disasters. It serves as a community-initiated designated gathering point, enabling efficient communication and coordination among residents. In times of crisis, it becomes a haven for those seeking shelter, food, and assistance. By having a well-equipped and maintained community hall, we can significantly enhance our preparedness and response capabilities.

We encourage you to use these facilities regularly or recommend them to organizations and people who might wish to. Please enjoy tonight's 110th celebration of what the hall has to offer and join the committee for tea, coffee, a supper provided by the Greenhithe Community Trust and of course the 110th anniversary cake after the formal proceedings!