



AGENDA

Community Services Committee Meeting Tuesday, 15 March 2022

Date Tuesday, 15 March 2022

Time following the Infrastructure Committee

Location Council Chamber
District Council Building
King George Place
Timaru

File Reference 1484653

Timaru District Council

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Community Services Committee will be held in the Council Chamber, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru, on Tuesday 15 March 2022, at the conclusion of the Infrastructure Committee meeting.

Community Services Committee Members

Cr Richard Lyon (Chairperson), Cr Stu Piddington (Deputy Chairperson), Cr Allan Booth, Cr Peter Burt, Cr Barbara Gilchrist, Cr Gavin Oliver, Cr Paddy O'Reilly, Cr Sally Parker, Cr Steve Wills and Mayor Nigel Bowen

Quorum – no less than 2 members

Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

Committee members are reminded that if you have a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda, then you must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item, and are advised to withdraw from the meeting table.

Erik Barnes

Acting Group Manager Recreation and Cultural Services

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- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**
- 3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**
- 4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**
- 5 Chairperson's Report**

6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 23 November 2021

Author: Andrew Feary, Governance Advisor

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 23 November 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Attachments

- 1. Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 23 November 2021**



MINUTES

Community Services Committee Meeting Tuesday, 23 November 2021

Ref: 1484653

**Minutes of Timaru District Council
Community Services Committee Meeting
Held in the Council Chamber, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru
on Tuesday, 23 November 2021 following the Infrastructure Committee**

Present: Cr Richard Lyon (Chairperson), Cr Stu Piddington (Deputy Chairperson), Cr Allan Booth, Cr Peter Burt, Cr Barbara Gilchrist, Cr Gavin Oliver, Cr Paddy O'Reilly, Cr Sally Parker, Cr Steve Wills, Mayor Nigel Bowen

In Attendance: Bede Carran (Chief Executive), , Andrew Dixon (Group Manager Infrastructure), Paul Cooper (Group Manager Environmental Services), Erik Barnes (Acting Group Manager Commercial & Strategy), Symon Leggett (Group Manager Recreation & Cultural Services), Wayne O'Donnell (Geraldine Community Board), Ann Lemmens (Pleasant Point Community Board), Jan Finlayson (Geraldine Community Board), Mark Low (Strategy & Corporate Planning Manager)

1 Apologies

Resolution 2021/21

Moved: Cr Richard Lyon

Seconded: Cr Peter Burt

That the apology received from Charles Scarsbrook (Temuka Community Board) be accepted.

Carried

2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

White Ribbon Day on November 25 was raised as a matter of minor nature.

4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5 Chairperson's Report

Since the last Community Services Committee meeting on the 12 October 2021, the chairperson has attended various meetings. The chairperson and members acknowledged the contribution, work and support for the Committee, Council and staff of Symon Leggett, General Manager Recreation and Cultural Services who was leaving Council and presented him with a gift.

Resolution 2021/22

Moved: Cr Richard Lyon

Seconded: Cr Allan Booth

That the Chairpersons report be accepted.

Carried

6 Confirmation of Minutes**6.1 Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 12 October 2021****Resolution 2021/23**

Moved: Cr Barbara Gilchrist

Seconded: Cr Peter Burt

That the Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 12 October 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Carried

7 Reports**7.1 2021 YMCA South and Mid Canterbury Youth Survey Report**

The Group Manager Recreation and Cultural Services and Keith Shaw and Christina Cullimore (YMCA) spoke to this report to present the 2021 YMCA South and Mid Canterbury Youth Survey Report.

Resolution 2021/24

Moved: Cr Barbara Gilchrist

Seconded: Cr Steve Wills

That the report be received and noted.

Carried

8 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

There were no items of urgent business to be received.

9 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

White Ribbon Day – acknowledgment of the significance of White Ribbon Day on November 25 and members were encouraged to do something on the day to acknowledge and show their support for it.

The Meeting closed at 11.30am.

.....

Richard Lyon
Chairperson

Unconfirmed

7 Reports

7.1 Timaru District Libraries Annual Activity Report 2021

Author: Adele Hewlett, Libraries Manager

Authoriser: Erik Barnes, Acting Group Manager Recreation and Cultural Services

Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To consider the Timaru District Libraries Annual Activity Report Year Ended 31 December 2021.

Assessment of Significance

- 2 The information in this report has been assessed as of low significance in terms of our Significance and Engagement Policy as there are no proposed changes to Level of Service or funding implications. This report is also consistent with the Long Term Plan (LTP) and provides an overview of the performance of a key activity of Council.

Discussion

- 3 The Timaru District Libraries presents an annual activity report to the Community Services Committee as part of the Community Services Group's cultural and recreation facilities.
- 4 This year has been dominated by the reappearance of Covid-19 and the libraries have found new ways to support the community.
- 5 Technology solutions and initiatives have assisted the libraries in bridging the digital divide and inequalities in an ever changing environment, e.g. the impact of the removal of cheque books and the requirement of vaccination passes.
- 6 Despite the challenges of the past 12 months, our library service delivery has shown impressive outcomes: items issued +43.71%, programmes delivered +445.9%, library visits +108.98% over the 2020 year.
- 7 The Guinness World Record Attempt has brought the community together and it has been overwhelming in its support.
- 8 Technology solutions and initiatives have assisted the libraries in bridging the digital divide and inequalities in an ever changing environment, e.g. the impact of the removal of cheques books and the requirement of vaccination passes.

9 2021 – Timaru District Libraries year at a glance

- I. 486,632 visitors – physical and virtual (compared with 232,857 in 2020)
- II. 657,199 items issued – physical and digital (compared with 457,293 in 2020)
- III. 6,000 programmes delivered/held (compared with 1,099 in 2020)

- IV. 1,382 new members joined (compared with 1,071 in 2020)
- V. 105,898 Collection size – physical (compared with 109,554 in 2020)
- VI. 753,657 Collection size – electronic (compared with 45,321 in 2020)
- VII. 7,019 Attendance Children’s Programmes – children and adults (compared with 4,875 in 2020)

Attachments

1. **Timaru District Libraries Annual Activity Report 2021** [!\[\]\(c15e3407ca8bcba0cdc30d722ef81cea_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(f1e6af618983607aa1facac785b869c2_img.jpg\)](#)



Annual Activity Report Year Ended 31 December 2021

1. Introduction from the Libraries Manager

2021 had been a year of identifying trends in the library environment, spanning access to information, education, community engagement and technological transformation. Crucially, it had been a starting point – a catalyst for discussion. It had been a year for exploring and innovating how best to prepare for what is to come, so that our libraries do not only survive, but thrive.

These reflections were essential to reaffirm why our libraries and our services matter. It has demonstrated how our libraries have played a big role in the evolving information landscape and supporting the community through a turbulent time.

Without doubt, the COVID pandemic has continued to have an impact on our communities and our library services in 2021. Crucially, the pandemic has been a test of our ability to adapt to change and to show resilience, imagination and innovation.



More and more people need to retrain throughout life as the job market and staffing demands change over time. Our libraries have intensified learning activities in response to this.

With technology creating new possibilities for those with easy access it also creates a gap with those that do not have easy access. There is an increasing risk that where new possibilities are not open to all it can end up widening divisions and inequalities.

During the pandemic, those without access to the internet and the skills to use it have faced far more disruption to their education, working and social lives than those who were able simply to move their lives online. The same goes for access to literacy and digital skills, which can be a gateway not only to jobs and other opportunities, but also simply to the possibility of learning more.

The past year has been one of change for the Timaru District Libraries, but also of continuity as we continue to work to deliver high quality and innovative services that considers how we increase and support improved access and understanding in the use of technology.

2. Timaru District Libraries in the time of COVID

Library Staff have shown themselves to be resourceful and caring when vaccination passes were required for community members. The total number of people assisted to gain their vaccination passes was 4,223.

With this behind the scenes diligence, Timaru District Libraries were able to prove themselves to be more resilient and adaptable than many may have realized, offering services for the unvaccinated.

Some of these initiatives include, Books4U, Story Time Online, My Vaccine Pass, and Bulk Loads for Home Educators.



Bulk loans for home educator groups: Home educator groups may ask the Library to set up a regular bulk loan arrangement.

3. New Initiatives in Collaboration with the New Zealand Libraries Partnership Programme



The funding has covered the salary, superannuation, ACC and operating costs for each secondee and their projects. In addition, a funded programme of training and coaching for the seconded library staff has been available (\$4,950 has been invested in online training courses).

National Library Partnership Programme is coming to an end (30 June 2022). This will mean some of our programmes will also come to an end, to include: digital inclusion / digital literacy programmes; fewer outreach programmes in the library and community; inability to add data to our heritage website; and the inability to build resilience in to the library workforce with the employment of students. All of this work has been done by the staff funded by this programme.

National Library supported the secondment for the following three focus areas.

Focus Area One

Digital inclusion, supporting and assisting job seekers and learners – including digital literacy for adults, children and young people

A full time Digital Librarian position was funded by the NZLPP.

Resources purchased through the NZLPP to support digital literacy

- **Chrome Books x 10**
- **Stylus Pens**
- **Prenda** is a browser based online software programme that teaches children how to code. It includes hundreds of coding tutorials and dozens of real-world projects.
- **Tech Kits** Timaru Libraries now provides access to new and emerging technologies and equipment such as programmable robots to allow experimentation and learning, to inspire unlimited opportunities to explore, discover and create.

The Tech Kits are available for Library members to borrow from the libraries.



Focus Area Two

Community engagement, supporting community recovery

A full time Outreach Librarian position was funded by the NZLPP.

- **Humanware:** Intuitive and intelligent solutions that change the lives of people living with visual impairment and vision loss. To use at home or in the library, the technology has helped many individuals to see things differently and live independently.

Digital desktop magnifier with table; Explorē 8 – Handheld video magnifiers; Explorē 5 – Handheld video magnifiers; Victor Reader Stratus4 M – Daisy and MP3 players



- **Sensory Kits** What seems like a little box of toys, is actually the newest resource at Timaru District Libraries for people living with Autism, Alzheimer's, Dementia or any other sensitivity. Sensory Kits are designed to engage adults and can be used for a variety of reasons: Improvement of fine motor skills, Stress relief, Exploration and tactile interactions
- **NAO** Our NAO robot arrived in April 2021 and can interact with people in Artificial Intelligence mode and can be programmed to say text and perform movements through a software programme. NAO has participated in story times, where he helps read the stories.



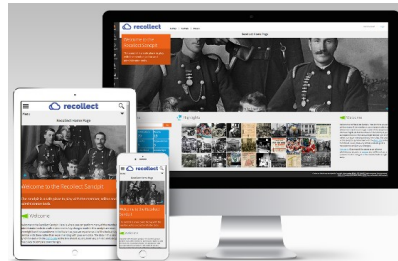
Focus Area 3

Content creation and curation of online NZ resources, with a focus on local resources

A part time Heritage Librarian position was funded by the NZLPP (20 hours per week).

- **Recollect** is a cloud based collection management and community engagement platform that is designed to build community identity, enrich collections and capture and manage new content.

Recollect can also play a valuable role in collecting, preserving and sharing more recent history and even history as it is created, out in the wider community. This new content can then become a part of our collection, connecting us in new ways to our community.



4. Timaru District Libraries have also received the following funding as part of the NZLPP Covid-19 recovery plan.

- Air purifiers: Three purchased for the Timaru Library
- Creativebug Subscription: Allows you to stream thousands of art & craft classes

5. Assistive Technology – Pub Charities Grant



Making a difference for those with Low Vision, Dyslexia or Irlen's

- The C-Pen Reader scans text and reads it aloud
- C-Pen Exam Reader allows students to be with their peers in exams
- C- Pen LingoPen translates languages and reads text aloud

6. Feminine Products Made Available



7. Guinness World Record Attempt: Largest Knitted Blanket Fort

By the Community for the Community

On 12 June 2021, Timaru Libraries launched their knitting project – an attempt to break the **Guinness World Record** for the world's largest knitted blanket fort. The current record is 625.79 square metres. To beat this challenge, Timaru District Libraries are attempting to make a 700 square metre blanket fort or larger.

A target of 70,000 peggy squares was set. To date 83,657 peggy squares have been handed in.

The success of this project in 2021 has been the overwhelming support of our communities. At the completion of this project we will have hundreds of blankets to give to local community organisations.



This project has had a lot of media coverage: Newspapers (nationwide), radio and television (Seven Sharp).

8. Fine Free – as at 01 July 2021

Having fine-free materials has been another step for the libraries to ensure that the library is as accessible to everyone in our communities as is possible and that every person is supported to read, as literacy skills are the foundation to lifelong learning. The programme has given our communities one fewer reason not to read, removed barriers, and increased the goodwill of patrons towards the library and the Council. No fines does not mean no responsibility and the team continues to work with lenders in a more positive educational manner.

The removal of fines is in line with achieving one of our strategic goals of improving customer service

9. Stepping Up / Digital Literacy

Supporting the community to feel more confident in using technology, the library offered Device Advice, Book a digital Librarian and the Stepping Up digital training programmes. The DORA bus toured our district with Library Staff teaching on-line banking.

SkinnyJump is available free to families with children, job seekers, seniors, people with disabilities, refugees and migrants and those in social housing.



10. ARA Business Excellence Awards, 2021 Supporting Local – Finalist

A Novel Response to a Novel Virus

What our libraries did:

- maintained COVID-safe practices, policies and other arrangements in accordance with relevant central and local government health directives and advice;
- promoted accurate information and worked against the spread of mis- and dis-information; and
- continued to provide for and develop innovative services and programmes.

Library staff did this by:

- supporting people who were unable or reluctant to come into the physical library building, with online access to resources and continued access to the physical collections through innovative outreach programmes and services

Timaru District Libraries provided essential services to many in our communities and with that in mind we continued to:

- maintain and strengthen existing digital and physical services;
- innovate, adapt and plan for future restriction scenarios; and
- develop strategies to support the social well-being of the communities.

11. ACC Workplace Safety - entry

Patron's problems often become librarians' problems

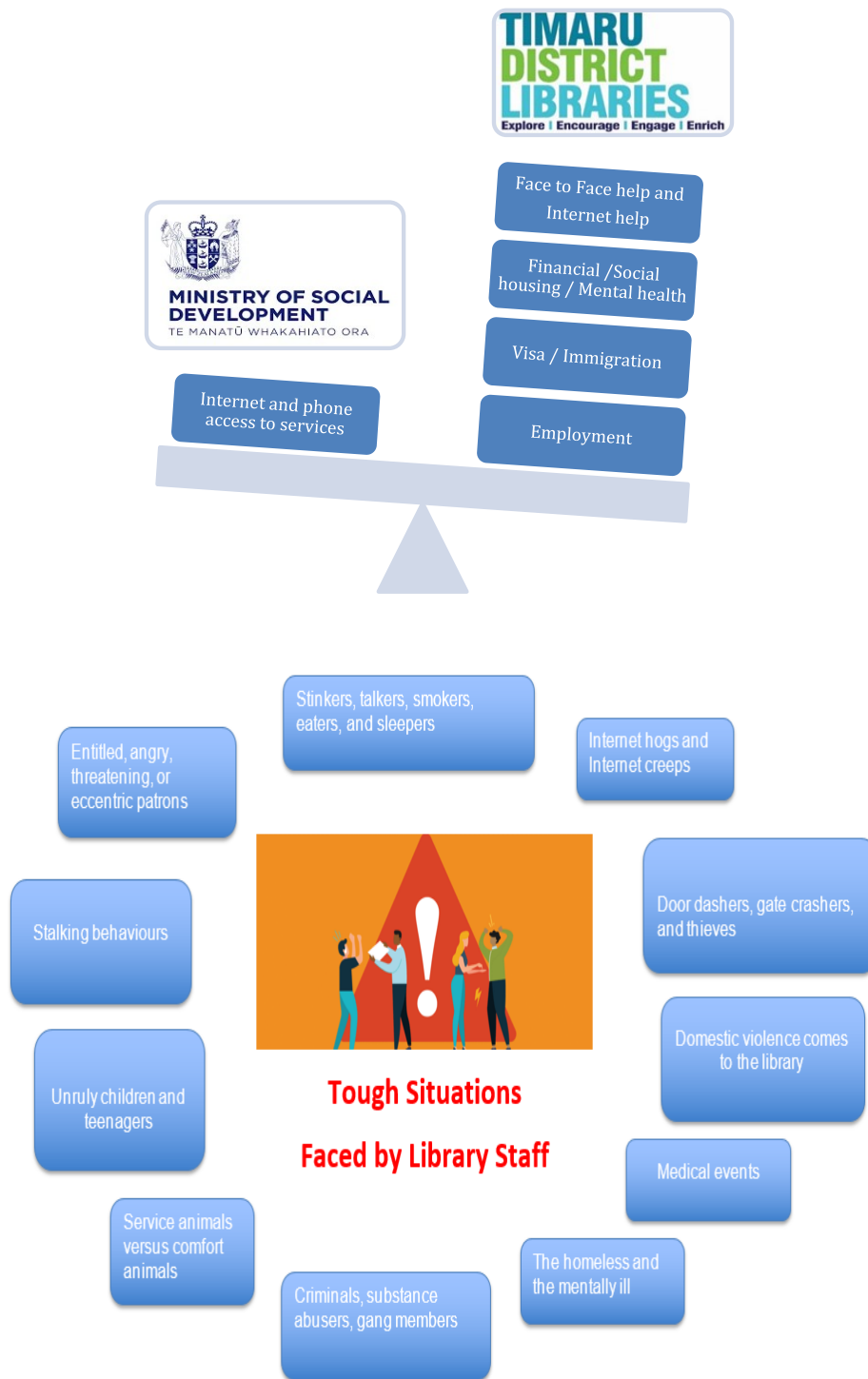
A typical day in the library may include many situations – someone with limited computer skills needing to fill in online forms (CV's, job applications, visa / immigration forms, social housing and social welfare forms), abuse or medical events.

While many workplaces deal with inappropriate behaviour, libraries are unique in that customers can stay as long as they want: “What if anyone could walk into your workplace, ask you as many questions as they wanted on virtually any subject, from the moment the doors open in the morning until they close at the end of the day?”

Librarians have to strike a balance between offering an open door policy and ensuring a safe environment for everyone.

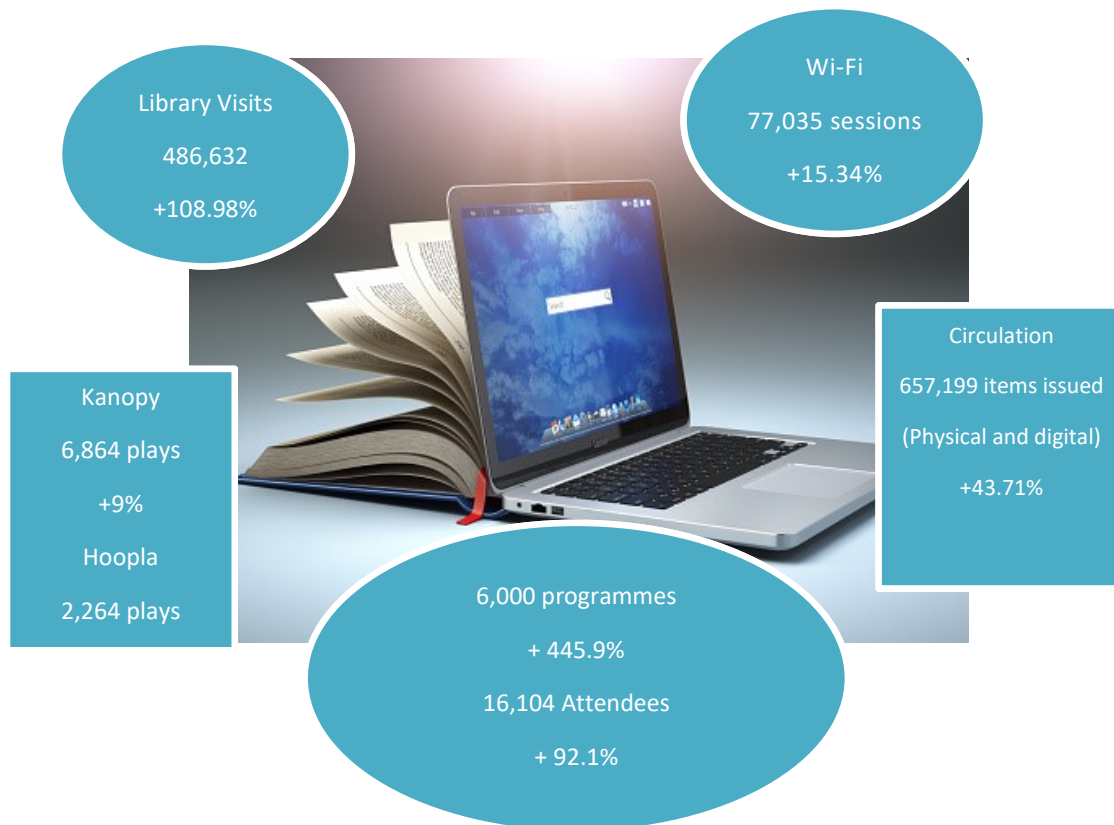
Staff often work with vulnerable people including the homeless, people struggling with mental health issues, seniors and new immigrants. Libraries often attract individuals seeking information that would be more commonly associated with social services (financial, mental health, housing, visa and immigration, employment-related needs and services previously offered by MSD).

While libraries are committed to making all people welcome, not all behaviours are equally so. A wide variety of patron actions can prove disruptive and dangerous, from drug use and public intoxication to abusive language. Library staff must be on the lookout for dangerous conduct and must articulate policies on how the offending patrons should behave. Support is provided to staff to help ensure their safety as well as that of customer safety while helping to provide an essential service.



12. Statistics Summary 1 January – 31 December 2021

	2019	2020	2021	
Issues – physical and digital	586,476	457,293	657,199	+ 43.71%
Online website and catalogue searches / Library app	493,521	565,866	71,0824	+ 14.65%
People visited the libraries (physical and virtual)	327,135	232,857	486,632	+108.98%
New members joined the libraries	1,115	1071	1,382	+29%
Number of times Wi-Fi and APNK were used	120,462	66,785	77,035	+15.34%
Kanopy – number of plays	4,396	6,297	6,864	+9%
Hoopla			2,264	
Short Story Dispenser	1,027	2,067	3,776	+82.68%
Collection size – Physical	117,471	109,554	105,898	-3.33%
Collection size – Electronic	48,304	45,321	753,657	+156.3%
Programmes held		1,099	6,000	+445.9%
Programme attendance		8,383	16,104	+92.1%



13. Timaru Library

Library basement

The risks mainly come from handling and access of fragile items, poor shelving, as well as damage from contactors and staff undertaking tasks in the storage area. There is the failing binding of newspapers through poor handling over the years which has meant the papers cannot be appropriately supported and protected. The poor binding means that pages are loose and have become further damaged through handling at the edges.

What has been done to mitigate the risk?

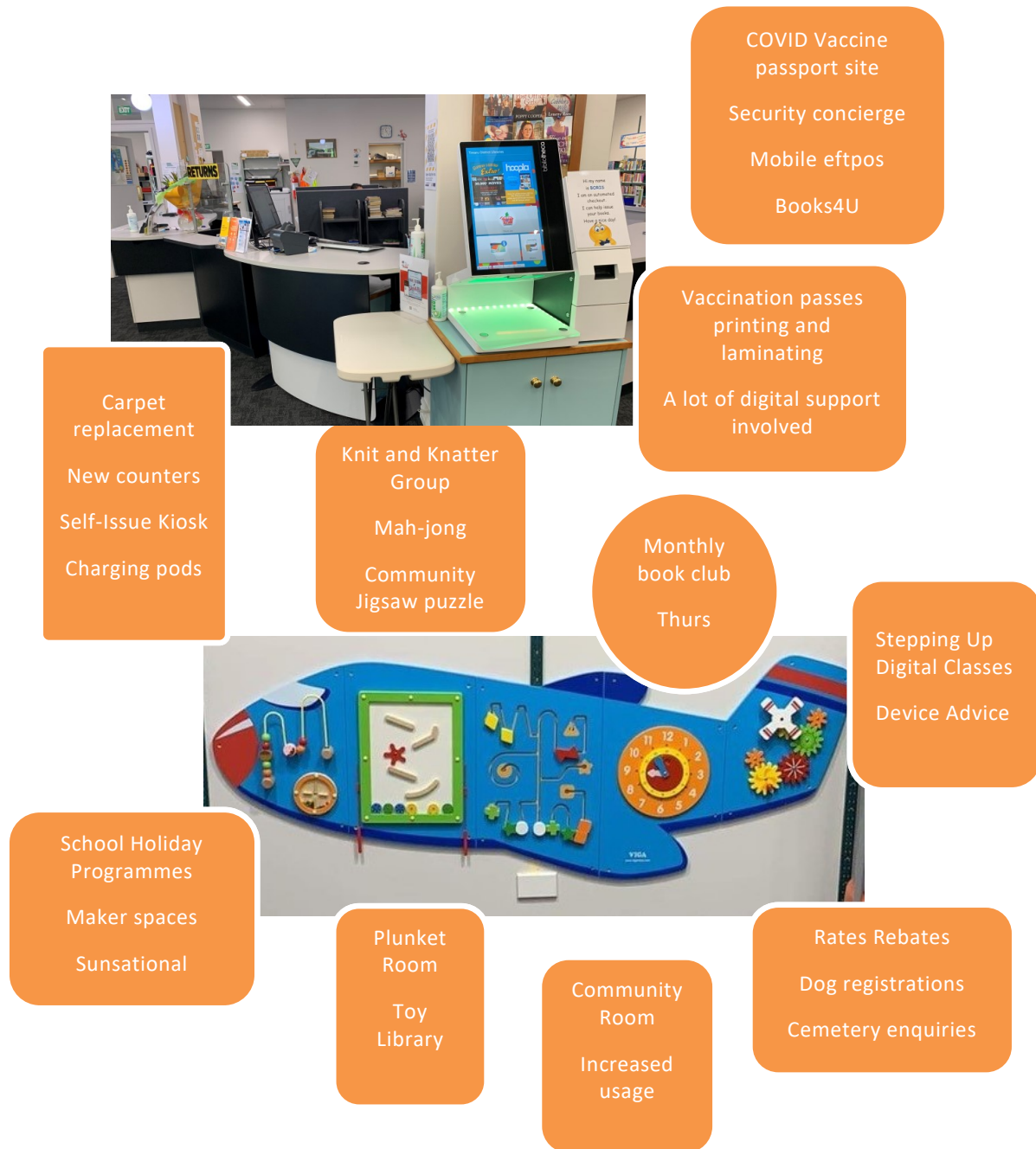
- Moved physically vulnerable/oversized items to static shelving
- Installed new mobile shelving for newspapers to accommodate horizontal storage
- Store newspaper volumes horizontally two to three high
- Treatment of damaged newspapers
- Continue digitisation project to reduce handling
- Handling training for staff



Double Glazing

Stage one of this project was completed in 2021. The windows at the carpark end of the Timaru Library were installed.

14. Temuka Library, Service & Information Centre



15. Geraldine Library & Service Centre

The image is a collage of two photographs. The top photograph shows the exterior of the Geraldine Library & Service Centre, which is a large, single-story building with a grey roof and light-colored walls. Scaffolding is visible around the building, indicating ongoing renovation work. The bottom photograph shows the interior of the library, where two elderly women are standing near a bookshelf. One woman is using a red-handled tool to cut a red ribbon, suggesting a formal opening or inauguration. The collage is surrounded by several green callout bubbles containing text.

- New Carpet
- Interior and exterior painted
- Lighting upgrade to LED
- COVID Vaccine passport site
- Security concierge
- Mobile eftpos
- Books4U
- Device advice, smart phone & computer classes
- Access to carpark upgrade
- Footpath resealed
- New garden bed
- Rates Rebates
- Dog registrations
- Cemetery enquiries
- School Holiday Programmes
- Maker spaces
- Sunsational
- New automatic doors
- Plunket
- Karitane Nurses
- New signage in the Children's Library
- Knitting & Crocheting club
- JP Service
- AA Driver licensing
- Civil Defence emergency event May

16. Library Displays

Many eye-catching displays were on show throughout the year at each of the libraries, representing a diverse range of local and national community groups and organisations.

Timaru	Temuka	Geraldine
Dublin Awards	MnM's	Penguins
Booker Awards	Get your hands on a good book	What's in your bin
Sea Week	Dive into a good book	Ockham NZ Book Awards
Multi-Cultural	Temuka Artist _ Diana Peneamene	Job Hunters
Easter	Poppy Flight	Poppy Flight
Time Travel	Anzac	Age friendly survey
Matariki	Time Travel	Nature & Sculpture trail survey
NZ Children's Book Awards	Leaf through a good book	Mental Health awareness
Bowel Screening	Girl Guides	
COVID-19	Lego	
MS	Thomas the Tank Engine and friends	
Age friendly survey	Weaving	
	Age friendly survey	

17. Programmes and Events

A district-wide, rich programme of events and activities was delivered throughout the year to support and promote literacy by encouraging reading, writing, creativity, search skills, digital literacy and library use.

Children's Programmes	No of sessions	Attendance Numbers	
		Adult	Children
School holiday Programmes	48	348	1,196
Visits from classes / kindergartens	61	335	1,238
Visits to classes / kindergartens	26	129	596
Weekly Storytimes	93	478	806
Extra Storytimes	5	56	33
Born to Read	75	75	75
Prenda	11	21	97
Virtual Storytimes	9	1097	1097
Hell Pizza	167		49
Other	18	51	3932

Total 2021			
	513	2,590	4,429
Adult Service's programmes	Sessions	Attendance	
		Adult	Children
Community Room outreach bookings	234	1,102	19
Book Clubs	35	216	
JP Sessions	60	557	
Talks out in the community	8	85	
Device Advice	85	430	
Stepping Up	34	219	
DORA	10	58	
Skinny Jump	168	168	
Click and Collect	485	477	8
Enliven	8	139	
Vaccination Passes	4,223	4,223	
Other	137	1,322	
Total	5,487	8,996	89

Overall: 6,000 programmes held with the number of people attending being 16,104

Connecting with the community

Programmes		
Jigsaw	Lego Club	Book a Librarian
Book Club	Literacy SC– device advice	U3A book group
Board Games	Books4U	Driver licensing
Connect and Play	Plunket	Prenda
Justice of the Peace	Seed Library	Device Advice
Summer Reading Challenge	Community fruit and vegetable stand	Information Centre
Maker Space Days	Knit and Natter	Toy Library
Spark / Skinny Jump	Scrabble Club	Books on the brain
Born to Read packs	Mahjong	Construction time

Youth Services – Programmes**AnyQuestions**

The Youth Services Team of operators continue to contribute to this growing service for AnyQuestions contributing to this ever-growing national online homework service.

HELL Pizza Reading Challenge 2021

The Hell Pizza Reading challenge carries an important message of spreading the awareness of reading whilst encouraging students by using pizza as incentives.

Children complete a 'pizza wheel' by reading seven books and then go to any HELL Pizza store and redeem it for a free 333 HELL Pizza... It's that easy!

Sunsational 2021

Council facilities once again joined forces to offer a summer holiday challenge. This was a huge success and there were 1,061 challenge cards given out across the venues up from 513 given out in 2019. Library staff at all branches were busy with children coming in to do activities. This year the Temuka Courthouse Museum and Geraldine Historical Museum and playgrounds in all of the three towns were included in the challenge. It was a great opportunity for lots of people to explore parts of the district they had never been to before.

Seaweeek Makerspace

The Children's Library set up a makerspace on March 10th to celebrate Seaweeek. Children and adults could come into the library and create a sea themed craft activity. This was well supported and we had 57 people participate during the day. We concluded the week of celebrations with a sea themed storytime on the Friday.

Themed Storytimes

Library staff enjoy holding themed Storytimes that tie in with current events happening in the district or special celebration days. This year we held two very popular themed Storytimes – A Multicultural Storytime and a Rock and Hop Storytime to celebrate Hospice South Canterbury's Rock and Hop weekend.

Time Travel Holiday Programme



The Time Travel holiday programme was held in April and it was very popular at all library branches. As well as Storytime and Craft sessions, we also offered opportunities for children to experience virtual reality with hired VR headsets.

The **Ursula Moray Williams writing competition** attracted 46 entries. The winning stories were added to our Short Story Dispensers.

Storylines Tour

In May our library branches were part of the Storylines Tour – where New Zealand authors and illustrators visited schools and libraries.

October School Holidays

At Level 2 our libraries were unable to hold programmes. As an alternative, craft and literacy bags on a garden theme were given to children to take away.

18. Staff Training:

Training attended

Niche Academy	SIRSI Dynix
Health & Safety	LIANZA Conference - online
Ethics	Re-Collect
Dog Refresher	Collection HQ
Stepping Up	Skinny Jump
MyHealth	First Aid
Content Manager	LIANZA – Leaders as coaches
SafeTalk	Engaging and working with your community
ProMapp	Content creation and curation e-collection
The Resilient Mindset	Reader development
Getting started with Small Projects	Designing Library and Information Services and Programmes

19. Service Centre Statistics

Geraldine Library and Service Centre	January – December 2020	January – December 2021
Receipts	1,054	909
Debtors	43	26
Rates	1,339	923
Dog Registrations	1,030	893
Temuka Library, Service and Information Centre	January – December 2020	January – December 2021
Receipts	964	980
Debtors	117	40
Rates	2,382	1,766
Dog Registrations	1,099	917

7.2 Recreation Facilities Annual Activity Report 2021

Author: Craig Motley, Recreation Facilities Manager

Authoriser: Erik Barnes, Acting Group Manager Recreation and Cultural Services

Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To consider the Recreation Facilities Annual Activity Report Year Ended 31 December 2021.

Assessment of Significance

- 2 The information in this report has been assessed as of low significance in terms of our Significance and Engagement Policy as there are no proposed changes to Level of Service or funding implications. This report is also consistent with the Long Term Plan (LTP) and provides an overview of the performance of a key activity of Council.

Discussion

- 3 The Recreation Facilities presents an annual activity report to the Community Services Committee as part of the Community Services Groups cultural and recreation facilities.
- 4 The Recreation Facilities Unit had another excellent year albeit disrupted with closures and restrictions due to COVID. The Caroline Bay Trust Aoraki Centre (CBay), enjoyed its ninth full year of operation and The Southern Trust Event Centre (STEC) and the District Pools (Geraldine, Temuka and Pleasant Point) continued to be well utilised by our community.
- 5 **2021 – Recreation Facilities year at a glance**
 - I. Over 270,000 visitors to CBay in 2020/21 (compared to 278,000 in 2019/20) despite being completely closed for over three weeks (closed for over seven weeks in 2020) and with restrictions either side of the closure plus at several other times. Although restrictions have eased somewhat we continue to track below our pre-COVID attendance numbers.
 - II. The Southern Trust Events Centre (STEC) saw a decline in visitor number with 60,000 in 2021 (compared to around 100,000 in 2020). This decrease was also seen with STEC hosting eight major events, down from twelve in 2020. Again many were cancelled but others were rescheduled or completed with a modified format.
 - III. Recreation Facilities staff contributed to community relief, particularly in the Welfare area, but also across Civil Defence (CD) and Timaru District Council (TDC).
 - IV. Over 25,000 individuals through swimming lessons (compared to 25,090 in 2020).
 - V. Partnership with Sport South Canterbury and Trust Aoraki continues to provide subsidised Water Skills For Life programme to Year 3–8 students throughout the Timaru District.

Attachments

1. **Recreation Facilities Annual Activity Report 2021**  



Recreation Facilities Annual Activity Report Year Ended December 2021

1. Caroline Bay Trust Aoraki Centre (CBay)

CBay has completed its ninth full year of operation (although disrupted). There were 270,000 visitors through the complex in the 2020/21 financial year (278,000 in 2020) despite four weeks of closedown and other COVID restrictions.



Multiple Recreation Facilities staff helped with flood relief work and assisted in other areas of the Council Civil Defence responses. The teams' ability to help the community in a time of need and the willingness to do so reflected their commitment to the community and the great job they do day to day.



Recreation Facilities – Annual Activity Report Year Ended 31 December 2021 – Page 1 of 5

Aquatics

The majority of the overall visitors were from the aquatic area of the complex. The variety of pools and large range of activities continues to appeal to a wide range of customers. The Programme Pool continues to be highly utilised by a variety of users. The growth trend in aquatics is indicating that the facilities will reach capacity over the next 5–8 years. This growth in use can be partially attributed to the increasing population and growth in a high use demographic, the 65+ demographic. The facilities capacity has been identified in the Long Term Plan (LTP) to investigate the possibility of another warm water pool being built at some stage in the future.

Examples of popular aquatics activities include:

- The Walk 'n' Talk programme remains extremely popular. The programme provides exclusive use of the Programme Pool at three set times each week, with no schools, children or ball activities in the area.
- The hydro slides continue to be a great point of difference which attracts local and out of District visitors.
- The Chillax area is also well utilised with a strong regular following.

We hosted a number of school swimming sports in the 25m and 50m pools before closedown. However, several schools missed out either by cancelling in the early stages of Level 2 or because they were scheduled during the lockdown. The feedback received about our pool space, quality and cleanliness of water has been extremely positive, with all local schools rebooked for 2022. We have also seen an increase in rural schools utilising our instructors to teach in either their own school pool or local District pools.

The replacement of all of the Aquatic plant for the 50m outdoor pool which took place in 2017, continues to reap benefits. The quality of water and consistent heating with the new aquatic plant has continued to provide positive feedback over the last three summer seasons.

We were able to take advantage of limited people in the complex during Level 3 by getting a number of maintenance jobs completed by local tradesman, including the pool hall floor resurfacing. These jobs had been scheduled for the October maintenance shutdown period but were brought forward during the COVID closedown for the second year in a row. This was fantastic for helping stimulate some local businesses and also enabled us to not have the usual one to two week October closure, which would have occurred shortly after re-opening. We have scheduled a two week closedown for October 2022 with the facility now ten years old, as there is some maintenance required that will take longer.



Recreation Facilities – Annual Activity Report Year Ended 31 December 2021 – Page 2 of 5

Learn To Swim

The CBay Learn to Swim programmes continued to thrive, in particular our school education programmes. The majority of Term 3, 2021 was lost due to COVID closures but many were rescheduled for Term 4. Numbers in Term 4 were similar to previous (non-COVID) years. For example Term 4 squad numbers in 2021 dropped from 110 the previous year to 88 and Learn to Swim lessons in the same term dropped from 798 to 701.

For the seventh year we were once again able to enter a partnership with Sport Canterbury, Trust Aoraki, and Water Safety New Zealand to make subsidised Water Skills For Life programmes available to all Year 3–8 students in the District. This programme runs over the calendar year and one hundred percent of the urban schools have taken up the subsidy over the last four years with several rural schools also taking advantage. This remains a hugely popular and successful initiative which has received a large amount of positive feedback. We hope to be able to continue the programme in future years. Sport Canterbury have reduced their level of support so other funding sources will have to be looked at to keep this programme at affordable levels either from within TDC and/or external sponsorship.

Squad numbers in the coaching programme have fluctuated with COVID affecting many competitions.

Customer Services

The Customer Services team provides the first and last contact with all of our visitors and are an important part of our interaction with customers. They also manage the retail area which is continuing to go from strength to strength with increased sales in all aquatic clothing and equipment. They have helped in contact tracing and were also well utilised in Civil Defence and throughout TDC during lockdown periods.

CBay Fitness

The membership of CBay Fitness suffered a big drop during the COVID Levels dropping down from over 1,200 members to 900 as many people understandably cancelled. However this went back to 1,100 plus after re-opening. During the second lot of closures approximately 50 members dropped in total and are again back to over 100. All 30 day cancellation notices were waived, plus direct debit payment runs for two consecutive fortnights were stopped, effectively giving members some free days either side of closedowns. Also, our premium members were charged at the standard rate for a further three payment runs due to the unavailability of the pool and Chillax area during Level 2 stages. This is a credit to Mike Wrigley (Team Leader CBay Fitness) who was well supported by the rest of the CBay Fitness team over lockdown, providing online exercise programmes, personally ringing many of our over 60s members and generally staying in touch with their customers.

Pilates, BoxFit and AgeFit (which is aimed at our 50+ users), have continued to run, which have all proven very popular. These classes, combined with our extremely successful Les Mills Group Exercise programmes, have resulted in the need to extend our number of group fitness classes. Previously there were 50 classes per week on offer to our members which have now gone up for the 2021 year to 55.



Café

The café has continued to thrive under TDC management with use steadily increasing. It is a vital part of our overall package and appearance and well utilised by regulars and hirers. The café is also a vital social space for many of our older customers who congregate after morning Aqua or Age Fit classes and for our CBay Fitness customers post exercise as well as our after school Learn to Swim groups.



2. The Southern Trust Event Centre

COVID has had an effect on the Southern Trust Event Centre (STEC) with decline in visitor numbers which were approximately 60,000 in total (usually 100,000). This can be attributed to lockdown occurring during the middle of the busy netball and basketball seasons and in Level 2 when limited use protocols were in force.

A number of major events and sporting tournaments were cancelled with none being held from early May until late October. These included the South Canterbury Sports Awards, South Island

Recreation Facilities – Annual Activity Report Year Ended 31 December 2021 – Page 4 of 5

Gymnastics and the South Island Secondary Netball Championships (for the second consecutive year).

South Canterbury Basketball has again had an increase in team numbers leading to an increase in bookings of court space when it has been available. This, combined with increased use of the whole of Aorangi Park has led to a submission to the LTP to increase court space at STEC, which was approved in July 2021 and when completed will be an asset for our indoor sports users.

3. District Pools

The recent summer season had a slow start with mixed, cooler and wetter weather through November and December. Consequently user numbers at every pool was slightly down from previous years. AquaGentle classes continue to be popular with two classes per week being held at each of the District Pools.

A petition was tabled during 2020 to increase the summer season for the 50m pool by one week. Council reviewed the merits of the petition and approved the extension of the season for all outdoor pools by two weeks to 5 April on a trial basis. An analysis of the user numbers during the trial, indicated there were very few regular users during this time and that extending the trial period permanently was not sustainable. This was agreed by Council in late August and so the District Pools have reverted to closing on the third Sunday in March in 2022.

The refurbished Temuka pool, which was opened on 27 November 2020, was extremely popular over summer 20/21. The previous pool was reconfigured to a 25m competition pool and learners' pool with paddling pool. The filtration plant has also been completely replaced. The feedback has been positive and the 'new' pool is being well utilised by the local community and visitors.

4. Summary

The Recreation Facilities Unit aims to provide facilities for recreational and competitive swimmers, learning water skills, recreational and competitive court sport users and fitness programmes. We are continuing to achieve these aims throughout the District with the fantastic recreation facilities that we have on offer.

7.3 South Canterbury Museum Annual Activity Report 2021

Author: Philip Howe, Museum Director

Authoriser: Erik Barnes, Acting Group Manager Recreation and Cultural Services

Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To consider the South Canterbury Museum's Annual Activity Report Year Ended 31 December 2021.

Assessment of Significance

- 2 The information in this report has been assessed as of low significance in terms of our Significance and Engagement Policy as there are no proposed changes to Level of Service or funding implications. This report is also consistent with the Long Term Plan (LTP) and provides an overview of the performance of a key activity of Council.

Discussion

- 3 The South Canterbury Museum presents an annual activity report to the Community Services Committee as part of the Community Services Groups cultural and recreation facilities.
- 4 During 2021, the Museum was able to maintain much of its usual work plan and programming despite the impact of COVID level changes and a short lockdown in August. There was an effect on visitor numbers with a 7% drop in overall museum usage numbers recorded against the three-year predicted target. This was primarily in the second half of the year with greatly reduced school usage. Though visitor numbers did not meet our desired performance target visitor numbers were still above the previous year (21,594 in 2021, compared to 19,974).
- 5 Some collection management programmes were affected by restricted access for volunteers in second half of the year. Exhibition programming and most public events were able to proceed as planned.
- 6 Positive feedback on the museum from visitors remained high, with the Museum continuing its multifaceted role as a community heritage facility, visitor destination and key educational resource.
- 7 **2021 - The Museum year at a glance**
 - I. 5 temporary exhibitions (compared with 3 in 2020)
 - II. 21,594 users of our services (compared with 19,974 in 2020)
 - III. 5,291 students attending formal education programmes (compared with 4,612 in 2020)
 - IV. 10 public events (compared with 9 public talks, events and programmes in 2020)
 - V. 4 holiday programmes (compared with 3 in 2020)

- VI. 550 items added to the collection and more in progress (compared with 371+ in 2020)
- VII. Museum closed during August-September lockdown for 3 weeks

Attachments

1. **South Canterbury Museum Annual Activity Report 2021** [↓](#) 



Annual Activity Report Year Ended December 2021

1. Participation: Engaging with our heritage

A total of 21,594 people actively engaged with the Museum last year through visitation, education, research, and programme participation. Though the number was an increase on 2020 (19,974) it was still a 7% drop against the target figure for the year, reflecting the impact of COVID restrictions and several weeks of closure during the August lockdown.



Left: Parks officer Jane Morrison draws a prize winner for the Sunsational Challenge contest in February, assisted by Constable Deb Quested and Museum Co-ordinator Mel Riddin.

How we are tracking

	2021	2020
<i>Casual visitors</i>	12,871	11,947
<i>On-site research service users</i>	590	442
<i>Visiting groups</i>	1,821	1,592
<i>On-site schools</i>	2,542	1,693
<i>Off-site outreach schools and groups</i>	2,749	2,919
<i>Other offsite public programmes</i>	578	967
<i>Distance information service users</i>	443	414

Membership

There are now 89 Friends of the Museum (managed by the South Canterbury Historical Society) and 2,501 members of the children's Museum Explorers Club. The Explorers Club, which is up from 2,000 members in 2020, remains popular with new members being signed up by keen parents. Club members receive rewards for repeat visits and are kept informed of relevant events through email.



2. Collections: the raw material for the Museum's programmes

The Museum's collections encompass a wide range of items, including natural history specimens, taoka Māori, costume, social history artefacts from the last 150 years, items of community and civic history, archival documents, publications and photographs. The Museum team endeavours to catalogue every item with all information about it, where it is housed, and any other relevant details. Collection care, documentation and storage are key museum activities carried out by curators, interns and volunteers. Once processed and housed, collection items provide resources for exhibitions, education programmes and research.

Every year new items are added to the collections, in line with the Museum's collection policy. There are now over 101,600 documented items held in the collections. In 2021, 114 separate accessions were recorded, ranging from single items to larger collections of items. To date, 550 separate items have been documented, with work progressing.



Left: a shelf clock sold in Timaru in 1899



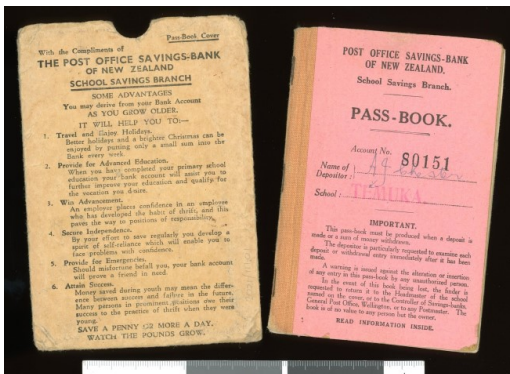
Right: A prize-winner's sash for the 1955 Caroline Bay Carnival Tiny Tots competition



Left: Large fibreglass Santa used as part of Stafford Street Christmas decorations



Right: 30 million year old fossil sea urchin in limestone block from Tengawai River near Cave



Left: 1937 Post Office Savings Bank deposit books owned by a Temuka High School student

3. Exhibitions: showcasing our heritage

Work has continued on the further development of the Museum’s long-term exhibition areas, with new display elements incorporated in to the natural history exhibition area and replacement of costume items in the upstairs social history area.



Left: Museum Technician Simon Cullimore puts the finishing touches on a new display case featuring moa and other extinct local megafauna

The following temporary exhibitions ran through 2021:

Whakamana o te Tamariki: 75 Years of SC Kindergartens (November 2020 – February 2021). This popular show looked at the South Canterbury Kindergarten Association’s history and the changing place of early childhood education.



In Service: the South Canterbury RSA Memorabilia Collection (February-May). This exhibition featured highlights from the collection transferred to the Museum in 2019 following the closure of the SC RSA building in Wai-iti Road.



Left: RSA members Rapa Whiu, John Bradley and Museum curator Chris Rapley at the opening of *In Service*

Buller’s Birds: The Art of J Keulemans and Buchanan (May – July). This show toured from Te Papa, featuring reproductions of the artwork used in Walter Buller’s 19th century publications on New Zealand birds.





Anyone for Tennis? (July – November) This exhibition was developed in partnership with Tennis South Canterbury to mark their centenary jubilee. It featured images and artefacts relating to tennis through the ages.

Distant Shores: Images of the Pacific from Cook's third Voyage (November – January 2022) This exhibition featured an historic publication from the Museum's collection, the 1784 Atlas to Plates of Cook's Voyages, which contained 62 large-format lithographs from Cook's third voyage around the Pacific. The entire book was photographed, and all images available on a touchscreen and selected images enlarged on the walls.



4. Heritage Education

Our current contract with the Ministry of Education for delivery of Learning Experiences Out of The Classroom (LEOTC), was extended until June 2022. A new tender bid has been submitted for a contract running from July 2022 – December 2024, with notification likely in early March. This followed considerable work by the Education team to ensure that our proposal was in line with the changing focus of education and curricula.



During 2021, 5,291 students participated in our Heritage Education programmes, easily exceeding our annual performance target of 4,200. Just under half of these were onsite at the Museum, with the rest taking place at natural or historical sites, or in other museums and facilities around the region. In addition, several programmes were adapted to be taken into schools where COVID requirements had made class trips problematic.

5. Events: engaging with our community

The Museum was able to run much of its usual range of public programmes and events through the year, despite the impact of COVID restrictions and the August lockdown.



Summer Holiday programmes

The Museum had a key role in the Community Services-wide Sunsational Summer Challenge, which saw over a thousand participants visiting various Council public facilities around the district to complete activities and gain entry into prize draws. The success of this programme has seen it repeated in January 2022. The Museum also ran several summer holiday activities within the Museum and elsewhere.



Left: two happy Museum Explorers Club members embarking on the Sunsational Challenge in January

Right: Participants in a fossil exploration programme in the summer holidays at the Museum



School holiday programmes

School holiday programmes were run in April and July, with September school holidays activities curtailed because of COVID restrictions. Families enjoyed being able to take part in craft activities and gallery quizzes, with repeat visitation from many members of the Museum Explorers Club.



Above left: A kind donation of ANZAC biscuits to Museum staff by two happy Museum Explorers in April



Above right: adding butterflies to a tropical forest wall

Retro Rock at the Museum

The Retro Rock at the Museum was held on 13 February, with another pleasant evening luring over 600 people to the Museum grounds to watch four local bands and enjoy a free community event and take the chance to explore the Museum. Increased COVID restrictions brought in a week later would have prevented this event from proceeding.



Exhibition openings

Three exhibition events were held during the year, linked to the opening of the following exhibitions. These events provided a social opportunity for local residents and invited guests to enjoy hospitality within the Museum. Below: the opening of *Anyone for Tennis*, which attracted over one hundred guests.



Following the changes to COVID levels, no opening event was held for the final exhibition of the year, *Distant Shores*.

Public talks

Six public talks were organised in conjunction with the Canterbury Branch of the Royal Society. Two were held at the Timaru District Council chambers, one each at the Landing Service building and at the Wilson Street Baptist Hall and one held on Zoom during the August lockdown. Attendee numbers averaged around fifty, with an ongoing interest in more events like these being held in 2022.



Left: Epidemiologist Ben Harris gives an illustrated talk at the Landing Service building in April about how new viruses develop



Left: Haritina Mogoşanu, a Wellington-based science communicator, gave a talk via Zoom for an online audience about astro-biology and the issues around space travel and life

Museum in the Dark

This annual event attracts a lot of interest, with limited spaces being booked out. It enables family groups to explore the Museum by torchlight, with special clues, UV lighting and face-painting, and interactive items in place. In addition, local astronomers provided telescopes for viewing of planets on what luckily was a clear night.



6. Communication: reaching out

The Museum has increased its following on social media with approximately 3,500 followers on Facebook, up from 3,000 in 2020, and 480 followers on Instagram. The Museum team post nearly every day with a planned strategy of posts relating to events, news items, behind the scenes looks and general updates.

Inside, the Museum's newsletter, was produced three times in 2021, and made available in print form and a digital edition.

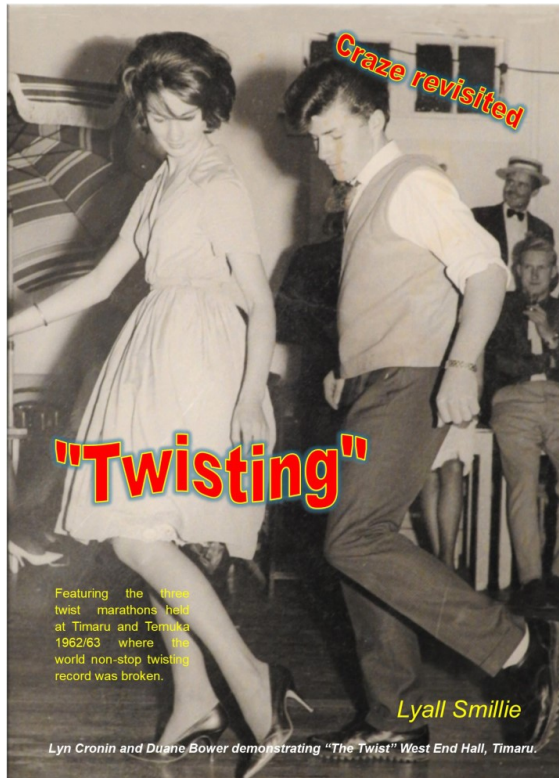
A regular Museum Piece column was contributed to the Saturday edition of the Timaru Herald each week, with articles featuring items from current exhibitions or collection items with specific stories.

There have been a number of other articles generated in local newspapers, either initiated by the Museum or from external reporter enquiries.

7. Wider networks

Organisational Partnerships

The South Canterbury Museum has continued in its close relationship with the Friends of the Museum, as part of the South Canterbury Historical Society. Museum Friends and Society members have supported the Museum through attending events and exhibition openings, and through raising funds for projects. Society members act as Museum advocates in the community, and provide a focus for members of the public who wish to become more involved with the Museum and local heritage.



The South Canterbury Museum Development Trust has continued to generate revenue through sales earmarked for supporting the costs of developing new exhibitions in the planned Heritage Hub. The Trust, formed in 1997, has charitable status and is administered by six trustees. In 2021 it collaborated with local music historian Lyall Smillie to produce a booklet about the world record-beating "twist" dance competitions that ran in Temuka and Timaru in the early 1960s, with all proceeds going to the Trust.

The Trust has undertaken to pay for the initial Preliminary Concept Design plan being produced by exhibition design company *Workshop E* for the Museum's new long-term exhibition areas that will be installed in the new Heritage Hub. The Trust will continue to support this project through fundraising and advocacy.

The Museum continues to host the South Canterbury Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists, whose research material is housed in the Museum's research library. Volunteers from the Branch assist with enquiries on Sunday afternoons in the Research Library at the Museum. Both the Historical Society and the Genealogists made regular use of the Museum's meeting room. However, COVID restrictions have reduced the ability of external collaborators to continue operating at the previous level.

Local Museums

The Museum hosted a meeting of the Central South Island Museums Group in 2021. In addition it has provided advice to individual local museums as well as providing surplus display equipment free for museums within the Timaru District. COVID restrictions have curtailed regular meetings and events for this group.



8. Planning for a new future

The Museum Director is part of the planning group for the new Heritage Hub complex planned for Stafford Street. Museum team members have also contributed to reviews of architectural development. In addition, the museum has engaged with national museum exhibition design company Workshop E to develop a plan for new long-term exhibitions that will be installed in the new complex once it is built. The exhibitions will provide an opportunity to develop a high-end high-impact visitor experience that tells the stories on our landscape, life forms and human history up to the present day. The aim will be to create a must-see experience that will draw locals and visitors to the region in again and again.

Along with planning for the new facility, the Museum team have begun work on planning for the future of the existing Pioneer Hall building, with work to continue on this over the next two years.



The South Canterbury Museum Development Trust, has commissioned the first part of the exhibition concept design, and will support the continuing design and development process with fundraising to supplement funds in the Council's Long Term Plan.

9. Operations: keeping things going

Administration and Maintenance

Regular building inspections and checks were carried out in accordance with requirements, along with necessary Health and Safety reports and checks. A number of maintenance tasks were actioned during the year to repair minor problems and maintain the building asset. The Museum's health and safety procedures have undergone considerable development to comply with Council requirements and national standards.



Participation in Timaru District Council Activities

The Museum continues to have a working relationship with the Aigantighe Art Gallery and Timaru District Libraries. This has resulted in joint promotional activities, along with sharing of resources. Three Museum staff members are members of the Timaru District Emergency Management Team (public information management team). Museum staff also provided access to Museum images, resources such as display cases, and information services for other Council units when requested.

Disaster recovery planning

Curators Tony Rippin and Chris Rapley have continued to develop a disaster recovery plan to guide the recovery of the Museum's priceless heritage collections in the advent of a disaster such as fire or earthquake. The value of this planning cannot be overstated, borne out by experiences from cultural institutions elsewhere. They have also been assisting the Library on developing a disaster recovery plan.

COVID response

In August the Museum closed for three weeks during a brief change to Level 4 and lockdown. Following reopening, the foyer was rearranged to control visitor movements, in a similar fashion to what had been carried out in 2020. COVID requirements also meant that visitors had to wear masks, as did staff when working in public areas. In December, the Museum required all visitors to present a vaccine pass, in line with Council requirements.

Considerable effort has gone in to ensuring visitor safety and comfort in line with COVID requirements. This includes an enhanced cleaning regime, limitations on personnel in particular spaces and reduction of infection risks where possible.

10. The Museum volunteer team



Left: Museum Educator Keely Kroening is congratulated on 10 years of service by Ex-Group Manager Simon Leggett in February



Right: Student Intern Amy Doran rehousing stored archaeological taoka in December

The Museum has been greatly assisted by our volunteers, who have worked on a wide range of collection care, exhibitions, public events and programmes, and information access projects behind the scenes. The hours worked by these additional personnel usually equate to the equivalent of more than a full-time staff position for the year. Unfortunately volunteer access had to be restricted with increased COVID requirements restricted numbers of personnel in specific areas. The major contribution to the Museum’s success made by the commitment and dedication of all members of the wider Museum team is greatly appreciated.

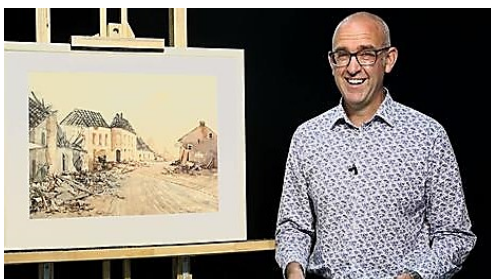


Left: Museum Educator Ruth Gardiner and Museum Co-ordinator Mel Rippin showing off a new holiday activity for the October holidays when organised programmes were more problematic



Right: Museum volunteer Wayne Pahl sorting through a collection of old theatre posters retrieved from the Theatre Royal building

Below left: Curator of Social History Chris Rapley filmed for an online presentation by the Aigantighe Art Gallery to mark Anzac Day. Below right: the Museum team celebrate the opening of the Distant Shores exhibition with empty wine glasses – no one could attend under Level 3 conditions.



Below: supermarket worker Shane King added his 2020 staff t-shirt to our COVID collection project.



7.4 Aigantighe Art Gallery Annual Activity Report 2021

Author: Cara Fitzgerald, Art Gallery Manager

Authoriser: Erik Barnes, Acting Group Manager Recreation and Cultural Services

Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To consider the Aigantighe Art Gallery's Annual Report Year Ended 31 December 2021.

Assessment of Significance

- 2 The information in this report has been assessed as of low significance in terms of our Significance and Engagement Policy as there are no proposed changes to Level of Service or funding implications. This report is also consistent with the Long Term Plan (LTP) and provides an overview of the performance of a key activity of Council.

Discussion

- 3 The Aigantighe Art Gallery presents an annual activity report to the Community Services Committee as part of the Community Services Groups cultural and recreation facilities.
- 4 Overall the Aigantighe Art Gallery has had a successful 2021 year with the gallery actively engaging with our community with 36 public programmes and events, the majority of which were achieved before the August lock down.
- 5 The year achieved both our highest recorded visitors, in the month of July 5,964 (the majority 4,214 coming to our Matariki Festival 2 – 4 July) and our lowest recorded visitors in December at 405.
- 6 With the challenges of navigating the COVID levels the gallery has been publishing public programming content online. Planned talks and award ceremonies have been filmed and uploaded to YouTube and Facebook to give access to our significant collection through another medium. The Artarama exhibition has been published online via the gallery webpage.
- 7 South Canterbury Art Society exhibition was popular with our local visitors during November with great attendance levels. Matthew Couper exhibition was #2 in the top 10 exhibitions in Canterbury. This was chosen and written about by art consultant Dr Warren Feeney published in the Christchurch Press.

8 2021 - The Aigantighe year at a glance

- I. 16,873 visitors (compared with 10,522 in 2020)
- II. 16 exhibitions delivering a broad range of genres, subjects and media (compared with 18 in 2020)
- III. 36 public programmes and events delivered (compared with 19 in 2020)

- IV. 27 Art works accessioned into the Permanent Collection (compared with 36 in 2020)
- V. 188 Collection art works exhibited (compared with 90 in 2020)

Attachments

1. **Aigantighe Art Gallery Annual Activity Report 2021** [↓](#) 



Annual Activity Report Year Ended December 2021

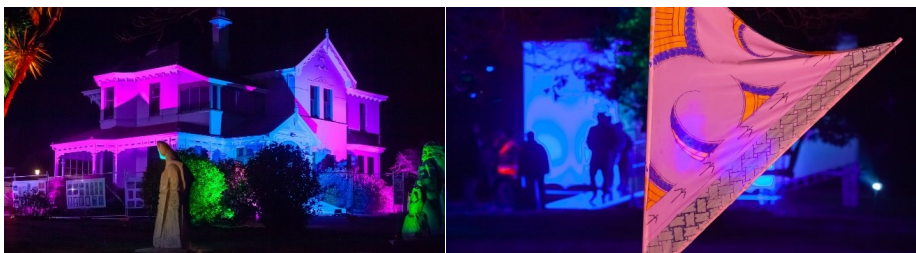
1. Introduction

The Aigantighe Art Gallery is proud of the role it plays in delivering quality cultural experiences to the communities of South Canterbury and its visitors. The Gallery is constantly striving to meet increasing visitor expectations and to broaden its audiences. The year 2021 has been extraordinary in light of the Delta and Omicron variants of the COVID pandemic and the changing climate this has put everyone through. Lockdowns affected the ability to open and be physically accessible to visitors. Mandates restricted the normal gathering and celebrating of events and openings which impacted performance measures. However what was learned and adapted through 2021 saw improvements and resilience. The scope locally and nationally with visitors was strengthened. Absence of our international visitors has been felt but the gallery has made improvements to our accessibility. How the gallery is tracking nationally through this environment continues to be monitored and recorded. These uncertain times have helped the gallery become creative and reach out through social media and online to support the community wellbeing and inspire arts and promotion outside the gallery walls.

Care, thoughtfulness, engagement of ideas, planning then re planning due to the unforeseen COVID climate occurred for a second year. The majority of the hard work at the gallery does go unseen but the results delivered look effortless. Many milestones have been celebrated such as the gallery's 65th year of being a public art gallery, plus the first Matariki event celebration, which helped the gallery reach its highest visitor numbers and engagement with the community.

During the second lock down the gallery was in isolation again. Openings that were originally planned had to be cancelled and the team adapted quickly to a new way of operating. The gallery hosted public talks and delivered a full exhibition programme, as well as show and publicly write about the gallery's collection online.

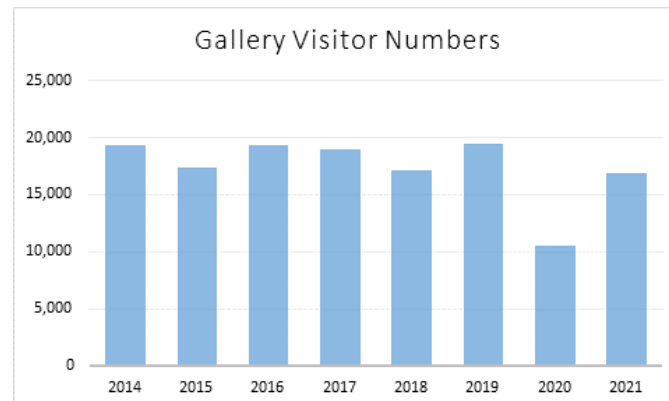
Aigantighe creates an inclusive cultural artistic environment in South Canterbury where people can learn, experience and enjoy the visual arts of local, national and international significance.



*Images: Courtesy of
Geoff Cloake Matariki
Ki Te Tihio Maru
02 July 2021.
Aigantighe Art Gallery
Grounds*

2. Gallery Visitor Numbers

The highest and lowest months were achieved in 2021 but was an increase over the 2020 year. July had the largest visitor numbers in eight years, with a total of 5,964. The majority of this was from the Matariki light event which took place over three evenings 2 – 4 July and a total of 4,214 people attended. July also saw many events take place such as a plant exchange (200), two concerts (123), School Holiday Poi workshop (74), Art Lecture (50) and Sculpture Garden tour (40). Celebrations for the 65th Anniversary of the gallery becoming a public art gallery were held over the weekend of 14 – 15 August (170 people attended).



Due to New Zealand's second nationwide level 4 lockdown the gallery was closed for half of August with a total of 408 visitors. The gallery stayed closed to the public during level 3 and level 2 opening up again on 14 September. This gave gallery staff a unique opportunity to get some building work done and prepare the exhibition space for new exhibitions. From August 2021 lock down to the 28 November there were no hosted gatherings such as exhibition openings, public talks and programming events held in house. There were also no school visits or events. This had an impact on our overall visitor numbers.

During September the gallery had 561 visitors. Two exhibitions were on during this month, the South Canterbury Pottery Group annual show and Aoraki Embroiderers Guild. The prize giving for the pottery show was filmed then exhibited in the gallery space and on the Aigantighe Art Gallery YouTube channel. In October the gallery had 1,042 visitors. The South Canterbury Art Society show opened 30 October. Again no opening or public event was held with the prize giving filmed and posted on social media channels. December numbers were the lowest in eight years. On 3 December 2021 Council made it mandatory for visitors to our community facilities to hold vaccine passes. Total visitors to the gallery for the 2021 calendar year January – December, were 16,873.

3. Exhibitions

Even though the gallery had 16 exhibitions during 2021, there were only three exhibition openings due to the changing environment of COVID. Traditionally openings help introduce the exhibition and the artists messages about their shows to visitors and celebrate the artist with their family and friends. These openings were for: Elizabeth Thomson, RSM Law Plunket Art Show, and Ann Shelton.

List of Exhibitions

DATE	ARTIST	EXHIBITION	OVERVIEW
12.12.20 – 21.02.21	Pat Currie	Tideline	South Canterbury artist Pat Currie's Tideline exhibition reveals the major influences and progressions of her work over the last 20 years. Often inspired by the rugged New Zealand coastline, her delicate and sensual forms blur the lines between function and imagination.
12.12.20 – 21.02.21	Judy Millar	Eleven	Judy Millar's, exhibition, Eleven, is a response to an exhibition, titled Ten Big Paintings, that opened at the Auckland Art Gallery in 1971. The exhibition gave ten New Zealand artists the opportunity to produce artworks on a large scale, but all the artists were men. Forty-nine years later, Millar has painted her belated contribution to that exhibition and created a direct response to the art world of the day.
20.02.2021 – 09.05.2021	Aigantighe Permanent Collection Showcase	My Beloved	My Beloved... showcases a selection of artworks from the Gallery's rich permanent collection that are loved, have been missed and have been voted for by you, the public. (This exhibition is also showcased online on the Aigantighe Website)
27.02.2021 – 09.05.2021	Elizabeth Thomson	Cellular Memory	For over 30 years Wellington-based artist, Elizabeth Thomson, has been drawn to areas of scientific exploration such as microbiology, oceanography and mathematics. With these fields as their starting point, Thomson's works take flight. They impart a sense of mystery, beauty and the sheer exhilaration of being alive in a universe, which is itself living, sentient and ever-responsive.
ONLINE	Lest We Forget	Collection artworks	ANZAC Art works from the collection displayed on the Art Gallery Website.
15 – 30 MAY 2021	RSM LAW Plunket Art Show		The RSM Plunket Art Show, now in its 43rd year, is an exhibition held at Timaru's Aigantighe Art Gallery raising funds for the Timaru branch of Plunket NZ. This is a mixed media exhibition featuring fabulous artworks from all round the country.
12 JUNE – 15 AUGUST 2021	the missionaries	Ann Shelton	Shelton's exploration of the powerful and complex relationships between colonisation, nationalism, feminism and plants, within the context of Aotearoa.
12 JUNE – 15 AUGUST 2021	Aigantighe Permanent Collection Showcase	Whiria Te Tāngata Weaving People Together	A collection show showcasing Māori Artists in the Aigantighe Collection.
18 SEPTEMBER – 17 OCTOBER 2021	South Canterbury Pottery Group	Top of the Pots	The South Canterbury Pottery Group with the Aigantighe Art Gallery presents their 49 th annual exhibition - Top of the Pots. This name reflects the opening of the club in the 1960s, through to the massive local revival of the craft today. Take the opportunity to own yourself a bespoke piece of local pottery. The exhibition also includes the charming and imaginative ceramic sculptures of Otago-based guest potters.

18 SEPTEMBER – 17 OCTOBER 2021	Aoraki Embroiderers' Guild	The Beauty of Thread	Aoraki Embroiderers' Guild are proud to be exhibiting the work of their members showcasing, "The Beauty of Thread". Come and see how one stitch after another builds to these beautiful creations.
30 OCTOBER – 28 NOVEMBER 2021	Alpine Energy Art Awards & South Canterbury Art Society Annual Exhibition	South Canterbury Art Society Annual Exhibition	The South Canterbury Arts Society Annual exhibition showcases a wide range of work by regional members and recognised Art Society members from around New Zealand. The exhibition is proudly sponsored by Alpine Energy.
ONLINE	Artarama Exhibition	Districts School's exhibition	Virtual online exhibition, which will be hosted on the Gallery's website. To showcase our young people's artistic talents and creations they have made during the 2021 year.
4 DECEMBER - 20 FEBRUARY 2022	Aigantighe Permanent Collection Showcase	Sydney Thompson & Friends	Sydney Lough Thompson (1877 – 1973), was born in Oxford, New Zealand. In 1895 he studied at Canterbury College School of Art and also took lessons from Petrus van der Velden (1837-1913) at his studio in Christchurch. In 1900, like many of his contemporaries, Thompson left New Zealand for London to study at the Heatherley School of Fine Art, then, to Paris, to study at the Academie Julian. During his time in France, Thompson lived in Concarneau, on the west coast, for two years. Thompson fell in love with Concarneau and spent the rest of his life living between there and New Zealand.
4 DECEMBER - 27 FEBRUARY 2022	Matthew Couper	Isolation Paintings	Matthew Couper's practice over the past decade has appropriated aspects of western art history. Through these painterly investigations, he has discovered that history often repeats. He has determined that the Modernist notions of originality held little interest for his practice. Couper uses the established narrative traditions of Spanish Colonial retablos and ex-votos to discuss the space between myth, religion and art politics.



Image: Ann Shelton the missionaries Exhibition opening

4. Public Programmes

Twenty-four public programmes or events were held during the year. Included in these were musical and drama items, school holiday workshops, talks from artists, events for protection of New Zealand's flora and fauna and celebrations around Matariki and the 65th Anniversary of the Gallery. Due to changes in COVID Levels no events took place from 17 August to 28 November.



*Image: Elizabeth Thompson Floor Talk 9
May 2021*

Online Content

Aigantighe Art Gallery public talks and events are an important part of the exhibition programme. With the COVID levels restricting gatherings, the Aigantighe ensured knowledge sharing with the public by filming talks which were shared online via the gallery YouTube and Facebook pages. These help gauge an understanding of our local heritage and art. They also help with record keeping internally for our gallery and other galleries around New Zealand as a digital reference, assist curators and become a record of our history. The intention behind these videos is to increase our visibility, awareness and aid communication which provides a knowledge bridge between the gallery and the public.

DATE PUBLISHED ONLINE	TITLE/EXHIBITION	SPEAKER/S	PLATFORM
11.01.2021	Ross Gray Then Again 1970 -2020	Dr Warren Feeney	YouTube
01.04.2021	Writers Talk Colin McMahon	Peter Simpson	YouTube
06.04.2021	Curators Talk Legacies Behind the Aigantighe	Petrena Fishburn	YouTube
06.04.2021	Iain Chessman Signs of Earlier Exhibition Interview	Iain Chessman	YouTube
30.04.2021	Three Works from the Aigantighe Collection	Grant Banbury	You tube
30.08.2021	Matariki Ki Te Tihio Maru	Voice: Ruth Gardener Script: Victoria Campbell	YouTube
01.09.2021	Dangerous Documents	Dr Andrew Paul Wood	YouTube
01.09.2021	A Wonder through the World of Lucy Kemp Welch	Dr Andrew Paul Wood	YouTube
01.09.2021	Memories of the Aigantighe 65 th Anniversary Panel Talk	Michael Armstrong, Pat Currie, Cara Fitzgerald and Meg Parkin	YouTube
01.09.2021	Rewi Alley	Dr Richard Bullen	YouTube
01.09.2021	Eleven	Judy Millar	YouTube
23.09.2021	Two Paintings from the Collection	Dr Andrew Paul Wood	YouTube
28.09.2021	The Winners of the South Canterbury Pottery Exhibition 2021	Guest potter Ian Dalzell and Sue Pigeon introduce the winning works from The 49th South Canterbury Pottery Group Annual Exhibition.	YouTube and Facebook

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28.09.2021	Cellular Memory	Artist Elizabeth Thomson and Curator Gregory O'Brien	You Tube
28.09.2021	Ghosts	Artist Elizabeth Thomson and Curator Gregory O'Brien	YouTube
28.09.2021	Fearless Five Hundred	Artist Elizabeth Thomson and Curator Gregory O'Brien	YouTube
28.09.2021	Inner	Artist Elizabeth Thomson and Curator Gregory O'Brien	YouTube
28.09.2021	Snake River	Artist Elizabeth Thomson and Curator Gregory O'Brien	YouTube
12.10.2021	Exhibition Changeover Time-lapse May 2021	Take down of Elizabeth Thomson's exhibition and Set up of RSM Law Plunket Art show	You Tube
30.10.2021	South Canterbury Arts Society Alpine Energy Art Awards	Sue Connolly, along with judges Gail Tatham and Nancy Van der Broeke announce the winners of the 2021 Alpine Energy Art Awards	You Tube and Facebook
11.11.2021	The Cross Roads Neuve Eglise	Chris Rapley, Curator of Social History at South Canterbury Museum gives an insightful talk about New Zealand War Artist George Edmund Butler's painting "The Cross Roads, Neuve Eglise" in commemoration of Armistice Day 2021. This art work is part of the Aigantighe Art Gallery Collection	You Tube and Facebook
26.11.2021	Jacqueline Fahey Two Paintings	Dr Andrew Paul Wood	You tube and Facebook
23.12.2021	Art Bite Joanna Braithwaite	Joanna Braithwaite's Onwards and Upwards, 2008, is the first Art Bite in a series of short talks by Grant Banbury recorded in the Aigantighe Art Gallery's art store. Grant Banbury is an art consultant and art writer based in Christchurch	YouTube and Facebook
30.12.2021	Art Bite Ivy Fife Sunflowers	Art Bite in a series of short talks by Grant Banbury recorded in the Aigantighe Art Gallery's art store	YouTube and Facebook



Image: Screenshot of Dr Andrew Paul Wood with Jacqueline Fahey Painting 26 November 2021

5. Education

The Gallery's education programme revolves closely around the exhibition programme and the school holiday periods. It is intended to be interactive and encourages life-long connection with the arts.

The education programme involves artistic activities to help bring out the creative talents of students and children with inspiration coming via the South Canterbury Pottery Exhibition, Easter, porcelain, Matariki plus traditional Māori activities and art activity books.



Images

1. Art Lab Drop in creative space.
2. Geraldine Preschool Gallery Visit.
3. Drop in Art Class Cheers to 65 years

6. The Aigantighe Art Gallery Collection

The Aigantighe Art Gallery is renowned for its art collection and innovative exhibitions and education programmes. The collection holds over 1,800 Victorian and Edwardian artworks, Japanese prints, European prints, Australian and New Zealand art, Chinese art, ceramics and antique china. The permanent collection is utilised regularly by the Gallery, which is committed to exhibiting ten percent of the Collection per annum or one third of exhibitions per annum containing collection items.

The Collection is also a rich resource for research, and items from the Aigantighe Art collection are regularly reproduced in national publications. It is held in high regard by other institutions throughout New Zealand, with regular loans going to the Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu, the Dunedin Public Art Gallery and the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki. The Gallery's permanent collection is the result of a number of generous and significant gifts – for example, the South Canterbury Art Society collection, the Grant's Aigantighe House, and the Grant/Wigley family collection.

The collection as a whole helps capture and explain South Canterbury's stories, reflects the diversity and multicultural nature of the region, and defines its cultural identity through the unique power of art and art history and has a current insurance value of \$11 million. One of the core roles of the Gallery is the care, preservation and conservation of the Permanent Collection for future generations.

Below are listed some of our collection highlights

- 27 Accession into the Permanent Collection; 2 Art works conserved; 147 Collection art works reproduced; 77 Copyright Permissions Sought; 210 Collection works Professionally Photographed for Digitisation.

The New Zealand Collection is a continually expanding collection of art by a wide range of artists in a range of mediums. The collection holds nationally significant 19th and early 20th century artworks by Charles Goldie, Petrus Van der Velden, Sydney Thompson, Francis Hodgkins, Olivia Spencer-Bower, Elizabeth Kelly, and Francis Shurrock.

A comprehensive collection of post-war, modern and contemporary New Zealand art includes nationally significant artworks by John Drawbridge, Russell Clark, Toss Woollaston, Colin McCahon, Philip Truttum, Bill Sutton, Jacqueline Fahey, Rudy Gopas, Don Binney, Trevor Moffit, Ralph Hotere, Vivian Lynne, and Louise Henderson.

The Aigantighe Art Gallery has an extensive ceramic collection, with many examples of nationally significant potters such as Len Castle, Mirek Smisek, Helen Manson, Doris Lusk/Holland, Michael Trumic, and Barry Brickell.

The Aigantighe Permanent Collection has a particular focus on local artists who have built a national profile, or national artists with associations to the South Canterbury region. These artists include William Greene, Ainslie Manson, John Badcock, Mike Armstrong, Clifford Brunsten, Albert J Rae, Austen Deans, Dan de Ha, and Ross Hemera.

The Gallery also has a unique and nationally significant collection of over 100 drawings by Jock Fraser. Fraser was a prisoner of war during WWII in Italy and Germany, his drawings and paintings capture his time in these prisoner of war camps. The Aigantighe Art Gallery in Timaru is renowned for its art collection and innovative exhibitions and education programmes.

Collection Audit

During the year one of the main collection focuses was the ongoing audit of the collection. This process included confirming the current location of each collection item, recording the current condition of each collection item in detail, the re-housing and updating of collection records.

- Item Records updated on Vernon: 633
- Item Records created on Vernon: 63
- Visits to Art Store A: 36

Acquisitions

The Gallery's Collection continues to grow in-line with the Gallery's Collection Policy due to the generosity of individuals and the community. The Collection is the Gallery's greatest asset, as well as a significant cultural asset for South Canterbury, it includes artworks of national and international significance.

During the 2021 year the Gallery purchased thirteen artworks and ten artworks were gifted to the Gallery's Permanent Collection.

Research

During 2021 the Gallery received research requests, predominately seeking information about the Collection or individual artists represented in the Collection. The Gallery also received thirty-nine visitors to view the Collection storage areas.

Internal research by staff was also undertaken. Such as research into the gallery collection for our new collection publication. A Statement of significance about the collection was written. This document is important because it accesses why the collection is significant locally nationally and internationally.

Canterbury University Art History Students undertook research on our Ukiyo-e Japanese Prints and each wrote an essay about a specific collection work. A site visit had to change to a zoom visit due to the change in COVID levels. The Students were going to present talks but this was changed to essays due to the circumstances.

Conservation

The conservation and preservation of the Collection is vital to ensure the longevity of artworks for future generations. Conservation work includes the assessment, research, analysis, treatment, mounting and documentation of artworks.

Vernon

Vernon Collections Management System software is a national and industry standard programme for the management of collection data and processes. The software enables:

- Recording an object's current location and its previous location history
- The recording and tracking of donors, makers and related individuals
- The exporting and importing of data in multiple formats
- Managing digital assets including images, video and sound files
- Recording valuation histories
- Searching and reporting on a wide range of terms
- A platform for online digital access to collection information

7. Marketing

Aigantighe Treasure

The Gallery provides a weekly editorial article to the Timaru Herald (known as the Treasures of Aigantighe), highlighting an artwork from the Collection or a current exhibition. This editorial approach to promote the Gallery is very popular with the community and entices people to visit the Gallery. During the course of the year the Gallery provided thirty-eight editorial articles.

Art Gallery Website

<https://www.aigantighe.co.nz/>

The Art Gallery website continues to grow and develop. This year it provided a virtual platform to show case ARTARAMA online, which gave our young people from the Timaru, Waimate and Mackenzie Districts a creative platform to showcase their artistic talents with the creations they made during 2021. Teachers can use this platform to directly upload images of their Students Artwork. This is a contactless way to share art work. No more dropping off artworks, just upload photographs to the following link: <https://www.aigantighe.co.nz/artarama>

Facebook

In 2021 the Gallery found continued growth on its social media platform Facebook. Work on the gallery’s online presence has now started.

- Audience insights: 1,756 total page likes; 81% of followers are women; 17% male; 496 people have checked into the gallery; majority of our audience is local and from the South Canterbury district, New Zealand

TOP 5 COUNTRIES

TOP 5 TOWNS/CITIES

NZ	1.4k	Timaru	620
AUSTRALIA	40	Christchurch	163
UNITED KINGDOM	16	Geraldine	56
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	13	Temuka	53
PHILIPPINES	4	Auckland	52



Image: Aigantighe Staff with Artist Ann Shelton at her exhibition opening

8. Supporters

Friends of the Aigantighe Art Gallery

The Gallery has a strong working relationship with the Friends of the Aigantighe Art Gallery Committee. The Friends of the Aigantighe Art Gallery was founded in 1976 and is a voluntary organisation, and a registered charity, with a primary aim of supporting the Gallery ultimately helping to grow the love of arts in the community.

The Friends of the Aigantighe Committee meet once a month at the Gallery and there are a total of 200 members in the friends of the Aigantighe.

The Friends of the Aigantighe support the Gallery by:

- Supporting four exhibition openings each year
- Assisting with printing costs for a newsletter and invitations for Friends' sponsored openings
- Donating prizes for the Artarama and Polychrome exhibitions
- Fundraising in addition to funds obtained from subscriptions
- Fundraising towards the conservation of art works in the collection
- Accepting donations as a Registered Charity
- Purchasing artworks for the Collection

In 2021 The Friends of the Aigantighe pledged \$25,000 from funds donated over recent years to help fund the seismic strengthening and restoration of the 116-year old Heritage House Gallery and associated improvements. This matches a pledge recently made by the Timaru Civic Trust adding to the growing community support for the project.

<https://aigantighe.org.nz/what-we-do/local-funding-support>

The Gallery is very grateful for the Friends of the Aigantighe ongoing support and generosity.



9. Building

Aigantighe Heritage House Gallery Seismic Strengthening and Restoration Project



In 2017 the Heritage House Gallery was deemed earthquake prone and was closed to the public. Over the last four years the unavailability of this asset has been noticed by the community. To help, the Timaru District Council are going ahead with seismically strengthening and restoration of the Heritage House Gallery, with a one million dollar contribution toward the total cost of the project.

This vital community project will see the Heritage House Gallery, which was built in 1905 and generously gifted to the people of Timaru in 1956, seismically strengthened; the installation of environmental control; the restoration and reinstatement of key heritage features; and addressing the building's deficiencies enabling the safe reopening of a community treasure.

The Aigantighe Art Gallery Redevelopment will transform the Heritage House Gallery (Stage 1) into a fit for purpose art gallery that meets national and international standards sympathetic to the heritage fabric of the building. This includes the installation of specialist LED exhibition lighting, a HVAC system for climate control, and a fire suppression system. The project will also ensure the exceptional heritage features of the building are preserved. It also includes reinstating a number of heritage features including, ceiling roses and heritage light fittings, fire registers and surrounds, the original upstairs bathroom, kitchen and scullery. Alongside the Heritage House Gallery, the Timaru District Council has agreed (through the Long Term Plan 2021-2031) for a full redevelopment of the 1978/1995 (Stage 2). This will see the demolition of the 1978/1995 extension and the construction of a fit for purpose facility. This will include increased collection storage, a new connection/link with the Heritage House Gallery, increased exhibition space with two dedicated gallery spaces, a multi-functional education and community space and increased work areas. Together these projects will deliver a unique modern art gallery that is able to showcase the best of regional and national art and meet the future needs of the community.

The objectives for the Aigantighe Art Gallery Redevelopment are:

- Provide increased storage capacity for the Gallery's permanent collection
- Provide greater access to the Heritage House Gallery
- Restore and conserve the Heritage House Gallery
- Provide a building that meets the future needs of the Gallery and the community
- Provide greater flexibility and increased exhibition space
- Provide a building that promotes the Region's unique identity and cultural tourism

8 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

9 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

10 Exclusion of the Public**Recommendation**

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting on the grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Plain English Reason
11.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 12 October 2021	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	To protect a person's privacy
11.2 - Southern Trust Events Centre Building Development	s7(2)(c)(ii) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest	Due to an obligation of confidence and to protect the public interest

11 Public Excluded Reports

11.1 Public Excluded Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 12 October 2021

11.2 Southern Trust Events Centre Building Development

12 Readmittance of the Public