



Friends of Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre

54th Annual General Meeting

5.30pm, Tuesday 4 November 2025

Govett-Brewster Art Gallery | Len Lye Centre

Guest Speaker

This year's guest speaker is the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery / Len Lye Centre Curator, Contemporary Art and Len Lye Anna Briers.

AGM Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Guest Speaker: Anna Briers, Senior Curator, Len Lye & Contemporary Art, GBAG/LLC:
"Highlights and Insights: Reflecting on 2025 and Upcoming Gallery Directions"
3. Record of Persons Present
4. Confirmation of Minutes from the 2024 AGM
5. Matters Arising
6. Presentation & Adoption of Reports:
 - Membership Report – Antony Rhodes
 - Treasurer's Report – Agata Oleksiak
 - President's Report – Nigel Jones
7. Election of Officers
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Membership
 - Committee Members
8. General Business

Minutes of 53rd AGM

	Minutes of 53rd AGM meeting of the committee held at GBAG/LLC New Plymouth on Tuesday 12 November 2024 commencing at 5.30pm.
Present	Bridget Sullivan, Chris Herlihy, Mary Perrot, Nigel Jones, Carol Boyle, Antony Rhodes, Agata Oleksiak, Di Brien, Zara Stanhope, Fran Mowforth, Rebecca Johnson, Michael Boyle, Rachael Gorge, Pari Ramparsad, Sue Page, Andy Bassett, Dave McKay, Dot McKay, Fiona Clark, Mary Perrott
Apologies	Lynda Matthews <i>Moved by Agata Oleksiak, seconded by Bridget Sullivan: apologies accepted.</i>
Minutes	Moved by Mary Perrot, seconded by Nigel Jones, that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved.
Matters arising	No matters arising
Membership Report	Presented by Antony Rhodes. Key points: • Membership updates: ○ 77 renewing or new members (75% retention rate, up from 58% last year). ○ Members primarily based in New Plymouth, with others spread across Oakura, Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch. • Life memberships: ○ Static at 128, a decline from 142 in 2015. ○ Efforts to drive renewals and engage members showed positive results. See Appendix Moved by Chris Herlihy, seconded by Carol Boyle.
Financials Report	Presented by Chris Herlihy. Key points: The Treasurer prepared financial statements compliant with Tier 4 requirements. Highlights: • Operating surplus: \$4,008 (compared to a deficit in the previous year). • Assets: \$35,894, including term deposits and bank balances. • The review raised no material concerns. Performance Report Summary

	Key activities in 2023-24 • Supported Monica Brewster Birthday Garden Party. • Contributed to Len Lye Birthday celebrations. • Developed 24 social media posts promoting gallery events. ○ Financial highlights: ▪ Membership fees: \$2,739. ○ Event income: \$0 (reflecting scaled-back events). ▪ Net profit: \$4,008. ○ Retained earnings: \$31,886. Moved by Di Brien, seconded by Carol Boyle. See Appendix																												
Presidents Report	Presented by Bridget Sullivan. Key points: • The 2023-24 year faced challenges due to council cost-saving measures and restructuring, impacting gallery staff and resources. • Despite challenges, the Friends supported vibrant activities, including: ○ Exhibitions ○ Artist meet-and-greet opportunities ○ Film festivals • Initiatives by the Friends Committee: • Committed \$3,000 annually for three years to the Artist in Residence programme. • Proposed investing \$24,000 into the Taranaki Foundation to generate annual returns for gallery support, requiring an additional \$16,000 in fundraising. • Several committee members, including the President and Chris Herlihy, are stepping down; their contributions were acknowledged. See Appendix																												
Election of Officers	The following nominations were made and seconded Friends of Govett-Brewster – 2024 Committee <table><tr><th>Nominee</th><th>Position</th><th>Proposed by</th><th>Seconded by</th></tr><tr><td>Nigel Jones</td><td>President</td><td>Carol Boyle</td><td>Agata Oleksiak</td></tr><tr><td>Agata Oleksiak</td><td>Vice President</td><td>Chris Herlihy</td><td>Di Brien</td></tr><tr><td>Agata Oleksiak</td><td>Secretary</td><td>Carol Boyle</td><td>Chris Herlihy</td></tr><tr><td>Agata Oleksiak</td><td>Treasurer</td><td>Bridget Sullivan</td><td>Chris Herlihy</td></tr><tr><td>Carol Boyle</td><td>Committee Member</td><td>Bridget Sullivan</td><td>Chris Herlihy</td></tr><tr><td>Rachel, Pari, Rebecca, Mary</td><td colspan="3">Various Committee Members</td></tr></table> Resolution Moved by Antony Rhodes, seconded by Bridget Sullivan.	Nominee	Position	Proposed by	Seconded by	Nigel Jones	President	Carol Boyle	Agata Oleksiak	Agata Oleksiak	Vice President	Chris Herlihy	Di Brien	Agata Oleksiak	Secretary	Carol Boyle	Chris Herlihy	Agata Oleksiak	Treasurer	Bridget Sullivan	Chris Herlihy	Carol Boyle	Committee Member	Bridget Sullivan	Chris Herlihy	Rachel, Pari, Rebecca, Mary	Various Committee Members		
Nominee	Position	Proposed by	Seconded by																										
Nigel Jones	President	Carol Boyle	Agata Oleksiak																										
Agata Oleksiak	Vice President	Chris Herlihy	Di Brien																										
Agata Oleksiak	Secretary	Carol Boyle	Chris Herlihy																										
Agata Oleksiak	Treasurer	Bridget Sullivan	Chris Herlihy																										
Carol Boyle	Committee Member	Bridget Sullivan	Chris Herlihy																										
Rachel, Pari, Rebecca, Mary	Various Committee Members																												

General Business	Membership Fees Reconfirmation to keep fees unchanged. Approval: Moved by Bridget Sullivan, seconded by Nigel Jones. Financial Signatories Update signatories as follows: - o Remove: Chris Herlihy and Bridget Sullivan - o Add: Agata Oleksiak, Nigel Jones, and Carol Boyle - o Retain: Three signatories, with two required to sign. Approval: Moved by Chris Herlihy, seconded by Di Brien. Patron's Role Discussion on the relevance of the patron role: - o Fiona Clark will continue as patron temporarily. - o Proposed revision of the trust deed to address the role and its impact. Approval: Moved by Mary Perrott, seconded by Bridget Sullivan. Investment Strategy Chris Herlihy discussed leveraging the Taranaki Foundation's fund for future gallery support. Suggested promoting this option for wider community engagement. Acknowledgments Bridget Sullivan thanked committee members, staff, and patrons for their contributions. Zara Stanhope expressed gratitude to Antony and Fran for their support.
	Meeting Adjourned: 7.21 PM Next Event: Informal BBQ in December to thank committee members.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2025

Overview

Overall, as at 30 June 2025, the Friends had:

- 201 financial subscriptions, and 25 non-financial subscriptions (members whose subscription had expired, and renewal notices had been sent).
- This amounted to 292 financial members, 335 including lapsed members.
- A number of memberships moved from double to single during the renewal process this year, potentially a reflection of tighter economic conditions.
- Renewal rates dropped slightly year on year – from 74% to 60%

Annual Memberships FY24-25

The Friends saw 73 new and renewing annual financial members pay subscriptions in the 2024-25 year, down 4 on last year, which was down 5 on the previous year.

Of these:

- 29 were new members and 44 were renewing members – a 60% renewal rate (down from 75% last year, but consistent with 2022-23, and well above the 34% renewal rate in 2021/22).
- 43 were single memberships, 27 were double/family, and 3 were students, marking a continued shift from double to single memberships.
- Members were based in the following locations
 - New Plymouth District 65
 - Online/not stated 3
 - Auckland 2
 - South Taranaki 1
 - Hamilton 1
 - Wellington 1

Life Memberships FY24-25

No longer offered as a membership tier, Life Memberships (formerly Members in Perpetuity) have remained consistent at 64 Double and 64 Single memberships. Life Membership subscriptions are held in an investment fund by the Friends, with the proceeds supporting operations and activities.

Membership management

Membership continued to be managed by the Gallery team this year, with very appreciated support from committee member Carol Boyle to compile and distribute the new and renewing member packs.

Due to multiple ways of joining and updating information, the membership process has not been as consistently seamless as hoped, but looking forward, the committee and gallery team are together exploring new tools to streamline the process and take some of the work out of the renewal process, noting that the gallery have fewer resources to support this function.

Antony Rhodes, Membership Officer, October 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW REPORT 2025

Year to 31 October 2025

Friends of the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery / Len Lye Centre Inc.

I'm pleased to report that the Friends remain in a stable financial position as at 31 October 2025. Our total assets sit at just under **\$34,000**, made up of approximately **\$10,000** in our operating account and **\$24,000** held in a term deposit. We have **no liabilities**, and although the current year shows a small deficit of around **\$1,400**, this reflects the timing of expenses rather than any structural issue with income or cash flow. Compared with last year, our overall position has dipped slightly—by less than **\$200**—but remains stronger than at the same time two years ago.

Last financial year, to 30 June 2024, we achieved a surplus of just over **\$4,000**, driven mainly by membership subscriptions and interest income, with very low operating costs and no major events expenditure. Our strong renewal rate of **75%** shows the value members place on staying connected, and it gives us a solid foundation for the year ahead.

Looking forward, we have two key financial priorities: first, continuing to honour our **\$3,000 per year** commitment to support the Artist in Residence programme; and second, working toward the longer-term goal of building a **\$50,000 investment fund** with the Taranaki Foundation, which would generate ongoing support for Gallery initiatives. With around **\$34,000** already on hand, we are well on the way, and a focused fundraising effort in 2026 could help us close that remaining gap.

Overall, the Friends remain in good financial health—conservative in spending, steady in income, and moving toward a more sustainable, future-focused funding model. Thank you to all members whose subscriptions, time, and support make this possible.

Executive summary

- Total assets at **31 Oct 2025: \$33,911.46** (TSB 00: **\$9,911.46**; Term Deposit: **\$24,000.00**). Total equity matches assets; **no liabilities recorded**. Year-to-date earnings: **-\$1,458.00**.
- Change vs **31 Oct 2024**: assets down **\$184.69** (from \$34,096.15). Change vs **31 Oct 2023**: assets up **\$883.52** (from \$33,027.94).
- Context (last completed year to **30 Jun 2024**): net surplus **\$4,008.50** on low operating costs (**\$87.51**), with income mainly from membership fees (**\$2,739.57**) and interest (**\$1,356.44**). Events income was **\$0** in 2024 (2023: \$4,291.96).

Financial position (as at 31 Oct 2025)

- **Cash & investments:**
 - TSB 00 **\$9,911.46**
 - TSB Term Deposit **\$24,000.00**
 - total assets **\$33,911.46.**
- **Equity:**
 - Retained earnings **\$35,369.46**
 - Current-year earnings **–\$1,458.00**
 - Total equity **\$33,911.46.**

Year-on-year movement

- **Oct 2025 vs Oct 2024:** Assets **–\$184.69** (34,096.15 → 33,911.46).
- **Oct 2025 vs Oct 2023:** Assets **+ \$883.52** (33,027.94 → 33,911.46).
- **Term deposit** stable at **\$24,000.00** across all three Oct checkpoints.

Performance context (FY ended 30 Jun 2024)

- **Income:**
 - Membership fees **\$2,739.57**
 - Interest **\$1,356.44**
 - Events **\$0** (vs **\$4,291.96** in 2023).
- **Expenses: \$87.51** (vs **\$14,826.25** in 2023), producing a **net surplus \$4,008.50**.
- **Bank at 30 Jun 2024:** total **\$35,894.84** (TSB 00 **\$11,894.84**, Term Deposit **\$24,000.00**).

Membership context (latest reported year FY23–24)

- **77** financial members; renewal rate lifted to **75%** (from **58%** the prior year), with majority in New Plymouth and nearby towns. This underpins membership-fee stability heading into 2025.

Commitments & strategic settings relevant to 2025

- **Artist in Residence support: \$3,000 p.a.** for **three years** approved (multi-year). Ensure provisioning in the 2025/26 budget.
- **Investment strategy under consideration:** build reserves to **\$50,000** with the **Taranaki Foundation** to target **~10%** annual return for Gallery priorities; as of Oct 2025 liquid funds total **\$33,911.46**, implying a fundraising gap of **~\$16,000** to reach the threshold.

Recommendations for 2026 planning

- **Cash stewardship:** Maintain the **\$24,000** term deposit until a formal endowment decision is approved; shop rates at rollover.
- **Targeted fundraising:** Launch a focused appeal in early 2026 to close the **~\$16k** gap to the **\$50k** endowment, aligning messaging with programme outcomes promised by the **~10%** annual return model.
- **Membership revenue:** Build on the **75%** renewal rate with a lapsed-member re-engagement stream and consider modest subscription adjustments at AGM (noting annual subscription-rate setting is on the agenda).

- **Events economics:** Re-introduce 1–2 **pre-sold**/low-risk events to diversify income while keeping costs predictable (given 2024’s low expense base and absence of event revenue).
- **A-in-R provisioning:** Ring-fence **\$3,000** for the Artist in Residence commitment in the FY26 budget and minute a drawdown schedule for transparency.

Review completed 03 November 2025

Agata Oleksiak
Treasurer

Balance Sheet

Friends of the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre Incorporated
As at 31 October 2025

	31 OCT 2025	31 OCT 2024	31 OCT 2023
Assets			
Bank			
TSB Bank 00 Account	9,911.46	10,096.15	9,027.94
TSB Bank Term Deposit 01	24,000.00	24,000.00	24,000.00
Total Bank	33,911.46	34,096.15	33,027.94
Total Assets			
	33,911.46	34,096.15	33,027.94
Net Assets			
	33,911.46	34,096.15	33,027.94
Equity			
Current Year Earnings	(1,458.00)	(1,798.69)	1,141.60
Retained Earnings	35,369.46	35,894.84	31,886.34
Total Equity	33,911.46	34,096.15	33,027.94

Performance Report

Entity Name

*Friends of Govett-Brewster Art Gallery / Len Lye Centre
Incorporated*

For the year ended

30/06/2025

Entity information

Entity Identifier

CC23415

Type of entity

Incorporated Society with Charitable Status

Entity's purpose or mission

To support and promote the interests of the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery / Len Lye Centre, encourage participation in funding towards events which support the audience of the gallery, encourage acquisitions of artworks for the gallery's collection and to advocate for the Gallery and its programmes within the Taranaki Reigon

Entity structure and governance arrangements

An incorporated society with a committee meeting to regularly arrange activities

Entity's main sources of funds and other resources

Annual membership fees

Entity's reliance on volunteers and donated goods or services

Direct mail to members for annual fees. Running occasional fund raising events.

Statement of Service Performance

What key activities did the charity do during the year?

Description of outputs (key activities)

Quantity of outputs
Current
year
Last year

Supporter Gallery ARO programme - donation	1	1
Developed program of Social Media Post to promote GBAG	31	24
Participated and promoted 10 Years of the Len Lye Centre, Supported Taranaki Arts Trail by offering members a bus trip	2	-

FINANCIAL INFORMATION**Statement of receipts and payments**

	Current year	Last year
Operating receipts (money deposited into the bank account)		
Donations, fundraising and grants	-	-
Fees and other receipts from members	2,135	2,739
Receipts from selling goods or providing services		
Bank account interest and other investment income	1,693	1,356
Other receipts		
Total receipts	3,828	4,095
Less operating payments (money withdrawn from you bank account)		
Fundraising costs		-
Payments to employees and volunteers		-
Payments related to providing goods or services		
Grants and donations paid	3,040	
Other payments	973	87
Total payments	4,013	87
Operating surplus/(deficit) for the year	-185	4,008
Plus opening total of all bank accounts and cash on hand	43,987	39,979
Closing total of all bank account balances and cash on hand	43,802	43,987

Performance Report**Entity Name***Friends of Govett-Brewster Art Gallery / Len Lye Centre Incorporated***For the year ended***30/06/2025***Statement of resources and commitments****Schedule of Resources**

Description of significant resource	Source of value (if applicable)	This year	Last year
Nil		-	-

Schedule of Commitments

Description of significant commitment	This year	Last year
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Nil	-	-
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Schedule of Other Information

Description of grant and its condition or restriction	This year	Last year
Nil	-	-

Notes

Basis of preparation

This Performance Report is prepared on a cash-basis in accordance with XRB's Tier 4 Simple Format Reporting Requirements. The charity is eligible to apply these requirements and has elected to do so.

Treatment of GST

All amounts are recorded on a GST inclusive basis

Related party transactions

*Provide a description of **significant** amounts received from or paid to related parties during the period (specify the amounts). If any services were provided for free by or to related parties during the period also describe these here. Related parties include anyone that has influence over the operations of the entity (for example, officeholders, committee members, trustees and senior management positions).*

Describe related party	Describe transaction	This year	Last Year
		-	-
		-	-

Events after the balance date

Nil

This performance report has been approved by those charged with governance.

Date _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Name _____

Position _____

Position _____

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2025

Introduction

As President of the Friends of the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery | Len Lye Centre, it is my privilege to present our Annual Report for 2025. This year has been one of steady progress, with refinements to our Friends processes and expanded benefits for our members.

Highlights of the Year

Support for the Artists in Residence Programme: You may recall that last year's AGM began with a talk and display of Kiti by Maureen Landur. Maureen was our first artist to be supported this year, and her exhibition was special. The Friends committed most of our annual budget to support this program, and it has certainly paid dividends.

Exclusive Friends' Tours: Our private Friends' tours prior to exhibition openings have proved very popular. I particularly appreciate the insights and context provided by the artists and curators, which help strengthen our connection to those we support through the Artists in Residence Programme.

Member Events: The committee has continued to organise events for members. In February, we celebrated Monica's birthday with an art-and-music event at the old Kriesler Homestead. More recently, we arranged a bus trip to support the Taranaki Arts Trail.

Operational Improvements: Smaller but important wins this year included refreshing the Friends banner and issuing EFTPOS cards to simplify minor transactions.

Review of the Term "Patron": At last year's AGM, our patron Fiona Clark questioned whether the term "Patron" remains relevant. Over the past year, we researched and consulted widely on the matter. While many might not view it as a pressing issue, the term historically implies financial sponsorship, which does not align with the role of our Friends patron. After thoughtful discussion, we have adopted the te reo Māori term "Hoa Hāpai", combining hoa (friend) and hāpai (to lift, raise, or support).

Looking Ahead

The coming year offers further opportunities to refine our processes. A key focus will be automating the Friends membership renewal system and verifying the accuracy of our contact database.

Strengthening our social media presence is also a priority, especially as our social media coordinator, Rebecca Johnstone, has moved on after contributing significantly during the past year.

Additionally, as an incorporated society, the Friends must renew our constitution. This is an involved process, and we plan to circulate a draft for consultation and ratification in the new year.

Acknowledgements

On behalf of the Friends, I extend heartfelt thanks to the staff of the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery | Len Lye Centre for their ongoing support and partnership.

I wish to acknowledge Antony, Fran, and Zara for hosting our meetings and championing our initiatives.

As we navigate what may be a challenging few years, maintaining a strong network of art advocates is vital. Let the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery and Len Lye Centre continue to be a vibrant, inclusive, and inspiring space for all.

Finally, my sincere thanks go to all the Friends for your continued commitment to the arts in Taranaki.

Nigel Jones
President,
Friends of the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery | Len Lye Centre

Dated: 4 November 2025

GALLERY DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2025

The last year was a successful one for the Gallery, with the ongoing support of our Friends making a positive difference.

We welcomed over 79,000 visitors to the gallery – well above our 72,000 target. Of these, almost 13,500 attended the Len Lye Centre Cinema, 4,000 came on a school visit, 300 attended a Monica Brewster Evening event, and 6,600 attended one of 79 other events and public programmes developed and delivered by our team. 14,255 of our visitors - 18 percent – were from out of town and paid to enter our Gallery.

We delivered seven exhibitions: *Without Centre Without Limits*, *Interlaced*, *Lalaga: Le Hui Fono*, *Motion Compositions*, *Stitching Solidarity*, *Direct Bodily Empathy*, *He Tukutuku Auahatanga: Maureen Lander with community*, with Friends having advance access to all for a mix of guided tours, talks and social occasions.

We added six new works to the Govett-Brewster Collection, welcomed three new sponsors to our partners, and delivered a total of 89 public engagement events.

Significant effort went into producing a book on the Len Lye Centre – available now with a Friend's discount - as well as celebrations for the Centre's 10th anniversary. It was great to see so many Friends – present and past – attend the performances by the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra in the Gallery at the end of August to mark this occasion.

I gratefully acknowledge the mahi and support of our Friends group, from the President and Committee who tirelessly advocate for the Members in Gallery conversations and the Gallery in the wider community, and the many Members who make Friends events so enjoyable.

I particularly want to thank the Friends for their direct programme support this year which enabled our artists in residence to spend more time in Ngāmotu, working with our team and our community. At a time when budgets across the board are tightening, wallets are staying firmly in pockets, and people are increasingly reluctant to put their hands up in defence of the Arts, this support has made a real and tangible difference.

And that is exactly what good Friends do: they build us up in the tough times and share the joy of the good times.

Dr Zara Stanhope,
Ringatohu Director,
Govett-Brewster Art Gallery | Len lye Centre

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Officer positions:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Membership officer
- Committee member (up to six)
- Govett-Brewster Art Gallery – Director/appointed substitute (ex officio with full voting rights)

GENERAL BUSINESS

- **Membership Fees**

Setting of annual subscription rates for membership tiers: Single, Double/Family, Student, Life Member (not presently offered). Current (2023-24 pricing):

- Single: \$40
- Double/Family: \$60
- Student: \$20