



# SECOND Nature

CHARITABLE  
TRUST



## COMMUNITY GOOD REPORT 2021





## OUR MISSION

Second Nature Charitable Trust inherently believes in 'achieve.' We are driven to achieve meaningful difference for our community, evidenced through a culture of setting goals every day, following through and offering opportunities for success. A culture where achieving can become 'second nature.'

We believe that everyone can, and has the right to, achieve – whether it be one small step, or many very remarkable ones. One step leads to the next on any scale.

Our Trust's facilities and programmes are designed and delivered to share and instil this culture into the youth of the wider community, so that setting goals, following through and achieving can become their 'second nature' too.

*Thank you for your support as this enables a platform for long term financial stability. It is this sustainability that creates subsidised access to the facilities and programmes which are designed to engage with our community inspiring them to set a goal, follow through and achieve.*

## KIA ORA

What a year! We all share the experience of how very testing the year 2020 has been.

At Second Nature Charitable Trust, we have adapted to do things differently and more efficiently during the lockdowns of the past year, and have discovered a new level of creativity, kindness, and resilience. We have never lost sight of our commitment to enhance the lives of our youth in South Auckland.

Arts organisations such as the Royal New Zealand Ballet, Atamira Dance Company, Pacifica Arts Centre, Storylines, and Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra worked hard with our team at Vodafone Events Centre and made best use of the resources and the situation. The Ministry of Education opened the opportunity for us to work in the digital arts and offer online content.

We worked with long time collaborator, Māori sand artist Marcus Winter and we were able to produce "Māori Myths with the Sandman," a sand art video series. Since schools were also looking for digital content and material during the lockdowns, it resulted in a massive response with the registration of more than 8,600 students. We also worked with two children's theatre companies, Tim Bray Productions and The Glow Show Company, to present two highly innovative educational shows to cater to the growing needs of our community's tamariki.

Vector Wero Whitewater Park's team worked closely with entities like Water Safety NZ, Aktive Auckland Sport & Recreation, CLM Community Sport and John Walker Find Your Field of Dreams to ensure that water safety sessions were successfully delivered and still met the highest health and safety standards during the pandemic. We ran the expanded "South Auckland Adventure Programme," a Trillian Trust sponsored activity for 2,500 people who are 13 yrs old and above, and who live or work in South Auckland to learn how to be safe around moving water.

Despite the pandemic, we served more than 44,700 children and young people through arts, culture, dance, and music programmes at the Vodafone Events Centre, and water safety and water-based challenges at Vector Wero. Schools and students accessed these either free of charge or with heavily subsidised rates.

These very encouraging results have been achieved due to the continued support of our sponsors, partners and the wider community during the challenging past year and, as always, we are very grateful.

**John Bongard ONZM**  
Chairman

**David Comery**  
CEO

## VODAFONE EVENTS CENTRE

In 2020, more than 32,400 students took part in creative arts programmes sponsored by the Vodafone Events Centre with the Trust investing over \$565,000 in cash and sponsorships.

Three quarters of last year was highly disrupted by the lockdowns and different alert levels. Along with the rest of New Zealand, we have experienced uncertainty, challenges and multiple cancellations.

As a Learning Experiences Outside the Classroom (LEOTC) partner of the Ministry of Education, we chose to continue delivering quality creative educational programmes. During the first lockdown, we worked with long time collaborator, Māori sand artist Marcus Winter, and immediately produced four sand art videos on Māori mythology. Since schools were looking for digital material to teach to their students online, it resulted in a massive response and the registration of 8,628 students. By the end of our contract year, we reached 233% of our attendance target.

When the Alert Levels allowed events with bigger audiences to be staged, our partners Glow Show Company and Tim Bray Productions

immediately proceeded with two live children's theatre shows. The former presented an original bilingual musical, Te Moana Glow Show, and the latter presented Greedy Cat, based on author Joy Cowley's much-loved early reader books.

We reorganised our regular programmes scheduled in the last quarter of the year. We worked with the Royal New Zealand Ballet in providing workshops for South Auckland schools. We also resumed the highly anticipated RNZB Ballet In a Box's standard show and its relaxed performance for children living with disabilities. Onehunga HS students created and filmed their dance project at the BNZ Theatre, and students once again enjoyed Dancing with Mythology workshops under the artistic guidance of Atamira Dance Company.

The Trust has also sponsored the major refurbishment of the Pou Kapua, the largest Māori and Pacific Pou/totem in the world at 24 meters high and weighing over 20 tonnes. The effort was led by the original team which installed the pou, Master Carver Wikuki Kingi Jnr. QSM and Tania Haarekitera Wolfgramm.

*Students enjoy learning how to tell Māori legends and stories through dance and movement at the Dancing with Mythology workshops led by Atamira Dance Company.*





*(Left) Students immersed themselves in our Experience Pacifica workshops as Pacifica Mamas and Papas shared their passion for the arts and culture of their homelands.*

*Marcus Winter, NZ's Sandman, mystified students with four Māori mythology videos he created as digital resources for schools. More than 8,600 students were registered to view the free-to-access stories online on [www.pacific.org.nz/maori-myths-by-the-sandman](http://www.pacific.org.nz/maori-myths-by-the-sandman)*

*Encouraged by this result, the Trust will proceed to create more digital programmes for educational and community use.*

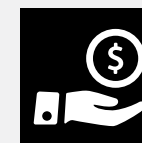


## VODAFONE EVENTS CENTRE STATISTICS 2020



**32,406**

STUDENTS ENGAGED IN EVENTS AND PROGRAMMES



**\$565,000**

TOTAL COMMUNITY GOOD VALUE



**47**  
SCHOOLS  
PARTICIPATED IN  
LEOTC  
PROGRAMMES



**11,245 STUDENTS**  
**233%**  
OF TARGET SET BY  
MINISTRY OF  
EDUCATION



**8,628**  
STUDENTS  
REGISTERED FOR  
ONLINE EDUCATIONAL  
RESOURCES



*RNZB held 32 workshops at seven South Auckland schools to give children the chance to learn alongside their peers.*



*The Royal New Zealand Ballet is dedicated to making dance accessible through its Ballet In a Box Programme. They also give opportunity for children and adults with autism spectrum disorders and other sensitivity issues or special needs to experience the world of ballet in a sensory-friendly environment.*





*(Top) The Manurewa Youth Council was presented the Group of the Year Award with Brittney Flavell (front row, first from left) recognised as the Young Person of the Year at the inaugural Auckland Youth Voice Awards 2020. The evening event was attended by 100 young people representing 13 Youth Voice Groups from Auckland.*



*"Greedy Cat sat by the big fridge door. Meow! Meow! Meow! He wanted more." Children were at the edge of their seats as New Zealand's most famous cat trotted on the BNZ Theatre's stage, presented by Tim Bray Productions. They also supported select schools through their Gift a Seat™ programme.*



*(Top) Sistema Aotearoa held two celebration performances featuring six orchestras and all of their tamariki who shared their music and talents to their whānau and the whole community.*

## COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIPS

The Trust annually sponsors over 110 events, festivals, concerts, conferences and programmes with full or subsidised rates for venue hire, equipment, labour, service fees and more. This valuable support allows event organisers to further focus their resources in the production and delivery of excellent events to our community.

## FUNFEST

Tens of thousands of people flock to the Vodafone Events Centre every January to celebrate the new year at Funfest, Auckland's only annual summer event with free entry, free parking, free rides and free prizes. The massive four-day festivity kicks off with an invitational day for children with special needs and their families and also hosts a family expo promoting well-being, health, education and careers.

The major event has steadily grown since it was held at the event centre in 2017. It has welcomed more than 44,000 guests in 2021, its highest number of visitors to date.



## POU KAPUA

The Trust is home to Pou Kapūa, the largest Māori and Pacific Pou/totem in the world at 24 meters high and weighing over 20 tonnes. The stories carved onto the Pou are based on Māori and Polynesian creation beliefs and legends and also reflect the stories of migration to Aotearoa New Zealand.

Schools visit the pou for educational purposes and more than 9,000 students who participated in our 'Dancing with Mythology' workshops have met at its base since it started in 2008.

The Trust sponsored its refurbishment in the first quarter of last year, which was delivered by a group headed by the original team that led in the installation of the pou, Master Carver Wikuki Kingi Jnr. QSM and Tania Haerekitera Wolfgramm.



### THE KITCHEN PROJECT

*South Auckland entrepreneurs and businesses grew and thrived under the Kitchen Project, a three-way partnership between Panuku Development Auckland, Auckland Unlimited and Healthy Families. With the assistance of Angela Dalton (Manurewa Local Board), its Manukau Programme was established and the Trust has sponsored a dedicated space at the event centre for its kitchen since 2019.*







## VECTOR WERO WHITEWATER PARK

The past year posed different and unique challenges for Vector Wero. The different social distancing requirements of each alert level meant that the rules of physical contact or riding a boat differed in each tier.

Our funding and delivery partners, including Water Safety NZ, Active Auckland Sport and Recreation, CLM Community Sport and John Walker Find Your Field of Dreams, understood the difficulty to operate within the environment, provided support, and extended our contract targets and delivery deadlines.

Once the alert levels allowed the facility to operate normally, there was a surge of demand for our activities which saw our October and November attendance figures surpass 2019's participation levels year-on-year.

Vector Wero and CLM Community Sport also expanded its "South Auckland Adventure Programme" to include adult men and women and help address the high drowning rates among Pacifica and Asian teenagers and adults. With funding from Trillian Trust, it was designed so that the sessions could be experienced together by community groups and whānau, which will then locally help reinforce the message.


By year end, more than 12,300 students attended our programmes due to the Trust investing close to \$764,000 in sponsorships and subsidies.


Participants learned theory and instructions, and applied what they learned in actual river crossing scenarios in our drowning prevention programmes. These programmes were delivered in partnership with Water Safety NZ and Trillian Trust.



More than 2,200 children took kayaking lessons with the support of Active - Auckland Sport & Recreation's Regional KiwiSport Fund and the Counties Manukau Local KiwiSport Fund through CLM Community Sport.

## VECTOR WERO WHITEWATER PARK STATISTICS 2020

 **107**  
**SCHOOLS**  
ATTENDED FREE  
OR SUBSIDISED  
PROGRAMMES

 **12,368**  
**STUDENTS**  
ATTENDED FREE  
OR SUBSIDISED  
PROGRAMMES

 **\$763,807**  
TOTAL  
COMMUNITY  
GOOD VALUE

## HIGHLIGHTS



### Vodafone Events Centre

- More than 32,400 children and young people attended or participated in events, programmes, competitions, concerts, graduations, and other activities held at the venue.
- The Schools Programme's Learning Experiences Outside the Classroom (LEOTC) workshops and events are FREE and participated by over 11,200 students from almost 50 schools mostly from the Auckland region. The total number of students is 233% of the target set by the Ministry of Education. (Based on LEOTC Contract Year January to December 2020).
- We contributed to Māori achieving educational success and lifting Pasifika students' achievement and performance. We are the only venue offering regular performing arts workshops and activities delivered by professional Māori artists and artisans using Te Reo for instruction.
- We provided customised experiences for children and adults with autism spectrum disorders and special needs.
- Community Good value is more than \$565,000.

### Vector Wero Whitewater Park

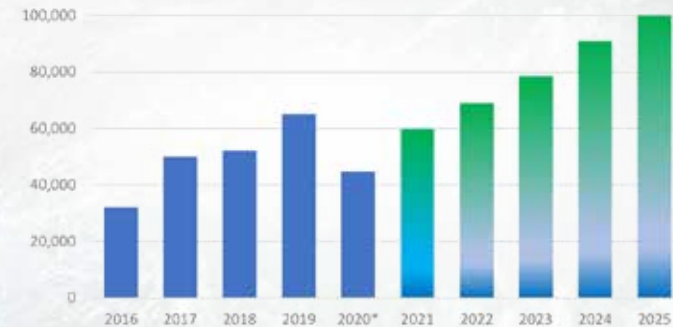
- Over 12,300 students from almost 110 schools have joined our white water and water safety programmes delivered in partnership with Water Safety NZ, Active Auckland Sport & Recreation, CLM Community Sport, John Walker Find Your Field of Dreams and other organisations.
- We delivered a South Auckland Drowning Prevention Programme for 2,500 men and women from the Pasifika and Asian communities with special funding from Trillian Trust.
- Customised activities for paraplegic/disabled people are always on offer.
- Community Good value is more than \$763,000.



## THE CHALLENGE

The Trust is focussed and committed to annually serving 100,000 children and young people by 2025 through events, the creative arts, white water and outdoor activities, water safety programmes, leadership development and sports.

Join our Trust, whānau and communities and take the challenge!



\* Participation decreased due to Covid-19 pandemic

The lock down restrictions didn't stop the students and teachers at Onehunga HS to collaborate with emerging artists and the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, and to film their dance project. Dancing to a classical and remixed music of Beethoven, they presented their creation online on [Vimeo.com/480537457](https://vimeo.com/480537457).

The Trust has sponsored projects based on similar digital trends which it will further develop in the next five years.

## MOMENTUM HUB



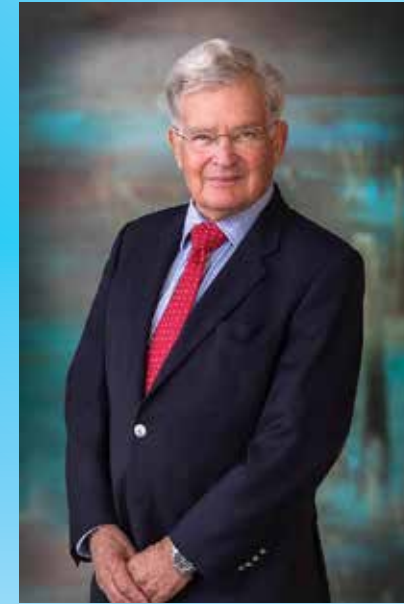
In 2019, the Momentum Hub Leadership Academy was founded to offer an insightful approach to leadership development as well as personal and professional well-being in a safe learning environment. Mursheen Khan of Al-Madinah School says “my experience in the academy was an epic journey where I learned to embark on the path to my leadership skills while also focusing on my spiritual, mental, and social well-being.”

The Momentum Hub is the container village located within Vector Wero Whitewater Park that is home to Not for Profit Organisations such as Big Buddy Foundation, CLM Community Sport, Hillary Outdoors, iSport Foundation, John Walker Find Your

Field of Dreams, Life Education Trust, Manukau Beautification Charitable Trust, The Rising Foundation, Tāwai Takapiri Connect Futures NZ, YMCA North and Canoe Slalom New Zealand’s Auckland headquarters.



*Olathe Taulanga (centre) of Mangere College and a participant of the Momentum Hub Leadership Academy was interviewed by Jenny-May Clarkson (left) on TV One’s Breakfast and discussed the difficulties and choices she faced as a consequence of the lockdown.*



## SIR NOEL ROBINSON KNZM PATRON

In June 2020, our Founding Chairman, Sir Noel Robinson KNZM, stepped down from the Board of Trustees to enjoy his retirement. Sir Noel’s vision to provide South Auckland with a place of learning, challenge and success has been well achieved through the establishment of the Vodafone Events Centre, the Vector Wero Whitewater Park and the Momentum Hub.

He relentlessly pursued national and local government approvals, consents and partnerships. His strong relationship with iwi coupled with corporate sponsorships has resulted in a world class facility that continues to grow in commercial excellence and to invest in programmes that benefit youth and community.

The Board invited Sir Noel to take up a new role as Patron of the Trust. Whilst standing down from the day to day responsibilities as Chair, he was delighted to remain involved as Patron.

Sir Noel has entrusted the legacy to longstanding Board Member John Bongard ONZM who has taken up the Chairmanship.



## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Second Nature Charitable Trust  
Proud custodians of Vodafone Events  
Centre and Vector Wero Whitewater  
Park on behalf of the community.

770 Great South Rd, Manukau 2104  
[www.secondnature.org.nz](http://www.secondnature.org.nz)



Every time you use our facilities  
you help support our youth  
through our water safety and  
creative arts programmes.

**ONE** of yours will make a  
difference **FOR ONE** of ours.