



Kaipātiki
Project



TE PŪRONGO Ā-TAU
Annual Report 2021

Photo by *Pete Forrest*

RĀRANGI UPOKO

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tamore mātou**

**No reira, tēnā koutou,
tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou
katoa.**

This pepeha was kindly gifted to Kaipātiki
Project by Matua Pat Ruka.

Formed in 1998 in Auckland's North, Kaipātiki Project is recognised as an innovator, trusted to lead by example and pilot/demonstrate new ways of working and living that help drive systemic change through world class thinking and delivery. Embracing Te Ao Māori, we partner with mana whenua and mataawaka Māori to understand how mātauranga Māori can improve environmental outcomes for the area and incorporate this into our work. We are known for providing lifelong learning opportunities for regenerative environment and sustainable living. We do this by creating more opportunities to share knowledge across our diverse communities; workshops, courses, hands-on-ecology, volunteering, internships, EcoFest North & community events, online & social media platforms, mentor/umbrella fledgling groups, project collaboration and partnerships, membership to local and national networks and strengthening Iwi relationships.

The nursery operates at sites in Birkdale and Hobsonville Point to produce an extensive range of native plants with 80+ species to enhance biodiversity. We grow 45k plants annually, all from eco-sourced seeds from the Tāmaki Ecological District, to help restore the bush for our native birds, animals and plants, and remove carbon from the atmosphere. Eskdale is our tūrangawaewae - our home

- from which we support the Iwi, Hapū & Community Nurseries network, and facilitating, enabling and upskilling 40+ nurseries across Tāmaki Makaurau.

The Regeneration Team facilitate activities year-round in local reserves that contribute to Predator Free 2050, the reduction of invasive weed species and improving native eco-systems. Our Stream Care programme supports local goals by providing regular freshwater monitoring and contributing data on progress. The team has grown in the last year introducing two new part-time coordinators to increase delivery in these programmes.

The Teaching Garden and Community Compost Hub, continue to develop a circular process sustainable edible garden - improving soil fertility, planting strong seeds, maintaining plant health organically to produce nutrient dense food, harvesting and sharing this abundance with community, saving seeds for the next growing season, and working to the environmental conditions.

The Zero Waste Hub Northcote serves the community through education, support and collaboration with a focus on achieving the goal of Zero Waste 2040 in the Northcote town centre and surrounding residential and business area.

Achieving our strategy requires us to work boldly within and across sectors: we work collaboratively where possible and appropriate, working together to grow our impact for a sustainable future for people and nature.

Kaipātiki Project plays a vital role to support, engage and enable our community and volunteers to participate in regenerative environment and sustainable living activities that support overall wellbeing, bringing communities together, enhancing skills and creativity and building a sense of pride. We engage with intent, to work with a diverse range of volunteers, members, partners, funders, supporters, collaborators, donors and participants.

Photo by *Edin Whitehead*

TĒNĀ KOUTOU NĀ TE TOIHAU
ME TE TUMUAKI

Greetings from the Chair and the Manager

Kia kaha, kia māia, kia manawanui – Be strong, be bold, and keep going!

Navigating lockdowns and level changes have really shaken us up. Our ideas of how we work, the things we take for granted about being safe and our expectations, have all taken a knock. Fires, floods, earthquakes... our assumptions about our ability as humans to control what happens has been reality-checked. And the reality is us humans are not separate from the planet. People are part of the planet. What we do, we do to ourselves. And right now, we can change what we do and how we do it to grow a sustainable future for people and nature – a future that is abundant, networked, regenerative – for everyone.

This year, Kaipātiki Project, along with everyone, learned what resilience means. Thank you to those who set strong foundations for the organisation, so this year we could be strong, be bold, and keep going. Thank you to our Board who have provided leadership; to our staff – you have been passionate, stepped up, supported each other and our volunteers, and continued to innovate and grow. Thank you to all the many volunteers for your cheerfulness, your enthusiasm, skilled and thoughtful contributions, and your trust in us. We might feel overwhelmed at times as individuals; as an organisation we together keep standing strong, communicating, and making it happen! We're part of unprecedented growth in the environmental movement, and we have worked hard this year to translate that to impacts for people and nature.

We have worked hard to build our capability in Te Reo Māori and Tikanga, and learn about Te Tiriti o Waitangi, to develop a fit-for-purpose relationship with mana whenua, support engagement with Mataawaka Māori, and support creating space for Māori voices and leadership. We are proud to be partnering in the Iwi, Hapū and Community Nurseries Network to support growing capability for increased impact across Tāmaki Makaurau. We thank mana whenua for your ongoing generosity, and ngā mihi nui for your contributions to the new Learning & Experience Hub design process, leading the dawn blessing to mark the beginning of deconstruction, paving the way for our green hub to open in 2022.

Our inclusivity drive heralded the Pasifika volunteering programme, and our partnership with Office of Ethnic Communities supported tremendously successful workshops, where we learnt as much as the participants, now firm friends of Kaipātiki Project.

Another pou to grow the future we want together is innovation – beyond BAU. We are intentionally developing new models and seeking out partners with shared values as a basis for building joint ventures and collaborations. This year, we found success in enterprise

and innovation – reflected in EcoBank panel selection as certified providers for offset stream restoration, and participation in a Zero Waste Network consortium. The opening of the Zero Waste Hub Northcote created a space for local people to create new solutions. Completing the Eskdale nursery and garden relocation sets us up for new successes there.

We have been humbled by the nominations and awards we have received this year and we thank all our partners and funders as we go forward into a bold future. Thank you to Kaipātiki Local Board for your long-time support for the Kaipātiki Project vision from our home of Eskdale Reserve, as we partner to help achieve our shared outcomes.

**CHARMAINE
BAILIE**
Chairperson



**JANET
COLE**
Manager



Our Vision

Kaipātiki Project is an innovative eco-hub growing a sustainable future for people and nature.

Our Strategic Focus

- Embrace Te Ao Māori
- Lifelong learning for sustainability
- Drive systemic change
- A resilient and financially viable enterprise

Our Values

Manaakitanga

The practice of welcome & access and inclusivity across operations.

Whanaungatanga

Developing relationships, connections & belonging.

Kaitiakitanga

Developing shared caring for and responsibility to local place.

Our Principles

- **Honour** Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- **Seek** authenticity of local place
- **Act** with transparency

This framework underpins all of our work for people and nature.

TO MĀTOU RŌPU

Meet Our Team

Volunteer Board



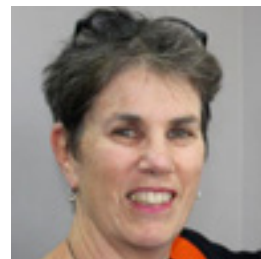
CHARMAINE BAILIE
Chairperson

Charmaine grew up just down the road from the Kaipātiki Project centre and has been involved since 2000 in many different roles. Charmaine is also a Director of Uru Whaakaro Ltd - a natural heritage management company specialising in traditional and experimental restoration.



CERASELA STANCU
Deputy Chairperson

Cerasela joined the Board in October 2016. She has had senior roles in environmental NGOs in her native Romania and in Hungary and the wider EU. Here in New Zealand, she has led sustainability and impact investment programmes at Fonterra and Landcare Research and is now a consultant sustainability strategist at EnviroStrat.



JENNY CHILCOTT
Board Member

Jenny has been on the Board since July 2016. Her background is in community-led development and engagement, she also worked at Auckland Council as a strategic advisor on waste, and is currently national Urban Ngāhere lead for Kainga Ora.



HILARY CHIDLOW
Board Member

Hilary joined the Board in October 2018. She has over 22 years' experience as Manager, Education for Sustainability at Auckland Council.



NIGEL GREEN
Board Member

Nigel joined the Board in October 2018. He has worked as a Manager in the Social Profit sector since 1993, and has broad experience in all aspects of management with a particular focus on developing and supporting community.



BEN SHEERAN
Board Member

Ben is an experienced resource management policy planner, environmental economist and project manager. He brings over 15 years' experience in the practical application of sustainability and is actively involved in local community conservation.

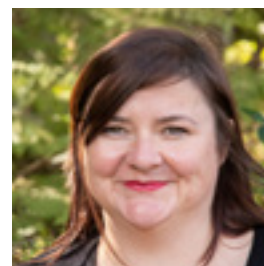
Operations



JANET COLE
Manager



SANDRA ATKINS
Operations Manager



JOANNE KYRIAZOPOULOS
Grants & Impact Specialist

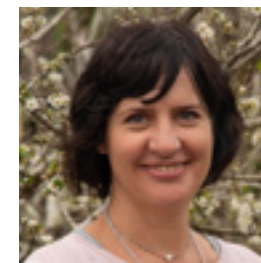


IRINA ZGOBA
Cleaner

Education, Communication & Events



SAM TU'ITAHİ
Kaitakawāenga Hāpori / Community Activator



BLANKA ROS
Marketing Strategist



DALIDA SEMENOVA
Digital Media & Communications Co-ordinator

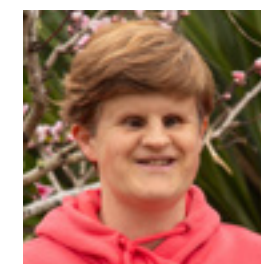


SAMANTHA GEMMELL
Education for Sustainability Programmer

Regenerative Environments



DEREK CRAIG
Restoration Nursery Manager



CRYSTAL ASTON
Nursery Assistant



NEIL HENDERSON
Kaiwhakahaere Taiao / Restoration Activator



TAKUTAI MOANA WATTS
Kaiawhina Kaitiaki / Restoration Assistant



MARIA VALKOVA
Restoration Group Co-ordinator



AMBER DE BOER
Freshwater Activator



BRETT STANSFIELD
Freshwater Ecologist (contractor)

Sustainable Living



JUDITH ROSAMUND
Teaching Garden Co-ordinator



ANNA SHAW
Administration Assistant & Compost Collective Co-ordinator



ROBYN FORRYAN
Para Kore Zero Waste Activator

TO MĀTOU PĀNGA Our Impact

2021		2020	% change
44,959	eco-sourced, chemical-free native plants grown (88 species)	41,760	↑ 8%
123	nursery & teaching garden regular volunteers	147	↓ -16%*
5,850	nursery & teaching garden regular volunteer hours	4,621	↑ 27%
75	bush restoration and planting days	39	↑ 92%
830	restoration volunteers	709	↑ 17%
3,554	restoration volunteer hours	2,750	↑ 29%
8,400	kg of pest plants removed	662	↑ 1,169%
14	stream sites monitored (276 stream care participants)	7	↑ 100%
1,632	participants across 110 educational workshops & events	1,422	↑ 15%
6,081	Compost Collective workshop participants across 436 workshops	6,012	↑ 1%
419	tonnes of waste diverted	522	↓ -20%**
32,978	website visits (4,451 Facebook followers)	30,827	↑ 7%

*Due to COVID restrictions and limitations on gathering we needed to manage volunteer numbers, resulting in a reduced number of regular volunteers allowed on premises. We also ran a reduced number of volunteer sessions due to lockdowns. However, once we were in Level 1, we welcomed a record number of volunteers to our weekly sessions, and the volunteers working with us spent more hours volunteering.

**The reason for a drop in diverted waste explained on page 29.

TO PUTEA Financial Overview

At a Glance

Income \$1,183,922		Net Position \$67,151
Direct Costs \$759,695	Operational Costs \$357,076	
Assets \$632,215		
Liabilities \$370,174	Net Assets \$262,041	

Building on our growth in 2020, we have continued our focus toward high-value delivery, particularly in growing the projects that are core to our heart, our strategy, and our community. This has resulted in the securing of multi-year funding to previous year levels, while retaining proportionate and diversified contract and project specific work. Continuing cost management and recovery has helped us realise a surplus that allows us to rebuild reserves necessary for financial stability of an organisation growing both impact and employment, and in line with governance and management priorities anticipated in the years ahead. We are pleased, despite disrupted delivery, that our recovery of operational costs remains high at a level of approx. 75%.

A Resilient and Financially Viable Enterprise

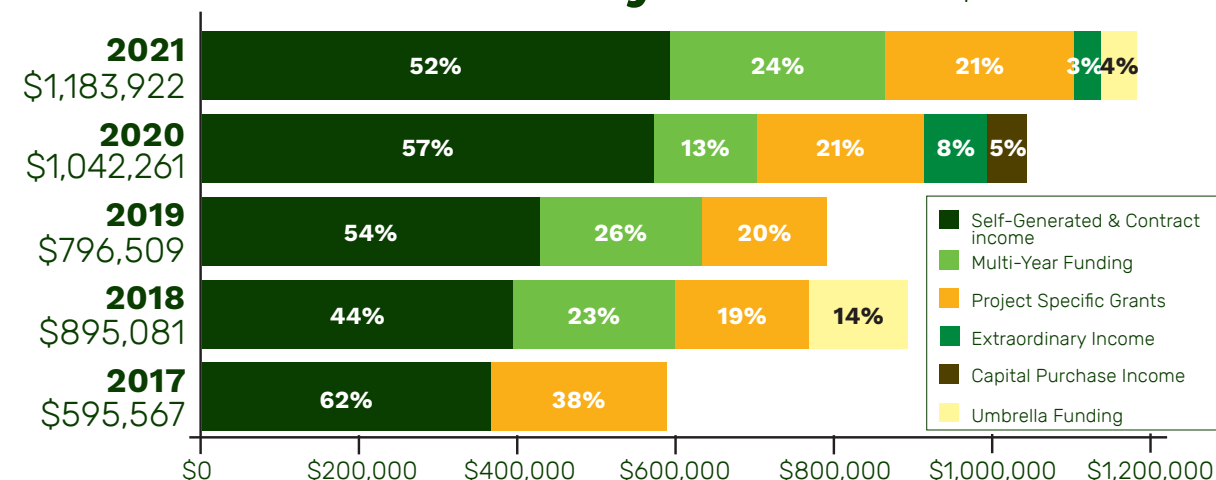
By focusing on core project areas, we look to build value

and resilience for our communities and our own financial sustainability. Consolidation and growth in contracts and multi-year partner funding respectively, has helped Kaipātiki Project realise a measure of employment security and stepped-up responsive delivery by:

- Deepening our delivery impact across all programmes and engagement with mana whenua.
- Growing our capability and capacity in stream and coastal margins work through partnerships.
- Developing the capacity of our native plant nursery to support the regeneration of the landscape matrix across public and private land.
- Taking new opportunities with funders to respond to community needs highlighted by instability (eg food resilience).
- Growing our contract work in Para Kore / Zero Waste and regenerative environment projects/programmes.
- Continuing successful fundraising initiatives such as Gift a Tree.
- Strengthening our annual membership and donor base.

2021 saw the ongoing challenge of COVID-19 lockdowns demanding modified delivery. We continue to meet objectives through adaptation in changing conditions and the execution of some well-used plans to committed community involvement in the realisation of local environmental and sustainability outcomes.

Income Sustainability - Shows 2017-2021 split of income



TE WHAKAHAU MO TE MAI
O TE TAU

Innovating for a Sustainable Future

Being aware that we need to do things differently, is not the same as knowing what needs to change. At Kaipātiki Project, we are intentionally focusing on exercising our innovation muscles. From the Board to each programme, and with volunteers and participants, we are asking: How do we work with Earth's systems? What would Papatūānuku think? How can we grow the wairua in this work? Each innovation experience is reinforcing for us that taking just one step can open the door to transformative possibilities.

When kauri dieback was threatening to shut down much of our biodiversity work, we approached Council to propose a collective approach to support and upskill for – impact native plant nurseries for better hygiene practices. Starting small, through one conversation at a time, this has become the Iwi, Hapū and Community Nurseries Network, led by our Chair Charmaine Bailie in a partnership between Kaipātiki Project and Uru Whakaaro. Activities now include workshops on seed collection, setting up a nursery, and shared provision for raranga, rongoā, regeneration and more. With 40+ nurseries, we are growing a healthy future!

When Kaipātiki Project started working to create a fit-for-purpose home building, more than 10 years ago, we knew we needed to model sustainability in its creation. Being

resident in a damp, drafty building was not a great setting to be creative and effective. The team back then reached out to the Living Building Challenge and created a vision for achieving a development that would create positive environmental benefits through reducing carbon, producing more water and energy than it used, as well as supporting urban agriculture and natural systems. Although that design did not go ahead, when the Kaipātiki Local Board agreed to redevelop the EcoHub at 17 Lauderdale Road, these Living Building principles have been retained in the design and development process. It started with materials deconstruction to minimise waste and will be seen in the building through framing that minimises contamination, and a design that enhances passive heating, and reduces demand so that, combined with solar power, it will produce more energy than it uses. We can't wait to welcome everyone to share in nature's revival when we can come home to the new EcoHub in 2022!



The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are an urgent call for action by all countries in a global partnership, designed to be “A blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all people and the world by 2030”. Kaipātiki Project is committed to taking innovative steps to implement local programmes and collaborative solutions that align with SDGs and support this ambitious global framework, and in September 2021 Kaipātiki Project signed the SDG Declaration: a commitment to the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals in Aotearoa. The SDG Declaration recognises the urgent need to foster collaboration and support pathways towards the SDGs in Aotearoa, with Te Tiriti o Waitangi underpinning our actions.

Awards & Recognition

Finalist in Sustainable Business Awards 2021

(Winners announced in November 2021):

- Charmaine Bailie – Sustainability Superstar
- Kaipātiki Project – Social Impactor

Finalist in Tāmaki Makaurau Zero Waste Awards 2021:

Hobsonville Community Compost Hub – Growing the Movement

Winner in LGFA Taituarā Excellence Awards 2021:

Eke Panuku Development for The Ara Awataha Project – Environmental Leadership

Joint Winner in Charity Reporting Award 2021:

Kaipātiki Project – Sustainability Reporting

Case study in Commonwealth Sustainable Cities in 2021:

Te Ara Awataha Project for its role in sustainable good practice on the 'Commonwealth Sustainable Cities' website.

Case study in Te Mana o te Taiao – Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020:

Te Ara Awataha Project for its multi-stakeholder collaborative approach delivering on mana whenua aspirations.



Winner in Upper Harbour Local Board Environment Award 2021:
Engine Bay Plant Nursery



Mayoral Conservation Awards 2020:

- Te Ara Awataha Project – Winner in the Collaboration category
- EcoFest North – Finalist in the Triumph Against Adversity category



WHAKATINANA TE AO MĀORI Embracing Te Ao Māori

Kaipātiki Project embraces programme and project partnerships with mana whenua as an opportunity to manifest Te Tiriti partnership on the ground. Our practice across the organisation is deepening, reflected in developing the Te Ara Awataha restoration project to realise mana whenua aspirations, as articulated in Take Mauri Take Hono cultural health indicator framework. We have developed a Māori Responsiveness Plan, which sets targets for Te Tiriti training and Te Reo and Tikanga programmes for our team, including volunteers, tutors and partners. Progress so far has seen growing confidence develop among the team, with increasing support for mana whenua in co-design and management opportunities. These partnerships are about viewing sustainability with a whakapapa lens, and with a long-term view, setting the foundations for best practice that will build increased resilience and sustainability over time.

We have continued the journey of learning Te Reo Māori and tikanga with Kaiako Lani Ormsby. The classes were open to our team, volunteers and local partners Pest Free Kaipātiki, Habitat Hobsonville and Upper Harbour Ecology Network. These workshops increase our confidence to use te reo everyday as well as fostering our collective sense of understanding and support of Māori aspirations in our work. The inclusion of local partners has been a positive experience to further our shared practices in tikanga as well as encouraging engagement with mana whenua and mataawaka.

Te Ara Awataha Mauri Framework

Kaipātiki Project are supporting the delivery of Te Ara Awataha – an ecological spine through the heart of Northcote. Funded by Eke Panuku, Auckland Council's Healthy Waters Department, and Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities, this initiative has been developed in partnership with iwi mana whenua Tāmaki Makaurau. Further, to this partnership close collaboration with the wider Auckland Council whānau, the Kaipātiki Local Board, Kaipātiki Community Facilities Trust, local schools, Northcote Business Association, a Community Reference Group and community volunteers throughout the development and delivery of the project. The main focus of the project is to bring the mauri back to the historic Awataha Stream, which is currently largely piped and underground. Early work has involved improving water quality and allowing the green corridor to be a habitat for microbes, birds, insects and tuna once more.



Te Ara Awataha is a key project that will revitalise and regenerate a degraded natural taonga providing environmental benefits to a growing urban population.

Early in the project iwi mana whenua developed Take Mauri Take Hono a mauri indicator framework. Kaipātiki Project is using a whole systems approach to regeneration to deliver on the aspirations outlined in Take Mauri Take Hono. This framework will boost the mauri of the stream, improve its water quality and allow it to become a healthy habitat for native flora and fauna once more. It will also reconnect the community with a lost environmental taonga.

The primary aim of the Jessie Tonar Regenerative Plan is to inform implementation of the Take Mauri Take Hono tool within the Jessie Tonar Scout Reserve site through a multi-dimensional framework that includes:

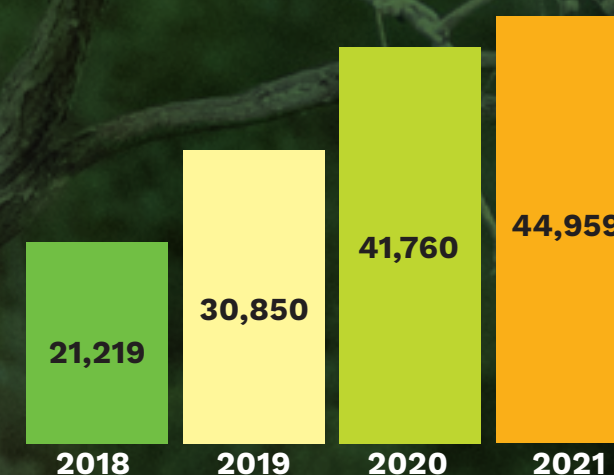
- Aho Taiao – Kia kōrero te whenua: the land speaks, is protected and enhanced
- Aho Taiao – Ngā Karekare o te wai: the water speaks
- Aho Tangata – E tipu e rea: growing with nature
- Aho Toi: community pride and ownership

TE NGAHERE Regenerating Nature

“

I love learning about native plants, and am fascinated by different seeds we grow and that we are contributing to restoring native bush of Auckland. I also enjoy the company of fun, intelligent and enthusiastic people and amazing staff.” Nursery Volunteer

Regenerating nature is vital if we are to tackle climate change and indigenous species extinction, as well as secure a positive future for everyone. Healthy ecosystems are a powerful and effective way to develop climate and community resilience, and safely absorb greenhouse gas emissions. They are a fundamental source of health and wellbeing for our people, and our planet. We recognise the climate emergency as the defining issue of our time. That's why we have continued to give climate change, biodiversity threats and waste the sustained attention and prominence they demand. We also recognise that these threaten to entrench inequality, so we seek to work in a way that enables our whole community to build a movement and act for just change together.

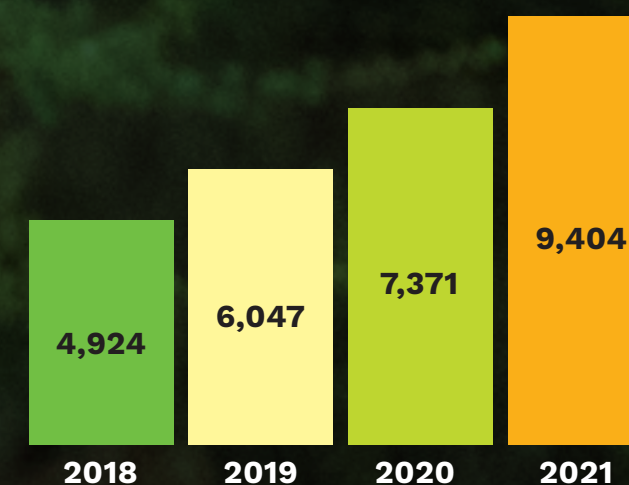


native plants grown
since 2018

138,788

27,746

volunteer hours since 2018
valued at **\$631,221**
based on NZ living wage
at \$22.75 per hour



Exemplar Biodiverse Native Plant Nursery

A complex and busy year in our nurseries at Birkdale and Hobsonville Point as eco-sourced seeds from the Tāmaki Ecological District were used to grow an extensive range of native plants from shrubs, trees, climbers, to ground cover as well as a mix of pioneering and canopy species, understory, and wetland plants.

The nursery rebuild at Birkdale was a major feature of our year. A new pad has been built to house two storage containers, a new potting area, temporary office space and plant stand-out area. New garden beds were added, and compost bins moved. A huge volunteer effort saw an arched roof installed between the two new containers offering an improved protected working area for our nursery volunteers. We soon had the new pad full of plants as plant production increased.

The old site had to be emptied of all plants and equipment as we prepared for demolition. We were able to remove much of the hard infrastructure right down to cobble stones to be repurposed on our new site. The old office demolition and loss of power to the automatic irrigation for a few weeks coincided with a polar blast that gave us two years' worth of frosts in ten days. Rendering some plants unfit for sale just as they were being prepared for delivery, such are the foibles of running a nursery. We continue to grow over 80 different native plants with several more species being added to fill in specialist areas, such as Pukatea for wetlands.



We are very proud to have our Engine Bay Nursery volunteers in Hobsonville Point, recognised by the Upper



Harbour Local Board for their environmental contribution to the local community, while also celebrating its 10th birthday.

COVID-19 lockdowns added to the difficulties in operating the nurseries, unable to get out and collect seeds poses problems for supply in the future. Though volunteer hours have remained high as members of the community flocked to Kaipātiki Project to do something useful in their neighbourhood. This posed interesting logistical problems, such as having enough chairs to sit on at morning tea! The move to our temporary office in the nursery has been met with enthusiasm by our volunteers as having morning tea out next to the forest (always in sunshine too) has been a joyous experience.

We have had a bumper year of supplying plants to restoration groups and local schools as more people are keen to improve their local environment. There has been increased contact with larger projects from government and council as they look for the specialist plants unavailable in commercial nurseries.

Regeneration of Local Ngahere Eskdale Reserve Network

Our restoration activities in the local ngahere, the Eskdale Reserve Network, continue unabated, despite the disruptive effects of ongoing track upgrades, COVID-19 lockdowns and the demolition of our adjacent Eco-Hub building. We identified eight key sites removing weed pest species like giant reed, running bamboo, and kahili ginger. We have enhanced native biodiversity at these sites with infill planting. Much of our work this year has been maintaining new plantings through weeding and mulching as well as creating new areas for additional planting.

A focus site this year has been at the new track entrance to the reserves near Domain Road, Glenfield. With assistance from community volunteers, corporate groups and the very consistent efforts of the City Mission Street Guardians group, we have; removed tonnes of invasive weeds, completely mulched the site, planted almost 800 natives and undertaken much needed cleaning and maintenance of the large harakeke plantation at the reserve edge. Nearby, a huge pile of inorganic refuse- left deep in the bush, was carefully packed up into large wool bales and airlifted out by helicopter, courtesy of RAM Construction, working nearby on the track upgrades. All regenerative work completed in time for the new track opening.

We established two new pest animal lines in the reserve network. These new lines are part of our increased understanding of the impact of animal pests like rats on cryptic shore birds like banded rails. Community education continues to be a big element of our work, with our restoration course focused on migrants from a range of ethnic backgrounds and weed identification workshops run in collaboration with Pest Free Kaipātiki. A highlight of our Ethnic Communities Restoration course was that some of the participants continued to volunteer with Kaipātiki Project after the course was completed and one participant has now become an employed member of our Restoration Team.

Te Ara Awataha

Now into our third year of Te Ara Awataha, Jessie Tonar Scout Reserve restoration project, our monthly volunteer days and visits by corporate groups and the Street Guardians have focused on extensive clearance of invasive weeds like Jasmine, Plectranthus, Blue Spur Flower and Shrub Balsam from the further reaches of the site. We have carried out heavy mulching of previous plantings and planted over 800 natives in the 2021 season. This was an opportunity for mana whenua to contribute native plants from their own community nurseries including 250 plants from the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Nursery at Pourewa. Highlights from Te Ara Awataha project include an onsite meeting with mana whenua representatives who were able to see our progress and share their thoughts and suggestions for future focus, and recognition for the initiative at the Auckland Mayoral Conservation Awards 2020 and LGFA Taituarā Excellence Awards 2021.

Upper Waitematā

Building from our base at Kaipātiki Project's native plant nursery in Engine Bay, Hobsonville Point, we are actively involved through local collaboration with some exciting restoration work in the Upper Waitematā Harbour area. Kaipātiki Project continues to mentor, support and umbrella the Upper Harbour Ecology Network (UHEN) and Habitat Hobsonville to support these entities to seek additional funding and increase





capability and capacity for regenerative environment projects in the Upper Waitematā area.

In collaboration with Habitat Hobsonville, we have extended pest animal trapping in Scott Point and Limeburners Bay, and undertaken large native plantings at Scott Point with 2,500 plants. A wider collaboration with the UHEN has focused on the 'Rail Trail' project aimed at protecting Banded Rails in the Upper Waitematā, we supported the establishment of regular bird monitoring at Hobsonville Point, including the monitoring of Banded Dotterels while they roost and nest.



At West Harbour Marina Reserve, we established and trained a core group of local residents who volunteer during weeding bees and planting days and manage pest animal lines at this degraded and heavily weed infested wetland. To date, the project led to the clearance of massive infestations of Japanese Honeysuckle, pampas, and large areas of poplar and other large weed pest species along the Marine Reserve edge. We have now begun habitat enhancement with mulching and native planting.

Waipapa Stream

Kaipātiki Project continues work in the Waipapa Stream site in Parnell Gully, on behalf of the Waitematā Local Board. This year's focus was on establishing new volunteer groups to maintain and extend the regeneration areas along the Waipapa Stream and establish regular stream monitoring. We have regular volunteer participation from Jasmax, a local business, Conservation Volunteers and more recently, interest from local university students. We have a dedicated group undertaking stream water testing every month and reporting on this to the Wai Care site.

We rely on the support and hands-on contribution from local volunteers in our restoration activities. These projects have also been supported by five Interns who worked with us this year. We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to nature's revival through participation in these projects.



Streamcare Kaipātiki

Starting in 2017, the survey design for this programme comprises school and community group citizen science streamcare monitoring. This is supported by more rigorous scientific monitoring conducted by EIA to provide an overall community science stream health state of the environment monitoring programme (Freshwater monitoring data is being recorded into Citizen Science Base and NZ Freshwater Fish Database). The stream health of our control site (Oruamo upstream) represents the best quality environment that could be achieved in an urban environment and as such represents an aspirational

community goal of stream quality. The information gathered enhances our ability to understand, survey and manage our local natural resources, track at risk species and help conserve protected areas.

In the last year the Streamcare Kaipātiki programme has strategically increased collaboration with community groups, such as Pest Free Kaipātiki, increased capacity and realised opportunities for on the ground delivery towards the improvement of ecological health and increase the quality and quantity of Community Science monitoring of streams and catchments across the Kaipātiki area. We have delivered community freshwater 'train the trainer' workshops, supported school streamcare monitoring at an increased number of sites, and have wai care kits available for school and community group utilisation.

The programme incorporates so much more than freshwater monitoring alone. At each environmental class, the data collation is further enhanced using technical equipment from EIA to include native fish, specific conductivity, turbidity and flow. The students are enthralled when electric fish traps evidence rare species including Red Fin Bullies, Crans Bullies and large Banded Kōkopu and they can observe fish and invertebrates up close. Other observations include large Kōura, tuna and Kākahi in Oruamo Stream. During sessions Kaipātiki Projects Freshwater Coordinator incorporates Karakia timatanga, Te Reo Māori names of plants, birds and fish, Te Ao Māori concepts including rongoa, whakatauki, mythology and atua, and closes with Karakia whakamutunga. We have recently started to work with the school students to research the history of Kaipātiki waterways back into pre-colonial times and design signage to highlight the activity and each site.



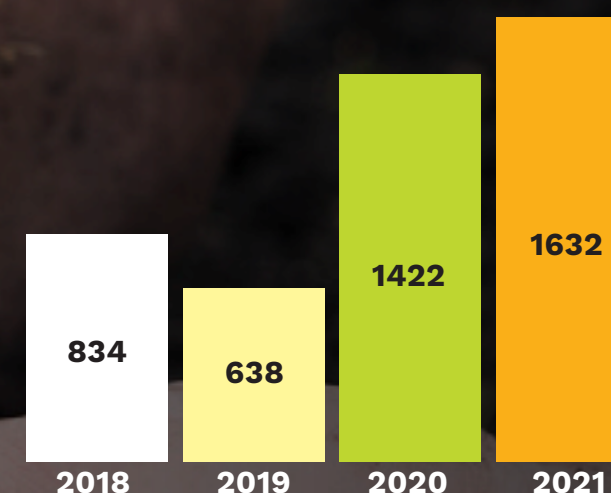
TE AKO Lifelong Learning for Sustainability

“

Composting our food scraps is one of the most important things each of us can be doing at our homes or in our community to reduce our carbon emissions. The more locally we do this, the less fossil fuels we burn in transporting and handling waste.”

At Kaipātiki Project, we focus on organisational learning and create conditions for innovation and world class thinking to move from BAU to scaffold new processes and practices. This enables us to support and guide our communities towards systemic change in sustainable living practices.

This year we launched two new hubs to drive the transition to a circular economy and minimise our footprint. Hobsonville Community Compost Hub and the Zero Waste Hub Northcote are a great addition to our offering and serve the community through education, support and collaboration. The new hubs fittingly complement our teaching garden, sustainable living courses and EcoFest North activities.



Workshop participants
since 2018

4,526



259

Workshops since 2018

Education for Sustainability

Every year we deliver sustainable living workshops, events and experiences open to everyone. Having launched into the rebuild of the Kaipātiki Project eco-hub in 2021, we've started the process to reimagine and refocus our contribution to education for sustainability in Auckland's North. We have surveyed several local schools and engaged with groups to help us reshape this future space. The new fit-for-purpose space will be available to strengthen our connection with people and build communities as we strive to foster a sense of stewardship for our living planet.

We continue to offer a diverse month-long, interactive and educational platform for people, families and other communities to feel a connection to nature and inspire sustainable living changes. Our annual EcoFest North festival, running since 2013, has been reimaged since COVID-19 lockdowns became a regular disruptor and now includes online and face-to-face components.

Making New Friends

We've always been inclusive in our approach. In 2020, through the generous support of Office of Ethnic Communities, we were able to reach an even wider community and connect with a diverse range of cultures, while delivering two exciting new pilot workshop series. The participants were new migrants and refugees from urban and rural communities. Some were already enthusiastic gardeners or skilled ecologists in their home countries, yet keen to understand more about the New Zealand environment. The programme gave everyone a

chance to crosspollinate ideas and practices and help Kaipātiki Project grow our knowledge.

Our Restoration Starter Pack, a five-part workshop ran for two series, delivering an overview and hands-on-experience on different layers of New Zealand ecology from native flora and fauna, pest plant identification, pest animal trapping and stream environments. One of our most exciting outcomes from this project was to learn new uses and cultural perspectives of some of New Zealand's pest plants.

The edible food garden has been a flourishing space for Kaipātiki Project over the past year. The Grow Your Own Food workshop ran for four series and captured a soil and seed to harvest approach to gardening. The series grew in attendance as participants encouraged friends to join. Through the workshop, our participants were excited to share their progress in establishing gardens and adopting healthy soil practices at home, work or to enhance their academic studies. We have also had the exciting outcome of several participants joining our regular weekly garden volunteer crew.

“

I had difficulty in finding my feet here but people from Kaipātiki Project changed that. Completing the workshops, I now experience a greater belonging and connection to my new home. I'm incredibly grateful for this opportunity and I'm really looking forward to being more involved.” Workshop participant

“

“I am a city boy from Hong Kong and have enjoyed the learning. I have a familiarity with the 'New Zealand way' now, which is 'do it yourself'. I am feeling more connected to our responsibility to the earth and can see that we all need to protect the world we live in.” Workshop participant





Teaching Garden

This year we have continued to develop our teaching garden on the expanded site adjoining Eskdale Reserve. Our focus has been on improving soil fertility, increasing production of food, and to support our community to start growing food. Increasing soil fertility is all about supporting a diverse beneficial microbial population in the soil, coupled with keeping a wide range of plants constantly growing in the soil. We have added our rich living compost and regular applications of seaweed, nettle, comfrey and worm tea to support this, as well as the use of green crops over winter. Set amongst our kumara bed, the garden even received its own hand carved lizard kaitiaki. Made from an old garden bed sleeper, the carving was created by multitalented Joanne Kyriazopoulos, our Grants & Impact Specialist.

Our volunteers made a trial Hugelkultur bed last spring, using the rotten wood from the old garden site buried under the bed to help hold moisture over the summer months. This worked well, and the bed produced a wonderful crop of pumpkins. We made a beautiful bean structure to support our heritage beans and over the summer months we had a huge crop of beans.

A highlight this year were the four Grow Your Own Food workshop series. The aim was to give people from ethnic communities the skills to grow food in NZ conditions and confidence to start a small garden or container at their home. We made up starter packs of gloves, tools, seeds and seedlings so they were able to do this themselves. During the final session we enjoyed a shared lunch with food harvested from the garden and contributions from the participants, many bringing traditional foods from their own cultures. A highlight of the course was harvesting kumara and sharing the many ways different cultures



cook and use all parts of the plant. We were absolutely delighted that a number of these participants have now joined us as regular volunteers. After all, the best way to learn to grow food is to get your hands in soil. Doing this with others also grows community. Most weeks we have produce or seedlings to share and as more people join us this abundance will only increase.

Hobsonville Community Compost Hub

We launched Hobsonville Community Compost Hub (HCCH) in late 2020 to address the need to divert food scraps from landfill. The lack of garden space in such a densely populated housing environment means that most residents are unable to compost at home.

Following our initial pilot to ensure the process works well, we settled on having our members bokashi all their food scraps before bringing them to the hub for us to complete the composting process. Bokashi essentially pickles the food scraps allowing them to be stored compactly without going rotten. This means people can drop off less frequently; a great system for busy people who live in small spaces. We regularly hear feedback from members that once they have made the change “they notice how much food they were wasting, and it just feels wrong to be putting our food scraps into the rubbish bin” – music to our ears!

Thanks to our volunteers, we now have a purpose-built shelter complete with new signage, so members can deposit their bokashi anytime. Once a week we empty the bin and process it with our nursery green waste through our hot composters. All inputs are weighed and

recorded so we can track each batch of compost. To-date, we have processed over 2 tonnes of food waste and expect to double this as we reach our capacity of 100-120 households.

The compost is currently going back into our newly established food forest and back into the volunteer and members gardens. As more people become aware that food scraps do not compost when put in the rubbish bin or down the insinkerator, but end up in landfill, there is growing interest in composting.

Now that the hub is established, our focus is on being a learning platform to support this demand. We have hosted numerous visits with local school children as well as community groups across Auckland who are looking to set up composting hubs in their communities. In February we hosted Gardens 4 Health network gathering, followed by a very successful open day for the EcoFest in March. A rewarding way to end the year, HCCH was a finalist in the Tāmaki Makaurau Zero Waste Awards 2021 for Growing the Movement category.



Zero Waste Hub Northcote



This innovative programme has grown from a desire by mana whenua to see their aspirations realised in relation to Para Kore/ Zero Waste for Te Ara Awataha – Northcote Greenway programme. Kaitiaki representatives oversaw development of a cultural indicator framework, now known as Take Mauri Take Hono. This framework has created the driver to support all stakeholders to come together seeking to restore the mauri of the Awataha waterway, as well as the land and the people of the area now known as Northcote. The framework also identifies para kore/zero waste as a key indicator for success, creating a focus on achieving the Council’s goal of Zero Waste 2040 in the Northcote town centre and surrounding residential and business area.

During 2020, two community hui were held to obtain input from stakeholders about the priorities they saw for developing a Zero Waste initiative in Northcote. One outcome was to recruit a Para Kore Zero Waste Activator, the role was initially to build relationship with the stakeholders and the community, including involvement with the One Night in Northcote event run by the Business Improvement District and supported by the food businesses in Northcote. This was run as a zero-waste event.

It became clear that having a community space in the Northcote Town Centre where people could chat about waste, recycling, composting, upcycling and attend workshops, would be incredibly valuable. After discussions with Eke Panuku Development, we were offered the temporary use of the space at Pearn Place – the building



suitably has the Te Ara Awataha mural on the side, thanks to support from Kaipātiki Community Facilities Trust. With an official opening by Northcote MP Shanahan Halbert and the Kaipātiki Local Board in June 2021, stakeholders and local community joined a positive and enjoyable event with everyone being welcomed into our community space.

Since then, the hub has been buzzing with new volunteers running the Hub three days a week. We have hosted a series of workshops run by Compost Collective, Paris Kirby and the Waste Wise team from Auckland Council, with much more to come. Pop in to see our evolving community space!

Compost Collective

‘A behaviour-change programme building community capacity to divert waste from landfill and carbon from the atmosphere through on-site composting of food and garden waste.’

Compost Collective encourages Aucklanders to minimise waste, diverting food waste from landfill and turning it into useful compost for regenerating our soils. A collaboration between Kaipātiki Project and EcoMatters Environment Trust, with a team of expert facilitators contracting to Auckland Council as part of the movement towards zero waste 2040. Compost Collective offers free home, small business and community initiatives composting education and support using worm farms, bokashi buckets & traditional compost bins. As city living changes, so also does the programme, which continues to educate and increasingly supports initiatives to establish community hubs, divert waste locally and contribute to a reduced community carbon footprint.

In Auckland, over 120,000 tonnes of organic waste is sent to landfill each year with 50% of our household rubbish made up of organic matter such as food scraps and garden clippings. Trapped in landfill, this naturally decaying matter does not breakdown but contributes to the production of methane and the adverse effects of climate change. In 2020/21 financial year we diverted 417 tonnes of food waste from landfill. The waste diversion calculation is based on the average number of people per household, alongside an assumption that our system sales reflect how composting is done across the wider Auckland population. The system of waste diversion – worm farming, cold composting and bokashi – each divert different levels of waste, with bokashi composting being the most impactful. This year, we had a slightly lower proportion of bokashi sales which has resulted, with the same assumptions applied, in a slightly lower diversion rate overall compared to the previous year. As this figure only reflects programme impact for a single year, we expect some fluctuation in overall results. However, we consider that the greater story is in cumulative diversion across the years as people are supported to start or improve their food waste diversion

and more Aucklanders become part of the solution.

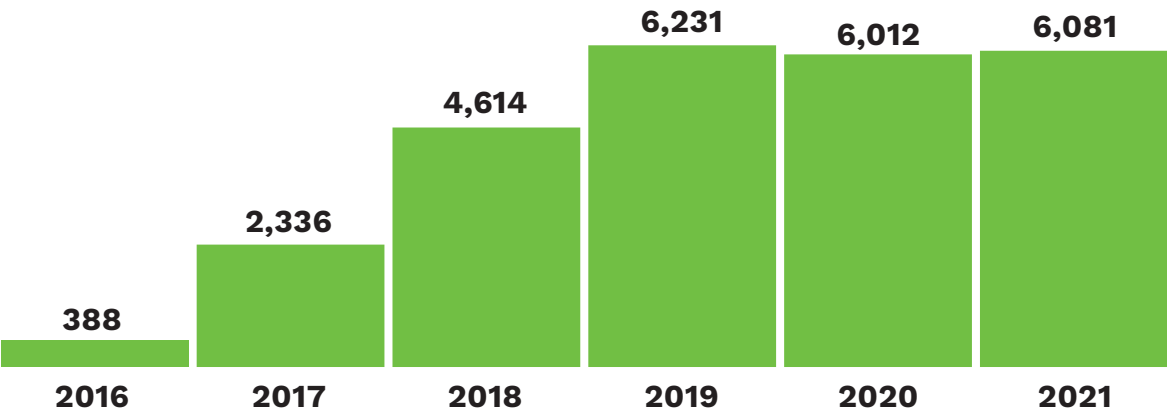
Attracting 6,081 participants at our 436 free courses, we have supported community to divert an estimated 419 tonnes of waste from landfill. Our compost facilitators continue to adapt with COVID-19 conditions between preferred face-to-face and online ZOOM engagement. Compost hubs and Sharewaste participants have also adapted to enable contactless engagement in all levels except the highest level 4 lockdowns. With so many other

things coming to a halt in such periods, the ongoing ability to create collective impact is especially significant.

compostcollective.org.nz



Compost Collective Workshop Participation 2016-2021



25,662
Compost Collective
workshop participants
since 2016



NGĀ MIHI MAIOHA

Our activities would not have been possible without your help, support, collaboration and encouragement.

CORE FUNDING PARTNERS	
	
	
	 Ministry for the Environment <i>Manatū Mō Te Taiao</i> Community Environment Fund

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Auckland Foundation – The North Shore Fund
 Blue Sky Community Trust
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 Creative Communities Scheme
 Ethnic Communities Development Fund
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 Kāinga Ora
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 Lottery COVID-19 Community Wellbeing Fund
 Lottery Community Sector Research
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 Rehabilitation Welfare Trust
 Ron and Edna Greenwood Environmental Trust
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Habitat Hobsonville

Hobsonville Point Residents Association

Judy Keats

Kaipātiki Community Facilities Trust

Kaipātiki Restoration Network

Lani Ormsby

Laura Donkers

Natural Environmental Defence Foundation

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North Shore Forest and Bird

North-West Wildlink

Oak & Thistle

Pacific Climate Warriors

Pacific Vision Aotearoa

Para Kore Ki Tāmaki

Parnell Library

Pest Free Kaipātiki

Naylor Love

Mrs Priscilla Dawson

Pete Forrest

Project K

Refugees As Survivors New Zealand

Repair Café

Restoring Takarunga Hauraki

Skills Update

Te Reo Tuatahi

The Centre for Community Research and Evaluation at The University of Auckland

The ReCreators

Tui Gilling (Matapapa Consulting Ltd)

Upper Harbour Ecology Network

VisionWest

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VOLUNTEERS

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Corporate volunteers

Gardening volunteers

Internship volunteers

Nursery volunteers

Operational, marketing and administrative volunteers

Project-based volunteers

Stream care volunteers

Zero waste hub volunteers

5 WAYS OF WELLBEING

The Five Ways to Wellbeing, Ētahi ara e rima ki te ngākau ora, is a set of five simple actions that have been proven to improve wellbeing in everyday life. They are:



CONNECT

Me Whakawhanaunga



GIVE

Tukua



TAKE NOTICE

Me aro tonu



KEEP LEARNING

Me ako tonu



BE ACTIVE

Me kori tonu

We have applied this model to all the work we do. We understand that being active in environmental projects, connecting to others and learning new skills helps ourselves and our planet.



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KaipatikiEnviro

