



FRIENDS OF TE HORO HALL

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Newsletter No 5 – New Year 2024

Greetings everyone; here is the latest *Friends of Te Horo Hall* newsletter brought to you from the Te Horo Hall Society Incorporated. There's a lot to update you on.

A Big Year for Te Horo Hall

2024 is Te Horo Hall's 110th Anniversary! Our aim is for this to be a great year for the Hall, the community it serves and all Hall users.

Kicking off a fresh new year, Nikki Lundie from *Nel Design* (and Best Road resident) has developed a new logo for us. It's a stylisation from the much-admired Dana Jackson painting previously featured on Friends' newsletters.

Nikki is also working on a Te Horo Hall website: a valuable communication tool to reach out, tell our story and record history. We also want to make the Hall even more available by improving the bookings process.



Our New Building Partner

Last year the Hall Committee agreed to a steel portal quake strengthening solution as the most cost-effective option, the least invasive, and that best fits the Hall's character. Three local building companies provided competitive tenders for the work. A group of Committee members interviewed all three tenderers, and the selection recommendations were approved at the last full Committee meeting.

Following this due diligence, we are pleased to announce that the Hall Society has agreed a letter of intent with *Crowe Construction and Associates* (CCA) to quake strengthen the Hall. The building works are targeted for the third quarter of 2024. CCA are a well-known and highly regarded local company and recently refurbished the Toi Mahara Gallery. Company principal, Ross Crowe, is also a School Road resident.

Focus Now on Fundraising

While we are very pleased to have CCA onboard, undertaking the necessary quake strengthening work is entirely dependent on fundraising. We now have a very clear goal and all our fundraising efforts in the first part of 2024 will focus on that. After the main construction work, the Hall interior will need finishing work plus some repainting (the precious matai floor could also need re-sanding); these may be opportunities for volunteers.

All of this, together with contingencies, insurance, regulatory, engineering, and inspection costs, brings the operating budget to earthquake strengthen the Hall to a little over \$350,000.

Quake strengthening is the number one priority. There's little point in doing anything else without it. But now that we have a clear budget to work to, we can begin the serious business of fundraising.

If we only raise enough to quake strengthen the Hall and make it suitable for future users, then that is all we will do.

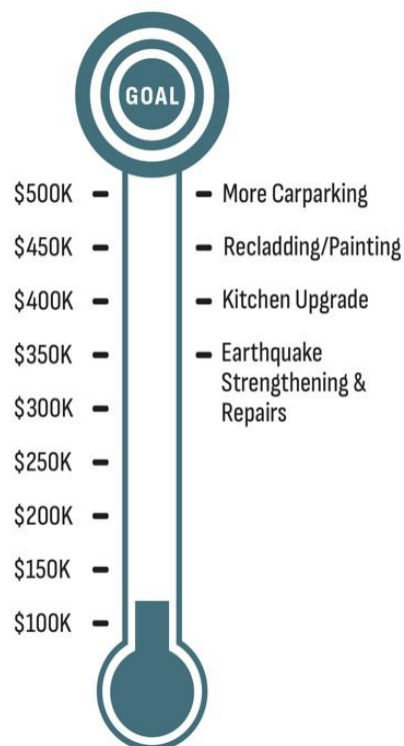
However, having skilled builders on site offers other opportunities as well. If we can raise sufficient funds, a kitchen upgrade and better access to the lawn area are the next priorities after seismic strengthening.

Recladding the Hall exterior would follow that. There's also still a desire to turn the unused paddock next to the Hall (owned by KCDC) into improved parking and for better access to the tennis courts.

So again, while our main goal is to quake-strengthen the Hall for current and future user, if funds allow, we can also move on to other areas, as illustrated in the fund-raising "thermometer".

Our funding plan has three main parts to it:

- The Hall Society's own contribution of \$120,000 (plus accrued interest) from past fund raising, Hall hire and rentals.
- Approaching institutional donors, e.g. the Lotteries Commission, to seek large contributions.
- And, most important of all, community fund raising and private donations from locals and people with a strong connection to the area and, hopefully, fond memories of the Hall.



Get Involved: The Great Te Horo Road Rai\$e!

The Hall Committee has taken an innovative approach to community fundraising. Each "Road" in Te Horo, or group of "Roads" in most cases, is being challenged to put together a Team and to Rai\$e \$10,000 per Road during a fast paced three months from 1st March to 31st May 2024.

Property Brokers Otaki have given \$3000 towards promotion, marketing, and advertising, and this has been substantially leveraged by Stuff with generous promotions discounts in their stable of Newspapers.

In support of the "Roads", the Committee is organising a Monster Raffle with substantial prizes, and a major promotion one weekend each month for Team events. Every Thursday, one of the Roads can use the Hall for fundraising purposes, anything from Debates, Celebrity Speakers, and long lunches, from Dancing to Cards, and several Saturday nights are set aside for fun events!

Seven "Roads" already have Teams set up and we are liaising with the remaining areas over the next two weeks. If you have not heard from us, give Committee member, Grant Robertson, a ring on 021 660113 to join the fun. Get to know your neighbours and have some fun together while supporting a great local cause.

Area 12 (Addington and Te Waka Roads) are already off to a flying start with a Quiz night at the Hall on Thursday the 7th of March at 7pm. This is followed by opening Drinks and Nibbles on Friday the 8th of March hosted by the Hall Committee, at the Hall. From then on it will get more exciting as each week unfolds. Watch this space!