



TE HORO HALL SOCIETY INC.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

For the Period 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

Introduction

I am pleased to present the Chairperson's Report for the 2025/26 financial year. It was a privilege to be elected Chair in my first year on the Committee, and I want to personally acknowledge and thank the Committee for the support I received throughout the year. Their institutional knowledge made my job so much easier and ensured continuity as we worked through a busy programme of projects and responsibilities.

This has been a year marked by commitment, progress, and exceptional community support. I want to begin by expressing my thanks to every member of the Committee for their dedication, hard work, and willingness to take on significant responsibilities throughout the year. Your collective effort has been the foundation of every achievement we report today.

I also extend thanks to the wider Te Horo community. Your encouragement, participation, and generosity have enabled us to continue improving and safeguarding our Hall. Whether through attending events, volunteering, donating, or simply offering support, the community has once again demonstrated its pride in this important local asset.

A special acknowledgement must go to the Garden Trail Committee (Barb, Anne, Jenny, Diedre, Judy plus Helen Cook Kietha Riddle), whose outstanding work delivered one of the most successful fundraising events in the Hall's history. The Garden Trail raised over \$50,000, far exceeding expectations and providing a major boost to our refurbishment programme.

We also gratefully acknowledge the Waikanae Community Board, whose grant enabled the sanding and polishing of the Hall's original wooden floors. This work has significantly enhanced the Hall's appearance and usability and is deeply appreciated.

I would also take this opportunity to thank Jenny who has been a trusted and invaluable support to me this past year.

As a community we should never lose sight of the fact that the Te Horo Hall is a community asset for all of Te Horo — from the beach to Otaki Gorge Road, and from the Ōtaki River to Peka Peka, this is your Hall. It is an asset not just for today, but once the restoration is completed, an asset for future generations.

Governance and Committee Operations

During the year, the Committee continued to strengthen its governance processes. A revised Committee structure was implemented to ensure clearer responsibilities and continuity of operations.

A major milestone was the completion and submission of the fully revised Constitution, ensuring full compliance with the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. This work included updating governance provisions, membership processes, dispute-resolution requirements, and officer obligations. The revised Constitution was formally submitted before the end of March, positioning the Society well for re-registration ahead of the April 2026 deadline.

Improvements were also made to systems oversight, including the consolidation of passwords and application access under the Secretary's portfolio to ensure good governance, security, and continuity.

Major Projects and Infrastructure

Earthquake Strengthening – Phase 1 Completion

The final tasks associated with the earthquake strengthening project were completed, including hardware replacements, cupboard linings, and compliance steps required for the Certificate for Public Use and Code Compliance Certificate.

Carpark – 52 School Road

A major milestone was achieved with KCDC confirming that the new carpark will be delivered in the current KCDC financial year after 33 years of waiting. The Resource Consent has been approved and funding allocated. This development will significantly improve safety, accessibility, and the Hall's long-term viability.

Solar Project & Annex Roof

During the year, the Society was formally approached by KCDC and EECA with an offer to install a full solar generation system on the Hall's Annex roof at no cost to the Society. This proposal includes solar panels, battery storage to support district-level emergency resilience, and all ongoing maintenance, fully funded by KCDC/EECA.

Under the proposed arrangement, the Society will:

- Use the power generated to offset Hall electricity costs
- Receive revenue from excess power exported to the grid
- Have battery backup capability for emergency resilience
- Avoid all capital and maintenance costs

Engineering assessments had already confirmed that the Annex roof required replacement due to rusting iron and rafter load limitations. This also required the annex roof to be strengthened triggering a further Building Consent amendment.

Because this work was already necessary, and because the Solar Project provides long-term financial, operational, and community-resilience benefits, the Committee approved proceeding with the project. The Committee agreed that the Solar Project is strategically important for both the Hall and the wider community.

Fundraising and Community Events

This year's fundraising efforts were exceptional, driven by both Committee dedication and strong community engagement.

Garden Trail

The Garden Trail was a standout success, raising over \$50,000 and setting a new benchmark for community fundraising. The event was professionally organised, well-attended, and widely praised.

Other Fundraising Activities

Additional fundraising activities included:

- **Disco Night**
- **Two Quiz Nights**
- **Six Farm Walks**
- **Garden Lights evenings**
- **Rod Clifton Open Day**

These events strengthened community involvement and contributed significantly to fundraising totals.

Hall Recladding – Phase 2

A major focus this year has been preparing for the essential recladding of the Hall's west, south, and east walls. This work is required to secure the building's long-term structural integrity and achieve final compliance.

Multiple quotes were obtained with costs ranging from \$222,203 to \$488,224 (excl. GST). To make the project more manageable and to support fundraising, the Committee agreed to stage the recladding in three phases. This approach will also help the community see visible progress as each stage is completed.

We would like to acknowledge Peter Sanford support in assisting with the review of the quotes & plans, selection process for the next phases of the Hall renovation.

Grants

Grant funding continues to play a vital role in supporting the Hall's refurbishment and operational improvements.

During the year, the Society submitted several major grant applications, including:

- Waikanae Community Board – applied for \$15,000 for floor resurfacing and were granted \$12,759. In addition, we also received another \$500 as a contribution to the printing of brochures for the Garden Trail.
- The Otaki Community Board also granted another \$500 as a further contribution to the printing of brochures for the Garden Trail.
- Pub Charity – \$30,000 for Annex roof replacement
- Lottery Community Facilities Fund – \$106,707 for recladding
- Lottery Environment & Heritage Fund – \$ 139,384.00 for recladding

Grant income, combined with strong community fundraising, positions the Society well for the next stages of the Hall's refurbishment programme and our Grant Applications. We are hoping to hear back on the outstanding Grant applications in early June so the next stages of Hall refurbishment can be planned.

We extend our thanks to Nienke Itjeshorst for taking on the grants portfolio and managing this important area of work with dedication and care.

Hall Improvements and Operations

Several important improvements were completed during the year:

- All original wooden floors were sanded and polished

- A new fire-compliant locking system was installed on the front door
- New switchboard was installed as the existing Switch Board was well beyond its use by date.
- New double doors were donated by Rod Clifton and have been renovated ready for installation between the kitchen and main hall.
- Website upgrades were completed, including an online Auction system
- Stripe payment systems were tested and deployed for events

Hall usage remained strong, with 235 hire bookings recorded by 31 March 2026.

Emergency Preparedness and Community Resilience

The Committee continued to work closely with WREMO, including planning for emergency water tanks and supporting the Emergency Hub. Hans took on the role of Committee liaison with the Hub Coordinator, ensuring continuity and communication. This now also a standard item on the Committees meeting Agenda.

Longer Term Initiative – Te Horo Multi-Sports Facility Partnership

The Committee has also begun work on a longer-term initiative that has the potential to significantly enhance recreational opportunities for Te Horo and strengthen community wellbeing for decades to come. The tennis courts behind the Hall are now in poor and deteriorating condition, with uneven and crumbling surfaces, rusted fencing, and non-functional lighting. At the same time, Te Horo remains the only part of the Kāpiti district without any Council-funded sportsgrounds, despite representing over 4% of the district's population and sitting between two major growth areas in Ōtaki and Waikanae North.

In response, the Committee has approached the Council to develop a proposal for a partnership between the Te Horo Hall Society and Kāpiti Coast District Council to create a modern multi-sports facility on the combined Hall and Council recreation land. This initiative would allow for tennis, pickleball, padder tennis, netball, basketball, and small-sided football and hockey, using a compact and efficient footprint that leverages existing access and parking infrastructure.

This project aligns strongly with Council's Open Spaces Strategies (2012 and 2022), which highlight the need for equitable access to recreation, the importance of partnerships, and the opportunity to address gaps in sports provision in areas such as Te Horo and Ōtaki. With significant residential growth underway in the district, this initiative represents a forward-looking opportunity to secure a high-value community

asset that supports health, social connection, and resilience for current and future generations.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Hans Itjeshorst for doing the hard groundwork in preparing this proposal.

Financial Overview

The Hall finished the year in a strong and stable financial position, supported by disciplined management, successful fundraising, and targeted grant income.

Income was significantly boosted by the Garden Trail, alongside steady returns from other fundraising events, donations, and community support. Grant funding, including the Waikanae Community Board contribution toward floor resurfacing, enabled key improvements. Note some revenue from the Farm Walks has been taken into the 2027/27 accounts.

Operating expenditure remained well-controlled, with major costs relating to floor refurbishment, security upgrades, cottage compliance work, and final earthquake-strengthening invoices. Volunteer support kept fundraising costs low and ensured maximum return to the Hall.

The Society ends the year well-positioned to progress the next stages of the refurbishment programme, including recladding and solar integration, with careful planning and continued fundraising remaining essential.

Please refer to the Treasurer's Report and the Statement of Cash Received and Expenses for full financial details.

Conclusion

This has been a year of significant progress, strengthened relationships, and renewed community engagement. The Committee's dedication has been exceptional, and the community's support has been inspiring.

With major projects underway, strong fundraising momentum, and a clear long-term vision, Te Horo Hall is well positioned for the next stage of its restoration and development.

Thank you again to every Committee member, volunteer, supporter, donor, and neighbour who has contributed to this year's achievements. Together, we continue to protect and enhance this vital community asset for future generations.

Bryan Hall

Chair Te Horo Hall Society (2025/2026)