



ANNUAL REVIEW

AROTAKE Ā-TAU
2026

Discovers. Follows. Sees



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OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS¹

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652

Campers attended our adventure-based camps discovering Jesus and learning to serve the world around them



577

Young people underwent training to become God-centred leaders of influence today and in the future



204

Opportunities were taken up by churches to receive intentional support to strengthen their ministry with children and young people



1,007

Church workers were supported and equipped to minister with children and young people in their churches and communities



8,559

Opportunities were accepted by people to open the Bible in life-changing ways with the help of our Bible reading guides and Engage App



1,099

Wonderful supporters donated a combined total of \$2,315,694.11

¹These numbers were sourced from the Statement of Service Performance as well as programmes with informal registration systems.

BOARD CHAIR:

Meredith MacKenzie

Kia whakamāramatia ngā kanohi o tō koutou hinengaro; kia mātau ai koutou ki te mea o tāna karanga e tūmanakohia atu nei, ki te korōria nui hoki o tōna taonga i roto i te hunga tapu.

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.
Ephesians 1:18

I open the 2026 Annual Report with gratitude for all those who support and pray for the children, young people, and families of Aotearoa New Zealand. For those who have prayed for SUNZ staff, volunteers, and participants as we talk about God, faith, and hope. For those who have given their time and expertise to run camps and holiday programmes and training events and Bible studies, cater for events, share their homes, clean and repair equipment. For those who financially support SUNZ, with one donation or ongoing donations, or through a legacy. I want to express gratitude for all those who are still doing these things now.

This is my first year as Board Chair, and I want to express gratitude to all those who have gone before me in this role and in the various governance roles which contribute to this organisation. In all the many years I have been involved in considering our

financial position, we have grappled with the balance between good stewardship and stepping out in faith. Every year that I can remember we have presented a deficit budget and many years we have faced a deficit result, so it is with profound gratitude to God and to our faithful donors that we report a surplus for the second year in a row. This is a push forward for our activities, a firmer footing for our still cautious approach to planning and budgets.

My focus of gratitude to those who have gone before grew from thinking about the faithful people who have been influenced by SUNZ and part of their response has been to remember SUNZ in their will, and the faithful people who have set up trusts that now generously support SUNZ and many other ministries. I can promise all of them that they are still making an incredible impact as we support churches to help children and young people discover Jesus and become lifelong disciples who serve the world around them.

Please continue to pray this prayer with us and pray for wisdom to know the part God wants each of us to play.



M MacKenzie

NATIONAL DIRECTOR:

Hilary Hague

Together on God's river – trusting the Spirit, sharing the journey.

Ngā mihi mahana me ngā kupu aroha - warm and loving greetings to you all.

The past year has been a year of steady progress for Scripture Union New Zealand, and is captured well by the image of a whitewater raft. This metaphor is especially fitting when we consider how some of our camps use rafting as a formative faith experience.

Preparing for a rafting expedition begins long before the raft touches the water. Equipment must be safe, roles clarified, and direction agreed upon. In a comparable way, 2025 has been a year focused on strengthening the base and ties that support our ministry. Several individual projects were completed and together they now form an interconnected whole bringing stability and direction.

There are four key areas that have been significant for me this year.

We Support Churches

This year, we have worked intentionally to strengthen our partnerships with denominational and parachurch organisations across Aotearoa New Zealand, alongside a broader range of local churches.

A key part of this has been the development of a Church Engagement Strategy. This foundational work positions us to respond more effectively to local ministry contexts in the years ahead. Early feedback indicates greater clarity and consistency in how SUNZ engages with churches. This year 61 churches received intentional one-to-one support to strengthen their ministry with children and young people.

We Are a Movement of Volunteers

Volunteers are at the heart of SUNZ, and we are deeply grateful for their faithful and generous service. This year, over 900 people volunteered with SUNZ across camps, programmes, board governance, and prayer ministries, significantly extending the reach and impact of our ministry.

During 2025, we took time to better understand our volunteers and to review their experience with SUNZ. Attention was given to demographics and transitions between activities from short term involvement to longer-term service. This work resulted in a clear strategy aimed at supporting volunteers more intentionally and creating sustainable pathways for participation. These pathways encourage longevity and wellbeing.

We Are Grateful for Our Financial Supporters

We are committed to intentional, God-led ministry that is financially sustainable. We continue to be deeply thankful for our financial supporters, including those whose generosity through legacies has been significant.

These gifts are both a practical provision and a sign of long-term conviction in the mission of SUNZ. It has been encouraging to see SUNZ complete the year in a healthy financial position, meeting commitments and strengthening our ability to plan with confidence as we enter the next strategic phase.

I am grateful for the careful work of Andrew Slessor and the Finance Team, and for Peilin Cheng's leadership in fundraising. They have added so much value this year.

We Treasure People Who Pray

Prayer remains central to the life and ministry of SUNZ. This year, approximately 45 people were part of 13 prayer groups across the country, including the formation of a new group in the Wairarapa. In addition, 688 people prayed using Prayer Adventure and e-Prayer.

These prayer networks provide spiritual support, encouragement, and discernment, reminding us that ministry is shaped not only by planning and effort, but by listening attentively to God.

Thank You

Like the raft navigating a New Zealand river, every contribution matters in keeping us steady and heading in the

right direction. Ministry thrives when we each bring our gifts and as we paddle side by side, we work together, refined in purpose, deepened in faith, and drawn further into God's Kingdom story.

Thank you to all who have given in so many ways this year. I would like to offer particular thanks to Neil Walbran, who has served as a generous and thoughtful Chair and who has now stepped aside. I have appreciated working alongside him.

Thank you too to the Ministry Support staff who work hard, often sacrificially behind the scenes to enable all we do. I am grateful for their commitment.

Looking Forward

We long to see children and young people discover Jesus and become lifelong disciples who serve the world around them. This review reflects not only the work of the past year, but the children and young people for whom we pray and labour, trusting God to carry this ministry forward. Please pray for them as you read.

As we look to the year ahead, we know that the river before us will include calm stretches as well as rapids that will test our courage and faith. We will need to listen, respond, and trust the true Guide, the Holy Spirit, who knows the waters best.

Come Holy Spirit - Haere mai, e te Wairua Tapu.



Ngā mihi nui,

Hilary Dague

CHILDREN & FAMILIES:

Liz Eichler | Children & Families Team Leader

I look to the hills! Where will I find help? It will come from the Lord, who created heaven and earth.
Psalm 121:1-2

I have been sitting with this Psalm over the past few months. I find it such an encouragement. This is good news for all of us.

The Children & Families Team have continued in our mission to 'support churches to help children and young people discover Jesus and become lifelong disciples who serve the world around them.'

Thank you to Andrea Lukin (Wellington), Annette Osborne (Auckland), and Nigel Winder (Invercargill). Thanks to Grace Matravers-Rock, our team administrator. I especially want to acknowledge and welcome Myles Boag who started in December, joining Annette in Auckland. Myles is a graduate of the Venn Fellowship programme and Laidlaw College. He comes to us with a wealth of experience in the Intermediate space and we are appreciating his knowledgeable input.

The Lord is your protector, and he won't go to sleep or let you stumble. The protector of Israel does not doze or ever get drowsy. Psalm 121:3-4



Kia Tipu - to grow, our Children's Ministry Training Conference, was held in Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington and Whanganui. Using our five senses we

explored the story of Nehemiah 8 with the people of God gathering to hear the word of God spoken again to ALL of them. We revamped the programme, providing a time at the end of the day for people to connect with other organisations involved in children's ministry, with SUNZ staff and pray-ers. 302 people attended, 74 of these volunteers (workshop facilitators, stallholders, pray-ers, kitchen helpers, vacuum pushers, furniture shifters...)



302

Attendees



74

Volunteers

We also collaborated with our Presbyterian friends in the deep south and ran a training day in Dunedin. We were delighted with the 25 who came for the day.

Annette worked with a group of churches in Auckland leading a day of

child protection training. 40 people, from 8 congregations attended. It was great to see them so engaged with the content and committed to excellence in their policy development and practice.

Nigel has been working closely with NZ Rally and spoke at their regional camp in Waikato. This has resulted in our being asked to help with their regional training days.

We continue to offer Thrive, our church-wide discipleship consultation package, to churches, and have been actively working with two over the past year. Here's some feedback from one of them:

"We have been working with Liz from mid-2025, and the Thrive process has been a positive experience for our church so far. It has helped us reflect more intentionally on our mission, strengths, and areas for growth, while also encouraging deeper conversations within the congregation."

The Lord is your protector, there at your right side to shade you from the sun. You won't be harmed by the sun during the day or by the moon at night. Psalm 121:5-6



Nigel ran his epic **SUPAkidz** camp in Pukerau for 60 campers and 20 leaders, titled 'On Your Marks, Get Set Go!'. There was a genuine enthusiasm for exploring the Bible stories and some wonderful spiritual conversations. Campers were grateful for the things they had learned about God and the Bible, and what it means to be on Jesus' team.

Feedback from a parent: *"I truly appreciate all your hard work. Thanks to your care, J was able to enjoy his very first camp in comfort and joy. Even after coming home, he continues to set aside time to read the Bible. I feel that through this camp, J has grown more mature both in body and in spirit. Thank you so much for helping him have such a precious and meaningful experience."*

Annette led her treasured **Pōnui Spring Adventure** camp with fantastic help from Jesse Elias, now our BE Kindred. There were 25 campers and 16 leaders on this camp, with a passion for young leadership development. We were delighted to get this feedback from one of her leaders who had previously been a camper:

"Thanks so much... for the amazing leading opportunity that you provided. I am so thankful that I got to go on Pōnui Spring Adventure as a leader. I will forever cherish the memories that were made. Thank you again for everything"

you have done. I feel honoured to be able lead with you and all the other leaders."

Andrea is continuing to grow and develop her **Creative Edge** camp, and it is really appreciated by the Wellington community. The end of camp exhibition has been a highlight, and we look forward to watching this camp continue to gain momentum. There were 13 campers and 8 leaders this year.

The Lord will protect you and keep you safe from all dangers. The Lord will protect you now and always wherever you go. Psalm 121:7-8

We want churches to connect with their communities and one of the ways we're doing this is through holiday programmes. Nigel worked with a church in Frankton in April. Here's some feedback from one of their elders:

"As an ex-teacher myself I was impressed with how Nigel spoke to the children and engaged them in many different activities. They were co-operative and enjoyed interacting. With Nigel's expertise each day ran smoothly with Bible study, songs, crafts and games. I would like to thank Nigel sincerely for all his help and advice."

Andrea ran a Lego-themed holiday programme for a church in Upper Hutt. Two children since then have been baptised and gave their testimony, sharing how the camps and SUNZ have made an impact on their walk with Jesus. One of their leaders reflected that "ministry is not the destination; the growth of lives is what truly matters to God."



We continue to preach at churches, run intergenerational services, mentor children's ministry practitioners, gather people regionally for training, connect with others in regional and national positions of leadership, and respond to individual requests.

It made me glad when they said, "Let's go to the house of the Lord!" Jerusalem, we are standing inside your gates. Psalm 122:1-2

May this be our prayer for all our children and their whānau, with gladness to be standing together in God's house.



Liz Eichler



YOUTH MINISTRY:

Neville Bartley | Youth Team Leader

A YEAR OF GROWTH AND CHANGE

The past 12 months have seen a lot of growth in our ministry, in ourselves as a team and in ourselves as individuals. This team of Youth Consultants are my whānau. We care for one another and support one another within our job roles and within our personal lives. I thank God daily for the amazing team he has given to me to walk with.

Eli Savill (Waikato-Bay of Plenty) relocated the SUNZ Hamilton branch from Agora Church to St Francis Church in October. He then prepared to commence a part-time role as lead pastor of a community church in Hamilton. This was formalised in May 2026, and Eli continues part-time in his work for SUNZ.

Piper Clare (Wellington and Team Admin) was married to Kallan Reid in March. I was honoured to perform the ceremony, and our team had a wonderful time at the wedding celebration.

The whole team of Larissa Pearce (Otago-Southland), Sapati Tima (Auckland), Piper and Eli have continued to work alongside churches, youth ministries, pastors, and youth leaders to support them in the work they do with youth in their communities.



We ran **Anamata** Youth Leader training days for 85 total attendees in Dunedin, Wellington and Auckland and continued individual training with youth leadership teams. We continue to attend national denominational youth leader training events and are encouraged with the work we are doing in those spaces.

Please continue to pray for the team and for the people they work with. In the past year we have seen many churches go from having paid Youth Pastors to being led by volunteers. Pray for those involved in leading in the youth ministries as the level of mental health issues continues to rise amongst youth and also amongst leaders. Never has it been so vital for us to continue our roles in supporting these ministries.



We rolled out seven **MHFA** courses and later in 2026 we

will reach the milestone of running our first refresher courses for those who participated in our first courses three years ago. This continues to be a vital tool that we have to offer to the whole church. We now have four accredited ministry staff to present the MHFA certificate courses.



In January we held **Exodus Prime** at Palm Grove Community Camp. This group of 26 young people (in school years 10-13), was the largest number enrolled in the EP programme for six years. The calibre of these young leaders was outstanding. All our leaders/mentors commented on this and on the reciprocal learning. Please pray for these amazing young leaders and for the continued growth of this young leadership development ministry. You can read more about our EP programme in our SUNZ Adventure Issue 4, October 2025.



Āpōpō Mental Health and Suicide Programme
We have taken

a slight change of direction with this ministry by delivering a one-hour version which makes it more acceptable to secondary schools as it creates less disruption to the standard school day. We have continued to run this course in schools where we have been invited to do so. Our team are now focusing on running Āpōpō in youth groups and looking to train local youth and church leaders to present the programme in their local schools.

ENGAGE APP
Daily Bible Reading



In December we launched a new **Engage App** with **102 downloads** achieved by 31 March. SUNZ are sincerely grateful to Cole McConnell for his skill and time in developing this tool. We now have recordings in Te Reo Māori, English, Samoan, and Mandarin. There have been many volunteers who have spent hours recording the Bible readings and questions, and we thank all involved.



The daily readings are aimed at 12- to 22-year-olds, but it is a great tool for all ages, and for families to sit down together, press play, listen to the daily reading, and discuss the questions. We have an amazing portfolio of teaching videos on the app and are working at creating more.

Internal Collaboration

The youth team collaborate with other SUNZ ministries in many projects and events. Sapati Tima was involved with Kia Tipu Auckland in May 2025, and with two GATHER (camp leadership training) weekends. Eli Savill led a successful Pōnui fishing camp in April 2025. Larissa Pearce ran a workshop at Kia Tipu Christchurch in June and along with Nigel Winder and Jayden Meads, managed November supporter

events in Christchurch, Dunedin, Gore, and Invercargill. Larissa is also a BE Kaiārahi. Piper Clare helped at Kia Tipu Wellington in May 2025, and at GATHER Peka Peka in December. Neville Bartley is a BE Kaiārahi and is on the National Leadership Team (NLT).

Looking Ahead

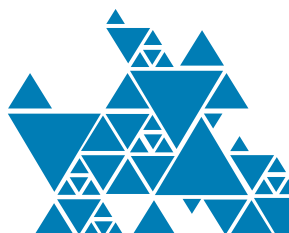
The demand for support of youth ministries in Aotearoa is only growing. Please continue to pray for us as we continue to provide that support. We have opportunities to be involved in some groundbreaking research and are actively seeking funding sources to enable this.

We will continue to create resources to help youth ministries and youth ministry teams, in this ever-changing place that is youth ministry.

I want to thank all the SUNZ staff and Board for the support they continue to give, and I want to thank all of you out there who support us financially and with prayer. May God pour out His blessing upon you and your whānau as you continue to bless us.



Neville
Bartley



YOUTH CAMPS:

Natalie Duchesne | National Youth Camp Teams Leader



Our camps team looks a little different from how you've known us in the past. We've grown - in more ways than one.

30

Youth Camps
& E3



293
Leaders



620
Campers



GATHER

116

Leaders
Trained

Camp registrations have increased to 620 this year which has surpassed pre-covid figures (433 registrations in 2018/19). This is also 94 more than 2024/25. To keep up with our growth, and to open more opportunity to grow further, we hired Lydia Rennie to occupy a new role in the team - Central Camps Facilitator. Our ministry is now split between three geographical regions: Northern, Central, and Southern.

Our hard working youth camps team are:

Natalie Duchesne (National Youth Camps Team Leader)
Donna Beech (National Camps Administrator)
Jayden Meads (Southern Camps Facilitator)
Caitlin Janes* (Northern Camps Facilitator)
Lydia Rennie (Central Camps Facilitator)



We have been working towards this for some time and have added to the Wellington region a GATHER leadership weekend, a Wild Wāhine hike, and are in preparation for Create camp in July 2026.

*Caitlin Janes resigned in March 2026, ending her role in May 2026. Caitlin has contributed significantly to our ministry; redesigning and writing Bible engagement resources, bringing countless new leaders and campers into the fold, increasing the number of our North Island registrations. She has been a skilful, enthusiastic problem solver and a dear friend. Ngā mihi nui Caitlin.

Bible Engagement: Wisdom

Our Bible engagement theme for the year was wisdom. The pursuit of wisdom addressed the temporary nature of our camps and equipped teenagers to go back into their home environments and long-term communities, boldly seeking God first. It broke down the dependency on leaders for answers and empowered teenagers to know how to explore themselves. This in part reflects the Scripture Union vision: "to support churches to help children and young people discover Jesus and become lifelong disciples who serve the world around them."

Over our five winter camps we looked at Jonah, the first book we have read in its entirety on a camp. In our five spring camps, we explored wisdom in friendship and community. Over nine summer camps, we considered the wisdom of Jesus through His parables.

The post-summer camp surveys revealed that four out of five campers showed identifiable spiritual growth, and one in two campers experienced camp as a major faith milestone, not just encouragement. What a privilege to be a vessel for God at work.

For 2026 Bible engagement, we will be diving into the basics of Christian faith, equipping our rangatahi with the tools to pray and worship, and with a focus on biblical literacy. This idea has come in part from our volunteer Team Leaders and has been reflected in feedback from post-camp surveys.



Camp Spotlight: Create

We piloted a new youth camp in 2025 with a focus on the arts. Create camp, end June/early July in Ōtautahi Christchurch was a success. Introduced to explore diversifying our camping ministry, we offered electives; dance, music, painting, printmaking, and writing. It was particularly powerful reading the book of Jonah to explore and focus our art making. It brought

people's worshipful responses into new depths and was humbling to be a witness to. The camp worked towards a showcase - inviting friends, family, and prayer support to the camp for the final evening together. What a highlight of camp! It felt significant to share this experience with whānau.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Team Leader Retreat

Our camp Team Leaders are senior volunteer leaders who have stepped up to oversee an SUNZ camp - it involves programme management, pastoral care of leaders and campers, facilitating outdoor activities, responsibility for safety, directing the spiritual formation/tone of camp, and more. We sincerely value our volunteers, and have expanded training before, during and after camp.

At our biennial Team Leader retreat in May 2025, 18 of our 24 leaders attended and we had a rich weekend of learning and reflecting. We concluded the weekend with an energising strategy session of directions and ideas. It felt so appropriate, knowing that this group of people were really invested in the ministry, to dream together, and has helped feed into our strategic direction for the next three years.



GATHER Leader Weekends

Four GATHER weekends were held in 2025 - August in Pirongia and Takamātua, November on Pōnui and in Peka Peka. This last weekend in the Wellington region was new with 12 participants.

We also spent a few months with a trusted consultant to explore the ways

we're planning and designing GATHER with more focus on learning design. It gave us new language for these programmes and increased our intention of the weekends. Rolling out the GATHER programmes soon after these sessions proved the effectiveness of our time spent together.

Camp spotlight: Camp Mission

Camp Mission in January 2026 was an initiative of Josiah Greig and some of his friends who have led on Pōnui camps over the years. They came to us with a desire for male rangatahi to explore what it really means to follow Jesus. After encouraging conversations to refine the concept and equip Josiah and his committed team, the guys pulled off an impressive first camp. Camp Mission aims to inspire campers in their faith and embolden them to confront life's challenges with Christ.



The annual **E3** expeditions on 9-20 December 2025 were wilderness adventures of physical endurance and faith formation for 30 young people in Years 12-13. The three expeditions in Otago, Canterbury and Bay of Islands involved tramping, mountain biking, rafting, kayaking and camping on all terrains and in all weather.

Campers were challenged to:

- Expand their faith and be empowered to become more Christ-like

- Be equipped for the challenges of leadership
- To explore ecology and their place within God's creation



E3 Young Adults (for ages 19-25) in the Nelson Lakes area was a smaller group of six participants and three instructors. The Bible engagement material for this camp was written by Isaac Cairns, BE Kindred 2025.

I keep returning to the book of Acts this year and can't help but feel secure in David's words also (in Psalm 16) "Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body will also rest in hope...". While I'm energised by all we are doing and our big dreams for tomorrow, my body also rests in hope for this ministry and God working within it.

Kia tau te rangimārie.



Natalie Duchesne



BEYOND EXPERIENCE: BETH COATES and BRUCE CROZIER



The fifth year of the Beyond Experience (BE) programme was one of change, review and adjustment.

The year started with 20 Tuatahi (1st year), 12 Tuarua (2nd year) and 5 Kindred participating. In early April, the BE cohort (BE'ers, Kaiārahi and SUNZ field staff) met for The Weekend, at Carey Park Christian Camp (One Big Adventure) in Auckland. Our theme for this was discernment, focusing on how we discern well and apply it in practical leadership contexts.

Throughout the year, Kindred met weekly to explore faith formation and develop the projects they designed. These included writing E3 content and devotional books, creating a card game to facilitate faith conversations, and creating instructional videos for teenagers wanting to share their faith at school. These resources will continue to be used into the future.

Tuatahi and Tuarua met monthly with their Kaiārahi. Tuatahi explored spiritual practices guided by 'The Hare and The Tortoise', (Shamy A, Bloore S, Allpress R, 2020 Venn Foundation), while Tuarua reflected on leadership in a distinct context each month.

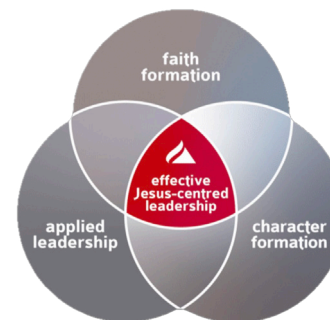
These conversations were a valuable opportunity to reflect on their journey of faith, life and leadership.

Each of our Tuarua completed a service project in a SUNZ ministry context. Projects included team leading at camps, working towards NZOLA qualifications, automating camp registration data, creating camp resources such as maps and sustainability guides, and written reflections on intersecting faith with leadership, and with Te Ao Māori. These projects allowed our BE participants to explore areas of leadership that they were interested in.

Throughout the year BE'ers engaged in practical leadership opportunities in their churches, Christian communities (including university groups), and SUNZ. These experiences were significant for them as they challenged themselves and developed their practical leadership skills.

When asked to describe their BE experience in 2025, participants used words such as faithful, inspiring, and thought-provoking, as well as a place to practise vulnerability, to develop confidence in leading, and to learn how to have difficult conversations well.

One of the most significant changes during the year was Paul Humphreys' stepping away from his role as National Leadership Development Facilitator. Paul had been involved with SUNZ since March 2017, contributing across youth camps and E3, the BE programme, and Health & Safety.



In September a group of SUNZ staff gathered to review the last five years of BE and to consider the future. Our Christ-Centred Leadership Diagram was updated, and content was refreshed to better support leadership development. Kindred continued to develop as a space where young adults interested in ministry join the SUNZ team for one day each week. We have worked to make this part of the programme nationally accessible, rather than participants needing to be in the same city. We have also worked to broaden the context in which Tuarua and Kindred projects can be outworked to include churches and other forms of Christian communities.

In December, Bruce Crozier joined SUNZ as Leadership Development

Facilitator. His background includes involvement in local churches in youth and young adults' roles, as well as wider leadership roles. Bruce has spent over 20 years in the Assemblies of God Auckland region supporting youth leaders through connection, encouragement and resourcing.

"While I am still in the learning phase, it is a privilege to work with such an outstanding group of young people. Working with Beth Coates, the SUNZ team, Kaiārahi and supporters is exciting and humbling, and we are committed to ongoing development as we continue to strengthen the programme."

SUNZ and the BE team greatly values the support and investment from The Longview Trust. Their passion for developing young Christian leaders is both evident and deeply appreciated.

We are also incredibly thankful for your support and prayers. They are invaluable to our team, the running of the programme, our Kaiārahi and most importantly, our young adults as they grow in faith, character and leadership. Our hope is that they will continue to be a Godly influence in their world, now and into the future.



Beth Coates
Leadership Development
Programme Coordinator



Bruce Crozier
Leadership Development
Facilitator

SU INTERNATIONAL:



Scripture Union is a global movement in over 120 countries around the world actively introducing children, young people and families to Jesus and helping them to meet God through the Bible and prayer. Each movement shares the Gospel in ways appropriate to their culture and situation. Annette Osborne works for SUNZ, but she also works for SU International where she is part of the Children and Families Ministry Team.

Ngā mihi maioha ki a koutou.

Following the 2024 Global Gathering in Malaysia, leaders from Scripture Union movements around the world agreed on a set of shared priorities. As part of the SUI Ministry Team, I have been actively involved in progressing three of these:

Prayer

In November 2025 we hosted a Global Week of Prayer supported by a prayer guide which I helped to develop. We are also committed to amplifying the voices of children and young people and so we launched a Global Children's Day of Prayer, inviting children to pray for Scripture Union worldwide.

Developing an induction pathway for new Directors and Board Chairs

The Ministry Team has been part of developing SU Basics, an induction course for incoming Directors and Board

Chairs to help them as they explore Scripture Union's international aims, beliefs, and working principles. It will launch this coming year.

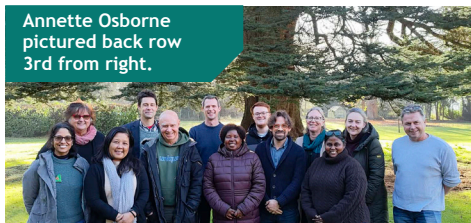
Creation Care

In November 2025, a small team from Scripture Union International, A Rocha International, and Bible Society gathered near London to develop a foundational biblical paper on caring for God's world. This significant work will serve as a springboard for future initiatives.

Alongside these priorities, we continue to train staff and volunteers in safeguarding and child protection, with more than 120 people trained globally in the past year. We also celebrated the retirement of Terry Williams and warmly welcomed Alan Pitt from Cape Town onto the team. His experience with Scripture Union South Africa is already enriching our work.

There is much to be thankful for across the global Scripture Union movement, and it remains a joy and privilege to serve in this role. I am deeply grateful to Scripture Union New Zealand for enabling my involvement in this ministry.

Annette Osborne pictured back row 3rd from right.



RESOURCES FOR LIFE: AnnaMarie Slessor | Resources Manager



Resources for Life (RFL) ended the April 2025 - March 2026 financial year with total trading income of \$80,895 including sales and donations.

Sales of Bible Reading Guides (Daily Bread and Encounter with God) improved by 2% to \$44,303 total sales achieved through an increase in sales pricing. The number of books sold decreased from 4478 books to 4320 books, distributed to:

546 direct subscribers

4320 Bible Reading Guides to:

29 Bible reading reps who distributed 150 books each quarter

7 bookstores who purchased between **5 – 141** books each quarter



Sales Income of Te Tia held relatively steady at \$3,248, a 3% decrease. Stability was achieved with a change in print specifications (notably paperweight and printer) to reduce the production cost.

Sales of other SU brand stock dropped by 26% to total sales \$4,790. Sales of non-SU titles totalled \$4,537.

Donations to RFL ministry totalled \$11,614, a significant 33% drop in donation revenue.

Total operating expenses, including salaries, totalled \$51,303. Postage expenses continued to increase, a further 4% on last year. Postage represents 26% of total operating expenses.

Bad Debts accumulated over four years of \$695 were written off impacting the overall result for this year.

Thank you for supporting RFL by purchasing and promoting Scripture Union Bible reading guides, resources and donating to this ministry.

SU ADVENTURE LODGE: HANA LEOFO | Operations Manager



For over 60 years, the SU Adventure Lodge on Mount Ruapehu has been host to Scripture Union camps. Over that time the Lodge has seen many upgrades, and in May - June 2025 we were able to renovate the bathrooms thanks to a generous grant from the Hunt Foundation.

The project was not without its challenges. The Lodge's remote location, quirky layout, and a tight budget meant we had to be creative and resourceful. The goal was not just to replace what was there but where possible, to improve and ensure durability for the many campers that pass through each year.

By God's provision, we connected with exceptional contractors who embraced the project wholeheartedly. One even rallied support from his own network, resulting in additional donations, tradespeople gifting their labour, and a company that gifted a new ventilation system to the Lodge - something that has made a dramatic difference.



The timeframe was tight as we aimed to complete the project for the winter camp season, but I was constantly reminded of God's hand in the practical details. The final piece to the project was the installation of the cubicle doors which arrived just two days before our first camp.

Last minute, I had the unexpected joy of filling in as a snow camp leader at the Lodge. It was a lot of fun and a rewarding way to experience the gift that physical spaces like the SU Adventure Lodge are to our camps, and for young people to meet with God and participate in the joys of Christian community.

This renovation was a humbling reminder of God's provision and of the faithfulness of our generous supporters who care deeply about the mission of Scripture Union New Zealand. I want to

also acknowledge Steve Cameron and our Waikato committee, and Stan and Marg Shepherd who provide practical maintenance and care of our Lodge.

In total, **31 groups** booked SU Adventure Lodge from 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026, providing income from **897 occupancy fees**, and **4 SUNZ youth camps**.



Hana Leofo



THANKSGIVING:

TO OUR VOLUNTEERS & SUPPORTERS

We are deeply grateful to everyone who makes SUNZ ministries possible. Your time, generosity, and prayers are the foundation of all we do.

CAMP VOLUNTEERS: We especially thank our camp leaders and cooks whose dedication makes every camp possible. From preparing meals to leading activities and Bible sessions, you help children and young people encounter Jesus and grow in their faith journeys.

EVENT SPEAKERS & SUPPORT TEAM: We are thankful for all who serve in conferences, workshops, and training events—whether through speaking, facilitating, training, providing accommodation or transport, cooking, leadership, site management, cleaning, or prayer. Your service and willingness to step in wherever needed is deeply appreciated and essential to every event.

PRAYER GROUPS: We thank the twelve prayer groups across the country who faithfully lift SUNZ in prayer. We are especially grateful to group leaders who organise and facilitate these gatherings. Your ongoing intercession is a vital spiritual foundation for our ministry.

ADMINISTRATORS: We also give thanks for our volunteer administrators who serve quietly behind the scenes. Your time, skills, and faithfulness keep everything running smoothly and make the work of SUNZ possible.

SUPPORTERS: Our supporters give, pray, and spread the word about SUNZ. You are a living testimony to God's provision.

1,099 individuals, trusts, and businesses supported SUNZ financially during the FY 2025-26 year.

560 supporters received our bimonthly SUNZ Prayer Adventure newsletter, encouraging daily prayer for our ministries.

1294 people received regular staff prayer letters, staying connected to our team and supporting them in prayer.

29 Bible Reading Representatives helped distribute our Bible Reading Guides in churches and communities across New Zealand.

BOARD: We give thanks for the dedication and faithful service of the SUNZ Board and Finance Committee:
Meredith MacKenzie (Chair)
Ruth Early (Treasurer)
Hilary Hague (National Director)
Neil Walbran
John Cleary
Mark Nichols
Jason Kelsey
Joanna Overall

FINANCE COMMITTEE:
Ruth Early (Chair)
Neil Walbran
Alastair Boulton
Hilary Hague (National Director)
Meredith MacKenzie
Mark Nichols
Andrew Slessor (Chief Finance Officer)
Peilin Cheng (Fundraising Coordinator)

BEQUESTS: We are humbled and honoured to have been remembered by the following people in their final wishes:

Margaret Burt
Heather Joyce Whitehead
Graham Putt Fullerton
Harry Russell
Gaynor Dawn Robson
Daphne Ford Trust
Shirley Winifred Marston
Daphne Joy Hickman
Hinemoa Verney
Bertha Elizabeth Maxwell

We appreciate their gifts, which will bless the children and young people we serve.

TRUSTS, CHURCHES, AND ORGANISATIONS WHO GAVE MORE THAN \$1,000:

Ann Sinclair Charitable Trust
Arohanui Charitable Trust
B R Malcolm Foundation
Benevolo Trust
Bollard Charitable Trust
Broderick Road Chapel
Cornelius Charitable Trust
Daphne Ford Trust
David Ellison Charitable Trust
David Ronald Wood Trust
Decal Trust
Dimock Charitable Trust
Eden Community Church
Edendale Christian Fellowship
First Presbyterian Church
Fraser Charitable Trust
G & S Vickers Charitable Trust
Gateway Church
Glendowie Presbyterian Church
Glenfield Community Church
Jones Missionary Trust
Keith Godfrey Charitable Trust
Kaiārahi Trust
KB and RJ Taylor Charitable Trust
Lichfield Lands Incorporated
Light of Life Chinese Church
Lochiel Community Church
Longview Trust

Merit Car Company
Methodist Church of NZ
Milford Baptist Church
Nelson Christian Trust
One T Six Trust
Otama Missionary Trust
Papakura East Presbyterian Church
PC & HPW Green Charitable Trust
Porirua Gospel Chapel
River Valley Baptist Church
Roger Vernon Charitable Trust
Rosedale Bible Church
Shepton Trust
Soul Purpose Trust 1999
St Andrews First Presbyterian Church
St John's in the City
Stoney Farm Charitable Trust
Te Ora Hou Trust
The Guy Colville Nicholson Charitable Trust
The Tidd Foundation Incorporated
The Synod of Otago & Southland
Titahi Bay Community Church
Trinity Baptist Church
W & M Bear Trust
W Crighton Charitable Company Ltd
Waidale Missionary Trust
Wakatipu Presbyterian Church
Wellington South Baptist Church
WellOral Ltd
Wilberforce Foundation
Windsor Community Church Missions Group
Wyndham Presbyterian Church



*Thank
You*

FINANCIALS



These summary financial statements have been extracted from SUNZ full financial statements. Summary financial statements do not provide the same level of information/ understanding as full financial statements. The full financial statements were approved by the SUNZ Board on 12 June 2026 and both periods covered by the following financial summary were audited by accountants BDO who provided unmodified audit opinion.

The full financial statements for both years include a statement of compliance with the XRB's Tier 3 (NFP) standard.

A copy of the full financial statements may be obtained by emailing info@sunz.org.nz or writing to Scripture Union, PO Box 760, Wellington 6140.



OPERATING COSTS

The Lord continues to provide and ensure the needs of SUNZ are met. We are thankful to our wide range of generous supporters who have enabled SUNZ to deliver an operating surplus of \$311,318 for the year ended 31 March 2026, compared to the original budget deficit of \$94,134. Legacies represented 24% of the total revenue, in comparison to last year of 18% of total revenue. This surplus provides the necessary

foundation for the planned deficit in the new financial year of 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027.

Total operating expenses increased by \$170,745 in 31 March 2026 financial year compared to the previous year, representing an increase of 7%. The cost of camps increased, representing \$44,756 of this 7% increase.

FINANCIAL POSITION

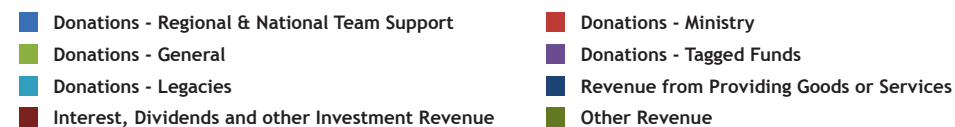
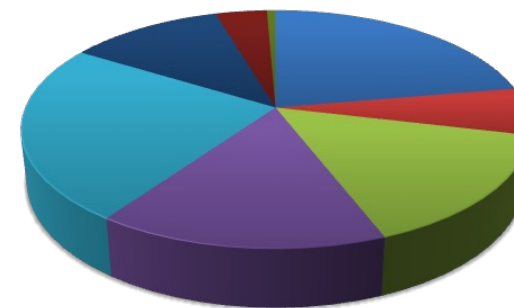
SUNZ continues to be in a strong and stable financial position. Total cash and current assets on the balance sheet at 31 March 2026 were \$2,702,396. Equity includes the Development Fund of \$972,512 which is set aside for special projects in the future.



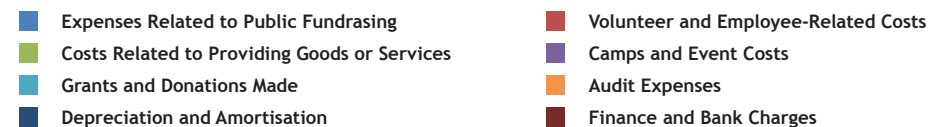
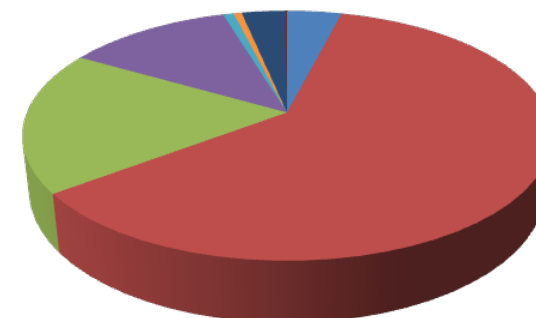
SCRIPTURE UNION NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	31 MARCH 2026	31 MARCH 2025
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Donations - Regional & National Team Support	646,356	736,647
Donations - Ministry	185,859	127,554
Donations - General	446,692	470,336
Donations - Tagged Funds	453,375	350,306
Donations - Legacies	696,662	481,020
Revenue from providing goods or services	338,592	321,739
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	113,205	138,351
Other revenue	18,949	20,555
TOTAL REVENUE	2,899,690	2,646,508
EXPENSES		
Expenses related to public fundraising	103,613	117,533
Volunteer and employee related costs	1,572,484	1,487,711
Costs related to providing goods or services	479,344	419,824
Camps & Event Costs	311,764	267,008
Grants and donations made	20,000	20,000
Audit expenses	15,383	24,939
Depreciation and Amortisation	82,636	75,197
Finance & Bank Charges	3,149	5,414
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,588,372	2,417,627
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	311,318	228,881

INCOME FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026



EXPENDITURE FOR FINANCIAL ENDED 31 MARCH 2026



SCRIPTURE UNION NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	31 MARCH 2026	31 MARCH 2025
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank accounts and cash	1,098,504	887,647
Debtors and prepayments	68,121	112,072
Inventory	10,771	14,773
Investments	1,525,000	2,010,000
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	2,702,396	3,024,491
Non-Current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	1,574,840	1,542,221
Investments	530,000	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	2,104,840	1,542,221
TOTAL ASSETS	4,807,236	4,566,712
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Creditors and accrued expenses	89,689	93,861
Employee costs payable	235,371	212,064
Unused donations and grants with conditions	462,083	576,325
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	787,143	882,250
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	95,685	71,371
TOTAL LIABILITIES	882,827	953,621
TOTAL ASSETS LESS TOTAL LIABILITIES (NET ASSETS)	3,924,409	3,613,092
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS	3,924,409	3,613,092

SCRIPTURE UNION NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	31 MARCH 2026	31 MARCH 2025
	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash was received from:		
Donations, koha, bequests and other general fundraising activities	2,314,465	2,168,521
Gross sales from commercial activities	334,178	197,479
Interest, dividends and other investment receipts	141,529	129,306
Other cash received	20,864	118,206
Cash was applied to:		
Payments related to public fundraising	(103,613)	(117,533)
Employee remuneration and other related payments	(1,482,673)	(1,446,962)
Payments related to commercial activities	(829,296)	(763,356)
Grants and donations paid	(20,000)	(20,000)
Other payments	(2,427)	(4,127)
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	373,028	261,533
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Cash was received from:		
Receipts from the sale of property, plant and equipment*	500	6,778
Cash was applied to:		
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment	(117,669)	(67,660)
Payments to purchase investments	(45,000)	
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OTHER ACTIVITIES	(162,169)	(60,882)
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash	210,860	200,652
Opening Cash	887,647	686,997
Closing Cash	1,098,504	887,647
This is represented by:		
Bank Accounts and Cash	1,098,504	887,647

SCRIPTURE UNION NEW ZEALAND INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026	TOTAL NZD	GENERAL & REGIONAL FUND	REVALUATION RESERVE	J& M LAIRD FUND	KERSLEY FUND	DEVELOPMENT FUND	CAMP & WORKING GROUP FUNDS
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	3,613,092	1,197,154	1,185,564	1,172	107,541	955,487	166,174
Reserve transfers in	57,615	57,615					
Reserve transfers out	(57,615)					(10,258)	(47,357)
Surplus or deficit from continuing operations	311,318	237,016	-	60	5	27,283	46,955
Other comprehensive income and expenses -Gain/losses on revaluation of property							
TOTAL SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	311,318	294,630	-	60	5	17,025	(402)
BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	3,924,409	1,491,784	1,185,564	1,231	107,546	972,512	165,772
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025	TOTAL NZD	GENERAL & REGIONAL FUND	REVALUATION RESERVE	J& M LAIRD FUND	KERSLEY FUND	DEVELOPMENT FUND	CAMP & WORKING GROUP FUNDS
BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	3,451,561	997,325	1,252,913	1,107	101,541	947,792	150,886
Reserve transfers in	83,864	83,864					
Reserve transfers out	(83,864)					(46,977)	(36,887)
Surplus or deficit from continuing operations	161,531	115,965	(67,350)	65	6,002	54,674	52,175
Other comprehensive income and expenses -Gain/losses on revaluation of property	0						
TOTAL SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	161,531	199,828		65	6,002	7,697	15,288
BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	3,613,092	1,197,154	1,185,564	1,172	107,541	955,487	166,174



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He rama tāu kupu ki ōku waewae
Your word is a lamp to my feet Psalm 119:105

SUNZ is a member of the Scripture Union
International Family

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