

Galleries and Museums

We support the Wellington Museums Trust (WMT), which operates the Museum of Wellington – City and Sea, the City Gallery, Capital E, the Wellington Cable Car Museum, the Colonial Cottage Museum, and the Plimmer’s Ark conservation project.

5.4.1 Galleries and Museums

WHAT WMT DID

The Capital E National Arts Festival was held in March, and included the world premiere of *Kia Ora Khalid*, an opera by Gareth Farr and David Armstrong. Final figures on the Festival are not available but we know that 32,500 tickets were sold (this excludes public events) and very good reviews and media comments were achieved for many of the productions.

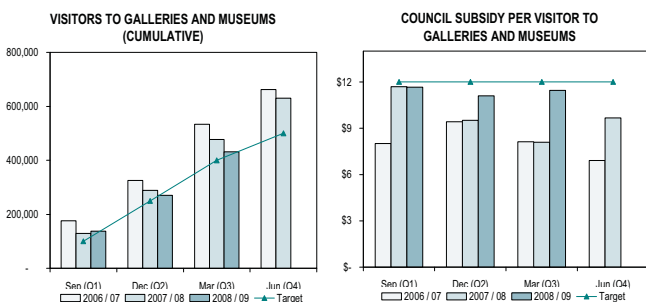
The Museum of Wellington - City and Sea opened *Shaped by Hand – 1957-2009 New Zealand Potters* on 3 March and has proved very popular bringing in a new audience to the Museum and showing that pottery retains a strong following within New Zealand.

The Colonial Cottage Museum community Open Day on 22 February was highly successful with 200 people enjoying events and activities.

Planning for the opening of the City Gallery in late September has begun.

A peer review of the Heritage Collection Relocation project commended the work of the Museum’s collections management team and confirmed the Trust’s approach to the relocation project.

HOW WE PERFORMED



ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

Planning for the opening events and celebrations for the City Gallery will be significantly advanced.

We will undertake a review of the 2009 Capital E National Arts Festival and deliver school holiday programmes at Capital E and the Museums.

We will also complete our business planning for 2009/10, and finalise and submit our Statement of Intent.

Financials

WHAT IT COST

Operational projects \$000	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance YTD	Full Year Budget
5.4.1 Galleries and Museums				
Expenditure	4,794	4,874	80	6,498
Revenue	0	0	0	0
Net Operating Expenditure	4,794	4,874	80	6,498
Capital projects \$000	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance YTD	Full Year Budget
5.4.1 Galleries and Museums				
Expenditure	1,823	2,987	1,164	3,712

Operating Expenditure

Operating expenditure is under budget as delays in the Art Gallery upgrade have resulted in lower than budgeted interest costs. Expenditure is expected to be under budget at year end.

Capital Expenditure

The Art Gallery upgrade capital programme is behind schedule with major works commencing in December 2008, with expected completion in the first quarter of 2009/10. In October 2008 Council approved additional funding of \$0.9m for this project due to cost escalation. As a result costs are expected to be over budget at year end.

How it Was Funded

This activity is targeted to be 100% rates funded.