



The Ranfurly Veterans' Trust

Caring for those who served



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



ranfurly.org.nz

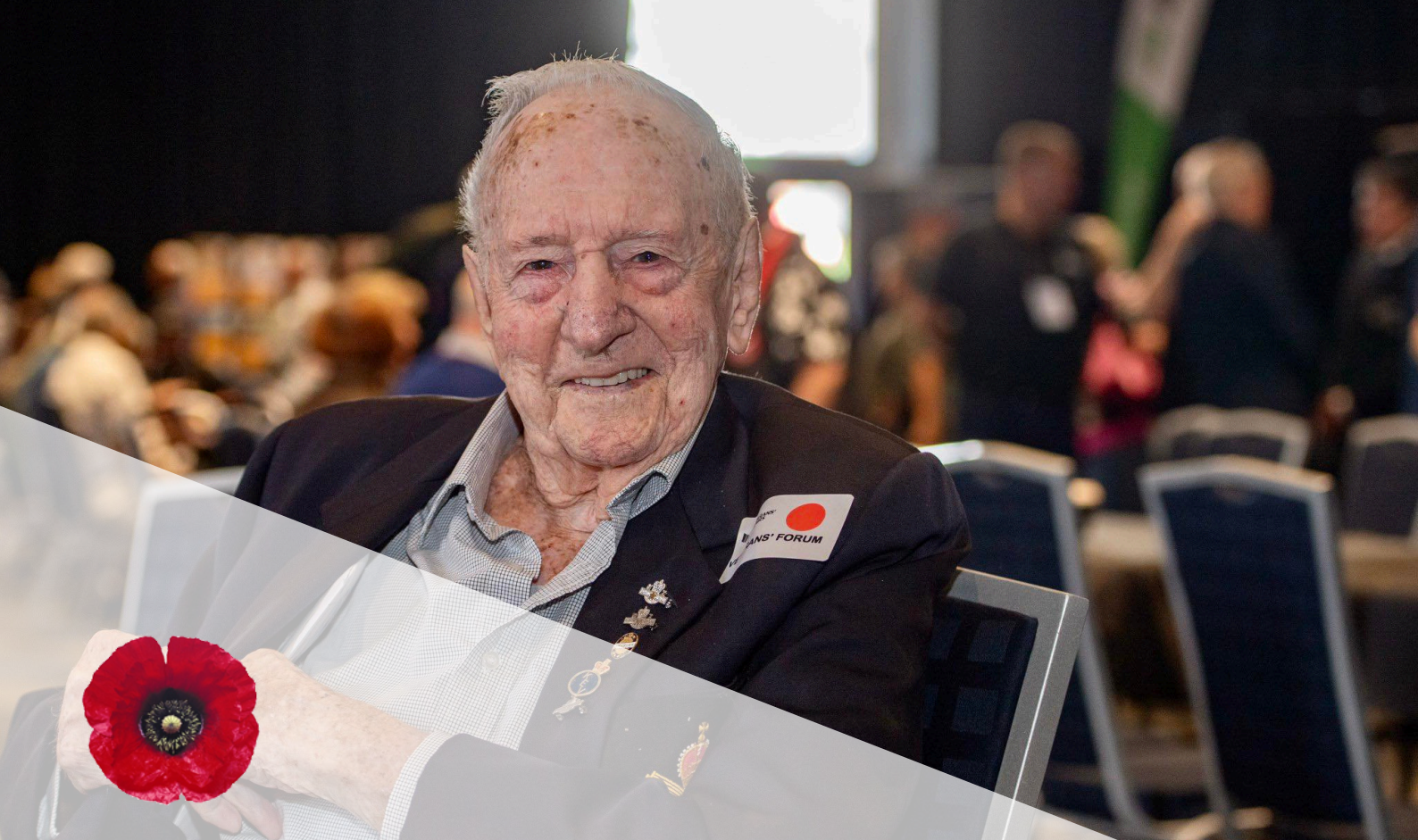
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CONTENTS

- 3** OUR VISION, MISSION, VALUES
- 4** MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND THE CEO
- 5** OUR HISTORY - WHERE WE HAVE COME FROM
- 6** WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED
- 8** WHERE OUR HELP GOES
 - 9** Ranfurly Hospital Respite Bed
 - 10** Connection
 - 12** The Poppy Foundation of Auckland Trust
- 14** OUR FOCUS
- 15** CHARITY INFORMATION



OUR VISION

Veterans in New Zealand are empowered to live their best life

OUR MISSION & VALUES

- Veterans and their whānau know the services and support available to them.
- Veterans in need receive services and support in a timely manner.
- Manaakitanga - We act with kindness, empathy, and care, veterans and their whānau are at the center of what we do.
- Whanaungatanga - We work together, connected for the betterment of the Veterans' community
- Whakawhanake - Continuous improvement, education, and development
- Kaitiakitanga - Guardianship, future proofing and responsibility for managing investments and making effective grants and donations to ensure veterans are cared for today and in the future.

Caring for those who served

Message from the Chairman and CEO

Tēnā koutou katoa,

At the Ranfurly Veterans' Trust, we are deeply privileged to walk alongside our veterans — listening to their stories, understanding their experiences, and supporting them through times of need. As we reflect on the 2025 financial year, we are humbled by the trust placed in us and remain steadfast in our commitment to honour that trust through care, compassion, and responsible stewardship.



Grant Ellis - Chairman



Kelly Blyth - CEO

During the year, the Trust distributed \$384,000 in donations, directly supporting veterans, their families, and the organisations that serve them.

This support included respite assistance for veterans and their dependants; welfare services delivered through The Poppy Foundation Trust in partnership with 15 Auckland RSAs; ongoing support for veterans living at Ranfurly Hospital and the Veteran Home; welfare assistance provided across Aotearoa New Zealand; and investment in education and veteran-led groups working within their local communities.

Each of these contributions represents more than a financial figure. They reflect considered decisions made with integrity, ensuring support is delivered in ways that are practical, respectful, and genuinely impactful for those who need it most.

As a self-funded organisation, we are acutely aware of our responsibility to ensure every dollar is used effectively. We do this by guiding veterans to the most appropriate services, partnering with trusted organisations, and working collaboratively to avoid duplication while maximising impact for veterans and their whānau.

Partnership remains central to our approach. By working alongside like-minded organisations throughout Aotearoa New Zealand, we strengthen outcomes and ensure veterans receive the right support at the right time.

Message from the Chairman and CEO

We extend our sincere gratitude to our volunteers, whose generosity of time and commitment underpins so much of our work. This includes our Board of Trustees – David Turner, Peter Skogstad, Melva Nicholson, Tony Hay, Greg Moyle, and Richard Marshall – for their leadership, stewardship, and continued dedication to the Trust's mission. We also acknowledge The Poppy Foundation Committee, led by Bob Pettis (Chair), alongside Bruce Robertson, George Coffin, Reece Notton, and Barrie Henderson, whose contribution is remembered with respect and gratitude. Our heartfelt thanks also go to our dedicated staff, whose professionalism and tireless efforts make this work possible every day.

We are grateful to Graham Wilkinson, owner of Generus Living, for his ongoing support and collaboration. His partnership and cooperation have been instrumental in advancing our shared commitment to the care and wellbeing of veterans.

Looking ahead, our focus is on establishing a clear, long-term strategy to ensure the sustainability of the Ranfurly Veterans' Trust. This forward-looking approach will enable us to build on our strong foundation and remain responsive to the evolving needs of veterans and their families, now and into the future.

At the heart of our work is a deep respect for the people we serve. As the whakataukī reminds us, "He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tāngata, he tāngata, he tāngata." What is the most important thing in the world? It is people. Veterans, you remain at the centre of everything we do. Thank you for your continued support and trust in us.

Ngā mihi nui,

Grant Ellis - Chairman

Kelly Blyth - CEO





OUR HISTORY- WHERE WE HAVE COME FROM?

1903 - 2025

The Auckland Veterans' Home was founded by deed of trust in 1903. Funds to build the Home on its present site were obtained through a national patriotic appeal sponsored by the Governor-General, His Excellency, the Fifth Earl of Ranfurly. The establishment of the Veterans Home came about at the suggestion of the 13th Governor of New Zealand at the time, Lord Ranfurly, when peace was declared after the Boer War in South Africa in 1902.

The Home was dedicated as a national memorial to those who died in the South African War 1899-1902 and a living monument to care for those who were wounded. The role of honour located in the foyer of Ranfurly Veteran Home records the names of 272 New Zealanders who died while serving in the ten New Zealand Mounted Rifles contingents or in British army units. Lord Ranfurly laid the foundation stone on Empire Day (24 May) 1903 and the Home was opened on 10 December 1903 with forty veterans in residence drawn from those who had served in the New Zealand Wars, the Crimean War, and the Indian Mutiny.

The Home has been in continuous use since, serving the needs of veterans of the South African War, the First and Second World Wars, Jayforce, the Korean War, Malaya, Borneo and Vietnam. The Home was administered by a Board of Trustees until 1915 when ownership passed to the Auckland Provincial Patriotic War Relief Association. In 1941 a new constitution and rules were approved and the administering body was renamed the Auckland Veterans' Home Board.

In 1950 the Home was acquired by the NZ Patriotic and Canteen Funds Board and in 1954 the name was changed to the Ranfurly Veterans' Home and Hospital to commemorate Lord Ranfurly's pivotal role and foresight. Considerable expansion of capacity and services took place over the next thirty years. At peak the facilities comprised an 83 bed rest home, a 35 bed hospital and a 24 bed dementia unit and employed over 100 full and part time staff.

In 2002 ownership of Ranfurly came full circle when the Patriotic and Canteen Funds Board returned Ranfurly to the Ranfurly Trust, a locally based Auckland trust established to continue caring for veterans. The focus of the Trust remained to continue to provide care and support to veterans and their families.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED...

As the World War II cohort diminished the number of veterans requiring residential care was steadily declining. At the same time the accommodation, largely built in the 1950s and 1960s was out of date and required extensive refurbishment or replacement.

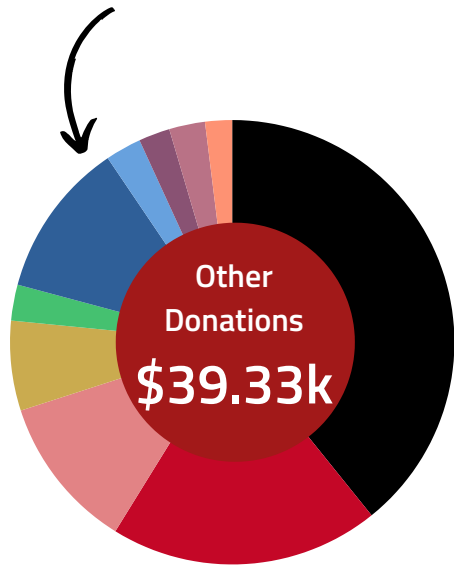
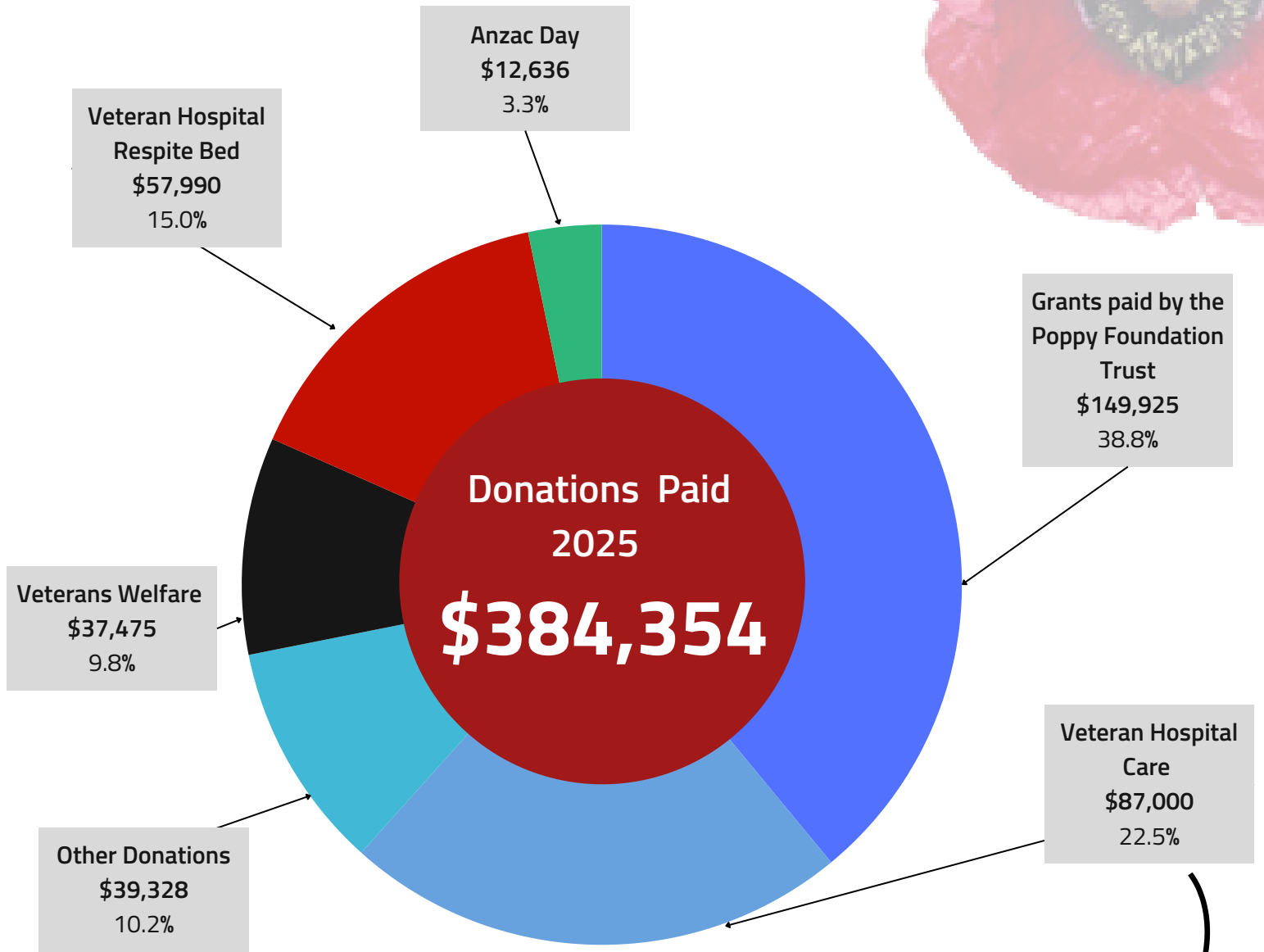
The Trustees gave considerable thought to these matters and to the future use of the land. It was determined that the Trust lacked the financial resources and ability to raise the money necessary to proceed with major works, particularly in a time of world recession and restricted Government spending.

In 2011 the Trustees finalised an agreement with a privately-owned retirement village operator Generus Living Group to participate in a joint venture to redevelop the site. The Trust leased the land to Generus Living Group. The plans called for the provision of a purpose-built new 60-bed Hospital and Veteran Home, the refurbishment of Ranfurly Veteran Home (the original Veteran Home), and the development of a retirement village consisting of 190 apartments. In 2012 operational management of the Ranfurly Hospital and Veteran Home was passed to Generus Living Group – Ranfurly Village Hospital Ltd.

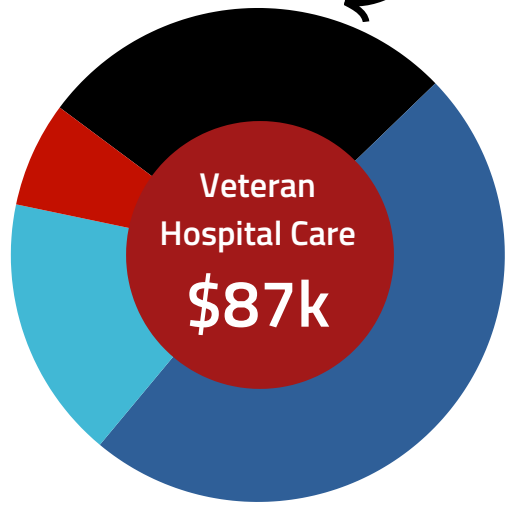


Refurbishment of Ranfurly House commenced in 2016 and was completed late 2018. The Veterans' Centre and Home was reopened in 2019. Refurbishment of Ranfurly Veteran Home has provided public rooms for the retirement village on the ground floor and The Ranfurly Veteran Centre on the upper floor from which the Ranfurly Veterans' Trust and other organisations operate to provide services and support to the veteran community.

WHERE OUR HELP GOES...



- SSAANZ \$15,000
- NZ Remembrance Army \$7,500
- Kahui St Davids \$4348
- Te Kiwi Maia \$4,289
- Back to Timor \$2,500
- Vietnam Veterans Assn \$2,000
- Envirocom NZ \$1,000
- NZSAS Assn \$1,000
- I am Kiwi Veterans \$870
- RNZ Navy Band \$750



- Diversional Therapy \$24,000
- Physiotherapy \$42,000
- Doctors Visits \$15,000
- Veteran Entertainment \$6,000

Since its establishment, The Ranfurly Veterans' Trust has granted a total of \$569,242 to the Poppy Foundation Trust

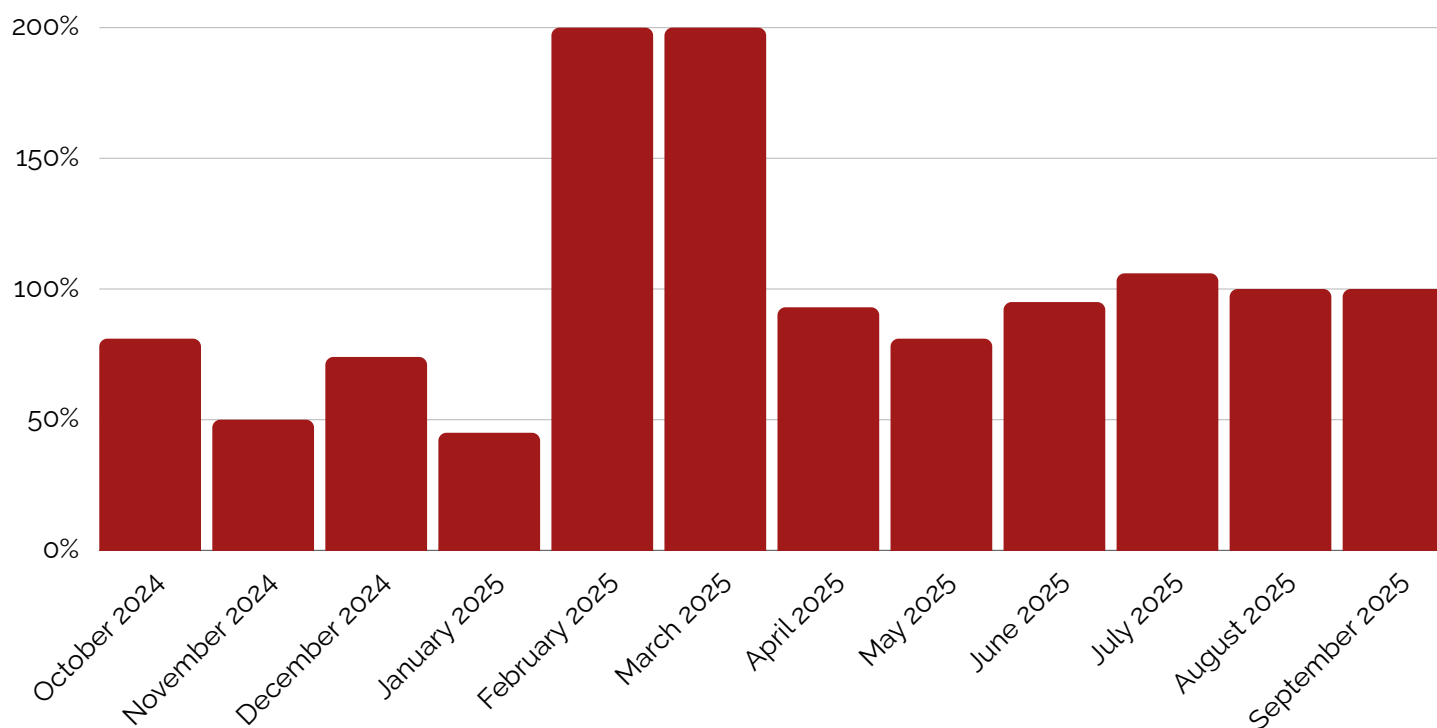
Ranfurly Hospital Respite Bed

In October 2021 the Ranfurly Veterans' Trust identified there was a need for respite care for veterans and their whānau and conducted a trial.

A dedicated respite bed was made available to veterans/veteran whānau, enabling carers to take a much needed and deserved break, reducing the likelihood of carer stress and burnout, and ensuring the veteran/veteran whānau member receive appropriate and adequate care.

The initial trial proved to be a huge success with a 92% occupancy rate in 2022, 83% in 2023, 86% in 2024 and 101% in 2025. In the months that went over 100%, if there was an empty room Ranfurly Hospital would let us use it for respite. This is now annually reviewed and part of The Ranfurly Veteran Trust offering.

Occupancy Rate 2025



Where the occupancy went over 100%, the hospital provided another room

Anzac commemoration is a very special and longstanding annual event at Ranfurly. Each year we gather at to remember those who have served our country. This year marks 122 years since the establishment of Ranfurly Hospital and Veterans Home in 1903.

Around 250 Ranfurly veterans and their families, staff and affiliates, along with invited VIPs, enjoyed the commemoration service under the marquee in the Veterans' Centre carpark on a blustery Auckland day. The Trust also provided a live stream so that those who couldn't attend in person could still be part of the service.

The Band of the Royal Regiment of the NZ Artillery once again provided the music, along with David Robertson on bagpipes who played the Piper's Lament. The service was MC'd by Tom Parsons, a veteran resident at Ranfurly Village, and prayers were led by Rev Paul Allen-Baines. FLTSGT Daphne Pringle was our guest speaker, with members of 3/6 Battalion providing the Catafalque party. Ranfurly Hospital residents Jim Taia and Roger Bush read the Ode of Remembrance in Te Reo and English respectively.

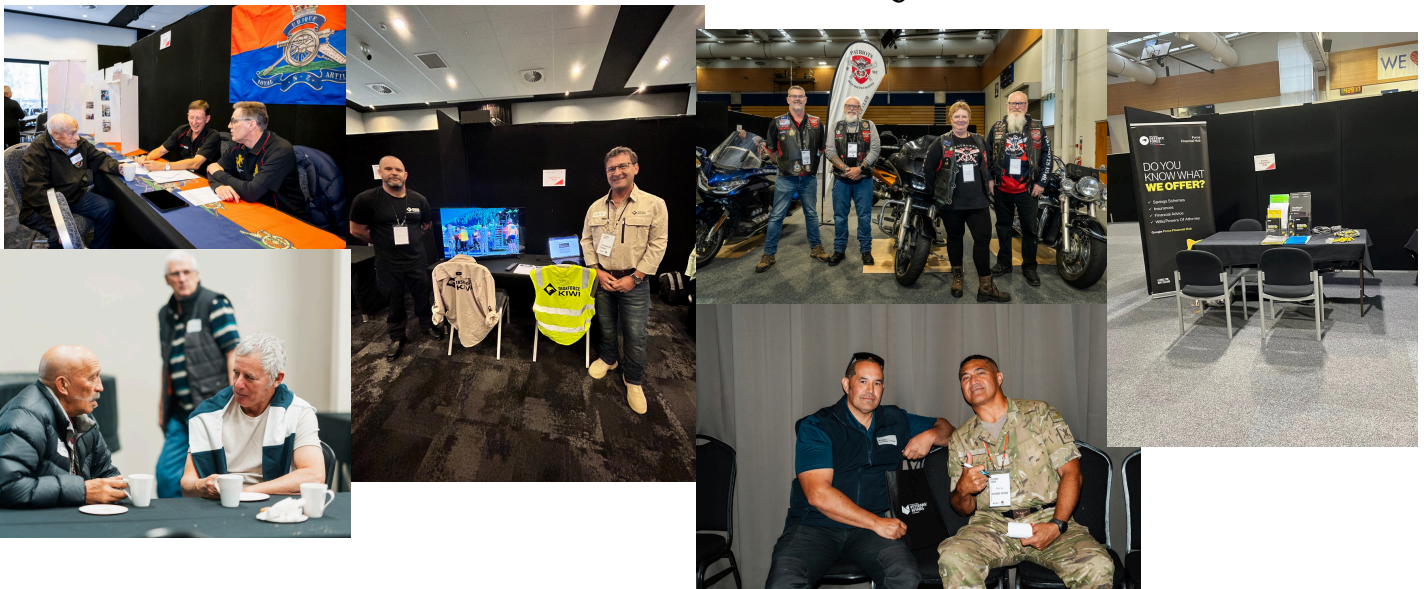
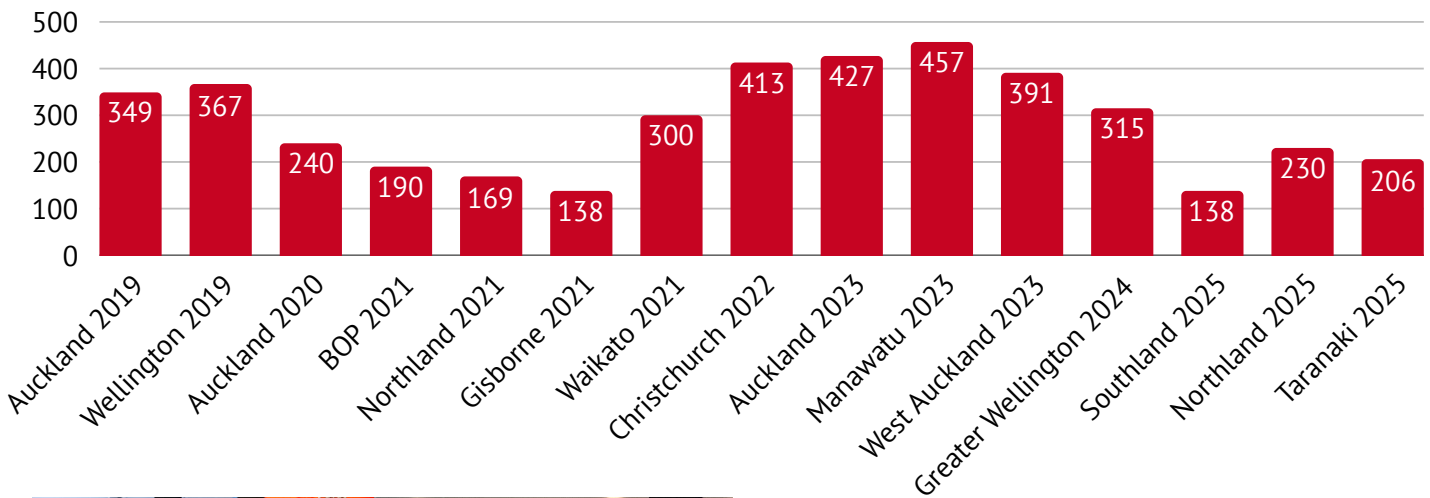


The **Ranfurly Veterans' Trust** worked collaboratively with **Veterans' Affairs NZ** to bring together veteran-focused organisations and New Zealand veterans and their families. Three forums were held this financial year: The Southland Forum was held in Dunedin in May, also in May was the Northland Forum in Kerikeri and the Taranaki Forum was held in New Plymouth in June. The focus was on connection, rehabilitation, veteran support and well-being for Veterans and their whanau.

The forums were open to anyone who had served or were still serving in the NZ Defence Force and their families, and provided:

- An opportunity to reunite, connect and engage with other veterans.
- Access to organisations offering support and assistance in areas such as finance, advocacy, health and wellbeing.
- One-on-one meetings between veterans and VA case managers .
- Access to private consultations with staff from the NZDF's Force Financial Hub to discuss wills, finance, and insurance.
- Funded equipment for ex-service members/veterans to aid with activities of daily living (ILS).
- An opportunity to hear presentations from many of the organisations represented.

Total Attendance at Veteran Forums



The Poppy Foundation of Auckland Trust



PFT Grant Committee Members (left to right) Bob Pettis (Chair), Reece Notton, Bruce Robertson, George Coffin, Barrie Henderson



Highlights

\$149,925

Total Paid by PFT 2025

936

Individual claims reviewed by the Grant Committee for the period October 2024 to September 2025

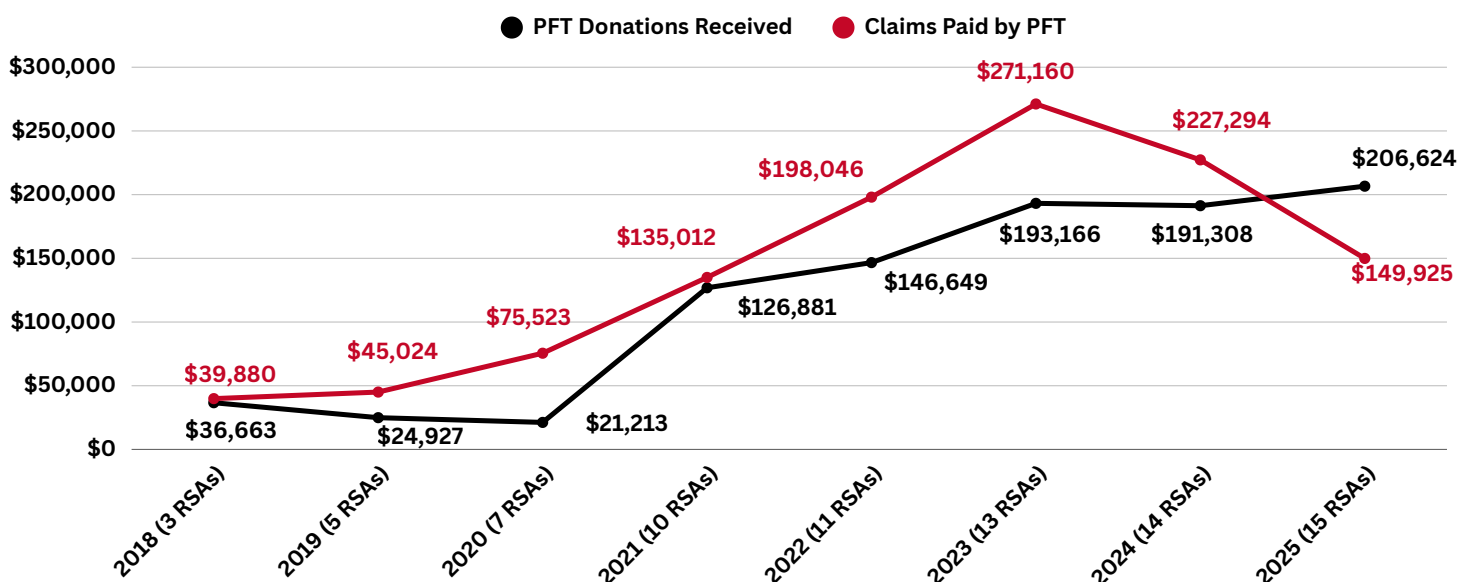
\$1,141,864

Paid out by PFT in welfare since inception

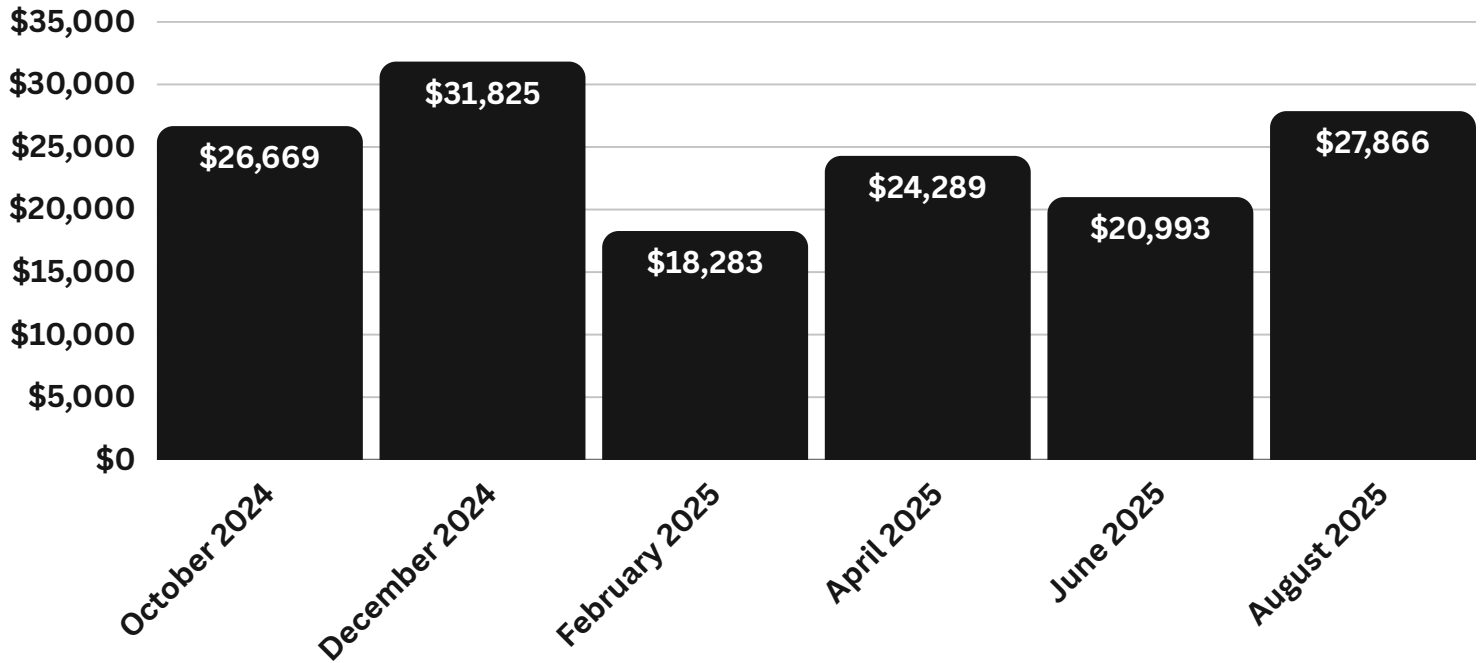
6,138

Individual Claims reviewed by PFT since inception

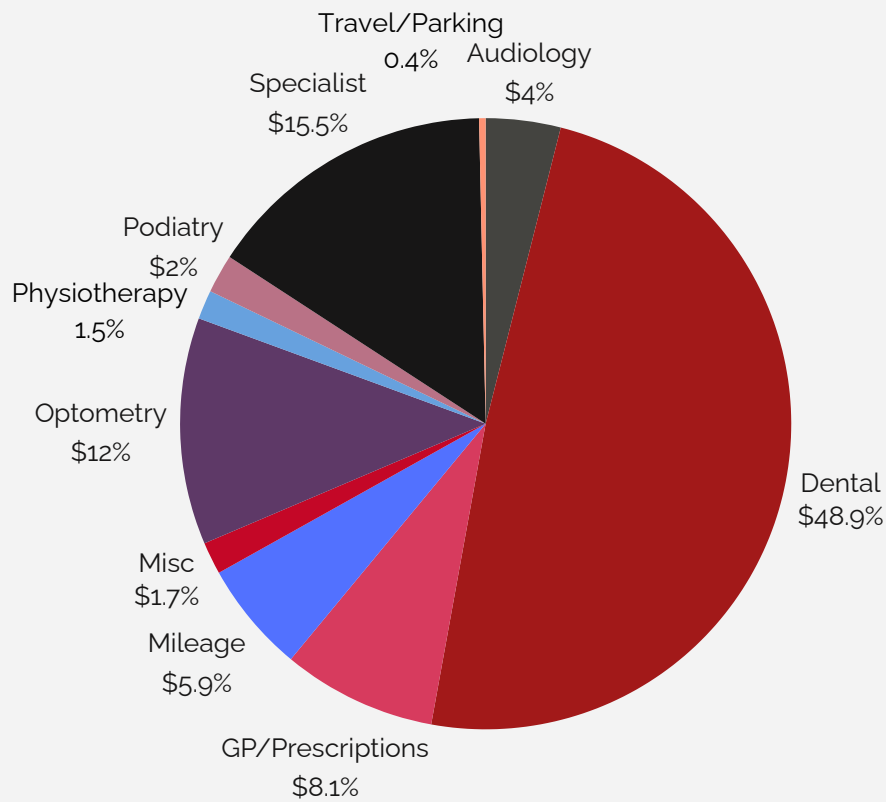
PFT Donation / Claims per annum



Approved Claims per PFT Committee meeting



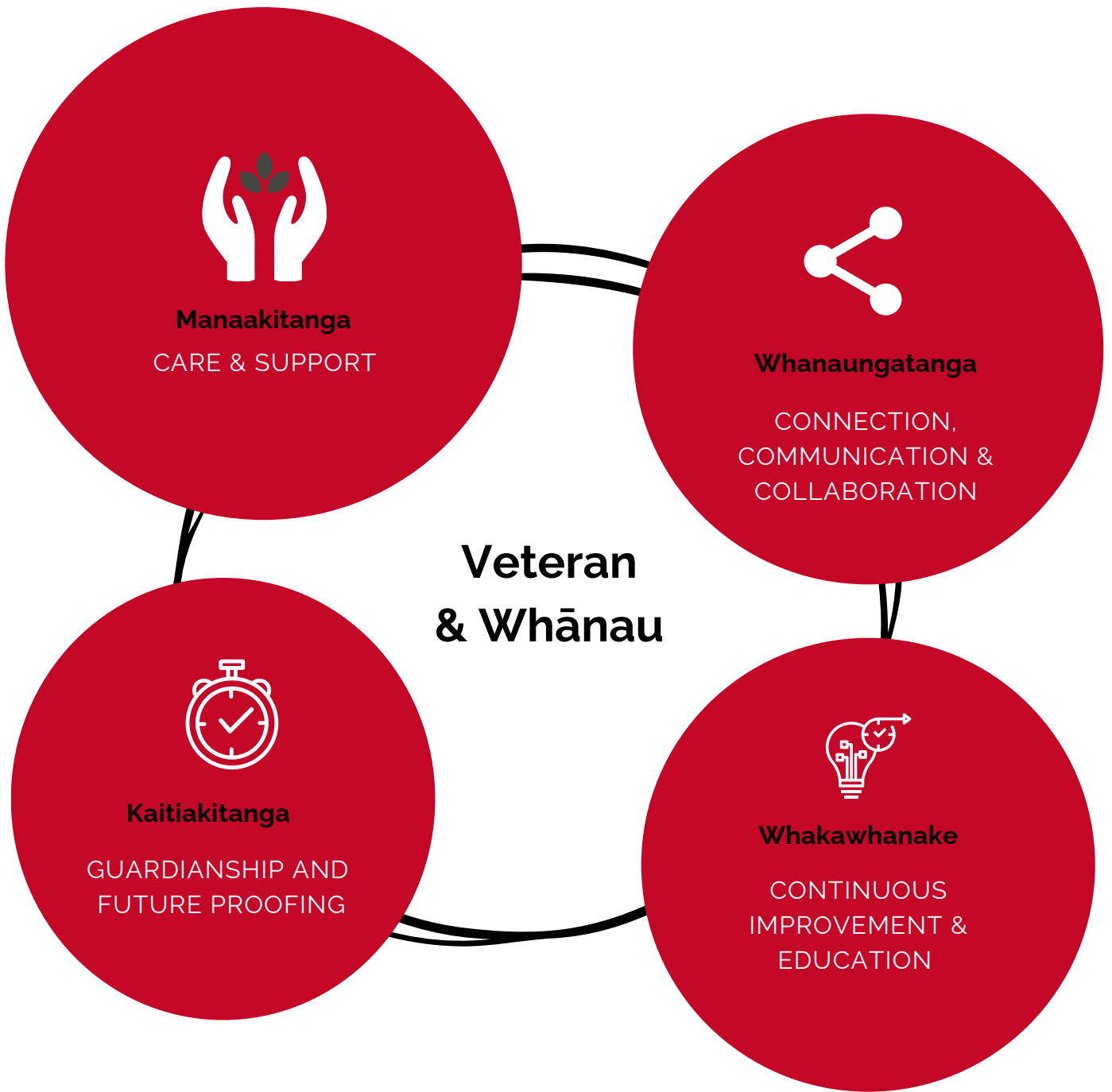
PFT Claim Allocation



Avondale RSA	\$1,399.00
Birkenhead RSA	\$46,599.77
Devonport RSA	\$7,392.84
Henderson RSA	\$4,140.65
Hibiscus Coast RSA	\$14,179.05
Hobsonville RSA	\$20,567.52
Kaipara RSA	\$5,628.69
Mt Wellington/Panmure	\$0.00
New Lynn RSA	\$16,260.99
Papakura RSA	\$12,684.75
Point Chevalier	\$0.00
Swanson RSA	\$6,493.50
Te Atatu RSA	\$10,138.44
Titirangi RSA	\$2,675.23
Waiheke RSA	\$1,585.00
Waimauku RSA	\$180.00

Total Paid out by PFT in 2025 - \$149,925

OUR FOCUS...



Together we can achieve more.

The Ranfurly Veterans' Trust believes we can achieve more by working collaboratively with veterans, other organisations, and the wider veteran community. We want veterans to live their best life through the empowerment of knowledge, resources, and information.

CHARITY INFORMATION

Board of Trustees

Grant Ellis	Chairman
Peter Skogstad	Trustee
David Turner	Trustee
Tony Hay	Trustee
Greg Moyle	Trustee
Melva Nicholson	Trustee
Richard Marshall	Trustee
Nick Jones	Trustee (retired April 2025)
John McGuire	Advisory Trustee

Executive Team

Kelly Blyth	CEO
Sue Normanton	Administrator/PA
Jontel Sullivan	Health Services Coordinator

Patron

The Rt Hon Dame Cindy Kiro	GNZM, QSO Governor-General of New Zealand
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Nature of Business	Registered Charity - To care for and support Veterans in New Zealand
Registration No.	CC24334
Registered Office	539 Mount Albert Rd, Three Kings, Auckland 1042
Postal Address	PO Box 27393, Mount Roskill, Auckland 1440
Telephone	+64 9 625 8310
Auditors	William Buck Audit (NZ) Limited



VETERANS' HOME
• 1903 •



Ranfurly Veterans' Trust

Caring for those who served

Registered Charity

CC24334

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