Living Springs

Annual Report 2026



Living Springs Annual Report 2026

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A place on a hill

For more than fifty years we have had a habit of attempting things that look impossible from the outset. In 2026, another of those ideas began to look possible.

For more than fifty years people have been making their way up Bamfords Road. Some arrive on school buses, carrying sleeping bags and enough luggage for a fortnight rather than three nights. Others come in work boots to plant trees, clear tracks or check traplines. There are university students, engineers on volunteering days, community groups, families and international volunteers who will make Living Springs their home for a year. They come for different reasons, which is partly why we have always been difficult to describe neatly.

We are a school camp and accommodation centre, but also a farm, a place of environmental restoration, a workplace, a home for volunteers and 350 hectares of Banks Peninsula land changing steadily for more than half a century.

Living Springs began with an idea considerably larger than the resources available to create it. Our CEO, Denis Aldridge, describes this as a recurring Living Springs habit: "attempting the impossible". In the early years there was enthusiasm, faith and practical improvisation, but very little money. Buildings went up as they could. Some were built on site and others came to Living Springs on trucks. One made it up the hill in a single go. Another fell off on the way, but eventually made it too. It is tempting, looking at Living Springs now, to make those early years sound inevitable. They weren't. The camp exists because successive groups of people looked at this steep piece of Banks Peninsula and decided to build something here anyway.

Decades later, Founders Field presented a similarly improbable problem: how do you make a large, flat playing field on a hillside? Today children run across it without a second thought. That may be one of the peculiarities of Living Springs. Once the impossible thing has been done, everyone gets used to it. Over recent years another transformation has been taking place across the land itself. Native planting has expanded, pest control has intensified and our environmental work has continued to grow beyond the government-funded Kaimahi for Nature programme.

What was once a much smaller part of Living Springs has become part of everyday life here. In 2026, we asked conservationist James R Lynch QSM to examine an idea that had been gathering momentum: could Living Springs become an eco-sanctuary while remaining the camp and community place it has always been? His answer gave us something important: confidence that the vision is achievable. The feasibility assessment found a credible pathway towards creating a camp within an eco-sanctuary. There is still an enormous amount to do, from technical investigation and planning to partnerships, permissions and funding, but we can now move towards the vision with evidence behind us.

It is an ambitious next chapter. We want to make it happen. There is more about that vision later. First, though, it is worth looking at what gives us the confidence to pursue it. Because ambitious plans are easy to draw. What matters is what happens when six volunteers turn up to move 748 plants, when a child cannot take part in the activity everyone else is doing, when a storm takes out a track, when a roof has leaked for years, or when a bird that had almost disappeared begins calling from the trees again. That is where the case for what comes next really begins.

The things children used to take for granted

School camp has changed surprisingly little. Childhood has not.



There is still something reassuringly old-fashioned about school camp. Children arrive with sleeping bags, bags of snacks they probably weren't meant to bring and varying ideas about what constitutes enough clean clothing. They sleep in bunkrooms, eat together, get wet, lose drink bottles and spend a few days doing things that would have been recognisable to children who came to Living Springs decades ago.

Joseph Aldridge, who runs our programmes department, thinks that continuity is part of what makes camp increasingly valuable. We haven't had to reinvent school camp for a digital generation. Instead, the world children return to afterwards has changed around it. Some now arrive with very little experience of walking through a forest, tackling something physically difficult, sleeping away from home or even eating food they have not encountered before. Camp puts them into a world where those experiences are suddenly normal.

When Joseph is asked what tells him camp is working, he tends to remember children rather than percentages: the anxious student who settles in, the child who gets further than expected, or someone for whom joining in requires the team to rethink what joining in looks like. One of those children was Dekken, a boy with Prader-Willi Syndrome and a physical disability. On an earlier camp he had been able to visit Living Springs only for the day, accompanied by his parents. When his group returned the following year, they were doing Initiatives and Bouldering on terrain that was not safe for him to navigate. So our team changed the activity. Archery tag was brought onto the flat ground outside Don's Shed and Kadin Williams, a member of our programmes team, worked with Dekken one on one, teaching him how to shoot. He loved it. Nothing about Dekken had changed. The people around him had simply decided that if the activity did not fit the child, they could change the activity.

A few weeks later, his mother phoned us. She wanted the team to know how much that moment of inclusion had meant. This year Dekken returned with a different school. He knew the place now. More importantly, he knew there would be a way in. Thousands of children come through Living Springs, and most of their breakthroughs will never result in a phone call. Sometimes they are visible at the bottom of the zipline, where a child who was terrified at the top arrives buzzing because they did it anyway. Sometimes it is the first night away from home, the first long walk through bush, or discovering that you can do something physical when you have never thought of yourself as the sort of person who can.

It is easy to underestimate the significance of those ordinary camp moments. For a child, a few days can contain a surprising number of firsts. First night away. First real independence. First time being responsible for other people. First time being properly muddy, properly tired, properly frightened and then discovering you are all right. That is a considerable amount of growing up to fit into a few days. Then they pile back onto the bus, tired, usually dirtier than when they arrived and not necessarily in possession of everything they brought with them. To them, it was camp. They may not realise until much later what else happened there.

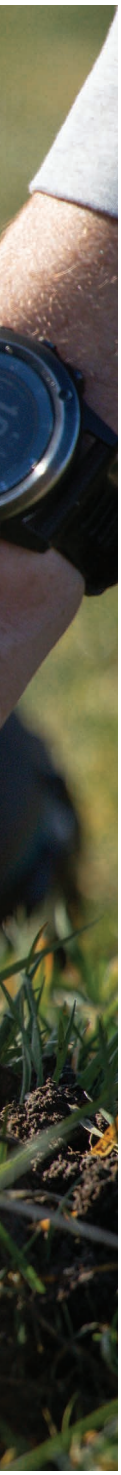


"If the activity did not fit the child, we could change the activity."

748 plants moved by six volunteers



Some come for a day. Some come every fortnight. Some travel halfway around the world and stay for a year. Together, they are changing the landscape.



The people who keep showing up

Earlier this year, 748 plants needed to be moved across Living Springs. It was the sort of job that would have been straightforward with a large volunteer group. Six people turned up. So the six of them moved 748 plants.

Our Volunteer Coordinator, Arna Warrander, has watched something develop that goes well beyond getting jobs done. The fortnightly volunteer programme is attracting people who no longer feel much like occasional visitors. Trevor has attended around 95 percent of the sessions. Others swap advice, contacts and offers of help outside Living Springs. People come because there is useful work to do and, somewhere along the way, a community forms around it.

There is no shortage of work. Trees have to be planted and maintained, weeds controlled, tracks worked on and traplines serviced. Some jobs transform a place by the end of the day. Others ask people to do something repetitive now for a result that might not become obvious for years. Not all of our volunteers work on the land. Four times a year, Kids Camp brings children aged 8 to 14 here for activities, challenges, campfires, friendship and faith. Many volunteer leaders are teenagers and young adults who give up part of their own school holidays. Some return camp after camp, growing from first time volunteers into experienced leaders who eventually encourage and train those coming through behind them. For them, learning to lead a camp is only part of it. They learn to communicate, work in a team, take responsibility, solve problems and look after younger people. Most will take those skills into their schools, workplaces, churches, families and communities. That is part of the point. Some volunteers come every fortnight. Others arrive for a day with their workplace or community group. Over the past year, 12 international volunteers made Living Springs their home. Five worked full time alongside our environmental team, while seven joined our camp team, helping deliver programmes for the thousands of children who came through Living Springs. Joseph Aldridge, who runs our programmes department, watches many arrive uncertain of themselves, nervous about leading children or taking responsibility in an unfamiliar country. Six or twelve months later, they are doing both. Our Operations Manager, John Donaldson, says we could not operate as we do without them. But the exchange is not one way.

The volunteers learn the land and the work, and become part of the peculiar household that forms when young people from the other side of the world live, eat and work together here. At last year's AGM, a group of volunteers, most from Germany and living and working in English rather than their first language, sang about their year. They had written about the trees and springs, shared meals, laughter, Grant's voice on the radio and becoming part of a whānau. The chorus borrowed a tune everyone knew:

"Bamfords Road, take us home
To Living Springs where we belong."

They had arrived from the other side of the world to volunteer for a year. By the time they left, they had written a song about the road that brought them home. Meanwhile the work continues. The trees keep going into the ground. The traps keep being checked. Trevor keeps turning up. The next group of volunteers arrives and learns where everything is. Years from now, nobody walking beneath those trees will know that six people once moved 748 of them into place. They will simply see a forest. That is what thousands of donated hours can become.

Listening for what comes back

When you spend enough time working in conservation, Grant says, you become attuned to what is there and what isn't. Five years ago, a tomtit call was noteworthy. Now he sees or hears them most days. The forest is beginning to "come alive with birdsong". Our five minute bird counts show kererū observations have increased by 120 percent over the past three years. Kererū are not just beautiful evidence of change; they are among the few native birds capable of swallowing and dispersing the large seeds of some forest trees. Bringing the birds back helps bring the forest back too. Behind that recovery sits an enormous amount of repetitive work.

Possum detection averages 0.9 percent and ship rat detection 3.64 percent, below our five percent target. The predators are not absent. Keeping detections low means traps checked, bait replaced and the same hills walked over and over. Increasingly, those hills are not all ours. Predator Free Allandale now connects Living Springs with 35 neighbouring properties. Five large properties joined this year, helping increase the programme area by around 30 percent. Across Living Springs and Predator Free Allandale, 51 staff, volunteers and landowners maintain almost 1,700 trapping, bait and monitoring devices across approximately 1,800 hectares. Twenty-one neighbouring landowners service their own traplines. Pause on that for a moment. A conservation effort centred on one property is becoming a restoration effort across a landscape. Birds, seeds, water and predators have never paid much attention to property boundaries, and increasingly our work doesn't either.

Two major rainfall events this year damaged tracks and restoration areas and moved soil towards Whakaraupō. Rather than simply repairing what broke, we are reconsidering planting, tracks, erosion and water movement together. Seven University of Canterbury Frontiers Abroad research projects have helped investigate environmental questions across the property.

At the other end of the scale is a nursery for creatures small enough to sit on a fingertip. Around 150 tonnes of river rock, shrubs and grasses are creating habitat for Boulder Copper and Winter Copper butterflies and native admirals. We hope to begin translocating Boulder Coppers and find out whether the habitat we have created is good enough. There are no guarantees. Restoration sometimes means creating the right conditions and waiting to see whether nature agrees. Much of this work is possible because we don't do it alone. Funders, councils, conservation organisations, businesses, researchers, volunteers and neighbouring landowners contribute money, knowledge, materials and time. Some contributions are large; others are a person taking responsibility for a trapline. The scale now being achieved is the product of all of them. Conservation can make for dramatic photographs when a species is released or a forest is finally mature. Most of the work happens long before that. It is somebody checking trap number 47 again. Someone planting a tree whose shade they may never sit beneath. A landowner agreeing to look after another line. And occasionally, the landscape answers.

“Five years ago, Grant noticed the tomtits because they were rarely there. Now he hears them almost every day. Imagine what might be calling from these hills five years from now.”



The work nobody came here to see



There is a particular satisfaction in a place simply working.
At Living Springs, making that happen is a surprisingly large job.

Nick Preston, a member of our property team, can now check our water supply from his phone. Smart Water monitors tank levels and alerts the team when something looks wrong, so Nick can check the main camp tank without walking up the hill. He can also check it while on holiday. Whether this improves his holiday is another question. Most visitors will never notice the system, which is precisely the idea. They also won't notice the new pressure tank controlling the Smart Spring pump, or think about the roofs, drains, pumps, flashings and tracks that have to work every day for thousands of guests. Our Property Manager, Ryan Charmley, is particularly pleased with one piece of flashing on the Lodge Sheds, fabricated to solve a weathertightness problem that had persisted for years. There was no ribbon cutting. It just stopped leaking. That sentence could stand for a surprising amount of the work. This year the team reroofed Dining Room Two and managed the project carefully enough to use the remaining budget to reclad the front of the BBH Motel units. At the Homestead, materials salvaged from behind Don's Shed became a custom hearth and exposed beam. There is a quiet ingenuity to keeping ageing buildings working well: save what can be saved, solve the problem properly and make the money stretch. The excavator has made another leap possible. Purchased with significant support from Christchurch City Council and Westpac, it allowed us to reopen tracks after heavy rainfall and is increasingly useful where access, water management and environmental restoration meet. It changes what a small team can do for years afterwards. The YHA gift has had a similar effect on our accommodation. Refurbished bunkrooms, Top House and improvements to the Lodge have moved work forward that would otherwise have taken years. Our Operations Manager, John Donaldson, estimates the gift has put us about a decade ahead of our maintenance programme. Ten years. For an organisation accustomed to working through a long list one roof, room and repair at a time, that is transformational. Yet when John is asked what he is



proudest of, he talks about the people. Guest comments repeatedly come back to the team. Pip Beauchamp and Nick keep the agricultural operation running and generating income. International volunteers shift between practical work and camp life. The property team solves problems guests never knew existed. There will always be another roof. Harbour View has flashings waiting. There is firewood to process and the Main Entry and Link roofs still need attention. Nick also continues to pursue what may be the most exacting standard of all: "perfectly straight lines when I mow Founders Field". It is easy to be impressed by a big vision. There is another kind of confidence in turning on a tap and knowing the water will come out, walking into a building during a storm and finding it dry, or bringing a school group up a track after heavy rain and finding somebody has already made it safe.

The extraordinary places are usually held up by people who are exceptionally good at the ordinary things.

"It is easy to be impressed by a big vision, but it's the ordinary things that keep this place running."



Who gets to come?

If Living Springs becomes one of Canterbury's extraordinary places, there is a question that matters just as much as what we create here: who gets to experience it?

Ask the Year 7 and 8 students at Te Komanawa Rowley School what they remember about Living Springs and you get wonderfully specific answers. Swimming. Tree climbing. The ropes. Trying to cross moving logs while balancing a cup of water on their heads, where spilling it was apparently part of the fun. And then there was the food. Mele liked the nachos. Divine went for the burger and fries. Sapphire was particularly taken with the avocado guacamole. Kharissa described her burger and fries as "absolutely amazing". Another student review declared the camp food "astonishing".

This is exactly how it should be. Children should not have to know that adults have spent months thinking about equitable access, social development or the long-term value of outdoor education. They should get to be children at camp.

For some families, however, getting there is not straightforward. The cost can put an experience many New Zealanders regard as an ordinary part of growing up beyond reach. The Aorangi Sponsorship Programme helps remove that barrier, making it possible for children to come whose families might otherwise have had to say no.

Alastair Cron, of Te Ahuawai Bromley School, describes what that means for a school serving one of Christchurch's lower socioeconomic communities. Support from Aorangi and Living Springs has allowed the school's whānau to access camp, giving children sustained time outdoors and opportunities they may not otherwise encounter. The important part is what happens next.

Once they are here, the child whose family found the cost of camp difficult is not having a lesser version of the experience. They are not standing at the edge while everybody else gets the good bit. They are climbing the same tree, sleeping in the same bunkroom, spilling the same cup of water and having strong opinions about the same burger.

The Rowley students certainly weren't preoccupied with equity. Isaiah liked archery tag and challenging himself with tree climbing. Another review considered the lack of rain an important contributor to the camp's success because it meant they could do more activities and run around outside. There is something wonderfully equalising about that.

As we think about what Living Springs could become, that principle matters even more. If this landscape becomes home to restored forest, extraordinary wildlife and experiences that cannot easily be found elsewhere in Canterbury, we need to consider access.

We were created as a place for people. Whatever Living Springs becomes next, we want it to remain a place where everyone can belong. Years from now, perhaps a child who would otherwise never have encountered a thriving native ecosystem will come here for camp. They may see a kākā. They may hear something in the forest that has been absent from Canterbury for generations. Or they may remember only that they climbed a tree, stayed up too late talking in the bunkroom and ate an astonishing burger. Both would count.



A camp w
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For more than fifty years children have come here to spend a few days outdoors. Now we have the opportunity to imagine something much bigger: what if the landscape surrounding their camp became one of Canterbury's extraordinary natural places?

When conservationist James R Lynch QSM began looking closely at Living Springs, one of the things that interested him was what was missing. Canterbury is one of New Zealand's most ecologically depleted regions. Much of its original habitat has disappeared and, with it, many of the native species that once lived here. That makes restoration harder than in places where intact ecosystems remain. Lynch also thinks it makes the opportunity more significant.

He describes Living Springs as an "oasis of potential". We have 350 hectares of land, substantial restoration already under way and a wider pest control effort extending through Allandale and Teddington. Just as importantly, this is not an isolated reserve. Thousands of people already come through our gates each year, many of them children.

The feasibility assessment Lynch completed this year examined whether those ingredients could become an eco sanctuary. Its conclusion gave us confidence that the vision is achievable. Our vision is a camp within an eco sanctuary. The sanctuary would encompass the wider Living Springs landscape, with a highly protected predator-proof area at its core. One potential fence route would enclose up to about 220 hectares, curving around the operational camp in something like a kidney shape. The camp itself would remain outside the predator proof enclosure, allowing buses, visitors, staff and supplies to move freely, but it would sit within the wider sanctuary landscape. That distinction is important. The sanctuary is not simply the land behind a fence. Restoration, planting, habitat creation and predator control already extend across Living Springs and beyond it. The fenced area would create a protected ecological core where introduced predators could potentially be eradicated and native species returned that could not otherwise survive here. There are already eleven native bird species resident at Living Springs, five of them abundant. The feasibility assessment identified another twelve with a high possibility of reintroduction, although every species would bring its own ecological requirements, approvals and challenges. Among the possibilities considered are kiwi, kākā, tīeke, takahē, weka and tuatara. They are possibilities, not promises. A fence would be the beginning of that work. But imagine what those possibilities could mean. Imagine this landscape decades from now. Gullies that are still open today have become forest. Podocarps planted by volunteers now rise above the people walking beneath them. Kererū are no longer noteworthy enough to count every time they fly overhead. Kākā move between the trees. Somewhere in the sanctuary a child catches sight of a tīeke, or hears a kiwi after dark. Below them is Whakaraupō. Beyond it, Christchurch. And in the middle of all this is still a camp.

There are still buses coming up Bamfords Road and children hauling sleeping bags into bunkrooms. Someone is still nervous about the zipline. Someone has lost a drink bottle. Dinner still matters enormously. But those children are growing up with something that generations of Canterbury children have largely been denied: the chance to experience a thriving native ecosystem not as an exhibit or something they have read about, but as a place they can enter, explore and belong in. That is what makes the combination so unusual. Most sanctuaries have to persuade people to visit. We already have them here. The camp does not disappear into a conservation project. It is one of the reasons we want to create the sanctuary in the first place.

"An oasis of potential"

James R Lynch QSM





Tracks and activities could take children into protected habitat. They could help restore it, learn in it and encounter wildlife because of it. Environmental education would no longer have to compete with the zipline for a place on the timetable. Nature would increasingly become part of where camp happens. And that is where the ambition becomes larger than Living Springs. Canterbury has lost much of its indigenous biodiversity. Lynch believes that makes the opportunity here unusually significant. A restored Living Springs could become a place from which ecological recovery reaches outward rather than stopping at a fence. The approximately 1,800 hectares already connected through pest control offer a glimpse of how that could work. Birds do not recognise property titles. Neither do seeds. What flourishes here has the potential, over time, to move beyond here. We don't simply want to build a sanctuary. We want to help put something back into Canterbury that has been missing for a very long time.

There is a considerable distance between that vision and a finished sanctuary. We still have ecological and technical questions to answer, detailed fence assessment and design to undertake, governance and planning work to do, relationships to build with mana whenua and neighbours, permissions to secure and substantial funding to find. Any future species reintroduction would bring its own careful process. The work will take years. Restoration of the landscape will take decades. Living Springs board member Tui Wagstaff sees that timescale as part of the significance of the project. For her, the feasibility study's achievement this year was moving the idea from aspiration towards a credible pathway. Our next task is not to pretend every detail is settled. We now need to bring more people into the conversation about what we could create here together.

Lynch takes an appropriately long view. He returns to a line from Reinhold Niebuhr: "Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in a single lifetime; therefore, we must be saved by hope." For Living Springs, Lynch says he would substitute one word: ambition. It is something he believes we have "in spades". The point is not that ambition guarantees success. It is that work on this scale has to be started by people who know they may never see its final form. Living Springs itself was an improbable idea once. People began building it without knowing exactly how it would turn out. Each generation inherited something from the one before it and added another piece. We are standing in what they left us. An eco sanctuary could be what we leave to those who come next.

We cannot create it alone. It will require money and expertise, mana whenua and government, conservation partners and neighbours, researchers, businesses, volunteers and people prepared to back something whose full return cannot be measured at the end of the next financial year. There is no guarantee that every species imagined today will one day live here, or that the sanctuary will look exactly as it does on current plans.

But we now have credible evidence that something remarkable can be created here.

Perhaps, decades from now, children will come to Living Springs and hear birds that have been absent from this part of Canterbury for generations. They will walk through forest planted by people they will never know, protected by decisions made long before they were born. And they may find none of it particularly extraordinary. They will have grown up believing this is simply what Canterbury can be.

Imagine that.

"Nature would increasingly become part of where camp happens."

Entity Information

Living Springs Trust
For the year ended 31 March 2026

Legal Name of Entity

Living Springs Trust

Registration Number

CC37397

Entity Type and Legal Basis

The entity is a Trust and a Registered Charity.

Entity's Purpose or Mission

Living Springs is a charitable trust initially established in the 1970's as a place for schools, churches and youth camps. Since then Living Springs has acted like a magnet for the people of Christchurch and beyond, attracting thousands of young people and community groups into this unique and breath-taking setting. Since the commencement of the trust, it has endeavoured to honour the original commitment by the founders. Today its mission is to "create high quality environments where people have experiences that enrich them as human beings, enable them to grow stronger together and inspire them to live life to the full". Living Springs aims to create "high quality environments" in a holistic way and is focused on restoring and healing the land and natural habitats that surround the camp, thereby having a bigger impact on those who visit from the city of Christchurch and beyond. It is a facility that provides schools and community groups a place to hold an event or camp in an amazing setting. It is situated at the head of Lyttelton Harbour and the property is 350ha. It now plays a vital role in the wellbeing of the city of Christchurch and has become known as a place where life is celebrated, where knowledge is sought and where every year thousands of people are refreshed, strengthened and inspired.

The charitable purposes and aims of the Living Springs Trust is to:

a) Provide a place of retreat, reflection, rest and sanctuary for people to connect with themselves, with others and with nature; and to

b) Provide education opportunities for people to come and learn new skills and have the chance for spiritual, mental, moral, social and physical improvement and growth in unique environments where all people have a chance to flourish together.

c) Care for the natural environment in a way that promotes a sustainable relationship with the earth, and enables and encourages the ecosystems within and beyond the Trust property to flourish; and

d) To encourage education about, and an engagement with our environment in a way that promotes an appreciation of the natural world and our place within it, as well as an awareness of the interrelatedness of all life forms.

e) Provide lifegiving and enriching group experiences, within a context of harmony, hospitality and care, to all who come to Living Springs.

f) Providing material, emotional, social and spiritual support to those who live with an “absence of hope” related to poverty, political, religious or health factors or because of unseen crisis or events including natural disasters.

Entity Structure

Operational

The Living Springs camp and facilities are run by approximately 20 permanent staff involved in adventure activities and recreational activities, catering, housekeeping and administration, with three staff to manage property and maintenance. Casual staff are used to meet our service demands in our busiest periods. Living Springs runs a tight financial line in order to remain an accessible and sustainable organisation while also providing a high standard of service to the people of Christchurch and

beyond, hosting a diverse range of groups and running camps. Resources are always maximised and the structural organisation has been refined and detailed to utilise existing staff fully and reduce inefficiencies. Most staff are trained in several areas and can be called upon to work in other departments at short notice.
This entity operates as a single entity and has no branches or divisions.

Entity's Governance Arrangements

For 53 years the Trustees of Living Springs has consisted mainly of the Founding Family members many of whom to this day who still have an interest in the mission of Living Springs and the direction the camp is taking. Since 2023 this group have formed what is known as the Kaitiaki and provide wisdom and input on matters when requested by the Trustees. Decisions of the Trustees which relate to the sale or purchase of land by the Trust require the written approval of not less than two thirds of Kaitiaki.

In 2023 a new Board of Trustees, along with some variations to the Trust Deed, were instated. This Board currently consists of five Trustees plus the Executive Director, has all powers confered by law to carry out the Charitable Purposes of the Trust and has direct influence over the operational management of Living Springs. The Board meets monthly to discuss strategic direction, financials, health & safety, marketing, communications, fundraising and projects as well as any other issues.

Living Springs is an independent entity without any relationships to any other governing body on a regional or national scale.

Other Entities Controlled by the Entity

There are no other entities controlled by this Entity.

Entity's Reliance on Volunteers and Donated Goods or Services

Volunteers

Twice yearly, an intake of 10 international volunteers apply to work at Living Springs through the Aotearoa Cultural and Volunteer Exchange Programme. These volunteers are trained in most departments and work at camp. They become part of the Living Springs community and the operation of the camp, and the high standard of the facilities, depends on their contribution.

Living Springs also depends on approximately 40 young leaders, aged 16+, who donate their time in the school holidays to run the Kids Camp Holiday Programme. This is a four night camp and the high level of supervision required is met by these leaders. These volunteers attend Springboard Leadership Development camp to gain valuable leadership skills.

Several years ago a commitment was made to improving the biodiversity and health of the environment on the Living Springs property and a number of large scale re-vegetation projects were commenced. Corporate and community groups volunteer their time to environmental projects and planting native trees. From Sept 2021 this programme has ramped up with the Department of Conservation funding "Kaimahi Jobs for Nature", providing 8 full-time staff until March 2024. We now have significant pest trapping, noxious weed management and tree planting programmes operating.

Donated Goods and Services

The main source of donated goods and services to Living Springs comes in the form of in-kind work, particularly when dealing with contractors.

Physical Address

218 Bamfords Road, RD 1, Lyttelton, New Zealand, 8971

Trustees

Catherine Ruth Morrow Blockley
Paul Anthony Cowey
David Leonard Morrow
Tui Emma Wagstaff
Simon Thompson

Bankers

Bank of New Zealand

Date of Formation

May 15th, 1973

Accountants

Astute Mode Limited

Independent Auditors

Smith and Jack Chartered Accountants

Approval of Financial Report

Living Springs Trust
For the year ended 31 March 2026

The Trustees are pleased to present the approved financial report including the historical financial statements of Living Springs Trust for year ended 31 March 2026.

APPROVED

For and on behalf of the Trustees

Simon Thompson (Oct 22, 2026 09:36:16 GMT+13)

22/10/2026
Date .....

Catherine Blockley
Catherine Blockley (Oct 22, 2026 11:36:14 GMT+13)

22/10/2026
Date .....

These accounts are subject to Audit; please refer to the Audit Report

Statement of Service Performance

Living Springs Trust
For the year ended 31 March 2026

Description of Medium to Long Term Objectives

The mission is to "create high quality environments where people have experiences that enrich them as human beings, enable them to grow stronger together and inspire them to live life to the full".
Living Springs is a valued and well utilised facility used by a large number of people from all over the Canterbury region and beyond. The majority of visitors are school children and people connected though community organisations. Living Springs main camping facility is located 20 minutes from Christchurch on a large hillside property overlooking Lyttelton Harbour. The natural bush setting is therapeutic and has a positive impact on everyone who visits by fostering wellbeing, enriching lives and developing resilience. Living Springs is a popular choice for many health-related camps. This last financial year we welcomed once again Camp Quality for children and young people with cancer, and many other community groups. A high standard of hospitality including accommodation, catering and activities being provided, Living Springs has become a special place to many and connects people across the generations.

Description of Key Activities

Quantity

	2026	2025
Total Visitors	10,822	9,824
Total Bookings	224	234
Total nights accommodation	18,371	18,081
Primary Schools - visitors	5,246	4,880
Primary Schools - hosted	89	75
Primary Schools - nights	8,694	8,930
Secondary Schools - visitors	1,142	1,365
Secondary Schools - hosted	17	22
Secondary Schools - nights	1,214	1,741
Tertiary - visitors	653	591
Tertiary - hosted	10	9
Tertiary - nights	1,611	1,410
Corporate Groups - visitors	319	354
Corporate Groups - hosted	10	13
Corporate Groups - nights	220	401

These accounts are subject to Audit; please refer to the Audit Report

	2026	2025
Wider Community - visitors	2,205	1,631
Wider Community - hosted	78	94
Wider Community - nights	4,343	3,288
Church Groups - visitors	531	686
Church Group - hosted	11	15
Church Groups - nights	1,147	1,107
Kids Camp - visitors	403	317
Kids Camp - hosted	5	6
Kids Camp - nights	1,102	1,204
Misc & Internal Events - visitors	23	0
Misc & Internal Events - hosted	4	0
Misc & Internal Events - nights	40	0

The development of programmes and camps reflect the mission statement and is at the heart of the operations at Living Springs. There are several areas of focus but the main areas for the financial year ending March 31, 2026, were: the Aorangi Sponsorship Programme; Ecosanctuary; Environmental Education; Leadership Development and Living Springs Camping Collective. It is very important that camp is as accessible as possible to all socio-economic groups, including lower-decile schools.

The Aorangi Sponsorship Programme's purpose is to fundraise money to cover fees allowing lower-decile schools to attend camp. In this financial year, we were able to assist with 5 sponsored camps (2025:7) going ahead.

Kids Holiday Camps are subsidised by Living Springs. There is a big investment made into training the leaders to an excellent standard. This has become a strong network of young people who then take these leadership skills into their communities. The holiday camp is not only a great experience for the campers but also a service for parents and caregivers. The holiday camp is OSCAR accredited and some campers are subsidised by WINZ to attend. Others are from foster families and the camp offers respite care for many caregivers.

One of the unique characteristics of Living Springs is the endowment of a rich environment of flora and fauna. A strong partnership continues to develop with the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust, The Summit Road Society, the Christchurch City Council, ECan, Whaka Ora, Healthy Harbour and other environmental groups to combine forces and create a Southern Port Hills Ecological Hub. This has sharpened the environmental focus and as an organisation, Living Springs recognises the opportunities and responsibilities this brings. To date over 78,000 native trees have been planted, and 150 hectares containing large tracts of regenerating native forest have been retired from livestock grazing. Access paths are currently being developed to help campers engage more fully with the special qualities of the place. Predator control, planting, land management and Environmental Education are now a focus of the strategic plan.

Over the last decade Living Springs has been on an environmental journey. It is our aspiration to become an eco-sanctuary and for three years we partnered with Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke and Conservation Volunteers New Zealand to work together and share knowledge. Ecological and cultural restoration of Whakaraupō as mahinga kai is essential to ensure healthy, abundant, interconnected and sustainable life, waterways and communities. Since then, Living Springs has employed 4 permanent staff that are working towards ecological restoration. Their main goals are planting and maintaining native trees, noxious weed control, pest monitoring and control and fence and track maintenance.

Living Springs continues to make the swimming pool available for community use, kayak training and school swimming sports;

As Living Springs matures as an organisation, the impact it has on people has become more evident over the years. Its development has made it a sustainable Charitable Trust and has been operating for 53 years, and is determined to continue this service for future generations.

These accounts are subject to Audit; please refer to the Audit Report

Statement of Financial Performance

Living Springs Trust
For the year ended 31 March 2026

	NOTES	2026	2025
Revenue			
Donations, koha, bequests and other general fundraising activities	1	76	25,607
General Grants	1	24,655	-
Capital Grants and Donations	1	815,134	73,879
Government service delivery grants/contracts	1	152,315	46,458
Non Government service delivery income		1,921,509	1,665,758
Revenue from commercial activities	1	101,270	100,223
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	1	33,714	44,833
Other revenue	1	130,605	23,759
Total Revenue		**3,179,278**	**1,980,516**
Expenses			
Employee renumeration and other related expenses	2	1,250,533	1,143,802
Volunteer related expenses	2	42,992	29,743
Expenses related to service delivery	2	1,156,757	859,202
Grants and donations made	2	5,890	5,500
Other expenses	2	277,899	202,323
Total Expenses		**2,734,071**	**2,240,571**
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		**445,208**	**(260,055)**

These accounts are subject to Audit; please refer to the Audit Report

Statement of Financial Position

Living Springs Trust
As at 31 March 2026

	NOTES	31 MAR 2026	31 MAR 2025
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and short-term deposits	3	467,240	238,002
Debtors and prepayments	3	308,236	182,061
Inventory	3	15,735	15,465
Investments	6	500,000	550,000
Other Current Assets	3	200	200
Total Current Assets		**1,291,410**	**985,728**
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	5,388,205	4,897,566
Investments	6	6,862	6,862
Other non-current assets	10	145,000	145,000
Total Non-Current Assets		**5,540,067**	**5,049,428**
Total Assets		**6,831,477**	**6,035,157**
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and accrued expenses	4	184,870	178,624
Employee costs payable	4	60,416	75,019
Deferred revenue	4	513,931	154,461
Total Current Liabilities		**759,217**	**408,104**
Total Liabilities		**759,217**	**408,104**
Total Assets less Total Liabilities (Net Assets)		**6,072,260**	**5,627,053**
Accumulated Funds			
Accumulated surpluses or (deficits)	7	1,534,393	2,081,365
Reserves - Donations and Grants Recognised	7	4,537,868	3,545,688
Total Accumulated Funds		**6,072,260**	**5,627,053**

These accounts are subject to Audit; please refer to the Audit Report

Statement of Cash Flows

Living Springs Trust
For the year ended 31 March 2026

	2026	2025
Operating receipts (money deposited into the bank account)		
Donations, koha, bequests and other general fundraising activities	4,980	25,607
General Grants	49,583	43,978
Capital Grants and Donations	1,080,948	73,879
Government service delivery grants/contracts	216,176	45,035
Non-government service delivery income	1,807,897	1,741,977
Gross Sales from commercial activities	101,270	100,223
Interest, dividends and other investment receipts	33,979	44,833
Other cash received	138,836	33,070
Total receipts	**3,433,669**	**2,108,602**
Less operating payments (money withdrawn from your bank account		
Employee renumeration and other related payments	(1,253,190)	(1,117,124)
Volunteer related payments	(42,992)	(29,743)
Payments related to service activity	(1,180,915)	(904,583)
Grants and donations paid	(5,890)	(5,500)
Other payments	(8,542)	(5,431)
Total payments	**(2,491,528)**	**(2,062,380)**
Net cash flows from operating activities	**942,141**	**46,222**
Cash Flows from other activities		
Cash was received from:		
Sale of property, plant and equipment	-	1,739
Net cash flows from Term Deposits	50,000	50,000
Cash was applied to:		
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment	(762,903)	(170,233)
Net cash flows from other activities	**(712,903)**	**(118,494)**
Net increase/(decrease) in cash	**229,237**	**(72,272)**
Cash Balances		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	238,002	310,274
Net change in cash for period	229,237	(72,272)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	467,240	238,002

These accounts are subject to Audit; please refer to the Audit Report

Statement of Accounting Policies

Living Springs Trust
For the year ended 31 March 2026

The entity, Living Springs Trust, is a Trust established in 1973 by trust deed. It is a charitable organisation registered under the Charitable Trust Act 2005 and its registration number is CC37397.

Basis of Preparation

This performance report is prepared in accordance with the XRB's Tier 3 (NFP) Standard. The entity is eligible to apply these requirements as it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses of less than $5,000,000. All transactions in the performance report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. This performance report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

Treatment of GST

All amounts are recorded on a GST exclusive basis, except for Debtors and Creditors which are stated inclusive of GST

Income Tax

Living Springs Trust is wholly exempt from New Zealand income tax having fully complied with all statutory conditions for these exemptions.

Bank Accounts and Cash

Cash and short term deposits in the Statement of Cash Flows comprise cash balances and bank balances (including short term deposits)

Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised when the entity receives it, or becomes entitled to it.

Donations, grants and bequests are recognised as revenue when received. If the funder has documented how the funds must be used, they are recorded as deferred revenue and recognised as revenue once those expectations are met.

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the goods are sold. Revenue from services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion at balance date.

Interest is recognised as it is earned. Dividends are recognised when declared.

Accommodation sales are recognised once the camp is held. Any deposits previously made are held as a liability until the camp is held when they are transferred to Revenue.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Depreciation of property, plant and equipment, other than freehold land, is calculated based on useful life and appropriate residual value. The following rates have been used:

Buildings. 2-10% Straight Line and 2-16% Diminishing Value

Furniture and Fittings. 10% - 67% Diminishing Value

Land 0%

Land Improvements 2.4% - 24% Diminishing Value and 5 - 20% Straight Line

Motor Vehicles. 13% - 67% Diminishing Value

Assurance S + J Identification

These accounts are subject to Audit; please refer to the Audit Report

Office Equipment. 10% - 50% Diminishing Value

Plant & Equipment. 4% - 80.4% Diminishing Value and 7 - 25% Straight Line

Investments

Investments are shares, term deposits with a maturity of more than three months from the start date, and similar financial instruments. Purchased investments are first recorded at the amount paid.

Listed shares are measured at market value. All other investments are measured at cost less impairment. If it appears the carrying amount of an investment will not be recovered, it is written down to its current market price.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable are stated at estimated realisable value. Bad debts are written off during the period in which they are identified.

Employee Entitlements

Employee entitlements to salaries and wages, annual leave, long service leave and other benefits are recognised when they accrue to employees.

Inventories

Livestock on Hand comprises both Trading and Non-Trading livestock. Non-trading livestock is comprised of livestock which has a nominal value and has generally been given to the trust for use in the education programs it runs. Both are stated at values derived by the trustees based on the lower of perceived realisable value or the cost of the stock. Cost is determined on the first-in first-out basis.

Kitchen - Stock on Hand is stated at cost. Cost is determined on the replacement cost basis.

Donations and Grants Reserve

The Trust maintains a discretionary reserve to separately identify donations and grants received from the community over time and distinguish their contribution from the financial performance of its accommodation operations. Donations and grants recognised as revenue are transferred from accumulated surpluses to the reserve.
The reserve reflects community funding applied to the Trust's assets and activities and does not necessarily represent cash available for future expenditure. Transfers to the reserve do not affect the surplus or deficit reported in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies during the financial year.

Notes to the Performance Report

Living Springs Trust
For the year ended 31 March 2026

	2026	2025
1. Analysis of Revenue		
Donations, koha, bequests and other general fundraising activities		
Donations Received	76	25,607
Total Donations, koha, bequests and other general fundraising activities	**76**	**25,607**
General Grants		
Grants	24,655	-
Total General Grants	**24,655**	-
Capital grants and donations		
Capital Works Grants	815,134	73,879
Total Capital grants and donations	**815,134**	**73,879**
Government service delivery grants/contracts		
MSD Grant/donation	13,975	8,585
Ecological Grants	138,340	37,873
Total Government service delivery grants/contracts	**152,315**	**46,458**
Non Government service delivery income		
Sales - Aorangi Schools	32,814	-
Sales - Community	957,282	723,658
Sales - Corporate	-	26,690
Sales - Functions	3,478	1,348
Sales - Schools	927,935	914,063
Total Non Government service delivery income	**1,921,509**	**1,665,758**
Revenue from commercial activities		
Income -Book	52	-
Animal and Wool Sales		
Sales - Farm Park	3,294	3,299
Sales - Farm Park - Animals	8,273	4,740
Sales - Farm Park - Wool Sales	-	126
Total Animal and Wool Sales	**11,566**	**8,166**
Property and Farm Rents		
Rent Received	89,651	92,058
Total Property and Farm Rents	**89,651**	**92,058**
Total Revenue from commercial activities	**101,270**	**100,223**
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue		
Interest Income	33,714	44,833
Total Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	**33,714**	**44,833**

These accounts are subject to Audit; please refer to the Audit Report

	2026	2025
Other revenue		
Depreciation Recovered	-	1,044
Ecological Expenses Income	-	8,311
Miscellaneous Income	130,605	14,404
Total Other revenue	**130,605**	**23,759**

*Miscellaneous incomes includes $125,439 of insurance income related to slips and weather related events.

	2026	2025
2. Analysis of Expenses		
Employee renumeration and other related expenses		
ACC	5,106	16,618
FBT Expense	3,093	5,480
Kiwisaver Expense	28,500	25,542
Kiwisaver - Field Staff	4,071	3,049
Wages	938,326	875,692
Wages - Field Staff	191,118	150,984
Wages - Housekeeping	73,539	56,061
Payroll Fees	3,682	3,173
Staff Training	3,097	7,204
Total Employee renumeration and other related expenses	**1,250,533**	**1,143,802**
Volunteer related expenses		
Volunteer Costs	42,992	29,743
Total Volunteer related expenses	**42,992**	**29,743**
Expense related to Services Delivery		
Accounting Fee	4,359	4,559
Advertising	4,158	1,278
Adventure Costs	12,642	5,941
Audit Fee	5,165	5,101
Bank Charges	777	739
Consulting	50,358	-
Consumables	12,365	14,632
Consumables - Housekeeping	10,790	12,159
Contracting	17,431	9,170
Ecology Expenses	59,641	28,970
Entertainment	3,197	3,221
Entertainment - Non deductible	3,677	3,705
Equipment Hire	1,969	-
Food Purchases	341,309	322,982
Freight, Courier, Postage	1,054	770
General Expenses	103	32,047
Heat, Light & Power	73,818	62,918
Insurance	86,187	83,510

	2026	2025
Interest Expense	-	765
IT Costs	2,981	3,459
Legal Fees	1,751	900
Linen	7,944	1,350
Livestock - Cost of Sales	(1,309)	722
Low Value assets to expense	75,437	16,662
LS Camps Expenses	957	1,167
Marketing	8,995	253
Merchant Service Fee Charges	1,227	1,362
Motor Vehicle - Fuel Costs	13,194	14,032
Motor Vehicle - Maintenance Costs	13,536	10,689
Motor Vehicle - Registration, Warrants & Road User Charges	2,982	3,908
Motor Vehicle Lease	-	2,947
Printing, Stationery & Photocopying	5,509	6,822
Rates	4,248	930
Repairs & Maintenance	272,596	143,672
Safety Costs	10,452	6,690
Stock Upkeep Exp	4,530	3,718
Subscriptions	12,378	10,839
Subsidised events	9,087	18,664
Telephone_Internet	8,851	8,967
Transport	793	298
Travel	473	-
Vet and Animal Health	126	-
Waste Management Costs	8,571	6,236
Website	2,449	2,449
Total Expense related to Services Delivery	**1,156,757**	**859,202**
Grants and donations made		
Donations Made	5,890	5,500
Total Grants and donations made	**5,890**	**5,500**
Other expenses		
Depreciation (Non-operational)	200,504	130,386
Depreciation (Operational)	77,395	71,937
Total Other expenses	**277,899**	**202,323**

	2026	2025
3. Analysis of Assets		
Cash and short-term deposits		
Call Account	188,340	78,763
Building - YHA	77,664	9
Operating Account	164,178	133,966
Special Accounts (Aorangi)	37,058	25,264
Total Cash and short-term deposits	**467,240**	**238,002**

These accounts are subject to Audit; please refer to the Audit Report

	2026	2025
Debtors and prepayments		
Accounts Receivable	212,403	91,411
Prepayments - Insurance	88,289	82,739
Prepayments - Other	7,544	7,910
Total Debtors and prepayments	**308,236**	**182,061**
Inventory		
SOH - Kitchen	8,425	9,855
SOH - Livestock	7,310	5,610
Total Inventory	**15,735**	**15,465**
Other current assets		
Withholding tax paid	200	200
Total Other current assets	**200**	**200**

4. Analysis of Liabilities

	2026	2025
Creditors and accrued expenses		
Accounts Payable	145,281	141,918
Expense Accruals	5,000	5,000
FBT Payable	3,093	5,480
GST	30,578	24,585
Visa - Denis Aldridge	917	1,642
Total Creditors and accrued expenses	**184,870**	**178,624**
Employee costs payable		
Holiday Pay Accrual	50,758	47,725
Wages Payable	9,658	27,293
Total Employee costs payable	**60,416**	**75,019**
Deferred Revenue		
Deposits Collected	62,207	62,244
Unspent Donations (note 9)	270,718	-
Unspent Grants (note 9)	181,007	92,217
Total Deferred Revenue	**513,931**	**154,461**

5. Property Plant and Equipment

2026

Asset Class	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales/ Disposals/ Transfers	Current Year Depreciation	Closing Carrying Amount
Buildings	1,371,588	692,878	-	76,453	1,988,013
Furniture and Fittings	5,988	-	-	742	5,246
Land	1,156,297	-	-	-	1,156,297
Land Improvements	1,937,133		-	147,013	1,790,120
Motor Vehicles	61,367	61,722		16,882	106,207
Office Equipment	713	-		197	516
Plant & Equipment	349,087	5,949	-	36,611	318,426
Total	**4,882,174**	**760,549**	**-**	**277,899**	**5,364,824**
Capital Works in Progress	15,392	708,555	700,566 capitalised	-	23,381
Total	**4,897,566**	**1,469,104**	**700,566**	**277,899**	**5,388,205**

2025

Asset Class	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales/ Disposals/ Transfers	Current Year Depreciation	Closing Carrying Amount
Buildings	1,293,293	146,120	-	67,825	1,371,588
Furniture and Fittings	6,831	-	-	844	5,988
Land	1,156,297	-	-	-	1,156,297
Land Improvements	2,014,658		-	77,524	1,937,133
Motor Vehicles	60,712	16,807	695	15,457	61,367
Office Equipment	1,058	-		345	713
Plant & Equipment	389,416	-	-	40,329	349,087
Total	**4,922,265**	**162,927**	**695**	**202,323**	**4,882,174**
Capital Works in Progress	7,957	161,513	7,597 expensed 146,120 capitalised	-	15,392
Total	**4,930,222**	**324,440**	**154,772**	**202,323**	**4,897,566**

Property, plant and equipment is measured at costs less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Depreciation is calculated over the estimated useful life of the asset.

Captial works in progress represents expenditure on projects that were incomplete or not yet available for use at balance date. During the year, $700,566 was transferred from capital works in progress to completed assets. These transfers are movements between asset classes and do not represent additional purchases or disposals.
Depreciation commences when an asset is available for use. Freehold land and capital works in progress are not depreciated.

6. Investments

2026

Asset Class	Valuation Method	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales	Income	Gains/(Losses) or Impairment	Closing Carrying Amount
Farmlands	Cost less impairment	2,932	-	-	-	-	2,932
Silver Fern Farm	Current Market Value	3,930	-	-	-	-	3,930
Westpac	Term Deposit	550,000	1,350,000	1,400,000			500,000

2025

Asset Class	Valuation Method	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales	Income	Gains/(Losses) or Impairment	Closing Carrying Amount
Farmlands	Cost less impairment	2,932	-	-	-	-	2,932
Silver Fern Farm	Current Market Value	3,930	-	-	-	-	3,930
Westpac	Term Deposit	600,000	1,150,000	1,200,000			550,000

All interest is recognised in Interest Income when earned and is paid to the operating account.

7. Accumulated Funds

This Year - 2026	Accumulated Surplus/ Deficits	Reserves	Total
Opening Balance	2,081,364	3,545,688	5,627,052
Surplus/(Deficit)	445,208	-	445,208
Transfer to Reserve - Donations and Grants Recognised	(992,180)	992,180	-
Total	**1,534,392**	**4,537,868**	**6,072,260**

Last Year - 2025	Accumulated Surplus/ Deficits	Reserves	Total
Opening Balance	2,487,362	3,399,745	5,887,107
Surplus/(Deficit)	(260,055)		(260,055)
Transfer to Reserve - Donations and Grants Recognised	(145,943)	145,943	-
Total	**2,081,364**	**3,545,688**	**5,627,052**

The Discretionary Donations and Grants reserve recognises the community contribution which has contributed to the Trust's asset growth and sustained the operational performance of the Trust.

8. Commitments and Contingencies

Living Springs Trust has an operating lease for the photocopier with Business Distributors Ltd at a monthly costs of $174, with an end date of October 2030.

9. Other

Deferred Revenue: Unused Significant Donations, Grants, Bequests and Pledges with Expectations over Use

Grants **Deferred Amount**

Descriptions	Purpose and nature of the condition(s)	Date condition(s) expected to be met	Original Amount	2026	2025
Environment Canterbury	Volunteer Coordinator Biodiversity Project	March 2027	31,000	15,661	31,000
Christchurch City Council	Biodiversity Project	March 2027	36,000	3,631	15,305
Lottery Grants Board	Eco-Enhancement Initiative		28,898	-	23,610
MSD	Oscar Program		7,740	-	1,935
Rata Foundation	Specific schools through Aorangi Program	March 2027	25,000	30,060	20,368
Westpac watercare exThe NZ Landcare Trust	Capital Purchase	April 2026	10,000	10,000	-
Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust	Pest Free Support	March 2027	25,000	21,152	-
Stout Trust	Predator Control Funding	March 2027	12,000	12,000	-
Tourism Industry NZ Trust	Track Upgrades Funding	March 2027	10,000	6,845	-
Environment Canterbury	Slip Remediation	March 2027	13,000	10,000	-
Christchurch City Council	Eco-Restoration	March 2027	52,995	52,995	-

Environment Canterbury	Eco Sanctuary Feasibility Grant	March 2027	25,000	6,730	-
Wilberforce	Wages	March 2027	10,000	10,000	
Christchurch City Council	3 Waters eDNA Funding	March 2027	1,931	1,931	
Total Grants				**181,007**	**92,218**

Donations **Deferred Amount**

Descriptions	Purpose and nature of the condition(s)	Date condition(s) expected to be met	Original Amount	2026	2025
Aorangi	Camp subsidies	Ongoing	Multiple Amounts	4,904	
YHA	Building Upgrades	March 2027	1,000,000	265,814	
Total Donations				**270,718**	

10. Related Party Transactions

Description of related party relationship	Description of the transactions (whether in cash or amount in kind)	2026	2025
Denis Aldridge Executive Director	Loan advanced as part of settlement for 79 Bamfords	145,000	145,000

Denis Aldridge is the part of the senior management of Living Springs Trust. The Trust sold 79 Bamfords Road to Denis in July 2016. The sale price negotiated between the Trust and Denis was based on a valuation performed by a registered valuer. The Trust agreed to provide Vendor Finance to the value of $145,000. This is secured by a registered second mortgage and is repayable upon the subsequent sale of the property. Interest charged on the loan to 31 March 2026 was $3,186. (2025: $3,183)

11. Events After the Balance date

Subsequent to Balance date, June 4, 2026, a study was presented to the Trustees on the feasibility of creating an eco-sanctuary at Living Springs. The Trustees hereafter approved the project going forward but have not formally committed trust funds to the planning stage at the date of sign off. (2025 - nil).

12. Ability to Continue Operating

The entity will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

13. Correction of Errors

There were no correction of significant errors within the year ended March 31, 2026.

Smith + Jack
Chartered Accountants

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Trustees of Living Springs Trust

Opinion
We have audited the accompanying Performance Report of Living Springs Trust on pages 3 to 22, which comprises the Entity Information, the Statement of Service Performance, the Statement of Financial Performance and Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 March 2026, the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2026, a Statement of Accounting Policies and Notes to the Performance Report including material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.
In our opinion, the accompanying Performance Report presents fairly, in all material respects:

- the entity information for the year ended 31 March 2026;
- the service performance for the year ended 31 March 2026, in that the service performance information is appropriate and meaningful and prepared in accordance with the entity's measurement bases or evaluation methods;
- the financial position of Living Springs Trust as at 31 March 2026, and its financial performance, and cash flows for the year then ended,

in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board of the External Reporting Board (XRB).

Basis for Opinion
We conducted our audit of the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Accounting Policies and Notes to the Performance Report in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)), and the audit of the Entity Information and Statement of Service Performance in accordance with New Zealand Auditing Standard 1 (Revised) 'The Audit of Service Performance Information' (NZ AS1 (Revised)). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report section of our report. We are independent of Living Springs Trust in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 'International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, Living Springs Trust.

Trustees' Responsibility for the Performance Report
The Trustees are responsible on behalf of the entity for:
(a) the selection of elements/aspects of service performance, performance measures and/or descriptions and measurement bases or evaluation methods that present service performance information that is appropriate and meaningful in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard;
(b) the preparation and fair presentation of the Performance Report which comprises:

- the Entity Information;
- the Statement of Service Performance; and
- the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows,
  Statement of Accounting Policies and Notes to the Performance Report in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard, and

(c) for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a Performance Report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Performance Report, the Trustees are responsible on behalf of the entity for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern

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and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Performance Report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance ISAs and NZ AS1 (Revised) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this Performance Report.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and NZ AS1 (Revised), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the Performance Report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Obtain an understanding of the process applied by the entity to select its elements/aspects of service performance, performance measures and/or descriptions and the measurement bases or evaluation methods.
- Evaluate whether the selection of elements/aspects of service performance, performance measures and/or descriptions and measurement bases or evaluation methods present an appropriate and meaningful assessment of the entity’s service performance in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.
- Evaluate whether the service performance information is prepared in accordance with the entity’s measurement bases or evaluation methods, in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Trustees and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the Performance Report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the Performance Report, including the disclosures, and whether the Performance Report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Trustees regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Smith and Jack Limited
Christchurch
22 October 2026

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The people who help us

As a charitable trust, Living Springs aims to make camp affordable for everyone.

To help us with projects and upgrades we are thankful for financial support. Our partners are a cornerstone of the work we do and enable Living Springs to be more and provide more of what the Christchurch community needs. Thank you for being part of it. We extend a heartfelt thank you to our individual donors. Every contribution, large or small, helps make Living Springs the special place it is.



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Together, let's create a brighter future at Living Springs. Donations can be made directly through the website at www.livingsprings.co.nz or by contacting us at hello@livingsprings.co.nz. Living Springs is a registered charitable trust and donations may qualify for a 33% tax rebate.

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