



## WELLINGTON IMPROVISATION TROUPE 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

**Date:** Tuesday July 16th,  
**Time:** 6:00-8:00pm  
**Venue:** Te Auaha, 65 Dixon St, Te Aro, Wellington, and Zoom.  
**Quorum:** 15 members  
**Chair:** Shaila Mehta-Wilson, Coordinator  
**Secretariat:** Ali Little

Present: *[quorum was reached, but exact list of attendees misplaced before the minutes were transferred to this document. The secretary abjectly apologises, but attendees included Ali Little, Shaila Mehta-Wilson, Janet Humphries, Emma Ross, Nathan Campbell, Anrik Drenth, Brenton Hodgson, Andreas, Gitta Majumder, Mike Webster, Hayley Cherryblossom, Aristakh Tikhonov, Paddy Plunket, Lorraine Ward, Kitty Parker (p. also Isabelle Collins, Kate Docherty and others)]*

1. **Welcome and acknowledgements**
2. **Apologies**
3. **Minutes of the previous AGM/SGM** (held July 4<sup>th</sup>,2023)
4. **Coordinator's Report** (Shaila Mehta-Wilson)

Co-ordinator's Report July 2024

Kia ora Koutou, welcome to the AGM and a big thank you for joining us either in person or via zoom.

When I was reflecting on the year since our last AGM I realised that WIT is more than just a group of improvisers, for me its a whanau. There is the core family group, the ones who are regulars every Tuesday and then the extended family that pop in from time to time, are always welcome and fun to have around. And like every Whanau we have had additions, our numbers have grown! Which is excellent, and really nice to see. On Tuesday's we regularly have 15 people attend and there have been nights when theres been up to 20 odd people. Tuesday's are a lot of fun, a great opportunity to catch up, learn and to practice and strengthen our craft.

The Whanau - all of you- is why WIT is still going. Thank you as without you all there is no WIT. So I really urge you to seriously think about joining the committee because we

need the committee to organise the Tuesday nights, the Wgtn High School classes and the shows that we have.

The current committee have been actively committed to ensuring that we have opportunities to play on stage. It was my main goal as co-ordinator, as I felt that having more shows would keep our members motivated and actively involved in WIT and attending Tuesday sessions. However this would not have been possible without the committee members and extra helpers like Anrick - a closet committee member! Over the financial year from April to March and thru to today we have had heaps of shows running in various venues, and more recently in Bats. Most of the time we've been able to use the venues for free!!!! And it didn't matter if we only had 2 people in the audience or 50, we just had fun and put on an enjoyable show. I think that this exposure helped us with the show we put on for the Improv Festival - that was a lot of fun and we got a great write up. We are about to start off another season of shows at Bats but on a Friday -which is exciting and amazing!

It feels like over the last 2 years, we have slowly been growing our whanau and confidence so that we are ready to do more shows and we know how to play well together. Most of all, we have continued to support each other, get silly together and have fun. I feel that this is our purpose or Kaupapa - supporting each other, growing our improv skills together and naturally having fun.

A big thank you to the committee members, Ali as our secretary you've been amazing, so dedicated that you were sending out newsletters even when you were on the other side of the world. You hold so much knowledge that I get really scared about the thought of you leaving us! Please know that you are like a taonga or treasure - much loved and respected.

Kitty and Paddy have done a great job as creative co-ordinators - this is also a huge job, which includes organising the trainers for Tuesdays and Wgtn High classes, the shows and venues. You both should be proud of what WIT has achieved over the last year.

Aristarkh is our behind the scenes committee member, looking after the finances and quietly keeping an eye on us. Thank you for your mahi/work, you are a treasured member of the committee - said with respect and a little smile at the pun!

A big thank you to all the people that have helped out with training and the shows. Again its like a whanau, as family members you just pitch in when help is needed.

If you all would have me then I'd be happy to continue as co-ordinator, I think I'm getting the hang of it now! And I really love being part of this great whanau!

##### 5. **Creative Directors** (Paddy Plunket/Kitty Parker)

Creative Director's Report 2023-24

WIT has had a vibrant 2023/24 with plenty of shows, well attended Tuesday training, workshops and classes at Wellington High School's Continuing Education Centre.

Anrik and Ali stepped back from the creative director roles and let newbies Paddy and Kitty learn the ropes. I want to acknowledge the support they have given us in coming up to speed.

I'd also like to say it's been a pleasure working with Kitty and her unfailing enthusiasm for all things improv.

Weekly Tuesday training's have been lively and well attended. Regular trainers Shaila, Anrik, Kitty and Ali have all provided great sessions leading us through games and scenes and giving notes. Andreas and I have also led on occasion. Thanks to all the regular teachers who volunteer their time for this. Tuesday training really is the heart of WIT for many of us, and a highlight during the week. Guest teachers Brendon West, Heidi Drew, Austin Harrison, Nicola Pauling, Malcolm Morrison and Nora Fijn van Draat from the Netherlands provided an opportunity for us to focus on particular skills including genre, relationships and character. We've also had great workshops with leading improv teachers from overseas – Andel Sudik who taught us to get into our bodies, and Patti Stiles who provided a back to basics workshop in the Patti Stiles style. Many thanks to Anrik for organising those opportunities.

Four Joy of Improv classes have been run, giving new improvisers the chance to play and learn the ropes, culminating in four joyous end of term shows. Graduates have become regular attendees at Tuesday training bringing vigour, energy and freshness. Many thanks to all those who taught and supported the teacher over the year.

WIT has put on a number of shows this year, with old hands and newbies helping to organise and direct. Ali directed the wonderful mockumentary as part of the New Zealand Improv Festival held at Bat's theatre. We had a Micetro, Director's Cut and Halloween show at the Powwow room during the later half of 2023. Wade Jackson's Ferris Wheel was the format for the end of year show which I directed, held at the Newtown Community Centre theatre, followed by our Christmas Party. (And although not technically part of the year covered by this report, I'd also like to mention the Micetro winter season a of three shows held at Bats and organised by Kitty.)

I'd like to finish by acknowledging the work done by Ali in putting out a weekly newsletter that keeps the WIT community connected, and for her beautiful work promoting all that WIT does.

6. **Financial Report** - Aristarkh Tikhonov  
(attached)

7. **Committee Elections**

Co-ordinator – Shaila Mehta-Wilson

Secretary – Ali Little

Undersecretary – Nathan Campbell

Creative Directors – Paddy Plunket / Emma Ross

Treasurer – Aristarkh Tikhonov

## General Business

1. The Membership Fee (has been a one-of \$30 for at least the last 15 years). It's required in our rules that it be re-considered each AGM. Discussion result: fee to be left as is until next year. WIT's constitution needs to be reviewed and updated to fit with the new rules for incorporated societies before next September. Our financial reporting already complies, but although the original principals of our existing constitution are still current, many processes (like how the committee meets) were written before (for egs) Facebook existed or everyone had email. Proposal: volunteer(s) with the skills review the existing and template documents and update the constitution without (as much as possible) changing any of the basic principles and intents of the original. This new document would need to be voted on at an SGM.  
Emma Ross volunteered as this was 'right up her street'

Was mentioned that Mike Webster/Hayley Cherryblossom may have the WIT original seal at their house.

- 2 Tshirt discussion "didn't these use to be given to members". Ali explained that these have not been given free to new members for more than 10 years (the cost and admin effort became too high), but remain available for members to buy through a Print Mighty (Kapiti) webstore, <https://wit.printmighty.co.nz/products>, these are at cost and start from about \$30.

The meeting concluded with WIT collectively patting itself on the collective back for a relatively speedy session.

(this report is filed with the Charities Commission, and follows their requirements)

<b>Wellington Improvisation Troupe Incorporated Performance report</b>				
Year ended March 2024				
Name	Wellington Improvisation Troupe Incorporated			
Purpose	Community theatre and improvisation in Wellington			
Structure	committee			
Main sources of cash:	existing bank accounts; term deposits			
Main methods used to raise funds:	Membership fees, performance fees, training fees			
Reliance on volunteers:	Estimated 5 hours a week of volunteer work - teaching			
	training, administration, organising events.			
Reliance on donated goods and services:	voluntary donations from members			
<b>Statement of Service Performance</b>				
Goods and services delivered during the year:				
Tuesday night Improvisation training for members, weekly				
Community education training: quarterly training on Level 1 and Level 2 improvisation for beginners at the Wellington High School Community Education Centre				
Shows:				
Director's Cut series of shows, CEC Training Graduate Shows				
<b>Statement of Resources and Commitments</b>				
	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>	
<b>Bank accounts and cash:</b>				
Term deposit	\$14,838.10	\$14,283.79	\$13,953.31	
Main account	\$6,254.21	\$6,821.58	\$5,959.84	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,092.31</b>	<b>\$21,105.37</b>	<b>\$19,913.15</b>	
<b>Statement of receipts and payments</b>				

<b>Income</b>				
	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Fees and Receipts - Members</b>	<b>\$2,779.50</b>	<b>\$2,950.70</b>	<b>-\$171.20</b>	<b>-5.80%</b>
Tuesday Training	\$1,924.50	\$2,105.70		
Membership fees	\$90	\$60		
Extra Workshops	\$765	\$785		
<b>Interest</b>	<b>\$770.62</b>	<b>\$459.25</b>	<b>\$311.37</b>	<b>67.80%</b>
Interest	\$770.62	\$459.25		
<b>Show income</b>	<b>\$753.65</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$653.65</b>	<b>653.65%</b>
Director's cut	\$35	\$100		
Ferris wheel	41.75			
NZIF	\$677	\$0		
<b>Community Education Training</b>	<b>\$2,798.08</b>	<b>\$3,459.12</b>	<b>-\$661.04</b>	<b>-19.11%</b>

CEC training	\$2,798.08	\$3,459.12		
<b>Other</b>	<b>\$1,414.40</b>	<b>\$1,383.68</b>	<b>\$30.72</b>	<b>2.22%</b>
Donation	\$1,414.40	\$1,383.68		
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$8,516.25</b>	<b>\$8,352.75</b>	<b>\$163.50</b>	<b>1.96%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Shows</b>	<b>\$97.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>-\$97.00</b>	
Show expenses	97			
<b>Training Fees</b>	<b>\$6,974.33</b>	<b>\$7,356.70</b>	<b>-\$382.37</b>	<b>-5.20%</b>
CEC training	\$2,798.08	\$3,459.20		
Tuesday training	\$2,946.25	\$2,752.50		
Tuesday guest tutors	680	300		
Extra workshops	550	845		
<b>Administrative expenses</b>	<b>\$1,447.56</b>	<b>\$466.00</b>	<b>\$981.56</b>	<b>210.64%</b>
Tax on interest	\$215.83	\$128.60		

Web Services	\$376.74			
ITI License	378.01			
Celebration	181.98			
Post Box	295			
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$8,518.89</b>	<b>\$7,822.70</b>	<b>\$696.19</b>	<b>8.90%</b>
<b>Income - expenses</b>	<b>-\$2.64</b>	<b>\$530.05</b>		