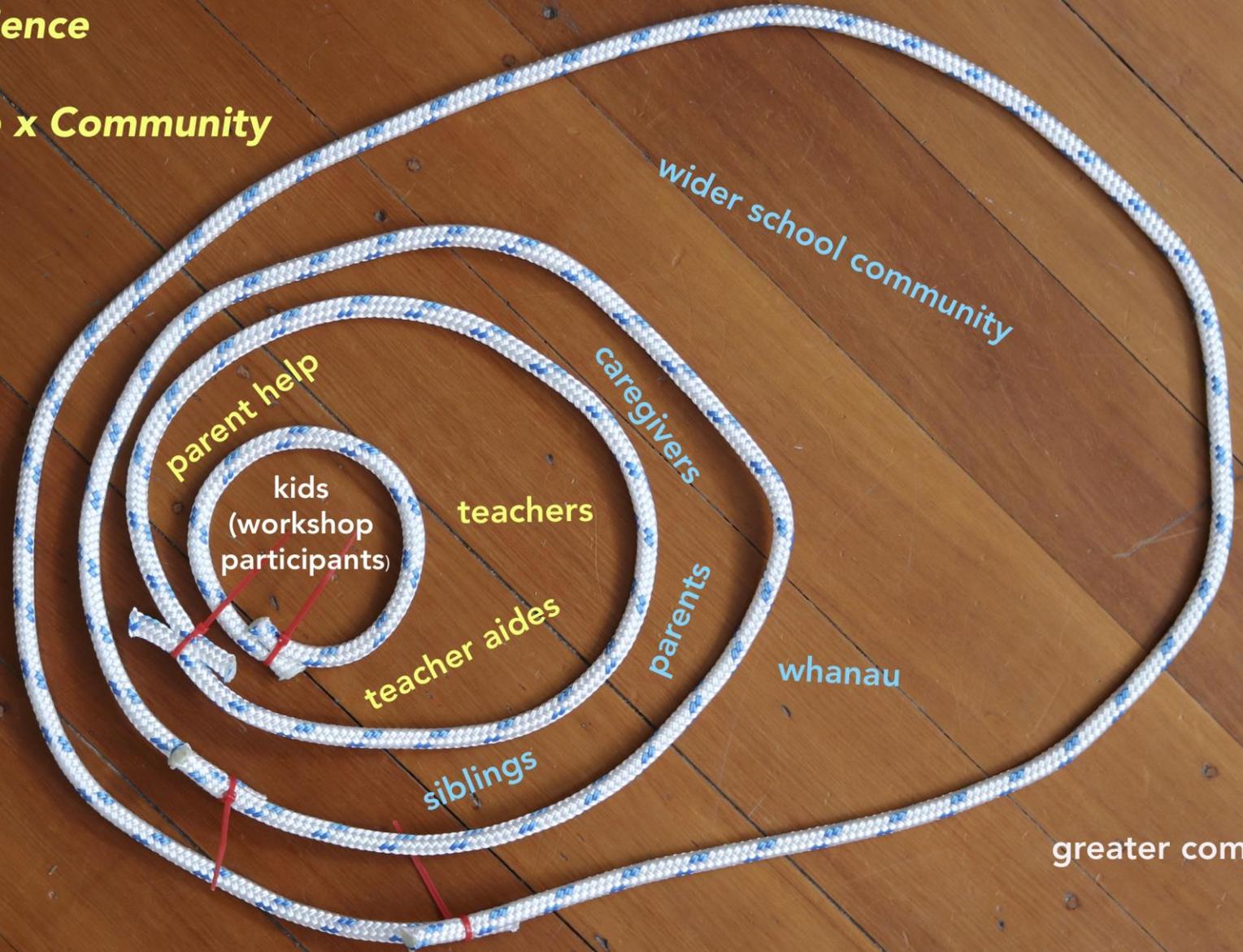


Place-based art and science: connecting communities
Gabby O'Connor NIWA/Auckland University



Primary Audience
The Unseen
Art x Science x Community



associates

wider school community

friends

parent help

caregivers

kids
(workshop
participants)

teachers

teacher aides

parents

whanau

siblings

greater community

neighbours

The Unseen

• PROJECT FIGURES

- 16 schools in the Nelson/ Marlborough/Tasman/ Wellington regions
- 1600 participants from age 5 - adult
- 38 Workshops with between 12-180 participants each
- including approximately 200 teachers/parents/caregivers/teacher aides
- 55,00 cable ties
- 15kms rope
- The artwork was approx 25mW x 50mL
- All materials will be recycled or repurposed at the conclusion of the project in 2020



Photos by Hamish McCormick



National
Science
Challenges

**SUSTAINABLE
SEAS**

Ko ngā moana
whakauka

What was the coolest thing you discovered about the marine environment?

I liked the fact that the ocean glider could go so deep

If you could research anything about the marine environment (using art or science or both) what would you do?

I would research about how plankton survives.

oceanography

328

TO: Gabby O'Connor C/- NIWA 301 Evans Bay Pde Wellington

What was the coolest thing you discovered about the marine environment?

that cow poo can do damage to the sea (leeches) sea animals

If you could research anything about the marine environment (using art or science or both) what would you do?

i'd look to find in the water and help save the sea animals from the rubbish and other stuff

Marine ecology

277

TO: Gabby O'Connor C/- NIWA 301 Evans Bay Pde, Wellington

What was the coolest thing you discovered about the marine environment?

The cool things you don't normally see.

If you could research anything about the marine environment (using art or science or both) what would you do?

I would look at fish fossils and marine life.

TO: Gabby O'Connor C/- NIWA 301 Evans Bay Pde Wellington

27

What was the coolest thing you discovered about the marine environment?

the coals

If you could research anything about the marine environment (using art or science or both) what would you do?

Sharks

Fish and coral

1

TO: Gabby O'Connor C/- NIWA 301 Evans Bay Pde Wellington

What was the coolest thing you discovered about the marine environment? How we all got a chance to say something & make lots of things by choice. How we all got a chance to say something and make lots of things

If you could research anything about the marine environment (using art or science or both) what would you do?

I would do research using art. I would research different types of animals in the ocean

oceanography

330

TO: Gabby O'Connor C/- NIWA 301 Evans Bay Pde, Wellington

What was the coolest thing you discovered about the marine environment?

the instrument Joe used to measure water

If you could research anything about the marine environment (using art or science or both) what would you do?

looking for unseen animals.

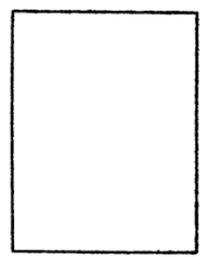
oceanography

3

TO: O'Connor C/- NIWA 301 Evans Bay Pde Wellington

What was the coolest thing you discovered about the marine environment?
that when it rains the rain goes on the mud comes on the sea and then it kills the shells. by  

If you could research anything about the marine environment (using art or science or both) what would you do?
I would research about how long can the sea creatures can survive under the water when the mud comes down and if they die we could research about it.
by 



TO: Gabby O'Connor
C/- NIWA
301
Evans Bay Pde,
Wellington

National
SCIENCE
Challenges

SUSTAINABLE
SEAS

Ko ngā moana
whakauka



THE UNIVERSITY OF
AUCKLAND
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau
NEW ZEALAND

NIWA
Taihoro Nukurangi

National
SCIENCE
Challenges

SUSTAINABLE
SEAS

Ko ngā moana
whakauka



News, Page 2

BEST REGIONAL NEWSPAPER
 CANTONMENT AWARDS 2017

Burns case reveals 'serious concerns'

SAMANTHA GEE

Concerns about management in a residential care home in Nelson were raised eight months before a disabled man was severely burnt in a bath.

The man suffered serious burns in the March 12 incident, which is being investigated.

PSA organiser Mike Cunliffe said he first raised concerns about poor management at the Disability Support Services (DSS) home for high and complex needs patients, and other DSS properties, in July last year.

He said there was a "climate of fear" among DSS workers which made them reluctant to speak out.

Cunliffe said he met Nelson

Marlborough Health chief executive Peter Bramley and general manager of mental health, addictions and disability support services Jane Kinsey last September to discuss concerns about the "poor management practice" and behaviour within DSS.

He said feedback from union members working for DSS showed those who raised issues about management got little traction. In one case a union member was suspended after raising concerns.

"This explains the climate of fear that pervades Nelson Marlborough Health and Disability Support Services. We are reluctant to get people to raise issues when there is no apparent safe or fair process."

Now when union members



Jane Kinsey from Nelson Marlborough Health.



Mike Cunliffe, Public Service Association regional organiser.

raised concerns, they made statements under the Protected Disclosures Act which provided protection for whistleblowers.

Kinsey said the health board wouldn't disclose information about individual employees. "But it's important for people to know

that we encourage all employees, service users and their families to raise any concerns. And all concerns are taken seriously by senior management."

PSA National Secretary Erin Polaczuk said the union was "gravely concerned" at the scalding incident but would not comment further on the specific incident while it was investigated.

"However, there are serious systemic concerns around specific areas of DSS that need to be urgently addressed before further tragedies occur."

Polaczuk said the PSA had previously requested an independent investigation and a health and safety review, neither of which appear to have happened. She had sought a meeting with chief execu-

tive Peter Bramley to "seek a constructive and inclusive solution."

Kinsey said an internal investigation into the incident was underway and expected to be completed in early June. It would identify any improvements and would be shared with the man's family, Ministry of Health and WorksafeNZ.

"We have recently undertaken a review to ascertain where further improvements can be made in our disability support area to ensure high quality care and support is provided for people who do have complex support needs." Actions had been taken and further improvements identified.

"We are focussed on continuing to ensure our houses are set up to

prevent as many avoidable risks of injury as possible, as well as continuing to support our staff to provide high-quality disability support."

The residential care home is owned by Housing New Zealand. Spokesman Glenn Conway said contractors visited in January and made some minor repairs to the hot water cylinder. He said the temperature of the hot water was within safe levels, 55 degrees C in the cylinder and 45C at the tap, due to a tempering valve.

"There was, however, evidence a cylinder valve may have been tampered with so they took the extra precaution of installing locks on the cylinder cupboards to ensure the temperature cannot be adjusted manually."

Sea and be seen: Kids' climate change art on display



TO SUBSCRIBE
 PHONE
 0800 800515

KATY JONES

A giant work of art made by children from the top of the south is on display in Nelson as part of efforts to help spread the word about how climate change is affecting oceans.

The approximately 50m x 25m work, titled *The Unseen*, was created out of rope and cable ties by students from 16 primary and secondary schools in Nelson and Marlborough, under a project which aims to "communicate climate complexity using art and science".

The children "drew pictures" with the rope at 34 workshops since November, the project's designer, Gabby O'Connor said.

Local scientists presented research at the workshops, in areas including marine ecology around estuaries, and how increasing acidification in the ocean was affecting sea creatures.

"Then I asked the children, essentially it's a crazy challenge, to draw a picture with the rope about something they've seen in the presentations or something they know about the subject matter," she

"Often children don't get to participate in those conversations, as it's seen as too hard for them."

Gabby O'Connor

said. The results were compiled to form the large-scale art work, on display at Alison Square next to the Suter Art Gallery.

Using art as "a delivery system for this complicated subject matter" was "overwhelmingly positive", O'Connor said.

"Often children don't get to participate in those conversations, as it's seen as too hard for them. We hope that the children then have these conversations with their families, and once they grow up and become stakeholders or decision makers themselves, they have a bit

more confidence with understanding the complexities of science in general but also climate science."

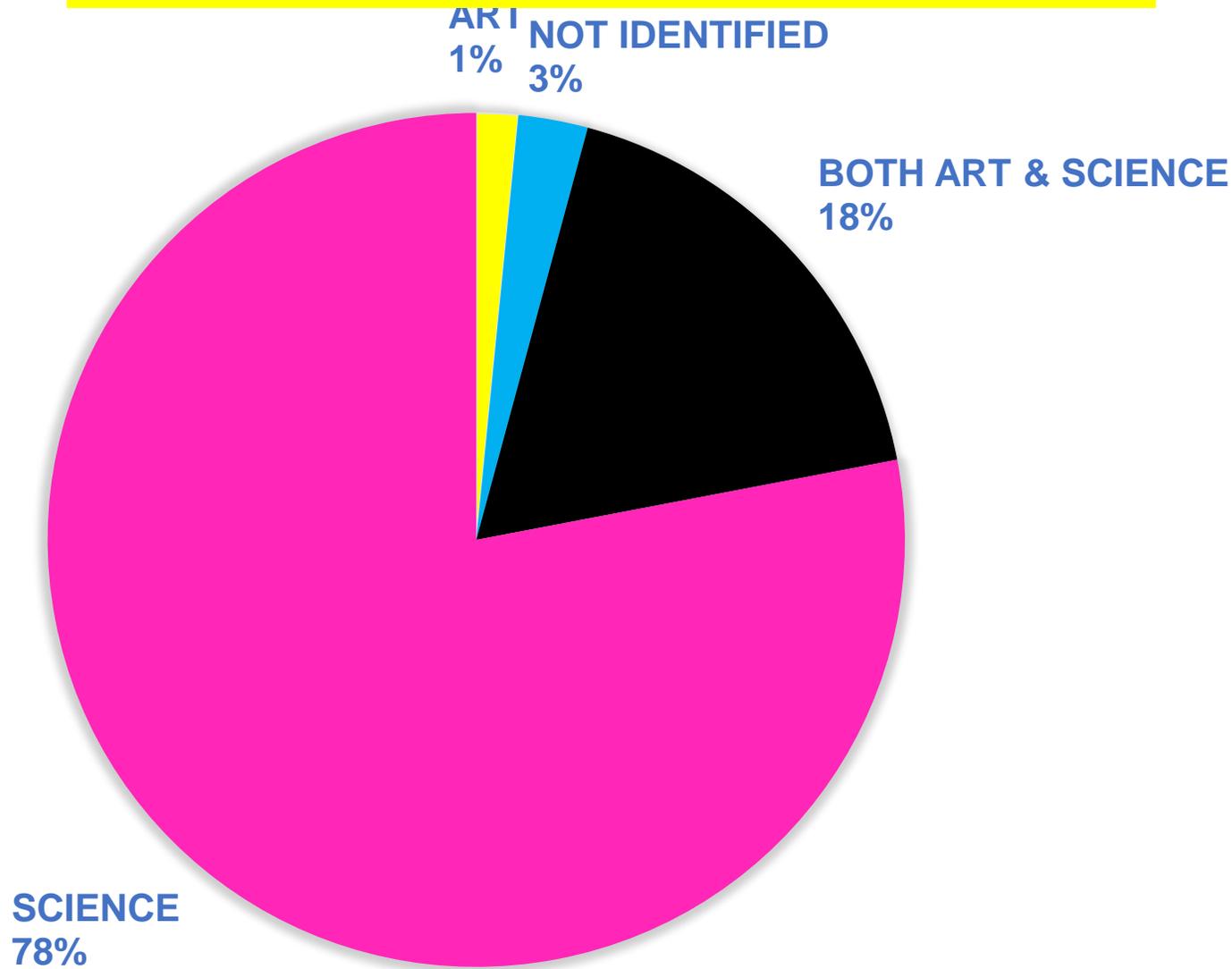
The project was funded by the Sustainable Seas National Science Challenge, a 10-year multimillion-dollar programme that looks to make the best use of the country's marine environment while working within environmental and biological limits.

The bulk of the programme's research was happening in the Nelson area, O'Connor said. The final day of the Suter exhibition is on tomorrow, when there will be talk about the research.

Artist Gabby O'Connor with her public work titled *The Unseen* is an art-science-community project exploring the risks associated with environmental and climate change, and how these might affect the way we manage our marine ecosystems.

National **Science Challenges** SUSTAINABLE SEAS Ko ngā moana whakauka

ART AND SCIENCE WORKSHOP FEEDBACK



INSTAGRAM: [theunseen_by_gabbyo](#)

[studioantarctica](#)

TWITTER: [@o_gabbyo](#)

EMAIL: gabby.oconnor@niwa.co.nz

Thanks to :
Vonda Cummings
Joe O'Callaghan
Di Tracey
Carolyn Lundquist
Victoria Warren
Karen Fisher
Alys Longley
NIWA
Sustainable Seas
Auckland University

