

## **The Wellington Museums Trust appoints new Chief Executive**

“The Wellington Museums Trust has appointed Pat Stuart as its new Chief Executive,” said the new Chair of the Trust Viv Beck today. “Ms Stuart has extensive experience in museum and art gallery management including fifteen years in various management roles at Te Papa, with a stint as acting Chief Executive.

“The Trust manages the largest grouping of arts and cultural institutions in Wellington and we are delighted that we have attracted a Chief Executive who is passionate about our City and the work of the Trust.

“The Trust has had many successes since it was established 12 years ago and our institutions are well positioned to build on this success as we enter a new phase of development,” said Viv.

“Our diversity is a strength and means that many opportunities exist to explore new visitor experiences.”

Pat Stuart replaces founding Chief Executive John Gilberthorpe, who started in March 1996. “At that time the only institution in the Trust’s portfolio was the City Gallery and John has overseen the development of Capital E, the Museum of Wellington, the Cable Car Museum and the Colonial Cottage Visitor Centre.”

“Visitor numbers have steadily grown over this time and today the Trust is a significant player in Wellington’s success as a tourist destination.”

Trust institutions attracted over half a million visits last year and the focus of the Trust is to continue to develop the visitor experience for residents and visitors to the City.

### **Contacts**

Viv Beck, Chair, Wellington Museums Trust, 021 377 734 [viv.beck@wmt.org.nz](mailto:viv.beck@wmt.org.nz)

Pat Stuart, Chief Executive, Wellington Museums Trust, 04 471 0209

[pat.stuart@wmt.org.nz](mailto:pat.stuart@wmt.org.nz)

John Gilberthorpe, 0274 586126 [j.gilberthorpe@xtra.co.nz](mailto:j.gilberthorpe@xtra.co.nz)

[www.wmt.org.nz](http://www.wmt.org.nz)

Note: Viv Beck was appointed Chair of the Trust following Bill Brien’s retirement in December 2007.