



Doina – Community of Romanian Aucklanders Inc.

Annual Report

For Financial Year ending 31 March 2025

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Management Committee Statement

The Management Committee is pleased to present the Annual Report of Doina – Community of Romanian Aucklanders Inc., together with the Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2025.

In accordance with statutory requirements, an audit of the Financial Statements was not required for this reporting period. As such, no auditor was appointed, and no audit fees were incurred.

The Annual General Meeting at which this Annual Report was presented was held on 4 May 2025 and conducted under the Society's previous Constitution. At the same meeting, members approved the adoption of the updated Constitution in line with the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. The Society subsequently proceeded with re-registration under the new Act.

For and on behalf of the Management Committee,

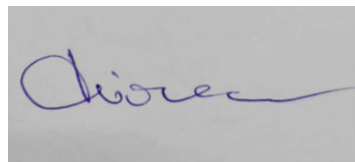
President



Silvia Rosioru

30 August 2025

Treasurer



Ioana Chiorean

30 August 2025

About Our Society

Name: *Doina – Community of Romanian Aucklanders Inc.*

(also known in the Romanian community as the Doina Society or Doina Community)

Email: contact@doina.co.nz

Website: www.doina.co.nz

Founded in **July 2000** by a group of Romanians living in Auckland, the Society was officially incorporated on **7 September 2000**. In **June 2010**, it became registered as a charity with the Charities Commission.

On **3 June 2025**, the Society was officially **re-registered under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022** under its current name.

Incorporation Number: 1071174

Charities Services Registration Number: CC44342

Our Purpose

According to its Statute, Doina is a registered charitable entity under the *Charities Act 2005*, with the following main purposes:

- Promoting education by supporting the Romanian language and cultural traditions.
- Supporting Romanian immigrants in their integration process in New Zealand.
- Organising cultural, artistic, sporting, and social events.
- Promoting Romanian identity and values in Auckland and nationwide.
- Collaborating with other organisations in New Zealand and abroad.

Doina operates exclusively for charitable purposes, without profit motive and without distributing income to its members.

Funding

- Financial support from New Zealand grants.
- Membership fees, donations, and proceeds from community activities.
- Annual membership fee: **\$20**, with a reduced rate of **\$10** for senior members and students over 18.

In **2024/2025**, **244 individuals** contributed by paying their membership fees. Beyond financial membership, the Society's activities reached an estimated **550 beneficiaries** within the Romanian community in Auckland, which numbers approximately **1,500 people**.

Our People

Doina's strength lies in its people. Our programmes, cultural events, and community initiatives are only possible thanks to the dedication, talent, and generosity of our volunteers.

We are privileged to count on **over 100 active participants**, who collectively contribute an estimated **40 hours of service each week**. Their efforts ensure the continuity, vitality, and success of the Society.

Management Committee

The Management Committee, elected at the **Annual General Meeting in May 2024**, has served throughout the reporting period.

- **President** – Silvia Rosioru
- **Vice-president** – Aurel Dumitrascu
- **Members** – Calina Tataru (Secretary), Laura Iugan, Ioana Chiorean
- **Funding Coordinators** – Adina Giurgiu, Delia Giurgiu, Mariana Popa

People Volunteering

- **Radio (*România, plai de dor*):** Camelia Petrus, Calin Rosu, Cristi Dumitrache, Lucia Davis, Manuela Hrib
- **Doina Romanian Folk Dance Group:** Andrea Sava, Andreea Fantaza, Anna Bazar, Bianca Alexoiu, Bianca Sava, Carla Muresan, Dana Bazar, Dana Gascu, Diana Alexoiu, Irina Pegler, Jessy Fantaza, Lucia Davis, Mariana Popa, Marilena Iancu, Nicole Johnson, Nicoleta Muresan, Roberta Gascu, Zara Pegler
- **Sports (Football, Futsal, Tennis):** Alex Giurgiu, Alin Lapuste, Bianca Nistor, Florin Cuc, Gabriel Giurgiu, Gelu Rosioru, Kelly Giurgiu, Mikki Alexoiu, Razvan Iugan, Silvia Rosioru
- **Romanian Embroidery & Heritage Group (*Ia la Antipozi*):** Adina Costache, Anca Popovici, Carmen Stoenciu, Corina Ulmeanu, Irena Iordan, Maria Bocirnea, Mihaela Enache, Mirela Sandu, Sebastian Florea, Simona Iordan
- **Children's Group (*La Povești în Limba Română*):** Ada Radoslav, Andie Wood, Andreea Fantaza, Andreea Serbanescu, Bianca Nistor, Calina Tataru, Cristina Costache, Iulia Simtion, Irina Calcan, Irina Pegler, Laura Axinte, Raluca Caseanu, Simona Amza
- **Seniors Club:** Andu Iordache, Cristina Tipteriu, Irina Adamovics, Nina Tecucianu, Tudor Tipteriu
- **Romanian Library and Social Club:** Aurel Dumitrascu, Bianca Sava, Silvia Rosioru
- **Children's Camp:** Adrian Rosioru, Aurelian Oarga, Bianca Nistor, Calin Vrabie, Camelia Petrus, Diana Alexoiu, Eugen Cristea, Gabriela Popa, Gelu Rosioru, Irina Pegler, Mirela Lapuste, Mikki Alexoiu, Nicu Deac, Nusa Srdocz, Radu Clamba, Raluca Caseanu, Silvia Rosioru
- **Theatre Group (*Magura*):** Adina Giurgiu, Aurel Dumitrascu, Camelia Petrus, Claudiu Chiorean, Cornel Iancu, Dana Gascu, Daniela Trandafir, Dan Vlad, Delia Giurgiu, Irina Pegler, Laura Iugan, Mariana Popa, Olga Neculescu, Silvia Rosioru, Valentin Neculescu

- **Knitting Group (*Păturici pentru cei mici*):** Ana Avramuti, Calina Tataru Wise, Carmen Stoenciu, Constanta Voiculescu, Maria Bocirnea, Simona Iordan, Zamfira Bunduc

- **Carollers Group (*Am venit să colindăm*):** Andrea Sava, Bianca Alexoiu, Bianca Sava, Carla Muresan, Carmen Stoenciu, Calina Tataru Wise, Cristi Gascu, Dana Gascu, Diana Alexoiu, Irina Pegler, Laura Iugan, Mara Iugan, Maya Rosioru, Mikki Alexoiu, Nicoleta Muresan, Roberta Gascu, Silvia Rosioru, Zara Pegler

- **Romanian Folk Costumes Collection:** Adina Giurgiu, Silvia Rosioru

- **Website & IT Support:** Gelu Rosioru, Silvia Rosioru

People Employed

- Nil
-

Other Information

Bankers: ASB Bank

Auditors: Statutory audit not required

Established Community Groups

The Doina community is sustained by **13 ongoing groups**, each meeting with different rhythms depending on the nature of their activities. These groups form the backbone of the Society, ensuring continuity and cultural vitality throughout the year. They bring together people of all ages — children, youth, adults, and seniors — and cover a wide range of interests: from **folk dance, theatre, music, and embroidery**, to **sports, storytelling, and social clubs**.

Through their dedication, these groups not only preserve Romanian traditions but also create spaces for learning, creativity, and connection. They are where friendships are formed, talents are nurtured, and community spirit thrives. Their work keeps our heritage alive in Auckland, while opening doors to collaboration and cultural exchange with the wider New Zealand society.

At the **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**, each group coordinator presented an overview of their activities, outlined financial needs for the coming year, and shared plans for the following year. The next section of this report is based on those presentations, reflecting both their achievements and their vision for the year ahead.

Radio (România, plai de dor)

Editorial team: Lucia Davis, Camelia Petrus, Calin Rosu, Manuela Hrib, Cristi Dumitrescu

When & Where: Weekly, one-hour broadcast on *Planet FM 104.6* (also streamed online)

Radio Doina (*România, plai de dor*) strengthens Romanian cultural identity in New Zealand through music, interviews, and themed columns. The team produced **around 50 editions** this year, covering traditional holidays, history, literature, religion, youth themes, and cultural comparisons.

Participation / Audience:

- 811 online streams (Jan–May 2025)
- 37,424 unique visitors to Planet FM and Access Media websites
- Stable local listenership with international reach

Community Impact: The programme connects Romanians in Auckland and beyond, provides education and cultural preservation, and increases the visibility of the Society in New Zealand's social landscape.

New Initiatives:

- Involvement of young contributors (e.g. Maiah Radu – technical support, Bianca Alexoiu – youth edition) and
- Expansion of youth-focused content and interactive formats

Plans for next year:

- Continuation of dedicated editorial columns
- Thematic editions on diaspora integration

- Collecting listener preferences via online feedback
- Inviting NZ non-profits to present their work through the *Bridge Over Cultures* initiative

Financing Needs: Approx. **\$3000 NZD/year** to pay for the broadcasting licence and \$500 to support listener competitions with symbolic prizes.

“Românie, plai de dor” remains a cultural space of belonging for Romanians in New Zealand, carried forward through collaboration, coherence, and passion.



Doina Romanian Folk Dance Group

Coordinators: Dana Gascu & Nicoleta Muresan

When & Where: Every Friday evening, *Ponsonby Community Centre*

The Doina Dance Group brings together community members eager to preserve and share Romanian folk traditions. Through weekly rehearsals and public performances, the group promotes cultural pride and keeps traditional dances alive for both adults and children.

Participation: The group currently has **16 active members**, including several children. It remains **open to new members**, aiming to grow by showcasing Romanian culture at as many community events and activities as possible.

Highlights 2024/2025:

- Performed at **7 multicultural festivals and community events** across Auckland and beyond.
- Strengthened intergenerational involvement by welcoming children and youth into the dance troupe.
- Secured support for **two new traditional costumes**, expanding the group’s wardrobe and stage presence.

Community Impact: The group has become a **vibrant cultural ambassador**, representing Doina and the Romanian community at multicultural platforms, while also fostering social connection and pride among its members.

Financing Needs:

- Ongoing support to cover **rehearsal room rental** at Ponsonby Community Centre, (approx. \$2000/year)
- Continued investment in **traditional costumes** to equip new members and maintain authenticity in performances.



Indoor Soccer Group

Coordinator: Florin Cuc

When & Where: Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., *Murrays Bay Intermediate School*

The Indoor Soccer Group organises **weekly games** that keep members active while fostering friendships and community spirit.

Participation: Around **20 players** attend regularly. The group is **open to all ages and abilities**, welcoming anyone in the Romanian community who enjoys sport.

Community Impact: More than just sport, the games act as a **social hub**, strengthening community ties and offering newcomers a sense of belonging through teamwork and fair play.

Financing Needs:

- Gym rental: **\$90 per week** (approx. **\$4,500/year**, excluding two weeks over Christmas/New Year). Costs are covered partly by players and partly by the Doina Association (**\$2,000 support**).



Romanian Embroidery & Heritage Group - “Ia la Antipozi”

Coordinators: Adina Costache & Mihaela Enache

When & Where: Every two weeks at *Ponsonby Community Centre*

The *Ia la Antipozi* Group is dedicated to studying, sewing, and promoting the traditional Romanian blouse (*ie*). Meeting twice a month, members preserve cultural heritage by creating garments and showcasing them at exhibitions and festivals.

Participation: The group currently has **12 active members**, all engaged in sewing and studying Romanian traditional costumes. The group is **open to new participants**, encouraging anyone passionate about Romanian crafts and traditions to join.

Highlights 2024/2025:

- Exhibition on the **Universal Day of Ia** (25 June 2024).
- Collaborative event with the pottery group on Romanian traditions.
- Participation in an Erasmus-sponsored project in Iasi, Romania — group works were exhibited at the Faculty of Arts alongside Romanian students.
- Exhibition of Romanian traditional blouse at **World Culture Day 2025**, Pt Chevalier Library.

Community Impact: The group preserves and promotes Romanian textile traditions, strengthens intergenerational learning, and raises the visibility of the Romanian community in multicultural spaces both in New Zealand and abroad.

Plans for next year:

- Exhibition for the **Universal Day of Ia** (28 June 2025).
- Continued collaborations with other Doina groups and cultural institutions.
- Involving more young people to ensure continuity of tradition.

Support and Financing Needs:

- Room rental at Ponsonby Community Centre – approx. \$2000/year
- Support for **Ia Day 2025** (themed “Queen Mary”), including printing posters and event materials.
- Optional support for a **group banner** to enhance public presence.
- Assistance with organising exhibitions and events (venue hire, logistics).



Children's Group – La Povești în Limba Română

Coordinators: Laura Iugan

When & Where: Second Sunday of each month, *Takapuna Playcentre, 4/8 Auburn Street, Auburn Reserve, Takapuna, Auckland*

La Povești în Limba Română will celebrate **8 years in 2025**. The group brings children and families together once a month for storytelling in Romanian, seasonal celebrations, and creative workshops that nurture language skills and cultural identity.

Participation: Attendance has grown steadily, with families of children aged **1–13 years** joining regularly. Parents and grandparents often take part, making the group a warm intergenerational hub.

Highlights 2024/2025:

- Celebrated traditional occasions: Valentine's Day, Woman's Day- *Mărțișor*, Easter, Mother's Day, Children's Day, Father's Day, and Christmas.
- Hosted creative workshops
- Welcomed back **magician Vasilică**, now an annual highlight.
- Organised outings such as a **visit to MOTAT, ninja training**, and a **campfire with marshmallows**.
- Expanded the programme so that **activities ran every month of the year**.
- Built strong collaborations with the **Seniors' Group** and the **Romanian Camp**; after camp, children encouraged parents to continue friendships through *La Povești*.

Community Impact: The group provides much more than storytelling – it is a **family gathering space** where Romanian is kept alive, traditions are celebrated, and friendships flourish.

Plans for next year: Maintain the monthly themed programme, expand creative workshops and family excursions, and deepen intergenerational collaboration with other Doina groups.

Financing Needs:

- Space rental – approx. \$1500/year
- Support for Children's Day and Christmas Party Activities – approx. \$2000



Seniors' Group

Coordinators: Irina Adamovics & Andu Iordache

When & Where: Several times a year, various community venues and outings

The Seniors' Group provides opportunities for older members of the Romanian community to socialise, participate in outings, and remain actively connected with Doina activities.

Participation: Around **25–30 members** were involved this year, with a core group of **15 active participants** who attend regularly, while others join occasionally depending on the activity.

Highlights 2024/2025:

- Organised **three group trips** since March.
- Took part in **two community events**, including contributing to *La Povești* and preparing cakes for Doina's booth at the *World of Cultures* festival.
- Strengthened intergenerational ties through collaborations with the **Children's Group** and the wider Doina community.

Plans for next year:

- Continue at the same pace with **3–4 activities** planned during the year.
- Maintain intergenerational collaborations with children and families.
- Budget requirement per activity: **\$500–\$700 NZD**.

Community Impact: The Seniors' Group is a vital space for older members to stay active, engaged, and connected, while passing down traditions and memories to younger generations.



Romanian Library

Coordinators: Bianca Sava, Silvia Rosioru, Aurel Dumitrascu

When & Where: Occasional meetings, with books currently stored across several locations (Ponsonby cupboards, private storage).

The Romanian Library & Social Club preserves Romanian literature and provides access to books and cultural resources for the community. It also serves as a space for discussions, cultural exchange, and community gatherings.

Current Needs:

- Completing the **sorting and recording** of all books.
- Establishing a **permanent storage location** for a clear and affordable solution.
- Recruiting volunteers to form a dedicated team and run a **monthly programme** of book-related activities at Ponsonby.

Plans for next year: Organise monthly book-focused events and ensure the collection is properly inventoried and accessible.



Social Club

Coordinator: Silvia Rosioru

When & Where: Several times a year, *Ponsonby Community Centre*

The Social Club provides an opportunity for members to come together, share ideas, and enjoy informal but meaningful interactions.

Highlights 2024/2025:

- **Flax Weaving Workshop** with Diana Matieş
- **Pottery** with Adina Giurgiu and Iulia Simtion
- **Backgammon Tournament – 2nd Edition**
- **Christmas Carols and Romanian Traditional Food**

Plans for next year:

- A meditation session proposed by **Diana Matieş**
- An introduction to **Artificial Intelligence** with **Claudiu Chiorean**
- Preparation for the **3rd edition of the Backgammon Competition**
- Hosting the **carollers again in December 2025**
- Budget requirement per activity: **\$500–\$700 NZD**.



Romanian Camp

Coordinators: Silvia Rosioru, Diana Alexoiu, Mirela Lapuste

When & Where: Annual multi-day camp – 2025 held at *Houghton's Bush Camp, Muriwai*

The Romanian Camp is one of Doina's flagship activities, bringing children and volunteers together for a week of cultural immersion, games, and friendship. The 2025 camp was a **real success and a particularly beautiful experience**, uniting children, parents, and volunteers from across New Zealand and beyond.

Highlights 2025:

- Participation of **39 children** and **15 volunteers**
- A full programme of outdoor activities, cultural workshops, and community-building experiences.
- Attendance from children across **Auckland, Wellington, Hamilton, Christchurch, and even Australia**, making the camp both a **national and international event**.
- Strong collaboration among volunteers, with many expressing their commitment to return in the future.

Acknowledgement of Volunteers 2025:

We extend our gratitude to the dedicated volunteer team who made the camp possible: Silvia Rosioru, Diana Alexoiu, Mirela Lăpuște, Irina Pegler, Mikki Alexoiu, Adrian Rosioru, Călin Vrabie, Nicu Deac, Camelia Petruș, Gelu Rosioru, Nușa Szerdocz, Raluca Caseanu, and Gabriela Popa.

Community Impact: The camp strengthens children's connection to Romanian language and traditions, creates lifelong friendships, and fosters intergenerational bonds within the community.

Plans for next year:

- Next camp confirmed for **Hunua Falls Camp, 5–12 January 2026**.
- Registration to open in June 2025.
- Volunteer team is nearly complete, with many 2025 volunteers returning to ensure continuity and success.
- Budget requirement per activity: **\$8000 NZD**.



Theatre Group – Magura

Coordinators: Delia Giurgiu

When & Where: Rehearsals and performances held throughout the year.

The *Magura Group* was founded in **2013**, when Romanian actor Claudiu Bleonț staged a play in Auckland together with local volunteers. Since then, the group has grown into a cornerstone of Doina's cultural life, bringing Romanian theatre to the community and nurturing creativity across generations.

Highlights 2024/2025:

- Over the years, the troupe has staged **more than 10 theatre performances** in Romanian.
- On **24 November 2024**, during the Doina Festival, the group presented the show *Florilegiu de Dragoste*, directed by Mariana Popa.
- Continued to rehearse and perform regularly, ensuring Romanian theatre has a strong voice in Auckland.

Community Impact: The group has become a **cultural ambassador** for the Romanian community in New Zealand, fostering pride in heritage and offering audiences moments of reflection, joy, and connection.

Plans for next year :

- Collaboration with the Department for Romanians Abroad to bring **Filip Ristovski** (actor, director, and teacher) to New Zealand.
- Plans include an individual performance by Filip and a collective show with the Măgura Troupe, scheduled for September 2025.
- Budget requirement for the project: \$10,000 NZD.



Knitting Group – Păturici pentru cei mici

Coordinators: Calina Tătaru Wise

When & Where: Meets occasionally throughout the year, with most work completed individually at home.

The Knitting Group, *Păturici pentru cei mici*, unites volunteers who create handmade blankets and garments for babies and children. Their work offers comfort to families in need while preserving traditional handcraft skills and providing members with a meaningful way to contribute to the community.

Volunteers 2024/2025:

Ana Avramuți, Zamfira Bunduc, Tanta Voiculescu, Simona Iordan, Maria Bocîrnea, Elena Szerdocz, and Carmen Stoenciu.

Highlights 2024/2025:

- Produced and donated children's blankets and clothes to **Beanies for Babies, Middlemore Foundation, Nurturing Families, SPCA**, and crocheted squares to **Peggy Purl**.
- Strengthened ties with local charities by supporting families and vulnerable children across Auckland.
- Continued to serve as a welcoming space for craft enthusiasts and newcomers alike.

Participation: While many contributed during the year, the group now has a core of **3–4 active members**.

Plans for next year:

- Continue the activity in an **informal format**, sustaining existing contributions.
- To expand, the group will require a **dedicated volunteer coordinator** — a role focused not on knitting skills, but on **logistics** (purchasing and distributing yarn, collecting finished items, and managing donations).

Community Impact: Every blanket represents both a practical gift and a message of solidarity from the Romanian community. Despite fewer volunteers, the group remains a symbol of kindness and care, ensuring that warmth and tradition reach those most in need.

Support Needed: Encouragement for new volunteers to join, especially a coordinator to help organise and grow the initiative.



Carollers Group – Am venit să colindăm

Coordinators: Irina Pegler & Diana Alexoiu

When & Where: Annually, rehearsals in November; carolling takes place in mid-December across Auckland and beyond

The Carollers Group began spontaneously in **2013**, when Doina's dancers gathered to sing carols on Christmas Eve. What started as a surprise visit has since become a beloved **annual tradition**. Each year, volunteers bring the joy of Christmas to Romanian homes, carrying with them songs, warmth, and the spirit of togetherness.

Highlights 2024/2025:

- The group has grown to a **record number of participants**, including children, young people, and new voices.
- Carols were sung in **all corners of Auckland**, and for the first time even in **Tauranga**.
- Each year, new members join — keeping the tradition fresh and inclusive.
- Equipped with **guitars, ukuleles, drums, and bells**, the carollers create an authentic festive atmosphere.

Community Impact: Carolling eases the homesickness of the season, brings families together, and strengthens bonds in the Romanian community. For hosts, it is both a moment of joy and a reminder of Romanian Christmas traditions, carried across oceans.

Plans for next year:

- Continue organising annual carolling, starting preparations in **November 2025**.
- Expand participation further, welcoming **new members and vocal talents**.
- Keep alive the spirit of the tradition, making it a permanent part of the Romanian Christmas in New Zealand.



Romanian Folk Costume Collection

Coordinators: Adina Giurgiu & Silvia Rosioru

When & Where: Available year-round for community events, stored in dedicated space

The Folk Costume Collection is one of Doina's most treasured assets, preserving the beauty and authenticity of Romanian traditional dress. Costumes are available for rental and are frequently used in cultural events, performances, and community celebrations.

Collection Status:

Some costumes require additions or minor repairs, which will be addressed in the coming year.

Storage:

- For many years, the collection was carefully hosted and maintained by **Adina Giurgiu**, to whom we extend our gratitude.
- The costumes will soon be moved to a larger storage facility.
- Plans are in place to purchase **special lockers** to ensure the costumes are kept safe and in optimal condition.

Community Impact: The collection allows members of the Romanian community — and especially performers in the dance group, theatre troupe, and at cultural festivals — to proudly showcase authentic Romanian traditions in New Zealand.



Doina Festival

Coordinators: Adina Giurgiu, Calina Tataru, & Silvia Rosioru

When & Where: September–December 2024, multiple venues in Auckland

The Doina Festival is the Society’s **largest annual cultural event**, showcasing Romanian heritage through music, theatre, dance, film, food, and crafts. It brings together families, volunteers, and international guests, and has become a highlight of the Romanian community calendar in New Zealand.

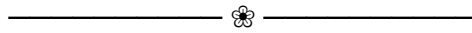
Highlights 2024:

- Opened with the **special radio edition “România, plai de dor”** featuring classical musicians Diana Jipa (violin) and Ștefan Doniga (piano).
- The **Doina Dance Group** performed at the **Viva Eclectika Festival**, combining Romanian and Korean dances.
- Classical **concert by Diana Jipa & Stefan Doniga**, offering an emotional celebration of Romanian music.
- Screenings of Romanian films, including *Freedom* (October 20) and *Nasty* (November 10), coordinated by Calina Tataru and Aurel Dumitrașcu.

- **Hands-on workshops**, such as *My Pottery- Ia* led by Iulia Simtion and Adina Giurgiu.
- Traditional Romanian party **Hanul Ancuței**, organised by Ioana Chiorean and Silvia Rosioru with a large volunteer team.
- **Backgammon Tournament – 2nd Edition**, coordinated by Silvia & Gelu Rosioru.
- Theatre troupe *Magura* staged the show *Florilegiu de Dragoste*, directed by Mariana Popa.
- Closed on **December 1st** with Romania’s National Day celebrations, including dances, music, traditional food, and children’s activities.

Community Impact:

The festival gathered hundreds of participants over several months, strengthening the Romanian identity in Auckland, opening doors to intercultural exchange, and creating lasting memories for families and young people.



Calendar of Events 2024-2025

In the past year, our groups brought the community together through 33 events filled with tradition, creativity, and friendship. Each gathering reminded us of who we are and what we can achieve when we share our time and talents.

We now invite you to turn to the next section of this report, where the highlights of these 33 activities are presented — a celebration of the memories we created together and the spirit that carries us forward.

Children's Group (La Povești în Limba Română) – Essential Oils Workshop

Date: 14 April 2024

Coordinator: Calina Tataru

The children's group met at Takapuna Playcentre, where they learned to create essential oil blends. The activity was very popular, with children delighted to mix and test their own bottles with blends such as *Tame the Monster*, *Lullaby*, and *Homework Helper*.



Doina Romanian Folk Dance Group – CultureFest 2024

Date: 14 April 2024

The Doina Romanian Folk Dance Group performed at CultureFest 2024, organised by World of Cultures and Auckland Council. Their show blended traditional Romanian dances with energy and passion, delighting the audience with authentic costumes, lively rhythms, and a festive atmosphere.



Seniors Club – Excursion to Sanders Reserve & Campbell’s Bay

Date: 20 April 2024

Coordinators: Andu Iordache, Irina Adamovics, Cristina Lapusan

The Seniors Club enjoyed a day out at Sanders Reserve and Campbell’s Bay, spending time in nature and strengthening friendships. Despite some rain, the group made the most of every moment, finishing the outing with a cheerful shared meal that added to the sense of joy and togetherness.



Children’s Group (La Povești în Limba Română) – Mother’s Day Creative Workshop

Date: 12 May 2024

Coordinator: Ada Radoslav

To celebrate Mother’s Day, the children’s group held a creative workshop where kids designed 3D greeting cards using cutting, collage, and assembly techniques. The activity was filled with imagination and joy, and the handmade cards became precious keepsakes for their families.



Children’s Group (La Povești în Limba Română) – International Children’s Day Celebration

Date: 9 June 2024

Coordinator: Andie Wood

The children’s group celebrated International Children’s Day with a joyful event that included a magic show by magician Vasiliță, storytelling in Romanian, pizza, and cake. It was an unforgettable day for the whole community, filled with laughter, wonder, and togetherness.



Social Club – Flax Weaving Workshop

Date: 16 June 2024

Coordinators: Diana Matieș, Anda Radoslav, Silvia Rosioru

Participants learned to weave flax “place mats” and explored ethical harvesting techniques for this native New Zealand plant. The workshop was a wonderful opportunity for creativity and socialising, with each participant taking home a beautiful and practical handmade item.



Romanian Embroidery & Heritage Group (Ia la Antipozi) – Universal Day of the Romanian Blouse “Ie”

Date: 22 June 2024

Coordinators: Adina Costache, Mihaela Enache

The group celebrated the Universal Day of the “Ie” together with the Doina community, highlighting the beauty and depth of this traditional Romanian blouse. Authentic garments were displayed as a tribute to Romania’s rich cultural heritage.



Children’s Group (La Povești în Limba Română) – DIY Tennis Paddles

Date: 13 July 2024

Coordinator: Claudia Pristopan

The children crafted tennis paddles from disposable plates, decorated them creatively, and then enjoyed playing tennis with balloons. It was a fun, hands-on activity that combined imagination with movement.



Children's Group (La Povești în Limba Română) – Trip to MOTAT

Date: 24 August 2024

Coordinator: Laura Iugan

The children enjoyed a fun and educational trip to MOTAT, exploring exhibits and playing together, while parents had the chance to connect and socialise. It was a joyful outing for the whole group.



Children's Group (La Povești în Limba Română) – Marshmallows & Songs

Date: 8 September 2024

Coordinator: Andrea Fantaza

The children gathered at Maungawhau Playcentre, where they enjoyed marshmallows, singing, and dancing together with their friends from Gașca Zurlu. It was a joyful afternoon filled with energy, music, and laughter, making it another memorable event for the group.



Doina Festival – Opening Radio Show “România, Plai de Dor”

Date: 20 September 2024

Presenters: Lucia Davis, Camelia Petrus, Calin Rosu

Guests: Calina Tataru Wise, Diana Jipa (violin), Ștefan Doniga (piano)

The festival officially opened with the radio show *România, Plai de Dor*, bringing a special moment to listeners. The hosts welcomed Calina Tataru Wise from the Doina committee, alongside renowned Romanian classical music artists Diana Jipa and Ștefan Doniga, marking a memorable start to the Festivalul Doina 2024 celebrations.



Doina Dance Group – Viva Eclectika Festival

Date: 21 September 2024

The Doina Dance Group participated in the Multiethnic Viva Eclectika Festival, organised by the New Zealand Asia Association (NZAA). In a vibrant performance, the group presented a unique combination of Romanian and Korean dances – a tribute to friendship and cultural diversity. The artistic moment perfectly captured the spirit of the festival: unity through art and collaboration between communities.



Piano & Violin Concert – Diana Jipa and Ștefan Doniga

Date: 21 September 2024

Violinist Diana Jipa and pianist Ștefan Doniga, from Romania, offered an emotional recital that brought a touch of Romanian culture to everyone's hearts. We were proud to host them in Auckland as part of their “*Road to Freedom*” world tour, which featured a groundbreaking performance in Antarctica and set a Guinness World Record as the fastest classical music tour across all seven continents.



Seniors' Group – Excursion to Wenderholm Park

Date: 5 October 2024

Coordinators: Andu Iordache, Irina Adamovics, Cristina Lăpușan

After weeks of rain and fog, the sun finally came out, blessing the Seniors' Group excursion to Wenderholm Park. It was a wonderful day filled with dancing, good food, and games, enjoyed in great company. The event was a joyful opportunity for our seniors to spend time together and strengthen their community bonds.



Doina Dance Group – Anniversary Celebration of the Romanian Orthodox Parish

Date: 19 October 2024

The Doina Dance Group participated in the anniversary celebration of the Romanian Orthodox Parish of Saint Ignatius the God-Bearer in Auckland. Their performance added joy and colour to the community event, strengthening cultural and spiritual ties within the Romanian community.



Film Screening – *Libertate*

Date: 20 October 2024

Coordinators: Calina Tataru, Aurel Dumitrascu

The Romanian film *Libertate* was screened, taking the audience back to December 1989, in the midst of the turmoil that changed Romania. The film served not only as a powerful history lesson but also as a mirror of the past and present, highlighting the legacy of courage and sacrifice that still defines Romanians today.



Doina Festival – My Pottery Ia Workshop

Date: 3 November 2024

Coordinators: Iulia Simtion, Adina Giurgiu

As part of the Doina Festival, participants attended the creative workshop *My Pottery Ia*, where they modelled and decorated clay ceramics in the shape of the traditional Romanian blouse (*ie*). The event attracted 24 participants and was a joyful opportunity to combine heritage with hands-on creativity.



Hanul Ancuței – Romanian Party

Date: 9 November 2024

Organisers: Ioana Chiorean, Silvia Rosioru

The *Hanul Ancuței* event recreated the warm and authentic atmosphere of a Romanian inn, with traditional music, dancing, and delicious food. It was a memorable evening, filled with good cheer and special moments that made everyone feel at home.



Children's Group (La Povești în Limba Română) – 7th Anniversary

Date: 10 November 2024

Coordinator: Laura Axinte

The *La Povești* Children's Club celebrated its 7th anniversary with a lively party full of games, superheroes, and ninja training activities. Children of all ages joined in, enjoying a day filled with fun, energy, and friendship. The event was a joyful milestone for the group, thanks to the wonderful organisation of Laura Axinte.



Doina Festival – Screening of the Romanian Documentary *Nasty*

Date: 10 November 2024

Coordinators: Calina Tataru, Aurel Dumitrascu

The film *Nasty* was an extraordinarily well-made documentary that reminded us of the great achievements of Romanian tennis legend Ilie Năstase, as well as the childhood memories of many in the audience. It offered a window into a beautiful world full of camaraderie and sportsmanship.



Backgammon Tournament – Second Edition

Date: 17 November 2024

Coordinators: Silvia Rosioru, Gelu Rosioru

The second edition of the backgammon tournament brought together enthusiasts in a day full of good cheer and competition. Unpredictable dice, inspired “chibits,” and unique prizes made the event especially memorable.



Magura Amateur Theatre Group – “Florilegiu de Dragoste”

Date: 24 November 2024

Director: Mariana Popa

The Magura Theatre Group staged “*Florilegiu de Dragoste*”, a touching celebration of the Romanian language through classical poetry and performance. The show combined depth, humour, and emotion, offering moments of reflection, laughter, and heartfelt resonance.



Romania’s National Day & Closing of the Doina Festival 2024

Date: 1 December 2024

The celebration of Romania’s National Day brought together the community in a day dedicated to traditions, values, and identity. The event featured dances, music, traditional foods, and activities for all ages, transforming a rainy morning into a vibrant and authentic expression of the Romanian spirit. The involvement of volunteers and community members was essential to the success of this special day, marking a memorable conclusion to the Doina Festival 2024.



Children's Group (La Povești în Limba Română) – Visit from Santa Claus

Date: 8 December 2024

Coordinator: Laura Iugan

The event *"Here Comes Santa Claus!"* brought joy and celebration to the community. Santa arrived with gifts for the children, while traditional carols filled the air with warmth and emotion, creating a festive atmosphere of togetherness and cheer.



Carollers Group (Am venit să colindăm) – Christmas Celebration

Date: 15 December 2024

Coordinators: Irina Pegler, Silvia Rosioru

The Carollers Group brought Christmas joy to the Ponsonby Community Centre. It was a true celebration filled with warmth, harmony, and festive cheer. Through their voices, the carollers brought the spirit of Christmas closer to everyone, and the audience responded with enthusiasm, joining in the singing and celebration.



Children's Camp – Houghton's Bush Camp, Muriwai

Date: 10–16 January 2025

Coordinator: Silvia Rosioru

The Doina Association began 2025 with the Romanian Children's Camp.

The camp brought together 39 children from Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, and even Australia, offering them a week full of activities, friendship, and joy.

This achievement was made possible thanks to the dedicated team of volunteers and the generous support of the wider community.



Doina Dance Group – Chinese New Year Festival**Date:** 2 February 2025

The Doina Dance Group started the year with vibrant energy and colour, performing at the Chinese New Year Festival. The dancers were warmly received by the enthusiastic audience, creating a joyful and festive atmosphere. This event was a wonderful opportunity to showcase how Romanian traditions can shine in any multicultural context.

**Children's Group (La Povești în Limba Română) – Dragobete****Date:** 9 February 2025**Coordinator:** Andie Wood

The first meeting of 2025 brought together children of all ages for a joyful Dragobete celebration. Organised by Andie Wood, the event reunited the group after the summer holidays, giving the children the chance to share their adventures and reconnect. The atmosphere was warm and cheerful, filled with games, stories, and laughter — a wonderful start to the year for the young members of our community.

**Seniors' Club – Excursion to Titirangi and Cornwallis Beach****Date:** 22 February 2025**Coordinators:** Andu Iordache, Tudor Tipteriu

The Seniors' Club enjoyed another memorable day together with an outing to Cornwallis Beach, Arataki, and Titirangi. As usual, Doina Association supported the transport, while Tudor and Andu organised a wonderful and much-appreciated excursion.



Theatre – *Diary of a Madman* by Nikolai Gogol

Date: 1 March 2025

The Doina community had the chance to watch *Diary of a Madman* by Nikolai Gogol, a bittersweet comedy masterfully performed by Cătălin Anastase, with direction and scenography by Professor Florin Zamfirescu. It was an unforgettable evening of authentic theatre, warmly received by all present.



Children's Group (La Povești în Limba Română) – Mărțișor Workshop

Date: 9 March 2025

Coordinator: Iulia Simtion

The community gathered in March for a workshop dedicated to making *mărțișoare* from Sculpey, a tradition joyfully revived with the participation of children, parents, and grandparents. Seniors offered support with modelling, and the creations were decorated with the traditional red-and-white string.



Masquerade Ball – Community Celebration

Date: 15 March 2025

Coordinators: Ioana Chiorean, Laura Axinte, Silvia Rosioru

The Masquerade Ball was a vibrant evening full of colour, music, and energy. Spectacular costumes and the creativity of participants transformed the night into a true parade of imagination. The DJ kept the dance floor lively, the dinner was delicious, and the bar added to the festive atmosphere. Costume contests brought plenty of fun and surprises, making it a memorable celebration for all.



Rhythm and Romanian Art – World of Cultures 2025

Date: 29 March 2025

Coordinators: Mihaela Enache, Nicoleta Mureşan, Silvia Rosioru

The Auckland community came alive with the rhythms of Romanian traditions at the World of Cultures 2025. The event beautifully combined art, gastronomy, music, and folk dance, creating a vibrant celebration of heritage. With strong participation and enthusiasm, the day highlighted the importance of keeping traditions alive and sharing them with pride.



Financial Overview

This section provides a concise overview of our financial performance for the year ending on March 31, 2025

Income Sources Comparison

	2023	2024	2025
Activities Income	\$24,503	\$23,705	\$33,149
New Zealand Grants	\$23,800	\$17,078	\$30,480
Romanian Grants	\$0	\$0	\$0
Membership Fee	\$1,915	\$2,240	\$3,635
Donations	\$4,320	\$1,475	\$1,253



This Financial Year Grants

This Financial Year Grants

Grants Transactions

Doina - Community of Romanian Aucklanders Inc.
For the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

Date	Description	Amount
Grants		
17 Jul 2024	Department of Internal Affairs - 12NMGCMS1707 269188 COGS Papakura / Franklin 11/7/2024	250.00
22 Jul 2024	FOUNDATION NORTH - Grant - O11634 197849	8,400.00
31 Jul 2024	Department of Internal Affairs - R-COGS-2024-269202 - COGS Waitakere City 12NMGCMS3107	3,000.00
02 Aug 2024	Department of Internal Affairs - R-COGS-2024-269202 - COGS Manukau 12NMGCMS0208	2,350.00
16 Aug 2024	Department of Internal Affairs - COGS - Auckland City R-COGS-2024-269133	1,500.00
08 Oct 2024	Department of Internal Affairs - Ethnic Communities Development Fund Report due 30/09/2025 (8/10/24 - 8/10/25)	9,980.00
26 Mar 2025	Department of Internal Affairs - Lottery Auckland Community	5,000.00
Total Grants		30,480.00

Profit and Loss

Profit and Loss

Doina - Community of Romanian Aucklanders Inc.

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	2025	2024	2023
Trading Income			
Activities Income	33,149.00	23,705.00	24,503.15
SHORT TERM RENTAL	125.00	99.00	-
Total Trading Income	33,274.00	23,804.00	24,503.15
Cost of Sales			
Activity and/or programme costs	24,809.38	15,302.03	23,447.51
Catering/Food	10,062.47	8,504.67	9,315.32
Domestic travel costs/Travel/Mileage	9,105.76	6,632.68	10,137.80
Equipment hire	2,760.00	2,596.21	2,392.00
Resources/materials (long term use)	45.00	24.96	4,813.90
Venue Hire	13,191.73	8,180.54	14,646.78
Volunteers costs	105.00	-	255.00
Total Cost of Sales	60,079.34	41,241.09	65,008.31
Gross Profit	(26,805.34)	(17,437.09)	(40,505.16)
Other Income			
Donations Cash Received	1,253.00	1,475.00	4,320.00
Grants	30,480.00	17,078.00	23,800.00
Interest Income	450.73	354.63	105.41
Membership Fee	3,635.00	2,240.00	1,915.00
Other Income	-	-	25.00
Proceeds from sales	30.00	2,534.20	1,020.00
Total Other Income	35,848.73	23,681.83	31,185.41
Operating Expenses			
Bank Fees	-	-	19.98
Consumable- for Activities	1,918.99	1,742.02	2,925.95
COVID19	-	-	700.00
Donations Paid	-	-	1,000.00
General Expenses, fees	-	51.11	172.62
Gifts, Committee meetings, indirect activ. catering	206.19	30.60	788.00
Health & Safety	-	128.39	-
Interest Expense	-	-	0.22
Postage/courier	124.84	-	1,018.60
Repairs and Maintenance	-	59.90	-
Subscriptions	824.03	859.20	890.41
Total Operating Expenses	3,074.05	2,871.22	7,515.78
Net Profit	5,969.34	3,373.52	(16,835.53)

Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet

Doina - Community of Romanian Aucklanders Inc.

As at 31 March 2025

	31 MAR 2025	31 MAR 2024	31 MAR 2023
Assets			
Bank			
Dance Group-50	1,021.87	504.38	195.81
House-52	292.64	282.04	20.65
Saver and School-51	18,176.36	9,923.72	11,256.45
Society Cheque-00	9,978.33	12,337.27	7,530.74
Total Bank	29,469.20	23,047.41	19,003.65
Current Assets			
Accounts Receivable	(270.00)	(385.00)	(310.00)
Total Current Assets	(270.00)	(385.00)	(310.00)
Fixed Assets			
Fixed Assets	2,099.25	2,099.25	2,099.25
Total Fixed Assets	2,099.25	2,099.25	2,099.25
Total Assets	31,298.45	24,761.66	20,792.90
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	1,162.69	595.24	-
Total Current Liabilities	1,162.69	595.24	-
Total Liabilities	1,162.69	595.24	-
Net Assets	30,135.76	24,166.42	20,792.90
Equity			
Current Year Earnings	5,969.34	3,373.52	(16,835.53)
Retained Earnings	18,295.42	14,921.90	31,757.43
Retained Earnings prior to migrating to Xero	5,871.00	5,871.00	5,871.00
Total Equity	30,135.76	24,166.42	20,792.90

Notes to the Financial Statements

Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Reporting entity

- Doina – Community of Romanian Aucklanders Inc. is a charitable organisation, based in Auckland.
- It is a New Zealand legal entity which has functioned as an incorporated society since September 2000, registration number 1071174.
- In June 2010, the Society was registered as a charity with the Charities Commission, registration number CC44342.

(b) Date of authorisation

- The Activity Report and summary of the Income Statement and Balance Sheet Report have been presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Society on 4 May 2025.
- The Annual Return will be authorised for issue by the Management Committee.

- (c) Statement of compliance and basis of operation
- The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in New Zealand (NZ GAAP). They comply with New Zealand equivalents to IFRSs (NZ IFRSs) and other applicable Financial Reporting Standards, as appropriate for public benefit entities that qualify for, and apply, differential reporting concessions.
 - The Society is a public benefit entity. The Society qualifies for differential reporting concessions as it does not have public accountability and it is not large.
 - The financial statements are presented in New Zealand Dollars (NZD) rounded to the nearest NZD.
 - The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis.
- (d) Goods and services tax
- The Society is not registered for GST and all items of the Income Statement and Balance Sheet are inclusive of GST.
- (e) Volunteer services and other donated goods and services
- No value has been placed on the time provided by volunteers.
- (f) Income tax
- Being a charitable organisation registered with the Charities Commission the Society is exempt from paying Income tax.
- (g) Audit
- These financial statements have not been audited.
 - There is no statutory requirement for audited financial statements.
- (h) Revenue recognition
- The membership fee is collected for the year ending March and coincides with the financial year of the Society.
 - The grants are recognised in full as revenue in the financial year they are actually paid to the Society.
 - Historically the New Zealand grants have been received in March - April and August - September, in advance for activities spanning into the following year.

Note 1 – Membership fee

The current annual fee is set at \$20 with a discounted fee of \$10 for senior members and students over 18 years old. This year 244 members have paid their membership fee. The beneficiaries of the Society activities are much more, approximately 550 within the Romanian community of about 1,500 in Auckland..

Note 2 – Grants from New Zealand

Grants received from New Zealand Government departments include NZ Lottery, Auckland local Community Organisation Grants Schemes (COGS), Ethnic Communities, Foundation North and Creative Communities grants.

Note 3 – Grants from Romania

Currently no grants are received from Romania.

Note 4 – Activities income

Most of the Society activities are subject to an entry/attendance fee with the purpose of partially covering the cost of the activity and fundraising for future activities.

Note 5- Donations

The Society is a Donee organisation, and the donors can claim a tax credit for monetary donations of \$5 or more.

Note 6 – Volunteer expenses

Volunteer costs relate to gift vouchers (food/petrol)

Note 7 – Administration expenses

Administration expenses relate to guests, committee and members meetings, venue hire, subscription for the accounting package, software licences, storage, postage, other fees.

Note 8 – Cash

Cash comprises cash balances and savings deposits immediately available.

Note 9 – Debtors, prepayments.

Trade and other receivables are recognised at fair value.

Note 10 – Accounts Receivable

These are membership fees paid in advance. This was changed from last year's Prepayments Received Account.

Note 11 – Fixed Assets

Fixed Assets are recorded at cost. They are not depreciated; however, if permanently impaired, they are written off in full and the impairment expense is recognised.

Note 12 - Suppliers

Trade and other payables are recognised at fair value.

Note 13 – Prepayments received.

Prepayments relate to membership fees paid in advance for year ending March 2025.

