

Quilt design reflects cultures



Gallery education officer Chris King shows off the enormous Commonwealth Quilt.

New Zealand's many different cultures joined in to make the 1990 Commonwealth Quilt currently on show at Pakuranga's Fisher Gallery.

Well known artists and crafts people were helped by Maori, Samoan, Cook Island and Tongan women to produce the enormous quilt.

It will be gifted to Vancouver, the next host city of the Commonwealth Games.

Auckland's Carole Sheppard created the design which reflects common bonds found in the New Zealand landscape.

Border designs were made by different cultural and ethnic groups in Auckland who used their own techniques and materials to complement the major panel.

The Auckland Quilters Guild stitched the main panel.

The final result explains the fusion of

landscape and people in New Zealand.

Toi Maihi designed the Maori panels; Tai Carpenter and Luseanne Kilo the Pacific panels while the flying geese patchwork has been crafted in traditional way of other cultures in the country.

Made last year, the quilt will be exhibited at the Fisher Gallery along with the Edinburgh quilt and a children's quilt.

More than 25 primary and intermediate

schools in the Howick-Pakuranga area have been invited to participate alongside the 1990 Auckland Commonwealth Quilt Exhibition.

Each school must represent a painting or drawing that shows the unique nature of their immediate community.

The young artists will assemble their work in the gallery foyer from February 5-9.

It will remain on show with the Commonwealth quilt until February 25.