

# the acorn



**GIVE BACK & GET BACK:** Support our community before 31 March and get a 33.3% tax credit this year.

## GIVE BACK & GET BACK



Do you like to support charitable causes close to your heart? A donation to your fund, or direct to our community through the Acorn Foundation before 31 March 2020 will allow you to claim a 33.3% tax credit this year. After 1 April, simply file tax credit claim form IR526 to get your refund and know that your contribution helped those in need in the Western Bay of Plenty. As an option, the IRD has recently improved the secure online service, myIR, which allows you to claim your tax credit online at any time without completing a paper form. Find more information at [ird.govt.nz/donations](http://ird.govt.nz/donations).

## New Zealand Book Awards: Jann Medicott Acorn Prize for Fiction

Lifting the veil on our incredibly generous donor who has anonymously provided the annual Fiction Prize since its inception in 2016, we extend our immense gratitude to Jann Medicott.

Although choosing to remain anonymous up to this point, Jann has attended each of the awards and personally met all the winning authors who include Stephen Daisley, Catherine Chidgey, Pip Adam and Fiona Kidman. This award has been valued at over \$50,000 each year and is the largest fiction prize

available in New Zealand. As such, it goes a tremendously long way to recognise and support New Zealand authors.

Jann Medicott was born in Taranaki and studied medicine at the University of Otago, specialising in radiology. After three years overseas, she returned to New Zealand and settled in Tauranga in 1980 as a hospital-based radiologist. From 1988 Jann became involved in the establishment of private radiology services in the Bay area, latterly Medex Radiology, where she was a partner and practised until her retirement in 2011.

Jann has been an enthusiastic supporter of the arts and is a firm believer in people "giving back" to the community. She is certainly leading by example in this respect, supporting both the Fiction Prize and the Jann Medicott Creative Arts Award, which has been in place since 2012.

The 2020 Jann Medicott Acorn Prize for Fiction longlist was released on 30 January and includes the following titles:

- The Absolute Book*, Elizabeth Knox
- Lonely Asian Woman*, Sharon Lam

*Necessary Secrets*, Greg McGee

*Auē*, Becky Manawatu

*Moonlight Sonata*, Eileen Merriman

*Pearly Gates*, Owen Marshall

*Attraction*, Ruby Porter

*A Mistake*, Carl Shuker

*Loving Sylvie*, Elizabeth Smither

*Halibut on the Moon*, David Vann.



### VITAL UPDATES

## Bay of Plenty Sexual Assault Support Services: A new role and a new name

**Vital Signs Category:**  
Health & Wellness / Safety

Tautoko Mai Sexual Harm Support, formerly BOP Sexual Assault Support Services, has recently appointed Julie Sach to the position of Societal Change and Quality Assurance Leader. Julie has



returned to her hometown, from Wellington, where she was working for the Family Violence Death Review Committee and the newly formed Joint Venture (eliminating family and sexual violence in New Zealand).

The decision to create Julie's role has arisen out of a continued frustration with the ongoing prevalence of harm within our community. Sexual harm and family violence are one of the key social problems undermining the health and well-being of our population today.

This new role aims to focus on driving societal change through education and

## Abuse Statistics

- About **half of all homicides** in New Zealand are committed by an offender who is identified as family.
- **1 out of 3 girls** may be sexually abused before she turns 16 years old. Most of this abuse (90%) will be done by someone she knows.
- **1 in 7 boys** may be sexually abused by adulthood.
- Approximately **1 in 5 New Zealand women** experience a serious sexual assault. For some women, this happens more than once.
- **1 in 3 women** experience physical and/or sexual violence from a partner in their lifetime.
- Young people are statistically at the highest risk of being sexually assaulted; the **16 – 24 year-old** age group is four times more likely to be sexually assaulted than any other age group.
- **Disabled women** are about twice as likely to be victims of violence or abuse compared to other women
- Impacts of **abuse in childhood** can continue to impact on survivors as adults in the form of depression, anxiety, impaired interpersonal relationships, parenting difficulties, eating difficulties, and/or drug and alcohol misuse to cope with strong feelings.
- Only about **10 out of 100** sexual abuse crimes are reported and three of those get to court. Only one of those cases is likely to get a conviction.



\*Retrieved 18 December 2019  
<https://www.helpauckland.org.nz/sexual-abuse-statistics.html>

prevention, by building greater awareness and community analysis of the issues of sexual and family violence. This involves challenging existing myths about the causes of violence in our community, particularly gendered ideas that shift responsibility from people who use violence and blame victims.

The role was made possible thanks to funding from the Acorn Foundation, through a collaboration between Tautoko Mai, Tauranga Women's Refuge, Living Without Violence and Shakti. Tautoko Mai and our partners have a vision for a violence free Aotearoa, and thanks to Acorn funding, this role supports that vision to be enacted.

The role will be responsible for running local media campaigns and for responding

to topical issues as they arise. Julie is available to provide training and support to organisations wanting to ensure their service meets the needs of people who have experienced sexual and family violence.

In February, Tautoko Mai is working on bringing the "It's Our Business" campaign to the region, ahead of Orientation Week, as students head back to study. The campaign aims to educate hospitality staff about keeping patrons safe from sexual harm while in their premises. This is a collaboration with Tauranga City Council, NZ Police, local tertiary providers, TMAPS and the Sexual Abuse Prevention Network in Wellington, who ran a similar campaign there.

Tautoko Mai has worked with Oranga

Tamariki, Corrections and Socialink to bring David Mandel to Tauranga from the USA. David is the Director of the Safe and Together Institute which advocates a family violence informed approach to child protection practice.



# Ways to Give

Acorn is well-known in the WBOP as the organisation that can help you leave a gift to the community in your Will. Over the past 18 months, Acorn has extended its offerings to enable locals to participate in community giving regardless of their age or stage of life. Giving options now include Living Giving, trust resettlements, regular giving to favourite Community Group Funds, Corporate Funds and collective giving in the form of Giving Circles and Workplace Giving.

## Craigs Investment Partners Strategic Giving Programme

Acorn Foundation, Craigs Investment Partners and Community Foundations of NZ launched a national partnership in December. A long-time supporter of communities across the country, Craigs Investment Partners developed a unique and strategic giving programme. Donations to support the greatest needs in each of the 19 communities in which Craigs has a regional office will be made in conjunction with one of the 17 community foundations found around New Zealand.

The partnership is multifaceted including a combination of Christmas Giving, Workplace Giving and the establishment of a Community Fund.

### Craigs Christmas Giving

In December 2019, Craigs directed money to local charities throughout New Zealand - a donation of just over \$150,000 to those most in need in New Zealand. \$27,000 of this was directed to six charities in the WBOP region:

- **EmpowermentNZ** - (Te Puke) Emergency food supplies, free community cafe, social workers/ counsellors, financial mentoring, various workshops and programmes.
- **Good Neighbour** - Food rescue, community gardens, neighbourhood projects, kitchen training and mentoring.
- **Awhina House** - Safe emergency housing for women, providing wraparound support services, skills and mentoring.
- **Tauranga Moana Men's Nightshelter** - Providing emergency housing for men, wraparound services including mentoring and budgeting.
- **KidsCan** - Meeting the physical and nutritional needs of Kiwi kids less fortunate than others; supplying food, clothing and basic healthcare in schools and early childhood education centres.
- **St Peter's House** - Offering counselling, life skills, debt help, parenting and marriage courses, food bank referrals.



Lori Luke - Acorn General Manager and Frank Aldridge - Craigs Managing Director

*"We see a huge benefit to our communities by giving to those with the greatest needs at a time of the year when we know that many feel huge pressure financially,"*

says Craigs Managing Director, Frank Aldridge.

### Craigs Workplace Giving

Craigs employees around the country can now sign up for payroll Workplace Giving with the employee contribution matched by Craigs up to \$500 per employee. Each Craigs branch's Giving Committee will work with their local community foundation annually to determine the most deserving recipients in their area.

### Craigs Community Fund

A giving fund has been established with the Acorn Foundation whereby, in the future, a portion of the Craigs fund will be distributed to recipients of their choosing. Acorn Foundation General Manager, Lori Luke, says that the Craigs Community Fund will provide a welcome boost for charities all across New Zealand, forever.

*"The benefit of these kinds of funds is that it provides yearly distributions to really deserving local charities. It is amazing to have a national company like Craigs leading the way in this sort of strategic giving, and we hope other businesses will follow suit."*

From Acorn's perspective, it has been an exciting and hugely gratifying experience to work alongside the Craigs team to support them in this fantastic philanthropic initiative!

## Corporate Giving

Our latest corporate giving initiatives have come from NumberWorks'nWords, KPMG Tauranga and Althorp Village. Each of these generous businesses are building a fund that will support vital organisations in our region. In addition, KPMG Tauranga will be launching a Workplace Giving programme in February to allow employees to participate in collective giving to the community.

Acorn would love to work with other WBOP businesses to develop a Workplace or Corporate Giving programme that suits their needs. Community Foundations NZ Executive Officer, Eleanor Cater, says that thoughtful giving is the way of the future. "People like to give with purpose, since it's a far more fulfilling way to give, both for companies and for individuals. Workplace Giving is a real win/win, nurturing a purposeful team-building culture at the same time as helping to build strong communities."

Contact General Manager, Lori Luke, at 07 579 9839 or at lori@acornfoundation.org.nz for more information.

## Trust Resettlements

With changes coming to trust laws in 2021, Acorn is working with a variety of family trusts and community organisations regarding trust resettlements. There are lots of reasons to consider Acorn:

1. Plug into our existing organisation for a simple and stress-free transfer.
2. Retain an existing brand.
3. Professional fund management; our fund has averaged 8.8% annual returns under Craig's management.
4. A partner with granting know-how, since we have been working with Western Bay community groups for 17 years.
5. Strong governance and external auditing.
6. Low ongoing fees of no more than 1% of an individual fund, calculated annually.

## Acorn Vital Impact Fund

This fund provides support for organisations working in the areas of greatest need in the WBOP. In 2019, the Acorn Distribution Committee chose Good Neighbour and Tauranga Community Housing Trust as the recipients of this fund. There are all sorts of ways to contribute to the Vital Impact Fund, including gifts in a Will for donors who don't want to set up a named fund, regular donations either through payroll giving or via an on-going A/P, or through donating your TECT rebate to Acorn.

In the past year, TECT beneficiaries, both individuals and business account holders, have donated their rebate to the Vital Impact Fund, collectively contributing over \$42,000! This designation is an easy way to ensure that your contribution goes to charitable groups working in essential areas of the community.

**The next selection for your TECT rebate payment preference must be made by 17 June 2020.**



## Functions & Events

<b>Round Tables Presentations</b>	<b>February 2020</b> This month we held six round table sessions for 2019 recipients of untagged funding. As always, these sessions are both humbling and informative and we appreciate the time given by the passionate people who are working extremely hard to make our community stronger.
<b>Donors, Supporters &amp; Friends Evening</b>	<b>Thursday 26 March 2020, 5:30pm - 7:00pm</b> <b>The Collective (TK Kafe and Deck) - Drinks and Nibbles provided</b> Presentations from Baywide Community Law, Bay Conservation Alliance, Tautoko Mai (formerly BOP Sexual Assault Support Services), Eva Trowbridge University of Waikato Scholarship Winner (Ebony Kahukura), Book Awards Short List review, and entertainment from Louie Campbell, winner of the Jann Medlicott Creative Arts Award. <b>GUESTS WELCOME.</b>
<b>Preliminary Funding Applications Open</b>	<b>Monday 4 May 2020</b>
<b>Donor Tree Planting</b>	<b>Thursday 14 May 2020, 9:30am</b> An opportunity for family members and friends of recently deceased Acorn donors to commemorate their loved ones through the planting of oak trees in the Acorn Foundation Oak Grove.
<b>Preliminary Funding Applications Close</b>	<b>Monday 25 May 2020</b>
<b>Tauranga Donor Tour</b>	<b>TBC - June 2020</b>

For further information or to RSVP for any of these events, please email: jo@acornfoundation.org.nz or phone (07) 579 9839

## 2019 Social Enterprise Award winner!

The whole Acorn team was thrilled when Acorn was selected as the 2019 Social Enterprise Award recipient at the Westpac Tauranga Business Awards! The awards included a lengthy application and interview process that really dug into the business side of a charitable organisation and confirmed to us that we are managing our donor gifts with all the care that they deserve. Thanks so much to the award sponsor, Metro Marketing!



## Scholarships and Awards

### Sport Bay of Plenty

Two outstanding sports people were the recipients of the **Christine Tustain Sports Award** for 2019:

#### Olive Pearce (Tauranga) – Surf Lifesaving:

In March 2019, Olive (pictured here with Christine Tustain) was selected to be a part of the Surf Lifesaving NZ High Performance Youth (U19) Squad. In 2020, as a member of the Mount Maunganui Lifeguard Service, Olive will travel to the Gold Coast for the Australian Surf Lifesaving National Championships and the Australian Pool Rescue Championships. Olive's goal is to be selected for the NZ Surf Lifesaving team who will compete at the 2020 Surf Lifesaving World Championships in Italy in September. Olive is currently in the NZ Squad.



**Jack Egan (Tauranga) – Canoe Slalom:** In July 2019, Jack attended the Junior and U23 World Canoe Slalom Championships where he placed 9th. This is the first time that a New Zealander has made the finals and placed this high. Jack has been selected for the NZ Junior Canoe Slalom team who will be competing at the Australian Open and Oceania Canoe Slalom Championships in Penrith.

### University of Waikato Eva Trowbridge Scholarship

A very big congratulations to the 13th winner of the Eva Trowbridge University of Waikato Scholarship, Ebony Kahukura.



Currently a part-time teacher at Greenpark School, Ebony will be undertaking the Te Tohu Paetahi one-year programme which consists of six in-class te reo Māori language acquisition papers and two online papers, with the goal to provide a total immersion Māori language teaching and learning environment with English phased out completely.

For Ebony, winning this scholarship will help relieve the financial burden associated with taking time out of her career to study, as she is also a single mother of two children. Ebony is passionate about Te Reo Māori and has always wanted to develop a proficiency in her ancestral language.

*"In terms of my teaching career and future plans, we know that teachers have the greatest influence on students"*

*achievement in an education setting. My belief is that Māori language and culture should be accessible to all learners in any learning environment, including learners in mainstream schools. My improved proficiency in Te Reo Māori is my contribution to the revitalisation of our language beyond home, beyond the marae and reaching into the hearts of our nation's tamariki. A whakatauki that comes to mind is "Ko taku reo taku hoooho, ko taku reo taku mapihi mauria. My language is my awakening, my language is the window to my soul."*

Well done, Ebony; it is a pleasure to have you join the long list of Eva Trowbridge Scholarship winners!

### Cashmore Family Scholarship

Taina Maddigan-Ould was the winner of the Acorn Foundation Cashmore Family Scholarship at Tauranga Boys' College for 2019. Taina is planning on studying for a Bachelor of Science majoring in Marine Studies. His first year of study will be undertaken at Toi Ohomai and from there Waikato University. He already has a number of valuable qualifications towards his future career, including his day skipper's ticket. Taina also held a job over summer patrolling Tauranga's waterways as a Maritime Patrol Officer for the Tauranga Regional Council and Harbourmaster's Office. He was recently involved in the Tuia250 voyage aboard the Spirit of New Zealand from Gisborne to Whitianga.

Taina captained the sport of waka ama at Tauranga Boys' College for three years and plans to pursue a career in marine biology once he has completed his degree. He hopes to own a chartering business, which will operate in the waters outside of Tauranga. Taina wants to pass on his knowledge to others and have an influence on the impact of global warming and pollution in our great oceans.

*"When the opportunity for the Acorn Cashmore Family Scholarship arose, I would never have thought I would be the final recipient. To say the least, this scholarship has changed my life. With a significant loss to my family earlier in the year, attending university was impossible due to a lack of funds. As a result of being the successful recipient, I am now able to attend University and pursue my*

*dream. I am extremely grateful for this scholarship and the doors that both the Acorn Foundation and the Cashmore family have opened for me. Without them and their tireless work for the community, this scholarship would never be available."*

### BOP Medical Students Scholarship

Tauranga-born former Mount Maunganui College student Kelly Stewart was the 2019 winner of the BOP Medical Students Scholarship. After college, Kelly obtained a nursing degree and worked in the emergency department at Tauranga Hospital. Based on her experiences there, she realised she wanted to continue studying and become a doctor. Kelly made a career change and has now finished her fourth year at Otago University, undertaking her studentship at Burwood Hospital in Christchurch this summer. She will be the first doctor in her family and hopes to become a GP practicing in the Bay of Plenty. Kelly was delighted to have received the Acorn Foundation BOP Medical Students Scholarship and says the \$4,000 scholarship will greatly ease the financial pressure for her studies this year.

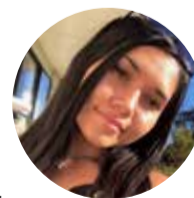


### Two new scholarships were established in 2019

#### Acorn Foundation Beverley Perszyk Scholarship:

This scholarship was set up by Kenneth Perszyk for his late mother Beverley, who was born and raised in the United States during the Great Depression. Beverley was the only one of eight siblings not to attend a tertiary institution and chose instead to start a good job at City Hall. While she said she never wanted to go to university, despite family pressure to do so, she often spoke of the transformative effects tertiary education can have. She would have been delighted to support first-in-family students entering tertiary education.

Britney Moore is the first recipient of the Acorn Foundation Beverley Perszyk Scholarship. Britney was raised by her single mother who she says has been her biggest supporter in every goal she has set. She finished her schooling last year at Gisborne Girls High School and will be continuing her studies at the University of Waikato, undertaking a law degree. Britney is the first in her family to head to University



and was also selected for the Tauranga Campus First-in-Family Scholarship.

*"I am determined to succeed in gaining a university qualification. This would not only be for my own future goals but to give back to my community and stand proud as a young Maori woman and future New Zealand lawyer."*

#### Acorn Foundation Adult Learner Scholarship:

This scholarship was set up by an anonymous donor who has been a longtime supporter of Acorn through her commitment to one of Acorn's Giving Circles. She is passionate about education and views this scholarship as an opportunity to help other women achieve their goals and realise their potential. Nikki Wade was delighted to be the first recipient of the Acorn Adult Learner Scholarship in late 2019. Nikki has previously completed a Bachelor of Social Science, majoring in psychology. She is now studying for a Master of Applied Community Psychology.



*"My personal experiences as a sole parent living on a Sole Parent Support benefit led to me choosing my master's thesis research topic, titled: Sole mothers experiences of accessing support from New Zealand welfare agency Work and Income New Zealand. My hope is to eventually work in the policy and evaluation sector on issues impacting human flourishing within Aotearoa/New Zealand."*

*I would like to sincerely thank the Acorn Foundation and their donor for their support of me and my whānau in my educational and community endeavours via the Acorn Foundation Adult Learner Scholarship. Without your generosity, support, and encouragement, continuing with my studies would be that much harder. I offer a heartfelt thank you!"*

## Margaret McCracken 1933 – 2018

Margaret McCracken was originally from Auckland and moved to Tauranga later in life. She was predeceased by her husband Tom, her son Martin, and her daughter Robin Shoult. She was survived by a number of close friends.

Margaret was an extremely generous woman, leaving gifts to a number of local and national charities, including Blind Low Vision NZ and the TECT Rescue Helicopter.

**Her gift to Acorn was left unrestricted and will be used to support charities working to support those in need in the Western Bay of Plenty.**



## Marilyn (Anne) Crane 1936 – 2019

Anne Crane was a member of Tauranga Rotary since women were first allowed membership. She was honoured by being made a Paul Harris Fellow in 2014.



Anne owned the dairy next to the local theatre in Te Puke, which she ran on her own for 7 years with 2 young children, her son Grant, and her daughter Sally.

Anne was later employed at the Tauranga City Council as their property manager where she worked for about 20 years.

**Half of Anne's fund will assist young people with specific health or educational needs, and the balance is unrestricted.**

## Anna Finlayson-Smith 1953 -2019

Anna was born and educated in Auckland, with her parents having a strong Scottish heritage. Family holidays were spent on a farm at Manurewa and at a cottage at Weymouth on the Manukau harbour. She trained to become a teacher and went on to spend many years teaching, mainly at schools in the South Auckland area. During this time, she developed a strong passion for music and loved conducting massed choirs from numerous schools at the annual festival held at the Auckland Town Hall.



She later moved to live in Te Puna and immersed herself in community work. Anna was the Chair of Friends of Baycourt and particularly enjoyed supporting the next generation of performers with their annual Performing Arts youth scholarship.

**Half of Anna's fund supports performing and creative arts and animal welfare or the training of dogs for personal assistance, while the remaining 50% is unrestricted.**

## Farewells

### Glenn Keaney

The entire Acorn team appreciates Glenn's 8-year service to Acorn, particularly his role as Chair from 2015 to 2019. The size of the fund has more than tripled during that time, and Glenn worked diligently with the management team to prepare us for further growth. Glenn now joins Acorn's Ambassadors, who continue to promote the foundation to the wider community.



### Jo Gravit

We send a huge thank you to Jo Gravit, who served on the Acorn Distributions team for eight years, concluding her service in 2019. Jo admirably represented the needs of the Western Bay of Plenty, particularly in her expertise area of housing affordability and availability.



## Welcome to Acorn

### Staff: Sarah Johnson

As Acorn continues to grow, so does work on the administration side of things. Which is why we are very excited to welcome Sarah Johnson to the Acorn team! Sarah joined Acorn in November 2019 as Office Administrator and is fast learning the ropes. Sarah moved to Tauranga in 2004 on an overseas adventure after graduating from the University of Lincolnshire, England. She had previously spent a year studying business at Auckland University of Technology, but as soon as she visited Tauranga, she knew this was the place she was going to make her new home. Sarah is kept busy with her two young daughters and her husband who has been heavily involved in the community rugby scene. When Sarah has a free moment, you may spot her running or cycling around one of the many beautiful spots that Tauranga has to offer. Lori, Margot and Jo are enjoying having some extra hands in the office – so, welcome Sarah!



which was established in 2000. She has held various Board positions, including Tourism Bay of Plenty, Wakeboarding New Zealand and currently sits on the Good Neighbour and Enterprise Angels Boards. Michelle has a passion for using her business skills to give back to the community. Michelle is married with two teenage daughters and lives in Te Puna. Her interests include gardening and spending time with family and friends. Michelle's appointment was ratified by Priority One, who has recently joined the list of outside organisations who help select the Trustees for the Acorn Board.

### Investment Advisory Committee: John Selby

Welcome to John Selby, who has recently joined the Acorn Investment Advisory Committee. John retired after working as a partner at PwC in Wellington for 24 years. He has spent the past eight years focusing on governance work, and he and his wife have moved to Mount Maunganui full-time.



John currently serves as Independent Chair for Booster Investment Management and Booster Assurance (funds under management \$3B) and is a director or chair of four other organisations. We really appreciate John for volunteering his expertise to Acorn!

### Distributions Committee:

We are thrilled to welcome three new volunteers to our Distributions Committee in 2020. The Distributions Committee is responsible for assessing and approving the applications for funding that the Acorn Foundation receives. Committee members utilise the Vital Signs Report which provides evidence-based research to prioritise Acorn's funding.

### Annabel Bayes

"I am thrilled to become part of Acorn and contribute to the fantastic work of the foundation and the positive impact it has on so many lives. I look forward to being part of Acorn's continued growth into the future and the meaningful difference helping many people in our communities across the Bay of Plenty."



### Julie Carlson

Julie has a strong community focus and a passion for helping others, with a special interest in the environment and the arts. She is excited to join Acorn and wants to play a role in improving the well-being of our region.



### Jo Franks

"I am excited and eager to contribute to Acorn as part of the Distributions Committee; it means the world to me to be making a real difference to people's everyday lives."



## New Chair: Lesley Jensen

The Acorn team are excited to welcome our new Chair, Lesley Jensen, who was elected following Glenn Keaney's retirement in November 2019. Lesley is an active partner in Puketiro Farm, a Tauranga-based dairy farming and orchard business. In addition, she is a Community Magistrate who sits on the bench of District Courts throughout the Bay of Plenty and Midland regions. Lesley previously served as Deputy Chair of the Acorn Foundation and spent three years on the Acorn Distributions Committee.



Lesley has served as Board Chair and Trustee on the Tauranga Girls' College and Pyes Pa School Boards and has sat on the Bay of Plenty Medical Ethics Committee. Prior to raising her family, she worked in Community Health Management. Lesley is married with two daughters and enjoys tramping and travel. Lesley was appointed to the Board in June 2015.



When you choose to leave a gift to the community through Acorn, you can nominate your preferred charities, or you can leave it up to our Distributions Committee to identify where the need is greatest.

#### STRATEGIC PARTNER

#### CORPORATE PARTNERS

#### FUNDING PARTNER

#### PREFERRED SUPPLIERS

