

the acorn.



Thank you, Acorn supporters!

Despite headwinds this year in the investment markets, the Acorn Foundation is thrilled to distribute over \$3M – nearly 50% more than 2021! It is a testament to the unwavering commitment of our donors, volunteers and community partners that Acorn’s support can continue to grow just when

our community needs it the most.

On behalf of the Trustees and staff at the Acorn Foundation we can’t thank you enough for your contributions to the well-being of the Western Bay of Plenty.

Jann Medicott

1942 - 2022

On 12 August we lost a passionate supporter and champion of the arts, whose immense contribution will inspire and encourage New Zealand writers and artists long into the future.

Jann Medicott was much more than a “sponsor” – in fact she disliked being referred to as that, because her support for writers and artists went so much deeper than simply a financial transaction. Jann believed we cannot call ourselves a civilised society while our finest writers and artists cannot afford to make the time to pursue their craft, due to the need to also provide for their families.

Upon learning there would be no 2015 national book awards due to the withdrawal of NZ Post’s sponsorship, she made the decision to provide \$50,000 that year, and every year thereafter (adjusted annually for wage inflation), to not merely reward excellence in the writing of literary fiction in New Zealand, but to restore mana to the industry. So began the now enduring **Jann Medicott Acorn Prize for Fiction**, awarded each year at the Ockham NZ Book Awards.

But literature was not Jann’s only love. She was also deeply passionate about performing and creative arts, particularly contemporary art. She has provided the **Jann Medicott Creative Arts Award** through the Acorn Foundation and Creative BOP each year since 2012, with winners including a dancer, drummer, graphic artist, actor, guitarist, art gallery curator, among others.

Jann Medicott was also a highly accomplished businesswoman.



She completed her education and training as a radiologist in 1974 and was appointed as a fulltime consultant radiologist at Tauranga Hospital in 1980. She was Clinical Director of the hospital radiology department from the late ‘80’s to 1995, over a period of substantial change in both technology and health funding models.

She joined colleagues to establish private radiology practices Bay Radiology in 1988 and Medex in 1998, in each case as Managing Director.

In the late ‘90’s, Jann served a 3 year stint as Chairperson of the NZ branch of the Royal Australian College of Radiologists. She advocated for New Zealand at Council meetings in Sydney, established a staffed NZ branch office in Wellington, and spearheaded a campaign for a College name change to incorporate New Zealand. Jann retired from radiology practice in 2011, allowing her to finally indulge her deep passion for reading, fiction in particular, and the arts.

Jann amassed a substantial personal collection of mostly contemporary art over many years. Her final gift to the community will come in the form of an exciting new biennial award for contemporary art, New Zealand wide, which will be announced over the coming weeks in association with Tauranga Art Gallery.

Jann Medicott will always be remembered as a true champion of the arts, in her very modest but deeply considered way.

Organise your wishes in September

Thanks to the more than 400 Acorn donors from all over the Western Bay of Plenty, distributions exceeded \$10M between 2003 and 2021. If you haven’t yet considered the legacy you’d like to leave locally, Wills Month in September is the ideal time to organise your wishes.

During Wills Month, Acorn Foundation has partnered with local solicitors to allow clients to change an existing will to include a gift to Acorn at no charge. Other will changes are charged at the solicitor’s normal rate. Local law firms have supported Acorn’s efforts for years. In 2022, participating law firms include:

- Abernethy Broatch Law
- Anderson Law Office
- Beach Law Papamoa
- Burley Castle Hawkins Lawyers
- Cooney Lees Morgan
- Fenton McFadden
- Harris Tate Lawyers
- Holland Beckett Law
- Kaimai Law - Bethlehem
- Kaimai Law - Katikati
- Keam Standen Lawyers
- Mackenzie Elvin Law
- Rejthar Stuart Law
- Sharp Tudhope Lawyers

Homes of Hope

Unfortunately, way too many children across Aotearoa have faced traumatic experiences which affect them for life. When left untreated, trauma can significantly deplete a person’s mental and emotional wellbeing as well as affect his or her quality of life. The need for therapy services for these children is growing, which local organisation Homes of Hope have recognised. They provide services that give tamariki the care they deserve.

Homes of Hope provide therapeutic foster care services, working to transition children in their care into a forever home, using wraparound support in the process. As a part of their operations, Homes of Hope run a separate studio with specially trained counsellors who use child centred play therapy (CCPT) both with children in their care and children from the wider community. Child centred play therapy

allows children to relate to their counsellor in language they understand, using toys to express themselves and communicate. It offers children the opportunity to develop resolutions and grow emotional and social skills in practical ways. This approach to therapy has greatly benefitted many children through Homes of Hope and other organisations worldwide.

The need for child-focussed therapy has been widely recognised. Hazel Hape, manager at Tauranga Women’s Refuge, believes there has been a spike in the number of children needing these services since the Covid-19 pandemic.

“Children have a right to be loved, nurtured and supported. Unfortunately, family violence can have devastating and life-long physical, emotional and psychological impacts and we continue to be worried about the lack of specialist

family violence and child centred responses to help children recover from their trauma.”

CCPT could be the answer for many children recovering from trauma. However, a lack of resources has limited the number of children that Homes of Hope can reach. With increased resources, this service has the ability to benefit many organisations who help hundreds of children in the Bay of Plenty, such as Tauranga Women’s Refuge.

In 2021, Acorn support for Homes of Hope came via a pass-through gift from N Campbell and from the endowment fund of J Chappell-Mathias. If you are interested in learning more about their work, head to www.homesofhope.org.nz.



First XI Giving Circle

The First XI Giving Circle is a group of colleagues and friends who have been supporting our community through Acorn since 2014. The group members get a lot of personal satisfaction from donating \$50 each per month, pooling their donations, and then collectively choosing recipients each year.

Bridget Cummins, a member of the First XI Giving Circle told us *“When we started in 2014, Giving Circles were very popular in the US but not so well known in NZ. We were the first Giving Circle contributing to the Acorn Foundation. We originally had 11 members, mostly from Craigs Investment Partners and YRW Chartered Accountants, along with a couple of ring-ins. One member, Reg, is a cricket enthusiast, so that’s how we became the First XI Giving Circle.”*

The generosity of charitable individuals through Acorn’s Giving Circles has supported many deserving organisations over the years. Individuals who come from different backgrounds unite with a common purpose of giving back to

their local community. At the end of June, four local organisations received support from two Giving Circles.

Because of the large number of deserving charities in the Western Bay, it can be a challenge for Giving Circles to choose who will receive their funds each year. Bridget values the knowledge Acorn provides when making those decisions *“It makes you aware of what is going on in the community too. Acorn has their finger on the pulse and work with lots of different charities in areas that may be ‘under the radar’ of many people. It is that part of the community that really need some help.”*

First XI Giving Circle chose BOP Therapy Foundation to receive their funds in 2022. With mental health being an increasing issue in Aotearoa, BOP Therapy Foundation reduces financial barriers for vulnerable individuals to access counselling by providing full or partially subsidised sessions.

Bridget said, *“After some discussion, we decided to support mental health – this affects people of all walks of*

life, and at different life stages – and the need has increased. BOP Therapy Foundation provides free counselling for those who need it, and they have long waitlists. A donation to them means the waitlists can be reduced.”

Giving Circles are a social way to give back - they’re a great way to meet new people and be part of a group that makes a tangible difference in our community.

Bridget believes Giving Circles are a fabulous idea, since you are helping your local community. *“Being in a group means you can achieve more. I think it is a wonderful opportunity, as each*

member’s monthly contribution combines with others. Over a year, it becomes thousands of dollars, which for many smaller charities is such a huge help.”

Thanks to the generosity of the members of the First XI Giving Circle, BOP Therapy Foundation are able to reduce their waitlists and help more people receive mental health support.

If you would like to learn more about Giving Circles, visit <https://www.acornfoundation.org.nz/give/give-for-today#pass-through-donations>



Upcoming events

2022 Distribution Morning Teas

Our 2022 Distributions Morning Teas are an opportunity for Acorn donors, friends and anyone with a passion for our community to hear how 2022’s Acorn funding was directed, as well as to hear from some of the wonderful local recipient organisations working in our communities. This year we will be hosting two functions in Katikati and Te Puke. Speakers will include organisations such as Katikati Taiao, CanTeen and The Daily. There will also be Dale Carnegie and Outward Bound Scholarship winners speaking about their experiences.

We encourage you to bring along friends, clients or customers whom you think may have an interest in giving back to our local community.

KATIKATI

Katikati Community Centre
Tuesday 27 September
10:00am - 11:30am

TE PUKE

The Hub Te Puke
Thursday 29 September
10:00am - 11:30am

Corporate Giving

Through Acorn’s Corporate Giving programmes, businesses can add to their social impact efforts by giving back to their community. At the end of June, three workplaces contributed to charitable organisations in the Western Bay.

Oriens Capital decided to support Youthline’s Tauranga efforts through their giving. Partner Peter Tinholt said, *“We feel this is a good organisation to support as they target the under 24s and provide support with mental health.”* Youthline provide a free helpline service to rangitahi across Aotearoa to receive support, as well as counselling and youth mentoring services.

Tauranga NumberWorks’nWords selected Tipu Skills for Life and KidsCan’s local operations as recipients of their funding. Tipu Skills for Life provides programmes for primary school-aged



girls which offer skills to empower them to lead a positive life. Their year long, early intervention, therapeutic programmes help children to build self-worth and nurture their strengths. Tipu Skills for Life National Manager, Stuart Caldwell, said he was absolutely delighted to receive this donation from NumberWorks’nWords. *“We feel humbled and privileged that they have chosen Tipu Skills for Life for this donation.”*

As well as providing funding to charitable organisations, NumberWork’nWords

Tauranga was a recipient of funding from KPMG Tauranga’s Workplace Giving programme this year. Tutoring services are usually only available to families with higher income. NumberWorks’nWords endeavours to provide these important services to any child that needs it, regardless of financial position. Leanne Rhodes-Robinson of NumberWorks’nWords Tauranga expresses the importance of this funding.

“Thank you so much for this gift to go towards increasing the numeracy and literacy skills for people from lower socio-economic backgrounds, to further their opportunities. At NumberWorks’nWords Tauranga, we are aware that “after-school tutoring” is usually an option only open to those in higher income brackets. Even though we do our bit to ensure that more disadvantaged students are able to access this service, with

Escape Festival

Tauranga Arts Festival presents “Escape Festival” - their ‘little festival with big ideas.’ The festival, running from 12-16 October, will include a reader and writers’ weekend, school festival and live performances.

Acorn is a festival supporter, sponsoring the talk by bestselling author, speaker and Fulbright Scholar Abbas Nazar. Nazar’s book, *After the Tampa*, highlights the remarkable story of his family’s escape from the brutality of the Taliban, nearly dying when their boat sank in the Indian Ocean, their rescue and search for a new country, and ultimately, the life they built in New Zealand.

Find out more at: <https://www.taurangafestival.co.nz/event/escape-2022-401>



discounts, free terms, and scholarships, it would be so good to do more. Having your funding, we can! Thank you!”

The funding from KPMG Tauranga will allow students from Merivale Primary to receive scholarships. Te Aranui Youth Trust, who support at-risk youth by providing positive role models and challenging activities, was an additional recipient from this Workplace Giving programme.

We are so grateful for the incredible generosity of our local businesses through these giving programmes.

If you would like to learn more about corporate giving, visit <https://www.acornfoundation.org.nz/give/give-for-tomorrow/create-a-corporate-fund>

Scholarships

Local students win 2022 scholarships to Outward Bound



In June we celebrated the 2022 Outward Bound Scholarship winners who attended the Tangaroa Watch programme in Anakiwa. The Year 12 recipients from local Bay of Plenty schools are selected by their schools and Outward Bound staff members based on their commitment to school and their community, as well as their financial need.

The 21-day programme uses outdoor challenges and adventures to build life skills and positive attitudes which are applicable to work, school and home life. We heard from two scholarship recipients at the event about their experiences of the programme on behalf of the group.

This is the sixth consecutive year that committed Acorn donors and supporters have provided these valuable scholarships. Congratulations to the scholarship recipients on their achievement.

- Tauranga Boys' College: Leonardo Wilson-Taylor, Jake Corney and Jai Crowe
- Tauranga Girls' College: Rosa Atkins and Danica Fisher
- Otumoetai College: Zachaia Tarawa, Eli Kapi and Dakota Filer
- Papamoa College: Aiswarya Bhandari and Tori Haggie
- Katikati College: Ashton Coxhead and Eva Sunderland
- Whakatane High School: Callum Giles and Kiera Dooley

Celebration of Dale Carnegie 2022 Scholarship Winners



22 students from across the Western Bay of Plenty completed the 2022 Acorn Foundation Dale Carnegie Youth Programme in July. For the past 12 years, the fund of the late Mary and Roy McGowan has provided these scholarships to nearly 300 local students.

Year 13 students from 11 Western Bay of Plenty schools were selected for this programme. This three-day course teaches the Dale Carnegie five drivers of success: building greater self-confidence; strengthening people skills; enhancing communication skills; developing leadership skills; and reducing stress and worry. The Acorn Foundation has long partnered with Dale Carnegie BOP Waikato and Priority One's InStep programme to offer this youth-focussed course which helps young people improve both their self-confidence and personal communication techniques.

Alea Starr-Smith, a recipient of the scholarship from Tauranga Girls' College told us, *"It's a great opportunity for young people to take part in, and it really helped with my confidence, public speaking and human relations."*

Congratulations to the scholarship recipients on their achievements.

- ACG Tauranga: Molly Thompson and Harriet Barber
- Aquinas College: Caprice Basile and Joshua Pinto
- Bethlehem College: Breanna West and Manjot Gill
- Katikati College: Asha Dinnan-Martin
- Mt. Maunganui College: Tia Lassey and Dani Young
- Otumoetai College: Ella Drake and Aston Hamilton

- Papamoa College: Ariella Midwood and Rajvir Garcha
- Tauranga Boys' College: Jed Macmillan, Liam Shanahan and Alex Padfield
- Tauranga Girls' College: Ella Chapman-Hodge and Alea Starr-Smith
- Te Puke High School: Emma Howie and Reuben Dwan
- Te Whare Kura O Mauao: Hikitia Kuka and Toia Jacobs

2022 winners selected for the Page/Acorn Engineering Scholarship



The winners of the 2022 Page/Acorn Engineering Scholarships were awarded at a ceremony in late May. The scholarships are awarded annually to second-year apprentices at local engineering firms, thanks to local Acorn donors Bob and Pat Page. Recipients and their respective workplaces will receive funding for two years to assist with expenses and equipment.

Co-founder of local firm Page and Macrae Engineering, Bob Page, was always passionate about seeing young people succeed. This scholarship is a way that his legacy lives on.

Congratulations to the following recipients who received this award:

- Brad Matthews, Judea: Robert Page Engineering
- Cameron McGuffie, Pyes Pa: Contract Mechanical Services
- Jordan Stacey, Te Puke: Page Macrae Engineering
- Jamie Sutherland, Pāpāmoa Beach: Impact Engineering

Event Fund

The Tauranga Western Bay Community Event Fund, launched on 1 July, will streamline the application process for community events. The Acorn Foundation is one of the partners that make up the collaborative fund along with Tauranga City Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council, TECT and Bay Trust.

It will be simpler for community event organisers to secure funding by applying to a single fund instead of applying to multiple funders. A total of \$700,000 is available which allows up to a maximum of \$50,000 per applicant for events held in Tauranga and a maximum of \$15,000 per applicant for events held in the Western Bay of Plenty.

Applications for an initial round of funding are open until 31 July 2022 and will support events planned for the 2022/ 2023 financial year. Applications will then be considered on a bi-monthly basis following the initial launch period.

Jo Wilson, Acorn Donor Relations and Scholarship Coordinator says, *"The creation of a combined events fund just makes sense, with the aim being to provide a simple, efficient way for organisers to obtain event funding. From Acorn's perspective, it allows us to broaden the range of events we support, and it's exciting to see so many interesting, varied applications coming in. The community seems more than ready to come together, and we hope to see a full calendar of community events on offer."*



Welcome Georja



Georja Worth joined Acorn in August 2022 as our Accounts Administrator.

Georja is from Tauranga and has completed her certificate in Business Administration and Technology at Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology. She previously worked at Taking Care of Business as an Accounts Clerk supporting small to medium sized businesses within the Bay of Plenty region.

Georja's role is split between Acorn and TECT where she will support day-to-day finance functions and provide general accounts administration to the teams. She is looking forward to being a part of two meaningful organisations that support the community.

TECT Rebate

Thanks to the generous beneficiaries of TECT, more than \$100,000 has been contributed to the Acorn Vital Impact Fund since 2019. TECT beneficiaries have the option of getting their distribution either applied to their bank account, their Trustpower account, or donated to Acorn.

The Vital Impact Fund supports organisations that are working in the areas of greatest need in the WBOP. In 2021, organisations supported by the Vital Impact Fund included:

Dress for Success BOP, Katikati Community Centre, Victim Support, Bay Financial Mentors (formerly known as Tauranga Budget Advisory Service), Takitimu House and Tauranga Women's Refuge.

Thanks so much to all of the generous TECT beneficiaries who support the work of these fantastic groups.

Donors we remember



Robert Harper [1935 – 2022]

Robert was born on the Isle of Man and emigrated to New Zealand in 1955. He met his wife, Gladys, when he was boarding in Hamilton, and they wed in 1965.

Robert held a number of accountancy positions around the world, working in New Zealand, Samoa and Dubai. Robert and Gladys moved to Tauranga in 1990 and continued his accountancy work with a number of private clients.

Both Robert and Gladys were active in their community. Robert was heavily involved with Rotary, and this was recognised through his Paul Harris award, given to a Rotarian who has made an outstanding contribution to their community.

Gladys passed away in 2012 and was deeply missed by Robert.

The Robert and Gladys Harper Fund is 100% unrestricted for the benefit of the local community.



Joy Oliver [1941 – 2022]

Joy was an adventurous go-getter who had a love for animals. At the age of 50, she entered her first horse riding event, and continued to ride for many years after that. She competed at Training level with her horses, Lawson and Cool Jazz. Joy was an inspiration and encouragement to aspiring riders many years her junior.

Joy was also a committed volunteer in the horse-riding community, frequently helping out, encouraging other riders, and supporting them at riding events. Her love for animals has been remembered through her generous donations to SPCA Tauranga.

We thank Joy for her generosity and commitment to her community.



Janice Jefferies [1945 – 2022]

Janice was born in Stratford and lived on a family farm. Janice met Rodney in Auckland in 1984 and were married later that year. They both had three children from previous marriages.

In 1986, they built a house in Whangaparaoa, and later added a studio where Janice did a lot of embroidery and ran craft classes. They moved to Christchurch in 2003, and Janice started a business where she made craft packs for people to create their own embroidery.

She joined a local quilting group that was a part of a quilting guild. She often made Christmas quilts that were hung up in churches she attended. Janice won a national competition for her quilt 'One Thousand Cranes Fly to Paris,' resulting in it being exhibited internationally in New York and Melbourne.

After the second Christchurch earthquake, Janice and Rodney moved to Tauranga in 2011. Her health deteriorated, and she could no longer keep up her quilting, passing away in March 2022.

In the future, Rodney and Janice's fund will support Christian-based charities in the community.



Ray Grubb [1943 – 2022]

Ray grew up in Auckland and was a carpenter by trade. He built many of the houses that he and his wife Esther lived in. From a young age, Ray enjoyed boating, fishing and had some neat water-skiing tricks he would show off to his nieces and nephews.

While living in Kaukapaka, Ray and Esther started a flower business growing Limonium, Calla lilies and foliage in their green house. They moved to Tauranga nine years ago and spent time travelling all over New Zealand together in a campervan.

In the future, Ray and Esther Grubb's fund will support various Christian-based charities around New Zealand.



Mavis Freeman [1928- 2022]

Mavis married her husband Sefton Freeman in Auckland in 1952, and they celebrated their Diamond anniversary in 2012. Mavis was employed before her marriage by Smith & Caughey in Auckland. She enjoyed gardening and cooking/entertaining when she was able and was involved throughout her life in garden clubs. She also enjoyed reading and craft, especially knitting.

Mavis and Sefton were involved in Probus Club and enjoyed music and the arts throughout their married life. They travelled New Zealand extensively from North Cape to Bluff and always enjoyed walking. They lived in New Plymouth, Palmerston North and Auckland. When Sefton retired in 1984, Mavis and Sefton moved to "the most beautiful city in New Zealand" - Tauranga.

The Sefton and Mavis Freeman Fund will support a variety of local and national health organisations.



Colin Peat [1925 – 2022]

Colin was a very generous man who would say yes to anyone asking for help. He was born in the Waitōtara Valley on a sheep station, which remains in the family to this day. Colin bought his own dry stock farm in Pongakawa and met his wife Patricia through their love of golf.

They sold the farm in Pongakawa and moved to Te Puke for a few years before moving to Papamoa. Colin and Patricia travelled extensively together. Colin was a gracious man and had a very close relationship with his daughter Helen.

Colin will be remembered with great fondness by all who knew him, and we thank him wholeheartedly for his lasting contribution to our community.

Building a thriving and vibrant Western Bay of Plenty, for all our people and for our natural environment.



STRATEGIC PARTNERS:



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