

the acorn.



GIVE & GET BACK: Gifts made before 31 March receive a 33.3% tax credit this year, up to the amount of tax paid.

Local sisters giving back

For Tauranga-based sisters Adrienne Coad and Margaret Mabey, it is not just their love of golf that they have in common. They also both find it hugely rewarding giving back to their community through the Acorn Foundation.

Adrienne was first to hear about Acorn in 2013, through a conversation with fellow golfer Margot McCool. She subsequently set up her fund, which has been contributing to her chosen organisations ever since.

“My daughter, Denise, who was autistic, passed away in 2013. I thought that giving through Acorn sounded a perfect way to give back to the charitable organisations who had supported me and Denise over the years,” says Adrienne.

Since then, Adrienne’s fund has

contributed annually to CCS Disability Action, as well as to Asthma and Respiratory Management BOP, who had helped both her father and her husband during their lifetimes. Adrienne has also decided to leave one-third of her fund’s annual distributions to causes identified by Acorn as tackling issues of greatest need in our region.

Margaret decided to give through Acorn following the death of her husband Ross, after 48 years of marriage.

“I felt I wanted to help others less fortunate,” says Margaret, who describes the feeling of giving back as “warm fuzzies”.

Margaret has also left a portion of her fund unrestricted, for Acorn to decide upon the cause. The remaining annual distributions go to the Tauranga Community Food Bank, to organisations supporting people in Tauranga who are under housing stress, and to local organisations providing assistance to children with health & educational needs.

“It’s lovely to think we are making life easier for someone else when times are tough, or helping people to achieve their life goals,” she says.

While both sisters enjoy giving back now, the perpetual nature of an Acorn fund also holds great appeal.

“I am so passionate about the ‘Acorn concept,’” says Adrienne. *“It is wonderful that my fund will be there, growing and*



Margaret Mabey and Adrienne Coad
LIVING GIVING DONORS

giving back – forever.”

Margaret agrees: *“It means my donation goes on living and giving to my chosen charities forever – I would highly encourage others to do the same.”*

Acorn’s new look

You might have noticed that the Acorn Foundation has a new logo and overall appearance. After 18 years it was time to modernise our look and, thanks to help from our creative friends at Tuskany Agency, we now have a refreshed brand, fit for 2022. Keep an eye out for our new and improved website too – coming soon!

Celebrating the incredible growth of Acorn’s first donor fund

Acorn Foundation’s first ever endowment fund, gifted by the late Edna Brown in 2003, has now given back more to the community than her original gift – and the capital remaining in the fund has grown by 46%!

Edna Brown. It’s a pretty unassuming name and, by all accounts, Edna was an unassuming woman who has given a rather remarkable gift.

When Edna Brown passed away in 2001, she had left specific bequests to family, friends and charities, with directions to the executors of her Will that they were to divide what remained amongst charities or organisations associated with medical research or treatment.

Her estate executors were unsure about choosing recipients so decided to put the balance of \$67,200 with the fledgling Acorn Foundation, in Edna’s name, with distributions tagged to causes close to her heart.

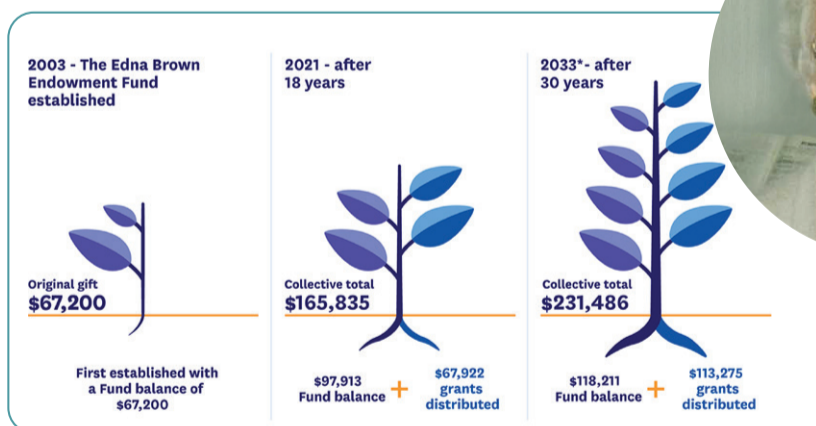
Thus, Edna Brown became the first Acorn Foundation donor in 2003 and seeded the first personal endowment fund in the New Zealand Community Foundations network.

Fast forward to 2022 and Edna’s endowment fund has now given out more than the original gift (total grants made to date are \$67,922) and the capital remaining in the fund has not only stayed intact, but it has also grown by 46% to \$97,913.

The annual income on Edna’s fund is paid out in calculated distributions (typically 4% per annum) to causes that would meet Edna’s approval. To date, her fund has given \$67,922 to 14 different charities – some multiple times.*

The magic of the community foundation model is that Edna’s gift is on track to keep growing and giving back forever. In another 12 years (after 30 years since set up) Edna’s gift is projected to grow by more than 200% – for an estimated cumulative total of \$231,000! And, after 50 years, the cumulative total is estimated to be close to \$400k. If that is what it looks like after 50 years, can we even begin to imagine what ‘forever’ looks like for Edna’s remarkable gift to the Western Bay of Plenty?

Margot McCool, Donor Engagement Manager at Acorn Foundation says, *“Edna was like the vast majority of*



Community Foundation donors; ordinary people with big and generous hearts. We are so lucky to live in a country with so many Edna Browns!”

There is a saying that we all have three deaths. The first is when you physically die. The second is when you are buried and out of sight. And the third is that moment, sometime in the future, when your name is spoken for the last time. We don’t think your name and gift will ever be forgotten, Edna Brown.

Thank you for leading the way, arohanui.

*Causes supported by Edna’s fund over 20 years:

- Te Runanga O Ngai Tamawharua
- Diabetes NZ Tauranga Branch
- Blind and Low Vision NZ
- CanTeen
- Arthritis Foundation of NZ
- Alzheimers Society Tauranga
- The Auckland District Kidney Society
- Bay of Plenty Multiple Sclerosis Society
- The Parkinson’s NZ Charitable Trust
- Diabetes NZ Tauranga Branch
- Parent to Parent (Coastal Bay of Plenty)
- The StarJam Charitable Trust
- Complex Chronic Illness Support
- Recreate NZ

Free dental clinic in BOP giving back hope and dignity to Kiwis in need

For two weeks in October, a mobile dental clinic in Tauranga – run entirely by volunteers – provided over \$115,000 worth of life-changing oral health care for 223 local people, completely free of charge.

The Trinity Koha Dental Clinic, run by humanitarian organisation YWAM Ships Aotearoa (YSA), operated out of a converted shipping container at LifeZone Church in Judea and Whaioranga Trust, Welcome Bay.

Managing Director of YSA, Marty Emmett, says that the clinics have been “amazing but overwhelming”, as he realised they have “barely scratched the surface of the need in our region.”

“We all knew there was a need but personally I had no comprehension of the scale of that need,” says Marty.

Many of the clients who attended the clinic hadn’t seen a dentist in 10+ years and needed to have full mouth extractions – one 58-year-old koro in Judea needed 22 teeth pulled. Some have been living with severe pain, making sleeping and eating impossible, and leading to weight loss and other health problems.

One 33-year-old local woman, Stephanie*, who attended the clinic in Judea, not only needed four extractions and six fillings, but her front teeth were in such a state of decay that she assumed they would all need to be pulled out.

“In our pre-clinic screening phone call she had severe anxiety about seeing a dentist. She was afraid that at only 33 years of age she would lose all her front teeth,” says Clinic Coordinator Emily Schulz.

However, a retired “superhero” dentist from Palmerston North who volunteered at the clinic managed to completely rebuild her front teeth.

“We all knew there was a need but personally I had no comprehension of the scale of that need.”

“The transformation was amazing – even I was surprised at what the dentist was able to achieve,” says Schulz, who found Stephanie in the post-op room crying. “She told me she felt like she’d been given her life back,” says Schulz. “She had

never felt confident enough to apply for a higher-paid customer-facing role and was so excited that she would now be able to apply for one. It’s just the joy. Giving people back their dignity and hope for their future - it really fills your heart.”

The most heartening thing of all is that the clinics were only possible because of the generosity and kindness of local people. The clinics were run 100% by volunteers (including dentists from across NZ who travelled up to take part), sponsored by local funders including Trinity Lands, BayTrust and Acorn Foundation. One generous Acorn donor donated \$10,000 to the clinics, recognising the incredible value to our community. As Marty says, it’s an example of a community taking care of their own community.

“The need is so great in the BOP. So what do we do, sit back and wait for someone to do something about it?”, says Marty. “I think of our clinics as little pebbles. If you throw a pebble in the water it causes a ripple. What we’re doing

is causing a ripple: it’s making people aware of an issue but it’s not enough to fix the issue. So the big challenge we have now is – how do we scale this by about 100 times to actually meet the need in the BOP and across Aotearoa?”

Find out how you can support YSA’s Trinity Koha Dental Clinics via Acorn Foundation’s ‘Smarter Giving Model’ at www.acornfoundation.org.nz or contact us on (07) 579 9839. Further information about the Trinity Koha Dental Clinics can be found at: www.trinitykohadental.nz.

*Name changed to protect identity



Emily Schulz, Clinic Coordinator
PHOTO CREDIT GEORGE NOVAK

Supporting whānau in need across the Bay of Plenty

Acorn Foundation donors enabled the local branch of national charity Bellyful to deliver over 2,531 meals to more than 563 whānau in the Bay of Plenty last year.

Bellyful nourishes and connects communities by cooking and delivering meals to whānau with babies or young children who need support. Nikki Reyneke, Bellyful Tauranga Co-Branch Coordinator, told us:

“The support we received from Acorn Foundation donors has been amazing in taking some of the financial pressure off us in what has been another challenging year. It has allowed our volunteers to focus on what we do best and support even more families across the Bay.

We received a lovely comment from one of our recent recipients, who told us: “I was very grateful

for the service when it was provided to me. I had a difficult pregnancy and was diagnosed with postnatal depression 2 weeks after my son was born. At a time when life seemed so difficult, Bellyful was close by not only providing food to my family but emotional support to me! An amazing service that met both physical but emotional needs to families that need it! Keep up the good work!”

Thank you to our generous donors for making such a positive impact on the lives of families doing it tough across our region.

Find out more about Bellyful on their website: bellyful.org.nz



The local businesses giving back at Christmas

Over Christmas, once again the Acorn team were heartened to receive donations to our community from local businesses across the WBOP. Every year, more and more businesses approach Acorn wishing to make a meaningful contribution to support our local community, reflecting a wider, global trend towards recognising the importance of corporate social responsibility in our modern world.

For the third year in a row, the team at Craigs Investment Partners donated over \$150,000 for the Acorn Foundation to distribute to charities across the country, in lieu of client gifts for the holidays. In Tauranga, Craigs employees chose to give to ten local

community organisations, providing much-needed support during a time that can be tough for many.

The wonderful folks at Oriens Capital joined Acorn’s corporate donors in December with a Christmas gift to the Tauranga Salvation Army. The Salvation Army, who do amazing mahi in our community, wrote a lovely thank you message:

“What an amazing email to receive as we approach Christmas! Thank you so much to Oriens Capital. With their support, we are able to wrap around individuals and families with an array of support, such as food parcels, mentoring and family counselling. Our journey with clients takes place over the course of

weeks and months, allowing them to start healing from the inside out. It is with these wrap-around services that we ensure every person who needs our help can walk away with the tools to rebuild their life.”

Other local businesses include: Farmer Autovillage, who have donated a \$27,000 scholarship grant for local students in 2022, to celebrate 30 years of business in the BOP; and ASB Tauranga, whose latest gifts included support for Takitimu House and Youthline in the BOP.

Our thanks go to all Acorn’s corporate donors for their generosity and thoughtfulness, which is making a real difference to so many in our community.



The Oriens Capital team

To find out more about Corporate Giving with Acorn, visit our website: acornfoundation.org.nz or give us a call on 07 579 9839.


Scholarships and awards

Acorn Foundation Bob & Joy Owens 2021 Scholarships

This year marks the 28th year that the Bob & Joy Owens Scholarships have been supporting young people in our region, recognising remarkable students who have demonstrated a commitment to their school and community, and who have a strong desire to contribute to society in the future.

Seven local students from colleges and high schools across the Western Bay of Plenty have been awarded the scholarship for 2021 and will each receive \$5,000 per year for three years.

The 2021 Bob & Joy Owens Scholarship winners include:

- Aquinas College:** Charlotte Watson, pictured here, who intends to pursue a career in paediatric medicine at the University of Otago
 
- Bethlehem College:** Tonga Faletau, who will attend University of Canterbury to study Civil Engineering
- Mt. Maunganui College:** Brooke McGregor, who is planning on studying Biomedical Science
- Otumoetai College:** Amy McAulay, who is going to study Software Engineering at Canterbury University
- Tauranga Boys' College:** Corban Laban-Palmer plans to study Design Innovation, Business Studies and Samoan Studies
- Tauranga Girls' College:** Lia Chalmers intends to study the role of genetics in health issues
- Te Puke High School:** Giovanni Rai is going to Victoria University to study Political Communications.

The Acorn team congratulates each of these outstanding students and wishes them every success as they head off to university.

Ryan+Alexander Scholarships



Congratulations to five Tauranga school leavers who were awarded a new \$3,500 scholarship from local company Ryan+Alexander, to support them during tertiary study. The Tauranga-based recruitment agency launched the scholarships in partnership with the Acorn Foundation, to mark five years in business.

Co-director Bernadette Ryan-Hopkins says, "This is our way of saying thank you to Tauranga for all the support this city has shown our business throughout our first five years. We're so excited to be able to help these local school-leavers achieve their tertiary education goals."



The five deserving recipients were selected based on their commitment to academic excellence and community involvement. Congratulations to:

- Mount Maunganui College** – Briana Carling
- Otumoetai College** – Georgia Dresner
- Pāpāmoa College** – Brendon Alesana
- Tauranga Boys' College** – Moses Razak-Begg
- Tauranga Girls' College** – Kahurangi Ngatai.

Rob & Carolyn Port Sports Award 2021

A new sports award has been established for talented young athletes in the WBOP, thanks to generous Acorn donors Rob & Carolyn Port. The Rob & Carolyn Port Sports Awards recognise sporting talent and are designed to assist high achieving young athletes' development in international competition.

2021 Rob & Carolyn Port Sports Award winners:

- Mount Maunganui College** – Max Henderson, who has an impressive list of table tennis accolades and who aspires to reach the number one ranked senior men's position in New Zealand, and to compete at an Olympic Games
 
- Hamilton Boys' High** – Quinn Boyle, an ultramarathon swimmer from Te Puke who currently holds the title for New Zealand's fastest 10km 16-year-old swimmer
- Otumoetai College** – Chloe Boyt, a talented synchronised swimmer who will attend trials this year to join the squad competing at the upcoming FINA World champs in Japan
- Tauranga Girls' College** – Lily Pearce, who is on the Surf Lifesaving NZ High Performance Squad and hopes to compete in the 2022 World Championships in Italy.
 

BOP Medical Students Scholarship 2021

Back in November, fourth year medical student Netana Barsdell was awarded the BOP Medical Students Scholarship through Acorn. This scholarship is intended to support capable medical students who attended college in the Western Bay of Plenty, and whose families are not able to support them financially through their studies.

Pictured here with his 19-month-old daughter, Winika, Netana told us:

"This grant means a great deal to me and my whānau. It means that my partner and I can relax a bit knowing that we can afford all the essentials for ourselves and

our baby. We are tremendously lucky, and I thank the Acorn Foundation for supporting us this year."



Congratulations and best of luck with the rest of your studies, Netana!

Christine Tustain Classical Music Award 2021

Late 2021 saw the announcement of two local winners of the 2021 Christine Tustain Classical Music Award. Classical guitarist Megan Robson and trumpeter James Robinson were both selected to receive the award to support the development of their musical careers.

Megan is a former student at Tauranga Girls' College, who is currently studying for a Master of Philosophy in Classical Music Performance at the Elder Conservatorium of Music in Adelaide.



James is in his second year at Te Herenga Waka - Wellington Uni, studying towards a Bachelor of Music majoring in classical performance on the trumpet.



Congratulations Megan and James, and thank you to Acorn donor Chris Tustain for supporting talented young people in our region to develop their musical careers.

Follow us on Facebook for more scholarship announcements: facebook.com/AcornFoundation

Acorn's 2021 AGM – a virtual success!

Thank you to everyone who attended our virtual AGM in November via Zoom. While it wasn't the same as our usual in-person events, we were delighted that so many people could join us online for the meeting to celebrate our exciting growth and record distributions to the community over the past year. We had the opportunity to thank Trustee Jane Nees, who retired after eight years of voluntary service, and Frankie Bates-Crisp, who recently completed her one-year placement on the Acorn Board. We also welcomed Carlo Ellis to the Acorn Board of Trustees.



Acorn welcomes

We are delighted to have recently welcomed two new people to the Acorn whānau.

Carlo Ellis (Trustee / Distributions Committee):

Acorn welcomed Carlo Ellis to the Board in November 2021. Carlo has more than 20 years of experience in health management, business development and in local government roles. Currently, Carlo serves as the Manager of Strategic Māori Engagement at Tauranga City Council and among his many community engagements, is Board Chair of Te Kuha Foundation. In addition to serving on the Acorn Board, Carlo also volunteers on our Distributions Committee. Haere mai, Carlo!



Frances Mole (Staff):

Frances joined Acorn in February 2022 as our Foundation Assistant.

Frances grew up in Tauranga and returned to the Bay of Plenty after completing her degree in Business Management majoring in Tourism Management and Public Relations at the University of Waikato.

Since graduating, she has spent her time working with children and volunteering at Waipuna Hospice in the Marketing and Fundraising team. Frances made the decision to start her career in a non-profit organisation.

Frances is grateful to be working at Acorn and is looking forward to engaging with community groups and learning more about the inner workings of a non-profit organisation.



Acorn farewells

Jane Nees:

A huge thank you to Jane Nees, who retired from the Acorn Board in November 2021 after completing eight years of volunteer service as a Trustee.

When Jane started with Acorn in 2014, the foundation had \$8.5M in funds under management and distributed around \$450k to the community. At the time of her retirement from the Acorn board, the foundation has reached nearly \$56M in funds under management and in 2021 gave away more than \$2M to organisations important to our donors.

Jane has also served as a valued member of Acorn's Audit, Risk and Policies Committee, and we wish her, Craig, and their extended family all the best in the future. Ngā mihi, Jane!



Frankie Bates-Crisp:

At the end of last year we also said farewell to the brilliant Frankie Bates-Crisp. Frankie recently completed her one-year placement on the Acorn Board of Trustees after winning the Bay of Plenty Institute of Directors in New Zealand "Emerging Director Award" in 2020.

Over the past year, Acorn has been lucky to benefit from Frankie's strategic mindset and valuable contributions around the Board table. Thanks for all of your support, Frankie, and all the best in your next Governance role!



Collaborating for better youth outcomes

Franklin D Roosevelt once said, "We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future." With that in mind, the Acorn Foundation hosted a Youth hui in October, bringing together representatives from local youth sector organisations, young people from the Graeme Dingle Foundation's 'Project K' and local funders. The aim was to explore what we need to do collectively to ensure that all rangatahi in the Western Bay of Plenty have the resources they need to live lives they value.

It was a truly inspiring half-day, full of first-hand insights, and produced some excellent guidelines on what we need to do to provide the very best opportunities for all our young people to thrive. We will take the learnings from this session forward as we prepare our next Vital Signs report, which will focus specifically on Youth. This, in turn, will guide our decision-making on how best to invest in this sector, so that young people in our region can look forward to a bright future.



New Zealand Book Awards 2022: longlists announced!

Books exploring politics, fashion, social change, war, contested histories and family relationships sit alongside works celebrating our natural world and the enduring legacies of our activists and artists in the longlists for the 2022 Ockham New Zealand Book Awards.

The awards include the Jann Medicott Acorn Prize for Fiction, which offers \$60,000 to the winner in 2022. Generous Acorn donor Jann has been sponsoring the annual Fiction

Prize since its inception in 2016, providing incredible recognition and support for New Zealand authors.

The 2022 longlist for the Jann Medicott Acorn Prize for Fiction includes the following books:

A Good Winter by Gigi Fenster
Aljce in Therapy Land by Alice Tawhai
Entanglement by Bryan Walpert
Everything Changes by Stephanie Johnson

Greta & Valdin by Rebecca K Reilly

Kurangaituku by Whiti Hereaka

Loop Tracks by Sue Orr

She's a Killer by Kirsten McDougall

The Pink Jumpsuit: Short Fictions, Tall Truths by Emma Neale

Unsheltered by Clare Moleta

Keep an eye out for the shortlist, which will be announced on 2 March!

Ockham New Zealand Book Awards
 Jann Medicott Acorn Prize for Fiction
 2022 Longlist

Book covers shown include: A Good Winter, Aljce, Entanglement, Everything Changes, Greta & Valdin, Loop Tracks, She's a Killer, The Pink Jumpsuit, Tall Truths, and Unsheltered.

#theockhams

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



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