



Advance Ashburton Community Foundation

ISSUE 1/2017

Progress

Invested Funds \$9,885,849
Bequests - \$23.2 million
Donations in the year to March 31st, 2017 \$1,901,716



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\$1.5m to Ashburton Hospital

Advance Ashburton Community Foundation is supporting the future of our hospital!

Advance Ashburton trustee Gary Fail presented David Meates, Canterbury DHB Chief Executive with a cheque for \$1.5m on March 28th 2017 to go towards the upgrades of Ashburton Hospital.

The donation is in conjunction with the Mackenzie Charitable Foundation, the Lion Foundation, the Ashburton Licensing Trust (via Somerset Ashburton) and the Trevor Wilson Charitable Trust.

This will go towards the \$8.7m of improvements underway at the hospital which includes building a new 1040sqm Acute Assessment Unit and Day Procedure Theatre.

Mr Meates says it is great to receive such a generous contribution from the community.

"We are very grateful to have had the people of Ashburton backing us on this journey. Their commitment has meant the best health services, for what has become a very strong and vibrant rural community, are available both now and long into the future. Bernice Marra, Ashburton Health Services Manager, says "it's wonderful to receive the donation towards the new facilities, which opened at the end of last year. Already the new facilities are proving to be a huge asset for



David Meates, left, accepts the cheque for \$1.5m from Foundation Trustee Gary Fail

our community. Staff are just loving working in the fit-for-purpose building, and patients and visitors are also saying how much of an improvement they are. It allows us to keep pace with health care innovations and means our staff can provide the right care to the right person at the right time, both now and well into the future." The new Acute Assessment Unit replaces an older, smaller unit and is designed to allow staff to assess, stabilise and provide short-term care for people with acute conditions. Greg Robertson, Canterbury DHB Head of Surgery, says the AAU provides

"state of the art" facilities allowing specialists from Christchurch to perform day procedures for people in Ashburton in its new theatre and recovery suite. "The new facilities together with the \$450,000 pledged by the generous community funders and donors to establish a Rural Health Academic Centre allowing Ashburton Hospital to build its status as New Zealand's first rural centre of medical excellence. "It also allows us to offer a wider range of procedures than at present, and has enabled more efficient transfer of patients to and from Christchurch Hospital."



New Acute Assessment Unit and Day Procedure Theatre

Outward Bound – Changing Lives

Ashburton 31-year-old Nicola Loach was awarded a scholarship from the Foundation to attend Outward Bound in November 2016: it changed her life. She writes: "I loved every minute of it as every day you were pushed out of your comfort zone and pushed to your limit mentally, physically and emotionally. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity Advance Ashburton gave me to go on this amazing life-changing experience."

Go to our website to read about Nicola's adventures: www.advanceashburton.co.nz/who-we-have-helped

Nicola at Outward Bound



Budgeting Advice to Continue

For nearly twenty-five years, the Ashburton Budget Advisory Service has helped thousands of people with budgeting advice and education.

Now that the role will be performed by Presbyterian Support the Service has been wound up.

Alice McLaren has been with the Service since it was established in 1993 and said that funds accumulated, due to the service's own careful financial management, have been passed to the Foundation for investment and administration. The establishment of this trust fund will enable the Foundation to continue the Service's work to help provide budgeting services in Mid Canterbury through Presbyterian Support.



Alice McLaren, left and Kay Begg, from Ashburton Budget Advisory Service hand over the funds to Foundation Trustee Elizabeth Ashford (photo Ashburton Courier)

Cancer Research

Colorectal cancer is the second most common cancer and the second leading cause of cancer death in New Zealand. Rates of this cancer in NZ are among the highest in the world. Researcher Arthur Morley-Bunker, who is currently

completing a PHD with the Mackenzie Cancer Research Group (Clinical Director Professor Bridget Robinson) is using a new molecular technology to uncover biomarkers that will help the diagnosis and treatment of this cancer.

Arthur was the first person in NZ to develop expertise with this technology which he is now using to examine a molecule called RNA. Arthur has noticed that tumours from patients who have a poor prognosis, contain fewer of these RNA biomarkers than tumours from patients with a better prognosis.

He is being supervised by a research team of cancer experts, including Dr Logan Walker (Cancer scientist), Dr John Pearson (Biostatistician/bioinformatician), Dr Margaret Currie (Cancer Scientist), and Associate Professor Tim Eglinton (Consultant Colorectal Surgeon).

Thanks to a grant from the Glassey Trust Fund through Advance Ashburton, Arthur will be able to conduct laboratory experiments to understand how RNA biomarkers affect the development of cancer.

The team's goal is that this information may lead to better patient management and the development of new therapies targeting tumours.



From left Dr Logan Walker, Associate Professor Tim Eglinton, Dr John Pearson, Mr Arthur Morley-Bunker, Dr Margaret Currie and Professor Bridget Robinson

Grants Gallery

We love to see where the funds donated by Advance Ashburton are being used in our community. Here are some of the local community organisations which have benefited from Foundation grants.



- 01. Birthright – helping children in the community
- 02. CanInspire Workshop where participants create very special pieces of jewellery
- 03. Tinwald Cycling Club members compete at the National Track Cycling Competitions
- 04. Brenna Russell, Community Connector
- 05. Multi-Cultural Bite 2017 (Photo The Guardian)
- 06. Jan Andrews, the Service Co-ordinator for Victim Support
- 07. Mania-o-Roto Scouts Adventure Holiday Camp (Photo The Guardian)
- 08. It was great to see over 40 children and teachers from Tinwald School take part in the Longbeach Coastal Challenge

2017 Advance Ashburton Scholarship Awards

On January 23rd, 2017 Scholarships totalling more than \$50,000 were awarded to:

Outward Bound

Sam Cullimore and Alyce Lysaght

Industry Training

Carl Reyes, Kerry Claydon-Wade, Ben Crequer and Rhys Crampton

Glassey – Environmental

Ruby McLintock

Parsons

Lachie Davidson

Tinwald Club Scholarships

Kate Hollings, Emily-Jane Farr and Greg Cross

Alister Smyth

Angela Naui, Cory Blackburn and Georgia Guilford

Health Science Scholarships

UFS Ella Bonnington, Frances



2017 Scholarship winners

Redmond, Rachel Hoskins, Lauren Rattray and Amy White

Johnson Brothers

Scott Kelland, Isobel Ferguson, Danielle Barakat and Christal Brosnahan

Advance Ashburton Scholarships

Fergielyn Catayoc, Sarah Tiffen, Maddie Evans and Kate Whiting

Sinclair Scholarship

Hayleigh Miller

Hayleigh Miller – The 2017 Sinclair Scholarship Winner

The thrill of being involved with an organisation such as Advance Ashburton is the opportunity to meet truly exceptional people. Hayleigh Miller is certainly one of those exceptional young people who have grown up in Ashburton and are now spreading their wings – with a little bit of support from their local community. Hayleigh started a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery degree in 2012. In 2015/16 she also managed to complete a Bachelor of Medical Science with First Class Honours. There is so much more to Hayleigh than just her outstanding academic record. In 2013 she travelled to India and volunteered for six weeks' healthcare work in Kolkata. "I found this was a good opportunity to experience healthcare in a developing country and made me incredibly

grateful for the opportunities that I had growing up in Ashburton," says Hayleigh. She plans to volunteer for another twelve weeks, this time in Tanzania, at the start of 2018. Students at Otago University have also benefited from the skills of this young lady. Hayleigh has helped out with the Unicrew volunteers and has been a mentor at the Advanced School Sciences Academy as well as providing guidance to first year students. Her medical research on the information available to parents about newborn vitamin K injections has seen two papers published in the New Zealand Medical Journal and the British Medical Journal. Hayleigh's long term goal is to become a consultant in Rural Hospital Medicine or General Practice. She sees the value of the work being done in rural centres

like Ashburton and maybe one day could be lured back to practise here. But for now she is keen to finish her medical studies. A worthy winner of the 2017 Sinclair Scholarship for the 'best of the best' as Neil Sinclair was known to say.



Jeanette Sinclair presents Hayleigh with her award

Family Violence Intervention Coordinator

In 2015, our hospital found itself struggling to deal with an increase in cases of family violence, partner abuse, and child abuse and neglect. The Foundation helped to fund a part-time social worker at the hospital to focus on family violence. Research shows that when instances of family violence are not identified, and supported, the risk of and severity of injury increases and the likelihood that these behaviours become normalised also increases. A report from Canterbury DHB shows that since the appointment of Evans Chibanguza as the Coordinator suspected cases of family violence are being quickly identified and responded to. Evans convenes bi-weekly meetings at the hospital with all the agencies involved – Police, Women's Refuge, Child Youth and Family, Mental

Health Service, Work and Income and Community Probation. This ensures there is sharing of vital information for the co-ordinated response that is vital to securing a good outcome for those at risk. As Child Youth and Family's intervention is directed to the top three per cent of serious abuse cases, Evans has helped develop a local Children's Team that supports vulnerable children who otherwise would have slipped through the net of the CYF system. We are thrilled to report that Canterbury DHB has recognised the success of this two-year project to protect vulnerable members of our community and has established a permanent social worker position. This means the ongoing delivery of this important work is assured.

Farewells and Welcome

Long-serving trustee Anne Fleming has retired from the Board. Anne, a JP and retired nurse and farmer has, with her wide knowledge of the community, been a very valuable member of the Board and Grants committee and will be sadly missed. We also farewell Alison Muckle who has been our Secretary and Treasurer for the last three years. We wish Alison and her husband Jim all the best in Nelson. We welcome Shona McGrath as our new Finance Manager. Shona, who has had extensive financial and admin experience, in accepting the position said it was an honour "to be a part of an organisation that is grounded on a concern for the welfare and advancement of individuals and groups in our community."

Advance Ashburton is a perpetual charitable trust dedicated to benefiting the Ashburton region
give where you live... to build a stronger community