

## our donors



Art auction  
benefits the  
Ashburton  
Arts Fund

### AUCTION OF UNIQUE ART COLLECTION BOOSTS ARTS FUND

Over the past fifty years, the Braided Rivers Community Trust (formerly the Ashburton Licensing Trust) amassed a significant art collection. The forty paintings in the collection were mostly acquired as the winning works from the Ashburton Art Awards which were sponsored by the Ashburton Licensing Trust (ALT).

For many years, these paintings were displayed in the properties owned by the ALT, including the Hotel Ashburton. However, in recent years, the operations of the Trust changed, and many properties were sold, leaving the current Braided Rivers Community Trust (BRCT) with a substantial art collection in storage.

In February this year, the Board of BRCT formally gifted eight paintings of cultural significance to the Ashburton community which will be retained in the Ashburton Art Gallery collection. The remaining paintings were formally gifted to Advance Ashburton Community Foundation to

auction for the Ashburton Arts Fund.

In April, Advance Ashburton held an auction of the paintings from the ALT collection as well as a number generously donated by members of our community. A large crowd attended the event at the Ashburton Society of Arts Short Street Studio where all sixty-three lots sold under the hammer of auctioneer, Hamish Niles. This yielded a significant boost to the Arts Fund with \$38,000 raised from the auction.

The Ashburton Arts Fund was established by Advance Ashburton in 2016 with an initial donation of \$1,000 from the Ashburton District Council. Held in perpetuity by Advance Ashburton, the income generated by the Fund will be distributed through grants to support art and artists in the Ashburton District.

Renowned artist, author, and illustrator, David Elliot, is the Ambassador of the Ashburton Arts Fund and was the special guest on auction night. Elliot was born and raised in Ashburton. After graduating from Canterbury Art School in 1976, he worked both as a designer and teacher

before becoming a full-time writer and illustrator in 1998. He has since gained international recognition in this field and has won many awards.

The potential of the Arts Fund to support local artists is welcomed by David Elliot. He has had first-hand experience of the difficulties faced by those working in the visual arts. "Finance is always a problem, especially for those just starting out in their careers, so I wholeheartedly support the Ashburton Arts Fund and its objective to support individuals and projects in its artistic community," said Elliot. "Over the years, I have watched the township grow substantially in vibrancy and diversity. Initiatives like the Ashburton Arts Fund can only continue to enhance that growth and, through it, the quality of life for all." +

## appointment



The Right Honourable Dame Cindy Kiro, the Governor General of New Zealand, has graciously agreed to be the Patron for Community Foundations of NZ. The Governor General has said: "Through the work of community foundations, you help to increase the reach of New Zealanders' generosity - helping it to endure for generations."

As Patron, Dame Cindy will act as an ambassador, lending her support to our work growing funding and community impact across New Zealand.

## our team



## WELCOME CAROLYN

We are delighted to welcome our new Executive Officer, Carolyn Clough.

After twenty-nine years as a teacher, including twenty-five years at Ashburton College, Carolyn has joined the team at Advance Ashburton. For the past nine years, she has been Head of Junior School at the College, leading the pastoral care team looking after almost 600 students in Years 9 and 10.

Speaking of her new role she says, "I couldn't be happier! Philanthropy speaks to my soul, and I consider it a real privilege to be working alongside our generous donors to help them realise their philanthropic wishes."

Since moving from Dunedin in 1997 with her husband, Kerry, Carolyn has been actively involved in the community.

"I got involved in Ashburton Plunket just prior to our daughter being born and before I knew it, I was the branch President," said Carolyn.

From there, Carolyn has had leadership roles in multiple community organisations including Ashburton Toy Library, Thomas

Street Kindergarten, and Mid Canterbury Children's Theatre, as well as many sporting groups like the Ashburton Swim Team.

"My involvement as a volunteer in many community groups and working within pastoral care at Ashburton College has given me an insight into the needs present in our community," she says.

Carolyn has observed the Advance Ashburton Community Foundation, now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year, become a major philanthropic force in the community and is "in awe of what has been achieved since Neil Sinclair founded Advance Ashburton in 2003."

"Our trustees and our staff appreciate that every donation, large or small, makes a difference in our community. The capital investment also continues to grow each year, creating funding in perpetuity to support many worthy organisations and causes."

Carolyn looks forward to working with donors, existing and new, as their gifts are matched with the community causes they are passionate about.

*If you would like to know more about Advance Ashburton, please contact Carolyn on 021 886 087 or 307 5902. +*

## our community

### KEEP LEARNING MID CANTERBURY

Connecting Mid Canterbury Charitable Trust saw a gap in adult and community education opportunities after the closure of Menorlue and launched an initiative in October 2017 to provide diverse, free, and low-cost talks and workshops to the community.

Today around forty events are held each year under the Keep Learning banner. Events include international cooking, wellbeing, digital support and more.

Connecting Mid Canterbury Coordinator, Kate White, is excited about the range of events saying, "Not only can these events help us navigate different life experiences, teach useful skills or inspire us to try something new, they enable us to connect



A Taste of Afghanistan class

with others, which is so important."

A participant at a recent flax weaving class wrote, "I have been struggling with wellbeing lately, learning with Whaea Vicky has reenergised me. Kua piki toku wairua. (My spirit has been lifted.)"

To promote all learning related

opportunities available in the district, a website was launched thanks to the support of the Ian Glassey Fund through Advance Ashburton.

*To visit go to [www.keeplearningmc.nz](http://www.keeplearningmc.nz) or contact Kate at [kate@connectingmc.org](mailto:kate@connectingmc.org) to list an event on the site. +*



## our community

### METHVEN COMMUNITY SWIMMING POOL UPGRADE

The future of Methven community swimming pool looks positive due to a successful “Save the Pool Campaign” raising funds to replace the pool’s filtration system, repair a significant leak, and resurface the pools.

A lot of thought has also gone into future proofing the pool facilities with a plan to purchase new tables and benches, and also replace a small section of tiered seating to provide a more family-friendly environment.

The committee is well on its way to achieving the fundraising target of \$250,000 through community awareness



The Methven pool - great asset for the whole community

projects, sponsors, and funding from organisations such as Advance Ashburton.

Carolyn Clough, Executive Officer of Advance Ashburton said, “Advance Ashburton is delighted to support such a worthwhile project in Methven. It is important local children and the community have facilities like this now and into the future.”

The key focus of the volunteer committee has always been to allow all school-age children an opportunity to learn water safety and allow the community affordable access to a local family-friendly pool. Three

local schools, Mt Hutt College, Methven Primary School and Our Lady of the Snows, all benefit from the pool’s locality.

The Methven Community Pool was opened in 1929, and enlarged during a reconstruction in 1966. The facility has two outdoor heated pools, a regular 33m pool and a learners’ pool. Annually around 1000 students and key holders use the facility with about 800 students benefitting from “Learn to Swim” lessons or swimming squads. Locally, sports clubs also use the facilities for training purposes. +

## In memoriam



With great sadness we mourn the passing of Jan Early. Jan has been a passionate supporter of the Foundation for many years. She was a very valued member of the Foundation’s Communications Committee and her report on the Methven Community Pool is printed above.

## our team

### FAREWELLS AND WELCOME

David Keeley has retired as trustee of the Board, and we thank him for his contribution since 2019 and especially in his role as Chair of the Grants Committee.

Alan Bean has retired from the Foundation’s Investment Committee. As a key member of the committee Alan has overseen a period of considerable growth in the Advance

Ashburton Investment portfolio enabling the Foundation to support a greater number of causes in our district.

Following the resignation and return to the USA of Sarah Pickard, our Finance Manager, we welcome Jacqui Lloyd to the role. Jacqui has tertiary qualifications to Masters level with First Class Honours, and has had 10 years of experience in finance-related positions for businesses in the local area. Welcome, Jacqui. +



Alan Bean with, from left, Committee member Frank Luxton, Foundation Chair Mary Ross, Trustees and Committee members Ross Gibson and Nicki Webster

## our scholarships

### ADVANCE ASHBURTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION 2023 SCHOLARSHIPS

The 2023 AACF Scholarships, with a combined value of almost \$113,000, were presented to twenty-seven recipients from Mid Canterbury for study, training, and personal development.

Three new scholarships were awarded this year. The inaugural Dennis and Barbara Taylor Nursing Scholarship was awarded to Caroline Murdoch who is in her final year studying for a Master of Nursing Science. Classical voice student, Erin Connelly-Whyte, was the recipient of the Colin and Alison Crampton Music Scholarship, and Penny Stilgoe, studying a Bachelor of Agriculture at Lincoln University, won the Frank Crampton Agricultural Scholarship. The premier scholarship of the evening, the Neil Sinclair Memorial Scholarship,



Jeanette Sinclair with recipient Sarah Rawlings.

was presented by Jeanette Sinclair to teacher-in-training, Sarah Rawlings. Sarah impressed the interview panel as the sort of teacher who will make a real difference in the lives of her students. +



From left, Liz McMillan and Janine Holland

### LEADERS' SCHOLARSHIP

We are delighted to announce the joint winners of the 2022 Advance Ashburton Leadership Scholarship are Liz McMillan and Janine Holland. Both women are totally committed to the district, and both have already proven themselves in the field of leadership. The scholarship of \$10,000 will enable the women to undergo further personal development and will, the Foundation believes, bring ongoing leadership benefit. +

### AACF SCHOLARSHIPS 2023

#### Smyth Scholarship

Kavan Faoagali and Caitlin Muckle

#### Parsons Family Scholarship

Angus Mears and Emma McDowell

#### Ian Glassey Memorial Scholarship

Emma-Louise Stagg

#### Graham Gunn Music Scholarship

Ngahua Maeva

#### Colin & Alison Crampton Music Scholarship

Erin Connelly-Whyte

#### Johnston Brothers Health Science Scholarship

Sarah du Toit and Violet Eaton

#### Dennis & Barbara Taylor Nursing Scholarship

Caroline Murdoch

#### Cameron Family Scholarship

Gemma Whiting

#### Ashburton Hearing Association Scholarship

Caleb McNulty

#### Tinwald Club Scholarship

Annabel Spicer

#### Rotary Club of Ashburton Plains Scholarship

Madison Trusler-Clark

#### Ashburton Jaycees Personal Development Scholarship

Emma Simonsen

#### Ashburton Jaycees Industry Training Scholarship

Mihaela Bec, Emma Begg, Amanda Johnson, Nicholas Rattray, Jacob Swan, Brodie Winstone, and Mickle Young

#### Ashburton UFS Health Science Scholarship

Hannah McDougall and Drew Porter

#### Frank Crampton Agricultural Scholarship

Penny Stilgoe

#### Advance Ashburton Scholarship

Harriet Stock

#### Neil Sinclair Memorial Scholarship

Sarah Rawlings

### WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Do you want to give back to your community? Are there charities and causes that are especially important to you? Through Advance Ashburton you can support causes that are close to home, and close to your heart.

Advance Ashburton is driven by local generosity and the wishes of the donors to create a better future for our district. All donations are invested, and the income earned supports the local causes you care about, year on year.

*If you are interested in looking at ways you can make a difference in Mid-Canterbury, please contact us on 03 307 5902, 021 886 087 or email [info@advanceashburton.org.nz](mailto:info@advanceashburton.org.nz)*