



Advance  
Ashburton  
Community

FOUNDATION

# 2018 Chairman's Report

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018



Support from the Foundation, from top, to St Johns, scholars, and Ashburton cadets.

## ADVANCE ASHBURTON BOARD OF VOLUNTARY TRUSTEES



**Back Row:** Sandi Wood (Executive Officer), Jo Taylor, Chris Wylie, Gary Fail, Jack Allan, Donna Favel (Mayor)  
**Front Row:** Elizabeth Ashford, Roger Bonifant (Patron), Trevor Croy (Chair), Mary Ross (Deputy Chair), Nicki Webster

## STAFF



**Left to right:**  
Fiona Tait (Grants Administrator),  
Sandi Wood (Executive Officer),  
Shona McGrath (Finance Manager)

## ADVANCE ASHBURTON VOLUNTARY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

### GRANTS COMMITTEE:

Mary Ross (Chair), Jack Allan (Deputy Chair), Chris Wylie, Nicki Webster  
Mark Scammell, Thelma Bell

### INVESTMENT COMMITTEE:

Trevor Croy (Chair), Nicki Webster, Don Church, Alan Bean, Grant  
Bonniface, Graham Kennedy & Andrew Withers (Forsyth Barr Advisor)

### COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:

Elizabeth Ashford (Chair), Jo Taylor (Deputy Chair), Angela Cushnie

### AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE:

Gary Fail (Chair), Chris Wylie, Tim Silva, Ross Gibson, Nicki Webster

### NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:

Trevor Croy (Chair), Mary Ross, Elizabeth Ashford, Jack Allan

## It is my pleasure to present my Annual Report for our 15<sup>th</sup> year of operation.

We have had a solid year with steady growth in donations received, improvements in the value of our investment portfolio and the value of distributions made to charitable projects and purposes for the benefit of the community of the Ashburton District.

### OUR PHILANTHROPY

Our goal is connecting generous people that care with causes that matter in the Ashburton District. As such a significant part of what we do is about the projects and purposes for which we make grants or distributions.

During the financial year the total value of grants made totalled \$783,856.

Our biggest single grant was worth \$470,000 to the Methven Care Trust in the form of a 6,000 square metre block of land on which they plan to develop a new facility for the care of the elderly in Methven. This comes from the Lochhead fund and is a reflection of the fondness which Allan and Alma Lochhead had for their Methven community.

Our policy is to concentrate a large part of our funding on projects that are catalytic or transformational. During the year we continued to support:

- ✦ The BOOST Child Literacy scheme – helping over 100, 7 – 9-year-old children to improve their literacy
- ✦ The Rural Health Academic Centre based at Ashburton Hospital – educating health professionals in the Rural Health specialisation, and carrying out research into rural-based matters
- ✦ The Kohanga at Ashburton College – helping to provide an appropriate learning environment for 13 and 14 year olds who have significant social or educational issues
- ✦ Our growing Scholarship programmes – awarding 30 scholarships worth \$60,000 for academic or trades learning and personal development for our district's young adults

**For a full list of organisations and projects that we have supported please see the last page of this report.**

**TOP RIGHT** Tinwald School receive some much-needed storage for their equipment, thanks to the generosity of the Tinwald Club Fund.

**BOTTOM RIGHT** Executive Officer Sandi Wood and her daughter Emma helping to plant native shrubs at a planting day organised by the Forest and Bird Society at Harris Reserve in memorial of the late Ian Glassey.





## OUR DONORS

Those who wish to make a difference in our community donate to the Foundation's General Fund or establish Named Funds with specific charitable purposes.

This year three new Named Funds have been established with the Foundation: to support the rural community; to assist children and young people with learning difficulties; and healthcare, needs-based agricultural scholarships and to those young people with less chance in life than their peers.

## OUR FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Our financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2018 has been strong.

We received new donations of \$560,312 and our investment portfolio continued to perform well. After making our grants worth \$783,856 our total accumulated funds at 31 March 2018 were \$10,602,763. In addition, we are aware of some \$35,156,000 bequests that are promised to us in the future.

The returns on our portfolio amounted to 11% and our costs are just over 1% of assets under management. Our costs have shown a small percentage increase due to some significant developments in our organisation. Firstly, we finally needed to establish premises for ourselves which we have achieved in conjunction with the Ashburton Trust. The second change was the appointment of our new Executive Officer (Sandi Wood). Due to the very careful management of administrative funds in earlier financial years we have been able to meet these increased costs so that the charge against donors' funds is never more than 1%pa.

If you would like to see our detailed Annual Financial Statements they are available from our office or on the Charities Commission website [www.charities.govt.nz](http://www.charities.govt.nz)



**TOP LEFT** Mid Canterbury Youth Charitable Trust – Boxing Academy in action thanks to the generosity of the Tinwald Club Fund.

**BOTTOM LEFT** Ashburton Cadets on camp.

**TOP RIGHT** Jan Andrews, Service Co-ordinator for Victim Support

**BOTTOM RIGHT** Annie Bonifant, Cancer Support Services Manager, and Elizabeth Ashford, Foundation Trustee, outside the newly refurbished Cancer Society rooms at Mona Square.

## OUR PEOPLE

We simply could not do the work we do without the dedication of our Patron, Trustees, co-opted specialists, supporters and staff, who (apart from our staff) support us with no remuneration.

### PATRON

We continue to benefit from the active involvement of Roger Bonifant. Roger is a great supporter and brings significant governance experience.

### TRUSTEES

There have been no changes during the year. Our Trustees are Mary Ross (Deputy Chair), Elizabeth Ashford, Gary Fail, Mayor Donna Favel, Jack Allan, Chris Wylie, Jo Taylor, Nicki Webster and myself, Trevor Croy as Chair.

### STAFF

We were very sad when early in the year our Executive Officer of 6 years, Margaret Rickard, announced that she wished to retire in September 2017. After a rigorous selection process, we were delighted to appoint Sandi Wood as our Executive Officer and head of our Management Team. Sandi, a career banker, has a passion for philanthropy and is enjoying working with the Board, staff and our Donors to help make a difference to our community.

Our staff now consists of Sandi Wood (Executive Officer), Shona McGrath (Finance Manager) and Fiona Tait who supports the Grants and Communications committees.

### CO-OPTED SPECIALISTS

These are the people that have been co-opted to our various committees because of their special skills and expertise. During the year we recruited Angela Cushnie to our Communications committee, Mark Scammell to our Grants committee and Tim Silva and Ross Gibson to the Risk and Audit Committee.

Our other co-opted specialists are Don Church, Alan Bean, Graham Kennedy and Grant Bonniface on the Investments Committee, and Thelma Bell on the Grants Committee.

### OTHER SUPPORTERS

We are very grateful and privileged to have people, groups and businesses in the community that support us. We would like to thank the Ashburton Trust Event Centre, The Ashburton Licensing Trust, Argyle Welsh Finnigan, Ashford Handicrafts Ltd, Forsyth Barr, Heartland Print, David Jessep, PKF Goldsmith Fox, Property Brokers, Latitude Media, BNZ, Russell Moon & Fail and our spouses for their ongoing support.



## THANK YOU

We appreciate the support of the Ashburton District and we look forward to our ongoing projects that will make this community a better place, forever.



## Trevor Croy CHAIR



### IMAGES FROM TOP TO BOTTOM

The Methven Museum and Library.

The MindPlus education programme in action in Mid Canterbury. MindPlus is a programme for gifted 6-13 year olds that provides intellectual, creative, social and emotional learning and support. Children come together, with a specialist teacher, for one day each week.

A grant to the organisers of Parenting Week to run workshops at the Ashburton Trust Event Centre.

Some of the 41 amazing Boost tutors who visit schools around Mid Canterbury to work one-on-one with children needing help with their reading.



## GRANTS AND DISTRIBUTIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

ACADS	\$1,846
Ashburton Cadet Camp	\$1,200
Ashburton Cancer Society	\$2,000
Ashburton College - Ashburton College Home Room	\$35,500
Ashburton Community & Health Services - RHACA	\$32,850
Ashburton Justices of the Peace	\$2,850
Ashburton Learning Centre - BOOST programme	\$38,771
Ashburton Multicultural Trust	\$5,000
Ashburton Newcomers Network	\$3,000
Ashburton Safer Community Council Board - Parenting week - Safe Families Ashburton	\$2,000
Ashburton Youth Cafe Charitable Trust	\$3,400
Birthright Canterbury Trust	\$3,400
Cancer Society Rooms Upgrade	\$17,000
Methven Care Trust	\$470,000
Methven Public Library & Historical Association	\$10,000
Mid Canterbury Emergency Relief - Driver Licensing Project	\$10,000
Mid-Canterbury Tennis Charitable Trust	\$2,600
Mid-Canterbury Youth Charitable Trust	\$13,260
Mind Plus Programme for Gifted Children Grant	\$10,000
NZ Council of Victim Support	\$3,000
NZ Red Cross	\$2,000
Order of St John	\$2,000
Presbyterian Support Upper South Island	\$2,000
Rakaia Medical Centre Trust	\$1,500
RNZ Foundation of the Blind	\$1,000
Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind	\$2,000
Rural Canterbury Primary Health Organisation Ltd - Community Connector/Practice Support Navigator Role	\$20,000
Seniorcare Geraldine	\$4,000
The Royal Forest & Bird Society of NZ	\$2,000
The Trotts Charitable Trust	\$10,000
Tinwald Domain Reserve Board - Pool upgrade	\$7,000
Tinwald School	\$2,000
Scholarships	\$60,000
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$783,856</b>

**TOP RIGHT** The lovely red garden at Trott's Gardens now managed by the Trott's Garden Charitable Trust. **BOTTOM RIGHT** Thanks to the generosity of a donor the Mid Canterbury Tennis Charitable Trust receives an annual donation.