



# Geyser Community Foundation News

WINTER 2022 NEWSLETTER



## Donors gift more than \$2 million

**Geyser Community Foundation donors have gifted more than \$2 million since the first distribution to the local community in 2008.**

In presenting the Chairman and Executive Officer's report at Geyser's AGM held recently in Rotorua, Chairman, Helene Phillips said this significant milestone was a wonderful tribute to local people who care about their home town and the future of their community.

"Thanks to our donors' generosity we celebrate a great financial year of gifts totalling more than \$300,000 supporting a wide variety of charitable causes in the Rotorua and Taupo District communities and beyond.

"Our growing family of donors, including those who generously donate towards our operating costs, help the Foundation maintain a steady growth and, in times of financial constraint such as we are currently experiencing, supporting the local community is more important than ever.

Based on a well-established and globally successful model, the community foundation network in Aotearoa New Zealand has been growing since 2003.

Ms Phillips said that Geyser was the fifth to be established and its success is the result of local people understanding they can do good things with their charitable intentions and, when they partner with others, even greater things.

"Today, we have the second highest number of funds established, more than 90, and are ranked third for the highest number of funds anticipated in people's wills so far.

"We make more annual distributions than most other community foundations in New Zealand and achieve all this with the dedication of a volunteer governance board, just 1.3 full-time staff, and many more generous people, including a growing number of strategic business partners.

## Leave a lasting legacy.

Wills Month  
September 2022



"The global pandemic, which first gripped the world in early 2020, continues, and today's significant disruptions to world trade and supply chains, along with persistently high worldwide inflation and geographical uncertainties, have become daily challenges for everyone, particularly charitable organisations.

"We are now aware of needs we could never have predicted at the forefront of the pandemic, and across all communities, the delivery of services in an age of physical distancing has required adaptations to the traditional model of delivery.

"As a result, and as a rebuild from the pandemic, Geyser has become more strategic and targeted in its funding priorities.

"One thing that remains certain, and constant, is that thanks to the generosity of donors and the ingenuity of our local community organisations and leaders, Geyser is here for us all, today and forever."

# Greater need for Geyser

Geyser is one of the few funders who support organisations with general operating funds, helping to keep the lights on so that staff can focus on delivering much needed services.

At a recent series of roundtables, more than 30 charities and community groups servicing the Rotorua and Taupo District communities met collectively to share the year's challenges and successes along with how Geyser's funding has helped sustain their operations.

Geyser is pretty unique in that we get our charities in one room around the table. Community leaders are able to collaborate and make key connections they wouldn't ordinarily make, helping drive efficiencies but most of all, reinvigorating that face-to-face social connection.

Challenges raised include attracting volunteers and being able to access funding.

**You can help out by making a donation of any size to the Rotorua Community Fund or the Taupo Community Fund here: [www.geysercf.org.nz/donate/](http://www.geysercf.org.nz/donate/) Your gift will help us to help out more.**



**Where there's a will, there's a way.**  
**Add a gift through Geyser to your existing Will for free this September with our partner law firms.**

# BIG dreams can happen!

September is Wills Month, a good reminder of the importance of having a will and keeping it current. If you are considering leaving a gift in your will, we can help you make yours a lasting legacy for our community.

Our smarter giving model invests and protects your gift, so it grows to become an ongoing source of funding. And you can decide how it will be used.

**Make your gift last forever. Contact us today.**

## Leave a lasting legacy

Roberta (Bobbie) Griffin loved animals. She grew up on a farm, the fourth of five girls. The girls rode horses to the local school and in the summer the family would often travel to Ngongotaha, on the shores of Lake Rotorua, where they enjoyed trout fishing.

Animals remained Bobbie's greatest passion and, over the years, she and her sister Enid adopted numerous dogs and cats from the local SPCA, which brought them great joy.

When Bobbie updated her will in 2010, she established the Roberta and Enid Griffin Fund with the Geyser Community Foundation. She decided to leave a gift in her will to be invested in the Fund, for the benefit of the Rotorua SPCA.

Bobbie died in 2014 and since then, every year the Rotorua SPCA receives a gift from the Roberta and Enid Griffin Fund managed by Geyser Community Foundation. The gift comes from the annual income earned from the investment of the Fund, which has already gifted over \$45,000.

*"And it doesn't end there," says Geyser's Executive Officer, Annette Burgess. "Because the gift is invested in perpetuity and the capital remains intact, Bobbie's passion for her four-legged friends will now live on forever."*

*"A personal fund like this is a really effective giving vehicle; it enables people like Bobbie to leave a family legacy to benefit their chosen causes, forever. I am always blown away by the joy that comes with legacy giving."*

Local law firms in Rotorua and Taupo have been supporting Geyser's Wills Month promotion for a number of years. During the month of September, our partner firms will make a simple change to an **existing** Will to include a gift to the local community through the Geyser Community Foundation at no charge. **To read more visit: <https://geysercf.org.nz/download-a-will-information-pack/>**



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