



Geyser Community Foundation News

WINTER 2023 NEWSLETTER


GEYSER
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
ROTORUA AND TAUPO
CC21560



The 'city boy' leaving a *rural legacy*

Fraser McKenzie determined from the age of 10 that he wanted to be a dairy farmer, despite not growing up on a farm. The 'city boy' attended Massey University and worked on farms from a young age, eventually buying a block of land at Ngakuru, south of Rotorua, which he and his late wife Dorothy farmed for over 60 years.

Fraser also became involved at a much wider level in the farming sector, elected to the Bay of Plenty Harbour Board in 1974, becoming chairman in 1983 and chairman of the Harbours Association of New Zealand three years later. He became foundation chairman for Port of Tauranga Ltd, retiring after 30 years of service.

Dorothy and Fraser heard about Geyser Community Foundation and really liked the idea of giving back in perpetuity. They had got to the stage where they realised they had more than they need, and will probably be in a position to leave their children more than they need, so why not support the local community through Geyser, which helps others in need?

They began by contributing to the operating costs at Geyser, in its early days as a fledgling foundation. Over time, they also contributed to some of Geyser's existing funds, one to support speech therapy and another supporting migrants, as well as donating to the Rotorua Community Fund. From there, they helped set up the Waikato and Bay of Plenty Rural Support Fund, providing the seed capital for the Fund to get it started. It's a Fund which will support farmers in need. Dorothy and Fraser have also made provision in their wills to leave a gift to Geyser, to safeguard and to give back forever to the Rural Support Fund, supporting the local farming community forever. They like the idea of the Community Foundation's sustainable business model, and that you don't have to be wealthy to make a difference; everyone can donate. Dorothy and Fraser know there are people in the farming community who don't have relatives or kids to leave their property to – there's a great example in the South Island of farming brothers who are leaving their farm to their local community – and there is so much potential in New Zealand for people to do this.



But people don't have to wait, they can give now– anything they like and the great thing is that it will be invested and will give back forever.

Why do Dorothy and Fraser do it? They say giving makes them feel good. They believe they have been very lucky, that life has worked out ok for them. But they know there are lots of people who are struggling and need support. Not everyone has the same fortune in life, and Fraser and Dorothy are happy to help where they can. They feel very lucky to be able to give back to their local community in this way.

Leave a lasting legacy *Kiwis love to leave a legacy locally.*

A rise in localism, coupled with a rise in will-making across the world, has seen a lift in the number of legacy gifts Kiwis are leaving in their wills.

Every year a growing number of individuals, organisations and businesses partner with Geyser and invest in local communities across the Central North Island region with gifts that establish new funds or add to existing ones.

Today, the Geyser Community Foundation manages more than 100 endowment funds on behalf of generous local people who want to support their local communities forever.

Leave a lasting legacy.

Wills Month
September 2023



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 your 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.

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 20 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 every year we get local 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: <https://geysercf.org.nz/donate/>. Your gift will help us to help out more.

You can choose who, what and how your giving benefits.



Your gift



is invested and grown



and the ongoing income earned



goes to the local causes you love.



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.

We are grateful to the local law firms in Rotorua and Taupo who support our Wills Month promotion. 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.

Click here to read more:

<https://geysercf.org.nz/download-a-will-information-pack/>
You can choose who, what and how your giving benefits.



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www.geysercf.org.nz



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MAJOR
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You will find us at Nairn Fisher Chartered Accountants

1274 Eruera Street, Rotorua 3010 | P: 07 349 7496

E: info@geysercf.org.nz | www.geysercf.org.nz

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P: 027 672 4034 | E: david.djcreative@gmail.com | www.djcreative.co.nz

