

# CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS



Twenty years ago, in 2003, the Foundation was established by accountant Neil Sinclair along with a group of committed local trustees.

Since then, thanks to generous donors, the Foundation has \$15 million in capital funds and almost \$7 million has been gifted by Advance Ashburton to worthy community organisations and more than 300 scholarship recipients.

As one of the oldest community foundations in New Zealand, we are proud of reaching this milestone. We extend our sincere thanks to all our donors, supporters and volunteers for their generosity and support.+



## A few of the causes supported by Advance Ashburton since 2003



Environmental research



Budgeting Services



New AAU and operating theatre Ashburton Hospital



Methven Library & Museum



Rural Health Academic Centre



Scholarships



New Home for the Cancer Society



BOOST Literacy Programme



Music in Schools

## our donors



Alan Robertson

## WELCOME TO OUR DONOR FAMILY

Alan Robertson was born and raised in Mid Canterbury where he and his late wife, Barbara, had been farming. Without children of their own, Alan and Barbara opened up their home and their hearts to support four foster children.

Barbara passed away in 2016 when the couple was living in Timaru. In the years following Barbara's death, Alan maintained his ties with the Ashburton District and in recent times, he rekindled his passion for sequence dancing.

It was at a dance that Alan met Jan. They developed an instant connection through a shared love of dancing and were married, moving back to Ashburton earlier this year.

Alan set up a named fund with the Foundation as he was keen to support children and young people, particularly those disadvantaged in life. From his time raising foster children, Alan truly understands the need to support children who have experienced trauma, and to provide respite for their parents and caregivers.

We welcome Alan and Jan to our donor family and look forward to sharing the contribution made by the Alan Robertson Fund to support worthy causes related to children in our community in the future. +



## Celebrating twenty years of donor support

ABOVE FROM LEFT TO RIGHT Merle Cooney and Elizabeth Ashford; Jeanette Sinclair and Nanah Manoia; Eleanor Marr and Anne Fleming.

## FOUNDATION ACHIEVES NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

We are very proud to announce that we are the first Community Foundation in New Zealand to achieve the National Standard accreditation. We look forward to continuing to provide the highest standard of professional philanthropic service to our community. +

## scholarships

### NEW SCHOLARSHIP CELEBRATES A LEGACY

Jan Early (nee Allan), a well-known community leader and passionate supporter of the Foundation, lost her battle with cancer in May. Thanks to a generous gift from her family, a new scholarship will provide a legacy that will enable the development of future women leaders in our community.

Jan was a fourth generation Allan, farming on the original family property and her

passion was to ensure that there was a farming future for her sons, family, and community. This, along with her business acumen and skills in management, led her on a pathway into governance.

Jan was elected as a Director of Barrhill Chertsey Irrigation (BCI) Ltd in 2015, and in 2019 she was awarded the AGMARDT Leadership Scholarship. Jan took this opportunity to develop her governance skills, building the confidence and credibility to take the next steps in her journey.

Jan completed further training culminating in her becoming the Chair of BCI Ltd in 2021, where she showed herself to be both people focused and an analytical and strategic thinker.

Jan hoped to continue her governance work with other companies and her ultimate goal was to become a Director of an NZX listed company - a dream she was, sadly, unable to realise.



Jan Early

The Jan Early Memorial Scholarship was launched by Advance Ashburton in August. This annual scholarship of up to \$10,000 will be awarded to a woman who lives and works in Mid Canterbury to undertake governance training. The first recipient will be announced at the AACF's annual celebration in October. +



## families



ABOVE Cathie Tatupu - Family Help Trust Social Worker

## FAMILY HELP TRUST

The Safer Families Programme run by the Family Help Trust was brought to our District in July 2022 thanks to a collaboration of local funders – Advance Ashburton Community Foundation, Mackenzie Charitable Foundation, and the Trevor Wilson Charitable Trust.

The programme provides a long-term, home-based social work service to parents or caregivers of children aged 0 – 5 years. It focuses on families with multiple challenges who require intensive support to provide safety and wellbeing for their children.

Twenty referrals were received by the Family Help Trust in the past year and there are currently eleven active cases in our district. Significant pressures such as methamphetamine addiction, family

violence, intergenerational trauma, and lack of emergency housing are common issues amongst these families. However, regular consistent home visits have enabled the building of constructive relationships with parents and caregivers, ensuring that positive eyes are on these vulnerable children where previously there were none.

Thanks to the skill and dedication of Cathie Tatupu, Family Help Trust Social Worker, the programme continues to exceed expectations. In the past year, all clients have enrolled with a GP, all children aged 3 years and over have been enrolled in daycare, and 80% of clients with drug/alcohol addiction have enrolled with Ashburton Community Alcohol and Drug Service (ACADS).

We look forward to reporting continued successes from this programme which is making an incredible difference in our community. +

## community

### ASHCOLL ALUMNI CONCERT

World-renowned tenor and former Ashburton College pupil, Simon O'Neill, was the headline performer at the recent AshColl Alumni variety concert, Simon O'Neill & Friends.

The concert, which raised \$20,000 for the AshColl Alumni Fund held by Advance Ashburton, sold out several weeks before the curtain rose on Friday 4 August.

The audience was treated to a showcase of talent, from a host of former and current students from Ashburton College. There was music for all tastes from opera to musical theatre, a rock band, bagpipes, kapa haka and choral performances. During the evening, former pupils also shared their post-College journeys via inspiring video messages.

Anyone who went to high school in Ashburton can join the AshColl Alumni and further details can be found on their website - [www.ashcollalumni.co.nz](http://www.ashcollalumni.co.nz), or on the AshColl Alumni Facebook page.

The AshColl Alumni Fund, held in perpetuity by Advance Ashburton,



ABOVE Olivia Pike and Simon O'Neill

provides educational and cultural benefits to present and past students and staff of the College, promotes the welfare of the present students and staff, and provides scholarships to students who have made outstanding contributions in cultural, music or academic pursuits.

**Donations of any size can be made to the fund at any time. For further information please contact our Executive Officer, Carolyn Clough, on 021 886 087 or 03 307 5902. +**

## Welcome Aimee



We are delighted to welcome Aimee Mateo to our team in the Advance Ashburton office.

Aimee has previously worked as a health care assistant, administrator, and activities coordinator at Tuarangi Home. Aimee has extensive experience in web design, project management and customer service.

Aimee looks forward to managing our grants and scholarships application process as well as helping our new and existing donors.

# Annual Celebration

Please join us for our annual Celebration of Philanthropy on October 18, at the Ashburton Event Centre starting at 5.30pm.

Hear about the work of the Foundation over the past year, and the launch of our new Fund for Children and Youth.

The keynote speaker will be Nathan Wallis, an expert on parenting, who is internationally acclaimed for his work focusing on the brain development of young people and particularly the importance of the first 1000 days.

Lisa Anderson will also speak on her work mentoring the youth in our community.

Please RSVP to Aimee Mateo, Office Administrator, by 10th of October 2023. Phone 03 307 5902 or email [office@advanceashburton.org.nz](mailto:office@advanceashburton.org.nz)



Nathan Wallis



Lisa Anderson

## community

### RURAL SUPPORT TRUST GRANT

A recent grant of \$32,000 to the Mid Canterbury Rural Support Trust will enable the organisation to continue their good work in our rural community.

The grant will provide relief during a challenging financial period where the Trust faces increased operational costs while rural welfare needs continue to grow. In particular, there has been high demand for farmer counselling support, reflecting the increasing pressures on our farmers at this time.

As well as direct support for operational costs, Advance Ashburton donors also support the Rural Driver Licensing Programme which helps newcomers to rural Mid Canterbury to obtain a New Zealand driver's licence. This helps reduce isolation, improves social interaction and community integration for mostly migrant women from our rural district. In March, a grant of \$10,000 was made to this programme thanks to the generosity of Bob and Alan Johnston and The Tindall Foundation. +



ABOVE Kashi Ram Wagle

### WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Do you want to give back to your community? Are there 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 would like to make a difference in Mid Canterbury, please contact our Executive Officer, Carolyn Clough, on 03 307 5902 or 021 886 087 or email [info@advanceashburton.org.nz](mailto:info@advanceashburton.org.nz)*

#### GIVE NOW

Donate today to see the impact your generosity will create and benefit from a tax credit of up to 33% of the amount of your donation (for donations \$5 or more).

#### GIVE LATER

Through your will you can leave a gift to the Foundation, leaving a lasting legacy to the community you care about.

#### GIVE WHAT YOU CAN

Big or small, it's about economies of scale and through the Foundation every dollar makes a difference.

#### GIVE YOUR WAY

It's up to you whether it's a one-off donation, a regular direct credit, part of a workplace giving model, a giving circle, or a bequest in your will.