



March 2024 Newsletter Our Community Matters...

As this newsletter reaches you the trees look as though they are starting to turn, and summer will give way to Autumn.

We hope you all have a lovely Easter Holiday.

With the school holidays around the corner our region will fill up with families taking a break, and enjoying what our region has to offer.

If you're as passionate about our region as we are, come and have a chat with us about creating an impact and giving through the Eastern Bay Community Foundation.

The Gift that keeps on giving



Are you looking for an easy, sustainable gift for family or staff that keeps on giving?

Instead of chocolate this easter consider a Gift Certificate that details your donation to a local cause that you are passionate about.

The Eastern Bay Community Foundation is committed to sustainable, meaningful giving - you can be too.

We can personalise your Gift Certificate to the person you care about.

Go to www.easternbaycommunityfoundation.nz/our-funds to find out more or get in contact with us today.

Easter morning tea and a big Thank You!

The Easter Bunny visited Holland Beckett Law and Rural Accountants this week with Warm hot cross Buns, home made biscuits and chocolate treats.

Our way to say a big thank you to these companies for their partnership with our Community Foundation.

So, **thank you** to Rural Accountants and to Holland Beckett Law Whakatane, we couldn't do it without you!



Grant Applications open soon

At the Eastern Bay Community Foundation, we have one funding round per year, and applications for grants are open from May 1st to May 31st, 2023.

If you're keen to apply for some funding for a project, to help with the health and wellbeing of our residents, to champion excellence in our community or make the Eastern Bay of Plenty a great place to live, go to <https://www.easternbaycommunityfoundation.nz/our-funds> to find out more, or contact us today on 021 336 226.

Making a difference for residents of Thornton Park – Friends of Thornton Park Fund

Thornton Park has been at the heart of providing residential aged care in Opotiki for many years. Connections of current residents and caring locals have come together to form the **Friends of Thornton Park**, a group of willing volunteers looking to initially provide all residents of Thornton Park with an accessible multi-purpose van with wheelchair capacity for outings to enable full participation in local events and experiences in Opotiki and beyond.

This fund is managed by the Eastern Bay Community Foundation, assisting the **Friends of Thornton Park** to build resources, and to enhance the life experiences of the residents of Thornton Park, working alongside the staff to deliver greater connection to our residents year on year.

You can donate to the Friends of Thornton Park Fund, together, let's build a legacy of support for Thornton Park residents that makes a difference in their golden years.



Opotiki Arts Society Endowment Fund



As Opotiki Arts head towards their 50th year, the members have made the decision to launch an endowment fund, to ensure a thriving arts community within the Opotiki District can be sustained.

Building a thriving arts community is the key driver behind setting up this fund to ensure a space and a place to nurture artistic talent, to support young up and coming artists in all disciplines to broaden their capability, and to provide scope for art projects in the community to flourish and grow.

Launching officially in 1977, the Opotiki Arts Society has become, over the past 47 years, a place and space for connection and learning from established artists and those dipping their brush in the pot, or hands in the clay for the very first time. The goal of the Society is to have a \$50,000 fund by 2027 - to mark their Golden Anniversary.

This fund will provide a steady income to meet the costs of tutors who can assist members and associates to broaden their capability and explore new artistic horizons.

Consider becoming a donor today to enable and enhance artistic learning experiences.



Annual Pyjama Drive - The Clothing Project

The Clothing Project is a local Eastern Bay charity working to provide good quality used clothing for children from newborn to 12 years old.

The Clothing Project has their Annual PJ Drive during the month of April



Please help us to keep local children warm this winter.

Every year The Clothing Project try to include brand new winter Pyjamas in gift boxes of clothing for those whānau in our community who need a helping hand.

They provide good quality, used clothing for children from newborn to 12 years old or up to size 16.

You can help by donating a brand-new pair of winter Pyjamas or donating money that will be used to purchase Pyjamas.

The Clothing Project has an aim is to collect 100 pairs of Pyjamas in April.

For more information, please email info@theclothingproject.co.nz or check out their [Facebook page](#).

You are welcome to drop off new Pyjamas at the Eastern Bay Community Foundation office during the month of April and we will deliver these to [The Clothing Project](#).

Eastern Bay Women's impact fund – empowering women to transform lives in our community.

The Eastern Bay of Plenty Community Foundation launched a Eastern Bay Women's Impact Fund in 2022.

A Giving Circle of local women.

Giving circles offer an opportunity to give, and in the case of the Eastern Bay Women's Impact Fund women giving to help local women and children.

After being involved with Eastern Bay Women's Impact Fund supporters are more educated about local issues and community needs, feel empowered to give for charitable purposes, feel more engaged with community organisations and women with similar goals.

Funds like this have been set up all around the world and this fund was created for the benefit of women and children in our Eastern Bay of Plenty community.

When a collective of 50 plus local women come together to pool their donations, that is when a real impact can be made to projects in our community and make an impactful change for women and children in our communities.

In 2022 we had over 50 women who donated \$1,000 each and Whanau Awhina Plunket was the chosen recipient of this fund. Their impactful project was called 'Connecting Mothers' a pilot programme reaching mothers in rural areas to lift and improve their mental health and wellbeing.

In 2023 the Eastern Bay Women's Impact fund donations went to two local charities EBOP Riding for the Disabled for an accessible toilet/bathroom facility.

And to the SOZO project, a Lymphoedema screening and prevention machine to be housed at Whakatane Hospital. People will no longer need to travel to Tauranga for this essential support/healthcare.

All Women's Impact fund donations are passed onto the recipient of the fund that year and people who donate are involved in the process of choosing the recipients, prior to the funds being distributed that year.

Donors get to choose/vote where the money goes!

We have just launched this year's 2024 Eastern Bay Women's Impact fund and already have over \$15,000 donated. If you would like to become part of a collective of like-minded women coming together to establish a fund of money that helps women and children in the Eastern Bay of Plenty, please feel free to chat with us about the Eastern Bay women's Impact Fund.

Coming up in April we have a special morning tea in Ohope and in Opotiki you are most welcome to attend if you wish to become part of an educated, empowered engaged group of women making positive change in our community.

For more information about the women's impact fund or our upcoming events please go to www.easternbaycommunityfoundation.nz or call 021 336 226.



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