

# Nikau News

*“Inspiring local giving for local needs”*



Autumn 2011

*The Nikau Foundation is an independent charitable trust dedicated to benefitting the greater Wellington region. It is part of a worldwide family of community foundations that build endowment funds for their local regions.*



The concept of giving to your home community is becoming more popular. It's also becoming easier because the vehicle to help you do this, the community foundation, is spreading throughout New Zealand.

From eight community foundations two years ago there are now twelve throughout the country. Nikau Foundation (formerly the Wellington Region Foundation) is one of the more established ones but it is still an interesting task to raise its profile, so that if people wish to make their gift last forever they know about Nikau Foundation and how it works.

So to help spread the word we have our name on the back of eight buses which you will see over the next several months. We are immensely grateful to iSite Media for helping us in this way. We are expecting comments about the dodgy grammar which we hope will help the reader retain the message.



*Have you seen this bus? Nikau Foundation takes to the road.*

## Giving Options

In each newsletter we look at the different ways in which you can give to your community through the Nikau Foundation. Last time we looked at a Named Endowment Fund, which is simply your fund in your name, which is like having your own charitable trust just easier and more cost effective.

### General Fund

Another way you can give is to make a donation to the Foundation's discretionary or general fund. This can be done as a bequest by leaving a gift in your will or you may wish to support the Foundation with a gift now, for any amount. This fund is used for discretionary grantmaking which can respond quickly to changing needs in your community. Your contribution will be pooled with others increasing its effectiveness. Of course your contribution attracts a taxation rebate for you.

### Why give to Nikau Foundation and not direct to a charity?

This is a question people often ask me and the first and most obvious answer is that a gift to their favourite charities, through Nikau, doesn't give just once, it gives every year, forever.

It also means we can keep their wishes relevant and adapt to changing needs in the community. One example is our grant to the Gillies McIndoe Reconstructive and Plastic Surgery Research Institute. The donors, the Wise Medical Sub-trust and Evans Sub-trust, couldn't have done this while they were alive as even the notion of the Institute didn't exist then but the gift fits beautifully with their wishes. There are many other benefits such as being able to cover multiple charities with your one gift, pooling funds both for grantmaking and a better investment return, and having the administration, compliance and governance taken care of.

## “Healthy and out of trouble” – The Naenae Youth Charitable Trust (Grant as funding manager for the Tindall Foundation)

We know our grants on behalf of our donors make a difference to all sorts of people and we try to visit and get to know most of our recipients. One of the recipients that has really impressed us with their enthusiasm, dedication and results is the Naenae Youth Charitable Trust.

Billy Graham, a New Zealand boxing champion and internationally renowned public speaker, grew up in Naenae and wanted to pass on some of the skills he had learnt to the youth of Lower Hutt. His mission is to significantly alter the lives of young people by teaching them standards, self discipline and skills through the discipline of boxing,



*Billy and the team at the Naenae Charitable Trust*

wrestling, table tennis, exercises and various games and activities. *In other words to keep them healthy and out of trouble.*

The boys must adhere to specific rules and high standards such as, no alcohol, no drug involvement, no smoking, no swearing, no beanies, caps, hoods or patches on the premises. During the time the facility has been operation there have been a large number of referrals from schools, Police, Juvenile Courts, probation, as well as requests from parents for youth with special needs. Police and schools have confirmed there has been huge changes in the lives and attitudes of the boys coming to the Academy and Massey University is doing a research project to determine the reasons for its success.



## Giving back to the community

The 2010 grants round provided funds to 41 worthy organisations to the value of \$222,490.

The organisations that were successful represented 50% of the applications (by number) and 38% (by value) that we received. This illustrates the need that exists in our communities for charitable funds.

Cheques were presented to the recipients at two functions held in December 2010 and February 2011 where the diversity of the successful applicants was clearly illustrated. The grants

ranged from a high of \$25,000 to a low of \$200 with good representation of all values in between.

Recipients included:

- Ronald McDonald House** (Building Programme)
- Wellington Free Ambulance** (Operation Heartbeat)
- Volunteer Wellington** (Nikau Foundation Corporate Challenge)
- Capital E** (National Arts Festival)
- Mana Recovery** (Nursery Project)

**Wairarapa Youth Choices Trust** (Workshop equipment)

**Canteen** (resource material)

Full details are listed on our website: [www.nikaufoundation.org.nz](http://www.nikaufoundation.org.nz)



*Anna Blandford and Alexander O'Connor from Canteen receive a cheque from Brian Burge, Nikau Foundation*

## Nikau Club

Welcome to our latest club members Paul and Cheryl Baines and LT McGuinness Ltd. who join the team helping encourage generosity in the region and providing a vehicle for those who wish to express that generosity.

Nikau club members have made a commitment of three thousand dollars a year for three years and of course can take into account the tax benefits of the new tax legislation. Among other things, members receive a gift and an invitation to an annual function and updates on the progress of the Foundation.

If you would like to know more, or want to become a member just contact Brian Burge or Adrienne Bushell at Nikau Foundation, ph (04) 472 2470 or email [info@nikaufoundation.org.nz](mailto:info@nikaufoundation.org.nz)

## How can you help?

When considering your will, please contact Nikau Foundation to see how you can assist the community on an ongoing basis. We will do the work for you to ensure the Wellington Region remains a well-funded, vibrant community for you, those dear to you and those to come.

We are happy to provide further information or answer any questions you or your organisation may have about Nikau Foundation. Just call Adrienne or Brian on (04) 472 2470.

## Wgtn Free Ambulance – Heartbeat and Christchurch assistance

Nikau Foundation has partnered with Wellington Free Ambulance in a project called HeartBeat ([www.operationheartbeat.org.nz](http://www.operationheartbeat.org.nz)) to make residents in the Wellington region the most likely in all New Zealand, even the world, to survive a sudden cardiac arrest.

The Heartbeat branded vehicle of the Wellington Free Ambulance went to Christchurch as a part of the WFA response team to the earthquake.

WFA advised that without the Nikau Heartbeat partnership this 4WD vehicle would not have been available to help with the disaster. As our trustee Gus van de Roer said “We are glad that our support for HeartBeat has an additional purpose, however sad the circumstances are.”



*HeartBeat Vehicle goes to the aid of Christchurch*

## Trustee profile

### Stuart Macaskill CNZM; QSO

former Wellington Regional Council Chairman.

Born in Lower Hutt, Stuart was the owner of a retail hardware business in Upper Hutt from 1956 to 1983. He was elected to the Upper Hutt City Council in 1971 and was Deputy Mayor for six years. In 1980 he was elected to the Wellington Regional Council and was Chairman for fifteen years. He is a past president of Local government New Zealand; NZ Catchment Authorities Association and the NZ Regional Government Association.

His association with Nikau Foundation goes back 17 years where his wisdom and knowledge of the region have contributed to thoughtful grantmaking.

Stuart is married to Patricia and has three adult sons.



### Patron

Fran Wilde, QSO

### Board of Trustees

- Kevin O'Connor (Chair)
- Richard Caughley
- Stuart Macaskill
- Ian McKinnon
- Terry Nowland
- Graeme Sinclair
- Carol Stigley
- Gus van de Roer

*Our trustees are all voluntary.*

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