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We were deeply saddened to learn of our friend and mentor Sir Eion's passing earlier this month. Words cannot adequately convey our profound sense of loss. He was an early advocate for the community foundation and one of our founding ambassadors.

Jennifer and I have been privileged to get to know Eion over the last seven years in various capacities including the initial and building phases of the community foundation. He has been instrumental to our success as he was to countless other philanthropies throughout New Zealand.

Personally, I have never come across an individual who is so positive and engaged in helping people. Our community and country have lost one of our best connectors who directly or indirectly made good things happen. If we can emulate just a few of his traits of connecting people with great causes then not only will our community and country be a much better place but Eion would be proud.

Eion I will miss Monday night tennis, your insane slice, and that cheeky grin.

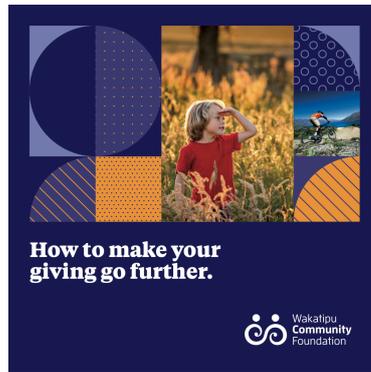
His impact will be felt for generations. We will miss you dear friend.

~ Chair Raymond Key and The Wakatipu Community Foundation Team



[Contact Us](#)

[Contact us](#) for more information on how to create your own family or workplace giving legacy now and forever.



Spirit of the Wakatipu Gala and Awards



Sir Eion and Poppy on the Spirit of the Wakatipu (2019)

Covid 19 tested our community and economy on an unprecedented scale. Yet, our community rose to the challenge, supporting those in need during this difficult time.

These trying times make this year's Wakatipu Spirit Awards all the more important. Countless individuals, groups and organisations gave their time and financial resources to help make our community a better place. Celebrating their achievements and commitments is the focus of this year's awards.

This is the Spirit of the Wakatipu:

Tiaki o Tahuna
To Care for the People and the Place of Queenstown

Categories this year:

Education - Sponsored by [Queenstown Resort College](#)

Health and Wellbeing - Sponsored by [Findex](#)

Sport and Recreation - Sponsored by [Deloitte](#)

Resilience - Sponsored by [Powernet](#)

Senior Support - Sponsored by [MedRecruit](#)

Arts and Culture - Sponsored by [SkyCity Queenstown](#)

Environment and Sustainability - Sponsored by [Duncan Cotterill](#)

Spirit of the Community - Sponsored by [Queenstown Airport](#)

Corporate Citizenship - Sponsored by [Brannigans](#)

Youth Impact - Sponsored by [Hamish Walker Harcourts](#)

Rising Star - Sponsored by [The Mountain Club](#)

Social Impact Innovator - Sponsored by [Mackersy Property](#)

[Nominations Now Open - Link](#)



AN EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT AND CELEBRATION

QUEENSTOWN EVENTS CENTRE
SEPTEMBER 18TH 2021

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Help us recognise and celebrate those individuals, groups and organisations who care for the people and the place that is the Wakatipu by nominating them for a Spirit of the Wakatipu Award.

Nominations close July 31.

To make nominations go to
www.wakatipucommunityfoundation.org

Nominate your **local heroes** in the following categories:

- Education
- Health & Wellbeing
- Sport & Recreation
- Arts & Culture
- Resilience
- Youth
- Senior Service
- Environment & Sustainability
- Community Services
- Social Impact Innovator
- Corporate Citizenship
- Rising Star

Winners will be announced at the Spirit of the Wakatipu Gala on September 18th 2021

NOMINATE NOW



Impact100 Wakatipu

[Expressions of Interest Close July 7th.](#)



In its second year, Impact100 Wakatipu announced \$200,000 will be donated to local charities at their annual “Big Reveal” while calling for grant applications. Impact100 will this year administer five grants: one grant for \$100,000 while the runner-up will receive \$85,000. The remaining three charities that make it into the five finalists will each receive \$5,000. The major recipients will be decided at a dinner in November thanks to the generosity of 172 women who donated \$1,000 each to become a member of Impact100 Wakatipu. In addition to the support of the 172 Impact100 2021 members, a reserve of \$28,000 will be added to the grant distributions to reach a total of \$200,000.

“We are so fortunate to have the support of 172 amazing women in our community,” said Kristen Holtzman, founding chair of Impact100 Wakatipu. “Their generosity and passion will infuse \$200,000 into worthy and meaningful charitable projects in the Wakatipu Basin. We are excited to see what great ideas are submitted this year.”



Impact 100 – St John's Watatipu, the Holy Kin Charitable Trust, Team Up To Make Front Street's Winterfest – raise around \$20K!

This year, they're going one better. Impact 100 Watatipu founder Katrina Hildrum says the 2021 funds have supported 177 women and funds to a \$20,000 amount will fund 120,000 meals.

Again this year Impact 100 will go to the women who the money will receive a whopping \$20,000 and the three remaining funds will each receive \$20K!

The money will be announced at a dinner in November.

Hildrum's thankful with the support for the initiative, she thanked all business philanthropists Wendy Steele who developed the idea in 2010.

"It's not going really well yet."

"We just have so many grateful, enthusiastic and supportive women involved... every dollar counts."

Round two open Impact 100 Watatipu founder Katrina Hildrum, left, with guests at the event. Photo: Wendy Steele. Impact 100 Watatipu founder Katrina Hildrum, left, with guests at the event. Photo: Wendy Steele.

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Impact 100: Qtown charity success leads to double success

Wakatipu High School Generation Give

[Expressions of Interest Close July 7th.](#)



Youth Philanthropy New Zealand





Registered charities with programmes and projects that support local causes centred on mental health and health issues, environment, migrant issues, youth and education, and poverty and housing are welcome to apply this year. Additional areas include animal welfare, sustainability and family concerns.

Originally modelled after successful Youth Philanthropy programmes in North America and Europe, Generation Give (GenGive) has evolved to serve a Kiwi audience since 2019. The programme appoints high school students to a non-profit board, and over the course of 20 weeks, they are guided through essential skills required in the philanthropic process. At the end of the programme, GenGive students apply these skills donating at least \$10,000 to worthy causes in their community

[Link to EOI Form](#)

Kate Moetaua Foundation Scholarship Applications Now Open



The Kate Moetaua Foundation supports Wakatipu children with existing talent to achieve their full potential and to follow their dreams. Kate Moetaua dedicated her life to teaching. She influenced the lives of so many young people, opening their eyes to the world of performance and helping them gain confidence on and off the stage.

One of her final wishes was to support talented youth in the sporting and arts arena in Wakatipu. Thanks to this endowment, up to \$3,000 will be granted in a scholarship to students studying in years 9-13 in 2021.

Email katemoetauafoundation@gmail.com for further information

[Applications close July 31.](#)

Professional Advisor Event with Grant Robertson



One of this year's highlights was a reception with Deputy Prime Minister Grant Robertson, Sir Eion Edgar, [Stephen Brent](#) and [Graeme Todd](#).

Hon. Robertson addressed issues including immigration and the challenges that Queenstown faces moving forward while Stephen Brent and Graeme Todd provided remarks highlighting how clients can give through personalised endowments.

Perhaps the biggest honour of the evening was Sir Eion's presence, one of our Founding Ambassadors who added some thoughtful and kind words about the Wakatipu Community Foundation and our unique ability to help with long-term local giving.

In September, we will launch our 2nd annual Wills Month campaign as part of the Community Foundation New Zealand network.

Wakatipu Greatest Needs Fund - Impact

Last year, the Wakatipu Greatest Needs Fund donated to the Social Worker in Schools programme implemented by Central Lakes Family Services. Here is an excerpt from their report.

Social Workers in Schools – Report and Progress

Children had been identified as having increased anxieties due to the uncertainty of Covid-19, this was a very unsettling time for them.

Teachers and schools needed assistance particularly for the children where their learning needs were disrupted for a variety of reasons that sat outside of school responses.

As a result, Central Lakes Family Services (CLFS) worked in conjunction with the seven Wakatipu Primary schools to implement the Social Workers in Schools (SWiS) service to provide additional support for children and their parents.

“The combination of Fee’s qualifications and experiences makes her one of the most valuable Social Workers we have in this region.

We are extremely lucky to have her leading the SWiS service offering support to our local children, parents and schools”

Many thanks to our Greatest Needs Fund donors for supporting this invaluable initiative.

Trustee Highlight - Ray Key

We are very proud of our chair Raymond Key who was [recently highlighted in the Mountain Scene](#) on his bee keeping enterprise and the many ways he gives back to the community.

Community servant gets a buzz

He's not just another beekeeper. Ray Key could easily have continued his successful career in global finance and commodities markets, but decided instead to throw his lot into helping the Queenstown community. He explains to **Philip Chandler** why he changed tack and why he tends bees on the side



Trading finance for community roles: Ray Key

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOUR

RAY KEY

QUEENSTOWN'S fortunate it attracts many successful people to live here who then contribute so much to the place.

Most often it's those close to retirement age, but in the case of Ray Key, who came here in 2011 and is donkey-deep in community activities, he's still only 48.

He's chair of the Wakatipu Community Foundation, through which people are leaving bequests for charitable purposes, chair of the Community Foundations of New Zealand, trustee of the housing trust and community hub charitable trust, on the council's post-Covid regenerative recovery advisory group and on the Queenstown Alpine Ski Team committee.

Oh, and he also runs a beekeeping business as a social enterprise.

Educated at Dunedin's King's High, a year behind Finance Minister Grant Robertson, he got honours in finance and economics

at Otago University. He then enjoyed a stellar, lucrative 19-year career as a financial trader and commodities merchant in Auckland, Sydney and London.

Having grown up in a state house, "it helped me to become really ambitious to want to do well", he says.

For his first job, with Bankers Trust, his second interview was with later-Prime Minister John Key, "which was helpful given my middle name is John".

His final London-based gig was running Deutsche Bank's global metals business.

By then he was "really missing NZ" and wanting to bring up his young family here, too.

Key says he was swayed by a survey of school leavers that found their biggest regret was they hadn't spent more time with their dad.

Queenstown was logical for a Dunedin boy — he'd married Janet here in 2002 and also owned a Kelvin Heights property that he later traded for a Ladies Mile lifestyle block.

For the first year he continued to run the global metals business, spending six weeks here and then the next six in London and China.

A year later, he and four partners set up their own global

commodities company, which he exited four years later to immerse himself in community roles.

His first was with the community housing trust, which then-chair David Cole asked him to join.

He believes it's NZ's most innovative housing trust, citing the land it's gifted by greenfields developers and its 'secure home' model allowing people to get into housing for "half the regular price".

He was invited to chair the new community foundation after an initial discussion in his driveway with the Wakatipu High School Foundation boss Jennifer Belmont. She'd visited him to drop off artwork he'd won in an auction for the foundation.

Key says in just over three years

since the community foundation was set up, "I estimate there's \$15 million sitting in wills and bequests that will go into the community, and if we've done that in the infancy of what we're doing, it shows you how powerful it is".

The foundation also administered Kaye Parker's Wakatipu Greatest Needs Fund set up during Covid, which raised more than \$1m to help Queenstown's beleaguered migrant community, in particular.

Key says he gets a greater buzz from some of his community work than he ever did from some of his biggest financial transactions.

Talking of a buzz, he blames nearby resident Simon Green for getting him into beekeeping about five years ago.

"He knew I was starting to become interested in bees, and he called me as he had a swarm in his backyard."

"[That] one small hive is now 600 hives which are dotted around Queenstown and also up in the Marlborough Sounds where we've got, between a couple of friends, a property."

"I guess it started with the idea that, after 20 years in front of computer screens, there's nothing better than trekking around the back bush in remote areas."

His company, Be Local NZ, is also part of a collective committed to looking after bee health and sustainability, for example with recyclable glass honey jars, while he's also on the board of Apiculture NZ.

scop@scene.co.nz

Our Sponsors

We could not do all of this without the amazing support from our donors and sponsors who help make our initiatives, programmes, and administration possible through their generous support. We are so grateful and humbled by their continued philanthropy.



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[Add us to your address book](#)

Leave Your Local Legacy

When you're ready, here's how we can help you:

- Determine what you most love and care about in your community and showing you how you could support and impact causes that matter to you
- Providing information on giving strategies
- Connecting you with local causes, programmes or charities doing good work in your community
- Tailoring a plan of how you would like your money to be used
- Simplifying the process by managing all administration, investments and distributing the income – you get to say where your gift goes, which is the best bit!
- Contact us at jennifer@wakatipucommunityfoundation.org

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