



ROTARY NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECT

Rotary (District 9770)

Our Neighbourhood Project Fund was established to support locally initiated projects that help improve wellbeing and build resilient communities and neighbourhoods.

Our core focus is supporting grass-root initiatives to encourage individuals to do something constructive in and beneficial to their community. It's not just about "signing cheques" - a Rotary club is linked with each project, whose members then work with the applicants to find out what they need and how they can help. This unique method helps our clubs become more engaged in their local communities, but also assists community groups to establish an ongoing relationship with their local club. It promotes relationships that can endure well beyond the lifespan of the project.

The project's fundamental values are:

- Recognise that communities have strengths and assets
- Engage communities and/or connect people to people
- Strengthen community leadership
- Do things differently
- Support parents, young children and families
- Utilise community assets
- Community-led recovery.

The project fund is supported and promoted by the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority, with initial funding from international and national Rotary districts. Applicants can apply for up to \$500 for small neighbourhood events and up to \$4,000 for larger community events. Some projects we've sponsored include:

Cashmere Carnival

We helped sponsor this brand new event at Thorrrington Primary School in April 2014. Music, carnival games, candy floss, face painting, Pita Pit and epic game "Prize Fishing" came together to make the day a big success, despite wet weather. Over 30 families attended in the wettest part of the day and cleaned out almost all the prizes.

Zero to Hero Beginner Boat Fleet

The University of Canterbury Canoe Club run this white-water kayak course three times a year. They wanted to buy new boats for beginners to learn in as the existing ones were weakening and deteriorating. They had grants from other sources but needed a little more to meet their target and help a group of young people have some fun and learn some skills.

Quilt-making

New Zealanders Migrant/Refugee Women's Quilting Group were very pleased to have some assistance for materials for their work in sewing and quilt-making. This teaches migrants a new skill and provides general support for them and an opportunity to socialise and to practise their English. The quilts are also exquisite!

Christchurch Break Mission Event

This was a dance event with some "how-to" classes run by the Shirley Community Trust. Entry was by bringing a gift of food or clothing, which were then distributed to those in need. There was also a graffiti artist in attendance and a breakdance competition.

<http://www.rotaryneighbourhood.org.nz/>

