



TOUCHING HEARTS • SAVING LIVES



How can you show your support?

- There are multiple ways you can support the campaign:**
- Visit www.wehearttaranaki.nz to download a pledge form or donate online
 - Go to any TSB Bank branch in Taranaki to make a donation or use TSB Bank Online or Mobile Banking
 - Donate online at www.givealittle.co.nz – keyword 'Taranaki Health Foundation' and select 'We Heart Taranaki'
 - Write a cheque, payable to 'Taranaki Health Foundation,' and post it to: WE HEART TARANAKI Campaign, Taranaki Health Foundation, PO Box 8029, New Plymouth
 - Take part in our 100 Days, 100 Businesses campaign and set up regular contributions (see below)
- *All donations over \$5 are tax-deductible, please contact us for a receipt
- For more information visit www.wehearttaranaki.nz, call 06 7538 688 or email Bry on bry.kopu@tdhb.org.nz**



John More, Chairman of the Taranaki Patriotic Trust, is pleased to get behind WE HEART TARANAKI with a \$100,000 donation

Patriotic Trust's heartfelt support boosts fundraising



By Steph Julian of Statement Media

Fundraising for a new angiography suite at Taranaki Base Hospital reached a major milestone this week. A generous \$100,000 donation from the Taranaki Patriotic Trust skyrocketed funds over the \$850,000 mark.

"We are very pleased to have the support of the Taranaki Patriotic Trust," said Taranaki Health Foundation General Manager Bry Kopu. "The Patriotic Trust has been giving a helping hand to local families for the past 100 years. It seems fitting that through this gift they will be helping Taranaki whānau for years to come."

The Taranaki Patriotic Trust (formerly the Taranaki Provincial Patriotic Council) was created in the 1940s to assist returned soldiers and their families in times of hardship. Over the years they have distributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to help build and repair homes, start businesses and pay for items like reading glasses and hearing aids.

Now, as the number of living returned soldiers naturally declines, the trust wants to ensure that remaining funds still go towards helping Taranaki families. They began by gifting an ambulance to the region. "We wanted to look at the first response for anybody that's going to have a heart attack – that's an ambulance," said Patriotic Trust Chairman John More.

"Then we wanted to help to make sure that people had the equipment they needed here, which is why we wanted to get behind WE HEART TARANAKI."

Currently, there are up to 400 patients sent to the Waikato each year for heart-related treatment. A local angiography suite would see the number of patients having to travel drop considerably. "For many older people who might be living alone, or with kids overseas, travelling out

of town can be very hard," said John, who was saddened to hear of elderly patients having to travel back by bus from Hamilton following treatment. "That's rough. If we can help even two out of ten of those people, that's what we'd like to think that we're helping to look after."

The Patriotic Trust gained much of its funding from war-time efforts to raise money to provide ongoing financial support for soldiers and their families. John fondly recalls weekly fundraising efforts outside the old Stratford Post Office. "As a kid, Kleeman and Bishop Garage had an old truck that they'd built a battleship over. Each Friday they took it to the old Post Office on Broadway and there'd be raffle tickets for sale."

Funds raised went to help returned soldiers maintain their homes, or start businesses. Often the assistance was offered as part gift and part low (or no) interest loan. John recalls helping widows of soldiers replace broken water-heaters and fix fences.

Relief came all in forms, however, with one returned soldier asking for a lift to the local hardware shop to buy superglue. On further inquiry John found out that the former soldier intended to use the superglue to fix his cracked dentures, so the Patriotic Trust was able to step in to help with dentist's fees and an eventual new set of false teeth.

The significant donation from the Patriotic Trust means that there is only \$335,000 to go until the region has raised the \$1.2 million needed to fund the angiography suite. Ms Kopu encourages local people to keep up their fundraising efforts to reach the finish line.

"We are so close to reaching our goal now. It's really exciting that we have come so far but we do have another \$335,000 to go. Come on Taranaki, we can do this!"

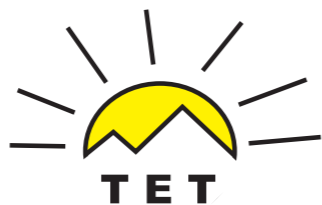


100 Days, 100 Businesses

Are you a small business owner who wants to help? We are signing up 100 businesses in 100 days to pledge between \$1000 and \$2000 over the next two years to WE HEART TARANAKI.

You can contribute monthly, tax-deductible payments to suit your budget. Contact Bry on bry.kopu@tdhb.org.nz or call 06 7538 688

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