

# QUARTERLY REVIEW

June to August 2024



Photo courtesy of Peter Feuerstein

## CE update

It's been a busy three months for the Foundation, which has helped to pass the winter months. Now that it's spring, planning is well underway for our end-of-year events, including our charity partner get-together.

We are also in the process of selecting our 2025 university scholarship recipients. Milford employees around the country have been busy interviewing an impressive group of young people. Whittling down the list to 15 is a challenge! We'll have our names confirmed in the next couple of weeks, and look forward to welcoming our new cohort onboard. This will take our total scholarship number to 45. At the end of next year, our first group of scholarship students will graduate after completing their 3-year degree. It's been such a privilege to journey with these talented and passionate young people.

There's a lot of great reading in this edition of our Quarterly newsletter. I hope you enjoy catching up on our latest activities.



Bryce Marsden  
Chief Executive

## Short Story Competition

It's 40 years since the Sunday Star-Times Short Story Competition first launched, and the Milford Foundation is once again encouraging writers to share their stories with the country.

This year's competition launched mid-August, with Milford sponsoring the secondary school category, emerging Māori or Pasifika writer award, and also contributing to the prize pool for the open award.

"We are passionate about making New Zealand an incredible place to live for future generations," says Foundation Chief Executive Bryce Marsden. "As this competition celebrates 40 years, we are proud to have been a part of the journey to create some of this country's leading writers and history makers – people who have helped shape Aotearoa New Zealand and have become part of its fabric. Through the words, thoughts and ideas crafted by these writers, we are seeing the future of our country take shape."

Entries are open until 11:45pm on Monday 7 October. We'll announce the winners in the next edition.

## We dropped our boss!

But it was all for a very good cause. Milford Chair, Anthony Quirk, took the plunge off the SkyTower in early September, raising more than \$4,000 (so far!) for the Graeme Dingle Foundation's school programmes. When donations close, Anthony has incredibly agreed to match dollar for dollar up to \$5,000.

Milford Foundation has a strong relationship with the Graeme Dingle Foundation, and we were pleased to

once again assist them with this worthwhile fundraising event. Anthony assured us that the jump wasn't nearly as scary as actually walking out to the ledge.

We have until 6 October to raise donations. If you'd like to join our incredible group of donors, please click below.

Every little bit helps!

<https://givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/lets-drop-the-boss-anthony-quirk-milford>



As at  
31 August 2024



Funds Growing

**\$7.93M**



Money granted/committed to grant

**\$8.135M**

## Our partners



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# Journalism scholarship presentation

It was wonderful to host our two Brian Gaynor Initiatives – Business Writing & Journalism Scholarship recipients at Milford's Auckland office in August. Phoebe Utteridge and Elsie Williams, both Journalism students at the University of Canterbury, were the inaugural winners, each receiving \$5,000.

The purpose of this scholarship is to raise awareness of business writing and journalism among tertiary students, and to introduce them to the legacy of Brian Gaynor. The Milford Foundation, which administers the scholarships, brought Phoebe and Elsie to Auckland for a morning tea with key members of Initiative, including Brian Gaynor's wife Anna Gibbons, Milford co-founder Graeme Thomas, and Sarah Norrie, Chair of the Milford Foundation.

Phoebe and Elsie also took a tour of the NZME offices, meeting key journalists including Victoria Young, BusinessDesk Editor and recipient of the 2023 Brian Gaynor Initiatives - Business Writing & Journalism Excellence Award. Victoria joined the students for lunch, as well as Bridge talks Business with Milford podcaster, Ryan Bridge.



Pictured from back left at the morning tea were Geoff Senescall (former journalist and current PR guru), Sarah Norrie (Chair, Milford Foundation), Bryce Marsden (Chief Executive, Milford Foundation), Richard Pilley (Executive, Milford Foundation and Graeme Thomas (Milford co-founder). In front from left: Phoebe Utteridge, Anna Gibbons and Elsie Williams.

## Scholarships



As we mentioned in the CE update earlier in this newsletter, we have been busy selecting our next cohort of Milford Foundation Scholarship recipients. It's a special time of year as we meet with these incredible young people, all of whom have overcome substantial obstacles to achieve at high school-level. We'd love to award scholarships to everyone we interview – they are all deserving. While it's unfortunate we can't, it's important to focus on the support and assistance we give to the 16 students who do receive a scholarship and come under our wing.

We're excited to announce our newest cohort in the next month or so. In the meantime, our 2024 cohort will be joining us in Auckland during November to celebrate the end of their first year at uni. We have Jason Gunn

booked in to impart some sage advice (in a fun way of course), and there is a myriad of engaging activities planned to help them prepare for their second year, and to get to know each other, and the Foundation better.

Then we have to get to know our 2023 students, who have almost completed their second year. Many of them will graduate at the end of next year – which we are very excited about. Next year there will be 45 amazing students learning under the umbrella of the Milford Foundation – and we couldn't be prouder of them.

If you are interested in sponsoring one of our 2025 students, please email [bmarsden@milfordfoundation.co.nz](mailto:bmarsden@milfordfoundation.co.nz) to find out more (obligation free).

## It takes a village

Lady Maliena Jones gave an excellent interview with 1News' Te Aniwa Hurihanganui, highlighting the critical issue of limited funding which is forcing foodbanks like The Village Trust Foodbank to reduce the number of parcels distributed to families in need.

The Milford Foundation is proud to support The Village Trust Foodbank, founded by Lady Maliena and her husband Sir Michael Jones. The current funding crunch underscores the critical need for ongoing community support and donations.

In these challenging times, it's more important than ever to come together and support our communities. Your donation to the Milford Foundation can make a significant impact, helping to ensure families receive the food and support they desperately need.



[https://www.1news.co.nz/2024/06/21/auckland-food-bank-forced-to-limit-parcels-amid-funding-crunch/?fbclid=IwY2xjawFVUqHleHRuA2FlbQlxMQABHaSaZ5IG3QGgHIC2rfqW3DECI-XhM0XVAVM3MaNzWdILUGKqjUxYLB9iQ\\_aem\\_qPR5U5iqj8lFFtSrMNFH0g](https://www.1news.co.nz/2024/06/21/auckland-food-bank-forced-to-limit-parcels-amid-funding-crunch/?fbclid=IwY2xjawFVUqHleHRuA2FlbQlxMQABHaSaZ5IG3QGgHIC2rfqW3DECI-XhM0XVAVM3MaNzWdILUGKqjUxYLB9iQ_aem_qPR5U5iqj8lFFtSrMNFH0g)

## Climb every mountain

We are extremely grateful for every donation we receive towards the Milford Foundation's work. It enables us to support our partners, sponsor students into university, and provide one-off assistance in emergencies – such as the aftermath of devastating Cyclone Gabrielle.

A strong distinction between the Milford Foundation and other charities, is that every cent of your donation will go to the purpose it was

intended. Milford pays all costs associated with running the Foundation. You can give through our website where you are given the option to be named on our fantastic Mountain of Support.

If you have given in person via eftpos (at one of our events, for example), you can still request to be on the Mountain. Just email [info@milfordfoundation.co.nz](mailto:info@milfordfoundation.co.nz) and we'll add your name.