

Media release

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Contact Energy seeks charity of choice for Wairākei Charity Golf Tournament

Contact Energy is calling for applications from Taupō community groups to be the charity of choice for its annual fundraising golf tournament in September.

Now in its 16th year, the Contact Wairākei Charity Golf Tournament has raised a total of more than \$285,000 over the years – which Contact has given back to Taupō community groups.

“It’s become a very popular event and each year we’ve chosen a different organisation to benefit from the funds raised,” says Charley Beagle, Contact Energy Asset Manager and Golf Tournament Event Manager.

“Applications are open now and we’re encouraging community groups and charitable organisations to get in touch, put their name forward as a potential charity to receive the funds raised in this year’s tournament.”

With \$20,000 going to the charity of choice, Contact is looking for a local organisation which makes a positive difference for communities in Taupō and needs funds to buy assets or develop or enhance their facilities.

Rosanne Jollands, Contact Energy Community Relations Manager, says this year there is a strong focus on positive environmental and social outcomes.

“We’re keen to find an organisation that is delivering real benefits to the environment or making a difference socially.

“While we traditionally choose a single charity, in one year we had so many applications we decided to split the funds to support two organisations.”

Last year’s recipient was Age Concern, which used funds to buy a van to transport elderly people to social events and appointments, helping address social isolation. While the previous year, funds went to the APOPO youth centre providing support and accommodation for homeless young people.

The Wairākei Charity Golf Tournament was initiated by local Contact employees as a way to make a positive contribution to the community, raising funds through sponsorship and an entry fee to the tournament, while bringing together its people, contractors and suppliers.

To apply, local community organisations and charities can request an application form from Rosanne Jollands at Rosanne.jollands@contactenergy.co.nz. Closing date for applications is 22 July 2016.

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About Contact

Contact is one of New Zealand's largest electricity generators and retailers. We keep the lights burning, the hot water flowing and the BBQ fired up for around 562,500 customers across the country. Powering the country with electricity, natural gas and LPG, our team of around 1,050 lives, works and operates in communities throughout New Zealand. Contact operates five geothermal power stations in the greater Taupō region. www.contact.co.nz

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