



MEDIA RELEASE

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Hastings Co-op grants helping to build 'a brighter future'

The hopes and dreams of 10 local community groups can now become a reality thanks to a \$16,000 funding injection from Hastings Co-op's Community Chest grants program.

This year's grants will fund everything from a defibrillator for Wauchope Walking Group and solar lighting for Wauchope Girl Guides' camp shed to building extensions for Wauchope Men's Shed and the replacement of Wauchope Cricket Club's flood damaged equipment.

Other projects include first aid kit upgrades for Wauchope Blues Junior Rugby League, a BBQ and removable tables and chairs for Wauchope Little Athletics, a portable PA system for Wauchope Swimming Club, specialised coaching for Wauchope Netball Club coaches, site upgrades for equestrian events at Rollands Plains Recreation Reserve and a freezer and ice maker for Wauchope Lions Club.

"This year's recipients were all looking for ways to improve, for the benefit of their members, and we're really pleased we could provide a helping hand," chief executive officer Allan said.

"The projects are far-reaching and will benefit a wide cross section of the community, and we hope each of the groups, their members, volunteers and the wider community enjoy the benefits of these grants for many years to come."

Mr Gordon explained that Hastings Co-op IGA customers play a vital role in the Community Chest program, with funds from specially-marked products, including the Community Co. range, pooled to provide the grants.

The \$16,000 in grants was also boosted by the sale of Hastings Co-op Cookies, which can be found at store checkouts.

"Every time customers purchase one of these specially-marked products they can feel good about giving back to the community too," he said.

"What's great about the Community Chest grants program is the projects are helping to build a brighter future, and more importantly, recognising the hard-working community groups that make a real difference to the local way of life, whether that's sports clubs, schools, volunteer organisations or disability and special interest groups.

"Hastings Co-op has a proud history of giving back and our annual Community Chest grants is just one example."

Media contact -

Executive Manager Sales and Marketing, Nicole Cook

Phone: 02 6588 8916, Mobile: 0498 111 353

Email: nicolec@hastingscoop.com.au

2022 Community Chest grant recipients

Wauchope Walking Group	Defibrillator
Wauchope Blues Junior Rugby League Club	Upgraded first aid kits
Wauchope Men's Shed	Extension to workshop area
Rollands Plains Recreation Reserve Land Management	Upgrade of site for equestrian events, including new yards and water supply work
Wauchope Swimming Club	Portable PA system for events
Wauchope Netball Club	Specialised coaching for volunteer coaches and players
Wauchope Girl Guides	Solar lighting for camp shed
Wauchope Little Athletics	A BBQ and removable tables and chairs for Blackbutt Park
Wauchope RSL Cricket Club	Replacement of flood damaged equipment
Wauchope Lions Club	Large chest freezer and ice maker for Wauchope Showground events