

# Scanner fund passes \$1.3m

## Trust Aoraki latest in donation flow

Financial support for South Canterbury's MRI scanner now exceeds \$1.3 million.

Trust Aoraki gave the campaign a \$100,000 boost towards the \$2.7m target earlier this week.

The donation is part of Trust Aoraki's ongoing mission to give 30 per cent of its income from gaming machines to community projects in health, education and art.

"We are very much about supporting the local community," said Trust Aoraki manager Irene Emond.

MRI fundraising committee member Ian O'Loughlin said the donation was a great contribution.

He said all donations received, no matter how big or small, were an indication of the community's commitment towards the project.

"It's just really great to see the community getting involved in this way.

"Clearly, it's touched the community at large and they are right behind it."

The project, launched late last month, has received a steady flow of donations from individuals, groups, organisations and clubs,



**Alexia Johnston**

and that support, along with donations, was not slowing down, project manager Stacey Scott said.

"The campaign still has great momentum in the community." Mrs Scott said Trust Aoraki's recent donation was keeping that momentum going.

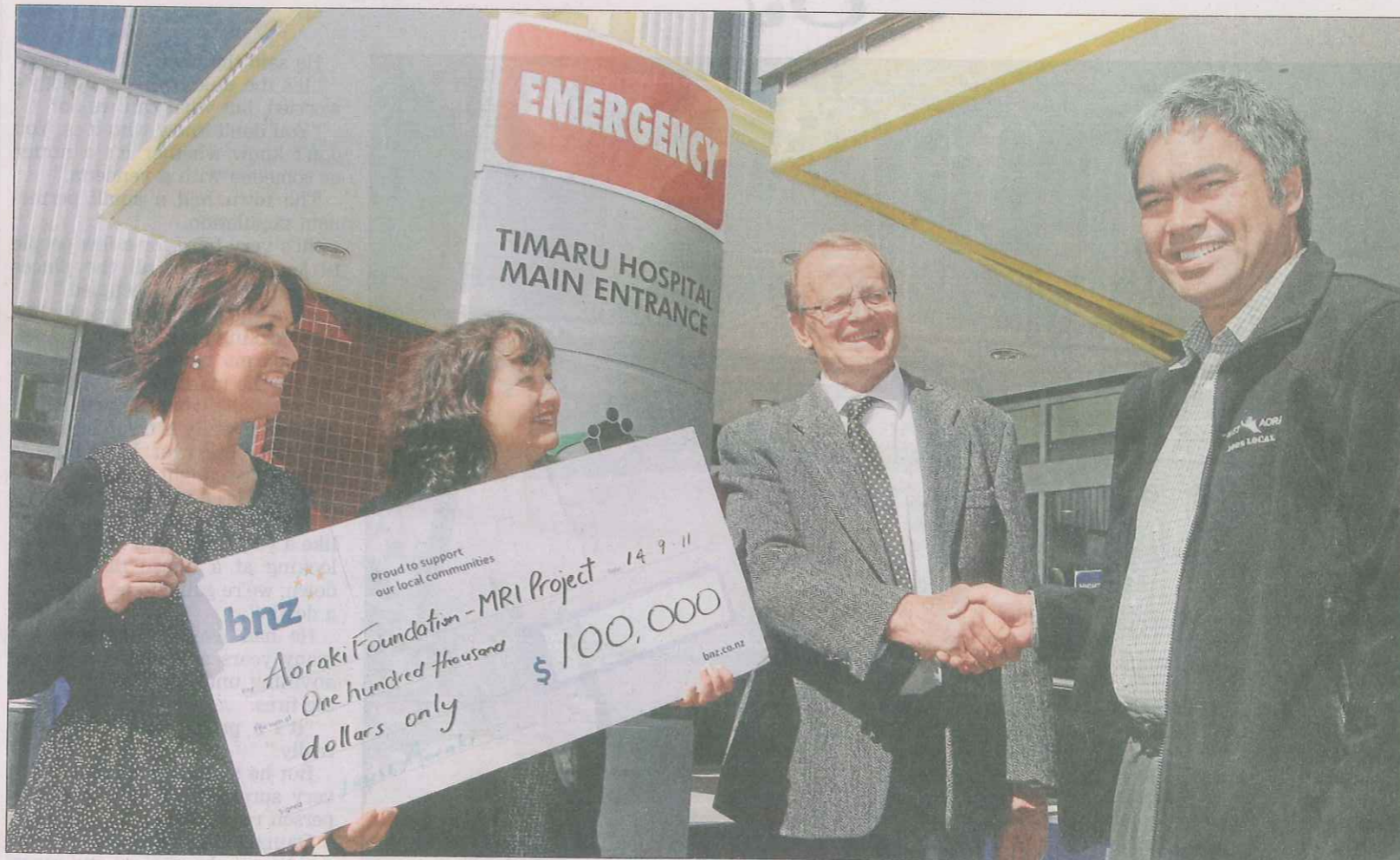
"We are so excited that a local charitable trust has come on board and seen the need for the region.

A large donation like this just makes [the MRI scanner] more of a reality."

Large donations ranging from \$100,000 to \$500,000 total \$1.2m, with smaller donations taking the total to more than \$1.3m.

Mrs Scott said the aim was to have the \$2.7m by the middle of next year and the scanner by late 2012.

A phone-a-thon will raise more funds early next year.



**Big bucks:** South Canterbury's MRI scanner project has been given another boost this week after Trust Aoraki donated \$100,000 to the cause. MRI scanner project manager Stacey Scott, left, Trust Aoraki manager Irene Emond, MRI fundraising committee and oral surgeon Ian O'Loughlin and Trust Aoraki chairman Quentin Hix celebrate the latest donation outside Timaru Hospital.

Photo: JOHN BISSET