

## A place to unwind

Kim Cable: Community Waikato Community Spotlight



It is not easy working in the not-for-profit sector, and Big Toe Foundation are offering a way for those in the not-for-profit, charitable, and community sector to rest, recover and retreat.

Big Toe Foundation is a registered charity and philanthropic foundation, which is all about ‘Helping People Who Help Others’.

John Fabrin, Ambassador for Big Toe Foundation says that the founders of Big Toe Foundation had observed over the years that many people who charitably toil to help others were often predisposed to burnout, mainly because they kept on giving out, as the needs are always present.

“The workers rarely had resources to take a break somewhere really nice, comfortable and away from their normal routines, workplaces and pressures” says John.

The benefactors of Big Toe Foundation also noted the problems that retreat centres available to Not-for-profit organisations had in remaining operationally viable. Many were sitting on capital assets that were deteriorating with few funds available to adequately maintain, let alone refurbish them. Consequently, the standard of facilities available was progressively declining and the environments offered to users was poor. This negatively impacted all involved and in many instances, facilities had to close.

“This realisation sowed a seed and a dream was born. To establish a high-quality facility that is commercially sustainable and available to Not for Profit organisations to use at a realistic accessible cost” says John.

Flaxmill Bay Hideaway is a 4-Star accommodation and conference facility located on the east coast of the stunning Coromandel Peninsula. Flaxmill is owned by Big Toe Foundation and through this relationship it is able to offer reduced rates to approved organisations that are doing good work - charities, Not-for-profit groups, churches, social enterprises and other qualifying entities.

The basic framework of the Not-for-profit Programme at Flaxmill is, eligible organisations, groups and individuals registered with Big Toe Foundation have access to reduced rates at Flaxmill for stays post-Easter to mid-December each year (excluding public holidays and certain popular event weekends).

The special rates may be used for refreshing getaways for individuals/couples/families, meetings or planning sessions, through to larger retreats and conferences. Team members of registered organisations are also able to access these rates for personal stays under the same framework.

To find out more visit [www.flaxmillbay.co.nz/giving-back](http://www.flaxmillbay.co.nz/giving-back)