



MEDIA RELEASE

28th February 2018
For immediate release

Otago Polytechnic Trades Academy students to benefit from funds for tools

The Central campus for the Otago Polytechnic is developing a new Secondary – Tertiary College Trades Academy facility for use by Trades Academy students and those attending Level 3 auto-mechanics and carpentry programmes. While the new building will be funded in entirety by the Polytech Council, Central Lakes Trust is making a contribution for tools and equipment for the facility.

The Cromwell Trades academy collaborates with service providers throughout the region to provide learning pathways between school, tertiary education and vocational opportunities. “Providing courses in Central Otago allows the region to better retain its young people and build a resilient community,” says Central Lakes Trust Chief Executive, Susan Finlay.

The Trust will add support to the Queenstown Gardens Commemorative Playscape providing up to 10% of the project’s cost which will see a new multi-age playground in the CBD of Queenstown. The new playscape will be compliant with current standards, provide creative play for a wider age group and ability, and give improved access for less mobile users and caregivers. “With a growing number of young families entering the district, and a shift towards higher density housing; families have smaller backyards, this playground will be a fabulous resource for the community,” says Stephen Quin, Parks Planning Manager, Queenstown Lakes District Council.

Central Lakes Trust will also provide support of \$57,000 for the estimated 380 bed nights required for Central Lakes families at Ronald McDonald South Island facilities over the 2018/19 year. Many families from the Central Lakes region have been accommodated at both Ronald McDonald House Christchurch and Ronald McDonald Family room at Southland Hospital. “Our remote location away from these health services, makes it difficult for families. Ronald McDonald Houses allow these families to have somewhere to stay with the support they need to focus on their child’s health,” says Central Lakes Trust Chairman, Tony Hill.

Central Lakes Trustee’s also confirm funding for Clyde Museum to complete a conservation management plan for the Blyth St and Briar Herb Museum at a proposed value of \$20,771.

“The conservation plans of these important historic buildings and places consider historic significance, vulnerability, and development of conservation policies to ensure protection, retention and enhancement, Susan says. The plans will form an important component of a wider heritage strategy.”

“Interestingly we have had a number of enquiries from museum groups recently, all asking similar questions. This has identified a need to facilitate a wider conversation to gain a broader understanding of the issues these groups are facing, which we have commenced with key stakeholders.”

Families in the Wakatipu Basin will have a memorial to acknowledge and honour babies who have passed away during pregnancy or early infancy with the support of a number of funders, including Central Lakes Trust.

A number of operational grants for the 2018/19 financial year were approved supporting charitable community groups to provide their core services within the Central Lakes region. These include, Otago and

Southland division of the Cancer Society receiving \$50,000, Central Otago Friendship network, with \$15,000, and the Volunteering Otago and Otago Plunket Community Services with \$25,000 respectively.

“The Trust’s annual grants budget is \$6.28m and the latest rounds of grants takes the total approved for this financial year to over \$6.93m” Susan says.

The next annual grant’s budget will be set at the next Trust meeting to be held on March 12th 2018.

GRANTS APPROVED – FEBRUARY 2018

Project grants

CODC – Millers Flat/Roxburgh War Memorials Replacement flagpoles		\$2,070
The Parenting Place	Operational grant	\$1,959
Alzheimer’s Society Otago Inc.	Multi-year 2	\$16,000
Brain Injury Association Otago	Multi-year 3	\$10,000
QLDC Lake Hayes Pavilion	Defibrillator	\$2,061
CODC – Clyde Museum	Conservation plans	\$20,771
Disability Information Services	Establish mobile service	\$10,500
Otago Polytechnic	Tools for new Trades Academy	\$175,000
QLDC	Baby memorial	\$25,500
QLDC	Queenstown Gardens playscape	\$100,000

Operational grants

Cancer Society of New Zealand	Operational grant 2018/19	\$50,000
Central Otago Friendship Network	Operational grant 2018/19	\$12,000
Otago Plunket Community Services	Operational grant 2018/19	\$25,000
Ronald McDonald House – South Island	380 room nights Christchurch & Invercargill 2018	\$57,000
Volunteering Otago	Operational grant 2018/19	\$25,000

TOTAL: \$532,861

ENDS

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About the Central Lakes Trust

Central Lakes Trust is a charitable trust that grant funds for charitable purposes. It is the largest philanthropic trust per capita in the Southern Hemisphere. The Trust purpose is to make a positive lasting contribution to the community by supporting charitable projects throughout Central Lakes; to enhance our community and the lives of the people within.

Since its inception in 2000 the Trust has grown its asset base from the \$155m, bestowed by the Otago Central Electric Power Board, to assets totalling \$360m, and has distributed more than \$86m into a wide range of community projects and services throughout the Central Lakes area.