

GENEROUS GIVING COMES IN MANY SHAPES AND SIZES



Gift-giving is an important tradition during the Christmas season for many; it is a way to demonstrate care between friends and family and is the source of smiles on the faces of many children.

The giving of gifts is something that can be a challenge for many families, because of the strain it can bring to a budget that is already extremely tight.

Our Family Work team is particularly busy over Christmas, making sure that food parcels and suitable gifts are distributed to those in need across the region. This year we will work alongside many families right across Otago to make sure Christmas a time of joy and celebration.

Donated gifts have already begun to be received, with items beginning to arrive in our offices from October. Thanks to these donations, the stacks of banana boxes where our gifts are stored, are beginning to be filled.

Some of our supporters enjoy the opportunity to shop and purchase toys and presents, where they can imagine the joy that a child will receive from hours of fun with their new toy.

For others, a financial donation, a voucher, or some food items are a most practical way to show support and to make a contribution. Every gift and donation is very much appreciated by Family Works, and by those who receive them.

The giving continues until Christmas, right across the Otago region. In mid-December the

gifts begin to be distributed to families who we are working with, along with a Christmas food parcel.

"The generosity of the community means that a number of families across Otago will wake up on Christmas day to find there are gifts to open, and something special to eat together."

Family Works Practice Manager Debbie Gelling said, "For some families this is the first time in many years where there have been gifts in the home. Others can enjoy the day without the pressure of extra spending which creates a financial burden for months to come."

Thank you for your very generous support in 2018. 'May peace love and laughter surround you, and your family, this Christmas Season.

"It is the first year that I have been able to have family to my house for Christmas and the kids had a ball."

Family Works client 2017



PeOPLe

NATIONAL WINNERS AT

Iona Enliven Care Home in Oamaru was announced as category winner at the 2018 NZACA / EBOS Healthcare Excellence in Care Awards, as part of the NZ Aged Care Association Conference.

Iona won the Training and Staff Development Category with our staff programme, title 'Connecting Cultures' which has been running at the home for almost two years after it was developed and piloted in partnership with Immigration New Zealand.

Iona is a busy place, with over 100 staff, 80 volunteers and 78 residents who live in the facility. The pilot programme primarily focused on reducing the number of international staff leaving employment at Iona. Initial results show the programme has reduced staff turnover by 75% over two years.



The pilot programme involved developing and facilitating inclusion workshops for all staff, and establishing a 'Connecting Cultures' Group. Various staff and external organisations are involved, and a passionate resident is also part of the group. The group continues to operate today.

The aim is to grow respect for different cultures, increase awareness of other cultures (for New Zealanders and international staff), and create a happy, safe environment for residents, staff, and volunteers.

Different cultures are now being celebrated and showcased every two months. This is done through notice boards explaining aspects of the chosen culture, a food sharing activity / exhibition and activities with involvement from residents.

Iona Resident Joan stated, "Connecting Cultures gives us more of an insight into the staff cultures... It's a good exercise to learn how other people live and get on."

Iona Manager Steph Leith is positive about the impact of the programme and the difference it makes for the Iona staff team and residents, "We must embrace our migrant workforce, and make them feel comfortable because they are a wonderful part of our team and they are increasing in number every year. Without them we wouldn't be able to continue at Iona."

Congratulations to everyone at Iona for this award and for helping to spread knowledge, understanding, awareness and respect for all cultures through the Connecting Cultures programme.

SPOTLIGHT ON WANAKA

Wanaka is one of the beautiful towns in Central Otago. It was founded in the 19th Century during the Gold Rush.

Wanaka lies near the southern end of Lake Wanaka and is nestled between mountain ranges. To the southwest is the Crown Range, leading towards Queenstown. To the north is Haast Pass, which cuts through the Southern Alps.

Presbyterian Support Otago has been part of the Wanaka community for many years. Our two care homes (Elmslie House and Aspiring Enliven) have a large team of staff and volunteers who provide care to 71 residents, at all levels including some who live with dementia.

Wanaka Retirement Village is located next to Elmslie House. There are 14 villas on the site, which provide independent living for people over 65 years old.

Our Family Works presence in Wanaka has continued to grow and

we currently have five part time team members who work in the town. They provide social work support, financial mentoring and runs our Buddy and group programmes. The Buddy Programme has over 20 Young Buddies who are enjoying support from an Adult Buddy.

Wanaka is a beautiful place to live and we are proud to be part of the local community.

NEW FACES IN OUR FUNDRAISING

TEAM

We've recently welcomed two new Fundraising team members - Iude and Hannah.

Jude McCracken has recently joined us as our Supporter Development Manager – a newly created position, to add support and increase the focus of our fundraising activity. Jude says it shows Presbyterian Support Otago is "really serious about a donor relations programme and fundraising."

Jude explains "Fundraising seems to be a profession you fall into. No one leaves school and says 'I want to be a fundraiser', but it is an extremely rewarding career. I enjoy all the interactions with donors and potential donors.

"For me this role is all about building and nurturing relationships with

our existing donors and supporters, and potential donors and supporters, however they choose to contribute to our work and help us achieve our overall goals."

Hannah Day joined the team as our Fundraising Events Coordinator, covering maternity leave for another team member. Hannah is focused on looking after our community and corporate events and is "very much about people supporting people."

If you would like to find out more about how you can be involved, please contact Jude at fundraising@psotago.org.nz or call (03) 477 7115.

Welcome to the team, Jude and Hannah.



LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRESENTED

A highlight at our 2018 Annual General Meeting in October was the presentation of a Life Membership Award to Rev Dennis Povey.

The Life Membership Award was recommended by the Board, as an acknowledgement of Dennis' outstanding contribution, both as a staff member and in a voluntary capacity over the last few decades.

Dennis is well known and regarded for the research work he has led in the Dunedin, particularly around poverty and housing. He was most recently assisting in our archives

space and retired earlier this year.

His citation noted: Dennis has had a long association with Presbyterian Support, beginning with a Board role in the Central Region.

[He] oversaw the detailed research into poverty and its impact on Presbyterian Support Otago clients. This was followed by research into the state of low income housing in Dunedin. These publications have been used regularly by University of Otago social work department and quoted often by local government officials.

He has been the driving force behind the establishment of social housing through the Just Housing Trust, that now comes under Presbyterian Support Otago's oversight.

Thank you, Dennis, for your many years of service to the organisation.



ANNUAL REPORT

Our Annual Report for 2018 is now available at psotago.org.nz. Printed copies are available from our Support Centre at 407 Moray Pl, Dunedin or phone (03) 477 7115.



PeoPle

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROSS HOME

After a year of planning, Ross Home celebrated its 100th birthday during October.

Over 100 people attended and celebrated with Ross Home, including residents and their families and a number of current and previous staff.

Friday began with residenst having the opportunity to share memories and make song requests during the lunch hour. As the evening arrived guests enjoyed drinks and nibbles, amongst plenty of chatter as guests connected, often with other people they hadn't seen in some years.

The pace changed on Saturday afternoon when guests joined residents and staff for high tea and live entertainment. Many came dressed in period costume, making the home a very colourful space. A cake was cut in each of the five areas of Ross Home, with a resident from each area involved.

The celebrations concluded on Sunday with a church service, followed by a BBQ lunch at Ross Home.

One hundred years ago there were only 28 female residents at Ross Home. Today, Ross Home accommodates 124 residents with varying levels of care — rest-home, hospital and psycho-geriatric hospital.

"Our philosophy today is still very much aligned to 100 years ago. We want residents to enjoy a sense of community, with friends, family, and whanau involvement,' explains Enliven Director Maurice Burrowes.

Thank you to our sponsors: Acorn Furniture, Antidote Dunedin, Campbell's Butchery, CR Kennedy, Cubro, EBOS, Ecolab, ELS, Maxwell Rogers, Mobility Solution, Spark Energy, Tak Flooring and Trents Wholesale Ltd.

Thank-you to everyone who has been part of Ross Home over the last 100 years.



Rod Madill (aged 103) and Tom Ross cut the cake



A limited number of our Ross Home Centenary Book, 2019 Ross Home calendar (put together by residents) and other Centenary merchandise is available. Most items are \$5 each. Please contact Ross Home reception on (03) 473 0029 about purchasing any items (pick up available only).

SEND A TEEN TO THE MOVIES

Teenagers can be hard to buy for, and are often the ones who can miss out when finances are challenging.



For the fourth year running we have partnered with Rialto Cinemas in Dunedin to send teens to the movies this Christmas.

Social workers remind us that in families facing financial hardship, teenagers often feel left out of the Christmas festivities as attention can be focused on younger siblings. Help us buy movie tickets to give to teenagers who may have little else to look forward to this Christmas.

A small \$10 donation will provide an ideal gift for teens this Christmas. It means they can join in when invited to the movies by their friends, or even initiate a movie outing in the holidays. We have seen social empowerment and the value for teenagers when they can be part of

conversations about the latest movies.

Thanks to your generosity we raised \$1,665 in 2017, which meant we could give 166 teenagers the opportunity to go to the movies. We're aiming for 170 tickets this year! Our thanks to Rialto Cinemas Dunedin for their support of this campaign.

All of the donated funds are used to purchase movie tickets. Our Family Works team will distribute the tickets.

If you would like to make a donation head to our Givealittle page (givealittle. co.nz/cause/moviesforteens2018) or tick the box on the reply slip enclosed with this edition of People.



KIDS CONTINUE TO STOCK THE BUS

Stock the Bus 2018 was a hit! With nine stops on our route, we needed two buses this year to have enough room for all the generous donations.

There was plenty of enthusiasm when the buses arrived at primary schools across the city, including Wakari Primary School, Abbotsford School, Maori Hill School, Mornington School, St Clair Primary School and Roslyn Kindergarten.

We also had some impressive donations from businesses, such as IRD, Harraways and Fresh Choice Green Island.

Our Ritchies buses set out early in the day, fully decked out in Christmas decorations with staff and volunteers on board also dressed up for the occasion and ready to hit the streets. We stocked

up at the outer areas of Dunedin first, before coming into town and filling up a second bus with donations.

The children we met loved bringing their gifts onto the bus and getting involved in the event. The day was a great success, and a reminder of how generous people are at this time of the year.

A huge thank you to Ritchies for providing the buses and drivers and to all of the businesses and schools who kindly donated. Bring on Stock the Bus 2019!



BUDDY TEAM ARE COMMUNITY AWARD WINNERS

The Buddy Programme teams in Central Otago and Wanaka, and also in South Otago, were announced as category winners at the Trustpower Community Awards in October.

Congratulations to the Buddy teams for these awards, which recognise the tremendous effort you all put in and for the real positive results that this programme has for the young Buddies involved.

There are currently 53 Buddy pairs matched in these three locations, where

an adult volunteer spends time with a young person (4-12 year) each week to provide friendship, encouragement and a positive influence as they participate in a range of activities.

Volunteers are critical to the success of the Buddy Programme. The time they spend with their Young Buddy doing everyday activities such as walking the dog, baking, visiting the beach or the library, has a life-changing impact of the young person, and often also on their families.

As one Buddy expressed, "[My Adult Buddy] taught me that I was valuable. I will never forget what he did for me, giving up his free time for me. I was not an easy kid but he stuck with me through good and bad."

We currently have a waiting list of young children needing buddies and are always looking for volunteers. If you would like to find out more contact Michelle on 03 477 7115 or michelleg@psotago.org.nz.





TWENTY FIVE YEARS OF SUPPORT

Ron Sinclair has spent the last 25 years forging relationships with our supporters in Central and South Otago.

Following his recent retirement, we caught up with Ron to give him a chance to say goodbye and share his story.

Presbyterian Support Otago: You started working with is in 1993 as a Field Officer. What interested you in this role?

Ron Sinclair: I had been doing some reading and thinking about the story of the Good Samaritan. It felt to me that Presbyterian Support Otago was the 'Good Samaritan' for so many in our community; they look after the 'stranger'. I wanted to work for an organisation that so clearly matched with my values and passion.

PSO: As well as working for us, you and your wife also support us financially. Why is that commitment important?

RS: Initially I didn't expect to be giving

financially to Presbyterian Support Otago! It wasn't until I really got involved in the job that I saw the extent of what Presbyterian Support Otago did, and I wanted to donate (and still do) to help enable that work to continue.

PSO: What is one Presbyterian Support Otago service that is close to your heart?

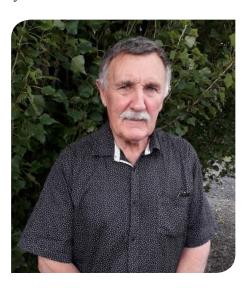
RS: YouthGrow. I believe it is possible to turn kids around at a young age, e.g. through the Buddy Programme, but to turn someone around when they're 16 and above is very hard. YouthGrow staff are so passionate, and have so much compassion for the young people they work with, even though their job is very difficult and often can be overwhelming.

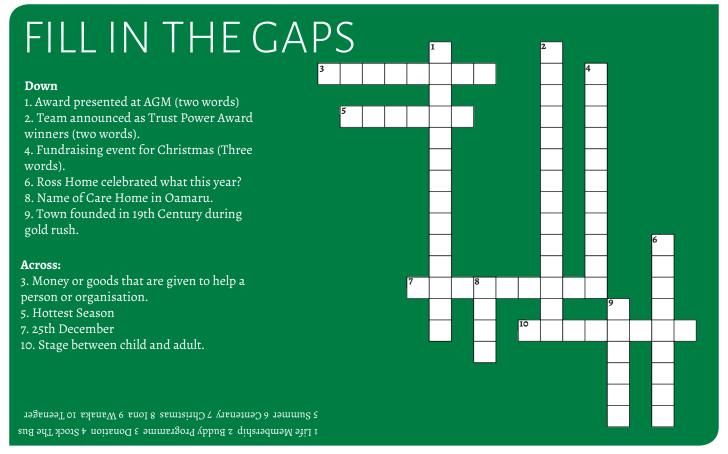
PSO: What are some of the topics you've talked about with the supporters you've visited?

RS: I've probably had a conversation about anything you could think of! Rugby is a common topic, along with farming, and politics. It's great to have had the opportunity to spend time with so many different people and get to know their passions.

PSO: What are some of the highlights from your job?

RS: Definitely the people. There have been lots of laughs. I've also had recommended and read so many books that I wouldn't have usually known about. The best part of the job has been the opportunity to thank people. I am privileged to have been able to thank people for their part in Presbyterian Support Otago's work. God bless you all.







GIVE OTHERS YOUR SUPPORT THIS SUMMER

Help us to spread the love...

I hope you will join me, to help us make a positive change across our Otago community.

The generous support we receive from public donations makes an enormous difference for people in need. We see ongoing and significant changes in the lives of people that we work alongside, and these changes can literally change someone's life for the better.

Your donation to Presbyterian Support Otago's Christmas appeal will not only assist those who face an extra financial burden that the Christmas and holiday period will bring, it will contribute to our ongoing welfare programmes for all people, young and old across Otago.

For some this year has been tough and we know that 2019 will present some of the same challenges. We anticipate providing support for more than 5,000 people throughout our Family Works programmes and assisting more than 1,200 older people with our meals on wheels service, social and companion programmes.

Christmas is a time for giving and for thinking of others. Please consider making a donation using this from, or visit psotago.org.nz/get-involved/donate to make a donation online.

Through your generous donation, you can help to bring stability to the lives of many individuals, children and families who live across Otago.

Thank you for your generous support and Merry Christmas to all!

Jude McCracken

Supporter Development Manager

"Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone." - Charles M. Schulz

" My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others." - Bob Hope

YES, I WANT TO SHOW MY SUPPORT THIS CHRISTMAS!

Please direct my gift to

- Movies for Teens
- the Buddy Programme
- the Family Works Responsive Programmes
- help adults facing life challenges
- Amount \$
- I have left a gift to PSO in my will
- I would like more information about leaving a gift in my will
- I would like more information about making a regular donation
- I would like to be contacted about becoming a volunteer

Please tick payment method Cheque Credit Card Internet Banking







Card number

Name on card

Expiry date
Signature

Internet Banking PSO Account Number:

My contact details are

06 0901 0005597 00

Name

Address

Phone

Email

Please return this form to:

Fundraising Team
Presbyterian Support Otago
FREEPOST 845
PO Box 374, Dunedin 9054

(All donations are receipted. Gifts over \$5.00 are tax deductible. Charities Commission number CC 20878)

