



Presbyterian
Support
Otago



CAN YOU HELP FILL THE GAP?

Over the last 10 years, we have watched Octacan steadily grow, and it's become a key event in winter calendars.

We aim to help 'Fill the Gap' this winter. It's our eleventh year running Octacan and we have had over 120,000 cans and food items donated through the event over the decade. This is a credit to Otago's spirit of generosity.

This year Octacan will be held on Thursday 20 June 2019 in the Lower Octagon in central Dunedin. We chose this date to be close to the shortest day of the year, as a reminder of the real need that exists in the community.

During the colder months many Otago families and individuals are trying to pay their bills and find there's suddenly a gap where food money should be. Some people find themselves in a gap between houses – trying to find affordable rent or a place to stay. Octacan is here to help fill that gap, and with your support we CAN help!

Getting involved is easy. The public are invited to bring cans and coins to the Lower Octagon on Octacan day. You can start to prepare now, by setting up a collection point in your workplace and then dropping them off as a group.

Members of the Family Works team will be in the Octagon in our winter woolies from 7.30am until mid-afternoon. We're always excited to be meeting people and gathering all of the generous donations to restock our food bank for winter.

Let's take over the Octagon with can-filled hearts once again, and together we will fill the hearts of Otago people who are facing hardship. If everyone contributes a little, together we can make a big difference

If you're unable to make it to Octacan and giving online is an easier option for you, please visit www.octacan.org.nz.

If you would like to be involved in Octacan as a volunteer, get in touch with Hannah Day on Hannah.Day@psotago.org.nz.



Students donate during Octacan 2018

FOOD BANK DONATION FROM SCHOOL COMPETITION

Our Family Works food bank in Dunedin was delighted to receive a very generous donation from Otago Boys' High School

Otago Boys' High has a House system where all the boys are divided into four houses. They have several House Competitions every year, to see which house comes out on top. One of these competitions is linked to our Octacan

campaign. Points are issued for items of food or personal items. The house that donates the most points wins.

This year McIndoe House won the competition, donating around 1,000 points worth of goods more than the other houses. McIndoe house was named after Archibald

Hector McIndoe, a New Zealand-born surgeon whose pioneering treatment of burns victims during the Second World War revolutionised the field of plastic surgery.

A big thank you to the families and young men of Otago Boys High School who donated over 2,000 items to our food bank.



FAMILY WORKS IN THE COMMUNITY ACROSS OTAGO

Our Family Works team has approximately 50 employees, and over 160 volunteers, focused on supporting positive change, strong families and healthy communities. .

We have team members based right across Otago, including a number of employees and volunteers based in Central Otago. They work in Alexandra, Ranfurly, Cromwell, Wanaka, Queenstown and surrounding areas.

Having a team in Central Otago means we are able to provide our full range of services in the area, including social work, budgeting support, group programmes and the very popular Buddy Programme where volunteers mentor children aged 5 – 11 years.

We wanted to introduce a couple of the team members based in Central Otago.

Emmalee Powdrell is a Social Worker working across several locations in Central Otago, and has been with Family Works since early 2018.

"I'm really pleased to have an opportunity to work within my profession in a rural area, where jobs do not often arise. The organisation's core values align with my

personal and professional views and my role allows me to work within a wide scope of practice and across multiple communities."

Sharon Bell works in nearby Wanaka, coordinating our Buddy Programme. She has been in this role since 2015 and last year her role increased to include co-facilitating our Growing Taller children's programme and Incredible Years Parenting programme in Central Otago.

"With my background as an Early Childhood teacher, and more recently studies in Psychology, I am grateful to have the opportunity to put this knowledge and experience into my current roles with Family Works. It is very rewarding work, being able to make a difference in the lives of children and seeing such positive outcomes for children and their caregivers".

Our Family Works team in Central Otago can be contacted on 0508 3925 392.



Emmalee Powdrell



Sharon Bell

MADELEINE NAMED NURSING EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER

We were pleased to join the Southern District Health Board and Otago Polytechnic to celebrate the Otago Nursing Excellence Awards in May.

The awards recognised and celebrated nursing excellence in Otago and the Presbyterian Support Otago Award was one of nine categories presented.

Congratulations to category winner, Madeleine Esdaile, who is our Clinical Manager at Aspiring Enliven Care Home in Wanaka

The nomination for Madeleine spoke about the quality of her clinical work and her care for the residents and families she works alongside.

Madeleine is working at an expert nurse level with an extensive clinical knowledge. She operates from a holistic perspective, considering what is happening clinically, and emotionally, for the residents.

Madeleine listens to the residents and they feel genuinely heard. One GP describes her as highly skilled and organised and is always able to trust her clinical judgement.

Madeleine stands out due to her high level of clinical expertise, her excellent communication skills and relationship building. She is respected and her judgement is trusted by Registered Nurses and other health professionals.

Although she deals with stressful situations on a frequent basis, Madeleine is calmness and kindness personified with genuine care and compassion for the residents she works with.

Congratulations, Madeleine, on receiving this award.



Madeleine (left) receiving the Nursing Excellence Award from Interim Chief Executive Gillian Bremner

CHANGES TO OUR BOARD CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Unfortunately, Michael Parker will not be returning as Chief Executive at Presbyterian Support Otago, and recruitment for a Chief Executive is underway.

In the last edition of *People* we advised Michael Parker had been given a period of leave to undergo treatment for acute leukaemia. Michael is continuing to undergo experimental treatment.

PSO Board Chair David Richardson said, "While Michael was only with the organisation for a short time his passion and enthusiasm for the work of the organisation was very evident. We continue to pray for his return to good health."

In part of his farewell letter to staff Michael said, "I would like to thank all staff and management for their support over the past few months, it has meant a lot - you are all in my prayers."

At this time, Gillian Bremner will continue as Interim Chief Executive at Presbyterian Support Otago.

David Richardson announced his decision to step down as Board Chair, ahead of his term expiring in October to allow continuity through the recruitment process. Tim Mepham has been appointed as Board Chair and Stephanie Pettigrew is Deputy Chair.



Tim Mepham



Michael Parker

REGISTERED NURSES JOIN OUR TEAM

Presbyterian Support Otago signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Southern District Health Board in April, to pilot an Older People's Health Nursing Development Programme.

Over the next two years a small number of Registered Nurses will work as part of our teams in Enliven care homes in Dunedin, for a six month period.

The joint programme is a great way to strengthen the synergy and work that already exists between the two organisations. Two Registered Nurses will be seconded to work in our care homes at a time before the next two nurses begin their placement.



From left are Yvette (St Andrews), Regina, Isabel (Ross Home), Mew and Jenny (Ross Home)

The programme supports the professional and academic development of motivated registered nurses already working in older people's health who have the potential to be future clinical leaders or managers.

Enliven Director, Maurice Burrowes, was keen to see the two organisations working more closely together, "We're really pleased to give Registered Nurses from the SDHB an opportunity to gain experience in the aged

care sector, and to share knowledge and experience with our teams. The programme will raise the profile of nurses working in the important area of gerontology."

Regina Chand and Warinthon Baker (Mew) are the first two SDHB nurses to spend six months on placement in Dunedin and they began working with us just after Easter. Mew is at Ross Home, and Regina at St Andrews Home, both in Dunedin.

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WALKING THE TAIERI TRACK TO SUPPORT YOUTH WORKERS

Over 400 keen walkers arrived at Dunedin Railway Station on Sunday 5 May, ready for a day exploring the gorge.

The weather was perfect – overcast for most of the trip and the sun came out for the walk – adding to a day enjoyed by everyone!

Hannah Day, Events Coordinator, said, “There was a great mix of ages at the event, with train lovers, nature enthusiasts and keen walkers all participating with a positive attitude. We had people from all over Otago come and join us for the day.”

“Everyone really enjoyed themselves on the walk, appreciating the scenery and chatting away to each other. The complimentary sausage sizzle went down a treat as well, with some walkers going back for third and fourth helpings!”

The total raised was \$15,733, which is amazing. All of the proceeds will go towards supporting three of our YouthGrow youth workers to gain their Diploma in Youth Development.



During the day \$1,500 was raised through our popular raffle. The winner went home with a weekend at the Heritage Lake Resort in Pisa Moorings, Cromwell, which had kindly been donated to us.

The day ran smoothly and we've appreciated great feedback from many who attended. A comment we have heard regularly is, “I've already put it on my calendar for next year.”

A huge thank you to the Dunedin South Lions Community Trust for their lead and support with this fundraising event.



Ticket holders boarding the train



The train heads back through Taieri Gorge



Ready to board the train for the journey home

VOLUNTEERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Did you know that almost half of our team – over 600 people – are volunteers. They contribute thousands of hours every month to support our cause.

National Volunteer Week 2019 runs from 16 – 22 June. This year's theme is "Whiria te tangata – weaving the people together" and we certainly appreciate all the volunteers who support our work.



Rashmi Kumar

Rashmi Kumar is one of our many volunteers. You'll find her at Op Shop on St Andrew, often on a Saturday.

Rashmi joined us earlier this year after moving from India to Dunedin to complete a PhD in Human Developmental Genetics.

"I chanced upon the Op Shop while I was on the lookout for some winter-wear. I got to chatting with Susan (the Team Leader) and I became a regular at the shop. Susan asked me whether I'd be willing to volunteer and I said yes."

"I really love the positive vibe at the shop, and I feel like I'm part of a new family here. I have learned a lot from being a volunteer. My favourite part is the opportunity to meet and interact with people from different walks of life."



"When I've had a particularly hectic week with my studies, I find myself looking forward to the coming Saturday and doing my little contribution toward the community by being part of the team at Op Shop on St Andrew."

Our thanks to Rashmi, and to all our volunteers who support our work across Otago.

WHAT'S COMING UP ...

At the following church services a representative from Presbyterian Support Otago will speak about what we are working on, and challenges our community is facing.

JUNE

- 02- Mangatua Parish
- 16- Dunedin South Presbyterian Parish

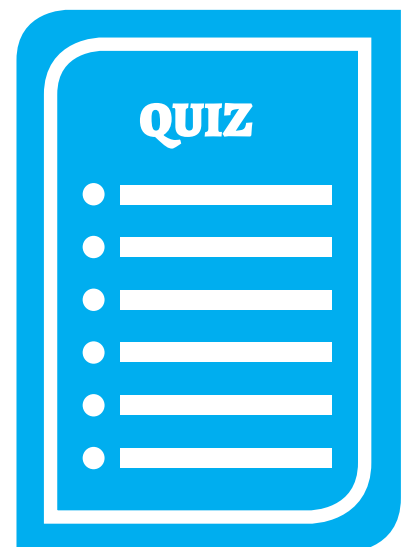
JULY

- 07- Clutha Valley Presbyterian Parish
- 21- Kaikorai Presbyterian Parish
- 28- First Church

AUGUST

- 04- Mosgiel Presbyterian Parish
- 04- Palmerston/Dunback
- 25- Owaka Presbyterian Parish
- 25- Coastal Unity
- 25- Mornington Presbyterian Parish (TBC)
- 25- Pine Hill St. Mark's

If you would like more info email carolyns@psotago.org.nz



QUIZ NIGHT

Mark your diary for our next Quiz Night on Tuesday, 6 August at The Kensington (Dunedin). The evening will raise funds for our Visiting Volunteers programme. Cost is \$5 per person, with teams of six people. Contact Judy (judyh@psotago.org.nz) for more details and to book a team.

BE THE REASON SOMEONE SMILES TODAY

Where did the last six months go? It's June and officially winter.

We are gearing up for our annual Octacan event on 20 June. Related to this we have revamped our online giving page so donations can be received and directed to the food bank instead of using an outside provider (which costs us extra in fees). If you are not able to make it to the Octagon with your donation you can head online and make a donation instead – go to www.octacan.org.nz. Donations help us to provide the food to fill the gaps!

Our autumn appeal was really successful! We received just a little over 200 donations and 8000 items were donated to our food bank.

Through the coming winter months we look to be able to assist many families with various needs.

Providing for your family's needs can be extra challenging for our clients. With your financial support we can continue to support the higher demands our services face.

At Presbyterian Support Otago, we continue to work for a fair, just and caring community for everyone in Otago. Thank you for being a valued part of our work!

Warm regards,

Jude McCracken

Supporter Development Manager



YES, I WANT TO SHOW MY SUPPORT!

My contact details are:

First Name Surname

Address

Phone

Email

Please tick payment method

Cheque Credit Card Internet Banking

Online Donation: <http://psotago.org.nz/get-involved/donate/>

Card number

Name on card

Expiry date

Signature

- one off donation
 make my gift a monthly one



Internet Banking PSO Account Number:
06 0901 0005597 00
(Please use your first name and surname as the reference.)

Please direct my gift to

- \$30 could provide food for our food bank to feed a family for a day
 \$50 could support a Young Buddy with mentoring
 \$80 could help provide resources for the elderly

OR

Amount \$
for the area most in need

Please let us know if:

- you have left a gift to PSO in your will
 you would like more information about leaving a gift in your will

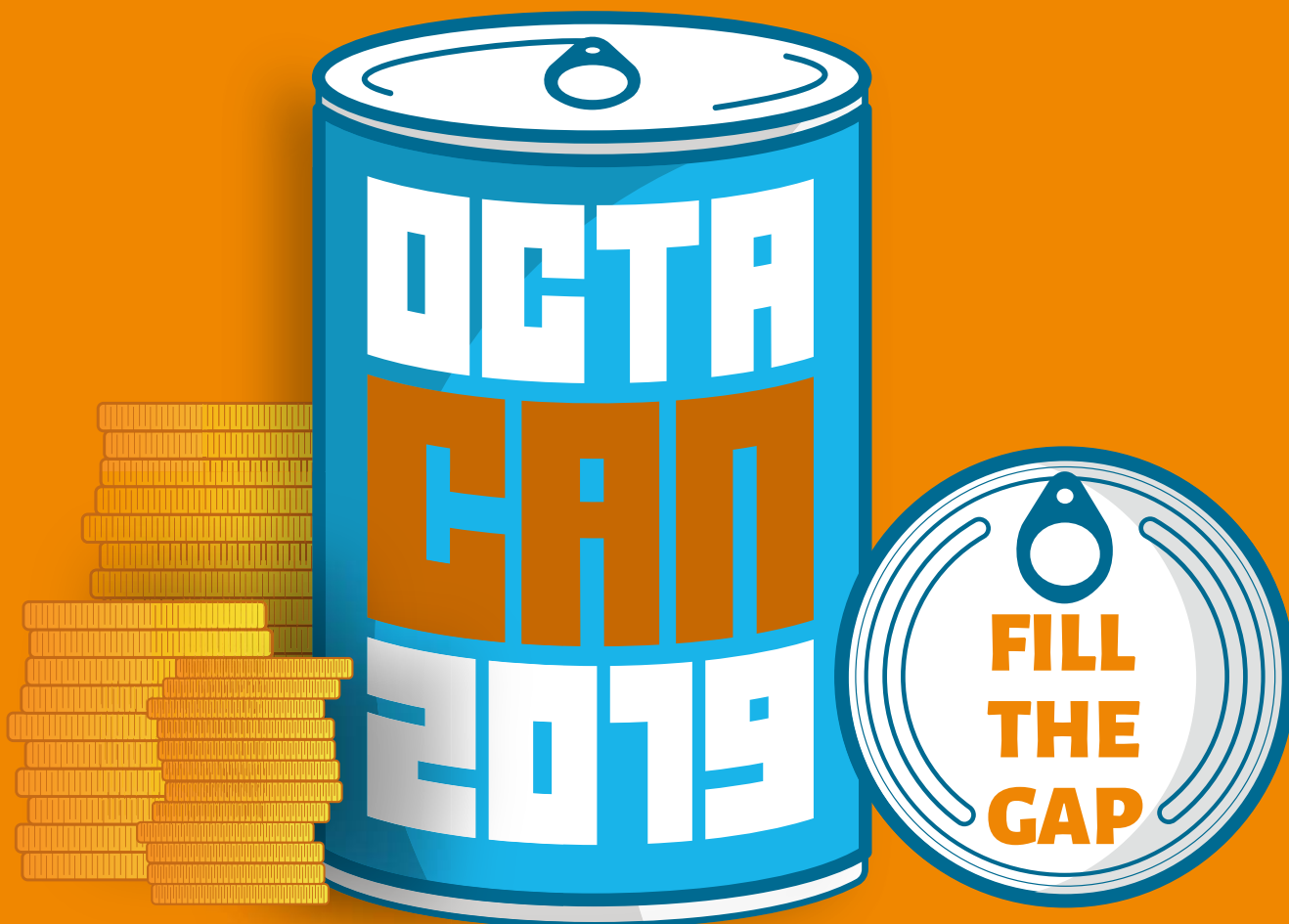
If you would like to contact us you can email: fundraising@psotago.org.nz
phone: 03 477 7115

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)

DONATE AT OCTACAN.ORG.NZ



THURSDAY 20 JUNE
7:30am - 2:30pm
Lower Octagon

Bring along your coins and cans and help us
FILL THE GAP, and our food bank for winter



Presbyterian Support
Otago



FamilyWorks

03 477 7115

 OCTACAN2019


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