

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



We are living through a unique time in history.

Although, viewed through the lens of time, plagues and pandemics are not unusual, modern communication methods and medical knowledge have allowed us to

respond to this one in a way that has successfully limited the community health impact on our country. Of course, this response has come at a great sacrifice, and many businesses and people will be experiencing economic distress and personal hardship, and we are now looking at how we can support each other through the difficult times ahead.

One thing that has inspired me through the lockdown is the way that it has triggered a sometimes-forgotten sense of community within the District. It has been great to see families out walking, biking, talking and playing together; and passing strangers who smile and say, 'good day'. Most especially, it is great to see the outpouring of support and concern for those facing hardship and personal tragedy. It is these inherent values of generosity and caring in our communities that inspired the Trustees to establish the Clutha Foundation.

Already, the Foundation has \$147,000 invested in a professionally managed investment portfolio, largely protected from the current financial market woes by virtue of the conservative nature of the underlying assets. We have received firm commitments by way of pledges and bequests that will see our capital grow to \$500,000 in due course, creating a fund that will forever keep on giving back to the communities of the Clutha District.

But we are aiming much higher than \$500,000. For us to be able to make a significant contribution to the ongoing wellbeing of the District, we need the fund to grow to many times that amount, creating

an income that we can use to support organisations and initiatives in our communities in perpetuity.

If you are interested in contributing to the fund which will provide this everlasting benefit to the people of the Clutha District, we would welcome the opportunity to talk to you. Please contact our Executive Officer, me, or one of our Trustees for more information, or visit our website at www.cluthafoundation.org.nz.

Bill Thomson
Chair, 027 473 0886

BUDDYING UP



Presbyterian Support Otago's Buddy Programme is one of the nine fantastic community projects we were able to support with grants from the pass-through funding kindly donated to us from the Otago Community Trust. The Buddy Programme is a community based early intervention service that

contributes to the well-being and social development of children and young people. Buddies can have a lasting impact on young people and it is a wonderful example of how people in a community can support each other.

Our Mission: connecting generous people with causes that matter

Our Vision: Inspiring our community through philanthropy

Our values:

We care for our community

We foster generosity

We invest wisely

We distribute equitably

GENEROSITY IN ACTION



Andrena King is one of our Workplace Givers, who contributes to the Clutha Foundation community fund by donating a regular amount each payday. We asked her why she chose to help her community in this way.

“Like a lot of women in our community I'm a busy working Mum with three children. I have often become involved

with supporting the sporting and cultural groups that my children and myself have connected with, and I serve as a parent trustee at the primary school they attended. What has always impressed and inspired me is the willingness of people to give up their time and to share their expertise for the benefit of others. It's satisfying that I can be part of an organisation, group or club that benefits many. I make new friends, and I've come to realise that while we may not have all the necessary skills as individuals, we do have them between us, and together we make a skilled team. I think it's important that our children see us sharing our knowledge and skills and working together.

One of main reasons I was keen to support the Clutha Foundation is knowing that it is all about **our** district: the funding is from our local communities and will be used for the benefit of the people and children of those communities. I know what it is like to apply for grants and try to secure funding for events or projects, and I know how vital this funding can be. Another great thing about giving to the Clutha Foundation is knowing that the money I donate flows from the Foundation to community groups and projects and is not chewed up in administration. I'm happy to support the Foundation knowing that my donation will make a difference to people who are involved in our local groups and clubs.

My contribution is not that of a bequest (at least, not for some time I hope!) nor is it a lump sum donation as I am not in a position to do that either. Rather, I'm happy knowing that simply by donating via payroll, giving the cost of a cup of coffee, I am doing something that will benefit my community. I instantly get the rebate via the payroll giving process - it is no bother as once it's set up you don't have to

think about it, and all those small amounts add up and make a difference. Another special thing that struck me about the Clutha Foundation is that if you are in the position to make larger lump sum donations or bequests there is the opportunity to directly benefit your town or a cause that is special to you or your family through a private endowment. Perhaps when I win Lotto....

The aspirations I have for my community are to see groups and clubs continue to flourish for the benefit of current and future members. Time spent sharing the things we enjoy with others, or that our children and families enjoy, is a really important part of life. It's great for our young people to see the commitment others have made to keeping sporting and cultural groups alive. If being able to secure funding from the Clutha Foundation means groups can stay active, I feel like I've played a part in that.”

Thanks, Andrena, for all that you do for your local community and the clubs and organisations that are lucky enough to have you as a member. If anyone is interested in learning more about our Workplace Giving scheme, please get in touch. We would love to help you to help others.

PLAYING TO LEARN

We were very happy to be able to contribute to the Support Sport Programme run by the South Otago Kindergarten Association in Milton and Lawrence. Gillian Melvin from Milton Kindergarten has this to say: “Children and teachers say a big THANKS to the Clutha Foundation for the grant to enable the Milton Kindergarten children to continue accessing the Support Sport programme. Twice a week Paul Skipper, a personal trainer, runs a structured sports programme with our children. The benefits are amazing as the children learn to follow instructions, work together as a team and learn about leadership, with the added bonus that they also get to work with a positive male role model. Nothing better than learning life skills while having fun!”



CHANGING A NATION

Sir Stephen Tindall, founder of The Warehouse, was born in Auckland in 1951. In 1994, he and his wife Margaret set up the Tindall Foundation, a private philanthropic foundation working to build strong and resilient communities throughout Aotearoa New Zealand. Their work is driven by the belief that all Kiwis should have the chance to achieve their full potential and contribute to a healthy, strong and sustainable society.

One of the many initiatives of the Tindall Foundation is the Milestones programme for supporting the growth of community foundations. In April this year, we received funding from the Tindall Foundation as we passed the second Milestone in our journey and are now working towards Stage 3. The Milestone Programme is a wonderful example of catalytic philanthropy in action. By supporting the establishment and growth of the Clutha Foundation, the Tindall Foundation is able to help the Clutha District grow a resilient fund through the generosity of local donors that will be there to support our communities forever.

Stephen and Margaret Tindall have created a model for supporting community growth and resilience that will be a lasting legacy to their generosity and vision. You can read more about them and the work of the Tindall Foundation at www.tindall.org.nz

If a man be endowed with a generous mind, this is the best kind of nobility. *Plato*

SAFE TRAVELS

The Drive My Life (Clutha) team, led by Rachel Harrison, Road Safety Co-ordinator at Clutha District Council, has already run one successful course in February and is looking to run another later this year, helped by a grant from the Clutha Foundation. The February group of 12 students, with help and support from Clutha District Settlement Support, all successfully passed their Learner Licence Exam. The programme, already established in Gore and Invercargill, aims to support vulnerable people in the district to learn the necessary skills and knowledge to

obtain a full driver's licence and drive safely on our roads. Rachel is also looking for volunteers for the Driver Mentor Programme, which will be starting once they have sourced a vehicle.



YOUTH LEADS THE WAY

The driving force behind the Lawrence Skate Park is a group of Year 10 students who, after visiting the skate park in Kaitangata and writing to get the Clutha District Council on board, organised and hosted a community meeting from which a committee was formed and the project was born. The students wanted to create a space where teenagers, who have outgrown the playground, could congregate and be active, but also be safe and not create a nuisance. The committee hope that the skate park will be built by the end of 2020, and the Clutha Foundation are very pleased to have contributed to the project.

THE JOY OF GIVING

Altogether, in March 2020, we were able to support nine groups in the Clutha District, with grants from pass-through funding generously donated by the Otago Community Trust. As well as the four projects already written about, we were also proud to be able to contribute to the following:

- ☺ The Balclutha Parents Centre, towards the purchase of baby car capsules to replace their current ones whose safety guarantee has expired. These capsules are lent out to new parents and visiting relatives throughout the District.
- ☺ The Balclutha Gymnastics Club, towards the purchase of a new beat board for its younger members.
- ☺ The Country Saints Netball Club, which brings together the smaller schools of South Otago which have smaller rolls and would not have

sufficient numbers to form a netball team on their own.

- 😊 South West Otago Sports Activator Programme, which involves 20 schools in the region and has been running for over 10 years, providing exposure, development and links to community sport for children in rural schools facing barriers due to population and isolation.
- 😊 Project Bruce, which offers Fire Spinning as an activity which appeals to young people as it has an element of controlled risk which can channel energy in a constructive learning environment. It provides a way for youngsters to come together for an unusual and exciting activity to build confidence, self-control and motor skills.

A TRADITION OF KINDNESS

When the 1918 influenza pandemic hit New Zealand, around 9000 people died in just two months (globally, it is estimated that anywhere between 17 and 50 million people died from it). The health system here was completely overwhelmed. Looked at in that light, our lockdown decision, and our individual commitment and determination to make it work has undoubtedly saved hundreds if not thousands of lives.

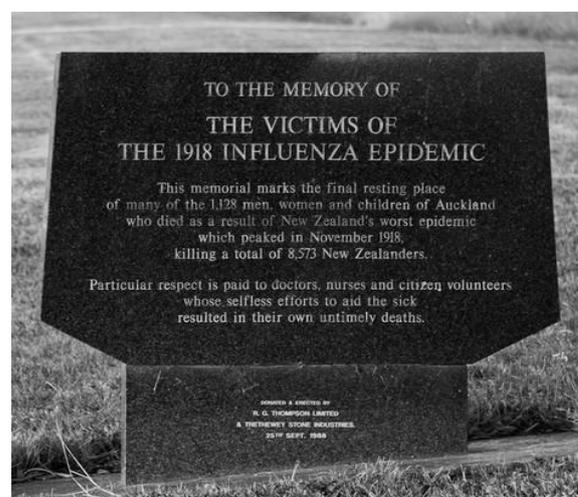
It is at times like these that we show our true colours, both as individuals and as a nation. In the 1918 epidemic, *"...women, free of employment when schools or shops closed, became lay nurses. Both men and women served on block committees, answering phones or checking on those reported to be ill. Still more people helped their families, friends and neighbours as best they could, particularly where young children needed care. People with a vehicle found themselves in particular demand: to take food or medicine to stricken families, to transport the sick, or to take away the dead for burial."* (<https://nzhistory.govt.nz/culture/1918-influenza-pandemic/response>)

This selflessness and community spirit has come to the fore again in the current Covid pandemic, with many examples of people stepping up and doing

what they can to help the more vulnerable members of their communities, from running foodbanks to delivering groceries and medicines, from home schooling to checking on neighbours. Compassion and determination are our strength. Ka pai everyone!

It is this generosity of spirit that empowers communities and builds resilience, and Community Foundations are wonderful examples of generosity in action. The Clutha Foundation is very new, and our community fund is in the early stages of growth. We are lucky to have been gifted pass through funding from the Otago Community Trust which enables us to be in a position to offer some support to our communities over the coming year. As our fund grows through the generosity of people in the Clutha District however, we will be able to do so much more. For examples of what a well-established Community Foundation can achieve, check out some examples from around the country: www.communityfoundations.org.nz

We aspire to grow in like manner to build a fund for the Clutha District that will support our communities for generations to come. We hope many of you will join us to make it happen.



If you would like someone from the Clutha Foundation to come and talk to you, your organisation or your workplace about what we do and the ways you can get involved, please contact Denise, our Executive Officer:

p: 0204 189 4868

e: denise@cluthafoundation.org.nz

w: www.cluthafoundation.org.nz