

Protecting, preserving & celebrating our heritage



Winter 2021



Rose hips – a rich source of vitamin C during the Second World War

ABOUT US

The Central Otago Heritage Trust, established in 2008, comprises member groups and organisations within the local heritage community. The role of the Trust is to represent the collective interests of these groups in protecting, preserving, and celebrating our unique heritage. It is governed by trustees nominated and elected by members.

The Trust is the founding organisation of **Heritage Central Otago** and all our community-based initiatives are represented under the Heritage Central Otago identity.

OUR TRUSTEES:

David Ritchie (Chair), Greg Bodeker, Russell Garbutt, Lynda Gray, John Kerr, Ross Naylor, Kristy Rusher & Graye Shattky. David Campbell (Council Representative).

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HERITAGE MATTERS

FROM THE CHAIR

The Council's draft long-term plan consultation and associated hearings concluded last month. Three out of the five proposals, on which the Council sought feedback, require heritage input at the decision-making and implementation stages. Our Trust was supportive of the key proposals in the LTP, but our strategic assessment from a heritage perspective concluded that Council is not presently equipped or resourced to address any heritage issues that may arise from these planned initiatives.



We understand that heritage matters within Council's District Plan are not scheduled for review until 2022. They were last reviewed in 2008. With these major projects on the table, we encouraged council to give priority to the review of some of the key sections which we highlighted in our submission being that of: Manawhenua, Heritage Precincts and Heritage Buildings Places, Sites Objects and Trees as per schedule 19.4 of the plan.

We think that heritage management in Central Otago is currently disadvantaged by the lack of in-house heritage planning expertise. In our submission on the LTP we strongly encouraged council to establish this capability within the Council's planning department.

Times have, and continue, to change. Individuals and communities now, more than ever, recognize that heritage is an important asset - whether it be artifacts in museums, restored early settlement buildings, or Māori customs and traditions. They contribute to the foundation of our distinctive regional character and are a valued resource, attracting new residents, businesses and visitors to the area. They contribute to the region's prosperity and well-being.

COHT acknowledges, and appreciates, the grant from Council, that has enabled us to employ a part time heritage coordinator. This has successfully fostered a more integrated and cohesive approach to identifying, preserving and celebrating Central Otago's heritage. However, we feel the time is right for Council to explore alternative and greater sources of heritage funding. This would recognize the economic benefit that heritage brings to the region. We advised that we would welcome the opportunity to work with Council in undertaking a detailed review and economic analysis of the value of heritage within Central Otago. This would identify what the benefits gained are by different sectors of the local economy and subsequently enable a fair and equitable approach to determining from where any further heritage funding should be derived.

District Museum Function

Working with our five Central Otago Museums, we put forward a joint submission on the LTP's four options for the District Museum Function. Together we proposed an alternative fifth option whereby an independent body, possibly a new Charitable Trust, be set up to coordinate this function.

All museums would be represented in this body, possibly with an independent chair. The body would operate in much the same way as our Trust and the Central Otago District Arts Trust (CODAT).

The benefits of this fifth alternative option to the district museum function are:

- a 'by museums for museums' perspective, giving the sector greater ownership of the strategy and creating a more collaborative and networking approach to the development and running of the museums.
- it would be a more cost-effective model than Council's in-house option with minimal overheads.
- it means Council does not have to be involved in the day-to-day business of the museums but still involved through participation of a member on the independent body and through regular reporting.

Over the last few months, the museum sector has engaged with Council staff with support from Otago Museum to develop a district museum sector strategy. Once finalized, this will be the guiding document for the proposed district museum coordination role.

All our museums recognize the value in greater collaboration and express a willingness to build upon a cohesive network approach for the greater benefit of the sector. This could include joint policy and exhibition development, and shared data collection platforms. But most importantly this would be balanced with strong individual museum identities that would continue to be community led and run.

As a result of our submission, Council has given the sector three months to pull together the model of how this alternative option will work. We are now working closely with our museums to make this happen.

David Ritchie, Central Otago Heritage Trust

ROSE HIPS TO THE RESCUE

In Central Otago you don't have to venture far to see the rambling thorny Sweet Briar rose bushes that produce fabulous displays of pink flowers in summer and bright orange-red rose hips in winter. Originally planted by settlers in the 1860s as an ornamental rose, Sweet Briar (*Rosa rubiginosa*) adapted alarmingly well to the continental climate and quickly became a pest plant throughout the region.



However, the tide turned in favour of Sweet Briar during the Second World War when there was a shortage of imported fruit, specifically vitamin C-rich oranges. Britain led the campaign to replace oranges with rose hips, claiming that the syrup made from the berries was 20 times richer in vitamin C than orange juice. The British Ministry of Health's proclaimed national 'Rose Hip Week' in 1941, urged volunteers to harvest 500 tons of rose hips "sufficient for the annual requirements for two and a half million children."

SUPPLIES OF

ROSE HIP SYRUP

Now Available

Rose Hip Syrup, the recognised substitute for fresh Orange Juice, contains 4 to 5 times the Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C) of fresh Orange Juice. It is, therefore, cheaper and just as effective.

Obtainable from Chemists and Grocers.

Manufactured by

W. GREGG & CO. LTD.

Pure Food Specialists,
FORTH STREET, DUNEDIN.

New Zealand swiftly followed suit. In 1943 Gregg & Co paid women and children to harvest wild rose hips in Southland and Otago for production of syrup and powder. The New Zealand appetite for the health-giving hip grew with teas brewed and bottled jams and jellies filling pantries throughout the country.

ROSE HIP BERRIES

WANTED TO PURCHASE IN ANY QUANTITY

We want to purchase Rose Hip Berries at 6d per lb. We pay freight. Write us immediately stating the quantity you are able to supply each week.

E. W. HALL & SON Ltd.
Medical Herbalists,
117 Armagh Street, Christchurch.

Central Otago Gazette, 15 May 1946

Evening Star, 16 Oct 1943

The New Zealand Plunket Association and the Red Cross Society encouraged mothers to make rose hip juice or syrup for their babies and children. The sugar laden recipes stating that "each pint of rose hip liquid requires $\frac{3}{4}$ pound of sugar" – would horrify today's mothers and dieticians.

The wartime rose hip industry was short-lived. By the late 1940s the demand for syrups and suchlike had waned in line with the resumption of imports and renewed availability of naturally sweet oranges.

But the vitamin and mineral rich berries have made a recent comeback, this time distilled for oil that is used in a range of skincare products. Today rose hip oil is used as a natural alternative for moisturizing skin, with claims of it being high in antioxidants and essential fatty acids. The comeback has led to an almost four-fold increase in the international rose hip oil price over the last five years.

If you feel inclined, harvest a bucket of hips when next rambling in the hills and make your own special brew of rose hip oil.

How to make rose hip oil

130 g wild rose hips
470 ml organic oil (e.g., almond or peach kernel)

- Bruise the rose hips using a mortar and pestle then combine with your chosen oil.
- Add the mixture to a slow cooker, making sure it is on the lowest setting. Gently heat the mixture for around eight hours.
- The rose hips will gradually infuse, turning the oil a rich orange colour.
- Strain your mixture through a sieve and then through a muslin cloth to remove the leftover pulp, leaving you with just the oil.
- Decant into dark-glass jars with a tight-fitting lid and store in the fridge.

SUGAR RATION

Sir,—I see "Housewife" proposes depriving babies of their sugar-ration on the grounds that they do not require it. I would have replied before this, but have been busy making Rose Hip syrup, a substitute for orange juice (often unprocurable), and essential to baby's health. Probably "Housewife" has no children and is unaware that each pint of Rose Hip liquid requires $\frac{3}{4}$ lb of sugar; and I have just used $\frac{7}{8}$ lb in making a sufficient quantity for my baby.—Yours, etc.,

LIVE AND LET LIVE.

March 27. 1945.

The Press, 27 March 1945

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We brought you the rosehip revolution way back when and we still make the smartest natural skincare out there.

Rich in essential fatty acids and proven to do skin a power of good.

Our own genius blend that works wonders on skin tone, elasticity and more.

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Three drops, twice a day, this bottle will keep you glowing for three months.

trilogy[®] Rosehip Oil Antioxidant

WHAT MAKES OURS THE SUPER OIL.

trilogyproducts.com

*Rose hips make a comeback
in the beauty industry*

MEET VINCENT PYKE

Pyke St, Dunstan Hospital's Vincent Ward, the Vincent Community Board are names we're familiar with but from whom did they originate?

Meet Vincent Pyke: draper, miner, politician, writer, explorer and nineteenth century go-getter. His legacy lives on through the prominent landmarks and place names that honour his 30-year involvement in the Dunstan region.

Vincent Pike was born in Somersetshire, England in 1827 and started his working life as a linen draper. He married Frances Elisabeth Renwick in 1847 and soon after changed the spelling of his surname, perhaps due to the predatory fish connection, from Pike to Pyke. The couple had five children - four sons and one daughter.

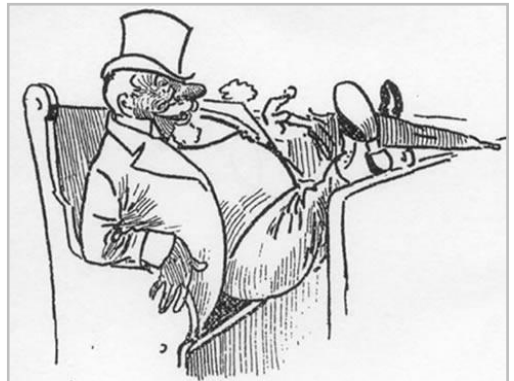
The prospect of gold lured the family in 1851 to Victoria, Australia. Vincent worked in the mines and earned enough to open a store in Forest Creek, Castlemaine. His mining interests kicked off a long career in politics.

It all started with his radical views and opposition to government mining policies. He was accused of being a communist, but nevertheless was elected in 1855 as a digger representative on the Castlemaine Legislative Council. However, the unpaid position left him unable to support his family. Pyke reluctantly resigned from office in 1857, sold his store and returned to England where he briefly took on the role as an immigration agent.

Down but not out, the family returned to Victoria. Pyke was re-elected to the Castlemaine Borough in 1859 where he served as Commissioner of Trade and Customs. He quickly rose through the ranks, becoming President of the Board of Land and Works.



Image courtesy of Hocken Library



*Caricature of MP Vincent Pyke
Pyke was caricatured by cartoonists as a portly man, with an umbrella and a swollen red nose – a reference to his fondness for alcohol.*

Pyke's New Zealand connection started following a business trip to Dunedin with an Australian parliamentary delegation in 1862. The family emigrated and not long after Pyke was appointed Secretary of the Goldfields Department by the Otago Provincial Government in Dunedin. That department was abolished in 1867, after which he was appointed warden and resident magistrate for the Dunstan and Tuapeka districts until 1873. His parliamentary career started when he became the elected representative for Wakatipu from 1873 until 1875, then Dunstan (1876 - 90) and Tuapeka (1893 - 94).

The Government set up a system of counties in 1876, inaugurating the Vincent County Council, named after and chaired by Pyke. The first Vincent County Council meeting was held in the Cromwell Courthouse in January 1877, but Clyde was confirmed as the new headquarters for the County office at the February meeting, a decision which caused an outcry among Cromwell locals. In protest, a group hung an effigy of Pyke from the town hall flagstaff, burned and flung it into the Clutha River, while the town's brass band played 'The Rogues March'.

Undeterred, and obviously thick skinned, Pyke constructed in 1878 an elegant stone building for the first Vincent County Chambers, on Blyth St in Clyde. This building was demolished in 1965 and the new building continued as the County headquarters until 1989 when Vincent County became part of the Central Otago District Council. Today the building is home to the Clyde Museum.

Pyke was a tireless advocate for two major issues - the Otago Central Railway and pastoral land leases. In the 1870s, he resolved disputes over possible routes of the proposed railway in favour of the Strath-Taieri route.

In the 1880s he established the Otago Central Land League to pressure government into effective subdivision of expired pastoral leases and fought to expose the alleged involvement of banks and loan companies in land speculation.

CROMWELL AND ITS COUNTY CHAIRMAN.

When it became known by wire on Saturday that Mr Vincent Pyke had given his casting vote in favor of Clyde as the headquarters of the County—notwithstanding his oft and strongly-implied intention to use his vote and influence on behalf of Cromwell—the public indignation at his conduct was most strongly aroused, and the member for Kawarau most unequivocally condemned. The detestation of his action found vent in the shape of an effigy, most grotesquely got up, and which was suspended by the neck in front of the town hall. The town bellman paraded the streets, giving forth proclamation of the sentence passed upon the culprit, and inviting the citizens to witness and take part in his ignominious punishment. At the appointed hour a band of music and assemblage of some hundreds of people congregated in front of the hall. The body was cut down, roped to a ladder, and dragged through the streets amid the hoots and jeers of the populace. On arriving at the bridge, a mock funeral oration was delivered, the band played a suitable dirge, and the execrated remains were tossed over the parapet amid universal groans. The figure shot gracefully the couple of hundred feet to the waters below, on whose bosom it sailed peacefully in the direction of Clyde. Such is a brief account of the proceedings, which, however foolish in themselves tend to show that the action of the County Chairman was contemptuously regarded by a deceived and disappointed people.

Evening Star 12 Feb. 1877

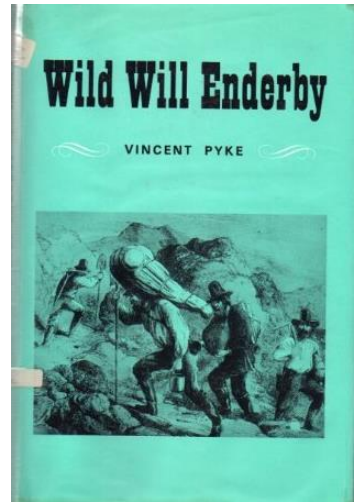
Outside politics, Pyke was an accomplished writer. In 1874 he started the ‘*Southern Mercury*’ newspaper in Dunedin and went on to edit the ‘*Guardian*’ and ‘*Dunedin Punch*’. His novels ‘*Wild Will Enderby*’ (1873) and ‘*The Adventures of George Washington Pratt*’ (1874) were published in Dunedin and Melbourne. He also wrote other fictional works as well as several gold-mining handbooks.

In 1865 Pyke led a pioneering expedition from Lake Wanaka to the West Coast, a feat acknowledged with public recognition in 1866.

He was a devout church goer, stepping in to take weekly services at the St Michael’s All Angels Church in Clyde when clergymen were difficult to find.

Strong minded and with strong views he was both admired and scorned for his foresight, stubbornness, bluntness and honesty. He had the unique ability to span the class divide, holding his own in government circles as well as the small mining and farming communities of Central Otago.

Pyke did not enjoy good health, but nevertheless lived a full life. He died in Lawrence on 4 June 1894 aged 67 and is buried at the Northern Cemetery in Dunedin. His wife Frances died in Clyde four years later and is interred at the Clyde Cemetery.



The contentious Vincent County Chambers, opened in 1879 and is now the site of the Clyde Museum (right).



The cornerstone of the Clyde Museum collection was started by Vincent Pyke in the 1870s.

References:

Clyde Museum Conservation Plan, CODC August 2018
 Dictionary of New Zealand Biography – Vincent Pyke
 Southern Heritage Trust – Northern Cemetery website

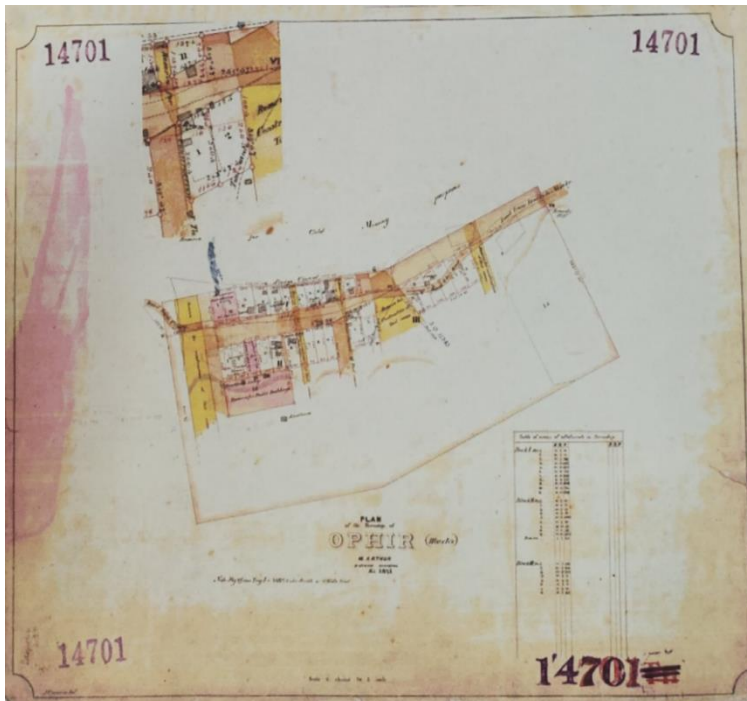
WHAT'S IN A NAME?

AWESOME IN OPHIR

This quaint little township was once one of the largest gold mining towns in New Zealand. Charles Black settled the area, securing the grazing rights to a huge area of land, building a homestead near the current town in 1858. The town was christened Blacks, in honour of its founder, but it was gold that brought the town a brief period of prosperity.

On 1 April 1863 mining began, seven months after the gold rush started near Cromwell. Blacks “afforded remunerative employment, for a time, to a considerable number of miners” (Pyke 1863). Within three months of opening, over 1000 men were working the Blacks’ diggings, yielding 34 kgs of gold.

The seemingly endless bounty led to the renaming in 1871 of Blacks to Ophir, a biblical port famous for its gold and riches. According to the Old Testament, King Solomon received a cargo of gold, silver, sandalwood, precious stones, ivory, apes and peacocks from Ophir, every three years. Finding the biblical Ophir obsessed many scholars and explorers, eager to settle the mystery and unearth lost treasures. Although mentioned in at least four books of the Bible, the location of Ophir still remains a mystery.



Ophir Town Map 1871

By the 1880s, Ophir was well served by a cluster of stores, hotels, banks, churches, a hospital, police station and school. When gold became scarce, miners turned to growing oats which were harvested and supplied to the Vincent Flour Mill in Omakau. The population dwindled further from 1906 when the railway line was routed through Omakau, bypassing Ophir.

Today Ophir is home to around 80 residents, and several thousand two-wheeling visitors who inevitably detour from the Otago Central Rail Trail to enjoy the hollyhocks and heritage buildings.

Today, the real treasures at Ophir are the remaining heritage buildings and structures. Two such sites still use the original name of the town: Blacks School, built in 1868 but now closed; and Blacks Hotel.

The Ophir Post Office, owned by Heritage New Zealand, is perhaps the most gracious landmark of them all. It was built in 1886 in a style reflecting the importance of government services to isolated communities, and still operates for limited periods during the week.



New Zealand's oldest working post office

More recently the name of this historic town has taken on a new meaning and spelling, as 'O-phir Awesome', with Pitches Store café staff proudly wearing this tagline.

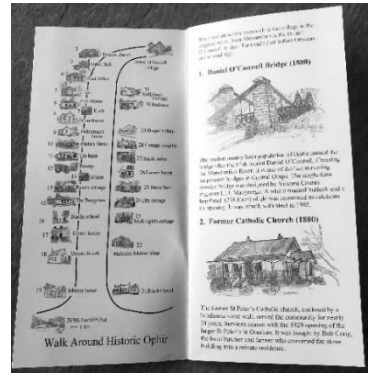


Image courtesy of Pitches Store, Ophir

TAKE A STROLL AROUND HISTORIC OPHIR

In recognition of the significant heritage buildings and structures in and around Ophir, the area has been designated as a 'Heritage Precinct' in the Central Otago District Plan, with 18 registered historic buildings and structures. Many of these are located on the main street.

Pick up a 'Walk Around Historic Ophir' brochure and take a look at some of these significant historic buildings.



Brochure produced by Promote Dunstan

COLD COMFORT

Ophir is often labelled the coldest town in New Zealand. On 3 July 1995, the temperature dipped to a frigid -21.6°C. However, Eweburn, near Ranfurly, takes the prize for the lowest-of-the-lows recording -25.6 in mid-July 1903.



TOP TALKS AT CROMWELL MUSEUM

Get the lowdown on water at “Low on H2O”, a presentation by Jo Wakelin of Cromwell Polytechnic on August 8, as part of the **Cromwell Museum’s Winter lecture series**.

Following on is “Nature’s Rainbow - discovering New Zealand’s exciting butterflies” a presentation by Wildland Consultants senior ecologist Brian Patrick on August 22.



TELLING OUR STORIES

NEXT STEPS FOR THE ORAL HISTORY PILOT PROJECT

It's almost two years since the Central Otago Heritage Trust received funding for a two-year Oral History Pilot Project. The goal was to set up a working model of producing oral histories to preserve and celebrate Central Otago's heritage.

The project has now successfully ticked off those first steps and, in the process, built strong ties with the National Oral History Association of New Zealand, the National Library and the Southland Oral History Project.



*Oral History Manager,
Carolyn Squires*

The Trust is committed to the continuation of the project. "We will maintain momentum in growing the oral history collection using the proven systems and processes developed in the pilot phase," Carolyn Squires, Oral History Manager says. "We also see a need to consolidate and catalogue the previously recorded oral histories held in private collections and museums across the district."

Despite Covid 19 restrictions and lockdowns, 28 oral histories have been completed by a committed volunteer team over the last 18 months on a diverse range of topics. A further 28 interviews are scheduled over the next 6 months.

More than 30 volunteers have completed the two-day training workshops on using internationally recognised standards and best practice to undertake the recording and abstraction of oral histories. These workshops have been over-subscribed with a current wait list for the next one. "It's an extraordinary achievement given the ongoing difficulties faced by the not-for-profit sector in recruiting volunteers," Carolyn says. Weekly drop-in sessions are held at Central Stories Museum and Art Gallery for ongoing guidance and support.

Although the oral history recordings are stored securely, with public access available at the Central Stories research room, there is not yet a suitable online repository from which the wider community can access these stories. Investigations are underway on a suitable, cost-effective digital memory repository that meets the needs of the Oral History programme as well as the Trust's MemoryBank.

"Our stories define who we are as a people and what it means to be part of this unique place we call 'Central'. These stories, once captured, become taonga for future generations," says Maggie Hope, the Central Otago Heritage Trust Coordinator.

"It was always our intention to apply for further funding, subject to the successful outcome of the pilot project. We are now preparing funding applications to make the next phase a reality."



Meet Catherine Little

In this oral history, Catherine recounts her time growing up in a Cardrona village in the 1940s, and later describes her training at Teachers College, Bible College and Deaconess College, after which she became a presbyterian minister in the upper Clutha where she served for many years.

Follow the QR code to listen to a segment of Catherine Little's story.



Central Otago Heritage Trust acknowledges the generous support from the following organisations for the Oral History Pilot Project.



Submissions are now open

Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement 2021

This policy document sets out how Otago Regional Council will achieve integrated management of the region's natural and physical resources.

The chapter on 'Historical and cultural values' includes guidance on 'Historic Heritage' that will be implemented in regional and district plan provisions as well as non-regulatory methods. You can find a copy of the RPS at www.orc.govt.nz (see pages 178 - 181).

Submissions close 3pm Friday 3 September 2021



PROTECTING OUR HERITAGE

MILLERS FLAT BAKEHOUSE TRUST - COMMUNITY CAN-DO

From eye-sore to look-at-me, the Millers Flat Bakehouse Museum is a much-admired focal point across the bridge leading into the Teviot Valley township.

But restoring the building was no quick-fix – it took 28 years to plan, fund and execute. It was a slow burn but ultimately a successful project thanks to the perseverance and support of the local community.

The story started back in 1991 when discussions were tabled about what to do with the old bakery and tearooms which were in a sad state of repair. The solution was obvious to locals Betty Adams and Paula Helm who, with community backing, formed the Millers Flat Bakehouse Trust to restore the not so welcoming and prominent landmark back to its former glory. However, as the project unfolded so too did a number of unanticipated roadblocks that the Trust became aware of on applying for a Central Lakes Trust (CLT) grant.

“There were issues around land ownership, consents for drainage because we had nowhere for wastewater to go, and access to power. It all took a long time to sort out,” explains Hilary McKenzie, Trust secretary and treasurer.

“We were able to resolve most issues with the purchase of a piece of land at a very reasonable price from Peter and Jane Graves who were neighbours on the south-side of the building.”

By this time, the grant originally applied for had lapsed, but CLT supported them in reapplying for a new grant.

“We’re very grateful to CLT for believing in our project and sticking with us.”



Opening day in October 2019 (Photo courtesy of Millers Flat Bakehouse Trust)

Additional funding came from the Otago Community Trust and the Lotteries Heritage & Environment Fund. The local community also went the extra mile fundraising around \$60,000 which included around \$35,000 from a cattle grazing and finishing scheme.

The building restoration was a staged three-year exercise, executed by Breen Construction and completed in 2018. The old but new building was officially opened during Labour Weekend 2019.

Since opening, a dedicated group of about 10 volunteers have taken on the management and operation of the building. They are rostered on throughout the summer to greet visitors.

“We’re a chatty lot and make the effort to engage with visitors. It’s amazing the connections that some of the visitors have with Central Otago,” Hilary says.



*The bakery has the oldest functional brick oven in NZ
(Photo courtesy of Millers Flat Bakehouse Trust)*

The monthly bread baking by bakers Rick Hunt and Geoff Peirce is the big drawcard. The century old ovens are thought to be the oldest working examples in the country. Trust members want to build on the wider heritage theme.

“We want to preserve this building but also make it a useful asset that’s relevant to the community and visitors, so it’s about finding the right balance.”

Hilary is a long-time member of the Millers Flat Bakehouse Trust and has words of wisdom for community groups considering similar heritage building restoration projects:

- Have a clear vision of what you want to achieve.
- Get a project manager, preferably with building experience.
- Ask lots of questions to those involved with the build - good communication and planning can save lots of money.
- Call in the experts. Te Papa provided the Trust with useful resources.
- Acknowledge the grants, donations and provision of goods and services no matter how big or small.
- Have a management and operational plan beyond restoration of the building which is relevant and inclusive of the local community.
- Think outside the box when problems arise, and...
- Don’t give up!

Go to www.bakehousemuseum.nz to find out more about the bakehouse restoration and its fascinating history.

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

OTAGO GOLDFIELDS HERITAGE TRUST



The **National Gold Panning Championship** in late April attracted the largest turnout in recent years.

There were many first-time participants taking part at Butlers Green, Arrowtown as part of the town's Autumn Festival weekend. The OGHT team, including Rex Johnson (Chair), Jeanette McKay and Robyn Lelievre were kept busy showing children and parents how to pan at the 'have-a-go' trough.

Adam Lind, a long-time participant in the event, took top honours winning the title of 'grand champion' for finding all the gold flakes in his bucket in the fastest time. The OGHT and Gold Panning sub-committee are currently in talks with the World Gold Panning organisation to see about the possibility of hosting the World Champs in 2025 or 2026. Watch this space!



*'Going for Gold' at the National Gold Panning Championship
Image supplied by OGHT*

The Heritage Site Review is picking up speed with more volunteers being trained to investigate their local areas. Clyde has been the recent focus, with our team spending a full week there in late June. If there are heritage sites that you believe our team should check out, or if you would like to participate in volunteer reviewer training, get in touch with Terry Davis on 021 284 684 or email terry@cavalcade.co.nz

The recent passing of one of our active members, John Douglas, saw the establishment up a memorial fund in his name. John’s family kindly donated \$1000 which was collected from funeral donations. We’re aiming to grow this fund through a biennial **Central Otago Postie Bike Rally** event, hopefully raising \$5,000 - \$10,000. This fundraising will be put towards signage, brochure printing and other restoration projects.

Postie Bikes are the older, small-powered motor bikes that were commonly used on town postal runs. The rally is the brainchild of new committee member John Wekking. On 13 November, participants will be set a 300km course around Central Otago back roads to interesting sites. Book your place now.



Looking for funding to kick-start a community heritage project? Not sure where to start?

Get along to a Funding Clinic to meet local funders to discuss your project.

Date	Time	Location
18 August	11am - 1pm	Alexandra Community House, Room A Alexandra
8 September	4:30pm - 5:30pm	Ranfurly Service Centre Ranfurly
9 September	2:30pm - 4:30pm	Central Lakes Trust Boardroom Cromwell
13 October	1pm - 3pm	Matakanui Rugby Clubrooms Omakau



Applications for contestable grants for Year 1 of the 2021 – 2031 Long term Plan are now open.

Promotions Grants

Promotions grants provide funding that helps meet community needs/desires for events or activities that enhance the experience of locals and visitors. Funding is targeted to attracting people to visit, stay, or reside in the area for the betterment of existing residents and ratepayers. These grants are funded from targeted rates in each ward. Applications are made to the Community Board in which area the project(s) occur, Cromwell, Vincent, Teviot or Maniototo.

Promotions grants will be assessed against the following purpose and criteria:

- Directly enhances experience
- Attracts and retains visitors
- Supports approved strategies and plans
- Delivers community outcomes
- Is well planned and defined
- Benefits are demonstrated clearly
- Costs are clear and reasonable
- Has broad economic benefit (not individual)
- The applicant shows organisational capability

Community Grants

Community grants support community-driven initiatives which enhance the well-being of residents. They fund projects which fall outside of the promotions criteria and demonstrate a clear connection to one or more aspects of community well-being (social, economic, environmental and cultural). Some examples of past successful applications include activities such as community hall operations and community planting projects. These grants are funded through ward and Council rates.

Community grants will be assessed against the following purpose and criteria:

- Enhances the well-being of residents and is community-driven
- Empowers local communities
- Supports approved strategies and plans
- Delivers community outcomes
- Is well planned and defined
- Clearly demonstrates broad community benefits (not individual)
- Has clear and reasonable costs
- Demonstrates the ability to become self-sustaining

Applications for both grants close on 1 August 2021.

Apply online – www.codc.govt.nz/services/funding-grants

ALEXANDRA MINERS VILLAGE & RIVERSIDE PARK TRUST

Green light for green space

The first stage of the Alexandra Riverside Park development is one of five community projects to receive funding in the recently adopted Central Otago District Council Long-term Plan (2021 - 31). The project, driven by COHT member group the Alexandra Miners Village & Riverside Park Trust, will receive \$650,000 over the first three years of the LTP to develop an easily accessed and safe community greenspace linking the southern end of Tarbert Street with the riverside.

Beyond the first stage, the intention is to develop heritage-related aspects, possibly celebrating Central Otago's rich goldmining history. The lower Tarbert Street area was once a camp site for Chinese goldminers and could be a logical place to acknowledge the contribution that these people and gold played in building the community. "The Trust will work closely with the Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust who will be conducting an archaeological investigation in this historic area to ensure developments safeguard sites of significance," Rory McLellan, AMVRP chair says.

Rory has been promoting the concept for more than a decade and says to get formalised and financial support from the CODC is a huge and welcome relief.



Concept plan for the Riverside Park development

HERITAGE IN THE NEWS

A round-up of news from around our region.

View the full stories on our website: www.heritagecentralotago.org.nz

Ex-army detective takes on conservation helm for Central

Otago Daily Times, 10 July 2021



Ex-army detective and public sector professional, Nikki Holmes moves into the role of Doc Central Otago Operations Manager. Mrs Holmes has begun meeting community groups and building relationships with iwi. "We have got the most heritage sites across New Zealand in any district, and when I say that, I am talking about colonial heritage with all the gold, but also all the iwi heritage, which we are discovering more and more of."

New Heritage Coordinator, Clutha District

Otago Daily Times, 30 June 2021



Tiffany Jenks took on the position as Heritage Co-ordinator for Clutha District Libraries in April. Her role is focussed on helping locals tell their own stories through digitisation of records, objects and oral history. Ms Jenks will be travelling the district over the next year to gather people's stories, photograph and catalogue documents and objects, and help communities do the same for themselves, to allow the project to continue into the future. These digital archives will be uploaded to a new website, enabling anybody to access them in perpetuity. Ms Jenks invites community groups, families and individuals with stories to share to contact her by email at tiffany.jenks@cluthadc.govt.nz.

Dredge tailings listed as category 1 historic place

Otago Daily Times, 23 June 2021



The moon-like landscape of the Earnscleugh Tailings near Alexandra has been named as a category 1 listed historic place by Heritage New Zealand. The scale of the dredging from the 1890s to 1963 was enormous, with huge machines churning through the river gravels, transforming the flat into an eerie landscape of tailings marking the path of the dredges.

St Bathans Post Office stands tall with category 1 heritage listing

The News, 17 June 2021



Designed by Public Works Department architect John Campbell in 1909, the St Bathans Post Office has gained a category 1 heritage listing in recognition of its outstanding and nationally significant interior. Heritage New Zealand assessment adviser, Sarah Gallagher, said the post office was a “rare and outstanding example of a Victorian Post Office with most of the public and private residential space largely intact. Elements of the building included period wallpapers, a lead bathroom floor, patterned glass and fire escapes.”

Three months to sway CODC over museum move

The News, 11 June 2021



The district’s museum sector now has three months to convince the council it can work together on a management model to co-ordinate museum activities. In the recent Long-term Plan hearings, Central Otago Heritage Trust chairman David Ritchie successfully convinced the Central Otago District Council to delay bringing museum management in-house in favour of the sector establishing a new independent museum body.

Knighted artist praises others

The News, 10 June 2021



Cambrian artist Sir Grahame Sydney was Central Otago’s knight to be named in this year’s Queen Birthday honors list. Sir Grahame said to be an “elderly man at the bottom of the South Island” and be recognised for art was humbling and showed a greater recognition of the pioneers in the arts who had not been recognised in the same manner in the past. Many of Sydney’s paintings capture the heritage buildings nestled within the quintessential Central Otago landscape.

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34 Sunderland St Clyde 9330
info@heritagecentralotago.org.nz
www.heritagecentralotago.org.nz