

HOSPICE NEWS

Otago Community Hospice Newsletter



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FEBRUARY 2025

CEO MESSAGE



GINNY GREEN
CEO Otago Community Hospice

Kia ora koutou,

And here we are in 2025. The 2020's are racing by and, as with most, OCH is facing constant change and needing the ability to quickly adapt to this rapidly evolving sector and wider environment. It feels timely to remind everyone what our patient services are and let you know what our skilled team does in your community.

OCH, with the support of the community and other health providers, deliver specialist palliative care throughout Otago. People that can access this care are patients or family members that have or are caring for someone with a terminal illness and have complex symptoms that they could use help with.

Hospice is not a building, it's a philosophy of care and a suite of services primarily provided in a person's home. So although you may not have a hospice unit or bed in your community, you still have access to 'hospice'. Hospice is where you are.

There are a range of services that a patient and their family can access and also a series of educational programmes for people working in the caring sector, both health professionals and informal family caregivers. These services are delivered by a specially trained team of clinical staff that include allied health and support staff.

- Assessment and ongoing care coordination and symptom management by nurses and doctors - at home
- Residential care team support
- Support for residential care providers
- Some hands on nursing cares
- Inpatient services
- Social work
- Spiritual care
- Counselling
- Biography
- Carer education
- Bereavement support

We continue to make a meaningful difference for so many patients and their families across the region, with your help. I hope you will continue to support our Hospice, ensuring our free, excellent palliative care service for all those who need it.

Ginny

COMING UP...

OTAGO HOSPICE ANNUAL STREET APPEAL 2025

On Friday 7th and Saturday 8th March a fabulous crew of hospice volunteers will line the streets of Otago shaking buckets and collecting donations on our behalf. All money donated in Otago stays in Otago and supports people faced with terminal illness.

If you have a spare hour to stand and collect donations for us, please email volunteer@otagohospice.co.nz to find out more.



HOSPICE EVENT BOMB

FARMERS CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

The 2024 Farmers Christmas Campaign raised a whopping \$37,375 for Otago Hospice and over 1 MILLION dollars was raised nationally! A HUGE thank you to the amazing staff at both the Oamaru and Dunedin stores - You are true ambassadors for hospice services and we're so proud to be part of such a giving community.

\$37,375



Ann Arthur, Dunedin Farmers Manager with staff.

DUNEDIN SOUTH ROTARY CHRISTMAS TRAILER RAFFLE

The Annual Dunedin South Rotary Christmas Trailer Raffle, sponsored by Mitre 10 Mega Dunedin, is on track to raise over \$36,000 (official total not quite tallied). Congratulations to the 2024 winners.

\$36,000



Hospice volunteer Mel (left) with Sandy (OCH House Coordinator) selling tickets at the Warehouse.

CHARITY CAR CRUISE

The 15th Otago Community Hospice Charity Cruise & Car Show raised a whopping \$12,200 - making it the most successful cruise yet! HUGE congratulations and thanks to Ken Schumacher who finally got his wish for a perfect sunny day, attracting a record breaking turnout of over 300 cars!

\$12,000



Ken and Amy (OCH Fundraising Coordinator)

RECORD NUMBERS AT WOMEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT

Over 100 women hit the course for The Edinburgh Realty Commercial Women's Golf Tournament for a fantastic day that raised over \$19,000.

\$19,000



Above: Shelley Duncan, Otago Golf Club General Manager, Amy Ruthven, OCH and Merrin Bath, Edinburgh Realty Commercial.

Left: Tournament Winners - the Disco Divots.



CENTRAL OTAGO DINNER CLUB

Following a highly entertaining & lively evening at The Packing Shed, \$50,000 was raised at the 2024 Central Otago Dinner Club – a new record! Special thanks to Pioneer Energy Group, Russell Garbutt, Peter Hishon – auctioneer extraordinaire, Jonathan Usher – our fabulous MC, local musician Libby Hamilton & The Packing Shed for their divine hospitality & food. Thank you to the many local businesses that supported this event, with special mention to Port Otago who donated a 20ft shipping container which sold for over \$5k at the auction.



"We Planted the Seeds" painted and donated by artist Julie Battisti.



\$50,000

AGT HOSPICE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Massive thank you to Kevin Galliven, aka Gully, and the Aotearoa Gaming Trust for another terrific golf tournament at St Clair Golf Club. Tournament No.18 raised over \$42,000, taking the total raised for hospice services to a WHOOPING \$750,000! An absolutely eye-popping amount. Thank you SO MUCH to everyone who year on year supports this fantastic event. Special mention to "Tiny" from Milton Butchery who sadly passed away suddenly just weeks after this event.

\$42,000



BNI BINGO BONANZA

\$14,500 raised at the BNI Bingo Bonanza held in September at the Green Island Rugby Football Club. Thank you SO much to everyone that came along for this fun night with Two Fat Ladies Bingo Mobile Fundraisers. So many amazing raffle prizes and excited winners thanks to our generous sponsors. Special thanks to BNI Aspire, BNI Dunedin City & BNI Larnach.

\$14,500



MORNINGTON TAPHOUSE CHARITY CAR RUN

Another fantastic day out and a whopping \$16,000 raised a with over 60 registrations – the biggest car run yet.

\$16,000



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Volunteer Appreciation

We couldn't do what we do without our volunteer crew.

2024 saw us celebrate the service of 43 valuable volunteers.

31 X 5 yr service

6 X 10 yr service

4 X 15 yr service



The Friday Ladies - 127 Vogel Street. From left Felicity, Eileen, Suzie, Glenys (10 years this year!) & Trish. They have been volunteering at our hospice shop for a combined total of 25 years!



Carmel (Damaru Hospice Shop Manager) and Hazel (left) celebrate 5yrs of volunteer service.



From left Ginny Green (OCH CEO) and reception volunteer Elaine Watson celebrate 5yrs of service.



Volunteer appreciation dinner at Otago Golf Club.

SNAP SHOT OF LAST YEAR

We looked after 1078 Patients

5.9% were under 55yrs
12.4% were between 55 - 64yrs
25% were between 65 - 74yrs
28.3% were between 75 -84yrs
28.4% were over 85

We supported 588 deaths:

84 in the IPU
98 in Hospital
161 at home
245 in Residential Care
The average number of patients at any one time was 262

36.4% of our patients have a non-cancer diagnosis
707 new referrals
139 IPU admissions
8733 phone calls to patients and whānau
We visited visits 4121 patients and whānau
We made 4086 family support contacts

NZ PODCAST AWARDS

ENDING LIFE WELL

A podcast series for carers

Huge congratulations to Denise van Aalst (OCH Kōwhai Coordinator), Dr Kathryn Mannix & Meg Townend (Editor) who won "Best Interview Podcast" at the NZ Podcast Awards for their work on Ep23 - Can We Talk? Opening Up Conversations About Dying.

THANK YOU – TRUSTS & GRANTS

ANZ Staff Foundation
Aotearoa Gaming Trust
Central Lakes Trust
DCC Community Grant
Dunedin Casino Charitable Trust
EMM Haynes Charitable Trust
Harcourts Foundation
John Lemon Charitable Trust
The Aurora Fund
The Bill and Clare Hodgson Sub-Trust
The Goodwill Charitable Trust
The Lion Foundation Trust