

# COMMUNITY CONNECT

JULY 2026



ANGLICANFAMILYCARE



Kia ora koutou,

This is my final message as General Manager of Anglican Family Care, as I finished in the role in the middle of June. While recruitment is underway, Quentin Blair has temporarily stepped down from the Board of Trustees to oversee the organisation until early August.

It has been a privilege to be part of the Anglican Family Care journey and to lead a team of passionate, highly-skilled kaimahi across Otago, who consistently demonstrate manaakitaka, kotahitaka, and a deep commitment to the whānau we serve.

The last two months have been particularly busy as the agency prepared and has undergone our Te Kāhui Kāhu Level 1 accreditation assessment in May. This has been very successful and we have retained our accreditation.

In May, we participated in a noho at Puketeraki Marae as part of our bicultural journey. This was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect, focus on whanaungatanga and as an agency on how we can be good partners under the Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This supports our ongoing work to partner well with whānau Māori and provide services that are respectful and responsive. Thank you to Puketeraki Marae for hosting us, Mere and Monty Montgomery, and Otago Community Trust for making this visit possible.

Also in May, we held our Dunedin Bingo fundraiser night, hosted by The Two Fat Ladies. It was a great evening full of lots of laughter and fun, and we thank everyone who came along to support our work. Your support helps us continue working alongside tamariki, rangatahi, and whānau.

Thank you once again for supporting the mahi of Anglican Family Care working alongside Otago whānau to support positive change and build hope for the future.

Ngā mihi nui,  
**Lynette Finnie**



## Walking alongside whānau: Learnings that brings our values to life

There's something powerful about stepping onto the marae together. In May, 28 of our kaimahi gathered at Puketeraki Marae for a noho experience, that was as much about connection as it was about learning.

From the pōwhiri that welcomed us onto the marae, to sharing kai, kōrero, waiata and even a service at Hui Te Rangiora, kaimahi were immersed in tikanga and the rhythms of marae life. Conversations with Professor John Broughton grounded us in the history of the whenua and its deep connections with the Anglican Church, while time spent in whakawhanaungatanga strengthened relationships across teams.



The heart of the noho was wānanga centred on He waka Kotahi, exploring how we live our values in practice. Through honest kōrero and shared “pearls of wisdom”, kaimahi reflected on what it means to work in the aroaro - the relational space where trust, safety and mana are shaped with whānau.

Since returning, we're seeing stronger connections across our teams and a lift in confidence using te reo and tikanga in everyday practice. Kaimahi are engaging more intentionally, building deeper, more respectful relationships and working alongside whānau in ways that reflect our shared values.

For tamariki and whānau, this means something simple but powerful: support that feels safer, more connected, and more respectful of who they are.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to kaumātua Mere and Monty Montgomery for their guidance and facilitation, and to The Otago Community Trust for their generous grant that made this noho possible.





## Ngā Mihi Nui

To our wonderful supporters, partners, donors, volunteers, and champions of whānau across Otago - thank you.

Because of your generosity, time, advocacy, and belief in what we do, Anglican Family Care can walk alongside tamariki, rangatahi, and whānau as they navigate challenge, change, and hope. Your support strengthens connections, builds belonging, and enhances mana, helping whānau feel seen, valued, and supported.

Every conversation you have about our work, every donation made, and every act of kindness shared contributes to our shared vision of strong, connected, and thriving whānau. We truly can't do this mahi without you.

A special thank you to the following Trusts and Foundations for their recent contributions:

### **Otago Community Trust**

- \$89,250 to support Central Otago Services, Home-based Family Support in Dunedin, and Oceans Grief and Loss Programme in North Otago, plus an additional \$10,000 towards the South Otago Oceans Pilot.

### **The Clutha Foundation**

- \$15,000 towards the Ocean Grief & Loss Pilot in South Otago.

### **Molly Fulton Family Trust**

- \$4,000 towards supporting our mission, as we work together with Otago whānau to make change that inspires hope for a better future.

**Your support helps us continue providing compassionate, practical, and responsive services to families throughout our community. Thank you for standing with us.**



## Ngā Mihi Nui

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Bingo Night in May! We had a great time!

We've run the numbers and we raised \$2,089 and sold 550 raffles!

Well done to everyone who won. This money will go directly to supporting our work with whānau in the Otago region.

See you at our next Bingo Night in Balclutha on 18 September!



### Thank you to the local businesses who donated our raffle prizes:

- Monarch Wildlife Cruises
- Ray White Dunedin
- Advantage Tyres
- Olveston Historic Home
- Royal Albatross Centre
- Kowhai Massage Studio
- Common Ground Coffee
- Trends

and to Green Island Rugby Club for providing staff for the bar.



Rose is pictured in the OAR studio during a guest spot on the What's News Dunedin radio show in 2025

## A Legacy of Care and Connection

This month we acknowledge and celebrate Rose Scott as she retires after many years of dedicated service with Anglican Family Care.

Before becoming a familiar and valued presence at AFC, Rose first stepped through the door in 2004 as a social work student on placement, beginning a journey that would span many years.

After time with Oranga Tamariki, she returned in 2020, bringing with her a depth of experience and a continued commitment to walking alongside whānau.

Working across both Care and Home-based Family Support, Rose has been known for her steady, values-led approach. Her practice has always centred on building genuine relationships, supporting whānau to find their own strength, and ensuring people feel heard and respected.

“The best work we can do with whānau and tamariki is to empower them to make the changes they identify they need.”

Feedback from whānau speaks strongly to her impact. Many describe feeling seen, supported, and guided without judgement. Her warmth and humour helped create safe spaces where people could be open about the challenges they were facing. Team Leader Tash shares “people felt heard. Seen. Supported and guided, not judged.”

Rose has also been a passionate advocate for caregivers, recognising the vital role they play in supporting tamariki and rangatahi. More recently, she stepped outside her comfort zone as the face of a Facebook Reels series *A Minute With Rose*, helping connect with the wider community and encourage others into this important mahi.

Throughout her time at AFC, Rose has embodied our values through her care, authenticity, and commitment to others. She leaves a lasting legacy in the lives of the whānau she has supported and the colleagues she has worked alongside.

We thank Rose sincerely for all she has given and wish her all the very best for what comes next.

Read the full story about Rose's contribution to Anglican Family Care on our website:

# Every Wave Starts With A Ripple



**OCEANS**  
Grief and Loss Programme

## Bringing OCEANS to South Otago - Together

For more than 10 years, the OCEANS Loss & Grief Programme has supported hundreds of tamariki, rangatahi and whānau in North Otago to better manage grief and loss. It provides practical tools and a safe space to help people navigate the changes that come with loss.

OCEANS is a trusted, well-established programme, run primarily by trained volunteers with the support of a coordinator. It focuses on building understanding, resilience and connection, so people feel more equipped and less alone. There is no cost to take part, ensuring it's accessible to those who need it.

We've heard clearly that South Otago whānau need this support closer to home. Many whānau currently have to travel for support, which can be costly and a real barrier to getting the help they need. Bringing OCEANS into the local community will make it easier for people to access the support they need, when they need it.

We're grateful to The Clutha Foundation and Otago Community Trust for their generous funding, which has helped get this work underway. To deliver the South Otago pilot, we now need further support for:

- Programme resources
- Recruiting and training local volunteers
- A suitable venue for delivery

We're inviting our community to get behind this kaupapa.

"OCEANS has been, and continues to be, a big light in my life that I will forever be grateful to for giving me the opportunity to be a part of the incredible healing space it offers and to experience myself grow within it."

an Oceans volunteer facilitator in North Otago

*Chantelle*

### How You Can Be Part of This

**DONATE**  
NOW

#### **Give**

Make a donation to help us reach our \$15,000 goal and deliver the South Otago pilot. Donations of any size will make a real difference.

Donate via our website  
[www.anglicanfamilycare.org.nz/donate](http://www.anglicanfamilycare.org.nz/donate)

**BINGO**  
FUNDRAISER

#### **Attend**

You can also support by attending our Bingo Fundraiser in Balclutha on 18 September, a fun community event that brings people together for a shared purpose. (see the below advertisement for details)

**GET**  
INVOLVED

#### **Get Involved**

We are also seeking people from South Otago who may feel called to be part of the OCEANS Programme. Volunteer facilitators will be supported with training and guidance as they walk alongside tamariki and whānau experiencing grief.

You can find an **Expressions of Interest** form under the **Support Us** tab on our website.

Together, we can strengthen the support available to South Otago whānau as they face grief and loss. Grief touches every life. No one should have to navigate it alone.

# BINGO

## FUNDRAISER

*Supporting Anglican Family Care  
OCEANS Grief and Loss Programme South Otago*

Hosted by Two Fat Ladies Bingo Mobile Fundraisers

**FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER**

DOORS OPEN 6.15PM, FIRST NUMBER CALLED 7.00PM

**\$20 PER BINGO BOOK CASH ONLY SALES**

food and beverages available for purchase  
raffles sold throughout the night

**Venue: Rosebank Lodge**  
265 Clyde Street, Balclutha



**OCEANS**  
Grief and Loss Programme

## Bingo Night Fundraiser

Gather your family, friends, and bingo-loving whānau for a night of fast paced fun, big laughs, and fabulous prizes in support of Anglican Family Care.

With prizes and support from local businesses, there is sure to be something for everyone.

All proceeds support Anglican Family Care bringing the Oceans Grief and Loss Programme to South Otago.



## Turn FUN into FUNdraising

Looking for a way to support Anglican Family Care that brings people together and creates a sense of joy and connection? Community-led fundraising is one of the most powerful (and enjoyable!) ways to support our services.

Here are some creative, whānau friendly FUNdraising ideas to spark your imagination:

### **High Tea with a Heart**

Host a workplace or friends and whānau high tea. Ask guests to dress up, share a plate, and make a donation in place of a ticket. A sprinkle of friendly competitions like best hat, best baking, best tea cup adds extra fun.

### **Music-a-thon or Dance Party Fundraiser**

Whether it's a lunchtime dance-off, a school music-a-thon, or a "request a song" fundraiser, music brings people together. Participants can be sponsored by song, hour, or playlist, and joy is guaranteed!

### **Raffle for Good**

Businesses often love to support raffles through donated prizes. A small effort can make a big impact. Think bake hampers, movie nights, local vouchers, or whānau friendly experiences.

### **Bake Sales & Shared Kai**

Never underestimate the power of kai. A bake sale at work, at school, or alongside a sports game builds connection while raising funds, and the conversations sparked can be just as valuable as the dollars.

### **Casual Day with a Cause**

Invite your workplace, school, or club to wear something fun or theme based for the day in exchange for a donation. Think Christmas jumpers, favourite sports team, or "dress as your younger self" day.

### **Get Active for Whānau**

A walk, run, swim, or bike challenge - solo or as a team - can raise both funds and awareness. Set a personal goal, bring people along, and share your journey.

### **Creative Challenges**

Art auctions, craft markets, knitting challenges, Lego build offs, quiz nights, the possibilities are endless. If it brings people together, it can be a fundraiser.

### **Every Effort Counts**

Whether your fundraiser raises \$50 or \$5,000, it contributes directly to supporting whānau in our community. Just as importantly, it strengthens connection, fosters shared purpose, and helps spread awareness of the vital work happening across Otago.

If you'd like ideas, resources, or support to get started, or if you'd like to let us know what you're planning, we'd love to hear from you. We're always happy to walk alongside you in your FUNdraising journey.

<https://www.anglicanfamilycare.org.nz/support-us>



## SUPPORTING WHĀNAU

across Otago since 1970



## WHERE TO FIND US

### Dunedin Office

📍 266 Hanover Street, Central Dunedin  
☎ 03 477 0801

### South Otago Office

📍 Te Pou Ō Mata-Au, 6 Clyde Street  
☎ 03 418 2530

### North Otago Office

📍 23 Coquet Street, Oamaru  
☎ 0800 FAM CARE ☎ 03 434 1011

### Central Otago | Queenstown Lakes Office

📍 Alexandra Community House  
14-20 Centennial Ave, Alexandra  
📍 Wanaka Community Hub,  
34 McDougall Street, Wanaka  
☎ 03 448 8228 (Alexandra)  
☎ 03 443 6623 (Wanaka)

## Where To Find Us

We have offices across Otago, from Ōamaru in North Otago to Balclutha in South Otago. You can also find us in Wānaka, Alexandra and Dunedin, or you can visit our digital home at [www.anglicanfamilycare.org.nz](http://www.anglicanfamilycare.org.nz)