



QUEENSTOWN TRAILS TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT

2020 / 21



**TOGETHER
WE CAN MAKE
QUEENSTOWN
A BETTER PLACE
TO LIVE, WALK &
RIDE.**



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Summary



OUR VISION

Inspiring Adventures, Connecting Communities

In 2025 our vision to create and maintain a world-class recreational trail network for walking and cycling will have been achieved and we will be recognised internationally for trails that connect our communities, encourage a healthy lifestyle and enable residents and visitors to enjoy a diversity of experiences that showcase our magnificent environment.

OBJECTIVES

The Queenstown Trails Strategic Plan "Queenstown Trails for the Future 2015-2025" identifies three goals that will drive a sustainable trail network and encourage more people to use it:

- * Develop a world-class trail network for residents and visitors
- * Increased use and stewardship of trails
- * Sustainable financing for the trails



MANAGEMENT



MARK WILLIAMS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
OFFICER



LOU VICENTE
EXECUTIVE OFFICER



WHITNEY WANOUS
MARKETING & PARTNERSHIPS
COORDINATOR

**DRIVING THE
TRUST WITH
BOUNDLESS
ENERGY AND
ENTHUSIASM.**

GOVERNANCE



Chairman's Report



As Chairman of the Queenstown Trails Trust it is my pleasure to provide this annual report.

The Queenstown Trails Trust is in good shape and growing.

OVERVIEW OF 2020/21

My first year as Chairman saw a seamless transition as I was hugely supported by our patron, the Trustees, and Mark Williams, our CEO.

The year certainly has flown by as we work to expand our network of trails. The positive attitude towards and appreciation of the trail network continues to grow, as can be seen in another great year of Friends of the Trust contributions.

The community was deeply saddened to lose patron Sir Eion Edgar in June of this year. He and his family had a significant impact on the creation, maintenance, and future direction of the Queenstown Trail. As part of his legacy, we received donations in excess of \$68,000 when his family asked people to donate to the Trust in his memory.

ACTIVITY

- Consent was granted for the Arrowtown to Arthurs Point extension link. A great success three years in the making!
- The Coronet Peak Loop trail is underway and due for completion in early 2022.
- The face of tourism is changing and we have engaged TRC to assist with a review of our strategic plan to see us through a post-Covid world and into regenerative tourism.

Mark will expand further on the trail activity in his CEO report.

MANAGEMENT

I want to acknowledge and thank our CEO, "Willy" Mark Williams, for his support during my first year. He continues to drive the QTT with boundless energy and enthusiasm. His service is hugely appreciated by the Trustees. Lou Vicente supports Willy in a part time role, and we have recently appointed Whitney Wanous in a full-time capacity as our Marketing & Partnership Coordinator.

Chairman's Report



GOVERNANCE

The 20/21 financial year saw;

A devoted trustee for 9 years and Deputy Chair, Lindsay Williams, has stepped down and we are currently recruiting two new trustees.

Following Geoff Owen's move out of the Wakatipu, we now have Lisa Nilsen and David Butt representing DOC at our board meetings in a stakeholder capacity, rather than as trustees.

I should also acknowledge the input from the other trustees;

Tony McQuilkin, Patron
 Andy Brinsley, Deputy Chairman
 John Edmonds
 Mark Townsley
 Warwick Goldsmith
 Sarena Glass
 Lindsay Williams
 Wendy Pannett
 Penny Clark, QLDC representative

Trustees contribute their respective competencies and time freely because they believe in the trails and see the community benefits.

SUPPORTERS OF QTT

The list is huge from:

- Friends of the Trust, Star Funders & Lifetime Members
- Philanthropists
- Corporate Partners
- Individuals
- Charitable Trusts and Community Trusts
- Central Government by way of MBIE
- Landowners
- Volunteers
- QLDC
- DOC



Chairman's Report



QTT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

This year marked the end of Lindsay Williams' service as a Trustee for nearly 9 years. A loyal and strong advocate for the trails, he was Deputy Chairman for a number of years. Whilst we won't see him around the board table going forward, I'm sure we'll see him out on the trails!



THANK YOU
LINDSAY



RIP SIR EION EDGAR

FAREWELL SIR EION EDGAR

And finally, we were deeply saddened to say farewell to our most generous and passionate supporter, our late patron, Sir Eion Edgar. Sir Eion's contribution to the Queenstown Trails Trust has been monumental.



CEO's Report

2021, another challenging year for the world, but also one full of promise for the trail network.

CHANGING TIMES

Whilst the pandemic is still shaping the world as we know it, the silver lining has been the unprecedented growth and recognition of the trails, coupled with the demand for bike purchase and hire.

As the region grapples with the downturn of international tourism, the trails have become a major attraction for locals and domestic tourists, encouraging them to get out and explore their own backyard.

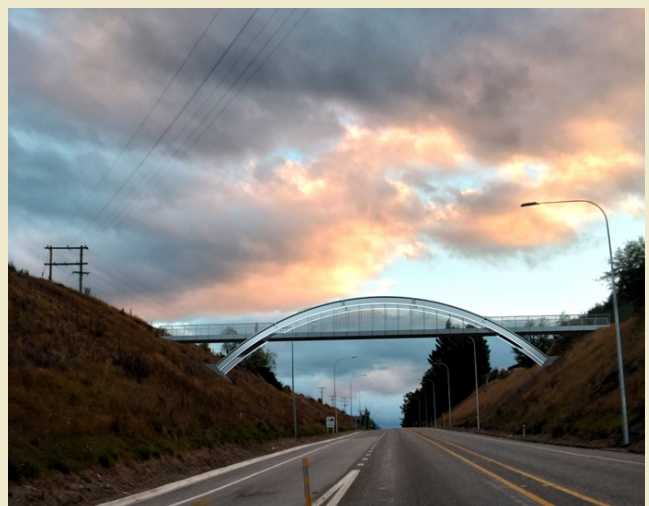
Destination Queenstown recognises the important role the trails play when people choose to visit or settle here and have embarked on a Biking Market Development Plan. This plan will support the region's goals of regenerative tourism, as cycle tourism slows people down, allowing them to connect more closely with the communities and cultural heritage of the area.

Through the review of the Otago Conservation Management Strategy with DOC, we were pleased to see many local groups and trusts come together and recognise that enhanced access can lead to improved conservation outcomes. We look forward to ongoing collaboration with them.

In recent years, the Trust's remit has expanded beyond the Great Ride as we seek to develop a truly integrated network from wide, shared commuter trails, to epic backcountry singletrack rides.

We continue to support the development of useful, integrated connections to the trail network and are fortunate to have groups like the Lightfoot Initiative fighting in the Active Transport corner. The legislative process when working across the various government agencies certainly presents it challenges, and we will continue to advocate for funding to be to be invested in a logical manner on connections that are not yet developed.

The Central Otago-Queenstown Trail Network Trust opened the Lake Dunstan Trail in May with fantastic numbers so far. Consent for the Kawarau Gorge Trail will be dependent on the outcome of the CMS review.



CEO's Report



TRAIL DEVELOPMENT & COLLABORATION

We are pleased to report that consent was granted and work will begin on the trail from Arrowtown to Arthurs Point this summer. We have begun a design to re-purpose the tunnel at Big Beach, and the bridge for Tucker Beach will follow once the Otago CMS decision is confirmed in early 2022.



We had a really successful collaboration with the QMTBC on the new Hot Rod track, with over 12,000 descents in the first 3 months of opening pre-winter! We have more projects in the pipeline in conjunction with QMTBC and are really stoked to keep that momentum building.



Our partnership with Soho Properties and QEII goes from strength to strength, with fantastic progress on the Coronet Loop Trail, expected to open in 2022. As part of the Loop, we embarked on a Bush Creek Trail upgrade and have begun to develop a plan to restore the Raceman's Hut chimney on the Coronet Face Water Race.



You may have seen some fantastic interpretive panels recently installed around the district. Many thanks to Marion and the Queenstown Historical Society for bringing the stories of the region's first settlers to life along the trails.



CEO's Report



TRAIL MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS

Extreme weather events seem to be on the rise due to climate change, and these storms have impacted more trails this year. Christine's Hill got a much needed overhaul following major scour damage in July last year. The Millennium Trail bridge over the Arrow River also required a major footing rebuild.

We are indebted to MBIE for their 'Extreme Event' fund which enables us to apply for funding to get these weather damaged sections fixed as soon as possible. We truly value the partnership we have with the QLDC Parks and Reserves Team who assist in completing repairs.

In addition to the major repairs, we focused on a few minor slumps and retaining walls. We also resurfaced a particularly tired section of the Twin Rivers Trail between the Old Lower Shotover Bridge and Old School Rd.

Council supports the Trust with an annual administration grant, which provides a return on investment through QTT's ability to leverage MBIE co-funding for significant trail projects and trail manager support. This year we were able to access over \$225,000 towards trail maintenance projects.



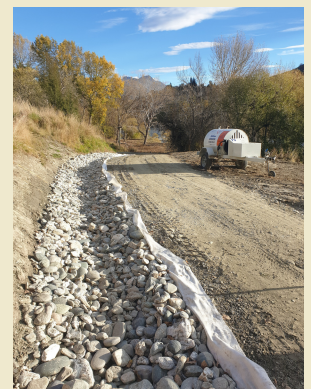
CHRISTINE'S HILL



ARROW RIVER BRIDGES TRAIL



OLD SCHOOL ROAD



CEO's Report



FRIENDS OF THE TRUST

The growing recognition and appreciation of our trail network from the community is a heartening reward for the trust's ongoing financial stability. We owe thanks to trail users for another year of incredible support, with our Friends of the Trust database surpassing 500 members. Donations reached nearly \$149,000. of which \$68,000 can be attributed to donations made in memory of our late patron, Sir Eion Edgar.

Special thanks must also go to our new lifetime members Helen and Barry Pannett, and Peter Thompson.

CORPORATE SPONSORS, DONORS & PARTNERS

Special thanks also to our corporate sponsors Pak'N'Save Queenstown and SkyCity Queenstown, as well as the Morgridge Family Foundation, all of whom have made significant contributions to maintaining the world-class status of the Queenstown Trail network.

We would also like to acknowledge a few people and organisations for their ongoing support, whether it be for one-off projects, or as an official partner. Thank you to Heartland Ricoh, Anderson Lloyd, Kennards Hire, Richardson Plumbing, Helibike NZ, and Heliworks.

Thanks also to the numerous consultants and trail building contractors who tirelessly support us and the development of our trail network. The ongoing guidance of project manager Giulio Chapman-Olla from Southern Civil Consulting on the expansion project has been invaluable.

And of course, we mustn't forget our most generous landowners for their support and recognising the benefit of the trails to the community.

OUR EVENT PARTNERS

We are grateful for the continued support of our event partners, Ironman and Motatapu Events Ltd. Even during tough times for the event sector, they have done us proud and provided event donations at the point of entry, even when the Motatapu didn't go ahead in 2021. We owe a huge thanks to the event organisers, as well as all the volunteers who support these events. Our local community of volunteers are instrumental in the successful staging of these events, which in turn allows the Trust to benefit.

Thank you!

TRAIL USAGE 2020 / 21

783
DAILY AVERAGE
USER

-19%

285,858

TRAIL USERS



50.3%

CYCLISTS



49.7%

PEDESTRIANS



The Queenstown Trail Network saw 285,858 users hit the Great Ride, which equates to nearly 1.1m journeys across the network during the 2020/21 period. Whilst we saw significant growth in the 2019/20 year, the decline in current numbers reflects a pre-Covid average usage without international visitors.

Financials 2020/21



Summary Statement of Financial Performance 1 July 2020 to 30th June 2021

	30 Jun 21	30 Jun 20
Income		
Grants, Fundraising & Sundry:		
Friends Subscriptions	\$ 148,550	\$ 93,736
General Qtn Trail Donations	\$ 60,464	\$ 23,232
Interest Received	\$ 7,319	\$ 16,534
NZ Cycleway Grant	\$ 224,775	\$ 85,482
Official Partners Programme	\$ 6,148	\$ 11,448
QLDC Admin Grant	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
QLDC Co-Funding Grant	\$ 77,017	\$ -
Gain on sale of Assets	\$ 3,078	\$ -
QTT Map Sales	\$ 335	\$ 414
Total Grants, Fundraising & Sundry	\$ 602,685	\$ 305,846
Event Revenue		
MOT Donation - Ironman	\$ -	\$ 28,236
MOT Donation - Motatapu Events	\$ 4,685	\$ -
QT Marathon Donation - Ironman	\$ 38,065	\$ 39,115
The Pioneer Donation - Ironman	\$ -	\$ 3,700
Total Event Revenue	\$ 42,750	\$ 71,051
Total Income	\$ 645,435	\$ 376,897
Trail Planning, Development & Maintenance		
Consulting Fees	\$ 162,807	\$ 97,790
Coronet Peak Loop	\$ 35,806	\$ 43,339
Lower Shotover Trail	\$ 866	\$ -
Signage	\$ 11,852	\$ 2,304
Track Maintenance	\$ 236,104	\$ 43,669
Total Track Development & Maintenance	\$ 447,436	\$ 187,102
Administration/ Overheads & Marketing	\$ 53,279	\$ 55,627
Staffing & Contractor Costs	\$ 191,965	\$ 168,139
Depreciation & Non Cash expenses	\$ 6,540	\$ 10,244
Total Expenses	\$ 699,220	\$ 421,112
Net Profit/ (Loss)	-\$ 53,784	-\$ 44,215

Financials 2020/21



Summary Statement of Financial Position As at 30th June 2021

	30 Jun 2021	30 Jun 2020
Assets		
Bank		
Qt Trails Trust ANZ 02 Current	\$ 88,076	\$ 32,817
Qt Trails Trust ANZ 03 Call	\$ 22,378	\$ 200,983
Visa Business Credit Card	-\$ 43	-\$ 642
Total Bank	\$ 110,411	\$ 233,158
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	\$ 92,077	\$ 32,893
Undeposited Credit Card Receipts	\$ 4,104	\$ 232
GST Control Account	\$ 9,654	\$ 3,172
Inventory	\$ 2,692	\$ 4,875
Term Deposits	\$ 353,549	\$ 421,499
Work in Progress to be reimbursed	\$ -	\$ -
Total Current Assets	\$ 462,075	\$ 462,671
Fixed Assets & Investments		
Fixed Assets	\$ 15,719	\$ 17,286
Wakatipu Community Foundation Endowment	\$ 100,000	\$ 25,000
Total Fixed Assets & Investments	\$ 115,719	\$ 42,286
Total Assets	\$ 688,206	\$ 738,115
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 46,068	\$ 54,182
Retentions Payable	\$ 11,989	\$ -
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 58,057	\$ 54,182
Total Liabilities	\$ 58,057	\$ 54,182
Net Assets	\$ 630,148	\$ 683,933
Equity		
Accumulated Funds	\$ 683,933	\$ 728,148
Current Year Earnings	-\$ 53,784	-\$ 44,215
Total Equity	\$ 630,148	\$ 683,933

SUMMARY

ALL SYSTEMS GO!

\$645,435

Total income raised
through grants,
fundraising & events

3k

Ave. daily trail
journeys taken
across the network

21

The number of
landowner easement
negotiations

OUR IMPACT

All of our planning from the past couple years has paid off with multiple key achievements under our belt this year.

The biggest successes were gaining consent for the Queenstown Trail extension from Arrowtown to Tuckers Beach and continuing work on the Coronet Loop and upgrades to Bush Creek. The opening of the Hot Rod trail strengthened our collaborative relationship with QMTBC. Our input on the partial review of the Otago Conservation Management Strategy, will drive further opportunities for great conservation outcomes through enhanced access.



**TOGETHER, WE CAN
MAKE QUEENSTOWN A
BETTER PLACE TO
LIVE, WALK & RIDE.**