

Photo highlights of Orientation 2017



Many of us remember Orientation Week fondly and "O-Week" continues to be both an exciting rite of passage for those new to Otago, and a reintroduction to campus life for returning students.

Orientation provides a great opportunity for students to form friendships before the academic year begins.

OUSA Event Manager Dan Hendra says the mass arrival of students for O-Week transforms the city from "ghost town" to "bustling metropolis" overnight.

"Students love to have a great time, and what we have managed to provide with our events this year worked extremely well. The electricity and great vibes given by students to campus were incredible - they partied like it was 1999, went home exhausted ... and then repeated it again the next day!"

We salute them, support them, and help them to enjoy the golden days of youth in a fun, safe and wondrous environment."

Check out our photo gallery below and OUSA's three fun one-minute videos:



The Convocation ceremony, held at Forsyth Barr Stadium, marked the start of O-Week; nearly 4,000 first-year students were welcomed by Vice-Chancellor Professor Harlene Hayne and Dunedin Mayor Dave Cull. Governor-General Dame Patsy Reddy also offered words of inspiration.



Above: Aquinas College Inter-College Sports Day team. Inter-college rivalries, some more than a century old, were played out on the sports field at the Inter-College Sports Day. This year students from the 15 colleges, the Locals programme, and University Flats all battled it out during the friendly competition.



The weather came to the party and first-year students donned sheets for this year's OUSA Toga Party. Traditionalists opted for white, but others were swathed in dusty greys, blushing beige and even lavender florals.



About 3,500 sheet-clad students partied at Forsyth Barr Stadium. Student volunteers kept the revellers hydrated. Above right: Dunedin band The Shambles.



The International Food Festival, held on the Otago Museum Reserve, has become a feature of O-Week in recent years.



Six60 returned to Dunedin to lift the roof off the Forsyth Barr Stadium.



Above: Aquinas College students picking up rubbish at Otago Harbour.

Throughout the week 800 first-year students volunteered in community organisations across Dunedin and put in more than 2,000 volunteer hours helping out at op shops, clearing weeds, tidying school play areas, pinning poppies, painting and with other projects organised in conjunction with the University Volunteer Centre. During O-Week more than 100 student volunteers ensured the event ran smoothly - Orientation would not be a success without the volunteers who make it happen.



Above: An introductory scene in OUSA's entertaining one-minute video about Orientation 2017.

Watch Episode 1: A Barren Wasteland here (1 min 6 secs)

Check out Episode 2 and Episode 3 below



Above: A scene from Episode 2: The Roar

Watch Episode 2 here (1 min 19 secs)



Above: A scene in Ori '17 - Episode 3: Something Extraordinary

Watch Episode 3: Something Extraordinary here (1 min 8 secs)