

Diverse initiatives for this year's Annual Appeal

Monday 17 December 2018

Initiatives in medical research, marine studies and cancer rehabilitation join student scholarships and a new home for Music, Theatre and Performing Arts as the focus of this year's annual fundraising appeal.

"The five projects are a big part of our 150th anniversary celebrations, and each one is destined to have a real impact on our society," says Director of Development and Alumni Relations Shelagh Murray.

Ms Murray says the success of the appeal relies on the many small donations that alumni, friends and donors provide.

"It's a fantastic opportunity to honour the achievements of the past, by supporting our ambitions for tomorrow. Every donation made will make a difference."

[Donate](#)

Alumni Student Scholarships

Every year hundreds of gifted students apply for scholarships at Otago. For some, this is their only chance to overcome the hardship and barriers associated with attending university. Scholarship donations will allow a student to study and receive support in their University life.



Music, Theatre and Performing Arts Facility

Otago University has committed to a \$26m project to construct a new Recording Studio building and refurbish existing buildings to provide a purpose-built, state-of-the-art Music, Theatre and Performing Arts Facility with multi-use recording and performance spaces which will be available for students and the local community.

The goal of the new facility is “to have an international reputation for innovation and excellence in teaching, research, performance, and performance-as-research in the fields of Music, Theatre Studies and Performing Arts.”



Marine Studies, Replacement Research Catamaran

Our research and teaching vessel the RV Polaris II needs replacing as research challenges and teaching needs grow. There has never been a more important time for marine research. Our researchers require greater technical capability and our teaching requires on-the-water training across of range of environments with improved technologies. As such we are working towards building a fund to replace the Polaris II with a new 31.8m catamaran research vessel, and help support its operating costs.



EXPINKT™ - Cancer Rehabilitation Programme

Exercise provides valuable support for cancer patients and survivors through their treatment and helps them cope with related side effects. The EXPINKT™ Gym is a NZ one-of-a-kind private gym for cancer survivors of all ages and ethnicities to come together, take comfort, and rehabilitate from primary clinical treatment.



Clients are given individualised and carefully supervised training for 6-12 months before 'graduating' to group classes. Significant improvements in fitness, muscular strength, and

quality of life have been observed. Today the gym sees 120 EXPINKT™ Gym members participating each week, some twice a week. There is nowhere in New Zealand that provides the type of support offered at Otago's EXPINKT™ Gym. Your support will ensure this valuable programme continues to be of service to our community for the next three years.

Blood Test to Detect Alzheimer's

With improved healthcare and better nutrition people are living longer and enjoying healthier lives. Yet with longer life comes an increased risk of Alzheimer's disease. This disabling condition requires better means of early detection, so therapies can commence earlier – a recent discovery by the Brain Health Research Centre may address this.

