

**UPPER CLUTHA HOSPICE TRUST BOARD HANDS KEYS OF SHOPS TO
THE OTAGO COMMUNITY HOSPICE**

Photo – L to R: Ginny Green, CEO Otago Hospice Trust, Ross Parry, Trustee Upper Clutha Hospice Trust Board, Russell McGeorge, Chairman Upper Clutha Hospice Trust Board, Jill Milward, Retail Manager Upper Clutha Hospice Trust Board,

The Upper Clutha Hospice Trust Board (UCHTB) have decided to rationalise the Trust's activities by transferring the Trust's retailing operations to the Otago Community Hospice (OCH).

Chairman Russell McGeorge commented that "Our Trust is very happy to be further integrating its work with that of the OCH by passing on our retailing operation to the OCH to directly fund the OCH's services in the Upper Clutha. Our shops, which have generated amazing revenue to support people with a terminal illness in the Upper Clutha, will be transferred to the OCH from the 1st of June."

This handing over of the keys simply means the OCH will operate the hospice shops in Wanaka to directly fund their services, while the UCHTB will continue to fund the Stina Mooyman Palliative and Respite Care Suite and support patients in the community in difficult financial circumstances. "The UCHTB has received exceptional community support since its inception, and has built up significant financial reserves, that in the Trustees opinion, are now sufficient to hand over the reins of the shops to the OCH," said Chairman Russell McGeorge.

There will be no change to the excellent palliative care and support that both entities deliver in the Upper Clutha.

The Upper Clutha Hospice Trust Board (UCHTB) was established in Wanaka in 2013 by a group of residents who considered that the Upper Clutha's relative remoteness from Dunedin, made a local palliative and respite care suite a desirable local facility. The UCHTB established retail shops in Wanaka to generate operating funds to supplement the very generous donations received to set up and operate the Trust's Stina Mooyman Palliative and Respite Care Suite.

The OCH is the hospice provider throughout Otago and deliver the full range of specialist palliative care services to patients experiencing complex symptoms in the Upper Clutha area. Ginny Green, Chief Executive of the Hospice said "We are extremely grateful for the financial support we have received annually over the years from both the UCHT and the community at large and are very excited about working with the incredible shop team in Wanaka."

End

For additional information:

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