

December 2018

ACROSS *the* LINES

Great progress in 2018



Jason Franklin

2018 has been another great year for PowerNet. We have continued to improve and have made real progress on many fronts, something our staff can all be truly proud of.

Across our networks we've been steadily working in ways that support our company vision - bringing safe, efficient and reliable power to our communities.

This year has been one of solid development, productivity and continuous improvement. Our priorities to strengthen health and safety, enhance our business processes and explore future growth opportunities continue to be underpinned by our goal to deliver the best possible service to our customers while adding value for our shareholders.

On the OtagoNet network, significant work is underway to achieve a step change improvement in network reliability. The pole replacement work, along with the distribution automation approved in this year's Asset Management Plan, will go a long way to deliver this. Further work is planned over the summer, including the installation of a new 33kV direct-buried cable through the Clydevale Valley. This project follows on from what we learnt with the direct-buried 22kV cable extending the Queenstown network out to the large Hanley's Farm development in January 2018. Installing cabling underground brings advantages in safety, reliability and cost. Where possible, it is something we'll be doing more of in both rural and urban areas.

The Mataura Valley Milk dairy nutrition plant represents a significant new customer on The Power Company Ltd network. It has brought increased energy expansion for Eastern Southland as the network has been extended to secure and future-proof the plant's electricity supply. Delivering this \$4.5 million project to a high quality has been a major success for PowerNet. Congratulations to all involved with this milestone project.



Mataura Valley Milk Plant.

In the Queenstown area, rapid growth means the network is expanding beyond our expectations. Our team has continued to work hard in this region to meet the demands that this fast-paced growth brings. Also of significance this year was the rebranding of Peak Power Services to PowerNet Central.

On the Electricity Invercargill Ltd network, we are in the final stages of completing and improving network resilience and safety. This involves relocating aged, underground substations and in ground link boxes to above ground. This work is a major step forward for Invercargill Central Business District (CBD). It establishes the safe, modern infrastructure needed to prepare PowerNet to meet the needs of the upcoming inner-city redevelopment. For our team, the upgrades also create a much safer working environment. We embarked on the improvements in Invercargill CBD three years ago and it is great to see the end in sight for these important projects.

As with any organisation, this year there has been comings and goings. In October, we said farewell to chief information officer Tim Brown. Tim joined PowerNet in 2012 as GM corporate services at a time of significant change with the amalgamation and integration of various companies into the business. Since then Tim played a significant role in shaping the business and made a real difference. We thank him for his contribution and wish him well.

Rachael Watt has taken on the new, expanded role of GM business support & improvement. This sees Rachael's portfolio expand to include the quality function from HSEQ, IT and infrastructure and administration, as well as her existing business improvement.

In September Roger Paterson left PowerNet after 38 years of service. Roger served as chief engineer since 2009. We wish Roger all the best for his future and thank him for his significant contribution to the company.

Also in September, we welcomed Kavi Singh to a newly developed role: GM new energy development & strategy. This critical role demonstrates our commitment to developing expertise in new and changing technologies. Kavi joins us from ABB Group in the UK where he led a team delivering new technology energy solutions for customers in the European and Asian markets.

Justin Peterson GM HSEQ is currently transitioning into another newly created role GM business growth. This is a strategically exciting role for us and will help develop and take advantage of work opportunities beyond our networks. Whilst we recruit for a new GM HSEQ Justin will ensure we continue the great work we are doing in the area of workplace safety, critical risk management and controls. Justin has set the course for this very important work which is developing well as we implement safer work practices to the business.

I'm proud of the successes of our people again in 2018, particularly the achievements of our teams and individual staff in this year's Connexis competitions. They achieved fantastic results which are a credit to their skills, knowledge and dedication, as well as team managers and staff who supported them. Competition results are detailed on page 2.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your contributions to PowerNet in 2018. Your fantastic team work, professionalism, enthusiasm and commitment to delivering high-quality results is what drives our successes. I am proud of what we've all achieved. I wish you a happy, safe and relaxed Christmas holiday season and best wishes for 2019.



Jason Franklin
Chief Executive

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PowerNet matches it with the best in the country

PowerNet took out eight awards at this year's 2018 Annual Connection competition held in Christchurch in early October.

Two line mechanic teams entered the competition and both brought home wins. Team Circuit was the overall runner-up in the line mechanic competition and won the first aid award. Team Breaker won the low voltage install section.

Cable jointer Paul Barclay was placed third overall in the Cable Jointer of the Year award. He also won three individual event awards; first-aid, spike gun and LV joint.

Field training officer Joseph Reti won the 2018 Investing in Youth and Training and Development award. Trainee line mechanic Samantha Maurangi was a finalist for the Distribution Trainee of the Year award.

"We're really proud of our staff and what they've achieved. It's terrific to see PowerNet right up there with the best in the country. These are fantastic results for our talented staff and a credit to their skills, knowledge and dedication. They all worked hard to put in the preparation before this highly competitive event," says PowerNet chief executive Jason Franklin.

Chief operating officer, Michelle Henderson, is also proud of the successes achieved.

"Our teams were selected from across multiple depots and worked exceptionally well together, each actively contributing to the great results. PowerNet was well-represented at the awards night and it was great to be involved and share in our successes."



PowerNet's cable jointer Paul Barclay.



Team Breaker: Mike Johnson (manager), Michael Blair, Joel Lee, Gary Stead (Gough Palfinger), Warren Dobson and Sam Maurangi.



PowerNet's Team Circuit: Roy Duffin (manager), Guy Holden, Jackson Unahi, Trevor Laughton (Tait Communications), Paul Ashby and Shane Lawson.

A great opportunity to learn from others

Seeing how other electricity management companies operate and learning more about different safety practices in day-to-day work is one of the great opportunities that competing in the Connexis competition offers, says training & assessment team leader, Joe Reti.

Joe was instrumental in preparing PowerNet's teams for the competition including organising some complex, real life scenarios to practice on.

"Another big plus is the opportunity to learn from others inside our organisation. One of the beauties of this competition is that our teams are drawn from different depots and parts of our organisation, so we all get to learn a bit more from each other."

Team Circuit team leader, Shane Lawson, says the camaraderie amongst the teams as they compete and between PowerNet's two teams when training for the event is also an important factor.

"It's great to have two PowerNet teams entered as it means you can develop ideas together. I really commend Warren Dobson for doing an outstanding job leading Team Breaker in his first go at the competition, and Joe for trying his best to get us ready to go," Shane says.

"It's a challenge bringing together a team that doesn't usually work together in a short time, but it can also be very rewarding. In particular, we were really stoked to win the first-aid event, as this is something we worked hard on beforehand."

Warren led Team Breaker which took out the LV Install award.

"I was really proud of how our team did overall considering it was the first time we had all worked together. Completing the tasks in the timeframes allowed was difficult, but we did well," Warren says.

Paul Barclay took out third place in the Cable Jointer of the Year award, as well as winning three individual events.

"I enjoyed the week of competitions because I like a challenge. The pressure and experience of the competition is a great way of gauging how I fit in with my peers in NZ's electrical supply industry. It's a good feeling to know what I'm doing every day in my job is at a high standard and in line with other networks and how they operate," Paul says.

Name change and new area manager for Peak Power Services

Peak Power Services is now known as PowerNet Central.

"The name change will assist us with the ongoing alignment of our business," says chief operating officer, Michelle Henderson.

"We've notified our external stakeholders about the name change. They'll continue to receive the same great service Peak Power Services has delivered, with even greater support from the wider PowerNet in our efforts to deliver safe, efficient, reliable power to our communities," she says.

Chris Conway has now formally stepped into the role of area manager, PowerNet Central. Chris started with PowerNet in late September and has been working closely with acting manager, Jim Matheson and Michelle. Chris has an electrical engineering and trades background. He brings strong experience in electrical construction projects, predominately in the oil and gas sector.

"A big welcome to Chris and we look forward to working with him. I would also like to thank Jim for his leadership during the transition," says Michelle. Jim is returning to his role as field services manager based at the Gore Depot.



Chris Conway.

New web-based DMS brings benefits

Greater accessibility, a secure drop-box and the capability to search folders are just a few of the benefits of PowerNet's new web-based document management system (DMS).

The system has recently been upgraded to the latest version and brings all the flexibility of using a web-based DMS system. It works with all modern browsers (IE, Edge, Safari, Chrome, FireFox), it's available anywhere (internally, externally, overseas) and you can use it on your mobile phone.

"With the upgrade there'll be a smooth transition from the way you currently manage your documents (primarily via MS Outlook integration) to the modern way of working with information - via web browser. You can keep using Outlook as the main tool to work with DMS, however we encourage you to try the new way as well and give us feedback on how it works for you," says IT systems engineer, Dmitrii Shliaga.

To try the new system, navigate to <https://dms.powernet.co.nz>.

Graduates celebrate at TradeQual dinner

Four PowerNet graduates celebrated their qualification successes at the annual TradeQual Southland graduation dinner last month.

Ione Pau, Samantha Maurangi and Gerard Anderson (all based at Onslow St) and Matthew Brown system controller (Invercargill) all gained their NZQA level 4 qualification this year.

Onslow St depot supervisors Mark Issacs and Craig O'Callaghan and team leader Gene Brookland attended the dinner.

The annual graduation dinner and presentation evening acknowledges the efforts and contribution of the trades industry, including the achievements of newly-qualified tradespeople and the contribution of Southland employers and industry training organisations.

The evening included presentations from Southland's three mayors and guest speaker 2017 Southland Business Personality award finalist, Natasha King.



Back from left: Craig O'Callaghan, Ione Pau, Gerard Anderson, Matthew Brown, Jackson Unahi Mark Isaacs. Front from left: Samantha Maurangi, Gene Brookland.

Daffodil Day thanks to staff

A big thank you to Sally Mcleod, Steve Labes, Rachel Saunders, Melissa Smith, Sharon Johnston, Jim Phair, Stella O'Connor, Suzanne Hotton, Shirley Whitaker, Tracey Hutchison, Rose Snell, Fiona Mason, Ash Naicker, Waric Cross, Tony Corkill and Blair Bernard for representing PowerNet and collecting at Windsor New World for this year's Cancer Society Daffodil Day.

Please see 'Feeling Great' Health and Wellbeing intranet page for future volunteering opportunities.



Shirley Whitaker and Tracey Hutchison.

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Cycling to success

The PowerNet sponsored cycling team put in some great performances in this year's SBS Tour of Southland with three of its riders finishing in the top 10.

Sam Gaze finished third overall riding in his first 'hot lap around Southland'. He was 2 minutes 59 seconds behind Tour winner Michael Vink.

Paul Odlin and Connor Brown finished 8th and 9th respectively. Paul was the leading over-35 rider, defending the Stonewood Homes Masters title he won last year. Connor finished second in the under-23 age group – a result he was very happy with for his first Tour of Southland. He had led the under-23s up until the end of Stage 4, when he moved into third place.

There were some other key successes:

- PowerNet won the team time trial around the Queens Park circuit, putting Alex Heaney into yellow, Connor Brown into pink (U23) and Paul Odlin into silver (Masters).
- Sam Gaze was second on the 'queen stage' on Wednesday at Coronet Peak, continuously lighting up the breaks and putting the hammer down.
- The PowerNet team was third in the Wensley's team classification, 11 minutes, 25 seconds behind winners Kia Motors Ascot Park Hotel.
- Ollie Jones (Christchurch) was fourth in the Harcourts Sprint Ace classification behind Invercargill's Matt Zenovich.

Overall Tour winner Michael Vink (WPC Joy Ride Apparel) was the runner up in the last two tours.

He won this year's title completing the seven days (1 prologue and 7 stages) in a combined time of 20 hours, 1 minute, 8 seconds. Former multiple world and Olympic champion rower turned cyclist, Hamish Bond (Kia Motors Ascot Park) came second, 16 seconds behind Michael.

The PowerNet cycling team is sponsored by PowerNet, Pure Nutrition and Tineli. The team is managed by Aaron Sinclair with assistance from Jim Phair, Alaister Marshall, Steve Labes, Tony Corkill, Waric Cross, Kathryn McCoy and Neville Kerslake. Fraser Hewett was team mechanic and Wendy Paterson their masseuse.

Evening meals were cooked for the riders by Maree Hallgath, Tracey Hutchison, Jan Phair, Linda Marshall and Janine Sinclair. These were all much appreciated by the team!

PowerNet's 2018 cycling team: Paul Odlin, Alex Heaney, Ollie Jones, Josh Kuysten, Connor Brown and Sam Gaze.



The 2018 PowerNet cycling team with PowerNet directors, Doug Fraser and Don Nicolson.

Camaraderie and team work great reward

The Corpor8 Rowing Challenge provides a unique opportunity to bring field and office staff together in a team environment and push personal comfort zones - these are the real gains of PowerNet's participation in the annual event.

The 2018 PowerNet crew has Ang Dixon, Ashish Naicker, Ben Williams, Carol Lowe, Gene Brookland, Jessie Wynne, Jin Lo, Mase Salesa, Allan Beck and Shirley Whitaker.

Race day is the finale of four weeks of training that includes fast-tracked learning to row and an indoor relay.

"It's a huge commitment but most of our crew say it's very rewarding. Some have already indicated they're keen to do it again next year," says crew organiser Shirley Whitaker.

"There is a lot of technique to learn and develop in a short timeframe. It's also challenging to schedule eight training sessions over four weeks around work, family and personal commitments. Everyone pulled together (no pun intended!), helping each other and definitely improving with each training session to develop a unique team spirit," she says.

"Once again, several new staff stepped up to the challenge which truly helps to keep this event fresh and open to all staff."

Conditions were nearly perfect on race day and the team competed in the heat, recharge, semi-final and final race over 500 metres on the Oreti River. The team achieved a respectable third in the 'C' final, coming 11th overall.

"There was some fantastic team work and a great atmosphere around the PowerNet tent. It's a really good opportunity for staff to interact with others from across our organisation and get to know other staff they wouldn't normally cross paths with."

This is the 17th year the Waihopai Rowing Club has run the event which is a fundraiser to cover club running expenses.

The winning crew this year was a new entrant 'Loose Nuts' (Blacks Fasteners/Kiwi Skips).

To follow-on from the racing the event included a BBQ lunch, a 7's style team costume theme, prize giving and live music.

The crew wishes to thank PowerNet for the opportunity and everyone who supported them on race day. Also, thanks to Gene's son Saxon who coxed for trainings, Emma McLeay our cox on the day and coach for the 6th year, Dougal McDonald.



The 2018 PowerNet rowing team, Ben Williams and Gene Brookland, middle row: Carol Lowe, Shirley Whitaker, Ange Dixon, Jessie Wynne and Jin Lo, front row: Ash Naicker, Saxon Brookland and Allan Beck.

Managing change well

Change can be both exciting and daunting. Finding the best way to manage it is the focus of a key project that's underway at PowerNet.

"Change management is an area of improvement that was identified in the 'Our Say, Our Future' culture survey we did in May 2018. Our teams told us they wanted better communication, consultation and involvement when change is happening," says project sponsor, Rachael Watt, GM business support & improvement.

The project's objective is to research alternative change management methodologies and decide on a model that would be used to implement future change initiatives at PowerNet.

A small team of Tony Corkill, Faye McLeod, Mark Hastie, Deanna Turner, Jacques Vergottini and Ben Williams is working on the project.

"We're really keen to implement a standardised change management process that will empower our staff as much as possible and give them the opportunity to get involved in decision making. Although each change management situation is different, the process we decide upon must also be adaptable," says Rachael.

Information about the change management tool or methodology selected will be communicated to PowerNet teams in early 2019, with the new system implemented later next year.

PowerNet to Provide System Control Services for Network Waitaki

PowerNet is expanding its network management services by providing system control services to Network Waitaki.

The new service represents a significant milestone for PowerNet, says CE Jason Franklin.

"This is the first opportunity PowerNet has had to extend network management services for some time. We're excited to work with Network Waitaki to provide them with an outsourced specialist control room function."

"Network Waitaki is an adjoining network to PowerNet's other managed networks and therefore it was a logical fit to provide it with specialist network management services," Jason says.

Based in Oamaru, Network Waitaki services approximately 12,700 consumer connections across a network of 1800km power lines. The network extends from Oamaru up the Waitaki Valley to Omarama and ends close to Twizel.

"PowerNet already operates multiple systems in one control room for Electricity Invercargill Ltd, The Power Company Ltd and OtagoNet and for Queenstown and Stewart Island. PowerNet's early experience in consolidating three control room services into one service was an important factor in developing the agreement with Network Waitaki," Jason says.

PowerNet will provide a 24/7 system control room service for Network Waitaki for an initial five-year term. The anticipated full 'go live' date will be during March next year, with a period of transition already underway.

"We're really pleased to be working alongside Network Waitaki to deliver a high-quality service for its staff and customers. Our collaboration with Network Waitaki will also lead to wider benefits for PowerNet and its shareholders."

Design work for new Balclutha depot

Detailed design work is the next step in the construction of a new PowerNet depot at Balclutha.

"The detailed design work is expected to be completed this month and then a detailed estimate will go to the Building Governance Group for approval," says Rachael Watt, GM business support & improvement.

Tenders and building consent processes will take place early in 2019. Once the successful tenders are approved by PowerNet's board, it's expected that construction will begin around mid-2019.

In March this year PowerNet's board approved a business case to build a new multi-purpose depot at Balclutha. The new facility will be multi-use for distribution, arborist and technical staff and meet higher health and safety standards. It will include a mix of open-plan and separate office space for office and field staff. The work also includes a new store for Corys Electrical, new vehicle sheds, landscaping and off-street parking for staff and visitors.

Construction of a new depot represents a significant investment for PowerNet. It will serve staff well and provide an excellent base for effective service delivery across the region.

Around 65 PowerNet staff work at the site.



An artist's impression of the new Balclutha Depot.

Business planning in full swing

It's thinking caps on as PowerNet teams right across the business get involved in the annual round of business planning.

To develop the relevant business plans, information is gathered from each depot and department – whether it is training and development, people planning, plant and equipment replacement or safety requirements.

There is a heavy load on the engineering team as it's task is to complete asset management plans (AMPs) for each of the networks PowerNet manages. These AMPs detail the work that's planned on each of the networks over the next 10 years.

PowerNet's board and senior leadership team lead the planning at a strategic level. They review the risk register and complete a SWOT analysis before establishing PowerNet's strategic objectives for the next three years. These strategic objectives flow through to the business plan as operational projects to be implemented.

The business support and improvement team sets out PowerNet's infrastructure needs and capital plan for the next three to five years and has a role in monitoring the business planning timetable and progress. The finance team also plays an important part, reviewing the information that's included in the business planning processes and bringing it together.

Hitting the road with an EV

Five Southland businesses now have an electric vehicle (EV) in their company fleet thanks to the support of PowerNet and EECA.

"From our interactions with businesses we know that even more companies are inspired to consider an EV and take advantage of the opportunities the programme offers," says senior network assets engineer, Dyson Gentle.

PowerNet supports participating businesses with information and free installation of a charging station at their premises. In return, PowerNet collects the charging data as part of its research into the most cost-effective electric vehicle network for the south.

The Tiwai Point aluminium smelter is the latest Southland-based company to get involved in the programme.

Other participating organisations such as Southland Disability Enterprises Ltd have positive feedback even though driving an EV took a little bit of getting used to.

"Initially it was a bit of a challenge to get used to the silence, but everyone agrees that the EV is responsive, really peppy and nice to drive," says general manager, Hamish McMurdo.

As part of the programme, Martin and Elisabeth Peterson run two EVs for their business, Occmed Link Ltd.

They mostly charge their EVs at the charging unit installed at their home and this takes about four hours. As an EV runs quietly, they do drive a bit more defensively because people and animals don't notice the vehicles so readily.

However, it's worth noting that newer EVs have added safety features to generate sound and alerts for pedestrians.

"We would not want to change back to a petrol car. When we tell people the cost of running the EV, even hard core 'petrolheads' are just blown away. Our first service was also as cheap as chips."

PowerNet Smart Energy House tenant, Cam Waru, says it's great driving the electric vehicle he and his family use.

"It's a lot like a normal driving experience except you feel a lot less guilty because you're not polluting the environment."

He's used all available charging methods, including plugging it into a wall socket charger, which takes about four times as long to charge as a charging station.

"It means if you're staying at a mate's house and need a bit more juice you can plug it in at the wall and away you go," he says.

Like any newer technology, electric vehicles are evolving. For some, the downside of an electric vehicle is battery life. Cam says the longest he's travelled on a single charge is Invercargill to Winton and back – getting home with about 23 percent charge left.

Yet the technology is improving all the time. The new Nissan Leaf has a range of about 300km range and the Hyundai Kona a range of over 400km. PowerNet staff were very impressed when they recently had the opportunity to test drive a Hyundai Kona, the first full EV crossover SUV to be sold in New Zealand.

"We liked the power and acceleration and the general driving experience," says Dyson.



Cam Waru and Dyson Gentle.

FMG and PowerNet partner to promote rural electricity safety

PowerNet's partnership with New Zealand's leading rural insurer FMG has continued to grow since its initial involvement with the company earlier this year.

The PowerNet health and safety team conducted a Farm Safety module as part of the 2018 FMG Young Farmer of the Year Competition in July.

The module saw competitors come face to face with electrical risks that farmers may be exposed to. The module was well received by members of the public, the farming community and contestants.

Facts show that the farming community contribute to a large portion of public asset damage each year, carrying high risk of serious harm. A shared passion to help rectify this has led PowerNet and FMG to join together to help ensure people return home unharmed.

While working together at the Young Farmers event, PowerNet GM HSEQ Justin Peterson and Area Manager FMG Guy Taylor met and soon concluded that both parties not only shared a passion for safety but had similar benefits to gain through reducing rural electricity asset damage.

FMG have a team of regional managers that interface with 50-60 percent of the farming community within PowerNet's network area of Southland and Otago.

"By having those managers carry our safety message to farmers about the risk of electricity assets and how to prevent future incidents, we are reaching a large portion of our key target audience required to reduce public network asset incidents, which has been identified as 30-65 year old rural males," Justin said.

As the partnership project continues Justin believes the benefits will soon show for all parties involved.

"The farming community will have a better awareness of the risks which will prevent future damage or harm to themselves, workers and family. From here we may see a reduction in asset strikes in the farming community which could save lives, time, effort and cost, and, with this, FMG may see a reduction in insurance claims," he said.



Justin Peterson

He also explained that the benefits will also be reaped by the customer, as "more often than not" damage cost is picked up by FMG or the electricity network, which is eventually passed on.

From here PowerNet and FMG intend to continue to build awareness of electricity safety in the farming community and also get the message out to other networks with an aim to reduce the number of rural asset strikes across the country.

For information on how to keep yourself safe when working around electricity visit powernet.co.nz/helpful-information/safety

Contractor health and safety prequalification

The PowerNet health and safety team has been working with Prequal to raise the health and safety capabilities of its contractors.

Prequal is backed by New Zealand's leading provider of risk and safety management solutions, Impac Services. It provides a robust contractor pre-qualification process that is recognised as a vital first component of a comprehensive contractor health and safety management system.

GM HSEQ Justin Peterson believes managing contractors effectively is crucial to PowerNet's operational, legal and financial performance, as well as the safety of staff, contractors and the public.

"This is the first step in ensuring contractor safety and it enables us to make a more informed contractor selection," Justin said.

The health and safety team engaged PowerNet contractors with education sessions around the Prequal process in September. From there, Prequal began assessments into all the contractor's safety management systems to check if they have the required policies, procedures and training in place.

The outcome of these assessments will be followed up in January by the PowerNet health and safety team as part of a bid to ensure all contractors that work for the company going forward have the pre-qualification.

To assist with this goal PowerNet's procedure for new contractors has been amended to ensure they will have time to start the Prequal process before accounts approval is required. Going forward, all prequalified contractors will also be added to the intranet for easy reference.

Justin said the project is part of the big-picture health and safety goal to ensure everyone that works for PowerNet goes home unharmed.

"Once this is achieved, we can continue to work on further safety measures with our contractors such as good planning, site visits, compliance audits and field coaching."



Southland Real Estate wins Property Management award

The winner of the Southland Warm Homes Trust (SWHT) 2018 Southland Property Management Company of the Year Award is the Southland Real Estate property management team.

The award was presented to representatives from Southland Real Estate at a function in late November 2018.

Southland Warm Homes Trust Chairman, Jim Hargest says the award recognises property managers who are actively improving the living conditions of tenants and supporting the vision of the SWHT.

"This year Southland Real Estate's property management team receives the award in recognition of their efforts to improve the living conditions for tenants, engaging with landlords and promoting energy saving ideas. They have also been proactively insulating many of the properties under their management," he says.

"All of the entries had a strong focus on improving the energy efficiency of rental properties and meeting the Tenancy Services rental property insulation regulations. The Trust was impressed by the effort and commitment Southland property management businesses have made towards improving the energy efficiency of rental properties, especially ahead of the July 2019 Tenancy Act legislation when all rental properties will be required to meet a high standard of insulation."

The service provider for the SWHT, Awarua Synergy, also recognised the Southland Real Estate Property Management team as proactive in providing great service.

"Their team always ensures that we have safe access to tenanted properties and completes the required Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority (EECA) subsidy paperwork in a timely manner. This really makes our job a lot easier and builds a good working relationship," says general manager Sumaria Beaton.

The 50 percent subsidy offered by SWHT and EECA on insulation costs for eligible rental properties ended in June 2018. There had been a significant increase in the number of rental properties insulated in the last 12 months to June compared with the previous two years.



L/R: Southland Real Estate Manager Gus Johnstone, Property Management team Margaret Reynolds, Amy Morrison, Gabby McManus, Sam Matthews, Jim Hargest (Chair of Southland Warm Homes Trust) and Leeann Tauari.

AED Donation

A lifesaving Automated External Defibrillator (AED) was gifted to Mimihau community in Wyndham. The donation was presented to the group by PowerNet's GM people, culture and communications, Marcus Waters and The Power Company Ltd chair, Doug Fraser. Receiving the AED on behalf of the Mimihau community was Sarah Cobb and Brent Muir.

AED training was provided to the community by Hokonui St John territory manager Jan Douglas.



L/R: Doug Fraser, Marcus Waters, Sarah Cobb, Jan Douglas and Brent Muir.

Congratulations

Mark Way on winning the Volunteer of the Year award presented by the New Zealand Arboricultural Association for services chairing their Utility Arborist Group over the last few years.

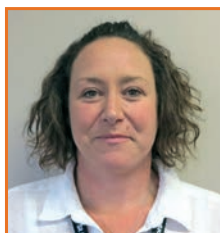


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Welcome



Adriaan Schutte
Apprentice
line mechanic
Onslow Depot



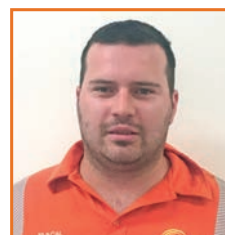
Deanna Turner
Business
improvement advisor
Racecourse Road



Dominic Smart
Apprentice
line mechanic
Onslow Depot



Jesse Hutton
Apprentice
line mechanic
Balclutha Depot



Jonathon Scott
Apprentice
line mechanic
Balclutha Depot



Kace Shaw
Apprentice
line mechanic
Balclutha Depot



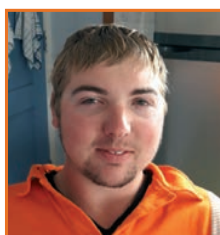
Sam Proudfoot
Apprentice
line mechanic
Onslow Depot



Jack Mew
Apprentice
line mechanic
Ranfurly Depot



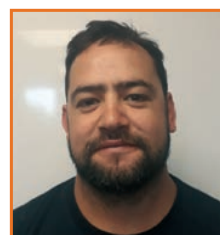
Brett Thornley
Apprentice
line mechanic
Gore Depot



Tyler Egerton
Apprentice
line mechanic
Lumsden Depot



Kavi Singh
GM new energy
development
& strategy
Racecourse Road



Metua Marama
Apprentice/trainee
line mechanic
Onslow Depot

Farewell

Sam Stewart, Taniela Moce, Slade Evans, Orion Gallagher, Kayla Dent, Sean Hepburn, Roger Paterson, Kaleb Groen, Godfrey Chimembiri, Deahan Maloney, Michael Eade, Dmitrii Shliaga, Reuben Crossan and Tim Brown.

Work anniversaries

Kathryn McCoy, Marlon McLean, Andrew King, Tiernan Beale, Warren Smith on their 10 years' service at PowerNet.

Well done

Ben Williams and Summer de Theiry on their performances in the Invercargill Musical Theatre's production of Grease.

Congratulations

To Ged and Danielle Anderson on the birth of their daughter Sophie, 6lb 9oz, born 15 September.

Also to Sheree and Justin Peterson on the birth of their daughter Ava, 8lb 10z, born 16 October.

New Roles

Rachael Watt
GM business support & improvement

Joe Reti
Training and assessment team leader

Justin Peterson
GM business growth

Welcome also

Caleb McLeod and Matthew Ting, both students who are joining us for the holiday period and Linda Nunns temporary administrator connections team.

Message from the Chair



As we close in on the end of 2018, the Board wishes to acknowledge your commitment to the PowerNet cause, that of delivering safe, efficient and reliable electricity to customers connected to our networks.

Customers may take for granted a ubiquitous service such as ours, but the Board knows it takes considerable effort whatever part each of you play within the team.

So thanks for being part of that service in 2018. Let's make 2019 even better.

To you and your closest, have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Don Nicolson
Chair

2018 Santa Parade



Fun had by everyone at the 2018 Clutha Country and Southland Santa Parades held on 1 December.