

March 2017

# ACROSS *the* LINES

## Powering Up With An Electric Vehicle



*PowerNet's project manager, Dyson Gentle.*

### *PowerNet wants Southland businesses to get on board with electric vehicles (EVs).*

In a joint project with the national Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA), PowerNet is encouraging local businesses to include an electric vehicle (EV) in their fleet. The aim is to have 10 electric vehicles or plug-in hybrid EVs incorporated into Southland business fleets over the next year.

"It will be really cool to see increasing numbers of EVs in our community, demonstrating Southland businesses' commitment to greenhouse gas emission reductions," says PowerNet's project manager, Dyson Gentle.

As an incentive for participating businesses, PowerNet will offer to install an onsite charging unit for free.

The project will be launched to the Southland business community in the next couple of months. At the launch the benefits of EVs will be demonstrated and any reservations that businesses might have will be addressed.

A project brand has also been developed so that the EVs purchased are recognisable and highly visible in the community.

"I'm hopeful that the visibility of EVs in the community helped by our branding, will positively influence public perceptions around the practicality of electric vehicles," says Dyson.

PowerNet already has a fully electric Nissan Leaf in its vehicle pool. Staff report a positive driving experience that is quiet and responsive. The vehicle is the car of choice for jobs about town, Dyson says.

Dyson is enthusiastic about the EV project and the contribution it can make.

"I believe electric vehicles are hugely positive for New Zealand, given our largely renewable electricity generation mix. It's really satisfying to be able to support the transition away from fossil fuels and contribute to our national environmental targets. We expect that electric vehicles will improve electricity network utilisation, making the transport of electricity more cost-effective for our customers, which is great."



Find us on  
**Facebook**

Yes, PowerNet is now on Facebook

# ACROSS *the* LINES

## Pause for Safety

*A simple yet effective 'Pause for Safety' method introduced into the workplace late last year is working to keep safety at the forefront of the minds of all PowerNet staff.*

As part of the exercise a leader encourages their team members to stop and consider an aspect of safety. The next step is for staff to decide how to best keep themselves and their team mates safe.

PowerNet's chief operating officer, Michelle Henderson, says the method was first introduced to field and office teams back in November. This provided a timely emphasis on the risk of pre-Christmas distractions and the need to ensure that everyone turns up unharmed for dinner on Christmas day.

A second exercise took place in early January with the emphasis on individual staff and how they can safely restart after the holiday break. In the future more events will be selected either due to heightened risk factors or to celebrate a success and identify how it could be sustained.



*PowerNet's Onslow Depot distribution line mechanic team, Alan Kelbrick, Jonathan Willis and Jeff Berry.*

"The Pause for Safety events are a great way to support the safety of our staff," Michelle says.

## Assets Upgrade at Rowena Jackson Retirement Village

*Plans to extend the kitchen wing and new policy requirements mean a few changes to The Power Company Limited assets at the Rowena Jackson Retirement Village.*

With the kitchen extension planned to encompass an area where a purpose-built shed now houses a 750kVA transformer and 11,000 volt switchgear, it is an opportune time for equipment to be reviewed and upgraded if needed, says PowerNet's electrical project manager, Blair Bernard.

Working with Rowena Jackson representatives, PowerNet identified a site within the carpark area where a new 750kVA transformer and a new Halo four-way ring main unit switch could be housed. The project will also include laying new 11,000 volt cables to direct new feeds to the site.

PowerNet's technical services team will complete the job under the direction of supervisor, Ray King,



*PowerNet's substation maintainer, Brad Templeton working on the 750kVA transformer*

with technical fitter, Murray Cunningham, taking responsibility for site works. Bond Contracting Ltd will supply civil and trenching services.

# ACROSS*the*LINES

## Upgrade of Centre Bush Substation Begins



*PowerNet's distribution line mechanic team working on the Centre Bush Substation upgrade.*

*PowerNet is working closely with Decom Electrical to upgrade the Centre Bush Substation and the 66kV lines.*

PowerNet project manager, Roger Scott, says that clearing the work site to make way for the new substation began on 9 January and involved intricate planning in order to maintain supply to customers.

“Off-loading the Centre Bush Substation was achieved by moving the 5MVA regulator from the Ohai Substation before setting it up on the corner of Hundred Line Road and Riverside Road. The regulator was then connected to the new Winton to Centre Bush 66kV line which was livened via the Oreti Plains 11kV feeder from the Winton Substation. This system has allowed The Power Company to supply power and maintain voltages in the Centre Bush area,” Roger says.

Roger wishes to thank Phil Johnston and his crew from Decom Electrical, and their subcontractors for their work to date. He also sends thanks to Jack Wadworth and Reece Stephenson’s crew who responded to a fault at the old substation between Christmas and New Year, successfully restoring the power supply with a temporary solution.

The new Centre Bush Substation is scheduled for commissioning in late July 2017. It will be the first substation upgrade completed as part of stage two of the Oreti Valley Project, a major five stage plan to upgrade and extend the 66kV network to Centre Bush, Dipton, Lumsden and Mossburn substations by 2020.

# ACROSS *the* LINES

## Pole Maintenance Completed in Otaru

*Locals and tourists alike are safer alongside the roads around Tokonui thanks to the completion of a significant power network upgrade.*

PowerNet Team Leader, Hector Diamond, with his team worked in the area from late December to early February, removing and replacing a number of red and amber tagged poles, low conductors, rusting transformers and rotting cross arms.

The work took place along Fortrose Otaru Road to Otaru Haldane Road stopping at the Otaru Hall. Maintenance was also completed on Richardson Road, Casey Road, Thwaites Road and Waipapa Point Road.

PowerNet operations project manager, Carol Lowe says the lines maintenance team overcame paddock and private road access issues to get the work done. They also worked closely with traffic control to keep all field crew, local farmers, road users and tourists safe throughout the project.

“The final result is very positive. The potential for harm to a farmer due to poles failing or low conductor contact has been significantly reduced, while the potential for poles or wires to cause an incident involving a road user has also been significantly reduced. The added benefit too is that, barring any storm damage, we now know these sites are safe for at least another five years,” Carol says.



*PowerNet's Onslow distribution line mechanic team working on replacement poles on Casey Road in Otaru.*



## PowerNet Directors' Network Visit

PowerNet's Directors, Don Nicolson, Alan Harper and Duncan Fea visited an Omaui worksite late in February as part of their scheduled monthly network visits.

The directors enjoy being actively involved in site visits on the networks PowerNet manages.

Meeting the teams and understanding their work is important to the directors.

Each director will make two site visits per year with observations fed back to their monthly board meetings.



*PowerNet's Team Leader, Hector Diamond, taking the directors through their site induction.*

*Duncan Fea meeting Craig McBurney, Liam Mahon and Tristian Swain.*



# ACROSS<sup>the</sup>LINES

## Balclutha Depot Reaps Benefit of Lean Managements Tool '5S'

*The results of PowerNet's Lean Management tool '5S' are being reaped at the Balclutha Depot with a major transformation of the yard and tin shed now complete.*

The six-month long effort was led by 5S team leader, Barry Anderson, and 5S area leaders Lyndon Whale, Dan Marshall and Fraser Morrison, with the majority of Balclutha's lines maintenance staff also involved in the ground work.

Using the five basic principles – Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Standardise and Sustain - 5S is a system used to make workplaces organised, safe, visual, efficient and more productive.

With restored order and increased storage space as the key outcomes of the Balclutha project, Lyndon says the benefits of having a tidy and methodical work place were almost instantaneous.

"It has become really easy to find our gear and equipment as everything has its own location, and as a result we are working more efficiently. Also, now that staff are seeing the advantages of having a tidy work area it is becoming increasingly easier to maintain the order," he says.

The team has now started a similar transformation process at the Balclutha truck sheds, arborist area and technicians workshop, and aims to complete this by June 2017.



*Before and after photos of Balclutha Depot's shed.*

*5S was introduced to PowerNet in early 2016 under its Lean Management initiative which aims to eliminate waste, streamline processes and focus on continuous improvement. Since then approximately 60 staff across all depots and departments have been through 5S training and are now tasked with implementing 5S in their workspace. Due to the size and scale of PowerNet's operations, the initiative is set to be a five-year journey for the company with an overall goal to improve the workplace.*

# ACROSS *the* LINES

## The Latest From Central Otago

*Here's an update on what OtagoNet's Peak Power Services contractors are working on in the Queenstown Lakes area.*

Mission accomplished—cabling installation for the 140-lot development at **Bridesdale Farm** was successfully completed at the end of February following seven months of design and installation work. The development is fed from 2x300kVA transformers and lit with 35 streetlights.

One challenge field crews overcame during the project was the ability to maintain the worksite with a temporary power solution while easements were obtained for the feeder cable route from Shotover Country.

Development work at **Remarkables Park** is continuing south down Red Oaks Drive behind the new Ramada Hotel and the Remarkables House commercial site.

A 750kVA transformer has been installed for the Wyndham Gardens hotel and apartments. This complex will include 75 serviced apartment suites, 55 residential apartments and six prime retail and office units. The builders' electrical supply is connected and ground works are under way for this exciting development.

Another 1MVA transformer has also been installed directly over the road at the new Queenstown High School site. Construction here is expected to be completed by February 2018.

The Eastern Access Road from Glenda Drive behind the airport to Remarkables Park is due to open in June, providing welcome relief to traffic congestion. Contractors are laying ducts through this new section of road being constructed by Fulton Hogan. Fulton Hogan is also working with Peak Power Services contractors to relocate existing 11kV & 33kV cables at the Glenda Drive end to allow for the new road layout.

All construction at **Lake's Edge** Kawarau Village was completed in October last year. This unique residential enclave has literally been carved out of the rock face above the Kawarau Falls bridge. The Peak Power Services team has been working on this steep, sunny and scenic development since mid-November last year, installing cabling and equipment.

Cabling and equipment installation work has started on stage 1 of the **Northlake** residential development near the Lake Wanaka outlet. This subdivision is embedded in the Aurora network and OtagoNet's first major project in the Wanaka area. The first stage is expected to be lived in by the end of March and the design of stage 2 is almost complete. Further stages will follow as the development progresses.

Cabling and equipment installation work is continuing at the **Shotover Country** subdivision. Work on stage 13 has now been completed (79 sections), stage 14 (58 sections) is in progress, with installation work on stage 8D (58 sections) next to start.

A network agreement has now been signed to complete the cabling and installation work at **Hanley's Farm**.

This large residential development situated 10 minutes from Frankton next to Jacks Point has the potential to add another 1850 more sections to the OtagoNet network and represents a major milestone in OtagoNet's activities in the region. The design work has been completed and construction has begun for the development's first stage.

*Pictured below is the view from the Remarkables Road, with Frankton and the Eastern Access Road visible at the far left.*

*On the right is the Shotover Country Subdivision (photo by Jim Giller).*



# ACROSS *the* LINES

## Integrating For Efficiency

*Consultants from TechnologyOne, Certus Solutions and Corys Electrical are currently collaborating with PowerNet staff to create a solution that integrates PowerNet (Maximo and TechnologyOne) systems with Corys Advantage.*

PowerNet use Maximo for asset management, TechnologyOne for financial accounting and Corys Advantage for ordering materials.

When the integration between the three systems is implemented, an end user will be able to create an order for materials from Corys Electrical in Maximo. The purchase order will be approved via the delegated financial authority (DFA) process in TechnologyOne and automatically transmit the purchase order to Corys Electrical via EDI (electronic data interchange). Purchase orders for external service providers will still be created in TechnologyOne.

PowerNet's Maximo project manager, Tony Corkill, says the outcome will be a much more streamlined and automated process.

"This project is part of our drive for continuous improvement in work and information flow. The result will be that end users are not double handling paperwork and working in multiple systems. This means more efficiency in day-to-day purchasing," says Tony.

It will also mean that Maximo is the start and end-point for users when purchasing from our major supplier, Corys, and their Advantage product. All costs (estimated and actual) for materials, PowerNet labour and external services will be recorded in Maximo, rather than in multiple systems to provide a single source of information for the end user."

The integration of the three systems is expected to be completed and ready for use in the next few months.



## Fleet Vehicles Rolled Out

*PowerNet's vehicle fleet mix is changing.*

The amalgamation of PowerNet, Power Services and OPSL created an opportunity for PowerNet to review the pool fleet mix at Racecourse Road, Onslow Street and at our Balclutha offices, says chief information officer, Tim Brown.

"After analysis of systems such as Smartrak, internal reporting and information from our leasing providers, we felt savings and efficiencies could be made by changing the makeup of our pool fleet to a mixed owned and leased fleet comprising electric vehicles, secondhand low mileage SUV plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs), utilities and SUVs," says Tim.

"As the leases of 11 pool vehicles were due for replacement in 2016 it was a good time to explore other offerings in the market and purchase some pool vehicles outright."

The lease of five utilities with canopies (for project managers and semi-field staff pool use) means greater use across PowerNet's business units, as these vehicles will also be available to field staff if needed. These utilities will replace some SUVs in the current fleet.

"As central government is keen for fleet owners to include EV and hybrid models, and PowerNet is promoting the use of EVs in the Southland market, we think it is the right decision to lessen our environmental impact with low emission PHEVs where possible," says Tim.

PowerNet's first full EV, the Nissan Leaf, has been part of its fleet for over a year now and is steadily booked for staff travel around Invercargill.



# ACROSS*the*LINES

## Supplying Power to the Matura Valley Milk Plant



*A drone photo of the construction site at Matura Valley Milk.  
(Photo supplied by Southroads).*

*Work will start soon on the electrical infrastructure needed to supply power to the Matura Valley Milk (MVM) nutritional dairy factory being built at McNab near Gore.*

A joint venture between Matura Valley Milk and China Animal Husbandry Group, the plant will operate nearly all year round, processing locally sourced milk into infant formula, cream and a small amount of whole milk powder.

PowerNet staff and contractors will lay approximately 8km of 11kV cabling through Gore, under the Matura River and along River and Macgibbon Roads to the MVM plant site. PowerNet will also own and operate the site's 11kV ring distribution network.

PowerNet's project manager, Nathan Donnelly, says the cables, switchgear and associated equipment will be installed over the next 16 months and the job does have some challenges.

"One is the need to lay cabling under the Matura River. A specialised drilling company will be engaged to provide the horizontal directional drilling service, and it will be interesting to see the specialised equipment operate for this part of the process," Nathan says.

PowerNet will also be responsible for trenching from the South Gore substation to the town's effluent ponds—from here the cabling will be installed in a shared trench that MVM is putting in for their water and fibre services.

The initial plant electrical load has been calculated as 4MVA, and this can be supplied from the South Gore substation at 11kV. To cater for future expansion, PowerNet will be installing cables that can be energised at 33kV from another source if plant load increases. Any additional power load would also require the construction of a new zone substation at McNab, complete with two 33/11kV power transformers.

Nathan says underground cabling is being installed rather than overhead lines to both speed up the installation process, and to provide more certainty of supply.

"The PowerNet team is proud to be part of this project, which is bringing significant benefits to Southland in both economic growth and employment opportunities," says Nathan.



# ACROSS*the*LINES

## Meet Two of our Depot Supervisors



### David Steele, Ranfurly

*How long have you worked at PowerNet?*

*32 years.*

*What roles have you had/how long have you been in the supervisor role?*

*Line mechanic G&B (17 years), electrical fitter (10 years), supervisor (5 years).*

*Briefly, what does your job entail?*

*The area we cover is from Becks/Blackstone Hill, Central Otago, to Long Beach on the Otago Peninsula with a total of 12 staff. The job entails looking after 12 staff in areas such as health and safety, correct work practices while undertaking their duties, pricing jobs and dealing with the public.*

*Where are you from and where do you live now?*

*Been in Ranfurly since I was a young fella.*

*Relationship/family.*

*Married with three children.*



### Mark Issacs, Onslow Depot

*How long have you worked at PowerNet?*

*Fourteen years with both Otago Power Services and PowerNet.*

*What roles have you had and how long have you been in the supervisor role?*

*Line mechanic, foreman, supervisor.*

*Briefly, what does your job entail?*

*Planning, scheduling field staff, working with customers and contractors. The Invercargill depot covers the south east and EIL areas, with 24 line-side field staff.*

*Where are you from and where do you live now?*

*I live in Wyndham (paradise).*

*Relationship/family*

*My wife Fiona, and two children Bre and Cruz.*

# ACROSS *the* LINES

## Achieving a Shared Vision



*PowerNet shared vision attendees.*

*The shared vision orientation workshop programme is underway again for all new PowerNet employees.*

“The purpose of the two-day workshop is to introduce new employees to the company’s shared vision and values, and to help them work towards creating their individual goals,” says PowerNet’s human resources advisor, Faye McLeod.

Held in January, the first workshop for the year was a great success, with Faye receiving positive feedback from all those involved.

“The participants found great value in attending the workshop. It allowed them to learn more about their individual teams and the company’s purpose, critical success factors and values. They also appreciated being able to spend time with senior leadership team members to ask questions, seek clarification and understand where they fit as part of the wider PowerNet team.”

Depending on new staff numbers, it is expected the workshop will be held two or three times a year.

## Line Maintenance on Orion Road



*PowerNet’s Onslow Depot distribution line mechanic team.*

*When PowerNet’s routine inspection programme recently identified poles that needed replaced and conductors that were too low in the Makarewa area, team leader Gene Brookland and his line maintenance team were on the case.*

Preliminary work on the maintenance needed around Pomona Road, Orion Road and State Highway 6 began at Christmas time with the majority of the work carried out in January. PowerNet’s senior project manager, Barrie Duffin says the team was pleased to have completed the job before mid-February, especially given the challenging location of the worksites.

“As with many of our jobs, having a number of large buckets, cranes and utility vehicles working on 100km state highways comes with its own challenges, but having external resource to manage traffic control helps to provide a safe work zone for our field staff while maintaining traffic flow. The end result is a safer, more reliable network,” Barrie says.

Barrie mentioned that there were also some minor excavation challenges with the underground services but these were managed well by the field crew. He also noted that the management and administrative component of the project ran smoothly with thanks to PowerNet’s Depot supervisor, Mark Issacs, Area supervisor Murray Hamilton, and Invercargill-based depot administrator, Maria Bell.

# ACROSS<sup>the</sup>LINES

## AED Donation to Ranfurly and Frankton Communities

*H&J Smith (Remarkables Park) and the Maniototo Health Centre are the latest community recipients of automated external defibrillators (AED) donated by their electricity network owners.*

Heartstart FRx (AED) donations are part of the three-year sponsorship between PowerNet and St John. The sponsorship agreement includes the annual gift of AEDs to communities on behalf of OtagoNet and Electricity Southland networks.

PowerNet's chief information officer, Tim Brown, says the sponsorship is in its third year with four Southern communities this year benefiting from the donations.

All donated AEDs are housed in locations that are accessible to the public, as this may mean the difference between life and death. Along with the AED donations, two Level 1 training sessions for staff at both H&J Smith and the Maniototo Health Centre will be funded by PowerNet.

*Pictured top:*

*L/R: Jim Matheson (PowerNet field services manager), Michelle Henderson (PowerNet chief operating officer), Glenis Crutchley (St John Ranfurly station manager), David Steele (PowerNet depot supervisor) and Geoff Foster (Maniototo Health Services manager).*



*Pictured bottom:*

*L/R: Jason Franklin (PowerNet chief executive), Tanya Wallace (H&J Smith store manager Remarkables Park), Kent France (St John commercial and partnerships manager) and Keith Raymond (St John station manager).*



## A Network Visit for Energy News

Energy News journalist, Felicity Wolfe, visited PowerNet in February, taking time for a site visit on The Power Company network and a very windy visit to Flat Hill wind farm in Bluff.

PowerNet's chief executive, Jason Franklin, says this is the second time the company has shown Felicity around the Southern region.

"We are lucky to have a dedicated journalist from *Freeman Energy/Energy News*, Felicity has been covering our networks for over three years.

"Coming down to see PowerNet gives me an appreciation of what the work actually involves, the equipment and the people needed to carry it out," Felicity say.

For Felicity it also means that she can actually see the scale of the networks and also any growth underway as well as the settings the assets are in.

"The visit to Flat Hill is an example of that – I certainly saw and felt the quality of the wind resource there. These things are not easy to convey over the phone or by looking at a map," she says.

Being onsite also underscores other important aspects such as health and safety and how seriously it is taken.

"Having a close working relationship with PowerNet I think builds trust and understanding, this helps us accurately report news. This information is widely read by the energy industry, and so it helps the flow of information across various sectors."



**Felicity Wolfe**

# ACROSS *the* LINES

## What's Happening On The Networks

**Invercargill** crews are replacing red tag poles and doing maintenance on low voltage lines. Pole replacement work is underway at Makarewa, in Invercargill city and at Waimatuku. Low voltage maintenance work is also being done in Invercargill city and at Otatara.

At the **Gore** Depot, crews are relocating 33kV cables behind the Gore Transpower Substation. Pre-planning is also underway for construction work on the Oreti Valley Project and poles are being replaced on the Gore to Riversdale 33kV line. The Wyndham Ridges Regulator is also being replaced, as are red tag, low voltage poles at Matura.

Over in **Balclutha**, crews are replacing 33kV poles on both the Clinton line and on the Pukeawa to Lawrence 33kV lines. Red tag poles are being replaced on the earth return line to Chrystal's Beach and, at Slopdown, the earth return line is being upgraded to two-wire. Another team is doing maintenance work on low voltage lines in Balclutha.

**Ranfurly** and **Palmerston** crews are replacing red tag poles in their area, while **Lumsden** crews have replaced red tag poles at Bryce Road, Dipton, and constructed a new line to a dairy unit at Breakneck Road, Dipton.

In **Te Anau**, crews are replacing red tag poles in the Tower Peak area.

Down in Riverton, **Winton** crews are replacing pole-mounted structures with new ground-mounted transformers. Pole replacement work is also being carried out at Hagen Road, Orawia.



*Above and below photos show pole replacements in Makarewa.*



# ACROSS *the* LINES

## Bluff Maintenance Work



*PowerNet distribution line mechanic teams working on the pole upgrade near Bluff.*

*PowerNet lines maintenance staff have been making great progress on the challenging yet crucial pole upgrade work near Bluff.*

PowerNet's project manager, Carol Lowe, says that a five-strong lines maintenance team has been working on several projects there since June, under the leadership of Shane Lawson.

Last year the team successfully replaced softwood poles that were at risk of failure between Fowler Oyster and Ocean Beach Freezing Works, including one red-tagged concrete pole. This year two new projects are underway, with the replacement of red and amber tag poles along Bann Street, as well as 14 consecutive red tag poles along Ocean Beach Road.

Carol says the crew has been managing well especially given the extra challenges of working in the Bluff area.

"The Ocean Beach Road poles carry the main feed to South Port, and the challenges of working along an 100km per hour highway are amplified by tourist traffic and large haulage trucks going to and from South Port.

"Then there are the excavation challenges which include phone, water and internet between Bluff and the rest of the world. To add to that, they are dealing with harsh land conditions such as hard blue rock, soft sand, silty clays, highly sloping hilly work sites and pole erosion," she says.

Carol commends all those involved so far for helping to create a more reliable and safer network for everyone.

"It takes open communication and co-operation to take a complex job to completion, not just in the depot but in the field and between field and depot as well."

# ACROSS<sup>the</sup>LINES

## Studio Jubb Opens



Mel and James Jubb

**Congratulations** to PowerNet's go-to photographer, James Jubb and his wife Mel, on the launch of their new business. The talented couple have combined their passion for multi-media with their artistic talents to create 'Studio Jubb'. Based at their trendy new studio on The Crescent, Studio Jubb provides an extensive range of the latest photography and videography services.

We wish James and Mel all the best and look forward to working with them both using some of their new technologies.

## Baby Congratulations go to:

Umer and Ayesha Siddique on the early arrival of their son Murtaza born on 29 January. Murtaza was born at 31 weeks and 2 days, weighing in at 1.85kgs (4lb), a very little brother for Muhammad Mujtaba.

Dyson and Andie Gentle on the birth of their son Ashby Matthew on 24 February weighing in at 3.6kg (8lb), a little brother for Dela.

Kiran and Olga Singh on the birth of their son Soren on 27 February weighing in at 3.09kgs (6lb 8oz), a little brother for Devon.

Roger and Jackie Paterson on the birth of their granddaughter River Helene Paterson on 1 March weighing in at 3.9kg (8lb 6oz).



## Sporting Accomplishments

**Congratulations** to our PowerNet staff who participated in the 2017 Motatapu mountain bike event in early March. Paul McCullagh (2hrs 55mins), Justin Peterson, Steve Labes and Mike Dela Cruz. Paul says, "this year was a hard year with a stiff breeze across the middle section and a long stretch of riding on long grass."

Paul, Justin and Steve also rode in the first "Brew Chop" mountain bike event which was a 42km social ride up the Nevis Road around the Welcome Rock Trails track and back down again. The Brew Chop event was strictly social with most riders stopping to check out the magnificent views from the top of the Slate Range. The event gets its name from the entry fee which was a cold chop and a warm beer which was replaced with a cold beer and warm chop for all finishers.

Justin has also completed the 75km Gut Buster and the 30km Moonshine Trail during the 2016/17 mountain bike season.

Congratulations to Jordan Coutts on his selection in the Southland Touch Rugby Open Mixed team which participated in the Touch National Championships in Papakura in March. The team gained 3rd place overall.

## Welcome To Our New Staff



Kiran Singh  
Commercial Analyst  
Racecourse Road



Maree Fyffe  
Quality Services Officer  
Racecourse Road



Ben Williams  
Graduate Engineer  
Racecourse Road



Lyall Moreton  
Distribution Line Mechanic  
Onslow Depot



Jim Giller  
Project Manager  
Frankton



Shawn Brensell  
Distribution Line Mechanic  
Gore



Bradley Rodgers  
Distribution Line Mechanic  
Gore



Owen Bishop  
Distribution Line Mechanic  
Gore



Phil Chittock  
Temporary Projection  
Engineer  
Racecourse Road



Rachel Saunders  
HSE Administrator  
Racecourse Road



Wayne Hansen  
Electrician  
Racecourse Road



Lourens Van Heerden  
Electrician  
Racecourse Road

### New Appointments:

Ian Elder to Network Assets team, Gary Davis to fleet, plant and facilities officer, Ben Williams to graduate engineer, Mase Salesa to team leader Onslow Depot.

### Farewell to:

John Murphy, Stewart Cornhill, Kristie Bell, Jan Van Staden, Steve Keen, Joseph Richards and Mike Cunningham.

### Congratulations to:

Stephen Pike, Sean Hepburn and Guy Holden on gaining your Electrical Registration Certificate and Graeme Hills for his Diploma in Project Management.