



"I would never have had the training in English without the programme at Otago and I don't think I would ever have had the confidence to teach other people how to write."

Former PGDip Arts international student
Temperance Tinker-Kays, award-winning US English teacher



Leadership, innovation and service celebrated with honorary degrees

It was wonderful to hold our graduation ceremonies again in May, with highlights including the awarding of Honorary Doctorates to [Sir Ian Taylor KNZM, CNZM](#) and [Dr Royden Somerville QC](#).



Alumni inspire in Queen's Birthday Honours

Otago alumni have been recognised for outstanding service to a diverse range of communities and professions in the Queen's Birthday and Platinum Jubilee Honours, including the top honour in the country being awarded to [Dame Silvia Cartwright ONZ](#).



On a journey to protect our underwater world

Recent master's graduate [Millie Mannering](#) has just headed to New York for UN World Oceans Day, marking the start of her year as one of three international Our World Underwater Scholarship Society Scholars.



Your Story – Celebrating Law alumni (and a little rugby)

With the 150th anniversary of Law at Otago coming up in 2023, we will be featuring stories about our law alumni community over the coming year. Here, we catch up with Aotearoa New Zealand's first Pacific resident district court judge outside Auckland, Judge Michael Mika, and Judge Rachel Parata Mullins (Kāi Tahu, Ngāti Kahungunu) who has been appointed to the Māori Land Court.



[Read more...](#)

1873–2023



LAW AT OTAGO *Te Ture ki Ōtākou*

150 YEARS



Supporting Otago

With the support of the Ida G. White Travelling Scholarship, Otago alumna Ihlara McIndoe is heading to McGill University in Montreal next month to pursue her master's in music. "It's pretty phenomenal really, I am very appreciative of the support from the Music department. I am grateful

Hot Picks

insight | ideas | entertainment

Hot Picks

Be entertained and feed your mind with our Hot Picks. You can relax in the comfort of your own home, while listening to a selection of podcasts, interviews, and lectures from Otago academics, visiting lecturers, and alumni.

for my time learning in the School of Performing Arts and for the relationships I've built at Otago,"

[Supporting Otago...](#)

[Hot picks...](#)



Making a Difference

An innovative new internship opportunity for Pharmacy students, created through the generosity of Kerikeri pharmacist Vicki Douglas, aims to provide third-year students with valuable rural experience.

[Making a Difference...](#)

University Snapshot

Welcome to our new snapshot of exciting projects and research happening at Otago. Read here about the [cultural design story of new residential college Te Rangihīroa](#) and the University's commitment to language equality through [te reo Māori signage](#). Recent research may assist with [early detection of Alzheimer's disease](#).

Otago Images

Ethel Benjamin, LLB Otago, trailblazer

In 1893 Ethel Benjamin was the first woman to be admitted to law school in Australasia. After graduating from Otago in 1897 she established a successful law practice and was the first woman to appear as counsel in any case in the British Empire.

Photo: Ethel Rebecca Benjamin, 1897. Photographer unknown, Box-005-001, Hocken Collections Uare Taoka o Hākena, University of Otago.



Upcoming 2022 Reunions and Events

For more details on upcoming events visit our [alumni events calendar](#), information will be updated as it becomes available. Email reunions.alumni@otago.ac.nz if you would like more details or are interested in organising a reunion for your class.

Jun

30

**London Alumni
Function**

Jul

01

**Dublin Alumni
Function**

Oct

11~13

**Medical Class of
1971 Reunion**

Oct

20~22

**Phys Ed Class of
1972 Reunion**



Why We ♥ Otago

Originally from Southland, 2021 NZ Marketer of the Year Shane Evans studied marketing at Otago in the late nineties. He loved his time at the University and went on to lead a team of 80 marketers at ASB Bank's Auckland head office. He's recently returned to the south and is the new Chief Customer Officer at SBS Bank.

[Why We ♥ Otago...](#)



Alumni Book Club

At the end of May the Alumni Book club will begin reading acclaimed author, Isabel Allende's historical novel, A Long Petal of the Sea. Beginning in Spain in 1938, this novel follows two refugees from the Spanish Civil War, Rose and Victor, whose mock marriage as they flee to Chile gradually deepens into real love.

Book Club members will be able to join Isabel Allende for an Author Talk on Tuesday, 19 July.

[Join the Book Club here...](#)



Alumni in the News

Alumnus **Ridge Ponini** and student **Sarah Hubbard** named as Lexus Song Quest semi-finalists. Emerita Professor **Alison Mercer** receives top US science honour. **Anthonie Tonnon** wins Taite Music Prize. BBC names *Auē* by Burns Fellow **Becky Manawatu** one of best books of 2022 so far. **Dr Jemma Geoghegan** wins Te Puiaki Kaipūtaiao Maea PM's MacDiarmid Emerging Scientist Prize.

[Alumni in the news...](#)

Networks and events

Salmond College is celebrating 50 years. Join us for a weekend packed with events.

Date: Friday 25 November- Sunday 27 November

Registration opens soon!

Please remember to 'like' our [Facebook page](#) for all the up-to-date information on the Reunion or email salmondcollege50th@gmail.com



[why did I get this?](#) – [update contact details](#) – [contact database.alumni@otago.ac.nz](mailto:contact.database.alumni@otago.ac.nz)
Development and Alumni Relations Office – 64 3 479 4516 – PO Box 56, Dunedin, 9054



Alumni & Friends

Ākonga o Mua, Hoa

Keeping you connected with your
University of Otago alumni community

otago.ac.nz/alumni