

Delivering trail projects with an eye to the future

Welcome to the 2024 Queenstown Trails Annual General Meeting. As Chairman, it is my pleasure to present this annual report. Queenstown Trails is in strong shape, and we are proud to be in the process of delivering new trails that have been seven years in the making. The Queenstown Trails team have been working hard to manage this demanding project through extreme weather events and a challenging economic climate.

Construction work on the Wharehuanui Trail, that links Arrowtown to Arthurs Point, progressed well through Summer, despite encountering unexpected geological conditions. We have been so impressed and grateful for the resourceful solutions that the geotechnical engineers, trail builders and project managers were able to reach, minimising construction delays and associated costs.

We are also deeply grateful for the support and patience of the community and tour operators as construction and sign off time frames stretched. It has been such a pleasure to open the Wharehuanui Trail and see everyone loving it as much as we do.

The second phase of the Queenstown Trails expansion project has been progressing very well. Construction tenders were awarded back at the beginning of the year, and since then, progress has been flying, with the bridge, trail and tunnel works being undertaken simultaneuosly.





Michael Walker
Queenstown Trails
Chairman

I wish to thank Willy, our CEO, on behalf of the board for his incredible passion, energy and vision. We know the past 12 months included plenty of highs and lows, but we really want to acknowledge Willy's tireless pursuit of delivering these new trails, and creating this legacy for everyone to enjoy.

At the same time as overseeing the development of new trails, Willy continues to manage the enhancement of the existing network, maintaining a strong relationship with council and contractors, to deliver on a schedule of maintenance to improve the trails, and the trail experience for everyone to enjoy.

With an eye to the future, and his ear to the ground, we are also excited by Willy's vision for the next project. He unfailingly breathes life into the strategic aspirations of our visionary Board of Trustees. Thank you Willy and the executive team for your service to Queenstown Trails.

We are deeply grateful for the generosity of several major donors, and the staggering support we receive from our loyal community of Trail Lovers, all of whom are helping us to realise our vision for the future of Queenstown Trails.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Trustees and Patrons for sharing their knowledge, expertise and being so generous with their time. I know that Willy and the team are grateful for your support.

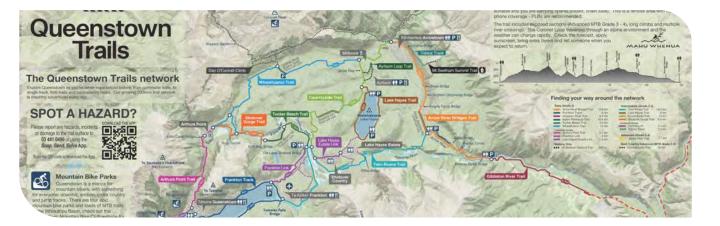


As we begin to shift our focus to future projects, exciting plans are afoot for further trail development, increased linking between regional trail networks, and enhancing the Queenstown Trails Network for the community.

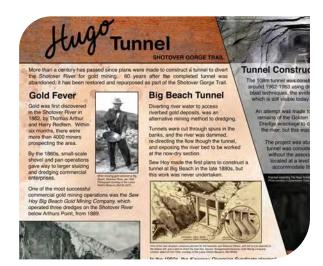


Benje Patterson has joined the board this year. We are really pleased to add Benje's experience as an economist and strategist to the portfolio of trustee expertise. His projections for bike tourism in Queenstown, and the wider Otago region, paint an exciting and promising picture for the shape of the industry's future, and are key in shaping the direction of future projects.

Benje is a keen and accomplished ultra runner and has great energy and passion for the trails.



The executive team has been developing enhanced mapping, mobile accessibility and updating wayfinding signage to increase the ease of navigating the network. They have also been working on collaborative projects for shelters, interpretation panels, charging stations, rest areas, lay-down zones and hydration stations to provide an even better experience for locals, visitors and operators.



Fundraising and sponsorship has never been more important for Queenstown Trails. In addition to project delivery expenses, the funding landscape for cycle trails and cycle infrastructure has undergone some significant changes in the past year. With the reduction of funding from central government, we are developing sustainable funding streams that will allow us to continue the work we do. We are thrilled to have Duncan Ashford step into the Partnerships Manager Role, and look forward to drawing on his experience and knowledge to benefit the trails.

The escalation of construction costs, coupled with inflation and advancements in engineering requirements, has resulted in the current projects costing quite a bit more than initial projections. We are deeply grateful for the generosity of several major donors, and the staggering support we receive from our loyal community of Trail Lovers, all of whom are helping us to realise our vision for the future of Queenstown Trails.

At the end of the 2023-2024 financial year, our financial position appears to be relatively strong. However, as we continue through the current project delivery phase, we are starting to eat into the Trusts reserves. It is more important than ever to continue to attract donations, sponsorship and for QTT to fundraise for future projects.



Finally, a huge thank you to all the people and businesses in our community who support the Queenstown Trail - the list is too long to do it justice without leaving someone out.

We really could not continue to maintain and expand this world class trail network without the support of our community.





These are exciting times for trails in Central Otago, with new projects underway to expand and link Great Rides and communities together. As we explore further opportunities for improved regional connections (think Queenstown to Glenorchy, Kawarau Gorge), Queenstown Trails is leading the charge to lift the profile of the Great Rides and double the annual visitor expenditure in NZ from \$1b to \$2b over the next 10 years, with the completion of two exciting new trails to fulfill our proposition as one of the best cycling experiences in New Zealand, if not the world!

We were delighted to open The Wharehuanui Trail (linking Arthurs Point to Arrowtown) earlier this month, just in time for the school holidays. This off-road route spanning 17km fills a gap in the Queenstown Trail network along the northern perimeter of the Whakatipu Basin, with the added benefit of integrating with the mountain bike trails on Coronet Peak, Coronet Loop and the Mahu Whenua trails.





KUPERUS CROSSING

25m twin span bridged, hoisted into position at the end of 2023. The Kuperus Crossing was made possible thanks to the generosity of the Kuperus Family.

We owe a huge thanks to everyone involved in this project – especially landowners, funders MBIE and Central Lakes Trust and our loyal Trail Lovers supporter base, with a particular mention to the Kuperus Family who generously funded the Kuperus Crossing bridge near the foot of the Dan O'Connell Climb. Special thanks also to M3 Contracting who did a stellar job to construct the trail, under the expert watch of Project Manager Giulio Chapman-Olla from Southern Civil Consulting. The trail and structures design teams from Patersons Land professionals and Stantec also deserve recognition for their vision and skills, as do the legal services from Robert Huse at Anderson Lloyd who has navigated a huge variety of easement agreements for us.

MBIE APPROVES BUSINESS CASE and grants funding to support the development of the proposed



RESEARCH, DESIGN & ASSESSMENT

surveying, route design, historical and ecological assessments, supporting evidence for consent



RESOURCE CONSENT PROCESS

consent applied for, public submissions, hearing and approval



PROJECT TENDERED

tenders awarded



DETAILED DESIGN COMPLETED

engineering acceptance sought



CONSTRUCTION COMMENCES M3 Contracting begin works

- 28,915m³ of materials
- 1200m of retaining walls
- 230m board walk
- no safety/environmental incidents
- restoration of Mill Creek
- 6530 natives planted by Mana Tahuna
- 35 new predator traps

KUPERUS CROSSING

25m twin span bridge constructed and hoisted onto its footings



CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED

practical completion and consent condition sign off sought



WHAREHUANUI TRAIL OPENS

linking Arrowtown to Arthurs Point and the Coronet Peak Trails





Simultaneously, construction along the Shotover Gorge Trail has been full steam ahead. The Kimi-ākau Bridge is all but complete, and construction of the trail linking the bridge to the Hugo Tunnel has made great progress throughout the year. As long at the recent wet weather stays away, we are hoping that all aspects of the Shotover Gorge Trail will be completed early 2025.

KIMI-ĀKAU BRIDGE

Kimi-ākau bridge construction began in early 2024. Test anchors and foundations were drilled, and then the bridge towers and cables flown in by helicopter. Once the suspension cables were fixed, abseil specialists constructed the bridge deck. It was amazing to see how quickly the bridge was completed: it is an impressive and beautiful structure.

Although tendered prices were higher than anticipated at feasibility stage, costs have been re-couped through philanthropist donations and a very successful 'sponsor a plank' campaign which enabled the community to get involved with funding the project.

MAJOR SUPPORTING TOWERS

Three Major Supporting Tower Sponsors have made significant donations towards the Kimi-ākau Bridge.

Thank you to Rod Drury, the Alterno Foundation and the SR McLaren Family Trust for your generosity.



SPONSOR A PLANK INITIATIVE

Our incredibly well supported Great Kimi-ākau Bridge Plank Challenge was kick-started by long time Queenstown Trails supporters Julian and Lizanne Knights.

All 110 bridge planks were sponsored by individuals, businesses and community groups, raising \$165k towards the Kimi-ākau Bridge.

> Queenstown Trails is blown away and humbled by the incredible support we have received - thank you.

HUGO TUNNEL

A Community Management Agreement with the Department of Conservation has allowed work to begin on the Hugo Tunnel at Big Beach. The Hugo Tunnel has been funded by an extremely generous donation from the Hugo Charitable Trust.

The 108m long historic mining tunnel is located near the mouth of the lower Shotover Gorge. The construction of the tunnel was planned during the gold-rush but not constructed until 1962.

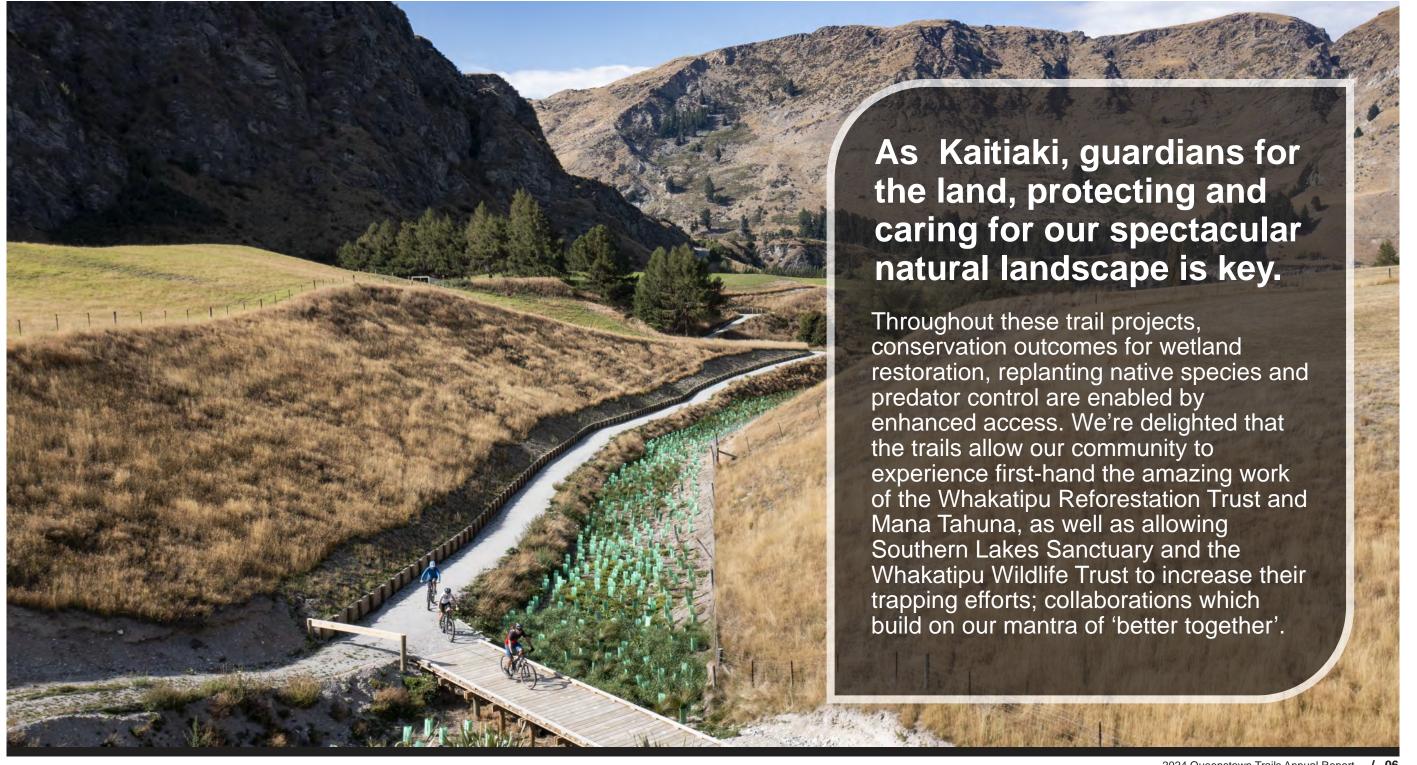
The Hugo Tunnel has special significance to the Hugo Charitable Trust because of Hugh Greens history in the civil construction industry. Hugh's company Green & McCahill Ltd were involved in many major tunnel projects around New Zealand.

Tunnel restoration works include stabilisation of the tunnel portals, removal of rock-fall material, installation of rock bolts, structural anchors and mesh, and construction of the new trail surface.

The 'Hugo Tunnel' is being restored now and should be open to the public by early 2025.









Queenstown Trails is indebted to the QLDC Parks and Reserves Team who contribute to the QEII Trail Maintenance Fund, as well as managing the overall Queenstown Trail Maintenance Contract – recognising that the trails we deliver result in Queenstown being a great place to live, work or establish business.

During the past year we have worked with Council to produce new and improved way finding signage.

We are grateful to work with QLDC to ensure timely repairs and a schedule of on going maintenance to continue to improve and enhance the safety and enjoyment of the trail user experience.







We continue to support and provide stunning courses for major events like the Queenstown Marathon and Motatapu, which remain a valuable charitable partner for us despite the challenging event scene and cost of living crisis. We're also thankful to smaller events like the Backyard Ultra and Southern Lakes Ultra for making donations towards the trails they use, and more and more commercial operators are stepping up to provide a donation per-user, to put back into the trails their business benefits from.





We're in the fortunate position of our trails being established in one of the most scenic locations in the world, and with the new additions to the network being unveiled to the public this year, the Queenstown Trails are set to provide more opportunities for events and commercial expansion.

Our region, as a whole, is going from strength to strength in terms of becoming a global cycle tourism destination, with the great work being done by DQ and the *Trailhub* collective from CODC to highlight our proposition.

With QTT trails becoming integrated with, and dovetailing into the awesome QMTBC trails, we really do have options for every ability.

A big shout out to Erin Anderson at EA Digital for conveying that message and growing our followers across all digital channels.

WE'RE THRILLED THAT SO MANY BUSINESSES AND OFFICIAL PARTNERS ALONG THE TRAIL SUPPORT THE WORK WE DO. A special mention to Ayrburn and their stunning heritage precinct, now connected to the Queenstown Trail with the Ayrburn

stunning heritage precinct, now connected to the Queenstown Trail with the Ayrburn Loop Trail. Ayrburn provided a venue for our 'Dine and Dig' fundraiser event, with an amazing array of auction prizes from sponsors which included Over the Top, Helibike NZ, Millbrook, Outside Sports, Fiordland Discovery, Sunrise Balloons, Altitude Tours and Tara Iti.

Queenstown
Trails wants to
work more
closely with our
Corporate
Partners, and
it's my pleasure



to introduce Duncan Ashford to the role of Partnerships Manager for Queenstown Trails. Duncan will be tasked with attracting more corporate sponsorship dollars as our trails expand, as well as improving our engagement with existing partners and businesses.

WELCOME DUNCAN

corporate sponsors

We're incredibly grateful to a host of Corporate Sponsors who support our work on an annual basis, enabling us to continue with the work we do to deliver new trails – Massive thanks to Aotea Gifts, SkyCity, Gallaghers and Pak'nSave.

"Queenstown Trails provides an iconic asset that is of benefit to both locals and visitors alike.

We love to ride and explore the Whakatipu Basin. The Queenstown Trails explore some spectacular areas that we can all be very proud of. Aotea Gifts family is proud to support the construction and upkeep of these trails so we can all share some world class mud sweat and gears."

-Richard Hansen Aotea Gifts

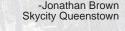


Aotea Gifts hosted a Queenstown Trails window at their Beach Street store. It was fantastic to promote the support of Aotea Gifts for the trails, and also raise awareness about the trails during the Trail Lovers campaign.





"SkyCity Queenstown is proud to be associated with the Trust's forward thinking, progressive and community-based focus. One of the most remarkable aspects of the Trust's work is its dedication to inclusivity. By focusing on creating trails that cater to a wide range of skill levels and interests, the trust has made cycling more accessible to people of all ages and abilities. This inclusivity is essential as it encourages individuals and families to adopt a healthier lifestyle, appreciate the natural beauty of our surroundings, and develop a deeper connection with our environment. Keep up the magnificent job - your work is inspiring."





SkyCity Queenstown sponsored a bus-back promotion for Queenstown Trails as part of our annual Trail Lovers fundraising campaign - thank you SkyCity Queenstown for encouraging all trail lovers to donate.

"The Queenstown Trails network is one of the region's greatest assets. I've had the privilege of experiencing almost all of the trails since moving here. The 10-year strategic plan is inspiring, and I'm thrilled that Gallagher can support these initiatives. We look forward to a long-term partnership.



Sandy MacLeod and son Harry enjoying the Queenstown Trails

Gallagher Insurance is particularly excited about the Queenstown Trails Trust's conservation efforts in the region. As proud Kiwis, we strive to make a difference in the places we live and work. That's why we support initiatives that protect and restore Aotearoa. The work of the Queenstown Trails Trust perfectly aligns with our values in that respect."

-Sandy MacLeod Gallagher Insurance



PAKŃSAVE

"At PAK'nSAVE Queenstown we're passionate about positively impacting our customers' lives every day and supporting our communities to succeed.

We're therefore
excited and proud to
continue to provide
financial support to
the Queenstown
Trails Trust to assist
with trail
maintenance and
future development
ensuring this
amazing asset is
available to us all for
recreational



Anthony King Edgar Bridge

enjoyment, fitness and wellbeing pursuits and as an active commuter solution for all who chose to use the trail network."

> -Michelle & Anthony King Pak'nSave Queenstown





Growing our Annual Appeal

Our 2024 Trail Lovers Annual Fundraising Appeal was all about sharing the love. We set out to make the 2024 campaign our most successful appeal ever, and challenged all trail users to help us raise \$200k during Trail Lovers month. And boy, did our community and partner businesses deliver!

Every year we aim to boost community awareness about Queenstown Trails, encourage all trail users, both local and visitor to make a small contribution to the trails, and showcase the amazing offers that are kindly provided by official partners and sponsors.

This year, our fabulously successful Sponsor-a-plank campaign, as well as a really strong donation response from the community, brought our grand total for the month to over \$240,000.

It is with the utmost gratitude that we recognise each and every donor as esteemed supporters of Queenstown Trails, and eagerly anticipate the ongoing growth of the remarkable Queenstown Trails Trail Lover community.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOR **ACTIVATIONS AND OFFERS DURING TRAIL LOVERS 2024:**

KINROSS AYRBURN



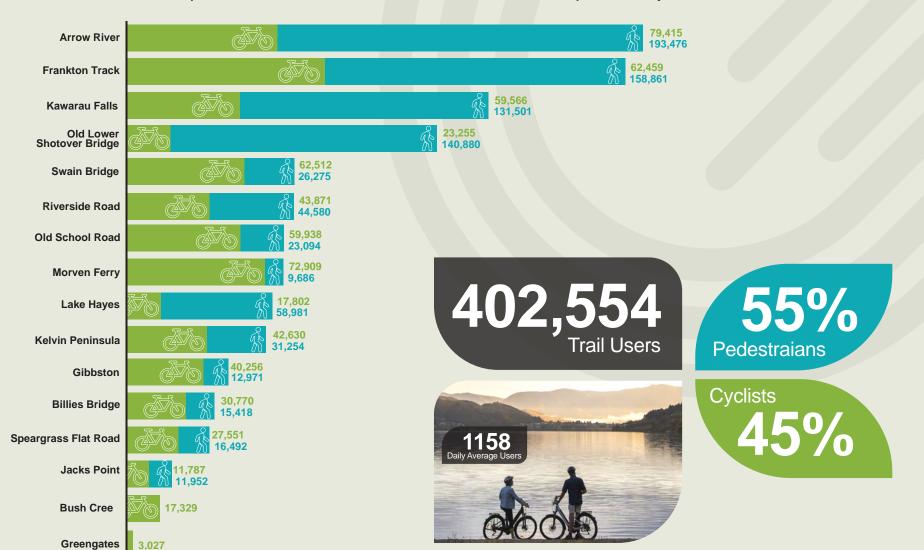






Trail Statistics 2023-2024

The Queenstown Trail network saw 402,544 users hit the trails during the 2023-24 period, which was a 12.5% increase on the previous year.



Thanks to EA Digital for masterminding our social media strategy, and to all the Trail Lovers who Like, Share and Tag @queenstowntrails, helping to increase our visibility and share our vision. Thanks to Fluid for their assistance with our website.



400,000 people reached across Facebook & Instagram



495 pieces of published content - including stories

Facebook & Instagram Followers

Majority of followers in the 35-54 age range

79% Followers from 72

11% Followers from Australia, 2% UK, 2% US

226k 935k 5.5k

Linked in

1.3k content reactions 35k content impressions 22k members reached 232 new followers

WEBSITE:

82% web traffic is new users 24% increase in web traffic since 2019 74% increase in session time



Our Board

Queenstown Trails is governed by a board of trustees that includes leaders in some of the Whakatipu's most reputable business institutions active in efforts to enhance and expand the Queenstown Trails network.



Mike Walker Board Chair



John Edmonds Trustee



Andy Brinsley Deputy Chair



Sarena Glass Trustee



Wendy Pannett Trustee



Benje Patterson Trustee



Steve Hall Trustee



Gavin Bartlett QLDC Representative



Mark Townsley Trustee



Tony McQuilkin Patron



Rosie Hill Trustee



Jonty Edgar & Family Patron

Thank You





We're a small team with a big workload, and its incredibly rewarding that we are able to keep agile enough to see projects like the Wharehuanui Trail come to fruition. I'd like to thank the 'Dream Team' Kat, Emily/Duncan and Erin (who does our social media) for making great things happen.

And, all the consultants, contractors and legal teams who have been instrumental in delivering these new trails, with special mention to Giulio Chapman-Olla for his knowledge and oversight of the entire project. I'd like to acknowledge ongoing Admin support from QLDC and MBIE, on the ground support (Adrian and Chloe from Parks), legal know-how from Bobby Huse at Anderson Lloyd and printing from Heartland Ricoh.

And I always leave them until last, but without our incredible Board of Trustees, none of this would happen. They are the driving force behind Queenstown Trails and volunteer their time because of their passion for this incredible community asset. Thank you for your guidance, trust and encouragement.

The biggest support we have is from our community: everyone who enjoys using the trails becomes a Trail Lover each year by making a donation. Thankyou to each and every one of you who supports us and believes in us to get things done.

-Willy, Kat, Duncan & The Board of Trustees

Summary Statement of Financial Performance

1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
ncome		
Income - Grants & Sundry		
Grants Received	3,213,832	1,306,759
Interest Received	102,692	54,256
Other Income	-	8,950
Total Income - Grants & Sundry	3,316,524	1,369,96
Donations & Fundraising		
Business Donations	52,420	35,80
Trail Lovers (Friends of the Trust)	87,286	109,04
Qtn Trail Donations & Fundraising	1,366,940	431,72
Total Donations & Fundraising	1,506,645	576,56
Event Revenue		
MOT Donation- Motatapu Events	30,038	29,00
QT Marathon Donation - Ironman	30,972	33,96
Total Event Revenue	61,010	62,96
otal Income	4,884,179	2,009,49
xpenses		
Trail Planning, Development & Maintenance		
Construction & Consulting Fees	4,475,321	1,570,34
Signage	3,731	3,22
Track Maintenance	4,364	3,14
Total Trail Planning, Development & Maintenance	4,483,416	1,576,71
Administration, Overheads & Marketing	79,325	98,77
Staffing & Contractor Costs	265,005	200,32
Depreciation & Non Cash Expenses	6,241	7,03
otal Expenses	4,833,987	1,882,84
Net Profit	50,192	126,65

Summary Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2024

	30 Jun 2024	30 Jun 2023
Assets		
Current Assets		
QTT ANZ 02 Current	915,853	192,498
QTT ANZ 03 Call	539,068	1,073,523
QTT ANZ 04 Retentions Savings	192,660	48,087
Accounts Receivable & Other Current Assets	143,447	639,221
GST Control Account	253,232	38,350
Term Deposits	322,608	371,114
Total Current Assets	2,366,868	2,362,793
Fixed Assets & Investments		
Fixed Assets	15,300	14,849
Wakatipu Community Foundation Endowment	104,416	98,072
Total Fixed Assets & Investments	119,717	112,921
Total Assets	2,486,585	2,475,714
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	290,487	338,572
Grants Received in Advance	869,555	1,000,000
Other Current Liabilities, Retentions	199,582	60,373
Total Liabilities	1,359,624	1,398,946
Net Assets	1,126,961	1,076,769
Equity		
Accumulated Funds	1,076,769	950,114
Current Year Earnings	50,192	126,655
Total Equity	1,126,961	1,076,769

Summarised reports, to be read in conjunction with full Performance Report for the Queenstown Trails Trust: 30 June 2024 (as reviewed by KMPG 7/10/2024)



Kimi-ākau Bridge

The Major Supporting Tower Sponsors are:

The Alterno Foundation **Rod Drury The SR McLaren Family Trust**

Total Bridge Cost \$765k Raised in 2024

Plank Sponsors:

Julian & Lizanne Knights

Steve & Viginia Fisher

Melhop Family

Roger Sharp

Josh & Jacqui Camp

Eoin & Kyra Orr

Annie & Richard Tapper

Joran Laird

Ken & Judy Buck

Davy Sprocket

Queenstown Pedallers

Queenstown Top 10 Holiday Park

The Green Family

Sclater Family

Lousie Boulton & Malcolm Stairmand

Emma Hill

Raymond & Joy Keys

John & Katherine Schuitemaker

Alasdair Roy

Jef Desbecker & Robina Bodle

Fixation Builders

Darren, Stacey, Anika & Mikayla Robinson

Dawson & Pannett Family

Barry & Helen Pannett

Mike & Anna Walker

Stephen & Charlotte Montgomery

Sarah Broad

Little Family

Joan Kiernan & Monica Mulholand

The Whipp Family

Bella Cucina

Raymond & Janet Key

Steve Hall & Sally Mingaye

Heidi Norton

Florence Norton

Bianca Norton

Chris & Kirsty Spence

Robert & Louisa Huse

Henry, Amelia & Lucy Huse

O'Leary Family

Parker Family

Blake & Fallon Families

Dooley Family

Shotover Jet

Ngai Tahu Tourism

Marie & Kim Wilkinson

Anthea & Pete Springford

Michael & Rachel Symonds

von Randow Family

Tim, Pippa & Libby Stewart

Aurum Survey Consultants

Behan Family

Blackford Family

Sobels Family

Don & Kathleen Andrew

Rosie & Adam Hill

Get Layed Masonry

Remarkable Sweet Shop

Treacy & Phillip Bell

King Family

CAMBO

Lexie, Evie & Sage Ryan

Henderson-Tohill Family

Outside Sports

Jamie & Sue Hall Stephen Edwards Rae Family

Caroline & Bill Tapley

Corkill Walker Family

Smith Horizons Trust

Glen Sowry & Tracey Hunter

Back on Track Physiotherapy

John & Sarah Cameron The Bebich Batterbury Family

Andrew, Nadia, Austen & Henry Morris

Emily & Josh Ballantyne

P & E Love to ride

Flynn and Zadie Cutler

Hollyer Family

Vertigo Bikes

The Kealv Lavcocks

Arrowtown Bike Hire Ltd

AJ Hackett Bungy NZ

Better By Bike

Adventure South NZ

Kerry & Kit Dunlop

Jan Fris

Lynne, Nick, Jessica and Kate Hyne

Arvid Petersen

John Edmonds & Associates

Shayne & Saige Galloway, Maree Baker-Galloway

Phil Devery & Hayley Redmond, Lily, Indy & Isla Devery

Katharine, Eric, Samantha, Jack and Madeline Tapley-Frerer

Annabel, Duncan, Tabatha & Rupert Tapley-Smith

Grant & Valma Rees Sarah Ottrey & Phil Ingham

McClean & Co Chartered Accountants

In memory of Ben Buckley In memory of Jean Lee