

## Keep Taking the Pills

**Many of the oldest-established firms in Otago date from the gold rush of the early 1860s. However, one that can trace its origins a decade earlier, almost to the foundation of Dunedin itself, is Wilkinson's the chemists.**

Until its recent rebranding as Antidote, Wilkinson's proudly proclaimed above its entrance in George Street that it was founded in 1852, which makes it one of the very few survivors of this pioneering period. The firm was already a decade old when Thomas Wilkinson bought it in 1862, and even then it was advertising its longevity in contrast to its jumped-up Johnny-come-lately competitors. John Sutton, who had arrived in Dunedin in 1849, established this pharmaceutical business in Princes Street in 1852, just down from the Dowling Street corner on the east side of the street. The small shop, with its faux-marble pilasters, appears in many early photographs showing

the view south from Bell Hill down muddy, steep Princes Street. Sutton called his establishment the 'Medical Hall,' a common term in Ireland for an apothecary's shop or pharmacy, or for a combination of a general medical and a pharmaceutical practice. He advertised as a 'druggist,' though in Ireland, druggists were not allowed to act as dispensing chemists. Sutton had taken over Archibald Anderson's medical supply business in Rattray Street which the latter had established originally at the Otakou whaling station in the years before Dunedin was created. From early in 1852 Sutton advertised a wide range of drugs and remedies for both humans and animals, together with items such as trusses, combs and brushes. He stocked a range of chemicals, including 'blue stone,' a solution of copper sulphate in which wheat was steeped to prevent the disease called 'smut' or 'bunt.' This got its name from its black, foul-smelling spores that reeked of fish and could cause fires.

The east side of Princes Street in 1861 with the Medical Hall prominent in the left foreground.



On the death of Sutton in late 1854, Andrew S Wilson purchased the business. He had been a druggist in Britain and assured the public that he would give 'strict and prompt attention' to the preparation of physicians' and family prescriptions and cattle medicines. A prominent sign in Wilson's window announced he also manufactured ginger beer, soda water and aerated drinks. He soon added to the Medical Hall's offerings 'confections' (medicinal preparations, often sweetened), toilet soaps, perfumes, hair oils, smelling salts, Turkey sponges, combs, toothbrushes, nail brushes, and glass or ivory syringes. He also stocked less obviously medicinal items such as clasp knives, pen-knives and cigars — cigarettes were yet to become popular. The spices and chemicals on offer included annatto, ginger, cinnamon, caraway seeds, salad oil, spirits of wine, turpentine, sulphur, arsenic and corrosive sublimate mercurial ointment, which was used on sheep. By the late 1850s the Medical Hall was stocking a wide range of items that had no, or only a tenuous, connection to the pharmaceutical business. Shipments included 'Very Superior' telescopes, stereoscopes, barometers, thermometers, night lights, flutes, violin strings, cribbage boxes, dressing cases and slate-topped fancy tables.

Like other druggists, Wilson stocked patent medicines and other brand-name products. At a time when not all medicines and preparations could be trusted, proprietary brands provided the reassurance that the ingredients were genuine and the recipe had been tested. Wilson offered an unusually wide range, comprising by 1861 Morrison's Pills (a 'vegetable universal medicine'), Cackle's Antibilious Pills, Norton's Chamomile Pills, Hunt's Aperient [ie laxative] Family Pills, Perry Davis' Pain Killer, Rowland's Macassar Oil, Rowland's Odonto (a dentrifice or toothpaste), Keating's Cough Lozenges, Locock's Pulmonic Wafers, and Dalby's Carminative (intended for infants afflicted with wind, watery gripes, fluxes and other disorders of the stomach and bowels, it contained opium). Steedman's Soothing Powders for teething children similarly contained

opium, and mercury too, just to be on the safe side. Wilson's Medical Hall also sold Atkinson & Baker's Infants' Preservative, Powell's Balsam of Aniseed, Hard's Farinaceous Food, Robinson's Patent Groats, Jewsbury & Brown's Cherry Tooth Paste, Cupiss' Constitution Balls for Horses (invented in 1830 and still available from Horse Requisites of Newmarket), James' Blistering Ointment for Horses, Row's (Sydney) Embrocation for Horses, Leeming's Essence, for lameness in horses (which was 86% alcohol), Keating's Insect Powder, and Roth & Ringeisen's Phosphor Paste, for destroying rats and mice.

The best-known patent medicine for which Wilson was agent was Holloway's pills and ointment. Thomas Holloway was a multi-millionaire philanthropist who founded the eponymous women's college in the University of London. Wilson's advertising made great claims for his product: 'Holloways Pills are the best remedy known in the world for the following diseases: Ague; Female Irregularities; Scrofula, or King's Evil;



**Top:** The Medical Hall in the mid-1850s — AS Wilson, dispensing chemist, advertised himself as a manufacturer of ginger beer, soda water and aerated drinks.  
**Above right:** A man emerges from the door of the Medical Hall in the foreground with an unpaved Princes Street in background, early 1860s.



Asthma; Bilious Complaints; Fevers of all kinds; Sore Throats; Blotches on the Skin; Fits; Stone and Gravel; Gout; Secondary Symptoms; Bowel Complaints; Head-ache; Colics; Indigestion; Tic Douloureux; Constipation of the Bowels; Inflammation; Tumours; Ulcers; Jaundice; Venereal affections; Consumption; Liver Complaints; Debility; Lumbago; Worms, all kinds; Dropsy; Piles; Weakness, from whatever cause; Dysentery; Rheumatism; Erysipelas; Retention of Urine; &c. &c.' Wilson discreetly added 'A Word to Females. The local debility and irregularities which are the especial annoyance of the weaker sex, and which, when neglected, always shortens life, are relieved for the time being and prevented for the time to come, by a course of this mild but thorough alterative.' For many years New Zealand governments sought to clamp down on such extravagant claims made for patent medicines, and in 1904 legislation was introduced that would oblige manufacturers to disclose their formulas. This was however quickly dropped in response to pressure from the drug companies, and eventually became law only in 1946.

Helena Rubinstein was also available at Wilkinson's Chemists in March 1906 — the actual Helena Rubinstein. She had arrived in Australia from Poland in 1896 and worked as a governess and waitress before setting up her own beauty salon in Melbourne. Within two years, sales of her own brand of 'Valaze' skin cream made her £12,000, enabling her to open the 'Valaze Institute' in Collins Street. It included an 'operating theatre' where treatments were given for flushed skin, blotches, double chins, warts and superfluous hair. Unsightly Dunedin ladies were not forgotten, either. Wilkinson's was the local agent, and advised ladies 'to take full advantage of Mlle Rubinstein's short visit, to interview her on all complexion matters. Dr Lykuski's Russian Skin Food VALAZE is absolutely guaranteed to produce a Beautiful Complexion. It is compounded from rare Herbs which grow only in the Carpathian Mountains, and is of exceptional value to all who are disfigured with Freckles, Sunburn, Wrinkles, Eczema, Blackheads, or any Skin Blemishes

whatever. Valaze will give to the face that clear, transparent appearance of a little child. It is guaranteed to improve the very worst skin in one month. It is impossible to convey on paper the merits of Valaze; it is in world-wide demand and is causing delightful astonishment to all who use it.' 'Valaze' is allegedly Magyar for 'gift from heaven,' which it certainly was for Helena Rubinstein. By 1908 she had £100,000 in the bank and left for London, where she opened the 'Salon de Beauté Valaze.' A salon in Paris soon followed, but to avoid the war she moved to New York in 1916 and rapidly established a business empire throughout North America.

Chemists, as their name implies, naturally also sold chemicals. They stocked those needed for the new hobby of photography, and in 1858 a photographic studio was opened in the Medical Hall. James Wilson, 'Photographic Artist,' advertised that he was available to take portraits daily from 10am till 3pm. This would have been in order to take advantage of the brightest light since long exposures were necessary. Wilson's 'Dunedin Photographic Gallery' could produce collodion portraits, paper calotypes or stereoscopic portraits on glass or paper. Copies could be made of drawings, engravings, paintings, and Daguerreotypes (which were created by a photographic process that produced only a single copy on a metal plate). Wilson also sold photographic views of Dunedin and the district, together with scenic views of Britain, coloured or stereoscopic if desired. The business survived until March 1860 when the much better-known William Meluish, recently arrived from Nelson, took over.

For a short while, the Medical Hall lived up to its name and became a modern-style medical centre where a doctor could be consulted on the premises. In late 1861 Dr Wilson, newly arrived from Kyneton in Victoria and quite possibly a relation of the proprietor, was available for consultations for two hours each morning. After hours, he could be found at Jones'

Princes Street after 1862 with the Medical Hall seen on the left with many signs clearly readable: 'Wilkinson & Dixon Wholesale & Retail Druggists'.

Provincial Hotel, where other sorts of 'medicinal' preparations were doubtless available. Within a few months however Dr Wilson had opened his own surgery in the Arcade and had dropped his association with the Medical Hall.

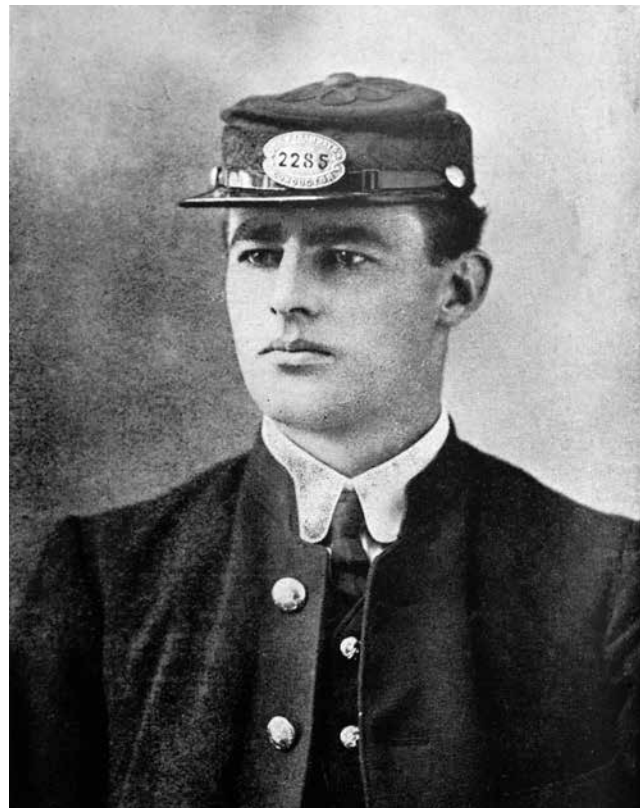
In March 1862 Wilson handed over the business to Thomas Merrett Wilkinson, assuring the public that his successor's 'practical knowledge will, he feels assured, give full satisfaction to all who may favor him with their patronage.' Wilkinson previously had worked for Denneford's and Co of New Bond Street in London, and went into partnership with James Dixon, formerly of Collins Street, Melbourne. Wilkinson & Dixon, pharmaceutical and dispensing chemists, and wholesale and retail druggists, continued to offer Wilson's wide range of products, but added a new line: fresh leeches. The Medical Hall by now had a range of competitors. They included W Luke & Co at the Apothecaries' Hall in Princes Street, Thomas Angell & Co in Kilgour Place, Rattray Street, and Cotterill & Dermer on the corner of Manse and Rattray Streets. Chemists typically kept long hours in those days, opening at eight or nine in the morning and closing at ten at night, or eleven on Saturdays. Six o'clock closing was introduced from about 1914, and Sunday closing began in the years immediately following the Great War. The staff wore formal suits, only adding the now-familiar white coats in the twentieth century.

A branch of Wilkinson's was opened opposite the newly completed Knox Church in 1874, and it survives today as the Knox Unichem Pharmacy. Wilkinson's became a dynastic business in 1888 when Thomas was joined by his son Robert. His grandson Robert Merrett Wilkinson became an apprentice in 1915 and was made manager of the north Dunedin branch six years later. The family firm became a limited-liability company in 1951, and Trevor Hollebon, a former apprentice, became a shareholder; he became principal of the company in 1955. Another former apprentice, Alan McMillan, became a shareholder in 1976, and his son-in-law Warren Leonard became joint owner with him in 1995. There was another Wilkinson's chemist in South Road, Caversham, founded by Frank Wilkinson in the 1890s. Stan Hughes joined the business in 1967 and retired only recently. Wilkinson and Hughes has been known as the Caversham Pharmacy since moving to its present site in 1979.



**Above left:** Wilkinson's tiny shop next to the huge AMP building on the corner of Dowling & Princes Streets, late 19th century.

**Top right:** Wilfred Knight in railwayman's uniform - *Auckland Weekly News* 13 May 1915



## True British Courage Bore Him On

Tucked away in the archives of Toitū Otago Settlers Museum is the story of some detective work and a piece of Otago history. The *Evening Star* reported on 20 July 1916:

**The First New Zealand Casualty** (From Our Parliamentary Reporter)

Who was the first New Zealander to fall at Gallipoli? This question has for some time engaged the attention of Mr TK Sidey who, since coming to Wellington, has made careful enquiries as to whether the late Private WV Knight of Waipori was the first casualty from the Dardanelles to be reported in New Zealand. After numerous enquiries, including a communication with the Australian Defence authorities, Mr Sidey has established the fact beyond dispute. The announcement that Private Knight, of the First Australian Infantry Battalion, had been killed in action was undoubtedly the first casualty notified to the New Zealand authorities.

No 710, Private KNIGHT, Wilfred Victor  
First Battalion  
27.29.4.15  
Died of Wounds  
(Father) Mr FW Knight

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'To be reported' is the important phrase — the unlucky Private Knight was very unlikely to have been the first casualty as he died of his wounds on board a hospital ship two days after the first landings, by which time almost five thousand other soldiers had also become casualties. His name appeared on the second list of Australian casualties of the campaign, issued at the beginning of May 1915 shortly before the first lists of New Zealanders killed and wounded were published. Over the years, Wilf Knight's story was transformed into his having been the first New Zealander killed at Gallipoli, which is how he was remembered until quite recently, not least by his old school, Otago Boys' High. He was one of the 2213 New Zealanders who served in the Australian Imperial Force in the course of the war.

Wilfred Victor Knight was the second son of Frederick William Knight and Mary Snell Knight, née Lean. He first saw the light of day on Sunday, 6 April 1890, his birth being registered at Gabriels, Lawrence, in the second quarter of that year. He was the second of eight children, among them his younger brother Eric (1894–1977) who also fought in the war. Young Wilf was a pupil at Waipori Public School and later Lawrence District High School, finishing his education in Dunedin at OBHS. By 1907 he was back in Waipori, working as a storeman. 'Being a young man of adventurous spirit,' he left for Australia in 1911, aged 21. He worked in mining and later on a sheep farm before heading for Sydney. There he was a tram conductor, and passed an examination as a motor driver. Seemingly bored with this, he went to sea for a short period. By the time war broke out he had become a locomotive fireman with the New South Wales Railways. He lived at Junee in the Riverina, an important railway town on the main line between Melbourne and Sydney. Wilf Knight enlisted in the First Infantry Battalion, F Company, First Section, of the Australian Imperial Force on 22 August 1914. They embarked on the troop-ship *HMAT Afric* (ship no 19) at Sydney on 18 October.

The expeditionary force sailed to Egypt, where Wilf spent a few months in camp near Cairo. He wrote home reporting that — unsurprisingly — the place was very warm, and the heat brought with it 'swarms of flies, which are very tormenting.' He and his comrades had 'not been doing much lately, but what we have done has been very interesting, such as trench digging, bomb proofs, etc., and different strategical schemes which are fully explained to us.' He had visited Cairo several times, though for him the novelty was beginning to wear off. There was plenty of entertainment to keep him in camp, including two vaudeville shows, films and dozens of temporary shops. 'Newspaper boys are around morning and evening with the latest papers. At night the camp is a bright scene, with the picture shows all illuminated with electric light, the shops with gas, and the light of the different cook fires.' While in Cairo Wilf had seen some Turkish prisoners of war, 'a miserable-looking lot. They had no uniforms, and most of them were in rags.' In mid-March, Wilf returned to Cairo to meet his brother Eric: 'Judging by the way things are going, I think it will be the last time we will see one another in Cairo.' He would not see his brother again, but he would soon encounter plenty more Ottoman soldiers. At Anzac Cove, the Australian Third Brigade went ashore before dawn on 25 April 1915, comprising the Ninth, Tenth

and Eleventh Battalions, with the Twelfth in reserve. The Main Force landed next — the First Brigade — with Private Knight and his First Battalion in the van. He was hit in the early stages of the fighting with the Ottoman defenders, and was evacuated to a hospital ship off the coast, where he died a couple of days later of his wounds. Wilf Knight was buried at sea and is commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission at the Lone Pine Cemetery, Gallipoli. He is also remembered on the family memorial in Waipori Cemetery and in Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Lawrence. He is one of the five Waipori men listed on the Lawrence war memorial. In Dunedin, his name also appears on the Otago Boys' High School war memorial gate, here at Toitū Otago Settlers Museum, and in the Anzac Chapel in St Matthew's Anglican Church, where he had attended the Sunday School.

On hearing the news of her son's death, Wilf's mother said: 'Well, I have no regrets, because he died for a just cause, and if I had a dozen sons, I would not object to every one of them going to fight for their King and country, and the flag of liberty.' His father was just as stoic: interviewed by a reporter from the *Otago Daily Times*, he 'expressed himself as only a true patriot could. He said that of course it grieved him to lose his son, but with him the safety of the Empire came first, and it was only to be expected that when men were engaged in a fight such as the present there would be many casualties, and it might be the lot of any parent to lose those whom they held most dear.'

Wilf Knight's father Frederick was born in Hampshire, England in 1856. His parents had taken the family to Victoria in 1860 and then on to Otago two years later. They settled in Waipori in 1864, where his father died the following year. Frederick Knight became a most successful businessman there, and was the local postmaster and telegraphist. He belonged to the Waipori Lodge of Oddfellows and for more than twenty years was a member of the local School Committee. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 1884 and in that capacity was Deputy Coroner for the district, which he also served as Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages. Knight was active in the Mining Association and, until it was disbanded, the Waitahuna Licensing Committee. Moving to Dunedin, he became President of the Otago Early Settlers' Association in 1928–29, and lived until 1951. His wife Mary (1859–1933) was the eighth of ten children born to Richard and Elizabeth Lean, who emigrated to New Zealand in 1854. Her father was born in Cornwall in 1825 and her mother in Stirlingshire in 1823. Elizabeth Lean died at the age of 55 in 1879 and is buried in Port Chalmers Old Cemetery. Her widower Richard lived on until 1906 and is buried in the Northern Cemetery, Dunedin.

### John Manning

With thanks to Seán Brosnahan and Ashley Blair (Eric Knight's grandson)

(The title is a line from the now seldom-sung second verse of 'Advance Australia Fair'.)





Darcy Christopher is perhaps best remembered for having as a young pilot crashed his aeroplane into the sea off St Clair beach in 1941. The Association however has reason to be grateful that his investments did not similarly take a nose-dive. He was a life member of the Otago Early Settlers' Association, having joined in 1945. His grandfather John Christopher and great-grandfather Andrew Christopher had arrived in the *Echunga* in 1867; his other paternal great-grandparents, Philip Beer and his wife, arrived in the *Chile* in 1861 and headed for the Kyeburn diggings.

Darcy Bertram Christopher and his wife Frances Grace (née Mockett) were childless, and having no close relations to fritter away the inheritance, the proceeds from the sale of their property in Golden Bay were invested for the benefit of charities in Otago. Darcy had grown up in Kennedy Street and attended St Clair Primary School. He was rescued from the drink in 1941 by fellow-members of the St Clair Surf Life Saving Club, which together with his old school has benefited from his legacy. Since his death at the age of 81 in 1995 almost \$2.4 million has been given to good causes in five-yearly tranches. The OSA alone has gratefully received about \$60,000 over two decades. The 2005 and 2010 donations went towards the Museum's redevelopment, but it has yet to be decided which projects the latest sum will be spent on. Darcy Christopher's will specified that the trustees deliver the money in person, so on 26 March Geoff Milnes and David Beatson visited Dunedin to present a cheque for \$12,500 to the Association. They were invited to afternoon tea and thanked formally by our President Susan Schweigman. The proceedings were filmed by Dunedin Television.

Though he spent much of his life after the war in North Canterbury, Golden Bay and Marlborough, St Clair remained close to Darcy Christopher's heart. He certainly had a few adventures there.

At the age of sixteen he was exploring at the base of the cliffs in the winter of 1931 when a stone fell from the cliff face and crushed his ankle. He was with a friend, William Scott, who went for help. The police, ambulance and fire brigade turned up, but by this time it had become dark. A doctor was able to get down to the narrow, stony beach, but a track had to be cut to enable Darcy's rescuers to carry him up safely. The firemen and ambulance men were lowered to a ledge fifty feet down, from where they picked their way to him by torchlight. Darcy was hauled up the crumbling cliff face with ropes for the final part of the ascent, which took about four hours. Prominent among his rescuers was Fireman CWN Ingram (John Ingram's grandfather).

Ten years later he was back again. Darcy Christopher had joined the air force in 1940 at the age of twenty-six, and was commissioned the following year. He was ferrying a Vickers Vincent reconnaissance aircraft from Whenuapai to the Taieri Aerodrome in November 1941 when NZ349 was caught in the slipstream of the accompanying aeroplane while circling over the sea near White Island. He tried to turn out of the slipstream, but it seems the aircraft stalled and he hit the water about half a mile off shore, 'practically in front of the esplanade.' The aircraft disappeared into the water, but the tail then rose above the surface due to the flotation bags within the fuselage. It is tempting to conclude that Darcy had taken a detour from his official flight path in order to fly over his old stamping-ground. It was about eleven in the morning and Hugh Devlin was patrolling the beach for the St Clair Surf Life Saving Club. He ran to the clubhouse, changed into his bathing trunks and with Stewart Algie paddled the surf boat out though the breakers. Within twenty minutes they reached the wreck, finding Pilot Officer Christopher sitting on the tail, having removed his heavy flying suit and boots. He waved cheerily to his rescuers: he was a former secretary of the club and had taken part in several surf rescues himself in the past. He was taken to hospital suffering from shock and injuries to his nose. His aircraft eventually sank in about thirty feet of water, but the sea was too rough to fish it out immediately. A southerly gale and heavy seas a few days later washed the wreckage ashore. It was salvaged by the air force and taken to Taieri Aerodrome. Despite this embarrassing prang, Darcy Christopher became a training instructor at Harewood Aerodrome (now Christchurch Airport), where he served the rest of the war.



**Top left:** Darcy Christopher in RNZAF uniform.

**Above right:** Vickers Vincent NZ107 in flight - Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington - 1/4-014965



## Obituary

### Rev Dr Wilson Daniel (1929–2015)

The Otago Settlers Association acknowledges with regret the passing of the Rev Dr Wilson Daniel. As a boy of about nine in Southland, in 1938, his grandmother gave him a Life Endowment Membership of the O(E)SA. This early start enabled him to achieve the record for continuous membership of the Otago Settlers Association, 78 years! His last contact with the Association was when he was unable to attend the Christmas meeting in December last year, 2014, because he wasn't feeling great.

Wilson was an academic who worked in a variety of professional areas, starting as a young lawyer in Invercargill. His work with families led him to the ministry, and he then became the Presbyterian Minister at Roxburgh for a period. Further studies lured him back to Dunedin, subsequently taking him overseas for many years. He was described at his memorial service as a polyglottal polymath. On returning to New Zealand he worked in Napier, before coming back to Dunedin. He was involved in the setting up of the Family Court, and also was the first Director of the Cameron Centre in Dunedin. He was active in a number of groups, including at least three clans, the Law Society, Knox College, and of course the OSA. A man of many interests and talents.

## Otago Settlers Association Committee Update

Since the AGM last year, the OSA Committee has been very busy. From the day the Museum reopened, we felt it was time to review then upgrade our profile to match the wonderful new attraction. The Otago University marketing students' voluntary consulting group 'Ignite' produced a 'future direction' document to help us to raise our profile, generate interest and attract new members. Their report gave the Committee much food for thought. Some of its recommendations and our own strategic planning are starting to bear fruit.

On the management side, Kerry Hendry our Administrator is growing in confidence in her role. With regard to technology, we are actively planning for a new financial package, membership database, and website. This involves a steep learning curve, and thanks go to the website team, in particular Anne Elliott and David Scoular, and our treasurer Keith Clifford.

At a retreat held in March, it was agreed to review membership categories. This will result in presentations to the AGM. We also considered what else the OSA could do to attract members and support the museum. As a first step, the OSA will hold a 'Friends' seminar in May open to representatives of other similar support organisations. They will discuss the role of Friends groups, funding, membership and challenges, among other matters.

We have been fortunate in having received some very positive publicity relating to the poppy project, and we gained some new members as a result. The OSA continues to support the Otago Anniversary Dinner Committee, as well as the Anniversary Day service at First Church. As usual, members were involved with Anzac Day events. *Otago Settlers News* is recognised as a significant communication medium for the OSA. We wish to build on that, as well as extending our online presence via the new website and e-newsletter. (No facebook as yet, though.)

The OSA Committee is fortunate to have Museum staff members at all of its committee meetings, and we are grateful for their input. On a practical, day-to-day level this direct communication is very useful for both parties. The poppy project is one result of this closer co-operation.

**Susan Schweigman**  
President

## Rosy-fingered Dawn

OSA volunteers provided welcome refreshments to the unusually large numbers of people who attended the dawn ceremony on the centenary of the Anzac attack on the Dardanelles. To mark the occasion, the Turkish, Australian and New Zealand flags were flown from the former NZR Bus Station's flagpoles. It was a beautiful morning, with an appropriately Homeric red glow to the dawn. Good use has been made of the masses of woollen poppies that have been knitted for the Association. Some were taken to Wellington and laid on the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior by Otago-based members of the Patriots Motorcycle Club (SI). Swathes of poppies have been placed near the war memorial in Toitū Otago Settlers Museum, while some of the remainder were made into two wreaths. One will go on display in the museum, while the other was laid on the Cenotaph on 25 April by our President, Susan Schweigman, and the Museum's Director, Jennifer Evans. After the quietly impressive service, many people came over to the Museum for tea and an Anzac biscuit. Possibly more than a thousand cups were served by OSA members and Museum staff. With so many arriving at once, the pressure to have it all ready on time was demanding for those involved. They were very busy, and many members of the public were most grateful for their efforts — and said so.



## Happy Anniversary

The dinner held at the Museum to commemorate the 167th anniversary of the foundation of Otago was a great success. The Mayor of Dunedin, Dave Cull, spoke about his nineteenth-century predecessors. They came from a wide variety of professions: not the wealthy landowners but often self-made businessmen. Their term of office was just a year, but some were re-elected several times.

## For Your Diary Winter Meeting

The Winter Meeting will be on Wednesday, 8 July, starting at 7pm. The speaker will be the Dunedin historian Dr John Stenhouse, who gave the well-received address at First Church on Anniversary Day.

Members of the Association are entitled to a handy discount of 15% on the cost of books and other items from the Museum shop. They also have free access to the archives, and for those living outside Dunedin an hour's free research each year by the Archivist, Emma Knowles. A leaflet giving practical advice on researching ancestors who fought in the Great War is also available.



**Editor:** Austin Gee; **Designer:** Tim Cornelius; **Publisher:** Otago Settlers Association.

This newsletter was produced by the Otago Settlers Association, founder and supporter of the Toitū Otago Settlers Museum. Membership of the Association is open to everyone interested in the heritage of this region. Details of membership are available from the Otago Settlers Association Secretary, Box 74, Dunedin. Phone/fax 03 477 8677, email [otago.settlers.assn@xtra.co.nz](mailto:otago.settlers.assn@xtra.co.nz)

 **Otago Daily Times**

*The Otago Daily Times supports Toitū Otago Settlers Museum*

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OSA President Susan Schweigman holds a collection of a thousand knitted poppies prior to their installation in the *Call To Arms* display.