

'TAKE OVER A TOWN'

IN CENTRAL OTAGO

Meeting Newz talks with the organisers



Conference delegates celebrate St Patrick's Day in style whilst cycling Lake Dunstan Trail Central Otago

CASE STUDY

EVENT NAME:

2025 Innovations in Health Psychology Conference

DATES:

16-21 March 2025 (five nights)

DESTINATION:

Clyde, Central Otago

DELEGATES

70 delegates from around the world

CONFERENCE VENUE:

Masonic Lodge Dunstan, Clyde

About the conference:

This is an invite-only conference for the top health psychologists around the world, scheduled every two years.

Conference organisers:

Keith Hines: Organised venues, activities, programme, functions.

Fortis Events: Organised transportation, accommodation.

Accommodation:

Olivers Boutique Lodge, The Lord Clyde Boutique Lodge, Clyde Central, Clyde B&Bs.

Dinners:

Olivers Restaurant, The Packing Shed, The Post Office, Orchard Garden, Paulina's, Pitches Store and Bannockburn Hotel.

Activities and locations:

Wine tastings and tours at Two Paddocks, South Edge Vineyard and Monte Cristo Winery; wine blending with Matt Connell Wines; 4WD tour to the Old Man Range; cycling the Lake Dunstan Trail, horse riding in Earnsclough and Wānaka; guided walking tours to Orchard Garden and Monte Cristo

Winery and Cromwell Heritage Precinct; winemaker hosted dinner with Riesling tasting at Olivers; drinks at Earnsclough Castle; St Patrick's Day dinner at The Packing Shed; Europe versus the world football match in the Clyde Domain.

What were the conference highlights?

Delivering a multi-day academic programme (opened by the Mayor of Central Otago, Tamah Alley) balanced with social wellbeing activities for all delegates. These wellbeing activities included cycling the Lake Dunstan Trail; horse riding, sightseeing and 4W driving. The social programme incorporated visiting a range of local restaurants and enjoying live entertainment.

Why did you choose Clyde?

Clyde offered us the opportunity to live like locals and have interactions out of session thanks to the proximity of cafés, restaurants, trails.

The region has exceptional locally grown

wine and food. Access to orchards, vineyards, and trails offered the opportunity to learn about wine and spend time exploring.

There is a diverse range of activities for all delegates – active and passive – and good proximity to Queenstown Airport with a good range of accommodation suitable for all budgets.

What did delegates say about the conference?

Clyde is such a relaxed, friendly town, and we love the locals. It felt like we had 'taken over the town' crossing paths with other delegates, like living in a neighbourhood.

Conferencing in different venues made the content far more memorable. It was so enriching to stay amongst some of the best-preserved architecture in NZ. The food and wine was exceptional and the home baking in cafés was delicious. There were extraordinary landscapes and range of activities. The township of Clyde was such a surprise, quaint and beautiful.



Winemaker hosted dinner at Olivers Restaurant Central Otago