

# 'Rail Trail Bird Girl'

Golden Block Public Toilets  
(Behind Paper Plus)

This mural was created by ten students from Alexandra Primary School as part of the Alexandra Youth Mural Project.

The Alexandra Youth Mural Project is a joint initiative between the Central Otago District Arts Trust, the Central Otago District Council, and local funding bodies.

A Youth Project Charter was developed by the Central Otago District Arts Trust to implement some of the recommendations identified in the Arts Strategy 2013. The primary objective of this Youth Project is to encourage education, participation and development in the arts for the young people of Central Otago.

Following discussions between Central Otago District Council and Arts Trust coordinator Rebekah de Jong about beautifying public spaces, the Youth Mural Project was decided upon. Central Otago artist Maxine Williams was commissioned to develop and facilitate a suitable programme.

Maxine guided a group of creative young people through a series of workshops. During the weekly workshops the students studied the history of street art, practised painting and worked on producing large format artworks. The final phase of the workshops focused on developing a concept and designing a mural that represented the thoughts, feelings and interests of the participants, and how they saw and felt about Central Otago.

The Alexandra Primary artists designed 'Rail Trail Bird Girl', which was painted by them and members of the general public at the Alexandra Thyme Festival in November 2017.

The concept of featuring the Otago Central Rail Trail as a major theme emerged. Names were drawn out of a hat to decide who would be the model for the person on the bike and Alexandra Primary pupil Sophie Smith was chosen.

Throughout the workshops the characteristics of a variety of animals were studied including native birds. Students came up with the idea that birds flying out of the tunnel and a person riding a bike could both be symbolic of freedom. A culmination of all of these ideas were put together and the final design and subsequent mural was produced.

This initiative has been kindly supported by Central Lakes Trust, Otago Community Trust, the Creative Communities Scheme and the Vincent Community Board.

## Students involved were:

Sophie Wilson	Evie Clearwater
Ryley Park	Sophie Smith
Isla Redgrave	Claudia Hammond
Ruby Nevill	Olly Boyd
Bella Pilgrim	Holly Johns

# ‘Aliens Beam up a Cow’

Alexandra BMX Public Toilet

This mural was created by nine students from Alexandra Primary School as part of the Alexandra Youth Mural Project.

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The Terrace Primary artists designed ‘Aliens Beam up a Cow’, which was painted by them and members of the general public at the Alexandra Thyme Festival in November 2017.

An image of a spaceship abducting a cow was included in the background of one of the student’s works. A collective awareness of the recent addition of dairy cows to the Central Otago landscape and what effect they may have on the environment over time spurred a further thought process. Everyone decided this was an incredible theme for their mural and so the basis for the Terrace Primary School mural was finalised. Central Otago hills, snowy mountains, a rainbow sky and the lake were added to the design.

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## Students involved were:

Joel Omond	Flynn Donnelley
Mila Druce	Sam Templeton
Mikayla Leckie	Jordan Lacey
Molly Mason	Kaylee Halberg
Cuillan Barnes	

# '4 Seasons in Central'

Clyde Railway Station Public Toilets

This mural was created by eight students from Clyde Primary School as part of the Alexandra Youth Mural Project.

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Following discussions between Central Otago District Council and Arts Trust coordinator Rebekah de Jong about beautifying public spaces, the Youth Mural Project was decided upon. Central Otago artist Maxine Williams was commissioned to develop and facilitate a suitable programme.

Maxine guided a group of creative young people through a series of workshops. During the weekly workshops the students studied the history of street art, practised painting and worked on producing large format artworks. The final phase of the workshops focused on developing a concept and designing a mural that represented the thoughts, feelings and interests of the participants, and how they saw and felt about Central Otago.

The Clyde Primary artists designed '4 Seasons in Central', which was painted by them and members of the general public at the Alexandra Thyme Festival in November 2017.

Clyde students decided to do a mural depicting four trees, each one representing a different season – summer, autumn, winter and spring. The Central Otago climate is extreme and seasons are visually and physically distinct. Students agreed that with every season colours change dramatically and what you see, smell and feel changes as well. Students decided they would like to highlight this in their final design. Funnily enough most of the creatures depicted in this mural are not native to New Zealand but the students felt they all best represented the Central Otago environment.

This initiative has been kindly supported by Central Lakes Trust, Otago Community Trust, the Creative Communities Scheme and the Vincent Community Board.

## Students involved were:

Mackenzie Blanch	Heidi Curtin
Eli Banks	Amelie Sutherland-Harris
Tahlia Sangster	Jayden Ashby-Johnson
Poppy Wallace	Nesta Maaka

# ‘Camo Deer’

Molyneux Park Public Toilets

This mural was created by 10 students from St Gerard’s Primary School as part of the Alexandra Youth Mural Project.

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Following discussions between Central Otago District Council and Arts Trust coordinator Rebekah de Jong about beautifying public spaces, the Youth Mural Project was decided upon. Central Otago artist Maxine Williams was commissioned to develop and facilitate a suitable programme.

Maxine guided a group of creative young people through a series of workshops. During the weekly workshops the students studied the history of street art, practised painting and worked on producing large format artworks. The final phase of the workshops focused on developing a concept and designing a mural that represented the thoughts, feelings and interests of the participants, and how they saw and felt about Central Otago.

The St Gerard’s artists designed ‘Camo Deer’, which was painted by them and members of the general public at the Alexandra Thyme Festival in November 2017.

When drawing up design ideas St Gerard’s pupil Owen Gullick asked, “can we have a stag?” Students decided that we didn’t see many stags in Central Otago so he suggested we present this thought by depicting a deer in ‘camo skin’! This idea was quickly adopted by the other students in the class. Students decided that because photography is so popular in Central Otago there could be a photographer in the mural ‘shooting’ the deer. It was decided that icons such as Alexandra’s clock on the hill, the river and the sign were all elements that should be incorporated into the mural in keeping with the Central Otago theme.

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## Students involved were:

Tessa Handford	Jade Cockburn
Owen Gullick	Olly Lyon
Ethan Constable	Kayla Shelford
Sophia Lyon	Mika Tait
Olivia Dyson	Charlie Donaldson