

Central Lakes Trust Media Statement

For immediate release

Thursday 24 November 2005

New Chairman of Central Lakes Trust

The Trustees of the Central Lakes Trust are pleased to announce that Duncan Butcher has been elected to the role of Chairman from 1st December 2005. Outgoing Chairman Peter Mead said that he had decided to step down from the role on the fifth anniversary of the Trust's formation. Mr Mead will continue as a Trustee of the Trust.

Mr Mead, who was also previously Chairman of the Otago Central Electric Power Trust, said the period of his chairmanship had seen the Trust firmly embedded in the community and it was now widely accepted as a very significant region-wide asset. The Central Lakes Trust approved its first grants in March 2001, four months after its formation. Mr Mead said that: "It has been a very important period of establishment for the Trust and I feel it is time for a new Chairman to lead the Trust into the next phase of its development."

That development will be the subject of a strategic planning exercise that incoming Chairman Duncan Butcher will be leading in the new year. "The Central Lakes Trust is like any other community organisation and it needs to have a firm grasp of its objectives and how it will meet them," Mr Butcher said. "The Trust is 'growing up' and it needs to have a clearly defined role in the community as well as the opportunity to be innovative and responsive to the needs of the community."

Mr Butcher extended his thanks to Mr Mead for his vision and leadership during the testing early years of the Trust. He also acknowledged Mr Mead's contribution to the Trust's formation as Chair of the Otago Central Electric Power Trust.

Duncan Butcher is a well known member of the Central Otago community and is currently in his third term as a Trustee. In addition to his previous role as a Trustee with the Otago Central Electric Power Trust, Mr Butcher has had a long and distinguished career in local government and is currently a member of the Otago Regional Council. He is also a Trustee of the Community Trust of Otago.

Duncan Butcher will formally take up the role as Chairman of the Central Lakes Trust on Thursday 1st December 2005.

ENDS

For further information contact:

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