

BOYLE RIVER OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE



20th Dec 2024. Newsletter and updates



About the Boyle

The Boyle River Outdoor Education Centre was set up in 1978 predominantly as a brainchild of the then, Belfast Rotary Club. Belfast worked with Rangiora Rotary and they developed a plan to build a 'tin shack in the mountains for youth to go'. Well that tin shack was a mammoth effort and stands solidly today as it did back then. We are proud to have our Whakapapa (history) so entwined within the community and its organisations

Future Focused

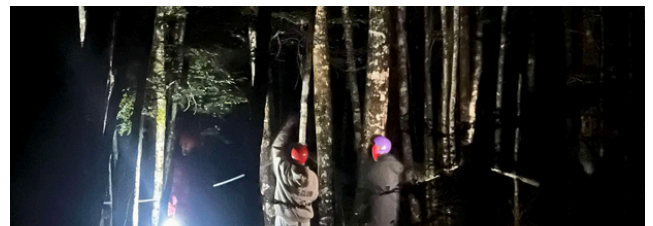
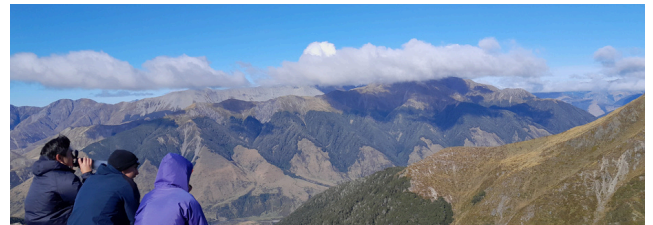
50th Anniversary 2028

It seems a long way off but 2028 is just around the corner. We are keen to hear from people who are interested in celebrating with us.

We are collating contacts for this event and you can register your interest in attending via email info@boyle.org.nz



Damper over the fire and abseiling with groups this year



Sponsors

Rangiora Rotary
Belfast-Kaiapoi Rotary
EB Milton Trust
Mainland Foundation
Rata Foundation
Macpac
NZCT



Messages from the Centre Manager

An overview and beginning

I want to start by wishing everyone a safe, fun, whanau filled Christmas and hope that you all get a break from the busy spaces.

Those of us here at the Boyle have had a year of development, consolidation, newness and growth.

It has been a year that deserves reflection to acknowledge the many people who have given their time and energy assisting us. Without you we wouldn't be the great place that we are.

As we close out 2024 and lean into 2025 we are thrilled to share with you what we are hoping will be an ongoing process to keep you up to date and informed about The Boyle River Outdoor Education Centre, and the latest developments in our mission to make a positive impact in our community.

From the Boyle would like to express our gratitude to all of our donors and volunteers who have continued to support us during these challenging times. Your generosity and dedication have allowed us to keep our programs running smoothly and effectively and literally keep the doors open. There are so many to thank that we couldn't fit them into this newsletter but know you are appreciated

I meet people all the time who talk about having come to the Centre and can feel the history and connections that have been made.

Having started here at The Centre in Mid April I can assure you there has been challenges and wins and I am proud of what we have achieved in a short period of time.

In terms of our recent activities, we have successfully worked with two Kura Kaupapa for the first time this year to provide outdoor education experiences and intend to continue these relationships and imbed more Mātauranga and Te Ao Maori concepts into our everyday practice. Cont...

Cont...



An overview and beginning

We have successfully completed our Adventure Mark Safety Audit for another three year cycle and are continuing to build relationships and work more closely with other organisations who work in outdoor spaces and with youth.

We have a range of new initiatives that we are hoping to get off the ground for 2025 including :-

- A specialised programme of training with Dr Ihirangi Heke a leader in Environmental Sustainability Practices and Outdoor Education from a Maori perspective.
- All female Duke of Edinburgh journeys
- One day river safety programmes.
- Fundraisers which you can find out more about in this newsletter.

We are also onboarding a new up and coming group of staff who are keen and committed to being at the Centre.

Finally, we want to remind everyone that our charity relies on the kindness and support of our community. If you are able to donate, or are interested in volunteering please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Together, we can make a real difference in the lives of those who come to the Boyle. Thank you for your continued support!

Meri Kirihimete

Sharon Nicholas
Centre Manager



Staffing at the Boyle River Outdoor Education Centre

Sometimes it is hard to know who is who so we thought here is a quick overview of the staffing at the Centre.

We have a board comprising of nine people many who are connected to Rotary and schools who have a long history with the Centre.

We currently have a Centre Manager and an Operations Manager who are leading the push to develop and organise things on the ground to ensure camps and groups are informed and run smoothly.

We have a maintenance manager and a chef who specialises in dietary and plant based

foods and a raft of employees who come on for programmes from as far afield as Nelson but most come from Christchurch.

Many of the staff live off site and travel to the Centre each week. This shows true dedication to working with us, they spend more time here than in their own beds.

We have an administrator/warden who oversees our Te Araroa and tramping services and assists in the office. Traditionally a temporary position that we hope to make more permanent.



Centre Manager

Centre Manager Sharon Nicholas joined The Boyle, in Mid April after a stint at Wellington City Council. She has spent more than 20 years working in Outdoor Education and guiding roles including nine years at Outward Bound NZ, three years designing and delivering experiential leadership for the NZ police, and multiple years managing and contracting in the Polytechnics teaching technical outdoor skills.

Sharon has also guided in the polar regions and assesses instructors for the NZ Outdoor Instructors Association.



Operations Manager

Operations Manager Julian Wright hales from Kenya.

Julian moved to NZ with his wife and young family at the start of 2024 and is currently based in Christchurch. Julian worked as a guide and educator in Kenya before running a climbing gym and then starting his own business 'African Ascents' a successful guiding company taking people up Mt Kenya and Kilimanjaro. Julian is an experienced outdoorsman specializing in alpine, bush and climbing as well as dealing with wild animals somewhat similar to teenagers !



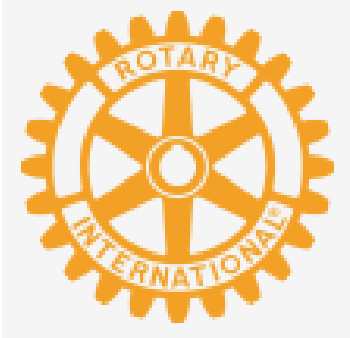
Communities

In 2025 we are currently scheduled to be hosting 28 schools and universities and working alongside or running programmes for at least another 10 organisations or Boyle River managed programmes.

This year as well as the Kura Kaupapa who have come onboard we are also working with the Hurunui District Council to run leadership development programmes for the Youth Council and Potential leaders as well as Haemophilia NZ

We are aiming to run More Duke of Edinburgh Award Adventurous Journeys next year and are in conversations with other youth organisations about weekend based programmes.

If you know of other organisations or corporates who may be interested in some team building or leadership development you can assist us to share the word that we are open to hearing from them and custom designing something that suits. Our greatest gaps are in August.

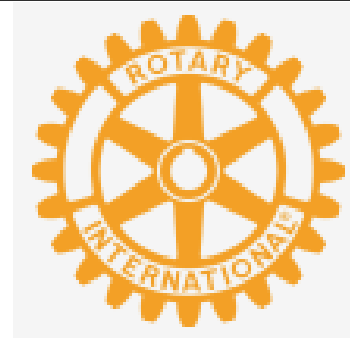


Belfast-Kaiapoi Rotary

Belfast-Kaiapoi Rotary have been amazing supporters coming to assist us when we needed to clear out the sewage holding tanks but also visiting to see what else can be done.

We would like to recognise Tony Cox and Family who enabled the insulation of the staff house and storage boxes for food and Sean Roscoe who has been working on some behind the scenes tasks.

Reigniting the relationship with our founding Rotary and keeping it going is so important to our future and we can't thank you enough for your ongoing support.



Rangiora Rotary

Another long term supporter/ founder of the Centre; Rangiora Rotary brought a bus load of their team up for a visit and tour earlier this year. It was great to have them onsite. Members organised a trailer load of wood to keep the staff fire burning through winter and have worked with Michael Ermerins to supply doors for the showers in the student accommodation. Rangiora Rotary made a decision to support the Centre financially which has enabled us in quieter times this year to tick along and we are greatly appreciative of the support.



Rotary Leadership Camp

We want to recognise the Rotary groups who supported youth to attend a leadership camp this year.

We run this camp in late September every year. This year we saw 19 students attend from as far afield as Nelson and Ashburton as well as the West Coast and Christchurch.

We aim to let everyone know about the programme earlier next year as both schools and participants have found it to be hugely rewarding.

If you scroll through our facebook page you would see some video testimonials from students.

'All these skills, I am sure I would have developed at some point in my life, but this opportunity to bounce ideas off each other, and build on our experiences in terms of leadership and teamwork, has placed me in such a more confident position to lead purposefully with group success;' Harry Parrish

'Each of these activities not only taught me great leadership skills, they also pushed me further than my comfort zone. I hope to use

these new skills through leadership activities throughout my schooling.' Felicite Antonuik-Newall.

Rotary Sponsorship 2024 recognition

- Ashburton
- Ashburton Plains
- Lincoln
- Bishopdale-Burnside
- Ferrymead
- Linwood Woolston
- Cashmere
- Hornby
- Greymouth
- Rutherford
- Nelson

We will be running this again in 2025 so if you or other Rotary wish to sponsor students please reach out and let us know.

We also run an unsponsored Potential Leaders camp for years 12 and 13 in December each year.

This camp focuses on those students who are taking leadership roles within their schools. If you are interested in hearing about this or supporting students please get in touch.



Changing of the Guard.

It is with sadness the Trust says goodbye to Chrissie Williams, retiring Boyle River Education Trust Board Chair. Chrissie has a long association with the Boyle having served as a Guardian from the beginning of this programme (sometime in the 1980s).

More recently in early 2020 Chrissie joined the NCAT Board immediately taking on the role of Chair. In her role as Board Chair Chrissie has made a significant contribution. She has:

- reviewed and registered the Trust Deed
- reviewed Trust Policies strengthening the legal aspects of our policies
- developed the current NCAT Strategic Plan
- strengthened employment contracts

With Nick Chapman's departure as Centre Manager Chrissie has also taken an active role in operational matters. For example, strengthening the Guardian programme/processes through hands-on engagement.

We appreciate all that Chrissie has done for the Boyle and wish her all the best in the future .

Incoming Chair Bruce White stepped into the Chair Role this month and is familiar with Boyle River as you will be able to tell from his introduction below. We look forward to working alongside Bruce and seeing what comes next.

I have had the privilege of being associated with the North Canterbury Alpine Trust for around 10 years as a volunteer guardian and Board Member.

I believe that the experience offered by the Boyle can be life changing. The impact of overcoming self imposed limits, stepping outside your comfort zone and achieving a goal certainly builds self esteem and confidence.

I am a Chartered Accountant and member of the Institute of Directors. I believe that my skills will complement the talented individuals who comprise the Board and look forward to working with them, the Centre staff and our wider community to deliver the best possible outdoor experience for the young people of Canterbury.



Projects : Boyle River

As we move into 2025 we have a number of projects launching and in need.

Sponsor the Boyle / Sponsor a School

We are working with schools to fundraise for them and the Centre.

We are sending out flyers which you can see on the following pages and accompanying letters explaining the fundraiser.

These are then sent out by schools to their alumni and local organisations to gain sponsorship for their school camp.

Alternately people can choose to sponsor the Boyle.

By engaging with our schools and communities we hope to decrease the pressure on them and families, and enable all youth to attend their camp.

You can help by sharing these flyers with your communities. Just touch base and we will forward you copies of the information

Upgrades to the High Ropes Course

This year we have been supported by the EB Milton Trust to complete our annual audit and to carry out maintenance on our high ropes courses.

The High Ropes is a key feature of camps and gets almost daily use when groups are in. It is an iconic and impactful activity and one that is often a highlight for participants. It can be fun, challenging and provide areas of teamwork, leadership and overall growth.

We are hoping to complete an upgrade to allow more use of this activity that is a key highlight of those who cross the cattlestop to the Boyle.

The cost of the upgrade is going to be around \$30,000.



More on the Projects at the Boyle

Staff and Student accommodation

We are constantly amazed by the numbers of people who have been to the Centre, we meet them everywhere and we need them now!

Our staff are the heart and soul of the organisation, students remember their time and activities but they love and rave about their instructors.

Instructors work tirelessly to ensure programmes run smoothly often starting their days early and finishing late or being out multiple nights with their students. It is imperative that we remain safe and like anyone our staff can get back to a warm bed and a solid sleep.

In 2025 we need to renovate the staff accommodation.

It is the simple things that matter and sharing a room is not an issue for our team but when we are busy and our team doesn't need too, then having a space of their own after a difficult day is a luxury.

We are looking for sponsorship to build a new wing and renovate what is there turning a three bedroom house into a 6 bedroom house.

Currently we can accommodate 7 staff in 3 rooms and hope to accommodate up to 12 with a kitchen and bathroom that is user friendly.

Accommodation is a barrier for staff here at the Boyle and we are lucky to always attract capable, passionate people.

By completing a renovation of the accommodation we will ensure that we continue to look after the team, attract and retain great staff and future proof the organisation for the next 50 years.

Renovating the current accommodation is not an option but a necessity.

If you can help us find sponsorship or assistance with this job get in touch or share this with your contacts.

This is an amazing way to assist the youth of Canterbury indirectly.

We have architectural concept designs done and an experienced architect ready to complete plans but we are looking for support for building and concessions.

The estimated costs be will around \$200,000.



Student Accommodation

Upgrading the student accommodation has been on the radar for a while now. Our aim is to fundraise for this as an ongoing project that we hope to complete before our 50th Anniversary celebrations.

Imagine opening the new accommodation at the 50th!

The current building has done well to withstand the battering of teenagers over 50 years.

We have many requests for camps that overlap and as a result turn groups away in our busiest times.

This means many miss out on the opportunity to visit our Centre and potentially miss out on a school camp.

The aim of the new building is to provide more accommodation to more groups and be able to operate concurrently. Drawings have already been rendered and this project will be iconic at enabling us to be the pinnacle of outdoor education for the next 50 years.

As this is a long term project we are seeking interest from individuals and or organisations who may be interested in helping



Coming Up 2025

- Atua Matua, Imbedding Mātauranga knowledge in the outdoors for teachers and outdoor educators 30th June - 4th July
- Gateway programme 14th-18th July
- Rotary Leadership Camp 22nd-26th Sep 2025
- Schools Potential Leaders Camp 14th-19th Dec 2025



Contact us

WWW.BOYLE.ORG.NZ

Facebook

Instagram

email: info@boyle.org.nz

Ph: 03 315 7082



Clothing and Equipment

Outdoor Safety equipment and clothing is a constant process of repair and replace. As are operational and facility costs.

Looking ahead on our schedule we will be applying for funding to replace

Radios - Required for communicating regularly in our area that has no cell coverage.

Cost \$1000 per radio

Abseil anchors 2 new anchors to be made

Cost \$575 each (approx)

Raincoats and over trousers - Multiple required to withstand rough handling and rough weather

Thermals - Multiple required of various sizes

Gloves - Sounds so simple but fleece or polypro gloves are in high demand throughout the year and disappear like socks.

Dryer - Required for Lodge and staff house currently there is no way to dry other than air drying to manage multiple turn overs of clothing.



General operations

It is always harder to obtain funding for operational costs, we can have all the gear and buildings in the world but without funds to pay the power and insurance we would still close. Just another way you can help.



BOYLE RIVER
OUTDOOR EDUCATION
CENTRE

Contact us

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SPONSOR THE BOYLE

 **BOYLE RIVER**
OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE

SAVE THE SCHOOL CAMP



We need you!

We work with 2-3000 students a year and as a not-for-profit aim to keep costs low. This means less money to buy quality gear and maintain resources. Safety and quality are paramount to the success of our programmes. You can help us keep these standards high and Rangatahi safe.



Projects

- Upgrade the High Ropes Course
- Replace equipment/clothing
- Renovate Staff housing
- Renew Student accommodation
- Ongoing maintenance and operations
- 50th Anniversary in 2028



Next steps

- Click on the Donate Button
- Complete the Givealittle Form
- Receive a receipt



Extra Info


We welcome hearing from you about any of these or other projects you may be interested in supporting us with.

Small amounts mean just as much as large amounts.

We value our staff and to ensure safety they need to be of the highest quality. He tangata, he tangata, he tangata. It is the people, the people the people and they are at the heart of everything we do. Staff, Students, Leaders and Sponsors.

More information on page 2...

**Click Now to
Donate**

 03 315 7082

 www.boyle.org.nz info@boyle.org.nz



Gold Sponsor \$5000+

Named as a Gold Sponsor on the website

Company or family logo on social media platforms and documentation

Family/ Group invitation for a day of adventure at the Boyle up to 10 people

Silver Sponsor \$1000

Named as a Silver Sponsor on the website

Bronze Sponsor \$500

Named as a Bronze Sponsor on the website

\$5 or \$5000 Every bit counts!

- We need your help to bring the cost down for schools and to maintain our equipment and facilities.
- We see between 2000 and 3000 students every year but many students now miss out due to rising costs. This is something that used to be every tamariki / child's right. To walk, play, and grow in the outdoors.
- Your contribution can change lives one camp at a time.
- Supporting The Boyle Outdoor Education Centre directly and indirectly supports students, schools and families by ensuring that camps are cost effective and the infrastructure and equipment is safe, and fit for purpose.
- You can also contact us about ongoing support, bequests, volunteering, camps and corporate programmes.

The Boyle River Outdoor Education Centre in the Lewis Pass was built in 1978 by Rotary and still operates as a Not for Profit. In 2028 we are proud to be celebrating our 50th Anniversary of working for and with our communities.

Click Now to
Donate

Scan to donate



SPONSOR A SCHOOL

Save the School Camp

ASSIST RANGATAHI/YOUTH TO GET OUTSIDE, EXPLORE, GROW AND CONNECT.



Visit the Boyle River Website

Visit the Boyle River Outdoor Education Website. Here you will find all the information you need to support rangatahi or get in touch. We pride ourselves on serving the community for nearly 50 years delivering safe, educational, fun experiences for youth.



Select Donate Now

Click on the donate button and complete the form administered through givealittle.



Identify the school/Boyle River

Enter the school you want to support in the notes/comments and your donation will be held for their camp. Alternately donate to the Boyle River Outdoor Centre to support other schools and the Centre




Receipt

A tax receipt will be generated automatically for any donation over \$5

More information on page 2...

CLICK NOW TO
DONATE

 (03) 315 7082

 www.boyle.org.nz info@boyle.org.nz

Boyle River Outdoor Education Centre is a Not-for-Profit that works with 2000+ rangatahi a year. Our aim is to assist schools and individuals to continue to attend camps and disconnect from the urban environment. Your help is greatly appreciated. Ngā mihi



Gold Sponsor \$5000+

Named as a Gold Sponsor on the website
Company or family logo on social media platforms and documentation
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- Your contribution can change lives one camp at a time.
- Excess funds for school camps can, at the discretion of the school, be held over to the following year or used to support operations at the Boyle.
- Should a school stop attending The Boyle any accumulated funds will be put towards supporting other schools and the Centre

The Boyle River Outdoor Education Centre in the Lewis Pass was built in 1978 by Rotary and still operates as a Not for Profit. In 2028 we will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary of working for our communities.

[CLICK NOW TO
DONATE](#)

Scan to donate



List of Schools and Organisations

Note:- Not all schools, universities and organisations are listed for 2025

Amuri Area School
Avonside High School
Cheviot School
Christchurch Boys High School
Christs College - Duke OF Edinburgh Program
Catholic Cathedral Grammar
Cathedral Grammar - Primary and Intermediate
Cashmere College
Ellesmere College
Greymouth High School
Hanmer Springs School
Hornby High School
Marion College
Middleton Grange
Michael Park Steiner School
Rangiora High School
Roncalli High School
St Bedes
St Margarets
St Martins
St Thomas
Te Pā o Rākaihautū
Te Kura Whakapūmau i te Reo Tūturu ki Waitaha
Villa Maria
Westburn School

Hurunui Youth Council and Youth Programme
Haemophilia NZ

Open Duke of Edinburgh Programmes
Potential Leaders Programme - Any school including some not listed above eg
Nelson Boys, Nelson Girls, Westland, Hillmorton, Ashburton, Darfield, Motueka.

MAINLAND
FOUNDATION
Supporting Communities



Rātā
Foundation

