



LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

**DEVELOPING CENTRAL OTAGO'S
FUTURE LEADERS**

CROMWELL
7 May - 28 May 2026

What is Leadership Academy?

The Leadership Academy is for people looking at **developing their existing leadership experience** and who have the potential for holding senior positions and governance roles. The programme assists the participant to be equipped for leadership within their own organisation/business and the community.

The participant, at the completion of the **experiential and reflective learning sessions**, will have a good understanding of what is required to be a significant leader in their own organisation and in the wider business community.

Each session is led and presented by a senior executive from a significant Otago-based business or organisation. Academy participants will benefit from the opportunity to interact with the presenter and build an ongoing connection with them.

Each session is 90 minutes long and active engagement in dialogue is expected.



Academy Presenters



RICHARD ROBERTS

RICHARD ROBERTS - BUSINESS CONSULTANT

Richard is the former CEO of Dunedin Airport. Previous to this position he was involved in many varied large scale engineering projects in the UK and NZ.

Values Based Leadership

- The importance of clear communication
- Building strong working relationships
- Creating the vision
- Leading from values
- Embracing change



LOUISE MERRALL

LOUISE MERRALL - EASINZ

Louise brings a diverse background in law, teaching, business and instructional design to partner with organisations in delivering practical, legally compliant HR advice and empowering workshops that strengthen leadership, improve workplace relationships, and help businesses achieve their goals.



SANCHIA JACOBS

SANCHIA JACOBS - BECA GROUP

Sanchia is a member of Beca's Group Executive, leading the integration of sustainability and impact across the business and its projects globally, drawing on senior leadership experience in local and central government, diplomacy, and a strong commitment to place-based leadership and future-focused legacies.



LINDSAY BREEN

LINDSAY BREEN - BREEN CONSTRUCTION

Leadership through business and economic cycles. What does it take to get your business and yourself through.

- How do you set yourself and your business up to deal with the peaks and troughs.
- Business recipes for resilience and some thoughts on how you can do that for yourself as well.
- My journey running a multi-generational construction business, growing an executive team and enabling them to make good decisions to secure long-term business sustainability.



BONNIE ZAREH

BONNIE ZAREH - SOUTHERN PEAK LAW

With over 15 years of experience in the legal industry, Bonnie combines professional expertise with a passion for empowering others. As a proud business owner of Southern Peak Law and leader of the Cromwell Business Network, she is committed to helping professionals and business leaders unlock their potential through authentic, values-driven leadership. Bonnie's approach blends practical insight with inspiring others to lead with integrity, courage and purpose.

Areas of Focus in Leadership

- Seizing Every Opportunity – Embracing challenges and turning them into growth
- Building Inspiring Networks – Surrounding yourself with people who elevate your vision
- Leading Through Community – Creating impact by fostering collaboration and connection.



LYNLEY LISCHNER

LYNLEY LISCHNER - BRAND NEW WORLD

Lynley has a brand and marketing consultancy – Brand New World, and is Director of Communicators, a specialist talent placement consultancy for Marketing, PR, and Communications professionals. Lynley's background was leading brand and marketing for a number of high-profile companies including One (Vodafone), Spark, Air New Zealand and TVNZ.

Conscious Leadership

- The Leadership Mindset
- Leading with Clarity
- Keeping it simple – a framework for high performance
- Values based leadership – it's all about the people



PETER KELLY

PETER KELLY - CENTRAL OTAGO DISTRICT COUNCIL

I am not an expert on leadership, more a practitioner with over 39 years of experience from my time in the Army and as a CE. It is not a Te Ao Māori view, nor is it a solely pakeha view. They are my observations.

Leadership for Today - a Perspective from a Solider and CE



JASE TIBBLE

JASE TIBBLE - GALLAWAY COOK ALLAN

Jase is the Chief Executive Officer at Gallaway Cook Allan. Jase is a former Commissioner in the Public Service, and previously led Otago Polytechnic as Executive Director. Jase is passionate about helping others to be the best they can be.

Strategic Leadership – Practical Survival Skills

- What is strategy anyway? Practical tools for thinking and leading
- Personal stories of success and failure
- Personal growth and development

Programme

DATE	PRESENTER	TOPIC
7 May	Richard Roberts	Values-Based Leadership
7 May	Louise Merrall	Aligning Your Team with Your Business Strategy
14 May	Sanchia Jacobs	Lessons in Leading with Purpose
14 May	Lindsay Breen	Leadership through business and economic cycles
21 May	Bonnie Zareh	Authentic Leadership
21 May	Lynley Lischner	The One-Page Strategic Framework: A Tool Every Leader Should Use
28 May	Peter Kelly	Leadership from a Soldiers and CEOs perspective
28 May	Jase Tibble	Strategic Leadership - Practical Survival Skills

Please note the Chatham House Rule applies to these sessions. When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

It allows people to speak as individuals, and to express views that may not be those of their organizations, and therefore it encourages free discussion. People usually feel more relaxed if they don't have to worry about their reputation or the implications if they are publicly quoted.

For more information about the Chatham House Rule, visit:
www.chathamhouse.org/about/chatham-house-rule





Pricing

Member	\$1500 + GST
Non-Member	\$1725 + GST

KEY INFORMATION



Limited to a maximum of
12 participant
registrations



Thursdays, 9.00 am to 12.30
pm



The Gate Hotel
6 Barry Avenue
Cromwell



LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



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