

Southern Lakes Lifestyle

QTM Magazine

GLENORCHY GETAWAY

*Camp Glenorchy's Sustainable Focus
Dynamic adventures with Heli Glenorchy*

High Country Spirit

*Highlighting Mt Nicholas with
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Illuminated Installations

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CONTENTS

Autumn 2018 Features



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Lifestyle

- 08** Camp Glenorchy unveils groundbreaking sustainably designed camp facilities
- 13** Queenstown's Small Luxury Hotels profile recognised by global CEO Filip Boyen
- 27** Melanie Craig Design in Wanaka receives national accolades
- 36** Arrowtown boutique movie theatre Dorothy Browns goes offshore to entertain Fijians
- 54** Hullabaloo Gallery – significant art destination at Cromwell's Historic Precinct



08



14

Experience

- 10** Heli Glenorchy provides dynamic Head of the Lake and Fiordland adventures
- 14** Stunning LUMA light festival illuminates art installations and lights up Queenstown
- 19** Bethany Rogers visits Mt Nicholas Station with Southern Discoveries and enjoys a high-country experience
- 47** Wanaka's renowned Aspiring Conversations attracts diverse international speakers

Food & Wine

- 24** The Clubhouse Restaurant at Jack's Point – all things to all people
- 31** Queenstown's downtown hotspot, Attiq, delivers stunning views and exceptional food
- 34** Halo café inspired by its surroundings
- 35** The Jervois Steak House forges reputation for exceptional steak and seafood
- 50** Paulina's highlights international cuisine in historic Clyde



35

QT
LIFESTYLE

QT Magazine is a modern lifestyle publication covering the Southern Lakes region of New Zealand.

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News from Around the Region

with Jenny McLeod

Queenstown Star of the NZ Open

Queenstown has been credited for the ongoing success of the ISPS Handa New Zealand Open and organisers say it will continue to be held in the resort for the foreseeable future, with 2019 marking the 100th year of the event.

Tournament chairman John Hart says the New Zealand Open has been played at The Hills and Millbrook Resort courses since 2014 and as long as the owners of the two courses, along with the Queenstown Lakes District Council and many local sponsors support the tournament, it will remain a permanent fixture in the area.

“Queenstown has made this tournament what it is and I for one can't see it moving – in fact I would like to see it here for the next 100 years.”

Hart says the Pro-Am format, where amateurs play alongside the professionals, has also contributed to the profile of the tournament, at the same time helping grow the overall prize purse for the event, which is now co-sanctioned with the ISPS Handa PGA Tour of Australasia and the Asian Tour along with a partnership arrangement with the Japan Golf Tour.

The 2018 event was televised to more than 70 countries and Hart says with Queenstown as the backdrop the images sent around the world could only be positive for New Zealand tourism.

Australian Daniel Nisbet won the event in an exciting finish, outclassing compatriot and overnight leader Terry Pilkadaris, and breaking the previous record of 26 under set in 1964 by Aussie golfing legend Kel Nagle.



Daniel Nisbet

New Home for Private Planes

The Wakatipu Aero Club has found a new home, now operating from an airstrip in Kingston.

The Club's lease at Queenstown Airport expired in 2015 and over the past 18 months it has been working with the Queenstown Airport Corporation to find a suitable long-term location to re-establish its private flying and flight training activities.

President Adrian Snow says that while it's taken some time to find the right site they are very happy with the result.

“Kingston now has a private, well-graded, full length grass airstrip and has recently gained resource consent to operate an airfield. Our members across the Wakatipu Basin can access the airfield and it's the perfect size for our operations.”

Wanaka Olympians Take it to the World

Two young Wanaka Winter Olympians broke New Zealand's medal drought when they claimed bronze medals in their respective disciplines at the recent 2018 Olympics in Pyeong Chang, 26 years after New Zealand's only other medallist, Annelise Coberger won silver in alpine slalom at Albertville.

Sixteen-year-olds Zoi Sadowski-Synnott and Nico Porteous stood on the podium after spectacular finishes in the women's big air and the men's freeski half pipe, while Wanaka's Beau James Wells was tantalisingly close in fourth place.

Tragically his brother Byron, who was widely tipped as a medallist after qualifying in fourth position for the same event, suffered a serious leg injury during the warm up and was forced to withdraw.



Nico Porteous & Zoi Sadowski-Synnott

New Zealand's results at the South Korean Olympics are seen as a reflection of the growth of winter sport and the increasing strength of individual sports programmes.

The annual Winter Games NZ which is held in Queenstown, Wanaka and Naseby also makes a significant contribution, according to chairman Sir Eion Edgar.

“The outstanding results of Zoi and Nico and the other quality performances of the New Zealand team in PyeongChang is a wonderful endorsement of our Games.”

Twenty five out of the 30 medallists in the Olympic Park and Pipe freeski and snowboard events and a gold medallist in cross country skiing all competed in the Winter Games NZ last year underlining the importance of the event internationally.

Ambitious Affordable Housing Programme

One thousand affordable homes are planned in the Queenstown Lakes district over the next ten years in a bid to tackle the growing waiting list of families requiring housing assistance.

The Queenstown Lakes Community Housing Trust has committed to providing the homes by 2028 with a record 500 eligible households currently needing help.



Since the trust was formed in 2007, 160 households have been assisted into affordable, secure tenure housing throughout the district, through the shared ownership programme, affordable rentals and their rent saver programme.

Chairman Martin Hawes says the high numbers on the waiting list have prompted the trust to expand its operations and set the goal of 1000 homes over the next ten years.

“Clearly the trust is going to have a far greater role in the provision of housing than what it has previously held, and we'll need to scale up operations accordingly.”



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NEW ZEALAND

Camp Glenorchy Raises the Bar on Sustainability

By Jane Brooke



A ground-breaking holiday accommodation venture featuring New Zealand's most sustainably designed camp ground facilities has been launched in Glenorchy.

Combining beauty and common sense design with the very latest technology, the mission of Camp Glenorchy, which is set against one of New Zealand's most stunning natural backdrops 40 minutes' drive from Queenstown, is to educate, inspire and delight its visitors and guests.

Founders and philanthropists Debbi and Paul Brainerd are behind the country's first triple-bottom-line visitor accommodation which centres on environmental, financial and community sustainability.

The couple share a passion for beauty and sustainability. Paul is an enthusiastic technology innovator and Camp Glenorchy reflects his focus on the latest technological, sustainable building systems. Meanwhile, Debbi is committed to the guest experience and has created a welcoming environment which includes involving local artists and craftspeople to bring a uniqueness to the project.

The property integrates old-world craft with its modern design and offers visitor cabins, bunk huts and RV/campervan sites.

As Camp Glenorchy works towards its goal of Net Zero energy it will use only as much energy as it can generate over a 12-month period.

In many respects the Brainerds see the entire project acting as a "living laboratory" for sustainable design and they propose to measure and publish the performance of a wide range of building and resource monitoring systems to provide and share information as part of meeting the Living Building Challenge™ – the highest level of sustainability standards in the world.

"We have visited many green construction projects in various countries over our lifetime and seen a lot of innovation and sustainably designed buildings. But I often find they feel stark, formal, unfriendly and sterile. We have tried to create an experience at Camp Glenorchy that has integrated the latest technology, but also has a warmth and welcoming feel for our guests," says Debbi.

"The thing I always remember about the places we have visited when travelling is how the place made me feel. Were the spaces warm and inviting and were the people friendly and helpful? We have tried to create this feeling of warmth at Camp Glenorchy by using repurposed wood and metal siding from three old wool sheds that were taken down in the area, as well as materials we were able to recycle from the Christchurch earthquake."

Camp Glenorchy is part of The Headwaters, a new model in hospitality and retail, which aims to demonstrate the possibilities of resource-efficient tourism. It combines a deep set of values with a gentle, walk-the-talk approach, viewing sustainability as a journey which it hopes visitors will embrace and maybe even take ideas back to their own homes and communities.

Guests at Camp Glenorchy make a positive contribution to the area with all profits from The Headwaters going into the community through the locally administered Glenorchy Community Trust.



As Camp Glenorchy works towards its goal of Net Zero energy it will use only as much energy as it can generate over a 12-month period.



Debbi Brainerd & Tracy Kerr

Fascinating Features



Matt Hood & Jeffrey Bale

Humboldt Room

The Humboldt Room is the vibrant interior of Camp Glenorchy's Homestead Building's large meeting space, featuring a hand-crafted mosaic of recycled timber and offcuts created by local carpenter Matt Hood. Matt has a long affiliation with Camp Glenorchy, originally helping fence the property in preparation for construction to begin in 2015. He worked with other artists and craftspeople on the Homestead Building and says he particularly enjoyed the freedom he was given to determine wall finishes and designs based on the reclaimed wood available from woolsheds around the South Island.



Hilton Ellingham

Special Signage

A film set designer by trade, master woodworker Hilton Ellingham's handcarved signage made from recycled planks and repurposed wood reinforces that old-world craft is cherished at Camp Glenorchy. His large art panels that bring to life the names of the structures add beauty and personality to cabin, bunk hut and building exteriors. The cabins are named after native plants and flowers and each sign highlights the species.

Landscape Art

Each cabin features its own unique mosaic threshold and the Homestead Building is bisected by cut native stones set into the floor, echoing the braided streambeds of the Rees and Dart Rivers that form the headwaters of Lake Wakatipu. International landscape artist Jeffrey Bale is responsible for the creations and his onsite artistry includes a handmade rock wall in the Homestead Building sunroom and a driftwood and stone wall in the Humboldt Room.

Campfire Shelter

Glenorchy artist Dan Kelly designed, and along with Jamarl Hansen and his team helped to build, the huge scheelite Campfire Shelter, an outdoor BBQ and gathering space. Visitors gather there after a day's exploring to cook, dine and share stories. Dan works with recycled metal and wood and has also created a collection of unique light fixtures, door handles and the life-size Erma the Moa, who greets visitors arriving at Camp Glenorchy.

Colourful Creations

Artistic touches, provided by New Zealand artists and craftspeople, are evident throughout Camp Glenorchy, even extending to the doors, windows and furniture.

A large sliding door, created from old car body parts by Wellington based Andrew Missen is a stand out attraction in the Greenstone lounge room while a stunning carved stone waka vessel catches the light in the dining room's north view window.



Recycled wood from former wood sheds and pallets find new life in local master woodworker Mike Kingan's hands. Local artist Amanda Hasselman's Mt Alfred Braided River textile artwork is on display in the Camp's reception area, along with several of her distinctive pieces. Framed photography displayed in the cabins is the work of Glenorchy photographers Laurence Belcher and Sharee South while Corinne Davis has created a delightfully humorous hayloft mural which hangs inside recycled barn doors in the loft above the community kitchen.



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Exceptional Adventures with Heli-Glenorchy

By Jenny McLeod

In just three years the family owned company Heli Glenorchy has evolved into a significant Queenstown tourist venture with a growing profile for its tailor-made tourist itineraries in the Head of the Lake and Fiordland regions.

Driven by owners Nick and Dee Nicholson the business has developed into a dynamic operation with a reputation for delivering an exciting and different experience for both overseas and Kiwi visitors.

"We started out with just one helicopter and today we have four machines based at Glenorchy airfield along with six highly experienced pilots who have an in-depth knowledge of the areas we work in," says Nick who is also chief pilot.

Marketing was initially by word of mouth but three years on with Heli Glenorchy's strong place in the market the recognition is there, reflected in the increasing numbers of visitors the company carries each year.

"We are an excellent half-day product and appeal particularly to free independent travellers from all around the world and of course New Zealand," he says. "People like to drive to Glenorchy because it is such a scenic route and taking a helicopter trip once they get there is just one of the growing number of activities they can do. We can show visitors the area from a different perspective. There is nothing better than seeing this beautiful part of the region than with a local pilot."

While Heli Glenorchy offers scenic flights there are also some other great experiences worth exploring, according to Nick. The company provides private charter flights for visitors who want more flexibility as to where they want to fly in the region.

"Our trips are personalised and we might head to the West Coast for a crayfish lunch, take a scenic flight around the Head of the Lake and the Humboldt Mountains or fly into Milford, Dusky or Doubtful Sounds. Nothing is set in concrete and with our working relationship with Te Anau's Fiordland Helicopters we are able to offer several different places in Fiordland National Park others can't access."

Nick says the two companies share resources providing more opportunities for visitors.

"With our ability to diversify we are definitely not mainstream and that's a huge appeal for our visitors."

Heli Glenorchy has hunting and heli fishing options and in the winter heliskiing, which is big business in the alpine terrain behind Glenorchy.

The company also works with the Department of Conservation servicing the local walking tracks and is involved in a range of commercial work including heavy lifting and firefighting. One of its machines has been working full time in Kaikoura assisting with the state highway reconstruction following the 2016 earthquake.

Dee believes the key to Heli Glenorchy's success is the tight knit family environment.

"Everyone on the team is on the same page and functions as a team. The company is incredibly proud of its staff who know so much about their backyard and can tell so many fascinating stories about our area."



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“With our ability to diversify we are definitely not mainstream and that’s a huge appeal for our visitors.”



Laurence Belcher Paradise Pictures



Pilots – Eric Scott, Nick Nicholson, Bernie Attwood, Tyson Bramwell, Chris Brough

Safety First

Heli Glenorchy is proactive about pilot training and safety management systems and there is no corner cutting, according to owner Nick Nicholson.

“We have recently been recertified by Civil Aviation for five years and we have a good relationship with them. Things are continually evolving in the technology and safety fields and we recognise we need to get on board and embrace changes.”

The company’s modern fleet of two B3 Squirrels (six seater) an EC 120 (four seater) and BK 117 twin engine (nine seater) machine features the latest technology such as satellite tracking and satellite phones.

“We operate the twin engine helicopter to meet the safety demands of high-end clients and it is ideal for flying over water or for offshore work.”

The company runs its own engineering division on site in Glenorchy.

“It is unusual for a small operator like us to have our own maintenance team,” says Nick, “but it underlines our commitment to safety and the importance of on going monitoring of our machines and their equipment.”



Pilot – Philip Rive



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As temperatures drop it's time to search out warm autumnal foods and flavours at Queenstown's best eateries. From delicious seasonal delights to fruity Central Otago wines the resort has it all as Margo Berryman discovered.

Fresh & Light @ No5

With the advent of autumn and winter the Mediterranean inspired tapas, pastas, chargrills and sourdough pizzas at No5 beckon.

Stroll down Church Lane to discover this sophisticated spot where the dishes are not only tasty but packed with fresh and healthy ingredients. Locally sourced meats, including Fiordland venison and Cardrona lamb and an array of light, vegetarian, vegan and raw dishes are a highlight of the menu. The renowned roast beetroot falafels and Farro risotto of asparagus are unbeatable, while the No5 Mezze is perfect for sharing.



Autumn Foraging at The Grille

Will Eaglesfield is a man who loves nothing better than spending time foraging for seasonal favourites to tempt the taste buds. As executive chef of The Grille at Eichardts he, along with his team of dedicated chefs, designs each menu with precision to create dishes that truly reflect the restaurant's Central Otago locality.



Sampling Spirits

Artisan wine and spirit lovers the world over enjoy sampling the region's locally produced products. The Cardrona Distillery built in the Cardrona Valley produces distinctive spirits, handcrafted on the site. Their popular single malt vodka, The Reid, takes its name from the distillery's founders and is the perfect base for some of the tantalising cocktails made at No5's chic and stylish bar in Church Lane.



Will Eaglesfield

"Autumn is my favourite time of year for foraging because there's so much variety. Elderberries grow in the hedgerows in ridiculous quantities – I gather and make enough preserves to last the whole year. Walnuts and sweet chestnuts are prolific in Arrowtown, and I have gotten to know several untended plum, pear and fig trees. The most exciting thing is the mushrooms including horse, field, puffballs and boletes that all grow around here. When they do appear, it tends to be en masse, so some careful dehydrating ensures we can use wild mushrooms in sauces and on our homemade bruschettas."



Winter Festival Hotspot

Queenstown's premier dining destination, The Grille at Eichardts, is the ideal dress circle venue to watch the spectacular Queenstown Winter Festival fireworks display in the Bay, combined with an outstanding dining experience. Scheduled for June 22 the event launches the start of winter in the resort.



James Worthington

Introducing James Worthington

The Imperium Collection recently appointed James Worthington as general manager of food and beverage at The Grille, No5 Church Lane and Eichardt's Bar.

James brings global experience to the position and his background includes working alongside Masterchef's Gary Mehigan at his award-winning Melbourne restaurant Fenix and eight years at the Intercontinental Dubai Marina and the Rivington Grill.

Most recently he led the food and beverage team at Kauri Cliffs in Northland, catering to ultra-high net worth visitors. He is excited by his new role in Queenstown.

"I'll be accentuating the best in showcasing the waterfront views at The Grille, creating a cosy environment for drinks and tapas at Eichardt's Bar and placing a soon to be revealed new spin at No5 Church Lane to keep things interesting," says James.

"With each of the restaurants having already carved a reputation for local produce and charming, world-class service, I'm keen to inject a few trademarks I've learnt in my 20 years of hospitality."



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A Small World of Luxury

By Margo Berryman

Queenstown has a significant profile in the Small Luxury Hotels of the World portfolio and its significance was underlined by a recent visit to the resort by the company's global CEO Filip Boyen.



Filip Boyen

"What is important for me is quality across all the properties – it means everything in our business."

Accompanied by PR manager Juliana Tan, the pair included Queenstown as part of a whirlwind trip throughout New Zealand.

The exclusive Blanket Bay property near Glenorchy, Queenstown's historic Hulbert House and Eichardt's luxury boutique private hotel on the waterfront, are all part of the collection.

"Our job for these hotels is positioning and assisting in marketing them globally," says Filip. "They are truly representative of the destination and of what we stand for – which is an authentic luxury. Clearly, New Zealand is on the up for both inbound and outbound tourism, and now I have visited I can see these properties deserve to be pushed very hard by our team."

"All the key things are here – history, comfort and wonderful service and we can be very proud to have them as part of our portfolio. I am very determined to promote them to create brand awareness."

Assuming leadership of Small Luxury Hotels of the World in 2015, Filip has taken an expansive approach to reinvigorating the company's reputation for global luxury travel.

"Consistency is vital and one of my priorities is to ensure all our hotels are delivering to a certain standard. The first thing was to introduce regular inspections with strict criteria, so now every hotel is inspected once a year incognito. If they don't meet the minimum required, then we inspect again after three months to ensure they do."

As a champion of small, luxury, independently owned hotels the world over the company is focused on delivering an exceptional style.

Filip says quality wins over quantity every time.

"What is important for me is quality across all the properties – it means everything in our business. Creditability and trustworthiness is vital to the travel community because 75% of our bookings come directly from travel agents."

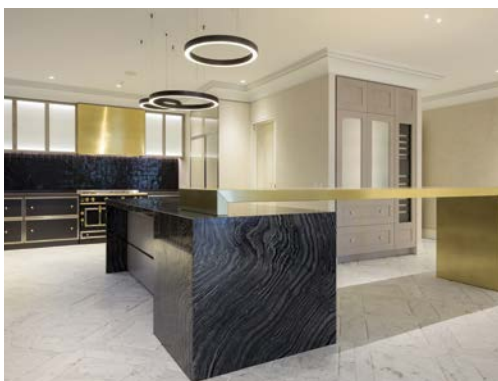
Small Luxury Hotels of the World has over 400,000 active members in its newly introduced loyalty programme.

"We are consumer focused and our new loyalty data management system responds to each guest with meaningful correspondence. So, if you are a skier it will send you one, maybe two emails at the right time – not bombard you – with suggestions on ideal mountain travel options you might like."

Filip has travelled to over 180 hotels in his first two years as CEO and is determined to see as many of the company's hotels from the ground level up.

The Queenstown experience was particularly rewarding.

"The Queenstown hotels have made us feel like they really want us to be here which is so important. Everything has been seamless – the people treated us like they have known us all their lives, very relaxed, welcoming, honest and authentic. Just the way we like it."



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“There really is something invigorating about connecting strangers on a dark and wintery evening through forms of art.”

Kiara Collab Photography



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Light Festival Creates Sensory Experience

By Jane Brooke

Queenstown's award-winning light festival will once again illuminate the resort at Queen's Birthday Weekend (June 1-4) in a spectacular event which is expected to attract more than 35,000 people.

The LUMA Southern Light Project centres around four evenings of illuminated art, light sculptures and entertainment which takes people on a sensory journey through the Queenstown Gardens and the Queenstown waterfront.

The free public event focuses on the transformation of space, public interaction, art, culture and education which is made possible by a curated collection of stunning light sculptures and thought-provoking installations.

LUMA began with a 2015 pilot project of just four installations which coincided with Queenstown's annual winter festival. Since its inception it has been a runaway success, growing from approximately 10,000 visitors and 17 exhibits in 2016 to 35,000 last year when 38 installations were featured.

The festival is the collective brainchild of local, national and international artists who come together to infuse the giant natural amphitheatre with light.

LUMA Light Festival Trust chairman Duncan Forsyth says enhancing and promoting the creative and cultural heart of Queenstown is at the core of everything LUMA represents.

"LUMA 2018 promises to be the most innovative, immersive and interactive experience yet," he says. "It will be a sensory experience for all ages and we're delighted to bring the community together once again for our third instalment of the festival. There really is something invigorating about connecting strangers on a dark and wintry evening through forms of art."



Leigh Jeffery

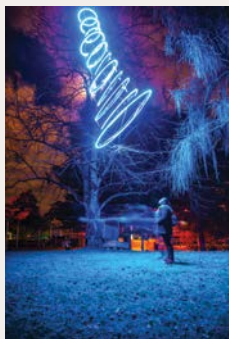
Creative partners involved in the upcoming event include local collective SILO, TomTom, Angus Muir Design and Nocturnal, as well as bespoke pieces from a number of visual artists. The festival is run by a group of dedicated Queenstown professionals who have donated thousands of hours of their time to bringing the 'life' of the community back into the town centre.

Duncan says the event is only possible thanks to the loyal support of business partners, sponsors, including event funding from the Queenstown Lakes District Council, and volunteers.

"We've been so grateful for the event partners that contribute to help cover our huge overheads in transporting artwork, creating installations and projection set-ups. They allow us to turn on the lights."



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Spiriting Away

Southern Discoveries fast speed modern catamaran, *Spirit of Queenstown*, boasts the longest cruise on Lake Wakatipu. Bethany Rogers discovered that, combined with a tour of Mt Nicholas High Country Farm, it's a peaceful half-day getaway far from the hype and buzz of downtown Queenstown.



Mt Nicholas High Country Farm

Climbing aboard *Spirit of Queenstown*
I grab a coffee from the café bar and head to the open wheelhouse to meet our knowledgeable and enthusiastic skipper Jamie Rankin.

“My favourite part of the cruise is looking down the lake towards Mt Earnslaw and Mt Alfred. People are always stunned the moment they first see it. I love telling them to wait ten seconds as Mt Earnslaw comes into view as that’s the best view I think,” he says.

“It’s a great trip for families and anyone who really wants to get away from the madness of town. It’s spacious and modern – a great way to cruise the lake.”

At Mt Nicholas High Country Farm our entertaining farm guide Duncan Ross and Belle, his trusty sheepdog, are waiting.

Belle proudly shows off her herding skills while we watch with Barbie and Lucky, the station’s adorable, puppy-like pet sheep.

Between hilarious jokes Duncan tells us the family-owned station is one of the oldest and largest in New Zealand.

Wool from the 29,000 merino sheep is sent overseas to create high-end Versace and Armani suits and Icebreaker outdoor wear. He says the key to the farm’s success is the dedication to animal welfare and the pristine environment.

We take a ride in a 4WD to an incredibly photogenic vantage point before heading back to Mt Nicholas woolshed for a delicious light lunch. Southern Discoveries fits a lot into this half-day trip, but it doesn’t feel rushed, in fact it’s totally relaxing. By the time we’re steadily cruising back towards Queenstown I feel as if I’ve been away for days – completely revived.



Spirit of Queenstown

Cycling Station 2 Station

Recreational mountain bikers have yet another adventurous Queenstown local trail to add to their must-ride list.

Station 2 Station Cycle Trail is a half-day experience starting with a cruise across Lake Wakatipu on Southern Discoveries *Spirit of Queenstown*.

Riders disembark at Mt Nicholas High Country Farm and cycle the quiet, easy grade trail to Walter Peak Station and catch the vintage steamship *TSS Earnslaw* back to Queenstown. The trail covers 14km and doesn’t require technical skills or athletic fitness levels. The lake and mountain views en route are stunning.

Bike and helmet hire, a Mt Nicholas Farm Experience and lunch options are available as add-ons to the Station 2 Station Cycle Trail.



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Cycling Station 2 Station Cycle Trail

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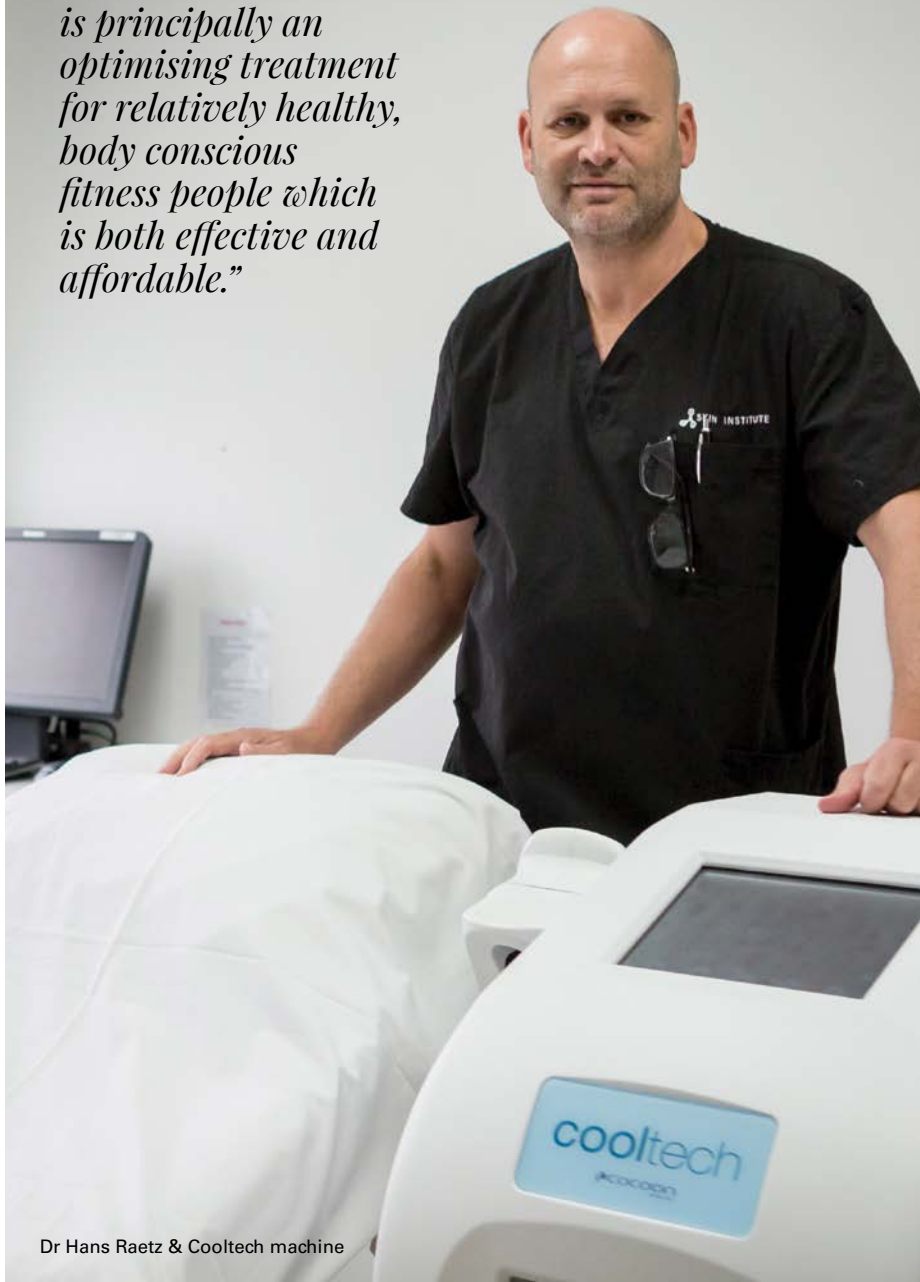
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“Body sculpting is principally an optimising treatment for relatively healthy, body conscious fitness people which is both effective and affordable.”



Dr Hans Raetz & Cooltech machine

Revolutionary Body Sculpting

By Jenny McLeod

The latest in body sculpting techniques is being promoted to the Queenstown market by the Skin Institute, using a revolutionary new machine which is non-invasive and designed to simply remove fat without surgery.

Skin Institute Queenstown owner Dr Hans Raetz says many new technologies are on the market today replacing liposuction which was previously the go to technique.

“There are a number of devices available to remove fat without surgery and the longest standing ones focus on fat freezing. The European manufactured machine we have opted for is known as Cooltech sculpting and we selected it because of its excellent safety record. It is certainly not the cheapest available but there is nothing newer than this and I believe it has the best results.”

He says the technology is not a weight loss programme but rather, aimed at people who want to get rid of fat in a specific part of their body.

“It’s not a machine that will turn a fat person into a thin person – but it will remove fat in specific areas such as tummys, ‘saddlebags’ and the like. It’s really a means of correction, targeting areas that no matter how much you work out in the gym, you can’t get rid of.”

He says Cooltech has taken Europe, the US and Australia by storm.

“But, we’re still behind the game in New Zealand and we are showing a lead in Queenstown by offering the technique. Its main advantage is that it is much more powerful than others on the market and has a better freezing capacity, so larger areas can be treated at the same time.”

Hans says the object is to damage fat cells without damaging the skin – “this technology is designed around achieving fat freezing without freezing the skin. Mostly the areas which are targeted only need one or two treatments and the procedure is very simple and relatively painless.”

Queenstown people should see the cutting-edge technology as a significant opportunity, according to Hans.

“Body sculpting, in the form we are offering, is principally an optimising treatment for relatively healthy, body conscious fitness people which is both effective and affordable.”

“In addition, we are also introducing a double chin reduction treatment using simple injections, used very successfully in the US for five years, which essentially rounds up our suite around bodyshaping.”

Skin Institute Queenstown was set up in 2004, initially operating as Clinic QT and focusing on skin cancer treatments, until a joint venture was established with the national Skin Institute group to offer more services in the resort.

Today the clinic also offers varicose vein treatment and appearance medicine.

“Using the advanced Cooltech method, body sculpting is yet another aspect of our commitment to providing innovative treatments,” says Hans, “to meet the demands of the region’s fast-growing population.”



Skin Institute Queenstown,
Level 2, Von House, Remarkables Park, Queenstown
03 442 2255
appointments@skininstitute.co.nz



James Allan Photography



NZ Ice Blacks versus the Aussie Mighty Roos 2017

Queenstown Ice Arena Hosts High Profile Competition

By Bethany Rogers

A series of high profile regional, national and even international ice hockey and ice skating events will be staged at the Queenstown Ice Arena this winter putting the leading South Island facility further in the spotlight.

A key event is the Under-18 International Ice Hockey Federation World Championships from April 25 until April 28 where teams such as Hong Kong and South Africa will take on the Kiwis.

Ice Arena co-owner Daniel Graham says it's an exciting prospect which could lead to even bigger events being hosted in Queenstown in the future.

"The town has embraced ice hockey so much and the International Ice Hockey Federation is keen to tap into that enthusiasm."

"It's the first time Queenstown has been chosen to host one of these events, so it is an honour and an opportunity. Locals should definitely come and support the New Zealanders as there's a lot of Queenstown youngsters in the team."

On June 28 international ice hockey comes to Queenstown when Canada plays USA in exhibition games.

"This is a real opportunity for those who love ice hockey to see top professional players up close."

"They don't usually visit New Zealand and you don't often get to see players like this in such an intimate arena," says Daniel.

The South Island's top figure skaters will compete in a three-day tournament starting on August 17 and the arena will also host the Trans-Tasman ice hockey games from September 6-8, as part of the Winter Games NZ.

Throughout the season regional ice hockey teams will be in action in a bid to take the Birgel Cup from home team, Skycity Southern Stampede, holders of the national cup for three consecutive years.

"All the events are open to the public and tickets are available online or on the door. They're great for families to watch," says Daniel.



Between all the standout events Daniel says there is still plenty of public ice time and bookings can be made online.

"We've changed the website so instead of all-day sessions, we're splitting it into individual session times. It's now a lot easier to check and book session times by smartphone. This also means that local season pass holders will get the best value. The season passes are available from March with our opening on April 13."



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Cutting Edge Streetwear Style

By Penny Simpson

Queenstown streetwear clothing and accessories store, BASE, is heading into autumn showcasing cutting edge styles with an exceptional mix of leading New Zealand and international labels.

"The new season has arrived in force, and we are ready to embrace the cooler days with an awesome line up of easy, wearable clothing for every day and more robust, merino layers and down jackets for that extra bit of warmth," says BASE owner Chris Walsh.

"We know and love the Southern Lakes region and that's reflected in the clothing we choose for the store. We buy for the climate and that's an important component of why we stock certain brands – they have great style and great functionality."

Located in the Queenstown Mall, BASE stands out for its commitment to exciting New Zealand brands like Mons Royale, Huffer, Ketz-ke, Lower and ThingThing as well as international brands Stussy, Brixton and Assembly.



BASED ON LOVE

The team at BASE combines 20 years' experience in choosing the very best in seasonal ranges for their stores. Their top picks for autumn 2018 are –

HUFFER – the innovative New Zealand brand celebrated 20 years in the streetwear game in 2017 and is a big BASE drawcard.

"Huffer is everyday fashion that is cool and includes a down vest and jacket programme in its range. It's perfect for the local alpine environment, incorporating epic knits and sweats with functional down vests and jacketing."

"Men and women love this brand and so do we because it's super easy to wear. The down vest is my personal favourite," says Chris.

MONS ROYALE

BASE and Mons Royale have been joined at the hip since Mons launched in 2009. BASE was the first store in the world to stock the distinctive New Zealand brand.

Mons Royale focuses on warmth, style and versatility. "The beauty of Mons merino is it keeps you warm and comfortable which is perfect for this area," says Chris. "These garments will take you from a yoga class to running to high-performance mountain sports."

ACCESSORIES

Autumn brings an amazing new range of leather bags and wallets from Status Anxiety, beautiful wool hats from Brixton and fresh new sunglass styles from top brands like Rayban, Quay, Oakley and Le Specs.

"The collection of accessories continues to grow. We have a massive range of sunglasses that we buy specifically to cater to a wide cross section of men and women," says Chris. "It's easy to find a pair that suits at BASE."



Mons Royale



Mons Royale



Huffer



Huffer



MONS ROYALE



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Milestone for Jack's Point Clubhouse

By Jenny McLeod

The Jack's Point Clubhouse has been redeveloped following a major fire last year, and while based on the original structure, the second edition has several new features.



Food and Beverage general manager Larni Wedd says it is a milestone to have the complex completed with the spacious lounge area now re-opened.

"The new lounge has been rebuilt to preserve the original design of the Clubhouse and includes many cosy areas for people to relax and be looked after."

She says the inclusion of the lounge, alongside the restaurant itself, increases capacity – "and our guests love the area to enjoy a coffee, do some work or chat with friends. It is a more relaxed area compared to the main dining room and the large tables are a hit with golfers, being the perfect place for a post-round pint and a discussion about their game."

Head chef Chris Scott has been at the helm of the Clubhouse kitchen for the past 12 months and his emphasis is on fresh, flavoursome, modern Kiwi cuisine.

"Our menus reflect where we live and the different seasons we experience," says Larni. "We are open

for breakfast from 8.00am where people can enjoy our shared option, which means we take control and our guests can have three delicious courses and kids dine for free with an adult"

"At lunch we offer a selection of Clubhouse classics which golfers enjoy and an a la carte menu that includes a wide range of local produce prepared with a Jack's Point twist. Our autumn favourites include free range pork belly, with celery root, brussels, crab apple and mustard or buffalo burrata, figs, gold beets, elderberry and walnuts."

The Clubhouse wine list features the best of Central Otago and an interesting selection from other regions. Local craft beers are on tap along with a modern range of non-alcoholic beverages, including Kombucha.

"The Clubhouse is available for events but only in the months when the golf course is not at its peak," says Larni.

Corporate functions will be hosted from April until October after 6.00pm and winter weddings can be booked from May until September.



"Jack's Point Restaurant is a little bit of everything to everyone" according to Larni. "Whether you have enjoyed a round of golf on our world-class course, would like a relaxed location for a business lunch, just want to drop in for a coffee and savoury scone or have something special to celebrate, everyone is welcome."



The Place to Be

Jack's Point is a 1200-hectare settlement in a spectacular environment overlooking Lake Wakatipu and backdropped by the Remarkables Mountain range.

The focal point is the championship golf course which is ranked number one in the South Island and second in New Zealand by Golf Digest.



The challenging course follows natural contours of tussock grassland, dramatic rocky outcrops and steep bluffs. With its stunning outlooks from every tee the golf course has an international reputation for the quality of the course, its facilities and services.

Over 35km of hiking and mountain biking trails traverse Jack's Point while Lake Tewa, a large freshwater lake alongside The Clubhouse Restaurant, is ideal for kayaking, small boat sailing and family oriented water sports. Fly fishing is also popular in the lake which is stocked with brown and rainbow trout.

Jack's Point is a fast-growing community with many homes already built and the number of permanent residents increasing. Construction of the first stage of the proposed Jack's Point Village is expected to begin soon offering a mix of residential homes, hotels, flexible office space, restaurants, cafés and retail outlets.

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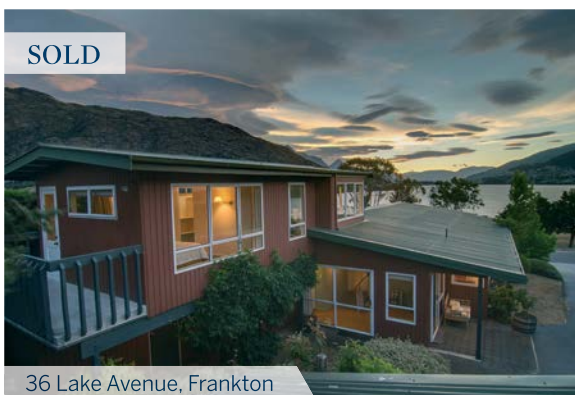
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INTERNATIONAL REALTY



Evolving Design

By Jane Brooke

Melanie Craig believes true design genius evolves with experience.

The Wanaka based company Melanie Craig Design is marking its fifteenth year as a nationally recognised interior architectural firm specialising in tailored kitchens, inspired interiors and contemporary furniture.

“When the company was small, new and shiny the formula was clear and the design was well thought through in terms of function, form, colour and texture,” says Melanie. “The results were always great but true design genius evolves with experience.”

“Our designer Gaynor Rodgers and I agree that growing old is the best which is reflected in our depth of knowledge through all layers of interior design and fit out. It’s obvious when you walk into our studio in Wanaka that we stay true to our genuine creative voice and our design expression is heard on national and international platforms.”

She says the Melanie Craig team is well respected and admired for its design leadership which has won the company many awards.

Most recently it took out the 2017 New Zealand National Kitchen and Bath Association’s supreme creative kitchen design award – after collecting the same award in 2011 and again in 2014.

“Winning the 2017 award will see us heading to Milan in April where we will receive international exposure to new materials, furniture, lighting and kitchen hardware which is paramount to our industry. Having visited Milan twice before, after previously winning the award, Gaynor and I returned home with a very forward-thinking approach to design.”

The Melanie Craig design team works with clients all over New Zealand – anything from simply adding finishing touches to clients’ homes to complete full home interiors.

Melanie says whatever the size of the project the focus is on functionality, which is at the forefront of their designs.

“We also believe that it’s the intricate detail that speaks when the design is completed.”



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Spotlight on Art Glass

By Penny Simpson

Ola and Marie Höglund have been dedicated to the development of their distinguished art glass works that are held in galleries and private collections around the world for the past 35 years.



After 16 years dividing their time between their world-renowned Nelson studio and studio in Australia they have launched the Höglund Art Glass Gallery in Central Otago.

Marie says the new glass gallery, located at their home on the road between Cromwell and Wanaka, also displays paintings, artwork and jewellery which have drawn a steady following with locals and visitors to the region.

"Now we are very enthusiastic about the reconstruction of our Australian glassblowing studio that has arrived in a container from the rainforest in tropical North Queensland. The glass furnace, kilns, equipment and glassmaking tools are all packed inside the container and we are looking forward to building the glassblowing studio beside the gallery."

The Central Otago gallery has an eclectic selection of Marie and Ola's sought after art glass pieces, paintings and glass jewellery which can be shipped around the world to buyers.

The Höglund Art Glass Gallery is open to visitors seven days and is clearly signposted on state highway 6 between Cromwell and Wanaka, just under an hour's drive from Queenstown.

Tel: 03 442 7210
www.hoglundartglass.com



In Vogue

By Margo Berryman

Kerrey Garvie has the enviable job of travelling to Italy every year to view the European shoe ranges her boutique store, Issimo, is renowned for. Each season the Queenstown store, located in Searle Lane, displays a stylish new collection of the latest boots, shoes and sneakers discovered by Kerrey on her overseas travels.

What are the key trends at Issimo for autumn and winter 2018?

Brogues, platforms and loafers are still in vogue for the new season. Our new Donna Carolina election has just landed and they're amazing – platforms, chunky soles, brogue detailing and buckles.

What colours are emerging?

From Saben we have lots of autumn colours that will work with new fashion looks – mustard, chestnut, bordeaux, navy and black. From Emu there is navy, brown and black in different styles of boots that are wool lined and all waterproof. Perfect for winter in the south. Donna Carolina is all about the deeper tones – black, navy, a deep green and splashes of metallics and bursts of a bright red heeled boots.

Is navy the new black?

This is a statement that has been bobbing around for years. People don't need to choose a navy or a black. We think both are essentials when it comes to shoes and boots for the colder months and with a matching handbag will tie an outfit together beautifully.

What are the European boot brands that are arriving for the new season?

Key boot labels at Issimo are the Italian boots by Donna Carolina and IXOS.

What's new from Timberland and Dr Martens?

What sells best for Timberland and Dr Martens are their classic boot styles. While the ever-changing styles and colours are amazing, it's the originals that most people still go for. They love and trust these brands and choose them as their go to winter boots.

Timberland is all about the six-inch premiums either wheat or black colours. For Dr Martens the black boot with the yellow stitching is still the choice – they come in three different leathers and vegan which is very popular.

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Colourful Queenstown Markets

By Penny Simpson

The Creative Queenstown Arts & Crafts Markets held weekly on Queenstown's Earnslaw Park alongside Lake Wakatipu are a colourful addition to the waterfront.

Markets co-ordinator Jasmine Clark says the Saturday markets provide a venue where visual and performing arts blend together for the entertainment of both locals and visitors.

The markets attract artists from around the South Island.

"We embrace the talents of many artists and crafters from around the South Island – from Nelson, Christchurch, Dunedin, Invercargill and the West Coast – to display and sell their quality handmade art and craft," she says.

The appeal of the Queenstown markets is that all the exhibitors must create their own work and operate their own stalls which allows visitors to interact with them and learn more about a particular craft.

Jasmine is herself an accomplished visual artist.



"My work incorporates natural elements like native flax, shells, kelp and other coastal finds into flax and fibre woven art under the name of Pacific Weave. I really love exhibiting at the markets and have developed products like the red rose flax flowers which were initially designed for Valentine's Day but now people buy them for wedding bouquets and even button holes."

Flax woven baskets in all shapes and sizes, including her novel baskets woven out of copper using recycled copper wire, are Jasmine's signature items.

High quality products sold at the markets include art, carvings, metal arts, fibre arts, jewellery, pottery, photography, soap and wood which contribute to its reputation as one of the South Island's leading marketplaces.

Jasmine says free musical entertainment accompanies the market days providing a relaxed atmosphere for people from all over the world.

The Creative Arts & Crafts Markets operate on Saturdays all year round with extra markets on specific Fridays. www.marketplace.net.nz



Angus Watson

Diverse and Distinctive Art Work

By Jenny McLeod

Queenstown artist Angus Watson has been a professional artist for more than 30 years and his diverse and distinctive range of work reflects his varied interests and passions.

He is highly sought after for commissions and holds exhibitions around New Zealand. His annual January exhibition at his rural studio is always eagerly anticipated and was an outstanding success again this year.

"Having my own exhibition gives people a chance to visit my studio in its idyllic garden setting and see where my work is created," he says. "Clients are always keen to know what inspires specific paintings and I enjoy meeting the cross section of people who visit."

Angus' wide-ranging collection features nudes, landscapes, boats, cows, horses and figures.

His nudes are detailed tones of golds, reds and silvers and his watercolours use bright, vibrant colours. "I make a bold use of colour and my work tends towards impressionist."

His 2018 calendar is available online and represents a stunning mix of his favourite work. He also sells a selection of prints and cards from his studio.

Visit Angus in his studio in Littles Road Dalefield. Advisable to make an appointment.

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Mediterranean Flair

By Bethany Rogers

Stefano De Santis, an Italian with a serious passion for hospitality, has introduced a Mediterranean flair at downtown Queenstown's Attiqa cocktail and tapas bar which is making its presence felt as a fashionable night spot.

Stefano originally came to Queenstown in November 2013 for a couple of weeks holiday.

"Now it's 2018 and I co-own and manage Attiqa – happy days."

Stefano was previously bar manager of The Sun Deck, the premier rooftop bar above Attiqa, owned by Cam Mitchell of The Bunker Bar and Restaurant.

Cam put his concept for a cocktail and tapas bar to him and he was sold.

"I was very excited when Cam told me about his dream for Attiqa," says Stefano. "The layout and concept is very characteristic of my homeland. The wood, the bricks – if you take a short road trip though Italy or Tuscany, ninety per cent of the places are a bit like this. But here in Queenstown we have lake views and a more modern twist and I think that's a great balance."

"It feels very homely and that's very important for my style of hospitality. I want you to feel at home straight away. We've become well known for it – we know most people's names and their favourite drinks. It's a happy, comfortable environment and when we're not working, we hang out here too."

Attiqa's dining concept is also new for Queenstown.

Recognising that most restaurant kitchens close at 10.00pm and bars turn their music up at a similar time, Cam and Stefano were keen to offer a "meet early, stay late" formula enabling guests to meet, eat and drink until 2.00am.

Stefano says while there's live music at the weekends it's kept low-key so that the focus remains on a pleasant social experience.

"It's a happy, comfortable environment and when we're not working, we hang out here too."

"After 10.00pm in Queenstown your only option was fast food," he says. "I'm not surprised the Mediterranean pinchos (skewers) and tapas have been so popular. The food is French, Italian and Spanish inspired, but very Italian in attitude – we love antipasto, it's a hearty, casual bite to share with friends over drinks and that's what we offer at Attiqa."

"We have heaps of European wines including wines available by the carafe. It's perfect for friends on a week night when you don't want to spend crazy bucks. Grab a one litre carafe of Italian wine and order a seafood platter and it's a reasonable night out. Or come at the weekend and spend quite a bit more on a bottle of something very special from France."



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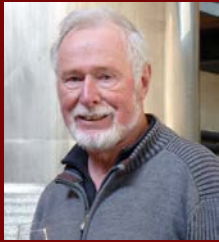
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Improving With Age



By Wine Writer and Wine Producer Alan Brady



1986 Gibbston Valley Pinot Gris

Old wines and old friends have much in common. With luck they both improve with age and when we are reunited with either, can trigger memories of pleasurable times shared accompanied by a warm glow of nostalgia.

Such was the case for many of us at the 13th Central Otago Pinot Noir Celebration this year, a wonderful international gathering of people, many of whom have been returning to Queenstown year after year since it was first held in 2000 to share their passion for Pinot.

At seminars and tastings, vineyard lunches and gourmet dinners the event explores the mysteries of Pinot and its growing environment and showcases the latest Central Otago vintages in an atmosphere of conviviality, largely stripped of any overtone of commercialism.



Alan Brady & 1998 Mt Difficulty Pinot Noir

Having been involved in the celebration one way or another since the beginning, for me it is becoming, more than anything, a reunion of old friends, human and bottled. So please forgive my philosophical bout of metaphors about ageing.

There are some things I miss about being young but old age isn't as bad as it's made out to be. As Mark Twain said "age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter."

Getting back to the subject of wine I'd like to share a couple of surprises at the Pinot Celebration that made my Central Otago Riedel glass overflow. One of the traditions at the final night charity dinner is that attendees may bring bottles of old or precious wines from their own cellars to share with others.

At my table Dunedin wine enthusiast Jules Radich produced a bottle of 2002 Mount Edward Pinot which he had hoped he could share with me. It was the third last vintage I made at Mount Edward before selling that company and it was a year I remember with great fondness.

Sixteen years on the wine was alive and well, its delicate vitality and charm bringing tears to my eyes and joy to my senses.

At that point I thought my celebration was complete until Mt Difficulty winemaker Matt Dicey turned up at our table with a bottle of 1998 Mt Difficulty Pinot Noir, the first ever wine under that label, which winemaker Grant Taylor and I made at Mount Edward the year before Mount Difficulty had their own winery. I haven't tasted it for years, but the wine was delightfully alert and intact, a 20-year-old ancestor whose genes run strong in one of the region's brand leaders today.

The day following the celebration I had an unexpected invitation to lunch with old friends who once had a holiday cottage next to our original homestead at Gibbston. To my amazement and delight they produced a bottle of 1986 Gibbston Valley Pinot Gris, the first Pinot Gris made in the region from vines in my experimental block at Gibbston.

The wine was a golden sherry colour with petroleum hints on the nose and rich, quite delicious flavours kept alive by a fresh backbone of acidity. A 32-year-old friend I never expected to meet again, telling another story about our humble beginnings.

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Italian Inspiration

By Tom Kalliber



There's a little slice of Italy right in the heart of downtown Queenstown.

Walking into Bella Cucina Italian restaurant off Brecon Street is like entering a cosy taverna in Tuscany. There's a warm buzz of conversation as wall-mounted candles cast a soft, sepia glow over the tiled floor, wooden chairs and white linen tablecloths.

A huge, wood-fired pizza oven was specially imported from Italy and pizza chef Matteo Carrubba hails from Venice while sous chef Ivan Zanutto comes to the team from Milan – but a large part of Bella Cucina's enduring popularity is very much home grown.

Head chef Regi Burton changes the menu every day to reflect the freshest, locally sourced seasonal produce.

"We have fantastic relationships with local growers. Talking to them about what's fresh allows me to create our menu daily to make the best use of what's in season," she says.

"For autumn this means introducing dishes with ingredients like kumara, beetroot, kale, silverbeet and Jerusalem artichokes, but seasons can come early or late each year so we trust our suppliers to provide the best quality at the right time."

Just about everything not obtained locally is made fresh in-house including artisan bread, pasta and delicious desserts like classic tiramisu and cannoli Siciliani – a wonderful combination of ricotta, candied lemon and orange, limoncello and hazelnut praline.

"We have fantastic relationships with local growers. Talking to them about what's fresh allows me to create our menu daily to make the best use of what's in season"

They even cure their own bresaola – air-dried, salted beef – on site which hangs from the ceiling above the kitchen.

Bocconcini cheese is sourced from Italians living in Auckland while other essential ingredients, like Sicilian olives, extra virgin olive oils and a wide selection of regional wines to enhance the ever-changing menu, are imported from Italy.

This homely restaurant has been serving up authentic Italian flavours to Queenstown locals and visitors for a decade.

Restaurant manager Lauren (Ren) Kline says the small, talented team works hard to remain true to Bella Cucina's motto, *eat simple – eat well*.

"We know what we have here is special and we want people to enjoy their time with us and leave happy. It's as simple as that!"



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HALLOWED HAVEN

By Bethany Rogers



Halo Café, sited next to the historic St Peter's Church in Queenstown, is aptly named and its tranquil setting is a reflection of its location.

The café was established by Bruce and Claire Gourlay ten years ago, in the then new building. It was immediately popular and soon expanded into the shop space next door.

Duty manager Jessica Lawrence has worked at Halo for more than seven years and says their regular customers are locals and families who in turn attract visitors.

"We don't get a lot of foot traffic, so word of mouth has always driven the café. That's the effect of having a good local following."

"We're known for our breakfast burrito – we've been noted for it in Lonely Planet for years while our omelette made with free range eggs is another favourite and of course, our smashed avocado when they're available."

A good café is always known by its coffee and Jessica says Halo is proud to serve Gravity, the only café downtown to do so.

"I've been a barista for more than ten years and I love Gravity coffee. It's one of my favourites, it's a good, strong one."

Jessica says Halo – and its strong coffee – is particularly popular with large groups, families and early risers.

"We now open an hour earlier, at 6.00am, because we always had a queue outside the door when staff arrived."

"We have lots of regular groups early in the morning, often hikers and adventure groups of sixteen plus people."

"Then, as the morning goes on, we get a lot of families who love the booths and outdoor space."

It's not all about early mornings at Halo. The café turns on a relaxed vibe in the evenings and is open until 9.00pm or 10.00pm daily, serving a range of local craft beers and wines.

"Most of our drinks list is local. We do Cargo Beers and wines from the Gibbston Valley region – you can't go wrong with that," says Jessica. "They all go well with our evening menu, which has a catch of the day dish, delicious cheese boards and sharing and tapas-style food."

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Steaking its Reputation

By Margo Berryman

While premium cuts of grass-fed beef are the signature dishes at Queenstown's Jervois Steak House seafood, particularly the Bluff oyster, comes a close second.



The Jervois Steak House (JSH), on the first floor of Sofitel Queenstown, has cemented its reputation for world-class steaks and fresh market seafood over the last five years in the resort.

The team behind the restaurant are serious aficionados of the Bluff oyster, one of the South Island's most celebrated delicacies.

"It is something we are well known for, and a lot of emphasis goes on getting oysters here for our guests. Our executive chef Gareth Stuart usually flies down to Bluff for an oyster run to get some of the first off the rack on opening day. We like to serve them au natural in the restaurant which is what diners love," says general manager Hayden Davison.

JSH is designed as an original American style steak house and the menu has a mix of prime rib, Savannah Angus, Wagyu, Wakanui, T-bone, rib eye and dry aged scotch steaks, accompanied by a choice of tasty condiments such as red wine jus, horseradish, chipotle hollandaise or béarnaise sauce.

"We are very much about the quality of the meat and seafood we serve and keeping it consistent," says Hayden. "We work closely with New Zealand's leading specialist butchery, Neat Meat, to select the finest cuts and we have an excellent supply of fresh seafood."

"Our wait staff are knowledgeable and like to spend time with guests to educate them on the different cuts and how they are best cooked and served. It is part of our style of service and adds to the atmosphere of the restaurant."

Hayden says top selling side dishes include candied kumara, creamed spinach and onion rings which are the perfect accompaniment to any of the main plates.

"It is hard to pick but my favourite dish on the menu is probably the Wagyu hanging tenders which are also known as 'the butchers cut.' It's quite an unusual meat dish, very light but full of delicious gamey flavour."

He says walk-in diners are welcome but recommends booking ahead.

"If you want a particular table on the floor or to eat at a certain time then making a reservation is the best way to ensure that. The restaurant is busy every night of the week, and we want to do our very best to serve everyone."

JSH comes highly recommended – the list of glowing reviews attests to that.



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Falling in Love with Dorothy Browns

It's hard for local people to imagine Arrowtown without its beautiful, boutique cinema and even harder to remember a time when it didn't exist. Hasn't Dorothy Browns always been a part of this historic little town, asks Miranda Spary.



"...it all worked beautifully in the end and no one in the village will ever forget the night Dorothy Browns Cinema came to town."

From the very first days when the movie theatre opened in 2001, with such quirky events as a special screening of *Best in Show* where Arrowtown dogs took their owners along, Dorothy Browns made everyone fall in love with her.

Dorothy Browns is certainly not traditional – cinema goers can enjoy a bottle of Central Otago's best vintages and there's a real intermission to take a comfort stop and stock up on more wine, cheeseboards, artisan chocolates and ice cream. There are spacious, comfortable armchairs to relax in, possum skin cushions in the bar and even feature Chinese silk mattresses on the cinema ceiling.

As well as showing all the latest films, Dorothy Browns ensures there are plenty of arthouse films and there's even a special window on the booking site to request a movie – a special Dorothy touch.

People who fancy seeing the Oscars at an exclusive screening are encouraged to dress appropriately and emulate the stars walking on the red carpet. There's always the opportunity to attend a premiere of a new release such as *Murder on the Orient Express*. The audience, in full 1930s dress, were shocked when a policeman burst in to the cinema, claiming someone had been murdered in the theatre and they had to decide who was guilty.

Dorothy Brown's owner Philippa Archibald, known for thinking outside the square, recently spread the Dorothy magic to Fiji.

Staff often get taken there for a well-deserved break and she decided this year they would show a movie in one of the villages.

"We mentioned the project to the Arrowtown community asking if anyone had any children's books or toys they didn't need. Boxes and boxes arrived and staff only had room for the smallest bikinis and sarongs with so many donations taking up all their luggage allowance," she says.

"There's nothing quite so lovely as a Fijian smile, and there were masses of them on show as the villagers crowded in to watch *Moana* and then *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*. The Fijian women popped popcorn on a rickety gas burner while the children took endless time to calm down with the excitement of it all."

Philippa says the logistics of doing anything in Fiji are always tricky and showing a movie proved extremely difficult – "but it all worked beautifully in the end and no one in the village will ever forget the night Dorothy Browns Cinema came to town."

While you won't be able to go to a Dorothy Browns screening in Fiji anytime soon, there are screenings all day, every day in Arrowtown in both the 42-seat cinema and the cosy den theatre. Always good to go early as there's a lovely bar and balcony and a terrific selection of books for sale.

Guaranteed you'll fall in love with Dorothy too.

To view the Fiji movie screening -
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Celebrating Community and Colours

By Fiona Garlick

The Akarua Arrowtown Autumn Festival (April 19-25) is a celebration of community in the charming historic town set against a backdrop of stunning autumnal colours.

Marking its 34th year the five-day extravaganza will present many of the old favourites while embracing some exciting and fresh new events.

The parade and market day on Saturday April 21 will be the usual draw card when thousands of visitors and locals flock into Arrowtown to enjoy the market stalls, entertainment by musicians and performers and the community street parade.

Traditional events include the popular Quiz Night, the Gold Panning Competition, Art Exhibition and a raft of children's activities such as the Duck Race, the Fun Dog Show and kids' art workshops.

"The infamous Pie, Pint and Pinot on Sunday April 22 has become more and more popular each year, with tickets being snapped up instantaneously," says festival co-ordinator Carole Watts. "But who wouldn't want to sample delicious local pies, fabulous craft beer and wonderful Akarua wines in a gorgeous setting like this?"

She says the festival is all about family friendly events and this year there are even more on the agenda.

"Last year's talent quest *Basin's Got Talent* had such an outstanding turnout that we have decided to put it on again," says Carole. "Plus, on Friday April 20 we have an outdoor movie night where people are invited to bring their own bean bags and rugs and snuggle up with friends and family to watch Kiwi film *Hunt for the Wilderpeople* under the stars in Buckingham Green."

New event Arrowtown Fete Extraordinaire on Saturday April 21 promises to be a night of outrageous entertainment including can-can dancers, fabulous costumes, comedy and music.

"Be prepared to be entertained by our incredible local talent then dance the night away to live music," says Carol. "This could prove to be the best Autumn Festival yet."



Award-winning Youth Choir on Stage

The renowned New Zealand Youth Choir will perform at a special concert during the Akarua Arrowtown Autumn Festival on Tuesday April 24.

Recognised for its spine-tingling and entertaining performances the New Zealand Youth Choir has achieved star status in New Zealand and won many accolades overseas.

The 50-strong choir will perform a colourful and varied repertoire from traditional choral works to music of the South Pacific, New Zealand folk songs and Maori action songs.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to experience a full-length concert of incredible calibre," says festival co-ordinator Carole Watts. "Definitely not to be missed."

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Tartan Debut

The Arrowtown Creative Arts Society (ACAS) is spearheading a traditional Scottish shindig with the inaugural Autumn Ceilidh planned for May 5 at the Arrowtown Athenaeum Hall.

Ceilidh (pronounced Kay-lee) is Gaelic for a gathering or party and according to organiser Mairi Raby one has never been held in Arrowtown.



Twisty Willow

"I am sure there's been plenty of parties, but no record of a community event like this," she says. "Expect a fun filled social evening. No need to have danced before in your life, and you will be swept into the jigs and reels whether you have a partner or not."

Scottish born, Mairi has organised Ceilidhs previously in Auckland's Devonport and has convinced her regular band Twisty Willow to come south for the debut Arrowtown event.

"Even if you have two left feet you can join in and have a blast," she says. "This is a village party, a knees up, a night to just have a laugh and dance."

For tickets: www.acas.nz



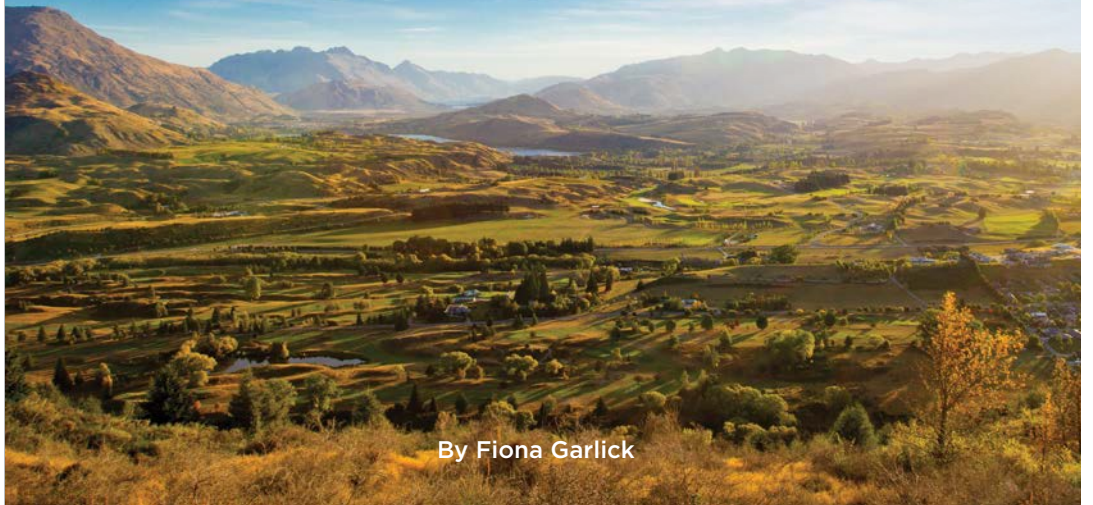
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What's New in Arrowtown



By Fiona Garlick

Focus on Photography

The popular annual Arrowtown Photography Competition which is showcased at the town's Autumn Festival in April has introduced four exciting new categories this year.

"In the past we have had only one or two sections but this year we have broadened it out to four categories to include Arrowtown Landscape, Activities and People, Nature and Macro and Heritage," says APBA spokesperson Sue Patterson, "and feedback from local photographers has been very positive."

Arrowtown is one of New Zealand's most photographed villages and is home to many talented photographers, both amateur and professional, with the junior under 15-years competition always popular.

Winners will be announced and displayed at the Autumn Festival Art Exhibition opening on Friday April 20 at the Lakes District Museum.

For more information: www.arrowtown.com.



Autumn Walk – Dokyun Kim



Parking Pressure Overcome

Car parking has almost doubled in Arrowtown with the expansion and upgrade of the Ramshaw Lane car park alongside the Arrow River.

Pressure has been significantly relieved with 130 free all-day car parks, including a designated campervan parking area, now available for visitors to the town.

Queenstown Lakes councillor Scott Stevens says they wanted to increase the capacity while using the same footprint as the old carpark.

"We have achieved this without cutting any further into the Manu Whenua recreational reserve or compromising the link between the river and the town."

The work has also enabled a much-needed upgrade of the stormwater drainage system bringing it up to modern day standards.

"While the improvements to the drainage may perhaps go unnoticed already the difference in terms of traffic alleviation in the town is obvious," says Scott.

He says the car park has been an ongoing project for several years with the design overseen by a strict advisory group of community members and architects, determined to maintain Arrowtown's charm and vitality, while dealing with growing tourist numbers.

"Of course, it is still a work in progress. We are looking forward to the landscaping which will be taking place at the appropriate planting times with 20 trees going in at the start of this winter and underplanting in the spring."



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bedroom, four bathroom home captures the essence of modern living with its contemporary Francis Whitaker design and stylish interior integrating a sense of seclusion, openness and freedom.

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AUTUMN PALETTE @ GOALS

By Margo Berryman

Autumn brings a stylish new range of luxury lifestyle and activewear to Arrowtown boutique store Goals. As the weather cools down it's time to check out essential wardrobe pieces whether it's for the gym, the weekend or beyond.

COLOUR EDIT

Shopping by colour for activewear is easy at Goals where a fresh palette of seasonal shades is making a bold feature in-store.

Store co-founder Caroline Walak says colour has a significant role in all their displays.

"There are plenty of new colourways coming through this season across all our activewear including khaki, pink, navy, burgundy and a bright pop of red."

"We have merchandised the store into colour blocks and mixed in our different brands in similar hues so customers can be led by the colours that inspire them and they enjoy wearing," she says.

"The response has been amazing – we are seeing customers starting to mix and match brands and wear different label combinations together to suit their style which is cool."



GYM ESSENTIALS

Leggings, singlets, t-shirts, shorts and sports bras are the glue that hold a gym wardrobe together. Goals stocks stylish essentials from some of the world's leading activewear brands.



LORNA JANE

Goals has the largest selection of Lorna Jane activewear in the South Island. This hugely popular Australian brand is always on trend and offers a variety of high-performance gear in styles and sizes to suit all women.

NIMBLE

Designed for comfort, Nimble is a fashion-forward activewear brand which produces gear that looks and feels great. New season leggings, tops and sports bras made from lightweight, durable compression fabrics come in shades of navy, khaki, burgundy, glacier gray and new leopard and red bamboo prints.

L'URV

Influenced by high-end fashion, the L'urv range of work out gear is very much attuned to luxury lifestyles and habits. A wide range of floral prints, geometric patterns, gold trims and mesh inserts are featured with options including basics such as black leggings to glam metallic hoodies and gold bomber jackets.

THE SHOE WALL

Goals specialises in a cross-section of sports, casual and lifestyle shoes and the massive shoe wall features big brands such as Lacoste, Vans, New Balance, Puma, Asics and Adidas. #newkicks



CANADA GOOSE

A premium range of Canada Goose jackets and coats are now available at Goals.

"We tested the market last year with a small selection of Canada Goose and everyone loved them so this year we have expanded the range," says Caroline.

Canada Goose is renowned for its warmth, windproof and technical apparel. The new 2018 styles at Goals include the Brookvale jacket in black camo for men and women, Sylvan vest for men and the Hybrid Lite Hoody in black/graphite.



NIMBLE

Superdry.

L'URV

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www.goalsstore.com

FOR SALE



603 Peninsula Road, Kelvin Heights, Queenstown

This incredibly private, sun-drenched waterfront family home boasts dazzling panoramic views over Lake Wakatipu and is located in the blue chip suburb of Kelvin Heights. The home has undergone recent renovations that have resulted in a spectacular, high quality, finished product on a prized land parcel of 1,492 of Queenstown's finest square metres.

This Fred Van Brandenburg designed residence provides luxurious accommodation for family and guests and includes four double bedrooms (with built-ins), four bathrooms (three ensuites), a large office or fifth bedroom. The modern designer gourmet kitchen which will be a pleasure to cook in and throughout the home there are many bespoke handmade finishes. All major rooms lead out to sunny balconies, terraces and large entertaining areas. The heated swimming pool provides endless summer fun.

4  4  2 

Floor: 415 sq m | Land: 1,493 sq m

PRICE: NZD \$8,500,000

VIEW: nzsothebysrealty.com/QBS11809

GERARD BLIGH: M +64 21 909 198
gerard.bligh@sothebysrealty.com



Five Mile More than a Shopping Centre

By Penny Simpson

Queenstown's newest retail and commercial centre, Five Mile Centre, was launched just two years ago but is already fully tenanted with 40 stores and services and a new five-storey building, providing more outlets, is due to open by the end of the year.

The bustling centre has become a one-stop-shop destination for locals and visitors, with plenty of car parking space and a public bus stop at the entrance.

Tenants at the centre are proactive about their businesses and the dynamic space they work in and have recently established the Five Mile business networking group, inspired by ANZ bank branch manager Hayley Taylor.

She conceived the idea after joining the Five Mile branch in mid-2017.

"We already had a good business relationship with some of the professionals at the centre including accountants and lawyers. However, I wanted to get to know some of the other businesses, so we held our first breakfast networking meeting in January. We're scheduling them every two months at different times of the day and in different business locations to attract the widest range of attendees."

"Our first speaker was from the centre's social media team at Southern PR who gave us some top tips about how to build engagement, targeting locals and growing brand awareness," says Hayley. "The feedback I've had has been hugely positive and the whole event was the perfect way to be social, put some faces to names, share information and support each other."

Community Heart

The Five Mile Centre is supporting key local charities and events as part of its new community programme.

This year for the first time it was an official tournament partner for the ISPS Handa New Zealand Open which provided four days of world-class golf and events in Queenstown at two of the country's top golf courses – Millbrook Resort and The Hills.

Prior to Christmas 2017 the centre ran a 12 Days of Christmas "campaign with a heart." Five Mile businesses and retail outlets supported it with thousands of dollars of donated goods and services not only for one lucky winner, but also for Queenstown's Happiness House, who in turn donated Christmas gifts to local people and families in need.



Happiness House's Niki Mason (centre) with Five Mile representatives Eric Nauta and Angela Davis



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and 11am to 12am (Fri-Sat)

**Grant Road (off State Highway 6)
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www.fivemilecentre.co.nz

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FROM THE CHAMBERS



Grandparents and grandkids activity day – Wanaka Recreation Centre

Council Responds to Demand for Sporting Facilities

By Tom Kalliber

New Zealanders' passion for sport and a growing local population have increased demand for facilities such as indoor courts, outdoor turf and swimming pools across the Queenstown, Wanaka and Arrowtown areas.

Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) is investing in a number of projects to meet this demand and build for the future.

Construction of the new Wanaka Pool, QLDC's biggest current project at \$12m, is on track and scheduled for completion at the end of May.

The new complex will feature a 25m, eight-lane lap pool, adult spa pool and a dedicated learners' pool with separate toddlers' area. It will be located next to the existing Wanaka Recreation Centre at Three Parks, itself less than two years old, with shared entrance and car park.

QLDC Sport and Recreation manager Simon Battrick says the excitement is building as the opening date draws closer.

"This is going to be a real community asset for the Upper Clutha and something everyone can be proud of. Moving from one pool to three enables us to meet the needs of a growing population and cater much better for the different requirements of groups like kids learning to swim and hardcore lap swimmers," he says.

"We'll certainly be putting on a big opening party in Wanaka so watch this space."

\$2.35m Arrowtown Amenity

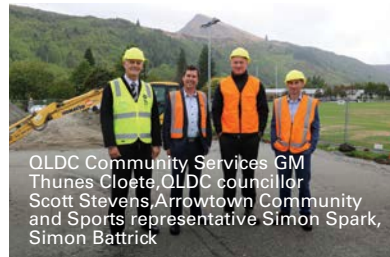
Construction of a new \$2.35m Community Sports Facility is underway at Jack Reid Park in Arrowtown.

QLDC is providing up to \$1m towards the building with the remainder coming from various regional trusts as well as fundraising by Arrowtown Rugby Club, one of the founding tenants along with Arrowtown Cubs, Scouts and Venturers.

In addition to changing rooms, showers and toilets there will be a bar, kitchen and function spaces for other clubs and events. Once completed, the council will take ownership and manage the facility alongside its other community venues.

QLDC Sport and Recreation manager Simon Battrick says the combined effect of the new facilities will enable more people to enjoy an active lifestyle and indulge their passion for sport.

"Our goal is to get more people, more active, more often. Council's ongoing investment in Wanaka, Queenstown and Arrowtown will certainly help us achieve this and build a solid base for the ongoing development of sport and recreation across the district."



QLDC Community Services GM Thunes Cloete, QLDC councillor Scott Stevens, Arrowtown Community and Sports representative Simon Spark, Simon Battrick



Wanaka pool complex

Two new outdoor sports fields – a full-sized football pitch and a three-quarter pitch – opened at Wanaka Recreation Centre in March. Local clubs can now play and train at a venue with full changing facilities on site.

Earlier this year the council's Sport and Recreation team opened gymnasium and meeting room space for community use at the former Wakatipu High School site on Gorge Road in Queenstown.

QLDC reached an agreement with the Ministry of Education late last year to operate the existing small gym and indoor courts suitable for yoga, group fitness training and sports like netball, volleyball and futsal, along with two classrooms until a decision on the future of the site is made.

Queenstown Gymnastics has exclusive use of the small gym during this time as it continues to look for a permanent home in the area.

President Mark Kunath says it means a lot for the club to have an interim training venue which has given them breathing space.

"We're very grateful for all the work put in by everyone involved in reaching this arrangement. If we hadn't found a new home by the start of the school year we would have had to stop classes and go into recess."

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Jacinda Ardern

Prime Minister Headlines Aspiring Conversations

By Jane Brooke

The combined appearance of New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and Ireland's former President Mary Robinson is grabbing the headlines for Wanaka's Aspiring Conversations festival of ideas in early April.

The key session *Working for Change* featuring Ardern and Robinson is one of 11 events in the Southern Lakes Arts Festival Trust programme running from Friday April 6 until Sunday April 8.

Sponsored by Milford Asset Management and presented in association with McKinsey & Company, Aspiring Conversations features high-calibre speakers, writers and thinkers discussing and debating contemporary issues.

Festival director Philip Tremewan says this year's programme reflects the "post-truth world we live in where social media and fake news often hold sway".

"Aspiring Conversations turns that around in a weekend where we gather as real people in real time to hear speakers who have real expertise in their fields – from history to human rights, from science to song. It's a time for reflection, discussion and debate."

Nine sessions highlight subjects as diverse as politics, justice, the universe, diet and disease, depression and anxiety, natural resources and mining, while two special sessions add music and performance to the mix.

Speakers at Aspiring Conversations 2018 include astrophysicist and Hubble Space Telescope senior project scientist Dr Jennifer Wiseman, well-regarded Australian author Christos Tsiolkas of *The Slap* and *Barracuda* fame and historians James Belich and Dr Michael Stevens.

John D. Potter who is chief science advisor to the Ministry of Health and professor at Massey University's Centre for Public Health Research, former Rhodes Scholar and Green MP Holly Walker and former Green Party co-leader Jeanette Fitzsimons will also attract a strong following.

In *Memories in Song* New Zealand singer-songwriters Warren Maxwell, Reb Fountain and Anthonie Tonnon talk with music journalist Nick Bollinger about their lives, experiences and memories each performing songs that dip into their memories.

Dutch performance artist Nick Steur performs his mind-boggling act FREEZE – an Edinburgh Festival Fringe hit which sees him balancing awkwardly shaped rocks on top of one another, creating unique sculptures that appear to defy the laws of physics.

For full programme details and tickets visit www.aspiringconversations.co.nz



Holly Walker



Nick Steur



Dr Jennifer Wiseman



James Belich

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What's Happening Autumn



Warbirds Over Wanaka International Airshow 2018

Friday March 30 – Monday April 1

Four days of high-octane aviation excitement in Wanaka. The Warbirds Over Wanaka International Airshow celebrates its 30th anniversary during Easter 2018 at Wanaka Airport.

The show will include more than 80 aircraft taking part in the three-day event. A special fly-over Lake Wanaka, celebrating helicopters large and small and including RNZAF aircraft, will be held on March 30.

warbirdsoverwanaka.com



Queenstown Disc Golf Club Paradise Plates Tournament

Saturday April 7 & Sunday April 8

The 19th Annual Dart River Jet Safaris Paradise Plates Disc Golf Tournament will be staged at the Paradise Trust property near Glenorchy.

The Paradise Plates involves a 54-hole singles tournament with 27 holes played on each day. It is a PDGA CTier event and the Paradise course is suitable for experienced players competing in eight divisions.

queenstowndiscgolf.co.nz



Contact Epic Bike Race 2018

Saturday April 14

Once a year passionate mountain bikers descend upon Wanaka and Lake Hawea to test their skills, endurance and daring at the Contact Epic.

The course takes competitors on a 125km adventure to circumnavigate Lake Hawea through usually inaccessible locations that blow the mind and challenge the spirit. Easier 95km and 35km options are available.

lakehaweaeptic.co.nz

Sherwood Songwriter Society

**Thursday April 26
& Thursday May 31**

Hosted by local folktronica duo, Choice, at Sherwood Queenstown the society focuses on encouraging local musicians. Check the Sherwood Queenstown website for details on this regular event.

sherwoodqueenstown.nz

Health, Healing & Happiness

**Saturday April 28
& Sunday April 29**

A weekend of information, demonstrations and insights. Nine practitioners, teachers and business women from different backgrounds will tell their own stories with seminars and workshops on offer.

Discounted accommodation at Kinross Cottages with access to wine tasting, walks and cycle tours in the Gibbston Valley.

cre8ingbalance.com



LUMA Southern Light Project

Friday June 1 - Monday June 4

LUMA Southern Light Project is a free public event, showcasing a curated collection of stunning light sculptures and installations with a focus on transformation of space, public interaction, art, culture and education.

The event is held in the Queenstown Gardens with four evenings of entertainment and illuminated art. Family friendly and free to watch, LUMA is a showcase of artistic talent.

luma.nz

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Central Otago Art Destination

By Emma Maddox

Clyde's Eade Gallery is fast becoming a destination for art lovers looking for a piece of work unique to Central Otago.

Owner Melanie Eade says many customers return because they know each time they visit there will be new work on display from the 30 predominantly Central Otago artists the gallery represents.

"People walk in and say they often go into other galleries and walk out because they haven't seen anything they like. But they come in here and can't believe there are so many things which they really love."

Eade Gallery is considered by her clients to be one of the best galleries of its kind which she attributes to the diversity of work and the calibre of the artists.

Melanie also prides herself on having affordable artwork which is accessible to everyone as well as providing an informal gallery environment for customers.

Her border collie Mollie greets customers at the door, instantly making them feel relaxed and comfortable.

"Having a dog in a gallery is unusual but she's a great ice-breaker."

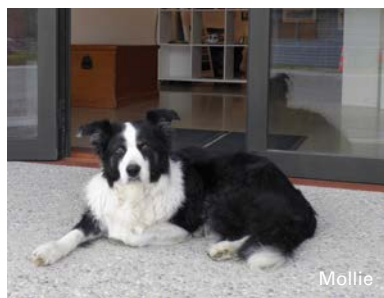
Melanie believes Central Otago is so appealing to the artists because of the clarity of light and the beauty and scale of the landscape which inspires them to produce art unique to Central Otago.

She plans to introduce solo exhibitions for some of her artists allowing them to exhibit more of their work.

The gallery sells ceramics, jewellery, sculpture, woodwork, paintings in all mediums, as well as a range of prints and cards and gift vouchers. A speciality is Melanie's in-house consultation for new builds or people wanting to expand their art collection.



Melanie Eade with Esther Dexter Painting



Mollie

"Having a dog in a gallery is unusual but she's a great ice-breaker."



Eade Gallery

17A Holloway Street, Clyde

Ph: 021 265 3358

Facebook: facebook.com/Eadegallery

www.eadegallery.co.nz

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It's All in the Name

By Emma Maddox

When Anna McRitchie discovered she was expecting twins she was so sure they were girls she had their names picked out.

"I just knew they were going to be girls so I chose Lily and Esther. And then I found out they were boys."

Seven years later she has named her new fashion store located in the Clyde retail hub, Lily & Esther.

"I had other ideas for names for the store but in the end I chose Lily & Esther because it had a story behind it."

Anna has always had an interest in fashion, particularly shoes, which encouraged her to open her store in an appealing building on Holloway Street.

"I love Clyde and Olivers has done great things for the town so I opted to jump on that bandwagon. Even though I'm known for my shoes I didn't just want to be a shoe shop so I decided to open a clothing store."

Anna's vision was for a small store promoting New Zealand fashion exclusively from designers she is passionate about.

Lily & Esther stocks five clothing labels – Kowtow, Company of Strangers, Standard Issue, Juliette Hogan and Staple + Cloth – as well as a selection of New Zealand designed accessories including jewellery from Joanna Salmond and Lindi Kingi, Chaos & Harmony shoes and Yu Mei bags.

She is pleased with her selection of designers and says her customers are impressed by the range in Lily & Esther.

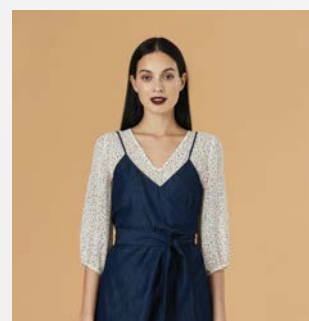
"People are surprised with what I've got. They know the labels and know what they like."

Anna is excited about this autumn's fashion trends – "there is lots of colour and beautiful patterns but also gorgeous clothing in the classic black, grey and navy."

Lily & Esther is located at 23D Holloway Street Clyde and is open seven days from 10.00am until 5.00pm.



Anna McRitchie



LILY & ESTHER

23D Holloway Street, Clyde.
027 381 8103

Chile Influence in Clyde

Paulina Corvalan describes her cooking style as a mix of everything she knows.

"It's exciting and fresh, yet simple – international flavours from South America, Europe and Asia and, of course, the influence of my grandmother."

It's a style which has seen her Clyde restaurant, Paulina's, grow in popularity in the short time it has been open.

Paulina says the vision for the restaurant comes from her childhood growing up in the south of Chile.

She spent hours learning to cook in the kitchen with her grandmother who inspired her to cook everything from scratch using only the freshest ingredients.

To make sure she has year-round access to fresh ingredients Paulina has recently established her own market garden comprising 12 gardens and several tunnel houses which provide vegetables and herbs for the restaurant.

The quality and freshness of the produce is evident in Paulina's dishes, which include the popular slow-roasted Havoc free range pork belly and the Lomo Saltado – a Peruvian style beef fillet stir fry with tomatoes, red onion and a secret sauce.

Tempura blue cod served with Mexican style rice, corn and beans is the most popular dish while customers also love the option of the larger plates designed for sharing.

Her grandmother's secret chocolate flan recipe features on the dessert menu, while the South American Pisco Sour which hails from Peru and Chile, is a hit with cocktail lovers.

Paulina's is open for evening dining from 5.00pm Monday to Saturday and for lunch and evening dining Sundays from 12.00pm.



Paulina's
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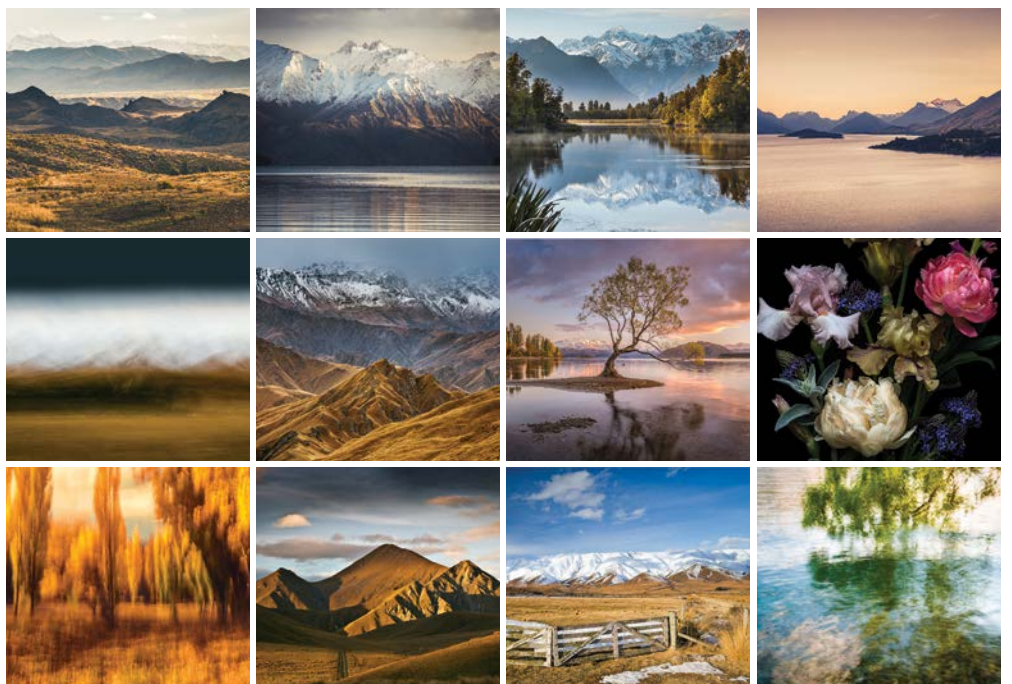
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Booming Business

By Jill Herron



Solange Felix & Jan Gomez

One of New Zealand's fastest growing towns, Cromwell and its surrounding settlements, has experienced a remarkable boom over recent years vastly increasing the numbers of people choosing to live in the area.

The population at the 2013 census grew significantly from five to seven thousand people but with many new families since arriving in the area there is likely to be another strong increase when the 2018 census results are published.

The wine and horticulture industries, particularly export cherry and pinot noir production, have put Cromwell on the map. At the same time, Lake Dunstan has come into its own as an important holiday playground with new boating facilities, lakeside cycle tracks and walkways.

Pressure from Queenstown's housing squeeze has also contributed to Cromwell's growth and new businesses have caught the wave. Eateries, cellar doors, fruit stalls and tourism ventures lead the growth with the Highlands Motor Sport Park helping fuel a national passion for fast cars.

While Cromwell is becoming a popular destination just as appealing are the nearby outposts such as Bannockburn and Tarras.

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Solange Felix

Bannockburn

In the historic goldmining village of Bannockburn wine, art and stunning food combine to guarantee plenty of surprises for visitors.

The latest addition in the village is Black Rabbit Kitchen and Bar.

Jamie Fairweather and Katie Funnell say they partly chose Bannockburn because it offers a good work and life balance.

With a staff of ten they have created a local's hub with friendly, relaxed service and quality, honest food.

"We don't go on holiday but it feels like we are on holiday 24/7 living here," says Kate.

The doors are open 8.00am until 5.00pm for brunch, cabinet food, coffee, beer and local wine, with late nights Fridays and Saturdays.

Meanwhile the Carrick vineyard nearby highlights the increasing profile of vineyards in the Bannockburn area.

Cellar door manager Solange Felix thrives on bringing Carrick's story to life through its wines, the names connecting vintages with a colourful history. Excelsior goldmine lay below where the vines – first planted nearly 25 years ago – now grow and dredges such as the *Lady Ranfurly* and *Magnetic* churned the waters nearby.

Fresh ingredients, many grown in the organic vineyard's gardens, form the basis for excellent dining in Carrick's Restaurant. High-end art by well-known local artist Nigel Brown and sculptor Hannah Kidd, and a stunning outlook over the Bannockburn Inlet complete the scene at this long-established Bannockburn landmark.



Tarras

High-end fashion, designer fabric and the latest in kitchenware are not what you expect to stumble across in remote rural New Zealand. But then Tarras, a tiny settlement on the highway north from Wanaka and Cromwell, is not your typical Kiwi town.

Tarras is inhabited by many talented people and being on the tourist route has made it popular for stylish country outings. The surrounding area has attracted many entrepreneurs and is home to successful B & B's, olive and peony growing businesses and of course wineries.

Maori Point Vineyard part-owner, Marilyn Duxson, says the science-based, back-to-nature approach to winemaking is working well for the quartet of former academics who own and run the 30 hectare plus vineyard.

She says Maori Point is equally proud of their top-end Pinots as they are of the charming Gold Digger Frizzante – essentially "bubbly in a beer bottle"

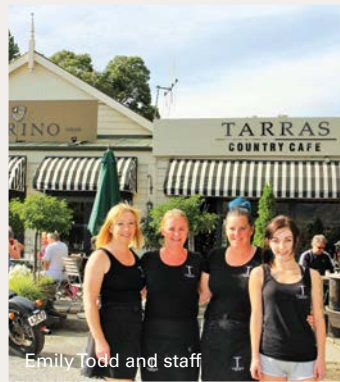
"It's one of our stars, like an Italian prosecco but not so sweet, and the bottles are so practical. It's been a run-away success, we sold 1200 cases last year."

In Tarras itself the focal point is the Tarras Country Café.

Owner Emily Todd's journey to work is occasionally delayed by four-legged neighbours, as farmers often move sheep along the road that leads to where her locals' favourite café is housed. But that's okay with her as there's no hurry in this small community.



Marilyn Duxson



Emily Todd and staff

"It's always been a dream to own my own café so when it came up for sale just after we bought a section here we jumped at the chance," says Emily who now has five full-time staff. "I really like the community spirit and no one's in a rush."



CROMWELL'S HOSPITALITY AND VISITOR CENTRE

CNR HIGHWAY 8B & BARRY AVENUE, CROMWELL



Hunting lodge themed Five Stags Bar and Restaurant has evolved from the need to provide honest, hard-working locals and travelling folk with a welcoming, family friendly place to grab a cold pint, a glass of wine or a great feed and share stories about their day or week.



Forage Information Centre & Cafe at The Gate could not be better positioned for tourists hungry for food and refreshment or thirsty for information and being able to make accommodation, activities and tour bookings there and then.

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Meg Huffadine with confluence 2017



Cromwell Heritage Precinct

Historic Outlook

By Emma Maddox

Artists working in the Hullabaloo Art Space in Cromwell's Heritage Precinct could possibly have one of the best offices in the world.

With stunning views of the ever-changing Lake Dunstan and its surrounds, there's no shortage of inspiration for the people who make up the art collective.

Hullabaloo opened 12 years ago and features work from 15 artists from around the region including jewellers, painters, sculptors and photographers.

Bannockburn based artist Megan Huffadine says the artists can't help but be motivated by the location, particularly in autumn with its stunning colours and clear sunny days.

She says Hullabaloo is unique because an artist is always on duty in the building, often working on their own artwork.

"So, visitors have the opportunity to talk to an artist about their work while they wander around the space."

Megan says many of the artists represented at Hullabaloo have won awards throughout New Zealand for their work.

"We have a presence in the art world well beyond Cromwell."

The artists alternate exhibiting their work in a solo show during the year which she says gives them the opportunity to show more of their work in a bigger space.

"It also gives them a chance to explore new ideas and themes and try new approaches to their work."

"Visitors have the opportunity to talk to an artist about their work while they wander around the space."

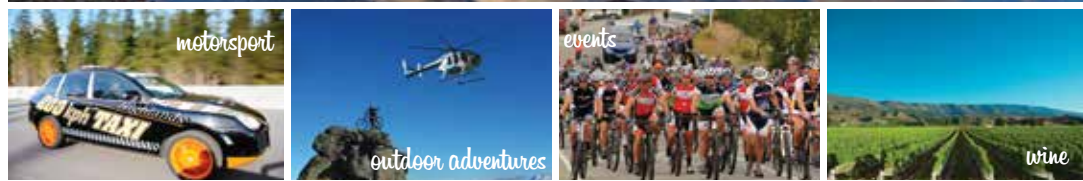
Hullabaloo is just one of a number of interesting artisan businesses which have set up in the precinct. Several other artists and small galleries showcase their work as well.

Sequoia Finewares owner Jan Hawkins says autumn in the precinct is a particularly special time of the year.

"It's such a beautiful place to work. We all feel privileged to have such an amazing outlook."

The Cromwell Heritage Precinct is open daily and is located at the bottom of Melmore Terrace on the shores of Lake Dunstan.

There is plenty of parking around the precinct or alternatively it is a short walk from the Cromwell Mall following the signposted bollards leading to the precinct.



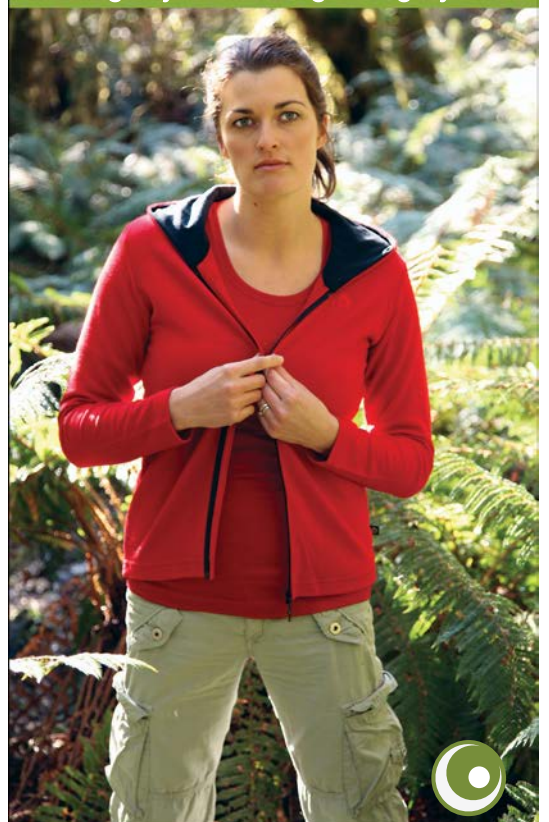
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Hi, I'm Dan.

I've travelled throughout Europe, America & Australia. Creating amazing travel experiences is what I do & it's what keeps me excited to plan the perfect holiday for you.

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Hi, my name's Catriona.

I grew up in Wellington before making my way around NZ & settling here in beautiful Queenstown. I've been lucky enough to see some incredible places throughout the world - my favourite destination to date is South Africa, followed closely by Bali.

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Hi there, my name is Richard.

I have lived in Queenstown since 2004 & love living & working in the Wakatipu. My claim to fame is I have stepped foot in every continent with the exception of Antarctica!

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Hey, my name is Alice.

I am originally from Brighton, England. I made my way over to New Zealand 4 years ago, stopping in Thailand for a month to explore & have been in Queenstown for the past 3 years. I have been lucky to grow up visiting many countries & I plan to visit many more!

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Hi there, I'm Karan.

My love for travel began when backpacking through Southeast Asia for 6 months. I am a well-traveled International Travel Consultant, having recently visited Machu Picchu, Puerto Maldonado, Patagonia & Santiago. Being a scuba enthusiast, my favorite beach holiday is Koh Tao, Thailand.

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