

Southern Lakes Lifestyle

QTM Magazine

*Autumn in
Arrowtown*

Celebrating with festivals food & wine

QUEENSTOWN
PROPERTY
HIGHLIGHT

Focus on fast moving
and buoyant market

CREATIVE
ARTS

Kiwi showcase at Wanaka
Festival of Colour

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ISSUE 111 AUTUMN 2021

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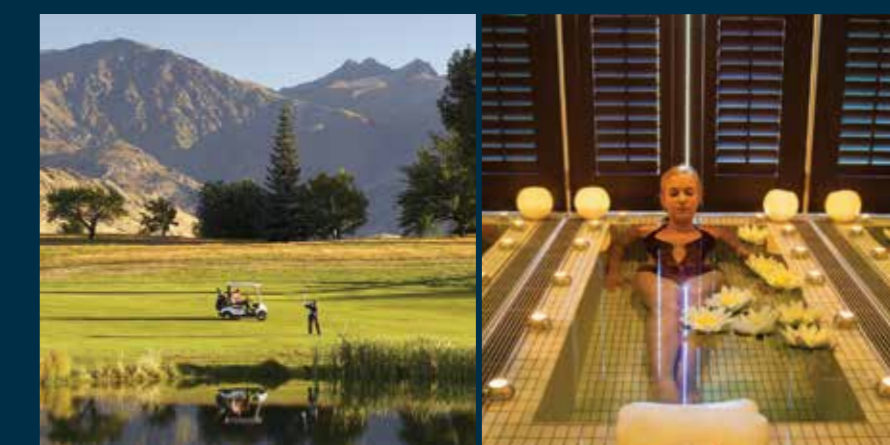
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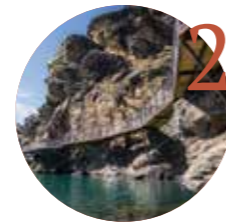
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News from Around the Region

with Jenny McLeod

Streamlining hospitality compliance

A food safety app set up by a Queenstown company to help the hospitality industry streamline compliance is continuing to attract support with thousands of outlets around the country signed up.

Chomp was launched in 2016 and founder Paul Wilson, who has more than 30 years' experience in the industry, says despite the Covid-19 pandemic it is increasing its reach amongst bars, restaurants, cafés, hotels, aged care and retail operators.

He was motivated to develop the app because there had to be a better way to stay ahead of food safety requirements, training and paperwork.

"Being in the industry ourselves we knew full well the time and energy it takes businesses to stay compliant.

With the requirements of the Food Act we spent a lot of time just ensuring our records were up to date and accurate."

He says Chomp effectively eliminates years of paperwork and is a gamechanger in efficiency and sustainability.



Paul Wilson

Social Worker Appointed to Wakatipu Primary Schools

A social worker to provide support for all seven primary schools in the Wakatipu has been appointed through an initiative launched by the Greatest Needs Fund (GNF).

The fund was established during the Covid-19 lockdown to provide funding for the most vulnerable people in the community and raised more than \$1 million which has been distributed to front line agencies.

CEO Kaye Parker says school principals raised a red flag regarding the need for mental health support for primary school children.

"They indicated many children were showing signs of anxiety and stress with their families facing severe hardship as a result of Covid-19."

She says the Ministry of Education had agreed to fund a six-month appointment but the Greater Needs Fund felt it should be for a longer term.

"We are grateful to both Sky City Casino Community Trust for its \$55,000 grant and Central Lakes Trust for its grant of \$50,000 towards the appointment. The GNF has committed \$165,160 which means we already have funding for more than three years. The Central Lakes Family Services is running the contract and we are hopeful that the position, once evaluated, will continue to be funded by the Government in the future."

First lift installed at Soho Ski Area

Lift-accessed skiing and snowboarding in Soho Ski Area will become a reality in 2021 with the installation of the Willows Quad chairlift due for completion this winter.

In 2018 Cardrona Alpine Resort acquired the ski area rights for Soho, the terrain that sits on the reverse face of Mt Cardrona, overlooking the Wakatipu Basin and the Southern Alps.

Cardrona/Treble Cone general manager Bridget Legnavsky says Willows Basin is the first area to be unlocked within Soho and further lifts are planned in the future.

She says Willows Basin will be the first new major lift-accessed terrain in New Zealand since the opening of the Valley View Quad at Cardrona in 2012.

Sixty-five hectares of primarily intermediate terrain will be accessed from the top of the McDougall's Chondola at Cardrona through to the bottom of the Willows Quad at Soho.



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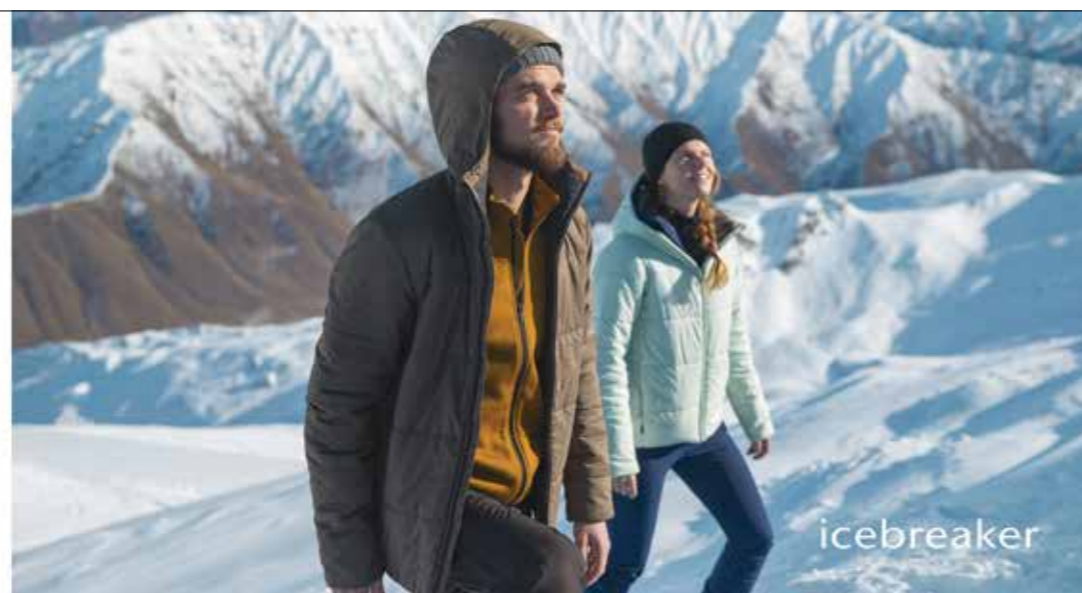
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Communities benefit from Hugo Charitable Trust

By Jenny McLeod

Queenstown and Central Otago are benefiting from the dedication of Irish immigrant Hugh Green who had a high profile in New Zealand not only as a successful businessman but also as a significant philanthropist. Today a charity set up in his name ensures his legacy of giving continues.



Lake Hayes



John Green (Hugh's brother) Mark Owens Maryanne Green & Ronan Piper (Hugh's great-grandson)

The Hugo Charitable Trust, established in 2017 by Hugh's daughter Maryanne with a capital base of \$75 million, has donated more than \$10 million nationally to charitable causes around New Zealand, with over \$500,000 so far distributed in Central Otago.

Trust chairman Mark Owens says they are committed to helping where they can in the region and were the first to put up their hand when the Wakatipu Greatest Needs Fund was launched during the Covid-19 lockdown in 2020.

"We acted quickly when approached for \$50,000 seed funding to establish the fund which was used to support immigrant workers, pleasing in itself considering Hugh Green, who died in 2012, was once an immigrant worker."

Funding has also been provided to the Wakatipu High School philanthropic programme Generation Give and the Wakatipu Wildlife Trust.

One of the key charities to benefit from the Hugo Trust is the Living Options Charitable Trust which was set up in 2001 in Alexandra to cater for people with physical and intellectual disabilities, providing them with support services to live independently in their own community.

In March last year they donated a further \$100,000 to Living Options towards the renovations of a house leased in Arrowtown as a day activity centre for Wakatipu people, also with physical and intellectual disabilities.

Meanwhile the Hugh Green Family Trust identified a gap locally for accommodation for Kiwis who might otherwise find it difficult to have a holiday.

Mark says as a result the Trust purchased a house at Lake Hayes naming it Hugo House in Hugh Green's memory.

"We thought let's make it nice for people who can't currently enjoy Lake Hayes, as we count ourselves so lucky to live here."

The property was converted to create a more accessible home for everyone who visits. It is wheelchair friendly and includes electrically adjustable hospital beds.

"Since opening in 2018 there have been over 70 charities and families who have holidayed at the house free of charge," says Hugo Trust CEO Aoibheann Monaghan. "We are booked ahead for several months and so far it has all been through word of mouth. The demand for this type of facility is very high because it is so accessible and we believe there is nothing else like it in the region."

The Hugo Trust intends to continue to make its presence felt in 2021 assisting the less fortunate in the community, following the lead of its namesake.

"As well as receiving applications we go out and look for the greatest needs," says Aoibheann. "We look for charities working under the radar that might not necessarily have the money to go and do that fancy website or have the big marketing team behind them but they're doing really good work."

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BUOYANT MARKET LEADS TO RECORD SALES

By Jenny McLeod

A fast-moving property market in New Zealand which has accelerated since the Covid-19 lockdown last year has seen New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty achieve 1.6 billion dollars in sales across the country, according to owner Mark Harris.

"When New Zealand went into lockdown we didn't know if we would have a business afterwards. In fact, the opposite happened and we have accomplished record sales every month since September 2020. Added to that the median house price across the country was up in January this year by 19 per cent which is phenomenal."

Mark says whether the trend continues will depend on supply with a shortage of listings being experienced particularly in popular lifestyle areas such as Queenstown, Tauranga, Hawkes Bay and Nelson.

"The market is largely driven by interest rates and while they remain low buyers are going to want to take advantage of that and I can't see the current rates moving significantly over the next 12 to 18 months."

He believes some consideration towards altering negative gearing rules should be given to slow the investor market.

"I'm sure this will be weighing on the Government's mind. We've seen the Reserve Bank increasing LVRs in a bid to slow things down which is good, but it doesn't help first home buyers."

Mark says brand New Zealand is very shiny at the moment, particularly because of the country's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, which is adding to its international appeal.

"Enquiries are being received from interested buyers all over the world but only Australians and Singaporeans can presently purchase residential property in New Zealand. We are actually turning away a lot of wealthy investors from places like the US and the UK when New Zealand could do with that level of investment."

"I would like to see thought given to lifting restrictions on international buyers and introducing a foreign buyer stamp duty on properties above \$1 million. That income could contribute towards increasing the supply of affordable homes for Kiwis, helping to address the current issues."



Mark Harris



COMPANY CULTURE

The first office which today remains the headquarters of New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty opened in Queenstown in 2005. Today there are 18 offices across the country with more planned to open this year.

Co-founders Mark Harris and Julian Brown own ten offices with the remainder franchised.

"This year we will open offices in Cambridge and Mount Maunganui and have a bigger presence in the Britomart area in Auckland," says Mark. "We have 250 staff including 150 high performance agents working with us and while real estate is an individualistic industry we try and breed a culture of people working and performing well together."

The company has been in the spotlight internationally being named the Best International Real Estate Agency Worldwide at the International Property Awards in 2019.

"We were also recognised for selling the two highest priced residential properties in New Zealand in 2019 and recorded the highest price for a property again in 2020," says Mark. "These results reflect the hard work and commitment of our agents and the way we trade properties. We are focused on quality listings and working to get the best maximum result for our vendors."

Advantage is being taken of the latest technology to provide clients with the best possible service.

"Covid-19 lockdown forced us and our clients to rely on live video tours of properties rather than physically viewing them. With today's technology a buyer sitting in Sydney can feel as if they are actually in the property and I think that's a glimpse into the future of real estate."

Mark says while the company is delighted with its current success, they are aware that other sectors in the community are not faring as well.

"For this reason we are presently in talks with a Queenstown based charity as to how we can make a positive contribution and provide support to those who need it."



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Promoting professional development

By Jenny McLeod

The impact of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic has led to the postponement of the 20th anniversary of the world-renowned Michael Hill International Violin Competition at Queen's Birthday weekend this year but the Wakatipu Music Festival will replace it creating a platform for young New Zealand musicians to display their talent.

Executive director Anne Rodda says the MHIVC trust felt it had a responsibility to both promising young artists and to Queenstown which is the home of the international violin competition.



Michael Hill & Guadagnini Violin

"By presenting a new project of the artistic excellence with which the Michael Hill competition is synonymous we intend to give back, engage with and stimulate leading young musicians, many of whom find themselves in New Zealand at a time when they should be performing overseas at festivals and competitions. While we can't replicate the experiences they might have in young artists' programmes in London and New York at least we can offer them some professional development and exposure."

Twelve diverse Kiwi musical talents aged between 16 and 26 will take part in the festival following nationwide auditions.

"They will grow their professional skills and undertake coaching with leading New Zealand performers," says Anne. "Public performances at the festival will be recorded and replayed on Radio New Zealand's concert programme with syndication to the international media outlet, the Violin Channel, reinforcing that while the event is regionally based it will reach national and international audiences."

Professional artists including NZTrio members Amalia Hall, Ashley Brown and Somi Kim, pianist Stephen De Pledge, soprano Anna Leese and clarinetist Jonathan Cohen will coach the young musicians.

"The professional artists will perform at public concerts on June 4 and 5 as part of the festival and will also coach and lead workshops with local musicians. Wakatipu classical musicians and ensembles will also be showcased in the festival programme and on stage."

The Wakatipu Music Festival is also collaborating with the Turn Up the Music Trust and the Three Lakes Cultural Trust to ensure it engages with the local music community.

A novel apprentice style programme will run in tandem with the festival to help create a professional team to spearhead arts and cultural events in the Wakatipu.

"We are working with the Three Lakes Cultural Trust and there are eight roles ranging from stage and production management to marketing and communications and each apprentice will be paired with a seasoned professional as a mentor," she says. "The apprentices will own and deliver the presentation of the festival."

Anne says the concept for the Wakatipu Music Festival is resonating with people all over New Zealand.

"It feels so natural to be running this festival for Kiwis and particularly staging it in Queenstown. It is not necessarily a one-off and we will be responsive to the needs of the community in the future. This is our solution for 2021 and obviously when we can return to staging an international violin event we will. But we plan to take it year on year."



NZTrio - Amalia Hall, Ashley Brown & Somi Kim



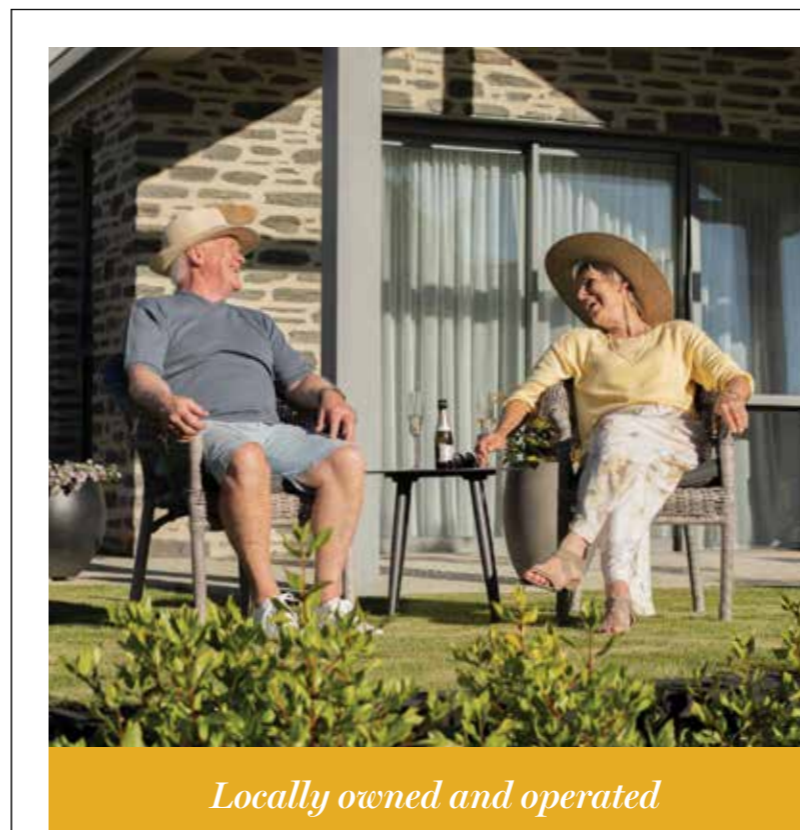
Anna Leese



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DOMAINE THOMSON WINES LAUNCHES EVENT VENUE

By Jenny McLeod

High profile Central Otago winery Domaine Thomson Wines has identified a gap in the Central Otago venue market opening its quality cellar door facilities to a range of events including weddings and corporate and private functions.

The 20-year-old New Zealand family-owned organic vineyard and wine producer launched its cellar door and wine tasting outlet last year in a purpose-built architecturally designed complex at the company's 14-hectare Pinot Noir vineyard close to Cromwell.

"Due to the success of this venture combined with feedback from visitors about the cellar door's ideal location as a venue we have created an event and venue hire package," says Domaine Thomson Wines operations manager Kate Barnett.

"Over the past unsettled and tumultuous year, due to Covid-19, we have been overwhelmed by visitor numbers and local support. Our beautiful setting and intimate spaces have led to numerous enquiries from guests about holding functions such as family celebrations and corporate activities at the vineyard and we see this as a natural progression."

She says the recent appointment of Ashlyn Monk as event manager to oversee the exclusive package being offered underlines Domaine Thomson's commitment to providing an exceptional service.

"For people who have been searching for an outstanding event venue, where great food and even better wine is a priority, Domaine Thomson Wines' cellar door is the perfect solution," says Ashlyn "Our unique space suits all types of events from celebratory canapés to special ceremonies, private lunches, business meetings and presentations."

The Domaine Thomson cellar door is open seven days a week from 11.00 am until 5.00pm offering tastings of both their Central Otago and French wines. The vineyard is located at 46 Clark Road, opposite the Pisa Moorings turnoff, 12 kilometres north of Cromwell.

www.domainethomsonwines.com



CELLAR DOOR PRIVATE LUNCHES

The Domaine Thomson private lunch experience at the winery's cellar door is attracting strong interest from food and wine lovers, according to operations manager Kate Barnett.

"The private homestyle platter lunch at our cellar door at Clark's road in Lowburn is a relaxed, rustic and intimate experience. Family groups and friends come here and explore our beautiful space, soak up the stunning environment and enjoy a long lunch served by seasoned professionals."

The lunches cater for any thing from four to 20 guests and Kate says they recommend starting the day with a private tasting of Domaine Thomson's signature Central Otago and French wines, then sampling bottle or glass pours in their elegant gallery room or library.



HONOURING EARLY SURVEYOR

The Domaine Thomson label honours owner David Hall-Jones' great-great-grandfather John Turnbull Thomson who was the first surveyor to explore most of Otago and Southland in the 1850s. David says having their winery nestled beneath the Pisa Range, named by Thomson, is very meaningful to him and his wife PM.

"When I drink our Pinot Noir, aptly named Surveyor Thomson and Explorer, I imagine the glow of an explorer's campfire or the click and spark of horseshoes during John Turnbull Thomson's surveying expeditions as chief surveyor for Otago. Ultimately, for me to drink our Pinot Noir is to experience the rich history of Central Otago."

David Hall-Jones

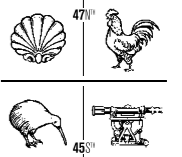


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Arclinea's Lignum et Lapis designed by Antonio Citterio, available from Matisse at Designlink

Q&A with Designlink

Designlink is a collaborative showroom in Queenstown and the home to Matisse and Premier Appliances. QT Magazine spoke to both businesses about their products and process of design featuring an award-winning Matisse kitchen designed alongside Premier Appliances.

What is the process of designing a kitchen when working with Matisse and Premier Appliances?

Matisse offers an in-house kitchen design service working alongside Premier Appliances to bring together the very best in luxury kitchen design. The design team at Matisse has over 30 year's combined experience in designing residential and multi-unit kitchens. Matisse works closely with clients, their architects and their interior designers from initial concept through to the final design, production of working drawings and tenders. Project management and installation are also included in the overall service offering.

Premier Appliances offers a tailored client experience for an extensive range of luxury appliances, working hand-in-hand with the partnered kitchen designer or clients to take the guess work out of the selection process.

What was the client's brief and inspiration for this award-winning feature kitchen?

From the initial meeting, it was clear the owners loved the look of timber joinery combined with a love of entertaining. The space itself was tight, so integrating a formal kitchen with a casual seating area was a requirement for the design. To achieve this, the Matisse designer chose Arclinea's collection of Convivium cabinetry which provides an integrated design solution for both functionality and entertaining.

For the choice of appliances, the family required a high-end appliance specification which would accommodate day to day functionality as well as meeting the needs for formal entertaining. Gaggenau was the perfect balance of luxury with high performance to complement the Arclinea design.



GAGGENAU

400 Series Steam Oven by Gaggenau available from Premier Appliances at Designlink



What brands, products and materials are used?

This kitchen showcases Matisse's Arclinea range of Convivium and Lignum et Lapis in a Natural Touch Oak Veneer. Arclinea is one of the world's most prestigious kitchen suppliers designed by renowned and leading Italian architect Antonio Citterio.

Premier Appliances feature the iconic Gaggenau 400 series collection oven, Pyro, Combi, coffee machine and a bench ventilation unit with a Gaggenau induction cooktop, dishwasher and Liebherr Fridge.

Where are Matisse and Premier Appliances ranges based for clients to discuss design inspiration, samples, product specs or tech details?

Designlink is a collaborative design hub which houses both Matisse and Premier Appliances in the same showroom in Queenstown's Glenda Drive. The Designlink showroom manager, Diana Jaudzeme, works closely with both Matisse and Premier to arrange client consultations with the Matisse design team and the Premier Appliances' consultants.

What other services do Matisse and Premier Appliances offer at Queenstown's Designlink?

In addition to kitchens, Matisse represents a collection of the world's leading interior brands and designers for bathroom, wardrobes, residential and commercial furniture, lighting, outdoor furniture and interior accessories.

Premier Appliances is the home of luxury, world-class appliances supplying the best in cooking, refrigeration, laundry, water dispensers & purifiers, TV & AV.

Designlink also offers meeting facilities to architects, interior designers, developers and builders to host their clients in an attractive environment where they can discuss and view a huge range of product catalogues and product finishes including fabrics, veneers, lacquers, laminates, stone finishes, taps, showerheads, sinks, basins and more.

Where is Designlink located?

Designlink, a collaborative interior showroom for both Matisse and Premier Appliances, is located at Unit A, Shotover Ridge, 179 Glenda Drive, Frankton, Queenstown. Open 9.00am until 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

Hosting Hives

Wanaka beekeeper and entrepreneur Barna Szocs is putting beehives in locals' backyards, helping people produce their own homemade, raw honey.

His beehive rental company Tiaki Bees allows property owners to host a hive cared for by expert beekeepers who visit the property once a month to ensure the bees are healthy, well fed and productive.

Popular among beekeeping companies in urban centres including New York, Sydney and Auckland Tiaki Bees has recently introduced the concept to the Southern Lakes.



Barna says the aim is to bring more bees into the immediate environment as most commercial beekeepers locate their hives only in rural areas.

"The main benefit of hosting a hive is giving back to the environment by helping

the bees, which are one of the most important living beings on the planet," he says. "Another huge spinoff is the pollination carried out by bees around the property and the neighbourhood to help the plants, flowers, trees and vegetables flourish. Meanwhile the raw, natural, homemade honey produced is great for human health and is an awesome gift for friends and family."

After studying apiculture Barna has kept many hives over the years and launched Tiaki Bees in 2020 after the Covid-19 lockdown.

"The idea for the venture came when more and more of my friends would ask if they could host a hive on their property and everyone wanted some of the delicious local super food that is raw, unfiltered honey made in their own back yard. So Tiaki Bees was created to help the bees, give back to the environment and encourage healthy, mindful living."



Commercial pollination is also a component of the company's service and Barna assists local farms and orchards in boosting their crops.

"Bees play a significant role in our food production in New Zealand — they pollinate vegetables and fruit trees, making sure that farmers have healthy crops each season.



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Immersive culinary adventures

A new Wānaka based business aims to showcase local food producers, growers, artisans and farmers in the region by providing immersive culinary adventures.



Naomi Lindsay

Forage & Feast Food Adventures, the brainchild of long-time resident and food aficionado Naomi Lindsay will shine a light on the local food community, unearthing the people and stories that make up the Wānaka food scene.

She says Forage & Feast is a business with purpose and with half day and full day adventures around Wānaka and Hāwea she hopes to educate and inform consumers about the skills, effort and time-honoured practices that go into producing locally grown, slow food.

"Food has long been a passion of mine and with a background in communications, marketing and tourism it was the natural next step to combine the two to create Forage & Feast. There is amazing locally produced food here in Wānaka and behind every producer lies a story. This new venture will be all about showcasing this incredible side of our region."

Naomi says starting a tourism business in the middle of a global pandemic may seem a little odd, but she believes timing is everything.

"The reality is that no time is a good time to take the plunge and create a start-up, you just have to follow your gut instinct and get the right support."

With some business coaching and support through the Regional Business Partners, Naomi was able to bring her passion to life.

With Naomi acting as guide Forage & Feast's adventures take people around Wānaka and Hāwea meeting the farmers, foragers, growers, herders, butchers, bakers, apiarists and others to delve into their food journeys.

"A seasonal wild walk will also highlight the edible foods and medicinal plants growing right under our noses."

"Collecting ingredients along the way, a lunch cooked by local cooks or chefs in a unique location, using ingredients foraged that day and goods locally grown or made, is the highlight of both adventures giving guests the chance to share stories over kai and learn more about our regional food," says Naomi.

The half day adventure takes in five immersive culinary experiences while the full day features seven experiences. Around 15-18 local products are tasted during the adventures.

Forage & Feast Food Adventures

Naomi Lindsay 021 942 502

adventures@forageandfeast.nz

www.forageandfeast.nz



SOLAR POWERED SANCTUARY IN THE VINES

By Penny Simpson

The Central Otago sun is a key ingredient in the production of Valli Vineyards award-winning Pinot Noir and for Valli winemaker Grant Taylor and his wife Nicole Schofield tapping into this solar resource is an important part of their lifestyle on the vineyard.



Grant Taylor & Nicole Schofield

Enlisting the help of solar specialists Queenstown Solar, the couple have recently transformed their converted 1930s shearing shed home in the Gibbston valley into a solar-powered sanctuary amongst the vines.

"The conversation about switching to solar at home was sparked initially by the dilemma of powering a beer fridge at our Valli vineyard in Waitaki," says Grant. "Whether you farm sheep or grow grapes, there are unique challenges to face when running a rural business and ensuring the power is on, and stays on, in a remote location is definitely one of them. After a long day harvesting under the Central Otago sun, a cold beer is essential."

Grant and Nicole were also interested in reducing their impact on the environment, lowering their energy bills and ensuring the solar powered system looked good insitu.

"I find humour in the juxtaposition of the 21st century technology — the futuristic glowing Tesla Powerwall and sleek black solar panels — against the rustic corrugate of our Central Otago shearing shed. It's quite a contrast and makes for a beautiful aesthetic," says Grant.

The couple are deeply connected to the land and heritage of the Gibbston valley and when the classic Central Otago shearing shed they now call home came on the market they jumped at the opportunity to restore it.

As part of the project they say harnessing the sun to power their home sustainably was the perfect way to complete the restoration.

"We were delighted to work alongside Grant and Nicole to bring their vision for a solar powered home in this unique rural setting to life," says Queenstown Solar general manager Paul Hollingsworth. "Assisting clients on a pathway towards self-sufficiency by enabling them to produce clean, renewable energy and reduce their energy bills is what we specialise in."

"Our Queenstown Solar team worked with the pitch, aspect and materials of their roof to design a system that would achieve the best results. Twenty-two solar panels were installed and are now busy producing nearly 9000kWh of power per year. A Tesla battery added to their solar system allows them to store any of the day's excess generation to be used at night."

This tailored solution is projected to save Grant and Nicole around \$2,893 a year on their energy bills. It also has the effect of fixing their energy rate until the system is paid off and starts producing free electricity in around eight years' time.

Through the Tesla Mobile App, the couple can view their contribution towards reducing the planet's CO2 in real-time. Their system saves nearly 1000kgs of CO2 a year, the equivalent of driving from Gibbston to Auckland five times.



"We have an amazing sense of well-being with this solar installation in our vineyard home," says Grant. "We have had such a wonderful experience working with the Queenstown Solar crew, 100% from start to finish."





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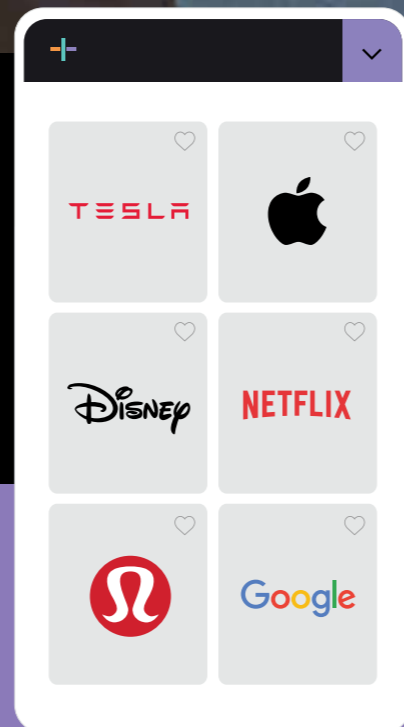




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Kristen Lunman

Jakub Chodounsky Kristen Lunman Jarred Sewell & Natalie Ferguson

A growing community of savvy Kiwis

The Hatch team is witnessing exponential growth with more than 90,000 customers and over half a billion dollars invested in the US share markets.

Before Hatch, Kiwis had no choice but to go through expensive brokers or investment companies to access the US share markets, but now, using a mobile phone or laptop, they can manage their investments from the comfort of the sofa, office or even the mountain.

Kristen Lunman, co-founder and general manager of Hatch, is keen to see Kiwis grow their wealth by backing the brands, businesses and industries they know and believe in.



Why invest in the share markets?

With the right habits, you can grow the money you invest by around 10% per year over the long term. If you invest \$10,000 in the stock market today and it gains roughly 10% per year, you will turn that \$10,000 into almost \$20,000 in just seven years.

Or, imagine a longer-term example, and you invest \$10,000 into the market every year for 25 years. That \$10,000 investment per year for 25 years would be worth over \$1,000,000 (assuming an average 10% gain per year).

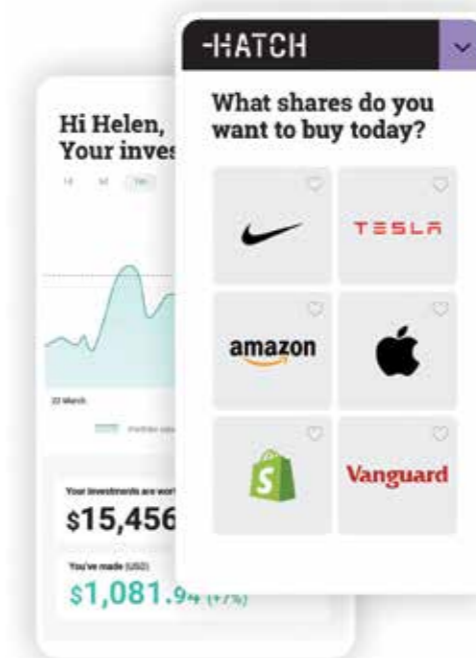
Bottom line: through regular investing in the share markets and with patience, you have potential to grow your funds significantly.

Hatch is designed to help you succeed

While growing long-term wealth can take time, learning how to start investing need not. Hatch is designed to help you learn and succeed with helpful tools, webinars, articles and courses. The company was first in the market to launch a free ten-day Getting Started Course, teaching tens of thousands of Kiwis everything they need to know to take their first steps with self-directed investing.

With straightforward pricing and no ongoing monthly subscription fees, Hatch is one of the fastest-growing investing platforms in New Zealand.

"We are continuing to attract Kiwi investors who want a fair service at a fair price with exciting options," says Kristen. "We definitely believe we are well positioned to be a dominant player in the industry in New Zealand."



"Global brands such as Tesla, Microsoft, Amazon and Apple are hugely popular investment choices as Kiwis are so familiar with their products and services. Benefiting from the success of these companies is exciting for Kiwis. Lululemon or Nike fan? Now you can own a slice of these businesses as well. Interested in emerging industries? You can become a shareholder in clean energy, the future of food, or cannabis. It's never been easier to be an investor."

Note: Calculations are based on S&P 500 index historical returns. Does not include adjustments for inflation. The share markets will go up and down and may not achieve 10% average annual growth in the future.

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WORLD CLASS LAKE DUNSTAN TRAIL LAUNCHED

By Jenny McLeod

The 55-kilometre Lake Dunstan Trail linking Clyde and Cromwell has earned an early reputation as a world-class trail and is poised to become a major drawcard for visitors from both New Zealand and overseas.

Central Otago Queenstown Trail Network Trust spokesperson Janeen Wood says the response to the first 30-kilometre section from Smith's Way to Cornish Point, which opened in early 2020, has been outstanding.

The final stage from Cornish Point to Clyde is planned for completion at the end of April this year and includes some exceptional features.

"The trail provides wonderful riding around sweeping corners across 450 metres of handmade bespoke bridges bolted on to rockfaces on eight sites," says Janeen. "There are switchbacks and climbs to approximately 100 metres above lake water level but they are an easy gradient and safety fences have been installed at appropriate places."

The trail takes in spectacular views of Lake Dunstan and the Clyde Dam and the area is steeped in Māori, mining and farming history in a landscape which has wide appeal for cyclists and walkers who want to take advantage of the open spaces between Clyde and Cromwell.

The Lake Dunstan Trail is the first stage of a proposed 500-kilometre network of trails in the region.

"Plans are currently in the consenting stage for a trail through the Kawarau Gorge which will connect Gibbston Valley and Queenstown to Bannockburn and on to Clyde. A further link with Wanaka is in the discussion phase with landowners," says Janeen.



"Once all the trails are complete it will mean visitors to the region can stay longer, ride different places and experience a variety of trails which are unique and individual. It also means people can come back and ride different parts of the trail network at different times of the year. Locals are also enjoying the health and social benefits of getting out and walking and cycling on these trails."

The opening of the Lake Dunstan Trail is a milestone for recreational cyclists and walkers and Janeen says it can only enhance Cromwell and Clyde's place on the tourist map.

"There are many opportunities for both towns to embrace the arrival of trail visitors and add to their experience and desire to stay in Central Otago."



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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.



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Exclusive Mill Farm living captures imagination

By Jenny McLeod

Millbrook Resort's newest development, the \$50 million Mill Farm, is capturing the imagination of people who want to build a home with all the benefits of rural living with several properties already snapped up since their release late last year.

Millbrook director of property and development Ben O'Malley says there are 42 home sites on Mill Farm with ten of the 20 that have been made available already sold.

"The high levels of interest in the sections are reminiscent of the "flight to quality" experienced by the resort in the aftermath of the global financial crisis of 2008 and 2009."

He says the 67-hectare Mill Farm site, formerly Dalgleish Farm, has been under development for the past two years.



"This is a stunning piece of land with rocky canyons, a waterfall, high mountain tarns, the meandering Mill Stream and an original stone cottage and historic woolshed still on site. People will be able to build their dream home with all the benefits of rural living but without having to look after the animals themselves, providing the best of both worlds. Lots facing directly on to paddocks include ha-ha walls to ensure fences don't obstruct views while containing stock."

The project is led by the Signal Management Group and the home sites include 24 on an upper plateau known as The Grand Terrace and 18 lower down on Willow Glen. They average 2000 square metres with prices ranging from around \$2 million to \$3.5 million. Millbrook's design guidelines have been amended to reflect the alpine location of the sites and include darker recessive colours and all native planting.

"Some variation to permitted roof and wall cladding is also being introduced allowing new design opportunities while still maintaining the spirit of the well-loved style of Millbrook architecture," says Ben.

A key aspect of the Mill Farm development is a nine-hole golf course designed by well-known Queenstown course designer Greg Turner along with associate Scott Macpherson.

The spectacular course, scheduled to open in spring 2021, will wind its way around the residential sites and has outstanding views and landscape features.

Ben says key aspects of the Mill Farm golf course are a 30-million litre irrigation lake and what is believed to be the highest commercial golf tee in New Zealand at 480 metres.

"The course will add nine-holes to Millbrook's current world-class 27 holes allowing the resort to operate two 18-hole golf courses simultaneously."



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QUEENSTOWN . WANAKA . CHRISTCHURCH

QT Magazine discovers the inspiration behind the work of local photographers and outdoor enthusiasts recording autumn images in the Southern Lakes and Central Otago.

Autumn Hotspots

Lake Hayes [Arrowtown]

Photographer Remco Vis

Lake Hayes in autumn is one of the most accessible and photographed lakes in the region.

Queenstown photographer Remco Vis says there are plenty of photography sites to access offering 360-degree perspectives.

"The Lake Hayes pavilion off Highway 6 provides elevated views overlooking the lake towards Coronet Peak and the surrounding mountains. Another option is to drive from the Lake Hayes - Arrowtown Road to Bendemeer reserve and get onto the walking track beside the lakefront. With its upturned canoes and weeping willows there is plenty of subject matter to experiment with cameras and tripod. Walking around the lake also offers some amazing lakeside architecture and wildlife including herons, swans, shags, ducks and occasionally the rare Great Crested Grebe or Australasian Bittern."

www.firefish.co.nz



Lake Hayes

Glendhu Bay [Lake Wanaka]

Photographer Adrian Bailey

Queenstown based Active QT hosts sporting events around the Southern Lakes including triathlons and multisport, road, trail and mountain marathons.

Owner and athlete Adrian Bailey spends considerable time in the outdoors both training and setting up courses.

"The running and biking trails around Glendhu Bay are epic for many reasons but my top three would have to be the accessibility to the mountains from

nearby Wanaka, views worth working up a sweat for and a dip in the lake after an adventure in the hills during summer is definitely a must do!"

www.activeqt.co.nz



Glendhu Bay

Bannockburn [Central Otago]

Photographer Mike Wilkinson

Central Otago photographer Mike Wilkinson finds the region's landscape a constant inspiration.

In 2018 he was commissioned by Penguin Random House to provide photography for his second book *The Vineyards of Central*.

"It was a real privilege to have unrestricted access to some of the most spectacular vineyards in the world, one of my favourites being Mt Difficulty in Bannockburn."

www.mikewilkinsonphotographer.com/about/



Mt Difficulty vineyard

Cardrona

Photographer Andy Brown

The Cardrona Valley between Queenstown and Wanaka is reached via a spectacular drive over the Crown Range, which at 1121 metres, is New Zealand's highest sealed alpine pass. The proprietors of the historic Cardrona Hotel, Cade and Alexis Thornton, believe autumn is one of the most outstanding times of the year to spend time in the valley.

"We always encourage locals and visitors to come and experience Cardrona in autumn as the valley puts on a stunning display of

vivid autumnal colours and the hotel is the perfect spot to base yourself for a stay or relax and unwind on a day trip," says Alexis.

She says there are many activities in the Cardrona Valley to experience including horse riding, local walking tracks, a visit to the Cardrona Distillery and historic points of interest such as the Cardrona hall and church that were originally constructed in 1879 for use as the local school.

"The hotel itself is an historic highlight in its own right and a lovely place to enjoy a country lodge style experience or weekend getaway."

www.cardronahotel.co.nz



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The centre is known for its quality retail outlets and operators say continuing to support local is vital for the locally owned and operated businesses. There is no need to shop anywhere else for everything from new season's sports or winter gear to those special touches for the home, the most up-to-date technology, stunning gifts and even the latest health supplements.

A wide range of retail options are available for the whole family at good price points across the board and to make shopping a hassle-free experience the community hub offers plenty of easy parking, with some underground.

As well as ground floor retail there are a host of successful businesses populating the upper office floors, including lawyers, accountants, physios, a childcare centre and a wide range of professional service businesses.



Food glorious food



The range of cafés, bars and restaurants continues to expand at Five Mile. The Crown pub is the latest addition to the hospitality family and offers a warm and appealing autumn environment with fires burning and hearty food options. There are also easy takeout options at a range of Five Mile outlets providing the whole family with warm and nourishing food. Grab a coffee on a frosty morning and for those feeling peckish there is everything on offer from cheese rolls to burgers, fries, pizza, sushi, Indian dishes or a healthy snack or juice.



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**TRAILBLAZING
GIN DISTILLERY**

By Rebecca Williamson

A boutique New Zealand distillery is trailblazing the global gin scene by blending fine natural botanicals with pure mountain water.

Juno Gin is the brainchild of entrepreneurial Taranaki couple Jo and Dave James who have crafted an extra-fine gin incorporating juniper, locally grown coriander seed, Angelica root and a hint of lime.

The winning concoction was no accident.

Jo and Dave each have a background in science and this knowledge has been infiltrated into their product. They have also enlisted some of the best horticulturalists in New Zealand to ensure only exceptional ingredients are infused in their thrice-distilled gin.

It was a leap of faith to start making gin but Jo says Dave's experience in food manufacturing and her love of gin proved to be the right foundation for building a distillery.



"With our considerable experience in the food industry, we recognise that understanding a product and all of its 'inputs' is key in developing a great product," she says. "The gin can only be as good as its ingredients and the process that brings them together. Our research work into botanicals and still design have been significant factors in making Juno Gin what it is."

Juno Gin launched in 2017 at the Auckland Food Show and the company soon won awards for its signature and seasonal gins. The range is expertly balanced and aromatic due to the variety of botanicals used as well as a vapour infusion during distillation. While the juniper is the hero, other ingredients play an important part such as coriander seed, orris root, kaffir lime, manuka and Angelica root which are all grown and harvested sustainably in the North Island.



"The kaffir lime is sourced from the North Island's east coast and brings a fresh, bright citrus note that reinforces and balances the limonene from the coriander seed, grown in the Wairarapa," says Jo. "The Taranaki-grown Angelica root brings a zing to the palate and our Hawke's Bay orris root keeps the flavour shining, and of course the beautiful Taranaki maunga is the source of our water," says Jo.

"Juniper is one of our most important botanicals and our research work with Massey University on the juniper is entering the next stage with a masters' student working on the propagation of 40 trees that we have identified across New Zealand."

Plans are underway to expand the distillery by increasing the production floor area and creating a cellar door and tasting room for visitors, which Jo and Dave hope will attract gin-lovers interested in how the premium product is made.

"We're on track to open the expanded distillery in August or September this year and we are excited to have booked our first major event in January next year — the 2022 New Zealand Gin Day, where distillers from around the country will showcase the fantastic products they create."

A Green Leap of Faith

Award winning eco-tourism company Ziptrek Ecotours situated high above Queenstown on Gondola hill is offering their zipline accessed treehouses as outdoor venues for intimate green weddings, musical events and special celebrations.

Ziptrek Ecotours is New Zealand's original zipline tour and a spectacular adventure through the forest canopy above Queenstown.

"Ziptrek, as a wedding venue, is something we have wanted to do for a long time, along with the dream to one day serve food and wine on the treehouses," says marketing manager Nicky Busst. "While Covid-19 lockdown last year was hard it gave us the opportunity to progress ideas that we've been passionate about for some time."

Ziptrek's carefully crafted treehouses are the perfect open plan venue for wedding couples and intimate groups of people to gather and experience an exceptional natural setting in the heart of Queenstown. They offer incredible views across Lake Wakatipu to The Remarkables, the ideal site to capture stunning imagery of the day.

"We have partnered with Simply Mindful Weddings who recently launched their new sustainable wedding packages making our green weddings a one stop shop for any hopeful bride and groom looking for a unique and bespoke eco-wedding option," says Nicky.

"This is a fully immersive experience surrounded by nature and high up in the trees. You get views of Queenstown from such a different angle and it's very appealing to adventurous souls. Weddings in general can sometimes be a wasteful one-day event so this is an opportunity to both educate and offer couples a truly sustainable option."

"We can completely tailor the experience to each wedding party's needs. While most guests choose to zipline onto the treehouse decks for the wedding service, vows can also be taken at our main treehouse decks," says Nicky.

"You can take it to new heights with an adrenaline filled leap of faith into your marriage with the option of a Kereru jump post nuptials or continue on through the rest of the zipline course with or without your wedding party in convoy. The possibilities are many and varied but always fun."



www.ziptrek.co.nz
salesnz@ziptrek.com
+64 21 946 160



The Breath Effect

A lifelong passion and core belief in holistic health practices led health specialist Emma Ferris to develop The Breath Effect — a hugely successful business that assists people around the world with mind, body and emotional health and recovery.



"The Breath Effect evolved from my clinical work as a physiotherapist and health entrepreneur running wellness retreats. I got frustrated that patients with physical stress symptoms weren't getting the support and education they needed."

"I'm a physiotherapist, acupuncturist and breathing coach and while guiding my clients to reset their stress response and gain control over their health and wellness, I evolved my career into becoming a stress and trauma coach."

Her vision is to empower both men and women to control their health and stress reactions and understand why stress has an impact on their body and emotions.

"Breathing correctly is a massive piece of the wellness puzzle that is often missed by health professionals," says Emma. "I don't want to be the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff so we are here to help clients from all walks of life implement a wide range of stress management, body awareness and release tools to achieve long lasting benefits and results."

She says long-term stress can lead to upset stomachs, hormone imbalance, insomnia, snoring, asthma, headaches, migraines, neck and back pain, anxiety and depression.

"My goal is to move people from survival mode thinking to thriving and being present in the moment everyday of their lives. I love working with groups and have developed highly popular online courses, retreats and school and business programmes. The success has come from working with clients to shift their mindset and take those small significant steps that lead to monumental changes in your life."



The Breath Effect courses are run monthly with bookings available online at www.thebreatheffect.com/courses.

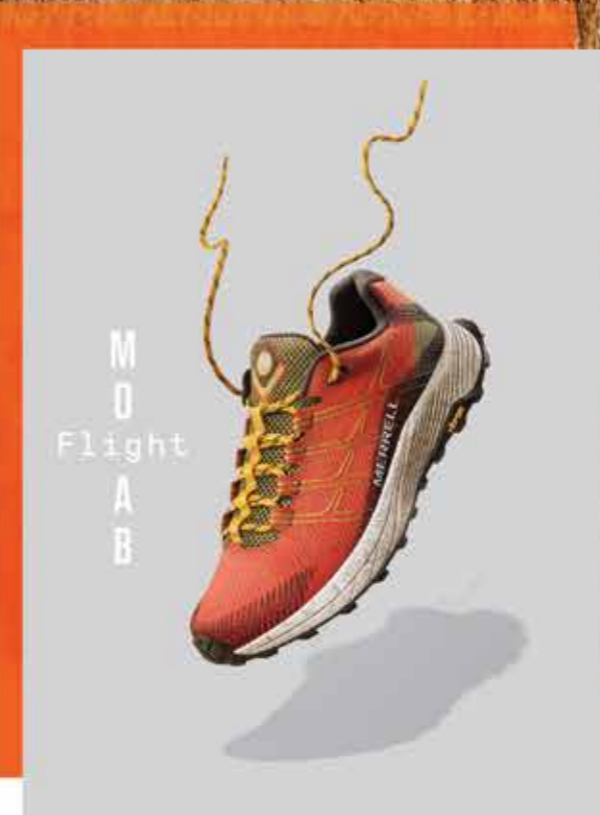
Emma says her online courses are easily accessible to anyone, anywhere in the world.

"Years of coaching has taught me that we need time and support to create new daily habits. Our two 30-day online courses, the Busy Women's Guide to Cultivating Calm and Breathe Right And Reduce Your Stress include live training sessions via zoom, daily videos, audios and ongoing education that are readily accessible. We also run two to four-day women's in-person retreats at Camp Glenorchy."

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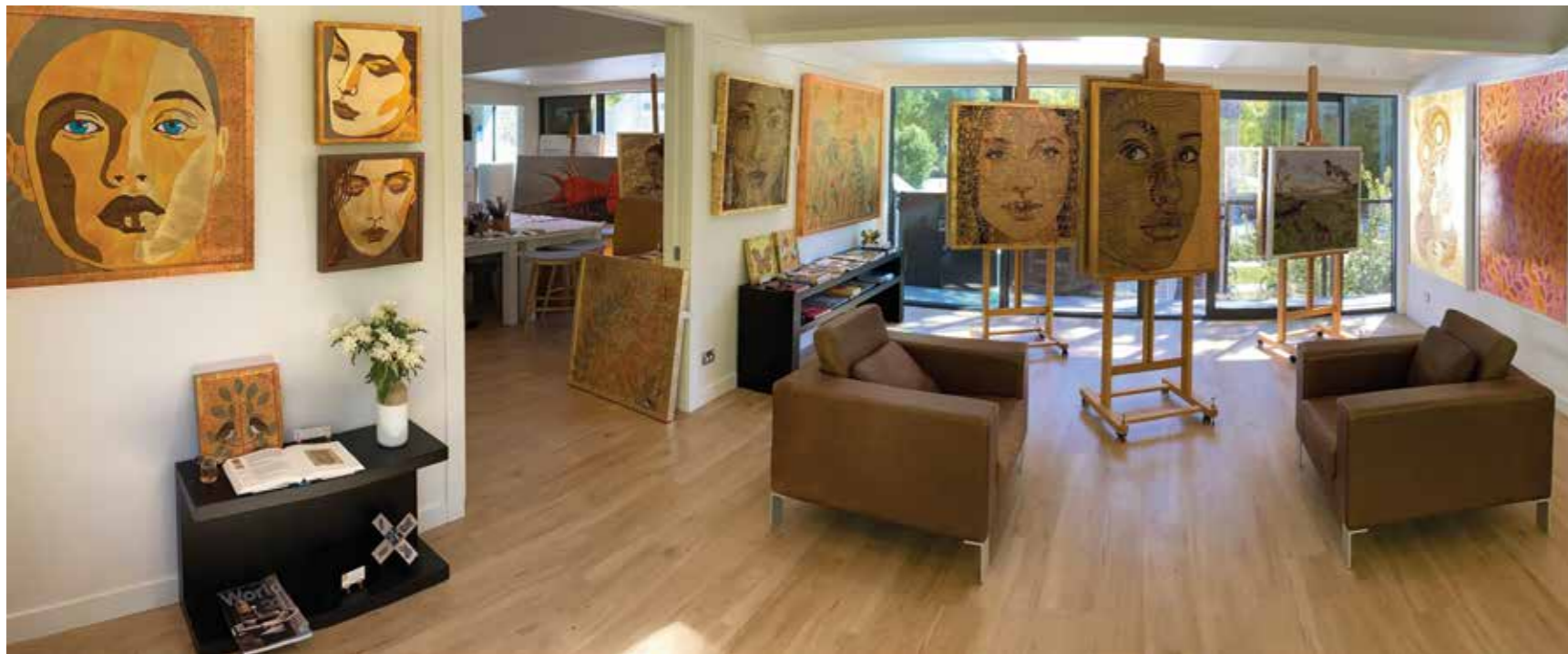
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EXPERIENCING CLOUDY BAY



By Jenny McLeod

Cloudy Bay's cellar door The Shed reinforced its place on the Central Otago wine and food map during summer attracting more visitors than in the previous year despite the lack of international tourists due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



Customer experience manager Meg Soper says people from Cromwell and around the region have shown huge support for the winery.

"It has been wonderful to have this endorsement combined with support from Kiwi road trippers who pop in as they pass and of course the Auckland market who we could not do without. The feedback from people about their experiences has been encouraging and around 90 per cent of those that visited The Shed over summer indicated they came for the food and wine rather than just wine tastings."

"Our platters which include smoked salmon, charcuterie, cheeses, chutneys, dips and salad and vegetable portions have a reputation as being the best in the region and a drawcard for visitors. There is nothing better than relaxing in the sun in our beautiful environment overlooking over the feature pond and enjoying our quality wine and food with friends."

With the shift to autumn Cloudy Bay will continue to offer an exceptional al fresco venue for both locals and visitors to the area.

"The colours in the vineyard are stunning in autumn and we pride ourselves on being an approachable and welcoming destination where we are about so much more than just wine tasting," says Meg. "We encourage people to bring their families and even dogs on a lead to enjoy the special atmosphere that sets us apart. Live music is staged from time to time which is an added attraction."

The Shed is an ideal venue for smaller events with both the indoor and outdoor spaces providing a range of options.

"We can cater for family and work parties and conference and incentive groups and provide tailored wine and food menus for individual events."

Meg says besides the cellar door operation the winery also has a private tasting room and hosts vineyard tours and bespoke epicurean experiences for groups and individuals.

"Whatever option people choose at Cloudy Bay our aim is to create memorable experiences through our commitment to providing outstanding hospitality. Our entire team is passionate about our brand and this is reflected in our wine, food and service."



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TE PĀ TĀHUNA — A NEW WAY TO LIVE

A new community just a short stroll from downtown Queenstown, Te Pā Tāhuna, is a master-planned development offering a new range of apartments and terraced townhouses.

Being built in central Queenstown, on the old Wakatipu High School site on Gorge Road, Te Pā Tāhuna is in an easily accessible location connected to everywhere you want to go.

The name Te Pā Tāhuna was gifted to the local community by mana whenua. It celebrates a long connection with Tāhuna – Queenstown.

Landscaping designs and landmarks within the development will showcase the story of Te Pā Tāhuna from past to present, providing a sense of space and place within the complex.

Te Pā Tāhuna draws on Māori traditions of ahi kā. It's a place where the home fires always burn on the shores of Lake Whakatipu Waimāori.



LIFESTYLE AT TE PĀ TĀHUNA

Introducing a new type of urban development to Queenstown, Te Pā Tāhuna is about living well in a centralised location, offering a stylish and low maintenance lifestyle.

Te Pā Tāhuna will provide the opportunity to enjoy the best of Queenstown. Rather than long commutes and weekends spent clearing gutters, the development offers a low maintenance lifestyle in a top location. There is a safe cycleway to the CBD from the property and the main bus route to Frankton is easily accessible. Coronet Peak is just a 15 minute drive away with mountain biking and walking tracks in easy access.

The project is being built by Ngāi Tahu Property, who are a leading property development, property management and investment company. They are one of the investment pillars of Ngāi Tahu Holdings. Their mission is to create prosperity for Ngāi Tahu Whānui (families).

Ngāi Tahu Property has completed a variety of residential, commercial and industrial projects, building a track record of high-quality buildings and a trusted name in the industry.



WHAT'S ON OFFER

Te Pā Tāhuna will offer a selection of architecturally designed options ranging from apartments to terraced houses and live-work commercial spaces.

- The first building at Te Pā Tāhuna will focus on a mix of one and two-bedroom apartments and unique live-work apartments while the future of the development will see the introduction of larger terrace homes, as well as further apartments and walk-up units.
- Te Pā Tāhuna is being built with materials that will stand the test of time and require minimal maintenance. Leading architectural companies have steered the design process and the result is a beautifully integrated development featuring intelligent design.
- Care and clever design at Te Pā Tāhuna will result in beautiful, shared spaces for the neighborhood to thrive in for years to come. The first building will feature bike-stands and lush planting that will establish itself over time to create a communal garden setting.
- For more information visit www.tepatahuna.co.nz or email Cameron.reed@raywhite.com



Festival marks change of Season

By Margo Berryman

The Akarua Arrowtown Autumn Festival celebrates 36 years this year as a key annual event which brings together locals and visitors from all over the country to enjoy a grass roots community festival atmosphere.



The 2021 six-day programme will run from April 21 until April 26 and co-ordinator Carole Watts says it is a highlight on the region's event calendar.

"The annual festival recognises the significance of our vibrant autumn colours as a backdrop to the historic buildings and landscape. We were gutted to have to cancel in 2020 due to the Covid-19 situation but our focus has very much been on creating an even better 2021 festival."

Most of the events on the festival programme are free to attend.

Carole says the Festival Parade and the Arts and Crafts market are always popular attracting thousands of people into Arrowtown.

"This year there will be the talented performers from Flame Entertainment, including stilt walkers, giant bubbles and hula hooping along with vintage cars which will lead the parade in style. The local scouts never fail to create an impressive float along with the Arrowtown Preschool, Wakatipu Garden Club and the Lakes District Museum. Meanwhile the iconic Miners Band, Buckingham Belles and Mini Belles are always a drawcard throughout the festival."

Events are being held across various locations including the Arrowtown Athenaeum Hall, Buckingham Green, Wilcox Green and the Library Green. The ASB Market Day is planned for Ramshaw Lane and car park where visitors will experience over 100 stalls selling locally made products, clothing, jewellery and art.

"New to the festival line-up this year is a fabulous, fun themed event called The Roaring 20s Prohibition Party on Saturday April 24 and we also have a Wine Barrel Art Charity Auction that has local artists getting creative with a wine barrel," says Carole.



"The Arrowtown Scarecrow Trail is a fundraising event for the local junior cricket club where people are encouraged to walk around Arrowtown, find the scarecrows and guess what they are meant to be. There are great prizes for the winners."

A volunteer committee of up to ten people works alongside Carole to create the six-day festival and she says with over 25 events on the programme the volunteers are critical to the event's success.

"We are supported by so many people and organisations locally and simply couldn't put the festival on without our amazing, loyal sponsors and funding partners. Our

community shows us exceptional support on multiple levels and we always welcome new volunteers who are the backbone of the autumn festival."

To volunteer contact: info@arrowtownautumnfestival.co.nz

Highlights

- The Senior Citizens' afternoon tea is a free event that includes delicious food and entertainment. Tickets are required for entry and are available from the Lakes District Museum.
- The annual Art Exhibition and Photography Competition will be on display throughout the festival at the Lakes District Museum.
- Tickets for the main ticketed events including The Pie, Pint and Pinot and The Roaring 20s Prohibition Party will be available online via Humanitix from mid-March.
- Registrations for the infamous Quiz night will be open mid-March online: www.arrowtownautumnfestival.co.nz/events/

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Q&A with Secolo Art & Antiques

A love of antiques and interiors has spearheaded the opening of Secolo Art & Antiques in Nelson by partners David Matulovich and Grant McCauley and their new showroom is attracting clients from all over the country.

QT Magazine asked them about their new venture.

What inspired the establishment of Secolo Art & Antiques?

Antiques have been a lifelong passion and we have been collecting and importing pieces for over 30 years. We couldn't find what we wanted locally to furnish our new home, so sourcing from Europe was the only option. We loved the process so much that we decided to come out of retirement and built a showroom attached to our house in Nelson, which allows us to be more competitive in our pricing and to see clients outside work hours. We chose to call our business Secolo, which in Italian means 'century'.

We mainly import Italian and French art and antiques from the 17th to 19th centuries as this period represents the epitome of European style. We source throughout Italy and France, however France being such a large country means there's more on offer. Italian antiques are usually more decorative and desirable and held in higher regard amongst designers.

What sets your antiques apart?

We stock all types of furniture but our passion is for unique and decorative items like mirrors, chandeliers, art and sculpture. We buy antiques that we love and hope our clients love too.

What sets us apart, other than the Italian antiques, is our selection of 17th to 19th century paintings. Most are portraits of noblemen and women or landscapes. Even more exceptional are our French tapestries of the late 17th and early 18th centuries. These are handwoven wall-hangings that generally fall into two types, verdure (forests and landscapes) or historical and mythological scenes.

We currently have some marble and stone sculptures on our website however we are expanding this collection particularly for the garden. Our next container will provide more outdoor furniture, pots and sculpture.

How would you describe your personal interior style?

We have a background in interior and landscape design and enjoy helping clients in the sourcing and placing of items.

Our taste is very layered, with back drops of leather-bound books, tapestries or a collage of paintings and decorative items on commodes and consoles. Although this is our style, we completely understand the modern interior and believe an antique piece can complement any interior.

The trend for the next decade is known as Grandmillennial. Although only just catching on in New Zealand, our stock falls exactly into this style. White farmhouse/shabby chic has been a popular style for the last 20 years but traditional interiors are back in fashion after many decades. Antiques, portraits, chandeliers, chinoiserie, blue & white, floral fabrics and trims are all the new must-haves.

Where do your clients come from?

We have clients around the country and in many cases if they've seen something on the website, they prefer to see it in person. Our clients enjoy visiting and it helps that we live in such a beautiful part of the country.



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food talk

with Jane Shaw
 Provisions Café



Arrowtown's Provisions Café reflects owner and passionate foodie Jane Shaw's enthusiasm for heritage buildings, fresh food, locally grown produce and memorable hospitality. In the first of a regular column in QT Magazine she introduces an autumnal recipe from Finland to try at home.

This baked feta cheese dish by Finnish food blogger Jenni Häyrinen has been my inspiration for this column. It recently became a global media sensation after American food influencer MacKenzie Smith posted it to Instagram and TikTok which has led to Jenni's original post receiving over 2.7million views.

It's definitely worth the hype and is a delicious, easy meal using cherry tomatoes and a block of feta cheese in a traybake. While the cherry tomatoes do make it relatively sweet — regular sized tomatoes or a mixture of tomatoes varieties also work well so use whatever you have on hand.

The original recipe calls for just four main ingredients but I have been a little creative and adapted it to include some of my favourite vegetables. The addition of eggplant, capsicum and anchovies creates a wonderful umami sauce along with the tomatoes and garlic making the dish very moreish.

While autumn is here, we will be making the most of the late Central Otago stone fruits at Provisions Café. My kitchen team and I like to make spicy plum sauce, quince paste and jellies and preserve late golden queen peaches to serve as lovely side additions to our seasonal warming savoury dishes in the café.

Baked Feta Pasta

Serves 4 people

- 500g pasta spirals or any pasta shape
- 1 block (200g) feta cheese
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/2 red chilli or 1/2 tsp dried chilli flakes
- 500g cherry tomatoes (or regular tomatoes chopped into cherry tomato size)
- 1 eggplant cut into chunks
- 3-4 anchovies (optional)

- 1 or 2 capsicums deseeded and cut in small chunks
- 4 garlic cloves peeled and sliced in half lengthwise & coated in olive oil.
- Black pepper & salt
- Bunch of fresh basil leaves



Pour some of the olive oil onto the bottom of a baking dish then place the whole block of feta on top of the oil. Sprinkle the chilli flakes or chopped chilli on top of the feta cheese.

Pour the rest of the olive oil over the top of this mixture.

Then place the cherry tomatoes, vegetables, garlic (and anchovies if using) along the sides of the dish around the feta cheese and mix around the olive oil in the dish so everything gets coated. Grind pepper over the top and season with a pinch of salt.

Bake at 400°F / 200°C for 20-25 minutes in the middle of the oven. Then turn the heat up to 440°F / 225°C and move the dish to the upper rack using the grilling mode for another 5 minutes.

Remove from oven. If you used cherry tomatoes with stems, remove the stems. Then use a spoon to break up the feta a little and stir through the tomato/vegetable mix.

Cook the pasta spirals al dente according to the cooking instructions. Add the cooked and drained pasta to the sauce and top with plenty of basil leaves. Serve and enjoy.



At Provisions we have always served Allpress Coffee which is my favourite coffee blend. The new Allpress Coffee shots are super interesting and can be served on ice with milk, coconut water or perhaps poured over ice cream. Another option is to blend shots into your morning smoothie for a pick me up or use when baking cakes and slices — there are so many ways to have this delicious product.



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Tohu Whenua sites appeal

The historic Kawarau Bridge, Arrowtown's Chinese Settlement and the original miners' cottages in Buckingham Street continue to be an attraction as part of New Zealand's Tohu Whenua landmark sites.

Tohu Whenua links significant places through a series of regional trails that capture defining moments in New Zealand's story.

"It is very important to showcase these special and unique sites that are officially recognised as Tohu Whenua and we are thrilled that people continue to seek them out as places to visit while in and around Arrowtown," says Arrowtown Promotion and Business Association manager Sue Patterson.



Clean & Green

Arrowtown's Bush Creek has been the focus of a clean-up project by a dedicated group of local volunteers keen to keep the river pollutant and debris free as the town strives to maintain its clean and green ethos.

"The clean-up has been led by the group in association with the Arrowtown Promotion and Business Association (APBA) and includes an engineer and some infrastructure specialists with the knowledge for the work," says APBA chairman Jimmy Sygrove.

"The aim is to ensure the river remains plastic and pollutant free and the water flow is unhindered by branches, tree debris and other items and we are delighted with this initiative."

Arrowtown was recently crowned New Zealand's most beautiful small town and Jimmy says ongoing sustainability is vital in the area.

"Our draft Sustainability Plan for Bush Creek and the greater CBD area is complete and we are actively working towards achieving some key goals in this area in conjunction with the Lakes District Council."



WWW.ARROWTOWN.COM



What's New in Arrowtown

By Margo Berryman

Protection for historic museum complex

Work on the seismic strengthening and restoration of the Lakes District Museum building in Arrowtown is well underway with the project due for completion by the end of the year.

The massive \$3.5 million project to protect the original Bank of New Zealand building required significant fundraising efforts to allow the work to go ahead after it was tagged an earthquake risk.

Museum director David Clarke says it is a relief to have work crews on the job and to be making steady progress in 2021.

"We are still operating with visitors able to go through the gift shop, art gallery and display areas of the museum, which are not closed due to construction. The summer season was quite busy and it is good to see so many people interested in the restoration work we are doing on these Category 2 heritage buildings."



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FRIDAY 26 MARCH	VENUE	ACTS
3-8	Postmaster's Cottage Cafe	COOD DRY
4-8	Bendix Stables	THE BROTHERS
4-8-7	The Winery	SOFT JAZZ WITH ALEX YEASTFIELD
5-8	The Fork & Tap	CELEBRATION
6-9	Dorothy Browns	JESSIE & MATHURIN
7-10	New Orleans	LOUISIANA SOUL
7-12	Blue Door	THE OTHERS
9-12	Slow Cuts	DUPOZ
SATURDAY 27 MARCH	VENUE	ACTS
2-5	Postmaster's Cottage Cafe	TRIP TROUPE
3-5	Bendix Stables	THE BROTHERS
4-6	Blue Door	THE OTHERS
4-6	New Orleans	LOUISIANA SOUL
4-6	Chop Shop	WALTER
5-8	The Fork & Tap	TOM COOPER
6-9	Dorothy Browns	THE BROTHERS
7-10	New Orleans	LOUISIANA SOUL
7-10	Arrowtown Athenaeum	THE OTHERS
9-12	Blue Door	THE OTHERS
9-12	Slow Cuts	SELECTIVE SOUND SYSTEM
SUNDAY 28 MARCH	VENUE	ACTS
12-3	New Orleans	SHAY
12-3	Provisions	PAUL WINDRIES & SHANE WOOLRIDGE
12-3	Arakura	FRANKIE & THE BROTHERS
12-3	The Dishery	12-2pm CALICO
1-4	Arrowtown Athenaeum	2:30-5pm KATE & RYAN M
1-3	Bendix Stables	THE BROTHERS
2-5	Millbrook (Smithy's Smoke House)	BUROBON SOUL
2-5	Wet Jacket	KILGER
4-7	The Fork & Tap	JESSIE, MATHURIN & NOEL COUTTS

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Alive with Music

Arrowtown is celebrating live music with a March festival showcasing local musical talent.

Arrowtown Sounds features a line-up of musicians and entertainers across 14 venues in the historic township.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for people to come to Arrowtown and enjoy a very welcoming and family friendly atmosphere with a wide range of music that will appeal to all," says Arrowtown Promotion and Business Association manager Sue Patterson.

"The whole weekend starting Friday March 26 from 3.00pm and running through until 7.00pm Sunday March 28 is filled with Wakatipu-based musicians in all genres of music. There is no age limit and there is no cover charge apart from a small fee for events in the Arrowtown Athenaeum Hall."

The participating venues include The Fork and Tap, Postmaster's Restaurant, Slow Cuts, Chop Shop, New Orleans, Bendix Stables, Blue Door, The Winery, Provisions, Dorothy Browns, The Dishery, Arakura, Wet Jacket, Millbrook and the Athenaeum Hall.



SWEET DENIM SILHOUETTES

From skinny and straight to high waisted, ankle crop and and everything in-between — Arrowtown boutique IKON is the destination denim specialist store with styles to flatter and fit both men and women.

"There are so many jeans to choose from with our denim range featuring talented international brands like Diesel, LTB, Ksubi, Dr Denim & Maison Scotch," says Lizzy Wallace-Gibbs.

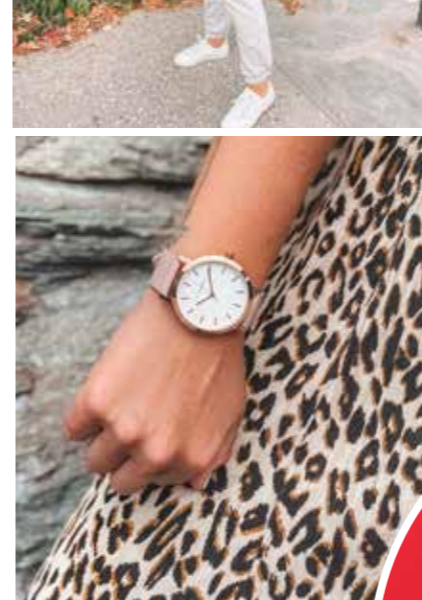
"We are super stoked to have welcomed the iconic Levi's brand into the store offering that distinctive and classic modern denim design — the epitome of 90's cool. Our customers are loving having access to Levi's for a quick and easy purchase here in Arrowtown or online at www.ikonnz.com."

"We have lots of cool designer tops, sweats and knits to complete your look from the likes of Cooper, C&M, Apéro Label, The Others and Amuse Society as well as Assembly Label, Ksubi, Diesel & Scotch & Soda for men and women.



C&M = COMFORT

Keep autumn comfort at an all-time high with new C&M high waisted sweatpants, sweatshirts and long-sleeved tops — the perfect combo for laid back home days, doing the school drop off or for weekend lounging.



ASSEMBLY LABEL

Layer up with the latest range of logo fleece sweatshirts and tops from Aussie brand Assembly Label — a much loved essential for all year-round dressing.



THE HORSE

Classic and timeless watch pieces with a modern twist. The new Horse collection of unisex watches now at IKON offer the perfect accessory to complete your work or weekend look.



ASHLEY & CO

Exclusive to IKON in Arrowtown is the latest range of fragrant hand washes, soaps, candles and creams by of Ashley & Co. "The fragrances are out of this world and our firm favourites include the Washup and Sootherup in Tui & Kahili.

SOL SANA

Boot lengths are on the rise for winter with suede and embossed leathers key finishes. Check out beautiful new seasons styles from Sol Sana at IKON — the perfect footwear balance of fashion and function.



HOLLYWOOD GLAM

A worthy upgrade for your sunglasses collection this season is Privé Revaux eyewear. Endorsed by Academy Award winning actor Jamie Foxx, who has designed some of the range, these glasses will add a touch of instant glam to your wardrobe.



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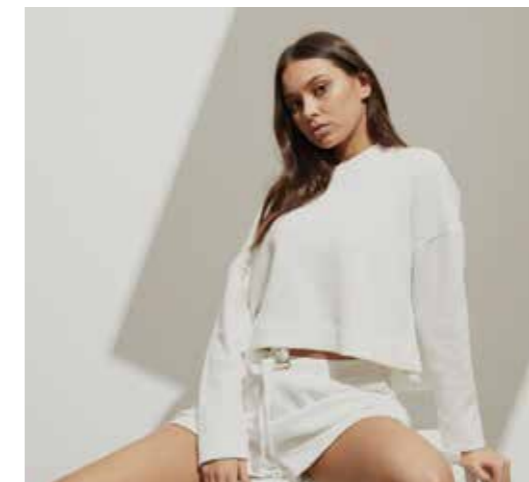
GOALS welcomes Marlow

By Margo Berryman

Marlow is the latest clothing newcomer to boutique active wear store Goals and co-owners Caroline Walak, Sophie Gibbs and Elizabeth Wallace-Gibbs are upbeat about the label's arrival.

"This is the brand we have been missing from Goals since the store's inception and it's the perfect active lifestyle attire for our customers," says Caroline. "The range features beautiful waffle knit sets and separates, matching soft cotton pique sweat sets, leggings and tops that are all about comfort."

Marlow is one of New Zealand's 2020 fashion success stories and Goals is the exclusive stockist in Arrowtown. Caroline says the store is committed to representing the contemporary athleisure range in the Southern Lakes. "The Marlow team has purposefully chosen unique and luxurious fabrics to create sleek and effortless pieces that offer versatility. The waffle knit sets and everyday knit tanks come in lovely soft colours of olive, blush, black, grey and white and are already our firm favourites."



Huffer

"Huffer down jackets and vests are very much tried and tested by New Zealanders who love this streetwear brand for its functional outerwear," says Sophie. "The 2021 range features cool colours of red, orange, winter white, grey and acid yellow to for toasty warmth as temperatures drop."



Level Up Your Activewear

Reformative exercise classes such as yoga and pilates top the 2021 exercise list. Californian active wear brand Onzie is designed with movement in mind and the latest range at Goals features fun prints and colourways. "Onzie is totally on point this season with leggings, midis, shorts, tops and sports bras offering easy comfort and self-expression for the gym, yoga studio or an at home practice," says Caroline. "They have also produced a matching kids range featuring leopard, rose and heart prints that melt the heart."



VANS + Adidas Originals

"Our shoe wall is fully stocked with Adidas Originals that offer the classic Adidas fusion of sport and style," says Caroline. "We also have the latest Vans selection for adults and new Vans kids styles that are ridiculously cute featuring bright prints, cool designs and stretch laces."



Salt Lab

Topical Magnesium (Magnesium Oil) by Salt Lab is now available at Goals. "This is an amazing way to safely increase magnesium levels in the body, relieve sore muscles, improve your performance and energy levels and improve sleep," says Sophie.

Shop Canada Goose

Explore the latest styles of Hybrid Liteweight Canada Goose jackets now at Goals. These premium lightweight down jackets and parkas offer superior performance from outwear fabrics that are durable and breathable for ease and comfort.



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A Place of Many Dishes

By Jenny McLeod

Over 150 years ago weary miners made their way from the Arrow River goldfields to Arrowtown in search of food, drink and entertainment cementing the town's early reputation as a significant hospitality outlet.

Today the Dishery's Cottage Precinct, alongside the Arrow River reserve and the restored Chinese Settlement, takes its inspiration from the town "born of gold" with its enduring legacy left by the district's early pioneers.

The Precinct, owned and developed by Arrowtown businessmen John Guthrie and Scott Stevens and designed by architect Maurice Orr, is an appealing contemporary complex incorporating Dudley's Cottage, one of the area's oldest stone houses.

"The old and the new buildings blend comfortably on the site and a key business is The Dishery Bistro which my wife Emily and I launched in November last year," says Scott.

With work on the restaurant already underway when the Covid-19 pandemic struck it was a daunting time.

"We did wonder do we need to do this right now but then we came back to our long-term vision to open a bistro catering to local people, families and visitors. The response is evidence we made the right decision."



SCOTT STEVENS

The Dishery takes its name from the pan or dish used by miners for cooking, eating and gold panning.

"The dish was a miner's most treasured possession and The Dishery means 'a place of many dishes,'" says Scott.

"The bistro is a modernistic, industrial design, light, airy and spacious. Emily was responsible for the interior design and large sliding doors opening to the popular outdoor area effectively bring the environment inside."



The menu is created by well-known Queenstown executive chef Ainsley Thompson.

"It is designed for likeminded people to us," says Scott. "The philosophy is to use locally sourced fresh food where possible and there is good consistency of supply particularly from our main sources such as the Nevis Gardens in Gibbston Valley and the Rocket Man in Hogans Gully Road near Arrowtown."

The innovative breakfast, lunch and early dinner menu ranges from smashed avocado, southern fried cheese roll or chorizo hash to gurnard fillets, Havoc pork belly, the signature steak sando and Bloody Mary salad.

Arrowtown brewed beers from the Arrowtown Brewing Company and Lake & Wood Brew Company are on tap along with a Bannockburn and Gibbston dominated wine list underlining the Stevens' loyalty to local producers.

"While our main focus is our daily menu available from 8.00am until 8.00pm we welcome people to drop in for a coffee or a scone, particularly walkers and cyclists on the nearby trails and young families who can relax in our secure fenced outdoor area"

Scott says it was important to get The Dishery right from the outset.

"This site will always be a hospitality business and we needed to ensure we delivered what we promised. We feel we have definitely achieved that"

Heritage lives on

Dudley's Cottage was built around 1880 by Irishman William Butler, one of the first to arrive at the Arrow River at the onset of the goldrush in 1862.

The cottage comprises two buildings, built 17 years apart, and was sold to George Dudley around 1911 and subsequently owned by the Dudley and Garbutt families until 2004.

"In 2009 as new owners we saw the potential to transform the rundown property and celebrate Arrowtown's gold mining past," says co-owner Scott Stevens. "We extensively renovated the cottage and luckily found the original building materials were still in good shape and we were able to retain them."

A café and gift shop operated in Dudley's Cottage before closing to make way for the development of the Precinct, which consists of two new buildings.

The Shed, to the south of the cottage, opened in 2018 providing space for artist Jenny Mehrtens' private studio and A Little Something gift shop. The Barn, located behind the cottage, was completed in late 2020 and houses The Dishery Bistro on the ground floor with The Coop shared office space above while Better By Bike offers bike hire and tours from the original cottage premises.

Isabella Rubie Photography

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Nature Refined

Light it up the Dutch Way

By Margo Berryman

Shorter evenings and cooler days call for outdoor fires for continued outdoor living and specialist Queenstown barbecue store Outdoor Concepts recommends Quaruba outdoor stoves, designed and manufactured by Dutch design studio Rene Knip.

A sophisticated, solid wood stove with a modern industrial look, the unique modular construction from folded sheets of Corten steel suits the Central Otago landscape.

Store manager Glenn Stalhut says they are ideal for a variety of outdoor situations from the tiniest courtyards to large expansive entertaining areas.

"The Quaruba XL is a beautiful fireplace at a height of 95 cm with high windows offering a good view of the fire itself. It's naturally rustic character is very popular and the stove can be assembled with either three or four glass panels."

"We also have the two-wheel version known as the RB73 Bijuga model with a push-bar on the rear so the stove can easily be moved around a deck or courtyard to follow the seasonal sun. They are perfect for making mulled wine on the top and give out fantastic heat without the worry of flying sparks."

Outdoor Heating solutions

The team at Outdoor Concepts supplied the latest Infratech Infrared outdoor heaters and Heatstrip wall mounted gas heaters to the newly opened The Crown pub at Five Mile.

"Infratech's Infrared heaters offer quick and easy eco-friendly heating solutions that completely transform outdoor living spaces into warm, functional areas whatever the temperature outside," says Glenn. "The Crown is an excellent example of how these heating systems work brilliantly in commercial spaces to create a cosy ambience."

As an industry leader in electric infrared technology, Infratech products are both emission and odour free. HEATSTRIP Wall Mounted LPG heaters are a stylish addition to any outdoor area where mains natural gas is preferred. They offer world-class design aesthetics, heat output and performance, for both residential and commercial applications. "We work with many clients who are building new homes, but you can also retrofit these heaters into existing homes," he says. "They are ideal for outdoor decks, pool areas and indoor/ outdoor rooms."



Quaruba XL



Boos Blocks Exclusive

A trusted tradition in some of the world's finest kitchens, Boos Blocks cutting boards and butcher blocks are well known by chefs internationally.

Outdoor Concepts in Queenstown has become an exclusive stockist of the products that are manufactured from North American Hard Rock Maple.

"These core wood products are some of the most beautiful and durable you will find on the market," says store manager Glenn Stalhut. "The craftsmanship is outstanding featuring sustainably sourced hardwoods."

"The company behind the brand John Boos & Co dates back to 1887. The food safety and sanitation qualities are exceptional and the boards carry the National Sanitation Foundation's seal of approval which makes them a leader in foodservice equipment," he says. "Whether it is a housewarming gift or outfitting your own kitchen I could not recommend these premium quality boards more highly."



Cajun Casserole with Andouilles meatballs

Outdoor Concepts manager Glenn Stalhut demonstrated making this seasonal Cajun casserole recipe at the Coronet Peak craft beer and BBQ summit.

"This is quick, tasty food that sees a little bit of meat go a long way. Serves two to six people and is a great addition to lunchboxes. I like to use either butter beans or chickpeas as an alternative to white beans."

Ingredients

- 2 Andouille sausages (Havoc Pork available from Raeward Fresh) squeezed out of skins and formed into small meatballs
- 2T olive oil
- 2 red onions sliced
- 2 cloves garlic crushed or minced
- 1 carrot sliced
- 1 red pepper julienned
- 2 cans of white beans with half the liquid drained.
- 2T fish sauce
- 15ml lemon juice
- 4 spring onions to finish

Method

- Preheat casserole dish then add oil and sausage meatballs.
- Fry for five minutes to brown, remove to a dish then add onion, garlic and carrot.
- Leave lid on for 10~15 minutes on low.
- Add beans and heat until hot, add sausage meat balls, fish sauce and vinegar, cook for one minute then add spring onions and serve.



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FROM THE CHAMBERS

Menzshed opens its doors

By Tom Kalliber

A new community space in Arrowtown is providing an opportunity for locals to share practical skills, have a laugh and work on individual and group projects.

Arrowtown Menzshed is the latest addition to a network of more than 120 similar facilities around the country, all linked via a registered charity.

Queenstown Lakes District Council senior advisor community liaison and policy Marie Day says the council provided a community grant to assist with the consent process and it is exactly the sort of project the council likes to support.

“This is a real asset for Arrowtown that will provide both mental and physical benefits to members and the wider community. It’s a place for people to come together, work on practical projects and check-in on each other,” she says. “Don’t be fooled by the name. The shed is open to people of all genders and the friendly team would love to hear from anyone wanting to know more.”

Arrowtown Menzshed is also supported by Central Lakes Trust, Community Trust South, Lottery Grants Board and Queenstown Lions.



Streets ahead in Queenstown

By Tom Kalliber

Several central Queenstown streets are being transformed into high quality public spaces that are safe and accessible for everyone.

Queenstown Lakes District Council general manager property and infrastructure Peter Hansby says the \$60 million project, delivered by the council and supported by funding from Crown Infrastructure Partners, represents a significant investment in the future of the local economy at a challenging time.

He says maintaining access and supporting local businesses during the project is crucial.

“Queenstown town centre is very much open for business. We’re committed to working closely with commercial operators and residents to minimise disruption while construction is underway.”

Work is focusing initially on Park Street and will then move into the historic core of the town around Rees, Beach and Brecon streets.

“We completed the underground service investigation and installed a new water main in Park Street at the start of 2021. Further utility works will follow then we’ll get started on the above ground improvements,” says Mr Hansby. “This area will ultimately feature a four metre wide shared path, new paving, high quality street furniture and lighting, and improved wayfinding signage.”

Further upgrades will feature improved walking and cycling facilities providing a continuous link from the Queenstown Gardens to the Skyline gondola, while weaving in aspects of local cultural storytelling.



Construction of a new artificial multisport turf at Queenstown Events Centre is well underway. The full-sized hockey pitch will also be used as separate, smaller areas for junior games and training as well as other sports such as football and fitness bootcamps.

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Posh Paws



Country Lane Continues Expansion

By Penny Simpson

Country Lane, established by Tineke Enright and her brother Bruce Grant on their family farm in Frankton, continues to go from strength to strength as a place to shop, eat and relax.

"The carparking has been redeveloped and the newly created outdoor garden areas proved very popular over summer," says Tineke. "We recently welcomed Posh Paws pet grooming service as a new business which is a great addition to the complex."

The next stage of Country Lane's development is underway with the arrival of five cabins from the Queenstown Lakeview Holiday Park on the site.

"This is an exciting step with all the cabins being renovated over the coming months and an exciting line up of new tenants planning to open this June," says Tineke. "Then we will begin work on opening the old farm orchard as a new large green space adding to our dynamic outdoor spaces."



Mount Michael Celebration

Mount Michael Wines reflects the exceptional Central Otago terroir combined with winemaker Pip Clarke's talent creating a superb wine range available at their tasting room at Country Lane.

The recent growing season has been an exciting one for the Mount Michael team.

"The weather has been kinder with warmer conditions during most of the flowering," says Pip. "This means we have a good crop on the vines, though there is variability out there due to rain and wind during flowering in some sub-regions."

"Veraison is currently underway with nets going on to protect the fruit from the birds as sugars begin to accumulate in the berries. This brings a small respite to the intense vineyard work that is required during our growing season and the Mount Michael crew can relax a little before the hard work of picking begins during autumn."

The full range of Mount Michael wines available for tasting at Country Lane offer a special opportunity to sample some of label's award-winning Pinot Noir, Rosé and Pinot Gris.

"We are always delighted when people not only sample the wine but purchase bottles or often cases to take home. It is a testament to the hard work that goes into producing this fine wine," says Pip.



Central Otago Autumn Golf Classic

Mount Michael has sponsored the Central Otago Autumn Golf Classic since 2016 and are excited to continue their support in 2021.

"ParNZ took over tournament's directorship, promotion and management in 2018 and partnered with Mount Michael as platinum naming rights sponsor building a successful golf tournament for New Zealand and Australian players," says Mount Michael owner Peter Robbie. "Due to Covid-19 the 2020 tournament was postponed but its back for 2021 from April 12 until April 16 and we are delighted to be involved again."



The Barn Brands

The Barn was the first store to open at Country Lane and has been quietly evolving for close to a decade.

Founder Tineke Enright transformed the original farm building into a retail space that honoured its rustic heritage in style and name before launching her children's brand Pretty Kiwi alongside a collection of vintage and retro finds.

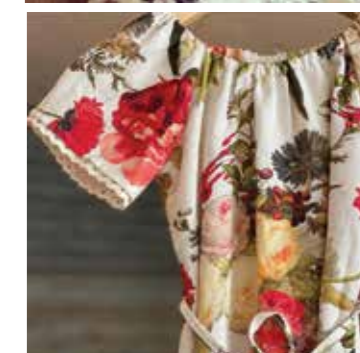
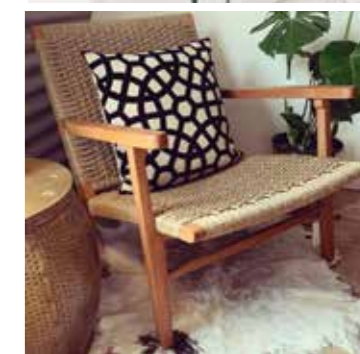
"It was not long before I was joined by Lusso, whose range of jewellery, homeware, pamper products, leather and art has become a firm favourite with people looking for the perfect gift or to treat themselves," says Tineke.

The Barn is now home to three independent brands and is one of Queenstown's more exceptional shopping experiences.

"Sugar Trading's arrival completed The Barn offering with its carefully curated collection of limited edition, hand crafted furniture," says Tineke. "You'll find their great looking dining tables, consoles and chairs in many homes around the district these days."

Reflecting on the premises' success Tineke says customers always tell her what a great little store The Barn has become.

"Our regulars love to reminisce about the old days when they parked outside in the mud before we had a carpark. They are all super excited about the changes going on here now. Customers who are first timers often wonder how they could possibly not have been here before and while retail can be tough, having that banter with people who love to see small businesses like ours making it work is awesome."



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Rabbit Revival

Charlotte Mill

By Jenny McLeod

A "light bulb" moment has led to a Queenstown woman's drive to dramatically reduce the Wakatipu's exploding rabbit population at the same time creating an eco-venture harvesting rabbit fur and meat.

Charlotte Mill launched Rangi Nui Rabbits in December last year to humanely harvest wild rabbits from virus and poison free properties with the aim of helping to control rabbits, improving the local ecology and creating jobs.

"The idea literally came to me in the middle of the night. We live on a rural property which swarmed with rabbits when we moved there a year ago which made me wonder if we have this many on one hectare how many are running around on the larger blocks of land in the area."



"Wild rabbits are the number one invasive pest in our region and landowners are responsible for rabbit control. But at the present this is ad hoc and rabbits are a wasted resource."

She says the practice of laying poison is not a complete solution, apart also from being costly, inhumane and environmentally unfriendly.

"My idea has been to set up a collective to include hunters, whose jobs in the tourism industry may have been impacted by Covid-19, along with tanners, butchers, fashion designers and machinists. Our group comprises Shedlon Lye and his MPI team of certified hunters, Zamora butchery, Nina Chen of Tikki Studio and Darren

Rewi of Mana Tahuna Charitable Trust. We have several sites we are shooting and there is no shortage of other places to bring on stream as we need them."

Rangi Nui Rabbits is creating bespoke feature rabbit fur cushions, throws, seat covers and ottomans while its gourmet meat products which will be available locally in restaurants and supermarkets include rabbit confit, rabbit rilletes and premium fresh rabbit cuts.

"We are very positive about where we are heading and see the business as a significant addition to the basket of free range and sustainable products that are one hundred per cent grown and produced in our district," says Charlotte.

www.ranginuirabbits.com



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AUTUMN IN FIORDLAND — BEYOND BELIEF

Autumn is the ideal season to spend time in Fiordland with temperatures slightly cooler and the weather remaining relatively calm.

From hiking the trails and stargazing the clear and expansive night sky to adventurous exploration, Fiordland's natural beauty comes to the fore in autumn.

The lakeside township of Te Anau is the base camp for all Fiordland activities and is an appealing getaway experience. Located an easy two-hour drive from either Queenstown or Invercargill, Te Anau boasts a vast range of restaurants, eateries, shops, bars and accommodation.

Visitors from around the world have consistently been attracted to Fiordland to experience three of New Zealand's Great Walks — the Kepler Track, the Routeburn Track and the Milford Track.

Te Anau is the ideal base to start or finish the multi-day hikes to take full advantage of the area. The tracks can be walked independently or guided and there are day walk options for those who prefer a shorter adventure.

Te Anau offers many opportunities to connect with nature in this world-renowned destination. There are dozens of excursions right on the doorstep including a visit to Manapouri for a trip to Patea/Doubtful Sound or a visit to the Te Anau Glowworm Caves.

The Milford Road offers plenty of accessible places to stop and explore the wilderness of Fiordland National Park. Two popular spots are the Mirror Lakes and Lake Gunn.

During autumn Fiordland temperatures generally stay warm during the day and the evenings provide dusky sunsets. On wet days, the region is considered even more beautiful with an abundance of waterfalls in Piopiotahi/Milford Sound and the Eglington Valley (towards Homer Tunnel) creating stunning natural displays.

TOP AUTUMN TIPS

- It is easy to self-drive to Te Anau, the base camp for all Fiordland activities. Pick up a rental car in Queenstown or Invercargill or drive your own car and take in the sights along the way with plenty of unique places to stop for photographs
- The drive to Piopiotahi/Milford Sound from Te Anau is a stunning two-hour trip through the heart of Fiordland. Take a break from driving and enjoy a coach tour. In Milford activity options include kayaking, visiting an underwater observatory, taking a boat cruise, diving and scenic flights. Alternatively go deeper and further into our largest national park with a multi-day boat cruise or charter or a scenic flight to view the far-flung corners of Fiordland.
- Booking for immediate options is easy with planning guides, travel tips and links to accommodation, restaurants and activities online at www.fiordland.org.nz
- Day hikes in Fiordland include Lake Marian — a good hike for those who want to stretch their legs and climb up into an alpine valley. Alternatively walk the first 20 minutes of the track to see the impressive Marian Falls.
- Key Summit is a half day walk with panoramic views of mountains and lakes.



Douglas Thorne



Douglas Thorne



Gemma Heaney

URBAN ESCAPE TO FIORDLAND

For domestic travellers Fiordland epitomises all that is good about New Zealand allowing people to connect with nature and become immersed in real world experiences that expand on their understanding of the Kiwi backyard.

That is the word from Destination Fiordland manager Madeleine Peacock whose organisation is charged with promoting this special part of New Zealand.

"From the stunning scenery to finding peace in our truly remarkable natural environments there is so much for people to see and experience. Our job is to make that as easy as possible while ensuring these areas are protected for generations to come. Our recently launched campaign Fiordland — Beyond Belief stretches across our landscapes, experiences and people who call Fiordland home."

"Fiordland and Te Anau's relative remoteness is one of our key assets," she says. "For visitors arriving here from urban and city environments the visual impact and sheer scale of the landscape here is so different to anything else in New Zealand and compares with the fiords of Norway or the alps in Europe."

Fiordland is home to the eighth wonder of the world Piopiotahi/Milford Sound and Madeleine says now is the perfect time to experience Milford in a way which is not possible when New Zealand's borders are open.

"There are amazing options for exploring with day and overnight cruises, scenic flights, diving and charter boats. Piopiotahi/Milford Sound has a unique marine environment which is home to dolphins and the endangered Fiordland Crested penguins as well as rare black coral found close to the surface."

"Te Anau and Manapouri have plenty on offer and are lovely places to take time out and relax by the lake," she says. "They are part of the Southern Scenic Route and wonderful spots to stop and spend a few days catching your breath after such a challenging year as 2020."

WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

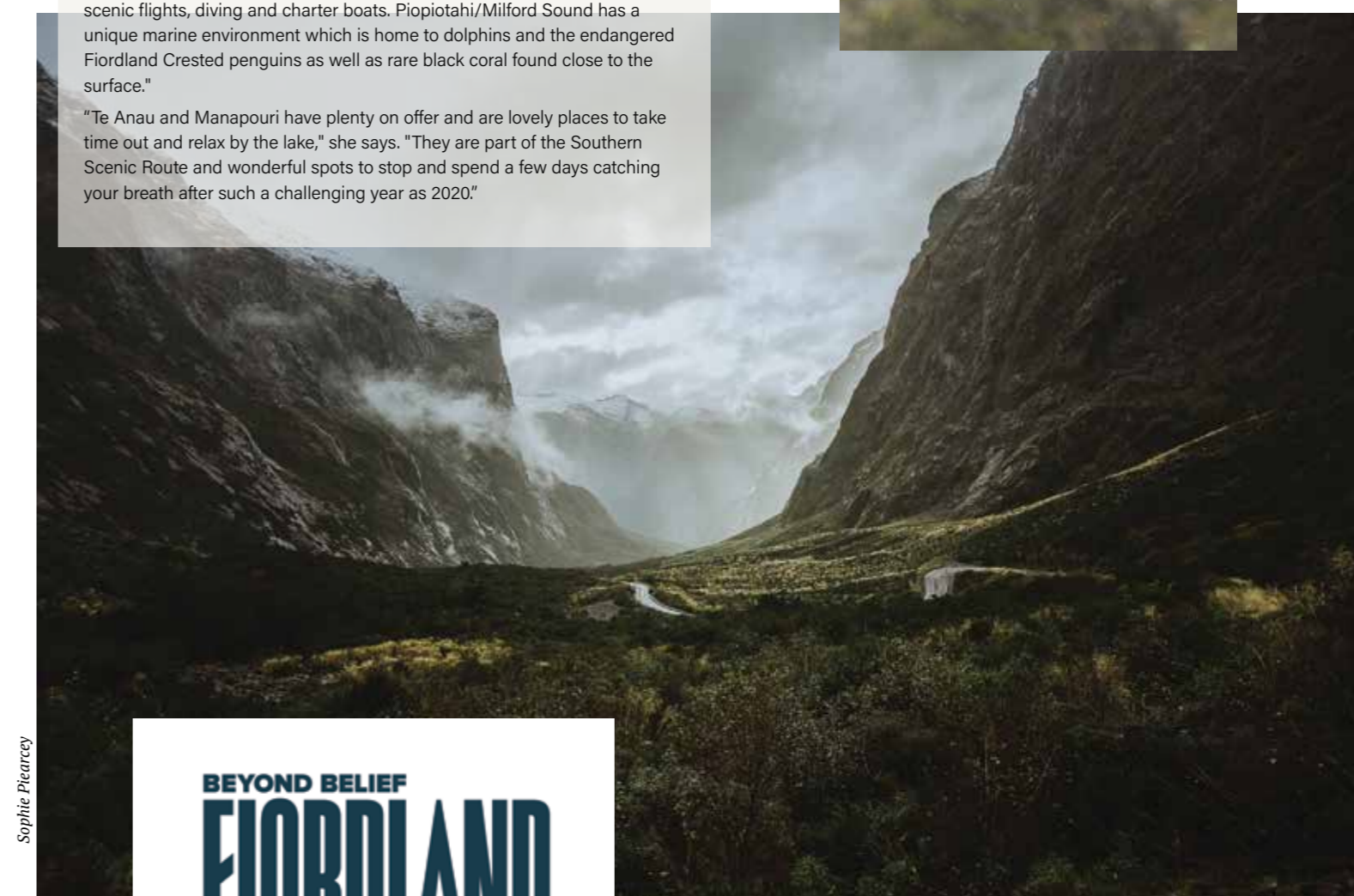
Fiordland is a paradise for wildlife with prolific native birdlife in abundance including the native forest parrot and New Zealand wood pigeon. Bottlenose dolphins can sometimes be seen while cruising in Piopiotahi/Milford or Patea/Doubtful Sound and kea are regular visitors to many lakes, native bush areas and the Homer Tunnel. The Tawaki/Fiordland crested penguin can be seen at Milford Sound and glow worms are a popular attraction at the Te Anau Glowworm caves

Takahē are the stars of the show at Punanga Manu O Te Anau/Te Anau Bird Sanctuary and meeting these prehistoric-looking characters is a must for Fiordland visitors. The sanctuary is open to the public from dawn to dusk with free entry for self-guided visitors (donations appreciated) or purchase a ticket and join a DOC ranger as they feed the birds daily.



Douglas Thorne

Sophie Pearcey



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Quartz Reef aligns with arts festival

By Jenny McLeod

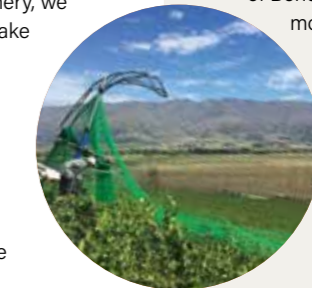


Championing biodynamics and organics

Quartz Reef was born in 1996 as the Central Otago wine industry began to develop.

Owner, Austrian born Rudi Bauer, says from its inception "we have championed a philosophy of biodynamics and organics. As a team we work in harmony with nature to create sensory wines and experiences that capture the purest expressions of our place."

"Combining old world traditions with the insight and innovation of the new to realise the beauty and potential of our single vineyard estate in the sub-region of Bendigo. Producing Central Otago's most exceptional sparkling and distinctive Pinot Noir, we aspire to sit amongst the iconic wines of New Zealand."



Quartz Reef cellar door is open Monday to Friday 12.00pm until 4.00pm
8 Hughes Crescent Cromwell
www.quartzreef.co.nz

Quartz Reef Wines has been a committed sponsor of the Festival of Colour since 2014 and owner Rudi Bauer says it is inspiring to be part of a world-class event of such high calibre.

"Much of this inspiration comes from not only working with the Festival of Colour team as they bring this wonderful event to fruition but to see the huge enthusiasm, commitment and support of the local Wanaka community rallying together to ensure success."

He says that as one of Central Otago's largest producers of sparkling wine Quartz Reef takes pride in crafting distinctive wines that celebrate nature and people.



"We feel very privileged to showcase our craft as the local celebratory partner of the Festival of Colour."

Traditionally, the Quartz Reef vineyard located at Bendigo, is the first fruit in the region to be picked as part of the season's harvest.

"Destined for sparkling production, this is the first step in the hand crafting of our sparkling wine, thereby ensuring the perfect balance of acidity is captured to create the fresh style that is enjoyed by discerning folk. Back at the winery, we are wrapping up the previous years' vintage to make space for the incoming fruit and ferments."

Rudi says it has been exciting to see so many more New Zealanders and locals out and about exploring the country in recent times and taking the time to stop in and visit Quartz Reef.

"We have noticed a growing demand for locally grown products and curiosity to understand more about how organics and biodynamics are a good choice which is a huge positive coming out of such a defining year in 2020."

Quartz Reef vineyard is certified Demeter biodynamic and its wines are Biogro organic. Rudi encourages people to visit their cellar door to learn more about their winegrowing philosophy and sample their range of premium wines.



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Precinct inspired by New York

By Penny Simpson

The Precinct is fast becoming Wanaka's most desirable locale for high end retail, hospitality and business.

The superior New York inspired development offers a dynamic mix from its Helwick Street site. "The last two available spaces are now leased with the upper penthouse dedicated to Bad Company who offer contemporary workspaces and are currently taking applications for desk users to share their state-of-the-art office facilities," says The Precinct's brand and retail manager Mel Norman. "Alice Herald Fine Jewels has opened a very exclusive by appointment only jewellery store where she works closely with clients to create incredible bespoke fine jewellery."

The three-story high architectural complex has come alive with new businesses creating a downtown vibe. "The feedback has been incredible and we are constantly congratulated on the building with people from out of town particularly enamoured by it. In the past there have been some anti-development trends in Wanaka but

we purposely kept the building reasonably low key and subtle to blend into the streetscape in terms of the size and neutral palette and so far that's worked."

Mel says locally owned businesses were purposely chosen as tenants as opposed to corporate chains.

"The businesses here are all boutique and offer something different. Revology is doing super well with their curated store, DEVAL is at the top of the fashion game with a beautiful range of international brands while the Plant Collective is brimming with healthy indoor plants. Clare's Cake Shop is very busy with custom cakes orders as is UKIYO with clients for hair, makeup and skin treatments. Meanwhile Alex from Rhythm & Alps is busy planning Snowboxx which is super exciting."

The highly anticipated communal food hall is set to open this autumn.

"There is everything from wood fired pizza, dumplings and handmade tacos to desserts, craft beer and a deli by Wee Tart. It's a delightful mix of cheap eats and fresh, delicious foods to enjoy in our courtyard and rooftop dining spaces or take out," says Mel.



WEE TART VIBE

Wee Tart Coffee shop and milk bar is creating a stir on the Wanaka foodie scene with their reimagined Kiwiana food and drinks.

"It's a real buzz and everyone is loving the sounds and sights that the café has brought to The Precinct since opening over summer," says owner Mel Norman. "The response has been overwhelming and we were initially slammed with queues down the laneway."

The contemporary eatery, bar and outdoor space focuses on comfort food packed with fresh flavours.



"Our poke rice bowls topped with a colourful range of pickled and fresh salad ingredients with either five spice fried chicken, housemade beetroot patties, Chinese BBQ pork or haloumi are by far the most favourite dish," says Mel. "Also the Banh Mi with BBQ pork or fried chicken is super popular."

"Sunday mornings attract quite a few people getting takeaway fried chicken and poutine post a big Saturday night out and we do a great hangover cure of fried

chicken and a pint of Somersby Cider with lemon – it's best enjoyed on our rooftop bar to clear your mind."

No effort has been spared to serve great coffee at Wee Tart with well-known local barista Jimmy Scott at the helm.

"We worked with Nick Scott from Common Ground in Dunedin to develop a bespoke organic bean especially for Wee Tart as I have a long history with them being their first wholesale account for my former café Kiki Beware," says Mel. "They custom coloured and supplied our brand spanking new La Marzocco coffee machine and grinders and supply us with Happy Happy Soy Boy and Otis oat milk that we sell at retail."

She says Jimmy has a cult following.

"He is a popular personality who has worked in lots of local spots. His first café job at 16 was in his home suburb of Ngaio in Wellington before he moved on to places like Ohakune, Byron Bay, Melbourne and Wanaka. Jimmy brings incredible barista skills and loyal customers so he is absolutely indispensable to Wee Tart."

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STITCH MINISTRY

Feel Good Fashion

By Margo Berryman

The past year has been one of sharing, caring and supporting local clientele and New Zealand designers for the team at renowned Wanaka fashion store Bella.

"Since Covid-19 lockdown last year we have seen an upsurge in people shopping locally and asking for New Zealand designer fashion," says Bella store co-owner Jen Milburn. "This has been a call to action for many and a lot of our customers are now embracing slow fashion by buying quality designer pieces that endure."

"Embracing New Zealand made and supporting local stores results in keeping people in business and in jobs. It has been a way of collectively supporting each other during this very different time in our lives."

Jen and retail partner Marg Caldwell have been mindful to share the feel-good factor with their local customers many of whom live in Wanaka, Queenstown and across the greater Southern Lakes region.

"Everyone is keen to work together and ensure that Kiwi led businesses survive and our customers have been very understanding. The new normal is here so we are working alongside all our New Zealand designers and in particular those who embrace New Zealand made. Many designers are still hampered by late overseas deliveries on fabrics and new seasons samples," says Jen. "Likewise, the designers themselves have been offering us recuts of popular designs so it's a circular support system."

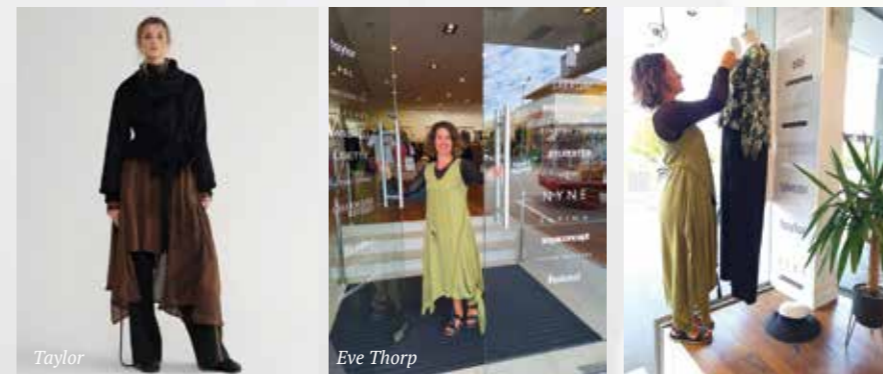
Autumn and winter fashion is steadily arriving at the Wanaka store and Jen says the Bella team have their firm favourites.

"Our favourite winter warming coats are by New Zealand designer Deryn Schmidt, featuring great casual style in fabulous colours — it beats the black puffer jacket hands down. Her coats are tailored with timeless design in wonderful New Zealand wool mix and made to last. They will go the distance in a wardrobe for years to come."

"We are seeing a trend this season for casual and comfortable styling as many New Zealand women are now working from home and reshaping their corporate wardrobes. We are loving the style and edginess of New Zealand made Taylor coats and jackets now instore."

High quality, crafted knitwear has been in high demand at Bella with an expansive range available.

"Most of us cleaned out our wardrobes last winter and because we cannot travel overseas to warmer climates knitwear is in huge demand," says Jen. "We have loads of natural fibres, both in pastels and stronger colours. Feminine soft knits and gorgeous chunky cables are ideal to wear over the many pretty dresses and pleated skirts trending mixing textures with fibres."



Taylor

Eve Thorp

Syvester

With Wanaka a key destination for New Zealanders during autumn and winter Jen says Bella is primed to ensure quality fashion and customer satisfaction remains high.

"Bella is fortunate to have depth and experience having been in business nearly ten years. We have honoured all our indent orders and our suppliers appreciate it. An example of these excellent relationships is being personally thanked in supplier emails for payment and being told — 'it is customers like you that will help us to survive this situation and come out the other side okay. We definitely think having integrity makes for successful partnerships."



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P63

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FLAGSHIP CARDRONA BOUTIQUE

By Penny Simpson

Owner of The Junction-Cardrona boutique homeware, gift and clothing store Sarah Prenter is passionate about the location of her exciting new business.



Sarah Prenter

"I was born in Dannevirke where my parents are still on the family farm and my husband Bernard's parents were rural teachers in the South Island so we love being in the country."



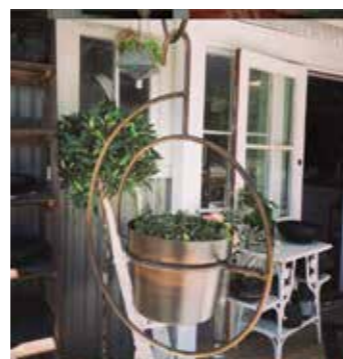
"In 2016 after I had coped with breast cancer, we felt the need to move from our busy lives in Auckland to Central Otago. We have now lived in Cardrona for over three years and have four self-catering rental properties called 'Stay Cardrona'. Our visitors have always indicated they wished there was more to do while staying here in the valley and our response has been to open The Junction."

In the heart of Cardrona village opposite the historic Cardrona Hotel, The Junction is housed in a charming building which was initially a potter's studio and later a stained-glass studio.

"It is a beautiful spot and people just love visiting us here," she says. "We have selected designers and their ranges that are not found in mainstream shops in New Zealand like customised tableware by local artist Shannon Courtney."

"We have a large selection of Leon and Harper from Paris with only 15 stockists in New Zealand and stock Monari and Faber from Germany which are well-known labels with exquisite design and fabrics. Also, we sell stunning jeans from Monari."

"From Denmark we have Ilse Jacobsen who is famous for her outerwear and rubber boots and flattering quilted coats and Mos Mosh which is a wonderful streetwear brand ranging from linen shirts to jeans and suiting many of our customers," says Sarah. "We stock the fabulous 12 plus size range from designer Lost and Led Astray (LALA) while Sara-jane offers a stunning range accommodating sizes from M to 3XL (22)."



The Junction – Cardrona is open daily from 10.30am until 6.00pm and customers can shop online at www.cardronajunction.nz and click and collect at their convenience even after hours.

"We are adding new clothing collections and our bespoke gifts daily to the online store. Some items such as our ceramic hydrangeas are made customised to order for size and colour and we do our best to source products our customers want."

She says the response to the boutique has been overwhelming.

"We have amazing support for the store from locals, travellers and people from all over the lower South Island. Customers really appreciate discovering clothing and items not found anywhere else in New Zealand so that's been very appealing."

"The local community here in the valley is wonderful and very supportive with weekly gatherings held at the Cardrona Hotel. There are many other unique businesses here such as The Cardrona Distillery, The Cardrona Horse Trekking and Quad Bike Tours, The Snow Farm and Cardrona Alpine Resort offering year-round activities," says Sarah. "We feel very privileged to live here and meet so many people travelling through the area."

BOH & IVY

— INTERIORS —



Society of Wanderers / photo by Cricket Saleh



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Boh & Ivy is a curated home interiors store specialising in furniture, bed linen, fabrics and homewares. With a timeless and natural design ethos, the store has globally sourced European, mid-century & vintage pieces. Founder Kate Findlay has 15+ years of interior design expertise and her services are available on request.

Celebrating Homegrown Talent

By Jenny McLeod

New Zealand's "best little arts festival," the Festival of Colour, takes centre stage in Wanaka for its ninth iteration in April featuring three world premieres in a programme packed with an eclectic mix of theatre, dance, music, visual arts and conversation.

Director Philip Tremewan says the Covid-19 pandemic has created a difficult time and the 2021 festival from April 12 until April 18 will bring heart, soul and creative joy to Wanaka and the surrounding area.

"We have worked to put together a programme including brand new shows along with wonderful local work. While we are unable to present international shows this year, we're celebrating the huge range of talent in New Zealand."

The Royal New Zealand Ballet is premiering *Ultra Violet* which was to have made its debut at London's Covent Gardens last year.

"But with the trip cancelled due to Covid, Wānaka audiences will be the first to see this new work by gifted choreographer Loughlan Prior and composer Claire Cowan," he says.

"The Royal New Zealand Ballet's double bill also features choreographer in residence Sarah Foster Sproull's new work *The Autumn Ball*."

The Bullet Heart Club's new play *The Hall*, an uplifting small town family story premieres in collaboration with Voices Aotearoa and local singers and will be performed in both Wānaka and Bannockburn.

The Pacific Crystal Palace will again be home to a diverse music programme, from a delve into New Zealand pop history to the closing night performance from Kiwi music legends The Chills.

Philip says throughout the festival SchoolFest will be held focusing on a programme for school children of all ages with a variety of performances and workshops being staged in local schools.



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Programme Picks

The Artist

International circus sensation Thomas Monckton presents a physical theatre comedy masterpiece about a nutty painter with a huge creative block.



Into the Belly of Capricorn

Estère, aka Empress of Electric Blue Witchhop, is one of New Zealand music's best kept secrets and her theatrical vision is inspired by the rich territory of mythology. The outstanding contemporary show incorporates a powerhouse band together with fibre optics, dance and lighting.

Owls do Cry

New Zealand author Janet Frame's landmark novel is brought to life on stage by theatre company Red Leap. The company was inspired by Frame's rich imagery and language to create a multi-disciplinary dreamscape weaving music, song and poetry to celebrate her work.



Fake news

Television journalist Paddy Gower and Dominion Post editor Anna Fifield turn the spotlight on truth and lies in global media and throughout society in an Aspiring Conversations highlight. The focus will be on how fake stories spread and so often feed into popular myths.



Festival of Colour arts festival April 12-18 2021 www.festivalofcolour.co.nz

Colourful Fashion Mood

By Margo Berryman

The latest fashion drops from top New Zealand fashion designers have created a colourful mood at Lily & Esther — Clyde's destination fashion boutique.

"The new ranges are quite aspirational and inspiring with beautiful shapes and colours to update seasonal wardrobes," says owner Anna McRitchie. "I love a good frock and twenty-seven names always produce some lovely ones. We have their Allyssa dress featuring black and white daisies which is fresh and pretty and the Forever dress in navy with a beautiful gathered waist panel and midi-level sleeve."

New denim styles and seasonal pants are making an impact this autumn.

"Everyone needs a good pair of jeans and the latest Emma jean by twenty-seven names is very flattering with a high waist, front pleats and a tapered leg in a dark denim wash. They always do wonderful jeans."

New Zealand based label Kowtow, known for its ethical and sustainable fashion direction, has introduced some bright prints to their Building Block collection now instore.

"These pieces are wardrobe essentials and their new Frill Tee is an easy option to throw on over pants or jeans and there are some fun, bright prints in the new season drop," she says. "The Long Sleeved dress made from lightweight organic cotton jersey is an easy option to transition through autumn to winter."

Anna has recently introduced a new bag label Vash into the store that is gaining some attention.

"These are beautiful bags made from ethical leather. There are cross bodies and mini bag styles that will add a touch of luxury to any look."



Arriving in time for the winter season is Re-Create — a New Zealand led designer label with core values of ethical and sustainable fashion.

"This is an affordable range of ethical organic and natural cotton pieces that are designed here and made in Cambodia," says Anna. "We love their ethos of supporting Cambodian women with work and the garments really suit our relaxed way of living in Central Otago."



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ART LOVERS FOCUS ON EADE GALLERY

By Margo Berryman

The change of pace for New Zealanders during Covid-19 pandemic has led to an upsurge in sales for Clyde's Eade Gallery.



"We thought art might be the first thing people stopped buying as it's considered a luxury item but we were wrong," says Eade Gallery co-owner Melanie Eade. "As soon as we re-opened in May 2020 the gallery was back to peak trading and hasn't stopped since."

"With people staying at home for that extended period, many took stock of their immediate surroundings and realised they needed artwork on their walls."

Eade Gallery presents a varied selection of art, focusing mainly on Central Otago artists.

"We have sold a lot of work to New Zealanders exploring their own country. With the cost of courioring art being more affordable now our customers don't hesitate to buy the pieces they love and have us send them to their homes while

they continue travelling. People tend to buy more than one piece due to the diverse range of styles and large works have been very popular," says Melanie.

"Artists Esther Dexter, Simon King and Philip Beadle have sold well and Neil Driver is always popular and requested. We currently have Simon King's new work — he is a woodworker and furniture maker — which is stunning collage work that features the rubbings of woodgrain with layers of his bowl shapes infused with colour."

Eade Gallery continues its popular solo exhibitions during April and May.

"We are delighted to be showing two artists — Annemarie Hope-Cross whose work is highly regarded with some recently purchased by Te Papa and emerging artist Thomas Geddes whose watercolours show early talent."

ANNEMARIE HOPE-CROSS LISTEN

April 4 - April 30 2021

Annemarie Hope-Cross's work entitled Listen reflects the taonga of Aotearoa and of life itself.

"During several years of treatment for breast cancer I have been forced to slow down. During times of rest I have had the opportunity to notice small things – to watch the light through leaves, to hear wind in trees and listen to birds sing and these opportunities and observations are reflected in the work being shown in my exhibition."

Using early photographic methods, Annemarie says she harnessed the sunshine in her garden to make images that she then hand coloured.

"Sometimes I use a Mousetrap camera, which is a replica of the first camera ever made and requires around six to eight hours of sunshine to make an image. Meanwhile some of the other work is created without the use of a camera at all."



"Because I make my work in the outdoors, considering the environment around me is an inevitable part of my process. I have always enjoyed researching subject matter for images I am creating, however it is alarming to read of species depletion and what we are at risk of losing both worldwide, and here in our own land. The earth has music for those who listen."

THOMAS GEDDES DREAMSCAPES

May 2 - May 30 2021

For the past few years Thomas Geddes' artistic practice has centred around the relationship between humans and the natural world.

"I have focused on creating a cohesive body of work made up of dreamy and atmospheric watercolour landscapes," says Thomas. "Focusing on this collection has allowed me to explore this subject matter and the physicality of this medium more deeply."

Thomas recently graduated from Whitecliffe College of Art and Design in Auckland. "While I have painted watercolours and landscape before, this is my first time exploring these subjects with a deep focus." The Eade Gallery's solo exhibition is Thomas's first since leaving university.

"At university I made a lot of installations and moving image artworks exploring the animate nature of the world and the ways humans relate to their environments. These works were strongly influenced by the natural collections of herman de vries and the performative works of Marcus Coates," he says. "The slightly surreal quality of these inherently New Zealand landscapes I am painting, and the occasional inclusion of small, ambiguous bird headed figures, also shows the influence of Bill Hammond in my work."



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Supporting the cycling trails

By Jenny McLeod

The Lake Dunstan trail, connecting Cromwell and Clyde, has the potential to become one of New Zealand's premiere cycling trails and there is growing awareness both domestically and internationally of the new route according to Bike It Now! co-owner Duncan Randall.

"There is so much hype about the 55-kilometre trail with the final stage from Cornish Point to Clyde now completed. It seems everyone knows about it."

He says his company is set up to support the new trail and help provide visitors using it with the best possible experience.

"The quality of the trail build is fantastic and much of it is grade two which does call for good cycling skills and fitness. This is where e-bikes will be very popular because they will allow people to access the trail and enjoy it. There are some incredible features such as clip-on bridges and the views in places are stunning."

The Lake Dunstan trail will link with the Otago Central Rail Trail, the Clutha Gold trail and the Roxburgh River trail and Duncan says Bike It Now! can provide rental equipment, transport and other packages.

"With our two stores located in Clyde and Cromwell we are well placed at either end of the trail to assist cyclists. We are much more than a cycle store but rather a one-stop-shop for everything connected with biking. We have a lot of industry experience and we are adaptable and flexible to meet our clients' needs."

The global demand for electric bikes, particularly since the advent of Covid-19, is causing delays in delivery which is challenging for retailers, says Duncan.

"It is very frustrating for us and most of the e-bikes coming in to Bike It Now! are already pre-sold. It is particularly difficult to get enough rental stock at the moment and it will be some time before that changes."

Bike It Now! stocks a range of cycle brands, both manual and electric, including Specialized, Trek, Merida, Scott, Marin, Avanti and Sinch. Austrian e-bikes made by KTM and the German manufactured Haibike are also being sourced.

"It is good to have a range of brands without being biased towards any one model in particular. The more choices we can offer the easier it is to provide customers with the best product we can," says Duncan. "We think we are achieving this where possible in the current situation and the return business we attract underlines this."



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