

# QTM Magazine

*Southern Lakes Lifestyle*

## REACH FOR THE STARS

*Snow sports athletes shine on  
world stage*

## SKYLINE SPEARHEADS EXPANSION

Multimillion dollar state of the  
art gondola & visitor complex

## FORTY YEARS FORWARD

*Remarkables Ski Area  
landmark anniversary*

## WĀNAKA HOME & LIFESTYLE

Spotlight on art fashion &  
design



ISSUE 128 WINTER 2025

QUEENSTOWN ARROWTOWN WĀNAKA CROMWELL & CLYDE



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COVER The Remarkables photo supplied

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## Snow sports in the international limelight

By Jenny McLeod

Southern Lakes snow sports athletes' performances on the world stage during the latest northern hemisphere winter were nothing short of spectacular.

Wānaka and Queenstown freeskiers, snowboarders and alpine skiers continuously put the spotlight on New Zealand's huge winter talent at FIS world events with multiple podium finishes and record achievements.

Snow Sports NZ CEO Nic Kavanagh says it is the best season ever recorded by New Zealand athletes across all disciplines.

"We are very humbled by the work that has been put in by coaches, parents and the athletes themselves. We achieved 38 elite podiums and being less than twelve months out from the next Winter Olympics we are absolutely right where we planned to be. As a high performance organisation Snow Sports is thrilled to have racked up so many world beating results."

### Making History

Twenty-three-year-old Queenstown alpine skier Alice Robinson made history when she won New Zealand's first ever FIS Alpine World Championships medal after taking out second place in the giant slalom at the prestigious event in Austria.

She later topped her outstanding medal streak with a second place at the FIS World Cup giant slalom in Are in Sweden which was her career 17th and seventh consecutive giant slalom world cup podium finish.

Alice, who was second in the 2025 FIS Alpine giant slalom World Cup standings, is delighted with her performance this season and entered the World Championships as one of the favourites.

"It's amazing my first world champs medal, it's so special," she said following the tightly fought race with Italy's Federica Brignone who won the gold by 0.90 secs. "I really wanted to go for it today, I just tried to treat today like any other race and I am really happy to have executed"



Alice Robinson (left) on the podium at the alpine World Championships

### Global Glory

Wānaka's Luca Harrington (21) was crowned the 2025 FIS Freeski Big Air World Champion marking his first world championship title and the first time it has been won by a Kiwi.

Luca also claimed New Zealand's first ever FIS Freeski Crystal Globe as the top athlete on the 2025 FIS Big Air



Luca Harrington

World Cup Tour, five World Cup podiums including two gold medals and X Games gold and silver medals.

"This season has just been incredible for me and to top it all off with a world champs win is such an honour. It is a dream come true."

Luca and Ben Barclay (23) of Wānaka were also second and third respectively early in the season at the FIS Freeski Slopestyle World Cup in Canada, the first time two Kiwi athletes have shared a Park & Pipe World Cup podium.

Snow Sports NZ Head Coach & Pathway Director, Park & Pipe Tom Wilmott says "Luca and Ben delivered world-class slopestyle runs and making history for New Zealand is the cherry on top."

Meanwhile Finley Melville Ives (18) of Wānaka put down an explosive run to win the 2025 Freeski Halfpipe World Championship title in Switzerland in his debut appearance.

### Double Header

Olympic gold, silver and bronze medallist Zoi Sadowski-Synnott (24) of Wānaka continued her record breaking career this season after a phenomenal return from injury to win the 2025 FIS Snowboard Slopestyle Crystal Globe for the first time and her third World Championship slopestyle title.

"I can't believe it and didn't really think about it coming into the World Championships. I was just feeling incredible grateful for this whole winter after my injury last year and thankful for the support from my sponsors, team, friend and family."

There was tight competition for the Crystal Globe with Zoi finishing just 12 points ahead of Great Britain's Mia Brookes.

"To walk away with the Globe feels pretty unreal because I've never had one of these before."



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## Skyline Queenstown Invests in the Future

By Jenny McLeod



*From simple beginnings in 1967 when Skyline Queenstown launched the first gondola on Bob's Peak the company is today spearheading a multimillion-dollar investment including a state-of-the-art gondola and a major expansion of its entire facility.*

General manager Wayne Rose says the company also marks 100-million Luge rides in June this year with healthy contributions across its eight sites including two in New Zealand and six internationally.



Wayne Rose

"Our Luge operations continue to outstrip expectations. Reaching 100-million rides is an astonishing feat and a major milestone for the brand and the global Luge family. To dream up, design and implement a fun, affordable activity for people of all ages and all abilities that stands the test of time is testament to the foresight and pioneering spirit of the organisation."

"The first implementation was at Skyline Skyrides in Rotorua in 1986 before adding the activity to our Queenstown site in 1997. Now the company has offshore locations in Canada, South Korea, Singapore and Malaysia where we are expanding operations. Plans are also well advanced for a venture in Swansea, Wales."

The \$250 million plus overhaul of the Skyline Queenstown operation, dubbed Project Queenstown, has been on the books since 2014 and the flagship gondola, with its 10-seat cabins replacing the former four-seat cabins and new top and base terminals, opened in July 2023.

"It is exciting to add our new gondola to Queenstown's tourism infrastructure as we experience a strong return of visitors to just below our peak in 2019," says Wayne. "The rebuild of our top restaurant complex and viewing deck is designed to accommodate the anticipated growth of visitor numbers to Queenstown over the next 50 years and improve the overall experience for our guests."

He says the scale of the redeveloped top complex undertaking is immense and designed to have as little impact as possible on the tourist activity.

"First, we're building an extension large enough to accommodate the 2019 (900,000) visitor numbers. This will be completed in March 2026 at which point we'll transfer the entire operation into the new premises before deconstructing and rebuilding the existing complex and finally stitching the two seamlessly together. The whole project is planned for completion in 2029 at which point the current operation will have essentially doubled in size creating a world-class leisure tourism destination including a large conference facility, modular in design."

Wayne paid tribute to the collaboration of the operational and construction teams for achieving a difficult project with the minimum amount of disruption for visitors to Skyline.

"We have worked very closely together to ensure everything goes to plan and day-to-day operations have been able to continue despite major work being carried out alongside a sizeable tourism operation."



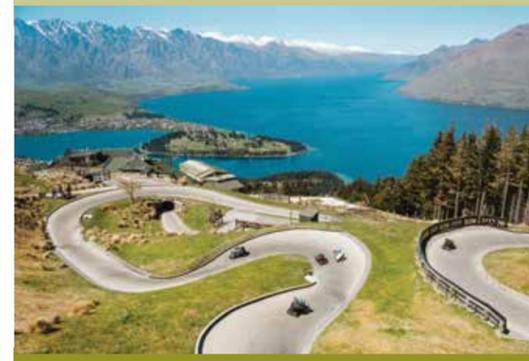
### Supporting Volunteers

Skyline Queenstown recognises the challenges faced by organisers of large events and has put its hand up to sponsor volunteers for the likes of the Queenstown Marathon, Arrowtown Autumn Festival and the Matariki Festival over the last few years.

"Last year alone we donated over 1000 gondola passes for volunteering efforts," says general manager Wayne Rose. "We have seen the huge challenges event organisers face in attracting volunteers and are pleased to be able to add our support."

The auction of the former four-seat gondola cabins following the installation of the new cableway in 2023 has also been a bonus for local charities.

"We were quite overwhelmed with the interest in the cabins and raised over \$100,000 which was split between the Branches Charitable Trust and the Whakatipu Wilding Control Group."



### Skyline Queenstown Facts

- State-of-the art ten seat gondola replaces four seat cabin cableway with a new theoretical capacity of 3000 guests per hour.
- Luge operations over eight New Zealand and international sites hits 100-million Luge rides
- Restaurant increases from 240 to 550 seats — offering buffet, a la carte and private dining
- New café caters for over 300 people
- Top complex viewing deck extended from 68 to 460 square metres
- Conference facilities to accommodate 350 seated or a 600 person cocktail event

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## Australasian expansion for High-Profile Queenstown agency

By Jane Brooke

*Queenstown headquartered premium real estate agency New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty (NZSIR) has launched a new office in Melbourne after being shoulder tapped for the role due to its standout success in New Zealand.*

NZSIR, founded by long-term Queenstown residents Mark Harris and Julian Brown, is recognised as a high achiever in the global brand's Asia-Pacific territory and Mark says it is an honour to extend their expertise to Australia.

"The Sotheby's International Realty leadership team in New York were keen to see the brand expand in Victoria and contacted us regarding the opportunity. Having seen us expand our business across New Zealand for the past 20 years they trusted that we were the right operators."

The brand has had an excellent reception since opening in Toorak last December with agents Max Ruttner and Antoinette Nido completing over \$120 million in sales to date, its success mimicking that of the Queenstown office, recently announced as the top-performing NZSIR office in New Zealand.



Julian Brown & Mark Harris



NZSIR has dominated the luxury real estate market in Queenstown for 20 years and the Southern Lakes continues to be a pivotal focus for the brand.

"There were ten sales over \$10 million in the Southern Lakes last year and we completed six of them," says Mark. "This year we have achieved some significant sales already in our region including a \$30 million plus sale in central Queenstown and a record-breaking sale over \$6 million in Arrowtown. There are certainly signs that the local market is heating up due to changes in Government policy and strong international interest."

With Melbourne now also on the NZSIR radar Mark says the synergies between the two locations have a complementary effect.

"There are similarities in that both Melbourne and Queenstown have genuine and growing interest from overseas buyers in particular the USA, UK and Asia. We also deal directly with Melbourne clients looking to buy property in the Southern Lakes and throughout New Zealand. In some ways the Southern Lakes is becoming a lifestyle destination not dissimilar to areas of Australia like Noosa or Byron Bay. Queenstown and Wānaka also enter the discussion with Melbourne families looking for a second home so the markets are well connected and we recently concluded a \$9 million sale to a Melbourne client purchasing in Queenstown."

NZSIR's Australasian expansion is now in full force with further office openings planned for Southland and the Bay of Plenty as well as two more in Hawthorn and Brighton in Melbourne.

"NZSIR continues to perform very well due to our team of high-calibre agents who are at the very top of their game," says Mark. "They are very experienced in understanding what it takes to get the best possible price for a property."

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## Winter Roundup

with Jenny McLeod

### Cardrona China Collaboration

A collaboration between Cardrona Alpine Resort and a prominent Chinese organisation representing a key ski resort region is being hailed as a significant step in the future of international ski tourism.

The recently signed memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Cardrona's owner RealNZ and the Chongli District Ice and Snow Association is expected to set a new standard of co-operation between the New Zealand ski industry and the emerging Chinese ski market.

The Chongli ski industry represents all the ski areas and ice attractions in the region which hosted many events during the 2022 Winter Olympics and skier numbers are on the increase.

RealNZ Chief Customer and Sales Officer Scott McNab says the MOU is a commitment to cooperation, innovation and mutual growth.

"It reflects our shared belief that great ski destinations are not competitors, they can and should elevate each other for the betterment of the sport and increased enjoyment of our guests."

He says with their proposed collaboration on talent identification, product development, marketing initiatives, industry training and policy alignment the two organisations aim to accelerate participation in snow and ice sports globally.



MOU Signing - Steve Bruce RealNZ GM of Sales Bonnie Xing Global Ocean Group Ltd Scott McNab RealNZ Chief Customer & Sales Officer Wang Cheng Chairman Zhangjiakou Ice and Snow Sports Association Deng Chen RealNZ Eastern Strategy Manager

### Skiing Soho

The installation of a new six-seater chairlift in Soho Basin has opened up 150 hectares of terrain for the 2025 season making Cardrona Alpine Resort the largest ski area in New Zealand.

The detachable Doppelmayr lift provides access to new slopes for intermediate to advanced skiers and riders and its addition to the Southern Lakes ski facilities has been eagerly awaited since a partnership with Soho and RealNZ was announced in 2018 to develop the area

The original chairlift at Soho, the Willow's quad chairlift, opened in 2021 but the new lift will provide access to more than twice the skiing and riding area.

In line with the developments at Soho a new T-bar has been installed in Cardrona's main basin to service the terrain park and a contemporary retail and restaurant building replaces the previous base complex.



Soho Basin

### Remarkables Ski Area marks 40th anniversary

The reappearance of the Remarkables Ski Area Spring Carnival this year will turn the clock back 40 years.

The popular annual event which was held until 2014 will celebrate the launch of skiing and riding at The Remarkables in 1985.

Ski area manager Steve Hall says the September 26-28 carnival will be a milestone event.

"The Remarkables has always been more than just about skiing — it's about the people, the adventures and the incredible memories made here. The carnival will be an epic celebration of everything that makes this mountain special!"

During the past 40 years The Remarkables has been transformed and over \$90 million has been invested by NZSki in lift facilities, a new base building and expanded terrain during the last decade.



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# Major Milestones at Mt Cardrona Station



Alpine village development Mt Cardrona Station is celebrating several major milestones this winter headlined by the opening of the first stage of The Homestead which is the heart and soul of the station's central village.

The Homestead

Set on 400 hectares of land above the Cardrona Valley the property offers master-planned residential living, visitor accommodation, 30 kilometres of private hiking and biking trails and a central village with luxurious facilities located within the stunning buildings of The Homestead for owner and guest use.

Significant landmarks in the past year have included completion of seven architecturally designed homes on site with six more under construction. First homeowners moved in 12 months ago and there are five distinct neighbourhoods available with a range of house types and pre-approved concept designs as well as the opportunity to create a personal bespoke design.

Ecological planning has seen 3000 native plants established, invasive species removed and 50 predator traps installed. The station aims to plant 64,000 plants over the next decade as part of its vision to become an eco-sanctuary.

Owners and guests are enjoying the first tracks and trails to open in the private network which have been completed by Elevate Trail Building with more to open next spring and summer.



The Homestead entry

## Hub for All Seasons

**Designed by Leuschke Group Architects and built by Cook Brothers Construction The Homestead at Mount Cardrona Station opened its doors in June this year.** Stage One includes the members only club room, gym, outdoor hot pools and sauna, main reception, remote workspaces and boardroom.

Leuschke Southern Lakes GM Luke Leuschke describes The Homestead as a contemporary building which evokes the region's high-country buildings while complementing the landscape.

"The challenge of the design was to capture the essence of yesterday and marry that with the needs of today and into the future. It's a hub for all seasons, for residents and visitors. Views are seen in all 360 degrees from the site and the view shaft from the across the tarn and down the valley is important as it contrasts with the outlook into the surrounding mountains."

The interior incorporates luxurious spaces for relaxation, work and social gatherings blending modern amenities with the natural beauty of the surrounding landscape. Design inspirations include the expansive vistas, natural grasslands and mountains surrounding the building and adjoining tarn. Paying homage to the area's rich history and Central Otago's natural colour palette earthy tones and textures have a sophisticated, contemporary edge.



View from the Club Room

Designed as a welcoming country lodge natural wool materials, leather, brass, textured wood, schist and river stones, simple yet sophisticated accent lighting and industrial elements combine with custom made tables displaying the patina of age while the state-of-the-art office spaces and sleek boardroom are practical and private.

## Soho Alpine Retreat Lofts

Special enhancements have been made to Mount Cardrona Station's unique ski chalet, the Soho. Starting from just \$1.49 million the chalet can include the addition of spacious loft spaces to create extra sleeping quarters for family and friends.

Every square metre is maximised with an innovative design that adds optional full-height lofts to two of the three ground floor bedrooms, each capable of accommodating two single beds and couch (depending on the configuration). Existing bedrooms can convert to media rooms or home offices.

Soho homes are available in the Pioneer neighbourhood as land and build packages and innovative construction methods are used to deliver a six-month completion timeline from contract to key.

## Luxury Rental Option

Mt Cardrona Station has launched a range of luxury alpine rental accommodation featuring options across three distinct property types, each providing a distinctive and elevated experience in one of New Zealand's most sought-after winter destinations.

The station has partnered with New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty Luxury Rental Homes to deliver the rental properties with winter bookings filling up fast.

With New Zealand's largest ski area Cardrona Alpine Resort on the doorstep the accommodation is perfect for families or groups of friends keen to beat the crowds on a powder day with a 12-minute drive to the nearest ski lift.

"Whether you're seeking a cosy retreat, a spacious family home or a more indulgent stay each of our beautifully designed homes offers the perfect balance of comfort, style and breathtaking views," says resort manager Anna Hiatt.

Homes comfortably accommodate up to six guests a night. While ideal for winter getaways they also offer an authentic high-country experience in a 400 hectare backyard with hiking and biking trails, ranging from leisurely half-hour walks to extended biking and hiking trips and other recreational activities the area offers in the warmer months.

Guests enjoy access to selected luxury facilities at The Homestead including hot pools and sauna, the gym and remote working facilities.

"Many owners with homes underway at the station are staying this winter to experience it for the first time and others have booked to 'try before they buy,'" says Anna.

[www.nzsothebysrealty.com/mt-cardrona-station](http://www.nzsothebysrealty.com/mt-cardrona-station)



Soho exterior

*"What stands out just as much as the impressive scale of the development is the strong sense of family and community that underpins it all. From the way you've thoughtfully designed each neighbourhood to the passion and dedication you bring to the project, it's clear that Mt Cardrona Station is more than just a development – it's a legacy in the making."*

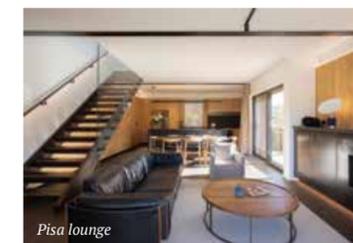
Glenn Peat, Wānaka Chamber of Commerce



Pisa dining area



Pisa kitchen



Pisa lounge

## Experienced Resort Manager

**Wānaka resident Anna Hiatt has joined the team at Mt Cardrona Station to manage The Homestead, tracks and trails, visitor accommodation and property management services as well as the station's Residents Association.**

Anna's previous roles have included a range of high-profile positions in commercial, event development and communications management, local directorships and managing her own business.

"We're excited about the capability, new ideas and enthusiasm Anna brings," says director Tom Morton.

Anna encourages visitors to drive up to the village to see the property first-hand.

"Our sunny plateau is bathed in year-round sunshine and it is impossible to see from the Cardrona Valley Road how much has been completed and is currently underway," she says.



Photograph: Lodie James

Anna Hiatt

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People are welcome to drive up to the station and have a look around or for viewing please contact Myles Green at New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty.

Myles.Green@nzsir.com or call +64 27 277 6656. Visit [www.mtcardronastation.co.nz](http://www.mtcardronastation.co.nz)



# WHAT'S ON

Te Atamira is Queenstown's community arts and cultural space offering a wide-ranging programme of exhibitions, workshops, classes, performances, events and talks designed for everyone to be creative every day.



Image: Rowan Holt, Limpet, 2025, cotton rag, charcoal powder and pigment powder, 700 x 600 x 25mm

## Elemental

June 27-September 3 2025

Exhibition Opening: Friday June 27 5.30pm

*Elemental* speaks to the raw, foundational forces — earth, water, fire and air — that shape both the natural world and the creative process. Artists Rowan Giselle and Niki White engage in a dialogue with nature responding to what they find with reverence, intuition and a deep sense of reciprocal connection.



Image: Vanessa Edwards, AKA Di-Vine (detail), 2023. Large Woodcut on enamel with hand textured surface. 1550 x 1000mm

## Karanga atu, Karanga mai - calling outward, calling inward

June 14-September 22 2025

Exhibition Opening: Saturday June 14 11.00am

A group exhibition by members of the Toi Whakaata Māori Print Collective. Vanessa Edwards, Alexis Neal, Jasmine Horton, and Tessa Russell present a range of printed 2D and 3D works that explore the role of pattern in visual culture.



## Tamariki Education Programmes

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# Mountains of Experience

*Anderson Lloyd's connection to the lower South Island dates back to the gold rush era when the firm first began advising pioneers in Dunedin in 1862.*

In 1978 the Anderson Lloyd Queenstown office was established with the acquisition of another local firm that had been operating in the region for over a century. The company has been part of the Queenstown community for nearly five decades and has grown with the resort to meet the needs of a dynamic commercial and tourism centre.



Anderson Lloyd Queenstown Partners Bobby Huse, Kerry O'Donnell, Melissa Hammer & Maree Baker-Galloway

The entrepreneurial spirit remains strong in Queenstown today attracting innovators, developers, investors and visionary operators. Anderson Lloyd is proud to play a key role in this — advising on landmark developments and environmental projects, backing local ventures and partnering with clients to help inspire the region's bold and ambitious future.

anderson lloyd.

"Queenstown is a place where big ideas happen — and we're proud to support clients who are investing in its future," says Anderson Lloyd partner Maree Baker-Galloway.

Anderson Lloyd's centrally located Queenstown office on Camp Street is led by four experienced partners and supported by a strong local team backed by the firm's wider national network with a total of 28 partners and over 145 staff. The team is recognised for delivering big firm capability with genuine local insight.

The Queenstown office advises across a broad range of areas including commercial, property, resource management, conservation, employment, overseas/foreign investment and dispute resolution/litigation. Anderson Lloyd is at the forefront of legal work underpinning the region's continued growth. This includes major consenting processes, large-scale subdivisions, conservation/restoration projects and critical infrastructure projects that are helping to shape the future of Queenstown.

"Just as importantly, Anderson Lloyd continues to support the community through pro bono partnerships with the likes of Queenstown Trails Trust and the Margaret Templeton Trust and as a Platinum Partner of the Wakatipu High School Foundation," says Maree.

Aligned with Anderson Lloyd's core values, including a strong commitment to sustainability, the firm is Toitū net carbon zero certified and actively supports environmental initiatives such as Trees That Count having donated more than 12,000 native trees to planting projects across Aotearoa. The firm encourages staff to spend a paid day each year volunteering in the community further demonstrating that its values are embedded in its actions.

As Queenstown continues to grow and evolve, Anderson Lloyd remains committed to being a trusted partner — backing bold ideas, building lasting relationships and helping shape a thriving future for the region.

*"We're a local team, but behind us is a large national firm. That gives our clients real firepower with deep expertise, consistent delivery and lawyers who know how to get things done."*

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## SNOW FARM ALPINE CHARM

By Penny Simpson

New Zealand's only cross-country ski area Snow Farm celebrated the opening of its new \$750,000 base building in August 2024 coinciding with its busiest season on record.

"Snow Farm in the Cardrona Valley offers new world services with old world charm," says general manager Sam Lee. "Our range of family friendly cross-country ski trails are designed for all levels and we have snowshoeing, snow play and year-round mountain huts to stay in."

Former New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark, a Snow Farm patron and avid cross-country skier, officially opened the contemporary base building which was a significant landmark for Snow Farm as the only public, not-for-profit, charitable ski facility in the region.

"The new building has contributed massively to our facilities and is located between our designated snow play and tubing area, the Snow Fun Zone and the starting point of the main cross-country trails," says Sam.

The 180 square metre base complex is Snow Farm's central hub for all operations including rentals, ticketing and guest services, micro food and beverage operations and staff room.

"It's fantastic for our guests who can now directly see out over all the different experiences we offer as they stand at the ticketing desk. Carparking has been expanded by another 50 parks and for dog owners special day and season passes allow their pets to accompany them skiing or snowshoeing.

The project was funded by donations from the Otago Community Trust, Central Lakes Trust and private donors.

"Cross-country skiing is an amazing way to experience the stunning alpine environment of the Pisa Range," says Sam. "Snow Farm is an affordable alternative to traditional alpine downhill skiing and we host more than 15,000 annual users including community and school groups."



*"Cross-country skiing is an amazing way to experience the stunning alpine environment of the Pisa Range."*

### SNOW FARM FACTS

- 55km of trails groomed for both skating and classic cross-country skiing
- 24km of snowshoe trails
- Snow Fun Zone including a 150m tubing/sledding hill.
- Base elevation: 1520m above sea level.
- Highest point: Mt Pisa 1965m above sea level.
- Season: late June - late September
- Lessons available via online bookings
- Opening hours: 9.00am - 4.00pm daily
- [www.snowfarm.nz](http://www.snowfarm.nz)



Jessie Diggins Sam Lee Helen Clark Mary Lee & Julia Kern



Snow Farm is one-hour's drive from Queenstown Airport and a 45-minute trip from Wānaka. Private shuttles can be arranged.



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## Queenstown Central launches Pavilion Bar & Kitchens

By Jane Brooke

Acclaimed chef and restaurateur Sean Connolly brings his distinctive restaurant style to Queenstown with the opening of Pavilion Bar & Kitchens, the new culinary precinct in Queenstown Central.

*"Pavilion is all about simple, fabulous food with local provenance, heroing a range of outstanding ingredients from the region."*



Sean Connolly

During his career spanning more than 40 years the Yorkshireman has won numerous awards, starred in a television series and created many restaurant concepts and dining destinations across Australia, New Zealand and the Middle East.

The Pavilion joins a stable which includes Esther at QT in Auckland and Steak & Oyster Co. in Sydney and is a contemporary hospitality venue promising to pair good times with great regional tastes.

"Pavilion is all about simple, fabulous food with local provenance, heroing a range of outstanding ingredients from the region," says Sean. "We celebrate casually chaotic social dining, damn good food and the joy of gathering around a table. The fertile farmland that much of Queenstown is built on was once known as the breadbasket of the region and at Pavilion we pay homage to that history channelling the spirit of generosity, creativity and social connection."

The Pavilion is designed as the centrepiece of Queenstown Central backdropped by the Remarkables Mountain range and with its roaring outdoor fireplaces it is a go to spot this winter for après ski, al fresco and casual shared indoor dining with international quality cuisine offering something for every taste under one roof.

Sean is recognised for his love of live music and the Pavilion has plans to host popular D.J's, bands and performers.

"When it comes to sound we've doubled up and doubled down ensuring we're a destination people will want to return to again and again for good times."

Pavilion has been developed by Queenstown Central in partnership with Sean and is designed by Ignite Architects and Baxter Landscapes with interiors by Izzard Design.

The venue is grounded in the use of natural, authentic materials that reflect and connect with the surrounding landscape while features such as banquette seating created from reclaimed railway sleepers and aged leather add a heritage element and stunning custom fireplaces anchor the interior and outdoor fireplaces are imaginatively set into boulders.

Josh Clegg has been appointed Pavilion's general manager and guests can expect memorable dining prepared by Sean and his team led by executive chef Tomoya Kodera who has worked in some of Tokyo's top dining establishments and played key roles in Sean's premium New Zealand restaurants including Esther at QT Auckland and The Grill and Gusto at the Grand.

The hospitality venues include the Steak & Oyster Co., Ciao Brutto Italian eatery and the Pavilion Bar while private dining and event spaces are also catered for under Pavilion's roof.

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Images: Ma Jones Photography

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# FINO FIRST

By Aspen Bruce

**An elegant European-inspired Queenstown wine bar is raising a glass to its first year in business.**

Fino Wine Bar is celebrating its first anniversary this winter after opening in its superb location in the Queenstown Marina precinct on the shores of Lake Wakatipu last year.

Co-owner Eugene Kliushneu says it is rewarding to reflect on the past 12 months during which the lakeside fine dining experience has become recognised for its selection of award-winning wines and array of tapas.

"We've reached some great milestones which wouldn't have been possible without the overwhelming support from our loyal customers," he says. "The first year for a hospitality business is always tough especially in the current economic climate. However, the challenge has made us more grateful. We still recall the moment we received our first five-star Google review. That kind of positive feedback really makes the hard work worthwhile."



*"Our philosophy is simple – let the quality of the ingredients shine"*

Fino is an immersive Queenstown experience for lunch, dinner or private functions and this winter is curating refined experiences including live music acts and après ski evenings while continuously evolving its menu.

"We adapt our cuisines based on the season, availability of the produce and customer preferences," says Eugene. "For our winter visitors the restaurant and wine bar offers a cosy and inviting ambience. It's an ideal place for a glass of mulled wine after a day in the mountains."

The tapas menu has expanded to include sizeable shared platters served as a large entree or main course.

"Currently our favourite menu items are the beef tartare or sambal burrata which beautifully showcases our chef Stasia Andani's European heritage."

"A 2022 Quartz Reef Pinot Noir complements both options well as it has enough acidity to cut through the richness without overpowering the flavours," says Eugene. "Alternative wine pairings include a light-bodied red Gamay, a crisp white such as Chenin Blanc or a dry Riesling with each providing a refreshing contrast to the cuisine."

Fino Wine Bar welcomes guests daily from 11:30am until 10:00pm.

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Sarah McBride and Sarena Glass, with the support of Madeline Braun, have vast experience in Queenstown property sales and are ideally placed as leading Bayleys agents to bring The Crest Chalets boutique village to market. QT Magazine asked them what sets the development apart.

The Crest Chalets brings a brand new concept of community to Queenstown. The boutique village will provide people with a simple uncomplicated way of living, yet the design of the chalets offers a super-stylish living environment. We love the chalet/cabin concept – a simple warm mountain retreat often seen in Scandinavia, North America or Canada.

More recently this style has been apparent in urban environments overseas as people look for a simplified, no-fuss way of living. The architecture is reminiscent of the original A Frame homes which early Queenstown was renowned for and creates a nostalgic nod to the past.

The location above the bustling Country Lane precinct provides a convenient connection to the Queenstown Airport and Frankton retail and hospitality amenities and direct links to the Queenstown walking and cycling trails and nearby lakes.

The village has been carefully designed to sit well within the fabric of Queenstown and successfully integrates the overall alpine feel of the location with outstanding views of the Remarkables mountain range from its elevated position.



### Who will the chalets appeal to?

There is growing interest from first home buyers, professional couples and investors. The chalets offer significant flexibility to an owner, whether it is used as a bolthole holiday home or a rental property. We also see an opportunity for out-of-town professionals who come to Queenstown for work regularly and want the flexibility of being able to fly into the resort and stay in a property whenever they want.

### What does the village consist of?

There are 100 architecturally designed single bedroom stand-alone chalets and cabins located on an elevated plateau. Attractively landscaped the buildings are all freehold ownership with their own outdoor space and designated car park.

### Who is spearheading the development?

Gibbons Co and the acclaimed Designgroup Stapleton Elliot are collaborating to accomplish The Crest Chalets village. Gibbons Co are the creators locally of the Five Mile Villas and more recently Lakehouse Villas on Frankton Road which are now under construction. Completion of The Crest Chalets is anticipated in summer 2027 and buyers can be assured of a developer who is recognised for consistently delivering a quality product.



Madeline Braun Sarah McBride & Sarena Glass



THE CREST CHALETS



**Sarah McBride** 021 790 156  
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## Food Talk

WITH JO KEPPEL



I have had a life-long obsession with food. Richness, bold flavours, luxurious taste sensations and decadence are my calling cards which have led me to cook and create throughout my working life. Every morsel and dish is made from scratch with love and I am highly passionate about consistently serving exquisite food.

As a private chef I work with a variety of group sizes and can provide everything from divine platters to sharing feasts and six course degustation menus. I specialise in catering for dietary requirements and am equipped to cater in homes, venues, holiday rentals and outdoor locations.

My Kitchen Angel in-home cooking service allows locals and holiday makers to come home from a day of adventure with dinner waiting ready to heat and serve. They have less time in the kitchen and more time doing the things they love.

Winter is the perfect time to add in special après ski options through either service for clients hosting guests after a day on the mountain.



My favourite winter recipe is a heart-warming roasted tomato, pumpkin and red lentil soup that uses cost effective and easily obtained ingredients. Red and brown lentils make it both nourishing and delicious and a comforting dish for the whole family to enjoy after a day out on the slopes.

Bon Appetit.

Maia Jones food photography



## Roasted Tomato, Pumpkin & Red Lentil Soup

Yield: 4 litres

### INGREDIENTS

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 3 tablespoons olive oil                    | 1/2 cup red lentils              |
| 1 kg truss tomatoes cut horizontally       | 1/2 cup brown lentils            |
| 1 onion                                    | 2 bay leaves                     |
| 2 garlic                                   | 2 tablespoons thyme (loose)      |
| 2 quality chorizo sausage diced (optional) | 1 tablespoon brown sugar         |
| 1 1/2 tsp smoked paprika                   | 1 tablespoon lemon juice         |
| 350g carrots                               | 1.5 litres quality chicken stock |
| 500 kg pumpkin, small dice                 | 1 can diced tomatoes             |
|  | 1/2 tsp salt                     |
|  | 1/2 tsp ground pepper            |

### METHOD

Preheat oven to 160°C.

Line baking tray, horizontally slice tomatoes and cut out seeds. Add to tray with brown sugar, thyme and 1 tablespoon olive oil. Toss and bake for 1 hour.

Dice chorizo and sauté in 2 tablespoons olive oil to release the fat and flavour. Remove from pot and set aside leaving the fat in the pot. Dice onions, crush garlic and sauté in the oil for 5 minutes until soft. Add smoked paprika and bay leaves.

Once roasted tomatoes are cooked, roughly chop or blitz in a food processor until loosely chunky. Add roasted tomatoes, diced carrots, canned tomatoes, chicken stock and lentils to pot. Bring to boil then simmer for 60 minutes.

Add pumpkin and return chorizo to the pot. Cook for a further 15 minutes until pumpkin is tender but still holds its form.

Remove from heat and add lemon juice. Season with 1 tsp salt and pepper. Check seasoning.

Serve with crusty bread.



  
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# Seafood with Flair

By Margo Berryman

*Finz Seafood & Grill at Steamer Wharf is all about offering the freshest seafood dishes in Queenstown along with a diverse selection of meat dishes from the grill.*

"Seafood is our calling card and what we are best known for in Queenstown," says restaurant manager Nicola Coleman. "Our customers absolutely love the New Zealand oysters we serve — they are a delicacy that just fly out the door — alongside beautiful Fiordland crayfish, green lipped mussels and Akaroa salmon. Our seafood chowder has its own following and is ideal for warming up after a day on the ski slopes."



"From the grill we serve delicious New Zealand free range and grass-fed meats such as lamb rump, prime beef eye fillet and veal tenderloin while our sashimi and sushi rolls are made to order." Open for lunch and dinner Finz is a popular spot for both indoor and outdoor dining with its lakeside setting offering spectacular views over Lake Whakatipu. "Bookings are recommended but we do accept walk-ins as the restaurant is quite spacious and we generally have the capability to cater for late night dining in winter," she says. "Our tables in front of the restaurant close to the TSS Earnslaw berth have heating and offer amazing alpine views. At night the town's lights are reflected on the lake which is magical."



# Winter Themed Cocktails

*Winter themed cocktails are an après ski specialty at Finz Seafood & Grill served in its stylish new bar which is a social hot spot this winter.*

"The stunning marble countertop is a beautiful bar to sit at with everything on the top shelf on show and our bar crew who love to chat offering a warm and welcoming service with a friendly, easy vibe," says restaurant manager Nicola Coleman.



The Finz bar team have collaborated on a new winter cocktail menu incorporating local flavours and liquors. "The Snow Globe is a vodka malibu based cocktail served in a brandy glass with coconut trim that is sweetly delicious while our new Wakatipu Blue cocktail is a vibrant vodka based drink that's perfect to sip alongside Lake Whakatipu."



The drinks menu features its own Cardrona section. "It's a real showpiece of what is being produced locally and we worked closely with the Cardrona Distillery team to make these drinks meaningful," says Nicola. "The Lychee martini made using The Reid whiskey is a classic drink with a local connection that international guests love. Meanwhile the Alpine Spritz is served with a sprig of thyme offering a delicious Otago alpine taste."

## Winter Warmers

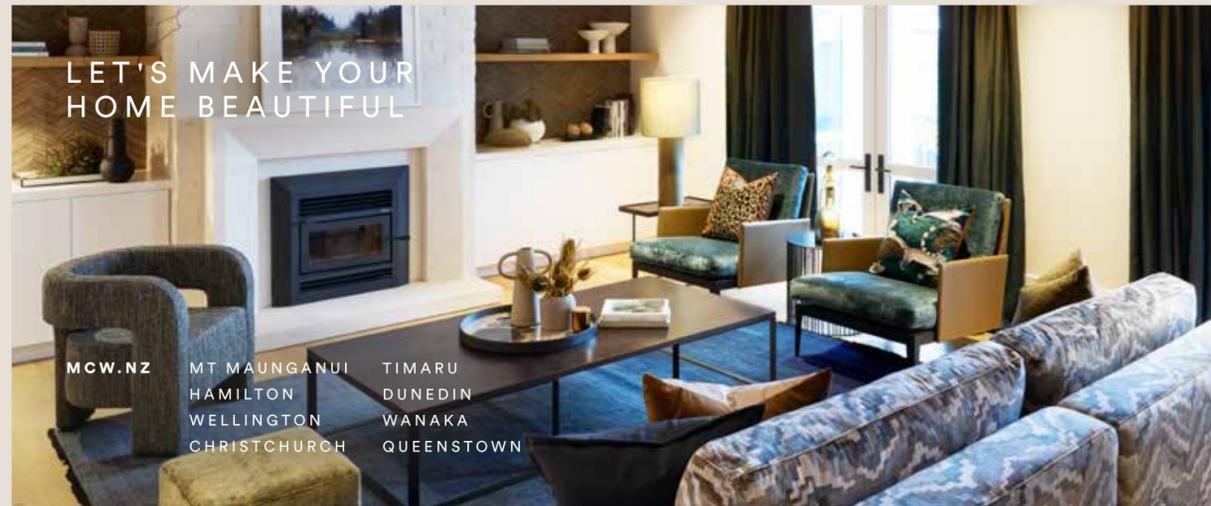
- Mulled Wine made from Central Otago Pinot Noir
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*"We get a lot of amazing feedback from guests about the restaurant which makes it so rewarding. I think the secret to our success at Finz is our willingness to host guests to their tables and provide exceptional service throughout the dining experience. Our restaurant crew are well trained and there is an amazing culture amongst the team ensuring top class service for all guests."*

— Nicola Coleman



Nicola Coleman



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## International profile for Domaine Thomson Wines

By Jenny McLeod

"We are absolutely thrilled to be included," says owner P M Hall-Jones. "The magazine made a mystery visit to the winery and notes that Central Otago and Burgundy where we make our wines are often compared as they are so close in latitude. Visitors are encouraged by Vogue to stop in for a tasting of both our New Zealand and French Burgundy wines at our Lowburn cellar door."

Following this tribute Domaine Thomson was ranked in 85th place by the prominent Australian Real Review wine publication in its list of the top 140 New Zealand wineries for 2025 which was another important recognition.

The original vision for Domaine Thomson, established by P M and her late husband David Hall-Jones, was to be a specialist in Pinot Noir in Central Otago and Burgundy and it still holds firm as they celebrate the 25th anniversary of planting the first Pinot Noir grapes at their 14-hectare Lowburn site in 2000.

In 2013 Domaine Thomson acquired a small parcel of Pinot Noir vines in Gevrey-Chambertin in Burgundy and later added to their collection of vines in France with vineyards in Saint-Aubin and Mercurey. The Central Otago vineyard also produces Chardonnay and was fully certified as an organic producer from 2017.

"To celebrate our 25-year milestone we will release a special vintage from some newly acquired vines in France reinforcing our original 'one vision two hemispheres' dream," says P M.



Central Otago's Domaine Thomson winery has been profiled by the prestigious Vogue Magazine in its review of the best wine tasting destinations in New Zealand — an accolade which is expected to have positive spinoffs among wine enthusiasts internationally.

## Bygone Era

Domaine Thomson's cellar door is inspired by Central Otago architecture in the mid-19th century encountered by its namesake John Turnbull Thomson aka Surveyor Thomson.

"Thomson was my husband David Hall-Jones' great-great-grandfather who was responsible for exploring and mapping Central Otago in the 1850s," says owner P M Hall-Jones. "It was fitting to name the winery after him sitting as it does below the Pisa and St Bathans ranges which he personally named."

Designed by architects Noel Lane and Tom Rowe of Rowe Baetens the cellar door has panoramic views across the vineyard and Cromwell Basin to Lake Dunstan.

"It has the outer appearance of a rustic New Zealand woolshed and features corrugated iron which was the common material used. However, the interior has old world French references which are a reminder of our connection with Burgundy."



P M says tasting signature Central Otago and Burgundy Pinot Noirs and Chardonnay wines at the cellar door is a rare opportunity and sets Domaine Thomson apart.

"Winter is a perfect time to enjoy our wines in our beautiful cellar door setting. We also serve authentic French cheese platters which adds a further epicurean experience to the wine tasting."

The cellar door is an ideal venue for private events and functions.

"We encourage people to hold business and board meetings here and the cellar door is available for any number of different events such as concerts and even yoga retreats."



Domaine Thomson's limited release Aspiring Pinot Noir and Aspiring Blanc de Noir wines feature the last label designed by the late David-Hall Jones and highlight a painting of Mount Aspiring by his great-great-grandfather John Turnbull Thomson.



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## Tantalising the Tastebuds

By Margo Berryman

*Standing out from the crowd Sofitel Queenstown's Le Petit Salon presents an intimate, delectable culinary experience.*



"Over the past year Le Petit Salon has evolved towards experiential dining that celebrates regional cuisine in a refined and elegant setting," says Sofitel Queenstown Hotel & Spa general manager Jeremy Samuels.

Executive chef Lindsey Bennett, a proud Cantabrian, champions produce and proteins sourced from local farmers he knows personally to create dishes that incorporate French influences and cooking techniques.

"Sofitel's global values and company positioning is all about creating a link with our French roots from wherever we are globally. So, from a gastronomy point of view we really wanted to celebrate the excellence of Central Otago produce here in Queenstown to share with our guests from around the world who appreciate experiencing it here in our hotel," he says.

Le Petit Salon offers a classic three-course dining experience in the chic 12-seater restaurant. Dining is available from 5.00pm until 9.00pm during the winter season with bookings essential.

"It's an intimate experience offering a timeless touch of sophistication with modern and contemporary dishes. Our mantra at Sofitel is we are in the business of making memories and Le Petit Salon with its beautiful atmosphere certainly ticks that box," says Jeremy.

## Unrivalled Après Mountain Hospitality

*Sofitel's Le Salon Rouge is a sophisticated, elegant locale for stylish après ski, pre dinner aperitifs and late night drinks.*

"After a day on the mountains it's a lovely spot to enjoy a glass of warm mulled wine or to sample one of our signature cocktails that are truly supreme," says Sofitel Queenstown Hotel & Spa general manager Jeremy Samuels.



A highlight on the Le Salon Rouge winter bar menu is the signature Pinot and Raclette experience showcasing local Pinot Noir and raclette served at the table in the traditional style of the Savoy region of France.

"This is wonderfully decadent and a delicious dish reminiscent of French style après ski at its very best," says Jeremy. "It consists of a half wheel of cheese that is put into a special grill to liquefy within the wax casing that is then served over a charcuterie board and fried potatoes. With a nice glass of Central Otago Pinot Noir it's very warming on a winter's evening."



## WHERE appetites alight

This winter, escape to Le Petit Salon — an intimate fine dining destination where seasonal New Zealand flavours and timeless elegance meet in the heart of Queenstown.

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*"It's such a great vibe in the afternoons here as everyone flocks from Cardrona to enjoy some après ski and relive their day's adventures on the mountain. A steaming mulled wine by the fire is one of the best things about winter in my opinion."*

"Once the après ski crowds have emptied out the restaurant really comes to life in the evenings with diners enjoying amazing food and service in a cosy, lively atmosphere," says Alexis. "Our winter menu showcases seasonal favourites like Beef Wellington and our signature venison fillet. We also do a hearty roast lamb designed for sharing. Winter is Pinot season here and many beautiful Central Otago pinot Noirs feature on our wine list."

### Cardrona Après Ski Hotspot

Cardrona Hotel owners Alexis and Cade Thornton have created a winter haven for good food, drinks and warm and inviting hospitality.

"The heritage hotel is such a cosy spot over winter where people can come in and escape the cold," says Alexis. "We like to have our indoor and outdoor fires burning all the time and plenty of warming comfort food on the menu."

The Cardrona Hotel has a range of menus throughout the day to enjoy in the hotel's charming country style bar or outdoors in the expansive garden courtyard setting.

"We open at 8.00am for breakfast which is a popular option for people wanting to grab something substantial before heading to the mountain. Our takeaway breakfast bun called a 'ski bum' is popular and there are scones and fresh baking for anyone who is in a rush to hit the slopes," says Alexis. "There is a range of hearty snacks available from 10.30am including our famous nachos and frickles (fried dill pickles) while our all-day bar menu starts at 11.00am."

Dinner in the hotel restaurant is always popular throughout winter with evening service starting at 6.00pm and bookings essential.



### Best Kept Secret

At the base of Coronet Peak's Rocky Gully T-bar Heidi's Hut is the perfect stop off for an on-mountain Italian-style café experience.

The rustic alpine hut is a favourite locals' hangout to catch up between ski runs for coffee, a glass of bubbles or even a grappa relaxing inside by the fire or outdoors by the braziers. Gourmet pizzas, pasta, soups and pastries are prepared fresh daily and complemented with barista coffees, juices, smoothies and a selection of local wine and craft beer.



### Cocktail Charm

Queenstown's Jervis Steak House is synonymous with celebration and an ideal place to unwind with a glass of something special in their downstairs bar pre or post dinner.

The JSH bar offers unparalleled charm in its intimate Duke Street setting complete with roaring fire and an outstanding line up of premium wines and spirits including fine champagnes, house specialty cocktails and exceptional Central Otago Pinot Noir.

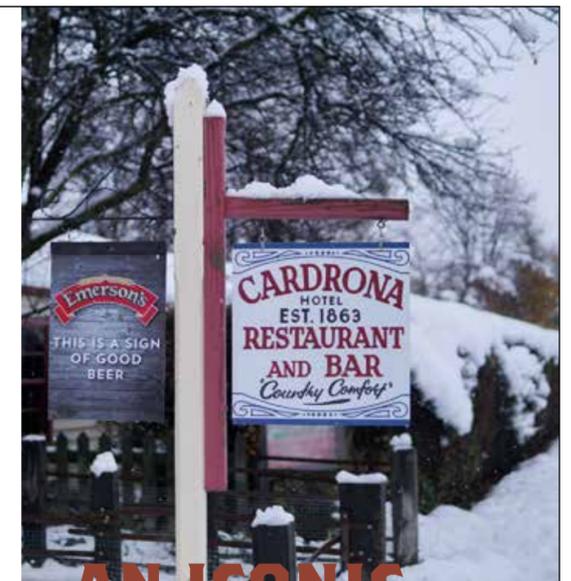
The mixology team creates a range of drinks from 4.00pm every day until late and a cocktail from their selection such as their famous Coconut Margarita or Bubbly Ro Ro is a great way to kickstart a night out.



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## Stay Or Dine With The Stars

Glenorchy night skies are outstanding – there’s nothing more magical than gazing at snow-capped mountains and a mesmerising Milky Way. The stars shine brightly at the head of Lake Wakatipu, so much so that Tāhuna Glenorchy has recently become an International Dark Sky Sanctuary. One of only 23 currently designated sanctuaries in the world, and only four in New Zealand, it’s the first inland mountain sanctuary where on a clear night you feel like you can touch the stars from the tops of our mountain peaks, and see them reflected in the depths of the lake.

To experience this galaxy of stars visitors can choose to dine or stay at The Headwaters Eco Lodge, the world’s first visitor accommodation that’s designed, built and operated based on regenerative design principles to Living Building Challenge standards. Enjoy a Chef’s Choice dinner at the lodge, relax by a roaring log fire in our cosy Scheelite Shelter, then gaze in wonder at the famous Southern Lights. Check out our website for details of Dark Skies packages where you can learn more with our in-house stargazing expert and telescope packages.

[theheadwatersecolodge.com](http://theheadwatersecolodge.com)



## Diverse Work Creates Intrigue

By Jenny McLeod

*Ed Cruikshank's name is synonymous with fine furniture and innovative design.*

The Queenstown designer’s first creations were crafted in wood while studying at one of England’s leading cabinet making schools before he broadened his skills and knowledge with a degree in furniture design and put his training into ten years of practice alongside renowned designer David Linley.

“I have designed all manner of things over the 20 years I’ve been here in Queenstown,” he says. “My stainless steel and saddle leather Infernator poker and blower, a collection of timeless tables and chairs and literally thousands of unique pieces including custom dining tables, bespoke drinks cabinets, sofas, fitted bookcases and even an entire house.”

In recent years Ed has added intriguingly beautiful artworks to his repertoire that will shortly be represented by one of New Zealand’s most respected galleries.

“I love creating beautifully crafted unique objects that are meaningful to their owners. I enjoy the design and craft that goes into them yet there has always been something deeper at play that I could never quite put my finger on until I took a deep dive to explore why I do what I do. I discovered that beneath the challenge and enjoyment of the creative and practical processes there has always been a common denominator that underpins everything from the smallest single piece to the largest and most complex. I realised I have always been creating space for conversations that matter, the ones that go to the heart of what we really care about and that give us that magical feeling of deep connection with each other and in turn with ourselves.”



Architect Chair Braille artwork & folded side table

He believes while comfort, practicality and endurance make things last a long time meaning makes them last forever.

“The first examples of embedded meaning in my work date back to 2010. The words were often inspired by great writers and poets, some were expansive covering an entire piece of furniture while others were shorter and sweet, perhaps single words tucked away.

“In 2022 I was inspired to begin expressing my own words on pieces designed to hang on walls rather than to stand on terra firma.”

Ed encodes his messages in Braille and Morse code.

“It creates intrigue and invites curiosity short circuiting our very human way of jumping to conclusions or making snap decisions without looking deeper. The curiosity often leads to unexpected conversations and connections. My ongoing mission is to inspire as many of these conversations as I can through my work – whether that’s a fireside chat, a family dinner discussion or a debate about an artwork they all help us connect and understand each other a little more and ultimately can make our world a more unified and peaceful one.”



Custom walnut sideboard

'Rufus' armchair



'Sense of Self' seat designed for Wakatipu High School

'Balance' artwork



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## ELEVATED LIVING. ELEVATED VISION.

### Perched atop Parnell's most coveted address,

One Saint Stephens doesn't just offer residences; it presents a curated lifestyle, a testament to both visionary design and an appreciation for the finer nuances of life that truly redefines elevated living.

Imagine waking to a vista that stretches beyond the exceptional. Here, Auckland's quintessential views unfold in breathtaking panoramas.

The shimmering expanse of the Waitematā Harbour, the iconic silhouette of Rangitoto, the tranquil waters of Hobson Bay – each penthouse frames a unique masterpiece, a living backdrop. Floor-to-ceiling glass seamlessly integrates these stunning scenes into the very fabric of the homes, blurring the lines between the urban landscape and personal sanctuary.

But the allure of One Saint Stephens' penthouses extends far beyond the immediately visible. The true essence of luxury resides in the considered details, the artistry woven into the very structure.

Bespoke Ambitec plaster-finished walls curve with an organic grace, guiding residents through expansive, open-plan living spaces that invite personalization. These are not merely apartments; they are canvases for individual expression, adaptable to the ebb and flow of life and the curated collections of art lovers.

Entertaining becomes effortless, facilitated by kitchens designed for culinary excellence.

A Gaggenau-equipped main kitchen, complemented by a chef-appointed scullery, ensures seamless hosting for any occasion. Dining options range from elegant indoor spaces to fully enclosable winter gardens, some even boasting the warmth of a fireplace, for year-round enjoyment of Auckland's climate.

The concept of retreat is paramount, embodied in the master suites. Harbour-view sanctuaries with private terraces offer a tranquil escape, complete with luxurious dressing rooms and ensuite that feel more akin to a private spa. For guests, dedicated wings with king-sized bedrooms ensure both comfort and an invaluable sense of privacy.

Beyond the private residences, One Saint Stephens offers a suite of amenities designed to enhance the luxury living experience. A dedicated wellness centre, complete with a private steam room, sauna, and soak pool, provides a haven for rejuvenation. A private dining area and lounge, along with a discreet 'Speak Easy' bar, offer exclusive spaces for socializing and unwinding. Even practicalities are elevated, with showroom-inspired garaging providing ample space, including car detailing and pet care areas.



Top right: Beautifully hand-crafted Ambitec plaster-finished walls lead to expansive open-plan living.



The penthouses at One Saint Stephens are more than just luxurious homes with spectacular views. They represent a commitment to an unparalleled lifestyle, where every detail, seen and unseen, contributes to an experience of exceptional excellence. This landmark development is the latest triumph from the highly sought-after luxury developers, Countrywide Residences and Experiences by Coopers. Their previous collaborations have cultivated a loyal following of discerning buyers eager for their signature blend of visionary design and meticulous execution. The demand for their residences, fuelled by their reputation for excellence, speaks volumes about their ability to create truly exceptional living environments. With the unveiling of One Saint Stephens, this esteemed team once again demonstrates their mastery in elevating the art of living. Those who appreciate the extraordinary are invited to enquire about the pinnacle of their collaborative vision, and to express their interest in being among the first to discover their next masterpiece project. +

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# Discovering the Stoked difference

For over a decade Stoked Stainless have been producing stainless steel and cedar plunge pools, hot tubs, spas, and baths which lead the market in design, durability and service.

Each product in the range is lovingly handmade by a team of engineers and crafted with a keen eye for detail and commitment to quality.

The materials used for these tubs are about much more than good looks. Being made from marine-grade stainless steel makes the Stoked Stainless range robust and easy to clean.

"Stainless steel has hygienic attributes — that's why it's used for wine vats and milk tanks," says General Manager, Mike Daish.

Its non-porous surface reduces the buildup of bacteria and means it can be maintained without excessive chemical treatments.

Every Stoked tub is a reflection of their key values; quality, craftsmanship and trust. With service being the cornerstone of the Stoked success story. Customers repeatedly comment on how seamless the process is, from initial contact through to delivery and installation, the Stoked promise hinges on three fundamental promises

- **Lifetime:** A range of premium products which are designed to last for generations and are supported by a 50 + 50 + 2 year warranty and service support which goes above and beyond.
- **Enjoyment:** People are the heart of the business. From the workshop to the backyard, Stoked brings happiness, togetherness and fun to everyday life.
- **Relaxation:** Improving health and supporting wellbeing are all part of the Stoked experience. Customers value the sales and support process almost as much as those special moments of calm and contentment.



# The Genuine Stoked Location Map

The best way to really understand the Stoked experience is to slide in, close your eyes and feel the power of a warm soak (or a cold plunge).

Stoked tubs have been part of the accommodation sector in our region almost since the first tub was shipped. Now Stoked have teamed up with their business customers to showcase Genuine Stoked Locations. The map gives guests the confidence to book their next trip knowing a Stoked tub will be quietly waiting to add to the relaxation and enjoyment of their stay.

Visit the Genuine Stoked Location now map at:  
[stokedstainless.co.nz](http://stokedstainless.co.nz)





# Q&A

Trenzseater is a leader in interior design services available at their Queenstown, Christchurch and Auckland stores. QT Magazine goes behind the scenes with founder and award-winning interior designer Ben Lewis.



## Who leads the design service at the Trenzseater Queenstown store?

Our fantastic Queenstown team are specialised interior designers capable of all types of project management. Our process is personalised with each designer working closely with customers to ensure a seamless process. We work with all budgets and project sizes from small studios to large scale multi apartment blocks and country homes.

## What is the scope of the interior design service Trenzseater offers?

We offer a full interior service for new architectural builds, home renovations and individual work spaces. Our consultants work with initial stages of scoping the project through to full briefs and completion.

The store caters for everything a client requires to furnish and finish their home to achieve their desired aesthetic. Our services can include floor plans, custom joinery for kitchens and bathrooms, furniture, wallpapers, window treatments through to accessories.

## How do you reflect a client's personality through interior design?

Having a solid understanding of client's needs, aspirations and aesthetics is absolutely key to achieving the best possible results. We do a lot of listening to find out their thoughts and objectives for various aspects of the home and we are always prepared to adapt our selections to suit. It's a journey that all our interior designers enjoy and often these client relationships continue for future projects.



## Five key steps to refreshing home interiors with Trenzseater

1. Gather inspiration for how you want your interior to look
2. Identify the space you would like our help with
3. Prioritise the spaces and products you wish to change
4. List your personal preferences for colour, materials, finishes
5. Book an appointment with one of our leading Trenzseater consultants.

## Tell us about the lifestyle collection you personally design for Trenzseater stores.

I have an inherent passion for design and love designing products and interiors so it's always inspiring to see projects come to reality. Often my designs stem from client requests to fill a particular niche or void. Currently we have some exciting new lighting I have designed featuring knurled metals and table lamps with luminated internal bases clad in alabaster.



Trenzseater Queenstown | 313 Hawthorne Drive, Frankton, New Zealand



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## MEET THE ARTIST - FIONA GARLICK

Arrowtown artist Fiona Garlick has been crafting her original bronze artworks for more than a decade inspired by New Zealand's natural wildlife and whenua.

"My work explores nature, place and identity and most pieces have a unique story behind them," says Fiona. "I enjoy working with different scales from my very small bird sculptures to the large-scale pieces that can be viewed in the garden."

Fiona's sculptural studio and garden is just a short walk from the main street of Arrowtown. Visitors are welcome to wander around a selection of outdoor sculptures before stepping inside the intimate gallery to discover other works.

"I'm usually working inside and am always happy to talk about my practice and process. I invite people to look for my gallery sign and come on in."



Your beautiful work is being admired by many, including us! So lucky to be able to look at it everyday.

Marie and David Leakey, Wānaka



**WOOLPRESS**  
ARROWTOWN

## The Luxury of Wool

By Penny Simpson

*The WoolPress is Arrowtown's leading store for high quality knitwear, functional outdoor clothing, footwear and accessories.*

Housed in an historic building in the hub of Arrowtown's main street The WoolPress stocks leading brands such as Merino Mink, Moke, Royal Merino, Icebreaker and Native World.

"This season there are wonderful earthy hues and refined natural merino wool garments to choose from for women and men," says store co-owner Delvine Wallace.

"The luxury of wearing a soft, warm Merinomink garment made from pure New Zealand fibre is second to none and visitors from around the world are in awe of these sumptuous, understated pieces," she says. "Wool gloves and scarfs make wonderful gifts to take home for friends and family, or simply to keep warm while enjoying a Queenstown visit."

The WoolPress is celebrating the 30th anniversary of Icebreaker merino clothing this year having stocked the high profile brand since it was first launched onto the global market.

"Instore we have an excellent range of Icebreaker base layer and mid layer tops in new season colours along with essential items such as leggings, socks, beanies, and hooded jackets for staying warm when heading up into the mountains for a day on the slopes."



## MAKE IT A GOALS SEASON

*No one does new winter fashion and active wear quite like GOALS boutique in Arrowtown. The store epitomises winter's cool styling featuring standout fashion pieces, impeccable knitwear and chic accessories curated by owners and sisters Caroline Walak and Sophie Simmers.*



### SSAINT ARRIVES

Introducing S\$AINT to GOALS.

We are super excited to have this new range instore for winter offering the perfect blend of style and functionality for any lifestyle. The S\$AINT Cap is that versatile accessory adding a touch of urban edge to any outfit and we love the vibrant No Vacancy tee-shirt in pink acid wash.



### EVERYDAY TEDDY

Lean into winter staying stylishly warm in Lorna Jane's new quarter zip teddy. Designed to keep cosy this oversized teddy layering piece features side pockets to stash essentials, drawcord adjustability through the hem and a no fuss 1/4 zip neckline.



### MINI MATCH

Mix and match with your mini wearing the latest Rylee + Cru oversized Champ denim jacket. Made from light washed denim and featuring a NY patch these jackets are finished with soft edge waist and sleeves making them comfortable and cute.



### ON FIRE

Brixton's softest flannel ever, the heavyweight signature Bowery Quilted Flannel Shirt is ideal for the coldest months. Made with a unique vegan wool that feels soft next to skin it can be worn as a shirt or a jacket for winter layering over your favourite denim.



### KEEP IT CONFIDENTIAL

Le Specs CONFIDENTIAL | Dark Torte sunglasses redefine vintage minimalism with a sleek D-frame design offering a modern take on retro style. Whether you're heading up the mountain or out for après ski these versatility glasses feature clean lines for all-day comfort.



### CONTEMPORARY COMFORT.

adidas SL 72 OG shoes are a perfect match for those who value simplicity and comfort. The low-cut nylon upper with suede overlays and slender silhouette provides a retro running inspired style to match any outfit this winter.

## Contemporary Chinese Cuisine

By Penny Simpson

*Arrowtown's lively multi-venue hospitality precinct Ayrburn unveils its latest culinary dining experience this winter with the opening of opulent restaurant Billy's.*

Billy's is the final historic farm building to be restored on the 160-year-old Ayrburn property rounding off the first chapter of the expansive precinct development.

"This is Ayrburn's newest and most daring venue to date underlining the vision to create a culinary food and wine playground that overwhelms the senses," says general manager Kieran Turnbull. "Billy's is a place where heritage meets modern Chinese cuisine which is a nod to Arrowtown's historic Chinese roots in the goldmining era."

Set within the property's original homestead the venue retains its historic charm while embracing a luxurious modern interior featuring extravagant colours, textures and patterns alongside curated art to create an innovative yet exceptional timeless atmosphere.



"The Chinese menu designed by our executive chef Richard Highnam and his talented team is the perfect balance of tradition and innovation delivering bold flavours and refined craftsmanship," says Kieran. "Eash dish has been curated to complement the restaurant's stunning surrounds and there is a spectacular caviar trolley for a tableside show."

"Every element of Billy's has been designed to captivate and delight," he says. "Within the courtyard is another dining area in the form of a grand glass conservatory which is an unrivalled venue. This winter we're inviting guests to experience not only a place, but a feeling — it's the season to savour at Ayrburn."

Billy's at Ayrburn will open early July 2025.



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# Coffee Culture

By Aspen Bruce

Wolf Coffee Roasters is strengthening its presence as a one stop coffee shop in the heart of Arrowtown through its innovative coffee products.



The distinctive café and roastery owned by Alex Tong is a standout Arrowtown coffeehouse recognised for its superb coffee blends and expertly crafted brews. "Over the past few years Wolf Coffee has seen incredible growth and we believe that's because we're not just serving coffee but we're creating an experience," says operations manager Devan Tyler.

**"We keep our focus on what we know best – coffee."**

The Buckingham Street café is designed as a retreat for locals and visitors to pause while learning more about the process behind producing a cup of coffee.

"It's an escape from the hustle and bustle where they can slow down and reset," says Devan. "Customers can witness the entire coffee journey – from green beans being delivered to the roasting process and finally to the cup in front of them."

The Arrowtown café serves its seasonal blend and a range of rotating single origins along with freshly made sweet and savoury pastries from The Boatshed bakery.

Wolf's experienced baristas use sustainably sourced beans from Colombia, Ethiopia, Guatemala and Brazil which have been roasted and prepared in-house.



Luke Constable

"We have a rotating selection of high quality ethically sourced single origin coffee. Transparency is important to us when selecting our coffee beans and we source from suppliers who work closely with the farmers. This ensures they are paid directly and fairly, supporting ethical and sustainable coffee production."

The Wolf Coffee Roasters production team proactively refines and adapts its roasting techniques and blends to suit a variety of tastes.

"We love coffee and we love sharing it not only with people in Otago but those who drink it all over the world," she says. "Our Seasonal blend is used in the café while our Local variety is a slightly darker blend designed for international visitors."

Recently, the company launched its Limited Edition Drip Bags providing a convenient alternative for customers needing an on-the-go option. The Drip Bags available instore or online are designed like a traditional tea bag and come in a ten-pack collection containing five different flavours including coffee infused with notes of peach, banana, lulu, red fruit and green apple.

"Whether you're a seasoned coffee enthusiast or just starting out we want to make brewing exceptional coffee at home more accessible and enjoyable than ever," says Devan.



Mitchel Cortes



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# Fresh Face for Foundation

By Jenny McLeod

The Wakatipu Community Foundation is taking on a new image with its rebranding as 45South Community Foundation marking a coming of age for the organisation whose goal is to grow philanthropy in the Whakatipu.

"The growth of the organisation to date proves that the concept is a sustainable long-term solution to the philanthropic needs of our community," says chairman Stephen Brent. "We want to continue this growth exponentially and feel that the new name of 45South, which references the 45th parallel south latitude and has special meaning in this part of the world, will give us further scope to establish our presence locally as a well-known, front of mind and long-term solution for local giving."

The Foundation has an ambitious goal to create a \$1 billion dollar endowment fund within the next 30 years with donations channelled towards causes and charities that donors care about.

"This will enable us to deliver approximately \$35 million into the community every year. The new name will give us a strong and lasting identity that should provide great assistance towards achieving this lofty goal," he says. "45South will be the philanthropic engine for our community with all the systems and structures to fulfil a donor's charitable wishes in perpetuity."

Stephen says 45South's team of staff and trustees are committed to the organisation's vision and aspirations and he acknowledged the trust the community has already placed in the Foundation and the exciting future that lay ahead.



## Arrowtown Presence

**Coinciding with the Wakatipu Community Foundation's name change to 45South an office has been opened in the heart of Arrowtown.**

"Thanks to support from developer Chris James and the owners of La Rumbra restaurant we have our own space where people can drop in at any time, pick up literature and find out about the different charities we support," says CEO Jennifer Belmont. "We are currently in the process of preparing a local charity events calendar which will provide information about the specific charities, upcoming events and how to be a donor."

To date the Foundation, established seven years ago, has attracted approximately \$60 million in legacy gifts.

"We are asking people to consider leaving a gift in their will to assist causes or organisations they have a close connection with. Planning a legacy gift for something you feel passionate about is a powerful way to communicate what matters to you."

Jennifer says with the Foundation's smarter giving model people's gifts are invested and expanded to support the local community for future generations.

"There are any number of community funds we operate, beside our Administration Fund, that individuals can donate directly to or alternatively they can set up a new fund to suit their personal interests."

## Role of the 45South Community Foundation

- Raises money from donations and legacies
- Invests funds with professional fund managers, retaining and building the capital and generating income
- Income generated from investments used to provide ongoing funds for local charities, organisations and scholarships

# New name. Same mission. Bold vision.

Wakatipu Community Foundation is now 45South Community Foundation. Still local. Still focused on impact. Grounded on the 45th parallel. Driven by generosity. Committed to our community. Discover the next chapter at [45south.org](http://45south.org)

**45SOUTH**  
our community foundation

# Experiencing Arrowtown in Winter

By Margo Berryman

Arrowtown is a town for all seasons and holds special appeal for visitors in winter, according to Arrowtown Promotion and Business Association manager Nicky Busst.

Photograph Lois McArvney



## AFTER MOUNTAIN NIGHT LIFE

Arrowtown's night life is a hive of activity during winter with an array of cosy, intimate bars and restaurants dotted around the laneways for snacks, dinners and drinks. Fairy lights, outdoor fires and braziers light up the inner village providing a magical atmosphere to finish off a day in the mountains.

Hyde Liquor and Social is the perfect place to indulge in hand-crafted cocktails, premium wines, craft beers and tasty bar snacks in a chic speakeasy atmosphere. Italian inspired Ben Bayly restaurant Little Aosta is an excellent family friendly spot for pizza and pasta or experience La Rumbra's stylish tapas and drinks.



## TINY ROOM CONCERTS @THE BLUE DOOR

Arrowtown's Blue Door in Arrowtown is a charming bar and venue hosting Tiny Room Concerts during winter. Led by local creatives Charlotte Graf and Margaret O'Hanlon the original concept concerts are based around popular music including Back To Black (Amy Winehouse), The Reincarnation of Janis Joplin, Americana (the Great American Songbook), Don't Smoke In Bed (Nina Simone/Frank Sinatra/Billie Holiday), Made In London (The British pop music invasion) and Blues & Suede Shoes (Elvis Presley).

Tiny Room Concerts happen Thursday evenings at The Blue Door during winter with the addition of Jazz on Sundays during August.

Martin Silva



Photograph Tuki Huck

## FASHION FORWARD

Prominent fashion boutiques line the main street of Arrowtown highlighting an eclectic local fashion scene featuring New Zealand and international collections. The stores cater for all aspects of clothing from designer to high-street fashion and casual wear to active sportswear. They include designer labels at Muse and Angel Divine, fitness gear and streetwear at Goals, fine merino and cosy knits at Golden Fleece, technical outdoor gear at Outside Sports and authentic sheepskin products at Wilson & Dorset.



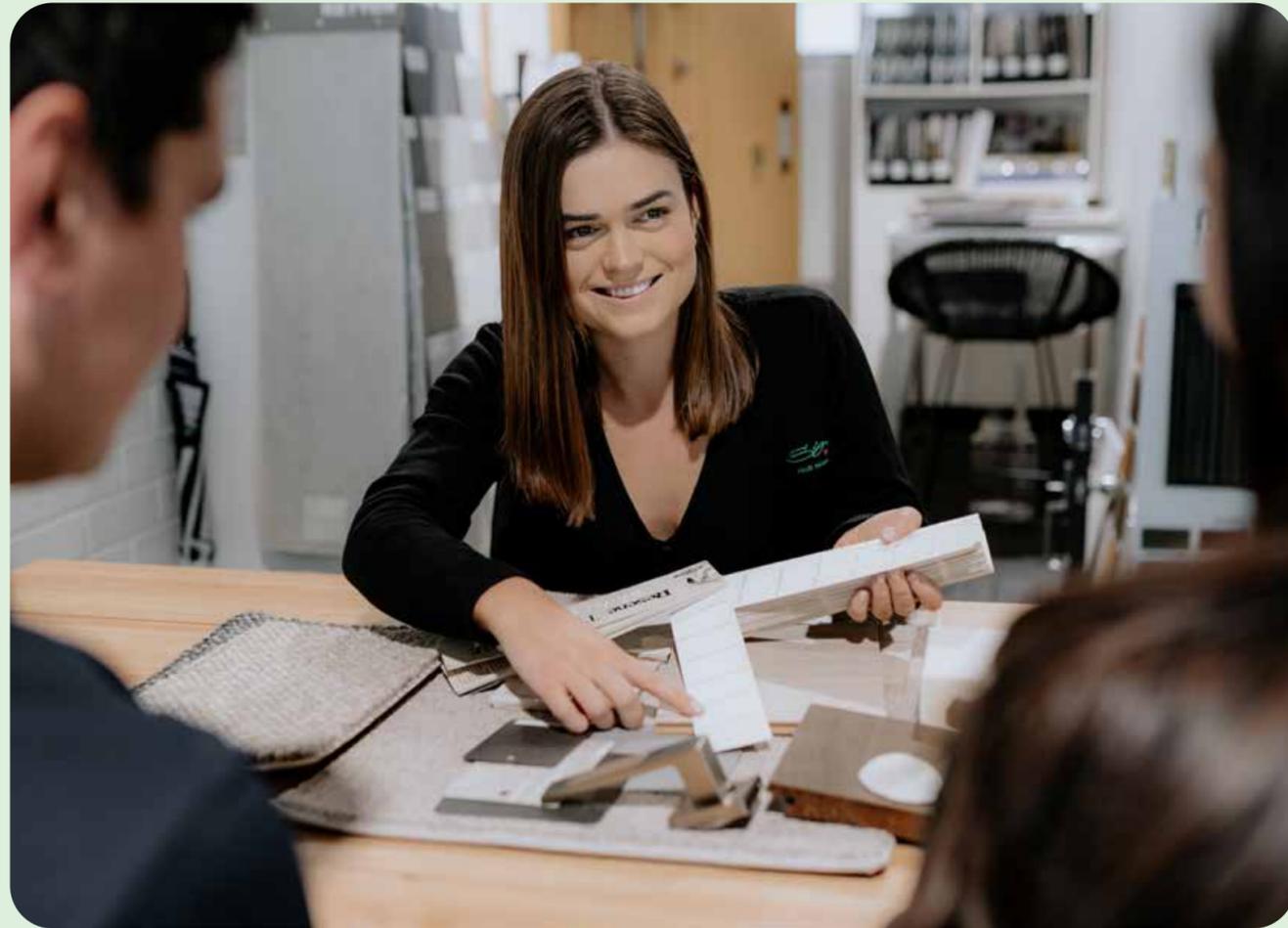
  
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Where History Meets Nature  
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## CONNECTING with NATURE

Arrowtown's village motto *Where History meets Nature* comes to the fore during winter with plenty of outdoor places to explore. Connecting with nature is one of the town's fundamental principles with many options on the doorstep from a 20-minute walk along the Arrow River trail to hiring a bike to ride the network of cycle trails in the area. Maps are available at the Lakes District Museum which identify historic buildings and places of interest to visit in and around the town along with walking and cycling routes.

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## OFF MOUNTAIN AT FIVE MILE

Five Mile is ideally located for an off the mountain winter experience with its range of shopping, cafés and services combined with plenty of easy, free parking.

### KICKSTART THE DAY

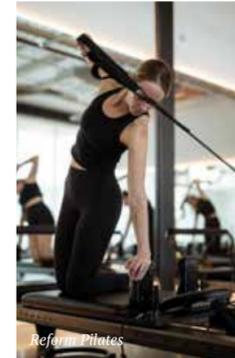
An early morning warm-up session at Reform Pilates or Flex Fitness will see you stretched and pumped for the day ahead before for coffee or breakfast where visitors are spoiled for choice.

For great coffee and a filling breakfast pop into Billy's Café, Joes Garage or Moinho Café. Billy's has its own locally roasted coffee blend and uses fresh milk from a nearby farm to supplement its extensive cabinet range including exceptional toasted sandwiches while Joe's Garage is renowned for its Gorgeous George or The Local full brekkies.

Moinho Café & Eatery is new to Five Mile featuring classic Kiwi breakfasts with the addition of Asian and Brazilian flavours or after 11.00am the traditional Vaca Atolada (beef stew) comes highly recommended. Pick up lunch or snacks for the mountain from any of the cafés or Woolworth's supermarket with its handy underground parking.

### EAT OUT

Five Mile solves the cooking problem with excellent dine in or takeout options at local restaurants Tanoshi, Podium at Sudima, Joes Garage, The Crown Pub and Beer Garden, Boliwood or Domino's Pizza.



Reform Pilates



Billy's Espresso

### STAY WARM

For essentials like gloves, beanies, winter layers and jackets stores like Mons Royale, Bivouac Outdoor, Kathmandu, Rebel Sport, Stirling Sports, The Warehouse and North Beach have everything needed at a range of prices. Mons Royale was born in the mountains surrounding Queenstown and Wānaka and produces world-renowned high-performance merino clothing and accessories.



Boardertown



Alta

### RENT OR BUY

Stop off at Five Mile on the way to Coronet Peak, The Remarkables or Cardrona and pick up the latest season's ski and snowboard gear. Alta's knowledgeable staff can fit customers with three levels of skis, two levels of snowboards, and have clothing and helmets to rent. Boardertown's renowned for its premium snowboard and skateboard gear, offering a 'try before you buy' option for some leading brands on the market.

### WIND DOWN

There is no better way to round off a day on the ski slopes than with a float or ice bath at Five Mile's newest health retreat O-Studio while the team at Moss Spa work their magic with an expertly-crafted treatment to leave tired and sore bodies feeling revitalised and refreshed.



O-Studio

Moss Spa



Podium



The Crown Pub



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## Hayden Paddon to launch men's performance series

By Jane Brooke

**Remarkables Park Town Centre (RPTC) has a new initiative to support local men with the launch of its Men's Performance Series this winter.**



Hayden Paddon

Manager Nick Lambert says the series is about giving men the tools and encouragement to perform at their best without chasing impossible standards.

"This winter we want to help men be at their best because the world doesn't need perfection but it does need us," he says. "So we're inviting men to bring a mate and spend a lunchtime investing in their imperfect best, showing up for themselves and those around them."

Leading the series is Men's Health and Wellbeing coach Samantha McBride (B.Sc Human Physiology Hons), a health coach (HANZA) professional coach and co-founder of the respected Men's Muster event. She will provide practical tools to help men perform at their best as mates, partners, fathers and leaders.

Each event will feature a high-performing New Zealand guest speaker who will share their personal stories of resilience and lessons learned.

The series opens with international rally driver Hayden Paddon, a multiple New Zealand Rally Champion and PWRC World Champion who was the first non-European to win the European Rally Championship in 2023.

"The Men's Performance Series promises real conversations, practical support and an inspiring reminder that being your imperfect best is more than enough," says Nick. "The first event is at the centre on Wednesday July 16 and is sponsored by Unichem Remarkables Pharmacy. A limited number of tickets will be available at just \$10 each. As part of the initiative Remarkables Park Town Centre will donate all proceeds equally to two outstanding causes — Heart Kids NZ a charity close to Hayden Paddon's heart that supports children and families living with congenital heart disease and Headlight which is a Queenstown-based organisation undertaking vital work in the mental wellbeing space."

**Men's Performance Series** Wednesday July 16 2025 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM  
Tickets available [events.humanitix.com/mensperformanceseries](https://events.humanitix.com/mensperformanceseries)



Ash Walton



Luke Hancock



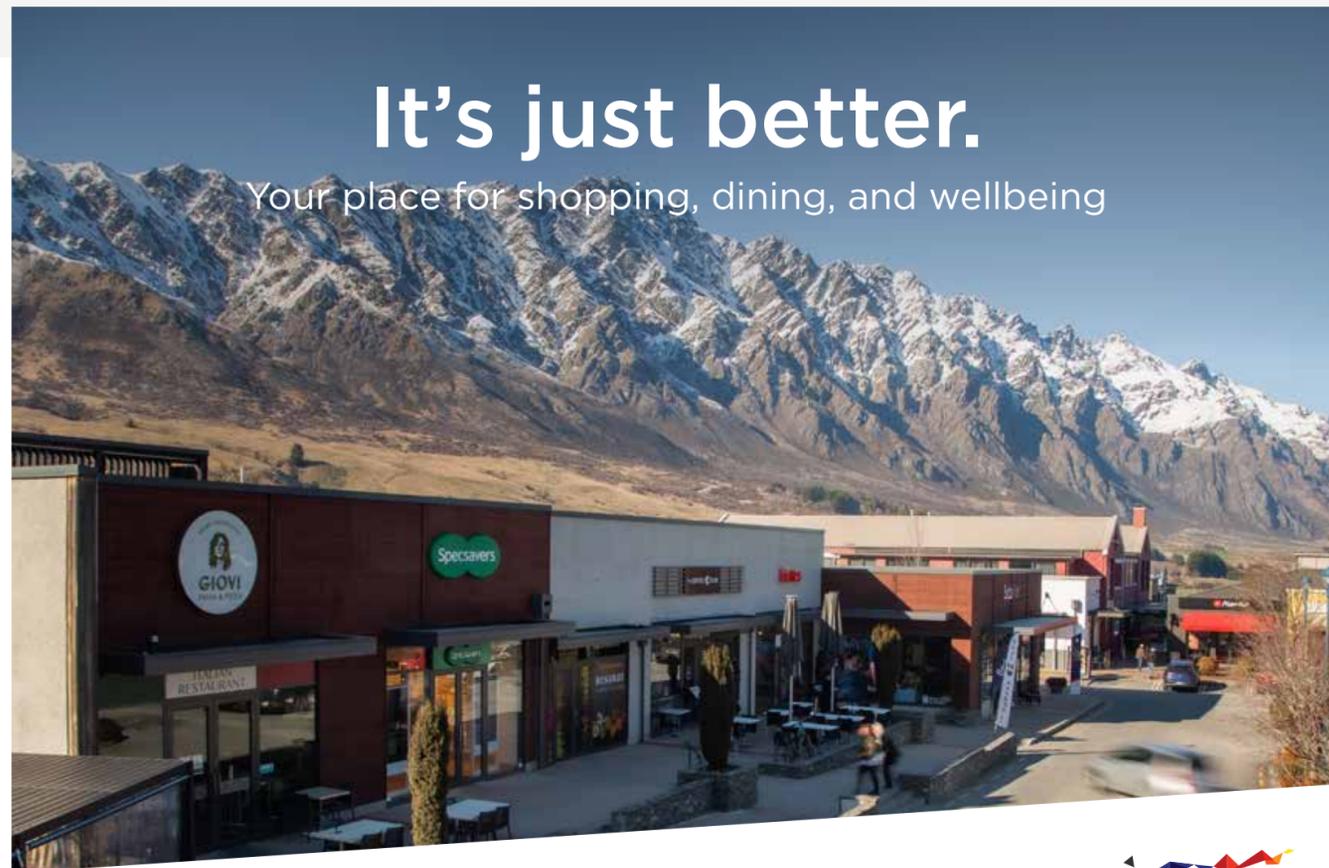
Nick Lambert



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## Raising the election bar

By Tom Kalliber

A new campaign for this year's Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) local body elections aims to raise the bar with voters encouraged to get involved in "the highest vote". Chief executive Mike Theelen says the campaign has a simple message.

"Voting boxes in our alpine district will be at the highest elevations in the country and we want our voting figures to reflect that. Voting isn't just about ticking a form – it's about showing how much we all care about the future of our environment and our community."

"Turnout locally in the last local elections three years ago was 43 per cent. This time we're setting our sights higher not only to exceed this but also top the national average which was 44.5 per cent in 2022."

The first stage of the campaign asks potential candidates to consider standing for election.

"How our district moves forward involves everyone who lives here so it's important that our elected officials reflect the values and ideals of our diverse community," says Mike. "Now is a great time to learn more about the challenges and rewards either for yourself or for friends and family who you think would make great local leaders."

"The QLDC's website has information on who can stand for election, how to get nominated and how to campaign when the time comes. There are also resources about what being an elected member involves and to explain the role and responsibilities of local government in Aotearoa New Zealand."

Nominations for both the QLDC and the Wānaka-Upper Clutha Community Board open on July 1 closing on August 1. Voting papers are delivered between September 9 and 22 and the voting period runs from September 9 until October 11.



## New direction for Coronet Forest

By Tom Kalliber

One of the largest revegetation projects in Aotearoa New Zealand is underway in Arrowtown with thousands of native plants already in the ground at the former Coronet Forest site.

Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) general manager community services Ken Bailey says Project Tohu signals a new direction for the Coronet maunga/mountain as an established, self-sustaining indigenous forest.

"The vision is to recloak 200 hectares on the south-facing slopes of



Coronet Peak with more than 500,000 native grasses, shrubs and trees over the next three years. The site was the location of a Douglas fir plantation that the council harvested between 2020 and 2023. This removed not only 90,000 tonnes of commercial timber but also a major source of wilding conifers."

Ken says nearly 80,000 natives have been planted since an official launch event in April this year when Mayor Glyn Lewers and other council staff gathered with representatives of Mana Whenua, community planting and recreational groups, project supporters and the Project Tohu partnership to celebrate the milestone and share kōrero/conversation and kai/food.

"We'll be announcing opportunities for the community to be involved in spring planting later this year. In the future a mountain bike trail network, horse and walking trails and picnic areas will be available for everyone to enjoy."

Project Tohu is led by QLDC and delivered by Te Tapu o Tāne, Citycare Property and e3scientific.



Photograph: 2022 Valley Content / Lake Wānaka tourism

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## Passion for vintage jewellery

By Aspen Bruce



*Sarah Austin is breathing new life into vintage treasures at her Central Otago jewellery business Maebel which is bringing international pieces to local collectors.*

"I absolutely love jewellery and always have. I believe it should be worn, enjoyed and celebrated."

Maebel's current collection has been widely sourced from New Zealand, the UK, USA and Japan.

Sarah says every piece is individual and has its own story to tell and by acquiring high value vintage jewellery it allows that story to continue.



Sarah Austin



"What joy can it give sitting in a drawer? It's important to find a piece you like and wear it because you love it. By creating a business like this it's keeping beautiful jewellery in circulation and still being enjoyed without putting further strain on the resources of the planet."

Maebel's sustainable approach extends to the bespoke, wooden jewellery boxes that cradle every piece. The innovative boxes are designed by Give Packaging, a Wellington-based company she admires for its transparent, sustainable business practices.



Sarah has dabbled in creating silver and copper jewellery with aspirations to design her own line.

"In the future I would love to extend the business by designing pieces that use pre-loved or vintage jewellery, stones and recycled gold to create gorgeous new pieces that are unique and stunning."

Her passion for jewellery began when she first started collecting pieces at a young age and later evolved into a profession.

It was this life-long dedication to jewellery that led Sarah to name her business Maebel, which derives from the old French meaning of loveable or to love — a sentiment she hopes every customer feels when wearing one of the timeless, curated pieces.

"Ultimately I want people to love and enjoy any jewellery I sell. It's important to me that customers feel no pressure to buy and I want them to go home feeling thrilled with their purchase. This can only be achieved if they fall in love with it in the first place."

### Where to find Maebel

This winter, Maebel will host pop-up stalls at Sherwood's Workshop 554 Frankton Road on Saturdays: June 28, July 12, July 19 and August 2 from 10:30am until 4.00pm.

Follow Maebel on Instagram @maebel.jewellery or visit [www.maebel.co.nz](http://www.maebel.co.nz) to view the current collection.



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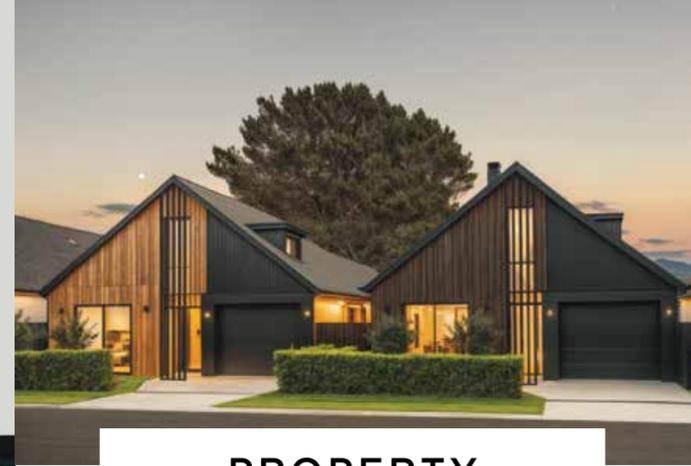
### OPENING HOURS

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LIFESTYLE

## PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT EXPERTISE

By Margo Berryman

Central Otago's newest property developer Ram Projects is on a mission to build outstanding properties for investment in the region.



Founders Nick and Laura Wright originate from London and have called New Zealand home for the last 15 years.

"During this time we have built a solid construction business, The Wright Build, from our sound experience in the building industry teamed with years of working in customer service, hospitality, planning and design," says Laura.

"We are extremely proud of the home we designed and built in Queensberry in 2020 that was a labour of love and inspired by the outstanding natural landscape. The property incorporated natural building materials, shapes and textures with the finished result spectacular inside and out encapsulating the quintessential vibe of this region. Nick has an extensive catalogue of high-end and complex builds under his belt. His knowledge of the industry is exceptional and the business is a success because he oversees every single detail and pours his heart into every aspect."

Ram Projects have several high-quality builds at Wooing Tree Estate in Cromwell which will be completed by mid-winter that are already on the market.

"We handpicked the sections and built two stunning residential townhouses with all the amenities one requires for the wonderful Central Otago lifestyle. Our favourite detail of these homes is the alfresco space just outside the kitchen overlooking the yard and Wooing Tree Park where the namesake 100-year-old tree is located."

The company is still in its prime and Nick and Laura are proud of their accomplishments so far.

"The Wright Build and Ram Projects are driven by our hunger and tenacity to produce excellent products for the marketplace," says Laura. "We want our projects to appeal to everybody, to be cool and interesting but also pack the goods to back it up. Our core values guide our work and we operate with integrity all the way."



## FUTURE PROOFING PROPERTY

As a property development company with a difference Ram Projects have several exciting projects in the pipeline for 2025.

"We have a plot of land in Shannon Farm coming to title this August" says co-owner Laura Wright. "The design concepts currently underway are for a large scale rustic farm-style home with an indoor spa retreat as a special feature. This property is a great opportunity to flex our design muscles and create something outstanding. We expect it to hit the market mid 2026 but early enquiries are welcome."

"We have also just secured some land in Clyde to develop a stylish multi-density block of European chalet style apartments that will nestle into the nearby rugged hills. This is an extremely exciting project and quite unique for the little town creating appealing lifestyle options especially with the new bike trails continuously developing."

Laura says Ram Projects is focused on a big future ahead.

"Our point of difference is that we care. It is essential to us that we produce quality properties that are not only beautiful but future proofed. Each project is a new canvas to create something wonderful that will bring comfort, function and joy to owners for years to come."



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## Q&A with PRESSIO

Pressio founders Jamie Hunt and Andy Nicholson were in pursuit of sustainable and athletic excellence when they founded the high-performance wear company last year in Wānaka. QT Magazine spoke to store manager Jo Lawn to discover more about the rapid development of the high-profile New Zealand brand.

### What motivated the creation of Pressio?

Jamie Hunt previously co-founded world leading fitness brand 2XU which was bought by French multinational luxury goods conglomerate LVMH in 2018. After two years' restraint of trade he decided to start a new brand focusing on sustainability without compromising performance. As a former triathlete he has always chased optimal performance and his expertise with fabrics is widely recognised including the engineering behind specific yarns and understanding how fabrics work with the body.

### How has the brand developed to date?

Pressio is Jamie's new passion and the high-performance sportswear made from a completely new fabric and yarn offers improved performance over traditional yarn. Our clothing is made from eco-friendly materials using cutting edge technologies and the company engineers its own fabrics from specific and specially selected yarns, fibres and knits. This means every element of the production process is honed to produce the finest high-performance and high-quality garments ensuring sustainability at every level.

### When did the Pressio store open in Wanaka?

The store opened at The Precinct in April 2024 as a pop-up to test the market. We kept extending the lease each month and one year on we have a shared space with Nicola Screen store that is both sophisticated and bespoke. It's an excellent shopfront to experience the exceptional Pressio range of clothing. Our customers range from runners and hikers to golfers and general travellers and our garments are the perfect fit for any occasion.



### What is Pressio's point of difference?

We are using groundbreaking technology to create sportswear that can elevate athletes' performance with clothing made from recycled and biodegradable materials. Pressio uses a technique called eco-dye which is great for the environment while ensuring the fabric doesn't lose any compression power. Once people try one of our garments they will be hooked — it's all about how the fabric feels on the body.



*"Sustainability is a term used by many but we go beyond just claiming it. Our collection is also Life Cycle Assessed by Greenstory to quantify our sustainable practices which include biodegradability, recycling, no-dye technologies and renewable energy manufacturing."*

- Jamie Hunt



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As our concept has evolved and new members have joined, we can now offer all the resources you might need for your project. Visit us during our Open Days—every Tuesday and Thursday, and on the second Saturday of each month, from 10a.m. to 2p.m.



The ADL team is here to guide you in the right direction.

**What a great resource to have in Wanaka. An inspiring and informative place, the ADL team were very helpful and knowledgeable and showed me products that I was unaware of. Wish I had gone in sooner for my new build. Highly recommend!**

Andi



## WHAT WE OFFER

- A directory of members who can support your building journey from start to finish. Search our members list to find the architect, interior designer, builder, joiner, and other professionals you need.
- A shared resource for design professionals and anyone building or renovating. Our extensive architectural sample library features over 85 brands, covering every aspect of a build—from flooring to tapware to roofing. You're welcome to browse and borrow from this collection.
- A community for design professionals—offering spaces to work, a supportive network of individuals across the construction industry, and a place where collaboration happens organically.
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UPCOMING EVENT INFO

# Specialising in Functional Medicine

By Aspen Bruce

Wānaka's newest wellness hub Holistic House is offering an internationally renowned, root-cause approach to health and wellbeing.

Owner Olivia Lucas says functional medicine is a blend of modern science with traditional wisdom.

"We aim to understand the 'why' behind peoples' symptoms by looking at the whole person not just their isolated issues. This often includes hormonal health and nervous system regulation with a special interest in supporting women with polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), endometriosis, preconception, chronic stress and sleep concerns."

Olivia is an experienced functional medicine specialist and reformer pilates instructor who graduated with a Bachelor of Health Science and achieved distinction in Natural Medicine.

"Whether you're seeking to stimulate your vitality, restore balance or reduce overwhelm we're here to offer support."

She says it's common for clients to attend Holistic House frustrated, burnt out or exhausted after exploring a range of medical options.

"Our clients have often tried conventional routes and been told that everything is normal on their blood tests but deep down they know something isn't right. Typically, they describe symptoms such as fatigue, hormonal imbalances, gut issues, stress, poor sleep or just not feeling like themselves. While our goal is to shift the focus toward prevention, nourishment and long-term wellbeing we understand that most people are drawn to functional medicine after they've hit a wall. We have a no judgement policy meeting people exactly where they are at and helping them move forward."



Photograph Sarginson Photography

Olivia Lucas

Hummingbird Photography Wānaka



A 90-minute initial consultation enables patients and practitioners to explore current and past medical concerns before preparing a comprehensive health strategy.

"This isn't a five-minute chat but a deep dive into health history, dietary habits, lifestyle, hormonal patterns, stress, sleep, pathology interpretation and family history. We take the time to really listen, connect the dots and start mapping out a plan based on a person's unique needs and goals."

Olivia says benefits of functional medicine include deep restorative sleep, sustainable energy that lasts throughout the day, balanced hormones that improve moods alongside a calm and regulated nervous system with increased resilience to various stressors.

"At Holistic House we're here to help understand what's really going on for our clients and create a clear, personalised path toward their most vibrant self. We're not here to settle for 'fine.'"

Holistic House at 99 Ardmore St, Wānaka  
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# Cutting Edge Indoor Golfing

**By Aspen Bruce**  
 Wānaka indoor golf and driving range Full Swing Simulator is the brainchild of avid golfers Jason Bopp, Kahu Vincent and Jeff Campbell and this winter celebrates its first anniversary of operation.

The three directors who originally met as students at Mount Aspiring College decided to launch the groundbreaking enterprise at Northlake due to an increasing demand for more wet day indoor attractions in the area. "The idea emerged after one of us wanted to buy our own simulator and that grew into the decision to set up a shop," says Jason. "We had started to notice that golf simulators were popping up in most major towns and cities throughout New Zealand. As longtime locals we also knew Wānaka had limited options for indoor activities and as a location renowned for its golf it seemed fitting to provide a place where people can hone their skills further before heading to one of the nearby courses."



**"Our facility offers something for all ages and skill levels from training on different courses to arcade style games for those just wanting a bit of family fun."**

The cutting-edge golf simulators use world-leading Trackman IO technology which gives guests real-time feedback and game analysis. They are separated into booths and provide an immersive virtual experience which enables golfers to safely practice a wide range of swings.

"Our facility offers something for all ages and skill levels from training on different courses to arcade-style games for those just wanting a bit of family fun," says Jason.

Visitors can opt to play a round of nine or 18 holes on one of the 430 internationally recognised golf courses with time slots ranging from 30 minutes to three hours.

"The cutting-edge simulator booths are designed for an exceptional golfing experience accommodating up to four players per booth ensuring friends and families can enjoy the game together," says Jason. "In addition to our main golf simulators we also have two specialised putting simulators providing the perfect place to practice before taking to the green."

*Full Swing Simulator is closed Mondays and tee times start daily from 10.00am Tuesday to Friday and 9.00am Saturday and Sunday. Book a booth online - fullswingsims.co.nz*



## Maintaining Traction

Runners or walkers on the trails during winter will likely encounter ice and slippery conditions and even snow. A pair of micro spikes is a must for any keen winter mountain runner to provide the confidence and required traction underfoot.

"We have Black Diamond micro spikes instore designed to perfectly fit over any sturdy running shoe. Runners can slip them on and off while out on the trail without having to take their shoes off. It's important to get the right fit and they come in S, M, L and XL sizes."



## Layer Up

As the temperatures drop to below zero it's essential to wear warm and breathable layers that can be taken on or off as required.

"We have an excellent range from superlight wind and rain jackets and long sleeved base layers to insulated mid-layers to keep the body warm and dry while adventuring this winter. Popular brands instore include La Sportiva, Inov8 and Lé Bent."



# KINISI RUNNING

Jane and Ian Evans have a distinctive eye for specialised running gear and equipment to ensure running through winter is a breeze.

Their tailor-made store in Wānaka's Three Parks is a destination for runners, walkers and outdoor enthusiasts.

"Kinisi Running is a space where people can linger with a cuppa, chat to likeminded people and shop the newest functional winter gear all in one spot."

## Light the Way

Effective lighting power is a must as the shorter winter days can often mean running in the dark.

"We have a huge range of headlamps from Fenix and Black Diamond to help illuminate pre and post work runs. They boast mega-bright lumens and long battery lives that will light up any trail for as long as required."



## Running Buddies

Kinisi Running social run groups continue throughout winter providing the perfect encouragement to get out and do it.

"It's difficult to find the motivation to leave a warm, cosy house and our running groups are great for a few laughs, runs and hot coffee with the store coffee machine always on. We host four different runs a week so find one that works and lock it into your routine."

**Dogs on the run** – Winter can be tough for furry companions and Kinisi Running has a good range of safety lights, hi-vis vests, snow booties and puffer jackets for dogs.

"Whether they're running up at Snow Farm or joining you on the daily stomp kitting dogs out in their own gear keeps them both warm and safe on the trail."



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# Structuring Menswear

By Penny Simpson

Wānaka's menswear store Structure for Men opened in May 2010 after owner Sandy Limmer recognised a pressing need for men's winter clothing in the resort.

"Fifteen years ago Wānaka looked very different as did the clothing options available. There was little option for menswear that went beyond surf labels and as one of the most popular New Zealand destinations for weddings and other events I felt it was time to offer more."

Her concept Structure for Men opened in Dunmore Street providing more formal clothing, casual wear and everything in between and has stood the test of time.

"As a local and independent store in Wānaka we take pride in helping every individual who walks through our doors whether they are heading to a wedding that afternoon or if they have simply forgotten to pack essentials for their travels. Our extensive range of clothes and accessories means people from all over New Zealand and beyond can find something for every occasion all in one place."



## One Stop Shop

The Structure for Men team takes pride in helping men find clothing to suit their lifestyles.

"Most people discover a treasure trove of clothing options and are quick to point out something they like," says owner Sandy Limmer.

"Our customers appreciate the range of options available here and are always grateful when they can shop for everything they need in one location. The clothing range instore is constantly evolving and we have many locals who pop in regularly just to see what's new and our store sales are always extremely popular."



## Key brands

Structure for Men aims to provide brands to suit all men's lifestyles from farming and business wear to everyday casual and special occasion dressing.

"We are one of only a few New Zealand stores that stock R.M. Williams — an Australian brand known for their hand-crafted boots," says owner Sandy Limmer. "Other high profile designer brands include Cambridge, Cutler & Co, Lichfield, Berlin and Scotch & Soda which is a European brand designed in Amsterdam that's one of our most fun and popular collections."

## Personalised Service

Structure for Men owner Sandy Limmer has years of experience and insight into Wānaka's menswear needs.

She leads an experienced retail team including Aucklander Mark Cennamo with many years' of retail experience and retail content specialist Abigail Anson.

"Our key point of difference is that everything instore is handpicked to suit the changing seasons, current fashion trends and events that happen regionally and across New Zealand," says Sandy. "We are here to help and my team provides exceptional personalised service and advice from helping customers choose the colour of a tie to match their hire suit to advising on what's acceptable to wear to a cocktail party and even how to put together a complete outfit."

**STRUCTURE**

At Structure For Men, we have a wide range of styles and branded clothes to cater to all of your clothing requirements.

SCOTCH & SODA



R. M. WILLIAMS  
EST. 1932. AUSTRALIA



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5limos@structureformen.co.nz  
03 4435854 | 021 585452

Monday - Friday 9.30am - 5.30pm  
Saturday - Sunday 10.00am - 4.00pm

"The lady at the register recommended a book that fit exactly the mood I was looking for. Great books and nice people."



## Unlocking Reading Rewards

The rewards of reading can be unlocked by building a relationship with Next Chapter, according to co-owner Jenny Ainge.

"We have experienced and knowledgeable staff who are able to help match readers with the types of books they like to read. They can also help if people are in a reading slump and need to reignite their love of reading by discovering new genres and authors. Whether you are a lifelong book lover or someone just starting to discover the joy of reading it is always exciting to open the first page of a book and let it take you on a journey."

She says visitors to Wānaka are encouraged to call in at Next Chapter where everyone loves talking books and hearing other's recommendations.

"We also have fiction and non-fiction book clubs, classics and poetry and regular author events which our local readers queue up for."

"The staff are so friendly and helpful and full of great recommendations — exactly why people need to go to an independent bookshop as the staff are just so knowledgeable."



# The Joy of Reading

By Jenny McLeod

"Books don't just go with you. They take you where you've never been."

Next Chapter independent Wānaka bookstore owners Sally Battson and Jenny Ainge firmly believe one of the joys and rewards of reading is the means of escape it offers.

"In today's fast paced, often stressful world we are constantly seeking ways to unwind and disconnect from our busy lives," says Sally. "The solution often lies in the pages of a book where reading transports us into different worlds, expands our knowledge and helps us relax thereby improving our emotional wellbeing."

She says studies show reading can strengthen the brain and enhance imagination and creativity and even lengthen a person's life.

"Books also add richness and depth to the reader's understanding of life and people and there is the added benefit of improving vocabulary and encouraging empathy — and that's apart from the mere entertainment value."

"Reading is so much more than a way to fill in time. It's a tool for personal and emotional growth and intellectual expansion," says Sally. "It provides a sense of accomplishment and invites people into new places and ways of thinking. There is nothing better than curling up in front of the fire in winter and allowing an adventurous novel or a thought provoking non-fiction work or even a book of poems to help you escape."

## Next Chapter picks to overcome a reading slump

- Giovanni's Room | James Baldwin
- The Midnight Library | Matt Haig
- Before the Coffee Gets Cold | Toshikazu Kawaguchi
- Sorrow & Bliss | Meg Mason
- All The Colours of the Dark | Chris Whitaker
- The Dictionary of Lost Words | Pip Williams
- Still Life | Sarah Winman

## Titles the Next Chapter team are reading this winter

- The Book of Guilt | Catherine Chidgey
- The Emperor of Gladness | Ocean Vuong
- Air | John Boyne
- My Friends | Fredrik Backman
- Atmosphere | Taylor Jenkins Reid
- A Different Kind of Power | Jacinda Ardern



72 Brownston Street, Wanaka, 9305  
books@nextchapterwanaka.co.nz  
www.nextchapterwanaka.co.nz  
+64 21 0904 6330

THE NEXT CHAPTER  
wanaka bookshop





### In the Frame

Wānaka's bespoke framing specialist The 45th Degree is renowned for its framed maps which elevate home and office interiors and create an ongoing talking point.

"Part of their popularity is that Wānaka and Queenstown are such outdoorsy and active places and our maps are a nice cross-over between being a design feature in the home as well as a practical item for planning an adventure," says owner Erinn Keith. "We work with Geographx maps and have the rights to reproduce their range or can create custom layouts using LINZ data for an iconic, classic look."



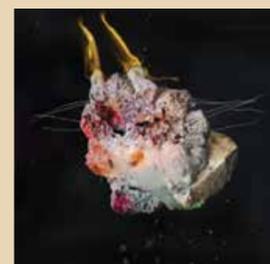
"We also love working with customers to frame and preserve their own vintage maps protecting these items for future generations. Paper maps are fast becoming a thing of the past and it is always fascinating to see how the landscape, layouts, roads and paths may have changed over time."

The store offers differing levels of quality and conservation to suit a client's needs and budget.

"There is much interest in materials and sustainability with an up-tick in customers opting for raw or hardwood timber frames, custom paints and finishes," says Erinn. "We have Italian made metal-look, industrial style frames that are consistently popular and Mocha Mousse browns and neutrals, as predicted by Pantone Color Institute, are making a comeback."

Several exhibitions are planned throughout the year including Edwards + Johann, Philip James Frost and Tim Middleton later in the year. Edwards + Johann are an award-winning duo whose collaborative work is designed to spark intrigue and the imagination. Their exhibition *Peculiar Formations* is due to open on June 13 followed by an exhibition of new work from Philip James Frost toward the end of July which will run throughout August.

"In spring we will feature sculptor, artist and picture framer Tim Middleton," says Erinn. "His work has more of a dark comedy feel and probably not what you would typically see in a Wānaka gallery. Watch our socials or sign up to our mailing list for all the details."



Edward + Jones Geomorphic Act



### Trending at Tussocks

Subtle tones, neutral shades and soft natural colours are on trend at Wānaka homeware store Tussocks Homeware.

"Browns, greens, rust and light naturals are very much in vogue for 2025 with items featuring natural elements popular, such as our linen cushion covers, woollen throws and linen style sofas," says owner Lisa Hay.

New arrivals for winter include a captivating range of lamps, canvas artworks, mirrors and rugs.

"There are some gorgeous pieces to choose from with a winter favourite being our beautifully soft woollen throws that are the perfect addition to cosy up homes for the new season."



Penny Calder & Verity Lawrence

### Talking Architecture

*Between the Walls* is a new podcast from Wānaka's Architecture + Design Library — an inspiring extension of their bricks-and-mortar hub for all things building and renovation. Each episode delivers insider tips, expert advice and design inspiration to help listeners build with clarity and confidence. Hosted by Janey Newlands alongside AD Library co-founders Verity Lawrence and Penny Calder, the podcast features practical conversations with suppliers and industry professionals, explores trends in architecture and design and shares thoughtful guidance to support smarter building decisions.



# thieving kea

## Where Wanaka Whimsy Takes Flight

Open Daily at 139 Ardmore Street, Wanaka | Ph: 03 443 4423 [www.thievingkea.com](http://www.thievingkea.com)

### Wānaka Style

At Thieving Kea Wānaka the latest instore collections blend self-care, home ambiance and appealing accessories which are perfect for embracing the winter season. "Inject warmth and style into your home with the Becca Project's amber-hued candles featuring a wooden wick and handcrafted scents exclusive to Thieving Kea," says owner Becky Roberts. "For both visitors and locals we have an excellent selection of winter essentials to stay cosy and stylish including luxurious cashmere scarves and gloves, premium handcrafted candles and a range of winter self-care."




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# Destination Orchard

By Penny Simpson

Jackson Orchards roadside store and pack house on the outskirts of Cromwell is a destination for quality orchard produce, freshly baked goods, locally sourced vegetables, eggs, honey, flowers and eco-friendly health and skin products.

"The store is a hub for winter visitors to the region offering a massive range of on-the-go products that are quick and easy when travelling to and from the mountains," says retail store assistant Ruby Black. "We have a range of Canterbury Biltong's Beef Jerky, a whole selection of our own dried fruits and nuts and other items such as cheese and crackers snack packs."

Inside the Jackson Orchards store are boutique local food businesses Kitchen Window and She Bakes with a range of takeaway options from toasties and muffins to homemade pies and sausage rolls.



"We sell local free-range eggs from Springvale in Clyde and fresh baked loaves of bread from European Bakery in Queenstown," says Ruby. "Our friendly team are on hand to help customers choose the best products for their needs."

The store is an integral part of the larger Jackson Orchards footprint that grows, packs and processes a wide range of cherries, apricots and peaches, nectarines, plums, greengages, apples and pears.

"While we specialise in apricots the diversity of our fruit means we have one of the longest seasons of any orchard in New Zealand. Starting with cherries and finishing with pip fruit we are harvesting for around five months," she says.



"Our orchard grown apples and pears are hugely popular during winter for stewing and poaching as is new season kiwifruit. Typical roasting vegetables such as kumara, parsnip and pumpkin are also big sellers and our real fruit ice-creams and smoothies are a drawcard."



## Orchard Tours

Jackson Orchards operates orchard tours all year round with bookings available online.

"Visitors can see the pruning progress across the orchard which showcases the beginning of the growing process leading up to the stone fruit season," says retail store assistant Ruby Black. "Also, the harvesting of our historic walnut trees which are scattered around the orchard."



*Fantastic, well worth it. Our guide was great. Very experienced and knowledgeable and very funny. Laughed the whole way round. Well worth it.*

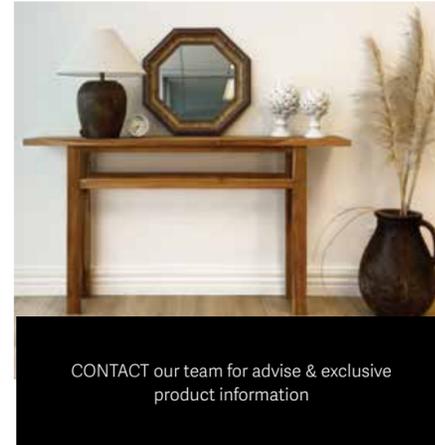
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