

QTM Magazine

Southern Lakes Lifestyle

BIG REDS BLAST THE CANYONS

*Queenstown's Shotover Jet
celebrates 60 years*

The Mill Sets Global Benchmark

Cutting edge facility for
integrated health
performance & recovery

LAKESIDE LIVING

*Kingston Village affordable
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ISSUE 129 SPRING 2025

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QT LIFESTYLE

QT Magazine is a contemporary lifestyle magazine covering the Southern Lakes region of New Zealand.

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photograph Chris McLennan
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News from Around the Region

with Jenny McLeod

Local Legend's Legacy

Sir Michael Hill, nationally and internationally recognised as an entrepreneur, philanthropist and champion of the international violin community played an integral role in the Whakatipu opening his renowned championship golf course The Hills near Arrowtown in 2007.

The founder of Michael Hill Jewellery which now has over 280 stores in New Zealand, Australia and Canada he was a household name with his quirky and familiar marketing campaigns.

But above all music was his passion and as a young, accomplished musician his vision was to become a classical concert violinist but his family steered him into the jewellery trade. Unable to achieve his personal dream he did the next best thing by launching the Michael Hill International Violin Competition in 2001 in Queenstown and in so doing propelled young violinists from all over the world into prominence.

The competition is today one of the most respected international major violin contests and by creating it Sir Michael brought artistic recognition to both Queenstown and New Zealand.

As one of New Zealand's most significant golf benefactors he headed the campaign to bring the New Zealand Open to the region hosting the event for several years at The Hills, again putting the spotlight on the country and particularly Queenstown.

Sir Michael was knighted in 2011 for his service to business and the arts.



A young Michael Hill



Sir Michael Hill

New direction for Te Atamira

Te Atamira's new director Ruth Heath has wide experience in arts leadership, community engagement and festival presentation and was selected from high calibre New Zealand and international applicants.



Ruth Heath & Olivia Egerton

She replaces Olivia Egerton who was the founding director and oversaw the build of the prominent arts and cultural centre from the outset four years ago.

Ruth took up the reins in August after finishing her role as executive director of the Southern Lakes Arts Festival Trust which is home to the Wānaka Festival of Colour and Aspiring Conversations.

"I am delighted to join a special team at a special place," she says. "Te Atamira is an exciting creative hub and I am looking forward to working with artists, partners and the people of the Whakatipu to continue the beautiful mahi (work) that Olivia and the team have begun — shaping a space that inspires, reflects and supports the rich arts and cultural life of this region for all the community."

Ruth was recently recognised by Creative New Zealand's New Leaders Programme and Te Atamira board co-chair Kevin Bouchier says the board is impressed by her ability to expand community access to the arts, develop and grow new audiences and deliver a unique and dynamic programme that reflects the community.



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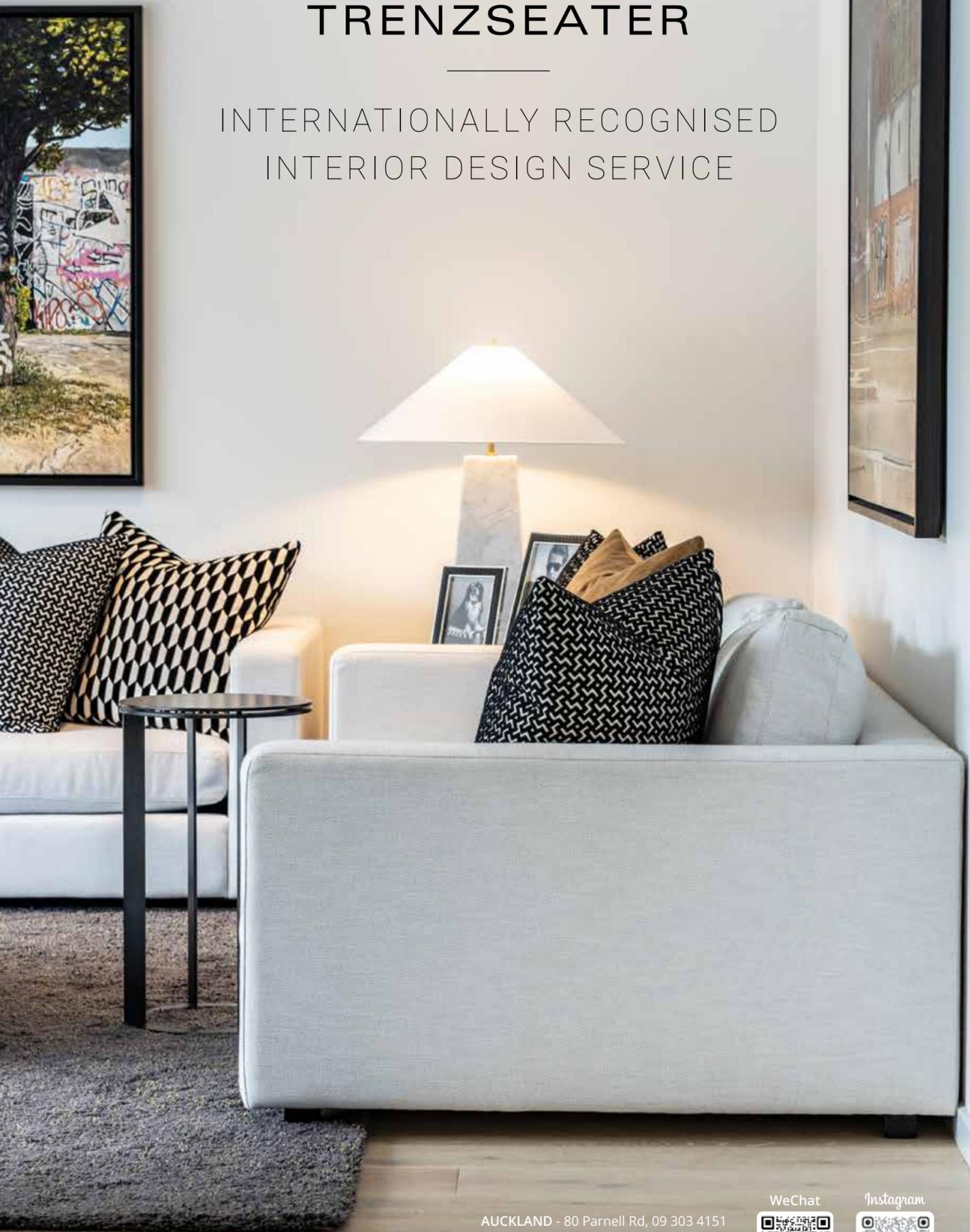
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Photograph Chris McLennan

Shotover Jet Clocks 60 Years

By Jane Brooke

Queenstown's pioneering adventure tourism experience Shotover Jet has clocked six decades of adventure on the renowned Shotover River.

From its roots as a pioneering jet boat operation to becoming the only company permitted to navigate the dramatic Shotover River canyons Shotover Jet has carried more than 4.6 million passengers since its first commercial ride in 1965.

At the heart of this year's 60th celebrations is a documentary tracing the company's journey from humble beginnings to an internationally recognised icon today owned by South Island iwi Ngāi Tahu.



Trevor Gamble



Alan Melhop



The documentary explores the cultural and historical significance of the Kimiākau Awa (river) where Shotover Jet operates and highlights how the iwi maintains its ancestral connection to the river. It is screening throughout October on board Air New Zealand via the Tiaki Channel.

"Shotover Jet was our first tourism purchase and the foundation of our evolution as Ngāi Tahu Tourism. It's one of those experiences you remember forever — and a powerful platform to share who the iwi is with the world," says general manager of Ngāi Tahu Tourism Jolanda Cave.

Shotover Jet was launched by brothers Harold and Alan Melhop in 1965 and later sold to Herm Palmer before being purchased by Trevor and Heather Gamble who sold the business to Jim and Karen Boulton. In 1999 Ngāi Tahu became the company's majority shareholder eventually acquiring full ownership in 2004.



"The Ngāi Tahu dream has always been to be the primary proprietors of our own history. The acquisition of the Shotover Group enabled us to have command over our own heritage. At that time, we were very interested in tourism and wanted to be active participants but faced heavy opposition from elements within the industry. The opportunity to acquire the Shotover Group from Jim Boulton allowed us to open the door."

"Our focus was really on acquiring a platform in the industry to tell our own story of our own heritage in our space. It's one of the big steps we made as an iwi following our Settlement and we should continue to cherish it."

- Tā Tipene O'Regan, ONZ CRSNZ - Ngāi Tahu Rangatira

Shotover Jet marked its 50th anniversary in 2015 with the publication of *The Story of Queenstown's Adventure Tourism Pioneer* written by QT Magazine editor Jenny McLeod.

The book traversed the company's history, personalities and its development into a leading global tourism company and the flagship of the Ngāi Tahu tourism fleet.

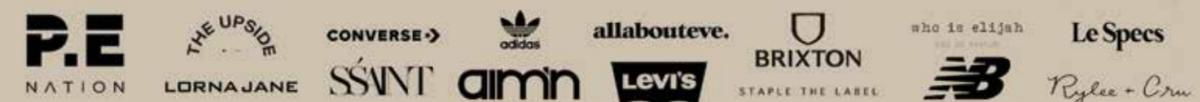


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Long-standing, forward thinking

Anderson Lloyd's connection to the lower South Island dates back to 1862, when the firm began advising pioneers during the gold rush era. The Queenstown office was established in 1978 and has been part of the region's growth ever since, supporting the needs of a dynamic commercial and tourism centre.

Queenstown's entrepreneurial spirit continues to attract innovators, developers, and investors. Anderson Lloyd is proud to play a key role in this growth — advising on landmark developments and environmental projects, backing local ventures, and partnering with clients to help shape the region's bold future.

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



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

Anderson Lloyd's Queenstown office, located on Camp Street, is led by four experienced partners and supported by a strong local team, backed by the expertise of a national firm. The firm has recently expanded, with the partnership growing to 31 partners and supported by over 150 staff.

This combination delivers big-firm capability with genuine local insight.

The Queenstown based team advises across commercial, property, resource management, conservation, employment, overseas investment and dispute resolution/litigation. Anderson Lloyd is at the forefront of legal work underpinning the region's development, including consenting processes, subdivisions, conservation projects and critical infrastructure.

Just as importantly, the firm supports the community through pro bono partnerships with the Queenstown Trails Trust and the Margaret Templeton Trust. Aligned with its values, Anderson Lloyd is Toitū net carbon zero certified and actively contributes to environmental initiatives such as Trees That Count, having donated more than 12,000 native trees nationwide. As well as our pro bono work Anderson Lloyd encourages its people to spend a paid day each year volunteering in the community.

As Queenstown continues to grow, 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."

Supporting the Queenstown Trails Network

By Jenny McLeod

The Queenstown Trails network encompasses more than 200 kilometres of cycling and walking routes and as a not-for-profit organisation depends on the support of a wide cross section of the community to fund its ongoing development.

"The expansion relies on a unique mix of generous individual supporters, business partnerships, grants and local and central government funding," says CEO Mark "Willy" Williams. "Corporate sponsorship provides businesses with an impactful way to strategically contribute financial resources, leaving a lasting legacy for current and future trail users."

He welcomes the recent addition of Luxury Real Estate New Zealand as a corporate sponsor which offers the business a means of aligning their corporate social responsibility (CSR) strategies with initiatives that directly support the region.

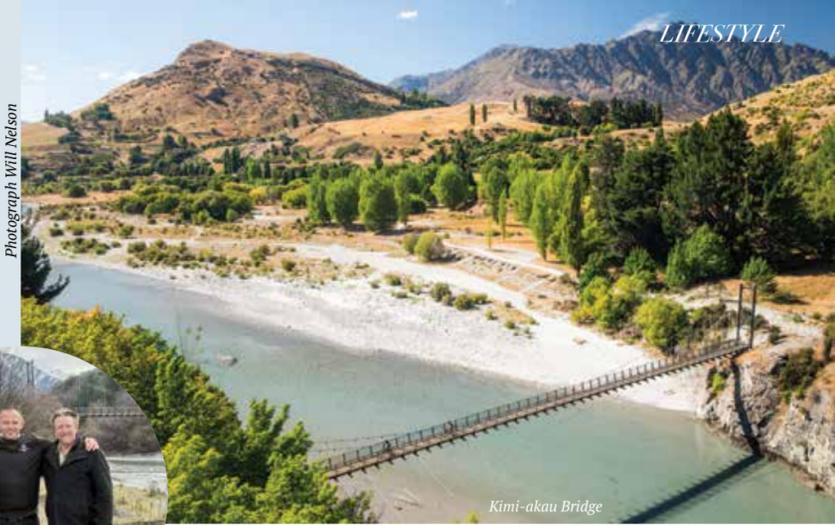
Company co-director Terry Spice says "so many of the properties we represent are directly connected to or neighbour the iconic Queenstown trails and we have seen firsthand the appeal they hold for people investing in the area. The trails aren't just a lifestyle asset, they're a genuine drawcard for the region. Our team are all keen trail users so it's a partnership that resonates with us both professionally and personally."

Earlier this year the Shotover Gorge Trail opened after seven intensive years of work by the Queenstown Trails executive team and trustees to see it come to fruition.



Terry Spice Mark 'Willy' Williams & Luxury Real Estate partner Nick Horton on Shotover Gorge Trail

Photograph Will Nelson



Kimi-ākau Bridge

The 5.5 kilometre trail along the Lower Shotover gorge passes through the historic 108-metre long Hugo Tunnel and crosses the spectacular 90-metre high Kimi-ākau Bridge which spans the gorge at Tucker Beach.

"The big focus of this trail was closing the gap in the network, linking the northern side of the Whakatipu Basin with the residential suburbs, creating a seamless recreational link and integrating with the mountain bike trails on Coronet Peak and Mahu Whenua," says Willy.

The trail attracted support from the Hugo Charitable Trust for the restoration of what is now known as the Hugo Tunnel, individual donations from the Alterno Foundation, Rod Drury and Scott and Rachel McLaren for the construction of the Kimi-ākau Bridge. The community also answered the call to "sponsor a plank" to raise the shortfall.

Queenstown Trails is now turning its attention to enhancing the trail network with improved infrastructure as well as putting plans in place to extend trails to 12 Mile and around Lake Whakatipu to Glenorchy.

Photograph Geoff Marks



Hugo Tunnel



Coronet Loop Trail

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THE MILL CREATES BENCHMARK FACILITY

By Jenny McLeod

Queenstown's new cutting edge facility The Mill redefines the traditional approach to health, performance and recovery allowing members, whether they are everyday or elite athletes, to train under the same roof with access to the same state-of-the-art gym facilities and health services.

Breaking down the barrier between local and elite performance

Spearheaded by managing director and well-known physiotherapist Peter Forch and podiatrist and director Georgina Read the striking 2,500 square metre complex, designed by Warren & Mahoney and backed by entrepreneur Rod Drury, has raised the bar in Queenstown

"The Mill meets the highest international standards and is designed for both everyday fitness enthusiasts and elite athletes and makes world-class health and wellbeing more accessible than ever before," says Georgina. "It is more than just a gym or a clinic, it is a blueprint for the future of integrated health in New Zealand."

"Peter comes from a high performance sports background and could see the value of a space like The Mill where athletes can train and take advantage of healthcare and wellness under the one roof. It's a much more integrated approach and everyone works together for the benefit of individuals at all levels."



Dynamic Design

The Mill is dynamic in both form and function and is a model for sustainable health-conscious design which connects seamlessly with its natural surroundings at Remarkables Park in Queenstown.

The building, with its stunning mass timber roof, houses an expansive 1200 square metre gym floor for strength, conditioning and functional training, a 25 metre indoor turf track, a dedicated group cycle studio, high-intensity group and functional training areas and recovery zones which include saunas, plunge baths and compression therapy.

Advanced facilities comprise a whole body cryotherapy chamber and medical grade hyperbaric oxygen therapy chamber while an outdoor training facility and a 40-metre sprint track have been installed.

A mezzanine meeting, seminar and event space complete with kitchen is available for hire.

The Mill's equipment partners include high-profile US company PLAE and Techno of Italy.

General manager Carly McCarthy oversees The Mill while a team of performance coaches is led by director of athletic performance Ben Griffin. The gym incorporates strength and conditioning coaches, personal training options and sport science testing services.

Varied health care professional services — physiotherapists, podiatrists, massage therapists, a musculoskeletal specialist and DEXA scanner (bone density & total body composition scanning) — are all available on site with future healthcare services to follow.

While The Mill is purpose-built to provide high-end performance facilities the community is very much its focus.

"We are very proud of what we have achieved for our community," says managing director Peter Forch. "People in Queenstown are very active and inspiring and in turn our building is an inspiring environment for them to either begin their own human performance goals or prepare for elite performance."



"We chose the name The Mill because, like traditional mills that refined raw materials into something valuable, our Queenstown facility is where people come to be developed, refined, and elevated in performance. The name also nods to the area's rich history of gold and wheat mills which helped shape the region. Architecturally, our use of glulam timber beams reinforces this connection blending craftsmanship, natural strength and modern innovation in a space designed to enhance human potential!"

Peter Forch



Multiple Membership Options

The Mill Queenstown offers a tiered membership option which gives people the freedom to choose their level of access — whether it is essential use of the gym, access to group training or recovery benefits.

Managing director Peter Forch says they have worked hard to create pricing and offer different levels of memberships to suit individual needs.

- 1.0 Access to the gym
- 2.0 Access to gym and group classes — group cycle and functional classes
- 3.0 Access to gym and recovery areas — saunas, cold plunge pools and recovery room
- 4.0 Access to gym, recovery and group classes

Flexi Memberships are also available for each category and suitable for people who want to travel or do not want to commit to long-term membership — 30-day cancellation period.

Casual Day and Week Pass options — for those who want to see what The Mill has to offer before committing. Tours available.

Group Cycle Concession — A ten pass or one-off pass is available to members or non-members. The non-members cycle concession has been added due to high demand. Technogym bikes display data during the class.

The gym has extensive hours:
Weekdays 5.00am - 10.00 pm
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Unprecedented Demand for Lakeside Living

By Jenny McLeod



People staking their claim in Kingston Village are attracted by a combination of affordability and tranquil lakeside living in the established historic Kingston township.

A Plan Change approved in 2008 rezoned the land to provide 750 residential sections and marketing for the first sales release commenced earlier this year.

The demand has been so strong that 110 sections have sold out over three releases. A fourth release is currently being planned.

Kingston Village senior development manager Nicola Tristram believes the buyers, who to date are Queenstown Lakes district residents, have been attracted not only by the \$299,000 price tag for the 350 square metre sections but also by Kingston's compelling history as an integral part of the Whakatipu.

"This is a significant point of difference to other Queenstown subdivisions on the market. There is a long established community in Kingston which can trace its heritage back to the 1860s goldmining era and people who buy here can feel part of a special neighbourhood. Purchasers can



Artist's impression

definitely see the appeal, combined with the fact that sections are in some cases almost half the cost of other smaller sites closer to Queenstown."

The subdivision will feature wider streets, a selection of lot sizes, plenty of greenways and parks and easy access to the lake and walking and cycling trails. It is just 30 minutes' drive from Frankton and Queenstown International Airport and close to many recreational facilities such as boating and fishing on Lake Whakatipu, the Remarkables Ski Area and the Around the Mountains bike trail.

"The village development has opened another chapter in Kingston's ongoing story and we hope that by creating more community and commercial facilities the village will seamlessly blend into the existing township and help return it to the vibrant settlement, with its own individuality, that it once was," says Nicola.

Kingston Village in brief:

- 750-section lakeside subdivision
- 110 sections sold in first releases
- Planning for a fourth release underway
- Overwhelming support for a commercial centre and preschool
- Planning for the provision of a primary school
- Cycle and pedestrian networks through greenways
- Design philosophy combines quality design with community vision

Kingston's Strategic Significance

Kingston played a pivotal role in the early history of the Whakatipu as a town of strategic significance.

During the 1860s gold rush, with no road or rail link to Queenstown and the Head of the Lake, the tiny lakeside settlement came into its own as a supply port transforming itself into a shipyard assembling steamers to transport prospectors, goldmining equipment and cargo to the Shotover, Arrow and Glenorchy goldfields.

As the miners converged Kingston developed into a busy shipping town boasting numerous hotels, banks and stores which sprang up to cater for the ever increasing population.

In July 1878 the opening of the much heralded railway line from Invercargill to Kingston was so momentous that a public holiday was declared in Queenstown. The construction of a railway wharf at Kingston created a key connection point between rail and lake transport in a new era of activity for Lake Whakatipu. The freight and passenger rail service continued for over 100 years eventually closing in 1979.

Today the Kingston Flyer, introduced on the Invercargill line in the late 1890s, has been restored and is a popular tourist excursion between Kingston and Fairlight.

In February 1912 Kingston was again in the headlines when the now famous tourist vessel, the coal fired TSS Earnslaw, was launched after two years construction. Thousands witnessed her maiden voyage from Kingston to Queenstown which saw her carrying freight, mail and passengers for many years before becoming a distinctive heritage tourist venture.

With the opening of the road between Kingston and Queenstown in 1936 the town established itself as more of a lakeside holiday destination for Kiwi families. In latter years a more permanent population has taken advantage of the relaxed community lifestyle which defines Kingston today.

Photograph Lakes District Museum



Launch of TSS Earnslaw at Kingston February 24 1912



Artist's impression



Vibrant Community Lifestyle

After living in Queenstown for seven years Beth Lyons and Chris Heald are upbeat about establishing a permanent home in Kingston's new lakeside village.

Beth, from North Wales and Chris a Yorkshireman, teach at Remarkables and Shotover primary schools respectively and were one of the first to sign up for a site in Kingston Village when they were released on to the market.

"We are excited at the idea of lakeside living with plenty of space. The village is affordable, sunny, has wonderful views and there is already a vibrant little community in Kingston with established facilities like a store, library and pub," says Beth. "With more amenities and services being planned such as a preschool and primary school this can only be good for the town."

She says being close to recreational areas such as Lake Whakatipu, Remarkables ski area and tramping tracks around the region adds to the appeal of living in Kingston.



Chris Heald & Beth Lyons

Photograph Otago Daily Times

"While it will be a commute for us to work it won't take any longer than travel from places like Fernhill and other Queenstown subdivisions so we don't see that as an issue."

Beth says the developer has been approachable and easy to work with and they are now planning for their new home which they will start building once they get title, hopefully taking up residence some time in 2027.

"We are fortunate to be living in an apartment through the Queenstown Lakes Community Housing Trust's shared home scheme at the moment but we are looking forward to having more space particularly to host our family and friends from the UK."

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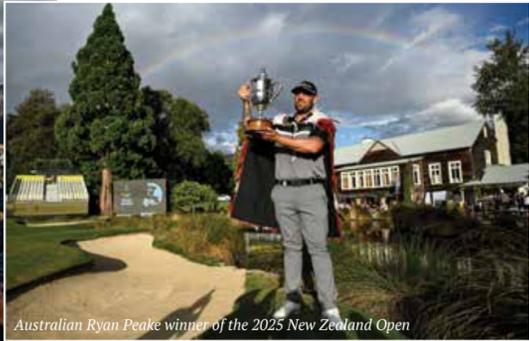
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Australian Ryan Peake winner of the 2025 New Zealand Open

NZ OPEN DRIVES ECONOMIC IMPACT

By Jenny McLeod

The 2025 New Zealand Open contributed more than \$23 million in direct economic impact for the Queenstown region.

Post tournament statistics show the event also generated \$12.3 million in net impact nationally after a 48 per cent growth in attendance numbers to 34,199.

Tourism and Hospitality Minister Louise Upton says the success of the tournament highlights its positive impact on the economy and New Zealand's international profile.

"We're proud to support world-class sporting events like this through the Major Events Fund. As well as contributing to the local and national economy major events attract international visitors and strengthen our reputation on the world-stage."

The event attracted a record world-wide television audience with at least 7.4 million viewers representing 90 countries.

New Zealand Open chairman John Hart says "we're proud to have built an event that is driving growth on multiple fronts, raising the bar for sporting events in New Zealand and attracting high-value visitors. The support from our international players and partners alongside the engagement from Kiwi spectators has been phenomenal."

Both the Asian Tour and the Challenger PGA Tour of Australasia commended the event for its results and delivery of a top tier experience for both professional and pro-am players.

Millbrook Resort has reaffirmed its commitment to the New Zealand Open's future.

"We're thrilled to announce Millbrook Resort's continued relationship with Golf New Zealand to host the New Zealand Open through to 2032. This long term commitment reflects our belief in the value that it brings to Queenstown and New Zealand as a whole."



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Record field for Queenstown Marathon

By Penny Simpson

New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty Queenstown Marathon presented by ASICS is attracting record entries to this year's event on November 15 with overall numbers almost 20 per cent up on the same time in 2024.

Regional director Nicky van den Bos says two months out 10,700 registrations have been received.

"The marathon distance has attracted nearly 3,500 registrations which has already exceeded the total number registered for the same run last year. This means that the event will see the highest number of registered marathoners in its 11-year history and highlight it as the largest marathon field in the country."

She says destination races like the Queenstown Marathon are more popular than ever with an increasing enthusiasm among competitors to mix fitness with travel.



Photograph Harry Tabbot

"The number of internationals registered for this year's event sits at 37 per cent which is up from 31 per cent on this time last year with first timer numbers also up 4 per cent!"

Amy says almost 90 per cent of people attending the Queenstown Marathon are from outside the Queenstown Lakes District with the event expected to inject around \$20 million into the regional economy during race week.

Packed Programme

By Jane Brooke

The Queenstown Writers Festival's 2025 programme is filled with award-winning writers, big personalities and talented southerners.

Festival chair Tanya Surrey says the event being held from October 30 until November 3 has something for people of all ages with over 30 events planned.

This year's line-up includes Damien Wilkins, the 2025 winner of New Zealand's top literary prize the Jann Medicott Acorn prize for fiction, with *Delirious* his acclaimed story of families and ageing, Owen Marshall talking about his writing career, Steve Braunias with his much anticipated *Polkinghorne*, Dr Monty Soutar and his admired Kawaii trilogy, Duncan Sarkies discussing his novel on democracy and alpacas and Josie Shapiro with her new novel *Homecoming and Heartbreak* which follows the success of her debut work *Everything is Beautiful and Everything Hurts*.

Interviews with memoir writers former deputy prime minister Grant Robertson and journalist Mike McRoberts, among others, are expected to be drawcards.

A special panel of the late Central Otago poet Brian Turner's closest friends and family will present *The Life of Brian*, celebrating one of New Zealand's best known poets.

GRANT
ROBERTSON



This year's festival also sees the return of short story competitions for children judged by Rachael King with the open section judged by Owen Marshall.

Flying High

By Tom Kalliber

Warbirds over Wānaka airshow has confirmed its first major international act for the 2026 edition of the event with the return of the American Eagles Jet Aerobatic Display Team.

General manager Ed Taylor says the four pilots put on a spectacular performance in 2024 flying their jets in close formation.

"We have continued to get feedback from our fans adamant they want to see more. These are four of the very best civilian jet aerobatic pilots in the US coming together as the American Eagles for Wānaka."

Other world-class acts include the 12-ship New Zealand Red Stars Yak Team along with the legendary Roaring 40's Harvard Display team which traces its roots back to the very first Wānaka airshow in 1988.



Photograph Geoff Marks

Ed says they will announce more international acts shortly for the 2026 Easter event and tickets are now on sale with demand already stronger than it was at the same time for the 2024 event which sold out its weekend tickets for the first time in its history. "People are encouraged to buy tickets early especially if they want to be in the grandstands or hospitality areas in the middle of the flightline."

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ROKI Collection Queenstown offers luxury accommodation, wellness, culinary and adventure experiences for guests. Designed by Sumich Chaplin Architects with interior design by acclaimed New Zealand interior designer Virginia Fisher each of its 15 spacious suites, ranging in size from one to four bedrooms, offer panoramic views of the Remarkables Mountain range and Lake Whakatipu.

ESSENCE THE LIBRARY BAR THE TERRACE



ROKI Collection Queenstown Creates Luxury Urban Retreat

By Jane Brooke

Queenstown's newest luxury hotel, ROKI Collection Queenstown, has opened in its key location on the shores of Lake Whakatipu creating an exceptional urban retreat for both international and New Zealand guests seeking an immersive experience. "ROKI Collection Queenstown brings something truly different to New Zealand – an urban retreat that combines the tranquility of a lodge with the energy of a hotel in stunning Queenstown where you can immerse yourself in nature," says general manager Stephen McAteer. "Every aspect has been thoughtfully designed to be a space to pause and breathe, a sanctuary of calm."

Culinary Journey

ROKI Collection Queenstown's Director of Culinary Paul Froggatt and his team have designed three culinary offerings for local residents, visitors to Queenstown and in-house guests to experience. The Terrace, Essence and The Library Bar each portray their own signature style and personality. The service is influenced by European detail and culinary knowledge from the world-class dining team combined with a relaxed New Zealand style. Director of Dining Giacomo Fabozzi and Director of Hospitality Anna Gambini have brought their extensive luxury experience to dining at ROKI Collection Queenstown focusing on the art of service and hospitality. The in-house sommelier team has a depth of knowledge and matches guests with wines from the extensive wine cellar collected during the last six years.

Impressive Resumé

ROKI Collection Queenstown Director of Culinary Paul Froggatt has had an impressive international Michelin starred career and has spent the last decade involved in luxury lodge culinary art. He is a New Zealand Luxury Lodge Chef of the Year winner and ROKI Collection in Queenstown offers the first opportunity outside a lodge environment people have to experience Paul's culinary skills.



Paul Froggatt

Fine Dining @ Essence

Open for evening dining to the public and for out of house guests Essence presents a fine dining narrative of New Zealand, fusing modern European influences with local produce and offering an experiential tasting menu or three-course a la carte menu. "At Essence, my approach is simple — to honour the purity of exceptional ingredients, letting flavour, seasonality and technique speak for themselves. Each dish is a reflection of place, memory and craft and is designed to evoke a sense of quiet luxury and connection to New Zealand's natural rhythm," says ROKI Director of Culinary Paul Froggatt.

Seafood Inspiration

Open to the public daily for lunch and dinner by reservation Roki Collection Queenstown's The Terrace is the hottest new place to go for the best views of Queenstown, lively conversation and a seafood inspired menu. Designed for all-weather enjoyment The Terrace is framed by two fireplaces, glass covered ceilings and glass walls that can open or close depending on the weather and the season. "The Terrace is a celebration of the ocean's bounty — fresh, honest seafood prepared with finesse and respect," says Paul. "We let the ingredients shine, drawing inspiration from coastal traditions while showcasing the best of what New Zealand waters have to offer."

Destination Bar

The Library Bar is a destination in itself at ROKI Collection Queenstown. With brass covered ceilings and conversation nooks it is the perfect place to connect with talented sommeliers and mixologists and enjoy bespoke cocktails curated by Director of Mixology Carolina Front. ROKI Collection Queenstown is the exclusive distributor and holder of Harlan Estate wine in the region – one of the Napa Valley's most sought after wineries which is a prestigious addition to the curated cellar. The Library Bar is also to become a Macallan Bar with a selection of rare and vintage whisky — a highlight for whisky lovers and collectors. Open to the public.



Restaurant & Cellar Door

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Amisfield wins top Cuisine award

Highly rated Queenstown restaurant Amisfield has won the American Express Restaurant of the Year in this year's Cuisine Good Food Awards.

Amisfield and its executive chef Vaughan Mabee have previously won the coveted award and the restaurant also retains its three hats.

Arrowtown's Aosta attained two hat status for the first time and was named the regional restaurant of the year while head chef Josh Phillips won the rising talent award.

Southern Lakes restaurants also won ten hats and many are featuring in the 2025 Cuisine Good Food Guide showcasing the top hospitality establishments from fine dining and regional destinations to metropolitan and neighbourhood favourites.

"Despite the challenges across the hospitality industry we are seeing new openings and it's exciting to see that many are embracing an elevated casual approach that showcases the flavours and hospitable culture of Aotearoa so well," says Cuisine owner Kelli Brett.

Queenstown restaurants highlighted in this year's guide include Amisfield, Aosta, Botswana Butchery, Jervois Steak House, Kappa, Mora Wines & Artisan Kitchen, Pavilion Bar & Kitchens, Rata, Sherwood, Soda, Swiftsure, The Cow, The Lodge Bar and The Woolshed — Ayrburn. Wānaka restaurants included are Arc, Bristo Gentil, Muttonbird, Cardrona Distillery, Carrick Winery Restaurant, Cloudy Bay Shed and Paloma Taqueri.

All-day dining @ Pavilion Bar & Kitchens

Pavilion Bar & Kitchens is a vibrant all-day bar and dining destination in the heart of Queenstown Central celebrating social dining, damn good food and the joy of gathering. Led by renowned chef Sean Connolly Pavilion delivers international quality with local soul, seasonal ingredients and big-hearted flavour. As spring rolls in the sunny courtyard sets the scene for long lunches, house-crafted cocktails and relaxed catchups with friends. With private dining spaces, an all-day bar and an atmosphere that hums from lunch until late Pavilion is tailor-made for end-of-year celebrations and festive gatherings.



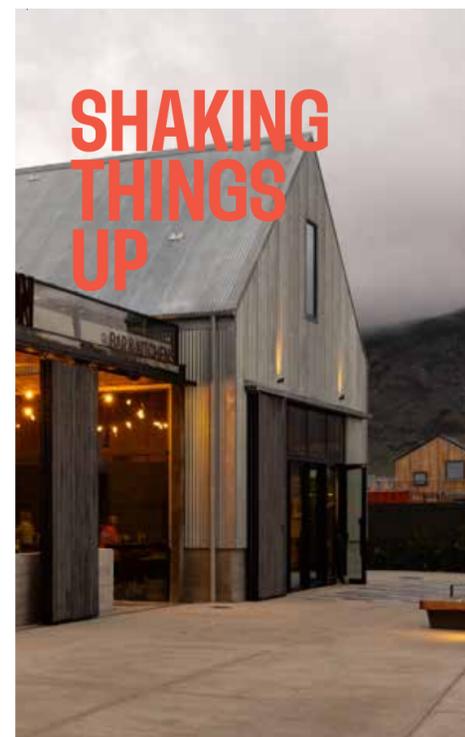
Jervois Steak House

Outstanding dining experiences are the hallmark of the Cuisine Good Food Awards and Jervois Steak House has featured regularly in the Cuisine Good Food Guide with its commitment to excellence serving premium cuts, signature dishes, regionally sourced seafood and perfectly matched wines. JSH offers one of Queenstown's most appealing dining rooms upstairs in the Sofitel building off Duke Street.

Exceptional wine and food at Mora

Mora Wines & Artisan Kitchens at Lake Hayes offers guided tastings of their award-winning Mora Central Otago wines along with hand crafted cuisine for the ultimate dining experience in a garden environment.

"Our culinary journey is inspired by Central Otago wine and food made from the finest sustainable ingredients and that is what wows our guests every day of the week," says Mora DTC manager Catherine Douglas. "Whatever the occasion, whether it's an alfresco weekend brunch, a cellar door visit, leisurely long lunch or end of year gathering we cater for everyone. Mora is open on Friday nights through until 10.00pm which is ideal for enjoying our delicious offering in a relaxed social setting as the weekend rolls in."



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BAKERY BUCKET LIST

By Margo Berryman

The Boat Shed Bakery in the Queenstown Marina hospitality precinct is making its mark, after almost a year in business, as sister café to the well-known The Boat Shed Café & Bistro nearby.

Tucked inside two floating boat sheds the bakery has front row seats to the Remarkables Mountain range and Lake Whakatipu and serves flaky pastries to match the impressive outlook.

"It's the perfect spot to pause, sip and savour life's sweeter moments," says brand and marketing manager Mikaela Turner. "It's always been the dream of managing director Jimmy Nicholson to own a bakery which was the motivation to open the dedicated location. With the amount of bread and baked goods The Boat Shed Café & Bistro goes through each day it made sense for us to bring this in-house."

The petite lakeside bakery celebrates its one-year anniversary this December and offers barista brewed Wolf Coffee, matcha lattes and Lewis Road Creamery ice creams along with a selection of freshly baked goods and products including gluten and dairy free options.

All the food is made in-house by head baker Marjolein (Majo) Oudemans who is the brains behind the delicious treats, breakfast buns, pastries and gourmet sandwiches. Popular items include ham and cheese croissants, Biscoff and cinnamon buns and their signature choux buns.



The bakery recently branched out to set up a running club which has attracted plenty of support.

"We kicked off Bakery Run Club during winter with Golden Runs which has been such a fun community activity," says Mikaela. "It's aimed at those who love to run, want to connect with like-minded people and maybe offset their pastry addiction. We've recently teamed up with Hydro Flask and O-Studio in Queenstown for some added benefits for our run clubbers."

The Boat Shed Bakery is open 8:30am - 2.00pm weekdays, 8.00am - 3.00pm weekends and offers wholesale bookings for local businesses. To check out the run club www.boatshedbakeryqt.co.nz/bakery-run-club



Southern Discoveries Queenstown Wine Tour

The recently launched Southern Discoveries wine tour takes in four charming family-owned boutique wineries as it journeys through the heart of Central Otago's renowned Gibbston Valley wine region.

"This is a small and sophisticated Queenstown Wine Tour travelling in comfort aboard a luxury vehicle and perfect for true wine lovers seeking an authentic experience," says marketing coordinator Puihi Solomon.

The hand-picked vineyards have been chosen for their exceptional wines, passionate winemakers and connection to the rich legacy of the region. Premium wine tastings are held with a focus on award-winning Pinot Noir and other celebrated varieties as cellar door hosts share their stories and expertise in a relaxed setting.

"Vineyards include Chard Farm, Waitiri Creek and Brennan Wines in Gibbston Valley and Mora in Arrowtown which are all known for their unique character and world-class wine," says Puihi. "On occasions where a winery is not available, an equally appealing alternative will be offered."



Domaine Thomson Central Otago - Burgundy experience

The award-winning Domaine Thomson rustic and intimate cellar door sits on a natural platform above the 14-hectare certified organic vineyard offering panoramic views across the vineyard and Cromwell Basin to Lake Dunstan.

The cellar door is open daily for wine tastings, platters and wine sales.

"Our recommendation is to allow time to enjoy the location, soak up the stunning environment and sample a tasting of our finest wines inside the cellar door or out in the beautiful organic garden courtyard," says winery manager Claudio Heye. "Visitors can choose a private tasting of our signature Central Otago and Burgundian wine selection while enjoying a platter of authentic French cheese with specific glass pours or bottles served in the elegant gallery room or library."

Domaine Thomson is open daily from 11.00 am until 5.00 pm. Tastings and platters can be booked online 24 hours in advance to ensure availability.



Quartz Reef's biodynamic wines

From exclusive back vintage cellar releases, private tastings and master classes to personal vineyard and winery tours with "behind the scenes" access the team at Quartz Reef ensure visitors experience a true expression of Central Otago.



Under the guidance of founder and wine maker Rudi Bauer Quartz Reef crafts certified organic and biodynamic wines from its single vineyard estate on Bendigo Station.

"The vineyard is farmed using biodynamic methods that enhance soil vitality, biodiversity and grape character," says

marketing manager Lianne Collins. "Quartz Reef is New Zealand's leading producer of Méthode Traditionnelle sparkling wine and both Rudi and our new wine maker Pip Clarke focus on combining old world techniques with new world terroir."

The Quartz Reef winery cellar door is open Monday - Friday 12.00pm until 4.00pm.

"We welcome visitors to our working winery tasting room based in Cromwell's industrial estate to discover how we handcraft our wines. Visits can be booked through our Quartz Reef office."

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Food Talk

WITH JO KEPPEL

With the arrival of the spring comes the glorious thought of outdoor dining amongst the blooms or under leafy cover on warmer days as al fresco entertaining comes back on to the agenda.

This fresh little lemon loaf is a quick and easy sweet treat to have on hand for cups of tea in the sunshine or an easy after dinner sweet fix. The Be Local Southern Alps Honey dew has been used for a sweetener in the loaf rather than sugar as I absolutely love the depth of flavour of this sticky goodness.

The months leading up to Christmas are sure to fly by but with a touch of forward planning Christmas entertaining can be effortless. In addition to taking bookings for end of year private dinners and my Kitchen Angel in home cooking service, I am also offering the option for having your Christmas Dinner delivered ready to put together.

Everything will come freshly prepared and labelled complete with a run sheet for perfect execution of a stress free and utterly divine Christmas feast. This specialty festive spread will be delivered in a beautiful hamper on December 23.

A Kitchen Angel can come to your home and prepare for the festive season — we can fill the fridge with family dishes and your tins with divine treats.

Orders for Christmas Dinner Delivered are now open through until December 10 2025. For the menu, details and all other bookings - www.joannakeppel.nz



LEMON & SOUTHERN ALPS HONEYDEW LOAF



INGREDIENTS

- 3 large eggs 1 1/3 C plain flour (ground almonds for gf)
- 250G plain or coconut yoghurt 2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 C coconut oil 1/2 tsp sea salt
- 1 C Be Local honeydew
- 3 T lemon juice Glaze
- Finely grated lemon zest 5 T icing sugar
- 3 T lemon juice and zest
- 1/4 C pistachios toasted
- Edible flowers

METHOD

- Preheat oven 180 deg c bake. Grease and line a 22 x 12 cm loaf tin
- Gently melt oil, combine eggs and yoghurt in bowl and whisk, drizzle in oil to slowly incorporate, whisk in honeydew and lemon juice + zest
- Add sifted flour (or almonds), baking powder and salt, stir gently and softly until relatively smooth
- Pour into prepared loaf tin, bake 50 minutes in centre of the oven until skewer comes out clean. Turn onto wire rack
- Glaze - mix lemon juice and icing sugar till smooth. Drizzle with glaze, sprinkle w/ pistachio, lemon zest and wild flowers
- Store in airtight container for three days or freeze
- Note -The flour can be subbed out for ground almonds for a gf option and yoghurt for coconut yoghurt for a dairy free option. This will make the loaf a denser crumb but still utterly delicious.



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Best of the Best

By Margo Berryman

The Wai Hospitality Group comprising Alex Boyes, Jan Rae-Robertson and Martin and Megan James is a Queenstown hospitality leader with its celebrated Italian restaurant Bella Cucina on Brecon Street along with the multiple award winning Finz Seafood & Grill and Public Italian Kitchen on Steamer Wharf.

"We are extremely proud of our achievements in creating our five-star restaurants over many years in Queenstown. The group is firmly invested in each restaurant which continue to shine brightly as some of the best hospitality experiences in the resort."

Marty James



Public Italian Kitchen Refresh

A new look, new name and fresh menu welcomes diners to Public Italian Kitchen on Steamer Wharf this season.

Previously known as Public Kitchen & Bar the restaurant has recently undergone a stylish interior makeover complete with soft furnishings and new table seating arrangements throughout the venue.

"The refurbishment was focused on opening up the restaurant by removing the bar stool area and adding more table spaces beside the windows to maximise the fantastic views out over Queenstown's mountains and Lake Whakatipu," says venue manager Kirk Webster.

"We still hold happy hour from 3.00pm until 5.00pm every day with our special \$12 cocktail menu which includes our famous Espresso Martini. It's a great spot for afternoon or early cocktails leading into evening dining."



The restaurant's new direction includes a homely and wholesome Italian style menu featuring freshly made handcrafted pasta dishes and a big grill section filled with seriously good locally sourced meats, steaks, seafood and New Zealand lamb.

"Starters like the Burrata, Tortellini di Ricotta e Funghi and New Zealand oysters are favoured as are the fresh pasta dishes like Fusilli al Ragu, Fettuccine Frutti di Mare and Spaghetti ai Gamberi," says Kirk.

"Our Ribeye di Manzo in the grill section is one of the best quality cuts of steaks available and the whole panfried sole, Akaroa salmon and lamb striploin are very popular especially with tourists."

Wai Hospitality Group executive chef Steve Clayton oversees the menu design that is written by head chef Shane Davies and tested with co-owners Marty James and Alex Boyes.

"The new menu has been welcomed by diners with 90 per cent of the dishes available gluten free, including all the pasta dishes and there are plenty of dairy free options. All are served complete with side dishes optional."

An extensive wine list featuring wines from throughout New Zealand complements the food and there is a fine selection of Central Otago Pinot Noir, top shelf spirits and craft beers on tap.



"Our deck area overlooking Lake Whakatipu has the closest seating to the water in Queenstown and is hugely popular during spring and summer for al fresco drinks, snacks or evening dining under the stars," says Kirk.

"Many people come to the restaurant for the view as well as the food because the waterfront location is spectacular. Public Italian Kitchen brings people together to enjoy the environment, the friendly service and outstanding local cuisine which is a true flavour of New Zealand."

Bookings highly recommended. Walk-ins welcome.

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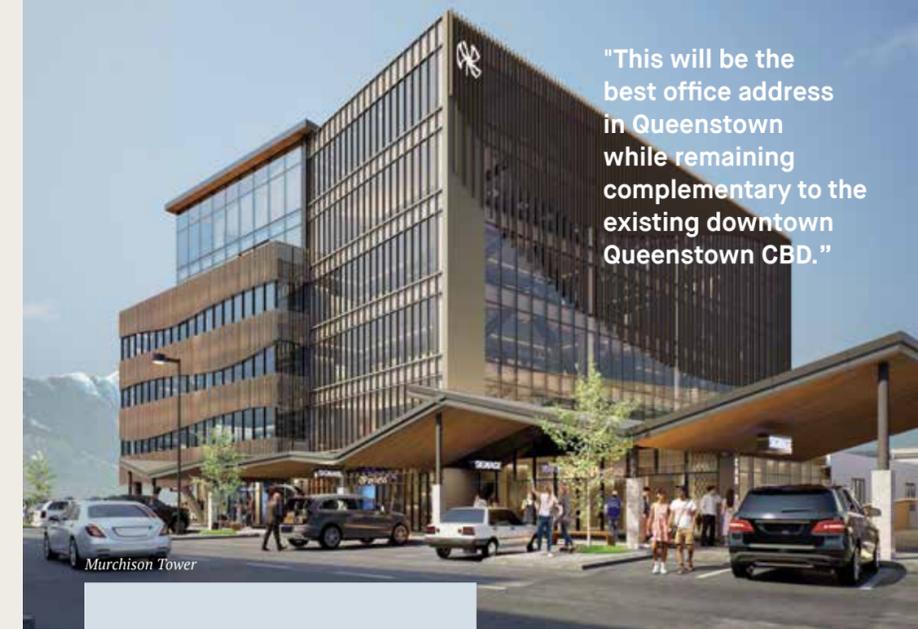
Multimillion dollar development at Five Mile

By Jane Brooke

A new \$80 million dollar development is designed to cater for ongoing growth and demand at Queenstown's Five Mile retail and business centre.

A six-storey complex known as Murchison Tower, on the corner of Five Mile Place and Murchison Road, will incorporate ground floor retail and five floors of premium offices above while an adjoining three-storey 215 space parking building is being developed above the existing carpark to the rear of Woolworths supermarket.

Construction will start in autumn next year with completion expected by the end of 2027 and Colliers Queenstown is seeking expressions of interest from key retail and office tenants.



Murchison Tower

"This will be the best office address in Queenstown while remaining complementary to the existing downtown Queenstown CBD."



Murchison Tower and carparking building

Commercial director Mark Simpson says there is strong market-led demand for premium office and retail space which signals confidence in continued growth.

"This will be the best office address in Queenstown while remaining complementary to the existing downtown Queenstown CBD," he says. "It's important that the Queenstown CBD retains its vibrancy for the local community and visitors while Frankton grows as a strong location for commerce."

Queenstown Gateway Five Mile director Craig Greenwood says as the district faces strong growth Five Mile is recognised as the place to do business in the Whakatipu.

"There was absolutely nothing at Five Mile before the Woolworths supermarket opened in 2015," says Craig. "Ten years down the track our bustling and successful retail and business centre supports and strengthens local businesses providing better amenities for our local community while also creating jobs."

New Image

The nationally renowned **Golf Warehouse** opens in Five Mile in mid-October offering the latest in golf equipment, clothing and accessories to local and visiting golfers.

Joe's Garage is now operated by former Dunedin chef **Varshesh Dadhwal** and his wife **Shivani** who look forward to putting their own stamp on the successful Five Mile venture.



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Spring into Glenorchy

A 46-kilometre drive from Queenstown on one of the world's most scenic roads to the small township of Glenorchy at the head of Lake Whakatipu is a highlight. Set in stunning alpine scenery Glenorchy is a drawcard during spring offering a range of passive and adventure activities.

Exploring the wilderness

Glenorchy is the gateway to Te Wāhipounamu National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage wilderness area encompassing 2.6 million hectares including mountains, fiords, rainforests and glaciers. The area is home to the world's only alpine parrot, the South Island kea, the kiwi and the endangered takahē.

Headwaters Glenorchy Eco Lodge

is ideal as a base to explore the wilderness areas from multi-day hikes to shorter one-day walks.

The lodge is proud of the work undertaken by the Southern Lakes Sanctuary organisation which recently released takahē into the Rees Valley.

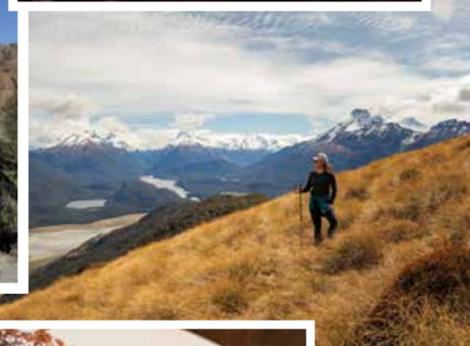
"It's a core part of who we are and what makes this place so special," says general manager Kylie Broxton.

Trail Expansion

The Glenorchy Trails Trust recently celebrated the completion of the Buckler Burn Trail between Glenorchy and the Whakaari Conservation Area which includes the Hugo Bridge, an impressive 48-metre suspension bridge funded to the tune of \$175,000 by the Hugo Charitable Trust.

The popular first one-kilometre stage of the walking and cycling trail from Glenorchy to Campbelltown, alongside the Glenorchy to Queenstown road, was opened four years ago.

A proposed 50-kilometre trail from Glenorchy to Queenstown is next on the agenda for the Trails Trust.



Raising community funds

The legendary Glenorchy Races are staged every year on the first Saturday after New Year.

Held for more than 60 years local riders and horses gallop around a makeshift racecourse and a betting system run by the Lakeside Rugby Club raises funds for the local community.

Team celebrations

Headwaters Glenorchy Eco Lodge offers a range of packages for team seasonal celebrations including delectable grazing platters served in the rustic Scheelite Shelter (\$49pp), a memorable two-course Christmas lunch in the dining room (\$69pp) or lunch and a local activity (prices on request). Suitable for groups of ten or more people.

Brunch tradition

First Sunday brunches are becoming a tradition at Headwaters Glenorchy Eco Lodge where the inhouse culinary team creates a buffet brunch served from 11.00am to 1.30pm. Featuring an array of options including hot dishes made using freshly picked produce from the lodge's kitchen gardens bookings are essential and available online.

www.theheadwatersecolodge.com



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Pictured: Glassons

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Chunky statement necklaces are in high rotation. Square-toe jandals for effortless chic.

Ballet flats return (with embellishments). Mules arrive in bold colourways. Party season calls for a platform sandal or wedge – legs for days, comfort on lock.

Pictured from left to right: Benita Ballet Flat, Stephanie Sandal, Dottie Sandal (Merchant 1948). Model wears: Glassons.



Sneaker Drop: Salomon XT-Whisper.

The hype is real. Trail heritage meets high street drip.

With secure tech features and unique aesthetic, these statement shoes are literally flying out the door – only at Fridge Freezer, Queenstown Central.



Weekend Uniform.

Warmer days call for the classics – a crisp white tee and relaxed grey sweats, perfect for a Sunday cruise.

Long skirts are the new elevated casual. Pair with a cinched top, basic singlet or baby tee and you're good-to-go.

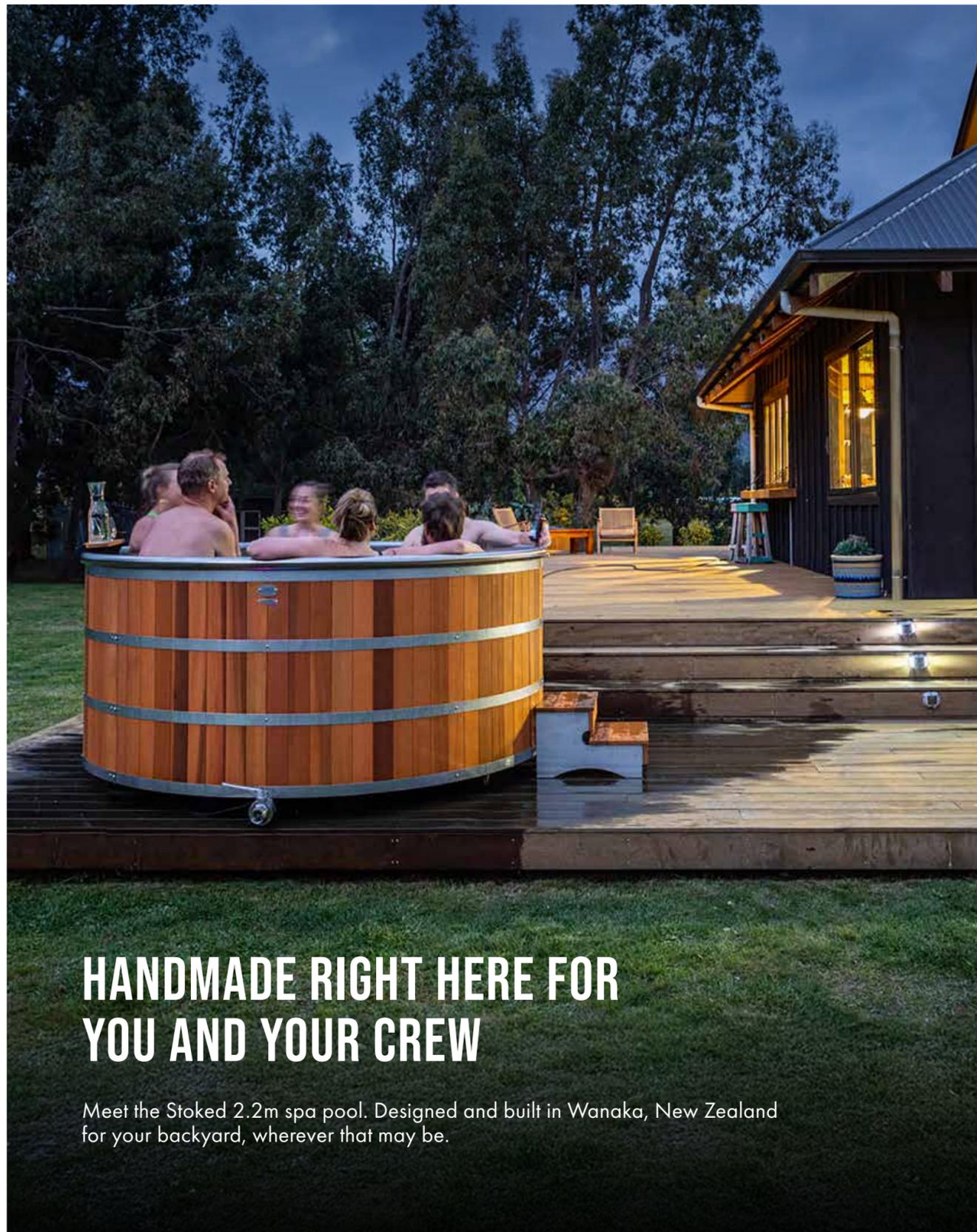
Pictured left to right: Hallensteins, Glassons.



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Q&A

From curated furniture and décor to complete home or business interior projects McKenzie & Willis offers expert advice and guidance at its Queenstown store. QT Magazine spoke with the McW team about the scope of the design service.

Our interior design service goes beyond one-off advice — we're here to help clients shape a home that feels cohesive, considered and entirely their own. Offered as part of a McKenzie & Willis project the complimentary service includes a dedicated interior designer to guide people through the process, provide access to an extensive range of furnishings along with custom-made pieces and present a cohesive palette.



Who leads the interior design service in the Queenstown store?

We have a team of experienced and specialist interior designers in our Queenstown store. With a collaborative approach the local team and wider McKenzie & Willis specialists will work together to help build a perfect interior scheme.

What are the key principles behind selecting home interior furnishings and fittings reflecting a client's personality?

Whether a client is refreshing a single room or completing a new build our interior designers will work closely with them to understand their style, vision and lifestyle. We pride ourselves on excellent customer service and take the time to build a relationship with our customers ensuring they not only love the result but enjoy the journey of creating a space that is uniquely theirs.

Our extensive, hand selected collection features the finest New Zealand made and international designer brands. From curtains and blinds to furniture, beds and linen our Queenstown store is a one-stop shop for all interior furnishings.



What is trending at McKenzie & Willis for the spring?

Our interior designers stay ahead of the curve and are always up to date with the latest trends and new designs. One of the trends we are seeing more frequently is the desire to move away from sleek minimalism into incorporating more luxe details and soft charm — whether that's through colour, texture or unique forms it is exciting to see someone's individual style reflected in their interior scheme.

What interior design packages are available?

We have a range of offers and packages to suit any individual's budget and lifestyle. Our \$7999 New Home Curtains & Blinds package is the perfect solution for a new build. Whatever the size of the project we are committed to ensuring a client receives the best value for money throughout the interior design process.



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LET'S MAKE YOUR HOME BEAUTIFUL

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interiors



Sophisticated Contemporary Shades

By Jane Brooke

Arrowtown business Suncraft NZ's versatile range of contemporary bespoke retractable shade sails have a strong following for both residential homes and commercial properties and is quickly becoming the go to shade solution for designers and architects.

Kate and Josef Fruhmann's company is the exclusive distributor of Austrian manufactured Soliday products in New Zealand, Australia and the South Pacific.

"This year we have noticed an increase in architects specifying our products during the design stage which has led to many exciting projects," says Kate. "We are also excited to be working with Cool Awnings who is our Auckland retailer."

"We offer manual or motorised shade sails covering areas up to 110 square metres with all systems being fully retractable ensuring that views and scenery are not obstructed when the shade sail is not in use," says Kate. "Sun and wind sensors, along with height adjustment and water-resistant fabrics, can also be integrated into each system making them super versatile."

Each system is designed and manufactured specifically for a designated outdoor space and she says lead times are important to ensure delivery for summer.



"Our retractable fabric roof systems continue to be a popular choice for customers with existing pergolas or plans for new pergolas. We can also help with pergola design and build."

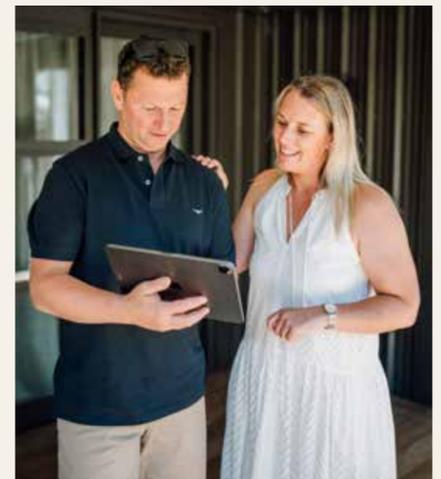
"We encourage anyone wanting to install one of our systems this year to get in early. The process takes approximately four to six weeks from the start of installation to completion so now is the time to get the order underway to ensure the shade system is ready for Christmas."

Kate and Josef are well qualified to help clients choose shade styles and fabrics.

"There is a huge selection of fabric colours along with various options for pole shape and colour so certainly there are plenty of decisions to be made. Our shade systems are elegant and bespoke, ensuring they are easily integrated into existing settings."

Suncraft impressed the crowds at the Southern Lakes Home & Garden Show and the Wānaka A&P Show earlier this year with their pergola featuring stainless steel brackets, a retractable fabric roof and outdoor curtains.

"People could immediately envisage the setup in their own backyard," says Kate. "Some already had existing pergolas or plans to install one and thought the retractable fabric roof would be the perfect addition while others were keen to learn about our pergola design and build service."



Transform your outdoor space with Suncraft's premium range of custom-designed products. We offer retractable shade sails, outdoor curtains, and high-end furniture to create beautiful, functional spaces.

All our products are made in Europe, combining exceptional craftsmanship with modern design. Each piece is tailored to suit your style, ensuring a seamless and elegant outdoor living experience all year round.

We can visit you on-site or assist remotely with the design of your project.

Call Kate on 02108388740 or email sales@suncraft.co.nz to make an appointment.



European Outdoor Furniture

To complete a stylish outdoor setting Suncraft NZ stocks the Soliday outdoor furniture range sourced from Austria.

Co-owner Kate Fruhmann says there is nothing similar on the market.

"The modular concept of this European range is very attractive with quality water repellent fabrics offering a stylish, contemporary look. The response from local customers in Queenstown and Wānaka has been hugely positive so far and we now have interior design store Bob and Friends as our authorised retailer in Auckland."

"We have a large order of modular outdoor furniture on the way from Europe which can be ordered through our online shop."

Thinking of selling?

Book a free, no-obligation property appraisal this August or September and go in the draw to win an unforgettable Otago experience – worth \$3,500!

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Gallery's Diverse Exhibits

By Penny Simpson

A selection of new and noteworthy works headline spring at Wānaka's contemporary art gallery Gallery Thirty Three.

The gallery is recognised as a well-known art and cultural destination in the Southern Lakes and exhibits paintings, sculptures and jewellery created by leading New Zealand and Australian artists.

"As we launch into spring we are bustling with yet another exhibition changeover," says gallery director Vanessa George. "The diverse exhibition programme changes monthly with openings on the first Friday of each month. These lively events are a great opportunity to visit the gallery, hear from the artists themselves and a chance to catch up with like-minded art lovers over a glass of Maude wine."

During September Gallery Thirty Three features new works by Michel Tuffery and Ben Reid. October sees fresh creations from Sean Beldon, Belinda Griffiths and Kiya Nancarrow while November will showcase artists Jane Mitchell and John Oxborough.

"Our Summer Series will open on December 5 and run through until the end of January," says Vanessa. "This is the only exception to our monthly changeovers as this is an evolving exhibition and when works sell, new works are hung in their place. This exhibition is dynamic, featuring new pieces from many of our very talented stable of artists including Bing Dawe, Simon Kaan, Sierra Roberts, Luke Jacomb, Neil Driver, Mark Rayner and Josh and Amelia Olley, to name but a few."

Gallery Thirty Three also presents a stunning showcase of jewellery from many esteemed New Zealand jewellers including Ann Culy, Rainer Beneke, Barry Clarke and John Z. Robinson.

"These bespoke, high-quality handmade pieces are wearable pieces of art so if you are looking for something extra special, viewing is highly recommended."



Blue Aoraki - Sean Beldon

Gallery Thirty Three is located at 33 Helwick Street Wānaka. Open every day except Christmas day the gallery ships works around New Zealand and internationally.

For all enquiries info@gallery33.co.nz or visit the website gallery33.co.nz

gallery thirty three



Karearea - Josh Olley



Fantail - Amelia Olley

At the Oxbow - Streamside Defence, Eel with Branches Horopito & Tutu - Bing Dawe



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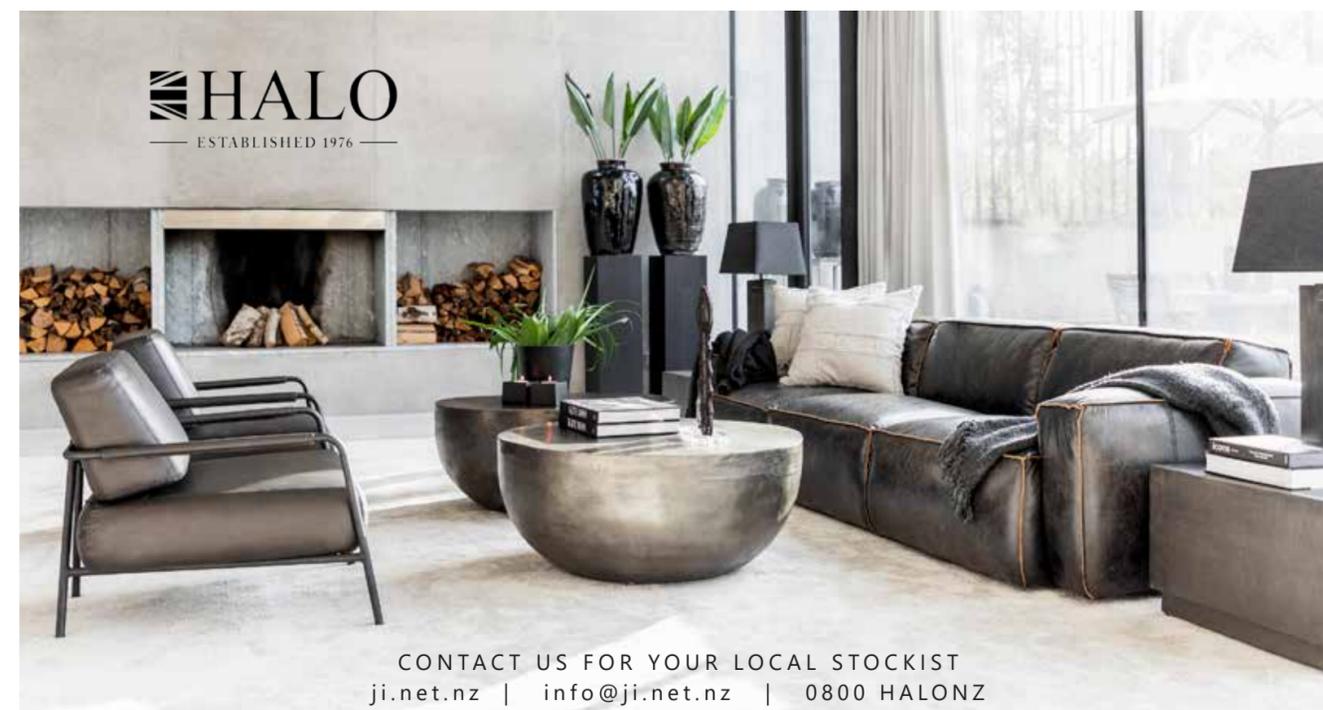


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Project Driven

Ram Projects property development company is led by local Cromwell couple Nick and Laura Wright who focus on architectural integrity and spatial design for their high-quality builds. QT Magazine talked to them about their Central Otago projects.

What is Ram Project's first completed build project?

Our first independent property venture as Ram Projects was the completion of two residential townhouses at Wooring Tree. Prior to this we were involved in several collaborative projects including a rural development in Queensberry and four executive apartments at Highlands Motorsport Park in Cromwell.

What was the design brief for the Wooring Tree Avenue project?

It was imperative the townhouses were suitable for families of mixed ages and they needed to be timeless and future proofed. We combined everyday necessities for a busy family home with elements of luxury living by creating surplus zones such as the alfresco decking, multi-use loft space and an executive style master suite. These cleverly designed spaces create flexible living environments and ensure long term investment value.

What was critical to a successful outcome?

Our brief was to ensure the entire section was utilised and the property was efficient and fit for multifunctional purpose. Our choice of overall structure, materials and thermal efficiency means the house will remain temperate in extreme alpine weather.

What is Ram Projects approach to individual build projects?

Our point of difference amongst a competitive field of volume builders is approaching each project individually to provide adequate design time.

We firstly identify our buyer and then determine the scope of their project before concentrating on individual spaces and bringing our personal flair — this defines each build as a Ram Project.

What is the make-up of Ram Project's expert team?

We are fortunate to have a network of impeccable sub trades that share our core values and allow our projects to come to life. They consistently deliver a level of supreme quality which is the point of difference. Most notably our building company The Wright Build leads all construction on our developments and having been in the business for 11 years has extensive experience and knowledge alongside a solid reputation for delivering quality projects. Much credit is owed to the skilled team.

What Ram Projects are currently underway?

We're currently working through applications for an exciting venture in Clyde — a collection of beautiful three to four bedroom homes. Purchasers will have all the benefits of living in the heart of the town while nestled within a private community. This project pays homage to the area's stunning heritage plus the town's future development, fantastic bike trails, cuisine and everything it has to offer. We are also working through the design of our show home at Shannon Farm, Cromwell's newest rural subdivision. We are super excited for this new development where we are creating the dream Central Otago home that will have wide appeal.

Photographs BWRM Queenstown Lakes



Looking to Buy?

Some exciting properties will be featured by the Ram Projects Property team online soon and now is an excellent time to get into the local market as a first home buyer or seasoned purchaser looking to grow a portfolio.

The company's socials and website will highlight updates on current projects.

Nick Wright: 021 118 4574

Laura Wright: 022 035 236

Email: hello@ramprojects.co.nz

www.ramprojects.co.nz



Ulmus Pendula The Bakehouse Ayrburn

Horticultural Expertise

By Penny Simpson



The Woolshed Avenue Ayrburn

Fourth-generation family business Easy Big Trees is the South Island's largest supplier of mature trees and plants and boasts over 100 years of horticultural expertise.



Cherry Trees Wings Over Water

The Harrison family began growing plants in Manawatu in 1918 and today their extended collection of natives, deciduous trees, fruit trees and shrubs stretches across 24 hectares of Southland countryside with a collection of more than 300 different tree and shrub varieties.

"We don't just grow trees and plants. Our team nurtures a world of beauty to suit a variety of gardens and properties for clients across the South Island," says sales and marketing director Barney Harrison. "Cherry blossoms, sculptural maples, towering oaks and New Zealand natives are some of the specimen trees we cultivate with care before being planted out across a range of gardens, streetscapes and landmarks nationwide."

Easy Big Trees specimens grace some of Central Otago's largest and most extensive residential and commercial projects including the award-winning Wings Over Water property in Queenstown and Ayrburn near Arrowtown.

"Each of these projects is a testament to the transformative power of thoughtfully curated greenery and it's truly rewarding to see our trees shaping such inspiring gardens", says Barney. "They create a living canvas that will continue to evolve with time."

The Southland nursery supports sustainable practices, carbon sequestration and biodiversity preservation through its growing and planting practices.

"The nursery's influence reaches far beyond the aesthetic. Our trees contribute to community wellbeing ensuring healthy ecosystems for generations to come."

The company delivers to the Queenstown Lakes and Central Otago region on a weekly basis with people encouraged to visit the nursery which is open daily throughout the week.

"Our team welcomes customers to view and handpick their favourites from a wide range of trees. Orders or requests for quotes can be placed by telephoning or emailing our office. Delivery is available New Zealand wide, making it seamless to access our catalogue of plants from anywhere in the country."



Buxus Topiary Burr Bar Ayrburn

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Nourish body and soul this spring and summer at Sofitel Spa with L'Occitane, nestled in the heart of Queenstown. This refined sanctuary blends the timeless charm of French luxury with the breathtaking beauty of New Zealand's South Island. Signature treatments, inspired by the lush landscapes of Provence and enriched with L'Occitane's exquisite skincare, offer a deeply restorative experience.

From the soothing Traditional Greenstone Massage, rooted in ancient Māori healing, to hydrating facials designed to replenish, each treatment is a journey toward balance, beauty, and renewal. Let Sofitel Spa with L'Occitane be your luxurious summer retreat—offering comfort, calm, and French-inspired wellness in a truly unforgettable setting.

WHERE tranquility Flows

Signature Greenstone Massage

Pounamu Greenstone is a unique form of jade found in the South Island of New Zealand that holds deep and profound cultural significance to the Māori people of Aotearoa.

More than a beautiful stone, it symbolises a spiritual connection to Papatuanuku (Earth Mother), embodying healing, strength, and protection.

Our signature Greenstone Ritual is carefully crafted to honor this sacred stone and channel its powerful properties. Warmed, locally carved Pounamu stones are used in a smooth, continuous flow of long, soothing strokes, dissolving tension and restoring balance. This luxurious treatment offers the perfect blend of therapeutic benefits and serene relaxation, ideal for those seeking both healing and indulgence.

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Q&A

L'Occitane en Provence spa experiences are exclusive to Sofitel Queenstown Hotel & Spa. Michael Tassone B2B Director for L'Occitane en Provence, Australia explains the holistic philosophy behind the treatments to QT Magazine.

L'Occitane en Provence developed exclusive spa experiences for Sofitel Queenstown hotel and spa guests by centring sleep as the foundation of holistic well-being and aligning with Sofitel's Art of Sleep philosophy. The brand partnered with the European Sleep Center to test and validate the treatment protocols and crafted accredited treatments - most notably the Sleep & Reset Massage which improves sleep quality by +40 per cent and reduces the time to fall asleep by -30 per cent. Additionally the 25-minute Power Nap Massage boosts relaxation and recovery by +35 per cent and perceived well-being by +29 per cent ensuring every indulgence delivers scientifically proven, restorative benefits.

How is L'Occitane en Provence's French elegance represented at the spa?

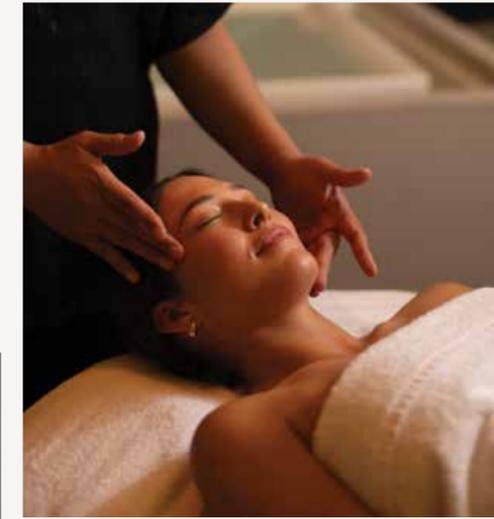
French elegance and the timeless luxury of L'Occitane en Provence is perfectly represented at the spa through its harmonious blend of refined aesthetics, sensorial richness and holistic philosophy. Sofitel Spa L'Occitane en Provence offers guests a meaningful journey where they can feel better through exploring deeper connections with mind and body while creating a positive impact on nature. Signature treatments are elevated by a commitment to science-backed wellness, focusing on four 'better-being' pillars - longevity, regeneration, balance, and vitality. Every ritual draws from the natural beauty of Provence, using luxurious L'Occitane en Provence products and traditional Provençal practices while the spa's elegant design harnesses Provençal décor and holistic facilities such as private steam rooms and Jacuzzis — immersing guests in a serene, authentically French atmosphere of indulgence and tranquility.

What is the brand's commitment to sustainability



L'Occitane en Provence demonstrates a deep and enduring commitment to natural products and sustainability through every facet of its brand and operations. Guided by their mission — with empowerment we positively impact people and regenerate nature — the brand actively invest in biodiversity and prioritise sustainable solutions to help create a healthier planet.

The L'Occitane Group globally, has pledged to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 2031 and achieve carbon net zero status by 2050 by focusing on logistics, supply chain efficiency and energy transition. Their products reflect this ethos through recyclable and recycled packaging, refill options and in-store empty take-back programmes with a goal of making our entire plastic packaging recyclable, reusable or compostable by FY2026. The brand's Formulation and Clean Charter ensures that all products are crafted with high-quality, traceable and ethically sourced ingredients working closely with local producers and prioritising sustainable sourcing.



What L'Occitane en Provence products are recommended for Queenstown's climate?

For Queenstown's cool springs and hot, dry summers L'Occitane en Provence's Almond Body Care Collection is perfect. Enriched with nourishing almond oil from Provence the Almond Supple Skin Oil deeply hydrates, firms and smooths the skin while helping to even tone and reduce stretch marks. Guests can elevate their experience by enjoying this oil as part of the Pure Indulgence spa package at Sofitel Spa L'OCCITANE en Provence which includes a rejuvenating Hammam steam, a 30-minute full-body exfoliation using the Shea Body Scrub and a 45-minute body massage where guests can choose the Almond Supple Skin Oil from three luxurious body oil selections. This treatment offers gentle nourishment to combat skin dryness and dullness making it ideal for both spring and summer in Queenstown.



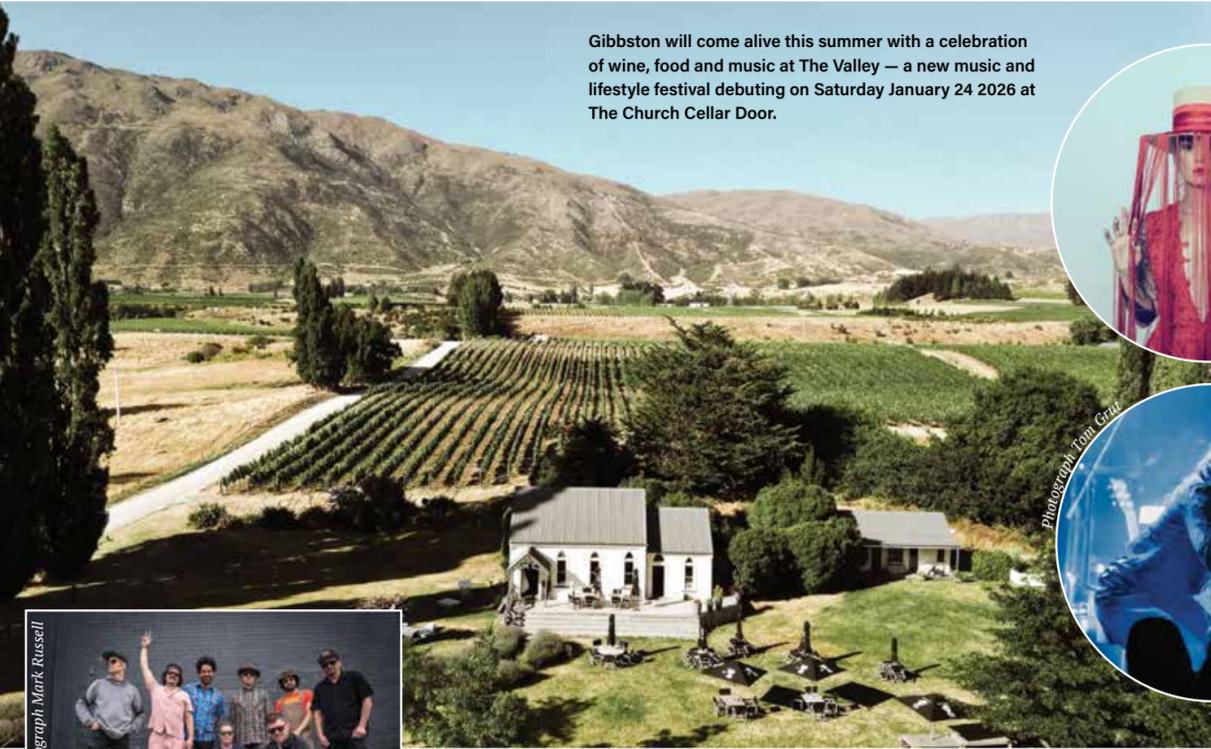
WHERE appetites alight

This spring and summer, indulge in the rich flavours of Central Otago at Le Petit Salon - where New Zealand's finest produce is served with timeless elegance in the heart of Queenstown

THE VALLEY DEBUTS

By Penny Simpson

Gibbston will come alive this summer with a celebration of wine, food and music at The Valley — a new music and lifestyle festival debuting on Saturday January 24 2026 at The Church Cellar Door.



Hollie Smith



Reb Foundation

Photograph: Tom Grant



The Black Seeds

The Auckland anniversary weekend festival will roll out a premium selection of top-flight Kiwi music, world-class wines, gourmet food and craft brews.

"The Valley is about bringing together the best of what Gibbston has to offer — music, flavour, scenery and atmosphere," says festival director Nathan White. "This isn't just another summer gig, it's an elevated experience in one of the most iconic spots in the country."

"Festival tickets are currently on sale and the artist lineup is a monster featuring a blend of beloved New Zealand household names and rising stars from across the country including Kora, The Black Seeds, Reb Foundation, Hollie Smith plus local support bands."

The event is produced by the team from Ripe Events which is best known for *Ripe* — *The Wānaka Wine & Food Festival* and will feature Central Otago wines from Mount Edward, craft beers from Canyon Brewing and cocktails from Scapegrace Distillery.

"The Valley is built with the future in mind and honours the stunning site of The Church Cellar Door. We plan to be a regular fixture on the summer calendar for years to come," says Nathan. "With improved site access and upgraded traffic management, festival goers can expect a smooth and enjoyable day from start to finish with The Church set to deliver its most seamless experience yet."

www.thevalleyfest.co.nz



Kora

Photograph: Tom Grant

Linden Leaves celebrates 30 years
Celebrating 30 years of beauty with purpose Linden Leaves is a New Zealand founded and made skincare and lifestyle brand that has remained family owned and operated since its inception.

"We blend nature and science to create effective, sensory rich products that nourish skin and elevate daily rituals," says CEO Juliet Blair. "With a heritage in spa and wellness our formulations focus on natural, sustainably sourced ingredients made with care in Christchurch and are certified vegan or NATRUE wherever possible."

Now available in 14 international markets Linden Leaves is a favourite retail product in high-end tourism and wellness destinations.

"From body oils to skincare and home fragrance each of our products is a moment of mindful beauty."

"Linden Leaves continues to grow while staying true to its core values: kindness, craftsmanship, and conscious luxury," she says. "We are passionate about timeless self-care and proud to be one of New Zealand's original clean beauty pioneers."

Linden Leaves Gift Packs are available from September 2025 instore or online at www.lindenleaves.co.nz

SKINCARE Sensations

Trinny London Launched

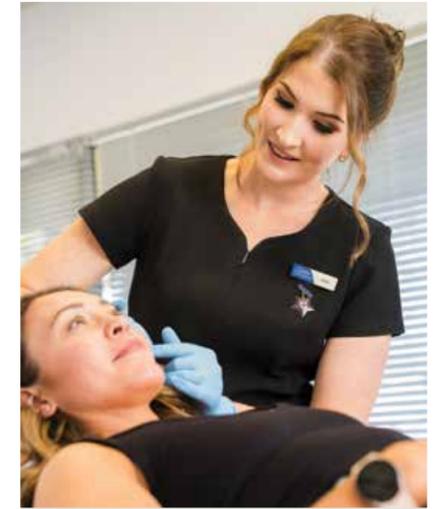
Trinny London — the cult UK beauty and skincare brand founded by beauty entrepreneur Trinny Woodall — is one of Europe's fastest growing direct to consumer startups.

The company has recently released Take Back Time Elixir their most advanced skincare innovation to date. The product has been officially launched in Australia and New Zealand and is available for purchase online at www.trinnylondon.com

This universal, fragrance free elixir is clinically proven to repair and strengthen the skin barrier in just 30 minutes while delivering 48 hours of deep hydration. Powered by a precision blend of next-gen ingredients, it tackles vascular ageing — a key driver of dull, tired-looking skin.

"There are days when our skin looks tired and dull and that makes us feel tired and dull. I wanted to create something that delivers an instant transformation, using advanced ingredients and micro-infusion technology to restore skin vitality."

Trinny Woodall Founder & CEO



Transform Your Skin

Transform Clinic offers Procell Therapies Microchannelling at its medical spa clinics held every four to six weeks at Elysium Beauty in central Queenstown with expert registered nurse Anna Stratford.

Procell Therapies Microchannelling involves a microneedling pen that glides over the skin to create millions of micro-channels while applying powerful growth factor and cytokine serums, triggering the body's natural healing response of collagen and elastin production in the skin. Meanwhile, these serums travel deep into the skin to speed up collagen production, skin repair, and calm inflammation — delivering excellent results with minimal downtime.

"This treatment is good for skin rejuvenation, skin tightening, fine lines and wrinkles, acne scarring and large pores amongst other benefits," says Transform Clinic co-owner Jennifer Little.

Bookings are essential and can be made online at www.transformclinic.co.nz

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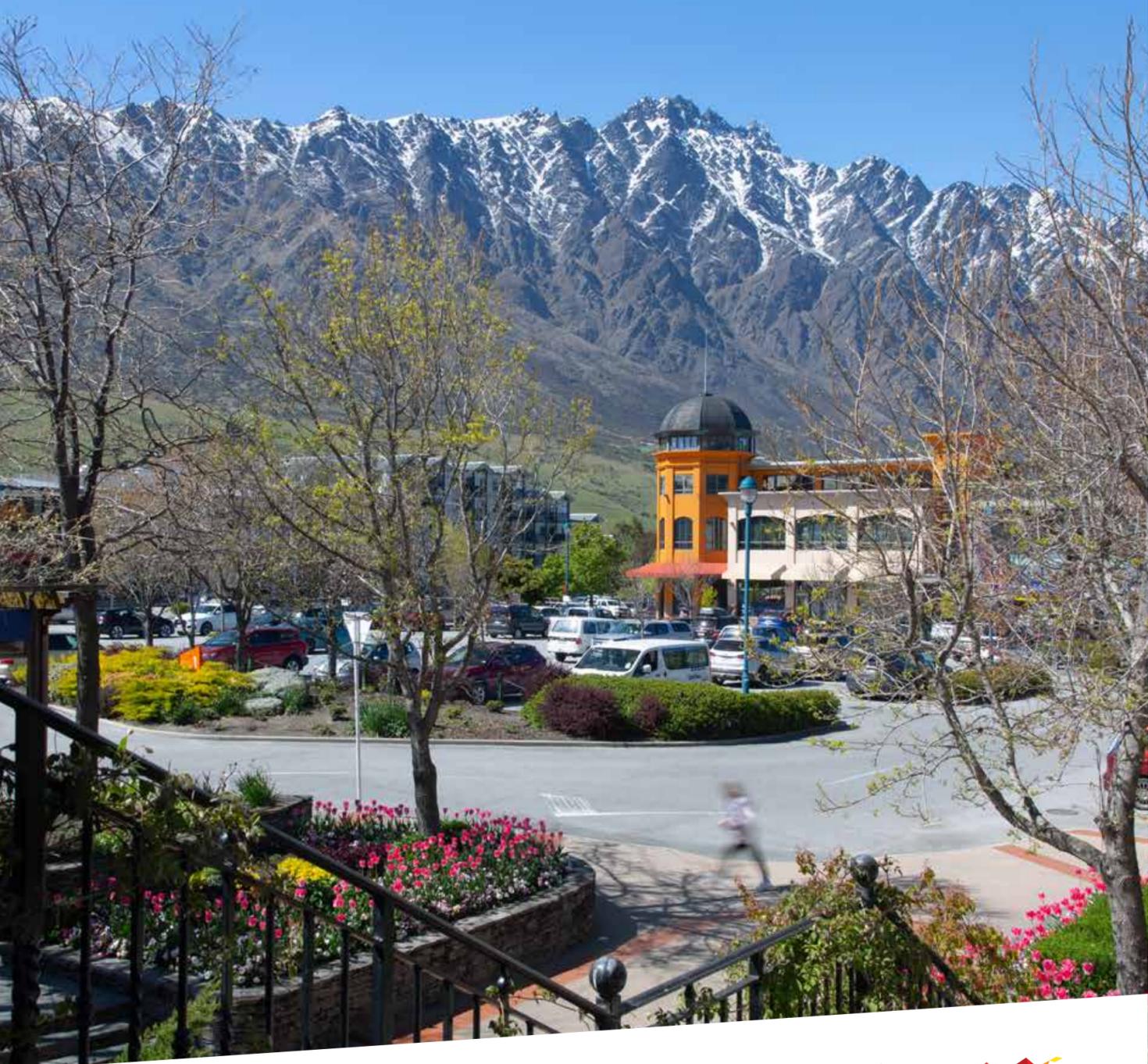
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MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME @ Remarkables Park Town Centre

Community in Focus – Men's Performance Series

The Centre was delighted with the incredible turnout and energy at its first Men's Performance Series event featuring motorsport legend Hayden Paddon.



"This series is just the beginning, we're committed to continuing the conversation around men's health, connection, and inspiration. With other events in the pipeline we look forward

to supporting even more people across our community," says Centre manager Nick Lambert.



Settle In With Style

Whether it's furnishing a new home or flat, refreshing interiors or upgrading everyday essentials Remarkables Park Town Centre has everything required. With the exciting arrival of Lighting Direct the Centre is now a one-stop destination for home and lifestyle inspiration. "Our growing mix of home and lifestyle stores makes it the perfect place for locals to set up homes and create spaces they truly love," says Centre manager Nick Lambert.

From elegant lighting and luxury textiles to home appliances, kitchen essentials, statement furniture and local artwork there is something to suit every taste and budget. Explore favourites like Wallace Cotton, Nood, Harvey Norman, BedsRus, Spotlight, Lighting Direct and Queenstown Furniture Gallery plus curated art and design pieces at Te Atamira gallery.

"Setting up home is hard enough, furnishing it shouldn't feel like another chore," says Nick. "We've created a space that's relaxed, welcoming and easy to navigate, with friendly service, plenty of parking and a genuinely enjoyable atmosphere."

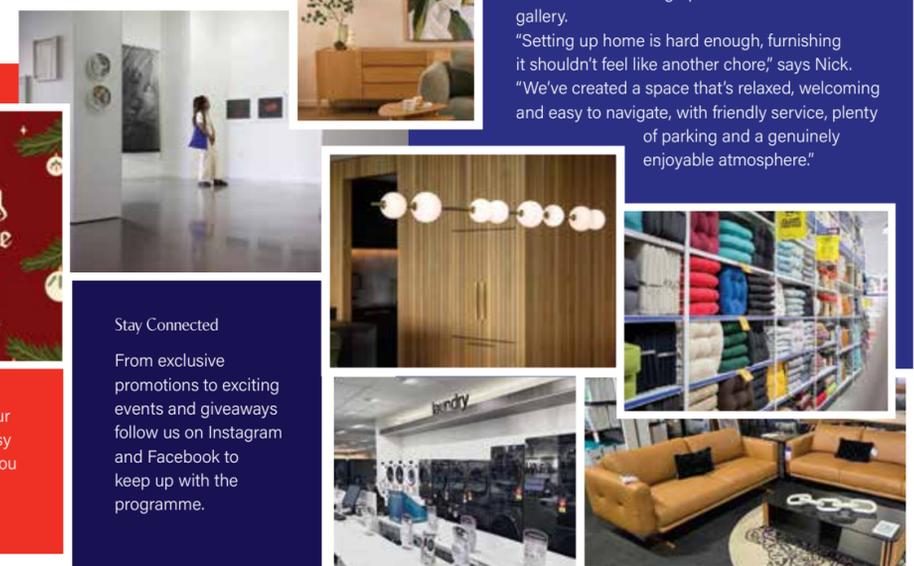
Christmas at the Centre

Christmas is always a special time at Remarkables Park Town Centre and this year's festive season will be more magical than ever. Enjoy our much-loved Remarkables Elf Hunt, snap a family photo (or selfie) with Santa and tick off your Christmas list at a calm, enjoyable pace. With easy parking and no fuss, it's a shopping experience you can enjoy – rather than endure.



Stay Connected

From exclusive promotions to exciting events and giveaways follow us on Instagram and Facebook to keep up with the programme.



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Funding for good

By Tom Kalliber

More than 60 events and grass roots organisations are benefiting from a share of \$527,000 in grants awarded this financial year by Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC).

Applications for the annual Community Fund, Events Fund and Waste Minimisation Community Fund (WMCF) were invited earlier this year.

QLDC sustainability advisor Emma Brockie says the WMCF includes \$50,000 to support community action and behaviour change projects and \$10,000 toward commercial waste minimisation sponsored by Waste Management NZ Ltd.

"This year's 13 recipients include low-waste parenting workshops, retirement village education programmes, sustainable party packs to loan from a local toy library and the reuse of surplus building materials."

"These community-led projects empower people to take simple, everyday action that collectively moves us closer to becoming a zero-waste district."

QLDC community partnerships manager Marie Day says the Community Fund focuses on supporting local initiatives that deliver strong wellbeing outcomes.

"This year's fund of \$180,000 is supporting an impressive range of projects and organisations that look to make a meaningful impact and enhance community connection. From youth and environmental initiatives to arts, culture and social services the 28 successful applicants represent the vibrant diversity of our district and the dedication of those working to make it better."



New direction for water services

By Tom Kalliber

The future delivery of water services to residents and ratepayers in the Whakatipu Basin and Upper Clutha has recently been confirmed by the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC).

Chief executive Mike Theelen says the decision to create a Water Services Council Controlled Organisation (WSCCO) follows a proposal put before the community for how drinking water, wastewater and stormwater could be managed best as part of central government's Local Water Done Well plan.

"The decision to progress with a WSCCO was undeniably a challenging one to make but on balance councillors considered this model will provide a range of advantages in accountability, independence and lower household costs in the long term when compared with the alternative in-house model."

"The future WSCCO will be fully owned by QLDC but governed by its own independent board and management. The council will be the only shareholder and will appoint board members based on the skills and experience needed for its proper governance."

He says the QLDC will set the organisation's strategic priorities and establish measures to ensure it performs to expectations while the Commerce Commission will use various regulatory tools to ensure water charges are fair, cost-reflective and transparent.

"We'll transfer responsibility once the WSCCO has been established under new legislation. In the meantime, QLDC will continue its ongoing significant investment programme."



Te Kākano Aotearoa Trust — a recipient of QLDC's Community Fund



Lake Hayes A&P Show

The council also awarded \$287,000 via its contestable Events Fund to a wide range of local sports, arts and community events including Queenstown Multicultural Festival, NZ Mountain Film Festival, Challenge Wānaka, Arrowtown Autumn Festival and Lake Hayes and Wānaka A&P Shows.

QUEENSTOWN MEDICAL CENTRE MILESTONE

By Jane Brooke

The opening of the new Queenstown Medical Centre (QMC) clinic in Remarkables Park is a significant milestone for the company which is the largest integrated family health provider in the lower South Island.

"QMC has served the Whakatipu community since 1972 expanding facilities as the population has grown. The vision for the new Remarkables Park clinic in Hawthorne Drive is to continue to provide a modern, conveniently located facility with dedicated health teams in a purpose-built space that's accessible for everyone. The new clinic combines all of QMC's comprehensive healthcare services in one central location in Frankton," says CEO Ashley Light.

The fit-for-purpose clinic caters to the growing Queenstown Lakes community with nine consulting rooms and access to 14 general practitioners as well as specialty clinics for areas such as sexual health, vasectomies and minor surgical procedures.

He says the new centre has longer opening hours and convenient lunchtime appointments available as well as easy parking and accessibility with lift access and wheelchair friendly space.

"A lot of consideration and passion has gone into the design of the new practice which has stemmed from our goal of improving the patient journey. This is evident throughout the new facility from the reception area to the consulting rooms. With increased space and more rooms we can accommodate more services — including the free service of health improvement practitioners and health coaches — plus more nurses and increased GP availability."



"Patient care will always be our top priority, and we are committed to supporting Queenstown Lakes locals towards better health. The new Remarkables Park clinic sets QMC up for the next 25 to 30 years of health support for our growing community."

QMC continues to offer urgent and after hours care to enrolled, casual and visitor patients at the longstanding Isle Street clinic. It is the only 365 days a year urgent care facility in the district and enrolled patients pay discounted fees.

"The Isle Street practice also provides immigration medicals, travel medicine, sexual health appointments, fracture, musculoskeletal, nutrition and contraceptive device clinics and facilitates access to radiology and ultrasound, pharmacy and physiotherapy," says Ashley. "The Jacks Point practice continues to operate as normal."

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What's New in Arrowtown

By Margo Berryman



THE DINING SCENE

Dining al fresco is one of life's simple pleasures and spring is an ideal time to experience Arrowtown's dining scene according to Arrowtown Promotion and Business Association manager Nicky Busst.

"Many local restaurants and cafés feature stylish outdoor areas and courtyards where diners can take in the hustle and bustle of village life while enjoying warmer days and evenings. There is real culinary variety on offer all within a one-kilometre radius of the town centre making Arrowtown the perfect spot for relaxed brunches, long lunches and evening family dining under the stars."

The Fork and Tap is a vibrant bistro style pub on the corner of Buckingham Street where the locals love to hang out. It serves excellent, locally sourced food to eat in or take out. With 19 beers on tap and an extensive wine list the family friendly pub has a spacious beer garden, cosy fire, outdoor heaters and kids' playground.

Ramshaw Lane is home to **The Winery** where over 80 award-winning single vineyard and reserve wines from boutique New Zealand and Central Otago wineries are available for tasting. The cellar door serves a delicious cheese board or tapas platter along with its range of wines on the patio or indoors.

Provisions of Arrowtown's garden setting is a spectacular place to sit outdoors under the blossom trees during spring and experience the café's signature fresh, seasonal food, delicious baking and great coffee made onsite in the historic miners' cottage location. Known for their obscenely good sticky buns and plentiful gluten free options the fully licensed café serves Allpress coffee, Central Otago wines, locally brewed beers and ciders.



Photograph Martin Silva

Boutique Shopping

Arrowtown's charming historic buildings are home to many owner operator retail businesses who have instilled the original premises with personality and flair. The artisan mix of stores offer everything from homewares, gifts and jade carvings to organic lavender and botanicals, specialised candles, boutique clothing, designer shoes and books.

www.arrowtown.com

EVENTS

Spring Flower Show

The Arrowtown Horticultural Society presents the 102nd Spring Flower Show

Friday September 26 12.00pm – 5.00pm & Saturday September 27 10.00am – 4.00pm at the Arrowtown Athenaeum Hall.

The show includes rows of dazzling blooms, delectable cakes, whimsical handcrafted hats and beanies plus a children's workshop where young gardeners can sow the seeds of creativity.

www.arrowtown.com



Backyard Ultra

Arrowtown Backyard Ultra 2025. Saturday November 8 & Sunday November 9. Start 9.00am. The run is on the Arrow River Trail while the event village is based at Butler Green.

The multi-day ultra running event involving competitors running 6.71km on the hour every hour until the last person standing is the overall winner.

www.highlandevents.co.nz



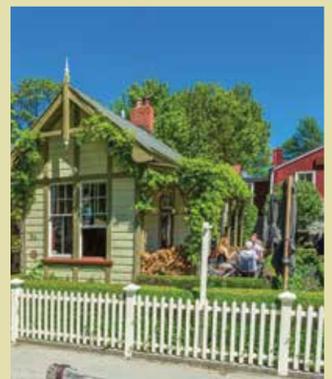
Chris Chase Photography

The Arrowtown Long Table

The Arrowtown Long Table is a well-established al fresco lunch that celebrates the best of local food, wine and community beautifully presented at tables running the length of Arrowtown's main street.

Friday December 5 12.00pm – 4.00pm

www.arrowtownlongtable.co.nz





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Longstanding premium outdoor store

By Penny Simpson

The Wool Press has made its presence felt in Arrowtown for the past 25 years selling an extensive selection of premium outdoor and lifestyle clothing and footwear.

The store, housed in a distinctive heritage building, is a magnet for outdoor adventurers particularly participants in prestigious local events such as the annual Sotheby's International Queenstown Marathon and the Motatapu mountain bike and trail competitions.

"The Queenstown marathon weekend is always a hive of activity instore with runners and their supporters buying last minute essentials like running socks or mid-layer tops if the weather is looking inclement," says store co-owner Delvine Wallace. "We have all the event essentials required to stay comfortable and dry out on the marathon trail whatever the conditions."

The Wool Press is home to successful international New Zealand outdoor brand Icebreaker and has a varied display of new season items including socks, beanies, base layers, t-shirts and merino jackets.



"It's always nice to take something new home from an event like the marathon and Icebreaker products are by far the most popular that weekend," she says. "Sunday after the event is always super busy at The Wool Press with marathoners celebrating their efforts with a bit of retail shopping."

The store stocks excellent lifestyle footwear by Sorrel and Timberland for both men and women which are ideal for hiking local trails.

"We also have beanies, bags and backpacks by Swedish outdoor company Fjallraven who are known for their Scandinavian design and sustainable materials," says Delvine. "There is also a range of high-quality raincoats and softshell jackets which are the perfect choice for active use during spring and summer."



P.E Nation arrives at GOALS

By Margo Berryman

GOALS founders Caroline Watak and Sophie Simmers have spent the past five years curating a boutique fashion experience centred around luxury leisure, active and streetwear for both women and men.

Leading Australian lifestyle brand PE Nation is new to the store this season with its distinctive aesthetic that blends active wear with style credibility for modern lifestyles. "We have followed PE Nation's journey since it began a decade ago with Pip Edwards and Claire Greaves at the helm and have always admired their visionary direction that elevated sportswear to high-tech athleisure for every day," says Sophie.

"It's a label we have wanted to represent at GOALS for a long time so we are excited to now be the exclusive stockist in Arrowtown."

The store has an excellent collection of PE Nation styles for spring including knits, leggings, jackets, hoodies and tanks. "We have an all-embracing selection with the newest drop blending high-performance activewear with off-duty essentials in new season shades of strawberry, dark sapphire and Maine blue," says Sophie. "It's the kind of clothing we personally love to wear and know our customers will love it as well."

GOALS SPRING CAPSULE

Introducing new spring collections at GOALS in Arrowtown offering fresh elevated looks for everyday living and active lifestyles for guys and girls.



THE UPSIDE NEW SEASON

Retro sport style with a pop of sparkle **The Upside Galaxia Loretta pant** features pink quartz lurex sparkle fabrication with a distinctive embroidered arrow logo.

For wearing to work or on a casual resort day out **The Upside Orion Mira Wide Leg pant** will keep you cool, calm and collected. Cream and white pinstripe in soft suiting fabric features a flattering waistband with belt loops and side pockets.

From workouts to weekends the new **Sophie Crop** by The Upside has you covered. New season colour blocking in charcoal, cream and green will make this racerback longline bra a go to essential.



DON'T SWEAT IT
The **Macchiato Shape Seamless Zip Jacket** by aim'n is crafted from a soft, stretchy and breathable fabric that feels like second skin offering a figure hugging style. Match with your favourite **Macchiato Shape Seamless** tights or hotpants for the complete look.



NEW SEASON LE SPEGS

A contemporary update to the classic D-frame the **NOCTURNAL HABIT** sunglasses deliver a bold look for guys and girls with larger proportions and a striking flat frame profile. Shop the look at GOALS



GOLFING LEGENDS

The Huffer Golf collection is where golf meets good times this spring. With a selection of polos, knit button downs and crews featuring classic Huffer details you're ready to hit the fairway in style.



Huffer Women's Birdi Pleated Golf Skort in Chalk

Huffer Men's Club 1/4 Zip Crew in Navy/Chalk

dear dylan

Designed to transition seamlessly from active moments to daily errands, the **Rally Windbreaker** in navy is a functional style will soon become your new favourite featuring a flattering silhouette, adjustable waist toggles for a cinched-in fit.



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Painter welcomes art lovers

By Jenny McLeod

Angus Watson is one of Queenstown's best known and most talented painters and has been creating anything from outstanding landscapes to nude figures for the past 35 years.

He paints from his picturesque studio in Dalefield using his preferred watercolour medium.

"I like to explore the joy of playing with colours, of putting one colour beside another and allowing them to bounce off and bleed into each other. The effects can be unexpected and instant."

While he focuses on landscapes and figures he says the subject is not important — "it is something on which to hang the colours".

Angus sells most of his work from his Littles Road Studio but also has a presence online for out of town and overseas buyers and holds an annual studio-based exhibition every January.

"I encourage people interested in seeing and talking about my work firsthand to visit my studio but it is always best to book an appointment ahead to ensure I am available. I really enjoy meeting those who have a likeminded enthusiasm for art."

Angus's studio can be found on the new Arrowtown Arts Trail recently launched by the Arrowtown Creative Arts Society (ACAS).



Sculptor Supreme

Fiona Garlick's Arrowtown studio and gallery houses her original sculptural works from small scale bronze art to larger three dimensional bronze works displayed in the adjoining outdoor sculpture garden.

Inspired by her love of nature including endemic birds, flora and fauna Fiona invites visitors to her studio on Buckingham Street just a short walk from Arrowtown's village centre.



Fiona Garlick



"My gallery is a working studio where people can discover my sculptures, see them in process and discuss the origins of each piece."

Fiona accepts small to large scale commissions and her work features in homes around the world.

"While I love to make large commissions for both public and private spaces I am also happy to work with clients on smaller more intimate sculptures for special occasions."

Arts Trail Supports Creative Community

The former Arrowtown Arts Trail has been relaunched by the Arrowtown Creative Arts Society (ACAS) to celebrate and support the town's creative community.

ACAS co-chair Kelly Carmichael says the trail includes artists, galleries and museums and will showcase "local artists with a wealth of talent and diversity of practice. The trail allows art lovers to meet them in their studios and gain an insight into Arrowtown's creativity".

Almost 20 studios are highlighted on the trail map which is being displayed on existing Arrowtown maps in the village with a QR code allowing people to navigate to each location via their mobile phone. They can then link to each studio or gallery to see their precise location and opening hours.

Kelly says ACAS has been focused for almost a decade on enriching Arrowtown's artistic sector, encouraging local creatives and bringing the best in international practice to the town.






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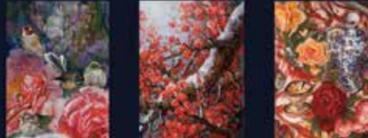


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TE ATAMIRA

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: Alys Longley, *Mistranslation Notes 2025*, ink and graphite on paper envelopes.

Notes in the Border, Notes at the River, Notes from the Ocean | Notas en la frontera, notas en el río, notas desde el océano

Saturday September 27 2025 - Friday January 30 2026 | Free

Alys Longley, Máximo Corvalán-Pincheira, Francisco González Castro and Macarena Campbell-Parra present works developed between Aotearoa and Chile exploring "ripple" as a metaphor for bodies, ecologies and movements through collaborative works in drawing, installation, video, text and interactive digital media.



At the World's Edge Music Festival October 4-17 2025

At the World's Edge is a chamber music festival inspired by its home in New Zealand's Southern Alps. Featuring internationally renowned artists side-by-side with Aotearoa's finest musicians this year's festival spans seven programmes across Queenstown, Wānaka, Cromwell and Bannockburn with AWE+ free events and experiences throughout.



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For more information on all Te Atamira events
teatamira.nz/whats-on

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WATER IS LIFE | WAIWANAKA.NZ

Restoring Freshwater Health

By Aspen Bruce

A Wānaka community group has set its sights on making Otago New Zealand's freshwater leader and has an ambitious project to restore the health of freshwater for future generations.

WAI Wānaka which is a charitable community led organisation grounded by science is proactively working to care for freshwater sources across a large catchment area that includes Lake Wānaka, Lake Hāwea and water bodies upstream of the Luggate Creek confluence and Mata-au (Clutha) River.



"We know we have something special in our community," says CEO Cat Dillon. "Our vision is simple but ambitious — to protect and restore the health of our freshwater for generations to come. And we believe that starts with people."

The group has been conducting groundbreaking microplastics research since 2023 regularly hosting volunteer events and citizen science initiatives. In November, along with the Otago Regional Council and the University of Otago, the group will host The Alpine Lakes Forum 2025 bringing together freshwater scientists, policymakers, community leaders and environmental practitioners to explore the health, management and future of Aotearoa's deep lakes and freshwater ecosystems.

"Our mahi connects many parts of the community from individuals, catchment groups, landowners and councils to local and central government, businesses, schools and visitors. Ultimately, we are working to build a community of freshwater champions."

"This event is designed to be accessible and community-facing, blending cutting-edge research with local experience and public dialogue," she says. "The Forum offers a platform for learning, relationship-building and collaboration across science, policy and place-based action."

WAI Wānaka has been involved with numerous initiatives in its nine-year history and welcomes local support for its current freshwater research and citizen science initiatives. The organisation receives support in the form of local and central government funding, in-kind resources and philanthropic donations.

"We are a registered charity and like many community-led organisations we rely on the support of grants, partnerships and donations to keep this work going," says Cat. "If people are in a position to support our mahi we would be incredibly grateful!"

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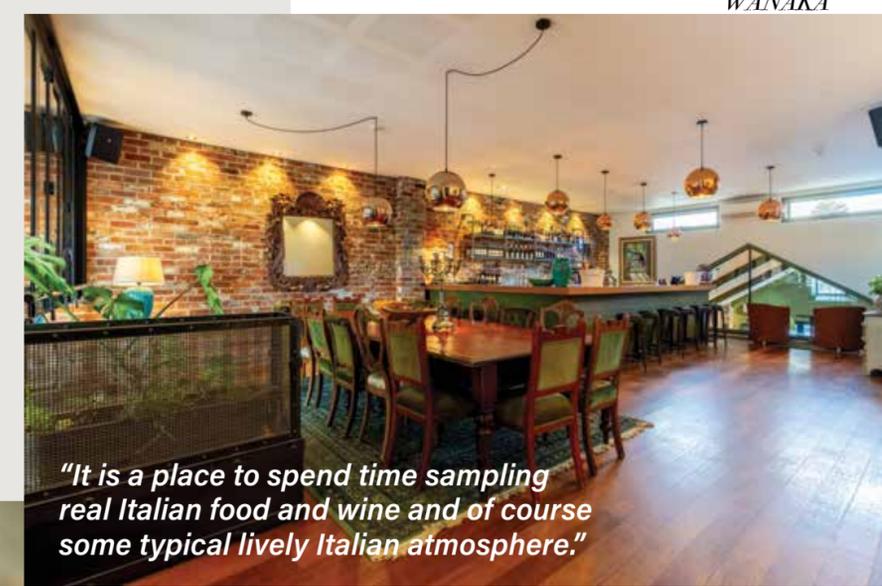
Authentically Italian in Wānaka

By Tom Kalliber

Italian restaurant brand Giovi Fine Food is continuing to raise its profile in the Southern Lakes opening its fourth restaurant, this time in Wānaka..

Bambina by Giovi is the company's first foray into the town with other successful businesses already operating in Queenstown, Frankton and Arrowtown.

Giovi Fine Food co-owner Giovanna Boventi says she is



"It is a place to spend time sampling real Italian food and wine and of course some typical lively Italian atmosphere."



Giovanna Boventi

pleased to bring her special style of fresh, homemade pasta including ravioli and lasagna as well as pizza and other Italian menu items to the Ardmore Street restaurant. "After successfully serving locals and tourists at Farelli's by Giovi in Queenstown, Giovi Frankton in Remarkables Park and more recently at our new Bianca by Giovi in Arrowtown we are delighted to be offering a piece of Italy right in the heart of Wānaka."

The Bambina by Giovi menu is similar to the other Giovi restaurants and features some of Giovanna's favourite dishes with a focus on homemade, quality dishes at a reasonable price.

"It is a restaurant for everyone from locals and tourists to large groups or for weekday working lunches," she says. "It is a place to spend time sampling real Italian food and wine and of course some typical lively Italian atmosphere."

"Our chefs impress even the most discerning food and wine connoisseurs with authentic dishes while families seeking a pleasant place to enjoy a delicious pizza in a warm atmosphere or on the outside patio are well catered for."

The restaurant serves some of the best Italian wines directly imported by Giovanna's family alongside favourite Italian cocktails such as Espresso Martini, Aperol Spritz and Negroni.

Open every day for lunch from 12.00pm - 3.00pm with dinner service from 5.00pm - 8.30pm Bambina by Giovi also features an elegantly appointed lounge for private events and dinners.
Bookings at www.giovifinefood.co.nz

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Farelli's GIOVI (03) 567 2595 | Queenstown CBD

Bambina GIOVI (03) 443 6748 | Wanaka

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WELLNESS FOCUS

By Aspen Bruce

Two health professionals with more than 25 years' experience in healthcare have adapted their expertise to provide "ambulance at the top of the hill" solutions for people across Queenstown Lakes and Central Otago seeking nutrient or vitamin support.

Carrie Richards and Heath Fraser, co-founders of Awa Wellness in Wānaka, identified a gap for evidence informed wellness services delivered safely by qualified professionals.

Word of their practice, which opened in December 2024, has spread and they say many people approach them feeling rundown, low in energy and wanting answers.

"Our clients range from busy professionals and parents to athletes," says Carrie. "To support them we offer wellness focused intravenous (IV) vitamin, mineral and nutrient infusions as well as intramuscular vitamin shots tailored to assist with things like energy and immune support. We are also finding many people are opting for intravenous infusions to help with fast recovery from travel, major life events or seasonal fatigue."

"We take a tailored approach to each individual

Awa Wellness clients have a preliminary consultation before any treatment is given to ensure they are suitable candidates for the wellness treatments.



Carrie Richards

patient and they undergo an extensive consultation prior to treatment," says Heath. "If they have any complex illnesses or significant medical history we happily work alongside the multidisciplinary team involved in their care to develop the best approach for treatment."

Awa Wellness offers a mobile by appointment service in Queenstown Lakes and Central Otago.

For further information visit www.awawellness.co.nz or contact awa.vitamins@gmail.com



Alecia Hodgson



COSMETIC TATTOO ALTERNATIVE

By Aspen Bruce

Cosmetic tattooist Emma Dixon is becoming the go to person in Wānaka for enhancing natural features.

The experienced beautician has been more than 22 years in the industry and has evolved her beauty practice from an exclusively beauty therapy service to specialising in semi-permanent lip and eyebrow tattooing.

"Cosmetic tattooing can be an ideal alternative for clients who have lost brow hair, have asymmetrical and sparse brows or are just wanting more definition of their lips," Emma says. "I design to suit individual face shape and skin tone with results being a soft lip colour or natural-looking brows."

Semi-permanent tattooing is an emerging beauty practice that offers a time-saving solution to traditional make-up. Clients undertake an initial four-hour tattooing session, followed up by a touch-up appointment six to eight weeks later. The results typically last 18 months to two years and Emma uses high-quality pigments from Russia and advanced techniques to support a swift, subtle healing process.

Emma trained in Dunedin and built up her experience in Queenstown before establishing Emma For Beauty in Wānaka in 2010.

"I started working from home while my children were preschoolers," Emma says. "As the business grew I moved into a central space on Ardmore Street where I ran Emma for Beauty Bridal & Beauty Lounge for six years. It was an exciting chapter and the business evolved alongside my family life."

However, as with many small businesses Covid-19 forced a major shift.

"Between the pandemic and personal changes I took a step back from the full salon setup. Since then I've pivoted and restructured growing the business in a more intentional, aligned way. Wānaka has many amazing beauty therapists and that inspired me to evolve and upskill. I made the decision to specialise in cosmetic tattooing."

"My focus was to offer something niche that would complement my existing skills," she says. "I've always believed beauty should feel personal, intentional and never rushed. I'm so grateful that I love what I do."



Emma Dixon



Bookings: www.emmaforbeauty.co.nz

Contact Emma: 027 529 4505 if you have any questions or need help choosing a treatment.

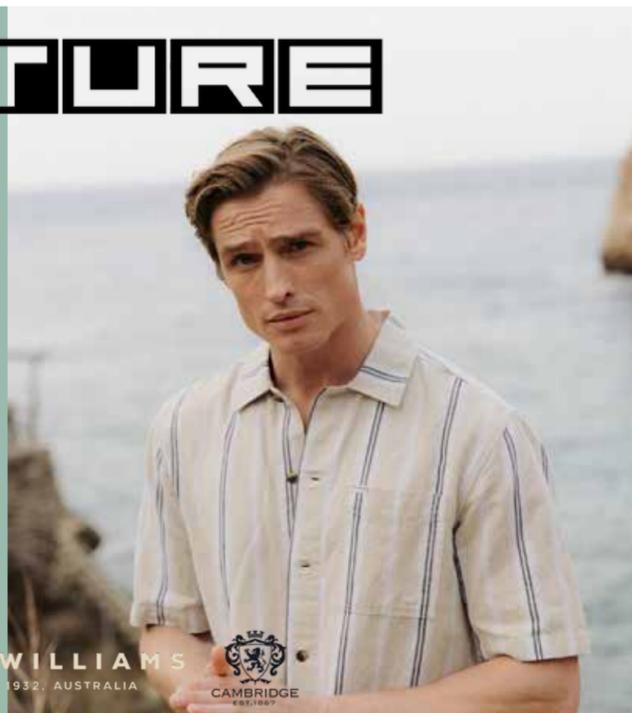
Follow us on Instagram [@emmaforbeautywanaka](https://www.instagram.com/emmaforbeautywanaka) to see before and afters, client transformations, and behind the scenes content.

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SUPPORTING LOCAL

By Penny Simpson

Wānaka's popular Christmas market Gather returns this season offering a festive escape for locals and visitors to support small scale local businesses by shopping consciously.

The market is scheduled for Sunday December 07 from 10.00am until 4.00pm at The Camp 1208 Lake Hāwea-Makarora Road Lake Hāwea.

Organiser Emma Mowat says the new location is "a match made in heaven".

"The Camp is surrounded by beautifully established trees with five-star lake and mountain scenery. There is a range of outdoor accommodation and it is home to the Secret Sauna so there is plenty to enjoy over the market weekend."

The one-day market now in its fourth year will feature a range of quality products from handcrafted items through to premium wool products alongside exceptional food, Christmas style cocktails and acoustic tunes.

"Gather is a gorgeous blend of festival and Christmas — your place to connect and celebrate while supporting local," says Emma. "It's a thoughtfully curated shopping experience featuring a hand-picked line up of makers, side hustlers and online creatives such as Shannon Courtenay and Paint a tote. Some of our best feedback was from a customer who did all of her Christmas shopping at Gather Market."

More information: [@gather_market](https://www.instagram.com/gather_market)



Gather Market
A space to shop small and local from handpicked quality vendors.
Sunday December 7 2025
The Camp Lake Hāwea



Tim & Emma Mowat



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Stoking the Barrel

By Margo Berryman

The Stoaker Room recently celebrated the second anniversary of its Wānaka restaurant bringing specially crafted barrel cuisine to the area.

"It's been an amazing journey with incredible support from locals who love our relaxed vibe and visitors from around the world who are discovering us online and making the trip just for the experience," says co-owner Sue Barbara.

"We have seen a huge upsurge of international visitors who have discovered us online and come out to experience our unique style of barrel cooking that they don't find anywhere else in the world."

The original restaurant Wild Earth Wines was first opened at Goldfields in the Kawarau Gorge by Wild Earth founder and Stoaker barrel inventor Quintin Quider. It later moved to Cromwell and was renamed the Stoaker Room with the additional Wānaka location opening in March 2023.

"People who haven't tried barrel cooking are missing out," says Sue. "Our signature dishes are The Stoaker Tasting Platter, a chef-curated five-dish journey paired with Wild Earth wines and The Butcher's Feast which is a generous platter of smoked and grilled meats, perfect for sharing."

The Stoaker Room Wānaka is open every day 10.00am until 9.30pm, selling coffee, scones, cheese rolls and sweet treats followed by an all-day lunch and dinner menu from 12.00pm until 7.30pm.



"Our outdoor kitchens are a hit," says Sue. "Guests can watch the chefs at work, peek inside the barrels and watch how smoke from smouldering wood chips infuses the food. The barrels, originally soaked in Central Otago Pinot Noir, give an extra layer of flavour that's unmistakable."

Wild Earth Wines, including their multi award-winning Pinot Noir, are served at the restaurant alongside a global wine list. A range of 16 New Zealand craft beers are available on tap along with spirits, mulled wine and locally sourced non-alcoholic beverages.

"Spring and summer are perfect for enjoying our sunny and sheltered garden. We welcome families, locals, visitors, dogs and cyclists and there is plenty of parking. While we don't host weddings or events at the restaurant itself our catering team can take the Stoaker barrels anywhere off-site to create a truly special occasion."



For more information & catering quotes email: wanaka@thestoakerroom.co.nz or, cromwell@thestoakerroom.co.nz

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Pembroke Wines is the go-to destination for wine and spirit lovers, with an impressive selection of Central Otago's finest reds and whites, premium local spirits, and carefully curated wines from around the world. Each Friday from 5-7pm, Pembroke Wines hosts complimentary tastings with local winemakers and distillers, offering a unique opportunity to meet the people behind the labels while sampling their creations.

For Wānaka locals, Pembroke also offers an exclusive deal: purchase any six bottles and receive 15% off, the perfect excuse to stock up on favourites or mix and match something new.

ON THE MAP

Start planning your next outdoor adventure with your very own framed-wall map. The 45th Degree frames customised sized wall maps to suit any living, retail and office spaces.



RUNNING RETAIL EXPERIENCE

By Margo Berryman

Wānaka Three Parks specialist running store Kinisi Running is cementing its reputation for world-class running and outdoor apparel, footwear and accessories.

"Spring is an inspiring season for runners and walkers to get back out on the trails after the depths of winter and perhaps set some new PB's or target new events and marathons," say owners Jane and Ian Evans who together are redefining the running retail experience.

NEW SEASON'S SHOES

Racing competitively or for recreation Kinisi Running's range of technical running shoes and shoe fitting service ensures the perfect fit. "We are excited to introduce Veja shoes this season extending our focus on sustainable footwear instore. Building on the success of the La Sportiva Prodigio Pro racing shoe we now also have the brand new Prodigio Max, designed to deliver maximum cushioning and comfort for long distance and ultra athletes. Following its popularity at Hardrock100 and UTMB The North Face Vectiv Pro 3 is making its New Zealand debut in Wānaka on our shelves alongside some other exciting TNF products."

NUTRITION ON THE GO

Favourite brands of nutrition instore at Kinisi Running include Precision F&H, Gu Energy, Pure Sports Nutrition, Hive Energy, Fixx Nutrition and CurraNZ. "Whether you prefer a quick gel or a chew we've got you covered."



03 428 4499
info@kinisi.co.nz
www.kinisi.co.nz
87 Sir Tim Wallis Drive, Wānaka

RUN GROUPS

Kinisi Running social runs are back this year as the official run leg sponsor for Challenge Wānaka and Challenge Multi with pop-ups at both events.

"Whether you're racing or supporting we look forward to seeing you at Challenge. On the last Sunday of each month in spring and summer we have teamed up with Bike Glendhu again for our Sunday Long Run. The run is being held on their amazing bike trails with the park giving us exclusive access. Our regular running calendar is also back with four weekly runs scheduled." Find out more kinisi.co.nz



DESIGNED TO RUN

From fast packs to running vests Kinisi Running has all the accessories required for longer trails or weekend missions. "As the warmer months approach we tend to spend longer hours out in the hills and the store caters for this with a wide range of packs and running vests available. For extended runs, overnight trips or just for when you have more to carry our selection of fast packs is excellent. This includes the OMM Classic 25, the BD Distance 22 or the Dynafit Elevation 20 as great options. We recommend trying them on instore to ensure a great fit for the body."



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www.thegate.nz

Orchard in Bloom

By Margo Berryman



Kevin Jackson's distinctive property Jackson Orchards in Cromwell boasts a state-of-the-art packhouse and cool store, fruit stall, orchard tours and cottage accommodation.

The fourth generation Central Otago orchardist established the 35-hectare orchard in 1989 and today it is one of New Zealand's largest suppliers of stone fruit including cherries, apricots, peaches, nectarines, plums, greengages, apples and pears.

"We have an excellent variety of pip fruit available to purchase during spring including oranges, apples and pears," says the orchard's retail manager Jamie Cowie. "Our stone fruit is available from December through till March with delicious cherries, plums peaches and nectarines offering a real taste of Cromwell grown fruit."

Jackson Orchards has a reputation for its quality fruit, vegetables and other local produce sold at its prominent roadside stall.

"We have recently introduced New Zealand's newest farm gate to plate butchery goods from Chopped Butchery in Waimate bringing high-quality grass-fed meat to your doorstep," says Jamie. "Our selection includes steak, pork loins, lamb roasts and chops, bacon, mince, pork belly and other options."

"We also sell free-range eggs, honey and preserves made from our fruit grown on site and fresh baked loaves from the European Bakery. Kitchen Window Catering is located within the fruit stall selling its award-winning preserves, freshly prepared salads, buddha bowls, gourmet toasties and takeaway coffees."



Fruit Ice-cream Treats

Jackson Orchards are famous for their ice cream kiosk with its mouthwatering selection of real fruit ice creams and smoothies made on the spot with gluten free and dairy free options.



Under the Canopy

Spring is a special time to experience Jackson Orchards in full bloom.

"The season is a hive of activity with pruning in progress and the bees in full action pollinating flowers," says retail manager Jamie Cowie. "The orchard tours take in cherry blossom trees in full bloom and the fragrance and flowers are incredible to experience en masse."

The tours demonstrate how the orchard is run including operation of the machinery, the workings of the contemporary packhouse and the property's intricate irrigation systems.

"The family friendly tours offer a fascinating insight into the intricacies of a working orchard providing people with beautiful views of the area while they learn about history of the property," says Jamie. "Orchard tours run daily from 9.00am until 4.00pm every hour with no minimum number required."

Tour bookings online www.jacksonorchard.co.nz



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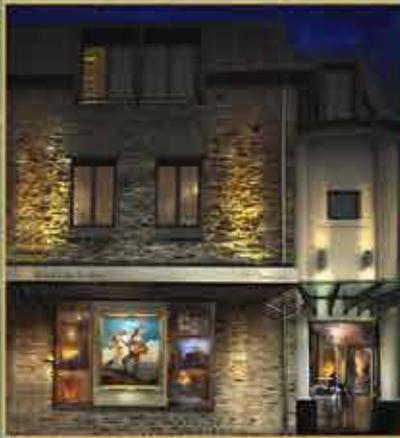
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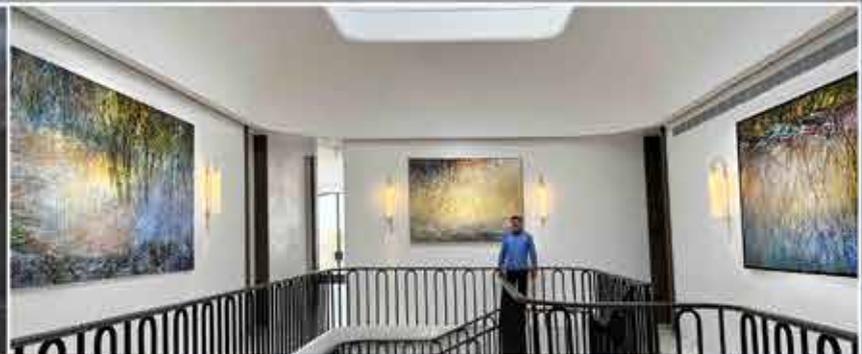


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