

# QTM Magazine

*Southern Lakes Lifestyle*

## AUTUMN GLORY

*Arrowtown Autumn  
Festival celebrates 40 years*

## GIBBSTON UNVEILED

*Focus on valley's  
viticultural legacy*

## FASHION FORWARD

*Leisure & trending fashion  
in Queenstown Arrowtown &  
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ISSUE 131 AUTUMN 2026

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Artist's Impression

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Artist's Impression



Artist's Impression



Artist's Impression

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Legacyland is a Queenstown based solutions led brand partner supporting businesses in hospitality, tourism, destination and events brands to create distinctive uniforms and merchandise



## QT LIFESTYLE

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

The information and views expressed in this publication are not necessarily the opinion of QT Publishing Ltd or its editorial contributors. Every effort is made to ensure these articles are accurate and correct however QT Publishing Ltd accepts no liability for the accuracy of the information.

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EDITOR Jenny McLeod

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COVER Autumn View - Joe Bailey

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## News Roundup

with Jenny McLeod

### Hydrofoiling Ferry Investigated

An electric hydrofoiling ferry operating between Queenstown and Kingston could be on the cards in the future.

A trial has been carried out on Lake Whakatipu as part of a feasibility study led by Kingston Village in partnership with marine company Vessev.



Vessev hydrofoiling vessel

Kingston Village general manager Nicola Tristram says it is still in the very early stages but the trial focused on how lake transport could complement existing road and bus networks as well as a currently proposed cable car venture for the district to help relieve traffic congestion.

She says it is all about planning for long-term living at Kingston as the new village develops.

Vessev CEO Eric Laakmann says Queenstown has a significant opportunity to integrate Lake Whakatipu into its wider transport network.

"Queenstown is growing fast and electric hydrofoiling could play an important role in moving people across the town while reducing pressure on the road system."

### New CEO Mount Cook Alpine Salmon

Freshwater King Salmon producer and exporter Mount Cook Alpine Salmon has appointed Todd Grave as its new chief executive replacing David Cole who announced his retirement last year.



Todd Grave

The company which is based in Twizel, Queenstown and Christchurch says the appointment comes following its strongest financial year to date with revenue up 37 per cent to \$53.5 million. Its artisan salmon brand Aoraki was also the only producer to win awards for two products at the 2025 New Zealand Food Awards.

Todd was more recently CEO of the largescale business Meadow Mushrooms and Mount Cook Alpine Salmon chairman Sir Bill English says he has indepth expertise across New Zealand's primary and food production sectors and brings a strong track record in driving growth and operational excellence.

### Kiwi Scores NZ Open Victory



Daniel Hillier

Leading Kiwi golfer Daniel Hillier broke a nine-year drought for New Zealand when he claimed the winning trophy at the 2026 New Zealand Open presented by Millbrook Resort in March.

Hillier had earlier flagged that it was an ultimate career goal to take home the coveted Brodie Breeze trophy, achieving it with a two shot lead over second placed Lucas Herbert of Australia.

Hillier fired a final round four-under par 67 to win with a total of 22-under par, the first Kiwi to lift the silverware since 2017 when Michael Hendry won the title.

Competition was intense during the last holes of play and Herbert, who also closed with a 67, was rewarded with a start at The Open Championship at Royal Birkdale as the leading player not already exempt for the major.

The Open attracted thousands of spectators to Millbrook Resort over the prestigious four-day event with local Queenstown and LIV golfer Ben Campbell attracting a large gallery.



Lucas Herbert (centre) receives a pin flag from the 154th Open Championship at Royal Birkdale from former NZ Open champions Ian Baker-Finch (left) and Sir Bob Charles.



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**Q&A**



**Luxury wellness products are on the rise. How important is this locally?**

**Destination Queenstown and Wānaka Tourism are focused on building strong destination brands which are authentic to each place reflecting the distinctive qualities that set them apart. QT Magazine spoke to chief executive Mat Woods.**

**What are your priorities for Queenstown and Wānaka?**

By strengthening both brands we can attract high-contributing visitors who align with our values and deliver long-term economic benefit to the district.

We remain firmly committed to evolving our industry towards regenerative tourism so the visitor economy is both economically prosperous and environmentally sustainable enriching the lives of both the people who live here and the people that visit.

**What are the key tourism sectors currently developing locally?**

We're seeing strong growth in areas such as wellness and astrotourism which are increasingly appealing to both domestic and international visitors. At the same time established pillars like adventure tourism, golf, food and wine, gin and craft beer — along with increasing international culinary recognition — remain central to our positioning. The luxury travel market is also experiencing considerable growth.

There has been significant investment in wellness and health-based activities across the board not just the luxury market. The products are naturally complementary to our adventure and events sectors and mean visitors can combine outdoor and sports activity with rest and recovery. The premium products also encourage longer stays and slower tourism which fits in well with our regenerative tourism goals.

**What regenerative initiatives align with the region's 2030 carbon zero goal?**

There are so many local initiatives making a difference — from active transport champions such as The Lightfoot Initiative and the Queenstown Trails Trust to WAI Wānaka, Southern Lakes Sanctuary, Mana Tahuna, Whakatipu Reforestation Trust, Sustainable Queenstown, Wastebusters, Te Kākano and the Queenstown Electrification Accelerator.

In 2025 alone, Love Queenstown and Love Wānaka supported 12 impact projects, including lake restoration at Waiwhakaata (Lake Hayes) and the Plastic Free Wānaka SUCfree visitor campaign.

Destination Queenstown and Lake Wānaka Tourism support this momentum through Electrify Queenstown and member capability programmes while future-focused infrastructure such as the proposed Queenstown Cable Car could significantly reduce emissions and congestion.

**How are the Love Queenstown and Love Wānaka long-term community funds encouraging visitors to appreciate the local region?**

Love Queenstown and Love Wānaka are designed to strengthen the connection between visitors, the community and the environment. Businesses and visitors can donate with funding flowing directly into local conservation projects, supporting immediate environmental pressures and building resilience into the future. Since 2023 the funds have raised over \$180,000 for local environmental initiatives, invested more than \$35,000 for future impact in an endowment fund and planted more than 9,000 native trees with industry and volunteer support.

The Loves' message around slowing down, staying longer, reducing footprints and giving back via donation or volunteering pathways has reached ten million people via their various channels, something we are immensely proud of.

**How important is current local investment in the bike and snow industries?**

We're fortunate to live in a district where there's snow-based activities in winter and biking all year round. There is so much on the horizon for both bike and snow — the 32 kilometre Kawarau Gorge Trail between Queenstown and Cromwell is on track to open later this year while the Project Tohu Trail Network near Arrowtown has recently opened. NZSki has received a 38-year Department of Conservation concession for The Remarkables Ski Area which means expansion into the neighbouring Doolans Basin is a significant possibility. Meanwhile 2026 will be the first full winter of operation for Soho Basin which covers 150 hectares of terrain at Cardrona Alpine Resort, officially making it New Zealand's largest ski area.





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# RALPH LAUREN



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## RAISING THE BAR

The Jack's Point Clubhouse has raised the bar with a new culinary direction and refreshed lunch and evening menus ideally timed for the arrival of autumn.

By Penny Simpson

"Table service has returned to the restaurant with lunch served daily and evening dining available on Friday and Saturday nights," says Jack's Point food and beverage manager Kirk Webster. "The restaurant at the south-west end of the Clubhouse was originally designed for this style of service so it's a welcome return for locals, golfers and visitors."

The Jack's Point Clubhouse is the community hub for the 1200-hectare settlement overlooking the acclaimed 18-hole golf course and spectacular Remarkables Mountain range.

"The Clubhouse offers an excellent variety of hospitality throughout the day with plenty of cosy areas for people to relax and take in the views. The café is busy from 8.00am serving breakfast, locally sourced Wolf coffee and fresh cabinet food to locals and golfers heading out on the course," says Kirk.

"At lunch we offer a selection of Clubhouse classics with the new a-la-carte menu now serving a wider range of dishes featuring locally sourced produce. In the late afternoon and early evening golfers and residents enjoy bar snacks, casual dining and drinks inside or outside at our long tables and beanbags alongside Lake Tewa."

The wine list at the Clubhouse features the best of Central Otago including wines from its sister venue Amisfield and a thoughtfully selected international range. Local craft beers from Canyon Brewing and Altitude are available on tap together with a curated selection of spirits and cocktails served all day.

"The Clubhouse is a little bit of everything for everyone," says Kirk. "The recently introduced Quiz nights are a huge success with residents as visitors, as are our relaxed Friday nights featuring live music on the deck."



*"Whether you're here for a round of golf, dropping in for a coffee or enjoying lunch or dinner we offer a warm welcoming environment for everyone."*

- Kirk Webster



## VARIED EVENT VENUE

The Jack's Point Clubhouse is available year-round for event bookings including corporate functions, birthday parties, private celebrations and weddings.

Food and beverage manager Kirk Webster and the event team provide expert planning and organisation for all types of events from intimate gatherings to large celebrations.

"The venue suits a variety of occasions from small private dinners to mid-scale weddings and bespoke catering," says Kirk. "We have two picturesque locations for wedding ceremonies so we can host the entire day or just the reception."



For more information on destination wedding packages, event coordination, styling and planning services contact: [restaurant@jackspoint.co.nz](mailto:restaurant@jackspoint.co.nz) or visit [www.jackspoint.com](http://www.jackspoint.com)

## FRESH & VIBRANT

Head chef Prashanta Khatri Chhetri (Momo) who previously worked at Cloudy Bay and The Nest at Kamana Lake House is the talent behind the new menu at Jack's Point Clubhouse with a focus on fresh, vibrant cuisine.

"We're elevating the experience here to create food that reflects the stunning setting and provides a memorable experience," says Momo. "Using locally grown sustainable ingredients is key to crafting seasonal dishes."

The lunch and dinner menus feature standout dishes such as Mushroom Parfait on toasted sourdough with soft Gibbston Valley herbs and pickled umami mushrooms, celebrating the bounty of the autumn harvest and local foraging.

"The idea for this dish comes from using mushrooms I can source locally along with herbs grown in the region including some from my own garden," he says.

Other menu highlights include sustainably farmed Haku kingfish from Northland in a chilli and turmeric buttermilk broth which is a nod to Momo's Nepalese heritage, locally sourced Royalburn Station lamb with kumara and anchovy and many more.



### Dining Hours - Autumn

- Breakfast: Open daily from 8:00am
- Lunch: Served from 12noon daily - walk-ins welcome
- Dinner: 5:30pm - 8:30pm on Fridays and Saturdays only - bookings recommended

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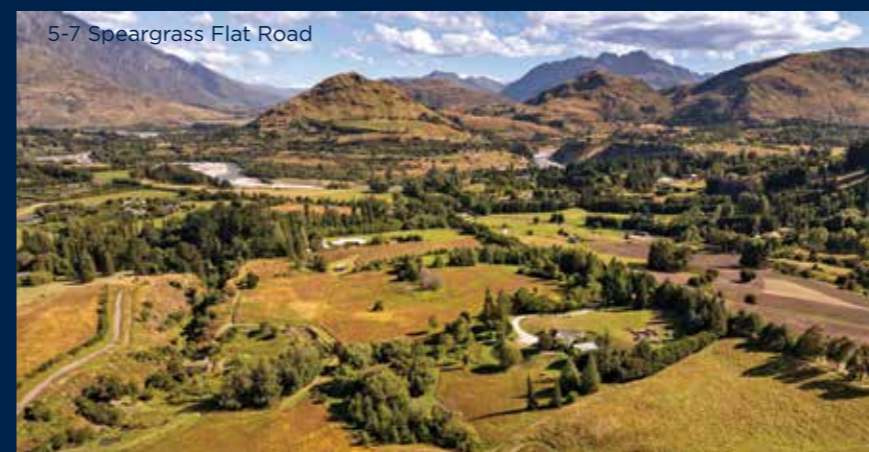
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LISTINGS



# History Revisited

By Jenny McLeod

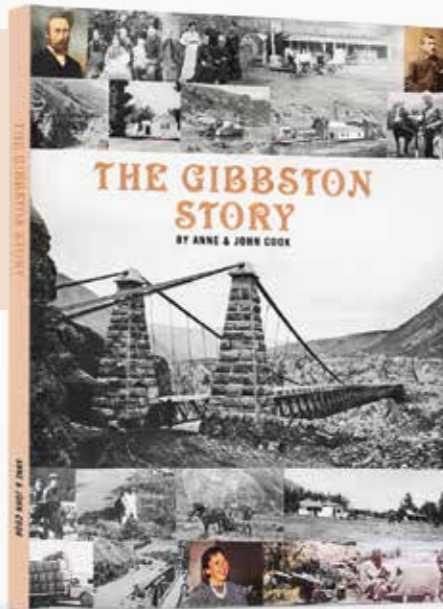
In 1985 after three years of research and extended interviews Anne Cook of Kawarau Gorge's Waitiri Station published *The Gibbston Story*.

She seamlessly captured the area's rich history and the many personalities who contributed to the early development and growth of Gibbston. So popular was the book there was a clamouring for an updated version and by 2015 Anne was seriously considering a reprint. She recognised the area had undergone significant change during that period transforming from a farming community into an international winegrowing region and it needed to be recorded to prevent Gibbston's legacy disappearing.

Sadly Anne died unexpectedly in 2017 and the project was placed on hold.

Enter Anne's husband John who during the Covid lockdown began to toy with the idea of continuing her work.

*"I had the time and the excuse to start looking at all the research in the wine boxes she had stored away and also found she had also done some initial work on her computer, designing the book's layout."*



John picked up the mantle and while he credits the updated *The Gibbston Story* as being Anne's work since she conducted most of the research John has personally written of changes between 1985 and today.

"I have also added many stories that couldn't be included in the first book but can now be recorded. Modern research methods have also allowed me to add a more detailed history."

Gibbston was key to the launch of the Central Otago wine industry and the book includes an overview of its development since the first grapes were planted in the 1980s contributed by well-known wine personality Tim Morrison Deaker.

The book's cover is designed by Anne and John's daughter Jocie Lacey, an accomplished graphic designer.

*The Gibbston Story* by Anne & John Cook is available from Cromwell Paper Plus or by emailing [cookjanda@gmail.com](mailto:cookjanda@gmail.com)



## Welcoming Gibbston Golf

By Jenny McLeod

The much anticipated new Gibbston Valley Golf Club has officially opened adding to the region's reputation as a key golfing destination.

Designed by former pro golfer Greg Turner membership at the nine-hole course, opposite Gibbston Valley Winery, is limited to property owners in The Reserve which neighbours the course. But the public are also welcome to play the Golf NZ affiliated golf course.

Greg says he is pleased with the way the course is taking shape so far.

"I think this shorter form golf has a real future — where you have all the quality and fun of the long form of the game but in a format that doesn't take up so much time. When you add the stunning surroundings and facilities, I am sure the golf club will be a great success."

Gibbston Valley executive managing director Cristina Griffith says the new golf course has world-class greens and views as well as exceptional wine and food at the Clubhouse restaurant which is open to both members and the public every day for breakfast, lunch and appetisers.



## Trailblazing at Gibbston Valley

By Jane Brooke

As Gibbston the region has developed so too has award-winning organic wine brand Gibbston Valley — the place.

Under the guidance of Phil Griffith and his family for more than 20 years the next generation is now in charge of elevating the Gibbston Valley experience.

Gibbston Valley executive managing director Cristina Griffith, daughter of Phil, has spent much of her life learning about the brand. Now, she is harnessing her insider knowledge to enhance Gibbston Valley as a key Queenstown attraction.

*"Wine is our foundation but our story is always evolving. This place is extraordinary and we try to capture its beauty in every encounter we offer — from wine tastings in New Zealand's largest wine cave and decadent escapes in our luxury lodge to treatments in the day spa and relaxed rounds on our new golf course."*



Cristina is joined by expert winemaker Christopher Keys and hospitality leader Ashling Swirtz and together the trio are trailblazing a new path for Central Otago wine and cuisine. The Gibbston Valley restaurant has recently welcomed a new head chef, Robert Rietveld, who has put his personal spin on the autumn menu.



On the other side of State Highway 6, opposite the winery, the Gibbston Valley Golf Club has recently opened. Designed by Kiwi golfing ace Greg Turner the nine-hole, par 32 golf course is complemented by an elegant new clubhouse featuring a restaurant, gymnasium, heated pool, jacuzzi and pro shop.

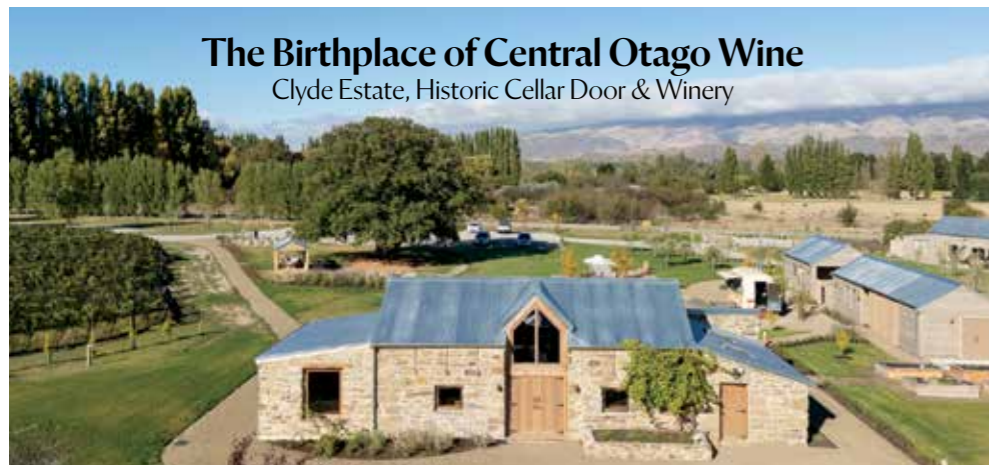
"The idea of a golf course had been floating around our family conversations for more than a decade," says Cristina. "We've spent years imagining what it could be and quietly backing that vision with a huge amount of care and commitment."

That same care and commitment has been extended to the Gibbston Valley Lodge & Spa, recently awarded a prestigious Michelin Key for its luxury hospitality. The accolade places the lodge among only 19 properties in New Zealand recognised for delivering "a very special stay" by Michelin's global hotel inspectors.

"A visit to Gibbston Valley is an enlightening experience and we encourage our guests to indulge in life's natural delicacies and take the time to relax and connect," she says. "It's truly a place to taste, stay, play and delight."

Wine is still the highlight of a visit to Gibbston Valley with the BioGro certified organic wine brand specialising in high-energy, dynamic Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Rosé, Sauvignon Blanc and Methodé Traditionelle.

"We're very excited to be releasing our new Dangerous Curves Pinot Noir this autumn," says Cristina. "The vineyard is in Gibbston and sits astride a long curve. More importantly, it gets a lot of afternoon and evening sun so the wines are alluring, silky and all curves."



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Ed Cruikshank has been creating unique objects for over thirty years. With a degree in Furniture Design, he spent ten years in London with LINLEY as Head of Design and Special Projects before moving to Queenstown in 2002.

His work includes unique furniture designs, illuminated Braille and Morse code artworks, a collection of timeless classic furniture and interior schemes for homes, lodges, yachts, hotels and boardrooms in New Zealand and around the world.

Balance IV



A unique artwork entitled Hope created for Cloudy Bay's Central Otago tasting rooms. Ed Cruikshank has been infusing coded messages into his furniture and art since 2010.

New Arrowtown Studio



One of Ed's unique artworks in harmony with the Architect chair and Folded side table from his Icon Collection at his new Arrowtown studio.

Rufus Chair



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## KEEPING IT LOCAL

By Penny Simpson

**Cardrona Hotel's new owners are looking to the past to create an exciting future for the 162-year-old pub.**

Recognised as one of New Zealand's oldest hospitality establishments the distinctive heritage hotel was purchased late last year by a consortium of investors with local links led by Warren Barclay of Experience Group.

"Our overarching drive was three things — keeping the hotel in local hands, its trading history and overall performance and the potential to develop it into something more while still retaining the special character," says Warren.

"The significant heritage building makes it a special hospitality venue and to retain its character our offering has to remain true to what's already been. Our goal is to make it a must stop entity for everyone's trip along SH6 by tastefully and tactfully deepening and lengthening the offer. If we can develop more of what people want the hotel will grow to meet that demand."

With a 25-year corporate background in hospitality management and ownership Warren is well suited to fronting the business as the new publican.



Warren Barclay

"We have managed and operated big hospitality offerings such as Lions Tours, Rugby World Cups, Cricket World Cups, League World Cups, America's Cup as well as annual All Blacks test matches. This includes large scale music events and owning a venue in Auckland's Fort Street for several years."

While the Cardrona Hotel is solidly connected to its historic location Warren says the new ownership group has exciting plans to further develop the site.

"This includes upgrading the rooms to meet modern accommodation standards and operating a dedicated function venue to broaden the appeal for conferences, business functions and weddings."

"We are currently in the early stages of a kitchen upgrade to efficiently meet demand and expand our menu offerings. This includes installing modern equipment and extending the space to allow our culinary team to create more diverse types of food — think sweet and savoury pastries — with the possibility of a sweet and ice cream shop addition."

Warren says the Cardrona Hotel has a special place in the hearts of many visitors and locals who view the historic venue as an exceptional slice of New Zealand.

"The location on SH6 between Queenstown and Wānaka makes the pub a destination stop off point on the journey between these two tourist towns. We have plenty of parking making it easy for visitors to stop and soak up the historical nature of the pub with its origins dating back to 1863 and its legacy as an integral part of a mining town."



## STANDOUT FARE

**The Cardrona Hotel's gastro pub fare is a standout with the all day hearty snack menu featuring their famous nachos, loaded wedges, fries and signature Frickles (fried dill pickles).**

Bookings are essential for dinner in the restaurant's heritage dining room with the evening service starting at 6.00pm.

"The restaurant's menu changes weekly so we encourage diners to check for the evening they plan to book," says Warren. "As a Lion Bar we offer Lion based beers such as Speight's, Speight's Summit Ultra and Emerson's with two guest beer taps, Swifty and Urbernaut Southern Lakes Hazy. There is an extensive wine list including many local, Central Otago and regional wines to choose from."

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## Bellissimo Cuisine

By Margo Berryman



Bella Cucina is renowned for its modern approach to rustic Italian dining consistently earning its place as Queenstown's leading Italian restaurant.

Situated in the heart of the resort in the Brecon Street dining precinct the restaurant lives up to its name, translated as beautiful cuisine, combining authentic Italian flavours with a contemporary twist.

Bella Cucina has an inviting atmosphere and is celebrated for its relaxed and friendly ambience. Guests are treated to an exclusive Italian menu expertly compiled by the culinary team which includes executive chef and owner Marty James, co-owner Alex Boyes and head chef Dan Burton.



"Our team's dedication to quality is evident in the daily selection of ingredients that turns the spotlight on primo Italian ingredients and locally sourced produce that is picked every morning," says Marty. "This meticulous approach ensures each dish features the freshest and most authentic components and we have recently introduced some exciting new products that really hero Italian flavours."

The restaurant's internationally acclaimed menu highlights simple flavours along with the team's passion for Italian cuisine.

"We have visited Italy many times over the years and as executive chef I personally love to eat this way where the ingredients are allowed to shine, whether it's a bowl of freshly made pasta or scintillating pizza fresh out of our wood-fired pizza ovens."

Bella Cucina imports specialist products directly from Italy such as Bocconcini, parmesan and mozzarella cheeses as well as delicacies like Sicilian olives, extra virgin olive oils and delicate dried meats. These original ingredients form the foundation of the restaurant's traditional antipasto and signature dishes.

"Guests can begin their meal with antipasto favourites like warm olives, sourdough breads, Beef Carpaccio and chargrilled Squid Roquette. Pasta dish highlights include our Spaghetti Vongole with New Zealand clams and Fettuccine Nduja featuring spicy pork sausage, both showcasing the fusion of Italian tradition and local produce," says Marty.

The pizza menu presents classic options such as Quattro Formaggi, Funghi Prosciutto, Calzone and Margherita which are prepared in the restaurant's wood-fired ovens for an even more genuine taste of Italy.

Bella Cucina has an impressive selection of regional Italian wines complemented by New Zealand and Central Otago vintages as well as craft beers and spirits.

**"We are proud of Bella Cucina's legacy," says Marty. "It stands alongside our other award-winning venues Finz Seafood, Bar and Grill and Public Italian Kitchen located on Steamer Wharf. Collectively these establishments contribute to Queenstown's vibrant dining scene offering exceptional options that people from all over love to experience."**



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Dinner 17:00 - 22:00 (last orders)  
Breakfast is walk-in only.

[sunfire.co.nz](http://sunfire.co.nz)



### Urban Oasis

Bathe Hot Pools has recently opened in Queenstown redefining wellness. Architecturally designed to reflect the landscape the New Zealand made hot pools in Brecon Street encourage guests to unwind and relax.

"The antidote to modern life, our products are designed to slow your breath, soothe your body and bring you back to yourself," says general manager Jay Errington. "Bathe Hot Pools is a modern take on the hot spring tradition — a place to soak, slow down and let the world wait."

Open 9:00am until 11:00pm.

Bookings recommended at [aluume.com/thermae-floating-sauna](http://aluume.com/thermae-floating-sauna)



### Relax & Unwind

Relaxation and rejuvenation opportunities are increasingly sought after as much as adventure adrenaline activities in the region.

Whether soaking in tranquil hot pools or savouring gourmet experiences there are many local destinations which provide the ideal setting to slow down and enjoy autumn's stunning beauty.



### Rātā Restaurant Refresh

One of Queenstown's most prized restaurants Rātā has recently introduced a refreshed, contemporary dining room continuing its tradition of warm hospitality and respect for New Zealand's land, people and culture.

"We've taken time to return to the heart of what matters to us — generous plates, thoughtful flavour and hospitality that feels genuine and unhurried," says Rātā founder Fleur Caulton.

The menu has been simplified with bolder flavours featuring the return of favourite dishes alongside new offerings shaped by fire, fermentation and seasonality.

Bookings highly recommended [www.ratarestaurant.com](http://www.ratarestaurant.com)

### Monte Christo Winery @ Gibbston

Monte Christo Winery's Gibbston Cellar Door is a new and inviting spot situated along the Gibbston River Trail offering a picturesque outlook and idyllic setting. The cellar door features a range of wines and a build-your-own gourmet small plate experience showcasing a range of local cheeses, charcuterie, breads, olives and accompaniments.

Walk-ins are welcome with bookings recommended for larger groups and premium tasting experiences [www.montechristowinery.co.nz](http://www.montechristowinery.co.nz)



### Eco Lodge Escape

The Headwaters Glenorchy Eco Lodge's sustainable accommodation and immersive experience is a drawcard in autumn. With a focus on eco-friendly practices the lodge appeals to visitors seeking both comfort and environmental responsibility.

The Headwaters Dining Room offers freshly harvested dishes served nightly enhanced with a fine selection of Central Otago and New Zealand wines and craft beers.

"Our Chef's Choice dinner experience starts at 6:30pm every night and pre-bookings for The Dining Room are essential for guests not staying overnight at the Lodge," says general manager Kylie Broxton.

Bookings essential [www.theheadwatersecolodge.com/dining](http://www.theheadwatersecolodge.com/dining)

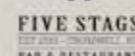


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## Sophisticated Culinary Experience

By Penny Simpson

Sofitel Queenstown Hotel & Spa redefines the art of cultured dining in Queenstown offering sophisticated culinary experiences in the hotel's restaurant Le Petit Salon and stylish bar Le Salon Rouge.

Discreetly located within the hotel's central lobby the restaurant and bar have an intimate, elegant ambience and an invitation to savour premium Central Otago produce carefully selected by executive chef Lindsay Bennett.

"I am passionate about discovering the very best produce from local suppliers. Queenstown is fortunate to have exceptional producers of meat, seafood and fresh garden greens and fruits. Central Otago is the fruit bowl of the South producing beautiful locally grown stone fruits and berries."

Le Petit Salon is understated and timelessly graceful.

"Our menus celebrate the freshest of local ingredient brought to life with contemporary flair and a subtle nod to Sofitel's French heritage. We have crafted thoughtful dishes that tell the story of the food and the region which engages and creates moments of intrigue and delight for our diners."

The restaurant is open from 6.00pm until late daily with bookings highly recommended.

"Our guests enjoy a table served à la carte menu or a three-course Daily Prix Fixe Menu selected by the culinary team. Signature dishes feature fresh seafood supplied by Harbour Fish, premium Southern Stations Wagyu, Lumina Lamb as well as Gibbston cheeses and seasonal greens, all produced within the Whakatipu Basin," says Lindsay.

Adjoining doors link the boutique restaurant to Le Salon Rouge creating a seamless journey from pre-dinner aperitifs to post-dinner cocktails.



FOOD & WINE

## French Fromage

The long-established French Raclette returns to Sofitel Queenstown Hotel & Spa this season.

"We're offering traditional Raclette cheese from the Savoie region in France melted over roasted potatoes and served with locally sourced charcuterie, pickles and toasted French bread. Paired with two glasses of Pinot Noir it is priced at \$100.00 for two people," says executive chef Lindsay Bennett.

"Autumn is a wonderful season to dine indoors and experience Le Petit Salon's immersive cuisine followed by late evening conversations and hospitality in the speak-easy style Le Salon Rouge."



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Five Mile has welcomed several new businesses which are adding further depth to the Centre's diverse range of retail stores and businesses.

### Health and wellness hub

Therapy Hub and The Body Mechanics have moved into a first-floor suite at 34 Grant Road providing a range of health and wellness services to the region.

Laura Clarke of Therapy Hub is a dedicated therapist specialising in working with children, adolescents and young adults.

"I am passionately committed to providing a safe and supportive space for them to navigate the complexities of their emotions and experiences."

Blending empathy, creativity and evidence-based techniques Laura says she strives to empower clients to overcome challenges, build resilience and cultivate emotional well-being.

"My goal is to foster growth, healing and positive development in the lives of those I work with."

The Body Mechanics has an experienced team offering integrated physiotherapy. Part of the Queenstown community for over a decade their five-strong team helps people move better, recover fully and return to their chosen activities.

They specialise in holistic care that combines hands-on treatment, exercise, education and lifestyle support and offer extended initial assessments so nothing is overlooked. They also work alongside like-minded health professionals to ensure clients have the right care at the right time.



Laura Clarke



The Body Mechanics — Jodi Currie, Kate Campbell & Natalie Haines



### Progress continues on Murchison Tower

Resource consent has been issued for Five Mile's latest premium office and retail 7,800sqm six-storey development Murchison Towers and new internal renders showcase the fitout.

### Supporting growth and prosperity

The Building Intelligence Group (TBIG), a New Zealand-owned construction project management company with a four-decade history, is led by Matt Cowen in the Central Otago area.

TBIG's move to a new office in Five Mile reflects the company's continued growth across the south which is attributed to their strong local relationships, credibility and commitment to project delivery.

"Our team has been fortunate to lead some of the region's more complex building and infrastructure projects shaping the Whakatipu Basin, Otago and Southland," says Matt. "We're excited for what comes next from our new base in Five Mile."

### Kingston Village team grows

The team from Kingston Village is expanding prompting a move into a contemporary larger office at Five Mile as they work towards a new phase of growth for the township of Kingston on the shores of Lake Whakatipu.

The new development was launched 12 months ago, selling 120 lots in record time.

"Five Mile is very centrally located so it's the perfect spot for us to be based to carry out our vision for Kingston Village to create a community where everyone can enjoy a lakeside lifestyle without compromising on space or affordability," says general manager Nicola Tristram.



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## CREATING LASTING LEGACY

By Jenny McLeod

Natalie Newlands has built a reputation for innovative design reflected in her Queenstown based fashion brand New Lands Studio and is expanding her profile as the founder and creative force behind Legacyland.

"Legacyland is a solutions led brand partner supporting hospitality, tourism, destination and events brands to create considered systems of uniforms and merchandise," she says. "We don't work from a catalogue but start with a client's place, people and their highest vision then collaborate to design premium pieces that reflect their ethos and honour their values."

Natalie has worked in the fashion industry for 20 years and her career spans fashion, creative direction and strategic product development with her New Lands Studio label acclaimed for its disruptive take on fashion, celebrating the wearer and making clever use of colour and form.

"With Legacyland we are an end-to-end solutions led partner — from creative concepts and style through to fabrication, functionality and production including freight, logistics and stock service planning. Our role is to be the trusted hands for a client's brand creating uniforms and merchandise that act as everyday touch points — carrying their story, bringing teams together and leaving something of quality lasting in the world."

Legacyland grew out of a recognition that businesses are increasingly in a competitive space and often short on time requiring a hands on brand partner to complete a specific project from start to finish.



Ayrburn Classic

"To this end as a solutions based partner we collaborate with premium brands, such as Ayrburn, McKibbin's of Royalburn and Cloudy Bay to name a few, to produce uniforms and merchandise that support their ultimate vision," says Natalie.

"We focus on creating a considered sustainable product with a design touch that elevates teams and sharpens brand appeal as well as generating a strong revenue stream and return on investment through retail worthy keepsakes. Such pieces are designed to live on and represent the brand both in New Zealand and globally."



Ayrburn



Gibbston Valley Golf

Natalie believes Legacyland's understanding of fabrication, fit and longevity together with a knowledge of what converts at retail and how to create ongoing product streams results in pieces people want to take home, wear and keep in circulation.

"They are not throwaway extras — they are cohesive, elevated and clearly on brand."

*"Legacyland exists for brands who care about how they show up in the world. We believe what you wear and what you give should strengthen your story, elevate your brand and proudly become part of your legacy."*

Natalie Newlands



Sherwood Queenstown

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# Remarkables Park Town Centre

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## Remarkables Park Town Centre Backs Regional Pride

**In Otago sport has always meant more than the scoreboard. It represents identity, pride and the belief that smaller regions can stand confidently on a national stage.**

The Otago Nuggets embody that spirit.

After stepping away from the National Basketball League in 2014 the franchise returned in 2021 backed by determined supporters and renewed purpose. The comeback was grounded in resilience and community belief, values that continue to shape the team as it heads into the 2026 season.

This year Remarkables Park Town Centre joins that journey as a sponsor for the first time.

For the centre the partnership is a deliberate investment in regional confidence. While Queenstown is globally recognised its character is defined by its local community. Families, young people and long term residents shape the culture that visitors experience and return to.

Centre manager Nick Lambert says the decision to support the Nuggets felt like a natural extension of the centre's role within the region.

"We see ourselves as more than a retail destination. We are a place where the community gathers, connects and builds momentum. Supporting the Otago Nuggets is about backing that same energy and resilience on a regional stage."

"Professional sport provides a powerful focal point. It connects generations, inspires young athletes and creates shared experiences that strengthen identity. In regions like ours communities do not simply watch teams. They carry them."



As the 2026 season begins for the Otago Nuggets Remarkables Park Town Centre's sponsorship signals clear intent. To support grassroots aspiration. To strengthen regional visibility. To stand behind a team whose story mirrors the resilience of the communities it represents. Because in Otago, pride is not measured by population size but by the strength of connection.

### Be Part of What's Next

From exclusive promotions to special events and giveaways, follow Remarkables Park Town Centre on Instagram and Facebook for the latest.

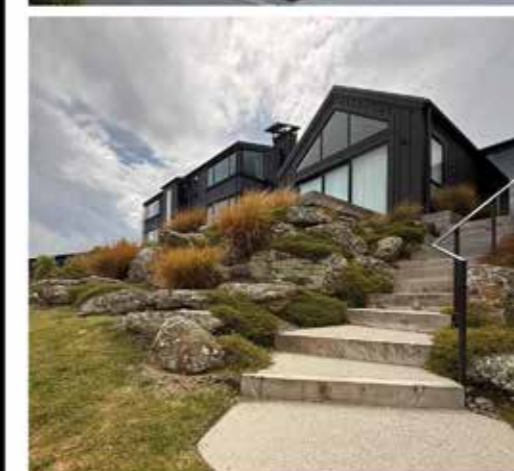


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# BATHE



## The First Chapter

Bathe opened on Brecon Street with a clear sense of intent: to create a central hot pools experience that felt relevant to modern Queenstown life. Since then, it has settled naturally into the city's landscape, shaped by daily use and strong early engagement.

Rather than positioning itself apart from its surroundings, Bathe has become part of the town's fabric, naturally woven into how visitors experience Queenstown. "It's been incredibly encouraging to see how people have taken to it," says founder Tim McMahon. "To watch people experience the first Aluume project and respond so positively has meant a great deal to the whole team. We're seeing visitors who are in Queenstown for one week visit us 3-4 times."

# ALUUME



## DESIGNED FOR QUEENSTOWN

From the outset, Bathe was designed to feel at home within Queenstown's urban environment. Custom-made concrete pools, refined plaster finishes, and a restrained material palette were chosen to complement the surrounding landscape rather than compete with it. As the site has settled in, the architecture has become part of the Brecon Street hillside, familiar, grounded, and increasingly woven into the area's identity. "The intention was always to build something that belonged here," McMahon explains. "Something that would age well and feel natural in its setting."



## IN THE FLOW OF THE CITY

Bathe's position above Brecon Street places it directly within Queenstown's daily movement. The presence of the street below adds an urban edge, reinforcing the connection between the experience and the life of the town.

Guests often comment on the contrast between being immersed in warm water while the city continues around them. It's this balance, between immersion and energy that has helped Bathe find its place within Queenstown's flow.

## BATHE TODAY

Located just above Brecon Street, Bathe by Aluume offers six architecturally crafted hot pools designed for flexibility and ease. A combination of five private pools and one communal pool allow guests to choose how they want to soak, whether that's a more personal experience or something shared.

The communal pool carries a social energy, while five private pools offer a more contained setting. All pools are magnesium-enriched and designed for sessions that feel simple and considered, with open air, warm water, and refined detailing throughout.

On site, the focus on hydration and recovery, with a curated range of wellness drinks available to purchase. Aluume merchandise has also launched, including custom-designed towels available for use during sessions or to purchase, alongside swimwear offered exclusively as retail, allowing guests to take a small part of the experience with them.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

With Bathe now established, attention is turning to what comes next. Stage Two of the project is confirmed, with additional private pools planned to expand capacity while maintaining the experience guests have come to know.

Further ahead, Thermae by Aluume, a floating sauna on Lake Wakatipu is shaping up well for a winter 2026 opening. Designed to bring warmth, contrast, and a new dimension to the water, Thermae will extend the Aluume vision beyond Brecon Street.

"Bathe is the first Aluume project," says McMahon. "We're incredibly grateful to everyone who's come through so far, our guests, our team, and the wider community who've trusted us enough to experience it from the beginning. Stages three and four are progressing behind the scenes, and once complete, we're confident the region's premium hot pool offering will be comprehensively delivered under the Aluume vision."

As the Aluume journey continues, Bathe remains the foundation shaped by place, people, and the pace of Queenstown itself.

## DETAILS

Bathe by Aluume is open daily from 9am to 11pm  
Communal pool sessions from \$55,  
Private pool sessions from \$95.  
Bookings are available via [www.aluume.com](http://www.aluume.com)  
34 Brecon Street: Queenstown  
[@aluumewellness](https://www.instagram.com/aluumewellness)



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## Dynamic G33 Exhibition

By Tom Kalliber

Wānaka's contemporary gallery, Gallery Thirty Three, is offering a diverse and rich exhibition programme during autumn.

Director Vanessa George says the gallery's Easter Exhibition, opening on Thursday April 2 is a showstopper featuring new works from celebrated artists Bing Dawe, Sean Beldon, Simon Kaan, Tessa Barringer, Stephen Howard, Katherine Throne and Peter Miller.



The White Shed Yonder – Sean Beldon

Sean Beldon is a New Zealand landscape artist whose style leans towards painterly with a modernist feel, swinging between representative and abstract. His compositions always originate in the photography of the landscape and he uses the viewfinder as a primary canvas deciding if the emphasis will be on emotionality, light, form or colour.

*"Our exhibition programme is just heating up. Following on from our dynamic Summer Series exhibition we are excited to present these major new works during autumn."*  
Vanessa George



Centrepiece - Tessa Barringer

Tessa Barringer's early interest was in life drawing and portraiture. As her art practice has developed she has progressed through landscape, skyscape and very detailed observational drawing before finally settling on birds.



The text is an extract from Joseph Banks' diary on the day of the Endeavour's first night moored at Ships Cove in the Marlborough Sounds in 1776.

Specialising in drypoint and relief printmaking Vanessa says Ben's prints are often political, related to New Zealand's flora, fauna and native species.

"His critique of the vulnerability of existing ecosystems in the 21st century is impossible to dismiss."

Vanessa says May 2026 offers something a little different at Gallery 33 with an initiative to give back to the local community.

"Nearly all our renowned artists and some guest artists will be producing a selection of A4 works on paper, covering our walls in unframed works, creating a unique opportunity to secure an original artwork. A percentage of the proceeds from these works will go towards a workshop at Mt Aspiring College inspiring the next generation of artists."

Sitting alongside this exhibition the gallery will have new works by emerging local artist Isabella Robbins whose love of ceramics and painting collides in fresh, well-executed creations.

During June Ben Reid, Clair Beynon and Richard Adams will come together with a curated suite of exhibitions at the gallery.

"This will be a very strong exhibition showcasing Ben Reid's new collection in its entirety," says Vanessa.

Pictured is his feathered Captain Cooker Pig woodcut.

gallery thirty three

Gallery Thirty Three  
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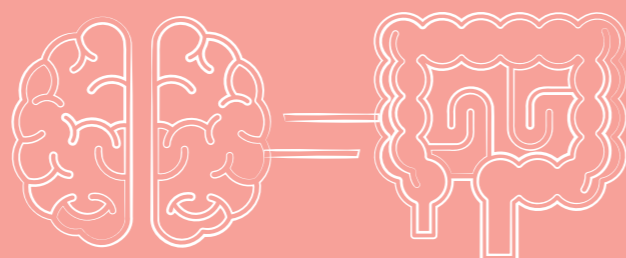
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- *mental clarity and balancing mood*
- *improving energy and overall vitality*



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### Sustainable Luxury Home Accessories

Experience sustainable luxury in your home with premium grade cushion covers made from 100 per cent pure wool fleece. These sumptuous covers provide both comfort and elegance making them a perfect addition to home interiors especially as the cooler months approach.



Produced by mi woollies, a New Zealand owned and operated company since 1936, the cushion covers reflect the brand's longstanding commitment to quality and craftsmanship. Measuring 30cm x 30cm they are available in the sophisticated Black Oso tone and are available at The Wool Press in Arrowtown.

### British Cult Beauty

The cult UK beauty and skincare brand founded by the iconic Trinny Woodall takes a game-changing approach to effortless, personalised beauty. Trinny London Match2Me removes the guesswork by creating a personalised edit of shades tailored to skin tone, hair colour and eye colour ensuring a seamless natural finish every time. The Stack is your shortcut to an effortless, fresh-faced glow making it multi-purpose, easy to apply and designed for life on the go.



- **Eye2Eye** – Cream-based eye shades rich in pigment making it quick and fuss-free to enhance your eyes.
- **Lip2Cheek** – A multitasking matte colour for lips or cheeks delivering a flattering flush with serious staying power.
- **Lip Glow** – A hydrating lip gloss with a sheer buildable tint to moisturise and enhance.



Available to purchase in New Zealand online at [trinnylondon.com/nz](http://trinnylondon.com/nz)



### Classically Inspired Fiora Urns

Evoking the appearance of traditional amphora-style pottery but reimagined for contemporary interiors in cast aluminium. Whether styled with dried botanicals or standing alone as a sculptural statement the Fiora Urn commands attention with its raw, organic beauty. The Fiora Urn is available in two sizes and two elegant colour options – Antique Bronze and Ivory. For more information including your nearest stockist – Johnston Imports at [info@ji.net.nz](mailto:info@ji.net.nz) or call 0800Artwood.



### Autumn Bliss Spa at Sofitel Queenstown

Welcome the change of season with the exclusive Autumn Bliss spa ritual at Sofitel Queenstown Hotel & Spa. This indulgent experience is designed to refresh your mind, body and skin delivering both deep relaxation and radiant results.



#### What's included

- 60-minute Aromachologie Relaxing Massage: Unwind and release tension with a luxurious full-body massage tailored to promote relaxation and wellbeing.
- 30-minute Immortelle Facial: Rejuvenate your complexion with a revitalising facial treatment leaving your skin glowing and refreshed.

Duration: 90 minutes RRP: \$195 (valued at \$264)

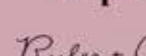
This special offer is available until May 31 2026. It cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or discount at Sofitel Spa.

## GOALS

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# Q&A

The Michael Hill International Violin Competition celebrates its 25th anniversary when it returns to Queenstown and Auckland from May 29 until June 6 2026. QT Magazine goes behind the event with executive director Anne Rodda.



Sir Michael Hill Lady Christine Hill & Nikki Chooi

## Who will support the violinists on stage?

In Queenstown the violinists are supported by outstanding collaborative pianists. This year Sarah Watkins who has been with the competition since its inception returns while Paige Roberts Molloy from Seattle makes her competition debut. These partnerships as well as those for the semi-finals (NZTrio and Rob Ashworth) and Grand Final (Auckland Philharmonia) in Auckland are vital. The collaborating artists' skills allow the performers to present performances that are both confident and compelling.



Ioana Cristina Goicea

## With 16 international up-and-coming violinists competing what type of musical showcase can audiences expect?

The competition will be an extraordinary showcase of artistry and individuality. The quarterfinalists competing in Queenstown are some of the most exciting young violinists performing internationally today – each brings their own musical voice, cultural perspective and interpretive depth. Audiences can expect to be treated to dazzling virtuosity and deeply expressive, intimate performances.

## What is the format for the quarterfinals in Queenstown?

The quarterfinals feature solo recital performances allowing each violinist to present a carefully curated programme that highlights both their technical command and their musical personality. There are two rounds and each competitor performs twice across the four days. It's an intense but diverse and rewarding stage of the competition and one that offers audiences an exceptional experience of violin artistry.

## Why is this competition so highly sought after by young violinists?

The Michael Hill International Violin Competition has built a global reputation for artistic excellence, integrity and genuine manaaki for the competitors. Beyond that we offer meaningful career opportunities including personal development while in New Zealand including for those who don't pass the quarterfinals. Many competition alumni have achieved major international careers which makes the event incredibly attractive to ascending artists from across the world.

## What is the competition prize pool?

The winner receives NZ\$40,000, a recording contract with Atoll label and a multi-centre tour with Chamber Music New Zealand.

Other prizes are offered with a total prize pool of more than \$100,000 including the coveted Smith Prize – a three-year loan of a Domenico Montagnana violin facilitated by Rare Violins of New York.

## Are there specific plans to honour Sir Michael Hill on the 25th anniversary?

It is very important to us to honour Sir Michael and the remarkable legacy he created. There will be specific moments throughout the Queenstown rounds that acknowledge his vision, generosity and lifelong commitment to nurturing young musical talent.



Maxim Tzekov

Find full event details, schedules and booking information on [violincompetition.co.nz](http://violincompetition.co.nz) with Queenstown tickets available through Humantix.

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## DISHERY REIMAGINED

By Penny Simpson

The Queenstown hospitality group behind Canyon Brewing, The Boat Shed Café and The Boat Shed Bakery is continuing to expand with the recent addition of Arrowtown's Dishery to its portfolio.

"We love building places people actually want to spend time in so expanding into Arrowtown felt natural," says brand and marketing manager Mikaela Turner. "We already had deep roots in the region so stepping into Dishery felt like a continuation."

Dishery is situated in the Arrow River Reserve and offers upbeat all-day dining within an appealing garden setting.

"The garden is something else with flowers in full bloom, long tables and soft afternoon light," says Mikaela.

"We're tucked just off Buckingham Street right by the river trails and close enough to the action yet far enough away that you feel like you're completely somewhere else."

Executive chef Steve Sepsy — formerly of Aosta, Little Aosta, Toast & Oak and Ahi (Auckland) — has elevated the menu while keeping it grounded and generous.

"Think elevated spins on Kiwi classics alongside one of the best big breakfasts in town. You can't go past the Village Bennie, Matcha French Toast and Soft White Polenta and Broccolini — nostalgic Kiwi staples dialled up a notch," says Mikaela. "The Crayfish Roll and club sandwiches are crowd favourites for lunch."

"We've also introduced The Long Lunch Club which is our excuse to slow the weekend down and incorporates two hours of shared plates and curated drinks. It runs every Saturday and Sunday from 11.30am until 3.00pm and has quickly become a ritual for locals."

The heritage design of the Dishery building adds to its overall charm.



Steve Sepsy

"Inside we have an open kitchen, wood fire for winter and the character and historic charm of the original Dudley's Cottage. The Dudley's Room is an intimate private dining option perfect for birthdays and long-table lunches."



### Representing Canyon Brewing

A full lineup of Canyon Brewing craft beers including Vacation Hazy Pale Ale, Canyon Gold Central Otago Lager and Wild Thing Cold IPA have been introduced at Dishery and are available on tap alongside Aperol Spritz and Espolon Margaritas.

"Our baked goods and some breads come from The Boat Shed Bakery including our rye which is made using Canyon's spent grain," says brand and marketing manager Mikaela Turner. "It's a small detail but one we're proud of that gives us control over quality and consistency while keeping production local."

"Dishery is all about being a place where people can start with coffee and somehow end up with a margarita. Whether its lunch and bubbles or just a quick coffee everyone is greeted like an old friend and made to feel right at home."



# DISHERY

4 Buckingham Street, Arrowtown, New Zealand . 03 441 1849 . Open from 8am

Experience

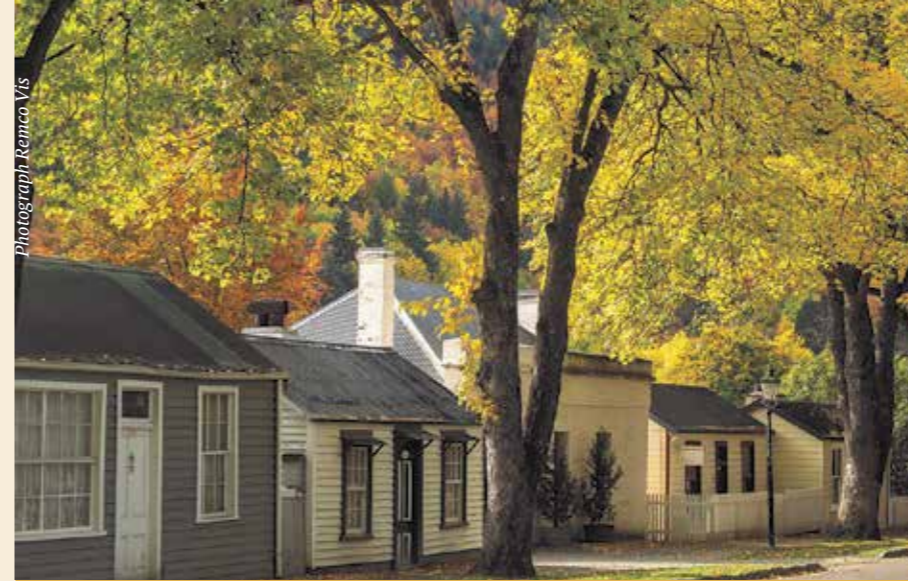
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### What's New in Arrowtown

Autumn in Arrowtown sees the changing of colours welcoming the new season, perhaps the town's most appealing time of the year. Arrowtown Promotions and Business Association manager Nicky Busst takes a look at activities in the historic village during autumn.



### Festival Celebrates 40 Years

The spotlight is on Arrowtown's vibrant autumn colours as the town acknowledges its 40th annual celebration of seasonal changes with the Arrowtown Autumn Festival from April 15 until April 19 2026.

Arrowtown's beauty is on show during the festival and the natural colours spark a range of drawcard activities. What began as a humble harvest celebration is now an important annual event attracting people from all over to experience the festivities and witness the trees turning amber and gold.

This year 70 per cent of the Arrowtown Autumn Festival events are free to attend and festival favourites return such as the Arrowtown Parade and Market Day, Pie, Pint & Pinot and the Bayleys Art Exhibition.

Ticketed events available at [www.arrowtownautumnfestival.co.nz](http://www.arrowtownautumnfestival.co.nz)

### Mining Heritage

Arrowtown (Kā-Muriwai) has a fascinating history with the town first established in 1862 and becoming a significant location during the 1860s Otago goldrush.

Enticed by the discovery of gold in the Arrow River miners flocked from all over the world to the area hoping to find their fortune. By the end of 1862 over 1,500 miners were camped on the banks of the Arrow River.

The gold mining heritage remains visible today with over 70 buildings and features dotted in and around the town centre. The Lakes District Museum is a mine of information while an eclectic mix of early buildings combined with boutique stores, art galleries, cafés and lifestyle shops makes Arrowtown an inviting place to visit during autumn.



### Panning for gold

Jack Tewa is credited with sparking the Whakatipu gold rush after finding gold in the Arrow River in 1862. He had been employed as a shearer but his discovery of numerous gold nuggets revealed the richness of the river and helped trigger the gold rush in Arrowtown. Word of the find spread quickly and soon thousands of hopeful prospectors were pouring into the district.

Today gold panning remains a fun activity for visitors of all ages to experience in the Arrow River close to the town. Gold pans can be hired from the Lakes District Museum and other local providers.

- Dress for the weather
- Search near the riverbank edge
- Be patient — it takes time to find gold



### Village Showcase

A new history category has been added to the 2026 Arrowtown Photography Competition in recognition of the 40th anniversary of the autumn festival.

The competition is open to amateur photographers and highlights activities and scenes from around the village.

Photographs entered into the competition traditionally cover a diverse range of landscape, people and nature shots and the new history category encourages locals to unearth some of their own historical photographic accounts of the town and share them with the public.

All entries are on display in the Lakes District Museum art gallery space, with winning entries highlighted in each category, during the festival.

### Tohu Whenua – exploring history

Arrowtown abounds with stories of two very different yet significant goldrush communities – Chinese and European – and has been recognised as Tohu Whenua, a place to explore where history happened.

There are 39 Tohu Whenua sites in New Zealand and Arrowtown is described as a charming town that reveals the stories of the preserved avenue where wealthy European banks and merchants traded and the restored huts of Chinese miners who lived a much more modest lifestyle.

The exploratory and interactive exhibitions at Lakes District Museum and the preserved Chinese village where 3,564 Chinese people lived during the goldrush are outstanding. Maps are available from the Lakes District Museum to help discover the exceptional local sites.



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# Seasonal Refresh

Discover the latest in fashion & luxury sportswear for the cooler months ahead at GOALS store in Arrowtown.

"We are excited to have our very first Aim'n ski pieces instore offering an elevated look to wear on local slopes this winter," says GOALS director Sophie Simmers. "As the cooler months approach the store has stylish, high-quality pieces for girls and guys from our leading brands that are designed to keep you comfortable and on-trend all season long."

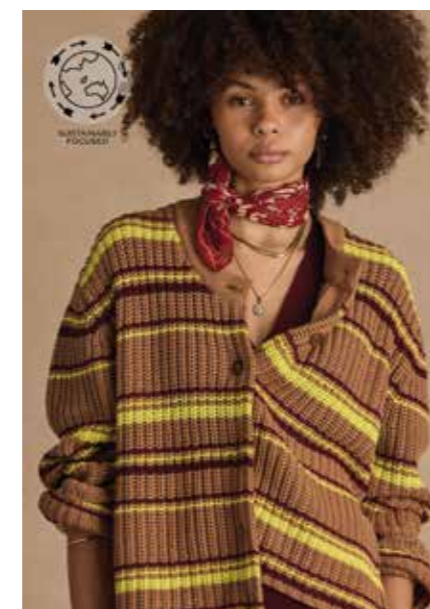
## SKI IN AIM'N

Scandinavian design and quality are at the heart of Aim'n sportswear, crafted for women who aim high and dream big. The new season Verbier ski Jacket perfectly balances fashion and function offering a fitted silhouette for winter activities. Constructed from waterproof fabric this jacket offers a customisable fit with an adjustable, elastic buckle belt and bottom hem to adapt the silhouette to personal preference. A stand-up collar lined with faux fur adds both comfort and warmth complemented by a glossy logo print at the shoulder.



## RYLEE + CRU

Explore handpicked Rylee + Cru garments for boys and girls at GOALS designed for comfort, style and seasonal layering.



## THE UPSIDE BENDETTA

A light organic knit with a soft, playful edge the Bendetta cardigan features shell button closure and ribbed styling making it the perfect layering piece in soft autumnal tones.



## HARLOW LUXE

The Harlow Fleece by The Upside is a relaxed pullover style with raglan sleeves made from recycled warm fleece fabrication. With zip pockets and cuffs this beautiful tonal piece will keep you warm throughout the season.

## LEVI'S CINCH BARREL

For those who love the classic baggy denim look but want to avoid the dreaded waist gap, LEVI'S® Cinch Barrel jeans are the answer. Designed with a flattering high rise and a relaxed leg, these jeans feature adjusters on the back for a tailored fit that celebrates every curve.



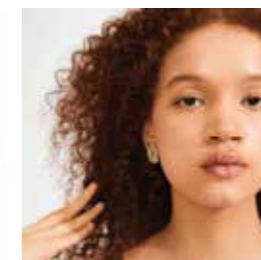
## KC CHIEFS

Get game day ready with Kansas City Chiefs official merchandise. The Kansas City Chiefs Graphic Boxy Shirt features printed graphics with all over pinstripes for a classic bold look. Finish with the merch cap for the win. Now at GOALS



## GOLD PLATED PILGRIM

The gold-plated SHIFT earrings from Pilgrim add a chic fashion-forward touch to any outfit. The rustic, flat shapes of the earrings beautifully catch the light and give an exclusive handcrafted vibe. Perfect for both everyday glam and standout moments.



## NEW SUPERDRY

This ultimate transitional jacket from Superdry is perfect wherever your day takes you. Crafted with a bomber cut and sleek pockets and logo this jacket keeps you warm and stylish all season long.



## NEW BALANCE

Enter the New Balance 204L. This low-profile shoe blends the slim structure of '70s running shoes with tech-inspired texture of synthetic and mesh. The 204L features sleek proportions - available in four different colour ways at GOALS.



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### Value Beyond Convenience

While the convenience of lying in bed, controlling blinds and curtains at the touch of a button, smart phone app or voice is undeniable, the real value lies deeper. Automated systems can help regulate interior temperatures by responding to sunlight throughout the day, improving energy efficiency, plus protecting flooring and furnishings from UV damage. They also enhance child & pet safety by eliminating cords and chains and improve security by giving the impression of occupancy. Often automation is an absolute necessity "Many homes here feature large glazing, skylights, and high windows," Clayton says. "In those situations, automation isn't just a luxury, it's essential to make those spaces fully functional."



### Early Integration

Integrated with smart home or building management systems, window furnishings become part of a cohesive, intelligent environment. "When considered from the outset, automated window furnishings integrate seamlessly into the building structure, ensuring both aesthetic and technical outcomes meet the highest standard" concludes Clayton.



## Automation as Standard

### Lahood's Smart Approach to Modern Living

With over 40 years as Auckland's leading specialist in custom curtains and blinds, Lahood® Window Furnishings now brings that expertise to the Southern Lakes' most prestigious projects. Working with architects, designers, and builders, their commercial division is making automated window furnishings the standard rather than the exception in new homes.



### Remember TV Remotes?

This shift reflects a broader evolution in how homes are designed and lived in. Automation is no longer viewed as an added extra, but as an essential component of a well-considered, high-performance home. As Lahood Director Clayton Sceats explains "Years ago, you had to get off the couch to change the TV. Today, you would never consider buying a television without a remote. Window furnishings are heading the same way."



### What Can You Automated?

Partnering with Somfy, a global leader in motorisation technology, Lahood offers automation across its extensive product range, including roller blinds, curtains, Venetian blinds, Roman blinds, cellular shades, shutters, and exterior screens and awnings. Hardwired or battery operated, motors are discreetly concealed in roller tubes or often in ceiling cavities, preserving clean architectural lines while delivering precise control of light, privacy, and comfort.



To discuss an upcoming project, Lahood's commercial team can be reached on 0800 444 331 or complete a form at [lahood.co.nz/commercial](http://lahood.co.nz/commercial)

**LAHOOD**  
Window Furnishings



## Museum Provides Artistic Home

By Jane Brooke

The Lakes District Museum is home to one of Arrowtown's busiest art galleries, open daily for visitors to experience with works on display available to purchase.

"The gallery is one of the museum's most popular areas and regularly hosts exhibitions for local and visiting artists," says director Jane Peasey. Several exhibitions have been timed to coincide with the Arrowtown Autumn Festival which is celebrating its 40th year. "Until April 12 we are presenting COOTS — Central Otago Outside the Square — which is a collective of fibre artists. The exhibition is called *A Common Thread* and is always popular with visitors as it is both colourful and relatable. The artists create wonderful artworks in quilting, felting, embroidery and other fibre mediums."

This is followed by the annual Bayleys' Arrowtown Autumn Festival Exhibition.

The opening night for the ticketed event is Friday April 17 and the exhibition runs until May 24 featuring work from over 70 local artists and includes more than 170 works.

Jane says both exhibitions are centred on the artistic community in the Queenstown Lakes District.

*"Our gallery space is a lively, accessible, low-cost space to support artists, community collectives and local creativity. Fees are kept low so that more groups can share their work with the public."*



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## Charming Sculpture Studio

Arrowtown artist Fiona Garlick explores nature, place and identity in her compelling original bronze sculptures on display at her charming Arrowtown studio and gallery.



Fiona Garlick at work



Piwakawaka & the Acorn

own.

"In the sculpture garden are examples of my larger outdoor pieces on signature plinths made from Timaru bluestone," says Fiona. "All these works are for sale and can be shipped worldwide."

### Queenstown Artist Angus Watson

Angus has been a professional artist for more than 35 years and his art attracts both New Zealand and offshore buyers.

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### Mount Iron milestone

**By Tom Kalliber**  
*The transfer of 55 hectares of public conservation land at Mount Iron in Wānaka from the Department of Conservation means the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) now manages the whole reserve on behalf of the community.*

QLDC parks manager Dave Winterburn says it's a significant milestone following the council's purchase of around 100 hectares from private ownership in May 2023.

"Adding this public conservation land allows us to manage and maintain the entire area more effectively for locals and visitors. For example the hugely popular Mount Iron loop trail is now on land managed by one organisation. This will ultimately enhance the experience for everyone enjoying Mount Iron over the long term."

"It also means the Mount Iron Reserve Management Plan, a community-led vision for how the area can be enjoyed and preserved into the future, now applies to this newly vested land as well as the original recreation reserve."

He says the council has already been managing day-to-day operations since 2024 so people will not notice any major changes when they are out in the reserve.

"A key difference is that we've taken over responsibility for agreements with community groups and commercial operators. And because the carpark next to SH84 is now council-managed reserve land freedom camping is prohibited there."

QLDC is currently working with local user groups to develop a trail plan for the reserve.

### Road Safety First

**By Tom Kalliber**

The Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) has spearheaded the production of videos in Mandarin which are helping promote road safety among tourists as they drive around New Zealand.

The council teamed up with NZ Police and local production company Storyworks to release the two short videos in time for Lunar New Year when the district sees a big increase in visitors.

QLDC's One Network Technician (Transportation) Sarah Thomson says the idea came from council civil engineer and Chinese Kiwi resident Xinghao Chen who features in both videos alongside local police officers.

"Xinghao saw a gap for further education and understanding about driving in New Zealand for Chinese speaking visitors. They may be driving on the opposite side of the road to what they're used to, driving an unfamiliar rental car and driving on mountain roads for the first time."

"Filmed on the Crown Range and in Arrowtown one video focuses on open road driving tips such as pulling over if cars build up behind them and not passing on yellow lines while the other explains what different road signs mean."

"We want our visitors to enjoy themselves but we just want them to do so safely and we hope these videos will help," says Sarah.

The videos have been shared with local rental car companies, Chinese language media outlets in New Zealand and other agencies.



Sergeant Bruce Martin Xinghao Chen Constable Kiriana Flannery & Sergeant Derek Ealson



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\*Offer is for an Occupation Right Agreement secured by a first ranking mortgage in favour of the statutory supervisor on behalf of the residents.

764F-MLC-WAN-QT

**Foreign buyers eye Southern Lakes**

By Jenny McLeod

Changes to New Zealand's foreign house buyer laws which came into effect in early March this year have sparked major interest in the Southern Lakes luxury real estate market.

Parliament's law change means people who qualify for the Active Investor Plus (AIP) visa can purchase or build a home for a minimum of \$5 million. The new policy is designed to attract high-value investors who are making a substantial commitment to New Zealand both personally and financially.

New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty (NZSIR) managing director Mark Harris says high-net-worth individuals from overseas are shortlisting property in Queenstown, Arrowtown and Wanaka.

"We've seen a noticeable pick up in enquiry and actual viewings. High-net-worth individuals are now increasingly physically present in Queenstown and Auckland for viewings rather than just enquiring from a distance."

He says private jets are arriving at Queenstown Airport regularly and buyers have been visiting from the US, Australia, Germany, Switzerland, Hong Kong, Japan and China. Properties attracting the most interest are residential homes above \$10 million in the Southern Lakes as well as blue chip areas in Auckland.



Mark Harris



33 Central Park Avenue - Lake Hayes

Mark says nationally NZSIR's \$5 million plus sales are up 55.6 per cent compared to the same period last year with the Southern Lakes being the dominant high-value market accounting for nearly 80 per cent of the company's property transactions over \$5 million. Recently the company's Queenstown office recorded one of its busiest weeks in a long time with 14 sales, one over \$10 million and another more than \$7 million.



114 Hensman Road, Queenstown



27 Edinburgh Drive - Queenstown



27 Edinburgh Drive - Queenstown

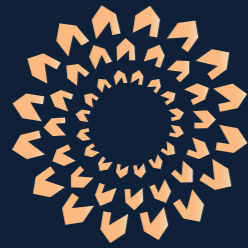
International interest is also reflected in NZSIR's website traffic which Mark attributes to the rule changes to the Overseas Investment Act.

"Website visits from internationals living in the United States have increased by 61 per cent while Australian users have increased by 24 per cent compared to this time last year. Our website traffic is a solid demand indicator and from what we can see in these early stages of the AIP update the demand is definitely there. The challenge for the market will be meeting that demand, as properties in the \$10 million-plus bracket are still relatively rare in New Zealand."

**Discover The South Island Through Its Artists**

From powerful landscapes to contemporary pieces, each artwork is selected for its depth, craft, and connection to place. Whether you're visiting Wānaka or living in Central Otago, explore a curated collection that captures the spirit of our region.

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- Dip S.

At Diamond Property & Wealth, we support professionals, business owners, and families who want their money and investments working harder for them so one day they won't have to.

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### STRATEGY CREATES CONFIDENCE

Without a structured plan, investing can feel uncertain and inconsistent. Many people invest sporadically, pause during uncertain times, and rush in during periods of excitement, leading to constant second-guessing. Questions like "Am I investing too much or too little?" or "Should I stop or wait?" become common. A well-defined strategy eliminates this uncertainty. When you know exactly how much to invest and why, you can enjoy the rest of your disposable income guilt-free. More importantly, having a clear plan will help you stay consistent during turbulent markets.



Maria Temnyuk and Craig Johnson – Founders and Directors of Diamond Property & Wealth

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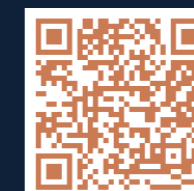
We work with clients at all life stages—from young adults starting their investment journey to retirees seeking passive income and security. Whether investing \$100 per week or \$10,000 per month, the principle remains the same: a well-designed plan is more important than the starting balance. Our goal is to demystify investing and remove barriers that prevent people from participating in the markets. You do not need large lump sums or a finance degree to invest effectively.

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 **DIAMOND**  
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# Connecting Through Art

By Margo Berryman

*Professional artist Andrew Tischler's work is recognised internationally and is displayed in his recently opened Tischler & Co Fine Art Gallery in Wānaka displaying his extensive works, many inspired by the South Island's landscape.*

Born in Texas and raised in Perth he got his start as a professional artist early on after finishing a fine arts degree.



Andrew Tischler



Andrew says he and his team have grown the Academy's subscription-based art classes to nearly 4000 subscribers also achieving a hugely popular YouTube channel of nearly 600,000 and a total social media following of 1.2 million.

***"It's amazing living here. My most chosen subject is the Matukituki Valley so to have this proximity is incredible. Being able to paint on location and take my video guy to capture it is a dream come true."***

"My interest as an artist is capturing the raw, rugged beauty of this country and really celebrating that. I love the traditional techniques of the old masters which may sound lofty but that's my life's work."

Andrew's paintings have sold to buyers and collectors worldwide with some big named celebrities and influential people purchasing his art. He is humble about his success and thrilled with the Wānaka gallery response.

"The local market has shown up in full support with some interesting collaborations with local initiatives like Wai Wānaka who do much to protect and preserve this environment. Doing some good and raising funds for their cause has been fun and opened a lot of doors."

"I made it in the art scene supporting myself as an artist by the age of 21," says Andrew. "Eight years in I started hosting successful live art workshops and discovered my love for teaching art."

"Then my wife Rachel who is from the North Island and I decided to move to New Zealand where we set up a gallery in Lawrence which was a beautiful location to start in."

Six months ago, they moved to Wānaka with their three-year-old son to set up Tischler & Co Fine Art Gallery.

"It's been so well received along with our online Tisch Academy art school which has expanded rapidly with several Wānaka team members including top-notch videographer Nick Marris joining. Nick brings skills in capturing my work for our YouTube, socials and what I teach on the Tisch Academy."



## ART FOR ALL

Tisch Academy offers a vibrant blend of visual arts education, painting, online programmes and lessons for in-depth learning.

"People love to follow the video lessons and every week we are live streaming to hundreds of people around the world teaching them how to paint," says Andrew. "I believe there is something special to art — we are happier when creatively fulfilled and at the academy we answer the call to paint."

[www.tisch.academy](http://www.tisch.academy)

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## Special Edition Sculptures

By Jane Brooke

Bronze sculptures created by internationally renowned couple Gillie and Marc Schattner are intriguing customers at Wānaka's Tussocks homeware store.

The British and Australian couple have been collaborating since 2004 making a name for themselves with their special edition sculptures and store owner Lisa Hay says to own a Gillie and Marc bronze sculpture is a "truly special experience".

She says the timeless nature of the material used by the artists, who have a reputation for their animal, human-animal hybrid and abstract sculptures, is the highest quality bronze which promises both durability and longevity.

The pair have been described by the New York Times as "the most successful and prolific creators of public art in New York's history" and are best known for their characters Rabbitwoman and Dogman that have a back story of two opposites coming together as best friends and soulmates.

"Their art has raised hundreds of thousands in donations for the many wildlife charities and causes they support through their project *Love The Last*," says Lisa. "We feel privileged to be able to offer some of their works at Tussocks Homeware in Wānaka.

*"Each artwork is released as a limited edition ensuring that once it is made it will never be reproduced and each has the artists' signatures along with a distinctive edition number underscoring its authenticity and value. To further ensure authenticity each sculpture is accompanied by a certificate signed by the couple."*



*They Were Flying High*



*He Loved Skiing with his Snow Bunny in gold patina*



*The Loved Breaking the Speed Limit*

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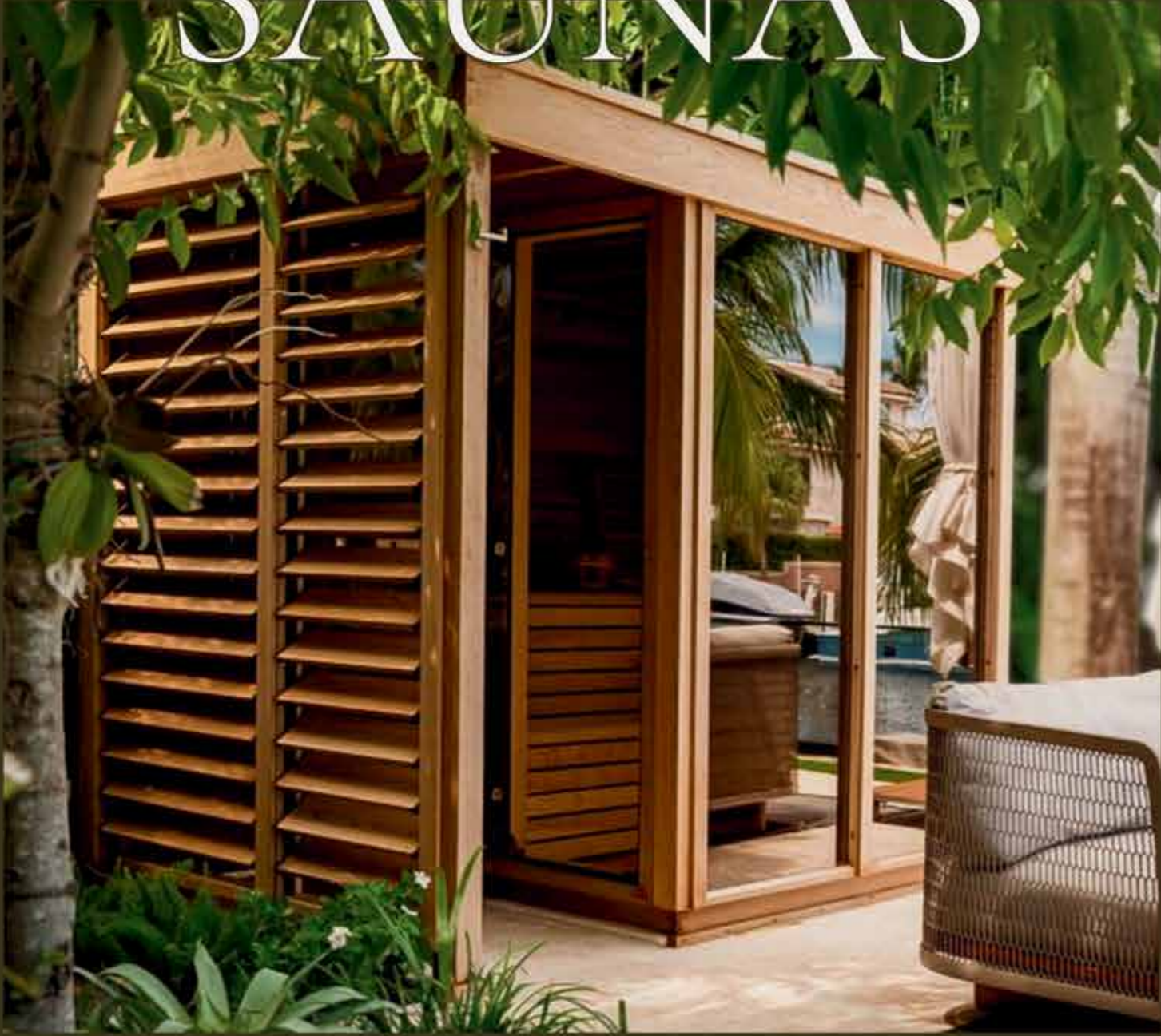
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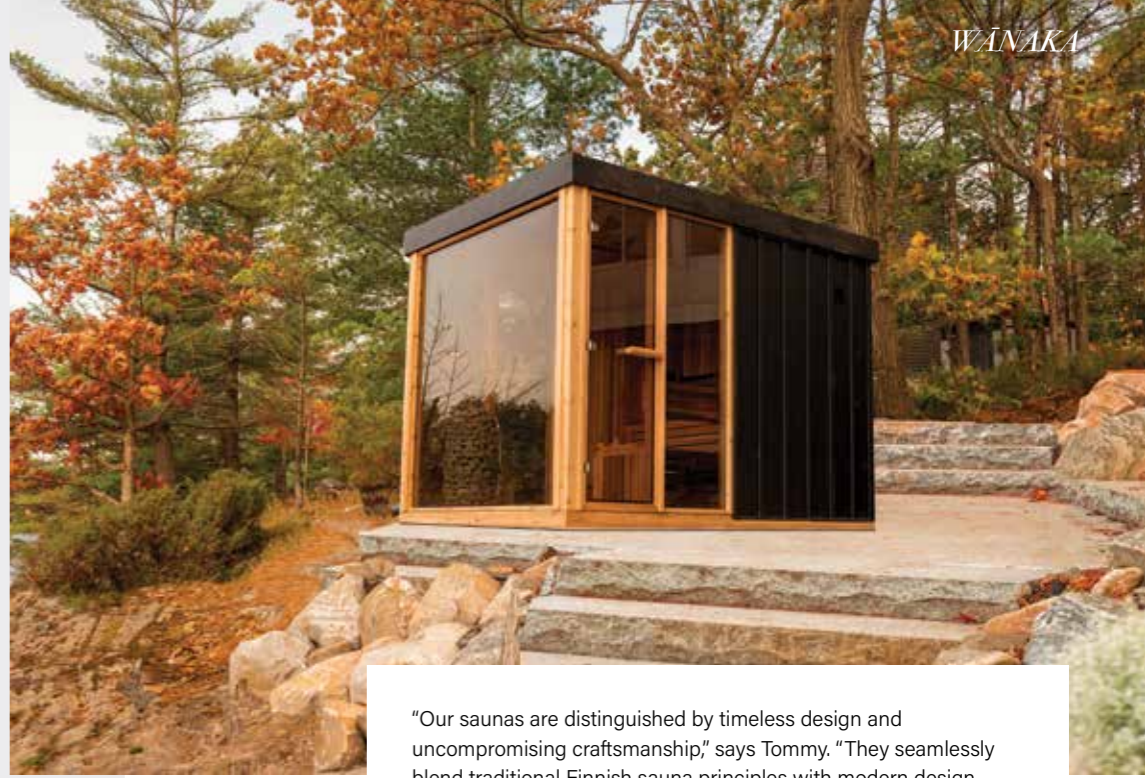
## Sustainably Crafted Cedar Saunas

By Tom Kalliber

Glamping expert Safari Tents NZ has separated its growing sauna business to provide its own dedicated website and marketing platform.

Marketing manager Tommy Lamb says The Tuki Sauna Co is promoting their existing products under a new name with the company focusing exclusively on delivering outstanding indoor and outdoor sauna experiences while Safari Tents NZ continues to concentrate on glamping.

The company collaborates with leading Canadian manufacturers and each sauna is handcrafted in Ontario from locally and sustainably sourced red and white cedar.



"Our saunas are distinguished by timeless design and uncompromising craftsmanship," says Tommy. "They seamlessly blend traditional Finnish sauna principles with modern design elements resulting in a thoughtfully curated collection that performs reliably in New Zealand's diverse climate. Cedar's ability to withstand temperature and moisture fluctuations and its natural resistance to rot makes it an ideal material for New Zealand conditions. The saunas are carefully crafted to sit naturally in any outdoor environment and the distinctive aroma of cedar adds to the overall sauna experience."

She says their product range is configurable to suit various settings — from compact suburban gardens and CBD hotel rooftops to expansive rural, lakeside and beachfront settings. Saunas come in multiple sizes with options for clear or knotty cedar finish, insulation, mirrored or bronze tinted glass, bench layouts, porches, changing rooms and showers.

"Our saunas are all about making the most of the beautiful New Zealand scenery and bringing the outside in. The Panorama barrel, made with solid single-piece cedar staves, with its convex window is the original feature outdoor sauna whilst the Pure Cube range with large bronze or mirrored glass panels offers stunning contemporary looks in a wood or steel external finish which can fit into any environment."

*"Our saunas are distinguished by timeless design and uncompromising craftsmanship."*

Tommy says the Tuki Sauna Co prides itself on providing personal service, ensuring every client receives attentive support throughout their sauna journey.



### BOH & IVY

— INTERIORS —

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

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## PARISIAN INFLUENCE

By Aspen Bruce

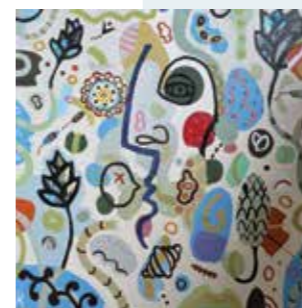
*Wānaka artist Robin Brisker has lived all over the world but it is when he is creating art that he feels most at home.*

*"I am not an artist that needs to look at anything to paint it. I prefer to try and create something that hasn't been created. To explore imagination, illustrate the joy of creating with movement, break the rules and follow it until I intuitively feel a piece is complete."*

"I was born in Chicago but grew up in multiple locations including New York, Boston, Connecticut, Oregon and California and attended 12 different schools in 12 years. It taught me how to adapt to any situation and how to entertain myself with my own thoughts and company."

"However, it wasn't until I moved to Paris in 1976 that my artistic side was nurtured. My creativity exploded with the daily inspiration of walking along the Parisian streets, being immersed by historical buildings, seeing numerous impressionist pieces in local galleries and being surrounded by the French language. I also started juggling in the streets of Paris and this skill gave me the freedom to travel anywhere while still supporting myself to create art."

Since then Robin has established a strong artistic career with his signature style that stretches from Braque and Picasso's cubist influence to the whimsical feel of groundbreaking modernist artists Alexander Calder and Paul Klee.



His bespoke artwork has been collected by renowned musicians and artists including Miles Davis, Madonna, Jamie Wyeth, Amy Irving, Dan Rizzie and Tony Fitzpatrick.

Robin's extensive and respected experience in the industry has made him an integral member of Wānaka's art community and he has seen the town's art scene evolve since moving to the area more than two decades ago.

"My initial years in Wānaka were brilliant. The town seemed undiscovered with very little competition. I had a solo show every year at Gallery 33 and donated work to charity auctions. Now there is more local talent

emerging especially with events such as the annual Labour Day exhibition held at the Lake Wānaka Centre that attracts more than 200 artists."

Robin's artwork is widely displayed throughout the region at locations such as Wānaka Medical Centre, Wānaka Library, Patagonia Cafe, Cork Bar, Relishes, Kai Whakapai, Pembroke Wines and Spirits and Carrick Winery in Bannockburn.

*Robin Brisker regularly shares his latest artwork via Instagram on @robinbriskergallery*



### Prembroke Wines Wanaka's Boutique Wine & Bottle Store

Prembroke Wines & Spirits offers a range of boutique products & experiences with an extensive range of wines and spirits such as whiskey, gin and liqueurs.

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**TOURS UNDER THE TREES**

Jackson Orchards comes alive with vibrant autumn colours from March until May.

During autumn the packhouse processes apples and pears as well as walnuts harvested from trees that are over a century old. Daily orchard tours allow visitors to board electric buses for an informative and inclusive experience including fruit picking and an overview of packhouse grading operations.

Tours can be pre-booked online or instore.

"This is one of the highlights of visiting the orchard," says retail manager Jamie Cowie. "The feedback from so many visitors is that the tours are both engaging and inspiring."

**Shop for Local Produce**

The retail store at Jackson Orchards collaborates with local fruit and vegetable suppliers fostering a sense of community and promoting local products.



The store features a wide variety of health supplements and giftware alongside its produce.



"Hugely popular are our own dried apricots, nuts and other dried goods, daily fresh bread from the European Bakery, Central Otago honeys and seasonal Red Bridge berries," says retail manager Jamie Cowie. "Our fresh fruit ice cream kiosk adjacent to the retail store sells over 70,000 ice creams each season. Flavours include mango, strawberry, blueberry, boysenberry, passionfruit, banana, hokeypokey, raspberry, apricot, and cherry with mixed berry being the most popular choice."

**Commitment to Innovation**

By Margo Berryman

Kevin Jackson's commitment to innovation has been instrumental in the ongoing growth and development of Jackson Orchards, one of Central Otago's largest fruit growing ventures and a fourth-generation Cromwell enterprise.



Situated beside the Luggate-Cromwell highway Jackson Orchards cultivates a wide range of fruits including cherries, apricots, peaches, nectarines, plums, greengages, apples and pears. The onsite packhouse and store are significant attractions for both visitors and locals.

"The packhouse is a hive of activity throughout the year as we operate more than 200 tonnes of stone and pip fruit and around 10-15 tonnes of cherries over the grading systems," says Kevin. "We have the longest season of any orchard in the country with all our fruit sold domestically."

The orchard boasts a harvest season lasting approximately six months. During this period the fruit stall, tours and ice cream kiosk remain open year-round providing visitors the opportunity to observe operations, taste fresh produce and enjoy the ever-popular ice creams.

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Map showing location: Jackson Orchards, Cromwell, State Highway 88, Arrowtown, Queenstown, Wanaka.

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# Ivan Clarke Gallery



*Visit the Art Gallery and Studio of master painter Ivan Clarke.*

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