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**2008 Incorporated**

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*Inset photo: Mary Hansen*

**Above, Arranmore Stable (2011) and, inset, Charlie Hansen, 1943,  
with two horses. See story page 7**

**Mr Malcolm & Mrs Trish Boote**

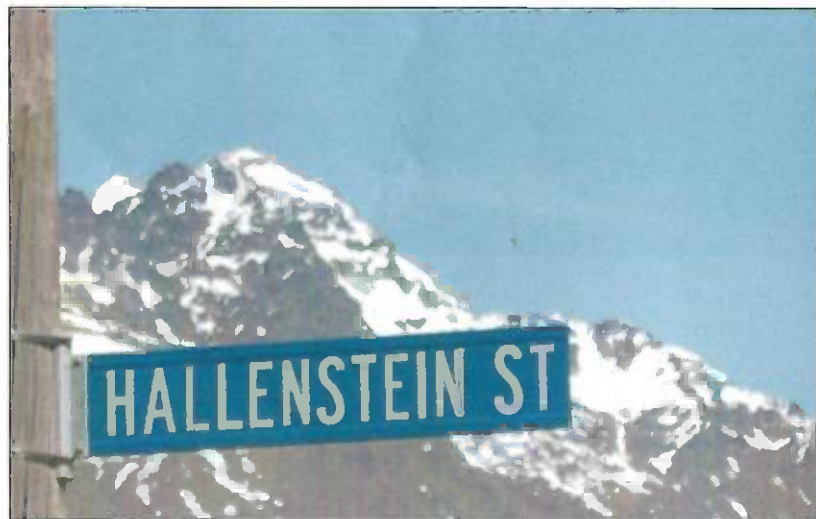
**13 Shaw Street**

**Arrowtown**

**Arranmore stable photo**

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## Street names and origins

### STREET NAMES HONOUR ENTERPRISING PEOPLE

By Marion Borrell

Among the articles in this issue can be found people whose names live on in our streets and roads. A common theme of their lives here from 1860 is the way they adapted to ever-changing circumstances.

William Rees, the first run-holder near Queenstown, forbade his workers from gold-fossicking during sheep-shearing in 1862; but when it happened and entirely disrupted his plans, he responded by becoming a supplier of goods and transportation, and a figure of authority in a frontier town. When deprived of his land in Queenstown, he moved to a new site which he named after his wife Frances. He continued sheep-farming, and was a driving force behind such community organisations as the hospital, the Anglican Church, the race course and the cricket club.



As the settlement grew, more of our well-known names arrived with energy and enterprise. The seven McBride brothers were involved in mining, timber, shipping, flour-milling and agriculture including at Arranmore on the Frankton Flat. Although the street name is likely to be in recognition of just one of them, the whole clan deserves credit.



Robertson Street in Frankton is not named after James W. Robertson, the first mayor of Queenstown in 1866, whose commercial interests the establishment of the Brunswick grain mill at Kawarau Falls. Rather it is the miller himself, also named James Robertson but no relation, who lived on the terrace above the mill. He later became the owner of the mill until it closed in 1904.



J.W. Robertson's partner in the mill and associate in local government was Bendix Hallenstein, the second mayor, who also established the large farm of Thurlby Domain on Speargrass Flat. His first shop was built in Rees Street in about 1864; and now in an echo of the past, a Hallensteins menswear shop has just opened in Beach Street.

If these people could now visit the places named after them, they would no doubt be impressed by the vehicles on the roads and in the sky; they would adapt to the present, and be flexible enough to see how this district could diversify in the future. Their experience and lateral thinking would contribute to the consultation which QLDC is carrying out with the community entitled Shaping Our Future.

In honour of these notable people, you could try counting the number of times the names Rees, McBride, Robertson and Hallenstein occur in this magazine. And as we walk and drive on 'their' streets, we can remember these colonists who were influential in the establishment of European settlement in our district.

**TRUST-WORTHY PROJECTS:  
Announcing the Wakatipu Region Heritage Trust**

By Lewis Broadbent

Some of the most significant historic sites and buildings in the Wakatipu district may

well have been lost to us if it was not for the hard work and perseverance of historic trusts. The Paradise Trust, Queenstown Heritage Trust (for the Williams Cottage), One Mile Power House Restoration Trust, Rotary Shotover Bridge Restoration Trust and Arrowtown Trust are responsible for the restoration or preservation of sites and buildings that are now community assets.



*The One Mile Power House, opened in 1924 and closed in 1966, fell into disrepair before the One Mile Restoration Trust began restoration... Photo: Malcolm Boote*

The more recent Wakatipu Community Maritime Preservation Trust will soon begin restoration work on the old tin boatshed and railway booking office in Frankton.



*The Power House was saved from ruin and reopened in 2005 as a static museum display after restoration work administered by the One Mile Restoration Trust. Photo: Malcolm Boote*

The trusts now protect these historic sites and buildings that are an integral part of the district's rich and unique heritage. Without the intervention of the trusts who knows what may have happened?

Bill Dolan, Chairman of the Queenstown and District Historical Society, has served on several local historic trusts and has an intimate understanding of how they operate.

"Initially the momentum to start a historic trust begins with people who are passionate about a particular heritage landmark or building that might be under some sort of threat," says Bill.

"They then invite on board additional people with special skills and qualifications. The next steps are legal ones, forming the trust, obtaining government recognition and Council support, and so on. Obviously trusts need to raise funds to complete their respective projects, and this is often the biggest challenge."

Trusts tend to operate separately, each managing its own publicity and education programmes, legal obligations, fundraising, and liaison with local and government authorities.

However, a recent new development will change this for the better.

On 25 October the Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC) agreed that a Wakatipu Region Heritage Trust be set up which will cover all of the Wakatipu area.

"The idea for a district heritage trust was first suggested by Greg Lind from the Department of Conservation (Doc), who took the proposal to the QLDC," says Bill. "A working group, including members of the Council's Strategy Committee, was

set up and they presented a discussion paper to stakeholders a few weeks back. The proposal will be ratified by full Council on 22 November, 2011, after which the concept will become a reality."



*Work begins - excavating for concrete foundations. The Williams Cottage, with Ray Clarkson, one of the trustees, was built in 1864 and is Queenstown's oldest remaining house. It was threatened with demolition in the 1980s. Photo: Lakes District Museum*

*Williams Cottage after it was saved by the Williams Cottage Trust and opened as an annex to the Lakes District Museum in Arrowtown in 1997. It now operates as an historic retail shop and café.*

*Photo: Lakes District Museum*



The Wakatipu Region Heritage Trust will operate as an organisation administered jointly by the QLDC and the Department of Conservation and, as it covers the whole district, it will remove the future need for individual historic trusts.

"The new trust will provide significant advantages which will help give momentum for the preservation of key sites in the district," Bill explains. "For instance, the Wakatipu Region Heritage Trust will be able to prioritise which historic sites need the most urgent attention."

The remains of the old hydro-electric plant and mine infrastructure at Bullendale, which are progressively deteriorating and subject to flood damage, and the Arranmore Farm buildings at Frankton Flats (see articles in this magazine) which are falling into disrepair, have already been identified as priorities, as has the extension of the Chinese Village at Arrowtown.

Other advantages provided by the Wakatipu Region Heritage Trust will be better negotiating power for fund-raising, and the Trust will be able to promote and advertise the district's historic heritage holistically rather than as individual projects.

Bill adds that the trustees will include all the important stakeholders required for preserving historic sites. "The Council and DOC obviously have big roles, but I am pleased to add that the Queenstown and District Historical Society will also have a seat at the table. We have been involved in the process since the very beginning and we will play a significant part in the prioritisation of the new Trust's resources."

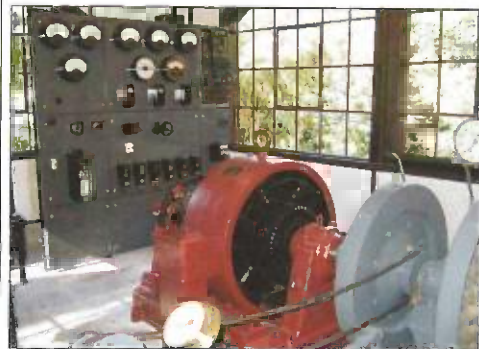
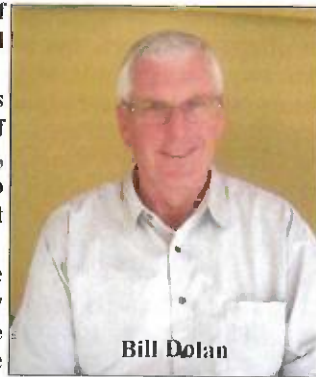
Bill believes the creation of the Wakatipu Region Heritage Trust will be a positive step forward. "The local historic trusts have done a brilliant job restoring and preserving historic sites that may well have been lost forever or fallen into the hands of unsympathetic interests," Bill says.

"However, the greater scope of the new Wakatipu Region Heritage Trust, combining as it does the administrative skills and support of QLDC and Doc with the expertise

and enthusiasm of the other stakeholders, will give a significant boost to preserving our heritage for future generations."

*At left, the interior of the Power House. Locating and installing the equipment was a massive job as it had all been scrapped.*

*Photo: Malcolm Boote*



## FARMING AT FRANKTON OVER 140 YEARS

By Marion Borrell

As we hurtle along the runway at Queenstown airport we might notice close by a relic of a former way of life on the Frankton Flats: a clump of mature elms, walnuts, chestnuts and black poplars, and a weather-beaten two-storey wooden building. If we take time to investigate on the ground, we find at the end of Grant Road a notable collection of farm buildings which has much to tell us of the changes in farming practices since European settlement.

### The Golden Age of Grain

The Frankton Flats were first surveyed into farms in 1866. Soon afterwards on what is now Arranmore, the grainstore (now woolshed) was built. At this stage, grain was main crop of the district. James W. Robertson, the first mayor of Queenstown, and Bendix Hallenstein, the second mayor, had realised the potential for grain-growing in the hitherto unploughed soils of the basin.



Harvesting oats at Threeepwood Lakes District Museum

In 1866 they built the Brunswick Flour Mill at the Kawarau Falls, and encouraged the planting of wheat by providing cash advances. In its first years the mill produced 24 tonnes of flour per week. By 1870 there were 500 acres in wheat on the Frankton Flats alone, and the mill was producing 40 tonnes of flour weekly. Arranmore was bought by J. W. Robertson in 1872, but he died in 1874.

At this point Francis (Frank) McBride became the part-owner and soon full owner of Arranmore, which was also at times known as Antrim Farm and later French Farm. The six McBride brothers from County Antrim had all settled in the Wakatipu, undertaking a range of occupations and involved in enterprises including gold-mining, timber-milling, and the Robertson and Company which owned lake shipping, a timber yard, and the Brunswick Flour Mill.

During the 1870s the stable (later barn) was built to house sixteen horses, with circular vent holes for each stall.

The land proved marvellously productive and the Wakatipu area was one of the best wheat producers in New Zealand, with yields of up to 100 bushels of wheat per acre which was twice the norm. The quality was also excellent, with local wheat and barley winning prizes overseas and regularly fetching top prices on the London market. In 1891 there were 1761 acres of wheat, 2477 acres of oats for feed, 3249 acres of oats for grain, and 1029 acres of barley grown in the district. The activity during the harvesting season must have been intense with the many workers and teams of horses making the most of all available daylight and fine weather to reap, stook and thresh the golden crops. Such was Frank McBride's success that he was known locally as the Barley King.



MR & MRS. FRANK. McBRIDE & FAMILY  
OF "ANTERIM FARM" FRANKTON.  
STANDING: FRANK, MAGGIE, JACK, DOLLY, DAN, ALEX.  
SITTING CENTRE: FRANCES, Mr. McBRIDE, MRS. McBRIDE, OWEN,  
FRONT: LEONARD, MONICA, CECIL.

Photo: Lakes District Museum

Grain growing continued to be a major activity in the district until the end of the century. However, by 1900 New Zealand's milling capacity was three times its national requirements, and the distances for cartage became a problem for mills like those of the Wakatipu which were not close to rail and ports. The Brunswick Mill closed in 1904.

From Grain to Sheep and Seeds

Frank McBride owned Arranmore for almost fifty years, until 1921, and responded to the changed market conditions by diversifying into sheep-farming. The grain-store was therefore converted into a woolshed and added to over the following years. Frank retired to Dunedin and died in 1926 aged 91.

In 1941 the farm was purchased by Charlie Hansen who transferred it to his son Evan in 1960. Evan's wife Mary's recollections, recorded in 2005, are published in the next article, providing a vivid and detailed account of the family's way of life, running sheep and growing crops including seeds. In 1965 part of the estate close to the buildings was taken for the airport. From 1975 it was owned by a syndicate and managed by Reg and Judy McTaggart who bought it in 1982 and farmed it until 2005. Now the area including the homestead and farm buildings belongs to the Queenstown Airport Corporation, with other parts of the farm bought by developers.

Arranmore Today

Close inspection reveals a former more self-sufficient way of life. On the left of Grant Road are the remains of the stone smithy; on the corner is the 1950s homestead which replaced the original one. Past the homestead we find the stone dairy which is covered with creeper, and a lined wooden hut with a covered ceiling. Further on is the wooden woolshed, below, the core of which was originally the grain-store. According to the HPT Registration Report, 'The expansive interior is timber

f r a m e d ,  
constructed  
from heavy  
framing, beams  
and roof trusses  
which are a  
notable feature  
of the interior.  
The timber  
framing and  
lining of the  
ceiling are also  
significant, and  
there are still  
shingles under  
the corrugated  
iron roof, with  
the battens

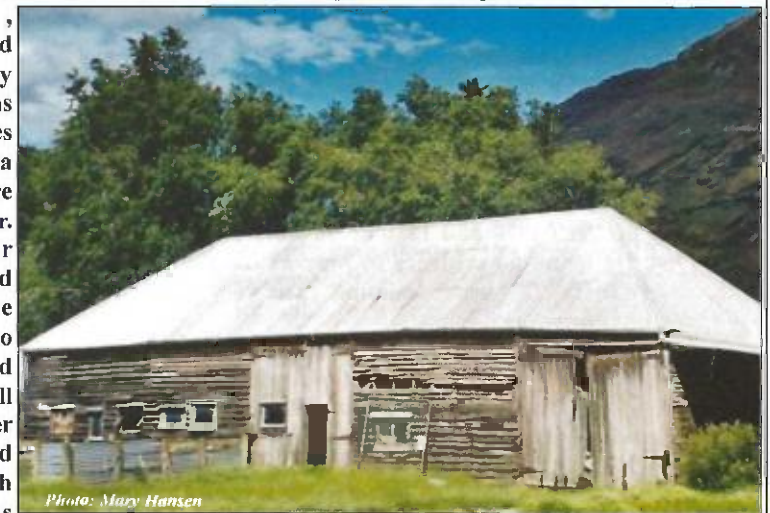


Photo: Mary Hansen

visible from the interior. The timber is red beech, which would have been milled from the Head of the Lake where Robertson and Company had a sawmill. Its design as a granary included double doors opposite each other, allowing a horse-drawn wagon loaded with grain to enter at one side, empty its load, and exit through the opposite side of the building. The construction is significant as the ground floor framing is heavy (10 by 10 inch, 250mm by 250mm), with traditional timber joints between the uprights and the verticals. In this it resembles traditional English grain barns, and is not at all like the more usually light-framed woolsheds typically found in New Zealand.'



Nearby stands the two-storey former stable, above, later a barn. It used to be thought that this building was constructed from parts of the original Brunswick Flour Mill building from Kawarau Falls. However, in 2007 the Queenstown Lakes District NZHPT Branch Committee and the Queenstown Lakes District Council jointly funded an investigation by Guy Williams into the fabric of the building to try and establish its provenance; he concluded that the building was most likely constructed some time between 1870 and 1880 or possibly earlier, whereas the mill didn't close until 1904. He found no evidence to support the suggestion that it was constructed with materials from a former building. (The very detailed report is available from the Historical Society.)

Since 2006, Arranmore Domain has been protected as Heritage Category II in the QLDC District Plan, and in 2008 most of it was also registered as Category II by the Historic Places Trust (Register Number 7729). In that year the local branch of the Historic Places Trust, QLDC and the Queenstown Airport Corporation commissioned local heritage architect, Jackie Gillies, to prepare a study of possible future uses if the buildings were restored. It is to be hoped that this can be done, and that a viable future can be assured for these revealing relics of our farming history.

#### SOURCES

'McBrides Farm Buildings Registration Report' by Heather Bauchop, NZ Historic Places Trust, 2007

Available on [www.historic.org.nz](http://www.historic.org.nz)

*Queenstown's Farms & Sheep Stations* by Bill McDonald, self-published, 2010

'Report on McBrides Farm Building' by Guy Williams, 2007

Photographs and documents from the Lakes District Museum

## MEMORIES OF ARRANMORE: 1950-1974

By Mary Hansen

*Interviewed at her home in Frankton on 16 August, 2005, by Elizabeth Macdonald for the Queenstown & District Historical Society.*

### THE HANSENS

I was born in Dunedin on the 19 July, 1925 and, in 1950, I married Evan Meldrum Hansen (1924-1984). We had two children, Michael and Susan, who are at present both living in the district.

### FARM OWNERSHIP

In 1940, Charlie Hansen (Evan's father) bought the farm and his sons Alan and Evan worked it with him. In 1950, when we were married, we went into partnership until 1960 when Evan bought out the partnership and we moved into the homestead.

Our boundary neighbours were John Grant of Cherry Farm, Cyril Allan (whose dairy farm is now Remarkables Park), the Shotover River and State Highway 6.

During our time on the farm, the airport began to expand and claimed land through the middle of the farm; the industrial area was designated; a slice was taken for the new Shotover Bridge and the sewage ponds were constructed on our riverside land. The original area owned by McBrides was registered as approximately 460 acres. When we took over, the river had claimed approximately 100 acres. By 1974, we felt that if we lost any more land to development the farm would be uneconomic, so we sold to a consortium. Sadly, no farm remains.

### HANSEN HISTORY

The family was among the early settlers in the district. Christian (Evan's grandfather) landed in Port Chalmers at the age of 18 in October, 1868. From there, he walked to join his brothers in the Arrow goldfields. Later, he worked for some years for Mr Boyes on Kawarau Falls station. Finally, he bought the farm at Lake Johnson, which he called Rotoiti. Evan's father was born there and used to have his eye on the farm on the Flat, which he acquired in 1941. Evan and his brother Alan worked on the farm. Horses were of course used then and, at the age of 15, Evan was working a team of horses.



Mary Hansen in 2005



Charlie and Mabel Hansen

I was a farmer's daughter. My father owned Cone Peaks Station for a number of years and I worked with him during the war years. I trained in Dunedin as a nurse, but was happy to return to the country again. The city had little appeal. After we sold Arranmore, Evan went contracting with Alan Dennison. I worked for a period at the Frankton Hospital as secretary and then later helped in the office of our son's garage, Hansen Autos.



#### FARM PRODUCTION

The farm was an intensive crop farm with crop rotation and pasture. Wheat grew well, producing 80 to 100 bushels per acre. This went to flour mills. We grew barley for the breweries; two varieties of peas for seed—one the garden kind, the other (partridge peas) for stock food; also, clover and rye grass seed. In the early days, the produce was taken to the Frankton wharf and loaded onto the boat, probably the 'Ben Lomond'. Later, that wharf was closed and we carted all our grain and wool to the wharf in Queenstown.

We did grow a special crop, swede turnip seed. This was grown only by selected farms in the district and was strictly controlled for certified seed for the Department of Agriculture. The paddocks had to be inspected and approved and only a limited amount could be applied for. It was grown on a ten year rotation and the paddock had to be "rogued" for any sign of wild turnip. This was done by hand during flowering. The land was highly productive, with deep rich soil, but this fades out to pea gravel towards the lake at Frankton. The swede seed crop was a great help to the finances provided all went well. But it was susceptible to frost and one year we lost the entire crop. It was awful to harvest because it grew to about five feet tall then got tangled and lay over. The birds just loved it, so we used bird-scaring guns. Each year we would say, "Never again," but we did!

Other areas in the district grew crops and turnip seed, such as on Speargrass Flat, Lower Shotover, and the Crown Terrace. When the turnips were in flower they made a bright yellow patch in the farm.

We had Romney sheep, which did well. The shearers found them big to handle but good shearing. We had local men to shear, so they went home at night. All I had to do was feed them during the day. I can recall Alan Hamilton being very pleased with himself when he achieved 200 a day. There was usually strong competition on the boards. We carried about 800 sheep, including ewes, replacement hoggets and lambs that were fattened for the meat works. J. E. Watson was our stock firm and their agent would come to draft our fat lambs and arrange to truck them to the works near Invercargill.

Irrigation was also a big factor. The water came from the Arrow River scheme. It also provided stock water. We had a portable system with a pump and big pipes which we laid out in the paddocks as required. It certainly helped production.

#### BUILDINGS

Nothing remains of the original homestead. Unfortunately, in the early days, the houses were often built on stone foundations and the floors were close to the ground, so eventually rotted. Evan's brother started renovating the house and we



The old dairy, 'a wonderful store-room.'

Photo: Mary Hansen

finished it when we took over. When they started taking down parts of the old house, they found that the outer walls were filled with coarse sand and gravel, good insulation I expect, but mighty dusty to remove! The house had four bedrooms, a lounge, a bathroom, a large kitchen with a big table to accommodate workers and a pantry. The old house had a verandah decorated with "Sydney lace", and was a lovely spot to sit.

A few yards away stood a stone building, which had originally been built as a dairy. It made a wonderful store-room, cool in summer and kept the frost out in winter. The stone walls were more than a foot thick. The floor was paved with flag stones and sloped towards the centre with drains for washing out. The drain has long since gone, but the rest stands there still, covered in creeper.

The woolshed has some beautiful timber, beams that are still sound, and wooden shingles in the roof that have been covered by corrugated iron. These, I understand, came from Glenorchy and were probably hand-hewn. It was originally a five-stand shed, but we reduced it to three by including a shower room for the shearers.

Besides working horses and hacks, Mr McBride kept some racehorses and the race course was where the airport is now. Part of the grandstand is still there. You can see it as a stone wall facing Lucas Place. The Arranmore stables had 17 stalls; the 18<sup>th</sup> held the chute for the chaff that came down from the loft. The loft was well sprung and polished by dragging bags of chaff back and forth. It was used as a dance floor – wonderful! This was before our time. The outside stairway became a bit rickety so the children were not allowed up there.

#### MACHINERY

The smithy was an important part of a farm with horses that had to be cared for, and was still there when the Hansens took over. It had a forge with big bellows and an anvil. After horses were replaced by machinery, the smithy became a workshop for all sorts of inventing and repairing jobs. It has collapsed and only a lone stone wall remains. I'm sure smithies were a feature on many farms and possibly a farrier did a round of the district.

The sheds then stored tractors and a baler and header. Arranmore was one of the first farms in the district to own a header and the bags were sewn by hand on the platform of the header. Later, bigger headers were made so we moved to having contractors, the Dennisons, to do the harvesting.

When haymaking moved from stooking to baling, our first baler had wire for tying the bales. The knotting mechanism was troublesome so we were glad when a new baler was purchased and used twine instead of wire. It was my job to drive the tractor while Evan looked after the baler.

#### HOUSE KEEPING

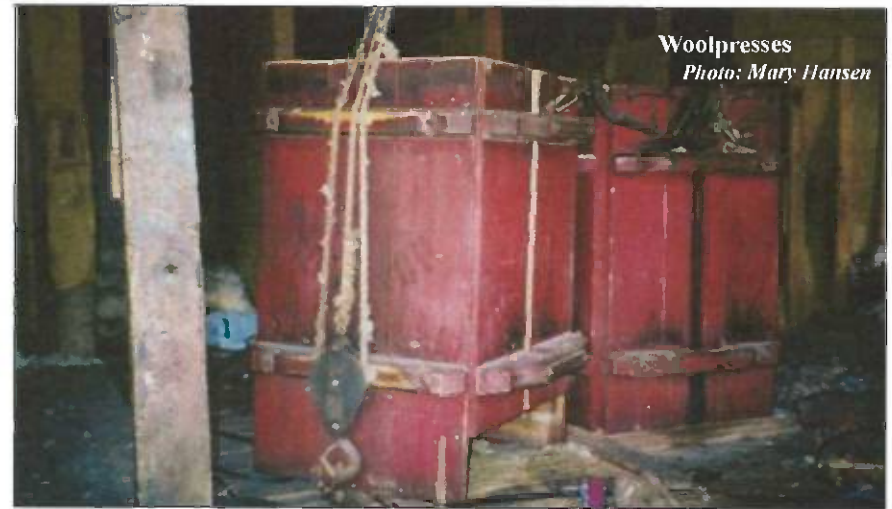
The farm was very self-sufficient, with a good vegetable garden and an orchard with apples, apricots, peaches, pears, plums and greengages – the lot! We had small fruits as well - black and red currants, gooseberries and enough raspberries to sell to regular customers. I used to bottle at least 200 bottles of fruit each year. Also, we had hens. About a dozen day-old chicks were raised every year. They came up by bus from Alexandra in boxes full of cheeping chicks. We raised them in a 400-gallon tank, tipped on its side, lined with straw and heated with heat bulbs. I used to sell a crate of eggs (10 dozen) each week to the grocer and this paid for the groceries. You couldn't do that today.

The kids grew peas to make pocket money. To catch the bus to Queenstown, they biked to the Frankton corner and just left their bikes leaning against the fence. They were never touched – you couldn't do that now. Kids were allowed to roam all over the farm.

At first we used to have to go to Queenstown for our groceries but later Frankton developed a shopping area which was more like our modern supermarket. The old

days of the storekeeper serving you from behind a counter and cutting off slices of your chosen bacon were disappearing. A few other shops appeared at Frankton and we had a Highway Diner which was popular.

We used to get our mail from a letterbox on the main road by Rural Delivery. We also got milk there in a billy from the Allans' dairy farm. Later, it came in bottles. Evan considered that keeping a cow took more time than it was worth. We grew a patch of potatoes in the corner of a paddock, enough for the year's supply, and Michael and Susan sometimes grew a patch of peas to sell to the grocer for pocket money.



At one stage, when I went to collect the mail, I had a menagerie following me - at least one dog, a cat, a big fat pet lamb and a pet hen. Usually, the dog was the only one to last the distance and I would gather the others up on the way home. We killed our own mutton and had a concrete tank as a killing shed.

#### UPS AND DOWNS

The ups were when we had a good season for crops or perhaps got an unexpected cash crop of clover, or a good lambing, and there was a boost to the finances so we were able to upgrade something on the farm or in the house. Holidays weren't frequent, but we did try to take the children to the beach for a week or so once a year. I remember one good trip to the West Coast and on to Christchurch during the school holidays, but we never got away during the summer.

There were downs of course, such as nasty weather for lambing. Once, we lost an entire paddock of wheat during harvest due to fire. An electrical fault in a nearby transformer set fire to the crop. We were lucky to get the header out the gate as dry stubble burns fast! We re-bagged what wheat we could by hand and sold it for fowl feed.



### WHERE DID WILLIAM REES BUILD HIS QUEENSTOWN BAY HOMESTEAD?

By Karen V. Swaine

William Gilbert Rees, the first runholder in the Wakatipu, built his original homestead at Queenstown Bay. But, where was it located and what did it look like? Piecing together clues from the historical record, I believe I have finally pinpointed the spot.

The earliest available descriptions of the Rees's homestead come from his employee, Alfred Duncan. In *The Wakatipians* (1888), Duncan described the buildings at the home station when he arrived there in December 1860. He wrote that the buildings:

“...were represented by a 'futter' [a storeroom built on top of posts] and a long narrow hut, consisting of three rooms – a kitchen, with a small bedroom off it [where the cook and carpenter married couple slept], and a large room [the men's hut] with bunks built all round it, after the fashion of the 'tween decks of an emigrant ship.”

Noting the location of the homestead as being “situated where Queenstown now stands”, Duncan described a house then being built for Mr and Mrs Rees of wattle and daub construction (timber poles and earthen walls). Duncan also wrote that in addition to building the futter and huts, and starting on the Rees's house, the four men and one woman employed by Rees had also prepared a vegetable garden and planted some potatoes.

At right, Wattle and daub cottage with thatched roof at Halfway Bay -similar to what Duncan described.

*Photo: Lakes District Museum*



My second clue came from reports of the Otago Waste Lands Board. After the Government officially declared Queenstown a goldfield, in February 1863, Rees appeared before the Waste Lands Board claiming pre-emptive right to purchase blocks of land on his leased run, including the land at

Queenstown Bay. His claim was for 10 acres at the head of Lake Hayes (at the time considered part of the Arrow River diggings), 80 acres near Kawarau Falls, and 10 acres on Horne Creek (the only Queenstown location). [Rees's application for pre-emptive right was refused, although the Government compensated him about £10,000 for the buildings. Rees subsequently left the district in 1867].



Above, hay making in Frankton, 1930's.

*Photo: Lakes District Museum*

Another fire was caused by a northerly gale, which arced the high-tension power lines where we were marking lambs. It was spectacular and scary, as we could feel the tingling through our feet from the ground. It set fire to the gorse hedge, scorched a couple of sheep and welded the fencing wire to the netting. The Power Board had to be called in a hurry!

The summers seemed to be hotter and the winters colder then. I remember one winter when we had a good fall of snow and the sheep's wool froze to the snow overnight, so we had to help some get to their feet in the morning when we were feeding out.

Farming is fast disappearing from the district, though the A & P Shows and the Country Women's Institute still flourish and seem well-supported. Farming is taking on a different face and becoming more diverse, especially with wine-growing becoming a big industry.

I enjoyed our farming days, although it was very busy and hard work. I expect we were typical of many of the small farms around the district.



Tobacco labels in the woolshed

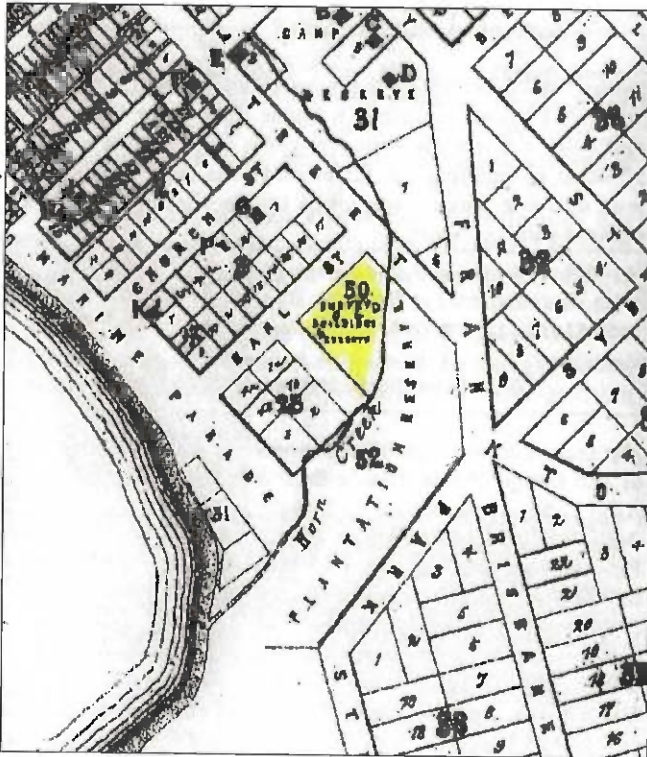
*Photo: Mary Hansen*

Early photographs show numerous buildings along Horne Creek as it meanders through what is today known as Queenstown. Unfortunately, no early rates books or plans of Queenstown included a 10 acre area clearly identified as belonging to Rees. By chance, however, I happened across an article in the Otago Witness from August 1874 which provided a closer clue to the location of the Rees's homestead:

“It would be difficult to find a more pleasantly situated town in the Otago Goldfields than Queenstown, while its position is most convenient for the traffic of Lake Wakatipu. Before the riches of the Shotover were laid bare by the enterprising gold-seeker, it was the headquarters of a sheep run, the well-known Mr. Rees having selected the sheltered little bay where, comfortably ensconced among the hills, stands the present town, as the site of his home station; and it was only a few months since that the devastating ravages of a conflagration [fire] destroyed the last remnants of the buildings which formed the homestead, and which for years were known as the Surveyor's quarters.” [ italics mine]

Wise's Directory, 1875-76 Queenstown map cropped.

Now I could significantly narrow down the size of the area in which I was searching for photographic clues. A map in the 1875-1876 Wise's Directory clearly identifies an area of land labelled “Survey Buildings Reserve”. The area was bounded by Horne Creek and Camp, Earl, and Survey Streets and was described as Queenstown Borough Block 50. Furthermore, another plan identifies the same area of land as being almost 10 acres. This site is currently occupied by the Hotel Novotel Queenstown Lakeside.



The entrance to the hotel is approximately where Survey Street used to be.



Queenstown, 1873 (LDM ref ELO249 cropped)

Although the Lakes District Museum holds only a handful of Queenstown photographs prior to 1878, there are some outstanding ones. Two photos taken before 1873 clearly show a fenced area in this very location with three buildings on the site: a tall wooden building with dormer windows, a wattle and daub hut with thatched roof, and a shed with lean-to. Another photo taken c.1874 shows the same fenced area but now with only the shed and lean-to remaining. The photographic evidence for the location of the homestead was conclusive.

Arthur Duncan did not describe a wooden building as forming part of the Rees homestead in 1860. A c.1864 photograph in the Hocken Collection includes the building so perhaps the wooden house with window dormers was built by a surveyor when the site became the surveyor's quarters after Rees left Queenstown for Kawarau Falls.



Queenstown, c 1874 in Album EA10 (LDM ref ELO435)



Queenstown, c 1875 (LDM ref EL4924)

Shortly after the 1874 fire, photographs reveal a rather impressive building having subsequently been built on the site. This grand home was built by John Spence who was Queenstown surveyor from 1870 until 1877. (Spence was responsible for the second survey of Queenstown in 1870 which provided additional sections for Government sale.) He had applied to the Government in late 1872 to be allowed to purchase the site of his survey quarters (which at that time would have included the original Rees homestead buildings). In January, 1873, the Waste Lands Board resolved that the area be put up at the next auction sale of Government land at Queenstown. However, in March, Spence wrote to the Board requesting that the site of his quarters as surveyed up to Horne Creek be offered to him by special sale based on the previously approved valuation. It is recorded that the Board granted his request.

After he had owned the property for only a few months, in the early morning hours of 6 May, 1873, a fire consumed the wooden house, but Spence and his wife, Margaret, (whom he had married in Queenstown in 1870), escaped unharmed. Rees' original wattle and daub home was also destroyed in the fire. The lone shed and lean-to escaped destruction.



Queenstown c 1875 (Te Papa ref C.014169 cropped)

Although the buildings and Surveyor Spence's house were not insured, he later managed to build what the Bruce Herald described in August 1874 as "a handsome addition [to Queenstown] built entirely of bricks." The 1875 MacKay's Directory also reported that "several excellent private residences have been erected [in Queenstown] during the past year, chief of which is the fine brick family mansion of Mr. Spence, Surveyor, to replace that destroyed by fire."

In March, 1877, John Spence was appointed Chief Surveyor of Southland and Inspector of Surveys in the Invercargill Land District. Although John and Margaret shifted from Queenstown in 1877, he continued to own the property. After John's

death in 1905, Margaret Spence eventually sold to Thomas Matthew McSoriley in 1915. The McSoriley family went on to keep the property for many decades. Rees' shed and lean-to appear to have remained on the site until some time after the late 1920s.

Although the Historical Society and the Historic Places Trust in 1982 urged the conservation of the building as a unique example of local domestic architecture built of locally made bricks, the house was unfortunately ultimately demolished.



Queenstown c 1986 (LDM ref EL4617-AE4 cropped)

For most of its history, Queenstown Borough Block 50 was owned by only three families: the Reeses, the Spences and the McSorileys. The site would have been very sheltered and had easy access to a water supply in Horne Creek, making it a great choice for siting a homestead. I have wondered for years exactly where Rees had chosen to build his Queenstown homestead – with virtually unlimited location options - and was thrilled to finally find out.



William Gilbert Rees  
Photo: Lakes District Museum

## 1870 MANSE HAS WITNESSED TRANSFORMATION OF FRANKTON

By Marion Borrell

### Early Disagreements

The question of where the residential and commercial centre of the Wakatipu district should be has been disputed ever since William Rees's farmstead at Queenstown Bay was suddenly transformed into a canvas-town. (See the article on the location of Rees's original buildings.) Rees was forced to cede the town area of his run-holding, and shifted to the outlet of the lake at Kawarau Falls, naming the area Frankton after his wife Frances. At this time the government decided that the town should be located on the spacious terraces at the southern end of Frankton Arm, so the Wardens Court and other offices were shifted there. However, after an outcry from the locals, the decision was reversed; Queenstown was then surveyed and permanent buildings were erected. Although in 1865 a town was designed to extend right across the terraces at Frankton, complete with a large 'Market Place', it was never developed.

### Frankton from 1863



Photo: Lakes District Museum

However, those who thought district-wide could see that the logical centre was Frankton. The Lakes District Hospital was built in 1863 on its present site. (See the photo on page 24.) After other government buildings were removed, the Wardens Court remained, halfway along the top of the terrace, having become the Presbyterian Church. The racecourse was formed by the Wakatipu Jockey Club in 1863 on the flat near where the airport is now. A wall of the original grandstand, probably the oldest stone building at Frankton, still stands beside Lucas Place. (See the photo on next page.)

In 1866, the Brunswick Flour Mill was built by Bendix Hallenstein and J.W. Robertson utilising the Kawarau Falls to drive the waterwheel set into a channel between the rocks. The position was below what is now the second gate of the dam. While the mill was in operation, until 1904, it would have provided much traffic as large quantities of grain were transported from the farms on the Flat and further east. The photo, taken in the mid-1880s, also shows a scattering of buildings on the terrace, probably including the home of James Robertson (not J.W.), the first miller and later the owner of the mill. Beyond the trees on the left there is a glimpse of the hospital.

Most notably on the terrace directly above the mill can be seen the original Presbyterian manse in its garden.

### Building of the Manse

This site was chosen in 1869 by the Reverend Donald Ross, pictured at right with his sons, as the most convenient from which to serve his huge parish—from Kingston to Glenorchy, Skippers, Cardrona and even into the Matukituki, with the Motutapu being one of his routes via Macetown to Wanaka. Fortunately, he was extremely fit, and an intrepid and expert horseman.

However, the Reverend Ross did change his mind about the desirability of living at Frankton, as the need to ride so often to Queenstown proved too inconvenient. Another factor may be an event recounted by Cap and Jessie Jardine in their book, *Mountain Parish* (p.50):



Photo: Lakes District Museum

*Frankton was a lonely place in those days, and one warm night when Mr and Mrs Ross were sitting peacefully reading, with a window wide open to the breeze, a naked man leapt through the window into the room. It transpired the man was a mental patient who had escaped from the hospital; fortunately he was not violent, and the hospital attendants arrived almost immediately. The minister took his wife into Queenstown to recover from the shock, and as he was quite often away for days at a time, plus the inconvenience of the location, the committee relocated the minister in Queenstown.*

## First Hospital at Frankton



Above, the first hospital at Frankton, built in 1863. Photo: Lakes District Museum



The old grandstand, possibly the oldest stone building at Frankton.

## Southberg family and tourism

So in 1876 the manse was sold, but stories circulated that it was haunted. F.W.G. Miller in *Golden Days of Lake County* (p.231), recounts the tale with relish:

*A woodcutter offered to live at the manse and test the truth of the rumour. On the night of his arrival he sat reading with his gun across his knee and his dog nearby. Presently weird tapping sounds were heard, but the watcher could find nothing. The noise was repeated and the dog began to set up a howl. This was too much for the ghost hunter who fired both barrels into the air and then decamped at full speed. It turned out that the 'ghost' was none other than the attendant at the hospital who, having got himself married, decided that it was imperative that he should have a house to live in. The manse was quite handy and he planned to render it vacant by the simple device of rigging up a 'tick-tack', a metal disk on a black thread which he could operate at a distance. In this way the scamp actually became the tenant of the house until 1878. At this point it was bought by the Southberg family who owned it until 1961.*



The Manse c 1890, with the Southberg family Photo: P. Sew Hoy

### Tourism at Frankton: The Southberg Family

Andrew Southberg, one of the discoverers of the Phoenix quartz reefs at Bullendale, lost his home in the 1878 floods and shifted here. He died in 1887 leaving a large family with the youngest aged 3. Thereafter his resourceful wife Helen and her daughters became well-known and longstanding contributors to the sightseeing activities which developed around the scenic Kawarau Falls. Visitors came by boat from Queenstown to the jetty above the rapids and walked along to admire the whirlpools and tumbling water. Afterwards they would climb the terrace to take tea at the Southbergs' house.



Above launches at the Kawarau Falls jetty. Below, Kawarau Falls about 1890—a hand tinted photo by Henry Brusewitz.

Photos: Lakes District Museum



Memories of the 1920s

A notable description of this period is provided by Charles Brasch, the eminent poet and literary figure, who was a grandson of Bendix Hallenstein. In Chapter 5 of

*Indirections: A Memoir 1909-1947*, he recalls the summer holidays from 1921 to 1925 when he was aged 13 to 17. With his father and sister he boarded with Mrs Southberg and her daughters. Writing decades later, he recaptured the people, the landscape and the essence of summer.

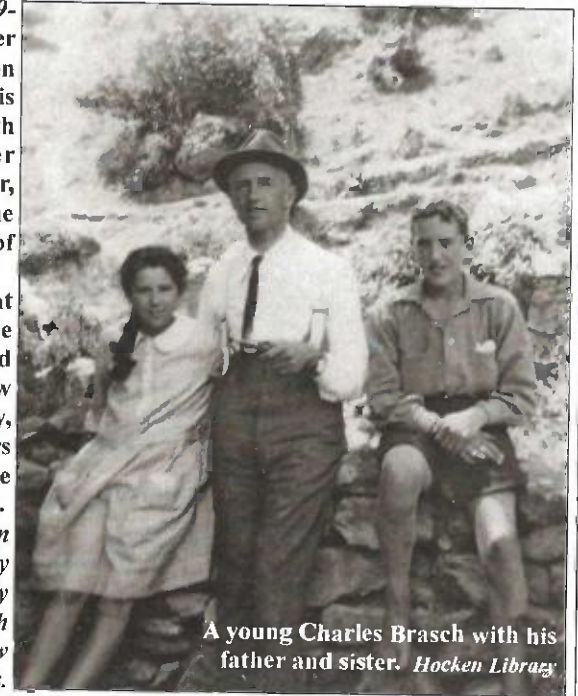
In describing Helen Southberg at the age of 80, Brasch conveys the resilience of a woman who had been a miner's wife and widow and the mother of a large family, and who was for many years active in what we now call the tourism and hospitality industry.

*Mrs Southberg was an old woman with a strong shrewd kindly leathery peasant face, deeply sunburned and wrinkled; such faces are rarely to be seen now among white New Zealanders.*

*She held herself very erect, moved slowly and stiffly, and was active in a quiet way, presiding over the household although her daughters now managed it. She called and fed the fowls, scattering their wheat from a chipped blue enamel basin with her large strong puffy shiny-backed hands; she even dug a little in the garden. But her daughters dissuaded her from too much activity, laughingly cautioned her, wished her to rest more. I had the impression that she listened with a certain detachment, and went her own way. She wore dark clothes, long rough dresses like the drabber kind of butcher's apron during the week, and black on Sunday with lace and spangles and beads or brooch of jet. Being a little deaf, she spoke as if she had to raise her voice to be heard, in a high-pitched broken tone, shrilly and roughly, and seemed often to be quietly laughing to herself as she spoke. She had lived for more than forty years at Frankton and her husband had long been dead. ...*

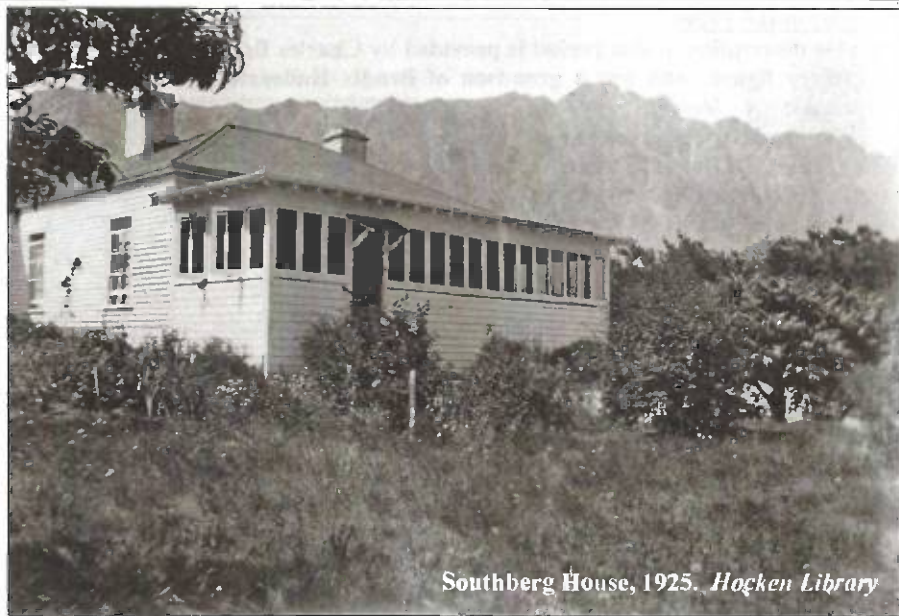
The Southbergs' garden formed an island enclosure of cultivation in the huge untutored landscape; its wooden fence walled in a small demesne of order and disciplined peacefulness.

Brasch's description of the Frankton Flat is of open space with other few buildings — a quiet place for a summer holiday:



A young Charles Brasch with his father and sister. Hocken Library

## Southberg house



Southberg House, 1925. Hoçken Library

*Beyond the paling fence on the north side lay the bare open Flat stretching for nearly a mile to the foot of the hills, where the road from Cromwell to Queenstown passed. Almost behind the garden, at the top of the flat, a wall of rough towering pine-trees hid the race-course, in later years the airfield, and next to it broad macrocarpa hedges enclosed the low wooden buildings of the county hospital. The Flat itself lay empty before us, its long wave-lines broken only by two big gravelly gullies opening out to the lake, and swarming with rabbits.*

*...We used often to play near and in an abandoned stone shed among pine-trees close to the Falls which we knew had been a storehouse attached to Robertson and Hallenstein's mill... We bathed once or twice almost every day in the shallows of Frankton Arm, where the cold lake waters, snow-fed, are tempered a little by mid-summer, then lay in the sun, and ate wild gooseberries from the bushes straggling along the shore among matagouri and lupin and sweet-briar.*

Though doubtless showing the effects of ninety more years, the stone walls of the storehouse still stand at the end of Bridge St next to the reserve. (See the photo on page 31)

Footnote: In later years Charles Brasch continued to visit the Wakatipu frequently, wrote notable poems about Thurlby Domain, and co-owned 28 Park St. He is one of the most distinguished people to have been a member of the Historical Society, and in 1971 he wielded his pen during the 'Battle of the Park Street Reserve' campaign to prevent part of the Queenstown Gardens being taken for hotel development.

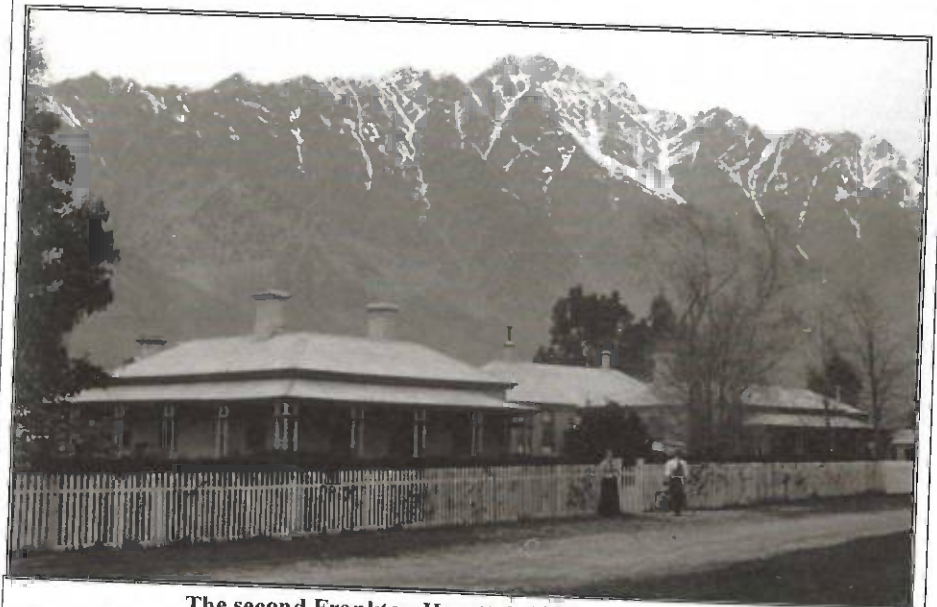
## Frankton from 1930

### Frankton Town from 1930

Once the dam was built at the Falls in 1926 and the road put through from Kingston in 1936, the western side of Frankton had a major road through it, but the area was not further settled until later.

According to Ray Clarkson, who visited Queenstown often in his youth, during the 1940s the terraces above the beach were still covered with broom, matagouri and scrub through which he and his fellows would push their way in order to go swimming. He recalls coming from Queenstown on the 'Kelvin' to eat strawberries and cream at the Southbergs' house where the Misses Southberg continued to provide for visitors until the 1960s. There were few houses above the beach until during the 1950s when 'cribs' (known elsewhere in New Zealand as 'baches') were constructed, often from 'bits and pieces'. The motor camp was also a post-war development, and the era of the holiday spot began. Ray and Elizabeth now live in a 1958 house in Lake Avenue just above the reserve. At the time they bought it in 1971 there was still no reticulated water supply, just a black polythene hose to supplement rainwater tanks.

At some point, the gullies were filled in and the original survey of 1865 was replaced with a more suburban one with the streets named after early residents of the district.



The second Frankton Hospital, 1894

Photo: Lakes District Museum

### The Manse after the Southbergs

Before her death in 1968, aged 88, Miss Eleanor Southberg, below in 1965, sold to Roger and Pat Sew Hoy who brought up their four children there. In 1981, the next owner moved the house up the slope to its current location at 19 Robertson Street and swivelled it 90 degrees so the west-facing verandah is now on the south. With its garden subdivided into eight sections, it became part of a suburb for the first time.

After being tenanted for some years, the house was bought in 1999 by John Molloy and Lucy Snelgrove who have carefully renovated it and returned it to its original function as a family home. Due to its excellent construction, it is now set to see many more years.



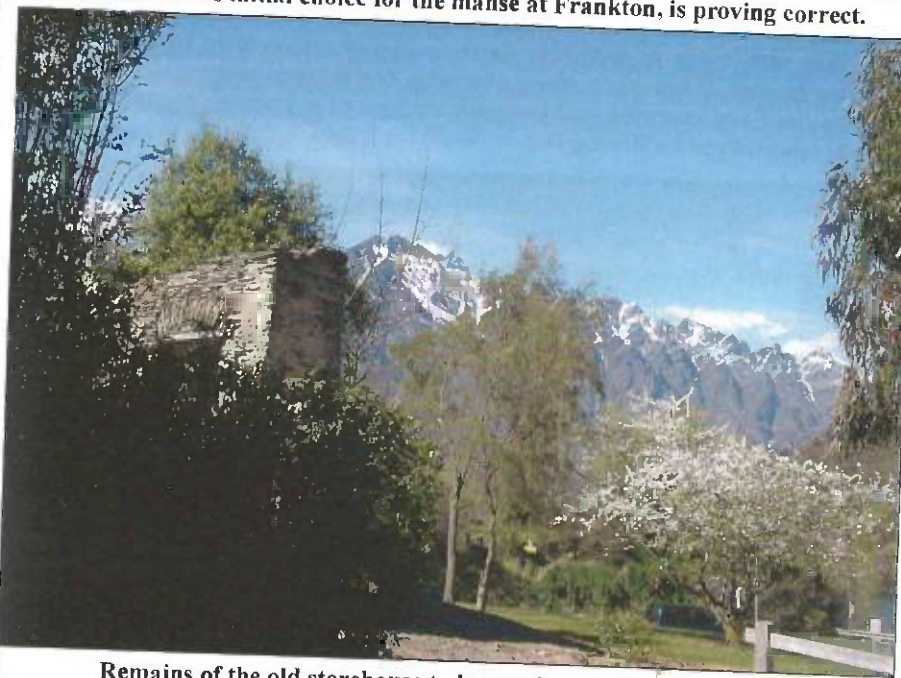
Photo: Tish Glasson, Lakes District Museum



19 Robertson St today

### Frankton Now

The answer to the question whether Queenstown or Frankton should be considered the hub of the district is changing yet again; the growth of the Remarkables Park suburb and shopping centre, the airport, the Events Centre and development spreading over former farmland, including Arranmore, are shifting the balance towards Frankton. So, maybe the logic which located the hospital and determined the Reverend Ross's initial choice for the manse at Frankton, is proving correct.



Remains of the old storehouse today, at the end of Bridge Street.

### Sources

Brasch, Charles Orwell *Indirections: a memoir 1909-1947* Oxford University Press Wellington, 1980  
Available from libraries and the New Zealand Electronic Text Centre [www.nzetc.org](http://www.nzetc.org)  
Copyright permission and advice from Alan Roddick  
Jardine, D.G. & J.S. *Mountain Parish 1867-1990* self-published, Queenstown 1990  
Miller, F.W.G. *Golden Days of Lake County* Whitcombe & Tombs, Christchurch 1966  
Information from Ray Clarkson, John Molloy and Lucy Snelgrove and Pat Sew Hoy  
Photographs from The Lakes District Museum, Pat Sew Hoy and Charles Brasch's papers in the Hocken Collections, Uare Taoka o Hākena, University of Otago



## STORIES BEHIND THE 2012 CALENDAR PHOTOS

January: Glenorchy Races

by Pat Paulin

During the goldmining days, it was not unusual for miners from the Shotover to tramp over the mountains to Glenorchy whenever there was a dance or some other social occasion to attract them. No doubt, they'd enjoy the revelry overnight, then follow that with a day of festivities on the paddock which later became the local recreation ground. Whenever a group of strong, healthy men congregated, challenges would be made and accepted, and competitions ensued in running, tossing and so on. This was especially so on Boxing Day or New Year's Day.



The instigators of the Glenorchy Races, Jim Veint (left) and Wattie Watson, battling it out in 1967. January 2012 marks the 50th anniversary of the races. Contestants have been known to ride from as far as Te Anau through the Von Valley and home again after the races.

*Photo: Lakes District Museum*

Horses were essential on the sheep stations, farms and mining claims. Rivalry between the owners could be quite fierce. Who had the best? Any opportunity for the whole community to gather was always welcome and, over the years, it became the ritual to hold Glenorchy's main sporting event on New Year's Day. It must have been an amazing scene as carts, buggies, wagons, traps, single riders and those on shanks' pony all converged on the Rec.

One much anticipated race in the early days was the sprint from the foot of Glenorchy Hill to outside the Earnslaw hotel. From the upstairs balcony the spectators had a grandstand view.

An important person at these gatherings was the Boiler Man, whose task it was to set up the copper and keep it boiling all day for the cups of tea. These were great family days with wonderful spreads in the picnic lunches.

It has always been a tradition that the programme includes some novelty items typical of a Caledonian sports meeting. For the children there were the sack race, the three-legged, the egg-and-spoon and catching the greasy pig. All good fun and games. For really adventurous ladies, there was the ladies' sprint – and, lo and behold, you could even see their ankles!

For many years, there was the Hammer and Tap race, aimed at the mining community. Much to the miners' horror, this was often won by a team of farmers. During the years when timber milling was in full swing, especially around Kinloch, sawing and chopping competitions were included.

On Boxing Day, 1890, six young men and women left Kinloch in a rowing boat to attend the sports, but they never made it. All were lost in the worst boating accident the district has ever known. The gala day turned into a horrible tragedy. The sports days were, also, very much affected by the great wars – the Boer War and first and second World Wars. During these sad times the meetings were set aside because so many local men were overseas. Too many didn't return, and those gaps took years to heal.

The opening of the road between Glenorchy and Queenstown has had a significant effect on the race meeting, as more and more outsiders have been attracted to the big day. The Glenorchy Rugby Club has run the Race Day in a masterly way, and it has been a great source of outside money for many new amenities for the community. Our grandmothers might shudder at the sight of women jockeys – some winners too. In its own special way, the Glenorchy Races is a reflection of local occupations: the miners, farmers, sawmillers, and tourists.

More stories behind the calendar photos will be printed in the winter 2012 edition of the Courier

## SOCIETY NEWS

### Queenstown and District Historical Society 2011 Chairman's Report

#### WELCOME

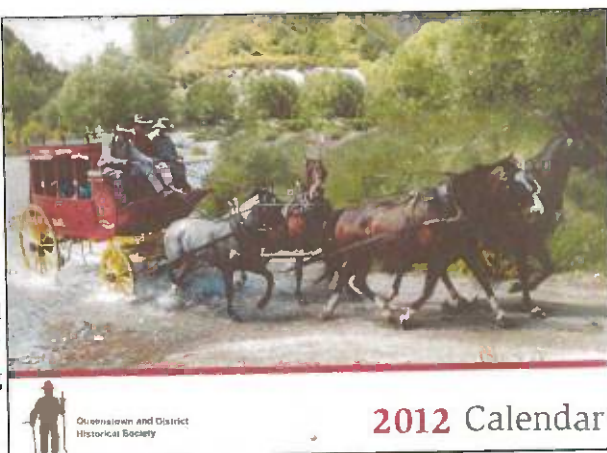
I have now completed two years as the Society's chairman and am pleased to report that the Society continues to play a constructive and respected role in the region's heritage affairs.

#### THE LAST YEAR

As noted last year the emphasis has moved away from large-scale developments that often posed a direct threat to our heritage, and shaped the Society's responses to those threats, to a situation where the Society is more closely co-operating with other agencies with a shared interest in heritage matters.

#### Highlights of the last year include:

- An interesting and well supported summer programme including the Garston field trip
- Another successful edition of the popular calendar, our main source of revenue
- Two editions of the Courier
- The publishing - with the Society's financial support - of Bill McDonald's history of farms and farming in the Wakatipu
- The contribution to the interpretive signage on the Gibbston river trail
- A co-operative effort with DOC and HPT in the preliminary clearing of the Coopers Terrace village on the Arrow River
- The re-appointment of Barbara Hamilton and Jocelyn Robertson to the Lakes District Museum Board
- Participation in the preparations for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Arrowtown



- Support of several resource consent applications for significant heritage projects (the Tap Tavern and Dudley's Cottage in Arrowtown)
- The Society's contribution to the formation of a Wakatipu Heritage charitable trust designed to pool the resources and expertise of the main agencies concerned with our heritage - QLDC, HPT, DOC, the Museum and QDHS - as well as help vest the Council's comprehensive but under-resourced heritage strategy.
- And, finally, the redefinition of our relationship with HPT in the light of the phasing out of the HPT regional committees.

#### STRATEGY

Last year I outlined the Society's two-year strategy, the main points of which were to:

- Recognize and adapt to the changed heritage environment (less big-scale development)
- Take every opportunity given under the Society's amended trust deed
- Work with Council in the implementation of the District Heritage Strategy
- Concentrate on our critical relationships (QLDC, HPT, DOC and Museum).

I am pleased to report that the strategic direction we have set ourselves has yielded the results we hoped for and has re-affirmed the strong advocacy and advisory role that the Society aspires to.

While some ground has been lost with the new Council (we no longer have the easy access to the Mayor and CEO that we enjoyed with the previous Council) and its pressing financial and other policy priorities, the Society has a good working relationship with the Council's Strategy Committee and the Council's planning staff. However, we presently lack a strong heritage champion at councilor level, a lack that is of concern to the Society, as well as the other key agencies in the heritage field. This situation gives additional significance to the proposed Wakatipu Heritage Trust.

#### FINANCIAL POSITION

Of course, to meet our strategic objectives we need to be in a strong financial position.

Our total receipts are up on last year, even though subscriptions were down a bit. Payments were up substantially (support for Bill McDonald's book and our contribution to the Gibbston Community Trust) and increased calendar expenses (reflecting some delayed payments for the 2009 edition).

Overall, our cash on hand position has dropped some \$5,000 which, given our financial support commitments over the year, is acceptable but does not avoid the need to pay close attention to our income flow.

### THE COMING YEAR

The Society will continue to protect and grow its source of funding (subscriptions and calendar sales) and continue to seek to increase its membership base. Of course, this is easier said than done. The usual constraints apply.

- Managing the workload on committee members
- Attrition of experienced committee and other Society members

The Society is in urgent need of new committee members and I would welcome any approach from members to join the committee to help direct and manage the Society's contribution to the community.

These matters apart, the main areas of activity in the year ahead will be:

- Establishment of the Wakatipu Heritage Trust
- Continued involvement in the resource consent process where heritage issues are relevant
- Direct participation in the Arrowtown 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations
- Pursuing our key relationship objectives
- Further development of the Courier and calendar, and
- Providing an interesting and stimulating summer programme for members.

### THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As ever, any successful organisation relies on the calibre and commitment of its committee/board. It's been a harmonious and productive group with some standout contributions.

Firstly, Marion Borrell has done a superb job with the Courier and calendar and in setting up the Society's website. We are now part of the digital age. In addition, Marion has revamped our membership list.

Ben Saunders, our newest committee member has taken over the production and marketing of the calendar and has done a great job. This year's edition is designed to reflect next year's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the discovery of gold and the establishment of Arrowtown (as well as the launching of the Earnslaw).

Gavin Jack took over as treasurer after the last AGM and has managed and reported on our finances in a very helpful way.

Deputy chairman, Ralph Hanan, though away for much of the year, is a great source of helpful advice to me.

Barbara Hamilton has managed the summer programme with her usual good humour and attention to detail and the needs of members.

Jocelyn Robertson has carried out her secretarial duties willingly and with rare good grace.

Malcolm Boote and Brian Bayley have continued to fulfil the organisational knowledge bank and sheet anchor roles, for which I thank them.

Danny Knudson is our resident historian and publishing expert and continues to provide assistance even when he's not here.

Geoff Bradley resigned from committee during the year and went with our thanks and appreciation.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your interest and support for my and the committee's efforts. I have enjoyed my two years as your chairman and look forward to whatever period the future may hold.

*Bill Dolan, President*



Above, a members working bee at Coopers' Terrace during the last year.

QUEENSTOWN & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Statement of Receipts & Payments  
for the year ended 30 September 2011.

	NOTES	30 SEPT 2011	30 SEPT 2010
<b>OPENING BANK BALANCE</b>		<u>20,036.37</u>	<u>14,790.17</u>
<b>PLUS RECEIPTS</b>			
Trips & Luncheons	1.	3,400.38	3,290.00
Subscriptions		2,770.00	3,020.00
Donations		405.25	293.00
Other		13.45	72.62
Interest Received		594.05	597.87
Calendars		10,480.00	9,643.99
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<u>17,663.13</u>	<u>16,917.48</u>
<b>LESS PAYMENTS</b>			
Trips & Luncheons	1a.	1,717.70	3,136.22
Grants & Donations	2.	9,605.25	980.00
Subscriptions		60.00	60.00
Printing & Stationery		64.40	100.00
Postal Expenses		469.50	45.00
Courier Magazine		3,757.60	3,612.91
Meeting Expenses		410.25	171.09
Sundry Expenses		182.11	74.68
Calendar Expenses	3.	6,340.38	3,481.38
<b>Total Payments</b>		<u>22,607.19</u>	<u>11,661.28</u>
<b>CLOSING BANK BALANCE</b>		<u>15,092.31</u>	<u>20,036.37</u>

REPRESENTED BY:	30-Sep-10	Interest	Principal	30-Sep-11
ASB Current Account	2,321.84			1,783.73
ASB Fast Saver Account	7,192.11	179.04	- 5,000.00	2,371.15
SBS Bank Term Deposit 7-1	5,251.19	286.62		5,537.81
SBS Bank Term Deposit 7-2	5,271.23	128.39		5,399.62
	<u>20,036.37</u>	<u>594.05</u>	<u>- 5,000.00</u>	<u>15,092.31</u>

These Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements and the Auditor's Statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- Trips & Luncheons** - Includes \$1,408.65 for the Spring 2011 luncheon. This is offset by the receipt of \$1,400 from members, recorded in Trips & Luncheons receipts.
- Grants & Donations** - Principal Grants paid by the Society during the financial year were:  
Contribution of \$5,220.14 towards publication of the book "Queenstown Farms and Sheep Stations", by Bill McDonald.  
  
Donation of \$3,500 to the Gibbston Community Assn towards the provision of an Interpretation Panel for Rum Currie's Hut.
- Calendar Expenses** - The \$6,340.38 paid in the 2011 financial year represents the full cost of the 2011 calendar. The disparity between the 2011 and 2010 calendar expenses is due to the fact that \$3,000 relating to the 2010 calendar was actually paid in the 2009 financial year.

AUDITOR'S STATEMENT

I have examined the financial records of the Society which in my opinion have been properly kept. I have obtained the information and explanations I required. In common with other similar organisations, control over income and sundry donations prior to its being recorded is limited, and there are no practicable audit procedures to determine the effect of this limited control. In my opinion the financial statements presented above give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Queenstown and District Historical Society incorporated for the year ended 30 September 2011.



D. Warrington BCom CA

### MALCOLM BOOTE: Honorary Life Member

By Brian Bayley

At the 2009 Society AGM, Malcolm Boote was unanimously awarded an Honorary Life Membership in recognition of his meritorious services to the Society and the preservation of Wakatipu heritage.

Malcolm was elected to the Committee of the Society 14 years ago. The following year he became Vice-President and in 2001 was elected President, a role he held for four years. For many of those years he organised many varied, interesting and enjoyable field trips.

Malcolm's presidential term was a most active one. During this period the Society contested the Ngai Tahu Queenstown development through preliminary hearings and the Environment Court. This was a herculean task for the Society and required a huge amount of effort from Malcolm who carried the responsibility for the entire stressful process.

Malcolm's seemingly endless energy and skills working on behalf of the Society are amazing. He has spearheaded many submissions to QLDC seeking measures for the preservation and protection of heritage buildings and features within the Wakatipu Basin.

In addition, he found time to head the One Mile Power House project from inception to completion. He still chairs this Trust. The fact that the restoration has been completed down to original plant and fit-out is no small measure of just how thorough, hard-working and dedicated Malcolm is. His Power House efforts resulted in a recent national award from NZ Historic Places Trust.

The presentation of a Certificate of Honorary Life Membership of the Society will be made at the 2011 AGM.



Malcolm Boote, left, is congratulated by Bill Dolan.



Left, Malcolm dressed as James Reid

### Tribute to Bruce Hamilton

By Ray Clarkson

At the service to commemorate Bruce's life, there were many references to his achievements and interests. His ties were with the land and his main accomplishments were all connected with the outdoors-his ability as a well-organised farmer, and his complete involvement in the Mossburn district. He was an enthusiast in all he took on, and the several national skiing titles which he held rewarded his dare-devil style. I even remember skiing on wheat stubble on a hot summer's day. On 'Karma', his yacht, he was equally competitive and could relate many hair-raising experiences on lakes and the open sea.

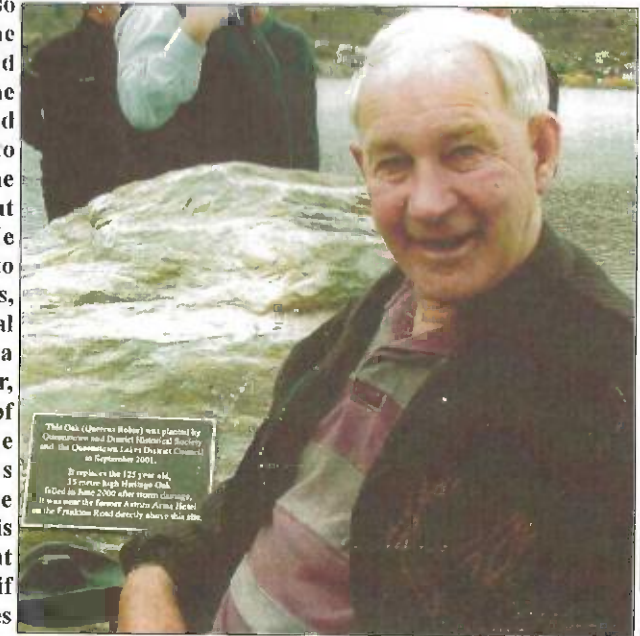
Bruce's great hobbies also had their links with the land. When he and Dorothy retired from the farm, they first developed a nursery, but decided to specialise in peonies. The nursery idea was born out of Bruce's love of trees. He travelled extensively to explore unusual species, and for the Historical Society, of which he was a valued committee member, he built up a Register of Notable Trees in the Wakatipu; this was incorporated into the District Scheme. Under his guidance many of us went up the Greenstone to see if we could identify the trees on which James Hector

was said to have carved his initials on his journey from the West Coast to the Wakatipu. No luck, but we had a very amusing day.

We acknowledge the good nature, thoughtfulness and knowledge which Bruce added to our activities. His contributions to us and the Society, and the many happy memories, are gratefully recorded.

The plaque in the photograph, above, from the Southland Times reads:

*This Oak (Quercus Robur) was planted by Queenstown and District Historical Society and the Queenstown Lakes District Council in September 2001. It replaces the 125 year old, 35 metre high Heritage Oak, felled in June 2000 after storm damage. It was near the former Antrim Arms Hotel on the Frankton Road directly above this site.*



[www.queenstownhistoricalsociety.org.nz](http://www.queenstownhistoricalsociety.org.nz)

Queenstown and District Historical Society Inc.

Yes, we now have a website.  
Check it for our programme, records of past activities and all details.

**Programme of Activities for Members 2011-2012**

**Sunday 25 September: Spring Luncheon - Launch of 2012 Calendar**  
Gibbston Valley Winery

**Thursday 10 November: Annual General Meeting and Speaker**  
Greg Lind from DOC spoke on his visit to NZ's Sub-Antarctic Islands

**Sunday 4 December: Picnic at Rum Currie's Hut & Heritage Orchard**  
Rafters Rd, Gibbston From noon

**Sunday 22 January: Proposed trip to Doctors Point, Roxburgh Gorge**  
To be confirmed

**Sunday 26 February: Mt Nicholas Station**  
A full day including boat trip, tour of the buildings and beyond.  
Numbers are limited to 30. Cost and details to be advised.

**Sunday 25 March: Bendigo - Welshtown - Logantown**  
Day trip to historic quartz-mining area above Bendigo  
Own transport, with 4WD recommended for the final section.  
Bring all food, drinks, versatile clothing. There are houses and mining  
remains near the carpark to interest those not wanting to walk far.  
Sturdy shoes are needed if walking the two-hour circuit.  
Further details later.

**Sunday 22 April: Wanaka Transport and Toy Museum; Luggate**  
Whole day Own transport Entry probably \$10  
Further details and more options later.

**Sunday 20 May: Early Mountaineering in the Wakatipu**  
2pm at St John's Presbyterian Church Hall, Arrowtown  
'The Remarkables: 146 years of Climbing' - a short film by Guillaume  
Charton of the Queenstown Climbing Club which includes a re-enactment  
of the first recorded pakeha ascent.

# LAKES DISTRICT MUSEUM ARROWTOWN

OPEN DAILY 8.30am-5pm  
EXHIBITIONS

• **Until December 14:**  
The Match-Portraits of NZ Rugby Players by English Photographer,  
David Matches

• **December 22-January 29:**  
New Works by Queenstown Artists, Christine  
Hill and Jenny Mehrrens

• **February:**  
Local Exhibition of Quilts

• **April:**  
Locations Arrowtown Autumn Festival Exhibition



## NEW BOOKS! PERFECT GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

Garrick Tremain:  
*The Arrowtown Collection*  
*The Trouble With Golf*



A great Selection of Calendars.

Plus, Browse our Fantastic Selection of Social History, Natural  
History, Local History and Children's  
Books.



You'll Be Amazed At The Variety