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- THE QUEENSTOWN COURIER -

The Official Publication of the

QUEENSTOWN AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THIRTEENTH ISSUE - JUNE 1974.

Officers of the Society for 1974:

PRESIDENT	- Mr. Ian Daniel	9 Weaver St., Queenstown
SECRETARY	- Mrs. R. McCurdy	66 Lake Esplanade "
TREASURER	- Mrs. M. Templeton	18 Hallenstein St., "
COMMITTEE	- Dr. R. Burns Watson, Mr. J. Newman, Mrs. W. P. McDonald, Mrs. A. M. Miller, Mrs. P. H. Hood, Mrs. Jas. Reid, Mr. J. D. Grant (Lakes County Museum representative) Mr. H. H. J. Miller (National Travel Association representative)	

Annual Subscription to the Society - \$2.00 per family.

"Courier" - included in Subscription.

- price to non-members : 30 cents.

STORIES or MATERIAL FOR ARTICLES for the "Courier" will be welcome. Send to any of the above officers of the Society.

REPORT ON SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES, 1974.

1974 has already been a significant year for The Queenstown and District Historical Society. The Conference of the Federation of Historical Societies of New Zealand has come and gone and the months of hard work was rewarded with a most successful occasion. We were proud of the calibre of our speakers, drawn from members and associates, who were able to hold their own in the distinguished company from the rest of the country, as well as being satisfied with the arrangements for our guests. Looking back and studying the situation as it stands at the present time, we are starting on a road which could lead to great achievement for the heritage of New Zealand. Our aim to involve the South Island in the Federation was in part fulfilled; much more remains to be done to encourage interest from all parts of the South Island. Those who came showed enthusiasm and interest. We were proud that our president, Mr. Ian Daniel, was elected to the executive

and we in the Society will do all we can to assist to see that he is able to attend meetings which are inevitable in the North Island. Already moves are being made to find common ground with the Historic Places Trust, from a suggestion from Mr. Daniel. This cooperation would ensure progress for the whole nation in preservation and education of our historical heritage. If the voices in the wilderness can be brought together to speak as one, they will have a much greater effect and achievement. We trust that all members, and those who read our magazine, will involve themselves in encouraging others who are interested, to contact the Historical Societies who are not yet affiliated with the Federation and require information. Write to the Secretary of the Federation of Historical Societies - Miss N. Thompson, 23 Kent Terrace, Raglan.

Our own Society has an interesting programme ahead. We are well on the way to achieving the Rees Memorial Plaque, which we intend to be a worthy memorial to that intrepid first pioneer of the Wakatipu and Queenstown. The Treasurer, Mrs. M. Templeton, 18 Hallenstein Street, would welcome donations from anyone who would like to be involved in this project. The Plaque has already been designed by the great-grand-daughter of Mr. Rees, and is in the hands of the engraver. It depicts the self-portrait by William Rees, and a drawing of the explorer approaching the lake with his horse. All donations will be welcome. The Queenstown Borough Council have agreed to allow cultural groups to use the old Library building for their meetings. Our Society has been included, which is obviously very fitting, as we fought the battle to save it. Some cleaning and re-organisation is required, which will be carried out before our next meeting. The Society intends to revert to the original name. Just to remind you - on March 21, 1876 the Queenstown correspondent of "The Cromwell Argus" wrote - 'Our Courthouse and Athenaeum are being erected in a most substantial style and will reflect great credit on the Architect and Inspector of Works, as well as on the Contractors.' The history of the erection of the building and the subsequent ups and downs were recorded in the Special Issue of The Queenstown Courier published in May 1971 to commemorate the opening of the new Library.

The collection of Slides started for the Conference will be continued. Two very successful meetings have been held, at which these slides were shown, one at Queenstown and one at Arrowtown. The Committee is particularly pleased to be making real contact with Arrowtown people who have so much knowledge of interest to impart. We look forward to more meetings there, as the last one was so enjoyable. These Slides of old buildings brought forth a fund of reminiscences in New Orleans Hotel, where the meeting was held. There is always room for more, so we hope to see more members and any one interested turning up next time.

We have continued with our recordings and would welcome any offers for recording reminiscences of people who knew the district years ago. The Tape Recorder can be had from Mr. Daniel any time. Volunteers are urgently needed.

There is plenty of repair work waiting to be done to stone walls etc. and we will be organising some working bees to get a few jobs done. Everyone is busy, we know, but now that we are really seeing some achievement for our efforts we look for full support from members and the committee. If you have any ideas, please tell us; we need to hear from all our supporters if we are to continue on towards our aims. We are involved in the whole district and would like to hear more from people outside Queenstown.

The Map should be available soon. Look out for it.

Tourism 1883

We continue our account of "A VISITOR LOOKS AT QUEENSTOWN" written with some wit and insight in August 1883 ...

... These New Zealand lakes are the coldest in the world. Here on Wakatipu, I am told, the same as on the Fraser River in British Columbia, should I fall overboard I should never come to the surface again; the ice-cold water would kill me. But they say also, that I would never reach the bottom, but 50 feet down would be frozen and so float about, stiff and gruesome, a fearful sight for young trout. - "So the old men tell me," and if such be the case, instead of planting one's beloved on the hillside, it would be nice to moor him or her to a buoy in the middle of the lake, and then one could occasionally haul up the dear departed and see how the body was getting on; it would be far better than any system of embalming I have ever heard of! It isn't a very easy thing to get to the bottom of the Wakatipu; in places it is 1,400ft deep - that is 400ft below the level of the sea. To these tales of the marines of the Wakatipu I seriously incline as I promenade the upper deck of the Mountaineer in company with the gallant captain, getting an appetite for breakfast after an early start. Three times a week this boat goes to the head of the lake, doing the sixty miles journey in the same day. The boat starts at 7 a.m., but we get a square meal on board, as on shore, my only complaint being that the Scotch engineer takes all the porridge. My three companions are very miserable, however. One lady is quite sick, and there is no brandy on board to give her. Wretched Good Templar owner of the Mountaineer, why should you cause people to abuse thee? On the right bank of Wakatipu there is a well defined track leading to Queenstown. Far different this lake to Manapouri and Te Anau. The mountains do not come sheer down into the water, but there are terraces, along which it is possible to ride and drive cattle. Steep and rough enough is this road in places, but it is practicable.

The number of homesteads around this lake surprises me. The mountain ranges are all included in the definition of "pastoral land" and bring a rental to the Government. Sheep live here and thrive, and rabbits also live here and thrive more. In the race for the survival of the fittest, the rabbits would win, but for poison and traps. Really they are the fittest animals to occupy these fern covered hills! Life is hard for the sheep here, and hard for the shepherd. Mustering on these mountain heights must be frightful work. The shepherds require to be picked men, sound in heart, and lungs and limb. They live among the glaciers, and in the perpetual snow limit. The life of a stock rider in Australia is one of the roses compared to that of a shepherd around the southern lakes. But when it comes to the survival of the fittest in race, the progeny of these men will win.

Twenty five miles out from Queenstown, on the east bank of the Wakatipu, the Greenstone River flows into the lake. Hence there is a fine stretch of flat table land, and beyond the birch forest grows from the waters edge up the mountain sides to the snow line. Up the Greenstone there is a charming little lake - a glorious place to picnic in, I am told - access being had by boat from the head of the lake. At the head of the lake there is a flat estuary, the junction of two rivers, the Dart and the Rees. A few miles from this a round hill - Mount Alfred - separates the two valleys through which the streams run. Earnslaw, 9,200 ft high, is far ahead, but is not visible at present. It is the outpost of the region of glaciers, of perpetual snow and ice. We stop first at Glenorchy, on the east bank; but I go on to Kinloch, three miles across on the other side of the Dart. There is a wharf, a little hotel beside a deep gully, three cottages on a slope in connection with this, and beyond the dark birch forest. It is a charming place, resembling in every respect some scene in North America. I can imagine myself once more on the banks of Burrard's Inlet. Surely that is an Indian shanty there! The three bareheaded, long-haired girls who came from thence to the wharf are as brown as any half-caste in Moodyville. These are well dressed and fed, but more ignorant than Indian children near Senator Nelson's saw-mills. They can neither read nor write, have never been to school. They have never been away from here, and are even ignorant as to the nature of lollies. They do nothing but play about and sometimes "mind the baby". Their father is working in the woods; their mother is the celebrated "female guide". What is to be their fate? Will they become guides for future generations of tourists? I am sorry for these little ones, with their rag dolls, and give them money - which I hope is not confiscated at home - to buy lollies in Queenstown per the steward's agency.

I have one of these cottages all to myself, and after a good lunch proceed to look around. I stroll along the shingly beach. The sun is going down. On one hand the lake, whose cold waters lap the cold stones, with a murmur which is fast increasing to a surf-like roar. Swift and strong and noisy, the Dart rushes to join the Wakatipu. The wind is rising and white-crested waves joyously chase each other over the surface of the lake. Behind me is the dark birch forest, stretching far up the mountain sides, whose summits are lost in the clouds, 8,000 ft above. Before me the giants of the hills are shrouded in the mist which the wind is chasing away. The veil is lifted from the heights, although clouds still hang about the base. The setting sun casts a roseate hue on the snow-crowned peaks. This is reflected, colour and outline clearly defined, on the bosom of the waters. Anon this changes to the deepest crimson. Looking up to this glory in the sky, I think of the visions which came to the apostle on Patmos. One might indeed develop dreams of heaven from such splendour.

(To be continued)

The following is a list of the graves of the last century in the Queenstown cemetery, with brief explanatory notes by Peter Chandler. It was prepared for use at the recent Conference, and we reprint it here.

Burials Queenstown Cemetery

BURIALS IN QUEENSTOWN CEMETARY

This list covers a selection of some of the marked graves, in Queenstown Cemetery. It is arranged alphabetically to facilitate reference, as any other system would necessitate possession of a plan of the cemetery to allow the graves to be located.

It will be noticed that most of the people were born outside New Zealand, while the arrival in the district of a large proportion dated from the gold rush of 1862-63. An obvious preponderance of miners, run-holders, shepherds, publicans and tradesmen is explained by the fact that I was specially interested in their story when this list was first compiled.

Much of the information is "trad", as many of the miners in particular represented a single member of the family in New Zealand, so that little knowledge of their overseas background is obtainable.

I should be interested to hear from anyone with further information which would make this list more complete or accurate.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PLACE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>	<u>BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS</u>
Samuel S. Aburn				Inspector of works on Public Works in Lake County. Edith Cavell bridge built under his supervision.
Robert Anderson	Glasgow	52	13.1.88	Publican. Had a hotel at Frankton; was in Mountaineer Hotel (then Prince of Wales) in 1878. Father of Sir Robert Anderson: "Black Harry" another son, was a Wakatipu 'character'.
Peter Bell	Sweden	68	27.7.99	Took over Long Gully Hotel from Mrs McArthur. Died of exposure after a fall from his horse in winter.
Honora Bell (Mrs Pt. Bell)	Tipperary, Ireland	62	24.7.01	Carried on hotel after her husband's death.
Alexander Boyne	Falkirk, Scotland	65	May 1901	General merchant and timber merchant in Queenstown.
Thomas Bell	Scotland	94	29.5.14	An early runholder in Matatapu valley; had

NAME	PLACE OF BIRTH	AGE	DATE OF DEATH	BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS
Thomas Bell cont'd				
Jas. W. Clark	Dumbarton-shire	74	3.12.15	A farmer "Howgeil" at Lower Shotover. Worked latterly as "bush" carpenter.
James Commins (brother-in-law of M. Dwan)	Ireland	73	4.9.10	A miner turned farmer. Lived with a brother on island in Dart river.
Robert Davidson	Northern Ireland	81	24.7.11	A miner who worked mainly in Branches area, Upper Shotover.
Robt. J. Davidson Shotover, NZ		81	7.1.45	A miner who came to the Shotover via Australia. Was later a storekeeper, then runholder. Father of succeeding.
Thos. Davidson	Shotover, NZ	81	7.1.45	Son of above; shepherd with Jno. Butement; managed "Glencoe" on Crown Terrace.
William Davidson	Northern Ireland	64	3.12.24	Son of R.D. above. Shepherd with J. Butement. Managed "Routeburn" at Kinloch.
Wm. Lovel Davis	East Stour, Worcestershire	75	14.2.08	Son of R.D. above. Accompanied his parents to Australia, then N.Z. Had farm Glenorchy.
Michael Dwan	Ireland	79	30.6.16	Brewer in Queenstown; From 1881 till death, miner at Stony Creek Terrace, Skippers.
Patrick Gantley	Ireland	81	6.10.96	Mining at Branches for many years. Died of blood-poisoning after piercing foot with hay fork.
Robert Gunn	Thurso, Caithness, Scotland	89	31.1.17	Served in Crimea & India. Gaoler in Q'tn. Had "Sportsman's Arms" Hotel at Arthurs Point.
Robt. Sutherland Gunn	Sutherland-shire, Scotland	73	30.11.05	Miner from Shotover.
Jas. Harber	Australia			Miner, turned runholder. Held part of "Coronet Peak", 1870's.
				Miner & shearer. A "gun" shearer with blades. Winner of many contests with Australian shearer.

NAME	PLACE OF BIRTH	AGE	DATE OF DEATH	BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS
C. Harber (Mrs Jas. Harber)	Queenstown, N.Z.			Daughter of Alack Olsen, Bullendale.
David Hazeel	Dundee, Scotland	79	27.12.09	Storekeeper at the Branches 1863-80. Farmer at Millers Flat, Arrow till death. His d'r married John Cockburn.
Thos. Hicks		85	7.12.11	Connected with Antrim Farm. Frankton flour mill, Wakatipu Steam Ship Co & sawmills. Married a Miss McBride. Benefactor to Anglican Church.
William Henry Homer	England	50(?)	1.1894	Army veteran. Crimea and Indian Mutiny; Martins Bay settler, miner & explorer. Discovered Homer's Saddle, Upper Hollyford
James Hogan	Cashel, Cty Tipperary	60	6.7.00	Miner at Moke Creek & Shotover, partner of John McCarron.
Karl Hotop	Germany		4.12.76	Chemist at Queenstown.
Adam Hume	Riversdale, N.Z.	44	June 1931	Runholder "Wyuna" Glenorchy. Former manager "Argyle" Waikato
Robert Lee	Threepwood, Northumberland	62	30.12.11	Mine owner - Kaitangata Coal Co Sandhills Co & Glenorchy Schellite Co.
Dominick Leyden	Ireland	93	13.2.17	Former miner & storekeeper, Pleasant Creek, Skippers.
Henry J.H. Lewis ("Charlie")	Australia	70	13.9.43	Publican "Welcome Home" Hotel, Long Gully. An expert with pack horses. Came to N.Z. with Aust shearing gang.
Sarah Lewis (Mrs H.J.H. Lewis)	Queenstown	63	16.11.50	Carried on hotel after her husband's death.
William McAllister	Kilmory, Isle of Arran (Glasgow?)	63	12.3.98	Miner, turned farmer & runholder. Owned "Halfway Bay" 1880s.
Helen McAllister (nee Marr - Mrs W. McAllister)		73	27.1.14	Came to district as nursemaid to Mrs W.G. Rees. Midwife in Q'stn after husband's death.
John Williamson McArthur	Perthshire, Scotland	41	1.7.74	Publican, Long Gully. Worked in Cumbernauld Dye Works, Paisley before emigrating to Aust.
Violet McArthur (nee Smith - Mrs J.W. McArthur)		90	5.6.13	Carried on Long Gully Hotel after husband's death. Sold to Peter Bell 1881 & moved to Bullendale Hotel. Held part of "Coronet Peak" 1870s with R.S. Gunn. Farmer latterly at Millers Flat.
Daniel McBride	Cty Antrim, Ireland	74	28.2.14	One of many brothers & sisters to settle in Wakatipu district. Held "Kawarau Falls" at his death.
John McCarron	Ireland	74	June 1909	Miner at Moke Creek & on Shotover (McCarron's Beach is downstream from Pinchers Bluff)

Name	Place of birth	Age	Date of death	Brief biographical details
Jas. McChesney	cy. Cavan, Ireland	63	14.12.1905	Publican, Arthurs Pt. Previously at Moke Creek
Peter McCormick	Scotland	70	3.7.1936	Runholder "Closeburn" His wife a dtr. of D.A. Cameron "Glenfalloch"; Nokomai.
John R. McDonald ("Long Jack")	Scotland	81	28.7.1914	Former miner. Lived in Q'town in old age.
Neil McInnes	Isle of Mull, Scotland	84	1.7.1906	A miner from Upper Shotover. Partner of T.P. Monk on Monk's Terrace, opposite the Sandhills. A couple noted for their rather "screwy" sense of humour.
Agnew McKenzie (nee Meiklejohn)	Queenstown N.Z.	72	17.12.1940	For many years house-keeper at "Mt. Creighton" Married Dan McKenzie, miner, Glenorchy.
Alexander Mackenzie	Ardmore, Scotland	68	10.12.1909	Bro. of Hugh Mackenzie "Walter Peak". In Wakatipu district 1868. Held, at different times, parts of "Cecil Peak", "Coronet Peak", "The Branches"; last run was "Wyuna", Glenorchy. Known as 'Old Sandy'.
George Mackenzie	Scotland	74	1.1.1913	Surveyor in Queenstown. His widow started camping ground, now Borough Motor Camp
Hugh Mackenzie	Ardmore, Sutherland, Scotland	85	6.5.1933	Bro. of Alex. Mackenzie, above. Held "Walter Peak" 1887 (?) - 1933.
David McKinlay	Lenarkshire Scotland	62	14.2.1904	Runholder at Lochy River 1867-71; later runs were "Mt. Aurum" and "Ben Lomond".
Edward McLeod	Hedgehope, N.Z.	?	3.12.1946	Miner and shearer. Half-caste Maori. Lived latterly at Moke Creek, crippled with rheumatism.
Michael John Malaghan	Pomeroy, Cy. Tyrone, Ireland	49	18.4.1894	Prominent storekeeper in Q'tn. A descendant gave money for new Public Library.

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Robert Lee	Threepwood, Northumberland	62	30.12.11	Mine owner - Kaitangata Coal & Sandhills Co & Glenorchy Schaeelite Co.
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Name	Place of birth	Age	Date of death	Brief biographical details
John Thompson, Tasmania		84	1.1.1950	Retired miner. Connected with mining ventures in gorge above Arthur's Pt., "Golden Terrace" dredge etc.
John Richard Tripp, Queenstown			21.4.1950	Son of Richard Tripp, Manager of "Nugget". Worked at both gold and scheelite mining. Owned the "Crystal" mine at Skippers.
Nicholas Paul B. Reval, von Tunzelmann Estonia.		76	31.7.1900	One of the pioneer runholders of the Wakatipu district. Settled at "Fernhill" Von River. Lived latterly at Beach Bay on a small holding.
William Whyte, Oban, Scotland		28.	Aug, 1867	A shepherd employed by Lawton & Gardiner at Moonlight. Lost in a snowstorm on Mt. Gilbert, 1867.
Wong Gong	Canton, China.	?	1908	Chinese storekeeper at Butchers Gully and Wong's Terrace.
Vasilio Seffer	Russia (prob. Poland)	70	July, 1904	Miner at Moke Creek.

ITEMS of INTEREST FROM THE JUNE NEWSLETTER of N.Z. FEDERATION OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES..

- ... New President of Federation - Mr. S. Hart, New Plymouth.
- ... Queenstown Conference pronounced a "red-letter" weekend.
- ... Waitangi Day suggested instead of New Zealand Day.
- ... Mr. Ian Daniel appointed liaison officer for South Island.
- ... Suggested appointment of a Federation Committee member to Historic Places Trust, for - say - 3 year term.
- ... Suggested Federation should begin now to formulate definite working sessions at Conference 1975 to ensure full and meaningful discussion by delegates.

Name	Place of birth	Age	Date of death	Brief biographical details
Allan Waiiau Manson	N.Z. (probably at "Belmont")	53	25.8.1941	Son of Donald Manson, mgr. of "Kawarau Falls", "Mt. Earnslaw" etc. for N.Z. Loan Co. Had a share in "Mt. Creighton".
Alexander Meiklejohn	Watten, Caithness, Scotland	36	28.6.1868	First owner of "Mt. Creighton" carried on by his widow and sons.
Jane Brown (Mrs. Alex. Meiklejohn)	ditto. (not "Waller", as stated in register)	57	5.8.1893	A rare example of a Scots-woman following Scots form and retaining her maiden surname after marriage - common in Scotland before 1850.
Edward Monson ("Neddy")	Ireland	85	21.8.1937	Came to district as groom to Boyes Bros. "Kawarau Falls", then butcher, Q'tn., and owner of "The Branches" Publican "Supreme Court" Hotel (later "White Star")
Jane O'Meara	Ireland	76	4.9.1892	Miner; worked around Frenchman's Beach, Shotover Gorge. Brewer; member of a family of millers at Riverton.
George Reislar	Altnay, Germany	74	31.8.1909	Mayor of Queenstown at inauguration of water supply.
James Reid	Aberdeen, Scotland	49	22.10.1888	Miner at Bullendale; Married a dtr. of Patrick Gantley; held "Sportsman's Arms" when licence was cancelled. Afterwards contractor.
Thos. Francis Richards	Not known	64	27.2.1919	
James William Robertson	New Brunswick, Canada	50	Jan. 1876	A prominent Queenstown businessman; had interests in Sawmills, Shipping, Flour-mill, etc. Associated with Bendix Hallenstein in the above, and other ventures. Was promoting a local wool-len mill when he died. Mayor of Queenstown.
Egbert Sainsbury	Salisbury, Wiltshire	84	16.6.1919	Native of the "Hardy country" Wessex. An old miner, store-keeper, blacksmith and packer. Drowned in the Shotover.
Francois St. Omer	Marseilles, France	88	7.4.1915	A baker, first at Moke Creek then in Queenstown, where he was followed by a son, who was also Francois.
Hermann Schurstedt	Westphalia, Germany	79	28.2.1922	Known as "German Charlie". Fled Germany to escape Prussian conscription. Was a roadman at Lindis before moving to Shotover about 1870. Worked mainly about Upper Shotover.

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Obituaries.

Mrs. Rosina May Douglas, nee Daplyne.

The Society records with regret the death of a member, Mrs. Rose M. Douglas. Mrs. Douglas's contribution to education and the preservation and recording of history is an outstanding one. Although she has gone, she will be remembered in a thousand little ways by those who were taught by her in school, by those who worked with her on The Museum Trust, and by those countless tourists who wander through the Lakes Centennial Museum and enjoy the pleasures of Arrowtown. For it was Mrs. Douglas who moulded the lives of the children in Arrowtown from the time of the first world war until her retirement from the teaching service in 1943; she who was secretary of the Museum Trust from the time it changed from a room in the former Ballarat Hotel to The Lakes District Centennial Museum (as it is today,) remaining secretary during the additions until the time of her death. She had many other interests and served locally in many other ways. A quiet, unassuming lady, of charm and integrity, she leaves behind a record of community service and a remarkable contribution to our district.

Charles Brasch - Grandson Bendix Hallenstein

Dr. Charles Orwell Brasch. Grandson of Bendix Hallenstein.

No Society could have had a more distinguished member than the late Charles Brasch. We recorded his death, which took place in May 1973, in a previous issue, but I would like to take time now to look at his contribution to the Arts in New Zealand, and to examine the type of man he was. I clearly remember the first time I called on him in Heriot Row, Dunedin. It was an unpremeditated decision on the part of my companion, and I jumped at the excuse to call on Dr. Brasch, with whom I had an acquaintance and also of course some knowledge of his writings. But I was not prepared for the pure joy of entering his room, so reminiscent of the studies and libraries I had known when I lived in Oxford before the War and was on the fringe of the poets, authors and writers of the time. The impeccable taste and discrimination, the first editions, the contemporary pictures and so much else expressed the personality of the man who had gathered about himself things artistic, with no hint of pretentiousness. Fitting so perfectly into his surroundings, he showed himself to be hospitable, humorous and discriminating; as I left I felt I was leaving civilisation. I cannot do better than to quote from a tribute written at the time of his death by a friend. The following appeared in the Otago Daily Times at the time of his death:

"Charles Brasch made a contribution to the New Zealand artistic scene the like of which we shall not see again. He was in the true sense of the word a patron. There must be few New Zealand writers and artists of the last 40 years whom he did not know and whom he did not help by his kindness or by his open and meticulous criticism. His generosity to the arts generally, and to the University of Otago and its Hocken Library in particular, is well known, modest in the extreme though all his giving was. Few men of wealth can have given so much so magnanimously and so quietly.

"Perhaps his outstanding personal quality over and above his impeccable taste was his sensibility. His sensitivity to the needs of others, which showed in his friendship to struggling writers and artists, and his fine sense of humour, made him a warmly loved person. His distaste for vulgarity, the pretention and the sentimental made him seem to some, who did not know him personally, hypercritical. But no one who knew Charles Brasch personally could think this. For him, the raising of standards of taste was a cause, and he saw in New Zealand a potential for a literary and artistic identity of its own, and this he fostered by every means he could find.

Forty years ago, New Zealand arts and literature had not matured into independence, though signs of the possibility were there. Charles Brasch, who, together with James Bertram, first thought up the idea of Landfall, was the chief formative influence which allowed New Zealand art and literature to mature.

With Milton, Charles Brasch believed in the freedom of the press, and wrote strongly about this and other libertarian causes, in Landfall, in journals and in newspapers. He was very attracted to our land, loving to walk the hills and coastline. His own poetry brings us closer to our landscape and the way in which we live in it..

'Always, in these islands, meeting and parting,
Shake us, making tremulous the salt-rimmed air;
Divided and perplexed the sea is waiting.
Birds and fishes visit us and disappear'.

The death of Charles Brasch will make people sad in many places. Within New Zealand, poets and novelists, painters and sculptors, composers, dramatists and those less creative people who realise that it is in the arts and literature that the real, permanent values of a civilisation are stored, will think of this man who was indeed unique and irreplaceable. In the literary world at large overseas, and for many expatriate New Zealanders, his passing will be mourned, for, more than anyone in our history, he has become an international literary figure, whose judgment was respected, and who was also much loved as a person."

Now that the terms of his will have been made known and are being carried out, it is realised what a giant patron of the arts he was. His gifts and benefactions, particularly to the library of the University of Otago and to the Hocken Library, are now becoming known. Substantial gifts of books, manuscripts and pictures, all chosen with the utmost discrimination, have been presented over the years. The following description of one of the gifts comes from the pen of A.M. Broadbent...

"Users of the Library should be familiar with the magnificent set of Piranesi etchings of views of Rome. Twelve in all, they are hung in two rows - one in the main reading room and the other in the main stack room. Two views of the ruins of the Colosseum, tombs along the Appian Way, an outside view of Santa Maria Maggiore, The Piazza del Campidoglio.

"A short notice explains the handsome rows of etchings done from the original copper plates done by Giambattista Piranesi. As one enters and then moves through the library, the impression they make on the mind, with their intricate graces and classical architectural forms, immediately follows the equally vivid images evoked by the graceful courtyard garden. A person who has eyes for more than just the books in the library sees first the flax, toe toe, lace bark, lancewood and kowhai in the garden, then an eighteenth century evocation of Italy. It is a pleasing juxtaposition of forms and ideas, one appropriate to Charles Brasch, who embodied much of what is best and most distinctive of both Europe and New Zealand."

Further gifts, left in his Will, will greatly enrich the Hocken Library as well as The University Library. Once again, to quote A.M. Broadbent ..

"Gordon Brown, Curator of pictures in the Hocken Library, and well-known Art critic and Historian, thinks that Brasch's substantial gifts to the Hocken have acted as one of the factors that have changed the direction of the collection from one simply interested in the historical and documentary function of pictures, to one where this function is shared with the development of painting in New Zealand as a subject of investigation in its own right. Important names in New Zealand painting over a long period of time, from Kinder to Hoyte, and Richmond to John Drawbridge, Patrick Hanly and Ralph Hotere are all included in Brasch's gifts."

Now that it has been examined, his library has proved to be a rare collection; both European and New Zealand works, first editions and precious volumes, authors' signatures, all have come to light and are to be distributed as he has directed. A distinguished man of letters, his reading show great discrimination; his tastes were varied, and the works on his shelves covered most literary fields, with the exception of politics, which feature little. It is interesting to note that he owned books and papers of his grand-father, Benjix Hallenstein of Thurlby Domain, some bearing the signature of Hallenstein's father - many of the older books bear the signature of Willi Fels.

A final quotation from Mr. A.M. Broadbent:

"By leaving his books, papers and paintings to the Otago University Library and to the Hocken Library, he culminated his long period of association with these institutions most fittingly, most characteristically and most generously.

Charles Brasch was an outstanding man and an outstanding patron."

CONGRATULATIONS ..

Our congratulations to MR. A.S. ROBINS of Lake Hayes, on being awarded the British Empire Medal in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours. Mr. Robins is a member of our Society, a one time Committee representative of the Lakes District Museum, assisting considerably with problems which arose in connection with Macetown.

.. Wakatipu Reflections ..

The years are taking their toll and I have to bow to the inevitable. Not again will I stand on Ben Lomond and today Queenstown Hill has defied me. The summit is still in the distance and already I have had a few halts to allow heart and lungs regain their equilibrium. But there are compensations. When I could take the hill in my stride I was too keen to reach the top to think about what was behind me. Today, as I sit here on a log in the sunshine, I realise what I missed in those earlier climbs when I didn't take time to look back and drink in the beauty around me. The only sound is the chime of a bell-bird a few yards away. The residential area is obscured, and there is nothing to divert the eye from the lake and the mountains with their blue-shadowed valleys. I seem to be enveloped in a healing peace. To one who needs refreshment of mind and body, this is where to find it.

A verse of Whittier's beautiful hymn comes into my mind..

' Drop Thy still dews of quietness
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace. '

Not all of us have ordered lives, but few could look out on the scene below and not 'confess the beauty of Thy peace'. The lake, like a beautiful sapphire scintillating in the sunshine, is in its most benign mood; it is hard to believe that it can at times fling itself against the breakwater in a raging fury. The Remarkables look naked without a sprinkle of snow; not even a swirl of mist breaks their contours. They too can trap the unwary.

Queenstown doesn't appeal to everyone. I was chatting to a tourist who was irate because her itinerary had been planned to include lakes and mountains. "I'm not interested in these hills!" she said. I glanced up at the Remarkables and apologised silently for "these hills". And Lake Wakatipu held nothing for her. She wanted to see New Zealand industries. As she had come from England, where industries are legion, I felt she was wasting her time in New Zealand. In striking contrast was the attitude of two German tourists, a father and son, who were in Queenstown. Although racial tension has long since disappeared in New Zealand, the Germans kept very much to themselves. After breakfast they would go off wearing their alpine suits, and would not return until time for the evening meal. One morning, when walking along the track on the western side of the lake, I could hear someone singing; it was a voice such as one rarely hears except on a concert platform. As I walked round a bend, there ahead of me were the Germans, the father leaning against a rock and gazing out across the lake, the son standing on top of the rock, and his glorious tenor voice was ringing out over the water. That was his tribute to the beauty around him, and one of the finest tributes Lake Wakatipu has ever received.

For many years I have come here physically and mentally weary, but after a few days of absorbing sunshine and breathing clear mountain air I am ready to enjoy to the full the rest of my vacation.

The light hearted company of fellow guests, the greetings on the bowling-green and the stroll along the water-front to watch the lake grow mellow under the glow of a golden sunset are all part of an unforgettable holiday.

(contributed by W.M.Rendel)

SOCIETY WORK SCHEDULE...

In view of the enthusiasm shown by the members during Conference, it is felt that those other than Committee Members should be given the opportunity to do something positive for the Society. It was hoped to put this to members at the General Meeting on 19th June, but the small number attending did not allow satisfactory coverage of members. At the moment, the following have these projects as their responsibility...

Mrs.A.M.Miller	.. The Courier, and preservation of original Arrowtown Jail.
Mrs.J.Reid	.. News cuttings and Scrap book.
Mr.H.Miller	.. Erection of plaques.
Mr.I.Daniel and Mr.B.Young..	Old building photos and catalogues.

Help is needed by these people (especially Articles for the "Courier") but, in addition, people are needed for the following...

Athenaeum - development and management
Archives - catalogue and care
Recording of interviews with older residents.
Reconstruction work of Edith Cavell Bridge, Cemetery wall and many other sites.

Anyone interested should contact the President, ph.609, evenings, for details of help by committee members. Perhaps you have your own project ideas. Let's hear about them soon.

..... M.J.MALAGHAN

Recent History

During the last war, when action moved into the Pacific, the supply of oranges to New Zealand stopped, and the Plunket Society sought a substitute for the Vitamen C they thought so necessary in children's diet. I don't know where the rose hip idea originated, but I do know the hips for the early experiments were picked in Glenorchy.

My sister was on the Tutoring staff at Karitane Hospital at the time and it was here the first experiments were made, in the late autumn. When berries from places near Dunedin arrived over-ripe and hopelessly squashed, she remembered all the briar bushes around Glenorchy - and sent me an emergency call. Could we possibly send down two sugar-bags full of hips before the frosts got at them? Of course we could! - this, we thought was just a piece of cake, and into action we went - about six young mothers and twice as many small children eager to help. There we made two mistakes - berrying is not easy work and small children and briar bushes are not a good mixture. So we reorganised into two groups - pickers and minders and achieved our two bags by next boat day. Those two bags, and two more the following week, gave them what was necessary, and by next autumn the well-known Dunedin Manufacturers, Greggs, had taken over the organisation of picking and collecting the berries all over Otago, and the manufacturing of the syrup which quickly became well-known and a staple item in the diet of New Zealand babies.

I little imagined in those few days of hectic picking that two of my teenagers, then unborn, would years later be picking rose hips in season to supplement their pocket money!

(contributed by Mrs. J. Reid)

!!!! APPEAL - REES MEMORIAL !!!!

If you would like to contribute to the memorial to our first settler - WILLIAM GILBERT REES - please send a donation to Mrs. M. Templeton, 18 Hallenstein Street, Queenstown, who is Treasurer of our Society.

We would like to have the funds to pay for the Plaque when it comes to hand. Your support is appreciated.

(DONALD HAY)..To clarify a point brought up in the last Issue, "Daniel" is the Gaelic name for "Donald" so either is correct.

THE LAKE COUNTY PRESS, JULY 20, 1883.

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QUEENSTOWN.

24th January, 1883.

N.B.—It is specially requested that all parties indebted to Mr. M. J. MALAGHAN do settle or arrangements for the same forthwith, otherwise the accounts will be placed in the hands of his solicitor.

M. J. MALAGHAN.