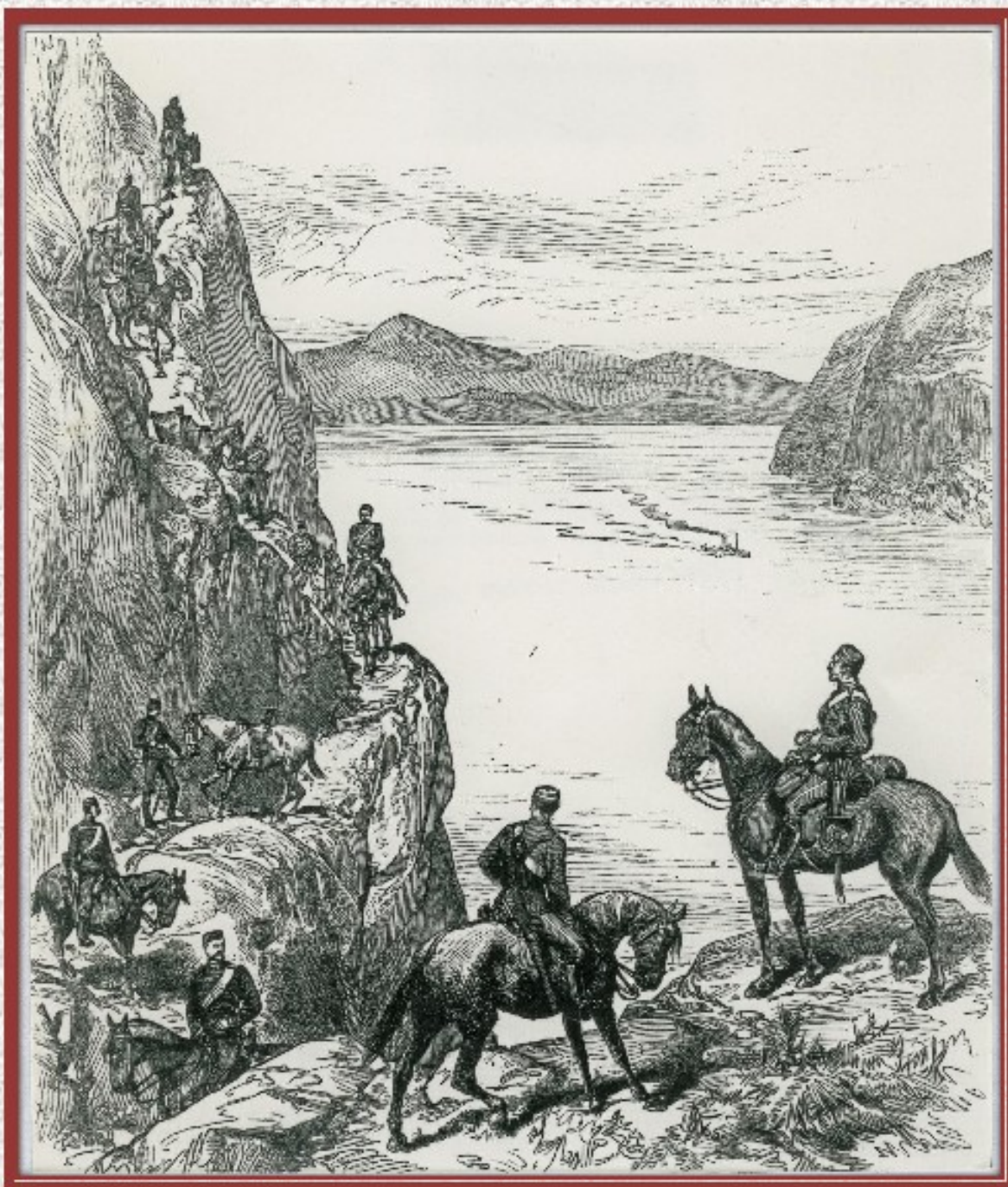


THE QUEENSTOWN COURIER

SUMMER 2015

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**The Southland Hussars negotiate Devil's Staircase bluff,
Lake Wakatipu, Easter 1885**

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Cover Illustration: The Invercargill Hussars negotiate the Devils Staircase bluff, 1885.
Wood engraving by Frederick W. Burwell.

First published in the *Illustrated London News*.

It is on the cover of *Wakatipu's Golden Days* by A.J. De La Mare, published by the Lakes District Museum in 2000. This excellent book is still available.

The Southland Hussars' Journey from Kingston, 1885



Volunteer militias were numerous throughout New Zealand from the early days of colonial settlement. In part this was because the settlers had come from a Europe that was politically unstable, and some of them had been in the military. Captain Albert Eichardt, a Prussian, for example, was a founder and leader of the Queenstown militia. Another factor was the New Zealand Land Wars (1860-72). In addition, there were the 'Russian scares' in 1870s as a result of which fortifications were installed around our ports from 1885.

An undoubted attraction in belonging to the Territorials, as we'd call them now, was the activity itself combining skills and comradeship. The April Review in Queenstown in 1885 assembled 258 men in rifle, artillery and mounted brigades. They came from Bluff, Invercargill, Riverton and Cromwell to join the Arrow Mounted Rifles

and the Queenstown Artillery Battery for competitions and recreation.

Captain Frederick Burwell of Invercargill, who had lived in Queenstown (see next article), chose not to bring his troop of 30 from Kingston by boat, but came overland via the notorious Devils Staircase track.

The *Southland Times* reported the trek which began at 7am:

The journey had its difficulties and dangers, but it also had its beauties and its pleasures. The Staircase, which consists of a track running up and down a precipitous eminence over 1000 feet high on the border of the lake, was the most ticklish part of the undertaking. The men had to lead their horses until it was negotiated, the narrow, rugged and irregular track necessitating great care, and adding just that dash of danger.... From the summit a magnificent view of the lake scenery was obtained, a view such as repaid those who had a taste for the picturesque.... During the ride the horses twice had to be waded through portions of the lake to avoid difficult places and the Kawarau was crossed by punt.... At about 3pm Queenstown was reached, the local band turning out to welcome the Hussars after their arduous journey of 40 miles. The rest of the afternoon was spent in rest and recreation, but in the evening the men were paraded in the Town Hall and put through sword exercises by Captain Burwell.



On the following day mounted squadron drill was gone through, after which an adjournment was made to the sports.... A visit was made on Sunday to the Arrow, the men going by Frankton and returning by Arthurs Point.... Monday was the Review Day. General Carnegie who was present expressed surprise at the Hussars' efficiency, and characterised their appearance and behaviour as very creditable to the colony. In the evening Captain Burwell gave a banquet in Eichardt's Hotel, the guests numbering over 60, inclusive of the Queenstown Band.... The ball in the evening was graced by many in a Hussar uniform.... To get back to Kingston on the following morning the *Antrim* was chartered. The lake voyage was accomplished without a hitch, in fact a noticeable feature of the whole trip was that not a solitary horse received a scratch.... Altogether the trip was a most enjoyable one, a fact that is in no small measure due to the thoughtful kindness of Captain Burwell.

Source: *Southland Times* 15 April 1885 accessed from www.paperspast.natlib.govt.nz

Frederick Burwell's Architectural Legacy in the Wakatipu

By Marion Borrell

Frederick W. Burwell (1846-1915) was a prolific architect whose work transformed Queenstown from a frontier town of wooden and corrugated iron buildings to an established settlement with some fine and lasting stone structures.

He was born in Scotland, and trained there before coming to Australia then New Zealand when in his early twenties. He spent about two years in Queenstown from 1871.

From 1874 to 1887 he lived in Invercargill where he designed a large number of major buildings. In 1877 alone he completed thirty-nine contracts. He designed mainly commercial buildings, but also churches and houses throughout Southland and Otago, including others in the Wakatipu district such as the Mount Earnslaw Hotel which can be seen on the left in the photo on page 13. In 1887 he moved to Melbourne then Perth and finally to Fremantle where significant examples of his larger commercial and civic projects endure. On the basis of his work in Invercargill he was elected Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1880.

His arrival in Queenstown in the early 1870s coincided with prosperous times when property owners were keen to invest in more durable and imposing buildings than those constructed during the gold-rush period of the 1860s. It is to him that we owe the architectural style of some of our major surviving historic buildings. In 1873 a reporter visiting Queenstown from Milton for the Bruce Herald (28 March 1873) wrote: *Since Mr F.W. Burwell, architect, arrived here, only about two years ago, a building mania seems to have seized the people within the town; that gentleman has been pretty fully employedBallarat Street assumes quite a different appearance since the erection of Messrs Eichardt's and Powell's new edifices which are equal to any of the very best hotels in Otago for external and internal appearances, cleanliness, comfort or grandeur....The inhabitants of Queenstown have been very fortunate in obtaining the services of such a man as Mr Burwell, who, unlike many other architects, not only looks at the immediate remuneration he derives from his patrons, but endeavours to make provision in his designs to suit the tastes and requirements of adjoining neighbours so that a style of uniformity may ultimately be arrived at when the whole of the wooden structures are supplanted with substantial stone buildings.*

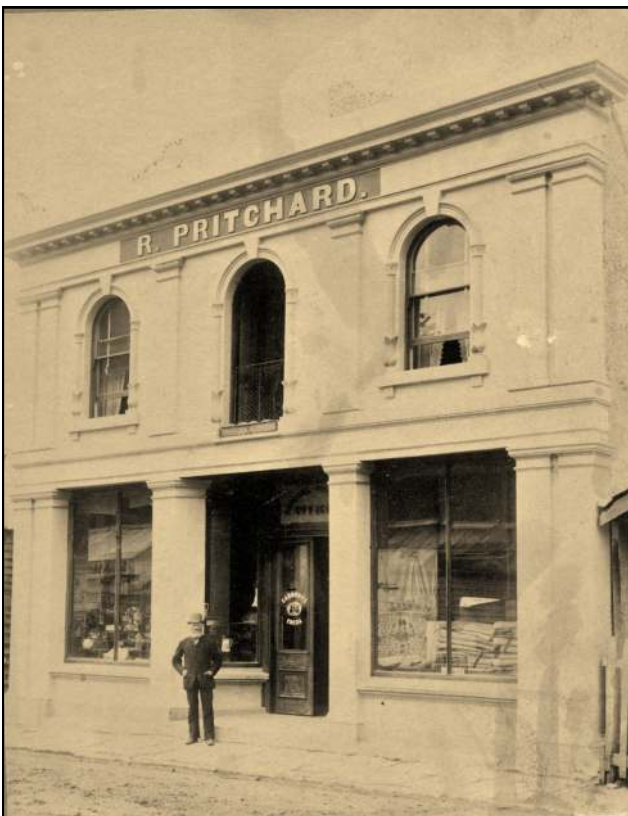
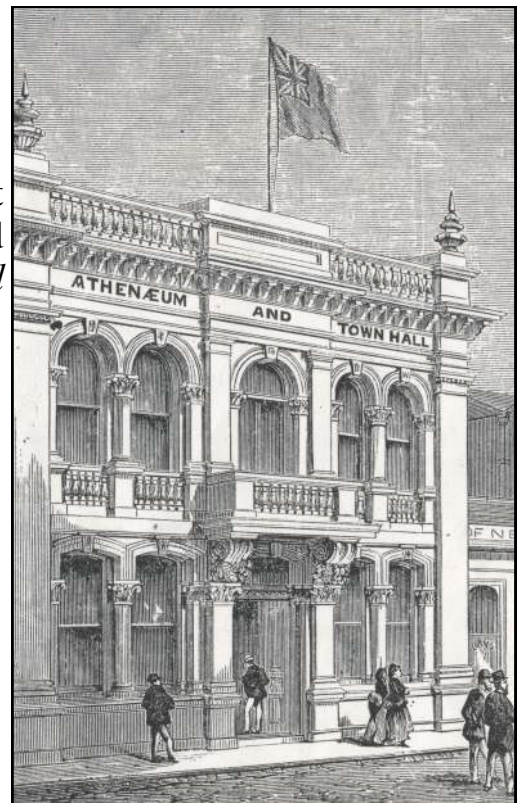
In addition, Frederick Burwell was an accomplished artist, as the cover of this magazine demonstrates, and was captain of the Invercargill Hussars. He was a violinist in the Queenstown Philharmonic Society, and belonged to other organisations such as the Jockey Club during his years in Queenstown.

Besides the buildings illustrated here, he also designed many others including Powell's Family Hotel, later Eureka House, in the Mall (1872); the Foresters Lodge in Ballarat Street (1873); and the Lake County Council building on the corner of Ballarat and Stanley Streets (1880). His notable rural work was at Thurlby Domain where he designed both the mansion and the farm buildings (1873) – see the article about them on pages 12-16. Sadly, the handsome Bank of New Zealand in Rees St (1875) was demolished in 1941.



Eichardt's Hotel built in 1871
(LDM EL4067)

Queenstown Town Hall and Athenæum (now Ballarat Trading Company) built in 1872. This wood engraving by Burwell was published in the *Illustrated NZ Herald*. (LDM EL4146)



Pritchard's Store, Buckingham Street, Arrowtown, built in 1872, which had two storeys until a fire in 1896. The owner, Robert Pritchard, is seen in the doorway. (LDM EP0130)

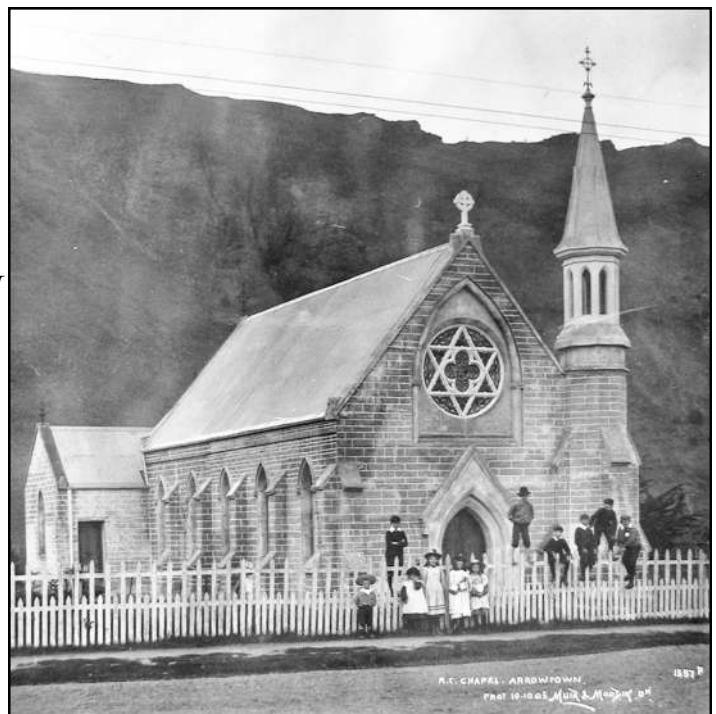


Thurlby Domain stable and archway today, after restoration.



St John's Presbyterian Church, Arrowtown built in 1873 seen here in 1899. (LDM EL0399)

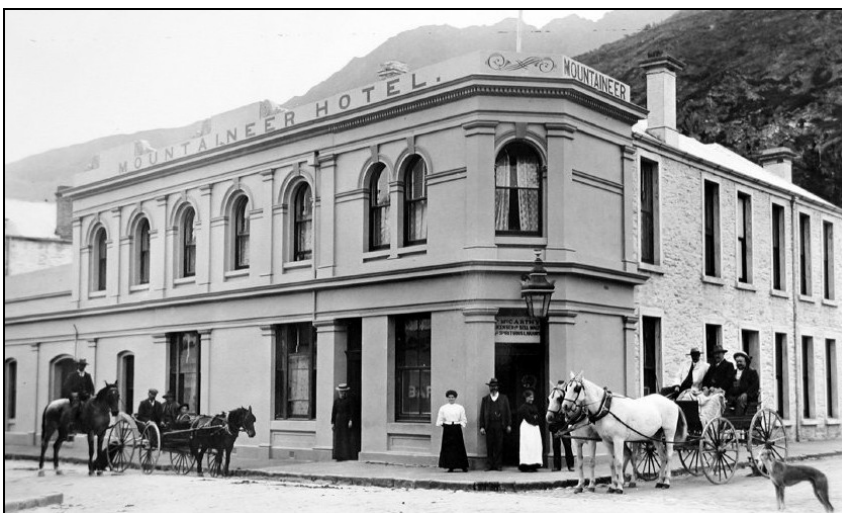
St Patrick's Catholic Church, Arrowtown in 1905 built in 1874. (LDM EL1297)





Bank of New Zealand, Rees St, Queenstown built in 1875, seen here not long before demolition. (*LDM EL1602*)

Queenstown Library and Courthouse built in 1876. An early photo just before the wellingtonia trees were planted. (*LDM EL2932*)



Mountaineer Hotel in Rees St built in 1885 the façade of which has been preserved. (*LDM EP2915*).

Sources: www.architecture.co.au article by John J. Taylor (2013)
www.heritage.org.nz entry for St Patrick's Church, Arrowtown
 Bruce Herald 28 March 1873 accessed from <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>

Recollections of an Arrowtown Councillor

By Taylor Reed

After reading in Issue 92 the article by Denise Heckler about Ivy Ritchie, the town clerk of Arrowtown, Taylor has contributed these recollections.

Back in the 1950s I was a keen member of the Arrowtown Volunteer Fire Brigade. We were very poorly equipped and had the embarrassment of pulling the reel down to a fire at the end of Devon Street only to find that there was not enough hose to reach it. Not that it really mattered because there was virtually no water pressure anyway. That hose reel was a dreadful contraption. I remember once we were taking it down the hill from the fire station to a fire in the main street. Charlie Henderson and I were at the front. It was heavy and getting away on us, so we were taking strides about a chain long. The blokes at the back were pushing too which didn't help. I was very relieved when the hose reel was replaced in 1957 with a Landrover fire engine.



At our monthly meeting in August 1956, the Chief Fire Officer Alex Hamilton said he was sick and tired of being expected to protect the town from fire when we were not provided with the necessary equipment. He thought the time was right for the younger members of the Brigade to stand for the Borough Council at the forthcoming elections, and if elected, try to get the Council grant increased from the £150 we were receiving per year. (This grant was subsidised pound for pound by the NZ Underwriters Association.)

Four of us said we would stand for election – Bill Martin who was a sitting councillor, Bert Jackways, Jim Wilcox and myself. As only the required number of people stood, no election needed to be held. Before the first council meeting, I told Jim Wilcox that my intention was to move that new fire hoses be purchased. Jim readily agreed to be the seconder.

When the agenda arrived it said councillors would be sworn in, a Deputy Mayor and chairmen of various subcommittees would be elected together with the members of the subcommittees. There was no mention of general business. My father, a former Deputy Mayor, assured me that this was all that occurred at the first meeting.

On the due date we arrived at the Council Chambers in our best suits and were allotted our positions around the table. The formal part of the meeting completed, the Mayor, Gordon Henderson, rose to declare the meeting closed only to be told by a brash 23-year-old that he requested permission to table a motion of urgency. Gordon said that while it was not the usual practice, on this occasion he would accept the motion. The motion was that the Arrowtown Borough Council purchase two 75-foot lengths of fire hose for the Fire Brigade. Mrs Ivy Ritchie, the town clerk, threw her pencil with great force onto the table and in a shocked voice exclaimed, 'Hoses, hoses! All you firemen can talk about is hoses! It was only two years ago that we bought you a new hose. What are you doing

with them? Do you eat them?' The Deputy Mayor, Fred Edwards, seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

When I got home from work the next day, Dad said, 'You have upset Mrs Ritchie. She rang me today to tell me about your bad behaviour at your first Council meeting, and she has come up with a name which is not very complimentary. She's calling you the Kiddies Council.' I was 23, Jim Wilcox was 26 and Bert Jackways 28. All the



The Arrowtown Fire Brigade in 1899 or 1900. (LDM EP0093) The maker of the hose-reel, William Murphy, a blacksmith and wheelwright, is on the right. Third from the left is John Oldfield. When he died in 1901 aged only 26 his coffin was transported to the cemetery on the back of the hose-reel, draped in black (LWM 29 March 1901). This reel continued to be used until 1957.

others were in their thirties including the Mayor, apart from Fred Edwards who was in his seventies.

At the next meeting when the minutes were read there was no mention of my motion, so for the second time in a month I locked horns with Mrs Ritchie, but was appeased by the Mayor who said that the purchase of the hoses would be in the estimates.

Later I came not only to respect Mrs Ritchie but to like her. She was a tireless worker for Arrowtown and did countless hours without any great financial reward.



The vintage hose reel is now in retirement in the Museum.

Taylor was born in 1933 and brought up in Arrowtown. In 1956 he was elected to the Borough Council and served two terms until 1962. He was again a councillor from 1980 until 1989 when the Borough was amalgamated into the Queenstown-Lakes District Council. From 1983-9 he was Arrowtown's Deputy Mayor and Jack Reid was the Mayor. Taylor then represented Arrowtown on the Queenstown-Lakes District Council 1989-98.

He has also been a member of the Lakes District Museum Board for 28 years so far, including being chairperson until he stepped down from that role in September this year.

In 2012 he received a QLDC citation for a lifetime of community service and dedication to heritage, and was also made a life member of the Arrowtown Village Association. The honour which most pleases him is the naming of Reed Park, between Adamson Drive and Cotter Avenue, after both his father John and Taylor himself.

Historical cuttings: Hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*

“Ne’er cast a clout till May be out.”

This being the fifth of occasional notes from **Rita L. Teele** (enthusiastic but amateur botanist) with help from **Anne Maguire**.



White hawthorn blossom

The snowy white blossom of hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*, is a herald of spring in both the northern and southern hemispheres. The old English saying, ‘Ne’er cast a clout till May be out’ translates as ‘Do not take off your winter clothes until hawthorn (the may flower) is in bloom.’ The adage loses its rhythm when November is substituted for May! As an aside, ‘Here we go gathering nuts in May’ was likely a transformation from ‘knots of may’, i.e. knots of hawthorn blossom.

Some hawthorn hedges and trees in the district are more than a century old. The best known hawthorn hedge in the Wakatipu basin is along Domain, Speargrass Flat, and Lower Shotover Roads and is listed as a protected feature on the Council’s District Plan. There are many other hawthorn hedges in the district; early settlers from Scotland, England and Ireland were likely their creators. A Government regulation introduced in New Zealand in the early 1850s required that Crown land leased to smallholders should be fenced with gorse or hawthorn. [1] A newspaper article from 1873 described the poplars that Mr Hallenstein had planted along two miles of road but there is no mention of the hawthorn hedge that surrounds the trees. Hedges may well have been considered so common that they didn’t need mentioning.



Hawthorn hedge along Speargrass Flat Road in springtime.

A hedge typically refers to shrubs or small trees planted in a row to mark a border, or ‘green fence’. In contrast, the hedgerows of the British Isles were and are far more complicated in their creation. Shrubs and trees, planted along a boundary must be allowed to grow to three metres in height. In late autumn or early

winter the hedger partially cuts the stem of the trees or bushes at an angle just above

ground level. The art is in knowing how much to cut through the stem. Life must be maintained above the cut but flexibility is needed to bend the trunk 35 to 60 degrees without it breaking. (The top part of the trunk cannot be laid completely horizontal as sap will not run.) The branches are then intertwined through vertical stakes and other tree/shrub trunks along the line of the hedge to form a barricade. Finally the angled trunk stump is cut horizontal to the ground to promote new vertical growth. Hawthorn was and is a favourite of hedgers because it grows quickly, thereby earning its name of quickthorn. It is covered in glorious blossom in springtime, has thorns that are a deterrent to wandering stock, and produces haws in autumn that are tasty for birds.



Thorn and bark of hawthorn tree



Close-up view of haws in autumn

It seems that labour-intensive hedging as practised in Britain was not employed by pastoralists in New Zealand. By edict they initially favoured fast-growing, imported hawthorn and gorse, and then used #8 fencing wire for boundaries on their farms.

Hawthorn does not produce only white blossom with pink stamens; it can be garbed in brilliant scarlet. Near Arrowtown, a row of scarlet hawthorn borders the Lake Hayes Road on the Millbrook side. 'Paul's Scarlet' arose as a branch sport *circa* 1858. It was brought into the trade in 1866 by William Paul of England.

The 'haw' in hawthorn is derived from the Old English word for hedge. The thorns remind us of hawthorn's membership in the rose family (Rosaceae). The botanical name of *Crataegus monogyna*, the most common hawthorn in the district, is derived from the Greek word, *krátos*, meaning strength, and refers to the hardness of the wood. *Monogyna* refers to single seed. Hawthorn can be a shrub or a tree. A tree usually has a single trunk as opposed to several, but this is not a hard and fast rule. It is height that seems to trump other characteristics, with a tree being a woody plant that is more than



Scarlet hawthorn blossom

four metres in height. By this definition, many of the hawthorn in hedges here have grown into trees. Hawthorn can live for centuries, is believed to protect against the mischief of fairy folk, and is known to be excellent firewood.

The preservation of hedges of *Crataegus monogyna* is truly a thorny dilemma. The hawthorn hedge near Thurlby Domain is listed in the District Plan, but hawthorn is included on the list of noxious weeds from 1950 and is the subject of current concerns regarding its invasiveness. [2] Blackbirds that feast on haws are the major vector by which the seeds are spread. In addition, hawthorn can harbour the bacterial disease called fireblight, and is therefore a potential threat to orchards. But a warning to those who would cut down the hawthorn: since ancient times, it has been called the ‘faerie bush’ and bad luck befalls those who destroy the faeries’ domain! [3]

[1] <http://environmentalhistory-au-nz.org/2014/03/valuable-ally-or-invading-army-the-ambivalence-of-gorse-in-new-zealand-1835-1900/>

[2] Kean J.M. Potential distribution of hawthorn in New Zealand. *New Zealand Plant Protection* (2009) 62:387-392.

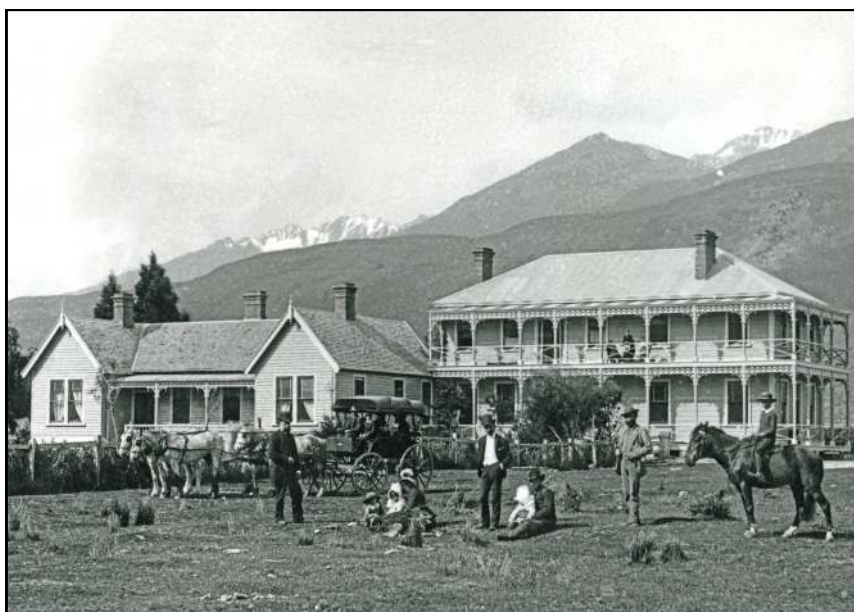
[3] Breverton T. Breverton’s *Complete Herbal: A book of remarkable plants*. Quercus, 2011.

BACKGROUND TO THE 2016 CALENDAR

January to June: From Talks Given at the Launch

January: Mount Earnslaw Hotel

By Pat Paulin



Mount Earnslaw Hotel, Glenorchy, 1890s (EL1220)

Joseph Karley Birley, the first owner of the Mt Earnslaw Hotel, had been a gold-miner in a moderately successful way and appears to have moved into the surveyed township of Glenorchy in 1870-71 when he was described as a storekeeper. His wife is reputed to have been the first European woman to settle at the Head of the Lake.

The single-storey portion of Birley's Mt Earnslaw Hotel was built in 1880 to the design of F.W. Burwell of

Invercargill. (See article about him earlier in this magazine.) In 1885 the two-storey section was added at the cost of about £1000. I imagine that all the timber used would have come from across the lake at Kinloch.

Joseph Birley and his son Harry occupied the hotel until 1907. During this era Harry was a highly regarded mountain guide, and on 16 March 1890 he was the first person to reach the summit of Mt Earnslaw.

The Birleys were followed as owners by Alfred Groves of Dunedin, 1907-11. Next from 1911 to 1914 was William Holland who came from the Antrim Arms Hotel at Frankton. Among subsequent owners was my father, George Paulin, in 1920. After him there was a steady stream of owners with the longest stayers being first James then Stan Knowles between 1922 and 1943. The last was Joe Hussey in 1959 but the building was destroyed by fire on 4 July that year.

Going back to 1920 when my father owned the hotel, my eldest sister Florence wrote: *When I was seven years old I spent a year at St Joseph's Convent in Queenstown. Dad decided that the hotel was no place to bring up a girl. I had my bouts of homesickness as most children do. I was the smallest child boarding at the convent and we all slept in one big dormitory. I was the first child to go down with the measles and the first to be vaccinated against smallpox. Dr Anderson, whom we all knew well, said, "Come on, Florence, I'll do you first."*

While I was still at primary school in Glenorchy most of the teachers boarded at the hotel. I can still picture Jack Fraser, my favourite teacher during the early 1940s, going down to the pub for his lunch and leaving us to fend for ourselves. I well remember plodding down to the pub to visit the School Dental Nurse. No, we didn't get painkiller from the bar! Remember the old pedal-driven driller?

During the winter term we 'country' pupils used to go to the hotel for our midday lunch. They were great meals too. We had the same food as the tourists, but they ate in the dining-room while we were in the kitchen. On Mondays it was always very tasty too as on Sunday Stan Knowles, the publican, could be seen coming down off the mountains leading his horses laden with goat carcasses. Prime Canterbury Lamb, he called it!

This story as told by Janet Smith, neé Cook, in her book *Footprints of the Cook Family, Pioneering Sawmillers*, intrigues me: *My brother Charlie thought the Beansburn would be a good place to run some cattle. He got about 30 in-calf heifers and turned them loose up there. When the calves were about two years old he held a big round-up and took the calves to Glenorchy where a stock agent bought them to take to the Lorneville Sale in Invercargill. Charlie received a good cheque for them, over £100, so he was very pleased with himself. That night, with all that money, he was celebrating at the hotel. After shouting for all his friends, he became a bit careless with his money and the outcome was that he had very little left. He was worried as he couldn't tell Mum and Dad because they would know he had been drinking. The next Saturday he was in Glenorchy playing rugby and after the match went to the hotel with the team. Mr Knowles the proprietor called Charlie into his office and gave him a severe talking-to, then gave him about £90 back. When Charlie had been leaving money on the bar, Mr Knowles had been putting it away for him. A very lucky fellow, I would say, and a very caring publican!*

So we'll leave this story, on a warm summer's day with two old characters sitting on the front steps of the pub, Herbie von Tunzelman and Arawata Bill, listening to the clunk of the billiard balls inside as Clark McConachy, World Champion, finely tunes his skills!

Sources besides memory:

Head of Lake Wakatipu Schools Centennial 1884-1985

Footprints of the Cook Family, Pioneering Sawmillers by Janet Smith

February: Thurlby Domain

by Vicki Buckham

Homestead

Bendix Hallenstein and his wife Mary (née Mountain and after whose home farm in England Thurlby was named) had Thurlby Domain mansion built in 1872 with F.W. Burwell being their architect. They lived here only until



*Thurlby Domain, Speargrass Flat, about 1873
(Courtesy of Vicki and Revell Buckham)*

1875, just over a year after the homestead and farm buildings were completed.



As well as the buildings on site, the gardens established were impressive. A visitor to Thurlby described the setting (*Lakes Wakatip Mail*, 16 April 1873): ‘The fruit and kitchen garden is at the rear of the mansion.... The cultivated flower garden, shrubbery, and lawn in the front one, [reflects] great credit on Mr Reckie the gardener. The sides of the terrace, and a nice plateau upon which is situated a summer house, are also planted with fruit trees, shrubs and other ornamental trees.... Two miles of road have been planted by Mr Hallenstein with poplar trees.’

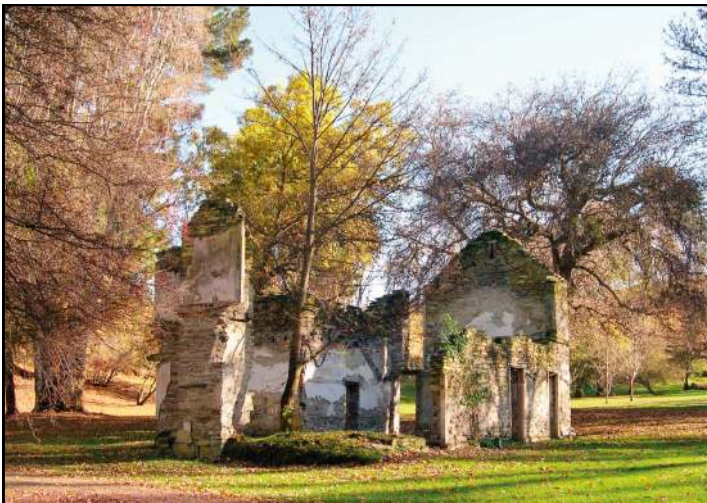
Under Herman Arndt’s proprietorship (he had purchased an interest in the estate, but managed it until he died in December 1882), Richard Crowley was employed as gardener. He had been a gardener at Crystal Palace, London and was an expert in topiary art, and ‘under his skilful shears, the shrubs took on new and startling shapes – animals, peacocks and other decorative birds.’ (Miller p.130) In 1882 the farm was leased to a Colonel Morris, a retired Indian Army officer who, according to some reports, had a retinue of Indian servants. Col. Morris’s farming skills were limited, but the gardens provided the makings for jams which the family sold around the district to provide an income. (Information from Alan Graham, great-great-grandson of the Colonel) In fact, Col. Morris won two first-prizes at the Melbourne exhibition for his jam, and his products were of such superior quality that a jealous neighbour accused him of putting turnips in his plum jam. (ODT 2.10.97)

In 1890 Thurlby was offered for sale and was purchased by John Allan and the farm came into its own again. However, he could not support the employ of gardeners, so the upkeep of the garden was abandoned. The homestead was kept in good repair until his death in 1916. It slowly fell into decline, spoutings were neglected and allowed to leak water down the balcony, and the woodwork never saw paint again. The joists twisted open and starlings nested in the eaves. (Miller p.131)

Following the receiver's sale in 1935 there were two subsequent owners, J. K. Toll and Thomas Patton, before Charles R. Gordon (Ron) purchased Thurlby in 1943. The homestead was in poor condition. Although sturdily built of stone, it lacked adequate foundations. The lintels were also too light for the heavy stone load. Vandalism and weathering, especially once the corrugated iron roof had been removed, meant the building was beyond repair. (*Mountain Scene* July 2005)

In the mid-1960s stone from the walls of the homestead and the roofing iron were given to the then Packer's Arms (now Gantleys) which was being restored. In 1977 Gordon demolished two of the remaining walls for safety's sake. Some of the material was used to build a smaller home nearby. (*Southland Times* 8 March 1986)

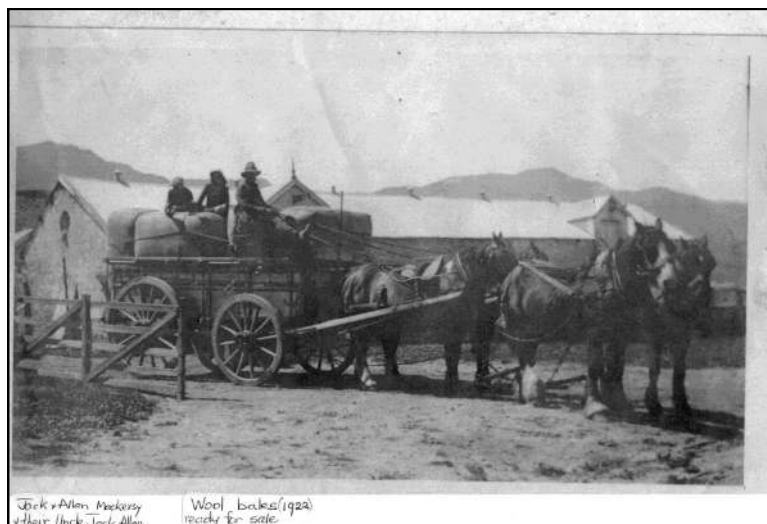
Thurlby Domain was purchased by the Buckham family in 1991 from Keith Young, an Australian who had owned it for seven years and had converted it into a deer farm. Slowly work has been



Thurlby now. Photo: Marion Borrell

carried out to keep the ruined homestead from deteriorating any further by capping the tops of the walls, rebuilding various precarious elements and generally stabilising what remains of a once magnificent mansion. It could only be described now as a romantic ruin.

Stables



The original photo, left, taken in 1922 was given to us by a descendant of the Allan family and shows the original form of the stables. This building runs parallel with Speargrass Flat Road and is attached to a cow byre by a Norman arch – the cow byre sits at a right angle to the stables. The photo was of great interest to us as we hadn't realised the stables once had dormer windows, complete with catsheads.

These are an architectural feature found on agricultural buildings and are a small extension protruding from the gable end of a larger roof. It exists to protect ropes and pulleys associated with lifting equipment from ice and the corrosion and rot caused by rain. We also didn't know about the air vents in the roof. It was a delight to see the draught horses and cart with the bales of wool – a working farm.

The stable which housed 18 horses was burnt out some 85 years ago.



When we purchased the property in 1991 the stable had a huge hole in the side which had been bulldozed out to allow a tractor to get hay bales in and out. There was also a ramp built into the wall to move stock onto stock trucks – built in stone, but not in keeping with the original stone work.



The rebuilding was carried out in 2003 by Keith Hinds, the stonemason from St Bathans. He restored the wall with slatted windows and re-instated the dormer windows. The air vents in the roof and the finials have yet to be replaced. See the recent photo on page 6.

Stone Cottage

It is thought that the stone cottage was originally the cookhouse as the size of the chimney would indicate it took a No. 1 Shacklock coal range. It was later converted to a smithy where the original bellows were still in situ. The 1992 photo shows the cottage as it was when we bought the property – with the east end completely gone. Robert (Bob) O'Connor restored the wall and repaired the roof in 2000 and the final photo is as the cottage stands today.



March: Musterers on Mt Pisa Station about 1880

The Central Otago poet, 'Blue Jeans', has written a poem about old-time mustering which points out a few differences between Then and Now. This is an excerpt.

They Way They Were Before

*They've helicopters now I hear to drop them on their beat,
Where once we'd climb to God knows where on 'hard-as-leather' feet.
With sinews, hearts and muscles strong we'd storm the peaks aloft.
I wonder – though I hope I'm wrong – are hillmen going soft?*

*In camps along the bulldozed tracks they sleep on feather beds,
Pyjamas in their bloody packs and pillows for their heads.
The earthen floor was mighty hard when we mustered hill sheep,
But when the mob was in the yard we slept the perfect sleep.*

*They've women cooking in the huts now on the mountain runs,
With gravy served on savoury cuts before the cakes and buns.
Where we ate stew, and stew, and stew, dished up without a grin
By some old dead-beat scowling through the whiskers on his chin.*



Mount Pisa Station was established in 1859 and extended from above Cromwell along the Pisa Range towards Wanaka. This photo shows musterers at their camp at the end of a track. We note the watch-chains and waist-coats - not what we think of as high-country clothing. The photo has some names on the back, and from that we know that one of three musterers on the right is John Ironside, who was the great-grandfather of Frankton resident, Henry Barker. John Ironside was a musterer in the Wanaka area from 1871 to 1882. He then set up a butchers shop in Wanaka. Henry himself lived at Ben Lomond Station from 1950 and wrote a book about his youth and many years there. He passed away recently.

Bill McDonald's Reminiscences: Mustering on Ben Lomond Station as a Lad

That poem says it about right.

My family owned Ben Lomond and I started when I was about 10 taking the packhorses out to the huts. This was during World War 2. Ben Lomond then had four huts – Moke Lake, Stewarts, Schoolhouse and Deep Creek. We used to employ five or six men and the muster took eight days.

We did two days from the house and my mother used to get up about 2am to light the coal range. The musterers wanted porridge and chops and eggs. Then she'd help them make the lunch. We couldn't afford a truck but we had our car. They'd pack as many dogs as they could into the back seat and the boot. My mother wasn't very keen having the dogs breathing down her neck. She'd take them out to the bottom of the Ben Lomond track one day and the Moonlight track the other. I think she was quite busy because she'd then go back home and get us ready for school, and milk the cow, and feed the pig and the hens. Women in those days did do quite a bit.

When I was first packing, my mother made meals that I could just heat up – plum duffs and all sorts. One time on a very hot day Dad had told me to make a jelly, so I took it down to the creek and put it under a tussock to set. When I went down later to get it there was yellow stuff on top of the green jelly. A damned dog had peed on it. So I just gave it a rinse. It turned out all right, but I made sure I didn't have any.

Another time when we were getting the gear packed at home and onto the horses my father said to my mother, 'My watch is broken. Can I borrow your watch?' She said, 'No, I'm blessed sure you can't. It's a good watch.' He said, 'Right-oh,' then he went to the lounge, took the clock off the mantelpiece and plonked it in with the bread and butter and so on, and we got it onto the horse. But every time the horse moved, the clock chimed. This got on my mother's nerves and she said, 'Here, you can have the blessed watch.' So we had to unpack the horse and put the clock back where it belonged.

There was one strange experience my brother had when he was 12. He was taking horses out to the Moonlight near where the lodge is now. It was a very narrow track and the horse was getting close in to the bank. There were beech trees there and some branches got stuck in the pack-saddle and the load. The horse more or less got hung up on the tree. The horse was trying to move, of course, and the track was slipping away. My brother was upset and he started crying. Luckily Bill Dagg was mustering close by and came to the rescue. Afterwards he used to talk about the crying packer. But I think even a grown man would have been a bit upset.

During the war the mustering was done mainly by neighbours. We all worked in together. There were lots of stories told, and some of them weren't meant for kids like me. I felt quite important going out with the men.

Mustering stayed the same until about 1950 when the wool prices went up and people could make better tracks and handle the country a lot better.

April: Arrowtown Brass Bands

By Peter Doyle, member of the Arrow Miners Band

THEN: In the years following the Gold Rush, Arrowtown became a thriving community, and many events and functions were held locally for the enjoyment of the locals and visitors to the area. Many local people learnt to play a variety of musical instruments and, along with visiting musicians and entertainers, music was a popular attraction.

It had been noted that in the early 1870s Queenstown had formed its own Brass Band and, as it was a matter of civic pride, the Arrowtown community rallied to a number of fund-raising events in aid of establishing its own band.



Arrow Brass Band 1890 (LDM EP0317)

So it was that in March 1882 a concert was held in Arrowtown – which is the earliest mention found – with the express purpose of raising the funds needed to set up the band.

It took some time to get things going but the *Lake Wakatip Mail* reported on 27 July 1883:

I am happy to state that the formation of an Arrow Volunteer Brass Band is likely soon to be an accomplished fact. At a public meeting held last night in the Library Hall, it was unanimously decided to organise a Brass Band, and a committee was appointed to communicate with persons competent and willing to undertake the duties of instructor, and to report the result to a meeting on the 7th of August. ...One speaker informed the meeting that three gentlemen had told him that they were prepared to give £20 towards it if it was once fairly started. Strangers visiting the place frequently expressed surprise when informed we had no Band. ... I have no doubt every effort will be made to have a Band that will prove to be a credit and an acquisition to the place.

Again on 17 August 1883:

A numerous-attended public meeting was held in the Athenaeum Hall on the evening of the 8th August 1883, to receive the report of the committee appointed at a former meeting to arrange the preliminary details in connection with the formation of a Brass Band. The report stated that the committee had been successful in securing

the services of a highly recommended Bandmaster, and that they had made the necessary arrangements for procuring twelve instruments immediately. I understand that the Bandmaster intends to give private lessons three times a week so that people who are fortunate enough to possess musical bumps will have an opportunity afforded them of getting them developed.

Enough capital was generated to order and purchase instruments in September, and on 14 December the newspaper reported:

The concert performed by the Arrow Volunteer Brass Band, which took place in the Athenaeum Hall on Friday evening last, was, upon the whole, one of the best entertainments held here for a long time.

About half-an-hour before its commencement, the Band 'fell in' at the Drill shed and marched along Buckingham Street, accompanied by an admiring and appreciative crowd of old and young, who were loud in their praises and expressions of surprise at the proficiency attained in so short a time.

It will, no doubt, be known to the major portion of your readers that only a few months have elapsed since this Band was first organised. On referring to a September issue of your paper, I see it there intimated that 'the instruments for the recently-formed Band arrived on Tuesday last.' Considering, therefore, the very short time the Band has been in existence, coupled with the fact that not more than two of its members, so far as I know, have ever before been connected with a similar organisation, the progress made by them reflects credit upon their Bandmaster as well as upon themselves individually.

I have not been able to ascertain the amount of the proceeds, but judging from the crowded state of the hall—especially the front part—I should think it could not be far short of £30, which must be considered very satisfactory, seeing that Friday night is about the most unsuitable on which to get many people together.

The Arrow Brass Band went from strength to strength performing at many events, such as hospital bazaars, Arrowtown Jockey Club races, the opening day of the bowling season, in Buckingham Street on Christmas Eve, and at the Boxing Day athletic sports meeting. Its concerts and dances were always well-attended.

Some members of the community preferred the local talent to the visiting musicians and entertainment that came to Arrowtown from out of town (LWM 19 July 1889):

An entertainment for the benefit of the local Brass Band was given by the 'Arrow Beetles' in the Library Hall, Arrowtown, on Saturday night last. There was a wonderfully good attendance, notwithstanding the prevailing severity of the weather, and the undertaking proved success in every way. The liberal support given by the public to the affair proved indication that people are becoming more alive to the wisdom of encouraging well-conducted entertainments undertaken by local talent—especially when they are got up to help a deserving cause like this one, instead of patronising what are little short of strolling vagabonds, whose sole aim is to 'collar' from the verdant 'natives' all the coin they can, and then merrily skip away, leaving the community so much the poorer.

Apparently the band died for a while in the 1890s due to lack of members, however it was resuscitated in December 1898 and played on (LWM 28 December 1898):

On Christmas Eve, the Arrow Brass Band gave a good selection of music in front of the Athenaeum building, which was listened to by a large number of persons, the verdict being that the band was a boon to the town and reflected great credit on the instructor and members. The Arrow Athletic Club's sports were partially spoiled by the morning of Boxing Day being very wet, but the weather clearing about mid-day, a start was made. Some 300 or 400 people visited the ground. The Arrow Brass Band enlivened proceedings by discoursing sweet music during the day.

From 1900 the band played at numerous events including the departure of three Arrowtown men to the Boer War, at the Arrow Races in 1902 and at opening of 1910 bowling season.

It appears that, due to lack of members, the band went into recess with the advent of World War 1 and there are no details of the band reforming again.

NOW: The Arrowtown community established its annual Autumn Festival in 1985. The

Arrow Miners Band was formed the previous year by Ray Currie and Ross Martin to add colour to the event. It was initially called the Arrow Bush Creek Miners Festival Band but was later shortened to the Arrow Miners Band. There have been 34 musicians in the band over the years and it has performed with enthusiasm and



Arrow Miners Band (Jo Boyd)

skill ever since at many of the festival events such as the market day and street parade, the Autumn Festival ball, and street entertainments.

The band has performed at the famous Hokitika Wild Food Festival and, with the 150th Celebrations since the Gold Rush being commemorated throughout Central Otago over the past few years, the band has been busy playing at many provincial towns. Also at the TSS Earnslaw's 100th Anniversary Celebrations.

In 1995 Noel and Alma Stevenson donated their truck, a 1948 Austin named Old Red. Alma later wrote a popular children's book about the truck. The truck has been lovingly restored and a new deck fitted to give the band more room. The band has done busking on many occasions on the streets on Oamaru, Arrowtown and Queenstown, giving the proceeds to help paint the Arrowtown Post Office, assist the Mini Belles for costumes and for funds to help restore the old truck.

So music has played a huge part in entertaining the people of Arrowtown from the 1880s to today with the Arrow Miners Band being 30 years old and still having a couple of its original members, Barry Bain and Joe Guise. And long may it continue.

May: Skyline Chalet 1964

By Jon Dumble



Before the Skyline chalet and cableway were built, there had been proposals to construct cableways up Queenstown Hill, but these did not eventuate. It was Ian Hamilton who had the idea for one up Bob's Peak. Ian was the son of the long-time Lake Country councillor, J.B. Hamilton, and the brother of Alan who is still farming at Arrow Junction and has written very interesting books on his memories of growing up in the district. Ian employed Darryl McGregor, a local contractor, to bulldoze a road up to the prominent vantage-point. After that Ian would sometimes take a sound-system up there, watch the residents below through binoculars, and comment loudly for all to hear.

Ian Hamilton and his wife Joan owned a small bus company taking trips to Milford Sound, to Haast once the road was opened, and Glenorchy when that road was made. But before that, the possibilities were limited. The main local trip was to Skippers, and a shorter one was to the Thompson family's strawberry gardens in what is now Fernhill. The road up Bob's Peak was a welcome addition. In the current Skyline building to the left of the stairs there's a plaque honouring Ian Hamilton as the founder of the Skyline company.

The road up Bob's Peak had eleven hairpin bends – I know as I was at first employed as a bus driver. In order to improve the road, Ian set up a company, Skyline Tours Ltd, in partnership with Hilton Hensman, the owner and builder of the Bottle House at Mountain View Lodge on Frankton Road, who had a bulldozer. Before Ian's death, I bought his share in the company. I had three small buses and was driving up there incessantly.

In 1964 we built the chalet shown in the photo. As you'll know, every media company that publicises Queenstown uses that view. When the Government Tourist and Publicity Department had important overseas visitors coming here, they'd be referred to me: 'Show them the view!' I took 7000 trips in those early days. My sister drove a bus too and my mother cooked at the chalet. I have a menu showing that a fillet steak dinner cost 10 shillings and 6 pence.



Jon at work on the chalet (LDM EL0180-4)

The publicity the chalet received created so much

business that we realised that small buses weren't going to be adequate. The maintenance on the vehicles was tremendous, and likewise on the road, which I did myself. So in 1966 the proposition was made to build a gondola. The company had to be enlarged in order to raise the necessary capital, so Skyline Tours became Skyline Enterprises Ltd as it still is today. Some of the people who participated then are still shareholders. Eric Williams who surveyed the route for the cableway was a shareholder.

There were many early difficulties to be overcome. The tenure of the land was complicated as it was commonage, which was rather rare in New Zealand: it was owned by the government but administered by the Queenstown Borough Council, so we had to negotiate with them both. Also part of the land was cemetery reserve which was even more complicated. Probably these days it would be impossible to get consent under the Resource Management Act. Initially the Borough Council wanted to receive sixpence a head off the top of the price, and a lot of haggling was needed before they saw the light and reduced their demands. But in the end the project could go ahead.

The Meehan brothers, Martin and Tony, from Alexandra who were bridge-builders, took on the job of installing the cableway, and I helped with building the towers. The contract to supply the cableway went to Pomagalski of France. However, because of NZ's balance of payments problems, we were permitted to import only one gondola instead of six. C.W. Hamilton of Christchurch set up a production line to make the rest, which was an extremely expensive undertaking. These challenges were eventually overcome and the gondola was opened. It was one of the steepest cableways in the world and the first in the Southern Hemisphere.

From the outset we had problems with maintenance because the rubber sheaths on the towers were wearing out extremely fast. This maintenance could only be done early in the morning or late at night when the cableway was closed. Eventually we realised that the reason was that the counterweight that tensioned the cable was too heavy. The Pomagalski company was of course very reluctant to accept that this was a design fault, so it took a long time to have it rectified by reducing the weight. In 1987 it was apparent

that the cableway was not going to cope with increased demand, and the company contracted the Austrian firm, Doppelmayr, to replace it. This has more towers than the original and a much greater capacity.

When the company was formed we estimated the likely annual patronage at 25,000 passengers based on how many people were going up by bus and what we thought the tourist influx to Queenstown would be. However, actual patronage in the first year was 59,000. Now it is over 600,000. Skyline Enterprises Ltd has expanded, with a gondola in Rotorua, casinos owned or part-owned in Queenstown, Dunedin and Christchurch. It has operations in Canada, Singapore, South Korea and Japan.

Such remarkable developments from a bulldozed road up a hill and a modest chalet.

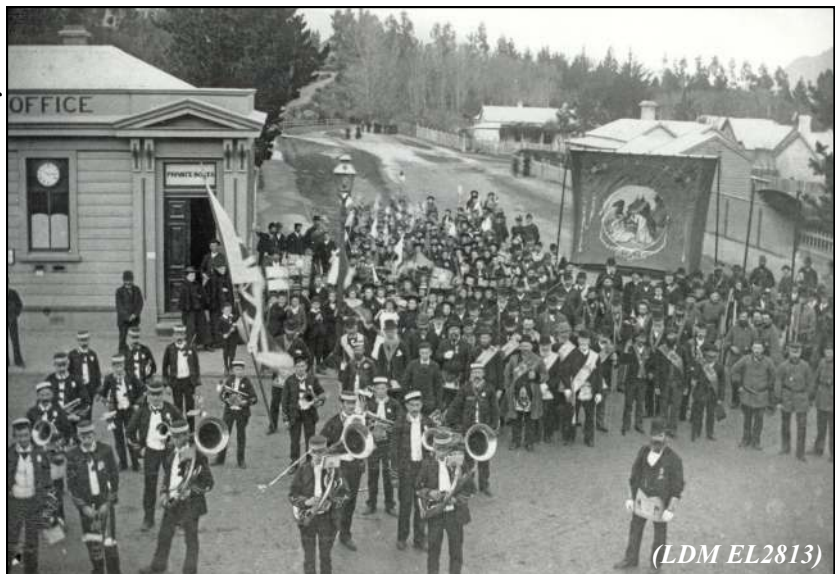
If you want any more information, read *Skyline: a New Zealand tourism success story* by Jim Sullivan (whom you'll know from National Radio), published by Skyline Enterprises in 2005, which has many historical photos and discussion of tourism in general. The Queenstown library has a copy.

June: Queenstown Procession

Marking the 60th Jubilee of the Reign of Queen Victoria

By Gavin Jack

‘Ladies and Gentlemen, we are assembled this day to celebrate the Record Reign of Her Majesty the Empress Queen Victoria, and to testify our loyalty to our Sovereign Lady whose long and glorious reign has placed England on the pinnacle of her greatness. Millions of her Majesty’s subjects this day will join with me and call GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.’



So spoke His Worship the Mayor of Queenstown, Francis St Omer, when addressing the crowd that would shortly process through the town in honour of the 60th anniversary of the reign of Queen Victoria.

In 1860, OUR TOWN was named QUEENSTOWN, in honour of Queen Victoria who, by then, had been on the throne for only 23 years. Some 37 years later, on 20 June 1897 the British Empire was celebrating the 60 year reign of its longest ever reigning monarch.

Five days later, in its 25 June edition, the *Lake Wakatip Mail* was reporting a procession of some 900 people in honour of the occasion. The account of this event gives us quite an insight into the life and times in Queenstown at the end of the 19th century.

The universal affection for Queen Victoria was further echoed by the Rev. Robert Blair who then addressed the crowd. He began with words which some might feel could be the mandatory opening sentence of many a sermon: ‘.... I know you are anxious for something more substantial than speeches, so I shall not detain you long’! Whereupon he began.....

‘It is regarding our Queen, the good Queen Victoria, that you have requested me to say a few words; and one pleasing feature about the subject is that there is no need to stretch the truth in order to say agreeable things. We have the comfortable feeling that our Queen is thoroughly worthy of the honour we are conferring upon her. When a mere child, she expressed the earnest desire to be good, and that desire has been realised – it is the goodness of our Queen which makes her so much respected and loved.’

And then he said a very curious thing: ‘Even some of the African tribes who only know of her through hearsay, display the deepest grief if they are told that Queen Victoria is dead....’ One wonders why on earth they would have been told that.

Anyway, Rev. Blair continued to praise the Queen as a noble woman, a noble mother and a noble ruler, who possessed a fine sympathy for her subjects. He concluded, ‘When we compare her Court with that of her predecessors we are pleased to find its great advance in purity – it has been stainless and we may well feel thankful that such a virtuous ruler reigns over us. As Queen of England she is recognised as the highest earthly authority in the Church of England. Her character is excellent, her influence is on the side of good, and I trust the boys and girls will all seek to treasure her words, “I will be good,” as the motto of their lives.’ (To which we might all say, Amen.)

Then Doctor James Douglas addressed the gathering: ‘I have very much pleasure in presenting Captain Wing, as chairman of trustees of the Wakatipu Hospital, with this flag, a flagstaff and appliances for hoisting it at the hospital on these and future memorable days.’ (In our present flag-conscious days, it would be very interesting to know which flag it was that he had presented.)

So, such was the warmth of feeling for Queen Victoria that it’s little wonder an estimated crowd of more than 900 gathered to process through the streets of Queenstown in her honour. It was, as we might say, **A Right Royal Occasion**.

And just as a final aside: On the 10th of September 2015 present Queen Elizabeth overtook Queen Victoria as the longest serving British monarch, having by then ruled for 63 years, 7 months and 3 days.

Source: *Lake Wakatip Mail* 25 June 1897 accessed from Papers Past

SOCIETY NEWS

Celebration of 50 Years of Action by the Queenstown and District Historical Society

In 1965 a group of local citizens commenced a campaign to prevent the Queenstown Borough Council from demolishing the old stone library on the corner of Ballarat and Stanley Streets. From this hard-fought campaign, the Queenstown and District Historical Society was formed.

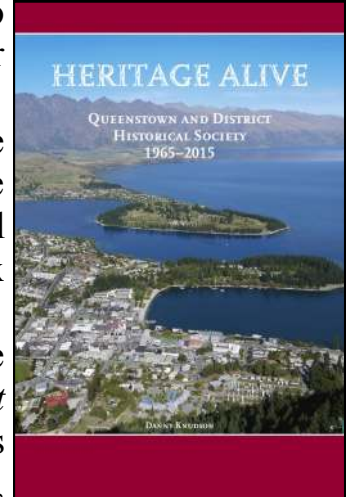
To celebrate the anniversary, over 60 members sailed to Walter Peak on the *TSS Earnslaw*, which was very appropriate the Society was also active in helping to save the ship from being scrapped or scuttled.

People who had given notable service to the Society were acknowledged with lapel badges. Those present are shown in the photos on the next page. Awards were made in *absentia* to Neil Clayton, Barbara Hamilton, Karen Boulay, Peter Mills, Rex Austin and Evelyn Geary.

Danny Knudson had researched and written a comprehensive history of the Society, *Heritage Alive – Queenstown and District Historical Society 1965-2015*, which every member has received. In launching it, the chairperson, Marion Borrell, described it as both inspiring and humbling. ‘There were times of great struggle when the preservation of significant historic buildings lay in the hands of a small group of volunteers armed only with pens, typewriters, voices and determination. We and our district are greatly indebted to these past members.’

In looking to the future, Marion, observed, ‘With the ever-increasing pressure of development in our district, there is the risk of losing historic buildings and trees. The “protection” part of our role will require vigilance.’

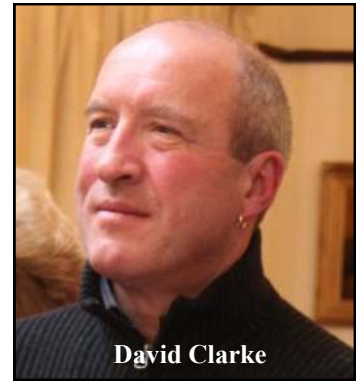
Photographs: Thanks to Brian Marquand



THE BADGE RECIPIENTS



Geoff Bradley



David Clarke



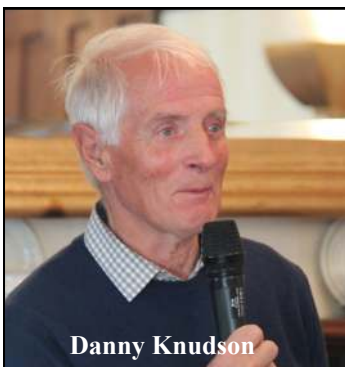
Ray Clarkson



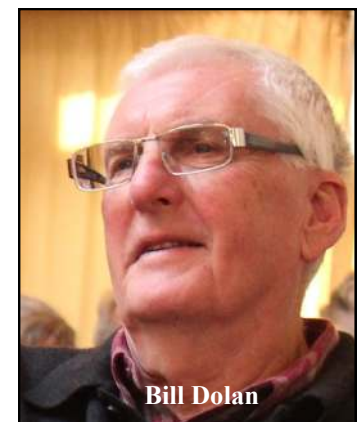
Joan and Alan Cooke, founding members, cutting the anniversary cake.



Jocelyn Robertson



Danny Knudson



Bill Dolan



Marion Borrell and Rupert Iles



Malcolm Boote and Brian Bayley



Anthony Mason with App.



Marion Marquand, Pauline Ponton, Janet Taylor



Left and below, the dining room at lunch



Left, Kay Greenslade, Ros Grant, Joan Allan

Queenstown and District Historical Society

Chairperson's Report for the Annual General Meeting, November 2015

By Marion Borrell

This has been the 'Year of the 50th Anniversary' – see report on previous pages. Our usual activities have also continued, carrying out the objectives of our Constitution.

Our financial position is healthy, which enabled us to give each member a copy of *Heritage Alive*, and to support other activities and causes. There are several projects and funding offers which have not yet come to fruition. We thank Gavin Jack for his wise and meticulous management of our finances.

Our membership numbers remain almost steady at about 200 memberships or 270 individuals. We thank all members for their continued support and encouragement. A Special General Meeting in April agreed that Dr Neil Clayton, who was a president from 1975-1980 and committee member until 1984, should be made an Honorary Life Member.

Heritage Protection

Brian Bayley monitors Resource Consent Applications and the like. Some matters on which we have submitted in the past are reaching satisfactory outcomes. We submitted to the District Plan Review regarding Protected Features: the Kawarau Falls homestead site, buildings at Hanley Downs, the Kingston Flyer, and a stone building near the road to Kingston.

Publications

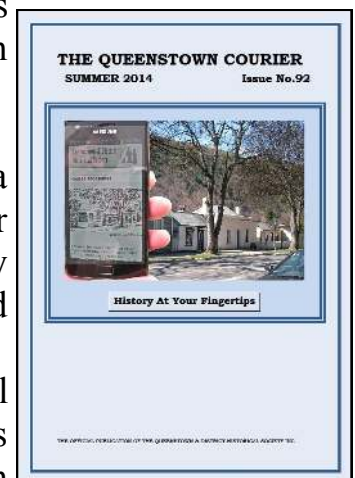
Heritage Alive – Queenstown and District Historical Society 1965-2015

Danny Knudson undertook this major project of research and writing, accomplished under pressure but with great care between last December and early March. As well as going through all the documents, Danny contacted as many past presidents as possible, and assembled everything into the comprehensive, well-illustrated tribute to the efforts of the Society in its first half-century. Print Central's design is classy. Enough copies were printed for current members with some extras for sale and for future members.

Queenstown Couriers

Issue 92 included researched articles by Elizabeth Hanan, Rita Teele and Denise Heckler, and talks about the 2015 calendar photos for January to June given by Marion Borrell, Danny Knudson, George Singleton, David Hay, Denise Heckler and Kirsty Sharpe.

Issue 93 consisted of the *Heritage Alive* book and a small magazine containing the talks about the July to December photos by Kevin Reynolds, Ralph Hanan, Alan Hamilton, Marion Borrell, Gavin Jack and Brian Bayley. Our thanks to all writers and presenters, to Michael Anderson for his careful design, and to Print Central for their helpfulness.



2015 Calendar: The ‘Then and Now’ calendars were much admired. Having a stall at Remarkables Market promoted both the Society and local heritage. We sold about 700 copies, which is less than the previous year as fewer people use calendars nowadays. The price remained at \$18. Our profit was \$5700, down from \$7000 the previous year.

2016 Calendar: The launch was attended by over 50 people who enjoyed the lively and informative talks. The Society has published calendars annually since 2009. With sales declining, we are unlikely to make any more in future. From now on our fundraising and promotion of local history will be through other means such as the smartphone app.

Smartphone App: Heritage Guide to 64 sites

The launch took place in November with members, dignitaries including the Mayor, and sponsors in attendance. We acknowledged funding from the Community Trust of Southland. We had expected to go live at that stage, but it was not to be, due to technical problems. Anthony Mason then rebuilt the software, and the android version became available to the public in March. Ongoing delays with registering the iOS version are proving very frustrating. Fortunately, 78% of smartphones in NZ are android, which means that many people can access the app. The QR stickers are being placed at the sites. We look forward to doing more promotion, and to seeing usage of the app increasing.

Skippers – Triumph and Tragedy: The decision to share the costs of editing, design and printing with the Museum and Danny himself has enabled his years of research and writing to come to fruition at last. This authoritative and fascinating book will be published soon, and we look forward to it eagerly.

Edith Cavell – a bridge and bravery by Danny Knudson, published in 2012, has been reprinted (100 copies) as the centenary of her execution has just occurred.

Macetown manuscript: Our collaboration with the Museum to publish a book on Macetown’s history written by Tony Veitch is on hold as the editor who volunteered to prepare the text for publication became too busy.

Community Involvement

- The Lakes District Museum is vital to us. Jocelyn Robertson continues to serve as our representative on the Board. We appreciate the access we have to the archives and the use of many photos from the extensive collection. We have provided a letter of support for the Museum in its applications for funding to investigate seismic strengthening.

- Arrowtown Autumn Festival : Our ‘People from Our Past’ presentations attracted about 120 visitors and members. Details are below.

- Wakatipu Heritage Trust is undertaking the restoration of the Arrowtown Gaol. Marion is a trustee. In April Denise Heckler and Danny helped at an open day entitled ‘Get into Gaol Free’. The Society has provided the Trust with letters of support for use when it applies for funding for its projects.

- Remarkables Primary School asked for someone to contribute to studies of early bridges, and Danny was the perfect person to have another day back in the classroom.

- Marion spoke at Dinner Club about the Postmaster’s Residence in Arrowtown.

- Restoration of Charles Eckhardt’s grave in the Arrowtown cemetery. This project is planned and will proceed thanks to Roger Grant’s expertise and assistance in kind.

- Paradise Trust: Our offer to help fund signage at the site of the homestead still stands.
- We have offered QLDC a contribution towards signage at the former Queenstown Library.

Communication with the Public

Website: The website has continued to be very busy, such that at the end of some months it becomes unavailable as our quota of data has been met. With this gratifying proof of its usefulness, we will increase our capacity.

Requests for Historical Information: We receive several requests each month, some from overseas, many being as a result of the website.

Activities for Members from August 2014 to May 2015

- Launch of the 2015 Calendar
- AGM, launch of the *Courier 92*, and guest speaker Dame Elizabeth Hanan about the article she wrote for the *Courier* regarding her house in McDonnell Rd, Arrowsmith
- Annual Picnic at Elizabeth and Murray Hanan's house
- Launch of the smartphone heritage guide
- 'Arrowsmith's Treasure-houses of Heritage': a guided tour of the Museum with David Clarke, and visit to Arrow Kilwinning Lodge with Taylor Reed
- Arrowsmith Autumn Festival: 'People From Our Past' presentations by Victoria Boulton as Hakitekura; Rosemary Marryatt as her great-grandmother Frances Rebecca Rees; Brian Bayley as Edward (Ned) Thompson written by his great-great-granddaughter Mary May; David Hay as Charles Low written by his great-great-granddaughter Shona Blair; Shona as Elizabeth (Stella) Poole written by her nephew David Hay; and Danny Knudson as Julien Bourdeau.
- 50th anniversary commemoration at Walter Peak Station



Shona Blair as Stella Poole wearing her medals
Photo: Rita Teele

Board

The Board consists of myself, Denise Heckler, Brian Bayley, Ralph Hanan, Gavin Jack, Danny Knudson, Jocelyn Robertson and Anthony Mason. Anthony had been attending meetings while constructing the app, and was formally co-opted. We appreciate his understanding of all things modern and technical and his passion for history.

The Board is very small for the amount we undertake, and we do feel stretched at times. Members who may be interested in joining us are welcome to attend meetings to see what a united and positive team we are.

In the year ahead the Society will continue to promote and develop the app while continuing with our usual activities, all designed to protect and share our heritage today – for tomorrow.

QUEENSTOWN & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2008 INC.

Statement of Receipts & Payments

for the year ended 30 September 2015

	<u>NOTES</u>	<u>30 SEPT 2015</u>	<u>30 SEPT 2014</u>
TOTAL OPENING BANK BALANCE		<u>32,215.50</u>	<u>26,684.46</u>
PLUS RECEIPTS			
Activities Receipts		3,107.00	50.50
Project Receipts	1.	4,588.50	16,280.00
Membership Subscriptions		4,250.00	4,245.00
Donations		570.00	750.00
Other		290.83	541.00
Interest Received		1,064.37	811.35
Calendar Sales	2.	9,662.30	12,065.00
Total Receipts		<u>23,533.00</u>	<u>34,742.85</u>
LESS PAYMENTS			
Activities Expenses		4,186.22	364.77
Project Grants & Expenses	3.	11,751.61	18,500.00
Subscriptions		125.00	250.00
Printing & Stationery		58.65	50.00
Postal Expenses		193.81	939.63
Courier Magazine		2,149.05	2,506.75
Meeting Expenses		371.00	233.80
Sundry Expenses		409.32	851.62
Calendar Expenses		5,536.45	5,486.24
Miscellaneous Equipment		-	29.00
Total Payments		<u>24,781.11</u>	<u>29,211.81</u>
TOTAL CLOSING BANK BALANCE		<u>\$ 30,967.39</u>	<u>\$ 32,215.50</u>

REPRESENTED BY:	Net			
	30-Sep-14	Interest	Principal	30-Sep-15
ASB Current Account	6,679.36	-	312.48	6,366.88
ASB Fast Saver Account	2,587.14	69.40	- 2,000.00	656.54
ASB Savings Plus Account	10,230.07	423.00		10,653.07
SBS Bank Term Deposit 7-1	6,382.33	292.08		6,674.41
SBS Bank Term Deposit 6-3	6,336.60	279.89		6,616.49
	<u>32,215.50</u>	<u>1,064.37</u>	<u>- 2,312.48</u>	<u>30,967.39</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

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- The Society is incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908.
- The Society is also registered as a charitable entity under the Charities Act 2005.
- This report is exclusively for the use of members of the Society.

GENERAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- The Society adopts a cash basis of accounting.
- There have been no changes in accounting policies.
- Accounting policies have been applied on a basis consistent with previous years.

PARTICULAR ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- The Society is not registered for Goods and Services Tax.
- As a registered charitable entity, the Society is exempt from Income Tax.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. Project Income

- Final Grant received from the Community Trust of Southland for the development of the Queenstown and District History app 4,000.00
- History App sponsorship 250.00
- Book sales 338.50

\$ 4,588.50

2. Calendar Sales

- 2015 Calendar 8,331.30
- 2016 Calendar 1,331.00

\$ 9,662.30

3. Project Grants & Expenses

Principal Grants paid by the Society during the financial year were:

- Further costs for the development of the History app 4,494.93
- Production of Heritage Alive book commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Society 7,256.68

\$ 11,751.61

In addition, commitments to the following projects have been made:

- To Queenstown Trails Trust for historical signage 2,000
- To Queenstown Lakes District Council for signage at the old Queenstown Library 2,000
- 50% contribution towards the printing costs of a book on Macetown, in partnership with the Lakes District Museum, approx 6,000
- To the Paradise Trust for signage 1,000
- Estimated one-third share of publication costs of book on Skippers by Danny Knudson 6,000

\$ 17,000

From the Auditor's Report (The full report is available on request.)

In my opinion:-

Proper accounting records have been kept by the Society as far as appears from my examination of the records; and the financial statements comply with generally accepted accounting practice and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Society as at 30th September 2015 and the results for the year ended on that date. My audit was completed on 16th October 2015 and my unqualified opinion is expressed as at that date.

A.L. Welsh,
B.Com.DipEd.CA



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Queenstown & District Historical Society 2008 Incorporated

Our Heritage Today - For Tomorrow

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Individual or Family Membership: \$25 a year

Corporate Membership: \$50 a year

Life Membership: \$250

The Queenstown Courier is posted or hand-delivered to members.

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Our Heritage Guide for android smartphones

www.queenstownhistoricalsociety.org.nz

