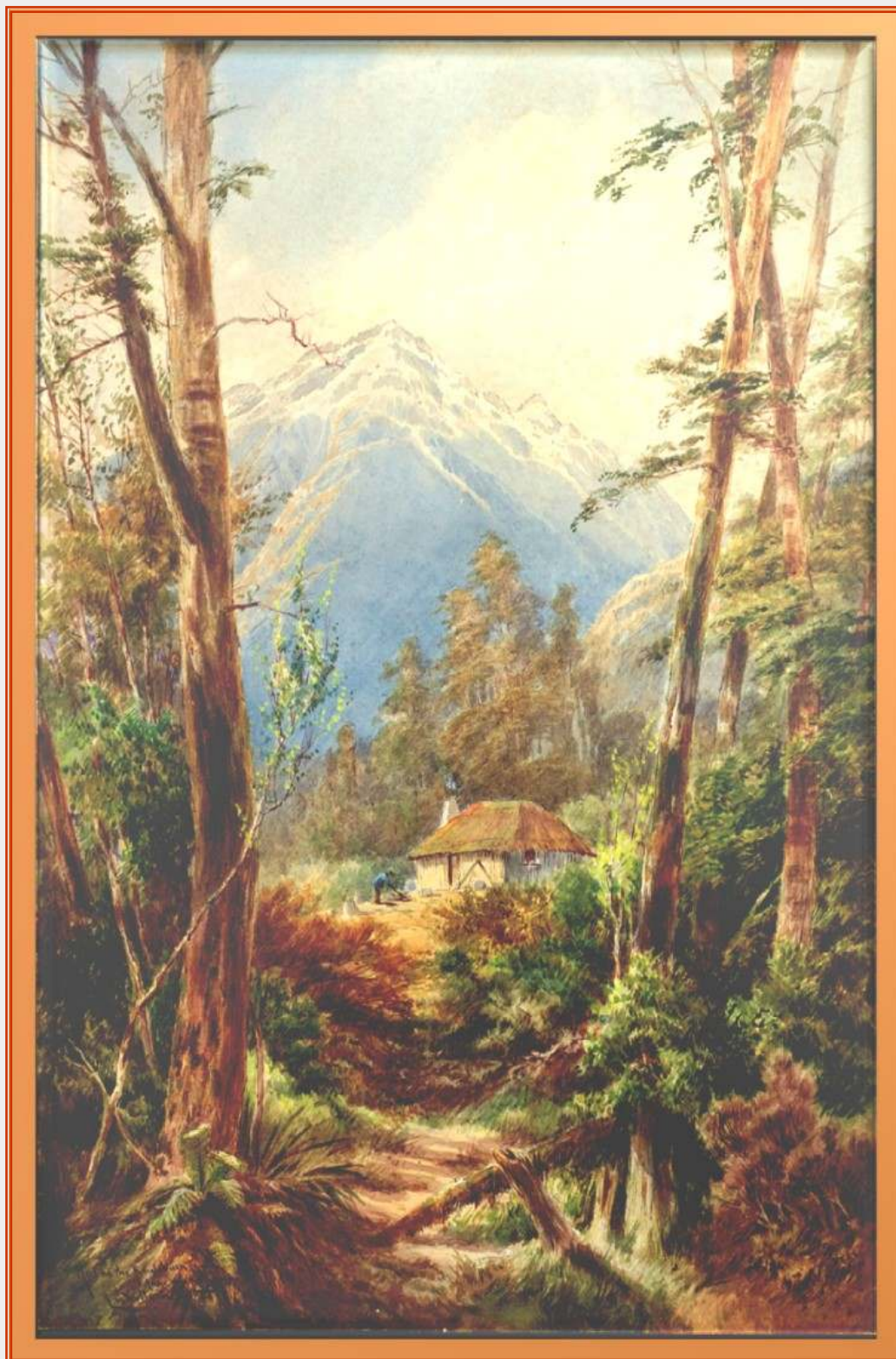


THE QUEENSTOWN COURIER

SUMMER 2016

Issue No.96



PUBLISHED BY THE QUEENSTOWN & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Contents

Page 3: Editorial: Looking Back to See Forward: The Roles of Historical Societies

Page 4: Kea in the High Country: From Pest to Threatened Species by Marion Borrell

Page 11: DIY Real Estate: The First Housing Shortage in the Wakatipu by Marion Borrell

Page 18: The Firths of 'Hullert': Mixed Fortunes in Marlborough and Queenstown by Marion Borrell

Page 25: Charles Eckhardt and His Headstone at Arrowtown by Marion Borrell and Roger Grant

Page 30: Chairperson's Annual Report 2016

Page 33: Annual Financial Statements

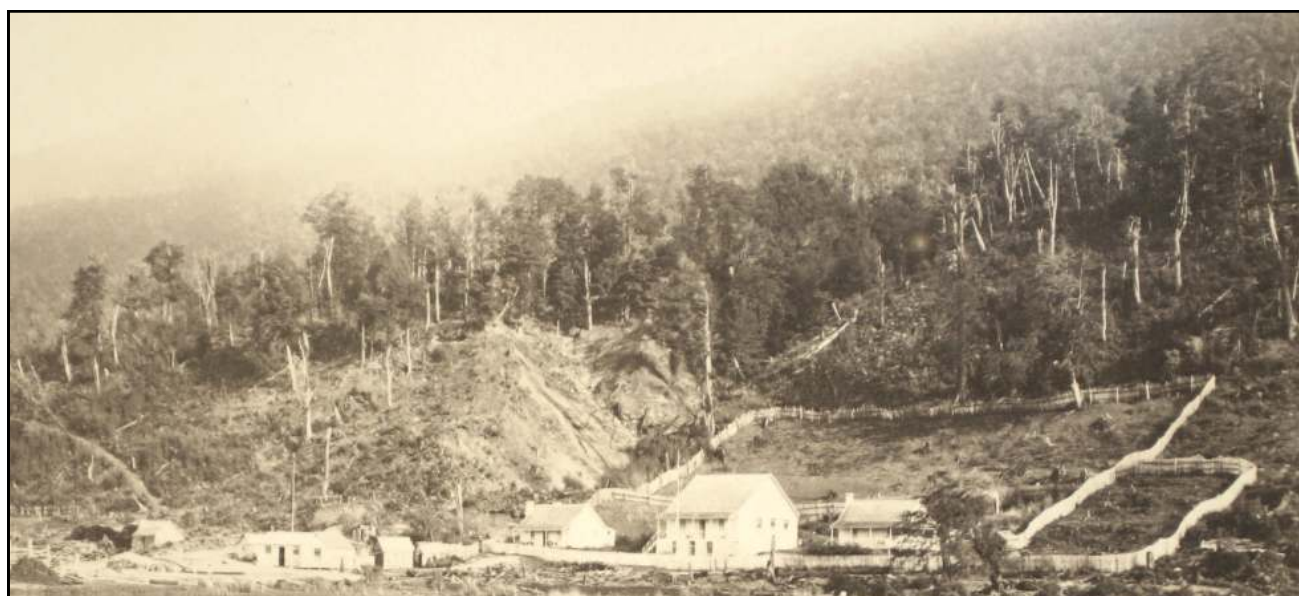
Cover Illustration

Hut on the Routeburn Track 1895 by Laurence William Wilson, 1851-1912.

Ref: B-195-001. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington. <http://natlib.govt.nz/records/34894952>

Kinloch in the late 1860s showing logging of native forest

(Lakes District Museum EL4203)



Editorial

Looking Back to See Forward - The Roles of Historical Societies

By Marion Borrell

'He who cannot draw on 3000 years of history is living from hand to mouth.'

So wrote Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832), the great German writer, scientist and thinker.

Environmental History. Thanks to geological science, we now have a vastly longer view than 3000 years which enables us to understand the origins of our landforms and ecology. It is this environmental knowledge which helps us to realise the huge effect of humans have had especially in the 155 years of colonial settlement, with new plants, animals, buildings, roads, and activities such as farming, mining and logging. While our cover painting celebrates the beech forest, the mountains, and a simple home in the Routeburn Valley, the photograph (facing page) taken nearby at Kinloch shows the felling of trees for timber.

In this issue, we survey the history of the kea, to throw light on the changes in humans' relationship with this remarkable mountain parrot.

The article about the absence of housing at the start of colonial settlement also links us with the past while today we experience a housing shortage due to a rapidly growing population.

Honouring People. As always, we read about earlier residents of our district. Often these people are well-known community figures, as is the case with the Firth family of Queenstown. We also draw attention to a single German man living quietly in Arrowtown before and during World War I, and the Society's project to have his headstone restored.

The Historical Society's roles will continue to evolve, and we must rise to the challenges, not living from hand to mouth, but equipped with knowledge of the past and of the work the Society has done over the last half-century.

Here let us acknowledge with admiration and affection two kaumatua of the Society and this district who have recently died.



**Left: Ray Clarkson
and right, Jack Reid**

Photos: Rita Teele



KEA IN THE WAKATIPU HIGH COUNTRY

From Pest To Threatened Species

Compiled By Marion Borrell

It's hard for us now to comprehend the slaughter of an estimated 150,000 kea over the 100 years when a bounty was paid to the killers. But during this time, the Lake County Council based in Queenstown frequently discussed what could be done about the 'pests' and who would pay.

Evolution of the Kea – the great adaptor

This information in this section comes from the article by Philip Temple, 'Kea – the feisty parrot,' published in *New Zealand Geographic* magazine in 1994.

Nestor notabilis, the kea, shares its genus with the kaka, with ancestral lines back to Australia and New Guinea. At some point a proto-parrot arrived here and some took to the hills to begin the kea line. 'During the glaciations within the last million years the larger,

heavier *Nestor* emerged, with a beak adapted for prying into stony nooks and crannies of a semi-barren landscape, and with a physiology adapted to a cold climate.' By 10,000 years ago, kea inhabited the North Island, and certainly by 4,000 years ago, the South Island. At Pyramid Valley in North Canterbury there is evidence in the damaged bones of moa of attacks not only by the giant Haast eagle, *Harpagornis*, but also by a sharp-beaked bird attacking the moa's pelvic region. Kea inhabited the eastern forests of the Southern Alps after the retreat of the last major glaciations.



KEA PARROT
NESTOR NOTABILIS
(ONE HALF NATURAL SIZE)

Keulemans, John Gerrard, Plate XVIII in Buller, Walter L, A History of the Birds of New Zealand, London, John van Voorst, 1888.

(PUBL-0012-18. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.
<http://natlib.govt.nz/records/23023529>

The arrival of the Maori brought about the next change, as they burned areas of the lower dry-land forest. But there was still mountain country for the kea, and their largest predator, the Haast eagle, had become extinct as the moa on which it fed died out.

The kea's worst enemy has been the Pakeha settlers who burnt the vegetation to introduce pastoral farming in the high country. 'For kea, the burnings which occurred up and down the eastern slopes of the Southern Alps were nothing less than catastrophes. And after the fires came thousands of woolly animals that scoffed every remaining succulent shrub and berry in sight. For a couple of hundred thousand long-lived, principally vegetarian parrots, the prospects were bleak.'

Adding to this competition for food, was the arrival later in the 19th century of deer, chamois and goats. Then came the direct threat of weasels and stoats to all ground-nesting birds, and 'kea faced ecological disaster on a large scale. ... They needed the nourishment that sheep and other mammals, dead or alive, could provide.' They adapted to become scavengers and killers, and were in turn the killed in large numbers.

Local history of the 'kea pest'

The 'Promised Land of Rees' was not an easy place to farm sheep for many reasons – the rugged country, heavy snowfalls and outbreaks of scab, the dreaded sheep disease. Initially there is no mention in the records of attacks by kea. What started the problem may have been that the kea found sheep stranded in snow when other food was short and discovered the fat under the sheep's skin, or perhaps they discovered the fat on sheep skins hung up by shepherds.

The first reports of injuries to sheep came in 1867 from Lake Wanaka Station, and in 1868 the head shepherd James MacDonald witnessed kea attacking. Soon many shepherds were reporting injuries and deaths. On some stations, runholders reported losing 10% of their flocks, usually in the colder months. In one night as many as 200 sheep might be killed. The owners responded by shooting or poisoning kea, and some considered them to be as great a pest as the rabbits.

The behaviour of the birds was investigated by George Marriner who recorded the evidence of sheep-owners and shepherds in *The Kea, a New Zealand Problem* (1908). The kea attacked in groups of up to 120. They landed on sheep and ran them to death, pulling off wool and tearing the flesh. Some sheep fell over cliffs. The wounds were deep enough for the entrails to be drawn out while the animals were still alive. Other sheep died slower deaths from blood poisoning caused by *Clostridium* bacteria transmitted by the kea's beaks. No wonder the runholders and shepherds considered the birds vicious. The fact that the attacks usually occurred at night made them seem even more sinister.

A price on their heads

The *Lake Wakatip Mail* (LWM) accessed from PapersPast is the source of the information in this section.

At Lake County Council meetings the 'kea nuisance' was raised especially from 1881 onwards, with speakers and letters calling on the County Council and the Government to support the sheep-owners. The meetings were reported in great detail. In February 1881: 'those strange carnivorous birds, the keas, are playing havoc amongst one of the flocks of the Arrow Flat.' Attacks on horses were also reported in the Upper Shotover. In June 1883 Mr Campbell of Wanaka told the Council that 'he had known a kea to attack a sheep and in less time than ten minutes pick into its vitals – its kidneys – when the animal bled to death.' At Lake Wanaka Station it was estimated that on average each year 2,000 sheep were being lost to kea, and the owner himself killed about 250 of the birds.

As a result of lobbying, the Government agreed in 1883 to co-operate with the County Councils by contributing pound for pound to the bounty the councils were paying for kea destruction. The station owners were paying shooters up to 3 shillings per beak. The County's Sheep and Rabbit Inspector, Mr Bouchier, would report to meetings on the number of kea beaks he had received and how much the bounty was costing ratepayers.

In the 1920s the bounty was ten shillings per beak: five shillings from the government and half a crown each from the runholder and the county. In 1943-5 the bounty was paid on 6819 beaks. The killing continued until in 1970 kea were granted partial protection. They have been fully protected since 1986, but illegal killings still occur.

On-Going Problems in the Wakatipu

The issue continued to be raised throughout the years of the bounty. In 1918 a meeting of local run-holders was held where some reported that the destruction of each kea might save 50 or 60 sheep. Mr Geoffrey Shaw of Elfin Bay put his own loss at 'no inconsiderable percentage.' In 1929 Mr J. Mackenzie of Mt Nicholas station spoke of the kea as 'a very serious menace to sheep. In severe winters the kea came in from the back country and did considerable damage. In good seasons they were not so destructive. He and his partners had watched the birds very closely and could definitely say that they had lost several hundred sheep through the agency of the kea. He hoped that the Government would continue the subsidy.' The same winter, a local farmer 'suffered the loss of 35 sheep killed by kea in three nights, not on the heights, but on the river flats. This same station lost 170 sheep two years ago in a couple of nights, so after seeing their stock dying in agony it is not to be wondered at that some people advocate the practical extermination of this cruel, though handsome enough, bird of the mountains.' Clearly it was irksome to the farmers to have to keep making their case, and they felt it unfair that the government was taking no action on Crown lands where the kea were breeding in safety.

Alternative Views

Sceptics and Defenders

The accounts of eyewitnesses were unanimous and the statistics of the damage were serious, yet townies, bird-lovers and conservationists were difficult to convince, being reluctant to condemn a bird which visitors to the mountains found more appealing than annoying. As Philip Temple expresses it, 'Could it really be true that this Charlie Chaplin was also a mass murderer?' It was barbaric that we would be killing native birds instead of protecting them.

Video proof of a kea attack was not obtained until 1992 when Rod Morris was filming a documentary in winter at night in the mountains near Glenorchy. The film reveals the birds attacking and devouring a Merino wether. This was shown in David Attenborough's *Animal Planet* TV series. The case was proven.

Admirers

As early as 1884 (*LWM* 31 October 1884) the kea's intelligence was described by Mr Alex McKay at a meeting of the Wellington Philosophical Society, and their ability to communicate ideas amongst themselves, giving the example of how 'several keas, after consultation, delegated one bird twice in succession to untie a knot in a string which fastened one of their number to a pick handle.' Even as they killed them, the farm owners and shooters admired the kea's remarkable intelligence, memory, and ability to learn from experience and from other kea. They are now much studied, and have the reputation of being one of the world's most intelligent birds.



Porteous kea hunting on Potato Flat, Wye Valley, by Cap Jardine.
Lakes District Museum EL4168

A Runholder's Hatred and Admiration

No one could express these conflicting emotions better than our former member, the late D.G. (Cap) Jardine of Remarkables Station in his memoir *Shadows on the Hill: The Remarkables Station, Queenstown* (1976).

As a shepherd, he cares for his flock: 'That [kea] will and do kill sheep is fact, and their wanton slaughter has brought ruin to many a high-country run. That this wanton slaughter is usually the work of a few individual killer birds is no consolation to the runholder. ' (P.80)

And in this account of snow-raking: *[The shepherds] had not gone far, sliding swiftly down into the first small basin, when four keas rose screeching from a jumble of rocks ahead, circling close over them and flew off to the far rocks. Floundering in and out through the boulders they found the attraction – about fifteen sheep had been snowed-in there. Four were dead, three were lying resigned and as good as dead, with great holes torn through their backs, two more were standing with heads hanging, their eyes dull*

and glazed in the final stages of death from blood poisoning. The remainder all carried kea flags [tufts of wool pulled up on their backs]....With a burning frustrated hatred of the killers, they set to and butchered those beyond saving and began tramping a track clear of the rocks and on down the valley... . (P.107)

Cap describes kea as the hardy 'citizens' of the high country who have adapted wonderfully to their home above the bush-line. *'The entertainer and casual companion of the mountaineer, the bane of the high-country runholder's life, an aerial acrobat, clown or sadistic devil – cheeky, inquisitive, destructive – he is all these and more.'* (P.78)

He is eloquent in his admiration: *To see keas hanging casually in space, on practically closed wings, in the worst winds and weather nature can attain, swinging in obvious enjoyment, up, down, and across the face of some huge bluff, then to go with a joyful scream, shooting like some bullets on the wings of the wind, to land with accuracy and aplomb on some tiny ledge, is a sight one will never forget. They tread the most powerful winds of the mountains as an athlete would his trampoline – for his own use and entertainment.* (p79)

Ski-field Skirmishes

With the development of high ski-fields such as the Remarkables in 1981, ski-field operators and users have encountered the delights and annoyances of kea. Being opportunistic and adaptable, kea quickly identified a new source of fast food and intriguing objects to investigate. Philip Temple quotes Andy Chapman, the former manager of the Remarkables ski-field, recalling 'a kea that flew high with a stolen plastic mug which it then dropped for others to catch in mid-air. The kea repeated the process in what was obviously an organised game.' In the early days of the ski-field, the kea damaged safety circuits on the tows and broke open junction boxes on the towers to pick out the colourful resistors. The Wildlife Service was called in to remove the kea, but this caused an outcry from bird-lovers. Now the ski-field operators 'kea-proof' their equipment. It's over to the humans to adapt.



Alastair Nisbet, published in *The Press*,
Christchurch, 20 September, 2012
DCDL-0022980. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.
<http://natlib.govt.nz/records/31982593>

Kea in Decline Despite Protection

The information in this section is mainly from the Kea Conservation Trust (KCT) which was established in 2006. In partnership with the Department of Conservation, the Trust monitors the population and promotes the need to protect the birds from further decline.

Since becoming officially protected in 1986, fewer kea have been deliberately or directly killed by humans, but their numbers have continued to decline and they are currently classified as a Nationally Threatened species. The international IUCN Red List classifies them as 'Vulnerable'.

Latest population estimate is fewer than 5,000 and maybe as low as 1,000 in the Southern Alps between Nelson and Fiordland. People who live at the Head of Lake Wakatipu report a dramatic decrease in just a few years. In the Nelson-Lakes area studies have shown an 80% decline in recent years, and less than 2% nesting success in beech mast years when predators breed in larger numbers. In the areas monitored by the Kea Conservation Trust all nests are visited by predators and at some sites up to 100% of chicks and some females are killed.

Tamsin Orr-Walker, a Queenstownian, is co-founder and the chair of the Trust. She explains that the main threats are man-made as humans continue to modify their territory: predation by stoats and possums; lead used on mountain huts and in shot pellets; accidents with human objects (including cars, swallowing rubbish, and electrocution); predator control (traps and bait); conflict with farmers, communities and visitors; and the illicit wildlife trade. In future, climate change might increase the frequency of beech mast years, or might allow new diseases to arrive.

Conclusion

What can be done? As regards attacks on sheep, observation and research have shown that attacks are often led by one 'rogue' bird, an older male. This has led to a change in strategy. 'No kea are relocated or killed, and efforts are being made to dissuade the birds by developing a repellent, or potentially trialling supplementary feeding as most attacks are in winter when food is scarce and males are feeding females on nest.'

As Tamsin Orr-Walker says, 'The key to solving this issue is research to find a long-term solution, which requires buy-in from the high-country farmers.'

The kea through their remarkable adaptability have so far survived human invasion of their territory; it is over to humans to protect them from extinction.

Sources

Jardine, D.G. *Shadows on the Hill: The Remarkables Station, Queenstown* AH and AW Reed 1978

Temple, Philip, 'Kea-the feisty parrot', New Zealand Geographic Oct-Dec 1994, accessed on <https://www.nzgeo.com/stories/kea-the-feisty-parrot/>

Mosen, Corey, article in *Forest and Bird* magazine, August 2009, on www.forestandbird.org.nz

Lake Wakatip Mail accessed on www.paperspast.natlib.govt.nz

Kea Conservation Trust website: www.keaconservation.co.nz, and Tamsin Orr-Walker

Other websites:

www.nzbirds.com, Wikipedia, www.doc.govt.nz

Natural History NZ film about one pair: www.nzonscreen.com/title/kea-mountain-parrot-1993

Recommended reading

For a quirky pun-full take on kea's curiosity, see Johanna Knox's blog on the Forest and Bird website: blog.forestandbird.org.nz/kea-scientist-of-the-southern-alps/

Novels by Philip Temple, *Beak of the Moon* (1981) and *Dark of the Moon* (1993).



Mat Goodman, matgoodmanphotography-2798 KCT, courtesy of the Kea Trust.

DIY REAL ESTATE:

The First Housing Shortage In The Wakatipu

By Marion Borrell

There was not just a shortage but a non-existence of housing when the first colonial farmers arrived here to settle.

Maori had for hundreds of years travelled from the coast during in the warmer months, staying in temporary campsites while they gathered food including moa (until they became extinct) and kereru (woodpigeons). They visited their pounamu (greenstone) sources to collect and process the stone. Their small round shelters called whare rau were made from frames of flexible branches thickly covered in a thatch of raupo (bulrushes).

1860: The first pakeha settlers at Queenstown put up tents, then a two-roomed house for the workers. Alfred Duncan in his memoir, *The Wakatipians*, describes it as ‘a long narrow hut, consisting of three rooms – a kitchen, with a small bedroom off it, and a large room with bunks built all round it.’ (Page 15) Unfortunately, he doesn’t describe its construction.

A more substantial house of wattle-and-daub was then built for the runholder, William Rees, and his family, which probably resembled this one which was across the lake at Halfway Bay.

When Alfred Duncan and a colleague drove a mob of sheep to the head of the lake in 1861 to stock the river flats, their first task on arrival was to build a hut which they did at the mouth of the Rees River,



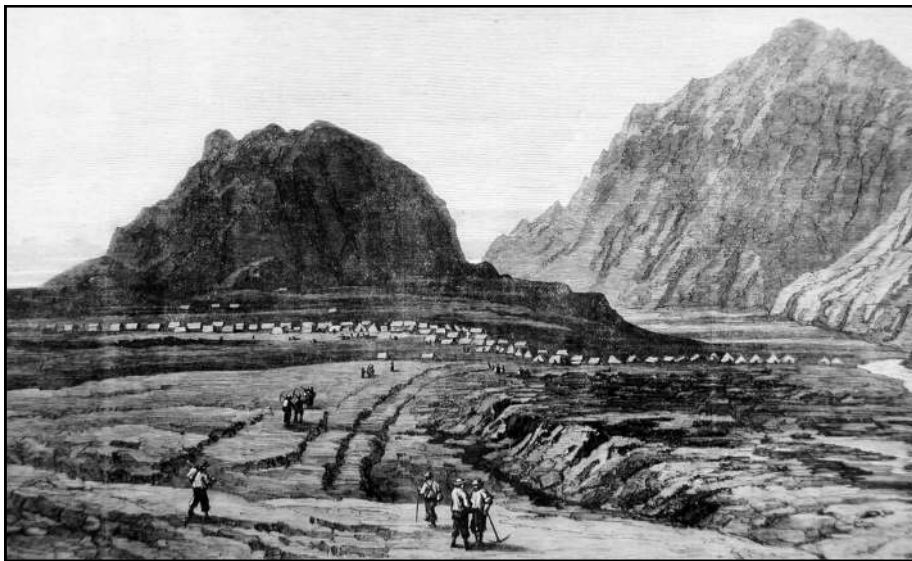
Sturdy, well-insulated home of wattle-and-daub with thick thatch and welcoming porch. Established native garden.

LDM EL1392

probably near the present jetty. ‘It was 12 feet long by 10 feet wide, built of sods cut on the spot, thatched with grass, and with a chimney (save the mark!) at one gable, which for about four feet high was made of sods, and finished off with a graceful erection of sticks and old flour bags. Two bunks, one on each side of the fireplace, a tin-lined box to keep our food from the rats, and a couple of logs for stools, constituted the entire furnishing of the establishment, and with a billy, a camp oven, a few tin plates and pannikins wherewith to partake of our food.

George and I were left with a month's rations of flour, tea, and sugar, and the boat, containing Bob [Fortune] and MacAusland, sailed away and left us.' One disadvantage of their hut, as they soon discovered, was that the cloth bags on the chimney were prone to catching fire.

1862: The gold-rush caused a population explosion from about 20 to 4000 in just three months. Activity was greatest in the Arrow Gorge and near Queenstown, and diggers were scattered along the rivers and gorges throughout the district. Their readily portable dwellings were canvas tents. The up-market ('glamping'?) ones had wooden frames made of branches tied together. This lithograph of the Arrow gold rush, published in the *London Illustrated News*, is somewhat fanciful in its landscape, but accurate in showing the predominance of canvas.



Lithograph of the Arrow gold rush, from the Illustrated London news. LDM EL4662

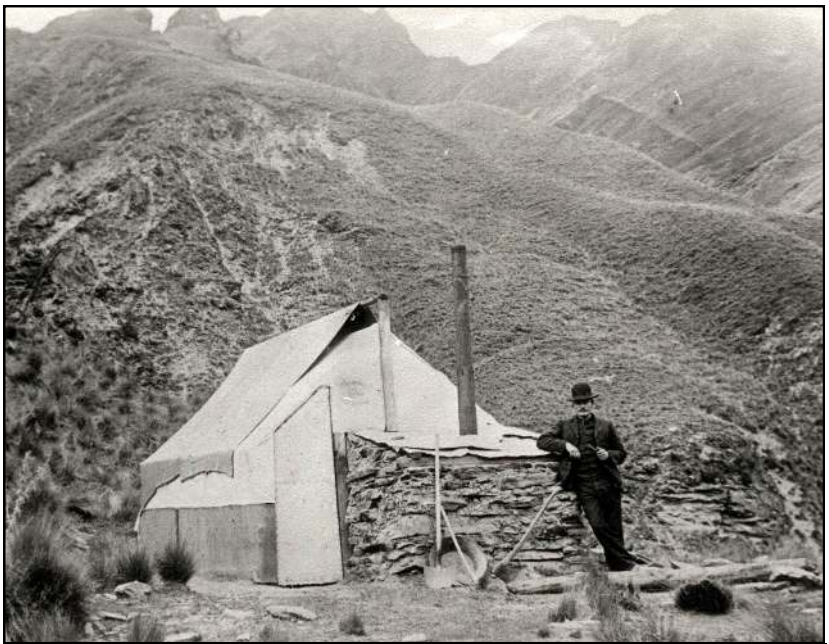
The following snapshots reveal the DIY skills of those who stayed after the first rush and built more permanent homes, mainly from local materials.



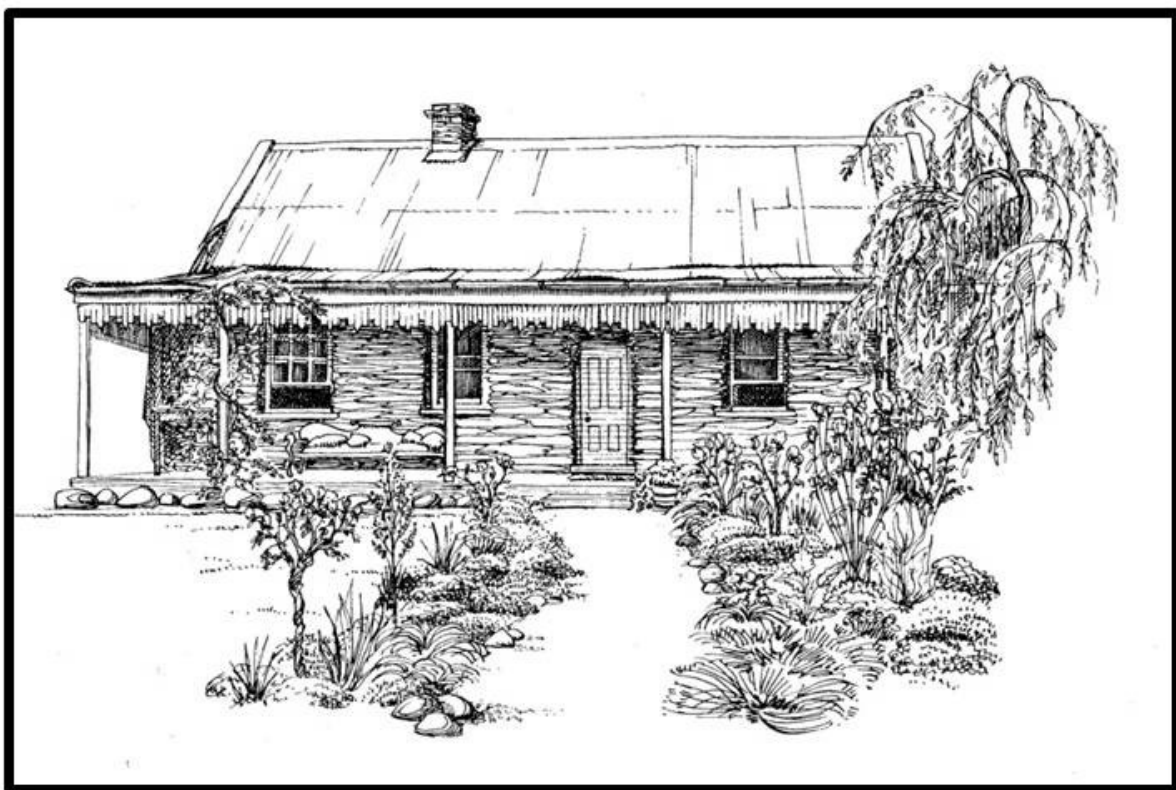
Innovative stone house with sacking roof, near Macetown. LDM EL1900

The landscape itself provided opportunities: overhanging rocks and caves offered shelter, and sometimes formed part of a house.

In 1869 my great-grandfather, George H. White, lived in a 6-foot by 4-foot hut, two walls of which were a cave. The other two walls were made of stone quarried from the rock-face above. Nearby the Shetlander built the dry-stone cottage pictured below at Lake Hayes. In 1871 his fiancée, Rachel McCulloch, came over from Melbourne, and they lived in the house until George's death in 1914.



Rural retreat! Neat dwelling of wood and canvas with additional fly cover, near Macetown. LDM1069

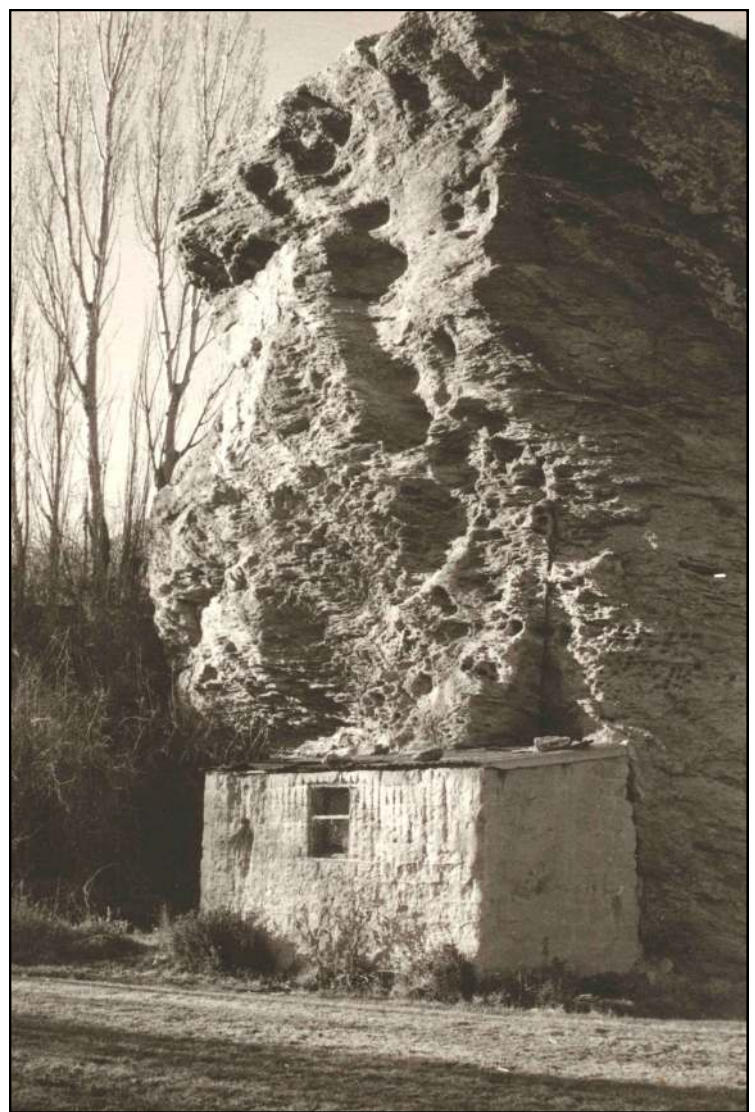


Shetland craftsmanship. Double-layer dry-stone construction for strength and insulation.

Drawing by Audrey Bascand, 1971



Tidy family home of schist and canvas nestled into over-hanging rock, at Bracken's Gully, Arrow Gorge. Photo shows Thomas Lister and his son.
LDM EL4464

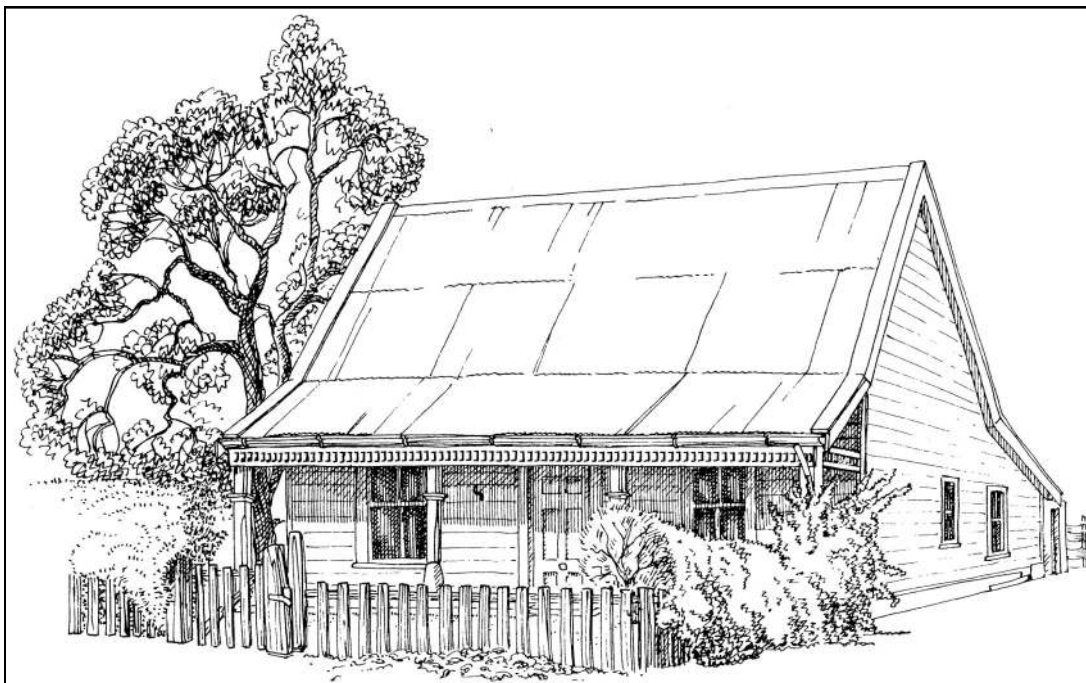


Sustainable design. Enlarged cave with wattle-and-daub extension in a sheltered location handy to transport.
LDM EP0556



A model of mixed materials with readily-available brushwood thatch, wooden floor and chimney of imported corrugated iron, near Macetown. LDM EL4464

Williams Cottage, Marine Parade



Absolute lake-front! Stylish town cottage with high-pitched roof and veranda, built of native beech from the Head of the Lake, originally with shingled roof. Drawing by Audrey Bascand, 1971.

The Williams Cottage is the oldest remaining residential building in Queenstown, and has withstood a number of floods. It was built in 1864 by John Williams who arrived here in 1862 as a gold-miner, but was soon employed by William Rees as a boatman. Later he established his own businesses, including owning several boats.

In 1872 he launched the twin screw steamer *Jane Williams* which was renamed the *Ben Lomond* in 1886. She was at one stage the oldest vessel on Lloyd's Register as she continued to ply the lake until 1951 when she was sunk off Kingston Bay after 81 years of service.

In 1864 John Williams' small weatherboard house was well-made from timber milled at the Head of the Lake. The roof had wooden shingles which were covered with corrugated iron in about 1870.

After being owned by the Williams family until 1983, the cottage was destined for demolition until a major campaign enabled it to be restored in 1996. Inside there is a well-documented record of its past, including the evidence of it having been flooded a number of times. It is now an art and gift shop.



The Williams Cottage in the 1999 flood.

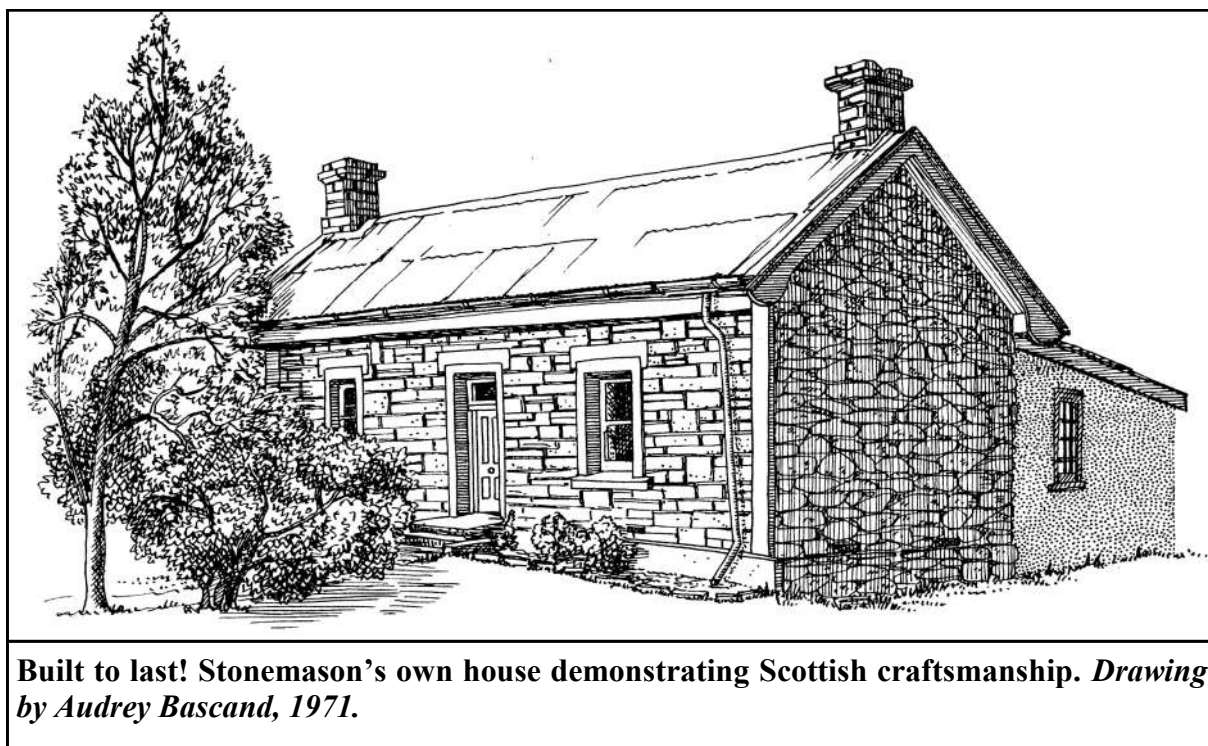
LDM EL4781

McNeill Cottage, Church St

He married in 1885 and built this cottage for himself at about that time. After the death of his first wife, he married a niece of John Williams who lived nearby in the Williams cottage.

McNeill became, appropriately, a leading member of the Masonic Lake Lodge of Ophir, being Master for four years, and he also served several terms as a borough councillor.

His cottage was extended in the 1980s and converted into a bar and restaurant.



Sources:

Lakes District Museum for many images

Duncan, Alfred H, *The Wakatipians*, first published in 1888. Reprinted by Lakes District Museum, 1964

Borrell, Marion with drawings by Bascand, Audrey, *Old Buildings of the Lakes District*, David Johnston, 1971

Heritage app by Queenstown and District Historical Society, 2014

The app is available on for android phones via GooglePlay: <http://qur.io/androidapp>

THE FIRTHS OF ‘HULLERT’:

Mixed Fortunes In Marlborough And Queenstown

By Marion Borrell



Hulbert House, Ballarat Street, as it is now. Photo courtesy of Hulbert House

The heroically-named Horatio Nelson Firth (known as Nelson) was born at Market Drayton in Shropshire in 1842, the youngest son of thirteen children in a family whose lineage from the 16th century is recorded in *Burkes Dictionary of the Landed Gentry* under ‘Firth of Hartford Lodge’.

Like many others in his position as a younger son, he emigrated to the colonies, arriving in 1863. In Wanganui he worked as a compositor in the office of *The Chronicle* in Wanganui, and in April 1867 he married a handsome Irish lady, Catherine Mary O'Sullivan, whose forebears were as distinguished as his own, and who had also arrived in 1863. Their first child, Maude, was born a year later. Soon after this the family shifted to Nelson (of course) where two of Nelson Firth's brothers lived.

The Marlborough Years

These were eventful times for the family in Havelock. They had several more children, and after a time they owned an accommodation-house at Canvastown. There they encountered the unruly end of colonial society, culminating in Firth being charged with ‘shooting with malicious intent’ a digger named Dennis Quinlan. Under the heading ‘Serious Affray at Canvas Town’ the *Nelson Evening Mail* (21 September 1871) recounts several days of trouble with Quinlan who was making a nuisance of himself, demanding liquor when already drunk, threatening, breaking things, snatching bottles from Mrs Firth and following her about.

At the trial in November inconsistent versions of the incident were given by witnesses with varying levels credibility. Testimony was given about the reputations of Quinlan and Firth. 'Charles Elliott: I am a publisher in Nelson. I have known Firth for many years. He was in my employ for some time, and I always found him a most well-behaved and peaceful person, and very unlikely to shut a person out of his house and then shoot him, unless under very strong provocation.'

'Constable Jeffries stated that Quinlan was known as one of the greatest rowdies on the West Coast.'

After an hour's deliberation, the jury brought a verdict of 'Not Guilty'. Clearly they accepted that Firth was justified in fearing for the safety of the people inside the hotel including women and children. Firth and his friends had cause for celebration.

However, less than a year later, the hotel business went broke and Firth was declared bankrupt. He looked for new opportunities, and in 1878 was appointed Clerk of the Court in Havelock and Receiver of Gold Revenue. Perhaps the family could now feel on more solid ground, though not for long.

In 1881 Firth appeared before a Commission appointed by the Government to inquire into charges of receiving a bribe in his role as Property Tax Assessor. The charge was that at the Pelorus Hotel Firth suggested that he would change the tax assessment of a man who had objected to it in return for meat. A witness gave evidence that Firth said, 'Look here, I will make it all right. I will take a side of bacon or anything of that sort.' (*Marlborough Express* 25 March 1881)

The Commissioners found the charge not proven but reprimanded Firth for drinking, and for preparing certain statutory declarations which he used in his defence, containing the signatures of 'illiterate persons who possibly did not understand the full purport of the documents they were asked to sign.' (*Marlborough Express*, 14 April 1881) Nevertheless, Firth still kept his jobs and his wider reputation. He was a member of the vestry at St Peter's Church in

defence. The particulars, as far as we have been able to ascertain, are as follows:—Quinlan had been drinking for some days at Wilson's, and at an accommodation-house kept by Firth, and on Thursday last left the house for a time, but returned about eight o'clock in the evening, still in a state of intoxication, and, on being refused admittance, took up some boulder stones and attempted to break down the closed door, behind which a cask of beer had been placed with a view to strengthening it. He succeeded in smashing one of the panels, and as he still went on with the battering process, Firth, who with Murdoch was inside, threatened to shoot him. The threat proving ineffectual, he carried it into execution, and fired through the bottom panel of the door which was not broken, wounding Quinlan, fortunately very slightly, just above the hip. After this, the story becomes more confused, but it appears that Quinlan still continued to seek admittance for some hours, and that during the night

Havelock, was involved in the formation of the Musical and Dramatic Society in Havelock, and on the Blenheim school committee.

The Move to Queenstown

In 1884 The Firths moved to Queenstown where Nelson became the Court Clerk, Mining Registrar, and Receiver of Gold Revenue. Their reputations accompanied them in this description from the *Marlborough Times* reprinted in the *Lake Wakatip Mail* (9 November 1883):

Mr Firth has proved himself a very efficient officer; having thoroughly mastered every detail in connection with his varied and onerous duties, and the diggers generally think very highly of him. This appointment means promotion, and that gentleman is to be congratulated on the event. With respect to Mrs Firth ... one cannot speak too highly, being a lady of good accomplishments, and one who has always been ready to render her musical services (which are of no mean order) for any social, religious or charitable purpose, added to which she has acted kindly to all, young and old.



Mrs H N Firth, October 1874.

*Nelson Provincial Museum, W E Brown Collection:
12139*

The family flourished and rapidly became involved all manner of worthy activities. Nelson became secretary of the Queenstown School Committee, the Lakes District Acclimatisation Society, St Peter's Church, the Lakes District Hospital Committee, and the Lake Lodge of Ophir. He was also on the committees of the Queenstown Athenaeum and Public Library, the Lake County Jockey Club and the Queenstown Musical and Dramatic Society. Everywhere, including in his work, he impressed with his dedication and efficiency. He was a JP and in the absence of the magistrate, acted as judge in the District Court. Above all, the whole family was very involved in St Peter's Parish where Nelson became a churchwarden. Life must have been very busy and

rewarding. (Details from the *Lake Wakatip Mail*)

1888 - A House Named 'Hullert'

When Nelson Firth came into a sizeable inheritance, he had the 17-room 'gentleman's residence' designed for the dress-circle site on the corner of Ballarat

and Hallenstein Streets overlooking the town. The architect was Nathaniel Wales of Mason and Wales in Dunedin. John Salmond, the local master builder, was assisted by Thomas Luckie, a shipwright, so the standard of construction is very high. It has imported marble fireplaces, fine plaster ceilings and ornate joinery. In the entrance hall there is a glass screen which is acid-etched with the family crests of the Firth and Sullivan families, complete with motto *Deus Incrementum Dedit* meaning *God Gives Increase*.

God certainly gave increase, as the Firths were blest with seven surviving children: Maude (1868), Oliver (1869), Thomas (1873 died at 6 months), Ethel Monimia (1875 died at 6 months), Kate (1876), Elfrida or Ella (1878), Vida Thomazia (1882), Myra (1883), and Joseph Scipio (1891).

The family lived and entertained in a grand manner, and was very involved in charitable activities, with the womenfolk to the fore at bazaars, balls, concerts and other fundraisers.

Downfall and Stoicism

In 1901 their security and status crumbled because Firth yielded to the temptations of money-handling as Receiver of Gold Revenue. A thorough audit showed that he had diverted twelve cheques, being payments received for rents on mining claims, into a trust account he had opened in his name at the Bank of New Zealand. He was running a secret receipt book to disguise this. When confronted, he admitted his guilt and promptly repaid the £697 19s 11d he had stolen. When he appeared for sentencing in the Supreme Court in Dunedin, 'Mr Justice Williams said that the case was a sad one, but he must pass an adequate sentence, which would be 12 months imprisonment with hard labour.' (*Taranaki Daily News*, 3 June 1901) This was reported in newspapers throughout New Zealand. It was a terrible fall from grace for a pillar of the community.

Faced with this calamity, the redoubtable Catherine Firth drew on her past experience in inn-keeping and turned their large residence into a guest-house named, of course, 'Hullert', which she ran very capably.

Visitors to Queenstown can obtain Superior Board and Residence at Hullert, situated on the terrace, and commands a fine view of the lake – For terms, etc., apply Mrs Firth, Queenstown (ODT 1901)

The *Cyclopedia of New Zealand Otago/Southland* in 1905 described it thus: **HULBERT HOUSE** (Mrs C. M. Firth, proprietress), Upper Ballarat Street, Queenstown.

This residence was opened as a private boarding-house in 1901. It stands on part of a section of four acres of land, which is beautifully laid out in plantations, gardens, and paddocks. There are some remarkable trees on the property.

The building is of wood and plaster; it contains fifteen rooms, and may fairly be said to supply accommodation of the first order in Queenstown. The rooms are large and lofty, and well ventilated, and remarkably fine views of the lake can be obtained from many of the windows. There are verandahs at the front and north end of the building, and there is a well-furnished drawing-room, and a very fine dining-room, which will seat fully twenty guests, of whom from twenty-five to thirty can be accommodated at Hulbert House. Hot and cold water is laid on to the bathroom, where both plunge and shower baths can be obtained by guests.

Mrs Firth is very attentive to the requirements of her visitors.

Further advancing the business of tourism, daughter Ella and a friend opened a tearoom named 'Haere Mai' in the town: 'The Misses Firth and M Gudgeon, two enterprising young ladies, have lately started tea rooms in the town, an innovation that will be welcomed by many who have business in the "city" during the afternoons.' (LWM 22.12.1901)

It's clear that the family received sympathy and support from the community which understood very well the temptation of money.

When Nelson Firth returned from Invercargill Gaol he was accepted by the town he had served so well, people considering that he had been more than adequately punished. He was soon back in St Peter's Parish fold as a churchwarden and lay reader, was again secretary of the Lodge, and was elected secretary of the Wakatipu District Hospital Board.

Farewell from Queenstown

In 1909 when the family sold the property and left for Wellington, they were farewelled in a generous manner, as the *Lake Wakatip Mail* reported (21 September 1909):

Farewell to Mr and Mrs H. N. Firth and Family

A large number of the members of St. Peter's congregation and other friends met Mr and Mrs Firth and family in St. Peter's Sunday School last evening. The vicar made a speech describing Firth as a most faithful officer of the church and, as one of his churchwardens, a whole-hearted worker.

Mrs Firth was thanked for her valuable work in the Ladies Guild, and the daughters for the way they had toiled in church matters generally. Mr Hotop, speaking on behalf of the congregation, chose his words carefully in saying that 'work in connection with the church formed the most pleasant of memories, so that their departing friends could in this respect always look back with pleasure to their sojourn in Queenstown.'

Mr Firth, who was visibly moved by the proceedings, said that he was at a loss to know how to adequately thank them all for the very kind expressions. He and his wife and family had resided amongst them for some 25 years and he could truly speak of the kindness that they had always received. He would ever look back with the fondest

memories to his connection with the church at Queenstown. As lay-reader it gave him much gratification to be found worthy of such an office.

Mr and Mrs Firth shifted to Wellington, where Catherine at first managed a private hotel. She died in 1923, and Nelson died in 1936 aged 94.

‘Hullert’ turned into ‘Hulbert’

In newspaper notices and advertisements the house was ‘Hullert’, for example in the *Otago Daily Times* birth notice of a son at ‘Hullert’ in 1891, and advertisements for the sale in 1909. When the family moved to Wellington, its reputation as a quality boarding house was used as a recommendation in the *Evening Post*:



However, when the house was listed in the *Cyclopedia of New Zealand* in 1905 the name was misspelt as ‘Hulbert’ and this was the name chosen by Ted Sturt in the 1980s when it was a bed-and-breakfast establishment.

Later History of the House and Restorations

Over the years the house has been a guest-house, nursing home, maternity hospital, boarding school, and staff hostel. When it was a nursing home, it was renamed ‘Tutuila’ after the home of the writer Robert Louis Stevenson in Samoa.

In the 1980s Ted Sturt extensively restored it. During the process, an 1886 ‘bun’ penny was found behind a dado where it had been placed by the builders a century before. Ted was a member of the Historical Society’s committee, and meetings were held in the Victorian (and very chilly) dining-room.

After Mr Sturt died in 2009, the house again deteriorated. In 2013 it was bought by Auckland-based Siochiro Fukutake from Japan with the aim of conserving it and restoring it to Victorian splendour with no expense spared. Heritage NZ was very involved, and seismic strengthening was undertaken. The huge project included importing wallpaper from Britain designed at the time the house was built. Furniture, carpet and fittings were also sourced overseas. The project manager was Neil McLachlan, and the builder was David ‘Bod’ Boden. Hulbert House was reopened in April 2016 as a six-suite boutique lodge.



2016, after restoration.

Photos courtesy of Hulbert House

Sources and acknowledgements

Ted Sturt's article in the *Queenstown Courier*, Issue 68, 2002

Heritage NZ registration report for Hullert (#2343) available on www.heritage.org.nz.

Jonathan Howard, Otago/Southland Area manager for Heritage New Zealand

Hulbert House manager Kim Stephen for permission to use recent photographs.

Newspapers accessed from Papers Past: www.paperspast.natlib.govt.nz.

Recent information from the *Mountain Scene* and the *Mirror*.

Family photograph: Nelson Provincial Museum

CHARLES ECKHARDT

Arrowtown Miner, Barber And Tobacconist - And His Headstone

By Marion Borrell



Charles Eckhardt LDM EP0523

Charles Eckhardt was born in Berlin in about 1847 and left Germany at a young age for unknown reasons. Someone named Eckhardt arrived in New Zealand in 1869 on the ship *Rakaia*. If this was Charles, he would have been in his early 20s. This is supported by his obituary which states that he reached Port Chalmers about then, and came to the Arrow district about ten years later.

He first appears in Arrowtown newspaper records in 1885 as a gold-miner working in the Arrow Gorge on German Hill – but the hill isn't named after him. The *Lake County Press* reported positively: 'The Rip and Tear party – Messrs Cooper, Eckhardt, and Flannery, are making fair headway in their sluicing operations at their

claim at the far-famed German Hill. Taking into consideration that there has been such a dry summer, making the water supply short, the energy displayed by the party is to be highly commended. When water was very scarce, the men employed their time in constructing new races and dams, and may be said to be the most enterprising party of miners now in the Arrow Valley.' (*LCP* 2 April 1885) Eckhardt later mined on the Crown Terrace and in Bush Creek.

Charles must have been a law-abiding and peaceable citizen as he never appears in the court reports as either defendant or complainant. His name does appear in the newspaper from 1885 as a subscriber to the Lake County Hospital.

In about 1900 when in his early 50s he ceased hard physical work to become a barber and tobacconist in Buckingham St. He gained a reputation for being kind and generous. Josephine Traill, who came to Arrowtown from Bullendale as a seven-year-old, recalled that he would send for toys from Germany and give them to local children at Christmas. Her memoir written in the 1980s contains inaccuracies, but I think we can trust a child to be right about gifts of toys.

He joined the Arrowtown Bowls Club and competed regularly. He was on the committees of the Arrow Brass Band, and the Caledonian Society which organised Boxing Day sports days each year. In 1912 he was on the committee for the 50th anniversary of the discovery of gold. So we can imagine him as being a kindly and sociable Arrowtownner.

However, the Great War put Charles in a very awkward position, especially when the local casualties mounted up. Altogether 18 men from the Arrow district were killed. You'll recognise some names – Cotter, Jopp, Jenkins. In addition, many soldiers were wounded. Charles would have known some of them since they were children, and he lived and worked among their grieving families.

According to Josephine Traill, he was ostracised. 'Cowardly messages began to appear scrawled on his door and window, amongst them the accusation "German Spy!" ... His shop was boycotted; men trimmed each other's hair and did their own shaving. Charlie was seldom seen out and about. For days at a time he locked himself inside his shop.' (*COTA* p.32) However, it is likely that this account is somewhat exaggerated by the kind-hearted writer. There's no doubt that he continued to play bowls just as before. If he chose to withdraw a little from community life, that would be understandable. He must have been greatly relieved when the war was over.

In 1916 he made a will which is held in the Museum. One witness was Patrick Tobin of the *Lake County Press*. Charles had never married and had no known relatives in New Zealand. Apart from two bequests to people living outside the district, the beneficiaries of his will were six local people – Stewart Stevenson, the County Council roadman; Victor Baker, a shepherd; Alexander Churchill, a rabbitier; George Summers, a farm labourer; Mrs Catherine Dudley, the wife of the town dayman; and Miss Kitty Tobin who was his washerwoman.

Again, Josephine Traill's memories are inaccurate as she writes that he left £100 to each of the seven families of Arrowtown who had the most children, and that his headstone was provided by the community. It's a charming fiction, but perhaps it also captures something of his generous personality and of attitudes towards him after the war. He actually left £40 to pay for the headstone. Maybe he had already chosen it, as it is quite distinctive, as if selected with care.

In August 1919 he died at his cottage aged 72 from heart failure. The *Lake County Press* newspaper reported that many friends attended the funeral. Obituaries appeared as well in each of the local papers, the *Lake County Press* writing, 'He was of a most kindly nature, and was noted for his willingness to assist those in need'.

Headstone Restoration: In 2015 the Historical Society decided to look after his headstone as it is unusual, with an interesting story, and there are no descendants to take responsibility for it. We approached Roger Grant, the local stonemason, asking what would be involved in restoration, and he kindly undertook the work, donating much of his time. The headstone was reinstated in April 2016. If you are passing the cemetery, do stop to admire it, and ponder on life in Arrowtown for a German during World War I.

Sources:

Lakes District Museum for file material and photos.

Lake County Press and *Lake Wakatip Mail* accessed through www.paperspast.natlib.govt.nz

Josephine Traill, *Child of the Arrow*, Otago Daily Times 1984

Restoration Process by Roger Grant



The Eckhardt headstone in an as-found condition. The surface is rough and stained due to oxidation from the elements and the formation of mould and moss.



The hand-carved and once lead-filled lettering has fallen victim to time, frost, oxidation and small boys in short pants with pocket knives! This type of lettering had an expected life span of about forty years.



Holes were drilled at an angle into the base of the carved letters to provide an anchor for the poured molten lead which was hammered while hot and skilfully re-cut to shape with a sharp blade. The perimeter of each letter was formed with putty prior to pouring.



This marble originates from one of over 600 quarries in Carrara, Italy. This stone has been intricately shaped and carved by a highly skilled marble mason. All the lettering has been created by hammer and chisel with no way of covering mistakes.



Many of the letters require subtle reshaping so that a precise edge can be attained. Unlike the original lead filling, the replacement Epoxy-based filler is very unforgiving and highlights any discrepancies.



The original 124 drilled fixing holes once again provide a superb anchor for the replacement filler which is poured in layers. The hand-chiselled letters provide a far superior bonding surface than that of the modern machine-cut equivalent.



After curing, the surface of the stone is re-machined to expose the new-generation lettering. The final polishing of the stone is done by hand using traditional methods to ensure that the final patina replicates the original as closely as possible.



A ground and polished concrete base is constructed as a foundation for the restored stone. Both the concrete and marble surfaces have been chemically treated to help mitigate the unavoidable surface degradation caused by environmental effects.

Queenstown and District Historical Society
Chairperson's Report for the Annual General Meeting, November 2016
By Marion Borrell

The highlight this year has been the publication with Danny Knudson and the Lakes District Museum of Danny's absorbing and handsome book, *Skippers – triumph and tragedy*.

Brian Bayley has overseen a review of the Society's Rules which he developed in 2008, and these will be voted on at the AGM.

Our membership numbers have grown by about 10% to 190 memberships or 290 individuals. We thank all members for their continued support and encouragement.

Heritage Protection

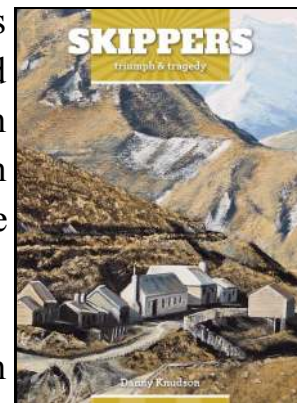
Brian monitors Resource Consent Applications and the District Plan Review. We wrote letters in support of maintaining the protected status of the avenue at Ayrburn Farm, and provisions in the Proposed Arrowtown Design Guidelines affecting the historic zone.

At a time of large population growth, it is vital that we remain alert to any threats to historically significant sites, buildings, trees, townscapes and landscapes.

Restoration of Charles Eckhardt's headstone in the Arrowtown cemetery. This project has been completed, thanks to Roger Grant's expertise and willing donation of time beyond that charged for.

Publications

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. Print Central did the beautiful design and arranged for the printing to be done in China. Our thanks to Graeme Hastie. The launch at the Museum attracted a large crowd. Reviews, including in the *Listener*, have been favourable, and sales are strong.



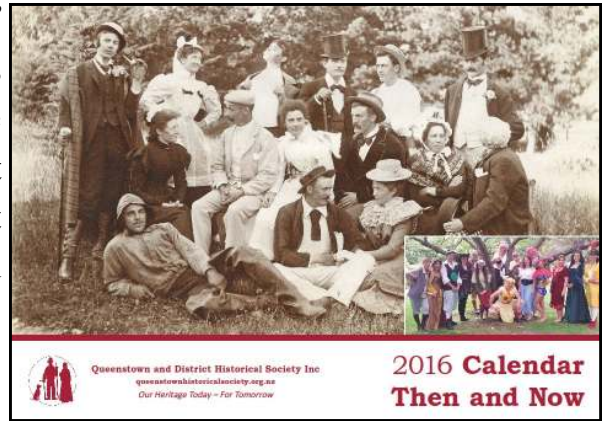
Queenstown Couriers

Issue 94 included articles by Taylor Reed, Rita Teele and Marion Borrell, and talks about the 2016 calendar photos for January to June given by Pat Paulin, Vicki Buckham, Bill McDonald, Peter Doyle, Jon Dumble and Gavin Jack.

Issue 95 contained articles on early surveyors by Rita Teele and Anne Maguire; also calendar talks for July to December by Denise Heckler, Jim Veint, Marion Borrell, Fran O'Connor and Anthony Mason.

We thank all writers and presenters, and Michael Anderson for his careful design.

2016 Calendar: The 'Then and Now' calendars were much admired, however, as people use calendars less these days, sales were down again on the previous year, and our profit reduced from \$5700 to \$3336 which is half that of two years ago. In light of this, we decided that the 2016 edition is the last. The Society has published calendars annually since 2009, initiated by the late Ray Clarkson.



Smartphone App: Heritage Guide to 64 sites: Since the app became available for Android phones in June 2015, it has been installed 1524 times. Most users seem to be tourists who visit about 10 sites on average and uninstall when they leave. There are 185 installs at present. It is frustrating that the app has still not been registered for i-phones. Anthony's attempts continue. Our desire to promote the app more widely has been constrained by the sense of waiting.

Edith Cavell – a bridge and bravery by Danny Knudson, published in 2012, has been reprinted again (another 100 copies) as the 2015 reprint sold out within months. We thank Danny for continuing to give the Society the proceeds from the book.

Community Involvement

- The Lakes District Museum is our closest ally. Jocelyn Robertson continues to serve as our representative on the Board.
- Wakatipu Heritage Trust: As I am a trustee, there are close links and the Society has provided letters of support to the Trust for its funding applications. Work is under way to preserve the Arrowtown Gaol, a project costing over \$200,000.
- Paradise Trust: Our offer to help fund signage at the site of the homestead still stands.
- We had offered QLDC a contribution towards signage at the former Queenstown Library. The project has been approved in the Annual Plan, and we look forward to collaborating in this.

Communication with the Public

Blog on www.queenstown.com : I write an article almost every month for this website of information about the Wakatipu district. On average 700 people are viewing each blog. We're grateful for this opportunity to promote the history and the Society.

Website: The website has continued to be busy with an average of 60 visitors per day. It is gratifying to know that we can so readily promote local history and share the contents of all the *Couriers*.

Activities for Members from August 2015 to May 2016

- Launch of the 2016 Calendar with 12 talks
- Edith Cavell Centenary drama, written by Danny Knudson and presented by seven senior students from Wakatipu High School directed by Victoria Boulton

- AGM, launch of the *Courier 94*, with guest speaker Ben Teele about the archaeological dig next to Eichardt's hotel.
- Launch of *Skippers - Triumph and Tragedy*, organised by the Museum
- 'Members Sharing Memories' with seven members speaking about earlier times in the district: Shona Blair, Ian Henderson, Eon Lewis, Mary May, Fran Powell, Pam Reid and Russell Styles.
- 'People From Our Past'. For this well-publicised event for the public, we asked people from the community to be presenters: David Cantwell, Spike Wademan, Sue Harcombe, David Williams, and Trisch, Pauline and Raewyn Inder.



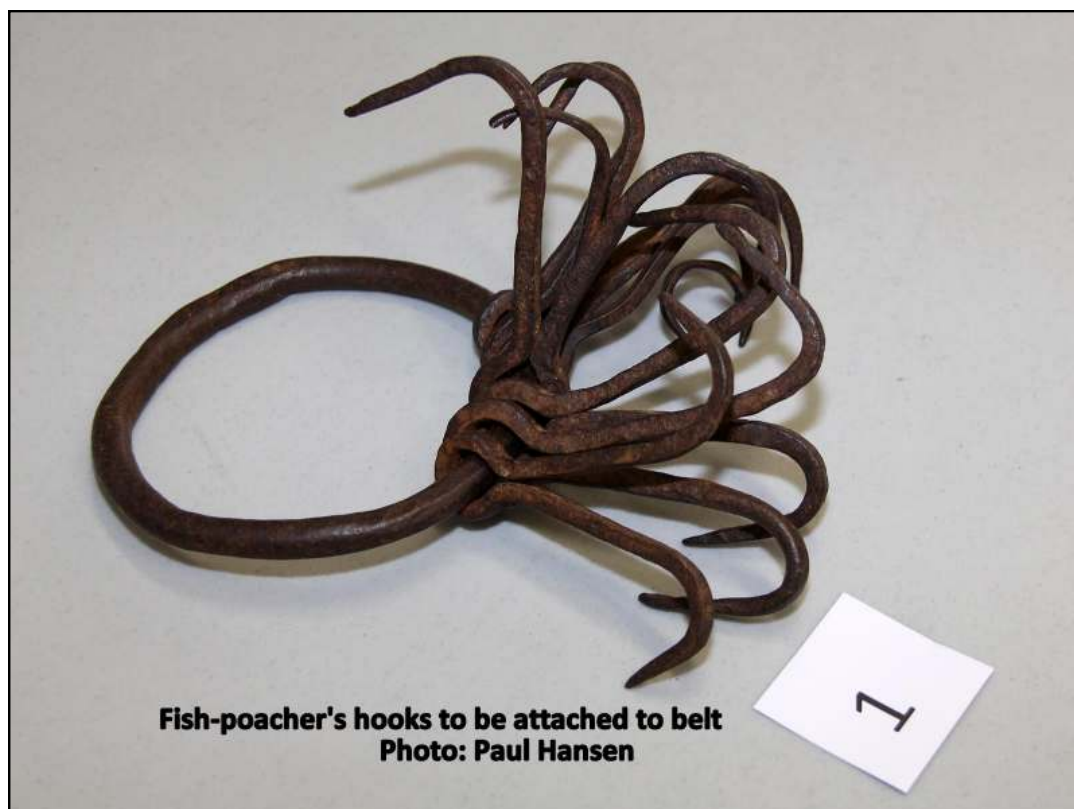
David Williams, editor of the *Mountain Scene*, presenting William Warren, editor of the *Lake Wakatip Mail*.

(Photo: Rita Teele)

Board

The Board consists of myself, Brian Bayley, Denise Heckler, Anthony Mason, Gavin Jack, Danny Knudson and Jocelyn Robertson.

The Board is very small for the amount we undertake and we would love to have more members. Anyone who may be interested in joining us is welcome to attend meetings to see what a positive team we are, united in our desire to share and protect our local heritage.



**Fish-poacher's hooks to be attached to belt
Photo: Paul Hansen**

QUEENSTOWN & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2008 INC.

Statement of Receipts & Payments

for the year ended 30 September 2016

	NOTES	30 SEPT 2016	30 SEPT 2015
		\$	\$
TOTAL OPENING BANK BALANCE		<u>30,967.39</u>	<u>32,215.50</u>
PLUS RECEIPTS			
Activities Receipts		288.40	3,107.00
Project Receipts	1.	1,697.00	4,588.50
Membership Subscriptions		4,050.00	4,250.00
Donations		367.00	570.00
Other		34.00	290.83
Interest Received		811.55	1,064.37
Calendar Sales	2.	7,212.80	9,662.30
Total Receipts		<u>14,460.75</u>	<u>23,533.00</u>
LESS PAYMENTS			
Activities Expenses		355.30	4,186.22
Project Grants & Expenses	3.	15,137.39	11,751.61
Subscriptions		60.00	125.00
Printing & Stationery		264.50	58.65
Postal Expenses		973.90	193.81
Courier Magazine		2,262.59	2,149.05
Meeting Expenses		314.02	371.00
Sundry Expenses		364.26	409.32
Calendar Expenses		5,208.35	5,536.45
Total Payments		<u>24,940.31</u>	<u>24,781.11</u>
TOTAL CLOSING BANK BALANCE		<u>\$ 20,487.83</u>	<u>\$ 30,967.39</u>

REPRESENTED BY:	30-Sep-16	Interest	Net Principal Movement	30-Sep-15
ASB Current Account	1,743.77		(4,623.11)	6,366.88
ASB Fast Saver Account	62.16	5.62	(600.00)	656.54
ASB Savings Plus Account	4,826.90	241.83	(6,068.00)	10,653.07
SBS Bank Term Deposit 7-1	6,931.43	257.02		6,674.41
SBS Bank Term Deposit 6-3	6,923.57	307.08		6,616.49
	<u>\$ 20,487.83</u>	<u>811.55</u>	<u>(11,291.11)</u>	<u>\$ 30,967.39</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- The Society is incorporated under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908.
- The Society is 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 Receipts	2016	2015
• 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	<u>1,697.00</u>	<u>338.50</u>
	<u>\$ 1,697.00</u>	<u>\$ 4,588.50</u>
 2. Calendar Sales		
• 2015 Calendar	-	8,331.30
• 2016 Calendar	<u>7,212.80</u>	<u>1,331.00</u>
	<u>\$ 7,212.80</u>	<u>\$ 9,662.30</u>
 3. Project Grants & Expenses		
Principal project costs and grants paid by the Society during the financial year were:		
• Further costs for the development of the History app	350.75	4,494.93
• Restoration of Charles Eckhardt's grave in Arrowtown cemetery	619.20	-
• Reprints of <i>Edith Cavell, A Bridge and Bravery</i>	1,258.09	-
• Share of production costs of <i>Skipper's, Triumph and Tragedy</i>	12,909.35	-
• Production of <i>Heritage Alive</i> book commemorating the 50 th anniversary of the Society	<u>-</u>	<u>7,256.68</u>
	<u>\$15,137.39</u>	<u>\$ 11,751.61</u>
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	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	1,000
• Estimated one-third share of publication costs of book on Skipper's by Danny Knudson	<u>-</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	<u>\$ 3,000</u>	<u>\$ 17,000</u>

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

In my opinion the financial statements presented above give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Queenstown and District Historical Society Incorporated for the year ended 30 September 2016.

A.L. Welsh,
BCom DipEd CA
17 October 2016



Our New Titles in Our Bookshop



**To be launched on Saturday 26 November
at 5.30pm at the Museum.**

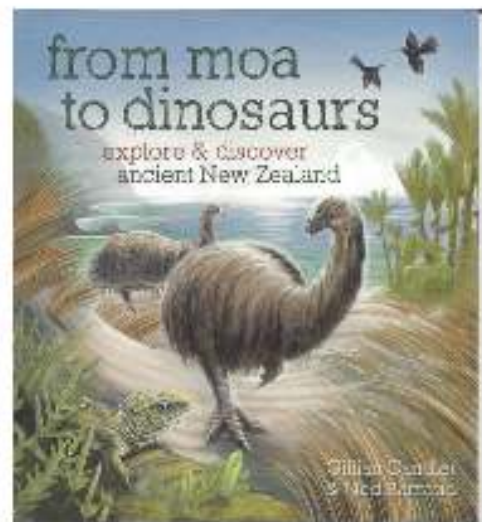
Historical Society members are welcome.

*A Passion For Fashion –
the life of Lindsay Kennett, master milliner
as told to and written by Hilary Hunt.*

As a boy in Glenorchy, Lindsay would go to the wharf when the steamers arrived in order to observe the tourists' fashionable clothing. He pursued his passion for art, and after moving to Auckland, became one of New Zealand's leading milliners from the 1950s onwards.

Price: \$60

For enquiring young (and not so young) readers.
Travel back in time to find out about New Zealand animals from their beginnings in Gondwana to dinosaurs to now-extinct birds and survivors. Excellent presentation with snappy facts and 'how do we know?' boxes. Written by Gillian Candler. Lively illustrations and diagrams by Ned Barraud. Published by Potton and Burton.
Price: \$20



Calendars: Our great selection includes the colourful Arrowtown calendar.

For mail orders, email: info@museumqueenstown.com

Queenstown & District Historical Society 2008 Incorporated

Our Heritage Today - For Tomorrow

BOARD OF THE SOCIETY

Chairperson: Marion Borrell

35 Mountain View Rd, R.D.1, Queenstown 9371 Ph 4429319 marionborrell@hotmail.com

Deputy Chairperson: Denise Heckler

3 Jenkins Pl, Arrowtown, Ph 4420204 hecklerdenise@hotmail.com

Secretary: Jocelyn Robertson

45 Cotter Ave, Arrowtown. Ph 442 1468 jsrob@xtra.co.nz

Treasurer: Gavin Jack

68 Devon St, Arrowtown, Ph 4420854 gdmj@xtra.co.nz

Brian Bayley

Hunter Rd, RD1, Queenstown Ph4421481 bayleybrpg@xtra.co.nz

Danny Knudson

7 Edinburgh Dr, Queenstown Ph 442 4228 knudson@outlook.co.nz

Anthony Mason

351 Frankton Rd, Queenstown Ph 4411175 or 0274325560 masonaj.state@gmail.com

Honorary Solicitor: Graeme Todd

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.

Correspondence and accounts to: PO Box 132, Queenstown 9348

Editor: Marion Borrell, as above

Designer: Michael Anderson, 196 Speargrass Flat Rd, RD 1, Queenstown

Ph 4098115 m.j.anderson@xtra.co.nz

The Queenstown Courier is produced with the assistance of the Lakes District Museum.

Thanks to the Director, David Clarke, and the Archivist, Anne Maguire.

Printed and supported by Print Central, Queenstown.



Our Heritage Guide for
android smartphones



www.queenstownhistoricalsociety.org.nz