

ARTEFACTS

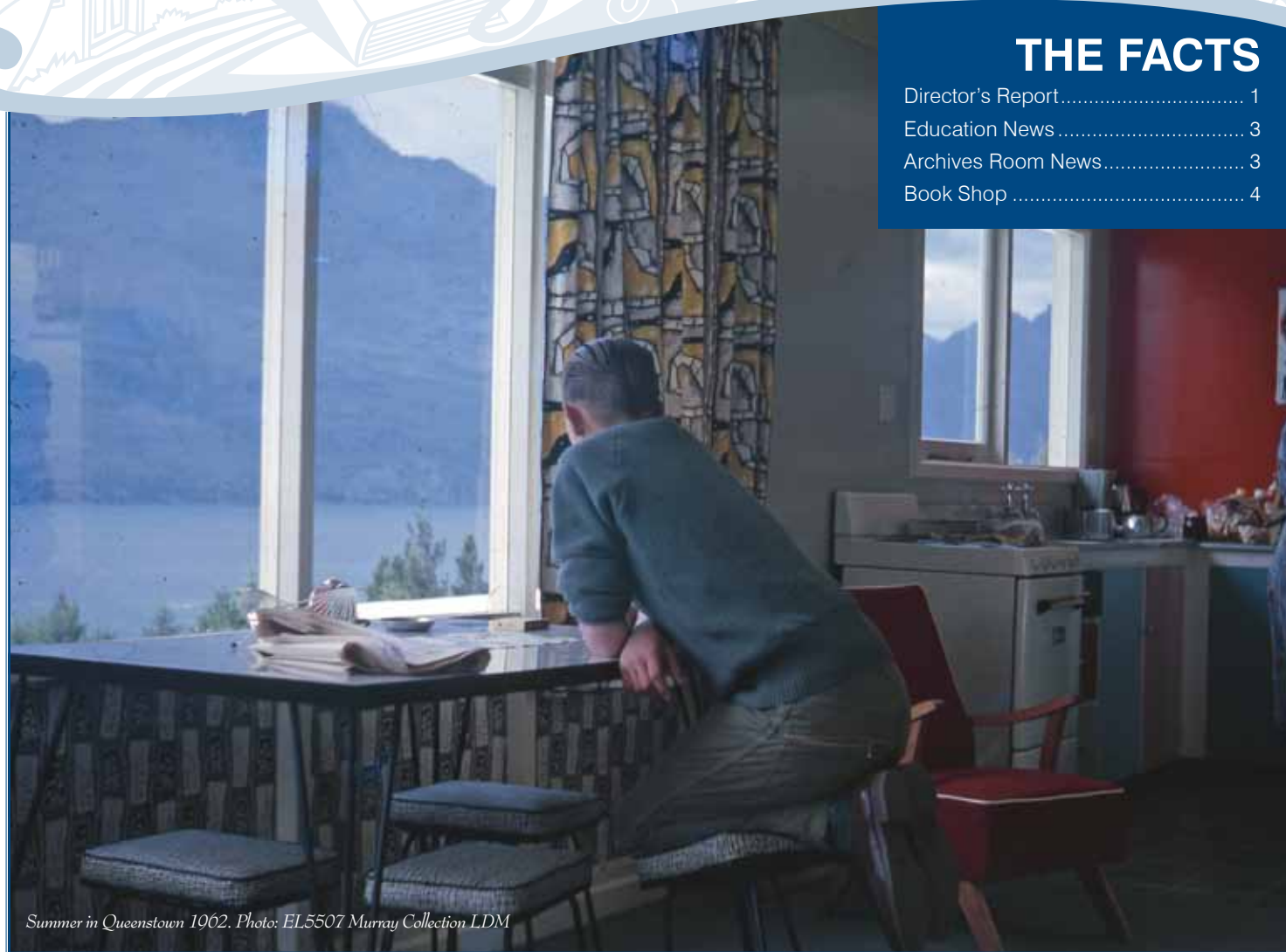
Lakes District Museum Newsletter

Summer 2013

ESTABLISHED 1948
Bringing history alive for over 60 years

THE FACTS

Director's Report.....	1
Education News.....	3
Archives Room News.....	3
Book Shop	4



Summer in Queenstown 1962. Photo: EL5507 Murray Collection LDM

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Happy New Year from all the staff and board members. Hot summer weather arrived after a blustery spring. It was then followed with wet wild weather over the New Year.

In spite of getting a little damp, holiday makers have been ensuring the Wakatipu is full of people enjoying what the district has to offer. Whether it be walking or biking on the fantastic new trails, picnicking beside the lakes and rivers with family and friends, fossicking for gold, visiting the museum or soaking up the atmosphere created by the district's history, there is something for everyone to do. The message is that it does not have to be expensive to have a holiday here and there is so much to do that is free.

The museum and post office staff have had a very busy six months. The highlight was the Gold 150 celebrations held at Labour

Weekend and the opening of our special exhibition titled "Gold is Where You Find It – A History of Gold in Central Otago. The education programme has had a record year with every primary school in the district visiting our gold exhibition. Through the dedication of the staff and museum board our finances are starting to look good again. We can also thank the QLDC for agreeing to additional funding support. This will help us get on with core museum activities rather than trying to scramble for money all the time. We made a small profit for the 2011/12 year after two years of losses and we can now think about undertaking some new projects. These include continuing down the path of earthquake strengthening, refurbishing our toilet facilities and building several new displays. We are looking forward to another successful year in 2013.

David Clarke, Director

STAFF AND BOARD NEWS

Momoyo Sei left during 2012. She gave fantastic service to the museum, working on the front reception desk and we wish her all the best. We welcome Jane Peasey to the museum reception desk. She is also going to undertake some marketing work for us. We also welcome Marilyn Gourlay to the Post Office staff. Le Berne Iles did not seek re-election to the museum board. Her valuable 15 years of service was recognised by the presentation of a museum life membership. Thanks so much to the front desk staff of Glenys Young, Anne Mason and Jane Peasey.



150th Re-enactment. Arrow River.
Photo: Sue Williams Photography



150th Re-enactment. Arrow River.
Photo: Sue Williams Photography



Unveiling the Jack Tewa Plaque –
Jack Reid and 150 Committee.
Photo: Sue Williams Photography

150TH CELEBRATIONS

The museum was heavily involved with the Labour Weekend celebrations to mark the 150th year since gold was discovered in Arrowtown. This event of course, led to the great Wakatipu gold rush and laid the foundations of Queenstown and Arrowtown. The Director was a member of the very busy committee that organised the Arrowtown Celebrations. What a great weekend it was. In spite of nervous weather watching, the events went off like clockwork. The highlights were the initiative by the ODT newspaper in taking a photograph of the population of Arrowtown in Buckingham Street, the unveiling of the Jack Tewa plaque, the burying of the time capsule, and the gold rush re-enactment on the banks of the Arrow River and the Chinese Settlement. The latter was enjoyed by both the cast and the thousands of people watching. It was a relief to see everything come to fruition and for the Director and participating museum board members to finally be able remove their beards at the end of festivities.

COROMANDEL VISIT

In July, The Director was invited to visit Coromandel Town and give a presentation to over 150 members of the public and local politicians about built heritage protection. Coromandel Town has a wonderful collection of goldfields buildings, some of which are under development threat. An interested group wanted to find out about heritage protection in the Wakatipu, most specifically Arrowtown, with a view to both preserving their past and attracting more visitors.



Lovely Coromandel Town. Heritage under threat?

WAKATIPU

HERITAGE TRUST

A council and DoC initiated Trust has been formed to look at further ways to protect the district's heritage. This includes both buildings and archival material. The first two buildings/sites that the Trust has identified to restore/protect are the Arrowtown Gaol and the Bullendale Hydro Electric Power Plant. Both are threatened and both are extremely important icons of our local history. Fundraising begins now!!

EARNSLAW

100TH BIRTHDAY

What a magnificent achievement. The TSS Earnslaw plying Lake Wakatipu for the last 100 years. She is much loved ship and well done to Real Journeys for keeping her in such magnificent condition for the locals and visitors

GALLERY – 20 YEARS OLD!

In September, the gallery at the museum celebrated 20 years of showing quality exhibitions. It was appropriate that the exhibition to mark this occasion was one by Pat Jones. Morgan and Pat Jones along with daughter and son in law Nicola and Stuart were original instigators in setting up a gallery space at the museum. After Pat's exhibition we undertook the major task of presenting an exhibition on all you wanted to know about gold. 'Gold is Where You find It' is the result. A large number of members and interested locals attended the opening officiated by local

legend and part time gold miner, Alan 'Hammy' Hamilton. The exhibition was curated and researched by Ange English with assistance from David Clarke. Darryl Jones undertook the design work. Like many of the museums exhibitions, it has relied on the generosity of many local people and institutions, who have lent artefacts and also the generous funding of the Central Lakes Trust. The exhibition runs until the first week of February.

Coming up in the Gallery

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| Feb 10 | 'Old and New' Works
by Marilyn Palmer (McKenzie) |
| March 14. | COOTS (Central Otago
Outside the Square)
Fibre Artists |

April 12. 29th Locations Arrowtown Autumn
Festival Art Exhibition

LOCATIONS®

*Queenstown 1868 by JT Thompson Southland Museum
Nihō o te Taniwha- on display at Gold 150th exhibition*





Arrowtown Gaol (on left c. 1880). Photo: EL 1882 LDM

to enjoy. She will be still around in another 100 years. Congratulations also to Jenny McLeod for her book on the *Earnslaw* and her kind mention of the museum's role in producing it.

POST OFFICE

We were pleased that the Post Office made a small profit in the 2011/12 year, but trading condition continue to be tough. Thanks to all the locals for their support and to Marilyn Everett, Marilyn Gourlay and Kathy Eeles. Additional income continues to come from running the fruit stall, renting a room to Pure Solutions and running the annual market day. Thanks to Ann Bain for running the market day yet again. The money earned went towards the new landscaping project. Due to the redevelopment of the Postmaster's Precinct, the space that was previously handed over by the museum for public use and access was removed. This has now been reinstated with new landscaping, new seats, a relocated water fountain and new planting. This area will once again be a beautiful place to sit.

Post Masters Precinct development and new garden beside The Post Office.



EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The education programme had an excellent 2012 under the guidance of our education officer Rachel Checketts. She bought lots

of new initiatives and ideas and had record numbers of students participating. We were sad to see her leave to take up a museum position in her home town of Alexandra and wish her all the very best for the future. We have been extremely frustrated by the inability to find out what is happening to the very successful LEOTC (Learning Experiences Outside the Classroom) programme after June 2013 when the contract expires. The Ministry of Education is unable to tell us whether the programme will continue or not past this date. In the meantime we are running the programme with our dedicated team of assistant educators. Thanks to Wendy Clarke and Denise Heckler for all their hard work during the year.

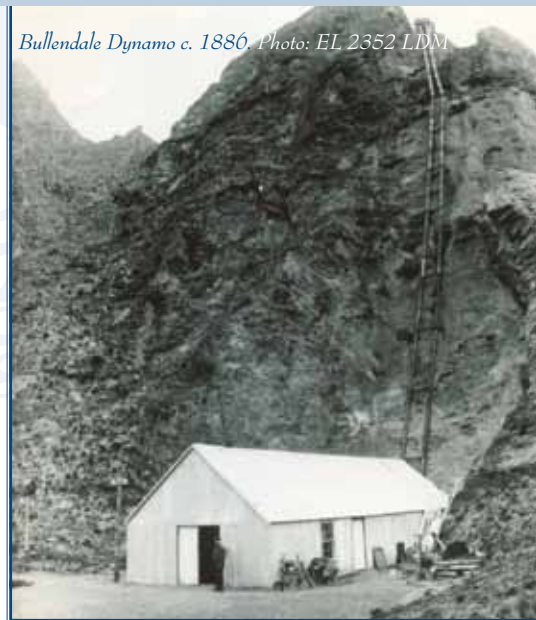
ARCHIVES

The archives facility had another good 6 months. Although run on a skeleton staff, a lot of good work is being achieved both in terms of indexing, scanning, family research and photograph orders. This coming year we hope to carry on work begun by Mike Lynch and Karen Boulay and finish indexing the numerous scrapbooks of newspaper cuttings from the 1960s/70s/80s.

We are working in conjunction with the Queenstown and District Historical Society on the unpublished manuscript on Macetown by Tony Veitch. This work was undertaken in the 1970s but never published. It is being edited and illustrated ready for publication in some form yet to be decided.

Anne Maguire has helped with a number of outside projects mainly supplying photographs. These have included a booklet to celebrate the 150th year, the Earnslaw book and interpretation panels for the restored Boatshed Café in Frankton.

Bullendale Dynamo c. 1886. Photo: EL 2352 LDM



Pritchards General Store (Arrow Pharmacy) from Arrow Lane c. 1940. Photo: EL 5974 LDM

IN BRIEF

Alma Jack legacy - The museum was very pleased to receive a legacy from the late Alma Jack. She kindly left money to four other charitable organisations, three of them in Arrowtown. Alma had been a long time Arrowtown resident and had an interest in local history. She was a descendant of the McGregor family who built the *TSS Earnslaw*. The legacy is likely to go towards two new displays. One on glaciation in the Wakatipu and a new display on music and entertainment.

AGM - The AGM was held on Thursday 21st September. There was a good attendance of members and a good operating year was reported. The guest speaker, David Wright, gave a lively account about his life as a professional golf coach in the USA and showed some of his fascinating memorabilia collection. He has kindly said we could use some of this memorabilia for a fund raising exhibition.

Fire Safety Audit - Thanks to Jenny and Stu from the NZ Fire Service who organised fire extinguisher training for the staff and identified areas of the museum building that need attention in terms of escape routes in the event of any fire.

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BOOKSHOP

NEWS FROM THE BOOKSHOP

As always the staff have a huge number of new books, cards, souvenirs and art prints for sale in our excellent bookshop. If you are wanting a gift this is the place to look. Our prices are competitive and on top of that members get 10% discount.

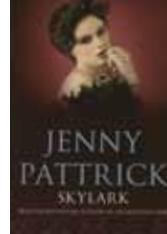
THE ADVENTURES OF THE MILK CART KID – MEMORIES OF IN AND AROUND QUEENSTOWN 1930S–1960S
BY ALAN HAMILTON RRP \$40

Alan 'Hammy' Hamilton has produced his fourth book about his life in the Wakatipu. This one tells of his time spent as a milk boy, working for his dairy farming father before and during WWII, delivering milk to Queenstown residents. He recalls the characters and people he met along the way. Once again it is a great read and richly illustrated from both Alan's and the museums photograph collection.

SKYLARK BY JENNY PATTRICK RRP \$38

A new historical novel by the best selling author of 'The Denniston Rose'. Patrick has written another entertaining yarn which depicts life in the theatre in early New

Zealand. She combines a fictional family with well known historical characters such as Bully Hayes and the Buckingham family. This colourful novel gives a vivid account of the life of a variety of people such as circus performers, gold miners, horse breeders and colonial settlers. The book is full of surprises and well worth a read.



ARROWTOWN CALENDAR RRP \$20

This calendar is full of beautiful images of Arrowtown – A great gift.



QUEENSTOWN AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR
\$15 FROM THE MUSEUM OR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Queenstown and District Historical Society Calendar. Each month is a tinted Post Card image of the Wakatipu from the period Circa 1912.



Children's books. We have a fantastic selection of children's books. They are always good for presents.

THE LOOKY BOOK
BY DONOVAN BIXLEY

RRP \$20

A fun book along the lines of 'Where's Wally' but with a New Zealand flavour. Each page contains a great illustration and you have to find weird and wonderful things.



MANUKURA THE WHITE KIWI
BY JOY COWLEY. ILLUSTRATED BY BRUCE POTTER RRP \$20

A lovely story about a white Kiwi, born in May 2011. It is beautifully illustrated, with a nice message at the end.



FULL STEAM AHEAD COLOURING BOOK
RRP \$19.90

Well known Queenstown artist, Spike Wademan, has produced a colouring book of the TSS Earnslaw. This is to help celebrate her 100th birthday. Coloured stickers are provided to stick beside each illustration, to give you an idea of colour schemes. Quite a challenge, but a lot of fun. Adults will probably enjoy having a go also.

