

Director's Update

We are entering the busy season with great expectations that it will be another really successful six months. Our museum has so much to offer including our museum displays; Tribal Warriors special exhibition; the book and gift shop; and a one-stop information and booking centre.

Many thanks to Queenstown Creative Communities for assisting us with our Tribal Warriors summer exhibition.

Thanks to all the staff for their hard work over the last year. They have been fantastic. Also, big thanks to the museum board for their guidance.

We say goodbye to our Education Officer, Anneliese, who has been a great energetic force in the museum over the last 3 years. She is getting married soon and heading back to the North Island.

The Arrowtown Gaol restoration project is complete and so we now have another special Category 1 building saved for future generations. It was a huge undertaking and the museum has been proud to support the Wakatipu Heritage Trust in achieving this result.



The completion of our new storage facility is now in sight and mid-December is the expected completion date. Shelving is to be installed and then the long task begins of transferring our collections, sorting what needs to stay and what can go, and then re-indexing it all onto our archives database. We are very pleased with the result and the upper floor will provide an excellent public space that will help integrate the museum with Buckingham Street.

Over the past few months we have replaced all our old fluorescent tube lighting with LED lights and have finally finished a major fire and emergency lighting upgrade.

Don't forget the annual Arrowtown Post Office Fundraising Market Day is happening once again on the Library Green on the 27th December.

To you the members, thanks for your support and I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

David Clarke

Farewell to Anneliese and Sam



Our Education Officer Anneliese and her fiancé Sam are getting married in December and then moving back to the North Island. We wish them well and look forward to hearing about their adventures in the future - we are sure there will be many if Anneliese has her way!

In the Gallery...

Showing until the end of January

Frank Varsanyi's

Tribal Warriors

Dunedin born Frank Varsanyi has spent the last 30 years spending time with indigenous people in many remote areas.

From Mongolia to Algeria to the Amazon, Frank has spent time with people from different cultures and has a passion for educating people about the threat that so many cultures are facing.

He has seen first-hand the impact that mining and deforestation has had on the cultures of the Amazon and the impact that tourism has on traditional tribal life in Saharan Africa and is passionate about sharing their stories.

Coming up in the Gallery...



Carlos Biggemann

Photographer

February and March 2018

Born and raised in Bolivia, Carlos Biggemann has lived in Dunedin since 2006 and took up photography while a student at Bayfield High School.

Carlos has been a professional photographer for five years and career highlights have included his position as the Special Olympics official photographer at the Asia-Pacific Special Olympics Championships in Newcastle, Australia in 2013.

Carlos has an eye for capturing light and movement. His artistic eye has led to many accolades including his being the first recipient of the Stephen Thomas Award which was presented in London by Dame Judi Dench.

In the archives...

We continue receiving wonderful photographs, particularly recently a huge carton of slides which were taken by the late Alan Reid. With the clever assistance of volunteer Abbey Soper these images are being accessioned to our database. There is a small sample of these slides below.

Of particular interest are the ones he took of the early Branches school camps. These photos will appear in the soon to be published book by Sue Fea, commemorating 50 years of Branches camps.

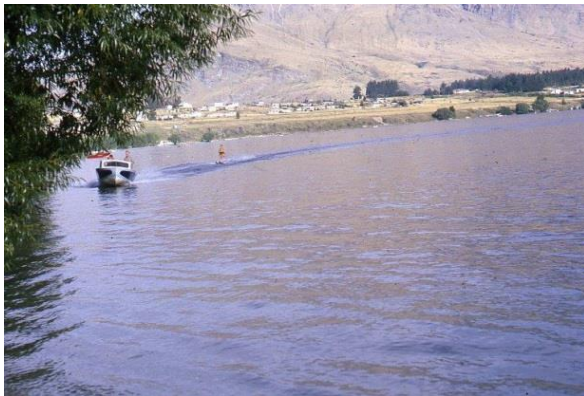


Enquiries for our photographs are always steady and now with some of the really special ones appearing on our Facebook page, the interest in our collection has increased.

Now, if only we had more storage space

Anne Maguire
Archivist

More from the collection of slides taken by the late Alan Reid:



DO YOU HAVE ANY OLD FAMILY CINE FILMS?

The Film Heritage Trust (Inc.) can transfer your films to DVD (or other formats) for your viewing. Scenes of historical interest of Otago and Southland (clips) may, with your permission, be added to our comprehensive Archive Library.

For more information contact The Film Heritage Trust (Inc.): (03) 473 9506

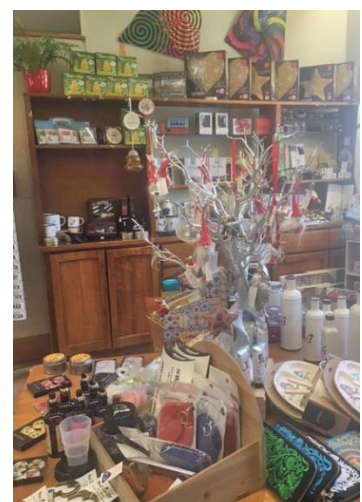
Christmas at the Post Office...

Jane Douglas, the Post Office manager, has stocked the shelves with ideas "from the fun to the functional!".

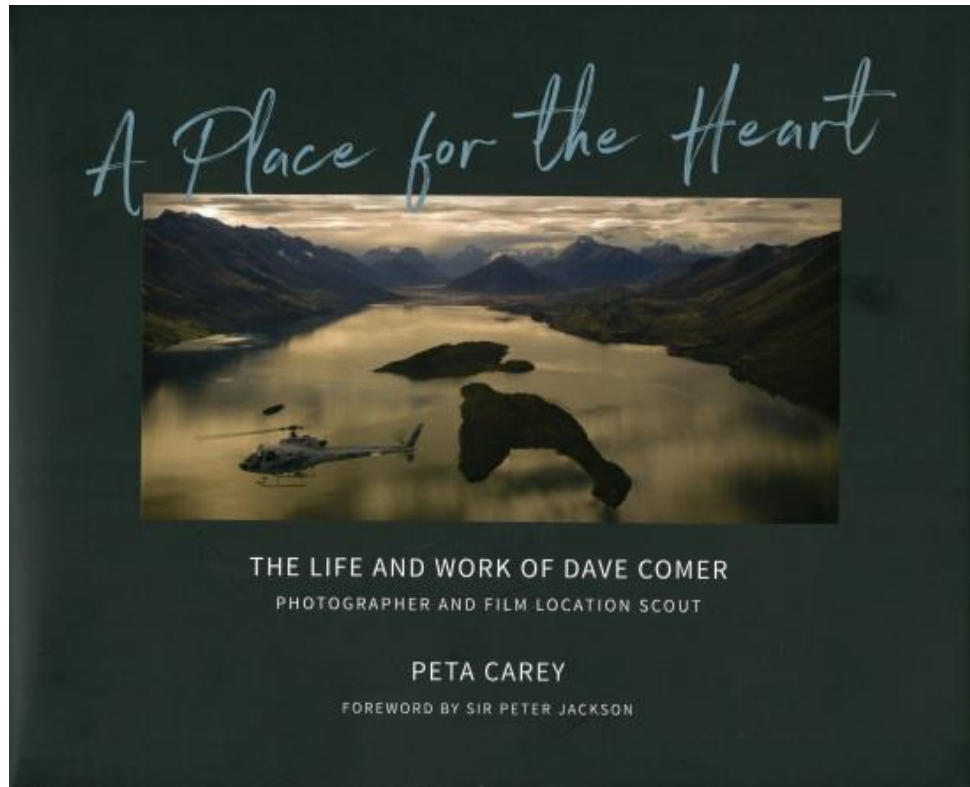
As an added bonus you can package and send your gifts all in one place - Christmas is sorted!

The museum took over the running of the postal services in Arrowtown in 1991 and purchased the Post Office building in 1995. We are determined to keep this essential service operating in our community.

The survival of the postal services in Arrowtown depends upon ongoing community support so pop in and have a look when you are doing your Christmas shopping.



New in the museum bookshop...



A Place for the Heart

The Life and Work of Dave Comer
Photographer and Film Location Scout
by
Peta Carey

Dunedin born Dave Comer was a well known and highly respected photographer and location scout who is renowned for finding Peter Jackson's 'Middle Earth' for the Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies.

Dave spent thirty years in the film industry and his story is told by his wife Peta Carey through personal stories, letters, and photography.

Dave Comer spent much of his life in Fiordland and photographed the area extensively from the 1970s until he passed away in December 2014.

A wonderful book that describes the beauty of the area that he loves as well as the journey that Peta undertook in archiving and recording the memories that make up Dave's legacy.

Potter & Burton
Hardcover
\$60