



# Auckland Climber

**Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month – exceptions will be published**

Meetings are usually held at St Lukes Community Centre, 130 Remuera Rd, Newmarket, beginning at 7.30 with drinks and nibbles provided afterwards.

A gold coin donation for food and refreshments is appreciated.

*This months meeting: **Monday June 9***

**Jo Kippak**

Climbing in Patagonia

*Next months meeting: **Monday July 7***

**To be advised**

### **Librarians Needed!**

The section has a large number of books and journals from various era's and sources which need to be catalogued in order to be of use to members. If you are able to help with this in any way, contact a committee member to find out more.

### **Club-night Suppers**

Wanted: person to do supper on monthly club nights.

After many years of sterling service Jenny has retired from this role. With no one willing or able to take on this role all by themselves we seek volunteers to do a night here and there. If you are prepared to help out once every few months to help with what has become an important social feature of club nights, contact a committee member for more information.

### **Opportunity for Adventure Trip to Russian Far East:**

Scott and Matt are looking for one or two others (male/female) to join them in a trip to the wild and remote Kamchatka peninsula. They intend to climb a few of the 160 volcanoes, relax in thermal pools, shower in gysers, catch running salmon, run away from bears, avoid nuclear radiation, and in general enjoy the unique environment. Looking to leave in early July, for more information contact Matt on 021 1892797, 07 3628658 or [mattgatland@hotmail.com](mailto:mattgatland@hotmail.com)

### **Pouakai Circuit opens on Mt Taranaki**

A new track in Egmont National Park made possible through community efforts was opened recently by the Minister of Conservation. This is a significant development for the Egmont National Park as this two to three day track has been created to be of international walking track standards. The Pouakai Circuit crosses through some of the most spectacular areas of the park including Holly and Pouakai Huts, the Ahukawakwa Swamp, Stony River and Mt Henry.

### **Climb the Highest Peak of Siberia**

We are organizing an International Mountaineering Camp in Altay Mountains "Ascent of Belukha-2003" See attachment and our website for details, if interested. You can get more information about us and see colour magazines about Altay mountains in New Zealand.

Contact person: Olga Yesina our representative in Auckland, New Zealand,  
e-mail: [olia-nz@clear.net.nz](mailto:olia-nz@clear.net.nz), Mobile: 0274-928-648

Our website: [www.promalp.org](http://www.promalp.org) e-mail: [promalp@mail.tomsknet.ru](mailto:promalp@mail.tomsknet.ru)

Address: Prom Alp Limited 22 Nekrasova St., Tomsk, Russia

### **UIAA 2003 Himalayan Climbing Camp**

The camp will be held from 10th September till 12th October 2003. We will hold the camp at Tapovan in the Garhwal Himalayas and attempt to climb the Satopanth (7060 mts) Peak. Total cost: USD 1,950 per person. This cost will be inclusive of all arrangements from arrival in Delhi till Departure from Delhi.

For more details contact the editor ([chris.l@kmg.co.nz](mailto:chris.l@kmg.co.nz)).

### **Trips**

31 May - 2nd June - Queen's Birthday weekend - contact Derryn on 527 7689.

Snowcraft refresher course - now's the time to brush up on your alpine skills before the winter sets in

7/8 June

Working bee at Wharepapa.

Yes, it's true, Bryce is offering free accommodation for the weekend of 6th/7th June, plus a free BBQ on Sat. night. All you need to do to take up this great offer is spend two days helping to clear and improve the crags around Wharapapa South (but NOT Wharapapa South or Froggatt Edge - which are now commercial operations). Contact Colin on [colin.megson@eds.com](mailto:colin.megson@eds.com) 308 5625

21/22 June

Winter Solstice, Ruapehu Hut – Contact Kathleen

This years theme is a midwinter Christmas, so dig out the santa gear and mulled wine recipes and head up to the Ruapehu hut. Someone is needed to help organise things for the night (especially music) – please contact Kathleen if you are able to help out.

- 28 June            Multisports bike Rogain - PIHA - contact Kathleen. A rogain is a event where you are given a map which has a series of checkpoints. Each check point is worth a given number of points (between 10 -100 points), depending on how hard it is to find. Your task will be score as many points as possible by finding as many checkpoints as possible within a certain time frame. If you come in late, you will lose 100 points for each minute by which you are late. The team with the most points wins!  
This a great opportunity to practise your navigation skills, and the race caters for all levels of competition ranging from walkers to fast keen runners to general picnickers. Participants compete in teams of 2-5, so if you are interested and want some people to race with at your level then get in touch and we'll see if we can find another team mate for you (that may just be Kathleen, because she doesn't have a racing partner at the moment). Alternatively see [www.lacticturkey.co.nz](http://www.lacticturkey.co.nz) for more details.
- 29 June            John has started his Winter Wobbles again. If you're wanting to explore somewhere different in the Waitekeres which involves scrambling (i.e. use of hands AND feet) then look no further - John has a few surprises in store for you. The walk/scramble, takes around 3-4 hours on the Sunday afternoon and involves a lot of fun, which means avoiding getting wet. This is will be a great way to recover from the Rogain from the day before!  
Contact John Salisbury 834 6699

Winter Trips coming up: See the next issue for more details.

- \* Winter traverse of the Tongariro Crossing
- \* Winter ascent of Ngaurahoe
- \* Winter ascent of Ruapehu from the Turoa side including the ascent of the Girdle Stone
- \* Winter crossing of the plateau from the Ruapehu to the Whangaehu hut
- \* Winter ascent of Taranaki
- \* Ski Touring on Ruapehu

See/Call Kathleen for more information. (Details on last page).

### **Snowcraft Instructors**

Come and share your knowledge with like minded individuals starting out in the mountains. If you would like to instruct on this years snowcraft course please contact Mike Henton on 027 4677 050 or [mike@clmnz.co.nz](mailto:mike@clmnz.co.nz)

### **Snow Craft Course Dates**

19/20 July	Instructors Weekend	2/3 August	Weekend 1
30/31 August	Weekend 2	20/21 September	Weekend 2

## **Auckland Section Annual Report 2003**

### **Presented at AGM 7 April 2003**

This report outlines progress in the main areas of focus for the Auckland Section committee of the New Zealand Alpine Club.

#### **Instruction**

The instruction team are Dave Crofts - Instruction Manager, and Alpine Chief Instructor, Sarah Painter - Rock Chief Instructor and Mike Henton, Courses Administrator. The snowcraft course went well and was capped at eighteen students, rather than 20, which made the time in the hut more comfortable. Demand still exceeds places by two to one. The weather scared a few off for the third weekend which was also when John Gibbs stepped in for Dave as chief instructor. Vern Meyer was employed to run the instructors training weekend to keep snow skills and teaching methods honed.

The rock climbing instruction course ran into trouble with a good number signing up but then most pulling out at the last minute. A 'No money, no place' booking scheme like on the snowcraft course may help in the future. Marketing will be improved in 2003. Many thanks to all the instructors who put so much professionalism and effort into our courses.

#### **Publications**

The Auckland Section Climber newsletter, edited by John Salisbury for most of the year, continued to be the main method of keeping members in touch with the Club's activities, trips and gear for sale. Part way through the year, head office decided to distribute the letter by email where possible, this move did not prove popular, so mailing resumed with an email option being offered. We still need more people to write articles, however brief, on their activities, whether organised by the club or privately, as this generates a sense of community.

We had a good printer and have managed to keep costs low, especially during the email phase. Chris Leigh has now taken over the portfolio and has the technology to print photographs and diagrams.

#### **Meetings**

Many thanks to Chris Burn who is retiring after two years as the Meetings Coordinator. He has done a great job with many interesting speakers and two huge Christmas dinners.

Meetings over the past year were:

- May: Auckland Section Photographic Competition
- June: Craig Jefferies: Kyrgystan Climbing
- July: Duncan Sherrat: NZAC Wellington's Snow Lake Expedition

- July: Special Meeting: Doug Scott - Lecture at the Auckland Grammar School Centennial Theatre on "Moments of Being"
- August: Paul Whitfield - Climbing at Yosemite (author of "Rough Guide to Yosemite)
- September: Richard Wesley - climbing in Alaska - Mt Logan attempt
- October: Craig Miller and Sarah Painter - climbing in Europe
- November: BBQ at Henderson indoor climbing wall
- November: South Island Trips: planning night
- December: Christmas Dinner with Brede Arkless "Enthusiasm in the Mountains
- February: South Island Trips: members stories.
- March: Mark Roberts and Kathleen Lee: Climbing in Jordan and Africa.
- April: AGM and Mt Cook Search and Rescue video.

Many thanks also to Jenny Andrews who has catered every meeting for the last two years and is also retiring.

### **Ruapehu Hut**

Chris Leigh managed the hut in 2002. Several major issues were dealt with, firstly the state of the cladding and roof of the hut. Suresh Nanu, bookings officer, recently met DoC's number one hut man on site who recommended that we leave the current cladding and wood (pine) to weather and replace the lot in the future as there is an oil layer which prevents paint from sticking. Secondly, the septic tank had caused concern with an unknown amount of waste having not been emptied for some 5 years. This was emptied in January, indications being that it was not before time, but no damage appears to have resulted from the delay. It is recommended this be repeated every two years in future.

The foyer of the hut was the focus of a hut working bee which added a layer of plywood to protect the existing floor beneath which had been destroyed by crampon use. This met with some success but problems with the plywood swelling mean a more permanent solution must still be found. Additionally the hut working bee installed a new microwave, donated by the Auckland Section and the demise of the drying room heater meant a new drying solution was sought. An externally drained dehumidifier/heater was installed, which has been a great success and appears to have had the bonus effect of a generally dryer hut. Over the summer the water pump failed and will need repairing, the extent of which is uncertain at present.

### **Membership and Promotion**

Bill Hood managed this role until December when John Salisbury took it on. The library is still being underutilised and a new location is sought. A volunteer is needed to bring books to club nights to stimulate borrowing.

### **Trips**

There were a number of Ruapehu winter trips including a group that made the sensible decision to wait out a storm in Whangaehu Hut and missed work on

Monday. Also there were: a Mountain biking trip down the 42nd Traverse Tongariro Forest in June, a smaller than usual Queens Birthday snow refresher trip, over 20 people for the soggy Winter Solstice party at Whakapapa Hut, twelve went to Little Barrier Island in July and the Labour Weekend Taranaki trip was reinvigorated with 25 people attending despite dark forecasts. John Sailsbury ran his regular Waitakere wanders day trips.

Summer in the South Island was the best for years with successful ascents of and trips to Mt Cook, Mt Aspiring, D' Archiac, Garden of Eden, Arthurs Pass, Frew-Toaroha saddle circuit and a number of rock climbers touring the South Island.

Amongst the many successful trips there have been quite a few trips without many takers, for example, Wharepapa rock climbing, Mountainbiking, and South Island, so it is quite a challenge to meet the needs of the club. It would be great to see more people stepping forward to lead or organise trips. Thanks to Matt Ward Trips Officer and Laura Wraight who also helped.

### **Section Representation on National Committee**

Dave Crofts and Carol Diamond are the section reps and attend national committee meetings in Christchurch twice a year. On the national committee Dave has been involved with Instruction and Overseas Climbing Committees and Carol convenes the national Membership and Promotions committee and is also on the National Overseas Climbing Committee.

Richard Christie has been the National Photographic Competition Convenor for the last two competitions and succeeded in gaining strong sponsorship with Fuji film in 2001, Marvelox in 2002 and arranged sponsorship for the 2003 competition with Marmot but has now handed the role over to Derryn Williams.

### **Financial**

Clayton McKenzie: the accumulated funds of the Auckland Section are \$39,266, the club's main asset is the slide projector now valued at approximately \$1800. Cash is the most significant asset with \$14942.50 in two separate cheque accounts and \$23814.24 in a savings account.

Theft of the cheque book with receipts during a home break-in has made accounting difficult this financial year. The surplus for the year is \$4892. The budget showed a target deficit of \$1150. The main factors that contributed to the surplus include lower costs for the snowcraft instruction course, restricted to 18 students rather than 20, and less expected expenditure on administration items such as books and there was no bolting fund contribution. The sections financial records will be audited after the AGM and ratified by the committee and printed in the climber newsletter. The challenge for the New Year is to determine the best ways to utilize the strong asset base that has been built up.

Clayton is also keeping an eye on developments at the Mt Wellington Quarry site, there will hopefully be a new rock-climbing site within four years.

#### *Chair*

As the chair I have been overseeing the portfolios and helping where needed, instructing on snow, leading trips, working with Charles Allison and Craig Miller on the proposed ice climbing wall, liaison with the Grammar School about developments at the quarry, contributing to the Tongariro Park Management Plan, speaking with Richard Christie at the Auckland Museum during the Hillary Exhibition, and am putting together a questionnaire for the national committee to help us better understand our members. After seven of the last eight years on committee in various roles I will be retiring from chair but am available to support the new chair and the section over the next few months.

#### *Other Portfolios and Roles*

Maurits van den Berg has kept things running smoothly as the section secretary, Peter Cammell hosted Doug Scott and help with Quarry Liaison, and Lee-Anne Parore organised the Quarry Clean up. Many thanks to the retiring committee on behalf of the Auckland Section: Chris Burn (2 years), Laura Wraight, Bill Hood, Clayton McKenzie (2 years), and Carol Diamond (7 of the last 8 years). Also thanks to the many others who have given their time to instruct on our courses or to lead trips or help in other ways.

So the Auckland Section continues to provide services for Auckland members although there are challenges at times. It would be wonderful if more people were available for hut working parties, to lead trips and would put pen to paper and write for the climber. So if you are sitting here tonight thinking you might not be ready for a committee position, there are other things you can do to help. Exciting projects that the section will be involved with in the long term are the Mt Wellington Quarry and the proposed Silverdale ice wall.

Happy Climbing!

Carol Diamond  
Chairperson 2002

### **Gear for sale**

Touring Skis. Elan Annapurna with Silvretta 404 bindings. 180cm. Bindings are for boot size larger than 7-8. Also comes with ski brakes and ski crampons. Good Condition. \$500. Contact Craig to arrange a viewing at [c.miller@gns.cri.nz](mailto:c.miller@gns.cri.nz) or 027 4447233.

Macpac Torre 85L pack, \$225. Mountain Hardwear Tioga Ss/bag, Lge, \$475L. Mountain Hardwear 2nd Dimension s/bag, \$225. Charlet Moser Evolution 65cm modular ice axe, \$175. Pentax 90WR camera, \$75. MSR stainless potset, \$50. Macpac windproof fleece Med \$75. Nick 6390963 (Hm) 5292280 (Wk)

### **WANTED TO BUY**

A pair of plastic boots size 11.5 -12 UK. Also climbing harness and ice axe. Contact Iain email [jandi@ihug.co.nz](mailto:jandi@ihug.co.nz) or ph530-8317

### **Climber Content**

Deadline for each issue is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceeding. Send any content for the climber to Chris Leigh. [chris.l@kmg.co.nz](mailto:chris.l@kmg.co.nz). PO Box 11333, Ellerslie.

Send any photos for inclusion as a jpeg or tiff image, 300dpi at print size (up to 200mmx150mm/8"x6")

### **Change of Address**

For any change of address, email your new details to NZAC headquarters. [subscriptions@alpineclub.org.nz](mailto:subscriptions@alpineclub.org.nz)

adapting to your environment

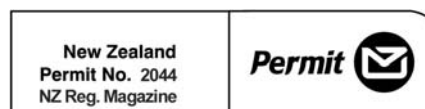


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## COMMITTEE CONTACT INFORMATION

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New Zealand Alpine Club  
Auckland Section  
PO Box 3036, Auckland



**The Auckland Climber - NZ Alpine Club Auckland Section Newsletter**

*Auckland Climber – June 2003*

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