



The
Auckland
Climber

May '06

GET YOUR TICKETS!

BANFF
MOUNTAIN
FILM
FESTIVAL
WORLD TOUR

A PROGRAM OF THE BANFF CENTRE

www.banffmountainfestivals.ca



this month:
**Photographic
Competition**



next month:
**EXPLORERS,
ENDURANCE,
ENDEAVOUR**

***Welcome** to May's edition of the NZAC Auckland Section newsletter. The club runs a variety of alpine, climbing & other trips throughout the year & new members are always welcome. The club generally meets on the 1st Monday of every month at St Luke's Community Centre, 130 Remuera Rd, Newmarket – but look out for a few exceptions for Bank Holidays!*

This month's meeting:

Monday 1st May, 7.15pm

Photographic Competition

Come along to see and vote for your favourite members' alpine photographs at the 2006 Photo Competition. Members are encouraged to submit their photos & slides and the categories for submissions are: **Alpine General, Alpine Nature, Photo Journalism, Humour, Alpine Activity & Rock-climbing.**

How to submit your photos: Choose the category your picture fits, title your picture, and bring along to the alpine club meeting at 7pm. Slides and digital formats are accepted and digital pictures should be brought in on CD or memory stick.

Please mark slides with name, category and title.
For more info contact Deryn Williams on 441 3094.



Next month's meeting:

Monday 29th May 7.15pm (note date change due to Queen's Birthday weekend)

EXPLORERS, ENDURANCE, ENDEAVOUR

Club member Michael Brook presents a programme of fantastic and rare film footage from the vaults of the New Zealand Film Archive. The little-seen footage spans a century of human endeavour and highlights include: Shackleton and Scott leaving for the Pole in 1908

and 1913; Hillary crossing Antarctica in 1957 and travelling up the Ganges in a jet boat in the 1970s; Kingsford Smith flying the Tasman and Meda McKenzie swimming Foveaux Strait and much more...

This is a unique opportunity to see some of the Archive's best human endeavour footage.

Non members welcome.





The New Zealand Alpine Club is bringing to Auckland a selection of films from Canada's 2006 Banff Mountain Film Festival. Experience the adventure of climbing, mountain expeditions, remote cultures, and the world's last great wild places – all brought to life on the big screen at SKYCITY Theatre on **Tuesday 16th May 2006, 7:30pm.**

Films in the programme include

- a Swiss expedition to climb a new route on Thalay Sagar (22,650 ft.) in the Garwhal Himalaya of northern India
- an award-winning look at the challenges and characters of modern desert crack climbing, featuring hilarious commentary by Timmy O'Neill
- Biscuit the climbing dog returns to Auckland with her puppy Felix in a show billed as a Jack Russell's coming of age (on the rock)
- Surreal footage of world-class B.A.S.E. jumpers pitching off Mexico's El Gigante's 2,500-foot (760-metre) prow, and into the notorious "Cave of the Swallows"
- A fascinating portrait of life in the harsh climes of Siberia.

Tickets are \$15 and are available from:

- **Bivouac Outdoor, 210 Queen Street, Auckland City and 300 Broadway Newmarket**
- **Outdoor Action, 57 Barry's Point Road, Takapuna**
- **or by sending a cheque and stamped, self-addressed envelope to:**

**Banff Mountain Film Festival
NZ Alpine Club – Auckland Section
PO Box 3036, Auckland**

- **Also available at May's club meeting where they are \$12 to members.**

More information is available on the Banff Centre website at:
<http://www.banffcentre.ca/mountainculture/2005/>

SNOW CRAFT 06

An introductory course focused on taking participants new to the alpine environment into the mountains to gain skills, confidence and experience in alpine climbing.

Topics covered in the course:

- Moving on snow
- Using ice-axe and crampons on snow and ice
- Self arrest
- Mountain navigation and route finding
- Mountain weather
- Snow anchors, abseiling and belays on snow
- Building snow shelters
- Avalanche awareness
- Crevasse rescue
- Equipment selection
- Introduction to multi-pitch climbing
- Summit experience (weather permitting)

This course is very popular and the limited places typically fill up quickly. To secure a spot on the course see Chris Munro at a club meeting or send in the non-refundable deposit of \$150 to:

Chris Munro
24 Sequoia place
Sunnynook
Auckland

If you have any queries, don't hesitate to call me on 021 0386230 or email: munrochris@yahoo.co.nz



Alpine Taster Weekend 2006

If you've never tramped on snow and ice before and fancy having a go, then why not come along on our introductory weekend in June? You'll get the chance to check out the Alpine environment with experienced alpinists, you'll be able to hire all the gear you need, and you'll be staying at the Mangatepopo Hut which is on the Tongariro Crossing and only a stone's throw from the alpine wonderland. See the *Trips* Section for more information.



News

Homer Hut Renovations Almost Complete

After fire damage last year the Homer Hut is now almost back to its former glory and will reopen after May 6th 2006.

Location: 900m, Homer Forks, Upper Hollyford Valley

Grid Ref: Infomap 260-D40 147-927

Facilities: 30 bunks, 3 bunk rooms, gas stoves, utensils, common room, water tank

Access: By road via the Eglinton and Upper Hollyford Valleys, car access to within 200m of hut

Booking: Not required, bunk space available on a first come first serve basis. Warden resident during the summer months.

Fees: Members \$10, non-members \$20 per night, payable to warden or to the National Office, PO Box 786, Christchurch.

Oceania Sport Climbing Championships 2006 – Lake Wanaka

Dates: 6-8 October 2006

The Oceania Sport Climbing Championships is the most prestigious Australasian climbing competition, attracting over 120 top climbers from Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. The male and female winners of the Open category receive automatic entry into the World Championships and access to invitational events around the world.

The three-day event will also feature the Junior and National New Zealand Championships as well as non-championships events for recreational climbers, film shows, trade fair and fun activities for all the family to enjoy. Check back for a full programme shortly.

Non-Championship Events

Recreational climbers are invited to take part in this exciting new climbing event. The non-championship events are designed to both introduce new people to the sport and provide keen climbers with the opportunity to have some fun and win some enviable prizes as well as provide entertainment for the audience in between championship events.

Event Categories

- Speed Climbing
- Fancy Dress
- Deep Water Solo
- Four-Person Relay

Classes

Teams and individuals welcome. Children, Junior, Open and Corporate.

For more information go to www.nzsf.org.nz

Expedition Funding Opportunity – Hillary Expedition 2006

SPARC (Sport & Recreation New Zealand) will provide funding for up to six inspiring and cutting-edge adventures. The funding is between \$15,000 and \$30,000 each.

The adventures must involve an outdoors expedition and can take place in New Zealand or offshore.

The adventures might include (but are not limited to) any one or combination of the following activities:

- tramping (hiking)
- rock climbing
- whitewater and/or sea kayaking
- sailing.
- mountaineering
- cross-country skiing
- mountain biking



To apply contact Jo Gilpin at SPARC:

Phone: 04 496 5012

Email: jo.gilpin@sparc.org.nz

Website: sparc.org.nz

You must return the form to SPARC no later than by 5pm, Friday 23 June 2006.

International Youth Camp in the Romanian Carpathians

August 5-12, 2006

If you are aged 17-25 you are invited to attend the Romanian Mountain Club's climbing and youth camp for a week of organised climbing and trekking. Accommodation and transport provided.

For more information contact:

ROMANIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB: Constantin Lacatusu (camp director):

email: office@mountain.ro; lacatusu8850@yahoo.com, **Telephone:** +40.744.913 941.

iclimb

Thanks to Glenn Pennycook for presenting last month's meeting. Glenn imports and sells Simond climbing hardware such as ice axes, crampons, carabiners, helmets, rock and ice protection, slings and ropes direct to the individual climber. www.iclimb.co.nz

email: glennpennycook@iclumb.co.nz **Telephone:** 021 1533919.

Aspiring Documentary on TVNZ on Queen's Birthday

TV One, June 4th. Look out for a documentary that charts the attempt by four of NZ's leading artists to capture the SW ridge of Mt Aspiring. Also includes rare footage of the Matukituki Valley and Aspiring Hut.

Trips

Do you have a new trip idea? Perhaps you missed one before and want a repeat? We can only run as many trips as there are organisers. Volunteer to lead just one trip this year and get to do it where, when and with whom you want! You don't need to be the most proficient person on the trip, you are not a guide, its about car-pooling etc. Make your dream trip happen this winter, contact Grant (Trips Officer) grants22@clear.net.nz or Tel: 638-3346

John's Wobbles

Club Coasteerer, John Salisbury, is running a series of 'West Coast Wobbles' to lead us over to the Winter Season. Trips are planned to various little-explored areas of the West Coast and involve plenty of rock hopping and scrambling. You will probably (definitely) get wet and hungry but you will definitely (probably) have a great time and a good laugh. So pack a bag of dry clothes, a packed lunch and get round to John's house at 5a Porter Ave, Te Atatu South at 10.30 am. Give him a call to let him know you're coming/ ask questions on 834 6699.

Sun 7 May – probably Bethell's Beach Spike Lasso

Sun 11 June – probably Karamatura Stream

Sun 9 July – probably Maori Bay

Sun 23 July – probably Destruction Gully 1

June 3/4/5 Queen's Birthday Weekend – Snowcraft Refresher – Ruapehu

If you have completed a snowcraft course then this is the annual chance to dig out your crampons and ice axe and come down to the mountain and for a weekend of brushing up snowcraft skills and strengthening calves in preparation for the winter season. Accommodation will be at the Alpine Club Hut.

Contact: Grant Sutton **email:** grants22@clear.net.nz **Telephone:** 638-3346

June 17/18 Mountain Taster Weekend – Open to All

If you've never been tramping on snow and ice before and you want to see what it's like/ whether it's for you, then join this weekend trip to Ruapehu. You may have seen the Banff Film Festival want to give it a go, if so, call John Salisbury and he'll put you off!! (not really).

Come and experience the snowy ridges easily accessible from the Mangatepopo Hut that lies at the bottom of Ngauruhoe.

Some fitness is required (but not a lot) and gear will be available to hire at a moderate costs.

Contact: John Salisbury **email:** salisj@xtra.co.nz **Telephone:** 834 6699

June 24/25 Mid Winter Solstice Christmas Alpine Weekend.

Mulled Wine, Christmas pudding, turkey with all the trimmings, Scottish dancing and the chance to explore various peaks on Ruapehu if the weather is good (and too much mulled was not consumed).

Partners and non-members are welcome to come and join us for this fun and sociable weekend.

It's at the Alpine Hut on Ruapehu, and if you are unsure about getting to the hut on Friday night or not comfortable tackling the snow on your own, I'll be taking a group up on Saturday morning.

Please contact Suzanne for more information.

Contact: Suzanne Stickney **email:** suzstick@hotmail.com **Telephone:** 0211 699 756

Ice Climbing Weekend on Ruapehu

Dates and location will be finalised closer to the event.

There will be top rope set ups, sport climbs and lead climbing instruction. Suitable for ice novices through to those who already know their stuff. Cool gadgets such as leashless tools and monopoint crampons are available for the climbs but participants will need to be self reliant on the mountain.

To express interest/ find out more email:

glennpennycook@iclimb.co.nz or grants22@clear.net.nz



2006 committee contacts

Chairperson – Kathleen Lee

Phone: 845 4487

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Climber Content

Deadline for each issue is the 20th of the month preceding. Send any content for the climber to the editor, Suzanne, at suzstick@hotmail.com

Change of Address

For any change of address, or to request to receive your newsletter by email (better for us and the environment!) contact: subscriptions@alpineclub.org.nz
NZAC Auckland Section, PO Box 3036, Auckland

The Auckland Climber

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New Zealand

