



The Auckland Climber

April 2011

www.aucklandclimber.org.nz

The Banff Centre presents
2010 / 2011

BANFF
MOUNTAIN
FILM
FESTIVAL
WORLD TOUR



The World's
Best Mountain Films

www.banffmountainfestival.ca



Auckland


The Banff Centre
inspiring creativity

Two adrenalin-packed and entirely different programmes!

Programme 1: Tuesday 24 May 7.30pm

Programme 2: Wednesday 1 June, 7.30pm

SkyCity Theatre, SkyCity, corner Victoria
and Federal Streets, Auckland

Tickets for one show: \$20/\$15 (NZAC members)

or both shows: \$35/\$30 (NZAC members)

Tickets from: www.aucklandclimber.org.nz and Bivouac Outdoor stores in
Queen St or Sylvia Park and Outdoor Action in Albany.

Welcome to the *April edition of the NZAC Auckland Section's newsletter.*
The section runs a variety of alpine, climbing and other trips and courses throughout the year and new members are always welcome. The club meets on the second Monday of every month at Cardrona Speights Ale House, on Normanby Rd, Mt Eden – Meeting starts at 8pm. Socialise with other members from 7pm.

Climber Content

Is there anything you would like to see in the newsletter? Do you have a suggestion for improving the newsletter? If so, drop us a line, we're keen to hear from you. Alternatively, we love getting submissions from members – whether they be Trip Reports, Items for Sale or rants. Just send your material to the editor by the 15th of the

month preceding. Contact Ant Stead by emailing: newsletter@aucklandclimber.org.nz

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

This month's meeting: 11 April 2011 8pm

Winter planning meeting.

An old fashioned "Winter planning meeting". Traditionally done in April. We'll get the guide books and maps out and look at different objectives around Tongariro/Ruapehu and Taranaki. Maybe even plan some trips... Come all to network with other climbers, and set your goals for the winter season!



As always, the formal part of the evening kicks off at 8pm... but all are encouraged to arrive prior to this and share an ale or meal, do some tripping planning, or participate in the committee meeting deliberations! Much better than sitting in traffic on our way home just to come back for the meeting. See you there.

Next month's meeting:

<<<< Monday May 9, 8pm, Check out www.aucklandclimber.org.nz for the details >>>>

Local News

Snowcraft 2011 - Enrollment open!

This is an introductory course focused on taking participants new to mountaineering into the mountains to gain skills, confidence and experience in the alpine environment. This fills up super fast so be in quick! Check out the ad in this newsletter, and the full details on our website.

Reel Rocks Film Tour

The now annual Reel Rocks Film Tour returned to Auckland on the 24th March. Run by the Auckland Section of NZAC and Auckland Uni Rock and Alpine Club, the event was great success drawing climbers and alpinists in for night of amazing adventures on the big screen. Looking forward to the next one!

Bannff Mountain Film Festival

May 24 and June 1, Sky City Theatre, 7.30 pm
Each year, a few very special clubs round the world (that's us!), get sent the movies from Canada's Annual Banff Mountain Film Festival to show in their countries.

This year when we were sent the films and heaps and heaps of them were awesome. We didn't know what to do. We couldn't fit them all into one night...so we decided to hold two!

You can come to one show, or you can come to both. On both nights you get a big screen and awesome sound. So make a night of it with your friends and support your club (this is our big fundraiser for the year).

It will sell out, so don't wait til it's too late to get your tickets or you will be forced to buy them on Trade Me for a lot more money .

Auckland Section on Facebook - Go to: www.facebook.com and search for "New Zealand Alpine Club - Auckland Section" and 'like' the page, then you'll get all the updates as they happen. Nice one.

Auckland Climber website - Go to : www.aucklandclimber.org.nz - Remember that all our trips, and news as it comes to hand is on our website. Go there and bookmark it!



MT EDEN QUARRY UPDATE

Here's the 'result' from the latest talks with the ags board. The board have agreed in principle to a staged re-opening process. And will discuss the issue at their april board meeting. Over the next few weeks a group of ahead, so a group of climbers and nzac members will install new signs, and fencing. We are in process of creating a registration form that all users of the quarry must use before climbing there. But as this newsletter goes to print the long side of the quarry is still closed to climbing. Please check our website www.aucklandclimber.org.nz for the latest info Or visit www.mojozone.co.nz to view the forum discussion.

Contact us at Quarry@aucklandclimber.org.nz

MT EDEN QUARRY SHORT SIDE WORKING BEE

We need you!

A truck load of mulch will be delivered to the Quarry Short side on Friday 8th April.

We need climbers to bring rakes and spades to distribute the mulch over the scoria that has been laid in the last week.

Your help on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning would be greatly appreciated.

National News

NZAC Huts

We are currently in the midst of a busy post-summer huts capital programme, which means a number of NZAC huts are temporarily closed - here's the details:

- Unwin Lodge, Aoraki Mt Cook National Park: after all the years of planning & fundraising, construction of the new bunkroom wing is about to begin. Unwin is now officially closed until the end of September.
- Colin Todd Hut, Mt Aspiring National Park: the weather has not quite cooperated with the construction team, & hence this hut remains closed. We do however expect the recladding work to be complete by mid April.
- Whangaehu Hut, Tongariro National Park: the recladding & window replacement project on this hut is partially completed, & hence this hut remains closed until further notice.

A huge thanks to all the club volunteers & DOC staff who are making all these projects possible, & a reminder to all hut users that paying your hut fees does make a huge difference for the club.

Any questions relating to the above huts & projects, see the NZAC website or feel free to contact NZAC national office: office@alpineclub.org.nz

DOC Siberia Hut burns down

The popular Siberia Hut on the Gillespie Pass Circuit Track in Mt Aspiring National Park burnt to the ground. Fire authorities will be investigating the incident.

There were no injuries to trampers in the hut. The 8 adults and 5 children in the huts are being evacuated by helicopter.

Siberia Hut was original built in the early 1980s.

Around 2,000 trampers per year use the hut – which has 20 bunks.

Subscription Winner

March winner of the 6-month membership extension is (Anna) Nien-tzu Ma of the Auckland Section

WANTED: NZAC Alpine Journals for the years 2000 and 2001 to complete my collection. Please contact David Harrowfield d.harrowfield@xtra.co.nz

Mountain Skills for Youth

As part of a new initiative, the New Zealand Alpine Club is offering a three day alpine instruction course for youth between the ages of 14 and 18 years on 1st June 2011.

The course will be instructed by qualified Mountain Guides and is aimed at teaching the basics of mountaineering to youngsters in the safe, fun and enthralling environment of Arthur's Pass.

The course will run over Queen's Birthday Weekend (June 4th – 6th) and will be based out of the NZAC Lodge in the Arthurs Pass Village.

The cost is \$480 and this includes all instruction, accommodation, food, avalanche safety equipment and a year's complimentary membership to the New Zealand Alpine Club.

If you are interested in this course, or think you know someone else who might be, contact: Pat on 03 377 7595 or email: pat@alpineclub.org.nz or visit www.alpineclub.org.nz

Aoraki Mt Cook Alpine Lodge Ltd

NZAC members are offered now until the end of September on a space available basis :

Bunk Beds in unisex multi share room \$36 per person per night with our linen, rooms are en-suite and are equipped with flat screen tv/dvd players,tea/coffee. A minimum of 2 people are required per room at this rate and a maximum of 4 per room is possible.

Double room rate of \$115 per night, this includes and king size bed, towels shampoo and soap, en-suite, great views including Mount Cook, tv/dvd, tea/coffee. Twin beds is an extra \$8 per stay. Rate includes continental breakfast.

Contact: Tony Delaney directly otherwise reservations at admin@aorakialpinelodge.co.nz or 0800680680.www.aorakialpinelodge.co.nz

Upcoming 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 who you want. You don't need to be the most proficient person on the trip, you are not a guide: it's about car-pooling, collating emergency details and forwarding information to the trip participants. Make your dream trip happen this winter, contact Magnus (hammarsal@hotmail.com). Also email us to obtain updates to this list. Trips marked with "organiser tba" means that we don't have a trips organised allocated and that trip can't go ahead until we find a volunteer to do so.... All suggestions for trips welcome!

Alpine climbing can be dangerous! You need to have the appropriate skill for any trip that you wish to attend.

Beginner: Someone who is at least a current SnowCraft student, and is competent with the skills covered on the course.

Intermediate would be proficient in all the basic alpine skills taught on the course.

Advanced would have already gained further alpine experience and is comfortable on alpine grade 2+ climbs.

APRIL	
Auckland Section Meeting Winter planning meet	8pm April 11
New Member / Beginner Rock Climbing. Mt Eden Quarry - Short Side If you've just joined the club, or just starting to get into climbing and want to meet like minded people, come along to Extreme Edge indoor climbing wall for an evening of climbing.  Magnus Hammarsal  hammarsal@hotmail.com Phone 021 31 44 22	April 20
Rock Climbing - Whanganui Bay - Easter One of the top climbing spots in the North Island. Camping on the lake front. This trip is a trip for all - young and old also families welcome/encouraged!  Anthony Sidwell  anthonyssidwell@hotmail.com	April 22 - 25
Rock Climbing - Arapiles - Easter Arapiles: the best rock climbing in Australia! Anyone interested in sharing a car approx 22 April and 30th (Easter).  Peter Mobberley  peterm@bigevents.co.nz Phone: 021 662 453	April 22 - 30
Rock Climbing Instruction - Introduction to Rockclimbing and Leading on Bolts This course is perfect those who want to learn to lead climb outside. This course is held over a weekend in the Central North Island, with NZAC rock climbing instructors. We have lots a rental gear and ropes. Contact Christa for more details. Limited places!  Christa Dickson  rockinstruction@aucklandclimber.org.nz	30 April and 1 of May
MAY	
Auckland Section Meeting TBC	8pm May 9
New Member / Beginner Rock Climbing. Mt Eden Quarry - Short Side If you've just joined the club, or just starting to get into climbing and want to meet like minded people, come along to Extreme Edge indoor climbing wall for an evening of climbing.  Magnus Hammarsal  hammarsal@hotmail.com Phone 021 31 44 22	May 18
BANFF 2011! Two nights of films - 24th May 7.30p m at Skycity: Adrenaline pumped films 31st May 7.30pm at Skycity: Thought provoking films.	24th May & 31st May 7.30pm

2010/11 Committee & Contacts

Chairperson & Chief Instructor

Chris Munro
email: chairperson@aucklandclimber.co.nz

Vice-Chair & Membership

Christa Dickson
email: vicechairperson@aucklandclimber.org.nz

Treasurer

Sean Wright
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David Baddeley
email: gear@aucklandclimber.org.nz

Ruapehu Hut Bookings – Margaret McMahon

Phone: **National Office (03) 377 7595**
during office hours
email: **admin@alpineclub.org.nz**

SnowCraft 2011

If you want the skills to summit high peaks or just learn safe techniques to get you above the snowline then this is the course for you.

Especially designed for those with no prior mountaineering experience, we will take you through the basics of crampon & ice axe use through to steep snow climbing, including avalanche awareness, glacier travel, snow anchors & rope protection.

The course is presented by the Auckland Section of the NZAC for club members. It consists of three weekends based at Mt Ruapehu and 3 theory nights in Auckland:

July 23-24 August 20-21 September 17-18



To find out more and apply, go to our website:
www.aucklandclimber.org.nz/instruction/snowcraft.htm

Any queries, contact Chris: instruction@aucklandclimber.co.nz



Banff Mountain Film Festival

Tuesday May 24 and Wednesday June 1, Sky City Theatre, 7.30 pm

Tickets from www.aucklandclimber.org.nz

Bivouac stores at Queen Street, Newmarket and Sylvia Park and Outdoor Action, Albany.
One show: \$20 (\$15 NZAC members), two shows \$35 (\$30 NZAC members).

Each year, a few very special clubs round the world (that's us!), get sent the movies from Canada's Annual Banff Mountain Film Festival to show in their countries. Banff is the world's leading adventure film festival and it covers all forms of adventure.

So imagine how awesome it was this year when we were

sent the films and heaps and heaps of them were awesome. We didn't know what to do. We couldn't fit them all into one night...so we decided to hold two!

You can come to one show, or you can come to both. On both nights you get a big screen, awesome sound, and as far as we know these movies will not

be on TV (TV screens aren't big enough for these guys!).

So make a night of it with your friends and support your club (this is our big fundraiser for the year).

It will sell out, so don't wait til it's too late to get your tickets or you will be forced to buy them on Trade Me for a lot more money.

Tuesday May 24, 7.30pm

Life Cycles - Canada (14 mins) *Mountain biking*
Mountain biking shot in Ultra High Def – you're almost out in Woodhill (but in your cinema seat!)

The Asgard Project UK (60 mins) *Climbing*
Take a huge sheer face in the Arctic circle, parachute in, try and free climb it just as winter is approaching and then base jump off the highest point. Ha ha! That's what Leo Harding and his friends did. This film has left audiences in need of a cup of hot sweet tea.

Living the Dream – USA (3 mins) *Climbing*
Climbing once every few weeks doesn't do it for this guy. He's out there every day, all of it, the whole time.

Eastern Rises - USA (38 mins). *Fishing. (Yep, you read it right).*

Russia's Far East is not the kind of place you'd expect to find a group of fisherman making a very funny film. But once they'd survived the fly in on decommissioned Cold War helicopters these guy found a virgin fishing spot (with very big bears).

The Swiss Machine – USA (20 mins) *Mountaineering*

Ueli Steck is mad. He's a one-man speed alpinist and he can climb the largest walls in the world and still be home in time for Shortland Street. This film gave reviewers a fear of heights they didn't know they had.

Wednesday 1 June , 7.30 pm

Second Nature – USA (6 mins) *Long boarding*
Long Boarders racing down roads in the High Sierras in California with added cars!

As it Happens – USA (16 mins) *Mountaineering*
A first ascent of Tawoche Himal in Nepal, as told in daily video despatches. Good tent interior shots.

Miracle in the Storm - Germany (52 mins) *Paragliding*

All we'll say is that there's this girl, and she's really good at paragliding, and one day she makes a really bad call on the weather.

Parking Garage: Beyond the Limit - USA (4 mins) *Mountaineering*

It's a first ascent, they're in the death zone, tempers are frayed, the weather is packing in, will they make it....to the top floor of the apartment block?

Dream Result –USA (17 mins) *Kayaking*
A kayaking mission to explore the limits of possibility in Norway, Argentina and the US. Stunning!

Cross Country Snowboarding - USA (4 mins) *Snow "sports"*

How come us Kiwis haven't caught on to the fast growing sport of Cross Country Snowboarding then? Mockumentary heaven!

Fly or Die – USA (24 mins) *Climbing*

A bold new climbing innovation — Free BASE — is free solo climbing and BASE jumping.

April Climbing Trip – Pakeho

By Alastair Campbell

The first weekend in April saw a climbing trip organised by Magnus Hammarsal to Pakeho, a limestone crag about 15km from Te Kuiti. The trip was advertised as being particularly suited to lowish grade lead climbers - and how wonderfully true this turned out to be!

Pakeho has been set up as a climbing venue through the hard work and endeavours of Paul Hunt who runs a climbing and caving operation in the area. He was kind enough to give the Auckland section permission to come and try the crag out for ourselves.



As someone who has been climbing again for 2 months after a 10 year gap this was the perfect place to get back into leading. A group of 12 arrived on Saturday morning to fantastic weather and went straight to business. It was just a question of looking at a line of bolts consulting the guide and giving it a go. By the end of Saturday most had lead 9 or 10 climbs and felt they got right into leading. A personal highlight was *Pooh Corner (13)* 18m which certainly rates its 3 stars – it feels a lot higher climbing out of the trees and looking across the valley.



Saturday night was spent at the free campsite just along the road from crag. The site was the location of the old primary school and has a toilet and running water.



Sunday brought more great climbing weather. Back we went for more fun. Paul joined us for the morning demonstrating his ability to lead in gumboots. The early focus was on a section called *The Leaning Tower* with possibly one of the more exposed short climbs – *Ripsaw (15)* 9m worthy of its 3 stars.

In conclusion a great weekend enjoyed by all on a different crag just over 2 hours from Auckland.

FACTFILE

Location: 1233, Oparure Rd, Te Kuiti - don't trust satnav or you'll overshoot.

Access: Must phone Paul (07 8788223) at least the night before.

Grade Range: 9 to 22 the majority being 14 to 17

Guidebook: <http://www.greenglow.co.nz/536/79323.html>

please read the first 2 pages so we can keep getting access.