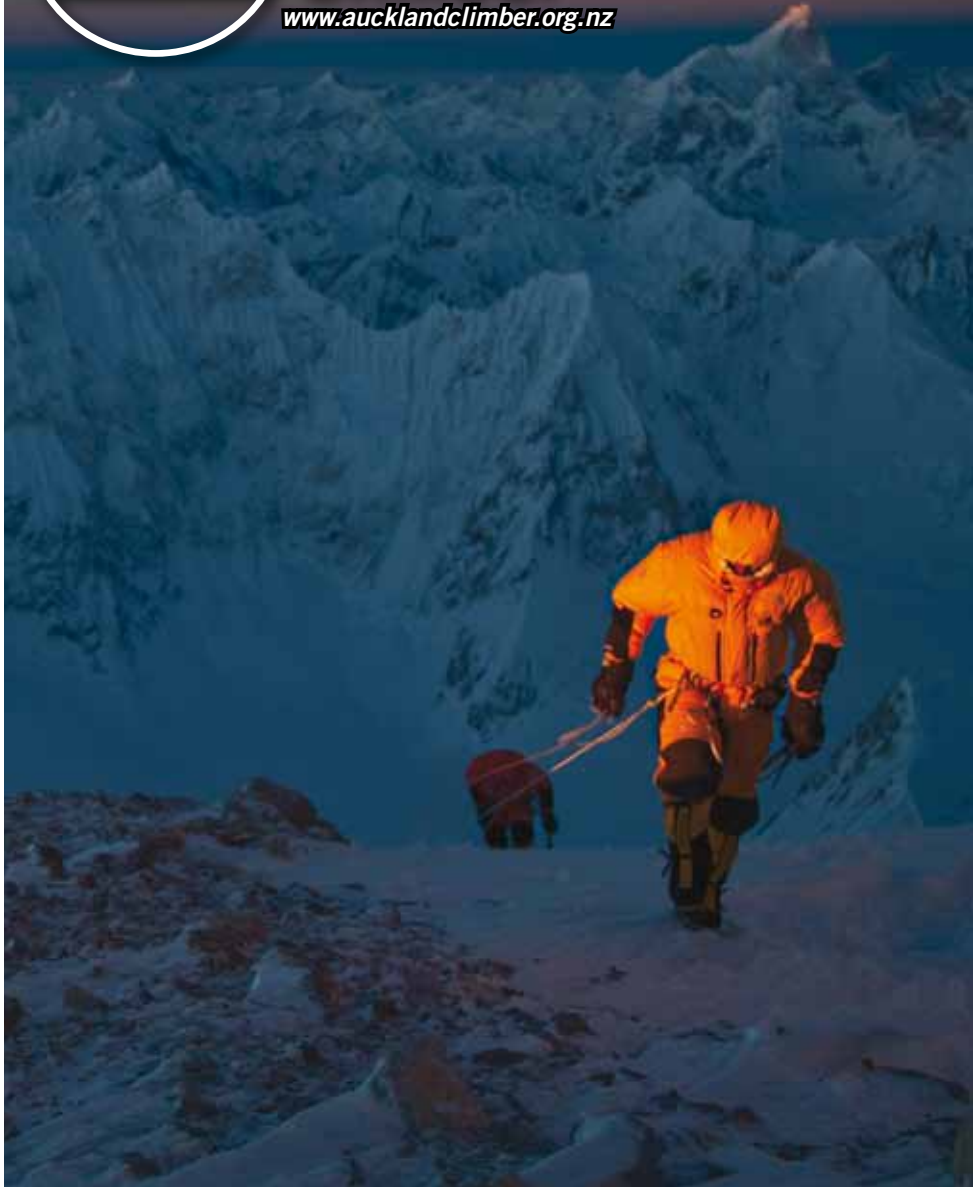




*The*  
***Auckland***  
***Climber***

*December 2011*

[www.aucklandclimber.org.nz](http://www.aucklandclimber.org.nz)



**Welcome** to the **December** 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 7.30pm. Socialise with other members from 7pm.

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### **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

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## ***This month's meeting: 12 December 2011 7.30pm***

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### **“Christmas Special” on the 12th December.**

Auckland Section invites you to the 2011 Christmas Function on Monday 12th Dec, featuring....

Auckland based mountaineer and artist **Dean Buchanan**. Dean lives life to the full, with his two imperatives, climbing and painting. He reckons that if you stopped him painting, he'd probably die.

Born in Auckland in 1952, Dean grew up after Sir Edmund Hillary had just climbed Everest and that event, coupled with his first glimpse of the perfect cone of Ngauruhoe, convinced him that 'taking to the hills was the way to live life'. Buchanan is a dedicated and prolific painter. Over 40 years he has developed a unique style which interviewer Denys Trussell described on a recent radio program thus "You have remade the landscape into a language that is particularly your own" (Cultural Icons Series www.jamradio.co.nz). The landscape and geology of the mountains come through strongly, and his large oils demonstrate both a technical brilliance and a close affinity with natural he explores. He is famous for his expressionist treatment of the New Zealand landscape. He paints directly onto raw hessian, Buchanan's vibrant palette is inspired by the lush, sub-tropical surroundings of the Waitakere Ranges. Based in Karekare, Dean has a profound love for native New Zealand that he expresses in complex, kaleidoscopic vistas echoing the works of expressionist masters from Franz Marc to Philip Clairmont. Dean Buchanan has exhibited widely throughout New Zealand, as well as in Chile, the USA, and Japan.



## ***February's meeting: 13th Feb -***

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First meeting of 2012, will a catch up meeting, where YOU can talk about your cool trip over summer. Whether it be cool weekend cragging in the North Island or a GT of Cook, we wanna here about it. Bring your photo's we'll have a laptop that you can show 'em all.

# Local News

## AGS Rockwall is now open!

Use of this rock wall for Climbing or abseiling is strictly prohibited unless you are registered. Register at [www.aucklandclimber.org.nz](http://www.aucklandclimber.org.nz) BEFORE climbing. Any person using this rock wall without registering is a trespasser. Helmets must be worn at all times. Lead climbing only, there is NO access to the top of the cliff to set up top ropes etc. There are two pull cords to the anchors on "Graveyard Groove" and "Nutcracker" where you can tie on a rope and pull it through for top roping. Some climbs are still closed due to rock fall hazard and these areas have been fenced off. This includes the far left hand side of the crag all the way to "Supergroove". A further area to the right of "Load it for me" and left of "Revenge of the Lawn" is also fenced off and closed. Please do not climb over or under fences and stay out of fenced off areas."



## Rock 1 training evening

Anyone interested in a training night for Rock 1 Shiva has organised the 20th of Dec with a professional instructor. Contact her at: [shiva.nami@gmail.com](mailto:shiva.nami@gmail.com)

## Extreme Edge comp in Jan.

Extreme Edge in Pamure are running a comp to raise money for the AGS Rockwall. The proposed date is Thursday 26 Jan. With all proceeds going to "AGS Rockwall fund" Further details to follow, check website or Facebook for updates.

## Auckland Section March Meeting

In March we've got Author Paul Maxim talking about Bill Denz. Bill was a mountaineer with attitude. He inspired and provoked a generation of Kiwi climbers. Denz pushed the limits beyond what we thought was possible and left a collection of routes in the Aoraki / Mount Cook region and in the Darrans that are seldom repeated. Climbers still break out in a nervous sweat just thinking about them. His death on Makalu robbed the climbing world of one of its great characters but created an enduring legend.

## New NZAC General Manager wanted!

Do you want to work at the hub of the New Zealand climbing and mountaineering scene, inspiring and enabling present and future generations of Kiwi climbers?

Since 1891, the New Zealand Alpine Club has been actively supporting climbers to get out there and pursue great adventures. We provide a range of high quality activities and events, relevant and inspiring information, and great value facilities. Our goal is to foster and support an active climbing and mountaineering community.

Sound interesting? We are looking for someone who has a strong affinity with the outdoors and, is preferably an active climber themselves. You must have the business development, marketing and management skills to take NZAC to the next level.

NZAC General Manager, full-time position, based at our National Office in Christchurch. Applications close 13 January 2012, with an anticipated start date in March 2012.

For further information, please contact:

Ollie Clifton - Executive Officer

Phone: (03) 3777595 or 027 3339252

# National News

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## Annual Climbing Camp

The Annual Climbing Camp will be held at Aoraki Mt Cook this summer from the 2nd – 8th January, based out of the new improved Unwin Lodge. This looks like being a fantastic camp with plenty to everyone to do- from high climbing, to walking to fishing and mountain biking.

Registration is now open. For information and a registration form, go to:

<https://alpineclub.org.nz/event/annual-climbing-camp>

We've also managed to get some great Mt Cook plane and helicopter deals.

## Mt Cook Ski Planes:

25% off scenic flights (min 7 in a Porter)

20% off scenic flights (406 in a Porter)

10% off charter flights into huts for climbers

## Mt Cook Helicopters:

25% off scenic flights (Min 6)

20% off scenic flights (4-5 people)

10% off charter flights into huts for climbers

## NZAC Travel insurance information to members

Travel insurance is a must have before you head overseas, even if just to Australia. However, too many members are leaving it to the last minute to organise. Whilst NZAC will do all it can to issue you with a travel insurance certificate before you leave, that can be difficult to do when the member is undertaking an intrepid journey involving any of the higher risk activities, or has a pre-existing medical condition. Please help us to help you by allowing at least 10 days before travelling so that your insurance can be properly issued prior to departure. Because of increasing numbers making late applications, the NZAC Executive believes it has become necessary to impose a \$50 surcharge on applications made within 5 days of travel abroad. We don't like doing this, but hope it will prompt members to apply for their insurance much earlier than at present.

We would encourage everyone travelling abroad to purchase travel insurance at the time they pay for airline and/or overseas accommodation costs. Once your insurance has been paid for, the Loss of Deposits section of the policy becomes effective prior to the date of departure. That means if an unforeseen circumstance occurs (as defined in the policy), causing you to cancel or change your itinerary, such losses will be insured, subject to the policy excess. However, members need to be mindful of the fact that you cannot claim for loss of deposits, cancellation or curtailment, if the cause of the loss was known prior to paying for the policy.

The NZAC policy covers not only ordinary leisure travel but can be extended to include cover for trekking (14 days or more), skiing including back country stuff, rock climbing and mountaineering. Journeys of up to 12 months can be rated by NZAC, with longer periods considered on application. See the website for more details.

## STUCK FOR XMAS IDEAS?

Remember there are loads of wicked guide books available from the national website [www.alpineclub.org.nz](http://www.alpineclub.org.nz)

## WANNA GO PRO

The next NZOIA Rock 1 assessment will be on 14-15 April 2012 in Auckland. If you are interested in climbing a professional rock climbing cert then check out: <http://www.nzoia.org.nz>

then contact Shiva Nami  
[trips@aucklandclimber.org.nz](mailto:trips@aucklandclimber.org.nz)  
021 377 079

Shiva will be holding prep sessions down at the Quarry.

# 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... All suggestions for trips welcome! Check out [www.aucklandclimber.org.nz](http://www.aucklandclimber.org.nz) for all the trips!

*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.

## DECEMBER

### Boulder Tuesday 7.30pm

Come To "The Project" It Is A Indoor Bouldering Gym At 44M Portage Road, New Lynn, Costs \$10 For A Casual Entry. See You There Every Tuesday.

 Shiva Nami  [trips@aucklandclimber.org.nz](mailto:trips@aucklandclimber.org.nz) 021 377 079

### Club meeting - Xmas get together

12 December

Laid back Xmas get together, chill out talk about climbing plans over the summer break.

**The club meets on the second Monday of every month at Cardrona Speights Ale House, on Normanby Rd, Mt Eden – Meeting starts at 7.30pm. Socialise with other members from 7pm.**

## JANUARY

### Rock Climbing - Kawakawa Bay

14 -15 January

Come climbing at one of the most picturesque spots in the country on the shores of Lake Taupo. This crag has sports, trad, multipitch and camping on the lake front.

 David Baddeley  [d.baddeley@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.baddeley@auckland.ac.nz)

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## FEBRUARY

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 Shiva Nami  [trips@aucklandclimber.org.nz](mailto:trips@aucklandclimber.org.nz) 021 377 079

### Climbing and MTBing - 42 Traverse & climbing at Mangaokewa

11-12 Feb

42nd Traverse is a classic NZ mountain bike ride, 47km of off road riding, lots of long, fast downhill sections, finishing up at the pub!

On the Sunday head to Mangaokewa which is the top North Island limestone crag, out of the sun allows for all day climbing.

 David Baddeley  [d.baddeley@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.baddeley@auckland.ac.nz)

**TRIPS UPDATED ON [AUCKLANDCLIMBER.ORG.NZ](http://AUCKLANDCLIMBER.ORG.NZ) - CHECK IT OUT.**

# Whanganui Bay NZ Rock Festival

Welcome to Whanganui Bay, one of New Zealand's premium North Island Crags. Join us for three days of fun, work and learning. It's also an opportunity to meet and hear about the hapu (tribe) of Ngati Te Maunga. This event is a fund raiser to help open the marae.

Climbers are invited to the New Zealand Rock Festival at Whanganui Bay on Wellington Anniversary Weekend, 21 to 22 January 2012. To celebrate, a hangi will be Saturday nights meal which will be prepared by the climbers.

With over 200+ climbs on the western shores of Lake Taupo this makes for a fantastic setting and a fun weekend... all the latest event info and updates is available at this website: <http://www.wix.com/whanganuibay/nz-rock-festival#>!

During the weekend there will be a bolting course. The course will focus on the practical techniques required to place bolts into ignimbrite rock using modern fixing technology.

In brief the course will cover:

- aspects of route creation, from conception to completion
- bolting technology, bolt types, fixing methods
- placement of anchors, bolt positioning
- environmental and ethical issues

The course will consist of a theoretical session and demonstration of bolting techniques. After the close of the course we will split into working parties to undertake some practical work in the re-bolting of various climbs and anchor points around the Bay. If anyone has a new route in mind then we can have a look at doing this also.

## TUKINO MINI REPORT:

We had an awesome trip during the weekend and it was great to use the lodge again.

The weather was a mix of cloud and sun without much wind, which made for hot conditions. We humped/skinned up the East Ridge of Te Heu Heu, traversing under the main summit block onto Pinnacle Ridge for the last 20 odd metres slog to the top. We then skied the rim heading W before dropping into the Summit Plateau above Whakapapa. From there we had a sublime descent of the Mangatoetoenui Glacier on beautiful snow. We had to do a few carries near the bottom, but managed to ski all the way to the bottom of the top tow. A fantastic day.

The lodge is a great asset and we look forward to using it again.

John Kristiansen

# Happenings at Unwin

The sky is heavy, yet another westerly front is looming, snow on the ground around the Lodge, its cold, just 1 deg C outside...yarning with Nick Craddock and his clients in front of a roaring fire.

What a contrast to the opening day of the new look Unwin Lodge. The sky was blue, the sun shone and visitors were in awe of the new facilities. So, how lucky are Katrina and I to be caretakers of this fabulous asset that we all, as club members, can be proud of to call our own.

The initiation came quickly, soon after Labour weekend the Village experienced a storm which gusted 180 km/hr, Whilst a pub in the Village was just about demolished, a car in our park had a stone break a screen and one window was also smashed by a stone, and I thought the wee house we are in was going to take off!. Following was the most fantastic thunder and lightning display. I now know to disconnect the phones in such an event...it blew up one of mine in the house, and caused a 10 hour electricity outage in the Village. Good job I had the MSR!

Labour weekend was quite busy with notable visitors Murray and Bronwyn Judge who continue to put up new routes on Sebastopol. Try Javelin (17) which has abseil bolts and a new cleared finger crack to the right (18). Also Ray and Maggie Button have been exploring the cliffs and finding new lines on rock literally

behind the Lodge! And then there was a visiting Austrian guide (Cho Oyu, Kanch, Everest, etc.) and his girlfriend who just managed to summit Aoraki/Mt Cook in a weather window and who thought "these are the best mountains in the world...." They were ecstatic. It was great to see such appreciative and complimentary visitors to our mountains and the Lodge.

What's on the horizon, well of course the Climbing Camp. It's going to be full on for that week in and about the Lodge. Ray and Barbara Prince are yet again going to be on hand to assist with the hundreds of tasks necessary for a smooth time. Bookings are at time of writing very high; camping is an option when we run out of bunk spaces.

This new look Lodge is a stunner. Anyone who enjoys being in a mountain environment should make every effort to spend some time here...as a destination in itself. Personally I am looking forward to the Winter months...snow on the ground, crisp blue skies, ski under foot and a hot toddy in front of the log fire after a superb hot shower....!!

Katrina and myself look forward to seeing you all at Unwin Lodge, home to friends of the mountains.....meanwhile the snow is falling again.....most unseasonal...but that's the mountains.

***Cheers, Chas Tanner***

Unwin Lodge, Aoraki/Mt Cook, November 2011



## 2011/12 Committee & Contacts

### Chairperson

Magnus Hammarsal

email: [chairperson@aucklandclimber.org.nz](mailto:chairperson@aucklandclimber.org.nz)

### Chief Instructor & Secretary

Chris Munro

email: [nzacsnowcraft@gmail.com](mailto:nzacsnowcraft@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

We need one!!!

email: [treasurer@aucklandclimber.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@aucklandclimber.org.nz)

### Newsletter Editor & Webmaster

Anthony Stead

email: [newsletter@aucklandclimber.org.nz](mailto:newsletter@aucklandclimber.org.nz)

### Events

Charis Wong

email: [events@aucklandclimber.org.nz](mailto:events@aucklandclimber.org.nz)

### Trips

Shiva Nami

email: [trips@aucklandclimber.org.nz](mailto:trips@aucklandclimber.org.nz)

### Hut Manager & Gear Organiser

Position free - wanna help the club???

email: [hut@aucklandclimber.org.nz](mailto:hut@aucklandclimber.org.nz)

### Meetings

Rob Addis

email: [meetings@aucklandclimber.org.nz](mailto:meetings@aucklandclimber.org.nz)

### Hire Gear

David Baddeley

email: [gear@aucklandclimber.org.nz](mailto:gear@aucklandclimber.org.nz)

### Ruapehu Hut Bookings – Margaret McMahon

Phone: **National Office (03) 377 7595**  
during office hours

email: [admin@alpineclub.org.nz](mailto:admin@alpineclub.org.nz)

**Auckland Section on Facebook** - Go to: [www.facebook.com](http://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](http://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!



## New publication arrived - just in time for Christmas

**Bold Beyond Belief** by Paul Maxim has now arrived in stock. All pre-orders have been processed and are now finding their way to customers. Paul kindly signed all of the first batch of books he sent us and that means we have 40 signed copies still available. Another great Christmas idea is our own NZAC Calendar for 2012. A bargain for a unique piece of artwork at only \$15 for members. Plus, browse our shop for other

great publications and special deals.

REMEMBER – when purchasing online – log in first - before adding items to your cart, to ensure you receive member rates.

If you don't have a log-in and password, then click on the 'create an account' link under the log-in boxes on our home page and you will be emailed your log-in details.

