



New Zealand Alpine Club
Canterbury/Westland Section
PO Box 1700, Christchurch 8140

New Zealand Alpine Club Canterbury – Westland Section **February 2012 Newsletter**



February Section Meeting - February 16 7:30pm - Cashmere Club, 50 Colombo Street

South American Adventures and the Queenstown Mixed and Ice Climbing Festival. Daniel Joll will come along to talk about his recent attempt on Mt Fitzroy's North Pillar in South America. This consists of 40 pitches starting and ending with ice/mixed climbing, with about 30 pitches of grade 18-23 rock in the middle. In addition to this, he will be talking about the planned Queenstown Mixed and Ice Festival in August of this year.

Upcoming Events

Section Meetings

Please note that from our December 2011 meeting onwards, we will be permanently based at the Cashmere Club, 50 Colombo Street; the only exception being the Banff Mountain Film Festival June 8 and 9, being held at the Aurora Centre. We believe that this venue is easier to access, has better parking and is closer for the majority of our members to attend. In addition to this it has bar and restaurant facilities, which will provide a fantastic way for members to socialise before and after our Section Meetings.

March Section Meeting

Danilo Hegg is one of New Zealand's most prolific trans alpine adventurers, and is an accomplished photographer and mountaineer. Come along and hear of Danilo's journeys into some of the most remote areas of New Zealand. All Welcome, Thursday 8th March, Cashmere Club Garden Bar, 50 Colombo Street, 7.30pm.

List of Upcoming Trips and Courses

4 / 5 / 6 February (Waitangi)	Dunedin Rock Climbing
Weekend 11/12 February	Mt Adams
Saturday 25 February	Rock 1
Weekend 3/4 March	Faerie Queene
Weekend 17/18 March	Banks Peninsula Climbing
Weekend 24/25 March	Rock 2
16-19 August	Remarkables Ice and Mixed Festival

Details of 2012 Section Evenings

Thursday February 16	Daniel Joll, South America climbing and 2012 Queenstown Ice Climbing Festival - Cashmere Club.
Thursday March 8	Danilo Hegg, Trans Alpine adventures in New Zealand - Cashmere Club.
Thursday April 12	Mike Gill, Himalayan Adventures and a life of Climbing - Cashmere Club.
Thursday May 10	Hugh Logan - Cashmere Club
Friday June 8	BANFF Mountain Film Festival - Aurora Centre, Burnside High.
Saturday June 9	BANFF Mountain Film Festival - Aurora Centre, Burnside High.
Thursday July 12	TBA.

Arthur's Pass Hut Work Party - Weekend 21/22 April

The Committee is planning a work party on our Arthur's Pass Lodge for April. Tasks will include painting the bathroom and kitchen, electrical work, weed whacking and a general spruce up before winter. We would really appreciate your help if you are available, as the Lodge is an asset to us all and regular work parties makes it easier in the long term to maintain.

Please contact John Henson on hensonj@xtra.co.nz

Trips and Courses

Trip Cut-off dates

Please remember that the club trips have a cut-off date for a reason. This gives the leader time to arrange transport and accommodation (if required) but also to check the weather and arrange a 'Plan B' if necessary. It also allows those on a trip to make alternative plans if a trip is cancelled all together.

Mid Week Rock Climbing

This will continue indoors, on a Wednesday, due to the earthquake damage and all of the Port hills crags still being closed.

We will endeavour to try and fit in extra climbing on the weekends outside of the Port Hills if we can find enough leaders to organise trips.

Climbing is usually run on a roster basis and an email is sent out to the climbing group at the beginning of the week. If you can't make climbing on a Wednesday then please feel free to use the contact list to arrange other evenings/days and find some climbing partners. If you are interested in climbing mid-week then please contact **James Dowle** on muppet.eejit@gmail.com or **021479065**.

Mid Week Mountaineering

The mid week group are mainly fairly mature mountaineers who still manage to plod up a few peaks, usually on Wednesdays, depending on the weather. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Pat Prendergast on **337 0079** or pat@slingshot.co.nz

Rock 1 (Beginners Rock Climbing) Saturday 25 February

A course designed for those making the transition from the Indoor Wall to climbing Outside. The Course will cover the basics of top roping, bolted anchors, abseiling and movement and balance on rock and technique. It **WILL NOT** cover lead climbing. The course will consist of one day at Hanging Rock (South Canterbury) and an evening session beforehand; it will cost \$90 (this includes petrol). At this stage the course is full but we have a reserve list so please contact Glenn Case on Glenn.c@clear.net.nz if you are interested.

Rock 2 (Trad Climbing Course) Weekend 24/25 March

A Weekends Course teaching Trad Climbing, anchors, abseiling and technique. This Course is close to being full so please contact Glenn Case on Glenn.c@clear.net.nz No Later than 12 February to express an interest.

We have not finalised the course fee yet, but we estimate it to be in the region of \$250; this will include two days Instruction by a professional guide, one night's accommodation and petrol costs. We believe this course to be the best value for money of its kind.

Dunedin Rockclimbing 4/5/6 February (Waitangi Weekend)

Leave town Friday evening, 5pm. Tenting or cabins in Dunedin. A chance to climb the classic cliffs of Lovers Leap, Mihiwaka and Longbeach. Trad and sport climbs from grade 14 up, you must provide your own equipment and **helmets are compulsory**. Approx fuel costs of \$40 to \$50 plus camping fees.

Please contact **Grant Piper** on **021711300** or grubbie@ihug.co.nz no later than Monday 30 January, to express an interest.

Mt Adams 2208m (West Coast) Weekend 11-12 February

We will leave Christchurch on Friday afternoon to drive to the West Coast (with an overnight stay depending on agreed leaving time). Walk up to a high camp above the bushline on Saturday and climb of Mt Adams on Sunday with walk out and drive back. This trip is for very fit parties, as it contains a 2000m+ height gain on steep terrain - but views across the Whataroa River and Coast are very rewarding. Some mountaineering experience required and helmets are compulsory. Approx fuel costs will be about \$60, plus overnight stay on Fri. In case of bad weather weekend 18-19 February will serve as back-up. Please contact trip leader **John Roper Lindsay** no later than 3 Feb on john@roperlindsay.com or **021 395513** or **03 313 5529** (Rangiora).

Faerie Queene (2236m) in Lewis Pass Weekend 3/4 March

We will walk up the St James walkway beyond Ada Pass and then carry on off-track up to the divide. The climb of the peak on Sunday morning will be via the Divide route. This trip will take two full days and requires a camp at Camera Gully tarn or above. At Grade 1+ it will be a rock scramble which requires a helmet. Both days will be pretty long, so very good fitness required. Please contact **Yvonne Pfluger** no later than 24 February on yvonnep@boffamiskell.co.nz or **0212381015**

Banks Peninsula rock climbing Otepatotu/Holmes Bay

Weekend 17/18 March

This will be led by Matt Wilkinson. Come for a weekend climb at two Banks Peninsula crags (probably Otepatotu and Holmes Bay); we will be staying at Okains Bay Motor Camp. Otepatotu has good routes from Grade 10 upwards plus opportunities for new routes and cleaning/improving old routes and the crag in general. Okains camping should be a nice and social, with beach nearby. Plus for those who can only make one day, it's only an hour's drive from the city. Please contact Matt by 09 March to express interest on blowuppress@googlemail.com or **0226576521**.

Remarkables Ice & Mixed Festival 16-19 August 2012

The inaugural Remarkables Ice & Mixed Festival will be held at Queenstown August 16-19 August. Bringing together the top winter alpine climbers in NZ as a means of advancing and promoting modern mixed climbing. Showcasing the new and existing route potential on NZ's most accessible multi-pitch winter training area. Sharing local knowledge and forming new climbing partnerships. All festival attendees will receive the latest guide for the Remarkables. This will have over 30 unclimbed routes and detailed information on more than 150 possible summer and winter climbs.

For further details and info on how to register, visit:

<http://www.iceandmixedfestival.co.nz/>

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Remarkables-Ice-Mixed-Festival/130651843714800>

Notices

Canterbury/Westland Recreational Resource Fund (RRF)

The Canterbury/Westland Section of the N.Z.A.C has developed a fund, to which it will make an annual contribution. The purpose of the RRF is varied, but we would like to use it to provide funding for individuals or groups involved in doing something positive for the Section and/or Club as a whole. This would include, but is not limited to activities such as Crag and Hut Maintenance, promoting the club to schools, youth and the wider outdoor community and furthering the sports of rock climbing and mountaineering. We believe that this will provide some recognition for good deeds and also help with out of pocket expenses for those who are prepared to do things that benefit our club and climbing community. All funding applications will be considered by the Committee; these should be made in writing and sent to nzac.canterbury@gmail.com or the Canterbury/Westland Section, N.Z.A.C, P.O Box 1700, Christchurch.

NZAC Hut Bookings

Members please note that bookings for Arthur's Pass, Ruapehu and Porter Lodge are handled through the National Office in Christchurch. These huts all have a keypad and the office holds the codes for these. Please **DO NOT** contact section members looking for the code numbers. The office is manned Monday-Friday until 5pm. Call Margaret in the first instance for bookings **+64 (0)3 377 7595**, or email Margaret@alpineclub.org.nz

Canterbury / Westland Facebook Page

The section now has a Facebook page, with photographs of past trips, events and courses and information on those that are coming up. It can be found here: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/NZAC-CanterburyWestland#!/pages/NZAC-CanterburyWestland/176920578985933>

Members are welcome to upload photos/videos and reports of trips they have been doing.

New Member Discount - A Plus Lodge & Iwiheke Backpacker

Richard Seddon's son Ian, is offering discounted accommodation to FMC, NZ Alpine Club, and Alpine Sports Club members. Discounted to \$16 per night per person, or family of FOUR -\$50 per room.

They have double rooms, single, share or dormitory style beds. For more information visit <http://www.tongariro-hostel.co.nz/>

Mature Mountaineers Meetings – Speakers Needed

The NZAC hold Mature Mountaineers afternoons in the Christchurch National Office up to four times a year. The meetings are designed around members aged 65 years and over, to give them a chance to meet in the daytime and talk over past exploits with their fellow climbers. We are desperately seeking speakers so that we can continue providing these get-togethers through 2012, (slides and images welcome). Please contact Ollie@alpineclub.org.nz if you are interested. Your offer would be greatly appreciated, thank you.

Help Needed to Populate New Climbing Database

Climbnz is a website designed to provide details of NZ rock climbs, mountaineering routes, and ski-touring information.

This project is making progress, but we are looking for people to help populate the database for this website. Some entries will have to be copied & pasted, other parts will need to be typed. Also some topos will have to be scanned or created from scratch! If you are keen to assist please contact **Grubbie** on grubbie@ihug.co.nz

Grubbie is also currently seeking photos that he can convert into topo's for the following areas:

- Paynes Ford
- Pohara.
- Mt Cook National Park
- Westland National Park

If anybody has any suitable photos, could you please forward them to Grubbie on the email address above.

National Bouldering Series (NBS)

The final round of the NBS will be held on Saturday 10 March at Spittle Hill. All are welcome to compete, from experts to recreational climbers. There will be a BBQ and prize giving to finish. For further details please refer to the N.Z.A.C website under 'Events'.

Banff Mountain Film Festival

The Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour will be coming soon to Christchurch again for 2012. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the festival held in Christchurch and the movie selection is as good as ever! There will again be two screenings at the Aurora Centre - Friday 8 and Sat 9 June. The movie selection will be advertised in the March Newsletter and tickets should be available for purchase from April.

For all other inquiries for now please contact Clayton on claytongarbes@hotmail.com

Equipment Wanted For Instruction

The Canterbury/Westland section is looking for equipment to use in our Rock Climbing Instruction Courses. We are predominately requiring Trad Climbing Pro (Cams, Hexes, Wires etc). If any Members are planning to sell good quality second hand gear, could they please consider an offer/ sale to the Section first. Please contact Clayton on claytongarbes@hotmail.com Thanks.

New DVD – Beyond the Plains

Beyond The Plains is a showcase of four rock climbing areas within the Canterbury region, all with vastly different styles and atmosphere, yet with their own qualities that made them special places to visit.

Purchase online here:

<http://alpineclub.org.nz/product/beyond-the-plains-dvd>

Trip Leaders Required

The section always aims to have at least two trips each month in the calendar. Sometimes it is not easy to find people to put their hands up and help with the leading of these trips.

It would be great if anyone wants to lead or co lead a trip could let us know. We realise not all trips we put are suitable or of interest to members and this is where you can get involved and help out.

If you have a favourite trip / area / climb you want to see in the programme and can help by leading one then please let **Yvonne** know on

Yvonne.pfluger@boffamiskell.co.nz

New Guidebook – Sublime Climbs

A guide to the best rock climbing venues in Victoria, Australia. The bulk of this guidebook is devoted to route descriptions, photo-topos and action photos of a selection of wonderful routes from the three premier climbing areas in the state.

Purchase online here: <http://alpineclub.org.nz/product/sublime-climbs>

Equipment Hire

The Canterbury/Westland Section has the following equipment that can be hired to Members.

- Ice Axes
- Crampons
- Plastic and Rigid Leather Boots
- Avalanche Transceivers, Probes and Shovels
- Technical Hammers
- Walking Axes
- Helmets
- Snow Stakes

Members on club trips and instruction courses will get priority, however Members can also hire equipment for private trips. The Canterbury/Westland Section does not charge a bond for gear hire but Members will be liable for repair/replacement for any equipment damaged, lost or stolen.

Please contact **Clayton** on claytongarbes@hotmail.com

Congratulations – 6-month membership extension winners

Winner for December was – Dave Kidd (Central North Island)

Winner for January is – Robert Goldsmith (Overseas)

With Regret and Sadness

We wish to inform you of the passing the following member:

Walter Fowlie

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.

NZAC Caps and Beanies are back

With a new look! Available online, or via the National Office for \$15 members, \$20 non-members each, plus p&p.

<http://alpineclub.org.nz/product?filter0=30>

Unwin Lodge – New Blog

Chas Tanner, Unwin's new Lodge Manager has started a Blog site. Currently you can access this via the hut's main NZAC webpage here:

<http://alpineclub.org.nz/hut/unwin>

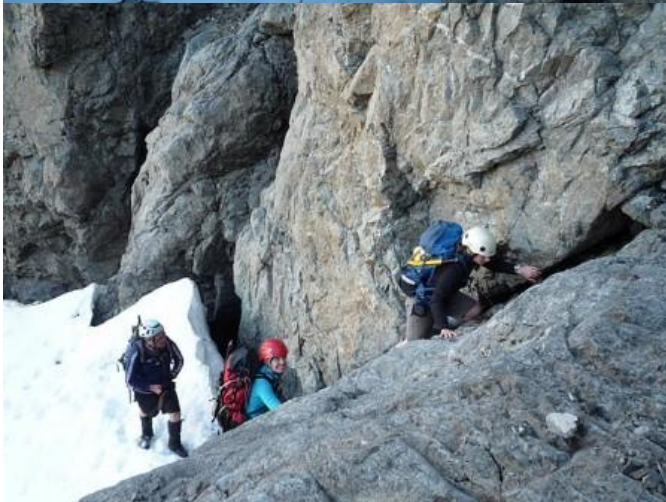
Classifieds



Missing Boots – Unwin Lodge, Mt Cook

These boots have gone missing from the rear of Unwin Lodge, sometime from 18-21 December, 2011. They are size EU 42/43, UK 8, and still in very good nick.

If you know of their whereabouts, please contact Markus Milne on **021 482 150**, or Chas Tanner **03 435 1100 / 027 817 6860**



Trip Reports

Our club trip to Mt Oates prior to Christmas (10/12/2011) turned out to be a real success- we had 18 people on the trip and all of us made it to the summit in perfect conditions (Markus, Janis, James, Andrew, Marta, Andy x2, Rob x2, Jana, Kai, John, Mark, Kate, Claire and co-leaders Tim and Yvonne). We walked up together to Lake Mavis via the Mingha Valley and Goat Pass. There we set up camp and had a beautiful, clear night, which made the early morning start easy. We decided to split the group into two and delayed the start of the second group by half an hour to avoid throwing rocks on each other. We managed to avoid the abseil between the low and high peaks by sidling across the snow covered scree slopes under the south face. The snow was still reasonably firm and we cramponed up to the base of a gully and the start of our rock scramble. From there a few climbing moves are required to gain the western summit ridge, which then tops out on the high peak of Mt Oates (2054m). We enjoyed a few minutes on the summit together, which surprisingly fitted all of us, before the first group started their descent. After a lunch break at Lake Mavis we had a nice walk out in beautiful sunshine and beers & chips at the Bealey Hotel as a well deserved treat to end our trip.

Photos: https://picasaweb.google.com/tim.yvonne/20111210_MtOates_NZAC



New Zealand Alpine Club National Office (The Home of Mountaineering)

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Canterbury – Westland Section Contacts

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Arthur's Pass Lodge	John Henson	027 4714075	HENSONJ@xtra.co.nz
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National Office	Ollie Clifton	03 377 7595	Ollie@alpineclub.org.nz

**Canterbury – Westland Section Postal Address:
PO Box 1700 Christchurch 8140****Newsletter Contributions**

Please email contributions to cwnews@alpineclub.org.nz

Next deadline: 15 February 2011

NZAC Canterbury – Westland Section Events February 2012

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2	3	4 Dunedin Rock Climbing	5
6 Dunedin Rock Climbing	7	8 Mid Week Climbing Mid Week Mountaineering	9	10	11 Mt Adams	12
13	14	15 Mid Week Climbing Mid Week Mountaineering	16 Section Evening Daniel Joll	17	18	19
20	21	22 Mid Week Climbing Mid Week Mountaineering	23	24	25 Rock 1	26
27	28	29 Mid Week Climbing Mid Week Mountaineering				