

North Otago Section NZAC

Newsletter November 2011

Next Meeting Wednesday 16 Nov 7:30 Pm
at Murray Judge's residence behind the doctors surgery
11 Arun Street Oamaru

Murray will show Bronwyn's video of their trip to the Dolomites

Last meeting: Ollie Clifton talked about recent trips in the Southern Alps including the "Symphony on skis" traverse from the Godley Valley to the Fox Glacier and the north ridge of Aoraki Mt Cook.

Climbing news

Hugh Wood sent a note on 3 August

I arrived here to heavy rain in London and flooded roads. Since dry, cool and the odd warm day.

I hope you threw a snowball for me?

My mother fell and broke her right wrist the day I arrived so doing the chores.

I went north to Thurso last Tuesday for a few days, walked 10 miles along the cliffs in 20' c.

I get the ch.ch. forecast on t.v. teletext

News dominated by Norway tragedy and media scandal in London

Ok for NZAC data. Have a good night trusting everyone is well and that Dara's mother holding on to life.

Will e-mail you again before you leave end of August

and on 29 August

It's wild and windy here.

Hope you got my last email; it went via my nephew, Ross's computer.

Had a 4 day trip to the Isle of Lewis this week; walked and bussed around the

upper part.

Going to visit the Highland Tiger wild cats this week once the weather clears.

Did you have a good turnout for the AGM and status quo in place?

Flags at half-mast in NZ on account of the rugby?

I have been able to see some games here.

Rob Connolly wrote on 22 August

Yes I managed to get out on Friday for a split board day on Little Domet. Got the truck into the bottom of the NE gully and skinned/booted up the ridge (on right of photo). Came down though the narrow gully on the summit to the truck with only 10m of walking!..... until we found out that the truck had a flat battery, oops! So the relative easy short day turned into a big 1800m of climbing day to get out to the first house and return with a 20kg battery!

The snow was great. It was 1.4 m deep at the top of the gully (It was sitting on a scree base) and the avo profile shown that it was all blown into the gully during the storm.
Nick Shearer sent this on 31st August

We have just arrived in Moab which is surrounded by the most amazing array of rock formations I've ever seen. We watched some guys climb the Dark Angel tower today and I felt somewhat envious. But we have been having a ball just hiking around. Here is a summary for the newsletter.

Nick and Dara Shearer's News:

We are on a round-the-world trip, getting to a few high places that only require hiking boots and trekking poles.

So far we have climbed The Peak in Hong Kong, Mt Snowdon in Wales, and hiked a day of the Pyrenees GR11 Trail in Spain. We scrambled up El Selmo in Navacerrada with Alicia and Antonio before moving on to New England in USA.

In upstate NY we climbed Algonquin, Cascade, and Scarface Mountains, through colourful autumn foliage. In Vermont we climbed The Camels Hump, in New Hampshire the Franconian Loop which includes Mt Lafayette, Mt Lincoln and Little Stack. In Maine, an easy via ferrate route up Champlain, and then Cadillac, Acadia mountains. Further south, in Virginia, we scrambled up Old Rag Mountain.

Next stop Colorado, and Estes Park in Rock Mountain NP. A big snowfall had us hiring snowshoes and plodding up Flat Top Mountain in thin air, cold winds and thigh deep powder. We never made the summit.

We will be back home in early December and looking forward to the Xmas BBQ at Elephant Rocks.

Murray and Bronwyn spent a month mostly rock climbing in the Dolomites in August. We met up with Calum Hudson and Steve Carr who had planned to do some climbing but Calum suffered a broken bone in his foot which put him out of action for the rest of the trip. Dave Brash and Robyn travelled from Paris and met up the second week and Russell Braddock drove down from Chamonix for a week.

We met up at Sella Pass and climbed for ten days there mostly longer classic limestone routes including one by Reinhold Messner and his brother. We explored the first World War frontline where the Italians and Austrians tunnelled through the mountains, now a tourist climb up through the tunnels with lookouts and observation points over the valley below. We avoided a heavy downpour and scrambled up to the summit for a coffee at the Refugio. Across the valley is Cinque Torre, limestone towers with classic routes and more recent bolted sport climbs surrounded by restored WW1 trenches. Next we travelled over to Rosengarten and Bron and I climbed a route on Vajolet Towers while Steve and Dave left at 4 am for a long multi pitch route. Our final stop was at Arco which has a pleasant climbers' camp and masses of climbing within walking distance of camp and more a short drive up valley

NZAC Photo Competition results

2011 Photo Competition Results – Award Winners

Harrison Memorial Trophy and Eric Beuzenberg Memorial Award – Andrew Peacock for Arctic Aerial Abstract

Guide Alack Challenge Cup – Kevin Boekholt for Tree Skiing in British

Columbia

Alpine Recreation Youth Award – 6-day basic instruction course – Joshua Taylor for A Taranaki Sunrise

Egmont Tasman Trophy – Canterbury/Westland Section

To view images and a full list of winners:

<https://alpineclub.org.nz/photocomp>

The 2012 NZAC calendar featuring images from this year's competition will be available to purchase in a few weeks.

Backorders can be placed via our online shopping here:

<https://alpineclub.org.nz/product/nzac-alpine-calendar-2012>

Members \$15 and non-members \$20 including p&p

Club news

Travel Insurance

Our broker and ACE Insurance have agreed to provide Club members with an extended travel cover offer. We now have new cheaper rates for trips from 120–365 days duration. The new rates are available for either general travel, or travel involving hazardous pursuits and are charged at a flat rate so there is no need to specify the number of days you need high-risk cover for on longer trips. We have been very lucky to have ACE agree to extend and now expand, NZAC's cover for another year and hope that members will continue to enjoy the benefits of this policy offer. For details please see the NZAC website, or contact <<mailto:narina@alpineclub.org.nz>> narina@alpineclub.org.nz

New Staff Member

The National Office would like to introduce our newest staff member, Narina Sutherland. Narina is taking up the part-time position of Administration Assistant and will be our front-of-house person when calling in, or visiting us here in Christchurch. She will be taking over the travel insurance initially and then branching out to other tasks as time permits. We would like to welcome Narina and hope she will enjoy her time here with the members and staff of the New Zealand Alpine Club.

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>

New DVD – Beyond the Plains

Beyond The Plains is a showcase of four 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>

2012 NZAC Alpine Calendar

With the recent judging of the Club's annual Photo Competition, many of the wonderful images are again being collated for the Club's 2012 calendar. We expect printing to be a few weeks yet, but are taking pre-orders in advance. Stock will be limited due to a smaller print run this year, so this is too advise members in advance to be in early. Purchase online here:
<<http://alpineclub.org.nz/product/nzac-alpine-calendar-2012>>
<http://alpineclub.org.nz/product/nzac-alpine-calendar-2012>

NZAC National Climbing Camp

Registrations are open for the 2012 annual camp to be based out of the newly renovated Unwin Lodge at Mount Cook from the 2nd to 8th of January. To find out more and to register, please see the NZAC website
<http://alpineclub.org.nz/event/annual-climbing-camp> or contact pat@alpineclub.org.nz at the National Office

Himalayan Hospitals – Sir Edmund Hillary's Everest Legacy By Mike Gill
a new book available on the NZAC website,
\$40 for members

Ads

I need a set of poles for a MacPac Minaret or Olympus. Someone may have an old tent with rotting nylon who can help

Contact: Neil Sloan 3288633 or mckeesloan@gmail.com

Barryvox Opto 3000 Transceivers for sale – \$250 – Five years old. Good condition. Excellent unit for beginners and seasoned searchers. Full digital or analog and multi burial function

Contact Tarn

03 4412722
elcapitarn@xtra.co.nz
0276444432

Mt Tasman trip – 4th Climber needed – 3 to 11 December 2011
Rob Hawes and 2 others from NZAC Wellington are going into Pioneer Hutt to climb in the area, with the main objective being Mt Tasman via the North Shoulder. They are looking for a 4th climber to round out the numbers. If interested please contact Rob Hawes on 0274 470 461 or Roberth@tfg.co.nz. A draft trip plan can be emailed to you.

George Band Honorary NZAC member and Chairman of the Himalayan Trust passed away on 26 Aug 2011 aged 82 years