



# The South Canterbury Climber

March 2016

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ALPINE TRIPS  
ROCK CLIMBING TRIPS  
NZAC NEWS

**Unwin Easter Rock Meet! ...  
Have you registered yet?**

**Welcome** to the **March edition** of the NZAC South Canterbury 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.

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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 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding. Contact Kelly Cooney by emailing: [Kelly@wildfiresolutions.co.nz](mailto:Kelly@wildfiresolutions.co.nz)

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## **Monthly Meeting – Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 8pm 2016. All Welcome!**

*NB: Meeting held week after the usual Thursday as people away the week of Easter.*

### **“A Couple of Seasons on the Rocks” – Speaker: Neil Harding-Roberts**



Neil will talk about his rock climbing experiences in England, Scotland, Greece and Australia.

Our meetings are held from February through to November in the Police Social Room, North Street, Timaru (Top floor of the Police station, access via back door adjacent to the vehicle entrance on North Street).

***Come & be inspired!***

### **Speakers**

Your Committee welcomes ideas of Topics and Speakers. Please send them in ASAP to any Committee Member, we look forward to receiving them! Do not be shy to offer yourself (Contacts at bottom of Newsletter).

### **Wall/Crag Climbing**

Outdoor climbing is in full swing. Contact Kelly on 0212437381 if you are keen to climb.

[www.facebook.com/groups/NZACsouthcanterbury](http://www.facebook.com/groups/NZACsouthcanterbury)

### **Wood for Unwin Lodge**

There is ready cut wood at Syd Woods if you are going up. All you need is a trailer and a bit of time to load it. Ian Rogers may be able to help with a trailer, 614 7786.

### **For Hire**

The section has ice axes, crampons, snow shovels, avalanche transceivers, snowshoes, snow stakes and now, a second Personal Locator Beacon for hire. Contact Gary Brehaut (03) 688 9399.



## ***National News***

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### **Unwin Easter Rock Meet – 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March**

This 4-day festival of rock climbing based at Unwin Lodge in Aoraki Mt. Cook is fast becoming one of the highlights of the year for aficionados of long rock routes. The rock meet is an opportunity for climbers to get together to climb, socialise, explore and enjoy the great outdoors, and will include all sorts and shapes and sizes of events both climbing and social.

[Full Info – Register](#)



### **Advanced Rock Skills Course – 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> March**

Attendees of the rock meet have the opportunity to join this three-day course designed for those who already have lead climbing experience, either indoors or outdoors. The course covers multi-pitch climbing, transitions, traditional gear and anchor placements.

[Full Info – Register](#)



### **Mountain Photography Workshop 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March**

Based at Aoraki Mt. Cook National, the NZAC Mountain Photography Workshop is aimed at already competent (beginner–intermediate level) DSLR/Mirrorless photographers who want to further their skills in landscape photography – particularly in an alpine environment.

Part of the course will be based at Grand Plateau and the course includes flights in and out from Plateau Hut. This is your last chance to learn from celebrated author and photographer Mark Watson before he leaves the country for a 3-year adventure.

[Full Info - Register](#)

### **Ashtanga Yoga Workshop – 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> April**

A holistic workshop from experienced yoga instructor and climber Andrew Trotter, suitable for all. Andrew is an experienced climber and the founder and head teacher of Yoga Sanga (Christchurch) and has been teaching regular Yoga workshops and classes since 2006.

[Full Info - Register](#)

### **Bolting/Access Fund**

Paul Rogers recently received a grant from the NZAC bolting fund to retro-bolt some derelict ironmongery on the Sebastopol Bluffs at Aoraki Mount Cook. Thanks for putting in the hard-yards, Paul. Any member of NZAC can apply to the Bolting/Access Fund, so if you have a crag development project or your local crag requires some signage, send your one-page proposal to [boltingfund@alpineclub.org.nz](mailto:boltingfund@alpineclub.org.nz). Applications that include moderately graded climbs, improve the safety of a crag or mitigate any environmental impacts, are viewed

particularly favourably.

### **Pioneer Hut – closed for four weeks in March**

Members are advised that Pioneer Hut will be unavailable to use from March the 1<sup>st</sup> until March the 24<sup>th</sup>. A major maintenance project is being carried out by Max Dorfliger, who you will remember did such a great job on Centennial Hut last year. The intention is improve the waterproofness and ventilation of Pioneer Hut, which has suffered from a lack of both for a few years. It is a good reminder to users of any hut – while you are in residence, take every opportunity to ventilate huts by leaving the windows open. And of course, shut them to keep the weather out when you leave. Funding for the Pioneer Hut project was provided by the DoC Community Fund via the [NZ Outdoor Recreation Consortium](#).

### **Elcho Hut**

I visited this hut for the first time late last year, as an alternative to Dasler Biv in bad weather. It's a great hut, albeit seldom used as a base for climbing these days. NZACs smallest Section, North Otago, has always taken pride in its maintenance and upkeep. Thanks to a grant from the Outdoor Recreation Consortium, they were able to install brand new aluminium windows at Elcho over the last weekend of January. Good job team! Don't worry, I won't tell anyone that you got BOTH 4WDs stuck in the river. I promise.

### **Volunteer Opportunities – contribute at a National level**

Some of the sub-committees of NZAC have vacancies for enthusiastic people.

The **Publications Committee** is looking for someone with a passion for both print and digital publications.

The **Recreational Advocacy Committee** is open to new members who might be interested in formulating NZAC submissions to various DoC planning processes.

The **Events Committee** is in its establishment phase and will provide advice to NZAC in the operations and strategic direction of various events.

The time commitment typically involves a couple of hours a month at the most, usually facilitated via Skype and/or email.

If you would like to discuss these opportunities please contact me on (03) 377 7595

## ***Upcoming Trips***

<b><i>Trips</i></b>	<b><i>When</i></b>	<b><i>Contact</i></b>
Wall/Crag Climbing	Text 021 243 7381 if you want to climb.	Kelly Cooney
Head of Rakaia	To be advised.	Ian Rogers
Ohau area	After April 5th	Syd Woods
Any ideas?	...Well, let us know!	Committee

## South Canterbury Section - Contacts

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### Unwin Lodge Bookings

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