North Otago Section NZAC
P.O. Box 191
Oamaru

September 2017 Newsletter

Next Meeting: The AGM

When: Monday, 2nd October 2017

Time: 7.30pm

Where: North Otago Search and Rescue HQ, 1 Severn Street, the building immediately behind Abacus House

After the AGM : "Spring in the Dolpo: A high altitude trek through this medieval kingdom in the west of Nepal"; a presentation by guest speaker **Clare Kearney**

Last Section Meeting: Sam Henehan talked about his year in Norway glacier guiding, ice climbing and kayaking.

Climbing News

Sam Henehan and **Laura Patience** climbed “The Great Escape”, a 4 pitch rock route at the Port Chalmers crag.

Nick Shearer has been ski touring at The Pisa Range with **Jeremy Shearer, Peter Platts and Neil Sloane.**

Hugh Wood has been walking around Ben Lomond near Dansey’s Pass.

Murray Judge and **Rob Connolly** continue to develop new rock climbs at Long Beach.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Murchison Hut is closed due to geological instability until further notice. Please share this post to inform others.

New Zealand Recreation Association Outdoor Awards

The outstanding efforts of New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC) volunteers were recognised at New Zealand Recreation Association Outdoor Awards, held in Wellington on Monday night. NZAC volunteers and programmes scooped three of the six categories, with YMCA Christchurch taking the other three awards on offer.

NZAC was awarded the Visitor Solutions Outstanding Event Award for the Sustainable Summits Conference 2016 and the YMCA Outstanding Programme Award for the NZAC National Youth Camp. John Cocks of NZAC took out the NZAC Outstanding Volunteer Award, highlighting his substantial contribution to the organisation and outdoors community over a 40-year period.

NZAC General Manager, Karen Tait says “The winning of these awards is an excellent achievement for NZAC, which directly highlights the depth and commitment of our volunteers.”

John Cocks has made an outstanding contribution in many roles at NZAC, including as a past President. He has served for long periods on both the national Recreational Advocacy Committee and the Accommodation Committee, and played an important part in the rebuild of the club’s flagship Unwin lodge at Aoraki Mount Cook.

Cocks and Dave Bamford put in countless volunteer hours to make the Sustainable Summits Conference, which hosted 120 worldwide delegates at Aoraki Mount Cook in 2016, an outstanding success. The conference, hosted for the first time outside the United States, brought together the outdoors community to discuss sustainable practices in the mountains and the future challenges faced in this changing landscape. The team of volunteers, led by Bamford and Cocks, organised the event with sustainability and safety in mind. Bamford and Cocks are also involved as advisors for the next conference, to be held in 2018 in Chamonix, France.

The NZAC youth climbing camp team led by Tony Burnell, John Entwisle and John Hammond have encouraged hundreds of youths with their climbing. Each year they take a group of 20 school-age kids climbing for a week at locations not usually accessible to them. In 2016 they were in Queenstown and in 2017 they will base themselves in Wanaka. The popularity of the programme has increased and registrations are now filling six months in advance, with a growing wait list.

Tait says “We are really lucky to have members willingly volunteering their time to enhance the outcomes of New Zealand climbing with such exciting events and sustained commitment. The really amazing thing is that these outstanding volunteers are not unique in our organisation as we have a whole community working really hard from the regional to the national level.”

She says “It is wonderful to have the opportunity to celebrate these achievements at the NZRA Outdoors Awards, and highlight to the wider public the importance of our community. Outdoor recreation is a key part of New Zealand’s heritage, and our organisation and volunteers are attempting to fill an increasing demand from the population with less funding from Government. I am just so pleased the NZAC can count on these volunteers to step up and lead grassroots programmes to help fulfil some of this demand.”

Summer Photography Workshops

NZAC photo workshops are club events aimed at beginner-intermediate photographers wanting to improve their outdoor photography skills. Based at Aoraki/Mt Cook, at the height of the early summer flowers, this course will offer instruction on macro and landscape photography and an overnight visit to Mueller Hut if weather allows.

Additional information can be found in the info pack here: NZAC Summer Workshop.pdf

Cost: Base cost $890 pp, includes all instruction, accommodation, and three evening meals.

Register for the course online here: https://goo.gl/forms/VXvN9d8D9Vr3zqXJ2

NZAC membership is required, to join NZAC visit: http://alpineclub.org.nz/membership

Kicks off lunchtime Friday 24th November at Unwin Lodge (please arrive at 11:30am).

Send an email to Ashlee at events@alpineclub.org.nz to express your interest in this amazing opportunity.

Applications close 5pm, Saturday 4th November.

The Cordillera Carabaya Expedition 1967

We have received a letter from David Hodgdon formerly a member of the Rocketdyne Mountaineering Club located in California. The RMC and Sierra Clubs hosted NZAC members on their way through the USA en route to Peru for the Cordillera Carabaya Expedition 1967.

He has come across a box of colour slides of New Zealand that were left behind by one of the team members and will be sending them back to New Zealand for entry into the Club's Hocken Archive Collection. Can anyone identify the remaining NZAC members in the colour feature image above. We have written to Alex Parton, but if anyone else knows were one of the other surviving team members may be, please let us know are they might be able to rovide us with more information about the slides in question?

Colour image left to right we believe is eight of the nine Expedition members. Missing is likely to be John Dowd who joined the Expedition later on: Alex Parton; ?; ?; ?; Dave Massam; ?; ?; ?.

The Expedition Report was featured in the 1968 NZ Alpine Journal (pages 291-304) with team members: W Goodfellow, B C Dudley; D G Massam; RG McKenzie; DE Cooper (Leader); Dr G G Jackson; A O Parton; J Dowd and A N H Chinn (Deputy Leader). You can read the article here: Cordillera Carabaya Exp 1967 NZAJ 1968

The black and white image features Gordon Palmer (RMC), Alex Parton; Dave Massam; Unknown; David Hodgdon (RMC) on the far right. (Two identities added thanks to Bob McKerrow with the person 2nd from right still to name).

Contact Margaret if you can assist. Phone +64 (0)3 3777 595 ext 2
margaret@alpineclub.org.nz

Oamaru Climbing Wall

At the Waitaki Recreation Centre in Orwell Street. Climbing Sessions: Tuesday 8.00-9.30pm, Thursday 5.00-6.30pm. Come along and try out the new tilting slab climbs. This might be the first adjustable angle wall open to the public in NZ? All welcome.

From The Newsletter Editor: Please email or phone your climbing, outdoor, mountain-related news to the Editor:
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