



NEW ZEALAND
ALPINE CLUB

The Otago Climber

March 2017



Visiting American climber Michael Perkins on Shark Attack, Sebastopol Bluffs – trip report next month Photo: Riley Smith



The Otago Climber

The monthly newsletter of the
Otago Section of the New Zealand Alpine Club



March 2017

Meetings

1st Wednesday of the Month, Staff Club, University of Otago (Leith St).

Wednesday 1 March

Richard O'Neill Dean will present 'Ski Rhapsody – A Ski Mountaineering Traverse.' Richard recently completed what he says is "best to describe as a ski mountaineering traverse separate from the excellent and classic Symphony on Skis... a traverse that links the Godley Valley to the West Coast." Those who remember his talk some years ago about a ski 'Prelude' from the Rangitata to the Godley will be interested to see the continuation of Richard's adventures.

Wednesday 5 April

We are in the final stages of confirming our guest speaker for next month.

Trips

Mt Brown -March 18-19 March;

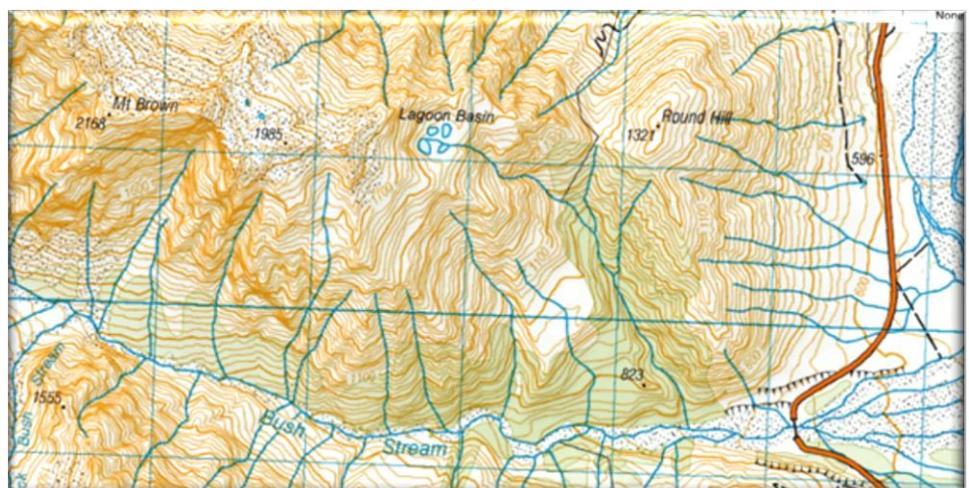
Keith Moffat will be leading a trip to Mt Brown (2168m) in the Ben Ohau range. The plan is to drive to the road end by Bush stream on Saturday and camp Saturday night at the Lagoon Basin. On Sunday, we will Climb Mt Brown and drive back to Dunedin.

This is grade 1 climb and you will ice axe, crampons and helmet.

Contact Keith at
Moffat.k172@gmail.com

Ph 4738903 or

Mobile 927 6644037.



Trip Report: NZAC Climbing Camp- Keith Moffat.

The NZAC National climbing camp was hosted by the Otago Section at Top Forks hut in the Wilkin Valley from 4th to 11th February.

We had 21 people with over half of them being from overseas. Everyone got established at the camp on the Saturday with access being a mixture of Helicopter jet boat and walking. On Monday five people climbed Perseus while others checked out the approach to Pollux and did some exploring in the area. Monday was a rain day and in addition to the usual card games we had an alpine TED talk session. On Tuesday, everyone got into position to take advantage of the forecast fine day on Wednesday. Eight people camped on the ledges below the bluffs on Pollux while the rest of the crew headed to Waterfall Flat.

On Wednesday six people got to the summit of Pollux and about ten climbed Twilight. The rest of the camp while not perfect weather on the tops was great for hanging out in the Mountains.

What made the camp so special and enjoyable was the great bunch of people attending and having time to savour being in the Mountains at such a special place.



Above - Camp organiser Keith Moffat relaxing on summit of Twilight

Left- Summit ridge of Pollux



Happy Campers at this year's NZAC Climbing Camp. *Back Row* Angela Minto, Graham Desborough, John Wilde, Gerrard Liddell. *Front Row:* Yan Gurevich, Joanne Inder, Andrea Hidalgo, Keith Moffat, Dan Wilde, Toby Holyhead, Paul Riviere

Tuesday Night Rock Climbing Update

Tuesday Climbing Update

Last Tuesday we had a safety check by local professional Dave Brash. He identified a lack of sufficiently skilled instructors to supervise the number of people requiring direct assistance and we do need to make some changes so that everyone who comes to Tuesday Night Rock Climbing has a safe and enjoyable experience with the Alpine Club.

Until we can train sufficient Tuesday instructors, we have decided that there will be no Club top-ropes installed for beginner climbers. We will also follow our existing risk plan and insist under 18 climbers have a parent or guardian with them. We expect that climbers tonight will lead routes, second or top-rope using their own gear and we need to be clear that no instruction will be provided. All climbers are welcome, provided they are aware of the above.

If you are experienced and would like to help supervise the Tuesday night sessions, we would love to hear from you. Dave Brash has kindly offered to take a training session next Monday night at 5.30pm to begin the process and you would be very welcome to attend if you are able. Please just message us on Facebook or email otagoclimber@gmail.com, and one of our club members will have a chat to you and give you the details.

And if you are a beginner who's keen to start climbing, keep watching this page and we will let you know when our friendly and informal instruction on Tuesdays will resume (with our freshly 'up-skilled' volunteers), and when the next serious beginner climbing course (taught by a local professional but subsidised by OSONZAC) is being run."

Grants available

Got a great climbing project? Short of funds? We might have the answer. We are calling for funding applications from anyone who has a climbing project that would benefit from a cash injection. We expect to contribute around \$500 per project but could go higher for something spectacular! The rules are simple: The project must contribute to climbing in the Otago Region and the project must have wide benefits – not be for individuals.

In recent years, we have funded bolting and rebolting projects throughout Otago, contributed to hut repair and historic hut renovations, and helped with the development of new crags. Your project could be next. Send us an email to otago.climber@gmail.com and tell us about your project: who's involved, what it will cost and who will benefit.

Banff Film Festival – save the date

We can confirm that the dates for the Dunedin screenings of the Banff Mountain Film Festival are 30 May and 1 June. As with last year, there will be different films on each night, and we will have a mix of allocated seating (upstairs) and general admission (stalls).

Canterbury-Westland Section Long Beach trip

Fast becoming an annual tradition, Clayton Garbes and the team from Christchurch are visiting Long Beach for the weekend 11-12 March. It's always a social weekend and all are welcome.

Notices from NZAC headquarters

Hut and Tracks Fund: FMC advise applications are now open

In a big vote of confidence the Outdoor Recreation Consortium was recently granted its 3rd year of funding, another \$400,000 will go to backcountry projects led by volunteers, bringing the total to \$1.6 million.

Applications for the next round of funding are now open, and close on April the 14th. Think about what you might like to contribute to our hut and track network, and if you need advice call your local DOC Office or FMC Executive Officer Jamie Stewart, 027 7674064. If there is one defining feeling from the over 100 projects we have supported to date, it's that every individual or club involved is left immensely satisfied and fulfilled with what they have been able to contribute.

Please find Application Forms, Guidelines and further information to assist in your project planning on the Huts and Tracks website: Click here. <http://bit.ly/2kBUd71>

MISSING, OR STRAYED – PORTER LODGE LOG BOOK

The old Porter Lodge log book has recently gone missing from the lodge. It was there only recently, but missing when a replacement new book was taken in. Anyone with it, or who may know its whereabouts, please send in to Margaret at NZAC, PO Box 786, ChCh 8140, thanks. All NZAC hut log books are indexed first at the National Office and then entered into the NZAC Hocken Collection, so we don't want it ending up lost in some other collection, or accidentally thrown away.

Research Project: Rock Climbing Injuries

Sam Terry has completed his research project on rock climbing injuries towards his bachelor of sport and exercise at SIT. Please view his published results for your information on our website:

<https://alpineclub.org.nz/research-project-rock-climbing-injuries/>

NZAC 2017 Calendar and 125th Anniversary Clothing – Sale

The remaining stock of our 125th Anniversary clothing and the NZAC's 2017 Photographic Comp Calendar are now on sale. Please see the club's online store for details on remaining clothing sizes/colours and to purchase: <https://alpineclub.org.nz/online-shop/>

New stock available on the Alpine Club online store

'The Sharp End of a Short Rope – forty years of the NZ Mountain Guides Association' – Graham Langton. \$35
<https://alpineclub.org.nz/product/the-sharp-end-of-a-short-rope/>

Gear Hire move

Our eight sets of avalanche equipment and eight sets of snowshoes are now available for rent from the new Hunting and Fishing shop, now at ~~922 George Street~~ in Dunedin. The shop is open from 8 to 5.30 on Monday to Friday and from 9am to 4pm on Saturday. The shop is not open on Sundays. The rental costs are \$5 per day for an avalanche set of transceiver, probe and shovel and \$5 per day for snowshoes for all Alpine Club members. You MUST show your current membership card to receive that rate. Not a member, or don't have your card? Then the fee is \$10 per day and you will be required to pay a \$20 deposit. If you have any issues with the gear or rentals, please contact me or any of the committee and we will sort things out. Please don't hassle the staff at Hunting and Fishing as they are doing us a huge favour by running the rental scheme for us. Cheers, Lindsay Smith, 0274048911.

PLB Hire – free for NZAC members

We have two PLBs available for hire, and this service is free for current NZAC members. Contact Keith Moffat moffat.k172@gmail.com or 027 664 4037 a few days in advance if you want to hire a PLB. \$5 per day for non-members.

OSONZAC Committee 2016-2017

Chairman, CCM rep. – Jaz Morris (phone 027 406 9173 or email jaz.n.morris@gmail.com)

Treasurer, Equipment Manager – Keith Moffat

Secretary – Lindsay Smith

Trips, Banff Film Festival – Danilo Hegg

Instruction – Heather Rhodes

Newsletter Editor – Ben Mitchell

Jr. Climbing Coordinator – Riley Smith

Contact information

Otago Section of the New Zealand Alpine Club
c/o 172 Gladstone Rd, Dalmore, Dunedin 9016

Email: otago.climber@gmail.com

Web: <https://alpineclub.org.nz/region/otago/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/osonzac>