



The Otago Climber

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



October 2016

Meetings

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

Wednesday 4 October

'Shake and Bake – the Alpine Fault and its influence on the Southern Alps' – **Jack Williams**, University of Otago Geology PhD student and keen climber presents a talk discussing the geology of our mountains – whether you climb Mt Cook weetbix or Fiordland granite, the Southern Alps are the result of dynamic underground processes.

Wednesday 2 November

'2 weeks in the Wilkin-Waiatoto' – Christchurch transalpinist **Caroline Bellamy** recently spent 18 days traversing from the Wilkin to the Waiatoto as part of an FMC Youth Scholarship expedition. Come and hear tales of her epic trip!

Wednesday 7 December

'Classic climbs and first ascents in Peru' – **Jaz Morris** will discuss the recent and very successful Expedition Climbers Club/New Zealand Alpine Team trip to the Cordillera Blanca of Peru.

Trips

29-30 October – 'Post Snowcraft Trip' – intended for participants in the recent OSONZAC Snowcraft course but open to all. Location TBC – most likely Eyre Peak in the Eyre Mountains. Contact danilo.hegg@hotmail.com for more information.

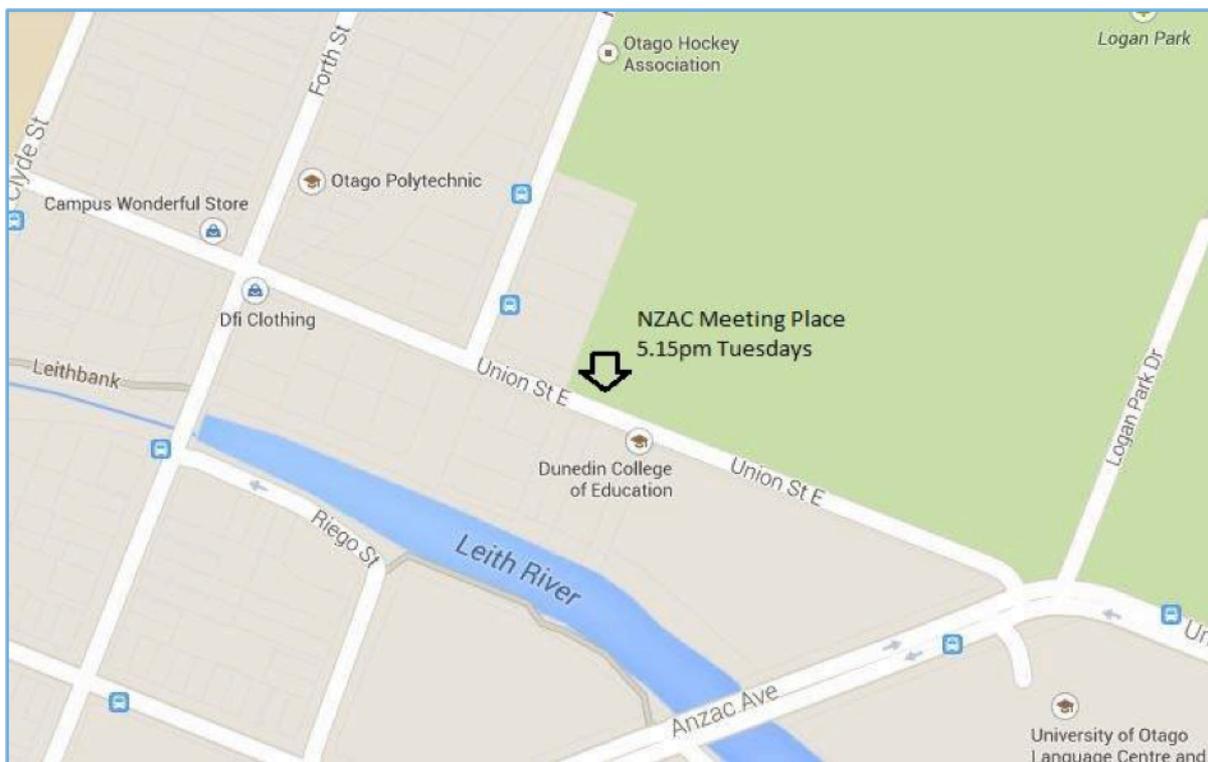
12-13 November – Mt Turner from the Wilkin River. Round three for Keith Moffat with this beautiful peak visible from Makarora. Contact moffat.k172@gmail.com for more information.

Tuesday Night Rock Climbing

Back for 2016-2017 from Tuesday 11 October – same time, same place. Meet at Logan Park opposite the Teachers College at 5.15pm for a 5.30 departure (to whatever local crag the group chooses) with a group of friendly local climbers. Tuesday climbing is open to all climbers (non-NZAC members are welcome!) who are keen to socialise and meet new people, or perhaps get a belay on some new climbs.

Gear is available for hire to use on the night (free for members). Contact Lindsay Smith for more information at 0274048911.

Please note the purpose of the evenings is not for instruction – while experienced climbers are always on hand for advice, beginners should bring a competent friend to show them the ropes (as it were).



Tuesday rock climbing meeting location.

Junior rock climbing events

Not content with being shown up by the Cantabrians (with their fancy climbing gyms), local young-gun rock climber and new OSNZAC committee member Riley Smith is keen to organise youth climbing nights to coincide with the Tuesday night climbing. Watch this space for more information or contact otago.climber@gmail.com if you think you might want to help out or supervise.

Trip Reports

OSONZAC Basic Snowcraft Course, Remarkables Skifield 16-18 September 2016.

By Riley Smith.

During the two-day annual Snowcraft course, six of us accompanied Jaz Morris and Danilo Hegg at Remarkables Ski Field for a weekend where we could start learning about how to safely climb mountains.

Jaz and Danilo's lessons covered a variety of new things; how to use crampons and ice axe, avalanche awareness and avoidance, how to use avalanche transceivers/probes, how to dig someone out of an avalanche and a whole lot more!

After a quick Alexandra Subway stop, we arrived in Frankton for a briefing and presentation from Jaz and Danilo about Snowcraft. The next morning, we headed up the mountain. Fortunately, one of our members had been an executive at NZ Ski, so we got VIP car parking both days and a FREE lift ride up the Shadow Basin Chairlift! How's that for service!?

But the bad news on day one was that the temperature had not dipped below 0° overnight. This meant we could barely use crampons as the snow was slushy by 8:30am and wasn't going to freeze during the day. Throughout the day we covered self-arresting, avalanche rescue and learning to use our equipment properly.

Sunday was overcast, however there was an inversion layer up high - meaning the temperature had just made it under 0° overnight. After reaching the top of Shadow Basin in record time, we headed up to the Telecom Towers at the top of Remarks as a way of testing our new skills. As you can see by the photo below, the views were absolutely outstanding!

This was my first introduction to mountaineering and I absolutely loved it! I would definitely recommend the Snowcraft Course to anyone who's interested in getting into climbing.

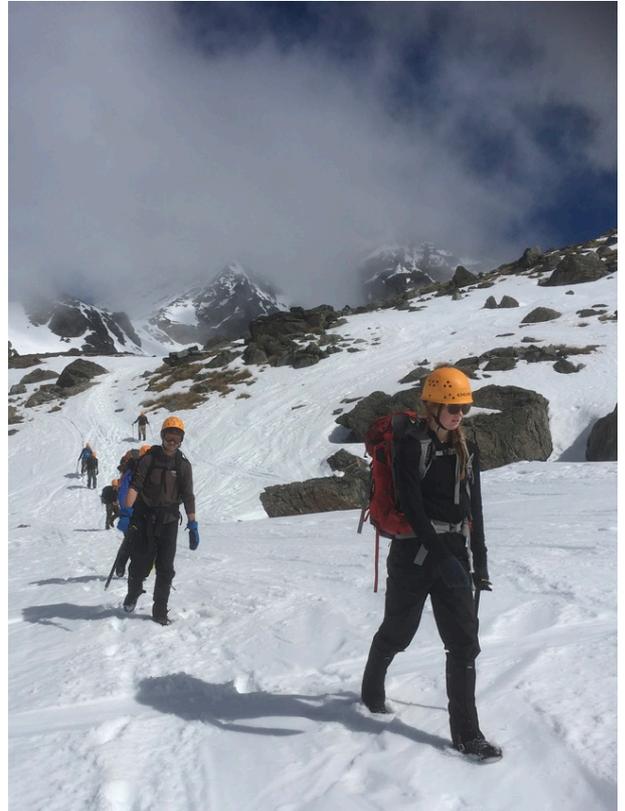
Notices from NZAC headquarters

NZAC AGM, 9 November 2016

7.00pm - 9.30pm at the Cashmere Club in Christchurch. Finger food and drinks will be available, after the formal part of the evening there will be a 125th Anniversary Quiz. All members are warmly invited to attend.

Changes in staffing at HQ

The NZAC is sad to announce the recent departure of Keith Gilby, General Manager and Sefton Priestly, Programme Manager. The Club is currently in the process of appointing a new GM and will make a decision soon on the future of the PM position.



Outdoors champion appointed to NZ Walking Access Commission board

Respected outdoors advocate Robin McNeill has been appointed to the board of the New Zealand Walking Access Commission – congratulations Robin!

New books available online with member discounts at <https://alpineclub.org.nz/>

Photographing Aoraki Mount Cook: a guide to the best walks and photography locations. By Mark Watson. Special member discounted price of \$28 + p&p

So Far So Good: a three-month traverse of the Southern Alps. By Craig Potton. Special member discounted price of \$40 + p&p

Hand-Printed Limited Edition Freda du Faur Poems – 100 available

<https://alpineclub.org.nz/hand-printed-limited-edition-freda-du-faur-poems/>

Cheers to our sponsors

A special thank you to Cactus Outdoor for continuing their support of the NZAC Expedition Fund via an extra donation raised from a percentage of online sales and donated annually. A reminder too, that members receive 10% off their purchase price when buying from this outdoor equipment and clothing specialist.

Gear Hire

Our eight sets of avalanche equipment and eight sets of snowshoes are now available for rent from the Hunting and Fishing shop 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.

Meet the new committee! – OSONZAC's 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 – Emma Kluge

Speakers – Polly Camber

Trips, Banff Film Festival – Danilo Hegg

Instruction – Heather Rhodes

Newsletter Editor – Ben Mitchell

Jr. Climbing Coordinator – Riley Smith

Sr. Climbing Coordinator (AKA Tuesday night climbing) – Lindsay Smith

No printed newsletters

We hope this comes as no surprise to members reading this at their computer, but the Section has decided to save a few trees and a few dollars and has ceased printing our newsletter. If you know an OSONZAC member who isn't getting newsletters online yet, then encourage them to pass their email address on to Margaret at HQ margaret@alpineclub.org.nz.



'Objective Hazards' - West Ridge of Taulliraju, Peru.
Honours, Alpine Activity category, NZAC Photo Competition 2016 (Jaz Morris)

Contact information

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