

Vertigo

No 831 September



NEW ZEALAND
ALPINE CLUB

Wellington Section Monthly Bulletin

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REEL ROCK 14

Book your tickets now!

Teapot at campfire, Cattle Flat rock biv,
Dart Valley, Mt Aspiring NP
Photo: Shaun Barnett
[More Photocomp winners here](#)

Chair's Report

September 2019

What a great winter it has been so far. Though the snowcraft courses are over, many of the participants have signed up for post course events that have gotten them back out there to put their new-found skills to practice.

Thanks to some more invigorated trip leaders and committee members, the section is now offering more frequent opportunities to get out and go climbing.

Feedback from the course participants highlighted an issue with accepting people on to NZAC courses without sufficient prior knowledge or experience. This only applies to the second and third level courses as level one courses are designed for people with no prior knowledge or experience. What we found is that although some participants had done courses with other providers or tramping clubs, they didn't meet the standard of instruction delivered by the NZAC. This was an issue on a number of courses where instructors ended up having to provide a level one and two syllabus at the same time. This reduced the quality of the course for those that were at the required standard. This isn't a new issue as every year we receive applications from people who over estimate their skill level or who have done other non NZAC courses and want to sign up for a higher level course. As a consequence we are planning to make it a prerequisite to have completed an NZAC or recognised equivalent level one and or level two course before being eligible to sign up for a level two or level three course accordingly. This way we can ensure a minimum standard of capability for our instructors to build on.

We are also planning to get course dates out for next year before the end of this season, so stay tuned to Vertigo if you missed out this year and want to get on one of our awesome courses next year.

In other news, yes we are still making a mess of the planet.

Annie Lenox from her song Cold:

'Dying is easy. It's living scares me to death'

Any comments on what you like or don't like send an email to wellington@alpineclub.org.nz or tweet us @NZACWellington.

Simon

Simon Williamson
Chair: NZAC Wellington



From the editor

This Vertigo has been reformatted following recent feedback I received about ways to enhance Vertigo. The overall page dimension has been changed from 3:2 to 4:3, which is in line with a standard computer screen. This format still won't be ideal for smart phones, but I've also increased the font size from 12 and 14 up to 18 minimum. Hopefully this will permit easier viewing across devices. Any other feedback, please let me know occasionalclimber@gmail.com.

This is a shot I took of a Sherpa girl at the Saturday market, Namche Bazaar, Khumbu, Nepal

Peter



Section News

Section nights

All Section night talks are held at The Third Eye, Tuatara Brewery, level 2, 30 Arthur Street, from 6pm. With prior arrangement, also a good place to collect or return hired climbing gear. If you would like to make a presentation at a future Section night, or have a suggestion about someone else to present, please let Peter know - occasionalclimber@gmail.com.

September Section night

Tues 17th Sep, James Warren will present some challenging ascents in 2018 of some of New Zealand's biggest mountains. We will also cover off our AGM formalities. Annual Section reports are provided on [pages 12 and 13](#).

Section nights beyond September

Tues 22nd Oct, Simon Williamson, Eric Duggan and Stacey Wong will present tips on how to lead alpine trips.

Tues 19th Nov, Penny Webster will take us through her recent climb of Mt Everest.

There are no section nights in December or January because we're too busy climbing.

Tues 18th February 2019, climbing and pizzas at Hangdogs TBC.

Tues 24th March, Paul Maxim will present his recent climbing in the European Alps, including Mont Blanc.

Discounted PLBs

skippersmate.co.nz offers a 5% discount to all NZAC members for NZ purchases of PLBs. Two brands are on offer - KTI SA2G and McMurdo Fast Find 220 (not always in stock). To use the discount, the coupon code on the website is **NZAC05** and the owner, Peter, asks you to send a copy of your membership card to peter@cooeebay.com

Gear Hire

The Section has gear for hire: avalanche transceivers, ice axes, shovels, stakes, hammers, helmets, crampons, probes, PLBs, ice hammers (entry level). Each item costs \$5 per week with the exception of PLBs – PLBs are free but require a deposit of \$50 refundable on return. To hire gear please fill in the form [here](#). You can find out more from [Genevieve](#).

Some advance notice, especially over the Christmas period, is appreciated as gear is in higher demand and often needs to be retrieved from the gear store. To collect or return your gear liaise with Genevieve.

Accommodation on Mt Ruapehu

Our snowcraft courses for the past few years have been run out of the Manawatu Tramping and Skiing Club lodge on Whakapapa. We're always made to feel welcome and the lodge is well situated a short walk from the top of the Bruce Road. Membership to the club is extremely reasonable - \$35 per year or \$50 for a family membership. Members stay at the lodge for \$36 a night including food. If you're looking for somewhere to base yourself for your winter pursuits or rock-climbing over the summer months go to www.mtsc.org.nz/joining.php to find out more about joining the club.

A view looking south along the summit ridge of Mt Tasman with Aoraki Mt Cook right Photo: James Warren



Notices

New opening date for the Paparoa Track

Was end September, now 1 December. More [here](#).

2019-2020 UIAA Ice Climbing World Tour launch. More [here](#).

2019 International Climbers' Meet, Yosemite Valley

The American Alpine Club is now taking applications for the 12th annual International Climbers' Meet to be held in Yosemite Valley during the week of Oct 13th - Oct 19th, 2019. More [here](#).

FREE to a good home

A collection of NZAC Alpine Journals back to 1956, plus some other books. Contact Brian McGlinchy, Ph 04 4 934 8035, 021 323 474, brimcg@actrix.gen.nz

Flying Over the Himalaya: peak identification by Tamotsu Nakamura
Ideal for expedition planners. To order contact ibd@kinokuniya.co.jp – 8000 yen (approx. NZD\$110) ISBN: 978-4-7795-1360-2

NZAC – surplus books for sale

A further secondhand book listing has just gone up on the NZAC TradeMe account. This time books have been selectively paired up with similar interest titles. [Check it out here](#)

There are also other discounted titles. Login online for member rates and [check it out here](#).

Ex-Library Books on Offer

A new batch of second-hand books has become available for only a donation plus the price of postage to send. Please check out the new listing and contact Margaret to arrange delivery. Note these books are sold as-is and their condition is variable due to age. Find out more [here](#).

More NZAC member discounts

10% discounts:

Air Charter Karamea; Packrafting Queenstown and Mountain Outdoors [here](#).

Selected Pottin & Burton titles [here](#).

Go Native [here](#). Go Native will also support the Club Hut Fund with an annual donation equalling 10% commission from purchases.

The North Face – 15% instore (Auckland, Christchurch, Queenstown) [here](#).

New films available [here](#)

The Mueller and Tasman Glaciers 1929 with commentary by Frank Drewitt.
Alpine Guides Reunion held at the Hermitage, Mt Cook 10-11 November 1981.

Ohau – Landsborough Guidebook - Request for information

An Ohau-Landsborough guidebook will replace the Barron Saddle – Mt Brewster guidebook (2002) in spring 2020. Over 100 new climbs have been completed in the region since 2002. Many of those have been listed on climbNZ. Please send information on new climbs, corrections and updates to: j.m.thornton@live.com; rosscullen.kiwi@gmail.com; nina.dickerhof@gmail.com

NEW – 1500 and 2050ml Poo Pots

Two new sized Poo Pots available for purchase online. Larger sizes were requested for longer trips and the result has been a change to 1500ml and 2050ml sizes that should hold up to five days of poo. These pots have a wider 100mm opening and come with a reusable cap insert that helps give a better seal and reduces odours. Due to making a bulk purchase we have been able to keep the price the same as the 1000ml pots, \$7 plus p&p.

[Click to purchase](#).

Request for information

Maurice Hayward is trying to contact Peter Johnson, who assisted with the filming of an Ascent of Aspiring around the 1970-1980's. Grant Foster filmed an ascent of Aspiring as the producer of a film for the now defunct NZ National Film Unit. Grant now lives in Chicago. The film mentions the NFU team but there is no date. Three members of the Otago Branch of the NZ Alpine Club did the climb - Hugh Conrad, Neil Hamilton, and Bruce Jenkinson. Others assisted, including Peter Johnson who Grant would like to catch up with after all these years. The climb would have been filmed in the 1970 - 1980 era. If you have any information or know Peter, please contact Maurice at mpkettle@slingshot.co.nz, 7 Comely Bank, Dunedin.

Mountain Safety Council Communications Manager

Find out more [here](#).

Expedition Fund Grants Approved – 2019 Round Two. More [here](#).

Nepal panel proposes new rules for climbers

Nepal must make training and experience in high-altitude climbing mandatory for all climbers on Mount Everest and other high peaks, a government panel has said following the deadliest climbing season in four years. More [here](#).

Coming Trips, Courses, Events

All our planned South Island trips come with the added bonus that rental vehicle costs for Wellington Section members are covered by the Section.

If you're uncertain about the skill level required with any of the trips, would like to register your interest or to find out more, email us at wellington@alpineclub.org.nz.

Also, please contact us if you're keen to run a trip yourself – the Committee can help with advertising and logistics.

When	What and where
4-6 Oct	North Island Ski Touring Meet Run by Auckland Section. Accomodation TASC Lodge, Tukino. Registration and full details here
18-20 Oct	Combined Lower Nth Island clubs ski touring meet At Whakapapa. Updates on our Facebook page to come. Contact Keith Munro keithm@mtgelab.co.nz 027 653 6568 to register interest.
25-28 Oct (Labour Weekend)	Mt Ruapehu Alpine Leader Simon Williamson. Ruapehu Hut 25th, camp on Plateau 26/27, descend/return to Wellington 28th. To register interest contact Simon crisisresponse@googlemail.com , 021 054 7684
13 and 20 Nov	Reel Rock 14 The Reel Rock Film Tour, one of climbing's greatest celebrations, is back with four new world premieres. Two 6pm screenings at Penthouse Cinema. Don't miss out, make your booking now.
16-18 Nov	Mt Somers Trad Climbing Leader Jenny Cossey. To register interest jennycossey1@gmail.com
28 Nov - 1 Dec	Payne's Ford Sport Climbing Leader Stacey Wong and Margot Meuleman. 28 Nov fly to Nelson, drive to Hangdog Camp, 29/30 Nov climb, 1 Dec climb then return to Wellington. To register interest contact Stacey staceycolleena@gmail.com

NZAC instruction courses

Click for more details [Ice Climbing](#) [Ski Touring](#) [High Alpine Skills](#)

Click to find out more and make a booking

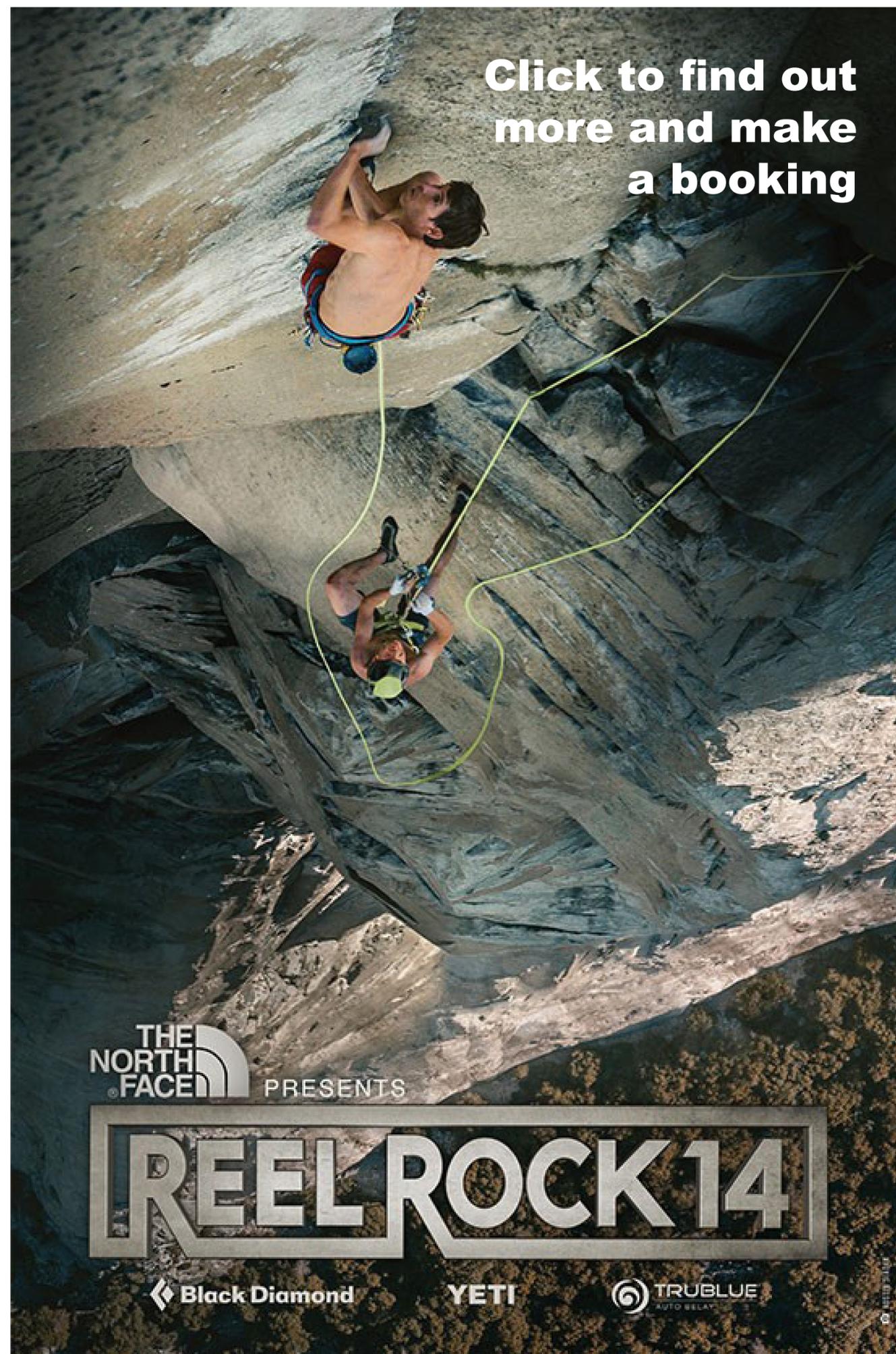


Photo Comp 2019 Results

Our annual photo competition was concluded at our August Section night, when Peter Ambrose and Guy Dubuis took those present through their thoughts about each entry and announced the category winners. The Overall 'People's Choice' Winner, featured on the last page, was chosen from the six (no Youth entries were received this year) category winning entries by vote from those in the audience. Congratulations to the winners. Here and on the next two pages are the other five category winning entries with judge's comments.

Alpine General: Peter Laurenson

A classic sunset vista from Kala Pattar - from left, Everest's west shoulder, Everest summit (8,850m) and Nuptse (7,861m)

Judges' comment: A bloody good shot. We love the play between the mountain and the clouds.



If you're interested in learning more about how to approach and develop your outdoor photography, Peter has prepared an online presentation exploring four key aspects of outdoor photography: Shooting manually; The hardware; Out on the hill; Back in the 'lab'

[More here](#)





Alpine Activity: Peter Laurenson

James making his way across a steep traverse on the Bealey side of Rome Ridge at about 2,000m, Mt Rolleston, Arthurs Pass

Judges' comment: We have the feeling of being there with the lone climber. The lovely leading lines help draw the eye of the observer to the climber. Nice depth of field with at least five layers from foreground to far horizon.



Rock Climbing: Derek Cheng

Chris Davis nears the top of Pole Axed (21) on a wind-swept, ocean-swept rock pillar, Cape Raoul, Tasmania, Australia

Judges' comment: Beautiful shot. We loved how the blue rope is leading the eye to the climber. Makes us feel we are right there and gives us vertigo.



Alpine Nature: Rachael Hockridge

Goblin forest moss on the way up to Alpha Hut

Judges' comment: Lovely subject, combining the natural and human elements. Nice symbolism and beautiful execution.



Alpine Culture: Shaun Barnett

Teapot at campfire, Cattle Flat rock biv, Dart Valley, Mt Aspiring NP

Judges' comment: Nothing is more important than coffee or tea after a long trip. Beautiful texture of the flames, and still very sharp. The handle of the pot looks piping hot.



Alpine Humour: Derek Cheng

An ambitious goat goes for the tastiest argan nuts, which always reside high up, Morocco

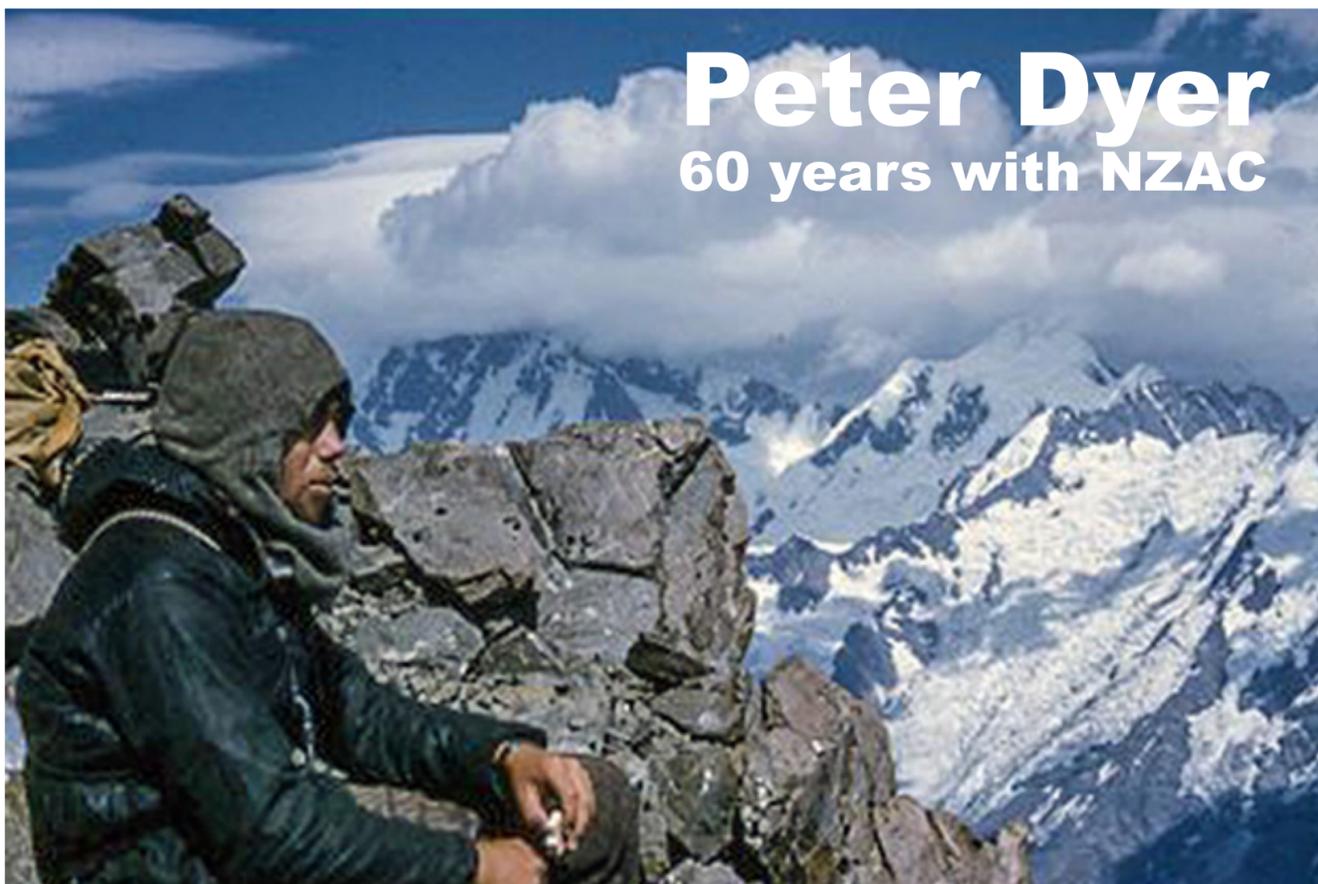
Judges' comment: This picture was received with general laughter at the presentation. Perfectly fitting for the Humour category.

A big thank you to our Photo Competition Sponsors ...



Novice and People's Choice: Rachael Hockridge
The Beehives

Judges' comment: Beautiful! This shot was also selected as overall winner of the 2019 NZAC Wellington photo competition by the public.



Above - Peter at the top of Malte Brun 1960 having a snack
Below right - Carol and Peter at their 55th wedding anniversary

Peter Dyer, now 81 years old and living in Levin with his wife Carol, has been an NZAC member since 1959. Despite his six decade membership, most of his climbing was done in the first four years leading up to a rock fall onto Pioneer Hut in 1963, when Peter was severely injured and his climbing partner tragically killed.

Carol alerted me to Peter's 60 year membership anniversary when I sought feedback about Vertigo readership. Carol could relate. 'I know what it's like to do a newsletter and seldom get feedback. I do our Garden Club newsletter - 90 members, and a much smaller Travel Club one, and seldom is there feedback.'

I asked Carol to provide some more information and if she had been Peter's climbing 'partner in crime' over the years. 'Partner in crime? Hmm, not up in the mountains! We've been married nearly 56 years and the first time Peter took me tramping, up in the Tararua Ranges, it poured with rain. He told my mother I took to tramping like a duck takes to water. I don't think she really appreciated the literal meaning!

'We were engaged when Pioneer Hut was destroyed by the rock avalanche and Peter spent from then (January) until October in hospital, at first in Hokitika, but then in Wellington, recovering from internal injuries and multiple fractures.

The rescue, by the search party and pilot John Stokes, is still the highest carried out by a single engine plane in New Zealand. We didn't know until we met John many years later at an Alpine Club function and Pioneer reunion, that Peter actually stopped breathing about 1am and was resuscitated. And for the record, John received a letter, a reprimand, from Mt Cook Airlines at the time, 'for endangering the plane'!!!

'Because of his injuries, Peter hasn't been able to get back to the mountains he loved, but he talks about the peaks he climbed in his youth and the wonderful people he met. We spent our honeymoon the following January on the West Coast visiting the people who had been so vital in his rescue, and showing them he was still alive. He never talked about the accident as he was deeply affected by the death of his climbing partner Gilbert Murray, that is, until Gilbert's friend and climber Bill Roberts, from the UK, who was also traumatised by the accident, came out on a visit 30 years later. That opened up the memories.

'Peter did lead a Hopkins Meet in 1968, where an Australian climber died, creating quite a challenge. I was there too. Then in 1970, he applied for Deputy Leader of Scott Base because so many of his friends went to the Antarctic. He subsequently was appointed Leader of Vanda Station in the Dry Valleys for the summer season of 1970-71 and absolutely loved his time there and the interesting visitors and scientists he met.

'Apart from four children, and now grandchildren, we lead busy lives volunteering in the community. I feel proud that Peter has maintained his membership of and interest in NZAC for 60 years.'



Section Contacts

Powered by volunteers

We're always thankful for volunteers and members stepping forward to help the section run smoothly. A lot goes on to keep our club going, virtually all powered by volunteers. On the back page is our "Club on a page" summary. It gives an at a glance description of all the things we do, how and why. Feel free to print a copy and pass it on to anyone who might be interested in becoming a member or volunteer. And if you'd like to learn more about how you could get involved, please email us at wellington@alpineclub.org.nz.

Role	Name	Contact
Chair person	Simon Williamson	021 054 7684
Treasurer	Carolyn Ellis	021 574 287
Secretary	Stacey Wong	staceycolleena@gmail.com
Gear custodian	Genevieve Luketina	gluketina@hotmail.com
Trip co-ordinator	Eric Duggan	021 350 161
Section nights, Vertigo, Banff	Peter Laurenson	021 446 725
Club liaison	Keith Munro	keithm@mtgelab.co.nz
General Committee, Photo comp	Guy Dubuis	guy.dubuis@gmail.com
General Committee	Rosie Percival	calicoanne@gmail.com
General Committee, Reel Rock	Naomi Seow	naomiseow@gmail.com
General Committee	Derek Cheng	derekcheng.nz@gmail.com
General Committee	Scott Harper	scott.harper@hotmail.co.nz
Patron	John Nankervis	
Rock drill overseer	Jeremy Tries	027 555 5893



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* On average. Climbing competitions can interrupt our schedule.

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Keith Munro
Registered Financial Adviser
027 654 6568
keithm@mtgelab.co.nz

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Any advice is class advice. A disclosure statement is free upon request.

Our club on a page

WELLINGTON SECTION



NEW ZEALAND
ALPINE CLUB



WHAT WE DO

FOR MEMBERS

Facilities

- * Huts
- * Gear
- * Library
- * Discounts

Training

- * Level 1-3 winter skills
- * Summer rock
- * Instructors

Climbing trips

- * Section
- * National
- * International

FOR MEMBERS AND WIDER PUBLIC

Publications

- * Website
- * Social media
- * Vertigo
- * Guide books

Events

- * Banff mountain film festival
- * Reel Rock
- * Photo comp

Networking

- * Section nights
- * Conferences and meetings
- * Lobbying

HOW WE DO IT

Organise, encourage, support, enable

Inform, entertain, promote

OUR RESOURCES

Volunteer time and capabilities, income from events and gear hire, national office support, sponsorship

WHY WE DO IT

Connecting & developing more climbing & mountaineering people, knowledge, skills & experience, thereby ...

... building lifelong friendships

... protecting and improving access to alpine places

... sustaining and growing climbing and mountaineering achievement

... enhancing alpine safety

... building appreciation, enjoyment and protection of alpine places

Image and diagram Peter Laurenson www.occasionalclimber.co.nz

Annual Reports

Annual accounts 2018/19 FY (July to June)

[Click here](#)

Section nights 2018/19 FY

In the past 12 months section nights have shifted from the last Wednesday of the month to the third Tuesday of the month, at the Tuatara Brewery The Third Eye from 6pm. No section nights were held in December or January due to the Christmas break.

A range of speakers presented trips and other subjects related to climbing overseas trips, avalanche awareness, outdoor photography and club matters. Section nights also featured the annual photo competition judging and the AGM.

Sometimes turnouts have been disappointing. They have varied between about 5 to 30 during the reporting period. Section nights continue to run in July to November 2019 and are booked from February to April 2020 at time of reporting. The table below lists each section night during the reporting period.

Section night	Subject	Speaker
Thu 5th July 2018	Avalanche awareness	Aviette Musin
Wed 25th July	Norwegian scrambles NZAC governance	Ross Cullen John Palmer
Wed 29th Aug	Photocomp night	Peter Laurenson
Wed 26th Sep	3,000m peak challenge	Penny Webster
Wed 31st Oct	Climbing the highest peaks in the 50 states of the USA. Plus AGM	Nigel Roberts
Wed 28th Nov	Kanchenjunga BC trek	Nina Sawicki
Dec 2018	No section night	NA
Jan 2019	No section night	NA
Wed 27th Feb	Hangdog and pizzas	NA
Tue 26th Mar	Peaks, places and prints	Paul Maxim
Tue 16th Apr	Yosemite climbs and solo climbing accident	Derek Cheng
Tue 21st May	Outdoor photography	Peter Laurenson
Tue 18th Jun	Avalanche awareness	Aviette Musin

Annual photo competition August 2018

Peter Laurenson judged the entries for the annual Wellington Section photo competition and presented his findings at the August section night. Once again the standard of entries varied, but some excellent entries were received.

The number of entries was a little down on the previous two years. The table shows a comparison across the seven categories. Only 15 or so turned up for the section night, but those that did attend found it useful.

NZAC Wellington entries	2018	2017	2016	2015
Alpine General	23	28	28	28
Alpine Activity	17	18	19	13
Alpine Nature	18	22	19	12
Rock climbing	10	7	8	11
Mountain Culture	12	21	11	5
Humour	6	6	12	4
Kids	15	5	11	13
	101	107	108	86

Reel Rock 2018

For the third time we hosted the Reel Rock movie event. As in 2017 the venue was the Nga Taonga Sound & Vision, which has a capacity limitation of 107 seats. Pricing was held the same as in 2017 – members/students \$19, non-members \$21, children \$14. Our two sell out screenings ran on Tuesday 4th and 11th December. Bookings were handled by us independently of the venue, using the online engine Eventopia, which again worked very well. The event was a modest financial success (inclusive gst) as follows.

	2018	2017	2016
Reel Rock movie hire (USD1,250)	1,998.10	1,847.75	1,447.78
Venue hire	1,380.00	1,380.00	1,150.00
Incidentals (poster printing, etc)	60.00	47.56	50.00
Total costs	3,438.10	3,275.31	2,647.78
Eventopia revenue	4,332.00	4,237.00	3,486.00
Surplus	893.90	961.69	838.22

Banff Mountain Film Festival see next page ...

Banff Mountain Film Festival 6 and 13 June 2019

As this table shows, 2019 was the most successful for our Wellington Banff event. Ticket pricing was unchanged from 2018, but we shifted to Embassy Theatre, permitting two screenings rather than four, which had a positive impact on both costs and volunteer exertions. The Embassy 'big screen occasion' was also well received.

Below, Shaun Barnett approaching the summit of Mount Rintoul (1,731m) in the Richmond Range. Check out Trip Reports in the next issue of Vertigo to see more. Photo: Peter Laurenson

Ticket sales	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Venue	Paramount	Paramount	Paramount	Vic Uni	Embassy
Capacity	405	405	405	312	750
Screening 1	17 Jun	7 Jun	30 May	7 Jun	6 Jun
	399	398	361	312	750
Screening 2	18 Jun	16 Jun	7 Jun	10 Jun	13 Jun
	390	400	400	310	750
Screening 3	21 Jun	19 Jun	14 Jun	3 Nov	
	381	394	399	308	
Screening 4	23 Jun	22 Jun	25 Jun	14 Jun	
	388	393	405	310	
Total sold	1558	1585	1565	1240	1500
Revenue	\$31,608	\$32,276	\$31,903	\$26,428	\$32,010
Venue cost	\$6,900	\$7,176	\$7,176	\$5,520	\$6,300
National office	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$6,791	\$7,737	\$3,829
Other costs			\$2,727	\$375	
Surplus*	\$17,708	\$18,100	\$15,209	\$12,796	\$21,881

* Half to Wellington Section, half to National Office

