

TARANAKI SECTION NEW ZEALAND ALPINE CLUB

September 2021.

UPCOMING EVENTS

AGM

Let's see a good turnout for our annual general meeting.

Location; Sport Taranaki –
Maratahu Street, New Plymouth.

Date & Time; 28th of October
7pm

Joint club night with TAC

In November we are having a joint club night with the Taranaki Alpine Club. This club night we will host Edwin Sheppard from Aotearoa Climbing Access Trust (ACAT).

Location; Blind Foundation, 131
Vivian Street, New Plymouth.

Date & Time; 4th November 7.30pm

THE TARANAKI SECTION OF THE NZAC

It's been a long time... however our two signature events have again been a huge success this year, thanks to the small team that make these happen.

BANFF

Extremely successful event this year with likely the largest turnout ever, we were certainly at capacity. Really pleasing to see the interest in this event and always a good watch and catch up with a wide variety of outdoor type people in Taranaki. As a section we would also like to thank George White again for his dedication and commitment in making this happen over the years, we are all truly grateful. George has now passed the baton onto the next generation to run this event, therefore certainly sing out if you would like to assist the committee running this event, as the more helpers the better.

ANNUAL TARANAKI ROCK MEET

With a forecast with some uncertainty only the real keen or the locals turned up this year. The real keen being Dave and Robin Brash (Dunedin) and Jonno Rau (Waikato). Dave and Robin turned up a few days earlier which is now the normal for the annual trip to Taranaki. Last year Dave was challenged with the vegetation on the classic route on Little Eiger called "coming home" so this year Dave gave it a wee clean up before the annual event.

Saturday dawned fine with surprisingly excellent climbing conditions. Therefore, Dave Brash and Mark Hall quickly headed to Little Eiger to dispatch coming home in two pitches. The rest of the crew headed into the Organ Pipe valley for either Eiger Wall or the left side of the Organ Pipes. Phill Davies launched himself into the famous route of mystery called "Propagander", Phill got so close to the tick, which was a good effort for an off the couch climber. All the rest of the team did some laps on the standard routes on the Organ Pipes, however, was great to see some young Taranaki climbers there, Harrison Larkin 14 and Conrad Bolger 11.



A delicious meal was had together on Saturday evening, then we were all entertained and inspired by a presentation from Dave Brash, starting with his early days in Taranaki.

Sunday dawned threatening, however a small, motivated crew headed to Warwick's Castle or Little Eiger. Chris Hayes and June made the most of a cleaned up coming home with a quick lap. With the rest ticking off classic like "friend" and "Le Climb" at Warwick's Castle. Overall another successful event and enjoyed by all, hope to see you all next year!

Trip Report Chris Hayes – Dunedin Rock

Last November, Ivan and I took a week's rock climbing trip to Dunedin off the back of my presence in the he area already. Trip logistics were simple – Ivan picked up a rental car at the airport on his arrival and, after the obligatory pub stop, we headed out to the bach we'd rented at Long Beach via the supermarket. No monster walks in, terrible food, or other hardships were entertained.

We spent most of our energies at the various Long Beach crags, scoping out the classic and new routes, but also took the time to travel to Mapoutahi, Mihiwaka, and Doctor's Point.

Some points and routes of note were;

Crime and Punishment – while on a tenuous move above one of the higher bolts, I had a pigeon suddenly burst out of one of the hand holds just as I went for it.

Jumping Jellyfish – I had a thoroughly stressful time passing the initial crux section after receiving some poor advice from myself.

The fantastic route Poseidon Adventure at Doctor's Point – surprisingly high quality rock with interesting slab moves in an awesome setting.

The absolutely unseasonal weather – somehow being sunny and warm with almost no rain for the entire duration. No climbing time was lost to the weather.

Burning Sky – an onsight on great rock with great protection that almost made up for Jumping Jellyfish.

Some "route engineering" involving a crowbar, a rock flake the size of a medium child, and a potentially over-enthusiastic local crag custodian.

A further few routes got some attention, but remain unfinished, thus we're locked in for round two this November. Ivan will no doubt be targeting Crime and Punishment, and his nemesis to the last morning, Morning Glory. And I'll be back to trying to pull my fingers off on Labours of Love.



From the Aotearoa Climbing Access Trust

Kia ora koutou Taranaki climbers!

The Aotearoa Climbing Access Trust (ACAT) was formed earlier this year to address the access crisis unfolding around the country. This has been especially severe in the central North Island, with incredibly popular crags like Whanganui Bay and Mangaokewa being closed to climbers.

In the past 12 months ACAT has:

1. Saved climbing access at Waipari (Froggatt Edge), Wharepapa Rock, Ti Point and Maungarei Springs crag.
2. Formed the Trust and selected a diverse group of trustees from around Aotearoa.
3. Secured charity status so all donations are 100% tax free and donors are eligible for tax credits!
4. Created a part time General Manager position to lead the organisation and work on access issues every week.
5. Developed a team of committed volunteers to help build ACAT's capacity.

We have managed this on a shoestring budget with a lot of hard work by volunteers. However, there are many more access issues that desperately need attention.

Half of the crags in the Wharepapa South region are closed. Other crags, such as Kawakawa Bay, are under threat because climbers do not have permission from the landowners to be climbing there. TAC's Kawakawa Bay trip is coming up on Labour Weekend, and this sort of trip could become a thing of the past if we don't sort out issues around environmental impact and work towards establishing a relationship with the landowners (DOC and iwi).

We need to keep growing and developing to meet the challenge and we can only do this with your support. Please consider making a donation today, this will directly increase our capacity to keep New Zealand climbing.

We're excited to be on this journey towards sustainable climbing access, and we would love to have you on board. Go to www.acat.org.nz to find out more and become a supporter.

Ngā mihi nui

Edwin Sheppard
Project Lead – ACAT Development

Taranaki Section Climbing Grant

Just a reminder to section members about the climbing grant that can be applied for to support South Island climbing trips. Applications are now open for the grant for the 2021/22 financial year with the closing date being the 14th of November 2021. Please contact the secretary Mark Hall for application information.

News from the NZAC

Make sure to check out the NZAC website, certainly a wealth of information, with also the latest news from the club, and some great new books that can be purchased on-line via the on-line shop alpineclub.org.nz.



Mark Hall testing the crampons Taranaki Maunga

Committee Contacts

Chairman – Phill Davies - 0226872453 Vice Chairman – Dave Bolger - 0275582691

Secretary/Treasurer – Mark Hall – 0274546876

Committee: Juliet Larkin - 0277078774 Angela Hampton

