

UPRISING

NEWSLETTER FOR CANTERBURY WESTLAND SECTION OF NZAC



MARCH 2022

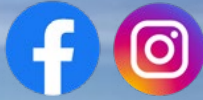


PHOTO: ROB GALLAGHER. MOUNT SOMERS

**DETAILS OF THIS MONTH'S
SECTION TALK YET TO BE ADVISED.
PLEASE KEEP AN EYE OUT ON OUR
FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM PAGES.**



IN BRIEF

IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- March online section talk
- REMOTE HUTS TRIP 2 article by John Roper-Lindsay
- UPCOMING COURSES
- Midweek Rock Climbing
- CW section Gear Hire details
- Banks Peninsula Rock Meet
- Cookbook fundraiser
- Pumpfest 2022

FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM

Remember to 'Like' our Facebook & Instagram pages. Be kept up to date on Monthly meetings/Talks, Events, Trips, Courses and lots more. Share your trip photos and inspire others.



Future Section Evenings. Save these dates...



**FUTURE SECTION TALKS
YET TO BE CONFIRMED**

REMOTE HUTS – Trip 2

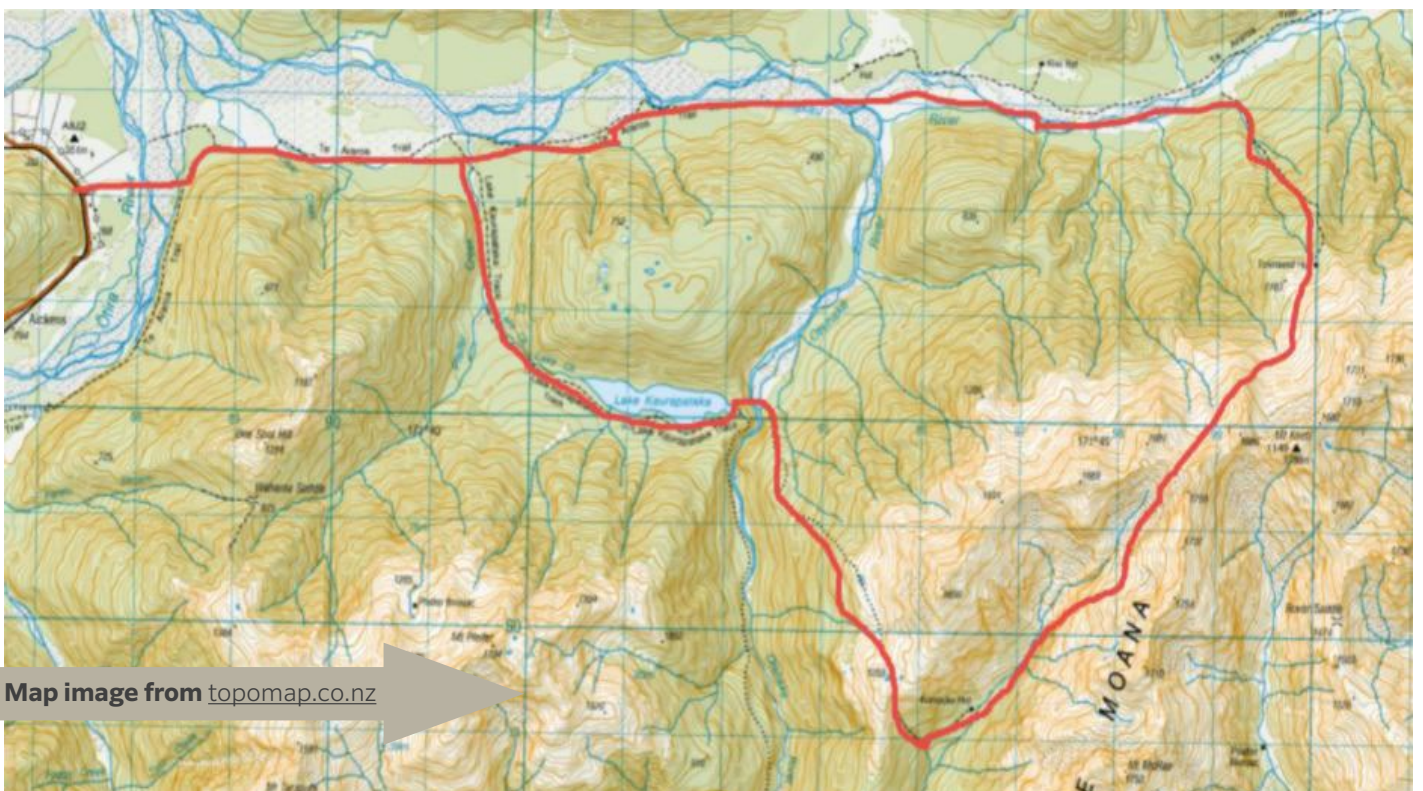
Leaving a frosty Koropuku hut

Remote Huts - Trip 2

Most people assume that if you want to go to some remote, less visited DOC areas, you'll be bush bashing and carrying tents. But this is not necessarily the case. There are a lot of tracks/routes/huts that you can find a lot of information on, and that are well supported by DOC, both in terms of maintenance and providing information. But, especially west of the Divide, there are a number of huts and tracks which are off the radar. Most of these huts were rarely visited and DOC has been unable to justify the funds to fully maintain them, or the tracks accessing them.

Fortunately various community groups stepped in to fill the gap and one of these groups, Permolat, are involved with almost 70 huts, from Karamea down to Haast. But the majority of the huts are in the area inland from Hokitika. You can find out more about these huts at remotehuts.co.nz, which has information on each hut, and lots of great suggestions for routes between the huts. This article describes a 3 day loop done with Jim Petersen and Sam White in 2020.

It was a perfect storm or, to be more accurate, it was a perfect spell of good weather, combined with the relaxing of the first Covid lockdown just before a long weekend.



Map image from topomap.co.nz

REMOTE HUTS – Trip 2 cont.



Heading across to the pass above Koropuku hut

Our plan was a simple 3 day trip starting and ending at Aickens corner on the main highway to the West Coast. The route involves a night each at Townsend and Koropuku huts, which are looked after by Permolat to some degree, as are the access tracks, and are detailed on the Remote Huts website. My last article was about a genuinely remote area, but this is quite a contrast being easily accessible, and sharing some of the route with Te Araroa; so in non-Covid times you often meet that other-worldly species of trumper on the first or last day.

The long-weekend was Queen's Birthday, so the days were short, and the nights very cold, and starting off the trip with a crossing of the freezing Deception River is quite character-building in itself. The first couple of hours up the Taramakau is not very inspiring and gave us a lot of opportunity for chatting. Jim and I are on the NZAC Canterbury Westland committee, but I hadn't met Sam before. Through unrelenting encouragement, guilt, and other underhand tactics, we had persuaded Sam to join the committee by the end of the trip.

Eventually we reached the turnoff up to Townsend hut and the old DOC sign pointing vaguely up the side-stream. There weren't any markers, but it was clear where to go until the side-stream forked. By this time we had been overtaken by two others who took the left hand stream, which was marked by occasional bits of pink cruise tape. On the other hand, we took the right hand stream which, more by good luck than anything else actually joined with the track up the ridge, although the track entrance was hard to spot.

Despite being pretty slow with heavy packs (Jim had cunningly persuaded Sam to carry his camera tripod), we got up the steep ridge to Townsend hut in

reasonably good time. The West Coast bush was really beautiful, and the hut is sited just at the bushline. It now became apparent that there were a lot of other trampers with pent-up energy to get out in the hills. Townsend Hut doesn't get many visitors but in addition to the two trampers we'd seen earlier (who eventually arrived after an off-piste adventure), there were two hunters already there; plus two more who arrived later. So that made 9 in a 4 bunk hut. We hadn't got tents, but two did and decided things were a bit too cosy and spent the night outside while we slept on the floor. We had at least brought sleeping mats, which I think is often a good compromise if there's nervousness about how full a hut will be.

The route to Koropuku hut is pretty well all above bushline, with great views along the Taramakau and across to Mt. Alexander, then drops down into a stream leading to Koropuku hut, with just enough snow to be interesting, and almost justify bringing the ice axes. The further into the valley we went, the more obvious it was that it hadn't seen any sun for weeks; all the rocks were glazed with ice, so it was much safer just to walk in the water. From friends, I knew that finding the hut was a bit tricky, up a side-stream, although only 50m from the main stream. But when I reached the likely looking side-stream, there were no markers or cairns, and it looked deep, so I led the reluctant team on a dubious bush bash in the general direction of the hut. This wasn't a great feat of navigation, especially since I was mainly relying on the voices we could hear at the hut, wasn't easy. But we did make it, and spent another 7 person night in another 4 bunk hut.

The last day is up a stream over a small pass then steadily down to the Otehake River, along Lake Kaurapataka and popping out again on the Taramakau.

REMOTE HUTS – Trip 2 cont.



Our first two days had been ominously slower than the Remote Huts times, but I'd optimistically felt we could match the 7-9 hours estimated to get out, because we were heading downhill. We couldn't, but it was a nice day out! The route up the side-stream to the small pass was a classic Remote Huts route where, just as you feel you're definitely off-route on some rocks no human has ever stepped on before, you come across three stacked rocks as an apology for a cairn. Then, at the pass, all 7 of us managed to get lost and take the wrong route before back-tracking and plummeting down to the Otehake. Another struggle to find the track up to Lake Kaurapataka, and then it's all easy going, as DOC fully maintain this route. The lake itself is quite large, with bush right to the shore on all sides, and at the Western end are stands of the biggest red beech you could ever find – worth an easy day-trip in from Aickens to see.

Then it's following a gently flowing slope alongside the lake's outlet stream before hitting the gorse and cows (and Te Araroa hikers) of the Taramakau.

Summary

This is an idea 3 day trip for any group who are reasonably experienced, used to walking in often rough untracked terrain, with good navigational skills. The huts are basic, with no fires, and Townsend hut doesn't have a toilet, but they're in pretty good condition.

I returned to Townsend hut a couple of weeks later with a friend and put in some markers up the stream and cut the track a bit, so there should be no problems finding the track up the ridge.

ARTICLE & PHOTOGRAPHS BY
JOHN ROPER-LINDSAY

Upcoming COURSES

for NZAC members



GENERAL TRAD COURSE SATURDAY 9 & SUNDAY 10 APRIL 2022 – \$200

An NZAC members two day course for ages 16 and over. Members must have a sound back ground of sport lead climbing, lead belaying and know how to abseil OR, you may already be a trad climber looking for a refresher. This course is NOT suitable for beginners.

[Click here for full details](#)



BEGINNERS NAVIGATION COURSE SATURDAY 14 & SUNDAY 15 MAY 2022 – \$50

An NZAC members only old school 'map and compass' course for ages 16 and above. This is a weekend (1/2 Sat & full day Sun) course. Both days will start at 8am. You will learn map and compass use, pacing, terrain selection and identification, route finding, triangulation, basic use of GPS only.

[Click here for full details](#)

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING

- These are all NZAC members courses only but non NZAC members are welcome to apply. But, as the courses are limited in numbers and always fill up fast, it will be on a first come first serve basis and non members must join the club before being guaranteed a spot on any course.
- Please do not apply on behalf of others - all individuals are to apply themselves and as outlined on each of the courses when you follow the links for full details.
- If for any reason you have to withdraw from the course, a full or partial refund will only be given if we can find a replacement for your spot in time, or there is a genuine reason for withdrawing.

WINTER INSTRUCTION 2022



*Keep an eye out on our Facebook page
& newsletters for further updates*

SAVE THE DATE

**Tentative dates have been set for
the CW section Winter Instruction
programme.**

Registrations will open in April or May with details posted on our facebook page and newsletter. Dates may change depending on availability of venues and instructors. In the meantime please email me at cw.winterinstruction@gmail.com and I will email the registration form directly when they open.

AVALANCHE AWARENESS

- Theory Evening 29 July
- Christchurch
- Field days 30th OR 31st July (Venue TBA)

BASIC SNOWCRAFT (1)

- 12 - 14 August
 - Arthurs Pass / Craigieburn
- A pre-course meeting will be held in Christchurch during the week prior plus a post course follow up day climb date TBC

Basic Snowcraft (2)

- 26 - 28 August
 - Arthurs Pass / Craigieburn
- A pre-course meeting will be held in Christchurch during the week prior plus a post course follow up day climb date TBC

Intermediate Snowcraft

- 16 -18 September
- Arthurs Pass

A second Intermediate course may be arranged subject to interest.

Sam White
Winter Instruction Coordinator



BANKS PENINSULA ROCK MEET 25 – 27 MARCH 2022



BANKS PENINSULA ROCK MEET 25 - 27 March 2022

Details

- Stay at Little Akaloa Domain
- Saturday night BYO barbecue
- \$20pp to cover camp fee
- Climbing for all experiences Sport & Trad

Register by 21st March

Contact and enquires,
Grant Piper (aka Grubbie)
021 711 300

OR

Grant.piper66@gmail.com

WELLINGTON TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB TRAMPING/OUTDOOR COOKBOOK FUNDRAISER

THE Wellington Tramping and Mountaineering Club have tramping/outdoor cookbooks for sale

COST: \$30 plus \$5 p&p

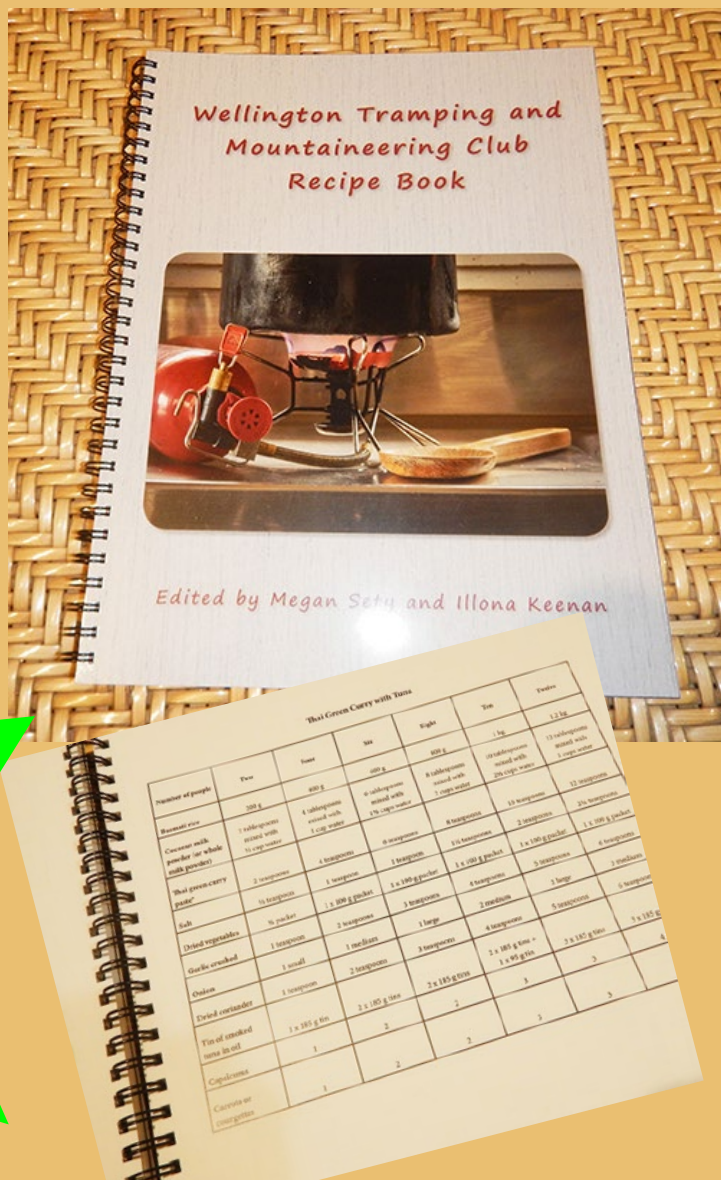
The books are printed on glossy paper with colour photos. There are 96 recipes - mains, desserts, meals for dehydrating, breakfasts, snacks and Tatarua biscuits.

Many of the recipes list the ingredients required for group meals from 2-12 people.

If you are interested in supporting the club you can purchase these cookbooks by getting in touch with Tony Stephens by emailing him at

vicepresident@wtmc.org.nz

FUNDRAISER!



FEARSOCIETY & THE FIORDLAND CLIMBING WALL
PRESENTS

FIORDLAND

**LOCAL FOOD
AND DRINK**

**MUMS SAVE \$10
OFF ENTRY!
(BEST MOTHERS'
DAY EVER!)**

**PUMP
FEST
2022**



MAY 7TH & 8TH

**A WEEKEND OF EPIC
CLIMBING FUN!**

EVENTS INCLUDE:

**"PUMP" STYLE LEAD CLIMBING
KIDS SPEED CLIMBING CHALLENGE**

**REDPOINT COMPETITION FOR \$\$\$
FOREARM PHOTO COMPETITION**

HUGE PRIZE DRAW!!

**FOR DETAILS, REGISTRATION, AND SCHEDULE,
FIND US ON FACEBOOK @FIORDLANDWALL**

PROTECT CANTERBURY

If you see this plant,
report your sighting using
the Find-A-Pest app or email
biosecurity@ecan.govt.nz
with photographs and
location details

Yellow bristle grass

Setaria pumilia



IMPACTS: Production, by rapidly spreading and reducing pasture quality. It's unpalatable to stock, leading to an increase of supplementary feed costs.

HABITAT: Disturbed sites including cultivated areas, pasture, along footpaths and roadsides.

IDENTIFICATION:

- Invasive annual grass between 20 and 45cm tall
- Leaves are yellow green and usually red/purple at the base
- Seed head is 2.5-10cm long, made of densely packed spikelets that are visible between December – February
- The base of each spikelet forms 5-10 golden brown bristles 5-6mm long



E22/8852

Midweek Rock Climbing

To join the midweek rock climbing group send our midweek climbing coordinator, James Skeggs, an email to nzacmidweekclimbing@gmail.com and you'll be sent a Google form for emergency contact details, and then added to the Google group.

WELCOME TO MIDWEEK CLIMBING!

Use this group to meet new people, organise climbing related missions (for any day or time of the year) and explore the outdoors.

If you're heading out or looking for a climbing partner, you will be able to send a group email to nzac-midweek-climbing@googlegroups.com or start a 'new conversation' directly through Google Groups.

PLEASE NOTE

Mid week climbing organizers do not provide guiding or instruction and individuals within the group are responsible for their own safety.

You will need a harness, rock shoes, belay device, locking carabiner, and helmet. Please also let the person in charge know what equipment you have and if unknown to them your climbing experience.

SAFETY RULES

- Helmets are compulsory when climbing and belaying.
- If abseiling, use a prusik as back up and tie a knot in the end of the rope.
- Use clear commands and make a plan between climber and belayer before leaving the ground.
- If in doubt about anything, please ask questions.
- If you see something amongst the group you are not happy about - please speak up.

Be safe and have fun climbing!

Cheers,
James



NZAC CANTERBURY WESTLAND SECTION

GEAR HIRE

FOR NZAC MEMBERS ONLY

HIRE

EQUIPMENT LIST

- Crampons (12 x pair, fully adjustable)
- Walking ice axes (12 from size 60cm to 70cm)
- Technical ice axes and hammers (5 pairs of various brands)
- Avalanche kits (12 transceiver, shovels & probes. Transceivers use 3 x AAA batteries - not included)
- Helmets (12)
- Snow shoes (2 pairs of MSR evo ascent & 2 pairs of MSR lightning ascent)
- Snow stakes (8 with mid clip wire)
- Ice screws (16 screws, various sizes 13cm to 22cm)

NZAC members can hire gear on behalf of non-members on the same trip they are attending with the knowledge that the NZAC member is responsible for any loss or damage.

PRICING

Prices:

- \$20 per day for Avalanche Rescue Kits
- \$10 per day, for ice screws & pitons: two items
- \$10 per day, per item for all other items
- Payment is by bank transfer

CONTACT

CONTACT BEN SCOTT:

Text: 021 236 8413

Email: cw.gearhire@gmail.com

Please give your full name, membership number, equipment you require and the dates you require it for. Please do not ask to hire equipment on a Friday or Saturday at the last minute.

Other Gear hire options in Christchurch include:

Bivouac at Tower Junction – click [here](#)

Further Faster in Sydenham – click [here](#)





CANTERBURY WESTLAND
SECTION OF NZAC
**CHECK IN
LIKE US
TAG US**
FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM!



SECTION LIBRARY

Section Library: Did you know that the Section has its own library and that you can borrow the books in the Section library?

Every section meeting I will bring a good selection of the hundreds of book in the library along with the DVDs.

The contents of the C/W Section library can be found on line [HERE](#)

(There is a list of DVDs on the second tab of the spreadsheet). If you would like to borrow a book or DVD then please email me and we'll sort something out.

Library policies: You must have a current NZAC membership card to borrow

- Books are generally to be returned within 2 months, but new purchases will be expected to be returned within 1 month
- DVDs are expected to be returned within 2 weeks

Returns: Books/DVDs can be returned in one of 4 ways.

- Return at the next Section meeting
- Drop them off at National Office and tell whomever you speak to that they are for C/W library
- Email text/phone me to arrange handover some other way
- Drop them off at Boffa Miskell office on the 1st floor in Lane Neave building at 141 Cambridge Tce, marked for "Yvonne"

Email: John Roper Lindsay
john@roperlindsay.com
or call/text 021 395 513



WEEKLY ACTIVITY OPTIONS

Lead a Trip: If you would like to lead a trip for the club, alpine, rock climbing, cycling or otherwise, please contact Findel Proebst cw.tripscoordinator@gmail.com

Midweek mountaineering: The midweek group are mainly fairly mature mountaineers who still manage to plod up a few peaks, usually on Wednesdays, weather permitting. Most of the trips are not technical climbing but scrambling at a fairly relaxed pace. If you are interested in joining us, please contact **Pat Prendergast on 337 0079 or email** pat@slingshot.co.nz

Mid Week Rock Climbing: A new and exciting format from September (day light savings start) onwards. Instead of one set evening each week, we are hoping to be able to offer people a choice of two nights each week, which will vary depending on who is looking after the group. We believe this will give people of all abilities more opportunities to get out climbing. A few things to note when rock climbing with the mid week group;

- Helmets are compulsory when climbing and belaying (if you don't have a helmet, please source one or talk to the climbing co ordinator and they will try and have one available)
- For those new to climbing and belaying, we can assist in this so please ask if you are not sure
- Two top rope kits (each with a rope, biners and slings) are available each week for the person in charge to use rather than their own equipment and for those climbers who don't want to lead but top rope instead.

Climbing will usually run from approximately 4.30 pm onwards, outdoors during daylight savings hours, or indoors in winter, or if the weather is no good. We also welcome and would appreciate people assisting from time to time on a roster basis rather than relying on the same people every week having to look after the climbing group so please contact Clayton if you are able to help out (it's not too difficult!)

If you would like to attend and are on the google climbing group already, we will email out at the start of the week with which nights we are running climbing and who is in charge and their contact details. If you would like to be on the group list, please email James Skeggs on:

nzacmidweekclimbing@gmail.com

All welcome, including non members.

WE NEED YOU

The NZAC Canterbury/Westland section is looking for volunteer trip leaders

A club trip is a great way to spend time with like minded people, share some adventures and give back to the outdoor community. Most trips involve moderate to intermediate mountaineering but they can include anything from tramping, rock climbing to mountaineering objectives. The trip leader is not a professional guide or instructor, as a trip leader you organise and lead the group only.

What is involved?

- Pick an objective and date
- Use this trip leader worksheet to plan your trip <https://alpineclub.org.nz/resources/organising-trips/>
- Get in contact with the trip coordinator (see details below). Your trip needs to be signed off to make sure all points are ticked off. The trip coordinator can also help you with any questions you have regarding the planning

The trip gets advertised in the newsletter and/or to the Cant/Westland facebook page

Email: Shannon at nzac.cw.newsletter@gmail.com

- You organise the participants and do pre-trip preparations

This list is a suggestion of day or overnight trips which could be both run during summer or winter. All these trips are achievable in a weekend. If you have another objective in mind just get in contact with the trip coordinator. Thanks for leading a trip for the club!

Volunteer trip coordinator email: Email Findel Proebst cw.tripscoordinator@gmail.com

Some Ideas! Mt Aiken, Binser, Avalanche Peak, Mt Cloudsey, Torlesse, Avalanche-Bealey Traverse, Castle Hill Peak, Longfellow, Avalanche Peak-Crow Valley, Mt Oates, Murchison, Temple-Phipps Traverse, Mt Somers, Mt Guinevere, Mt Rolleston, Mt Philistine



KEEN TO SHARE YOUR OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE?

Keen to share your outdoor experience?

Helen Sinclair, our section meeting co-ordinator is the person to contact.

Helen organises speakers to share their outdoor experiences with the rest of our community.

If you have any outdoor adventures to share or know someone who has a story to tell, then please contact Helen either by phone or email.

P: 027 435 3674 E: helen@helensinclair.com

PHOTO: ROB GALLAGHER. MOUNT SOMERS



TRIP GUIDELINES

An important part of the NZAC is volunteer organised trips. If you're thinking of joining or organising a trip, here are some guidelines on what to expect. Check out the NZAC Trips page for resources to assist you with planning a section trip. <https://alpineclub.org.nz/resources/organising-trips/>

Responsibilities of a Trip Organiser:

- Trips should be fun for everyone. Choose a mountain, peak, hill, traverse, route, crag, or whatever and get out there and meet some keen club members!
- You cannot be responsible for the safety of every member of the group, but you should aim to empower every group member with enough knowledge to make their own informed decisions about the proposed trip both before, and during the trip.
- Choose a realistic goal for the time available and give prospective group members an idea of the amount of effort required.
- Set a group size limit based on your experience, the goal, time available and the groups individual fitness and experience.
- Let the group know what skills & equipment are needed when they sign up.
- Provide the trip Participants with a copy of the NZAC waiver form and have them understand, sign and return it to you in advance of the trip.
- Organise travel arrangements at the earliest opportunity and let everyone know how much they can expect to pay for transport costs - petrol, wear & tear.
- Prepare detailed trip intentions and leave them with at least one responsible individual.
- If someone on the trip voices their concern about a situation it is up to you (with the help of the group) to find a safe solution.
- Give priority to NZAC members
- Find someone on the trip to write an interesting trip report for the Section Newsletter and email it to: nzac.cw.newsletter@gmail.com

Responsibilities of a Trip Participant:

- You are responsible for your own safety. If you are uncomfortable with any situation, let your trip organiser know straight away.
- Be prepared to drive or contribute to transport costs incurred (petrol, wear & tear)
- Make sure you have a clear idea of the trip's goals and what will be required of you. Obtain a relevant map and know where you are going, the terrain, what gear you will need, and how to use it.
- If you discover that you cannot go on the trip then let the Trip organiser know as soon as possible so that another person can take your place.
- Read, understand and return the signed copy of the NZAC waiver form to the Trip Organiser.

BENEFITS FOR NZAC MEMBERS

Benefits for NZAC Members

NZAC Membership gives you access to many discounts with the following retailers. You maybe asked to present your active NZAC membership. To see full terms and conditions and other benefits of being a member, please visit...

<https://alpineclub.org.nz/membership-benefits/>

To visit any of the retailers below, click on their logo.



POTTON AND BURTON



10% DISCOUNT TO NZAC/FMC MEMBERS



YMCA Adventure Centre



10% discount* to NZAC members



CANTERBURY WESTLAND SECTION OF THE NZAC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Section Library: [CLICK HERE](#)



Chairperson:

Jim Petersen 022 620 0619 cw.chairperson@gmail.com

Secretary:

David Jefferson djamesjefferson@gmail.com

Events:

Adam Humphries 027 200 4760 adam.b.humphries@gmail.com

Accommodation & Committee Rep:

Philip Tree philiptree7@gmail.com

Summer Instruction Coordinator:

Clayton Garbes 027 446 1562 cw.summerinstruction@gmail.com

Winter Instruction Coordinator:

Sam White cw.winterinstruction@gmail.com

Gear Custodian:

Ben Scott cw.gearhire@gmail.com

Recreational Advocacy:

Lindsay Main Lindsay.main@caverock.net.nz

Trip Coordinator:

Findel Proebst cw.tripscoordinator@gmail.com

Newsletters & Online Coordinator:

Shannon Cook 021 809 088 nzac.cw.newsletter@gmail.com

Treasurer & Library:

John Roper Lindsay 021 395 513 john@roperlindsay.com

Arthur's Pass Lodge:

John Henson 027 471 4075 hensonj@xtra.co.nz

Section Evenings:

Helen Sinclair 027 435 3674 helen@helensinclair.com

Crag Maintenance:

Grant Piper 021 711 300 grant.piper66@gmail.com

Midweek Rock Climbing Coordinator:

James Skeggs nzacmidweekclimbing@gmail.com

Please Note

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER ARE MORE THAN WELCOME
PLEASE SEND TO NZAC.CW.NEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM
BY THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH AT THE LATEST