



NEW ZEALAND  
ALPINE CLUB

Australia Section Inc. Reg. No A0047513N

# CHAIR REPORT

## MARCH 2022

### 1. 2022 Annual Activity Program

The updated program is listed below. This is a work in progress and will be periodically updated during the year & details will be notified to members via this monthly report.

Our 2022 program has had a slow and disappointing start. In February, four activities were listed and all four had to be cancelled. The predominant reason for cancellation has been poor member response in joining these activities. Current indications are that the fifth activity on the program (mid March) will also be cancelled and again, due to lack of member interest.

Recent surveys undertaken by the Section have consistently identified the annual trip program to be one of the most important programs offered by the Section and hence an important reason for Australians to join NZAC. But yet, in reality, members have not supported the program. The program takes a lot of time and effort to put together and the convenors of activities spend many hours planning, preparing the documentation for the activities and communicating with members. All this is a complete waste of time if members do not support the program and that time could be better spent on other things.

**Therefore, the future of the annual activities program is entirely up to YOU! You can, by your actions, decide the future of the program.**

If, by chance, your preferred activity is not catered for, please let the committee know what you would like to see in the program.

Members seeking additional information or wishing to register for any of the activities should contact the Activity Convenor via the email address listed in the program. For all other matters relating to the program contact the Events Coordinator on [australia.events@alpineclub.org.nz](mailto:australia.events@alpineclub.org.nz)

Members willing to put together a short online presentation please contact the Secretary on [australia.secretary@alpineclub.org.nz](mailto:australia.secretary@alpineclub.org.nz)



- Training to be provided by an accredited training provider – syllabus to be endorsed by Section
- \$200 subsidy per course will apply
- Five subsidies will be offered each year
- Evidence of completed training to be provided with subsidy application

#### **4. Aspiring Hut – West Matukituki Valley – New Zealand**

NZAC has been actively working with various agencies and organisations in NZ to secure a commitment and funding to undertake a refurbishment of Aspiring Hut, which is one of the most iconic and well used backcountry huts in New Zealand. Whilst strictly not a mountaineering hut, revenue earned from Aspiring hut goes to maintaining other alpine huts in the area. It is situated adjacent to Mount Aspiring National Park in New Zealand's Otago Region. It is regarded as the gateway to Mt Aspiring. The work will involve some essential seismic strengthening work as well as improvements to the layout and functionality of the hut. Hut capacity will remain the same.

This has been made possible by the tireless work of a small number of NZAC members working in a voluntary capacity and has been planning and progressing this project for quite some time.

Plans are now well advanced with most planning, funding and regulatory issues resolved and it is hoped that this work will be completed by the end of the year.

#### **5. Member Benefits**

One of the benefits of NZAC membership is a variety of discounts available to members:

- Macpac discount – 30% off all Macpac branded products
- Subsidised equipment hire - avalanche transceiver/probe
- Club Activity program - club trips both within & outside Australia – opportunities to meet climb partners
- Subsidised membership of selected indoor climbing walls & discounts at selected gear shops
- Online Speaker presentations - renowned & interesting mountaineers/climbers
- NZAC branded clothing merchandise – including shirts, hat & caps
- Discounts on many backcountry huts in NZ
- Publications from NZAC – Alpine Journal – two per year
- Snowy Mountains Climbing School (SMCS) offers 10% discount on its rock climbing and 6 day introductory Mountaineering courses. Further details are available on their website <http://www.snowymtns.com/education>

#### **6. Management Committee**

Chair: [Mike Pryjma \(NSW\)](#)

Vice-Chair: Warwick Williams (NSW)

Secretary: [Bruce Spry \(NSW\)](#)

Treasurer: [Peter Blunt \(ACT\)](#) (interim only)

Newsletter Editor: Vacant

Online Coordinator: [Michael Macdonald \(NSW\)](#)

Events Coordinator: Charlie Freer (ACT)

Member Services: [Anthony Brandis \(WA\)](#)

Safety Coordinator: Vacant

Details about Australia Section can be found at <https://alpineclub.org.nz/region/australia/>

With your help & cooperation, we can look forward to a more productive 2022 with a great deal more confidence. Thanks everyone for your help and understanding.

**Mike Pryjma**  
**Chair, Australia Section**