



**10 Feb, 2023**

Nau mai, haere mai/ Welcome,

This is my first newsletter introduction for 2023 and I must acknowledge our fellow NZAC members in the upper North Island who have been dealing with such turbulent and destructive weather. Our best wishes to those who have had disruptions to property and family. Condolences to friends and family of those who lost their lives. One of these was a fellow climber, Dan Newth, a talented World Youth Championships representative, and enthusiastic sport climber. In a small community these tragic events ripple out and impact many.

The Club's largest project, the Aspiring Hut refurbishment, is reaching its final stages and we are working toward an official opening at the end of March. While the outside is looking fabulous, there are still the internal fit outs to be completed. An update on the progress of the hut and fundraising is below.

The Club is supporting three climbers on a bouldering expedition to America and the UK. Erica Gatland, Matthew Corbishley and Isaac Buckley are providing regular updates on their experiences to the NZAC website and can be followed on facebook and Instagram.

We offer a warm welcome to a new staff member, Jackson Griffith. Jackson is introduced below.

The Tūpiki Trust is reaching out to Club members who are interested in becoming a Trustee. Ross has provided information on the Trust and the role of a Trustee in this newsletter.

The Trust is very new but has already provided funds towards significant climbing and conservation related projects.

Finally, 2023 is the year that Club members elect four Board members to commence a two year term on 1st October 2023. This is just a heads up to members as the process will be notified later in the year. If any member is interested in a Board role, I am very happy to have a conversation with them about this. My email address is [president@alpineclub.org.nz](mailto:president@alpineclub.org.nz).

Thank you for supporting our Club and enjoy whatever adventures you have planned for the rest of summer

Ngā mihi nui/ Many thanks

Clare Kearney

Photo: Adam Flower Honor Winner NZAC Photographic Competition  
Mountain Climbing Culture Category

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## Club News



### Aspiring Hut Refurbishment Update

The Aspiring Hut project is on the home straight! The windows are in and the exterior cladding is going on. The concrete patio has been poured and the builders are working on the indoor trims and fitout. We are looking at opening the hut at the end of March, however, we won't be opening the

bookings until we are sure that the timeline is on track. We are always at the mercy of the weather!

Like many building projects, the costs are just starting to escalate beyond our original budget. This can mostly be attributed to labour, helicopters and concrete. We have managed to save in a few places and we will complete the hut, but more than ever we are looking for support with our fundraising and sponsorship. Please see a further request for member loans below, share the project far and wide and donate [here](#) through the NZAC Club Hut Fund or [here](#) through Tūpiki Trust if you haven't already.

### **Member Loan Request**

Thank you to those who have already offered us member loans for the Aspiring project. We still want to raise more member loans to support the completion of the hut. If you are interested in loaning the Club \$5,000 - \$10,000 please get in touch with Karen via email [karen@alpineclub.org.nz](mailto:karen@alpineclub.org.nz) for more information.

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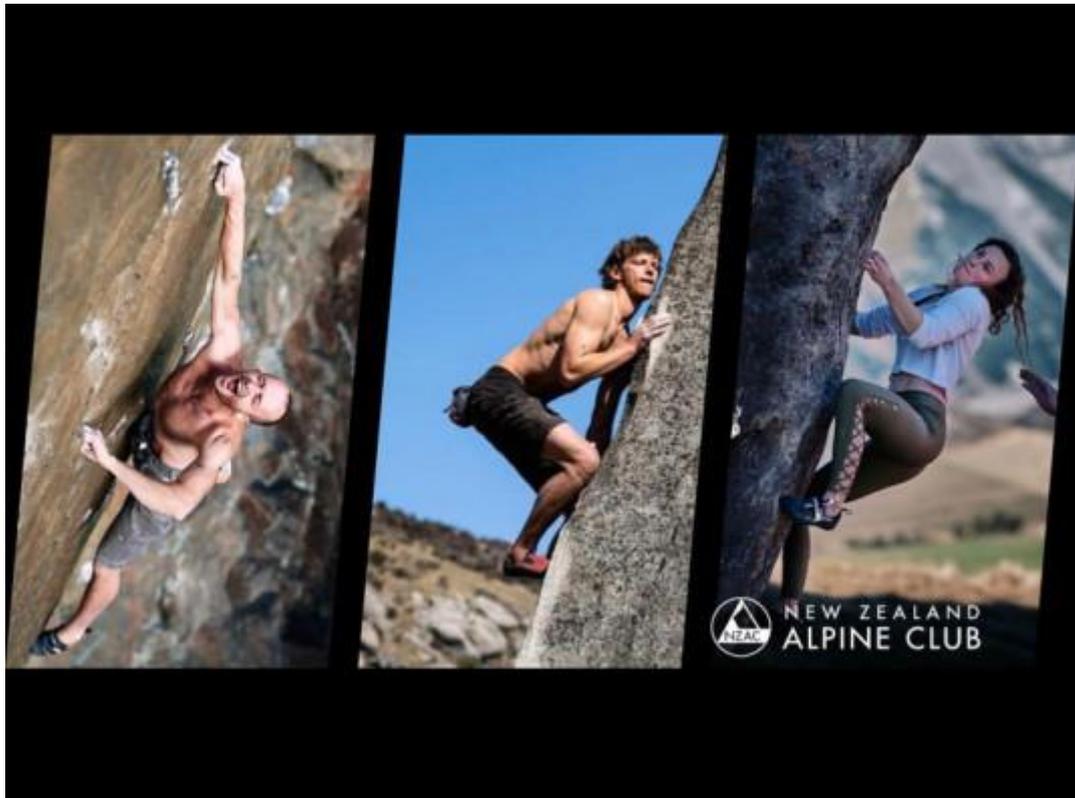


### **Welcome To Our New Team Member**

Jackson Griffith joined the New Zealand Alpine Club recently to lead on our Events and Communications programme, with an immediate focus on coordinating the NZ leg of the Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour. Jackson is relatively new to our shores, having moved to New Zealand from the UK last year. He's climbed a number of key routes in the European Alps over the years, seen here on the dramatic Italian side of Mont Blanc. Jackson is a qualified UK Mountain Leader but he does have some experience of climbing in NZ, having been up our beloved Mt Aspiring in 2019. He's looking forward to extending his alpine climbing to other routes in New Zealand, and immersing himself in our climbing and mountaineering community.

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## **Get Involved**



## A Modern Expedition

The world of climbing is evolving, in a direction perhaps somewhat unexpected; Olympic sport status, the enormous popularity of indoor climbing gyms and outdoor locations becoming increasingly strained by the influx of new pursuers. Expeditions too are adapting with this weighty change, ripe for re-framing and reflecting this new era of rock climbing.

The latest model is one this modern expedition seeks to mirror, but the medium is different. Three 'pebble wrestlers' are heading to some of the world's most iconic rock locations, seeking new challenges, skills and experiences, fundamentally hoping to contribute to the progression, direction and preservation of climbing in Aotearoa.

The trip will take place from January through to April 2023, with two months in America before moving on to the UK, with the potential of a short trip to Europe. In America, we will climb in Red Rocks, Joshua Tree and Joe's Valley. Arriving in the UK, we will be testing ourselves on the infamous gritstone.

Read our latest articles on the expedition [here](#) and [here](#).

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## Applications Sought for Tūpiki Trust Board

The Trust was established in November 2021 under the leadership of John Nankervis (Nank) who died in January 2022. There are currently four Trustees: Dave Bamford, Ross Cullen, Clare Kearney (NZAC President), Lindsay Smith and Geoff Gabites.

Tūpiki Trust currently has two unfilled board positions, and are seeking additional Trustees who will join the board during 2023 to contribute to the

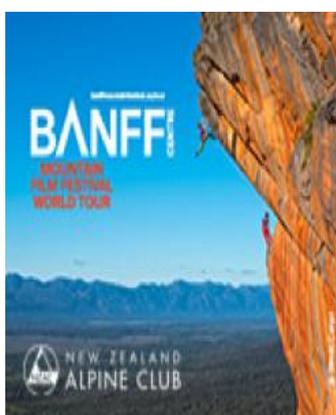
Trust's mahi. If you are excited about this opportunity to make a lasting contribution to climbing in New Zealand, believe you meet the criteria and are willing to commit time and energy to this role, you are invited to submit an application stating the reasons you are applying, together with a short CV.

While the Trustee role is a governance position, during the establishment phase of the Tūpiki Trust over the next few years it is expected that Trustees will have an active, hands-on role. The detailed Role Description is on the Tūpiki Trust website [here](#).

If you have any questions, please email [admin@tupikitrust.org.nz](mailto:admin@tupikitrust.org.nz) or contact any of the current [Trustees](#) who will be happy to explain the role and provide any details you require. We will particularly welcome applications from NZAC members from the Auckland region and from female NZAC members.

Applications should be sent to [admin@tupikitrust.org.nz](mailto:admin@tupikitrust.org.nz)

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### **Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour is coming back in Winter 2023.**

Screenings will be in May & June. Keep your eyes on our newsletters, websites and social media pages for info on the dates it will be showing in your area.

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## **Community**



### **MSC Mountaineering and Avalanches Insights Roadshow Auckland**

MSC is excited to share the findings from our latest research regarding the mountaineering community's attitudes and behaviors towards avalanche safety. The NZAC asked members for input to the survey last year, so this is an opportunity to hear the results.

They will look to record at least one of these presentations, but encourage you to attend in person to ask questions and enjoy an evening discussing the future of

mountaineering and avalanches in NZ.

Free tickets to the event can be booked by clicking below

**More info & RSVP for Wanaka** TONIGHT Wednesday 8th Feb

**More info & RSVP for Auckland** tomorrow Thursday 9th Feb



## ACAT Annual Report

ACAT held their AGM on Monday 12 December and presented their Annual Report.

The past two years have been a whirlwind as we worked to build this ship and sail it at the same time. Over the past 18 months we have successfully established ACAT as a new organisation that is already making a difference to climbing access around New Zealand.

You can read the full Report [here](#).

Don't forget to catch up on all our other news, reviews and info on our website [here](#).

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