



# NEW ZEALAND ALPINE CLUB

7 Mar, 2023

Kia ora,

Firstly, my thoughts are with those in the North Island affected by the recent storms, cyclone, and mammoth clean up and recovery that now needs to take place. This has been a devastating event for so many. In connecting with people working in Search and Rescue, and the Department of Conservation, it is clear that this is a situation that has taken a huge strain on these resources and moving forward will continue to do so. Before venturing into affected bush areas, please check the DOC website [<https://www.doc.govt.nz/news/issues/severe-weather/>] and follow its advice. Be sensible in your objectives and tolerant of others in the area. Report damage with photos if possible, when you find it. Even better, when the time comes, volunteer to help with the clean-up or reconstruction. Until then, we need to be supporting the system as much as we can and not adding to the strain on their resources.

There are lots of positive things happening within the Club including the imminent completion of Aspiring Hut which I am especially excited about. This collaborative project has highlighted what is best in this Club – the support of our members and partners. It is an epic project and I can't wait for people to be able to visit.

In the meantime, I leave you with lots of reading material and my very best wishes for those in recovery mode.

Karen Leacock, General Manager

# Club News



## Aspiring Hut Update

**The Aspiring Hut is almost complete. In the last newsletter I updated you on the increasing cost forecast and was so pleased by the positive response to the request for more support. Thank you Club members. Currently, we are expecting the hut to cost around 10% more than what was originally proposed.**

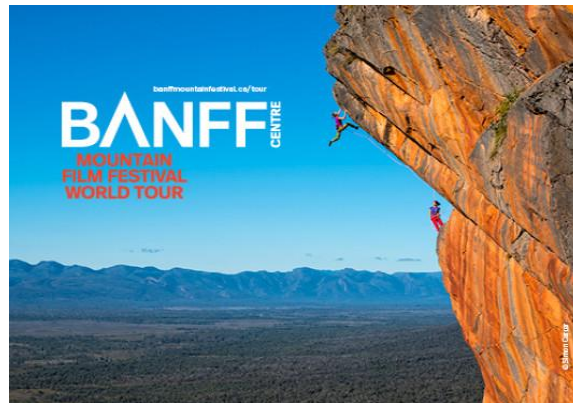
**Construction is nearly finished. The deck, kitchen and remaining indoor fitout are being worked on this week. The bunks are being constructed off-site and flat-packed to site, with installation anticipated in the third week of March. At the moment, we are hoping to open the hut to the public on April 1st.**

**We will be holding an opening event at the end of this month. More information is to come on this.**

## Aspiring Hut opening for stays

**All going well, the hut will be open for people to stay on April 1st. This will be confirmed closer to the date. We plan on retaining 4 bunks for booking for Club members exclusively and these will be available on the NZAC website. All other bookings will be on the DOC website and NZAC members can obtain their discount to those bunks by ringing the Wanaka Visitor Centre. If we remain on track, bookings will be available on March 24th on both the NZAC and DOC sites. We recommend that you get in quickly as the hut is sure to be popular.**

## Get Involved



### Banff Mountain Film Festival 2023

The New Zealand Alpine Club is once again proud to host the Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour, coming to our shores in May and June this year. The festival serves a dual purpose of bringing the world's best mountain films to numerous in-person locations across the country while also serving as a fundraiser for a wide range of development programmes for members of our mountain community. The festival will open with screenings in Queenstown (3rd and 4th May) and Dunedin (24th May), then moving through other main locations across the country until end of June. We'll be publishing the full screening programme and ticket links around mid-March, stay tuned! In the meantime you can whet your appetite with this stunning teaser trailer for the 2023 films.



### NiBS 2023

Another great community event that's confirmed is the increasingly popular National Indoor Bouldering Series, with competition dates now confirmed for 4 locations; Dunedin (20th May), Wellington (24-25th June), Auckland (5th August) and Christchurch (2nd September). These events are an incredible spectacle to watch in person and are attracting

increasing numbers of competitors year on year. For 2023, the events have a new U10 age category and are applying the [IFSC Bouldering scoring system](#) to the Finals. More details event information can be found [here](#), and registration links can be found on each of the 4 location links above.

The NZAC National Indoor Bouldering Series is supported by [The North Face](#), [La Sportiva](#), [Uprising Industries](#) and [Bivouac Outdoor](#).

Photo credit: Tom Hoyle

## Community



### ACAT NEWS

Wharepapa Rock has now partially re-opened after the recent storms. See more information [here](#).

Waipari's Animal Biscuit Valley has also reopened thanks to volunteer efforts. See more about it [here](#)



Antarctic Heritage Trust is looking for 22 Kiwis aged 18-30 to join them on their Inspiring Explorers Expedition South Georgia from 28 September - 17 October 2023.

Applications are now open and close on 19 March 2023. Find out more and apply at [inspiringexplorers.co.nz](https://inspiringexplorers.co.nz).

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