

JUNE 2023

OTAGO CLIMBER

Newsletter of the Otago Section of the New Zealand Alpine Club

IN BRIEF:

- Courses
- Upcoming Events
- Upcoming Trips
- Mountain Dreaming
- Gear rental
- Get involved

INTERMEDIATE SNOWCRAFT COURSES

Our beginner Snowcraft Courses and the waitlist is full.

Our Intermediate Courses are also full but we have 2 spaces left on the waitlist (best chance for waitlist is if you are flexible with available dates):

Course 1: 2nd & 3rd September (Pre-Course Evening – 29th (Dunedin) OR 31st August (Queenstown))

Course 2: 5th & 6th September (Pre-Course Evening – 29th (Dunedin) OR 31st August (Queenstown))

Course 3: 9th & 10th September (Pre-Course Evening – 29th (Dunedin) OR 31st August (Queenstown))

*For those who have completed a NZAC Basic Snowcraft course or similar, have had personal experience on Alpine grade 1 and 1+ mountains, and are looking to go into steeper terrain, where they need to learn snow anchoring and travelling techniques. **\$350 per person.***

To register for waitlist for Intermediate course please contact otago.climber@gmail.com



UPCOMING EVENTS

What's happening over the next two months?



SECTION NIGHTS OTAGO UNIVERSITY STAFF CLUB WEDNESDAY 5TH JULY 7.30PM

Our July speaker, Jaz Morris, is a Christchurch based climber, mountaineer, and member of the New Zealand Alpine Team. Previously a Dunedinite (and OSONZAC member), his rock climbing and tramping skills were respectively honed on the world class cliffs of Long Beach and the steep forests of the Otago alps. His talk will be about a recent trip applying these skills in Patagonia in February 2023, with climbing partnerships developed through the NZAT since it was founded in 2013. When the wind wasn't blowing them over, the team had an excellent time sampling the fine alpine granite, awe-inspiring spires, steak, world class trails, malbec, and southern beech forests of southern Argentina.

BETA OVER BEERS

Beta over Beers is a regular social night hosted by the New Zealand Alpine Club for mountaineers, ski tourers and climbers. Join us for drinks and meet like-minded people. Discuss the latest conditions in the mountains, find a buddy for your next adventure or get some inspiration for future trips. All welcome.

Dates for this winter:

July 11th

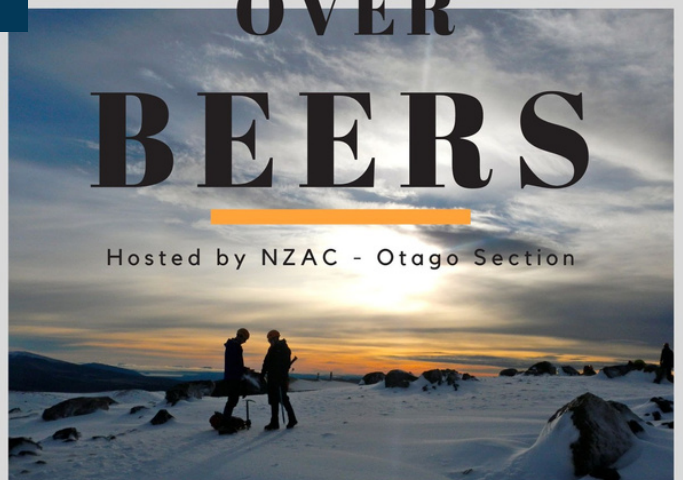
August 8th

September 10th

Check out [Facebook](#) for updates

BETA OVER BEERS

Hosted by NZAC - Otago Section



**2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
CARGO GANTLEYS, ARTHURS POINT,
QUEENSTOWN
7PM - 9PM**

UPCOMING TRIPS

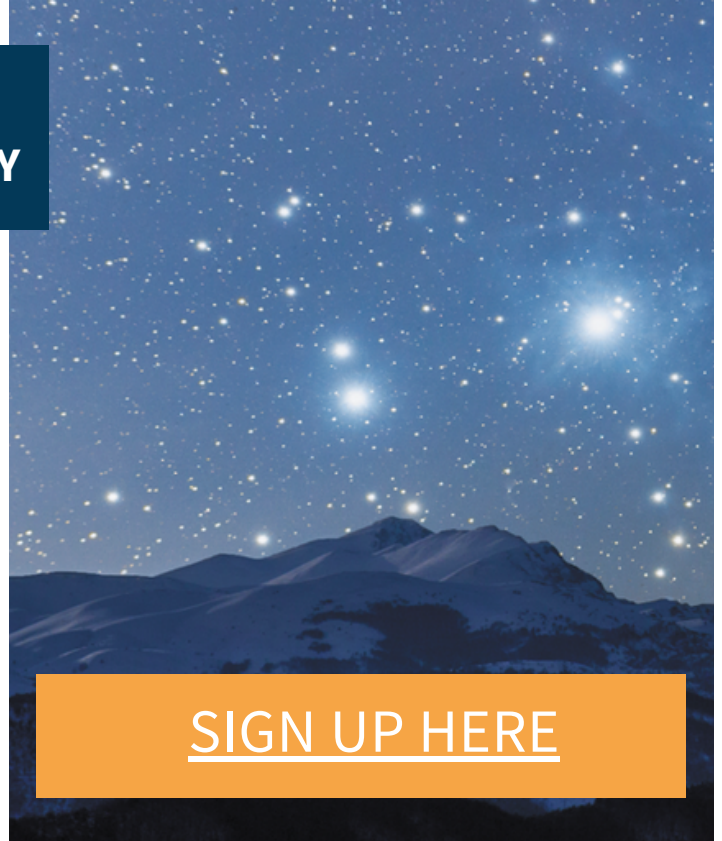
What's happening over the next two months?

CELEBRATE MATARIKI AT ASPIRING HUT – 14-16TH JULY

We have Aspiring Hut booked out for the club for the Matariki weekend. So, mark this in your calendar as it will be an opportunity to check out the million-dollar upgrade and spend some quality time in the mountains with good company.

The plan is for people to travel and walk into Aspiring Hut on Friday and for there to be a shared potluck meal together on Friday night. On Saturday people can explore the valley or just read a book by the fire. On Sunday we will walk out and travel home. It is about a 2 to 2.5hr walk into Aspiring Hut from the road end.

This trip will be opened up to all NZAC members so enroll early if you want to be sure of getting a spot. Your family is welcome to come with you even if they are not members.



[SIGN UP HERE](#)



SECTION NIGHTS OTAGO UNIVERSITY STAFF CLUB 1ST WEDNESDAYS OF THE MONTH 7.30PM

- Wed 2nd August - Dr. Richard Stephenson on Walking to South Pole

UPCOMING TRIPS

SOUTHLAND SECTION TRIPS INVITATION

Image sourced from <https://planmywalk.nz/tracks/eldrig-peak-route>

We have been invited by the NZAC Southland Section to join any upcoming trips their team is running. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and explore areas you may not have visited before with some experienced locals. For more information please contact the Southland Section at southland@alpineclub.org.nz or check out their [Facebook page](#)

September

23rd Single Cone (TBC)

October

28th-29th Upper Princhester, Clare Peak

November

18th Mount Burns-Eldrig Peak traverse

December

2nd-3rd Spence Peak, Takitimu Traverse



'MOUNTAIN DREAMING'

LOCAL LITERATURE PROJECT REPORT

WRITTEN BY RILEY SMITH

You may have seen 'Mountain Dreaming', a recent publication written by Peter Strang and designed by Riley Smith. In this article Riley reflects on the design within the book, talking through some of his ideas and process. He is currently preparing for his next book project that you will likely hear about in a few months. Watch this space!

Late in 2021, veteran alpinist Peter Strang read out a selection of his mountain poetry at a New Zealand Alpine Club meeting in Ōtepoti. He had written them over the span of more than 60 years in cold, remote places within Aotearoa and around the world. A humble man, Pete is considered one of the pioneers of the climbing movement in Aotearoa.

No sporting community is more connected with the printed word than climbers, who have recorded route observations, tales of misadventure, tragedy and heroic expeditions since the sport's inception. While new climbing literature is predominantly screen-based, a small print-run felt better aligned with Pete's dedication to the climbing community and whenua.



Mountain Dreaming is a collection of poetry inspired by mountains, but also by life, its conundrums and unanswered questions. A unique perspective on kiwi climbing culture for enthusiasts to appreciate, connect with and be inspired by. The publication needed to be crafted as a keepsake. Considerations for the age demographic of the audience and respect for the extremely personal content drove the design and format. Larger font sizes, negative space and minimal layouts all aid readers to engage fully with the written word. The lighter poems in Part 1 lead the reader gently into Part 2's melancholic mountain elegies to Peter's departed son Jeremy. These are each given a blank facing page to give space for deeper audience reflection. The third and final sections provide a new warmth transitioning to a time of learning and growth. Climbers often head to the hills with a book and a pencil, the bare minimum required to mark paper. This inspired the hand-drawn aesthetic, which attempts to bridge the gap between the feel of a field notebook, and a traditional printed publication, harnessing the respect given to serif words, but allowing the playful nature of the content to inspire further reading.

The local section of the New Zealand Alpine Club covered the initial fee to print 200 copies. Hand-printed T-shirts, unique paper bags (with each copy), event posters and an assortment of stickers were produced to compliment the books. The launch drew people from around the South Island, and funds raised through sales covered the returned printing fee and raised \$1500 for Aotearoa Climbing charity, The Tūpiki Trust.

Mountain Dreaming T-shirt in action!



**MOUNTAIN
DREAMING**



RETIRED ROPES FINDING NEW LIFE

Back in 2021, NZAC Otago had some old climbing ropes ready to be retired from active service at Tuesday night social climbing. These ropes were donated to The Right Track (TRT) to assist with their programme. We've recently received this update from the Fiona Thomas at TRT letting us know that the ropes are still being put to a meaningful use in the local community. Feel free to get in touch with the Otago Section at otago.climber@gmail.com if you are looking to rehome any tired ropes and we can connect you with Fiona.

"The Right Track (TRT) Otago team would like to thank you for the donation of the old/used climbing ropes. TRT is a programme that targets driving offenders and is run over eight sessions with a range of experiential learning activities and experiences that educates, motivates, challenges, and inspires people to help them make better decisions and choices in the future. I am a nurse at Dunedin hospital and volunteer on the programme along side other volunteers from St John, Police, FENZ, Council, Court Services, and a funeral director etc. We currently run 2-3 programmes a year and have to fundraise for the programme so the donation of the ropes was greatly appreciated."



GEAR HIRE

PLBs (Personal Locator Beacons)

The Otago Section has two PLBs based in Dunedin for use by Otago Section members. Rental is free for NZAC members and \$5 per day for non-members. Fill out the online booking form [here](#) then contact Keith Moffat to arrange to collect a unit via moffat.k172@gmail.com

Avalanche Equipment and Snowshoes

Available for rent from Hunting and Fishing, Dunedin (141 Crawford Street). Snowshoe rental is \$5 per day for members and \$10 per day for non-members. Avalanche equipment rental is \$10 per day for members and \$10 per day for non-members. Members are welcome to collect the gear on Friday and return on Monday and two day's rental will apply. If you have any issues with rental gear please contact the Section or Keith Moffat as the Hunting and Fishing team are doing us a huge favour running the rentals; please don't hassle the staff!!

Guidebooks....we have a small selection available in Dunedin for members to borrow. Contact Keith Moffat (same email as above) to arrange pick up.

Guide Books Available

The Section has an up-to-date set of guidebooks available to members. Priority goes to trip leaders, however, these are available to all members. Contact us to arrange use

Aoraki Tai Poutini, *Rob Frost, 4th ed, 2018*

Backcountry Ski Touring in New Zealand, *Shane Orchard 1st ed., 2018*

Barron Saddle- Mount Brewster, *Ross Cullen, 2nd ed., 2002*

Mount Aspiring Region, *Allan Uren and Mark Watson 4th ed., 2016*

The Otago Southern Alps, *Danilo Hegg & Geoff Spearpoint, 8th ed., 2013*

Queenstown Rock, Ice & Boulders, *Guillaume Charton 3rd ed., 2018*

Rock Deluxe, *Ivan Vostinar and Kate Sinclair, 2nd ed., 2015*

Wanaka Rock, *7th ed., 2014*

GEAR HIRE



NZAC – QUEENSTOWN, WANAKA GEAR HIRE



GEAR HIRE CONDITIONS

- To hire gear and organise pick up/drop off, fill in the form at <https://tiny.cc/gearhire>. You MUST email Chris (Wanaka) or Bryce (Queenstown) to let them know you have requested gear. They will respond with payment and pick-up arrangements.
- Minimum hire is 2 days.
- When hiring the Avalanche set (transceiver, shovel, probe), please supply your own 1 x AA alkaline non-rechargeable battery.
- Gear is hired with the expectation that it will be returned clean and tidy, if gear is lost or damaged, replacement cost will be charged
- Gear can be reserved in advance by paying in full via bank transfer
- All gear must be paid for on booking.

If you have issues with gear or the rental, email cosnzac@gmail.com.

NON-MEMBER GEAR HIRE CONDITIONS

NZAC Members may hire on behalf of non-members joining the same trip knowing that the NZAC member is responsible for any loss or damage. The non-member pays non-member prices.

PLEASE NOTE

The NZAC is not responsible for providing any technical advice regarding the fitting or use of the gear hired; this is solely the renter's responsibility.

GEAR AVAILABLE

Avalanche set:
transceiver, shovel, probe
Walking ice axes
Crampons
Helmets

Members price:
\$10/day – Avalanche set
\$5/day – any other item

Non-members
renting via a member:
\$20/day – Avalanche set
\$10/day – any other item

Payable prior to pickup
No refunds

Current NZAC
Membership card
required at pick up
\$100 bond required in
cash

Gear pick up & drop off

Queenstown contact:

Email Bryce @
bawood13@gmail.com

Wanaka contact:

Email Chris @
chris.hogan@gjgardner.co.nz



Otago Section Committee

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/osonzac>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/otago.climber/>

Trip info & booking: www.osonzac.org.nz

Get involved!

Committee member meeting
second Wednesday each month.
We are always looking for more
volunteers to share the load of
section leadership. Please get in
touch if you'd like to come along
to a committee meeting.

To find out more, contact us at
otago.climber@gmail.com

NZAC DISCOUNTS

NZAC members get up
to 50% off selected
shops & activities.

**Click here for more
details**