

July 2023

Chairmans Pitch

Hi all

As I write this we go into the first properly cold weekend of the year, with the persistent freezing level of 2000m dropping to 700m at times. Some members have already been out scoping ice lines which should be climbable soon.

Congratulations to the Banff committee who successfully ran two screenings in June. Special thanks to Neil and Maree who stepped up as Josh was transferring a yacht overseas. Also thanks to Josh, Liam and all the other volunteers who turned up to make Banff happen.

We recently purchased a few second hand plastic climbing boots to add to the section gear. While these are pretty old school they will give some of our members who aren't ready to shell out for expensive boots the opportunity to have a go at ice climbing and a few technical routes. I will give these boots a tidy up and new laces and they'll be available from Liam for the winter season.

See you out there.

Russell Adams - Nelson / Marlborough Section Chairman

Photo Competition Reminder. July 31 Deadline.

To inspire you here are some competition winners from NM Section organiser Peter Laurenson. For Competition Guidelines. See Pages 6-7



Photo Peter Laurenson.

Troubled waters. Mt Taranaki viewed across Pouakai track tarn at dawn.
Winner, alpine landscape category, NZAC national competition 2018.



Photo. Peter Laursen. Red Divide .View near Pioneer Hut. Winner, alpine landscapes category and John Harrison Memorial Trophy, NZAC national competition 2014



Photo Peter Laursen. Khumbu, Nepal, Kangtega in sunset Alpenglow. Winner, alpine landscape category, NZAC national competition 2021



Photo Peter Laursen. Total horror. An apt warning on an ascent (through wasp nests, stinging nettle and steep, slippery boulders) to Baton Saddle, Kahurangi National Park. Winner, mountain and climbing culture category, NZAC national competition 2019.

Upcoming Section Meetings

Wednesday 19 July

7.30pm The Honest Lawyer, Stoke, Nelson

Jim Davidson will reveal how he came to climb all NZ's 3000m peaks between 2012 and 2020

Jim is a keen trapper and alpine climber. In 2022 he received NZAC's Volunteer of the Year award.

Previously based in Auckland, Jim recently moved to live on the "right" side of Cook Strait.



Jim Davidson. (L) At the head of the Hooker Glacier.(R) On the summit ridge of Nun's Veil.

Wednesday 16 August,

7.30pm The Honest Lawyer, Stoke, Nelson

Nelson Marlborough NZAC Photo Competition.

Judge by Peter Laurenson is an award winning photographer who successfully managed the Wellington Section Photo Competition and has been a judge for the FMC annual photo competition since 2019.

Getting into the White Stuff

2023 N/M Section Trips and Courses

Coordinator : Hamish Brown

Email: hamishbrownnz@gmail.com

Phone: 027 418 3124

July

13/16th Mt Franklin Grade 2 (Grade 1 if not climbing).

At 2340m Mt Franklin is the highest peak in Nelson Lakes and requires a long approach. You need to be fit enough to make the 8.5 hr walk to the Blue Lake Hut, climb next day, and 8.5hr walk out the day after. This trip is 3- 4 days, so take some time off and have a crack at bagging this one. The climbing itself is not very technical. Winter conditions will add some spice, so you will need to be confident with ice axe and crampons, comfortable in avalanche terrain, and prepared for changeable weather.

Contact: Russell r.a.guns.70@gmail.com

August

12-13th Manakau. Grade 2.

The highest point in the Seaward Kaikouras Manakau is a very large non technical climb. Good fitness needed.

Saturday climb Surveyor Spur and camp in reach of snow to melt for water. Sunday climb Manakau and return home.

Contact: Neil neilseaman79@gmail.com

September

2/3rd and 9/10th Basic Snowcraft Course

16/17 Peel Range Traverse Grade 1+

A walk up the beautiful Cobb Valley to camp at Round Lake. Then an early start to traverse the Peel Range back to the carpark, climbing as many of the four peaks as possible on the way. A good level of fitness required.

Contact: Forrest. forrestpaynter@gmail.com

14th-21st Temple Basin. Ski and climb week.

We have a great opportunity to join Wellington section members at Temple Basin for a week in the mountains. Pack you skis and crampons!

Contact Hamish. hamishbrownnz@gmail.com

16/17th Basic Snowcraft Course follow up trip.

Just completed your basic snow craft course and now wanting to put some of those skills into practice, Join Russell for a great weekend.

Contact Russell r.a.guns.70@gmail.com

23/24th Mt Kehu 23/24th –

Ben Winnubst Memorial Trip.

Join us for a trip to Mt Kehu to remember Ben and all that he did for the alpine community. Kehu was Ben's favourite peak for good reason. Options for all abilities, camping. Good level of fitness required.

Contact: Jerome jjwaldron@xtra.co.nz

October

13/15th Mt Adams A fine weekend trip on the West Coast. Commence south of Hari Hari, easy scramble up to campsite, then snow plod/crampon onto a snowy summit. Terrific views to Main Divide – south east, and west to Tasman Sea.

Contact: Seb. sebastian.head@gmail.com.

20/21/22nd Hopeless/Cupola combo. Grade 2-3

No plans for your long weekend, come join us on a trip to climb Hopeless and Cupola from Cupola hut, experience on steep exposed terrain essential.

Contact Hamish, hamishbrownnz@gmail.com

November

Faerie Queen and Gloriana - Dates TBC

Join us on two classic Spencer mountains peaks.

Contact Liam liam_sullivan@yahoo.com



Arthurs Pass Climbing Meet

The Wellington Section of NZAC is holding a Spring alpine meet based at Temple Basin Lodge from 14-21 September 2023. There is a 4 night option and a 7 night option.

Whilst there will be qualified instructors leading this trip, there will be no structured courses or training during the week. This trip is for climbers to meet up, and pair. Ideally, you will come already in a climbing pair. For new and consolidating climbers there will be trip leaders for your groups who will organise appropriate climbs. The minimum requirement is NZAC Snowcraft Level 1. You will need to bring all your own equipment. It is recommended that you bring avalanche equipment.

The meet is open to 20 NZAC members. Places will be awarded on a first-paid basis but the trip leaders reserve the right to obtain the appropriate mix of skills and experience.

Contact: Wellington Section. wellington@alpineclub.org.nz

News Breaks

The Real Deal – Climbing with the Nelson Marlborough Section

On 21st June, there was an audience of about 30, ranging from an enthusiastic young teenager, to whisky veteran climbers to hear Section chair Russell Adams recount how he became a convert to climbing. Russell sketched his addiction from tree climbing and scrambling up pebbly cliffs at Ruby Bay, to enjoyment of rock and ice climbing with the local section of NZAC. Climbing opportunities abound in local mountains and Russell encouraged people interested in joining the Club to learn the skills of rock ice and snow climbing. There was also a plug for his new venture – the Nelson Ski Shop.

Another Blockbuster Banff Mountain Film Festival

It was the Nelson Marlborough Section's version of the Cannes Film Festival.

Adventure film buffs enjoyed two sessions at Annesbrook this year.

Puffer jackets were more popular than Gucci gowns

It was a sellout Saturday night and an almost full house on Friday. Revenue will help fund Section activities such as climbing courses and purchase of climbing equipment.

Section organisers, Josh Knox and Neil Seaman thank the volunteer team who helped make Banff 2023 such a success. Special thanks to Maree being a very capable MC

Thanks also to Gravity Climbing Wall and Nelson Ski Shop for spot prizes.

Gavin Lang at the 2023 Marlborough Book Festival

A "must see" for keen mountaineers and photographers.

Gavin Lang will discuss his wonderful book "Seeking the Light" with Mike White.

He will discuss climbing New Zealand's 24 highest peaks and highlight the healing power of nature.

Hailing from Dublin and now based in Wanaka, Gavin is one of our most experienced mountain guides.

12pm-1pm. Saturday 22 July

Marlborough Book Festival.

ASB Theatre, Blenheim. Tickets \$25.



New Zealand Mountain Film Festival 2023

The 2023 Mountain Film Festival National Tour is coming to Nelson as a fundraiser for the Nelson Marlborough Rescue Helicopter Trust. Enjoy this award winning selection of short and long International and New Zealand made films. The screenings will be at:

- Suter Art Gallery Theatre Nelson: 208 Bridge Street, Nelson, 7010
- Thursday 17th & Friday 18th August (separate, unique programmes)
- Doors open 5pm, screenings begin 6pm
- Tickets \$25
- Buy tickets online

<https://www.helirescue.co.nz/product/nz-mountain-film-festival-ticket-august-2023/>

Call for Cupola Hut Volunteers

Because Cupola Hut is such an excellent base for local climbers, the Section Committee is investigating how it can assist DOC with hut maintenance.

We are keen to build a team that has a range of skills including carpentry, plumbing, Electrical work, chain saw operation or DIY experience.

If you are interested in joining this project, contact:

Russell Adams r.a.guns.70@gmail.com

or Rob Mitchell rmitchl28@gmail.com

Avalanche Rescue at Tahunanui Beach

As the newsletter goes to press, we know that Hamish Brown is organising an avalanche rescue training session at Tahunanui Beach. More next issue.

Mature Mountaineers Go National

Mature Mountaineer groups have been formed in Christchurch, Wellington, Auckland and Dunedin. These arrange relaxed trips into the mountains and also social evenings. Christchurch Mature Mountaineers' quarterly meetings, attract strong attendance from local NZAC, CMC members and out of town visitors. The Tūpiki Trust is working to extend this successful formula as a way of bringing older climbers together.

Veteran Climber Geoff Gabites will speak soon to Mature Mountaineers in Wellington and Auckland about the Golden Age of Mountaineering in New Zealand between 1970 and 1990. During that period new techniques and new equipment took the club's young tigers on a surge of new ascents in NZ and overseas. Another Auckland meeting is scheduled for 30 November and will feature NZ's leading alpinist, Lydia Bradey. The Dunedin Group is arranging a film night in August.

Mature Mountaineer Contacts:

NZAC HQ Marie Hessey (nationaloffice@alpineclub.org.nz).

Auckland. Stu Gray karakabay@yahoo.com

Wellington. Dave Bamford. dave@davebamford.co.nz

Christchurch. Neil Pilbrow. pilbrows@gmail.com

Dunedin. Lindsay Smith. challispoint@gmail.com

Locally you can email Ross Cullen. ross.cullen@lincoln.ac.nz

2023 Photo Competition Reminder: Entry and Judging Criteria

Closing date for entries: 31 July.

Showing, feedback and winners announced

Section Meeting: Honest Lawyer, Wednesday 16 August.

Convenor & Judge: Peter Laurensen

Email: occasionalclimber@gmail.com

Phone: 021 446 725

Check out Peter's website to inspire your creativity.

<https://www.occasionalclimber.co.nz/about-oc/my-thoughts-on-outdoor-photography/>

Competition Rules

6 categories. You may enter up to 3 images per category

Categories

Alpine Activity (AA):

Photographs where the main subject is people engaging in activity in the alpine environment
Emphasis on careful composition and 'capturing the moment'.

Alpine Landscape (AL):

Judges will weigh up technical excellence, colour, tone and detail along with the image's subject and composition.

Alpine Nature (AN):

Photographs of natural subjects in the mountain environment, where the emphasis is on artistic rendition.

Rock climbing (RC):

Photographs of rock climbing and bouldering that have strong visual impact and creative composition.

Mountain and Climbing Culture (MCC):

Portray climbing life, places and people encountered by climbers. Entries might include travel photography (as long as it's strongly related to climbing) or documentary-style images, covering any aspect of climbing.

Alpine Kids (AK)

Alpine / climbing-related photos taken by kids aged 6 to 14 (please include age of the child when submitting entries in this category).

Submission Requirements

You **must** be a member of the Nelson Marlborough Section to enter.

- Images must be submitted to occasionalclimber@gmail.com via upload to a file transfer platform such as WeTransfer, which can be accessed free of charge <https://wetransfer.com/>
- Please name your files following this format: Photographer_Category_Caption_Location_Date.jpg
- For questions regarding the competition, please email: occasionalclimber@gmail.com
- Please ensure you have permission from people in your photos that their image can be used and published in the Newsletter.

Image Specifications

- All images must have been taken and processed by the competitor and be his or her property.
- Images need not necessarily have been taken in New Zealand.
- Entries are permitted in digital format only. Files must be JPEG format between 500KB and 5MB (at least 2000 pixels on the long side).
- Digital processing should be mostly restricted to dust removal, cropping, resizing, global exposure and tonal adjustments. HDR, and exposure, focus or sequence blending are permitted. Obvious modification of images is not in keeping with the objectives of this competition.
- Images not meeting these specifications will not be judged.

Judging Criteria

1. Category relevance – is the shot on subject, or should it be in a different category.
2. Technical competence/excellence – is the shot exposed well – right balance of dark and light, no burnout. Depth of field well used. The shot is appropriately focused.
3. Creativity – what is different about the shot. Does an idea/story come through in the shot. Does it draw the viewer in/have emotional impact. What makes it more than a pretty snap?
4. Photographic difficulty - Judgment includes assessment of challenging light, difficult to reach angle.

Meeting Criteria 1. and 2. Is essential just to be accepted in category.

3. is what will define a winner, unless there are two winners, in which case 4. might be the decider.

Suggestions for New Section Activities

Section Evening Convenor Peter Laurensen welcomes leads for future Section evenings and social activities. Pass on your ideas to Peter at any Section evening or contact him by:

Email: occasionalclimber@gmail.com

Phone: 021 446 725.

Newsletter News Leads Welcome

Contributions and ideas to improve for the Section Newsletter are always welcome:

Epic, or unusual and interesting trips in NZ or overseas;

Satisfying climbs

Gear recommendations,

Conservation ideas. or concerns

Book, video and film discoveries. amazing alpine photos.

It could be an idea, an article or a letter to the editor.

The Editor awaits your email or breathless call !

Contact: Rob Mitchell

Email: rmitch128@gmail.com

Phone: 0274 764 824

Nelson Marlborough NZAC Section Committee 2023			
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Glen Aspin	Snowcraft Co-ordinator.	aspojay@gmail.com	---
Hamish Brown	Trip Co-ordinator	hamishbrownnz@gmail.com	027 418 3124
Ross Cullen	Board Member	ross.Cullen@lincoln.ac.nz	021 294 6819
Bruce Davies	Section Evenings	daviesrobin@yahoo.com	021 238 3733
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