



8 Nov, 2023

Kia ora,

In the final days of October we completed our AGM, thus signing off the 2022-23 financial year and celebrating the successes we achieved. During the evening we acknowledged the Aspiring Hut project, and John Cocks and Derek Crombie deservedly took out the Volunteers of the Year Award for their mahi on the refurbishment. We had a number of Life and Honorary Memberships awarded, and as usual, I was blown away by the calibre and diversity of people we have associated with this Club. You can read more about all of these outstanding people below.

As we stand in the path of another incoming nor-wester here in Christchurch, it is beginning to feel a lot like summer. This brings a busy season for our climbers and facilities. I'd like to remind everyone to please pay your hut fees, make bookings where we have requested, and gently hold others to these standards. We have made changes to our hut bookings, and there are a few more changes coming, so always check the NZAC website before you head out.

And as we all rush into the holiday season, please remember what is most important to you and make time to do that. For me, recreation is the thing that keeps me nourished and grounded. So, you will find me in the Port Hills enjoying an early morning sunrise as much as I can manage. I hope that you get to do the same.

Karen

Photo credit by Fynn Marno for Mountain Climbing Culture NZAC Photocomp 2023

Club News

The NZAC AGM was held on Friday the 27th October with members present in person and online. The meeting consisted of the Annual Report, Life and Honorary Membership presentations, Volunteer of the Year, followed by a presentation by Megan Dimozantos. To review the Annual Report 2022-2023 you can read it [here](#).

Life & Honorary Members 2023

Three Honorary Memberships and four Life Memberships were awarded at the AGM 2023.

Honorary Memberships

- Anne Braun-Elwert
- Allen Uren
- Rachel Māia

Life Memberships

- Jane Morris
- John Palmer
- Craig Potton
- Graham Zimmerman

Please take a few minutes to read the citations on our website [here](#).



Volunteer of the Year 2023 - John Cocks and Derek Crombie

The 2023 Volunteer of the Year award acknowledges the supreme commitment of two Club volunteers with a combined total of 75 years of membership. John Cocks and Derek Crombie devoted their year to the completion of the Aspiring Hut renovation.

To read the full citation for John & Derek you can read it [here](#) on our website.

Image: Derek Crombie receiving the Volunteer of the Year Award from Clare Kearney



Hut Updates for Summer 2023/2024

As advised in last month's newsletter the Club has made the decision to **add Homer Hut on to our booking system**. This is now live and is being well used. The high season of 11 December 2023 through to February 11th 2024 is for members only to ensure you can all get your climbing fix. Outside of these dates non-members are welcome to book and use the facilities.

French Ridge Hut will go on to the DOC booking system in the

near future.

Arthur's Pass Lodge has a new door locking system installed. The booking system is still the same and a door code will be emailed as usual. The new lock is electronic and means the code can be remotely changed. We hope with a frequent change of code this will act as a deterrent for anyone wanting to stay and not pay. Cameras have also been installed in the outside foyer and over the carpark.

For the updates on pricing and bookings you can refer to the article from our last newsletter [here](#).

Be sure to use appropriate hut etiquette during the busy periods, being mindful of other users needing space, arriving and leaving quietly during sleeping hours, keeping gear tidy, doing dishes, wiping benches and paying fees for the use of all huts you stay in.

Get Involved



Mountaineers, human waste, Aoraki and Cultural Values

Research

This project explores current human waste management of mountaineers who climb in the higher mountains around Aoraki/Mt Cook National Park. We are asking you to complete a survey to examine motivations and current practices of mountaineers in terms of human waste disposal, the

barriers to recommended Leave-No-Trace practices, and knowledge of Māori values.

Who should participate?

Mountaineers: we use a broad definition of mountaineering as travel and / or climbing on snow, ice and rock in alpine areas.

We are asking mountaineers (over 18 years of age) and who have mountaineered in Aotearoa New Zealand to participate in this research.

Who is involved?

The study is being conducted by an interdisciplinary team led by University of Canterbury alongside Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua and funded by the Tūpiki Trust, University of Canterbury, the New Zealand Alpine Club and Leave No Trace New Zealand.

[Here is a link](#) to that survey. Have your say!

Find a rock climb

Type Boulder (1058) Sport (4237) Trad (4056)
 Unfinished (287)

Name

Area

Crag

Subarea

Name



ClimbNZ Community Updates

The updated [ClimbNZ](#) interface has now been live for a month. We hope you have taken a look around at the new options available to find routes between 'Rock' and 'Alpine' modes and to access routes by type/grade/location. ClimbNZ is a guidebook and community-sourced information database, updates by you, a member of the climbing

community, are easy to make and will help make the database a bigger and better platform. To have a look around or make updates to a route click [here](#).



Something new is on the horizon for 2024 and getting closer!

SAVE THE DATE

- When: Friday 22nd March - Sunday 24th March 2024
- Where: Wanaka
- Who: Rock Climbers

Keep an eye on future newsletters and social media for updates.

Photo credit: Tom Hoyle - Marc Lesaichere at Te Papa, Wānaka

Sending Cut-off dates for Christmas 2023

If you are thinking of sending Christmas gifts to family/friends or to yourself these are the dates you need to keep in mind. The dates are targets only they may change due to unforeseen service impacts with couriers. We will also have a Christmas gift options newsletter coming out to you soon.

New Zealand Tuesday 19th December

Australia Wednesday 29th November

Asia, Europe, North America, South Pacific, UK Friday 24th November

Rest of the world Monday 20th November

Wellington & Auckland Mature Mountaineers - with Tūpiki Trust

Wellington's next Mature Mountaineers speaker will be Lydia Bradey sharing her mountaineering experiences with veteran mountaineer Dave Bamford in a discussion format called Big Dreams – Big Risks – Big Nature. Jointly hosted by the NZAC and Tupiki Trust on 30 November, this event will be held at the Tararua Tramping Club Rooms, 4 Moncrief Street, Mount Victoria, starting at 2pm. Although a Mature Mountaineers meeting, everyone is invited. For more information, contact NZAC Chair Andy Carruthers 021244605 or Dave Bamford 0274570313.

In Auckland Peter Cammell will be the next Mature Mountaineers speaker. Peter has over 50 years climbing experience with many successful ascents, in New Zealand and overseas. He will talk on his recent ascent of Mt La Perouse from the west, his 24th 3000m peak. This event will occur at Epsom Community Centre, 202 Gillies Avenue, Epsom. 7.30 pm, 29 November. For more information please contact John Broadwell at 021 157 3881, or johnbroadwell@outlook.com.

Community



Tūpiki Trust Successful Grant Applications

Tūpiki Trust is pleased to announce three further successful grant applications.

A grant of \$19,000 has been approved to Backcountry Trust for rejuvenation of Almer Hut. Almer Hut is a valued high alpine hut on the side of the Franz Josef Glacier and is managed as an historic hut. The Department of Conservation will work with Backcountry Trust builders on a joint restoration project in February 2024 to remove lead from the hut, re-clad the building, replace rotten timber, repaint and make it weather tight. Work on Almer is now relatively urgent. A recent storm event lifted off the roofing from the porch area and folded it back onto the main roof. DOC has temporarily repaired and sealed this before the major renovation starts in February.

Backcountry Trust also received a grant of \$15,000 to allow re-roofing Lockwood Shelter at Temple Basin. This project is planned in partnership with Canterbury Mountaineering Club (CMC), who have had a Management Agreement with DOC to maintain this facility since 2012. The work is planned for summer 2024 with further phases likely after the roof work is completed.

The third successful applicant is Via Ferrata Aotearoa (a registered charity) who will receive \$30,000 to develop a via ferrata on Takaka Hill. The project will build New Zealand's first free and public via ferrata climbing park on Takaka Hill and to further promote the concept in New Zealand.



2023 FMC Scholarship Recipients Awarded

Congratulations to the following NZAC members for their successful applications in 2023.

Youth Expedition Scholarships

- Josie Dixon, for a traverse of the Dark Cloud Range in Fiordland
- Campbell Browne, for a traverse of the Southern Alps from Arthur's Pass to Aoraki/Mt Cook

FMC Training Grants

- Wellington Section NZAC, to run an outdoor first aid course.

To find out all the scholarship and training grant recipients the full list can be read [here](#).



Tukino NZAC Member Offer Update

With the introduction of the new Incorporated Societies Act Tukino have had to update their constitution and can no longer assume

membership.

Tukino can offer NZAC members complimentary membership to TASC. NZAC members wishing to utilise the benefits would become a TASC member with proof of a valid NZAC membership either the physical card or downloadable PDF.

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