



NEW ZEALAND
ALPINE CLUB



2 Feb, 2024

Kia ora,

Three weeks away from work with the family was a welcome break. We got into the great outdoors, spending time walking, biking, swimming, diving, fishing and camping. With the abundance of sunshine we have been enjoying, it was also a change to reconnect with some of our favourite places – the Marlborough Sounds and the Ashburton Lakes. Although not amazing climbing locations, they were both perfect for a toddler and some good old fashioned free-range exploring. I hope that you all have had a wonderful summer so far, too.

Of course, it is far from over. Although many of us have returned to work, there are so many activities to get involved with in the coming months. The start of the year is always busy at the Club, with the planning for events such as Banff, NiBs and winter instruction all well underway. Keep an eye out in the next month or so for information on all these events. But more pressing than this is our newest event – [Crag Fest](#) which will be held in Wānaka in March. For rock climbers, this festival is shaping up to be an excellent event, blending clinics, climbing, socialising, learning and heaps of prizes all packed into one long weekend. If you would like to come but are facing barriers to get there, we have also just launched the [Tūpiki Equity scholarships](#), aimed at allowing everyone the chance to participate in these events, no matter their circumstances.

Crag Fest isn't the only climbing meet in the coming months, with all large Sections running rock focused events – check out their individual pages to find out more. Also, ACAT have just announced the return of the festival at Waipari, to take place over Easter weekend.

It is with sadness that I also acknowledge the passing of Lewis Ainsworth, the current President of the NZ Mountain Guides Association. I did not know Lewis well, but his passion for the mountains and the NZMGA was evident in the discussions I had with him. The mountaineering community is a small one and this tragic event will be difficult for many. It is a time when the community really shows its heart though, and I encourage those who might need support to ask for it, and those who are able to give it to freely offer it. Our thoughts are especially with his family at this time.

Take care,

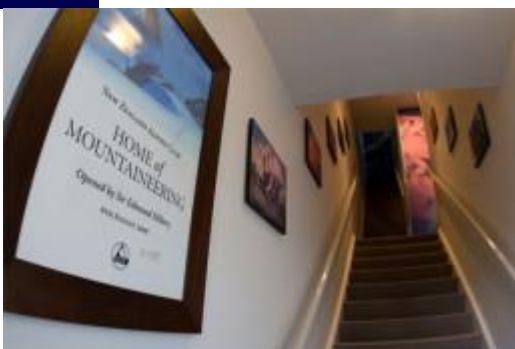
Karen

Photo by Nancy Collis entry Alpine Nature NZAC Photographic Competition 2023

Club News

Incorporated Societies Act 2022

In late 2022 and 2023 new law and regulations came into force which governs how incorporated societies are regulated in New Zealand. As part of this change, all societies, including the NZAC, must re-register by 2026. This means that the NZAC will be reviewing and adjusting our rules which were last updated in 2018. While some of the changes are procedural, the Board will also be considering the effectiveness of our current rules and whether there are opportunities for improvement. Over the next few months, we will be giving members lots of opportunities to input into this process, so please keep reading your emails and checking our website. If you have particular interest or suggestions please contact [General Manager, Karen Leacock](#).



Staff Update

Our Administrator, Marie, will be away on extended leave starting in mid-February. Reshmi Pal will be covering her absence and handling all your membership, booking and order queries. Reshmi will be in the office part time which will likely mean the office will need to be closed to the public at times. We will let you know more details about the office hours and its start date in due course.

Get Involved



Wānaka Crag Fest 15-17 March 2024

New Zealand Alpine Club and Wānaka Climbing Club are proud to host Wānaka Crag Fest!

Come and climb with new and old friends, learn new skills at the climbing clinics, enjoy the evenings with events and social gatherings and give back to the crag! Numbers are limited and get amongst your climbing community!

Get your ticket to Wānaka Crag Fest before Feb 11th and go in the draw to win a Crag Fest Prize pack worth \$300! ALL tickets that have been purchased up until Feb 11th will have the chance to win! Prizes include some sweet gear from our Fest Partners - La Sportiva, Black Diamond and Petzl!

[FOR MORE INFO AND TICKET PURCHASE CLICK HERE](#)



Tūpiki Equity Scholarship

Do you need assistance, or do you know of someone who needs assistance, to attend Wānaka Crag Fest?

If so, check out the [Tūpiki Equity Scholarship](#), open now for application, to support those who need extra help to attend Wānaka Crag Fest.

The Tūpiki Trust values diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in our climbing community and they want to ensure they provide a welcoming and safe climbing space for everyone.

Photo: Tom Hoyle

[Tūpiki Equity Scholarship](#)

Community



ACAT RockFest - Waipari

The Aotearoa Climbing Access Trust is stoked to present the ACAT RockFest, being held at Waipari crag from 29-31 March 2024!

This 3-day festival welcomes climbers from across Aotearoa to camp onsite at

Waipari, uniting the community and providing a unique opportunity to have a whole lot of fun sending **some** epic routes whilst meeting new friends.

Make sure to keep an eye out on our socials for more activity announcements and tickets on sale soon...

[EVENT DETAILS CLICK HERE](#)



Tūpiki Trust Newsletter & Grant Applications

The NZAC Tūpiki Trust recently sent out their latest newsletter, with updates to just a few of the projects which are underway, thanks to their support. If you haven't read the newsletter yet, It's on their website at www.tupikitrust.org.nz. The newsletter also describes the updated grant application process for those who have a project for which they would like funding.

Grant Applications are currently open, and close on 1 March, 2024. So, if you would like funding for a project which contributes to climbing in New Zealand or enhances one of Aotearoa's climbing areas, then you should read the useful article in the Tūpiki Trust Newsletter and use the updated Application Form on their website.



Waipapa Crag Clean Up

ACAT had a great turn out of volunteers to help clean up Waipapa Crag last month.

Tracks got cleaned up and steps cut, routes got rediscovered and scrubbed and some dirty dusty trad routes had a major dig out.

To see some photos of the mahi done during the day and a list of the cleaned climbs, click [here](#).

Photo thanks to AURAC team there on the day.

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