



UPRISING

NEWSLETTER FOR CANTERBURY WESTLAND SECTION OF NZAC

AUGUST 2024

SECTION TALK WED 14 AUGUST

Canterbury Westland
Section Evening

The Cashmere Club
50 Colombo Street
Sydenham

Wednesday 14 August
Doors open: 7pm
Talk starts: 7:30pm

If you want to purchase an alcoholic drink from the bar, you must show a Guest pass. You can pick one of these up inside the room we meet in where they'll be on a table near the door.

Entry is free and everyone is welcome, you don't need to be an NZAC member to attend.

LINKS TO 'CW SECTION'

Remember to 'Like' our Facebook & Instagram pages so you can be kept up to date on Monthly meetings, talks, events, trips, courses and lots more. Share your trip photos and inspire others. And check out our section website for more information.



<http://canterburywestlandpineclub.org.nz>

Wednesday 14 August: Colin Monteath



Beyond Cape Horn - from Cerro Torre to Mont Francais

Join Colin Monteath for a winter adventure in Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego followed by a yachting trip to attempt Mont Francais, highest peak on the northern Antarctic peninsula.

Future Section Evenings. Save these dates...



SEPTEMBER: BUY/SELL GEAR NIGHT

OCTOBER: ANDY BUCHANAN



NEVILLE WITH A RAT FROM TRAP #1



THE RAT FROM TRAP #1



BEALEY HUT LUNCH - LISA, STEVE, TONY & NEVILLE

BEALEY SPUR TRAPLINE TRAINING DAY

“We’ve got one!” came the jubilant shout from one of the trapline teams. We had ventured up Bealey Spur one beautiful Saturday in July to check and reset the traps managed by our section for the Arthurs Pass Wildlife Trust. There are 30 traps on our trapline which starts around 2km up the Bealey Spur track in Arthurs Pass National Park, each of which needed to be checked, the bait (a chicken egg) replaced, and then reset, ready to catch more pests. The traps, DOC150’s for those of you in the know, are placed at intervals along the track and are aimed at catching stoats, weasels, and rats.

Our day started at the home of Neville Ross, our new trapline manager, so we could convoy up

to Arthurs Pass together. We arrived at the start of the track at around 9am and headed up to the first trap. We gathered around for a training session where Neville talked us through how to safely check the trap and remove any pests the trap had caught.

After replacing the egg, thus ensued the battle to reset the trap so the lid could be screwed on and the team could move onto the next one. Those suckers can be tricky! It took us a few goes to get the knack but then we were off. With our GPS maps in hand and Janne, Neville’s lovely wife, taking point and locating the next trap for the teams, we made good time up the track and we got to the hut for lunch in the sunshine. At each trap we recorded any pests

caught, if the trap had been sprung without catching anything, and any other noteworthy comments, such as repairs needed, or evidence of other animals seen around the traps. Comparing notes to make sure we hadn’t missed any traps, we also swapped battle stories about decaying rats and albino stoats. All in all our traps caught two stoats and two rats, not a bad haul.

Having a roster of volunteers means each person might only need to go up the track once or twice a year so we’re training everyone who is interested in getting involved. If this sounds like something you would be interested in please get in touch with Neville on neville.rossnz@gmail.com

Anna Keeling talk at Cashmere Club on July 5



I always make a guess about numbers at our Section Evenings and, in the middle of winter, it can be hard to entice people out. So I took a rough guess that we'd get 50-70 for Anna's talk, but Anna thought we'd get a few more, "as all my friends will be coming". Obviously Anna has a lot of friends as over 170 turned up and it was standing room only.

Anna's really well known in Christchurch and her family was very involved with Porters ski area, and Anna and her family come back every winter. In fact Anna's now had 30 winters back to back, and she spoke about the challenges of that, especially as she gets older and the body slows down a bit. And the mental challenges of avoiding burnout.

Her talk was a very personal insight into her work, mainly as a ski-guide and instructor. Anna's home patch in New Zealand is the Craigieburns, although she has notched up a big set of adventures in other parts of the world, such as the Antarctic and Nepal. She spoke about Avalanche danger and assessment, and the challenges that ski-tourers in particular face.

As a guide there is always pressure to deliver a fun experience to her clients, and there is always stress balancing that against avalanche danger, which the clients may be unaware of. She gave a few hints on techniques to manage that risk, including carrying out a "pre-mortem" team talk before entering a challenging area. As an example she told us about a trip in the Remarkables with top alpinist Alan Uren who, at one point just before crossing a slope, stopped Anna and said he'd like to talk over the terrain they were about

to enter. Anna was impressed that even such an accomplished and experienced mountaineer wanted to take time out to talk over and assess risk in such a considered way.

Anna also very honestly told us about a couple of instances where she made what, in hindsight, was probably the wrong decision, including avalanches in Crystal Basin and above Porters, and how she learned from these events, analysing what information would have helped her better assess the snow conditions. And she also gave other examples where she definitely made the right decision and was pleased with her assessments.

One of the most visited ski-touring areas in the Craigieburns is Tarn Basin, alongside Mt. Cheeseman ski area. Many Cantabrians get their first taste of ski-touring here, and Anna showed an interesting slide illustrating the snow avalanche paths in the basin, which basically covered almost the entire basin!

A lot of questions followed, showing how much engagement Anna had with the audience and how much interest there is in avalanche safety in the mountains. Anna's regularly gives back to the mountain community and NZAC including an online talk during COVID, and we really appreciate her taking time out to talk to us this time. Her enthusiasm for the mountains and guiding clients is special!

Anna Keeling review by: John Roper-Lindsay

An Evening with **LYDIA BRADEY**

**1st Female to Summit
Everest without Oxygen**

HOST: John Palmer
Climber & Mountaineer



Lydia Bradey talk Aurora Centre, July 26th

First of all a disclaimer – this wasn't an NZAC event, but organized by La Sportiva.

The title of the talk was *“An evening with Lydia Bradey – 1st Female to Summit Everest without Oxygen”*. Although this Everest climb was never mentioned in the evening, other than host John Palmer's Dad joke about the *“climbing without oxygen”* bit being false – everybody climbs with oxygen and it should have read *“supplemental oxygen”*...

The format of the evening was that, after a brief talk about Permolat (the benefactors of the evening's profit) by Geoff Spearpoint, Lydia would talk about what she's been doing over the past 4 years before sitting down for a chat with John (a former NZAC president and very passionate climber).

Lydia's 4 year summary with slides was a breakneck speed event, with at least 5 trips a year that would warrant a lengthy talk in their own right but which, under Lydia's 100mph speed presentation techniques, were lucky to get one slide. Most of us would have been very keen to hear more about 27 days trekking in Bhutan, or climbing in Georgia, or even recording a video going up to Everest Base camp for people on treadmills. At the end of this mind-boggling array of trips, each of which would have been a lifetime event for the rest of us, John summed it up by saying it made us all feel inadequate! Plus it was a lot faster than John had envisaged!

The format then was theoretically that John and Lydia would talk about the broad topic of adventure. And this sort-of happened, although Lydia entertained us all by veering off-topic quite easily. In addition to a lot of anecdotes about various trips and adventures, Lydia gave us a lot of insight into what she considers important. One of these anecdotes was about a rodeo she attended in a cowboy town near to where she had been doing some impressive rock climbing. The rock climbing hardly got a mention, but the rodeo had Lydia in full flow describing the event, crashing a private box but, most importantly to Lydia, the way everyone was dressed the same, put their hand on the heart during the National Anthem, and the whole feeling of strength of community. This idea of

community was obviously very important to Lydia, and is personified in her request that profits go to Permolat, which is the ultimate community organization, with volunteers taking over hut and track maintenance from cash-strapped DOC, to benefit the tramping and climbing community.

Lydia's energy made the evening very entertaining, but she did slow down and become more considered towards the end. Lydia has guided Everest 5 times and her last ascent, where she guided the better climbing clients in her group, was fascinating. She was allowed to start before the others in her group and, with a couple of sherpas carrying (supplemental) oxygen, they raced up, passing 74 people on their way. And then Lydia realized they had overtaken everyone, and were going to be first on the summit, but also still in the dark! It was easy to visualize her description of sprinting up to the first person in the group and telling them to slow down. But on the same trip Lydia talked that she had really realized that she had matured as a guide and had her own style, which she had full confidence in.

To end the evening there was a question and answer session, which could have gone on for a long time. One of the questions was about what someone who was about to go on an NZAC Basic Snow Instruction Course, would learn. Lydia gave an inspirational reply that the skills he would learn, such as how to walk with crampons, or use an ice axe, would last him all his life in the mountains and be used every time he went on a trip. Which was thought-provoking, as most of us think that we somehow move beyond all that Basic stuff.

There were other highlights of the evening, such as Lydia's description of her most life-threatening trip, a descent in the Himalaya in terrible avalanche conditions, where both she and her climbing partner survived with skill and positivity.

A great evening, with a near full house – if you weren't able to go and you ever get the chance to hear Lydia talk, take it.

Lydia Bradey review by: John Roper-Lindsay

PROFILER

GET TO KNOW OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS & AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

Jim Petersen, Committee



I'm a transplanted North Islander and I couldn't be happier here in Canterbury.

I first began exploring the forest tracks on the Kaimai ranges near my home town of Matamata in the eastern Waikato region as a pre-teen with my dad. The view from the top of the Wairere falls looking out across the Matamata plains with the forest-cloaked Maungatautari and Pirongia in the distance is not unlike looking out from Mt Oxford on to the Canterbury plains.

I started rock climbing with friends at university, but didn't go hard out or join a club. I started climbing much later in life, after my children had grown up and left home. It is so good to leave the stresses of work in the city on a Friday night and head up into the clear air of the mountains.

I moved to Christchurch just after the quake. My first club trip down here was a summer hit out on Mt Longfellow overlooking Lake Sumner. It was a great introduction to Canterbury mountains and even the twisted ankle in the river on the way out didn't dampen my enthusiasm.

The first trip I led was the loop traverse from Avalanche Peak to Mt Bealey, with two other much younger club members back in 2015. It was my first time on that terrain and the fun we had route finding was such a buzz. I felt the joy of exploration from my childhood, long since forgotten. I think climbing keeps me young.

I have climbed many peaks in Arthur's Pass, a couple in Aoraki, in Nelson Lakes, in the Hurunui District and there are many more peaks and nice lines on a never-ending list.

I joined the Section Committee to help with the Christchurch Banff Film Festival screenings back in 2015, under the patient tutelage of Clayton Garbes. I ran the Banff screenings for a few years, then our winter snowcraft and avalanche awareness courses. I have instructed basic snowcraft since 2018. This is so much fun. I love seeing the smiles when people get to put their newfound skills and knowledge to work on the second day mission.

I chaired the Local section committee for five years and sat on the NZAC board then last year I became Club President. A new chapter has begun, but I still have corners folded over on the pages in the local section of my climbing journal. This year I led our first section trip on the calendar across that same Avalanche Peak - Bealey terrain. We went in the opposite direction this time and it was just as much fun as the first time, thanks again to the great company.

If you would like to join our committee or give back to the club in any way please send an email to cw.chairperson@gmail.com

CANTERBURY WESTLAND SECTION OF NZAC

ANNUAL
BUY/SELL
GEAR SALE

THURS 12 SEPT 2024 CASHMERE CLUB

**MORE DETAILS
TO COME SOON!**

BUT

**NOW IS THE TIME TO
MARK YOUR CALENDAR
& SORT THROUGH
YOUR GEAR**

Canterbury Westland Section

Winter Courses

NZAC MEMBERS ONLY



BASIC SNOWCRAFT: 2 COURSES

- 2 - 4 August **NOW FULL**
- 16 - 18 August **SOME SPACES STILL AVAILABLE**
(Tuesday evening in Christchurch, plus two days in Arthurs Pass)

Who is this course for?: The NZAC Basic Snowcraft course is designed for experienced trampers and those with a passion for the outdoors who are looking to gain additional skills to travel safely in alpine terrain where snow and ice is often encountered.

Full details can be found [here](#) along with the registration form

AVALANCHE AWARENESS: 10 - 11 AUGUST SOME SPACES STILL AVAILABLE (Friday evening in Christchurch, plus either Saturday or Sunday in Arthurs Pass)

Who is this course for?: The NZAC Avalanche Awareness course is designed for NZAC Novice mountaineers (or equivalent skill set) who are looking to gain a greater understanding of the avalanche phenomenon. This course is designed to introduce participants to the avalanche phenomenon. Those looking to spend a significant amount of time in the alpine environment should consider the 4 day Backcountry Avalanche Course. Participants should be competent in the skills listed in the Basic Snowcraft course outline to ensure they can safely access terrain during the course. Please do not apply if you are not competent in the course outcomes from the NZAC Basic Snowcraft Course.

Full details can be found [here](#) along with the registration form

INTERMEDIATE SNOWCRAFT: 24 - 25 AUGUST NOW FULL/WAITLIST (Arthurs Pass)

Who is this course for?: The NZAC Intermediate Snowcraft course is designed for NZAC Novice Mountaineers (or those with an equivalent skill set) who are looking to gain additional skills to travel safely in alpine terrain where straightforward steep snow and ice is encountered, and where abseiling on descent could be required. This is an alpine course suitable for NZAC Novice Mountaineers who have consolidated their skills through trips on grade 1+ alpine terrain. Please ensure you meet the minimum requirements.

Full details can be found [here](#) along with the registration form

National Winter Courses



NZAC MEMBERS ONLY

ADVANCED

- ICE WYE CREEK, Women's Leading on Technical Ice Course, 3 August - 6 August 2024
- ICE WYE CREEK, Leading on Technical Ice Course, 3 August - 6 August 2024
- ICE WYE CREEK, Leading on Technical Ice Course, 10 August - 13 August 2024

INTERMEDIATE

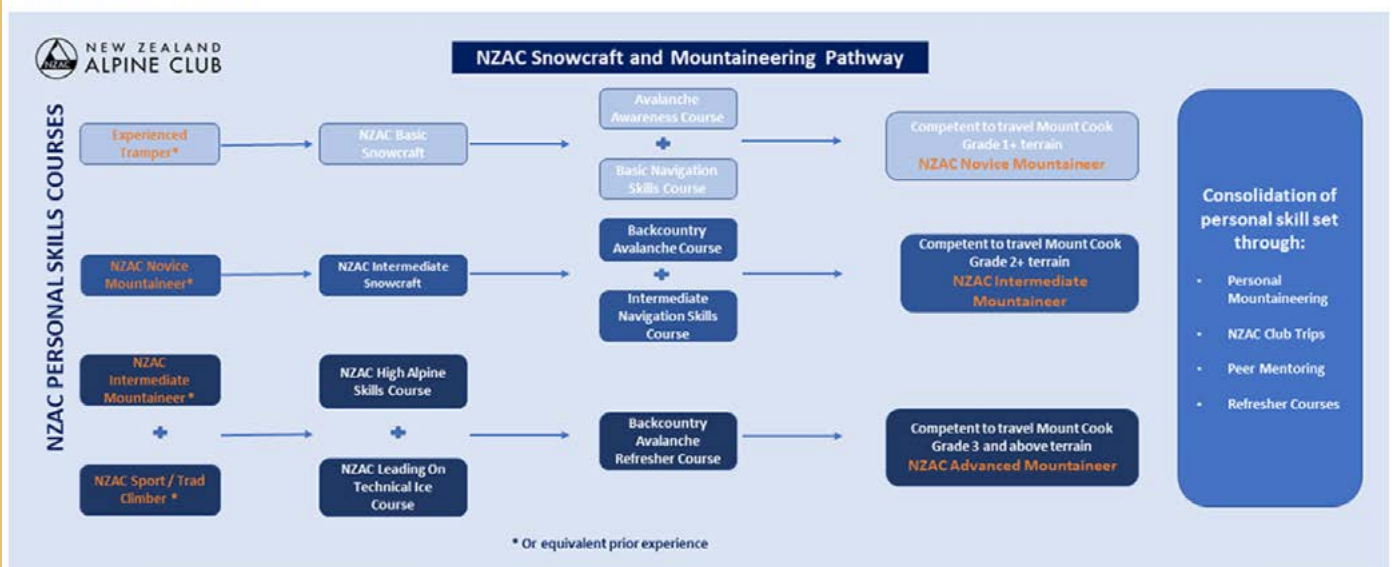
- Intro to Backcountry Ski Course, 31 August - 3 September 2024, 7-10, September 2024

ADVANCED

- SKI TOURING AORAKI / MT COOK NATIONAL PARK, Glacier Ski Course
28th September - 2nd October 2024, 5th October - 9th October 2024
- ALPINE AORAKI / MT COOK NATIONAL PARK, High Alpine Skills Courses
12th - 17th November, 19th - 24th November, 26th November - 1st December

CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS

Alpine Climbing Pathway



OTHER BITS

CAN YOU HELP? SAVE THE DATE!



SEEKING A SECRETARY Duties primarily entail preparing the agenda and taking minutes at our Canterbury Westland monthly section meetings. Meetings are usually held at 6pm on the first Monday of each month in Addington and are done and dusted by 7.30pm latest.

If you are prepared to put some time back into the club and are interested in this position please contact: Sam White - 021 831 911 or cw.chairperson@gmail.com



DUNEDIN ADVENTURE MEET AT LABOUR WEEKEND

Details are yet to be announced but save the date for our annual Dunedin Adventure weekend. This year it will run over Labour weekend, Oct 26th - 28th 2024.

Always a lot of fun where you can meet up with like minded people at Longbeach and either climb, hike, explore, relax and make new friends. So save the date and watch out for posts on Facebook, Instagram & future newsletters.

Remember, 'Meets' are open to everyone, you don't need to be an NZAC member to attend. But why not become a member anyway? There are many advantages to being an NZAC member. These include courses, trips, discount at a huge range of local retailers & climbing gyms!



WANAKA ADVENTURE MEET. CANTERBURY ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

Plans are under way for a combined Wanaka Adventure weekend with the Otago section. This will be held over Canterbury Anniversary, Nov 15th - 17th 2024.

Save the date and plan for another adventure filled weekend. More details will be out in the coming months on our Facebook, Instagram pages & in future newsletters. Keep an eye out so you don't miss out!

Remember, 'Meets' are open to everyone, you don't need to be an NZAC member to attend. But why not become a member anyway? There are many advantages to being an NZAC member. These include courses, trips, discount at a huge range of local retailers & climbing gyms!

Information Links

Click on a circle to get the full information that you require.



Monthly Section Talks

[CLICK HERE](#)

Our Section talks are held each month, usually on the second Thursday. Everyone is welcome and you don't need to be an NZAC member to attend.



Midweek Mountaineering

[CLICK HERE](#)

The midweek group are mainly fairly mature mountaineers who still manage to plod up a few peaks, usually on Wednesdays, depending on the weather.



Midweek Rock Climbing

[CLICK HERE](#)

Join our midweek crew for a variety of local climbing opportunities year-round. Whether you're up for a quick indoor session post-work or eager to hit the hills for some outdoor rock action, we've got you covered.



Section Library

[CLICK HERE](#)

Did you know that the Canterbury Westland Section has it's own, very extensive Library with both books and DVDs? You just need to be an NZAC member to be able to borrow.



Gear Hire

[CLICK HERE](#)

NZAC members can hire gear on behalf of non-members on the same trip they are attending with the knowledge that the NZAC member is responsible for any loss or damage.



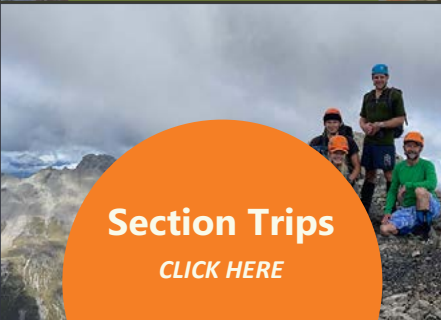
Bealey Spur Trapline

[CLICK HERE](#)

The section helped to establish this trapline and has serviced it since 2020. For your safety and instruction on how to service the trapline, you must attend one of the training days, which are held from time to time. It's a rewarding day out helping to remove introduced predators and assist our native wildlife to thrive.



Section Meets are hosted by & on behalf of current members of the CW Section of the New Zealand Alpine Club. You don't need to be a current member of the NZAC to participate but the safety is the responsibility of each individual. These are not guided meets, nor do they involve any instructional training or tuition of any kind.



Trips are hosted by & on behalf of current members of the CW Section of the New Zealand Alpine Club. You need to be a current member of the NZAC to participate. Participants will need to be totally self-sufficient in the environment and have the skills, experience and judgement to undertake alpine and related mountaineering activities consistent with the level of experience required, independently and safely.



A club trip is a great way to spend time with like-minded people, share some adventures and give back to the outdoor community. Most trips involve moderate to intermediate mountaineering but they can include anything from tramping and rock climbing to mountaineering objectives. The trip leader is not a professional guide or instructor, as a trip leader you organise and lead the group only.



The club runs instruction courses covering rock, snow, avalanche awareness and navigation. These courses are for NZAC members only, you must have an in date membership to sign up for a course.



In the heart of Arthurs Pass National Park, this warm little lodge provides a great base for exploring the surrounding mountains with peaks suitable for beginners to advanced climbers alike.



Sign up to have our monthly newsletters delivered to you by email. You can also read past newsletters on our website.



One of the benefits of being an NZAC member is discounts from all the wonderful retailers you will find by clicking on this link. Please support them as they support us.

CANTERBURY WESTLAND SECTION OF THE NZAC COMMITTEE MEMBERS



CHAIRPERSON

Sam White
cw.chairperson@gmail.com



SECRETARY



TREASURER & LIBRARY

John Roper-Lindsay
john@roperlindsay.com



NEWSLETTER & ONLINE

Shannon Cook
nzac.cw.newsletter@gmail.com



SUMMER INSTRUCTION

Clayton Garbes
cw.summerinstruction@gmail.com



WINTER INSTRUCTION

Neil Hamilton
cw.winterinstruction@gmail.com



MIDWEEK ROCK CLIMBING

Jonathan Tye
nzacmidweekclimbing@gmail.com



TRIP COORDINATOR

Natasha Mealing
nzac.cw.trips@gmail.com



SECTION EVENINGS

Caitlin Erickson
cerickson717@gmail.com



EVENTS

Adam Humphries
adam.b.humphries@gmail.com



CRAG MAINTENANCE

Grant Piper
grant.piper66@gmail.com



TRAPLINE MANAGER

Neville Ross
neville.rossnz@gmail.com



ARTHUR'S PASS LODGE

John Henson
hensonj@xtra.co.nz



GEAR CUSTODIAN

Maxine van Rijn
cw.gearhire@gmail.com



RECREATION ADVOCACY

Lindsay Main
lindsay@mainshanks.nz



GENERAL

Lisa Donning
lisaDonning@gmail.com



GENERAL

Jim Petersen
jim.r.petersen@gmail.com



GENERAL

WE WANT YOU



GENERAL

WE WANT YOU

