



19 Aug, 2024

Kia ora Marie,

I had the privilege of attending the Mature Mountaineers meeting in Christchurch this week, also supported by the CMC and Tūpiki Trust. Geoff Wayatt gave an entertaining account of mountain guiding in New Zealand, peppered with stories of antics and great characters, and moments of joy with clients and friends in the high peaks. What struck me, was firstly that almost everyone in the room had probably completed an Aoraki GT, and secondly, the stories weren't of epics and difficult routes (although they were there too), but of camaraderie and friendship. They were people stories, in the mountains.

As we are currently refreshing our strategic plan, this causes me to reflect on the purpose of the NZAC: to support climbers and climbing. I wonder, are we still achieving this? With changing types of climbing and national reach, are we doing a good job? What do we need to be doing now and what do we need for the future? Looking back to bring the best of our storied history into our future seems like a sensible approach, and for me, this is the people connections that the Club facilitates. We are a Club of people, who like being in the mountains and at the crags, challenging ourselves and connecting with others. I hope that as the current stewards of the Club we can continue to protect and advance this purpose.

As such and with winter upon us, I urge you to have a quick refresh of our cold weather survival advice in the articles listed below. We want everyone going out and having an amazing time in our alpine playground, but also coming home to share the stories of the antics, now and for years to come.

Enjoy the snow!

Karen

Photo: Derek Cheng - Overall and Alpine Landscape NZAC Photographic Competition Winner - A halo of sunset gold wraps itself around the summit of Mt Fitzroy in Patagonia, Argentina.

Club News

Keeping Warm And Avoiding Hypothermia In The Mountains.

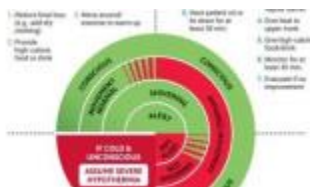
Winter is upon us and many of us will be out in the hills having fun and the occasional epic that will be fun in the retelling. Before you get on the snow and ice, make sure you are schooled up on keeping yourself safe.

This three-part series looks at how to keep warm, understand hypothermia and manage an emergency situation in cold conditions.



Part 1 - Staying Warm

Read the article [here](#)



Part 3 - Managing An Emergency In The Alpine Environment

Read the article [here](#)

Part 2 - Avoiding and Treating Hypothermia

Read the article [here](#)

French Ridge Hut on DOC Booking System Imminent



Last year we mentioned during our Hut Fees and Booking System Rollout that French Ridge Hut would join Aspiring Hut on the DOC booking system.

The background set up for this is underway and likely to be completed in September 2024. More details will be released prior to the hut becoming bookable.

You can add your NZAC membership to your DOC booking login to ensure you get NZAC member pricing when booking. Click [here](#) for the process to do this.

Get Involved

NZAC Photographic Competition 2024



The 2024 NZAC Photographic Competition opens for entries on the 16th August!

For 2024 we have a change up in the mix. We are adding a theme to the Mountain & Climbing Culture Category and we ask for you to enter a photo story with your images. The 2024 theme will be Huts.

All other categories will remain the same. Check out all the competition details [here](#). In the meantime get editing your photos and check out the awesome [prizes up for grabs from our competition sponsors](#).

Photo credits

Top left: Maddy Whittaker

Top right: Logan Olausen

Bottom left: Tom Hoyle

Bottom right: Derek Cheng

Book Launch; Tititea Aspiring And The Otago Alps



Coming in September we will launch NZAC *Tititea Aspiring And The Otago Alps* Guidebook. With illustrated talks by the authors Neil Sloan and Nick Shearer, we would love you to come along to learn more about the area or with an adventure in mind to chat about.

The event will be held in the Tap Room at [Ground Up Brewing](#), 4 Gordon Road, Wānaka 9305.

Date and more details to come closer to the event.

Community

NZAC Tūpiki Trust Funding Update



If you are interested in funding for your climbing project, you should check out the newsletter from the Alpine Club's partners, the NZAC Tūpiki Trust. In this Winter 2024 issue they:

- Report progress on a few of the projects they are supporting,
- Call for funding applications for the September grants round,
- Welcome Marty Hunter to the Trust's board and much more of interest.

You can read the full newsletter by going to the NZAC Tūpiki Trust's website www.tupikitrust.org.nz

Photo: Tūpiki funds those who help others in the mountains.

Wharepapa Rock cleanup done but access threatened by non-payment of fees



Cleanup work after the 2023 tree fall damage is now mostly complete, and the crag is seeing considerable traffic – but future access remains uncertain because many climbers are not registering or paying the crag access fee.

Click [here](#) to read more about the access requirements and fees.

Image: The lower tier at Wharepapa Rock after treefall cleanup work was completed.

Avalanche Advisory Reminder



As the South Island is gripped by what some have described as 'powdermonium', it is a good time to think about the post-storm snowpack in the backcountry.

- Check the avalanche advisory at [NZ Avalanche Advisory](#)
- Share public observations
- Get #avalancheready - see the three steps [here](#).



FMC Draft Constitution

The FMC Executive has overseen the drafting of a new constitution, which they are now providing to us, as club members, for review, in preparation for them seeking approval to proceed to the next step in the re-registration process.

The draft constitution is available on the FMC website [here](#).

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

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You are receiving this email as a member of the NZAC

Our mailing address is:

New Zealand Alpine Club
Unit 6, 6 Raycroft Street
Waltham
Christchurch, Canterbury 8023
New Zealand

