



UPRISING

NEWSLETTER FOR CANTERBURY WESTLAND SECTION OF NZAC

DECEMBER 2024

SECTION TALK WED 4 DECEMBER

CANTERBURY WESTLAND SECTION TALK
WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER, CASHMERE CLUB
(IN CONJUNCTION WITH CMC)

Canterbury Westland
Section Evening

The Cashmere Club
50 Colombo Street
Sydenham

Wednesday 4 December 2024
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.

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://canterburywestlandalpineclub.org.nz>



[CLICK HERE FOR MORE DETAILS](#)

ROB FROST
VOLTA GLACIER & REFLECTIONS ON RISK

Future Section Evenings. Save these dates...



**OUR NEXT SECTION TALK
WILL BE FEBRUARY 2025.
MERRY CHRISTMAS &
ALL THE BEST FOR 2025!**

We need your help

Are you keen to give back to your club?

We are needing the following positions to be filled...

Trip Co-ordinator

Are you passionate about the outdoors and looking for a way to give back to the community? We are seeking a volunteer trips coordinator to help organise our trips for members. As the trip coordinator you will be responsible for coordinating a variety of trips into the mountains. You will work with club members to determine trip locations and ensure that all safety protocols are complete before the trip. This is a fantastic opportunity to get involved with a vibrant community and help others explore the stunning landscapes of Canterbury Westland region. Committee members meet once a month on a Monday. For more information please email Sam cw.chairperson@gmail.com

Winter Instruction Co-ordinator

Are you passionate about the outdoors and looking for a way to give back to the community? We are seeking a volunteer winter instruction coordinator. You don't need to be a high performing alpinist for this role as we have a fantastic group of volunteer and professional instructors to draw on; just good organisation and communication skills. You will get plenty of support from the Section committee as a number of us have been involved with winter instruction over the years. Personally I have found introducing people to the delights of alpinism very rewarding.

Please contact me at cw.chairperson@gmail.com if you are interested in either of these roles.



CW MIDWEEK CLIMBING GROUP

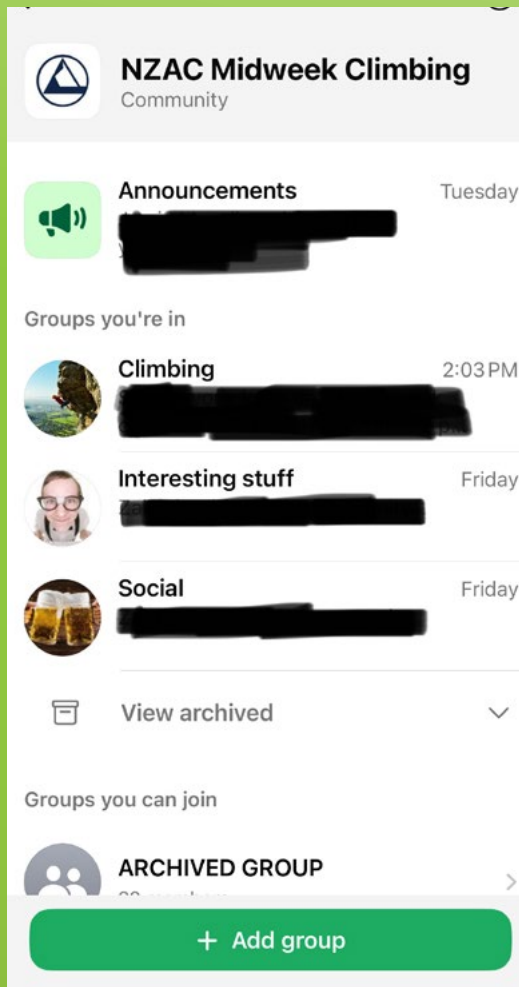
The midweek climbing group has been going strong for over 15 years now. In fact, that's how I first got involved with the club and how I met a few climbing buddies I still get out with every now and again. It's been through several iterations, with spreadsheets and a Google group being used with some success and some challenges. We recently switched to a WhatsApp community which means we can communicate easier to make plans, setting up separate groups for missions so we don't all get spammed when we can't join an outing (one of the most common gripes about the Google group). Plus, we've got a space where we can share interesting resources or arrange a cheeky beer. Which is critical for any relationship, as we all know! The sign up process is easy... there's a form [HERE](#) which you pop your details onto and you'll

be added into the community. So bear that in mind when you fill in the form, you'll need to provide that number you use in WhatsApp. Once you're in you'll see several groups, the main ones are Climbing, Interesting Stuff, and Social. The other groups have been set up to let people make arrangements for climbs.

When someone's looking for a climbing buddy they reach out in the Climbing group, find some people to climb with, then off they go! There's climbs being arranged several times a week and people have varying abilities so there's really something for everyone.

If you're looking for a climbing buddy this could be the group for you! Register now and we'll see you at the crag!

Lisa Donning



Midweek climbing in action



NOT

Ski Touring at Erewhon Hut



There's nothing better in the NZ ski-touring world than basing yourself in a comfy hut for a few days where you can get straight on your skis at the door. Six of us booked 3 nights at Erewhon hut at the end of August. We'd planned to get a helicopter ride up to the hut to maximise the skiing but, as the date drew near, it became obvious that the weather wasn't going to play ball. The forecast was full of stuff like "severe gales, easing to gale..." so the heli-ride was ditched and, in the end, two of us didn't even leave Christchurch. The remaining four did go up, in a brave attempt to "get their money's worth" of the hut costs, but the wind was pretty unrelenting.

Tom, who is the force behind the establishment and running of the hut, kindly offered us a couple of free days at the beginning of October, but the others couldn't make it, so I raked in a couple of friends and we headed up for a night without ski-touring gear to see what was up there.

The walk in is very easy, as there is an old track/road up there. Erewhon hut is situated near the end of the road on the true left of the Rangitata, and only two hours from Christchurch. Thanks to being next to Mt. Sunday, of LOTR fame, the road is quite well-visited. The reason

Erewhon Hut Continued...

for the old track/road is that, in the 1960's, there was actually a ski-field where Erewhon hut is situated, and the walk up passes the old ski-field car park and a lot of ski-lift junk before reaching the hut at 1750m. Topo NZ still marks the area as "Mt Potts ski field" and, until 2011, there was a helicopter/cat-skiing operation that used to access the area.

The hut is at the bottom of a really big basin, which has some beautiful terrain, and quite mellow runs, as well as some more challenging runs from the ridgeline. The surrounding ridge is at around 2100m so the runs aren't huge, but the skiing below the hut would be really nice as well. At the beginning of October there was a ton of snow, right down to 1400m.

The hut itself is really two huts, with a shared vestibule. Both have 6 bunks, gas, and a log burner and are very comfy. You can book each hut for 3 nights at the

weekend, or 4 nights during the week, at a cost of \$660 per night (i.e. \$110 per person). The costs of building, maintaining and supplying a hut like this are huge, so I think that's perfectly reasonable.

After a solid overnight freeze we wandered up to the ridge line and had a look at the area from the point of view of coming back to ski-tour and it really is beautiful terrain. Some ski-touring destinations (and a few ski-fields) are often in tight valleys, with the terrain only opening up much higher. But Erewhon hut is right in the basin. Below the hut it narrows a little, but there would still be good skiing down to where the valley flattens out at 1400m.

I've rebooked the hut for a few days in 2025 and am looking forward to getting up there with skis this time. Ever the optimist... If you want to know more about the hut, visit ['Epic Erewhon Hut'](#)



Upcoming **COURSES** for NZAC members



INTRO TO TRAD CLIMBING 1 & 2 February 2025

ONLY 3 SPACES LEFT

A two-day course to the introduction for Traditional Rock Climbing. This is not a beginners course and at a minimum people need to be confident sport lead climbing, lead climbing and abseiled before. Topics: Trad equipment and it's use, leading on trad, cleaning a climb, anchor set up, trouble shooting and useful tips.

[Click here for full details & to sign up](#)



SPORT MULTI PITCH & ROPE RESCUE COURSE 22 & 23 February 2025

4 SPACES

A course is suitable for those who have a sport climbing background - know how to sport lead climb, lead belay and abseil (this is NOT a beginners course). Topics: Multi-pitch sport leading, setting anchors for multi-pitch, managing the anchor station, swinging leads, belaying consideration including guide mode, multi-pitch descents, and rope management.

[Click here for full details & to sign up](#)



TRAD ANCHORS & ROPE RESCUE COURSE 5 & 6 April 2025

8 SPACES

A course designed to upskill and refresh on the finer points of trad climbing anchors and placements and basic rope rescue skills needed in a multi-pitch environment. Topics: Multi-directional trad anchors and trad placements, transfer the belay, release a top loaded belay (escape the belay), tandem abseil, simple hoist, troubleshooting.

[Details coming soon](#)

BANKS PENINSULA

ROCK MEET 2025!



Friday 28th Feb - Sunday 2nd March 2025
CLIMBING FOR ALL EXPERIENCE LEVELS, TRAD & SPORT
BASED AT PIGEON BAY

THIS MEET IS OPEN TO EVERYONE. MEMBERS & NON-MEMBERS!
*For a 'meet' you don't need to be an NZAC member to attend
so it's a great chance to get a feel for the club if you're
thinking of joining.*



Grubbie's 'World Famous, in New Zealand' Banks Peninsula Rock Meet

Running over a weekend from Friday 28 February until Sunday 2 March this Meet is open to everyone, not just NZAC members and for all experience levels, trad and sport. But please note this is not an instruction weekend. You are responsible for your own gear and safety.

Take a look at our website [HERE](#) for more information and make sure to sign up. It's an awesome weekend with like minded people. Coming alone? No worries, you will be able to buddy up with someone. Camp will be set up at Pigeon Bay with lots of crags nearby. Panama Rock, Holmes Bay, Ōtepatutu, to name a few.

All surplus funds from the weekend will be going to ACAT and there will be spot prizes from our sponsor Aspiring Safety!

SURPLUS FUNDS GO TO ACAT!



SPOT PRIZES! THANK YOU TO...



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.



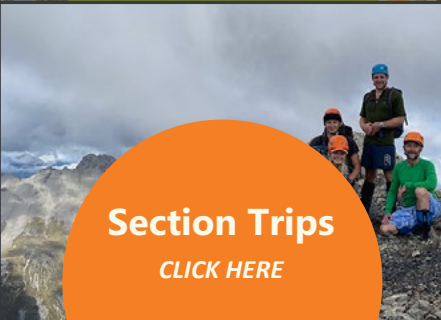
Bealey Spur Trapline

[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



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[Email](#)



SECRETARY

Caitlin Erickson
[Email](#)



TREASURER & LIBRARY

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MIDWEEK ROCK CLIMBING

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RECREATION ADVOCACY

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MEET COORDINATOR

Lisa Donning
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GENERAL

Jim Petersen
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Clayton Garbes
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POSITION VACANT

GENERAL

WE WANT YOU

