



11 Nov, 2024

Kia ora

The calendar of events, activities and celebrations for the Alpine Club has things going on every month of the year - and this month is no different.

November always begins with a bang. We hosted the AGM in Christchurch. It was such a treat to award life membership to 5 people who have given so much to our club. Two of our recipients joined the club in 1968! Imagine how much joy 43 years of membership and volunteering has brought them. I'm thrilled that they all continue to participate in the life of the club. These aren't historical awards. They celebrate the work we do together today - and into the future. We also recognised the Volunteer of the year, Erin Stewart for her work this year. If you volunteer, I thank you very much.

That same weekend I had regular board meetings for the club and caught up with new Club board members and joined the board of the Tūpiki Trust for their AGM and strategy session.

We also present the Bill Denz Award for bold adventures this month. More about that later.

Looking into the near future has me reflecting on how great daylight savings time is for climbers with a day job. If you live close to a crag, you can climb until 7, 8, or even 9 o'clock after work. It feels great to get my body moving in a different way after a winter in the snow with a pack on my back. It is also great to catch up with our summer climbing friends.

Looking out a little further into the future, we will soon farewell our current Unwin Lodge managers. The hunt is on for their successors. Spread the word.

Are you enjoying climbing and hanging out with your Alpine club friends? Has it been a while? Reach out and get on a local crag over summer, head to Crag-Fest in Wanaka in March 2025. Early planning and preparations are already underway for Cragfest and the dates will be out soon.

Mā te wā,

Jim

Photo:Penzy Disdale Mountain & Climbing Culture winning entry as part of her Traversing the Southern Alps photo story

Club News



Life Members 2024

Five members have been awarded Life Membership in 2024.

- Jocelyn Douglas
- Pat Prendergast
- Stuart Gray
- Richard Wesley
- Richard Thomson

To read their citations click [here](#).



Volunteer Of The Year 2024

The Volunteer Of The Year for 2024 is Erin Stewart.

Erin has worked on multiple IT projects for the Club as a volunteer. Her expertise in the website development areas has been invaluable.

To read the full citation for Erin click [here](#).



Unwin Lodge Manager Position

Pip and Simon will be completing their tenure at Unwin Lodge in June 2025 and the hunt is on for their replacements.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to become kaitiaki of our most important asset, Unwin Lodge.

Situated in Aoraki Mt Cook National Park, Unwin Lodge consists of a 48-bunk lodge and a 2-bedroom manager's

house. It is used by members, groups, commercial guiding companies, schools and the public, as a base for further exploration of this special National Park.

For more information and details of how to apply, please read the Unwin Lodge Manager Information [here](#). Applications due with the General Manager by December 2nd at 5pm.

Get Involved



Porter Lodge Work Party Helpers Required

We are looking for some volunteers to help with work at Porter Lodge outside of Fox Glacier Village February 2025, Monday 17th to Friday 21st.

The major work needed is cleaning and repainting the roof. This will require volunteers who are comfortable with working, harnessed, on a

roof ladder.

Other work required is:

- section maintenance, removing 3 years' growth from the trees around the property.
- restraining some of the exterior walls; the north facing end walls and the posts supporting the veranda.
- some interior maintenance.

Get in touch in the first instance with your interest to nationaloffice@alpineclub.org.nz



Human Waste at Mt Cook/Aoraki Research

If you are heading to the high Alps around Mt Cook/Aoraki this summer, we have people who might offer a free product to help you remove your human waste from the mountains. Along with this product, there will be a link to a survey asking for your feedback on the product. Additionally, if you are staying in Mt Cook Village, you might be approached for an interview about your experience with human waste removal.

We would greatly appreciate your support in this research. The goal is to make it more common and easier to remove human waste from areas when you are away from huts.



Bill Denz Award Presentation

Join us for an unmissable evening celebrating the recipients of the 2024 Bill Denz Award

- Thursday 28th November
- The World Bar - Queenstown
- Light refreshments 6.45 for a 7pm start

Sam Smoothy, Will Rowntree & Jimi Ryan are being presented with the Bill Denz Award 2024 for their first ski descent of Malte Brun East Face.

They will talk on the descent and the challenges faced during the trip and touch on the other descents they have done as part of Sam's 24 Project.



NZAC Huts - Booking Revamp

Summer is coming and that is the perfect time to use one of the key membership benefits - Member Rates at our huts.

We have revamped our booking system, so you can now see how many bunks are available when you are booking.

Your orders and reservations are now logged in your member profile so you can refer to them at any time and you can change your dates.

We have also added in some [FAQs](#) to our website just in case you have a query on huts.

To make summer plans you can book [here](#) on our website.

Community



NZAC Tūpiki Trust

The NZAC Tūpiki Trust has just sent out its latest newsletter updating a few of the projects they have supported recently, listing the results of their recent grants round and including links to their Annual Report and financial statements. If you would like to read the newsletter, click this link [Spring 24 newsletter.pdf](#) or visit their website www.tupikitrust.org.nz

Tūpiki Trust are close partners with the Alpine Club and their grants over the last three years have made a real difference to the Club's projects.



Wairere Boulders Nature Adventure Park Open

Wairere Boulders new owners welcome you back to the crag.

They rent out mats and chalk. For info and a map click [here](#)

Image of Magic Boulder with goats



ACAT Updates

Outdoor Recreation Groups Call for Health and Safety Law Changes to Protect Public Access

A coalition of organisations representing hundreds of thousands of New Zealanders in the outdoor recreation community has come together in a powerful call for legislative reform.

To read more click [here](#).



Pakeho Crag Reopens

ACAT is stoked to announce that Pakeho will reopen to the public from the weekend of 9-10 November 2024. The crag reopens thanks to a massive community effort and crag-wide rebolting work that cost over \$15,000.

To read more click [here](#).



ACAT AGM 2024 Invite

All welcome, come and hear about what we've been up to this year. We will keep the formal part of the meeting short and then hear from guest speaker Riley Smith! Details to follow.

Join the meeting [here](#)