UPRISING



NEWSLETTER FOR CANTERBURY WESTLAND SECTION OF NZAC

SECTION TALK THURSDAY 13 FEB

Canterbury Westland Section Evening

FEBRUARY 2025

The Cashmere Club 50 Colombo Street Sydenham

Thursday 13 February 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



Future Section Evenings. Save these dates...

WED 26 MARCH - REEL ROCK THURS 10 APRIL - CHRIS AND TONI THURS 8 MAY - PAT DEAVOLL



Nick Hanafin

NZAC Canterbury Westland Section Volunteer/Instructor of the year 2024

We were delighted to present Nick with the Charlie Catt Memorial Trophy at the end of 2024. Nick first instructed for the Section rock climbing courses in 2012 and has been regularly instructing on these courses since. In previous years Nick has also instructed NZAC members on MSC courses, Outdoor First Aid, and has assisted on an NZAC Youth Climbing Camp. In 2024 Nick attended the NZAC Basic Snowcraft instructor training and I had the pleasure of working alongside him on one of the Sections Basic Snowcraft Courses in August. Nick has superb teaching skills, and we are lucky to have him both as a volunteer, and as a contracted instructor for our section courses. Nick has begun his journey towards his NZOIA Snow I qualification. The Section wishes him all the best for this and look forward to utilising his skills and experience again in 2025 and beyond.

*Nick was unable to attend the section meeting when the trophy was presented, so Sam White, CW Section Committee Chair, paid Nick a visit & presented him the trophy in person



Natasha Mealing

Nat headed on a 8-day remote trip into Mt Aspiring National Park. She and her partner headed into the Volta Glacier via Rainbow Col. With a quick trip up Fastness Peak on the way to the glacier and a quiet night spent in the middle of the Glacier. The next morning started with a summit up Glacier Dome, with the weather coming in they decided to give the unexplored Wedge Spur a crack down to the Waiatoto Valley. With success and a lengthy bush bash they made it to the valley for a day in the rain. With the weather clearing they headed up Razorback Ridge and attempted Stocking Peak on crumbly schist. New Year's eve was spent between the cloudy windy east and the sunny clear west views of Mt Aspiring. A summit of Mt Taurus started their New Year and then they descended down Waterfall Spur to Rabbit Pass. The final night was spent at the head of the East Matukituki.

A few days later Nat headed with a few friends to undertake the three passes. The first few days were clear and sunny as they made their way to Park Morpeth Hut over Harman Pass and Whitehorn Pass. With rainy weather on Wednesday they stayed in the comfort of the Hut and in the afternoon ventured over Browning Pass to Harman Hut. The Arahura River made for stunning valley views as they headed out to the humid, muggy, beautiful West.



Caitlin Erickson

Cait spent Christmas surfing at Gore Bay before the weather turned, then headed south for an attempt at Aspiring. Unfortunately, things weren't in her favour this time round and she only got as far as the Quarterdeck. Cait saw 2024 out camped near French Ridge Hut before the slog back out. Once back home in Christchurch she made sure she spent a few days ticking of a few local traverses to ensure she got in some New Year VMs, but with a fire in her to get back down south ASAP!



Grant Piper

A few weeks away from work was about mixing business with pleasure. It started on Christmas Day, and an alpine start. Well, driving down to Hāwea, and then the rest of the trip with the company of some good friends.

Time at Hāwea was a mixture of jobs and a foray or 3 out to the Wānaka and Matukituki valley crags. The next stop was Tuatparere, then onwards to Lake Hauroko, then onto a weapons grade jet boat. From Lake Hauroko, the jet boat transported us down the Wairaurahiri River downstream to the South Coast of the

South Island. The Waitutu lodge was our destination for New Year's Eve, with a population of 8. That night, it proved to be slightly quieter than Wānaka. The other 3 returned via the jet boat and I opted to walk out via Port Craig and the viaducts, which was easy tramping, but quite cool.

Bernie had spotted a fine break in the weather forecast, so I had been mobilised and motivated to Cloudy Pk. So I got a ride to Hāwea, reorganized my stuff and drove to Mt Sommers. Next morning, I got onto Malcom's helicopter, checked into the George Hotel, and then started the death march to the top of the Hourglass Wall. The plan was to install a new climb on the right side of the Hourglass Wall. Equipped with plenty of static rope, we got to the top 60m bolted, but with time running away from us, we rappelled the next 110m to a good ledge, and worked out we could let most of that lot go. Just need to put some time into sorting it out. At this point we estimated that we could reach the ground on the remaining 60m rope, but the fog was blocking that from being a fact as we could not see the ground. Bernie launched out and disappeared under an overhang. Ten minutes later he confirmed he was on the ground, which was good news considering the time of day.

The next day we jumared up the 60m section of rope. That took forever, as we were not well set up or well practiced for that kind of entertainment. Bernie and Kate spent the day working out and bolting the next 60m above. I worked out and set up the climb rightwards and down to the ground to dodge this overhang. Then we climbed the bottom 130m of the climb. The next 50m needed sorting out and needed quite a few more bolts. Time, drill batteries, bolts and our energy had run out. Staying another day was not an option, as the weather window was closing. We now have unfinished business. Next mission?

With 5 days left of my holiday, it was back to Hāwea, to mix home improvement with cragging.



Lisa Donning

I was lucky enough to spend the break with a group of friends down south soaking up the sun and exploring the climbing around Wānaka and the Darran mountains. Wānaka always provides the goods, on the way down we hit up Roadside and Diamond Lake before heading to Homer Hut for some of the most memorable climbing I've ever done. If you get the chance to visit I highly recommend Shotwell Slabs for some good old fashioned palming fun. After hiking the Hollyford and getting a surprise helicopter ride as the river was too low for the boat we'd booked I was back in Wānaka and climbing at Al Cove, Hotline Corner, Riverside, and Cattleyard where sadly I sprained a finger trying something that was way too hard for me. Fun though! All in all a pretty fantastic break which has renewed my motivation to get stronger so I can continue exploring the amazing crags around Aotearoa. What an incredible place we get to call home!





Share your adventures with us

We would love to hear from other Canterbury Westland members about their adventures. No matter how big or small, whether it's about a trapping line you helped with, something funny that happened on your hike or climbing day, something you saw on that 30-min walk that others may not have seen. Anything goes. Send us a paragraph or even a 2-page writeup with a photo(s) to inspire, learn, or to make us laugh.

Email Shannon at <u>nzac.cw.newsletter@gmail.com</u>





John Roper-Lindsay



Sam <u>White</u>

DECISIONS, DECISIONS!

I managed to inveigle my way into a trip with Sam (our chairman), his sister Sarah and her partner Paul, heading up the Karangarua and then doing a loop up the Douglas, over the top via The Gladiator, and back down the Karangarua. The first decision was what to take and, after a bit of umming and ahhing, we decided it was really a tramping trip and didn't need ice axes, crampons or helmets. Sam and I managed to get away with packs weighing 15.3kg which we were very happy about, but Sarah and Paul blew that away with a combined 20kg between the two of them. I still don't know how...

The West Coast was hot, so tramping under cover of the bush up to our campsite near Conical hill was a bonus. A mere 11 hours after starting off, clambering up the well-marked but brutal track by Regina Creek, saw us in a lovely spot for the night. Having 15 kea doing formation flying overhead was a bit nerve-wracking, but everything went smoothly, including the relatively easy 7 hour hike above the bush line to Horace Walker hut, with great views of the completely non-obvious route up to The Gladiator and the head of the Douglas river.

The hut was half-occupied, by hunters who had flown in, with camp chairs, unlimited beer, etc. So Sam and I camped, and we all had another decision to make, this time because of the weather, which was forecast to rain the next two days, which could scupper our chances to go over the tops and down to the Karangarua. We decided to head up anyway, but be prepared to turn back/camp if the weather proved too horrible. Our next decision was where to cross the river, where Moir's definitively states that you have to go up to the Lake Outlet to cross. In a bold bid to save 20 minutes hiking we decided to cross further down, nearly drowned and then followed Moir's advice. Not our finest moment. The bush bash was as bad as feared, but the open tussock was mostly straightforward, with a couple of grovels over slippery rock. It rained as forecast, but it wasn't windy, so we were happy to carry on, although we were prepared to put up the tents if it got worse and side creeks got high. Although I have to say that Paul and Sarah didn't view the prospect of a wet night in their 800gm (no poles) tent with much enthusiasm.

It was navigation by GPS, I'm afraid, and the side-trip along to The Gladiator was cancelled. Instead we dropped off the Karangarua side of the ridge onto easy snow slopes and viewed the impressive water flow in the slabby side creeks with interest. But once we reached the valley floor (sidle, bush-bash, repeat) we managed to get across the river okay and reach Christmas Flat Hut after a 13 hour day.

Again, the hut was occupied by fly-in hunters who, despite some Paddington Hard-Stares from me, didn't offer to vacate the place and let us dry out, so Sam and I put up our tent again.

Next day was better weather than forecast, and I was looking forward to a relatively easy cruise down the valley to the start of our loop at Cassel Flat Hut. But it was a bit of a nightmare. The track (still very well marked) was a combination of steep ups, steep downs, all on dubious wet roots on very dubious wet rocks, and as for the sidecreeks... Fortunately they were quite low, but greasy slabby rocks plummeting to the Karangarua below made for some focussed moments. I was very slow and let the others go ahead, ("Go on, don't worry about me") but soon began to wonder if that was such a good idea. Reaching Cassel Flat Hut after about 9 hours was great, and there were bunk spaces! However there were also 3000 mosquitoes, so Sam and I put up our tent again...

We were joined in camping by some people who also came down from Christmas Flat Hut, behind us – they were doing the same trip as us, but a day behind, and were unable to cross the Douglas River (even at the Lake Outlet), so took the chance to get a helicopter ride over to Christmas Flat. So our decision to cross in the rain was a good one.

Last day out to the road was a relative doddle, although I still was about an hour slower than the others. I was seriously tired by now, and tried to work out why as I slogged my way along. Being old, overweight and unfit might have something to do with it, but maybe I just need to buy some new gear. Some more decisions to make.

John Roper-Lindsay



Sam sidling above the Douglas river Photo by: Paul Mccredie



Sam at Horace Walker Hut



A view up the Douglas river from Conical Hill, with the Gladiator in the near middle, and Pioneer Peak on the left.



TRIP COORDINATOR

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.

CLUB SECRETARY

The Secretary role involves taking the minutes at the committee meeting and typing them up and sending out the agenda for the next committee meeting. This role involves being at committee meetings once a month. First Monday of the month usually and generally only take an hour! Cover can happen for you on sporadic occasions. The role is small and doesn't involve too much, you can get involved as much as you like with other events and activities.

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

PROFILER

GET TO KNOW OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS & AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

Adam Humphries. Committee

ADAM HUMPHRIES: EVENTS COORDINATOR

Gowing up in Southland, I lived on the doorstep to some epic outdoor playgrounds - Fiordland Rakiura and Aspiring National Parks as well as the Eyre Mountains saw me out tramping and scrambling up some easy peaks in the summer.

After moving to Christchurch to attend university (yes, you guessed correctly - civil engineering!), I got caught up in a crowd of rock climbers. Joining the New Zealand Alpine club gave me much needed course discounts and also access to midweek climbing groups. Many sunny evenings and weekends were enjoyed at Britten, Cattlestop and Castle Rock (pre-quake) where I made friends with rock climbers who also liked to scale mountains in the winter. I was encouraged to tag along on some club trips and attend snow skills courses. I was hooked and enjoyed the challenges of getting up higher and using crampons and tools.

Having a young family, my climbing took a bit of a back seat for a few years. Over the last 2 seasons I have been more active with a successful summit of Aoraki and a trip to Nepal to try out high altitude on a trek up Mera Peak. I've also enjoyed getting out with other members as a leader for several club trips.

I have been on the Canterbury Westland committee for 8 years as events coordinator, responsible for organising the Christchurch Banff and ReelRock screenings. It's great to be able to give back to the club and the climbing community which has supported my growth and development over the years.





MONITORING

OF THE THE BEALEY SPUR TRAPLINE CONTINUES

Neville Ross continues to do a great job coordinating volunteers looking after the trapline the section manages as part of the Arthurs Pass Wildlife Trust trapline network. Neville ran a training day on 24 January and now has 15 trained volunteers on his roster. One stoat was caught. The team also did some remarking of the traps so they are easier to find, and re-calibrated the mechanism on one trap that was over-sensitive and difficult to re-set. For the 2024 calendar year there were a total of 25 captures, predominantly stoats but a few rats as well.

If you are interested in helping to service the Bealey Spur Hut trapline, please contact Neville on *neville.rossnz@gmail.com*



ROB FROSTS TALK DEC 2024

December Section Meeting Review

Rob Frost is well-known in NZ and, more particularly, the Canterbury climbing scene. Over the years he has done a lot of climbing and transalpine tramping, often in very remote areas. He has been involved with NZAC in writing the award winning Aoraki Tai Poutini guidebook and over the years has also done a lot of climbing, and instructing, with the Canterbury Mountaineering Club (CMC). So it made a lot of sense for Rob to give a talk to both clubs in one hit!

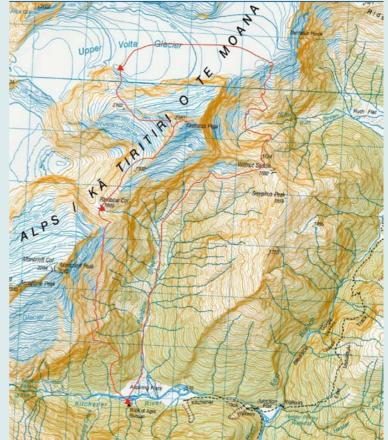
So a joint NZAC/CMC evening was held at the Cashmere Club on December 4th and a solid turn out of 100 came to hear Rob. His talk was in two parts, with the first part covering a new route over Rainbow Col to the Volta Glacier. This trip was made a lot tougher due to an early snowfall that hung around, making steep tussock and slabs treacherous. And it got Rob thinking about risk, both from his own perspective and that of other climbers and adventurous trampers. In the second part of his talk, Rob tried to analyse risk and suggest a few ways to approach and evaluate risk. He gave a lot of examples of risk that he's encountered over the years, in situations where he's evaluated and managed the risk. He also gave a couple of examples where he felt he didn't manage the risk so well!

At Rob's request Natasha Mealing took a video of Rob's talk, which is available <u>here</u>. So, if you weren't able to attend, you can see his video by clicking on the above link.

Review: John Roper-Lindsay

Top photo: from video by Nat Mealing Bottom 2 photos: provided by Rob Frost





SUPPORT OUR SUPPORTERS!

Supporting our local businesses over online retailers offers unique advantages. Physical stores provide hands-on access to essential gear, allowing customers to assess the quality, fit, and functionality of equipment before making a purchase something online platforms cannot replicate. Knowledgeable staff in these stores can offer personalized advice tailored to New Zealand diverse climbing environments, ensuring you are well-equipped and safe. Moreover, choosing local stores supports the local economy and strengthens community connections. Physical stores serve as community hubs, hosting workshops, events, and social gatherings that foster a sense of belonging among the climbing community. By supporting in-store locations, customers help sustain these valuable spaces, ensuring the continuity of personalised service, local employment, and community engagement that online retailers simply cannot match.

The retailers that support our club and deserve your support are displayed on our *website*. They offer a generous discount to NZAC members.

SUPPORT LOCAL

CLICK HERE FOR A LIST OF RETAILERS

Sam White. Canterbury Westland Section Chairperson

PLANNED TRIP: THE PYRAMID SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2025 GRADE 1+

Barrier Pall

TRIPS ARE FOR NZAC MEMBERS ONLY

THE PYRAMID VIA THE SE RIB. Grade 1+ Trip Leader: Sam White

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

1447

1711

An easy summer rock scramble (Grade 1+) to a less visited peak (1608m) in the eastern part of Arthurs Pass National Park. We will ascend The Pyramid via the SE Rib, then travel N along the ridge over point 1565 and descend a scree slope into Sudden Valley, and then down Sudden Valley back to the Hawdon Shelter.

The Pyramid, Canterbury

1608

TRIP GRADE AND GRADE DESCRIPTION

Seriousness Grade I - Easy access/close to civilisation Technical Grade 1+ - Low angled rock scrambling

WHAT TO EXPECT

The trip will involve a relatively steep climb to the bush line on an unformed track/route, ridge travel with some limited exposure, easy rock scrambling, scree slope descent, riverbed travel and river crossings

PREREQUISITE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

Tramping experience, good on your feet, moderate fitness

HAZARDS INVOLVED

Slips/trips/falls, rockfall, hypo/hypothermia, drowning

BAD WEATHER CONTINGENCY PLAN

Trip will be postponed to the following day (Sunday 23rd Feb) or cancelled

PERSONAL GEAR LIST

Usual gear & clothing for a day trip above the bushline including waterproof outer shell, thermals, and sturdy boots. A climbing helmet is required on this trip (can be hired from the section)

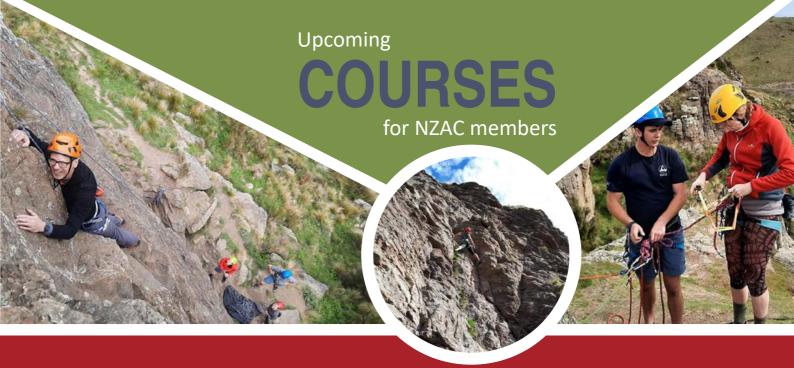
SHARED GEAR

Bothy bag(s), PLB, InReach, First aid kit

TRANSPORT PLAN Meet at Yaldhurst Hotel Carpark at 7.30am to carpool

COSTS Fuel koha for driver

Visit our website *here* for the sign up form





A three-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.

INTRO TO TRAD CLIMBING 1 & 2 & 15 February 2025

Click here for full details & to sign up

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

A course is suitable for those who have **COURSE NOW FULL** ch sport lead climb, lead belay and abseil (this is Non a super **FULL** ch sport leading, setting anchors for multi-pitch, managing the anchor **FULL** ads, 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

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: Multidirectional trad anchors and trad placements, transfer the belay, release a top loaded belay (escape the belay), tandem abseil, simple hoist, troubleshooting.

Click here for full details & to sign up

BASIC NAVIGATION COURSE Sunday 6 April 2025

5 SPACES LEFT

7 SPACES LEFT

ONLY 2 SPACES LEFT

This is a one-day basic navigation course open to NZAC members and part of the NZAC Snowcraft & Mountaineering Pathway. For more information on what will be taught check out the *Basic Navigation Course Outline*

Click here for full details & to sign up





SOME GREAT REASONS TO COME ALONG!

- 1. Top Rope sesh @ Otepatotu. Try some climbs that you might not want to lead.
- 2. Jam and Trad sesh at Holmes Bay. Expand your repertoire of rock climbing skills.
- 3 The bbq. Social highlight of the Banks Peninsula climbing scene!

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.

BANKS PENINSULA

KOGK NÆET 202



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!



SPOT PRIZES! THANK YOU TO...



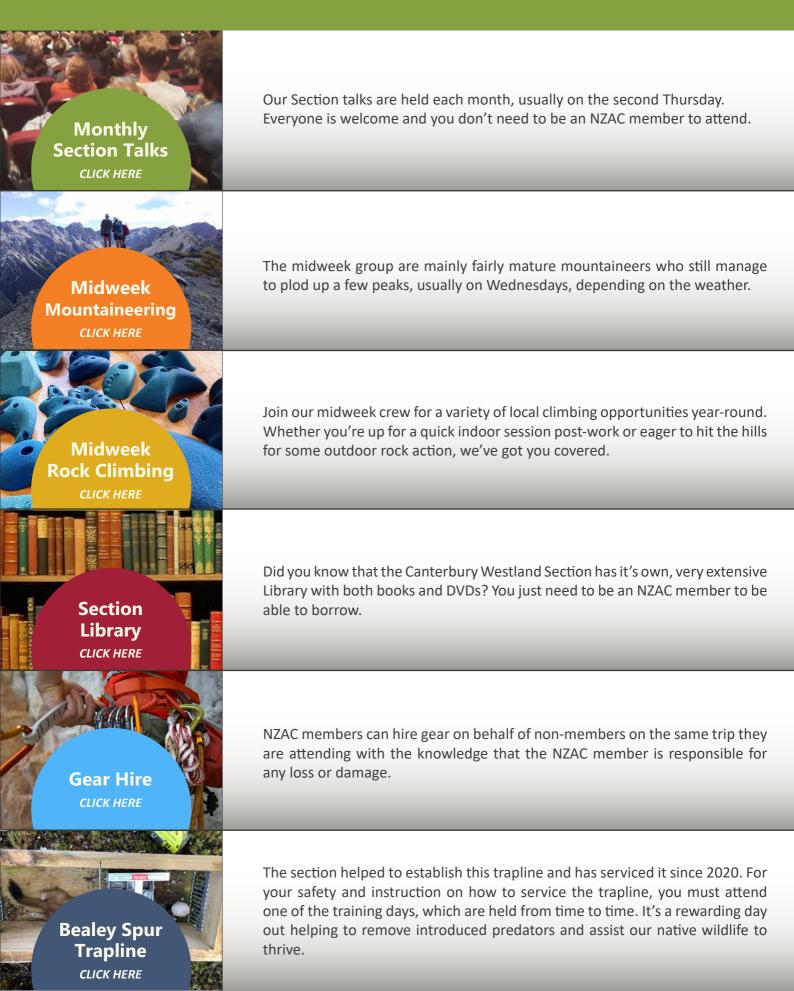
ASPIRING

AOTEAROA CLIMBING

ACCESS TRUST



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



Section Meets CLICK HERE





Section Courses

Arthur's Pass Lodge

Newsletters Past & Present CLICK HERE

DISCOUNT Member Discounts

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 newletters delivered to you by email. You can also read past newletters 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



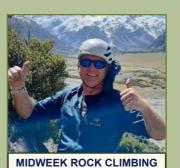
CHAIRPERSON Sam White Email



SECRETARY VACANT Email



TREASURER & LIBRARY John Roper-Lindsay Email



Jonathan Tye Email



NEWSLETTER & ONLINE Shannon Cook Email



VACANT



SUMMER INSTRUCTION

Natasha Mealing

Email

SECTION EVENINGS Caitlin Erickson Email



WINTER INSTRUCTION

Zac Jones

<u>Email</u>

EVENTS Adam Humphries Email



CRAG MAINTENANCE Grant Piper Email



TRAPLINE MANAGER Neville Ross Email



ARTHUR'S PASS LODGE John Henson

<u>Email</u>



Jim Petersen Email



Maxine van Rijn <u>Email</u>



Clayton Garbes



Lindsay Main Email



WE WANT YOU



Lisa Donning <u>Email</u>

