

UPRISING

NEWSLETTER FOR CANTERBURY WESTLAND SECTION OF NZAC



MAY 2025

SECTION TALK THURSDAY 8 MAY

Canterbury Westland
Section Evening

The Cashmere Club
50 Colombo Street
Sydenham

Thursday 8 May
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>



MAY SECTION TALK
Toni Torepe & Chris North

Bridging The Gap Between Climbers And Mana Whenua

Future Section Evenings. Save these dates...



JUNE 4 TO 7 - BANFF!
JULY 10 - JIM DAVIDSON
AUGUST 21 - PETER LAURENSEN

UPCOMING CANTERBURY WESTLAND WINTER COURSES



for NZAC members



Intermediate Snowcraft Courses

FIRST COURSE: 8th - 10th August 2025

SECOND COURSE: 22nd - 24th August 2025

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.

[For more information & signup form click here](#)

Course 1
8 - 10
August

Course 2
22 - 24
August



Basic Snowcraft Courses

FIRST COURSE: 15th - 17th August 2025

SECOND COURSE: 29th - 31st August 2025

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.

[For more information & signup form click here](#)

Course 1
15 - 17
August

Course 2
29 - 31
August

For any further inquiries email Zak: cw.winterinstruction@gmail.com



CHRISTCHURCH JUNE 2025

banffmountainfestival.ca/tour

BANFF CENTRE

**MOUNTAIN
FILM FESTIVAL
WORLD TOUR**

Jordan Mancoukian

Proudly hosted by:



NEW ZEALAND
ALPINE CLUB

**Aurora Centre
Burnside High School
151 Greers Road, Burnside**

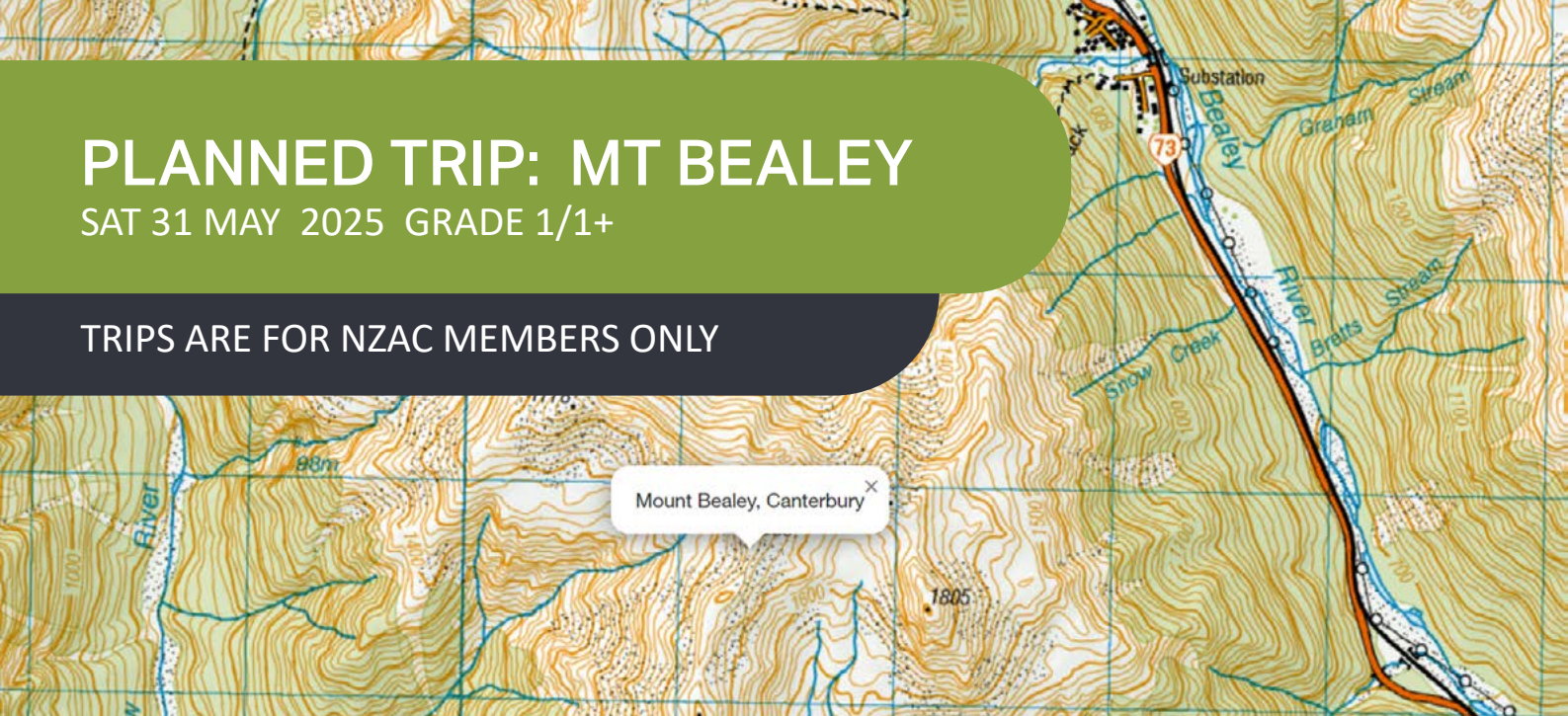
- Wed 4th June, 7pm
- Thurs 5th June, 7pm
- Fri 6th June, 7pm
- Sat 7th June (matinee), 2pm
- Sat 7th June (evening), 7pm

**Click here
for tickets!**

PLANNED TRIP: MT BEALEY

SAT 31 MAY 2025 GRADE 1/1+

TRIPS ARE FOR NZAC MEMBERS ONLY



MOUNT BEALEY. Grade 1/1+

Trip Leader: Jim Petersen

DATE: Saturday 31 May 2025 (Alternate: Sunday 1 June)

DESCRIPTION: A great low risk alpine environment at this time of year. Great for graduates of NZAC Basic snowcraft, to get their mountain legs going ahead of this coming winter season.

WHAT TO EXPECT: Moderate rock and snow terrain, possibly icy, so you will need crampons. Over 1,200m altitude gain. Expect to be moving 6 - 8 hours with a full day pack.

PREREQUISITE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE: Walking in hard snow in crampons with an ice axe and scrambling in rocky terrain. NZAC Basic snowcraft or equivalent. Be capable of moving for 8+ hours with minimal stops.

HAZARDS INVOLVED: With the exception of a few short steep sections, terrain will be intermittently rocky and a mix of soft and hard snow. We will avoid avalanche terrain. Weather can vary quickly in the alpine environment, so be ready to adjust clothing quickly

BAD WEATHER CONTINGENCY PLAN: Climb on alternate day Sunday 18 May, Climb Mt Bruce, or postpone.

PERSONAL GEAR LIST:

- Waterproof, stiff boots for spending all day in snow
- Gaiter
- Overtrousers
- Parka
- Warm clothing layers
- Ice Axe
- Crampons
- Snow glasses
- Warm Hat, gloves or mitts
- Sunblock SPF30+
- Lip balm
- Water bottle(s). At least 1 litre total capacity
- Food for the lodge - Dinner and or breakfast
- Food for a day trip, lunch and snacks
- Personal basic first aid
- Headlamp

TRANSPORT PLAN: For sustainability, we recommend carpooling where possible.

We will stay at the NZAC Arthur's Pass Lodge at the end of School Terrace the night before. You will need to book your bunk at the lodge at the NZAC website [here](#)

COSTS: Accommodation: NZAC Arthur's Pass Lodge \$25 per night for members. Transport: Koha for carpool drivers.

REGISTRATION FORM FOR THIS TRIP: On our [website](#)

CONTACT: Jim Petersen jim.r.petersen@gmail.com

TRIP REPORT: MT MACKENZIE

TRIP REVIEW & PHOTOS: PHIL HALL

Mt MacKenzie from Brodrick Pass in the North Huxley Valley. Lead by Jim Petersen

I'd read that the Huxley Valley was a hidden gem — and it truly delivered.

We managed to get our vehicle much further up the 4WD road beside the Hopkins River than expected. From there, it was about a four-hour hike, mostly along the riverbed with a couple of easy crossings, to reach Huxley Forks Hut. The valley just kept getting better as we followed the North Branch of the Huxley River.

The next day, we made the 2.5-hour trek to Brodrick Hut, perched near a spectacular viewpoint, where we planned to stay for the next two nights. That afternoon, we scouted the route up to Brodrick Pass and explored the upper valley.

On day three, we tackled the steep but manageable two-hour climb to Brodrick Pass on the main divide above the Landsborough River. With strong winds and low cloud, we were doubtful about reaching Mt Mackenzie's summit — especially with minimal route information available. But we put our noses up against it, and the route presented itself to us.

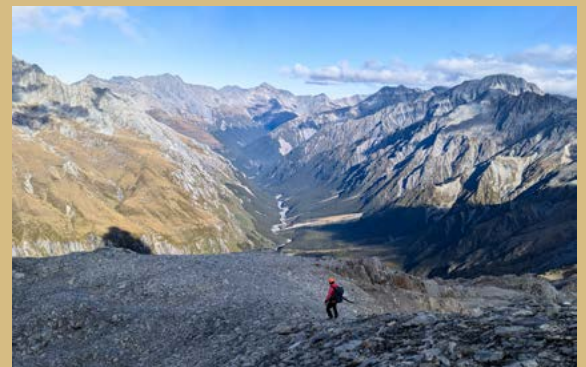
We followed the south ridge — mostly a maze of rock and scree — until we reached the glacier's edge. With no snow and only hard ice, we stuck to the rock gullies, weaving in and out of the cloud, until we topped out about 100m below the summit at an ice dome. Visibility was poor, but we figured we should at least put on crampons and see how close we could get. A ten-minute stroll across the ice dome brought us nearer to the summit pillars. They looked deceptively far, but we pushed on and before long, we were at the base of the summit itself. The true summit was a steep gendarme. Phil climbed nearly to the top, but the pinnacle wasn't large enough to stand on.

On the descent, we found a different route back onto the west face about halfway down the to the pass, reigniting a debate about which route was best. Only a repeat visit is required to make our minds up.

The return was a long day out in fantastic conditions.

Highly recommend getting into this terrain and tackling Mt Mackenzie and let us know which route you prefer. Mt Srauchon is also accessed from the pass, so add that to your hit list as well - and invite us!"

Phil Hall





APRIL SECTION TALK PAT DEAVOLL

REVIEW BY SAM WHITE

SECTION EVENING WITH PAT DEAVOLL

We had a good turnout at our April Section Evening to listen to Pat Deavoll outlining her remarkable mountaineering career. From her teenage years exploring Arthurs Pass under the tutelage of Norm Hardie to some remarkable alpine-style expeditions around the globe.

Pat regaled us with stories from her expeditions from Alaska to the Himalayas, Karakorum, and the remote Wakhan Corridor in Afghanistan. Her ability to not only complete difficult routes on high mountains but also navigate complex geopolitical landscapes she has climbed in, such as Afghanistan, is quite extraordinary.

And what does a preeminent mountaineer after some four decades of climbing do on retirement? Why take up adventure motorcycling of course!



★ THOSE SHINY THINGS! ★

YEP, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT BOLTS!

As a qualified motor mechanic, I have seen the odd one or two in my career, so they are a piece of engineering that we depend on in our daily lives, beyond a bit of recreation.

Bolts have changed the way we think about climbing, and have created new climbing opportunities, not just locally, but globally. Locally, bolts have been installed into crags since 1980, and pitons before then. During the last 45+ years, the developers fitted fixed protection as they saw fit. Partly because of the gear, tooling, and other resources available at the time.

Now to 2025, we live in different times, and some of the gear is not fit for purpose. Hence we need to bring the climbs to a modern standard. Some of the reasons that gear gets replaced are due to wear and tear, lower outs in the wrong place, or just worn out. Other gear was never designed to take the volume of traffic and last the test of time, due to corrosion.

Now, Natasha, our Summer Instruction Coordinator, has set up a link on the section website, to be the eyes and ears of fixed gear faults which you can log onto and file a report for any issues you may have noticed.

<https://www.canterburywestlandalpineclub.org.nz/crag-maintenance>

Repairs may not be carried out immediately, as they are done in spare time (in a volunteer capacity), but we will strive to get them fixed as soon as possible. We can have circular discussions about the climbs that have been reworked, but if climbers are getting on the reworked climbs that is a worthy reward.

In the last 40 years that I have been involved with rock climbing, I have seen the rock climbing go from a splinter sport to mainstream, we have to take a grown up attitude to our crags and climbing areas.

Grant Piper



Can you help out at Unwin Lodge 9 - 10 May?

Unwin Lodge Work Party 9 - 10 May



- Accommodation provided
- Bring your own food - possibility of a pot luck meal Saturday night?
- Jobs to do include general cleaning inside & out including windows, firewood stacking (if not completed already), tidying up grounds - weeding etc. Please byo gardening gloves & tools (fork, hoe, spade, shovel)
- The section would support fuel costs for drivers if an effort is made to carpool.

Unwin Lodge Work Party 9 - 10 May

Do you fancy a trip to Mount Cook to help out?

The plan would be to drive down Friday evening, work day on Saturday, fun day or just drive home Sunday. Simon (the Warden) works on Sundays, that is why it is just the one day although I am sure jobs started on Saturday could be finished Sunday without his supervision.

- Accommodation provided
- Bring your own food - possibility of a pot luck meal Saturday night?
- Jobs to do include general cleaning inside & out including windows, firewood stacking (if not completed already), tidying up grounds - weeding etc.
- Please byo gardening gloves & tools (fork, hoe, spade, shovel)
- The section would support fuel costs for drivers if an effort is made to carpool.

For more information please contact: **Sam White** to register your interest cw.chairperson@gmail.com

ARTHUR'S PASS LODGE HEATING UPGRADE

Just in time for winter! A new heat pump has been installed Arthur's Pass Lodge to keep you toasty warm during the upcoming winter months. A BIG thank you to John Henson for his time and effort!



GIVE BACK TO YOUR CLUB

JOIN THE CW SECTION COMMITTEE!

CURRENT VACANCIES BELOW

MIDWEEK CLIMBING COORDINATOR

We're looking for someone to get involved in coordinating the Midweek Climbing sessions. You don't need to be an instructor or a guide, just someone with a passion for bringing people together and some knowledge of local crags. Organisers do not provide any guiding or instruction and individuals within the group are responsible for their own safety whilst taking part in climbing activities. If you're keen to get involved we would love to hear from you.

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.

SOCIAL MEDIA SUPERSTAR

Are you a social media superstar? We need help with our social media pages, Facebook & Instagram. Everything will be created and just need someone to post it. We just need someone with the know-how to share these posts, like & share them. We need someone to support our community, maintain settings in the background. We need someone who can think of. This is so our followers get the best experience possible. Help out with the support of your chair!

If you have time to do this on your phone or computer, even for just a few minutes each day, we would love to hear from you.

CLUB SECRETARY

The Secretary role involves taking the minutes from the committee meeting and typing them up and sending out the agenda for the next meeting. This role involves being at committee meetings once a month. First Meeting is on the 1st of the month and generally only take an hour! Cover can happen for you on sports day. It's small and doesn't involve too much, you can get involved as much as you like with events and activities.

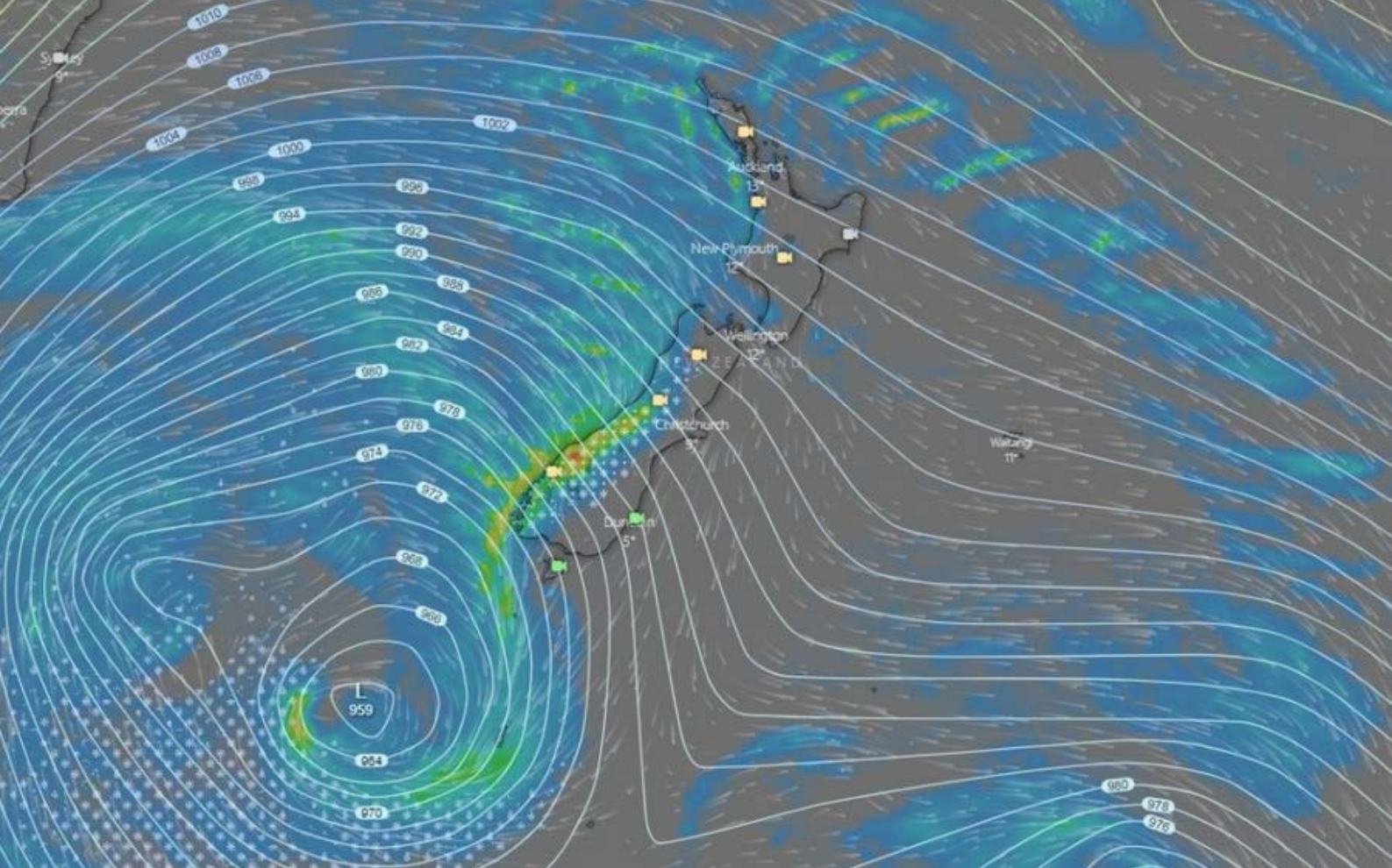


POSITION FILLED

POSITION FILLED

Committee members meet once a month on a Monday

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



Outdoor Education New Zealand Beginners Weather Course

Outdoor Education New Zealand (www.oenz.co.nz) are reaching out to the broader recreational community in New Zealand. They offer a wide range of outdoor training courses, from alpine and avalanche training to sea kayaking, bushcraft and navigation courses.

As a special promotion, and one your club members may find valuable, is our online weather course. As tramping and alpine enthusiasts, understanding weather patterns can significantly enhance the safety and enjoyment of your outdoor adventures. Our upcoming beginners weather course dives deep into essential topics over four engaging sessions held online via Zoom every Tuesday night from 7 pm to 9 pm.

Here's a brief overview of what the course covers:

- Global Weather Dynamics
- Air Pressure, Temperature, and Humidity
- Weather Forecasting Techniques
- Understanding New Zealand's Unique Climate
- Practical Skills for Predicting Field Changes

This course is designed to equip participants with practical knowledge that they can apply directly to their outdoor experiences, making it perfect for anyone who spends time in the wilderness.

We run this course twice a year, with our next course starting on June 3rd. If you think this may be of interest to your members, we are offering a 10% discount for all club members. To claim this discount, your members can book on our website and select the option to pay via invoice. They will need to supply us with a copy of their club membership to qualify for the discount.

You can read more about the course on the OENZ website: [HERE](http://www.oenz.co.nz)

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](#)

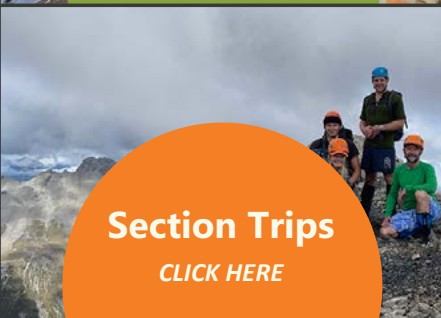
The section helped to establish this trapline and has serviced it since 2020. For your safety and instruction on how to service the trapline, you must attend one of the training days, which are held from time to time. It's a rewarding day out helping to remove introduced predators and assist our native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



Section Meets

[CLICK HERE](#)

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.



Section Trips

[CLICK HERE](#)

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.



Becoming a Trip Leader

[CLICK HERE](#)

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.



Section Courses

[CLICK HERE](#)

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.



Arthur's Pass Lodge

[CLICK HERE](#)

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.



Newsletters Past & Present

[CLICK HERE](#)

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



Member Discounts

[CLICK HERE](#)

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](#)



NEWSLETTER & ONLINE

Shannon Cook

[Email](#)



SUMMER INSTRUCTION

Natasha Mealing

[Email](#)



WINTER INSTRUCTION

Zac Jones

[Email](#)



MIDWEEK ROCK CLIMBING

VACANT

[Email](#)



TRIP COORDINATOR

VACANT

[Email](#)



SECTION EVENINGS

Caitlin Erickson

[Email](#)



EVENTS

Adam Humphries

[Email](#)



CRAG MAINTENANCE

Grant Piper

[Email](#)



TRAPLINE MANAGER

Neville Ross

[Email](#)



ARTHUR'S PASS LODGE

John Henson

[Email](#)



GEAR CUSTODIAN

Maxine van Rijn

[Email](#)



RECREATION ADVOCACY

Lindsay Main

[Email](#)



MEET COORDINATOR

Lisa Donning

[Email](#)



GENERAL

Jim Petersen

[Email](#)



GENERAL

Clayton Garbes

[Email](#)



GENERAL

WE WANT YOU

