

UPRISING

NEWSLETTER FOR CANTERBURY WESTLAND SECTION OF NZAC



JUNE 2025

4 - 7 JUNE IS BANFF!

Canterbury Westland
Section Evening

Aurora Centre
Burnside High School
151 Greers Road, Burnside
DIRECTIONS [HERE](#)

Wednesday 4 June until
Saturday 7 June.

Check out times and
programme screenings by
clicking on the Ticket button or
see our poster, with times, in
this newsletter.

Purchase your tickets soon to
avoid missing out!

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 tickets!



Thank you to our local Christchurch sponsors!

**TWO
THUMB**
BREWING CO.

ASPIRING
SAFETY

banffmountainfestival.ca/tour

BANFF CENTRE
MOUNTAIN
FILM FESTIVAL
WORLD TOUR

Proudly hosted by:



NEW ZEALAND
ALPINE CLUB

Future Section Evenings. Save these dates...



JULY 10 - JIM DAVIDSON

AUGUST 21 - PETER LAURENSEN

SEPTEMBER - BUY/SELL GEAR NIGHT



CHRISTCHURCH JUNE 2025

Thank you to our local Christchurch sponsors!



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!**

PROFILER

GET TO KNOW OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS
& AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

Brittany Jenkins. West Coast Rep

A BIG WELCOME TO BRITTANY WHO TAKES ON THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED ROLE OF WEST COAST REP. IF YOU ARE ON THE WEST COAST AND WOULD LIKE TO CONTACT BRITTANY YOU CAN REACH HER BY EMAILING [HERE](#)

Kia ora koutou – I'm Brittany, originally from Montana, but now live just outside of Greymouth on the Best Coast.

I came to New Zealand more than 20 years ago to study abroad (nursing) and never left. I've been on the Coast since 2007, where I first joined the West Coast Alpine Club (WCAC) and NZAC some years later. While I have volunteered with the WCAC helping to run East-West Climb Fest with CMC and previously serving as the WCAC's Secretary, I'm new to volunteering with the NZAC. I'm excited to be asked to take up the new role as West Coast rep, and am looking forward to promoting and enabling NZAC activities, East-West friendships, and closer connections to West Coast-based members using my relationships in the community.

When I'm not behind a desk, I can be found somewhere on or near the Coast climbing, mountain biking, running, skiing, tramping, or drinking coffee in my garden.



If you would like to join our committee or give back to the club in any way please send an email to cw.chairperson@gmail.com

UPCOMING JULY SECTION TALK

THURS 10 JULY. CASHMERE CLUB. DOORS OPEN 7PM. CLICK [HERE](#) FOR MORE DETAILS

JIM DAVIDSON

"We adventure into the realms of snow and ice. Are you as prepared as you think you are for those deviations from the plan?"

In this presentation we will hear what Jim has learned in regard to hypothermia and its prevention. A story of learning, loss and frustration. A review of some well known incidents and what they can teach us.



MAY SECTION TALK TONI TOREPE & CHRIS NORTH

'BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CLIMBERS & MANA WHENUA'

REVIEW BY JOHN ROPER-LINDSAY



This evening presented research carried out by two researchers from the University of Canterbury, and was funded by UC and Tupiki Trust.

Toni introduced the project from the Maori perspective. This explained how, to Maori, Aoraki is their ancestor, as are other mountains, being his brothers. So it is requested that they are treated with respect by everyone and, for mountaineers, this means avoiding treading on the absolute summits. How practical this is, such as during a Grand Traverse of Aoraki, was raised as a problem by a member of the audience, as climbers do want to do the right thing.

The main issue though, and the driver for the project, is the disposal of human waste, on Aoraki or any mountain above the snowline. Apart from anything else, NZAC spends more money flying out human waste than it earns through hut fees. A survey of NZAC members, with 460 respondents, was carried out, to try and find out how climbers disposed of human waste. Although there was a small difference between various types of climber (broken down by age, experience and how often they climbed), most behaviours were very similar across all climbers. These behaviours covered different options such as

- Carrying out solid waste in containers
- Disposal in crevasses
- Burying

Again, most climbers want to do the right thing, and are aware that solid human waste does not belong on any mountain, but there are various obstacles, such as the quality of containers. Chris informed us that, much to my surprise, that cornstarch (the environmentally friendly alternative to plastic), doesn't easily break down. It requires heat or UV light, so burying poo pots low down the mountain is a poor solution, as it will take many years to break down.

An interesting aspect of the project is that a group of Mana Whenua with no experience of the mountains were taken up to Plateau Hut to experience what being a mountaineer is like, and Toni was very enthusiastic about this. Similarly Chris talked about a group of climbers being hosted on Toni's Marae by Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua, and how they were given a better understanding of the Maori attitude to the mountains.

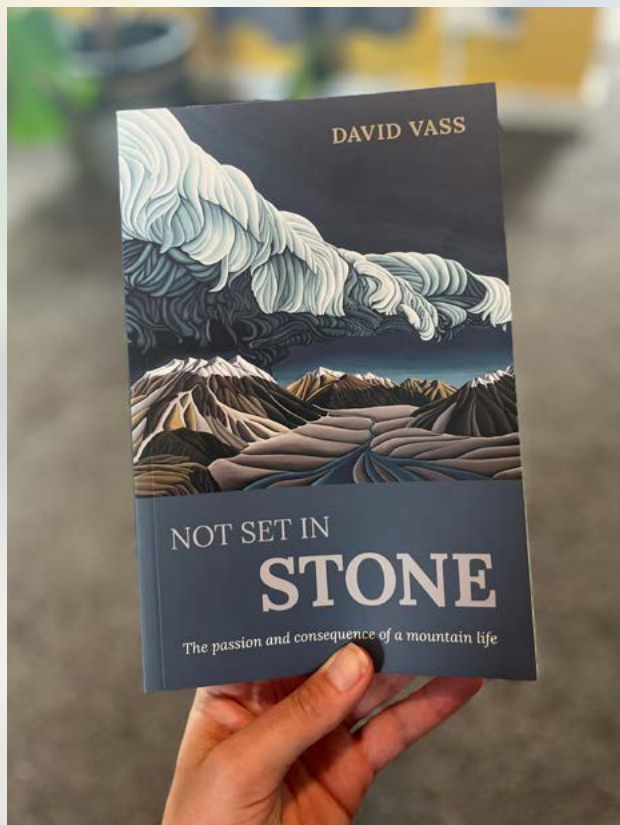
It was an interesting evening, and I think everyone came away more aware of the issues involved, and it will be interesting to see what behaviours will become "best practice" in future.

Our thanks to Toni and Chris, and also to Caitlin, who not only organised the evening, but came up with the idea of hosting the talk after bumping into Chris at Unwin hut!

BOOK REVIEW

NOT SET IN STONE BY DAVID VASS

REVIEW BY LISA DONNING



The section library holds nearly 600 books and magazines and several DVDs, all which are available to borrow. John Roper-Linsay often brings a selection of titles along to our monthly section evenings, otherwise you can scour the titles in our library [here](#).

I borrowed a copy of "Not Set in Stone" by David Vass, somewhat of a local mountaineering legend, and I was asked to write a review. Full disclosure, I've met Dave a few times through friends, we played poker together and I'm pretty sure he (and everyone else) absolutely wiped the floor with me. So much for beginners luck.

Beginning his foray into mountaineering in the 1980's, Dave spent 35 years exploring the maunga of Aotearoa.

After an accident in 2015, where a relatively minor slip while walking out of the central Darrans led to a broken neck resulting in incomplete tetraplegia, Dave found himself adjusting to a new way of life. Published in 2023 and a well deserved winner of the 2023 NZ Mountain Book Awards, Dave's first (and hopefully not last) book recounts his experiences both in the mountains and post-injury with honesty and humour.

Dave takes us on lots of journeys in "Not Set in Stone", each one described in such detail it was like I was there with him. I experienced his first summit with him, and I felt the joy he felt while unable to tear his eyes away from an expanse of white, of the infinite possibilities opening up to him. I watched him and his friends embracing the cold and the filth while they tried their hand at caving, often finding themselves in somewhat terrifying situations and yet always managing to take the lessons from it and see the funny side. I held my breath as he belayed his buddy and I shivered alongside him in his busted bivvy bag.

As a parent and a partner, Dave speaks to his battle to juggle family life with a desire to be in the mountains and how the fear of death was never far away. He talks about losing friends to the mountains, the impact this had on him and his friends and how they remembered these people by gathering to celebrate their lives as a community, to share (and dance away) that grief.

One of the themes scattered throughout this book is people. We hear all about Dave's adventure partners, which ones were rope guns and which ones would push through after dislocating their shoulder. Several times. Post-accident, while adjusting to not being able to access the mountains, Dave talks about how his community cared for him and did what they could to nurture him physically and emotionally. Dave's journey after his accident is a fascinating one to follow, he describes his fears and his struggles in adjusting to the possibility of living a completely different life and how his people were there at his side through it all. It really struck me that our community is only as strong as our connections, so if I take anything out of this book it's that; he tangata, he tangata, he tanaga (it is people, it is people, it is people).

"Not Set in Stone" is funny, easy to read, and scattered with powerful imagery. Dave flawlessly switches between beautiful prose and brutal honesty which makes for a very fun read. Albeit a stressful one at times. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in learning more about the psyche of our mountaineering community, or really just anyone with a connection to the mountains.

ITEMS FOR SALE!



Wild Country Oxygen curved gate biners x 12

Great condition, only ever used in the clipping end of Quickdraw.

Selling as the whole set only (grab a bargain plus on sell any you don't want)

\$150.00



Petzl Quarks - hammer and axe, Very

Good condition, little use in 10 years.

Selling as the pair only.

Comes with two x free sets of BD leashes.

\$500.00

Christchurch/Canterbury sales and pick up only thanks.

Text Clayton on 027 446 1562

JOIN THE CW SECTION COMMITTEE!

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.

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 coordinate our trips for members and non-members. You will be responsible for planning and leading a variety of trips into the outdoors. This is a great opportunity to work with club members

into the park. We will work with club members to determine trip locations and ensure that all safety plans 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.



Are you a social media superstar? We need you to help us connect with our social media pages, Facebook & Instagram. Everything will be created and just need you to share. We just need someone with the know-how to share these posts, like & share. We need you to support our community, maintain settings in the background, and make sure everything is up to date. We 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.

The Secretary role involves taking the notes 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 Meetings are usually on the 1st of the month and generally only take an hour! Cover can happen for you on spontaneous occasions. If you are a bit shy and small and doesn't involve too much, you can get involved as much as you like with the events and activities.

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.

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 its 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](#)

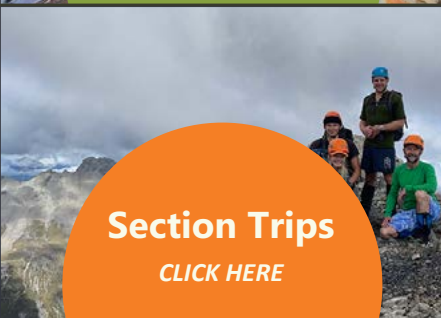
The section helped to establish this trapline and has serviced it since 2020. For your safety and instruction on how to service the trapline, you must attend one of the training days, which are held from time to time. It's a rewarding day out helping to remove introduced predators and assist our native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

Anya Ogden

[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](#)



SOCIALS

Cora Davison

[Email](#)



ARTHUR'S PASS LODGE

John Henson

[Email](#)



GEAR CUSTODIAN

Maxine van Rijn

[Email](#)



RECREATION ADVOCACY

Lindsay Main

[Email](#)



MEET COORDINATOR

Lisa Donning

[Email](#)



TRAPLINE MANAGER

Neville Ross

[Email](#)



GENERAL

Jim Petersen

[Email](#)



GENERAL

Clayton Garbes

[Email](#)



WEST COAST REP

Brittany Jenkins

[Email](#)