



10 Jun, 2026

**Kia ora,**

For most Sections around the country, the focus for the last few weeks (and the next few) is the Banff Mountain Film Festival. I was lucky enough to MC two sessions in Christchurch this year. I thought the film selections were really strong, and I particularly enjoyed 'Emil and Karl', a story about two dads and their toddler boys on a bike-packing trip through the Swiss Alps. It was packed full of balance-bike extreme off-roading, potty and nap breaks, and 'how high are we now?'; their equivalent of 'are we there yet?'. Another highlight was the nine-year old boy sitting behind me, loudly encouraging an onscreen climber during the roof sequence of 'Riders on the Storm'. He was so absorbed I don't think he realised that he was talking to a screen, and that we could all hear him. And that is what it's all about, right? Being inspired by whatever you see on screen, and hopefully inspired to try something new. There is a beautiful line in one of the films about *living on the edge between fear and imagination*. So, I challenge you, what can you do in a new way to challenge yourself this winter, so you too can live in that beautiful space between fear and imagination?

The Banff Mountain Film Festival world tour finishes its in-person screenings at the end of June, but we have another unique set of films available online as part of the Tutoko programme in July if you have missed out on a ticket in your town.

Thanks to the volunteers across the country who make this fundraiser such a success each year. It really is better than doing 200 Bunnings sausage sizzles!

Karen

**Image: Still from Banff film Emil & Karl. Photo by Marcus Witte**

## Club News

### CONSERVATION LAND IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND HOW YOU CAN HAVE YOUR SAY

The [Conservation Amendment Bill](#) has just passed its first reading in Parliament and the select committee are now accepting submissions. This bill is really concerning for recreational users of conservation land, as it elevates commercial interests above recreational interests and provides mechanisms for disposals and swaps of up to 60% of the conservation estate with no public consultation. The Club is working with our partners in this space (especially FMC and ACAT) to submit on our concerns. However, we also encourage all users of public conservation land to have a look at what is being proposed and make your own submissions. We don't often highlight legislative changes, just making submissions as we feel the need, but this is one that we think everyone should have a look at. Anderson Lloyd have a general explanation [here](#) and Forest and Bird have written an excellent conservation focussed explanation [here](#). We will publish more information about this on our website in the coming weeks. [Submissions](#) close July 2nd.

# Get Involved



## BANFF Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour 2026

The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour is tearing through Aotearoa and adventure lovers are showing up in force. Venues have been selling out, double-screening tickets snapped up well in advance, and the energy in theatres has been electric.

From losing a leg and still skiing big Norwegian lines, to a daring first descent of Mount Robson's legendary South Face, to two dads dragging their toddlers through the Swiss

Alps on mountain bikes — the films have been leaving audiences buzzing.

Still to come: Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington (final screening tonight), Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, Whangārei (tonight only), Ngāmotu New Plymouth, Timaru, Taupō, Rotorua, and Hokitika. Don't wait — if the tour so far is anything to go by, these will sell out too. Head to [banff.nz](http://banff.nz) to grab your tickets.

Already been to your city? Grab tickets to the online Tūtoko programme, streaming 2–31 July. It's a completely unique selection of films from what was shown on tour — including this year's standout *The Finisher*: Jasmin Paris and the Barkley Marathons — available to watch from your couch.

Huge thanks to our 2026 Presenting Partners, NZ Mountain Safety Council, Osprey, World Expeditions and La Sportiva!



## National Indoor Bouldering Series 2026

The 2026 NiBS series got off to an electric start at Faultline, Wellington in May. With over 400 entries, this was officially the largest climbing competition ever held in New Zealand. Wellington's bouldering community continues to punch well above its weight, and the energy inside Faultline across the weekend was something special. New for this year was a Friday evening fun round — a relaxed 6–8pm session ideal for first-timers or anyone who wants the experience without the pressure of rankings. Saturday kicked off the youth programme, and as always, the level on display was jaw-dropping. Youth climbing in

New Zealand has taken a clear step forward over the past three years, and with better coaching and facilities emerging around the country, the trajectory is only pointing one way.

The Faultline setting team shaped a brilliant mix of boulders to test every style — bone-crushing crimps, flying coordination moves, technical slabs, and no-tex hand jams. They had their work cut out in the Open finals and delivered.

### Open women's podium

- 1 Sienna Kopf
- 2 Simone Winger
- 3 Katie Chinn & Zoe Ball (tied)

### Open men's podium

- 1 Oskar Wolff
- 2 Finlay Cate
- 3 Falk Neal Hormann

For results across all categories, head to [www.nibs.nz](http://www.nibs.nz). A huge thank you to Faultline Wellington — Stella, Brook, and the whole team — for an incredible event and raising the bar once again.

Our sponsors have been stellar with their support [Tenaya NZ](#), [Bivouac Outdoor](#), [Neo-holds One Grips](#)

Follow us on [Instagram](#) to keep up with the hype ahead of Round 2 at Faultline 2.0 in Ōtepoti Dunedin, 26–27 June.

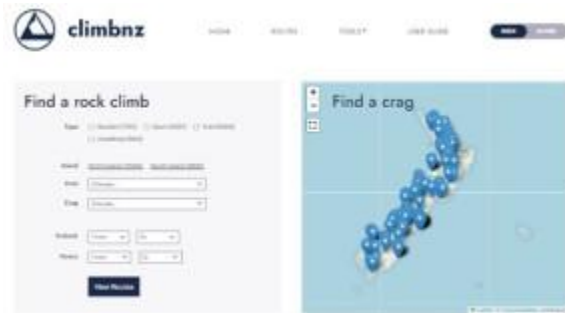
**Image: Faultline round one action. Photo by Kusal**



### High Alpine Skills 2026 Courses

Our 2026 High Alpine Skills Courses are up on our website. Get in your registrations early so you don't miss a spot.

You can see all the course info and register [here](#).



### ClimbnZ Updates

Places on ClimbnZ now show a choice of base maps including LINZ Topo50 and aerial, Google terrain and satellite, and OpenStreetMap. Maps show nearby places.

We've also improved how place information is displayed to make it easier to locate approach and route descriptions

## Community



### Tūpiki Trust Update

Tūpiki Trust has just emailed out their latest newsletter, highlighting several projects which have been completed thanks to their support. The newsletter also lists the 12 new projects recently approved, and they make great reading for anyone interested in climbing and our mountain environments. From a major grant to back Golden Bay Climbers with an ambitious re-bolting programme to funding for a plant nursery being built to help restore the Craigieburn Basin after the 2024 devastating fire, the range of grants is impressive.

To read about these projects, and the Cromwell Climbing Club's success in fundraising for their community-based bouldering wall development, just head to the Tūpiki Trust's website at [www.tupikitrust.org.nz](http://www.tupikitrust.org.nz) and download your copy of their newsletter or email [admin@tupikitrust.org.nz](mailto:admin@tupikitrust.org.nz) to be added to their list.



### ACAT - Have your say on public conservation land management

As mentioned above ACAT is working on a submission for the government's Conservation Amendment Bill which could reshape how our Public Conservation Land is managed, with significant implications for climbers and the places we care about.

Read more about ACAT's work [here](#)

**Image: Goldstrike crag in Kahurangi National Park. Photo by Derek Cheng**