



7 Jul, 2026

Kia ora

As I write, the snow is (finally) falling in the hills. Various ski fields are exhaling tightly held breaths and opening just in time to entertain families on school holidays. As we prepare for winter, our volunteer instructors are also shortly heading to Ruapehu and Arthur's Pass to refresh their skills and learn new ones. This long running programme is also one of our most special, as members move from being snowcraft participants, to assistant instructors working with more experienced instructors. The final step to full instructor then allows them to give back to the climbing pathway, training the next generation of mountaineer.

This is what makes the Club more special than just taking part in any old course. The relationships which grow between participants and the mentorship of instructors creates an environment with the wrap-around support for our beginners to thrive. I was reminded of this recently as I attended the funeral of the great Margaret Clark. I only knew Margaret in her later years, but as those who knew her well spoke of her life, I was struck by her ethos of giving back, and the generations of mountaineers that she taught and mentored in the mountains, many of whom are now industry professionals and Club instructors giving back to the future generations. Her influence on women in mountaineering is also undeniable, and I encourage our instructors and trip leaders of today to embrace her example and keep carrying her legacy forward.

As we prepare for winter adventures, remember to check your gear, refresh your skills before heading away, leave intentions and have a great day out!

Karen

Photo: Sunrise on the Grand Plateau - captured by Ben Slee. Entered in the Alpine Landscape Category NZ Photocomp 2025

Club News



President Elect Open for Nominations

The position of President Elect is open for nominations until 16 July. See [here](#) for more information. If you have the time, skills and passion for the Club to take on this important role, we would love to hear from you!

This is a 4-year commitment: one year as President Elect, two years as President, and one year as Past President. If you would like to talk it through, please reach out to Karen - general.manager@alpineclub.org.nz or the President - president@alpineclub.org.nz.



The Conservation Amendment Bill turned out to be a moving feast. With the strong advocacy of outdoor and conservation groups, the Minister committed to removing the disposal and exchange clauses from the Bill. Then, on the day of submissions closing, they extended the date by two weeks. We have been working in conjunction with several other recreation groups and have signed onto a joint submission [here](#). We will also be making our own submission shortly, and it will be available [here](#). We encourage everyone to look at what is being proposed and make a submission by 13 July. The [National](#)

[Conservation Policy Statement](#) is also out for comments. This replaces the general policies guiding the Department of Conservation and is another critical document for us to get right, with submissions closing on 10 August.

Get Involved



Have you taken any of The High Pathways?

Paul and Shelley Hersey's guidebook to select mountain scrambles and snow climbs of Te Waipounamu has been a great success. The book aims to share information, inspiration and connection with some of the best moderate climbs of Kā Tiritiri o te Moana, and to foster skill progression and opportunities for exploration. Reflection and sharing are an essential part of the experience (the good and the bad). Recording details of current conditions, changes to the route, your decision-making and reflections on any incidents benefits the entire climbing community. You can do that by heading over to climbnz.org.nz. Find the routes you've climbed (or attempted), click on Add Ascent and share your experiences.



National Instruction Courses

We are still looking for people to fill our Glacier Ski Course in September and our High Alpine Skills Courses in November and December.

For more course info and to register click [here](#)



NiBS 2026

Round 2 of the 2026 NZAC National Indoor Bouldering Series is in the books, and Ōtepoti Dunedin delivered. Big crowds, an electric atmosphere, and the extra buzz of an opening weekend for our newest venue, Resistance 2.0. Brand new holds and mats, that "new gym" energy, and first-class hosting and routesetting made it a fantastic debut. Huge thanks to everyone who came along and brought the competitive spirit Ōtepoti is known for, and to the Resistance 2.0 crew for keeping spirits (and psych) high all weekend.

Two rounds remain:

Tāmaki Auckland at Northern Rocks (Fri 31 Jul – Sat 1 Aug)

Ōtautahi Christchurch at Uprising (Fri 28 – Sat 29 Aug),

Huge thanks to our 2026 sponsors [Tenaya](#), [Bivouac Outdoor](#), [Neo Climbing Holds](#), and [The New Zealand Alpine Club](#) — show them some love! And follow @nibs.nz on Instagram for hype, behind-the-scenes build-up, and live updates from every round.

Photo Sam McGee



BANFF Mountain Film Festival

The in-person Banff Mountain Film Festival tour has wrapped up for another year, but the adventure isn't over yet!

Thanks to the support of our sponsors La Sportiva, World Expeditions, Mountain Safety Council, and Osprey, the online programme is now live, bringing six of the world's best adventure films straight to your living room until 31 July:

- Cold Calls Canada
- Ephemeral
- Black Eyes
- The Finisher: Jasmin Paris and the Barkley Marathons
- That One Friend
- King of Chaos: Justinas Leveika

Watch from the comfort of your own sofa, or make it an occasion - one "watch party" ticket covers up to 25 viewers, so it's a great excuse to gather your tramping club, social group, or workmates for a night of big-screen adventure

*Please note this is for private/social use only and isn't licensed for commercial use or resale

Ephemeral *photo credit* Francesco Valentinuzzi

Black Eyes *photo credit* Mateo Arango

Community



The NZAC's *Mature Mountaineers* meetings in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch are made possible thanks to support from the Tūpiki Trust. These quarterly events are very popular, thanks in a large part to the excellent speakers they attract and the welcoming environment they provide for older people to get together to socialise with friends old and new. For example, in July, Wellington has Alex Hillary talking about three generations of his family in Nepal and Auckland has Paul Maxim giving a sneak preview of his new book. Christchurch has Rob Brown from Backcountry Trust as their August speaker. If you'd like to know more about these events, checked out the Mature Mountaineers

link on the Tūpiki Trust website – www.tupikitrust.org.nz It will be updated regularly as speaker details are confirmed.

And if you are considering applying for a grant from the Tūpiki Trust in October this year, it will pay to check out their updated *Grant Background* and *Application Form*, also on their website for information which will help you achieve a successful result.



Whanganui Bay. Photo: Tom Hoyle

Learn to use Outdoor Access Commission maps to support crag access

Rock climbing access issues are coming into sharper focus, and the Outdoor Access Commission's public access maps can help climbers connect with the right people.

To read the article written in collaboration with Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa, the Outdoor Access Commission & ACAT click [here](#). You can also read all other ACAT news [here](#)

Don't forget to catch up on all our other news, reviews and info on our website [here](#).

Copyright 2021 New Zealand Alpine Club, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email as a member of the NZAC

Our mailing address is:

New Zealand Alpine Club

Unit 6, 6 Raycroft Street

Waltham

Christchurch, Canterbury 8023

New Zealand