

UPRISING



The Monthly Newsletter of the Canterbury/Westland Section of the New Zealand Alpine Club

May 2016



Section Meeting- May 12th- 52 Peaks in 52 Weeks- Ben Gibbins.

Uprising

Newsletter of the Canterbury/Westland section, New Zealand Alpine Club

May 2016

Contributions are more than welcome. Please send to nzac.cw.canterbury@gmail.com by the 20th of each month. Thanks!

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Section Evenings

Location: Cashmere Club, 50 Colombo St

Time: Drinks from 7:30 pm, talks start at 8 pm sharp

May-12th- Ben Gibbins- 52 Peaks in 52 Weeks- Over 2014 and 2015, I completed the 52 Peaks Challenge. This challenge, set by Matthew Dickinson, required that I climb 52 named mountain peaks over 1000 meters in 52 weeks. The peaks I climbed were mostly in the Arthur's Pass and Craigieburn area in Canterbury, however, some of the peaks were in the North Island and a few were further South. It was a great challenge and it gave me extra motivation to get out and climb some peaks I've always wanted to climb but could never find a reason.

June- Banff Mountain Film Festival

Further Banff details on page 9.

Upcoming club trips and events

Events Calendar

Navigation Course- 18th June- For a registration form and gear list, please contact Clayton on claytongarbes@hotmail.com no later than Monday 16th May.

Beginners Snow Craft Course (Snow 1)- 30th-31st July- For further information, a registration form and gear list, please contact Clayton on claytongarbes@hotmail.com

Avalanche Awareness for Climbers and Trampers- 16th- 17th July- For a registration form, equipment list and any further information please contact Clayton on claytongarbes@hotmail.com

Further details on following pages

Lead a Trip: If you would like to lead a trip for the club, alpine, rock climbing, cycling or otherwise, contact Andrew Barrett: andrew.barrett@liquidvoice.co.nz

Mid week Rock Climbing

Runs every Wednesday evening. It happens, indoor or outdoors, depending on the weather. An email is sent out to the climbing group at the beginning of the week with details about who is organizing it. You are also welcome/encouraged to use the climbing group to organize climbing at any time, including weekend trips. Contact Janet Nicol janetnicol@hotmail.com 021 02355634 .

Mid week Mountaineering

The mid week group are mainly fairly mature mountaineers who still manage to plod up a few peaks, usually on Wednesdays, depending on the weather. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Pat Prendergast on 337 0 079 or pat@slingshot.co.nz

Navigation Course- 18th June

Location: Port Hills in Christchurch. 8.30 am to 4.30 pm.

Cost: \$25.

This will be a full day course based on the Port Hills and will run in all weather conditions.

The course is open to all, aged 13 and above and families and non NZAC members welcome (those attending under 16 must have written parental or guardian permission).

The course will cover the following:

- * Map and compass use.
- * Pacing.
- * Terrain selection and identification.
- * Route finding.
- * Triangulation.

The use of GPS will NOT be taught on this course.

For a registration form and gear list, please contact Clayton on claytongarbes@hotmail.com no later than Monday 16th May.

Avalanche Awareness for Climbers and Trampers- 16th- 17th July

This one evening and one day course outlines the basics of the avalanche phenomenon and sets people up for further learning and to be a safer member of a group travelling in winter terrain. (There will be a 2 hour evening theory session that is a compulsory part of the course).

What will be taught:

- * Avalanche equipment and its use.
- * Trip planning.
- * Terrain choice and navigation.
- * Small party rescue.

When and Where:

Friday 15th July (evening seminar, doors open 6 pm for a 6.30 pm SHARP start), at NZAC HQ Unit 6/6 Raycroft Street in Opawa.

Saturday 16th July or Sunday 17th July (choice of one of two days with a maximum of 12 students per day so some flexibility may be required if your first choice day is not available) – day in field, 8.30 am to 4.30 pm at Mt Cheeseman Skifield (meeting at the car park before the 8.30 am start time).

****The Saturday course is full. Places still however available for the Sunday.****

Course Cost:

\$100 will cover the evening seminar, day in the field at Mt Cheeseman, additional course paperwork, free use of avalanche kit (transceiver / shovel and probe).

Car pooling from Christchurch is encouraged and fuel reimbursements to drivers is an additional cost to be covered by those students wishing to share a ride.

At a minimum, you must know how to use an ice axe and crampons – NO EXCEPTIONS.

For a registration form, equipment list and any further information please contact Clayton on claytongarbes@hotmail.com

Beginners Snow Craft Course (Snow 1)- 30th-31st July

A course designed for those making the transition from tramping, to above the snow line travel, and teaching the basic skills that will be required in winter conditions. This course will be based at Arthurs Pass for the weekend, travelling up on the evening of Friday 29th, leaving 5.30pm at the latest and staying at the NZAC Lodge.

What will be Taught:

- Balance and movement on snow.
- Ice axe and crampon technique and use.
- Self arresting on snow.
- Safe terrain selection.
- Snow shelters and construction.
- Weather.
- Basic use of avalanche equipment

(there will be a separate avalanche awareness

course on 15th and 16th July that we encourage people to attend as this will be more comprehensive).

PLEASE NOTE that the use of ropes and glacier travel will NOT be covered in this course.

Course Cost:

\$200 will cover fuel(car pooling), two nights accommodation, Saturday evening meal plus tea and coffee for the weekend, two days instruction, equipment.

Contact details:

For further information, a registration form and gear list, please contact Clayton on claytongarbes@hotmail.com

Please note that you must be a current NZAC member by the time you return your registration form to guarantee a spot on the course and there is a limit of 12 students. There will be an additional Beginners Snow Craft course on the weekend of 10th and 11th September to meet demand and for those who can't attend the first(July) course.

Mt Somers rock climbing trip

-Phillippa Yasbek

The trip began with a hike in the dark. The hut was tramper-free when we arrived but James tried to recruit an extra trip participant. He picked up the hut possum by its tail and started bringing it inside. The possum got a bit scratchy when it saw the lights in the hut and James had to backtrack and drop it off back outside. James decided to go sleep in self-imposed exile under a rock bivvy and nurse his wounds.

We justified a sleep in on the grounds that it had been wet and the rock would be soggy. By the time we hauled ourselves up to Orange Wall the rock had been baking in the sun for a few hours. We sampled the moderate climbs on Orange Wall (yes they exist), including the splendid and now fully bolted Orange Roughy (16). James had a go on Uno (21) but had to take a few rests because of his calf burn on the sustained bridging up the corner.

As the afternoon wore on, we migrated across to The Fortress. It has some great starred moderate climbs. I lead Banana Split (20) which is definitely longer than the 40 metres promised in the guidebook. Hotline to Jim (18), lead by both Tim and Chris, was probably scarier thanks to some old-school macho bolting. The day got progressively colder and as most of us hadn't carried up enough clothing to the crag, we were very grateful to the four or five trampers who had got the hut stove going.



*View across the Orange Wall.
Photo: Phillipa Yasbek*

Sunday was beautiful and hot. The group split up and headed to different crags. Piotr, James, Matt and Paul tried their hands on some sport routes at the Pinnacles. Eric and Tim headed up to the Christian Principles Crag. Chris and I bush bashed up to Fog Buttress. The lack of track indicates that it's rarely visited. I thoroughly enjoyed the 14 metres of hand crack on Parthenope (16). Unlike most cracks in NZ, this one has to be jammed. Chris got sandbagged on Bucket of Fino (17). We walked past Meat Grinder, but decided to keep going and climb at Christian Principles along with Matt and Paul, who'd ventured up from the Pinnacles. The names of the climbs don't bear repeating but there are some decent moderates on the cliff.

Beta (why else would you read trip reports?): 2:40 to walk in to the hut (in the dark no less) and 1:40 to walk out. The best quality climbing at Mt Somers is definitely the trad routes. Ideally you want a rack of double cams and wires. Double ropes come in handy. With some faff you can cope with a single 60m rope but most of the pitches are longer than 30m. Get ready to smear on some very tenuous stuff - bring your slab shoes. Climbs on the crack features are generally well-protected with natural gear. Beautiful lines and great scenery.

A big thanks to Chris for organising the trip.

Trip participants: Christopher Wallington, Matt Harwood, Eric Skea, Piotr Nowak, Paul Marsden, James Hobson, Tim Hargrave, Philippa Yasbek



*Chris in his tights. Photo:
Philippa Yasbek*

Chairperson's update

-Criag Hosking

New NZAC General Manager

With a strong field of applicants the club has appointed Keith Gilby as our new General Manager. We congratulate and welcome Keith to his position and look forward to working with him.

Section Evening

Thank you to our April section speaker Pete Harris giving a couple of his first ascent experiences. We wish Pete and rest of the Alpine Team all the best for their Peru expedition. Also thank you to Nick Sutcliffe for coming to the meeting to engage a discussion about the future access of Transmitter Crag.

Transmitter Crag

The Adventure Park area including the crag is closed off to all public until it's reopening later this year at a date TBA. The section evening discussion about future crag access raised a few concerns from climbers, these concerns have been heard and we are working with the Adventure Park to get result that works for both parties. If you have anything you'd like to add to this discussion of future crag access please email me cw.chairperson@gmail.com

New Online Co-ordinator needed

Ever thought about helping the club but not sure how? Here's an opportunity for a motivated member to help spread climbing news throughout our community. The position essentially involves using Facebook to and keeping up with everything that's going on (with the help of the section committee). If you'd like to contribute as the new online-coordinator for the section please email me cw.chairperson@gmail.com

New 50 Year Veterans

Congratulations to Keith Dekkers and Bert McConnell! These members have stayed loyal to be part of our club for 50years! Amazing achievement to you both, it's great to hear of these members who have seen so much change in climbing in 50years still want to be part of the club.

Banff Mountain Film Festival

The Canterbury / Westland section of the New Zealand Alpine Club is once again proud to screen this year's Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour selection. Again this year we have not one, but two fantastic programs, so think about getting yourself a doubleshot of adrenaline to fuel your winter season!

Lock these dates in your calendar:

Program GREEN

Thursday 9th June 2016, 7.30pm start

Friday 10th June 2016, 7.30pm start

Program BLUE

Saturday Matinee, 11th June 2016, 3:00pm start

Saturday evening 11th June 2016, 7:30pm start

All screenings at Aurora Centre for the Arts, Burnside High School Greers Road, Christchurch

Your support and a good turnout for the film evening is appreciated, so spread the word and bring your family and friends along to see some fantastic mountain and adventure sports films.

Ticket prices are as follows:

NZAC Members, Students, Flying Gecko Club members: \$15.

General Public: \$25

2 screening special \$40

Family Matinee Pack (2 Adults + 2 U18) \$50

There will be a limit of 10 tickets per purchase available at:

- Online from at www.eventopia.co/banffchc (booking fee applies),
- NZAC HQ in Raycroft Street Christchurch,
- The May Canterbury Westland Section meetings at the Cashmere Club (Cash Only)
- The ROXX Climbing Gym on Byron Street
- Bivouac and Macpac at Tower Junction

More information and trailers are available at www.banff.nz

Special thanks to our sponsors:

- Adventure South
- World Expeditions
- Macpac
- Tomtom Bandit Action Cam

Notices

The Mount Rolleston Search 1966

Memorial service for those who lost their lives in 1966 on Mount Rolleston
Saturday 25 June 2016, 1 p.m.

Arthur's Pass Chapel

The 50th anniversary of one of the worst tragedies in New Zealand's mountaineering history, the Mount Rolleston Search, falls in 2016. In June 1966, four young climbers went missing on the Otira face of Mount Rolleston in the Arthur's Pass National Park. The search that was mounted to find them was one of the largest in New Zealand's mountaineering history. The day after the young climbers failed to return from the climb the weather deteriorated and for several days search parties looked for them in vain in atrocious weather. Late in the week of the search, a camp on the Otira slide in which some of the rescuers were spending the night was overwhelmed by an avalanche. Seven of the eight rescuers in the camp survived the avalanche, but one, John Harrison, died under the snow.

At the time of his death, John Harrison was one of New Zealand's leading climbers. He had completed notable first ascents in the Southern Alps and had climbed in the Himalayas and in Antarctica. His death on a search was a huge shock to the New Zealand mountaineering community. It was one of the very few times a person who was in the mountains in adverse conditions only to try and rescue fellow climbers died because of his readiness to try and help fellow climbers.

The 50th anniversary of the search and tragedy is being marked in Arthur's Pass on 25 June 2016. A service in the Arthur's Pass chapel at 1 p.m. will be followed by the dedication of a small memorial to the tragedy and then a gathering in the Arthur's Pass community centre.

The service will be a memorial service for John Harrison and for the four young climbers, Bruce Ferguson, Colin Robertson, Michael Harper and Jeffrey Wilby. Bruce Ferguson and Colin Robertson were New Zealanders; Michael Harper and Jeffrey Wilby were from England. Those organising the service and gathering and are in touch with relatives of Jeffrey Wilby in England. If anyone knows of surviving relatives of Michael Harper, Bruce Ferguson or Colin Robertson would they please get in touch with John Wilson, 03 318 9118, johnmalcolm@xtra.co.nz, P O Box 51-030, Arthur's Pass 7654.

Removal of hut fee boxes

The last two hut fee collection boxes have been removed from Arthur's Pass and Porter Lodge. Bookings for huts should be made online here: <http://alpineclub.org.nz/huts/>

When paid you will be sent a confirmation email with the latest hut code entry numbers where applicable. Unwin bookings will require confirmation by the Managers first. If you owe for past bookings, or wish to make a large group booking, please contact the office.

Lost Camera - Nikon AW1 in case with BD Carabiner attached

Lost at Homer Hut around 2nd-9th of February 2016. Has photos from climbing in Canada, Thailand, Laos and Australia. Last seen at the picnic tables. Please contact me at allanjt@hotmail.com if found.

Linz Map Updates on Facebook

Updates on changes to official LINZ topo maps are now available on Facebook.

Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) has launched its own Facebook page and is sharing news on the latest updates to its Topo50 and 250 maps.

You'll also find facts about surveying the land and sea, historic aerial photos that show how New Zealand has changed over time, as well as updates on LINZ's work to manage biosecurity pests on Crown land.

Check out LINZ on Facebook at www.facebook.com/landinformationnz

Section gear hire

The Canterbury / Westland Section has the following equipment available for members to hire:

All equipment is \$10 day per item and \$5 each extra day unless stated.

EPIRB(emergency locator beacon) x 1.

Avalanche kit(Transceiver / shovel and probe) x 12.

Snow Shoes x 2.

Plastic / rigid leather mountaineering boots x 22 pair of various sizes.

Crampons x 9.

Walking ice axe x 6.

Ice hammers x 2.

Technical ice tools x 5 pair of various models.

Harnesses x 2.

Alpine ropes x 5 - 60 m dry(Instruction courses only).

Snow stakes x 6(\$5 first day / \$2.50 each extra day).

Ice screws x 6(\$5 day for 2 / \$2.50 each extra day).

Helmets x 6(\$5 day / \$2.50 each extra day).

Petrol drill(own fuel must be provided).

Trad rack x 4(Instruction courses only).

Terms and Conditions:

For members only with club trips and instruction first priority.

Hirer responsible for any loss or damage of equipment.

All equipment must be returned within 24 hrs of arrival back to Christchurch or prior arrangement otherwise an additional hire fee may occur.

Gear hire is cash only(receipt provided) upon pick up and available on Tuesday and Thursday evenings only after 5pm.

Please contact Clayton on claytongarbes@hotmail.com or text during day on 0274461562 .

Benefits for NZAC members

NZAC Membership gives you access to many discounts with the following retailers.

You may be asked to present your active NZAC membership.

To see full terms and conditions and other benefits of being a member, please visit

<https://alpineclub.org.nz/benefits-of-membership>



Cactus



Trip guidelines

An important part of the NZAC is volunteer organised trips. Many members will have had their first alpine experiences on club trips. And many will also have organised trips, helping other members enjoy our alpine environment. If you're thinking of joining or organising a trip, here are some guidelines on what to expect.

Responsibilities of a Trip Participant

- You are responsible for your own safety. If you are uncomfortable with any situation it is up to you to let your Trip organiser know straight away.
- Be prepared to drive or pay transport costs (petrol, wear and tear) as determined by the Trip organiser.
- Make sure you are as fit and healthy as possible.
- Make sure you have a clear idea of the trip's goals and what will be required of you to achieve those goals. Obtain a relevant map and know where you are going, what type of terrain is involved, what gear you will need and the knowledge of how to use it.
- Be honest to your Trip Organiser about how much experience you have and accept that the Trip Organiser might not accept you on the trip if he/she thinks you are not experienced enough.
- Get in contact with the Trip Organiser as soon as you are confident that you want to go on the trip.
- If you discover that you cannot go on the trip then let the Trip Organiser know as soon as possible so that another person can take your place.
- Read, understand and return the signed copy of the NZAC waiver form to the Trip Organiser.

Responsibilities of a Trip organiser

- Trips should be fun for everyone. They are not very hard to organise and can be very rewarding. Choose a mountain, peak, hill, traverse, route, crag, or whatever and get out there and meet some keen club members!
- You cannot be responsible for the safety of every member of the group, but you should aim to empower every group member with enough knowledge to make their own informed decisions about the proposed trip both before and during the trip.
- Choose a realistic goal for the time available and give prospective group members an idea of the amount of effort required to achieve the stated goal
- Set a group size limit based on your experience, the goal, time available and group fitness and experience.
- Let the group know what skills and equipment are needed when they sign up so that everyone is prepared.
- Provide the trip Participants with a copy of the NZAC waiver form and have them understand, sign and return it to you in advance of the trip.
- Organise travel arrangements at the earliest opportunity and let everyone know how much they should expect to pay for transport costs (petrol, wear and tear).
- Prepare detailed trip intentions and leave them with at least one responsible individual. The intentions should include a latest return time/date which would trigger a search initiated by the responsible individual(s) and involving the relevant authorities (Police, SAR, etc).
- If someone on the trip voices their concern about the situation it is up to you (with the help of the group) to find a safe solution where possible. This may involve everyone turning around.
- Give priority to NZAC members
- Find someone on the trip to write an interesting trip report for the Section Newsletter.

Section Library

Section Library Did you know that the Section has its own library and that unlike the National Office library you can actually borrow the books in the Section library? Every section meeting I will bring a good selection of the hundreds of books in the library, along with the DVDs.

The contents of the C/W Section library can be found online

here: <http://bit.ly/CWLibrary> (Note: There is a list of DVDs on the second tab of the spreadsheet). If you would like to borrow a book or DVD then please email me and we'll sort something out.

Library policies are pretty flexible –

- You must have a current NZAC membership card to borrow
- Books are generally to be returned within 2 months, but new purchases will be expected to be returned within 1 month.
- DVDs are expected to be returned within 2 weeks.

When you are ready to return a book, email me.

John Roper-Lindsay - Librarian , john@roperlindsay.com, 021 395513

NOTE: - You may return books/DVDs in one of 4 ways.

- 1) Return them to next Section meeting.
- 2) Drop them off at National Office and tell whomever you speak to that they are for C/W library.
- 3) Drop them off at Boffa Miskell office at 4 Hazeldean Road (near Hagley Park, just off Lincoln Road), marked for “Yvonne”.
- 4) Email/text/phone me to arrange handover some other way

NZAC Deceased Members

Canterbury/Westland Section of The New Zealand Alpine Club

Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/NZACCanteburyWestland/176920578985933>

Section Library

<http://bit.ly/CWLibrary>

Section Contacts

Chairman

Craig Hosking
022 3509656
cw.chairperson@gmail.com

Secretary

Grant Piper
021 711300
grubbie@ihug.co.nz

Events

Jim Petersen
027 4 910 910
jim.r.petersen@gmail.com

Trips Coordinator

Andrew Barrett
022 043 4227
andrew.barrett@liquidvoice.co.nz

Instruction Coordinator

Clayton Garbes
027 4461562
claytongarbes@hotmail.com

Library

John Roper-Lindsay
john@roperlindsay.com
021 395513

Accomodation Committee Rep.

Phillip Tree
Phillip.tree@taitradio.com

Treasurer

John Roper-Lindsay
john@roperlindsay.com
021 395513

Arthur's Pass Lodge

John Henson
027 4714075
hensonj@xtra.co.nz

Rock Climbing Coordinator

Janet Nicol
0212307721
janetnicol@hotmail.com

Section Evenings

Nina Dickerhof
021 02355634
nina.dickerhof@gmail.com

Online Coordinator

Michelle Lindsay
michellegracelindsay@gmail.com

National Committee Rep.

Yvonne Pfluger
027 6004679
yvonne.pfluger@boffamiskell.co.nz

Newsletter

James Thornton
0272608924
nzac.cw.newsletter@gmail.com