



# The South Canterbury Climber

February 2016

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ALPINE TRIPS  
ROCK CLIMBING TRIPS  
NZAC NEWS

**Unwin Easter Rock Meet!**  
**Details inside**

**Welcome** to the **February edition** of the NZAC South Canterbury Section's newsletter. The section runs a variety of alpine, climbing and other trips and courses throughout the year and new members are always welcome.

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### **Climber Content**

Is there anything you would like to see in the newsletter? Do you have a suggestion for improving the newsletter? If so, drop us a line, we're keen to hear from you. Alternatively, we love getting

submissions from members – whether they be Trip Reports, Items for Sale or rants. Just send your material to the editor by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding. Contact Kelly Cooney by emailing: [Kelly@wildfiresolutions.co.nz](mailto:Kelly@wildfiresolutions.co.nz)

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**Monthly Meeting – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016. All Welcome!**

**“Trekking in Peru & Mountain Biking in Bolivia” – Speaker: Syd Woods**



Our meetings are held from February through to November in the Police Social Room, North Street, Timaru (Top floor of the Police station, access via back door adjacent to the vehicle entrance on North Street).

***Come & be inspired!***

### **Speakers**

Your Committee welcomes ideas of Topics and Speakers. Please send them in ASAP to any Committee Member, we look forward to receiving them! Do not be shy to offer yourself (Contacts at bottom of Newsletter).

### **Wall/Crag Climbing**

Outdoor climbing is in full swing. Contact Kelly on 0212437381 if you are keen to climb.

[www.facebook.com/groups/NZACsouthcanterbury](http://www.facebook.com/groups/NZACsouthcanterbury)

### **Wood for Unwin Lodge**

There is ready cut wood at Syd Woods if you are going up. All you need is a trailer and a bit of time to load it. Ian Rogers may be able to help with a trailer, 614 7786.

### **For Hire**

The section has ice axes, crampons, snow shovels, avalanche transceivers, snowshoes, snow stakes and now, a second Personal Locator Beacon for hire. Contact Gary Brehaut (03) 688 9399.

Keep up to date with the latest local news, photos and events by connecting with us on Facebook! [www.facebook.com/groups/NZACsouthcanterbury](http://www.facebook.com/groups/NZACsouthcanterbury)



# ***National News***

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## **Bouldergaine 5<sup>th</sup> March – Castle Hill**

This crazy hybrid of bouldering and rogaining (an endurance form of orienteering) is a sport unique to the NZAC. Postponed in 2015 due to the fire at Flock Hill, it's back – don't miss out!

[Full info – Register](#)

## **Unwin Easter Rock Meet – 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March**

This 4-day festival of rock climbing based at Unwin Lodge in Aoraki Mt. Cook is fast becoming one of the highlights of the year for aficionados of long rock routes. The rock meet is an opportunity for climbers to get together to climb, socialise, explore and enjoy the great outdoors, and will include all sorts and shapes and sizes of events both climbing and social.

[Full Info – Register](#)



## **Advanced Rock Skills Course – 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> March**

Attendees of the rock meet have the opportunity to join this three-day course designed for those who already have lead climbing experience, either indoors or outdoors. The course covers multi-pitch climbing, transitions, traditional gear and anchor placements.

[Full Info – Register](#)



## **Mountain Photography Workshop 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March**

Based at Aoraki Mt. Cook National, the NZAC Mountain Photography Workshop is aimed at already competent (beginner–intermediate level) DSLR/Mirrorless photographers who want to further their skills in landscape photography – particularly in an alpine environment.

Part of the course will be based at Grand Plateau and the course includes flights in and out from Plateau Hut. This is your last chance to learn from celebrated author and photographer Mark Watson before he leaves the country for a 3-year adventure.

[Full Info - Register](#)

### **Ashtanga Yoga Workshop – 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> April**

A holistic workshop from experienced yoga instructor and climber Andrew Trotter, suitable for all. Andrew is an experienced climber and the founder and head teacher of Yoga Sanga (Christchurch) and has been teaching regular Yoga workshops and classes since 2006.

**[Full Info](#) - [Register](#)**



### **NZAC Calendar – on sale**

The best images for the annual NZAC Photocomp are re-produced in a stunning calendar each year. **The 2016 version is available [here](#)** at a special member's rate of \$15. Make you friends and colleagues jealous by having one at work and another at home.

### **Volunteer of the Year award –Congratulations Al Walker**

At the 2015 NZAC Annual General Meeting, The Volunteer of the Year Award was awarded to Al Walker. Al is a thoroughly deserving winner. He does a lot of maintenance work at Homer Hut, oversees the summer wardens at Homer hut and organises the Homer Winter Meet. In 2015 he project manged the installation of an enhanced solar power system at Homer Hut and the new fresh water tanks. Both these projects have significantly improved the user experience of visitors to that incredibly popular destination. Congratulations, Al!

### **NZAC Life membership bestowed on three recipients**

The NZAC Club Committee elected three new Life Members in November, upon the recommendation of a committee of the president and not less than three past presidents convened by the president. Life Membership of NZAC is an elite club within a club, comprising if individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to mountaineering or rock climbing or to NZAC. The three new Life Members are Don French, Keith Moffat and Ron McLeod. Profiles of each have been written for the latest issue of The Climber magazine, viewable [here](#).

### **New Mattresses at Unwin and Porter Lodges**

Thanks to some generous grants from the Mid & South Canterbury Community Trust and the Southern Trust, we have been able to replace all the mattresses in both Unwin Lodge at Aoraki Mount Cook and Porter Lodge at Fox Glacier village. Securing external funding allows NZAC to free up its own funds to pursue other projects, for example the publication of the new Aoraki Mount Cook and Backcountry ski guidebooks.

### **2015 membership survey and NZAC strategic planning process**

Thanks to all those who took the time to complete the 2015 membership survey in December. We got 692 responses – a very good sample of the ~3,500 members NZAC has. The results will be sent out to Sections

and the various NZAC sub committees and will greatly assist decision making and planning. 2016 is not just the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NZAC, it is also the start of our five year cycle of strategic planning. In the next few weeks, all members will be e-mailed a questionnaire relating to the formulation of a new strategic plan. Please take the time to consider your answers to the 'big-picture' questions. Your answers will guide the formulation of the 2016-21 NZAC strategic plan. A draft strategic plan will be written in the autumn and all NZAC members will be able to suggest amendments to it over winter. NZAC is your club, so please make an effort to guide its future.

**GUIDEBOOK RECALL – closing**

The recall of the four rock climbing guidebooks that had faulty, loose binding will end February 29, 2016 (Wanaka Rock, North Island and South Island Rock Deluxes, Castle Hill Climbing Guide – affects 2014/2015 editions only). This is a reminder that if you have one of these guides and are seeking to get it replaced, you will need to have the cover returned to us by that date to ensure you get a replacement copy. We need to have the outside front cover, your name, address, phone, email and tell us where the guide was purchased from, please. Send to: Margaret McMahon, NZAC, PO Box 786, Christchurch 8140. Thanks

## ***Upcoming Trips***

<b><i>Trips</i></b>	<b><i>When</i></b>	<b><i>Contact</i></b>
Wall/Crag Climbing	Text 021 243 7381 if you want to climb.	Kelly Cooney
Head of Rakaia	To be advised.	Ian Rogers
Ohau area	After April 5th	Syd Woods
Any ideas?	...Well, let us know!	Committee

## South Canterbury Section - Contacts

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