



The South Canterbury Climber

March 2017

ALPINE TRIPS
ROCK CLIMBING TRIPS
NZAC NEWS

Check out our March trips!

Details inside...

Welcome to the **March 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.

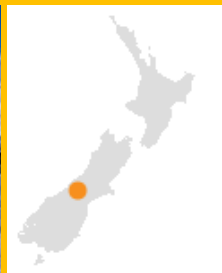
Climber Content

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 20th of the month preceding. Contact Kelly Cooney from emailing: Kelly@wildfiresolutions.co.nz

Monthly Meeting – Thursday 23rd March, 8pm 2017. All Welcome!

**“Journey to the Gardens of Eden & Allah”
– Karen Tait, General Manager NZ Alpine Club**



Karens talk will be on her journey to the Gardens of Eden and Allah, and will include a bit about her background and some of the exciting projects happening at NZAC

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

We have been enjoying climbing at Hanging Rock this summer. Text Kelly 021 243 7381 to find out when next session will be.

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



National News

Aspiring and Bonar conditions 24/25 Feb 2017



Postcard from the ledge by new NZAC Life Member/Geoff Wayatt

When the going gets tough....out comes the deep heat!

A rare fine day for this summer! Left bivi site under NW Buttress at 2200m at 6am. Reached Shoulder at 8.30 and summited at 11am after 400m of pleasant cramponing on compacted snow. Back at bivi by 2.30 for trudge across Bonar to Mt French bivi rocks. Richard was nice to plug the steps while I kept the rope taut. Relieved to have a wide flat expanse of rock ledges in spectacular setting to re-hydrate.

Next morning, sunup in Mt. French followed by a descent into the unknown – the crevasse slashed $\frac{1}{4}$ deck. A steep roll above the 1400m gloomy gorge to 2m wide slab and cavernous crawl enabled an exit to upper French ridge (after 1 steepist ice pitch – better safe than sorry) The descent down the dreadful route to the valley required more tiger balm and a few orangutan moves on limbs and blank slabs. Clouds scudded into the Matuki but cleared by daylight for a splendid walk out and a bit of pack/shoulder ache.

Places and people change. GW



MISSING, OR STRAYED – PORTER LODGE LOG BOOK

The old Porter Lodge log book has recently gone missing from the lodge. It was there only recently, but missing when a replacement new book was taken in. Anyone with it, or who may know its whereabouts, please send in to Margaret at NZAC, PO Box 786, ChCh 8140, thanks. All NZAC hut log books are indexed first at the National Office and then entered into the NZAC Hocken Collection, so we don't want it ending up lost in some other collection, or accidentally thrown away.

Upcoming Trips

Trips	When	Contact
Wall/Crag Climbing	Text 021 243 7381 if you want to climb.	Kelly Cooney
Castle Hill Bouldering	March	Please text Kelly Cooney
Mt Forbes or Cascade Saddle	9-12 th March	Please contact Syd Woods
Elephant Rocks Bouldering. Perhaps overnight in the Dansey's Pass Hotel or camp the night.	March 25 th -26 th	Please contact Neil
Woodcutting at Syds	6 th May	Please contact Syd Woods or Committee
Winter Avalanche Awareness Course	July 2017	Gary Brehaut
Any ideas?	...Well, let us know!	Committee

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