



July 2015



## General Communications

All members are encouraged to communicate their opinions and to drive CNI forward. Share your ideas via:

- [Facebook](#) – Official news. World news. Announcements.
- [Section Website](#) – Official news.
- [Google Groups](#) – Ad hoc email, quick trip plans, rock or alpine, anything, any time. NZAC membership not required. Includes a [calendar](#) of upcoming events.
- Social Indoor Climbing – For those into Rock and are close to Hamilton, stop by [Extreme Edge](#) Tuesday evening and you'll most likely run into club members as it is a regular event. Don't forget to bring your NZAC club card for a discounted rate.
- E-mail, text or call – For when you want to talk to a specific individual.

If you have had a great trip or a special idea you want to share, get some pictures and a story and send it to the Newsletter contact below.

Section Chairman	Mike Greer	<a href="mailto:chairperson@alpinecentral.org.nz">chairperson@alpinecentral.org.nz</a>	021 619 564
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Treasurer	Marcus Bai	<a href="mailto:treasurer@alpinecentral.org.nz">treasurer@alpinecentral.org.nz</a>	027 305 4533
Secretary	Scott Robertson	<a href="mailto:secretary@alpinecentral.org.nz">secretary@alpinecentral.org.nz</a>	021 221 8448
Gear Hire	Dennis Sanders	<a href="mailto:gearhire@alpinecentral.org.nz">gearhire@alpinecentral.org.nz</a>	021 130 2245
Banff Coordinator	Marcus Daws	<a href="mailto:banff@alpinecentral.org.nz">banff@alpinecentral.org.nz</a>	021 262 7549
Newsletter	Mark Smith	<a href="mailto:newsletter@alpinecentral.org.nz">newsletter@alpinecentral.org.nz</a>	021 418 694
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Committee	Cliff Ellery	<a href="mailto:c.ellery@nda.co.nz">c.ellery@nda.co.nz</a>	027 455 3256
Committee	Lars Brabyn	<a href="mailto:larsb@waikato.ac.nz">larsb@waikato.ac.nz</a>	07 855 8344



### Events:

#### Monthly Meeting - New attendees are encouraged!

Date	2015-08-12
Time	19:30
Location	<a href="#">Good George</a> <a href="#">32A Somerset Street, Frankton, Hamilton</a> 07 847 3223
Organiser	NZAC CNI
Other	<a href="#">Menu</a>
Agenda	No planned agenda. Come and have a drink, some eats, share some war stories or just listen to some, talk to someone new, find a new partner in crime, and plan a new adventure.



#### American Alpine Club International Climbers' Meet 2015

Date	2015-09-27 thru 2015-10-03
Location	Joshua Tree National Park
Organiser	<a href="mailto:icm@americanalpineclub.org">Carol Kotchek &lt;icm@americanalpineclub.org&gt;</a>
Reference	<a href="https://alpineclub.org.nz/event/2015/09/27/american-alpine-club-international-climbers-meet-2015">https://alpineclub.org.nz/event/2015/09/27/american-alpine-club-international-climbers-meet-2015</a>

The American Alpine Club would like to extend an invitation to participate in the annual International Climbers' Meet (ICM). The ICM is held the week of Sept 27th - October 3rd, 2015 in Joshua Tree National Park, California. The goal is to host a diverse group of climbing abilities from a multitude of countries, and American Alpine Club members from all parts of the U.S.A.

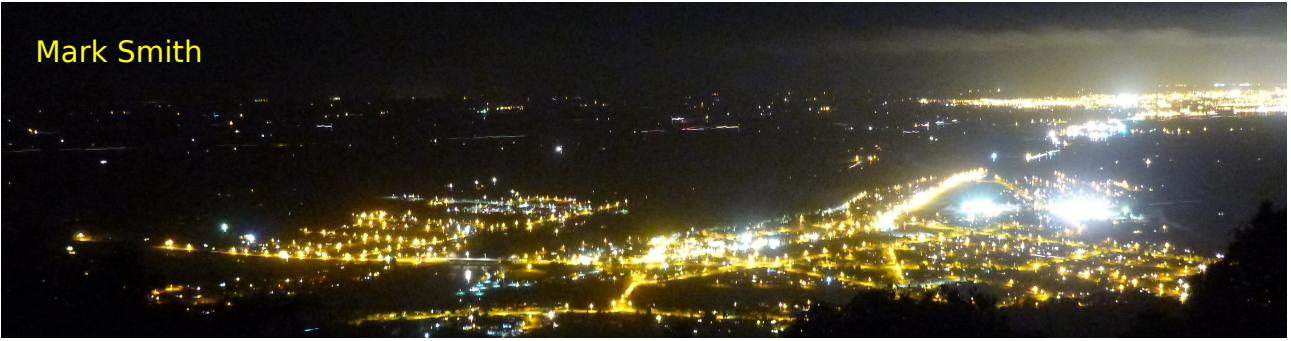
TO BE HELD IN WORLD RENOWNED CLIMBING DESTINATION OF  
**JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK**  
SEPT 27<sup>TH</sup> - OCT 3<sup>RD</sup>

- 7 nights / 6 days of camping at Joshua Tree Lake Campground w/ showers and wi-fi
- Three organic catered meals per day by Sierra Gourmet Catering
- 6 days of climbing in world renowned Joshua Tree
- Climb w/ knowledgeable locals and participants from around the globe
- Evening entertainment includes slide shows, live music, trips to hot springs, and the Star Show by Southern California Astronomy

Application and fee received by July 20<sup>th</sup>: \$435 USD / person.  
Application and fee received after July 20<sup>th</sup>: \$485 USD / person  
For info and application, go to: [americanalpineclub.org/p/internationalclimbersmeet](http://americanalpineclub.org/p/internationalclimbersmeet)  
or contact [icm@americanalpineclub.org](mailto:icm@americanalpineclub.org)

Gems in the Night Sky:

Mark Smith



In order to get my walking fix, I've been taking to going up the Hakarimata after work. Needless to say, it's been pretty dark on those evenings. I go up with my wife on those evenings. There are lots of stairs, but the company is good so they fly by.

The last month has had a fantastic night show going on with a major celestial dance between Venus and Jupiter. I got to thinking that others might enjoy it too. That show is just about over, but it turns out there's always almost always something interesting going on up in the heavens.

I have a simple camera, but it does have a long exposure capability. This picture was taken with an ISO800 setting, F3.3 and a 30s exposure.



If you look closely you can make out the two marker stars bottom center angled up and to the left at about  $45^\circ$ . In this picture Hadar is on top with Rigel Kent below. Together they point at Gacrux at the point of the constellation called Acrux otherwise known as the Southern Cross. Draw a line through the long axis and you'll find it more or less intersects a bright star. This star is called Achernar. From the half-way point between Acrux and Achernar, drop a line to the horizon, and that's south.

Descending early in the evening is the 3rd brightest in the sky. Venus has been clearly visible near the 4<sup>th</sup> brightest object in the sky Jupiter for about the last month. These objects are so bright, they are easily the first "stars" to appear in the heavens visible even while the sky still has some bluish tint to it. Here Venus is seen just above the horizon. I captured it with an aperture of F3.3 and a 20s exposure.



It's a bit hard to see on this format because it's been compressed, but the ground is just below Venus with the just barely visible silhouette of some trees.

This next picture is interesting because it clearly shows the Milky Way spanning from the top left to the bottom right. Those aren't clouds! Acrux is also clearly visible. Since this was taken with an aperture of F3.3



and the maximum exposure setting of 60s you can also see that the stars are no longer points of light, but clearly are tiny arcs of motion.

For this upcoming month, Jupiter will be set by about 1800 making it harder to see. Venus will follow shortly thereafter at around 1830. They're still right next to each other with Venus on top. Look to the west.

Another planet will be still be visible though. Saturn is way up high in the night sky right now. It won't be setting in the west until about 0200. Even with a modest pair of binoculars you can see the rings around this planet. What's amazing about that is that those rings are only about several hundred meters thick.

One more item I will mention in this article is NGC4755. This is colloquially known as "The Jewel Cluster." The "closest" star in the Acrux diamond constellation to Hadar is Mimosa ( $\beta$  Cru). Just beyond that is NGC4755. A modest pair of binoculars will reveal this fabulous deep space object. You can see this beautiful object [here](#). Credit goes to "ESO/Y. Beletsky - ESO. Licensed under CC BY 4.0 via Wikimedia Commons."

Mark Smith



### Notices:

- **Ruapehu Over Snow Shuttle / Taxi Service**

Mt Ruapehu is offering an over snow shuttle / taxi service to and from Club Lodges at Whakapapa that have over-snow access again for 2015. This service will start running as soon as snow conditions allow and will be announced on the Whakapapa snow report.

Prices for one trip are as follows. Children under 5 are free. No Cash. EFTPOS only.

Adult \$25  
Youth \$15  
Family \$45 (2x Adults + up to 3 children)

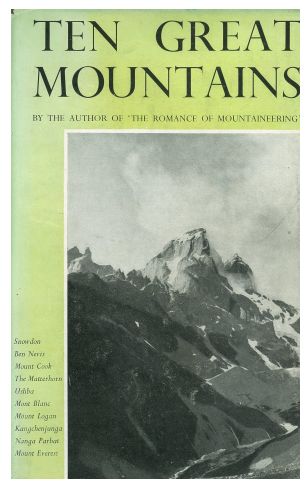
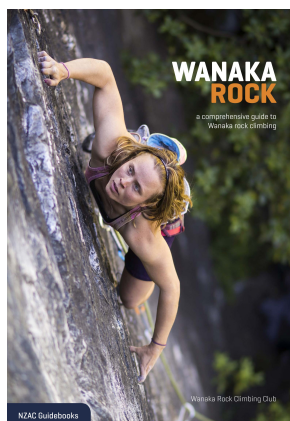
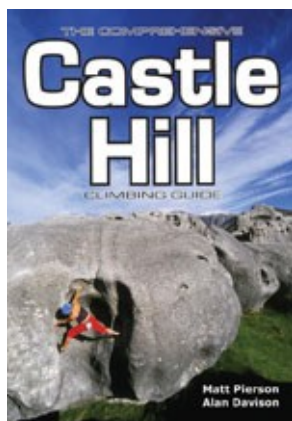
Please check the Whakapapa Weather Report to see if this service is running on the day. This service will only be available as snow and track conditions allow. A shuttle runs every Half Hour on Friday Evenings 5:30PM – 9:30PM. Pickup is on the snow road alongside LBC/Customer Services building.

No advance bookings required.

<http://www.mtruapehu.com/winter/product/?product=whakapapa-oversnow-shuttle>

- **Some more surplus books for sale**

There are some books for sale, surplus to our library requirements. Just \$5 each plus p&p. List [online](#). Contact [margaret@alpineclub.org.nz](mailto:margaret@alpineclub.org.nz) to check on availability.



- **For Sale** – Contact Shaun Norman at 034350622 or [shaun@highcountrynz.com](mailto:shaun@highcountrynz.com).

Ski – 174 Black Diamon Stigma, Binding – Fritschi Diamir, Skins – Black Diamond, Ski Crampons – Fritschi, Top Condition, little used due to injury. Asking: \$600.



- **Lost yellow La Sportiva Katanas**

Has anybody heard about a found pair of yellow La Sportiva Katanas up at Mangakewa? I left them up there on Monday April 27th (ANZAC weekend). They have a wearing out toe and a *distinctive aroma* so if somebody does have them I guessing that they would love to get rid of them ASAP. Thanks in advance for any help.

Simon Stewart  
021 0472860

- **Photo Competition to Open July 1**

Photocomp entries to open 1 July - there's no link, or prize details yet, but a notice in advance to ask people to get their images sorted would be good to get out to members.

- **LINZ seeks feedback on maps and topographical products**

Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) has released a new topographic strategy which ensures it reflects changing needs and uses for its topographic mapping products.

LINZ Group Manager Topography and Addressing, Aaron Jordan says that the trusty topo map has long been used by trampers and others in the outdoors.

“This strategy recognises the need to continue to produce accurate, high quality maps, but also reflects the growing number of digital uses for topographic data.”

LINZ will look at the potential for new digital versions of its data, that others can reuse it to created new products like mobile apps, software and websites.

“In developing the strategy, LINZ received feedback from trampers and other users. We appreciate the time people took to contribute and we considered all of their comments.

“Many of these comments were specifically about our maps and as a result we’ll be looking at how we can continue to gather user feedback and better prioritise the way we update our maps.

“As part of this we are currently carrying out a customer survey and map users are encouraged to participate. In addition, if people do have feedback on errors or omissions in our maps they can email [info@linz.govt.nz](mailto:info@linz.govt.nz).”

The New Zealand Topographic Strategy is [available on the LINZ website](#). The customer survey is also [available online](#).



- **Club Development Fund Raising**



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