



October 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	chairperson@alpinecentral.org.nz	021 619 564
Snowcraft Coordinator	Ray Long	snowcraft@alpinecentral.org.nz	027 461 8336
Treasurer	Marcus Bai	treasurer@alpinecentral.org.nz	027 305 4533
Secretary	Scott Robertson	secretary@alpinecentral.org.nz	021 221 8448
Gear Hire	Dennis Sanders	gearhire@alpinecentral.org.nz	021 130 2245
Banff Coordinator	Marcus Daws	banff@alpinecentral.org.nz	021 262 7549
Newsletter	Mark Smith	newsletter@alpinecentral.org.nz	021 418 694
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Committee	Cliff Ellery	c.ellery@nda.co.nz	027 455 3256
Committee	Lars Brabyn	larsb@waikato.ac.nz	07 855 8344



Events:

CNI Alpine Club AGM	
Date	2015-11-11
Time	19:30
Location	Tetra Pak Building Level 1 Waikato Innovation Park Melody Lane, Hamilton East 3214 (off of Ruakura Ln)
Organiser	NZAC CNI
Other	Beer, Wine, Pizza is supplied.

BMC International Winter Climbing Meet	
Date	2016-01-24 through 2016-01-31
Location	Glenmore Lodge, Aviemore, Scotland
Organiser	Becky McGovern <becky@thebmc.co.uk>
Reference	https://webforms.thebmc.co.uk/events/bmc-international-meets/federation-application-form-bmc-international-winter-climbing-meet-20
<p>The BMC is pleased to announce that next year's BMC International Winter Climbing Meet will be located in the Cairngorms (Scotland) which has some of the finest winter climbing in Britain. Your federation is invited to put forward two experienced winter climbers from your country. Preference will be given to climbers who have not attended a BMC International Meet before. Please note that if the meet is oversubscribed, places will be reduced to one per country. Please complete the online application form by 2015-10-19. Becky McGovern will contact all applying Federations by email by 27 October. Please do not make any bookings (flights, trains etc) until you have had confirmation from the BMC. The BMC International Meets are truly memorable events and we hope your federation will be able to take part.</p> <p><i>Please note that I am out the office from 2015-09-04 2015-10-12.</i></p>	

Mount Ngauruhoe Trip



September was the month of Ngauruhoe. On the evening of Friday 11th, Simon, Kent and myself met at the Mangatepopo Hut. We had played with ideas of going up Ngauruhoe over night, on Sunday morning, on Saturday early morning... I seldomly saw the weather report changing that often. However, we finally agreed on starting our approach Saturday 9:00am, which (so our hope) should provide us with nice weather and a great view once we arrived at the top.

Unfortunately, the ridge we used for our approach suddenly ended and we found ourselves looking at a big field of extremely dodgy snow on ice. The avalanche warning for the day was set to "considerable" - and so, after a long stare at the top (only about 100m away) we turned around. Simon returned to the hut on a very scenic route via the Tongariro summit, while Kent and I took the shortest route back - Kent due to time limitations, myself more due to fitness limitations.



Saturday, 9:00am. The weather was extremely cloudy, as expected. Full of positive expectations, we started. I have to admit, around 11:00am I started loosing my confidence. It rather looked like getting more and more cloudy instead of getting better. But of course, five minutes after I vocalised my concern, the clouds started fading and the sun came out. What a great feeling! What a great view!

Two weeks later, we tried again. This time, Kent, Bernie, Robert and myself met at Magatepopo Hut on Saturday evening. Nick joined us in the morning. Simon said he might meet us at the top. We started at 7:30am. Five minutes later, Simon joined us (running - and I'm pretty sure not just since 30 seconds) only to start leading the group - and if I remember correctly to be the first at the top. The weather was absolutely amazing. The snow was slush, but stable. At noon, the last group (including



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myself) made it to the top. We finally stood at the top of Ngauruhoe!

These two weekends were very enjoyable. Although most of us had not met before, we instantly formed a great community of people who love the outdoors, the mountains, and climbing them for the best reason in the world: because they are there. Our fitness levels

were quite different (with Simon the Machine at one end and myself on the other) but that did not matter at all. We all had a great time. I am planning to organise more of these trips (some in the snow, but I'm also thinking about summer trips). Mark Smith is planning to organise some rock climbing trips. I think it would be fantastic if we as the Alpine Club could do more of these trips together.



Notices:

- **K6 Pakistani Karakoram 2015 - Expedition Report**

Scott Bennett, Steve Swenson and Graham Zimmerman spent the summer of 2015 on a fruitful and very enjoyable expedition to the Pakistan Karakoram. They spent the months of July and August in the Nangmah Valley and during a season marked by poor conditions and bad weather in much of the range, were fortunate to open two beautiful and technical routes.

One of these first ascents was of Changi Tower a remote and technical 6500m rock tower and the other was the FA of the SW buttress of K6 West (7040m). The latter was a route which was chosen after the intended objective (the central pillar of the south face below K6 central) was deemed too dangerous to warrant an attempt. <https://alpineclub.org.nz/expedition-fund/reports/grants/history> .

- **Notice of the 2015 NZAC AGM**

The 2015 Annual general meeting of NZAC will be held in Christchurch at 7pm on Friday the 20th of November. Venue to be advised. Any Member may nominate a candidate for the positions of Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and the Executive, Accommodation and Publications Conveners. The role of Publications Convener is currently vacant.

In recent years, the AGM has been held alongside a debate. If you have any suggestions as to what the debate topic should be or who should participate, e-mail office@alpineclub.org.nz.

- **Photography Workshop Now Open**

The registrations are now open for the Photography Workshop.

<https://alpineclub.org.nz/event/2015/12/03/mountain-photography-workshop/mark-watson> .



NZAC MOUNTAIN PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP
Summer 2015

Join landscape photographer Mark Watson for four days of mountain photography tuition at Aoraki Mount Cook National Park. Based out of NZAC's Unwin Lodge we'll be shooting exciting locations dawn and dusk, combined with workshop and tutoring time during the day.

Small group (max 8 people)
Workshops will cover equipment, landscape photography techniques and post processing.
See www.alpineclub.org.nz for more.
Mark Watson: www.highlux.co.nz

- **NZAC 2106 Alpine Calendar**

Looking for the ultimate alternative to naff Christmas cards? Why not get your overseas friends and relatives one of the NZAC's 2016 calendars instead! Our calendars showcase the best from our very own Photo Comp and so make a unique gift. We are taking pre-orders and expect these to be in stock around the second week of October. <https://alpineclub.org.nz/product/nzac-alpine->

[calendar-2016](#)

From The Desk of the General Manager

Dear NZAC Member,

Click...there goes daylight savings! Spring has officially arrived. Time to stow away the skis and ice tools – after work cragging is now an option. With plenty of snow around still up high, though, there is still some fantastic ski touring to be had. There are a tonne of section trips and instruction courses scheduled for this summer. Keep an eye on your section newsletters (and even take a sneaky peek at your neighbouring section's) for some great opportunities to get out there. As always, it has been pretty flat out at NZAC. A quick round-up:



Photocomp

Thanks to all the keen photographers who entered the Photographic Competition this year. There were many strong images; always a reminder of the incredible places and moments club members are witness to in their adventures. Congratulations especially to Derek Cheng, with Sunrise in the Khumbu (pictured above) taking the top honours. [View all the winning images here](#). Thanks to Alpine Recreation, Scarpa and Marmot for their generous support!

NZAC Calendar – now 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 \$18. Grab one for your work or home, then grab another couple for Christmas presents for difficult to-buy-for friends and family.

NZAC Photography Workshop- registrations open

Always popular, the NZAC Photography workshop is back in Summer 2015. Aimed at already competent photographers who want to further their skills in landscape photography – particularly in an alpine environment – it will be led by experienced climber and professional photographer [Mark Watson](#). Four days at Unwin Lodge, capturing the grandeur of the Aoraki Mount Cook National Park under the tutelage of a world-class photographer – what could be better? [Info and registrations here](#)

Back Country Ski Course and the new Glacier Skiing Course

This has been our busiest season for skiing and touring courses with both the Intro to Backcountry and the inaugural Glacier Skiing course filling up. The fantastic feedback from the participants is testament to the skill of lead instructor Nick Cradock, assisted on the two courses respectively by Lyida Bradey and Roger Hodson. What a lineup!

Mountain Skills for Youth Course

What the youth course lacked in size this year it made up for in enthusiasm with three keen aspiring alpinists ranging from 16-18 being put through their paces by experienced mountain man Gunther Hammer. Thanks to everyone who got involved this year.

NiBS – live Sky Sport Broadcast

NZAC has organised the National Indoor Bouldering Series for many years, but this is the first time that it has been broadcast on television. After three successful legs of the series in Christchurch, Wellington and Hamilton, the leader board was crowded for the final Auckland leg. The result was one of the most exciting climbing finals we've seen: You can view the [finals here](#) and the [main round here](#).

Antarctic Heritage Trust Inspiring Explorers Expedition 2015

Our friends at the Antarctic Heritage Trust have organised a fully sponsored ski-touring trip attempting to repeat Shackleton's crossing of the sub-Antarctic island of South Georgia from King Haakon Bay to Stromness to mark the centenary of the original crossing. Applications were sought for three young people to represent the three nationalities of the original party – English, Irish and Kiwi. I was fortunate enough to sit on the selection panel and the chance to interact with so many inspiring young explorers was fantastic. Congratulations to NZAC member Tom MacTavish for winning the Kiwi slot. It will be a great expedition, which we can all follow [here](#).

Homer Hut – 50 year anniversary

It has been fifty years since the Southland Section of NZAC built and opened the current Homer Hut. This Labour Weekend they ask you to join them in celebrating this occasion with a programme of climbing on the Saturday and Monday, along with an alpine barbeque lunch and speeches on the Sunday. **Registrations** are essential.

North Island Ski Touring Meet

Now firmly established on the NZAC events calendar and befitting from a huge increase in the popularity of ski touring, the 2015 Ski touring meet was held on 18th-20th of September at Tukino, Mt Ruapehu. 30 odd keen-beans had a stunning bluebird day in the backcountry on Saturday. The group witnessed a massive dump of snow on the Saturday night whilst beating Phil the Pinata to death during the Mexican themed fiesta. Fresh snow on the Sunday posed some avalanche hazard, but a fun time was had by all.

Annual Report – AGM – a new President

Various office holders and committee chairs within NZAC have been busily writing up their component of the annual report, due to be published in the next two weeks. The 2014/15 financial year has a lot to celebrate for NZAC. A healthy operating surplus allowed us to invest significant amounts into capital expenditure projects. Membership of NZAC recently reached a record high of 3,358 members.

The 2015 Annual General Meeting of NZAC will be held in Christchurch at 7pm on Friday the 20th of November. Any member may nominate a candidate for the positions of Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and the Executive, Accommodation and Publications Conveners. The role of Publications Convener is currently vacant.

At the AGM, **Penny Brothers**, will assume her two year term as NZAC President and **John Cocks** will step down into a one year term as outgoing President.

In recent years, the AGM has been held alongside a debate. If you have any suggestions as to what the debate topic should be or who should participate, e-mail office@alpineclub.org.nz, along with any nominations to Club Committee positions.

Volunteer of the Year award – nominations required

As we all know, NZAC is largely driven and made successful by dozens and dozens of hard-working and skilled volunteers. The scope and depth of work carried out by volunteers for the club is extraordinary. We are extremely lucky to have such fantastic people contribute across a variety of areas. If you have brushed up against someone volunteering for NZAC and think they deserve some recognition (they ALL do), please knock up a quick email and send it to office@alpineclub.org.nz. The **Volunteer of the Year** will be awarded at the AGM.

Thanks for being part of a great club.

Since 1891,

Sam Newton
General Manager
New Zealand Alpine Club

<http://us8.campaign-archive1.com/?u=23ea7cb21f4882cf3f0d4f15c&id=4046b5093c&e=c28e014ecb>