



Tracey Laga and Bridget Romanes high in the clouds on the Routeburn in December

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COMMITTEE & CLUB CONTACTS

COMMITTEE	NAME	PHONE NO	EMAIL ADDRESS
President	Miranda Hutton	022 6488 733	president@alpinesport.org.nz
Vice President 1	Jenny Hudson	021 626330	jenny@alpinesport.org.nz
Vice President 2	Johann Schoonees	0210 245 2147	johann@alpinesport.org.nz
Secretary	Carolyn Blackford	022 651 6066	secretary@alpinesport.org.nz
Treasurer	Bruce Dwerryhouse	09 575 0480	treasurer@alpinesport.org.nz
Membership Secretary	Jeanette Davidson	021 432 191	Membership@alpinesport.org.nz
Tours Officer	Greg Munford	021166 6726	tours@alpinesport.org.nz
Ruapehu Buildings Co-ordinator	Nicolas Roberts	022102355065	ruapehu@alpinesport.org.nz
Ruapehu Operations Co-ordinator	Ian Seddon	027 431 3799	ruapehu@alpinesport.org.nz
Events Co-ordinators	Keri and Eric Horn	021 914 173	kerianderic@alpinesport.org.nz
Wāitakere Hut Liaison	Mike Frith	021 0272 8662	mike@alpinesport.org.nz

CLUB APPOINTMENTS

Website and database	Clive Bolt	09 534 2946	clive@alpinesport.org.nz
Fundraising Officer	Jane Adams	021 571 300	jane@alpinesport.org.nz
Wāitakere Regional Park Liaison	John Mackay	09 303 2774	john@alpinesport.org.nz
Alpinesport Editor	Fiona Heenan	021 633 834	media@alpinesport.org.nz
Social Media Co-ordinator	Jeanine Scholey	022 500 8902	janscholey@gmail.com
FMC magazine distribution & Advisor	Warren Whyte	027 675 2147	wandjwhyte@xtra.co.nz
Club Gear for Hire (PLB'S)	Murray Davidson	09 528 4504	ddjhmjnz@gmail.com
Club Gear for Hire (climbing and snowcraft)	Brian Duffy	09 528 3782	bwd742@gmail.com
Thursday Walks Co-ordinator	Clive Bolt	09 534 2946	thursday.walks@alpinesport.org.nz
Midis and Midis Plus Co-ordinator	Sherilyn Coney	0274 360 680	sconey@xtra.co.nz
Summer Camp Co-ordinators	Mark Roberts	021 083 36285	tours@alpinesport.org.nz
	Miranda Hutton	022 648 8733	miranda@alpinesport.org.nz
Club records archivist	Jenny Hudson	021 626 330	email@alpinesport.org.nz
Ruapehu bookings	Justine Checketts	027 240 4628	bookings@alpinesport.org.nz
Ruapehu hut wardens			aframe@alpinesport.org.nz
RUAPEHU A-FRAME PHONE NUMBER		07 892 3710	

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.



Miranda Hutton, Club President.

President's Column

March 2025

Kia ora koutou,

We have had beautiful February weather and plenty of chances for swimming and outdoor activities. Easter is around the corner, and we have the ASC Easter Camp booked at the Pirongia Forest Park Lodge. The Thursday Walks and Sunday Walks programmes are up and running, and we have a Small People on Big Hills urban adventure booked for April. We would like to have plenty of SPBH trips this year. Please get in touch with Jared Haslemore if you would like to lead a SPBH trip, or simply go to the website and click the link on the What's On page to have it published. **Planning a trip?** Click [here](#) to have it published.

Winter at Ruapehu is looking promising. You can pre-purchase discounted season passes in March, including the amazing FREE pass for children 10 years and under. This is only available if you pre-purchase in March, so check the whakapapa.com website.

Please volunteer to attend a Working Bee at Ruapehu this month. See the dates later in the magazine and contact Nicholas Roberts, our Ruapehu Buildings Officer if you can help.

We have our first formal Club Night for the year next week, Tuesday 4th of March at 7.30pm. We will start the evening with a brief **Special General Meeting** to make a change to our revised constitution, so our club's name will officially exist as *Alpine Sports Club*, without the word "The" in the title. Thank you to Jenny Hudson for organising this. Sue and Brian Fitzpatrick will then entertain us with a presentation about their *Camino Portuguese* trek.

Our wonderful Alpinesport Editor Fiona Heenan will be stepping down after the May 2025 issue. If you have some spare time and would be willing to work with Microsoft Publisher, Fiona would happily give it to you and talk you through how to collate the magazine. Special thanks to Fiona's son Sam who is putting together the March edition while Fiona sails up the country.

There has been much work from the committee in the background this month. We are analysing current membership numbers, type and trends, the fixed costs of the club, and the bunk nights at the Ruapehu and Waitākere Huts. The new membership rates will come out at the end of March and reflect this research. Thank you to John MacKay who has attended the FMC Korero and the Regional Parks committee meeting on our behalf.

All the best wishes for an enjoyable March.

Ngā mihi,

Miranda Hutton

GENERAL NEWS & NOTICES

NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING AND CLUB NIGHT - 7:30 PM, TUESDAY 4 MARCH 2025

St Mark's Church Parish Hall, 95 Remuera Road

AGENDA

**Proposed Amendment to the Revised Constitution Approved at the Club's AGM
held on 4 June 2024 - Minor Change to the Club Name**

1. The purpose of the meeting is to pass the following resolutions:-

RESOLVED:

- i) that the previously adopted Constitution of the Club, prepared in compliance with the 2022 Incorporated Societies Act, be amended to show the name of the Club as the "Alpine Sports Club Incorporated" instead of "The Alpine Sports Club (Incorporated)" and under Interpretation, the first line be amended to read "Club" means the "Alpine Sports Club Incorporated"
- ii) In accordance with i) above, that any consequential amendments to the Constitution be made as necessary.
- iii) That the name of the Club be amended to the "Alpine Sports Club Incorporated" instead of "The Alpine Sports Club (Incorporated)" in any other statutory or official documents and/or registers, as deemed necessary.

2. Reason for proposed amendment

The Club's Constitution was redrafted to align with the requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 and approved by members at last year's AGM. On the advice of the Treasurer, Bruce Derryhouse, it will be filed with the Companies Office just before 31 March 2025 to tie in with new financial reporting requirements, which take effect as soon as the new Constitution is legally approved.

Our existing and new Constitution documents both refer to the club name as "**The** Alpine Sports Club (Incorporated)". However, we have received advice from the Companies Office that we cannot include "**The**" in our club name.

Furthermore, the club name currently registered with the Companies Office and the IRD is "Alpine Sports Club Incorporated" without "The." The name on our main bank accounts is also "Alpine Sports Club Incorporated" whereas the Waitakere Hut Certificates of Title are in the name of "The Alpine Sports Club Incorporated".

While both versions have been used interchangeably for decades, we must now follow the advice of the Companies Office and amend the Club name to be consistent across all statutory documents.

CLUB NIGHTS RESUME

TUESDAY MARCH 4th

St.Marks Hall, Remeura road.

7.30pm

A short special general meeting, followed by a talk
by Brian and Sue Fitzpatrick

on

Their Portuguese Camino trek.

“The club acknowledges with much sadness the passing of Ray Bareham on 30 January 2025. Ray joined the club when his partner Elaine Hall (since deceased) was active on the committee and participated in many of our Thursday walks and attended club nights.

Ray was laid to rest on 5th February 2025.”



The latest FMC newsletter is available here :<https://fmc.org.nz/what-we-do/publications/fmc-newsletters/>

Reminder about the availability of the new map of the Waitakere Ranges

Peter Hutton would like to remind members about the availability of the new map of the Waitakeres published in 2024 which is at 1:25,000 (that is 4 times the area of the usual :50,000 map) The detail is amazing.



Some members may have purchased one last year via Carolyn Blackford's order for club members, but if you missed out you can get one from Geoff Aitken at the email address below

Email Geoff Aitken newtopo@xtra.co.nz for a copy.

RUAPEHU WORKING BEES 2025.....

The club needs your help at the upcoming Ruapehu Working Bees

We would like to include all helpers this year including families with either helping or non-helping children.

Families can attend with either 1 or 2 parents helping depending on kids' ages/supervision requirements. We will have a range of jobs.

We have adjusted the date of the next working bee

8th & 9th March <= updated date

29th & 30th March

However we are always flexible due to weather and may postpone if required.

The main aim is to finish the painting of the roof after getting half way through last year.

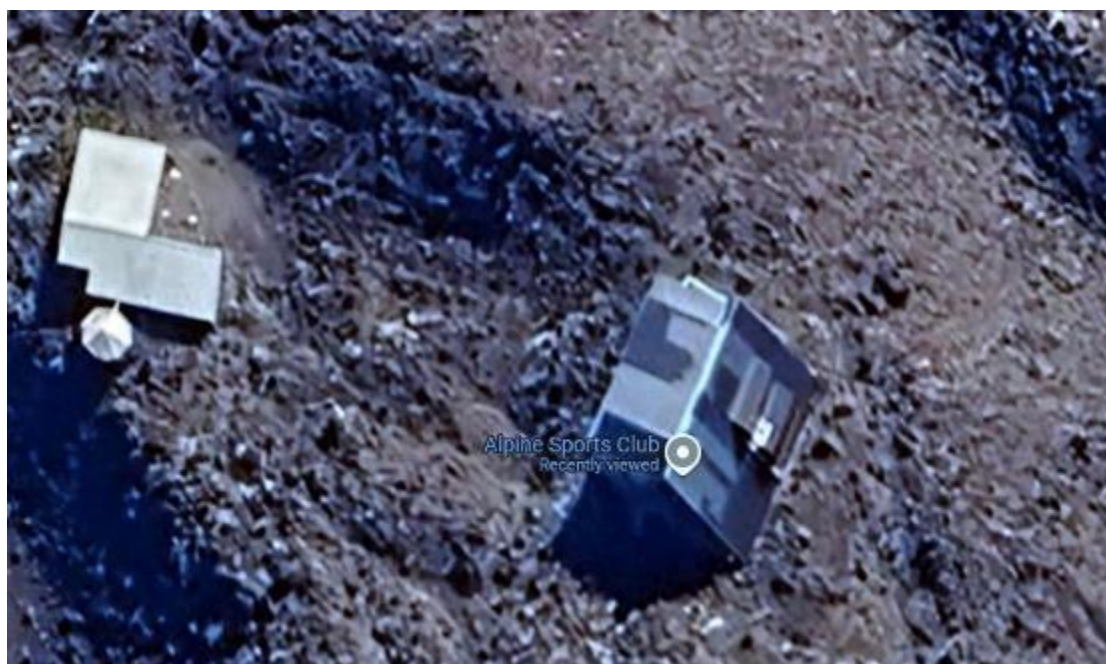
This will involve ladders, harnesses and working at heights.

We are looking for a small group of volunteers who are comfortable working on the roof but will also have a number of smaller jobs at ground level.

Including rebuilding a wall following last years hot water cylinder replacement.

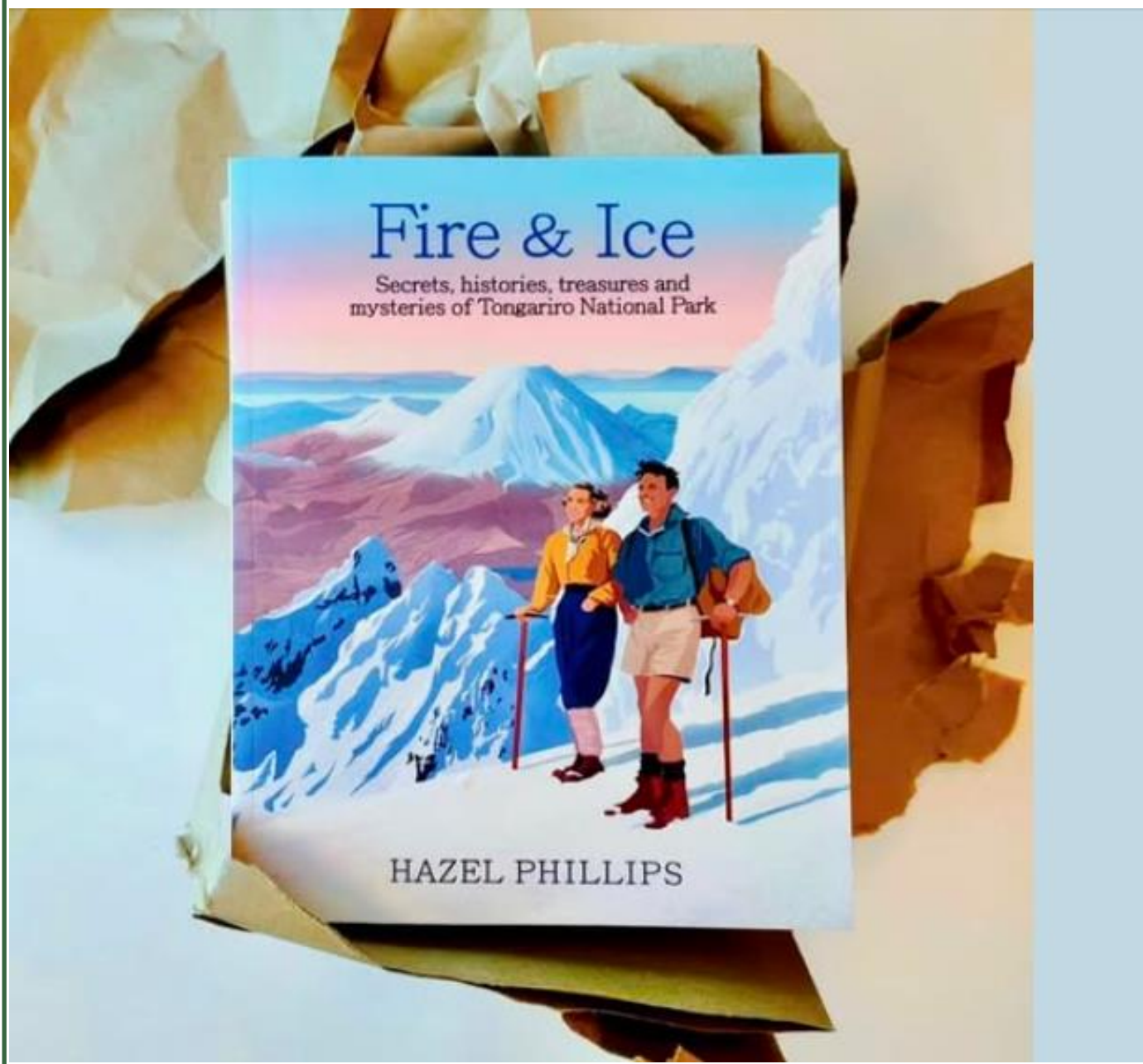
Please let Nicholas know at ruapehu@alpinesport.org.nz if you can help.

Even Google's satellite images show our half finished coat.



This new book from Hazel Phillips will be released May 8th. It's about the backcountry history of Tongariro National Park and it has everything from derelict huts to mysterious fires, ghosts, plane wrecks, old memorials, sly grogging and carrot waving. You can preorder or find more info at the link below or walk into a bookstore from May 8 to grab one like we did in the olden days. Hazel says "The book was hugely fun to research and write, and I hope it's equally fun for people to read."

♥ <https://www.masseypress.ac.nz/books/fire-and-ice>



UPCOMING TRIPS EVENTS.

2025 weekend day trip tramping programme

We are currently putting together a program of day trips for the first half of 2025.

If you have some ideas of places to visit or are willing to lead a trip please contact Warren Whyte on 09 528 4824 or wandjwhyte@xtra.co.nz

We also have several ideas for trips should you need some help in this direction.

SMALL PEOPLE ON BIG HILLS - TAWHARANUI ECOLOGY TRAIL - TAWHARANUI REGIONAL PARK

16th February 2025

Meet at the Anchor Bay car park 10:30am. Intention is to do the Ecology trail which is 90min walk suitable for all. For those that would want to join we'd finish off with a picnic back at Anchor Bay and a swim.
Bring suitable shoes and clothes for the weather, lunch, and togs.

Trip leader: Jared Haslemore

SUNDAY WALK—COSSEY-MASSEY LOOP WALK, HUNUA RANGES REGIONAL PARK

Sunday March 9th 2025

Meet at 9.30am at the Hunua Falls Parking area, located at the end of Falls Road, Hunua. Note early start due to limited car parking. We will walk up the Massey on a metalled and steps track to the ridge then lunch at the Cossey Dam.

Descent is via the Cossey Gorge Track also metalled and steps down. This walk is 8km long with a total ascent of 394m and 397m descent through lovely native bush so lots of shade. Suggest bring something to sit on, like a plastic bag, for morning tea and lunch stops.

Contact **Marion Browne** with numbers attending or for any further information. Phone 021 1479264 or email mbrowne@xtra.co.nz

WHATIPU TO PARARAHU RETURN

Saturday April 5th 2025

Meet at 9.30 am at the end of the Whatipu Road at the Whatipu Beach carpark.

Walk over the hills along the Gibbons and Muir tracks to the Les Ward Shelter by the Pararaha Stream for lunch, and return along the beach visiting the Whatipu caves on the way.

See <https://nztramper.com/gibbons-track-muir-track-pararaha-valley-track-to-beach-loop/> for details.

This is a trip which has not been done by our club for some years. It has always been very popular with tramping groups, school groups and family groups. Prior to the 1950's the caves were used for Saturday night dances and social functions. Whatipu area has an interesting history so do join us - we would love to have your company.

Contact leaders: Calin Cascaval and Anca Suvaiala on 022 408 2800 or email calin@cascaval.us or anca@cascaval.us

SMALL PEOPLE ON BIG HILLS – MAUNGAKIEKIE /ONE TREE HILL NATURE WALK AND PICNIC

Saturday April 5th 2025

We will explore a loop track around the cone off the main track in the long grass, climb grassy hills, climb trees, find the fairy tree and slide down grassy slopes and end up back at the car park for a shared picnic early dinner. Suitable for all ages. Not pram suitable, little ones in front or backpacks.

Meet at 2:45pm at the grassy knoll behind the Sorrento carpark on the Royal Oak side of One Tree Hill. Please arrive on time as we will leave at for walk at 3pm. We will walk around the cone off the track, it may take between 60-90mins to go around at kid pace and playing as they go.

Bring snacks, drinks, sturdy shoes and warm/waterproof clothing for some off-track exploring this beautiful maunga. Bring picnic dinner and picnic rugs for early dinner picnic (leave in car) after the walk.

Contact Abi to register abimaeraymond@gmail.com

EASTER CAMP—PIRONGIA FOREST PARK LODGE

18th to 22nd April -

Easter camp will be upon us before we know it and this year we're heading to Pirongia Forest Park Lodge. Another great location not far from Auckland and bordering an awesome bush to explore. Easter camp is a very family friendly weekend away.

Dates: Friday 18 April 9am until Tuesday 23 April 3pm. There is the possibility of extending through Wednesday and Thursday if there is enough interest given it's school holidays. **Cost: \$120 pp for the weekend.**

Camping: there are spaces for camping, but this isn't in addition to the bunk-rooms. Spaces are limited so book in quickly by email-ing janeprestonnz@gmail.com. Bookings will be confirmed with payment.

THURSDAY WALK—MANGEMANGEROA WALKWAY REVISITED

Thursday 10th April 2025

Mangmangeroa Walkway was devastated by Cyclone Gabrielle in February 2023 and has recently been restored. This is an opportunity to check out the restoration work. We will meet at Sandspit Road, Shelley Beach, Howick to explore the walkway in both directions. Bring your lunch and drink. The walk includes steps and some short steep sections. It's not a flat walk, but the breathtaking views and bush experience make the effort well worth it. For meeting time and more detail or any changes to the plan please contact the leader. Leader: Sue FitzPatrick – suzette@knockbane.co.nz or 021 111 5356

SUNDAY WALK—TIRITIRI MATANGI

Sunday May 4th 2025

Details to follow later

Leader Carolyn Blackford

SUNDAY WALK—WAIHEKE ISLAND COASTAL WALK

Sunday June 8th 2025

Details to follow later

Leader Susan Stephens

NGATUHOA LODGE WEEKEND

Labour Weekend 2025

More details closer to the time



Reuben Roberts back flipping on the ridge somewhere near Whetu on the way to Kaweka

Photo: Nicholas Roberts