



Newsletter of the  
West Coast Alpine Club

Another year rolls around for the WCAC. Alan sums this up in the WCAC 2011- 2012 Presidents Report:

*It's been another very successful year for us, as a club. Membership has doubled over the last 12 months thanks to the climbing wall. Club members have been active in mountain biking, mountaineering, rambling, bushwalking, track cutting, potholing, rock climbing and kayaking and much more.*

*The success of the club relies on the good work of committee members to keep it going. Many thanks go out to the committee with particular thanks to Mary for her work as Club Captain for the year. Special thanks also to Rose for her work as Treasurer and Rachel as Secretary. Thanks also goes out to Evan for keeping the website up to date, Jonny for upkeep of the Club Hut and for all the committee members involved in the running of the Climbing wall.*

*When I consider all we do in the outdoors and the reason for it all, it's mostly just for the love of it. What could be a better motivation for putting up with the challenges and at times hard ship but just for the joy of doing it and discovering something new about yourselves in the process. Here's to another great year in the outdoors,*

*Yours in the Hills  
Alan Jemison  
WCAC President May 2012*

ED



↑ Jason Blair  
Sven carving in Bills Basin on opening weekend at Temple Basin Skifield

## Where in the West

The challenging WITW photo from our pres, Alan, was in fact: Top Toaroa, Balintine Flat, from slopes of Mt Ballentine. No one guessed it, so the prize jackpots to the next issue when Where in the West returns.

## Profile: Mary Trayes

» Jack Grinstead

Mary is many things including an ex-PE teacher, an ex-Australian, and currently a grandmother.

However, I would like to share with you the WCAC Mary that I have got to know over the past 5 years or so. Mary the climber, Mary the exploration caver, Mary the geologist, Mary the West Coast geographic oracle, and Mary the WCAC life member... overall, a huge contribution to the West Coast and the WCAC.

If you've been climbing at the Greymouth Climbing Wall, you will no doubt have come across Mary. She's there most Thursdays sorting out memberships, collecting money, and ensuring punters are clear on the rules. And if you are one to bend the rules, like me (or you don't know

them yet), you might experience the ex-PE teacher Mary. But don't worry - her bite isn't as hard as her bark.

Mary has excelled in many different roles for more than 20 years within the club including: editor of the newsletter and centennial magazines, trip leader, general motivator, and the list goes on. She was awarded the Club Cup for Outstanding Service to the WCAC no less than six times (1989, 1990, 1992, 1994, 2004, and 2011). Mary has recently stepped down from her position as club captain, but we know she will continue to keep things moving along outside of the committee. In fact, almost all of the nine people present at the last committee meeting raised an issue relayed to them by Mary.

From cave exploration south of Jacksons Bay, to studying landslides on the Karamea coast, to co-ordinating the Coast Cave and Vertical Rope Rescue group team: she packs a great deal into her schedule. Exploring and mapping the Te Ana Puta Cave system is one of her many proud achievements.

If there is something you want to know about a certain track, cave, or any other adventure or geography/geology related thing on the Coast - chances are Mary will know the answer. And when it comes to organising and making things happen, Mary is renowned for an exceptional ability. Mary you're a legend - a big thanks goes out to you from everyone for all your hard work thus far.

# It's all about the snow!

» *Katie Grinsted*

Over the weekend of 26 & 27 May ten members of the West Coast Alpine Club gathered at Arthur's Pass HQ to take part in a Basic Alpine Skills Course under the instruction of Jack Grinsted.

Arriving on Friday night after a delicious feed at The Junction Honey Cafe at Kumara, the team were ready to get started. It was evident that not all participants had remembered their homework but the search for answers proved to be a not only educational but humorous 'icebreaker' activity. The humour continued with struggles to fit crampons to boots in preparation for the desired snow and ice the following day.

Come Saturday, limited snowfall in the Arthur's Pass region

interfered with the original plans so the group had to work a bit harder for their snow experience, driving and then tramping up the Broken River Ski Field.

Fortunately, there was enough snow to learn a thing or two about slope angle and avalanche risk; and to practise self-arrests, to charge up to the ridge with crampons on, and to build an impressive snow cave!

Overnight, the weather set in so by Sunday there was little chance for any more snow time. After a brief introduction to avalanche transceivers, the team headed back to Kumara for lunch at the Cafe and a powerpoint presentation by Josh on weather and avalanche forecasting.

Cheers for running the course Jack and Josh, tumeke!



↑ *Tim Mora*



↑ *Katie Grinsted*



↑ *Katie Grinsted*



↑ *Katie Grinsted*



↑ Jason Blair

*Karen practices bringing up a second at the Charleston climbing weekend.*



*Murky conditions on the Snowcraft trip.*

↑ Tim Mora



↑ Jason Blair

*Jack and Lis checking out trenches and tunnels during the Charleston Camp.*



↑ Jason Blair

*Sven, Michelle, Rachel, Brittany and Phil enjoy great early season conditions on Temple Basin opening day.*



Boots is the semi-regular newsletter of the West Coast Alpine Club. You can contact us by email: [admin@westcoastalpineclub.org.nz](mailto:admin@westcoastalpineclub.org.nz)

W.C.A.C  
P.O. Box 136  
Greymouth 7805  
New Zealand

# WEST COAST ALPINE CLUB INFORMATION SHEET 2011 - 12

www.westcoastalpineclub.org.nz

<b>COMMITTEE</b>			
<b>President</b>	Alan Jemison *	03 762 6060 (H)	alanj.98@family.net.nz
<b>Vice President</b>	Samara Martin	03 768 4590 (H)	samaramartin@hotmail.com
<b>Secretary</b>	Rachel Berry *	03 755 8811 (H)	rachelberry@paradise.net.nz
<b>Treasurer</b>	Karen Grant	03 769 9607 (Wk)	kareng@tpp.ac.nz
<b>Club Captain</b>	Jason Blair	03 768 6221 (H) 021 2455240 (Cell)	jasonblair@orcon.net.nz
<b>General Committee:</b>			
<b>Webmaster</b>	Evan Hunt	03 768 9489 (H)	evanhunt@xtra.co.nz
<b>Gear Hire Custodian</b>	Jonny Horrox	03 762 6132 (H)	jh@wrc.govt.nz
<b>Climbing Wall Liaison</b>	Jack Grinsted	027 481 4222 (Cell)	jackgrinsted@gmail.com
<b>Committee Member</b>	Rose Burrell	03 762 5527 (H)	burrellg@hotmail.com
<b>Committee Member</b>	Denise Mayes	027 682 4064 (Cell)	[not on email]
<b>Committee Member</b>	John Burrell	03 762 5527	jhnburrell667@gmail.com
<b>Committee Member</b>	Frith Dollimore	027 753 4880 (Cell)	frithdollimore@gmail.com

Subs due: Adult: \$30 School Student: \$15 Family: \$35 Newsletter Only: \$15

## Club Hut - Arthur's Pass

The club maintains a 13 bunk hut in the Arthur's Pass Village. The key code for the front door is available from committee members as asterisked above. The Hut is available to members and approved non-members (e.g. former members, friends and other tramping clubs etc). To ensure fair use of the hut for all, those wishing to stay longer than 5 nights must get permission from a club officer first.

General hut use is on a 'first come first served basis,' but note that Club Snowcraft Course weekends have priority use. It is also possible to book the hut for your exclusive use by applying to the Committee in advance and paying a deposit. This is then advertised to all members. General users can use the Club E-Group to let others know they intend to use the hut (see below).

A fire warden must be appointed for the duration of your stay (as per our Fire Permit) and any problems at the Hut, e.g. with plumbing, should be reported promptly to a committee member. Before leaving Hut users should organise the method of fee payment, sign the Hut Log Book, and ensure the Hut is secure. For more information see the latest Hut Information Sheet and/or read the notices at the Hut.

**Hut Fees/night:**

<b>Members:</b>	\$8 per for adults and \$4 for school children
<b>Non Members:</b>	\$16 per for adults and \$8 for school children

## Hut fees should be paid promptly in one of three ways

- Put money in Hut Box (with names of those who stayed and when)
- Mail your payment to the WCAC Treasurer at PO Box 136 Greymouth, 7840
- Pay by direct credit to the Club Account at ASB Greymouth. Account No. 12 3168 0044967 02

## Club Gear Hire

The gear is located at Jonny Horrox's home, 15 Dowling Street, Paroa. Email jh@wrc.govt.nz OR 'phone 03 762 6132. Hire equipment includes ice axes, crampons, harnesses, helmets at great prices. Good value for beginners. Adequate notice is appreciated but last minute gear hiring is fine, anytime, providing you can track him down.

## Club E-Group

If you wish to send a message to other members via the Clubs Email Group List, please email your message to either the Secretary or Club Captain and put 'Circulate WCAC' in the Subject Line. Messages can include letting others know you intend to use the Club Hut, trip details, changes to trips, news items etc.