

AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first newsletter from the Tūpiki Trust. As someone we know who has a real passion for climbing, we thought you would be interested in who we are and what we have been up to – so we have taken the liberty of sending you this report. We hope you find it of interest and would like to keep you up-to-date in the future.

THOUGHTS FROM THE TŪPIKI TRUST CHAIR.

It was a privilege to launch this innovative organisation, aimed at providing funding to support climbing and climbing areas, at this year's NZ Mountain Film and Book Festival in Wanaka. The NZAC Tūpiki Trust is an entirely new approach to bringing together those who are keen to donate to a sport they are passionate about and those who are planning worthwhile climbing related projects and we are excited about the potential we have to make a long term difference.



Trust chair Dr Ross Cullen

The idea of establishing a charitable trust to foster and support New Zealand climbing, and to protect New Zealand climbing areas, began some years ago when the late John Nankervis, Geoff Gabites, Dave Bamford and I debated how to shape an organization that would endure, earn trust from the climbing community, and accumulate funds from which we could make grants to support New Zealand Alpine Club projects and other climbing related people and organisations.

Working closely with the NZAC board, a Trust Deed was drafted and jointly agreed, and The NZAC Tūpiki Trust was formally registered late in 2021. The four original proponents became the trustees of Tūpiki Trust (each is a past President of NZAC) and were joined on the Trust board by the then NZAC President Lindsay Smith.

Four months after the establishment of the Trust, its chair John Nankervis passed away, but not before he and other donors had committed to provide substantial financial support for the work of the Trust, securing its future and allowing the first grants to be agreed. That strong start enabled us to announce our first major project support in Wanaka and it was fitting that the first grant to be announced was a substantial financial contribution to the cost of rebuilding the iconic Aspiring Hut, 60km up the Matukituki Valley from our launch event,

Built from stones carried from the nearby Matukituki River in 1948-49, Aspiring Hut faces major challenges meeting today's building codes, earthquake requirements and the pressure of huge numbers of visitors each year. Addressing these issues, the hut's owners the New

Zealand Alpine Club, in partnership with the Department of Conservation and the Backcountry Trust have embarked on an ambitious project to rebuild the hut, keeping its iconic features while carrying out the structural, material and construction changes needed to meet modern building and earthquake requirements.

While further fundraising is still required to cover the total cost of the project, (See story below) the Tūpiki Trust's \$200,000 contribution has given the NZAC confidence to proceed with gaining the consents for this important development.

In addition to this significant first grant, we announced support for two smaller but equally important projects. The climbing community is planning to undertake a major overhaul of www.ClimbNZ.org.nz, the online database which has become a critical planning tool for climbers (bouldering, rock and alpine) from throughout Aotearoa and Tūpiki Trust has agreed to contribute \$30,000 once the planning for the project is complete. And a further \$10,000 is being invested in supporting the national growth of the highly successful Mature Mountaineers meetings which have proven so successful in Christchurch over many years.

Ross Cullen

Chair – NZAC Tūpiki Trust

GRANTS ROUND CLOSES SOON

If you need funding for a project which promotes any of the many genres of climbing in Aotearoa, aims to improve access to, or the care and protection of our climbing areas, the Tūpiki Trust is keen to hear from you this month. The Trust holds two grant application rounds each year, and the current round closes on 1 September 2022, so you will need to lodge an application soon.

What sort of projects are the Trust looking to support? Our aims are spelt out in detail on the Application Form, and we will give consideration to projects which address those aims. Within that overall direction, we are keen to hear from those who need funding to help with innovative projects which will make a long-term difference.

We are looking to support projects which have been well thought out and have good teams planning and implementing them. While our partnership with the New Zealand Alpine Club is important to us, we are open to applications from any individuals or organisations who can deliver meaningful success.



The Tūpiki Trust promises donors to the Trust that their funds will be used for effective projects which will be well managed, so preference will be given to those who can help us meet that promise. If you have a great project and a great team – and have already have commitment to at least half the funds needed for your project, then we think you should consider lodging an application for the September round in 2022.

Head to our website www.tupikitrust.org.nz , click on the Apply for Grant tab – and everything you will need is there to help you create your application. The Application Form asks for the key information we will need to make a decision and if we need to know more, then we will be in touch with you before our Grants Meeting is held.

Of course we do not have unlimited funds available, so take the time to tell us the story of how your project is going to make a difference to climbing in Aotearoa to give you the best chance of success.

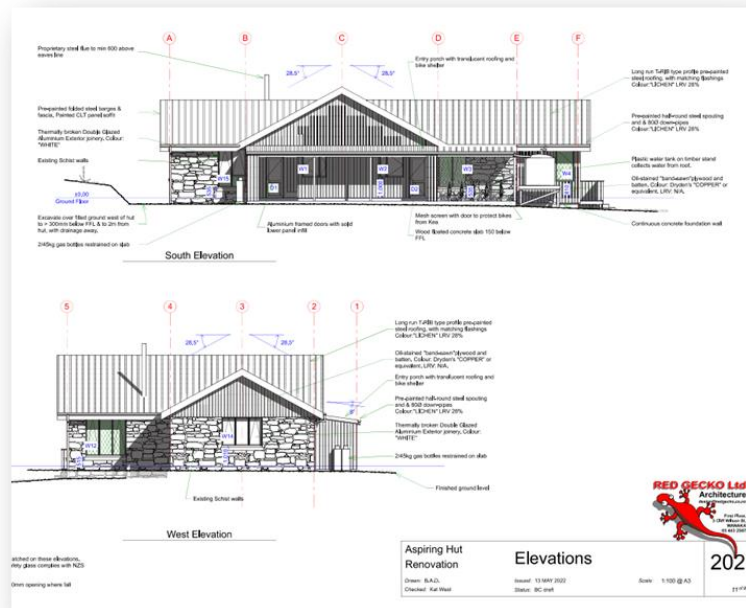
ASPIRING HUT RENOVATION PROJECT

The upcoming renovation of Aspiring Hut, Wanaka, is set to improve the opportunities for climbers, locals and visitors visiting the West Matukituki Valley and in addition to our \$200,000 grant, the Tūpiki Trust has agreed to help NZAC with the fundraising needed for this project.

Owned by the New Zealand Alpine Club, who are working in partnership with the Department of Conservation, Backcountry Trust, and the Tūpiki Trust, the major refurbishment will make the layout more family and group friendly, while also completing earthquake strengthening work. Work is set to begin in a few weeks and be complete by February 2023. For the full story of the Aspiring Hut renovation please head over to the New Zealand Alpine Club [website](#).

Initial funding from the Kaimahi for Nature fund via the Backcountry Trust and significant contributions from the Otago Community Trust and the Federated Mountain Clubs Forest and Mountain Trust have seen the project off to a good start but with a projected price tag of over one million dollars, there is still fundraising needed.

That's where you can help by making a contribution to this very worthwhile project. In addition to knowing you have helped keep this iconic part of climbing history operational, any donation over \$5 does entitle you to a tax refund, and an appropriate tax receipt will be issued – along with our grateful thanks. There are three simple ways you can help .



1. Donate by bank transfer directly to the Tūpiki Trust account: Westpac 03-1599-0129306-000 . when you set up the payment, please put your name in the Particulars box and Aspiring in the Reference field.

On their statement		
Particulars Your name	Code	Reference Aspiring

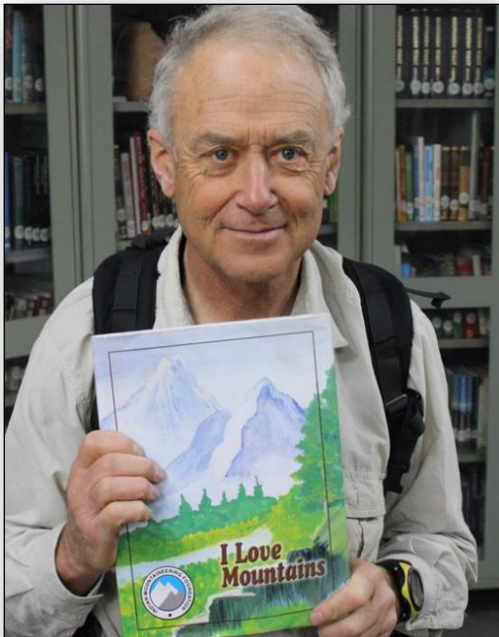
Once you have made the deposit, please email admin@tupikitrust.org.nz with your full name and amount donated so that we can return a tax receipt to you (these details aren't available on bank transfers).

2. Donate directly via the Tūpiki Trust Website [here](#). This link takes you to our secure Donation button, where payments to the project can made. Remember to note that your donation is to the Aspiring Hut project and please note that all donations made by Stripe incur a 3% processing fee which will be deducted from your donation.

3. Spread the word. Please share the project with friends, family and businesses. We encourage any businesses wishing to sponsor the project to contact the NZAC directly. The more people that know of the project the better.

OUTSTANDING EARLY DONOR SUCCESS

In November 2021, when John Nankervis chaired the formal meeting where it was agreed to form the NZAC Tūpiki Trust, he undertook to provide a significant donation to get the Trust's work underway. Although he passed away a few weeks later, that promise of a seeding grant was kept and when the Tūpiki Trust achieved registered charitable status in January 2022, it started life in a sound financial position.



John Nankervis

And in the six months following, with little publicity or fanfare, the Trust's financial strength has continued to grow – well ahead of the expectations of the Trustees. Their focus has been on getting the behind-the-scenes work in place – administration, financial frameworks and reporting, website, investment strategies and independent advice - before actively seeking further funds from donors.

But the word has spread and there has been a steady stream of approaches from people who can see the value in what the Tūpiki Trust is offering. Some have been much-

appreciated cash gifts and donations which have seen the Trust's funds expand beyond Nank's original seeding, giving us confidence that the Trust will have a sound and exciting future.

Other approaches have been more innovative and potentially long lasting. A range of donors who have quite specific requests or requirements or who have a particular project they would like to support have been talking to our Trustees about how we can work together in a real win-win way. And it is this ability to tailor a partnership which is becoming a feature of the Trust's approach.

While continuing to hold these discussions with those interested in supporting the work of the Trust, our current work remains strongly focused on getting our operation soundly based, so we can earn and maintain donor's trust.

NZAC PARTNERSHIP FOR SUCCESS

The NZAC Tūpiki Trust plans to make a big difference to the climbing scene in New Zealand, but we are a new organisation with limited ability to carry out the many administration tasks needed to ensure success. That's why we have entered into a partnership agreement with the New Zealand Alpine Club to deliver key administration services.

We understand the importance of sound financial management if we want to earn the trust of donors and the Club's team can deliver us timely, accurate financial administration, prompt donation acknowledgement and receipting and the independent oversight needed. This vital support will allow the Trustees to focus on their overall financial responsibility, accountability and reporting.

Equally the Trust will increasingly rely on the Alpine Club to deliver a professional "front end" to our organisation, knowing that emails, phone calls, grant applications and letters will be replied to promptly and effectively. While individual and complex issues will be referred to the Trust's trustees, the Alpine Club General Manager and her team will carry out the routine customer communications needed to grow and maintain everyone's satisfaction with our organisation.

SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL GROWTH OF MATURE MOUNTAINEERS

Well known climber and artist Pat Prendergast shared her life-long passion for the mountains and mountaineers in an address to a large group of older mountaineers in Christchurch earlier this month. Her presentation was the most recent of similar talks hosted by the appropriately named **Mature Mountaineers** each quarter for the last 15 years, and the opportunity to regularly get together with like-minded climbers has clearly become a valued part of the Canterbury climbing scene.

Watching the success of these events, and thinking of the value of bringing climbers together, the NZAC Tūpiki Trust is keen to explore the interest in growing Mature Mountaineers to become a national organisation. Over the next few weeks, the Tūpiki Trustees will be talking to contacts in the major centres in New Zealand to set up Mature Mountaineers events in those cities.

Initially, these may be one-off events, but the Trust is keen to measure local support and to continue them into the future. The Tūpiki Trust has set aside seed funding to cover the cost



of these events – venue hire, speaker travel costs and a cup of tea perhaps – and will be looking for local interest to host the meets into the future.

If you could see the value of having a Mature Mountaineers meeting in your area, drop an email to trustees@tupikitrust.org.nz and we'll talk to you about making it happen.

WOULD YOU LIKE TŪPIKI TRUST UPDATES

We promise not to swamp your inbox with inappropriate SPAM, and we won't sell or give your email address to anyone else, but we would like to keep you informed as we go through this first year of growth.

If you would not like to be kept up to date with developments at the Tūpiki Trust, just email us at admin@tupikitrust.org.nz or click unsubscribe at the top of this email and your name will be removed from our mailing list.

CONTACT DETAILS

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