



QUARTERLY

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I've been a NZOIA member since the early 90s when I sat Rock 1 in the Port Hills, Christchurch. A lot has happened in our industry since then, including the crag that I was tested on having disappeared thanks to the earthquakes! But what has been a constant over this time is the reputation and high regard that NZOIA has held and still does. The qualifications are well sought after, and employers know they are getting a skilled, safe and professional instructor or guide when a NZOIA qualification holder joins their team. This reputation and quality has only been possible because of a team of people in the background maintaining standards and developing our organisation. Not only are the Assessors key to the success of NZOIA but so are the Board members and the staff that beaver away constantly maintaining and improving our organisation.

I have held (and still do) a number of qualifications and benefited hugely from being a member and qualification holder. Quite a few years ago, I decided that I wanted to give back to our organisation that has not only supported me, but has made a significant difference to our industry and the professionalism of our craft. This giving back started as an Assessor, then later as the TSC Convenor and then as a Board member. It's rewarding, as you have active involvement in shaping our organisation, listening to and representing our membership and making decisions to not only benefit our organisation but also the wider

industry. I have now done my dash as a Board member and as such I am stepping down, giving space for new energy and enthusiasm.

This is where NZOIA needs you!

An elected Board member doesn't have to be a guru, but is ideally an active member who wants to help steer the ship. Someone that has some influence, expertise and experience in areas that align with our strategic plan would be helpful. Some of these skills could be reflected in; **experience as an instructor, cultural competencies, leadership, experience in running a business/organisation, education, marketing, fundraising, health and safety and tourism**. At times Board members do have to make some hard decisions, so it's in our best interest that we get the right people! So now is your opportunity to get those people "on board" (perhaps it's you) and steer that ship! To make things easier, the Board is a great team, well supported by a hard-working Chair and committed staff, all of whom are adding significant value to our organisation and industry as a whole!

So put ya hand up or nominate someone to step up to the plate. NZOIA needs you! Email board@nzoia.org.nz to express your interest and find out more.

Tim Wills | Stepping-down NZOIA Board member

Our Kaupapa

Te Reo Māori

is a taonga that allows us to understand and interact with te ao Māori.

We will endeavor to include te reo Māori in all aspects of our communication.

Ako

is the reciprocity of the teaching and learning relationship.

We are committed to providing a safe and inclusive learning space for all.

Manaakitanga

is to uplift one's mana by showing respect, generosity and kindness.

We are committed to providing positive experiences for all, no matter the outcome.

Whakawhanaungatanga

is about relationships and connections which are created through shared experiences and working together.

We will make every effort to ensure there is a sense of belonging for all.

Kaitiakitanga

is the guardianship and protection of place. This requires us all to nurture, preserve and enrich the environment in which we engage.

Pūkengatanga

is providing and growing expertise through the pursuit of excellence.

We will enhance skills by providing opportunities for everyone to progress.



As mentioned in the previous NZOIA Quarterly, the NZOIA board have recently undertaken a review of our strategic plan. This facilitated process has at times challenged our thinking, and we're excited about the end result and the direction it provides for NZOIA's future. On the right is an overview of the new strategic plan which is intended to be in place for the next two years. We would like to take this opportunity to explain the journey and highlight a few sections.

When I first joined the NZOIA board five years ago it was during a period of growth, the sector was booming, tertiary programmes had good numbers, education and tourism sector support was high and all of these things were contributing to a growth in delivery and membership numbers for NZOIA.

The NZOIA machine was creaking a little, the staff were incredibly busy and had we continued the way we were tracking I believe you would have seen an investment in systems, course resourcing and staffing to ensure we continued to develop and maintained high standards while this growth occurred. But we all know what happened next. Covid created a period of immense uncertainty for the entire sector and alongside you NZOIA tightened its belts.

The great news is we are almost back to where we were pre-covid, but we also look the same as we did pre covid. And while the staff team have done an amazing job of making do and creating band-aid solutions to many IT problems, the NZOIA machine is still creaking.

As a not-for-profit membership-based association there isn't a huge amount of reserve funds to fix the creaks, and there continues to be uncertainty on the horizon. As I write this article the change of government means SportNZ (our primary funder) have not yet had their strategic plan approved, which means they cannot yet have funding conversations with the many organisations they support. Our current funding ends in June 2024. So, with all that in mind we need to be strategic about where we invest time and money.

A massive thank you to SportNZ who supported our strategic review by providing Hilary Poole to facilitate the process. Hilary bought a highly valuable external perspective to the table, invested a huge amount of time into researching NZOIA to understand our strengths, weaknesses, and position in the sector, and in places challenged us to put on our big kid

pants and roll with the big words even when they seemed confrontational (more on that soon).

The result is a plan that is more specific and focused than what we have worked to in the past and helps both the board and staff to remember where we should be focusing our energy. From here SportNZ are continuing to provide support to ensure this document drives our work plans and reporting.

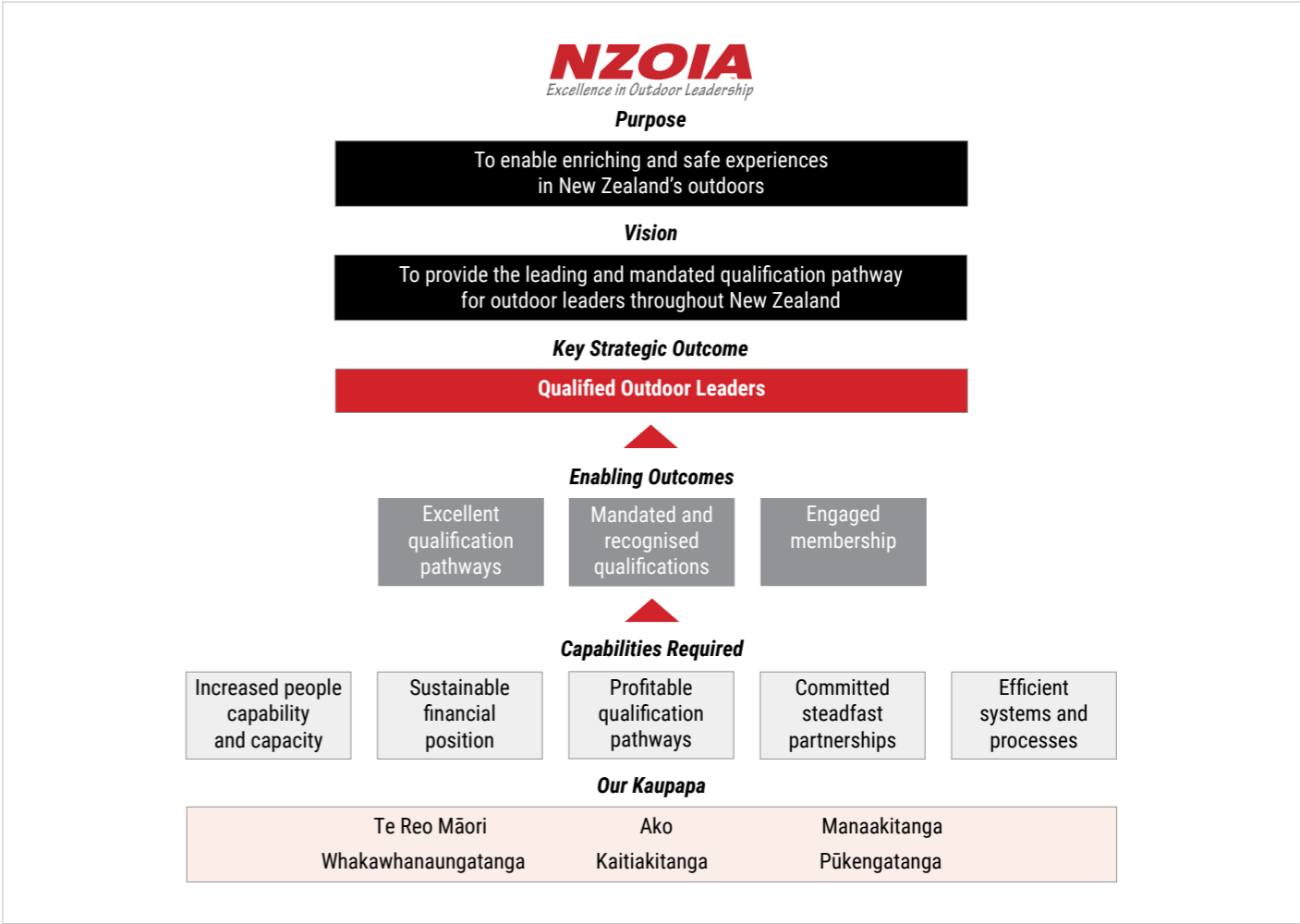
Before you take some time to review the plan, there are two words I want to highlight and explain; the first one is 'Leaders'. This word encompasses all NZOIA qualification holders and those who aspire to be one, it does not relate to leader level qualifications. We chopped and changed between leaders and professionals but ended with leaders as it is already well utilised through the tag line of the NZOIA logo.

And the confrontational word... 'Mandated', oh my. Trust me when I say we've had some good debate about this particular word and its implications depending on how it is implemented. We have both contractors and employers on the NZOIA board which allows us to look at things from a variety of angles. This word in our strategic plan signifies a number of things:

- Our belief that NZOIA qualifications are and will continue to be the industry standard for outdoor leaders.
- The immense contribution NZOIA qualifications holders make to ensuring participants have safe experience in the New Zealand outdoors, a contribution and connection that I personally believe is under recognised.
- Our commitment to continuing to advocate for NZOIA qualifications. We want employers including schools to require their staff to hold NZOIA qualifications where they are relevant to the delivery that is occurring, and to support their employees to access additional quals. And we want WorkSafe and audit providers to formalise their recognition of what those qualifications mean; more qualifications equal a less time-consuming audit, let's stop being anecdotal about that.

As you can imagine there are many more words behind this one-page summary, and further review of our business planning and reporting still to come, but we're excited to be underway with this next phase, 2024 here we come!

Gemma Parkin | NZOIA Board Chair



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PERSONAL EXPERIENCES OF FEMALE NZOIA QUALIFICATION HOLDERS OVER 30: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF STAYING QUALIFIED

ABBY MITCHELL

NZOIA statistics show that 78% of NZOIA qualifications held by females, who are now over the age of 30 are unregistered or on hold. Keen to address the gender imbalance in outdoor instructing and guiding, NZOIA wanted to gain an unbiased insight into the reasons why this drop-off occurs and strategies that can be put in place to change this. NZOIA approached Ara Institute of Canterbury for assistance, which led to me taking on this study as a part of my final year research project for the Bachelor in Sustainability and Outdoor Education.

Twelve past and present female outdoor professionals were interviewed for this study to gain a more in-depth understanding of NZOIA specific experiences for females aged 30 and over in New Zealand and the opportunities and challenges of staying qualified. Three overarching themes from the interviews were formed:

Competence recognition

The majority of the participants commented on how their competencies have been recognised throughout their outdoor career. Workplaces and organisations have different systems for recognising outdoor professionals' competencies. A few participants who have worked or currently work within outdoor centres spoke about workplace internal competency recognition where competencies are backed up when signed off by the employer. However, many workplaces within the industry require qualifications as a part of their safety management system.

The influence that workplace or employer familiarity has on a person's need to remain NZOIA qualified can also play a part. It was evident that once one's competencies were well known by employers, the need to remain qualified decreased as the employer knew what the instructor was capable of. Cox brings evidence to this by stating "an individual will have gained considerable experience over their career and would be increasingly viewed as a professional by their peers based upon that experience" (2022, pg. 192). This backs up the participants'

comments and represents that when a person's competencies are well known in the industry, they will be recognised for their vast knowledge and experience, therefore opportunities may occur without needing qualifications to validate their competence. Participants also spoke about the opposing side, where having a qualification is important when contracting to unfamiliar workplaces and starting out in the industry.

A key finding of competence recognition was that having a qualification is valuable and sometimes essential to getting employment opportunities. This finding argues that females over the age of 30 should remain qualified as it can provide more employment opportunities in the future. A hiring trend in the mid-2000s showed that employers prefer institutional qualifications (Wright & Gray, 2013). Furthermore, from this concept, a few participants believed they wouldn't be able to work the jobs they do without them. There were some participants who didn't need qualifications in their roles which included tourism and secondary teaching, although other participants believed those sectors need qualifications or that instructors should at least be working towards them.

Chisholm stated, "The actions of various national bodies indicate that the process is gaining in stature, possibly even becoming an inevitable part of the industry" (2004, pg. 322). A dominant factor that contributes to why most workplaces in the outdoor industry desire qualifications, is the ability for qualifications to back up a person's competence on paper and in the field. A few participants mentioned that outdoor professionals are constantly in charge of students' and clients' safety in a range of outdoor environments, which are prone to being high-risk and unpredictable in nature. The outdoor industry has seen many incidents over the past few decades, which has seen an increase in health and safety legislation in New Zealand. Crosby and Bensemen (2023) state that "any incident involving serious injury or death as the result of an outdoor education program almost invariably inflames public debate about certification – both

in terms of increasing accountability and prevention of future failure" (2023, p 4). Two participants believe that employers will find it harder and harder to justify their staff not having a qualification that ensures professionals are meeting benchmark competencies.

Work/life balance

Chisholm stated that "Knowledge is only 'credible' if it is 'current'" (2001, pg.80). To be current is to have a credible qualification, and people must maintain their skill set continuously so they don't lose their knowledge. However, some participants argued that knowledge isn't always something that can be lost, but that it may just need refreshing. Allin (2004) mentioned that people who work in the outdoor industry, face ongoing pressure to stay current and continue to develop their skillset. The main findings from the data showed that maintaining professional hours for qualifications can be easy for some participants, as their roles involve practising their skills regularly on the job, but can be more difficult for the participants who don't work in programmes that utilise their qualifications, therefore creating a challenge for some to gain enough professional hours to meet revalidation requirements.

Work/life balance affects everyone, at different times and stages within one's life. In addition to working and having a personal life, qualification holders must uphold their personal skill currency. A majority of, but not all the participants, mentioned the challenge they face when trying to juggle full-time work, a social life, and family, recreating and maintaining currency. This is consistent with Allin (2004), as she states that combining an outdoor career and family, involves people needing to negotiate multiple factors and [some] females specifically, need to navigate motherhood too. For females juggling multiple things at once, Wright & Gray stated that outdoor professionals "must learn to understand their own limitations and find a balance between investment and renewal activities or, ironically, their high motivations can lead to particularly devastating career burnout" (2013, pg. 20). Finding the balance has proven to be a hard task for some participants, but it was made clear that the support of partners and family can be the difference between females making it work and females who have struggled to find time to keep current.



One participant shared her beliefs that people shouldn't feel pressured to stay current, they should recreate because they enjoy it not because they need to stay current. Some participants explained that as they get older, they find new hobbies and want to spend their spare time doing other things or be in non-outdoor spaces over recreating to stay current. Crosby & Benseman (2003) allude to this stating that maintaining qualifications can make people feel forced to recreate for currency purposes over personal satisfaction and enjoyment, and therefore, their desire begins to decrease.

It is important to acknowledge that not all participants find work/life balance a challenge, and it is very much a case-by-case basis. Every participant has their own experiences and philosophies, that guide their decisions through different life stages.

Life stages

The participants in this study highlighted how their life circumstances and choices have influenced their ability and personal desire to remain qualified. Career turning points are linked with maintaining qualifications, because inevitably females retain NZOIA qualifications because they are working in the industry, and don't if they aren't.

Self-initiated factors were highly represented in the findings, such as motherhood, the natural evolution of desires, and priorities. Learnings within the subtheme of motherhood were the physical and emotional limitations that pregnancy and motherhood bring to females' lives when trying to stay current and participate in revalidation courses. Family commitments, health, financial restrictions, or travel to get to training locations to stay current can be barriers to staying current.

Additional key contributors within self-initiated factors include females putting their qualifications on hold or unregistering them indefinitely, due to not needing to use them for the foreseeable future. Some participants unregistered their qualifications because their change in role no longer required it, or they no longer wanted to work in a specific discipline. A change from pursuits-based work to nature-based work for a participant meant that her qualifications became surplus to requirements. A few participants mentioned that they felt their age and body were a defining factor in self-initiating a change in desires, and that their gender was not so defining. Internalisation of consequences was brought up as a contributing factor, a participant mentioned that the older she gets her desire to recreate in high-risk environments to stay current decreases, as she struggles to justify the consequences of getting hurt.

'Forced' factors were reflected in the findings as changes in personal circumstances with significant regard to health issues and injuries. Some participants have worked hard to stay physically capable to stay current and remain qualified, others have found this challenging due to external factors on top of injuries or health issues. The 'forced' factor is obviously a hard factor to accept for some, as they still have a great passion for the industry and wish they could stay qualified.

Overall, the findings revealed there are multiple different challenges and opportunities female outdoor professionals encounter throughout their time being qualified. The participants all experienced unique types of challenges at different times throughout their life stages. It was evident that the opportunities and challenges are not entirely specific to females, therefore males could share the same experiences. The underlying



difference for females was navigating pregnancy and -post-childbirth, including but not limited to breastfeeding, loss of body conditioning and general time in the workplace. All genders can be just as susceptible to navigating injury and health-related issues whilst maintaining qualification currency.

Suggested strategies NZOIA could implement to support females to stay qualified, included an exemption to the revalidation cycle to account for pregnancy, post-childbirth and health related factors. Also enabling returning outdoor professionals to get the same outdoor retailer discounts as practising outdoor professionals to ease financial pressure when returning.

This study has started the conversation around what factors enable female outdoor professionals over 30 to remain qualified and what causes them to unregister their qualifications.

Note: This study represented those who have sat NZOIA qualifications. It didn't focus on other industry qualifications or those with no qualifications but equivalent experience.

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Abby Mitchell | NZOIA Bush 1, Rock 1, Kayak leader, Sea kayak leader
| Degree in Sustainability and Outdoor Education
| Studying towards Graduate Diploma in Secondary Teaching

Comments from NZOIA

Thanks to Abby for taking on this research and providing insight into this topic for us. The findings back up our assumptions as to why we see a drop off in registered qualifications held by females over the age of 30, primarily that they are no longer working in the outdoor sector due to a change of career/focus, parenthood, burnout or health-related conditions and injuries. We acknowledge this can be challenging physically, financially, and time-wise, and there are those whose preference would be to stay registered.

It is important to note that NZOIA qualifications don't expire, you can't lose them. They will always be a permanent recognition of passing an assessment at a certain point in time. They are either registered, on hold or unregistered which is an indication of currency.

Putting qualifications 'On hold' was brought in to assist those temporarily out of the workforce. They can be put on hold for a maximum of six years from the date you sat your assessment or last revalidated your qualification. When all qualifications are on hold, you can downgrade to an Associate Member, so financially it is cheaper, and you can still keep in touch with any updates and changes to practice. If you choose not to maintain membership, you can re-join in the future and pay a re-registration fee. Regardless of whether you take qualifications off hold or re-join, if it is within four years from your assessment or last revalidation your qualification can be registered immediately. If four years have passed since your assessment or last revalidation, you will need to attend a 1-day Refresher Workshop to register your qualification. After six years, to re-register your qualification you need to successfully complete a Recognition of Current Competency Assessment, which is a 1-day course run in conjunction with Refresher Workshops.

Contacting us early to talk through your options and coming up with a plan is important. There are ways to make revalidation work to suit your needs and individual circumstances. It may be that you attend a refresher earlier than your four years if you know that the following 6 years you'll be out of action.

You also don't need to be a Registered Member to revalidate. If you have maintained Associate Membership while your qualifications have been on hold, they can be revalidated and stay on hold. No need to upgrade to Registered Membership unless you are using your qualifications.

Some of the participants in the study expressed concerns about getting the required number of professional hours to meet revalidation requirements. There is no required number of hours to attend a Refresher Workshop. It is **not** an assessment, and the focus is on continued professional development. The purpose is to exchange knowledge and ideas with other course members; learn new skills and techniques, both from the Assessor and the other course members; and be updated in terms of current good practice under the scope of the qualification. A Refresher Workshop is **not** a pass or fail. If the Assessor is concerned you are below benchmark performance, recommendations will be made to assist you in maintaining competency and currency. If there are concerns about your ability to operate safely within the scope of the qualification then a professional development pathway will be agreed upon and achieved before the revalidation is complete. ►

The findings also highlighted that just because someone hasn't revalidated, doesn't mean they have stopped working in the industry. Some may have taken on management roles that take them out of the field, while others rely on internal workplace sign-offs to meet health and safety requirements of competence and currency. Don't forget that every second revalidation cycle, if you work with a NZOIA Assessor, or the Technical Expert for your workplace audit is a NZOIA Assessor, you can get them to sign off your revalidation at the same time if they have observed you working in the field operating at the current standard of the qualification. That gives you eight years between Refresher Workshops.

We understand that there are barriers to retaining qualifications or re-entering the workforce after time off, particularly for those who are no longer working for an organisation that pays on their behalf or if the qualification is rarely used due to part-time or contract work. Our Manaaki fund was introduced this year to subsidise membership and registration fees for those who need extra support and we hope to grow this to enable support in other areas too. We will consider the suggested strategies in the hope that we entice back and can extend the careers of those females who still would like to work in the outdoors.



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PADDLE FOR PURPOSE

CARED BLACKHAM, AND CONNOR, KURT AND DREW STEWART

Prevailing winds, coastal dunes and three months of soggy clothes and sandy sleeping bags.

In March, four Kiwi boys will embark on a three-month kayak journey from Cape Reinga to Wellington down the east coast of the North Island (about 2200 km).

The team is made up of three Stewart brothers, Kurt, Connor and Drew, all originally from Whangarei, and a close friend, Cared Blackham, from Eastbourne, Wellington.

Drew, the youngest of the Stewart brothers, had the idea to navigate the east coast of the North Island by kayak after completing the South Island portion of the Te Araroa Trail back in 2019. He felt that walking the North Island portion of the Trail would miss the North Island's true beauty: its coastline.

Drew's wild idea was a seed planted with his two older brothers, Kurt and Connor, and now four years on, that seed is starting to bear fruit. In the intervening years, Drew studied Environmental Planning at the University of Waikato and began working as an environmental consultant. Meanwhile, Kurt and Connor completed an adventure tourism diploma at Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology (NMIT), which is where they met Cared, who was stoked by the idea of an epic kayak trip down the North Island coastline. Kurt, Connor and Cared are all now kayak guides working across the country in Wanaka, Whangarei and Abel Tasman respectively.

None of the four have undertaken a sea kayak expedition of this magnitude, and with all living in separate locations in Aotearoa, planning and preparation has been no easy task. But each of them is committed to the journey.

A key driver for the boys is using the trip to make a positive contribution to two things that mattered to them most; the health of people and the environment. "These two go hand in hand for us. Exercise in and on the water, bush and mountains has a massive positive effect on my physical and mental wellbeing, as well as for many others. I think that a lot of people have forgotten or are yet to discover this", Kurt says. Through their Givealittle campaign, they are hoping to make a positive impact on mental health awareness and marine conservation. The Mental Health Foundation of NZ and Live Ocean are both charities supporting causes close to their hearts.

Having experienced their own mental struggles and watching friends and family also navigate the choppy waters of mental health, they would like to help make this process easier and more accessible by supporting the Mental Health Foundation of NZ. They hope to inspire others to start their own journey towards improved wellbeing and to help remove some of the stigma around getting support for mental health. They believe the simplicity of nature can take us away from all the stresses that follow us day-to-day, and that time and exercise in the natural world can help heal the mind, body and soul.

The four boys have all found that getting out into the natural environment has helped them grow, explore their identity and

find solace. Cared realised the importance of being active out in nature while studying at NMIT/Te Pukenga. The personal development he saw in himself and his peers was eye-opening. "I saw friends develop a sound understanding of their own personal identity and discover what values matter most to them. I think this correlates with the time they spent either alone or with others walking in the bush, floating down rivers, or paddling on the ocean." He hopes to inspire and empower people to explore the natural environment as a way of improving mental health.

Ocean conservation is also an important issue for the boys. Like many Kiwis, the four grew up on the coast, nourished by the sand, salt and the waves. The ocean was instrumental in their childhoods and continues to play a guiding role now. For this reason, they believe it is essential we preserve and protect our ocean for the future. Funds raised will also go to Live Ocean which supports exceptional marine scientists, innovators, and communicators to champion and improve the health of our coastline and marine ecosystems.

The team understands the magnitude of the challenge ahead of them. Attempting to kayak more than 2000km along the coastline, with variable winds, weather, temperatures, and ocean conditions is nothing to take lightly. "This will undoubtedly be one of the most physically and mentally demanding trips we have attempted", Drew reflects, "but that is what excites me, the challenge is why we are attracted to it." Training and preparation are key for the boys to make sure their bodies and skills are in top form before they set off. Spread across the country, the team has been preparing individually for the trip. Running guided tours, Cared, Kurt and Connor are out paddling most days for work, however, all jump at an opportunity to paddle further afield in their own time. Drew's preparation, on the other hand, has him on the water most mornings and afternoons, spending as much time in the kayak in between work.

A journey of this nature is made easier with support. A few generous sponsors have already got on board to help the boys out with the expeditions. NMIT has lent them the use of four kayaks and Aotea and Chris from Kayak HQ in Nelson, a huge advocate for mental health, have generously assisted the four boys with some CKER paddles, transport of the kayaks, and other sea kayaking gear.

The boys welcome every little bit of new support, whether that means following them on Instagram or Facebook, spreading the word, contributing to their Givealittle campaign, or supporting through some kind of sponsorship. You can contact them through their email or their socials.

paddle4purpose@gmail.com

givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/paddle4purpose

paddle4purpose

Instagram: @paddleforpurpose

Facebook: Paddle for Purpose



Paddle for Purpose team: Kurt, Connor, Drew and Cared

INCIDENT SHARING: ALTA ICE ANCHOR FAILURE

BIA BOUCINHAS

Over a year has passed since I had my accident at the Remarkables. Not a day has gone by that the topic hasn't come up. Since then, I have wanted to share and clarify what happened.

Transparency and reporting of near misses and incidents is encouraged so lessons can be learned, and mistakes not repeated. In theory it's simple however NZ is small it takes a lot of courage to share. Owning up can be hard. Reporting without finger pointing is also hard. So sometimes sharing just doesn't happen.

This is my personal account and I acknowledge that other people may have different perspectives on what happened. I have tried to be detailed and to stay as true to the facts as my memory allows. My goal is not to blame or point fingers. It is to focus on and share my learnings and for it to not happen to anyone else.

On August 12th, 2022, I was one of six students who had paid a small fee to participate (\$260) in a mixed climbing workshop. There were two volunteer instructors and an assistant. The clinic was run at Alta Ice, Altered States, now called Bia's Bounce by some.

What happened

The fall happened during the last climb of the day, at 12:30pm, as I was lowered on a top roping setting. The anchor failed upon weight bearing. I fell around 25 metres, bouncing on the ice once, before hitting the snow and sliding headfirst a further 20 metres on my back. I managed to self-arrest and stop, waving and stating I was ok. I still had both ice axes in my hand. I do not recall these last moments.

Events leading up to accident

Our group did not meet as planned. The only information I had was when and where to meet the following morning. I'd signed up for the mixed climbing to improve my skills in that area. As a guide, I'm comfortable doing and teaching ice climbing, so when I found out the day was to be focused on ice, rather than mixed, I was tempted to not attend.

That morning, the first thing I did, as I always do was write notes in my notebook about planning, risk assessment and hazard management. I didn't know what the plan was, but I had notes on hazards related to ice climbing and avalanche conditions.

We met at the café at the ski resort. It was late and it was busy. There was a quick gear check and brief introductions. It was clear that the instructors hadn't talked about the plan for the day amongst themselves, and that they hadn't worked together before.

By the time we started walking, it was fairly late. It was a beautiful sunny day with no wind and cool temperatures, but we were feeling pretty hot when we got to Alta Ice. I remember having my notebook, and normally I would get it out and discuss



the plan for the day and hazards to look out for, etc. with students. I didn't get my notebook out because this wasn't my show. I was here as a student and the things I'd written were forgotten.

We dug a couple of ledges on a steep slope to the left of the ice climbing wall and away from the risk of ice naturally falling from above, however other climbers had started climbing a route which went above us. Small chunks of ice were falling on us, then believed to be dislodged by the climbers above.

I started internally questioning the situation; six people, only two ropes, so much faff, terrible location with climbers above us, I paid for this, I should have gone climbing elsewhere etc. My friend caught me and asked what I was thinking. I could carry on being grumpy, or I could smile and have a lovely day in the mountains. I decided on the latter. I was then 100% committed, in student mode, ignoring all the signs and my intuition, fully immersed.

The second climb was set up, a bit higher to the right. It was around 11am. I belayed a couple of people on the first climb and then I jumped on. It sounded hollow at the bottom, but the climbing felt nice, mostly solid ice, not summery despite the hot solar conditions.

When I came down, one participant had been hit by falling ice, breaking their sunglasses and bruising their eye. There was talk that the ice falling from above wasn't from the climbers, but from ice melting and releasing. Solar input was high, ice was falling, water was running to the right of the climbs. ►

The heuristic trap of commitment kicked in; instructors wanted students to do one last climb. I jumped on the higher climb, another student got on the other one. I was asked if I could have a look at the anchors. I agreed and started climbing.

On my way up, I checked the other climb's anchor. It was composed of two parallel v-threads, equalised with a cordelette in a figure eight. This was backed up by an ice screw attached to both legs of the v-thread in a way I hadn't seen before. The threads looked deep. I tightened the ice screw, which only required a couple of turns and the ice felt good.

Then I climbed to my anchor. It was also equalised by a 7 or 8mm cordelette but with no ice screw back up. There were three legs, two lower v-threads to the left and a third and higher leg to the right. This third leg immediately caught my eye because it was attached to a rotten looking ice pillar. Things then started getting a bit chaotic. More ice had fallen, and I remember hearing commotion below.

As soon as I touched that third leg it pulled out in my hand. That gave me a fright and I remember wishing I had an ice screw. I called down to question and the instructor said it was an old v-thread that they'd used, not part of the anchor and not to worry about it. "Just come down, we are pulling the ropes, that's not part of the anchor, there's ice falling, come on down." They repeated that a couple of times in an urgent tone. I felt rushed, despite raising my concerns. I had been given no ice screws to fix the anchor, which indicates there was no immediate concern about the quality. I do remember desperately wanting an ice screw to replace that leg, but I trusted the instructor that the rotten piece of ice was not a part of the anchor.

That's when the memories get a bit fuzzy. Can I guarantee that I checked the other two v-threads? No. Did I test them? 100% no. If anything, I had a quick look at them. I did not follow my systematic checks, the checks that I emphasise when I'm instructing. Always have a systematic approach before you abseil or are lowered, thorough top to bottom checks. Don't take shortcuts and don't rush this process. It's your life on the line. I tell students this ALL THE TIME! Despite my concerns, unfortunately I did not stop and take five. Urgency and trust in my instructor overpowered my internal voice, and I sat back on my harness.

I heard the first zip of the cordelette cutting through the ice, a distinctive sound that I will never forget. I tried swinging my tools back into the wall, but they bounced. I heard the second zip. I knew I was going for a ride. I didn't feel scared. It was a calm, slow moment as I looked down then fell. I remember the first bounce but no pain, then lying on my back with my legs in the air and saying I could move them. The next memory I have, 15 minutes later, is of the doctor asking, "Do you know where you are?" I looked around at the beautiful blue skies and thought 'no idea...bugger!'

The rescue felt smooth. I was insulated from the snow using packs, they'd dug a ledge to lie me flat and safe from ice fall, someone had contacted the air ambulance, others were caring for me. My winter belay jacket and hot water in a nalgene bottle kept me slightly warmer, but it was still amazing how quickly I got cold.

My major complaint was my left shoulder, which despite no deformity, felt injured. A ski patroller reached us and was concerned that the slope could release a loose wet avalanche. We had to move. The helicopter had been delayed then diverted.

After a second examination, the doctor cleared my spine, and I agreed I could try to walk. With the help of two walking poles, and a friend plugging steps for me, I was down at the lake in no time. I was happy to be moving and warming up. I was taken by skidoo to the medical room, where they gave me two paracetamol, two ibuprofen, observed me for concussion and did a brief overall check. I was then driven to hospital, where they took some x-rays and found no fractures. I was then discharged.

The injuries I had at the time seemed minimal, just a sore shoulder and some bruising, and I walked away 'laughing' (yes, I was still smiling then). I had NO idea what was yet to come.

Injuries and aftermath

The fact that I walked out of there, and was mostly mobile and able afterwards, gave people the impression that I was fine. Being lucky, pain tolerant and resilient sometimes doesn't work in your favour. I had full range of motion and was walking normally, despite painful hips and weak painful shoulders.

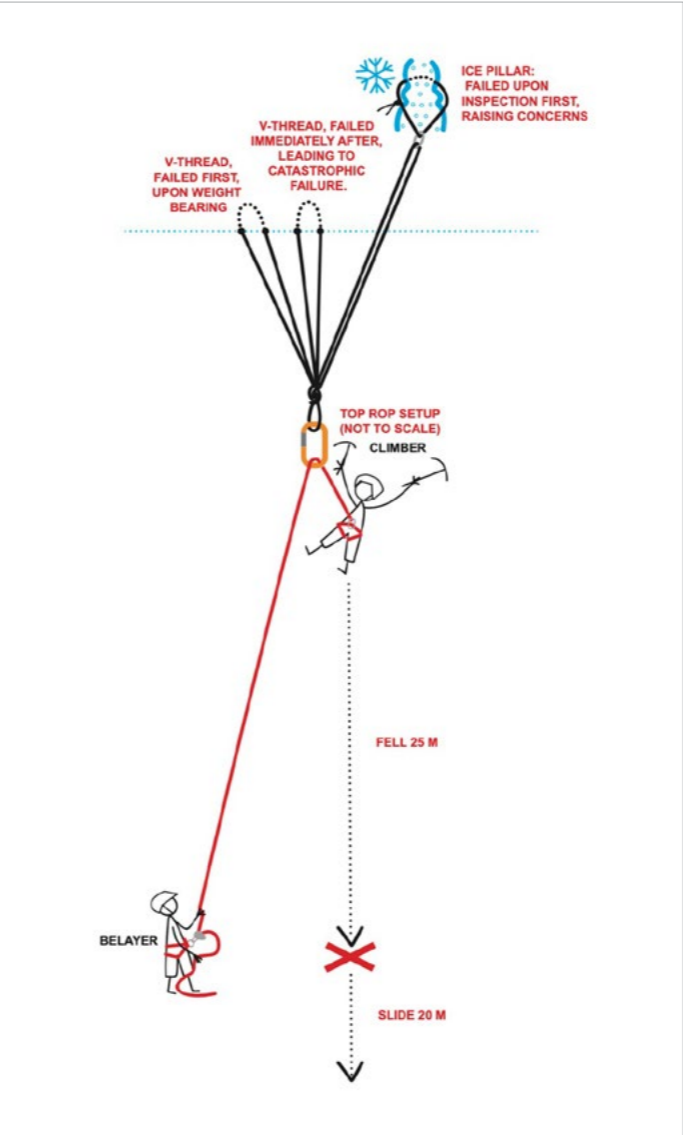
It took months before my injuries were finally diagnosed: a couple of torn tendons on the shoulder detached from the bone, bursitis in the shoulder and hips, and some floating bodies on my hip. I had a mild concussion. After many trips to the physio and specialists, x-rays, ultrasounds, MRIs, CT scans, cortisone injections and hours in the gym, I have finally had a shoulder repair and am on my way back. My hip needs a labral reconstruction, which means three more months of rehab once I can get it done.

Close friends knew that although I looked able, I was not. I had invisible physical injuries and I had developed Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Had I ended up in hospital, or dead, the months following the accident may have been quite different, and the investigation, reporting and support provided potentially would have happened in a different way. I am glad I did not end up in hospital or dead, and that I can laugh again. The injuries will recover with time and my mind will too.

Personal learnings

- 1. **Learn about your instruction site to help with planning and to mitigate hazards.** Alta Ice is not a suitable venue on a hot day, it's known for falling down and/or turning to slush and people have witnessed the whole thing collapse at once in the past. Climb early, get out early, before the sun gets hot.
- 2. **Keep your clients informed.** Have a good intro, check expectations. Share responsibility by telling them the plan and pointing out the hazards. Give everyone the voice to speak up.
- 3. **Remember heuristic traps.**
 - a. **Commitment:** Paying clients can lead to pressure to deliver. Don't let clients' expectations affect safety. Don't over promise.
 - b. **Expert Halo:** Transferring responsibility to the senior instructor, or not feeling confident to question can lead to unsafe decisions. Speak up if you see things that are unsafe, even if you feel like a dick doing it.
- 4. **Stop, take five. Do your systematic checks** and don't let urgency get in the way. Recheck conditions throughout the day.



- 5. **Report openly ASAP if possible.** Transparency stops rumours and inaccurate information from spreading. It calls for accountability and is educational. It leads to a safer culture across our outdoor community.
- 6. **Be a good human.** If you don't know the facts, don't assume things and don't be judgemental. The people involved didn't intend to have an accident, to get hurt or to hurt others. They are already going through a lot, and having people judging and sharing incorrect information will not make their lives any easier.
- 7. **People change, people learn.** Don't tar people from mistakes they have made in the past. Fear of being seen as responsible for an accident can be really detrimental and a big reason for people not reporting and trying to keep near misses or accidents to themselves.
- 8. **Don't underestimate PTSD.** Learn about it and learn tools to help yourself and others. Have a preventative support network that you trust and can count on, you might need them one day.
- 9. And last, but not least. **LISTEN TO YOUR INTUITION!**

Read the accident report published by Remarkables Ice and Mixed Festival 2022 here:
<https://iceandmixedfestival.co.nz/remarkables-ice-and-mixed-festival-2022-alta-ice-anchor-failure-accident-report/?fbclid=IwAR2uQURUtZeHp8e6AUaXYfHSfrH2zp3vRRtgZXtEACGjkJ2nG1aTmvqfEA>

Technical Considerations

Ice quality varies from place to place and over time. NZ ice is different from Canadian ice. Glacier ice on the Fox and Franz is different from glacial ice on the Tasman. Waterfall ice is different to glacial ice. Aspect (effected by the sun) and altitude (temperature) play a role in ice variability too. Ice, like snow, is ever changing and quickly changing. Anticipate local conditions and plan accordingly.

Look for consistent, dense, and bluer ice void of layers or fractures. Observe the ice coming out of the screw as you bore, feel for consistent resistance as you bore.

V-thread or A-threads: A-threads (vertical hole orientation) have been tested to be stronger anchors. In good ice, A-threads will fail between 12-20kN, while V-threads (horizontal hole orientation) can fail from 7.5-17.5kN.
https://beverlymountainguides.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Ice-Climbing-Anchor-Strength_-An-In-Depth-Analysis.pdf

Anchors have different purposes. One use only while climbing a route, or all-day use when repeating/ training on routes.

Check anchors regularly. Anticipate changing strength with environmental conditions and monitor accordingly.

An all-day ice climbing class will likely involve more robust anchors than you'd build when you and a mate are racing up the South face of Hicks.

- When building top rope ice anchors consider aspect as it relates to the sun.
- On sun effected top rope routes consider using V-threads instead of screws. If using screws try to shade them from the sun and check regularly.

Building fit for purpose ice anchors is an art and a science requiring practise, education, and mentorship. Practise and experiment in low-risk settings. Seek advice and feedback from experienced instructors and guides to ensure your judgement aligns with good practise.



Photo: Chris Prudden

BIG CHANGES TO THE ALPINE QUALIFICATIONS

PENNY HOLLAND



Photo: Chris Prudden

The new look Alpine qualifications are ready to launch for the 2024 winter. Although completed at the end of December 2021, the NZOIA Technical Sub Committee has been heavily involved in fine-tuning the recommendations alongside key members of the review team and Alpine Assessors.

Both Alpine 1 and Alpine 2 scope have been split into a terrain and avalanche section.

Significant changes for Alpine 1 include:

- The avalanche safety prerequisite is now - MSC Avalanche Skills Course 2 (ASC 2)
- NZOIA Bush 1 is no longer a prerequisite for Alpine 1
- NZOIA Alpine 1 is now four days long (allowing for increased assessment of navigation and avalanche safety skills)

Alpine 2 is now six days long allowing more time to assess skills in a range of terrain and build in weather contingencies.

So, three days have been added to the Alpine pathway, and three days have been removed (NZOIA Bush 1). The assessments will be more focused on and assessed in the Alpine environment as per the scope of the qualification. You can find the new Alpine Scope and Syllabus here. It is highly recommended by NZOIA Assessors that you take the opportunity to attend the pre-assessment Alpine 1 and Alpine 2 training courses prior to sitting your assessments. On completion of a NZOIA training course, you will be given a \$100 voucher to be used towards the cost of a future Alpine assessment.

As NZOIA Bush 1 is no longer a prerequisite to Alpine 1, it will become a stand-alone qualification once again and require revalidating every four years as per every other qualification. Current revalidation dates for Bush 1 and Bush 2 will be recognised. Going forward, following a Bush 1 or 2 assessment or revalidation event, the Bush qualification will be revalidated for only four years, even if you have a current Alpine qualification.

Thanks so much to the dedicated and committed Alpine review facilitator, Cam Walker, who went above and beyond the job description to get the essence of what the review team wanted. Thanks also to the varied and competent review team made up of Gideon Geerling, Llewellyn Murdoch, Don Paterson, Chris Prudden, Peter Cammell, Keith Riley, Tom Harris (MSC), Bia Boucinhas and Jim Masson.

Penny Holland | NZOIA Operations Manager

Congratulations

to the following members who recently gained NZOIA Qualifications!

Abseil Leader	Natasha Mills, Jackson Jessop, Bob Maxwell, Tristan Gorst, Jacob Ryan, Kelly Butler, Ethaniel Nogaj, Paula Konow, Amber Charlesworth, Archie Purchas, Brody Edmondson, Daniel Cunningham, Deborah Digby-Smith, Emma Stead, Grace Cotter, Jack Carswell, Kenya Malone, Kyla Rayward, Riley O'Connor, Seb Teague, Sophie Aitken, Tasha Trussell-Cullen, Tully James-Young, Jared van Vosselen, Chloe Bailey, Faith Ball, Jodie Osborne, Bronte Thomas, Indi Timms, Bella Watt, Gus Lawson, Matthew Ashworth, Tristan Bennett, Georgia Gold, Nathan Phillipson, Ollie Ross, Samuel Gee, Aleia Hedges, Simeon Langan, Rebecca Sies, Chelle Brouwer, Gavin Kotua, Trent Norman, Benedict Scott, Alex Manning, Amy Brown, Jonathan Lee, Charlie Doak, Miriam Barton, Kyle Frank, Emma Furnival, Moanaroa Witana, Ella Yeoman, Zoe Brawn, Janek Manderson, Matthew Richards, Corban Nickel, Tenisha Hall, Jayden Dravitzki, Bailey Ryder, Sienna Casbolt <i>Scouts Aotearoa:</i> Jenny Weigel, Tony Lyle, Oliver Thomas, Eamon Ellwood
Alpine 1	Matthieu Vignes
Bush Leader	Cared Blackham, Jade Coleman, Demi Larkin, Zeke Platt, Ella Pratt, Cydney Ralph, Connor Stewart, Kurt Stewart, William Norton, Phoebe Davies-Martin, Olivia Cromarty, Savannah Geddes, Toby McEwen, Hunter Jones, Sandro Marty Hirsiger, Ashley Uren, Jodie Osborne, Bella Watt, Rebecca Sies, Chris Powell, Craig Robinson, Kaela Barnes, Tia Pettifer, Erin Good, Rachel Teow, Matthew Green, Endre Spilling, Florian Kindt, Robbert van Veen, Kino Redfield, Belle Anya Rose Schifrin, Avery Mahon, Lizzie Harlan, Rosa Hickey, Lucy Hamilton, Patsy-Pamela Ryan Betts, Blake Nicklin, Michelle Aldersley, Kane Curnow, Andrew Burns, Lucas Sinclair, Lucia Cameron, Evie Bacigalupo, Leo Kirkwood Jones
Bush Leader Overnight Endorsement	Amber Charlesworth, Archie Purchas, Brody Edmondson, Daniel Cunningham, Deborah Digby-Smith, Eli Standish, Emma Stead, Grace Cotter, Jack Carswell, Jacob Mulvey, Kalani Rawlinson, Kenya Malone, Kyla Rayward, Lewis Watson, Riley O'Connor, Seb Teague, Sophie Aitken, Tasha Trussell-Cullen, Tully James-Young, Finn Ericksen, Corbin Gillespie-Reid <i>Scouts Aotearoa:</i> Alister Hart, Gwyn Judd, Larissa Nixon, Scott Greer, Shane Porter, Travis Weigel
Bush 1	Ed Coles, Lisa Gatward, Ron Lidgard, Athena Jones-Collings, Emersyn Coxhead, Nicole Owen, Rebecca Sies, Alex Gillespie, Sienna Casbolt, Chelle Brouwer, Robert Hutterd, Phoebe Bron, Gabrielle Degagne, Cassandra Close, Xania Miller, Tim Cleland, Oscar Hadley, Gemma Murphy
Canoe Leader	Somaya Sharp
Canyon Leader	Cared Blackham, Phoebe David-Martin, Nadia Kerr, Demi Larkin, Zeke Platt, Ella Pratt, Cydney Ralph, Tiana Russek, Connor Stewart, Kurt Stewart, Adam Tozer, Kai Vincent, William Norton
Canyon 1	Oscar Burford, Lorna Button
Climbing Wall Supervisor	Rob Jolly, Sophie Milne, Flynn Cleary-Morgan, Athena Jones-Collings, Rachel Shallard, Scott McCulloch, David Enticott
Kayak Leader	Paul Schofield, David Taylor, Dave Smith, Amber Charlesworth, Archie Purchas, Brody Edmondson, Daniel Cunningham, Eli Standish, Emma Stead, Grace Cotter, Jack Carswell, Jacob Mulvey, Kalani Rawlinson, Kenya Malone, Kyla Rayward, Lweis Watson, Riely O'Connor, Seb Teague, Sophie Aitken, Tasha Trussell-Cullen, Tully James-Young, Luke Higinbottom, Oliver Lewis, Julian Van der put, Haylie Wiczorek, Brooke Hall, Alex Manning, Amy Brown, Jonathan Lee, Charlie Doak, Emma Furnival, Moanaroa Witana, Ella Yeoman, Zoe Brawn, Janek Manderson, Miriam Barton, Jayden Mulder
Kayak 1	Ricky McDonald, William Sinclair
Mountain Bike Leader	Sandro Marty Hirsiger, Tristan Bennet, Georgia Gold, Nathan Phillipson, Samuel Gee, Scott Marrow, Nicolas Christie, Oliver Parata, Shun Egoshi, William Coulden-Lavers, Brian Connelly, Pete Guyan
Mountain Bike 1	David Williams, Shanan Miles, Gavin Kotua, Ray Petrie, Chris Jenkins
Rock Leader	Natasha Mills, Jackson Jessop, Bob Maxwell, Tristan Gorst, Jacob Ryan, Amber Charlesworth, Archie Purchas, Brody Edmondson, Daniel Cunningham, Deborah Digby-Smith, Emma Stead, Grace Cotter, Jack Carswell, Kenya Malone, Kyla Rayward, Riley O'Connor, Seb Teague, Sophie Aitken, Tasha Trussell-Cullen, Tully James-Young, Matthew Newbitt, Jared van Vosselen, Chloe Bailey, Faith Ball, Jodie Osborne, Bronte Thomas, Indi Timms, Bella Watt, Gus Lawson, Matthew Ashworth, Tristan Bennett, Georgia Gold, Nathan Phillipson, Ollie Ross, Samuel Gee, Aleia Hedges, Simeon Langan, Rebecca Sies, Chelle Brouwer, Benedict Scott, Jane Pearson, Alex Manning, Amy Brown, Jonathan Lee, Charlie Doak, Miriam Barton, Kyle Frank, Emma Furnival, Moanaroa Witana, Ella Yeoman, Zoe Brawn, Janek Manderson, Matthew Richards, Corban Nickel, Tenisha Hall, Jayden Dravitzki, Bailey Ryder <i>Scouts Aotearoa:</i> Jenny Weigel, Tony Lyle, Oliver Thomas, David Taylor, David Hellawell <i>Pure Exploration:</i> Tia Pettifer, Kaela Barnes, Rachel Teow, Craig Robinson, Erin Good, Matthew Green, Endre Spilling, Avery Mahon, Belle Anya Rose Schifrin, Kino Redfield, Florian Kindt, Elena Weissenberger, Robert van Veen, Lizzie Harlan
Rock 1	Ed Coles, Keilan Hepburn, Bailey Stubbs, Ingimar Menzies, Libby Clifton, MJ Creswick, Xania Miller, Emma Kelly, Kerryn Jansen, Jamie Toomey, Bailey Ryder
Rock 1 – Sport Climbing Endorsement	Jeffrey Nilsson, Scott Bickley
Sea Kayak Leader	Joice Shepherd, Cared Blackham, Jade Coleman, Phoebe David-Martin, Jose Diago, Nadia Kerr, Demi Larkin, Zeke Platt, Ella Pratt, Cydney Ralph, Tiana Russek, Connor Stewart, Kurt Stewart, William Norton, Hoi Ying Wong, Matthew Ashworth, Tristan Bennett, Georgia Gold, Nathan Phillipson, Ollie Ross, Luke Higinbottom, Oliver Lewis, Cameron Hamilton, Bailey Ryder, Tenisha Hall, Matthew Richards, Corban Nickel, Jayden Dravitzki
Sea Kayak 1	Laura Vernon, Andrew Dugan, Louisa Mueller





Totara Springs Christian Centre is a Christian camp based in Matamata and was founded in the 1960s. We started out with Easter and family camps. These days, we host camps all year round, ranging from school groups to sports camps, and also stick to our roots with Easter, family, and kids’ camps.

Here is what a few of our instructors and overseas volunteers have to share about their experiences instructing at Totara Springs:

“... I discovered a world of adventure and growth. From exciting high wire activities and ziplining through the lush landscape, every moment is filled with excitement. It’s not just a playground for children; it’s a sanctuary where they can push their limits, learn new skills, and build confidence. Totara Springs is more than just a destination—it’s a Christian Ministry where we are not just value driven through our mission and vision, but a place where challenges are embraced, fears are conquered, and memories are made to last a lifetime. For our staff, we prioritise professional development and our focus since joining NZOIA in 2022 is to consistently invest in our staff by equipping them with the qualifications that will allow them to pursue Outdoor Education all over the world.” *Jason – Instructing Team Leader*

“My experience at Totara Springs has been amazing, I have been learning about New Zealand culture, making new friends, and having a lot of fun at work, spending my days doing outdoor activities, and knowing new people everyday. This Christian camp has changed my life, it has helped me improve in many aspects and it has taught me that we must follow the path that God has for us.” *Nico – Overseas Volunteer from Ecuador*

“As a volunteer, my experience has been awesome. I have met new people, new cultures, and understood how kids have fun. The job that I’m doing at Totara Springs is instructing which means that I get to run activities for the kids on the camps that we have every week. In my journey of being an instructor, I have learned so many things about rockwall, go-karts, archery, and many other activities. I think this could be a great job for someone who comes overseas because you can connect with many cultures and people.” *Juan – Overseas Volunteer from Ecuador.*

“It feels like every day is completely different, you’re always in new situations. I particularly like it when the children and young

people bring infectious humour and motivation with them. I also really appreciate the team spirit. Right from the start, we as volunteers were welcomed with open arms. It feels like a second family and the camp is like a second home. I realise that I’m growing with my tasks as an instructor, becoming more self-confident, improving my English and always learning something new. I’m very grateful for all the memories that will always stay in my heart.” *Valentina – Overseas Volunteer from Germany*

A lot of our rope activities; which include rockwall, flying kiwi and abseil, require instructors to go through very thorough training. We have two abseils on site, a tower abseil and a senior abseil – where our guests abseil off a 14 metre cliff. Instructors wanting to be trained in both abseils must complete their training externally. This is why we recently partnered with NZOIA and some of our staff have signed up for rock and abseil qualifications.

Paula Konow and Ethaniel Nogaj (both Instructors/Hosts at Totara Springs) recently completed their Abseil Leader qualifications with NZOIA as of November 2023 and have their qualifications registered under Totara Springs NZOIA Affiliated Membership. Krzysztof Mucznik (Instructor/Host) gained his Rock 1 in March 2023 and Sam Vowles has completed a Rock 1 preassessment training and is lined up for Rock 1 later this year. We are aiming for Sam and Krzysztof to become Rock and Abseil Leader Assessors with the ability to train and assess in the future.

The fact that NZOIA offers so many different courses and qualifications in different outdoor activities really provides our instructing staff with the opportunity to excel in the areas that are more to their liking. For example; Krzysztof has recently started the Bush Leader course, where the trainee learns about what the best weather conditions are for a trail, or how to lead groups on marked tracks. Overall, NZOIA offers so many different courses and qualifications which is ultimately why we decided to partner with them. Our instructors can complete qualifications relevant to the area they want to develop in, which is what we encourage at Totara Springs.



KŌRERO O TE TAU

KARLLIE CLIFTON (NGĀPUHI, TE ATIWA KI WAIPOUNAMU)

Ngā mihi o te tau hou Pākehā

As we move well into the New Year on the Gregorian calendar, we are now in the second half of the year, according to Maramataka (Māori Calendar) and nearing the end of Raumati (Summer). There is a pūrākau (traditional story) of Tamanuiterā and how he splits part of each year between his beautiful wives, Hine Takurua, the Winter Maid, and Hine Raumati, the Summer Maid. Hence, summer is known as Raumati, and winter is known as Takurua. For more on this pūrākau, see the link below under ‘Useful Resources’.

You may see the Māori months of the year given different names. Rangi Matamua (an expert of Maramataka and New Zealander of the year 2023) shares wonderful matauranga (knowledge) in his book, Matariki – The Stars of the Year, about the Māori months. Traditionally, the new month was recognised by the rising of a particular star in conjunction with the new moon. However, the lunar calendar applied by the ancestors of Māori is incompatible with the Gregorian calendar, which is dictated by the sun, a solar calendar with 365 (366 for a leap year) days in a year. The Māori lunar calendar typically follows a 29.5-day month or 354 days in the year. Māori recognised the issue of synchronising with the solar calendar and remedied this in two ways, either by adding moon nights as their Eastern Polynesian ancestors did or by adding an extra month every few years, as was the case last year, which had thirteen months. It is important to note that matauranga Māori may vary between iwi, including the matauranga of Maramataka.

If you are interested in learning more about the lunar calendar of Maramataka, I recommend getting hold of a copy of the book Matariki, as it contains a wealth of knowledge on the subject. In the meantime, enjoy the fruits of the season while they last.

Whakatauki – Māori Proverb

Hauhake tū, ka tō Matariki

The harvest ends when Matariki sets

This whakatauki acknowledges the end of the harvest season and the onset of winter by the setting of Matariki in the western sky during the month of Haratua. It reminds people to be prepared for the cold months that will follow.

Kupu hou

Māori months by stars

Te Tahi o Pipiri
Te Rua o Takurua
Te Toru Here Pipiri
Te Whā o Mahuru
Te Rima o Kōpū
Te Ono o Whitiānaunau
Te Whitu o Hakihea
Te Waru o Rehua
Te Iwa o Rūhiterangi
Te Ngahuru o Poutūterangi
Te Ngahurumātahi o Paengawhāwhā
Te Ngahurumārua o Haki Haratua

Traditional Māori months

Pipiri
Hōngongoi
Heretirikōkā
Mahuru
Whiringa-ā-nuku
Whiringa-ā-rangi
Hakihea
Kohitātea
Huitānguru
Poutūterangi
Paengawhāwhā
Haratua

Māori Transliteration

Hune
Hūrae
Ākuhata
Hepetema
Oketopa
Noema
Tihema
Hānuere
Pēpuere
Māehe
Āpereira
Mei

English

June
July
August
September
October
November
December
January
February
March
April
May

Karakia

For Māori, karakia is a powerful method of communication with the Atua (gods/guardians) of Te Ao Māori (The Māori World). The human and Atua relationship is of great importance, as is the relationship with Te Taiao (the natural world) and tangata (people). This time of the year and over the next few months there is an abundance of kai, it is the season to harvest. In te ao Māori, we give thanks to Rongo-mā-Tāne, the guardian of cultivated food, and Haumia-tiketike, the guardian of uncultivated food. Therefore, it feels appropriate to learn a karakia for food that gives thanks to some of our Māori atua that sustain us throughout the year.

Useful Resources

[Tamanuiterā: The sun and his two wives](#)

[Matariki – The Stars of the Year by Rangi Matamua](#)

Karakia mo te kai – Prayer for food

Nau mai e ngā hua o te wao o te ngakina o te wai tai o te wai Māori Nā Tane Nā Rongo Nā Tangaroa Nā Maru Ko Ranginui e tū iho nei	<i>Welcome the gifts of food from the sacred forests from the cultivated gardens from the sea from the fresh waters The food of Tane of Rongo of Tangaroa of Maru I acknowledge Ranginui who is above me, Papatuanuku who lies beneath me</i>
Ko Papatūānuku e takoto nei	<i>Papatuanuku who lies beneath me</i>
Tuturu whakamaui	<i>Let this be my commitment to all!</i>
Kia tina! TINA! Hui e! TĀIKI E!	<i>Draw together! Affirm!</i>



NZOIA Assessments, Training and Refresher Workshops

Course	Course fee (NZOIA Members) *
Refresher Workshops	\$215 (\$115 1/2 day)
Training Courses	\$450 (\$245 1 day)
Assessments	
Leader Assessments: Abseil Leader Bush Leader Canoe Leader Canyon Leader Cave Leader Kayak Leader Mountain Bike Leader Rock Leader Sea Kayak Leader Other Assessments: Artificial Whitewater Climbing Wall Supervisor (CWS) CWS: Monitor Lead Endorsement	These assessments are run under the Free Range Assessment Model \$150 plus any Assessor fees and expenses. Please contact an Assessor directly via our website to arrange an assessment and their fee. You are required to be a Registered Member to attend a Free Range Assessment (or be listed under a NZOIA Affiliated or NZOIA Climbing Wall Membership).
1 Day Assessments (land based 1:4 ratio) Sport Climbing Endorsement	\$315
1 Day Assessments (water based 1:3 ratio) Canoe 1 Upgrade Sea Kayak – Instructor Endorsement Multisport Kayak Endorsement	\$325
Overnight Assessment (Midday to Midday) Overnight Endorsement	\$365
2 Day Assessments (land based 1:4 ratio plus evening session) Cave 1 Mountain Bike 1 Rock 1 Sport Climbing	\$615
2 Day Assessments (water based 1:3 ratio) Kayak 2 Upgrade Sea Kayak Guide	\$615
2 Day Assessments (water based 1:3 ratio plus evening session) Canoe Guide	\$655
3 Day Assessments (land based 1:4 ratio plus evening session) Bush 1 Canyon 1	\$815
3 Day Assessments (water based and NZOIA 2 1:3 ratio) Kayak 1 & 2 Multisport Kayak Sea Kayak 1 & 2 Mountain Bike 2	\$835
3 Day Assessments (water based and NZOIA 2 1:3 ratio plus evening session) Canoe 1 Bush 2 Cave 2 Canyon 2 Rock 2	\$875
4 Day Assessments (1:4 ratio plus evening session) Alpine 1	\$1025
6 Day Assessments (NZOIA 2 1:3 ratio plus evening session) Alpine 2	\$1640

The course calendars for Assessments, Training and Refresher workshops can be found at www.nzoi.org.nz. Members are notified of updates to the calendar via the NZOIA 4YA – our weekly email.

Booking for a NZOIA Assessment, Training or Refresher Workshop

1. Go to www.nzoi.org.nz
2. Check out the Scope and Syllabus, if you are applying for an assessment then make sure you meet all the pre-requisites.
3. On the course calendar, find the event you want to apply for (you will need to be logged into your member profile) and select 'Apply'. Upload any prerequisites (i.e. your logbook, summary sheet, first aid certificate and any other required documentation to your application).
4. Applications close 6 weeks before the course date.
5. After the closing date we will confirm that the course will run.
6. If NZOIA cancels a course, you will receive a full refund/transfer of your fee.
7. If you withdraw before the closing date, you will receive a full refund of your fee. If you withdraw after the closing date of a course, **the fee is non-refundable**. It is transferable under exceptional circumstances (e.g. bereavement, medical reasons), medical certificates/other proof may be required. **Contact admin@nzoi.org for more details.**

Further Information

Details of courses run by NZOIA, pre-requisites and online payment are all available at: www.nzoi.org.nz

Courses by special arrangement

It is possible to run assessments on other dates. You will need a minimum of 3 motivated candidates and the date of when you would like the course to be run. Go to the Custom Courses page on the website www.nzoi.org.nz/qualifications/courses/custom-courses for details on how to arrange a course.

Course Costs

All courses run by NZOIA are discounted for members and heavily subsidised by external funding.

*Course fees are for NZOIA Members only unless stated otherwise.

www.nzoi.org.nz

NZOIA
Excellence in Outdoor Leadership

We want your story!

We are looking for contributions from you, the NZOIA members, for the NZOIA Quarterly. Do you have a story to tell? Do you know someone who has thoughts to share?

Articles could be:
A personal adventure and how your experiences have impacted your instruction/guiding of others.
/ An incident, near miss or accident that others could learn from.
/ A personal profile – an interesting tale about how you got to be where you are now in the world of outdoor instructing.
/ An organisation that is doing innovative and interesting things – with its programme, philosophy, direction and instruction or guiding.
/ A reflection on any aspect of outdoor instruction/guiding that you think would be educational and beneficial for others to hear.

Contact the editor with your ideas and for guidelines: editor@nzoi.org



Photo: Johnny Johnson

bivouac/outdoor

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Adelaide Tarn
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Photo: Mark Watson

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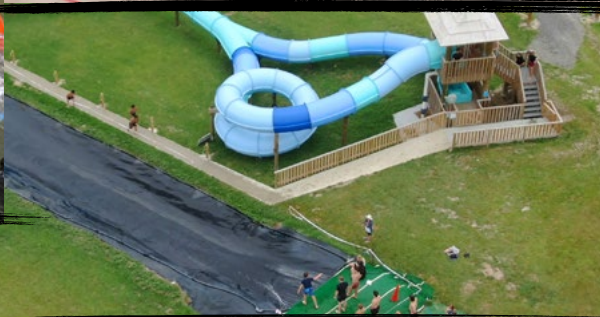
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PLANTING THE SEEDS OF ADVENTURE



Photos supplied by Totara Springs

Profiles of organisations are welcomed for the back page series "Planting the Seeds of Adventure". Contact editor@nzoia.org.nz



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