

VUWTC President's Report 2007

2007- what a year! It's been another action packed year in the wacky world of VUWTC, with tonnes of exciting trips going on with the typical quota of crazy characters. We've voyaged the country, taking on hills, rivers, mountains and even horses! Copious amounts of beer/tequila/wine have been consumed along the way and our musical repertoire has expanded dramatically with all the singing going on up in the hills! This year's committee has been awesome, with everyone putting in tonnes of energy and enthusiasm to make the tramping club one of the coolest places round!

Some of my personal highlights from the year have been lying round in the sun on one of the hottest Fresher's ever, sipping on cocktails in the hotpools at the Kawekas, eating far more than my annual quota of Easter eggs on Bushcraft, extreme gossiping on a very girly Ruahine trip, having an amazing roast on Gourmet, having a massive geek-out about landslide-dammed lakes at Lake Colenso, wandering over Mt Hector on a spectacular day with three boys wearing skirts and MacJenny, dangling off street signs in Turangi during AIC, being the Argy Bargy Pirates singing through all the rain in Kahurangi National Park, learning tonnes of mountaineering skills on Glenn's courses, getting presents from a very classy Santa in Mangahao Flats, bush-bashing along Blue Range, getting up onto the Summit Plateau during snowcaving, abseiling down waterfalls, lying in a blow-up boat drinking beer in the pirate raft race and watching the sunrise as we climbed up Taranaki. It's been awesome having the chance to get to so many amazing places and spend time with all the manic people who make the trips so special.

I think the club is in a really positive place heading towards 2008, with a truckload of energetic, enthusiastic people and our new website making it so easy for everyone to get involved and plan mad missions! There's been heaps of successful trips run this year with tonnes of people interested in getting away with us. The alpine and climbing sector of the club has really been expanding, especially with the free instruction courses run this winter by Glenn Pennycook. We've recruited (and corrupted) some awesome new people this year and kept lots of the typical crazy crew around and still going on trips and generally causing trouble. Lots of work has gone into building up skill levels, with Bushcraft and AIC being run successfully this year and a leadership weekend still to come. We've also looked at some potential ideas for making the committee run a bit better and being more accountable and effective and hopefully some of the ideas for improvement will be taken on board to help the club wheels turn even more smoothly. VUWTC is an amazing group of people and the club has a long and merry history that we're all so lucky to be a part of!

Cheers for all the memories guys- from beers at Fidel's to singalongs in Mavis to magic times in the hills. And for putting up with me ranting on Tuesday nights and all the tequila-inspired dancing and singing I've been involved with! It's been a privilege serving you lot as President this year and I'll hopefully be seeing you all in the hills some time very soon!

Acknowledgements

A huge shout out to everyone involved in the club- for all the friendships and good times, and for being so enthusiastic and eager to get involved in lots of manic adventures! And

especially to the committee this year for making so many of the trips get away and all the effort you guys have put in. I can't really do you guys justice in a mere sentence, but you lot are seriously some of the coolest people around!

Craig Ryburn- Chief Guide

An awesome job bringing in tonnes of new ideas and endless enthusiasm and energy (even after severe sleep deprivation)- cheers for putting so much effort into getting trips away this year!

Andrea Logan- Assistant Chief Guide

Excellent work helping Craig out and generally being such an eager beaver!

Alyn Higgins- Secretary

We'd be lost without you Alyn and all the work you put into the inner workings of the club- thanks for everything!

Regan Liddell and Natalie Pilcher- Treasurers

Thanks for all the time you guys have put into getting our money off us, you've both done an excellent job!

Jess Clark and Hazel Bidmead- Publicity Officers

Great work on ambushing and corrupting new members and getting our propaganda out everywhere!

Craig Scott and Kieran Paton- Gear Custodians

Awesome effort keeping track of all the gear and cheers for all the work you've put into auditing the gear and especially for the awesome new lights Craig!

Ollie Tuohy- Climbing Officer

Wonderful work in dragging anyone and everyone along climbing and being so enthusiastic about rocks and ice and ropes!

Kate McKenzie- Social Convenor

Fantastic job getting everyone enthusiastic about everything and keeping us all entertained even with a thesis to write!

Sarah Miller- Conservation Officer

Great job organising tonnes of conservation trips and getting everyone doing mad things like eating seaweed!

Tim Doyle- Huts Maintenance Officer

Cheers Timmy for your hut maintenance work and general enthusiasm!

And a big thanks to all the people outside the committee who have put in heaps of time and effort, especially to Jenny for all her awesome artwork and Ritchie for all the advice.