RMCA Newsletter – 18th June 2026



The 2026 season is nearly upon us with both Whakapapa and Turoa planning for skiing and snowboarding to kick off from 4th July. Whakapapa Holdings has shared that the sledding and tubing experiences in Happy Valley have had record participation. And season pass sales to date in 2026 have outsold previous years. The 2026 El Nino weather pattern will deliver more frequent southwest and westerly winds across the country. For Whakapapa we should see colder temperatures and more frequent cold fronts to deliver the snow for the ski season. All clubs are looking forward to a strong 2026 season.

The RMCA is committed to supporting clubs engage with current members and recruit new members.

DOC Rent Review Proposal

Te Papa Atawhai (DOC) are currently undertaking a rent review for all operators in the TNP. The timeline for the rent review is now a late October / November delivery to clubs. With clubs having a 3 month right of reply. Rent reviews will now be effective in early 2027.

Ruapehu District Council Rates

There has been a delay with the RDC charging rates to clubs. Some clubs have now received the 2024 and 2025 RDC rates charges. These rates have been on charged by DOC. The RMCA is currently working with stakeholders to understand the methodology applied to generate the rates bills for clubs. The RMCA is aware rates bills are due 1st July 2026.

However, clubs are invited to pause paying these rates bills. An update will be provided to clubs in the next 2 weeks.

RMCA Mountain Clean Up Day - Kings Birthday Weekend – Saturday 30th May

The RMCA Mountain Clean Up was a huge success. Many clubbies expressed their deep love for the Maunga and how grateful they felt to be able to give back. It was a massive turnout.

There were **111 + clubbies** who registered and picked up rubbish.





WHL kindly allowed any clubbies to travel on the Skywaka to the KRC. From here clubbies picked up rubbish around the café area. Darien Warburton (Puketoi) led the Upper Mountain clean up and was joined by our experienced LandSar volunteers and some hardy clubbies. Gordon Horsley (Whanganui) led the group from the top of the Rangatira to the Top of the Bruce. This covered the Rock Garden and Tenants Valley. Ian Chamberlain (Taupo) led the carparks and Happy Valley clean up.

The rubbish picked up filled half of the large skip bin in the refuse and recycling area, The rubbish collected consisted of building materials, pieces of ski and snowboard boots, ski gloves, clothing, pieces of orange rope, nails. Very little general rubbish was located in the Upper Mountain area. The rubbish in the lower mountain area was heavily represented by clothing, gloves, underwear and dirty nappies. A shout out to Matt Munroe (Grads) for bagging the most interesting object – a freeze-dried possum found in Happy Valley.









The Platinum Carpark Party

New World Ohakune

A huge thank you to Sam Fletcher from New World Ohakune for stepping up as the first sponsor of the Mountain Clean Up event. Sam provided all the food for the BBQ.







Gordons Outdoor Sports Taupo

Thank you to Hendon and Kim Gillies for supporting the clean up with a Patagonia Jacket.



Whakapapa Holdings

A big thank you to Travis and the WHL team for generously supporting the clubbies with sunset drinks in Lorenz's.

We love the sheepskins on the chairs.



Open-source lodge booking system

RMCA will host a Zoom session on **Wednesday 1 July at 7:00pm** to introduce the new Tokoroa Alpine Club website and booking system. The system combines a public club website, member portal, lodge booking calendar, membership application process, payments, admin tools, lodge operations support, email notifications, and optional accounting integrations. Members can log in, book stays, add guests, view bed availability, pay online, and manage their details. Admin users can manage bookings, members, payments, policies, reports, hut leader information, waitlists, chores, issue reporting, and related lodge operations.

The project has been released publicly as AlpineClubBookingsNZ and is free/open source under the MIT licence. This means any RMCA member club with suitable technical support can copy the system, adapt it for its own lodge, rules, rates, branding, and processes, and host its own website and booking system.

The session will suit committee members, booking officers, treasurers, and IT-capable members who want to understand what the system does and what would be involved in setting it up for their own club.

Cheers
Jordan.

Zoom Meeting
Invitation: RMCA Open Source Alpine Club Website Talk @ Wed Jul 1, 2026 7pm - 8:30pm (NZST)

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86080068835?pwd=prSND2SfEM701OgiMAYXa468OWRUPF.1

The Grocery Room – 2026

With the 2026 season shaping up to be a good one, the RMCA has looked at the capacity in the grocery room. Many clubbies may not realise there is a second grocery room. It is located on

the left- hand side as you enter through the front door that has the padlock. The main grocery room remains straight ahead of you. A decision has been made to utilise both grocery rooms equally.

For clubs **with custodians**, your supplies will be in the from the first room on the left - hand side as you enter the building. A separate newsletter will be sent to clubs with custodians.

This will explain the second door code to access this custodian's grocery room.

Clubs with Custodians Using Grocery Room 1:

Alpine, Christie, Graduates, Iwikau, Levin Waiopehu, Matamata, Ngauruhoe, Rotorua, RSC, Ski Racers, Snowline, Tongariro

Clubs using the General Grocery Room 2 – all other clubs

RMCA Custodians Grocery Room



New World Ohakune



The RMCA is passionate about supporting local organizations. These make our community strong and keeps dollars in the community.. NW Ohakune has an offer that is extremely price competitive, with goods delivered to the RMCA grocery room. All goods are ordered through the NW on line system and are labelled. Dry goods will be delivered in a banana box / crate. Frozen goods will be packed together in a bag, labelled for your club and placed in the freezer.

To order, simply use the New World online ordering website. Paying for groceries is easy using a debit card from a Ski Club bank account that is designated for groceries in 2026. The debit card system enables clubs to budget on a weekly basis. And gives immediacy in terms of what is ordered. There won't be any more "back orders" of 25kg Sugar delivered to the grocery room!

The RMCA encourages all clubs to step up and "support local" in 2026.

Nga mihi,

Debbie Evans

Chair Ruapehu Mountain Clubs Association

Email **president@rmca.org.nz**

RUAPEHU
Mountain Clubs Association