

# ONTRACK

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NZ MOUNTAIN SAFETY COUNCIL

Issue 10 | July 2011



## WELCOME

DARRYL CARPENTER | CHIEF EXECUTIVE

As I type this, I'm struck by the fact NZ has been experiencing some very strange weather patterns recently, including heavy rainfall, tornadoes and now an icy polar arctic blast.

My thoughts are certainly with those who may have suffered due to extreme weather events but for those of you into alpine activities (climbing, skiing, boarding, above-the-bush line alpine tramping), I hope that you've checked your gear and undertaken your pre-season safety checks now the winter season is well underway!

For those who are into tramping or indeed any other outdoor recreational activity, Winter doesn't mean hibernate, but it is critical to take sensible and necessary precautions when heading out, and a good place to start is following the Outdoor Safety Code which includes 'Be aware of the weather'.

One tool which will certainly assist snow-goers to plan effectively is the revamp of the New Zealand Avalanche Centre website, [www.avalanche.net.nz](http://www.avalanche.net.nz) which went live earlier this month. There is far more comprehensive forecasting and a new sleeker design which makes finding information about all aspects of Avalanches easier and it's an ongoing work in progress for MSC's Avalanche Programme.

Whilst on the topic of weather Andrea and Andrew also had a very successful meeting with MetService which will result in exposure for the Mountain Safety Council and mutually beneficial arrangements for promoting all aspects of outdoors safety.

Finally, I would like to once again express my thanks for all the work undertaken by MSC's volunteers, whatever the weather! Whether it's school visits, providing training and education opportunities or providing input into technical committees. Thank you for your efforts. New Zealand is a better place for the work that you are doing!

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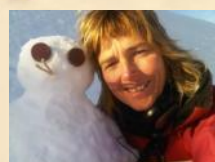
Andrea at MSC Gisborne Training - Lake Waikaremoana

Mike demonstrating knife sharpening at Gt Barrier HUNTS course.



Chris ski touring at Aoraki/Mount Cook.

Annie enjoying the snow!



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DISCOVER  
MORE, SAFELY.▲

## The New Zealand Mountain Safety Council (MSC)



MSC is a national organisation and incorporated society with a mandate from our member organisations to encourage safe participation in land-based outdoor activities.

The organisation's remit spans from the high tide mark to the peak of Aoraki/Mount Cook and is principally focused on firearms safety, bushcraft (walking, camping, tramping and survival), avalanche awareness, alpine skills, abseil techniques, river safety, outdoor safety and risk management plus outdoor and workplace first aid.

### Our mission is to:

- Encourage people to participate safely in land-based outdoor activity.
- Foster positive support for outdoor safety in the community.
- Promote the development and maintenance of national outdoor safety standards for land based outdoor activities.

### We achieve this by:

- Undertaking research and evaluation to support the setting of safety standards for individuals and organisations active in the land based outdoor recreation sector.
- Producing resources containing technical information which promotes self reliance in outdoor safety.
- Leading public awareness campaigns. Training and developing instructors and ensuring they are available to provide education and training to the public and our member agencies via a nationwide network of MSC branches and other clubs and associations.

### The Council consists of:

- 25 Member and 1 Associate Member organisation (including government agencies, youth and industry associations)
- an Executive Committee whose role is to provide governance
- a National Office with 27 professional staff
- a number of technical advisory committees
- 28 regional branches supporting more than 1500 instructors

### National Office Staff Members >>

**CEO** > Darryl Carpenter

**Education Manager** > Leonce Jones

**Business Manager** > Richard Brodie

#### Avalanche & Alpine Programme

Programme Manager > Andrew Hobman

Asst. Programme Manager > Gordie Smith

#### Bushcraft Programme

Programme Manager > Chris Owens

#### Firearms & HUNTS Programme

Programme Manager > Mike Spray

Training Co-ordinator > Tracy Wakeford

#### Marketing & Communications

Manager > Andrea Hubbard

#### Research & Evaluation

Programme Manager > Annie Dignan

#### Administration Team:

Finance > Alex Cordier

Branch Network Manager > Jane Hoedemaeckers

Administrator > Nina Klauke

Membership Officer > Jill Knight

Resources Manager > Lindsey Pickering

## FEATURE >> Great Barrier Island Kids Benefit from HUNTS Course

### By Tracy Wakeford | Firearms Training Co-ordinator

The last weekend of May marked a first for a group of kids from Great Barrier Island. MSC Firearms Instructor, Roger Bright had approached local schools and asked them to nominate children to take part in the HUNTS training programme. The end result was a group of 8 enthusiastic young hunters (see photo) who attended lectures after school and also training weekends to learn bushcraft, firearms safety and hunting techniques.

Mike Spray (Firearms Programme Manager) and Tracy Wakeford (Firearms Training Co-ordinator) visited the group and took them through practical shooting skills on the Range. Prizes for the range shoot were donated by Hunting and Fishing, Gisborne Branch. 1<sup>st</sup> prize went to Marco, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kahu and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Olly. Roger continued coaching the kids and did a great job organising sponsorship to enable them all to go off the Island for a hunt – the final step in the course.

Friday night the group left the Island and travelled to Ngaruawahia for an overnight stay at the Scout Hall before getting an early start in the hunts area the next day.

The group set up camp and received their briefing from Mike and Stoney Creek gear from NZDA. The group was split into four groups consisting of two children and a guide who each set off to four different blocks for their hunt. By 4pm all the groups were back and every child had shot and carried his own goat back to camp, where they were taught how to skin and bone their goats.



*The HUNTS group: Back L -R: Joe, Peter (Guide), Pawnee, Marco, Roger (Instructor), Kahu, Glen (Instructor), Tahi, Jeff (Guide), Ben. Front L to R: Soul, Olly*

The trainees received a certificate from NZ Deerstalkers' Association for completing the HUNTS Course. The hunting weekend was a culmination of hard work and support from many people including Jeff from DoC, Glen Hartstone (MSC Hunts Instructor – Waikato), Graham the landowner, all the sponsors including Hunting and Fishing, Gisborne Branch and of course all the kids parents, care-givers and Island supporters. Special thanks to Roger Bright for organising an extremely successful course and his ongoing commitment to MSC.

## IN BRIEF...

### National Incident Database (NID)

The National Incident Database Report for outdoor education and outdoor recreation for 2010 has just been produced.

This report has been written for those involved in the outdoors at both a hands on and management level.

It has a focus upon case studies and identifying trends and highlights lessons to be learnt. This report is available at <http://www.incidentreport.org.nz/> in the view reports section.

### NEW River Safety Handbook & Companion DVD (2011)

This new resource has been produced by the Mountain Safety Council in conjunction with Water Safety NZ.



These two resources are designed to be used together and intended for use by instructors and teachers to introduce river safety to beginners of all ages.

However, sound advice and techniques mean this resource is essential for any recreational trapper or hunter likely to encounter rivers.

You can purchase this resource at [www.mountainsafety.org.nz](http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz) RRP \$30.00 plus P+P of \$5.00, or contact your local MSC Branch Admin. Officer.

Visit the Mountain Safety website to find further information on courses, safety tips and other MSC resources.

### MSC Avalanche Conference

#### Exceeds Expectations



The Southern Hemisphere Avalanche Conference was held in Christchurch in June and was a roaring success says Avalanche Programme Manager Andrew Hobman

More than 120 delegates from NZ and internationally converged for conference presentations on key developments within the avalanche sector.

Thank you to all sponsors and the organising committee

## Update >> Mountain Safety Council Award

By Mike Spray | Firearms Programme Manager

On occasions over the past few years I have had the absolute pleasure and privilege of presenting deserving recipients the Mountain Safety "Council Award".

The award acknowledges outstanding service to the work of the Council and is given in grateful recognition and appreciation of the recipients:

- concern for the safety and enjoyment of others
- sharing of outdoor knowledge, ability and experience
- time and enthusiasm given in willing service to the community



Photo above: Mike Spray presents Keith Theobald with the Council Award.

#### The criteria for nomination include:

- outstanding service as an instructor, helper, organiser or long term member and/or
- long and committed service and/or
- acknowledgement of a real achievement

It is very important we continue to recognise the long term service and commitment of many of our deserving members. It would be our pleasure to receive nominations.

Nominations for the award are submitted by the MSC Branch, approved by the Council and the Award is endorsed by the Minister of Internal Affairs.

I would like encourage you to identify members within your branch who are deserving of an award and prepare a branch nomination for submission to National Office.



Photo: Horowhenua presentation L-R: the late Ernie Hagger, Maria Clement, David Blakiston & Peter Nightingale

For more information about nominations, including timings please contact your MSC Branch Admin Officer >>

## NEWS >> Instructors: 'Let them eat cake'!



The cake was bought in by the Kaitaia firearms co-ordinator, Brian Bell and was made and decorated by his lovely wife. As well as being very arty – it was said to be extremely yummy too!

MSC Firearms Instructors attending a recent firearms training seminar in Kaitaia were delighted to be on the receiving end of this delightful MSC Cake.



## FEATURE >> Official Launch: Whakatūpato Firearms Safety Programme

The Whakatūpato firearms safety training programme has been a tremendous success since launching last year. Tracy Wakeford talks about the official launch below >>

On 28 June, MSC, NZ Police and Iwi joined together to celebrate the launch of the Whakatūpato firearms safety programme at Tamatekapua Marae, Ohinemutu, Rotorua.

The new Police Commissioner, Peter Marshall and MSC CEO Darryl Carpenter attended the event. The occasion also marked the Commissioner's first powhiri on to a marae anywhere in New Zealand as the Police Commissioner.

Whakatūpato has been running for the past year with programmes around Te Urewera, the East Cape and Northland; this launch celebrated the successes to date and also marked the next phase of rolling out the programme around NZ.

Peter Marshall, Darryl Carpenter and Kaumatua addressed an audience of around 100. Te Karere and Maori TV broadcasted stories on the event.

Tamatekapua proved to be a splendid venue for this auspicious occasion and we were very well hosted including an incredible cooked lunch following the proceedings.

MSC thanks the NZ Police and Iwi for their ongoing support of this programme.



L-R: Firearms Programme Manager, Mike Spray; MSC CEO Darryl Carpenter; John Ransfield - MSC Firearms Instructor; Police Commissioner, Peter Marshall; Firearms Training Co-ordinator and Whakatūpato Project Manager Tracy Wakeford.

For more information about the Whakatūpato Firearms Safety Programme please visit: [www.mountainsafety.org.nz/whakatupato](http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz/whakatupato) >>

## FEATURE >> Happy Campers? It's no surprise to MSC!

It is unlikely to be news to many MSC members or supporters, but a recent UK report has highlighted the multiple benefits of going camping. Annie Dignan (MSC Research & Evaluation Manager) explains >>

A recent report entitled: 'Are Those Who Camp Richer For It? The physiological and social benefits of the camping experience' has been produced by Outdoor Education academics from John Moores University for the UK's Camping and Caravanning Club.

Throughout the report, a number of plays on contemporary terms are used to illustrate the value of camping. For example, it refers to 'getting rich quick' to suggest that the value of going camping lies within the social engagement that occurs while camping, thus enriching your life!

Whilst the report uses a wide definition of camping which includes the comparative luxury of a caravan, there are many highlights within this easy to read and informative report.

### Camping's list of proven riches

A review of over 60 academic studies looking into the benefits of camping, supplemented with our own research, shows that camping has a wealth of riches to offer:

1. It promotes family cohesion, satisfaction, togetherness and fulfilment
2. It encourages rest, relaxation and restoration
3. It facilitates children's learning and has a positive effect on behaviour
4. It improves social interaction
5. It makes us feel better – mentally and physically
6. It creates memories, traditions and special places that stay with you for life
7. It really does make us happier!

Extract from: *Are Those Who Camp Richer For It? The physiological and social benefits of the camping experience*, Richards. K, Stott.T and Peel. J, 2011

This report has been circulated amongst MSC member organisations, as despite being based in the UK, it provides some support for the work that many NZ outdoor organisations undertake.

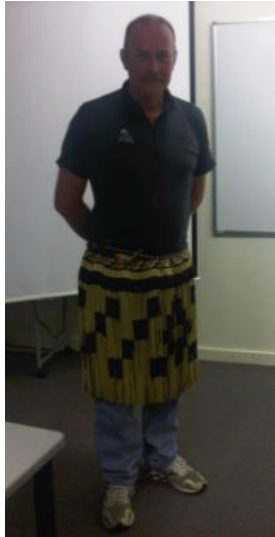
But if you'd like to take a look for yourself and see whether it resonates with your own experience, the abbreviated and longer version can both be found on the MSC website.

For more information visit:

[www.mountainsafety.org.nz/Research/Recent-Research/Outdoor-Recreation.asp](http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz/Research/Recent-Research/Outdoor-Recreation.asp)

Plus check out more interesting research on the dedicated research pages.

## FEATURE >> A very special presentation at MSC Auckland Branch



Alex Warriner, MSC Auckland Branch Chair, wearing the piupiu created by Marc Veldhuisen.

By Chris Owens | Bushcraft Programme Manager

I was fortunate to be present at the MSC Auckland Branch Meeting earlier this year which ran as normal until Marc Veldhuisen stood at the front of the group to make a presentation. Marc explained he had been undertaking a year long course in Traditional and Contemporary Maori Weaving at the Auckland Unitech and had just completed the creation of a piupiu (a traditional Maori garment made of flax).

He went into detail about the intricate processes that the harakeke (flax) piece had been through including designing, washing, heating, pounding, scraping, drying, weaving, knotting and dying and that the piece had been 160 hours in the making.

The significance of this creation then unfolded as Marc said that the piupiu was designed with its recipient in mind. He explained that this person is always striving to increase his own knowledge both in breadth and depth so that he may pass these skills on to people of all ages through the organisations he instructs for as a volunteer. The patterns in the design were symbolic of some of the character traits that this person possessed.

There was then a pause in the presentation as Marc then called Alex Warriner, the Auckland Branch Chair, up to the front of the room, where he then gifted the piupiu to him.

Marc said he had known Alex for over 15 years through MSC and Scouting and that he has always been a person who was striving to learn more, and then share his knowledge generously. The piupiu was therefore a token of appreciation from Marc to his mentor and another amazing example of the people we have within the MSC organisation!

### MSC Report Conference Success to Minister Guy >>



Prior to this year's alpine season commencing, it was timely for MSC to report back to the Hon. Nathan Guy (Minister of Internal Affairs & SAR) regarding Darryl's attendance (on his behalf) at the International Avalanche Conference.

At the conference, late last year, Darryl presented a summary of New Zealand's 2010 season, the challenges faced by the sector (you will recall the alpine fatalities) and some of the innovations MSC are currently working on.

As well as the opportunity to network with peers from across the world, MSC brought NZ back access to the international snow pack and precipitation data information-exchange software.

Minister Guy was also interested in our outdoor safety preventative activities, our connection with local communities and our continuing to use highly skilled and enthusiastic volunteers.

The Minister also asked Darryl to pass on his thanks to Mountain Safety's paid and volunteer staff for all aspects of our work.

### Kaitaia Firearms Safety Rap

>> written by Robin Shepherd, Kaitaia Firearms Instructor and based on the 7 basic rules of the Firearms Safety Code.

Hey Bro, Listen slow  
'dis is the way for guns to go  
Point shooters in a safe direction  
Then make the thorough gun inspection  
Unloaded and the safety on  
The safety, safety, safety on  
Never load the magazine  
Till you checked out  
the hunting scene

There's nothing you  
can celebrate  
If you blow away  
your hunting mate  
No place for trigger  
happy guys

Always scan the bush and skies  
You got a first check the scene  
See nothing's getting in between  
Your gun and what you shooting at  
Is that a pig or your mate's hat?  
And when your shooter's in the ute  
Make it so it can not shoot  
And at home lock your shooters up  
Always lock your shooters up.  
And grog and dack and guns don't mix  
So drunks with guns are proper dicks  
So Bro - Safe with gun's the way to go  
Yo Bro—Safety that's the way to go



If anyone has access to Scribe, P Money or any other Rap artist and thinks they might record this for us for 'Free', please contact Andrea Hubbard at National Office!

### The Outdoor Excellence Awards

The New Zealand outdoor sector once again has the opportunity to celebrate our successes in the annual outdoor excellence awards.



MSC is fortunate that due to our members we have lots of opportunity to see and hear of amazing volunteer commitment, incredible individual dedication and excellent professional and innovative service by outdoor providers.

MSC would like to encourage everyone to check out the details on the outdoor excellence awards and consider making a nomination. The categories include: Volunteer Award, Programme Award, Emerging Instructor Award, Best Facility Award, Environmental Leadership Award and the Supreme Award.

Let's make sure that individuals and organisations are recognised and applauded for their efforts. Put your thinking caps on because nominations are open.

More information can be found by visiting the Outdoors New Zealand website:

<http://www.outdoorsnz.org.nz/>

## FEATURE >> MSC Transformation Project

Leonce Jones, MSC's Education Manager explains more about the MSC Transformation project which was approved in 2010 by the Executive Committee and at the MSC AGM as part of the 2010/11 Business Plan.

**Why do we need to do this?** Several factors have contributed to the need for this project and below are two of the most significant reasons:

**Educational Alignment >>** From an educational point of view we need to provide participants and organisations with more efficiency in our course management and services. We also need to take into account changing work and leisure patterns and how these changes can be effectively embraced while maintaining high standards and appropriate training pathways.

We also need to shore-up our process and systems to align with nationally recognised standards. The qualification structures and pathways adopted will play a key role in providing benefits to our volunteers. These benefits may be felt in their volunteer capacity, their recreational choices and in their chosen employment as well as assisting them to realise goals and aspirations and perhaps open up new opportunities.



**Funding >>** While MSC has a long history of dedicated service to communities in the area of training delivery and safety messaging, this in itself is not sufficient to gain sustainable funding and we are becoming more reliant on specific project funding. Much of the funding is connected to local communities and the criterion precludes funding of national focused programmes. It is also a very competitive market with funding availability decreasing and cost of service delivery increasing rapidly.

Funding Bodies are taking a much greater interest in the structure, capability and quality of organisations that they fund. They also are increasing having corporate expectations of not-for-profit organisations and funding is only being provided where specific outcomes are met or deliverables achieved. Therefore it is imperative that MSC meets the expectations of governance, management and quality that national and regional funders now have.

### 8 Key Project Outcomes:

- Qualification Transformation
- NZQA Provider Compliance
- Resource Development
- Branch Change Management
- Capability Development
- National Office Change Management
- Programme Resources
- Funding



The transformation project is a major challenge as it involves all aspects of MSC operation, but I am hopeful that you will come to understand and embrace the strategic direction that we are heading in. Any change is challenging but this is a change focused on making a positive difference throughout the next decade and making MSC a sustainable, highly functioning organisation with the capacity and ability to attract the public to safe and healthy experiences within the outdoor environment.

### NEWS >> Education Technical Advisory Committee is Reformed

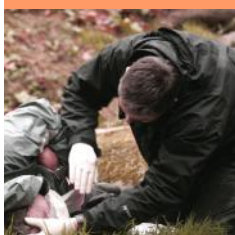
After a long period of inactivity the ETAC had their first meeting in June.

This group will bring a broader perspective to the Education and Training activity of MSC and its Member Agencies and provide quality advice as we progress through the changes that will result from the introduction of the 'Navigator' Outcomes Model and the Transformation Project.

Significant changes have occurred in the cost of training delivery, qualification attainment and the level of and access to government funding, so the advice provided by this group will ensure we position ourselves to access funding sources available and be identified as a high performer delivering quality training at a competitive rate.

Clearly identifying current and future markets and ensuring we have a clear strategy for growth and sustainability will be a focus.

### NEWS >> First Aid Technical Advisory Committee is Reformed



This re-established committee also met in June.

Recent changes to Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) practice has been introduced by the

Resuscitation Council and these changes will be implemented in our training delivery with immediate effect.

The MSC Outdoor First Aid Manual No. 33 has needed a review and reprint for some time and the Committee's work will focus on how we get this project completed.

In addition they will also be addressing the wider issues created by the change in Unit Standards and the Department of Labour requirements around workplace first aid qualifications.

### NEWS >> Change Focus

Since joining MSC I have spent time looking at the membership demographics of MSC and how we can engage with new generations.

Our membership has traditionally attracted the older and more experienced outdoors person but if the organisation is to survive we need to make it more attractive to youth.

This may include more flexible options around membership, qualification and competency based on subsidised *user pays* principles and specific contracts of volunteer service arranged to fit the capacity of the individual matched with the organisations overall needs.

A greater focus on a small number of courses across a limited range of disciplines may also be required to reduce overall operating costs. What does all this mean? Looking closely at what we are doing, how we can do it better and matching need to capacity.



## Update >> Leave No Trace in New Zealand

Last month Chris Owens (MSC Bushcraft Programme Manager) attended a Master Educators training workshop for *Leave No Trace* (LNT) at O.P.C Tongariro, presented by Matt Bennett (O.P.C Training Manager) and Chris North (LNT Educator).

*Leave No Trace* promotes and inspires responsible travel and outdoor recreation through education, research and partnerships. Their vision is for an environmentally aware and connected nation that cares for our special places, be they the local beach or park, to the remote wilderness.

### The seven principles of *Leave No Trace* are:

- 1- Plan Ahead and Prepare.
- 2- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces.
- 3- Dispose of Waste Properly.
- 4- Leave What You Find.
- 5- Minimise Campfire Impact.
- 6- Respect Wildlife and Farm Animals.
- 7- Be Considerate of Others.

*Leave No Trace* have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mountain Safety Council and other key organisations in the outdoors sector including the Department of Conservation, Parks Forum, Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre in a bid to connect with the wider New Zealand outdoors and tourism communities.

Other organisations invited to the workshop were representatives from the Department of Conservation, Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre, and The Aoraki Polytechnic in Timaru.



Photo: Chris (orange jacket) in action during LNT training

This was a fantastic chance for Chris to learn about the great ethical principles of *Leave No Trace* and how MSC can benefit from being aligned with this internationally respected organisation plus an opportunity to share experiences of best practice with colleagues from the Department of Conservation, Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre, and The Aoraki Polytechnic in Timaru.

For more information please visit:  
[www.leavenotrace.org.nz](http://www.leavenotrace.org.nz)

## Research Update >>

### Do MSC Course Participants Feel Safer?

MSC's stated outcome is "People participating safely in land based outdoor activity" and we undertake a number of training opportunities to progress towards this outcome.



Therefore it is important to understand whether this training is achieving the safety outcome we are seeking.

To this end, we undertook two external reviews of MSC Bushcraft and Risk Management programme.

The second of these reviews has just been completed and follows up on course participants 6 months after their course ended.

This is an easy to read report which includes some positive feedback as to what learning our course participants have applied and also gives the organisation some clear recommendations to steer us towards improvements in delivery.

The report and more information can be found on the MSC website:  
<http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz/Research/Recent-Research/>

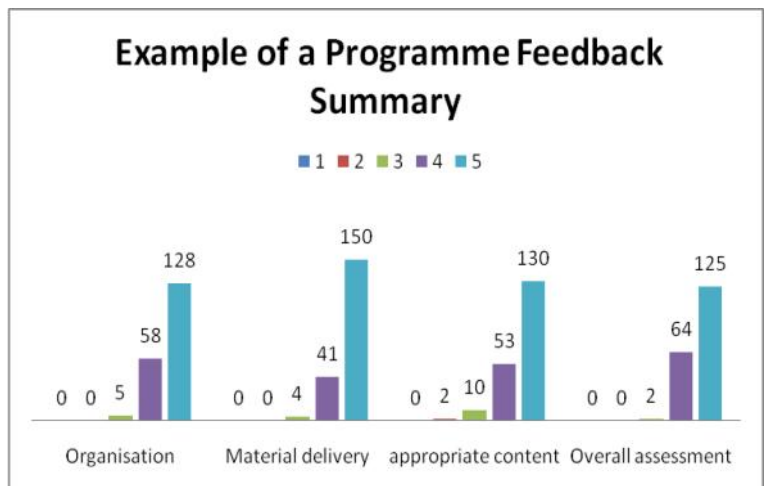
## PROCESS Update >> New MSC Feedback Forms

As a part of MSC's ongoing commitment to ensuring we deliver high quality training we have redeveloped our course feedback forms.

The information we will gain from these new forms will enable us to have a greater awareness of our course participants' experience and learning.

The generic forms will allow us to report on a branch, programme, region and national level and be able to compare trends over time. The data will be collated in July and January each year.

An example of some of the information we will be able to gather and track is illustrated below.



Note: the feedback scale is 1- poor to 5-excellent.

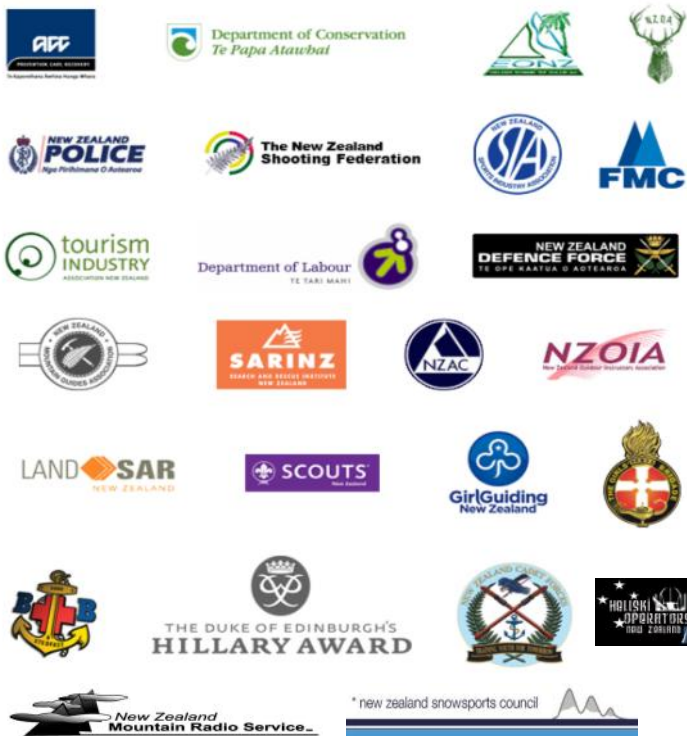
Next edition of *OnTrack* will be published in **NOVEMBER 2011**

If you have any feedback, ideas or items that you would like to submit for consideration please email:

[marketing@mountainsafety.org.nz](mailto:marketing@mountainsafety.org.nz) by Friday 14 October

## NZ Mountain Safety Council >> Member Organisations

The New Zealand Mountain Safety Council is formed of 25 member organisations all with a stake in promoting safe participation of New Zealand's great outdoors.



## Last word>> Photo competition



**WIN a Year's Subscription to Wilderness Magazine plus more prizes.**

MSC produces a number of high quality publications from pamphlets to posters, manuals to websites and we are always on the lookout for high quality photographs.

We know we have many talented photographers within our ranks so now's your chance to enter the MSC Photograph Competition, get your photograph published and win prizes.

**There are 3 categories:**

- Scenic - views of anywhere in New Zealand.
- MSC Education & Training - photos of MSC training activities taking place in the outdoors i.e. participants at an outdoor first aid course or avalanche course etc
- Outdoors Activity i.e. A photo of someone taking part in an outdoors activity like tramping or crossing a river, etc

For more information about how to enter and all terms and conditions, simply visit the Mountain Safety website: [www.mountainsafety.org.nz/photocomp](http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz/photocomp)

## Calendar >> Dates for your diary

DATE	EVENT
1 September	<b>Outdoor Excellence Awards</b> Nominations Close <a href="http://www.outdoorsnz.org.nz">www.outdoorsnz.org.nz</a>
15-16 October	<b>The Sika Show 2011, Taupo</b> Trade Show and Hunting Competition <a href="http://sika-show.co.nz/">http://sika-show.co.nz/</a>
26 October	<b>MSC Regional Reps and Committee Meeting</b> 12-5pm, MSC office, Wellington For more information please contact: Richard Brodie on 04 527 2113 or email <a href="mailto:richard.brodie@mountainsafety.org.nz">richard.brodie@mountainsafety.org.nz</a>
27 October	<b>MSC AGM Meeting, Wellington</b> West Plaza Hotel, Wellington For more information please contact: Richard Brodie on 04 527 2113 or email <a href="mailto:richard.brodie@mountainsafety.org.nz">richard.brodie@mountainsafety.org.nz</a>
28-29 October	<b>Outdoors New Zealand: Outdoor Forum</b> Taking place in Wellington. For more information please visit: <a href="http://www.outdoorsnz.org.nz">www.outdoorsnz.org.nz</a>
28 October	<b>Outdoor Excellence Awards Night</b> Finalists and winners announced <a href="http://www.outdoorsnz.org.nz">www.outdoorsnz.org.nz</a>
4-6 November	<b>Recreation: NZ Outdoor Adventure Expo</b> Christchurch. Largest Display And Sale Of Outdoor Adventure Products And Services In New Zealand! <a href="http://www.recreationexpo.co.nz">www.recreationexpo.co.nz</a>
8-9 November	<b>Research Symposium: The Imaginative Potential of Our Public Conservation Lands</b> University of Otago, Dunedin Contact <a href="mailto:mike.boyes@otago.ac.nz">mike.boyes@otago.ac.nz</a>
16-18 November	<b>NZRA National Conference</b> Dunedin For more information please visit: <a href="http://www.nzraevents.org.nz">www.nzraevents.org.nz</a>
24-25 November	<b>New Zealand Water Safety Conference</b> Te Papa, Wellington For more information please visit: <a href="http://www.watersafety.org.nz">www.watersafety.org.nz</a>

**For more important dates and further information  
please visit the MSC website:  
[www.mountainsafety.org.nz](http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz)**

**About OnTrack >>** The OnTrack newsletter is published by the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council in March, July and November each year. **Disclaimer and submission guidelines >>** All efforts have been made to ensure accuracy but no responsibility will be taken by the Mountain Safety Council for errors or inaccuracies or for any consequences of reliance on this information. If you have any feedback, ideas or items that you would like to submit for consideration please email: [marketing@mountainsafety.org.nz](mailto:marketing@mountainsafety.org.nz) >> Submission deadline is 5pm, Friday 14 October. Publication is not guaranteed and the editor's decision is final.