

# Island Bushwhacker

Volume 49 | Issue 3 | Autumn 2021



*Griswold base camp. Photo by Liz Williams*



## ACC VANCOUVER ISLAND SECTION

### Social Events

The club hosts monthly slide shows at the Swan Lake nature sanctuary in Victoria, when health guidelines allow. From September we hope to be able to offer a streamed in-person event, so that members further afield or who prefer to watch from home can also be involved. We will share details nearer the time.

### Web Information

Web site: [www.accvi.ca](http://www.accvi.ca)

Webmaster: [webmaster@accvi.ca](mailto:webmaster@accvi.ca)

### Executive Meeting Minutes

Available on our meeting archives which are [here](#).

### National ACC Office

For new memberships and renewals, changes of address or other details, and booking huts, contact the ACC National office directly.

[www.alpineclubofcanada.ca](http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca)

Email: [info@alpineclubofcanada.ca](mailto:info@alpineclubofcanada.ca); Tel: (403)-678-3200; Address: P.O. Box 8040, Canmore, AB, T1W 2T8

### Annual Membership Dues

Single \$53 Family \$75 Youth (19 and under) \$38

**The Island Bushwhacker Newsletter** is published in March, June, September, and December. In other months, the **High Points Bulletin** summarizes events and key announcements for the section.

**Newsletter Editor:** Janelle Curtis

**High Points Editor:** Anya Reid

We encourage submissions of items of interest to our membership, including articles and photos in months when the newsletter is published. Please email your submissions to [newsletter@accvi.ca](mailto:newsletter@accvi.ca) by the 25th day of the previous month.

Advertising shall be accepted at the discretion of the editor. All advertising shall be for products or services of direct interest to our membership.

### Our Motto

COME BACK ALIVE  
COME BACK FRIENDS  
RESPECT THE LAND  
HAVE FUN  
GET TO THE TOP  
(IN THAT ORDER!)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Slideshow, 16 September.

[Join Stefan Gessinger, Mitchell Baynes, and Jonathan Skinnider as they share visuals and stories Crossing Vancouver Island on skis.](#)

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### Reminder to Members:

Keep your membership up-to-date, so to as to be covered by the ACC's liability insurance. Keep your contact information current on ACC National's site, as it's from this master list that we download email addresses for mailouts.

Join or visit the ACCVI's [Facebook group](#). You don't have to be a Facebook member to see this page. And visit ACCVI's Discourse page at <https://discourse.accvi.ca/>



## Upcoming Slideshows, Presentations, Meetings and Get-togethers

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**Slideshow, Thursday 16 September, 7-9 pm.**

**Stefan Gessinger, Mitchell Baynes, and Jonathan Skinnider**

**Crossing Vancouver Island on skis: a traverse from Carey Lakes to Herbert Inlet**

Enjoy an epic adventure as Stefan, Mitch and Jonathan share stories and photographs of their 80 km 10 day ski traverse in April 2021

**Slideshow, Thursday 4 October, 7-9 pm.**

**Colin Garritty - the new Vancouver Island representative from Avalanche Canada**

**Annual ACCVI Photo Competition, Thursday 4 November, 7-9 pm.**

**Note: as there are no longer trophies, winners will receive gift cards.**

**Slideshow, Thursday 18 November, 7-9 pm.**

**Phee and Rick Hudson**

**A look back to a 1976 trip from the UK to the Himalayas**

Mark the dates and times. Slide shows are currently planned as in-person events at Swan Lake with the potential for Zoom login details for those who would like to participate remotely. Details will be sent by email nearer the time.

We look forward to "seeing" you there!



## Upcoming Trips

*Full information for all trips is located online on the ACCVI [Trip Schedule](#).  
Keep your eye on the [Trip Schedule](#) often!*

## Event Schedule

Our trip and event schedule depends on members volunteering to lead a trip or organize an event. There are no specific requirements, other than confidence to lead a small group on your chosen route. For extra information please check the 'Information for leaders' section of our website (<https://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/>) or email a question to [leadership@accvi.ca](mailto:leadership@accvi.ca).

Dates	Trip
4-6 September	<a href="#">Crest Creek Rock Climbing</a>
4-6 September	<a href="#">Flower Ridge Exploration</a>
23-25 September	<a href="#">All women beginner friend hike along the Elk River Trail</a>

Thank you for contributing to our community in this important way!

Keep an eye on the [trip schedule](#) for information about upcoming trips!

## Mountain Education

ACCVI offers a wide variety of workshops and courses aimed at giving our members the technical and safety skills to get out there in the mountains safely.

Courses are open to ACC members in good standing only. You are welcome to join the section if you would like to enroll in one or more of ACCVI's courses.

Dates	Course
10-12 September	<a href="#">Remote First Aid 20Hr</a>
30-31 October	<a href="#">Risk Management Workshop</a>

Education and Courses: <http://accvi.ca/programs/education/>.

Is there something you would like to see? Contact [education@accvi.ca](mailto:education@accvi.ca).

Please see the [trip schedule](#) for information about upcoming education events.



## Executive Episodes:

A quick update of ACC life from the chair's chair

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Some childhood memories seem to carry associations that really stick. For example, the sight of ripening blackberries always triggers in me thoughts of the start of the school year, when as a child I would walk home slowly, picking and eating en route. And it's that time again. As we turn the page on summer, I hope it's been a good one for you with plenty of outdoor adventures through our long and sunny days. And now let's hope for rain, lots of it - and all at night of course!

### Summer fun in the sun

Happily, we were able to open our trip schedule in June, and so members have been able to get out together on various trips and workshops.

- **Summer camp: Griswold 2021**

Very significantly, we were able to run all four weeks of our ever-popular summer camp, held this year in the Griswold Valley in the Chilcotin Mountains. This was a repeat of a popular location from 2013, and by all accounts, proved to be every bit as ideal a location again this year. We were certainly lucky with the weather which delivered almost unbroken sunshine for the month, and by the wind patterns which kept the worst of the forest fire smoke at bay. 60 members, almost 10% of our membership, were able to enjoy a full week of alpine adventures together!

But the success of these camps depends on more than luck. We are indebted to the summer camp committee - Liz Williams, Jeff Beddoes and Laura Darling - for setting things up with their usual eye for detail and consideration. It was an extra push this year to get all the ducks lined up in time, given that we didn't get the final green light from the public health advisory until 1 July - just 2 weeks before Week 1! Camp managers for each week also deserve gratitude for their work ensuring that their group was happy and stayed safe and healthy. Thanks for this to Jeff Beddoes, Cal Veenstra, Rick and Phee Hudson, Derek and Iain Sou, Mike Hubbard and Shaun Peck. Then of course there are the amateur leaders who step up and generously share their expertise in the mountains. The very essence of these camps is collaboration and shared responsibility, so I hope everyone involved feels some pride in their success.

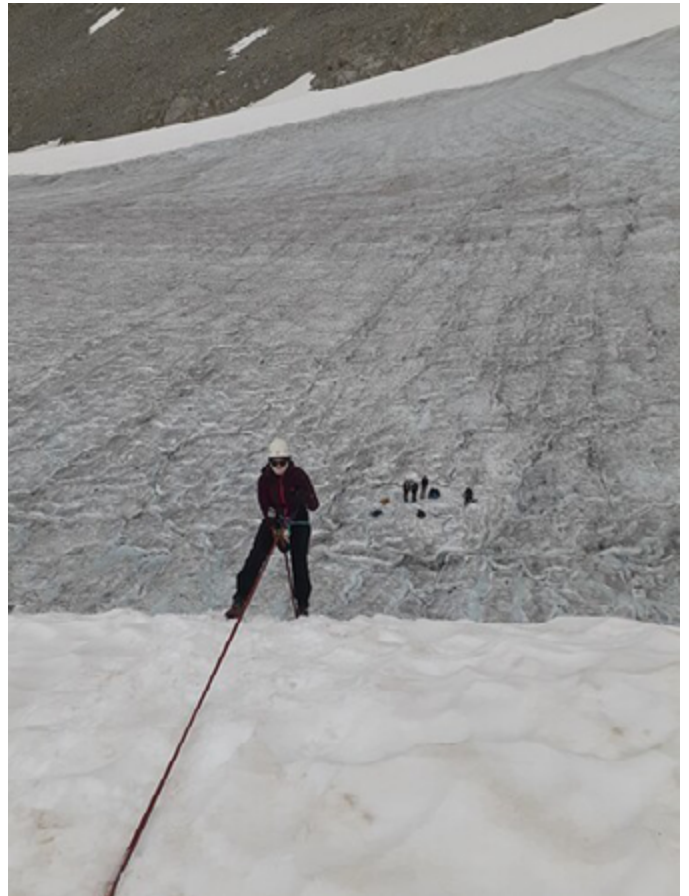
This was the third year in which we have run Family Week for inter-generational combinations, and provided bursaries to help make this possible for families. (These bursaries are made possible through the club's operating account and are not part of the camp expense.) The youth this year were aged 8 - 17 years. In what has become a tradition, the Family Week group again set the bar high with trips to challenging terrain and technical climbs on rock and ice.



*Blackberries. Photo by Catrin Brown*



*Multipitch climbing. Photo by Derek Sou*



*Climbing and rappelling on the glacier. Photos by Derek Sou*



The summer camp experience is nicely summed up by this message from Tina, one of the adults who attended Week 3 with her offspring, and copied with her permission:

*I am so thankful we get to be part of family week, it's not something I could ever tackle on my own and it would be experiences that my kids (now teens) would never have. My 16 yr old so had an amazing time, and said we need to spend more time in the mountains after our trip. Derek and Iain are the best leaders, calm, confident, clear and knowledgeable- as someone that has a higher level of fear/anxiety, I could not feel any safer.*

*Thank you for creating this special week for us.*

*Tina Lynch*

There are more pictures, reports and comments from other weeks too on our Discussion forum at <https://discourse.accvi.ca/c/trip-report/5>

- **Trips beyond the Comox Lake gate**

The prolonged drought across the Island perhaps inevitably led to the closure of the Mosaic gates back in June, necessitating the changing of many plans. Nonetheless, our agreement with Mosaic for access through the Comox Lake Main remained in place, and was much appreciated by trip leaders for explorations into Comox Glacier and beyond, and Rees Ridge. Four groups have been able to enjoy this terrain over the last two months - you can enjoy their reports at [accvi.ca > discussion forum > trip reports](https://discourse.accvi.ca/c/trip-report/5).



*Comox glacier 24 June 2021. Photo by Dave Fishwick*



- **Education workshop subsidies**

Thanks to our education coordinator Iain Sou for organising and running various workshops to keep us learning. A successful 'Introduction to rock climbing' was just completed, and upcoming courses are in 'Remote first aid' and 'Risk management' (see pages 28-29). Recognising the value of these courses to our collective safety, we are offering them at a subsidised cost to members. Please keep an eye on the schedule and sign up quickly to take advantage of these opportunities.

Also, a reminder that you can claim up to 75% of the cost of a course in return for leading 2 trips for the club. See <https://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/course-subsidies/> Deal!

## **Write it up**

All those summer adventures make for great reading later. Please take the time to write up and share your tales and photos, and send them to [bushwhacker@accvi.ca](mailto:bushwhacker@accvi.ca). The collection of articles for the Island Bushwhacker Annual 2021 has begun.

## **Looking ahead to fall events**

After all the uncertainty of the last 18 months or so, it is difficult to be too sure of what we will be able to organise over the coming months, especially as at the time of writing we are on the sharp ascent of the so-called '4th wave' of Covid infections. But we are definitely planning in-person events and are hopeful we can enjoy those. There is discussion ongoing in many organisations, including ours, of how to try and keep some of the advantages of the online format alongside these face-to-face events. Again, we will keep you informed of the options when we've worked this out. Yes, it is a learning curve for everyone.

For now, some dates for your diary are:

Swan Lake slide shows: 16 September, 14 October, 18 November

Annual photo contest: 4 November

We are conscious that these events tend to be Victoria-centric, while many of our members live up-Island. If you would be interested in helping coordinate some events for the mid and/or north Island, please get in touch. I think there is scope for important developments here.

## **Rick Eppler Island Qualifiers' Award**

Congratulations to John Relyea-Voss on completing his final IQ peak this summer. He joins the rank of distinguished Island mountaineers who have successfully climbed all nine of these 'qualifying' mountains. Information about the award and the full list of recipients is here: <https://accvi.ca/programs/the-island-qualifiers/>

## Member news

We were delighted to hear that our web-master Evan Devault celebrated his marriage to Jennifer Johnston this summer.



*Evan and Jennifer (photo supplied by Evan)*

Those of us more used to seeing photos of Evan completing the full traverse of the Mackenzie Range, or the first winter ascent of Mariner may need a second look to recognise him!

Warmest congratulations to you both.

## Executive events

The ACC-VI executive will next meet in September. Please send me any items you would like the committee to discuss. Minutes of all meetings are posted on the website [here](#).

Happy trails,

Catrin

Catrin Brown [chair@accvi.ca](mailto:chair@accvi.ca)

**PS:** As we go to press, I can add a postscript that our late summer barbecue held on Thursday evening 2 September was a happy event. Swan Lake nature sanctuary's outside space proved to be a perfect venue for the 50+ folk who came. The sun shone and the food (ably prepared by Alcina De Oliveira and Erich Schellhammer) was enjoyed. Most of all I think everyone appreciated the sense of connection with friends new and old. After the long hiatus in such gatherings, it was gratifying to feel that our community is still strong. Many thanks to everyone who came.

# Access and Environment

By Barb Baker

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Comox Lake Main gate access agreement with Mosaic Forest Management has been extended to the end of the year. This is welcome and a concession to COVID shutdowns which have curtailed ACCVI trips. Currently there are some small changes being made to the procedure for use of this access. See Info for Leaders on our webpage here: <https://accvi.ca/access-agreement-for-comox-lake-main/>

Private Forests remain closed for Fire Hazard. On the subject of fire mitigation for homes see:

<https://www.mosaicforests.com/news-views/wildfire-isnt-easy-to-predict-but-we-can-plan-for-it>

No doubt this info is available on other sites as well.

Marion Main FSR (road to 5040 & Triple Peak) is much improved with better parking available. Hardly enough to contain the HIGH use of the Cobalt Lake Trail where up to 75 campers are heading up and down on a weekend. Remarkable lack of damage considering the numbers but the trail is overused. This month an RSTBC (Recreation and Trails BC) environmental assessment will examine conditions at the lake.

Vancouver Island marmots have been seen recently at Jewel Lake between Arrowsmith & Cokely peaks.

*If only the gates would open. Let's have rain!*



*Whoo. Photo by Christine Fordham*

*Honourable Mention in the Nature Category of ACCVI's 2020 Annual Photo Competition*



# Leadership Award Race is striving again as Covid restrictions are eased in June

By KT Shum

While the pandemic continued to wreak havoc on section outings into 2021 and forced the cancellations of at least five trips earlier in the year, our intrepid leaders resumed outdoor trips right after the province relaxed restrictions in mid-June. In the intervening three months, nine leaders have since earned five or more points. With four more months to go and the top leader at 9 points, the top prize is up for grabs.

As in previous years, the top prize is a coveted Arcteryx Soft Shell jacket. Outdoor store gift certificates will go to the next three top point leaders. As an incentive, all other leaders earning five or more points will get a surprise gift with the ACCVI logo. Leadership badges will also be awarded to those reaching the next level. See details at [accvi.ca/trip-leaders/leader-recognition-program/](https://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/leader-recognition-program/)

As a reminder, contest rules award one point per trip day for outdoor trips, and a multi-day trip can get up to a maximum of 5 points. Organizing slide shows and other indoor events (e.g. via zoom) or workshops get ½ a point, so do outdoor trips cancelled due to uncontrollable circumstances.

Remember to post trips and events on the schedule by emailing [schedule@accvi.ca](mailto:schedule@accvi.ca) and send in waivers to our librarian at [librarian@accvi.ca](mailto:librarian@accvi.ca) to ensure your points count.

Cumulative Leadership Points in 2021 (as of August 24) are listed below. Please contact [leaderpoints@accvi.ca](mailto:leaderpoints@accvi.ca) with questions or comments, including errors or omissions posted on [accvi.ca/trip-leaders/leader-recognition-program/current-leadership-points/](https://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/leader-recognition-program/current-leadership-points/)

<u>Trip Leader</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Trip Leader</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Trip Leader</u>	<u>Points</u>
<a href="#">Iain Sou</a>	<a href="#">9*</a>	<a href="#">Catrin Brown</a>	<a href="#">3.5</a>	<a href="#">Stefan Gessinger</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Jeff Beddoes</a>	<a href="#">5.5*</a>	<a href="#">Dave Fishwick</a>	<a href="#">3*</a>	<a href="#">Barry Hansen</a>	<a href="#">0.5</a>
<a href="#">Cal Veenstra</a>	<a href="#">5*</a>	<a href="#">Janelle Curtis</a>	<a href="#">3*</a>	<a href="#">Gary Croome</a>	<a href="#">0.5</a>
<a href="#">Derek Sou</a>	<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">John Relyea-Voss</a>	<a href="#">3*</a>	<a href="#">Jonathan Skinnider</a>	<a href="#">0.5</a>
<a href="#">Gordon Kyle</a>	<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">Louise Chabot</a>	<a href="#">3</a>	<a href="#">Josh Slatkoff</a>	<a href="#">0.5</a>
<a href="#">Mike Hubbard</a>	<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">Peter Morgan</a>	<a href="#">3*</a>	<a href="#">Keith Battersby</a>	<a href="#">0.5</a>
<a href="#">Phee Hudson</a>	<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">Laura Darling</a>	<a href="#">1.5</a>	<a href="#">Liz Williams</a>	<a href="#">0.5</a>
<a href="#">Rick Hudson</a>	<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">Andrew Pape-Salmon</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">Mitchell Baynes</a>	<a href="#">0.5</a>
<a href="#">Shaun Peck</a>	<a href="#">5*</a>	<a href="#">Ken Wylie</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">Nadja Steiner</a>	<a href="#">0.5</a>
<a href="#">Peter Gilbert</a>	<a href="#">4</a>	<a href="#">Martin Hofmann</a>	<a href="#">1</a>	<a href="#">Rich Priebe</a>	<a href="#">0.5</a>

\* Points pending receipt of waiver forms by librarian Tom Hall ([librarian@accvi.ca](mailto:librarian@accvi.ca))

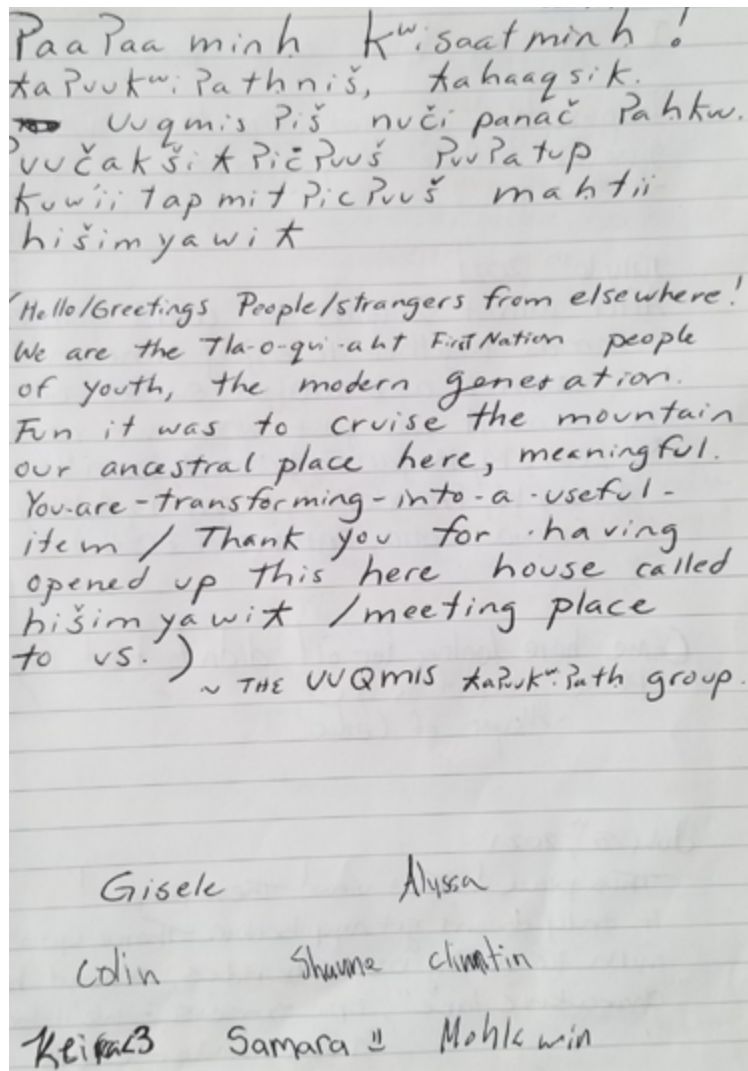


## **First Nations at Hišimýawił**

**By Geoff Bennett and Mary Sanseverino**

Mary and I hiked up to Hišimýawił on Friday at the start of the August long weekend. We were the custodians – a first for both of us, although Mary had stayed at the hut several times before. However, by Saturday afternoon the hut was still empty. We were ready for anything but, when the door burst open, we were in for a surprise.

This was the second of two Hišimýawił weekends that ACCVI arranged with local First Nations. On July 3rd, a group of eight Indigenous hikers, led by Alyssa Fleishman and Gisele Martin, met Martin Hofmann at the 5040 trailhead. Martin and others had just climbed Triple Peak. He was planning to be the hut custodian for the night but the group asked for privacy. Martin obliged and went home. The next day, July 4th, Gisele wrote a bilingual entry in the log book on behalf of the Uuqmis łaʔuukʷiʔath (Tla-o-qui-aht). Uuqmis means “fun”: a language and culture project for youth to gain experience in Tla-o-qui-aht lands and waters, sharing knowledge and culture across generations.



Email exchanges building up to the July 31st weekend indicated some potential problems: Who has a 4WD? Do we bring food and sleeping bags? Can we have the hut to ourselves? Some of the participants weren't aware that their organizers had invited two ACCVI members to come up too. When nobody appeared by Saturday morning, Mary and I left a note on the door and climbed 5040 Peak where there was good cell reception. No new emails. So we hiked over to the southeast ridge, explored a very interesting outcrop of massive Quatsino limestone and climbed the bumps overlooking Cobalt Lake. The limestone is Triassic in age, as old as the earliest dinosaurs. It is rough, fluted, karsted and great for climbing, like the spectacular but much older Palliser limestone in Banff.

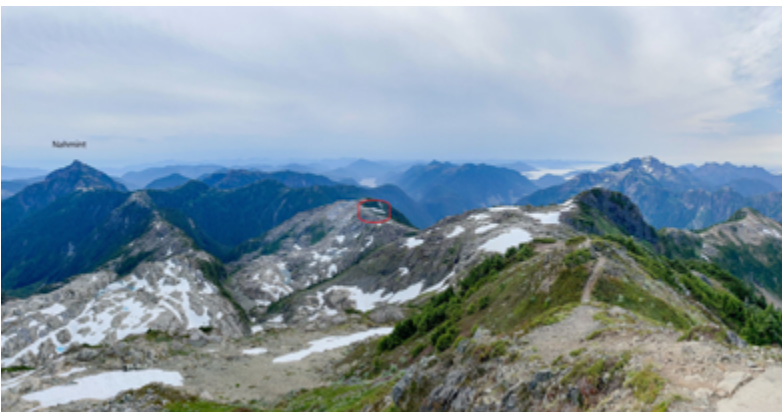


*Hišimýawił and 5040 Peak. Photo by Geoff Bennett*



*Quatsino limestone outcrop.*

*Photo by Mary Sanseverino*



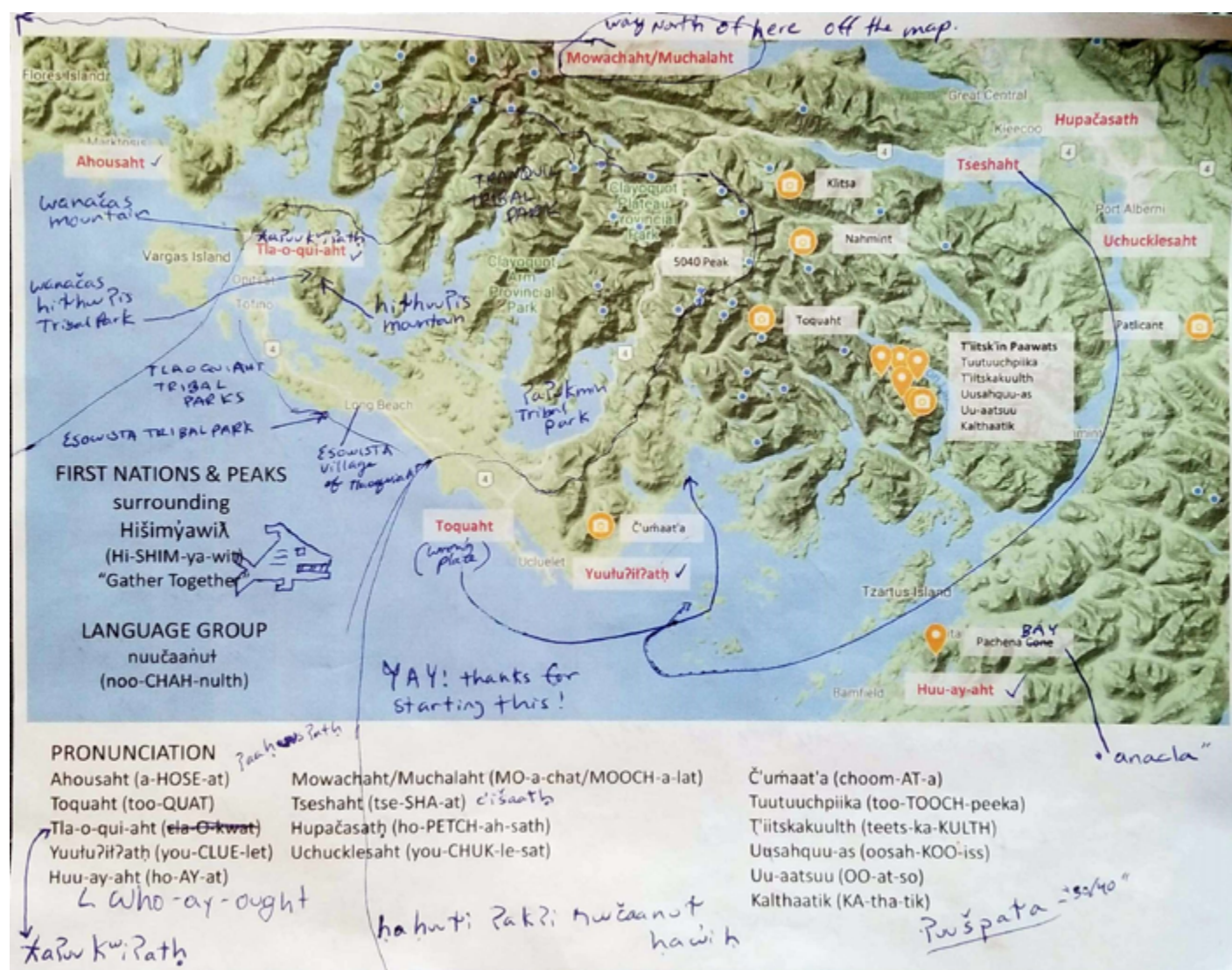
*View to the east from 5040 Peak - Quatsino limestone outcrop in red.*

*Photo by Mary Sanseverino*

When the door burst open in the late afternoon, Mary and I were ready with a big welcome. There were seven Indigenous hikers in total. They gratefully heaved their packs on the floor and enjoyed the cool and comfortable mosquito-free interior. However, some of them greeted us uneasily: “We expected to have this hut to ourselves.” Conversation was a bit tense for an hour but things gradually relaxed as we fielded questions such as, “Who gave you permission to build this hut on our traditional territory?” We explained how Chris Jensen had approached six First Nations for support before contacting the government; that the three cedar poles were a gift from the Tla-o-qui-aht Nation, and that the hut was named by the Warrior Youth from Ucluelet. The naming ceremony and the backstory are described here <http://acc.uberflip.com/i/1401850-acc-sotm-2021-final-online/0?> We talked about our five-year relationship with the Warrior Youth, beginning with their application for a Memorial Fund grant to purchase climbing equipment. We discussed our project to document Indigenous names of peaks on Vancouver Island and our request for feedback from First Nations. We felt it was important to meet face to face and establish a relationship, rather than retreat into our respective bubbles. Which is why we were there.



At one point I pulled out a page-size map of peaks and First Nations surrounding the hut. Gisele (who works for Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Parks and who had come up to the hut for a second time) pointed out several errors. I gave her a pen and asked her to fix the mistakes. “May I?” she asked, a bit incredulously. Here is the result, including her comment “Yay! Thanks for starting this!”



Hišim'awił meeting 2021-7-31 (map edits)

They all climbed 5040 Peak and everyone loved the hut and the views. Four of the group left the next day while three others stayed a second night. By then we were on friendly terms with everyone. We listened to their concerns about the Alpine Club and the hut. We learned that their understaffed councils are dealing with many pressing issues and requests. Many organizations like ours are asking for advice and input. Several members of the group talked about “give and take.” For example, various Nations gave us support to build the hut. What do we give in return? We are asking for Indigenous names of mountains – again, what do we offer in return? They gave us several good suggestions which Mary and I will discuss with the Hut Committee over the next few months.

Gisele is learning to speak her native language from her grandfather. She taught us that the first syllable in the name of the hut is pronounced “hish”, imitating the sound made by large mammals (humans too!) when

eating herring roe together. Hence the meaning of the hut's name: "gather together." As she wrote below, the hut "is positioned at the meeting point of different Nuuchahnulth Nations' Territories and boundaries. It is also a place of meeting and change during this 'early contact' time between the Alpine Club of Canada and the Indigenous people of this place."

Nuuchahnulth ~ "all-along-the-mountains  
-people"  
are comprised of Nuuchahnulth speaking Nations.  
These lands & waters are their ancestral gardens.  
Though the colonial narrative has frequently placed  
First Nations in the past, the Nations of these places  
are alive and continue to be in deep relationship  
with these mountains and watersheds, also working to protect them.  
~ please be respectful as a guest in their home \*  
(homelands)

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Hišim'awik  
is the Nuuchahnulth name given to this hut,  
meaning "place of meeting/gathering." It is positioned at the  
meeting point of different Nuuchahnulth Nations Territories & boundaries.  
It is also a place of meeting <sup>and change</sup> during this 'early contact' time  
between the Alpine Club of Canada and the Indigenous people of  
this place.

Hišim'awik meeting 2021-7-31 (back of map)

In the Alpine Club we view ourselves as stewards of the mountain environment. However most of us are newcomers to this island. Given the history of the past two hundred years, we can respect those who have lived here for thousands. We are now, finally, trying to reach out and do the right thing. Nevertheless, during this "early contact" time we may be challenged to understand each other, to accept our differences and to listen without judgment. This may take a while but we learned a lot during our weekend together. I'm looking forward to the journey.

\*Hišim'awik is pronounced "hish-IM-ya-width" although various other pronunciations are close enough.

## ***Historical Photos of ACCVI Members***

***By Gil Parker***

Someone said they wanted “archival” photos. Well, I’m not so old as Albert Hestler, but I’m pretty old and I have my 50-year pin from the Alpine Club, so I guess that I qualify. The following pictures are mostly from my book, “Coast Mountain Men,” and they are men from Vancouver Island or nearby. (Sorry ladies, I might have to produce another book.)



***Syd Watts pointing to Mt Arrowsmith from the SW, 1954***



***John Gibson, Mt Hungabee, Rockies, “Never Fall When Leading”, 1943***

If you are interested in the subjects’ climbing history, you probably can find a copy of the book among ACC members, or GVPL (library). For my book, there was no competition. There are lots more mountaineers on our Island. I was just writing about friends or acquaintances with whom I had some connection. Sid, John and Roger were my climbing mentors. Dave was my regular partner in the peaks.







*Roger Neave, Mt Noel attempt, Stikine Range, 1977  
Photo by Gil Parker*



*Rex Gibson, Tonquin Valley, Rockies  
Photo by E. Gibson*



*Dave Tansley, Mt Tellot attempt, Waddington  
Range, 1976  
Photo by Gil Parker*



*Ian Brown, East Ridge of Bugaboo Spire, 1998  
Photo by R. Illner*





*Rudy Brugger, Mt Sir Sandford, Selkirks, 2005  
Photo by R. Gunn*



*Rob Macdonald, Triple Peak, V.I., 1984  
Photo by Rick Eppler*



*Chris Wille, Mt Matchlee, 1998*



*Chris Barner (left), Mt Queen Bess, Coast Range, 2001, Photo by P. Rydeen*





*Rob Wood, At his Maurelle Island home,  
1997, Photo by Gil Parker*



*Rick Eppler, Mt Uto, Selkirks, 2005.  
Photo by Rob Macdonald*



*Sandy Briggs, Devon Island, Nunavut.  
2004, Photo by J. Dunn*



*Lindsay Elms, Descending Mt Logan,  
Yukon, 1996. Photo by Sandy Briggs*



## ***Newsy Snippets from ACC National***

*By Christine Fordham*

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The new **State of the Mountains Report** has been released in a flipbook. The State of the Mountains Report is a commitment by the ACC to provide accessible, current, and accurate information about the forces that affect Canadian mountain places, ecosystems, and communities. There are a few articles on Vancouver Island in the new report:

- The Naming of our Hut
- Recovery of Vancouver Island Marmots.

The link is [www.stateofthemountains.ca/reports](http://www.stateofthemountains.ca/reports).

### **STORIES WANTED- "Your chance to be Published"**

The ACC Marketing Team is looking for Section Submissions for the upcoming Gazette. Specifically a "Members Adventures" story for this upcoming issue. They need some details in the next few weeks to have it ready for our October Gazette. The ACC Gazette is our club's magazine. It is our story told by our members, for our members. There are 3 issues of the Gazette each year, in March, July and October. The deadlines for final articles are about a month before publication.

In each issue they publish three adventure stories from members. These can be stories about ACC trips, or by ACC members out with their friends. We look for stories that represent all levels of ability. They love stories that include deeper thoughts, humor or cultural experiences along with the recounting of an adventure. Adventure stories typically run 1,000 to 2,000 words and should be accompanied by great photos (magazines are visual). Want to bounce an idea off them?

Please get in touch by emailing [gazette@alpineclubofcanada.ca](mailto:gazette@alpineclubofcanada.ca).

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## ***Recommendations: books and films about nature, wildlife, or mountaineering***

*Summarized by Janelle Curtis*

Geoff Bennett recommended **Finding the Mother Tree** by Suzanne Simard. He says:

I'm reading "Finding the Mother Tree" by Suzanne Simard. I think it will resonate with our members, many of whom love the logging roads but hate the clearcuts and the loss of old growth forests. Simard is a former logger, now a UBC professor, and is at the forefront of research into how trees grow and communicate with each other. The more I read in the book and the more I read about Suzanne Simard, the more I think this may be one of the most important books of the year. Soon to be a movie. Here's a [review](#) in the Tyee which I thought was quite good.



**FINDING THE  
MOTHER TREE**  
Discovering the  
Wisdom of the Forest  
**SUZANNE SIMARD**

## ***Hiking the Vancouver Island Trail***

***By Geoff Bennett with input, including photos, from Nick Noble***

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Nick Noble and his partner Rebecca Michelle finished their six week hike of the Vancouver Island Trail on Thursday, July 29th. Their project was completed with the assistance of a youth grant from the ACCVI Memorial Fund. It had been approved in early 2020 but the pandemic forced a one year delay. They managed to complete almost all sections of the trail, although the Beauforts were closed due to fire hazard and the Bonanza range was judged incomplete and too difficult. What made this hike truly special is that Nick has Type I diabetes. He is making a video about his experience, including the relationship between human activity and natural processes on the Island.



Very few people have hiked the trail from one end to the other. ACCVI members may recall that in 2018 Isobel Glover became the first person to achieve this feat, also assisted by a youth grant.

# Portrait View: ACCVI Summer Camp Program

By Liz Williams

*Editor's note: The "Portrait View" column in our ACCVI Island Bushwhacker Newsletter focuses on contributions of folks on the ACCVI Executive Committee who contribute to our mountaineering community's activities.*



*Griswold base camp. Photo by Liz Williams*

## A Brief History

**2010:** With the acquisition of two large Space Station tents, the heli fly-in summer camps of today were born! The first was camping on snow at the Alava-Bate Sanctuary, Vancouver Island (aka Shangri-la, the name coming from a must-read book, *Lost Horizon* by James Hilton, 1933).

**2011:** Rick and Phee Hudson were running things back then, and chose Athelney Pass, another success with snow bridges over the creek, and glaciers galore.

**2012:** We returned to Vancouver Island and the McKelvie Range - a camp with bugs and bad weather - a given on Vancouver Island - but Rugged, or what?

**2013:** The glorious Griswold Pass was selected. Apart from the horse-flies, the landscape overwhelmed us with its beauty. During the camp prep, Rick and Phee passed some tasks to Peggy Taylor and Liz Williams.

**2014:** In June, the Club Executive approved *Terms of Reference* for the Summer Camp Committee, its purpose being “to oversee and coordinate all aspects of the summer camps, to ensure safe and enjoyable camps that fall within a specified budget.” In those early days, Russ Moir, Colleen Kasting, along with several other able bodies, sat on the committee.

**2014:** The summer camp at Slim Lakes (aka Ursus Mtn) was another big hit.

**2015:** The Cyclone Mountain summer camp staged from east of Lillooet Lake, another wonderful area.

**2016:** We returned to Alava-Bate, albeit in dry warm conditions.

**2017:** The Lone Goat summer camp started with a great location but was evacuated early by Week 3 due to smoke and mosquitoes. By this time, we wised up to the need for bug tents!



**2018:** Dugong Peak was another huge success. For the first time we included a ‘family week’ with bursaries offered for youth participants.

**2019:** Meditation Mountain afforded a fine camping area and a lot of rocky terrain with glaciers over the rim, again with a ‘family week’.

**2020:** The plan was to return to Griswold Pass. Sadly we had to abort due to the *Revenge of the Pangolins* (aka Covid-19).

**2021: Glorious Griswold Pass!** Four amazing weeks made up for last year’s cancellation.

This year the Summer Camp Committee consists of three people – Jeff Beddoes, Laura Darling, and Liz Williams (chair). **We would LOVE to have a couple more members!**

### How the Summer Camp Committee works

The Terms of Reference for the Summer Camp Committee set out the basic organizational tasks that need to be undertaken before the camp can start. In a nutshell, these include:

- maintaining, repairing and replacing the ever-expanding inventory;
- suggesting a location based on input from members;
- estimating costs, registering members, obtaining payment and keeping budget records;
- coordinating with various agencies for road conditions and flight bookings;
- developing information/guidance materials;
- providing policy recommendations as needed to the Club executive.

### How the Summer Camp itself works

The Summer Camp is a huge team effort! The first Week to fly in chooses the site for base camp. Then comes all the gear in the helicopter net slings. As all 15 people arrive, the camp gradually takes shape, with some folk erecting the space station tents, others digging biffies, finding the closest ‘fridge’ aka snow bank or stream, and even putting up a shower stall. By the end of the first day we’ve put up our individual tents and await a delicious three-course meal from the mess tent. Our routine is to have two folk serve dinner for all, for one night, thus allowing six nights free to climb, hike, explore without needing to think of dinner prep. This is also necessary to save on fuel, and maximize kitchen efficiencies.



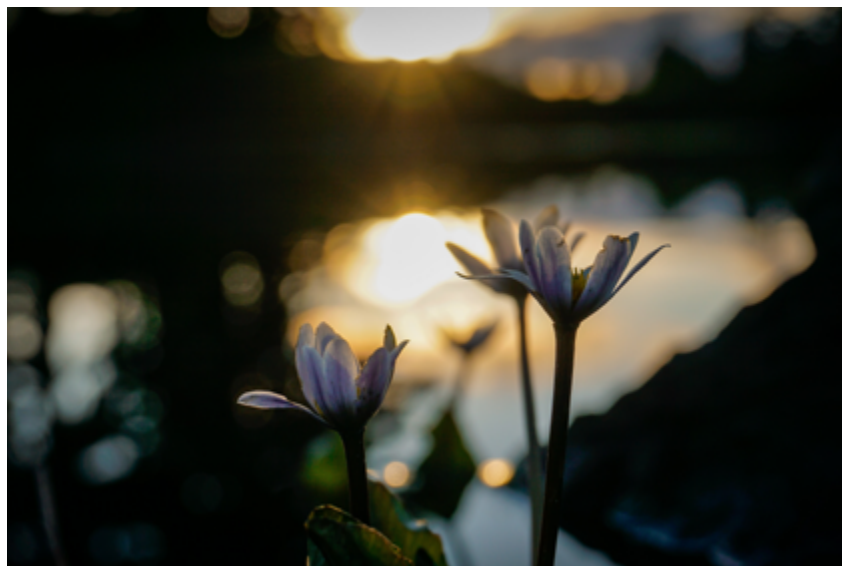
*Mess tent set up - pots and pans, and washing up. Photos by Liz Williams*

Each Week has a camp manager who coordinates the various camp tasks such as recycling, burying compost, keeping the biffies stocked, ensuring the propane is turned off at night, etc. The camp manager uses the satellite phone to call the incoming manager regarding any needed supplies. The second and third Weeks may need to dig new biffies or find a new ‘fridge’ for perishables.

The Summer Camp protocols are hot on safety! We keep a manual in camp with emergency numbers, instructions on sat phone use, and first aid procedures. We have a full First Aid pack for emergency use, and sign-out/sign-in sheets for trips. We use FRS radios for two-hourly check-ins throughout the day. For more information, check the documents posted at <https://accvi.ca/programs/summer-camp/>. Our aim as always is “We come back alive; we come back friends”.



*Social tent - radios and manuals. Photo by Liz Williams*



*Flowers at Sunset on Flower Ridge. Photo by Jessica MacNeil-Mah*

*Honourable Mention in the Nature Category of ACCVI's 2020 Annual Photo Competition*

# ***Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival (BCMFF)*** ***Update (September 2021)***

*By Laura Darling*

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**Two new viewing options! And a look at what is coming soon.**

**Option #1:** The Banff Centre's "Encore – Classic Films 1" program offers timeless tour favourites. The program costs \$12USD for a 3-day rental period, and will remain online until October 24, 2021.

The films in the program are:

- 2017 – Imagination: Tom Wallisch (5 mins)
- 2011 – Chasing Water (18 mins)
- 2013 – Reel Rock 8: Spice Girl (24 mins)
- 2016 – The Accord (19 mins)
- 2015 – Bluehue (5 mins)
- 2017 – The Last Honey Hunter (36 mins)
- 2011 – Cold (19 mins)

**Option #2:** The final two World Tour programs from the 2020/21 festival (Turquoise and Coral) will be re-released online on September 16th; available for \$15 USD/3-day rental period until October 24th. They will be the final “new” offerings for the 2020/21 Tour season.

Make your purchase through our affiliate link <https://filmfest.banffcentre.ca/?campaign=WT-151882> to support ACCVI initiatives.

**Coming soon:** ACCVI will again be hosting online video sales for the upcoming 2021/22 Banff Centre Mountain Film and Book Festival. An in-person screening of 2021/22 festival videos is under consideration for early 2022 in Victoria, depending on the COVID situation and Public Health Office directives.

Email questions to: [bmff@accvi.ca](mailto:bmff@accvi.ca)





# Vancouver Island Ski Traverse

By Jonathan Skinnider

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*Editor's note: Jonathan Skinnider, Stefan Gessinger, and Mitchell Baynes will be giving a slide-show presentation about their adventure - Crossing Vancouver Island on skis: a traverse from Carey Lakes to Herbert Inlet - on 16 September. This is a sneak "peak"! You can read about their slideshow on ACCVI's website [here](#).*

From April 17th to April 27th Mitchell Baynes, Stefan Gessinger and I completed a ski traverse across Strathcona Park (and most of Vancouver Island) from east to west. We began at Carey Lakes and finished in the Herbert Inlet, linking high alpine ridges the whole way. The traverse began in the Comox Range, climbing up the logging roads ascending to Carey Lakes and joining the ridge shortly before Iceberg Peak. Following this gorgeous, high alpine and glaciated ridge line, we eventually descended to Milla Lake. We then climbed to the Tzela-Harmston pass and descended to a gorgeous camp at Tzela Lake. I had looked down at Tzela lake while climbing around the Cliff Glacier the previous summer, and felt very fortunate to be able to spend a night in such a wild and remote valley. We then followed the Henshaw-Ash divide — a route that Mitch and I had skied a couple winters ago while completing the Shepherds Ridge to Flower Ridge horseshoe — and then descended to Price Pass.



*Ash - Henshaw divide.  
Photo by Stefan Gessinger*

a glacier pool. The next day we traversed around Mt. Septimus and descended its north west glacier. After a mellow jaunt to Bedwell Lake we recovered our food cache and dozed on the lake. Little did we know that the biggest challenge of the day had only begun as we departed from Bedwell Lake. Trying to get ahead of the weather that would soon roll in, we were determined to climb the sub peak of Mt. Tom Taylor that day.

After arriving at Price Pass we were faced with two options: to climb up and over the Misthorns or descend to Green Lake and navigate steep bluffy terrain to reach Cream Lake. I remember vividly the butterflies I felt thinking about the first option, as that steep snowy face loomed above our tent. The following morning, we were up early and after some route finding difficulties descending to the final pass below the mountain, we began the ascent. After an involved climb and descent down the backside we were grateful to set up camp on the pocket glacier above Love Lake. Mitch even went for a swim in



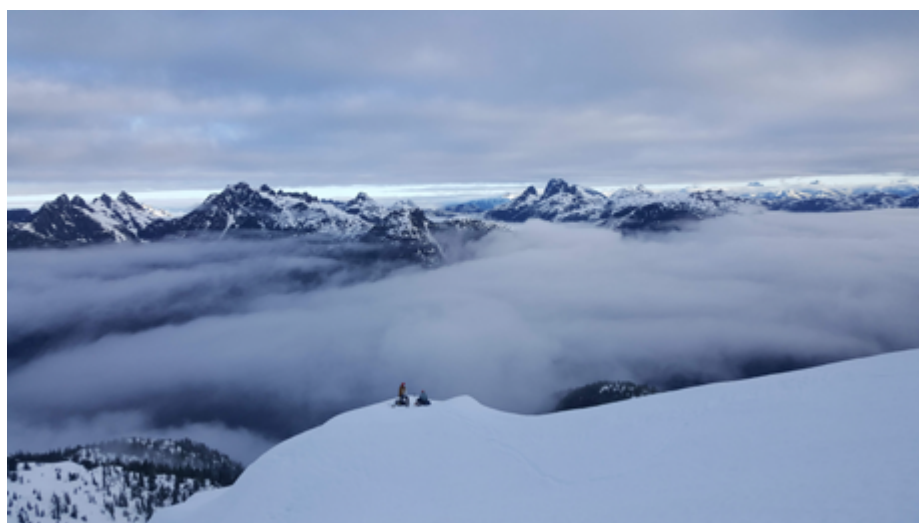
*Margaret Glacier with Nine Peaks in the background.  
Photo by Stefan Gessinger*



*Tom Taylor camp.  
Photo by Stefan Gessinger*

With energy and daylight waning we crested the ridge, only to find steep granite lying between us and our bed that night. Again, we roped up and navigated the scramble and subsequent knife ridge carefully. Upon arriving at our camp in the wind lip below the true summit, and finding it to be nearly midnight, we decided to sleep in the following morning. The subsequent leg of the trip had been completed by Stefan a couple years prior, in winter conditions with a bullet proof crust. We had much more forgiving spring conditions and made quick work of the traverse towards Mariner Mountain in the next

couple days. The only hiccup was Stefan's ski snapping in two. After a remount of his binding on the front half, he managed to handle the rest of the traverse with impressive confidence. Upon reaching the glacier on Mt. Mariner the clouds finally caught up with us, and we sadly were not able to appreciate the incredible ski run down to Noble Creek. The next day we enjoyed a much appreciated rest day as it poured rain on us. As the sun rose the next day it seemed like the rain had eased up, and we began the traverse into a very wild corner of the park, towards Abco Mountain. After making insufficient progress we were forced to stop by more rain and increasingly unstable snow. We woke up at midnight for the last day of the trip and began the trek under starry skies towards our last objective. We reached the summit ridge shortly after sunrise, and given the



*Moyeha Valley.  
Photo by Stefan Gessinger*



*Herbert Inlet.  
Photo by Jonathan Skinnider*

quickly destabilizing snow and long bushwhack ahead of us we decided to traverse around the north side. Finally, we regained the ridge proper and began the ski descent down to the ocean. The snow ran out far too early, and before we knew it, we were hiking. We made good time at first, however as we neared the water the bush became increasingly savage. I forget the exact number, but we were certainly travelling at less than 0.5 km per hour. Finally at 8pm that evening we reached the beach, pitched our tent and enjoyed the last of our gin. The next morning, we were picked up by a water taxi and whisked off to the town of Tofino, where we saw the first humans we had seen in 11 days.

# Portrait View: Mindfulness Applications for Risk Management Reframing Climbing

By Ken Wylie

*Editor's note: We have a column in our newsletter called "Landscape View." The intent of this column is to focus on the roles of folks who contribute to our mountaineering community's activities.*

In the face of climate change and a global pandemic, our mountain pursuits appear frivolous. Is it pure hubris to justify climbing in a world that so desperately needs solutions for the challenges we face? Maybe not.

What if our adventures in the mountains can provide the development and insights we need as individuals to help manage the adversities we face collectively? To help us fundamentally change what we value, and what we are working toward collectively? To orient ourselves to developing our capacity to love: ourselves, others and the environment.

In the mountains we make decisions in response to our exposure to consequences. If we are able to do this well, then we are practicing precisely what we need to help make good choices in a society in desperate need of wise action and a deeper morality. But how do we know we are making good choices, even if the day turns out okay? The process of discernment is challenging and without a useful reflective tool we can remain in the dark.

It is of great utility to more deeply understand the decisions we make. In the climbing world we make choices about three things:

**1) Environmental factors.** These are facts that we can observe from the environment when we take the time and have the motivation to gather them. We make decisions about what we observe or experience in the environment, or not. If we fail to observe detail, then we fail to make decisions based on the current reality. Becoming a great observer, is a valuable asset.

**2) Technical Information.** This is the knowledge and application of specific tools and techniques used to address challenges in the current reality. Typically, a great deal of our time and energy goes into learning, then understanding the application of, these tools. But without understanding what is needed by the environment, or the individuals, technical knowhow can easily be missed or misapplied.

**3) Human Individual and Group Mindset Information.** Information we gather from ourselves and others about our individual or collective mindset helps support awareness of the kinds of choices we are making based on the mindset we inhabit and the potential trajectories that the choices create.





Awareness of our mindset in high-risk environments include awareness of whether or not we are:

- Accepting or Denying ourselves, others, the situation, events or the conditions.
- Taking Courageous action or being Fainthearted. Socially, intellectually, emotionally or morally
- Achieving a feeling of Connection through the act of being vulnerable or choosing Isolation by failing to be open.
- Gaining Self-Awareness and experiencing our vastness or buying into a sense of Insignificance.
- Acting with Grace or divinely inspired action or choosing ego-based Hubris.
- Being stewards of Truth or subscribing to Deception.
- Being sensitive to Intuition or choosing to intellectualize.
- Crafting a Peaceful solution to the conflicts that arise or subscribing to Chaos.

As humans, we choose our approach to the situations in which we engage. This can be a conscious or an unconscious process. The eight pairs of choices we make have a deep impact on our experience in high-risk environments by either expanding or reducing our options. When we still have options, we retain a margin of safety.

The concern about unconscious choice in high-risk environments is self-evident. Carl Jung wrote, “That which we fail to bring into consciousness will show up in our lives and we will call it fate.” This statement captures an all too human tendency to be victims of our own unconscious choices. In an environment that has the potential for our choices to be fatal for ourselves or our friends, gaining awareness is essential. The process of making conscious choices is a life-long journey. It is the above noted principles and their antonyms that form the basis for the course [Mindfulness Applications for Risk Management](#).

The intention of the course is to bring developmental meaning to the activity we love. Go adventure, with intention. Come home, with gifts to give a society in need.



The Mindfulness Applications for Risk Management course is being offered through the ACCVI on October 30-31

A link to the course is here:

<https://www.archetypal.ca/mindfulnessarm-workshop/accvi>

The password is: ACCVI2021

There is also a description of the course on ACCVI's website here:

<https://accvi.ca/events/risk-management-workshop-taught-by-ken-wylie/>



# *Wedding Anniversaries and Serendipity at Griswold Camp*

*By Geoff Bennett*

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We commemorated three wedding anniversaries during Week 4 of the Griswold Summer Camp, starting with Rommel Agbay (12 years) followed by Alison Hart and Max Maxwell (42 years). I had special permission from Wendy to attend camp on our 50th anniversary (it will cost me dearly.) On the 14th, the last day of camp, I dressed for dinner in my formal Alpine suit and shared a marzipan fruit cake from the Dutch Bakery with all my good friends.



*Rommel Agbay. Photo by Max Maxwell*

Speaking of Albert, he was there again this year, still going strong at age 88. He and his longtime hiking partner, Roger Painter, got out into the hills every day. Albert regaled us with a couple of speeches and quoted his favourite bit of scripture, “I will lift up mine eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help.” Amen!



*Max and Alison Maxwell. Photo by Albert Hestler*

Griswold seems to be a happy place for such celebrations. During the 2013 camp, Phee and Rick Hudson renewed their wedding vows on their 40th anniversary. “Parson” Albert Hestler conducted the ceremony.



*Albert Hestler and Roger Painter.  
Photo from Albert’s camera*





*Geoff on his 50th anniversary 14 Aug 2021.  
Photo by Miguel Rodriguez*



*Phee and Rick Hudson in 2013. Photo by Albert Hestler*

And serendipity? Max and I discovered that we both went to high school in Ottawa, graduated from the Royal Military College as Reservists five years apart and went on to study geophysics at UBC. We probably saw each other every five years at the RMC fall reunions in Kingston. His older brother and I played on the Varsity football team. So, of course, we had to “entertain” the other campers one evening with off-key renditions of the College Song and Cheer.

Then on the second last day, as Mike Hubbard and I were plodding homeward, we passed through a large camp of BCMC climbers. I looked hard at one of them and yelled, “Rick!” He shouted back, “Geoff!” Rick Barichello and I had lived with our families in Jakarta around the same time in the eighties. He was the one who got me into the Alpine Club. I hadn’t seen him since the Vowell Glacier GMC in 1997 and had lost touch. Quite a reunion!



*Max and Geoff at the Royal Military College*



## ***Canadian Explorations Heritage Society (CEHS) Seeking Expedition Member***

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The Canadian Explorations Heritage Society seeks to tell Canadians the stories about our pristine wilderness places that are little known, and about the intrepid men and women who explored them.

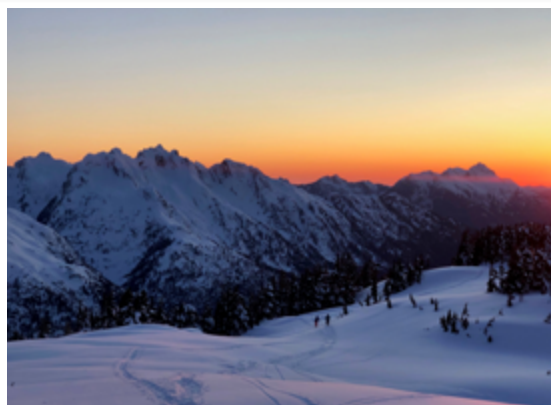
Our next expedition in 2022 will be an attempt on the NW summit of Mt Waddington, using the same gear and climbing techniques used by Don, Phyllis and Bert Munday in 1928, when they did the first ascent of that peak.

We are seeking a female mountaineer to represent Phyllis Munday on the expedition, which will take place in July 2022.

Anyone interested should contact Bryan Thompson at [patrowski@hotmail.com](mailto:patrowski@hotmail.com)  
For more information, visit our website at [www.canadianehsociety.ca](http://www.canadianehsociety.ca)



*Photos by Phyllis Munday on one of their expeditions to Mt. Waddington in the early 1930s.  
Courtesy of the Royal British Columbia Museum*



*5040 Sunset Welcome Party. Photo by Lauren Attorp*

*Honourable Mention in the Vancouver Island Category of ACCVI's 2020 Annual Photo Competition*

# ***ACCVI History 1931***

***By Lindsay Elms***

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**1931 ACCVI Executive:** Chairman - Arthur Wheeler; Vice-chairman - William Dougan; Secretary - Kenneth Chadwick; Treasurer - Gordon Cameron; Outings Committee - Claude Harrison; Hut and property - Claude Harrison; Entertainment - Robert McCaw; New membership - Irene Bastow Hudson; Photographic - Mrs. Charlotte Hadow; Press cuttings - Cyril Chave.

February 7 - Half-day club trip to Mt. Blinkhorn

February 22 - All-day trip to the Lake of the Seven Hills

March 7 - Half-day trip to Mt. Newton

March 22 - Club trip to Mt. Prevost

March 27 - Club's 25th annual banquet in the Princess Louise dining room at the Empress Hotel

April 3, 4, 5, 6 - Club Easter camp to the Lake of the Seven Hills

April 18 - Club trip to Mt. Hood and Mt. Jeffrey (Malahat)

May 2 - Day-trip to Mt. Jocelyn

May 16 - Day-trip to Mt. Work

May 23, 24, 25 - Empire Day week-end trip to Leech River

June 13, 14 - Two-day camp to Mt. Maxwell, Saltspring Island

June 21 - Club trip to Mt. Maxwell, Saltspring Island

June 27 to July 6 - Ten-day Summer camp to the Lake of the Seven Hills

September 5, 6, 7 - Three-day camp at the Lake of the Seven Hills

September 19 - Club half-day trip to Mt. Blinkhorn

September 25 - Club trips to Bluff Mountain and Leech River. Dinner at Belvedere Hotel

October 11 - Club trip to Mt. Prevost

October 24 - Half-day club trip to Mt. Helmcken

October 31 - Club trip to Mt. McGuire and Halloween dinner at Belvedere Hotel

November 7, 8, 9 - Three-day camp at the Lake of the Seven Hills

November 21 - Half-day club trip to Mt. Finlayson, Southwest Face

November 29 - Club trip to Mt. Wood

**"Camp Fire News"** ACCVI newsletter introduced with Mrs. Francis Holland as editor.

Section members who attended the ACC annual summer camp in Prospectors Valley: Arthur Wheeler, Guy Shaw [Mt. Hungabee], J.W. Hay, Tom Goodlake [Wenchemna Mount No. 10] and one other member.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Wednesday January 21, 1931, p. 3.

## **ALPINE CLUB ISSUES YEAR'S COMMITTEES**

The Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada has just issued a complete list of officers and committees for the current year, these being as follows:

Chairman A. [Arthur] O. Wheeler; Vice-chairman, W. [William] H. Dougan; secretary, K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick; treasurer, Gordon Cameron; executive committee, Dr. Irene Bastow Hudson, Mrs. E. Postgate, C. [Claude] L. Harrison and R. [Robert] D. McCaw. Committees are as follows: Hut and property—C.L. Harrison, (chairman), W.H. Dougan, Gordon Cameron, F.V. Jones, Miss S. [Sara] Spencer, Mrs. C. [Charlotte] J.B. Hadow and K.M. Chadwick (secretary-treasurer). Outings—C.L. Harrison (chairman), W.H. Dougan, T. [Thomas] Goodlake\*, A. [Arthur] Haynes, Miss Alyard, Miss J.E. [Ethel] M. Bruce, Miss [Janet] Bell, Mrs. C.J.B. Hadow, Miss Marjorie Haynes. Entertainment—R.D. McCaw (chairman), Mrs. C.L. Harrison, Mrs. [Bernice] Chave, Mrs. E. Postgate, Miss S. Spencer and Miss K. [Katherine] Wollaston. New membership—Dr. Irene Bastow Hudson (chairman), W.H. Dougan, Lindley Crease, C.L. Harrison, Gordon Cameron, Mrs. [Francis] Holland, Miss E. [Erminie] Bass. Photographic—Mrs. C.J.B. Hadow, K.M. Chadwick. Press cutting—Cyril Chave.

\*Thomas Julian “Cappy” Goodlake (1877 – 1951) was born in Portland, Dorset, England in 1877. He was educated at Cheltenham School and Corpus Christi College, Oxford. He was a veteran of the Boer War with the rank of captain and lived in Southern Ireland where he married Aline Maude Harrison in 1905. He and his family moved to Victoria in 1913. “Cappy” became involved in real estate owning Goodlake Limited. In 1923 and from 1926 through 1935, he was a member of the Oak Bay Council. 1933-36, he was the President of the Victoria Real Estate Board. He became very involved in the formation of the Rotary Club of Victoria and became the first secretary, a position he held for twenty-one years. During this twenty plus years, he guided twenty members through their presidency of the Club. He provided the continuity over the years and was actually the backbone of the Club. He was involved with everything that the Club did during the first twenty years including involvement with four district conventions (1915, '20, '26, and '33). “Presidents come and go but Cappy goes on forever” was an axiom of the Club members. In 1937, he was elected president of the Club. He was also a member of the Alpine Club of Canada and lead many trips for the Vancouver Island section in the 1930's. In 1932, has was the club's assistant secretary. He passed away in Victoria on 3 January 1951 (obituary in the Daily Colonist Friday January 5, p.6.)



*Thomas Goodlake*

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Friday January 23, 1931, p. 3.

## **ALPINE CLUB PLANS TRIPS**

### **Big Programme Of Climbs Drawn Up For Spring And Summer—Will Explore New Island District**

The Spring and Summer programme of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada was drawn up at a meeting of the outings committee held last evening at the office of C. [Claude] L. Harrison, outings convener. With the experience of several very successful past seasons behind them, the committee was able to make up a varied schedule of half-day, whole-day and several-day outings, the field to be covered ranging from Mt. Maxwell (Salt Spring Island), and Mt. Prevost (near Duncan), on the north, to the Leech River country on the south, with a number of hitherto unvisited hills included. Half-day outings will all take place on Saturdays, leaving bastion Square at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The question of transportation will be discussed in fuller detail later, but a resolution was heartily approved by the committee yesterday asking for a formal declaration to be drawn up and signed by members cars, such declaration absolving the owner and driver of the car from any responsibility toward his passengers in the event of accident.

The Spring and Summer programme of climbs has the following details:

February 7 (Saturday), Mt. Blinkhorn, half-day trip, leaving Bastion Square at 2 p.m.

February 22 (Sunday), all-day trip to Lake of the Seven Hills (time of leaving optional).

March 7 (Saturday), Mt. Newton, half-day.

March 22 (Sunday) all-day trip to Mt. Prevost, leaving Bastion Square at 9 a.m.

April 3, 4, 5, 6, Easter camp Lake of the Seven Hills.

April 18 (Saturday), Mt. Hood and Mt. Jeffrey (Malahat), leaving Bastion Square at 8 a.m.

May 2 (Saturday), Mt. Jocelyn, all-day trip, leaving city at 9 a.m.

May 16 (Saturday), Mt. Work (all-day).

May 23, 24, 25, Empire Day week-end trip to Leech River

June 13 and 14, Mt. Maxwell, (Salt Spring Island), two-day camp leaving by early ferry on Saturday morning and returning by ferry on Sunday evening.

June 27 to July 6, Ten-day Summer camp at Lake of the Seven Hills.

The annual dinner will take place some time in the last week of March, the date to be definitely announced in due course. Up-Island members will be specially interested in the plan to hold a three-day Labor Day week-end [September 5-7] camp on Coronation Mountain.



Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Saturday March 28, 1931, p. 8.

### **ALPINE CLUB TO HOLD ANNIVERSARY DINNER TONIGHT**

The annual dinner of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada will be held tonight in the Princess Louise dining-room of the Empress Hotel. Toasts, short addresses, songs and several motion pictures of subjects of interest to Alpinists will make up the programme. The annual dinner here coincides with the annual dinner in other sections of the organization throughout Canada, celebrating the anniversary of the founding of the club.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Sunday March 29, 1931, p. 6.

### **HUT TO OPEN NEXT MONTH**

Interesting Announcement Is Made At Annual Dinner Of Alpine Club Here—Founders Bring Congratulations

Appropriately coinciding with the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Alpine Club of Canada, announcement was made at the annual dinner of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada, held at the Empress Hotel last evening, [March 28] that the hut at the club camp, Lake of the Seven Hills, Sooke, will be finished and ready for opening by the end of next month. This was good news to members gathered in the Princess Louise dining-room, A. [Arthur] O. Wheeler, founder, first director, and now honorary president of the parent body, as well as president of the Vancouver Island section, was in the chair, and Claude L. Harrison, outings convener, made the interesting announcement concerning the hut following the presentation by W. [William] H. Dougan of a beautiful Alpine Club flag which is to fly over the new cabin. This generous gift was enthusiastically received. It is about ten feet long by four and a half feet deep, and is composed of bands of the Alpine Club colors, green, representing the forest; grey, representing the rock, and white, representing snow, and woven into the green band at the bottom are the letters "A.C.C." In accepting the banner on behalf of the club, Mr. Harrison made the pronouncement about the opening of the new hut, which will have a lounge twenty feet by thirty feet, kitchen and storeroom, and wide front veranda. "We are singularly honored in having for the president of our section, Mr. A. O. Wheeler, founder of the Alpine Club of Canada, and it is only fitting that we should have one of the best sections and one of the best huts of the whole organization: said Mr. Harrison, who subsequently paid a very warm tribute to Mr. Dougan in moving the vote of thanks to him as the donor of the flag. The programme consisted of the customary toasts to the King and the Alpine Club of Canada, the latter being proposed by Mr. Wheeler, and responded to by Gordon Cameron; two charmingly sung solos by Mrs. R.D. McCaw; clever recitations by Miss Arabella Haynes; and Mr. R. [Robert] D. McCaw's amusing skit on club personalities, set to the music of "Hallelujah." To Mr. McCaw also fell the important task of leading the community singing, which included such favorites as "The More We Get Together," and "My Complexion Lies Up In The Mountains." Mrs. Cyril Chave presided at the piano. The closing part of the evening's entertainment consisted of an interesting movie show, given by K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick, the club secretary. The tables were attractively decorated with daffodils and green candles, Mrs. E. Postgate and Miss [Katherine] Wollaston having charge of this detail.

### **Greetings**

In his annual address the president, Mr. Wheeler, added just a little to the yearly message which he has sent to all sections of the organization in his capacity of honorary president, reminding the gathering that there are now eleven branches of the club which hold their annual gatherings on Founder's Day. "We have good cause to congratulate upon the solid position we have attained, and to know that our foundations are built upon the Rocky Mountains of Canada, and so have been able to withstand all passing storms," he stated. The members applauded when he stated that both he and Mrs. H.J. Parker, who founded the club at Winnipeg in 1906, were still hale and hearty, and had watched with interest the evolution of the society through the past twenty-five years. When the club began, the mountains still held many "first ascents" to be made, and the science of the climbing had still to be learned; today suitable new places for camps were retreating farther and farther afield, and there were few outstanding high peaks unclimbed. People sought the mountains still more eagerly, and the annual camps had become the gathering places for intensive mountain climbing. It was announced that this year's camp would be held at the head of Prospector's Valley, not far from Moraine Lake, a spot replete with fine climbs. There would also be open, during the first two weeks in August, an expedition from Jasper to the club's memorial hut at the head of Penstock Creek, in the Tonquin Valley. The policy of the club to place huts at strategic points was being realized. Reference was made to the serious loss suffered by the club during the year by the death of the Hon. *Senator Hewitt Bostock*\*, John A. Kirk, M. le Baron Gabet, Brigadier-General H. [Henry] R. Gale, Dr. Cora Best, and Professor Charles Fay. These comrades had left inspiring records which would not be forgotten.

## Sends Regrets

Messages of regret at their inability to be present were sent by the Hon. R.W. Bruhn, Minister of Public Works; Mr. and Mrs. J. [James] White, of Sidney who also sent a generous initiation for the club to spend May 18 at their Summer camp, "Killarney," and from the officers and members of the Vancouver section. Also, of special interest was a message from the Alpine Club president, H.E. Sampson, of Regina. In his response to the toast to the Alpine Club, Mr. [Gordon] Cameron reviewed the objects of the club, among the points cited being the part which it played in educating Canadians to a realization of their mountain heritage; in teaching the spirit of conquest, and in developing resolution, love of exploration, exercise of freedom with discipline, appreciation of nature, and true comradeship. Mrs. [Clara] Wheeler started a subscription fund on behalf of the club's new hut, which had an immediate response.

\*Hewitt Bostock (1864 – 1930) was born in May 1864 in Walton on the Hill, England, eldest son of Samuel Bostock and Marian Iliff. Hewitt Bostock's father, Samuel, profited handsomely from investments on the London Stock Exchange during the mid-Victorian boom. His success allowed him to move his family to The Hermitage, in the parish of Walton on the Hill near Epsom, where he cultivated the style of a country squire and where Hewitt was born. Although Samuel died when Hewitt was only four, the family's substantial fortune did not fail. At the age of ten Hewitt was enrolled at a boarding school in Brighton and he subsequently studied in Guildford. His early education was followed by a mathematics degree at Trinity College, Cambridge, (1882 to 1885) and where he would obtain an MA in 1890. Despite a bout with pneumonia, contracted whilst on a climbing expedition in Switzerland in 1881, he demonstrated ability as a rower at Cambridge in 1883. In 1886, Bostock made his first foray to Canada. In 1890, Bostock married Lizzie Cowie, and two years later the Bostocks moved to Victoria, B.C. Although a Conservative in England, Bostock found in Canada that he preferred the Liberal policy of freer trade to the tariff that Macdonald's government had introduced. In April 1894, he established the Province newspaper in Victoria, and sponsored Rev. William W. Bolton's Vancouver Island Exploring Expedition. He had probably met Bolton at Cambridge. That September Liberal leader Wilfrid Laurier visited British Columbia and persuaded Bostock to run for parliament in the Yale-Cariboo constituency. Around the same time, he established the Kootenay Lumber Company. By 1895, he had made a sufficiently good impression on the locals that he was elected first president of the Kamloops Agricultural Association. The 1896 federal election saw Bostock take up his career in politics. He quietly purchased the Kamloops Inland Sentinel, setting up Francis John Deane, a Liberal, as his editor. With Bostock in the shadows, Deane ran an effective and expensive campaign against the powerful Conservative incumbent, John Andrew Mara, while Bostock

visited one hamlet after another. Having spent \$1,350 to Mara's \$500, Bostock won the election with a comfortable majority and served a single term under Laurier, acting as one of the caucus whips. Otherwise, his principal claim to fame as an MP was the introduction of a bill that, had it passed, would have formalized the practice of railway companies carrying parliamentarians free of charge. Like many of his contemporaries, Bostock was vocal in his opposition to further Chinese immigration to Canada, which he viewed as a racial, social, and economic threat. He also regarded southern Europeans with contempt, claiming in 1897 that "the Italians were nearly as great a menace as the Chinamen." Bostock did not seek re-election in 1900. In 1904, Bostock was appointed to the Senate. Ten years later he became leader of the Liberals in the upper house. Along with most of his party, he opposed the Naval Aid Bill of 1913 and the War-time Elections Act of 1917, both introduced by the Conservative government of Robert Laird Borden. In contrast to his earlier nativism, he objected to the cynicism of the latter bill in so far as it disenfranchised loyal immigrant Canadians. Nonetheless, he threw in his lot with the pro-conscription forces and travelled to the west in 1917 advocating a union government. Bostock entered William Lyon Mackenzie King's first cabinet as minister of public works in late December 1921, a position he relinquished a little over a month later when he became speaker of the Senate. By that time Bostock had achieved some notoriety as an opponent of railway nationalization. In 1925, Bostock was one of Canada's delegates at the sixth assembly



Hon. Hewitt Bostock, Speaker du Sénat.  
Ville de Montréal. Gestion de documents et archives

*Hewitt Bostock*



of the League of Nations at Geneva. Described in his obituaries and memorials as “courtly,” a “country gentlemen,” and “a man of culture, ability, genial disposition and fine presence,” Bostock appears to have made a career out of being stately. His associations included the Canadian branch of the British Empire League, the Canadian Forestry Association, the Interior Stock Raisers’ Association of British Columbia, the Rideau Club in Ottawa, the first golf and badminton clubs in Victoria, the Masonic Lodge, the Alpine Club of Canada, and the St John Ambulance Association, of which he was national president at the time of his death. In addition, he was a fellow of the Royal Colonial Institute and Royal Agricultural Society of England. Hewitt Bostock passed away in 1930. In 1932, a mountain about 100 miles to the southwest was given the name Mount Hewitt Bostock.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Thursday May 14, 1931, p. 5.

## ALPINE CLUB ENJOYS PICNIC

### Mr. And Mrs. White Entertain Section At Lake Killarney After Climb

The Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada enjoyed its annual picnic last Saturday as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. James White, of Sidney, who for several years past have generously thrown open their lovely Summer retreat at Lake Killarney, in the shadow of Big Saanich Mountain, for the purpose. Following precedent, the days’ programme provided a day’s expedition up Big Saanich for the more agile members of the section, and supper and a campfire gathering in the evening, which on this occasion attracted about fifty people. W. [William] H. Dougan led the morning party, comprising thirteen keen climbers who left the city at 9 o’clock and returned to Killarney at 5 in the afternoon, after a very successful and enjoyable expedition to the summit of Work. In the meantime, Gordon Cameron rounded up the afternoon party and conducted them over to Heals Lake, the two parties meeting at 5:30 for supper under the trees at the beautiful Summer camp of Mr. and Mrs. White. The arrangements were, as usual, carried out in the happiest way, the tables prettily decorated with the wild flowers of the district, and the time-honored “Cameronian” pie, which is the piece de resistance of the repasts, in conspicuous place among the viands. Ex tempore speeches and some popular songs added to the cheeriness of the meal, which concluded with happily worded expressions of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. White, the hosts, who, together with the president of the section, A. [Arthur] O. Wheeler, and Mrs. [Clara] Wheeler, were heartily cheered. The outstanding incident of the evening campfire gathering at the lakeside was a mock trial in which Mrs. Daniels was brought before the magistrate, Mr. Wheeler, charged with failure to obey the “Stop” sign at a Sidney Road intersection. As the prosecuting attorney, Gordon Cameron was amusingly voluble, and Claude Harrison, acting for the defence, cleverly countered the charges, although the defendant was found guilty. The jury comprised of L. Bosch, Mrs. [Francis] Holland and M. [Marjorie] Haynes. Entertaining stories, songs, dancing, and piccolo selections by H. Davis rounded out the evening.



14 May 1931

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Sunday May 31, 1931, p. 3.

## WILL PHOTOGRAPH WINTER SPORT AT MOUNT BECHER

While Victoria lays proud claim to having Summer weather the year around, and is now enjoying her high temperatures, Winter sports are in full swing at Mount Becher in the Comox district. This week Mr. W. Oliver, of the Federal Department of the Interior, Ottawa, is coming to Vancouver Island for the purpose of taking back some movies of the

skiing, tobogganing and other Alpine pastimes in which the residents and tourists in the more northerly area of the Island are indulging at the present time. From Mount Becher, Mr. Oliver will go out to Port Alberni where he will be met by Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison, of Victoria, an ardent propagandist of the national park project on the West Coast of the Island, who will take him out to see some of the unusually interesting natural formations.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Sunday June 21, 1931, p. 6.

### **CLIMBING MOUNT MAXWELL**

Piloted by Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison, a party of twenty-two members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada left yesterday afternoon for Salt Spring Island, with the intention of climbing Mount Maxwell this morning. The party camped for the night at Burgoyne Bay, and, weather permitting, will make the ascent early today so that they can return to Victoria this afternoon via Swartz Bay.

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday July 2, 1931, p. 1.

### **OUR GLACIER**

The admiration for our wonderful glacier in its every mood has taken such deep root in my heart that I must speak about it—must sing about it—must let the world know of its magnificence, but it is only a promise extracted from me by friends that these lines expressing the feelings which I have, be published. I know they fall so far short of what I'd like to say, but fortunately I know my limitations too.

By Sandwich church we take the way  
That leads around to Comox Bay,  
Where, with the rising tide between  
A picture unsurpassed is seen.

\*\*\*\*

A noble structured, God designed,  
Against the purpling sky inclined.  
The contour of the sunlit crest  
Is likened to a Queen at rest;  
High o'er this vale thy snowy form  
Is nourished by the winter storm.  
Where 'neath the whiteness of thy breast  
The ice of ages past is pressed.  
Fit emblem of an Arctic clime,  
The echo of an ancient time,  
Where flakes that fell in begone storms  
Are folded fast in icy arms.  
Deep in the rifted rock thy feet  
Are firmer set by summer heat,  
As oft the sun with fiery dart  
Still seeks to pierce thy icy heart,  
And from thy glistening side there flows  
The crystal stream that Courtenay knows.

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Can it be thy grottoes hide  
The spirits of the restless tides?  
Or is the soul of Arctic wind  
Beneath thy barriers confined?  
Do dusky maids by storm mists hid  
Commune with warriors long since dead?  
Or from aerial ships in flight  
Do spirits of the past alight  
To gaze across the side Plateau  
Where once in life they feared to go?  
—John Inglis



Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday July 2, 1931, p. 8.

## **PLATEAU SEASON IS NOW OPEN**

### **Several Parties Left This Morning For Camp**

The season on the Forbidden Plateau has opened and quite a cavalcade of horses and hikers left this morning for the trail. Four girls from Nanaimo are setting off up the Mount Beecher [Becher] trail. They will stay in the hut over night and then go on to Camp Croteau where they will find their packs which were being taken over the Dove Creek trail. Jack Gregson also left this morning, 'bug hunting.' He will be away ten days to two weeks. Another party set out with 20,000 Kamloops trout eggs to plant in eight more lakes on the plateau. *Capt. H. [Harry] H.M. Beadnell\** is accompanied by Mr. Garrick from the Cowichan hatchery and they will continue the good work they have already started in making the plateau an angler's dream of paradise. Capt. Beadnell will remain on the plateau for a week or ten days observing the progress of the fish and fry already planted there in former years. Mr. Gwynn Hill, who has done some climbing in Switzerland, went up this morning to see what chances there are of ski-ing on Mount Albert Edward and the snow-covered peaks to the west of the plateau. If there are any prospects at all it will disclose a new field of recreation in the high-altitude playground. The packing is all being done by Murray and Wood. Mr. Murray started running a pack train in the Kootenays as soon as he left school and knows all about the diamond hitch and mule and horse flesh. Stuart Wood has pioneered in packing into the plateau and knows the country as well as anyone. They are all staying at the Croteau Camp, Mr. Eugene Croteau having gone in some days before with supplies and equipment. There has been an inquiry for a seaplane base by a party from Victoria who don't quite appreciate the ardors of the trail. There have been several attempts to find a good landing for planes on the plateau but so far without success, although some of the many larger lakes should be big enough.

\*Harry H.M. Beadnell was with the 3rd Battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, resigning in March 1905. Married Winifred Thwaites on 19 February 1901 near Salisbury, England. Moved to Courtenay and became involved with real estate and insurance and in the 1930's was the local fisheries officer.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Tuesday July 7, 1931, p. 9.

## **ALPINIST BACK FROM GOOD CAMP**

### **Annual Ten-Day Summer Expedition At The Lake Of The Seven Hills Comes To End**

The annual ten-day camp of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada came to an end with the return to the city yesterday afternoon of the remainder of the forty members who joined the expedition. Generally pronounced by far the most successful camp in the history of the club, the session was productive of some excellent expeditions which tested the hardihood of the climbers. The outstanding feature was a two-day expedition to Survey Mountain, a "skyline" summit of 3,165 feet altitude, to reach which about twenty-five miles had to be traversed through almost pathless country. The party left the main camp on Thursday, C. [Claude] L. Harrison, who was in charge of the climb, insisting of scant equipment, without blankets and with the lightest of food supplies. On Thursday evening the party camped near the summit of Survey Mountain and despite the lack of sleeping-bags, blankets or tents, slept comfortably in the open, thanks to a skillfully constructed stone "reflector" built behind the camp fire in the lee of the wind. Camp was broken early in the morning and Friday was spent exploring the region and returning to the Lake of the Seven Hills.

### **Fine Weather**

The weather was exceptionally clear all week, owing to the heavy June rains, and wonderful views were visible from any of the hilltops. A party of eight went to Mount Empress on Saturday under W. [William] H. Dougan's guidance, and spent the night there, returning to camp the following day. The nightly bonfire at the Lake of the Seven Hills was unusually merry, enlivened by the "camp fire news," an innovation introduced this year, with Mrs. Francis C. Holland as editor. Many members developed considerable skill in archery, a pastime introduced to the camp for the first time this year, and boating, swimming and short expeditions in the immediate neighborhood of the main camp provided the most stay-at-home with abundant diversion. The commissariat this year was exceptionally good.



Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday July 30, 1931, p. 2.

### **MOUNTAINEERING**

Young members of the Comox Mountaineering Club are no longer content to take only the easiest route to the summits. It's always been the history of climbing that the easiest route is sought first: then, when all peaks have been conquered, more difficult faces are scaled. There are many virgin peaks in Strathcona Park yet, but it won't be many years before they are all conquered—then new routes will be sought. Len Rossiter and Jack Gregson have been finding new routes up Mount Albert Edward and establishing records for speed in ascent. They left Circle [Circlet] Lake at 8:15 on Saturday [July 25] and reached the cairn at Mount Albert Edward at 10:10, a record. They roped down the steep north face, jumping to a snow slope and cutting steps for a quarter of a mile. They next attacked the virgin peak of Mount Regan—and easy climb—reaching the top at 12:35. After building a cairn they climbed back under the glaciers of Mount Albert Edward to the dome-ridge, which gave them some trouble. After a light meal they left for Mount Arthur [Jutland Mountain], gaining the peak at 4:45. Then they came down, reaching Circle Lake at 6 p.m., having in the ten hours climbed three peaks all over 6,000 feet, one of which had never been conquered before.

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday July 30, 1931, p. 7.

### **MANY VISITORS AT PLATEAU**

From as far away as New Jersey visitors are finding their way to the Forbidden Plateau and staying at Croteau's Camp. Dr. and Mrs. A.V. Hayes and their two daughters motored all the way out from New Brunswick, New Jersey, to spend part of their holiday at the Plateau. They were out here last year and liked it so well that they have returned. Dr. Hayes is professor of geology back east and is very interested in the rocks of the Plateau. Two ladies from the faculty of the University of California have also just returned. Other visitors include officers from H.M.S. Dragon during her stay here, and many local people. The weather has been delightful with no smoke to blot out the mountains.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Saturday August 1, 1931, p. 3.

### **VISITOR SEES ALPINE CAMP**

#### **Les Golman, Vancouver Mountaineer, Delighted With Sooke Resort**

The Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada has received a very enthusiastic tribute from Les Golman, secretary of the B.C. Mountaineering Club, Vancouver, and one of the directors of the B.C. Safety League. Mr. Golman called at The Colonist Office yesterday in his return from a visit to the local Alpine Club's camp at Lake of the Seven Hills, Sooke, in company of C. [Claude] L. Harrison, in order to express his enthusiasm. "Your Alpine Club has one of the finest mountaineering camps on the Pacific Coast. In the first place it is beautifully situated, in lovely open parkland with magnificent scenery from the summits of all the surrounding hills. We would consider ourselves very fortunate to be able to get possession of such a lake in any of the hills around Vancouver. Then the trail is very easy, one of the easiest I have ever travelled over in British Columbia. Your club should be warmly complimented on this and the fact of having a camp situated so near the end of a fairly good motor road, which makes it easily accessible. "Another important thing is that the camp lies in practically virgin forest land which has neither been burned nor touched by axe. This is a distinct contrast to conditions in certain districts on the Mainland and other points on Vancouver Island where everything has been spoiled by people going in and despoiling nature. And finally," added Mr. Golman, in summing up his impressions of the Sooke resort, "your Alpine Club members must have very aesthetic standards, as the trail is practically free of litter in the form of orange peel, cigarette boxes, tins and other rubbish which so often disfigures the mountain trails."

### **Missed Game**

Mr. Golman was through the same area about ten years ago, and was struck on the occasion of his visit to the camp this week by the absence of game birds and other wildlife. Ten years ago there were quantities of grouse, whereas this week he only saw one. The district, he considers, is admirably suited for game preserve purposes. This might be developed rapidly by the formation of a small chain of game preserves, where deer and birds would multiply and spread into surrounding country. Vancouver has two of the strongest mountaineering organizations on the continent in the B.C. Mountaineering Club and the Alpine Club of Canada, so it is a genuine compliment to hear from Mr. Golman that the Vancouver section of the latter has an exceptionally strong membership. Considered in comparison with the mountains around Vancouver, this part of the Island offers little in the way of strenuous climbing, and may more

appropriately be called fine hiking country. But a splendid spirit is shown, he thinks, in the building of the outdoor interest which will take people twenty-five miles away from home to start their hiking. In Vancouver the mountaineering clubs' cabins are within two hours' walking from the centre of the city. Here, on the Island, it takes nearly that time to walk from the road terminus after a drive of more than twenty miles.

### **Advocates Shorts**

Following the lead of the Men's Dress Reform party in Great Britain, Mr. Golman favors open-neck shirts and shorts for both men and women climbers. This is a radical departure from the Alpine Club regulation outfit, which calls for knickerbockers or riding breeches. Here at the Coast particularly Mr. Golman thinks the shorts will become the regulation nether dress in the course of the next few years. An ardent "Hikers Safety Club" member, Mr. Golman is one of its best propagandists. The object of this organization is to get rid of what they characterize as "the jazz hiker," and develop a type of hiker who has good deportment in the hills, who works for the preservation of nature's beauty, the protection of trees and shrubs, the safeguarding of watersheds and streams, the prevention of fires, and the elimination of all that tends to uglify and desecrate the mountains.

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday August 1, 1931. p. 2.

### **PEAK-A-THON**

#### **Newest Craze**

Scampering around the mountain peaks here is mere amusement to two local youths who made a record ascension of Mount Albert Edward, 6,100 [6,867] feet altitude: set out for new worlds to conquer, scaled a new peak, Mount Regan, then another peak, Mount Arthur, [Jutland] all in ten hours. Jack Gregson and Len Rossiter bested the previous record of two hours forty minutes by climbing Mount Albert Edward in one hour fifty-five minutes. They went down the North Face of the peak by a rope, chopped steps on quarter of a mile across a snowfield, had lunch, climbed Mount Regan which had never before been climbed and built a cairn. Descending they climbed Mount Arthur [Jutland] then re-joined witnesses on Mount Albert Edward. The three peaks are all over 6,000 feet and the feat of the mountaineers is without parallel say members of the local mountain club.

Depart Circlet Lake - 8:15  
Mount Albert Edward summit - 10:10  
Mount Regan summit - 12:35  
Mount Arthur [Jutland] summit - 4:45  
Return Circlet Lake - 6:00

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday August 6, 1931. p. 1.

### **GREAT ALPINE REGION HAS BEEN EXPLORED**

#### **Courtenay Party Climbs Virgin Peak And Crosses Three Great Glaciers**

As a result of an exploration trip into the heart of Vancouver Island, a party headed by Mr. W.A.[Adrian] B. Paul of Comox climbed a virgin peak several hundred feet higher than the Dome [Comox Glacier highpoint] and traversed several great glaciers. They returned on Monday night. The party consisted of Messrs. W.A.B. Paul, Arthur Leighton of Nanaimo, Ben Hughes and Jack Gregson of Courtenay. When the party climbed the Comox Glacier two years ago, they saw to the west two great peaks [The Red Pillar and Argus Mountain], one on each side of and guarding another and unnamed glacier. A ridge appeared to run down to the headwaters of the Puntledge River and an arête to connect the Dome with this other range. There was not time then to go farther but they determined to go back some day and explore this unknown terrain. They found twenty miles from Courtenay in an airline a great alpine region of glaciers and peaks. In August they crossed a snow slope which would give a safe run for a toboggan of half a mile and wonderful skiing. Patches of "pink snow" were so common as to cause no comment and in some spots millions of jet-black Ice-worms covered the surface of the Pillar Glacier [Cliffe Glacier]. It was hoped to find an easier way than over steep Mount Evans [Kookjai Mountain] to the Glacier Dome, but until a road has been built through the devil's club and alder thickets which makes going so tedious up the Puntledge divide, that is the easiest route to the great snow peak which is seen from Courtenay.



## **The Pillar Mountain**

The Pillar Mountain [The Red Pillar] cannot be seen from Courtenay but is observable from Comox. The first objective of the party was to climb this peak. Leaving the south end of Comox Lake at 9:30 on Friday morning, the Dome base camp on the second of the little lakes was reached in time for lunch. There is a fair trail beyond this for perhaps an hour, then there is nothing to be done but fight a way through Devils club and thicket alder bottom or take to the side hill. The brawling Puntledge, a bright and sparkling mountain stream issuing from the Pillar Glacier, here meanders in a dozen sluggish streams through a swamp and all of them have to be waded. It was seven o'clock at night before the exhausted party, carrying heavy packs, arrived at a little Isle of refuge in the valley and camped for the night.

## **A Ruddy Mountain**

Next morning the ridge leading up to the Pillar was found and at eleven after a hard grind open ground was won. The Pillar was close at hand, a reddish mass of rock just as formidable on close inspection as from the Dome. It was attacked on Sunday morning early. After crossing a snow slope, packs were left on a spur overlooking a glacial lake [Tzela Lake] fantastically green, and the north face attacked. It was found to be impregnable. Next a way was sought up the steep west face. The climbing was always difficult, every hand hold counting. Three quarters of the way up to the top the chimney chosen to ascend was found to be blocked with chock stones so large there was not a chance to squirm through and it seemed likely that the Pillar would remain unconquered. At this time the sound of a plane was heard in the sky and looking straight up from their perch on the rocky face a plane was seen high in the air going over to Buttle Lake.

## **The Top Is Reached**

Immediately after another chimney was found and after some hazardous corners had to be negotiated the party were on top at ten minutes past ten. The top is flat with a snow field of several acres and a ptarmigan and her family were very surprised to see the first humans that had ever climbed up there. A cairn was built and a record with a recommendation from the mountaineers that the peak be named the Pillar. On the other side of the glacier rose the black mass of the Camel [Argus Mountain] (two humps) in remarkable contrast to the ruddy colour of the Pillar. The climb up the west face had been so difficult that a route was attempted down the south face and one was found not quite so precipitous but more tedious. On getting back to the glacier on the south a route was seen which might conceivably be much easier than either of those undertaken.

## **Snow Sports In August**

It was one o'clock when the spur where the packs were was reached and blazing hot. Half an hour later the four were crossing the great Pillar glacier flowing to the Pacific; this is the divide, for the glaciers between the Pillar and the Camel runs into the Gulf of Georgia. The descent from the Pillar base on to the glacier was made with considerable difficulty. The snow slope being quite steep, but once down the snow was firm and unbroken by a single crevasse. One could put a toboggan at the top of the slope and go for half a mile. It was a quarter to half a mile wide. At its east rim it was hoped to find a way over the base of the Camel to a snow ridge running across to the Dome.

## **Impassable Pass**

After some very difficult climbing over scree a point was reached where a snow slope had to be crossed, perhaps thirty feet wide. The snow was at an angle of sixty degrees and the slope ran down to the glacier below. One slip and a yawning crevasse would have entangled the climber away if he reached that far alive. We carried no rope and had no ice axes to cut steps and were in heavy man hauling order with full packs. It was hard as the thirty feet was probably all that divided us from the Dome and a known camping site on the other side with a good trail home. But it was too big a hazard to take. It was seven o'clock before a very reluctant decision was arrived at to return, and then all speed was made to get back to the high-level camp where wood, water and hemlock beds awaited us, but it was not until nine we got "home." As we left at half past five in the morning, we had been fifteen and a half hours on the hoof, many hours of which had been spent in difficult rock and snow work, and the other under heavy packs. A slightly better route was found on the way home and the journey was made in thirteen and a half hours. It's a long and hard trip but the country is amazing in its possibilities for winter sports. Mr. W.A.B. Paul slipped down a bergschrund and cut his head, but the injury was not serious. This was the only casualty beyond scratches, sunburns, galled shoulders and torn garments. Jack Gregson, the youngest member of the party, besides collecting some rare beetles for his collection, more than won his spurs as a mountaineer.

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday August 27, 1931, p. 1.

## **FOUND EASY PASS TO NOOTKA**

### **Courtenay Party Hike From Upper Campbell Lake To Pacific**

Exposing the fallacy that great difficulties exist in passing from one side of the island to the other except by existing roads three young Courtenay men returned from a hard trip from Upper Campbell Lake to Nootka Sound on Saturday night [August 22]. They were Len Rossiter and Allan Rossiter and Roy Harrison. They set out from Upper Campbell Lake carrying sixty-pound packs and found a good trail at the end of the slough which would conceal it from anyone not knowing that it existed. Their route then lay up the Elk River valley, a park whose beauty more people should see. They crossed the summit between the Pacific and the Gulf of Georgia at about two thousand feet without any difficulty and continued on the trail to Gold River. The trail is difficult to pick up in places because trappers who use it have blazed their own trapping lines across and from it these are likely to take one off the trail. They were led off several times but eventually found their way back.

### **Giant Trout In Pools**

As to fishing it is a paradise. They lay on a rock once and looked down into a pool where trout as big as salmon teemed. There are two excellent cabins on this trail and one of them found occupied by Messrs. Barty Harvey and Cecil [Cougar] Smith, who are observing the habits of a herd of elk in this vicinity, and they also met Mr. Harry Idiens coming out with a string of fish. They followed the trail down to Gold River without much difficulty till they came to the great inlet called Muchalat Arm. Here they picked up a canoe left there by an old trapper coming through the pass to the east coast looking for work, but the wind was blowing off shore and they could not make any headway. They encountered two old Indians who told them that the wind would drop soon, as it did.

### **Great School Of Pilchards**

The Indians were following a great school of pilchards and over this mass of fish the young fellows paddled their way to Nootka when the wind dropped. They had heard that the S.S. Maquinna was to be there in the morning and since the coast boat only passes once in five days they were determined to get aboard it. They got there early in the morning, almost played out, and went down coast to Tofino. They explored Long Beach and spent some interesting days there, stopping with gold-diggers who are trying their luck at opening up some old workings with no great success. They pushed through to Ucluelet, having in some places to make their way through salal twelve feet high, one of the most trying experiences of the trip. Ucluelet is one of the centres of the west coast fishing but now very quiet since most of the canneries and fish reduction plants are closed down and the salmon fishermen are getting very poor prices. They caught the mail boat down the canal from Ucluelet on Friday after a vexatious delay, hiked out of Alberni that night and slept at the end of Beaver Creek Road. Next day they came over the Comox-Alberni pass to Comox Lake, finding it easy to follow and in good condition save for the inevitable windfalls.

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday August 27, 1931, p. 1.

## **RUSSIAN LADY IS REMARKABLE**

### **Visitor to Plateau Carries Own Pack Although 76**

One of the most interesting visitors to the Forbidden Plateau this or any other season has been a Russian lady [Olga Stavrovskaya]. Born in Russia but educated in France and widely travelled, she has climbed most of the mountains in Europe, and seldom uses a car. Although she is 76 years old, she carries all she requires in her rucksack, but she has reduced the art of getting along with little to a science. She carries a light blanket with a paper cover as a sleeping bag and a small silk tent when it rains, and is thus independent of camps. She walked out to Dove Creek and into camp, carrying her own stuff, and hiked out again. On her return to Courtenay, she stayed with Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Dundas, Mr. Dundas having met her on the Plateau. She is greatly impressed with the scenery. "It is more than lovely," she said, "it is divine." The Dove Creek Road has now been finished to the point where it intersects the old diamond-drill trail and it has been cleared to the creek.



Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday September 10, 1931, p. 8.

## **PLATEAU SEES FIRST RADIO**

### **Beach Pajamas Also Introduced At Croteau Camp**

The first radio and the first suit of beach pajamas were introduced to the Forbidden Plateau last week. Jack Gregson took up the radio and operated it from his tent with a very fair amount of success, and a visitor from Vancouver flaunted the first pair of beach pajamas. Mr. E. [Eugene] Croteau and Mr. Len Rossiter welcomed twenty-two visitors to their camp last Thursday [September 3] and provided excellent meals and accommodation without flurry and without delay. Every bed was occupied. There was strong flavor of news writers but they were not on duty—they were out on holiday. However, it is probable that something of the Plateau will make its way into the columns of the Sunday Province and the Cowichan Leader since representatives of those well-known papers were there. It was most unfortunate that after two months of undiluted sunshine the Weather Man should have turned on the spout, for it is impossible, no matter how wonderful the view is behind the mist, to be very enthusiastic about the invisible. Mr. Croteau is going to give the weather a good long chance to get better. He is going to keep the camp open till October the first. There are usually some brilliant days in September and these will be delightful on the Plateau.

### **Some Interesting Visitors**

There were many other interesting visitors in the crowd on the Plateau. Mr. J.E. Eve, of the firm of Eve Brothers who have done so much for flying on the island, is delighted with what he saw of the Plateau. He is very much at home in the saddle as well as the pilot's seat of a plane, and rode all over the Plateau. He is delighted with it and is going up again before he leaves Comox, where he is staying until the middle of the month. It was a thousand pities that he was not up there when the color movie man was there. His picturesque pink beaver hat would have given then a very delightful bit of color. A very dread enemy is threatening the beauty of the Plateau. The little gnomish trees, which lend so much to the attraction of the scenery, have assumed a brownish tint. It is the hemlock looper, an infestation which has done great damage in other parts of the province. There does not seem much that can be done about it. Spraying the trees from an aeroplane as was done at Stanley Park is effective, but over such a wide area would be too expensive to be thought of. The pest does not kill the trees in one year so all who love the beauty of the out-of-doors offer up a prayer that the looper passes on before too much damage has been done.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Wednesday September 2, 1931, p. 3.

## **CLUB ARRANGES ACTIVE SEASON**

### **Vancouver Island Section Of The Alpine Club Of Canada To Begin Programme This Week-End**

The Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada will open its Autumn outing programme with a three-day camp at the Lake of the Seven Hills this coming week-end September 5, 6 and 7. At the outings committee meeting a few weeks ago, nine attractive expeditions were outlined to meet the pre-Christmas season. The majority of these will go under the personal direction of Claude Harrison.

September 5, 6 and 7, Saturday to Monday, Labor Day, camp, Lake of the Seven Hills.

September 19, Saturday, half-day, Mount Blinkhorn and district, leaving city at 1 o'clock.

September 26, Saturday, all-day outing to Bluff Mountain, leaving city at 9 o'clock in the morning, and returning to Belvedere Hotel, Sooke, at 7 o'clock for dinner.

October 11, Sunday, all-day trip to Mount Prevost, leaving at 9 o'clock in the morning.

October 24, Saturday, half-day trip to Mount Helmcken, leaving the city at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

October 31, Saturday, all-day outing, Mount McGuire, leaving city at 9 o'clock in the morning, and returning to the Belvedere Hotel, Sooke, for dinner at 7 o'clock.

November 7, 8 and 9, Thanksgiving week-end camp, Saturday to Monday, Lake of the Seven Hills.

November 21, Saturday, half-day outing to Mount Finlayson, S.W. face, leaving city at 1 o'clock.

November 29, Sunday, all-day trip, Mount Wood, leaving city at 9 o'clock in the morning.





Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Sunday September 6, 1931, p. 6.

### **GONE TO CAMP**

Not deterred by the rainy weather, about twelve members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada have gone to Sooke to attend the three-day camp at the Lake of the Seven Hills. C. [Claude] L. Harrison, outings convener, and K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick, secretary, left on Friday for the camp to get things in readiness, and the remainder of the party went out yesterday, intending to remain until Monday.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Tuesday September 22, 1931, p. 3.

### **ALPINE CLUB HAS FIRST EXPEDITION**

#### **Vancouver Island Section Of The Alpine Club Of Canada**

The Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada began its season's activities, Saturday [September 19], with a half-day outing to Mount Blinkhorn and Single Hill. A party of fourteen members left the city at 1 o'clock and under Gordon Cameron's guidance climbed to the summit of the two hills, descending to the lake at the base of Mount Blinkhorn for the alfresco tea, which is always such a welcome feature after these expeditions. The club's next climb will be an all-day expedition to Bluff Mountain, on Saturday, September 26, members returning to the Sooke Harbor Hotel for dinner. There will be a programme of less strenuous character for those who can only spend the afternoon in the district, details of which may be had from C. [Claude] L. Harrison, convener of outings, or Mrs. Fleming, Cadboro Bay.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Tuesday September 29, 1931, p. 18.

### **ALPINE CLUB HAS PLEASANT OUTING**

Another fixture on the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club's Autumn calendar was ticked off Saturday [September 26] evening after a party of nineteen returned from a day's outing in the Sooke District. The group left the city in two sections, the first leaving early in the morning for Bluff Mountain in the charge of C. [Claude] L. Harrison; the second later in the day making for the south branch of the Leech River in the charge of Gordon Cameron. The former reached the summit of Bluff just about midday, and after lunching they went to the top of Trapp Mount. Mr. Cameron's party extended the expedition up to the summit of the hill on the west side of the river. Both parties found the visibility good and splendid views of the Olympics and Straits were seen. The entire group met at the Belvedere Hotel, Sooke, for dinner, the social character of which was emphasized by the singing of several of the camp parodies of well-known community songs. Among the approaching events to which members are looking forward with special pleasure is the Halloween celebrations. This will take the form of an expedition to the summit of Mount McGuire on October 31, to be followed by a masquerade party and dinner at the Belvedere Hotel in the evening.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Sunday October 11, 1931, p. 6.

### **HOLIDAY AT CAMP**

Eight members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada took advantage of the lovely weather and went up to the camp at Lake of the Seven Hills district, for the holiday week-end. The party left town early yesterday morning, intending to spend the first day and night at the new hut which Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison recently finished at his property at Grass Lake. Today the intention is to make a reconnaissance of the Seven Hills area with a view to finding a hitherto unsuspected lake recently revealed in photographs taken from airplane. The party comprised C.L. Harrison, outings convener; W. [William] H. Dougan, L. Shaw, T. [Thomas] Goodlake, Mrs. [Francis] Holland, Miss Janet Bell, Mrs. C. [Charlotte] J.B. Hadow and Miss Audrey Hadow.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Sunday October 25, 1931, p. 6.

### **CLIMB MOUNT HELMCKEN**

A small party of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada members climbed Mount Helmcken yesterday [October 24] under the leadership of G. [Guy] M. Shaw, who made the graduating climb at the main camp of the Alpine Club during the past Summer. Yesterday's expedition was a complete success. The next expedition will

take place on Saturday October 31, the objective being Mount McGuire. This will be an all-day outing, and will be followed by a Halloween dinner and party at the Belvedere Hotel, Sooke. Members have been working on a programme of songs, parodies, recitations and other entertaining “turns” to fill the evening, and already about forty reservations have been made by members and their friends. The hotel dining-room and lounge are being appropriately decorated for the occasion.

Reported in the *Daily Colonist* Thursday December 10, 1931, p. 15.

## RE-ELECT HEAD OF ALPINE CLUB

### A.O. Wheeler Returned By Acclamation As Chairman Of Local Section

A. [Arthur] O. Wheeler, founder of the Alpine Club of Canada, and for many years its director, was by acclamation re-elected as chairman of the Vancouver Island section at the annual meeting of the organization held Tuesday night [December 8] at the New Thought Temple. Other offices and executive positions will be filled during the ensuing year as follows: Vice-chairman, W. [William] H. Dougan; secretary, G. [Guy] M. Shaw; treasurer, Gordon Cameron; executive, C. [Claude] L. Harrison, Mrs. E. Postgate, K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick and R. [Robert] D. McCaw. After the annual reports of the chairman, retiring secretary (K.M. Chadwick), treasurer, (Gordon Cameron), and outings convenor (C.L. Harrison), Rev. Dr. Clem Davies entertained the members and guests with a lantern lecture about his tour through Europe in 1930. Approximately 360 slides were expertly run through the lantern by G. Holt during the absorbingly interesting seventy-five-minute description of some of the wonders of Italy, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, France and England. After the chairman had cordially thanked Mr. Davies, refreshments were served, Mrs. E. Postgate and Mrs. C.L. Harrison acting as hostesses.

### Annual Address

In his annual address Mr. Wheeler congratulated the section on its splendid activities during the past year and on the success of the annual camp at the Lake of the Seven Hills, with special reference to the “energetic and enthusiastic leadership” of the outings convenor, Mr. C.L. Harrison. “As the father of the club,” Mr. Wheeler noted, “it gives me much gratification to find the Vancouver Island section so enthusiastic in its activities.” He also recalled with pleasure the occasion last April when he and Mrs. [Clara] Wheeler were entertained at the camp. Members were informed that the next Alpine Club camp will be held at Mt. Assiniboine in the Rockies. The report of the secretary showed a total of 108 members of all ranks in the Vancouver Island section of which sixty are subscribers, nine members of the parent society, three life, and two honorary. Special thanks were expressed to Mr. and Mrs. James White (Sidney), *Mrs. John Nairn\**, Mr. and Mrs. C.L. Harrison, and Captain and Mrs. Fleming, who during the year entertained the section; and in addition to officers, W.H. Dougan.

\*John Nairn was a member of the Merchants Co. in Edinburgh, Scotland before moving the family to Victoria in 1921. They had three children. Their daughter, Marcella, married Dr. F. [Fred] C. Bell, ACC president 1924-28 (obituary was in the *Daily Colonist* January 6, 1928.)



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***From the Front Cover:***

***Griswold base camp.***

*Photo by Liz Williams*

**Thank you to this month's contributors:**

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**Well done everyone!**

