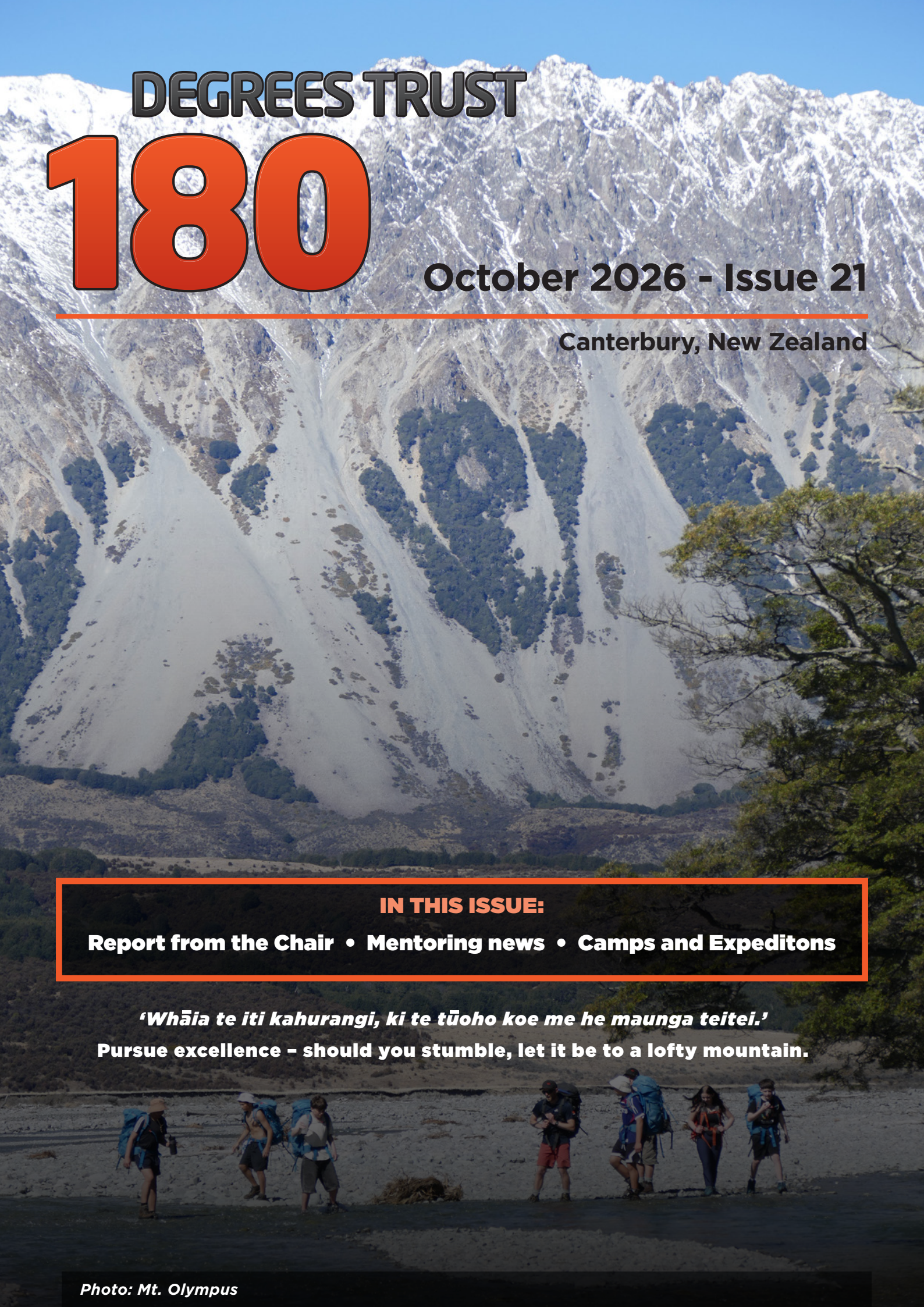
DEGREES TRUST 180

October 2026 - Issue 21

Canterbury, New Zealand



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'Whāia te iti kahurangi, ki te tūoho koe me he maunga teitei.'

Pursue excellence – should you stumble, let it be to a lofty mountain.

Photo: Mt. Olympus

Cilla Glasson (MNZM) Chair, 180 Degrees Trust



As the chair of the 180 Degrees Trust, I am proud to contribute to our latest newsletter. I have been a trustee with 180 Degrees since inception 18 years ago and I have always admired the commitment and passion staff have towards helping and supporting our young people.

As we know, growing up has its challenges and from time to time our young people need guidance and encouragement to engage in pro-social behaviour.

Through the commitment and intervention from our mentors and outdoor leaders alongside the support and experience from our Executive Director Jeremy Nurse 180 Degrees continues to make a significant difference in improving young lives.

During the past year 180 Degrees Trust introduced a new service delivery structure which included the appointment of two new qualified specialist Programme Managers, Paddy Tucker for Camps and Expeditions and Natasha Mealing for Mentoring and associated outdoor activities.

With our additional skilled mentors we will carry 180 forward through 2026 and beyond. 180 sets high standards for itself and continues to meet the safety and audit requirements set by government through AdventureMark and Te Kahui Kahu.

Our mentoring model centers on high-contact 1:1 mentoring, supported by group activities and wilderness-based interventions. Over the last two years we have intensely mentored 270 young people. These young people came with a variety of challenges that required commitment, passion and skills from our mentors to affect change. Whilst our Oranaga Tamariki Fresh Start contract provides for 6 months mentoring, where ever possible we stretch our budget to offer post course mentoring. Without exception 180 improved the lives and outcomes of these rangatahi including a 74% reduction in their offending whilst on a 180 Degrees programme - this is an important statistic.

Our camps and expeditions model compliments mentoring by taking young people out of their comfort zone to help build confidence and resilience. Over the past 12 months, 13 Camps and Expeditions were completed averaging 7 young people per camp attending.

Each camp featured structured challenges commensurate with the age, physical attributes and exuberance of participants. Health and Safety protocols plus risk management continue to be paramount to 180's operations.

Staff are proud of 180's 18 year clear record of no major accidents or injuries.



Pre-departure briefings, excellent gear, progressive activities and reflective sessions ensure 180 achieves its goals and maintains its high standards across all areas of service delivery.

I am pleased to welcome a new trustee to our board namely ***Charlotte Bradshaw***.

Charlotte has studied Law, Economics and Finance at Victoria University of Wellington and has been a qualified lawyer for over 14 years. After 11 years living and working in Hong Kong and London, Charlotte has recently returned to Christchurch, where she grew up.

Charlotte is delighted to join the 180 Degrees Trust Board and is very much looking forward to supporting its work in the community. She will bring new insights, a fresh perspective and experience to 180.

Lastly, on behalf of the 180 Degrees Trust Board I would like to express our gratitude to all our friends and stakeholders for your ongoing commitment in helping support 180 Degrees.

Through your generosity we able to make a significant contribution to improving the lives of our young people.

Yours sincerely

Cilla Glasson

A Good Story:

Jamie Geraghty - Successful student



Jamie, aged 13 , joined 180 Degrees participating in the 2008 Southern Alps Traverse - an experience he describes as a turning point in his life.

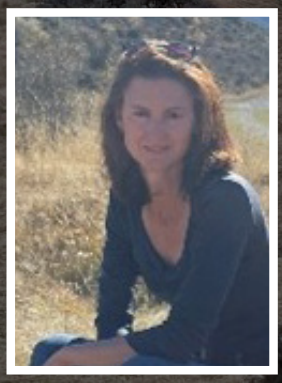
18 years later, Jamie revisited 180 Degrees to reconnect. Now running his business, JR Decorations, he's keen to give back by volunteering on 180 outdoor expeditions.

"In 2007, when I was 13 years old, I was lucky enough to be part of the very first 180 Degrees trip. At the time, I was struggling with school, and getting into trouble. There were about 10 other boys aged 13–17 and we completed the 243km Coast to Coast trip over five days. We biked, hiked and rafted, carried heavy backpacks, slept in tents and were completely put out of comfort zone.

It was challenging, but it taught us about teamwork and perseverance. We also made friendships along the way and shared experiences that I still remember today. Being out in nature gave us a chance to switch off from everything else, focus on the present and experience the outdoors.

The hardest moments ended up being some of the most rewarding.

Finishing the trip gave me a huge sense of achievement and helped build my confidence, it showed me that I could get through hard situations and come out the other side. I'm grateful to Jeremy Nurse and the whole 180 Degrees team for the time, effort and care they put into giving young people experiences like this."



Abby Stuart - Funding

As Fundraising Lead at 180 Degrees, Abby connects our supporters with the lifechanging work happening across our programmes.

She keeps funders informed about the support we provide to young people throughout Canterbury and shares the stories, progress, and achievements emerging from 180's outdoor adventure expeditions and mentoring for at-risk youth.

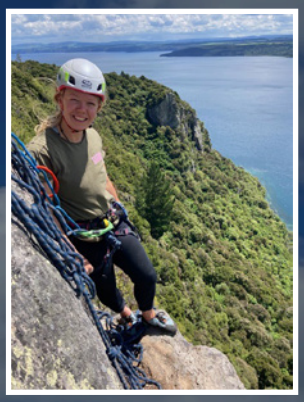
Abby and her husband lead a busy family life with three teenagers at home.



Craigieburn Range Traverse—up the Avoca River, Glenthorne Station, September 2026.

Fresh Start and Fee for Service Mentoring

Natasha Mealing, Manager Mentoring



Natasha joined 180 in 2025 having led a busy life as Team Leader - Youth Development Unit, NZ Defence Force.

She holds a number of qualifications which equip her well for her role.

Natasha mentors young people herself as well organising the day to day mentoring of Fresh Start clients and organising outdoor adventures with her three Adventure Coach Mentors.

She is multi skilled and a huge asset for 180.



Mentoring Services

We provide mentoring utilising the outdoors to build confidence, life skills and positive relationships.

We use Camps & Expeditions as a way to develop personal leadership and to develop team skills.

So far in 2026, we have provided 1:1 mentoring support to 24 young people, delivering tailored support that responds to their individual goals, strengths, challenges, and needs.

Te Kāhui Kāhu (TKK) Audit

We are proud to report that 180 Degrees has successfully renewed our social sector accreditation with Te Kāhui Kāhu (TKK), a New Zealand's social sector accreditation body assessing everything from the support we provide young people and staff safety practices through to governance, financial management, and cultural responsiveness.



Staff: James Saddler, Natasha Mealing, Jim Perry

Throughout the year:

Young people have taken part in a wide range of outdoor activities including climbing, skiing and snowboarding, tramping, fishing, trapping, surfing, paddleboarding, swimming, biking, kayaking and camps.

These experiences provide opportunities to challenge themselves, build confidence, develop resilience, strengthen social connections, and experience success in a supportive environment.



The Future

Looking ahead, we will run monthly day trips and as many camps per year as possible. We are also committed to strengthening our cultural capability and ensuring our services remain safe, responsive, and inclusive for the young people and whanau we support.



Our outcomes include:

74%	of participants had no re-offending outcomes.
75%	successfully completed the mentoring programme.
60%	were engaged in, or transitioned into, education, training, or employment.
28%	successfully completed an intensive mentoring camp.
35%	participated in group programmes and day-trip activities.
100%	engaged in outdoor experiences as part of their mentoring journey.

Camps, Expeditions and Tūhura 10

Paddy Tucker

Manager Expeditions

Having been an instructor with Outward Bound Paddy joined 180 Degrees in 2025 bringing experience to 180's outdoor pursuits.

He holds a number of outdoor qualifications relevant to his responsibilities.

He heads 180's Tūhura 10 programme, organises camps and expeditions.

He has an exciting 2026/27 programme ahead.



The Craigieburn Range Traverse (CRT) is a typical 3 day journey with a "warm up" trip round Mt. Fitzwilliam on Glenthorne Station in the West, then up the Harper River to the Hamilton Hut. The final day sees the team up over the Cass Saddle and down the Cass River to exit near Grasmere lodge.

The Southern Alps Traverse (SAT) is the classic 5 day 180 Degrees journey mountain biking, tramping and rafting from the West Coast of the South Island 234km over the Southern Alps to the finish at New Brighton. Both these expeditions build resilience, camaraderie and a huge sense of achievement.

The Tūhura 10 Programme is an adventure-based learning journey. Designed to build confidence, resilience, belonging, and personal responsibility, the programme takes students well beyond the classroom and into environments that challenge them to discover what they are capable of.



Tūhura 10 Team relaxing at Loch Katrine, Lake Sumner

Over the course of 10 weeks, 8 -10 students spend one day per week mountain biking, rock climbing, tramping, horse riding, partaking in a conservation project and embarking on a 3 day camp in the Canterbury high country.

Each experience encourages students to step outside their comfort zone, support one another, and develop attitudes and skills that will serve them long after the programme has finished.

Delivered alongside a University of Canterbury Master's research project, the Tūhura 10 programme uses student and teacher surveys to evaluate the programme's impact and student outcomes.

Photo: Cass Saddle, Craigieburn Range Traverse



Angus Sharp - Connect with Purpose Ambassador

We are proud to have worked with Angus Sharpe who is a Year 12 Global Ambassador for Connect with Purpose, a youth empowerment and social impact programme. Angus's 12 week project had two goals – firstly, to empower and support a young person on a 1:1 mentoring basis and secondly, to raise funds for a 180 Degrees 3 day expedition for 8 tamariki to cross the Craigieburn Ranges. Part one of Angus's quest involved tutoring a Year 9 180 Degrees student from a Christchurch secondary school. While Angus's skills are principally in the electronic engineering field he also covers a wide range of areas - from repairing cell phones to understanding algebra and the creation of mathematical equations. For the Craigieburn Range Traverse (CRT), Angus was superb with his ideas for fundraising. He promoted his project through social media, GiveaLittle and private donations. The culmination was a talent quest with sponsored prizes and a raffle at his school, Christs College. Angus's ability to bring together his teaching staff and his Somes House colleagues to donate their time gives a glimpse of what he will achieve going forward. The CRT was achieved two weeks ago and a photo appears on page 6 of this Newsletter.



Humphry Rolleston (Chair 2012 – 2014)

Humphry was a founding trustee of 180 Degrees and was chair from 2012 to 2024. He is a well respected Christchurch businessman who has a big heart for the education of young people and was always energised when ensuring 180 offered as many opportunities as possible.

When time allowed, he attended camps and expeditions and was able to advise and interact with many of 180's young people.

Humphry brought decisive and wise leadership and on behalf of 180 I have pleasure in thanking him for his valuable contribution.

Jeremy Nurse - Executive Director

Please make donations to: 180 Degrees Trust - Kiwibank 38-9006-0644879-00

Our Funders:

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180 Degrees Trustees:
Cilla Glasson (MNZM) Chair, Keith Jessop, Glen Stuart, Ross Haggart, Charlotte Bradshaw BComm, LLB, Jeremy Nurse.

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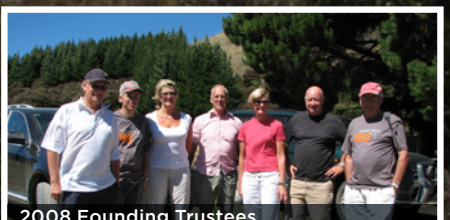

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Humphry Rolleston, Hugh Douglas, Cilla Glasson, Jeremy Nurse, Caroline McKenzie, Chris Carswell, Simon Nutt

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