



2020 Log Building Course Information and Handbook

presented by

NATURAL LOG HOMES

and

THE LOG BUILDING ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND

Introduction to Log Building Techniques and Log Home Construction

9 - 26 March 2020

You must register before 1 Jan 2020 to ensure the course will proceed.
Latest enrolments accepted 28 Feb 2020



www.naturalloghomes.co.nz



LBANZ
Log Building Association of New Zealand

www.logbuildingnz.org.nz

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Welcome and Description

Welcome to our Log Building Course – a joint education programme between Natural Log Homes and the Log Building Association of New Zealand. The course is held in Geraldine, South Island, New Zealand at the Natural Log Homes building yard, an active and professional log building facility. You will witness other buildings under construction and be surrounded by a team of experienced log builders.

This is an introductory course suitable for those who have had no previous log building experience. It is an advantage to have had some practical experience with timber and using a chainsaw, but not necessary. Regardless, you can expect 14 days of intensive learning and demanding physical work.



Tutor

The courses will be tutored by Graeme Mould, Owner / Manager of Natural Log Homes, who has been building handcrafted log homes for more than 30 years. He is one of the most experienced, professional and internationally recognised log builders and teachers in the industry. Graeme may also be assisted by the experienced Natural Log Homes staff.

Contact Graeme at graeme@naturalloghomes.co.nz .

Course Content

By the end of this course you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate safe use of a chainsaw for basic log cutting and all log construction cuts.
2. Apply safe work practises on the log building site.
3. Use a range of hand and power tools appropriate to building with logs.
4. Demonstrate the following log building techniques:
 - Notching, including cutting, carving and brushing
 - Ripping
 - Slabbing, including laying out
 - Lateral groove cutting
 - Scribing
 - Rough notching
 - Saddle notch cutting
 - Lay out and cut roof logs
 - Lay out and cut door and window openings
 - Drill for electrical and hurricane rods.
5. Create a log inventory and use it to select logs.
6. Demonstrate use of the parallel wall concept.
7. Fit a log onto a wall.
8. Understand settling issues.
9. Understand and read a log home plan.



Enrolment

Contact

Marian Ganzeveld (Secretary/Treasurer)
 Log Building Association of NZ
 PO Box 9052
 Annesbrook, Nelson 7044
 ph 03 744 3128
 Email: secretary@logbuildingnz.org.nz



Phone or email with any questions, to register your interest, or to request an enrolment form.

Course costs

\$2625.00 NZD (we are not GST registered)
 A 20% (\$525.00 NZD) deposit is required upon enrolment.
 Full course payment is required by 28 February 2020.

Payments can be made by either:

Cheque sent to the Secretary and made out to the Log Building Association of New Zealand (LBANZ)

OR

Internet banking to account 06 0589 0394056 00 (please use your name as a reference).

Cancellations

The course needs a minimum of 8 students to proceed. We will decide no later than 1 January 2020 if the course cannot go ahead and your deposit will then be refunded.

If you cancel before 1 January 2020, your deposit will be refunded.

If you cancel after 1 January 2020, your deposit will be put toward you attending the 2021 course.

If you are unable to attend in 2021, your deposit will become non-refundable.

Location and Directions

The course will be held in the South Canterbury town of Geraldine, South Island, New Zealand. You will need to be in Geraldine the evening before the course commences for a pre-course briefing. This will be at the Natural Log Homes office on the corner of Kennedy and High Street at 6.30 pm.

Air travel: If you are arriving by plane the closest airports are Christchurch (then a 1 1/2 hour drive south) or the smaller airport at Timaru (then a 15 minute drive to Geraldine). Connections to Timaru are through Wellington, New Zealand's capital city.

Road travel from the north: travel south on SH 1 until you cross the Rangitata River bridge. Turn right at the sign to Geraldine. This is SHW 79 (the Rangitata-Orari Bridge Highway) and leads you into Geraldine.

From the south: travel north on SHW 1 through Timaru, turn left on to the Winchester-Geraldine Highway at Winchester. This road takes you into Geraldine.



Accommodation and Food

You are responsible for arranging and paying for your own accommodation.

Information on some accommodation options in Geraldine can be found on the following websites:

www.southcanterbury.org.nz, www.bookings.com, or www.grumpykiwi.co.nz

You will need to provide your own breakfast and evening meals. Lunch, morning and afternoon tea will be provided as part of the course. Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements.

Schedule

The course involves 14 days of tuition. There will be approximately 6 hours of “classroom” work per course. This may be covered on wet days, or in several evening sessions.

Each working day commences at 8am and finishes at 5pm. There will be morning and afternoon tea breaks and one half to one hour lunch break. One day over a weekend will be spent travelling to view other log constructions in the region.

The first two to three days will be spent working on disposable practice logs until the desired standard of workmanship is reached before any work is started on the actual project.

Course Dates

Pre-Course briefing Sunday 8 March 6:30 pm at Natural Log Homes office.

Monday 9 March - Friday 13 March

Monday 16 March – Friday 20 March

Monday 23 March – Thursday 26 March

Days off

14 -15 March (Sat/Sun)

21 - 22 March (Sat/Sun)

NOTE: 1 weekend day will be spent touring log homes in the area.



What you need to bring

1. A high quality chainsaw around the 40-60cc range, not smaller, not too big. It must be fitted with a working chain break. One piece of spare pull cord and 1 spare spark plug. Fuel and oil will be provided at a mix of 25:1 (if you require different than this please bring your own.)

*Overseas students do not need to bring a chainsaw (difficult to get through an airport), but please let us know so we can arrange to loan or hire one for you).

2. A hammer

3. A 25mm chisel (very sharp)

4. Your own safety helmet with muffs and visor attached. (Let us know if you cannot get one in time.)

5. Your own chainsaw safety chaps, or trousers

6. Steel toed shoes or boots

7. A chalk line and spare chalk

8. One 8-10m tape measure

9. Spirit level 600mm - 1.2 meters

10. One 8-12 inch inside measuring callipers



11. A pair of leather gloves (optional)
12. Camera / video
13. Pen, pencils and note book
14. Sun block
15. Wet weather gear
16. Flexible 12 inch ruler (if you can get one)
17. Carpenter's pencils, black felt markers

Textbook

A Student Notes booklet written by Graeme Mould will be provided as part of your tuition.

LBANZ Membership

After taking the course you will receive a one year membership to the Log Building Association of New Zealand.

This entitles you to:

- 3 - 4 informative newsletters per year
 - Access to further publications
 - Access to technical expertise and information
 - Information about further courses
 - Attendance to Log Building Conferences
 - A significant discount on CD50 Extreme Log Preservative.
- The annual fee is \$75.00 to continue your membership.

Course "Rules"

- No alcohol: No alcohol or substances which could cause even a moment of mental confusion will be permitted on the site. No person who appears to be under the influence will be allowed on site.

- Safety: Students are learning to work with high speed cutting tools in close proximity to others. You must stay alert at all times. There will be a great emphasis on safety throughout the course. Safety is each individual's responsibility – look after those around you. The instructor will require you to have and properly use eye and ear protection, cutting chaps and safety boots.

- Attendance: Students are required to attend and fully participate in all sessions, unless they have permission from the tutor to be absent.

- Dismissal: The LBANZ and Natural Log Homes reserve the right to instantly dismiss any student who in any way poses a threat to the safety or learning processes of others or themselves.

- No Pets/Guns: No pets or guns will be permitted on site.

We hope you enjoy the course and leave satisfied with the skills and knowledge you have gained about this 800 year old craft.



2018 Student Testimonial**Log Home Building Course evaluation.**

(Course dates: 22 January 2018 – 8 February 2018)

Wow

Passion, enthusiasm, knowledge, experience, entertaining, professional, brilliant communication are just a few words that describe Graeme (Mouldy) in his tuition of the art of Log Building. From the first introduction to our Teacher & Mentor the whole experience was very intoxicating and refreshing to meet and learn from one that has a true love for his/our craft.

Our course only had four pupils due to unforeseen circumstances for others to cancel but this worked to our advantage in having more individual and joint tuition. Our course was hosted by Graeme's partner Christine whose plan involves constructing a small home/cabin to go on her newly purchased property in Twizel before building the main log house at a later date. Each morning Christine would greet us with her warm smile and enthusiasm to get logs on the wall but never failing to provide us all with great food during the course on each of day. Most nights back in my accommodation I opted not to have any dinner due to being full and knowing that we would be rewarded with a new variety of food the next day. Thanks Christine. (Christine has her personal chainsaw colour coded pink – original and unique.)

Each specific task required for each log for its preparation to join its buddy on the wall height was thoroughly explained as well as the consequences if the proper procedure wasn't adhered to. Each log is lovingly respected and cared for as its own unique features are going to be on show for all to admire as well as the tradesman's skills. It's constantly repeated to the students that each log wall is the wall paper of the house. During brief times that Grahame was unexpectedly called away (Grahame is the local Voluntary Fire Chief) his long term employee Rob would step in as our tutor. In Grahame's own words what Rob doesn't know about Log Building isn't worth knowing. This was soon obvious as Rob's knowledge and experience is also very rewarding and they both share patience in teaching.

During the course we were rewarded with two road trips, one at a local house currently under construction where Rob was performing specific and precise cuts in the internal log walls to accommodate conventional frame walls. This also allowed us to witness different flashing installations and provision for shrinkage.

Our second road trip covered completed log homes in the surrounding area. At each different location it was very evident that each owner holds a real passion for their home as conveyed in conversations, personal experiences and sincerity in opening their doors to show their homes to Grahame and his students.

In conclusion, did I enjoy the course? – you bet and I believe the smorgasbord of words at the beginning best describe my experience and testimonial.

P/S I feel that all who attended the course have a certain bond that will proceed with time.

Robert McKinlay