



HiTAC May 2016

Hi Folks

Welcome to the May issue of the HiTAC.

Comments / opinion can be forwarded to

Hitac.tac@outlook.com



From the President's desk

The club is urgently looking for a new Treasurer. This is not a particularly onerous task, and no special skills are required. The club uses a very user-friendly cashbook system called Banklink, and the other part of this job is maintaining the Membership Database. Please contact me if you think you might be able to help out.

After being without a Trips Officer for some time, we are thrilled that newly elected Exec member Sophie Tucker has offered to take on this role. Sophie is enthusiastically planning some winter trips out of Taranaki, so watch the Facebook page and HiTac for further details.

I'd like to say a big thank you to all of the people who helped out at the Lodge Working Bee held on Sunday 3 April. Much was achieved! See report and photos in this newsletter.

Sub payments have been flying in, thanks to everyone for paying so promptly. Remember if you haven't paid your sub by 1 June, you'll incur a 20% penalty, and if not paid by 1 July you will no longer be a member.

Elaine Sinton

President

Wanted

Club Librarian

Jeremy Beckers has been the custodian of the club Library for a number of years.

The time has come to hand the baton on to another.

If you are interested in looking after the Library.

Please contact Jeremy, the President or the Club secretary

Treasurer

See Presidents Desk

General Notices

FMC Bulletins

There has been some feedback regarding the FMC Bulletins no longer being mailed out. If you'd like a Bulletin and you can't get to club nights, just email the Treasurer, treasurer.tac@outlook.com and we'll pop one in the post to you, no

problem. There will also be some copies up at Tahurangi Lodge, so grab one if you're up there.

BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL –

Friday 13th May at 7.30pm, City West Church, 62C Poplar Grove.

Tickets are now on sale at MacPac, Devon Street for \$20

New Zealand Mountain Film Festival 2016

As per the past few years, the Taranaki Alpine Club is working on offering a selection from the Festival's film in early August.

Keep an eye on your HITAC in the coming months for details.

OUTDOOR TRAINING NEW ZEALAND

OTNZ - OUTDOOR TRAINING

PLAY IT SAFE WITH OTNZ

New Zealanders love to get into the great outdoors. Unfortunately for some this can result in an accident or injury, especially for those who are not properly prepared or skilled in the outdoors.

Outdoor Training New Zealand (OTNZ) is a national organisation offering outdoor training to the public. A branch of OTNZ has recently been established in Taranaki by a group of dedicated volunteers who are experienced in the outdoors and have industry recognised qualifications. These volunteers have real life experiences which they use to provide training from a practical perspective.

The local branch is able to offer individuals and groups quality bush craft, navigation and river safety training that will provide people with outdoor survival skills. As well OTNZ is able to deliver Duke of Edinburgh training to school groups. Course costs are kept as low as possible to make courses readily available.

Check out the OTNZ website at www.outdoortraining.nz or contact the local branch at otnz.taranaki@gmail.com

Club Nights...

PLEASE NOTE Club nights start at 7:30pm

First Thursday of each month, at the Foundation for the Blind rooms,
131 Vivian St, New Plymouth

May 5th : Annual DoC Update Night (Dave Rogers)

June 2nd : Collaborative Club Night ,(see the Facebook event for details)

Have you ever thought about presenting a club night on a trip or interesting topic, but haven't felt it enough for a full club night? Now's your chance to share your stories with the club!

This proposed club night will be a casual series of 3-5 minute presentations, dialogues, sketches, or films, with 1-2 minutes for questions and interaction following each presenter. You could even use this opportunity to pitch an idea for your next big trip!

Contact Chris Hayes at captain.tac@outlook.com to discuss ideas and register your interest in presenting.

July 7th : ?

August 4th :?

September 1st : 2017 Open Climb Induction

October 6th :?

November 3rd :?

December 1st : President's shout and photo comp

Report : Club working Bee

Workers: George Mason, Phil Whitwell, Phillip Andrews, Pete Lethbridge, Stephen Miller (supervisor), Jeremy Beckers, Alec Heilbron, Greg Sharman, Sandra Morris, Glenys Grant, Jonathan and Jakob Crane.



Whilst the senior citizens were being chauffer driven up by Charlie in the equally senior Landrover, the rest of the workforce enjoyed the refreshing walk to the Lodge in the rain. After the regulatory health and safety briefing, cuppa and general procrastination relevant discussions, it was time for me to delegate jobs.

One of the day's big jobs was staining the Lodge outside walls. It was still windy and raining, rather unpleasant outside but one wall was in the lee of the wind and being dry could be stained. So some unfortunate souls would just have to go out and do it. Alec grabbed a sponge and disappeared into a kitchen cupboard. In the absence of any youth I picked the oldest and toughest and sent them out to stain. Actually the oldest and toughest member was so keen to get outside staining that he forewent the 'toolbox meeting' and started alone. Sandy went in search of Alec and the remaining members busied themselves with the inside jobs.

Perfectly timed for lunch and perfectly dated for our working bee; Derek



Quickfall's family had secretly arranged a surprise 85th birthday trip up to the Lodge for his lunch this day. They brought with them a small mountain of food and generously shared it with us. Most of us took our lunches home (uneaten). Along with Derek's family came their driver Jonathan, Jonathan's son Jakob, and a large chest of Makita power tools that were put to good use until it was time for Jonathan's mountain taxi to leave with its guests.

After lunch the weather improved and the other lodge walls dried out in time for staining. During the day Glenys paused from her 'sprint past' to spend some time cleaning with Sandy and Alec.

Jobs attended to:

- The translator side wall was completely stained. 60% of the mountain side wall was stained before we ran out of time to complete it. There is a job there for you to do before winter, volunteers please. Previously the back wall was done. The front wall and balcony still require staining.
- Bunkroom 66 fire escape door was damaged some time ago by being opened into the wind resulting in the hinges being bent. We replaced the bent hinges and repaired the door. This is the fourth time I recall fixing this damage. There is an ongoing problem with these bunkroom doors that we need to solve.
- The balcony door is becoming increasing difficult to close. We investigate the cause and possible solutions. A plan is being hatched to rectify this problem.
- In the front upstairs western corner of the lodge there is a leak. With the correct wind direction and rain, puddles have been found inside the under seat locker. We removed the inside wall lining to investigate the leak source. Judging from what we can and can't see we will have to return and remove the outside cladding to find the leak and block it. This is a significant job.
- Kitchen and woman's toilet cleaned.
- Hole in rear wall repaired.
- Miscellaneous (the ones I have forgotten) small jobs done.
- George donated three framed pictures for the lodge which we hung



precariouly on screws until we get some picture hooks. Please don't knock them!
Given the weather the turnout was a good match for the jobs to do and we all enjoyed a productive day. A big thank you to all those who helped on this working bee.

Stephen Miller

Club Information

TAHURANGI LODGE

This is the TAC's premier Lodge on Mt Egmont / Taranaki. It sleeps 24, has electric heating and cooking, all cutlery, pots and pans, etc. Just like home. Members can request an eKey by completing the application available from the Club's website.

Overnight fees are \$45 for non-members. Members free.

Anyone who stays at Tahurangi Lodge must write in the overnight book upstairs by the fridge;

1. Their surname and initials.
2. Say TAC or non-member.

Bookings by non-members or members taking a group of 5+ people should be made with the Lodge Booking Officer, or by booking online via the Club's website.

The lodge subcommittee looks after all maintenance. Contact the Lodge committee if you want to help, have ideas for improvements, or have found something wrong.

If you find you can't get into the Lodge because of an eKey failure or you have locked yourself out etc., phone either the Club Secretary, or the Lodge Booking Officer.

Contact info on Web page. They may be able to help by supplying the current access code.

SUBSCRIPTIONS Annual subscriptions are set at the Annual General Meeting.

Subscriptions for 2016: FAMILY \$60, ORDINARY (single) \$40, STUDENT (under 18), \$30.

The subscription halves for those joining after September 1st

For more info contact the Treasurer.

Members with unpaid subs at end of April are sent an account overdue notice. If still unpaid by 1st June incur a penalty of 20%. Any members with unpaid subs at 1st July are removed from membership.

GEAR HIRE - TAC Equipment Officer:

The following equipment is available for hire by TAC Club Members:

Ice axes, ice hammers, helmets, harness (incl. karabiners, etc).

Each item costs \$5/day or a maximum of \$10/day for 2 or more items per person. Return the gear promptly after use and you only pay for the days you actually used it. Return it late and risk paying for the complete period; your choice.

A PLB (Personal Locator Beacon) is also available for hire and great for back country tramping or alpine climbing.

Contact the Equipment Officer AT LEAST 2 days in advance to ensure availability

EVENTS PROGRAMME Club nights, trips, instruction and social events are all important functions of the Club's activities – they need both support from participants as well as volunteers to lead them.

If you have suggestions for club nights contact the Club Captain, or would like to volunteer to lead a trip contact the Trips co-ordinator.

HITAC— NEWSLETTER A monthly newsletter emailed out to club members with an email address. Also available via the Clubs website www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz

Any trip reports, events, gear for sale can be sent to the Editor at hitac.tac@outlook.com

Each quarter the FMC (Federated Mountain Clubs) Magazine is posted with a paper copy of the HiTAC.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Must be advised in writing – Send to the Secretary by mail to: Taranaki Alpine Club, PO Box 356, New Plymouth, or email secretary.tac@outlook.com

Tahurangi Lodge

General info

<http://www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz/pages/lodge.html>

Bookings

<http://www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz/pages/bookings.html>

Club Contacts

<http://www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz/pages/contacts.html>



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