



November 2016

Welcome to the HiTAC.

Comments / opinion can be forwarded to

Hitac.tac@outlook.com

From the President's desk



The Open Climb Committee held its first meeting last weekend, with much being achieved. As you know the Open Climb induction will take place at Club night on Thursday 3 November. If everyone who'd like to help out with the Open Climb on 18 February could be there, that will be great! And don't forget Steve Ritson will be doing the gear presentation that night as well, and Stephen Miller will bring us up to date with the Lodge downstairs upgrade. See you there!

You may have seen on the Club's facebook page that Chris is organising a navigation/map reading course for club members. This would be an evening lecture to be followed by a one-day weekend practical exercise planned for this spring to early summer. If your skills are a bit rusty, contact Chris to register your interest.

We've updated the Annual Club barbecue to the third Thursday in January, so that's the 19th. Being the 3rd Thursday we hope you'll all be back from holiday by then. More info under club nights.

The December club night will feature the Club's Annual Photo Competition, and as with tradition, the club will put on a few beers to celebrate the end of year. However there are going to be a few more reasons for celebrating on this night, as we'll be making a special presentation to some very special club members who have supported this organisation for a very long time, 50 years to be exact!

Wow, did you manage to get on the hill over Labour weekend? You'd have seen an unprecedented number of skiers on our side of the mountain. Apparently the conditions were nigh on perfect

Elaine Sinton

President

Club Library of Mountaineering Books - new home urgently needed!

Could you look after the Club Library? Jeremy is unable to carry on this job, and the club library desperately needs a new home! We've got a great collection of Mountaineering books, many of which are useful reference material for trip planning. If you think you may be able to help out, please get in touch with me.

Elaine Sinton

Ph 755-0977 Mobile 027-352-3831

CLUB TRIPS

Thanks to all those who led, advised and participated in our winter/spring 2016 trips – your commitment & energy really helped make them a huge success! Summer/Autumn 2017 trip planning is underway so please read on to whet your appetite.

Our trips are for club members who want to practice their alpine & mountaineering skills, get to know Taranaki (and in some cases other awesome NZ mountains), meet other like-minded people and have some laughs! Although our trips are not instructional, they will be led by an experienced Trip Leader(s).

The trips are 'free' - except of course for your own costs of gear/equipment, transport, fuel, food, accommodation. You will organise your own transport & accommodation as necessary, although we will suggest preferred options to help ensure everything is coordinated.

Trips in snow/ice conditions are for club members who have completed at least Snow Craft 1 (or equivalent). If you need to hire equipment please contact TAC Gears Officer (contact details at end of HiTAC).

Please contact Trips Coordinator Sophie Tucker, committee2.tac@outlook.com or 021 597 709 if you're interested in any of the below or if you have ideas for future trips, we're keen to hear from you! Be sure to keep an eye on our website and facebook pages for trip updates too.

November/December 2016 Trips

- no trips planned - our Trips Officer will be planning summer 2017 trips :-)

January - April 2017 Trips

Keen to get to know some of Taranaki's great variety of summit routes? Then read on for our summer/autumn trips plus a possible long weekend away to Ruapehu. Specific dates will be publicised in December HiTAC.

January 2017. Taranaki summit day hike via East Ridge.

February 2017. Taranaki summit day hike via Kokowai Lava Flow.

February/March 2017. Ruapehu long weekend. 3-4 day Around Ruapehu Circuit.

March 2017. Taranaki summit day hike via Fanthams Peak/Rangitoto Flats.

April 2017. Taranaki summit day hike via West Ridge.

May – June 2017 Trip

No trips planned - our Trips Coordinator will be planning winter/spring 2017 trips :-)

17-20 August 2017 - Remarkables Ice and Mixed Festival Trip

We'd love to organise a club trip to this festival for keen club climbers. Keen? Read on!

The Remarkables Ice and Mixed Festival is the annual festival & climbing meet of the Expedition Climbers Club. It brings together a huge cross section of climbers from around NZ and the world whilst showcasing new and existing routes on NZ's most accessible and multi-pitch winter training area, the Remarkables.

Beginners get to rub shoulders and share the rope with the top winter alpine climbers in NZ. Various clinics for both beginner & more experienced climbers, general climbing, competitions and races for the more experienced, and a variety of social gatherings all aim to advance and promote modern mixed climbing.

Check it out at www.iceandmixedfestival.co.nz.

Each member will book & pay for their festival attendance/clinics, flights, accommodation etc. However, we will advise preferred options & help coordinate things to ensure it is a great club trip for all!

If you're keen to attend this event with other TAC members, please have a look at the festival website and express your interest to Will Archibald, Club Secretary at secretary.tac@outlook.com or 027 344 7908 with the following information:

which aspects/events/dates of the festival you are keen to attend

your climbing experience to date

whether you have your own climbing equipment when & where you completed Snowcraft 2

Spaces for this festival usually fill up quickly so we're keen to hear from you to coordinate groups who are keen on same events and perhaps some team training in the preceding months.

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**

October 6th :Clarissa Benton – in Nepal with Children

November 3rd : Open Climb Induction / Lodge update / Gear evening

The Open Climb induction will be followed by a short presentation on the Lodge downstairs upgrade, and that will be followed by (drum roll)... a Gear presentation from Steve Ritson (Singing Rock Climbing equipment).

I know you were all disappointed when we had to cancel the September Gear club night, so your prayers have been answered!

December 1st : President's shout and photo comp

Our annual photo competition will take place at the December club night. Get clicking and you may be up for one of the prizes that our Judge has generously donated for each category winner!

Entries must be received by Sunday 20 November. Details elsewhere in this newsletter.

January Thursday 12th : Club Barbeque 6pm.

Merrilands Domain (Audrey Gale Reserve) 6pm BYO Food & Drink. BBQ cooker supplied.

February 2nd : Dave Clough – Crozier in Antarctica

Dave's talk will cover a number of Husky trips in the Ross Island area culminating in an attempted sled trip around Mt Terror to Cape Crozier on Ross Island, Retracing the sledging trip undertaken by Scott's men in the winter of 1911, as documented in Cherry- Garrard's Antarctic classic book "The Worst Journey in the World".

Outlining Captain Francis Crozier's place in Polar history and his part in the disastrous "Franklin Expedition".



Photo Competition 2016

Entries must be received by **Sunday 20 November**. Please ensure you meet the criteria as outlined below:

Image Format

sized between 500kb - 5MB

saved as a JPEG or JPG file

All images must be digital

Submitting images

email to president.tac@outlook.com

send one photo per email

File name

Must start with the **Category Code**, then **TAC**, followed by the **Caption**, in that order.

e.g. BBL TAC Sunrise at Pouakai

Categories (CAT Code)

ABL - ABOVE BUSHLINE

BBL - BELOW BUSHLINE

HIS - HISTORIC

HCL - HUT OR CAMP LIFE

NFF - NATIVE FLORA OR FAUNA** No people in these shots

OLS - OUTDOOR LANDSCAPES** No people in these shots

MOVIE * Not eligible for FMC comp, TAC only

HUMOUR* Not eligible for FMC comp, TAC only

Conditions of Entry

The only digital manipulation permitted is cropping, sharpening and tonal or exposure adjustments.

Panoramic stitched images are acceptable provided the only manipulation other than stitching is cropping, sharpening and tonal or exposure adjustments.

Images must be taken after 1 January 2015 by a member of the club and may not have won awards in any other photographic competition other than the members own Club Photo Competition. (Except in Historic category)

Entries in the Historic category can be submitted as scans of original prints or colour slides. If scanned they should be at least 600 pixels on each dimension.

The winning entries in each category will be submitted to the national FMC Photo Competition.

Please note, your entry must be received by Sunday 20 November.

FMC Visit to Taranaki – Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th December

With help from the New Plymouth Tramping Club, FMC is visiting Taranaki on the dates above. There will be a get together and presentation on the Friday night, starting 7.30pm ish. All interested outdoor people, clubs will be welcome to attend.

The NPTC will then organise activities for the Sat/Sun. Further information will be available closer to the time on the NPTC Website and facebook page.

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

FMC October Newsletter

The Conservation Revolution, Outdoor Recreation Consortium Grants Announced, FMC stands against the Waitaha Hydroelectric development and a proposed private road through a specially protected area in the Coromandel. Click on the link below for more info:

<http://www.fmc.org.nz/news/fmc-newsletters/>

New Members

No new member over the last month but thanks to the hard work of Sophie, our trip officer extraordinaire and all our volunteer trip leaders and skill course instructors, the mountain and beyond are buzzing with activity from TAC members, new and old. It is so good to see you all enjoying our beautiful environment and make the most of the snow.

DOC Volunteer Hut Wardens Needed

Kia Ora

We are currently putting together a volunteer hut warden roster for Egmont National Park for the busy summer season. Ideally we are looking for wardens for Holly and Pouakai Hut. If you are interested in volunteering as a hut warden please have a look at the attached information and roster and let me know what dates you would like to volunteer for (first and second preference) and what hut you would like to volunteer at. If you are wanting to do dates that are not listed or to stay longer - please get in contact.

To be a suitable hut warden you must have a high level of fitness, have experience tramping on Mt Taranaki and familiar with the tracks, be able to relate to range of people in a friendly manner, fluent in English and have a practical outlook.

There will be a group health and safety briefing prior to the beginning of the season.

Looking forward to hearing from you
Thank you for your help

Denise Goodman

Ranger Community- Kaitiaki, Āo Hāpori
Department of Conservation-*Te Papa Atawhai*
New Plymouth- *Ngamotu*
DDI: 06 759 7197

dgoodman@doc.govt.nz

Conservation leadership for our nature *Tākina te hī, Tiakina, te hā o te Āo Tūroa*

www.doc.govt.nz

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 President, or the Lodge Booking Officer.

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

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>



Follow us on Facebook for updates