



## February 2017

Welcome to the HiTAC.

Comments / opinion can be forwarded to  
[Hitac.tac@outlook.com](mailto:Hitac.tac@outlook.com)

### From the President's desk



Happy new year everyone and welcome to 2017. The club barbecue at Merrilands Domain was a small affair last week, but we managed to dodge the rain, play a bit of cricket and welcome some new members to the club.

A number of club members headed south over the Christmas break, including both of this year's Andy Harris Trust recipients – Ivan Bruce and Liam Todd. Do catch up with them to hear about their experience. I'm not sure that the weather played ball for everyone!

The Open Climb registrations opened early December and the event was fully booked by early January.

We sincerely hope the unseasonal snow falls are behind us now as everyone is looking forward to

having a great day on the mountain with the 200 participants. We have people coming from as far away as Queensland and Glasgow, plus a large contingent from the Auckland area.

The summit club trip via East Ridge on 8 January was a great success - thanks to Ivan for safely leading 6 members and enabling a day of challenge, adventure and discovery! There are still some club day trips coming up – see below and keep an eye on the facebook page for up to date info, or give Sophie a call to register your interest.

Also just a reminder, the club's AGM is coming up on Thursday 2 March. Please diary this date, as a quorum of 20 is needed. This is your opportunity to come along and have a say in how the club will be run for the next 12 months.

And make sure you get to the February club night – this is one not to be missed. David Clough will give us an insight into his time spent at Antarctica when the huskies were still in residence. See this HiTAC for further info.

*Elaine Sinton*

President

### CLUB TRIPS

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! Please contact Trips Coordinator Sophie Tucker, [committee2.tac@outlook.com](mailto:committee2.tac@outlook.com) / 021 597 709 if you're interested in any of the below or if you have ideas for future trips. Be sure to keep an eye on our website and Facebook pages for trip updates too.

Our trips are not instructional, yet are nonetheless led by an experienced Trip Leader(s) and spaces are limited accordingly. Trips are also weather dependent and 'free' - except of course for your own costs re 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 this HiTAC and on our www).

#### **Saturday 25 February 2017.**

Taranaki summit day hike via Kokowai Lava Flow. Reserve date Sunday 26 February

#### **March 2017.**

Taranaki summit day hike. Route & date tbc. We are seeking a Trip Leader so please contact Sophie if you're keen to help this trip go ahead – thanks!

#### **April 2017.**

Taranaki summit day hike via West Ridge. Exact weekend date tbc – watch this space!

#### **May & June 2017.**

No trips planned.

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

We'd love to organise a club trip to this festival for keen club members who want to attend clinics and learn more snow/ice skills, or just ice climb with some of the best! Please have a look at [www.iceandmixedfestival.co.nz](http://www.iceandmixedfestival.co.nz) and express your interest to Will Archibald, Club Secretary at [secretary.tac@outlook.com](mailto:secretary.tac@outlook.com) / 027 344 7908. Please let Will know which aspects/events/dates of the festival you are interested in and we'll see if we can get a group together

### Club Nights...

#### **February 2<sup>nd</sup> : 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".



### **March 2<sup>nd</sup> : AGM**

Come and support the Club.

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### **Rock Gear for Sale**

My son Thomas has given up rock climbing and would like to sell his gear. He is open to offers on all or part of this equipment. Currently stored at my place so give me a call if you are interested.

Elaine Sinton

Ph 755-0977



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### **New Members**

The Club extends a warm welcome to our new members, and we look forward to seeing you on the Mountain.

Alex Nash, Urenui

Sian Fayle, Mike Kennedy, Finn & Ruby Kennedy, New Plymouth

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### **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 1<sup>st</sup>

For more info contact the Treasurer.

Members with unpaid subs at end of April are sent an account overdue notice. If still unpaid by 1<sup>st</sup> June incur a penalty of 20%. Any

members with unpaid subs at 1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz)

Any trip reports, events, gear for sale can be sent to the Editor at [hitac.tac@outlook.com](mailto: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](mailto:secretary.tac@outlook.com)

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## Tahurangi Lodge

General info

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

Bookings

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

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## Club Contacts

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



Follow us on Facebook for updates

*'kua takoto te mānuka' - take up the challenge*



## Taking up the Challenge

The whakataukī above relates to the martial history of the mānuka. Once prized for its hardness and strength in battle, then for its firewood qualities, the mānuka is now known for its honey, its nurturing of recovering forest and its robustness in the face of passersby. A metaphor that once directed its energy at conflict can now be applied to sustainable living, conservation and recreation!

This time of year, is when many in the outdoors community get out and take up some challenges, and we are not just talking about Christmas day! FMC wishes everyone all the best for their summer plans. We love following your adventures. Recent, or current favourites include an FMC Youth Scholarship supported group [traversing Te Wai Pounamu](#), Wildboy on his [Rakiura Wilderness adventure](#), and the Buller Tramping Club preparing to walk the mainland section of Te Araroa to [raise money for Kea Conservation](#), [donate here](#).

FMC continues to take up the challenge to advocate on behalf of the outdoor community. This year amidst all sort of projects, we have focused on getting our organisation running better. We have new leadership with Peter Wilson and Jan Finlayson, we have a passionate Executive team, and we have tweaked our support staff with Jamie Stewart appointed Executive Officer and Rebecca Gray as our new Administrator. Most importantly we have received a strong mandate from our affiliated clubs for an affiliation fee increase which will enable us to run a balanced budget in 2017/2018 while delivering on a