



HiTAC - June 2017

Hi Folks, welcome to the latest issue of the HiTAC.

Comments / opinion and content can be forwarded to Hitac.tac@outlook.com

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From the Presidents Desk



The snow is here and Chris has been busy organising the club's Snowcraft courses which will take place during September. At the time of writing there are still vacancies in Snowcraft One, so don't miss out. See the club facebook page for further information.

Earlier this month, several members of the Committee, along with representatives from Stratford Mountain Club and Egmont Alpine Club attended a meeting with the Crown Treaty negotiators and Iwi representatives. This meeting was essentially a briefing on the upcoming negotiations between the Crown and Ngā Iwi o Taranaki over Egmont National Park. As negotiations progress we'll be invited to attend further meetings. Fundamentally we were advised that the negotiations mean that there will be change. If you have any interest in following this, the terms of negotiation can be viewed on the Office of Treaty Settlements' website.

Working bees took place at Tahurangi Lodge during the first two weekends of May, so a very big thank you to all the club members who helped out at either or both of these events. After many years of repairing the bunkroom fire escape doors due to being opened when people found the sleeping conditions excessively warm, we now have opening windows in the top sections of the doors. This job was a major undertaking as the doors had to be removed and taken down town to have the work done, and then returned to the Lodge. Other work carried out included lining the hot water cupboard, recharging/replacing the fire extinguishers and mice eradication.

And last thing, a quick reminder about subs. Make sure you've paid by 1 June in order to avoid the 20% late penalty. Any queries, contact our Treasurer.

Elaine Sinton
President

Instruction

Places will only be reserved once payment has been made, and emergency contact and allergy information has been received.

Snow craft 2

Snow Craft 1

- Prerequisites: A good level of fitness – try to be able to get to the lodge with your pack on in an hour
- Cost: \$75 for current TAC members only
- Gear: Stiff soled boots suitable for crampons, plus weather-appropriate attire. The club will still provide crampons and so on

Weekend #1: 9/10 September (based out of Tahurangi Lodge)

- Prefield: Evening 30 August (at Sport Taranaki)
- Places: 2 places remain (at time of printing)

Weekend #2: 23/24 September (based out of Tahurangi Lodge)

- Prefield: Evening 13 September (at Sport Taranaki)
- Places: 6 places remain (at time of printing)

Lodge Birthday Monday 5th June

A reminder to everyone we will be having the Lodge Birthday as we do each year at Queen's Birthday weekend.

Cake cutting at the Lodge Monday 5th June 1-00pm

Come and join us at meet with other Club members.

A good idea is meet others at the Lodge say 8-30 & go for a walk before returning for the cake cutting.

TRIP REPORTS

Sunday 14 May 2017 – (Half of) Curtis Ridge

A stunning no-wind morning greeted the eight of us at Stratford Plateau at 7:30 a.m. The objective was to ascend Curtis Ridge, visiting Fanthams Peak, then return via Kapuni Lodge, Kapuni Stream and Wilkies Pools. This being a summer trip the early arrival of ice higher on the ridge meant an alternative adventure was likely. Progress up the 'closed' Curtis Ridge track was surprisingly good and we reached the Priests Fingers (1580m) by 9 a.m. A short explore further up the ridge was followed by the decision to drop directly into the Kapuni Stream. Frozen moss and ice that had been deposited the day before meant some careful descending was required. The highlight of the climb back up the other side was a short rock band that tested our rock climbing skills! From just below the Knoll we traversed onto the Fanthams Peak summit track then descended for lunch at Kapuni Lodge. The track down to Kapuni Stream lived up to expectations as being steep and overgrown. It took us an hour to pick our way down to Wilkies Pools then a further 40 minutes back to the Plateau. A big!! thanks to Phil Whitwell and Greg Banks for leading, and the excellent company of Will Johnson, Mike Keene, Nadja Bernhardt, Glen Hodges, Phoebe Fang and Rudi Smith. Well done team!



Some Images from Glenn Hodges - Spending time out there doing it - YEAH



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 / 021 597 709 if you're interested in any of the below and would like to reserve a place. 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.

We're always seeking trip leaders & trip ideas. If you have an idea for a future trip and could lead it, including having sufficient experience of that route and leading others, please also contact Sophie, she'd love to hear from you!

Special note for winter trips in snow/ice conditions. These trips are for club members who have completed at least Snow Craft 1 (or equivalent). If you need to hire equipment please do so in advance via TAC Gears Officer (contact details at end of this HiTAC and on our www).

Sophie

TAC Trips Coordinator

email: committee2.tac@outlook.com

mobile: 021 597 709

Fri 30 June - Sun 2 July:

Annual North Island Ice Climbing Meet @ Ruapehu/Tukino

Keen on some epic ice climbing over at Ruapehu?

This ice climbing meet is based at Tukino Lodge over at Mt Ruapehu. The cost is \$89 for the weekend (covers accommodation Fri & Sat, brekkie & lunch on Saturday & Sunday, and Saturday night dinner). You'll need to make your own booking, be prepared to car share, have your own gear and, know who your climbing partner is going to be. You'll also need to be an NZAC member. Further info and booking details are here: <https://alpineclub.org.nz/parkside/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Vertigo-April-2017.pdf> . Please let Sophie know if you're keen - it would be fantastic to pull together a TAC team to represent us there!

Fri-Sun 18-20 August 2017:

Ruapehu Crater Lake winter weekend

Following on from the success of our winter weekends away the last two years, this year will see us attempting Ruapehu Crater Lake on the Saturday, woo hoo! If weather, conditions and energy levels remain favourable on the Sunday, we may also pick an adhoc route to make the most of the weekend. As numbers are limited for safety reasons, there are a number of pre-requisites before your place can be confirmed, including that you have completed Snowcraft 1 (or equivalent), have booked your accommodation and, have your own probe and snow shovel. Reserve weekend is 25-27 August 2017. Also, refer above special note for winter trips.

August to November 2017:

• Taranaki Spring Summit

Plans are underway for these winter trips. Watch this space for dates & further details! Please contact Sophie if you'd like to lead a winter trip, the more trip leaders volunteering the better!

If you are eager to improve your winter skills confidence and mountain knowledge beyond Snow Craft 1, we recommend that you hike up to Tahurangi Lodge on a Friday night, or early Saturday morning, when reasonable winter conditions prevail. Other club members are often up there and may be willing to take you up & around the local terrain. So, what are you waiting for, get yourself up to the lodge and experience some of the best our mountain has to offer! Also, refer above special note for winter trips.

Club Nights...

June 1st : Taranaki Tuataras Update

Join us for an evening with the Taranaki Tuataras, a sub-groub of the TAC, as Peter Lofthouse and co. update us on the successes of the past year.

Since 2015, the Tuataras have been the only climbing club in Taranaki to be registered with Climbing NZ, and as such, represent Taranaki at the national (and international) level in climbing. Taranaki's own Peter Lofthouse is also an assistant to the NZ Youth Team.

Some of the results from the National Cup, held in Hamilton this April:

- Matthew Jones Youth B (Under 16) 1st Place in Bouldering
- Ariana Van Lith Youth B (Under 16) 1st Place in Bouldering
- Tayla Manning Youth B (Under 16) 1st Place in Lead and 2nd Place in Bouldering
- Conrad Murray Open Male 2nd Place in Bouldering



New Members.

The Club welcomes the following new members, and we look forward to seeing them on the mountain.

Rudi Smith	New Plymouth
Gwen & Rob Hamilton	New Plymouth
Lucia Habanec	Oakura
Susie Flink	New Plymouth

Club Information

TAHURANGI LODGE

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

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions are set at the Annual General Meeting.

Subscriptions for 2017: FAMILY \$65, ORDINARY (single) \$45, STUDENT (under 18), \$35. 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

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

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