



## HiTAC - June 2018

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

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

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## From the President's Desk



We are all looking forward to seeing everyone next weekend at the Hut Birthday celebrations for Taurangi Lodge's 50th Birthday. Join us for a Pot Luck lunch at the Camp House at North Egmont on Monday 4 June from 12 noon to 3 pm, including the traditional cake cutting. We have chosen the Camp House venue this year to enable all members, past and present, young and old, to be able to join us. Please spread the word to any past members who may like to join us for these special celebrations. Further details elsewhere in this HiTAC.

The recent snowfall is looking good, a reminder that winter is upon us. And with winter comes the pitter patter of little feet.... namely mice in the Lodge! Please, please clean up all crumbs on the kitchen bench and floor so as to discourage these vermin. Lyn White does a brilliant job trapping them, but it would be nice not to see evidence of them in the kitchen area.

Club night for Thursday 7 June is a talk from Andy Johnston from our local DOC office. Andy is a long-standing member of the New Plymouth DOC team, so I think we will be guaranteed a very interesting and informative evening.

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

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## 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

### June 7th

#### **Andy Johnston - Department of Conservation**

Our annual get together with DOC

Andy will have a chat with us about what the DOC team are up to. Don't miss this interesting and informative evening!



## July 5th Social Gathering

An opportunity to mingle and meet other club members, share your stories and maybe find a climbing buddy around a few drinks.  
Venue tbc.

## August 1st **PLEASE NOTE WEDNESDAY 6:30pm** Film evening at Top Town Event Cinema

Come and join us for the yearly TAC movie night. We have a selection from the best short feature films offered in the 2018 NZ Mountain Film Festival. Early bird tickets will be available on sale at our June Club night and will then be released through MacPac .  
Keep an eye on the TAC Facebook page for updates.

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## *Coming Events*

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## **TAHURANGI LODGE 50th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS AND CUTTING OF THE CAKE- Monday 4th June, Queen's Birthday at the Camp House, North Egmont, 12noon- 3pm**

Come and help us celebrate our wonderful Taurangi Lodge's 50th Birthday with a pot-luck lunch on Queen's Birthday.

The celebrations will be held at the Camp House this year to allow all our members young and old to attend this very special birthday.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share your memories and reconnect with long lost climbing friends.

If you have some old photos to show, make sure to bring them along as well.

Committee Secretary and long time member Glenn Hodges has also prepared a series of photos from the archives which will run on a continuous background powerpoint presentation.

What to bring: some food to share for the pot-luck lunch. This is a BYO event (but be mindful there are a few kilometers of windy road to negotiate on your way home 😊).

There are a couple of stoves and a microwave at the Camp House if you need anything reheated.

The committee will bring the birthday cake to be cut by the oldest and youngest members present on the day.



## Saturday July 28th Tahurangi Lodge Winter Pot Luck Dinner & Alpine Film Evening

Tahurangi Lodge 6pm

Come along and join us for our annual winter pot luck dinner and mountain film evening at Tahurangi Lodge. Bring along your favourite dish to share (and please don't forget about desert!).

This year we have an impressive line up of mountain films; the best so far. Entertainment, motivation and a tonne of laughs; they are not to be missed!!

This event is open to existing club members. Do come prepared for winter conditions! Ice axe, crampons, and of course a healthy appetite are all a must.

## Club Winter Instruction

The field dates for this year's winter instruction have been set;  
Note that all Club hire gear will be reserved for instruction courses for these weekends.

Contact Chris at [captain.tac@outlook.com](mailto:captain.tac@outlook.com) for more information or to register your interest.

### Snow Craft 1

Two intakes, each with 10 spaces

2018-07-21 AM to 2018-07-22 PM, pre-field 2018-07-16

2018-08-04 AM to 2018-08-05 PM, pre-field 2018-07-30

Based at Tahurangi Lodge

You must have stiff soled boots suitable for strap-on type crampons; the club will provide crampons, ice axes, and helmets for use on the weekend

\$75, strictly members only

### Snow Craft 2

8 spaces

Based at Tahurangi Lodge

2018-07-06 PM to 2018-07-08 PM, pre-field (will be an evening at the Crux climbing wall)

You must have completed Snow Craft 1 (or equivalent), and must have your own helmet, crampons, and ice axe; the club will provide hammers, harnesses etc. for use on the weekend

\$95, strictly members only

Our club trips aim to give you the opportunity to practice your alpine & mountaineering skills, get to know Mt Taranaki (and in some cases other awesome NZ mountains), meet other like-minded people and, have some laughs!

It is important to note that our club trips are not instruction courses or formal guided events. Our Trip Leads are experienced club members who kindly volunteer their time to share a route they know reasonably well and meet the above trip aims. Each trip participant is expected to be self-sufficient on the mountain, have the skills to undertake the trip, know the gear to bring and, participate under their own risk and responsibility.

Our trips are of course also weather/conditions dependent. Where possible we try to have a reserve date in case weather changes things. We do not charge for our trips although everyone pays for their own gear, equipment, transport, fuel, food, and in some cases accommodation. If we stay anywhere other than Taurangi Lodge we'll suggest a preferred option as it's always great if everyone stays at the same place.

*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).*

If you're interested in coming on any of the below trips, or would like to lead a trip, please contact Trips Coordinator Sophie Tucker on [committee2.tac@outlook.com](mailto:committee2.tac@outlook.com) for further details. Be sure to keep an eye on our facebook page for trip updates too!

## Upcoming Club Trips...

**Welcome to our winter/spring trips programme!** A huge thanks is extended to those of our experienced club members who have so far offered to lead & assist some of our trips 😊

### Saturday half day 'buddy walks'

#### Mt Taranaki buddy walks on slopes near & above Taurangi Lodge

- ✳ Are you new to winter mountaineering and don't quite know how to gain some winter experience? Our buddy walks can help you!
- ✳ Our buddy walks help fill two key gaps for those who are pretty new to winter mountaineering, namely acquiring skills and being able to safely climb / walk on Taranaki's winter white stuff and, getting to know others to be out there with.
- ✳ The buddy walks are informal, friendly and typically aimed at those wishing to improve their beginner/basic snow travel skills (ice axe, crampons, weather/snow conditions assessment, different terrain/slopes, maybe simple pitching) with a more experienced person.
- ✳ Each buddy walk will be a few hours walk within ½ an hours walk of the lodge, very much tailored to what the group want to practice and their current skill level. You will also start to get to know others that you can meet up the mountain with.
- ✳ The emphasis is on Buddy, i.e. the Buddy does not take complete responsibility for participant's safety. The Buddy is there to help participants make mutually agreed reasoned risk judgements.
- ✳ Group sizes are limited to 1-3 people on the following dates:
  - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018
  - Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018
  - Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2018
  - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2018
  - September & October dates pending..... 😊

If you're keen, please contact Club Trips Coordinator Sophie ([committee2.tac@outlook.com](mailto:committee2.tac@outlook.com)) for further details.

## Mt Taranaki winter summit via Surrey Road – limited places available

Rising immediately behind Tahurangi Lodge, a winter Taranaki summit via Surrey Road offers a new winter route for those who have completed Snowcraft 1 and at least a couple of Mt Taranaki winter summits. You will need to have very good proven crampon technique & experience on frozen snow & ice as well as be confident on winter condition slopes of moderate exposure both in terms of steepness and hardness. An early start from Tahurangi Lodge will likely require an overnight stay the night before... and you'll hopefully catch a stunning sunrise too!

If the above sounds like you, please contact Club Trips Coordinator Sophie ([committee2.tac@outlook.com](mailto:committee2.tac@outlook.com)) for further details. There is no reserve day for this trip; we will have a wet weather plan in case of poor weather.

## Fri-Sun 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> August 2018 – weekend trip

### Mt Tongariro winter summit – limited places available

Following on from our last 3 years hugely successful winter trips to National Park, this year will see us considering a summit of Mt Tongariro woo hooo! With a return to Mangetepopo car park we will aim to ascend & descend via different routes; there are a couple of ridges we're keen on so final route details will be fine-tuned nearer the day. This trip is beginner level and suitable if you have recently completed Snowcraft 1. TAC will provide avalanche transceivers, snow probes & shovels. You will organise all your other required gear as well as accommodation & transport.

Please contact Club Trips Coordinator Sophie ([committee2.tac@outlook.com](mailto:committee2.tac@outlook.com)) for further details. There is no reserve weekend; we will have a wet weather / gear test plan in case of poor weather!

## Other winter trips September - November 2018

Plans are also underway for these winter trips. Watch this space for dates & further details!

- **Fanthams Syme Hut – September - overnight trip**
- **Fanthams Spring Summit – early October - day trip**
- **Taranaki Slush Summit – late October/ early November - day trip**
- **Other trips? Maybe.....! J**

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## Members Trips ...







A few pics of the mountain from this past weekend  
courtesy of Glen Hodges

## New Members.

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

Jeanne Dennehy	New Plymouth
Lexi Oulsnam	New Plymouth
Shane, Bayley, Ryan, Teagan Knofflock	New Plymouth
Andrew & Elizabeth Carlile	New Plymouth
Brian Blackie	New Plymouth

## 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

## 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.

Enquiries to : [treasurer.tac@outlook.com](mailto:treasurer.tac@outlook.com)

*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. We also have (new) 6mm Prussic Cord for sale to club members at \$2 per meter. 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)

## 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)

## Club Links

- [Club Homepage](#)
- [Lodge & Bookings](#)
- [Club Contacts](#)

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