

Special announcement:

Special Presentation at tomorrow night's AGM Thursday 1st March.

We will be taking this opportunity to give a presentation to members on the Taurangi Lodge Downstairs Renovation Project.

We have a very informative and exciting slide presentation for you, covering all aspects of the Renovation!

[Elaine Sinton](#)

President



HiTAC - March 2018

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

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

[View this email in your browser](#)

From the President's Desk



A big thank you to all those members who made themselves available for the Open Climb last weekend. Unfortunately a disappointing weekend for club members and participants alike, as the weather didn't play ball. Due to the decision not to attempt the event on the Sunday, we have offered participants a 90% refund of their fee, as a matter of good faith. Many participants have still opted to donate their fee to us, and we also gave people the option of transferring their fee to 2019 Open Climb, which some have chosen to do.

Just a reminder, the club's AGM is this Thursday 1st March. As well as the election of officers, we'll also be presenting the club trophies. We need a quorum of 20 so please come along! This is your chance to have a say in how the club will be run for the next 12 months.

We will also be taking this opportunity to give a presentation to members on the Taurangi Lodge Downstairs Renovation Project. We have a very informative and exciting slide presentation for you, covering all aspects of the Renovation!

I would like to pass on some of the feedback from the people who had registered for this year's Open Climb:

Hi there. Thank you very much for the offer of a refund. Totally understand how much effort goes into these days.

I don't need the money back. I still climbed and had an amazing day although didn't quite make it to the top due to weather. Will be back to try again at some stage. Loved climbing and would love to do more. Thanks for organising and making the call to keep everyone safe. It was scary up there.

Hi, Thank you for the message and offer. This year I arrived earlier and I had a stunning Friday weather forecast so I climbed the mountain. It was one of the toughest and most rewarding hikes in my life. As I already donated my entry fee to the Taranaki Alpine Club I will not ask it back. I will see you next year!

It was a great shame that the open climb was not able to go ahead on Saturday but I appreciate all the efforts you all made to even attempt the open climb. Unfortunately I am on my travels from the UK so will not be able to attend the 2019 event. Please therefore accept my 2018 fee as a donation to the Club.

[Elaine Sinton](#)

President

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

March 1st

AGM

Foundation for the Blind rooms, 131 Vivian St, New Plymouth

April 5th

Jonny Williams

Jonny 9.5

Jonny Williams will be presenting on his "Hot Rock" rock climbing expedition. Sure to be entertaining, and a "must attend" for all active and interested rock climbers in the community.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=p3MpS1Y58p8

For Sale

MSR Denali show shoes + extenders

Excellent condition, brilliant for winter approaches, used two seasons only

\$200

2 x Aspiring snow stakes

\$20 each

Carabiners

3 x Simond Rockywiregate draws

Manufactured around 2009 so *not* part of the batch that were recalled in 2012

Excellent condition, used on moderate alpine ice (MC grade 3+ tops) and easy alpine trad routes only. No falls on these.

Superlight, bent gate, dog bones 'stiff / tight' at clipping end for ease of use

Breaking strength major axis 23kn, minor axis 8kn, open gate 7 kn

\$30 the lot

My contact details:

Francesca

027 4712379

TAC intro to rock course

All levels - beginner upwards, though a few prior visits to the indoor wall are very beneficial.

10 spaces at \$75 each for members only.

Pre-field session the evening of Monday 12th at the YMCA.

Field phase from evening Friday 23 to afternoon 25 March, nominally staying at Tahurangi, but may change if the weather is terrible.

Harnesses, ropes, helmets, biners and belay devices supplied by the club.

Contact Chris Hayes at captain.tac@outlook.com for further details and to register your interest.

Club Trips

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 Tahurangi Lodge we'll suggest a preferred option as it's always great if everyone stays at the same place.

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 for further details. Be sure to keep an eye on our facebook page for trip updates too.

Sat 17 March 2018:

Fanthams Peak via Curtis Ridge – Full

This day hike provides an awesome alternative route up to Fanthams Peak via Curtis Ridge, and then back via Kapuni Lodge and a little steep scrub bashing down Kapuni Gorge/Stream, popping out at Wilkies Pools. We attempted this trip in May 2017 yet the start of icy conditions prevented the full route from being undertaken. Hence this time we're going earlier for success!

General competence with rock scrambling is required.

Please contact Club Trips coordinator Sophie (committee2.tac@outlook.com) for further details.

We hope to announce exact date for this trip in January 2018 via HITAC & TAC facebook page.

Saturday 7 April 2018:

Taranaki summit via Carrington Ridge – places available

Welcome to the west side of Mt Taranaki! After walking round to Holly Hut from Tahurangi Lodge on the RMT track, Carrington Ridge rises steeply immediately behind Holly Hut on an overgrown route. As the ridge is gained, scrub will eventually give way to tussock and then rock for some scrambling up to Mt Taranaki summit. General competence with rock scrambling at various angles & exposure, as well as very good fitness for a long day out, is required.

Please contact Club Trips coordinator Sophie (committee2.tac@outlook.com) for further details.

April – June 2018

No trips planned – we'll be organising our winter trips programme! 😊

Recent Club Trips...

Unfortunately, our planned club day trip to Skeets Ridge in February was cancelled because of poor weather all weekend. Thanks anyway to Glenys Grant for offering to lead this trip! And whilst not a trip, last weekends Bushcraft Course was a great success!

See below for a brief write up 😊

Members Trips

Sat/Sun 24/25 February, Bushcraft Course

Eight participants & two instructors thoroughly enjoyed this Bushcraft Weekend Course.

Including overnighting in some of our deepest darkest bush, topics such as trip planning, equipment, people skills, campcraft, emergency shelters, emergency first aid, fuel & stove types, fire, navigation & weather were covered. Armed with new knowledge & skills practiced, we hope that this will strengthen our club members abilities & confidence to explore more of the great outdoors!

This course was kindly subsidised by TAC for its club members - check out HiTAC for other such courses as & when they are advertised. And a huge thanks to OTNZ (Outdoor Training New Zealand) for running this excellent course this weekend. OTNZ is a volunteer organisation dedicated to providing people with skills to enjoy the wilds safely. Go to www.outdoortrainingnz.com for more info.



New Members.

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

Brendon Whitmore

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 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.

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

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

Club Links

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

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