



HiTAC - August 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



First up this month is to advise that a date has been set for the 2019 Open Climb. Mark your diaries for Saturday 16 February, with a reserve date of Sunday 17 February. If anyone is fielding inquiries you can let people know that bookings will open on our website from early December. We will hold the Open Climb induction at the October club night, to be accompanied by a mountaineering movie of Glen's selection.

IMPORTANT NOTICE – Planning is well underway for the Downstairs Upgrade of Taurangi Lodge. Locker holders – you will need to empty and clean your locker by **30 September**. All lockers to be left UNLOCKED. There will be restricted access to the Lodge during October and November whilst the renovations are taking place. We will also be calling for Volunteers to assist with a variety of tasks associated with the Upgrade. If you are keen to help, watch out for notices in HiTac and on Facebook from September onward. Please see the Update Notice below, for full details of the limited access, new lockers, volunteer tasks and further information about this major club project.

I hope you've all called in to Macpac to get your tickets for the NZ Mountain Film Festival presentation on Wednesday 1 August at Event Cinemas, which takes the place of our August club night. As usual Joelle has done a fantastic job organising a selection of movies from the Wanaka event.

Hope to catch up with club members at the Pot Luck dinner and Movie night to be held at Taurangi Lodge this Saturday 28 July. Glen has organised a great selection of movies and typically you can expect to enjoy some culinary masterpieces!

Elaine Sinton

President

Update on the Taurangi Lodge Downstairs Renovation Project

In early October we are aiming to start the major renovation to the downstairs of Taurangi Lodge. We're very excited about this project!

The project will greatly enhance and extend the life of the club's biggest asset by improving and upgrading the downstairs layout, reducing future maintenance, and providing a new bathroom, more effective drying room, better gear storage and new lockers. Construction will continue through November and into December. Many of our club members are taking part in this project and without their hard work & dedication this key upgrade project would not be possible.

1. Please empty & clean your lodge locker by 30 September 2018. Please leave it unlocked.

Any lockers that remain locked and/or have contents in them after this date will be emptied by the project team who will not be held responsible for your belongings. New lockers will be installed during approx. December - you will be assigned a new locker if you have an existing locker allocated. Please address any queries on this to Charlie Andrews at HiTAC.tac@outlook.com.

2. During October & November, access to & facilities at the Lodge will be limited as follows:

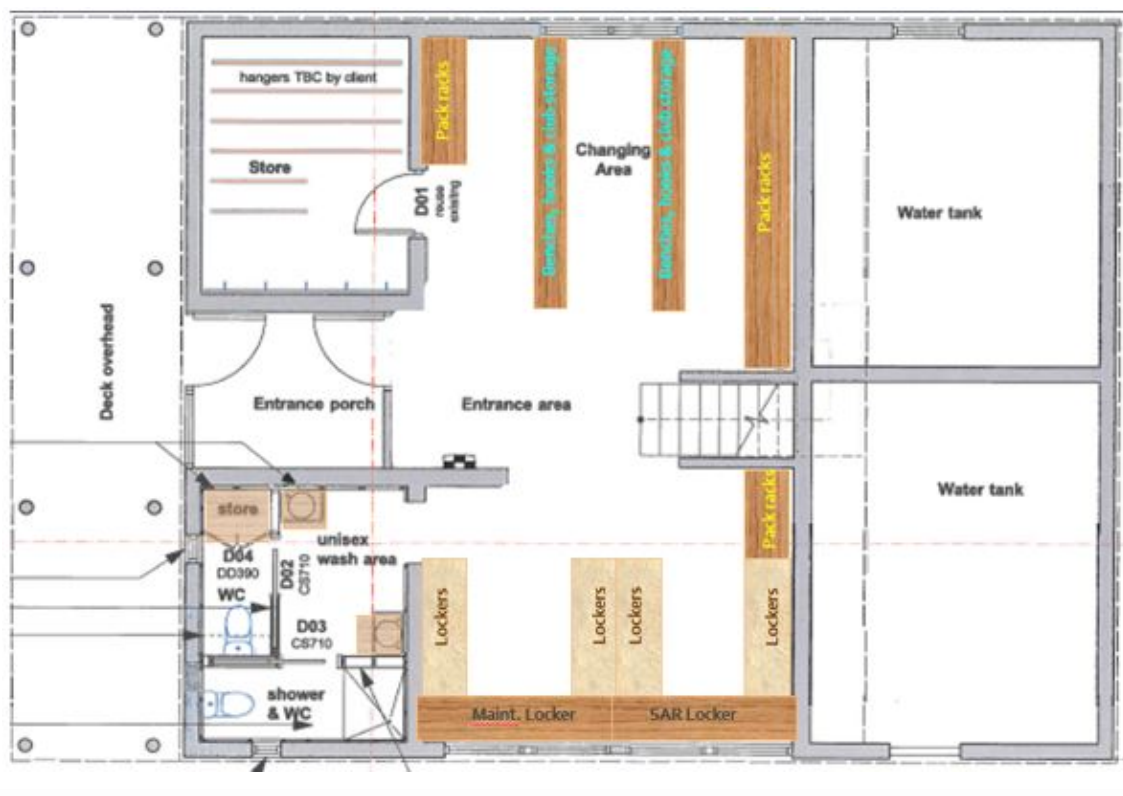
- Members may use the lodge during the day and/or overnight, however please bear in mind the below constraints.
- Non-members will not be granted overnight stays. Access during the day will be at the discretion of the project / construction team.
- One bunk room and all of the upstairs will remain fully functional. Power may be off for very short periods of time.
- At least one toilet and one sink will be available. The shower may be available.
- The dry room will not be available (from early October until mid-December).
- Places to put, hang, store gear & boots will not be available most of the time. A small area will be made available whenever possible, however this will be severely limited. Lockers will also not be available.
- The construction team will ensure safe access in/out of the lodge – please follow instructions from them and on any notices/posters for your and their safety at all times.

3. **We will need some volunteers!** We're going to need some help to carry out some of the demolition, a lot of painting/varnishing, and the really fun bit of digging the new sewer trench. We'll ask for your help via HiTAC & facebook from September onwards so please look out for this and who to contact if you're keen to help!

The total cost of this major project for the club is \$125,000. Over 60% of the funds have been very kindly granted from TSB (\$50,000), New Zealand Community Trust (\$20,000) and Taranaki Electricity Trust (\$10,000). TAC is contributing the remaining \$45,000.

The new downstairs layout.....

Sophie Tucker, Project Manager, Taurangi Lodge Downstairs Renovation Project



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

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.

September 6th

Short Trips presentation

October 4th

Open Climb Induction evening and Mountain Movie.

November 1st

John Jordan on his time in Alaska

FMC Expedition Scholarships

Applications for the 2018 FMC Expedition Scholarships are now open. FMC is proud to offer Youth Scholarships (age under 30) for the eighth year running, and the Simon Bell Memorial Scholarship (no age restrictions) for the third consecutive year. For information on how to apply, and to check the eligibility criteria, see <https://www.fmc.org.nz/scholarship/>
For any queries, e-mail our executive officer at eo@fmc.org.nz.
Applications close on Friday 14 September 2018

Click here for the latest (July) FMC newsketter <https://www.fmc.org.nz/news/fmc-newsletters/>

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.

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).

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 Tahurangi Lodge Places available

- ❄
- ❄ Are you new to winter mountaineering and don't quite know how, when or where to improve your winter skills? 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 small and available on the following dates:
 - Saturday 4th August 2018
 - Saturday 18th August 2018
 - September & October dates pending..... 😊

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

Sat 28th July 2018 – day trip

Mt Taranaki winter summit via Surrey Road - 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) 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 17th-19th August 2018 – weekend trip

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) 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**

Taranaki Tuataras update

Rachel Carter(35), Taranaki Alpine Club Member & Taranaki Tuatara traveled recently to Ohio for the USA Adaptive Climbing Championship where she came 4th in her category.

Rachel is now going to world para climbing championships in Innsbruck Austria. In september. She already has sights on competing at other international competitions.

This is the first year that the Taranaki alpine club has had more than 1 member competing in international competitions.

Taranaki Alpine Club Youth Members & Taranaki Tuataras Matt Jones and Arianna van Lith head off on Monday 30th July en route to Moscow, Russia to compete at the World Youth Sport Climbing Championships. Both have been training hard on their respective disciplines (Bouldering & Lead) and have been squeezing in as many extra sessions as they can fit in around their schoolwork.

Thanks to those who supported them by attending the recent quiz night at the Good Home.

Matthew will be competing in bouldering and maybe speed. Arianna will be competing in all 3 discipline bouldering, lead and speed.

This is arianna's first world youth championships and Matthews 3rd

<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/help-rachel-to-be-nzs-first-international>.

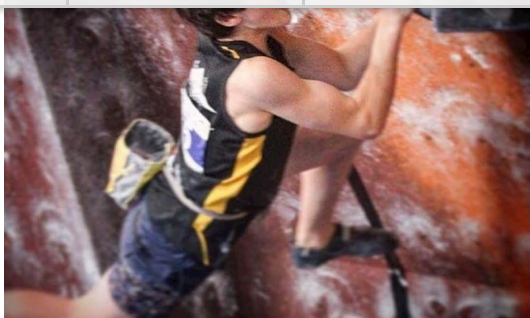


Help Rachel to be NZ's first International Paraclimber ...

"WHEN I'M CLIMBING IT'S ME AGAINST THE WALL AND AGAINST MY 'DISABILITY'. AND I LIKE TO BEAT BOTH." Help Rachel make NZ History. "I HAVEN'T STOPPED BEING AFRAID OF FALLING. BUT I CLIMB ANYWAY." In a less than five weeks Rachel, 35 year old mother of 3, will be making history as New Zealand's ...
givealittle.co.nz

<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/help-matt-represent-his-country-in-climbing>

Help get Matt to the World Youth Climbing



Givealittle is the place to donate and fundraise for causes and charities online.

givealittle.co.nz

<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/yipee-i-got-selected-to-representing-nz-in-world>



Yipee! I got selected to representing NZ in World Youth ...

Please help Ariana reach her goal of representing NZ at the Worlds Youth Climbing Competition in Moscow. Ariana was pretty excited to finally be selected to be part of a NZ team travelling to Moscow to compete in the world youth rock climbing competition. It had been her goal for the past 3 years ...

givealittle.co.nz

New Members

We welcome these new members to the Club, and look forward to seeing them on the Mountain.

Faye Hudson & Atere-James Brown

Sten Hong & Kerstin Huettmann, Noah & Naomi

Elizabeth Fynan

George Wallace

Tori Shrimpton

George Douglas

Shane King-Turner

Oakura

Auckland

New Plymouth

New Plymouth

New Plymouth

Auckland

Auckland

Members Trips ...

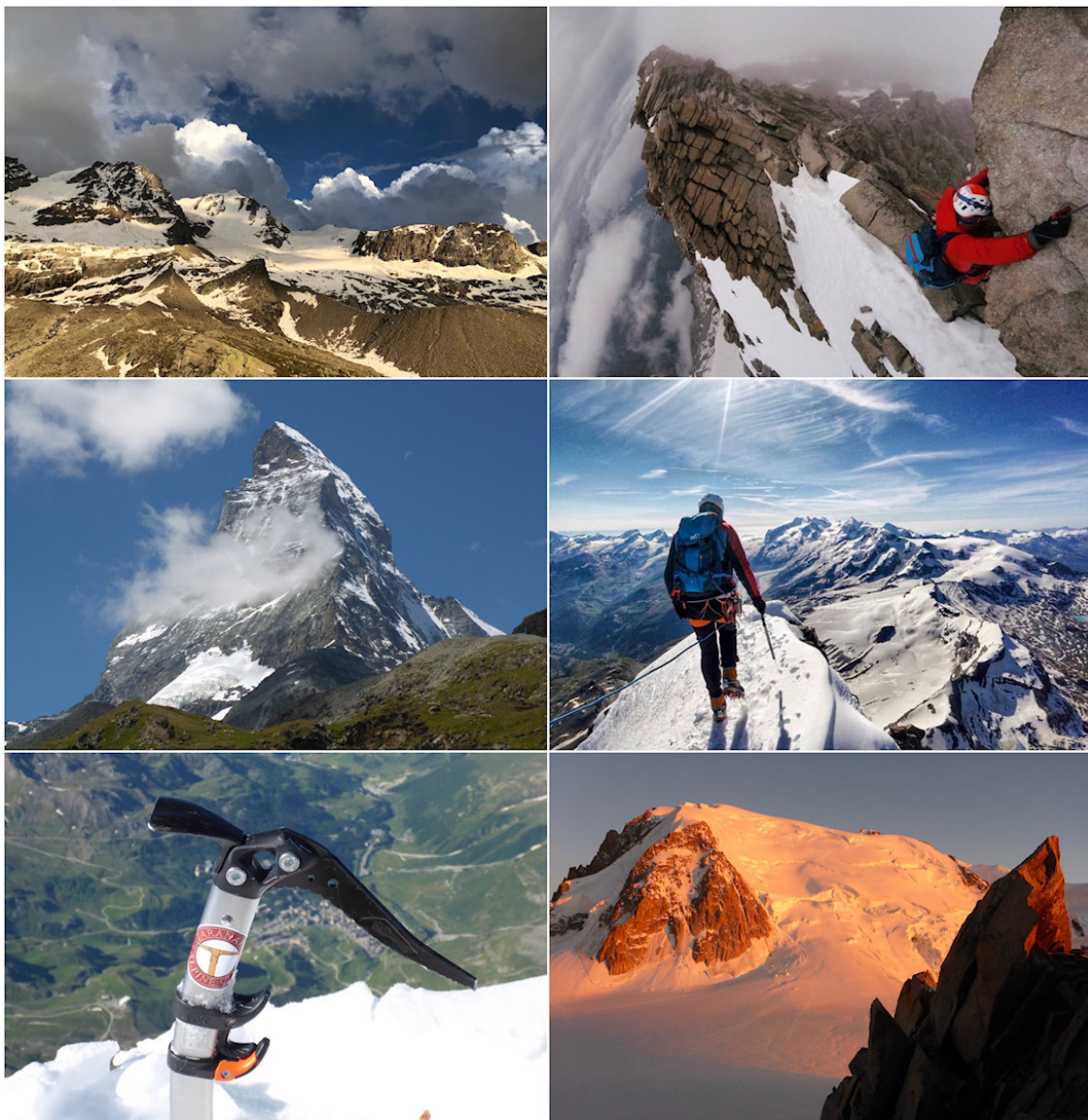
European 4000m-ers

By Glen Hodges

In July I traveled to Chamonix (France) to do a series of climbs with friend and mountain guide Jean-Baptiste (JB). Thunderstorms in Italy led us to delayed the start of our travels by a day and instead we completed a multi-pitch rock climb in the Aiguilles Rouges range above Chamonix. Our first big mountain objective was Italy's Gran Paradiso (4061m) to gain some acclimatization. To make the climb more interesting we traversed the mountain from the Chabod Hut up the north face then descended to the V Emanuele II Hut. Our next objective was Cervino/Matterhorn (4478m). Dangerous conditions on the Italian Leone (Lion) Ridge made us change our route to the Swiss Hornli Ridge. We left JB's car at Cervinia and used the awesome cable car and ski-lift system to travel to Schwarzsee at the base of the

Hornli Ridge. We climbed Switzerland's Breithorn (4,164m) en route as it's a simple 300m ascent from the upper ski slopes. Our Matterhorn ascent started the next day at 4 am from Hornli Hut. We summited

at 9 am and returned to Hornli Hut by 3 pm. Conditions were excellent with little wind and with considerable new snow on the upper mountain. The steepness, constant rock climbing, and route finding especially on the descent all require full concentration for the whole climb, but what an amazing and unique mountain!! The next day we traversed back to Italy and drove back to Chamonix. Mont Blanc from the wonder Cosmiques Hut was our next climb. The Aiguille du Midi cable car makes access simple to what is one of the world's most spectacular alpine climbing locations. Though 40-50km/hr winds were forecast for our summit attempt this didn't deter us. Our ascent took us over the *Three Monts* route (Mont Blanc du Tucul – Mt Maudit – Mont Blanc 4808m). Though we departed at 2 am with 30 other climbers our acclimatization saw us at the summit first at 7 am after a spectacular sunrise. It, however, was super cold with wind chill estimated at -20oC! Returning to the hut by 11:30 am the Cosmiques Hut warden couldn't believe how fast we had done it. Next morning we completed the spectacular (& not to be missed!) Cosmiques arête traverse before descending to Chamonix to enjoy the best coffee in town! Our last climb was an impressive 200m 6 pitch rock route on Le Brevent (NZ rock grade 17 – 19); it was nice to be in rock shoes again after so many climbs in 'big-boots'!





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.

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

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](#)

Copyright © 2018 Taranaki Alpine Club Inc., All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

MailChimp

