



HiTAC - September 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



Some important notices to start with – remember if you have a locker up at Taurangi Lodge this must be emptied by end of September in order for the Lodge Downstairs Upgrade project to commence.

We're looking for someone to fill in for Lodge Booking Officer from the middle of September for two and a half months whilst Gail is away. If you can help out please contact either myself, Gail Geange or one of the Exec members. This is not a particularly onerous task, and we'd hugely appreciate an offer of assistance.

Our annual club photo competition takes place at the December club night. The winners and second place of each category are then put forward to the FMC Photo competition, where some great prizes are up for grabs! So when you are out snapping give some thought to suitable entries for our December competition. The seven categories are as follows: Above Bushline – both with, and also without human element; Below Bushline, again with, and also without human element; Historic; Native Flora & Fauna; Humour. In recent years we have been light on entries in both Below Bushline categories, plus the Native Flora & Fauna category. So if you wanted to take a strategic approach to winning a prize, these are the sections to aim for! Note that all photos (except for Historic ones) must be taken after 1 Jan 2017 and must be taken in New Zealand.

Come along to the September club night to see club members photos covering a range of interesting areas and topics. The latest FMC Backcountry Bulletin will also be available for collection, plus FMC Membership cards if you haven't got yours yet.

October club night once again sees the Open Climb volunteers induction. Attendance is essential for all of those club members who will help out with the Open Climb on Saturday 16 February 2019. We'll follow the induction with a Mountain Movie screening.

You can catch up with photos from the club's recent trip over to Central Plateau on our facebook page. If you didn't make it on this year's trip, I'm sure the photos will inspire you to make sure you are there next year!

Elaine Sinton

President

Update on the Taurangi Lodge Downstairs Renovation Project

early October, beginning to start the major renovation to the downstairs of Tahurangi 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.

Below are some important pieces of information for you – please take note!

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 <mailto:hitac.tac@outlook.com?subject=Lodge Lockers>.

2. We need your help - we're looking for volunteers! If you would like to help us with painting/varnishing, digging, carrying materials to/from Translator, helping with demolition during October, November, December then please contact our Project Volunteer Coordinator John Thomason asap at johnthomason242@gmail.com with the following info. John will then contact you directly.

- Your name
- What you would like to help with (see the above activities)
- Whether you can help on weekdays and/or weekends and how much notice you need
- Your contact number
- We may be able to provide transport from North Egmont car park to the Lodge – this is pending 4WD & driver availability – please state whether you would be happy to walk to the Lodge or would only volunteer if we can provide the transport

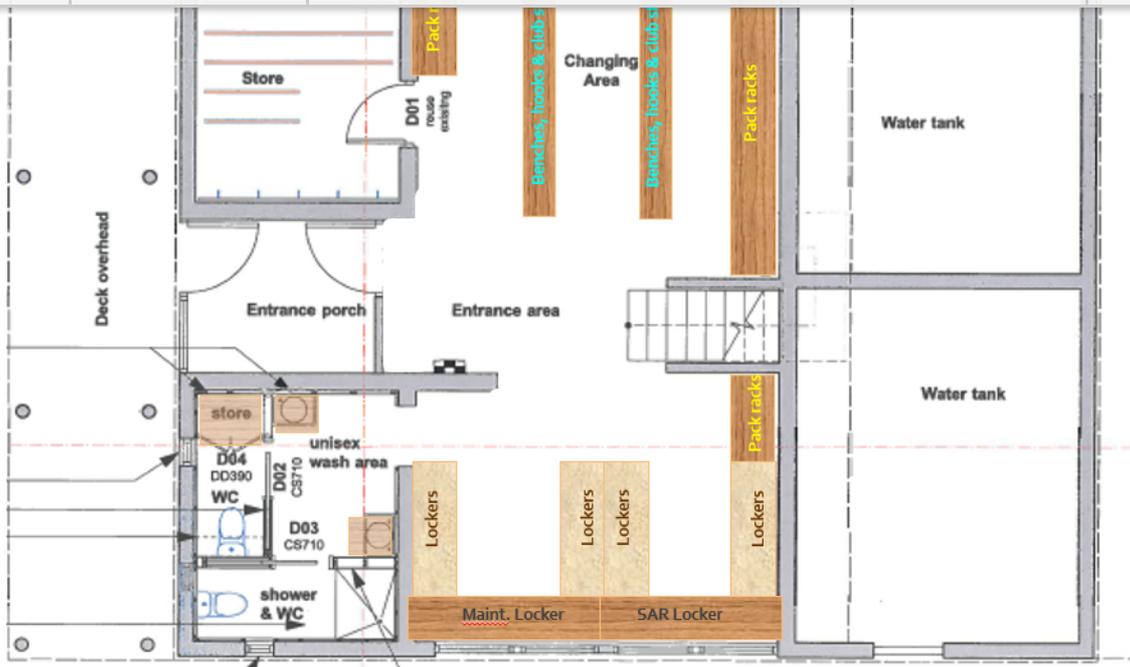
Even if just a few hours, we would be VERY GRATEFUL for your time! 😊

3. 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 & water 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.

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.

A sketch of the new downstairs layout.....



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

September 6th Collaborative Trips presentation

Come along for a series of short 20 minute presentations from club members:
 Tony Gordon - Ama Dablam & Mt Cook 2017 Ascents
 Fletcher Miles - Taranaki trips and Tasman Valley trip
 Scott Chamberlain - Taranaki Alpine Cliff Rescue
 Todd Velvin - NZ Avalanche Advisory
 See you all there!



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

Club Trips & Activity

Taurangi Lodge Winter Pot Luck Dinner & Mountain Film Evening

Twenty one club members braved wintery conditions on Saturday 28th July to attend our annual Taurangi Lodge mid winter pot luck dinner and mountain film evening. As always the food was exceptional and the company super entertaining. Once desert was polished off the theatre was constructed so the movies could commence. The line up this year was excellent with a tonne of laughs!... and one must not forget the Chamonix!!! Do try and make it to next years event! Thanks to Gail Geange & Glen Hodges for organising.



Mt Tongariro winter summit – Sat 18th August 2018

Some photos below of 14 of our club members enjoying an epic winter summit of Mt Tongariro a couple of weekends ago! Taking the ridge above Mangatepopo Hut to the summit and down via the ridge toward Red Crater, it was a day of all weathers from snow, sleet, keen winds & low visibility to calm, clear, sunny blue skies and beautiful snowy ridges with a little ice thrown in for good measure. With a handful of members having only recently completed Snowcraft 1 with us, everyone worked well together as a team with constant support, advice & encouragement to ensure we all had a fantastic, fun & safe day out. A huge thanks goes to Jonathan Crane who kindly volunteered to be Trip Lead, and also to Scott Chamberlain and Glenys Grant, all of whom helped ensure the ever-changing conditions were continually assessed to enable good decisions throughout the day. Thanks to everyone for an awesome day!



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 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 morning walk within easy distance of Tahurangi Lodge and 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 13th October 2018
- Saturday 27th October 2018

If you're keen, please contact Club Trips Coordinator Sophie (committee2.tac@outlook.com) for further details no later than the Tuesday before the buddy walk date you are interested in.

Sat 29th September 2018

Fanthams Peak spring summit

This is a great day out and a fantastic opportunity to experience exposure to steeper terrain and conditions on the colder side of the mountain. Lunch at Syme Hut depends how iced up it is! This trip is tailored as an excellent follow on from Snowcraft 1 (or equivalent) as well as for those with more experience to work together as an awesome team and learn from each other 😊

Please contact Club Trips Coordinator Sophie (committee2.tac@outlook.com) for further details. Reserve date is Sunday 30th September.

Late October / early November 2018 – date tbc

Mt Taranaki slush summit

If you have recently completed Snowcraft 1 with us, then this is the perfect trip for you! We specifically wait for suitable 'slush' conditions for this trip to enable those who have recently completed Snowcraft 1 to have the opportunity to summit Mt Taranaki in 'beginner' conditions. Because we wait for just the right conditions, it is likely the date will be announced at short notice and may not make a HiTAC edition. If you attended Snowcraft 1 this year you will be issued an email once the date is announced; our TAC facebook page will also be updated so please keep an eye out!

Please contact Club Captain Chris (captain.tac@outlook.com) for further details.

November 2018 – date tbc next HiTAC

Fanthams & Kapuni Lodge overnighter

This trip will include an overnight at Kapuni Lodge with some climbing up & around Fanthams somewhere. We're yet to firm up the date & route details – so please watch this space in the next HiTAC!

New Members

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

Ashley Jon Smith

Benedict Sakhrani

Derek Stevens

Janie Meyer

Tom Sinton & Helen Batt

Bell Block

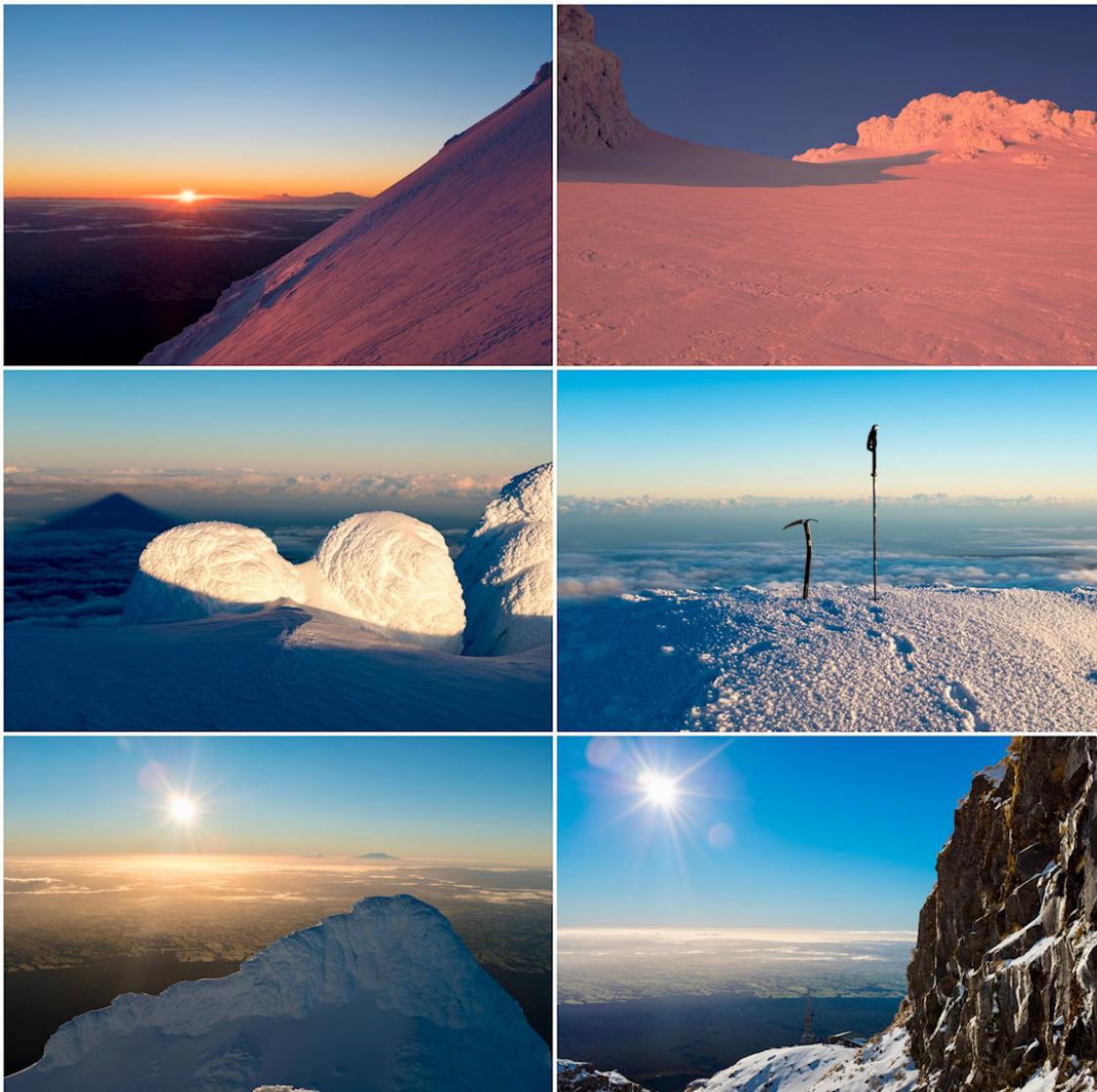
New Plymouth

Urenui

Te Awamutu

New Plymouth

More Stunning Pictures from Glen Hodges



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 Taurangi 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>

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

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

