



## HiTAC - HiTAC April 2019

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

Hi all,

After three years of diligent stewardship Elaine has stepped down as president and also retired from the committee after 12 years as a club officer, making this my first official communication as the new Club President.

I'd like to begin by thanking those committee members that have stood down this year for their help over the past years. Elaine has produced a record of service like no other and I'd also like to thank Joelle for seven years on the committee organising our social events and movie nights; Alec for his wise contributions over the past two years; and best wishes to Fletch, who leaves us for Waikato Uni... but he'll be back. Thanks too to Andrew, Chris, Conrad, Sophie and Stacey, who remain on board. We welcome Steve Ritson, Greg Sharman and Kevin Conaglen to the exec. Special thanks to Greg Banks, our booking officer; Charlie for the HiTac; and Carey Clow for maintaining the website. Elaine will be holding onto the club library until such time as alternative storage can be arranged.

Summer is winding down but there's still plenty happening on the mountain before the snows arrive, with reports of new rock projects in progress near the lodge and some old classics getting a revisit. If the weather behaves there will be a trip up the Carrington Ridge this weekend. Steve Ritson, your new club Captain, is taking expressions of interest for a rock climbing weekend at Kawakawa Bay sometime in late April/ early May with some instruction for beginners. Please get in touch via his email ([captain.tac@outlook.com](mailto:captain.tac@outlook.com)), or talk to us at club night.

Don't miss this month's club night with Dr Mike Gill. Mike is a Climber and founding member of the Himalayan Trust and he'll be talking about the 1960-61 Silver Hut Expedition. Also speaking will be John Loof talking about the Himalayan Trust's current work with communities in the Solukhumbu; Angela Hampton a teacher at Stratford Primary School, talking about teaching the next generation about Sir Ed's legacy; and Summit Challenge Ambassador Hasely Lobb, talking about climbing 8848m for Nepal in Taranaki. Lots to take in, should be a great night.

Note the change to our usual venue, this one's being held at the very comfy 4th Wall theatre, Fitzroy.

The Department of Conservation have been in touch to remind us that there is going to be an aerial application of 1080 on the mountain during April. They will warn us 2 days in advance and a 100m radius around the lodge and the translator station will be omitted from the drop area. Watch out on the club face book page for further details. DOC have also reported a family of rats lurking around Tahurangi Lodge. We will step up our trapping and pest hygiene as a result, but please ensure that you remove any rubbish and food scraps from the area surrounding the lodge and the within the lodge itself. The only rats we want to attract can belay.

The lodge upgrade project is nearing the end, with some minor tinkering still to be sorted out this month. There are no calls for another working bee this month but if required we will put out a call on the face book page. Thanks again to everyone who has made themselves available to help thus far.

Annual subscriptions are now due, thanks to everyone for paying promptly. Remember if you haven't paid your sub by 1 June, you'll incur a 20% penalty, and membership is forfeited if not paid by 1st July. Crikey!

**Ivan Bruce**

President

[president.tac@outlook.com](mailto:president.tac@outlook.com)

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Banff this year is June the 14th, Friday as usual and City West Church again. Tickets the same price, \$20 as last few years. Costs have gone up and other areas are charging more, we kept our price the same this year, expect an increase next year,  
Tickets at Macpac again, we will let you know when they go on sale.

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## Tahurangi Lodge Downstairs Renovation Project

Since commencing the renovation works to the downstairs of Tahurangi Lodge on 22 October 2018, there are now just a few finishing touches to the new Dry Room, bathroom cupboards, and new shower curtain. We are relying on the time availability of just a couple of our club members to complete this work so please bear with us while they find the time outside of their day jobs and other commitments to complete this work.

In April / May we hope to have a small 'official opening' up at the Lodge one weekend so please keep your eyes peeled on HiTAC for the date.

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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

**April 4th 7-30**

**NOTE: 4th Wall Theatre**

**Title: Keeping Sir Ed's Legacy Alive**

How much: Free

What: Mike Gill from the Himalayan Trust speaking about his experience on the 1960/61 Silver Hut Expedition, plus guests

Please note: Our club meeting in April will be held at the 4th Wall Theatre, 11 Baring Terrace, New Plymouth.

The Taranaki Alpine Club and the Himalayan Trust would like to invite you to a special speaker evening "Keeping Sir Ed's Legacy Alive" on Thursday 4 April at the 4th Wall Theatre in New Plymouth.

Featuring the key speaker:

- Dr Mike Gill, climber and founding member of the Himalayan Trust, talking about the 1960-61 Silver Hut Expedition. Speaking of an eventful expedition that was also when Sir Ed's philanthropic work in the Everest region began

Other speakers:

- General Manager of the Himalayan Trust, John Loof, talking about the Himalayan Trust's current work with communities in the Solukhumbu

- Angela Hampton, a teacher at Stratford Primary School, talking briefly about teaching the next generation about Sir Ed's legacy

- Summit Challenge Ambassador Hasely Lobb, talking about climbing 8848m for Nepal in Taranaki.

Look forward to seeing you all there!

# Keeping Sir Ed's Legacy Alive



**Thursday 4 April, 7:30pm**

4th Wall Theatre, New Plymouth. Free entry.

## 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](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

A huge thanks, as always, is extended to those of our experienced club members who volunteer their time to lead & assist our club trips. We couldn't run our trips with you! 😊

Please note that this previously planned April / May trip will now be covered as part of our Club Instruction by our Club Captain Steve Ritson. Please look out for it elsewhere in HiTAC and make sure you book your place if you're keen!

## Winter Trips Yet to be announced..... watch this space!

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## Can we help DOC please?

Hi Trampers

A message from Jared Coombes, DOC Taranaki:

I need the eyes and ears of everyone to help us get on top of what goats are left on the Mountain. We are now at the point where hunters are really struggling to find them. We're confident in saying there's less than 100 goats left, with those being predominately on the Pouakais. If anyone sees, hears or smells a goat within or near the National Park, or know of someone that has, Droughty or myself would like to know immediately so we can respond. This includes weekends and public holidays. This is especially important for VC staff, hut wardens, and the ranger on standby.

If a goat or sign of a goat has been observed, ideally we would get the following information:

a GPS location (or a really good location description)

type of observation i.e. goats seen/heard/smelt, goat prints seen.

If the reported observation is of goat poo seen, a photo would be handy. Quite common to mistake hare poo for goat poo, especially in the tussock or low scrub.

number of goats

colour of the goat/s.

If the information is second hand, a contact number for the original observer would be really helpful too.

We will use muzzled dogs to respond to any sightings of goats from that point until roughly February 2020 when we will start the final push to eradication.

Jared Coombes 0272159199

Please forward this email around to anyone you think relevant. The wider its circulated the better.

Any questions let me know.

Cheers,

Jared

Jared Coombes

Supervisor, Biodiversity - Kaitauawhi, Kanorau Koiora

Department of Conservation - Te Papa Atawhai

DDI: 06 759 7163 | VPN: 8953 | M: 027 215 9199

Ngāmotu/New Plymouth

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## Club Information

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.

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)

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

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