



## HiTAC July 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

Kia ora everyone,

First of all, things are starting to get busy for the winter season. We have snow and ice and I notice various face book pages are filling up with the usual suspects making their first ascents of the season. Those of you who started snow craft courses last year should be getting out there and into it. If you are unsure or cautious, get on the phone or get to the lodge and try and hook up with some of the more experienced club members and tag along on a some of their missions. More than often you'll be the excuse they need to get out of their chores and onto the slopes...

Snow craft courses start this month, first off with the train the trainers on Saturday. If anyone with a few skills is interested please make contact with Club Captain. Even if you haven't been involved yet, there is space for those who might be keen in the future to come along and see what the being an instructor is all about. If we have numbers we have greater flexibility and can think about succession planning.

Finally, from me an update on the cursed cameras. The Club is in the process of replacing the old cameras, which were fried in a lightening strike. We are trialing a couple of donated options (thanks to Cannon), alternatively we will have to purchase brand new cameras. We expect to have these up and running this month.

All best -see you up there.

**Ivan Bruce**

**El Presidente!**

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

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### Tahurangi Lodge Downstairs Renovation Project - complete!

The lodge downstairs renovation works are officially complete and we'd like to say a **WHOPPING GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to all of you involved!! The renovated space is a great success, as many of you have now experienced, and it has most certainly achieved its objectives which were to:

- Improve the club's biggest asset;
- Reduce future maintenance;
- Provide better and safer people flow;
- Provide more & improved gear storage;
- Provide new bathrooms;
- Provide a more effective drying room;
- Provide an improved service to the community as a mountain lodge available for both TAC members and non-members, including for the various courses, activities and Search and Rescue operations supported by the Lodge

In addition we are extremely pleased to announce that the project team completed the project cost 15% under budget for a total cost of \$106,688.08 - well done to those who were looking

here are some photos of the before, during and now complete project.....

## Main Downstairs Area



*Photo 1.* The Main Downstairs Area shortly into the demolition phase, with some internal walls and the ceiling panels and lights removed. The walls at the far end of the room are the 'old bathrooms', still intact.



*Photo 2.* The Main Downstairs Area with demolition phase completed. Note that the walls at the far end of the room (the 'old bathrooms') have now also been removed, opening up and flooding additional space and light into this overall area.



*Photo 3.* Taken from the same view as above photos 1 & 2 - the renovation is now complete with significant improvements to space, light, storage and future maintenance. TAC volunteers made the new made-to-measure pack racks, storage cupboards, bench seats, work bench as well as painted the floor and all plywood.



*Photo 4. The Main Downstairs Area shortly into the demolition phase, with some internal walls and the ceiling panels and lights removed. The framework on the right was a wall behind which was a small separate under-utilised storage room and was about to be demolished to fully open the usable width of this space.*



*Photo 5. With demolition complete, the area was dramatically opened up to allow for the spacious new layout.*



*Photo 6. Taken from the same view as above photos 4 & 5 - the renovation is now complete with significant improvements to space, light, storage and future maintenance. The pack storage on the right utilises valuable space where a separate room used to be, and the floor has now been re-coated with a hard wearing paint.*



Photo 7. Originally housing the inefficient 'drying room', this was a dark and under-utilised space.



Photo 8. The new Bathroom during its construction showing the timber-framed internal walls.



Photo 9. The new Bathroom - a bright and functional bathroom space.



Photo 10. Originally the cramped locker room, this space was to become the new Drying Room.



Photo 11. The new Drying Room during its construction showing the walls & ceiling lined and floor sealed



Photo 12. The new Drying Room – a bright, spacious and efficient drying space.

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## Social Events

### Lodge Movie Night

Very Popular event.



## **Movie Night at Tahurangi Lodge**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

**Pot Luck Dinner followed by a selection of short movies**



**Bring pre dinner snacks, drinks and your contribution to the pot luck dinner.**

**All welcome. The more the merrier.**

**Organisers - Gail 021 733281 Glen 021843047**

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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

### **July 4th Michael Brewer**

#### **Rescues without Helicopters!**

25 years ago I became involved with caving and Cave SAR when moving to Nelson and becoming a father took me off the mountains.

Since then I have been involved in multiple cave rescues and have been both a rescuer and a rescuee.

In 2007 I had the misfortune of being the subject of what turned out to be New Zealand's largest underground rescue when a boulder hit me and broke my pelvis. This resulted in a 3 day round the clock rescue involving over 100 cavers.

Using this rescue and others I hope to outline the shape of cave rescue in NZ today illustrating this with lots of interesting and pretty photos. I may even convince you that this sport has some redeemable features!





**August 8th**  
**New Zealand Mountain Film Festival**  
**NOTE THE DIFFERENT DAY AND LOCATION TO USUAL**

Thursday 2019-08-08 at the  
4th Wall Theatre on Baring Terrace.

NZ Mountain Film Festival; 2019 National Tour  
Screening 1930 ( 7.30pm)  
All tickets \$10 via the 4th Wall Theatre website



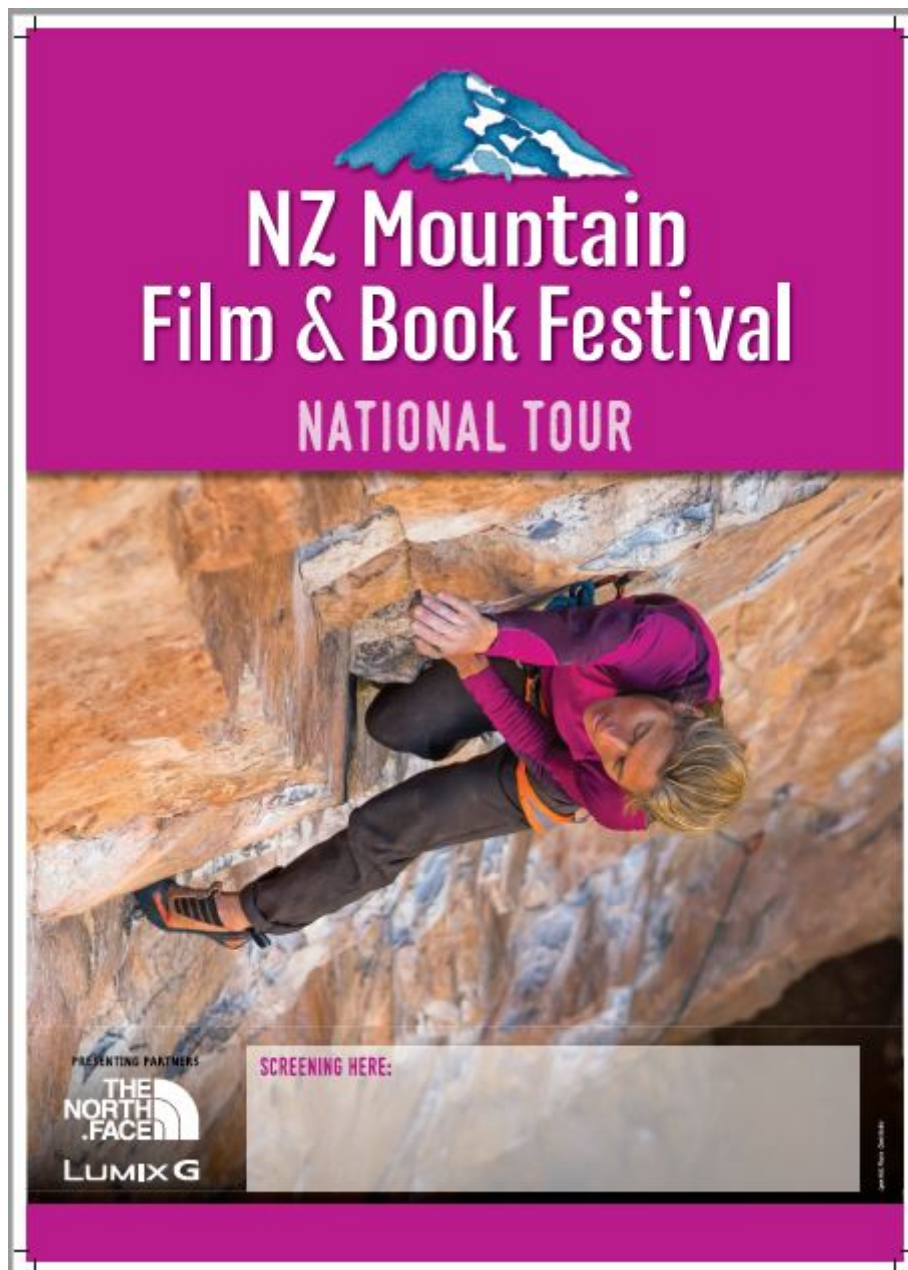
Cerro Rishwar - An Ice Cold Story

Between the lines - Entre les lignes

Spectre Expedition - To the End of the Earth

ICEolation

<https://www.facebook.com/events/348463209205121/>



## 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.

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 website).*

If you're interested in coming on any of the below trips, or would like to lead a trip, please contact Trips Coordinator Ange Hampton on [committee4.tac@outlook.com](mailto:committee4.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 Tahurangi 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 1/2 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.
- Let Ange know at least a week before that you will be there so that we can organize enough experienced buddies to help.

Dates for 2019 Buddy walks are:

- Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2018
- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2018
- September & October dates pending...

### On the day:

Meet at the North Egmont Camp House 8am ready to enjoy the day. That means with your gear (includes helmet), food, water bottle filled, etc. ready to go straight out onto the white stuff. We probably won't visit the lodge until on the way home.

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

## Mt Ngauruhoe Winter Summit – full, waiting list available

Following on from our last 4 years of hugely successful winter trips to National Park, this year will see us attempting a summit of Mt Ngauruhoe with the possibility of a crater rim traverse. 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 Ange ([committee4.tac@outlook.com](mailto:committee4.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 2019

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

- September:      Snowcaving – overnight trip
- October:          Kapuni Hut – overnight trip  
                      Surrey Road Summit – day trip  
                      Fanthams Spring Summit - day trip
- Mid Oct/Nov:    Taranaki Slush Summit – day trip

...and maybe some other trips! Let me know if you would like to lead a trip 😊

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## Winter Snow craft courses

So weve got some dates now for the snow craft courses so get them booked into your calendars!!

Snow craft 1, an introduction to winter mountaineering covering all basics such as crampon techniques, ice axe arrest and generally looking after yourself in winter conditions. This will be run over a Saturday and Sunday. All crampons and axes will be provided by the club and a good social evening on the Saturday in the lodge. There will also be a pre field meeting to discuss clothing and equipment, fitting of crampons and issue of equipment. Great learning and meeting like minded potential winter mountaineers!!

3rd and 4th August (pre field night 23rd July)  
& 24th and 25th August (pre field 13th August)

Snow craft 2, following on from SC1 and getting some valuable mileage and experience on the snow, and hopefully some rock climbing, we will be running a more technical course for winter mountaineers wanting to progress onto steeper terrain!!, we will cover all aspects of snow anchors, rope work and multi pitch routes along with basic avalanche awareness and weather etc

A great course to get involved with and step up a notch!!, (please send a basic CV of routes and experience) nothing too fancy, we just need to see good solid basics and then take it up a level!! Again, a great social weekend in the Lodge and meeting more local climbers and mountaineers.

12th,13th and 14th July (pre field 3rd July)

Please dont hesitate to contact me for further information and advice.

See you on the mountain!!

Steve

Club Captain

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## New Members

We Welcome the following to the Club, and look forward to seeing them on the Mountain, and at Club events

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Geraldine Van Tromp	New Plymouth
Arthur Postles	New Plymouth
Lindsay Stones	Okato
Keely Burnell	New Plymouth

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## 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.

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

## 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 Links

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

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