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HiTAC

Septemner 2019

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

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

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From the President's Desk

Hey everyone.

What a shambles of a month! Plenty of fresh snow, probably better suited to the skiers than climbers recently and only the briefest of weather windows, usually on a Tuesday (*#!) to get into it. Having to cancel the Ngaruahoe trip was a massive disappointment, especially to Ange our trip coordinator and a SC1 course is also in weather limbo.

However on a brighter note we have managed to run a SC2 course and two SC1 courses despite the weather and from what I saw, everyone had a great time. We've blooded some new instructors and it's been awesome to see a bunch of fresh, somewhat wind burnt, faces up on the mouna. Also there are reports of some less reliable members of the workforce having been seen midweek, getting stuck into the ice on the organ pipes and lurking around the summit.

The date for the open climb has been set for the Saturday the 8th of February 2020 and this month I'll be putting out an APB to set up the open climb committee and start emailing club members about their availability to help on the day. The Open Climb induction will be on the October Club night. This event is our major fundraiser for the year, and basically pays for the annual running of the club. So.... please put the date in your calendar and if you can set aside that weekend to help, that'd be appreciated.

Plenty planned for the coming month, with the buddy walks kicking on, and keep an eye on the face book page for confirmation of weather dependent trips planned for this month. Which include, the strangely popular overnight snow caving mission and a day trip to the summit of Fanthams Peak. Check with Ange for details. Don't miss the Club Night this month either, Glen will have plenty of tales to tell and great photos to see.

Also if you've had enough of the bad weather on North Egmont, why not try the bad weather elsewhere for a change. TAC members can stay overnight at members rates at the Kapuni Lodge (East Egmont), and the Levin Waiopahu lodge on Mt Ruapehu. In the spirit of use them or lose them, maybe try planning an adventure around some of these locations as well.

See you in the white stuff!

Ivan Bruce

El Presidente!

president.tac@outlook.com

Pack For Sale

Black Diamond mission 75 pack has had very little use
\$180.00 or near offer,
contact Peter 0272420515

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FMC Expedition Scholarships 2019

Dear Club Officer,

This is a reminder that applications for the 2019 FMC Expedition scholarships are now open.

Two types of scholarships are available:

- Youth Expedition Scholarships – for applicants under the age of 30
- Simon Bell Memorial Scholarship (no age restrictions)

Applications close on 20 September 2019; eligibility criteria and application forms are available online at <https://www.fmc.org.nz/scholarship/>

A poster to promote the scholarships is also attached to this e-mail.

We would appreciate it if you wanted to forward this information to your club members, and encourage young members to apply.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Executive Officer at eo@fmc.org.nz

Best regards

Danilo Hegg

FMC Executive Officer

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Is this where your expedition will be?

Adventure, exploration, mates, freedom. FMC, with the support of the FMC Mountain and Forest Trust, wants to help you to have an experience of a lifetime.

Applications for this year's FMC Expedition Scholarships close on 20 September 2019

Visit www.fmc.org.nz/scholarship and apply today



Federated Mountain
Clubs of New Zealand

Hopkins South Trip

I have booked the decanter bar for Wednesday 4 September 7pm for all club members interested in going to Hopkins valley for tramping climbing hunting.

There are plenty of opportunities for all.

9 different huts to stay in or camp out 40 km long valley from easy peaks 8,000 feet to some of the hardest climbs in NZ. Room for camp mothers or fathers as well.

Seeyou there

TAC South trip 2020

Kev Conaglen

Club Nights

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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 5th
6 Epic Climbs in 12 Months
Glen Hodges

It wasn't meant to happen like this, but mountaineering is often unpredictable. Three trips over a 12-month period last year took me climbing in some of the most AMAZING mountain regions in **New Zealand, Western Europe & Antarctica!** Come along and enjoy the story and the photo's!

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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 website).

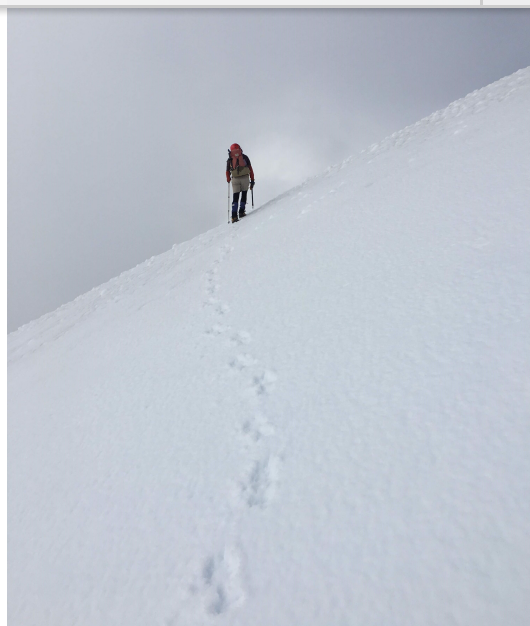
If you're interested in coming on any of the below trips, or would like to lead a trip, please contact Trips Coordinator Ange Hampton on committee4.tac@outlook.com for further details. Be sure to keep an eye on our Facebook page for trip updates too.

Recent Club Trips

Buddy Walks

There is always a lot to be learnt from those who give up their time to be a buddy! Some fantastic time spent on the white stuff with many laughs :D Some pictures below give you a glimpse of some of the adventures had recently on our monthly buddy walks.



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Upcoming Club Trips

Our winter/spring trips programme. Thanks again 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 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.

Let Ange know at least a week before that you will be there so that we can organize enough experienced buddies to help.

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 (committee4.tac@outlook.com) for further details.

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Sat/Sun 21st – 22nd September *Full with waiting list available*

The snow has arrived and what better adventure to have then building a snow cave. This will be an overnight trip – after all, if you build a snow cave, you are going to want to sleep in it! The trip is suitable for those who have completed Snowcraft 1 and have known experience.

Please contact Club Trips Coordinator Ange (committee4.tac@outlook.com) if interested or for further details.

Kapuni Hut Overnight

Sat/Sun 2nd – 3rd November

This trip will include an overnight at Kapuni Hut with some traversing up & around Fanthams somewhere. If the weather is not great the trip will still be a go.

The trip is suitable for those who have completed Snowcraft 1. Please contact Club Trips Coordinator Ange (committee4.tac@outlook.com) if interested or for further details.

Fanthams Peak Spring Summit

Late Sep - Early Oct – Date tbc

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 Ange (committee4.tac@outlook.com) for further details.

Other winter trips September - November 2019

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

October: Surrey Road Summit – day trip

Mid Oct/Nov: Taranaki Slush Summit – day trip
Okahu Day trip – Sat 30th November

...and maybe some other trips so keep an eye out in our next HiTAC! Let me know if you would like to lead a trip 😊

New Members

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

EddieWaterhouse	New-Plymouth
KatyanaKowalchuk-Horn	New-Plymouth
LukeVenables	Bell Block
TarynMartin	New-Plymouth

Club Information

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LODGE

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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

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

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