

Club night this Thursday 2 December



HiTAC December 2021

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

Kia ora katoa,

Righto, last one of these for the year, and I'll make it brief. Charlie is hovering over the keyboard to push send on this HiTAC, so I'd better move fast.

First up, the Open Climb. A joyous occasion of club togetherness, enshrined by over 80 years of beautiful tradition and public service, happens all over again next February the 12th 2022. The Open Climb committee is rolling out the event programme, starting with a quick induction movie, which will be shown at the December Club night. There's going to be a few changes to the way we run the event this year, so if you are helping on the climb; or want to help; or don't want to help, but realise I know where you live, please come along Thursday, and get inducted. Its painless and I'll even buy you a beer. Jon Crane will be our Open Climb controller, so he and I will be on the phones between now and February organising the 70 odd people we need to run this event. If you can't make it Thursday, please email us your details.

1. El Pres. president.tac@outlook.com
2. Jon Crane. committee1.tac@outlook.com

And now this: Mountain safety council is leading a research project relating to mountaineers and avalanche safety. The purpose of this research is to help the MSC and partners improve avalanche prevention in New Zealand, specifically targeting mountaineers and alpine climbers. They've asked us to share this survey with our membership, see the link below. The survey should take you about 20 minutes. Your participation is completely voluntary. Your answers will be completely confidential. By following the link above you'll get more information about the research before you start the survey.

<https://survey.researchnz.com/SE/1/W5222?urlimport=1&questlist=GROUP&GROUP=22>

Worthy research, also basically painless, but you don't get a beer. See how good a deal the Open Climb induction is.

Club Night this month is the President's shout and the annual photo competition. There have been lots of great entries this year. Greg Sharman's done a great job getting this all together and all entries will be judged again by Chris Hill, who always gives great feedback and top tips for the photography enthusiasts. The event will be held at our usual venue at the Blind Foundation on Vivian Street, 7.30pm on Thursday the 2nd of December. Sorry for the hold outs, but at the request of the Blind Foundation, only vaccinated members can attend events held at these premises, so please bring proof of vaccination status or exemption.

Finally, the Taranaki Tuataras had a successful event at the Youth & Master National Bouldering Comps in Queenstown last month. The kids went OK, all making finals, but in the only competition that really mattered Dave Bolger got a bronze medal in the Master's event. Old dogs can learn new tricks.

Wishing you all the best for a summer break.

Ivan Bruce
El Presidente!

Alpine Calendars - Available now

I'd like to advise that the TAC 2022 calendars are printed and available at Janes Gallery at 30 Devon Street East.

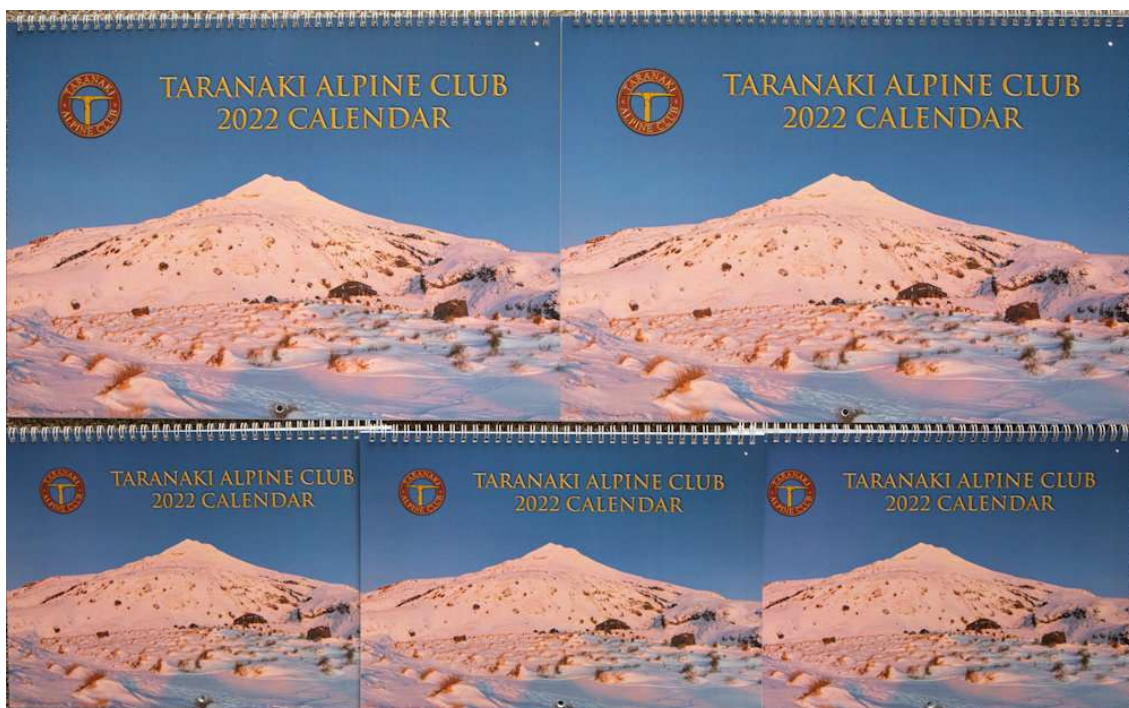
Both A3 and A4 calendars are available, although most of the A3's are already sold.

A4's are \$20.00 ea and A3's are \$30.00 ea

Along with the number indicated by club members, additional calendars were printed to accommodate extra sales.

I also intend having them available at club night.

Jeremy Beckers



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**

Thursday 2 December

Photo competition & Social time

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.

If you're interested in coming on any of the below trips, or would like to lead a trip, please contact Trips Coordinator Lindsay Stones on

trips.tac@outlook.com

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



UPCOMING TRIPS 2021/22

With just a few weeks until we welcome the festive season we hope to pack in a summit trip this side of Christmas. A pretty good line up of trips suited to all members and families planned for next year. Check out below and as always contact below email for info. 😊

To register for trips or further information please contact Lindsay Stones trips.tac@outlook.com

Surrey Hill Road Summit, Mount Taranaki Saturday 11 December 2021

This route will Climb up the Surrey Road track immediately behind Taurangi Lodge, and up onto Surrey Ramp. From here you will continue up Surrey Road route to the crater, arriving at the crater. Descend via Crater Valley, onto Lizard at approx. 2,200m & cross over into Snow Valley. Descend Snow valley to top of Hongis Valley, then down through Hongis to the Lodge.

The terrain on this trip is considered to be moderate steepness (40-45 degrees) with some steeper sections up to 55 degrees. Exposure is considered to be moderate. Confidence on steep exposed sections is required. Very good fitness is also required. Please come prepared with appropriate clothing, spare clothing, water, food, personal first aid etc for a full day on the mountain for all weather conditions.

Rock Climbing Day trip to Pakeho, Waitomo District Saturday 15th January 2022

This is probably one of the best beginner crags in the North Island. **Pakeho** has interesting limestone **climbing** from grades 14-23 may be even some easier stuff. Either stay the day or go for the weekend. This is a self lead trip, outdoor experience required along with your own gear. Gear can be hired from the Club Captain.

<https://www.freedlimb.co.nz/pdfs/Pakeho.pdf> check out this link for more information on the area and climbs.

Hike to Giant's Bum! Mount Taranaki Saturday January 29th 2022

This is a new one! Starting from North Egmont, the route will see us heading up via the ridge west of Humphries to climb above Amburys Bluff and then sidle back to North Ridge and back to the lodge. Approximate time 4hours.

Kids Family Hike to the Lodge Stayover Stratford Plateau round to Taurangi Lodge Saturday 5th Feb to Sunday 6th Feb

A chance to get the kids hiking and yourself, socialise and meet other families too. Meet at 10am at the Stratford Plateau Carpark and sidle around to the lodge for lunch. Enjoy the rest of the day either hanging out at the lodge

or going for a short walks nearby. Get the kids excited about a fun sleepover and hiking of course, they are our future TAC volunteers after all.

Rock & Rope on Taranaki Fri/Sat/Sun 25th – 27th February 2022 – Weekend Trip

If you have ever wanted to have an experience on some of Taranaki's classic rock outcrops and gain the experience of using a rope then this activity is for you. We will start with rope skills at the lodge then move to Tegel Wall for abseiling practice. Next will be Warwick's Castle for a traverse to test our nerves and skills before making our way to Humphries Castle for another classic on Taranaki on the Sunday.

This trip is an opportunity for members to experience ropes on the mountain. No previous ropes experience necessary, only a head for heights and a fun attitude. Some gear will be provided by the club. Participants are expected to have basic alpine gear.

This activity is only available to TAC Members and is not available to persons who have previously undertaken the activity. If interested, contact Club Trips Coordinator Lindsay Stones at trips.tac@outlook.com.





New Members

We welcome the following new members, and look forward to meeting them on the hill.

Jeremy	Chirnside	New Plymouth
Malachy	Boyes	New Plymouth
Fa'afeu	Kapeneta	New Plymouth
Aaron	Edwards	New Plymouth

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

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. trips.tac@outlook.com

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](#)

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