

Club Night this Thursday
see inside for details



HiTAC

July 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 katou,

This month the snow season officially kicks off... so it can start snowing anytime now already.

Train the trainers day is planned for the first weekend of July so a reminder to those who will be helping out on snow craft courses, to keep that weekend free. Also keep every other weekend free from now until the snow level drops to within sensible distance from the lodge. Postponement is a possibility. Currently looks like we're going to be doing a summit mission instead of the usual gentleman's amble within hearing range of the Lodge toaster. For everyone else please note that the lodge might be busier than usual.

Snow craft 2 is first up on the weekend of the 16th to 18th, but this is (fortunately) being held at Ruapehu, so we should at least have snow cover there. Fingers crossed for the rest of the weather variables though.

If you're not on the SC2 course, never mind, the winter buddy walks are starting up on the 17th of July from Tahurangi Lodge. These are a great way to get back into the winter groove under the grizzled gaze of some of the club's lifers. Make a weekend out of it and stick around afterwards for the movie night and the mid winter Christmas party at Tahurangi.

I attended the DOC Visitor Experience Design Workshop this month which really didn't tell me much we didn't know already. Track sections are going to be upgraded, others improved, and we may see a (pretty innocuous) shift in the way the track is marketed and presented to the public. But the Puakai circuit would, as far as I could make out, remain much the same as it ever has been. Our main concerns, as advised to me by yourselves, were duly passed on: I stressed that our membership numbers were high; our lodge and courses well patronised and that we don't expect our membership to drop in the next 50 years; our Lodge was open to visitors at our prerogative; and that our toilets and water supplies were not available for public use. Which all went down very well and everyone's still friends...

Club night is this Thursday, 1st of July and should be an epic. Local mountain running legend Tom Hadley and his friends took 3 months to traverse the length of the Southern Alps last summer and now he's back in town for what will doubtless be another excellent night out. Their trip features in the latest New Zealand Alpine Journal (Autumn 2021) if you want a sneak preview.

Not a night to miss out on, see you all there!

Ivan Bruce

EI Presidente!

president.tac@outlook.com

www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz

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 1st July

Local Legend Tom Hadley on a 3 month traverse of the Southern Alps

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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.

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.



Trips Update

A massive thanks again to those of our experienced club members who have so far offered to lead & assist some of our trips. Our trips would not be possible without you!



West side of the Mountain Saturday 26th June – POSTPONED

Unfortunately, nothing to report on for this planned trip just that there was a lot of rain so no hiking! Hopefully we can re-schedule and with a bit of luck there may be some snow 😊

Buddy Walks

If you would like to be a buddy who can help a less experienced club member, please let Lindsay know. A massive thank you to all of those who have been a buddy in the past! 😊

Saturday 17th July 2021

Saturday 14th August 2021

Saturday 11th September 2021

Our very popular Buddy Walks are back in 2021! Our first one happens to fall on the same day as our Film Night so will go via the lodge first for those needing to drop off their overnight stay gear. Read below for what our buddy walks are all about.

- Are you new to winter mountaineering and don't quite know how to gain some winter experience? Our buddy walks can help you!
- Snowcraft is not needed. You may have been instructed in the basics of ice axe and crampons and have had a play. Learning this from a friend in a non formal setting is fine. A great chance to get out on our maunga at this time of year!!
- 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 wants 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.

Please contact Club Trips Coordinator Lindsay (trips.tac@outlook.com) for further details

Ngauruhoe Winter Weekend Away

Few spaces left book soon

Fri/Sat/Sun 16th,17th,18th September 2021



Last year was an epic bluebird day for this popular summit and we will do it again, yippee.

This trip is beginner level and suitable for those that 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.

*Rooms have been reserved at the Adventure Lodge and Motel, it would be great for all participants to be located at the one base, so once again get in quick to register your interest and book your accommodation. Limited spaces.

Please contact Club Trips Coordinator Lindsay Stones (trips.tac@outlook.com) for further details.

Events

28th August 180 Party at the Lodge

Time: Shared dinner 6.00pm

Why: Greg Banks, Sheryl Hamilton & Claire Jones
are turning 60 years old!

The playlist is under construction, so if you wish to join in
whether you know these crew members or not, just come and play!

Saturday 17th July Tahurangi Lodge Mid-Winter Christmas & Alpine Film Evening Tahurangi Lodge 4pm

Come along and join us for our annual Tahurangi Lodge Mid-Winter Christmas & Alpine Film Evening at Tahurangi Lodge. Bring along your favourite Christmas dish to share (and please don't forget about desert!).

Snowman/person building competition

As usual we have an impressive line-up of mountain films that will not have seen; they are not to be missed!! 2 hrs of some of the best!

This event is open to existing club members. Do come prepared for winter conditions! Ice axe, crampons, and of course a healthy appetite are all a must.

For more details Contact:

Glen Hodges 021 843 047

Gail Geange 021 733 281



New Members

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

Jarrold & Stacey	Colbourne	New Plymouth
Nigel	Payne	Hamilton
Sheryl	Firth	New Plymouth
Damian	Firth	New Plymouth
Laura	Duggan	Auckland
Makaia	Singh	New Plymouth
Matthew	Jones	Christchurch
Claire	Berthelsen	New Plymouth
Chris	Peacock	New Plymouth
Sarah	Sharp	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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