

Club night 5th May - No Vaccine passport required



HiTAC May 2022

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

Tena Koutou Katoa

A personal thanks to all those members who have taken the time to update me on their adventures, I have recently survived on the tales of these trips while I recover from silly and annoying injuries preventing me from joining you. If you have also been unable to get out on the rock or mouna recently check out the great pics on our book face page showing TAC members rock climbing at Kawakawa bay on the eastern shores of the beautiful lake Taupo and more recently a walk up the ski field to the policeman with a detour. Big thanks to our volunteer trip leaders and organizers who make these great days out possible.

Following up on those who endured our last club night or lack of one unless you count a dark cold alleyway social gathering, I have been assured that we will once again have access to our long standing club night venue the Blind Low Vision Foundation Hall this coming Thursday 5th May. We can finally share in Peter Leftbridge's enthusiasm for getting overseas climbing once again.

The way we use the Blind Low Vision Foundation Hall is changing. Firstly those who have chosen natural immunity can now enter the building again. Secondly you may notice at our next club night that a security guard will now open and close for us(almost tripling the cost to the club nights).

As much as the committee likes supporting the Blind Low Vision Foundation we are aware that some of our membership, likely the younger ones, find our current venue not as exciting as our speakers, who the committee endeavors to get up from the south island once or twice a year. Therefore if any club member knows of other suitable one-off or potentially regular venues which can provide a projector screen, seating for 50+, hot and cold beverages, and anything that may make our club nights more attended at an affordable cost please let myself or one of our committee know.

If you have a strong desire to get on the snow this winter and spring and have no idea how the spiky things go on your boots or how to hold the pointy sharp thingy, make sure you keep an eye on the HiTAC for our great value volunteer run instruction courses which covers these things and more useful top tips.

Every year we have requests to redo snowcraft one but instead if you don't have someone to head into the hills to get more practical experience get in touch with our Trip coordinators about buddy walks which match up inexperienced and experienced members for snow walks on suitable terrain and conditions. Big thanks to all those who have mentored people through TAC buddy walks and we are always looking for a bigger pool of experienced alpinists to share their mountain knowledge with our new members.

Ngā mihi

Conrad Murray

President

president.tac@outlook.com

www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz

Trophy Winners

Please join the committee in congratulating our 2022 trophy winners

Len Lovell Loyalty Award - Sophie Tucker

Ben Stephenson Most Enthusiastic Young Member - Greg Sharman

Barry Francis Memorial Trophy - Conrad Bolger

Dan Bryant Trophy Photo Competition Winner - Quirino Bellini

Maggie Brown Trophy Photo Competition Runner up - Claire Jones

Richard Kirk Rock Climbing - Unawarded as specifically for those pushing trad climbing

Snowcraft Courses 2022

Kia Ora Climbers,

I know there are some of you out there have been sitting by your computer, anxiously awaiting the release of the 2022 Snowcraft Course dates, so wait no longer, here it is.

The courses are only available to members of the Taranaki Alpine Club. If you wish to attend any of the dates below, please contact me at captain.tac@outlook.com with your name, phone number and preferred course/date.

You will not be guaranteed a spot until the correct forms are completed, returned and a proof of payment is obtained (by screenshot/scan), so first in first served.

For those considering to register interest for the Snowcraft 2, it is a pre-requisite to have completed the Snowcraft 1 and made a concerted effort to further your skill with buddy walks, club trips etc. It is up to the discretion of the course leaders and trainers to accept the application. Please do not be offended if it is declined, this is for climbers to take a significant step with their skills and it is pertinent that the attendees are confident with their abilities.

I am also looking for expressions of interest for those who would be able to assist with instructing or helping on these courses. If this sounds like you, please send me an email. There will be a compulsory train the trainer day currently set for 23rd/24th July.

All course dates below have a backup date the following weekend if the course is cancelled due to bad weather.

Snowcraft 1

1: 20th/21st Aug

Pre field night 15th August

2: 3rd/4th September

Pre field night 29th August

3: 17th/18th September

Pre field night 12th September

Snowcraft 2

1: 29th/30th/31st July

Pre field night 25th July

Now all we need is snow! Fingers crossed for a winter of climbing, beers and good yarns at the lodge.

I look forward to seeing you all up there.

Your Club Captain.

Finn Gable

Covid requirements

Following change in government regulations, the requirement to be Covid vaccinated as a membership requirement has been dropped

Social events

You are invited to:

An Indian curry night

At Tahurangi Lodge

Saturday 14th May 2022



What to bring:

- ✓ Pot luck dinner contribution of your very best Indian Dish.
- ✓ Nibbles and drinks (to cool down the hot food).
- ✓ Your best Indian dress apparel and any decorations you have.
- ✓ The lodge has been booked for TAC members only so make a night/weekend of it and stay Saturday night.

Time: Starting with nibbles from late afternoon

Organisers: Gail Geange 021 733 281; Greg Banks 027 2613199

Give us a call if you have any queries or need more information.

PS: please pass this invite onto other TAC members who may be interested in joining us for another great evening at the lodge.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Saturday 16th 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; they are not to be missed!!

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

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 5th May (Will actually happen this time)

Peter Lethbridge .. Following the examples of John Jordan & Glenn Hodges with his Denali exploits

New Members

The Club welcomes the following new members, and we look forward to seeing them out on the Mountain

Frank & Helen Hofmans	New Plymouth
James Harris	Hamilton
Lucas Flay	Inglewood
Troy Ruane & Femke Hilbink	New Plymouth
Jonathan Wood & Alison Byant	New Plymouth
Chris Hargreaves	New Plymouth
Janet Rivers	Stratford

CLUB TRIPS TRIPS 2022

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

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

Rock and Ropes Follow on course 21st/22nd May

Dave Bolger (NZOIA Rock 2 and Alpine 2) is going to run a free introduction workshop on basic rock climbing skills. This workshop is ideal for people who want to become more independent on the outside rock and learn the current best practices. The initial focus will be on fixed or bolted climbs, however if time allows there may be an opportunity to explore using traditional gear. The initial plan would be a skills and climbing day on the first day and on the second day a climb day to put the new skills into practice. Please register your interest with the Trips Coordinator and also the below information is required.

- What skill level and experience you have with rock climbing (I'm not expecting really experienced climbers, more a beginner to intermediate level)
- What would a successful outcome from the course be for you? What would you like to learn?
- Are you comfortable with paying for some accommodation or would you prefer to camp? or happy with either.
-

Prerequisites: Have climbed and belayed before, can tie a re-threaded figure 8 knot, have abseiled before.

Location: TBC Kinloch, Wharepapa South or the Waitomo area.

Trip Information

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.



Trip Reports

Kawakawa Bay

K Bay easter 2022

It is not every year that the Alpine Club trip to Kawakawa bay falls during a weekend of perfect weather - but Easter 2022 was one of those weekends. Monitoring but the forecast, and for absence of COVID symptoms, the packing mission began - quite a lot of gear is required for climbing, biking, camping and fuel/fluids for all these activities.

Suzanne the boat woman loaded our gear at noon sharp in Friday, while Emilee and Quinn accompanied her and the rest of us rode in on the 9 km MTB track.

Our group consisted of me, Tess, Emilee, Grant, Dex and Quinn.

Tents pitched and stomachs filled, we headed initially to "Secret Garden" - warming up on some of the easier climbs as we re-familiarised ourselves with outdoor climbing. With varied skill-sets, knowledge was shared and with the absence of rain, we were able to climb till the last rays of sun cast its golden glow over Lake Taupō.

Headlamps aglow, we trotted back to campsite where the lake enticed us to clean out grimy bodies after our exertion.

Then dinner, music (thanks Tess), and a very cold night in our tents, and with a possum visitation for Grant, till the next day, where we explored Lower Bluff (a popular spot) - hogging Reggae Shark for most of the morning.

After swim/lunch, we walked along the coastline to "The Point", via a small cave - to climb 1st pitch of "High Hopes" - impeccable timing as another group was just leaving as we arrived.

The lower pitch was reasonably challenging and took much of the afternoon, but the views from the top were very rewarding. As the sun dipped in the sky, we headed back, with fingers that can no longer unlock phones, various grazes and bruises, and tired limbs, but happy.

The campsite was by now seething with climbers, campers, bikers and boats.

Another evening spent swimming, eating, talking, walking, and sorting out quick-draws that had circulated between our harnesses.

I had other plans for the remainder of the weekend, so left Sunday morning, having had lots of fun and activity.

Anyone contemplating this trip does not need to be a highly experienced climber - there are climbs for all levels. It is a great experience and I am thankful to Lindsay for organising everything, and for a great group to have fun with and share knowledge on the trip itself.

.Claire Jones

Hey team,

What an awesome trip away, I had a great time with y'all! Look forward to seeing you on the rock again next time. I think the bouldering wall at the Y will be a great spot to practice multi pitching and repelling.

Hope you are all adjusting to civilisation again? Here's my blurb for the report;

What a place Kawakawa Bay is!

Staying there is a must do experience. We had the best little camp down by the lake.

Everything was a bit of an adventure, from loading up the boat with our gear, biking the k2k to camp and hiking to find all the different walls.

My highlight was Grant pitching us to the top of the 3rd section of Reggae Shark. The view was spectacular up so high above the lake, looking back over the endless camp site of the Easter weekend climbers.

We still have to tackle the 4th pitch of Reggae Shark at a grade 23 with a overhang to top out. Might have to practice for that!

We rounded out the trip with a climb in Kinlock Bay, another great spot that is accessible by car and worth returning to.

Thank you TAC for your best trip yet!

Tess Pope







Gloworm light discount deal



Gloworm Performance Products Ltd is a New Zealand born company, formed in 2010 with the sole aim to develop a series of high performance LED lighting systems that are affordable for the everyday user. Now Gloworm is offering TAC members a special 30% discount on their products. These lights are perfect for mountaineering, adventure racing, biking, caving, and for any other moment you need a bright light in the dark. Check out their range at: <https://www.glowormlites.co.nz/product-category/lights/lights-current/> The 30% discount is for a bulk order only, so we need a few to show interest. To get the Gloworm light of your

choice, or to ask any leading questions about the deal, contact Don Paterson committee1.tac@outlook.com. Don will place the order once there is enough interest.

Nga mihi
Don

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 2022: FAMILY \$65, ORDINARY (single) \$45, STUDENT (under 18), \$35.

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.

MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM

Our new member management system, [Hello Club](#), went live on **1st March**.

Through Hello Club, you are able to:

- Renew and pay for your membership or any other outstanding fees
- View past transactions and download invoices and receipts

You will have received an email with instructions on how to setup your account for Hello Club.

If you have changed your email address recently, please send us your up-to-date email address.

For any questions or comments, please contact club treasurer **Andrew Darney** via treasurer.tac@outlook.com

We are aware that membership reminders have already been emailed out automatically and has resulted in a lot of confusion so apologies for that.

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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