

**No Club Night this Thursday 2 September**  
see inside for details



## HiTAC September 2021

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 folks,

Arggh, this again. While I'm not really known for my sunny, optimistic disposition for the sake of everyone's sanity I'll try and keep a positive spin on things.

So, first of all, our club night this month is the NZ Mountain Film Festival, which will still be held at the 4th Wall Cinema on the 16th of September, assuming we are at Level 2 by that time. We don't expect to be below Level 2 again anytime soon, so numbers will be limited to 100 people. If we aren't at Level 2 on the 16th, we are going to postpone this event until the next available Thursday. So get your tickets now, it's bloody happening.

I'll be liaising with the 4th Wall management as the levels become known, so keep an eye on the TAC Facebook page for any changes on the event date. We are showing a bunch of great NZ-based climbing movies this year, please follow the link below to find out all about it.

<https://www.4thwalltheatre.co.nz/onat4thwall/whats-on/nz-mountain-film-festival.html>

There'll still be plenty of white stuff in September so our September snow craft courses will continue once we hit Level 2, but while they are running the Lodge will be effectively booked out for overnight stays for anyone else. Otherwise, the Lodge becomes available for everyday use again once we reach Level 2, but only 15 per night can stay over, so please, even if you are a member, make a booking, or contact the booking officers to make sure there is space available.

At the time I wrote this the park gates were closed and DOC was still to release a decision as to whether they would be open at Level 3. If by some chance they do open the park and members find themselves at Tahurangi, please keep your social distance, scan the tracer, and wipe down any surfaces, etc, you know the drill.

Stay safe and avoid other humans, they're generally pretty revolting at the best of times so it shouldn't be that hard.

**Ivan Bruce**

**EI Presidente!**

[president.tac@outlook.com](mailto:president.tac@outlook.com)  
[www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz](http://www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz)

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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**

## Thursday 2 Sept

No Club night this month  
Check back next month

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## Taranaki Tuataras

Taranaki Tuataras are ordering Hoodies and Singlets for there competition uniform

If any other Alpine club members are interested the link is below

<https://www.gamechanger.org.nz/taranakituatara>

We need a minimum of 10 per item

Cheers

Peter  
[peterlofthouse@hotmail.com](mailto:peterlofthouse@hotmail.com)

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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](mailto: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!



## 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 11<sup>th</sup> September 2021 (last one)

Last month was our first Buddy Walk and there was some great feedback and praise for the club members that make these specialised day trips happen. 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!!
- **Please note as mentioned some experience is required with ice axe and crampons**
- 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 Lindsay 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](mailto:trips.tac@outlook.com)) for further details or to register your interest.

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## Ngauruhoe Winter Weekend Away

**Full & no Wait list**

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

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## Events

**28th August 180 Party at the Lodge**

**Postponed - but it will happen**

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!

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# Recent Events

## Trip Report August Buddy Walk

After the first Buddy Walk in July was cancelled it was still a bit touch and go to see if the August one would be an all go, despite the dodgy conditions the dedicated volunteers from the club gave it the go ahead. Which meant some very keen new members to the snow were delighted to be heading up to the mountain early Saturday morning. The crew met at the Camphouse, discussed the conditions, gear checks done, what to expect from the day ahead according to the mountain forecast and then off they went to explore and learn some valuable alpine skills in the white stuff. The crew headed up Jacobs Ladder, split into groups relevant to experience, had a play and after a few hours of cramponing around they headed to the lodge for a warm up and hot drink. One of the members said it was great to have the opportunity to practice in a supportive environment without rush and too many people. Also, it was good it went ahead on the average weather conditions, as great to go out with experienced people when the weather is not so flash.

Thanks again to Alec, Charlie and Peter making the time and sharing their knowledge..

Buddy walk was great! 😊

**Next Buddy Walk Saturday 11th September, see Upcoming Trips for more information**



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## Snow Craft 1

No.1 SC1 Course for 2021 is done! A weekend late due to bad weather we made our way onto the mountain on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> in windy and icy conditions. Our Saturday instruction was cut short by the arrive of sleet, snow, and winds of 70km/hr at 2pm. Sunday dawned clear and with an excellent freeze overnight enabling some good crampon training. A big thanks to instructors Glen, Glenys and Andrew.

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## New Members

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

June

Hart

New Plymouth

Quirino

Bellini

New Plymouth

Edward

Whewell

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, [trips.tac@outlook.com](mailto: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](http://www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz)

Any trip reports, events, gear for sale can be sent to the Editor at [hitac.tac@outlook.com](mailto: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](mailto:secretary.tac@outlook.com)

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# Club Links

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

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