

NEW Clubnight Venue

Club nights are now being held at Fitzroy Golf Club, Record Street, Fitzroy



HiTAC September 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

Kia ora folks,

A lot of our new members will be wondering if their chances of completing a snowcraft course will be possible this year after spotting the mountain on Monday. Thanks to our dynamic efforts of Finn and the dedicated team of volunteer instructors we will try our best to run courses when the conditions allow hence having backup weekends already built in. If these attempts fail a third date is sometimes a possibility subject to instructor availability. Let's just hope the snow can come back as quickly as it has disappeared.

Club night update

August:

I couldn't make it unfortunately but from what I heard last club night was a non-event due to modern technology keeping us on our front points. One good thing from last club night, thanks to some straight-talking club members, was some clear feedback on what they wanted from club nights. Therefore, we now have most of a plan until the end of the year. See the Club night section further below in this and future HiTAC's as well as following our facebook page for more details. **September:**

See you there for a cup of tea (home baking welcome) at the **Fitzroy Golf Club this Thursday 1st September 7:30pm** - Kick the modern tech to the curb with us by watching a trusty DVD film on the 1953 Taranaki mountaineering disaster.

Here is a teaser about other club nights in development:

October:

A brief but informative induction required for those who want to help out on the day of the club's annual fundraising event The Open Climb February 2023 traditionally followed by a short film.

November:

Still to be decided, possibly a conservation theme if we can find an available speaker.

December:

Our annual photo competition where we ask our members to submit their alpine related photos for our viewing pleasure, keep an eye on upcoming HiTAC's and Facebook for more details and updates on how to enter and win glory and prizes.

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You may have noticed our social media has been busy due to severe weather events causing havoc for those who are not digitally connected that way I will repeat here. The power is restored thanks to some dedicated and skilled members volunteering their time to get a repair in place. There is also a reported hole on the translator road with the very heavy rainfall we had last weekend. Be your usual careful selves up there on the hill with some massive rainfall events as of late. Some of those regular routes might just throw you a spanner to remind us that the mountain is an ever-changing landscape.

From some members I have talked to recently, the lack of snow has forced them to source their inspiration by thinking ahead to a likely early start to the rock-climbing season, if you want some assistance being equally inspired check out these sources below:

1. A rock-climbing festival currently being planned at Waipari in the Waikato in October
2. The idyllic Whanganui Bay opens for a trial winter season until the end of November (booking essentials). Keep an eye on September HiTAC for a potential club trip here.
3. And of course, our local mouna the best trad climbing destination in the North Island uncontested no thanks to the Quarry remaining closed for no publicly known logical reasons.

See you on the snow and rock soon!

Conrad Murray
President

Conrad Murray

President

president.tac@outlook.com
www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz

Lodge Matters

Please be advised that the manual access code, combination, on the main entrance door to the lodge on the has been changed.

The electronic fob and key pad access are to be used to access the lodge.

The Cell phone in the Lodge has been re activated
It is available for for incoming /emergency calls only.

Snowcraft Courses 2022

Next up on the instruction agenda is the Snowcraft 1 on the 3rd/4th September.
Reminder that the prefield evening is on 29th August 7pm at the YMCA.

For those attending this course, keep an eye out for the introduction email coming shortly.

Following that we have the next Snowcraft 1 on the 17th/18th September, which I am still in need of two trainers due to unforeseen withdrawals.

If anyone is available and willing to help, please send an email to captain.tac@outlook.com

Finn Gable
Club Captain.
captain.tac@outlook.com

Social events

Club Nights

Club nights are held first Thursday each month
at the Fitzroy Golf Club, Record Street, Fitzroy 7-30pm start

1st September

Documentary :

Descent from Disaster - A Taranaki Mountaineering Accident with Toni Street

will be the focus of Club night. This highlights how decisions affect safety and all concerned in the party.

OTNZ Training courses

Training Courses

OTNZ (Outdoor Training NZ) are offering courses on River Safety and a Bush Navigation Course, please see details below. These courses will be free to TAC members and there will be limited numbers so please register asap

For further information on the above courses please contact: OTNZ Branch secretary at otnz.taranaki@gmail.com.
Phone 021 733281

Taranaki Branch Bush Navigation Training **Saturday 15 October 2022 8 am – 4 pm.**

This course will teach skills and knowledge to enable safe navigation in New Zealand bush.

This theory and practical training day covers how to:

- Interpret and follow a map
- Use a compass
- Develop location awareness
- Navigate both on track and off track
- Use a GPS

Prerequisites: Participants must

- Be over 18 years of age OR over 14 if accompanied by a parent/caregiver
- Have a reasonable standard of fitness and be able to carry a daypack.

Registering

Further information will be provided once registration is completed. To register online please click on the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/yur2h6xv>

Please ensure you advise when registering you a TAC member.

Taranaki Branch River Safety Training **11 am – 3 pm Sunday 13th November 2022**

Rivers have traditionally been the second biggest killer of New Zealanders in the back country.

This theory and practical training day provides:

- an understanding of rivers and hazards
- how to evaluate sites for safe crossing
- how to manage a group crossing
- practising crossing techniques, pack floating and how to self-rescue if swept away.

You do not need to be a confident swimmer to do this course.

Registering

Further information will be provided once registration is completed. To register online please click on the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/yukr7he9>

Please ensure you advise when registering you a TAC member.

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. 😊

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!



Our very popular Buddy Walks are back in 2022.

October 2022

September 2022

Dates to be confirmed soon, keep an eye out on the face book page too.

- Are you new to winter mountaineering and don't quite know how to gain some winter experience? Our buddy walks can help you!
- Snowcraft 1 is required or similar experience. 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 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 Stones (trips.tac@outlook.com) for further details

TAC Tongariro Experience (Still a few spaces available) Friday 30 Sept 2022 till Sunday 2 October 2022.

The purpose of the Experience is for beginner TAC members to further their alpine skills in a different environment from Mt Taranaki, around the Lodge.

The experience would be the following format :

- Start with a walk up Mangatepopo Valley to South Crater,
- Some practice of alpine skills below the track along Red crater,
- Descending to Emerald lake. Lunch
- Traversing towards Mt Tongariro, possibly climbing Mt Tongariro.
- Descending into South Crater and back down Mangatepopo Valley
- Along the experience the trip leaders would be adding to the skills of the persons and keeping an eye on their safety.
- Depending on the snow conditions and the weather the above format may change i.e we may head to the Whakapapa Ski field and catch a lift to a suitable area.

Requirements: Members to have completed a Snow Craft one course and have been out on the white stuff, snow, practicing their skills.

Additional Costs

Transport: to be arranged closer to the date

Accommodation: Approx. \$100 each, accommodation is booked in for Adventure Lodge in National Park

Food: individuals to **supply own**.

Ski lifts: if required.

Gear hire-age: Individuals to pay for this

For more information and to register please contact Trips Coordinator Lindsay Stones (trips.tac@outlook.com)

Kapuni Hut Overnight

Sat/Sun 29th October – 20th October

Very excited to let you all know that another favourite trip of the year is back for 2022!

This trip will include 2 days of hiking on this adventurous side of the mountain and an overnight stay on the Saturday at Kapuni Hut.

We may find ourselves up Fanthams or traversing around it, the climb route will be dependent upon conditions at the time.

Starting from Dawson Falls Carpark Saturday morning.

So bring your wine, sleeping bag, crampons, ice axe & helmet and we'll make the most of the weather and conditions.

Open to anyone who has completed Snowcraft 1.

Register quickly to ensure a bed for the night!

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

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

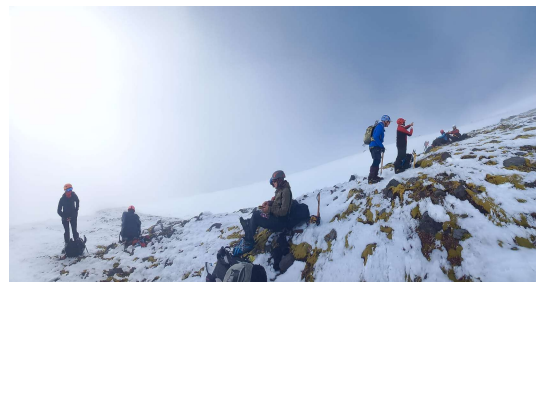
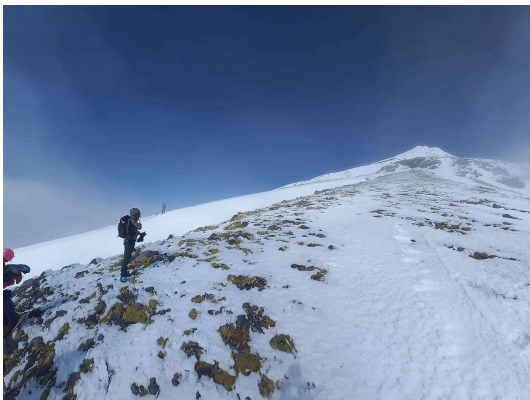
Buddy Walk 13th August

A long-awaited Snow Mountain Buddy walk, waiting for the snow level to drop, even the snow to arrive.

It was a gushing day, but we got to see the Mt Taranaki mountain tops for a few minutes on our break. From slush to firm compact snow, sunshine breaks and misty moments the crew experienced a true alpine day, practising cutting steps, daggering and crampon techniques. Buddy hikes are a perfect opportunity to keep chipping away at these much needed skills to keep safe.

A fun day with happy members enjoying lots of banter and way too many snack breaks. A great way to meet like minded people.

Bring on the next buddy hike.



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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