



## HiTAC December 2022

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

From the President's Desk December 2022

With Christmas holidays immediately upon us, I hope our membership has managed to avoid the pitfalls of getting caught up in the spending frenzy of sales on offer or at least find a rare genuine bargain. One way to avoid it entirely, which me and my family are opting for this year, is the good old spend limited secret santa, so everyone can use their hard earned money to self gift themselves some new toys or an adventurous holiday.

The Rock Rats otherwise known as the Taranaki tuataras who predominantly climb on plastic who the club supports with their national registration fees recently travelled to Christchurch for the national youth and masters bouldering champs. The strong team of 5 including two masters (35 yrs +) Dave and Peter still proving they got it. Out of the Five, three made the top three and the two that didn't make the top three gained massively in experience with tough categories.

Thanks to those who have indicated their commitment to volunteer on the 2023 open climb on Saturday the 11th February 2023. We have most of the positions filled however a few members may expect a call from me as we firm up the last 1-2 leaders and tails plus a small list of backups for critical roles like medics etc. Keep an eye on your email for information specific to your assigned/chosen role and we will need an acknowledgement ASAP once you have familiarised yourself with this information.

Thanks to the Twelve Volunteers so far who have signed up to help with Pakeho and potentially other local crags treasured by Taranaki locals. I have had an update from the crag liaison that things are progressing in a positive direction.

The Exec and lodge committees completed a task that has been kicked down the road for quite some time, which is getting our lodge valuated as a requirement of our insurer. As to be expected the lodge is now worth around double to replace compared with the last valuation which was approximately 10 years old.

We have had two notifications recently of operations that may affect members over this coming summer and autumn. One is a road cycling event that will see a rolling road closure from Dawson Falls to North Egmont on the 28th January 2023 and the other is a DOC approved contractor doing aerial predator control sometime in April. We will remind members closer to the time but in the meantime feel free to put these in your calendar to help when planning trips.

As you travel over the summer remember to check, clean and dry your equipment when going between Taranaki and other regions waterways.

**Conrad Murray**  
**President**

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



## Taranaki Alpine Club 2023 Calendars

TAC 2023 calendars are now printed available at Janes Gallery.

They're now at 33 Gover street New Plymouth.

If Janes Gallery opening hours are inconvenient, people can also contact me at [jkbeckers@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jkbeckers@xtra.co.nz) to obtain them.

A4 now stapled, to assist with postage \$20.00 each

A3 \$25.00 each, still spiral bound due to the difficulty of stapling the larger size.

Jeremy Beckers



## Photo Competition Winners

Winner Brendan Larsen Milky Way Over Mt Taranaki

Runner up Jeremy Beckers Admiring The Sunrise






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## Club Nights

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

### Club Nights with supper.

Now we that we have new venue which invites people to mix and mingle abit more, we would like to request members to bring a small supper plate for sharing on each of our Club nights. We will continue to provide the tea & coffee etc.

## February 2nd 2023 - First Club night of the year Club BBQ and Frisbee Golf at Audrey Gayle Reserve Merrilands Domain

Summer is here so let's make the most of the outdoors. Merrilands Domain is known for its fun activity of Frisbee Golf along with a great spot for swimming.

The club will have a few frisbees to play around with but if you do have your own please bring them along, we might be able to tempt some club members who are keen disc throwers to come along and give us a few tips 😊

The Club will provide some sausages for the BBQ but please bring a plate and your own drink.

Look forward to seeing you there




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## CLUB TRIPS TRIPS 2022

To register for trips or further information please contact Lindsay Stones [trips.tac@outlook.com](mailto:trips.tac@outlook.com)

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

## Tuatatara's Open Climbing Weekend. Saturday/Sunday 21st to 22nd January

Join the local youth climbing group the Tuatara's at Warwick's Castle on Mount Taranaki for a fun weekend of outdoor climbing. An open climbing weekend for all alpine club members, climbing at Warwick Castle for the

beginners. Open to anyone with some climbing experience. Please note this will not be an instruction weekend. You will need to provide your own harness, shoes, cowstail basic minimum. If you do have draws and ropes, please bring these along.

Tahurangi lodge is booked out for the Friday and Saturday evening. No need to register for this weekend, just make your way up to the lodge/Warwick's Castle and have a fun time.

If you do have any questions, please contact Lindsay Stones [trips.tac@outlook.com](mailto:trips.tac@outlook.com)

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## Trip Reports

### Trips Reports OTNZ River Crossing Day Course November 2022 By Adam Garrod

I recently attended the river crossing course at the meeting of the waters, run by OTNZ. And had a great day learning plenty, while thoroughly enjoying myself. We learnt how to correctly cross rivers, both as part of a group and solo. Plus what to look for before crossing. Personally, I picked up a few good tips for solo crossings. And realized I was maybe a bit lucky with some of my river crossings in the past, with the good old ``she`ll be right`` mentality.

But by far the funniest part of the course was learning the self-rescue technique. Again, we learnt this solo, and while still part of a group. Floating down river and through some rapids. Learning how to keep afloat, while guiding yourself to shore. Much like self-arresting on the mountain, this was super fun to learn and practice. But I can imagine it's not as much fun if you actually need it in real life.

Finally, we learnt how to cross a river when you can't reach the bottom (well, at least all of us apart from Jeff couldn't reach the bottom, while he just strolled most of the way across). Using your backpack for flotation, while propelling yourself across with your legs. Then to finish a few of us jumped into the swimming hole, to discover just how buoyant your backpack is as we rocketed back up to the surface!

All up it was a great day. A big thank you to the instructors from OTNZ. And to everyone at TAC, who make this possible for club members to attend for free. I'd highly recommend anyone who's interested to do this course next year.

### Harrison Larkin Climbing Youth World Champs Trip Report

Dear TAC Committee and Members

It's been a couple of months since I returned from the World Youth Climbing Champs in Texas. I wanted to thank you for your sponsorship which helped me get to the event. It made a big difference.

I was super stoked to compete at my first international competition representing New Zealand. I was very pleased with my result of 39<sup>th</sup> in the under 16 (Youth B) Lead category. I really enjoyed the competition climbs which were 15 metres high, although I made an unfortunate foot slip on the first route, leaving me feeling like I had more to give.

However, it was still a fantastic experience. I definitely grew as an athlete, got to climb with some amazing people on excellent walls, and enjoyed being part of a fantastic team. I got to meet lots of new people from other countries and learned loads of new things.

I'm now focusing on training hard for the upcoming 2023 Climbing New Zealand season.

Harrison Larkin

Taranaki Tuatara's NZ Representative





## 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.




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## New Members

We welcome the following new members to the Club, and look forward to seeing them on the Mountain

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

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.*

## MEMBERSHIP SYSTEM

Our new member management system, [Hello Club](#), went live on **1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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](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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