



## HiTAC April 2023

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)

[View this email in your browser](#)

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## From the President's Desk

Well it certainly is getting a bit cooler of late which is on track for a better snow season than last year. Thanks to those who attended the March Club Night AGM, it was intended to be an efficient affair like the last couple of years that preceded it. However because of the requested member feedback for lodge insurance options the meeting did include some comprehensive discussion on a very wide net of possible solutions going forward. One item that didn't take long was the election of the executive committee with the welcome addition of John Coplestone. I would also like to thank Peter Lofthouse for his time over the last year on the committee as a Taranaki Tuatara Competition Team representative and wish him the best in his new important role as father of the two future Taranaki climbers. If there are any parents and/or competitive climbers involved with the Taranaki tuataras team who would be interested in updating the committee on the club's growth and performance by all means please do get in touch with myself or another committee member.

For those of you who attended last year's AGM you will be happy to know we did manage to successfully raise the club's annual subs thanks to Sheryl Hamilton our secretary getting Hello Club aligned with our club's financial system. Increases have been set to match inflation since the last time they were raised. So please add \$15 to student, individual and family membership types and \$5 to your annual e-key subscription if paying by internet banking or better yet use the convenient Hello Club facility as per our website where you can see your past payments, download both your receipts directly from there without impacting our treasurers already busy workload in the slightest.

Also we are on the hunt for a new registered financial auditor, so please contact our treasurer or myself if you or you know of anyone capable of completing our annual audit at a reasonable cost to the club. Many thanks to Ann Hatch who has completed these audits for many years and we wish her the very best in her retirement.

Our next club night is an engaging mountaineering gear talk from Stephen Ritson, if you can understand his northern English accent that is. To see more info on this club night please read on below. Shortly following this clubnight snowcraft spaces will be released therefore attending this club night will show how serious you are about securing a spot on snowcraft.

Steve also doubled up his contribution to the club this month as our rock and ropes course leader which hopefully will have gone ahead (not helped by weather) by the time this HiTAC goes out so you will have to put it in your calendar for next year if interested in taking your rope skills to the next level in an alpine environment.

**Conrad Murray**

President

[president.tac@outlook.com](mailto:president.tac@outlook.com)

[www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz](http://www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz)

# AGM Minutes



Address All  
Correspondence  
to  
P.O.Box 356  
New Plymouth

**TARANAKI ALPINE CLUB**  
Incorporated

**MINUTES OF THE 93rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE TARANAKI ALPINE CLUB  
INCORPORATED, HELD 2nd MARCH 2023, AT FITZROY GOLF CLUB, RECORD ST, FITZROY, NEW  
PLYMOUTH**

**Meeting declared open: 7.45 pm**

**Present:** John Coplestone, Stephen Miller, Carey Clow, Lynda Banks, Gregory Banks, Sandra Morris, Lyn White, Dave Clough, George Mason, Margaret Jordan, John Jordan, Barbara Hammonds, Don Paterson, John McLean, Jeremy Beckers, Vaugh Smith, Peter Lethbridge, Michael Johns, Peter Billing, Hans van Beers, Warwick Smith, Sarah Sharp, Adam Garrod, Martin Garcia, Nicole Michelini, Jeff Deililla, Lindsay Stones, Mark Hall, Siobhan Reynolds, Mathew Sullivan-Brown, Scotty Morgan, Kyle Francis, Ivan Bruce, Chris Hayes, Phil Whitwell, Ross Hoffmann, John Thomason, Ross Eden, Greg Sharman, Andrew Darney, Oliver Thomas, Andrew Jordan, Conrad Murray.

**Apologies:** Andy Bryant, Feltcher Miles, Claire Jones, Dave Bolger, Steve Hewitt, Alec Heilbron, Gail Geange, Glenys Grant, Angela Hampton, Mohammed Thompson, Debbie Eden, Debbie Stone, Shirley Thomason.

Motion: That the apologies be accepted.  
Carried

Ivan Bruce/John Thomason

**Previous Minutes:** Motion: that the previous minutes be taken as read with the exception of adding Sheryl Hamilton as in attendance at 2022 AGM.  
Jones Carried

Ivan Bruce/ Claire

**Matters arising:**

Nil

**Reports:**

**Presidents Report** – Conrad Murray presented a Presidents Report.

Motion: That the Presidents Annual Report be accepted.  
Carried

Conrad Murray/ Chris Hayes

**Financial Report** – as attached. Tabled by the Treasurer.

Questions:

Unkonown: Subs - incredibly cheap , justified to increase

Sarah sharp:- question financial why has liability premium decreased

Conrad - because broker has found a more competitive provider

Greg banks - what does mail chimp cost

Andrew Darney: Mail Chimp \$1300, Hello club - \$1600

Unknown: What is our current membership

Andrew Darney: 600 including life and family members

Motion: That the Annual accounts and Financial statement be adopted. Andrew Darney/Stephen Miller Carried

### **Annual Subscriptions-**

Motion: That all sub types student, individual and family are increased by \$15 and annual lodge e-key fee by \$5 to match with inflation. Fob fee and lockers to remain the same

Andrew Darney/Don

Paterson Carried

### **Life Membership Nominations:**

With Gail Geange being an apology, Margaret Jordan was asked left the room and wait to be called back in. Conrad Murray spoke about the nominees – Margaret Jordan and Gail Geange

Motion: That both of the nominees receive Life Membership of the club. Conrad Murray /Andrew Jordan Carried

### **Presentation of Trophies**

<b>Trophy</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Recipient</b>
Dan Bryant Trophy	Photo Competition	Brendan Larsen
Maggie Brown trophy	Photo Comp – runner-up	Jeremy Beckers
Ben Stephenson Trophy	Most Enthusiastic Member	Finn Gable
Len Lovell Loyalty Trophy	Loyalty Trophy	Lindsay Stones
Barry Francis Trophy	Memorial Trophy	Aster Danenhauer
Richard Kirk Memorial Trophy	Excelling in Rock Climbing	not awarded

### **Taranaki Tuatara's Trophies:**

Harrison Larkin (Tuatara of the Year)

Noah van Greevenbroek (most dedicated climber).

### **Election of Officers:**

#### **Patron**

Nominations: Lyn White

Ivan Bruce/Kyle

Francis Carried

There being no further nominations, Lyn was declared Patron.

#### **President**

Nominations: Conrad Murray

Ivan Bruce/Kyle

Francis Carried

There being no further nominations, Conrad was declared President.

#### **Vice President**

Nominations: Andrew Jordan

Conrad Murray/Greg

Banks Carried

There being no further nominations, Andrew was declared Vice President.

#### **Club Captain**

Nominations: Finn Gable

Conrad Murray/Don

Paterson Carried

There being no further nominations, Finn was declared Club Captain.

#### **Secretary**

Nominations: Sheryl Hamilton

Conrad Murray/Phillip Whitwell

Carried

There being no further nominations, Sheryl was declared Secretary.

#### **Treasurer**

Nominations: Andrew Darney

Conrad Murray/Ivan

Bruce Carried  
There being no further nominations, Andrew was declared Treasurer.

### **Committee**

Nominations:	John Coplestone	Conrad Murray/Greg Banks
	Lindsay Stones	Conrad Murray/Ivan Bruce
	Greg Sharman	Conrad Murray/Ivan Bruce
	Don Paterson	Conrad Murray/Ivan Bruce
	Jeff DeLilla	Conrad Murray/Ivan Bruce

There being only five nominations for the five positions available the committee members are duly elected.

### **Auditor**

Nominations: Not Appointed	Ivan Bruce/Sheryl Hamilton	Carried
Motion to send Mrs Hatch a thank you present, on behalf of the committee and members		
Ross Eden to have a contact with possible skills		

### **General Business:**

#### **Insurance Options**

- A) Insure at full 2022 valuation \$2.,100,000 at 10,000 excess
- B) Decrease insurance amount
- C) Increase excess to \$50K for valuation \$2,100,000
- D) Cancel the Policy entirely

Steve Miller: check policy wording - do we get the money even if we are unable to rebuild etc

Ross Eden: How certain is it we can rebuild

Sarah Sharp: Will we be able to rebuild under new undecided future park entity

Ross Eden: Club to come up with the difference if for example we insured up to 1 million cover

Unknown: Could insurance still go up more in future

Unknown: What are other clubs doing eg. Whakapapa village

Warwick Smith: Would the club replace like for like, if required how would we fund raise

Ross Eden: Request a range of insurance damage amounts to assist with choosing what the club can afford

Ross Eden: We cant change the footprint of the existing lodge under current concession

Phil Whitwell: What are the risks and mitigate them - fire, volcanic eruption, lightning

Sarah Sharp: Do we use a broker

Conrad Murray: MacDonald Everest Brokers

Unknown: What to NZAC do for insurance?

Motion: The Committee to explore further Option B) Decrease insurance amount to find a premium amount more palatable to the club membership

M: Ross Eden S: Stephen Miller

There was some indication from members present but not a majority that considered option D) Cancel the Policy entirely as also a potential solution if the above fails.

Feedback on further research on lodge insurance at next club night and through HiTAC

More rational proof required to make a decision - what are the risks, and if a significant event was to happen would we share another clubs facility

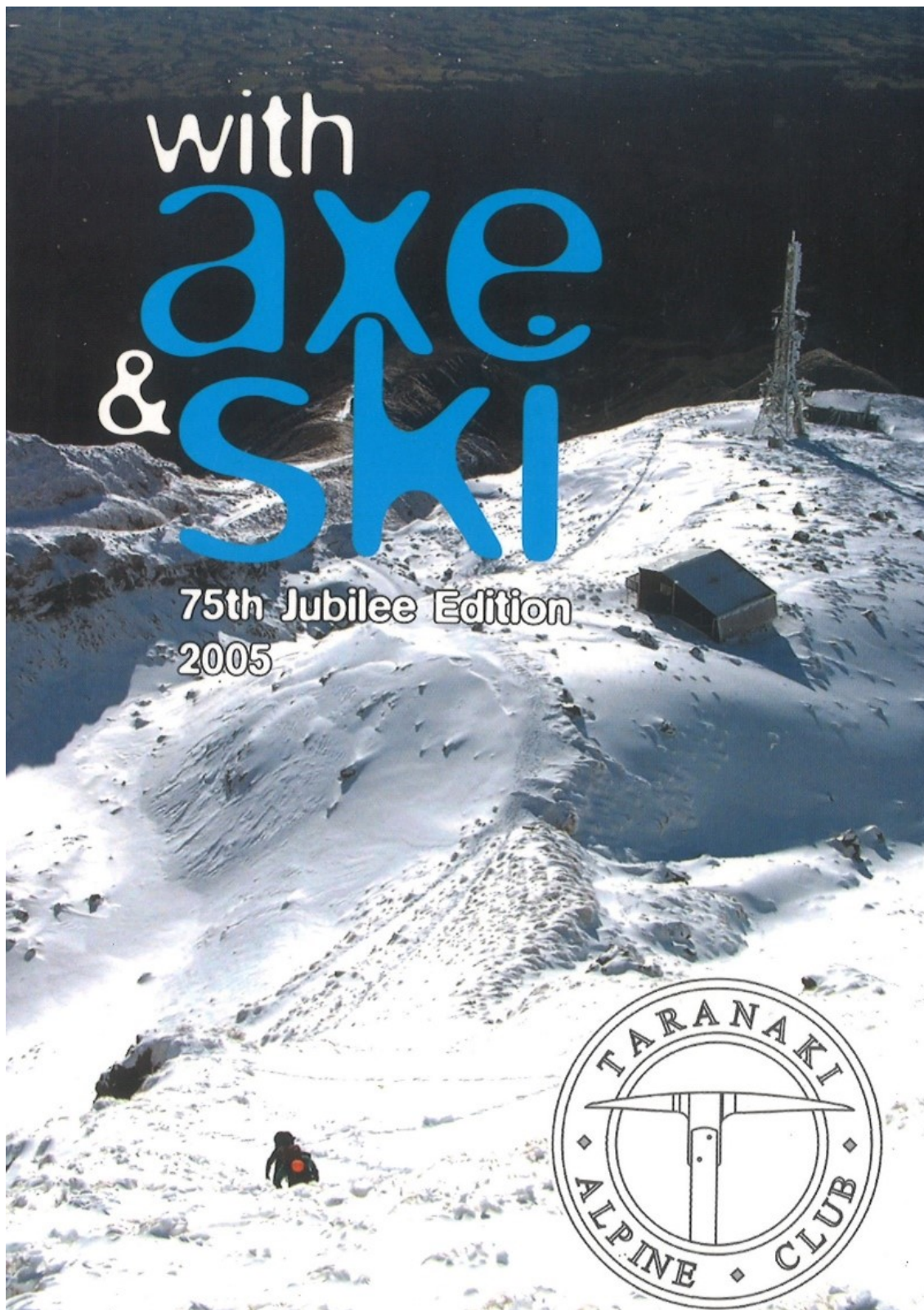
#### **Lodge Maintenance**

John Coplestone - Question over sewage nearing full capacity , when it is next due to empty. As usually every two years.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 8.50PM**

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The last edition of "with axe & ski" was published in 2005 to coincide with the 75<sup>th</sup> club anniversary. This is a request for three or four people to be involved with the next issue which is proposed to be ready in time for publication in 2030 – the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. With the pace of life etc, this needs to be started before too long. Even if you are not involved in the next issue, you may have stories or adventures you would like to be included. Get your thinking caps on and start writing. No guarantees it will be included but if you send in nothing you will get nothing published.

Let me know you interest.

Andrew Jordan

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**Instruction**

# 2023 Snowcraft

Kia Ora Climbers,

Well here we are, 2023 snow season is slowly creeping up on us. As we close the door on the 2022 season with a middle finger wave, let's hope this year we can make up for those lost days.

Much like previous years, however important to repeat, these 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](mailto: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 8th July.

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

## Snowcraft 1

1: 29th-30th July

Pre field night 24th July

2: 12th-13th August

Pre field night 7th August

3: 26th-27th August

Pre field night 21st August

## Snowcraft 2

1: 14th-16th July

Pre field night 10th 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

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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.

## Club Night 6<sup>th</sup> April at Fitzroy Golf Course

### Not to be missed!

With the winter season very rapidly approaching (and a timely release of the Snowcraft 2023 courses), Steve Ritson has kindly agreed to do a presentation on alpine/winter mountaineering with a focus on the pros and cons of various winter gear. This talk is aimed at the more novice level and a perfect opportunity for the budding snowcrafter to learn where to start. Accumulating alpine gear can be a potentially daunting and expensive ordeal, so hopefully before people spend a small fortune, come along to the club evening and learn what to look for.

Following the gear talk, Steve will be doing a small introduction to the Taranaki Alpine Cliff Rescue. He will discuss what the organisation is about, the expectations and requirements for those who may be considering joining the team. The idea is to inspire those who are keen mountaineers to give back to the greater community.

So come along, talk, enjoy and let Steve show us his smelly socks.

See you there!

Finn Gable  
Taranaki Alpine Club Captain  
021-232-1310

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## 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 Taurangi Lodge we'll suggest a preferred option as it's always great if everyone stays at the same place.



## CLUB TRIPS TRIPS 2023

**To register for trips or for further information please email Trips Coordinator Lindsay Stones on [trips.tac@outlook.com](mailto:trips.tac@outlook.com) . Be sure to keep an eye on our Facebook page for trip updates too.**

If you are keen to lead a trip or have any ideas for a trip that we could find a lead for please contact me and let's see if we can make it happen.

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## 22<sup>nd</sup> April Saturday West side bush bash

I've had a few excursions to try to summit the west side. In these failed attempts I have found a cool bush bash up through the subalpine scrub to a neat zone with hopefully on the day, beautiful views of landscape features such as the pyramids, the turtle and shark's tooth. There's also a cool little rock shelter. It will be worth bringing a camera if it looks like a clear day.

This trip involves leaving from Kahui road entrance, climbing up to Kahui lodge then pushing up a step route (note; not track) over a narrow spur to pop out into the leatherwood and tussock before reaching rocky land.

This bash through the scrub is tough going and while there are moss patches offering some respite you will still need long pants to avoid the scratches and make sure they are not your favourite pair as they may get a snag.

This is not a loop and we will be returning via the same route. It is a great chance to practice compass navigation, as there is no upper level return path and navigation will be required to connect back with the trail.

This is a big day, approx 900m climb, 20+ kms and the spur could be a little hair raising for some. I haven't even started on the leatherwood yet.. but the views and land features are worth it.



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## Social Events



**TAC Scone Bake Off –**

**Saturday 22nd April 4.00pm at the lodge.**

## This event is for TAC Members only.

Sweet or savoury scones, or any variety of scone baked in the lodge's oven on the day will be judged and consumed by all who attend. Come and join in the fun!

Bring a smile and your best efforts.

To be into win, you will be required to bake at the lodge in the early afternoon ready for presenting your goods for judging at 4.00pm.

Get your best taste buds ready for testing the goods and cast a vote or two towards the winner.

This is an **overnight event** so plan to stay for a shared meal (yes, something else to bring up with you) and make a full weekend of it. Some members have been known to go out for a climb together on the Sunday to wear off the scones from the waistline.

Fine print:-

All baking must be undertaken at the lodge.

Maximum cook time is 20 minutes so keep mixture small.

Each bake will be rated from 1 - 5. 5 being the best score.

Scores are then added up to see who the is winner.

Judge's decision will be final.

Contacts: Sheryl Hamilton 027 243-1718

Gail Geange 021 733 281

or email [secretary.tac@outlook.com](mailto:secretary.tac@outlook.com)

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## Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> 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 (if we have snow....)

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





## Trip Reports

### East Face 4<sup>th</sup> March Sharks tooth trip report

A massive shout out to Don Patterson for guiding us up to the summit of sharks tooth. What a scramble of endless rock looking out over the ski field below. Very deceiving in estimated time and then suddenly you were popping out at the top!

Lunch was taken at the summit, surprisingly low wind made that a very pleasant occasion. My favourite was the decent of the chimney into the crater for the summer exit back to the lodge.

Some amazing photographs were taken by the group to remember this achievement.

Now, Who's keen to do a winter ascent on this route?!

Tess Pope

Photos courtesy of Malachy Boyes

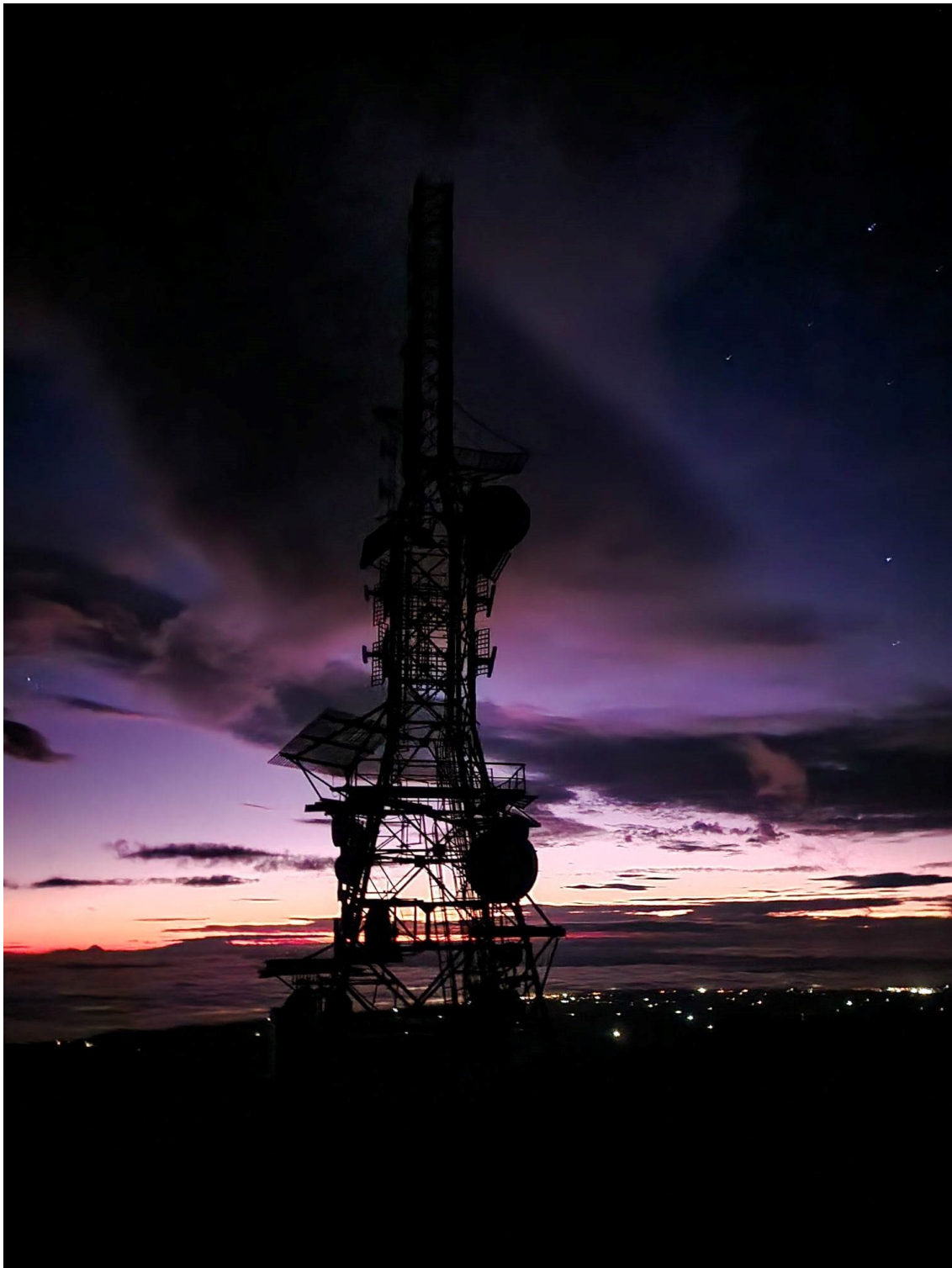












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## Kawakawa Bay Trip March 2023 - TAC

Despite the torrential rain on Friday, 15 TAC members managed the journey in dribs and drabs to Kawakawa Bay, on the Northwestern shores of Lake Taupo, during Taranaki Anniversary weekend. I would like to thank Lindsay Stones, trip co-ordinator, for organising everything, including a reprieve in the dreadful weather by late Friday afternoon.

K Bay, as it is affectionately known, is only accessible by boat, or the 10 km trail which can either be hiked or biked, and in most areas, lacks cellphone reception. This year, I took the "soft option" and went over by shuttle boat - expertly loaded up with all our gear for the weekend and skippered by the boat lady, Sue, who knew the names of all the crags and pointed them out as we went across the Lake.

The camp ground has ample spaces, but only 2 long drop toilets, inhabited by colonies of very large spiders that came out in the evening.

For daily washing, we had a large lake at our disposal - a refreshing way to wake up for a day's climbing.

Kawakawa Bay offers a wide selection of climbs which can be found on climbing guides, although in reality, finding these trails did prove challenging at times - even for seasoned climbers who had been previously.

Our first mission (after leaving a note for those arriving on Saturday) was Secret Garden - we all blindly followed the president, walked past it's turn off, eventually finding it. Guess it was part of the morning exercise routine!

This area offers plenty of easier climbs - so we could, warm up,, rebuild confidence and refresh skills. My personal fave in the area was "Honey Badger" - nice and juggy\*, lots of fun moves.

As the weekend progressed, various climbers were honing skills setting and cleaning anchors, abseiling, multi-pitch climbing, "trad" climbing and more.

On Sunday, we spread ourselves along "The Point" - an area that takes about 1/2 hour walking and wading to access - and included some areas with knotted ropes to ascend and descend as well as areas where one needed to clip onto a metal rope for safety.

The evenings were spend in a communal area as camp meals of various descriptions were cooked and consumed and stories shared. There was some talent amongst our cooks - with 2 impressive Thai vegetable curries being produced!

Everyone completed their weekend (or part thereof) with no significant injuries, so Lindsay took it upon herself to ensure we had to look more hard core, falling over and sustaining some impressive facial bruises and grazes. (If anyone is contemplating Trip Co-ordinator role, please be reassured this is not part of the job description).

Once again, I would like to thank Lindsay and all others who helped make this trip possible eg. Rochelle who was my rope sherpa, and all those who took each others gear to and from Taupo.

It was a successful weekend - and we all look forward to more adventures!

Attendies:

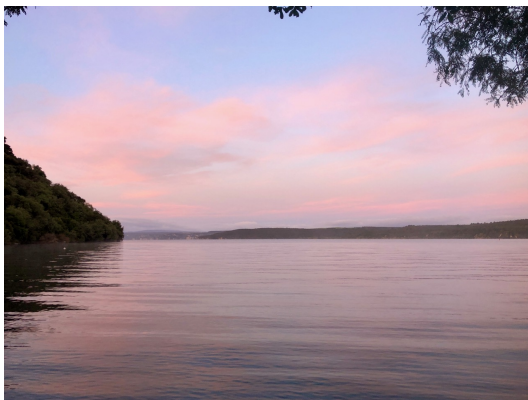
Lindsay, Conrad, Agnes, Alex, Matt , Mike, Malachy, Callum, Don, Kathy, Jeff, Tess, Rochelle

myself (Claire)

\*In climbing lingo, a "jug" is a hold that you can fit your hand into - in other words, the easiest type of hold!







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## Trip Report – Summer ascent of Mt Taranaki West Ridge via Hughson’s Ledge

Words by Fletcher Miles + Photos by Jeremy Beckers

### Trip Report – Summer ascent of Mt Taranaki West Ridge via Hughson’s Ledge

Words by Fletcher Miles + Photos by Jeremy Beckers

With the thousands of summer summits that occur each year via the North ridge, combined with the slightly more adventurous who venture out and hit the summit via the other eastern classics (Surrey Rd, East ridge etc), it is easy to forget that another side to the Mouna exists.

Perhaps unknown to most, or perhaps off putting due to the effort required to get there, the western aspect of the mountain remains infrequently traveled, and waits patiently for the occasional keen mountaineer or trad-master to venture about its bush line. Of the fraction of people who do make it above the western bush line, most do not often venture further than Black Rock, Turehu Hill or Okahu Bluff. Why does no one aim higher on the western aspect?

For context, there are two main summit routes on the west side of the mountain, the Okahu gorge and the West ridge. The first being an unattractive valley of unspeakable choss and loose fridge size boulders, with the latter, being a seldom climbed Taranaki classic. A striking line through stunning terrain, the adventure potential of the west ridge is unlimited. It can be accessed many ways however the most classic is Hughson’s Ledge, which is an exposed sloping terrace which breaks a line of bluffs – similar in nature to the exposed terraces found on the Kokowai Valley eastern flank. After studying up on the route, I concluded that I probably could not call myself a



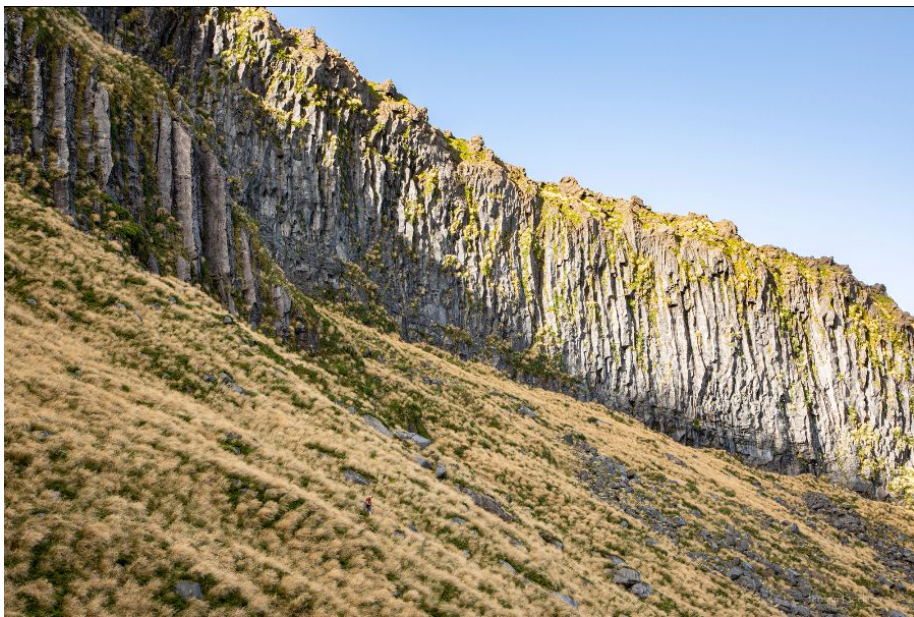
Taranaki mountaineer without a West ridge tick under my belt.

Roll on 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2023, with a bluebird forecast I convinced fellow TAC member Jeremy Beckers to join me for a light and fast Sunday morning summit from Kahui road, with the target being an ascent of the West Ridge. Early doors, we set off from the road end at 6am and cruised up the Kahui track's gradual mellow incline under head torch. The Oanui junction was gained after approximately 50 mins, and we arrived at Kahui Hut shortly after 7:30am.



*Figure 1: Western Moss Fields (Jeremy Beckers)*

From Kahui hut, we gained the old western summit track, which freshly cut provided fast travel up to Black Rock at the leatherwood/ tussock interface at 1250m. The western tussock fields eventually gave way to moss slopes which provided pleasant undulating travel as we worked our way up towards the distant and towering Okahu bluff, however, never actually to reach it.



*Figure 2: Hughson's Ledge is the sloping terrace top left in pic. (Jeremy Beckers)*

At this point, with the West ridge prominent on the southern skyline, there was debate as to which access route we should use. JB was adamant we needed to tick the classic Hughson's Ledge, so we began a traverse south across and dropped into the lower Okahu Gorge. Once the key access slope into the gorge was found, it was a straightforward wander across the deep gorge and out the other side.





*Figure 3: Looking down the lower Okahu gorge. (Jeremy Beckers)*

Named after Magnus Hughson, who was active on the west side of the mountain during the early 1900's, this ledge was spectacular and yielded great views. With a 20m bluff above and 50+ m bluff below, it was clear to see why this is considered a classic west side feature. However with warming temperatures, one can only ponder if perhaps this ledge will gradually become less classic with time. When comparing photos from 2011 and 2023, the ledge now clearly holds a lot more vegetation than it did back in the day.



*Figure 4: On the seldom travelled Hughson's Ledge route with Okahu gorge below. (Jeremy Beckers)*

From Hughson's Ledge, we were spat out into a gully with a small water course running down it and before too long we were cruising up the large open expanses of the West Ridge. Using the distant Sisters Ridge as a reference point amongst the occasional low visibility, we worked our way up to the West Ridge Shoulder at approximately 2200m. This vantage point provided fantastic views south to Bob's Bluff, north to the South Face of the Turtle, as well as directly down into the upper Okahu gorge.





*Figure 5: High above the Okahu Gorge. (Jeremy Beckers)*

Guarding the final stretch up to the crater rim was a compulsory steep step. Here I spied the classic west ridge direct line which looked like the most stylish way to hit the crater rim. Although enticing, my plans of cruising the direct were halted by a few necky moves. It was the sort of terrain that would be very easy with the insurance policy of a rope, however, was committing enough to carry unattractive consequences whilst soloing. One could only imagine how awesome this direct pitch would be in winter!



*Figure 6: Approaching the west ridge direct step, taken from the west ridge shoulder. (Jeremy Beckers)*

Instead we traversed for 20m up a ledge just to the left of the direct, and then straight up the lower reaches of Escudo buttress via a weakness on rotten rock. This was easy scrambling, but future visitors may want to exercise caution as yarding a loose block off could send you tumbling down into the Okahu gorge far below. From the crater rim it was a straightforward walk around to the southern crater entrance and it was happy days from there.





*Figure 7: Scrambling up the lower reaches of Escudo buttress*

Checking the watch, it was now 2pm in the afternoon. This meant it took us 8 hours from car to summit (one way), during which we covered 12.9km underfoot and gained 2100m elevation. Although we likely could have shaved some time off by accessing the route via the number 2 gully, Hughson's ledge had to be done and we were both satisfied that we had made the extra effort to do so. A bite to eat was followed by a quick descent down to Taurangi Lodge for a brew.





*Figure 8: Sharktooth and Crater. (Jeremy Beckers)*

The west ridge of Taranaki was a rewarding walking trip and should be mandatory on any keen Taranaki mountaineer's bucket list... but at least now it's ticked off mine!!

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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

Hello Club is our membership system. See the link below to login & update your details.

<https://taranaki-alpine-club.helloclub.com/login>

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
- Update your email address and other personal details.

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

For any questions or comments, please contact club treasurer **Andrew Darney** via [treasurer.tac@outlook.com](mailto:treasurer.tac@outlook.com)

## 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

Please login to your Hello Club account & make any updates

## Contacting the Club

Co0rrespondance can be sent to:

The Secretary

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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