



HiTAC February 2024

Hi folks, welcome to the latest issue of the HiTAC.

Feedback and content can be emailed to hitac.tac@outlook.com

[View this email in your browser](#)



From the President's desk

Kia ora koutou current and prospective members,

I hope that all our members enjoyed some relaxing time off over the Christmas and New Year period. I certainly did, with some very easy outdoor rock-climbing: very much enjoying others tie into the sharp end of the rope for a change, and plenty of time spent on the beach, in the moana and awa paddling and swimming. If anyone is looking for a beautiful climbing spot with some tree cover, plenty of birds, insects and some challenging routes on solid rock in line with those on our own maunga, I definitely recommend Waipapa north of Taupo and south of Wharepapa, Since I have been, there has been a working bee to improve tracks and remove dust from routes, thanks predominantly to some Auckland based clubs. Also, if you want to get in to rock and rope skills, we have a course coming up very shortly based on Taranaki; see below for more details.

About the only other priority for the club over January, other than making sure we get some well-deserved personal trip time, is the Open Climb. This is an historical event for the club (80 years and counting) and an important event to help people see mountaineering as a sport for those from all backgrounds and ages. If you have put your name down at the induction night, helped out last year or the year before, and you intend to help out, I suggest you familiarise yourself by clicking here and finding your allocated role: <https://taranakialpinedclub.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/T04-Open-Climb-Safety-Management-System-v10-FINAL-Signed-2021.pdf>

Here are the main role responsibility info locations within the document: Party Leader - p42, Party Tail - p43, Rover - p44, Roving Medic - p45. Others will find their allocated role easily by looking in the contents.

Also note that with the changes happening within the park's management, volunteers will need to inform Open Climb participants of the importance of the maunga to both current club members and previous ones, as well as Nga Iwi o Taranaki. Thanks to the korero with TAC member Te Aroha, we have updated the information participants receive to the following: "The mountain is held in high regard and significance by many. For Tangata Whenua in particular, the Maunga is a Tupuna of ancestral importance and as such, it is considered disrespectful to stand on the summit block. You are asked to refrain from doing so when you reach the summit peak."

I'm sure almost everyone who has put themselves forward to help out on this year's climb has been out there getting some mountain fitness in for the big day on the Saturday 10th February. If not, there is still time, but not much, with just shy of two weeks to go.

Conrad Murray

President

president.tac@outlook.com

Notices

Rate increase

The cost to stay overnight at Taurangi Lodge for non-TAC members has increased from \$45 to \$55 per person per night.

Call for new committee members

Your club needs you! TAC is on the lookout for committee members for 2024-2025. Nominations are voted upon at the next AGM in March. You can nominate yourself, or a willing candidate.

Committee job descriptions will be shared in the near future. Please [email](#) the president with any queries in the meantime.

Reminder to all lodge users

- When you visit the lodge, please record your visit in the "Day Book" downstairs.
 - If you stay overnight, please record this in the "Overnight Book" by the fridge upstairs.
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Instruction Courses

Rock and Rope

16th - 17th March 2024 *(please note date change from previous newsletter)*

If you have ever wanted to have an experience on some of Taranaki's classic rock outcrops and gain the experience of using a rope then this activity is for you. We will start with rope skills at the lodge then move to Tegel Wall for abseiling practice. Next will be Warwick's Castle for a traverse to test our nerves and skills before making our way to Humphries Castle for another classic on Taranaki on the Sunday.

This trip is an opportunity for members to experience ropes on the mountain. No previous ropes experience necessary, only a head for heights and a fun attitude. Some gear will be provided by the club. Participants are expected to have basic alpine clothing.

This activity is only available to TAC Members and is not available to persons who have previously undertaken the activity. The weekend is based at Taurangi Lodge.

Cost for this course is \$50, which enables the club to maintain equipment.

To register and for further information please contact Lindsay at trips.tac@outlook.com

Club Trips

Keep an eye out for more fantastic club trips in 2024!

Social Events

Mountain Wellness

Saturday 17th - Sunday 18th February 2024

Enjoy the spirit of the mountain at the Lodge for a weekend of yoga and meditation.



- ✓ Bring your yoga mat
- ✓ Yoga teachers will instruct a variety of yogic techniques
- ✓ Guided meditations, drumming, silent times and lots more
- ✓ A weekend of enjoying other like-minded people
- ✓ Potluck dinner of whole food contribution for Saturday night
- ✓ Due to space limitations max of 14 persons
- ✓ TAC members only

Time: Starting 10 am Saturday and finishing Sunday afternoon.

Organizers: Greg Banks 027 2613199 and Glenys Grant 027 367 0612

Give us a call if you have any queries or need more information. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Trek for Life

[Trek for Life](#) contacted the club to advertise a week-long walk from Kawhia to Tamarunui from March 23rd - 31st 2024.

The trek is between 20-40km each day, and can either be walked, mountain biked or ridden by horse! There are marshals on quad bikes, medics, and a halfway shuttle for those who want a ride for some of the way.

The trek is fully supported, with camp packing up each day and moving to the next spot. There are hot showers, toilets, hot meals, and even bookable massage appointments, every day.

Walkers have the opportunity to trek through private land that is not otherwise accessible. The trek is 3 days on, one rest day, and then 3 more days on.

More information can be found on [this blog](#).

Club Nights

Club nights are held on the first Thursday of each month at the Fitzroy Golf Club, 3 Record Street, Fitzroy 7:30pm start.

Tea/coffee and hot water provided.

No BYO alcohol, as this is a licensed premises.

Date: Thursday 1st February 2024

Time: 6pm, aim to eat at 6:45pm

Location: Audrey Gale Reserve

Join us for a social evening at the Audrey Gale Reserve, also known as Merrilands Domain, for a potluck BBQ.

Bring your preferred protein, some rabbit food (colourful things you put in your mouth and rotate your jaw in a up and down motion), and maybe even a sweet thing to share along with some cutlery and plates etc. Also, if you have a fun lawn activity to do during cooking or after eating, bring that too.

For those who haven't been to the reserve before there is a swimming hole, shelter if it rains, and plenty of wood for the BBQ. The club will bring some back up fire starters and fuel. There is also a full frisbee golf course if you want to bring equipment. Check the Facebook page if weather is looking awful, as we may attempt to move the venue.

FMC

Printed FMC Quarterly Bulletins & 2023/24 FMC Membership Cards

Available on club nights or prior by texting president 0275552857 to arrange pickup.

Club Information

TAHURANGI LODGE

TAC's lodge sleeps 24, has electric heating and cooking, cutlery, pots and pans, etc. Just like home. Members can request an eKey by completing the application available from the Club's website.

Overnight fee is \$55 for non-members. Members free. Anyone who stays at Taurangi 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 and can be contacted for help, feedback or suggestions. If you have trouble accessing the Lodge (e.g. due to eKey failure), phone either the Club President, or the Lodge Booking Officer. Contact info on Web page: <http://www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz/pages/contacts.html>

CURRENT SUBSCRIPTIONS

FAMILY \$80, ORDINARY (single) \$60, STUDENT (under 18), \$50.
Lodge access card \$20

Members with unpaid subs at end of April are sent an account overdue notice. If still unpaid by 1st June, a penalty of 20% will be incurred. 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 the club treasurer: treasurer.tac@outlook.com

GEAR HIRE

- Winter and summer equipment is available for hire by TAC Club Members. This includes: Personal Locator Beacon (PLB), ice axes, ice hammers, helmets, harnesses, quick draws, carabiners, etc.
- Each item costs \$5/day or a maximum of \$10/day for 2 or more items per person.
- To only pay for the days gear was used, return items promptly. Late returns will be charged for the entire hire period.
- Contact the Equipment Officer AT LEAST 2 days in advance to ensure availability: captain.tac@outlook.com

EVENTS PROGRAMME

Club nights, trips, instruction and social events are 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. If you would like to volunteer to lead a trip, contact the Trips co-ordinator: trips.tac@outlook.com

HiTAC— Newsletter

Sent monthly by email and also available on the Club's website at www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz
Any trip reports, events, or gear for sale can be sent to the Editor at hitac.tac@outlook.com

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please login to your Hello Club account to make any updates.

Contacting the Club

Correspondence can be sent to:

The Secretary

Taranaki Alpine Club, PO Box 356, New Plymouth,
or email secretary.tac@outlook.com

Photograph Corner



Memories of winter!

Photo credit: Clarissa Benton

Club Links

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

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