



## HiTAC May 2024

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

Feedback and content can be emailed to [hitac.tac@outlook.com](mailto:hitac.tac@outlook.com)

[View this email in your browser](#)



---

## From the President's desk

As I sit and scribe this I am sitting by the fire, the weather is chilling down, so hopefully this session we will have good snowfalls to play in!

Snowcraft dates are out and applications have been called for. This year we have a slightly different approach to how we group people together so on the day/s everyone is at similar starting point. This will create ease for both instructors and participants alike. Traditionally snowcraft courses fill quickly so express your interest sooner rather than later!

Hopefully Rock & Rope will be a "go" this weekend, after having to move the date. We have 8 keen members hanging out for this experience, so let's hope the boys can get the job done!

Have you been thinking about your fancy dress outfit for the party on 18<sup>th</sup> May at the lodge yet? It's never too early to start putting something together. These events are always full of a great variety of food (including dessert), a few laughs, a few drinks to be shared & no doubt some stories to be told. On the Sunday morning, we go out for a trot on the slopes somewhere, have the leftovers for lunch and then return to the world below & our families. Mark down the date in your calendar.

We are looking for speakers for Club Nights - do you know of anyone that has an alpine/mountaineering background, interesting skillset to share, presentation of photos, that sort of thing?

We attempt to have a variety of focuses throughout the year from our local members and people from further afield. If you would like to see the Club cover another angle let me know and we will see what we can do.

Some of you maybe aware that our Lodge concession with DOC expires at the end of this year. Back in December 2022 I sent off a renewal request which I followed up again recently. Paperwork with DOC does take it's time. However, it's great to have support from our local office and they have requested an update on behalf. What will it take for a positive outcome to happen with ease? This is my question!

Also, while we are in this transition phase with the new park management, we will have to apply for a Open Climb concession again for next year. It seems gone are the days for a repeat concession at this point in time.

In the meantime, it's business as usual for our Club - courses being offered, cleaners cleaning the lodge, maintenance projects being worked on, and a lot of the behind scenes work being carried out!

Hope to see you on the slopes!

## ***Sheryl Hamilton***

President

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

027 243 1718

---

## **Notices**

---

### **From our new Trips Co-Ordinator**

I'm new to this role so working through processes this involves.

Compiling a trips calendar is one task. Ideas for trips come from YOU, TAC members. Your individual suggestions are very much appreciated. So, if you have taken a trip and thought it would be great to share with TAC members let me know.

Leaders are required for trips to go ahead; if you would like to step into this role with a trip that fits your comfort zone, let me know. Sharing your knowledge and skills is valuable for the growth of TAC. Personal involvement is what keeps the club ticking over.

SO, WANTED:

- Leaders
- Trip ideas

Below are some trip ideas for the rest of 2024. Dates to be arranged, and leaders for some of these trips wanted.

**July - September (while there is snow):** buddy walks, dates to be arranged.

**September:** Ruapehu trip; Mt Taranaki snow caving.

**October:** overnight Kapuni lodge; Fantham's Peak snow summit, Mt Taranaki Slush summit.

**November:** Curtis Ridge walk.

**Early December:** Giant's Bum.

Contact:

Glenys Grant (Trips Co-Ordinator)

[committee4.tac@outlook.com](mailto:committee4.tac@outlook.com)

Phone 0273670612

---

## **Subs**

As you will be aware your annual TAC membership subscription will have landed in your email inbox. If you can't see it there check your junk mail.

Those of you who have lockers will notice that there was a glitch at Hello Club's end with sending out the invoices for the lockers again this year. However, you should have received a separate invoice for the lockers by now. Let me know if you haven't.

When paying your invoices could you please ensure you use your surname & initials as a reference and the invoice number/s if you can locate those, please. This makes it easier for me to do the manual allocation.

Appreciate your support with this! Cheers, Sheryl

---

## **100th Jubilee**

We have just celebrated our 94th AGM, which is a reminder that we are creeping towards 100 years, which is worth a BIG celebration!

The past Committee had chatted about forming a "working sub-group" to focus on gathering stories (especially the funny ones), past events, photos, memories etc. and putting into a publication to reflect 100 years of the Club.

I know a lot of you active members are our "living history books" but we require some of this content to be written down and shared. The information you hold is valuable to this project! It will take time to put this info together, hence the request now.

Are you interested in contributing to this Club project? Please email your interest to be involved to [secretary.tac@outlook.com](mailto:secretary.tac@outlook.com)

I appreciate your willingness - Sheryl

---

## Andy Harris Scholarship

The Andy Harris Scholarship is offered to Taranaki mountaineers who wish to further their mountaineering training. It covers the course fees to attend a mountaineering course in the Southern Alps hosted by Adventure Consultants or Alpine Guides Aoraki Mount Cook. The Taranaki Alpine Club covers the costs of travel to/from the course start/finish location. Over the last two decades a number of TAC climbers have been awarded the scholarship. TAC members who wish to apply for the scholarship can do so in writing to the TAC executive committee. If the committee approves, a recommendation is made by the TAC committee to the scholarship trustees for their consideration.



Andy Harris lost his life on Everest in 1996 whilst attempting to save the lives of Rob Hall and Andy Hanson who were stranded near the top of the mountain, late in the day, with bad weather approaching. On that same day, Andy had summited Everest along with Anatoli Boukreev and Jon Krakauer. Harris was one of the guides for the Adventure Consultants' 1996 Everest expedition, led by Rob Hall.

Andy originated from New Plymouth and attended Francis Douglas Memorial College. He learnt his mountaineering on Mt Taranaki, and later worked as a ski guide and mountain guide in the Southern Alps. Andy also worked as a field leader for the New Zealand Antarctic Research Program in the late 80's and early 90's.

In recognition of his remarkable contributions, the New Zealand Geographic Board bestowed the honour of naming a peak in Victoria Land, Antarctica after Andy Harris. This distinguished summit, known as Harris Peak, resides amidst the notable Mount Hall and Ball Peak, names that bear significance to Harris's legacy. In 1999, Harris was awarded the New Zealand Bravery Star, a testament to his unwavering bravery and selflessness.

---

## Articles

---

***Please get in touch with Kathy if you wish to submit any articles for future newsletters, at***

*[hitac.tac@outlook.com](mailto:hitac.tac@outlook.com)*

---

# Instruction Courses

---

## Snowcraft

### Snowcraft 1

Dates:

1<sup>st</sup> SC1 Starting Fri 26 July 7pm - Sun 28 pm, with a pre-field get together Mon 22 July  
*Backup weekend Fri 2 - Sun 4 Aug*

2<sup>nd</sup> SC1 Starting Fri 9 Aug 7pm to Sun 11 pm, with a pre-field get together Mon 5 Aug  
*Backup weekend Fri 16 - Sun 18 Aug*

3<sup>rd</sup> SC1 Starting Fri 23 Aug 7pm to Sun 25 pm with pre-field get together Mon 19 Aug  
*Backup weekend Fri 30 Aug - Sun 1 Sept*

Note:

- All course dates below have a backup date the following weekend if the course must be postponed due to bad weather.
- The pre-field evening (in New Plymouth) is compulsory
- If you wish to attend, please contact [captain.tac@outlook.com](mailto:captain.tac@outlook.com)

### Snowcraft 2

For those considering registering interest for the Snowcraft 2, it is a pre-requisite that you have been undertaking sufficient climbing to a point where your alpine climbing progression is now requiring the use of ropes, protection, anchors to ascend the routes you are wishing to climb. 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. Please contact [captain.tac@outlook.com](mailto:captain.tac@outlook.com) with your request to join the course detailing your climbing progress and accomplishments to date and aspirations.

Dates: Fri 5 7pm - Sun 7 July with a pre-field (rock gym) session Mon 1st July



# Club Trips

---

Keep your eyes peeled for more fantastic trips in future newsletters!

---

## Social Events

---

### Dress up evening & pot luck dinner

Tahurangi Lodge, Saturday 18th May

**Come dressed in a costume of your own choosing.**  
**Who have you always secretly desired to be?**

**What to bring:**

- Pot luck dinner contribution
- Nibbles and drinks

**Time:** Starting with nibbles from late afternoon

**Organisers:** Glenys Grant 027 3670612; Sheryl Hamilton 027 2431718

Give us a call if you have any queries or need more information.

**PS:** please pass this invite onto other TAC members who may be interested in joining us for another great evening at the lodge. Open to TAC members only  
Looking forward to seeing you there.

---

### Mid-Winter Christmas & Alpine Film Evening

Tahurangi Lodge, 4pm, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July

Come along and join us for our annual Mid-Winter Christmas & Alpine Film Evening at the lodge. Bring along your favourite Christmas dish to share (and please don't forget about dessert!)

There will be a snowman/person building competition and, as usual, we have an impressive line-up of mountain films; they are not to be missed!!

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



---

## 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 2nd May 2024**

**Time: 7:30pm**

**Location: Fitzroy Golf Club**

## ACAT Presentation & Climbing Access Discussion

Edwin Sheppard is a co-founder and the current general manager of the Aotearoa Climbing Access Trust (ACAT). Come along on 2 May to hear Edwin speak about ACAT's work and access issues relevant to Taranaki climbers, including the latest progress and challenges in Waikato crag access plus a discussion about the upcoming Egmont National Park Management Plan review, how this could affect climbing around Mt Taranaki, and what the Taranaki climbing community can do to prepare.

---

**Date: Thursday 6th June 2024**

**Time: 7:30pm**

**Location: Fitzroy Golf Club**

## Sunrise or Sunset? - It's a matter of Perspective!

Join Andy Thompson for an engaging evening of stories through alpine & other adventure imagery.

With decades of experience, as a seasoned professional photographer deeply rooted in the outdoors, Andy's mission is to cultivate a spirit of collaborative interdependence within communities. Through his roles as a Guide, Instructor, Coach, and Mentor, he is dedicated to sharing the allure of the natural world.

Since embarking on his journey as an outdoor professional in 1987, He has traversed diverse locales, spanning from New Zealand to global destinations like Antarctica, Australia, India, Africa, Canada, Scotland, and Norway.

Evolution has been constant in his craft, transitioning from traditional print and slide mediums to the dynamic realm of digital photography. Alongside this, he has embraced the constant changes within the outdoor professional industry.

In essence, his journey as a professional photographer and outdoors professional has been one of continuous growth and discovery.

Andy Thompson - Director, Adventure Lens NZ

*'Connecting Communities through Outdoors, Photography & Video'*

---

## FMC

### Printed FMC Quarterly Bulletins & 2023/24 FMC Membership Cards

Available on club nights or by contacting Club President 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, INDIVIDUAL \$60, STUDENT (under 18) \$50.

Lodge Access Fob Bond \$25.00 (a one-off payment).

Lodge Access Fob \$20.00 annually.

*Your membership will be forfeited if subs are still unpaid by the 1st of June. You will be removed from the database and your fob will be deactivated.*

### 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 Sheryl: [president.tac@outlook.com](mailto:president.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:  
[committee2.tac@outlook.com](mailto:committee2.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 Trips Co-Ordinator. If you would like to volunteer to lead a trip, contact the Trips Co-Ordinator: [committee4.tac@outlook.com](mailto:committee4.tac@outlook.com)

## HiTAC— Newsletter

Sent monthly by email and also available on the Club's website at [www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz](http://www.taranakialpineclub.co.nz)  
Any trip reports, events, or 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 to make any updates. If you are unable to log in, please contact [president.tac@outlook.com](mailto:president.tac@outlook.com)

## Contacting the Club

Correspondence 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)

---

## Photograph Corner





## Conrad Bolger on *The Last Resort* (25), Batpole Wall

Photo credit: Fletcher Miles

---

## Club Links

- 
- 
- 

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

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

