



HiTAC July 2025

Kia ora, 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

President's Report June 2025

We celebrated 90 years of having a structure on the side of Taranaki Maunga in our usual style with lots of good kai & laughter. And by the time you read this we will have had Mid-Winter Christmas & Movie Night at the lodge - always a winner! We are so blessed to have a fantastic facility that allows us to host memorable events.

Buddy walks have kicked off, snowcraft courses are filling up, so now we wait for more snow to arrive and hang around for awhile!

I've had a meeting with DOC recently relating to how we apply for concessions moving forward. These conversations will be ongoing requiring me to get familiar with the redress act and the obligations involved. Times are changing and the initial communications are positive!

The lodge stay rate for non-members has been reduced to \$65.00 per person per night. We listened to your feedback, and we have also created a Under 18 rate of \$25.00 per youth per night when staying with a current club member. This will enable families to encourage their child/ren friends to stay at the lodge without it breaking the bank.

New FMC cards will be available to collect at the next club night. Discounts are available at Macpac when presenting your card on a full priced item.

See you at the next club night on 3rd July – it's gear swap/buy/sell night too.

Sheryl Hamilton

Madam President

president.tac@outlook.com

New Members

A big Welcome to the following new members:

Alicia Jamieson	Individual + Lodge
Steve Atkins	
and Ollie Atkins	Family + Lodge Use
Matthew White	Individual + Lodge
Alice Sowden	Individual + Lodge Use
Isobel Edwards	Individual + Lodge Use
Henry Moffat	Individual + Lodge Use

Notices

NOTICE

Unpaid Subscriptions & Lodge access

Unpaid subscriptions at as at Jun30 will have membership cancelled and lodge access terminated.

Any queries regarding subscription status, please Contact the President - Sheryl Hamilton

Instruction Courses

2025 Snowcraft Instruction



Hi Climbers!

The temperatures are dropping and it's time to start thinking about our snowcraft courses.

Snowcraft 1

If you wish to be considered, can you please contact captain.tac@outlook.com, with the following information:

- Name, address, age [min age is 16 yrs.].
- Question 1: Where are you looking to take your climbing over the next 5-10 years
- Question 2 What is your current snow/ice experience:
- Question 3: What is your level of fitness
- Preferred course date:

Dates:

1st SC1

Starting Fri 25 July 7pm - Sun 27, with a pre-field get together Mon 21 July

No Backup Weekend exist for this

2nd SC1

Starting Sat 23 Aug 7am to Sun 24, with a pre-field get together Mon 18 Aug

Backup weekend Fri 22 - Sun 24 Aug

Note: .

- The pre-field evening (in New Plymouth) is compulsory

Snowcraft 2

For those considering to register 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 with your request to join the course detailing your climbing progress and accomplishments to date and aspirations.

Dates: Fri 1 August 7pm - Sun 3 Aug with a pre-field (rock gym) session Mon 28th July

Your Club Captain

Glen Hodges

captain.tac@outlook.com

Club Trips

From our Trips Co-Ordinator

Rachel Alford

From our Trips Co-Ordinator

I'm still new to this role so working through the processes this involves. Compiling a trips calendar is certainly a task. Ideas for trips come from YOU, our 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 other 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.

Buddy walks

Buddy walks are under way with Conrad and Lindsey leading a trip in June. They managed to get in before too much of the snow was washed off so participants were able to get an early start on refreshing their skills and checking their gear before winter really sets in.

Thank you to everyone who puts their hand up to help make these walks possible.

Buddy walks are provided through the club for those wanting to gain confidence and skill with the support of experienced club members. These walks are not considered instruction courses but more of an informal, small group "buddy system" walk to enable club members to share knowledge and provide guidance for newer members as they develop their winter skills, safety and decision making

Participants are expected to have enough experience (ie Snow craft 1 or equivalent) and are responsible for their own fitness and acquiring of own gear. (this can be done through our gear hire system)

The plan is to run ½ day buddy walks from the 13th of July

SO, WANTED:

Leaders, Trip ideas and Buddy walk leaders.

Below are some trip ideas for the 2025 snow season.

Dates to be arranged, and leaders for some of these trips wanted.

Buddy Walks

July - September (while there is snow):

19th July – Lead by Greg and Glenys

9th August – Lead by Glenys and Clarissa

23rd August – Leader required

13th September – Lead by Phil and Sheryl

27th September – Lead by Glenys and Clarissa

11th October – Leader Required

25th October – Leader Required

Registrations for these walks will open from next month from HiTAC but if you have any questions, please contact me.

If you could **LEAD** one of these walks, please get in touch

September: Tongariro trip, Overnight to Syme Hut

October: Mt Taranaki Slush summit

Rachel Alford

Taranaki Alpine Club – Trips Coordinator

Email: committee4.tac@outlook.com

Mobile: 0278655916

Trip to the Organ Pipes with Lucas Flay

Join Lucas and his doting belayer Fletcher in a trip to the organ pipes valley on the 19th of July.

Meet at the Lodge by 9am for the walk to the ice walls. This isn't a course or a guided walk, the trip requires you to bring/organise your own crampons and climbing gear and know how to use it, you know the drill.

Great opportunity for experienced club members to watch Lucas do things they tell themselves they used to be able to do, and for up-and-coming climbers to rethink their life goals.

And for those without A type personalities, perhaps the photographically minded, the pipes in winter can be quite spectacular.

Fletcher will provide a detailed analysis of snow conditions and avalanche risk assessments en-route.

Updates, cancellations due to weather etc closer to the day will be on the TAC private members FB page, otherwise contact Rachael at trips for info.

Articles

We're always on the lookout for interesting and informative articles for the newsletter.

Please submit to Kathy, HiTAC editor - hitac.tac@outlook.com

Social Events

No upcoming events planned

Club Nights

Club Nights are held on the first Thursday of each month, usually at 7:30pm at Fitzroy Golf Club, 3 Record Street, unless otherwise advertised.

No BYO alcohol, as this is a licensed premises.

Date: Thursday 3rd July 2025

Time: 7:30pm

Location: Fitzroy Golf Club

Alpine climbing gear discussion and gear sale / swap

Georgie will share his thoughts on climbing gear. Providing good advice for all who are booked in for up coming Snowcraft 1 courses.

We will also hold the gear sale / swap. Please ensure all items are clearly labeled with name and price.

Date - Thursday 7th August

NZ Mountain Film Festival

Time - doors open 7pm, Film starts 7.30

Location - **note change of venue, 4th Wall Theatre, 11 Baring Terrace, New Plymouth**

The Taranaki Alpine Club is proud to be hosting the NZ Mountain Film Festival in August, featuring a selection of Kiwi made films.

Tickets \$15 each for TAC members. Purchase before the 13 July. We will be offering ticket sales to public after this date @ \$25 each.

Check out the exciting offering of films being shown and buy tickets here:

https://nz.patronbase.com/_4thWallTheatre/Productions/TAC2/Performances

NZ MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL NATIONAL TOUR



SCREENING HERE:

www.mountainfilm.nz

FMC

Printed FMC Quarterly Bulletins & Membership Cards

Available on club nights or by contacting Club President to arrange pickup.

Trip & Course Reports

Mid Winter XMAS Dinner and Movie night

28 June

Despite a wet and windy weather forecast, 22 members arrived at the lodge during the Saturday afternoon. The drying room was quickly put to work as people sorted out all their wet clothing, packs and boots.

Once into dry gear, it was time for a hot drink and catch up. Mulled wine preparation was started and by 5:30pm people were enjoying the pre-dinner drink. For those who arrived

later, they were greeted with the mulled wine aroma as they entered the lodge.

By 6:30 pm everyone was tucking into a scrumptious meal of salads, curries, pastries, cold meats, and other tempting dishes. Then it was onto the desserts that included a Christmas pudding, hot and cold desserts as well as two cakes. By the end of the meal some felt they had possibly overeaten!!

Everyone helped with either the cleanup from the meal, or getting the room ready for the movies.

Glen had put together a selection of entertaining movies that covered extreme skiing, climbing in Pakistan, Kayaking and a New Zealand film of the Lyell Valley in the upper Rakaia area.

The next morning the weather was a little improved with some sun at times. For most, breakfast included leftovers from dinner. Then it was a lodge clean up before people starting heading back down. A few did decide to try to find some snow, but it looked a long way up from the lodge.

Many thanks to Glen Hodges for providing the entertainment, and the members who came to make it another very enjoyable night at the lodge.

-Gail



Club Information

Members only Facebook page

When applying to join group, your membership status will be checked by the admin team
Help build our TAC community by clicking the link

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1BhHF7NiU6/>

Love you to share some photos and stories that inspire us or outright just make us laugh!

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 \$65 for non-members. Members free.

Under 18 rate of \$25.00 per youth per night when staying with a current club member

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 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/register>

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

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: secretary.tac@outlook.com / 027 266 2330

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

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. If you are unable to log in, please contact president.tac@outlook.com

Contacting the Club

Committee:

Janica Amore - committee1.tac@outlook.com

Katyana Kowalchuk-Horn - committee2.tac@outlook.com

Andrea Jupp - committee3.tac@outlook.com

Rachel Alford - committee4.tac@outlook.com

Charlie Andrews - committee5.tac@outlook.com

or email Clarissa Benton - secretary.tac@outlook.com

Lodge Bookings:

Gail Geange - 021 733 281

Stephen Miller - 027 244 2753

bookings.tac@outlook.com

Lodge Maintenance Officer:

Charlie Andrews - committee5.tac@outlook.com

HiTAC Editor:

Kathy Waterfield - hitac.tac@outlook.com

Submissions welcome from any club member. Please contact Kathy for submission info and deadlines.

Club Links

- [Club Homepage](#)
- [Lodge & Bookings](#)
- [Club Contacts](#)
- Members only FB group <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1BhHF7NiU6/>

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