



HiTAC October 2025

Kia ora, welcome to the latest issue of the HiTAC.

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

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From the President's desk

Well folks the new mattresses have arrived and are currently stored in my garage! When the snow melts, we will apply for road access to get them up to the lodge. I've had a couple of people request use of the old ones we are retiring. The deal is I'm happy to gift the old mattresses to new homes, but those people will be required to be available to help us the day of the switch over. In fact, we are going to require several volunteers that day! It doesn't seem far, the walk from translator corner to the lodge, but add some weight and an unusual shape and everything changes.

The 2nd Snowcraft was well supported and great skills shared – thanks to Geordie & Finn and their support crew. It's been great to see people out and about on the maunga since.

The Tongariro trip is set for 27th and 28th September, sadly this year we had people become unavailable at the last minute which is putting a strain on the dollars we quoted participants. We may have to look at a cancellation fee in the future within that last 2-week period – something for the committee to consider.

Open Climb pre-engagement with local iwi has been actioned, and our application for 14th February 2026 is lodged with the local DOC office. Next year OC falls on Valentine's Day - what would be better than a romantic climb to the summit? 😊

Please note the date in your calendar's now! We cannot offer this event to the public without TAC members' support, and just so you are aware, last year's co-ordination was a bit of a struggle.

See you all at the next club night or on the slopes!

Sheryl Hamilton

Madam President

president.tac@outlook.com

027 243 1718

New Members

Welcome to the following new TAC members:

Joseph Mulliss - Individual - Hawera

Mathew Quinn - Family - New Plymouth

Louisa Linderberger - Individual - New Plymouth

Mark Baker - Family - New Plymouth

Paul Simkin - Family - Stratford

Charlie Roberts - Individual - New Plymouth

Notices

Photo Competition 2025

Entries now open

- Email submissions to Claire Jones - treetops00@xtra.co.nz

- Deadline 21/11/25
- Send one photo per email

Guidelines for submission:

File Name: Must start with the Category Code, then TAC, followed by the Caption, in that order e.g. "ABN TAC Frozen Aoraki.jpeg"

The categories are:

ABOVE BUSHLINE (With no Human Element), Cat Code: ABN

ABOVE BUSHLINE (With a Human Element), Cat Code: ABW

BELOW BUSHLINE (With no Human Element), Cat Code: BBN

BELOW BUSHLINE (With a Human Element), Cat Code: BBW

HISTORIC Code: HIS

NATIVE FLORA & FAUNA, Cat Code: NFF

LONG EXPOSURE - Cat Code LXP

HUMOUR, Cat Code: HUM (NB: TAC only, not FMC)

Three entries per category are allowed. The winning 1st & 2nd entries in EACH category will be submitted to the national FMC Photo Competition (where eligible).

By submitting your photo to TAC competition, you are also consenting to any winning entries being submitted to FMC photo competition on your behalf.

N.B. Photos taken overseas are welcome in TAC , but will not be eligible for the FMC photo competition.

The definition of a "human element" is flexible, but the general intention is that the photo should contain something that has been introduced by humans into the natural environment. For example: people, a hut, a track sign/marker, bridge, ice axe etc. If the "human element" in your photo has only a very small or inconsequential role to play rather than being a main feature, then you could count it as "no human element".

Gear for loan - asking and offering

TAC member Alec Heilbron has initiated a new system to assist members without their own gear.

He says:

Want to feel really good? Then how about donating some of your pre-loved climbing/outdoor gear into a TAC long term loan pool that people can use until they decide they are addicted to climbing and can afford their own gear.

This hopefully will keep more youngies/newbies in TAC by removing some of the cost hurdle of getting into climbing, and over time should build up an increasing pool of loan gear.

So, please, if you have pre-loved climbing/outdoor gear that is no longer being used, donate it to help the next generation of climbers into the sport.

If you have any questions/suggestions, or donations, contact Alec on 027 653 6911, or bring along to club nights.

Note that, while your preloved gear may not be the latest fashionable item, it is way good enough to get started. We will give it a cursory check before loaning it out.

GEAR AVAILABLE FOR LONG-TERM FREE LOAN

If you are a TAC member still deciding about your long-term commitment to the outdoors, or are unable to afford gear at present, the following gear is currently available (also pictured below):

- Crampons (x2, suit rigid/semi rigid boots)
- Ice axe
- Snow stakes
- Rigid leather boots (Women size 39)
- Rock shoes (x2, size 46?) / chalk bags (x2)
- Liquid fuel cooker + fuel bottles,
- Gaiters
- Set of ski mountaineering skis, bindings, skins, ski crampons. Set of ski mountaineering bindings for you to put on skis + ski crampons.

Contact Alec on 027 653 6911 to request the gear for as long as it is needed, until you acquire your own, then return it for somebody else to use.

[illegible]

Articles

Social Events

A graphic for a 'Shared Dinner Party' featuring a photograph of a table with food. On the table are a bowl of cubed meat and vegetables, a dish of dumplings in a bamboo steamer, and a bowl of meat. The text 'Shared Dinner Party' is written in a large, blue, cursive font across the top. The background is decorated with blue and orange lanterns and mandala patterns. The text below the photo reads: 'Join us for a shared dinner party with Egmont Alpine Club at Tahurangi Lodge Saturday 11th October see you from 4.00pm Overnight & join us for a trot Sunday morning. Contact Gail (021) 733-281'.

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.

October Club Night

Date: Thursday 2nd October

Time: 7.30pm

Location: Fitzroy Golf Club, 3 Record Street

Recently, TAC supported two active members, Fletcher Miles and Lucas Flay to upskill their mountaineering skills in the south island. Fletcher completed a pro qualification in avalanche risk management at Otago Polytech, while Lucas undertook an alpine skills course with Alpine Guides, and an ASC2 with Alpine Recreation.

They will be sharing:

- What they learnt
- How this learning has helped improve their climbing skills

- How they have used this education to benefit the local mountaineering scene.
- Recent climbing content (rock + winter)

FMC

Printed FMC Quarterly Bulletins & Membership Cards

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

Club Information

Members Only Facebook group

When applying to join the 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/>

A place to share information, inspirational stories, and funny photos!

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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We no longer have a postal address.

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