



No. 5 Summer 2014

What's new at TASC...

Welcome to the newsletter of the Tukino Alpine Sports club!

Winter is gone, but luckily summer is here for everyone to enjoy the Lodge while enjoying the 4WDing, walks, mountain bike tracks and rock climbing routes Mt Ruapehu has to offer.

As always there has been many improvements made around the place, including

- Tukino is now home of Kermit, a green wheeled bulldozer! This has helped maintain and clear the snow on the 4WD road up to the Lodge, making for a more accessible and quick pleasant drive.
- The relocation of the hot water cylinder and many other improvements.



Kermit, the new addition to Tukino

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The TASC facebook page has been up and running for a while now, and frequently gets updated with posts about what is going on at TASC and even photos too! So check that out, and LIKE our page to keep informed!



Also don't forget to visit the TASC website that has useful links and information to help you plan your next trip to the TASC lodge, so check that out!

<http://tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz>

Winter Family Fun

TASC isn't just a place for the obvious snow sports and rock climbing, but can be enjoyed by people of all fitness levels and ages. The Tukino Skifield is great to learn to ski/snowboard with a friendly atmosphere. With the Lodge overlooking the snowfield, it is also fun to enjoy the comfort of the fire while watching friends and family still enjoying themselves outside!

Oliver (6) and Tyler (5) have enjoyed learning to ski during a weekend spent at TASC. They also learnt to build snow caves and raced each other and their parents in the toboggans, and of course loved snow ball fights, and checking out the diggers and snowcat!



Oliver learning to ski



Tyler coming out of the snow cave



Oliver tobogganing



Tyler getting snowballs ready for a playful fight



Tukino Summer photo by Mark Henson

Photo & Short Story Competition

Want a **free years TASC membership?!**

Share with us your favorite Tukino photo or write a short story from time spent at Tukino. Just send your entry in to us at newsletter@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz and you will be in to win a free years TASC membership

(Note: by entering this competition you agree to the use of your photos/stories in TASC newsletters/storyboards and printed material)

For membership details, prices and benefits head to the website <http://tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz> and download the membership form.

Working Bee

We have a working bee planned for the last week of March. Your stay is free during the working bee, and you can even bring a friend to help out! You don't have to be an experienced builder, people of all skills is much appreciated, evening if it's doing something basic or cooking for the team! If you can keen to help out for this or any future working bees feel free to contact Don French at don@french.net.nz or on mobile 027 445 2980.

NZAC Video Footage

Check out this video posted from the Auckland Section of the New Zealand Alpine Club. The footage shows off the beauty of Tukino and Mt Ruapehu through the eyes of mountaineers.

<http://vimeo.com/74353928>

Wanted: Jobs

Winter Lodge Manager and **Relief Lodge Manager(s)** for Tukino Alpine Sports Club Lodge during the Winter ski season from around June to around mid-October.(depending on the snow levels!). The job comes with a small payment and the incumbent gets board and lodging in a Manger's room, plus a ski pass!

Personal attributes required are, previous experience living in an alpine environment, versatility and good relationship skills.

Key outcomes of the job:

- To represent the Club at the Lodge
- To ensure that the guests stay at the lodge is as comfortable as possible
- Ensure that the lodge is kept in a clean, safe and in operational order

To do this, the duties are:

- Greet guests, ensure they get to the right room / bunk assigned, and they know where everything is.
- Safety; safety briefing and make sure there are no new hazards.
- Assign daily duties to guests, and check duties are carried out in a timely manner!
- Liaison with the other support staff in the club; catering and booking especially.
- To recommend to the Catering Officer what provisions are required e.g. Let the catering person know if anything is running low; make sure the guests can use supplies judiciously.
- Monitor water and diesel usage.

The Relief Winter Lodge Manager would be available for one or more weeks during the season to give the Lodge Manager a break.

Applicants for these positions please email to secretary@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz a brief summary of your reasons for wanting to do the job, and

- why you think you would be good at it
- your contact details.

A full job description is available on request. You will be contacted by email to either let you know you have not been selected or to arrange an interview by phone.



Panorama of 2013 Tobogganing tracks

The Green Corner

With every improvement that we make at Tukino, we are incorporating energy efficient processes to be as green as possible. We have made "ecologically friendly" a key strategic priority for the club and we are working hard to reduce our footprint as much as we can.

Our current top priority is to move as much of our electric heating and cooking to gas and solid fuels. Electric power is very expensive at Tukino, and the more we need to produce, the more diesel we must buy and store, which increases the risk to the environment. As a comparison most homes pay around \$0.25 per kWh for power, running a 3kW single electric heater at Tukino, uses about 2 litres of diesel per hour - or \$1.00 per kWh - this is 4 times the cost of electricity at home. Of course, we have to pay for generator maintenance on top of this too!!

We are also reducing power for lighting with compact fluorescent and LED lighting - this will allow us to begin to run our lights from batteries, which cuts the amount of time we need to have the generator switched on. Lastly we are applying for funds to install better batteries, inverter and solar panels to again reduce our costs and need for diesel.

As part of this approach we are in the process of moving our hot water cylinder so that we can heat it from the wetback. We will also improve efficiency by increasing the insulation and improving the plumbing. As we re-clad TASC we are installing 100-150mm of insulation in the walls and focusing on reducing drafts to make the lodge more efficient. When we inherited the TASC lodge our first diesel fuel bill was more than \$8,000 - we have nearly halved this already to around \$4,000 and believe we can halve it again.

Keep your eyes and ears opened for more improvements! Or if you'd like to help out or have suggestions, don't forget to join the working bee!

Donations

Any donations to the club would be more than welcome! We are currently saving up to purchase solar panels that will give phone and internet access, and keep the webcam going all year round.

If you would like to make a donation to TASC please contact treasurer@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz

Alternatively you can contact us if you would like to help out with any working bees that will be held over the summer or would like to get involved in anyway.

Thanks to everyone who has donated so far!

Who to contact

Below is the list of club contacts by email address.

president@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz

treasurer@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz

secretary@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz

membership@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz

maintenance@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz

inquires@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz

bookings@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz

marketing@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz

website@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz

newsletter@tukinoalpinesportsclub.org.nz