

P.N. TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

P. O. Box 1217,
Palmerston North

NEWSLETTER Vol II No.7

President: Russ Lacey 81.436
Vice-Pres: Peter Clausen 81.743
Secretary: Bruce Watson 78.517
Treasurer: Tony Morrison 86.397

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With longer days and warmer weather we hope to see all members taking part in coming trips, with quite a number of different areas to visit between now and Christmas, such as the Tararuas, Ruahine and Kaimanawa Ranges and the Otupae Range.

Sunday SEPTEMBER 24th: Rangiwahia Track work party.

DON'T LET US DOWN ON THIS TRIP. We want to concentrate all the work on the large slip by cutting a new track across and also planting trees to stop the erosion on this area. There are jobs for all. Once this job is done we can finish the Hut and open up this area with really easy access to the high country. Depart Izadium 6A.M.

Leader: Bruce Watson 78.517

Sunday OCTOBER 1st: Mangakaka Ridge.

Easy day trip; track leaves end of Manaia Road north of Rangiwahia – native bush and tussock ridge - a new area for the Club.

Leader: Ron Haxton 83.994

OCTOBER 14 – 15th: Otupae Range, off inland Patea road between Taihape and Hastings. Should be a little harder than usual with more tramping. Tenting out.

Leader Ian Barnes; ring Russ Lacey 81.436

TRANSPORT: We still have transport problems on trips. We would appeal to all those members with cars that your assistance in transport on Club trips is of major importance if we are to continue as an active tramping club.

RANGIWAHIA HUT: It is hoped to have the Club Hut finished before Christmas; possible two weekends will do the job. Some visitors to the Hut have been using the building paper to light the fire – even that far from civilisation we are plagued with inconsiderate people.

S.A.R. TRIAL: The next Search & Rescue Trial will be held about the end of February, and the committee hopes that some members will take part. You can all help by getting experience in tramping, bushcraft, snowcraft etc. on Club and private trips. The S.A.R. organization needs fit and experienced tramping club members. We will keep members posted in Newsletters of future S.A.R. activity.

SPECIAL!!

NOVEMBER 5th

GUY FAWKES

A late departure, probably 9 A.M. for an easy day tramp locally, followed by a Barbecue tea and then a bonfire - bring your own fireworks. More details in a later NEWSLETTER.

CLUB BADGES: The Secretary has ordered another dozen Club badges at \$1-10 each for that pack or Swandri.

We now have 100 feet of climbing rope. We hope leaders will make use of this on river and climbing trips.

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CLUB NIGHTS

The next Club night will be held on Thursday 28th September at 7.30 p.m. in the Staff Social Room of Berry Engineering Ltd. Our meeting this month will be of the indoor variety and should be instructive for us all and it is hoped an enjoyable opportunity to meet others with the same interests. There will be short talks given on the following subjects:

Poisonous Native Plants - Tony Morrison
Map and Compass Work
Adventures of a Deer Culler - Vern Stout.

It is intended that these evenings be as informal as possible and we expect there will be plenty of time for members to have a good get-together during the course of it.

Our last Club night was certainly different, being held near the Morrison country residence on a particularly fine and mild night in late August. There were opportunities for all present to show their skill at river crossing on a rope, which with anyone over seven stone had a tendency to sag alarmingly toward the water. It is pleasing to report that all got safely across without a ducking. The unconventional wide game which followed was enjoyed even by those who were unable to find their quarry as a rather nice display of glowworms was seen on the opposite bank of the river by those who made the trip across. A sumptuous supper of saveloys, coffee and chocolate biscuits eaten by a roaring fire rounded off a different and really pleasant outdoor evening.

EGMONT SNOWCRAFT TRIP: Four good keen men departed from the Izadium Friday night for North Egmont Chalet. First stop Wanganui for a second tea of pies and chips. Arrived at the Chalet at midnight all set for a night tramp up the razorback to Tahurangi Hut at 5400' under the expert guidance of Peter Liley. Roped up and cut steps the last 50 yards in moonlight to the hut at the foot of the first Staircase. Into bed after a cup of coffee at 3 a.m.

Awoken by two T.A.C. members at nine Saturday morning on their way to the Summit. Morning warm and sunny with patches of cloud breaking off from below and charging up the bluff and over the hut. After breakfast glissade practice behind the hut, with one member trying it headfirst and finishing wrapped around a rock beside the hut. All other attempts abandoned. Lunch!

Climbed almost to Drinking Rock in the afternoon to descend at 1 p.m. to make a radio call for a chat to New Plymouth. Chased an opossum around the hut - possum stew for tea YUK! On radio for most of afternoon. Visitors for afternoon tea from the radio section of the Taranaki Alpine Club.

Bed at 8p.m. Awoken by the howl of the wind, gusting to about 30 knots, mist, a temperature of 5° above freezing point. After breakfast cleaned up hut and packed for the descent to the Chalet. Back at the car at 12 noon so drove into New Plymouth for a look-see and a quick climb up Paritute which is part of a blown out volcano on the coast. Late dinner at 4p.m. in Hawera, then on to Palmerston arriving at 7 p.m. Thanks to Roger for transport.

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A wedding of great interest to our Club took place on Saturday 9th September when Peter and Ann Clausen were married. We do wish them both a great deal of happiness and will look forward to meeting Ann when they take up residence in Palmerston North.