

P.N. TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

Hon. Secretary:
Kevin Pearce 74-129 ext. 856 (Bus.)

P.O. Box 1217,
Palmerston North.

NEWSLETTER 5/70

SLIDE COMPETITION

FLORA & FAUNA SECTION:

1 st David Ryrie	-	Insect eating plant.
2 nd David Ryrie	-	Kea.
3 rd Mrs. I Pither	-	Yellow buttercup.

TRAMPING SECTION:

1 st Peter Sutcliffe	-	Mountaineer.
2 nd Mrs. I. Pither	-	Scenic lake and mountain.
3 rd Barry Watson	-	Lake mediation.

OPEN SECTION:

1 st Kevin Pearce	-	Snow scene.
2 nd Kevin Pearce	-	Crater Lake.
3 rd Warwick Blanchard	-	T.V. Translator.

The club was indebted to Mr. John Cleland for his excellent judging and helpful hints to our photographers. He also commented that the standard of slides had been improving every year.

28th MAY CLUB NIGHT.

Peter Sutcliffe will give the club an illustrated talk on the Tararuas. This will be followed by a rock climbing film, which we urge members to come and see, as it precedes a rock climbing course which will be held soon.

TRAMPING EQUIPMENT

Equipment recommended for tramping on the tops of mountain ranges or snowcraft, e.g. Tararua Crossing.

1. Raingear (overtrousers useful)
2. Woollen Mittens (overmitts useful)
3. Sunglasses (ski-glasses useful)
4. Woollen headgear (balaclava useful)
5. Long warm pants (woolen preferred)
6. Suncream (Snowcuffs helpful)
7. Extra dry warm clothing.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

These are coming in s-l-o-w-l-y. Have you paid yet? Pay these to treasurer - Lynne Potter. Also available from Lynne are: Club monograms - \$1.15
Maps - Ruahine 45c, Tararua 35c.

The Club wishes to extend its gratitude to Rhonda Stout for producing our newsletter since the inception of our club. Rhonda has done a grand job in this respect. Many thanks Rhonda.

NEW MEMBERS:

David Ryrie Phone 79-169 ext. 831.

WARNING

Warning of rapid rises in rivers below hydro dams and control works, e.g. Mangahao.

COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 25th May, 7.30 p.m. at Lynne Potter's, 28 Titoki St.

COMING EVENTS

For botanists on the trip to Wharite there will be a chance

to study the native species - Oleari Colensii, while for those going to Coppermine will be exploration of coppermines.

Leave Izadium 6.30 a.m. Leader: Ian Hoare. Ph 83-448

ANNUAL MOUNTAIN CRAFT COURSE.

In the next few weeks the Club will be sponsoring courses in basic skills. The first of these is a must for trampers.

BUSHCRAFT

A must for trampers. River crossing, bivvy building, fire lighting, map reading will be practiced. Bring a Bushcraft Manual, sheet of polythene for a ground sheet/bivvy roof, food for communal stew, map and compass etc.

Depart Izadium 7.30 Friday. Leader: Vern Jensen. Names to Heather Crabb, Ph. 77668. Cost \$1.50.

ROCK CLIMBING

Practise what you learn from the film at Club night. A good build up course to later snowcraft as you learn how to belay and handle a rope.

Names to Warwick Blanchard Ph.20-712. Cost \$1.50. Leave Izadium 6.30 a.m.

BASIC SNOWCRAFT WEEKEND

Step cutting, self-arrest, belay skills and rope handling will be put to use. Trip members will try for the summit peak Tahurangi, 9,175 ft. of Ruapehu to see Crater Lake! Those club members wishing to ice cave Saturday night should come equipped with air mattresses and sleeping bag covers.

Leave Izadium 6.30 p.m. Friday. Names to Bill Olsen, Ph. 75-480. Total cost \$3.50 (or less if you ice cave)

SECOND SNOWCRAFT WEEKEND

To learn more advanced snowcraft skills, e.g. cramponing, use of ice screws, and at the same time climb Fanthams Peak, 6,000 ft. Conditions permitting a winter climb to summit of Egmont 8,200 ft will be attempted. Note: Those intending to climb this weekend must have had a previous weekend of snowcraft experience.

Leave Izadium Frjday 10th 6.30 p.m. Cost \$5.00 (includes hut fees, transport, and rental of ice axes.) Names to Bill Olsen Ph. 75-480

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND.

29th May – 1st June. Northern Crossing.

A crossing of the northern Tararuas from Levin to Masterton and including a climb of the highest peak in the Tararuas (Mitre 5157') SHALL BE MADE on this weekend. Ice axes (organise your own) and full storm gear are essential for this fitness essential trip. Food for breakfasts and dinners will be supplied. Please contact leader Kevin Pearce early to facilitate organisation of transport, food and equipment.

Depart 6.30 p.m. (on the dot please) Friday from the Izadium. Cost: \$2.00.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND

Sunday 31st May – Monday 1st June. Mitre Flats.

A medium trip to a comfortable hut at the foot of Mitre Peak (east of Masterton). This leaves the Saturday free to mow lawns and visit in-laws. Those wishing will have an opportunity to climb Mitre (grading Fit). Ice axes could be required for this climb.

Names to Heather Crabb, Ph. 77-668. Cost. \$1 40. (N.B. numbers of this trip are strictly limited to 100 or less.)

RANGIWAHIA HUT

20th June)

20-21st June)

Fun in the snow day and weekend at Rangī to celebrate mid—winter.

Leaving Izadium 7 a.m. 20th June. Grading: Medium-easy.
Leader: Lawson Pither, Ph. 85,616

PAST TRIPS

14th March, 1970 – POHANGINA RIVER.

Running slightly late five cars and one motor-bike left the Izadium on what promised to be a most interesting trip. The changing of day from the usual Sunday to Saturday did not seem to deter members, a good muster of 19 eventually starting.

Although none of our number had been on this trip before we had an excellent guide, Mike Martyn of the N. Z. F.S. for the first half hour of the trip. Our thanks must go to Mike for arranging permits. Anyone going into this area of the Ruahines would be advised to contact Mike as he knows the area well and has a lot of good advice to impart.

The going was easy, open paddocks, followed by a bush track paralleling the river and finally dropping down to the river bed. At 11.40 a stop was made for lunch by a delightful little pool below a small rapid. After "Tangs" all round the majority of the party ventured in for a swim.

After lunch the party broke into two to return home, the keener ones going down the river and the remainder returning by the track. The cars were reached by approx. 4.30.

Summing up the trip, although the pace was slow and the party did not get anywhere near Mid Pohangina Hut it was an extremely enjoyable tramp, proving the need perhaps for more similar trips.

Attending were: Grant Potter, Kim Lupton, Adrienne Thompson, Anja Suuring, David Ryrie, Heather Crabb, Ian Hoare, Peter Baxter, Lyall Perris, Owen Robinson, Bruce Hamilton, Kevin Pearce, Stephen Mallett, Carol Stewart, Warwick Blanchard, Brian Booth, Owen Mills, Alan Looser. Leader: Ron Haxton.

13th – 19th April. SOUTHERN RUAHINE CROSSING.

Saturday morning saw us heading towards Pohangina Saddle Hut up a rather overgrown, and exposed to the wind track. Part of the time we were crawling - the other half running between gusts of wind.

About two hours later we reached the hut and lunch was served. After considerable discussion we decided to bash on. An hour later we were on the Ngamoko Range, and in the wind again. Conditions were more comfortable, however, than our last attempt when we could not see where we were.

A few hours south down the range, and another stop by a tarn just north of Tunupo. A tent was pitched - quite an achievement in the wind that was blowing. Tea was cooked, and a well nourished party crawled into their sleeping bags at the end of a stamina testing day.

The tent was blown down a couple of times, but somehow we survived the night and the breakfast which followed it. In strong winds and thick fog we started out, and after many exciting moments we finally reached Toka about mid-day.

Just off the top of Toka we met Bill and his party and most of us rushed down Deerford Track. However, two were delayed, but half an hour later they reached the party. After a rest at the bottom of Deerford we were taken home by our mini-bus which proved to be very successful.

Those taking part: Ian Hoare, Kevin Pearce, Warwick Blanchard, Graeme Pascoe, David Ryrie, Keith Potter, Malcolm Watson, Leader: Dennis Arnott.

19th April. DEERFORD TRACK.

On a dark, misty, windy ridge as we neared the summit of Mt Toka, we sighted a number of rapidly descending storm lashed trampers. Shortly after we reached the tops but quickly retreated to have our lunch down in the more sheltered bush.

Members of the party were: Angus Lonie, Ross Batchelor, Robin Paul, Peter Flaus, Grant Potter, Michael Wiggle, Richard Clark, Leader: Bill Olsen.

26th April. MYSTERY TRIP.

(A Scathing Polemic written by a Bitter Disappointed Man.)

The only thing mysterious about this dismal failure was the fall off in support. At the March Club night 25 persons expressed interest and ten cars were available. It was explained to the meeting that the large amount of work required to organize the trip was only warranted if there was considerable support for the trip. Some of the tasks organized required team effort and could not be performed by individuals. Consequently the trip was cancelled and an alternative tramping trip was run to Waiopahu (3,588') a prominent peak behind Levin.

Seven little niggers (first there were twenty five) reached the Pipe bridge at about 10 o'clock (late start) and continued up the track for 3 hours but did not reach Edwards Shelter. Light rain did not detract from the enjoyment. After lunch we returned to the cars, sunshine (briefly) and Palmerston North. A MEDIUM trip.

Those taking part: Dave Ryrie, Anja Suuring, Lynne Potter, Heather Crabb, Lawson Pither, Kevin Pearce, Owen Mills.

XMAS TRIP

An Xmas trip gives a grand opportunity to do a lot of tramping and see a lot of scenery in a short space of time, usually of 10 to 14 days duration. It gives the chance of visiting areas too far away for the normal weekend trip, bringing within range many of the most beautiful and challenging areas of the South Island and Southern Alps. Two areas have been so far suggested as possibles for such a trip. Nelson Lakes, Travers River valley (approx. \$25), and Arthurs Pass (approx. \$30). Both areas would provide scope for both mountaineers and trampers.

It is essential that serious thought be given to the trip within the next few weeks. Bookings have to be made for cars and unless action is taken now the club will miss out. It would be helpful if those members wishing to undertake such a trip could fill in the attached slip giving name and preference of area and forward it promptly to the club's box number or hand it personally to Lawson Pither.

XMAS TRIP

Name:
Preference as to area:
Ideas (Departure dates, Method of transport etc.):

Box 1217
Palm.Nth.