

P.N. TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

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

P.O.Box 1217,
Palmerston North.

NEWSLETTER 9/70

COMING EVENTS.

3rd SEPT.

Thursday Coffee Evening at the Sorrento Coffee Bar, Broadway, 8.00 p.m. An informal get-together. This is a new idea for the Club. We hope that members will take the opportunity for a chat on past and coming Club activities.

5-6th SEPT.

Annual Police S.A.R. Exercise.

Commencing Saturday morning at 5.30 a.m. at the Police Station, Church St. The aim of the exercise, to be held in the Southern Ruahines will be to give practice in Search and Rescue techniques to younger or newer Club members.

Grading: Medium.
Cost: Free
Names to Lawson or Kevin.

9th SEPT.

Monthly Lunch Meeting Wednesday 12 noon. Collinson & Cunninghame's Tea Rooms.

14th SEPT.

Committee Meeting. The next committee meeting will be held at Russell Johnson's, 11 Lifford Place at 7.30 on Monday, 14th Sept. Please note the change of day to earlier in the month.

17th SEPT.

Thursday Coffee Evening 8.00 p.m. at the Sorrento Coffee Bar.

19-20th SEPT.

Tree Planting at Rangiwahia. The Forest Service is to supply trees for planting on the slips. A good turn out will greatly benefit the Club. Come on up for a day (Saturday or Sunday) or for the weekend.

Grading: Medium.
Cost: Workers 50c.
Others \$1.00
Leader: Lawson Pither, 85-616, 7-8 p.m.
Report Izadium 6.00 a.m.

24th SEPT.

Club Night Berry Engineering Works, Ferguson St. 7.30 p.m. Supper Duty: John Stewart & Gavin Rogerson. Note: If any member is unable to attend to supper duties would they please arrange for another member to take their place.

1st OCTOBER

Thursday Coffee Evening 8.00 p.m. at the Sorrento

3rd-4th OCTOBER

Roaring Stage Lodge. A trip to the N.E. Tararua. Report Izadium 6.00 a.m. Saturday. Cost \$1.10 Names to Heather Crabb, 77-668. Grading: Medium.

15th OCTOBER

Thursday Coffee Evening 8.00 p.m. at the Sorrento

23rd-26th OCTOBER

Labour Weekend. Kaimanawas with Russ Lacey. Approx. Cost: \$2.50. Grading: Medium Easy.

26th OCTOBER

Labour Monday Day Trip

A medium trip to Blue Range, Eastern Tararua. Approx. Cost: \$1.40. Grading: Medium Easy.

29th December

Christmas Trip

Money has been received from the following:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Adrienne Thornpson | Kevin Pearce |
| Jane Scrymgeour | Mike Stott |
| Adrian Turner | Peter Sutcliffe |
| Heather Crabb | Peter Baxter |
| Lawson Pither | Grant Potter |

Bookings on the ferry have been confirmed. There may be a few places for late entries but act now. Kevin will be leading this trip.

NOTICES

NEW MEMBERS

Peter Wallace, 21 Fitzroy St., P.N. Ph. 82-602

Angus Leonie, 105 Pahiatua St., P.N. Ph. 71-757

We apologise to Angus for having overlooked his membership application which he made some months ago.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must

1. Be over 14 years of age.
2. Have participated in two Club trips.
3. Make written application on the form provided.

Pay the subscription:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Junior (still at school) | \$1.50 per annum |
| Senior | \$2.50 " " |
| Family | \$3.50 " " |

Only part of these sums are payable by persons becoming members after May of each year.

QUESTIONNAIRE.

As yet only a few of these have been returned. If you have lost your form a few spares are available. Please send in forms by Club Night on 24th September.

PHOTOS FOR THE CLUB'S ALBUM AND FOR THE TRIBUNE

If you have any photos suitable for the above please donate or lend them to the Club. We can have copies made from the negatives if necessary.

POSSIBLE CHANGE OF CLUB ROOMS

Please read next newsletter carefully for a possible change of club rooms.

FOR SALE

Pack in good condition. For details contact Heather Crabb, Phone 77-668

MISLAID

At the last club night a map of the Tararuas may have been picked up by mistake. If anyone found this map please ring Heather Crabb, 77-668.

COOKING FOR TRAMPS.

PART I, STU

For all weekend Club trips, unless otherwise instructed by the leader, it is recommended that members bring the following ingredients for the communal stew: (quantities are per man per evening meal.)

Stewing Steak $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Have the butcher dice this for you or do it yourself before you leave home. Put it in a plastic bag, seal with a rubber band and then wrap in a sheet of newspaper in case of leaks. Mince is not recommended.

Potatoes, Carrots etc. Scrub two medium sized potatoes and one carrot or etc. before leaving home.

Surprise Peas One packet between two is enough. Ring a friend and go halves.

Maggi Soup One Packet.

Onions Two small or one medium.

Place all the ingredients for each stew in a plastic or calico bag. Have a separate bag for each day.

General Instructions

Stew requires long slow cooking (simmer, not boil.) 2-3 hours from scratch may be needed for best results although it is possible to produce an acceptable product under favourable conditions in 1 hour. Do not over fill billies – there should be at least 2 inches of free board to allow adequate stirring. The stew should be stirred frequently, especially when cooked on an open fire, and more water added if necessary. It is best to have too much water rather than too little, as stews can be thickened but cannot be unburnt. Keep the lid on the billy to keep in the heat and the flavour.

Quarter fill an adequately large billy with water, add the diced meat, salt (not too much, you can't remove excess salt but you can add more if needed) and heat. Do not add the onions. Onions only flavour meat when braised with meat and not when boiled. Empty the Surprise peas into a large billy of cold water. Soaking them removes the preservative and the horrible strawy flavour. Drain well before adding to the stew. Prepare the fresh vegetables.

The addition of ingredients to the stew should be timed so that all are cooked at the same time. A count down procedure is recommended zero time being plates-up-time.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Meat: | minimum of 1 hour before zero |
| Fresh carrots: | 40 min. |
| Surprise peas: | 30 “ |
| Soups (depending on variety) | 3-20 min. |
| Onion: | 10 min. |
| Thickening (cold water & flour paste) | 2 min. |
| “ (instant potato) | 0 “ |

Warning: the addition of cold ingredients will cool the stew and slow the cooking - extra cooking time may be required.

PAST TRIPS

8-9th August MANGAEHUEHU HUT, TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK.

Anyone who thought that Mt. Ruapehu is just a one-sided, snow covered facade on which noisy and over-enthusiastic annual Club trips in a bus vie for space to fall over, surely had their eyes opened on August 8th, when 14 members of the club explored the southern side of the mountain. There is a wealth of tramping country, for us made more beautiful by a light fall of snow and the clean, cold weather which turned waterfalls to vast ice-sculpture and sharpened the edge of Girdlestone Peak, an ever absorbing and challenging spire which dominated the clear blue sky.

The Ohakune Mountain Road is usually open and suitable for most vehicles. We drove to the lower car park at about 4,000 ft. through rimu and beech forest. The track starts in the beech and crosses several small rivers, some with spectacular water-falls, including the highest in the Park which tumbles over an ancient lava flow for over 100 ft.

A protracted stop was made for a brew, the magnificent view of Girdlestone seen up the valley and a discussion of the use of icicles in a perfect murder. After 1½ hours the track emerged into open tussock and ended - our guide, Ranger John Clay left us here, and we relied on trip leader David Ryrice from there on; a successful method, though some might question his sense of timing - possibly due to the fresh snow and frequent stops to admire the almost impossibly beautiful mountain.

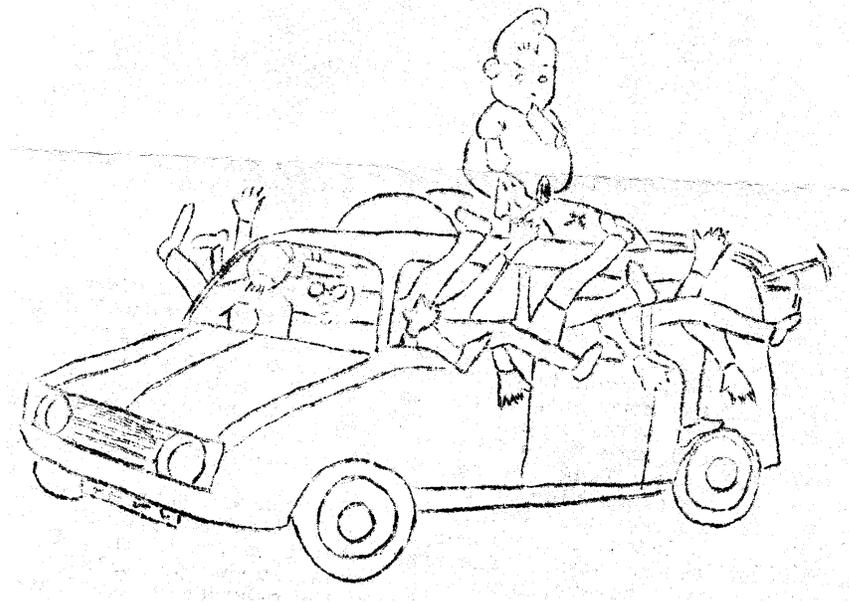
The Mangaehuehu hut is at 4,200 ft., discreetly hidden till you get there but well sited in every way. It represents the high aims of the Park Board, with accommodation for 24 in three rooms, running water, an excellent stove, carbonettes and an extensive cheese cooler, all for 50c a night.

The evening passed in animated cooking, appreciative eating, discussions on vertebrae, radioactivity etc. and plans for an early start, pre-dawn if I can see the stars from my sleeping bag. In the morning we split into three parties with three different intentions, but basically they all did the same thing at different times throughout the morning.

We walked out by a high level route, gradually climbing to 5,500 ft. through the snow and descending via the Blyth Ridge to the Massey Alpine Club Hut. The route is unmarked but through quite open country and took between 2 and 3 hours. Under the conditions it provided the perfect second day, magnificent views of the Kaimanawas, the Ruahines, Mt. Egmont and the snow whipping off Girdlestone in soft, feathery plumes that indicated a wind of about sixty miles per hour - this prevented any ascent by the after all not so early starters. The going was easy, varying terrain but with a little ice work to satisfy the mind. It was one of those very satisfying trips where no one got wet or fell in a hole or burnt the stew – nothing to remember it by, except for the mountain.

Footnote: It should be mentioned here that shortly after starting on Saturday morning there was an incident to remember. How could one forget? One member's Anglia having broken down between Waituna West and Rewa and a certain Cortina station wagon happening to arrive at an opportune time, it was decided to set a new world record for cramming people into a car. So the Anglia's passengers were conveyed to Ohakune. Owing to pressure from the top layers of bods it was impossible to count heads, so arms and legs were counted and divided by four. The tally thus arrived at was 38½ persons in one station wagon!

Trip members: Leader, David Ryrie, Lawson Pither, Sue Streeter, Heather Crabb, Bill Olsen, Joy and David Olsen, Adrian Turner, Malcolm Watson, Peter Sutcliffe, Angus Lonie, Mark Annabell, Kevin Pearce, Peter Baxter.



Watch your monthly newsletter for further exciting episodes in the life of the Tramping Baby.

23rd August Shut Eye Track

Eight hearty souls set forth slightly late after one member slept in. (Would you believe a watchmaker who's alarm clock broke down and who's watch gains time?)

The drive to Shut Eye was an epic in itself. Following the Ruahine tramping map we went down one road only to find it blocked by foot deep mud. Backtracking we took a wrong turning (aided by incorrect road markings and some roads not marked at all) and eventually ended up in Waipawa. From there we had no trouble and arrived at the road at 9.30.

The going was easy along the river but the party was held up by a spell of bushbashing after following what we thought was the commencement of the track. The correct track was found and after a fairly tough climb the hut was reached at 1.30. There we brewed up and had lunch.

The trip back was uneventful and considerably quicker than the journey up. The cars were reached at 4.30.

Moral of the trip – do not use tramping maps as road maps. AA maps are far more comprehensive.

Attending: Alan Looser, Adrian Turner, Heather Crabb, Theresa Signal, Bruce Lockwood, Janice Rockell, Mark Annabell, Ron Haxton (leader).

Typists note: Tea always tastes better if you put water with it.

Sometime in August, on a special occasion, an unscheduled trip was taken to Purity Hut in the Ruahines by four members of the Club. Russ Lacey, Ian Hoare, Kevin Pearce and Heather Crabb climbed a steep hillside to over 3,000'. The track was easy and pleasant through the bush. It was proved, this day that the age of chivalry is not past. Heather was grateful to Kevin for carrying her pack. It was a gratifying change for her as, on a previous occasion, she had been driven at the point of an ice axe, to carry a certain pack weighing every bit as much as the owner.

The party found themselves between two layers of cloud and even the visual effect of this was fantastic, similar to Chiang Yee's sketches in the "The Silent Traveller, a Chinese Artist in Lakeland."

Over a brew at the hut the possibility of the Club's maintaining the hut was considered. As it was raining the party remained in the hut for the afternoon, making brews and discussing various topics, then made their way back to the car at 4 p.m.