

P.N. TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

Hon. Secretary
Heather Crabb 77-668

P.O.Box 1217,
Palmerston North.

NEWSLETTER 8/71

COMING EVENTS

29th July. CLUB NIGHT at the Society of Friends Church Hall, 227 College St. at 7.30 p.m.

Mick Banks who has recently been overseas on an expedition to Tierra Del Fuego has agreed to speak to the Club on this night. Some of us met him recently in the Crater at Mount Egmont and look forward to meeting him again and hearing something of his mountaineering experiences both at home and overseas.

A mini talk on maps purchasing will be delivered by Roger Lander. SUPPER DUTIES:
Richard Clarke, Peter Croad, Kevin Pearce.
(Please bring tea towel from home.)

30th July-1st August SNOWCRAFT II. KAPUNI LODGE.

A weekend of advanced snowcraft on Mount Egmont. A strict maximum of twelve persons can take part. Preference will be given to financial Club members with previous snowcraft experience. Communal breakfasts will be supplied. Bring ingredients for a communal stew Saturday night and two lunches. Storm gear, spare socks essential. A fit trip.

Depart Izadium 6 p.m. Friday. Home, hopefully, by: 7 p.m. Sunday
Estimated cost (including gear hire): \$6.90 juniors (& breakfasts) \$8.40 seniors
Names to Lawson Pither, ph.85-616 by Wednesday 28th July.

30th July-1st Aug. DAWSON FALLS

A weekend visit to Mount Egmont with accommodation in Robson Lodge right at the road end. Optional day trips from the Lodge.

Depart Izadium: 6 p.m. Friday' Home by: 7 p.m. Sunday
Estimated cost: \$4.40 juniors \$6.00 seniors
Grading: Easy
Names to Lawson Pither, ph.85-616 by club night 29th July.

12th August COMMITTEE MEETING

7.30 p.m. at Grant Potter's, 3 Lifford Place.

14th-15th August. RANGIWAHIA WORK PARTY

P.N. Tramping & Mountaineering Club Conservation Week effort.

Last year we planted about 2,000 young trees and many of these have rooted and are now growing well. This is your opportunity to do something positive in the fight against erosion on the slips and also on the tops where tussock transplanting is programmed.

It is hoped that there will be some transport available for day trips for those who cannot stay the weekend. The Club's name was enhanced last year – let's do even better this time.

Grading: Easy Cost: \$1.50
Names to Lawson Pither, ph.. 85-6.16 (before 7.30 p.m. Please)

26th August. CLUB NIGHT

Films at the Society of Friends Church Hall, 227 College St. at 7.30 p.m.
SNOWCRAFT – Instruction in techniques of snow climbing, use of rope,

step cutting, crampons etc.

FIORLAND EXPEDITION 1949 – A joint N.Z.-U.S. exploration of one of the least known areas of N.Z. – many branches of Science participating.

TWIN LAKES - A leisurely journey, mainly by water showing the scenic beauty of Lakes Manapouri and Te Anau.

GLACIER CLIMBERS - A four day mountain journey from Westland to Canterbury across the Southern Alps. At Malte Brun Hut the climbers meet Sir Edmund Hillary and complete the traverse journeying down the Tasman Glacier.

SUPPER DUTIES: Wesley Dalefield Peter Flaus.

28th August. CONQUESTS HUT in the Ruahines.

Grading: Easy Cost: 80c approx.
For details and Names phone Peter Sutcliffe 72-231.

28th-29th August. TE MATAWAI - GIRDLESTONE

Grading: Fit Cost: \$1.00
Depart Izadium: 6 a.m. Saturday
Leader: Dawn Ellis, phone 81-969

14th September. BUSHCRAFT

Day only - In the hands of the Committee. Details will be published in the next newsletter.

CHRISTMAS TRIP 27th December-10th January. ARTHUR'S PASS.

\$20, the total transport cost is required from all those intending to make the Christmas trip to the Arthur's Pass area by 24th August as the Travel agents require payment by 1st September.

Please send the payment to: Lawson Pither,
C/- Birnie, Coombs & Wilson,
P.O. Box 248,
PALMERSTON NORTH

or if delivering by hand: 90 Rangitikei Street.

The trip promises to be a good one this year so don't miss out by not acting in time.

NEW MEMBERS: Brent Johnston, Ron Stretton, Trevor Stretton, John Williams, Karen Bishop, Julian Dalefield, Eleanor Schlee, Mr. & Mrs. Mike Bysouth, Linda Williams, Mike Wiggley, Maureen Cousins, Peter Darroch, Simond Rowberry, Barry Morley, Andy Laurent, Wayne Salmons, Fred Dear, Ben Manaia, Francis Usmar.

We warmly welcome all these new members to our Club and all look forward to meeting them on Club activities.

NOTICES:

MOUNTAINCRAFT MANUAL

The National Mountain Safety Council have put out a new manual by A.J. Heine. This manual covers the basics in rock, snow, and ice techniques as well as associated subjects such as first aid emergency procedure, search and rescue, weather in the mountains, planning equipment, food etc.

This manual will be made available to club members at a reduced cost. If you require one please give your name to Grant Potter, 89 639, before 12th August.

FOR SALE

One pair dark blue all nylon shorts. Waists 32, hip 38, \$3.50. See Dave Ryrie.

LOST

One pair of black Japara overtrousers. Falcon brand, in new condition. On Egmont trip 15th-16th May. Anyone finding these, please return to Peter Baxter, No. 5 R.D., Feilding.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Following the Richmond Range Crossing an informal and enjoyable debriefing was held. The aim of this was to evaluate the trip as a whole.

We discussed the following aspects:-

Individual members contributions and progress.

Newsletter report.

Necessity of briefing.

Equipment and gear return.

Level of trip enjoyment.

Suitability of personal gear.

As a result we suggest to the club that major trips have a briefing and a debriefing.

Yours etc.,

Dave Ryrie, Sue Streeter, Teresa Signal, Ian Easterbrook, Roger Lander.

PAST EVENTS.

29th-30th Mav. WAIOPEHU – OHAU.

After getting off to a late start an enthusiastic party of six arrived at Batholemew's farm at 7.30 a.m. on a pleasant winter's morning. We saw ourselves climbing the steady grade ridge up to Waiopehu. We were accompanied most of the way by a group of potential trampers as far as Waiopehu Hut. Arriving at 11.30 a.m. we had an hour for lunch and then set off to Waiopehu. Another hour saw us at the top of Waiopehu. We then directed our feet towards Richard Knob and the memorial in the memory of Ralph Ward. The weather made an unwelcome change to light showers and for one trumper a most embarrassing situation – he had left his parka back at Waiopehu Hut. Deciding to continue on from the junction at Richard Knob, which is the start of Gable End, we traveled along Dora track for another three hours until we came to the turnoff of Yeates track. It was now 5.30 p.m. and nine hours tramping was beginning to have some effect on a few members. A democratic vote was taken and the majority wanted DOWN. It was now beginning to get dark and torches were used for the last stage of the trek down Yeates track to South Ohau Hut.

Many thanks go to Sue for a well prepared tea of stew, jelly, instant pudding and rice. One member had much delight in making pog for tea.

Three shooters were in the hut when we arrived. They had packed' up and gone quite early on Sunday morning. The member who had made pog that night attempted a second go which produced quite a "solid" mash and: brought loud cries of ridicule from the other five members. After cleaning the hut and its surroundings we left at 11.00 a.m. in superb weather for the three hour trip out with the river giving a pleasant variation from the tops encountered the previous day. As we had plenty of time travel was slow and an hour break at the junction of the North and South Ohau streams was enjoyed by all. We arrived back at the cars at about 4.30-4.45 and arrived home after an excellent weekend tramp.

Those attending were: O. Robinson, K. Pearce, R. Goldfinch, J Priest, S. Streeter and T Blandford.

5th-7th June. "THE RICHMOND EPIC."

A rush 'n' dive for the Picton Ferry followed the late arrival of the "missing person", starting the Richmond Range Crossing. One was reminded of the events preceding the catching of the Wellington Ferry on the Christmas Trip. The luxurious mobile-otel wafted us to Te Rou shearing shed, where the ladies' bunks were made of wool bales.

On Saturday our first stream was up, but was crossed with expertise to reach the first hut earlier than expected. The bush on the flat going proved varied and interesting. The amount of bird life here and throughout the trip was abundant. We climbed up and up until we reached the bush line when we stumbled upon parts of a wartime Lockheed Electra crash.

Hut 575 was reached for the night. Next day, general deterioration in the weather cancelled a traverse of Mt. Fell and turned into a mad sidle which required skilled navigation. Morale rose on reaching the ridge which we followed to the end of the bluff in wet conditions. An awe inspiring descent in a gut and a sidle along a ledge led to the bush where we picked up our first discs. After a record breaking fly pitching we had lunch. Later, because of excessive speed, we flashed past the turn off to alternative shelter without noticing it, and continued with sinking spirits, keeping the eye out for an odd disc. We descended for what seemed like eternity, passing hell's gate to meet the cauldron. In the morning the cauldron turned out to be the Pelorus River. We reconnoitered for a bridge; finding none we dried out and overnight the river went down three feet. The long, the short and the tall awkwardly assailed the river. We trotted up to the Nelson Club hut, which proved to be dismal and we lunched outside with the wekas. This was the first time we could see glimpses of our previous route and then we went out via the historical Dun Mountain Track into the arms of the police.

Those on the trip were: Dave Ryrie (Hughie's contact) Teresa Signal (stirrer) Sue.....(missing person) Ian Easterbrook (DZ er) and Roger Lander (exhibitionist.)

19th-20th June ROCK CLIMBING 1, TITAHI BAY.

Mike, Bysouth, Grant Potter, Tony Croad. (Saturday onlys), Kevin Pearce, Malcolm Watson, Tony Blandford, Peter Baxter, Brad Owen, Sue Streeter, Teresa Signal and Lawson Pither (weekenders) took part on this trip to the sun drenched rocks of Titahi Bay. The weather was perfect. The novices showed themselves to be apt pupils and were climbing "V diffs" by the end of the course.

Grant joined Peter Baxter in the glow of reflected limelight by belaying George Harris (of Caroline face fame) up the "Plimsoll."

24th June CLUB NIGHT. THE FOOL ON THE HILL.

Between 150 and 160 people saw "The Fool on the Hill" at the Marsden Lecture Theatre and enjoyed a first class show. Graeme Dingle used a sophisticated system with two projectors which suits mountaineering subjects very well. For someone in his mid-twenties his experience is vast, having climbed in all the major areas except for North America. It is reported that he was very pleased with the profit from this lecture of approximately \$30.00, which goes towards financing a winter traverse of the Southern Alps, now being attempted. Presumably this expedition will be followed up with a similar lecture and if we get the opportunity it will be worth hearing and seeing.

26th-27th June RANGIWAHIA MID WINTER VISIT.

On Saturday morning our party of five set off in drizzly cold conditions for Rangī to celebrate the passing of Mid Winter. Upon reaching the hut it was decided not to take the "usual" swim; in fact it was decided that nothing was to be done. The weekend was spent in the comfort of our sleeping bags, playing cards and eating. We headed back on Sunday afternoon with Sue, Kevin and Brad who had been on a more adventurous trip.

Trip members were: Tony Croad, Richard Murcott, Adrian Turner, Roger Lander, Grant Potter.

25th-27th June. OUTSTANDING NAVIGATIONAL FEAT.

Recently three club members who were much enthused by a recent SAR instruction evening on map and compass set sail (figuratively) on Friday evening for the Ruahines. They were armed with the new topographical map (NZMS 1 N140). They left their conveyance at map reference 465916 and proceeded on foot to a palacial chalet at 485914 where a comfortable night was spent. On Saturday sleet and snow showers coupled with mist and wind provided invigorating conditions for our intrepids who continued upwards on a bearing of 108° true. When a height of over 5,100' was reached they changed their course to 33° true for a distance of about ¼ mile and then they turned eastwards and