



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING
& MOUNTAINEERING CLUB (INC)
P.O. Box 1217 Palmerston North

NEWSLETTER

10/73
Hon. Secretary,
Kevin Pearce, 74-129
ext. 860.
Membership Convenor:
Heather Crabb, 77-668.

COMING EVENTS.

20th-21st-22nd Oct.

LABOUR WEEKEND. SOUTHERN CROSSING.

Grading: Fit Cost: \$2.50 approx.
Depart Izadium: 6.30 Saturday morning.
Leader: Tim Short, 76-906.

21st-22nd Oct. KAITOKE -- ALPHA HUT

Grading:	Medium.	Cost:	\$2.50 approx.
Dept. Izadium:	6.00 a.m. Sunday.	Names to:	84-925

25th Oct. CLUB NIGHT.

There will be an address by Mr. Anyon from the St. John Ambulance Association in relation to First Aid, applicable in tramping, using visual aids such as films bandaging etc.

At the Society of Friends Hall, 227 College St., behind the West End Chemist at 7:30 p.m.

SUPPER DUTIES: Sue Streeter, Stuart McLauchlan, Keith Margrain.

27th-28th Oct. MANGAHAO -- NGAWAKARARA -- SCOTTS RD.

Grading:	Fit	Cost:	\$1.50
Depart Izadium:	6.00 a.m. Saturday.	Leader:	Russell Johnson, 87,777.

Also a medium trip to Avalanche Flats Hut will run on this weekend. Details as above.

3rd-4th November. CONE -- TUNUPO - N.Z.D.A. LODGE.

I feel tramping is often a little civilised with well laid tracks and nice warm huts placed at convenient intervals (particularly on our easier trips) so this expedition will try to regain the pioneering spirit -- up onto the tops of the Ruahines, camping out by some tarns and down again by a different ridge.

Leader:	Karyn Bishop, 84-925.	Grading:	Medium.
Cost:	\$1.70		

10th-11th November. SAREX.

This is the annual Search and Rescue Exercise organised by the P.N. Police and Associated Clubs. Unfortunately this Club's participation has been limited to seven members only so the Committee will not be calling for volunteers.

Organiser: Kevin Pearce, ph. 74-129 ext. 860.

A Mystery Trip will also run for anyone wishing to tramp this weekend. It has been recommended by experts as an excellent opportunity to get lost -- have we any takers?

Names to: 84-925.

14th November. COMMITTEE MEETING.

At Karyn Bishop's, 28 Carroll St., at 7:30 p.m.

17th-18th November. OTAKI -- PLATEAU STREAM -- NEILL FORKS -- HOLDSWORTH.

For those wishing to compete in the Commonwealth Games here is your chance to stretch those little toes:- over hill, down dale, over hill and down dale and so obtain peak physical condition (like your leader???)

Leader: Kevin Pearce, 74-129 ext. 860. Grading: Fitness Essential.
Cost: \$4.35.

17th-18th November. ATIWHAKATU.

For those wishing to compete in the aqua sports section of the Commonwealth Games here is your chance to practise growing gills on a pleasant river trip by Mt. Holdsworth.

Leader: Peter Darragh ph. Feilding 5633. Grading: Medium.
Cost: \$2.55.

24th November. PANATEWAWE STREAM.

Here is the trip most of us have been waiting for -- a Piker's Paradise -- a tinkling stream, a hot day, cool green trees. You can sleep, swim (paddle or scuba dive), climb trees, boil the billy, sleep.....

Names to Russell Johnson, ph. 87-777. Grading: Easy
Cost: \$1.46.

24th November. MT. HECTOR.

Another very easy trip has also been scheduled for this weekend. A slow stroll along a gently sloping track with plenty of time to admire the surrounding countryside etc., etc., etc. (Guess what, folks -- this is all lies.)

Leader: Keith Margrain, ph. 79-302. Grading: Fitness Essential.
Cost: \$1.46.

23rd-25th November.

Don't forget that James Reid has invited us down to the Lower Hutt for this weekend.

Names to: Ina Te Wiata, ph. 74-652.

James is hoping to have a party on the Saturday evening with perhaps some tramping in the Tararuas on both Saturday and Sunday, if someone can provide transport.

29th November. CLUB NIGHT.

There will be an illustrated talk given by Mr. Paul Bryant, Advisor in Physical Education, on "Fitness as a Way of Life," and the maintaining of standards, particularly with respect to tramping.

At the Society of Friends' Hall, 227 College St., at 7:30 p.m.

SUPPER DUTIES: Trevor Stretton, Susan Margetts, Barry Morley.

1st-2nd December. GRANDE ANNUAL DINNER

The actual Dinner (THE FEED) will be lunchtime on the Sunday. However several alternatives are open to folks wishing to partake. (a) to arrive at Rangi early on Sunday to help prepare and cook the goodies. (b) to arrive at Rangi late on Sunday to help eat the goodies. (c) to arrive at Rangi on Saturday to prepare the hut and carry up the goodies.

(d) a weekend round-trip from Iron Gates to Trig Q to arrive at Rangi with monstrous appetites (and to wash and pack up the goodies???)

As numbers may have to be limited (and to help with the catering) names as soon as possible please to
Co-ordinator Lawson Pither, ph. 85-616, before 8 p.m.

21st December. FANCY DRESS PARTY.

There will be a Fancy Dress Evening on this date. Watch your Newsletter for further details.

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NOTICES.

NEW MEMBERS.

A welcome is extended to:

Mark Hindmarsh, 81 Buick Cres., P.N.
Robert Mills, 11 Patea Place, P.N.

If you have any queries any member of the committee will be happy to oblige.

DETAILS OF AN ALARMING ATTACK ON THE HIGH PEAKS. OF THE TARARUAS
AND A CALL TO DUTY.

The elite group of peaks in the Tararuas, known as the '5,000 footers,' have come under slanderous attack. The new (4th) edition of NZMS 1 sheet N157 has ignored tradition and has made a number of drastic, capricious (?) arbitrary (?) and disturbing changes. The mighty Mitre has been demoted by one foot (compared with NZMS 57,) the upstart South King has been elevated to 5,000 footer status, while our old friend Bannister is no longer considered worthy of having its height mentioned at all (the contour lines imply a high less than 5,000 feet!) Hector has apparently lost its title as an official height and McGregor is given no height.

These peaks are all of long standing and when one considers the blood sweat and tears expended by generations of trampers in scaling these monarchs one's blood begins to boil. The integrity of the peaks is further threatened by metrification. There is no magic or status associated with the number 1524 (1524 metres = 5,000 feet.)

All right-thinking, red blooded and moral minded trampers should at once rally to the defence of their silent friends!

SUMMARY OF CHANGES (Heights in Feet.)

	New	Traditional
1. Mitre	5153	5154

2.	Peggy's Peak	?	5105
3.	North King	5025	5100
4.	McGregor	?	5080
5.	Bannister	? !	5080
6.	Girdlestone	5076	5076
7.	Brockett	5025	5020
8.	Hector	5016	5016
9.	South King	5050!	4980

SEARCH & RESCUE

A notice was received from Sergeant Munro thanking all club members who went on the recent search for Mr. Balfour.

HOSPITAL VISITING

One of our foundation members, Mr. Vern Stout, is in Ward 3 of the public hospital at the present time. We are sure that he would appreciate visit is from any members of the club.

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TRIP REPORTS

Could all trip reports be written on one side of the paper only and dated and handed into our new editor, Sue Streeter, 32A Rangitira St. (please leave in the mail box). Please get them in by the date of the next Committee meeting for inclusion in the current newsletter. Any received after this time will be included in the following newsletter.

In the event of no trip accounts being received the editor reserves the right to write what she imagined happened!!!

INSURANCE

Have you got your tramping equipment insured against loss or damage and if so, under what circumstances? Many members probably don't realise that if their material was destroyed in a fire or their rucksack and its contents were stolen, they'd probably have lost in excess of \$100, for the pack alone would probably cost \$30 to replace. If you're pack is swept away in a swollen stream, under some policies you'd be covered, but not under all. General Accident don't cover you against flood according to their Wellington office. Insurers will only cost you a few bucks. It would be tragic if some person couldn't come tramping again with the club, because he couldn't afford to replace what he'd lost and this is a real possibility for younger members, who have probably built up their kit over many months. Insure today -- don't be sorry tomorrow.

DEHYDRATED FOOD.

This is invaluable when hiking, especially for several days. James Read and several others strongly recommend T.V.P. a meat substitute, available in 8 oz. packets from Sanitarium Health Food Stores. It costs 48 cents a packet and when reconstituted is enough for 4 people if you add some vegetables.

THOUGHT FOR THOSE ON FIRST AID COURSE.

A bloke learning first aid was asked by the instructor, "what is respiration?" Replied our bright friend, "It is when the patient breathes in and then expires."

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"MOUNTAIN SEARCH & RESCUE"
by L.D. Bridge. \$1.50.

The standard text of Search & Rescue, written by a New Zealander for New Zealander conditions.

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BENNETT'S
ON BROADWAY

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15th-16th September. RENATA HUT.
PIKERS' PROGRESS

By John Blister.

Four gullible trampers, members of P.N.T.M.C. (Palmerston's Nightmarish Tramping & Masochism Club) set off recently to visit Renata Hut in the Tararuas, under Peter's able leadership. It soon became apparent that our leader's ability excelled when it came to getting his party lost. That the party had been told to begin from the road end at Ngatiawa Road did not help matters, especially in inclement weather.

Our youngest and newest party member, Mark, was immature enough, with his childlike faith, to assume firstly that our leader knew where the heck he was and secondly that we would arrive at our intended destination, both views being quite groundless.

Mishap number one occurred when the party attempted to cross the Ngatiawa River. To prevent anybody being swept away by the swollen stream, all linked hands until, part way across, James without asking the leader's permission, went for an unauthorised dip.

Across the river we found a well marked track, waymarked with tintops painted orange. Anybody following this route should be warned that it is only suitable for F.E. parties or mountain goats, although eventually in good weather it will bring you to the Renata Hut.

Glenn, to sooth his shattered nerves frequently puffed away at a cigarette, whilst polluting the N.Z. atmosphere at the same time. After about four hours walking it was decided that if the Trig station wasn't soon reached the trip would be called off and the party return to the cars.

On the way back, James offered the use of the Youth Hostel at Lower Hutt, of which he is warden and party, after some discussion, took up his offer.

The party thought of Trevor & Co. on Ruapehu and considered sending him a card, "Arriving at the wrong Hutt, hope you enjoyed yours."

Arriving at the hostel all had hot showers and James extolled the benefits to trampers of joining Y.H.A. (\$2 per annum under 17, \$4. for seniors per annum.)

After a supper of stew, the party stayed up a little while chatting with the international crowd in the hostel. On the Sunday morning the party drove back to Palmerston, bringing with them a hosteller whom they'd met the evening before, who wanted to visit our fair city.

The party hope to go out again under the same leader, with the proviso that the club

has been to the selected destination before and that our leader knows where he's supposed to be. Those who have not been under Peter's leadership should be warned that like W.S. Gilbert's Duke of Platza Torro, he leads his party from behind!

One parent took a look at three scruffy urchins on Saturday and wondered if it was safe to entrust his son and heir to a bunch of dishevelled lunatics. To you Mr. H. we'll simply say that we got him back in one piece and to Mrs. H., "Madam, if your son is house trained, we suggest he do his own laundry when he comes home dripping wet."

Participants in the Renata revels were: Peter Darragh (Leader), Mark Hindmarsh, Glenn Osborne, James Read.

22nd-23rd September. COPPERMINE.

We departed from the Izadium and arrived at Coppermine Hut at about 9 a.m. After inspecting all necessities of a good hut we headed up -- supposedly towards Wharite Peak. However, thoughts of warmth, dryness and comfort soon overcame all that we were experiencing.

Later we disguised the hut and waited in anticipation. The foodbearers arrived in time for us to dine at a socially respectable hour -- with all the trimmings and a birthday cake!

The harder working members of the party left early Sunday morning and left the others to recover, clean up and explore the Coppermines.

Those participating were: Tim Short, Peter Darragh, Vivien Mawson, Dave Short (Birthday boy), Fraser Argue.

Caterers	(Ina Te Wiata Mary-Ann Whitehead Judith Domney and friend Bayne.
Pack Horses	(Maurice Te Wiata Keith Margrain.

19th-20th September. FIELD'S TRACK -- VOSSELER HUT.

On a fine day, depart from the Izadium twelve trampers, destination the Otaki Forks. After everyone is fully geared and dressed we head off in the general direction of Field's Track. That fine day turned out to be a tropical sandfly day, with everyone exhausted on the first rise. After a slow crawl we finally made it to the bushline. After everyone had recuperated we set off in the shade of the jungle. After a three hour traipse we finally arrived at Field's Hut, "Hurrah!" We had lunch and were ready to continue when five decided it was too hot to continue. So the real trampers continued. We set off fast and saw some beautiful scenery. Two hours later we arrived at Vosseler Hut tired and hungry (but not too tired to sing.) So we had tea, played a few hands of cards and bunked with our mascot the Hut mouse. The next morning we were up at dawn and strolled up Hector -- the whole 5,016 ft. of it. After sunbathing for half an hour we came down, cleaned up the hut and headed back. We thought we would surprise the pikers but the isolation got them first and they came back to the forks for a swim. Soon after lunch, 3 p.m. that was, we did likewise. Not skiting though, there were only two water babies.

PIKERS

Linda Batman, Trevor Stretton, Peter Hyde, James Read, Gary Davies.

TRAMPERS

Vivien Mawson, Alan Stretton, Trevor Bissell, John Baker, Peter Darragh, Tim Short, Mark Hindmarsh.