



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

NEWSLETTER

4/75

Hon. Secretary,
Trevor Bissell, 71-955
Membership Enquiries
Peter Croad, 80-284 (evenings)

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are now well due. Please note that the Junior rate printed in last month's newsletter was incorrect.

Family Membership	\$5.00
Senior	\$4.00
Junior	\$2.50

(still at school)

COMING EVENTS.

MONDAY, 21st APRIL CLUB NIGHT

Annual Photographic Competition, 7.30 p.m. in the Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street.

Supper Duties: John Williams (tea towels)
Keith Margrain
Vivien Mawson

PLEASE NOTE

There will be no club night on the 24th April.

25-26-27th APRIL TARARUA MIDDLE CROSSING

Take advantage of this bonus long weekend to do what would normally be an F.E. trip. We start at Otaki and end up at Masterton via Waitewaewae, Park Forks, Dorset Ridge, and Mitre Peak.

Leader : Kevin Pearce Phone 76-198
Cost : \$5.00 (a guess only)
Depart : Izadium 6.00 a.m. Friday Morning
Grading: Fit

25-26-27th APRIL WAINGAWA RIVER -- MITRE PEAK

Stroll into Mitre flats and relax. When relaxed and after first nights duration a climb onto Mitre Peak should be possible by keener types. Relax again and wander out to cars. A pleasant trip in the Eastern Tararuas.

Names to, Trevor Stretton Phone 84-925
Grading: Medium
Cost : \$3.00 Approx.
Depart : Izadium 6.00 a.m. Friday.

26-27th APRIL MITRE FLATS

For those who have to mow lawns etc. an easy trip into Mitre Flats to meet the medium party.

Names to, Trevor Stretton Phone 84-925
Grading: Easy
Cost : \$3.00 Approx.
Depart : Izadium 7.00 a.m. Saturday

3-4th MAY PIRIPIRI -- CATTLE CREEK -- TAMAKI CROSSING

A crossing of the Ruahines involving both ridge and river travel.

Leader : Tim Short The Great Phone 76-906
Grading: Medium
Cost : \$2.50
Depart : Super Save car park 6.00 a.m.

4th MAY STANFIELD HUT

The basic trip is very easy but there are plenty of extra options for the energetic. A Ruahine trip.

Leader : Peter Croad Phone 80-284
Grading: Easy
Cost : \$1.50
Depart : Super Save car park 7.00 a.m.

10-11th MAY ROCK CLIMBING AT TITAHU BAY.

Both rock climbing addicts and non-climbers will enjoy a visit to the Bay. Bring plenty to drink as there is no fresh water and watching rock climbing is nearly as thirsty work as the climbing itself. Day trips will be run in addition to the full weekend if demand and transport allow. An attractive spot, the Bay.

Leader : Kevin Pearce Phone 76-198
Grading: Easy
Cost : \$3.00
Depart : Super Save car park 7.00 a.m.

15th MAY COMMITTEE MEETING

7.30 p.m. at Peter Croad's, 79 Churchill Avenue.

17-18th MAY DISTRICT S.A.R.E.X.

17-18th MAY TOTARA FLATS -- NEIL FORKS

A trip to the Tararuas near Masterton.

Leader : Lindsay Sandes Phone 82-930
Grading: Medium
Cost : \$3.00
Depart : Super Save car park 6.00 a.m.

24-25th MAY BLUE RANGE -- RUAMAHANGA RIVER

This is a round trip which starts at the Kiriwhakapapa Road end and which finishes at the Mangatainoka Road end.

Leader : Martin Speller Phone 81-717
Grading: Medium
Cost : \$2.50
Depart : Super Save car park 6.00 a.m.

24-25th MAY ROARING STAG LODGE

What's exciting about Ruamahanga? Well come and find out!

Leader : Time Short The Mighty Phone 76-906

Grading: Easy

Cost : \$2.00

Depart : Super Save car park 6.00 a.m.

25th MAY ROARING STAG LODGE

An express version of the above.

Leader : Ann Hayman Phone 73-991

Grading: Medium

Cost : \$2.00

Depart : Super Save car park 6.00 a.m.

29th MAY CLUB NIGHT

30th MAY – 3rd JUNE QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND BANNISTER CROSSING

With Labour Weekend still a long way off it would pay to make good use of this long weekend. Details next newsletter.

NOTICES

MAPS

The club has the following maps for sale at cost price from Mary-Ann Whitehead:
N.Z.M.S. 1 Series; Otaki, OngaOnga, Wakarara, Masterton, Levin, Eketahuna,
Dannevirke, Rimutuka.
All at 50c each.

National Park Maps; Tongariro, Egmont, Urewera, All at 50c.

Forest Park Maps; Kaimanawa \$1.50

Ruapehu Ski Fields Map, 30c

Full Tararua Map, 30c.

Also copies of "Food for Trampers" 10c. per copy.

CLUB PACK BADGES \$1.50

CONGRATULATIONS

The club wishes Mary-Ann Whitehead and Trevor Stretton all the best on their recent engagement, reminding them of the clubs aim of fostering outdoor pursuits.

Congratulations also to Peter Sutcliffe on being selected to represent N.Z. in the forthcoming canoeing champs. in Yugoslavia.

GEAR HIRE

The 20 cents surcharge for gear on club trips has been dispensed with.

PAST TRIPS

5th APRIL HIKURANGI RANGE – FULL KAWHATAU

This trip was originally scheduled as a weekend trip, but with the pressure of trying to catch up after Easter it was decided to turn it into a day trip.

We spent Friday night at the Kawhatau Road end much to the annoyance of some of the Forestry employees who were preparing to airdrop food etc. into some of the surrounding

huts early the next morning. An early get-away never eventuated and it was after 8.00 before the last of us started up the hill to Hikurangi. Once out of the bush most of the climbing for the trip is finished and despite the long grass (hasn't been mowed for months) the going is easy.

From the top of Hikurangi the bulk of the party witnessed what must surely be a sign of age itself. There was this lone individual going to great pains to skirt round base of the bump rather than go over it. This annoyed the party, so at once they charged down the hill in hot pursuit of the afore mentioned individual. The party finally caught up with him and were just about to drown him in a nearby tarn when he mentions such words as "wisdom, cunning, and experienced" that sounded reasonable so we postponed this sentence.

After traversing Mangaweka Trig we dropped quiet steeply in places down into Trig Creek and then into the Kawhatau for lunch. And after lunch a stroll to Waterfall Creek Hut was followed by a gravel bash down the Kawhatau back to the base and then in time for not much at all except bed.

Those on the trip were: Peter Darragh, Kevin Pearce, Lindsay Sandes, Keith Margrain and Trevor Bissell.

22-23 MARCH THE THREE PEAK TRIP

Ruapehu, Ngauruhoe and Tongariro are the three peaks referred to. We carried our packs from the Ohakune Mountain Road to the Mangatepopo Road traversing all three mountains. This Eminence, our Leader (fountain of all knowledge and Wisdom) was greatly impressed by the size of some of the pebbles ejected by Ngauruhoe during its recent rumblings. Some of these were found more than a mile from the Crater and had themselves formed impact craters measuring 4 feet or more in diameter and 3 feet deep. Muzzle velocities would have exceeded 260 mph.

Those taking part were: Kevin Pearce, and Trevor Bissell and Lindsay Sandes. Glenn Dixon made it to the summit of Ruapehu but was too ill to continue further.

EASTER MOUNT ARTHUR

North West Nelson contains a large expanse of mountainous country offering excellent tramping. This area was mecca for Easter. Recent flooding has severely damaged the unneeded and unwarranted Forest Service road into the Park. This Road had been built over well established pack tracks of excellent standard. No one seems to know why. The whole of the area around the Tablelands is littered with poled tracks, signposts and a great slab sided wonder called the Palace of Salisbury. Anyway we did enjoy the trip and want to return to the area.

Those taking part were: Kevin Pearce, Trevor Bissell, Sue Streeter and Lawson Pither.

'UNOFFICIAL TRIP'

During Easter 3 club members visited Mt. Aspiring National Park.

We caught the 6.40 p.m. sailing to the Picton Ferry on the Tuesday before Easter and drove all night to Christchurch arriving there 4 a.m. Wednesday morning. After a hamburger we carried onto Wanaka and by 11 a.m. were sunning ourselves in the main street. That afternoon we strolled up the West Matukituki to Aspiring Hut.

Thursday morning we slept in, so it was 8.30 before we finally got underway. Travelling in the West Matukituki is easy and we were making good time up the valley. At lunchtime we stopped below a large waterfall near the head of the valley. For an hour after lunch the travel was along a series of discontinuous ledgers until one emerges into an upper basin. From here on the rocks were covered in soft snow which slowed us down considerably, a slight navigational error put us on Hector Col. rather than the desired Bevan Col. The view from Hector Col. was well worth while though and we didn't consider it a waste of time.

We eventually located the desired broad ledge and finally after much plodding in squeaky snow we arrived at Bevan Col. (6.30 p.m.). From here we dropped quickly down onto the Bonar Glacier and roped up. The fresh snow made crevasses hard to spot, but for me this moonlight crossing of the Bonar was the highlight of the trip. At 10.00 p.m. we arrived at Colin Todd Hut. But it was almost 12 before we got to sleep.

The next day was to be our day for climbing Aspiring. The weather was not good, but we set off at seven to have a go anyway. The rocks were covered with a thin layer of ice, so where ever possible we kept to the soft snow. Somehow we missed the junction of the NW. Ridge: -- the mist. So somewhere on one of the rock towers we turned back to the hut and went back to bed.

The following two days the Hut was lashed by a North-that storm. During this time we scrambled up Mt. Bevan but for most of the time we were confined to our fourth night at the hut we were awake by the lack of noise outside. The wind and rain had stopped. Tomorrow we would have to go out.

Six o'clock the following morning we close the hut door behind us and set off home. The change in the condition of the Bonar was incredible, the slots have opened right up, all the recent snow was gone. It took nearly 4 hrs. to cover the 800 yds. down onto the Bonar. Travelling on fixed belays on bare ice with 3 on a rope was painstakingly slow. Once onto the Bonar proper we ran across to Bevan Col down the rock which was bare of snow, down the ledges, past the waterfall and on down the seemingly never ending flats to our car at Cascade Flat. We reached the car at 8 p.m. that night after 14 hours of tramping. We then drove back to Wanaka with two guys we had met up the valley that day and after a shower and a few light ales turned in for the night under our fly.

The drive back to Christchurch was uneventful, as was the rough crossing on the Rangatira to Wellington and the final drive home, in time for work, school and lectures on Wednesday.

Those on the trip, Tim Short, Glenn Dixon, Keith Margrain.

EASTER TRIP LAKE WAIKAREMONA

We all left in three vehicles at various times, on Thursday night with the idea of meeting at Onepoto. The two cars met at the lakeside (more or less) early Friday morning where we set up a fly, in the rain, for the night. (It was here that we found that one of our members had left his sleeping bag at home).

Next morning we all (7) bundled into one car and took off for the Park Headquarters at Aniwaniwa to wait for the rest, and wait we did. They finally arrived gabbling something about flat tires -- likely story.

The trip around the lake was fairly uneventful apart from many swims (both voluntary and involuntary), two attempts to make friends with very unfriendly wasps, good food, good views and good times.

I won't mention anything about eating our tea off the track, washing socks at lunchtime and being jostled off the Panekiri Bluffs.

We sent three drivers out early from Panekiri Hut, to pick up the cars and while waiting at the road end for them to return we dined on "scones" and saw to the few "un washed" in Lake Kiriopukae. When the cars arrived we all piled in and set off for home at what we thought was to be a leisurely pace. That was to be the understatement of the trip. Let it just be said that the last of them arrived back in Palmerston on Tuesday evening.

Many thanks to everyone for an enjoyable trip (That doesn't include the wasps!)

Trip Members: Mary Whitehead, Martin Speller, Peter Darragh, Ross Meder (Washerwoman), Kathleen Hindmarsh, Trevor Stretton (Big brother 1), Alan Stretton (Little brother 1), Mary Ryder, Julian Dalefield (Gear Merchant), Ann Hayman, John Valentine (1 in 30), Peter Croad (Big brother 2), Richard Croad (Little brother 2), Pam Dicks, Robert Campbell.