



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

## NEWSLETTER

5/77

Hon. Secretary:  
Janet Maesson, 73-421  
Membership Enquiries:  
Heather Crabb, 77-668

### SECOND NOTICE OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded the subs for the current financial year are now due. If you don't wish to renew your membership you must notify the Secretary.

Junior \$4.00, Senior \$6.00, Family \$7.00

### COMING EVENTS

#### 26<sup>th</sup> May CLUB NIGHT. ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

This event is always good value and it offers the chance of fame and fortune! The rules of the competition are given elsewhere in this newsletter and should be carefully studied by intending competitors.

At the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., Palmerston North, commencing at 7.30 p.m. Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> May. All welcome.

SUPPER DUTIES:

#### 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May PURITY HUT – KELLY KNIGHT CAMPSITE

In the Western Ruahines a little north of our own beloved hut, Rangī, lies a pleasant valley. John will be leading us there.

Leader:	John Carter, phone 74-344
Grading:	Medium
Cost:	About \$3.00
Depart:	Supersave, 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

#### 29<sup>th</sup> May PURITY HUT

An easy day tramp. The fact that it is mainly uphill is fully compensated for the views to be had from the bush line.

Names to:	John Carter, phone 74-344
Grading:	Easy.
Cost:	About \$3.00
Depart:	Supersave, 6.00 a.m. Sunday.

3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> June QUEENS BIRTHDAY. GREATER NORTHERN CROSSING

A classic Tararua Crossing – learn what cold feet are about, there could be snow.

Leader: Trevor Bissell, phone 68-644  
Grading: F.E.  
Cost: \$6.00 approx.  
Depart: Supersave, 6.30 p.m. Friday.

5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> June MOUNT HOLDSWORTH

An Eastern Tararua trip – bring storm gear. Watch the cold footed F.E.s flash past!

Names to : Trevor Bissell, phone 68-644  
Grading: Medium.  
Cost: \$4.00 approx.  
Depart: Supersave, 6.00 a.m. Sunday.

6<sup>th</sup> June DAY TRIP TO POWELL HUT

There are some fine stands of forest in the Eastern Tararuas. Powell Hut lies on the bush line on the slopes of Mount Holdsworth.

Names to : Trevor Bissell, phone 68-644  
Grading: Easy  
Cost: \$4.00 approx.  
Depart: Supersave, 7.00 a.m. Monday.

9<sup>th</sup> June COMMITTEE MEETING

At Heather Crabb's, 3 Clyde Cres., at 7.30 p.m.

11<sup>th</sup>12<sup>th</sup> June HIKURANGI RANGE

The Hikurangi Range includes the highest peaks in the Ruahines and is known for sunshine. Come equipped for storm and snow.

Leader: Kevin Pearce, 83-467  
Grading: Fit  
Cost: \$3.00 approx.  
Depart: Supersave, 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

12<sup>th</sup> June CROW HUT

If you are reading this then you must be interested in tramping. Why don't you try doing it instead of just reading about it? Bring plenty of warm clothing and a hearty lunch.

Names to: John Carter, phone 74-344.  
Grading: Medium – easy.  
Cost: About \$3.00.  
Depart: Supersave, 7.00 a.m. Sunday.

18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> June OTURERE HUT, TONGARIRO

It is very unlikely that the club will ever run a tramping trip to the moon. The next best thing is to visit the Oturere Crater with its lunar-like landscape.

Leader: Peter Darragh, phone Feilding 5633.  
Grading: Medium and Fit.  
Cost: \$7.00 approx.  
Depart: Supersave, 6.00 a.m. sharp, Saturday.

19<sup>th</sup> June DIGGERS

An easy day trip to the southern Ruahines. Not too much climbing and a chance to avoid coronary disease by getting some exercise.

Names to: Peter Darragh, phone Feilding 5633.  
Grading: Easy  
Cost: About \$1.00  
Depart Supersave: 7.00 a.m. Sunday

25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> June ANNUAL MIDWINTER CELEBRATIONS

A traditional event. Only once have the Club's Polar Bears broken the ice but who knows .....

At our own Rangī Hut in the Ruahines.

Leader:	Peter Darragh, phone Feilding 5633.
Grading:	Mdium & Easy.
Cost:	About 3.00.
Depart:	Supersave, 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

30<sup>th</sup> June CLUB NIGHT

Something very interesting, no doubt. Details next Newsletter.

NOTICES

1. NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome:

Chris Croad, 79 Churchill Ave., phone 80-284.

Margaret McKenzie, F4, 30 Ranfurly St., phone 72-496.

Sarah Godfrey, Nurses Home, Public Hospital.

2. GEAR HIRE

The hire gear is now being looked after by Keith Margrain, 34 Milverton Avenue, phone 79-303. Please ring and arrange a collection time if you want gear.

3. MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES

These are temporarily being looked after by Heather Crabb, phone 77-668, until John Williams gets the phone at his new address: 35 Frederick St.

4. NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Editor Kevin Pearce asks that you write on one side of the paper only. He likes to cut things up and stick them together again when arranging the pages of the newsletter.

5. Thanks to all those who noticed the error in last newsletter and advised the editor. (A total of 11 phone calls were received!)

6. TRIP LIST CLOSING TIME

Trip leaders often have problems arranging transport etc. for their trips. You can help the Leader by getting your name in early, preferably at least by the Wednesday preceding the trip. The only exception is trips following club Night when Thursday is the last acceptable date.

7. RUAHINE STATE FOREST PARK DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

Copies of this plan are available for the public inspection at both Palmerston North and Feilding Public Libraries. Copies may also be obtained from the Forest Service, Palmerston North at a cost of \$4.00 each. The Forest Service is asking for comments on the plan to be received by the Conservator of Forests, P.O. Box 647, Palmerston North, by August 11<sup>th</sup>.

8. ICE CREAM

Take an instant pudding (flavour of your choice,) one packet serves about four, milk powder (Quantity depends on how thick you like your icecream), and egg powder (optional, but helps binding.) Collect the required amount of snow, add the other ingredients and beat till thick and creamy.

Footprints, 1976. A.U.T.C.

### PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION RULES

1. The Competition shall be in two parts:
  - (1) Colour slides.
  - (2) Prints (either colour or black and white.)
2. All photographs must have a tramping or mountaineering flavour.
3. There shall be two categories of competition:
  - (1) Novice – a person who has not previously won or been placed in any photographic competition.
  - (2) Advanced – those who have had success in any photographic competition or are members of a photographic or camera club.
4. There shall be three competition classes:
  - (a) Natural history (flora & fauna, geological structures, meteorological phenomenon etc.)
  - (b) People (Portraits or photographs in which people are the dominant interest.)
  - (c) Scenery (Landscape.)
5. All photographs must have been taken by the competition in whose name they are entered.
6. Photographs which have been entered in a previous P.N.T.M.C. competition may not be entered a second time.
7. An entry fee of 10 cents must accompany each and every slide and print entered in the competition. The money collected as entry fees will be used to provide cash prizes for the winners.
8. Entries close for all classes immediately before judging begins (approximately 8.00 p.m.)
9. Photographs may be entered in one class only.
10. The judges decision is final.
11. All slides and prints must bear the competitor's name and the class in which it is entered (People, Natural History, or Scenery.)
12. All slides must be marked with a conspicuous spot in the lower left-hand corner when held for hand viewing. (This will ensure they are projected the correct way around.)

### PAST EVENTS

#### 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> January RIVER CROSSING – FIELDS HUT

Do you know a trip on which you can make a real splash? (And it's not a puddle leap either.) The answer is a river crossing course! But you need the right conditions to carry this out and they are: uncertain weather, little sun, and copious quantities of wet, cold water to damp all but the ardent spirits. We had with us, luckily, a leader who could provide all these conditions and could even add 'hot hands' to his list.

The course was commenced with the telling of stories of how stupid it was to lose one's life in attempting to cross a flooded river (after all it's the only one you are issued with.) We were shown and practiced different methods of river crossing.

After lunch we strolled up a side stream to an ideal camp site and did some double roping off a bluff. That night we had a small B.B.Q.

Next day we went up the Sheridan Stream and then up a ridge to Fields Hut, only just missing the day party in the rain.

Bathers were: Ian Hoare, Mike Sullivan, Harry Verwey, Trevor Bissell, Don Scott, Peter Darragh, Ross Meder, Glenn Osbourne, Kevin Pearce, Steve Moore, Steve Aburne.

19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> March RANGI – HOWLETT'S CROSSING

After a few transport pitfalls we finally left the road end at varying times between 8.00 and 8.30 a.m., making it to our newly painted Rangi Hut about an hour later. Mangahua saw the start of several hours of compass skills and thrills. We finally made it to Howletts about 4.00 p.m. Books and food were greedily consumed (no PORN) and we spent a coldish night.

Morning came and we left, down, down, down to Daphne Hut and after some delays, too terrible to relate, out to the road.

The eager young men were: Mike Sullivan, Harry Verwey, Peter Darragh and Trevor Bissell. (Although over 25, Trevor must be included as he is young at heart.) Thanks to John for transport.

26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> March MANGAHUKA – PENN CREEK – OTAKI GORGE

After a quick ascent of the Judd ridge we made the biggest decision of the whole trip – who was going to be mentioned first in the log book. A democratic solution was finally reached, but the entry was written on the wrong page. Off again on the right track to Vosseler, we were inspired by some mighty views with the sun high in the sky.

After lunch, we were off yet again this time on the ups and downs route to Mangahuka Hut. This route was once a virgin ridge but now, through much use, a worn track has appeared. After crossing the Tararua Peaks we finally reached the hut.

Next morning the sun rose over Mt. Holdsworth and, as we topped McIntosh we were bathed in sun light and, as we descended the Pakihori Ridge, things warmed up, only to be cooled down at Penn Creek. Upon reaching and descending the Otaki River things cooled down as in a few places it was necessary to swim for it.

Amazingly enough we all survived the gorge and arrived out at the forks as the Sunday afternoon tourists were also returning from their various routes.

So ended a trip with: Harry Verwey, Mike Sullivan, Carol Nash and Peter Darragh.

8<sup>th</sup>-12 April WANGAPEKA RIVER AREA WITH THE TONGUE AND MEATS

Kevin Pearce and Trevor Bissell had the good fortune to accompany Paul Richardson's (W.T.M.C.) trip to the Wangapeka River Area. About 20 miles south west of Motueka in the South Island, the very popular Wangapeka Track provides an easy river route to Karamea on the West Coast. If one leaves the track one finds a more rugged and interesting terrain.

The party of eleven ascended a ridge to the south of the river and sidled into Blue Creek along a "thank God" track through very impressive bluffs. From the head of the creek stretched a wide plateau full of limestone sink holes. Mts. Owen and Bell rose to over 6,000' above the plateau. The evening was spent in a huge grassy basin ringed by cliffs on the slopes of the "Turks Head." The South Branch of the Wangapeka was crossed and Boyd Stream was used as an access to the Marino? Range. This was traversed to the Wangapeka Saddle, the North Branch of the river was followed to Stone Creek and part of the Arthur Range was traversed from the Stone Creek headwaters.

The Wellington trampers were very fit and very skilled at fire lighting, erecting camps and at navigation. Fortunately, the P.N.T.M.Cs were not asked to do the cooking.

### 30<sup>th</sup> April – 1<sup>st</sup> May ROCK CLIMBING

I looked down to see where to put my feet and the water ran into the center of the lenses of my glasses, so I could see nothing. Water trickled down the rock to my fingers, down my fingers to my arms, down my arms to my chest to lower regions. Oh! What fun! The day before had been spectacularly fine. Great waves had crashed against the shore, plumes of spray in the sunlight, warm brown rock, soaring gulls.

Our leader had promised fine weather – it was always fine on his trips, he said. Saturday was fine and some excellent climbing was done on the sea cliffs near Titahi Bay. On Sunday we went to Baring Head at the Eastern entrance to Wellington Harbour. It was not fine and a strong northerly whipped between the ribs of rock which rose from the sand of the beach. Still, some climbing was done and we did manage a little rope work.

Those taking part were: Trevor Bissell, Martin Speller, Graham Hart, Philip Beech, Terry Beech, Kevin Pearce, Carol Nash (Weekenders) and Lawson Pither, Keith Margrain, Michael Rockell, Peter Croad, Janet Maesson, tim Short (Saturdayers) and Don Scott, Ann Flux, Heather Crabb and Peter Hanratty (Sundayers.)

### 8<sup>th</sup> May ROARING STAG LODGE – CATTLE RIDGE HUT

Eleven members of the club (including six new members) rendezvoused at the Supersave carpark at 6.00 a.m. on a beautiful crisp morning (for heavens sake, somebody mark the calendar) ready for what we thought was going to be an easy-medium trip and actually turned out to be a fit graded trip.

We arrived at the Mangatainoka Valley Rd. carpark at 8.00 a.m. to begin our tramp up to the Roaring Stag Lodge. On the way a deer caused some excitement, by appearing out of the bush. Later in the day at a higher level we were to find much evidence of deer so perhaps the hut's name is quite apt.

11.00 a.m. saw us at the hut and as the day was still young and no views being available through the bush, six of us decided to climb up to Cattle Ridge Hut. Although the climb was steep, we were well rewarded by the fantastic views. By the time we reached the hut we were well above the snowline and with a good dusting of snow, the Tararuas made a memorable picture. At the hut we met up with Stephen Moore and Julian Dalefield who entered the area from Ruamahanga on Saturday.

After lunch we made our way back down to Roaring Stag Lodge where Raeleen had made up a fire and an excellent brew of tea. We left the hut at 3.30 p.m. to arrive back at our vehicles just before darkness had set in. All in all, a really good day's tramping.

Those participating: John Carter, Don Scott, Raeleen Scott, Anne Flux, Colin Hoare, Carol Nash, John Alexander, Robin Gibb, Shane Marnet, Peter Sadler and Nick Bishop.

PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING & MOUNTAINERRING CLUB INC.  
TRIP SCHEDULE JULY – AUGUST, 1977

<u>July</u>		<u>Grading</u>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Manahao – Harris Creek	F.E.
2 <sup>nd</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mangahao	M
9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup>	Waikamaka (Ruahines)	M
10 <sup>th</sup>	Waikamaka	E
16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup>	Winchcombe Ridge	F.E.
16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup>	Mount Hector	M
23 <sup>rd</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup>	Navigation Weekend, Otaki	M & F
24 <sup>th</sup>	Waitewaewae Hut	E
30 <sup>th</sup> -31 <sup>st</sup>	Conservation Weekend	M & E
<u>August</u>		
6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup>	Snowcraft I Ruapehu	M
13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	No Tracks Trip (Tararuas)	F.E.
14 <sup>th</sup>	Pantewaewae	E
20 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	Snowcraft II Egmont	F
20 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	Egmont	M
27 <sup>th</sup>	Blackwater Stream – Waiopahu	M
27 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup>	Gable End – Waiopahu	F
28 <sup>th</sup>	Waiopahu	E

Grading system

E (Easy) up to 4 hours walking per day. M (Medium) 4 – 6 hours,  
F (Fit) 6 – 8 hours, F.E. (Fitness Essential) more than 8 hours.