



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

NEWSLETTER

12/77
Hon. Secretary:
Janet Maesson, 73-421
Membership Enquiries:
John Williams, 84-925
Newsletter Editor:
Kevin Pearce, ph. 83-467.

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CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR GREETINGS

We wish all members and friends of the Club a merry Christmas and lots of tramping in the New Year. We suggest the following New Year resolution: "To get out tramping at least once per month even if only for a day trip."

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ALL TRAMPING TRIPS LEAVE FROM THE SUPERSAVE CAR PARK, FIZHERBERT AVE.

COMING EVENTS

No trips have been scheduled from Christmas until mid-January. If you are interested in a trip during this period please ring John Williams, ph. 84-925 and he will let you know if any one else is wanting a trip.

14th – 15th January TAMAKI WEST – STANFIELD HUT

An easy stroll. A day trip will run if there is any demand.
Names to : Ross Meder, Fg. 7661
Grading: Easy
Cost: \$2.50
Depart: 7.00 a.m. Saturday.

19th January COMMITTEE MEETING

7.30 p.m. Thursday at 28 Carroll Street.

21st – 22nd – 23rd January ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND NORTHERN RUAHINES

Details have yet to be finalized but we could be visiting the Makaroro area and Lake Colenso.

Leader: Trevor Bissell, ph. 73-543
Grading: Medium & Fit (2 trips)
Cost: About \$6.00
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

26th January CLUB NIGHT

There will be no formal programme. Come along and show off your sun tan, describe your Christmas activities etc.

7.30 p.m. Thursday, society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., Palmerston North.

SUPPER DUTIES: Peter Darragh, Anne Flux, Sarah Godfrey.

28th – 29th January FULL POHANGINA

A classic Ruahine River trip. Given the right weather this trip is a dream.

Names to:	Peter Darragh, Fg. 5633
Grading:	F.E.
Cost:	\$5.00 approx.
Depart:	6.00 a.m. Saturday.

29th January PICNIC LOWER POHANGINA

An easy walk, a barbecue tea (weather permitting) and swimming. Bring barbecue tea.

Names to:	Peter Darragh, Fg. 5633
Grading:	Easy
Cost:	\$1.50
Depart:	2.00 p.m. Sunday afternoon.
Return:	About 9.30 p.m.

5th – 6th February PILGRIMAGE TO FIELDS HUT

The Club's first ever trip was to Field's and hence this annual event (a pity they didn't go to Patagonia or the Ruwenzori.) At least two separate trips will pass through this hut this weekend.

Names to:	Peter Darragh, Fg. 5633
Grading:	Medium & Fit (2 trips)
Cost:	\$2.50
Depart:	6.00 a.m. Saturday & Sunday.

NOTICES

1. NEW MEMBER

A welcome is extended to Elizabeth Williams, 9 Jickell St., Palmerston North.

2. THE PRESIDENT'S CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please note that Trevor Bissell now resides at 28 Carroll St., Phone 73-543.

3. GEAR HIRE

This will be available from Peter Croad, 82 Featherston St. until further notice.

Please arrange a convenient time for collection of gear by ringing Peter in advance, phone 69-386.

4. THE FATE OF RANGI HUT

A moderate attendance at last Club Night discussed this topic. The consensus was that there is no urgency for any decisions to be made as the hut is serviceable and likely to remain so for a few years yet. Most members present expressed the view that if and when Rangi Hut is replaced the Club should maintain an association with the new hut. At a subsequent Committee meeting the Committee decided not to seek replacement of the hut in the meantime. (It is probable that some further minor work will be required on the hut in the New Year.)

5. WELCOME HOME

Brad Owen has recently returned home after a year in Europe.

6. Colin Elliot wishes it to be known that he is now the agent for alp Sports. His address is 28 Carroll St., phone 73-543.

PAST TRIPS

29th – 30th October MANGATEWAINUI POHANGINA CROSSING

Kevin had suggested the MANGATEWAINUI Stream as an alternative to the Tamaki River so the trip began by crossing farmland from the end of Ngamoko Road. (The farmer's wife was most cordial.) Steven expressed a desire to visit the hut in Cattle Creek whereas the proposed route lay down another tributary of the Pohangina. The route was further modified.

From the top of Apiti Saddle above the Mangatewainui catchment a single compass bearing was followed for about a mile through two low bush saddles. An idyllic lunch spot was found complete with sunshine, running water and six pints of billy tea brewed over a fire. After descending a stream down to Cattle Creek a sortie was made upstream to leave an entry in the hut log book.

Rumours that two people (including the leader) fell into pools in Cattle Creek will be ignored. Anyway clothing dried quickly in the strong breeze which blustered the countryside.

A tea of rabbit stew, tripe and other goodies was enjoyed before retiring to the fly camp within five yards of the toilet at Mid Pohangina Hut.

Sunday morning was spent exploring up river and the afternoon was devoted to walking down the Pohangina to the road.

Party: Steven Moore, Harry Verwey, Trevor Bissell, Andrew Gore.

27th November FULL TOKOMARU

Silently we left the car outside the sleeping farmer's house and crept over his gate leaving him only a note to sooth his possible anger at our discretion.

At this stage the Tokomaru (the stream which was to form our path for the rest of the day) was simply a trickle. Gathering water from farmland and scrub around the Mangahao Road the stream flowed toward the Tararua forest, where Kevin pointed out the wonderful progress made clearing the area of its lumber.

As we went further, the river got deeper and slopes on either bank got steeper; we having to claw over rock faces or swim deep pools to make our way. Stopping for lunch we came across three rather disorganized members of the Club (Trev., John and Lance) doing the river in the reverse direction, walking backwards.

With time to spare we stopped to test Kevin's new life jacket. The jacket was very successful and Kevin is thinking of taking up under water diving.

Taking part were: Colin Hoare, Stephen Moore, Kevin Pearce, Anne Flux, Trevor Bissell, John Williams, and Lance Bishop.

3rd – 4th December CHAMBERLAIN CREEK

Ten waterfalls rapelled, two compulsory swims and numerous slidings and scalings around rocky gorges. This was the order of the day. This was no trip for the weak at heart.

We arrived at the Mangatainoka road end at 7.30 a.m., acquired permission from the farmer and headed for East Peak (at least we thought we were.) Many sound trees were felled over the track and this hindered our progress for a while. (Obviously not the work of the forest Service.) Much to the amazement of the leader we arrived on Herepai – were we in the cactus!! – between Herepai and East Peak there was one lot of leatherwood. We started

bashing our way up, but some of us couldn't hack the pace and had to revert to long johns. Luckily for us we came upon the remains of an overgrown hunter's track.

We traveled over East Peak and dropped into the head of the Chamberlain Creek for lunch. The day was fantastic for a river trip, blue sky and a searing hot sun. We started off down the creek but were quickly lulled into a false sense of security. This didn't last long – we came upon our first obstacle – we rappelled down the waterfall with not too much trouble but this was only a taster for the next four hours. We rappelled down ten waterfalls and had two compulsory swims. The tallest waterfall was estimated at 60 feet and the others were not under 30 feet. The anchorage for the rope was not always safe looking – in some places a single leatherwood plant held us from the rocky bottom.

Kevin wondered what all the grunts and groans were about – our first compulsory swim, but he soon found out as the water was very cold. In many places to a void a ducking, we were forced to do some rock climbing around the pools. In most places if we did fall it would have been a wet awakening and in other places it would have been a hard landing. Luckily none of us experienced either landing. We found a suitable camp site and set up for the night. The next morning we arrived at the Ruamahangina River, only having to repel down two other waterfalls. The day was again a beaut day (weather wise). We headed up Ruapai Stream over a saddle and down the Mangatainoka Stream to the road end. Sunday was rather an anticlimax compared to the action packed Saturday.

Participants were: Keith Margrain, Kevin Pearce, Steven Moore, Peter Darragh.



STEAMED PUDDINGS

1 cup flour	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup mixed fruit	$\frac{3}{4}$ cup milk & $\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk
1 tablespoon butter	1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon mixed spice	? salt

- 1) Mix together flour, sugar, fruit, salt
- 2) Dissolve soda in a small $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of milk
- 3) Bring to boil $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of milk & butter & pour over dry ingredients
- 4) Then add milk & soda
- 5) Place in tin & steam 1 hour.

TARARUA BISCUITS II

1 lb Fine ground whole meal flour
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb Butter
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb Honey

- 1) Melt butter and honey together
- 2) Mix in flour to give a pastry
- 3) Bake slowly $\frac{1}{2}$ hour until pale brown

Makes approx. 30 Biscuits.

