



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

NEWSLETTER 3/78

Hon. Secretary: Janet Maesson, 73-421
Membership Enquiries: John Williams, 84-925
Newsletter Editor: Kevin Pearce, 83-467
Gear Custodian: Peter Croad, 69-386
Enquiries Concerning Overdue Trips: Kevin Pearce, 83-467
John Williams, 84-925
Russ Johnson, 87-777

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the A.G.M. of the P.N.T.M.C. will be held on Thursday, 30th March, 1978 commencing at 8.00 p.m. in the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street, Palmerston North.

Nominations for the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Auditor, not less than five Committee Members and the Patron are required and such nominations must be in the hands of the Secretary before the commencement of the meeting.

AGENDA

- Apologies
- Confirmation of the minutes of last A.G.M. and matters arising.
- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Election of Officers
- Setting of Subscriptions for 1978-79.
- General Business

NOTICES OF MOTION (from the Committee.)

1. That subscription for 1978-79 year be as follows:
Senior: \$7.00
Junior: \$5.00
Family: \$8.00
and that these amounts be reduced by one dollar if paid before 25th May.
2. That all persons on all club trips shall comply with the F.M.C. Minimum Impact code as far as practicable.

COMING EVENTS

EASTER 24th - 27th March KAWEKAS

This area is in the center of the North Island, the Hawkes Bay, and is therefore little visited by our club.

Leader: Kevin Pearce, ph. 83-467
Grading: Medium & Fit.
Cost: \$6.00
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Friday.

30th March CLUB NIGHT, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A very important annual event when Members get their chance to directly influence the conduct of the Club's affairs. Every member should consider standing for office or nominate someone else for office – we need a Social Convenor, typist, Trip Co-ordinator, Newsletter Editor, Gear Custodian, Membership Convenor, Librarian, Conservation Officer, Search & Rescue Officers etc. A good team of willing workers keeps the burden of office light. Don't forget to bring along the enclosed Reports from the President and Treasurer.

The doors open at 7.30 p.m. although the Official meeting doesn't begin until 8.00 p.m. Other details as the "Official Notice" above.

SUPPER DUTIES: Janet Maesson, Vern Jensen, Russell Johnson.

1st – 2nd April FULL RUAMAHANGA

This will probably be your last chance to do a river trip of this type this summer (autumn.) Flotation will be necessary.

Names to: Trevor Bissell, ph. 73-543
Grading: Fitness Essential
Cost: \$3.00
Depart: 6.30 p.m. Friday.

2nd April KIRIWHAKAPAPA

So you couldn't make the weekend trip for various reasons – well, this is your chance to get away into the Tararuas.

Names to: Trevor Bissell, ph. 73-543
Grading: Easy
Cost: \$3.00
Depart: 7.00 a.m. Sunday.

8th – 9th April TE MATAWAI – GIRDLSTONE SADDLE

A Tararuas trip.

Names to: Philip Budding, ph. 85-936
Grading: Fit
Cost: \$1.50
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

8th April OHAU RIVER (NORTH BRANCH)

This may be an interesting first trip for any new comers and a nice stroll for those unable to get away for the weekend.

Names to: Philip Budding, ph. 85-936
Grading: Easy
Cost: \$1.50
Depart: 7.00 a.m. Saturday.

15th – 16th April DIGGER'S HUT (TENT.)

This is situated at Grid Reference 410-643 on the Feilding Sheet (looks like fun.)

Names to: Gill Davies, ph. 79-733
Grading: Easy
Cost: \$1.50
Depart: 7.00 a.m. Saturday.

An easy day trip will be held on Sunday; more details from the above person.

22nd – 23rd April SOUTHERN CROSSING

One of the 'classic' trips in the Tararuas. Entering Otaki Forks Friday and coming out at Kaitoke or maybe

Leader: Kevin Pearce, ph. 83-467
Grading: F.E.
Cost: \$5.00
Depart: 6.30 p.m. Friday night.

22nd April TAUHERENIKAU RIVER VALLEY

This is a pleasant valley in the Southern Tararuas. An opportunity to reach Cone Hut may be available.

Names to: Kevin Pearce, ph. 83-467
Grading: Medium
Cost: \$3.00
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

27th April CLUB NIGHT ANNUAL SLIDE COMPETITION

29th – 30th April RUAPEHU

This is the first scheduled trip to the Mountain this year, so let's make it a fun trip. You don't have to be a mountaineer to come.

Names to: Trevor Bissell, ph. 73-543
Grading: Medium & Easy
Cost: \$4.00 - \$6.00 approx plus hut fees.
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

NOTICES

1. According to our Constitution subs are due at the beginning of our financial year i.e. 1st March. You can assist the Club by paying your subs promptly so bring along some money to the A.G.M. Subs can be paid to the newly elected Treasurer immediately after the A.G.M. Also, having paid your subs you will be given twelve newsletter wrappers to address to yourself. This will save someone from having to address more than 1,000 wrappers over the coming year.
2. NEW MEMBERS
We welcome the following persons to the Club:
Neil Challands, 21 Salisbury Ave., P.N. ph. 76-973
Sally Bowden, Flat 19, 520 Church St. " 73-593
Keith Miller, 10 Millar St., P.N. " 83-427
Grant Ramsey, 53 McGregor St., P.N. " 75-365
Allan Stowell, 274 Grey St., P.N. " 74-792.
3. A letter has been received from John Carter. We are glad to hear that he is keeping up the tramping. His letter will be available for anyone wishing to read it at club Night. See Heather Crabb.

PAST TRIP

4th – 5th March MOKAI PATEA

Mist hung low in the bush above the Kawhatau Base and soon all the views from the track looked the same, grey and blank. Then you could see farm land, then grey and blank, then farm land, then grey and blank again. Contingency plans and escape routes were discussed in detail. Then right in the middle of the first real compass problem the mist disappeared and you could see yet another great expanse of farmland – the Mokai Patea Range and all over 4,000'.

Peak identification became a popular pastime and Michael regaled us with stories of past trips into the jumble of bush clad ridges and hidden valleys which lay blow us to the north. There seems to be a lake called Colenso somewhere in that country.

Further along the range we discovered examples of an exotic species, Metalus polus, which has been colonizing snow grass areas. It is easily identified by its covering of bright red or orange hues (rescue orange) and its spread if unchecked, could become a serious problem in the future.

An hour's descent from Rongatea peak brings one (or Nine) to the three bunk Wakelings Hut in the Waikamaka River and the fine shingle and sand of the flood bed offers a reasonable campsite.

Apart from being a shade cool Sunday was a great day for boulder hopping and wading down river to Otakota Hut. The lower slopes of the Mokai Patea above are very steep and much deep breathing and heart beating resulted from a climb of the same.

We were soon back on the Mokai Patea tops but unfortunately there was not a great deal of time left to linger and enjoy the great views.

The nine: Michael and Marion Wiltshire, Gill and Kim Davies, Andrew Thompson, Ross Corlett, Ann Flux, Robin Palmer and Trevor Bissell.

PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.
PRESIDENT'S REPORT (YEAR ENDED 31/3/78)

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This year has been another active one for our members. Apart from our favourite stamping grounds in the Tararuas and Ruahines, club members have been active in the Kaimanawas, the Tongariro National Park, the Egmont National Park and Kapiti Island. South Island areas visited by members include the Nelson Lakes, North West Nelson, South Westland and the Mt. Aspiring National Park.

The snowcraft courses on Mt. Ruapehu and Mt. Egmont were well attended as were the rockclimbing courses and the navigation weekend.

The more social events included the "Grand Annual Dinner" at Rangi hut in the Ruahines and the club's visit to the Sheraton Restaurant. Club night entertainment featured the Annual Slide Competition, films, slide evenings and the annual debate with the Massey alpine Club. The Massey team successfully supported the proposition that "Tramping is a form of escapism" and took home the trophy (an old boot) for the second year in succession.

With our membership standing at 63 the club has a little more money than last year, although much of this is earmarked for buying new equipment.

I wish to thank our club's auditor and Patron and the members of the executive committee. The members of the committee shared the jobs of scheduling and finding leaders for trips, of editing, typing stencils, printing, collating and mailing for the monthly newsletter and that of maintaining, replacing and hiring out of club equipment. The roles of membership convenor, social convenor, secretary and treasurer were equally important.

Finally I wish to thank all those people who took part in club events during the year and this helped to make our club an active one.

Thank you.

Trevor Bissell
President