

30th June – 1st July KAITAWA - THOMPSON

Come along for a climb of Mt. Thompson and a fly camp in the Kaitawa Stream.

Names to: Trevor Bissell, phone 73-543
Grading: Easy
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.
Cost: \$2.00

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5th July COMMITTEE MEETING

At Colin's, 20 Meremere Ave., P.N. at 7.45 p.m.

7th – 8th July L. ORIWA – FULL MAKARETU STM.

The Oriwa Ridge is rarely visited by our club and the Makaretu stream is negotiable from close to its headwaters to the Ohau Pipe Bridge.

Leader: Nick Bishop, 70-217
Grading: F.E.
Cost: \$1.50
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday

7th – 8th July WAIOPEHU

An easy stroll onto a grassy peak behind Levin. If the bush is dry and people feel up to "it" we could descend into the lower Makaretu stream. on Sunday.

Leader: Nick Bishop, 70-217
Grading: Easy
Cost: \$1.50
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday

8th July BLACKWATER STM. – MAKARETU R.

Up the Blackwater Stm. – up to the Waiopehu Ridge – visit the peak – out via the Makaretu Stm.

Leader: Nick Bishop, 70-217
Grading: Medium
Cost: \$1.50
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Sunday

14th – 15th July MOKAI PATEA – WAIKAMAKA R.

An enjoyable round trip in the north western Ruahines involving both tops and river travel.

Leader: Trevor Bissell, 73-543
Grading: Fit
Cost: \$2.50
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

14th – 15th July IRON BARK HUT

A steep climb onto Colenso Peak on the Mokai Patea Range should be rewarded by great views of the Ruahines and Ruapehu. The range itself is very gentle (i.e. table topped) and a descent to the Waikamaka brings one to Ironbark Hut.

Leader: Trevor Bissell, 73-543
Grading: Medium
Cost: \$2.50
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

21st July MAHARAHARA CROSSING

A day crossing of the southern Ruahines on good tracks over Mahara Peak.

Leader: Colin Hoare, 71-766
Grading: Medium
Cost: \$1.50
Depart: 7.00 a.m. Saturday.

21st JULY COPPERMINE CREEK

This attractive area is suitable for newcomers to tramping and anyone who wants an easy day's activity.

Leader: Colin Hoare, 71-766
Grading: Easy
Cost: \$1.00
Depart: 7.00 a.m. Saturday.

22nd July CYCLE RIDES

A nice change of activity for our Club. Those who want an interesting ride can traverse the North Range Road from the top of the Pahiatua Track (Grading: Fit) and those who wish a more leisurely day can ride to the Balance Bridge via the Manawatu Gorge (Easy).

Leader: Eric Van Toor, 70-217
Cost: Energy for leg muscles, otherwise free.
Depart: 9.00 a.m. from Supersave.

26th July CLUB NIGHT

Annual Interclub debate against the Massey University Alpine Club. Every effort will be made to retain the trophies we won last year. The topic is "That Trampers are a Privileged Elitist Group". Anyone who would like to be in the team phone Eric, 70-217.

28th – 29th July SHINGLE SLIP KNOB

More than 20 years ago an R.N.Z.A.F. Devon aircraft crashed on Shingle Slip Knob near Mt. Holdsworth in misty weather. The crash can still be seen on Shingle Slip Knob and aluminium crosses on the ridge top above mark the passing of Flight Lieutenants Trott and Casey.

Names to: Peter Darragh, FLDG. 3- 5633
Grading: Fit
Cost: \$3.00
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

28th – 29th July TOTARA FLATS – POWELL HUT

Details as above.
Grading: Easy.

24th August KAIKOURAS

Kevin Pearce will be leading a climbing trip into this area, leaving on Friday, 24th August and returning Saturday, 1st September.

The grading is F.E.
Cost: Approx. \$40 plus food.
For further details phone Kevin, 70217.

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NEW MEMBERS

Haere mai to:
Terry Crippen, Canary Rd., R.D. 7, Palmerston North. ph. 86-293
Iain Chinnery, Flat 4, 27 Tararua St., Pahiatua. " PHA 7784
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NOTICES

TUROA SKIFIELDS

Information on prices and facilities at the Turoa Skifields is available from the librarian, Nick Bishop, phone 70-217.

MAPS, SONG BOOKS ETC. FOR SALE

The following maps are available from the Treasurer, Sarah Godfrey phone 268-031:

NZMS 273 Tongariro National Park, 70 cents.
NZMS 169 Egmont National Park, 70 "
NZMS Urewera National Park, 70 "

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| N | 153 | Eketahuna, | 70 cents |
| N | 157 | Otaki | 70 " |
| N | 133 | Wakarara | 70 " |
| N | 140 | Ongaonga | 70 " |
| N | 152 | Levin | 70 " |
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| S | 71 | Waiho | 1.00 |
| S | 72 | Godley | 1.00 |
| S | 73 | Lake Heron | 1.00 |
| S | 79 | Mt. Cook | 1.00 |
| S | 113 | Tutoko | 1.00 |
| S | 114 | Earnslaw | 1.00 |

Also available are Song Books "Trudge" at \$1.25 each and "Food for trampers" at 20c each.

MOUNTAIN SAFETY pamphlets on tramping and climbing, and bulletins on the care of ropes and food suggestions are available from Heather Crabb, phone 77-668, or at Club Nights. New members, particularly, will find the information contained in them useful.

FIBREFILL II SLEEPING BAGS

(Condensed from F.M.C. Bulletin and Mountain Safety Newsletter).

A series of tests of sleeping bags insulated with a silicone treated Dacron filler called Fibrefill II is being carried out, following various appraisals overseas. This type of insulation has only recently been introduced to the New Zealand mountain scene, but is gaining an increasing acceptance.

Where wet conditions are likely to be encountered - e.g., in snow caves, gorge trips and winter camping - a Fibrefill II bag is likely to be more useful... The Fibrefill II bag does not collapse when wet, and does not hold much water. It can be wrung out and dried quickly and retains its insulation to a large degree. Padded climbing jackets insulated with Fibrefill are superior in damp conditions.

LOGGING OF NATIVE TREES

The recent Government decision to log South Okarito, the Paparoas and Mariaua, and to cut the heart out of Whirinaki, has demonstrated once again the unbelievable short term policies of the Minister of Forests and his department. Why is it, that the lessons from so many previously forested countries to learn from, New Zealand continues to plunder the remnants of its forest heritage?

These forests are of the highest quality and importance and 1979 will be the last chance to gain legal protection and recognition for them, before they are squandered and fragmented by selective logging. Once they are logged their value will be lost, and their ecosystems will be destroyed or distorted.

Your feelings are important so make them known. Can you write letters to the Editors of newspapers, Members of Parliament etc.?

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PAST EVENTS

20th May NGAMOKO RANGE

On Sunday five trampers set off for the day to Ngamoko Range, which had recently been dressed with the first of its winter snow.

Toka peak was reached via Knights track. From there the party waded and crunched off along the white ranges for Tunipo. This was reached after a three up and two down climbing session which resembled a spider's scramble up a bath tub. After Tunipo we returned via Heritage Lodge, to be out and home for tea.

Trampers were Nick Bishop, Terry Crippin, Peter Daragh, Colin Hoare and Stephen Moore.

ABEL TASMAN NATIONAL PARK - EASTER TRIP

Participants: Bud Cade, Julie Cade, John Carter, Sarah Godfrey, Gary McKay, Jenny Smith.

Thursday, 12th April

On a very wet Thursday night five of the party travelled by Newman's bus and then ferry to Picton. We were met by John who drove us to a roadside camping spot just short of Nelson.

Friday, 13th April

Dawned a greyish overcast day. John drove us to the start of the track at Marahau (Sandfly Bay) and we set off for our first day of tramping on the track to Torrent Bay. The weather still uncertain we tramped through regenerating native bush with lovely views of the coastline and sea. We spent the night on the floor in a crowded Torrent Bay Hut.

Saturday, 14th April

We woke up to a fine, clear morning - an indication of the perfect weather we were to have for the rest of the trip. In high spirits we set out along the track skirting the Torrent Bay Estuary (crossable at low tide). In the early morning we passed through Torrent Bay consisting of a collection of mainly holiday homes. We continued on to Little Bark Bay where we had lunch and a refreshing swim in the clear water. A short dinghy trip was laid on for us courtesy of two boys staying at the bay. Reluctantly we left and carried on through Bark Bay and then on to Tonga Quarry where camp was set up on the beach. Some friends from the Torrent Bay Hut joined us for a pleasant chat around our roaring fire. Being a full moon we had a lovely night-time view of Tonga Island and the wide stretching coastline from our camp. Pleasantly tired we settled down for the night - not, however, until John's legendary pillow and his moccasins entertained us with a succession of disappearing and reappearing acts.

Sunday, 15th April

We woke to a beautiful sunrise over Tonga Island. Eventually, everyone emerged from their sleeping bags and a most enjoyable morning was spent relaxing on the beach. We visited a cave that contained some Maori carvings. Gary spent his time attempting to catch fish. The females of the party tried to better the males in their surf casting abilities with debatable success. After our warm lazy morning we decided we had better move on. So in the afternoon we set off back along the track to Bark Bay and Sandfly Bay. We then dropped down into Frenchman's Bay where we spent the night. Frenchman's Bay is a tidal estuary with very little fresh water.

Monday, 16th April

After a short discussion we decided to walk around the coastline to Torrent Bay. Not very long after that we found ourselves bushbashing up a steep hill (due to the high tide). We dropped down into a bay where another attempt was made at coastline travel. Various hilarious methods were devised by the men to keep the weaker sexes' feet dry some of which worked and again we found ourselves bushbashing up a steep hill. Finally we dropped down into Boundary Bay where we were directed onto a track that took us to Torrent Bay. Lunch was had at Torrent Bay where an attempt was made to duck Bud Cade for his repeated use of a certain word. We all enjoyed a swim and paddle then headed off again for the road end. Steady tramping and a good variety of songs saw us at the car again before darkness finally descended. John then drove us to Ruby Bay where we camped the night.

Tuesday, 17th April

Another lovely sunrise welcomed us as we woke up and after a quick tidy up we left for Picton. Arriving half an hour before the ferry left we had time for a quick meal. We were all sad to have to say goodbye to John and the South Island but we had pleasant memories of a trip enjoyed by all to take back with us to Palmerston North.

For those interested in tramping in the Abel Tasman National Park the tracks are well marked and an easy grade with little climbing involved.

Beautiful coastline views are to be had and the huts are usually within 3 - 4 hours tramping distance of each other. Many good camping spots are to be found along the track especially near the beaches.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND "RUAHINES IN THE RAIN"

On Saturday morning a Morris 1100 set forth through the falling rain for the Northern Ruahines. The intention of its occupants was to cross the range from the east and visit Lake Colenso, deep in the Ruahine forest.

Plans started well, with Top Maropea Hut being reached for an early lunch. Then after dropping down into the swollen tributaries of the Maropea it soon became obvious that river travel would have its hazards. So we returned to Maropea Hut to share its comforts with six members of the Heretaunga Club. The following morning we went south down the range to Waipawa saddle and then west through to Waterfall Hut in the Kawhatau valley. The upper Kawhatau must rate as one of the prettiest valleys in the Ruahines, and just to reward us Huey lifted the clouds to reveal the green bushy ridges and white snowy peaks of the Hikurangi range.

Next morning, after consulting the logbook, we decided to make our exit by bashing up Broken Ridge, through the frosted forests and out into the tussock and cloud. Along the tops we reached Rangioateatua and continued to the Three Johns. From there we dropped down to the Waipawa saddle and into the Waipawa river to the road end.

Trip members; were Nick Bishop, Terry Crippin, Colin Hoare.

2nd June COPPERMINE CREEK

The sky was wet, the air was wet, the grass was wet, the rocks were wet, the river was wet, we were wet. What more can you say about Coppermine Creek on a wet winter's day? But - little Pollyannas that we are, we enjoyed splashing our way up and down the rocky river and felt refreshed in body and mind when we reached the car in the early afternoon, after going as far as the swollen river would let us and lunching in the shelter of the hut.

Trip members were Glen Osborne, Lynette Nicholls, Sheryl Sporry, Frances Trewby, and Heather Crabb.