

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



NEWSLETTER

12/79

Secretary: Terry Crippen, 86-293
 Membership Enquiries: Colin Hoare, 88-546
 Newsletter Editor: Heather Crabb, 77-668
 Gear Custodian: Nic Bishop, 70-217

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Enquiries Concerning Overdue Trips:

N.B. Work numbers are for emergency use only.

Kevin Pearce, Home 70-217 Work 74-129
 Russ Johnson, 87-777 78-581
 Heather Crabb, 77-668 77-668

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COMING EVENTS

ALL TRIPS LEAVE THE "SUPERSAVE" CAR PARK, FERGUSON STREET.
 IF YOU WISH TO GO ON A TRIP ADVISE THE LEADER AT LEAST THREE DAYS
 IN ADVANCE.

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CHRISTMAS TO 13th JANUARY

All interested in weekend or short trips in this period please ring Heather Crabb, 77-668, who will arrange leaders etc.

18th – 21st January ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND IN THE KAIMANAWA RANGE

The F.E. trip will hopefully cover part of the Middle Range and Rangiteki River and hopefully beyond.

The Medium trip will go up the Waipakahi River.

Leader: Don French, 73-543
 Grading: Medium and Fitness Essential
 Cost: \$6.50
 Depart: 6.30 p.m. Friday evening.

25th – 27th January WALLS WHARE – NEIL WINCHCOMBE – MAUNGAHUKA

A change of access for an interesting trip.

Names to: Susan Cade, 88-241
 Grading: Fitness Essential
 Cost: \$5.00
 Depart: 6.30 p.m. Friday evening.

25th – 26th January WALLS WHARE – CONE

The intention is to find water and fly camp on the bush edge on cone having walked from near Walls Whare in the Waiohine River

Names to: Susan Cade, 88-241
 Grading: Medium
 Cost: \$5.00
 Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday morning.

31st January CLUB NIGHT – BARBEQUE

At 7 Tern Place, 6.30 p.m.

Alternatively, if weather puts a damper on arrangements, there will be the normal meeting at Society of Friends' meeting rooms, 227 College St., at 7.45 p.m., the theme being

"What I did in my holidays", so bring along your Christmas trip slides.

1st – 3rd February WAIPAWA RIVER – TE ATUAOPARARA - WAKELINGS

A good mix of Ruahine tops and river travel. Some bush bashing and some tracks.

Leader:	Nic Bishop, 70-217
Grading:	Fit
Cost:	\$5.00
Depart:	6.30 p.m. Friday evening.

2nd – 3rd February WAIPAWA RIVER – WAIKAMAKA HUT

A crossing of the main divide of the Ruahines via a low saddle gives access to the Waikamaka Hut in the river of the same name.

Leader:	Gill Davies, 79-733
Grading:	Easy
Cost:	\$5.00
Depart:	6.00 a.m. Saturday morning.

7th February COMMITTEE MEETING

At 7.45 p.m. at Chrissie's, 10 Ascott St., P.N.

8th – 10th February SOUTH MITRE STREAM – FULL WAINGAWA RIVER

The warm balmy weather is the correct time for the river trips. Bring a good large plastic bag to waterproof the pack for the noble sport of 'pack floating'. Flotation (car inner tube etc.) would be desirable.

Leader:	Kevin Pearce, 7-217
Grading:	Fitness Essential
Cost:	\$4.00
Depart:	6.30 p.m. Friday evening.

9th – 10th February BLUE RANGE – WAINGAWA RIVER

We will enter the river from the Kiriwhakapapa Raod via the Blue Range and leave the river at the 'Pines'. The F.E. party can deliver a driver back to Kiriwhakapapa.

Leader:	Don Scott, 71-675
Grading:	Medium
Cost:	\$4.00
Depart:	6.00 a.m. Saturday morning.

15th February P.N. CITY NIGHT SAREX

Participants will probably depart from the p.N. Police Station at 8.00 p.m. Friday evening and return at 3.00 a.m. Saturday morning. Further details will be provided by Kevin Pearce.

16th – 17th February W.A.M.C. SPORTS WEEKEND 7 MARATHOS

Every year the Wellington Associated Mountain Clubs Inc. hold a sports weekend. The Saturday's activities include the Junior Marathon, for those of 20 years of age or younger, the Senior marathon and the Ladies' Billy boiling Race.

Saturday evening features a huge bonfire with entertainment provided by the attending clubs and community singing etc. (etc. = drinking).

Sunday's events include the obstacle race, tug of war, and a number of novelty events. Very much a family day.

Participants in the marathons must wear boots weighing not less than 2lb each (to discourage harriers) and the routes cover river beds and tracks and the seniors have a 1,000' climb out of the Orongorongo River.

Note: Entries close on the 12th February so please give your name to Trevor before this date.

Names to:	Trevor Bissell, 73-543
Grading:	F/F.E. for marathon entrants E. for everyone else.

Cost: \$6.00
Depart: 10.00 a.m. Saturday morning.

17th February NORTH OHAU

Truly a great excuse to get out of the sports weekend, plagued only by a sense of guilt one can enjoy an easy day with light packs in the Ohau River.

Leader: Keith Miller, 89-819
Grading: Easy
Cost: \$2.00
Depart: 8.00 a.m. Sunday morning.

23rd – 24th February FULL OTAKI

Last time the pikers walked out from Waitewaewae Hut because the river was high. This time the river level will be normal so that we can pack float the Otaki Gorge as well as the upper river. Access will be via the Ohau River and the Dora Track.

Leader: Colin Hoare, 88-546
Grading: Fit
Cost: \$5.00 depending on transport arrangements
Depart: 6.30 p.m. Friday evening.

23rd – 24th February WAITEWAEWAE – OTAKI RIVER

We can enter the river via the Waitewaewae Track and still pack float the gorges. Bring flotation and a large plastic bag to waterproof one's belongings.

Leader: Susan Cade, 88-241
Grading: Medium
Cost: \$3.50
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday morning.

28th February CLUB NIGHT

NOTICES

S.A.R. CONFERENCE

After a recent weekend conference of S.A.R. Search Advisors held at Massey University it was reported that all found it a very successful and informative conference.

CLUB NIGHTS – DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Please note that there will be no club night in December.

In the last Newsletter the date for the Barbeque at 7 Tern Place was advertised as 24th January. Sorry, folks, that was an error. This Barbeque will be held on the usual club night which will be 31st January.

PAST EVENTS

10th – 11th November SAREX OR P.N.T.M.C. – WE ALWAYS GET OUR MAN!

Tension was in the air. All were worried about the safety of Club member Kim Davies and his father who had not returned from a day trip on Friday. Misty weather meant the helicopter could only drop us one hour's walk from Ngamoko Bivouac, from where our search was to begin.

A search around the biv and the spur revealed nothing (it's hard to find "lost" parties who are running away from you in a fog!) So we proceeded to cover the rest of our search area as well as we could with only 100 m. visibility. All that resulted from a day's searching was a possible find by Mike Rochelle's group, so we headed back to the biv to put us in a better position for tomorrow's activities. A dead mouse decomposing in a bucket drove us out and we spent the night under a fly.

Similar weather conditions remained on Sunday and we were asked to search the area which the "Manawatus" attempted to search on the previous day but hadn't because they were 3 kg. Away (lost!)

We then made the first definite find of the search – some smelly, holed socks which the sloppy old litterbugs had spilled some stew on. They also left a handkerchief and some foot-prints lying around, and we soon found Kim in a “delirious” condition, vague about the whereabouts of his father. After making him comfortable, two of the party resumed searching and soon found Mr. Davies, “unconscious and suffering from hypothermia” (or that’s what he told us.) The other parties were all called to the area and the injured man was carried to a helicopter landing site where he, Kim and the search parties were taken to base for lunch and debriefing.

The P.N.T.M.C. Rescue Squad consisted of Dianne Stanley, Grant Ramsey, David Speller and Eric Van Toor.

29th November CLUB NIGHT

At last month’s club Night Marty Robins gave to a large gathering an interesting introduction to the European alps – from a tramping point of view – camping on high passes and heading into the valleys and towns when the food ran out.

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On 30th November thirty- nine trampers and friends enjoyed a dine and dance at the Steeple Restaurant. Good food, good wine and good company made the evening go all too quickly.

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2nd December GRANDE ANNUAL DINNER

Thirty-five persons made their way, by various routes and at various times over the weekend, up to our chalet Rangì, to partake of a sumptuous meal. As hunger was assuaged and moods were wine mellowed the singing of tramping songs and the occasional carol filled the hut with hearty, if not quite melodious tones.

Thanks to Karyn Bishop and her helpers for the high standard of the food.

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A very Merry Christmas and Happy New Tramping Year to you all.

