



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217
PALMERSTON NORTH
NEWSLETTER
February/March 1981

Hon. Secretary	Terry Crippen	63-588
Membership Enquiries:	Chrissie Elliot	72-334
Or	Heather Crabb	77-668
Newsletter Editor:	Heather Crabb	77-668
Gear Custodian:	Kevin Pearce	70-217

Enquires concerning overdue trips

N.B. work numbers are for emergency use only

Kevin Pearce	home	70-217	work	74-129
Heather Crabb		77-668		77-668
Don French		73-543		80-449

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COMING EVENTS

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

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26th February, CLUB NIGHT

David Pilbrough will talk on tramping and other activities in Rhodesia where he has lived most of his life.

If time permits, Colin and Chrissie Elliott will show slides of their Christmas trip in the Young/Siberia/Wilkin River area.

At the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., at 7.45 p.m.

SUPPER DUTIES: Catherine Farquhar, Lawson Pither, Keith Pollock.

27th February - 1st March TUKI TUKI RIVER/POHANGINA SADDLE

We will camp at the Old Mill road end on Friday evening. The fit party will, at least, traverse the range from Howletts to Pohangina Saddle and the medium party can attempt a stream route direct to the saddle.

Names to: Peter Darragh, phone 3-5633
Gradings: Fit and Medium
Cost: \$4.00.
Depart: 6.30 p.m. Friday Evening.

5th March, COMMITTEE MEETING

7.45 p.m. at Kevin's, 7 Tern Place. Please bring a plate (with something nice on it!!!)

7th - 8th March, WEST PEAK - PAKIHORI RIDGE

A good summer tops trip along part of the southern Main Range.

Names to: Dianne Stanley, phone Pah. 3633.
 Grading: Fit.
 Cost: \$3.90.
 Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

8th March, WAIOTAU RU RIVER

A nice day trip up the Waiotauru River in the Tararuas.

Names to: Dianne Stanley, phone Pah. 3633
 Grading: Easy.
 Cost: \$3.50.
 Depart: 6.00 a.m. Sunday.

12th March, INFORMAL CLUB NIGHT – PACK PACKING COMPETITION

The idea of a pack packing competition arises from the difficulties certain club members experienced in trying to get all their belongings into their packs on their Christmas trips. If you wish to partake in the competition bring along your pack complete with all gear required for a weekend tops trip in the Tararuas. No food is required. Otherwise come along and watch and laugh.

At the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., at 7.45 p.m. Thursday.

SUPPER DUTIES: Philip Budding, Don Scott, Tim Short.

14th - 15th March, WAIPAWA – MAROPEA RIVER AREA

A Ruahine roundabout involving Armstrong Saddle and the Maropea/Wakamaka and Waipawa Rivers.

Names to: Heather Crabb, phone 77-668.
 Grading: Fit.
 Cost: \$4.00.
 Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

15th March, MOKAI HUT

This is a relatively new hut not previously visited by the Club. A pleasant easy trip in the Ruahines.

Names to: Heather Crabb, phone 77-668.
 Grading: Easy (Guaranteed).
 Cost: \$3.00.
 Depart: 7.00 a.m. Sunday.

20th - 22nd March, ISABELLE CREEK

Rumour has it that this stream on the S.W. slopes of Mount Holdsworth, contains a 100 metre high waterfall. (There are certainly some waterfalls and the stream does end does above the Waiohine Gorge, and there was a major SAR operation in its headwaters). Come prepared for abseiling and pack floating.

Grading: F.E.
 Leader: Kevin Pearce, phone 70-217
 Cost: \$4 00.
 Depart: 6.30 p.m. Friday night.

20th - 22nd March, ATIWHAKATU STREAM

A climb up onto the range at Mt. Jumbo and a camp in the Atiwhaka should occupy one good day. If a little navigation practice is required the return journey can be made along the Pinnacle Ridge.

Names to: Kevin Pearce, phone 70-217.
 Grading: Medium.
 Cost: \$4.50.
 Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday morning.

26th March, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club will be held in the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., Palmerston North, at 7.45 p.m. on 26th March, 1981.

Nominations for the offices of President, Secretary, Treasurer and at least five committee members will be accepted by the Secretary, Terry Crippen, before 7.30 p.m. of 26th March, or hand them to any of the Committee members.

27th -29th March. ROCK CLIMBING – WHANGANUI BAY

Whanganui. Bay is located on the western shores of Lake Taupo. The cliffs surrounding this most picturesque spot offer some of the most stimulating rock climbing in the North Island.

- Names to: Don French, phone 73-543.
- Grading: All welcome.
- Cost: \$12.00.
- Depart: 6.30 p.m. Friday evening.

28th - 29th March, AVALANCHE FLATS

A trip up the Mangahao River with a possible climb onto Triangle Knob.

- Leader: Roddy Henderson, phone 63-588.
- Grading: Medium.
- Cost: \$4.00.
- Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

29th March HARRIS CREEK HUT

Back into the Tararua range for a really pleasant tramp up to Harris Creek Hut.

- Names to: Alan Dunn phone 80-249.
- Grading: Easy.
- Cost: \$3.50.
- Depart: 7.00 a.m. Sunday.

3rd or 10th April, “SAREX NIGHT QUEST”

Preliminary notice is given of this Friday night Search and Rescue exercise. Details in next Newsletter.

30th April, CLUB NIGHT – PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Preliminary notice is given of this major event. Please note it in your dairies. The new rules for the competition will be published next Newsletter.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- Sarah Godfrey, 3 Napier Rd., Ashhurst. Phone 268-031.
- Marty Robins, 95 Jefferys Rd., Christchurch 5. Phone 518-591

You will be welcome to call and stay or ring Marty if you are down that way.

CLUB TRIPS

Our trip convenors are hard working people who have a difficult task compiling trip lists and finding leaders for Club trips. Your current trip convenors are Trevor Bissell, 73-543 and Dianne Stanley, Pah. 3633. Perhaps you are keen on tramping in a little visited area by the club. Please help your trip convenors by letting them know your preferences.

WANTED TO BUY

Pack in good condition - Mountain Mule or similar. Phone Gill Davies, 79-733.

MAP ORDERS

We can get 33% off Lands and Survey topographical maps if we order them through the club. Let Terry, 63-588, know your requirements.

TRAMPING BOOTS – DISCOUNT

Cooper’s Men’s Shoe Shop, Broadway are offering 10% discount on tramping boots to financial members of our Club. Terry, 18 Colombo St., 63-588, has a number of signed notes to take along saying you are a member of P.N.T.M.C.

CLUB T-SHIRTS

Do we want to have a T-Shirt with a tramping design and wording etc. on it? The P.N.T.M.C. foot emblem or whatever. Who would want one? Any ideas for a pattern? Let Terry Crippen (Phone 63-588) or Philip Budding (phone 85-936) know.

WEST COAST MANAGEMENT PLANS

Condensed from F.M.C. Supplement to Newsletter February, 1981.

"The Forest Service has released the management plan proposals on North and South Westland forests for public comment. Copies are available from offices of the Service. Management proposals for Buller and Central North Island forests will follow later this year.

All four of these plans involve areas used extensively by trampers and deerstalkers. Submissions on North and South Westland close soon – 31 March. An information newsletter of four issues discussing the plans in more detail will be available from the Joint Forestry Committee, Box 756, Nelson, at a cost of \$1.00.

West Cost Management Plans Contd.

SOUTH OKARITO – WAIKUKUPA

After the finding of a rare subspecies of brown kiwi in South Okarito the Minister of Lands, Venn Young, withdrew his approval for the southern part of Waikukupa forest (south of Hauraki Creek), to be added to the Westland National Park. The southern part contains impressive scenic and glacial moraine features, as well as being the prime example of an extensive virgin dense rimu forest, signifying for rimu what Waipoua does for Kauri. Both South Okarito and southern Waikukupa have been placed under a ten year logging moratorium. To some extent whether they will be logged or added to the Westland National Park, will depend on the outcome of submissions on the South Westland management plan.

Neither of the two major accessible coastal viewpoints, Okarito trig and Waikowhai bluff are now included in the proposed park extensions. Both forest areas are, without any doubt, of prime national park importance, even before the brown kiwi was found.

SOUTH WESTLAND

The plan states the issues well. Some 750,000 cubic metres of native timber is needed from state forests to meet government contracts to supply mills at Whataroa, Harihari and Ruatapu over the next ten years. Although sufficient wood is available to meet this requirement, without touching reserves, or the moratorium areas, the prospects of sustained timber production after 1990 are almost none-existent.

What are the alternatives for the region? The conversion of much of the clear bush land to farming is not attractive because of the fertility of the soils. A much more attractive proposition is the retention of the forests and the development of tourism, recreation and conservation. South Okarito with the kiwi colony and the 'Rimu Waipoua' should be looked upon as assets to be used as the basis for creating a permanent industry in these areas, rather than to be destroyed for the sake of jobs for a few transient years. The best protection and in a sense development of the area is in the view of the Federation and other major conservation groups the inclusion of South Okarito and southern Waikukupa in the Westland National Park.

NORTH WESTLAND

The plan for north Westland covers river valleys north of the Waitaha, notably the Grey and its tributaries, and the Maruia. It is a much less contentious area, with beech logging providing a bridge until exotics become available in the nineties. A contentious issue is that the west bank of the scenic Maruia River – the eastern flank of the Victoria Range – be excluded from milling.'

The importance of making submissions cannot be over emphasised. It is in part a numbers situation. Proponents of logging have been known to write the submissions and get their employees to sign them. Even though the submissions are identical they still count.

PUBLICATIONS TO HELP WITH SUBMISSIONS

'Outdoor Recreation on the West Coast' Les Molloy, -club price \$4.50.

'West Coast Forests - NZ Heritage' Guy Salmon, club price 90c.

'Campaign Newsletter' available through clubs or for \$1.00 direct from P.O. Box 756 Nelson.

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PROJECT BEBE

A relay marathon by disabled people, starting simultaneously from Kaitaia and Bluff and meeting in Wellington on April 1st will be passing through Palmerston North on Saturday 28th March. The purpose of this relay is to present to Government a submission on an issue that will benefit the majority of disabled people.

Friday: Continued up Landsborough on true right crossing just below McKerrow Glacier – up Glacier then climbing the easy climb onto Douglas Pass. Three members climbed Gladiator (6,975 ft.). Then descended into Douglas River to camp near Harper's Rock Bivvy.

Saturday: Rain in morning – cleared up by midday. Climbed Thompson Spur to gain spectacular views of Douglas Neve and to recy route for the morrow. Then climbed Mt. Thompson (8,648 ft.). Returned to camp.

Sunday: Up at 4.00 a.m. Hog's Back on Mt. Sefton. Decided to take risk. High route up Thompson Spur around Neve over Mt. Stephen (8,350 ft.), just missing the top of Mt. Brunner (8,750 ft.) Ropes on. Traverse and descended to Douglas neve. About ten pitches of climbing. Two members of party did not like route so retraced their steps to Harper's Rock to take another route out. Main party continued to Welcome Pass for much needed rest then traversed into Scott Creek and descended down creek to camp at eastern end of Welcome Flats.

Monday: Day trip in rain to Douglas Rock Hut and down to Welcome Flats Hut for several hours soaking in hot pools.

Tuesday: Another fine day - walked out to road end.

Wednesday: Other two members of party arrived out after traversing Gladiator to avoid Douglas Lake (which involves a swim in freshly melted glacial water) and Conical Hill.

COOK RIVER

The Fox pub is as good a place as any to start a trip from. This is where Nic Bishop, Kevin Pearce and myself (Don French) met on a rainy afternoon in January. Because of well-known reasons, we camped near Lake Matheson instead of the motor camp. Our departure was delayed the next morning by photography around the lake of the Southern Alps.

Parking the cars beside the Cook River we shouldered our packs and immediately started on the difficulties. The first day travelling was relatively straight forward which only involved one high sidle. We camped beside a small stream beside a lonely out of place cabbage tree. The following morning was once again fine so on up the river. The morning's effort was a high sidle to avoid a difficult section of river, and the afternoon was spent travelling over the easier ground to camp on a terrace just above the La Perouse Glacier. We felt very guilty having to flatten the flowering Renunculas Lyalli to erect our tent.

Six thirty next morning found us departing to climb La Perouse (10,101ft.). The climb was straight forward apart from one little rock problem that was soon passed. The summit was reached at about 7.00 p.m. where we waited until joined by an another party. The views were spectacular apart from out to the east which was obscured by the "great hulk" of Mt. Cook.

It was a very casual return, stopping along the way to soak up the after noon sun and quench our thirsts.

Nic and I, next morning, departed to climb Mt. Copland (7,995 ft.) while Kevin spent the day burning his body (all of it). We chose a small stream to follow up for a while which offered some good solid rock climbing. The stream soon died out to become an extremely steep tussock face which involved a lot of time, effort and nervous tension before our intended route was gained. This route was taken to avoid a long scrub bash. The ridge was narrow but offered fast and exposed travel. We found a snow ramp that led from the ridge onto the upper snow field which we followed, to cross the snowfield to the summit rocks. The summit rocks were of extremely low grade rock. They offered some "Hairy" moments before we found ourselves on a small snow summit. We stopped for only about 10 minutes for it was already 3.00 p.m. Set up a rappel to descend from the summit, not really wanting to down climb it. We then down climbed our ascent route to the point where we gained the ridge from the steep tussock slopes. At this point we chose a route down a watercourse on the western side of the ridge which only involved one rappel. We reached the camp just before dark.

Next morning it was raining thank goodness. I needed the rest. In the afternoon we moved camp to beside a stream under Whales Saddle. Fine again next morning. Up and away up the stream to the saddle where we spent some leisurely hours playing with keas before descending into Architect Creek for the night.

The final day's travel involved a sidle on the true right to avoid a gorge. Stopping for lunch beside the Architect Creek Bridge, the walk out was easy going following down the Copland Track to the road.

NOTE: the climb of Mt. Copland by the route taken (the true north ridge) is believed to be a first ascent, the 4th ascent of the mountain.

Ed's Note: Sorry, room will not allow for more trip reports. Those in hand will appear in next Newsletter.