



# PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217  
PALMERSTON NORTH  
**NEWSLETTER**  
July/August 1981

Secretary	Catherine Farquhar	64-118
Membership Enquiries:	Kathy Crow	86-569
Gear Custodian:	Kevin Pearce	70-217
Newsletter Editor:	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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### RANGI HUT

The Committee was approached the Ruahine Forest Park Advisory Committee seeking its support in having the Forest Service replace Rangi Hut. This action, which was precipitated by recent criticism of the Hut's condition, recognizes that the Hut is nearing the end of its useful life. Rangi is probably the most visited hut in the Ruahines because of its accessibility by a graded benched track and its commanding position just above the bush line.

At the moment the Committee has no firm views on the nature of the new hut, but is thinking along the following lines:

- (i) sleeping accommodation for 16 persons on platforms rather than individual bunks,
- (ji) ample space for day visitors,
- (iii) hut to be built on or near the present site,
- (iv) the Club would make no financial contribution to the cost of the new hut as the tens of thousands of dollars involved are quite beyond our means,
- (v) replacement to be as soon as practicable, i.e. within 2 – 3 years.

The Committee was divided on the question of whether the hut should be equipped with a stove. Some felt that the sub-alpine scrub could not support the collection of firewood. Others feared that if no stove was supplied, some users would build open fires outdoors.

A strong case can be made for Rangi's replacement and a favourable response from both the Advisory Committee and the Forest Service seems likely. Members are invited to make their views on the above and related matters known to the committee.

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### COMING EVENTS

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

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**30 July – Club Night – Inter Club Debate**

This is an annual event against the Massey University Alpine Club, present holders of the Trudge Trophy (an old boot). Arguing for the negative (and for the Club will be Mike Freeman, Linda Keall and Colin Elliott. The topic is "that women make better trampers than men".

At the Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street at 7.45 pm. Thursday. All wellcome.

**Supper Duties:** Kathy Crow, Heather Crabb, Alan Dunn.

**1 - 2 August – Island Forks**

This trip to the foothills of the western Tararuas south of Levin will be a good chance to brush up on or learn compass and map work in a testing area.

Leader: Grant Ramsey, 75365  
Grading: Fit  
Departs: 6a.m. Saturday  
Cost: \$2.50

**3<sup>rd</sup> August – Waitewaewae Peak**

This trip is going to the same area as the above and is organised to put the above party on the right (or left) track. It promises to be a nice day's outing with plenty of for the adventurous.

Leader: Catherine Farquhar, 64118  
Grading: Medium  
Departs: 6.30 a.m. Sunday  
Cost: \$2.50

**6 August – Committee Meeting**

At Vaughan and Kathy's, 105 Clifton Terrace, at 7.45 p.m. Thursday.

**8 - 9 August – Work Weekend on Rangī**

As this is our one and only hut it is time again to do some maintenance on it.

Leader: Vaughan Crow, 86569  
Grading: E.E. (Enthusiasm Essential)  
Departs: 7 a.m. Saturday  
Cost: \$4.00

**9 August – Rangī Snow Plod**

In conjunction with the above trip there will be a day trip to provide labour.

Foreman: Peter Darragh, 35633  
Departs: 7 a.m. Sunday  
Cost: \$4.00

**10 August – Deadline for Newsletter**

All material in the Editor's hands by 7 p.m., please.

**13 August – Informal Club Night – Sports Evening**

Table Tennis, Volley ball and the like. For details of time and place contact the organizer, Lionne Coenders, phone 75401.

**15 - 16 August – Blue Range – Ruamahanga River**

A pleasant low level tramp in the Tararuas near Masterton.

Leader: Philip Budding, 85936  
Grading: Medium  
Departs: 6 a.m. Saturday  
Costs: \$4.50

**16 August – Kiriwhakapapa – Cow Saddle**

An "Easy" type day for those who can find plenty to do on Saturday.

Names to: Philip Budding, 85936  
Cost: \$4.50

**21 August – Deadline for names for the Snow Craft Course**

See details below.

**22 - 23 August – Wiopehu – Te Mataurai**

Yet another Tararua trip in from Levin. This trip may be made interesting with snow in the bush. An easy day trip may also be organised just ring Philip.

Leader: Philip Beech, 69412  
 Grading: Medium/Fit  
 Departs: 6a.m. Saturday (Day, trip 7a.m. Sunday)  
 Cost: \$2.25

**27 August – Club Night**

Rod McKenzie will be showing film of a ski touring trip he made in the Mt. Cook region. Prior to this Keith Pollock will be showing slides of various ski touring trips.

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

**29 - 30 August – Waipawa Armstrong Saddles**

During this trip in the Eastern Ruahines it is planned to pass through both of the above saddles as entry and exist points so come prepared for a good trip.

Leader: Peter Wiles, 86894  
 Grading: Fit (Storm gear essential)  
 Departs: 6a.m. Saturday  
 Cost: \$6.50

**2 September – Snowcraft Instruction Evening**

See below for details. 7.45 p.m. Wednesday at Terry's, 18 Colombo Street.

**4 September – Deadline for names for the Climbing Weekend**

See details below.

**4 - 6 September – Snowcraft I**

For this weekend and the snow climbing weekend (18 - 20 Sept) we have booked Massey Hut. There is a limit of 12 people. It is necessary to get your name in at least a fortnight before the trip.

There will be a discussion evening for participants on gear and techniques on Wednesday 2 September at Terry's place, 18 Colombo Street.

Leader: Terry Crippen, 63588  
 Grading: Medium/Fit  
 Cost: \$10.00 Transport, \$2 members MUAC, \$4 other for accommodation.  
 Departs: 6.30p.m. Friday

**18 - 20 September – Climbing Weekend at Massey Hut**

Join Don and do things in good alpine style. Maybe a good weekend to try Ski-mountaineering.

Again, names must be in at least a fortnight before the trip.

Leader: Don French, 73543  
 Other details as in Snowcraft I

**Notes for your Calendar:**

3 - 4 October, Snowcraft, Kapuni Lodge, .Mt. Egmont.

16 - 18 October, Climbing weekend, Whakapapa, Ruapehu.

Because of the need to confirm and pay for hut bookings well in advance, names are required well in advance.

10 - 11 October SAREX "Blue Range"

14 - 15 October SAREX "Takapari"

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**NOTICES**

1. A welcome is extended to the following **new members**:
 

Nora Flight,	127 Rugby Street, Palmerston North,	ph. 63488
Trudy McRobbie,	C/- Dorset Cres. Palmerston North,	ph. 67746
Reg Rickard,	9 Goodwin Cres. Palmerston North,	ph. 68944
Rachel Gawith,	8 Tyne Street, Palmerston North,	ph. 63220
Nigel Seebeck,	7 Austin Place, Palmerston North,	ph. 89043
Yoko Wakiya,	33 Shamrock Street, Palmerston North,	ph. 84780
Malcolm MacArthur,	5 Sheraton Grove, Palmerston North,	ph. 89904
  
2. Please note the following **changes of phone numbers and addresses**:
 

Catherine Farquhar,	490 Church Street,	ph. 64118
Dianne Stanley,	Flat 4, 32 Fitzroy Street,	(no phone)
Robert Bruce,	Glen Oroua, R.D. 3, Palmerston North,	ph. 858
Peter Wiles,		ph. 86894
Debbie Hunt,	39 Guy Ave, Palmerston North,	ph. 76606
  
3. **Avalanche Reporting** – If you see an avalanche or its debris then the Avalanche Data Centre at Lincoln College wants to know about it. Reporting forms are available from the Secretary.
  
4. **Arete Bivvy no more?** An unconfirmed report has been received that Arete Bivvy has blown away.
  
5. **A list of members** plus addresses and phone numbers will be published in the next newsletter. Please advise Kathy Crow, phone 86569, of any recent changes of address.

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**PAST EVENTS****Orienteering – 5 July – Kohitere Forest**

Trampers are good at orienteering! Only five members turned up in rather threatening weather for the Club's first orienteering event, which was organised by the Red Kiwis Orienteering Club. It was held in a steep pine forest near Levin.

Novices Chrissie Elliott and Don French teamed up and won their first 1.1 km 7 control D course in 16 minutes. Not far behind in 6th place were the novice pair Catherine Farquhar and Nora Fright who took only 25 minutes to complete the course.

Encouraged by these successes Chrissie entered the B course (2.9 km, 10 controls) and came second in the stunning time of 59 minutes. Cathy and Nora were 8th in the same event completing it in 90 minutes. Old hand Kevin Pearce entered only the A course (4.5km, 14 controls) and managed 6th place in 102 minutes while Don came in a creditable 13th in 131 minutes.

The team enjoyed their day and are planning to do more. Orienteering has much to offer the trumper who can only get away for an hour or two and who wants to maintain physical fitness and improve navigation skills.

**20 - 21 June – Mid Winter at Rangī**

Various people, at various time, all heading up to our own little hut in the Ruahine Ranges for our mid winter get-together.

Some of us (Trev Bissell, Terry Crippen, Sheryl Sporry, Mike Freeman) headed up early on Saturday, via the Oroua River and along the Whanahuia Range. From Tunupo Campsite we found a good track onto the southern end of the range. A good snow cover gave us very cold toes (especially Trev's and Terry's). We reached the hut about 7 hours later to be greeted by some of the others already in residence.

Phillip<sup>2</sup> Budding and Beech, Raewyn Devonshire, Ron Dyheman and Kahne the dog, had done a quick tramp in the snow up to Mangahuia on the top of the Whanahuia Range. Vern Jensen and family were also up at the hut for the day. Vern is on the Ruahine State Forest Park Advisory Committee. Numbers began to

increase as Richard Gapes, Jo Eder, Salley Hewson, Julie Cade, Nigel ?, Gillian MacDiarmid, and Murray Patterson arrived.

Good food, wine and a singsong from various editions of Trudge kept us up till about 10 p.m. So it took a while for things to get going on Sunday morning. This was hindered even more with a light fall of snow for breakfast.

Trev and Mike headed out via the Range. Terry, Sheryl, Jo & Jill headed up to Mangahua. On the way back they met Alan Dunn, Ross Cummins and Janet Hayman up for the day.

Although nobody went for a mid-winter swim, it was good to get a lot of us (22) up to enjoy the company, snow and tramping.

**Continued from last newsletter: Chile Argentina 26 Feb - 11 March '81.**

Another day and a half tramping through beech forest took us to the Hotel Tronador, where Stu and Geoff left us to cover some country we had already done. Miles and I stayed to do some fishing with the rods we have been lugging around for two months. We talked to the very pleasant hotel owner for a while - she spoke good English, has read "The River Rules my Life", and gave us two free beers, and took us across the lake in their boat. We managed to buy a loaf of bread there, but otherwise had only flour, milk powder; spaghetti and soup for food. Luckily we caught 5kg of trout meat next day, and two days later, two hungry trampers arrived in Bariloche after lugging still heavy packs over the tops.

It might surprise Godzone Trampers to know that New Zealand has no monopoly on natural beauty. Chile and Argentina keep any trumper amused for a lifetime!

- Eric Van Toor

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**Extract From Plateau Hut Log Book**

"I compare the Mt Cook east ridge ascent with the Eperon de la Branva on South east ridge to Mt Maudit. These routes are probably the nicest ice and snow climbing around Chamonix.

To climb Mt Cook East ridge and to stay alone with your partner on the top is the good way to enjoy the Kiwi mountain loneliness. In French Alps you cannot feel this loneliness; too many climbers everywhere; too many climbers with a bad and sad mentality. I wish everyone enjoy this beautiful place. If you don't climb; just with your eyes is enough. Today with this rest day is enough".

"Patrick (The French Guy)"

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**VERY FISHY**

Two climbers in the Alps were in desperate straits and about to give up the ghost. Suddenly, one said to the other, "I smell fish and chips."

The other sniffed the air. "So do I." This spurred them on, and finally they reached a monastery and knocked on the door. A figure appeared.

"Are you the holy friar?" they asked.

"No, I am only the chipmunk."