



# PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217  
PALMERSTON NORTH  
NEWSLETTER

June/July 1982

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Membership Enquiries:	Kathy Crow	ph 86-569
Newsletter Editor:	Carol Cullen	ph 68-664
Gear Custodian:	Philip Budding	ph 85-936

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## ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Terry Crippen	Home	63-588	Work	67-154
Don French		73-543		
Kathy Crow		86-569		69-099 ex 2422

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## COMING TRIPS

ALL TRIPS LEAVE SUPERSAVE CARPARK, 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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### 27 May CLUB NIGHT

Eric van Toor will be showing slides from his recent trip to south America.

7.45 p.m. Thursday, 227 College Street, Society of Friends Meeting Rooms. All welcome.

Supper Duty: Roddy Henderson, Sally Hewson, Debbie Hunt.

### 29 - 30 May - HOWLETTS - POHANGINA

Have a sleep-in and still make it to one of the most pleasant areas in the Ruahines.

Leader: Peter Wiles  
Grading: Medium  
Cost: \$4.00  
Departs: 0700 Saturday

### 30 May - DAPHNE HUT

Come and see if the location matches the name.

Leader: Peter Wiles  
Grading: Easy - Fit  
Cost: \$4.00  
Departs: 0700 Saturday

### 3 June - COMMITTEE MEETING

The next committee meeting will be held at Carol Cullen's place, 24 Pirie Street, 7.45 p.m.

### 5 - 7 June - KAWEKAS/KAIMANAWAS

A three day trip to explore the interior of this (relatively) vast and (relatively) unknown region. Observe the famous wild horses and leatherwood-free hills.

Names to: Dianne Stanely  
Grading: Easy, Medium & Fit  
Cost: Approx. \$10.00  
Departs: 18.30 Friday

P.S. The Egmont trip has been postponed until July 3 – 4.

### **10 June – INFORMAL CLUB NIGHT**

Trevor Brill will be talking on his trip to Nepal.

7.45 p.m., 227 College Street, Society of Friends Meeting Rooms.

### **12 – 13 June – TOTARA FLATS – NEILL FORKS**

Quick, your last chance to visit the central Tararuas before it is turned into a massive hydro lake.

Leader: Carol Cullen, 68664  
Grading: Medium  
Cost: Approx. \$7.00  
Departs: 0600 Saturday

Also day sorties will be arranged.

### **19 – 20 June – MID WINTER AT RANGI**

The annual winter carnival is here again. From all parts of the Ruahines, bands of PNTMC-ites will be converging on Rangi Hut (possibly for the last time). Only the best tramping food should be taken, prizes will be awarded for the best evening meal!

Contact: Jo Eder, 71785  
Grading: All  
Cost: Approx. \$4.00  
Departs: Friday/Saturday/Sunday

### **24 June – CLUB NIGHT**

Details next newsletter.

### **26 – 27 June – CATTLE RIDGE**

Tops or valley travel in the eastern Tararuas. Sheltered from the cold westerlies, this area has scope for the fit and the not so masochistically inclined!

Leader: Keith Pollock, 81819  
Grading: Medium  
Cost: Approx. \$4.00  
Departs: Sat. 0600

Plus a variety of possible day trips.

### **FUTURE TRIPS**

3 – 4 July Egmont (Tahurangi Lodge)

10 – 11 July The Three Big Ones!  
(Ruapehu, Ngauruhoe & Tongariro).

### **NOTICES**

#### **TRIP COSTS**

Please note that trip costs given here are only approximate. The final cost depends on actual expenses incurred on the trip.

#### **NEW MEMBERS:**

Paul Mara, 5 Abraham Crescent, Ph 70347  
Roger Redmayne, P.O. Box 23, Pahiatua, Ph 8991  
David Perry, 630 Church St. Ph 78972  
Robyn Smith, C/- Farm Management Dept. Massey, Ph 89306.

## **DEBATE**

Remember our annual debate with MUAC is coming up in July. Anyone interested in taking this on, contact Barry Scott ph 71731.

## **METEOROLOGICAL COURSE**

The Technical Institute is running a course in basic meteorology which could be of interest to trampers. It commences 2<sup>nd</sup> June and runs for five weeks from 7.45 p.m. to 9.15 p.m. each Wednesday. If interested contact the Institute ph 72099 or call at the main office, Princess Street. Cost \$11.00.

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## **PAST EVENTS**

### **WAITOMO – 27 – 28 FEBRUARY**

On Saturday the team visited St Benedicts Cave via two pitches involving 130" of laddering. This of course slowed the party down considerably before we could really start caving. Once we were all down, we visited the Chapel via Lucifers Quarry. The Chapel had amazing stalagmites in the form of 2" diameter needles reaching heights of up to 15", and very impressive flowstones, further enhancing the size of this mighty chamber. Behind a major stalagmite known as the Bodkin, we had a look at Bodkin Passage with its old crystal pools and beautiful straws.

After a short excursion where a 20" vertical chimney proved to be elusive, we proceeded to the main junction, where we decided to head directly to the Shambles, after visiting another side passage.

In the Shambles, we visited a large rock strewn cavern very high up in St Benedicts Upper Levels, also a breathtaking dried up crystal pool. Then it was time to head out. We were all back at the top of Autumn Shaft (our entrance pitch) by approx. 10.30 p.m. However, by taking a different route back to the van, most of the party successfully ended up on the main road. By the time we reached Don's van, it was 12.00 p.m. Yes, quite a long day, but a good one.

On Sunday, we decided to take an easy day, visiting the Cave Museum and having a hot swim at Takaanu on the way home.

The team was: Don Scott, Trevor Bissell, Susan Cade, Daryl Rowan and Julian Dalefield.

### **A DEVIOS CROSSING OF THE TARARUAS, 19 – 21 MARCH 1982**

Devious = leaving beaten ways (Pocket Oxford Dictionary)

There are many ways of getting from the Wairarapa to the Manawatu available to trampers in addition to the well known road routes. There are the classic Northern, Southern and Bannister Crossings, a variety of Middle Crossings and the Club's own creation, the Baber Saddle Crossing. None of these were used by Club members Daryl Rowan, Perry Hicks and Kevin Pearce on a recent weekend F.E. trip. Their route (The Pines-Mitre Flats, South Mitre Stream, Middle King, Dorset Creek, Park Forks, Kelliher, Otaki River, Oriwa, Waiopetu Ohau Pipe Bridge) is unlikely to have been used previously and is never likely to be used again such was its deviousness. The only beaten paths used were on Friday night and Sunday afternoon. Navigation skills were polished during the trip and big thirsts generated.

### **INFORMAL CLUB NIGHT – 11 MARCH NIGHT ORIENTEERING STREET EVENT**

The turnout for this event was rather disappointing. It took much longer to set up than the total running time of all the competitors combined! Nevertheless, those who did participate did seem to enjoy themselves and the finish was very close.

Results were as follows for the 5.5 km course:

1.	Daryl Rowan	28 minutes	3 seconds
2.	Bill Teahan	28	47
3.	Trev Bissell	29	01
4.	Peter Clough	30	52
5.	Don French	32	00
6.	Dianne Stanley & Rabin	37	50 (i.e. only 18 min 55 sec each)

Street events are not too similar to traditional orienteering in pine forest as navigation is much easier and route choice rather limited. Competitors were supplied with a street map with street names etc deleted. They had to visit six points marked on the map by numbered circles and answer some question to prove they had been there e.g. what church? what motel etc. Darkness made this rather difficult in the case of a children's play ground and the question "How many swings?"

Orienteering has much to offer the trampers particularly physical fitness and navigation skill. It's certainly enjoyable, involving genuine cross country running and is much preferable to pounding the streets.

## PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB (INC.)

### LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

I have much pleasure in presenting the sixteenth annual report of the Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club. The Club has been active again this year; with frequent Club trips going. Membership has increased slightly from last year and now stands at 75.

### ACTIVITIES

Club trips went to the Ruahines and Tararua most weekends, with occasional trips to the Kaimaniwas, Kawekas, Tarawera, Egmont and Tongariro National Park. Club winter activities included the snowcraft and climbing weekends. Rock climbing continues to gain support as a Club activity with visits to Whanganui Bay and Titahi Bay. The occasional orienteering trip has helped newer Club members with compass work.

Social activities have included the mid winter and Christmas celebrations at Rangi Hut. This may be the last time that our Rangi Hut gets used for such celebrations as the Forest Service is planning to replace it with a newer larger one. The Christmas dine and dance was again a success; as was the annual debate against Massey University Alpine Club for the Trudge Trophy. The topic this year was: "That woman make better trampers than men". We had an easy victory, thanks to Colin Elliott, Linda Keal and Mike Freeman. Many of us are members of both these Clubs. MUAC has its hut on Ruapehu while PNTMC runs more frequent trips over the period when university exams are approaching, while rock climbing is an activity which has a core of keen people from both Clubs. The two clubs compliment one another, and it is good to see these ties continuing.

Apart from Club activities, Club members continue with skiing, ski mountaineering and numerous private tramping and climbing trips. This last summer saw club members tramping and climbing in the South Island from Nelson Lakes to the Routeburn area, with trips ranging from straightforward tramps to a traverse of Mt Cook.

The trend in which formal Club weekend trips don't get off the ground has been counteracted by informal trips, often being organised at short notice by phoning. Thus the overall amount of tramping being done stays the same. Possibly, this trend makes it more difficult for new members to get into tramping. Thus established Club members need to be more ready to commit themselves to Club trips, at least some of the time. The incoming committee may want to change the methods of timetabling trips as it is extremely frustrating for the Trip's Organiser to find leaders for trips only to find out the trip didn't go due to lack of support.

### COMMITTEE

The committee is to be thanked for their work over the year. Catherine as Secretary, Don as Treasurer and organiser of social activities, Peter Wiles for printing the newsletter, Cathy Crow for newsletter distribution and membership enquiries, Vaughan for his conservation work, Leone for looking after the library and standing in for Secretary while Catherine was away, and Peter Darragh for the hard job as Trips Organiser. Our thanks also to Debbie Hunt for typing. Special thanks to Kevin, as Vice President for his work as Editor, Gear Officer and his SAR work and generally his involvement over the past years.

Finally, I would like to thank all Club members for making this year a successful and enjoyable one.

TERRY CRIPPEN  
PRESIDENT

### STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

Slide Presentation Spectacular: double Feature.  
Rangitane pavilion, civic Centre, The Square.  
8.00 p.m. Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May.  
"British climbing – A Review" by Nigel Sheppard  
"Climbing in Patagonia" by Nic Banks, conqueror of Everest.  
\$2 admission.