



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217
PALMERSTON NORTH
NEWSLETTER

April/May 1984

Secretary:	Damienne Eder,	ph 71-785
Membership Enquiries:	Nanette and Peter Clough	ph 61-271
Gear Custodian:	Philip Budding	ph 85-936
Newsletter Editor:	John Barkla	ph 73-543

ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Catherine Farquhar Home	87-799	
Damienne Eder	71-785	
Nigel Seebeck	89-043	Work 79-129

ALL TRIPS LEAVE FROM THE NO FRILLS CARPARK, FERGUSSON STREET. IF YOU WISH TO GO ON A TRIP, YOU MUST ADVISE THE LEADER AT LEAST THREE DAYS IN ADVANCE. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY OR WEEKEND TRIP, CONTACT THE PERSON RUNNING THE SCHEDULED TRIP.

COMING EVENTS:

28 - 29 April

Anyone interested in a trip this weekend phone Linda or Catherine, 87799. Something – ANYTHING? can be organised. Day or weekend trip.

5 May – Ruahines

A day trip to an as yet undecided area of our local Ruahine Ranges.

Leader: Damienne Eder, ph 71785
Grading: Easy or medium
Departs: 7.00 a.m. Saturday.

6 May – Tararuas

Yet another day trip to Mangahao - Baber Creek - Dick Creek - Mangahao River (not as far as it sounds).

Names to: Catherine Farquhar, ph 87799
Grading: Easy/Medium
Departs: 7.00 a.m. Sunday

10 May – Committee meeting

To be held at the new abode of Peter Wiles, 12 Jensen Street. Any club member is welcome to attend.

12 - 13 May - Tararuas

Friday night to Mitre Flats. Saturday, over Mitre to Dorset Ridge Hut and McGregor Bivy. Baldy and out on Sunday.

Leader: Daryl Rowan, ph 64655

Grading: Fit
Departs: 6.00 p.m. Friday

13 May – Ruahines – Hinerua Ht

A pleasant wander into one of the lesser visited areas of the N.E. Ruahines.

Leader: Lorraine Tremain, ph 61769
Grading: Easy
Departs: 7.00 a.m. Saturday

17 May – Club Night

Come along and hear club member Don McKellar relate some experiences of Antarctica and view his superb slides.

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

19 - 20 May – Tongariro National Park

Mangatepopo and across to Ketetahi for a hot swim – depending on the weather.

Names to: Catherine Farquhar, ph 87799
Grading: Medium
Departs: 6.00 a.m. Saturday

26 - 27 May – Rockclimbing

Beginners rock-climbing instruction at Titahi Bay. This is strongly recommended for anyone intending to participate in snow craft courses this year, as some of the basic rope handling techniques are the same for both snow and rock work. A good chance to try rock-climbing if you haven't and an opportunity to brush up if its a while since you've done any.

Names to: Philip Budding
Grading: All welcome
Departs: Saturday morning

31 May – Formal Club night – Photo Competition

The annual photographic competition will be judged by John Cleland. Once again! We are restricting entries to 3 photos in any class and all photos must not have been previously entered in a P.N.T.M.C. competition.

There will be 3 sections a) Monochrome prints
 b) Colour prints
 c) Colour slides

and within each section there will be .3 classes:

- 1) Landscape
- 2) Topical (People and action shots)
- 3) Natural History (plants, animals, birds, geology)

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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

1. The following were elected at the A.G.M. held on 29 March.

Patron/Auditor	Mr Lawson Pither	
President	Peter Clough	61271
Vice-President	John Barkla	73543
Secretary	Damienne Eder	71785
Treasurer	Peter Wiles	86894

COMMITTEE:

Nanette Clough, ph 61271:	Membership enquiries and newsletter distribution
Philip Budding, ph 85936:	Gear Custodian
Daryl Rowan, ph 64655:	Conservation and Library
Catherine Farquhar, ph 87799:	Trips convenor
Nigel Seebeck, ph 89043:	Social

2. The A.G.M. resolved that the subscriptions for the current year would be as follows:

Family	\$15.00
Senior	\$12.00

Junior \$7.00

Prompt payment of these to the treasurer, would be appreciated.

NOTICES:

1. **New members**

Alan Good	66 John F. Kennedy Drive	74148
Andrew Piert	396 Albert Street	78668
Urs Schupach	94 Wood Street	80245
Arthur and Liz Todd	2 Heayns Place, Feilding	36246

2. **Mountain Safety Council**

Notice is given of the local M.S.C. A.G.M. to be held on 30 April (note change from previous newsletter). Speakers at the evening will include Bert Youngman, ex chief ranger at Mt Cook.

3. **Life membership**

Congratulations to Kevin Pearce who was awarded this distinction at the A.G.M. in recognition of his long service to the club.

4. **Club Tee Shirts**

A few are still available from Damienne Eder, so be quick.

TRIP REPORTS:

Twilight Search and Rescue Exercise – Monday 19 March 1984

This was organised by the Police Department and it involved members of tramping canoeing, deerstalkers and amateur radio clubs searching for a 'missing father and son, presumed drowned, who were canoeing down the Manawatu River'. The P.N.T.M.C. team, along with one radio guy, were assigned to search along the river bank from the bottom of Manawatu Street north. After fifteen minutes of searching we found the 'boy' trapped under a log, covered in debris, jutting out of the river bank. After the reporting of the 'body' and dragging it to higher ground we continued further along the bank. Alas, darkness fell upon us and visibility was difficult despite having torches. One and a half hours later we were picked up by the Police at the bottom of Ruahine Street, and after a debrief at the Police Station (the 'father' was never found – apparently he was "hidden" on the other side of the river) we were given supper. The four of us gained invaluable experience, and of course we feel quite proud that we had found one of the bodies. We were Anne Jaggard, Wendy Kaandorp, Donald McKeelar and Nanette Clough.

Roaring Stag – Cattle Ridge trip – 24 and 25 March 1984

Saturday dawned bright and sunny on the western side of the Tararuas but once over the Pahiatua Track the weather clouded over and a light drizzle set in. Two car loads headed toward Eketahuna and the Mangatainoka Valley area.

We set off on our two day trek at approximately 9.00 a.m. and headed towards Herepai. Our river crossing was easy with the river low. Then the climbing and puffing started. About 1000 feet and an hour later we were at the junction of Herepai and Roaring Stage Hut where we stopped for morning tea.

After refreshments it was gradual down-hill along the picturesque track by the river, to Roaring Stag Hut where we stopped for lunch.

From there it was over the swing bridge, and the start of our 2000 feet plus climb to Cattle Ridge Hut. And what a climb it was. Especially the last 1000 feet which someone nearly ended crawling up.

We were all relieved to arrive at the hut at 3 p.m. and have it all to ourselves. Tea was a mixture of everyone's stew, which tasted good after a hard days work. Then it was sorting out beds. Five bunks and seven people, so two hardy bobs slept on the floor. Everyone was settled by 7.30 p.m. During the night one of the girls had to get up and was greeted at the door by an opossum! which gave her a bit of a fright.

Sunday dawned bright and clear at 6.30 a.m. with excellent views of the valley below. It didn't last long as the mist came down and stayed with us for most of the day.

We left Cattle Ridge Hut at 8 a.m. and headed back the way we came. The going was pretty slippery and steep downhill. Especially difficult for the less sure-footed who slipped three times. It was a relief to get to the swing bridge and Roaring Stag Hut where it started raining again. From there it was gradual up-hill to the junction. On the way we saw an enormous earthworm. Then it was off on what seemed like a gruelling walk to Herepai Hut for lunch. It started raining again there too. The walk back down to the junction was very pleasant and once the slower ones met up with those with faster legs, the customary 'Trampers Pose' photo was taken.

Afterwards it was back to the task at hand – the down-hill tramp to the river crossing. Another slow hour, and a relief to get to the bottom. Then an easy walk along the river back to the car, where of course it started to rain again.

Thanks to Patricia Eder everyone had a enjoyable weekend. We were Liz and Arthur, Catherine, ? John and Wendy

Wendy Kaandorp

Day Trip to Kapakapanui – 1 April:

Nine people went out on this club day trip to the Tararuas. The only 'April Fool' was played by the weather, which was fine as far as Otaki, but pouring rain at Waikanai. Starting from the Ngabiawa? road end, we tramped up river a little way, before following the track up the ridge to Kapakapanui. After getting soaked all the way up to the bush line, we grabbed an early lunch, before four of the party headed back the way they came. The fitter types sloshed on through the mud over Kapakapanui then down to Kapakapanui Hut. After a brief stay there, the rain eased and we pressed on down a new, steep track which brought us out at the Ngataua River just a few yards from the track we'd taken up. Under better conditions, this should provide an interesting circuit route for a day trip, with varied plant life for those with time to look for it.

Peter and Nanette Clough, Catherine Farquhar, Alan Good, Gerald and Lorraine Hough, Wendy Kaandorp, Catherine Poulson and Lorraine Tremain.

Carkeek – Nichols Ohau Circuit – March 30 – April 1

Friday night and a late start into Ohau Shelter. After wind and rain on the road, the night became still and oppressively hot. John's probing headlamp spotted no Kiwis (alas) only more possums lone of which he forcibly evicted from the shelter before we settled in for the night.

Saturday at 7.30 we got away, Ohau Forks at 0900 hours then the Yeates (500 feet straight up). Te Matawai to 1130 hours but there being no enthusiasm for the P.N.T.M.C. advertised option, we continued on to have lunch on the Arete shelf. John B. descended to visit the new Arete Bivy, one week old and introduced us to the log book. Parkas were on/off and on again as the weather deteriorated on us over Lancaster Carkeek. 1530 h saw us at the Carkeek Hut where we piked.

Sunday came with lots of rain and the realisation we had a long way home. At 0645 h we started and got across the Park (running high) and up to Nichols Hut in full Tararua crud. The sprint towards Kelliher Junction saw one of us (me!!) left behind to use his map and compass on top of hill 884819. Some frustration was expressed at this time towards tramping, the Tararuas and the world in general.

Despite this, two hours saw us crouched in Dracophyllum Bivy scoffing lunch. The trip back from Kelliher to Pukematawai was helped by a newly recut track!

Having some doubts about rain and rivers, we decided to return from Te Matawai via the Gable End Track. This was just revolting though if you adore mud-leatherwood-cutty grass then highly recommended. Racing against the light brought us back to Ohau Shelter for a relaxed 'eat everything left' tea and an hour in the dark returned us to the car. If you're left behind again, rain pouring down, darkest night, don't trust the headlamp, then sing 'lost in a forest' (the Cure) and enjoy the experience.

Nice trip. Maybe do it again (sometime)
John Barkla
John Goulstone
Daryl Rowan

Which one(s) the moaner?

7 - 8 April – Pourangaki – Waterfall – Purity

After first obtaining permission from the farmer at the end of Mangakoheke Road, the three of us spent an hour wandering over the farmland before reaching the start of the track up the Pourangaki valley. A high side track led us to Kelly Knight Hut where we had a brief stop before continuing up the river itself to Pourangaki Hut, a further 1½ hours away. Lunch eaten, we carried on up the steep bush track to the N.E. and on to the exposed windy tops. It was with some relief that we dropped out of the wind into the head of Pinnacle Creek, descending this shingle choked creek to the Kawhatu River and Waterfall Hut. Apart from having a chimney that resonated in the wind, this was a pleasant place to spend the night.

Sunday brought even stronger wind but this did not deter us from an early start. A short distance down the Kawhatau valley we turned west and travelled up Trig Creek. This provided a relatively easy route on to the Hikurangi Range immediately north of Mangaweka trig. With wind gusts threatening to flatten us at any time we navigated over Iron Peg and Wooden Peg and down below the cloud layer to Purity Hut for an early lunch. All that remained was a quiet wander down to the farmland back to the carpark. Soon after leaving rain came ...

We were Peter Wiles, Catherine Farquhar and John Barkla.

PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB (IN.)
PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1983-84

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to present the 18th Annual Report of the Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club.

As we would expect, there were a wide variety of tramping trips successfully undertaken over the past year. These included club trips to the Ruahines, Tararuas, Kaimanawas, Tongariro and Egmont, National Parks, Arthurs Pass, Kapiti Island and Whanganui Bay. Snowcrafts, rock climbing weekends and a bushcraft weekend were all run efficiently. Day trips - challenging or relaxing – have proved popular. Our club presents members with opportunities for gaining experience and making new contacts. Many have organised their own trips with other club members and this is an important aspect of club activity. Some of the many places visited included: Mt. Aspiring and Mt. Cook Summits, Kaikouras, North West Nelson, Nelson Lakes and the Ureweras.

Several members have participated in Avalanche Awareness Courses and Mountain Safety Council Instructors' Courses. It is expected that these people will bring their expertise back to the club and pass on what they have learnt.

The membership figure currently stands at 74?. Club membership has again witnessed a sizeable turnover, with a good many of the older experienced pool having left Palmerston North, either temporarily or permanently. However, it is most encouraging to see new and prospective members gaining competence and (mostly!) enthusiasm.

Search And Rescue has been a quiet year for us. Members participated in a weekend SAREX (May) and, more recently, a 'Twilight' exercise. We must continue to take care not to become complacent during quiet spells of S.A.R. activity.

Social events, including our club dinner, were enjoyed by many. Our 'Christmas at Rangī' was the last at the old Rangī Hut – a new hut has been installed. We have had many interesting, and several very entertaining, club nights during the past year. Perhaps, though, it is time for us to retrieve the Debate Trophy from Massey Alpine Club.

It is important that members be aware of their Committee and how it functions. This past year the following people comprised the Committee:

- Catherine Farquhar - S.A.R., Trips Convenor
- John Barkla - Vice President (and record number of trip reports written in 1 year!)
- Nigel Seebeck - Secretary, S.A.R.
- Peter Wiles - Treasurer, Newsletter Printer
- Nannette Clough - Membership, Newsletter Distribution
- Peter Clough - Membership, Newsletter Distribution, Conservation
- Lorraine Tremain - Newsletter Editor, Club Night Supper Duties
- Daryl Rowan - Social
- Damiene Eder - Social
- Phillip Budding - Gear Custodian
- Barry Scott - Library, Social
- Sharon Patterson - Trips Convenor (part year)

Lorraine is not standing for Committee again this year; I wish to thank her for work behind the scenes during the last couple of years. Also, our thanks go to Linda Herdman for typing our Newsletter.

My sincere thanks to all for their support during the past year.

Catherine Farquhar
President