



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217

PALMERSTON NORTH

NEWSLETTER

January/February 1986

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Membership Enquiries:	Nanette Clough	ph 61-271
Gear Custodian:	Philip Budding	ph RON 780
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ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

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Nigel Seebeck		89-043	Work 79-129
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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 LEADER OF THE SCHEDULED TRIP.

COMING EVENTS:

30 January Formal Club Night

Kick off the years club night activities in traditional fashion with a far-from-formal barbecue. A chance to compare notes and tans from summertime exploits.

Enquiries to: Damienne Eder, ph 71785
Time: 7.45 p.m.
Venue: 57 Fairs Road, P.N.

1 February Mystery trip.

No details available yet at time of going to press, but the trip is no mystery to its leader. Contact Brenton for details.

Leader: Brenton Sheppard.

4 February (Tuesday) Committee Meeting

Brought forward a couple of days to avoid clashing with Waitangi Day. This is the first meeting of the year so there's bound to be lots of interesting business to get stuck into. All members are welcome to attend.

Time: 7.45 p.m.
Venue: 28 Carroll Street, P.N.

8 - 9 February Oroua River - Ngamoko Range.

A chance to renew acquaintance with this favoured tramping area.

Leader: Damienne Eder, ph 71785
Departs: 7 a.m. Saturday

Grade: Medium

13 February Informal Club Night

Dave Barker and Roger Redmayne spent an unintentional night out on the north ridge of Mount D'Archaic. Find out why when they show slides of their trip from South Westland to the Godley Glacier.

Time: 7.45 p.m.

Venue: Society of Friends Meeting Hall, 227 College Street, P.N.

15 - 16 February Ruahine Range

This trip will go to Hinerua Hut or nearby for Saturday night, then onto the Main Range and out via Smith Stream. A day-trip option to the same area is also possible.

Leader: John Barkla, ph 73543

Grade: Medium-Fit

Departs: 6 a.m. Saturday

23 February Ruahine Range

An easy day trip to Purity Hut is planned. Those interested in a fitter circuit trip should contact Damienne so that transport can be coordinated.

Leader: Damienne Eder ph 71785

Departs: 7 a.m.

27 February Formal Club Night

Phillippa Sommerville will be showing slides on tramping, or its equivalent 'hiking', in the United States.

Time: 7.45 p.m.

Venue: Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street, P.N.

Coming Soon – Aborta Contorta

Plant a tree in '83

Sharpen your saw in '84

Spot 'em alive in '85

Hack 'em to bits in '86

It's the time of year again to don your boots, pick up a slasher and give vent to all your pent-up frustrations by hacking down trees - legally. The culprit is Pinus Contorta, a useless tree which has been declared a noxious weed because of its habit of growing in places set aside for other things - particularly the slopes of Mount Ruapehu in Tongariro National Park. The club is looking for volunteers to spend a weekend weeding the mountain to help keep the park an area of native vegetation for all to enjoy. As in previous years the park management will pay an allowance for travel expenses, so all we need from you is your energy and enthusiasm.

Date will be either of the first two weekends in March. Full details will be in the next newsletter.

NOTICES:

1/ **Members** are reminded that the Club's Annual General Meeting will be held at the March Formal Club night. So start thinking about nominations, or issues to raise at the meeting now.

2/ **F.M.C.** - Nominations are being called for the Federations executive for the 1986/87 year. Nominations must be in by 31st March. If you are interested or need more information contact John Barkla.

3/ The Trampers Marathon organised by the Tararua Tramping Club will be run over the Catchpool/Orongorongo course on Saturday the 15th February 1986 at 4.00 p.m. Entries close on 19th February 1986. Individual or team entries will be accepted. For race rules or entry form contact John Barkla.

4/ **TWALK:** A unique 24 hour orienteering event which is lots of fun is being run by the Manawatu Tramping and Skiing Club on 1 - 2 March 1986. Teams of 3 -6 people from other clubs are invited to challenge the best from the M. T. S. C. Prizes for winning teams. For more details get the information sheet at your club night or phone Ken Morrison 66258.

5/ **For Sale**

Size 7 John Bull tramping boots. Only one owner, low mileage - in fact worn only once. Also available are children's boots.

For details phone Sue Muir on 79584

TRIP REPORTS:

30 November – Hikurangi Range

After the fun of using the flying fox across the Kawhatau River the climb up the track to the Hikurangi Tops was very hard work. The hot muggy conditions seemed to promise the rain which had been predicted by the weatherman and also the lady at the farm at the head of the Kawhatau Valley Road. The sun still shone upon the tops as we sought the spur and track to the Crow Hut. This somewhat old and now indistinct track was located within the bush on an offshoot of the major spur exactly where the map marked it. However we only lost it 3 or 4 times on the trip down.

We disturbed the resident rat at Crow Hut but it made good its escape before we thought of a means to attack it.

Another steep grunt in hot muggy conditions took us onto the Mokai Patea Range; the Hikurangi Range was then rapidly enveloped in cloud but the ranges to the north were still bathed in sunshine. The race was on; would we escape without a soaking? Twice the mist descended on the Mokai Patea and there were two short showers before the clag retreated to the Hikurangi Range. Thus we were able to reach Colenso Peak and later the Forest Service Base unmolested.

The team: Malcolm MacArthur, Dan Carter and Trevor Bissell.

1 December Honeycomb Rock Walkway

This was not a club trip, but the Cloughs were fortunate to attend the official opening of this new Walkway on the coast about 50 miles South-east of Carterton. The walkway itself is over the beach and paddocks on what the geologists describe as a raised beach, backed by the steep hills of the former shoreline. After about 2½ hours we reached the Honeycomb Rock itself, a strange outcrop of sedimentary rock which whose surface has been pitted like a honeycomb by the erosion of air-borne sand. The remains of a lighthouse (now removed) are still visible on top of the rock, but presumably it didn't do its job very well, since only 200 yards up the beach is the rusting bulk of wrecked freighter!

Anyone wanting to know more about this track is welcome to contact Peter Clough at Club night.