



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217
PALMERSTON NORTH
NEWSLETTER

November/December 1986 - January 1987

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Gear Custodian:	Dave Barker	78-762
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ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

John Barkla:	Tel. Home 73-543	Wk	89-109
Trevor Bissell:	73-543		74-129
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Tricia Eder	71-785		

ALL TRIPS LEAVE FROM THE CAR PARK OUTSIDE FOODTOWN IN 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.

Members are reminded that a charge for transport will be collected on the day of the trip, the amount depending on the distance traveled and vehicles used. Leaders can give an estimate in advance, if requested.

COMING EVENTS:

Thursday 27 November - CHRISTMAS DINNER

Tonight's club night is the Christmas Dinner. All intending to come should have already contacted Nanette Clough for tickets.

Time:	6.30 p.m. pre-dinner drinks, 7.30 p.m. eating.
Venue:	The Chalet, Centennial Drive, Palmerston North.
Cost:	\$20 per person.
Music:	Chris Morton's Disco.

29-30 November - Dundas Ridge

A round trip in some classic tramping country in the Tararuas, taking in Te Matawai Hut, Arete Biv, Dundas Ridge & Peak, Avalanche Flats and Ohau River.

Leader:	Trevor Bissell tel 73543
Grade:	Fit
Departs:	Friday 6p.m.

30 November - Longview Hut, Ruahines

A 600 metre climb from the Kashmir Road End should take us to this hut near the Pohangina Saddle. If the weather's fine you'll see where it got its name.

Leader:	Peter Clough tel 61271
Grade:	Medium
Departs:	7.30 a.m. Sunday

Thursday 4 December – Committee Meeting

A chance to wrap up business for the year. All members welcome.

Time: 7.45 p.m.
Venue: 12 Jensen street, Palmerston North.

6 December – Making tracks for the Hills – Walkway Working Bee

Another call for volunteers to help install a new walkway up the Pohangina Valley. Work ranges from the strenuous to the relaxing, so all abilities and fitness levels are welcome. Tools are provided, so all volunteers need is a packed lunch, tramping/gardening clothes and a bit of energy and enthusiasm. See for yourself what it's all about and have fun in the process!

Contact: Peter Clough
Grade: All
Depart: 9 a.m. Saturday

7 December - Beachcombing at Santoft

A gentle tramp through the Santoft State Forest to the beach with its shipwreck and shifting sand, under the guidance of a rambling leader.

Leader: Philippa Somerville tel 64065
Grade: Medium
Departs: 7 a.m. Sunday

Thursday 11 December – Club Night

What better way to round off the year's club nights than by reminiscing on club activities with the aid of members' own slides. Anyone with slides of people doing things on club trips over the past 12 months is urged to bring them along, particularly if they have a humorous or topical aspect to them. Perhaps you'll be able to find out just what those other people were doing when they were photographed!

Time: 7.45 p.m.
Venue: Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., P.N.

13-14 December - CHRISTMAS AT RANGI

A chance to get high in celebrating Christmas, but in a rather different style from the annual dinner in town. Up to Rangī Hut for a scrumptious meal on the Saturday night, followed by a leisurely return on Sunday. Please let the organisers know in advance if you wish to come. Dress optional !

Contact: Re. Food Tricia Eder tel 71785
Re. Transport Philippa Somerville tel 64065
Grade: All hungry
Departs: Various times, negotiable.

17-19 January – Urewera National Park.

The first club trip of the New Year is to the Ureweras, an area offering immense possibilities for trips of all grades in one of the largest expanses of lowland forest in the North Island.

Leader: Trevor Bissell tel 73543
Grade: All
Departs: 6 p.m. Friday night

24-25 January – Totara Flats, Tararuas

A tramp into this beautiful area of the Waiohine Valley. Here the trout are large and cunning, so bring your fishing rod if you wish to add a new angle to your tramping. Accommodation will probably be under the fly sheet.

Leader: Peter Clough tel 61271
Grade: Medium
Departs: Saturday 7 a.m.

Contact Peter if you're interested in a day trip to the same general area.

Thursday 31 January – Club Night Barbecue

A tasty start to the new year's club night activities, either at Tangimaona Beach or the Budding's place at Carnarvon. Details Next Newsletter.

NOTE: If you're interested in any trips over the holiday period and want to be put in contact with others with the same idea, ring Trevor Bissell or John Barkla on 73543.

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NOTICES:**1/ New Members**

We welcome to our club this month:

Glenn Leonard & Sue Patterson
179A Albert Street, Palmerston North.

Dwayne Thomas
115 Park Road, Palmerston North. Tel 77226

2/ And of course...

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR PERIOD FOR ALL OF OUR MEMBERS, AND FOR ALL OF THOSE HEADING FOR THE HILLS, THE VERY BEST OF TRIPS.

We look forward to hearing all about them next year.

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TRIP REEORTS:**25-30 August – Ski Touring on Tasman Glacier**

John Barkla, Urs Schupbach and brothers Daniel and Peter Schupbach spent one week ski touring on the upper Tasman Glacier. With a run of fine weather we were able to combine the ski touring with ascents of Alymer, Hochstetter Dome, Elie de Beaumont, Green and Annan. Time in Tasman Saddle Hut was spent helping a MTSC party reduce their food dump. Two days were taken for the ski out down the glacier with a night spent at De La Beche Hut. A good snow cover allowed us to ski several kilometres along the Ball Hut Road and save much footslogging.

26-30 September – Seaward Kaikouras

Barely two weeks earlier, this trip was planned on the back of an envelope returning from an NZAC meeting in Wellington. The essential details were

a) fly to Kaikoura, b) make the most of the tail end of winter snow, c) jack up a couple of others and put on some good weather. Things went pretty much according to plan except that the crucial day had foul weather and the snow was soft. The essential result was that two potential new routes in the Seaward Kaikouras are still virgin and are on the hit list for next year.

The trip started with a flight to Kaikoura on Saturday morning and a high camp made on Surveyor Spur that night. Sunday showed knee deep snow and very low cloud which put us off an attempt on the east face of Manakau. However a wander up the usual route made some use of the white-out conditions. Monday and Tuesday were brilliant but still too warm for a "freeze" so we treated ourselves to an enjoyable wander down the less used Stace Stream.

Some memorable events of the trip were:

- a) Enormous waterfalls on the lower Stace Stream;
- b) John losing an argument with a soccer-ball-sized rock on a shingle slide;
- c) Two Olympus tents perfectly pitched end to end in the snow;
- d) Bruce doing a demo of a suture - real skin and no anaesthetic!;
- e) the small plane down-dropping to pick up Bruce at Wellington.

The Seaward Kaikouras undoubtedly contain superb winter climbing and are badly under-rated as a venue for winter trips. Conditions can be extreme and can offer some serious country which is relatively accessible. They also have some excellent low altitude tramping and are worthy of a closer look by club members for future summer trips.

Team: Dave Barker, John Barkla, Bruce Anderson, Urs Schupbach.

25-27 October – Labour Week-end Visit to Te Mari (not to be confused with Te Maori)

The northern half of the Desert Road was covered with misty drizzle. We stopped briefly at Waihohonu Hut and then headed on to Oturere Hut in warm and at times sunny weather. We arrived at Oturere in time for lunch and to avoid several brief but heavy showers, before heading up the valley later in the afternoon. We found a sheltered sandy spot at the edge of a more recent lava flow and erected our two tents.

Next morning was fine, so we headed north by climbing the old crater wall and then followed the ridge crest past Blue Lake (90% covered in snow and icebergs). A gradual descent was made to Te Mari peak and then steeply to the upper (newer) and lower (main) Te Mari craters. We spent some time examining small steam vents. Some of these were sulphurous with fine yellow crystals but others nearby were not. The main crater was a remarkable natural amphitheatre

requiring only minor conversion work for when we hold the Olympic Games! After a passing look at 2 or 3 small explosion pits nearby, we did a long sidle to the flesh pots of Ketetahi Hut. After lunch we walked through the main thermal area where, in contrast to Rotorua, there appears to be no shortage of activity. The next areas to check out were North Crater, the summit of Tongariro and Red Crater.

With increasingly windy and cloudy conditions we rejoined the track near Emerald lakes before descending to the Oturere lava fields, where we spent some time bouldering on various lava blocks. At about 5 p.m. we collected our packs and returned to our campsite.

In the morning we packed up and found an easy direct route to the south across the lava fields before climbing the crater wall. Cloud tended to confuse our precise position, but on reaching the rim and being blasted with some hail and snow, it was evident we were near the junction of South Crater and Ngauruhoe - as planned. We then did a long sidle across many snow gullies around the eastern side of Ngauruhoe before descending to the upper Tama Lake. We abandoned an effort to visit the lower Tama lake in the face of wind, mist and hail, turning our backs to the elements instead and heading east across swampy ground to reach the Chateau-Waihohonu track. After a cup of tea at Waihohonu Hut we made good time to reach the car during a sunny spell.

Party: Trevor Bissell, Urs and Daniel Schupbach, Peter Wiles.

26 October – Mount Holdsworth area, Tararua

Arriving at the Mount Holdsworth car park on a fine but windy day we split into two parties. Sue and Glen motored up the Atiwhakatu Valley, losing the track in one or two places, to Jumbo Hut. Then a quick dash over the tops to Mount Holdsworth where the wind all but knocked them flat. Finally the steep descent past Powell Hut and Mountain House. John and Marilyn wandered over to Totara Flats for a hasty lunch before winching themselves back over the Waiohine River, then back the same way. Both groups, an hour late, ran into each other less than 500 metres from Holdsworth Lodge.

Trampers were: John Barkla, Marilyn Barnard, Glen Leonard, Sue Patterson.

2 November – Aramoana Walkway

Four club members travelled across to Wanganui to witness the official opening of this latest addition to the New Zealand Walkways system. The walk does a circuit from the Wanganui River, up to the ridgeline between the Wanganui and Papapara valleys, along the ridge and then back down to the river again. As it does so it crosses a variety of farmland, bush remnants and pine forest, and has fine views as far as Egmont, Ruapehu and the sea beyond Wanganui city. The walk is all on well defined tracks and took us a little over two hours. Should be good for country strolls for those visiting the area.

We were: Nanette & Peter Clough, Sally Hewson, Philippa Somerville.

14-16 November – Kylie Bivvy, Makororo Catchment

This trip proved to be a real inter-club affair involving Manawatu Tramping and Skiing Club, Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club and a member of Hastings Mountain Safety Council. It also involved some new ground for everyone, except Trevor who still can't remember if he had done it before! Despite conflicting forecasts of wet (2ZA) and fine (on 2XS) we set out and ended up with wet and fine weather, in that order.

After a brief Friday night stroll into Craig's Hut we had a fast blast on Saturday. Weather conditions were not conducive to anything but sleeping, however Trevor coaxed us into the rain where it was a case of head down and bottoms up to get it all over and done with! We cruised through Parks Peak Hut (which has a very interesting toilet!), Upper Makororo Hut and on up to Kylie Biv by 4 p.m.. Opinion varied as to the virtues of 5 in the Biv, ranging from John who thought it was his worst night ever, to Dave who couldn't remember anything because he was asleep!

Sunday was a case of being there to get the best of the weather. We had a superb day along the tops to Sparrowhawk Biv and then took a varied route to be back at the car by 4 p.m.. Conditions cleared to allow views through breaks in the cloud, but for most of the day we were above a carpet of cloud covering the Hawke's Bay, broken only by the occasional glimpse of Parks Peak Ridge - a most spectacular sight.

It was a great week-end, getting out with some new faces into some new country into this little frequented area of the Ruahines.

We were: Dave Barker, Trevor Bissell, Doug Dearlove, John Todd, Ken Morrison, Pete Nisbett.

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