



# PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217  
PALMERSTON NORTH  
NEWSLETTER  
July/August 1987

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Secretary:	Trevor Bissell		73-543
Gear Custodian:	Daryl Rowan		64-655
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## ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

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ALL TRIPS LEAVE FROM THE FOODTOWN CAR PARK IN FERGUSSON STREET. IF YOU WANT TO GO ON A TRIP, PLEASE 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 should be able to give an estimate in advance.

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### COMING EVENTS:

#### 25-26<sup>th</sup> July – Basic Snowcraft

The second in the series. A must for those who went on the first snowcraft course. Rope work belays and other techniques will be taught. Based at Blyth Hut, Mt Ruapehu:

Leader: John Barkla Ph. 65844  
Grade: Medium-fit  
Departs: Friday 6pm

#### 26<sup>th</sup> July - Ohau to Waiopehu Hut, Tararua Range

A day trip heading up from Ohau onto Waiopehu Ridge to the hut. If there is time those with plenty of energy can continue up to the tops.

Leader: Sheena Taylor Ph. 76665  
Grade: Easy  
Departs: 8 am

#### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July – Club night

Ex-club member Don French will speak about some of his mountaineering experiences. Title 'Mountains of Wine and Cheese'

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

#### 1-2<sup>nd</sup> August – Makaretu Hut - Longview Hut – Eastern Ruahines

A weekend trip in from the Kashmir Road-end. A little river travel, a little forested ridge track and a wander along the tops looking at the higher Ngamoko Range.

Leader: Urs Schupbach  
Grade: Medium  
Departs: Saturday 8 am

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August – Committee Meeting** – All members are very welcome to attend.

Time: 7.45 p.m.  
Venue: 12 Jensen St, P.N.

**8<sup>th</sup> August – Harris Creek – Tararuas**

Time for a day trip in the Tararuas to the Mangahao Valley just up from the hydro dams.

Leader: Trish Eder Ph. 70122  
Grade: Easy/medium  
Departs: Saturday 7am

**9<sup>th</sup> August - Wanganui River**

The Atene walkway on the banks of the Wanganui River is reputed to be a lovely trip. Come and see for yourself.

Leader: John Barkla Ph. 65844  
Grade: Easy/medium  
Departs: Sunday 8 am

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August - Club night**

Gear demonstration night

- Cheryl Peters will bring along examples of general tramping gear for weekend trips.
- Alan Gardner, Manager of Ski Scene, Palmerston North will be giving a talk on the latest "Hi Tech" climbing, skiing and ski touring gear available on the market.

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

**15-16<sup>th</sup> August – Advanced Snowcraft, Mt Egmont**

Time to put those skills learnt in the first 2 courses into practise on the slopes of Mt Egmont/Taranaki – staying at Kapuni Lodge.

Leader: Trevor Bissell Ph. 73543  
Grade: Fit  
Departs: Friday 6 pm

**16<sup>th</sup> August** – Want to go on a day trip? Contact Linda Ph. 64655 and we'll organise something.

**22-23<sup>rd</sup> August – Tararua Travels**

A weekend trip in from Mt Holdsworth heading up to Jumbo Hut and, depending on the weather, returning along the tops.

Leader: To be arranged – contact Linda Ph 64655  
Grade: Medium (Easy alternative can be arranged)  
Departs: Saturday 8 am

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August - Club night**

\*\*\* Slide show \*\*\*

Club members are invited to bring along and talk briefly about slides they have on any topic of general interest.  
(Maximum of 20 slides)

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

**Remember !**

PNTMC Open snow weekend at Ruapehu, September 12-13<sup>th</sup>.

**Trips** - prepared to lead a trip?

Thank you to those who replied to the note in the last newsletter concerning trips. Your comments have been noted and endeavours will be made to cover as many of the requests as possible. As usual we are looking for club members who would be interested in leading trips - particularly day trips - easy or medium. If you would like to help please call Linda, Ph 64655, or Urs, Ph 80245.

## Notices

- 1) **New Members**: We welcome the following new members  
Julie Plummer, 50 Brightwater Tce, PN.  
Phil Clerke, 15 Ashford Ave, PN.  
Jenny Madgwick, 9 Newbury St, PN .
- 2) **PNTMC 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday Celebrations**

The club is holding a weekend of activities to celebrate our coming of age on the 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> February 1988 and will be held at the Rangiwahia township. Activities will include an informal wine and cheese evening on Friday night, trips on Saturday into the Ruahines and a dinner and dance on Saturday night. It will be a good chance for all members and ex-members, young and old, to get together. A bumper issue of the newsletter will also be produced.

An organising committee has been set up. More help will be needed towards the date so if you want to help please let the organising committee know. They are; Terry Crippen, Darnnienne Eder, Chris Morton, Roger Redmayne, Sheena Taylor.

So keep that weekend free and tell any ex-members you know about it.

- 3) There are refunds for people who went on the Rangipo Introduction to Snowcraft Course held on 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> July. Contact Daryl Rowan.

## **Trip Reports**

### **13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> June – Ketetahi , Tongariro National Park**

An early Saturday morning start (after some dissension in the ranks) saw us heading up the Desert Rd to jettison some of the 'Keen Ones' to take the long way to Ketetahi, via Waihothonu, Oturere and the Emerald Lakes. The rest of us casually wandered up to the hut via the Rotoaira side of Tongariro heading for the clouds of steam gushing forth from the springs. A magnificent setting, looking out over Rotoaira, Pihanga and beyond, Taupo. After a wander up to Blue and Emerald Lakes with some cold winds but good view of the craters and Ngauruhoe, and meeting the 'Keen Ones' we headed off to the pools. The pools, roughly dug out in a little valley down from the steam vents, are suitably hot and delightful especially with cold wintry weather about. The hut was overflowing with bods from overseas and an Auckland school group; spatial thrombosis – too many clots to the acre. Some of the 'Keen Ones' slept out under the fly.

The morning was even more misty so the 'Keen Ones' decided to go straight up to North Crater and Tongariro summit to Mangatepopo and the 'Medium Ones' went via the poled route and Red Crater encountering strong winds and rain. The 'slackers' revisited the hot pools and kindly drove the van round to Mangatepopo (via THC Tokaanu ?). So a successful trip with lots of variation.

The 'Keen Ones', 'Medium Ones' and 'Slackers' were (NOT listed by order of keenness) Trevor Bissell, Patrick Janssen, Alan Mountford, Terry Coburn, Daryn Scott, Jenny Dymock, Marie Anne Bechman, Malcolm Alley, Ian Black, Yvonne van der Does, Terry Crippen, Sally Hewson.

### **20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June Midwinter at Rangī**

There was some snow at Rangī and it was cold and it definitely was the shortest day so for a mid winter celebration all was in order. Twenty-one people made their way up to Rangiwahia Hut for the feast and we had the pleasure of the company of four members of the Bush Tramping Club. As usual there was plenty of food, good company and entertainment – boosted by the rivalry between Phil, John, Roger and Sue contorting with tables, chairs and mops! Sunday dawned misty but cleared nicely for those who opted to stay in the hills for a little longer.

### **27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June - Smith's Stream mid Ruahines**

A fresh dusting of snow well below the bushline greeted our arrival at the road end. We soon picked our way across the farmland on to Hinerua Ridge with its easy gradient track through mossy beech forest. Very cold conditions at Hinerua Hut brought sleet and prompted us to continue moving after a brief lunch stop. A few minutes from the hut a short track led us into a small tributary of Smith's stream, choked with gravel and branches but giving reasonable travel. Once in Smith's Stream itself it was easy walking through the narrow gorge to Smith's Stream Hut. With some sleet even at this lower altitude, a fire seemed the best way of improving morale, along with a brew, and later, a huge camp-oyen stew.

Unfortunately rain was still falling on Sunday which gave little incentive to linger and explore the area. Retracing our steps we stopped for lunch about an hour from the farmland. A thick mist prevented any views until the Tukituki River was reached. A wet weekend it may have been but enthusiasm remained high with everybody enjoying a break from city doldrums.

We were: John Barkla, Marilyn Barnard, Lorraine Bray, Jenny Madgwick, Chris Morton, David Sussulch, John Wright.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> July Wharite**

If you want to see where the most splendid concrete edifice was, where two palatial loos used to be, and to find out why they are no longer there, then you should have come on this tramp!

We decided to begin our Wharite trip from the Coppermine Road-end. It was a highway track-sign posted as 2.5 hour trip one way. Although starting out as a bit of a grunt there was steady easy climbing to the top signpost. At this point 4 of us decided to have lunch while those who wanted to go onto Wharite T.V. receiver station did so – about 20 minutes further on. We did get the occasional view of Hawkes Bay, through the murk. The weather certainly turned it on for us as we experienced chilling winds, hail, rain and sunshine.

This day trip was enjoyed by Gayle, Janet, Ann, Terry, Liz, Margaret, Tricia and Trev.

#### **FAREWELL TO PNTMC**

We thank you all for your kindly thoughts  
Presented oh their silver tray,  
Which, like the very best surprise  
Left us at a loss as to what to say.

'Tis sad for us to leave P.N.  
And turn our backs on the ranges,  
But time marches on, even if we don't,  
And we have to accept some changes!

Whatever we may have put into the club  
We've got back in very good measure.  
We've had good times, and fond memories,  
Of countless hours of pleasure.

But lest you think that we should be  
Over the hill, and far away,  
We'd like you to establish base camp with us  
And explore the windy region, some day.

Peter and Nanette Clough