



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217

PALMERSTON NORTH

NEWSLETTER

December 1987/January 1988

Membership Enquiries:	Tricia Eder	Ph.	70-122
Secretary:	Trevor Bissell		73-543
Gear Custodian:	Daryl Rowan		64-655
Newsletter Editor:	Jenny Dymock		79-649

ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Vaughan Crow:	Home Ph. 69-832	Work Ph. 74-129
Trevor Bissell:	73-543	74-129
Tricia Eder	70-122	79-946

ALL TRIPS LEAVE FROM THE FOODTOWN CAR PARK IN FERGUSON 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.

COMING EVENTS:

Note - there is no Club night for the 26th November in lieu of the Christmas dinner on Saturday 21st of November.

28-29th November - Mt Hector, Tararuas

A weekend trip in the vicinity of Mt Hector in the southern part of the Ruahines.

Leader: Pat Janssen, Ph. 78762
Grade: Medium
Departs: Saturday, 7am

29th November - Maharahara & Ruahines

A visit to the southern Ruahines intending to do a double crossing.

Leader: Kevin Pearce, Ph. 70217
Grade: Medium
Departs: Sunday 7am.

3rd December - Committee Meeting

All members welcome to attend.

Time: 7.45 pm
Venue: 13 Hobson Place, P.N.

5-6th December - Tongariro National Park

This trip will take you to the heart of the North Island. From a camp near the Tama Lakes it is possible to attempt all three (or less) peaks in the area. Good weather has already been ordered so be in for this excellent trip.

Leader: Trevor Bissell Ph. 73543
Grade: Medium/fit

Departs: Friday 6pm

6th December - To Santoft with Santa

We are going to a forest which has a beach but no beech trees and to see a wreck but hopefully not to have one. Jay bees from Santa at the end of the trip?

Leader: Chris Morton Ph. 77497

Grade: Easy

Departs: Sunday 9am

12-13th December - Christmas at Rangī

Christmas at Rangī with a difference! "Down under" style

BARBEQUE - BARBEQUE - BARBEQUE

BYO meat, drinks, potluck salads and deserts. Dress appropriately.

Leader: BYO (be your own) names to

Urs Schupbach Ph. 80245

Grade: All

Departs: Individual

Some people may have different ideas about getting to Rangī Hut. Please contact Urs early so transport can be arranged.

12th December – Opening of the Porewa Walkway, Pohangina Valley

This new walkway up the Pohangina Valley East Road has just been completed. It will be officially opened on Saturday at 11am. The track takes 2-3 hours to complete. Some people may wish to attend both the opening and the dinner afterwards.

Thursday 17th December - Club night

Kevin Pearce who recently returned from America will be giving an illustrated talk entitled "Adventures in the USA". This promises to be a very interesting talk given Kevin's well known "photographic" skills.

Time: 7.45 pm

Venue: Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms
227 College St, Palmerston North.

16-17th January

If you are keen to go tramping please contact Urs Schupbach (Ph. 80245).

23rd-25th January - Northern Taranaki Crossing

Have you ever tried a Northern Taranaki crossing? Join the elite few who have made it. With an extra day it should be a bit easier. A day trip could also be organised in the same area.

Leader: Trevor Bissell Ph. 73543

Grade: Medium/fit

Departs: Saturday 6am

Thursday 28th January – Club night

Time to restart Club activities in the New Year with a barbeque. Venue yet to be decided - contact Tricia Eder (Ph. 70122). Keep this evening free, as it is a good chance to hear about Club members' trips over the holiday break.

30th-31st January - Sawtooth Ridge, Eastern Ruahines

This trip takes you to one of the wildest parts of the Ruahines Main Divide. But after many years of rough weather the teeth are quite worn so there is no danger of being cut. We will stay the night at Howletts Hut with a good view of Hawkes Bay.

Leader: John Wright Ph. 64258

Grade: Fit

Departs: Saturday 6am

Thursday 4th February - Committee Meeting

Venue to be decided. Contact Linda Rowan Ph. 64655

6-7th February - Egmont Nation Park

Alan is not sure where he is going to lead this trip but it will be somewhere around Mt Egmont/Taranaki. Another good weekend can be guaranteed.

Leader: Alan Mountfort Ph. 69715

Grade: Medium

Departs: Friday 6pm or Saturday 6am.

6th February - Beehive Creek, Pohangina Valley

After a washed out Beehive trip in November we are going to have another try in more settled weather. This will be a leisurely easy family day trip.

Leader: Tricia Eder Ph. 70122
Grade: Easy - family
Departs: Saturday 9.30am

NOTICES

- 1) Aerial tramping; Chris Morton (Ph.77497) is still taking names of those interested.
- 2) The next issue of the newsletter will be due out in early February.

TRIP REPORTS

12th July – Mangaweka Peak, Western Ruahine Range

We left Palmy in occasional heavy rain but by the time we got to the road end there was only occasional drizzle. We headed off and enjoyed being amongst it until we reached Purity Hut. A billy was brewed and that warded off the cold. A small contingent preferred to rest and head back so as we were to return by the same route it was agreed. The rest of us headed boldly upward into the mist.

We were making good progress despite the conditions and were all in fine spirits. We had got to shouting distance of Wooden Peg before the conditions forced us back downhill. It was still getting colder as we stopped at the hut to pick up our excess baggage. We slipped and slid and made our way back to the flats to complete, what I believe, we all felt was a worthwhile adventure.

We were Jenny, Andrew and Hamish Munro, Jamie Morrison, Ann Deller, Terry Crippen, Chris Morton, Kathy Morton, Gordon Boull and Murray Jessen.

30th August - Fair weather trip

We started the trip with a bit of juggling of cars and fair weather. After the numbers were finally settled (on the morning of departure) we set out delivering the group to the southern end of North Range Road. We then left a car at the other end and returned to the start. It was sunny and mild and we eventually caught up with the rest. Some time was spent trying to establish our progress according to the map. We climbed a likely peak hoping it was our target of Tarakamuku. Whilst enjoying lunch we re-defined our position as being some distance to the north, our peak being unnamed on the map. When we saw the sign with an arrow on it we decided that our peak was "Arrow Peak, height 510m" - we had climbed 60m. Continuing on we passed an abandoned house with some charming flowers growing wild. From there we passed the Telecom tower and a sick and pregnant ewe, which our resident vet confirmed as such. From there it was the descent with a splendid view over the Balance area. After relaxing at the Domain we picked up the other car and returned home.

We were; Inga Doetfmer, Helen Dakin, Chris Morton, Rhona Johnson, Liz Newlands, Vivian Harris and Marion Smith.

26-27th September - Cattle Ridge, Tararuas

Having obtained permission to cross some Mt Bruce farmland we set off on the track which sidles the Ruamahanga River. Travel being relatively brisk, there being only three of us to trip over each other, we put 8km behind us before the worms began to bite and we were forced to stop and have lunch. This was had in the best possible weather conditions beside the Ruamahanga River. We then joined the river bed and spent the next couple of hours wading, splashing and squelching our way up the river to Roaring Stag Lodge and at the same time watched the blue skies deteriorate into their grey counterparts. A quick smoko break was had before bidding farewell to the Ruamahanga and engaging low gear for the two hour grunt up to 1100m and Cattle Ridge Hut.

The next morning brought fine calm conditions with the Wairarapa carpeted in a layer of cloud. Mornings like this remind us why we go tearing around the hills with packs on our backs. It also gives us a chance to get the camera out of its plastic bag and capture some of the finest peaks in the Tararuas such as Dundas, Bannister and Mitre. Our descent from the top was hampered to say the least by unmaintained tracks requiring us to bush bash for hours before finally navigating our way back to the Ruamahanga River and back to the car.

We were; Pat Janssen, Brad Owens, Alan Mounfort.

Mid - Pohangina Track

The tramp that was more than a one dayer and rated as more than easy started at 9am on Saturday morning in good weather which couldn't get much better. It transpired that some of us wanted to be home the same day while others were looking forward to returning on Sunday. With a bit of tricky juggling the only people to be disappointed were the ones who wished they could change their plans and continue the whole tramp.

With the assistance of one of the builders of the track we sidled along the left side of the valley going upstream (which I believe is the true right) until we reached the middle creek fork. From there we descended to the Pohangina River where we spent much of the time crossing and recrossing the ever deepening water. The sun shone on while a warm breeze blew and only the occasional cloud scurried across the otherwise clear sky. This made it easy to forget our wet shorts. Eventually we found a nice place to munch on lunch, contemplate our white skin and try to change it. A little later two of us proved that it is possible to swim with tramping boots on. Time marched on but we hadn't so the three day trippers headed back and the rest stopped resting and headed forth.

The valley was narrowing and the river was becoming harder to cross. The sun was lower and it was getting cooler. A pair of paradise ducks were circling more often than usual and we eventually found out why. There were: about eight ducklings trying to swim up what would have been rapids to them but were being dragged under only to pop up again below the turbulence. They were amazing to watch but we had to move on. "There it is" Terry told me. We had found the gorge complete with the 15 foot tree trunk spanning it. He tried to pack float upstream but the water was over 6 feet deep and no progress could be made. We back tracked about half an hour and scrambled up about two hundred metres up a stream to find the sidle track that lead us into the night. By 8.30pm we had forced our reluctant bodies all the way to the Mid Pohangina Hut. A fire and community stew were prepared and appreciated. So was the sleep and the entertainment provided by the local rats.

The next morning brought a light frost and the prospect of good weather. By 9.30 am we were on our way back. The tramp back was easy and uneventful. We sidled all the way to a place where sun bathing, eating and swimming were the order of the day. As the sun got a little lower and the wind whipped up we headed home. We were; Terry Crippen, Julian Dalefield, Helen Dakin, Rhona Johnson, Marion Smith, Vivian Harris and Chris Morton.

18th October - Mystery Trip

Swift moving, icy cold river water crossings were the newest dimension of my tramping experience. The Oroua Gorge river tramp was made possible and even enjoyable by my two supportive trip companions even to the extent of sharing blue long johns. ... Warm sun, blue sky and the lovely bush surrounding Heritage Lodge all combined to make a great day which we would have loved to have shared with more of you.

Party: Cheryl Peters, Terry Coburn and Kathy Morton.

PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB
21st BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS
12 -14 February 1988

CELEBRATE P.N.T.M.C.'s coming of age at Rangiwahia Township Hall with past, present, and future Club members on 12-14th February. A weekend of social activities, tramping, reminiscing and fun is planned.

BRING - your karrimats and sleeping bag, accommodation is the hall or bring a tent. Bring your "regular" day tramping gear and lunch for Saturday. Bring your own drinks for the dinner on Saturday night.

- EVENTS**
- A wine and Cheese Evening - Friday night (7:30pm)
 - Tramping on Saturday - short trips for the kids and Saturday walkers, longer for those who want the exercise, and for the dedicated fanatics a six hour Ruahine epic specially arranged for the weekend. Trips will leave 9.00am. (All are day trips - bring appropriate gear).
 - Saturday Evening Dinner (B.Y.O.) (6:00 pm) followed by a
 - Country Dance to the music of "The Battered Hats" - a P.N. folk-country-Scottish band.
 - Sunday more socialising, a little light exercise and a light lunch or a swim in the local pool to cool off.

P.N.T.M.C 21ST BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
REGISTRATION FORM.
12 - 14 February 1988

I'll be there!

Names.....
 Address.....

 Phone.....

Along with me will be:

Names.....

(Please supply ages of children)

Please indicate

1. We will be Arriving At Rangiwahia Hall by our own transport Yes/No.

We will have room to take extra passengers Yes/No.

We will arrive at Rangiwahia Township Hall (tick one)

- on Friday night (7:00 pm onwards)
- on Saturday in time for the tramping trips (9:00 am)
- on Saturday afternoon.

2. We will require help with transport from Palmerston North ... Yes/No.

We will arrive at in Palmerston North ready to go to Rangiwahia Township Hall (please tick)

- on Friday night
- on Saturday in time for the tramps (7:00 am)

Enclosed Please find a cheque for \$

for adults and children.

Please Post to:

The Secretary
 P.N.T.M.C. 21st Birthday Celebration
 P.O. Box 1217
 Palmerston North

By 14th December 1987.