



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217
PALMERSTON NORTH
NEWSLETTER

June/July 1988

Membership Enquiries:	Tricia Eder	Ph.	70-122
Secretary:	Trevor Bissell		73-543
Gear Custodian:	Daryl Rowan		64-655
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ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Vaughan Crow:	Home Ph. 69-832	Work Ph. 74-129
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Daryl & Linda Rowan:	64-655	68-019

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.

COMING EVENTS:

June 30th Club Night

Mark Bown will be entertaining us with his slides on caving in Spain with a talk entitled "Picos de Europa".

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

Time: 7.45pm

2nd-3rd July - Snowcraft 1 - Tongario National Park Massey Hut

The first course in a series of three snowcraft courses. If you haven't walked on snow before or just want to brush up on old skills come along this weekend.

Leader: John Wright ph 82041
Grade: Medium
Departs: Friday 6pm

7th July - Committee Meeting

Venue: 57 Fairs Rd, P.N.
Time: 7.45 pm

9th-10th July - Midwinter trip - Rangiwahia

A trip for all to a popular area, with excellent food and company. The theme for this trip is formal, ties and top hats for the guys etc.

Leader: Urs, ph 80245
Grade: All
Departs: Saturday 8 am

Thursday 14th July - Club Night

Angela Clay will be talking about her experiences in Antarctica. Come and find out whether you really should be complaining about winters in Palmerston North.

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

16th-17th July – Waitotara

An area north of Wanganui rarely visited by our club. Come along and see what this area has to offer. There's more tramping outside the Ruahines and Tararuas!

Leader: Kevin Pearce, ph 70217
Grade: Medium
Departs: Saturday 6am

17th July - Wharite

A day walk up the most Southern point in the Ruahines with good views out across the Manawatu plains and eastwards past Woodville.

Leader: Tricia Eder
Grade: Easy
Departs: Sunday 9am

17th July - Wheel chair basketball game

Come along for a friendly basketball game with a paraplegic group. The venue is the Seventh Day Adventist Hall in Ferguson St at 2.30 pm. Terry needs at least 7-10 people so join him even if you can't play basketball.

Organiser: Terry Crippen ph 63588
Grade: All

23rd-24th July – Snowcraft 2 – National Park Rangipo or Blyth Hut

The second snowcraft course, which will further the skills learnt in the first course. Use of ropes and other climbing skills will be covered in this course.

Leader: Trevor Bissell ph 73543
Grade: Medium
Departs: Friday 6pm

28th July Club Night

Come and hear all about night tramping, swamp hopping, floods and famine? from this epic tale of the Easter trip to the 1000 Acre Plateau. This will be preceded by a short (10 min) approval of final accounts.

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

30th-31st July - Mt Egmont National Park

A tramping-climbing trip to the park and a chance to head for the summit weather permitting.

Leader: Tony Gates ph (0652)-48854
Grade: Medium - Fit
Departs: Early Saturday morning

31st July - Otaki

A day walk up to the sawmill in the Waitaruru river and a pleasant way to spend the Sunday.

Leader: Ian Kirker ph 88018
Grade: Easy
Departs: Sunday 8 am

NOTICES

1) Change of address

Jenny Dymock 119 Dittmer Drive, P.N. Ph.69397
John Wright 15 Ashford Ave, P.N. Ph. 82041

2) Tony Gates is welcomed as a new committee member.

3) Alpine Calendars 1989

Orders can now be made at club night for

- the 9th Alpine Calendar featuring 25 striking colour photographs depicting mountaineering, tramping and skiing in New Zealand's North and South Island mountain; regions.

- the 9th Antarctic Calendar focus on wildlife and the ever-changing moods of the Antarctic and sub-Antarctic environments.

4) Submissions for the Pisa Range

The public are being shut out of pastoral lease land opposite the Cardrona Ski field. This area is being developed for cross country skiing and sets a dangerous precedent for all recreational users of high country and opens the door for commercial developers to tie up vast tracts of Crown land for their exclusive use and/or charge independent recreationalists for access. FMC seeks free legally defined foot access from the Cardrona Valley and believe that freedom of access to NZ's mountain lands and implementation of the Protected Natural Areas Programme is being undermined. You are urged to write to your newspaper, Helen Clark and your local MP in support of the free access concept.

5) We are now calling for volunteers for the annual debate against MUAC to be held at Massey on the 27th September. These always prove to be lots of fun so don't 'be shy. See any of the committee members at club night if you are interested.

TRIP REPORTS

Anzac Weekend – Two and a half days in the Tararuas

I had mentally set aside Anzac weekend for some work, rest and general catching up but the promise of good weather proved too much. Saturday morning saw Trevor Bissell and myself heading for Otaki Forks still mulling over the numerous trips / circuits that are possible when starting out from this area.

Upon gaining the tops and reaching Bridge Peak we decided (well, at least I persuaded Trev.), that the fine weather should be made good use of and that staying on the tops and travelling along the main ridge would be the best option.

The next few hours saw us wander over Vosseler, Yeates, McIntosh and then embark upon lunch before tackling the Tararua peaks. Somewhere there we passed a group of very sleepy looking Victoria Uni. trampers who had obviously given up any ideas of a long trip in favour of sunbathing and relaxation. looked like a good idea. ...

From Mangahuka Hut we passed over Simpson and Wright but as we climbed up Aokaparangi a cold wind blotted out the landscape by covering us with rather damp cloud. Daylight was steadily fading so with compass in hand we headed down in the direction of Aokaparangi Biv and camped by a small tarn not far from the Biv.

Next day saw us over Kahiwiroa in time for an early morning tea at Anderson's Hut then on and over Crawford to lunch at Nichols Hut. The view from Kelleher junction was one of the clearest I have had from the Tararuas. Both Mt Taranaki and the Tasman Mountains appeared to be exceptionally close.

The track from Kelleher to the Otaki River can still 'be followed. There are camp sites at the bottom of the ridge and a further good site exists about one hour downstream but there are none after that for quite some distance. We camped at the second site and headed out next morning via Arapito and Saddle creeks, arriving at the Otaki carpark in time for lunch - with the masses of tourists / recreationalists out for their Anzac Day picnic.

Catherine Farquhar.

Mitre - 5th - 6th June

Saturday morning and the weather looked good for yet another Tararua trip. In fact, whilst winding our way through the Wairarapa we were able to point out and name various bumps on the skyline including Mitre. It was a relatively mild, blue-skied day and our leisurely walk into Mitre flats, via the Barra track, was punctuated with lots of stops. A chance to admire the surrounding bush and the Waingawa river some distance below.

Early next morning we set off up the ridge towards Mitre, leaving behind Anne, who had embarked on a lengthy novel and four hunters who appeared to be intent on listening to their transistor radio's "Sunday morning children's programme".

On reaching Mitre, we found that to the west of the main range, a low-lying, dense plateau of grey cloud hugged the landscape and extended as far as the eye could see. Taranaki, Ruapehu, Kawekas, Kaikouras and the Tasman Mountains stood out clearly above the cloud plateau.

Alan's little pink opera glasses (otherwise known as binoculars), temporarily brought these landscape features even closer and also enabled us to spy on four human figures standing atop Pukematawai. Although perfectly windless when we sat, cloud was being sucked through many of the saddles which, as someone commented, looked rather like broth boiling over from a large pot. Reluctantly, some two hours later we roused ourselves from our sunny slumbers and set off down the ridge to the hut.

A cold splashdown river took us all back to the car in good time.

Anne Young, Alan Mountford, Jenny Madgewick, Catherine, Farquhar.

Mid – Ruahines; 28 - 29th May

The day dawned, fine, just a bit of cloud around. After a pleasant drive up the Oroua Valley we, dropped one vehicle off at the Heritage Lodge carpark - piled into the remaining cars and drove up to the start of the well trodden Rangiwahia track. There were a few other people around but plenty of views to go around! We all had a pleasant stroll up the track to Rangī Hut - admiring the new bridge on the way up.

After a pit stop at Rangī Hut we then wandered up the ridge to Mangamahue, stopping on the top for a late lunch. We had time on our side so followed the main ridge around towards Te Hekenga, then dropped down into the headwaters of the Oroua. With an overcast sky the valley tended to be quite mild so it was very pleasant walking. We eventually made it to Triangle Hut just on dark (for all the budding ornithologists Bruce heard a lone blue duck by the hut that evening). After a pleasant 8 pint meal it was time for tall stories and then bed.

Another good day on Sunday. We all enjoyed the walk down Oroua Valley which is extremely pleasant and picturesque. A recommended walk for all levels of fitness (especially in "redbands" eh John?). After another vehicle shuttle trip to pick up the cars from Rentrew Road end we headed back to Palmy with a compulsory stop for ice-creams.

Good, company, good views and we still are:

John, Bruce, Sally, Mark, Sarah, Jeremy, Allan and Phil.

BOOK REVIEW By Tony Gates

Clouds From Both Sides by Julie Tullis
(Grafton, London, 1987)

There are many good books on mountaineering available. Authors such as Hillary and Bonnington are well known, and there are many others who have written about mountaineering exploits. The Himalayas during the 1980's have been subject to numerous books, and this is one of the best of them. It is the beautiful but tragic story of Julie Tullis.

Julie was a brilliant mountaineer who climbed with the best and taught many. Her story begins during the war, then she begins to develop, her love for the mountains by rock-climbing in Britain. She continued when married, to teach outdoor sports and gave much of her time to assisting handicapped children. Family duties never kept her far from the mountains, but her "second" mountaineering career began only when her children had grown up. During her late thirties, and forties, Julie conquered many fine summits in; Europe, South America, and the Himalayas. The culmination was her final but tragic ascent of K2, the world's most difficult mountain.

Clouds on Both Sides relates in some detail how mountaineering developed to be one of many loves of Julie. She lived a fascinating life (and life-style), and participated in six expeditions to the Himalayas. Stories of these form the bulk of the book, truly multi-national expeditions she climbed with. Her profession as a movie photographer, with the famous mountaineer Kurt Diemberger, produced several award winning films. Success inspired Julie to write her autobiography, but she could never write the final chapter. The book is concluded by Peter Gillman. High altitude mountaineering may claim many lives, but Julie inspires with her reasoning for this. It is indeed a moving story.