



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217
PALMERSTON NORTH
NEWSLETTER

March/April 1989

Membership Enquiries	: Tricia Eder	Ph.	70-122
President:	: John Wright		82-041
Gear Custodian	: Daryl Rowan		64-655
Newsletter Editor	: Linda Rowan		64-655

ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Vaughan Crow:	Home Ph. 69-832	Work Ph. 74-129
Daryl & Linda Rowan	: Ph. 64-655	68-019
Sue & Lawson Pither	: Ph. 73-033	

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

24th - 28th March - Kaimanawas

Easter and a time to go a little further and longer. This trip will take you into the Kaimanawas, from the Kaimanawa road end, feature a four day round trip, with off-the-track travel and camps under tent fly. Come along to Club night or ring Urs for further details.

Leader: Urs Schupbach ph 80245
Grade: Medium
Departs: Friday 6am

30th March - Club Night. P.N.T.M.C. Annual General Meeting

This is the meeting where you elect members to the committee to attend to the finances and business which needs our consideration. The elected committee consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and at least five other members. The committee organises Club trips, instruction courses, Club night activities, the newsletter content and distribution and handles the correspondence and accounts monthly. The committee meets on the first Thursday of the month at a member's house.

Nomination forms for the positions on the committee can be found at the end of the Newsletter, or at Club nights. Please fill in and hand the forms to John Wright by 8:00pm March 30th.

Venue: Society of Friend's Meeting Rooms
227 College St, Palmerston North
Time: 7:45pm

1st - 2nd April - Diggers Hut - Ruahines

Starting in the Pohangina Valley on the Western side of the Ruahines, this trip takes you up through the forest to Diggers hut, and beyond depending on the weather and enthusiasm.

Leader: Urs Schupbach ph 80245
Grade: Easy
Departs: Saturday 8am

6th April - Committee Meeting

The first meeting of the new committee.

Venue: 110 Manawatu St
Time: 7:45pm

8th - 9th April – Barlow - Hut Ruahines

An easy trip into the Ruahines from the Eastern side. This trip will get you just above the bushline near Parks Peak and give you views out past Dannevirke. We will stay at Barlow Hut, beside the Makaroro River on Saturday night.

Leader: Terry Coburn ph 86391
Grade: Easy
Departs: Saturday 6: 30 am

9th April Caving - Makuri

Ok, so you didn't want to spend the whole weekend IN the hills, well (one hole in the ground) here's your chance to spend a day instead. Don't be put off by the thought, come along and see what it's really like. All you need is a pair of overalls.

Leader: Mark Bown ph 65581
Grade: Easy
Departs: Sunday 8am, 30 Bourke Street

13th April - Club Night "What I did in the summer holidays"

Tonight Club members are invited to bring a few of their slides of their summer exploits. Urs and Trish will have some slides from the Club Xmas trip and we look forward to seeing what YOU got up to this summer - it doesn't have to be tramping!

Venue: Society of Friend's Meeting Rooms
Time: 227 College St, Palmerston North ~

15th - 16th April Everything Weekend - Wellington

The Club has the chance to stay/camp with Nanette and Peter Clough, Club members who live in Wellington. From there the weekend's activities are up to you, but the possibilities include socialising, rock climbing, day walks etc.

Organiser: Jennifer Madgwick ph 590-536
Grade: All
Departs: Saturday 8am

22nd - 23rd April Mt Holdsworth - Tararuas

Come along and sample some typical Tararua bush and tussock tops. This trip will take you to the top of Mt Holdsworth, one of the higher peaks in the Tararuas with superb views across the Wairarapa and stay at Jumbo Hut on Saturday night. It is the only trip this weekend, so make the most of it.

Leader: Allan Mountfort ph (0650) 67549 work,
(0650) 48390 home
Grade: Medium
Departs: Friday 6pm

27th April - Working in the Chatham Islands

Tonight Phil Clerke will talk to us about the long spell he spent in the Chatham Islands this summer working on the Chatham Island's Black Robin. An important piece of work hoping to succeed in the continued survival of this rare bird.

Venue: Society of Friend's Meeting Rooms
227 College St, Palmerston North
Time: 7:45pm

29th - 30th April - Ruahine Crossing

It's been some time since a Club trip has ventured out to do a Ruahine crossing, so don't miss this opportunity. The trip requires at least enough people to make two car loads, so that two groups can start from opposite sides of the range. The western start will be up past Rangī Hut and eventually onto Howletts Hut.

Leader: Tony Gates ph (0652) 48854
Grade: Medium
Departs: Friday 6pm

29th - 30th April Snowcraft - Tongiri National Park

It's a bit early for snowcraft, but the dry summer has left the crevasses on Ruapehu's glaciers open and it's the perfect opportunity to do some ice bouldering and practice some crevasse rescue techniques. You will need fine weather, boots and crampons, ice axe and a harness if you have one. Ring John for further details.

Leader: John Wright ph 82041
Grade: Medium
Departs: Saturday 6am, Food Town carpark

NOTICES

Annual General Meeting

Please don't ignore the Club A.G.M. - it is an important part of the functioning of P.N.T.M.C.'s activities.

PNTMC and the Hut Pass System

Don't forget! You can purchase Hut Pass tickets on Club nights from Peter Wiles. The price to Club members is 80% of what would normally be paid.

Woops!

Seasonal Hut Passes for the Wanganui Region are valid until 30 September 1989. (Thank you Don Ravine from D.O.C.). I hope none of you were put off by my erroneous statement in the newsletter about finishing dates. My apologies to all. - Ed.

Address Updates

A 1989 Membership List will be produced with the next newsletter. If your name/address/phone number differs from that on the 1988 list let Linda (ph 64655) know as soon as possible.

Make the following additions to your members list:

- Mike Grosh C/- Accounting Dept, Massey, PN ph 69099 ex 8611
- John Drewry 4/443 Church St, PN ph. 63587

P.N.T.M.C. Subscriptions

Membership fees for the 1989 year are now due. Payable to Peter Wiles at any Club night.

Wanted - a Home For The Club Filing Cabinet

Do you have space for one full, lonely filing cabinet containing the PNTMC Club records. If so please let John Wright know as soon as possible.

Thanks to John W.

For taking over the Aborta Contorta weekend. Unfortunately the Club participation was ultra-poor. However John obviously felt satisfied at putting his energy back into maintaining our National Parks.

Offshore Climbing Symposium

This symposium on climbing overseas will feature a number of New Zealand climbing personalities. The course is on Saturday April 1st, cost \$40.00, in Wellington. Phone Don French home 04-842-133 or work 04-328-080 for further information.

Helicopter Safety

Helicopters are used a lot for search and rescue purposes. That may sound like a great way to travel but there are certain dangers in getting in and out of helicopters. The following six points are provided by A.C.C., Civil Aviation and the New Zealand Police:

1. Watch the pilot - follow his/her directions.
2. Approach from the front.
3. Approach from the downhill side.
4. Blinded by dust? Crouch and wait.
5. Board a hovering helicopter slowly - one person at a time.
6. Secure all clothing, equipment, etc.

More details are available on the pocket sized Helicopter Safety available at Club nights.

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**NOMINATION FORM FOR THE ELECTION OF CLUB MEMBERS TO THE PALMERSTON  
NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB (INC) - 1989/90.**

We wish to nominate the following financial member of the Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club:

Name: .....

For the position of:

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| President      | Secretary        |
| Vice-President | Committee Member |
| Treasurer      |                  |

Nominated By:

Seconded by:

## TRIP REPORTS

### **11<sup>th</sup> February - Stanfield Hut**

Eight of us got off from Palmerston North in ideal tramping weather, neither torrential rain or blazing heat. Leaving the cars parked before the last creek at the road end we set off up Holmes Ridge behind "Dauntless Dennis" with a brief rest at the top for the leader to catch up! An easy ramble through regenerating bush along the ridge top found us in a delightful grassy clearing, with a view of the ranges, for morning tea.

The track down to the river is rather overgrown with cutty grass, hook grass and "certica ferox" saplings which we managed to avoid.

At Stanfield Hut a long, lazy lunch hour was had by all - except Dennis who chased birds further up the valley. Since winter flooding, the track, which used to meander from the hut to the base of the ridge track, has merged with the river bed together with many fallen trees.

A pleasant splash down the river - Kim managed to get wetter than most (or was she pushed?) - ended with a cuppa in the carpark.

Ramblers on the rampage were: Gayle Hogan, Margaret Riordan, Marion Smith, Christine Newton, Dennis Dickinson, Kim Morrison, Jamie and Morrison.

### **"MOUNTAINEER OF THE MONTH"**

Aleister Crowley gained both fame and notoriety as a mountaineer in the European Alps and Himalayas early this century. He was a self-confessed anarchist, a "wild" Irishman known for his frequent bouts of violent behaviour as much as for his mountaineering achievements.

Crowley reached over 6000m on the first serious attempt on K2 during 1902. That expedition possibly had the potential to succeed, but was fraught with social problems, culminating in a violent armed struggle on the brink of a precipice! (Yes, Crowley carried a pistol!).

He apparently was seldom on friendly terms with his fellow expedition members! Indeed, of one of his fellows, Crowley wrote: " He would bend over his plate, and, using a knife and fork like the blades of a paddlewheel, would churn food into his mouth with a rapid rotary motion".

The Puritan London press of the time accused Crowley of; obscene attacks on the King, pagan orgies, blasphemy, obscenity, indecency, stealing, cannibalism, kidnapping, blackmail, and unspeakable crimes. They named him "the Great Beast 666, and, on his death in 1947, as "the wickedest man in the world".

From " K2, Mountain of Mountains" by R. Messener and A. Gogna (1981), K & W, London.

(Thanks to Tony for that article. If you have a favourite tramping/mountaineering/outdoors enthusiast you would like to provide an article for - I'll make sure there is room in the newsletter for it - Ed).