



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217
PALMERSTON NORTH
NEWSLETTER
October/November 1989

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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.

COMING EVENTS

26th October - Club Night

Roger Redmayne has recently returned from a trip to Europe where he took part in a N.Z.-French Alpine Clubs Exchange and spent time mountaineering. Being his usual energetic self Roger also managed to get in both cycling and walking trips.

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

28th October - Eastern Ruahines Weekend

This trip will go into the Eastern Ruahines via Roswells Track up onto the Sawtooth Ridge to Howletts Hut for the night. Next day out via Daphne Hut by either a short route or a long route.

Leader:	Jenni Madgwick ph. 590536
Grade:	Medium - Fit
Departs:	Saturday 7:00am

29th October - Tararua Day Trip

Tricia will take this day trip in by the Kapakapanui Track. This is a steepish climb but there is also an easy alternative in the area. An easy trip will be organised if there is sufficient Interest.

Leader:	Tricia Eder ph. 70122
Grade:	Medium
Departs:	Sunday 7:00am

2nd November - Committee Meeting

At Brad's Place. Open to Committee members and interested club members.

Venue:	436 College St
Time:	7:45pm

4th-5th November - Egmont National Park

John is leading a trip to the Pouakai Range of Egmont National Park. This range is north of Mt Taranaki with the Ahukawakawa Swamp (it has board walks!) lying between the two.

Leader: John Barkla ph. (064) 52-373
or leave name with Tricia ph. 70122
Grade: Medium
Departs: To be arranged

5th November - Easy Day trip

Barry is leading a family trip to Coppermine Creek. The track in has been upgraded by DOC and sidles in rather than following the old route up the creek. A round trip is possible! A great trip for children.

Leader: Barry Scott ph. 71731
Grade: Easy
Departs: 8:00am

11th-12th November - Kaweka Range

Lis and Arthur plan an easy weekend in this lovely part of the country. If you've never been to the Kawekas now is the opportunity. The options of trips include camping in a lovely spot at the road end and doing day-trips in the area, or tramping up river to one of the huts.

Leader: Lis and Arthur Todd ph. 36246 (even.)
Grade: Easy - Medium
Departs: Friday pm

12th November – Family Day Trip in the Tararuas

An easy day trip suitable for children accompanied by an adult has been arranged. The trip will go to the Kiriwhakapapa Road end of the eastern Tararuas and then on towards Blue Range Hut or, if you prefer, along a very easy walkway at the road end which follows an old tramway.

Leader: Chris Saunders ph. 84899
Grade: Easy - Family
Departs: 8:00 am

10th-12th November Search And Rescue Exercise SAREX

This exercise provides teams with the opportunity to learn just what is required in a search situation and put the techniques into practise with a simulated search. Our team consists of: Mick Leyland, Kerry Forde, Mary Craw, John Thompson and Tony Gates.

16th November – Club Night

Tony Gates will be talking and showing slides of his adventures in Argentina - a trip he took in July and August. Some folk received postcards with the comment "the Argentinean women are the most beautiful in the world". We look forward to seeing Tony's slides.

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

18th-19th November - An Easy Weekend Trip

Ann is leading this trip to Mt Holdsworth in the Tararuas. A good opportunity for anyone who is ready to graduate from day trips to a weekend trip.

Leader: Ann Young ph. 70153
Grade: Easy Weekend
Departs: Saturday am

18th-19th November - Ruahines Fit Weekend Trip

Tony is ready for a quick romp around the Ruahines, running along the Sawtooth Ridge. Check with Tony for more details.

Leader: Tony Gates ph. (0652) 48-854
Grade: Fit
Departs: Friday pm (?)

18th November - Tararuas Day Trip

A medium trip in from the Mangahau to Puketarua Track to Ngapuketarua and out by Harris Creek. A good circuit - try it!

Leader: John Thomson ph. 74320
Grade: Medium
Departs: Saturday 7:00 am

25th-26th November - Lower Ruahine Crossing

This is a fit trip which will cross the bottom end of the Ruahines by a route currently only known to Mark! Phone him for more details.

Leader: Mark Bown ph. 65581

Grade: Fit
Departs: Saturday am(?)

26th November - Day Trip Lower Ruahines

The day trip will be heading up onto Toka where great views of the East Coast and the West Coast can be seen on a nice summers day. This trip will meet up with the weekend fit trip.

Leader: Kerry Ford ph. 256-932
Grade: Easy - Medium
Departs: Sunday am

30th November – Club Night with a difference

Tonight is our Annual PNTMC Christmas Dinner. So put on your glad rags and get together in the pleasant surroundings of the Coachman for a scrumptious dinner. (See NOTICES)

Venue: The Coachman
Contacts: Monica Cantwell ph. 83834
Dress: Semi-formal

2nd December - Western Ruahines day trip

John has another of his circuits figured out -in by the West branch of the Tamaki River to Stanfield Hut. Up the tops to Takapari Road to Traverse Hut and then drop to the river to complete the circuit.

Leader: John Thomson ph. 74320
Grade: Medium
Departs: Saturday 7:00am

3rd December - Tararua Easy Day Trip

Tony will lead this trip up to Fields Hut in the Tararuas. Fields track is a popular access route into the hills and up onto the tops.

Leader: Tony Cameron ph. 65461
Grade: Easy - Medium
Departs: Sunday am

5th December - MT&SC Guest Speaker - Gottlieb Braun-Elwerts

Gottlieb Braun-Elwerts works with Alpine Recreation Ltd and just recently finished climbing all (?) the 3000+ metre peaks in the Southern Alps. He will be speaking to the MT&SC.

Venue: Rangitane Pavilion
Time: 7:45pm

7th December - Committee Meeting

At Brad's Place. Open to Committee members and interested club members.

Venue: 436 College St
Time: 7:45pm

9th-10th December - Xmas at Rangī

Xmas at Rangī is a Club tradition! So bring out your Christmas party gear and conjure up your best dish of goodies to share and amble up to Rangī Hut for a gourmet delight in the company of fellow trampers. Daniel Schupbach will lead an alternative trip of a medium-fit nature to arrive at the hut in time for Saturday nights nosh up. More, details at Club Nights.

NOTICES

*** IMPORTANT NOTICE XMAS DINNER ANNUAL XMAS DINNER**

On 30th November we are holding our Annual Xmas Dinner at the Coachman. During this past 12 months we have had 2 very tragic losses. However being a small club we are also very strong. Our leadership in all grades have been tremendous, our fit trips going to all places, and one going on them has a sense of security with such experienced leaders, and thus this follows down through the grades.

Our committee through the year has worked hard in all areas, not forgetting our excellent Club Nights and a variety of tramps available during the months.

As a member you may not have been able to participate in the tramping, or club nights, so here is a chance to support your Club in the most enjoyable dinner we hold yearly.

Ring Monica Cantwell ph. 83834 or Peter Wiles ph. 86894 for tickets, or come to our next Club Night.

*** "Argument and Entertainment"**

Yes PNTMC is once again in possession of the coveted "Boot and Rock", and the "Heavy Trudge" trophy cup. Yes, we won the annual debate with MUAC - the topic being,

"Mt. Ruapehu provides the best tramping, skiing and mountaineering in the North Island".

The MUAC team chose to argue (entertain?) the negative. Well, did they ever have a chance?

Thanks to:

- Peter Wiles, Chairman
- PNTMC Team - Tony Gates, John Gilmartin, Sally Richardson
- The MUAC team
- Dave McSweeney, adjudicator
- and members of the audience for participating with gusto.

The annual debate is a lot of fun. Let's ensure that we can retain the trophy next year.

*** Casual Tramping over the holiday period.**

Are you interested in doing a little tramping over Christmas-January in the local area? If so we can put a list of people and phone numbers to contact in the next newsletter (posted prior to Christmas) and you can make arrangements with these people.

*** Photos of John Wright**

Do you have any photos of John Wright amongst your collection? Phil Clerke is gathering copies up to give to John's family in Christchurch. Please if you have any drop them around to Phil's place 15 Ashford Ave.

*** PNTMC T-Shirts For Sale**

Now that summer is on its way, its time to buy a T-shirt with the Club's emblem on it. Help promote the Club by wearing one in the hills and about town. Contact: Terry Crippen ph. 63588.

Sizes: SM & M

Colours: £awn, blue, red

Price: \$15 each

*** Congratulations and Well Done Phil**

Philip Budding has been given an award for his part in rescuing some passengers from an accident in the Manawatu Gorge earlier this year. Phil and two other of his work companions pulled the injured occupants from their burning car and administered first aid.

*** Any offers!**

At the end of the Club financial year the editor of the newsletter (me - Linda) will be handing in her resignation to spend a bit more time trying to get out into the hills and looking after family. Single-handed typing while balancing Stefan on the knee has the last few letters a huge task! If you have a flair for words and access to a typewriter or word-processor and are interested in becoming editor please phone Linda (ph.64655).

TRIP REPORTS

Thanks to all those people who have been dutifully writing up their trip reports.

SNOW CRAFT 1- August 22-27

After reaching Blyth Hut at about 11.30 pm in fine conditions, we were thankful we had a dry trip when heavy showers of rain set in during the night. In the full light of day, there appeared to be little in the way of appropriate snow for a considerable distance above the hut. The weather had improved by mid-morning to the extent that most felt that a walk was the appropriate thing to do. We followed the track up to Turoa for some distance before heading more directly up towards the snow. We eventually came to a gorge with 20- 30 m cliffs along it. Some overhangs were used as a shelter for a spot of lunch. After lunch we were able to make use of the situation together with what gear we happened to have brought with us to try some abseiling. After a couple of hours of this, in which at times it was trying to snow, we felt we had enough, we headed back to the hut.

Lance demonstrated fine ex Forest Service skills with his demonstration at woodsmanship and fire management. The five hundred school got under way - the men versus the women. The men nearly went out the back door but came back to be level pegging and looking for a win when play was disrupted by dinner. Lyndon entertained us with his piano accordion.

There was more rain in the night. We packed up fairly quickly in the morning and set off back to the carpark. We then drove up to Turoa. We headed up onto the skifield in search of a.) snow of adequate depth, and b.) of hardness to kick and cut steps. Conditions were not suitable for either, but we made use of the best of what we could find. During lunch, the showers tended more towards snow, so after doing the basics of self arresting and using the ice axe, we headed off back home.

Team: Lyndon Badcoe, Claire Binnie, Lance Broard, Mary Crow, Jim Cooper, Medy ?, Tricia Eder, Jenni Madgwick, Chris Saunders, Daniel Schupbach, John Thomson, Arthur and Lis Todd, Peter Wiles.

Tongariro National Park – 28th – 30th July

Seven warmly clad trampers set off for the mountain on Friday evening arriving late at the un-manned Whakapapa motor camp. The problem of pitching tents on "perma-frost" was solved by welding a hammer while Mark's ingenuity and climbing skills gained us access to the loos - fortunately the kitchen was open.

8:30am Saturday saw the "fit" on their way to Oturere while the "easy" retired to the warm kitchen for another cuppa before ambling over to Waihohonu in brilliant sunshine and blue skies. Frosty ground made easy travel over frozen streams, past banks dripping with icicles and between the snowy pinnacles of Ruapehu and the symmetrical cone of Ngauruhoe.

Joining Alison at Waihohonu Hut we settled down for a cosy evening by the pot-bellied stove. Come morning there was little enthusiasm to leave warm sleeping bags 'till the gas had melted the iced-up billy for a first cuppa.

Egmont stood out against a clear evening sky as we dropped down to the Chateau, dodging a constant stream of returning skiers to join the successful ice-axe wielding circumnavigators of Ngauruhoe.

We were: Liz Morrison, Tricia Eder, Alison McColl, Mark Bown, Richard Battersby, Neil McLennan and John (who doesn't like to leave his surname in hut books).

SNOWCRAFT 2 - September 8-10th.

Two weeks after Snowcraft I, it was time to try again. This time we stayed at MUAC Hut, after driving through a number of showers on the way (especially around Waioru). Conditions at the hut were no snow but rather windy. (This time from the east rather than the west at Blyth.)

The next morning, we drove up to the car park to find that there was generally less snow than Snowcraft I. We headed off in search of snow suitable for cramponing. After reaching the cloud layer / wind / showers / snow and about 2400m, we figured we were not going to find anything cramponable. We managed to set up a demo of glacier travel during which Jenni and Lance arrived via Wellington and P.N. We found a lava cave for some shelter to have lunch (cold).

After lunch the team headed down to get out of the cloud to where there was some feeble sun. We decided to spend some time trying out some belaying and crevasse extraction techniques. A number of people volunteered to act as bodies on the end of the rope. Most even made it back from the brink of history. Some, having got rather wet, decided that sliding on the snow was the most appropriate form of entertainment at this stage. By mid afternoon, we had had enough and headed back to the hut.

In the evening, the other party in the hut from P.N. challenged us to Trivial Pursuits, which after some controversies we won. The wind seemed to have calmed down by the time we went to bed. During the night, the wind came up again to make a tremendous noise, but calmed down again by morning. The mountain was still covered in a wind cloud when we set off in the morning back to the Turoa carpark. This time, the night had been cold enough to harden the surface of the snow to require crampons before we had climbed very far. The wind came up again but fortunately gradually subsided. Fleeting views of the crater rim and the summit came and went before we entered the mist above the top of the top tow. The mist covered us in ice as we climbed up through it. We reached the top but could not see anything of the crater or plateau area, even though the air above was reasonably clear and sunny. We headed down, had some lunch in the sun, and then continued our journey, some making a speciality of the bum sliding technique.

After packing up back at the hut, we headed off to warmer and sunnier climates.

Team: Lyndon Badcoe, Lance Broad, Mary Craw, Jim Cooper, John Drewy, Tricia Eder, Jenni Madgwick, Dave Mullinder, Chris Saunders, Daniel Schupbach, John Thomson, Arthur and Lis Todd, Peter Wiles.

A Thought: Any risk can be avoided - by taking another risk, (but usually at poorer odds)!

Mangaone Walkway - Sunday 28 May

Only three of us from the Club were down for this trip, so we joined together with Monica who happened to be heading for the same destination with the Manawatu Club.

We were a sizeable group of 21 and gathered rather obviously, in front of the Police Station before our departure at 8am. It drizzled/rained all the way to Waikanae and promised to be another day suitable only for mad dogs and that rather silly parka-clad creature known as "Tramper Mudicus". However the clouds all cleared during the last few kilometres of our journey as we drove into the hills, and the sun shone for the rest of the day.

We left the car park at around 10am and after wetting our feet in the still small Waikanae River, we headed through the Kaitawa Scenic Reserve. The forest here is regenerating after logging removed most of the large trees earlier this century, and tree ferns are especially prominent. The track is well-defined. We emerged from the attractive bush to stretch our legs out across farmland.

We retraced our steps once we reached the car park and lunched together on a rise that gave us a view over the countryside.

It was a pleasant stroll - just right for a lazy Sunday. Thanks to the Manawatu Club for letting us join them.

We were: John Brumden, Stuart, and Margaret Riordan.

Ngamoko Range 19th August

An early start was needed for our trip so we got away from Palmerston North at about 6:00am.

As we approached the Heritage car park we could see the tops – looked like it was going to be a good day.

It was only after a short walk on our way up to Tunipo that we hit the snow. At first it was snow on the ground. Then it ended up snow in the sky – so much for our fine day. Was a bit of a slog to the top so had to take turns getting bugged out in front in the knee deep snow. Visibility wasn't too good but it wasn't too hard to work out which way to head even if we could only see 20 -30 m!

It took longer than we thought to get along the tops as the snow was a bit soft in places (like most places). Kerry's plastic boots were a good idea – my toes were starting to get a bit cold!

We stopped for a quick lunch at the point before you drop down to Iron Gates Hut. Luckily the cloud lifted so we were able to get views down to the plains on the eastern side and also up the Oroua.

Now, I had been told the track through the leatherwood, could be a little bit hard to find. This was some consolation when we all ended up about 60m from the track. We had to climb, fall, push our way through the chest - high snow-covered stuff to the track - don't think I made any friends on my route finding.

We all practised our down hill skiing all the way to Iron Gates Hut, a quick feed, to recharge the batteries, then out to the car. Don't know about the others but I got rather pooped on the way out – must be getting old. Made it to the car just on dark.

Another good walk behind us, we still are: Kerry Ford, Simon Allen, Mick Leyland and Phil Clerke.