



# PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217  
PALMERSTON NORTH  
NEWSLETTER

July 1991 Edition

Gear Custodian  
Newsletter Editor and  
Newsletter Distribution

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President	: Tony Gates	357-0990
Membership Enquiries	: Tony Gates	357-0990
	: or Tricia Eder	357-0122
	: Daryl Rowan	356-4655
	The DRI Gang	w 350-4808
	: Peter Wiles	358-6894

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## ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Brad Owen	: Ph. 358-3467
Daryl & Linda Rowan	: Ph. 356-4655
Sue & Lawson Pither	: Ph. 357-3033

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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.

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## THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAMME

Please sign your name in the visitors book. There is a door fee of 30c which includes supper.

The PNTMC committee meets on the first Thursday of each month, at 436 College Street. Meetings are held for all Club (and intending) members on the last Thursday of each month and the Thursday two weeks prior to that evening. The venue is the Society of Friends Hall, 227 College Street, Palmerston North, at 7:45 pm.

## THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAMME

**JULY 11** Club Evening: Peter Taylor (Fish and Game Council) will be talking about fishing in the headwaters of the Rangitikei and Manawatu Rivers.

**JULY 23** Club Evening (Tuesday): T Bissell Memorial Quiz – arranged by Massey this year. The venue is yet to be confirmed.

## TRIP LIST

### JULY

**JULY 11** Club Evening: Peter Taylor (Fish and Game Council) will be talking about fishing in the headwaters of the Rangitikei and Manawatu Rivers.

**JULY 13/14** TARANAKI (F&Technical) Climbing Leader: Mike Johns Ph 355-2162

**JULY 14** ATENE SKYLINE WALKWAY (M) Leader: John Barkla Ph 0645-2373

<b><u>JULY 20/21</u></b>	SNOW CRAFT I at Rangipo Desert (M)	Leader: Peter Wiles	Ph 358-6894
<b><u>JULY 21</u></b>	SUNRISE HUT RUAHINES (E/M)	Leader: Tricia Eder	Ph 357-0122
<b><u>JULY 23</u></b>	Club Evening (Tuesday): T Bissell Memorial Quiz – arranged by Massey this year. The venue is yet to be confirmed.		
<b><u>JULY 27/28</u></b>	MITRE FLATS VIA THE PINES (E/M)	Leader: Dave Orbell	Ph 323-5145
<b><u>JULY 28</u></b>	KAHUTERAWA / SCOTTS RD Cycle Trip	Leader: Stuart Boyd	Ph 356-6235

### **AUGUST**

<b><u>AUGUST 3/4</u></b>	TARANAKI EAST RIDGE (F&T Climbing)	Leader: Peter Wiles	Ph 358-6894
<b><u>AUGUST 3</u></b>	To be advised (E)	Leader: Liz Morrison	Ph 357-6532
<b><u>AUGUST 10/11</u></b>	LEON KINVIG (POHONGINA) (M)	Leader: Marcel Hollenstein	Ph 358-0245
<b><u>AUGUST 11</u></b>	RANGI & BEYOND S.KIING (M/F)	Leader: Mike Hewett	Ph 358-6853
<b><u>AUGUST 15</u></b>	Club Evening		
<b><u>AUGUST 17/18</u></b>	MID RUAHINES (M) WOMEN ONLY	Leader: Linda Rowan	Ph 356-4655
<b><u>AUGUST 17/18</u></b>	SNOW CRAFT II KAPUNI LODGE TARANAKI (F&T)	Leader: Brad Owen	Ph 358-3467
<b><u>AUGUST 24/25</u></b>	ROARING STAG TARARUAS (E-M)	Leader: Dave Orbell	Ph 323-5145

August Holidays: Interested in a trip of about 7 days? Ideas please to Peter Wiles

**AUGUST 29** Club Evening Either this evening, or perhaps 26<sup>th</sup> September, we plan to have someone from Greenpeace along to talk about their Antarctic programme.

<b><u>AUGUST 31/1</u></b>	HIKURANGI RANGE SKI - PURITY / MCKINNON (M-F)	Leader: Tony Gates	Ph 357-0990
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### **EDITORIAL**

P.N.T.M.C. members have done lots of trips recently. A pretty active lot, we are, wandering off to all sorts of interesting places such as written about in this newsletter. Recently, we have specialised in day trips to local areas. Now that the shortest day of the year has past, and we are getting the occasional fine winter's day, it's a lovely time to get out and enjoy the hills. Day trips appear to be especially popular at the moment. Just contact the listed trip leader, or a committee member, if you wish to join in.

The annual Club photo competition was nothing short of brilliant. John Cleland judged with his usual democratic style, so members chose the results. Prizes were split between several people (results below). Our recent video evening was extremely well patronised, as we got down to watch; rock climbing, ice climbing, caving, Mt Egmont, marathon running, and telemark skiing. Perhaps the crowds were something to do with the presence of 20 or so Pizzas, a couple of Pavlovas, and some "Leyland" coffee? We should have some more video evenings? Please look about and grab a few minutes of interesting footage off the TV or in the hills or from the car, even!

And future club evenings? Plenty of good shows planned, but for you the intellectual (?) ones, you are required to sign up for THE QUIZ... being held at Massey University on Tuesday 23 July. It's great fun to contest The Trevor Bissell Memorial billy, and to return it to its rightful owners. Contact Tony Gates to join our team.

There is a new, should I say replacement, hut being built in the Otaki Valley. Waitewaiwai Hut, often simply referred to as "YTYT", has served trampers well over the years, but finally came due for replacement. The new hut has been built by the Hutt Valley Tramping Club and D.O.C., and is due to be opened shortly. It is located approx 20 mins downstream from the old hut, in a delightful area. Paul will be leading his trip there when the days get a bit longer.

Alpine and Antarctic Calendar orders are now being taken (contact Tony Gates). These are surely the best available, and at \$11.50 (Club discount), are excellent value. There are lovely photographs of mountains, penguins, etc, and one day maybe the Alpine Calendar will proudly display the Ruahines.

## NOTICES

**Subscriptions:** THIS IS THE LAST NEWSLETTER FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT RENEWED THEIR SUBSCRIPTIONS. Next month we plan to issue a current membership list. This is your last chance to be included.

### **New Members**

The Club extends a warm welcome to two new members:

Jane Davies  
Flat 2 / 310 Broadway Ave.,  
Palmerston North  
Phone 355-2575

Karen Thomason  
117 Fitzherbet Ave.,  
Palmerston North  
Ph 358-4121

### **Snowcraft 1991** by Brad Owen and Peter Wiles

It is proposed to hold a minimum of four events concerned with snowcraft this year. We will have a presentation at Club night in early August. Snowcraft I will be on the weekend of July 21/22 at Rangipo. Snowcraft II will be at Kapuni Lodge at Taranaki. Snowcraft III will be a snowcaving weekend in September at Ruapehu.

It cannot be over emphasized that the more homework participants do beforehand the more they are likely to get from the events. All pupils should have copies of the mountaineering manual. (There might still be one or two the Club can sell for a nominal sum.) The new edition is essential for snowcrafts II and III. At Club night next month we will talk and show slides which highlight the mountain environment, weather, travel, accommodation and specific techniques in operation.

Participants for Snowcraft I must have storm gear (two parkas would be useful) and a reliable torch or headlamp. (Last year we had the misfortune to have to walk into a southerly blizzard at night on our way into Rangipo Hut. It is surprising how long way apart the poles along the route are in such conditions.)

Snowcraft II will be based at Kapuni Lodge on the south eastern slopes of Mt Taranaki. On Snowcraft II, we propose to get people used to walking with crampons and self arresting with crampons. The use of the rope for glacier travel will be taught together with crevasse extraction methods. The basic methods of belaying will be covered. Weather permitting there should be scope to climb to the summit of Taranaki. People going on Snowcraft II must have a pair of crampons which will properly fit their boots. This must be checked out before leaving PN. It is hopeless trying to sort out crampons at the road end late at night or worse still getting to the ice slopes to find they won't fit or that the straps are not long enough. Participants will also require a harness or a length of tape 25mm wide and about 5 - 6m long. The Club has some.) A karabiner would be desirable to tie onto the rope. A set of prusik loops would be desirable.

Snowcraft III will be at Ruapehu, and will probably involve snowcaving or camping out. We will go into more detail with belay methods and anchors, front pointing and abseiling. Participants will require the above gear and a hard hat would be in their interests.

It is proposed that all snowcraft trips will depart on Friday evenings.

(I am not sure whether a general climbing weekend is on the schedule for later in the season, but this probably can be arranged if there is the interest.)

### **Search and Rescue Call Out List and Status**

We plan to update our list of members' call out availability and SAR experience in the next month or so. Be prepared for a little paperwork.

### **Ruahine Forest Park Management**

DOC will be producing a draft management plan for the Ruahine Forest Park in the near future. We intend to obtain a copy of the document and comment accordingly. Please let us know of any concerns you might have relating to a submission.

### **Massey Climbing Wall – Update**

At the Club evening on June 27, we raised \$139 – a splendid effort. Many thanks to all those who contributed cash and materials. Any further \$\$\$\$ gratefully accepted.

### **Navigation: Map Reading Course**

### Q.E.C. Continuing Education

Basic introductory course to map reading and compass work. Four night sessions of 2 hours duration and 1 3-hour day session for practical application. Ideal for new trampers or those who want to learn navigational skills.

Courses start: 24 September (night course)

Details from Queen Elizabeth College, Continuing Education.

### **Learning to Ski**

If you are interested in learning to ski, Salomon have a budget cost introduction offer going. Contact Tony for details.

### **Change of Phone Numbers:**

The local numbers have changed now. I am confident that there, will be many errors - let us know. We will make every endeavour to adjust numbers accordingly. Please let Peter Wiles know if there are any errors. (I have been advised of several so far.)

### **Refuelling**

Often Club members have to get petrol at unfamiliar service stations. Be wary of a disparity between the prices offered as an inducement on the street display and what is actually dispensed at the pump. I have struck two rip-off cases in recent weeks, with the result I have sent a complaint to the Commerce Commission regarding it as a breach of the Fair Trading Act. I will keep you posted (ed).

### **Equipment**

Anyone wanting to make contact with Kathmandu (tramping equipment supplies), their address is PO Box 1234, Christchurch.

### Results of the Photo Competition

#### **Slides**

Natural History -1. "Strange Tree" M Hollenstein  
-2. "Split Boulder" U Schupbach

Topical -1. "Jenni" M Hollenstein  
-2. "Feet" M Johns  
-3. "Sunny Bay" T Eder

Landscape -1. "On Mt Amazon" P Wiles  
-2. "Cameron Hut" T Gates  
-3. "Sunset" T Gates

#### **Prints**

Natural History -1. "Toitoi" J Kebble-Williams  
-2. "Green Pasture" J Kebble-Williams

Topical -1. "Contemplation" M Hewett  
-2. "Bush Kitchen" T Gates

Landscape -1. "Coromandel" J Kebble-Wjlliams  
-2. "Before the Storm" M Johns

N.B. For next year, care needs to be taken with placing photos in respective sections.

### TRIP REPORTS

#### **COPPERMINE CREEK** Saturday 8 June

I had ordered a fine, sunny day - and what did we get - RAIN! But that didn't prevent thirteen of us enjoying a puddle in the mud.

Having got several pairs of feet wet crossing Coppermine Creek, we clambered up the bank to the farm track and up round the bush edge to the loop track. Climbing up to the ridge through the occasional mud-wallow, we came to the Billy Goat Creek junction but there was no enthusiasm for exploring further. The general consensus was "let's get to the hut for lunch" - especially as Steve and Jenny had brought the where-with-all for a hot cuppa.

By the time we had slipped, slid and sat down on the steep descent, most of us had a fair covering of brown adhesive. Lunch time brought forth a hilarious collection of "tramper's tales" to cheer the grotty hut and our chilly, damp group. Four lads were heading up to the hut as we left. They'd unintentionally spent the night in the bush having missed the hut.

A quick trot along the fast sinking D.O.C. track brought us back to the cars.

We were - Tricia, Aroon and Karita, Siva, Michael Gan, Sue Bromley, Heather Woodfield, Jane Kebble-Williams, Jan Narrani Jenny and Cathy McCarthy, Steve Glasgow and Eliz.

### **THE ORONGORONGORONGO VALLEY - MID WINTER TRIP**

The Orongorongorongo Valley is near, Wellington. There is good bush there, a broad gravel river-bed that is a 4WD paradise, many easy tracks, and a few cosy huts. "**SHALIMAR**" is one of these cosy huts nestled on a bush-covered river terrace, a fairly luxurious hut with plenty of room for a dozen or more. Shalimar was the destination of this year's **MID-WINTER GOURMET TRAMP**.

We met at the Catchpool car park on a chilly morn. T'was an easy stroll (yes, a STROLL) to the legendary "ORONGORONGORONGO RIVER", where we plunged in up to our shin's in icy cold water (it was a little deeper than that for some, aye). So **SHALIMAR** was a welcome sight. Big fire, lots'a food, good people, friendly dog, and wind up gramophone makes a memorable evening.

#### **COMMENTS**

"Enough food" for a week"

"Don't make Ihle St dinner noises please!"

"Hello Fred-dog"

"I like roast onions when the middle bit oozes out"

"Camp-oven roast yams, DELICIOUS!"

"Give the dog a piece of venison, and he might take your fingers at the same time!"

Enough said! Well, we did have a short walk home to do the next day, but that was easy, even pleasant, with a bit of weak winter sunshine. Fred-dog loved it, and is busting to join in on the next tramp.

Tramp members; T.G., P.W., E.M.; S.G., J.M., C.M., Y.V., S.H. T.E., G.R., and Fred the dog.

### **OTAKI FORKS - JUNE 30<sup>th</sup>**

Paul Scheyvens couldn't make it to lead his planned Waitewaiwai trip so Tony Gates lead an alternative Otaki Forks trip. The four of us left P.N. on a fine frosty morning at 7.30 am and got on the track by 8.30. Tony's skis indicated that we weren't going to Waitewaiwai. Bad news for us that we were going up! Tony was anxious to get up to the snow at Kime Hut and suggested he might run up there while the weather looked so good. Go for it Tony! I thought that we might womble along behind. Being such a nice day (no wind), there were lots of trampers (mainly from Wellington) out enjoying themselves also.

When we got up to Table Top, Jane (pulled a leg muscle at aerobics) Davies? decided she'd done enough climbing and would just groove around in the snow for a while and wonder back down. Mick Leyland thought it was a good idea too, so Tony and Brian climbed upwards into the cloud. Brian was lucky because Tony didn't run; in fact we even stopped a couple of times for a breather! Then just before reaching Kime, whop dee do, we climbed above the cloud for a fantastic time.

There was excellent snow for either tramping or skiing. Lots of photos, skiing on the slopes of Feilds Peak and a bite to eat before heading down. We got back to Table Top in no time (Tony coming off for a couple of spectacular spills on the way) to find Tony's tramping boots he had changed out of and left behind had been removed (would you believe it)? Brian then had trouble keeping up with Tony who was going to catch the thief before he got to the car park. But luckily the ski boots made him foot sore and I managed to catch up again before we met up with Jane and Mick who had got back to the car an hour earlier. So what was my best yet winter tramp, except for those lost boots which I hope will turn up somehow.

Team: Jane Davies, Tony Gates, Mick Leyland, Brian Lawrence.

#### **A quote from Kime Hut log book:**

"Monash Bushwalking Club, Australia, The cheesecake eating competition..... Peter, arrived here from Otaki Forks this arvo in quite pleasant conditions, pleasant indeed if you can simply ignore the horizontal rain, zero temperature and near zero visibility! Strong easterly "breeze" is causing the hut to vibrate at ? cycles per second. Unfortunately the hut has not risen up into the atmosphere and into orbit (not yet anyway). At the right moment, it is even possible to shut the door to this hut (door faces east). Anyways thanks to the TTC for the use of this hut."

### **RANGI SUNDAY JUNE 30**

Four of us left PN shortly after 8 am, headed for Rangiwahia. It was an a fine calm day with patches of lowish cloud along the western side of the Ruahine Ranges. Would it lift? We hoped so as we drove along Kimbolton Road. Snow was well down into the bush and onto the farmland in places. We wondered what the car park would be like? We weren't able to quite reach the Rangī car park - not because of the snow on the ground, but because of a truck load of very coarse metal which had been dumped at the top of the incline at the entrance to the car park.

As usual, on a fine day there was no shortage of people heading up to Rangī. To add to the crowd, we headed up the track at a very good pace led by Tricia. After a few stops for photos along the track, we became free of the cloud and starting absorbing the rays of the sun. This had its problems, however - periodic showers of snow and melt from the trees above.

At the hut, we had a stop for a late morning tea. Mike got his burner into life for some valuable soup. A thermos of coffee was also very useful. A bank of mist rolled around the hut and with it a plunge in the apparent temperature. It was time to move again. Tricia and Peter headed up to Mangahuia. About 15 minutes beyond the hut, we climbed out of the cloud and entered clear bright sunshine. After passing at least two groups coming down, we reached the ridge top at about 1 pm. Time for lunch and a few photos. Tricia had the urge to build a snowman. This proved to be next to impossible. Even though the sun had been shining for several hours, the snow was still so cold that it was like sand and just refused to stick together.

We had arranged to meet up with Mike and Andrea back at the car at 2.30 - 3.00 pm. So there was no time to delay. We got to the car about 3.15. By the time we were approaching PN, the last remaining patches of cloud had all but dissolved away. An excellent day.

Tricia, Andrea, Mike and Peter.