

# PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217, PALMERSTON NORTH

**Newsletter - February 2005**

## CLUB NIGHTS

*Club nights are on the second and last Thursday of each month at the Society of Friends Hall, 227 College Street, at 7:45pm sharp. All welcome! At the club night: Please sign the visitor's book. A 50c door fee includes supper.*

**10 Feb Nepal High Jinx  
Andrew Lynch**

This will be another typically understated visual feast of mountaineering that leaves us mortals terrified. Thankfully Andrew never appears the least bit worried and will throw in some good contextual material as well. This will be a must see.

**17 Feb Committee Meeting**

**24 Feb Club Night – City Rock  
Terry Crippen 356 3588**

Learn some basic climbing skills or practice old ones on the indoor wall. Instruction and gear supplied (except rock shoes - can be hired, or tight fitting running shoes will do). Wear suitable clothing. A lead-up to Titahi Bay on Sunday. Enjoyable and good exercise. Cost \$8 from 7:30pm at City Rock 217 Featherston St, behind the pub and Phil Turnbull motors. We can do a smoking compliance check on the Sports Bar too!!

Articles to Lance [gray.family@actrix.co.nz](mailto:gray.family@actrix.co.nz) or post to 37 Parata Street, Palmerston North (by 20<sup>th</sup> of the month)

## TRIPS

**Feb 5-6 Whanahuia Range/  
Oroua River F/FE  
Jean Garman 354-3536**

We will leave Friday evening and head up the Oroua River to the Tunupo campsite for the night. On Saturday we will try our best to follow an old overgrown track up onto the end of the Whanahuia Range which we will then traverse along until near the junction with the Te Hekenga ridge for a night of camping on the tops. Sunday we turn onto the Te Hekenga ridge and at the first low point drop into the headwaters of the Oroua River which we will follow all the way back towards Heritage Lodge. Some scratchy leatherwood and swimming guaranteed. Good weather required.

**Feb 6 Iron Gates Gorge M  
Warren Wheeler 356 1998**

Depart 8.30am. A classic fun-filled Oroua River trip. From the Table Flat Road-end we take the sidle track past Heritage Lodge for about an hour until it meets the river. After first lunch and a swim we head downstream, rock-hopping and criss-crossing the stream several times (and pack-floating pools if you like) before reaching the impressive little gorge, which involves a short but refreshing pack-float swim to get through (!). Contact Warren Wheeler 356-1998.

**Feb 12-13 Waiohine Gorge F/T  
Tony Gates 357 7439**

This trip is a classic Tararua River Tramp, heading initially into Totara Flats to a good camp. We will then walk up the gorge with day gear only (tubes, wet suits, and helmets) where we can tube back down some of the very best rapids in the world.

**Feb 13 Cape Turnagain Beach Walk E**  
**Ian Harding 06 376 5707**

A trip to the East Coast, walking the beach from Herbertville to Cape Turnagain, possibly some "Seal" sighting at the Cape then returning to soak-up some local hospitality at the Herbertville cafe before returning to PNth. Departing from Countdown carpark at 8.30 am.

**Feb 19-20 Maketawa Hut ENP E**  
**Elaine Hervé 354 2499**

A mostly easy over night trip on Mount Egmont to the well located Maketawa Hut. From the Dawson Falls road end it is intended to make a circuit using the high alpine track and the Curtis Falls track that passes through stunning bush and steepish gorges. Planning on leaving Palmerston about 8:00am.

**Feb 20 Centre Creek B-Bash M/F**  
**Graham Peters 329 4722**

This day-trip heads up the Pohangina River to Centre Creek. Easy rock hopping travel up Centre Creek to the "impassable" waterfall. From here, via a cunning secret route, popping out onto Takapari Road. Back to Centre Creek via the road and a track. Departing P.N. 7.30am.

**Feb 26-27 Ngamoko Range M**  
**Peter Darragh 353 0922**

You can often see the tussock tops of the Ngamoko Range from Palmerston North. There are good access tracks to the tops, and some excellent tramping and views offered here.

**Feb 27 Titahi Bay Rock Climb I/M**  
**Terry Crippen 356 3588**

Now that you have had a go on the indoor wall, come along to the coastal cliffs behind Porirua and have a go on some real rock (NZ greywacke). Plenty of scope for beginners or experts (who have been known to climb in gumboots). The climbs are bolted for top-roping which makes for more relaxing efforts. Gear and instruction provided.

Trip participants:

Contact the leader at least 3 days in advance. Trips leave from Countdown carpark. A charge for transport will be collected on the day. Leaders should be able to give an estimate in advance. For general info, or any suggestions for future tramps, please contact Terry Crippen (356-3588), Janet Wilson (329-4722) or Tony Gates (357-7439).

Trips

*Easy (E): 3-4 hrs*                      *Technical skills reqd (T)*  
*Medium (M): 5-6 hrs*                      *Instructional (I)*  
*Fit (F): about 8 hrs*  
*Fitness Essential (FE): >8 hrs*

Trip leaders:

Please advise a trip coordinator, as soon as possible, if you will be unable to run your trip as scheduled. This is so that alternatives can be arranged, put in the newsletter, or passed on at club night.

\*\*\* OVERDUE TRIPS \*\*\*

Enquiries to: Mick Leyland (358 3183), Terry Crippen (356 3588), or Janet Wilson (329 4722)

## NOTICES

### 24-29<sup>th</sup> March Extended Easter Raukumara or Urewera Ranges, Change of Address

Terry Crippen 356-3588

There are a number of options, both in the Gisborne - East Coast area. Either the Raukumara FP, the biggest (and least visited) Forest Park in the NI; by helicopter into the Te Kahika (to avoid having to cross the Motu) then working our way through to the Tapuaeroa ; or a circuit climbing Mt Hikurangi (at 1762m the highest peak in the NI after Tongariro) and attempting

Whanokao from the Oronui. Another option is in the Ureweras; following the historic Raus track, though Maungapohatu and out to the east (also involves chopper for access. Early firm expressions of interest are needed thanks.

#### Change of Address

Liz Morrison will now be at:10 Reeves St Waikanae Beach 04 293-1430.

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## TRIP REPORTS

### End of Year BBQ, North Eastern Ruahines, Contorta Pulling, Tararua Forks & Flies, Sunrise Loop.

#### North Eastern Ruahines 3/5 Dec By Lance Gray

The trip was supposed to be a "Full Length Waingawa" but the Waingawa had been in flood on the Wednesday with further crappy weather predicted for the weekend; this Ruahine alternative appeared the best option.

We left Palmy on Friday around 6.30pm for the drive to the Sentry Box Hut, which is basically tucked in behind the Gwavas Forest accessed from the Ongaonga road, arriving just before 9pm, with a 5 minute torchlight walk into the hut. The walk up Sentry Box Spur, next morning, was a real grunter climbing 700 metres to the ridge along from Parks Peak. From here we turned north for the trek to the private but dishevelled Aranga Hut for the first of our two lunches. The weather was pleasant with high cloud and little wind. Everyone remarked how dry it was. From here we crossed a fascinating bog before turning south toward Piopio and Kylie Biv. The area is noticeable for the tarns scattered everywhere and of course the superb views toward Mt Ruapehu and Ruahine Corner.

With time and weather on our side we had a second long lunch, I felt like I was at work! Brian told a story about a friend who was convinced he had never been to Kylie Biv only to visit the Biv and find his name in the logbook. Brian was equally convinced he had not been there either. So he was also surprised to find that in April 98 he had been there too! While an interesting side trip there was much more room at Upper Makaroro Hut, which Adam and Jean had set off for earlier. The Upper Makaroro Hut is a beautiful spot and worth the effort.

On dark a hunter arrived to tell us about the two deer he had shot before taking his place on the floor, given we had taken the four

bunks. He was really good about it so the guilt didn't last too long. In the hut there is a photo and poem about a man who died, close by, falling into the Makaroro, making for sombre reading. Come Sunday morning and the rain that had begun at midnight was still falling but was not reflected in the level of the Makaroro River. We waded for a kilometre upstream, passing a Blue Duck, before picking up our spur which was described on the map as overgrown. We can confirm that it is indeed overgrown but it was superb getting down and real dirty. Nothing like following a compass bearing and going straight through the middle of it!

*The reason for the low level of the Makaroro was revealed part way up the spur when Brian remarked, "\*\*\*\* that's snow!!"* It had not been cold at the hut so we were all rather bemused to be confronted by the white stuff, but it did explain why the river hadn't risen so quickly.



Aranga Hut

The spur gave us a right thrashing, especially the final few hundred metres that had us crawling under the shrubs through the snow. Arriving rather bedraggled back at Aranga Hut we had a welcome brew before making our way round and back down Sentry Box Spur to the car. Dinner was a pie and a drink, special meal deal, at the first dairy you

come to on the left in Dannevirke. This was Brian's favourite post tramp feed which certainly filled a gap. We were Jean Garman, Brian Webster, Adam Matich and Lance Gray.



Brian, Lance & Adam

### **End of Year BBQ Ashurst Domain 9 Dec by Warren Wheeler**

Special effort brings special rewards and that was true for the EOYBBQ. Those braving the dodgy weather and keen traffic wardens (directing cars away from our venue to the Gala for the Meridian Te Apiti Wind Farm Opening) enjoyed the convivial festivities and feasting - thanks to all for their contributions. After the balloon blowing, BBQing, and dodging the odd errant drizzly shower, it was time for the Annual Awards.

#### **PNTMC Annual Awards:**

**Best Trip Award:** Elaine Hervé for the hooked shoelace and cut lip incident en route to Totara Flats.

**Eternal Optimist Award:** Craig Allerby "we may be cold, we may be wet, but at least we aren't miserable" on emerging onto the snowy tops after the aborted effort to reach Triangle Hut.

**High Achiever Award:** Chris Saunders for the most people (16) on a club trip (Mt Bruce), and for his high altitude trips down south on his first year's retirement from teaching.

**Tunupo or Bust Award:** Anja Scholz for persevering with her first trip as leader - this trip was included in both Events Cards this year, the first attempt somewhat truncated by almost severing her finger in the car door at

the road end (well, badly bruised anyway, no hospital stay).

**TV One Leadership Award:** Liz Morrison for the relaxed leadership style so admirably demonstrated on the Sunrise Overnighter - not fussed if everyone else heads off in front of her ("leading from behind") or even if in the pristine wilderness someone pulls a portable TV out of their packs to watch the All Blacks.

**Best No-Show Award:** Terry Crippen for kicking the door and injuring his foot too badly to attend Snowcraft 3.

**Best Plan-B Awards** - lots of bad weather this year did not deter alternatives: Terry Crippen - Rangipo Hut instead of Whangaehu Hut, Winterslow range instead of Temple Basin; Janet Wilson - Fly Camp beside the Oroua River instead of Triangle Hut, Anderson Hut instead of Nichols, Boat Cruise to see mussel farms in Marlborough Sounds instead of a frosty morning sea kayaking, Toka instead of (in addition to) Tunupo; Tony Gates - Waterfall Hut instead of Lake Colenso, Blowhard Bush (Kaweka) instead of Hihitahi (west Ruahine), Kaweka Ranges instead of Sawtooth Ridge in Ruahines; Peter Wiles - Blyth Hut instead of Tama Lakes; Warren Wheeler - Tongariro instead of Kawhatau base for Mid-winter Celebrations; Jean Garman - Hector River exit over Cone to Walls Whare instead of Kime to Otaki Forks, Nigel Gregory - Angle Knob-Powell Loop (Tararua) instead of Maropea Forks (Ruahine).

**Back to the Future Award:** Doug Strachan for falling into a black hole while caving and entering an alternative universe where bachelorhood is behind him.

**Lady was a Trumper Award:** Yuko Watanabe, previous recipient of best dressed trumper awards, for her fastidiousness in washing her gaiters before crossing the Oroua River, and expressions of distaste about lunching beside dead possums;

**Just-Gremlin Font of Knowledge Award:** Terry Crippen for just grabbing a dead tree and warning his companions to "mind the wasps".

**Most Extinguished President Award:** Warren Wheeler for setting himself on fire with the acetylene flame on his caving helmet.

**Dave Hodges Award for Excellence in Pursuit in Forgetfulness** (our most prestigious award): Martin Lawrence for forgetting one of his trip members at the Countdown car park (well done Neil Campbell for catching them up at the Kumeti Road end). **Runner-up:** Craig Allerby, obviously suffering from oxygen deprivation after his ascent of Mt Cook (alt. 58000mm), for locking his keys in the boot of his car. The awards were followed by a spectacular fireworks display, which was appreciated by all recipients - thanks Meridian Energy, we agree it is good to recognize achievement.

### **Pinus Contorta Slaughter Ruapehu 18-19 Dec by Heather Purdie**

An early start from Palmy driving through rain (at times torrential) saw nine of us (Janet Wilson, Craig Appleby, Richard Locket, Warren Wheeler, Yuko Wantabe, Ian Harding, Christine Cheng, Lance Gray & myself) awaiting the arrival of our DOC representative (Erin) with the weekends plan of attack. On arrival Erin had a quick discussion with Janet and in light of the weather "Plan B" was quickly adopted, which would have us start on the lower southern slopes in the ecological reserve, as opposed to being higher and more exposed on the mountain.

This area had not been done for a while and as soon as we were kitted out with rain jackets, over trousers, saws and loppers we were into it. Although the block was technically speaking 'on the flat' we soon all warmed up clambering over the old felled trees, at times legs & even whole bodies disappearing into holes hidden by bracken. A bit of healthy competition soon developed as our president (ever leading from the front) reported over 50 seedlings in the first sweep. *Ian soon developed a reputation as the 'poacher' his keen eyes finding trees that Janet and I had yet to get to, but so long as they were 'got' by someone it was all-good.*

After lunch we were treated to a brief hailstorm, but PNTMC showed their true colours and carried on regardless. At the end

of a good days work we headed up the mountain just above the Kaiori State Forest & set up camp in a nice patch of beech forest. Our campsite was soon brightened up with balloons, and our *P. contorta* Christmas tree, complete with silver and red tinsel.

Doc provided four large cookers, a tarpaulin and a brazier, which once we finally got going was a real treat. We then settled in for a very pleasant evening with all the trimmings like shrimp & cream cheese crackers, guacamole, fresh strawberries with chocolate sauce, mini Christmas tarts... After a quick tally up we discovered that we had pulled out 1451 trees! An effort well worth a toast or two!

A blanket of snow overnight added to the Christmas spirit the next morning (in a northern hemisphere kind of way), although Janet's tent fly had seen better days.



*Some of us decided that you couldn't possibly have this much snow and not build a snowman (or perhaps I should say snowwoman, as Warren seemed to think it important to 'gender' our creation).*

With the weather still very marginal it was decided that since we had completed a good weekends work the day before, that coffee in Ohakune could be the go. The DOC Hi-Lux however did not have any go! A real team

effort was required to eventually push start the truck, but it was not long before Ian's head was under the bonnet, and Erin wasn't going anywhere. After giving Erin a ride back to her base, a second breakfast was had in Ohakune before the drive home.

This was a great weekend away, a chance to do something for DOC who puts a lot of time into maintaining the tracks and huts that we regularly use. It was really well organised, and even the weather did not dampen the fun. Well done to the team for such a good effort! (I am sure if Erin returns to organise the DOC side of things there will be a rush of single men from the club to give her a hand Ed.)



### Tararua Forks and Flies – the Return 1 – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2005

by Anja Scholz

Yuko Watanabe, Peter Wiles, Lance Gray, Anja Scholz and trip leader Warren Wheeler.

January 1<sup>st</sup> 2005 saw us non-revellers up early and heading for the eastern Tararuas. The weather was un-obligingly wet, so instead of wading/swimming our way to the **Ruamahanga Forks**, we opted for the 2 hour climb to Blue Range Hut. What funky accommodation, well worth staying the night – as we did, seeing that the rain had no intention of abating yet. We did manage to adhere to the trip's title only just: We ate with **forks** and had gazillions of **flies** in the A-frame toilet.

Weather the next day had vastly improved, and although it threatened to drizzle at times it stayed 98.5% fat-, I mean, rain-free. We

dropped down to Cow Creek Hut (and met the only three people we saw on the whole trip there) with its extra sturdy swing bridge (mind your hands on the galvanized iron rail, though!) for an early lunch. Wading up the Arete stream was not an option, so we were headed for Arete Forks via the sidle track.



THE sidle track, I may add; *aka the SIDLE TRACK FROM HELL. The less said the better, although thankfully we knew that the "three hours" sign was a cruel joke from the good old days, when trampers were hardier, fitter and faster than we today.*

Warren and Yuko, of course, had done the track two years ago on the first Forks & Flies trip, and Peter had already done it twice before. But the track must induce some repressed memory, as they had willingly embarked on it again !? Come to think of it, it wasn't actually all that bad.... Like, it actually had about 50 meters that were level.... And I can't quite recall why I forced Lance to take some weight from my pack or else (else = Old English for divorce).

Alas, we made it to **Arete Forks** Hut, and spent another night in luxury, as a good campsite upriver had been washed out (also for morale, as hard sidle track plus hard ground = mutiny ?). We had company in the form of Russell the Rat (get it? rustle, rustle....), but Warren did a good job of blocking all his entrance ways. When he nonetheless tried to gnaw his way through some paper and wood, Lance suddenly jumped out of his sleeping bag, banged his

fist loudly against the wall and shouted “Shut the (censored swear word) up”, whereupon the gnawing grew very timid and stopped. Research result: When annoyed by vermin in hut, use strong language to restore quiet.

Day three saw us huffing and puffing up Pinnacle Spur, as it was sunny and already quite warm early in the morning. We made the tops in brilliant sunshine, and with many take-in-the-view-as-it-is-only-like-this-on-50-days-a-year-breaks headed over Lancaster, Thompson and Carkeek peaks to Carkeek Hut with its most welcome water supply. After a lengthy break we decided to push on to **Park Forks** on a no longer maintained track, which Warren, however, followed without hesitation. This time we **fly** camped by the river on a comfortable little site, 99.5 % fat- , I mean mosquito free.

The weather had moved back in with a couple of showers overnight, but we could pack up in the dry, and start ascending another non-maintained track. Heck, my four weeks “preparation” on some Fjordland Great and otherwise comfortable Walks had not quite prepared me. This was one steep track, and thankfully a bit more track finding was at times required, so the pace wasn't too hurried.



We emerged onto the windy and fogged-in tops and navigated our way to the main route towards Nichols Hut, where we stopped for a break and a brew. Then it was battling the wind and undulations towards Mt. Crawford and Junction Knob in more typical Tararua weather. Descending to the Otaki River was the last of the big descents, and when Peter happily announced: “Only 150 meters more

to descend” the track dropped sharply for a last assault on our knees.

Down at the river it was warm and idyllic, as the clouds were dispersing and sunlight coming through. We crossed the Otaki three times to get to the 2003 trip's campsite at the **Waitewaewae Forks**. Here the trip leader made the crucial decision not to camp, as the long range mountain forecast had announced rain, possibly heavy, for the next day. And so far the forecast had been accurate. It stayed accurate.



Sitting atop Mt Crawford

Waitewaewae Hut was big, clean, pleasant, empty – yippeah! We all had a good night's sleep. Sometime during the night the rain set in, and quite a bit of water came down. Had we camped we would have been well up “Otaki Creek”. We commenced our last day's tramping just when the rain set in again, and it pretty much rained very steadily on us for the next five hours it took us to get to Otaki Forks.

We had to use the sidle track (no relation to the above mentioned one) along the Otaki River and then ascended to the Plateau for a short rainy break. Descending, next to and through, Saddle Creek was an exercise in river crossing which brought back memories of last year's trip in Arthur's Pass. While the creek didn't become un-crossable, it certainly swelled with every little side creek, and was a far cry from the dribble that according to Warren usually sprinkles down the creek bed. Soon we reached the well graded ex-logging track that led us to the Otaki River once more, and after crossing the two bridges over the Otaki and the Waiotauru we emerged at **Otaki Forks**.

Richard Lockett, one of our pick-up drivers, had come early, and met us at the old log hauler close to Saddle Creek. After a change of clothes he, Warren, Peter and Yuko said good-bye and took off while we waited for Lance' brother. Well, four o'clock came and went, and no brother. Indeed, five o'clock came and went, while it was pouring down incessantly. No cell phone coverage to try and get hold of Darren. *Finally the ranger, Barry, at Otaki Forks talked to Lance, took pity, and said he would drive us into Otaki while at the same time checking the road.*

When we came to the one and only ford on the gravel road, we thought we knew what had happened. It looked quite scary, and definitely a no-no for a two wheel drive – thankfully rangers have big 4-wheel-drive vehicles !! Barry dropped us in Otaki where we proceeded to a phone box, and can-you-believe-it ran straight into Darren, who had indeed turned back at the ford and been waiting for something to happen – as he could not reach us on his cell phone either, of course. Alas, all was well, and we got safely to Palmerston North after a memorable trip.

But behind us, Indiana Jones-like, things started falling apart. As reported by the website [stuff.co.nz](http://stuff.co.nz) 7<sup>th</sup> January 2005:

*“Heavy rain and gale force winds have buffeted the Tararuas for the past two days. The Department of Conservation has asked people to avoid trips into the Tararuas after the torrential rain washed out bridges and damaged popular tracks in the area. Five trampers were flown out from Otaki Forks today, after the swing bridge over the Waiotauru River was washed away on Wednesday night. The family of four and a lone trumper were unable to return to the carpark there...”*

### Record Flood in the Otaki

We walked out from YTTY in steady rain at the end of the Forks and Flies trip. Wet as shags, we reached the swing bridge over the

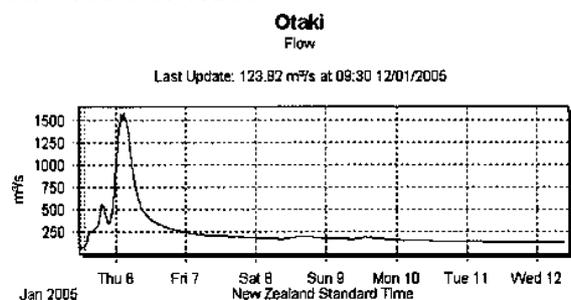
Waiotauru and the car park mid-afternoon. The rivers were coming up but nothing to raise too many concerns at this stage.

It was quite a shock to hear the following day that the trusty Waiotauru swing bridge of twenty, or so years duration, had been destroyed by the “flood”!

The flow in the Otaki River has been continuously monitored since 1980. The flow recording off the Web is below. Examination of the flood records reveals that the highest flow previously recorded was less than 1300 m<sup>3</sup>/s. This flood was the highest flow recorded to date!

PNTMC just made it!

Cheers Peter Wiles



### 16 January Sunrise Loop by Warren Wheeler

**Present:** Barbara Maré, Marcus Kirchberg, Warren Wheeler (leader), and non-members Phil Hodge, Trevor King, Jim Brown.

**Trip Grade:** Medium, but took us about 7 ½ hours – why hurry when the weather was so lovely?

**Weather:** Hot, sunny and calm.

**Route:** From the Triplex Carpark (almost full with 14 vehicles parked by overnighters and a few day-trippers) we paused at Triplex Hut to use the facilities and enjoy the cool dewy lawn before heading off up on our 700m climb on the well-graded track up to Sunrise Hut. The mistletoe was in fine red bloom behind its protective netting around the beech tree and also further up a large unprotected plant high above the track was dropping petals bountifully – the possum control must be working. Being a bit hot we took it quietly and after about 2 hours 40 minutes we reached the hut with only a bit of

haze to dilute the view across to Hawkes Bay. After lunch in the shade of the mountain beech behind the hut the track led us around to Armstrong Saddle and clear views to snowy Ruapehu and Ngauruhoe in Tongariro National Park. Three joggers passed us and then headed back down while we continued around the ridgeline track, with its awesome rocky moonscape and gnarly slips on our left, and snow grass country with flowering alpine shrubbery to our right.

The track becomes more indistinct after Top Maropea turnoff as we dropped down to the saddle to Te Atuaoparapara, where the fun really begins by dropping down clutching the snow grass and what not and sidling across to the scree.

*After a thorough safety lesson and instruction we dropped 200m down the scree (yeehaaghh) and emptied boots of stones at the start of the stream running out from under.*

The north branch of the Waipawa Stream is in pretty good condition with steady travel in the rocky bed, down little waterfalls, and under fallen logs occasionally – it took us almost 3 hours at an easy pace to reach the confluence with the Waipawa south branch. From there the stream widens out and is more of a rock-hop with gravelly stretches forming a highway in places before narrowing again with welcome shade and wading across the stream to keep our feet cool.

The farm access bridge signals the end of our trip except for the 20 minute walk along the farm track to the carpark where there was only one other car still there. Tired? You bet. Happy? Too right! Anyone for an ice cream? Yes please!.....roll on summer!

### **The Last Word**

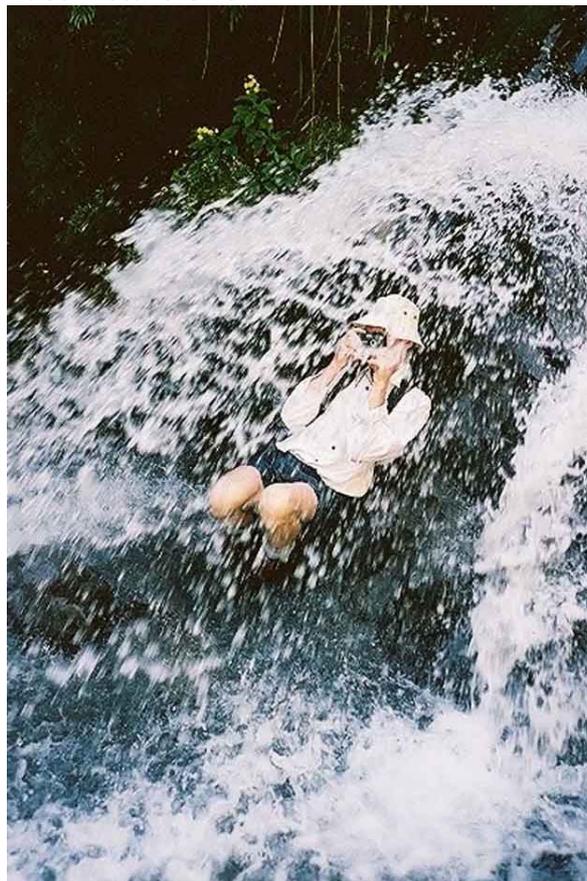
My thanks to Doug, Peter, Tony and Warren for their help in getting this newsletter together. Certainly more fun than writing a doctorate but just as challenging. My apologies to everyone if they were expecting

a tour-de-force first time up but I thought I would make this a conservative effort. As humour is not a strength I think I will go in for gossip because that is what seems to be a tramping staple if my trip down Arthur's Pass with Terry was anything to go by.

Congratulations to Mr Doug and Mrs Maho Strachan. The wedding was a celebration about all that is good. Mick Leyland distinguished himself with the best tie while Craig Allerby had the cool skateboard look down pat. I looked like I was headed to a funeral while Yuko nearly out-did the bride with a stunning black number. How can we let Yuko go back to Japan? Finally, Tony spent so much time with the bridal party it wouldn't be a surprise to find him in the official wedding photos. Doug's offer to bribe the club with excess alcohol for the BBQ is surely a vote winner if I have ever heard one.

Lance Gray [gray.family@actrix.co.nz](mailto:gray.family@actrix.co.nz)

### **Last Picture Show**



Warren's Underwater Photography by Trevor King

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