

Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club Inc.

www.pntmc.org.nz

P.O. Box 1217, Palmerston North

Newsletter April 2011

Club Nights

Club nights are held at 7:45pm on the second and last Thursday of each month at the Society of Friends Hall,
227 College Street,
Palmerston North

All welcome! Please sign the visitor's book at the door.

14 April

Climbing in the Grand Tetons

Chris Tuffley

Two friends getting married in Montana, an ascent of the Grand Teton afterwards, and all nicely timed to coincide with the mid-semester break? What more excuse does one need! Chris will show some pictures from a trip up this 4,199m peak - and the odd wedding pic too.

28 April

Whanganui River

Malcolm Parker, talking about journeys on the Whanganui River. This replaces the previously advertised club night

12 May

Kamchatka

Peter Wiles

Kamchatka is a vast volcanic peninsula in the Russian Far East. During the Soviet era, it was a closed region to foreigners. Now it is open to tourists and the infrastructure is slowly developing. Come along tonight to hear about the teeming wildlife and the vegetation, some that will be immediately familiar and some surprising.

Trip Grading

Trip grades depend on many factors, especially weather and terrain. A reasonably proficient tramer should expect to do the trips in the following times:

Easy (E):	3-4 hrs
Medium (M):	5-6 hrs
Fit (F):	about 8 hrs
Fitness Essential (FE):	over 8 hrs

Other grades:

Technical skills (T)
Instructional (I)

Trip participants

Contact the leader at least 3 days in advance. Trips leave from Milverton Park. A charge for transport will be collected on the day.

Gear for trips

Minimum gear for day trips is appropriate footwear, pack, lunch and snacks, waterproof jacket, overtrousers, gloves, warm hat, torch, toilet paper, matches or a lighter, sunblock, first aid kit, and a survival bag or space blanket. Each person needs to be equipped to survive overnight.

Trip leaders

Complete the trip intentions form and leave with one of Overdue Trip Contacts or drop into 44 Dahlia St. If you are unable to run your trip as scheduled, advise a trip coordinator as soon as possible so that alternatives can be arranged.

Overdue Trips

If a club trip is late returning, please do not worry unduly as there is probably a good reason for the delay. If you are in any doubt, please phone one of the Overdue Trip Contacts:

Mick Leyland	358-3183
Terry Crippen	356-3588
Janet Wilson	329-4722

Upcoming Trips

2-3 April

Upper Makaroro F
Warren Wheeler 356 1998
Depart 7.00am. Explore this valley in the north eastern Ruahine Ranges. Up the ridge to Parks Peak Hut, then drop down to Upper Makaroro Hut. Next day we follow the river. From narrow gorge to wide gravel it is surprisingly easy travel. Swims are optional in the occasional pool.

3 April

Waikamaka Hut M
Peter Wiles 358 6894
We will leave at 6.30 for the drive over to Whakarara Road. We might be able to do a slight round trip by going via the Waipawa Gorge, one way and the side track onto the Sunrise Hut track for other way. Expect a mixture of bush, water and riverbed.

9-10 April

Cow Creek M
Richard Lockett 323 0948
A lovely hut nestled beside the Waingawa River where the river turns from the flowing east after draining the northern slopes of Girdlestone and heads south on its often swift journey out of the Tararuas. Depart 7.30am.

10 April

Blue Range M
Woody Lee 357 2390
A gateway to the eastern Tararuas, with a fairly steep hill at the beginning of the track. A delightful easy/medium trip. Expect to have lunch at the picnic table outside the hut, and then return the same way. Depart 8am on Sunday.

Fri 15/ Sat 16 to Thurs 21 April

Pre Easter Kahurangi NP M/F
Terry Crippen 356 3588 or 027 643 3637
We will be running a pre Easter trip to Kahurangi National Park, this time heading to the very interesting marble massif of Mt Owen, south of the Wangapeka Valley. There will be vehicle(s) going down, but going elsewhere for Easter, so you will need to organize your own way of getting back to the North Island on the Thursday afternoon/evening. Contact Terry asap.

16 April (Sat)

Sledge Track E
Janet Darragh 353 0922
Just up the road, this pleasant local bush walk offers pretty easy going and scope for all sorts of endeavours. Picnic lunch. Depart PN 9.00am.

17 April

Burn Hut M
Dave Grant 357 8269
An interesting Mangahao circuit tramp, beside the dam and river, over the new bridge, through the leatherwood, past a lovely hut, over the tops, back down College Creek, then back along the lake shore and road. Depart 9.00am.

22-25 April (Easter)

Easter Eggmont M
Warren Wheeler 3561998
This traditional Taranaki tramp will show you many hidden gems in one of our favourite National Parks. With numerous good tracks, huts, bridges, and ladders up/ down various volcanic cliffs, this tramp is sure to please. Depart 7.30am.

24 April

Sunrise Hut M
Malcolm Parker 357 5203
This popular Ruahine hut allows dry foot access to a spectacular location, sheltered, yet with good access to the tussock if weather permits. Great forest, views, and an often crowded area. Depart PN 8.00am.

30 April (Sat)

Stanfield Hut E
Mick Leyland 358 3183
Easy stroll in the South east Ruahines, up the Tamaki River to Stanfield Hut, return via Holmes Ridge if weather permits. Depart 8.00 AM.

30 April-1 May

Cattle Ridge M
Woody Lee 357 2390
The plan is to leave Palmy at 9am and head over to Putara Road then the Ruamahanga Valley and Roaring Stag Lodge. We will explore the tussock ridge on that day and finish the trip on Sunday early afternoon.

7 May

Navigation Training all
Terry Crippen 356 3588
A basic introduction to map and compass navigation out and about in a local area. Compasses and maps can be supplied, but bring your own compass if you have one. Start 8am.

8 May

Navigation Exercise all
Terry Crippen 356 3588 or 027 643 3637
This will be a follow up field exercise from Saturday's activity and will be in the northern Tararua Ranges. It will be a full day's activity and involve route-finding, navigation using map and compass and deciphering route guide information. Departing PN 7:30am.

Quote of the Month

The new era in the development of luxury in modern travel, which was heralded five years ago by the use of an aeroplane as carrier- in- chief of mountaineer's packs, has produced a wide range of new ideas. Alpine climbing has advanced to such a stage of ease and comparative safety that at the present time it is unnecessary not only to carry one's own personal equipment on an arduous ascent, but also to do any actual tramping. Only yesterday, a party of well trained alpinists were conveyed to Mount Aspiring by auto gyro, and lowered on detachable armchairs to the highest peak. By the participants in the venture, the aero climb is described as the acme of comfort, the absence of fatiguing foot work being much appreciated by all. The climbers who were conveyed back to Dunedin in plenty of time for tea are planning to ascend Mount Cook tomorrow morning."

This day has happily not come.

Evening Star, 30 December 1933. From "Aspiring" By W Scott Gilkinson (1951).

Notices

FMC Club Photo Competition 2011

You can read about the FMC photo competition in the FMC Bulletin March 2011, advertised in our March 2011 Newsletter. PNTMC has submitted the top two place getters from our own photo competition of August 2010 to FMC, so you may recall some of the excellent images. I'm sure that FMC will advise us of the results in due course, and maybe even print some of our images.

Te Araroa Walkway- Otaki Forks to Waikanae

The Te Araroa Walkway (TAW) have recently secured agreement from landowners, DoC and the Queen Elizabeth Trust for creation of a new section of the TAW from Otaki Forks to Waikanae, via the Mangaone South Road. DoC helped to establish the 15 kilometre sector, which is now named Pukeatua (after the highest point that it crosses). It is a six- seven hour walk. Some private land is crossed, owned by Mr and Mrs John Carter, and deeded by them to QEII National Trust for conservation as native forest. DoC are currently completing marking and establishment of the path to tramping track standards.

The route follows some two kilometres of the Waiotauru River south from the road end at Otaki Forks, then climbs a well defined ridge through light bush to the high point at Pukeatua. This section should give (Wellington weather

permitting) extensive views of the Southern Tararua Range and out to sea. The track descends through a mixture of regenerating bush and pine forest to the Mangaone South Road (at the southern end of the Mangaone walkway). B and B accommodation will be available at the Mangaone South Road end.

Access to the obvious route from this point up to and along the prominent Hemi Matenga ridge (the Waikanae) was unfortunately not able to be secured, so TAW walkers will have to pound the Mangaone South Road to reach Waikanae. The first section is narrow and twisty in the upper reaches, with serious regard for oncoming traffic. This section is about 12 km, and will take two to three hours. Less resolute souls should arrange a pick-up at the Mangaone South Road end.

Refer <http://www.teararoa.org.nz/index.cfm> for further information on the Te Araroa Walkway.

Coal at Howlett Hut

The Heretaunga Tramping Club recently advised us of a coal delivery to Howlett Hut, and a new firebox installed there. This is a popular Ruahine hut in an often snow bound location, so coal is great for winter warmth. PNTMC has done this job in the past. Please however be aware that coal dust may blow onto the hut roof, then effect the hut water supply.

Also, they told me that the Howlett Hut toilet had blown over - and was promptly resurrected. Just remember, it is a windy location.

The 2011 Kaweka Challenge

Popular mountain running events attract all sorts- including some from PNTMC. The 2011 Kaweka Challenge, held at the end of February, was a well patronised and enjoyable event, with competitors ranging over the southern Kawekas on the various courses on offer. Regular competitors Tony Gates and Janet Wilson sweated over the scree/ tussock/ scrub/ forest trails in good conditions this year, enjoying the event and the camaraderie of competitors.

Sadly, this was the last such event by the existing organising committee (Heretaunga Tramping Club, Hawkes Bay Orienteering Club, AREC). We hope that the Kaweka Challenge will continue in future, albeit in a different format- possibly just single day events.

Trip Reports

30 January 2011

Tunupo

Report and photos by Woody Lee

Nicola and I departed Palmy early morning to catch Michael and Craig in friendly Feilding, and then we all packed into Craig's car to head off to Apiti. Having arrived at the Tunupo track just before 9am, through the farmland and footbridge we closely looked at the surrounding bush, particularly tall lancewoods competing to other trees. Shortly after starting there was a huge brown fungus (approximately half a meter long) which I saw last time about a month ago. It was still the same size but the colour had significantly changed from shiny ivory to dull reddish brown. It was my third trip to this track since November 2010 and each time I was surprised at some interesting changes; the giant fungus and red mistletoe (flowering around New Years day which I took a photo of last time I came up here). Michael's talk about the native trees was useful to me because I did not know the difference of young mountain cedar and pink pine at all. We all had an enjoyable walk in the morning with talks and Nicola told us about her first club trip with Craig to the Tunupo. There were low clouds in the sky when we came out of the bush and the craggy peak was in the mist.

It was cold and the visibility at the top was poor so Craig quickly found a good spot for lunch on the other side. I soon realized that I was the only person without a beanie and gloves. I did not pack these warm things as I thought I might not need them for day trip in the middle of summer. Fortunately I did not feel any cold with my waterproof jacket. Michael reminded me

'weather on the mountain - it can be cold, it can be hot' I absolutely agreed. Straight after lunch we headed off down to the carpark and we visited the Heritage Lodge. It was a good opportunity to know the local history about Alice Nash and the lodge. The Tunupo top was clearly visible when we were back to the carpark. We were Nicola Wallace, Michael and Craig Allerby, Woody Lee.



Warmly dressed Nicola and Michael on Tunupo.

26-27 February

Howletts Hut

Report and photo by Martin Lawrence

Richard, Anne and Martin set off on a warm February morning and picked up Jonathon Adams in Dannevirke. By 10 we were walking up the first hill en route to Daphne. The forecast was for a few clouds and possible drizzle so we were confident that the Tukituki would be a pleasant walk. We had lunch at the river and wandered up river to Daphne where Jonathon decided that he wasn't quite as fit as he thought, so preferred to stay by himself at Daphne Hut, and to meet us on our return on Sunday.



Howletts Hut, a cosy Ruahine residence.

The 3 of us up the initially steep climb to Howletts and were rewarded by the attractions of Howletts Hut and good views in spite of the few clouds around. After a very welcome cup of tea,

or two, we decided that a pre-dinner walk along to tops to Tiraha was a great idea. The hut had been freshly stacked with plenty coal in readiness for Winter. Unfortunately, it was far to warm to think of lighting the fire.

We enjoyed views of the moon rise after dinner, which was just as well as we found ourselves in cloud and drizzle on Sunday morning. We retraced our route down and found Jonathon refreshed and waiting patiently by the river. After another warm'ish climb and descent we were back at the car.

27 Feb 2011
Holdsworth Lodge- Atiwhakatu Hut
Report by Fiona Donald

We started well in Palmerston North. After a short discussion it was decided to take my car instead of Jennifer's smarter Ford because mine would be less expensive in fuel consumption. We drove up and over the Pahiatua Track. Towards Masterton, the weather looked decidedly dodgy with grey clumps of cloud hanging over the Tararua ranges. I was convinced that we were going into a wet day however as I drove up to Mount Holdsworth's car-park it became a sunny day. There were loads of cars in the car-park and it was with some difficulty that a car-park was found.

We started off by viewing the DOC map and noted the various signs warning that bait was laid in there them hills. Just around the first bend we saw lots of people having a fun time camping, playing cricket and volleyball around the lodge. It was a huge gathering with at least 11 tents of varying shapes and sizes. The new addition to the Mount Holdsworth's Lodge contains a lot of bunk beds plus a verandah.

We stopped to write in our day's intentions in the visitor's book then got into the business of walking up and along the first bridge. Just after the first crossing, Fiona got out a library book from her bag "Which Native Fern?" by Andrew Crowe to see whether she could quickly identify a common as mud fern that usually grows beside the track; however, it wasn't as simple as the book made out and the fern still remains nameless. In a small attempt to impart some local knowledge some more delving into another book meant some more plants were identified. Not far along the track, Fiona spotted the red berry of the Miro: brown pine.

A heavily scented air drew us along the track and Jennifer knew that there were orchids nearby. We saw masses of tiny white flowers

growing on a log and they looked just like the book's illustration of the Easter Orchid: Raupeka.

We continued on and crossed over a variety of bridges until we finally saw Atiwhakatu Hut. What a magnificent shelter! For those who haven't been there – the hut has 10 beds, a wood burner, table, verandah and it's very spacious. Civilisation is complete with an wooden outdoor picnic table and seats for day trippers.

After lunch and on our way back, Fiona was pleased to identify the Māhoe: Whiteywood with its shiny purple berries. (they looked almost good enough to eat but probably not a good idea to try them out)

By the time we got back we found people were packing up around the Mount Holdsworth's Lodge. We called into the Renall Street Dairy for ice cream however the queue was very long and we decided to buy something else. We had a great day out with a good team: Duncan Hedderley, Jennifer Kitchen, Stefanie von Büren and Fiona Donald. (leader)

February 2011
Mt Forbes Project
Report and photos by Terry Crippen

Various reasons can be used for deciding on what tramp to undertake, or which mountains to climb. Last year fellow NZAC member Angela Minto and I were casually looking a small scale map of the South Island; Mt Forbes (at 2853m up the Godley Valley) was noted and seeing it is Anges dad's name, it was decided we had better climb it. So, as one does nowadays with digital maps on computer, we entered Mt Forbes into FreshMap – two other Mt Forbes popped up – so now we had three to climb! Thus the Mt Forbes Project was born.

We gave ourselves 5 weeks to accomplish this. The original Mt Forbes accessed via the Godley valley would be straight forward (or so we thought), as Peter Wiles and I had previously climbed it on two occasions. The other two however are in Fiordland, one above First Arm on Doubtful Sound (1311m, Mt Forbes #2) and on the third on Resolution Island (930m, Mt Forbes #3) and would be more of a undertaking due to Fiordland's weather and access, so we planned for a 20+ day trip for these two.

A lot of research was undertaken to try to find out about the two Fiordland Mt Forbes; contacting people such as Geoff Spearpoint, Robin McNeill and geologists and other Fiordland enthusiasts, as well as DoC in Te

Anau. No one had any information or knowledge about Mt Forbes #2, but we found out that Mt Forbes #3 was going to be a breeze, thanks to DoC's predator control programme on Resolution Island.

Part 1

For Mt Forbes #1, we first attempted it via McKinnon Stream a tributary of the Godley Valley and we assumed that the small icefall in the glacier was going to be easy as it was when Peter and I did it about three years ago. However on gaining the glacier we noticed there was a huge amount of white ice exposed this time and *we soon found the icefall to be completely impassable. Multiple huge crevasses and towering seracs greeted us.* Time was spent attempting to find a route but it was impossible even with the excessive amount of technical gear we had with us. So we had to admit defeat this way and retreat. A couple of days later we camped up Separation Stream, the side valley further up the Godley. We were successful on this route; one down two to go.

However there was far more white ice on the Ballium snowfield which presented quite a bit of step chopping on the steepest part of it on our descent. Getting back to the vehicle, parked further down valley was not without its problems. Rain and wind had set in overnight and Separation Stream became impassable. Fitzgerald Stream up valley was also impassable, so shelter in Godley Hut was cut off. Nothing for it but to set up the tent and wait it out. Two days later, with breakfast consisting of one biscuit each with a dollop of butter, jam and marmite, we managed to get across Separation Stream and get back to the vehicle. By this stage we were overdue by two days and a SAR operation had been initiated. Fortunately action had not progressed past the paperwork stage since all relevant information had been forwarded to the Tekapo Police by our overdue contact and knowing what the weather had been like, the Police rightly assumed we knew what we were doing, would be safe and just sitting it out. Once out to Tekapo we called into the Police station for a debrief before heading off to Fiordland.



Impassable icefall approach to Mt Forbes #1, McKinnon Stream Godley Valley.

Part 2, The Fiordland Forbes

We spent a couple of days organizing things in Te Anau; mountain radio, float plane, helicopter and discussing our project with DoC. DoC gave us permission to use their facilities (including locked huts) on Resolution Island – thank you DoC. Loaded up with 20 days of food and gear we floatplaned into First Arm to be welcomed by a pod of dolphins. It was a bit daunting as we approached seeing our planned route from the water edge up to above the bushline; a very steep Fiordland spur then a narrow ridge leading to a high basin under Mt Forbes #2. Once the floatplane departed it was a task finding anywhere flattish and dry to set up base camp.

The next three days, besides enduring the rain and sandflies, were spent progressively putting up a route though the very steep bush and scrub; plenty of strips of pack liner utilized for marking the route, and plentiful use of loppers and pruning saw. Returning each evening to base camp. At one stage we thought we may have to give up, as a bluff line cut across the spur and progress become totally slow. Then it was time to head right up and put in a lightweight high camp. Near the top of the ridge on one side ***the horizontal scrub became the thickest I had ever encountered, while the other side of the ridge it was vertical and unclimbable.*** The pruning saw and loppers got plenty of use. However once through the scrub, and finding our way though some bluffs the going was very easy and we soon had the tent up on relatively flat, non rocky, dryish ground. The views were amazing; near vertical valley sides below us and peaks in all directions. The following day the summit was a very enjoyable scramble on coarse gained plutonic rock. Perfect weather meant we spent a number of hours on the top enjoying the Fiordland vista before heading down to our high camp. From what we had researched we assumed that no one else had climbed this summit from sea level, certainly there was no summit cairn on top, so we had to build one and leave a note.

The descent the following day down to base camp was executed relatively easily, with only one section of pack lowering with slings. Then it was onto the mountain radio, contacting the helicopter operator, breaking camp, then a late afternoon transfer to Resolution Island.



The view from near summit of Mt Forbes #2, Doubtful Sound.

In the fully laden (overloaded?) small Robinson helicopter Angela got excellent views from the front seat as the pilot circled our route and climb. I was stuck in the back nursing the packs. Descending to Duck Cove, our base for the next week or more, it soon became apparent the Forbes #3 was going to be more or less just a walk; easy grassy tops, and now knowing it had a predator trap track from Duck Cove to the summit. The chopper landed on the beach about 10m from the cosy little hut that was to be our base. Sandfly free accommodation this time. Plus the pilot had also bought in a lot of fresh fruit and vegetables for us to compliment our excessive amount of food (three 20L drums). At one stage a yacht sheltering from the weather offloaded fresh blue cod and crayfish onto us – we eagerly got rid of some of our chocolate in exchange.

With the network of predator control tracks Forbes #3 was successful ascended as part of a long day circuit including Mts Lyall and Clerke. A number of days were also spent in the centre of the island, again using DoC's excellent facilities; investigating the sometimes rocky, sometimes swampy, open scrub covered landscape and Mts Lot and Roa.



On top of Mt Forbes #3, Resolution Island.

Our trip back to Te Anau was by floatplane a couple of days earlier to enable us to get out before the next period of continued rain and to plan our next climbing activities. In total we had 15 days for Forbes #2 and #3, all but 4 being wet. Our boots stayed wet the whole time. We dosed ourselves up weeks in advance and on the trip with Marmite, and this seemed to make the sandflies less inclined to bite.

So for any of you thinking about what to do for a trip – dream up some interesting reason or idea and go for it!

18- 20 March
Mokai Patea- Lake Colenso/ Kokopuni
Report and photos by Tony Gates

Friday evening for us was a big sweat up a big hill- the Mokai Patea Range (northern end). We chased daylight then made camp in a pleasant grassy hollow. Grey skies and mist.

More grey skies on Saturday. We plodded down to the Maropea River, admiring the spectacular location of the DoC swingbridge there. It was an easy splash in cold water down river to Iron Bark Hut (simply known as IBH). Time for a brew.

Track signage reflects somewhat variable tramping times, perhaps because of when the signs were installed, and the use by the NZ Forest deer cullers living in the area. IBH to Lake Colenso Hut 3 hours via the army track (a very fast time for someone who knows the area well and is travelling light), 5 hours return on the same track (probably a more typical trampers time).

The Army track climbs then descends a big hill, then it is still a fair way into Lake Colenso and the hut. We were feeling good and tramping well. After a couple of brief rests to admire the limited views and the rim rock bivvys, we reached the Mangatera River headwaters. Limestone blocks and majestic beech forest made the scene very beautiful.

We tried following the river up to the hut, but the landslides that created Lake Colenso some 1200 years ago had tossed numerous house sizes boulders into the river and forest. River travel was impossible.

We did however find a very unusual creature living in the river, a black string like worm, about 300 mm long, with a sucker? at one end - a Gordian worm?

Gordian worms are free living freshwater multicellular nematormorphs, or aquatic parasitic animals. They are found throughout the world, and the most common hosts of their cysts are crickets. Other animals, such as fish, snails, small crustaceans and many kinds of small insect larvae can get infected with gordiid cysts, which are extremely resistant and can stay alive within the transport host for at least one year. A single female adult may lay 10 million eggs.

These worms are named after the Greek myth of antiquity, or sometimes are named horsehair worms due to their unusual shape. They sometimes are found in a large knot of worms, known as a gordian knot. The worm cysts mature to adults in 4-20 weeks inside their host, then exit once near water. Interestingly, once the worms leave their hosts, they no longer feed. All of the energy they need for living in the water is acquired while inside their host. Later, Michael found a video on the internet of a Gordiid worm devouring a cricket.

Information from Mike Joy, Massey University.



The basin is surrounded by high bluffs then seemingly endless Ruahine beech forest. We discussed some of the other botanic features of the area, including a *Coprosma* look alike *Pseudopanax*, and the fairly prolific ferns, swamp grasses, and fungi. The brew and early dinner at the hut felt very well deserved. A fine evening with whio whistling outside the hut, moonlit skies and bad mossies inside.

Sunday was lovely, just the weather for a river trip. But first, another view of the scenic lake. Morning mist was clearing as sun hit the water, perfectly reflecting surrounding ridges and cliffs. Two whio fed their way noisily towards us making it a very special moment. (Nobby Robson from DoC reported seeing 11 whio on the lake last winter).



Relatively tame whio on Lake Colenso / Kokopunui. Note heavy Podocarp forest, and Ohutu Ridge on the skyline.

Down in the Mangatera River, we explored the river downstream from the rock barriers we had encountered the previous day. It was an easy splash and scramble through a small, cliff lined gorge to the Waiokotore confluence. I knew the river from there, but it still felt like exploration as we wound down valley. Towering cliffs and slips above us, a few small grassy river flats, and two more short semi gorges made the route very interesting. We disturbed two more whio as we splashed our way along. A leisurely five hours,

including photo and fishing stops, returned us to IBH for a late lunch. The Maropea River offered much faster travel than the Mangatera. We departed a little before Janet, Martin, and Anne arrived from Ruahine Corner, checking the DoC trap lines. The Mokai Patea Range was sunny and attractive, showing clearly our route from Friday when we stumbled around in the near dark. The descent seemed to take much longer than expected- maybe we were a bit tired by then. We were Michael Allerby and Tony Gates.

THE WHO HAS DONE WHAT LIST compiled by Terry Crippen

Here is the “Who Has Done What” list for the last financial year (April 2010 to March 2010). It is an attempt to keep a record of what club members get up to (the cumulative list now goes back to April 2000); and to enthuse people to do bigger, longer or different trips. It is also a list of who to contact for info about such different places. It follows the same format as previous years: i.e. it excludes the usual shorter Tararua, Ruahine, TNP, ENP etc trips; and concentrates on further afield trips, overseas, and multi-day trips. The listings are both private trips done by club members and longer club trips. Note only members and past members are listed, so a single name doesn’t necessarily imply a solo trip. As usual it is biased towards what club members have told me they have done. So no doubt there are many brilliant trips omitted.

1st APRIL 2010 - 31st MARCH 2011

When	AREA	TRIP	ASCENTS	CLUB Members & ex Members
April	Kahurangi NP	Wangapeka and Karamaea Valleys		Terry Crippen, Janet Wilson, Graham Peters
	Rainbow Conservation Area	Paske, Begely, and Connors Valleys	Paske, Chittenden	Terry Crippen
	Kahurangi NP	Mt Owen	Owen	Chris Tuffley, Kelly Buckle
	Golden Bay	Paynes Ford; rock climbing		Chris Tuffley, Kelly Buckle
	Canterbury high country	Lake Coleridge	Oakden	Murray Gifford
May	Rakiura NP	Southern Circuit & Rocky Mt	Rakeahua	Peter van Essen
	Nelson Lakes NP	Sabine Travers circuit		Anja Scholz, Lance Gray
June	Kaweka FP	Kaweka J, Manson, Otutu Bush		Terry Crippen
July	Nelson Lakes NP	Travers, Cupola Valleys	Cupola, Travers	Terry Crippen
	Russia	Kamchatka Peninsula		Peter Wiles
	Australia	Cape to Cape walk, WA		Anne & Martin Lawrence
	Japan	Mt Fuji	Fuji	Peter Wiles
Aug	USA	Grand Teton National Park	Grand Teton	Chris Tuffley
Sept	Ruataniwha Conservation Park	Hopkins Valley		Terry Crippen
	USA	Canyonlands NP, Utah		Anne & Martin Lawrence
	USA	Rocky Mountain NP		Anne & Martin Lawrence
Oct	USA	Colville National Forest, Washington	Sherman, Columbia, Snowy, Midnight	Bruce van Brunt
	Kahurangi NP	Heaphy Track		Sandy Huang, Eric Liu
Oct - Feb	Antarctica	Scott Base, Ross Is areas, South Pole		Anja Scholz
Nov	Cheviot	World Rogain championships		Janet Wilson
	Nepal	Langtang and Everest regions		Jonathan Astin
Dec	Mt Cook NP	Sealy Range	Ollivier	Malcolm Leary, Bruce van Brunt
	Mt Cook NP	Grand Plateau	Cook	Malcolm Leary
	Mt Cook NP	Grand Plateau	Cook	Heather Purdie
	Kahurangi NP	Mt Owen		Bruce van Brunt
	Arrowsmith Range	Cameron Valley		Bruce van Brunt
	Mt Thomas Forest	Pinchgut Stream		Terry Crippen, Nigel Green
Jan	Fiordland NP	Dusky Track		Chris Tuffley, Kelly Buckle
	Pisa Range	north south traverse	Pisa	Chris Saunders, Richard Lockett
	Wanaka area	day trips; Roys Pk, Rob Roy Stm		Chris Saunders, Richard Lockett
	Tararua FP	Tour de bivvys - extended trip		Janet Wilson, Graham Peters, Anne & Martin Lawrence
Feb	Mt Cook NP	Godley Valley, Sibbald Ra	Forbes	Terry Crippen
	Fiordland NP	Dagg Peninsula	Forbes	Terry Crippen
	Fiordland NP	Resolution Island	Forbes, Clerke, Lort, Roa	Terry Crippen
	Canterbury, Otago	4WD trip; Coalgate to Naseby		Malcolm & Edith Leary
	Canada	Alberta, back country skiing		Mike Archer
Mar	Eyre Mountains	Mataura Valley	Eyre	Terry Crippen
	Tararua FP	YTYY Andersons Otaki circuit		Jo & Lawrence O'Halloran
	Fiordland NP	Milford Track		Craig & Michael Allerby

Poetry Corner: Lester Masters

Lester Masters, like William Colenso and William Howlett, was an iconic Hawkes Bay bushman. He was passionate about the ranges, hunting extensively throughout the Kawekas and Ruahines from the 1900's till about the 1950's. He penned many a fine poem and story. He reminisced often about the old time explorers and settlers, including Willy K'lenso. His books include "Back Country Tales of Hawkes Bay" and "the waiting west". After his death in 1961, a memorial hut was constructed in the northern Ruahines and named Masters Shelter. It bears the inscription, from one of his poems;

To the memory of Lester & Margaret Masters

*"We have drunk from mountain streams
Here breathed the mountain air,
Here have we made our memories
That only we can share"*

The Ruahines By Lester Masters

*Now the mustering is over,
And the flock has all been shorn,
Let us to the Ruahines
At the coming of the dawn,
Load the gear upon the packhorse,
Take the track into the west,
Underneath the lofty beeches,
Up beyond the saddle's crest,
Free old Brave and Ben and Ginger,
There'll be pigs among the fern
Boars in the misty gorges
Where the lawyers twist and turn
Bring the little blackened billie
That the social Sallies scorn
It belongs to the Ruahines,
And the coming of the dawn.*

*Now the harvesting is over,
And we've done with storing corn,
Let us to the Ruahines
With the coming of the dawn
Take the rod and take the rifle
Reel and minnow, spool and fly
In the Ngaruroro's waters there'll be rainbows
Worth a try,
Bring the matches and tobacco,
There'll be time to have a yarn,
As we linger at the Herrick,
Or beside the summit tarn,
Let's away where it's no matter,
Whether clothes are old and torn,*

*Up along the Ruahine,
At the coming of the dawn.*

*Now the picking days are over,
The orchard looks forlorn,
Let us to the Ruahines
With the coming of the dawn,
There'll be bellbirds in the beeches,
Tui's testing mistletoe,
Falcons flying in the azure
O'er the ranges that we know
Friendly wren's to whisper greetings,
As we wander on our way,
Blue ducks whistling in the gorges,
At the gloaming of the day,
And along the Waitutaki,
Stag and hind and dappled fawn,
On the way to the Ruahines,
At the coming of the dawn.*



Lester Masters at the old Ruahine Hut, 1926. Photo courtesy of David Logan (from Lester Masters).

Articles for the newsletter

Send by the 20th of each month to Tony Gates, the newsletter editor, at kiwi@leatherwood.co.nz, or via <http://www.pntmc.org.nz/mail/>

Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club Inc.

www.pntmc.org.nz

P.O. Box 1217,
Palmerston North

PNTMC Newsletter

April 2011

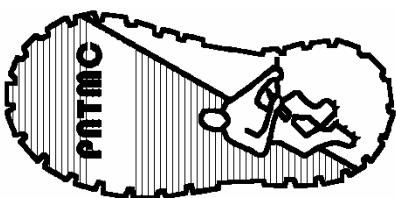
What's inside this month?

- Upcoming trips and club events
- Reports of climbs in Fiordland and the Southern Alps, plus local tramps
- Who Has Done What in 2010-11
- Classic poetry by Lester Masters

Articles for the newsletter

Send by the 20th of each month to Tony Gates, the newsletter editor, via the club website <http://www.pntmc.org.nz/mail/>.

Get out and about with us!



PNTMC Contacts

President	Anne Lawrence	357 1695
Vice President	Warren Wheeler	356 1998
Secretary	Dave Grant	357 8269
Treasurer	Martin Lawrence	357 1695
Webmaster	Peter Wiles	358 6894
Membership Enquiries	Warren Wheeler	356 1998
	Penny Abercrombie	358 7007
Gear Custodian	Mick Leyland	358 3183
Newsletter Editor	Tony Gates	357 7439
Trip Co-ordinators	Janet Wilson	329 4722
Snowcraft Programme	Terry Crippen	356 3588