

Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club Inc.

www.pntmc.org.nz

P.O. Box 1217, Palmerston North

Newsletter July 2013



Approaching Purity Hut, north west Ruahine Forest Park.

[Peter Wiles]

Club Nights

All are welcome to our club nights. These 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.

11 July

FMC President Visit

Rob McNeill

You will know Rob McNeill from his many years as Uncle Jacko in the FMC bulletin. A more serious tone comes with his role as President, but a sense of humour no doubt helps. Rob will give us his view from the top on issues affecting outdoor recreation and conservation. All welcome. MUAC and MTSC have also been invited to take this great opportunity to meet the president aka Uncle Jacko.

25 July

Patagonia

Chris Saunders

Retired? Want to see the world? Why not join the FMC Travel Club for a trip of a life time. Join Chris as he tells us about his trekking to see some of the greatest peaks in the world including Fitz Roy and those truly awesome spires in the Paine Los Glaciares National Park.

Upcoming Trips

3 July (Wed)

Snowcraft 1 evening for participants.

6 or 7 July

Snowcraft 1 I / M

Terry Crippen, Bruce van Brunt

Refer to notices for details.

6-7 July

Waiopehu, Gable End Ridge M

Grant Christian 354-5843

Great southern Tararua views, an excellent day circuit.

6-7 July

Powell Hut E

Doug Strachan 353-6526

It's a 1.5hr drive to the end of Mt Holdsworth Rd, in from Masterton. It normally takes about 3.5hrs up to Powell Hut, and is steep in places, but last time took 5.5hrs with our 4 and 5yr old kids. They are 2yrs older now. A family overnight trip, but kids need to be good walkers and have footwear etc suitable for snow. 8:30am start from Milverton Park.

13-14 July

Sparrowhawk-Kylie Bivvy F

Thomas Robertson 354-5036

Wonderful winter conditions will add adventure to this trip along the open tops of the eastern Ruahine Ranges.

14 July

Maharaha Crossing M

Warren Wheeler 356-1998

Depart 7.30am. This is the shortest crossing of the Ruahines, to be enjoyed with snow on the track across the leatherwood tops. Two teams in two vehicles, one each side of the Ruahine ranges.

17 July (Wed)

Snowcraft 2 evening for participants.

20 July (Sat)

Jumbo - Powell F

Derek Sharp 323-3928

A great opportunity to bag some wintry peaks in the eastern Tararuas from the Holdsworth roadend.

21 Stanfield Hut E

Mick Leyland 358-3183

A pleasant low level excursion from the Tamaki roadend. Lots of variety with easy ridge and stream travel to a classic old Forest Service Hut.

20 or 21 July

Snowcraft 2 I / M

Terry Crippen, Bruce van Brunt

Refer to notices for details.

27 July (Sat)

Gorge Walk E

Gina Fermor 359-0096

Manawatu Gorge track has been upgraded and is always a pleasant outing.

27-28 July

Hinerua-Paemutu-Smiths Creek M/F

Hannah & Mary Lund 06 374 7811

The eastern Ruahine should be covered in snow for this trip up to Paemutu 1682m, just north of Sawtooth Ridge. Hinerua Hut for lunch and historic Smiths Creek Hut for the night.

31 July (Wed)

Snowcraft 3 evening for participants.

3 or 4 August

Snowcraft 3 I / M

Terry Crippen, Bruce van Brunt

Refer to notices for details.

3 August (Sat)

Branch Rd Walkway E

Janet Wilson 329-4722

Join Janet on a stroll up and back down the old benched track just north of Pohangina township. Great views across to the snow capped Ruahine Ranges.

3 or 4 August

Snowcraft 3 I, M

Terry Crippen, Bruce van Brunt 356

3588 or 328 4761

4 August

Mangaweka Trig F,T

Grant Christian 354-5843

Full winter conditions are guaranteed for this trip to the highest point in the Ruahine Forest Park. Mangaweka is 1731m on the Hikurangi Range, east of Mangaweka town itself. Peak baggers will rejoice to tick off Wooden Peg and Iron Peg along the way. The flash new Purity Hut offers shelter there and back.

Trip Grading

Trip grades depend on many factors, especially weather and terrain. A reasonably proficient trampler 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.

Personal Locator Beacons – Free for trips

The club has purchased two PLBs for members' use. If you want to take one of these on a trip, contact Martin or Anne Lawrence. Note that this applies to any trip you are going on - it doesn't need to be a club trip.

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:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Tony Gates | 357 7439 |
| Janet Wilson | 329 4722 |
| Martin and Anne Lawrence | 357-1695 |

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/>

Notices

New Overdue Trip Contact System

The committee realised that our overdue trip contact system had some potential gaps in it. We have set up an email system to address

these gaps. The following guidelines are an update on previous versions of the overdue trip contact system as set out in the Leaders Guide sheet.

Anyone coming on a club trip should let their family and/or friends know who the club overdue trip contact person is, and that this is the person to contact if they have any concerns about overdue trips.

Trip leaders complete an intentions form with a list of participants and their contact details. Currently this can be left with one of the club overdue trip contacts or dropped into Martin and Anne's letterbox at 44 Dahlia St.

The new refinement to this system is an additional way for trip leaders to share their trip intentions.

Simply email pntmctrips@gmail.com with the date and trip name in the subject line.

Trip leaders can put the details of the trip and participants into the body of the email or they could fill out their intentions form, scan it and attach to their email.

This email can then be read by any one of the club overdue trip contact people if they are alerted that a trip is overdue.

Currently club overdue trip contacts are: Martin and Anne Lawrence, Janet Wilson, and Tony Gates.

Contact Anne if you have any queries about this new email system.

PNTMC Peak Bagging Challenge 2013-2014

The aim here is to encourage participation, to get trampers out and on to the hills! To follow on from last years hut bagging challenge, with a bias towards the Ruahines.

Rules:

- To run entirely on an honesty system, although photos on high points are encouraged.
- To run between the clubs 2013 AGM and the 2014 AGM. (You must be at the AGM 2014 to claim points bagged that day).
- All peaks to be within the Conservation Estate ie administered by DOC in New Zealand. They must be marked on NZ Topo

50 maps. Those on boundaries will count. If in doubt, look at the Walking Access NZ website.

- Peaks must be named - a Trig code or spot height doesn't count.
- A peak located on the DoC boundary will count.
- Points - Ruahine peaks 2 points, all others, 1 point.
- Special Ruahine peaks 5 points - for first visits (or if its more than 20 years since you last visited). There are 10 - Maharahara, Toka, Tunupo, Mangahuia, Otumore, Ohuinga, Mangaweka, Tiraha, Te Atua O Parapara and Te Atua Mahuru.
- A bonus point for each peak bagged on a PNTMC club trip.
- Points can be claimed for each high point a maximum of 3 times.
- Your results should be sent as soon as possible after each trip to Malcolm Parker at mparker@slingshot.co.nz or phone 357-5203.
- Any dispute to be settled by the committee.

SNOWCRAFT 2013



Snowcraft is underway this month. Applications are now closed but you might be lucky, there may be a space or two left. Contact Terry 356-3588 or 027 643 3637 asap and ask.

3rd July Wed evening
SC1 Intro and briefing

6th or 7th July SC1 Mt Ruapehu

17th July Wed evening
SC2 Briefing & intro to rope work

20th or 21st July SC2 Mt Ruapehu

31st July Wed evening
SC3 Briefing & rope work

3rd or 4th August SC3 Mt Ruapehu

The fees are for each of SC1, SC2, SC3: \$45 if PNTMC member or \$55 if non-member. These cover weeknight venues, day transport, group gear hire, and instruction. Individual gear hire, if needed, is an additional cost for non PNTMC members.

Snow Forecasts and Reports - Off the Web

The NZ Met Service has a (?new) web page and video link which details snow forecasting over the next few days. It's below the severe weather warning video:

<http://www.metservice.com/tv/index#snow>

And for snow conditions just on Ruapehu there is RAL's snow depth and skifield info and web cams. For Whakapapa and link to Turoa:

<http://www.mtruapehu.com/winter/whakapapa-report/>

And for those of you who like "the wild side", ie Tukino

<http://www.tukino.co.nz/ski-snow-conditions.html>

June-December 2013 Events Card

The next events card is enclosed with this newsletter and is now on the website. There are several easy picnic trips, and the Peak Bagging Challenge has provided lots of good ideas for harder trips with PNTMC. Thanks to all those members who offered to lead trips.

New Members

Welcome to Geoff Phillips 356-4223.

We hope you enjoy tramping with PNTMC and look forward to other recent trip participants joining the club.

Trip Reports

16-17 February
Kiritaki Hut
Richard Lockett

A good couple of hours of effort up the No 1 Line track will see you on top of the main Ruahine Range at a height of 1011 metres and in amongst the leather wood.

Distance wise this is well over half way to Kiritaki Hut, but time wise only about a third of the journey. No track from now on and as you may be aware leatherwood can be a challenge to walk through but as our route was to be along the ridge it's a bit thinner so getting through it is achievable just a tad slow.

So onwards, east down towards a saddle where on my last visit over this route we picked up a watercourse, headwaters of the Raparapawai Stream which we used as the route to the hut. On this occasion we were hoping to continue along the main range and to drop down a ridge and pick up the track approx 400 metres from the hut and avoid a 200 metre climb up out of the Raparapawai Stream.

The big question mark being would the leatherwood allow

us to? The predominate cover in the saddle is horopito which makes moving around easier but the leatherwood was never far away and as we climbed up out of the saddle I was faced with a vast sea of the stuff which generated a few thoughts like, what am I doing here, this is a dumb idea, it will take forever, lets drop down to the stream. As I mulled over backing out of our intended route Craig who was only ten metres to my right yelled out that it was clearer ahead where he was.

A thin vein of horopito in amongst the leatherwood and not thinking that it would go to far we pushed on but it kept going and so did we getting about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up to the next high point before having to brave the leatherwood in its full glory, but being higher it was a bit thinner and you can zigzag through it and we reach the top with out to much damage.

From this spot the hut can be sighted which lifts one enthusiasm to proceed only another

400metres of leatherwood to go, down a ridge to intersect with the track.



Craig Allerby deep in leatherwood.

Heading off on a compass bearing and it soon became obvious that we had missed the ridge as it got very steep and thick with leatherwood growing down hill, so a slow and ugly sidle 50 metres to the south saw the ridge gained with the discovery of an good well defined animal trail.

The compass confirmed that it went in the desired direction (lucky sods) so off we set along it finding the odd old saw cut branch along the way, an old hunter's track perhaps. Try and stay on in and make the most of some good fortune which we did until the leatherwood ran out to be replaced with scratchy horopito, but a bit of push and shove and we soon popped out onto the track at the desired spot 300 metres up from the hut arriving at 3pm.

A pleasant evening and a good night's kip saw an early departure from the Sea Mac motel returning to the saddle below high point 1011m via the Raparapawai Stream and reaching the car park early afternoon taking about 5.5 hours as against 6 hours for the outward journey.

We were Richard Lockett, Craig and Michael Allerby.

26 May 2013
Copper Mine Creek Tramp
Scott Esser

Participating on the outing was group leader Nicola Wallace, along with Geoff Phillips, Kaaren Tutt, and Scott Esser. We met at Milverton Park at 9:00 am and from there

proceeded to the starting point at the gravel end of Coppermine Road.

We tramped through a rainforest, crossed a creek several times, and found the old magazine where ammunition was hidden during World War II. Several of the group went in to explore the magazine shaft, a tunnel a little over a metre both in width and in height. They reported seeing thousands of weta (a bug resembling a cricket or grasshopper) hanging from the roof of the tunnel.

At this location we had a morning tea break next to the stream listening to the water flowing over the rocks. We then set out to find the old mine shaft location. Here we discovered old rusted rail cart tracks, and what appeared to once have been the mine opening which was now caved in and covered with fern growth.

We then set off on the loop track to return to the car park. This involved a steep climb for about 45 minutes as we ascended the Ruahine range. The higher we got the windier and colder the conditions. At the top we were rewarded for our hard work with dramatic views of cloud covered hills with green valleys and farms below. The DOC website describes what we were looking at as southern Hawke's Bay. Upon reaching the top of the range the terrain levelled out and we stopped for lunch along the path with dense bush on both sides. We each found a sheltered opening in the bush just off the path to have our lunch. While eating, the winds howled through the path and we got to experience first hand the "roaring 40s".

After lunch we set off on the descent. The climb down was much more gradual than the ascent up the ridge. As we proceeded the trees became thicker the lower we got. When we got out of the forest we were greeted with more amazing views of the landscape. Out in the open, the winds were sudden and intense. All four of us struggled to close the livestock gate against gale force winds. As we walked down the hills through open grazing land, the wind literally felt like it would knock us off our feet at times. This was an amazing experience and one of the true wonders of the Ruahine Range.

There was no significant rainfall during the trip; conditions were windy in the upper elevations, and mostly cloudy with some brief sunny patches. We returned to the car park

around 1:45 pm and were back at Milverton Park at 2:15, after enjoying a wide variety of terrain and scenery on the Coppermine Creek trail.

1-3 June Queens Birthday Waipatiki Beach Janet Wilson

Waipatiki Beach is only about 1/2 an hours drive north of Napier. I have driven past the turn off many times but never visited so took the opportunity this year to make it the venue for my "Coastal Classic" trip.

As we usually do on this weekend, we took the Friday off work and departed about 9am. First stop was Ongaonga Store for a drink and a yarn with the DOC staff at the base there. Then it was on to Napier for lunch from a bakery which we ate down on the foreshore. We then dithered around in the car before deciding to head up Bluff Hill for a look at the view. Then we had a "committee" supermarket trip to stock up on provisions and finally we were off out of Napier. The road down to Waipatiki is windy but not too long and in no time we had arrived.

I had booked us in to a cabin at the motor camp having first checked out their website. This camp with attached farm occupies the land on the south side of the stream. There are baches and some flash houses on the northern side.

Our cabin had uninterrupted sea views and on the Friday there were very few other visitors. We spent some time admiring our views, nicknamed "TV" - "the view". We went for walk up the rocky coastal path to the south before it got dark.

Next morning I put an enormous roast on in the camp's oven and we enjoyed some more of "TV" - it was hard to drag yourself away. We eventually went and explored a local walkway through a gully with many spectacular nikau palms (unexpected on the east coast) up to a road which we followed for several km's before following a historic road/bridal path back down to the beach.

After a late lunch Tony, Yvonne and Sally arrived and after they settled in we spent the rest of the day socialising. We all enjoyed the huge roast followed by Karen's lovely bread and butter pudding.

Next morning some of us had a quick exploration of the Redwood Walk on the farm before heading to the beach to watch the surfies and try to catch a fish - no luck with the fishing for Warren and myself. The weather was absolutely beautiful - calm, clear and quite warm.

After lunch, most of us headed up the coastal track north to Aropoanui beach for a good afternoon walk. We crossed the river on a small punt which is anchored to a small bulldozer on the bank - very convenient. Sally chatted with Tony via some new hand held radios until we were well out of sight.

We eventually got to the next bay and crossed a stream (shoes off) to continue until we came to a place where, according to someone more local than us, the path had been destroyed by Cyclone Bola. It was quite spectacular. We could have continued along the rocky shoreline but chose to turn back as it was close to our "turn-around time". On the way back, Sally rolled her ankle. She rolled it a 2nd time shortly afterwards ("jinxed" she claims by my words to take it easy in case she did it a 2nd time!) Poor Sally, she bravely carried on a bit more slowly and we all made it back just before dark. More food and socialising in the evening - the roast big enough for a 2nd meal.

Next morning Sally's ankle was quite swollen and interestingly coloured so she didn't join in our walk on another local path. They enjoyed a late check out while we four explored. Then we all headed off for a rendezvous at a cafe on the way home.



View from the porch at Waipataki Motor Camp.

Thanks everyone for coming along and visiting a new place with great weather. Nice motorcamp too, especially during the quiet time.

Sally had the ankle checked out and spent the next 2 weeks in plaster off work!! However a follow up visit to the hospital reversed the "cracked ankle" diagnosis and she's back at work without the plaster. Hope you make a full and fast recovery Sally.

We were Warren Wheeler, Karen Tutt, Graham Peters, Tony and Yvonne and Sally and Janet Wilson (leader and scribe).

9 June Purity Hut Peter Wiles

What with recovery from a cold and a rotten weather forecast I was inclined to can the trip. But they kept ringing to say they wanted to go. So off we went at 7.30 am with five in the car. The sky to the west looked far from encouraging and once we gained some height amongst the hills on route, the rain could be seen only a few kilometres to the west. Nonetheless, to the north, and our intended target, lay an area of blue sky and sun! We took the back route via Rangiwahia to the Kawhatau and found the carpark empty (rotten forecast syndrome perhaps)?

Once changed we were away in fine weather. In fact the section over the farmland was remarkably dry for this time of year. Once up the step farmland section we stopped for a rest and morning tea on the track just in the bush. A brisk easterly breeze was rather chilling so we did not linger and were away again. The tops were partially visible and there was no sign of snow.

We made good time, so we reached the hut in time for a rather early lunch. There was no one about and the views were great although the Central Plateau was still clogged in. The great mass of cloud that had threatened us seemed to gradually retreat.

After lunch and because of the cold wind we headed down and were back at the car in remarkably short time and in a dry state. The return was via Mangaweka and Vinegar Hill.

Team: Jonathon, Malissa, Tim, Woody and Peter. [See pic on front cover – Ed.]

15 June
Herepai Hut
Report by Bruce the Dog

I hadn't been tramping for a while so I was quite excited when I saw Janet and Graham putting into the car those silly things they put on their backs when we go in the bush. I was so happy I started singing. This seemed to make Janet cross so after a little while I stopped - mostly. We stopped in Ashhurst and met up with Holly and a lady they called Tina. I'd met them before when we went to Foxton Beach for the day. Holly's a pretty lady with a nice hairdo and smells nice.

After a while we stopped and were let out. While Janet, Tina and Graham fuffed around Holly and I wasted no time in checking out all the new smells but eventually they were ready and we headed off. Holly only has short legs so doesn't run as fast as I like to

and she likes to walk with Tina. *By crikey they go slowly though.* I could go there and back five times in the time it takes them to get anywhere. Sometimes I run to the back to try to hurry them up. It doesn't work though and Graham calls me a 'scabby mongrel' as I run past. He can hardly talk - he's no pedigree.

Not long after we head off we get to a very scary thing. We have to cross the river and while we normally just walk/swim across but this time they use a thing above the river. When I get up it moves around in a very alarming manner and I can see the river below. Even though Holly went across and I don't want to look like a wimp I do snivel and if Graham wasn't right behind me pushing I wouldn't have gone across. It was a relief when we were on the other side and on the track again. This was short lived as soon we arrived at a longer and much higher river crossing. This was much scarier but we got across alright and started heading up hill.

Janet, Tina and Graham were so slow and clumsy while Holly and I bounded up. Every so often I had to stop and look back to see that they were still coming. Fortunately they were and eventually we got to a hut. Tina, Janet and Graham went inside and had something to eat. Holly and I weren't allowed inside but at least Tina had some food for Holly. Graham didn't have any lunch for me but at least I'd had some breakfast in the morning. It was still quite early and as the

weather was good they decided to go up to Herepai high point. I like climbing onto piles of rocks and there were quite a few of them on the way up. Holly is so short I don't think she could see much over the tussock but Tina, Janet and Graham certainly enjoyed views to Waingawa, East Peak and Ruapae as well as the Ruahines and Ruapehu.

On the way back the crossings over the river weren't quite as scary. After the first one they stopped for afternoon tea. Graham must have felt sorry for me as he gave me a bit of his food - he never does that. It was dark by the time we got home and I was quite dirty so I went straight into my kennel and had my dinner.

Tina Bishop, Janet Wilson, Graham Peters, Holly and I had a good day and I'm looking forward to getting together with Holly at Foxton Beach.

16 June
Urban Walk
Anne Lawrence

Despite a grey looking day with rain forecast, four of us headed off from the carpark by Fitzherbert Ave bridge to explore the walkways around Massey and Pacific College.

We started by checking out the view over Palmie from Anzac Park. This led to us discovering the newly completed track that heads off from the road just below Anzac Park and wends its way below the houses to join with the track off Anne's Place.

We followed this up and around to the main road before looping behind Pacific College, crossing Old West Road and following the track up the hill and down through Bledisloe Park which got us back to the cars just before the rain set in more seriously.

Much talking, many topics, were covered and an enjoyable morning was had.

We were Kaaren, Warren, Patricia and Anne.

Peak Bagging By Terry Crippen

Peak Bagging has been around for a long time and has quite an active following nowadays. One example of this was the Mt Forbes Project

that a couple of us undertook three summers ago – climbing the three NZ Mt Forbes.

Perhaps the first peak bagging idea (from the English speaking world) was that of the Scottish Munros; those peaks in Scotland over 3000ft. This list originated in the 1890s and was compiled by Sir Hugh Munro, and later revamped by the Scottish Mountaineering Club. Various records have been set; fastest times for specific peaks, doing all the Munros on a continuous trip, etc. Once you had climbed all the Munros, you could then battle away with the Corbetts (peaks between 2500ft and 3000ft), then the Grahams (peaks between 2000ft and 2500ft). You could also tackle all the Marilyns of Scotland, England and Wales etc! See:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Munros

The List for many NZ climbers is the New Zealand Alpine Club's "100 Great Peaks". There are peaks for all levels of expertise; some are easy such as Mt Hector in the Tararuas, some are remote like Mt Irene in Fiordland (I'm still working on that) and some are very difficult like Mt Tasman (I'll give that a miss). Don French (our financial accounts checker and ex club member) is well on the way to completing this list. See:

<http://alpineclub.org.nz/system/files/100%20Great%20Peaks.pdf>

[Note: to view this you will need to copy it into the address bar of your web browser.]

Earlier this year a couple of young brothers (Nathan and Nigel Watson) tried to climb all the 21 "over 2000m" peaks in the Nelson Lakes National Park in 21 days. Very Hard Work I expect, but unfortunately they curtailed their adventure due to illness. See:

<http://hillaryexpeditions.org.nz/?p=808>

And don't forget THE SEVEN SUMMITS challenge, climbing the highest peak on each of the seven continents. The first 6 on the list are; Denali/McKinley (North America), Aconcagua (South America), Vinson (Antarctica), Elbrus (Europe), Kilimanjaro (Africa), Everest (Asia). Depending on your point of view for the seventh you can tackle Kosciusko (In Aussie, as a tramper) or Carstenz Pyramid (as a climber on an expedition in Indonesia as this peak is considered part of the Australasian continent and suitably higher than Kosciusko). See:

<http://climbing.about.com/od/mountainclimbing/a/7Summits.htm>

There is a web site called Peak Bagging New Zealand:

http://www.peakbagging.org.nz/wiki/Main_Page

Another site called Peak Bagger has peaks all round the world including NZ:

<http://www.peakbagger.com/>

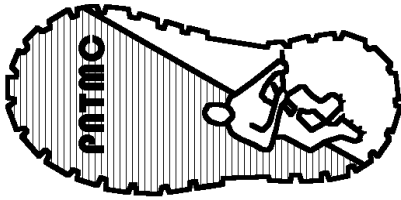
Getting back to Our Peak Bagging Challenge

There are various ways you can "bag a peak" for Our Challenge, as well as tackling all the peaks in the Ruahines Ranges. Here are some ideas:

Mountain Biking: There must be a number of peaks that are accessible by MTB. One such peak is Mt Dick, on the Eastern side of the Tararuas; up Dalefield Rd in from Carterton. A good forestry road takes you to the lookout and the top. On one MTB trip two of us descended by coming down another forestry road; unfortunately that road stopped half way down so it was steep bush-bashing for a couple of hours with the bikes! Not easy! If you are cycling to the *Bridge to Nowhere* then Mangapurua would be an easy scramble from the high point on the track. Must be plenty of others also.

Bush Bashing with GPS and Compass: Lots of so called named "peaks" can be accessed by various amounts of bush bashing. As well as Mt Humphries on the Matemateaonga Track the club trip ascended six other "peaks" with various degrees of ease armed with GPS and compass. Just off the Ohakune Mountain Road the named flat topped "peak" Raetihi (893m) was ascended by Ange and I recently when the weather was no good for Taurangi. With a good dose of bush bashing and a limestone bluff to scramble up we got there. A good way to do this bush bashing, is to enter your peaks location (preferably via mapping software for accuracy) into your GPS and using the nearest track keep an eye on the distance to your peak and when it is a minimum on the track start the bush bashing.

Snow and ice peaks: Plenty of these around, North and South Island, some easy some hard. On Ruapehu on a good hard long day (if fit like Grant and Thomas!), or weekend, you can try to get ten, armed with ice axe and crampons and good weather. **So go for it!**



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P.O. Box 1217,
Palmerston North

PNTMC Newsletter July 2013

What's inside this month?

- New Overdue Trip Contacts System
- Snowcraft Course – last chance
- Peak Bagging – what is it?
- Kiritaki leatherwood bash
- Easy pre-winter trips to Coppermine, Purity Hut, Waipataki Beach, and an urban walk.
- Special Report from Bruce the Dog to Herepai

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 Enquires | Anne Lawrence | 357 1695 |
| | Eric Liu | 355 1861 |
| Gear Custodian | Mick Leyland | 358 3183 |
| Newsletter Editor | Tony Gates | 357 7439 |
| Trip Co-ordinator | Janet Wilson | 329 4722 |
| Snowcraft Programme | Terry Crippen | 356 3588 |

**Sender: PNTMC
PO Box 1217
Palmerston North**