

P.N. TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

Hon. Secretary:
Lynne Potter 79.499

P.O. Box 1217
Palmerston Nth.

NEWSLETTER 4/69

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

This was held on 27th March and a little over half the Club's financial members were present. Some prospective members were also there, one being accompanied by his father. The interest of parents in the Club's activities is always welcome.

The following members were made office bearers for the forthcoming year:

		Phone
President:	Lawson Pither	85:616
Vice-President:	Kevin Pearce	74.129 ext.856
Secretary:	Lynne Potter	79.499
Treasurer:	Dennis Arnott	102 Rongotea
Committee:	Sheryll Kirkpatrick	77.829
	Wayne Boucher	79.839
	Peter Clausen	26.521
	Don Fletcher	87.432
	Keith Potter	79.499
	Russell Johnson	87.777
	Dennis Moore	76.752
	Gear Custodian: Dennis Moore	"

RANGIWAHIA HUT:

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, \$100 was approved to be spent on improvements to the Hut. \$39.00 in cash was received and promises for a considerable amount more were made. A work party will be held at the Hut and on the track on 18th & 19th April.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: The following were approved for 1969/70.

Members	-	\$2.50
Junior Members		\$1.50
Husband & Wife		\$3.50
Families		\$4.50

APRIL CLUB NIGHT: Thursday 24th April - Slide Competition.

Colour Slide Competition Rules:

1. A competitor may enter any number of slides.
2. Each slide must have been taken by the entrant personally.
3. No slide may have been previously entered in a P.N.T.M.C. competition.
4. There will be 3 classes:
 - 1) Flora & Fauna
 - 2) Tramping Subjects
 - 3) Open.
5. A slide may be entered in one class only and once entered may not be withdrawn.
6. Entries close for all classes immediately before judging begins.
7. First, Second and Third will be awarded in each of the classes and an overall champion slide declared.
8. First winners will receive the total sum collected as entry fees for that class.
9. The Judge's decision is final.
10. All slides to carry the owner's identification mark and may be titled.
11. Slide frame to be marked with a blue spot in bottom left corner when held correctly for hand viewing.

Committee Meeting: Tuesday 22nd April, at 30 Surrey Cres., P.N.

COMING TRIPS

19 – 20th APRIL: Rangiwahia Hut Work Party:

For details contact the Leader, Keith Potter Phone 79.499

20th APRIL: For those who cannot spend a full weekend at the Hut an additional day trip is arranged, on which some track maintenance will be performed. It is hoped that this party will also visit the Hut, but this will depend to a certain extent on the condition of the track on which we must do some work. For details phone the President, 85.616.
Please remember that phone calls should be made in the evening between 7 and 8 p.m.

25-26-27th APRIL: TRAINS HUT, WAITOTARA:

Leaving Friday night from the Izadium at 7 p.m. An easy but longish trip. For details phone the leaders:

Dennis Moore 76.752

Dennis Arnott 102 Rongotea

4th MAY: DIGGERS HUT:

Leaving Izadium 6 a.m. Easy. Leader Keith Potter 79.499

17 – 18th MAY: McKINNON HUT:

A fairly tough trip.

Leader: Dennis Arnott 102 Rong.

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SEARCH & RESCUE:

Kelth Potter, Dennis Arnott, Dennis Moore and Wayne Boucher from our Club were the Palmerston North representatives in the search which took place in the Tararuas behind Levin on 31st March.

TRIPS conducted over the past year were:

		Number
March 3	Mangahao	9
March 16-17	Attempted Northern Tararua Crossing	13
March 31	Coppermine Creek	8
April 13	Kahuterawa Stream	
April 28	Deerford	6
May 11-12	Desert Road – Waihohonu	30
May 26	Rock Climbing	3
June 1-2-3	Southern Crossing Tararuas	9
June 16	Kapakapanui	14
June 29-30	Rangiwahia Work Party & Tramping	14 + 4
July 9	Search	10
July 14	Tiritea Hut	12
July 28	Harris Creek Hut	13
Aug. 17-18	Whakapapaiti	34
August 31	Ruapehu Bus Trip	34
Sept. 14-15	Dawson Falls	10
Sept. 28-29	Holdsworth- Totara Flats	4
November 3	Rangiwahia Work Party	13
November 11	Bonfire held at Kahuterawa	
Nov. 16 –17	Trial Search	5
Nov. 30-Dec 1	Harris Creek	8
December 8	Grand Annual Dinner, Rangiwahia	16
<u>1969</u>		
February 2	Three Hut Trip, Ruahines	4
Feb. 14 –16	Rangi Hut - Howletts, Middle Ruahine Xing	6

THREE HUT TRIP

An Account of a Trip which caused Parents a Great Deal of Concern and had the S.A.R.
Notified.

The area in which this saga took place was the Ruahines, bounded by Pohangina Saddle Hut, Upper Tuki Tuki River, Centre Tuki Hut and other places never trodden before by man. Four keen men left the Izadium on Sunday 2nd February intending to do a 3-Hut Trip, Pohangina Saddle, Black Stag and Saddle Hut. We arrived at Morcock Base and after giving Roger's boots some much needed attention with screw driver and tyre lever, we duly headed off. We also decided to take our parkas - what a wise decision! Halfway up the ridge to Pohangina Saddle the party divided. Roger and Dennis hoped to shoot some animals while en-route to the Hut via another ridge and Picnic Flats. Four deer were sighted, but none shot, and the would-be hunters eventually arrived at the Hut just after 3p.m. In the meantime, Keith and Warwick waited at the Hut until 2p.m., then came to the conclusion that, as we were no doubt weighed down by venison, we had gone straight back to the car. After a bite to eat we left the Hut at 3.30, deciding to go back via Stag's Ridge, still hoping to see something to shoot, but all we saw were a few Spaniards. It is quite a well-marked track leading down the ridge and into the bush. Somewhere in that there bush we should have taken a right-hand turn down a spur to Morcock Base. Unfortunately we missed the turn-off, and at six o'clock found ourselves heading down into a river! Oh, what a surprise! (We later realised it was the Tuki Tuki and two weeks later found there was even a hut, Centre Tuki, ten minutes upstream.)

After studying the map we decided to climb onto the ridge on the other side of the river. We filled a small plastic bottle with water and left some stick arrows pointing in the direction we were heading. An hour and a half later, and after some hard climbing, farm land could occasionally be seen on a ridge to the right and we realised there would be no home comforts for us that night and it was time to find a sleeping place. Just before 8p.m. a suitable spot was found, two logs lying about three feet apart, one end blocked by a tree stump. Luckily there was a ready supply of fern, and we cut a big pile. We formed a roof, made a mattress and eiderdown (?) and used some to block the entrance once we were inside.

Tea consisted of 1½ food tablets, slice luncheon sausage, 4 biscuits and quarter cup of water. We fired three shots after tea, but heard no reply, so retired to bed, dressed in all the clothes we had with us - parkas (mine a brand new summer sale bargain), woollen shirts and singlets, shorts, socks and boots. Having crawled into our little abode we had to lie on our sides if we sat up our heads met the tree stump amid showers of tree roots and bits of dirt. The wind came up and things became pretty cold, so we decided to cut more fern to pack around us. Aided by a full moon this did not take long and we were soon bedded down again, serenaded by a morepork making a hell of a racket.

Monday morning didn't seem to bring the usual getting up problems, and after two biscuits and a mouthful of water, we were ready to leave by 7 a.m. We left a note saying we were both well, and heading along the ridge until we found a suitable spot to drop down into the river. This spot was found about 9 a.m. after a lot of rests and bush bashing. We left blazes on trees at regular intervals. The river was reached after dropping down a landslide.

At the bottom a couple of deer carcasses were found and some nasty words were said about some lucky B's. After travelling down the river we decided it was time for smoko - a biscuit and a drink of water. We took our boots off for the first time in 24 hours and washed our socks. Progress along the river was pretty slow and it was 11 o'clock before we saw any signs of farmland. We were mighty sick of the river, so climbed onto the farmland. This was a mistake, as it meant bashing through scrub and sidling around spurs until we reached a farm track. If we had stayed in the river it would have taken half the time to reach a track. We reached the end of Mill Road about midday, faced with a walk of about five miles to Morcock Base.

What of Keith and Warwick?? They had quite a night sleeping in the car. In the morning they had dashed up to Pohangina Saddle Hut in record time. After reading in the Hut Log that we were returning via Stag Spur, they decided we had run out of light the night before and would now undoubtedly be waiting at the car ... so they promptly made a round-trip record! Consternation reigned when we were nowhere in sight. Keith decided it was time to go into Onga Onga to telephone Palmerston to tell the folks what was going on. Apparently the Post Office was kept busy in the early hours of the morning with anxious mums and dads enquiring "Has your son come home???" As Keith returned he decided to have a look down Mill Road, just in case and there we were about to start the five mile walk. Boy oh boy were we glad to see them and that small green car. So ended a very eventful, energetic and enjoyable "day trip".

Those on this trip:

Keith Potter, Warwick Blanchard, Roger Clarke, Dennis Arnott.

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