

PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217, PALMERSTON NORTH

Newsletter - July 2004

CLUB NIGHTS

Club nights are on the second and last Thursday of each month at the Society of Friend's 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.

June 24 Everest / Shishapangma (Clive Jones)

July 8 **NZ Coastal Wilderness Harley Betts**

Harley will give a slide presentation on his photographic journeys to capture coastal images, the best of which have been published in a 2005 calendar.

July 22 Committee Meeting at Dave's

July 29 **Photo Competition Tony Gates**

A chance to show off your best photos and hear some constructive criticism from our guest judge. Place-getters will be entered in the Inter-club Photo Competition later in the year. See the Notices section for details.

For lots more photos & trips, check out www.pntmc.org.nz

E-mail articles to doug.strachan@xtra.co.nz or post to 1 Worsfold Lane, Palm. North (by 20th of month)

TRIPS

Please contact the leader at least three days in advance. Trips leave from Countdown carpark. A reasonably proficient tramper can be expected to do the trips in the following times:

Easy (E): 3-4 hrs Technical skills reqd (T) Instructional (I)

Medium (M): 5-6 hrs

Fit (F): about 8 hrs

Fitness Essential (FE): >8 hrs

June 26-27 Holly Hut (see June newsletter)

June 27 Hihitahi Forest

July 3-4 **Triangle Hut** M/F Janet Wilson 329 4722

The plan is to go up Deadman's Track to Mangahuia, down the old track from here to the saddle on the track that bypasses part of the Oroua, and then up river to Triangle Hut for the night. Return from Triangle directly up to the tops, then along and down to Rangi Hut where we may meet up with the day trippers.

July 4 Rangi Hut Mick Leyland 358 3183

Leaving 7:30 to do the Deadman's loop. A western Ruahine's tramp.

Caving, Waitomo **July 10-11** M **Graham Peters** 329 4722

"A weekend at Winterless Waitomo. Leaving Friday evening. The plan is to arrange a permit to visit "Hollow Hill", the main chamber within which the liner Queen Mary (not the recently launched one) would fit. We'll go caving both days. An opportunity to have a go at caving or extend your experience. "

TRIPS contd...

July11 Akitio Ramble E lan Harding 06 376 5707

A trip to the secluded Wairarapa coast. Travel through the Makuri Gorge and over the Puketoi Range to Pongaroa. An easy farm walk to visit the Mangatiti Falls, then driving on to Akitio Beach for possibly a stroll; then home to Palm. Nth via Weber/Dannevirke. 8am start from Countdown.

July 17-18 Waterfall Hut F Lance Gray 356-6454

Leave Countdown carpark at 7am. We will go in via Purity Hut, and on to Iron Peg before dropping down Iron Peg Creek to Waterfall Hut for the night. We will come home via Pinnacle Creek. Ice axe and crampons will possibly be required.

July 18 K2-Mt Cook E,T Warren Wheeler 356 1998

Depart 6.00am for a dawn assault on the South Face of K2, altitude 32,000mm above sea level. The team will use ropes and crampons depending on conditions, and solo climbers will attempt to break the unofficial in-crampon ascent time record of 30 seconds. Following a successful summiting we will breakfast at base-camp and then proceed to knock off the south face of Mt Cook, 58,000mm asl - the highest point between PN and West Island. No previous experience required. You don't have to be mad, but it would help. Ice axes and crampons essential (contact Warren if you need to hire from the club).

July 24 Kelly Knight Hut E/M Mary Craw 06 327-4556

A western Ruahine hut in from Kawhatau. Good track. At time of writing, Mary can't be reached. Contact Mary for start time and other details. It may be that, as stated in the notices, access is difficult due to lambing season.

July 25 Tama Lakes M Peter Wiles 558 6894

Does the Upper Tama Lake freeze in winter? Let's check it out. Leave Countdown 6 am. If weather not suitable we will try Lake Surprise instead. Should manage a walk in some snow.

Aug 31/1 Kime /Hector M Peter Darragh 358 8744

8am start. Kime Hut is accessed via Otaki Forks and Field Hut. We'll overnight at the hut, but there's the possibility of a moonlight walk to Mt Hector to see the lights of Wellington and the Hutt Valley.

Aug 1 Iron Gates M Craig Allerby 323 7913

A popular western Ruahine tramp. From Heritage Lodge, the track follows the Oroua River to Iron Gates Hut. Probably an 8am start, but check with Craig. Tip: don't sit in the front passenger seat or you'll have to open the Iron Gate to the road end carpark!

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).

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.

*** OVĚRDUE TRIPS ***

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

Portal to the Past

July 1969 newsletter: "Rock Climbing in the Manawatu Gorge...this trip is suitable for novices. Bring 20-30 feet of hemp line (clothes line rope). ...

Pohutukawa has the scientific name *Metrosideros excelsa*, which means 'iron wood.' It comes from the Greek words *metra* (middle/heartwood) and *sideros* (iron). *Excelsa* means tall/exalt. The Maori word 'Po' means night, and 'hutukawa' means headdress of red feathers. Some sources have references to 'water' in the translation. Anyway, the natural curves of 'ironwood' made it useful in boat construction. Ever noticed that Feijoa trees have similar leaves and red stamens? Same family as Pohutukawa: Myrtaceae. Likewise Eucalyptus and Rata. The latter is even in the same genus, *Metrosideros*. Ed.

NOTICES

Peter Wiles Resigns, Enclosures, Snowcraft, , Kelly Knight Track, Photo Comp.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES can be

e-mailed to <u>doug.strachan@xtra.co.nz</u> or delivered to 1 Worsfold Lane, PN

PETER WILES RESIGNS

At Committee night on Thursday 17 June 2004 Peter Wiles announced his resignation as Treasurer on the grounds of on-going differences in opinion regarding various club affairs. The final straw was the 3-2 decision (2 abstaining due to potential conflict of interest) by the committee in favour of paying out the DOC Travel Subsidy of 12c/km per participant to the 8 club participants on the Contorta Slaughter weekend in 27-28 March 2004. The money would be distributed on the basis to the 3 car drivers at the usual club rate of 20c/km and the remaining amount distributed evenly amongst the 8 participants. This was the basis that the trip had been arranged and it was felt that this was reasonable, although it was contrary to the practice more than 10 years ago when the club was last involved in helping DOC with its on-going Pinus Contorta Eradication Programme. Back then only transport costs were paid to the drivers, with the rest remaining in Club funds, essentially as a donation from those participating.

In this case the Committee had not earlier provided any direction as to how the travel subsidy should be applied and in hindsight it would have been preferable to clarify the issue before the event. Nevertheless it was felt that the amounts involved are small and easily defended as expenses so there is no pecuniary gain involved (which would be contrary to our Club constitution). In addition I believe that in supporting the participants in this way the Club benefits by encouraging fulfillment of one of our rather neglected Club objectives – to assist DoC conserve our wilderness areas.

It is with deep regret that I accepted Peter's resignation, but I am hopeful that with your support he can be encouraged to take up the mantle of Treasurer again. The Committee will now have to consider delegating the role of Treasurer to another club member until elections at the next AGM. Meanwhile Peter has graciously agreed to assist in the role.

Warren Wheeler President PNTMC

EXTRA GOODIES WITH THE NEWSLETTER

Included with this newsletter are a number of items. All club members are getting the bundle, for use and/or reference.

Six Monthly Events Calendar for July to Dec 2004: This has been ably put together by Janet, with help from Tony and Terry, and Warren for the club nights. Thank you all club members who have volunteered to lead trips. Lots of excellent trips for everybody; winter, spring and summer ones. Instruction as well, and a good selection of club nights. Some of the more recent trips have been getting pleasingly large numbers (for PNTMC anyhow) on them — 16 on the Bruce Hill trip lead by Chris. Let's continue with the good turnout for trips. Bring friends along.

<u>Guide for Trip Leaders</u>: This explains how club trips are planned and run. New leaders, take some time to go through the guide (full version on one side –tick box on the other). Seasoned leaders –use it as a timely reminder of your responsibilities. Others use it as reference. Three particular reminders from me currently:

- 1. All leaders please remember to consult with Janet (as the "main" trip coordinator) and tell Doug (as newsletter editor), if you can't lead the scheduled Club trip, or want to change the date or destination. This is for safety and advertising reasons.
- 2. All leaders remember to leave full details of the trip as per guidelines in case a trip is overdue, or in extremely rare cases a search and/or rescue has to be initiated.
- 3. All leaders remember it is your responsibility to collect transport money off all participants and reimburse the drivers based on the kilometres and club rate of 20c/km/vehicle. A list is on the club notice board with distances and \$ amounts. Note that all participants pay the same amount and each driver receives the same reimbursement, even if there are differing numbers of people in the various cars.

<u>Pink Form</u>: Leaders use this as is or as a guide to what is need to be recorded and left with a Club Overdue Contact or your "responsible contact at home."

<u>Club Trip Feedback Form</u>: Trip participants (including leaders) use this to give the committee information regarding the trip you went on. It is essential that we are informed of accidents and

significant incidents. We are happy to receive any comment –"good" or "bad" about the trip. Hand it to a trip co-ordinator or put it in the flowery box on the bookcase at club night.

(Note: More copies of the above material are always available at club night –on PNTMC's bookcase, or ask a committee member.) Terry.

SNOWCRAFT INSTRUCTION 2004 Terry Crippen

Winter is finally here, so you may be interested in the Club's snowcraft programme. This has two aims: Firstly, to equip trampers with the necessary skills for safe travel in snow. Secondly; to pass on the fundamental skills for snow climbing and mountaineering. The programme consists of three weekends away (Friday night departure) a fortnight apart (on Ruapehu and Egmont) and three evening sessions prior to each weekend. A progressive approach is used, with Snowcraft 1 assuming little or no previous snow experience. Snowcraft 2 and 3 build on the previous levels.

Most participants enrol in the complete programme, while others just in Snowcraft 1 and 2. Places are limited. Fees cover; transport, accommodation, most food, and technical equipment (there is a minor additional charge for non Club members needing to hire personal gear).

Dates and fees are as follows: Close off date for applications is 12th August.

Snowcraft 1 \$120 (\$125*) Weekend 21-22 August (evening Tues 17th Aug)

Snowcraft 2 \$135 (\$140*) Weekend 4-5 September (evening Wed 1st Sept)

Snowcraft 3 \$125 (\$130*) 18-19 September (evening Wed 15th Sept)

Discounted fee for full programme \$365 (\$380*) (* non PNTMC member rate)
For further info, and registration form contact;
Warren Wheeler 356-1998 or Terry Crippen 356-

ACCESS TO KELLY KNIGHT TRACK

Access is closed for Lambing until 1st Oct. Contact (06) 329-1919 or Arend at DoC (06) 350-9010.

WAIOHINE GORGE RD closed from W. Shelter to road end from Mon-Fri for about 6wks. Info: Derrick Field, Area Manager, (06)377 0700

ANNUAL PHOTO COMPETITION

It's time to sort through your slides, pull out the crème de la crème, and bring them along to the club's annual photo competition on Thursday, July 29. The usual rules for the competition apply:

- · Entries must not have been entered previously.
- · All entries must be related to tramping, climbing, or the natural environment.
- · All slides must have a cross on the bottom lefthand corner of the mount (ie. top right-hand corner when loaded into the carousel).
- · Slides and photos labelled with photographers name and entry category.
- · Limit of 3 slides per person per category, but no limit on prints.

Categories:

- 1. <u>Alpine (NZ)</u>. Predominantly alpine scenery in NZ (i.e. Above the bushline)
- 2. <u>Scenic (NZ).</u> Pictorial interest in NZ hills etc. (i.e. predominantly below the bushline)
- 3. <u>Natural History (NZ)</u>. NZ flora & fauna or detail, eg. geology, ice formations, etc.
- 4. <u>Topical (NZ)</u>. People in tramping, climbing, or skiing related activities in NZ.
- Overseas Alpine or Scenic. Related to tramping, etc. overseas or Scenic.
- 6. Overseas People. Climbers or people met while tramping, climbing overseas.

The formats are; slides, b/w prints, and colour prints. Prints can be digital images, and do not need to be mounted. The system for judging winners is a democratic one – a show of hands, after the guiding advice of our guest judge.

There will be an interclub photo competition later this year, between us, MUAC and MTSC.

NEW MEMBER

The PNTMC extends a warm welcome to Heather Purdie (tel. 353 5025).

WEDNESDAY TRAMPING GROUP

We go out every second Wednesday on easy tramps. Come and join us. For more information, please phone Bev Akers 325 8879, or June 355 2690.

THURSDAY TRAMPERS

We go for a tramp every Thursday. If you wish to join us, contact Merv Matthews 357 2858, or Liz Flint 356 7654.

TRIP REPORTS

Colenso, Nydia Track, A-Frame, Kapakapanui, Nonsense

Roaming the Ruahines, 15-16 May By Chris French

The original intention of this trip was to camp at Lake Colenso, but the threatening weather forecast saw a change to the plans. However, with the leadership of *Tony "I know five ways to get to any one hut" Gates*, we had plenty of options up the sleeve.

When we eventually made it to Triple X car park in the northeast Ruahines, Martin Lawrence was keen to get the boots on and make some tracks. Tony had provided at least three alternative routes, and with a couple of adjustments of Anne's pack, we were on our way up the Waipawa River. We had great weather and intentions of reaching Waterfall Hut via Waipawa and Rangi Saddles in the five remaining hours of daylight.

The trip up the Waipawa River was fairly easy going, with what seemed like a thousand river crossings. The most surprising aspect was the deceptive grade of the river valley as we moved closer to the saddle. While the climb seemed reasonably gradual, looking back down the valley during a short break seemed to prove otherwise.

In the final ascent to Waipawa saddle, we came across an area of bush isolated by slips, which provided a good idea of the power of the river when it floods. The ascent gave me a chance to test my fitness training, and Martin informed me that I would be on wood chopping duties if I continued to expend copious amounts of energy during the hill climbs.

The Waipawa Saddle to me provided the feeling of isolation where the Hawkes Bay disappears and you become captured by the surrounding hills. A true reminder of South Island tramping. Tony continued to provide a valuable commentary of his knowledge of the area, and the possible routes we could take to get home on the following day. We casually meandered down the river valley to reach Waikamaka Hut complete with a rocket-shaped outhouse.

As we departed the hut a quick check of the time showed that it was 4.30pm. I knew that we had

about two hours of daylight left, and a quick decision was made by the group to move on to Waterfall Hut via Rangi Saddle, which would be reached by dark. Tony forgot to tell us that there really wasn't a track on this route, but rather lots of tussock, Spaniards and a species of plant Martin described as the warratah. I think the extra strong cinnamon and apple muesli bars that Martin had consumed were taking their effect!

But if we thought that climbing to Rangi Saddle was a challenge with no track, descending the saddle surely topped it off. Ankle twisting is the best way to describe this experience. Better pastures to roam could be seen in the distance, but getting there seemed slow and without progress. Eventually we reached the stream below and the final leg to the hut. In the last kilometre we approached river flats with plenty of driftwood. Tony insisted that we collect as much as possible to carry to the hut – rewarding in the end but seemingly mad at the time.

If Tony's knowledge of the area seemed remarkable, his fire lighting skills could only be described as outstanding. Within ten minutes of arriving we had a cosy fire ablaze in the hut. At this point the decision to combine everyone's pasta into one meal took no contemplation, and eventually hungry mouths were satisfied by tomato and red pepper soup as well as pasta of varying flavours. I won't mention the disaster of 'just add water' instant pudding which seemed to me to be a great idea at the time of purchase.

The agreed track on the second day was an assault of Broken Ridge, a left turn and stroll to Rangioteatua, and an eventual descent to Waipawa Saddle to complete the circuit. Once again, it had slipped Tony's mind to mention the

lack of track on the way up to Broken Ridge. My poor new pack. I never realised that a concoction of small Beech trees, larger-than-life leatherwood and eroded hillsides could provide such adventure, scratching and general nuisance.

When we had eventually climbed the monster hill, tackled the bush from hell and made it onto the ridge line, I was stunned by the natural beauty and shear size of slips in the area. I was also overcome by a sense of vertigo, which refused to release from me at any point along the traverse. After several photographs (of which Tony took many), plenty of up and down ridge walking and a well-deserved drinks break, we eventually made

it to the junction of three ridgelines. Here the vertigo really took over as Tony led us across several

Slips below large rocks to take the left turn towards Rangioteatua. I will never forget the experience of combined fear and awe of the natural surroundings.

The trip to Rangioteatua required us to first climb 'Point 1711', which felt like a burning climb of the deceptive nature. The map shows Point 1711 as having a height of 1715m, which may be due to the efforts of the Ruahines Reduction Society – enquiries to Tony for membership details. Tony promptly advised us that we would be well rewarded at Rangioteatua by tarns and a cup of tea. He was not wrong, but possibly because of the views more than anything. The high points on those ridgelines well warrant the climb.

After descending from Rangioteatua where we had collected water, we eventually found a magically sheltered and scenic spot just off the ridge for lunch. Aside from a couple of difficulties finding level ground for the cooker, the hot tea was received with pleasure. We also knew that, provided we didn't climb Three Johns as Tony was suggesting at that stage, we were basically on a downhill trip to the car. Indeed we enjoyed that aspect.

After strolling up and down to Waipawa Saddle, we began the descent back down the Waipawa River to the car. I was somewhat lagging behind the group due to an unpredicted stop, but caught up with a combination of rock hopping and running. I decided that I had not expended quite enough energy, so made a minor detour from the river to Triplex Hut via the Sunrise Hut track. I assume that everything went all right for the rest of the group as they all made it to the car.

I would like to thank Tony, Martin and Anne for a memorable weekend. If only my new pack had enjoyed it as much.

Why is it that one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box of matches to start a campfire?



Martin & Chris in Waterfall



Ann, Chris & Martin on Paemutu Scree

Nydia Track --- Marlborough Sounds 4-7 June 04

By lan Harding, in the company of --

Janet Wilson[Leader], Graham Peters, Warren Wheeler, Elaine Hervé [photography], Mick and Marion Leyland, Yuko Watanabe, Wara Teeranititamkul, Richard Lockett and Nigel Gregory.

Leaving Palmerston North by 9am gave us time for a look around and a bite to eat in Wellington before the 2pm ferry sailing. Weather conditions in the city were far from inviting with strong wind gusts and rain which unbelievably transpired into a smooth Cook Strait crossing.

Arriving in Picton we were met by Jutta of Sounds "Natural" Adventure Holidays who drove us in a comfortable 18 seater bus to Havelock dropping us at the local Youth Hostel. An evening stroll past the famous "Mussel Boys" restaurant saw most of us finally dining at the "Slip-Inn", a quaint little place over-looking the local marina.

The next morning was fine and foggy as we boarded the coach driven by Ed, with wife Jutta as co-driver. Destination - Duncan Bay, a secluded sea-side settlement with a handful of houses, a jetty and boat-ramp at the head of Tennyson Inlet about 1 hours drive from Havelock. Best described as a piece of paradise.

Bidding the bus farewell we donned our packs and proceeded to walk the Nydia track. Travelling inland we were soon surrounded by virgin native bush as we plodded up the well graded but at times rough pathway. Eventually dropping into Nydia Bay for lunch.



Nydia Bay



Scene With A Good Sound Track

Continuing on, the next highlight in our path was *a tame eel*, a large specimen living in the stream adjacent to the walking track. Obviously well fed by passing trampers, it's preferred fare seemed to be bread without crusts with a definite distaste for cheese and muesli.

The track continued around the bay hugging the shoreline, at one point passing by a private property owned by the local identity "mad Jack", a recluse who has a obsession for collecting junk

and dead motor cars.[Quite an asset considering there are no roads to drive on.] Two almost completed new D.o.C. bridges in close succession challenged our climbing skills but everyone took it in their stride.

Another 45 minutes walk around the bay saw us reaching our pre-booked accommodation at the D.o.C. lodge, a neat place on the shoreline surrounded in scrub. Quite a complex with enough beds for 50 people and all the modern conveniences expected by tramping folk, ie. flush loos's and paper, hot showers and electricity [when operational]. After some people went hunting and gathering we had a shared meal with cuisine highlights including fresh steamed mussels, chocolate coffee beans and wasabi bullets, all going down a treat.

Next morning after a spot of fishing we back-tracked to the Nydia turn-off. The hills seemed a little steeper than the day before but with some decent bush near the tops. The wildlife most evident in the area was pigs, not many seen but the resulting rooted-up ground was fairly predominant. Stopping for lunch at the saddle gave good views of Mahau sound with clear sights of the snow capped Kaikoura's in the background.



Elaine with Baited Hook

Bush quality slowly started to deteriorate finally reducing to radiata pine with the track eventually opening out onto farmland and a shingle roadway. Arriving on the shoreline at Shag Point we were collected by a water taxi for a fast trip back to Havelock.

Following hot showers at the hostel we all gathered for evening refreshments and a meal at "The Clansman", a recently built stone clad pub, tastefully decorated with Scottish memorabilia and oozing with good atmosphere.

Guided 'clothing optional' kayaking with Ed and Jutta the next morning was canned due to very cold weather, in favour of a guided launch trip in the lower reaches if the Pelorus, Kenepuru and Mahai sounds. This allowed us to observe the local mussel farms and other interesting sites of the area before returning to Havelock to the waiting coach which drove us back to Picton.

The return voyage was not to be so smooth with conditions in the Cook Strait being rough, with many surrendering to the peril of motion sickness. It must be said that our group of hardy souls managed to resist the urge, although Wara stressed afterwards that flying would still remain his preferred travel option.



All at Sea

Finally, thank you Janet for once again organising and executing yet another interesting, fun filled and enjoyable weekend. I feel certain that those in attendance will be keenly awaiting in anticipation to peruse your next years itinerary.

A-Frame Stanfield Loop, 30 July By Martin Lawrence

Today's trampers were Heather Purdie, Barbara Maré, Neil Campbell, Tony Gates, Warren Wheeler, Cale Olsen, Anja Scholz and Martin Lawrence.

This trip got off to an un-promising start as the intrepid leader (myself) lost a member at the supermarket

Carpark. Neil dashed off to park his car in a safe place and turned around to see his transport disappearing down Ferguson Street. Being of a calm nature he waited a little then followed in his own car, catching us up just as we arrived.

The weather at the Tamaki West roadend was looking like it might rain all day. And so it proved. We warmed up nicely on the climb to A-Frame, but with the rain turning colder and heavier we decided to simply return. Barbara was quite cold so Warren assisted in turning her bright yellow pack-liner into a water-proof coat. Tony wanted to show us where the 'beech forest gap' started at Stanfield Hut, maybe next time.

So PNTMC were once again to be found in the Dannevirke café – (maybe a café log book would be a good idea). On the drive back we took the Saddle Road and had great views of the new turbines, one upstanding and others spreadeagled, well worth the detour.



Kiwi Ingenuity

Kapakapanui Circuit, May 15 By Doug Strachan

Once Easter was over the weather came right, so Chris Saunders and I tramped the Kapakapanui circuit. On the drive down to Waikanae, Chris introduced me to Oz's bakery in Otaki (it's on the left), which is superb. We bought lunch, and couldn't resist fresh cream doughnuts for morning tea. We got to the road end and ate our long doughnuts while marvelling at the blue sky. A dog with a limp hobbled over and marvelled at our doughnuts. Just like one tends to throw bread to the lame duck or pigeon, I threw the dog my last centimetre of doughnut. Unfortunately he wasn't looking and it bounced off his head, upon which a blob of cream remained.

We booted up and set off. What was that sound? A guy was clearing the track of grass and blackberry with a weedeater for us. I suggested we delay our start by 30 minutes but Chris just laughed. So we passed the worker, and his chainsaw-wielding mate, and made 3 stream

crossings. We decided to cross the stream at high speed so water wouldn't have a chance to seep into our dry boots. The downside of this technique is that huge splashes soak one's shorts. With wet shorts AND wet socks, we headed up the steep end of the loop.

What was that sound? A glider was passing overhead, it losing altitude, we gaining it. We stopped for lunch at 12:30, both agreeing that it's good to have lunch at lunch time rather than trying to reach a particular location.

3hrs after leaving the car we reached the top of Kapakapanui. We had a terrific view of the main range. Chris rattled off the names of the peaks in sequence the way normal people could tell you what towns you pass through on the way to Wellington. We also had a good view of Kapiti Island to the west, and the snow-capped Kaikoura's to the south. Egmont didn't come to the party due to a hazy hangover.

It was another hour to the hut, with Chris' references to, and exaltation of, the divine beverage known as tea becoming more frequent the nearer we got to the hut.

After the tea break, we set off on the hour-and-a-half walk out. Ooh look, some rata in flower. Fancy that. What was that sound? A Kakariki.

I plan to do this tramp again in winter to get views of a snow-clad main range. Coming? Never know what you might hear or see.

Correction:

Last month's South Island Easter Climbing trip report was not written by Anja (who wasn't on the trip), but by Lance Gray. However, Lance no doubt gets a lot of his inspiration to write from Anja.

Whether the weather be hot Or whether the weather be not Whatever the weather We'll weather the weather Whether we like it or not!

Definitions of Expressions By Doug Strachan

- 1. To kiss and make up: A rock-climbing maneuver using mouth suction to gain height.
- 2. To get the sack/boot from work: Picking up some tramping gear you left at work.
- To put the boot in: A hold used by rockclimbers.
- 4. To try to put a square peg in a round hole: Another rock-climbing technique.
- 5. Drop someone a line: Throw someone a rope.
- 6. Cross a bridge before you come to it: Trace your finger over the route on the map.
- 7. Down and out: Returned from the mountains.
- 8. Give someone a hard time: Take someone rock-climbing.
- 9. Our relationship is on the rocks: We're rockclimbing partners.
- 10. To be out of line: a) To run out of rope. b) To run out of fishing line.
- 11. Vicious circle: A very challenging loop track.
- 12. Bi-polar disorder: a) Both tent poles in disarray. b)Trouble using your compass.
- 13. The Orient: act of orienting the map in an overly ceremonious manner.
- 14. To pull the wool over someone's eyes: help someone put on a balaclava.
- 15. The full Monty: Climb right to the top of Mount Egmont.
- 16. To go through the motions: Inspect animal droppings to determine what the animal ate.
- 17. Get down to business: What you do before going through the motions.
- 18. Down in the dumps: A sign that an animal has been eating birds.
- 19. To make ends meet: Closing the zip on a sleeping bag, raincoat, or tent.
- 20. To turn over a new leaf: continue blazing a trail
- 21. To Terry: (a) to coerce or cajole someone into doing something for the benefit of the PNTMC. (b) to organise or supervise in a Terry-like manner. Note: Origin of this term 'to Terry' is unclear, some scholars believing it to be a contraction of 'to terrify,' while an opposing camp proposes that it is derived from the name of a god worshipped by the Whakawi tribe.