

Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club Inc.

www.pntmc.org.nz

P.O. Box 1217, Palmerston North

Newsletter November 2016



Getting ready to leave historic Sayers Hut, Tararua Forest Park

[Warren Wheeler]

Club Nights

All are welcome to our club nights. These are held at 7:30pm on the second and last Thursday of each month at the Society of Friends Hall, 227 College Street, Palmerston North.

10 November

BYO Pics

Warren Wheeler

What have you been up to over the last six months? Bring your own choice trip pics on a memory stick and tell us all about it.

24 November

Nelson Lakes to Lewis Pass

Chris Tuffley

Chris and a friend met up at St Arnaud for an eight day Easter trip from Nelson Lakes to the Lewis Pass, via the Sabine and Matakītaki Rivers and Waiau, Thompson, D'Urville and Three Tarn Passes. The weather gods were mostly smiling, and apart from getting caught in some hail, thunder and lightning the first day they had glorious weather almost the entire trip. Come and see the pictures!

Upcoming Trips

4-6 November

Pohangina River **M/F**
Janet Wilson **329 4722**

This is to be a three day trip, which gives time for some river travel and who watching. An opportunity to become a conservation volunteer and probably visit Ngamoko and/or Mid Pohangina Huts - the huts our club looks after. Plans will depend on the weather and river level. Please indicate interest in this trip at least a week in advance.

6 November

Arawaru/Quartz Creek **M/F**
Dave Grant **328 7788**
(swapped with Ange on 13 November)

Minimum travel time to reach the start of this trip into Hardings Park at the end of the Kahuterawa Road just east of Palmerston North. From the road end we will head up the Sledge track and east into the Otangane catchment. Several tracks have been developed in this area recently and we will follow the track towards the Nipple, then branch off and head south to Arawaru, coming back around the head of Quartz Creek to complete the loop. Leave Milverton Park 7.30am, back 4.30pm.

12-13 November

Kahui ENP **M**
Warren Wheeler **356 1998**

Depart 7.00am and head for Kahui Road on the western side of Mt Egmont/Taranaki National Park. A gentle climb for about 2 hours then takes us up from lowland forest through to sub-alpine forest at the old style Kahui Hut near the bushline. After lunch we will head further up the mountain to reconnoitre the route to the summit, which we will do on Sunday if conditions allow. Ice axe and crampons may be needed for the climb but non-climbers will enjoy this spot as well.

13 November

Pines Circuit **F**
Angela Minto **027 472 0660**

Meet in Masterton get a vehicle to Holdsworth car park then start at The Pines road end at approximately 8 - 8.30ish in via Mitre Flats Hut out to Holdsworth car park via Atiwhakatu Hut or along Pinnacle Ridge or "part there of" cutting down to the river checking out the two newish cut tracks.

19 November

Mangaohane Plateau **M**
Anne Lawrence **357 1695**

This trip replaces the overnight to Dundas Hut. It is the fourth time this fundraiser has been held for the Pukeokahu School on the iconic Mangaohane Station located off the Gentle Annie Road behind Taihape. This is a 6-7 hour walk starting near the Erewhon water scheme and heading to Ruahine Hut, and then back to Mangaohane via an old 4WD track.

An extremely good level of fitness is required! Depart PN about 6.00am for the walk briefing at 8.00am. Cost \$70. If there is sufficient interest then Kathy Corner is keen to make up a group for the Friday overnight option: \$85 including BBQ and breakfast (camping at shearers quarters or tenting). Contact Kathy on **027-618-5722**.

20 November

Rock Climbing Titahi Bay **M/I**
Peter Darragh **353 0922**

Come to the "Bay" to climb the crags, enjoy sun shine and coastal features. Bring shoes suitable for rock climbing and lunch. We will have club ropes and harnesses available, so all that is missing are people. Depart 7.30am

26-27 November

Sawtooth Ridge **M/F**
Chris Tuffley **359 2530**

Sawtooth Ridge is a fun adventure in the eastern Ruahine. Saturday we'll walk in to Howletts Hut via either the tops from Longview (preferred) or up the Tukituki River. Then Sunday will be a big day, around Sawtooth and Black Ridges and back out to the car. If coming in from Longview we'll aim to leave a car at Mill Road as well, for an easier exit.

27 November

Kapiti Coastal Walk **E**
Kathy Corner **027-618-5722**

This new track from Paekakariki to Pukerua Bay runs high above State Highway 1 and the railway, reaching 220 metres above sea level. There are spectacular views, and it is one of the highlights of the Te Araroa Trail. It takes 3-4 hours to walk. The plan is to get the train back and stop at a cafe at Pukerua Bay. Further options could be a walk along the beach afterwards if others are keen. Leave from Milverton Park at 8am.

3-4 December

Totara Flats **M**
Kathy Corner **027-618-5722**

Totara Flats is a very popular hut on the Holdsworth - Kaitoke Track. We will start from

Holdsworth Road end and the tramp takes about 4 hours. Bring your togs for a dip in the river! We will return back the same way. Leave from Milverton Park at 7.30am.

4 December

Wharite **E/M**
Warren Wheeler **356 1998**

Ever wondered what the view is like from the big TV tower north of the Manawatu Gorge? Interested in seeing the famous Ruahine leatherwood belt in flower? Fancy a nice shady walk in the bush? A rock hop down a stream? Join us for this side trip off the Coppermine Creek Track just north of Woodville. Depart 8.00am.

10-11 December

Lake Moawhango **MTB**
Richard Lockett **323 0948**

This trip is changed from Bridge to Nowhere as there is an interesting organised event going into the army land at Waiouru to Lake Moawhango via tank trails and gravel roads. Cost is \$35 and needs to be booked in advance so see Richard asap.

11 December

Mt Matthews or Zekes **FE or E/M**
Chris Tuffley **359 2530**

Two options depending on the weather and level of interest. Mt Matthews is the highest point in the Rimutaka Forest Park. Zekes is a seldom visited hut in the splendid Hihitahi Reserve (views to Mt Ruapehu) off the main road north of Taihape.

17-18 December

Short Knights **E/M**
Warren Wheeler **356 1998**

Escape the Xmas Rush and celebrate the shortest night (almost) up on the Ruahine tops. We will go up Shorts Track, fly camp on the tops and return via Knights Track. Depart 4.00pm.

Trip Grading

Trip grades depend on many factors, especially weather and terrain. A reasonably proficient tramp 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 on 357-1695. 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 or email to pntmctrips@gmail.com with the date and trip name in the subject line. 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:

Janet Wilson	329-4722
Martin and Anne Lawrence	357-1695
Terry Crippen	356-3588

Articles for the newsletter

Send by the 20th of each month to Warren Wheeler, the newsletter editor, direct or via our web site <http://www.pntmc.org.nz/mail/>

Notices

Reminder – Club Nights start 7.30pm

Doors now open at 7.15pm and the meeting starts at 7.30pm. You can now also have a warming cuppa when you arrive and still have a cuppa and cookie after the meeting.

Interclub Photo Competition Results

On Tuesday 4 October the Interclub Photo Competition was held by MTSC at the Rose City Aquatic Club Rooms.

Thanks to Howard Nicholson of MTSC for organising this event and to the judges Mike Gannaway and his partner Kelly.

Mike commented on each image and provided some useful tips for better pics. He also showed some of their recent images at the end of the event to further inspire us. Mike praised the high quality of the images - at Camera Club the best would receive the highest accolades.

Above Bushline	
1	MTSC - Royce Mills - Snake Ridge
2	MUAC - Stacey Hendriks - Morning delight over Lake Angelus Hut, Nelson Lakes
3	PNTMC - Chris Tuffley - Angelus by Moonlight
Below Bushline	
1	MUAC - Greg Speirs - Pouakai Tarn, Mt Taranaki
2	MTSC - Jean Garman - The Hector Gorge
3	MUAC - Sophie Burling - Exploring the Underworld
Landscape	
1	MTSC - Owen Mills - Lindis Pass
2	PNTMC - Chris Tuffley - The Main Range
3	MTSC - Jean Garman - Great Southern Lake
Natural History	
1	PNTMC - Chris Tuffley - Coming In
2	PNTMC - Martin Lawrence - Snares Island Penguins
3	MTSC - David Harrington - Kiwi
Overseas	
1	PNTMC - Chris Tuffley - Elephant's Eye
2	MUAC - Sophie Burling - Waterfalls at Grinnell Glacier
3	MUAC - Jonathan Tam - Salzburg in Winter
Topical	
1	MUAC - Jonathan Tam - Milky Way and the lighthouse
2	MTSC - Jean Garman - Thirsty work
3	MUAC - Greg Speirs - Taranaki Sunset from MUAC Hut, Ruapehu

Winning Images On-Line

You can now see all the images from our Club Photo Competition that were entered in the Interclub Photo Competition in the Photos section of our website.

Wakarara Road Closed

DOC advises that the last section of Wakarara Road down to the Makaroro River will be shut to the public, effectively immediately.

Please respect the landowner's decision as the road is on private land, therefore not legal access even though it is a formed road.

DOC will be looking at poling a nearby paper road down to the river, which will enter downstream of where the current private road enters the Makaroro River.

For further information please contact the Department of Conservation Palmerston North Office 06 350 9700.

PNTMC Jubilee Book

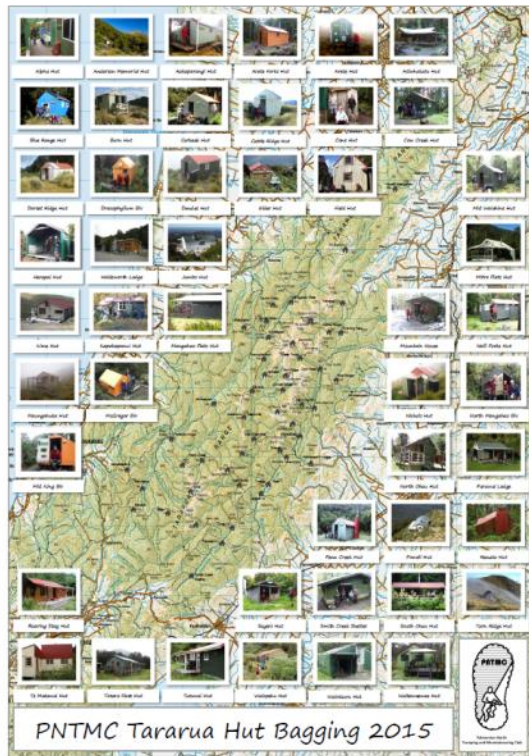
Old Boots & Packs - The First 50 Years of the Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club (PNTMC) will interest and amuse mountain users, historians, photographers, hut baggers and tree huggers. Read about current and past members' exploits, which include climbing our highest peaks (sometimes with boots on the wrong feet) and powering a car on white spirits cooking fuel.



Order your copies directly from the editor Doug Strachan 353-6526 and get ready to put your feet up with this great read, all for only \$35.

(Also makes a nice gift to friends and family who might otherwise wonder why you enjoy tramping so much!)

Tararua Hut Bagging Poster



Size	Members	Non Members
A2	\$8	\$12
A1	\$16	\$24

Post and tube is about \$15 extra depending on where it is being sent.

Also available is a similar Ruahine Poster.

Sale proceeds go towards our maintenance of Mid-Pohangina and Ngamoko Huts.

Contact Warren 356-1998.

Trip Reports

24-28 September 2016
+4+3-1 = Ruahine Corner
Lindsay Middleton

5 days. 4 nights. A party of 3 that was reduced to 2 on the morning of departure, as one member was prevented from going by ill health. And the plan – to fulfil Geoff's long-time intention to visit Ruahine Corner Hut in the remote north-west of the Ruahine Range.

We left Palmerston North early on Saturday 24th September 2016. The forecast, for at least the next 5 days, was for north-easterly wind, cloud, showers, rain. The best day looked likely to be the first day of the tramp.

As Geoff and I slowly climbed up the steep approaches through the Mokai Station to the top of the Mokai Patea Range, an idea formed to reverse the intended direction of the tramp. The initial plan was to do a clockwise circuit, heading directly to Iron Bark, Colenso, and Ruahine Corner Huts, and then use any remaining time to loop back south and westwards, and hopefully strike some good weather for tramping the Mokai Patea Range on the way out.

With the pick of the weather favouring the first day, we followed the poled route up to the open tussock tops at 1200m and headed southeast along the range. The forecasted showers and rain were already lurking about the main range to the northeast, but we thoroughly enjoyed the hours of settled weather before it reached us, rambling along the broad tussock slopes, with great views to the east over the Waikamaka and Maropea watersheds, and west over the Rangitikei farmland. Cloud and showers overtook us later in the day, but we were already well on our way upwards towards the tarns at 1500m, and very pleased to have taken the window of opportunity to walk the Mokai Patea Range in the settled weather. We caught glimpses of snow on the Hikurangi Range to the south, and found patches of snow around the tarns at the top end of the range. We pressed on over Rongotea (1568m), and down the track to Wakelings Hut on the Waikamaka River, the first night's stop.

Geoff's intentions were firm – we were not to let the change to an anticlockwise direction of travel diminish our intention to reach Ruahine Corner Hut. So we set off on day two for Colenso Hut, so that Ruahine Corner Hut should be achievable on day three. Thoughts and hopes of a clear day against the run of the forecast were not fulfilled. As we climbed and tramped the bush-clad ridge separating the Waikamaka and Maropea Rivers, any view towards the Ruahine Main Range was of continuing northeasterly wind-blown cloud with showers spreading westwards.

We stopped at Maropea Forks Hut, happy for dry shelter for an early lunch with hot soup and a brew of tea. Pleased that the showery conditions were not causing rivers to flood, we

pressed on over the Maropea River and ascended the ridge between the Maropea and Unknown Stream. These are clearly marked tracks, but not so well used, and windfalls and debris made obstacles along the way. We descended to Unknown Campsite, stopping there for a rest. With showery weather continuing, Geoff was not persuaded to camp there for the night, especially with Colenso Hut within reach that day. The route follows up the true right branch of the Unknown Stream to the marked track that ascends out of the Unknown valley and through a saddle into the Mangatera valley, sidling, climbing and then steeply descending to meet the track from Iron Bark to Colenso. With daylight fading, we did not take time to view the recent (about 1 year-old?) slip that has carried away that track just west of the junction, and hurried to Colenso Hut. Like the two other huts that we had already visited, it is delightfully situated on a terrace above the river – the Mangatera.

Next morning, we backtracked a short distance to the Lake Colenso viewing point – worthwhile, very beautiful. From Colenso Hut, with packs back on, we followed down the Mangatera River to the fork, and then pushed up the true right branch to the junction of the Potae Stream. Fortunately, the persistent northeasterly was serving up more of showers and less of rain, so that the streams and rivers were still running reasonably clear for river crossings. On the map, day three was the shortest distance so far – more like a rest day – but having had two quite demanding days already, travelling an unmarked river route in drizzling rain through cold river water added considerably to the challenge of the day. A highlight was spotting a blue duck – it flew upriver as we approached a bend in the river, and a little later we saw it perched on a rock out in midstream. We were pleased that a DoC workparty has cleared the Potae Stream track earlier this year, so we were able to make better progress.

From a fork in the Potae Stream, the track rises steeply, ascending to the track junction from Waiokotore Stream to the west. Past there, the Potae track ascends and winds through a fascinating jumble of jutting limestone blocks and mudstone cliffs. And then, just as amazingly, the track glides smoothly off to the westwards onto the tussock plains of the Mangaohane Plateau, where the Ruahine Corner Hut sits invitingly at the bush edge. Yes, Geoff, it was all worth it! A great place to be!



Good raincoat weather for tramping

Reading in the hut log book about all those hunters who came and went by helicopter did not deter us from our purpose for day four, to tramp to Iron Bark Hut. Aware that the slip on the Iron Bark track could cause a delay or a long detour, we made a prompt start, backtracking for Colenso Hut. Having already followed this route the previous day, we were able to reach Colenso in better time. As previously, we were fortunate that the Potae and Mangatera were still running clear.

This tramp has been the tramp of the soup stops: another hut, another soup. The continuing wet weather, combined with cold river and stream crossings, was sapping away body heat, so a hot soup was a good remedy.

Fortunately, we were able to cross the slip quite easily, descending on a diagonal from the track on the east side of the slip to the last prominent beech tree above the river on the west side of the slip. An added bonus was to look down through the canopy of trees to see another blue duck perching on a rock in the river. From that point, it is an easy scramble back up to the track on the west side of the slip.

We pressed on towards Iron Bark. The two new bridges are very impressive: a smaller laminated timber bridge across the Unknown Stream near its confluence with the Maropea River, and then a larger suspension bridge across the Maropea River. We were especially grateful for the suspension bridge - the Maropea was now running dirty. A short distance downstream, the Iron Bark Hut sits on a prime site adjacent to the river. We had not met any other person during our tramp - the last entry at Iron Bark was three months before. However, that gave the local mice population ample time for visiting the hut. We swept out every surface in the hut before making ourselves at home for the night.

By morning, the river level had dropped, and its colour was returning to normal. We left the river behind for one more substantial climb up the track which leads to a boundary fence where the Forest Park meets Mokai Station. From there, the route follows into a saddle and sidles the northern slopes of Mokai Patea (1210m), then descends steeply to rejoin the poled route followed on the first day. Crossing the high pasture land, we were harried one last time by the persistent north-easterly wind and rain. It was a pertinent reminder that if we had done this trip clockwise, we would have had a much longer and unpleasant tramp across the exposed Mokai Patea tops on day five. In the event, we were able to hurry down to the vehicle, very satisfied that the decision to walk the Mokai Patea range on day one had enabled us to complete a substantial loop through this interesting and beautiful section of the Ruahine Range, and to achieve Geoff's goal of visiting Ruahine Corner Hut.

24-25 September 2016
Sayers Hut
Richard Lockett

Being a medium grade trip the Mt Holdsworth Road end was selected as the starting point and with a weather forecast of overcast with easterly winds which probably meant rain on the eastern side of the Tararua's rather than the normal western side, but nothing that a good rain coat won't fix.

So if you go to Sayer's Hut on the marked tracks you have to cross the Waiohine River downstream from Totara Flats so you need to ask yourself how much water flowing on the day, a check on the Regional council's web site is a good idea. A low winter flow with the crossing point nice and wide we should be ok to cross. Now if you go off track you can avoid the river crossing or put it off till the return trip i.e. keep your boots dry for as long as possible. Is the team good to go off track as we were joined on this trip by Tom and Pip, their first trip with the PNTMC and as you know going off track takes a bit more out of you, we'll see how they good up the Gentle Annie and down to the Totara creek before we commit to a bush bash. Woody wanted to stay at Totara Flats Hut having not had the occasion to do so before, so that was the good B plan for us all.

Up the Gentle Annie Track, morning tea at Rocky Knob, low cloud no rain, down and down towards Totara Creek and on to the new

track to Totara Flats which climbs gently upwards again up to a point where the leader has to make a decision on direction, so it's a lets have lunch here.

Tom and Pip having proved themselves to be up to the job at hand were willing to go off track so we said our goodbye's to Woody, see you for breakfast in the morning. So up the ridge on a compass bearing, hoping to find some markers on a tree near the top, which we did no problem so just a case of following them along the ridge top. We all took turns in front following the ground trail and all losing it at times, with few windfalls to navigate around keeping things interesting for the person in front. Being a narrow well defined ridge navigation is not that difficult apart from the spot where heading south the trail swings around to take you east towards the Carrington Stream rather than keeping to a southerly direction, good old map and compass skills.

In no time it seemed we reached the track to the Mangatarere Road end and the long descent to Sayers Hut. The weather was still good and warm with it had our coffee and nibbles outside and our dinner also, Tom and Pip cooking and eating theirs out on the Waiohine River gravel flats.

A lone hunter and dog showed up before dark in from Mangatarere bagging the last bunk and well after dark and seven others turned up having bush bashed up from Walls Whare to join the Mangatarere Track and down to Sayers (12 hours). I was in the sack at this stage and not that interested in their plight but they had tents so camped outside apart from two plus a small smelly dog who dosed down on the floor.



Shallow crossing of Waiohine River [WW]

I have to admit that we did have a bit of a lay in but in mitigation there were two people laying on the floor of the hut asleep not leaving

much room thus creating a hazard so we stayed in our sacks till the floor was vacated and with a busy long drop (13 people) a late departure was assured.

So off to Totara Flats Hut across the Waiohine to meet up with Woody who had arisen early with watch set forward 1 hour for daylight saving unlike us who had arisen late with watches not set forward arriving at quarter to eleven in the morning apparently. Although we had warned Woody of the perils of staying at Totara Flats Hut he had an encounter with officialdom and bureaucracy in the form of a hut warden, the first that he has ever encountered and had to furnish his annual hut pass.

A decision was made to return via the old Totara Creek Track for one last time which brought back lots of memories for me as I had always enjoyed the walk alongside the creek over the years, just beautiful. Woody was hanging out for lunch having had breakfast about four hours before the rest of us, which we had at the track junction with the Holdsworth Track in the cold wet easterly which greeted us after our climb up from the Totara Creek. The descent back to the road end warming up as we lost height with a wet gear change back at the cars. Another good weekend tramp thanks.

We were Warren, Woody, Esther, Richard, Tom Stringer and Pip West.

15-16 October 2016 Iron Gates Stoat Slayer Trip Esther Pothuis

Once upon a time there was a mouse that wanted to see the world. He wanted to take part in expeditions, to see what is out there. He did not have the means to go by himself so decided to, together with his family, join the humans on their big boats to explore the world. The boat landed on a land far far away that offered plenty. His family prospered and produced a lot of offspring. His sort was not the only arriving and settling in the heavenly country; every time a big boat with humans arrived at the country extra passengers entered the new land; some were deliberately introduced by humans, others were stowaways, but all were keen to explore the vast country which was later called New Zealand.

In that country, far away from other landmasses, animals had developed their own laid back ways to survive. All inhabitants, from feathery to slimy creatures, lived in harmony together right until

those strangers from overseas arrived. At first they welcomed them happily, but after some time they noticed the strangers took over their food, sleeping places, and were brutal. Many were killed. Many original inhabitants have since gone extinct. Some managed to come to an agreement with the strangers, but others are struggling every day.

Humans now feel guilty for introducing those original inhabitants to so many enemies. This is why humans are now on a mission to protect the native animals. They set off every now and then to kill these intruders or pests.

Below you can find a report from a Dutch girl who (many centuries after the first mice settled down) decided to explore the country that bears the name or a province of her home country, and to help out to reduce pests.

Deer, rabbits, possums, mice, rats, weasels, and especially stoats are not cute here. I had to learn that. Of course I know those animals do not belong here, and nobody really likes rodents in their back yard, but they still look innocent, fluffy, and cute to me. Focus is on getting rid of stoats; they were introduced in 1880 to New Zealand to control rabbits and hares, but are now labelled enemy number one for New Zealand birds (also they did not do a very good job in controlling rabbits and hares).



Track to Iron Gates Hut

As a combined group of PNTMC members and Whio Protectors we set off to empty and rebait traps. This meant taking out and removing dead rat or other animals if we'd have found any, throwing away the old egg, putting in a fresh egg or other bait, and setting up the trap again. The rats could be rather nasty - depending on how long ago the rat enjoyed its last day - but it was not too bad. Weirdly a few rats had red bones (apparently that's not unusual)! Bruce the dog enjoyed tripping along and waited for us patiently every now and then. Because there was a trap every 100m we had many short breaks on our way to Iron Gate Hut. The walk was enjoyable, although it was quite wet with rain coming from the skies and some streams to cross. On the way Janet (the pro Whio observer and protector) thought to hear the whistle of a blue duck, but did not spot it. It was occasionally muddy, so I managed to step and fall into knee deep mud but got out alright, and was happy to discover I did not crack any eggs. At Iron Gate Hut we enjoyed a warm fire (we carried up dry wood, which turned out to be a great idea as there was hardly any dry wood at the hut), conversations, hut literature, food, warm drinks, and a good sleep.



Clearing a stoat trap

We woke up to a cup of tea (thanks Graham, I love waking up to tea) and cloudy but dry skies. Warren cooked a lovely porridge with chocolate powder, crystallized ginger, lamington chocolate, dates, raisins, and finished it off by adding his glasses. I don't know if that last ingredient did the porridge any good (I chose to not add my glasses to my porridge) but he seemed to enjoy it. He set the bar for the spectacular porridge award. Rumour has it that it may be awarded at the end of this year, so if you want to compete for that one - know it is a difficult one to beat!



And the Spectacular Porridge Award goes to...

Janet, Sam, Warren, and I went off to set more traps up the mountain, while Logan, Mike, and Graham stayed behind to chop up wood. The sun was peeking through every now and then, and we heard and saw various birds on the way (whiteheads, fantails, tomtits, grey warblers), which was fantastic. On the top we ran out of bait, so after a short break we headed back down to regroup with the rest. The others who stayed at the hut saw a blue duck at the river, so that's great! After lunch in the sun on the porch we walked back. Over the weekend caught 39 rats and no stoats or other animals.

The Stoat Slayers were Janet Wilson, Graham Peters, Warren Wheeler, Esther Pothuis, Sam Dawson, Mike and Logan Poulsen.

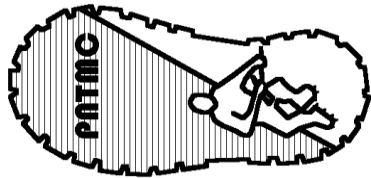


Crossing Tunupo Stream on the way out.

Hints and Tips - Old Maps

Our club president Bruce van Brunt advises that a great resource for finding old tracks from old maps is <http://www.mapspast.org.nz/>

On this site you can download maps (for free) from the fairly distant past to near present.



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PNTMC Newsletter November 2016

What's inside this month?

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- Stoat Slayers trip to Iron Gates Hut
- How to Find Old Tracks from old maps
- Coming trips and more

Articles for the newsletter

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

Get out and about with us!

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

PNTMC Contacts

President	Bruce van Brunt	328 4761
Vice President	Anne Lawrence	357 1695
Secretary	Terry Crippen	356 3588
Treasurer	Warren Wheeler	356 1998
Webmaster	Peter Wiles	358 6894
	Martin Lawrence	357 1695
Membership Enquires	Warren Wheeler	356 1998
Gear Custodian	Grant Christian	354 5843
Newsletter Editor	Warren Wheeler	356 1998
Trip Co-ordinator	Janet Wilson	329 4722
Snowcraft Programme	Terry Crippen	356 3588