

## **P.N. TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.**

Hon. Secretary  
Heather Crabb 77-668

P.O.Box 1217  
Palmerston North.

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### NEWSLETTER 12/71

#### COMING EVENTS

##### 24<sup>th</sup> November. CLUB NIGHT

At Society of Friends meeting Rooms, 227 College St., (Behind West End Chemist) at 7:30 p.m.

The next form of madness after bush walking, is "Rock Climbing" and can be anything from climbing over boulders, which can vary between 6 ft. and 50 ft. or the North Face of the Eiger. Somewhere in between is Titahi Bay, where we do most of our training. This will be a general basic level, instructional evening, illustrated with appropriate slides.

SUPPER DUTIES: Roger Clark, Roger Lander, Dave Ryrie.

##### 27th November. KAPAKAPANUI.

A Saturday trip to a prominent peak near Waikanae.

Grading: Easy. Depart Izadium: 6 a.m.

Cost: \$1.50 Leader: Adrienne Thompson, phone

74-303.

##### 28<sup>th</sup> November. ROSE SUNDAY

At 2:30 p.m. Official opening of the Nature Trail in the Esplanade Bush. (Starts at Fernery opposite, children's playground.)

##### 29<sup>th</sup> November, Monday at 7:45 p.m.

CENTENNIAL PAVILION Illustrated address by: Mr. L. Shailer of Rongotea.

"Birds and Wild Animals of Manawatu."

Introductory address on the Society by Mr. L. Woods, Executive Secretary.

##### 30<sup>th</sup> November, Tuesday at 7:45 p.m.

CENTENNIAL PAVILION Address by Dr. Salmon "Why Conservation?"

##### 1<sup>st</sup> December Wednesday at 7:45 p.m.

CENTENNIAL PAVILION

1. Mr. L. Woods, the Society's Executive Secretary. An illustrated address on Nature Conservation and Protection in New Zealand.

2. Palmerston North Centennial Film.

3. Manawatu Promotional Film.

##### 1<sup>st</sup> December. Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

FIELD TRIP Manawatu Bird Study. Departs, Church Street, opposite Police Station. Admission to Centennial Pavilion to help defray expenses 10c. Supper 10c extra.

##### 1<sup>st</sup> December. GRAND ANNUAL DINNER. Sunday.

We are unfortunately compelled to limit numbers for this celebration to 20. The following names have been received: Janice Rockell, Ina Te Wiata, Russ Lacey, Bruce Lockwood, Mr. & Mrs. Mike Bysouth, Sue Streeter, Lynne & Keither Potter, Tony Croad, Heather Crabb. Additional names to Lawson Pither before 1<sup>st</sup> December. Phone 85-616 before 8 p.m.

Grading: Easy Cost: About \$3.

Depart Izadium: 7 a.m.

9<sup>th</sup> December. COMMITTEE MEETING Kevin Pearce's, 378 Botanical Rd. At 7:30 p.m.

11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> December. MICK – WAITEWAEWAE.

Grading: Medium Depart Izadium: 6 p.m. Friday Cost:  
Approx. \$1.50 Leader: John Williams, phone 84-925.

14th December. SOCIAL EVENING.

At John Williams, 28 Carroll St., 7:30 p.m.. It has been alleged that this could turn into a Club Christmas party.

18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> December. SOUTHERN CROSSING

Grading: Fit Depart Izadium: 6 p.m. Friday  
Cost: Approx. \$1.50 Leader: Mike Wigley, phone 78-429

2<sup>nd</sup> January. WEST TAMAKI

Grading: Easy Names to Lawson Pither, 85-616  
A trip leader will be appointed from those wishing to take part.

8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> January. TAWHERO – ROARING STAG – RUAMAHANGA GORGE.

Grading: Medium Names to Trevor Stretton, phone 84-925  
A trip leader will be appointed from those wishing to take part.

15<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> NORTH EGMONT

Names to Bruce Lockwood. Phone 75-826

21<sup>st</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> January. (Anniversary Weekend.)

OHUTU RIDGE – POTAE – COLENZO

Grading: Medium Leader: Trevor Stretton Phone 84-925.

21<sup>st</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> January MAROPEA FORKS

Grading: F.E. Leader: Peter Baxter.  
Names to Heather Crabb, 77-668

27<sup>th</sup> January CLUB NIGHT

SUPPER DUTIES: Owen Mills, Richard Murcott.

29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> January. WAIHOHONU – TAMA LAKES – CHATEAU

Grading: Easy Leader: Tom Easterbrook, phone 81-109 ext  
827 after 5 p.m.

If unable to contact him leave a message.

Depart Izadium: Friday 6 p.m.

Also ROCK CLIMBING - MEADS WALL

Training weekend to be run by the Committee

## NOTICES

### PROPOSED THIRD CHRISTMAS TRIP

If sufficient interest is forthcoming from members a North Island trip can still be arranged. This will be discussed at the next Club night.

It is imperative that a list of names of those interested be compiled as soon as possible to enable arrangements to begin. Please lodge them with Bruce Lockwood, phone 75-826

#### FOR SALE

1 pair Eckenstein Crampons - 12 points – Heavy weights Size 43. Fitted with leather straps and friction buckles. Contact David Ryrie.

#### CHRISTMAS TRIP

Private transport to Wellington is required by nine people and packs on 27th December departing Palmerston North 6 a.m. If you are able to help please inform Lawson Pither, phone 85-616.

#### FOREST & BIRD WEEK 28<sup>th</sup> November – 5<sup>th</sup> December.

The Manawatu Section of the Forest & Bird Society are seeking an opportunity to tell the public something of their work and to enlist new members for their Society. The objectives in many respects parallel our own.

They hope through the week's activities, to enlist both our and the public support in their efforts to protect New Zealand's natural resources in their unspoiled state. This is a continuing campaign and future generations will benefit from it. Members are invited by the Forest & Bird Society to support the week by attendance at any of the functions mentioned in this newsletter.

#### PAST EVENTS.

The following is a true account -- only the facts have been changed.

#### A FANTASTIC EPIC – A VISIT TO THE MAKARORO, 22<sup>nd</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> October.

We present here an account of what happened on the recent Aranga Hut-Potae-Colenso trip. A plausible official account will be published as soon as the debriefing has been held to concoct it. (We will probably make use of the popular flooded river excuse.)

#### FINKLE EXONERATED

Grant turned the gain control to full and tapped the meter with his finger. The needle gave a barely perceptible flicker, and then steadied. There was no doubt, it was in the amber sector! "My gracious!" he stammered. (Actually, he used different words having a similar meaning.) We all turned to him, puzzlement on our faces. "Professor Finkle's general time -- space theory" he said by way of explanation and then turned back to his girsroscope. A few seconds later the pronouncement "It's 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2763!" Grant then launched into a lengthy unintelligible explanation of the much ridiculed and maligned Professor's theory of time and space. Apparently we had inadvertently crossed a time warp, and where many years in the future. Such time warps were very rare according to the theory and indeed no one had ever reported discovering one -- perhaps because they had never managed to return to the present. Apparently it was imperative that we return immediately the way we had come if we were to get back across the warp. Owen asked what a tensor transformation was but Grant ignored the question and began to hurriedly stuff his gear into his pack. We followed suit.

Soon we were struggling up through thickets of snow covered dead trees into mist and wind. It was very cold and constant movement was necessary to keep circulation going. We arrived at the edge of the ice sheet to find our steps of the previous day obliterated by fresh snow. Ian kept a close watch on our compass and directed our course. We made steady progress until after about three hours we arrived on the brink of a steep wall of ice, disappearing downward into the mist. No crampons or ice axes -- trouble. Grant fiddled with his instruments and then announced emphatically that we must at all costs descend the wall for we were very near the time warp. We were near to despair.

Kevin fetched a spoon from his pack and began to scrape steps in the ice. This was difficult and time-consuming, as the ice was hard and the strong. After some time we heard shout from below, and began to follow Kevin down. The mist was very thick and we could see little. Ian, who had not previously been on ice, was not happy with the size of the steps even though they were a ¼ inch wide. It required constant bullying to keep him moving. I was descending last. Suddenly, I slipped and began to fall, colliding with those below

and knocking them from their steps. Equally suddenly, we found ourselves lying in the tussock, a little bruised and very startled. We had recrossed the Time warp. When where we? Grant consulted the girioscope, 3:30 p.m. 21st October, 1971. We had not crossed in the correct place, and had lost nearly a whole day. It was immediately clear that we would not get back to cars in time.

### THE BEGINNING

Our trip had started in the normal way. We left the Izadium on Friday night and spent the night in the old schoolhouse at the road end. By morning steady rain was falling and the Makaroro River was in high flood. We left the medium party and commenced a long slog to Aranga Hut which we had to share with two schoolboy hunters. Snow was falling, and was several inches deep around the hut.

Sunday morning dawned wet and misty. We left early expecting some navigational problems before we reached Colenso. We did not have any sense of foreboding. Somewhere in the vicinity of grid reference 655-183 we experienced a remarkable change in the weather. It was now clear that this was when we crossed the Time warp into the future. From this point on, we had great troubles until Grant discovered the cause as related above.

### THE END OF THE ORDEAL

We were now back at the grid reference, ridiculously dressed for the mild fine weather prevailing. We removed most of our clothing and set off for Te Atua Mahutu after first making a slight detour to avoid the warp.

We made steady progress, and our numb limbs were soon warmed. We camped an hour before dark and enjoyed a good meal as of course, we had plenty of food, due to not having had Sunday night or Monday morning and the meals traditionally eaten at these times.

We awoke early on Tuesday morning to fine weather, and were at the road end by 10:30 a.m. and back home by about 1:30 p.m.

Those taking part were: Grant Potter, Kevin Pearce, Owen Robinson, Ian Hoare.

### 22<sup>nd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> October. MAKARORO – ARANGA

It wasn't my tramp to begin with -- I inherited it by default, in the same way that I inherited the writing of this report. A dry comfortable night was spent in the disused school house at the end of the road. Particularly comfortable for our decadent President, who pampered himself by spending an hour carefully arranging his woolly socks and other comfy items like folded handkerchiefs beneath his sleeping bag. He sheepishly explained it away by muttering something about forgetting this foam rubber mat. Well! - I ask you -- should we not guard against insidious influence from the top such as this, lest the more impressionable amongst us develop into a load of pansies. Softy or not, the President led his F.E. gang out at an early hour, and I didn't see them again for about another week -- neither did anyone else. We followed a couple of hours later into the rain. "Rain n. Condensed moisture of atmosphere, falling visibly in separate drops" (Concise Oxford Dictionary.) Please note the word "separate." At least six members can testify that rain comes down in a string-like way i.e. continuous. At 4,000 ft. the rain stopped and it snowed instead. We reached Parkes Peak Hut, a 4 berth NZFS job, at 2 p.m. and idled away the next few hours (42 to be precise.) By 6 a.m. Sunday morning one member had developed appendicitis symptoms and wish to be escorted out, so that's where the tramp ended for me. It was reported that the remainder of the party went to Aranga on Monday.

Trip members: Judith Domney, Sue Streeter, Eleanor Harris, Peter Darroch, Simon Rowberry, Brad Owen.

### ALTERNATIVE VERSION OF ARANGA – PARKES PEAK.

On Friday, a number of individuals arrived to establish themselves with due ceremony in the schoolhouse at the road end.