



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING
& MOUNTAINEERING CLUB (INC)
P.O. Box 1217 Palmerston North

NEWSLETTER

12/73

Hon. Secretary,
Kevin Pearce, 74-129
ext. 860.

Membership Convenor:
Heather Crabb, 77-668.

COMING EVENTS.

5th-6th January. PUTARA HUT

This northern Taranaki area has become very popular -- don't miss out.

Grading: Easy-Medium
Cost: \$2.00 Leader: Bruce Lockwood Phone 75-826

5th-January PUTARA -- HAUKURA -- ROARING STAG.

See a lot more of this IN area.

Grading: Fit Cost: \$2,00
Names to: Bruce Lockwood Phone: 75-826

12th-13th January TAMAKI WEST STREAM -- STANFIELD HUT.

A very pleasant way to start the New Year if you missed PUTARA.

Grading: Easy Cost: \$1.80
Leader: Pauline Gibbons Phone 722 Opiki

13th January TAMAKI WEST STREAM.

Bring everyone, including Grandma, and have a picnic and this delightful spot.

Grading: Very Easy Cost: \$1.80
Leader: Russ Johnson Phone 87-777

16th January -- COMMITTEE MEETING.

At Russ Johnson's, 11 Lifford Place at 7:30 p.m.

18th-21st January ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND. HAWKES BAY RIDGE CROSSING

An ideal opportunity to get from one side of the Ruahines to the other.

Grading: Fitness essential Cost:
Names to: Ian Hoare Phone 83-448

ALSO WAIKAMAKA (NOT KAWEKA RANGE)
Another Ian Hoare mystery trip. Info from and names to Ian. Phone 83-448

26th-27th January FULL OTAKI RIVER.
An excellent chance to use those river skills and learn to swim.
Grading: Fitness essential Cost: \$1.50
Leader: Ian Hoare Phone 83-448

ALSO PLATEAU STREAM -- OTAKI GORGE
A calmer version of above. Add the Upper Otaki to your gorgeous achievements.
Grading: Fit Cost: \$1.50
Leader: Tim Short Phone 76-906

ALSO WAITEWAEWAE
A very pleasant trip past the old bush tramway.
Grading: Medium Cost: \$1.50
Leader: Russ Johnson Phone 87-777

SPECIAL NOTICE: RANGIWAHIA HUT
At long last the stove is up at our "home away from home" in the hills. It is hoped (hint) to have this installed in the very near future, all those interested in a trip to Rangi as soon as possible please ring : Glenn Dixon Phone 83-649 Approx Cost \$1.50

31st January, 1974 CLUB NIGHT.
At the Society of Friends Church Hall, 227 College Street at 7:30 p.m.
Come one, come all and regale us with your deeds of valour over the holiday period.
Supper Duties: Heather Crabb, Robert Mills, John Ogilvy

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NOTICES:

BON VOYAGE to Sue Streeter who is seeking "fresh fields and pastures new" and all that jazz, for the next year in the U.K.

Sue's resignation from the Committee has been accepted with regret and Lynne Potter co-opted to fill the vacancy. Lynne will be helping Heather with the newsletter. Contributors, please give your trip reports etc. to Heather Crabb for editing (Censoring.)

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to:

- Gary Davies, 39 Sutherland Crescent, Palmerston North
- Russell Joblin, 145 College Street, Palmerston North
- Trevor Bissell, Flat 3, 36 Pascal Street, Palmerston North

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P. D. C. "SPORTS"

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PAST TRIPS

"It's a picnic" she said !!

Those who clambered over rocks, skinned up a log, were stung by nettles, got stuck in a bog, were bitten by sandflies -- the rain made them shrivel (that's poetic licence) were torn by bush lawyer and fell in the river (that's poetic justice) and still managed to enjoy themselves were:- Heather Hickton, Jennifer King, Mary-Ann Whitehead, Mary Ann Coenders, Doreen Coenders, Tim Short, Keith Margrain, Stuart Taylor, John Knox, Glenn Osborne, Maire and Heather Crabb.

Is "Bird murderer" another term for "lady Killer?"
For the answer ask John Williams.

1st-2nd December "PIKING? SHIRKING? CALL IT WHAT YOU LIKE!"

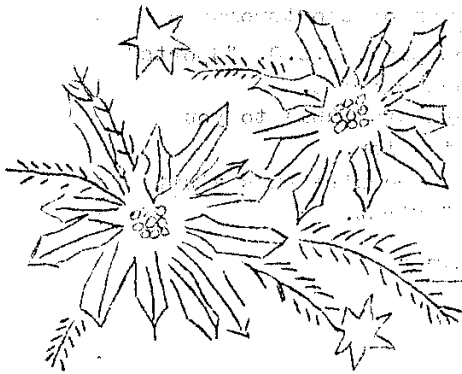
"GRAND ANNUAL DINNER, 74" (Party No. 2)

First of all the honourable (dis) 10 a.m. party leader left without carrying food stuffs.

On arriving at Rangi Hut, the def'IAN't "HO ARE" nothing but pikers from cooking (stirring...) responsibilities, left for Triangle (?). With a very well timed (premeditated?) return to Rangi the following day saw mouths before spoon and plates at the ready. After a hearty meal, again our def'IAN't member deserted his duties, making his way down the bulldozed track like that of a mad ape. Thus due to his unable condition, his car had to be driven by none other than yours truly.

All inquiries about this hairy limbed phenomenon can be obtained at P.O. Box 1217 and peanuts purchased at your nearest zoo (Burns Avenue.)

This report was written by a committee member so making it true and uncensored, hence all contrary accounts are false.



A MERRY CHRISTMAS
+ HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO YOU ALL

COPPERMINE HUT.

Date: 6th-7th January, 1973.

Members: Shirley Whitehead, Katherine Davy, John Ogilvy, David Smithers, Peter Darragh, Glenn Dixon.

The trip was scheduled to leave at 7.30 a.m. The first member arrived at 7 a.m. and the last at 8.15, and after one father returned with the trip leader's boots we left for our destination. We left the cars and pack floated up the 1 foot deep stream until we gained sight of the hut. We went for a leisurely stroll for about 1¼ hours up the right fork of the stream (to find how to get up 100 feet to the hut). We then had lunch and some went for a dip. It took about ten minutes to get completely wet as the swimming hole was suffering from the effects of the drought. Due to John's devoted efforts we finally found a track up to the hut which was only a few yards from where we stopped but was obliterated by a slip.

The rest of the afternoon was spent vigorously – two building a dam (to enlarge a swimming hole) while two wandered up the stream and two grunted up past the Billygoat turnoff. In the evening we enjoyed a three course meal which was made by two experienced professors of stewology. After dark one member's interest in the loo was lost as she thought she saw a wild boar (!!!) running up the track. Having been reassured by her boy friend's confidence in protecting her she disregarded her fears and made the treacherous trek back to the hut.

On Sunday dawn arose slightly before us but we managed to be away from the hut by 9.30. Inspired by the two who had been up on Saturday, we went up on the Billygoat track and onto farmland. After a short debate we arrived back at the hut in time for a swim and sunbathe before lunch. We left the hut clean and tidy and arrived back at the cars at 2.05. We stopped at Woodville for an ice cream and then home.

GREATER NORTHERN CROSSING.

Date: 19th-21st January. 1973.

Members: Ah - ha

The Anniversary weekend of 1973 was probably the last Anniversary weekend there will ever be (Waitangi Day, Labour Governments and all that.) However, in spite of this last chance certain decadent elements within the club piked. It is a pity that this horrid 5 letter word should have to appear in a Club publication. For those who have lead the sheltered life of a TRAMPER (rather than just that of a trumper) a definition is given - PIKE (verb) to opt out, to balk, to show cowardice, to lack resolve and fortitude, to be unreliable and easily defeated, to shirk.

The residue of the party left after the great pike, travelled to Masterton by the 5.50 p.m. railcar on Friday evening, thence by taxi to Holdsworth Lodge and thence on foot to Powell Hut, arriving at 11.00 p.m. An early start was made next morning and we reached Tarn Ridge at 11.30 a.m., Te Matawai at 3.30 p.m. and South Ohau at 5.00 p.m. The weather was fine and clear but cool because of a strong breeze. Camp was made a few minutes down stream from the hut.

We started late on Sunday morning and arrived at the pipe bridge at 11 a.m. and then travelled by thumb, reaching Palmerston North at 12.30 p.m. Sunday.

The names of those taking part are not given, not as a space saving measure but to protect the pikers from the enraged fury of Club members. (Pikers could otherwise be found by difference thus - Names on trip list minus names on Newsletter account equals pikers.)

THE PASSAGE OF THE F.E.s

Date: 4th February, 1973.
Members: Kevin Pearce and accomplices.

I became conscious of a sudden quietness, a stillness - I paused. No bird was singing, no cricket chirping, no leaf rustling. Then I sensed a most distant rumble. At first very faint, but rapidly increasing in intensity. I use the word 'sensed' as it was as much felt as heard. I was frightened. An earthquake? Nuclear war? Volcanic eruption? The end of the world? The ground began to shake, the noise reached a crushing pitch, a tremendous thundering as though a million great stallions were in stampede. The sky began to darken from the south east yet it was lit as if by flashes of unseen lightning. The trees about me began to sway and fall, mud splattered and steam billowed. The air was acrid and sparking with electricity. And then it passed, fading to the north west. The sky lightened. Fields track was left dry and smoking, sulphurous fumes hung in the air. The F.E.s had passed! Sunday afternoon, 4th February on the return from the annual pilgrimage to Fields Hut.

TUKITUKI RIVER.

Date: 11th February, 1973.

Members: Dave and Steve Galbreath, James Read, Heather and Maire Crabb.

Write a trip report on the Tukituki? What can I say? It rained and it rained and it rained. We saw a gate with a notice bearing the words "No shooting", so I searched my companions and we went through. It rained and we dropped down into the Moorcock Stream. It rained as we wandered downstream to meet the Tukituki. Five sodden people sheltered under an X.O.S. rock up the Tukituki to have their lunch. Hot soup and a billy of tea warmed us and we breathed in the fresh air and watched bubbles foaming in the river and it rained. We saw the first few of the Howletts party sprinting down the river so called them over - well they couldn't have got much wetter anyway. So we packed up and retraced our steps - back to a dry hut.

WANGAPEKA & HEAPHY TRACKS

CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR 1972/73

CULPRITS: Mary-Anne Whitehead , Jane Scrymgeour , Adrienne Thompson, Ina Te Wiata, Tim Short, Ian Hoare, James Read, Richard Ussher, Owen Robinson (leader), Peter Croad, Rodger Thompson, Keith Margraine.

Owing to the dubious nature of the trip report it is regrettable that it cannot be reproduced here where it would be open to young eyes to peruse. If your curiosity is aroused look up Newsletter 3/73.

In any case everyone had a whale of a good time.