



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

NEWSLETTER

10/74

Hon. Secretary,
Tim Short, 76-906
Membership Enquiries
Peter Croad, 80-284 (evenings)

COMING EVENTS.

LABOUR WEEKEND

25-26-27-28TH OCTOBER MAKARORO ROUNDABOUT & PARKES PK RIDGE

As mentioned in last month's newsletter. A trip for everybody in the North-West Ruahine Ranges.

Names to : Trevor Stretton Phone 84-925
Gradings : Fit & Medium
Cost : \$3.00 Approx.
Depart : Izadium 7.00 p.m. Friday

28TH OCTOBER MAKARETU STREAM & HAPPY DAZE HUT (instead of Stanfield Hut)

For those who "can't possibly" attend the above trip a "splash" up the Makaretu Stream behind Dannevirke is planned.

Names to : Ian Hoare Phone 83-448
Grading : Easy
Depart : 6.30 a.m. Izadium
Cost : \$1.50 Approx.

31ST OCTOBER CLUB NIGHT

Strike a blow against the establishment, exams and all that. Come to Club Night ! Nigel Bowen, mountaineer, Outward Bound instructor, white water canoeist and debator extraordinary will be telling us of his adventures.

7.30 p.m. Thursday, Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street. All welcome.

Supper Duties: Trevor Bissell
Pam Dicks
Glenn Dixon

2-3RD NOVEMBER NGAMOKO RANGE CROSSING

Storm gear and fitness will be required for this crossing of the Middle Ruahines. The trip starts from Moorcock Base, goes south along Ngamoko Range and terminates (hopefully) at Deerford Track.

16-17th NOVEMBER KAIMANAWAS

A must for those who have not tramped outside the Ruahines and Tararuas. The Kaimanawas lie on the eastern side of the Desert Road. Forest is predominantly beech and leatherwood does not exist!! More details available from Ian.

Leader : Ian Hoare Phone 83-448
Grading: Medium and F.E.
Cost : \$4.50 Approx.
Depart : Izadium 6.00 a.m.

23-24th NOVEMBER TARARUA GREATER MAIN RANGE

A good torch, fitness, storm gear etc. will be essential for this "classic". West Peak, Boyd, Wilson, Mangahuka, Aokaparangi are just some of the peaks traversed.

Leader : Kevin Pearce Phone 76-198
Grading: F.E.
Cost : \$2.50 Approx.
Depart : Izadium 6.30 p.m. Friday

24th NOVEMBER WAIOTAU RU RIVER

This area in the southern Tararuas is steeped in logging history. Come and discover for yourselves what lies in this "little traveled" area.

Leader : Mary-Ann Whitehead Phone 86-861
Grading: Easy
Cost : \$2.50 Approx.
Depart : Izadium 6.00 a.m.

28th NOVEMBER CLUB NIGHT

7:30 p.m. Thursday In the Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street.

NOTICES

New Members.

A welcome is extended to:

Dave Short, 53 Waldegrave Street, Palmerston North.
Peter Hanraty, 22 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.
Keitha Forbers, Roberts Line, Palmerston North.

Club Badges

Suitable for sewing onto your pack or bush shirt. They resemble the sole of a boot in outline and may be purchased from the Treasurer, Mary-Ann Whitehead, for \$1.50. The next shipment will be certain to cost more so get in while present stocks last.

Gearhire Levy

The Committee has reduced this from 20 cents to 10 cents per person for daytrips. The levy remains at 20 cents per person for weekend trips. Trip leaders are to collect the levy and pay it to the Treasurer or Gear Custodian on all trips where Club party gear is used, e.g. tents, billies, primuses, ropes (river crossing). (first aid kits are excluded) The advertised trip costs are inclusive of gearhire levy.

Welcome Back

It is alleged that both Lawson Pither and Sue Streeter have return from overseas in recent weeks. Sue has, at the latest count, sworn 362 different people to absolute secrecy concerning her return. This may explain why so many people seem to go around with their eyes shut!

W.M.C.A.

Eight Club members took part and have a certificate to prove it.

THE MAIN MOUNTAIN PEAKS OF NEW ZEALAND

The Ten Thousand Footers		(All within 13 miles of Mount Cook)	
1	Cook	12,349	1
2	Tasman	11,475	2
3	Dampier	11,287	3
4	Silberhorn	10,850 (10,757)	4
5	Vancouver	10,850	
6	Hicks	10,550 (10,443)	6
7	Lendenfeld	10,503	5
8	Graham	10,500	
9	Torres	10,376	8
10	Teichelman	10,368	9
11	Sefton	10,359	10
12	Malte Brun	10,350 (10,421)	7
13	Haast	10,295	11
14	Elie de Beaumont	10,225 (10,200)	12
15	Douglas	10,120 (10,107)	13
16	La Perouse	10,101	14
17	Haidinger	10,059	15
18	Magellan	10,050	
19	Minarets	10,022 (10,058)	16
20	Malaspina	10,000	

Other Principal Peaks outside the Mount Cook Region

1	Aspiring	9,957
2	Tapuaenuku	9,465
3	Earnslaw	9,250
4	Ruapehu	9,175
5	Arrowsmith	9,171
6	Tutoko	9,042

The Peaks of the Mount Cook region and their heights have been taken from the 4th edition (1973) of N.Z.M.S. 180. The heights given in brackets are the previously accepted heights (3rd edition N.Z.M.S. 180).

S.A.R. 4-Man Dinner

8oz	Textured Vegetable Protein (T.V.P.)
2	Packets Maggi soup
2	Small onions or packet of dried onion
4oz	Butter
2	Small packets (or 1 large packet) Surprise peas and/or carrots
2	Level teaspoons salt
3oz	Potato flakes

Soak the peas and carrots in water to remove the preservative. Chop the onions and fry with a little of the butter in the bottom of a 6 pint billy until brown. Add 3 pints water, mix in the Maggi soups and salt, drain the peas and carrots and add to the cold water together with the T.V.P. Heat to boiling and simmer for 15-20 minutes, adding more water as necessary.

THINKING TECHNIQUE

People climb mountains for a surprising variety of reasons. Some climb for purely social reasons as they find that climbers are a particularly congenial breed, some for the sheer beauty of the scenery, some find great satisfaction and the technical mastery of the difficult climbs and still others because they enjoy telling their friends about their superhuman feats. Perhaps most of us climb for a combination of these reasons for they are all valid.

But whatever our reasons we must climb safely. If we do not we are endangering others who would be called to our aid in the event of an accident.

A safe mountaineer is a thinking mountaineer. The climber is continuously aware of all important factors, and knows how to interpret them. I do not say he does not take risks- mountaineering itself is a calculated risk, we would be much safer at home watching telly. But all the time on the mountain the climbers should be looking at the weather, at the changing snow conditions, at the time and at the other members of his party and their physical and mental condition. He must be continuously re-evaluating his plan and his approach to the job in hand.

Safe mountaineering is not merely a set of rules. Most of us have had safety rules drummed into us over and over, and it is important to know them for they have been formulated by experienced mountaineers over many years. But it is even more important to be conscious of their reasons and to apply them thoughtfully. For instance certain knots were involved which were very strong and ideally suited to hemp rope. Now climbers have changed through laid nylon to kernmantel rope and also to nylon tape. The person using these traditional knots is likely to find himself disconnected through these knots working worse. Similarly techniques developed for tenpoint crampons or long-handled axes may not be suited for twelve pointers or for today's short axes with their curved picks. As more experimental work is done techniques are changing and safer methods are being evolved.

cont. page 7

The important thing is not to accept blindly the methods which you read but try them out. Keep your methods alive by continually asking why and how and, does this do the job in the safest possible way? If you are not sure about your belays holding have a friend or two put some real weight on them (in a safe place), if you're not sure how to climb out of a crevasse on prussik loops try it up the nearest tree, or if you don't think your camping technique will provide you with comfortable night in the rain, wait for a wet weekend and go and find out why. If you have a weak wrist or the snow is too soft to hold a shaft you can't see your partner through the mist, allow for these things and adapt your technique to suit.

You go climbing or tramping for your own enjoyment. Enjoy it safely by continually thinking about what you're doing to get the safest and best method for you at that time.

-Colin Abbott

PAST TRIPS

10-11th FEBRUARY 1973 RANGI-HOWLETTS CROSSING

In the early hours of Saturday morning a hut full of people had their sleep "shattered" by an "ALARM CLOCK". It seems a "certain person", one of the nine who had wandered into Rangi Hut the night before, takes an alarm clock to facilitate early morning starts.

Anyway at 5.00 a.m. we filed out of Rangi and onwards towards Howletts Hut. The day grew warmer and party became spread out over some distance for most of the crossing. A stop was made in the saddle before Te Hekenga to assemble and grab fresh water secured some distance below the ridge.

Thence we crawled upwards onto Te Hekenga, scrambled over and around some rocky outcrops, crawled over Tiraha, and sauntered downwards to Howletts Hut. By early afternoon everybody had arrived and by late afternoon the medium party had also joined in our company.

Half the party descended to camp in the Tukituki while the remainder elected to share the crowded hut with the medium party.

On Sunday it rained and an uneventful trip was made down the Tukituki to the waiting cars.

Those participating: Sue Streeter, John Titchener, Kevin Pearce, Tim Short, John McFarlane, Ian Barnes, Brad Owen, Lindsey Sandes, Ian Hoare.

Thanks to drivers for providing wheels for this trip.

22nd SEPTEMBER POHANGINA RIVER

On arrival, we sought the entrance which led us to the maneating river. Professionally we crossed it. We tramped into the hills by following a marked track. Tramping up hill we met with our first slip, which we all crossed safely. We started on the track again.

Being rather high up we met up with a second slip. Being more difficult, we all struggled across, and managed to reach the other side safely.

After lunch we tramped down river, dodging huge obstacles until it got to the point that we realised we couldn't go any further. It was too far to turn back, so, the unpredictable climb up the steep bush covered bank, began.

We climbed, up, up and up. After almost giving up on finding the track we struck gold. Yes there it was looking very old and worn. We had a little trouble in finding the exit, but we found it and travelled home to relax.

Those on this gruelling trip were:- Mary-Anne Corrigan, Mary-Anne Coenders, Vivian Mawson, Peter Croad, Russell and Ross Johnson.

28th SEPTEMBER TOKOMARU CROSSING

Tab. Promethaz. Hydrochlor. 10mg. three times a day with food said the doctor. It was a case of acute hypersensitivity. Everytime Trevor came near to cutty grass, bush lawyer, matagouri or leatherwood he broke out into a hideous rash of cuts, weals and scratches (Please do not mention Spaniards within 100 metres of Trevor!). The trip to Burn Flat was otherwise uneventful. (Substituted in place of a cold, wet Tokomaru Crossing).

Those taking part were Slipping Dixon, Bloody Bissell, Quack Pearce and Speed Margrain.

14-15th SEPTEMBER WALLS WHARE -- CONE -- TOTARA FLATS

Some trampers must sleep in longer than others, ranging from ¼ to 6 to ¼ to 7. Late morning arrived to find us at Walls Whare.

This is where the first pikers showed their true colours (piker pink) and decided to go direct to Totara Flats, and do Cone Peak on Sunday. Martin and Peter decided to fly camp a 100 yards or so away from the Hut, they were non smokers.

Sunday came and we made our way to Makaka Stream where the track to Cone saddle starts, and out came the piker pink again. So we ended up Sunbathing, river crossing, a quick swim, a short rock climb by Martin and some not so good photo's.

For a lesson in piking contact one of the following, Martin Speller, Glenn Osborne, Mark Bell, Peter Darragh or Stuart McLauchlan, and many thanks to Trevor Bissell for the loan of his car.