



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

NEWSLETTER

8/80

Hon Secretary:	Terry Crippen,	63-588
Membership Enquiries:	Catherine Farquhar,	64-297
Newsletter Editor:	Philip Budding	85-936
Gear Custodian:	Kevin Pearce	70-217

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Enquiries Concerning Overdue Trips:

N.B. Work numbers are for emergency use only.

Kevin Pearce,	Home	70-217	Work	74-129
Don French		73-543		80-449
Philip Budding		85-936		68-019 ext 710

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COMING EVENTS

ALL TRIPS LEAVE THE "SUPERSAVE" CAR PARK, FERGUSON STREET. IF YOU WISH TO GO ON A TRIP ADVISE THE LEADER AT LEAST THREE DAYS IN ADVANCE.
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22 – 23 August – BASIC SNOW CRAFT COURSE Grade: Medium
See previous newsletter for details. Leader: Terry Crippen ph. 63-588

24 August – MAHARAHARA CROSSING Grade: Easy
See previous newsletter for details. Leader: Terry Crippen ph. 63-588

28 August – CLUB NIGHT
Supper Duties: Dianne Stanley, Bill Frecklington, Owen Gurr.

30 – 31 August – MOKAI – PATEA – WAIKAMAKI RIVER Grade: Fit
See previous newsletter. Leader: Colin Hoare ph. 88-546

30 – 31 August – OTAKOTA HUT Grade: Medium
See previous newsletter. Leader: Keith Miller ph. 89-819

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4 September Committee Meeting at Kevin Pearce – 7 Tern Place, 7.45 pm.
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5 – 6 – 7 September – CLIMBING WEEKEND

A chance to practice your snowcraft technique acquired from previous snowcraft courses. The trip will be based from MASSEY HUT on Mount Ruapehu. A summit attempt is on.

Leader: Kevin Pearce, Phone 70217
Cost: \$15.00 approximately
Depart: 6.00 pm Friday
Grade: Fit

7 September – DAY TRIP HEREPAI

This hut has been recently constructed in the Northern Tararuas to replace the old Putara Hut that was burnt down two years ago.

Leader: Don Scott, Phone 71-675
Cost: \$3.50
Depart: 6.00 am Sunday
Grade: Easy

13 – 14 September – DUNDAS RIDGE

A trip of top travel in the Northern Tararuas so ice axes will be required.

Leader: Trevor Bissell, Phone 73-543
Cost: \$3.00
Depart: 6.00 am Saturday
Grade: Fit

13 – 14 September – AVALANCHE FLATS

This is a hut up the Mangahao river in the Northern Tararuas. This is one of the Club's most popular trips.

Leader: Susan Cade, Phone 88-241
Cost: \$3.00
Depart: 6.00 am Saturday
Grade: Medium

19 – 20 – 21 September – INTERMEDIATE SNOW CRAFT COURSE

A chance to brush up on the skills learnt on earlier courses. Also some more advanced techniques will be taught. This course is to be based from Kapuni Lodge on Mount Egmont.

Leader: Don French, Phone 73-543
Cost: \$15.00 approximately
Depart: 6.00 pm Friday
Grade: Fit

21 September – TOKOMARU WATERFALL

An easy day to visit one of the largest waterfalls in the Manawatu area. The more adventurous may wish to climb to the top.

Names to: Don French, Phone 73-543
Cost: \$2.00
Depart: 7.00 am Sunday
Grade: Easy

27 – 28 September – SAWTOOTH RIDGE

This is some of the most rugged ridge travel in the Ruahines. Ice axes required. The route can be interesting under winter conditions.

Leader: Eric van Toor, Phone 67-475
Cost: \$5.00
Depart: 6.00 am Saturday
Grade: Fitness Essential

27 – 28 September – BLACKRIDGE – HOWLETTS

A trip to the highest hut in the Ruahines located on the eastern side of the Ruahines.

Leader: Chrissie Elliot, phone 72-334
Cost: \$5.00
Depart: 6.00 am Saturday
Grade: Medium

26 – 27 – 28 September - ? CLIMBING WEEKEND

A climbing weekend could be run this weekend on Ruapehu. Climbs will have to be done from a tent. Anybody interested, contact Terry Crippen, Phone 63-588.

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NOTICES

Thanks to Roddy Henderson, Don French and Dot Brown for representing the Club at the debate with Massey Alpine Club.

RESULTS: MUAC beat PNTMC by the small margin of nine points.

BUY AND SELL

For sale; One pair of Salewa Crampons, size 2 with adjusting spanner, very little used.
\$55.00

Wanted to buy; a pair of second hand skis about 185 cms. Phone Terry 63-588.

NEW ZEALAND ALPINE CALENDAR: 1981

Active climbers Dave Bamford and John Nankervis have produced a full colour alpine calendar with good scenes of the New Zealand Alps (such places as the Landsborough, the Franz, etc). Size of photos 280 mm x 220 mm, cost \$5.00 (a bit bigger and only 50c more than NFAC's).

Chrissie (phone 72-334) or Terry (phone 63-588) will take orders.

BITS AND PIECES

Camp Wardens are required for periods up to five weeks during the season December through to February. Applicants should be experienced in bush camping, cooking on an open fire and enjoy meeting people. A nominal salary will be paid. For further details write to:

Walter Romans
Venturetreks
P.O. Box 3839
AUCKLAND
(Telephone 799-855)

St Johns Ambulance would like helpers on their House to House Collection Saturday, phone Palmerston North 83-934.

Anybody missing a jumper? One was left in the van after our Kaweka trip. Terry's got it (phone 63-588).

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Philip Beech, phone 69-412 has found a cheap source of slide films, even cheaper again if you buy in bulk. Savings are tremendous. E.g. Kodachrome 36 exposure slides – shop price \$12.50. Philip's source \$9.08.

Corrections and additions to Membership List.

Sarah Godfrey C/- K. Griffin, Renwick Marlborough
Grant Ramsey, 53 McGregor Street
Keith Pollock, 19 Ward Street, Palmerston North. Phone 69-771
Nigel Bingham, 45 Highbury Avenue, Palmerston North. Phone 77-960

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor

I can but sit back and accept the revered tones with which the Tongue and Meats are referred to in the first part of A. Bill's letter. The compliments may be misplaced. Few Tongue and Meats have traversed the Camels. The trouble is that the camel will not co-operate. Well behaved camels get down on their knees to enable travellers to climb aboard. Even Tongue and Meats attempting to get over the Camelhead are likely to get bitten. We defer to male camels when it comes to mounting the arse end.

But A. Bill has gone too far in his ultimate paragraph. Hands off our name. The initials from which the name is derived are W.T. & M.C.

Regards

(Mike Hollis)
PRESIDENT

Dear Editor

I have heard of some nasty rumours going around that certain individuals in this Club have taken up skiing (sic). I would like to draw the attention to all concerned that this Club is a Tramping and Mountaineering club not a Ski club.

Over the past month the following people have been seen skiing (sic).

Patron	:	Lawson Pither
President	:	Chrissy Elliot
Vice President	:	Kevin Pearce
Secretary	:	Terry Crippen
Trip Convenor	:	Trevor Bissell
Treasurer	:	Donald French
Editor	:	Philip Budding

This is only a few of those that have been seen. It is rather disgraceful and so soon after Mr A. Bill's letter in last month's newsletter.

Yours forever climbing

B. Bill



PAST EVENTS

18 – 20 July – THE SOUTHERN KAWEKAS

After a predawn breakfast the four of us headed up from Kuripapango onto the Kuri-Kiwi Saddle Ridge. A sublime day greeted us; no wind, a clear blue sky and the tops white with snow. The country all the way to Ruapehu was a panorama of snow covered ranges and valleys. To the north beyond the Tits and Cooks Horn the higher main range of the Kawekas looked inviting so after a hut-book stop at Kiwi Saddle we headed through the soft snow and contorta to Kaiarahi having lunch just before Castle Camp.

Most of the ridges and faces on the east of the Southern Kawekas have got the dreaded Pinus contorta on them, a NZFS attempt at erosion control. This area is badly eroded with the pumice and ash cover removed over large areas exposing the greywacke bedrock. The bedrock is also now eroding forming large bare faces and gully heads. Man, with his burning off and sheep and cattle grazing earlier this century is one cause. Geology is another, since this area is very (geologically) active. Contorta does grow well at these altitudes (3000 ft to 5000 ft plus), and as on Ruapehu it has become a problem. It won't grow on the actively eroding faces and gullies (nothing would, its bare rock constantly being removed) so it grows around the margins of these areas stopping the scars from spreading. This is OK, but of course the contorta itself spreads over all the stable tussock areas. This is the problem now.

Anyhow the country is till impressive and I suppose it gets you used to tramping in North America. The other consideration is that the Kawekas don't have any leatherwood – or even much alpine scrub. Good value, straight out of open beech onto tussock tops!

Back to the trip. Once on Kaiarahi we headed north over Studholme Saddle and onto the firm snow of Mad Dog Hill and the higher main range leading to Kaweka J. From Kaweka J we then dropped off down to a snow clad basin and Back Ridge Hut arriving just on dusk.

Sunday saw us heading back onto Kaweka J, this time with an ice-cold wind, just keeping ahead of the murk as it came in from the north. Back down to Kaiarahi we then investigated The Tits. Cooks Horn presented a problem as we attempted to traverse the ridge. We tried a sidle on the north side but were turned back by bluffs so we descended into the basin on the south side via steep snow gullies and frozen scree.

We had lunch at Kaweka Hut before crossing the Tutaekuri and climbing up onto Castle Rocks Plateau. Here, the other party were about to pike from a swim in the lakes. Both of our groups then joined forces to combat a tricky navigational problem before we reached the road and the van.

The drive back to Palmerston North was west over Gentle Annie and the Napier-Taihape having come to Kuri. via the Hawkes Bay end on Friday night. This road is one of the best in the North Island with its deeply incised rivers, snow covered plateau and the enclosing rim of the Kawekas, Kaimanawas and Ruahine Ranges.

The four of us were – Trevor Bissell, Eric van Toor, Peter Wiles and Terry Crippen.

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NEWSLETTER

The National Parks Bill 1980

The Club has made a submission to the Lands and Agriculture Select Committee of Parliament on this controversial bill. The main point of the submission was that the present administration of National Parks under the National Parks Act of 1952 is good and that the Parks should not be turned over to politicians and bureaucrats. Members wishing to see the submission should consult the Secretary.

If you are concerned about the Bill you should let your National Party Member of Parliament know and/or write to the local newspapers. Apathy and inaction could have a deleterious effect on our Parks and on our future tramping and mountaineering activities.

The submission from our Club and numerous others will provide the Government with reasoned arguments for abandoning the Bill. However, it is desirable to also supply political motivation. Concerned persons can assist with this. There are no special rules for writing to your M.P. but you should be polite, reasonable and not issue threats. Editors require you to write or print legibly on one side of the paper only with room for them to edit (i.e. wide margins and space between lines). The Public Library has a copy of both the National Parks Act 1952 and the National Parks Bill 1980.

Editor, Evening Standard, P.O. Box 3 Palmerston North
Editor, Tribune, P.O. Box 1642 Palmerston North
Editor, Guardian, P.O. Box 1863 Palmerston North
M.P. for Manawatu, Mr Michael Cox, Parliament Building, Wellington