



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

**NEWSLETTER**

11/80

Hon Secretary:	Terry Crippen,	63-588
Membership Enquiries:	Chrissie Elliot	72-334
or	Heather Crabb	77-668
Newsletter Editor:	Heather Crabb	77-668
Gear Custodian:	Kevin Pearce	70-217

Enquiries Concerning Overdue Trips:

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

Kevin Pearce,	Home	70-217	Work	74-129
Heather Crabb		77-668		77-668
Don French		73-543		80-449

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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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Enjoy a weekend of cycle touring in an area normally out of reach of Palmerston North. We will travel to (or from) Masterton either by train or van, enjoy the tar sealed road of rural Wairarapa and camp under the stars on Castle Point Beach.

Leader:	Susan Cade, ph. 88-241.
Grade:	Medium.
Cost:	\$14.00 if transport by train or much less if by van.
Depart:	6.30 a.m. from Railway Station.

23<sup>rd</sup> November COPPERMINE CREEK

For those who would like to do a day trip come with Heather to one of her favourite spots in the Ruahines, up the beautiful Coppermine Creek and for those more enthusiastic trampers – maybe a trip to the top of Whariti.

Leader:	Heather Crabb, ph. 77-668.
Grade:	According to demand.
Cost:	\$1.00.
Depart:	7.00 a.m. Saturday.

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

We have Chrissie Elliot, Kevin Pearce, Trevor Bissell to show us some interesting slides to give various ideas of where to go tramping in the North and South Islands this summer.

At the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., P.N. at 7.45 p.m.  
SUPPER DUTIES: Trevor Bissell, Stephen Moore, Gary Mackay.

29<sup>th</sup> November KAPAKAPANUI

A day trip in the Tararuas behind Waikanae. There is plenty of scope for trips ranging from easy to fit.

Leader:	Trevor Bissell, 73-543.
Grade:	As necessary.
Cost:	\$3.50.
Depart:	7.00 a.m. Saturday.

30<sup>th</sup> November KAPITI ISLAND

We have a permit for up to 12 people to visit the island which serves as a sanctuary for native birds. A track leads to the highest point of the island and one can walk to the site of an early attempt at farming.

Transport to and from the island will be by launch.

Leader: Trevor Bissell, ph. 73-543.  
Grade: Easy.  
Cost: \$16.50 (\$12 for launch ride and \$4.50 transport.)  
Depart: 6.00 a.m. sharp Sunday morning.

4<sup>th</sup> December COMMITTEE MEETING

At 7 Tern Place, 7.45 p.m.

6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> December CHRISTMAS DINNER AT RANGI

As usual we hold the Annual Xmas Dinner at Rangi hut on Sunday, but we also make this into a weekend affair, especially for the fit people who want to take a far longer route to the hut. Sunday involves lots of fun including, of course, the formal dress act – presented very well by Trevor Bissell and various others in the past. Please bring own plates, cutlery and your own drink – everything else will be provided.

Leader: Dianne Stanley, ph. 3633 Pahiatua.  
Grade: F & E.  
Cost: Approx, \$8.00  
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday, 7.00 a.m. Sunday.

11<sup>th</sup> December INFORMAL CLUB NIGHT

Come along and meet other members of the Club and talk about past and future tramping, climbing, cycling trips etc., have a cup of coffee and get to know each other.

SUPPER DUTIES: Heather Crabb, Barbara McArdle, John Patterson.

12<sup>th</sup> December CHRISTMAS SOCIAL AT THE STEEPLE RESTAURANT

There are just a couple of places left so contact Dianne Stanley, phone 3633 Pahiatua or see her at Club Night if you want to be included.

Dianne needs your \$10 so please bring it along to the Formal Club Night, 27<sup>th</sup> November.

13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> December NGAMOKO – OROUA AREA

An F.E. trip into the Ruahines, which will be a very good trip to get those muscles toned into shape for all that good summer tramping.

Leader: Kevin Pearce, ph. 70-217.  
Grade: F.E.  
Cost: \$4.00.  
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

14<sup>th</sup> December TUNIPO

Also in the same area as above with very nice views of the rest of the Ruahines once the peak Tunipo is climbed.

Leader: Kevin Pearce, ph. 70-217.  
Grade: Medium.  
Cost: \$4.00.  
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Sunday.

20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> December TOKOMARU CROSSING

This time it's into the Tararuas for one of the most northern crossings which includes plenty of waterfalls.

Leader: Don French, ph. 73-543.  
Grade: Fit.  
Cost: \$3.00 - \$4.00.  
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> December TOKOMARU RIVER

An easy weekend trip up the Tokomaru River which has good swimming pools for the hot weather we are about to experience.

Leader: Don French, ph. 73-543.  
Grade: Easy.  
Cost: \$2.00.  
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

PLEASE NOTE

There will be no formal Club night in December.

26<sup>th</sup> December – January CHRISTMAS TRIP NELSON LAKES TO LEWIS PASS

MEDIUM

Susan Cade (ph. 88-241) and Don Scott are organising a medium trip as above. Probable route is Robert Ridge – Angelus – Sunset Saddle – Hopeless – Travers Saddle – Blue Lake – Waiiau Pass – Waiiau River – Ada River – Lewis Pass. At present there is room for two more people.

The ‘fit’ response has been rather poor i.e. zero, but those interested in a similar route but harder, ring Roddy Henderson 63-588.

Cost of food ± \$25.

Transport: Make your own way to St Arnaud to start 27<sup>th</sup> January.

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Notices

NEW MEMBERS

Janis Frain, 522 Tremaine Ave., P.N. Ph. 75-653.  
Mike Freeman, 7 Tern Place, P.N. “ 70-217.  
Ross Fletcher, 16 Western Ave., P.N. “ 87-735.  
Josephine Eder, 155 Heretaunga St., P.N. 71-785.  
A warm welcome is accorded to these people.

Anna Croad, 4/569 Church St., P.N. ph. 69-386.

Congratulations to Janet and Peter on bringing Anna into the world on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Well done!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Laydon Peterson, C/72 Pahiatua St., P.N. Ph. 79-336.

CONDOLENCES

Sincere sympathy to Terry Crippen who lost his father earlier in the month.

WANDERER RETURNS

Former Club member Lindsay Sandes is home from abroad.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TRIPS

If you wish to go tramping or cycling over the holiday season – day, weekend or longer trips, contact Heather Crabb, 77-668 who will put trampers into contact with each other so you can make up your own parties and tramp or cycle where you fancy takes you.

SLIDE PROJECTOR

Would anyone be willing to lend a slide projector on a regular basis for Club nights for a consideration or a spare bulb now and again? Anyone willing to do this please phone Terry, 63-588.

NATIONAL PARKS BILL, 1980 (from F.M.C. special News Bulletin)

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

On Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, 1980, the Minister invited representatives from FMC and other organisations to his office to discuss amendments to the Bill.

AMENDMENTS

The Minister is proposing significant amendments to the Bill. Clauses which it is proposed to amend are:-

- 4 (1) Improved definition of National Parks.
- 4 (2) (b) Preservation principle reverts to Authority.
- 8. Approval of Minister no longer required for investigating new proposals.
- 16 Nominees now on the "recommendation of" organisations.
- 17 Authority now has power to advocate, otherwise little change.
- 18 Reverts to wording of present act – a very significant gain.
- 27 Minister will now consult organisations.
- 28 Little change proposed except to appointment of Honorary Rangers and advice on implementation of Management Plans.
- 30 Boards will now be appointed following "consultation with" the Authority.
- 43, 44 and 45 Role of Boards clarified in regard to Management Plans. Commissioner removed in most clauses.

Federated Mountain Clubs is far from happy regarding clauses 17 and 28 dealing with the functions of the Authority and Boards. We will continue to press as we did in our supplementary submissions for the management of National Parks to be retained by Boards.

ACTION – URGENT

You are urged to contact your local member of Parliament and remind him that the following remit was carried at this year's National Party Dominion conference:

"NATIONAL PARKS – THAT THE GOVERNMENT BE URGED NOT TO TRANSFER MANAGEMENT FROM THE PRESENT APPOINTED BOARDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY."

DONATIONS

Members are asked to make donations to the F.M.C. for the very worthwhile work they are doing in pressing for the management of National Parks to be retained by Boards.

Please send your donations to the Secretary, F.M.C., P.O. Box 1604, Wellington or hand them to Don French as soon as possible. In estimating the extent of your donation you are asked to relate it to your hourly wage or a trip cost.

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PAST EVENTS

RANGI – HOWLETTS TRAVERSE AND BACK

It was obviously going to be a good trip – pouring rain; Feilding, Cheltenham, Kimbolton ..... still the forecast sounded reasonable for Sunday. Fortunately it wasn't raining at the car park. The cloud was entered at the swing bridge, but remarkably conditions remained dry until we dropped out of the cloud beyond Mangamahue. Little time was lost over lunch before the 1000' haul up to Te Hekenga was started on. Huey wasn't quite so cooperative. The broken ridge beyond Te Hekenga was traversed without major problems. The second attempt found the correct route off Tiraha and very soon after Howletts Hut could be seen along the ridge. The hut was reached shortly after 5 p.m. (The slower group having the benefit of an extra heavy shower of rain.)

The morning saw more cloud but this time with driving wet mist from the east. We were off again at 8 a.m. An hour later at Taumatataua saw the first snow flakes in the air. The turn-off for the drop into the Oroua was found without trouble. The trip down the east branch of the Oroua (about 1200 metres) took a full two hours. Numerous side trips into the bush being forced by the relatively high water level.

A shivery lunch was had at Triangle Hut. After only 500 feet up the ridge out of the West Oroua saw more snow falling. The turn-off back to Rangi was reached after two hours from Triangle. The last snowflakes were seen just above the swing-bridge on the descent to the cars. The carpark was reached shortly before 6 p.m. making the return journey longer in travelling time than the traverse over the top.

Several members of the group were impressed by the route-finding skills shown by the members concerned.

The party was: Peter Wiles (learner), Peter Darragh, Robert (the) Bruce, Mike Davidson, Chris Saunders, Steven Moore.

### 19<sup>th</sup> October ROARING STAG LODGE

Six enthusiastic individuals found themselves leaving for the Putara road end under a grey sky and steady rain. After checking out Herepai hut we made our way down the Ruapae Stream, which provided us with really pleasant river travel. This proved to be a nostalgic journey for one member of the party, who had camped for some time in the area, thirty-four years earlier.

The weather gradually cleared, as we took time off for lunch at Roaring Stag Lodge and after some time here, we returned to the Putara road end by way of the main track.

We were: Keith Miller, Gillian Stroud, Russ Hargreaves, Jimmy Hargreaves, John Sleep, Catherine Farquhar.

### 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> October

On one of the better Labour weekends five mild trampers set off from the Super-save Carpark, and headed off to the back of Masterton for Mitre Flats. It wasn't long before we were winding our way up the track and occasionally Mitre Peak and Baldy coming into view. About four hours later we arrived at Mitre Flats. Question was "Shall we sleep in the hut or tent fly out near the river". Barbara and Jo had never camped out before, so the vote was swung in sleeping under the stars. Anyway the hut was full later on in the day with people and besides Allan didn't want to show off his flashy green long johns. Sunday morning up bright and early and full of enthusiasm we decided to go for a walk in the morning up the South Mitre Stream and up to Baldy for a look. We didn't get all the way up, however, but we did stop far enough to have a reasonable look at the surrounding tops. After lunch we made our way down, packed up the rest of the gear and with sunburnt shoulders and legs, we made our way out to the cars concluding a very enjoyable weekend.

Those taking part were: Barbara McArdle, Jo Eder, Peter Hanratty, John Seymour and Allan Dunn.

### 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> October SUNBATHING IN THE TARARUAS

Glorious sunshine and magnificent scenery were all laid out for the no expenses spared, Labour weekend crossing of the Tararuas.

A quick sprint up to Field's Hut from the Otaki Gorge road soon sorted us out into the sprinters and the more sedate. Driven on by Sherpa Pearce we all eventually struggled into the picturesque Maungahuka Hut. At this point there was general agreement that the trip clarification be up-graded to F.E. (fitness essential) and achievement medals were handed out to all participants.

On Sunday morning we paid off the Sherpa and his sidekick Trevor (I can farm the Tararua Peaks) Brill.

Thus, unrestrained by the hand of leadership we made our way down to Neil Forks and with gay abandon frolicked (not for very long) in the sparkling waters. Here we split into two groups, the mountaineers: Neil (I can tell grubby jokes and run up hills with two packs all at the same time) Wallace, Janice (I may be small but I tote a hefty pack) Frain, Walt (I can keep going until I drop, then I'll get up and do it again) Abble, and Mike (retailer of tender Pommie meat for all discerning sandflies) Freeman, and the sub-aqua team: Alice (blister don't slow me down) Clifton, Murray (watch me go over the rapids chasing a tee-shirt) Patterson, Craig (I use my hat as a billy) Halford and Cheryl (the water came up to where?) Sporry, who tried the less orthodox way round to the Totara Flats.

On Monday in yet another brilliant day we made our way slowly up to Mount Holdsworth Lodge, basking on route in the sunshine. After scaring a few Wellington day trippers we made our way, out of the sun, to the clouds of Palmerston.

Thanks to Trevor and Kevin for transportation, also to Neil Wallace for very ably taking over the Leadership for the latter part of the trip.

### 30<sup>th</sup> October CLUB NIGHT

Dave Bamford – a Ranger at Tongariro National Park – spoke about various trips he had done in the South Island last year. He talked very modestly of climbs of the Balfour Glacier and then of his first trip to the Darrens – with many good ascents being done. He concluded by discussing the future of climbing and mountain recreation in New Zealand. A very large number of people attended.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

In reply to Mr. B. Bill's letter of some weeks ago, and his blatant, horrendous etc. etc. attack on the hierarchy of the Tramping Club.

He would obviously be one of those people who in the past laughed at Wilbur Wright's effort to fly! So short sighted, narrow and purist be he! I wonder if he has ever heard of the term "mountaineering" prefixed by the word "ski" i.e. "ski mountaineering". "Oh, horrors!" shout the purists, "we cannot have this sort of thing going on in the Club." Why can't we? After all we are a mountaineering club. Mr. B. Bill can only see chair lifts and ski tows, with people littering the slopes.

Unfortunately, in order to ski-mountaineer one has to learn to ski first and the best way is to use the noisy, clanky equipment and learn to ski with reasonable competence. Then one can turn one's back on these things, fasten skis and skins to one's feet and have the sky or the crater as the limit.

It was with great delight and deep sympathy that I and my companion trundled past the purists (you could tell by the mean looks on their faces) struggling knee and waist deep in the snow while we were able to climb where we chose while they were hardly able to move. Instead of later arsading our way down the hill, we were able, laden with crampons, ice axes etc. to have a thrilling exhilarating and rewarding finish to our day, quietly confident that all the paraphernalia and frustration of the past was only a very small part of a much greater end, i.e. to use our mountaineering skills in conjunction with our newly acquired skiing skills to end up with best of both worlds. The ULTIMATE!

Yours forever climbing and ski-mountaineering,  
Yeti.

P.S. A word of warning to any person considering this type of past-time, special ski bindings and skins are required or you end up just a downhill peasant.

