



# PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217  
PALMERSTON NORTH  
NEWSLETTER

June/July 1986

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Secretary:	Trevor Bissell	73-543
Membership Enquiries:	Lorraine Bray	86-966
Gear Custodian:	Dave Barker	78-762
Newsletter Editor:	Peter Clough	61-271

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## ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

John Barkla:	Tel. Home 73-543	Wk	89-109
Trevor Bissell:	73-543		74-129
Peter Clough	61-271		69-099 Ex 7563
Tricia Eder	71-785		

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ALL TRIPS LEAVE FROM THE NO FRILLS/FOODTOWN CAR PARK, CORNER OF FERGUSON STREET AND FITZHERBERT AVENUE. IF YOU WISH TO GO ON A TRIP, YOU MUST ADVISE THE LEADER AT LEAST THREE DAYS IN ADVANCE. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY OR WEEKEND TRIP, CONTACT THE LEADER OF THE SCHEDULED TRIP.

Members are reminded that a charge for transport will be collected on the day of the trip, the amount depending on the distance traveled and vehicles used. Leaders should be able to give a rough estimate in advance, if requested.

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## COMING EVENTS:

### 26 June – Club Night Wanderings in the Local Ranges

John Barkla will be showing a variety of slides of trips he has done in the Tararuas and Ruahines. But he hasn't seen them all, so we're leaving time for members to bring and show their slides of their favourite spots in the local hills.

Time: 7.45 p.m.  
Venue: Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street, P.N.

### 28-29 June – Rangī - Howletts Crossing of the Ruahines

A classic, not-too-difficult crossing of the Ruahine Range from Rangī Hut to Howletts Hut and then out via the Tukituki River.

Leader: Trevor Bissell ph 73543  
Grade: Fit  
Departs: Saturday 6 a.m.

### 29 June – Tukituki River, Eastern Ruahines

A day trip up the Tukituki River to Daphne Hut or beyond to meet up with those on the crossing and share the transport.

Leader: John Barkla ph 73543  
Grade: Easy/Medium  
Departs: Sunday 6 a.m.

**3 July – Committee Meeting**

All members are welcome to attend, find out about and contribute ideas towards the running of the Club. Unlike last month, business is expected to be complete within one evening's meeting:

Time: 7.45 p.m.  
Venue: 28 Carroll Street, Palmerston North.

**5-6 July – Midwinter at Rangī**

The one bright night in a dark winter! Don't miss this social highlight. If you're going (and why shouldn't you be?) ring Tricia and find out what's required in the food/drink/transport line. Dinner will be on Saturday night and will cost \$6-7, to be collected at Rangī. Bring Your Own extras, tit-bits, grog, breakfast, lunch, guitars and other musical instruments, song sheets etc.

Names to: Tricia Eder ph 71185 BY FRIDAY 27 JUNE SO THAT  
Grade: All FOOD CAN BE BOUGHT/ORGANISED  
Departs: As you please

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\* For new members, this is an excellent chance to meet club members \*  
\* in their natural habitat – Rangī Hut. For new and old alike, \*  
\* FANCY DRESS IS ESSENTIAL - AND THE THEME IS 'VICE VERSA' \*  
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**12-13 July – Chamberlain Creek.**

This is a mad, wet trip to the worst part of the Tararuas. You'll love it!

Leader: Nigel Seebeck ph 8904  
Grade: Fit  
Departs: 6 p.m. Friday Night

**12 July – Cycling/Tramping Day Trip**

Cycle out to the Beehive Creek Walkway just past Pohangina, stroll over the Walkway, and cycle home in time for tea and scones.

Leader: Doug Strachan ph 75732  
Grade: Easy/Medium  
Departs: 8 a.m. Saturday

**17 July – Club Night: Quiz Night, PNTMC vs Massey Alpine Club**

A varied evening of 'beat the boot' questioning, plant identification and slide interpretation. There'll be plenty of time and opportunity for audience participation, and since we're on home ground we should start with a psychological advantage.

One slight problem – we need a team of 4 people, preferably of mixed gender (the team, that is) to compete. Interested? If so, contact John Barkla (ph. 73543) soon – before he starts hunting down 'volunteers'.

Time: 7.45 p.m.  
Venue: Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street, P.N.

**19-20 July – Snowcraft I (Introductory)**

The first in a series of three Snowcraft courses. This one is designed for beginners who may never have been on snow before. The venue will be Rangīpo Hut on the eastern slopes of Mount Ruapehu. (See Notices).

Leader: Peter Wiles ph 86894  
Grade: Medium  
Departs: 6 a.m. Saturday

**20 July – Local Day**

A trip to the nearby Kahuterawa/Greens Road area behind Linton. This is suitable for family groups.

Leader: Lorraine Bray ph 86966  
Grade: Easy  
Departs: 9 a.m. Sunday

**26-27 July – Tauherenikau Valley, Tararua**

A round trip from Walls Whare visiting the historic Cone Hut.

Leader: Trevor Bissell ph 73543  
Grade: Medium  
Departs: 6.30 p.m. Friday

**26 July – Waiopahu Ridge**

A chance to get right to Waiopahu Trig, a great vantage point over the Tararuas.

Leader: Damien Eder ph 71785  
 Departs: 7 a.m. Saturday  
 Grade: Medium

**31 July – Club Night**

Trevor Bissell will be giving an illustrated account of a trip he made to the Wanganui catchment in South Westland in January 1986, along with Roger Redmayne and two others.

Time: 7.45 p.m.  
 Venue: Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street, P.N.

**2-3 August – Snowcraft II**

Details next Newsletter.

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**NOTICES:****1/ SNOWCRAFT COURSES THIS YEAR**

This year's snowcraft instruction consists of 3 courses and an open weekend for putting the new skills into practice. These courses are:

**Snowcraft I (Introductory)** in July. This will introduce people to walking on snow, use of an ice-axe for support, self-arrest and so on.

**Snowcraft II (Intermediate)** in August. This will introduce members to crampons, belaying and other rope work useful in 'pass-hopping'.

**Snowcraft III (Advanced)** in September. This will practise mountaineering techniques, possibly snow caving as well.

**Open Week-end** in September/October. Time to apply techniques learnt. The courses are structured to acquaint and equip members with snowcraft skills, and cater for all grades of ability and experience. Participants are urged to attend all three courses, so they can build on the new skills as they learn them. The courses are a good way to extend your tramping to new horizons, and new exciting experiences. They won't make you a really competent mountaineer overnight, but they will provide a solid foundation on which you can build up your skills with continual practice.

**2/ PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTEST**

As in previous years, the photo contest in May was well attended and provided plenty of tips for budding photographers. Congratulations to the winners, and all those with photos commended can feel well pleased with their efforts.

The winners were:

Slide Section:	Landscape:	1 <sup>st</sup>	John Barkla - Tasman Glacier
		2 <sup>nd</sup>	Trevor Bissell - Hooker Moraine
	Topical:	1 <sup>st</sup>	Nigel Seebeck - On the Copland Pass
		2 <sup>nd</sup>	John Barkla - McKinnon Hut, Ruahines
	Natural:	1 <sup>st</sup>	Nigel Seebeck - Bellbird silhouette
	History:	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Peter Clough - Moss in the Caples Valley
Print Section:	Landscape:	1 <sup>st</sup>	John Barkla - Fox Neve, Fritz Range
	Topical:	1 <sup>st</sup>	Liz Morrison - "Which creek are we up?"
	Natural History:	1 <sup>st</sup>	Terry Crippen - Fungi, German Harz Mountains

**3/ REPORT ON SNOWCRAFT INSTRUCTORS COURSE 7-8 June 1986**

"With an almighty heave from most of us another anchor, a snow bollard failed, proving it a reasonable anchor for one person but not for nine pulling all at once with crampons on".

The instructors week-end organised by the Mountain Safety Council was a successful one involving PNTMC, Massey Alpine Club, Manawatu Tramping and Skiing Club, Bush Tramping Club and Waikato Tramping Club. There were 8 pupils and 3 instructors.

An evening session cleared up the formalities of the week-end, and on Friday night at the MTSC lodge at Whakapapa skifield a clear sky promised a fine day the following morning. A walk up the mountain took us to an ice gully above Delta Corner where most of the instruction was given. A wide range of techniques and skills were practised, including glacier travel and crevasse extraction examined in some detail, and various anchors in both snow and ice were rigorously tested.

This was a relaxing week-end in which a lot was learnt, and some even got some rock climbing in as an unexpected bonus. Good instruction and some brilliant weather added up to an excellent week-end.

#### 4/ **GOING PLACES**

Congratulations to John Goulstone and three others who successfully climbed Langshira Ri, a 6500 metre peak in Nepal in April. This peak has only been seen 3 previous expeditions, all Japanese, 2 of which were successful.

Congratulations also to Don French who has been asked to join an international team heading to Jannu, a 7710metre peak in eastern Nepal, sometime after the monsoon season. Good Luck!

#### 5/ **FOR SALE**

One pair of Diadora tramping boots, size 6½, near new. Open to reasonable offers. Phone Nigel on 89043.

#### 6/ **DON'T FORGET**

Midwinter Feast at Rangī Hut, Saturday night, 5 July. Names to Tricia Eder (71785) by Friday 21 June if you want to be fed:

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### **TRIP REPORTS:**

#### **ANZAC WEEK END 25-27 April - Round the Mountain Track, Taranaki**

After seeing Sally Hewson's slides on Morocco – well worth delaying our departure for – we headed off late on Thursday night towards Mount Taranaki/Egmont.

We stayed at Konini Lodge, which would be a good venue for our Club's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday celebrations in 1987. On Friday morning we left the Lodge in the hands of a group who arrived early and proceeded to unload a trailer-load of paraphernalia into the Lodge – suit cases rather than packs, and boxes full of provisions. Who were they, and to what heights would they go? (Ask Trevor).

The manager of Dawson Falls tourist lodge gave directions to a new low level track to Lake Dive, which runs off from the Hasties Hill track. (This is not yet officially opened but has been cut and developed with steps, ladders and so on). From Lake Dive Hut, where we had an early lunch, we set trail for the Waiiau Gorge Hut via the low level route, before camping out the night by the track. On Saturday we were treated to spectacular views of the bluffs in the Waiiau Gorge, which were negotiated with the help of an aluminium ladder. The hut above the Gorge is a massive Lockwood with sleeping room for 36. We continued round the track and stopped at Kahui Hut for lunch. The weather deteriorated, obliterating the mountain and the Pouakais from view. The highway track from Kahui to Holly hut passed through some very rugged country and we arrived at Holly Hut just as torrential rain began.

By using the hut guttering and numerous concrete blocks and poles the tent fly was rigged behind the hut. Two spare doors were removed from under the hut to give a floor above the ground which was awash, and Mary and Darren spent the night under the fly. Peter and Nanette spent a night in their tent, sleepless due to the noise of wind and rain but nevertheless dry, while the wimps insinuated themselves into the comfort of a dry but crowded hut.

With daylight, Trevor brought a cup of 'up-you-get' tea, even to those under the nylon, and we managed to get away before the main rush from the hut.

All streams were high and muddy but crossable, which was more than could be said for the track in places! Fortunately we were invited into Tahurangi Lodge and took shelter from the wind and rain there. An hour or so later, rejuvenated by lunch, we raced off to the Stratford Plateau and completed the circuit to Dawson Falls by early afternoon.

We were: Trevor Bissell, Nanette and Peter Clough, Terry Coburn, Mary Davies, Tricia Eder, Darren Scott, Ross Wallace.

#### **17-18 May – Tararua Main Range?**

The weather that greeted us on waking at Field Hut on Saturday morning was such that we were very happy to have come up the previous evening. We had a token discussion on continuing as planned before resigning ourselves to a day in the pit. Throughout the day a continuous stream of wet boy scouts put our dry sleeping area in jeopardy but a few stern glances kept them at bay. A game of poker ended an exhausting day.

The night belonged to the rats!

Sunday morning and the rain had eased. Struggling up into the murk we located the track to Penn Creek Hut where we stopped and had an early lunch.

The sun even shone for the journey back along the sidle track. The main range will have to wait for another day!

We were: John Barkla, Mary Rowland and Urs Schupbach.

### **24-25 May – Penn Creek, Tararuas**

Notices at the road end announced that Fields Hut was closed to overnight users, since a work party was in residence. We set off up the steep farmland in the direction of Fields and were overtaken by two fit mules running up the track. We met these two 3½ hours later on their return from Mount Hector, the whole return trip having taken them 5 hours or so.

On Table Top the map was consulted and we identified the place where the track to Penn Creek Hut left the ridge. On arrival at the hut, mid afternoon, we found it was already occupied by 4 adults and 2 children. We understood that at least one more party was expected to stay overnight at the hut so we pitched the fly. From the comfort of our pit we saw 9 more trampers arrive. During the night an opossum rubbed noses with one party member, who immediately enquired whether possums carry T.B. or not! The possum did not reply!

After breakfast in bed we lay in for a further 1½ hours while Trevor finished his action packed book on Everest exploits. During a lull in the drizzle we packed up and set off down Penn Creek track back to Otaki Forks road end.

We were: Trevor Bissell, Tricia Eder, Ross Wallace.

### **25 May – Tokan Effort**

The weather and conditions just could not have been better for this successful day tramp up to the tops in the Ngamoko Range. We went up the Knights track, spent a few minutes at the trig point on top of Toka, where we braved wind and mist to have our photograph taken amongst the icicles on the trig structure, then along the ridge south to somewhat more clement conditions before descending the Shorts track back to the road end. A really nice circuit route, but not without a few slips, some of the Freudian variety. Who was it who couldn't correctly pronounce the name of nearby Sixtus Lodge? And who was it who suggested we had plenty of time for snoggin – woops, scroggin - stops?

We were: Nanette and Peter Clough, Jan Clifton, Terry Crippen, Jenny Dymock, Margaret Riordan and Philippa Somerville.

### **1-2 June – Northern Ruahine Range**

SWAGE n. a die or stamp for shaping metal by hammering  
v.t. to shape with a swage

The above definition is given for the benefit of those puzzled by a sign in Aranza Hut advising black powder i.e. musket enthusiasts to "swage your own balls" (i.e. make your own bullets). Also for those confused by the hut's name, it can be reported that the Ruahine map published in 1951 shows "Hut Ruin" in black, which probably means a ruined hut as the usable huts on this map are shown in red.

Leslie Haines, Mary Davies and Kevin Pearce enjoyed a two day tramp over Queen's Birthday Weekend. Sunday was wet and windy with wet snow under-foot. Monday was fine and frosty. We went up Golden Crown and down Sentry Box Ridges and spent the night in the company of three remarkably civilised nocturnal deerstalkers.

Those who find the trip account too cryptic should consult with trip members for a full account of their activities.

P.S. Those searching in vain for Aranza Hut should look again for Aranga Hut.

### **5-6 July – Midwinter at Rangī**

This report's a little ahead of its time, but although this event hasn't yet happened it's guaranteed to be one of the tramps DEFINITELY NOT TO BE MISSED. So remember, names to Tricia (71785) by 27 June so food can be organised, and DON'T FORGET your fancy dress on a vice versa theme. Candid cameras will be there, so beware!

Reading the real trip report after the event will definitely only be second best, so BE THERE!

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**PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB****LIST OF FINANCIAL MEMBERS 1986/87****ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND/OR TELEPHONE NUMBER PLEASE CONTACT LORRAINE BRAY.**

Barker, Dave	113 College St. PN	78762
Barkla, John	28 Carroll St. PN	73543
Bissell, Trevor	28 Carroll St. PN	73543
Bray, Lorraine	73 Long Melford Rd. PN	86966
Brill, Trevor	RD 1, Aokautere PN	
Budding, Phillip & Linda	State Highway 1, Carnarvon, RD3, PN	RON 780
Cleland, John	99 Cook St. PN	
Clough, Peter & Nanette	10 Union St. PN	61271
Coburn, Terry	PO Box 258, PN	86391
Crawford, Dave	113 College St. PN	78762
Crippen, Terry	24 Morris St. PN	63588
Crow, Vaughn & Kathy	105 Clifton Terrace, PN	
Dalefield, Julian	28 Carroll St. PN	73543
Darragh, Peter	20 Tate Pl. Feilding	
Davies, Mary	8 Hendon PL. PN	
Eder, Damienne	57 Fairs Rd. PN	71785
Eder, Patricia	57 Fairs Rd. PN	71785
Haines, Leslie	54 Burns Ave. PN	61514
Harmsworth, Garth	10 Limbrick St. PN	69590
Hewson, Sally	34 Botanical Rd. PN	83719
Hicks, Perry	29 Foliett St. Marton	MARTON 7960
Jaggard, Anne	3/20 Grey St. PN	81260
Jenson, Owen	23 Haggitt St. Feilding	37612
Kennedy, Laurie	6 Dittmer Drive, PN	74360
Lacey, Russ	33 Burwood Rd. Matamata	MATA 8232
MacColl Alison	10 Limbrick St. PN	69590
Morrison, Liz	5 Leslie Ave. PN	76532
Morton, Chris	551 Ruahine St. PN	77497
Newstead, Dave	C/- DRI PN	
Pearce, Kevin	7 Tern Pl. PN	70217
Peters, Graham & Cheryl	30 Bourke St. PN	65581
Pither, Lawson & Sue	4 Athlone Pl. PN	73033
Redmayne, Roger	PO Box 23, Pahiatua	(0650) 8991
Saunders, Chis & Family	96 Brightwater Tce. PN	
Scheyvens, Michael	22 Anglesey Pl. PN	74138
Schupback, Urs	94 Wood St. PN	80245
Scott, Darren	7 Kettle Ave. PN	71675
Seebeck, Nigel	7 Austin Pl. PN	89043
Short, Tim	79 Churchill Ave. PN	75038
Sommerville, Phillippa	2/95 Fergusson St. PN	64065
Strachan, Doug	117 Pahiatua St. PN	75732
Taylor, Sheena	26 Sutherland Cres. PN	76665
Todd, Arthur & Liz	2 Heayns Pl, Feilding	36246
Tremain, Lorraine	22 Savage Cres. PN	61769
Wallace, Ross	17 Mudgway Pl. PN	64516
Warbuton, Leslie	50 Brightwater Tce. PN	73895
Wiles, Peter	12 Jensen St. PN	86894

(If you see any inaccuracies or omissions, please contact the Membership Secretary).

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