



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217

PALMERSTON NORTH

NEWSLETTER

September/October 1987

Membership Enquiries:	Tricia Eder	Ph.	70-122
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ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

John Barkla:	Ph. Home 65-844	Work	89-003
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Vaughn Crow	86-569		74-129
Tricia Eder	70-122		79-946

ALL TRIPS LEAVE FROM THE FOODTOWN CAR PARK IN FERGUSON STREET. IF YOU WANT TO GO ON A TRIP, PLEASE 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 an estimate in advance.

COMING EVENTS:

Thursday 1st October - Committee Meeting All members are welcome to attend.

Time: 7.45pm
Venue: 94 Wood St, PN

3rd - 4th October Mitre Peak, Tararuas

A visit to the highest peak in the Tararuas. If you think you can handle altitude join Phil on his trip.

Leader: Phil Clerke Ph. 82041
Grade: Medium - fit
Departs: Saturday 6am

4th October - Coppermine, Ruahines

Did you wonder how Coppermine got its name? Here's your chance to find out. This will be an easy trip - a good opportunity for people who don't like strenuous tramping.

Leader: Terry Crippen Ph. 63588
Grade: Easy
Departs: Sunday 7am

10-11th October - Dundas Ridge, Tararuas

A trip for the fit trampers amongst our Club. Going in from the Mangahao Dam it will include a whole traverse of the Dundas Ridge.

Leader: John Wright
Grade: Fit
Departs: Friday 6pm

11th October - Ohau Shelter, Tararuas

This will be a nice easy going tramp through real Tararua bush to Ohau Shelter with the occasional view down the Ohau Gorge.

Leader: Tricia Eder
Grade: Easy
Departs: Sunday 9am

Thursday 15th October - Club night

John Barkla will be giving an talk entitled "Hard labour in Siberia - a winter trip in the Mt Aspiring area "

Time: 7.45 pm
Venue: Society of Friends Meeting Rooms,
227 College St, P.N.

17-18th October - Lake Colenso, Northern Ruahines

This area is not often visited by the Club, but well worth having a look around.

Leader: Alan Mountfort Ph. 69715
Grade: Medium
Departs: Saturday 7am

18th October - Mystery trip

All we know at the moment is that it is somewhere in the Ruahines. Go along and find out where exactly it is heading to.

Leader: Cheryl Peters Ph. 65581
Grade: Easy/medium
Departs: Sunday 8am

24-26th October - Labour Weekend, Kawekas

The long weekend gives us the opportunity to explore a range a bit further away from Palmerston North. This time we are heading for the Kawekas, a good tramping ground for everybody.

Leaders: (fit) : Trevor Bissell Ph. 73543
(medium) : Urs Schubach Ph., 80245
Departs: Saturday 5am

Thursday 29th October - Club night

Chris Saunders will be giving an illustrated talk on "August excursions in South Island National Parks - places to get away to at the end of winter". A fitting topic for the National Parks' centennial year.

Time: 7.45 pm.
Venue: Society of Friends Meeting Rooms,
227 College St, P.N.

31st October - 1st November – Caving, Waitomo

What about tramping underground? If you like scrambling, chimneying, crawling, squeezing and you don' t mind getting wet and grubby you will enjoy caving. Come along and try it!

Leader: Urs Schubach Ph. 80245
Grade: Easy/medium
Departs: Friday 6pm

31st October - Piripiri Stream, Ruahines

A mix of interesting country lies in the corner where the Pohangina River and the Ngamoko Range meet.

Leader: Chris Morton
Grade: Easy
Departs: Saturday 9am

We would like to thank recent speakers at club nights including Cheryl Peters and Alan Gardner for their entertaining and informative demonstration of gear and Graham Peters with his convincing talk on the joys of caving.

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING DIFFERENT - Aerial Tramping

Ever been stuck in Palmerston North on a beautiful Sunday wishing you had been organised enough to go tramping? Well now is your chance to get together with a few fellow club mates, charter a plane and view some of those favourite tramping haunts from the air. Find out why you ever bothered to get views the hard way. The list of those wanting to go aerial tramping is being compiled by Chris Morton Ph.77497 so contact him if you are interested.

NOTICES

- 1) New members - we welcome the following new member to the Club
Erin Eggleston, 5 Hughes Ave, P.N. Ph. 72205

- 2) Congratulations to Nanette and Peter Clough on the birth of their son, Jonathan Peter.
- 3) Terry Crippen is now taking orders for the next batch of T-shirts complete with Club motif. Please advise Terry (Ph. 63588) of the number, colour and size you require.
- 4) The committee organising the Club's 21st celebrations welcomes any offers of help. More helpers will guarantee success. The next meeting will be held on the 5th October at 24 Morris St, P.N.
- 5) For Sale - One pair of size 9 Faulkner tramping boots.
Please contact Phil Clerke, Ph 82041 P.N.
- 6) You are invited to: "A slide evening featuring Chile and Ecuador". This will be presented by the "Circulo Cultural Hispanoamericano" on Friday the 2nd of October at 7.45 pm in the Rangitane Pavilion. Entrance fee for non-members - Adults \$2, Children \$1
Family Ticket \$5
Supper provided. All welcome.

TRIP REPORTS

5-7th June - Western Ruahines

We walked into the Purity Hut below Wooden Peg on the Hikurangi Range on the Friday evening to allow ourselves plenty of time to traverse south along the range next day. A bitterly cold frosty morning eventually turned into a nice sunny day. There was more time than required so time was spent sightseeing and practicing map and compass navigation. After lunch we descended to the Pourangaki River near the hut of the same name. The steep climb up to the hut was a shock to the system after the long descent.

Next day 3 hours were spent walking and wading down river to the Kelly Knight Hut. Alan and Jenny negotiated a deep pool by climbing around same rock and leaping for the shallows; Trevor and Trishy climbed higher on the bush slopes above. After lunch at Kelly Knight (and dry clothes) we walked out the sidle track and crossed Mr Yule's property back to Mangakokeke Rd.

Party: Trevor Bissell, Trishy Eder, Jenny Madgwick, Alan Mountfort.

25-26th July - Basic Snowcraft II Ruapehu

Although the moon was not as bright as that experienced at the introductory weekend, the walk into Blyth Hut nevertheless passed quickly and pleasantly. Perhaps we should have snowcrafted during the night as the morning weather did not bode well. We headed up into a valley to the south of the skifield but after enduring stinging wind blown snow and very cold conditions, retreated to a more sheltered valley lower down. One side gave reasonable conditions for all to practise the skills learnt earlier and to tackle some quite icy slopes for step cutting and self arresting. The true force of the wind was felt again at the top of the ridge so we motored back to the hut for a late lunch.

During the afternoon we split into four groups and discussed and practised rope handling, belay systems and other mountaineering skills inside. Skills of a culinary nature ended a busy day.

Returning to the higher slopes again on Sunday the weather behaved, so after some cramponing practise it was a case of belaying for real this time. Most quickly discovered things were (not?) quite so easy with mittened hands and steep icy slopes to contend with. By midday belaying was almost second nature so returning to the hut we lunched, packed up and returned to the vehicles. A useful weekend with many already planning for the advanced course.

We were:

Instructors - John Barkla, Trevor Bissell, Urs Schupbach, John Wright

Pupils - Marilyn Barnard, Ruth Habegger, Emlyn Wright, Trishia Eder, Erin Eggleston, Grant Barrow, Dave Newstead, Phil Clerke, David Sussmilch, Pat Janssen, Simon McCrackin, Graham Peters, Paul Scheveyns, Lorraine Bray, Janet Baird, Ian Mountfort.

14-16 August - Snowcraft III Egmont/Taranaki

The walk up from Dawson Falls road end to the Kapuni Lodge (Egmont Alpine Club) was reasonably painless and the lights of the towns and villages to the south and east were spectacular.

On Saturday we all kitted up and sidled around the slopes from the lodge to the valley above Kapuni Gorge. No time was wasted in crossing the valley because of the rocks which came bouncing down from time to time! The slopes of the Curtis Ridge were ascended on fixed belay under the watchful eye of Urs, Daryl, John (Wright) and Trevor who acted as instructors. After unroping and eating lunch the Tiki Tour continued up the crest of the Curtis Ridge to join the slopes above Fanthams Peak and returned to the Lodge over Fanthams. Although the condition of the snow below the Curtis

Ridge had been excellent the upper part of the trip was plagued by sastrugi ice. Needles or rods of clear water ice protruded from the snow in the direction of the prevailing wind and these broke off under the crampons causing considerable jarring and sometimes loss of footing. During the weekend three crampon bars and some crampon front points were broken!

Eight people climbed to the summit on Sunday and two of these attempted an ice climb on the Shark's Tooth. The remainders headed for Fanthams Peak an hour and a half later to practice snowcrafty techniques.

Altogether a great weekend with perfect weather.

Party: Bruce Barnes, Trevor Bissell, Phil Clerke, Alan Mountfort, Brad Owen, Daryl and Linda Rowan, Chris Saunders, Urs Schupbach, Ruth Habegger, Darren Scott, Brenton Sheppard, David Sussmilch and John Wright.

6th September – Kapakapanui, Southwestern Tarauas

One thousand metres up the newsletter said, not one thousand millimetres as read by one of the group. Lunch near the bushline was a short affair due to the cold mist which engulfed the top of Kapakapanui and which had brought snow earlier in the day. Most people climbed to the trig but elected not to continue with the round trip in view of the weather. Instead we witnessed a hunter's dog's novel way of warming its feet - in its master's cup of thermos tea! Descending back into the sunshine, the river crossings were welcomed as a chance to wash very muddy legs before returning home.

We were: Kathy Morton, Christine Cheyne, Tina Gray and friend, Mary, Alan Mountfort, Jim Cooper, Janet Baird and John Barkla.