



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217

PALMERSTON NORTH

NEWSLETTER

February/March 1989

Membership Enquiries	:	Tricia Eder	Ph.	70-122
President:	:	John Wright		82-041
Gear Custodian	:	Daryl Rowan		64-655
Newsletter Editor	:	Linda Rowan		64-655

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Vaughan Crow:	Home Ph. 69-832	Work Ph. 74-129
Daryl & Linda Rowan	:	Ph. 64-655 68-019
Sue & Lawson Pither	:	Ph. 73-033

ALL TRIPS LEAVE FROM THE FOOTOWN 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

23rd February - Club Night

Tonight we will catch up on some of the trips and travels from summer. John, Marilyn, Bruce and Sally headed South to do some climbing around the Annette Plateau. Come along to see the slides and story.

Venue: Society of Friend's Meeting Rooms
 227 College St, Palmerston North
Time: 7:45pm

25th February - Putara - Tararuas

An area in the Tararuas that hasn't been visited for some time by our Club. From the road end the track climbs to the Dundas ridge tops, giving views of the Wairarapa, near Eketahuna. The return trip, depending on enthusiasm, could be via Ngamaia Stream.

Leader: John Thompson ph 66900
Grade: medium
Departs: Saturday 7 am

25th - 26th February - Mt Tongariro - Tongariro National Park

Here is a diverse trip that should interest quite a few. The plan is to climb Mt Tongariro from Ketatahi hut (generally a 4-6 hour walk) and the keen and energetic could also climb Mt Ngauruhoe, returning to the hut for the night. Don't forget there are hot pools, just 5 minutes walk from the hut to soothe those tired legs.

Leader: Ruth Schupbach ph 80245
Grade: medium
Departs: Friday 6pm

26th February - Pohangina Valley

The caving fraternity has surfaced again. Mark is going to take a trip into the Piripiri caves in the Pohangina Valley. Come along, this is a trip for all. You need a pair of overalls, preferable not white. Ring Mark for details.

Leader: Mark Bown ph 65581
Grade: All
Departs: Sunday 9am, 30 Bourke Street

2nd March - Committee Meeting

The last committee meeting for the current committee. If you want to know what goes on in these meetings - come and join us.

Venue: 57 Fairs Rd
Time: 7:45 pm

3rd - 5th March - Punawaitai Sheep Station, near Waipawa

PNTMC is going CAMPING with the Manawatu PHAB Club. Punawaitai is near Purerere Beach which has lovely firm sand, easy bush walks, fishing and eeling nearby. Accommodation is in the shearing quarters, which has 20 bunks and ample space for tents. Facilities at the homestead include a tennis court, swimming pool, croquet lawn and a barbecue which will be used for Saturday tea-time. The cost of the weekend is approximately \$40 per person, including accommodation on Friday and Saturday nights, and all meals from Friday supper to Sunday lunch. (Transport costs will be extra, about \$10).

Leader: Sheena Taylor wk ph 62311 home ph 76665
Grade: Leisurely, families most welcome
Departs: Friday evening

11th - 12th March - Aborta Contorta - Tongariro National Park

At last, the chance you've been waiting for!. Every year various clubs combine together to help the Department of Conservation eradicate the pine trees that spread across the Tongariro National Park, seeded from the plantations that surround the Park. This year our Club, as always has offered to contribute. We will be staying in Mangewhero Lodge on the south side of Ruapehu, along with the Wanganui Tramping Club. Please don't avoid this weekend, just because it isn't scaling the heights, covering new ground, or tramping through bush. Remember the national parks are ours to enjoy and ours to protect.

Leader: John Wright ph 82041
Grade: All
Departs: Friday 7pm, 15 Ashford Ave

12th March Rangiwahia Hut - Ruahines

An easy day walk up to Rangi Hut and back. This is a familiar area for the Club to visit, but a very scenic and pleasant area, with grand views, interesting bush and forest. If you haven't been onto the Ruahine tops before this is going to be your easiest chance.

Leader: Trish Eder ph 70122
Grade: Easy
Departs: Sunday 7am

16th March - Club Night

Tonight we have in store an opportunity to look at the land we usually tramp and climb in through the eyes of someone with a different perspective. Have you ever wondered - how come this mountain looks like it does? Why is that area covered in that type of vegetation? Come along.

Venue: Society of Friend's Meeting Rooms
227 College St, Palmerston North
Time: 7:45pm

18th - 19th March - Waterfall Hut, Middle Ruahines

A trip to this lovely spot in the very heart of the Ruahines. This is a round trip from the eastern side heading off up the Tuki Tuki River, Governors Spur to the tops, returning via Rangi Saddle and Hinerua Hut.

Leader: Daryl Rowan ph 64655
Grade: Medium
Departs: Saturday 6am

18th March Kumeti Hut - South Eastern Ruahines

Starting inland from Dannevirke the plan is head up past Kumeti Hut, via Mangapuaka Stream and onto Matanginui high point, descending to the cars down the track. Excellent views are guaranteed, across the plains to Palmerston and westward past Dannevirke.

Leader: John Thompson ph 66900
Grade: Medium
Departs: 7am Saturday

24th - 28th March - Kaimanawas

Easter and a time to go a little further and longer. This trip will take you into the Kaimanawas, from the Kaimanawa road end, feature a four day round trip, with off the track travel and camps under tent fly. Come along to Club night or ring Urs for further details.

Leader: Urs Schupbach ph 80245
Grade: Medium
Departs: Friday 6am

30th March - Club Night. P.N.T.M.C. Annual General Meeting

This is the meeting where you elect members to the committee to attend to the finances and business which needs our consideration. The elected committee consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and at least five other members. The committee organises Club trips, instruction courses, Club night activities, the newsletter content and distribution and handles the correspondence and accounts monthly. The committee meets on the first Thursday of the month at a member's house.

Nomination forms for the positions on the committee can be found at the end of the Newsletter, or at Club nights. Please fill in and hand the forms to John Wright by 8:00pm March 30th.

Venue: Society of Friend's Meeting Rooms
 227 College St, Palmerston North
Time: 7:45pm

NOTICES

Annual General Meeting

The 1988/89 P.N.T.M.C. year is about over. The committee have worked hard to bring you a variety of activities and to ensure in the smooth running of the Club. A large number of conservation issues have been dealt with on behalf of the Club. This year 1988 the members of the committee have been John Wright, Linda Rowan, Trevor Bissell, Peter Wiles, Urs Schupbach, Trish Eder, Sally Hewson, Alan Mountford, Tony Gates and Jenny Dymock.

For 1989 we need members of the Club to put themselves forward for election to the committee. This year a number of the hard-working 1989 committee members will be pursuing other activities and travels. Trevor as Club secretary will be missed. Would you consider helping P.N.T.M.C. by becoming a committee member? Phone John Wright or any of the current committee.

PNTMC and the Hut Pass System

Don't forget! You can purchase Hut Pass tickets on Club nights from Peter Wiles. The price to Club members is 80% of what would normally be paid.

Address Updates

Make the following change to your members list:

Monica Cantwell, 170 Aokautere Dr, P.N. ph. 83834.

P.N.T.M.C. Subscriptions

Membership fees for the 1989 year are now due. Payable to Peter Wiles at any Club night.

PNTMC Club T-Shirts

Terry ph 63588 has a number of club T-shirts (with the Club boot design and Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club on the front) FOR SALE. Sizes available: SM and M

Colours: Fawn, Blue, Red
Price: \$15 each

TRIP REPORTS

Ruahine Rambles Wellington Anniversary Weekend 1989

Ruahine Vegetation Control Act 1989

Pursuant to the Rules of the Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club (Incorporated), and in accord with the powers afforded by ancient customs and precedents, I, Kevin, being the duly designated leader of an official Club trip, namely a Wellington Anniversary Weekend trip to the Eastern Ruahines, do declare for the protection, safety and comfort of myself and my fellow trampers that "Spaniards are not very pleasant plants" and I order as follows:

- A. From the first day of April 1989 all Spaniards and other sharp or pointed plants shall be bright red in colour,
- B. No Spaniard or other sharp or pointed plant shall grow within one metre of any tramping track or route, whether marked or unmarked,
- C. No Spaniard shall grow on Rangi Saddle,
- D. All Spaniards shall wear point protectors on the tips of their leaves,
- E. In the event of any Spaniard contravening this order any person suffering injury from the said plant may address the offending plant and the world at large using such expletives, adjectives and characterizations as they deem fit.

Trip Account

On Saturday we parked our car at the Waipawa road end and travelled to Waterfall Creek by way of the Waipawa and Rangi Saddles. The light rain began during the afternoon and continued for some 30 hours. On Sunday we went up Tussock Creek and traversed Sawtooth Ridge to Howletts without significant navigational problems in the mist. A descent to Daphne, a boulder hop down the Tukituki, a grind up to Hinerua, a descent into Smiths Stream, a bush bash up to the saddle with Middle Stream, some easy track walking, and then endless bashing and crashing through scrub and bush brought us back to the car after a twelve hour Monday. We were: Kevin Pearce and Mark Bown.

Waiopahu-Ohau Shelter - 25 September 1988

Trout feeding provided a rather different beginning to this day's tramping. Eiko Tamura, a postgraduate student from Japan, joined us for a day in the Tararuas, but we first had a slight detour to Massey so that she could feed the trout that were the focus of her research efforts.

Mud underfoot as we left across paddocks provided the first indication of the sort of conditions we were to encounter. Indeed the theme for this tramp really should be "Slip, sliding away". We crossed the farmland and took the uphill fork of the route when reached the bush. The climb uphill was reasonably gradual, but the distance we'd climbed became more evident as we began our descent. The hillside down was very steep in places and extremely sloshy. We reached the bottom without injury but several were heavily disguised with brown colouration.

The hillside descent rejoined the lower track almost immediately before the small swing bridge across the Ohau Shelter. We lunched by the river, sitting on the rocks watching the clouds. We then sloshed back along the bottom track to finish off the triangular part of our route. We emerged to cross the paddocks while the rain poured down, but everyone paced it out happily after an enjoyable day of exercise.

We 'Mere: Tricia Eder (Leader), Dave Orbell, Gavin Rogerson, Eiko Tamura, Margaret Riordan, Mark Bown.

28th - 29th February Lake Colenso - Ruahines

It was a group of 6 that met at the Foodtown car park, at 8am on a cool wet Saturday morning. The forecast was promising, for clearing weather it said. Our objective was Lake Colenso, a small lake in the western Ruahines.

The more interesting aspects of the drive up occurred after we had passed Taihape. We crossed the Haitapu, Mowhango and Rangitikei gorges, all on very high bridges, giving breath taking views of the foliage covered cliff sides to the swirling waters below.

The first part of the walk in crossed over farm lands and then up onto the end of the Mokai Patea Range. "There's a well cut track through the Manuka", or at least that's what Mick said. We seemed to get lost numerous times before we reached the more open tops. We descended to Iron Bark Hut for a late lunch and then on to Lake Colenso itself, another 3 hours walking, up a steep track and a sharp descent to the lake. The hut was occupied, but we were prepared and made camp nearby.

The following morning the weather had cleared (only a day after it had been forecasted), we went and visited the lake, an oversized tarn really. It seemed almost by accident that the lake had stayed there as there was a river cutting down the valley which had skirted around the lake. It was this river that we decided to follow down, back to Iron Bark Hut, but after an hour's slow travel we took the opportunity to cut back to the main track. Another 3 hours along the end of the Mokai Patea Range, which included losing the well cut Manuka track again and we were back at the cars.

We were: John Wright, Dave Hunt, Kay Hawke, Margaret Riordon, Mark Bown, Perry (Mick) Coxan.

10th December, Cape Kidnappers - East Cape

Four keen individuals met on Saturday morning and travelled the two hours to Hastings, and a little beyond. We struck the tides just right and began the two hour walk out to the Gannet colony. It promised to be a fine day, we weren't disappointed. The first colony we met was at Black Reef, still 40 minutes from the main colony.

There are two large colonies on Cape Kidnappers itself, one which is accessible and another which is inaccessible to the public. The Saddle colony was very interesting, the close proximity of the birds to each other was surprising, making landing a hectic and frustrating exercise for them. Beneath their rudimentary nests (really just cemented piles of seaweed and dung which provide the place with an indescribable aroma) their young were in various stages of development, from newly hatched eggs to quite large chicks, but still covered with a white down, not feathers. The birds were not intimitated by our presence at all, perhaps they were just used to us, but we were able to get within two metres of them, which made for superb photographs. Overhead there was always gannets swooping in to land, often with seaweed in their beaks, for some more nest building no doubt. They flew gracefully, but landing was not their forte, after locating their nest and partner they plummeted the last 2 metres out of the sky, generally landing on a neighbour.

Almost two hours was spent at the colony, before we headed back. Another brief pause at the Black Reef colony and then on to Clifton and home.

We were: John Wright, Trish Eder, Gayle Hogan, Alison MacColl
(More Trip Reports on Page 6).

NOMINATION FORM FOR THE ELECTION OF CLUB MEMBERS TO THE PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB (INC) - 1989/90.

We wish to nominate the following financial member of the Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club:

Name:

For the position of:

President

Secretary

Vice-President
Treasurer

Committee Member

Nominated By:

Seconded By:

Forest Hill - 18 December 1988

Everyone was very prompt in arriving before our starting out time of 9am.

We had three energetic people who cycled out, Trevor, Sally and Mark, who left Palmerston North about 8:10 am. We timed it very well as everyone just about arrived together at our appointed start. A few of us decided we needed a bit more gear on to start with. Needless to say the biking people were a little faster than us trampers, but they waited for us and we had a nice morning break being able to see Ashhurst in the distance. Our lunch stop was at the Dam. A few crossed over the top to see a view of the other side which was nil. The wind was very strong and was hard going along the open tops, but as we descended into the pines it was more sheltered.

After accounting for everyone and checking our three cyclists were on their way I thanked the farmer for allowing us through. Thanks to everyone for a nice day.

We were: Monica Cantwell (Leader), Joan O'Neill, Alan Hopkins, Vivienne Hopkins, Stan Hewson, Glenda Moore, Spence Coombs, Erin Temperton and Ella Wright.

The cyclists: Trevor Bissell, Sally Hewson, Mark Bown

Footnote: This probably was the last tramp Trevor would have been on with the Club locally. We had a very happy day. He will be tragically missed by the Club. Monica Cantwell, Leader.