



# PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217  
PALMERSTON NORTH  
NEWSLETTER

JUNE 1995 Edition

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President	: Terry Crippen	356-3588
Membership Enquiries	: Jenny Prichard	358-2217
	: Nigel Barrett	326-8847
Gear Custodian	: Mick Leyland	358-3183
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## ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Mick Leyland : Ph. 358-3183  
Daryl & Linda Rowan : Ph. 356-4655  
Sue & Lawson Pither : Ph. 357-3033

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TRIPS OFTEN LEAVE FROM THE FOODTOWN CAR PARK IN FERGUSSON STREET UNLESS THE LEADER ARRANGES OTHERWISE.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GOING 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.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN A DAY TRIP MID-WEEK SEE DETAILS BELOW, OR RING Lawson and Sue Pither (357-3033), or Monica (326-9691), Nancy (358-8241), John (358-3513).

### Trip Grades

Grade of trips can depend on many factors, most especially the weather and state of the track. As a guide, a reasonably proficient trumper would be expected to cover the graded trips in about the following times: Easy (E) 3 – 4 hours, Medium (M) 5 – 6 hrs, Fit (F) about 8 hrs, Fitness Essential (FE) >8 hrs. (Tech) refers to trips graded technical requiring either special skills and / or gear.

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.

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## THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAMME

Please sign your name in the visitors book. There is a door fee of 30c which includes supper.

Club meetings are held for all club (and intending) members on the last Thursday of each month and the Thursday two weeks prior to that evening. The venue is the Society of Friends Hall, 227 College Street, Palmerston North, at 7:45 pm unless otherwise notified in the newsletter.

The PNTMC committee meets on the first Thursday of each month.

## SCHEDULED EVENT LIST

### JUNE

Committee meeting 1st  
Club Nights: Thursday s 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
<b>JUNE 11</b>	Stanfield plus Depart 8 am. A wander up the western Tamaki River, Eastern Ruahines, to Stanfield Hut, then either a look into Centre Creek or a loop back via the Takapari Ridge.	E	Peter Stockdale	355-5277
<b>JUNE 10-11</b>	Sawtooth Ridge Depart 6 am. An interesting section of the main Ruahine Range, especially in winter with snow cover. This will be done as a loop staying at Howletts Hut for the night.	M/F	Andrew Carvell	359-0935
<b>JUNE 15</b>	CLUB NIGHT Mt Pumori John Barnes, a local mountaineer and a member of NZ Alpine Club, will give a talk on the recent ascent, the south ridge, of this great peak (7145 m) in the Khumbu region of the Nepalese Himalayas.			
<b>Mid Winter</b>				
<b>JUNE 17</b>	Colenso Trig Depart PN 6 am. Mick will be leading a trip onto Colenso Trig on the Mokai Patea Range and/or top end of the Hikurangi Range to build up his appetite for the Saturday evening feast back at the Base.	M	Mick Leyland	358-3183
<b>JUNE 17-18</b>	Kawhatau Base Depart Saturday onwards. This year midwinter social weekend will be held at the DOC base above the Kawhatau River in a pleasant clearing amongst mature forest. The base is located about 30 km east of Mangaweka via Kawhatau Valley, Upper Kawhatau-Rangitane Road (or via Rangiwahia and Karewarewa-Aupauta Roads). Please contact Pauline who is co-ordinating food and transport. The cost for accommodation is \$10. The Base consists of dinning/kitchen, bunkrooms and plenty of room for outside tents. No candles thank you. Gas lanterns/cooking/woodstove/electricity generator. Make sure you contact the farm house at the gate (new house behind the old one) before proceeding through the private property. Saturday and Sunday -plenty of scope for walks and a swim in the river.	Food	Pauline Coy	354-9120
<b>JUNE 25</b>	Hound Hike Depart 8 am. Liz will lead an easy trip for families including four-legged members - dogs of all shapes and sizes welcome.	E	Liz Morrison	357-6532
<b>JUNE 24-25</b>	Howletts plus Depart dawn Saturday. In via Daphne, on the eastern side of the Ruahines, up to cosy Howletts hut for the night with cramponing around the sunny tops for good views.	F	Tony Gates	357-7439
<b>JUNE 29</b>	Day trip		Ken and Rosemary Hill	356-8532
<b>JUNE 29</b>	Photo Competition Start getting all those good slides or prints together for presenting at the annual PNTMC photo competition. For details see below. The various categories will be give in the June newsletter. Local professional photographer, John Cleland, will judge your entries. John always gives good advice and ideas about how to get the best results with your camera in the hills.			
<b><u>JULY</u></b>				
Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
<b>JULY 1-2</b>	Waikamaka Hut Depart 7 am. This trip will head up the Waipawa River (Eastern Ruahines) and over Waipawa Saddle and down to the hut for the night. Returning via Armstrong Saddle or a loop to the south depending on conditions.	M	Llew Prichard	358-2217
<b>JULY 2</b>	Branch/Beehive Ck Walkways Depart 8:30 am. Easy strolls investigating the Branch Road and Beehive Creek walkways and the glow-worm grotto near Pohangina township.	E	Warren Wheeler	366-1998
<b>JULY 6</b>	Thursday day trippers		Sue & Lawson Pither	3573033
<b>JULY 6</b>	Committee meeting			
<b>JULY 8-9</b>	Open w/end. Rangataua Depart whenever. Sue and Lawson are again offering their place for another open weekend on the south side of Ruapehu. Scope for all, lots of activities: climbing, tramping, walks, skiing, socializing and more.	All	Sue & Lawson Pither	357-3033
<b>JULY 9</b>	Rimutaka Incline Depart 7:30 am. This trip will investigate the original rail line and tunnel from the Hutt Valley to Wairarapa - opened in 1878 and used until 1955 with the "Fell" system of locomotives.	E/M	Richard Lockett	323-0948

<b>JULY 13</b>	Thursday day trippers		John Rockell	358-3513
<b>JULY 13</b>	Club night	Intro to Snowcraft courses & WA	Terry Crippen	
This evening Terry will give an introduction to the forthcoming snowcraft series of weekends, and for those who prefer warmer climates, show slides of his recent trip to parts of Western Australia.				
<b>JULY 15-16</b>	Lake Dive, Egmont	M	Malcolm Parker	357-5203
Depart 7 am. From Dawson Falls we head up to Kapuni Lodge and across the tussock on the RTM track before dropping down to the hut. Return on Sunday via the lower track.				
<b>JULY 16</b>	Herepai Hut	E/M	Judy Callesen	357-0192
Depart 7:30 am. A stroll up from the Mangatainoka roadway, NE Tararuas, to Herepai Hut and if conditions permit onto the tops for a view.				
<b>JULY 20</b>	Thursday day trippers		Phil Pearce	354-6687
<b>JULY 22-23</b>	Snowcraft 1. Rangipo, Ruapehu	M/F	Nigel Barrett	326-8847
<b>JULY 23</b>	Toka, Ngamoko Range	M/F	Alistair Millward	356-9612
<b>JULY 27</b>	Thursday day trippers		Doug Wakeling	323-4127
<b>JULY 27</b>	Club night	Rock climbing, Massey wall		
<b>JULY 28-30</b>	Waterfall, Broken Ridge	F	Nigel Barrett	326-8847
<b>JULY 29</b>	TBA		Brenton Sheppard	06-376-8474

### EDITORIAL

PNTMC's next Events' Card has hit the streets. It covers the period from July to the end of the year, and also includes possible South Island summer trips. I think all club members will be catered for by the wide range of trips and activities being offered. Twenty five members came up with ideas and have offered to lead one or more trips/events, giving over fifty day, weekend, or longer trips. I'm sure all club members will actively support this good effort by going on lots of these trips and events. Don't forget to encourage flatmates, partners, parents, family and friends to come on these trips as well.

#### "PNTMC Guide for trip leaders"

First, for those of you who are not down to lead a trip, this guide can be of use to you, as it gives you an idea of what's "behind" a trip. Secondly, a quiet plea to trip leaders: don't forget your responsibilities. If you can't lead the trip you are down for, or postpone it, or change the destination, please contact one of the Trip Coordinators (myself or Derek) as soon as possible. Over the past two months a number of trips have been cancelled or postponed. Rarely has that leader contacted me regarding this. Typically I find out when I happen to phone that person to get a blurb for the newsletter or its mentioned passing. So far no problems have arisen (e.g. with SAR) but these are club trips not privately run trips, so please keep us informed. Midwinter: Checked out Kawhatau base the other day (on the way to Mckinnon Hut for a tramp and a windy night). It seems a good place to have our midwinter festivities, on the 17th and 18th of this month.

See you there. Terry

**SNOW CRAFT COURSES** Being competent on snow opens up a wider field of tramping: from day walks on the Ruahine tops and Ruapehu's slopes in winter: to trans-alpine summer or winter trips in the Southern Alps. The dates for the three snowcraft courses have been finalized (as on Events' Card). They have been spaced at fortnight intervals this year so that there is continuity from one to the next allowing members and prospective members to progress from one to the next while everything is fresh in their minds. Part of a club night-next month will be on snowcraft.

Content of each snowcraft course is (briefly and hopefully):

SC1 (22-23 July): Intro to the ice axe, kicking steps/cutting steps, ascending/descending easy to moderate slopes, self arresting, snow and alpine conditions. Plus a chance to investigate the slopes of Ruapehu.

SC2 (5-6 August): Basic crampon use including self arresting with crampons, intro to rope work, belaying on snow, French methods (sounds interesting!), intro to glacier travel. And some climbing on Egmont.

SC3 (.19-20 August): Further crampon techniques, more belay methods, some activity on ice. Planning and practising pitches by ascending a peak or two on Ruapehu. All good stuff so contact the leaders soon. P.S. Don't

forget if you want a copy of the Mountaincraft Manual at the discounted price through the club let Terry (356~3588) or Nigel (326-8847) know soon so we can send an order away.

## NOTICES

### **NEW MEMBERS**

Please welcome three new members to the club:

Maree Limpus C/- P&M Dransfield 3 Kahuterawa Road RD 4, PN. 025-466-438	Christine Cheyne 11 Pahiatua Street Palmerston North 356-3588	Martin Lawrence 44 Dahlia Street Palmerston North 357-1695
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### **THURSDAY TRIP SCHEDULE**

JUNE 15	Neil Gutry	354-0284
JUNE 22	Liz Flint	356-7654
JUNE 29	Ken & Rosemary	356-8538
JULY 6	Lawson & Sue Pither	357-3033
JULY 13	John Rockell	358-3513
JULY 20	Phil Pearce	354-6687
JULY 27	Dug Wakeling	323-4127

Overdue contacts: Sue and Lawson Pither (357-3033) and Trish Eder (357- 0122).

### **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

If you are unable to make it or expect to be late, please ensure that your apology is forwarded to the secretary in advance. Next meeting at Nigel Scott's place 146 Salisbury Street Ashhurst.

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

At the AGM, it was resolved that subscriptions would remain unchanged for 95/96. They are - Ordinary \$25, Family \$30 and Junior \$10. Please get your subs into the treasurer as soon as possible.

**This will be the last newsletter for -those who have not renewed their subscriptions.**

### **MAPS**

If you have ordered any maps -good news - they have arrived and are available from Nigel.

### **SNOW CRAFT COURSES**

This is a preliminary note that the annual series of snowcraft courses will begin with Snowcraft 1 on the weekend of 22-23 July, with Snowcraft 2 and 3 a fortnight and four weeks later respectively. It is hoped that all those club members and prospective members who are new to the alpine world of snow will avail themselves of the opportunity to come on these progressive courses. Being competent on snow opens up a wider field of tramping: from day walks on the Ruahine tops and Ruapehu's slopes in winter; to trans-alpine summer or winter trips in the Southern Alps.

For those who are contemplating these courses the FMC "Mountaincraft Manual" is invaluable. They are considerably discounted if purchase direct from FMC (just over \$9). The club will send away for a bulk order. Let Terry or Nigel know soon.

### **CLUB NIGHTS**

At the AGM it was resolved that club nights will be standardised on the second and last Thursdays of the month. This will come into effect from July because the club nights for the first half of the year have been specified in the current trip card.

### **TRIP REPORTS**

Don't forget (leaders) please get your trip reports in or use your short lived powers to delegate to an unsuspecting team member. How about a letter to the editor, perhaps, or some good gossip, or a poem or what ever. Electronic copy is the most convenient. This newsletter is prepared using Wordperfect. So I can retrieve any material in Wordperfect format (version 5, 5.1, 5.2 or 6, in either DOS or Windows). If you use Microsoft Word or a MAC, then I need an ASCII (or DOS text file) version. With a MAC, you will need a DOS formatted disc. I can only handle 3½ inch discs.

If you have DOS or Windows, and are not sure that you have saved it in ASCII format, then retrieve it into Notepad (Windows) or Edit (DOS) to check the copy. If it's OR, it's OK, if it's not, it's not!

## TRIP DECISIONS?

If you decide you want to go on a trip, please ensure that you have contacted the leader by the Wednesday before, so that logistical decisions can be made. Recently, there have been some instances of people expressing an interest in a trip on the evening before - the leaders in some cases, having made other plans at that late stage.

## RULES FOR PHOTO COMPETITION

1. Slides must not have been entered previously.
2. All entries must be related to tramping, skiing or climbing.
3. All slides must have a cross on the bottom left hand corner of the mount for normal viewing (i.e. top right hand corner when loaded into the carousel).
4. There is a limit of 3 slides per person per category and no limit on prints.

### Categories:

1. Alpine (NZ) Predominately alpine scenery in NZ i.e. above bushline.
2. Scenic (NZ) scenes of natural pictorial interest in NZ hills, coasts, etc. Predominately below the snowline.
4. Natural History (NZ) NZ flora or fauna.
5. Topical (NZ) People in tramping, climbing, or skiing-related activities in NZ.
6. Overseas alpine or scenic Related to tramping etc. overseas.
7. Overseas people Climbers or people met while tramping, climbing overseas.

Formats: Slides, black and white prints, colour prints. Prints do not need to be mounted.

You will note that this year we have included a separate overseas category. So go through your photos and find something to capture the audience's imagination. Prints may be judged as one group or separated at the judges discretion, depending on numbers.

## TRIP COSTS

The May issue of the Automobile Association magazine contained their latest estimates of motoring costs. Most vehicles would be in the 1600-2000 cc range. The estimates of costs below cover distance related costs only - not standing charges. The distances are approximate and the cost charged at the discretion of the driver. Where multiple vehicles are taken to a common destination, the drivers should ensure that payments are "equalised" in terms of the various numbers in the various vehicles.

There are some gaps in this list, so next time you head to one of these destinations, perhaps set your trip meter and let us have the distance.

Destination from Palmerston North	One way distance	Cost for round trip @ \$0.16/km <1300 cc	Cost for round trip @ \$0.20/km 1600-2000 cc
	km		
North Egmont	243	77.76	97.20
Stratford Plateau	214	68.48	85.60
Dawson Falls	217	69.44	86.80
Waiototara Valley (km required)	0	0	0
Ketetahi	227	72.64	90.80
Waihohonu (Desert Road)	190	60.80	76.00
Tukino Rd. (depends on how far conditions permit you to drive) Repeater Station	193	61.76	77.20
Mangatepopo	225	72.00	90.00
Top-of-the-Bruce	227	72.64	90.80
Turoa	200	64.00	80.00
<b>Western Ruahines</b>			
Kawhatau Base	95	30.40	38.00
Purity (km required)		0.00	0.00
Rangi Rd. end	84	26.88	33.60
Oroua Valley Rd. end	79	25.28	31.60
Pohangina Valley	50	16.00	20.00
Diggers Hut	42	13.44	16.80
<b>Western Tararuas</b>			
Mangahao No 2 dam	45	14.40	18.00
Pipe Bridge Ohau	60	19.20	24.00
Otaki Forks	89	28.48	35.60
Kapakapanui	95	30.40	38.00
Titahi Bay	127	40.64	50.80
<b>Eastern Ruahines</b>			
Mangatainoka Rd.	72	23.04	28.80

Ruamahanga River	80	25.60	32.00
Kiriwhakapapa	90	28.80	36.00
The Pines	113	36.16	45.20
Holdsworth Lodge	124	39.68	49.60
Walls Whare	137	43.84	54.80
Palliser Bay	151	48.32	60.40
<b>Other North Island ports of call</b>			
Kuripapango (Kaweka's)	0	0.00	0.00
Makahu Saddle (Kaweka's)		0.00	0.00
Mt. Hikurangi (East Cape)	560	179.20	224.00
<b>And those big south Island trips:</b>			
Saint Arnaud	266	85.12	106.40
Christchurch	490	156.80	196.00
Arthur's Pass		0.00	0.00
Nelson	235	75.20	94.00
Fox Glacier	660	211.20	264.00
Mt Cook	830	265.60	332.00
Queenstown	1000	320.00	400.00
West Matukituki (Mt Aspiring)	960	307.20	384.00

## TRIP REPORTS

### HOLDSWORTH - JUMBO, MAY 19 – 20 1995

There is a breed of Wellington trampers who believe in Friday night starts, frequently by torchlight. For generations, huts an hour or two's walk in from the road end would be a bustle of activity from dusk to midnight, sometimes later. Then there would be an early start on Saturday and a good, solid Tararua tramp. One of the joys of tramping trips based from PN are the Saturday morning starts, much more civilised I think. However, we had the promise of a super duper day for Saturday and some friends from Wellington were doing a Holdsworth Mitre, starting from Powell Hut on Friday night, so we headed South to join them. What can I say about the track, except that it is of top quality. Amazing, imported gravel, half rounds, waratahs, gentle gradient, bridges. Alistair wants to do it in a wheel chair! No problem by torchlight. One hour 10 to Mountain House, which is fairly grotty. At least it has water. Then a steep grunt up to Powell Hut, which DOC are currently working on. They have a rock crusher to utilise local material, so saving helicopter time to get the much needed metal on site. This section may be finished by Christmas, but I dread to think where they will put the track up on the steep craggy bits in the leatherwood. Powell hut, with gas on tap and a Warden, was a welcome sight in the mist. Yes, a few crowds there but plenty of room for us. The others arrived at about 10:00.

Saturday, damn it, was misty. Our plans for Angle Knob - Broken Axe Pinnacles squelched away in the mud. We followed the well worn track in the tussock to Jumbo, reached in an hour from Powell, then the others continued North to Blanchford Hut. The few patches of blue sky did not fool us and we were soon dining on gourmet "stodge" in Jumbo Hut. It was only semi-miserable weather there so we descended the old track to the Atiwhakatu Stream. Delightful forest and down next to the stream campsites to match, much better in fact than the Atiwhakatu Hut. From there the "super highway" began, a metalled, graded, bridged track right out to the car. Needless to say, we didn't muck about. The weather tried to clear, but not hard enough. Our friends up top endured mist all the 'way! Home early. Tony

What more can I say, Tony has really said it all but wants me to add a few comments. I must admit the Friday night walk in is a great idea. It means you do most of your climbing in the cool evening. Also, for those of us who need to study un the weekend we can be home on Saturday night yet still do a decent sized trip. It was such a nice evening there were thoughts of camping out on Mt Holdsworth, lucky we didn't. Tony is a little euphemistic about the weather the next day. Not only was it misty, there was also a freezing southerly and wind blown hail at times. It warmed up as the day went on though. The "stodge" at Jumbo was great, cooked mainly by the master himself (no, not Derek, it was Nigel). The Atiwhakatu was great and I honestly think you could get a wheelchair along most of that track.

Alistair

### MAKAIRO WALKING TRACK Sunday 14th May by Monica

We left town at 8 am and met Brenton and dog Oscar at the old brewery in Mangatainoka. We transferred to his Ute and drove for about 20 mins to the start of the track. This is a delightful area and the track used to be an old road at one time complete with a very heavy bridge with a very downward slide on it.

Our starting out time as I remember was about 945 am. We turned off the track some 2 h later in an effort to climb to the trig. This proved to be more overgrown than I remembered and there was a slip which was not there on my last visit. It was decided to give this away and lunch across the track on the next knob. It was a perfect day with lovely long views. Brenton spying every now and again through his binoculars onto the next range over for deer. We were also able to keep up with progress in the cup race.

From the high point, we were able to see in the distance the car park on the Dannevirke side at Coonoor. This track could be walked at a good pace from end to end in 3 h. A little overgrown here and there, but nothing bad. Fairly wet with waterways in places and a couple of slips. A lovely day.

We were: Noel and Monica (With Rosemary) and Brenton (with Oscar).

**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO ASK!!** - by Monica

On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April, just before 7 am, at Foodtown car park, our very efficient leader (Warren), with clipboard, pad and pen in hand gathered us all together. Another bod arrived and was asked his name and introduced to all around. Looking down the list, our leader said he must be an extra as he wasn't listed. After directing us into various cars the new person said he wasn't going anywhere. He was waiting for Foodtown to open so he could buy some eggs for his breakfast! Moral of the storey: you can't tell what trampers look like these days!

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**FOR SALE**

Plastic boots size 10-11  
2 seasons use \$200  
Phone Nigel 326-8847 after 5:30

Philips 14 inch TV without remote or UHF tuner  
Philips 14 inch with remote and UHF tuner  
NEC 28 inch with remote and UHF tuner and stand  
Kelvinator fridge/freezer 1340 x 630 x 740 (mm)  
National Genius microwave  
Panasonic 2x3 pavement battery scooter  
All in good working order, any reasonable offer considered  
Phone Peter 358-6894



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