

## **P.N. TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.**

P.O. Box 1217  
Palm. Nth.

### **NEWSLETTER NO. 11**

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CHRISTMAS SOCIAL: Thurs. December 13<sup>th</sup>: 8 p.m. - 12 p.m.  
To be held at Mr. Smith's Shed, Tiritea Road, (½ mile from the end).  
WOOLSHED DANCE AND BAR-B-Q. - extra casual dress. i.e. tramping gear but no boots!

Bring your own meat to boil, burn or fry at the Barbecue; everything else supplied. N. B. If it is raining, please bring a plate to assist the supper which will then be held in the shed.

A charge of 6/- per person (half price under 14) will be collected at the door. Members families and close friends are also welcome. If you require transport ring Ron Haxton 83.994.

Any members with young children who would like to come are invited to contact Anne Morrison 86.397, as she is arranging a babysitter at her place which is the next house along from Mr. Smith's woolshed.

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Congratulations to Suzanne Johnstone and Vern Jensen who have recently become engaged and intend getting married next year.

COMMITTEE NOTES: A letter was received from N.Z. Forest Service inviting two representatives from our Club to a meeting to discuss the possibilities of creating a Ruahine Forest Park. This latter would be a welcome step as far as our Club's activities are concerned. The two elected are - Russ Lacey and Vern Stout.

A wreath was sent to the late Mr. Dugald McKenzie's funeral as he was to have been our Club Patron.

All persons going on the Nelson Lakes Christmas trip are asked to make a special effort to attend the Social on the 15th December, as Russ Lacey would like to discuss final details on travel etc.

HIRE GEAR: The Club has purchased 4 tents which will be available for hire. The Gear Custodian is Keith Potter, phone 79.499.

Charges will be as follows:-

Tents	-	5/- day for a private trip
Billies	-	1/- each per day for a private trip
Pack	-	2/6 per day.

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Reminder: The Slide Competition will be judged on the first Club night in the New Year.

2.

**TRIP REPORT:**

Trip to EGMONT. 11 – 13<sup>th</sup> November 66

Trevor Arnold, Robert Scott                    P.N.T.M.C.

Dennis Clayton                                M.T.C.

Arrived Kapuni Lodge 12.15a.m. after walk up from Dawson Falls and up again at 5a.m. Saturday; beautiful sunrise and good view of Ruapehu and Ngauruhoe. Away at 7a.m., reaching top at 10a.m. approx. A very pleasant climb and excellent views.

Beautiful snow and ice formations at the crater on the top of the mountain. Trevor and Dennis tried some difficult step cutting in a chimney on Sharks Tooth, but found that pitons and other aids, which we did not have, were necessary. Very fast and enjoyable trip glissading down.

Sunday morning climbed to top of Phantoms and came down glissading (and on certain other parts of the anatomy). Left Dawson Falls about 1p.m. to arrive back in P.N. at 5 p.m.

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Overdue Parties - Ring Tony Morrison	86.397
or Vern Stout	79.139

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A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL.

P.N. TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

TRIP LIST

JULY 17	Roaring Stag Hut	Bryan Abraham	81.436
JULY 30 - 31	Erua – Hauhungatahi – Whakapapaiti Hut	Keith Potter	79.499
AUG 14	Saddle Hut, Ruahines	Bruce Wilson	78.517
AUG 27 – 28	Snowcraft	Vern Stout	79.139
SEPT 10 – 11	Snowcraft, Purity Hut	Ian Barnes	85.854
SEPT 25	Mangahuia Peak, Ruahines	Wayne Boucher	79.839
OCT 8	Shorts Track	Susan Johnstone	77.118
OCT 22-23-24	Lake Colenso via Colenso Track	Vern Stout	79.139
Labour W/end	Wanganui College Hut, Ohakune Mountain Road	Robert Scott	77.908
Nov 6	"The Comet" Kaikomata Range	Tony Morrison	86.397
	Inland Patea Range		
DEC 3 – 4	Waipakihi, The Needles	Roger Clark	76.719
DEC 18	Tiritea Valley	Don Fletcher	87.432
DEC 26 - JAN 7th	CHRISTMAS TRIP, Nelson Lakes National Park	Russ Lacey	81.436
JAN 21-22-23	Gentle Annie, Te Aringa	Bill Olsen	75.480
Anniversary W/e	Camerons Camp.		
JAN 21-22-23			

All trips leave from the "Izadium" at 6 a.m. If you intend going on a particular trip please let the Trip Leader know as early as possible – he has to make arrangements re transport and sometimes get permission to cross private property or perhaps secure permits to use huts, etc.

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Trip log follows

OF DAY TRIP  
To  
FIELD HUT

TRIP LEADER : Bryan Abraham  
DATE : Sunday, February 6 1966.  
IN ATTENDANCE :  
Bryan Abraham  
Trevor Arnold  
Roger Clarke  
Ron Haxton  
Vern Jensen  
Suzanne Johnstone  
Russ Lacey  
Jillian Moyers  
Graham Newson  
Keith Potter  
Julie Stout  
Vern Stout  
Bruce Watson  
Graham Whitcombe

The fourteen in attendance on  
The Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering  
Clock Tower, Palmerston North, at 6.00 a.m. on Sunday February 1966. At 6.15 a.m.  
three cars left for the Otaki Forks carrying the trampers, and after a 1½ hour trip,  
arrived at a Picnic Parking area, where we spent a few minutes introducing ourselves  
and preparing for the tramp to Fields Hut, and possibly Vossler Hut.

We tramped along the road, crossing a deep wide ford; and then passed  
through a gate which took us along a track to a swing bridge which we crossed,  
passed an old wool-shed, and onto a track indicated by markers and rocks painted red.  
We followed this track and after crossing two stiles, the party then became strung out  
during the ascending of a steep slope. On reaching the top at 8.45 a.m. we rested and  
a few took photographs of the party and of the surrounding ranges.

We all moved on ten minutes later, and after a twenty minute tramp reached a  
shaded spot on the bush line. Again we stopped, but this time only to divide into two  
parties, a fast, and a slow. The tramp through the bush was cool, unlike the hot open  
fields, but the track was in very poor condition in some low lying parts, being covered  
with several inches of thick mud. Although the gradual climb didn't slow the parties,  
the thick mud did, and at 10.45 a.m. the advance party arrived at Fields Hut, and  
stopped for a rest awaiting the arrival of the second party which arrived at Fields Hut  
fifteen minutes later.

After a small snack, Bryan Abraham, Vern Jensen, Suzanne Johnstone, Russ  
Lacey, Keith Potter and Graham Whitcombe left for Vossler Hut, but at various points  
along the way Suzanne, Keith and Graham turned back leaving a party of only three  
to complete the tramp which they did in 1½ hours with only a short rest halfway.

On arrival at Vossler Hut two other trampers were found having lunch, and after saying a few words to the trampers the small party left again for Fields Hut, meeting and sighting on the way several other small parties from the P.N.T.M.C. who after lunch had decided to tramp round the neighbouring hills. The tramp from Vossler Hut to Fields Hut was completed in 1 hour 5 minutes.

After saying goodbye to other parties who were stopping at Fields Hut and having photographs taken, the Club left for the Otaki Forks.

During the tramp out to the bush line two parties were unintentionally formed, the first party taking an hour to get out of the bush, and second party taking a few minutes longer. At 4.20 p.m. we moved on as one body, following the track out, arriving at the cars at 5.20 p.m. in good spirits and very pleased with the achievements of the Clubs first official trip.

Extract from the Newsletter No. 1.

Sunday February 6 saw our first trip - a day to Fields Hut in the Tararua Ranges led by Bryan Abraham. Fourteen members floundered their way up the rather muddy track to Field Hut, some members continuing on to Vossler Hut, the rest remaining at Field to enjoy the beautiful summer day.

LOG of DAY TRIP  
To  
TRIPLEX CREEK - ARMSTRONG SADDLE

**TRIP LEADER:** Ann Morrison  
**DATE:** Sunday February 20 1966.  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trevor Arnold  
Ian Barnes  
Roger Clarke  
Ron Haxton  
Vern Jensen  
Russ Lacey  
Ann Morrison  
Bill Olsen  
Keith Potter  
Suzanne Roberts  
Bruce Watson  
Malcom Watson  
Graham Whitcombe  
Dave Irvine

As with the first official club tramp, the weather for this tramp to Armstrong Saddle also was very good. Armstrong Saddle and Triplex Creek are in the mid-Ruahines, the track up being very clearly marked and in good condition. The tramp up took two hours, and except for Ann Morrison and Graham Whitcombe, all the party got out of the bush and onto the "Tussock Tops". The track at first was steep but levelled out, although again became steep, proving hard going for some members. Even though during the tramp there was a short shower of rain, everybody enjoyed themselves and came out as tow parties or seven, one via the bush track, and the other via the river. Those who came out via the bush track arrived at the cars quarter of an hour earlier than those who returned via the river. The downward tramp was done in three quarters of ah hour, and in one hour, and except for the party who returned by the river, and for spell at tussock, tops the whole tramp was done in the bush, making it cool tramping.

Unlike the first tramp, the bush track was dry, and also the Tramping Club didn't meet up with any parties from other organisation or individual trampers like they did at Fields Hut. At six forty five p.m., the party arrived back at the Clocktower, Palmerston North just twelve and a half hours after leaving at six fifteen a.m.

LOG of TRIP  
To  
POHANG INA RIVER

**TRIP LEADER:** Vern Jensen  
**DATE:** March 5-6 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trevor Arnold  
Vern Jensen  
Suzanne Johnstone  
Keith Potter  
Bruce Watson

Left car at the Cullers Pohangina base camp at 6.45 a.m. Stayed on the low bush track until 11.00 a.m. when we decided that the river would be faster travelling due to being shorter than the track. Arrived at mid-Pohangina Hut at 12.30 p.m. Decided not to proceed to Leon Kinzig Hut as we were not "Hut Boggers" or very fit. One member decided to take his rifle, and go upstream for two hours, shoot a deer, camp out and return on Sunday morning which he did.

Sunday morning we left the hut at 10.45 a.m. and arrived at the car at 4.15 p.m.

Notes for Future Trips

There is a good bush track following the left bank of the river to mid-Pohangina Hut, where there is a swing bridge.

However, if the river is low it would be faster to leave this track at Centre Creek and continue up the river.

LOG of DAY TRIP  
To  
TOKOMARU

**TRIP LEADER:** Trevor Arnold.  
**DATE:** March 20 1966.  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Bryan Abraham  
Trevor Arnold  
W. F. Bauche  
David Bull  
M.V. Carter  
Roger Clarke  
C Finch  
Ron Haxton  
Vern Jensen  
Suzanne Johnstone  
Russ Lacey  
Tony Morrison  
Micheal Morrison  
E. Newson  
Graham Newson  
Keith Potter  
Lynne Potter  
Sue Roberts  
Julie Stout  
Vern Stout  
Graham Whitcombe

**WEATHER:** Overcast with light drizzle in the morning, clearing in the afternoon with some strong winds.

**AREA:** Clear tops with punga and fern, steep gullies; stepple pack, Bush Lawyer, and twisted undergrowth. Easy going up streams but can become very gorgy (no good in floods).

**THE TRIP:** The party consisted of 21 trampers which divided into two groups.

The fast party went an hour up a side stream to where it forked, and there, proceeded up the left fork to a tip which became way to the ridge. With much steady climbing and pushing through pig fern, bush lawyer and clambering along over grown deer tracks, we reached the tops. From where we travelled SE for about  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour and then decided to drop back down into the gully (easier said than done). We had lunch at 1.15 p.m. at the forks and left there on the way out at 2.10 pm.

Meanwhile the second party had gone up to the top of the ridge on the Eastern side of the stream, and had spent some time looking around on the top.

After rejoining the second party at the Tokomaru River we all proceeded back up the logging track back to the cars.

LOG of DAY TRIP  
:- Gable End Trackcutting

**TRIP LEADER:** Vern Jensen  
**DATE:** April 3 1966.  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trevor Arnold  
Vern Jensen  
Carlma Johnstone  
Suzanne Johnstone  
Sue Roberts  
Bruce Watson

While at a club meeting deciding what to do on Sunday, we found that one of our members, Ian Barnes was to lead a M.T.C. track cutting party down Gable End Ridge. In his burst of kindness, he lent his slashers and an axe to us.

At 7.05 a.m. we left the car, and at 8.15 a.m. arrived at Ohau Hut.

After a billy of tea, we cut our way up a ridge we presumed to lead to Gable End. We were not lost, we just didn't know where we were. Someone thought the river below us was the Manawatu, another said it looked like the Otaki.

Roared up a stag at 11.00 a.m., but he lost interest so we continued up. We abandoned trackcutting  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an hour from the top and went Peak bagging. Sat around on what could have been Gable End until 1.30 p.m. when some M.T.C. bushwackers blundered along chainsaw and all.

This was enough to scare us back to Ohau Hut where we again boiled the billy, then returned to the car at 5.50 p.m.

LOG of TRIP  
EASTER in the KAIMANAWAS

TRIP LEADER: Russ Lacey  
DATE: Easter 8-11 April 1966.  
IN ATTENDANCE: Trevor Arnold  
Ian Barnes  
Chris Freyberg  
Ron Haxton  
Vern Jensen  
Russ Lacey  
M. McGregor  
Tony Morrison  
Bill Olsen  
Keith Potter  
Sue Roberts

After calling on Mr Robert's at Owhacka Station and collecting the Golden Hills Hut Book and some rain gauge charts etc., the party headed off around the Eastern side of the Ngamatea swamp. Most of the party headed towards the river along the horse track to the old log cabin, while one good keen man headed on the shorter horse track to the Golden Hills.

The party headed up the Tararua River, pausing for a swim on the way up. After some confusion at the gorge most of us scrambled over a heavily manuka covered ridge, and after crossing several creeks darkness overtook us. Pressing on by torch-light we reached the head of the river. Vern and Chris moved ahead of the party, soon reaching the hut, and we arrived to a welcome brew. Several members slept out under the stars being lulled asleep by the calls of the morepork and the shrill call of the kiwi. On Saturday the party crossed a bush saddle to look into the head of the Ngaruroro River, towards Boyd Hut we could see the towering rocky point or Boyds Rock or Tapuiomaruahine. After moving eastwards along a tussock ridge we again circled, frightening up several deer on our way down off the tops, and soon reached the saddle and Golden Hills for an easy day.

Sunday the party headed towards the Kaimanawa Hut for a very enjoyable days tramping, the round trip between five and six hours. On Monday we returned down the river to our transport and home via Taihape.

A really interesting weekend with some unusual happenings. One member, becoming separated from the party decided to camp along side the track, and awoke as the party came along in the dark. He made a very hurried exit, from his sleeping bag to avoid being trodden on! Venison stew to be remembered by all, a roaring campfire and a sing-song on a very frosty night.

The multitude of native birds and their calls - those heard or seen were; Grey Warblers, Tuis, Bellbirds, Riflemen, North Island Pied Tits', Pipits, Bush Hawks, and the shrill cries of the Kiwi at night.

Of interest to the botanically minded were very many sub-alpine and tussock plants, namely the Spaniard, Red Tussock, several whipcord Hebes, Celmesias, Ourisias and the Mountain Beech on which we found several mistletoe plants.

A terrific weekend enjoyed by eleven members.

This log was taken from the No. 3 Newsletter. (April 1966)

LOG OF  
DEERSTALKING TRIP. NGAMOKO TOPS  
(Ruahines)

**TRIP LEADER:** Vern Jensen  
**DATE:** 16-17 April 1966.  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trevor Arnold  
Ian Barnes  
Vern Jensen  
Suzanne Johnstone  
Sue Roberts  
Maureen

Friday night was spent in a woolshed on about six inches of wool, until 4.30 a.m. when an alarm clock woke us for an early start.

Climbed Knights Ridge to Toka Peak. Halfway up, two hunting types went several hundred feet down the side to a roaring stag which was then considered to be human. Unfortunately the view was lost to the mist, which arrived on Toka with us. In the late afternoon the three stalkers went down the ridge which leads to Leon Kinvig Hut. Went about two-thirds of the way down (out of the mist) to the Hut, and roared at a stag. Could see a 'Tin Hut' on Pohangina Saddle. Ran back to camp at Toka tarns, one stalker nearly ran through the tarns in the mist. Sunday morning was still foggy so we went down Knights Ridge to below leatherleaf, where we went 3 ways. One stalker went down Cone Creek. The two others went about 1,00 feet down to talk to a big stag only to find he was out to lunch. 12.30 – 1.30; so climbed back up to their packs, and followed the 'tough chooks' bootmarks down the ridge and out.

After a brew of tea we were at the cars at 4.15 p.m.

LOG OF  
THREE-DAY WALKING & SIGHTSEEING  
TRIP

**TRIP LEADER:** Bruce Watson  
**DATE:** Anzac Weekend 23-25 April 1966.  
**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Errol Bostak  
Roger Clarke  
Don Fletcher  
Marion Jensen  
Vern Jensen  
Robin Johnstone  
Sue Johnstone  
Maurice Jorden  
Rus s Lacey  
Max McGreewy  
Keith Potter  
Lynne Potter  
Robert Scott  
Miles Stilwell  
Bruce Watson

**SATURDAY:** We started off late as usual in 4 cars from the clock-tower at 6.40 a.m. and arrived in Waioru at 9.30 a.m. and had a feed before meeting Vern on the Desert Road. Travelled to a walking track sign posted 18 miles from Waioru and drove the cars into our campsite in a stand of beech called Te Maho Bush (near Waihohonu Streams). From 10.30 it only took us an hour or so to set up camp, (7 tents and a fly) and after a light lunch we set out in cars at 11.30 for the Eastern side of Desert Road. We drove down a pumice track that had been cut in connection with the hydro-electric schemes. After leaving the cars we walked along this road until we came to the Pillars of Hercules which rise 135' to an army Bailey Bridge spanning a gorge 10' wide at its widest point at the river level. This part of the Tongariro River has a pool 35' deep. From here we followed tracks until we saw the Waikato Falls where great depths of water have flown through a water cut gorge.

At about 4.00 o'clock we arrived back at the bush edge, and the drivers went and brought the cars for us and we were back at camp at about  $\frac{1}{4}$  to five. We left the cars near the road in case of rain and Vern cleverly locked his keys in the car. We had a good stew and were all in bed by about eight thirty. The weather had been very fine and hot with an almost clear sky.

**SUNDAY:** As this was our only complete day we had planned to climb Mt. Ngauruhoe, but the weather was bad and we did not leave until 9.45 a.m. We had followed the walking track to the twelve man Waipahonu Hut taking  $1\frac{1}{4}$  hours. The wind was cold and the mountains were cloud shrouded. Arriving, we made a brew and at 11.45 set off for Mt. Tama (5276'). We split up into two parties of 4 and 9, and arrived at the summit about 1.30. The quickest way up is to follow a huge gravel sheet until under the peak, and from there on it is a short but steep climb. One

member lugged a pine tree up and “planted” it at the top. In the-breaks in the cloud we obtained fine views of the Upper Tama Lake and Mt Ruapahu.

We arrived back at the hut about 3.45 p.m. and after a late lunch followed the track around the eastern edge of the bush and saw the Ohingehanga Spring where Max had a swim. There are the main attraction in this area. At 6.00 p.m. we arrived back at camp and had another stew. While we ate Russ and Vern went into Waipoua to ring up for a spare car key. We were in bed by 9.00 p.m.

**MONDAY:** Another busy morning - we did not get up till 9.00 and it rained hard most of the time. By 10.45 we were at the road and we took the cars, (minus Vern's) up to the track to Desert Base Camp and began walking to the Waipoua Alpine Hut, but because of the rain and cold we gave up after  $\frac{1}{4}$  hour and arrived back at camp at 12.25. By 2.45 we had cooked soup for lunch and had packed. It was still raining when we left.

Coming back from Desert Base camp, we met Vern's father with his key, but as we found out later you can break into a Holden with a bent wire handle of a frying pan.

During our stay we saw quite a few of the rare North Island Robins and some North Island Tom Tits.

We found many interesting plants of the alpine regions and a few peculiar to that volcanic regions. e.g. Ranunculus nivicole which we found on Tama.

LOG OF DAY TRIP  
To  
TIRITEA CREEK

TRIP LEADER: Ron Haxton  
DATE: 25 April (Anzac Day)  
INATTENDANCE: Wayne Boucher  
Peter Clausen  
Ron Haxton  
Tony Morrison

Start from the Morrison's country residence 8.00 a.m. Cloudy and warm. Up track parallel with Filter House road. Open country for while, then very steep climb to reach bush line - those with rifles wishing they hadn't. Bull-dozed through pig like scrub to small creek for modern type brew. Climbed lawyer, stepple-jack infested spur to ridge. Found one of many tracks headed north. Decided to take the 'off the beaten track' policy of the Club to heart, and played ring-a-ring-a-roses for an hour. Headed down to creek for lunch much eating, drinking, and smoking.

Still off the Beaten Track dfficided to become scientificies as well and outs with the compass and map. Marvellous stuff was this, finished up with 4 routes, unanimous decision the compass was crook, and that the map could be used for the next brew.

By this time we had become expert circular off the Beaten Trackers. Climbed trees, sighted land 50yds ½ hour before dusk.

Raining, now open hills. Last obstacles of the day, vertical 150 ft scrub covered bank. Party member formed track by hustling off the edge. This will become a Tiritea land mark, now known as the Haxton Cut. And Home.

Interests: Pig and Deer signs.  
Famed bank of Price of Wales Features.  
Rarwast growing on main ridge.  
Small frameless packs ideal for 1 day bush trip.

Diet: Breakfast – Mutton: Lunch – Beef: Dinner -

LOG OF DAY TRIP  
To  
WH.ARITE PEAK

**TRIP LEADER:** Roger Clarke  
**DATE:** 8 May 1966 - Sunday  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Bryan Abraham  
Trevor Arnold  
Roger Clarke  
J. Croke  
J. Edwards  
Carolyn Finch  
D. Fletcher  
Sue Johnstone  
Russ Lacey  
M. Moore  
Tony Morrison  
C. Newpork  
D. Pither  
L. Pither  
J. Pither  
P. Pither  
Sue Roberts  
W. Rogerson  
Rogerson  
R. Scott  
Miles Stiltwell  
Gloria Traill  
Karen Traill  
Bruce Watson  
Malcom Watson  
Graham Whitcombe

The air was crisp as 5 cars departed from the Post Office at 6.15 a.m. and proceeded through the Gorge.

The weather was fine as we left the cars mid-way up Wharite. The going was good on the metal road and we reached the summit at 10 a.m. There the keen and fit clambered up to the first landing on the mast.

After a short rest we proceeded along past the T.V. installations onto a bush track which led us along a ridge on the Ruahine Range. Then 1½ hours later, we arrived on a Saddle where we stopped. It was 12 o'clock by the time the billy was on boil and everybody had lunch in the sunshine.

At 1 p.m. some of the keen ones went up onto a higher ridge for a better view. Half-way up the track pattered out and they were faced with thick patches of Leatherwood. From the top Feilding, Palmerston North, Pahiatua, Woodville, and Ashhurst could be seen. Then after a short rest they made their way back to the others.

At 2.30 p.m. we headed back along the track. We arrived at the Wharite T.V. Tower at 4 pm. There a party was organised and was shown inside the T.V. Station and shown briefly what makes a station operate. Time passed quickly, and at 5 p.m. everybody set off from the station, down the metal road and arrived back at the cars at 6 p.m.

We then all departed back to P.N. after enjoying an easy tramp on a very pleasant day.

LOG OF DAY TRIP  
To  
COPPERMINES

**TRIP LEADER:** Graham Newson  
**DATE:** Sunday 22 May 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trevor Arnold  
Ian Barnes  
Roger Clarke  
Chris Freyberg  
Vern Jensen  
Sue Johnstone,  
E. Newson  
Graham Newson  
Lynne Potter  
Keith Potter  
Sue Roberts  
B. Stout  
J. Stout  
R. Stout  
Vern Stout  
K. Traill  
G. Traill  
Dennis

On 22 May 18 bogs went to the Coppermine meeting at the Post Office. At 6.15 the first car arrived, 6.20 the second, 3rd at 6.25, 4<sup>th</sup> 6.30 after getting a tow to start, we arrived at end of road 7.30 the weather was very cod but fine.

After a nice easy walk crossing the creek about 80 times arriving at the hut about 8.45. After a brew we split up, 10 going up and down the main creek. They arrived back at the hut at 3 o'clock.

The other party went exploring for mines, found one open and one caved in. After lunch we went up the main creek about 1 hour. There was a slip of some chains long over the creek but was passed. We got back about 2, had a cuppa and sat around, some left for the cars at 2.30 and rest left when others got back. We left the gate about 4.30 stopping Woodville for snack after looking for missing car about 6.

LOG OF.  
1966 QUEENS BIRTHDAY TRIP  
MANGAPURUA, between Raetihi & Wanganui River

**TRIP LEADER:** Vern Jensen  
**DATE:** Saturday 4 June -Sunday - Monday 6  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trevor Arnold  
Ian Barnes  
Errol Bostock  
Roger Clarke  
Peter Clausen  
Vern Jensen  
Sue Johnstone  
Bob Jordon  
Maurice Jordan  
Russ Lacey  
Dennis Moore  
Robert Orr  
Keith Potter  
Bruce Watson  
Graham Whitcombe

We left Palmerston North on Friday evening in typical Queens Birthday weather. Arrived at Raetihi Hospital and had a cup of tea. Because of excessive moisture we decided not to go to Mangapurau as intended, therefore not risking losing our cars in the bogs. Went round to the Raetihi Motor Camp for the night, sleeping in cars, on kitchen tables, and, one in a tent.

Saturday we went up to the Ohakiri Mountain Road and over to the Wanganui T.C. Hut. On Sunday it had stopped raining (and started snowing) so we went off in small parties to see the sights, returning regularly to thaw out.

Monday was a better day for the photographers who were in action 86 we made way back past the Cascades and over to the cars parked by the shelter near the Massey Hut.

Notes for future tramps; Presume the weather to be unattractive, even to the toughest of tough trampers, (and chicks) on Queens Birthday Weekend, and arrange trips accordingly.

LOG OF DAY TRIP  
To  
OHAU HUT – GABLE END HUT

**TRIP LEADER:** Sue Roberts  
**DATE:** Sunday 19 June  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ron Haxton  
Bill Olson  
Keith Potter  
Sue Roberts  
Bill Rogerson  
Gavin Rogerson  
Graham Whitcombe

We left the P.O. at 6.15 a.m. with seven people squeezed into car, and perfected an alternate breathing method by the time we passed Levin to reach the farm where we left the car at 7.45. Weather was fine and cool, and after a short walk across paddocks we had an easy if somewhat muddy tramp into Ohau Hut. Here we had a brew, around 9 a.m. and after a short spell, headed up the fairly open valley with much crossing of the river, toward South Ohau Hut. Lunch stop, was made just after 12, on a sunny bank. At this stage we were about  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour away from the Hut, but as none of us were feeling extra fit, we decided against the extra hour needed to reach the Hut and return. On our outward trip we took the river route right out, and after much close observation, it was unanimously decided that we had round the largest sand in the world and even our American member agreed with us! (Anyone doubting this statement should do an Ohau River Trip).

We arrived back at the car at approx 4.30 p.m., and headed for P.N. with a stop in Shannon for the hungry types.

LOG OF TRIP  
To  
HIKIRANGI RANGE McKINNON HUT

**TRIP LEADER:** Trevor Arnold  
**DATE:** July 2-31966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trevor Arnold  
Ian Barnes  
Roger Clarke  
Vern Jensen  
Morris Jorelon  
Robin Smith  
Keith Potter

On this weekend a party of seven ventured over the snow-covered range of Hikirangi. Although progress was hindered by soft deep snow the view was probably one of the best in New Zealand. One could see all over Taranaki, as far south as the snow-capped peaks of the Tararuas, west to Egmont and the coast. Saturday evening saw a bright red sky silhouetting Mt Ruapehu and Ngauruhoe on the horizon. The trip out was an easier one as our steps had frozen in and thus we stepped only two hours from the homestead for lunch at 11.30.

Tramping in this area would be recommended all the year round.

LOG OF DAY TRIP  
To  
ROARING STAG HUT

**TRIP LEADER:** Bryan Abraham  
**DATE:** July (Sunday) 17 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Bryan Abraham  
Ian Barnes  
Dennis Arnott  
Roger Clarke  
Diana Goss  
Maurice Jordan  
Keith Potter  
J. Moore  
R. Scott  
Christine Smith  
Robin Smith  
V. Stout  
Bruce Watson  
Malcom Watson  
Donald Stewart  
G. Whitcombe

This trip left from the Izadium, and motored south. After taking a wrong turning, we managed to find the way to our starting point. The track up to the Bush line was not clearly marked, but once in the bush a clearly marked track enabled a fast pace to be set. At the river, the party split into two, the fast and the slow. Snow along the edge of the track was encountered at one stage and at the hut we found the 'Bush' tramping club, and also several shooters. (hunters) The outward trip, was made without incident, and 16 tired trampers travelled back to Palmerston North in 4 cars, arriving by 7.00 p.m.

LOG OF TRIP  
To  
Erua - Hauhongatahi - Whakapapaiti  
HUT

TRIP LEADER: Keith Potter.  
DATE: July 30-31 1966.  
IN ATTENDANCE: Trevor Arnold.  
Denis Arnott  
Roger Clarke  
Chris Freyberg  
Russ Lacey  
Bill Olson  
Keith Potter  
Robin Smith

We departed from the Izadium at 6.45 p.m. Friday evening. After a stop at Taihape for a cup of coffee, (our usual cafe was closed owing to a fire). We moved on to Waioru expecting a hot hamburger, but found instead that the shop had closed five minutes earlier. After waiting for Russ we then headed on for National Park, where we arrived at 10.30. Fog patches across the Road and wet.

Trevor, Bill, Chris and Robin slept the night on the hard concrete floor of the cookhouse at Hahaia Camp, while Russ curled up on the back seat of his V. Wagon. The other three fools including myself, acted like sardines and slept on our sides in the back of the covered pickup.

The party awoke to a light snack and a cup of tea owing to no cooking facilities in the hut.

(Because of bad weather we did not follow the route stated on the trip list,)

After lunch, Bill and Trevor explored the side of the mountain which had cleared completely. Meanwhile the remaining party built a snowman-woman and a hut.

A party of 4 skiers arrived after tea. Trevor was up at 6.00 a.m.. to start the fire on Sunday .morning.

Sunday brought wind and driving rain, fortunately we had the wind at our backs on the return journey.

The Wahapapaiti Hut is a new 25 bunk Lockwood hut, with a coke-burning stove. All steel sprung bunks in 3 separate rooms.

LOG OF TRIP  
To  
SADDLE HUT

**TRIP LEADER:** Bruce Watson  
**DATE:** Sunday August 14 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Denis Arnott  
                  Jo Chappel  
                  Ron Haxton  
                  Russ Lacey  
                  Ann Olson  
                  Bill Olson  
                  David Olson  
                  Joy Olson  
                  Keith Potter  
                  Lynne Potter  
                  Gaby Roach  
                  Bruce Watson.  
                  Malcom Watson  
                  Graham Whitcombe

We left the Izadium just after 6 a.m. and instead of going to Saddle Hut we decided to go to Hinerua Hut about 5 miles north, so that we could reach the snow more quickly. We arrived at the road end and travelled up a farm track by car ("we'er tough trampers we"). We left the cars at about half past eight and even near the road there were a few patches of snow. We left the road and out up a ridge which can be found because of a woolshed on bank of it near the road. We cut off the road before this however, there was only patchy snow on the ridge unlike we reached the bush line: The weather was mild at this stage. Once we reached the bush it was only about 5 minutes before we reached the track to the hut. The track is recently cut and deviously by the Forest Service . It was about 6 feet wide and almost all the way was covered with snow a foot deep. The faster party of six reached the hut at about 11.30 a.m. and the slower party about 12.15 p.m.

We had lunch and just before we left 4 Govt. Shooters came in they had seen nothing all day. At about 2.30 we left for home after having some fun in the snow. Bill got a bit worried when he couldn't find his pack which formed a solid base for snowman. The weather seemed to clear when we came out onto the farmland and all the way the snow was slushy from the. in-journey.

Although it was light when we reached the cars, it was dark by the time we had a meal at Dannevirkie.

We had a terrific day overall and the area looks quite different and the tramping is different to a track on a summer trip.

LOG OF TRIP  
SNOWCRAFT TRIP - Mangatepopo Hut

**TRIP LEADER:** Vern Stout  
**DATE:** August 27-28 1966  
**IN ATTENDENCE:** Trevor Arnold  
Denis Arnott  
Ian Barnes  
Roger Clarke  
Vern Jensen  
Suzanne Johnstone  
Dennis Moore  
Keith Potter  
Sue Roberts  
Vern Stout

In order to guarantee plenty of snow, and with snow warnings being broadcast when we left, we went to Mangatepopo Hut on the eastern slopes of Ngauruhoe. What a disappointment. No snow around the hut at all, and we were able to drive to the door. We had to climb in hot weather to the saddle where the snow was found to be too soft for step cutting, or effective rope-work. A lot of fun was had concentrating on self-arrest with the use of the ice axe. Too late to climb the Mountain we planned on an early climb next morning.

During the night Russ Lacey arrived. However the weather closed down before we packed up and drove to the foot of the Ketetaki springs track -a 4 mile walk. This proved a hot job, and took longer than we expected. We visited the Springs - a 10ft continuous geyser of: mud, steam, and boiling water, - as well as numerous other vents, sulphur deposits etc. all complete with smells.

Five minutes past the Springs on the old bridle track we found a brand new 'Lockwood' type accommodation house. Sleeps 26 on spring beds and rubber mattresses.

Back to the cars 4 hours after we left and home by 8 p.m.  
A thoroughly enjoyable weekend.

LOG OF TRIP  
ALPINE INSTRUCTION,  
WHAKAPAPITI

**TRIP LEADER:** Ian Barnes  
**DATE:** September 10-11 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trevor Arnold  
Ian Barnes  
Roger Clarke  
Morris Jordan  
Bill Olson  
Keith Potter  
Sue Roberts  
Robin Smith

The trip consisted of two parts,

(1) Trevor Arnold, Roger Clarke, Morris Jordan, Keith Potter, Robin Smith, left on Friday night, for Erna and spending Friday night at Overnight Shelter.

(2) Ian Barnes, Bill Olson, and Sue Roberts, left on Saturday morning, drove straight through to Chateau arriving at 9.30 a.m.

Our tough chook gave a good show getting up the road in shorts shocking all the tourists and skiers.

We ploughed along the trip in nice fine weather and after stops for chocolate, and put on parkas to keep out the draughts arrived at Alex Bivviy, saw that Trev and ??? were ahead so after a look at hut on up to Whakapaiti Hut.

The others all sitting round eating so we three had some brew and then up track onto ridge blowing hard and very cold, got into sheltered gully where soon people were swinging ice axes in all directions ice going down rocks of ones at bottom of slope.

Back to hut for tea, one member trying to lie on his ice axe to pick up speed going down slope.

Meat loaf for tea, we had to wait till about 8.30 for tea but was very good thanks to Keith and Sue.

Next morning got up because Trev was hanging round. Had breakfast, then packed and cleaned Hut. Decided to go out over Whakapaiti to had to go out to pick up Ian Barnes car. Rest went up track, was good climbing up and down into creeks, finally climbed up to bush edge had lunch then put on longs, climbed ridge wind got string and party slowed right down. Had rest on top then easy down to bush edge. Track was rough but blazes everywhere and soon traffic could be heard roaring up road, down through supplejack, bushlawyer, and got out on to railway-line walked

200yds to car went back up to Erua picked up Rogers car, back to where others where first stop Taihape for Big Milk Shakes and a feed.

LOG OF TRIP  
To  
MANGAHUIA PEAK

**TRIP LEADER:** Wayne Boucher  
**DATE:** September 25 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Wayne Boucher  
Josie Chapelle  
Trevor Gill  
Russ Lacey  
Dennis Moore  
Graham Newson  
Sue Portner  
Keith Potter  
Lynne Potter  
Julie Stout  
Vern Stout  
Judy Tapp  
John Tucker  
Graham Whitcombe

A party of 14 set out from Palmerston North at approximately 6.15 a.m. on Sunday September 25, bound for first the Rangiwahia Ski Club Hut, and then for Mangahui Peak. The weather was overcast and fairly cool.

We had to cross part of a farm before we reached the bush and several members of the party gave the rest of us some interesting points on the habits of sheep. The river we had to cross was cold and fast flowing with a very slippery bottom. Three of the party fell in while crossing it, mainly due to the very unhelpful remarks made by those standing on the opposite bank.

The track was fairly clearly defined though steep in parts. We were rewarded with some magnificent views (and which some members of the party had to stop and admire frequently), and with it beginning to snow. At about 11 a.m. we reached the Ski Club Hut. This hut is so rickety and dilapidated that it is a miracle that it is still standing. After lunch Keith Potter, Russ Lacey, Julie Stout, Vern Stout, and John Tucker, set out for Mangahue Peak, the rest stayed at the hut and had some fun in the snow. The five who set out for the peak arrived back after about 2½ hours and after a short rest we set off down. The weather had cleared up and now the track was now a bog of mud because of the melting snows. (It took us about 2½ hrs to reach the Ski Club Hut but only ¾ of an hour to get down).

A tired and very dirty party of trampers arrived back in P.N. at about 6 p.m. after a very enjoyable tramp.

LOG OF TRIP  
To  
SHORTS TRACK

**TRIP LEADER:** Sue Johnstone  
**DATE:** October 9 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Roger Clarke  
Ron Haxton  
John Tucker  
Vern Jensen  
Marion Jensen  
Sue Johnstone  
Maurice Jordan  
Malcolm McCullum  
Michal Morrison  
Tony Morrison  
Keith Potter  
Robin Smith  
Miles Stilwell

In true tramping club tradition the tramp up Shorts Track on the 9 October started off barely knowing where to go.

The track is a well marked one, if somewhat overgrown, and the going is quite steady. Towards 10 o'clock the sky clouded over and a little later the mist was down on the hills just above us. After getting up into the leatherleaf we decided that a side trip may be more interesting; so off the ridge we went plunging our way through the seemingly never ended leatherleaf and on finally into a stream. At 1 o'clock we had lunch and then made good time down the rest of the river to come out about 4 o'clock.

At a suggestion of Vern's 7 of the party carried on to some shell-rock cliffs close at hand and then we all went to the Jensens for a very welcome cup of hot tea (or cups of tea is your name is Tony).

Many thanks to Tony Morrison and Vern Stout for arranging transport.

LOG OF TRIP  
To  
LAKE COLENSO via COLENSO TRACK

**TRIP LEADER:** Vern Stout  
**DATE:** Labour Weekend - October 22-24 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trevor Arnold  
Ian Barnes  
Peter Clausen  
Roger Clarke  
Chris Freyberg  
Robin Smith  
Bruce Watson

Left P.N. Saturday 22 at 6 a.m. in a light qrizze. This however cleared before arriving at old mill site on Makaroro River at 9.30 a.m. All in good spirits and keen to get going, a local farmer packed us all on a old farm truck and transported us to the fork of Gold Creek and Makaroro rivers, this saved us a little energy. After a short walk up Makaroro river the group rested and got a fire going for a brew and a meal. After a good fill time arrived to prepare for a good climb. Left river and climbed a ridge which brought us out on main ridge. Height of river at spot for meal was 500 ft' above sea level, height of main ridge was 5,000'.

Following main ridge for a short distance before dropping down to Remutupo Hut via shingle slide, a lot of fun enjoyed by all on this slide.

This hard drag consumed most of the day, conditions were o.k. cloudy, but no rain. Left river at 11 o'clock arrived at Remutupo Hut late in afternoon about 5 o'clock.

Work got under way under the direction of Vern Stout to prepare camp. Party was to be divided as some were bunk down in Remuta Hut and others in tent camp. Camp was completed and a good evening meal had after which everyone wished to bunk down.

Sunday improved a poor day, as it rained most o~ the day, after breakfast left Reumtupo Hut via river to Colenso Hut., close to Lake Kokapunui or Lake Colenso. Trip was about 3 hours, lake looked very good but would have been better under better weather, however all enjoyed the trip. A meal was had at Colenso Hut before return in back to base camp in afternoon.

Due. to wet conditions those that slept in tents last night wished to have comforts of hut tonight, after a little rearranging everyone settled down to good nights sleep. During Sunday night snow fell.

DAY TRIP TO  
WANGANUI COLLEGE HUT  
(Ohakune Mountain Road)

**TRIP LEADER:** Robert Scott

**DATE:** 6 November 1966

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Report unavailable owing to Robert Scott having moved to Christchurch..

## TRIP To EGMONT (Private Trip)

**TRIP LEADER:** Trevor Arnold  
**DATE:** 11-13 November 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trevor Arnold P.N.T.M.C.  
Dennis Clayton M.T.C.  
Robert Scoot P.N.T.M.C.

Arrived Kapuni Lodge 12:15 a.m. after walk up from Dawson Falls. Up 5 am Saturday morning; beautiful sunrise, good view of Ruapehu and Ngauruhoe, away at 7 a.m. reaching top 6 (sic) a.m. APPROX.

A very pleasant climb and excellent views. Beautiful snow and ice formations at the crater on top of Mt.

Trevor and Dennis tried some difficult-step cutting in a chimney on Sharks Tooth, but found that pitons and other aids, which we did not have, were necessary. Very fast and enjoyable trip down glissading.

Sunday morning climbed to top of Phantoms and came down glissading (and on certain other parts of the anatomy). Left Dawson Falls about 1 p.m. back in P.N. at 5 p.m.

TRIP TO  
WAIPAKIHI: The Needles

**TRIP LEADER:** Roger Clark.  
**DATE:** 3-4 December 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Seven members spent enjoyable weekend in Kaimanama Ranges in army territory after crossing the Needles from the Desert Road. Five members continued out via the river on the Sunday, while the other two back-tracked to look for a camera which was lost the previous day on the tops.

## WORK PARTY -RANGIWAHIA

**TRIP LEADER:** Don Fletcher  
**DATE:** 18 December 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Don Fletcher  
Russ Lacey  
Miles Stilwell  
Bruce Watson

Five members turned out for the trip which originally had been set down as a trip to Tiratea.

The only work to be done on the track was to clear the deviation which bypassed the unsafe bridge across the Oroua river.

The weather was perfect as we proceeded up the track, a nice change from the rain of the previous trip. At the bridge work was started and in no time the deviation was cleared and marked. Soon we were on the track to the hut and a early dinner.

After dinner the party carried on along the tops to Mangahuia and Mangamahue the open tussock making travel easy and fast; the clear air and view all around making the climb well worth while. Back to the hut for a quick brew before the easy climb down hill to the bridge which we crossed one at a time and so to the cars and home.

CHRISTMAS TRIP  
To  
TRAVERS AND SABINE

**TRIP LEADER:** Russ Lacey  
**DATE:** December 27 - January 7 1966  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trevor Arnold  
Annette Brongraber  
Lyn Clark  
Roger Clark  
Peter Clausen  
Russ Lacey  
Tony Morrison  
Keith Potter  
Sue Roberts  
Bruce Watson

On December 27 1966, ten Club members left Lake Rotoiti in fine weather and moved around the lake towards Lakehead Hut where we paused for a boil up, and then moved on up the Travers River camping on the south side of Hopeless Creek. We stayed in this area for two nights (wet ones) and paid a visit to the head of Hopeless Creek, the site of a new hut for the Nelson Alpine Club.

Two days later we moved up to the valley head, camping just above the Travers Hut. After two beautiful days we again put on heavy packs and struggled onto the Travers Saddle on a perfect day, with the snowy topped Mt. Franklyn and other Sabine Peaks making a terrific sight to the West.

Crossing the saddle we sidled for while and then dropped steeply down a scree slope and into a stream leading into the east branch or the Sabine, and them via a bush track to the Sabine Forks Hut. We camped fifteen minutes upstream in the west branch. We spent several very enjoyable days in this area visiting the mountain gems in the wilderness area Lake Constance and the Blue Totoroa and spent two nights fighting off the swarms of sandflies. We returned to Rotoiti via a track across the heads or Howard stream. Some confusion over the track led us to a N.Z.F.S. hut in the Howard so we headed downstream and then to the main highway, most of the party getting rides back to Rotoiti.

Things most remembered on the trip:-

- A; The Sandflies,
- B; The keen member Peter who went swimming several times daily regardless of the temperature.
- C; The home made boat at Rotoroa.

A very enjoyable trip in some really beautiful country.