

P.N. TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

P.O. Box 1217,
Palmerston North.

President: Russ Lacey 81.436
Vice-Pres: Peter Clausen 81.743
Secretary: Bruce Watson 78.517
Treasurer: Tony Morrison 86.397

NEWSLETTER: Vol.II No.5

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CLUB NIGHT: Thursday July 27th:

Mr. T. Cookson, N.Z. Forest Service, will tell us about Forestry future work plans and talk about the areas we tramp in. Be sure not to miss this opportunity to hear a most interesting talk.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBS??? If not sure check with the Secretary 78.517. This will be the LAST Newsletter sent to unfinancial members. Prompt payment of your subs will ensure future Newsletters.

Well, here we are past the shortest day and into our winter tramping programme. These winter trips can be most enjoyable even though the weather may be cold and wet. Some Club members particularly those on one-day trips have been inadequately clothed. Light cotton shirts and jeans are definitely not tramping clothing - you should wear woollen clothing. Remember the Trip Leader has the right to refuse to take any person he considers has not adequate gear to do the particular trip.

COMING TRIPS:

Sunday, August 6th: To the headwaters of the Manawatu. Come along to explore the headwaters of our own river, the Manawatu in the Eastern Ruahine foothills north of Dannevirke. Leaves Izadium 6A.M.

Leader: Graham Whitcombe, app. 50cs

August 19 – 20th: A weekend amid the snow - join Bill Olsen for snowcraft instruction, ice axe and roping. Place to be decided later. Ring Bill Olsen early - phone 75.480

September 3rd: Armstrong Saddle - snow trip. Here's a chance for all those day trampers to get into the real snow tops, so come along and join in the fun and make this a real turn out. PLEASE WEAR WARM CLOTHES. Leaves Izadium 6 A.M. App. 75 cents.

Leader: Miles Stilwell 79.945.

Everyone should have now received the Club Trip List and members should be able to tramp in many new areas, so we hope to see a good muster on these trips. We visit such areas as Tararua Ranges, Ruahines and Kaimanawas. Some of the weekend trips are a little harder than those last year so if you wish to participate get out and get fit for these trips.

DAY TRIP – JULY 16th: A small party of 5 keen members left the end of Opawe Road bound for Maharahara in a heavy frost and overcast weather. Crossing a small stream we proceeded over an old cut track into rather scratchy bush with rather messy undergrowth. After about 3 hours we ran out of track and pushed our way up the steep ridge so reaching a fairly clear top with a light snow cover; we then proceeded south for about 20 minutes through mostly Horopito and reached a Helipad clearing and a forestry cage used for experimental work on browsing by noxious animals - no doubt about the thicker growth inside the cage. After a boil-up of melted snow we proceeded down another cut track back to the farmlands below us - four hours up and two hours back down.

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OHAU HUT - July 2nd: A day trip to Ohau Hut was made and enjoyed by 30 members who made their way via a muddy, well-used bush track. The party split on arriving at Ohau Hut; half made a short trip up Gable End Ridge, the other half took a river route to South Ohau Hut. The weather pleasant and all had an enjoyable day in some of N.Z.'s wealth of forest country. The route from Ohau Hut to farm can be done either by river (hardy types) or bush track, both routes being used on the homeward journey.

RANGIWAHIA TRACK: Would members please note that winter conditions have made passage of slip on the Rangiwahia Track rather dangerous; if necessary to use could members take extreme care on slip crossing. Work parties on the track have been suspended for the present, as a survey by Forest Service personnel is to be done on the condition of the slip and means of making a safe crossing. A party of keen members may be needed later in the year to work on this slip.

CLUB BADGES: The Secretary has received the Club badges and all members who paid for these should collect the same from the Secretary. Bruce Watson also has a price list of Dehydrated Foods for those long tramping trips - bulk buying can make quite a saving, so if you are interested contact Bruce.

The Club is now a member of the N.Z. National Film Library. A selection of excellent films of general interest to all trampers will be shown two or three times a year. A booking of the Everest Assault film is planned for the near future.

SAFETY IN THE MOUNTAINS: To continue our discussions of Safety in the Mountains we will discuss "Food and Cooking Gear", so we hope you will all join in and add your knowledge to the other minds.

The Hunt for the Snowman
"But Scientists, who ought to know
Assure us that they must be so. . . .
Oh! Let us never, never doubt
What nobody is sure about!"

Hilaire Belloc.

Reading for those wet winter nights -

"A River Rules my Life by Mona Anderson and
"Guide Aspiring" by Frank Alack.