

P.N. TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB (INC).

Hon. Secretary,
Heather Crabb 77-668

P.O.Box 1217,
Palmerston North.

NEWSLETTER 5/72

COMING EVENTS

27th April. CLUB NIGHT - ANNUAL SLIDE COMPETITION.

At the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., at 7:30 p.m.
Mr. John Cleland will be there to judge the three classes, all with a tramping or outdoor flavour:

(1) Flora & Fauna (2) Tramping subjects (3) Open

Bring along your masterpieces and win the BIG prize.

29th-30th April. MAUNGAEHUEHU HUT.

From the Ohakune Mountain Rd. this is an easy trip to the Maungaehuehu Hut on the Southern side of Mt. Ruapehu. A fit trip will also be arranged for those who wish it.

Grading: (Easy (Fit

Cost: \$2.50 approx. Depart Izadium: 6 a.m. Saturday.

Leader: Mike Bysouth, 79-702.

6th-7th May. Instead of the scheduled Upper Wanganui River trip a Fit trip will be arranged, possibly in the TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK.

11th May. COMMITTEE MEETING

7:30 p.m. at Bruce Lockwood's, 39 Limbrick St.

13th-14th May. ROCK CLIMBING, TITAHU BAY.

Leaving Izadium: 7 a.m. Saturday. Cost: About \$2.50 (depending on charges for hire gear.)

There will be only six places on this trip. If the number of applicants exceeds 6 the lucky ones will be chosen on the basis of interest shown in the past club activities. Discuss with Kevin what equipment you will need. Phone Kevin Pearce, 74-129 ext. 871. Names by Monday 8th May please.

20th-21st May. TOTARA FLATS.

A pleasant medium trip from Holdsworth Lodge near Masterton.

Grading: Medium. Cost: Approx. \$2.

Depart Izadium: 6 a.m. Saturday. Leader: Peter Darroch, 86-

824.

25th May. CLUB NIGHT.

7:30 p.m. at the Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., behind the West End Chemist. It is hoped to have a speaker who is very experienced on Tongariro National Park for those meeting.

27th-28th May. TE HEKENGU CROSSING.

Tukituki to Rangiwahia on the tops via Howletts – Te Hekenga - Mangamahue. Be prepared for typical terrible Ruahine weather. This trip will depend on transport being available. Anyone who can kindly assist please contact trip leader.

Grading: F.E. Cost: \$3.50 approx.

Depart Izadium: 7 p.m. Friday. Leader: Brad Owen, 83-467.

28th May. RANGIWAHIA.

Day trip to our little abode in the Ruahines.

Grading: Medium-Easy. Cost: \$1.50

Leader: Ian Hoare, 83-448 Depart Izadium: 6 a.m. Sunday.

TRIP LEADERS PLEASE NOTE: All trips will be under the jurisdiction of Trevor Stretton, John Williams and Ian Hoare. Leaders may contact them with any queries about trips. Also would leaders please contact John or Trevor one week before trips if unable to lead a trip. Their phone number is 84-925.

A.G.M.

At the Annual General Meeting of the P.N.T.M.C. the following officers were elected for the 1972/73 Executive Committee:

Patron: Mr. O. Jensen. President: Russell Johnson, phone 87-777

Vice President: Adrian Tanner, phone 79-586

Secretary: Heather Crabb, phone 77-668

Treasurer: Bruce Lockwood, phone 75-826

Committee:

Trip Schedule Sub-committee: Lawson Pither, 85-616, Trevor Stretton, 84-925, Ian Hoare, 83-448, John Williams, 84-925.

Social Secretary & Log Keeper: Sue Streeter, 76-060 was co-opted to the committee at the last committee meeting.

Gear Custodians: Trevor Stretton, John Williams.

Librarian: Adrian Tanner .

Owen Robinson, phone 88-512

Tom Easterbrook.

Tom has since tendered his resignation from the committee as he has been posted to the South Island. Thanks to Tom for his services to the Club.

Foundation member Russ Lacy has been elected to life membership.

REMINDER: Subscriptions are now due. Members are requested to pay promptly to ensure receiving their newsletters.

It was decided at the A.G.M. that subscriptions should be kept at the same level as last year. ie:

Senior: \$3.00 Junior (at School): \$1.50 Family: \$4.00

NOTICES:

TRIPS: If you have ideas on where you would like to go or the kind of trips you would like to do contact one of the trip schedule committee, Trevor Stretton, John Williams, Ian Hoare, or Lawson Pither. They would be pleased to have your ideas to help them compile the trip schedule.

FOOD The --- er ---decent publication "Food for tramping trips" can be purchased from the Secretary for the modest sum of 10c.

PAST TRIPS.

18th March. TOKOMARU CROSSING (or thereabouts)

Our 4.30 a.m. start ensured plenty of time for the trek involved across to Horseshoe Bend. Arrival at our starting point past Pahiatua met with disagreement from the farmer because of plans clashing with those of two hunters who had already gone in. Kevin suggested that the Crossing come out at Scotts Rd. which after discussion, was approved in an F.E. sort of way.

We soon romped into the local stream and proceeded to follow it to infinity or so it seemed. Varying encounters with waterfalls provided added stimulation to members,

but apart from that the river was navigable.

From water-bashing we went to bush-bashing, becoming a little too intimate with the dreaded bush-lawyer for my liking at times. Finally, arrival onto farmland provided an easy trek across to the top of Scotts Rd, and then down to Blacks Bridge and now along the long and winding Kahuterawa Road. A well appreciated lift was accepted from a local farmer near the end of the road, and he was able to drop us off in town. Altogether, we had a thoroughly "bashing" time.

Those taking part were: Kevin Pearce, Ian Hoare, Bruce Lockwood and Robin Paul.

EASTER TRIP TO TARAWERA.

Fourteen trip members are keeping very quiet about their Easter trip to Tarawera. Earthquakes and disturbances on the lake were reported soon after their departure, and it is understood there will be a full inquiry into the members' activities. Questions that are bound to be asked are "What were two of the members doing when they disappeared for three hours on the shores of Lake Rotomahana? What were three members doing perched on the end of a fallen tree in Lake Tarawera? Who or what are pole sitters? What weird rites were thirteen members observing on the summit of Tarawera and what was the fourteenth member up to during this time? Read your next newsletter for the truth.

Those involved were: Roger Lander, Kevin Pearce, Hilda and Alton England, Brad Owen, Sue Streeter, Heather Crabb, Pauline Gibbons, Raewyn Lees, Christine Batt, Adrienne Thompson, Jane Scrymgeour, Tony Croad and Peter Darroch.

Be sure to pay your subscription to ensure reading "The Truth about Tarawera" in your next newsletter.

7th-9th April. DUNDAS RIDGE.

Three trampers spent a leisurely two hours or so climbing the Schormann Track to Putara Hut on Friday night.

After a rather noisy night, thanks to the W.T.M.C. we set off at about 6 a.m. to knock off the Dundas Ridge. Things were going well until Kevin started to give the leader a fright by suggesting that we turn the trip into a genuine F.E. ordeal by listing Cattle Ridge under the accomplished feats of the weekend. After many consultations with the map I was partially convinced and at the top of Dundas we decided to give it a go.

Unfortunately (or fortunately from the point of view of the blisters on the back of my foot) the fog closed in and we had to abandon the Cattle Ridge idea after scrambling up and down a leatherwood infested slope in vain search for a ridge leading to Bannister. So we trudged onto Arete and then Pukematawai.

At this stage of the trip we came across a couple of the disputed signposts that were intended to mark how far away Arete Bivouac and Dundas hut were. After discussing several battle plans we finally decided upon photographing them and left with mutters of "railing around the Tararua Ranges."

After descending into the Mangahao we calculated Avalanche Flats Hut to be only a quarter of an hour away. Then we spent about three quarters of an hour searching for the hut so we slept out and hoped the drizzle would go away, which it did and in the morning we set out in bright sunshine for Harris Creek.

Ten minutes later... "Well leader!" "Well..... you see, it's rather harder to find Avalanche Flats Hut...."

After lunch in Harris Creek we climbed back onto the range and back to the Schormann track via Ngapuketura. We arrived at the road end at 6.30 and left soon afterwards to see a clear silhouette of the ranges from the comfort of the car.

Trip members: Wesley Dalefield, Kevin Pearce and David Hays.

17th April. RANGIWAHIA ROUND TRIP. (M).

What with approaching exams, and the lack of interest and transport, both the Pohangina-Tamaki Crossing and Triangle Hut trips were cancelled. However, after last minute discussions the trip was planned for Sunday – Rangiwahia – Mangahua – Dead

Man's Track.

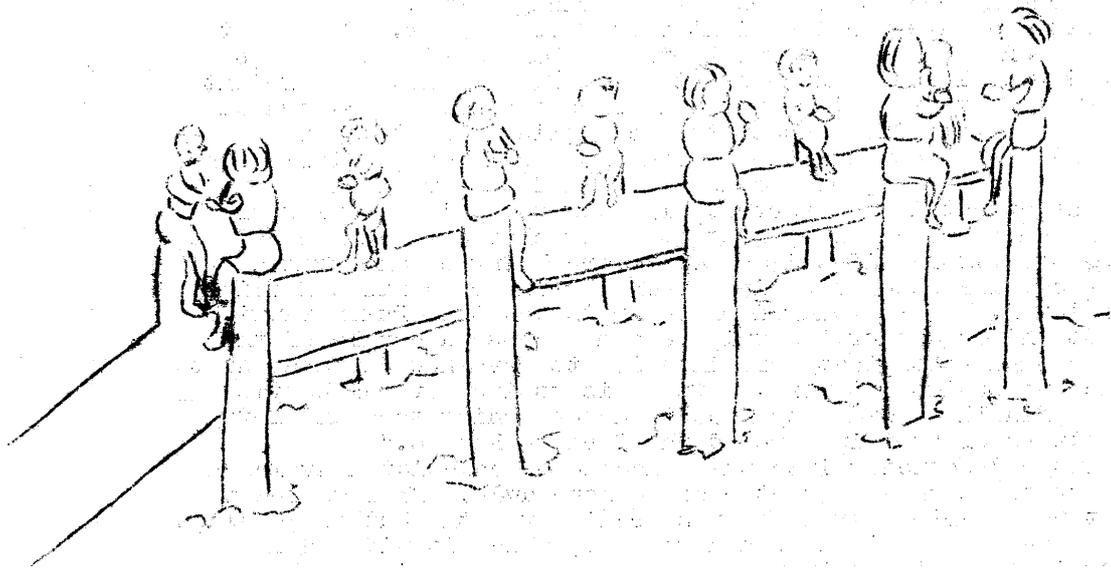
The party left the car park at the Te Parapara road end at 8 a.m. and after a leisurely walk up the ski track reached Rangi Hut in the reasonable time of 1¼ hours. Two deerstalkers in residence kindly offered us a billy of freshly boiled water. One of them had been carrying a Japanese 'leak-proof' motorcycle battery in his pack on the trip and on Friday night but on removing it at the hut discovered that it had tipped over and reduced a \$60.00 Everest Mummy Bag to.....! We learned from them that there were five stalkers in Triangle Hut and others in the vicinity.

On leaving the hut, we proceeded up the ridge in glorious sunshine to Mangahuia (about five and a half thousand feet.) What a sight with the whole of the Oroua Valley before us. A minute or two down the range we dropped into a saddle and with the time at 12.00 o'clock boiled the billy beside the small tarn there.

At 1.30 we were off again, down a snow-grass ridge and onto "Dead Man's Track", and at 5.00 o'clock we reach the car. The leatherwood was rather scratchy on the upper part of the track, but on the whole a most enjoyable trip.

Less than an hour later, a violent electrical storm swept through Hunterville and the surrounding area -- just as well for us that it didn't arrive a little earlier!

Those on the trip were: Raewyn Lees - Leatherwood basher, Pauline Gibbons -- Tracker, Peter Croad -- Fire Chief, Chris Dench -- Scroggin man, Russell Johnson (leader) - Boiler's Mate 3rd class.



Pole Sitters at Tarawera.