



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING
& MOUNTAINEERING CLUB (INC)
P.O. Box 1217 Palmerston North

NEWSLETTER

8/73
Hon. Secretary,
Kevin Pearce, 74-129
ext. 871.
Membership Convenor:
Heather Crabb, 77-668.

COMING EVENTS.

30th August. CLUB NIGHT.

At the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., at
7:30 p.m.

The P.N.T.M.C. Debating Club will be meeting the Massey

Alpine Club's team in a lively altercation "Trampers are not the Men They Used To Be."

SUPPER DUTIES: Keith Potter, Ian Hoare, Brent Johnston, Beryl Kennard, John
Knox, Raewyn Lees.

1st-2nd September. EGMONT CLIMB.

This is an ideal time to try out your skills of the past Snowcraft courses.

Bring full snow gear.

Grading:	Fit	Cost:	\$4.00 approx.
Leader:	Sue Streeter.	Names to:	phone 84-925.

8th-9th September. HIKURANGI -- CROW HUT.

A steady climb through beautiful Ruahine tramping country.

Grading:	Fit	Cost:	\$1.80 approx.
Depart Izadium:	6.00 a.m. Sat.	Names to:	Ian Hoare, 83-448

9th September. CROW HUT.

Grading:	Medium.	Cost:	\$1.80
Depart Izadium:	6:30 a.m. Sunday.	Leader:	Chris Dench, phone

74-913.

A beautiful trip in the Ruahines.

12th September. COMMITTEE MEETING.

At 378 Botanical Rd., at 7:30 p.m.

15th-16th September. RENATA HUT.

This is a medium trip up into the Tararuas from behind Waikanae.

Grading:	Medium	Cost:	\$1.50
Depart Izadium:	6:30 a.m. Sat.	Names to:	84-925.

15th-16th September. SNOWCRAFT I B.

A trip for those who have missed out on the other Snowcraft trips.

Names to Lindsay Sandes, phone 82-930.

16th September. VEHICLE WORK PARTY.

Willing helpers are required at 28 Carroll St. to help with work on the club vehicle.

Donations are still being accepted for this worthy cause. Hurry, hurry, hurry! It is your last chance to have your name recorded on a panel of the bus for posterity. 50c or more will secure you a 6 inch square.

17th September. ST JOHN AMBULANCE COURSE.

Do you know what to do in an emergency? Here is your opportunity to learn first aid. St John Ambulance are running a course at their Cuba St. Headquarters commencing 17th September. There will be 6 lectures; people will be required to attend at least 5. Cost \$3.50 includes a 250 page text book. For further information phone the secretary, Mr. J. Doolan, phone 83-934 or Heather Crabb, 77-667.

22nd-23rd September. COPPERMINE -- MANGAATUA RIVER.

A pleasant stroll up Coppermine Creek to the hut, then over to the next valley and out.

Grading:	Easy.	Cost:	\$1.00
Depart Izadium:	7 a.m. Sat.	Leader:	Judith Domney,

phone 72-847.

27th September. CLUB NIGHT.

At the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., at 7:30 p.m.

SUPPER DUTIES: Tim Short, Raymond Mills, Vivien Mawson.

29th-30th September. FIELDS TRACK -- VOSSELER HUT.

A medium trip in the Tararuas and a climb of Mt. Hector to the Combined Tramping Clubs' War Memorial.

Grading:	Medium	Cost:	\$1.50
Depart Izadium:	6.00 a.m. Sat.	Leader:	Allan Stretton,

phone 24-303.

CHRISTMAS TRIP

It is expected that the Christmas trip to the Nelson Lakes area will leave on 27th December. This is to be confirmed in the next newsletter and it is expected that all persons whose names are in will finally be advised during the next month of the definite details.

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NOTICES

NEW MEMBERS

A welcome is extended to:
Paul Gandell, 37 Windsor St., Palmerston North.
Pam Dicks, 171 Monrad St., Palmerston North.
John Newton, 4 Graham Place, Palmerston North.
Eric Short, 100A Quebec St., Kingston, Wellington.

SUMMER TRIP SCHEDULE.

Suggestions for the coming schedule are required as soon as possible. Anyone wanting to suggest any particular trips please contact Russell Johnson, Trevor Stretton or Tim Short.

SONG BOOKS.

Peter Croad has available a limited number of University of Canterbury Students' Association Songbooks for the very reasonable price of 50c. They include such notable songs as "The Wild West Show," "Shares in the Very Best Companies," "Caviare" and other less extroverted songs (80 odd songs altogether.) Peter will be at the Club Night on 30th August.

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STANDARD PACK EQUIPMENT FOR ALL TRAMPERS AND HUNTERS

FIREARMS AND HUNTING

P.C. Logan and L.H. Harris. 80c

This small book covers all aspects of the handling rule of firearms, produced for the National Mountain Safety Council of New Zealand.

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In the Mountains of New Zealand. 50c.

Standard survival textbook covering all aspects of survival in the open.

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PAST TRIPS.

9th-10th December. SOUTHERN CROSSING.

One Friday night five stupids left the comfort of home and slogged their way up to Field's Hut. The night was spent under a fly in teaming rain.

At first light on Saturday we were off again climbing up onto the tops, stopping for lunch at Kime Hut. The weather now clearing (congratulations, leader) the fearless five made it up onto Mt. Hector, then over the Beehives and up to Mt. Aston and down to Cedric's, Alpha Hut, later up to Hell's Gate and down the backside first Omega Track.

A pleasant night was spent alongside the Taurenikau River. Sunday saw our thoughtful leader saying that a train to Palmerston North went through Woodside Station at 1 p.m., so after a mad record time over Mt. Reeves and out to the country settlement we found that the train didn't leave until 7 p.m. Anyhow, eight hours later five stupids arrived back at Palmerston North.

Trip members: Kevin Pearce, Ian Hoare, John McFarlane, Chris Dench, Tim Short.

17th-18th March. FULL OTAKI (Or was it?)

Three bods swimming up a flooded Ohau River on a moonless Friday night. The leader spending more time below water than above. Finally reaching South Ohau Hut at 1 a.m.

Saturday saw us off to an early start with a sprint up Yeates 500 and along the ridge dropping down into the Otaki River headwaters, the whole day being spent following the river down past the upper Otaki Hut whereby finally reaching Waitewaewae Hut soon after dark, feeling very tired and hungry.

On Sunday after abandoning pack floating down the gorge we lazed and slept around until noon and strode out to the forks with the daisy pickers.

Trip Members: Sue Streeter, Keith Margrain, Tim Short.

MARCHANT RIDGE.

A cold miserable morning on arrival at the Kaitoke Shelter. After about an hour Dobson's Hut, with the rest of the day spent traversing the Marchant Ridge and then dropping down into the Tauherenikau River via Omega Track.

The night was spent at the new Tutawai Hut. The following day we met up with the F.E. party and headed back to Kaitoke via the Tauherenikau River.

Trip Members: Mary-Ann Whitehead, Shirley Whitehead, Tim Short.

DEERFORD – TUNUPO

A brisk Sunday morning on arriving at the woolshed. After about 30 minutes we came upon the Hermitage Lodge where we had lunch. From there we climbed upwards towards Tunupo where one member became lame and was forced to turn back. But about two hours later, where we were entering exposed conditions the weather became bad enough for us to turn back also, even though this was an enjoyable day's outing.

Trip Members: John Ogilvy, Pauline Gibbons, Ian Haore, Lindsay Sandes, Tim Short.

Not mentioning any names but leaders who bring bad weather should have prayer flags tied around their necks.

9th-10th June. PIKERS' PARADISE (MITRE FLATS.)

It was a brisk chilly morning on arrival at "The Pines" at the road end.

With our mountain pacer soon striding ahead in leaps and bounds we arrived at the hut at 11:30 a.m., where he slithered into his sleeping bag, (PIKER), the remainder following at 1 p.m.

Sunday saw us with a slog up to Mitre Peak in brilliant sunshine (good Planning,) when after a short snack we split up with two bods heading back down the same route while K.P. and leader traversed Table Ridge and down to Cow Creek Hut. We arrived back at "The Pines" just after dark, with Little Red Riding Hood whom we ran into on the track.

Trip Members: Stuart McLauchlan, Bruce Lockwood, Kevin Pearce, Tim Short.

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30th June-1st July. MANGAHAO DAM --PUKETURA TRACK -- HARRIS CREEK.

The four of us got off to an early start (nice change) on a cool cloudy morning. The track (as we had a little trouble finding it) is across the dam and then around the side of the lake for about 100 yards. A marked track then starts just at the edge of the bushline.

After crossing two streams we had a pleasant tramp up a steep spur. At the top of the spur on some "leatherwood tops" we met some rather exuberant trampers going in the opposite direction. The big question after leaving them was whether the one with the yellow parka was a male or female (often a problem with trampers.)

Our descent into a tributary of Harris Creek was made down a near vertical hillside of leatherwood (a good experience for a Venturer out on his first trip with a Tramping Club.) Two hours later we reached Harris Creek Hut. The evening was spent watching a candle burning and an atheist and a believer exchanging views. The main content of the conversation was:

Believer: "But I know because it says so in the Bible."

Atheist: "Look here. It's been proven by science that that's a load of rubbish."

Then came a list of facts.....

On Sunday we met the day party and then tramped out.

Trip members: Peter Mew, Glenn Dixon, Paul Gandell, Peter Baxter (leader.)

14th-15th July. POURANGAKI CYANIDE TRIP.

On a brisk, cool, exhilarating Sunday morning an odd dozen trampers found themselves at the Rangī road end. On arrival two robust, keen idiots ran off up the track. The more stable members followed at a more respectable speed.

Within the space of 1½ hours everyone eventually arrived at their destination. Again the keen, robust idiots tore off up into the wild blue yonder in search of Mangahua. After a long and arduous slog Mangahua was finely conquered by the notorious East Face.

The retreat lay via several devious routes. For some, the lure of retreat lay down the bulldozed track; for others the stream, or the track. A compulsory ducking was in order for Tim; consequently they arrived in a rather wet state back at the car park.

Those who participated were: Keith Margrain, Chris Dench, Tim Short, Ross Goodman, Kevin Pearce, Pam Dicks, Anne Clarke, Owen and Royce Mills, Paul Gandell, Robert Campbell, Susan Margetts, Glenn Dixon.

21st-22nd July. RUAPEHU SNOW(?)CRAFT I A.

Our great leader was emphatic "Don't be late!" He himself arrived at the Izadium at a.m., a full 4 minutes late with some excuse about having to collect some ice axes from the other side of town. However, our benevolent leader was not the last to arrive. Two persons, who shall not be named to protect them from mob law, arrived even later, even though TIME was SHORT and we had a long drive ahead.

Ice on the road provided interesting driving conditions and although there were no demonstrations of the spectacular triple spin-roll and flip we did have a go at see-if-you-can-stop-on-the-ice-before-hitting-the-motorcyclist-who-has-just-fallen-off. We could.

There was no snow below the N.Z. Alpine Club Hut and what snow there was higher up tended to be rather icy. Saturday afternoon was spent practising some of the more basic skills. However, snow conditions were not good for such activities. The real test came Saturday night. We were sharing the hut with two Wellington men, one a wrestler. Competitions involving various feats of brawn, contortion and balance were held. Circumnavigation of a table, turning headstands into handstands, limbo, bottle placing, reconstruction of chastity rings and chin ups were among the various activities which entertained and bruised our band.

Sunday dawned misty and we set off for the higher slopes but only got as far as the Restful Rock Shelter before turning back because of wind and ice. Although snow conditions were disappointing the trip was an enjoyable one.

Those taking part were Lindsay Sandes, Kevin Pearce, Keith Margrain, Ina Te Wiata, Janice Rockell, Eric Short, Mary-Ann Whitehead, Christine Batt, Trevor Stretton, Tim Short, Neil Wanden, and Ian Hoare.

27th-28th July. THE MANGAHAO CONSERVATION EXERCISE.

Tim Short, Chris Dench, Adrienne and Bruce Watson and Kevin Pearce slept soundly on the night of Sunday 29th July. Their consciences were clear; they had done their duty; they had done their bit for conservation week.

Our pious band started Saturday morning. Having rescued a car from the lake bed (dry) they staggered up the river carrying a great burden -- one large rubbish hole and 4 lesser ones. The large hole was deposited at Harris Creek Hut and 12 sugar bags of rubbish were collected from the environs of the hut. Three further holes were placed on three nearby river flats popular as campsites. On Sunday the remaining hole was taken by express to Avalanche Flats where the hut and environs were tidied.

On the way home there was nearly a great tragedy. Tim foolishly jumped down into the new hole at Harris Creek Hut and couldn't get out. Sadly we began arrangements to burn and bash him -- the normal treatment for tin cans. Fortunately Tim was able, in one last great effort, to escape from the hole using a bridging technique he had learned on the recent rock climbing course. Thus Tim was saved and we rejoiced as we cantered homeward.

Work parties can be and are fun when everyone gets stuck in as they did on this trip. Particularly noteworthy worthy efforts of Chris in digging holes in rocky soil and of Tim and ferreting out great quantities of rubbish. (Tim did miss a 2 cent piece on one river flat!

11th-12th August. RANGIWAHIA SKIFIELD TRIP.

Once upon a time there were twelve fit trampers, well, nearly fit, tramping confidently up to Rangiwahia hut. It took nearly 2½ hours for the whole group to get there. After a refreshing cup of tea and lunch we decided to go to Mangahuaia to try out our snowcrafting. First signs of snow ended in a riot when Mud Sitter was bombarded with snow. So what does she do, run and then disappears to be found sitting in a pile of mud.

The ice was then broken in a small pond by our one and only Great Purple Hairy Woman when she tested it to see how strong it was. Result: one wet leg.

An argument on who was to sleep on the top was soon figured out; the four girls, Speed Racer and Bambi (leader.) Tea was made by some superb cooks; a mixture of things, one runny meat loaf and a multi-flavoured instant pudding that didn't set.

Settling down to bed at about eight o'clock a number of jokes were told which got rid of Bambi. He decided the wilderness was better company. An hour of peace was disturbed by a scream from below, "Who bit my finger?" followed by a cackle of laughter. Early morning was again disturbed by someone calling "Daddy!"

Mouth was first up and he decided he'd make a drink which later turned out to be a mixture of two different soups. Bambi told us of his experience of sleeping outside and how an opossum or fellow Bambi had licked his face.

Before tramping back into civilisation the fitter of the twelve trampers went exploring but quickly retreated back to the hut when the wind nearly blew them away. One more river to cross before tramping across a paddock to the minibus, so we had something to drink. A stone throwing contest was formed: two girls and two boys. Then when they got tired some "nitwit" stone thrower threw an extra large rock into the river near where everyone was standing. Stone thrower was in for a drenching, one billy of water was tipped over his head while four strong people held him down.

We arrived back in Palmerston around half past five.

Members: Sorry fools, no last names will be mentioned.

Stuart:	Thumb Eater (Dracula)
Adrienne:	Great Purple Hairy Woman.
Barbara:	Welch Wizard
Dick:	Speed Racer
Tim	Bambi
Jan:	Cancer Stick
John:	Sleeping Beauty
Raymond:	Rat
Peter:	Mouth
Mark:	Carrot Top
Alan:	Rock-a-Fella
Sandra:	Mud Sitter (all rights reserved)

RANGI FIRST CLASS CON?..... TRIP

by BIG ERIC THE WHITE

On the way to Rangi it was seen that there was snow up on those pimples that the natives of the area call the censored!! Ranges. Snow is supposed to be cold and this was confirmed when some ignoramus opened the car door to open the gates on the road to Rangi Track. After a minor delay both cars arrived at the beginning of Rangi track, where it was even colder than at the gates (maybe a few feet higher.) Most felt like staying in the cars for a while but "Struth" took his steel glove out of his pocket, (I'd advise him not to sit down on it -- he may do himself an injury) and dragged us out into the cold windy waste of Rangi. When all were ready (or at least most) we headed in the general direction of the wild and white patched yonder. The track this day had many dangers and terrors, ready to jump out and gobble you up. At the beginning there was a rustling behind us (an opossum.) On hearing this sound "Struth" took out his steel glove, ripped it in half and put one half on each boot (to make toe caps) headed into the bush and kicked the poor b-g-r's head in. (Good on you "Struth," a real conservation minded person.) When "Struth" came back our gallant leader, Pacifist (refer back to newsletter 6/73) moved in to inspect "Struth's" handiwork with a hungry look on his face and.... (need I say what happened next?)

In the party there were two little goblins who tried very unsuccessfully to race ahead and stop for the rest of the party and then walk slowly in the hope of slowing the party down but when the goblins' mothers got wind of this, well.... need I say anymore?

The first bit of work done was by Pacifist and Struth in doing something to the swing bridge. (N.B. There is a speed restriction on this bridge of 30 M.P.H. If this "Bye by law" is not upheld legal action will take place. THANKS.)

When everyone arrived at the hut (goblins included) we started the work in digging a new rubbish hole, erecting "Rubbish" and "Toilet" signs, and sweeping out the hard floor for oiling. At 12 o'clock lunch began and work stopped for most. After lunch Optimist (the male of its species) and Bivian La Moue (the female of its species) headed in the direction of Mangahua, good for B.O. whilst they were leaving Pacifist and that....? (good joker) painted the hut floor, and themselves, with a mixture of boiled linseed oil and mineral turpentine. (What a mess.) As the floor was being painted "Struth" had climbed onto the hut roof (a great bit of mountaineering there) and fixed the chimney. As all work was finished B. & O. arrived back and then began a lot of brief snow fights with the two goblins getting very carried away.

14-59 hours we headed back to the cars. This time it was very dangerous because some idiot had gone and set his traps on the side of the track.

Those taking part in this work and conservation (conserving energy mainly) trip into the cold and snowy what's their name ranges were:

Vivien Mawson:	Bivien la Moue	B
Keith Margrain:	Optimist	O
Glenn Dixon:	Pacifist "The" leader	P
Russell Johnson:	"Struth"	S
Judith Johnson:	Mrs. Struth - male goblin's mother	
Ross Johnson (Male)		
Lyndal Hoare (Female)	goblins	
Gaye Hoare:	girls goblin's mother	
Glenn Osborne:	assistant roof fixer upper.	
	chief floor sweeper.	
Peter Darragh:	quiet minority.	

AROUND TOWN WITH SUE.

An antique lady member of the Tramping Club, who prefers to be known as a demure young thing, was seen recently being escorted by four members of the club and three others to the Regent Theatre to celebrate her 21st plus plus, or 100th minus minus birthday. (Actually she has been 75 for the last three years.)

For this occasion she walk a skirt so short that her shoulders felt cold. The audience took their seats after standing to the tune,

We are crazy,
We are crazy,
We are nuts,
We are nuts,
Happy little morons,
Happy little morons, etc.

melodiously sung by Elli. Those taking part in this F.E. exercise were: Karyn Bishop, Elli Schlee, Sue Streeter, Heather Crabb, Ruth and John Titchener, Geoffrey Barnes, Glenn Osborne.

Brickbat of the week: to the lady who was seen driving the wrong way up a one way street in search of a man!

4th-5th August. SNOW CRAFT II. MT. EGMONT.

KEVIN

PIKED