



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

NEWSLETTER

2/74

Hon. Secretary,
Kevin Pearce, 74-129
Extension : 860.
Membership Convenor:
Heather Crabb, 77-668.

COMING EVENTS.

28th FEBRUARY CLUB NIGHT:

C'mon folks and see what the Christmas Trippers did down in the Nelson Lakes area. They will be showing their slides at the Society of Friends' Hall, 227 College Street, at 7:30 p.m.

ALSO: Bring your own slides too showing your past exploits and deeds of valour – (one must show these C.T.'s how it's done.)

Supper Duties: Lawson Pither, Michael Russell, James Read

NOTE: Would trip members please have the exact cost of EACH PART of their trip with them.

2-3 MARCH INTERMEDIATE BUSHCRAFT – medium

ADVANCED BUSHCRAFT -- Fitness Essential

Feel lost in this chaotic world? Learn to find yourself. A must even for the "experienced". Primuses (Primii?) forbidden.

Leader: Kevin Pearce
Names to 84925

9-10 MARCH POHANGINA

Save energy, wash your socks with a friend on one of these river rambles.

Full Pohangina River – FE

Leader Keith Margrain 79303
Cost : \$2.40

9th Pohangina Saddle – Easy

Names to Keith Margrain 79303
Cost : \$2.40

10th of Pohangina River – Easy

Names to Keith Margrain 79303
Cost : \$1.30

13th MARCH COMMITTEE MEETING

At Russell Johnson's, 11 Lifford Place at 7:30 p.m., or 7:45 p.m. or 7:50 p.m.

16-17 MARCH SAREX

Club Search and Rescue Exercise. Only those persons available for search and rescue work should go on this trip. If held over two days we will return to town for Saturday night.

Phone : Russell Johnson 87 777

23-24 KAPAKAPANUI -- NGATIAWA – Medium

Expeditions to the interior of the south-west Tararuas.

Phone : John Williams 84 925

Costs : \$2.68

28th MARCH -- ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Palmerston North Tramping & Mountaineering Club will be held on Thursday 28th March, 1974 at 7:30 p.m. in the Society of Friends' Church Hall, 227 College Street, Palmerston North. Nominations for the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Auditor, not less than five committee members and Patron are required.

A nomination form appears at the end of this newsletter. Nominations are to be handed to the Secretary before 7:30 p.m. on 28th March. Proposer, Secunder and Nominee must all be full members of the Club, i.e. have had their applications for membership approved by the Committee.

Supper Duties: Keith Potter, Helen Peek, Janice Rockell

30-31 MARCH NGAURUHOE – Fit & Medium

A good opportunity to dry those Pohangina socks. This trip may have to be altered if the mountain is not open this weekend.

Leader : John Williams 84 925

Cost : \$5.00 approx.

6-7 APRIL RANGIWAHIA HUT -- Easy

Commanding a magnificent view over the "Grass grows greener in" country, this luxurious five-star, executive styled manor, boasts the very latest in oil-saving central heating. A weekend in this tranquil luxury is a must for every lazy trumper.

Leader : Glenn Dixon 83 649

Cost : \$2.20

26th APRIL -- ANNUAL SLIDE COMPETITION

Look over those slides now and pick out your best efforts to make this an entertaining and interesting evening. This year there will be two classes:-

Novice : Those who have not entered in a previous Club photo competition.

Veteran: all other club members.

All photos are to have a tramping flavour. There will be 3 groups.

- (1) Flora and Fauna
- (2) People
- (3) Scenery

There will also be a small charge of \$0.05 per photo or slide which will be split between the winners.

Coloured or black and white prints will also be accepted for judging.

NOTICES:

Addresses: A number of members have either shifted to different flats or moved away from Palmerston North or, heaven help us, got married! Would you please send your new addresses (and names) to Heather Crabb, 3 Clyde Crescent and spare her any grey hairs wondering where to send your newsletters.

"GOING TO ENGLAND?" What's the tramping like in England and what facilities exist in the National Parks? Oh! and what about all those historic buildings. The P.N. Social Group of the Youth Hostels Association invite YOU to come along to the slide show being given by James Read on MONDAY 4th MARCH at Collingson & Cunninghame's Staff Rooms (King Street entrance) beginning at 8.00 p.m.

We know several are contemplating a Pommiland Peregrination, so come along and give P.N.T.M.C.'s real live Pom some support.

SLIDES WANTED.

Our real live Pom will be returning to the U.K. temporarily at the end of the year and wants to borrow slides of club trips depicting himself, to have copies made. If you have some, please phone them at P.N. 84 925. If anybody wants accommodation overnight in the U.K. he can probably help with addresses in the West of England.

PAST TRIPS:

A Middle Crossing of the Tararuas 16-18th November

Originally this trip was meant to go via Plateau Stream but because of flooded rivers a variation in the route was made. We ground up to Fields Friday night and set up the fly on a secret site above the track some distance before the hut. We then began to exert a quite unintentioned, but never-the-less very powerful siren effect on passing trampers, luring them from the broad straight path into the trackless wilderness. Whether the attraction was caused by our voices or by Keith's after-shave we were unable to determine. Some of our victims seemed near hysteria and none were in the least amused.

On Saturday we proceeded to Neill Forks via West Peak and Mangahuka and again erected our fly. It is necessary at this point to relate a rather disturbing incident. Tim was sleeping at the end of the fly and the rain was tending to blow onto him. Instead of absorbing this unwarranted moisture with his sleeping bag, thereby keeping his companions dry, Tim elected to sleep inside his sleeping bag cover!

This, of course, meant that the moisture now tended to run onto his companions. Such behaviour is not in keeping with traditional F.E. selflessness and stoicism.

Rain and high winds greeted us on Sunday. Kevin Pearce and Trevor Bissell left us and returned to the car at Otaki Forks by way of the Neill-Winchcombe Ridge and fully enjoyed the bracing conditions on the tops. Brad Owen, Tim Short and Keith Margrain travelled out to Holdsworth Lodge via the Cone Ridge. An enjoyable trip.

Putara-Haukura 5-6th January

It is sufficient to record that the trip took place with Ian Hoare, Kevin Pearce and Allan Stretton as trip members. It was interesting to view the area of the Balfour search in fine weather.

BARBECUE -- Thirty people of various shapes, sizes, ages and sexes enjoyed themselves at a Barbecue which was held on Waitangi Day at Himatangi Beach.

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19-21 JANUARY -- ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

ROUND THE RANGES: Hikurangi Range, Hawkesbay Ridge, Broken Ridge, Rangi Saddle, Waikamaka River, Otukota Hut, Mokai Patea Range were just a few of the many named places taken in on our jaunt round the N.W. Ruahines, add to this good weather and good company and you've the ingredients of an enjoyable weekend.

The first day 13 hrs of which were spent tramping, found us in the opinion of one "doomed" on several occasions. Waterfall Creek Hut was a welcome sight that night and as the clouds scurried across the sky and wind sang in the trees, we were contented in our little abode. Next morning the sun beat down as we strolled up Rangi Creek then down the Waikamaka stopping to pay our respects at the various temples on the way. In Otukota Hut we were shaken by a cullers story of his three years in the same block with one day off a month. Monday saw us top the Rolling Mokai Patea Range and amble down to the Kawhatau from where after a hot shower under a black hose, we returned home.

Party Members: Ian Hoare, Keith Margrain, Kevin Pearce and Glen Dixon.

It would be a good idea in the future if trips entering the ranges from Kawhatau obtained permission from Mr A?C. Watkins, Upper Kawhatau Phone 503 Mangaweka, the local farmer, to cross his land beforehand.

A PARTIAL FULL – OTAKI 25-27th JANUARY

I, and many others, had always considered Keith to be a 'nice' boy. Imagine the horror of discovering a vicious streak of sadism in him! We were on our way into Ohau one Friday night:-

"Pray, honourable Sir, how far is it to Ohau Hut? Forsooth we are footsore and weary and our lantern grows dim."-- the request from a party of fellow travellers.

"Why Sirs, not 10 minutes more." replied Keith, even though it was at least 25 minutes more to the hut. We hurried on, so fearful of the just revenge that must surely come that we reached South Ohau 2½ hours after leaving our car. However the hut was not to provide a haven for in the log we read to our shame of a party taking the wrong spur of Pukematawai!

Saturday 2.00 p.m. saw us at Waitewaewae. It was cloudy and rather cool for gorge travel. We thought of what Dick was getting away with and decided to pike. We followed the track to the Plateau and then descended Plateau Stream, eventually arriving at Penn Creek. We hoped that no one would notice the gap in our route even though it was considerably longer than 18 minutes.

Tim and Co. were in residence in the hut. On Sunday we descended the lower part of the gorge and were driven by fairy godmother MaryAnn back to our car at the Pike Bridge. Those taking part were Keith Margrain and KEVIN PEARCE.

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P. D. C. "SPORTS"

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MANGAHOE BUSHCRAFT COURSE 9-10 FEBRUARY

A Bushcraft Course seemed a good idea to the 11 participants who set off under John's leadership.

The party drove up to the dam and then walked up to Harris Creek. Conditions were ideal -- for a survival course that is -- as torrential rain tested one's ability to keep dry.

Two flies were erected, but with 11 people, James slept half outside with a stone under his back. Karyn did her bit to aid Mother Nature, by providing an excellent repast for the local sandflies.

On Sunday Stuart swears there was an effort to poison him, by means of goat's milk cheese. Other members of the party seemed hardly more enthusiastic for this particular delicacy.

For many, it was their introduction to packfloating. John led the more experienced ones down-stream for all the world looking like a duck with her brood of young. Two rugged individualists in the part had to try and do things their own way. Doreen tried filling her pack with water so that it provided better ballast, and with this novel keel, she went down river without mishap. James was -- as ever -- less successful. He went downstream O.K., but with his head half underwater and his feet and backside in the air. John had to go and recover him after Karyn commented, "James is having difficulty,"-- the understatement of the year. He felt like Uncle Jim, who was, 'Down in the duckpond learning how to swim' according to the old Music Hall song.

We've seen much varied reading matter on trips, but Virgil's

Aenias surely hadn't appeared until then. Lady C is as nothing compared with it, but just because it is 'A Classic' -- what ever that means -- sensors don't touch it.

"O ye of little faith" is surely an apt description of T.B. Esq. The outrageous fellow actually brought an inner tube of a tyre, lacking faith presumably in packfloating.

Participants: John Williams (leader), Karyn Bishop, Doreen Coenders, Pam Dicks, Christine Baxter, Michael Branney, John Knox, Stuart Taylor, Trevor Bissell, Julian Dalefield, James Read.

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NOMINATION FORM -- P.N.T.M.C.

I hereby accept nomination
for the position of PRESIDENT / VICE PRESIDENT / SECRETARY / TREASURER /
COMMITTEE MEMBER (Delete those not applicable)

Proposed by

Seconded by

Nominee, proposer and seconder must be full members of the Club.