



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

## NEWSLETTER

6/75

Hon. Secretary,  
Trevor Bissell, 71-955  
Membership Enquiries  
Peter Croad, 80-284 (evenings)

### COMING EVENTS

#### 26<sup>th</sup> JUNE CLUB NIGHT

Thursday 7.30 p.m. in the Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street.  
Mr Pearce, Mr Short and Mr Bissell will talk and show slides on their Christmas trip to the Olivines near Queenstown.

Super Duties    Martin Speller tea towels  
                          Ross Meder  
                          Janet Maessen

#### 28-29<sup>th</sup> JUNE MIKIMIKI – MITRE FLATS

A new area for the Club in the Eastern Tararuas. No tracks but the bush is easy-going beech forest.

Leader : Trevor Bissell Phone 71-955  
Grading: Medium  
Cost    : \$2.50  
Depart : Super Save Car Park 6.00 a.m.

#### 5-6<sup>th</sup> JULY EGMONT

Dawson Falls, Mangahume Hut, Lake Dive, Auroa Road end is the route. This involves some travel above the bush line so bring overtrousers and mittens.

Leader : Trevor Stretton Phone 84-925  
Grading: Medium  
Cost    : \$6.00  
Depart : Super Save Car Park 6.00 a.m.

#### 6<sup>th</sup> JULY DIGGERS

It has been alleged that the forest has been flattened in this area so that it can be more easily protected. This trip to the South Western Ruahines will therefore be of an investigatory nature. A good trip for those new to tramping.

Leader : Kevin Pearce Phone 76-198  
Grading: Fit  
Cost : \$2.00  
Depart : Super Save Car Park 7.00 a.m.

11-13<sup>th</sup> JULY SOUTHERN CROSSING

The Southern, as it is fondly known, is a classic. It is, of course, in the Tararuas. A good torch and spare batteries are required as well as full storm gear.

Leader : Glenn Dixon Phone 83-649  
Grading: Fit  
Cost : \$4.00  
Depart : Super Save Car Park 6.30 p.m. FRIDAY

12-13<sup>th</sup> JULY FIELDS HUT

Follow in the footsteps of the fitties and aspire to the heights. Western Tararuas near Otaki.

Leader : Kevin Pearce Phone 76-198  
Grading: Easy  
Cost : \$2.00  
Depart : Super Save Car Park.

17<sup>th</sup> JULY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 7.30 p.m. at Trevor Bissell's Flat 6, 36 Pascal St.

19-20<sup>th</sup> JULY POHANGINA SADDLE

The search for the source of the Pohangina is expected to reach a successful conclusion on this trip. Bring overtrousers and mittens. Eastern Ruahines.

Leader : Kevin Pearce Phone 76-198  
Grading: Easy  
Cost : \$2.50  
Depart : Super Save Car Park 6.00 a.m.

19-20<sup>th</sup> NGAMOKO CROSSING

The Ruahines answer to the "Southern". Storm gear and navigational instruments are required.

Leader : Trevor Bissell Phone 71-955  
Grading: Fit  
Cost : \$4.00  
Depart : Super Save Car Park 6.00 a.m.

20<sup>th</sup> JULY DEERFORD TRACK

A chance for those new to tramping and for those out of training. A visit to the South Western Ruahines to meet the Ngamoko crossing team. Climb Mount Toka!

Leader : Kevin Pearce Phone 76-198  
Grading: Easy  
Cost : \$1.50  
Depart : Super Save Car Park 7.00 a.m.

26-27<sup>th</sup> JULY SNOWCRAFT 1A

This is the first of a series of instructional courses in the winter schedule.

It is designed to give a general introduction to snowcraft and is open to all. All names must be in by Wednesday night, 23<sup>rd</sup> July. Snow goggles, wollen mittens and trousers and waterproof overtrousers are required. The evening meal and breakfast will be supplied. Bring two hearty lunches, chocolate and a water bottle.

Leader : Kevin Pearce Phone 76-198  
Grading: Medium  
Cost : (Transport, food and hut fees)  
Depart : Super Save Car Park 6.00 a.m.

### 31<sup>st</sup> JULY CLUB NIGHT

Thursday 7.30 p.m. in the Society of Friends Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street.

Inter-Club Debate. We have challenged The Massey Alpine Club. To debate "That the Mountains are no place for Women". These debates have been good value in the past.

### 29 DECEMBER-15<sup>th</sup> JANUARY CHRISTMAS TRIP TO ARTHURS PASS

This trip will leave Monday afternoon 29<sup>th</sup> December and return to Palmerston North on Thursday morning 15<sup>th</sup> January. It is envisaged that the party will camp at Arthurs Pass town for several days and do day trips before moving on to do the "Three Pass Trip". The basic trip will be done in short stages with frequent "rest days" for those who wish either to rest or to climb mountains.

Inquiries to : Kevin Pearce Phone 76-198  
Grading : Medium and Fit  
Cost : (a wild guess only) \$50

Names plus a non-refundable deposit of \$5.00 must be in by 1<sup>st</sup> November and further \$20.00 installments towards the cost of the trip is due 1<sup>st</sup> December. The balance of the cost will be due at the beginning of the trip.

## NOTICES

### New System for Finding Trip Leaders

Once a month it is necessary for the Trip Organisers to find leaders for the next months trips. In the past he used coercion, blackmail and begging to get "volunteers". A new system is hereby introduced. In future those who wish to lead trips will ring up the Trip Organiser before the monthly Committee Meeting and inform him of their intentions. In the event of more than one person wishing to lead a trip the Organiser will adjudicate.

Leaders are required for August – look at the Trip Schedule and then ring Kevin Pearce Phone 76-198.

### Storm Gear

From time-to-time coming trips are advertised as requiring storm gear. What is storm gear? Parkas, overtrousers, woollen trousers or longjohns, woollen mittens, balaclava, sleeping bag cover as well as all other normal tramping gear. Also include plenty of ready-to-eat food for consumption on the march. Parkas and overtrousers must be in good repair and waterproof.

### Departure Times for Trips

Leaders are not obliged to wait for late comers. Please arrive on time so as not to rile your mates.

### Junior Marathon

Three of our members entered The Hutt Valley Tramping Club Junior Marathon.

Results.	First Home	Dommett	time 39.13	WTMC	
	Fastest Time	?nkenburg	time 32.32	WTMC	
Tim Short	time 44.35	Glen Dixon	time 49.54	Kieth Margrain	time 47.17

## PAST EVENTS

### 12-13<sup>th</sup> APRIL HAPPY DAZE HUT – MAKERETU

Five eager bods got away to a prompt departure. Arriving at the Makeretu River, we approached a very kindly farmer who allowed us to venture across his farmland in our vehicle. Then began the slog to Happy Daze and on up the Makeretu River in search of the Makeretu Hut. Even intense efforts to whistle up this hut wouldn't find it. So it was back downstream to Awatere Hut which we shared with an avenger mice. Next day it was down and out.

Those taking part were:- Janet Rogerson, Peter Hanratty, Vivian Mawson, Paul Moar, and friend Elizabeth.

### 25-27<sup>th</sup> APRIL TARARUA MIDDLE CROSSING (PARTY B)

Objection To meet 'Party A' crossing from the East, exchange car keys and continue to the Waingawa Road end.

Weather Conditions Bleak

Fitness Not capable of Trip

Morale High (?)

Friday lunch was spent at Waitewaewae Hut, then a long slow grind up the ridge towards Junction Knob. The fitness of the party became particularly apparent above the bushline. Camp was made at 4.15 p.m. on the slopes of Shoulder Knob. The tent fly was pitched by improvising pack frames. All persons had a comfortable night's sleep, were dry and well insulated, that is until.

"Whats the time?"

"Eleven o'clock"

"It can't be, check again"

"Five past eleven"

"It can't be, I've had my nights sleep, I want to get up, I'm drenched"

It was snowing, hence the weight of snow had collapsed the fly. The early hours were spent by singing and trying to convince each other that wet wool is warm.

How good it was to return to the welcoming sight of Waitewaewae. Here part of 'Part A' completing the crossing the following day, met up with us.

It is indeed as nature saw it to be, 'the survival of the fittest', as with venison upon our shoulders we returned to the Forks.

I scoff at you high peak;  
But that is because you have scoffed at me,  
Thence until again we meet,  
When my wisdom will treat you with respect.  
- Andre Trohsmit

The 'Pibrac' sleeping bag appeared to be superior over the 'Everest Mummy', with the 'John Williams' capturing this season's fashions, having a built in water bottle and guaranteed to fill a six pint billy.

Where the clouds go men go; but they must be hardy men.  
- Andreas Maurer

Party B;- Kathy Hindmarsh, Glenn Dixon, Peter Croad, John Williams, Tim Short

#### 10-11<sup>th</sup> MAY ROCK CLIMBING TITAHI BAY

An interesting weekend's activity was held at this popular rock climbing area, with climbing during the day and completing of puzzles and monopoly at night. For those people who had not been rock climbing before an instruction team was set up, emphasis was given to "Three points of Contact" and how to abseil correctly.

After instruction came the putting of new knowledge into practice and many a climb was ended with a successful finish.

Leader; Kevin Pearce, Glenn Dixon, Allen Stretton, Peter Darragh, Peter Croad, Martin Speller, Karyn Bishop, Dennis Church, Trevor Bissell, Pam Dicks, Kieth Margrain, Tim Short, Heather Crabb, Lawson Pither, Sue Streeter.

Our thanks to Mr & Mrs Pearce for putting the rabble up for the night.

#### 30<sup>th</sup> MAY-2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE BANNISTER CROSSING

For sheer miserable monstomy of contour, rigour of weather, and bleakness of outlook is as hard to beat the Tararuas -- according to John Pascoe.

Friday night was cold but fine. We splashed our way up the river in the darkness to the South Ohau Hut. The river was fairly low but one member still insisted on sitting down periodically *sana le pantaloon dans l'eau froid*.

It was raining lightly as we made our way up the Yeats 500 on Saturday morning. We passed the partially completed great edifice Te Matawai II set in its ocean of mud and entered a realm of wind, mist and rain. Precision navigation soon had us at Arctic bivvy and its squalor. (Why don't the pigs take more care with their litter?) Four of the party moved into the bivvy and three erected a tent and fly on a somewhat exposed but well drained site. The tent was well pitched and provided adequate shelter for some hours. However, at about 7.00 p.m. the guys that which had become chafed began to snap in the wind and an orderly retreat was commenced. Soon all seven of us were in the bivvy -- rather crowded but (just) tolerable.

Sunday morning dawned grey and wet. The parties separated into two groups -- the diehards and the die-easies. The former went on the latter went back. The diehards had difficulty locating the saddle to the Twins and after some delay also opted for retreat. Thus it came to pass that no crossing was made.

Those taking part were Kevin Pearce, Trevor Bissell, Julian Dalefield, Glenn Dixon, Roy Wilson, Keith Margrain and Lindsay Sandes.

8<sup>th</sup> JUNE KAPAKAPANUI –NGATIAWA

Kevin Pearce, Eric Strachan and Ross Meder traversed Kapakapanui during snowfall which was surprisingly pleasant. They were somewhat taken-aback when they met the weekend party and were accused of having “come the other way” when it was clear that it was the weekenders who had “come the other way!!!

17-18<sup>th</sup> JUNE TOTARA FLATS -- NEILL FORKS

A party of six trampers left an hour later than scheduled as it had been decided to spend a quiet week end at Totara Flats Hut.

With parkas on, rain from above, Tararua mud below the six made their way to Totara Flats with what looked like 50 million others.

Arriving at the Totara Flats Hut we quickly secured sleeping space and settled down for the afternoon.

We were pleased to be inside with gale force winds and rain all night.

Next morning it had stopped raining and we made our way back taking care crossing streams. We arrived at Mitre Lodge for lunch, and once again rain and wind greeted us as we made a dash for the cars.

Taking part;- Peter Croad, Ann Hayman, Kathy Hindmarsh, Janet Maessen, Roy Wilson, and Pam Dicks.