



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

NEWSLETTER

7/76

Hon. Secretary,
Karyn Bishop, 84-925
Membership Enquiries
Heather Crabb, 77-668

COMING EVENTS

24th 25th July HINERUA – SMITH CREEK

This beautiful valley lies in the Eastern Ruahines beyond Waipukurau. Most people should be able to manage this trip and an enjoyable weekend is assured those who support this trip.

Leader:	Trevor Bissell, Ph. 68-644
Grading:	Medium
Cost:	\$4.00
Depart Supersave:	7.00 a.m.

29th July CLUB NIGHT

Support the P.N.T.M.C. in the annual debate against M.U.A.C. Come to the SS 1 Lecture theatre, Massey at 8.00 p.m.

Note change of time and venue.

31st July – 1st August MYSTERY TRIP

The cost of the trip will be between \$2.00 and \$2.50 – work out the range (at 3c per mile).

Anyway two trips will converge at a common destination at some stage during the weekend. When and where? Go along and you'll find out. Those on the harder trip may find packfloating an advantage!

Organiser:	Trevor Bissell, Ph. 68-644
Grading:	Easy and Fit.
Cost:	\$2.00 to \$2.50 approx.
Depart Supersave:	7.00 a.m.

7th-8th August ARMSTRONG – WAIPAWA SADDLE

This is one of the more interesting Ruahine Ridge trips. Depending upon weather conditions this could be a trip of fantastic views, navigational challenge or just plain up, down. Anyway satisfaction guaranteed or will gladly arrange another tramp in the near future.

Names to: Ian Hoare, Ph. 83-448
Grading: Fit
Cost: \$4.70
Depart Supersave: 7.00 a.m.

8th August WAIKAMAKA HUT

Grand views will be a feature of this trip into the Eastern Ruahines. Must be the easiest way onto the Ruahine Main Range, next to driving a car up.

Names to: Ian Hoare, Ph. 83-448
Grading: Medium
Cost: \$4.70
Depart Supersave: 7.00 a.m.

9th August COMMITTEE MEETING

7.30 p.m. at Janet Maesson's, Flat 2, Fitchett St., No. 20.

14th-15th August SNOWCRAFT COURSE I (RUAPEHU)

This is a basic instruction course, not a play in the snow. As well as normal weekend gear bring: Mittens, Overtrousers, Snow goggles (dark glasses), water bottle etc. Details available from Keith. Names should be submitted early for this trip.

Names to: Heather Crabb, Ph. 77-668
Organiser: Keith Margrain, Ph. 79-303
Grading: Medium
Cost: \$10 approx. food included.

21st August – 22nd August DIGGERS HUT

A close to home jaunt into the Ruahines. The best possible way to spend this weekend is to go tramping, so keep this date free, and enjoy some autumn sunshine.

Leader: Ross Meder, Fg. 7661
Grading: Easy
Cost: \$1.50
Depart Supersave: 7.00 a.m.

22nd August DIGGERS HUT

An enjoyable scramble in the Western Ruahines.

Leader: Ross Meder, Fg. 7661
Grading: Medium
Cost: \$1.50
Depart Supersave: 7.00 a.m.

26th August CLUB NIGHT

7.30 p.m. at the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., behind the West End Chemist. All welcome.

28th – 29th August SAWTOOTH RIDGE

A great value Ruahine winter trip. Ice axes could be a good idea.

Leader: Keith Margrain, Ph. 79-303
Grading: Fitness Essential
Depart Supersave: Friday night 6.30.
Cost: \$4.00

28th – 29th August HOWLETT'S HUT

Set high in the rugged snow capped Ruahines, Howletts is a hut with real character. Go and have a look.

Leader:	Keith Margrain, Ph. 79-303
Grading:	Medium
Depart Supersave:	Saturday 6.00. a.m.
Cost:	\$4.00

NOTICES

PRINT COMPETITION

1st in the Scenery Section was Janet Maesson – congratulations.

CHRISTMAS TRIP

Tentative bookings have been made for 12 people from Palmerston North to Christchurch on Monday, December 27th. The return trip will be made on January 13th. Travel will be by Newman's bus to Picton ferry with a night in Christchurch for each trip unless the Rangitira is allowed to remain in service until after Christmas.

Bookings beyond Christchurch can be made when the exact location of the trip has been decided.

PHILOSOPHY

It is better to get your feet wet, than to ry and save them and get a wet backside in the process!!

PAST TRIPS

EASTER, 1976: OPERATION KENEPURU

MISSION: to locate the Ryan Monoplane, flown by Hood and Moncrieff from Sydney in 1928 with the intention of making the first Trans-Tasman flight from Sydney to Trentham.

SEARCH AREA: Marlborough sounds, Kenepuru Head to Mount McMahan.

We left Porirua Harbour by Cessna Float Plane and were dropped at the head of Henepuru sound. We then journeyed by foot to the Mount McMahan area and looked in places of high probability for 2½ days.

An old farmer had seen a plane or similar object high on the slopes of Mt. McMahan in 1928 but did not associate it to Hood and Moncrieff as he was unaware of their attempted flight. It was recongised by a big dead forked tree covered in the dreaded bush lawyer. Other people saw fires in the same area but half-dismissed it as hunters or the like. But a search was carried out, (very basic as it was pre-SAR times), boot prints and leaf paper were found, but these were inconclusive evidence in the theory that the plane crashed in this area. Although identified as a plane, it could never be located by a ground party.

After 48 years all we could hope to find was a radial engine, crankshaft and glass windscreen. As was half expected we did not find it, but nevertheless a most enjoyable tramp in a new area.

On the way back to Picton we walked around the glorious little bays and coves that abound in this area.

Personnel: Ross Meder and 3 friends.
Paul Legg, photographer.

26th 27th June MT. HECTOR

The trip began in slow time as we walked up to Field's Hut, so it came about that two people were willing to go on and do a longer trip just to show that the P.N.T. & M.C. had it in it to do a more invigorating weekend and so left the less vigorous among us to go up to Vosseller and maybe Hector.

The two leaders trudged on, only to be halted by snow conditions, so many curses were thrown about that "... Trip convenor" who expects us to tramp in snow so late in the day. It may be relevant here to compare times to Vosseller Hut; normally it takes a fairly average fitness group about 2 hours from Field's to Vosseller (plus or minus half an hour) – it took our two unfortunates three hours, forty-five minutes and a multitude of seconds to reach the hut.

Upon reaching the hut it was too late to go elsewhere so they waited and cleaned up the hut for themselves and any other misguided souls who turned up. An hour passed and the first group arrived, and our two men were enlivened by the sight of three girls and a guy entering (the H.V.T. Co.) They were truly a sight a blind man would be pleased to see. Our second group wasn't too far behind, but too late for the lower bunk.

That night as tea was being cooked an old time P.N.T. & M.C. habit of bludging was performed, mainly upon one of the other types' food (quite nice too eh, boys?)

Next day blew in and we blew off up to Hector and on returning found the other types gone, so we went down too. Progress was yet again slow and it was not until we reached Field's that we knew we still had ten toes, or was it nine? Here we met the day party who only threw abuse, no praise, at us so we had no alternative but to wait till we reached the farm land and then put the tail enders to shame as a scouting group ran past them (not to be misread to say 'Scout group' as in Girl Guides) with ice axe fixed.

Moral: "He who can will, but he who can't can only try."

In other words it's all free enterprise.

Trip members: Don Scott, Bill Frecklington, Bram Hoare, Trevor Bissell and Peter Darragh were among the five participants.