

25th February KIME HUT

This trip to the new hut can cater for all grades of fitness. The hut is of novel and pleasing design and good views can be had from its vicinity. (Map NZMS 1, N 157).

Names to: Kevin Pearce, ph. 70-217.
Grading: Medium
Cost: \$2.50.
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Sunday.

3rd March BABER'S SADDLE CROSSING OF TARARUAS

3rd - 4th March DITTO

A low level crossing via tributaries of the Patupaiarehe and Tokomaru rivers with plenty of waterfalls and deep pools. (Maps NZMS 1, N 153).

Names to: Trevor Bissell, ph. 73-543.
Grading: Day trip F.E., Weekend trip M.
Cost: \$1.50.
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

4th March HORSESHOE BEND AND TOKOMARU RIVER

A very easy river trip with good swimming. (Map NZMS 1, N 153)

Names to: Trevor Bissell, ph. 73-543.
Grading: Easy.
Cost: 50c.
Depart: 8.00 a.m. Sunday.

8th March COMMITTEE MEETING

At Heather's, 3 Clyde Crescent, 7.30 p.m. Thursday.

10th March BIKE RIDE AND BARBECUE

Abseiling, bicycling, canoeing, eating, fishing etc. at the Balance Reserve.

Names to: Peter Darragh, ph. Feilding 5633.
Grading: Easy.
Cost: Nil
Depart: 2.30 p.m. Saturday afternoon.

11th March CANOEING ON THE LAGOON

Have you ever tried canoeing? Come down to the Lagoon and try your hand. Canoes etc. supplied. Barbecue at 7 Tern Place afterwards.

Names to: Eric Van Toor, ph. 70-217.
Time: 2.30 - 5.30 p.m. Sunday canoeing.
5.30 p.m. Barbecue.

16th - 18th March HOWLETT'S - RANGI RUAHINE CROSSING

A good torch and storm gear is required for this classic. (NZMS 1 N 140).

Names to: Ian Hoare, ph. 67-743.
Grading: Fit.
Cost: \$6.00.
Depart: 6.30 p.m. Friday.

17th - 18th March RANGI HUT

The Club's one and only Club Hut (in the Western Ruahines near Rangiwahia). (Map NZMS 1, N 140).

Names to: Ian Hoare, ph. 67-743.
Grading: Easy.
Cost: \$2.50.
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday.

24th March SPECIAL DAY TRIP

25th March OTAKI - OHAU BEACH WALK

Somewhat unusual activities for this weekend. Enquire for details of Saturday's trip. Bring plenty to drink for Sunday's trip.

Names to: Kevin Pearce, ph. 70-217.
Grading: Easy.
Cost: \$2.50 (Sunday trip).
Depart: 8.00 a.m. Saturday & Sunday.

29th March ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club will be held on Thursday 29th March, 1979 at 8.00 p.m. in the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College Street, Palmerston North. Details of agenda etc. will be given in the next newsletter.

31st – 1st April BUSHCRAFT INSTRUCTION COURSE

Details in next newsletter.

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THIS LAND IS OUR LAND

In the days when £40 would buy a choice quarter acre section at Otaki Beach and gigs and saddle horses were available for hire for picnics, some people were opening up a route over the ranges from Greytown to Otaki.

The Greytown and Otaki track committees were formed in 1895 and the first party walked this route the following year taking ten days to reach Otaki and three to return to Greytown. They were accompanied by a guide who woke them each morning with tea and toast before preparing the breakfast. Would leaders like to perpetuate that custom?

F. Penn writing in 1920 said that the Otaki Gorge bush scenery was equal to any such scenery in the world and the two suspension bridges over the lower part of the river were amongst the biggest of these structures in the world. He also offers a feasible origin for the names 'Otaki' as follows:

'A Maori tohunga or priest in Taranaki had a beautiful wife who fled south with a handsome man. The tohunga's name was Hou, and as he sped in pursuit he named places where fates thwarted him. At Otaki the flat land was covered with thick scrub and Hou felt his way warily through it. So he called it Houtaki – taki means to feel one's way with a spear. The pronunciation changed slightly and so we know the place as Otaki.

NEW MEMBERS

Margaret Smith and family, 36 Matamau St., Palm. Nth. 80-315.

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NOTICES

FIERCE ONES FIRST

1. If you break Club gear you are liable for the cost of repairing or replacing it, Unless you can convince the committee that for some reason you should not be.
Flies, primuses etc. are VERY COSTLY and the Club cannot afford to support the irresponsible attitude shown by some members – leaders perhaps? towards the care of gear.

The gear custodian has been directed by the committee to examine minutely all returning gear and to record its state in writing.

If YOU have secretly returned broken gear in the past you won't get away with it again. Inspect it before you take it out and report defects, similarly when you return it, preferably on a note stuck to the article.

2. EVERYONE – no exceptions – is expected to have their own adequate first aid kit.

There are two Club kits which leaders often carry particularly on longer trips. These are being VERY POORLY LOOKED AFTER. This is inexcusable as a life just might depend on having items immediately to hand for sudden and severe injury.

It is essential that leaders tell the gear custodian, preferably in writing, if items are lost or used up so that replacements can be found.

ORDINARY ONES NEXT:

- 3. F.M.C. bulletins will be available to members at the next Club night or on request.
- 4. The Club library will in future be housed with the gear custodian. Disappointingly little use is made of the wealth of information in the publications. Leaders could find details of new areas they wish to visit. The library can be used at any time by any member simply by ringing the gear custodian – Tim 75-038.

FINALLY, HAPPY ONES:

5. BIRTH

The Club has had a baby. And we are entrusting the parentage to Verna and Brad Owen who, we have heard and approve, will be bringing Brooke Elizabeth up in the true tramping spirit, travelling in her father's pack. (Is that the "true tramping spirit?" Well, at a tender age we think it is). Brooke was born on 27th January and weighed 6 lbs 13½ ozs. Congratulations, Vera and Brad.

- 6. VIVIEN MAWSON is engaged to Douglas. They plan to marry in June in Oxford where they will also live. They MIGHT manage a trip to New Zealand in the not too distant future.

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PAST EVENTS

LABOUR WEEKEND – MOUNT TARAWERA

Fourteen persons enjoyed the trip to the volcanic vents of Tarawera (near Rotorua.)

RIVER CROSSING 9th and 10th December, 1978

It was a bit on the cold side but we weren't deterred, ten taking part. Afterwards we tramped up the Waitatapia and some of the party crossed over to the Waitohu.

ROARING MEG – WAIOTARU 18th January, 1979

The founders of the Club established a tradition of getting off the beaten path and we have been "suffering" ever since. Five persons enjoyed this interesting trip.

TRIP SCHEDULE APRIL – JUNE 1979

GRADING

A rough indication of the difficulty and length of trips is given by the grading:

E Easy, up to 4 hours walking per day.

M Medium, 4 – 6 hours.

F Fit, 6 – 8 hours.

FE Fitness Essential more than 8 hours.

- Not graded, little or no walking involved.

Walking times are estimates for a fit person – trips may take longer than indicated.

31 st March – April.	Bushcraft Instruction, Makaretu	E. & F.
April 6 – 8	Southern Crossing, Tararuas	FE
6 – 8	Winchombe – Neill	FE
7 – 8	Waiotaru	M
Easter 12 – 16 (or 17)	Urewera National Park	E & F.
21 – 22	Rock climbing Titahi Bay	-
21	Pukerua Bay – Karehana Bay	E
22	Colonial Knob	E
26	Club Night – photographic competition.	
28 – 29	Work Party at Rangi	E
29	Work party at Rangi	E
May 5 – 6	Mangahao – Ohau	M
6	North Ohau	E
11 – 13	Egmont	E & M
19 – 20	Ngamoko Range	M
20	Ngamoko Range	FE
20	Toka	E
26 – 27	Rock Climbing Instruction, Titahi Bay	-
31	Club Night	
June 1 – 4	Queens Birthday, Richmond Range, Nelson	F
2 – 4	Ruahines	
8 – 10	Bannister Crossing, Tararuas	FE
9 – 10	Roaring Stag Lodge	E
15 – 17	Ruapehu	E & F
22 24	Caving	
23 – 24	Mid winter at Rangi	E
24	“ “ “ “	E
28	Club Night	
30 – 1	Kaitawa – Waitewaewae	FE
30 – 1	Kaitawa – Thompson	E