



Grading: Fit.  
 Cost: \$4.00.  
 Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday morning.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> April, PANATEWAEWAE**

"Up a lazy river in the noon-day sun mm-mm-mm". You'll love it, whatever mood it's in. This is a pretty spot in the Tararuas.

Leader: Heather Crabb, ph. 77-668.  
 Grading: Easy.  
 Cost: \$3.50  
 Depart: 7.00 Saturday.

#### **10<sup>th</sup> April, SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE "NIGHTQUEST"**

This is an opportune moment for a night exercise searching for a missing picnic party as the Club is currently revising its S.A.R. callout lists. Both S.A.R. novices and experienced persons required.

Names to: Kevin Pearce, ph. 70-217  
 Grading: Medium to Fit.  
 Cost: Nil.  
 Start: 5.30 p.m. at Police Station, Friday evening.  
 Finish: About midnight.

#### **11th - 12th April, HIKURANGI RANGE - MOKAI PATEA RANGE**

Leaving Friday night to reach the Kawhatau base for an early start Saturday morning along the Hikurangi Range. Then it is a drop down into the Kawhatau River from an easy spur before Trig Creek. From there to Waterfall Hut and next day to Rangi Saddle, then along the scrub to the Mokai Patea Range.

Leader: Trevor Bissell, ph. 73-543.  
 Cost: \$4.00.  
 Grading: F.E.  
 Depart: 6.00 p.m. Friday night.

#### **12<sup>th</sup> April, KAPAKAPANUI**

It's another ungraded Sunday trip into the Tararuas just in from Waikanae with plenty of that nice bush walking – so some of you could brush up on that navigation.

Leader: Chrissie Elliott, ph. 72-334  
 Grading: Ungraded.  
 Cost: \$4.00.  
 Depart: 7.00 a.m. Sunday morning.

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

There will be no Club night on 16th April.

#### **16th – 20<sup>th</sup> April – EASTER, MT. TARAWERA**

A nice relaxing time up north for a change to the beautiful scenery of Mt. Tarawera and around about.

Leader: Philip Budding, ph. 85-936.  
 Grading: Medium.  
 Cost: \$15 Approximately.  
 Depart: 6.00 p.m. Thursday night.

#### **16th - 21st April, NELSON LAKES**

Climbing in the beauty of Nelson Lakes area.

Leader: Terry Crippen, ph.63-588  
 Grading: F.E. and Fit.  
 Cost: \$50 - \$60 Approximately.  
 Depart: 6.00 p.m. Thursday night.

#### **24th - 26th April, POHANGINA SADDLE – HOWLETTS**

A good trip up to Pohangina Saddle then along the Ruahine Range to Howletts Hut.

Leader: Stephen Moore, ph. 81-699.  
 Grading: Medium  
 Cost: \$4.00

Depart: 6.00 p.m. Friday night.

**30th April, CLUB NIGHT – PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**

Look out those slides, prints both black and white and coloured, and bring your best ones along. You never know, you might have a winner. Rules for the competition appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

At the Society of Friends' Meeting Rooms, 227 College St., at 7.45 p.m.

**SUPPER DUTIES:** Dianne Stanley, Adele Williams, Michael Wiltshire.

**2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> May, CHAMBERLAIN CREEK**

If you are the type for heights, large waterfalls and enjoy abseiling come to the Tararuas for the thrills and spills of Chamberlain Creek.

Leader: Don French; ph 73-543  
Grading: F.E.  
Cost: \$3.50  
Depart: 6.00 a.m. Saturday morning.

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**NOTICES**

**MAP ORDERS**

We can get 33% of Lands and Survey topographical maps if we order them through the Club. Let Terry, 63-588, know your requirements.

**TRAMPING BOOTS**

Cooper's Men's Shoe Shop, Broadway are offering 10% discount on tramping boots to financial members of our Club. Terry, 18 Colombo St., 63-588 has a number of signed notes to take along saying you are a member of P.N.T.M.C.

**BIRTH**

Friends of ex member expatriot Viv (Mawson) Bridges will be pleased to hear that her son, Ian Douglas McDonald, was born on 4th February.

**FARWELL** to Sarah Godfrey who has gone to seek her fortune overseas. Australia is her first landfall and later she will be travelling to the U.K. and Europe. Good luck and happy journeys Sarah!

**WEST COAST FORESTS** (Extract from NFAC Newsletter 24.)

"NFAC is asking that:-

1. In the North, the West Bank forests of the Maruia Valley be given Reserve status.
2. In the South, Waikukupa, Ohinetamatea and South Okarito. All to be added to the Westland National Park."

The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, Federated Mountain Clubs and NFAC are working together towards the preservation of these forests. A booklet entitled "**West Coast Forests – New Zealand's Heritage**" is available at a cost of \$1.00 from NFAC. **Contact Bruce Mortimer, phone 67-210.**

"In the light of the imminent publication by the Forest Service of draft management plans for the West Coast State forests, representatives of four major conservation and recreational organisations got together recently and reached agreement on a statement which sets out priority areas for conservation in Westland. The scenic, scientific and recreational values of these areas are so important that they must be conserved in the national interest, and protected from timber milling, hydroelectricity development and tourist roading, according to the joint statement. The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society, the Native Forest Action Council, the Federated Mountain Clubs and the Environment and Conservation Organisations of N.Z. (EGO) have each ratified the joint statement, and agreed to work together to achieve full protection for the priority areas. This booklet, prepared for the four organisations by Guy Salmon and published by the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society with the assistance of a Mobil Environmental Award, describes and illustrates the areas in question."

**ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION RULES**

1. **OBJECTS OF THE COMPETITION**

- (a) To stimulate interest in the photography of things related to tramping and mountaineering.
- (b) To assist members to improve their photography.

2. **CLASSES OF COMPETITION**

The competition shall be in three parts, namely:

- (i) Monochrome prints
- (ii) Colour prints.
- (iii) Colour slides.

In each part of the competition there shall be a number of classes as follows:

- (i) **NOVICE OPEN** (colour prints and slides only).

A novice is a person who has not won or received a place or an acceptance in any photographic competition and who does not belong to a camera or photographic club. A novice may enter in any of the competitions.

- (ii) **LANDSCAPE**

Photographs showing the landscape and scenery associated with tramping or mountaineering.

- (ii) **TOPICAL**

Photographs of people doing things associated with tramping and mountaineering and including portraits and action shots.

- (iv) **NATURAL HISTORY**

Photographs of plants, animals, birds, insects etc., geological structures, meteorological phenomena etc. Animals and birds in captivity or which have been domesticated are not eligible. Nor are plants in gardens.

- 3. All photographs must have a strong tramping or mountaineering flavour.
- 4. All photographs must have been taken by the person in whose name they are entered and must be their property.
- 5. Photographs which have been previously entered in a P.N.T.M.C. competition are not eligible for entry a second time.
- 6. A person may enter not more than four photographs in any one competition class. There shall be no entry fee or money prizes.
- 7. All photographs must have the competitor's name or identification mark.
- 8. Slides should be marked with a conspicuous spot in the lower left hand corner when held for hand viewing. (This will ensure they are projected the correct way around.)
- 9. Entries close immediately before judging begins.

10. **JUDGING**

- (i) The previous policy of awarding first, second and third is abolished.
- (ii) All photographs which the judge considers are of acceptable quality for entry in the competition shall be awarded an "Acceptance".
- (iii) Photographs of an exceptional quality shall be awarded "Honours".
- (iv) The judge's decision is final.

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**PAST EVENTS**

**OTAKI GORGE**

The walk into the head of the Gorge just below Waitewaewae was hot and humid, so the five of us soon made our packs watertight and proceeded down the gorge. The first swim was soon encountered. The old hands were soon swimming through the pool; the new chums soon got the hang of it and quickly followed. There were numerous other swims before the party reached Penn Creek.

A camp site was soon located about 5 minutes up the creek. Now came the sixty four thousand dollar question – who had wet sleeping bags? One by one the bags appeared – all dry. No cold nights for anybody.

Next morning saw us travelling down the lower gorge to arrive back to the car by lunch time.

Party: Kevin Pearce, Terry Crippen, Nigel Bingham, Don French, Daryl?

**DON'T KNOCK THE ROCK – MT. EVANS – DECEMBER – JANUARY**

The objective was to climb Mt. Evans at the head of the County Stream above the Bracken Snowfield. The peoples involved: Kevin Pearce, Peter Darragh, Terry Crippen, and a fello geologist of A.U.T.C. fame, Murray Cave, now resident in Arthur's Pass.

After saying goodbye to Trev and Don and Co. in Hokitika we headed towards Pukekura in Murray's van only to boil the radiator outside the Lake Ianthe pub. This necessitated a few beers with the locals while we put another fan belt on. Then up the Waitaha Valley Road.

Two and a half days of hard going (= unfit) put us into the County just below the County Glacier. The next three days were spent camped on the glacier at about 5,500 ft. with indifferent weather. One attempt on Red Lion and a nose at the Wilkinson from McKenzie Col, waiting for the weather to come right.

January 2nd, 5 a.m. clear and still, so we were off. Easy travel, no 'poons needed, towards Red Lion Col. Then sidling left onto the start of the County face via snow slopes and rock ledges. Up an ice gut, a rock corner then onto the west ridge and good plodding towards the south summit and the start of the loose horrible Weetbix summit ridge. If you could stand on something solid you could knock the top off.

Murray had a go crawling along a section of the ridge before abandoning it and exiting down a rocky gut. Peter reversed back off it while Kevin and Terry eyed out a ? useful rubblely ledge a 100 feet below the ridge on the County side.

Eventually we all worked our way along this ledge then up a rocky gully leading to the summit snowcap and a short plod onto the top. Meanwhile Westland had crudded out but Canterbury was clear.

After the summit photos, handshakes, hugs and T.Bs we retreated into the white out. This necessitated some belaying down the soft wet snow before some glissading down an avo shoot onto the glacier and back to our tent.

We broke camp then headed down to County Hut. Murray unfortunately slashed his knee on a river boulder. This put paid to any further climbing and tramping for the remaining four days. Once we got to the hut, Murray had ago at sewing his knee up but no luck. So the next day Peter and Kevin headed out to get a chopper. There was no way Murray could have walked out successfully in that sort of country.

Murray and Terry (who stayed behind to be nurse) were flown out two days later. Off to the doctor's in Hoki via the local psychiatric ward and the old peoples' rest home by mistake to get Murray fixed up. (Peter got fixed up at the psychiatric ward, Kevin and Terry at the old peoples' home). Then after calling in at the Bissell's, back to Arthur's Pass with Murray in the back of his van with his leg unbendable. Thus we had a few days to spare at the Pass.

(Terry's account in the vernacular.)

**HOKI TO ARTHUR'S PASS WITH SUNSHINE – JANUARY, 1981.**

This trip started in Hokitika when Terry Crippen and Catherine Farquhar met the third party, Alan Hooker, from Christchurch, whom they had never seen before!

After an enjoyable night at a certain family home in Hoki the three of us headed up the Hokitika River only to get off route within an hour. Bush-bashing found us back on the track to the Rapid Creek Cage, then up the

Whitcombe to Frews for the night. Some NZFS jokers were in residence – track spraying (2,4,5-T on the track we were going up tomorrow). Since this trip was a light-weight one (i.e. tent fly only, no climbing junk except ice axes, clothesline for river rope etc.) we could afford the luxury of high class food, so steak and salad for dinner.

The next day up through the 2,4,5"-T to Frews Saddle, a steep drop into the head of the Hokitika, and then a grunt up to Mathias Pass before dropping into Canyon Creek for the evening. Dinner included smoked chicken, salad etc.

We had a nose at Canyon Creek proper that evening. Arthur Dudley Dobson blasted a route through bluffs in the early 1900s above the gorge, but this has slipped away in parts. The way down the valley is therefore via the Canyon or through bluffs and steep snow grass slopes 1,000 ft. above the old trail. From vantage points above the Canyon it looked O.K. compared with the higher route.

So the next day into the canyon. About one mile long, near vertical bluffs on each side but the going was O.K. with the small amount of water flowing. Numerous crossings were required but not high waterfalls. If the creek was any higher ropes would be needed, or worse still impassable.

Once through the canyon it was in to automatic for plodding down the Mathias Valley to Mistake Creek Hut. Twelve miles of typical boring, but nice views, wide open Canterbury river valley, hot and dry. This hut is one of the Mt. Algidus Station huts and is 40 or more years old having quite a different character to the NZFS huts common in Westland.

From here the next day, up Mistake Creek and over Excellent Saddle and into Pukeko Stream where a 100 ft. waterfall caused us a high sidle on the true left. The rest of the stream was good boulder hopping down to Moa Creek. The hut we were heading for (at the Moa and North Stream confluence) wasn't there. Extensive flood damage had put the stream channel through the old river flats. So we slept under the stars that night. After a lazy morning of sunbathing and reading, we strolled down valley to be greeted by the hut in a new site (shifted after the flood, Easter '80). It's now S65 788057, on the south bank of Moa Stream just down valley from Pukeko Stream.

Once into the Wilberforce the odd spot of rain forced us to cancel the day converting it into a rest day (i.e. only tramped 5 miles) and we stayed the night at Moa Hut. We used the day's ration of energy up by playing frizbies with a billy lid and Alan's floppy hat, on the alpine daisy front lawn. Since the cloud was down to 3,000 ft. the next day we opted for another rest day (i.e. a walk up to Park Morpeth Hut) instead of trying Burnet Stream and White Col. By this stage we had a bad Achilles tendon so we tramped with 5 boots and a variation of one barefoot or one Jandel or one sandshoe depending on the terrain (bare foot for river crossing, Jandel on grass flats, sandshoe for boulder hopping).

Park Morpeth Hut saw Three Pass peoples off loading their fresh food onto us – they wanted to avoid carrying it over Browning Pass the next day.

For us the next day was, as required, totally fine. Up to Whitehorn Pass with plenty of the white stuff about – so six boot country. A long scrogg stop before dropping down to Harman Pass for an even longer (three hour) lunch stop of sunbathing and readings of Asimov's "Guide to Science: The Biological sciences"; "Physically speaking man is a rather unimpressive specimen as organisms go - he has come dominate the earth only by the grace of one rather important specialization – his brain."

Anyhow, after this a quick bomb down the Taipoiti Stream into the Waimakariri and Carrington Hut. Lots of eating that night (poor quality now, dehy. etc.), since the next day would be a stroll down to K<sup>2</sup> (Klondyke Corner). Being fine the next day gave lots of lovely Waimak water to swim and wash in. Our trip down to K<sup>2</sup> was therefore lazily long but it enabled us to scrounge a lift with Park Board Bods back to A.P. where we were greeted by the sight of Murray/Don/Kevin/Nic. So off to the Chalet for a high-class dinner.

### **ARTHUR'S PASS RAMBLINGS – JANUARY 1981**

After the Waitaha trip Kevin and Terry did a Philistine-Rolleston traverse. Later when the Hoki to A.P. and the Cook River trips arrived back in Arthur's Pass, Kevin and Nic climbed Rolleston via the Rome Ridge while Terry, Don and Alan climbed Rolleston via the Otira Face. The day before heading back to Palmerston, Kevin and Terry did a Temple - Blimit traverse.

### **ATIWHAKATU – BALDY – MT. HOLDSWORTH 6 - 7th February, 1981**

Murray Patterson, Michael Wiltshire and Kevin Pearce set off early one Waitangi day morning oblivious of the dangers and hardships ahead. They travelled up the riverbed through the gorge. The river was extremely low and the rocks slippery with slime and algae. Soon the sun was left behind and they entered a damp, windy region. Eventually they reached McGregor bivvy which was occupied so they camped under the fly. Saturday was again damp but less windy and our trio continued on to Powell Hut and home, leaving High Ridge for another day. All rivers were noted to be muddy and running high after the Friday night "dampness".

### **THE KAIMANAWAS – A GOOD CHANGE FROM THE TARARUAS**

Getting sick of the Tararuas? Then try the Kaimanawas (N112, N113, N122). The advantages include no leatherwood, minimal scrub of any sort, less mud, less rain (4,000 mm rainfall versus 8,000 mm in the Tararuas), good beech forest and plenty of open tops.

Anyhow a couple of trips have been done there lately. November last year: in via the Army Access from near the highest point on the Desert Road. Rolling tussock land and patches of beech forest brought us to a good camp site just south of Patutu. The N.Z. Army has stuffed up a lot of this tussock land, at elevations of 3,500 to 4,500 feet a.s.l., with the tanks moving over the delicate soil and tussock, cover. Anyhow, this destruction was made up for by the excellent views of Ruapehu - very close from here. We found a rock face to amuse ourselves on (new ascents for Don F.!) and some snow gullies to do some snow work (i.e. glissading.)

Sunday, and we dropped off Patutu, down a spur into the Waipakahi and spent a leisurely three hour lunch stop with plenty of swimming and sunbathing. This pleasure was broken when two foot-sore hard trampers arrived (Trev and Peter) complaining about the lack of hot meals and brews so far on their trip. Their Primus was stuffed. We made things peaceful by putting on a big brew. A short wander down valley brought us to Access 15 and the car.

The peoples on the trip were: Don French, Terry Crippen, Irene O'Connell, Jo Eder, Dianne Stanley.

The next trip was for Waitangi/N.Z./ "just another excuse for a holiday" weekend in January. Peter Darragh and Wiles plus Terry Crippen headed onto the Umukarikari Range via Access 10. Fast travel over easy tops, in good weather and good views. Stopping at Waipakihi Hut for some more eats before the final slog up onto Junction Top and then the drop down into the Rangitikei. A fly camp, a swim and a good meal. The Rangitikei River is beautiful with many deep pools for swimming in and very little debris coming down compared with the Ruahine Rivers.

The next day was an Island Range-Makorako-"W" Saddle-Whakamarumarua traverse bringing us back into the Rangitikei by Ecology Stream. A bit misty but still good travel. The last day was Trick Creek track-Thunderbolt -Waipakihi-Urchin and back to the car at Access 10.

P.S. For the record – Rainfall information (in mm/year). Egmont and the Main Divide of the Southern Alps 8,000+; Tararuas 6,400+; Ruapehu 5,600+; Ruahines/Kaimanawas 4,000+; Kawekas 2,800+; Palmerston North 1,000.

### **CLIMBING – FEBRUARY**

Don French, Terry Crippen, Trevor Bissell and Nic Bishop (now resident in Christchurch) went into the Tasman Glacier-Malte Brun Range area after crashing through road blocks in South Canterbury and being checked for foot and mouth. We had lots of moraine bashing, retreating to De la Beche Hut but successfully climbed Malte Brun via the Malte Glacier and West Ridge and Chudleigh via the Reay. After 7 days, three of us headed back to town leaving Don down for another week.

### **TRAMPERS' MARATHON – 14th FEBRUARY, 1981**

Most members seem to have been intimidated by the rather grand name given to this 7½ mile (12 km.) fun run in the Orongorongas near Wellington. Not so our esteemed lady president (Chrissie Elliott, nor Tim Short, Kevin Pearce and Neil Wallace. The first 2¼ miles of the race is along an undulating bush track with the odd mud hole and tree root throw in for interest. This is followed by an easy 3¼ mile trot along a flat river bed. Then comes a climb during which little effort is wasted on useless horizontal travel. The view improves with each foot of height gained and is quite splendid after about 1400 such improvements when the summit is reached. Finally there is a coast down to the admiring crowds at the finishing line. Young ladies rush out and hug the runners under the pretence of recovering the identifying numbers worn on chests or shorts.

We were all given reasonable handicaps to compensate for those we already had (old age, arthritis etc.). Unfortunately Tim had to withdraw during the first leg of the race and Kevin was delayed. Chrissie and Neil both finished in fine style and Kevin came in not last.

**TAMAKI RIVER – 15th February**

Would you believe pack floating down the Tamaki? No? Well, how about roping up to cross it? No? No, it wasn't quite that bad but it was considerably deeper, wider and swifter than usual. A number of large trees also had slipped down the hillsides and provided interesting if unsightly obstacles. To vary the trip we climbed up onto the ridge and had a pleasant tramp out to the road end through bush and open farmland.

Those who enjoyed this day were: Margaret Smith, Rosemary Hall, Trudy McRobbie, Alison Rose, Reg Rickard; Jenny Stockwell and Heather Crabb.

**PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB (INC.)**  
**PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1980-81**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the fifteenth annual report of the Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club.

This year has been another active one for the Club but it has been a year of change too. The nature of the Club is changing both in the type of members we have and in the activities going on.

**MEMBERSHIP**

The total membership is much the same as last year, but again there are very few juniors, and the average, age of the members seems to be increasing. Many of our new members are experienced trampers coming to Palmerston North from other areas. This means we have a strong and active membership now but we are not attracting new junior members who will be the active ones in ten or twenty years' time.

**ACTIVITIES**

We have had all the perennial activities: trips to the Tararuas, Ruahines and Tongariro National Park; caving at Waitomo, rockclimbing at Titahi Bay; boat rides and bird watching at Kapiti Island; a masochistic team in the Trampers' Marathon; the debate against MUAC (which we lost marginally); the photographic competition; dining and dancing in December; and the social gourmet weekends at Rangiwahia for mid-winter and Christmas.

We have had innovation too. Club members have caught on to the Wellington trampers' idea of popping across Cook Strait for a long weekend to Nelson Lakes, North West Nelson, Richmond Range etc.

The Snowcraft Courses were kept to one basic course and one intermediate course and then people were encouraged to gain experience by going on Club climbing weekends.

Skiing is still not a Club activity but many Club members have been seen glissading on long planks attached to their boots. They should be encouraged to progress to more pure pursuits and use skins and calories to get up the slopes rather than noisy machines.

A disappointing trend this year has been that a Club trip may not be supported but a "private trip" with a majority of Club members will go into some other area for a day or weekend. I feel this is a result of people not being prepared to commit themselves a few days in advance. With a little more thought people could plan ahead and put their names down for Club trips rather than waiting until it is too late and organising their own trip. This would mean that the work the trip convenor does, would be more worthwhile. Also more trips would be available for younger members and less experienced trampers to go on instead of the situation we often have at present where there is no one available to lead a trip.

**CLUB NIGHTS**

This year two Club Nights per month have been instituted. The meeting on the last Thursday of the month is a "formal" one with a speaker occupying the entire evening, whereas the other "informal" Club night is designed for Club members to have more time to chat or show their slides, or for instruction or competition of various forms.

**COMMITTEE**

The ten members of the Committee have worked well together this year, and there have been no resignations. With each Committee member having a "portfolio" the work is shared out and the general routines (e.g. the Newsletter production) all run smoothly.

One of the issues which occupied a great deal of Committee and individual's time was the National Parks Act. Our submission, along with many others, did force some slight amendments to the Bill, but we now have National Parks administered by the Department of Lands and Survey instead of the National Parks Boards and Authority. It is now a case of wait and see how the Act will affect us as trampers.

The Committee tried a new system of having one person invent trips and others find the leaders for them. This has not been successful and in the coming year I would hope that these duties are reassigned to one person.

This emphasises that it is not an easy task to make up an interesting trips list to give a variety of areas visited for a range of fitness. The trips convenor will always welcome suggestions from members for places to visit.

I would like to thank two people on the Committee especially:

Trevor Bissell has served on the Committee for seven years and is going to give it a break for a while. He is a keen caver and I think he has a secret ambition to get cavers up and away caving before midday at least once in 1981! Seriously though, thank you Trevor for all you have done on Committee over the past years – as Secretary, trips organiser, and Newsletter printer.

And Heather Crabb has been our Newsletter Editor for two years and typist for ten years. I guess we have really taken Heather for granted. She has deciphered hand written copy, and typed pages and pages of Newsletter during this time. Heather is irreplaceable and you will probably notice this as the Newsletter becomes shorter and not so newsy. It would be great if this were not the case but I doubt whether we can find another typist so devoted and tolerant.

Finally I would like to thank the rest of the Committee and Club members, for their support this year.

Christine Elliott  
President