



# PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217

PALMERSTON NORTH

NEWSLETTER

August/September 1984

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Secretary:	Damienne Eder,	ph 71-785
Membership Enquiries:	Nanette and Peter Clough	ph 61-271
Gear Custodian:	Philip Budding	ph 85-936
Newsletter Editor:	John Barkla	ph 73-543

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## ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Catherine Farquhar Home	80-363	
Damienne Eder	71-785	
Nigel Seebeck	89-043	Work 79-129

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ALL TRIPS LEAVE FROM THE NO FRILLS CARPARK, FERGUSSON STREET. IF YOU WISH TO GO ON A TRIP, YOU MUST ADVISE THE LEADER AT LEAST THREE DAYS IN ADVANCE. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY OR WEEKEND TRIP, CONTACT THE LEADER OF THE SCHEDULED TRIP.

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## COMING EVENTS:

### 30 August – Formal Club Night

We will have a Search and Rescue representative from the N.Z. Police speaking to us. All Welcome.  
7.45 p.m. Thursday  
227 College Street, Society of Friends Meeting Rooms.

### 1 - 2 September – Oroua River Ngamoko Range circuit

This provides the opportunity for a mixture of river, bush and tops travel. Heritage Lodge – Oroua River – Iron Gate Hut – Tunipo.

Leader:	Don McKellar, ph Sanson 699 before 1 p.m.
Grade:	Medium
Departs:	Saturday 6.45 a.m.

### 2 September – Day trip to Otaki Forks area

"In behind Otaki Forks" was the way Peter put it. Plenty of scope!

Leader:	Peter Clough, ph 61272
Grade:	Medium
Departs:	Sunday 7.30 a.m.

### 6 September - Committee Meeting

To be held at Catherine Farquhar's place, 83 Linton Street, beginning at 7.45 p.m. Any club member is welcome.

### **8-9 September – Harris Creek, Tararuas**

The Mangahao dams will be the starting point for this trip. There are various possibilities for circuit trips here. We will probably spend Saturday night at Harris Creek Hut.

Leader: Trish Eder, ph 70217  
Grade: Easy – but plenty of: scope for extra exertion.  
Departs: Saturday 6.45 a.m.

### **9 September – Ruahines – Managweka day trip**

If transport can be arranged a Kawhatau – Hikurangi – Mangaweka – Purity trip would be ideal. Alternatively the trip will go from Kawhatau or Purity and return the same way. This is a classic winter trip. Ice axe necessary.

Names to: Catherine Farquhar, ph 80363  
Grade: Fit  
Departs: Sunday 6 a.m. sharp

a concurrent easy/medium trip can be organised to work in with transport arrangements. Contact Catherine.

### **13 September – Informal Club Night**

'Old hands' Trevor Bissell And Terry Crippen will be entertaining us tonight with slides from their recent travels . (Guaranteed to be amusing.)

7.45 p.m. Thursday  
227 College Street, Society of Friends Meeting Rooms.

### **15-16 September – Snowcraft 1**

This is an instruction weekend for beginners and those wishing to brush up on their basic snowcraft skills. Contact Philip if you want to know more about the weekend. All welcome but a reasonable level of fitness will enable you to get the most from the course.

Leader: Philip Budding, ph 85936  
Grade: Medium  
Departs: Friday night  
Venue: Based at M.U.A.C. hut side of Mt Ruapehu.

### **22 - 23 September – Tongariro National Park 3 Peaks**

Join us on this classic 3 peak trip. Ruapehu, Ngauruhoe, and Tongariro – on foot. Mike Freeman will be leading this "light weight, bivvy out" type trip. Inquiries to Damienne.

Names to: Damienne Eder, ph 71785  
(leader: Mike Freeman, Hamilton, ph 80658)  
Grade: Fitness Essential  
Departs: Friday night.

For those interested in a more relaxed tramp in the Tongariro National Park, phone Damienne and discuss the possibilities. Perhaps visiting some of the huts on the 'Round the mountain' track or climbing one or two of the peaks. i.e. Ideally two trips of different fitness will go.

Leader: Damienne Eder, ph 71785  
Grade: Medium  
Departs: Negotiable, Friday night/Early Saturday morning.

### **27 September – Formal Club Night**

Well known Taranaki mountaineer, Walter Fowlie will be giving us an illustrated talk on various N.Z. mountains and related botany. An evening not to be missed.

7.45 p.m. Thursday  
227 College Street, Society of Friends Meeting Rooms.

### **29 - 30 September – Snowcraft 2**

This course aims to continue on from Snowcraft 1 and provides an opportunity for learning useful rope and belaying techniques. Also an introduction to the use of crampons. Attendance will be required at a pre course lecture on a weekday night. Please contact Nigel by Monday (Sept. 24) if intending to go on the course or if you have any queries about the course.

Leader: Nigel Seebeck, ph 89043  
Grade: Medium (but a good level of fitness will aid enjoyment and safety)  
Departs: Friday night.

### **29 or 30 September – Day trip**

To where popular demand takes it!

Leaders: Peter and Nanette Clough, ph 61271

Grade: Easy

Departs: Negotiable.

### **COMING TRIPS:**

#### **20 - 22 October – Advanced Snowcraft.**

### **NOTICES:**

#### 1. **Additions to membership list**

Robert Bruce	R. D. 3 Glen Oroua	858
Perry Hicks	34 Keeling Street	61178
Michelle Hobday	42 Epsom Avenue	74875
Vern Jensen	Box.27 Apiti	873
Laurie Kennedy	6 Dittmer Drive	74360
Wayne MacPherson	105 Slacks Road	74429

2. **Congratulations** to the debate team of Linda, Daryl and Trevor on their convincing win against M.U.A.C.

#### 3. **State Forest Park Advisory Committee Nominations**

Nominations to Hamner, Pureora, Raukumara, Catlins, Ruahine and Victoria Forest Park Advisory Committees are now being called for by F.M.C. Nominations will close on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 1984.

4. "F.M.C. intends to publish in the Bulletin a series of articles on ski equipment and clothing. We are particularly interest in those aspects of gear which are related to safety, and with this in mind the first of the series will deal with ski bindings and children's clothing.

Club members who have had particular experiences, either good or bad, with items of gear or clothing, are invited to write to the Technical Committee, F.M.C., P.O. Box 1604, Wellington, giving specific details. Both your own name, and also brand names, will be treated in confidence. We hope to be able to incorporate the material gathered into articles which will help skiers both with selection and proper use of gear."

5 F.M.C. Seminar will be held on 6 - 7 October at Pohangina Reserve. More information in next newsletter.

6. To save a Forest Whirinaki is a beautiful new book on New Zealand native forests. The superb photographs alone are worth the price of \$15.95. Order forms available from Damienne.

7. **Slide Projector** – the club is purchasing a projector and any donations will be gratefully accepted.

### **TRIP REPORTS:**

#### **Mid-Winter Rangī via the Oroua River**

Well, it was a casual start leaving P.N. about 9 a.m. Saturday morning. However once on the track, and then in the river, we travelled at a steady pace, stopping only for a lunch break and a quick perusal of Iron Gates Hut. A high side track took us from Iron Gates to Triangle Hut where we stayed for the night and pursued many interesting lines of thought and discussion, e.g. N.Z. Dairy Board, Contraception in China, Palatability of Burnt Popcorn etc.

..... Sunday morning dawned crisp and clear, with a light sprinkling of snow on the tops. After an invigorating few hours of tramping (with some excellent views!) we arrived at the new Rangī Hut fully appreciative of the good food and company.

Don McKellar, Trevor Bissell, Linda Russ, Kirsten Simonsen, Catherine Farquhar.

#### **13 - 15 July – Mt Ruapehu**

Four P.N.T.M.C. members joined forces with a M.U.A.C. party heading up Turoa on the Friday night. The Massey Hut was well below the level of snow but this changed overnight and the morning brought driving snow. Rather than spend

the day in the hut we braced the elements and plugged up to the Giant Cafe in very cold conditions: A frozen waterfall to the right provided some ice climbing practice but with spindrift blowing into clothing we soon departed back to the hut.

Sunday morning brought more snow and the two Johns walked up to the car park and skied back to the hut for breakfast. Again we trudged up the road, this time on to Broadbents and skied back to the hut. We packed up and with full packs were able to ski a further 7 km down the road to the barrier at the bridge before being picked up in the van. Snow was falling heavily in Ohakune and Waiouru and covered the ground half way to Taihape. Those from P.N.T.M.C. were John Goulstone, Kirsten Simonsen, Steven Moore and John Barkla.

### **18 July – Mid week Ruahine Skiing**

Determined to make the most of the recent heavy snowfall, Daryl Rowan, Linda Russ, Cathcrino Farquhar and John Barkla headed up to Rangī Hut to attempt some skiing. With considerable snow still on the farmland the car didn't quite make it to the car park and snow was deep on the track to Rangī. John and Daryl with touring skis were able to skin up most of the way from the swing bridge. On reaching Rangī the snow seemed to stretch all the way to Ruapehu. After melting some snow for water and having a bite of lunch we set off.

Catherine and Linda with unfamiliar downhill and cross country skis respectively found the deep snow hard work and were forced to limit themselves to the slopes immediately above the hut. Daryl and John were able to skin on to Mangahua and enjoyed some good skiing and much bad with ski tips constantly sinking beneath the snow and catching on tussock. One consolation was the fine day and the absence of crowds. It was dark by the time we all reached the car again and chains were needed for one short stretch of road before we could head back to Palmy.

### **15 July – Ngamoko Range Splinter Group**

It rained during the drive to Apiti but conditions improved and we had occasional views during the climb up Shorts Track. The snow was soon reached and it proved to be roughly 6 inches deep and quite dry on the top of the Ngamoko Range. Navigation problems were solved by the inevitable Forest Service snow poles joining the Shorts and Deersfeld Tracks but it was quite fun strolling down the range anyway. On the lower part of the track we took a short cut across the farmland back to the car.

We were; Joanne Mulvena, Alan Good, Trevor Bissell, and Julian Dalefield.

### **22 July – Behind the Old West Road**

Some hours were spent on farmland in the head of the Tiritea River looking for a track to a series of 'mine shafts'. The elusive track was later found above Ross Stream in the Kahuterawa Catchment and the shafts proved to be only 20' deep (to the water).

An unnamed individual suggested a return to Brown House and the car via Ross Stream and the Kahuterawa River. An hour and a half were spent in the shade of damp wet bush negotiating greasy rocks and little pools as far as an 8 foot fall into a rather deeper pool. Good sense prevailed and we climbed back onto the farmland above to ensure a return before night fall.

We were; Joanne Mulvena, Anne Jaggard, Leslie Warburton, Trevor Bissell and Patricia Eder.

### **28 - 29 July – Introductory Snowcraft.**

With everyone on time we left Palmerston soon after 5.30 a.m. stopping in Feilding for the final two people. By dawn it was clear that we were in for a fine day. We left the vehicles close to the Round the Mountain Track along the Tukino road, and a brisk 1½ hour walk saw us at Rangipo Hut - our base for the weekend. It took some effort to move from the sunny veranda after an early lunch. Some time was spent close to the hut on old snow practicing walking on snow and proper use of the ice axe. Later we moved into a basin beneath the ridge leading to Mitre and here were able to concentrate on self-arrest and step cutting. A full hut ensured a warm night. Copious production of popcorn guaranteed full stomachs.

The expected bad weather did not arrive on Sunday so we scrambled up the ridge above the hut until we had views of Whangaehu Glacier and hut as well as Te Heu Heu and Cathedral Rocks. Cutting steps into the snow basin of the previous day, further time was spent on improving techniques. We were back at the hut for lunch and clean up in the early afternoon and Palmerston by early evening.

Those on the trip were: John Barkla, Peter Wiles, Philip Beech, John Goulstone, Darnienne Eder, Russell Williams, David Duncan, Sue Patterson, Mark Woodruffe, Peter Jones, Alan Montgomery and Darren Scott. Those also staying at the hut were Roger Redmayne, Urs Schupbach, Peter and Beatrice.