



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217
PALMERSTON NORTH
NEWSLETTER

April/May 1989

Membership Enquiries	: Tricia Eder	Ph.	70-122
President:	: John Wright		82-041
Gear Custodian	: Daryl Rowan		64-655
Newsletter Editor	: Linda Rowan		64-655

ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Vaughan Crow:	Home Ph. 69-832	Work Ph. 74-129
Daryl & Linda Rowan	: Ph. 64-655	68-019
Sue & Lawson Pither	: Ph. 73-033	

ALL TRIPS LEAVE FROM THE FOODTOWN CAR PARK IN FERGUSON STREET. IF YOU WANT TO GO ON A TRIP, PLEASE 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.

Members are reminded that a charge for transport will be collected on the day of the trip, the amount depending on the distance traveled and vehicles used. Leaders should be able to give an estimate in advance.

COMING EVENTS

27th April – Working in the Chatham Islands

Tonight Phil Clerke will talk to us about the long spell he spent in the Chatham Islands this summer working on the Chatham Island's Black Robin. An important piece of work hoping to succeed in the continued survival of this rare bird.

Venue: Society of Friend's Meeting Rooms
227 College St, Palmerston North

Time: 7:45pm

29th - 30th April Ruahine Crossing

It has been some time since a Club trip has ventured out to do a Ruahine crossing, so don't miss this opportunity. The trip requires at least enough people to make two car loads, so that two groups can start from opposite sides of the range. The western start will be up past Rangi Hut and eventually onto Howletts Hut.

Leader: Tony Gates ph (0652) 48854
Grade: Medium
Departs: Friday 6pm

29th - 30th April Snowcraft - Tongariro National Park

It's a bit early for snowcraft, but the dry summer has left the crevasses on Ruapehu's glaciers open and it's the perfect opportunity to do some ice bouldering and practice some crevasse rescue techniques. You will need fine weather, boots and crampons, ice axe and a harness if you have one. Ring John for further details.

Leader: John Wright ph 82041
Grade: Medium
Departs: Saturday 6am, Food Town car park

4th May - Committee Meeting

The second committee meeting of the new financial year. If you want to know what the Club is up to and/or how you can help in activities - come along!

Venue: 57 Fairs Rd
Time: 7:45pm

5th -6th -7th May – Ruahines West – East Traverse

Tony will be leading a trip going in from Kawhatau Base in the Western Ruahines across the tops past Sunrise Hut to come out on the East.

Leader: Tony Gates ph.(0652)48854
Grade: Fit
Departs: Friday 6pm

7th May - Day trip to Sunrise Hut

An easy day trip from the eastern side of the Ruahines to Sunrise Hut. A beautiful area. A short walk beyond the hut leads on for a view of the tops. If there is interest in a medium day trip also we'll see what we can arrange. The easy trip will be a great trip for children.

Leader: Linda Rowan ph. 64655
Grade: Easy
Departs: Sunday 7am

11th May - Club Night

Tonight Anna Wallace will speak to us of her journeys through Israel and Egypt. Last year Cherne Rockman talked to us of the area, its history and what we could expect to see. Come and hear Anna's story.

Venue: Society of Friend's Meeting Rooms
227 College St, Palmerston North
Time: 7:45pm

14th May - Cyclist's Delight Day Trip

Sally has lined up an easy to medium cycle trip for all enthusiastic cyclists. So grab your one speed, ten speed or mountain bike and catch the late autumn weather for a cycling adventure!

Leader: Sally Hewson ph. 73543
Grade: Easy-Medium
Departs: 9 am

20th May - Number 1 Line, Pohangina

Have you ever wondered what lies at the end of Numbers 1 - 4 Lines off the Eastern Pohangina Road? Tricia has! The trip today will be an exploration, looking for a track which provides access up onto the Ruahines.

Leader: Tricia Eder ph. 70122
Grade: Easy
Departs: 9am

21st May - Mt Holdsworth for the Day

Mt Holdsworth in the Eastern Tararuas is always a popular trip. Be prepared for great view from the top.

Leader: Mark Bown ph. 65581
Grade: Medium
Departs: Sunday 7am

25th May - Club Night

Mark Bown seems to be just as at home in holes in the ground as he does roaming the hill tops. Tonight he will present slides of his caving exploits in Peru. Slides of features in caves must be hard to take but somehow Mark and his mates always seem to carry sufficient lighting for some great shots. Come along and see.

Venue: Society of Friend's Meeting Rooms
227 College St, Palmerston North
Time: 7:45pm

27th May - Tararua Tramping

How about a medium day trip on the western side of the Tararuas? Travel up the Ohau River, take the Waiopahu Track to the hut and head back out down the Blackwater Stream. John is even prepared to guide you!

Leader: John Thomson ph. 74320
Grade: Medium
Departs: Saturday 7am

28th May - More Tararua Tramping

The Mangaone Stream Track lies on the western Tararuas in from Waikanae. The track goes in behind Walkanae and comes out a little further north. Should be some great views of Kapiti Island and maybe the South Island from the top.

Leader: Margaret Riordan ph. 67460
Grade: Easy
Departs: Sunday 7:30am

3rd -5th June - Queens Birthday Weekend

A long weekend and you even get paid for Monday! So why not pack up and head away for a weekend of tramping and company. Plenty of opportunity to stretch those legs in the Taranaki Region!

Leader: Helen Dakin (Contact: Sally ph. 73543)
Grade: Easy
Departs: Saturday am

NOTICES

Annual General Meeting

Well the AGM is over. For those who unfortunately couldn't make it to the meeting here are a few highlights:

* PNTMC subs remain at the same amazingly cheap rate

Family Membership - \$20

Single Membership - \$16

Membership fees for the 1989 year are now due. Payable to Peter Wiles at any Club night.

* The 1989/90 PNTMC Committee is -

John Wright (Interim President)

Tony Gates (Interim Secretary)

Monica Cantwell (Publicity)

Sally Hewson

John Thomson (Trips Convener)

Tricia Eder (Vice President)

Peter Wiles (Treasurer)

Gavin Rogerson

Mark Bown

Linda Rowan (Newsletter Editor)

You may wonder why we have "interim" in the titles - read the excerpts from the President's Report in this newsletter for an explanation. We can still use people to join the committee and we need to find a President to continue the functioning of the Club after John departs in May.

PNITMC and the Hut Pass System

Don't forget - especially with the chance that DOC may do some more "flying" visits to check that you have paid for your accommodation! You can purchase Hut Pass tickets on Club nights from Peter Wiles. The price to Club members is 80% of what would normally be paid.

Address Updates

A new address list is attached to this newsletter.

The Club Filing Cabinet

Has found a home at Peter Wiles. The cabinet contains the archives of PNTMC. Thank you Peter for finding space.

PNTMC Gear Hire

The Club has a number of items for hire to members and outside parties - billies, tent flies, ice axes, crampons are the main items. The rates are amazingly cheap. The gear can be hired from Daryl Rowan ph. 64655. Please remember to book early for gear and to take care of it while in your possession.

Excerpts from the PNTMC PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1988/89

"Another year has passed for PNTMC, and a hectic year too, with many trips to new and exciting areas and the traditional trips and social gatherings.

...that was what we did last year, and it was organised by a small group of active individuals. Thanks must go to each member of the committee for their valuable time and effort they have contributed throughout the year and all those that have participated in leading trips, organising social events and Club nights.

Combined with the loss of Trevor the Club also faces the loss of several more important members in this coming year. Urs and Ruth return to Switzerland for a year, Alan Mountfort is to leave the Palmerston area to travel overseas, Jenny Dymock was transferred to Auckland midway through last year and my residency in Palmerston North is uncertain. Having perhaps only 50 active members makes the running of our Club a task that requires the participation and support of each one of these people and it's these factors will make the coming year a hard one for the Club, but I hope it will see itself through these rough patches and continue to be the friendly club it always has been."

John Wright
President 1988/89

PNTMC and the NZ Walkways System

PNTMC has been involved in the walkways system in a number of avenues - as regular users of local and national walkways, as workers helping to establish walkways and as individuals in the overseeing of walkways. Peter Clough a member of PNTMC, now residing in Wellington, represented PNTMC at the First New Zealand Walkways Conference in February. The following article is his report to PNTMC:

FIRST NEW ZEALAND WALKWAYS CONFERENCE – THE FUTURE OF WALKWAYS

The NZ Walkways Act (1975) has the aim of establishing "walking tracks over public and private land so that the people of New Zealand shall have safe, unimpeded access to the countryside". To achieve this end the Walkway Commission and 12 District Walkway Committees were created under the Act, with powers to negotiate access with private landowners and funding to construct and maintain tracks. Since 1976 over 130 official walkways have been created, ranging from half-day strolls to tramps of 3 or 4 days. The orange "W" logo of the Walkways Commission has become a familiar sight up and down the country, and there are two walkways - Beehive Creek and Porewa - up in the Pohangina Valley near Palmerston North.

Federated Mountain Clubs, one of the founding bodies of the Walkway system, has been concerned about the future of walkways since the creation of the Department of Conservation in April 1987. First, the fund allocation previously given to walkways was absorbed into DOC's regional budgets, where it could be diverted to other uses at the regional manager's discretion. Some district walkways committees have stopped meeting since this change. Second, in the Conservation Quango review, DOC advocated the abolition of the Commission and District Committees, advice which appeared to have been followed when the Minister of Conservation announced their imminent demise in May 1988. Third, no definite decision has yet been announced on where the responsibility for walkways will lie under the new quango structure. The walkways system has been left in limbo, and despondency about its future is growing.

FMC believes the walkways' system fits uneasily into the new proposals for a NZ Conservation Authority and Regional Conservation Boards (to replace the current national park and forest park committees). This is because walkways are primarily concerned with recreation; not conservation, and include responsibility for walks on private land as well as the DOC estate. There is a real danger that walkways would become only a marginal concern of the new quangos with such broad conservation responsibilities. It would also be difficult to ensure fair representation for those with special interest in walkways (e.g. private landowners, non-club users) within quangos whose agendas are dominated by Crown land such as national and forest parks.

The First Walkways Conference, held in Auckland on 25-26 February 1989, was convened to address these concerns and establish some direction for the future of walkways. The Walkway Commission came out of recess to hold a meeting the day before, and 4 of its members attended the conference. FMC was well represented, as were diverse other groups such as the Youth Hostellers Association, ECO, the Manawatu Walkway Promotion Society, Federated Farmers and the National Council of Women. But the most important participant was Philip Woollaston, the new Minister of Conservation.

In his speech the Minister expressed support for the past achievements of the Walkway Commission acknowledging the importance of walkways in the recreation opportunity spectrum. He outlined current thinking on the proposed new conservation quangos, indicating how each regional board would require sub-committees (including members co-opted from outside the board) to handle specific areas of DOC's responsibility (such as marine mammals, native forests and lands, recreation). This went some way to dispelling fears that walkways would simply be engulfed in the broader quango structure. Details of how it would work, however, were still tantalisingly sparse.

The rest of the conference consisted of presentations of background papers on the walkway system, its origins, funding options, and experience of similar systems overseas. Position statements were presented by NZYHA, NZ Tourist & Publicity Department and the Hillary Commission for Recreation and Sport. A series of workshop sessions were held to discuss particular aspects of future walkways administration, such as options for funding, integration of walkways with other tracks on DOC or local government land, the question of access and the Trespass Act, and the other possibility of long-distance trails through settled areas being created through the walkway legislation. A series of resolutions were passed, including the need for FMC to press for continued representation in the evolving quango structure, and the creation of a "Friends of Walkways" organisation to co-ordinate local volunteers on track maintenance and creation.

A report of this conference will appear in a future FMC bulletin, and a set of full proceedings papers will be available from FMC.

Peter Clough, Wellington District Walkways Committee

* **Miscellaneous** - Just when you thought you had those bugs beaten.....

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS DANGERS OF INSECT REPELLENTS

THE SUMMER may be long gone and the insect repellent put back in the cupboard. But some startling revelations in the medical magazine, The Lancet, should make you think twice before reaching for your favourite formula next year.

The magazine highlights some frightening side effects of Diethyltoluamide, commonly called DEET - the major ingredient in most insect repellents.

Particularly at risk from the chemical are children, who can absorb it quicker through their thinner skin. Repeated and extensive application of concentrations up to 20 per cent on children have resulted in slurred speech, staggering gait, agitation, tremors, convulsions and even death.

The magazine report goes on to point out that the swallowing of DEET by an adult rapidly causes coma, convulsions, severe low blood pressure and breathing problems. The death rate in these cases may be as high as 40 per cent. The situation is clearly worse if the chemical is swallowed by a child.

Repellents with less than 50 per cent DEET are generally free from side effects for adults, but concentrations of between 50 and 75 per cent have resulted in skin disorders and large blisters. In one incident a man who applied 70 per cent DEET daily to his skin became mentally disordered in two weeks!

Many preparations on the market contain over 50 percent DEET, and some between 75 and 90 per cent - the higher concentrations lasting longer and repelling a wider range of insects.

When used sensibly, the Lancet report adds, insect repellents with DEET are safe. But preparations with more than 50 per cent should be avoided for infants and young children. Great care should be taken to keep insect repellent out of the hands of anyone who might swallow it.

Frequent total body application for days or weeks should also be avoided, and serious thought given to withdrawing preparations above 75 per cent from general use, the report concludes.

Thanks to: Great Outdoors, December 1988

TRIP REPORTS

Weekends Wandering in Wellington - 15th-16th April

Club members Peter, Nanette and Jonathan Clough offered good accommodation in Wellington in exchange for the opportunity to take us out wandering the hills of the Wellington Region.

Five of us headed off on Saturday morning arriving in time for a quick walk up Johnstone's Hill for a view of the City and out to the coast before lunch. Wellington lived up to its reputation and the breeze was a "bit stiff" up on top.

Lunch and then our tour guide for the afternoon - Nanette lead us winding our way to the west coast to the Makara Track - part of the NZ Walkways system. This 6 km track winds from Makara Beach up along the cliff tops providing views of the South Island, an old pa site, and an abandoned fort. The track then moves across farm land to the beach. Returning back along the stony beach we beach-combed (avoiding the piles of plastic containers, tops, etc) our way along with Tricia claiming the prize of a complete fish skeleton!

Saturday night a pot-luck tea and the company of Lorraine Bray (currently studying law in Wellington).

Sunday morning we awoke to rain and wind and took our time before leaving our warm refuge for the Rimatukas around the Orongaronga River. We did a loop from the river up to the top through lush forest and back down via an alternative track. The area was well populated including territorials out in full kit. Back to Wellington to drop Peter off and to warm up with a cup of tea before heading home.

Thank you Nanette and Peter.

We were: Tricia Eder, Francis -, Jenni Madgwick, Daryl and Linda Rowan, Nanette, Peter and Jonathan Clough.

DO YOU HAVE A TRIP REPORT FOR THE NEWSLETTER? PLEASE PASS IT TO ME AT ANY CLUB NIGHT OR POST TO 110 Manawatu St, P.N.

Thanks to all those who have dutifully sent in a report.

PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION - 1989

<u>Surname</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Adams	Anne	Dept Hort Sci., Massey University, P.N.	76549
Andrews	Preston	Dept Hort Sci., Massey University, P.N.	76549
Badcoe	Lyndon	Dept Vet. Pathology Massey University, P.N.	66553
Barkla	John	War Memorial Hall Flat Watt St, Wanganui	52373
Barnard	Marilyn	War Memorial Hall Flat Watt St, Wanganui	52373
Bown	Mark	30 Bourke St, P.N.	65581
Budding	Phillip	92 Maxwells Line, P.N.	76482
Cantwell	Monica	170 Aokautere Dr, P.N.	83834
Carey	Marion	7 Kingston St, P.N.	82544
Cheyne	Christine	17 Waterloo Cres, P.N.	78552
Cleland	John	99 Cook St, P.N.	78878
Clerke	Phil	15 Ashford Ave, P.N.	82041
Clough	Peter Nanette	70 Chamberlain Rd, Karori, Wellington	764-720
Coburn	Terry	3/289 College St, P.N.	86391
Cole	Jeremy	4 Piper Place, P.N.	83640
Cooper	Jim	92 Geraldine Cres, P.N.	89861
Crippen	Terry	24 Morris St, P.N.	63588
Crosse	Craig	11 MacClaurin St, Dannevirke	49343
Crow	Vaughn Kathy	105 Clifton Tce, P.N.	86569
Dakin	Helen	79 Main St Blenheim	85429
Dalefield	Julian	28 Carroll St, P.N.	73543
Deller	Anne	109 Linton St, P.N.	61076
Derricott	Gordon	408 College St, P.N.	69242
Drewry	John	4/443 Church St, P.N.	63587
Eder	Tricia	57 Fairs Rd, P.N.	70122
Farquhar	Catherine		
Gates	Tony	18 Hammond St Bulls	(0652)48-854
Grosh	Mike	C./- Accounting Dept, Massey University, P.N.	69099 ex.8611
Haines	Leslie	23 Rangiora Ave, P.N.	
Harmsworth	Garth	Albert St, P.N.	
Harris	Vivien	2 Salford Pl, P.N.	65889
Hewson	Sally	28 Carroll St, P.N.	73543
Hogan	Gayle	3 Pluto St, P.N.	86443
Hunt	Dave	20 Belevedere Cres., P.N.	63853
Jaggard	Anne	3/20 Grey St, P.N.	87260
Jensen	S C M	Box 27, Apiti	
MacCracken	Simon	46 Kimberley Gr, P.N.	72689
MacColl	Alison	23 Redwood Gr., P.N.	89326
Madgwick	Jenni	7 Carter Cres. , P .N.	590-536
Morrison	Liz	5 Leslie Ave, P.N.	76532
Morton	Chris	P O Box 1725, P.N.	77497
Mountford	Alan	21 Grey St, Woodville	(0650)48-310
Newstead	Dave	C/- D.R.I., P.N.	
O'Halloran	Jo	20 Albert St, P.N.	62296
O'Neill	Joan	63 Florence Ave	73607
Orbell	David	26 Montgomery St Feilding	35145
Owen	Brad	394 Albert St, P.N.	83467
Pearce	Kevin	7 Tern Pl, P.N.	70217
Peters	Graham	30 Bourke St, P.N.	65581

Pither	Lawson Sue	4 Athlone Pl, P.N.	73033
Plummer Richardson	Julie Sally	Mangamaire, RD 7, Pahiatua	87233 (0650)67-826
Rogerson	Gavin	9 Cheviot Pl, Feilding	34702
Redmayne Reid Rowan	Roger Greg Daryl Linda	Hope Rd, RD 3 Woodville RD 2, Masterton. 110 Manawatu St, P.N.	(059)25-898 64655
Riordan Saunders Scheyvens Schupbach	Margaret Chris Paul Ruth Urs	23 Rangiora Ave, P.N. 96 Brightwater Tce, P.N. 22 Anglesey Pl, P.N. 94 Wood St, P.N.	67460 84899 74138 80245
Scott Smith Taylor Thomson Todd	Barry Marion Sheena John Arthur Liz	71 Robinson Cres., P.N. 18 Norwich Pl, P.N. 26 Sutherland Cres, P.N. 25 Roberts Line, P.N. 2 Heayns Pl, Feilding	71731 69473 76665 74320 36246
Ward Wood Wiles Williams Winchcombe Wright Young	Bruce David Peter Tony Gordon John Ann	14 Keith St, P.N. 6 Antrim Pl, P.N. 12 Jensen St, P.N. Hato Paroa College, Feilding. Cheltenham 56 Langley Ave, P.N. 15 Ashford Ave, P.N. 40 Shamrock St, P.N.	89650 86894 731 61647 82041 70153

**PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC
PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 1989/90**

You will note that the conventional title for this report has been retained. In fact our interim president John Wright died in a climbing accident. Another president could not be found and it is as Vice President that I am presenting this report.

It has been a pleasure to welcome new members from other countries, other areas as well as from within Palmerston North. We have also farewelled members who have given much to the club and have now moved elsewhere. Once again we have had to deal with grief of having a friend and member killed in the mountains.

This year there were 84 Club members, similar to last year's figure and the 81 members of 1987/88.

Club trips have had similar attendances to last year; 83 trips (80 in 1988/89) with an average of 6 people. We have been to Taranaki, Ruapehu, Tararua, Ruahine, Kawekas, Whanganui National Park and the Ballantrae Farm. Club members have climbed and tramped in Argentina, Canada, Thailand, Malaysia, France and even the South Island. Although we have been snowcaving and cycling, our activities have been more traditional than in the past year or two - no caving or kayaking. The present trip committee has tried to redress this matter and have scheduled rock climbing and skiing. We have received requests to provide more 'family' trips and have attempted to comply. Our family subs are very competitive and this is an area we have not really explored before. But, we must not forget the opposite end of the spectrum. One of the original reasons for forming the PNTMC was to provide a vehicle for tramping in Palmerston North to test ourselves against demanding trips. In 1974 we were running at least one F.E. trip per month. There have been no more than a couple of F.E. trips each year for the past few years. It is important that we regain our special identity relative to other clubs in the Manawatu. There is of course a problem with this idea there have to be PNTMC members fit enough and willing to start the renaissance.

Club nights have again been well organized with a good variety of speakers and presentations. The annual triangular quiz was won by ? and we won the annual debate with MUAC. Our annual dinner was held at the Coachman Inn, and was well supported and all the feedback indicated an enjoyable event.

Now for some critical comment. The one common problem for all tramping clubs is finding trip leaders. PNTMC has solved or avoided this for many years by having one or two competent fit members on the Club committee, unhindered by family or other commitments and these one or two members have finished up leading an extraordinary number of trips. The present committee has not been so fortunate. The trip convenor has spent much energy and many hours coaxing members to lead trips and some of the reasons for refusal have been specious if not pathetic. On one snowcraft course, fifteen members were canvassed to find three instructors and one of those who agreed had already instructed on the two previous snowcraft weekends. So come on you competent trampers, do your bit, either volunteer, accept when asked, or offer your services for a different trip.

One aspect of the political arena that seriously affects tramping clubs is the treat to our activities by the never ending changes to laws governing land use and access. We, that is you and the committee, must be continually vigilant and active with our responses and with our submissions to the law makers. The Club really does require a conservation resource person. Someone who can prepare a submission when appropriate and advise Club members and the committee.

Search and Rescue is another focus for the Club. As mentioned above, compared with past eras, we do not have the same number of fit capable trampers who can respond quickly to a call-out. The area of greatest need is that we do not have enough competent team leaders. So if you are interested in going on the SAR list for genuine reasons; brush up on your compass work and either lead or participate in some hard trips and be prepared to be involved in SAR exercises. There are usually only four or five call outs a year.

It will be up to the incoming committee to deal with the challenges referred to in this report. I would like to thank the outgoing committee for their efforts this last twelve months, those who made presentations at Club nights and particularly the members who led and took part in Club trips.