



# PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217  
PALMERSTON NORTH  
NEWSLETTER

February 1991 Edition

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Membership Enquiries	: Tricia Eder	70-122
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## ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Brad Owen	: Ph. 83-467
Daryl & Linda Rowan	: Ph. 64-655
Sue & Lawson Pither	: Ph. 73-033

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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.

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## THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAMME

Please sign your name in the visitors book. There is a door fee of 30c which includes supper.

The PNTMC committee meets on the first Thursday of each month, at 436 College Street. Meetings are held for all Club (and intending) members on the last Thursday of each month and the Thursday two weeks prior to that evening. The venue is the Society of Friends Hall, 227 College Street, Palmerston North, at 7:45 pm.

## THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAMME

**Feb 14** Don French will give an illustrated lecture on mountaineering and rock climbing in Europe. (Don is an ex PNTMC member who has really gone places) NOT TO BE MISSED.

**Feb 28** PNTMC members talk about their Christmas trips. Featuring lazy tramping, strenuous tramping and mountaineering. Bring your slides.

**March 7** Committee Meeting

**March 14** Travers Moffitt, of Wild track Adventure Tours, will talk to us about guiding and instructing tramps in our very own Oroua Valley. He is an expert on first aid and search and rescue.

**March 28** Annual General Meeting. Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of P.N.T.M.C. Inc. Please think about supporting your Club's administration. Start grinding your axe now. It is not too early to start thinking of the issues which concern the Club's affairs. Consider standing for committee or start harassing someone else – why not nominate them. Signed nominations are required prior to the commencement of the AGM. This meeting is for you to air your views.

## TRIP LIST

FEBRUARY

**Feb 16-17** Ruahine Range  
Grade: Fit weekend.  
Leader: Mick Leyland 61-608  
Pohangina Valley - Longview - Centre Ck circuit trip.

**Feb .16-17** **Change to trip card programme:**  
16/17 February which was advertised as to Kaweka Ranges area:  
Now Tongariro area.  
Grade easy  
Leave 7.30 pm Friday evening  
Accommodation: At sponsors establishment  
Phone: Lawson & Sue Pither 73-033  
Areas: Day trips to: Red Crater / Ketatahi  
Soda Springs  
Blyth Hut  
Other options

**Feb 16-17** MACPAC Kaweka Challenge  
Grade: Fitness essential  
Contact: Tony Gates (Phone 70-990)  
Another mountain marathon event, this time in the  
North Island, in the rugged Kaweka Range.

**Feb 23-24** North-East Ruahine Range  
Grade: Easy-medium weekend.  
Leader: Arthur & Lis Todd (Phone 36-246 before 7am,  
or 504-649 ext 8652 in work hours)  
A gentle exploration of the Makaroro River - Colenso Spur  
area of the Ruahine Range (not as rugged as Colenso's  
exploratory travels).

**Feb 23-24** North-West Ruahine Range  
Grade: Fit weekend.  
Leader: Michael Hewett 86-853  
Tramp to the beautiful Lake Colenso.

**Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>** Easy Cycling Trip (Saturday)  
Grade: Easy/medium day.  
Leader: Sally Hewson 70-990  
Cycle along North Range Road. Good views over the Manawatu  
in fine weather.

## MARCH

**March 2-3** TARARUAS Medium Roaring Stag - Ruamahanga - Cattle Ridge,  
Leader: Darren Scott 554-745 (Note change from trip card.)  
A Northern Tararua Classic.

**March 3** Easy / medium (Sunday) Ruapae, Leader: Tricia Eder 70-122  
This trip will probably meet up with the above trip.

**March 2-3** Rock climbing at Baring Head near Wellington, Leader: Jenni Madgwick 590-536  
Something for everyone to get to grips with here.

**March 9-10** RIMUTAKAS Fit Search for Lost Lake, Leader: John Thompson. Contact Tony Gates on 70-990. Search  
for lost lakes, in the rugged Rimutaka Ranges - Tony's ancestral stomping ground. A place where legends are created.

**March 9-10** Caving (novice) Mahaonui (Nth Taranaki) , Leader: Steve Glasgow (0650) 68-838  
One of Steve's favourite caves. A good trip – refer below.

**March 14** Club evening

**March 16-17** RUAPEHU Crevasse rescue (technical) , Leader: Peter Wiles , 86-894  
Mt Ruapehu, onto the glaciers and snowfields of the summit region. An ideal follow-up trip for last year's  
snowcraft course. We may camp on the slopes of the mountain.

**March 17** Medium (Sunday) Ngamoko Range, Leader: Paul Scheyvens 74-138

One of PNTMC's traditional spots. Everything from mixed podocarp forest to tussock tops may be encountered. Paul is an experienced bushman.

**March 23-24** RUAHINES Fit Diggers Hut - and environment Leader: Marcel Hollenstein 80-245  
Rumour has it that Marcel may even hunt a deer to provide fresh venison to eat with his schnapps and red wine.

**March 23-24** Easy Diggers Hut, Leader: Mary Crow 290-749  
Mary's group will meet up with Marcel's mob at Diggers Hut, or where they choose to camp.

**March 28** Club evening (AGM)

**March 29-30-31--??** (EASTER) Rock Climbing Whanganui Bay (technical),  
Leader: Jenni Madgwick 590-536  
The centre of the North Island's rock climbing is Jenni's destination. This place has to be seen to be believed.

Tramping trip: medium / easy 4 or 5 days - ideas please? If you think you would be interested in doing some tramping in the South Island before the winter it is time to book your car on the boat.

A fit trip has been proposed possibly 6 – 8 days. Leader Tony Gates 70-990  
A visit to the Waitaha Valley south of Hokatika. Plans are to possibly climb Mt Evans and / or perhaps complete a west – east crossing of the Divide. Keep in touch for more details.

### **EDITORIAL**

**Happy New Year.** This is going to be a great tramping year for PNTMC, with plenty of the usual activities planned. Numerous trips are listed in this newsletter, so if you are interested, then please contact the leader, or Tony Gates, or discuss the proposed trips at one of our Thursday evenings. Some excellent Thursday evenings are also listed in this newsletter – evening shows that will be well worth attending.

As I type this, we are organising the "venison – pork extravaganza", the annual summer barbecue for PNTMC. Best fillet steaks, Marcel's strange alcoholic brew and a general all round good time guaranteed. We are nearly half way through our current event calendar. Thus far, it has proved to be one of the best ever, and a fine example of PNTMC's organization and activities. The next event calendar will of course be more of the same, featuring our winter snowcraft course, then probably continuing to nearly Christmas. It's a long time distant I know, but don't forget to consider saying "YES" when asked to lead a trip.

### **NOTICES**

**New Members:** The Club extends a friendly welcome to Peter and Judy Stockdale, ph 555-277.

#### **Fri 1 - Sun 3 March 1990 - PHAB Family Camp at Punawaitai**

Manawatu PHAB Club invites everyone to join them in a fun, sunny weekend at Pourerere Beach, near Waipawa.

Punawaitai is a beautiful warm sunny spot in the Hawkes Bay region. The beach has lovely firm sand, there are easy bush walks, fishing and eeling nearby. At the homestead we have the use of the swimming pool, croquet lawn and tennis court.

Accommodation is in the shearing quarters which are clean and homely. There are 20 bunks and ample space for pitching tents. A gas fired BBQ is available for Saturday night's tea. Cost \$50 approx, which includes 2 nights accommodation, all meals from Friday supper to Sunday lunch and transport.

The Manawatu PHAB Club is a social club which promotes integration socially between people with disabilities and the non-disabled. Please come and join us. For further information please contact Sheena Taylor – home 76-665 or work 62-311.

**Accommodation Available:** Sleepout for rent in a centrally situated family home. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested ring Brad Owen on 83-467 for all the details.

### **OTHER ITEMS**

#### **From Steve Glasgow for his Caving trip:**

For the uninitiated, caving has been described as:

"A pastime enjoyed by a broad spectrum of the population, those who don't mind getting dirt on their hands (such as politicians, newspaper feature writers and sewage contractors), those who enjoy groping their way in the dark (senior Treasury officials, politicians and prostitutes), and those who enjoy extricating themselves from tight squeezes (grand prix drivers, defence lawyers and politicians! (with thanks to LWTC.)

Recently a colleague asked me where to buy maps in town. I offered several suggestions – including Survey and Land Information. Recently I was in there and was impressed to find they do keep in stock a full set of all NZ maps – including the South Island NZMS 260 sheets.

## TRIP REPORTS

### **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GOURMET DINNER RANGI HUT, DEC 8-9**

Under a blue sky and bulging packs, we tottered up to Rangi Hut. The well worn track doesn't get any shorter or less steep. It was a stinking hot summer's day, so all we could do was to laze about and attempt to get through the huge pile of goodies. Nothing energetic for us this day, well someone thought it a nice idea to amble off to the ridge-top to set up a camp, and that involved a bit of a sweat. Anyway, it was a lovely sunset and sunrise from the ridge-top, and well worth the tramp.

But firstly, we had all that marinated venison, asparagus, salad and potatoes to consume. As ever, these gourmet tramps are pretty hard to beat.

The camp site we chose nestled in a sheltered hollow next to a tarn. Tarns are very important on the tops, as some of us were to find out, and the water is usually of very good quality. Despite being nearly Christmas, there was a chilly wind that forced us into our pits early. From there, we could see Mt Ruapehu, still with a good layer of snow, bathed in evening sun.

Sunday brought chilly, damp mist, with the prospect of another good day. Tony doddled off at first light into the Oroua Valley to look for a deer, while the others, in true form, remained curled up in warmth and comfort. The chilly morning turned into a real scorcher of a day. Tony found a foolish young stag to shoot (he only had to carry 30 kg of meat about 300 vertical metres up a leatherwood ridge). All the others were much more sensible (lazier), preferring to enjoy the views and soak up the sunshine. And that sunshine was getting pretty hot by the time we reached our favourite hut for an early lunch. Rangi hut is certainly a popular spot for overnight and day trippers alike. It's easy to see why.

So, happy for a reasonably easy tramp, a delicious dinner, good company, and a successful hunt, we went home. We were; Tony, Steve, Christine, Ian, Connan, Peter, Chris, and Andreas.

## **CHRISTMAS TRIPS**

### **BEECH FORESTS AND TUSSOCK**

A Christmas tramp into the Lewis Pass region by all the trip members

P.N.T.M.C. gets about you know, to visit much of New Zealand's beautiful countryside. Christmas 1990-1991 saw P.N.T.M.C. members climbing on the Southern Alps, tramping on Stewart Island, and as this story tells, tramping about the delightful Lewis Pass – Grey River region.

After the usual pandemonium on the Interislander, we drove south on uncrowded roads the West Coast is renowned for. One last ice-cream for the year at Springs Junction, and we slogged off up the Blue-Grey River to the scenic gem that is Lake Christobel. It wasn't very scenic through the drizzle that day, so we persevered on to the hut, and a well deserved rest.

Day two cleared a wee bit, so we tramped through tussock basins to Brass Monkey Bivy. Windy, yes, but lovely medium-ish tramping, about 6 hours.

Brass Monkey Bivy is a very small orange hut, no more than 2 metres by 2 metres. When I arrived, my first thought was "how are four people going to sleep in this tiny hut?" Darren and Roderick slept on the two bunks at one end, and Chris and Tony slept (rather, tried to sleep) curled up on the floor. Cooking was done on a tiny bench, with an excellent view out the window.

The hut-book's first entry had been written in 1971, and hardly any of the entrants came from the North Island. Brass Monkey Bivy is by a group of tarns, so getting water is easy. There is no fireplace, so you won't suffer from overheating if you stay at the bivy. The bivy is also well ventilated, to provide maximum benefit of the fresh mountain air. (It snowed during our stay at the Brass Monkey Hilton, and there was a lazy wind - that goes through you rather than around you!) However did the bivy get its name?

Day three, and we returned to our food dump at Lake Christobel Hut. A brilliant day it was, so we could see many mountains and valleys, and generally enjoy tramping as it should be. For New Years Eve, we just slept!

Robinson Saddle is on the increasingly popular route between the Robinson and Blue-Grey Rivers, and was probably the high point of the tramp. We approached the saddle from Christobel Hut on a gloriously fine morning, arriving somewhat dehydrated at lunchtime. The panorama from there is unforgettable, with semi-rugged peaks all around. Mts Barren and Boscawen dominate the ranges to the south, and the Robinson Valley stretches a long long way to the west.

Tony and Darren had the camp all set up by the time Chris and Darren sweated in. The afternoon was spent drinking, reading, relaxing, and sheltering from the sun, then grovelling up to Mt Boscawen. Clouds rolled up from the west, and the weather looked a bit doubtful. The evening meal was cooked in the tent foyer in a space much smaller than that offered at Brass Monkey Biv. We then crawled into our "scratchers" to sleep. The rain and wind (and snow!) buffeted us all night, and Roderick discovered why all good trampers carry waterproof bivy bags. Sleep was, for most of the night, intermittent. The wisdom of having the tent door facing away from the wind was then obvious, but a tent with a door at both ends would be better. Conditions inside the tent were actually not all that bad considering the strong winds and our exposed campsite (except of course the usual B.O. emanating from 4 unwashed bodies!). A good tent may be a pain to carry, but its value is unquestionable in such places. You can stay where you want or need to.

The weather cleared up brilliantly by lunchtime. Our 24 hour rest then had to end, as we doddled off down to Robinson Hut. Feeling like a bit more of a walk, we continued on down the track to camp once again, this time on river flats surrounded by forest that part of the West Coast is renown for. On our last day, the sun shone, the birds twittered, and the scenery got better and better. Who is coming next time?

Trip members were: Tony Gates, Roderick Saunders, Chris Saunders, Darren Scott.

## **STEWART ISLAND**

My first impressions of this beautiful island would be seclusion and tranquillity. It is a must for all trampers whether they tramp the northern circuit or the southern route (very rugged, exposed and not many people do this route), or they can do the day tramps (in and around Oban), of which there are enough to keep you going for 10 days or so. The cost of flying down would be the main factor. I have taken a list of accommodation and there are backpackers accommodation at good prices, if anyone is interested.

The Island itself is home to 450 locals, all living in and around the main centre – Oban or Half Moon Bay. I was amazed as to how large the island was approximately 172 000 ha in area and some 65 km from north to south and 40 km east to west with about 25 km of roads.

The forest fringes rocky coastlines, golden sandy beaches, (large and small), crystal clear blue-green water. The green bush is splashed with scarlet rata flowers and is a vivid contrast to the golden sands and the ever present sea. There are numerous small islands dotted everywhere. The forest canopy is dominated by Kamahi over smaller trees, shrubs and ferns. Supplejack and Bush Lawyer twine up to the sun light, while the moist forest floor is a perfect home for mosses and small native orchids. Stately mature Rimu emerge through along with Miro, Totara and in moister places Kahikatea. Rivers and streams are coffee coloured but safe to drink we were told. I forgot to mention the MUD! I viewed some slides of some trampers who were up to their waists in water crossing a swing bridge.

My 3 companions and I were fortunate to stay in a lovely old cottage with antique furniture, open fire, coal range and a great library of books. It had many views over 2 bays as it stood on a hill near Observation Rock. The only difficulty being after a hard days tramp was to climb 2 hills.

The fishing was excellent – mainly Blue Cod. Also mussel collecting was fun. The tracks (around the Oban area) are all well marked and have numerous board walks in places. We visited Akers Point, where the Shearwaters come in at night followed in turn by the Penguins a little later.

I was most impressed with Ulva Island. My friend and I were invited by the owner of the fishing boat to join with a party of 25 German people to spend a few hours on this delightful island. There is a large population of native birds - pigeons, Tuis, Bellbirds, Wekas and Kakas. DOC have just about managed to rid this island of cats and rats etc. They run a very good programme with organized trips, for such things as Kiwi spotting at night. They have talks, slides and films at night, explaining the work they do on the island and what they do on the other sub-Antarctic islands in the area. It was 10.15 each night before darkness fell. Due to the adverse weather conditions, all planes were grounded at Invercargill, so we had to catch the ferry, thus missing our northern connections – was all part of the fun.

Monica Cantwell

## **MORE FROM THE ARROWSMITH'S CORRESPONDENT**

I picked Lance up as arranged at Springs Junction. Then we headed over Lewis Pass and eventually onto the Canterbury Plains. Shortly after 8pm we arrived at the road end just past Lake Heron. While the weather was cloudy, we decided it was going to stay fine, so we crashed under a willow tree for the night. We got up at 5am and got going without breakfast shortly afterwards. The walk up the Cameron Valley, we figured was best done early in the morning or in the

evening. We made good progress as the low cloud broke up delivering what was about to become a hot day. The matagouri seemed to be more extensive than ever, so in a few places the easiest progress was to walk briefly in the river. We stopped for breakfast after about 2 hours. Further up the valley the sole of my boot started coming off at the toe. Shortly after 10 am we arrived at the Cameron Hut.

After a rest, we went for a walk over to the Cameron Glacier where we climbed up about 500 m to where the moraine thins out onto the ice. After returning to the hut, the weather changed to nor-west and during the night we had some rain. We found some self tapping screws in the hut and with the assistance of one of the others in the hut affected some repairs to my boot.

We ignored the alarm at 5 am, but shortly after 6 am, the sun came out, so we decided we should justify our existence by packing up and heading up another 700 m over Peg Col. Shortly after leaving the hut, the cloud rolled in again with showers of rain which turned to snow as we approached the Col at 2000 m. Not too far down the scree in Jagged Stream, both my boot heels gave notice that they had had enough of moraine bashing. I was supposed to lead the way to this marvellous bivy rock which Urs and I had discovered 3 years before. Lance did not say anything but must have been a little concerned when I generally waved up into the drizzle / mist when he asked me where it was. By about midday we reached the bivy (both rather wet) at which point, Lance if he had any worries, would have wondered what sort of comedy show this expedition was going to turn out to be. The bivy rock was one mass of drips. (When we stayed previously, the weather was fine so we had not checked it out in less than ideal weather. A message here somewhere, perhaps?) We decided to tackle the lower chamber and after some innovation with local materials (rocks and tussock) we had got rid of 90+% of the drip volume and it was time to set up home.

Having sorted out the accommodation, it was time to turn attention to the boot problem. Without a satisfactory "fix" – no matter how crude, I could only sit around the bivy for the rest of the trip and hope to walk out without big problems. We managed to drill (burn) holes through the heels and use a spare piece of string to tie them up.

Next morning the weather fined up so we were able to dry things out. In the late morning, we decided to do a reconnaissance trip up the slopes opposite the bivy. We reached the ridge crest (about 2100 m) at about midday and had lunch in the sun. We then headed over the summit of an unnamed peak and descended to Boulder Col (about 2000m). We then decided to head up the ridge beyond towards the Marquee (2450 m). After some intensive rock scrambling we reached the summit of all outlying subsidiary summit (about 2400m). We returned via a good snow slope which was just a little too soft for glissading. The boot fix had performed well - so far.

The weather looked like it might be fine for the next day, so we got up at 4 am and left at 4.45 to attempt Red Peak (about 2640m). To get to Red Peak required about 3 1/2 hours of travelling, first up 500 m of lateral moraine, then a diagonal across the Gridiron Glacier, across the top of the Assault Glacier, through Reischek Col (about 2400m) and down and across the neve of the Reischek Glacier. Unexpectedly, and much to our advantage there was a good freeze during the night so the snow travel made good cramponing.

Once we arrived at the base of Red Peak we got rid of the prusik loops, ran the rope out full and arranged all the slings and anchors that we had ready for use. The first 3 pitches were on a spur – predominately on rock. This spur soon ran out onto a face, which as we got higher, the ratio of snow to rock progressively increased. This made gear selection a problem. Crampons or no crampons? Lance used his axe and hammer without crampons while I stuck with the crampons with the single iceaxe. In places we had problems finding good belay anchors. (The rope always needed to be a few metres longer!) We slowly made our way up a series of gullies. Generally we had the choice of more than one route but had little idea which if any of the gullies would lead us into a dead end. Fortunately we were lucky, however, progress was very slow – less than 50m per hour of height gain.

At between 3 and 4 pm we exited from this maze onto the summit ridge. This, we thought, might be the end of the problems. However, the ridge was much narrower than expected, snow covered and fell away for about 1300m into the Lawrence Valley at an angle even steeper than the face we had just climbed. The summit lay about 6 rope lengths back to the east, but only a few metres higher than our ridge access point. While we were almost a rope apart and Lance was moving out on the Lawrence Face side of the ridge I saw his crampon come completely off. Fortunately it did not tumble away, and after a second or two (which seemed a long time) he figured out what I - was suddenly getting very agitated about.

We reached the top between 5 and 6 pm. It was clear that we were not going to get back to the bivy before dark, but were we going to be able to get off the mountain before dark? It was going to be close. The weather was of no immediate concern, but it was clear that a front was slowly moving in from the S.W. I knew that the east ridge down to the "Notch" had been negotiated by a friend of mine. We therefore continued on along the ridge, with the slope gradually getting steeper. Once we could see into the Notch, we could see that at least one abseil would very likely be required. We got down off the snow onto reasonable rock - reasonable as far as the hand-holds were concerned but rather less so for the foot-holds. At the point where we could climb down no further we hunted for an abseil anchor. We found a good one, but we still were not certain that the rope would reach down to the Notch. This was not helped by an afternoon (late evening) cloud which swept over us bringing a strong breeze which prevented the rope from dropping straight down. The ground below the anchor dropped away preventing a view of where it reached. It was 9 pm., and we decided that it must reach the bottom. It did reach, but with about 5m to spare. Now it was crampons on and axes and snow stake out. The couloir

leading down from the Notch was all snow – dropping away for about 5 rope lengths at 45- 55°. We dodged a couple of rocks falling down the couloir as things began to refreeze. At about 10 pm, we jumped the scrund at the bottom - we were off!

Now it was time to have a reasonable feed (the first for more than 12 hours) and start the plod up to the Col. After many rest stops we gained the 200 m climb to reach the Col shortly after 11 pm. Fortunately, we did not have any crevasses to negotiate in the Reischek. Back at the Col we emerged out of the darkness into a full moon. We managed to retrace our tracks back onto the Gridiron Glacier. The snow had not adequately refrozen at this time so our progress must have looked like a duo of drunken sailors. We saw the New Year in somewhere on the glacier. Somewhere high on the glacier we passed another of life's milestones – it had turned over to the New Year. We finally reached the bivy shortly after 1.30 am. After a huge drink we passed out.

Next day we did little but eat (2 full dinners) and consume large volumes of liquid. The weather deteriorated with rain setting in late in the afternoon.

The next morning we awoke to find about 8 cm of snow outside and a dramatic reversal of the wind direction. We had a few decisions to make. Our hands were in bad shape. Lance had become swollen to the extent that he could not grasp an iceaxe in one hand and only with some difficulty in the other. Mine were not so bad but I had slight frost nip on some finger tips on one hand. We figured that further climbs were out so we might as well make use of the remaining 2 days – tramping. We packed up and headed down Jagged Stream. While cursing the scrub, we found a patch of orchids in the undergrowth. Down at Banfield Hut (on a terrace above the Rakaia River) we had a late lunch before making our way through the matagouri over to Thompson Hut.

After a most comfortable night we got moving about 6 am for the long walk up Lake Stream back to the Cameron carpark. Almost all the way turned out to be along a farm road. The wide almost barren valley was in stark contrast to the upper parts of Jagged Stream. It was not long before the sun started to burn down out of the cloudless sky. However we made good progress, stopping every couple of hours. Although the valley looked very dry (apart from Lake Stream which for the most part was not too far away), every few kilometres there was a side stream to cross and get a handy drink from. About 3 pm we reached the car with one sole of my boots now only attached by about 5 or 6 cm in the middle. Still that was sufficient to complete the job. After camping lower down the Rakaia, we headed in opposite directions to the Coast and Christchurch.

Members were: Peter Wiles and Lance Broad.

### **THE TRAMPER**

Up in the mountains in snow and in rain

over the hilltops on rugged terrain

sunshine and storm clouds.

How great is the call

to the heart of a trumper

magnificent all?

N. N. Gates 1989

### **AND APROPOS OF ABSOLUTELY NOTHING**

Whilst in NZ Post, I asked for a stamp – please. The reply was - "Is it to go to New Zealand?" (Didn't think I was that far away! – Monica

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