



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

**P.O. BOX 1217
PALMERSTON NORTH
NEWSLETTER**

April 1993 Edition

Gear Custodian

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ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

Mick Leyland	: Ph. 358-3183
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TRIPS OFTEN LEAVE FROM THE FOODTOWN CAR PARK IN FERGUSON STREET UNLESS THE LEADER ARRANGES OTHERWISE.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GOING 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.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN A DAY TRIP MID-WEEK RING LAWSON AND SUE PITHER (357-3033).

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.

THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAMME

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

Club 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 unless otherwise notified in the newsletter.

The PNTMC committee meets on the first Thursday of each month.

SCHEDULED EVENT LIST

APRIL

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
<u>Easter Weekend</u> <u>APRIL 9-12</u>	Mt Taranaki	Open	Mike Johns	06-755-2327
<u>APRIL 18</u>	Rangi Hut	E	Jenny McCarthy	06-376-8838
<u>APRIL 25</u>	Atene Skyline Walkway	M	Richard Lockett	323-6489
<u>APRIL 24-25</u>	Howletts	M	Mick Leyland	358-3183

Club Nights: Thursdays 15th and 29th.

MAY

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
<u>MAY 2</u>	Purity/Wooden Peg	M	Chris Saunders	358-4899
<u>MAY 1-2</u>	Upper Makaroro	M	Nigel Barrett	356-1568
<u>MAY 9</u>	Cattle Creek	M	Mick Leyland	358-3183
<u>MAY 15</u>	Makaretu	M	Daryl Rowan	356 4655
<u>MAY 15-16</u>	Top Gorge	E/M	Llew Prichard	358-2217
<u>MAY 23</u>	Fields Hut	M	Kevin Pearce	357-0217
<u>MAY 22-23</u>	Waitawaiwai	E/M	Tricia Eder	357-0122
<u>MAY 29</u>	Local		Morrison	357-6532
<u>MAY 29-30</u>	Crow/McKinnon	M	Nigel Barrett	356-1568

Club Nights: Thursdays 13th and 27th.

THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAMME

EVENTS PROGRAMMED THIS MONTH'S CLUB NIGHT

15 April Hillary Hurst, in conjunction with MACPAC, (I believe) will be giving members the opportunity to have a look at the latest in gear. The meeting will be at Hillary's 'shop 'MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT', located in The Square. Note that we propose to get going at the earlier time of 7.30 for this event. Either bring your credit cards or intentionally leave them at home depending on whether you might be interested in making a purchase or might be tempted into an unplanned budget blowout.

Usual member's discounts apply.

29 April Clive Jones will be giving a presentation "Don't cry for me Argentina". Based on Clive's previous presentations this will be gripping stuff. Make sure you do not miss it.

EDITORIAL

We will not have an editorial as such this month but intend to invite people to pen their views, comments, philosophies etc. on relevant issues that they think are of interest to members.

At the AGM a turnout that just managed a quorum elected the following to the executive for 93/94: Trish Eder (President), Nigel Barrett (Secretary), Peter Wiles (Treasurer), Pauline Coy, Mick Leyland, Derek Sharp, Tony Gates (committee) and Lawson Pither (Patron/Auditor).

At the subsequent committee meeting it was decided that the various tasks for the year would be taken on by the following:

Vice-president	Derek
SAR representatives	Tricia, Mick and Linda
Gear hire	Mick
Nigel has the key to the PO box	
Conservation	Tony
DOC liaison	Tony
Membership enquiries	Pauline and Nigel
Trip card	Derek and Tricia
Publicity	Monica - posters about the town Pauline with assistance
Newsletter editor	Peter
Supper (red bag duties)	Mick
Club night organisation	Turns about the committee

The May committee meeting will be at Mick's place.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

It is that time of year again - please get your sub into the Treasurer as soon as possible. Still the bargain of \$25 for ordinary members, \$30 for family and \$10 for junior members.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

David Hodges is now at 51 Waterloo Crescent. Phone is unchanged.

Anything for Trevor Meyle while he is in Iraq, should be sent to Pauline Coy.

ALPINE CALENDARS

Tony has a list to take your name.

TRIP REPORTS

Don't forget to get your trip reports in, or a letter to the editor, or some good gossip, or a poem or what ever.

AN INVITATION

We have received an invitation from the Wanganui Tramping Club to join their trip to the Atene Skyljine Walkway on Anzac Day 25th April. If interested ring Cecily Matthews 03 342-4833. The rendezvous will be at the Deerstalkers Club, 100 Peat Street at 8 am or at the northern entrance to the track at 9 am.

TRIP REPORTS

A Late Account of the 'Summits for Suffrage' Weekend - February 13/14

My attempt to use the Manawatu Club's lodge went awry - so Sue and Lawson very kindly allowed us to use their house near Ohakune - many thanks Sue and Lawson.

On Friday evening, a brave Dave joined 5 females going up to the mountain. We arrived in a wonderful evening sunset. Saturday dawned perfect. Llew and Jenny Prichard attempted to find us still asleep - but we were up. Plans were made. Dave, Llew and Jenny raced off to go to Ruapehu from the Whakapapa side (see Jenny's account of this). Monica and Pauline decided to go up Ngauruhoe - we left a little later and started walking up to the saddle about 10 am. Weather was perfect - but perhaps a bit too hot. No clouds, Egmont stood out so clearly - it seemed so close. Not too many people on the way up - they had all started out earlier.

The only problem plodding up the side of Ngauruhoe was keeping out of the way of people (which included what must have been a battalion of whatever of the army) and rocks coming down. The views were never ending on the top. We walked around the inside rim and then the outside - fascinating. We ended up spending about 2 hours there. Coming down was a bit quicker and we strode back to the car in yet another perfect evening.

Sunday was overcast but we decided to use the morning and look at Blythe Hut - a pleasant walk through beech forest and over board walks covering swamp areas, waterfalls to see and ladders to climb. A bit colder and damper than the previous day. Trish and Dave decided to jog pack part of the way - the test was, would they reach the road end going the long way before Monica and Pauline arrived via the short way and the car? They didn't - but they were not that far behind - a good preparation run for the Kaweka Challenge.

It was a lovely weekend - many thanks to those who came - Trish Eder, her niece and friend, Monica Cantwell, Dave Hodges Llew and Jenny Prichard and Pauline Coy.

Pinus Contorta Weekend - March 13/14 by Pauline Coy

"Pulling out of". A few words to say that this was a very enjoyable weekend - though a little sore on the back - and to encourage others to join in on the next weekend, which I think will probably be in November. (If you go then a seedling might be big enough for a Christmas tree!) You also get to earn some money for the club as a bonus.

Trish Eder, Liz Morrison and I joined members of clubs from Auckland, Wanganui and Marton, for this weekend organised by DOC. Not only do you visit the pine forest, you see a part of the Tongariro National Park you wouldn't otherwise see, and camp at a lovely DOC camp site on the mountain. The people are interesting and you pick up lots of interesting snippets - the cone seeds can survive for 10+ years and that is why periodic sweeps (say every three years) of volunteers pulling out the seedlings have to be done. All ages went - 15+ - some of us had birthdays so there was plenty of nice food around. The walk from the car to the area of weeding was about one hour away so we had some exercise. A recommended weekend.

Southern Ruahine Day Trip

An early start was organised for a day trip into the Tamaki and Pohangina catchments. Dave and Monica were keen to see Cattle Creek hut while I was determined to find the lost track. The Tamaki road end is one of the highest used road ends in the Southern Ruahines and we set off early to avoid the heavy foot traffic and to secure a car park. The walk up to Stanfield Hut was easy going up the West Tamaki River. From Stanfield Hut, travel to the

low saddle was easy and from this point two routes to Cattle Creek are available. From the saddle I found the lost track which heads for the Takapari high point. Dave and Monica headed off to Cattle Creek while I headed up to Takapari. The lost track was a little overgrown and travel was difficult in places. Weather conditions did not allow for much of a view on arrival at the top, however Centre Creek could be seen. I wandered toward the A-frame. On the way and after a quick stop I found two hunters in the leatherwood in a somewhat distressed condition. After a friendly wave I headed to the A-frame for lunch. Finally we all met up at the car. Dave reported that Cattle Creek Hut had surprisingly few people visit over the summer; which is interesting considering that it is so accessible. Overall access and improvements in the huts in the area have certainly increased the usage of the lower Tamaki, yet there is still some spots which have little usage and these tend to be places worth seeing.

Paul Scheyvens, Monica Cantwell and Dave Hodges.

Waterfall Hut - 20/21 March by Chris Saunders

An excellent weather forecast gave us high hopes for the weekend and Saturday morning dawned fine and clear. The Ruahine tops stood out starkly in the light and shadow as we drove to the Waipawa River car park. Away up the river at 9.30am and the steady climb up the valley along piles of eroded Ruahine greywacke saw us lunch at the start of the short bush track to the Waipawa Saddle. A few white clouds floated across the sky from the west and a light wind sprang up. Still we were sure we would get good views of the Hikurangi Range from the saddle - no such luck - the westerly was already bringing in thick cloud. With parkas on in the cool conditions and on up to the ridge leading south from Three Johns. The climb up to onto the unnamed peak (1635m) was a scramble through long tussock and numerous Spaniards - a painful experience for those who had not been on the tops before. The walk across to Rangiateatua (1702 m) with its rocky approach was much easier travel. On the south side of this peak were patches of snow from the previous Thursday's storm. A steep descent to Rang Saddle - a rock scramble - climbing backwards down a gut and a scree slide and we were at the saddle. The mixture of rock, tussock and Spaniards made travel down to the bushline track rather slow but once we were in Rangi Creek, it was a fairly speedy trip down and around to Waterfall Hut. We reached the hut at about 6 pm.

Waterfall Hut is a most attractive situation on the truce right bank of the upper Kawhatau Valley. Attractive beech forest, open grassy flats and dramatic mountain tops give the place a South Island feel.

After a good nights rest we were up at dawn (6.45 am for us) and away on our return - back to Rangi Saddle. Westerly rain and gale force wind on the exposed tops, a quick stop in a sheltered spot at the saddle and then down to the Waterfall Hut for lunch. After negotiating hundreds more Spaniards and crossing the stream heaps of times we arrived at the hut for early lunch. Then it was up to the Waipawa Saddle along the more open stream and followed by a steep ascent to the saddle. The wind tried hard to blow us over and to varying extents succeeded. From the saddle it was a quick trip down the Waipawa to the car park.

An excellent weekend through new country for all of us, except for Peter who showed great understanding for the three members of the team who had not been tramping in such terrain before. The other members of the party were: Haydon Roy, Natasha Lamb, Tineka Panchaud and Chris.

MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT Ltd.

14 The Square Ph 359-2162

What's new in the outdoors with Mountain Equipment?

Mountain Equipment invites YOU to the shop on Thursday April 15th at 7.30pm to learn about what's new in the outdoors.

- Come and See
- Come and Feel
- Come and meet your Friends and ask questions

Guest presenter will be Colin Hancock from MACPAC Wilderness.

PS. Don't forget your biscuits.



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We sell & hire packs, boots
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No 14 The Square	Tue - Thurs	9.00-5.30
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	Sat	9.30-12.30