



PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

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

June 1993 Edition

Gear Custodian

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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

JUNE

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
<u>JUNE 20</u>	Kime	M/F	Brian Lawrence	324-8552
Into the Tararuas from Otaki Forks and onto the tops. Take your ice axe? and hot water bottle (and Therm-a-rest).				

Mid Winter

JUNE 26-27

Putaru School house All

Contact Tricia Eder (357-0122)

to arrange transport, menu, activities, timing and coordination details etc. (Also to celebrate various members' birthdays.)

Drive to site via Eketahuna and road to Herepai/Roaring Stag track access. Suitable for all grades including families.

Tramps of all grades can be arranged. Everyone most welcome.

Club Night: Thursday 24th.

JULY

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
<u>JULY 4</u>	Irongates	M	Llew Prichard	358-2217
<u>JULY 10-11</u>	Snowcraft 1	Tahurangi Lodge	Mike Johns Phone Tricia	357-0122
<u>JULY 17</u>	Waiopehu	E/M	Perry Hicks	355-1393
<u>JULY 24</u>	Rangi	Skiing	Paul Scheyvens	357-4138
<u>JULY 24-25</u>	Dead Dog (Ruahines somewhere?)	M	Mick Leyland	358-3183
<u>JULY 24-25</u>	Te Hekenga	F	Derek Sharp	326-8178
<u>JULY 31-1</u>	Mitre Frats	E	Liz Morrison	357-6532
<u>JULY 31-1</u>	Mitre-Cow Creek	M	Brenton Sheppard	06-376-8474

Club Nights: 15th and 29th

THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAMME

Club Night: Thursday 27th June - Photo competition.

Thursday 29th July - Colin Hancock (of MACPAC) will be talking about clothing, tents and the rest of their gear (excluding packs).

EDITORIAL

LIFE'S RICH TAPESTRY

As the Club's patron and invited to put pen to paper for this editorial, I hope you'll enjoy this narration of events which took place in the sixties shortly after the PNTMC was formed.

At that time, members had finished relocating and remodelling Rangiwahia Ski Club Hut which was then officially recognised by the NZ Forest Service as the PNTMC Club Hut. As mountain huts went it was comfortable, weatherproof and a most satisfactory retreat in bad weather, but lacked an efficient wood burning stove suitable for cooking purposes.

The following is the story of the stove. A group of four, comprising the President and three committee members, decided that the stove appealed as a worthwhile project but the Club had no spare funds and so economy was to be the name of the game. One Saturday, the four set off with trailer to investigate the Ballance to Pahiatua area, searching for lone chimneys (the results of house fires). The theory was that most of those chimneys would have a stove at the foot. There were many of these chimneys in this area but after years of weathering the majority were in appallingly bad condition or had been removed for use in the "New House".

After enquiries concerning many chimneys, a generous farmer gave this group of eccentrics a reasonably good sample of the stove maker's art which finished up in the writer's garden shed (cum garage). None of the group had experience in the field of stove engineering but it was decided to strip down and rebuild it. The stripping was completed and the shed which comfortably accommodated a car became full of sooty parts.

The group met regularly with much socializing, tea drinking etc, and after about six weeks, the job was done at no cost to the Club. It was time for the trial run and the little beauty was moved into the garden and stoked up. She drew perfectly and an experiment with water in the wet-back pipe was tried and had unexpected results. A jet of super-heated water shot out and demolished a row of Brussels sprouts. We decided then that a hot water service in the Hut was beyond the group's capability.

The second phase was to deliver the stove to Rangi Hut. At that time our club had an excellent relationship with the NZ Forest Service who very kindly offered to deliver the stove by helicopter. All they required was it to be delivered to their base at Pohangina. The group were delighted to comply with the above and in due course farmers in the Rangiwahia area were surprised to see a helicopter with a stove suspended underneath heading in towards Rangi Hut in very cloudy conditions.

A message was received from NZFS that the pilot could not see the Hut but had put the stove down on a knob which showed through the clouds. A search party from the club found the lost stove about a mile from the Hut on the snow covered slopes of Mangahua. It was easy to fix the stove onto a sheet of galvanised iron, and with ropes on each corner - behold a sledge! To sledge it down to the hut, it was decided that the President (myself) would control proceedings from the

sledge. The rope parties provided forward momentum and when required the rear parties acted as brakes on the steep slopes.

What developed was that the arranged load hurtled down hills at high speed, the President abandoned ship and the front rope party shot off to each side, out of the path of the juggernaut. Sufficient control or plain luck meant that the sledge did not descend the steep gully to the right of the track and the journey was completed very quickly without injury to the haulers.

The front of the hut was taken out and the stove put in and the chimney attached and the first brew under way – total cost nil.

Those taking part were: Wayne Bauchard, Roger Clarke, Keith Potter and Lawson Pither.

Looking to the future, I wish the Club many years of happy tramping - Lawson.

NOTICES

NEW MEMBER

We welcome a new member to the club:

Aaron Panchaud
8 Lockhart Avenue
Palmerston North
Phone 354-8422

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

FOR SALE

Chest Freezer - 12 cubic feet; Motorbike Suzuki GN250, phone 357-0122. 2-man tent, Great Outdoors, with single flexible pole design, compact. \$220. Phone Mark Clements 3563834.

ALPINE CALENDARS

We have sent off for an order of 30 Alpine Calendars of which at least 20 are already spoken for. The remainder are up for grabs on a first come first served basis. We may order another lot later depending on demand. The price will be \$12.50. 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. We seem to have an excellent coverage this month - keep up the good work and thanks contributors.

PHOTOGRAPH COMPETITION

At the June club night we will be having the annual photograph competition and as in previous years, John Cleland will be judging (facilitating) it.

I have amended the rules slightly to widen the scope and to go some way in removing some anomalies that I have perceived to be occurring.

The modified rules are:

- Only photos taken in New Zealand are acceptable
- Photos must not have been entered before.
- Only 3 entries in anyone category by any contributor.

The modified categories are as follows (separate for slides and prints):

- Natural History - any evidence of man must not be present
- Topical - Tramping
- Topical - Mountaineering

(The topical emphasis must be on people doing things.)

- Landscape - Tramping (Mountains, rock and snow should not be a significant aspect of the photo.)
- Landscape - Mountaineering (Vegetation, streams, lakes etc. should not be a significant aspect of the photo).

There may be a black and white print category in the above sections if there are any contributions.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next committee meeting will be at 7.45 pm on July at Peter Wiles place.

TRIP REPORTS

KAWEKA CAPERS - by Sue Pither

Between the 14th and 22nd of January, certain more mature (veteran) members of the Club decided it was high time they had a look at the Kawekas.

The trip had been planned two years previously, but many things had got in the way. However this time it was go, so off we went.

Roughly as follows:

Day 1. Clements Road to Cascade Hut. We didn't quite make the hut partly because of a late start but more so when we stopped at a shop to buy our fishing licences, we found that Taupo Air had a lease on part of the land and they could say who was allowed through!

Our original intention was to go to Ngapuketura and down to Boyd via the Mangamingi Saddle. This was changed to; Boyd via the Waiatupurita Saddle. (An interesting and frustrating state of affairs to say the least!)

Day 2. Cascade to Boyd. A real bush-bash below the Waiatupuritu Saddle on overgrown tracks until just before you reach Boyd Lodge.

Day 3. Just watched plane loads of tourists coming and going from the air-strip. Also drunk many a cup of tea and shared many a yarn with the other two occupants of the Lodge, who incidentally were bath close to 76 and 80 years of age. They were very generous and supplied us with bacon and eggs which they'd flown in with them, courtesy of an air-born nephew.

Day 4. Left most of the gear at Boyd's and made an excursion trip to Tussock Hut and back. We got back pretty early and spent the later part of the evening fishing without success. However, it was a pleasant walk back on a clear starlit night to the hut with the aid of a torch.

Day 5. Rest day at Omaru. Some stayed at the hut and went fishing. Others went to Sika Saddle for an outing.

Day 6. Omaru to Te Iringa Hut. Much the same as Day 5 on a very well graded track. The bush was very dry by the hut, and member of another group had to be discouraged in his efforts to light a fire in the conditions.

Day 7. Te Iringa to Clements Road. A leisurely stroll out to the road end and a 6 km jog by Bud and Sue to get the cars which were in safe keeping at Sika Lodge.

When we arrived the people who ran the place were out, but luckily Bud had a spare key and was able to go and get the rest of the party.

The owners didn't turn up for about 6 hours and gave us some wild pork and venison as a sort of recompense for our long wait!

In conclusion, the weather was almost perfect for the whole trip so we considered ourselves to be very fortunate indeed to strike the one and only fine week that January had to offer!

We were (senior citizens first) Bud and Nan Cade, Lawson and Sue Pither, Nick and Mary Webb.

TOP MAKARORO - TOP SPOT by Nigel Barrett

I thought that an early start would be in order, just in case the weather turned out good and we could go on a bit further to Aranga Hut and down to Top Makaroro Hut. However us three keen, energetic trampers were on the road at 5.30 am, but my careless map reading led us to the wrong track (an old track did exist but it was hard to distinguish between track and bush). This mistake cost us about 1 hour and we decided not to take the long way (the weather was not especially brilliant either) so instead we took a highly leisurely pace to Parkes Peak Hut on a track that was good enough to mountain bike on for most of the way. The clear patches and low beech trees with low cloud surrounding made a rather peaceful setting. Parks Peak Hut was reached after an easy 4.5 hours and another 45 minutes took us down to Top Makaroro. I had heard that this hut was a real dog box and was advised to camp outside, but after reaching the hut I saw that only 2 years ago this hut had received a facelift. It now has four bunks with a mattress each, a clean interior, Corker Cooker and even a brand new long drop that lacks the usual aromas.

Top Makaroro sits by the river after which it is named; the river is a rapid torrent type river that is perfect habitat for the Blue Duck (with a reported three pairs above the hut in the main tributaries and a pair that are often seen outside the hut in the early morning).

Sunday morning came all too quickly but I was keen to get under way as soon as possible to get onto the tops and test my yet untested navigation skills in low cloud. So after breakfast (apple and rhubarb pie for me - thanks Mum!), we set off up Totara Spur for the Tupari Trig and then to carryon to Te Atu Mahuri Trig (which has been blown off the top?) and then drop down the Colenso Spur.

All went well along the tops and travel :was easy and the wind and rain proved to be little resistance to us on the tops. We made use of a calm patch to have our lunch break and enjoy our first (and only) view of the trip (it took a long time coming and it only lasted 5 minutes) down into the Makaroro Valley.

We shot down Colenso Spur at such a blistering pace that we missed the commemorative cairn and the wide flat riverbed was going to be a cinch to travel down (or was it)?

One problem I had neglected to anticipate was the rising river; this initially made me quite nervous of the perils of river crossing. However determined to get out, we set off down the river which was quite easy at first, but quickly became a problem - we needed to cross the river about 20 times - and the fact that it is a river with many rapids, severely limiting our options of where to cross.

A lot of crossings had the potential for disastrous consequences, should anything go wrong. Fortunately the knowledge of rivers by one of our party members (Aaron - a kayaker) was highly valuable and went a long way to ensuring our safety. Dave Hodges had a bit of a drink on one of the crossings, but at least his pack stayed dry. I definitely realized my mistake here and have learnt from it, fortunately the riverbed was wide and the river was not too high.

All things considered a great weekend had by Aaron Panchaud, Dave Hodges and Nigel Barrett.

MAKARETU-LONGVIEW HUTS DAY TRIP - 16th May by Daryl Rowan

With the forecast for rain everywhere, we set out anyway into improving weather as we travelled north. The Kashmir Road had been regraded to the gate easing my anxiety levels but the road beyond had not. In light drizzle with promises of a clearance we headed off into the Makaretu North Branch - a lovely stream with some fine Dendrobium cunninghami orchids growing at head height on the bluffs by the stream. At the junction with the tributary up to Makaretu Hut we meet our first evidence of DOC's new track cutting spree with a new track from Happy Daze Hut. The track was useful to "cut the corners" up to the hut but there's still no avoiding the particularly greasy rocks in this tributary. From the notes in the Makaretu Hut book, Doc has now recut all (and some new) tracks in this area.

After lunch we took the northern (shorter) route onto the range - again recut but the wet cut vegetation left on the uneven track made travel though the scrub sections tricky (later we were impressed to see a DOC worker clearing this stuff off the track). Once on the tops and after a brief clearance the weather set in. We temporarily detoured on one open area but fortunately the compass and the sound of a chainsaw (second DOC worker track clearing in the rain) both agreed on which way we should proceed. We bypassed Longview Hut, and slipped our way down the ridge to the car typically losing the track as we hit the scrub. Another slight clearance confirmed what the compass was trying to tell me and we reached the car in mist, rain and gathering darkness. The gravel road back was wet and greasy between the ruts, the highway even worse but happily Simon did all the driving. Superb day trip but an awful drive.

Daryl Rowan, Simon Fielder.

CROW HUT - 29/30 May

A traditional 6.00 am start from PN was decided upon, so leaving home at 5.45 am to pick up Mike, I thought we'll finally be in with a chance of leaving at the desired time – however this was not to be.

I turned up at Mike's grandmothers place where he was supposedly staying only to find that there were no lights on, so thinking that Mike was still asleep I proceeded to flash the car's lights in the window and call his name out. This resulted in waking the neighbours but not Mike. After all hour of mucking around here, it was decided that we should see if he was staying at his parent's place which proved to be the case. So we finally set off for Kawhatau Base at 7.00 am.

With no further hassles we arrived at the base at 9.00 am after obtaining permission to cross the private land. In no time we were at the cage.

The track heading to the Hikurangi Range is quite steep for quite a way, and it passes a few slips. The quick climb resulted in us reaching snow very soon. An easier pace was set of the rest of the way. The surrounding snow was good to throw at each other. As we approached the bushline we also got into the clouds, but the poled route was easily followed and lunch was had at the Crow Hut turn off. Due to the conditions, the party decided to drop over to Crow Hut for a lazy afternoon. So after many slips and tumbles - due to a snowy and slippery track, and carefully avoiding the masses of bush lawyer we reached the hut and were surprised to find quite a lot of snow around it. The Kawhatau River is very picturesque; a lot of deep pools, high banks, large rocks and many rapids - which would make river travel down stream of Crow Hut quite difficult. We made the most of our afternoon by collecting firewood for our roaring (smoky) fire.

On Sunday we were to climb up to the Mokai Patea Range and head towards Colenso high point. We got wet feet only 10 minutes into the day - but this was nearly unavoidable. We reached the bushline and continued to follow the poles to the top of the range. We were in cloud and wind and this made navigation difficult. I took a compass bearing at the 3 warratahs, looked at the map and figured out the best plan of attack for this ridge, and proceeded to wander off into the mist in the wrong direction. I was reminded by team members of my mistake and proceeded to follow the bearing religiously. I still had absolutely no idea where on the ridge where we were, but as if on cue, the cloud cleared and revealed the climb to the Mokai signpost - and my faith in the compass was restored. No time was wasted in reaching the signpost where we

lunched and then continued on in sunshine (yes folks the sun did indeed smile upon us) back to Kawhatau Base. We arrived there at 2.40 pm after a leisurely 6 hours.

A relaxing two days in the snow had by Michael Curson, David Hodges and Nigel Barrett.

TRAMPING COLD by Derek Sharp

Archoo!! We were still disputing which range we would head for even after we left for the Northern Tararuas for a four day scenic tour. The proposed trip was quite plausible but depended upon the first day and our parents consent (the problems of living at home). Unknown to us a conspiracy came to ahead a few days before we left and we were ordered to take radios - more weight.

Monday came and we set off with my mother driving the van all over the damn road in the dark hours of the morning. There was a pronounced camber on the road and minimal gravel and from our vantage point inside the van, the driver was not impressed by the time we finally reached the second reservoir. Moreporks were hooting loudly as our first day began.

We passed the first reservoir at 7.15 am and with the de-silting programme in progress, it was interesting to see the floor of the dam. From here there was a quick walk up the Mangahao past deep, clear blue pools until we arrived at Harris Creek Hut. Archoo! After a small snack we carried on to inspect the new Avalanche Flats Hut (now called the Mangahao Hut?). We arrived at the hut somewhat unexpectedly as the position of the hut was unknown to us. The hut is colossal with room for 30-40 people and its condition beats even the huts around Mt Ruapehu. As one guy noted in the logbook, 'From my calculations this hut won't pay for itself until the year 2208!' I think DOC's idea is to put a highway (paved) through the western Tararuas from there to Te Matawai ... to elsewhere to cater for the Sunday walker's?

After hunting for the track onwards (drops down to the river flat just before the toilet track) , we carried on to the old hut site. After another two hours we arrived and disturbed some deer on the way causing them to crash about (Tony take note). After more hunting for the track (up Triangle Spur), whose use DOC seems to be discouraging, we took a bearing and headed up. Once gaining the track proper, it proved to be the best track of the whole trip! Archoo!

As we climbed my four day cold/flu took its toll. I crawled over Triangle Knob, stumbled to the saddle and with the fading daylight gained a further 100 m up the slopes of Mt Dundas and finally ground to a halt at about 1400 m. After calling down my aspiring friend to my own level where he couldn't coax me on, we decided to make camp in the failing light.

It proved a challenge to pitch a fly when the highest thing you've got is clumps of tussock! We made camp as the weather continued to drizzle with rather turbulent wind, wetting our sleeping bags. We skipped dinner and our radio sked time, consuming instead large quantities of fresh moist air. The night wore on. As time trickled on, what was damp was now becoming increasingly wet and with minimal insulation between us and the ground, vigorous shaking set upon us.

After a quick discussion, it was decided to spend the rest (no pun intended) (all) of the night back-to-back with one sleeping bag underneath and the other dripping on top of us. You have to try this unplanned bivying out business just to see how loooooooooooooonnnnnnggggggg twelve cold hours can be.

With little sleep the day finally dawned with more of yesterday's weather. A quick pack and an even quicker breakfast, we shot off, conquered Mt Dundas and took a bearing but ended up back-tracking half our steps to Nigel's puzzlement, but eventually got ourselves orientated. All I will say is that we arrived at Arete Biv (moved about 10 m out of the tarn in a SW direction) in a longer than usual time due to our nourishing breakfast and good sleep.

A late brunch/dinner was had at about 10.30 am. We had a re-organization of our plans at this stage. From here we sidled Arete to Pukematawai and dropped down to Te Matawai Hut in lifting cloud. Of the tracks around Te Matawai Hut, all I can say is that I can see why few club trips visit this area - a total muddy pig wallow!! The idea now was to spend our second night at Te Matawai Hut and dry out, but due to the layout of the hut (big and sprawling with a rusty fireplace and no dry wood) drying out was not an option). However, pigging out was. A good sized meal with copious quantities of water was the answer - I was beginning to wonder how much weight I'd lost?

Wringing out our sleeping bags didn't appeal, so we piled up all the mattresses in the hut to sleep on / under (2 in a hut that sleeps 30) with our now dry fly over the top. We called in on the radio at our appointed time asking to be picked up at the road end 24 hours earlier rather than wasting another day.

The night was blissful by comparison, with a midnight feast followed by a card game then plenty of zzzzzzzzzzzzzzz's. The third day dawned with a hearty breakfast. We left the hut and headed to Twin Peak. Another bearing (and to my surprise) we climbed Waiopehu where we encountered a 40 cm dead worm. Lunch was had at Waiopehu Hut (more character than Te Matawai Hut). We had a minor dilemma with a signpost in the middle of nowhere. In spite of a quick trip out we arrived at the road end just in time to see our ride leaving! However, 30 minutes later we were on our way home .

The original plans will have to be tackled again. Comments (parents) "I'm not driving to the end of that road again in the van; on the way out I saw another tramping party being dropped off at the power station." "Wasn't the radio worthwhile"? (Surprise, surprise!)

Team in order of importance Nigel Barrett Esq., Derek Sharp Esq., and Sir Archoo.

(I seem to recall Trevor Bissell describing a trip which ended up having bivy out under similar conditions when they were unable to locate Dundas Ridge Hut in thick cloud. Make sure you have a Karrimat and a survival bag when on a trip - especially into unfamiliar country; such basics are not expensive - editor)

RANGI TO HOWLETTS Queens Birthday Weekend June 5/6/7 by Pauline Coy

Mick was leading this trip. I dithered about going - the weather forecast for the weekend was not good, but on the Friday (at least in PN) there was no rain, so I changed my mind and at 4 pm rang Mick to ask if I could join him, Tricia and Llew. We met up at 6 pm, with Llew's son giving us a lift to Rangī. It was a good walk up to Rangī; perfect weather and a full moon. Also there was no one at the hut. We tested the new gas facilities - the fire does not have the heat of the old wood stove. Two more trampers arrived later that evening and we learned the next morning they were planning to do the same crossing.

I should really title this a "yuppie" trip for more than one reason. The first being that if the weather changed during the night we could beat a retreat because we had a cell phone with us - every eventuality was taken care of. There was no change in the weather and at 6.30 am we were heading off to Mangahua. We reached this just as a glorious dawn was breaking (what was that - red skies in the morning shepherds' warning). We carried on to Mangamahue and then turned eastwards along the ridge to Te Hekenga. Looking back we could see the other two trampers behind us and they eventually caught up with us at Te Hekenga. Mick's plan was to be there by midday in case the wind freshened during the afternoon. After lots of grunts up the ridge to Te Hekerlga (300m over 1 km) we reached the high point just before midday.

Peter Clough in his account of the crossing in "101 Great Tramps in NZ" writes that: "The stiff climb is rewarded by extensive views over heavily eroded ridges including ... Sawtooth Ridge to the east". We saw Hawkes Bay and the sea to the east and to the west we could see the Manawatu Plains. Looking south we could see Whariti Peak. Mick tested the route round the rocky pinnacle off Te Hekenga and we settled on a track to the south side skirting the summit. We picked different ways of getting to the track - Llew and myself descended via a scree slope further from the summit; Mick and Tricia came down the scree just under the summit. We rewarded ourselves with lunch just beyond this high point and revelled in the views - so often we come to these tops only to be in cloud. The weather was very agreeable today. The wind though fresh could have been much worse and there was very little snow around.

Our route proceeded along the ridge to Taumataomekura and then to Tiraha - easy ridges though there seemed to be more ups and downs (or was I just getting tired!). From Tiraha, Howletts Hut could be seen to the south-east - about 1 hour away. You could follow the ridge to the south-east for about 200m, then cut across onto the eastern ridge - thus avoiding the steep route directly from the summit, but some of us were in a little world of our own and almost carried on down the wrong ridge so even here, be careful - especially in cloud. Howletts Hut was very welcome - for me it was an 8 hour tramp, M/F pace. We shared the hut with the other two from Rangī; one of whom was a friend of Trevor Bissell's.

I said that this was a "yuppie" tramp - in the evening we supplied our port and Drambue - and made telephone calls to the outside world! (Reception was very clear.)

All good things come to an end - the rain did come during the night so though some said they wanted to go on to Longview, we opted to make our way out in the rain via Daphne Hut to Moorcock base and a waiting car.

Thanks to Mick for organising the trip and to Llew for the transport.

A good trip. Mick Leyland, Llew Prichard, Tricia Eder and Pauline Coy.

QUEENS BIRTHDAY STANFIELD-TAKAPARI by Peter Wiles

My brain suddenly went from neutral into third gear: I thought I could hear the bird's singing. I opened my eyes and I could see the glimmerings of daylight already filtering through the curtains. I grabbed for the alarm and my worst fears were confirmed. I was due to be at Bruce's place in 3 minutes. After ringing Bruce and explaining that for him, at least, there was no hurry, I ploughed through breakfast and arrived to pick him up at 8.45 am.

Although we were an hour later than planned, the day looked good. We headed for the Tamaki Valley car park. After changing we headed down the stream a short way to cross on a farm bridge before following the farm road up the true left towards Stanfield Hut. The wind was quite strong here and we were glad of the shelter offered by the trees alongside the road. The road eventually gives way to a rather pleasant track which sidles down to the riverbed. After a short stretch up the riverbed, we arrived at the hut. Neither of us had been to Stanfield since it was renovated. There was no one around. A very pleasant spot it is too.

We next headed up the track to Takapari Road. A bit of a grunt this track, and perhaps due for a bit of clearing? The top section was rather muddy. We made good time and once we reached the ridgetop, we adjusted the layers of clothing to suit the chillier conditions. We could see Takapari Peak dimly outlined in the cloud. A side trip to this vantage point would have to wait for another day. Before long we reached the road. The cloud layer was tending to lift off the ridgetop so quite soon we could see Traverse Hut in the distance. We arrived at the hut at 12.15 pm, where it was time for lunch.

We took the new track down to the Tamaki car park. The initial stages were again muddy but we managed to avoid getting too bogged down. About two thirds of the way down, the new track connects onto a long established, graded and well metalled track. Progress can be rather faster here but there is the danger of charging into Onga onga. There is some rather fine bush in this area. We arrived back at the car at 2 pm. We just started to drive out of the park when the first drops of rain arrived. It rained all the way back to PN. An excellent round about day trip with dry feet maintained for the duration.

Bruce Van Brunt and Peter Wiles.

PNTMC
Box 1217
Palmerston North

Postage Paid
Permit Number
286
Palmerston North

CLUB NIGHTS

Photographic competition June 24th.

Massey Rockwall July 15th

MACPAC Clothing/Gear July 29th.

Debate (To be arranged)

Quiz (To be arranged)

January BBQ at Tricia's Thursday 27th

Suggestions invited.

Trip Grades

Grades of trips can depend on many factors, most especially the weather and state of the track. As a guide, a reasonably proficient trapper would be expected to cover the graded trips in about the following times: Easy (E) 3 - 4 hours, Medium (M) 5 - 6 hrs, Fit (F) about 8 hrs, Fitness Essential (FE) > 8 hrs. (T) refers to trips graded technical requiring either special skills and / or gear.

Gear

The club has gear available for hire. For major trips and instruction courses, some gear might be in short supply and early bookings are desirable. Phone Mick Leyland (358-3183).

Gear for General Trips

For day trips, each person should have appropriate footwear, small pack, lunch and nibbles, water bottle, parka, over trousers, gloves, whistle, and woollen head gear. There must be at least one torch, first aid kit, map and compass amongst the group, plus an adequate supply of toilet paper and sun cream etc. On snow, dark glasses or preferably goggles are essential. For weekend or longer trips, a large pack with sleeping bag and cover, carry-mat, parka, over-trousers, mittens, balaclava, longjohns / change of warm clothes, torch, with spare bulb, map compass, eating utensils, first aid kit, sun cream, candle, matches, toilet paper, and food for appropriate number of days. Dinners are usually communal. Hut passes are required depending on location and plans.

Overdue Trips Contacts

Linda Rowan Ph 356-4655, Mick Leyland Ph.358-3183, or Lawson & Sue Pither Ph 357-3033.

Club Officers for 93/94

President: Tricia Eder 357-0122 Secretary: Nigel Barrett 356-1568
Treasurer: Peter Wiles 358-6894 Membership enquiries: Pauline Coy 356-8782 or Nigel Barrett 356-1568 Editor: Peter Wiles; Newsletter mailing: Peter Wiles; Gear custodian: Mick Leyland 358-3183.

P. N. Tramping & Mountaineering Club Inc. Six Month Event endar: June - December 93

JULY

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
4	Irongates	M	Llew Prichard	358-2217
10-11	Snowcraft 1 Tahurangi Lodge	M	Mike Johns or contact Tricia Eder	06-755-2327 357-0122
17	Waiopahu	E/M	Perry Hicks	355-1393
24	Rangi	Skiing	Paul Scheyvens	357-4138
24-25	Dead Dog Hut	M	Mick Leyland	358-3183
24-25	Te Hekenga	F	Derek Sharp	326-8178
31-1	Mitre Flats	E	Liz Morrison	357-6532
31-1	Mitre-Cow Creek	M	Brenton Sheppard	06-376-8474
Committee meeting 1st.			Club Nights: 15th and 29th.	

AUGUST

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
8	Makaretu Hut area	M	Malcolm Parker	357-5203
7-8	Snowcraft 2 @ Rangipo	M/F	Peter Wiles	358-6894
14	Harris-Baber Creeks	M	Derek Sharp	326-8178
14-15	Rangitau	Open	Sue/Lawson Pither	357-3033
22	Sunrise-Sparrowhawk Biv	E&F	Daryl Rowan	356-4655
21-22	Tahurangi Lodge	Tech	Tricia Eder	357-0122
28-29	Hikurangi Crossing	F	Derek Sharp	326-8178
28-29	Wild Horses Kaimanawas	M	Malcolm Parker	357-5203
Committee Meeting: 5th.			Club Nights: 12th and 26th.	

SEPTEMBER

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
4	Rimutaka Walkway	E	Richard Lockett	323-6489
4-5	Egmont	M/F	Bruce Van Brunt	356-4217
12	Kaiparoro Clearing	E	Brenton Sheppard	063768474
11-12	Snowcraft 3 @ Whangaehu	F/T	Peter Wiles	358-6894
19	Diggers/Forks	M	Brian Lawrence	324-8552
18-19	Iron Bark	M	Chris Saunders	358-4899
18-19	Tararua Peaks	FE	Nigel Barrett	356-1568
25	Santoft Beach/Beach	E	Liz Morrison	357-6532
25-26	Yoemans Track Mtn Bike ride Pedals	Aaron Panchaud	354-8422	
Committee meeting: 2nd.			Club Nights: 16th and 30th.	

OCTOBER

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
3	Purity	M	Tricia Eder	357-0122
10	Pohangina River	E/M	Linda Rowan	356-4655
9-10	Holdsworth	E/M	Pauline Coy	356-8782
17	Tunipo/Toka Peaks	M	Peter Stockdale	355-5277
Labour weekend (Those without exams, make use of daylight saving.)				
23-24-25	1/2/3 day options	Any	Tricia Eder	357-0122
25	Pohangina Reserve	Family	Linda Rowan	356-4655
31	Waipawa	E	Tricia Eder	357-0122
30-31	Waterfall Creek	M	Perry Hicks	355-1393
Committee meeting: 7th.			Club Nights: 14th and 28th.	

NOVEMBER

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
6	The Styx, Apiti BBQ+Fireworks		Marcel Hollenstein	359-4212
6-7	Sawtooth Ridge	F	Tony Gates	357-7439
14	Rokaiwhana	M	Mick Leyland	358-3183
13-14	Snow Caving	Tech	Derek Sharp	326-8178
21	Roaring Stag	M	Judy Stockdale	355-5277
20-21	Colenso Crossing	M	Llew Prichard	358-2217
28	Rangi Stream	E&F	Daryl Rowan	356-4655
27-28	Pinus Contorta	Open	Perry Hicks	355-1393
Committee meeting: 4th.			Club Nights: 11th and 25th.	

DECEMBER

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
4	Ruapehu	Tech	Derek Sharp	326-8178
5	Xmas dinner	Food	Dennis Moore	357-5651
12	Hinerua Ridge/Hut	M	Mick Leyland	358-3183
19	Ohau Valley	E	Richard Lockett	323-6489
18-19	Whangaehu Ruapehu	Tech	Peter Wiles	358-6894
Xmas trips ideas				
Committee meeting: 2nd.			Club Night: 9th. Dinner at Brian's place, Mt Stewart. As is usual there will be no 2nd club night scheduled for 23rd.	
January trips local contact Tricia. BBQ 27th January Tricia's place.				