



# PALMERSTON NORTH TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB INC.

P.O. BOX 1217  
PALMERSTON NORTH  
NEWSLETTER

October 1993 Edition

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## ENQUIRES CONCERNING OVERDUE TRIPS

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

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TRIPS OFTEN LEAVE FROM THE FOODTOWN CAR PARK IN FERGUSSON 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.

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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.

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

### OCTOBER

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
<u>OCTOBER 17</u>	Tunipo/Toka Peaks	M	Peter Stockdale	355-5277
Labour weekend (Those without exams, make use of daylight saving.)				
<u>OCTOBER 23-24-25</u>	1/2/3 day options	Any	Tricia Eder	357-0122

Kawekas to Cascade – Boyd area, leaving early on Saturday morning – often a choice area at this time of year. Contact Mick Leyland. 358-3183.

If anyone is interested in a day trip during the weekend, contact Tricia Eder by the latest of Wednesday evening so that arrangements can be sorted out.

<b><u>OCTOBER 25</u></b>	Pohangtna Reserve	Family	Linda Rowan	356-4655
<b><u>OCTOBER 31</u></b>	Waipawa	E	Tricia Eder	357-0122
We will explore the Sunrise - Waipawa loop track and call in at the Waipawa Chalet. This trip will be suitable for beginners and everyone else. Leaving 7 am.				
<b><u>OCTOBER 30-31</u></b>	Waterfall Creek	M	Perry Hicks	355-1393

Committee meeting: 7<sup>th</sup>. Club Nights: 14<sup>th</sup> Judy Stockdale will be making a presentation of a trip to Borneo, and on 28<sup>th</sup> Noel Cantwell will be showing some slides of a trip to South Africa.

### NOVEMBER

Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
<b><u>NOVEMBER 6</u></b>	The Styx, Apiti BBQ+Fireworks (A fitting finale to election day.)		Marcel Hollenstein	359-4212
<b><u>NOVEMBER 7</u></b>	Rangi	Easy	Lawson & Sue Pither	357-3033
<b><u>NOVEMBER 6-7</u></b>	Sawtooth Ridge	F	Tony Gates	357-7439
We will attempt to catch the full moon and utilise night-time tramping on the delightful tussock tops. The proposed route – Rangi – Tekehenga – Sawtooth Ridge, then to Howlett Hut and out to Daphne; or perhaps do the trip in the reverse order. Grade fittish.				
<b><u>NOVEMBER 14</u></b>	Diggers Forks	M	Mick Leyland	358-3183
<b><u>NOVEMBER 13-14</u></b>	Snow Caving	Tech	Derek Sharp	326-8178
<b><u>NOVEMBER 21</u></b>	Roaring Stag	M	Judy Stockdale	355-5277
<b><u>NOVEMBER 20-21</u></b>	Colenso Crossing	M	Llew Prichard	358-2217
<b><u>NOVEMBER 28</u></b>	Rangi Stream	E&F	Daryl Rowan	356-4655
<b><u>NOVEMBER 27-28</u></b>	Pinus Contorta	Open	Perry Hicks	355-1393

Committee meeting: 4<sup>th</sup>. Club Nights: 11th and 25<sup>th</sup>.

### THURSDAY EVENING PROGRAMME

Later in year: Graham Langton on some aspect of the history of New Zealand mountaineering and much more.

### EDITORIAL

Last month I noted that a copy of New Zealand Conservation Estate and International Visitors had come our way, and that I would comment after I had perused it. Now that we know that the Olympics are coming to Sydney in seven or so years, we need to consider what the tourism planners have in store for our heritage. There is some rather daunting material in this document. Some of the material could be treated with a strange kind of humour. It is very evident, however, that the future is going to be quite unlike the past for some of our most cherished natural institutions. Let me, get into the details, but first a definition: "A tramp is defined as a walk comprising at last one overnight stay on a track. A trumper is someone who undertakes a tramp." (Now we are quite clear on that score.)

Next some statistics:  
"Estimated current use: Eleven main tracks"

Tracks	90/91 total trampers	international trampers %	total
<b>Independent tramps</b>			
<b>Major tracks</b>			
Abel Tasman	20,200	56	11,300
Routeburn	9,000	76	6,800
Milford	6,000	43	2,600
Kepler	5,400	55	3,000
Total Major	40,600		23,700

**Other tracks popular with international visitors**

Tongariro Crossing	5,000	30	1,500
Lake Waikaremoana	5,000	30	1,500
Heaphy	4,000	35	1,400
Northern Stewart Island	1,500	80	1,200
Pinnacles/Webb Creek (Coromandel)	6,000	25	1,500
Travers/Sabine	4,000	35	1,400
Rees/Dart	2,100	50	1,100
<b>Total Other</b>	<b>27,600</b>		<b>9,600</b>
<b>Total Independent</b>	<b>68,200</b>		<b>33,300</b>

**Guided only tramps**

Milford	3,700	70	2,600
Routeburn	800	72	600
Abel Tasman	400	60	200
<b>Total Guided</b>	<b>4,900</b>		<b>3,400</b>

Total All Tramps on 11 main tracks      73,100      36,700

Note also that Abel Tasman has day use of an additional 35,000 and the Tongariro crossing an additional 20,000 day users.

So far so good, although it is perhaps interesting to note that the Stewart Island northern loop is the track on which you are most likely to hear a foreign accent.

Now comes the bad news:

Tracks	90/91 total tramps	Total year 2000 target
<b>Independent tramps</b>		
<b>Major tracks</b>		
Abel Tasman	20,200	51,000
Routeburn	9,000	27,600
Milford	6,000	13,100
Kepler	5,400	13,600
Tongariro crossing	5,000	9,100
Lake Waikaremoana	5,000	9,100
Heaphy	4,000	7,800
Northern Stewart Isl.	1,500	4,800
Pinnacles/Webb Creek (Coromandel)	6,000	10,100
Travers/Sabine	4,000	7,800
Rees/Dart	2,100	5,100
<b>Total Independent</b>	<b>68,200</b>	<b>159,100</b>
<b>Guided only tramps</b>		
Milford	3,700	10,800
Routeburn	800	2,400
Abel Tasman	400	900
<b>Total Guided</b>	<b>4,900</b>	<b>14,100</b>
<b>Total All Tramps on 11 Main Tracks</b>	<b>73,100</b>	<b>173,200</b>

This target averages out at over 40 trampers per track per day over the whole year!

So if you are planning to do any of these trips in your retirement, it might be worth booking now or considering rearranging your options. This gem of a comment appears: "Alternative management of overnight tracks, such as booking systems for accommodation coupled with requiring, trampers to walk one way only would reduce any social capacity problems such as crowding in the future." (underline my emphasis, editor) This crass statement is in striking contrast with a recent survey conducted by Consumer (September 1993) which reports: "Hut upgrading is not keeping pace with demand. Overcrowding threatens to spoil the experience for some people." Unless there is a massive investment from DOC's coffers in the next few years (which I just cannot see occurring) then either there are going to be major problems or the tourism industry planners have got it all wrong. Something has to give. If the former, then it seems most likely that the investment will come from the private sector and it will be strictly user pays.

It seems that DOC is already suffering from Concession Congestion: "Doc may prefer concessions with large operators as the cost of collecting from small operators is not cost effective. (\$2.1 million income from 370 concessions - \$1.2 million administration = \$900,000 net income. Half of the net income is from only 5 concessions)."

Also consider that about 2/3 of the numbers of trampers can be expected in the warmest 6 months of the year. Other interesting market segment research includes such dubious quotes:  
"Only 2.5% of all international visitors are estimated to tramp."  
18% of German, visitors are estimated to be trampers but only 2% of Australians.  
(I quote further...)  
"Japanese might become more adventurous by year 2000."  
Australians (opportunities) - "high class lodges for one-night away "pampered" segment"  
Australians require "better sign posting" ???!! ... "Nature experiences followed by hot shower and cosy bed."  
Germans - "seeks less used remote tracks" ... "interest in bush/beach experiences ..."  
Singaporeans - "increased awareness of eco-tourism but little understanding" ... "Antarctic Centre will be very popular."

**Question:** Is the environmental dis-utility going to be more than compensated for by the extra (foreign) revenue earned from all these overseas trampers?

It is up to you, what you make of this but I don't feel particularly inspired by it. If you want to borrow and read the full document please let me know. Send a letter to the editor with your thoughts perhaps?

While on such politically interesting topics, about half a dozen club members turned out to hear Bruce Mason address the Public Access New Zealand (PANZ) meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Bruce gave a very compelling talk to the attentive audience of about 200. Also very important was the fact that the Minister of Conservation (Dennis Marshall) was present. It turns out that owing to the public's concern arising from a combination of the PANZ and FMC campaign against some of the clauses in the current bill before the house altering the minister's powers in varying the rules covering the Queen's chain, marginal strips, esplanade reserves etc, a working party has been set up to report to him of recommendations to overcome the perceived problems. On the working party are Bruce Mason, Hugh Barr (FMC), a representative of Forest and Bird, and a Fish and Game Council representative (if I recall correctly) plus some officials. Question - What happens to the party's recommendations if the current Minister loses his seat or portfolio?

## NOTICES

### **NEW MEMBERS**

This month, please welcome two new members:

Tui Jarmin,  
1 Surrey Crescent,  
Palmerston North.  
Phone 358-2654

and

Andrew Carvell,  
904 Tremaine Avenue,  
Palmerston North.  
Phone 354-8147.

### **TAIHAPE EATING OPTIONS**

I have been reliably informed that there is a new eatery that might be worth visiting at Taihape. After checking out the public toilets, head across the road to the **Brown Sugar Cafe** for either sit down or take away healthy and digestible food. I am not sure of their hours but they should be open in the evenings. (Don't worry I haven't got shares in the business.)

### **QUIZ**

Thanks to Tricia, Pauline, Derek, Bruce, Andrew (of MUAC) and doubtless others who put a good many hours of effort into arranging the QUIZ. We bombed out - oh dear, how sad, never mind - better next time. Nevertheless, it was good to see standing room only at the hall and everyone had a few good laughs.

### **ALPINE CALENDARS**

The calendars have arrived. The price will be \$12.50. If you missed out on the first round, Peter has a few left that are' unspoken for.

### **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

If you are unable to make it or expect to be late, please ensure that your apology is forwarded to the secretary in advance. Next meeting at Tricia Eder's place.

### **TRIP REPORTS**

Don't forget (leaders) please get your trip reports in or use your short lived powers to delegate, to an unsuspecting team member. How about a letter to the editor, perhaps; or some good gossip, or a poem or what ever.

Is your DOC season pass about to expire? It is understood DOC are deliberating again over their hut pass policy. We will keep you posted on developments.

## **FOR SALE**

"Wilderness Mountain Jacket", Reflex, large, purple/green combo. 3 months old. The ultimate jacket for tramping / climbing. Price \$280. (c.f. retail \$440). Contact Tony Gates 357-7439.

## **TRIP REPORTS**

### **SAWTOOTH RIDGE ... and the rest ...**

The story of a winter tramp on the Ruahine tops, Kashmir Road-Tukituki-Howlett Hut-Tiraha-Sawtooth Ridge-Ohuinga-Black Ridge-Biv-Daphne Hut.

It snowed at the carpark. The farmland on route to Daphne Hut had received a fair dump of the white stuff, and snow on the trees made a real postcard type scene. We ambled along to the delightful Daphne Hut for a good brew. Well, Derek's pace was somewhat slowed to a "hobble" by crossing the river wearing sneakers - cold water! Just got to keep the plastic boots dry - aye. It was snowing at Daphne Hut! Some people emerged from the Howlett Hut track looking rather wet, and with tales of mega snow "up there".

We, the optimists, were soon, "up there", where we wanted to be. You see, the weather forecast was amazing/ big snowfall, big freeze, then sunshine. We the optimists wanted to tramp "up there" on the tops of the Ruahines in that sunshine. (What sunshine?) The steep climb up to Howlett Hut was actually quite pleasant in the conditions, more postcard scenes of snow covered trees. The sun tried hard to push through the mist, as it had stopped snowing by the time we reached the leatherwood. As ever, Howlett Hut was a welcome sight. Surely one of the nicest huts in the Ruahines, in one of the nicest locations. It didn't take pyromaniac Derek long to get the pot belly stove going, melt snow and ice for water, and generally settle in. The other way to get water is to heat the tap on the water tank with the primus, and gain a dribble of water. Producing water when up in the snow can be a very important job. The Howlett log book goes back nearly ten years.

Sunday, and where is the sunshine? More fresh snow, but at least no wind, and the promise of a good day. Some promise! We didn't rush our getaway, waiting for the sun to come, and unsure of the conditions. However, by 8.00 AM, it looked "ok", so we set off to climb Tiraha (1668 m). Misty all the way up to there, damn, but we knew the way well, and were confident. You have to be. Also, with a chap like, Derek leading, there was no chance, and I mean no chance, to wimp out. A word of advice, and a reminder, ALWAYS carry map and compass when in the hills, and don't hesitate to use them. And read your map very carefully. Distances can be deceptive, and travel times all mucked up by the terrain and weather.

It was a familiar stroll in the snow along the ridge north of Howlett Hut and up onto Tiraha. Misty. From there, our compasses told us how to find Sawtooth Ridge, so we descended rapidly to the first "tooth". We the experts knew when we were on Sawtooth Ridge proper, with its steep knobs and snow cornices. Despite the mist, the terrain has distinctive shapes to it. Steep and wild. Crampons were essential, as well as a bit of guts. Actually, the ridge is not too difficult to traverse, it is just the drop on either side that is a bit daunting. We cramponed along, praying for the sunshine and views we so desperately deserved. Good travel for most of the way, but there were a couple of patches of knee deep powder. Towards the end, the mist cleared a bit, and we could see the white landscape around us. Still, couldn't see more than a couple of hundred metres though; it was as if we had our own patch of blue sky. One party member was dreaming of skiing there! The last hill up onto Ohuinga felt easy with excellent cramponing, then it was all downhill and easy. No such luck. From Ohuinga, the descent was steep and unforgiving. Someone stopped to put on skis! What a waste carrying skis all that way only to curse them. Skiing was hopeless. Careful route finding and luck with a clear patch of weather quickly put us on the first saddle, but not without a fight. The snow was steep and deep. By deep, I mean DEEP. I mean really 'deep, up to your waist in places. Really. Naively, we thought that once off the high tops, the travel would be easy. No such luck for us. Ploughing through deep, soft, wet stuff was not easy. I remember a lot of small ups and downs that seemed to take forever. We carefully poured over the map every five minutes or so.

Finally, we spied Black Ridge Biv through the murk. Memories came flooding back to me; of desperate attempt to find water, and of merciless sunshine and pleasant grassy flats. Conditions were far from those we encountered then, dismal mist-drizzle-sleet, and always deep snow to plough through. The biv was a welcome sight, despite lacking a door, logbook, bunks etc. We all crammed in, crouched over our primus, and slurped much needed sustenance. Noodles had seldom tasted so good. With satisfied bellies, we could then zoom down the rest of Black Ridge to Daphne Hut. And I mean really "zoom" down (aided by gravity in several places). It didn't take long to descend to where the snow was much easier to walk through. What a relief. To be able to tramp at a normal pace, without the supreme exertion required to plug steps through deep snow. The mud, the hill, the encroaching darkness, then we were there.

Daphne Hut was once again a welcome sight. Quickly we signed the log book, picked up the shoes we had left there, and floundered down river to the track. We had to torch our way out to the car, assisted in places by the moonlight. Derek tried gymnastics in one place, a sort of overhead flip down a muddy bank. He was limping a bit after that! We were all very glad to reach the car after a 12 hour day.

Snowmen: Derek Sharp, Andrew Carvell, Tony Gates.

### **SNOWCRAPT III - September 11/12th.**

Derek contacted me the day before to say that Chris had reported that there was a NZAC ski party visiting Whangaehu Hut this weekend. This could cause quite a major problem with five of us and anyone's guess how many NZAC members (on their home ground) in a hut that can only cater for about six at a pinch. I decided that we would switch venue to Rangipo instead.

The weather forecast was not good but at least should be fine on Friday evening. There was not much sign of snow on the Tukino road up to the track to Rangipo. We made good progress to the hut, arriving shortly before midnight. The last party had left some of the windows open with the result that there was three heaps of snow inside to be removed. Then to bed.

Next morning, the weather was still holding, but with heaps of high cloud, plus a huge cloud sheet below which covered the Taupo-Turangi area and the northern half of the Desert Road. It was noticeable that the edges of the cloud sheet were moving quite quickly indicating wind that was not present where we were. My plan "B" was to climb Mitre Peak via the east ridge. The risk with this was the prospect that the wind would build up rapidly while we were on the ridge. Retreat would be very difficult in such circumstances.

We left the hut just after 7 am and started the steady plod up the initial snow slopes above the hut. It was not until we had climbed about 100 m before we first caught sight of Mitre - perhaps a frustratingly long way away too. After a bout of plodding on reasonable snow the snowfields converge onto a ridge for 200-300 m before a minor outlying summit was passed at about 2100 m. Then follows another 500 m or so of relatively level ridge. We put our crampons on to negotiate some harder snow around some rock outcrops we had to turn. Towards the end of the traverse two rock towers are passed. At the second we stopped for a snack and to rearrange our gear.

Now we had reached the east ridge of Mitre. The weather was still holding with little wind. It was all go. The first slope angled up at about 45° onto the main spur. Then followed a series of snow sections either on the ridge crest or around various rock outcrops. About a third of the way up we scrambled up a rock section. Unlike the previous occasion that I did this climb, the rocks were clear of ice and instead of getting the rope out and belaying this section it was an easy scramble. Derek, had other ideas and found a harder way than everyone else.

The wind started to increase quite markedly bringing gusts of spindrift onto us. I began to wonder whether this was quite such a wise decision after all. We still had at least half the ridge to climb. We continued on upwards. With the increase in the wind, to compensate, more sun emerged. Near the top we moved out onto the snowslopes above the Whangaehu Gorge. Here the sun tended to wilt the team. However, just after 11 am we arrived at the top and tried to find some shelter behind some inadequate rocks from the wind and the spindrift. The lee side was the shady side so we soon began to feel cold, even though we needed both the food and the drink.

After this early lunch, we headed down the Mitre-Tahurangi ridge to the col separating the Waihianoa and the Whangaehu Glaciers and descended into the top of the Whangaehu under the southern side of Pyramid Peak. Here we decided to take a closer look at the subterranean outlet of the Crater Lake. Nearby we noticed some respectable ice slopes that caught Derek's fancy. We spent the next couple of hours putting most of the gear we had lugged up to good use. Belays using the snowstakes and the icescrews were put in place. The ice hammers were into action. Peter (W) got hit on the head by a lump of ice dislodged by the wind which would have caused problems had it not been for his bash-hat. Peter (D) was soon into gear on this ice stuff after a break of how many years Peter - nearly 10?! Terry's experience and skills were most useful too. After the belays, came a few abseils.

After this, we were in the process of packing up to move on to try glacier extraction when the good sun we were in was abruptly obliterated by cloud pouring over the summit - whiteing us out. During this time a party of at least six appeared at the top of the gorge and for some reason decided to abseil down into the gorge after cutting a snow bollard. We packed up and began our descent down the Whangaehu at about 2.30 pm, leaving the others to their stuff. The whiteout soon became a full blizzard as we were buffeted by the wind and coated in ice. We completed a sidle across the glacier on a compass bearing and then kept to the north side as we descended to Whangaehu Hut. At the hut were three skiers from Wellington. After another snack, we headed out into the gathering storm to complete the trip down the gorge back to the track to Rangipo. Initially the visibility was very poor but improved as we lost height. The journey down has the potential to get into some strife if the navigation is wayward. While three of us had done the journey up at Easter in almost as bad conditions, could we recognize the way in reverse? The wind by now was trying to blow us over, were it not, for the advantage of being taken with it rather than having to fight against it. Everything worked out fine, and we arrived back at the hut shortly before 6 pm feeling ready for a rest.

We got the fire going (requiring some carefully selected pages of Peter's NBR). Then brews, soup, dinner, more drinks then bed. The rain started. The wind roared and screamed around the hut all night.

Next morning we were in no hurry. We had achieved almost everything and perhaps more the previous day. The prospect of driving ourselves almost directly into the wind back to the car did not invite a lot of enthusiasm. We left at 10 am, in blowing snow and showers. At the car it was a struggle to stand up. We did not bother to change but heaved everything into the cars as is, taking great care that the doors or the boot did not get away in the wind.

We stopped at the bakery at Waiouru for a feed and to change.

Team: Terry Crippen, Peter Darragh, Pat Janssen, Derek Sharp and Peter Wiles.

### **TARARUA PEAKS 18/19 September by Nigel Barrett**

Some of you may remember my last trip report (Snowcraft I) and recall the misfortune of Dave Hodges left behind at the Kai Iwi conveniences, well this weekend saw a reversal of the roles. This time Kevin Pearce was left sitting at home waiting in vain for a car that would never turn up ...

As leader, Kevin contacted me expressing his interest in the proposed trip and again we talked after the Quiz. I must have been traumatised by the Club's defeat and misunderstood Kevin's intention on coming for merely a passing interest on what we were going to do. Imagine my surprise to see Kevin's car pull up beside us just moments before we were off up the track!

We got away by 7 am and set off up to Field Hut at a brisk pace, seeming to get there in no time (I can't remember how long). After a drink, it was off up onto the tops with some blue sky. We were at the turn off by 10 am and here Kevin went on to Kime (to return home later that day) and the remaining three headed along the ridge towards Vosseler. Time was on our side so we casually wondered off into the mist and even enjoyed an extra long lunch break (20 minutes). In this weather the Tararua Peaks presented no problem and were quite enjoyable to cross. We met another party on the top of Mangahuka looking for the turn-off to Neil Forks Hut; so Dave joined them and went to spend the night there with a promise to meet us on the top of Mangahuka at 9.00 am sharp the next morning (Ha Ha; sarcasm). We got to the Mangahuka Hut at 3.15 pm and got a brew going. That night the weather closed in and snow started to fall. Our water tank froze over and due to a major lack of firewood our boots froze up too, hence it was cold getting going on Sunday morning.

I had kept my part of the deal and was waiting for Dave at 9.00 am, however in the conditions we returned to the hut to wait. Forty five minutes later Dave finally arrived and ten minutes later we finally got under way. Care was needed crossing the peaks because the exposed rock had frozen and was rather slippery. However, crossing them was still no problem and it wasn't long before we were at the turn off down to ??? Ridge. The ridge was extremely nice to travel down and the twisted mosey snow covered trees were a picture.

We lost the track halfway down and lost 45 mins because of it - after regaining the track it was full speed ahead to Penn Creek Hut (a nice purple colour). Not much time was spent here (we had none to spare), and we headed out along the sidle track. At this stage, Dave was rather lacking in energy and in food, so being leader it was decided that Dave should eat the remaining half of my chocolate cake and about all of my chocolate biscuits. (He was adamant that he was doing me a favour in lightening my pack!)

The sudden burst of energy was what was required to put the spring back in his step and we motored out from Penn Creek in a little under 3 hours - getting out by 6.30 pm. From here it was straight to Otakj for fish and chips and then off for a hot bath. An excellent weekend.

The four FE (Fairly Easy) trampers were: Dave Hodges, Kevin Pearce, Rick Mawby and Nigel Barrett.

### **TOP GORGE - Tui Jarmin**

The morning of May 15<sup>th</sup> saw Llew, Tricia, Mick and Tui set off early for Top Gorge Hut. We were able to drive most of the way up Kashmir Road before walking up the track towards Longview. Lunch was eaten at Longview Hut, with a DOC worker who filled us in on all the latest track info. The walk down the Pohangina River headwaters was really neat - downhill all the way and very pretty. We were lucky enough to come across a blue duck who posed for several photos.

Top Gorge Hut is nice and cosy, with just two bunks (4 mattresses) and a big open fireplace. The dunny is quite a laugh too - some of you may have seen a photo of it in operation at a recent photo competition.

After collecting enough firewood to last several days, Llew and Mick set off for a twilight wander while Tricia cooked enough food for an army. (Sounds like traditional roles at work?) Some time after it got dark, there was a bit of concern that the girls might have to eat all of the dinner themselves, but the guys returned in the nick of time. The fire that night was great, the mountains of food superb and the port and Cointreau, and Mick's famous coffee left us with nothing more in the world to ask for.

In the morning, Mick and Llew tried to find a way to get onto the tops so that we could go back to Longview via a different route. This resulted in the four of us clambering up every animal track they could find (and a few they couldn't find) to the leatherwood and back down again. Eventually, we ended up going back the way we came, still it was an adventure!

All in all, a good trip to a place well worth a visit (mainly because not many people go there by the looks of it.  
Team: Tricia Eder, Tui Jarmin, Llew Prichard, Mick Leyland.

### **CASE OF FAULTY MAP AND COMPASS ??**

It has been alleged that a certain party aiming to climb Egmont recently, somehow managed to end up in the Chateau for a few beers.



**PNTMC FINANCIAL MEMBERS AS AT SEPTEMBER 1993**

BARRETT	NIGEL	126 RUGBY STREET,	356-1568	PALMERSTON_NORTH
CANTWELL	MONICA	25 WAICOLA DRIVE. RD 1, AOKAUTERE,	354-3834	PALMERSTON_NORTH
CARVELL	ANDREW	804 TREMAINE AVENUE,	354-8147	PALMERSTON_NORTH
COLLIS	GAYLE	OROUA ROAD, RD 5.,	329-0888	PALMERSTON_NORTH
COY	PAULINE	35 WORCESTER STREET,	356-8782	PALMERSTON_NORTH
CRAW	MARY	COUPER ROAD. NO.3 RD,	329-7868	PALMERSTON_NORTH
CRIPPEN	TERRY	11 PAHIATUA ST.	356-3588	PALMERSTON_NORTH
DALEFIELD	JULIAN	GILLESPIES LINE NO.5 RD,	357-3543	PALMERSTON_NORTH
EDER	TRICIA	57 FIARS RD.	357-0122	PALMERSTON_NORTH
GATES	TONY	24 SPRINGDALE CRES.	357-7439	PALMERSTON_NORTH
GLASGOW	STEVE	11 HUIA STREET,	06-376-8838	PAHIATUA
HEWSON	SALLY	22 IHLE ST.	357-0990	PALMERSTON_NORTH
HICKS	PERRY	6 ADAMS PLACE,	355-1393	PALMERSTON_NORTH
HODGES	DAVE	51 WATERLOO CRESENT,	358-5981	PALMERSTON_NORTH
HOLLENSTEIN	MARCEL	FLAT 1 /389 COLLEGE STREET,	359-4212	PALMERSTON_NORTH
HUBBARD	STUART	1 HUIA STREET,	359-3450	PALMERSTON_NORTH
JANSSEN	PATRICK	27 RAINFORTH STREET,	356-3116	PALMERSTON_NORTH
JARMIN	Tui	1 SURREY CRESENT,	358-2654	PALMERSTON_NORTH
JOHNS	MIKE	RD 2, BISHOP ROAD,	06-755-2327	NEW_PLYMOUTH
KELLY	CHRIS	108 SALISBURY STREET,	326-8039	ASHURST
KENNEDY	LAIJRIE	6 DITTMER DRIVE.	357-4360	PALMERSTON_NORTH
KERR DONALD & RUTH		93 MARNE STREET,	359-1065	PALMERSTON_NORTH
LAWRENCE	BRIAN	PENNY ROAD, No 9 R.D.,	324-8552	PALMERSTON_NORTH
LEYLAND	MICK	38 PAHIATUA ST.,	358-3183	PALMERSTON_NORTH
LOCKETT	RICHARD	1 NORTH STREET,	323-6489	FEILDING
MADGWICK	JENNI	C/- 36 SELWYN ROAD,		ROTORUA
MEYLE	TREVOR	C/- 1MST, LINTON_CAMP	351-9471	PALMERSTON_NORTH
MOORE	DENNIS	FOREST HILL ROAD. AOKOUTERE,	357-5651	PALMERSTON_NORTH
MORRISON	LIZ	5 LESLIE AVE.	357-6532	PALMERSTON_NORTH
PANCHAUD	AARON	8 LOCKHART AVENUE,	354-8422	PALMERSTON_NORTH
PARKER	MALCOLM	64 PAHIATUA ST.,	357-5203	PALMERSTON_NORTH
PEARCE	KEVIN	38 WATERLOO CRESENT.	357-0217	PALMERSTON_NORTH
PETERS	GRAHAM	UTUWAI ROAD, POHANGINA VALLEY WEST RD.,	329-4722	ASHURST
PITHER	LAWSON_&_SUE	4 ATHLONE PLACE,	357-3033	PALMERSTON_NORTH
PRICHARD	LLEW	10 GAINSBOROUGH GROVE,	358-2217	PALMERSTON_NORTH
REID	GREG	RD 2,	06-372-5878	MASTERTON
RIORDAN	MARGARET	23 RANGIORA AVE.,	356-7460	PALMERSTON_NORTH
ROSS	ADRIENNE	87 STORTFORD STREET,	326-8367	ASHURST
ROWAN	DARYL_&_LINDA	5 WILLIAMS TERRACE,	356-4655	PALMERSTON_NORTH
SAUNDERS	CHRIS	96 BRIGHTWATER TCE.,	358-4899	PALMERSTON_NORTH
SCHEYVENS	PAUL	22 ANGLESEY PLACE,	357-4138	PALMERSTON_NORTH
SCOTT	BARRY	62 BUICK CRESENT,	357-1731	PALMERSTON_NORTH
SHARP	DEREK	144 OXFORD ST.,	326-8178	ASHURST
STOCKDALE	PETER_&_JUDY	RD 1, AOKAUTERE,	355-5277	PALMERSTON_NORTH
TAYLOR	SHEENA	26 SUTHERLAND CRESENT,	357-6665	PALMERSTON_NORTH
TODD	ARTHUR_&_LIS	2 HEAYNS PLACE,	323-6246	FEILDING
VAN_BRUNT	BRUCE	26 MANCHESTER STREET,	356-4217	PALMERSTON_NORTH
WILES	PETER	12 JENSEN STREET,	358-6894	PALMERSTON_NORTH

Please let us know if there are any errors or omissions.

**MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT Ltd.**  
14 The Square Ph 359-2162

What's new for the outdoors from Mountain Equipment?

**BOOTS** -The end of the ASOLO era.

There may have been some confusion recently over the brand name "ASOLO". To put all the rumours straight, there has been a name change from ASOLO to a new brand called "GARMONT". GARMONT are a well-known boot manufacturer in Europe, being based in Italy. Their standards are extremely high, licensing their name only to top boot manufacturers such as Golding Industrial in Auckland.. To prove this point Golding have recently been approved by the Telarc quality control standard.

To coincide with the brand name change, there have been some updates within the range of boots produced. For example, the ever-popular Horizon boots now have Vibram soles, and glove-leather cuffs and lining on the tongues. This make the boot more comfortable than the previous model, with only a small price increase to cove these improvements. The top-line Explorer boot has been updated to also have a leather cuff, but is otherwise unchanged. The Superscout has been renamed as the Scout, and modifications include a Vibram sole and a revised cuff shape.



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The back-up service continues to be second-to-none. Any problems with Asolo or Garmont boots are dealt with quickly and mostly at no charge to the customer. As part of the name change in name and style of the boots, we are having a clearance sale on the Superscout boots. They were \$225, but are now \$195 (only while our stocks last).

#### CAMPING THIS SUMMER?

Start to check your camping equipment well before your holiday is due. Then there is plenty of time to organise a repair or replacement in time before your well-earned break. Getting to the campsite and discovering a broken tent pole or missing pegs is not a good way to start! At Mountain Equipment, we will be able to obtain a wide range of camping equipment and accessories -just come in and ask.

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