

Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club Inc.

www.pntmc.org.nz

P.O. Box 1217, Palmerston North

Newsletter August 2015



Janet Wilson enjoys the winter wonderland towards Powell Hut

[Jean Garman]

Club Nights

All are welcome to our club nights. These are held at 7:45pm on the second and last Thursday of each month at the Society of Friends Hall, 227 College Street, Palmerston North.

13 August

Tales from the Tararuas

Janet Wilson

Tonight is the grand finale of our Tararua Hut Bagging Competition that took place over the 12 month period ending 30 June 2015. Who won the most points? Who visited the most huts? What adventures were had along the way? Janet invites you to tell us about your favourite trips as we go along. There are sure to be awards for all sorts of achievements so don't miss this club night.

27 August

Club Photo Competition

Nicholas Allen

Get your entries to Nick by deadline Sunday 23 August. Our expert judge will consider them carefully before presenting them tonight, with three images selected in each category for us to vote on. Novice entries welcome. See Notices for details.

Upcoming Trips

1-2 August

Neill Forks M/F
Chris Tuffley 359-2530

A nice upgraded Forest Service hut to visit in the middle of the Tararuas. We go in via Holdsworth road end, Totara Flats and the magnificent forest along Cone Ridge.

2 August

Te Maari Crater M
Warren Wheeler 356-1998

Depart 6.30am. Te Maari Crater erupted in 2012 and damaged the Ketetahi Hut. Activity has now settled down enough for us to see what it looks like.

8 August (Saturday)

Sledge Track E
Woody Lee 357-2390

Leave at 9.30am from Milverton Park. From the end of Kahuterawa Road we will walk up to the top and have lunch near the Platinum Mines with views over PN. This area is one of the popular local tracks and this could expand your local knowledge if you have not done before.

9 August

Pinnacle ridge M
Dave Grant 328-7788

Leave Milverton Park at 7.30am. From Mount Holdsworth carpark, the track we follow climbs up to Pinnacle Ridge on the east side of the Atiwhakatu River (opposite side to the normal Atiwhakatu Track) to eventually join up with the track to Mitre Flats. We won't go that far, dropping down to cross the Atiwhakatu River by the hut and returning to Mount Holdsworth carpark on the normal track. You will tramp through a variety of bush and clearings, giving a different perspective of the Atiwhakatu valley. Moderate fitness required.

12 August (Wednesday)

Snowcraft 3 evening for participants

15 or 16 August

Snowcraft 3 I
Terry Crippen 027 643 3637
Entries closed.

15 August

Waitahinga Trails E
Richard Lockett 323-0948

Depart PN 7.30am. A collection of trails built by the Whanganui Tramping club in a disused water catchment reserve 12 km north of Bushy

Park. We will be aiming to visit the Waitahinga Dam about two hours walk from the car park. Mixture of regen and virgin native bush. If access closed we will visit Bushy Park instead.

16 August

Atene Walkway M
Anne Lawrence 357-1695

NOTE swapped from 23 August.

This track has been damaged by slips so contact Anne for revised trip details.

23 August

Deadmans Rangi Loop M/F
Craig Allerby 323-7913

NOTE swapped from 16 August

Depart PN 7.30am. We will head up the Deadmans Track, passing through beech forest, leatherwood scrub and then onto the tussock tops. A steady climb with a short ascent on to the top of Mangahuia for lunch. Its then more tops travel, heading out via the Rangi Track and Hut. With the possibility of snow around, an ice axe may be required.

~~22-23 August~~ **29-30 August**

Te Hekenga F/T
Derek Sharp 323-3028

The plan is to go into Kelly Knight Hut for Friday Night. On Saturday ascend the Whanahuia Range and cross Te Hekenga, descending either to Howletts Hut for a Sunday walk out to Kashmir Road end or to Triangle Hut to loop back on Sunday, if crossing transport can't be arranged. A fit trip to enjoy cramponing on the high tops - if the snow remains!

29-30 August

Waiopehu Loop E/M
Nicola Wallace 021 209 0720

Depart Milverton Park at 8am. We will travel to the hut via the Waiopehu Track, and should have most of the afternoon free for exploring on the tops, or just chilling with a good book. The next day we will return via Richard's Knob, and the Gable End Track. Bring plenty of warm clothes, as Waiopehu Hut is a non heated hut.

30 August

Tunupo-Toka F
Peter Darragh 353-0922

Come up to the snow and beyond. A pleasant climb followed by open tops then a descent to lower elevations. Should be fun? Come anyway. Warm clothing essential.

5-6 September
Pourangaki Hut **M**
Michael Allerby **323-8563**
Deep in the Ruahines and a great place to visit.

5-6 September
Mitre/Whangaehu Hut **F/T**
Derek Sharp **323-3028**
Friday night to Whangaehu Hut. Various options for climbing Mitre. Fitness and Snowcraft 3 is a minimum requirement, with the idea of pitching.

6 September
Archies Lookout **E/M**
Peter Wiles **358-6894**
We will leave at 8.00 am and head towards Levin and past the Waiopahu turn off behind Levin to the start of the track. There is a good size stream to cross on the farmland before getting onto the track proper. We can go beyond the lookout to the top another 150 m above. (The track continues along the top to eventually reach the Mangahao Road near No 2 Dam.) Back by the same route.

5-13 September
Mt Travers, Nelson Lakes NP **M/F,T**
Annett Patzold **021 189 4647**
We meet in St Arnaud Saturday night and leave the next day early in the Morning for Coldwater Hut (using boat service). Then follow the long Travers Track past Cupola Track, continue up Summit Creek until the bushline where we camp/bivvy. Next day climbing Mt Travers if conditions are right. We then could spend the night at Cupola Hut or John Tait Hut depending on what else we want to do and what the conditions will be. There are several options: Walk straight out the way we came in or attempt Mt Cupola then walk out and/or walk out via Robert Ridge. There are several choices for getting onto this ridge. Crampon/Iceaxes will be required (hopefully).

Trip Grading
Trip grades depend on many factors, especially weather and terrain. A reasonably proficient tramp should expect to do the trips in the following times:
Easy (E): 3-4 hrs
Medium (M): 5-6 hrs
Fit (F): about 8 hrs
Fitness Essential (FE): over 8 hrs
Other grades:
Technical skills (T)
Instructional (I)

Trip participants
Contact the leader at least 3 days in advance. Trips leave from Milverton Park. A charge for transport will be collected on the day.

Gear for trips
Minimum gear for day trips is appropriate footwear, pack, lunch and snacks, waterproof jacket, overtrousers, gloves, warm hat, torch, toilet paper, matches or a lighter, sunblock, first aid kit, and a survival bag or space blanket. Each person needs to be equipped to survive overnight.

Personal Locator Beacons – Free for trips
The club has purchased two PLBs for members' use. If you want to take one of these on a trip, contact Martin or Anne Lawrence on 357-1695. Note that this applies to any trip you are going on - it doesn't need to be a club trip.

Trip leaders
Complete the trip intentions form and leave with one of Overdue Trip Contacts or drop into 44 Dahlia St or email to pntmctrips@gmail.com with the date and trip name in the subject line. If you are unable to run your trip as scheduled, advise a trip coordinator as soon as possible so that alternatives can be arranged.

Overdue Trips
If a club trip is late returning, please do not worry unduly as there is probably a good reason for the delay. If you are in any doubt, please phone one of the Overdue Trip Contacts:
Janet Wilson 329-4722
Martin and Anne Lawrence 357-1695
Malcolm Parker 357-5203

Articles for the newsletter
Send by the 20th of each month to Warren Wheeler, the newsletter editor, direct or via our web site <http://www.pntmc.org.nz/mail/>

Notices

PNTMC 50th Anniversary 2015

Plans are under way to celebrate the club's 50th anniversary and Camp Rangi Woods at Totara Reserve has already been booked for the last weekend of November 2015.

A Jubilee book is also being prepared as a record of events and activities over the years.

If you have any ideas or are interested in assisting then please contact Dave Grant who

is heading the organising sub-committee of Terry Crippen, Peter Darragh, Doug Strachan and Martin Lawrence (Treasurer).

We would like to invite past members to join in the celebrations so if you know of anyone please let them know or give Terry their contact details.

PNTMC Photo Competition 27 August 2015

You need to be in to win!
And for those who haven't had a placing in our photo competitions, you can now enter your photos in the Novice category. A photo entered in the Novice category can also be entered in any one of the other 6 categories.

Rules

- Only digital entries accepted
- No previous entries
- Images must be related to tramping, climbing or trekking
- Limit 3 images per category (per person)
- Images must be clearly labelled

Categories

NZ Landscapes – scenery, no people
Above the Bushline – includes people
Below the Bushline – includes people
Natural History – NZ flora, fauna, geology, etc
Topical NZ – people or detail
Overseas - people and/or places
Novice – any of the above subjects

Deadline Sunday 23 August

Please get your entries to Nick Allen by email, nicholas.peter.allen@gmail.com or call him on 027 504 6455 to arrange delivery on CD or pen drive.

Notes

It is anticipated that the winning images will be entered in the Interclub Photo Competition, to be hosted this year by PNTMC on Thursday 24 September, and the FMC Photo Competition 2015. In addition, some of these images may be used to promote PNTMC. Please indicate if you do not want your images used in these activities. Images remain the property of the photographers.

Tararua Hut Bagging

Following the success of our previous Ruahine hut bagging and peak bagging competitions, PNTMC has been running a hut bagging competition focused on the Tararuas.

The challenge started on 1 July 2014 and ran over the 12 months until 30 June 2015.

As our Ruahine hut bagging poster was a huge success, the club would like to produce a similar one for the Tararuas, so please send hut images to Martin by email or get them to him on a memory stick.

Final scores are being tallied up and will be announced at club night on 13 August along with awards and prize giving. During the slide presentation of hut pics you are invited to tell us about your favourite trips.

New Members

Welcome to Barney Hyde and his son Jesse who enrolled for the Snowcraft Course this year. Their phone number is 354-6696. Barney runs the Robert Harris Café in the Square so pop in and say hello some time.

Trip Reports

Kahurangi NP Winter Trip Terry Crippen

As usual the Inter Islander ferry was late departing, but we got to Picton there and back at half price from a previous 6 hour delayed crossing! It took about five hours to get from Picton to the start of the Bullock Track up the Cobb Reservoir road (with the odd coffee and eat stop). It was a bit of a steep grunt up onto Cobb Ridge, overloaded with BCCs and plentiful warmth giving tucker, then across red tussock basins and down to the Lower Junction in the Takaka River. The track is now called Broken Bridge track – glad there wasn't a broken bridge though? We continued up valley then into the Flora Valley track staying at Upper Gridiron hut – partly built into an overhanging rock face. Overnight the rain turned to snow – a very heavy fall of the white stuff, everything was plastered.

In the morning we headed up the track passing Flora hut and reaching Mt Arthur Hut. Lots of locals were out and about savouring the fine

weather and the snow. As usual most huts in these parts have a resident Weka who pops out soon after people arrive.

Fine, cold and clear the next day, we headed up onto Mt Arthur, it would have been a deep snow plod if others hadn't been there the day before. Crampons and ice axes made easy going of the last steep section onto the corniced summit ridge. Excellent views were had of Mts Owen, Patriarch, Kendal and Tappy.



Mt Arthur summit towards the Tablelands

The plan for the next day was to go over Gordon's Pyramid to Balloon Hut, but it would have been a very slow snow plod, so we decided to go the lower route via the Salisbury Track, still with a reasonable amount of snow and plenty of hoar frost. We visited more of the rock shelters and Salisbury Lodge – who made them I expect NZFS did - and eventually arriving at Balloon Hut. Nice and warm with a gas heater and cooking facilities.



Tablelands with Mt Arthur and The Twins

The weather was due to pack in on the Friday so we decided to head out to the road the next day. Fortunately a group of 15 outdoor tourism polytech students had been though so there was a good trench to follow in the deep snow

past Peel Lake and onto the Cobb Ridge. (They didn't leave their names in any of the hut books - slackers!) Miss Minto headed on up the Peel Ridge partway towards Mt Peel while I sunbathed, then we headed over to the frozen Lake Peel before climbing onto Cobb Ridge.

Working our way along the Cobb Ridge we eventually came to the Bullock track junction and down to Big Red. We then headed along to check up on the Trilobites at the road end, before overnighting in Takaka and eating too many fish and chips! We called into see Anja in Nelson but she wasn't home, anyhow she sent her regards to PNTMC bods by text, before heading back to Picton for another big feed! An excellent 5 day winter trip.

We were Ange Minto and Terry.
Roll on Snowcraft!

3 May 2015 Blue Range Hut Woody Lee

We left Milverton Park at 8.10am and then started off from Kiriwaka Roadend at 9.30am. I gave a brief introduction about the huts and tracks in front of the DOC sign board because Michael and Daan were new to the Tararua Forest Park.

We reached the junction to Cow Creek Hut at 11.40am and continued to walk through the goblin forest. At an opening section before going down to the hut we spent some time to look at the views of the surrounding peaks including Mitre from the rocks.



Looking out to Mitre

At lunch time sitting on the picnic table felt like luxury and I tried to locate Cattle Ridge Hut using Margaret's binoculars but was unsuccessful. It was a beautiful sunny

afternoon but it was time to return to the car park. We traced back the same route and had a relaxing afternoon tea at Mount Bruce café.

We were Margaret B, Michael B, Daan B, Duncan H and Woody L

14 June 2015
Zekes Hut
Anne Lawrence

Marty, and Warren and I collected Michael and Richard in Feilding and headed into a rather murky looking morning. You couldn't say it was the most promising looking start to the day as we drove through mist past Taihape. However the day turned out to be pretty good, even though we got no views.

Zekes Hut is in the Hihitahi Forest Sanctuary which lies between Taihape and Waiouru. The carpark to access the track is just on the side of the main road. It would be easy to miss - you need to look out for it by the pines on the right of State Highway 1, about 17 km north of Taihape.

Although we all donned raincoats when we got out of the car, and kept them on all day, the weather did not impact much on us, as we were warm enough, and there was little wind where we were. Richard was the only one of us who had been here before and his knowledge proved to be useful as the start of the track is not well marked.

From the carpark you head across farmland, crossing a stream on a well maintained wire bridge and then skirting around a swampy piece before climbing up to reach a stile over a fence marking the forest boundary.

Once into the forest, there is just a short flat section before a fairly steep climb which then settles to an easy walk for the rest of the way to the lookout at Hihitahi Trig.



Hihitahi no view day but fun anyway [WW]

The lookout is in a lovely clearing and presumably on a clear day does provide some good views – we saw nothing! A little further on from the trig, the track turns and then drops fairly steeply down an old slip and down into the valley to the hut.

Zeke's Hut is a lovely little 4 bunk hut. We enjoyed having lunch inside out of the rain before heading back to the car. All in all, a pleasant day's tramp.

We were Anne and Martin Lawrence, Warren Wheeler, Michael Allerby and Richard Lockett



Nice new Zekes Hut [WW]

20 June 2015
Smith Stream Shelter
Richard Lockett

With one week remaining to go for the hut bagging competition no one had yet been to the Smith Stream Shelter, so Janet Wilson proposed a road trip down to Marchant road end, Kaitoke to rectify this situation.

The weather forecast for the day wasn't great with the only bright spot being the Rimutaka's right where we were heading. The Feilding crew of Craig and Micheal Allerby and me had to navigate our way around the rising waters of the raging Makino Stream to be able to leave Feilding before meeting up with Janet and Warren at Ashhurst. Though the gorge and more evidence of the of the heavy rain of the preceding 24 hours water flowing across the road at Konini south of Pahiatua but once over Mount Bruce clearer skies beckoned with the rivers flowing out of the Tararua's just a tad dirty but not high.

A pie stop in Featherston before the twisty climb that is the Rimutaka hill road and the descent down to Marchant Road and the car park which has been shifted to Kiwi Ranch

Road beside the stream which flows from under the puffer saddle.

A new track from the car park follows the stream true right up to the Kiwi Ranch Skills Area before climbing up to meet the existing track to the puffer saddle which warmed us up no end having donned wet weather gear as rain threatened. A slippery clay surface required care on the well graded track up to the saddle which was further than I remembered from my one previous visit before a steeper slippery descent down into the Smith Stream valley. The side streams were flowing clear at this point in spite of a night of rain and with this valley being a sheltered wee spot in the vast Tararua's large specimen trees were to be admired.

On arrival at the shelter we were greeted by two odd bods who had spent the night there and had a smoky fire on the floor going to try and warm up and with photos taken lunch was quickly eaten beside a noisy Tauherenikau River. With rain threatening a quick walk back to the car ensued and a light drizzle developed at the saddle, do you or don't you put rain coat back on, nah not this time. On arrival at the car the rain set in, perfect timing and never stopped on the journey home which involved the purchase of cheese in Featherston, the purchase of chocolate in Greytown and the purchase of coffee and cake or large sausage rolls with a beetroot relish in Carterton.

We were Janet Wilson, Warren Wheeler, Craig Allerby, Michael Allerby, Richard Lockett.



Smiths Creek Shelter [Warren Wheeler]

26-28 June 2015 Tararua Hutbagging Finale Jean Garman

The plan was to finish the Tararua hut bagging year with a hiss and a roar but it turned out to be more of a whimper and a sigh. It all started

well as Janet and I stomped up the track towards Powell Hut on Friday morning, our packs heavy with lots of warm clothes, ice axes and crampons. If the gale force winds came in at exactly the times predicted our plans could be successful; slight worry was that the timing of the winds seemed to be slipping forward which could make things difficult. We encountered the first snow well below Powell; very pretty, not too deep and only a little icy near the hut.

We stopped for morning lunch at Powell as the wind was strong and cold so we figured we wouldn't be stopping anywhere above the bushline. While lunching in front of the still warm fire a man came down from somewhere above the hut; he was in full storm gear and not looking very impressed. This did not bode well. We put on more layers of clothes, Janet put on her crampons and I put on my microspikes (first use and instant love).

It wasn't too bad up to the High Ridge turn off, but after that Janet started to get blown over on a semi regular basis. We used one walking pole and one ice axe each to aid with bracing against the wind and carried on. It was a struggle and seemed to be getting harder. Janet's PNTMC beanie departed her head and sailed off to warmer climes down in the valley. The wind was breaking off large chunks of frozen snow and blasting them through the air – quite spectacular till you got hit in the head.

Shortly before the trig it was getting very difficult for us to stay on our feet so we finally admitted defeat and turned around. We had thought the wind was getting worse because we were going higher but no it had just been getting worse and it was now a battle to get back down to Powell. At one point I had to huddle behind my pack to avoid the pain of a wind blast of frozen snow chunks.

Once back in the nice warm hut we had afternoon lunch and weighed up our options, there were many but mostly not that appealing. Eventually we settled on heading down to Atiwhakatu Hut for the night, walking out the next day and driving up to the Putara Road end to join the MTSC trip to Roaring Stag for a mid-winter eating overnighter. With good cell coverage at Powell it was possible to contact all the necessary people and re-organise our lives.

Heading down there were more people coming up, unprotected sleeping bags hanging off the outside of their packs, luckily there was only

the odd light shower. As we headed up the Atiwhakatu valley we passed a couple of guys who had come across the tops from Jumbo then had to bail down East Holdsworth as they couldn't deal with the rising winds on the tops either. We had a peaceful night at Atiwhakatu Hut and got away around 8am Saturday morning.

It was a beautiful day, clear as a bell and no wind (sigh). As we were driving north the Tararuas were completely clear and looked absolutely stunning (big sigh). There were lots of cars at the Putara Road end including a WTMC van. The MTSC group were already underway but their engine was warm so probably no more than half an hour ahead of us. Our packs were lighter as we left the hardware and extra warm clothes behind (although there was an additional bottle of wine to carry).

Heading down to Roaring Stag we could clearly pick the MTSC foot prints but there were no other clear ones so despite Janet's initial pessimism that the hut would be chocka I was hopeful it wouldn't. When we were arrived the MTSC bods were busy creating a nice big pile of firewood. There were only 3 others at the hut, they had come in on Friday and were expecting another to join them that day so it looked to be a comfortable night with a total of nine at Roaring Stag. There had been 7 WTMC people there on Friday night but they had departed for Dundas via Cattle Ridge and the Bannister Ridge.

Time for eating - we had supper yummy pancakes with maple syrup, whipped cream and lemon juice for afternoon tea, then started on the mulled wine, which was about when we spotted people coming across the bridge. Turns out Dundas was a bit too far for a winter trip for the WTMC people so they were retreating. It was going to be a full hut after all. Dinner was a chicken, rice and lemon soup, followed by a tapioca pudding. Stuffed to the gills it was time to retire.

Dave kept Fred company outside and I also opted for a quieter cooler sleeping spot on the deck which left seven people for each six mattress platform bunk. With the almost full moon it was fascinating to watch the clouds streaming across from the west, then a bit later in the night streaming across from the south west and then a bit later it was completely clear and calm so there was a touch of frost come morning.

We were up at the crack of dawn (not actually that early at this time of year) and wandered on out, getting back to the cars before lunch. Not quite what we had planned but still a varied weekend, and the yummy food and interesting company at Roaring Stag almost made up for not being able to do the bigger trip.

27-28 June (Hut Bagging Finale weekend) Waitewaewae (YTTY) Woody Lee

Warren picked me up on a warm winter morning and we headed towards Otaki Forks. Clear blue skies over the Tararuas was a good sign for the day but we were disappointed when we saw a Road Closure sign on the Otaki Gorge Road just after the bridge. Fortunately we arrived at the overnight carpark without any problems.

There was only one other car there and another car arrived as we were ready to start off who were planning to stay at Kime Hut for the night.

We bagged Parawai Hut right after crossing the bridge and had a quick break. From the hut we followed an old track which was narrow and steep but it was a nice shortcut to the main track up on the terrace. We soon crossed a swingbridge and were on the YTTY track. It was a beautiful sunny day. At the first slip we stopped to look at the surrounding views and then continued to walk up the open bush above the slip.

It was an interesting experience walking along the old tram rail which had several disconnected rail sections.

Warren was waiting for me at the beginning of a new sidle route that climbs up to avoid a big slip but we headed on along the old track. It



Woody carefully crossing the big slip [WW]

was a good decision because it was my first time in this area and I was keen to tramp along Saddle Creek. Soon we encountered the second slip and it looked like vast and deep so we couldn't cross directly from the track. Warren found the old deviation track up around the slip but it too had now slumped away and a bush bash through the impenetrable kiekie looked rather daunting.

Fortunately it was easy to drop onto the slip and carefully cut up and across, with hanging supplejack helping with a scramble up the opposite bank near the top. I followed his footsteps and noticed that the ground was neither slippery nor muddy but it was quite steep. We safely got back to the track and discovered a cluster of tree ear (wood ear) mushrooms first ever in the bush. We reached the steam winch and spent some time to take photos and settled for lunch.



Weird mossy tree on Saddle Creek track [WW]

We crossed Saddle Creek a few times for almost an hour keeping our feet dry before reaching the other end of the sidle route. Within a couple of hours of walking we had finally arrived at the YTTY hut.

The hut had a large deck area and the bunk room was big enough with a cooking bench and a large table. I put on a brew while Warren

collected firewood for the night. Later on I heard yelling in the distance and soon a group of 11 teenagers occupied the deck and the clothing lines were filled up with their wet clothes. They had crossed the river as a short cut or to have some fun.



YTTY before the crowds arrived [WW]

Warren found two acronyms from the Trip intentions column of the hut book and asked me what TA SOBO and TA NOBO meant. I couldn't figure it out at first, but I later realized from Warren's clue; Te Araroa southbound and northbound.

We had tea after 6pm and the young group started cooking afterwards when we realized there was a special occasion. It was one of the party members 18th birthday. Warren and I joined in on the birthday song. Later on in the evening a couple arrived at the hut, well-equipped for a night walk and looked like experienced trampers. The hut was almost a full house.

At 8.15pm, a bit late for winter bed time Warren and I got into our sleeping bags while the young group played card games until 10pm.

The next morning I quietly got out of sleeping bag just after 7am for a hot drink and discovered that all 11 people were packed in the top platform with only 4 of us on the bottom.

We left the hut shortly after 9am and traced back to Saddle Creek and then took the new sidle route. There were clear skies when we started off but soon the clouds clagged in. We were out in light mist by 2pm and had an ice cream stop in Shannon.

Thanks to Warren for leading this trip and being a great companion.

19 July 2015
Rangi Hut
By Conan Strachan (8yrs)

We went to Rangi Hut with Margaret. At the second gate the car got stuck! We had to move the car around. Me and Minami made snowballs to throw at Doug. When Doug and Margaret came we threw snowballs at Doug. Then we started walking. We found some icicles. I found the biggest ones. We got to the bridge. Maho took some photos of us on the bridge. When we got to Rangi Hut we had some hot chocolate and coffee. Me and Minami had the hot chocolate. Me and Minami played snowball tag. We were going to make a snow elephant but there wasn't enough time. I wanted to stay the night but the next day was school. Near the end I made a really big and hard snowball. I threw the snowball at Doug. Doug caught the snowball and threw it at me. When we finished I was very very very very tired.

We were Margaret, Bruce, Maho, Doug, Minami and Conan Strachan.

Not Nothofagus

Our Beech Tree Classification - Mumble!!
Terry Crippen

Apparently the so called botanical experts have now reclassified our Beech trees! They are now longer Nothofagus for the genus name. They are now called:

Fuscospora solandre (Black Beech)

F. fusca (Red Beech)

F. truncata (Hard Beech)

F. cliffortioides (Mountain Beech)
Etc

It's a bit like some expert geologists deciding the Greywacke is no longer to be called Greywacke. I'm going to stick with Nothofagus (which means false beech)!



Rangi Hut, here we come !

From the Old PNTMC Song Book

At the Jubilee weekend we may have a sing along (thanks to Sue Pither for the suggestion).

The Committee has chosen #7 Tramping the Ranges; #10 Tararua Ranges; #20 Double Bunking as their top three hit songs from "Trudge", the old PNTMC/MUAC song book (second edition).

One per month will feature in each newsletter between now and the Jubilee at the end of November.

Here is the first one.

To the tune "Waltzing Matilda".

7

TRAMPING THE RANGES

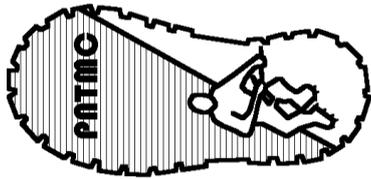
Once a jolly trumper camped by a mountain stream,
Under the shade of a Leatherwood tree.
And he sang as he watched and waited till his billy boiled,
"You'll come a tramping the ranges with me."

*Tramping the ranges, tramping the ranges,
You'll come a-tramping the ranges with me;
And he sang as he watched and waited till his billy boiled
You'll come a-tramping the ranges with me.*

Up came a blonde girl to drink at that mountain stream,
Up jumped the trumper and grabbed her with glee,
And he sang as he stuffed that blonde girl in his sleeping bag,
"You'll come a tramping the ranges with me."

Up came the ranger, riding in his Landrover,
Up came the policemen, one, two, three;
"Where's that jolly blonde girl you've got in your sleeping bag?
—You'll come a tramping the ranges with me."

Up jumped the trumper and jumped into the mountain stream
You'll never catch me alive said he,
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by that mountair stream,
"You'll come a tramping the ranges with me."



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PNTMC Newsletter August 2015

What's inside this month?

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- Winter Trip in Kahurangi
- Zekes Hut
- Taranua Hut Bagging trips - Smiths Stream Shelter, YTY, blown off Holdsworth
- Rangji Hut – fun in the snow
- Old Song – Tramping in the Ranges
- Coming trips and more

Articles for the newsletter

Send by the 20th of each month to Warren Wheeler the newsletter editor, via the club website <http://www.pntmc.org.nz/mail/>.

Get out and about with us!

**Sender: PNTMC
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Treasurer	Warren Wheeler	356 1998
Webmaster	Peter Wiles	358 6894
	Martin Lawrence	357 1695
Membership Enquires	Warren Wheeler	356 1998
Gear Custodian	Warren Wheeler	356 1998
Newsletter Editor	Warren Wheeler	356 1998
Trip Co-ordinator	Janet Wilson	329 4722
Snowcraft Programme	Terry Crippen	356 3588