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# Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club Inc.

[www.pntmc.org.nz](http://www.pntmc.org.nz)

P.O. Box 1217, Palmerston North

## Newsletter November 2017

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*Intro Tramping 2 farewell civilisation at Sunrise Carpark, Ruahine Forest Park. [Martin Lawrence]*

### Club Nights

All are welcome to our club nights. These are held on the second and last Thursday of each month at the Society of Friends Hall, 227 College Street, Palmerston North. Doors open 7.15 pm for meeting start at 7.30pm.

**9 November 2017**

**BYO Pics**

**Martin Lawrence**

Your opportunity to show everyone what memorable trips you have been on over the last six months or so since our last BYO night.

**30 November 2017**

**Bungle Bungles**

**Anne Lawrence**

The Bungle Bungles are sandstone domes situated in Purnululu National Park, a World Heritage area in Western Australia's Kimberley region. Anne and Martin spent two weeks there in July this year and are keen to share their experiences – very different to tramping in NZ!

## Upcoming Trips

**4-5 November**

**Dundas/Bannister** FE  
**Grant Christian** 354 5843

Leaving Friday night to walk into Herepai Hut. Saturday will be a long day along the tops over Dundas and Bannister and to Cattle Ridge Hut. An easier day on Sunday, heading out via Roaring Stag Lodge.

**5 November**

**Intro Tramping 3** E/M  
**Anne Lawrence** 357 1695

This is the third in our series of Beginner Tramps being held each month until December. For this trip we plan to head into the Tararuas from Otaki Forks. However, where we go and how far will, as usual, depend on the group. Interested? Contact Anne 027 4504212 or 06 357 1695.

**11-12 November**

**Pohangina River** M  
**Janet Wilson** 329 4722

This is an "Applied Tramping" trip – we will be exploring the river and rebaiting traps. Exactly where in the river will depend on conditions but a high probability is Leon Kinvig Hut. If you would like to know more contact Janet early as there is the chance of making this a 3 day trip starting Friday if people are keen. There is a very good chance of seeing some whio (blue duck) on this trip.

**12 November**

**Nae Nae Road/Pukenaena** M/F  
**Dave Grant** 328 7788

Here is your chance to try a new route into the northern Tararuas from the eastern side. Ian Argyle and his team have opened up a new track through the bush that follows a paper road up Nae Nae stream to join with the Otangane loop (runs from the Platinum Mines track in Hardings Park) thence to Pukenaena (the Nipple). See picturesque waterfalls on the Naena Stream, varied bush, and great views on a fine day over the Mangatainoka valley from the top of Pukenaena. The new track is steepish in places. Leave Milverton Park at 7.30am. Should be back by 4pm.

~~18 November~~ *Postponed until February*

**River Crossing Training** All  
**Graeme Richards** 353 6227

*This course will be run by instructors from Mountain Safety Council. There will be some theory before practicing safe river crossing techniques. Bring normal tramping gear and*

*back pack. You can expect to get wet so bring dry clothes to travel back home.*

**18-19 November**

**Otaki Forks Explorer** All  
**Graeme Richards** 353 6227

Visit historic logging relics, settlements and tramlines, practice river crossings, explore upriver to beautiful swimming holes, check out the old Penn Creek track or climb up to historic Field Hut. Practice night navigation and hunt for glowworms. Bring a snorkel and look for young trout behind big boulders. Contact Graeme for a fun weekend.

**25-26 November**

**Manawatu Cycling Adventure MTB**  
**Richard Lockett** 323 0948

For the adventurous amongst you, a bike packing ride into the Manawatu hinterland, departing from Feilding midday Saturday and returning midday Sunday, travelling on quite back country gravel and sealed roads and overnighting at a Manawatu District Council Reserve nestled beside a significant Manawatu river. Intention is to fly camp at the reserve so you will need to be able to carry your sleeping bag and mat on board your bike, with a small backpack to carry food, clothing etc as a minimum requirement. Contact Richard for further details.

~~26 November~~ *Postponed until January*

**Waipawa Loop** M  
**Warren Wheeler** 356 1998

Depart 7.30am. This trip shows the wonderful variety of tramping beyond Sunrise Hut. We traverse the tops south from Armstrong Saddle and drop into the north branch of the Waipawa via a scree slope. It is an easy scramble down the stream to the Forks, then down the gravelly riverbed to loop back to the carpark.

**2-3 December**

**Lake Dive** M  
**Kathy Corner** 027 618 5722

Leave Milverton Park at 7.30am and drive to Dawson Falls. Lake Dive Hut is a great hut on the shore of picturesque Lake Dive. And if you are lucky and it is fine and calm you may get reflections of Fanthams Peak in the lake. We can either take the high route to Lake Dive or the lower route through the bush, all weather dependent. The same goes for the trip back on the Sunday.

**2-3 or 3 December**

**Intro Tramping 4** E/M  
**Anne Lawrence** 357 1695

This is the fourth in our series of Beginner Tramps, this time with a choice of an overnight

or day trip. For the overnight trip we will stay Saturday night in a hut (probably Roaring Stag on the eastern side of the Tararua Ranges). The day trip on Sunday would be in the same area with the idea of meeting up with those coming out from the overnight trip. However, where we go and how far will, as usual, depend on the group. Leave from Milverton Park on either day at 7.30am and return about 5pm Sunday. Interested? Contact Anne 027 4504212 or 06 357 1695.

**9-10 December**

**Matiu/Somes Island** **All**  
**Kathy Corner** **027 618 5722**

Matiu/Somes Island is a predator-free scientific reserve in the middle of Wellington Harbour. It is also a historic reserve with a rich multicultural history- it was once a quarantine and a military outpost. There are lots of short walks, tuatara to see if we are lucky, little penguins, and birds. We leave Milverton Park at 8am and need to catch the ferry from Days Bay Eastbourne at 10.30am. I have booked a DOC house which sleeps 8 (Cost \$200) so if you want to come, get in quick or you can camp (but I haven't booked any campsites yet).

**10 December**

**Ridge Rd/Oroua Rd Farm Walk** **M**  
**Dave Grant** **328 7788**

Walk from Ridge Road over hill country farmland with magnificent views up the Oroua valley to Ruapehu and the Ruahines. Drop down to the picturesque Oroua River for lunch and then head upstream and follow a side gully back through reverting bush back to the start. Not a long day, say 4 hours on the trot, and not too difficult but a bit of scrambling here and there. Could be scones at Dave's house on the way home!! Leave Milverton Park 8am home by 4pm.

**16-17 December**

**Short-Knights** **E/M**  
**Warren Wheeler** **356 1998**

Depart 2pm on Saturday to go and celebrate the summer solstice by camping on top of the Ruahine Ranges. Past Apiti we turn off onto Table Flat Road and go to the DOC carpark at the roadend. Shorts Track will take us up to the tussock tops to camp. Heading north along the ridge to Toka we will drop back down via Knights Track. And so on to Christmas...

**Trip Grading**

Trip grades depend on many factors, especially weather and terrain. A reasonably proficient trampler 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](mailto: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  
 Graeme Richards 353-6227

**Articles for the newsletter**

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

## From the President

"Huts and High Points" Club Challenge - there seems to be a fair bit of enthusiasm for another club challenge so now it's time to start planning your summer trips with this in mind.

The focus is on huts and named high points within the NZ Conservation estate. To add to the fun, committee members will add in a "bonus challenge" of their choice. For example, as I have an interest in who conservation, my bonus points will be for a photo of a who taken on a river trip. Finer details of how to collect points to follow.

The challenge will begin on 15 December 2017 and end on 9 December 2018 in time for prizegiving at the end of year BBQ 14 December 2018.

Hopefully this will give some of you even more incentive to get out in the hills over the next year and to visit some new places.....happy tramping.

Have you checked out our new Facebook page yet?

[https://m.facebook.com/Palmerston-North-Tramping-and-Mountaineering-Club-1577289419011545/?view\\_public\\_for=1577289419011545](https://m.facebook.com/Palmerston-North-Tramping-and-Mountaineering-Club-1577289419011545/?view_public_for=1577289419011545)

Janet

## InterClub Photo Comp Results

### Interclub Photo Competition 9 October 2017

First, second and third places in each category of our Club Photo Comp were entered in the Interclub Photo Competition on Monday 9 October 2017 in the MUSA Lounge, Massey University. About 20 people turned up for this visual feast, including 5 PNTMC members and 3 from MTSC.

Due to the late unavailability of the MUAC judge, the winners were chosen by audience vote, with each person having two votes in each category. Voting slips were added up at the end to determine first and second places. The high quality of the entries from each club made for some very tough decisions, but this system seemed to work really well with no dispute about the final winners.

MUAC topped the medal tally with 3 gold and 3 silver, while MTSC and PNTMC both had 2 gold and 2 silver. MUAC also won Best Overall.

Congratulations to all the winners listed below and thanks to Greg Speirs and his MUAC team for organising the event.

#### Above the Bushline (Human Element)

1. James Vincent (MUAC) On Craters Edge
2. Tom Stringer (MUAC) First Light on Tongariro

#### Above the Bushline (Without Human Element)

1. Tom Stringer (MUAC) Taranaki Jetstream
2. Elly Arnst (PNTMC) Craigieburn Range

#### Below the Bushline (Human Element)

1. Jean Garman (MTSC) Lake Cobb Early Morning
2. James Vincent (MUAC) Indiana Bones and the Lost Bark

#### Below the Bushline (Without Human Element)

1. Elly Arnst (PNTMC) Sunset on Rotoiti
2. John Beech (MTSC) Mist on the Arthur River

#### Natural History

1. Chris Tuffley (PNTMC) Gecko Square
2. James Vincent (MUAC) Sparks of Light

#### Overseas

1. Tom Stringer (MUAC) Magnificent Mesa Arch
2. Chris Tuffley (PNTMC) Gum Trees in the Mist

#### Topical

1. Tim Swale (MTSC) Admiring Taranaki From Pouakai Range
2. John Beech (MTSC) Dinner Time at Awaroa Hut

#### Overall Winners

1. James Vincent (MUAC) On Craters Edge
2. Tom Stringer (MUAC) Magnificent Mesa Arch

#### Winning Pics from PNTMC



Elly Arnst – Sunset on Rotoiti



Elly Arnst – Craigieburn Range



Chris Tuffley – Gecko Square



Chris Tuffley - Gum Trees in the Mist

## PNTMC Jubilee Book

***Old Boots & Packs - The First 50 Years of the Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club (PNTMC)*** will interest and amuse mountain users, historians, photographers, hut baggers and tree huggers. Read about current and past members' exploits, which include climbing our highest peaks (sometimes with boots on the wrong

feet) and powering a car on white spirits cooking fuel.



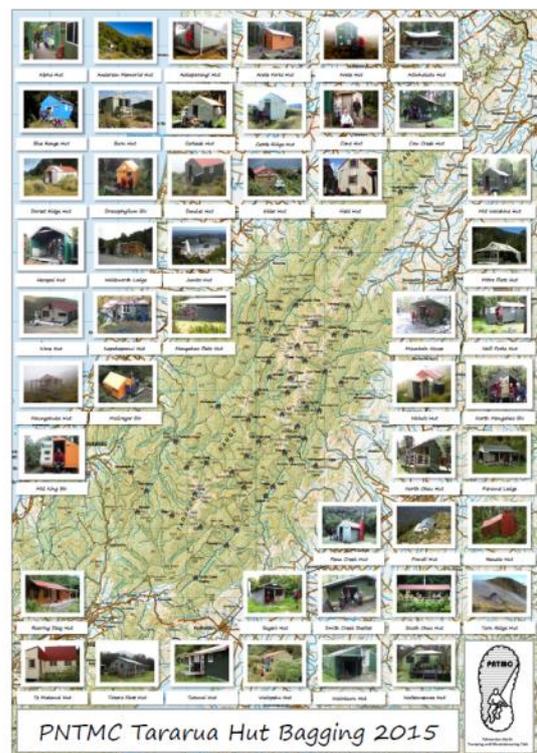
Order your copies directly from the editor Doug Strachan 353-6526 and get ready to put your feet up with this great read, all for only \$35.

## PNTMC Hut Bagging Posters

Posters are still available for both the Ruahine Hut Bagging 2012 and Tararua Hut Bagging 2015.

| Size | Members | Non Members |
|------|---------|-------------|
| A2   | \$8     | \$12        |
| A1   | \$16    | \$24        |

Post and tube is about \$15 extra depending on where it is being sent.



Sale proceeds go towards our maintenance of the Mid-Pohangina Hut and Ngamoko Hut in Ruahine Forest Park.

Contact Warren (06) 356-1998.

## New Members

Welcome to Anna McKay and Ewen Cameron. We wish you happy tramping with us.

## Trip Reports

### 2 October 2017 Intro Tramping 2 Ewen Cameron

In spite of losing Anne, our trip organiser, to a nasty bug, a big group of us were ready to welcome in the start of the month with a walk up to Sunrise Hut. The weather was forecast to turn wet in the later part of the day but we'd all been reminded about bringing wet weather gear and warm clothing for the return trip.

Most of the people who had participated in the first introduction to tramping returned for another go: we're hooked. The group also comprised some more keen people interested in getting into the hills and had a good many experienced club members out for the day.

The eighteen of us got away from the car park at the foot to the track under grey skies, which were forecast to bring rain in the latter part of the tramp and which in light of that forecast brought about clear messages from Anne about bringing wet weather gear and warm clothing for the return trip.

After the required start of tramp photos, including one with the "Warren wave" Martin led the group off upwards, while Woody played tail end Charlie. For those of us at the tail end, Woody's sage advice about keeping going at a measured pace and just not stopping too often was well received. Unfortunately after about 40 minutes, one of the newbies decided to return to the car park so in the same pattern as the previous introductory tramp Warren took over the tail end role, while Woody returned to the carpark.

All the way up through the bush, Warren spent time "botanising" and identifying plants with endless enthusiasm mixed with advice about keeping going. After a few breaks, with rather

less time between them as time went on, seventeen of us made it to the hut... the advanced guard getting there sufficiently ahead of us at the back of the group that they were well and truly settled in to lunch by the time we arrived.

The view from the hut was pretty good although grey skies and cloud made seeing the ocean a bit of stretch. Soon after we'd all settled in for a break, Woody appeared! He'd been back to the carpark, then turned around and come back up to join us. And then to top it all off, he made tea for a few using the stove he'd bought... our hero!

Most of us had a look at the track leading up to the pass, and a few of the fitter members decided to progress on up the track along the ridge to explore the Armstrong Saddle. The wind was not up to its fabled levels and the group seemed to make good progress as they vanished up the track.



*Hello Armstrong Saddle [Warren Wheeler]*



*Kathy checks for stagglers. [June Wirihana]*

While the explorers were away, the rest of us began to cool off and get fidgety. With the threat of rain, we agreed that Martin would lead the group back down and Woody would wait at the hut to fill his tail end role. Martin produced a walking pole to become another hero for the day as one of us found her progress very much easier with it.

For some the trip down was very quick, for others it was an opportunity to take in views missed on the way up. Over the period of about 40 minutes, the party arrived at the carpark. After regrouping, marvelling that the rain had held off, and deciding it would be too late for a warm cuppa at the Onga Onga store... which we also felt might be overwhelmed with 18 arrivals... we headed home.

On the trip were: Newbies Shaan, June, Mark, Heidi, Grace, Anna, Sue, Kirsten, Stephen, Lisa, Elise, Maria, Pam, Ewen and Experios/Oldbies (??) Woody, Kathy, Warren and Marty.

**14 October 2017**  
**Ngauruhoe**  
**Warren Wheeler**

Poor weather the previous week had postponed this trip. It was worth the wait as we were blessed with a near perfect day, with even the forecast afternoon cloud not barely materialising.

We enjoyed near perfect snow conditions for cramponing with no hard icy patches to worry us on the zigzag way up the west face or the long slide down the north face.

There was a stiff breeze towards the top but it was fine sheltered for lunch just below the crater rim.

The only thing missing from a repeat of the 1996 Grandstand View was ash cloud erupting from Ruapehu.

Still, does it get much better than this?

Lucky us were Chris Tuffley, Christian Offen, Thomas Robertson and Warren Wheeler.



*Lava rock all the way up to the snowline.*



*Easy zig zag slope for the crampons at last.*



*Lunch stop on crater rim out of the breeze.*



*Roped up Russians vs crazy Kiwis in shorts.*



*Waiting for Top Pics Chris to circle around.*



*Christian enjoys a nice warm spot in the crater.*



*Ruapehu without plume of erupting ash.*



*Looking good, feeling good.*



*Thomas masters the heel glissade.*



*A good scree run to finish.*



*Looking north over Tongariro to Taupo.*



*New camo-loos, but no hiding the smelly poos.*



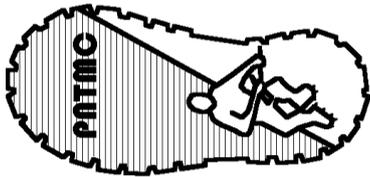
*First buttercups at Soda Springs.*



*PooH Sticks anyone?*



*Car park all but empty of very happy trampers.*



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## PNTMC Newsletter November 2017

### *What's inside this month?*

- From the President – Huts and High Points challenge 2018
- Interclub Photo Comp Results
- Intro Tramping 2 – Sunrise Hut
- Ngauruhoe Climb – photo essay
- Coming trips and more

### **Articles for the newsletter**

Send by the 20<sup>th</sup> 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  
PO Box 1217  
Palmerston North**

### PNTMC Contacts

|                      |                 |          |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------|
| President            | Janet Wilson    | 329 4722 |
| Vice President       | Bruce van Brunt | 328 4761 |
| Secretary            | Grant Christian | 354 5843 |
| Treasurer            | Warren Wheeler  | 356 1998 |
| Webmaster            | Peter Wiles     | 358 6894 |
|                      | Martin Lawrence | 357 1695 |
| Membership Enquiries | Warren Wheeler  | 356 1998 |
| Gear Custodian       | Grant Christian | 354 5843 |
| Newsletter Editor    | Warren Wheeler  | 356 1998 |
| Trip Co-ordinator    | Janet Wilson    | 329 4722 |
| Snowcraft Programme  | Grant Christian | 354 5843 |