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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 May 2018

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*Happy to be back at Baber Creek after some leatherwood bashing along the tops, northern Tararua.  
[Naser Ghardash Fard]*

### 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 a cuppa before start at 7.30pm.

**10 May 2018**

**Wild About Cats**

**Kat Strang**

Chasing rats or kiwis, who really knows what feral cats get up to out there? Kat Strang is completing a PhD at Massey University and will tell us some of the surprising results from her study of cats on Ponui Island in the Hauraki Gulf...Rats, be very afraid.

**31 May 2018**

**BYO Pics**

**All**

What have you been up to over summer? Pick out some of your best pics and bring them along on a memory stick to show on the big screen and you can tell us about the adventures you have had.

## Upcoming Trips

**5-6 May**

**Upper Makaroro Hut** M/F  
**Janet Wilson** 329 4722

Departing Friday as soon as those keen to go can get away. Fantastic little hut in a great location beside the Makaroro River. We will do a circuit via Parks Peak Hut and the Upper Makaroro River/Aranga Hut site. Probably some conservation volunteering included – we may deploy acoustic recorders to listen for kiwis on this trip. Your chance to be involved in this exciting project. Please contact me in plenty of time if you are interested.

**5 or 6 May**

**Sunrise Hut** E/M  
**Kathy Corner** 027 618 5722

Sunrise Hut is one of the most popular huts in the Ruahines. It is a 2-3 hour gentle climb to the hut and if people want and the weather is fine we can climb up to the nearby Armstrong Saddle. Leave at 7am from Milverton Park on either Saturday or Sunday depending on weather.

**12-13 May**

**Howletts Hut** M/F  
**Warren Wheeler** 356 1998

Depart 7.30am. A classic Ruahine tops trip via the steep track to Longview Hut. If inclement weather we will go in via Daphne Hut. From Howletts we can also continue along to Tiraha for views of Sawtooth Ridge and beyond.

**13 May**

**Branch Road** E  
**Sally Hewson** 357 0990

This walkway follows the route of an abandoned country road that links the Pohangina Village with Ridge Road. It is about 6km to Ridge Rd. If we have two cars we can do a car drop to avoid walking back down the road, or we can retrace our steps back down the walkway. Possibility of an afternoon tea stop in the little café in the old Pohangina council rooms (if they are open).

**19-20 May (4-days)**

**Extended Ruahine Corner** M/F  
**Grant Christian** 354 5843

A four-day circuit in the northern Ruahines including a visit to Ruahine Corner Hut. This hut has been on my to do list for some time. Take a couple of days leave to visit this remote spot. I'm hoping the deer stalkers will be having a break now the roar is over. Leaving Palmy at 7 a.m.

**20 May**

**Arapuke Loop** E  
**Woody Lee** 357 2390

A new swing bridge across Kahuterawa Stream lets us complete a nearly 7km loop track in the Arapuke (= pathway in the hills) Forest Park. We will start from the Back Track for this loop walk and get down to the swing bridge. From there it is an easy walk to the car park. You can have lunch at your place if you like. Depart Milverton Park at 9 am.

**28-27 May**

**TBA**

Keen on leading a trip to bag some more points in our Huts and High Places Challenge? If you are interested in leading or going on this trip then give me a call - Warren 356 1998.

**27 May**

**Nae Nae - Arawaru** M  
**Dave Grant** 328 7788

Enjoy this new route into the northern Tararuas from the eastern side. 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 Pukenae (the Nipple) and on to Arawaru for lunch. See picturesque waterfalls on the Naenae Stream, varied bush, and great views on a fine day over the Mangatainoka valley from the top of Pukenae and Arawaru. Leave Milverton Park at 7.30am. Should be back by 4pm.

**2-4 June**

**Queens Birthday Coastal Classic** E/M  
**Janet Wilson** 329 4722

This trip to Stewart Island is now full but you could give Janet a call in case there are any late cancellations.

**2 June (Sat)**

**Beach Walk** E  
**Tina Bishop** 06 363 5660

We will head around the estuary to the beach and walk along as far as we feel like then head into the dunes and forest back to my place by 1pm. Meet at my place 8.45 or Milverton Park at 8am if you are sharing a ride. Phone or txt 027 480 3342.

**9-10 June**

**Neill Forks Hut** M/F  
**Craig Allerby** 323 7913

This trip will be postponed due to injury unless someone else takes over as leader. A good Tararua walk in from Mt Holdsworth via Totara Flats or from Walls Whare via Cone.

### 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/>

## Notices



### Snowcraft 2018 Programme

Keen to learn safe mountaineering skills?

Why put aside your tramping boots just because it's winter and there is snow on the top of the local ranges?

Have you been wanting to do some South Island tramping that involves crossing snow covered passes?

Do you want to learn the skills of basic snow and ice climbing using the correct equipment?

Learn new skills or upgrade your current ones by enrolling in PNTMC's Snowcraft Instruction programme.

#### 14-15 July

#### The Basics - Snowcraft 1 (SC1)

Enjoy the alpine snow slopes? Are you confident that you understand the special requirements of travelling safely on snow?

Learn to confidently walk on snow, use an ice axe, cut steps and use crampons. What if I fall? Master self arresting and more ...

#### 28-29 July

#### Building on the Basics - Snowcraft 2 (SC2)

Learn the important skills of rope work, anchors, belays and the basics of snow and ice climbing. Begin the rudiments of alpine climbing and avalanche awareness.

#### 11-12 August

#### Alpine Climbing - extend your skills - Snowcraft 3 (SC3)

Get a more complete set of skills for alpine climbing. Practice makes perfect. Tackle the

snow slopes, glaciers and peaks. Prepare yourself for the magic of the Southern Alps.

### Interested?

Each level is a prerequisite for the next. However, some participants may find completing SC1, or the first two levels, adequate for their intended outdoor activities. Others may want to advance through SC3 and beyond. Some may wish to do SC1 this winter and SC2 next winter, or refresh their skills. Some people with previous snow or alpine experience may enter at SC2.

### Applications Close Saturday 30 June 2018.

For more information on costs etc please visit our website via this link [Snowcraft](#) or contact the course organisers Dieter Stalman 027 450 9460, or Grant Christian (06) 354-5843.

## AGM President's Report

### Presidents Annual Report AGM 12 April 2018

It is with pleasure that I present this, the 52nd President's Annual Report. This has been my first year as club president and although I have found the role to be challenging at times, I feel proud to be president of this relatively small, active and high achieving club.

I wish to start by thanking everyone who is a member of PNTMC for supporting and contributing to our club. I also wish to acknowledge the time contributed by members of the committee, trip leaders and instructors - it is because of you that we have once again been able to offer a full and varied programme of events to both members and non-members. These include mountaineering and tramping trips, training, talks, a quiz night, photo competitions and social gatherings.

In a break from recent tradition, I have limited the extent of this report - our monthly newsletter, capably produced by Warren Wheeler, provides a great historical reference. I will however cover a few activities in more detail.

Firstly though, it would be remiss of me not to include some statistics - thank you Warren for providing the following:

- Of the 89 scheduled trips, 70 (79%) actually went. This is well up on the previous year's 60% probably due to this summer's great weather.
- Of these, 26% went to the Ruahines, 29% to the Tararuas and 45% to other places.

- The number of participants averaged 5.6 on day trips and 5.3 on overnight trips.
- We have welcomed 5 new members during the year ending Feb 2018. I note that in March we also welcomed a further 6 members and families.

### Club Huts

December 2017 marked the end of the first 5 years of our hut management agreements with the Department of Conservation (DOC). The agreements allowed for a further 2 years extension and your committee has agreed we will continue to look after Mid Pohangina and Ngamoko Huts, and keep an interest in Rangiwahia Hut for this period. DOC is still working on a simplified agreement and we will wait and see what they propose in the future. We continue to engage with DOC through the Ruahine User Group which meets three times a year.

### Snowcraft

Our programme of 3 snow craft courses was once again very successful. This was largely due to those participating and to the perseverance, in the face of adverse weather conditions, of leaders Grant Christian and Bruce van Brunt. Thanks to everyone who helped out this year. SC1 attracted 17 students, SC2 8 students and SC3 6 students. An unexpected outcome was a large surplus of funds. Your committee intends to invest this surplus in training for instructors and the ongoing upgrade of the club's gear.

### Search and Rescue (SAR)

The old model of club-based Search and Rescue volunteers was lost some years ago. A number of club members are still active volunteers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Peter Darragh for his role representing the club on the Palmerston North Land SAR committee for many years. Graeme Richards now keeps the club up to date with SAR related matters.

The issue challenging many clubs is often said to be "an aging demographic leading to static or declining membership". The "ageing" unfortunately cannot be denied - indeed, I am around 20 years older than when I joined this club and I was then one of the younger ones. So much has changed, especially with regard to technology and communication. This club must remain progressive to continue to thrive and attract new members. This year your committee have taken a number of steps with this in mind.

- ✓ Promoted and led a very successful series of beginner tramps. Thanks must go to Anne Lawrence in particular for coordination and

leading this programme. All trips attracted good numbers and it has led to several new members joining up. I hope you all enjoy belonging and have many good and memorable trips with our club.

- ✓ A public Facebook page as another means of communication. It is not intended to replace our excellent web site but to enhance our public profile and lead more people to find out about our club. Thanks to Martin Lawrence for taking the first steps with this.
- ✓ Recommend a change in rules regarding membership to modernise and simplify becoming a club member.
- ✓ Consider a change in our club's logo. We are currently trialling it on our Facebook page.
- ✓ Started the "Huts and High Places" 2017/18 club challenge to encourage members to get out in the hills.

To conclude, I wish to thank Don French for continuing to review our accounts and to Sue Pither for continuing to be an interested and supportive Patron.

Janet Wilson  
PNTMC President 2018



## Trip Reports

**17-18 March 2018**  
**Pouakai Circuit**  
**Kathy Corner**

Four of us set off to do the Pouakai Circuit, one my favourite tramps - we were Kathy, Brendon, Lucy and Dieter. We had spectacular views of the mountain as we drove, but once in the park Taranaki was enveloped in cloud. I had heard earlier in the

week from my son David that part of the Holly Hut Track was closed due to the Boomerang Slip becoming very unstable after Cylone Gita.

So, we had a change of plan and did the circuit anti-clockwise starting at the Kaiauai Carpark and instead of finishing back at the Camphouse the detour was to go down the Kokowai Track. I always love the bush in Egmont National Park. It was a slow steady climb, we stopped for lunch at the Kaiauia Shelter (built in case the river is up), but now there is a swing bridge. It was quite muggy so by the time we reached the open tussock at Henry Peak I was very hot. The views were spectacular. Mount Taranaki was still clagged in when we passed the tarn so we vowed to come back at dawn to view the reflections (hopefully). There was a collection of international trampers at the hut - German Dutch, British and American. We enjoyed a good discussion with them over a range of topics, and Brendon continued to learn more German. It was lovely to see the lights of New Plymouth but we couldn't hear the WOMAD music - what a shame.

Lucy, Dieter and myself got up for the sunrise and walked to the tarn. It was quite tricky in the dark even with a torch as some of the board walk is overgrown and you never know when the next step is. Taranaki was covered with cloud but did appear briefly so we got a few shots. We saw 7 runners who run from the car park every Sunday; they appeared a very companionable group and we heard lots of laughter. After breakfast we descended into the Ahukawakawa Swamp. The unanimous decision was not to climb Pouakai as it was clagged in (so no point for the challenge!).

Once we got to Holly Hut I elected not to walk to Bells Falls but instead sat and relaxed with a cup of coffee. I enjoyed the peace and quiet for 15 minutes with no one there. Then a Columbian guy arrived who was doing the crossing. I offered him a cup of coffee and we sat and chatted in the sun and observed a robin come very close. Unfortunately, Brendon had my camera at the falls so I couldn't take a photo. After a leisurely lunch we walked along the track, enjoying the expansive views of the swamp and the coastline and then the steep descent down the Kokowai Track back to the car. Just before we arrived back at the car we were rewarded with the antics of a pair of who playing around in the rapids. Lucy, with the aid of her fancy watch, was able to tell us how many steps we had taken - 40,000 on the first day, 28,000 on the second and how many

'floors' we had climbed! Thanks for the company, another great weekend out in the hills.



*Jackets off, ready to start climbing.*



*Dawn reflections in Pouakai tarn.*

### **1 April 2018 Ohingaiti Boulders Doug Strachan**

The 'nga' part of the name might be pronounced 'na' or nasal 'ŋa'. I was putting a gap between 'Ohin' and 'gaiti', pronouncing it with a hard 'g', but now I realise this is a negative transfer of training from learning Japanese. It's probably better to pronounce Māori words the Māori way rather than the Japanese way, although Japanese pronunciation often works.

Five of us and a Labrador-sized dog called Skye (she doubles as an airbag in case of emergency) all squeezed into our little car and headed off, not stopping till we reached Stormy Point lookout. Just getting out of the car can be an achievement for people with sore backs or a dog on their laps. We pondered about all the river terraces visible from the lookout, which somehow led on to a discussion about what might be on the other side of black holes. It was time to move on.

When I told everyone in the car that the cost of crossing the farmland to see the boulders had risen from \$5 a head to \$65 a head because the whole site has become commercialised

and even has a visitors' centre now, it was amazing how nobody seemed too concerned.

Deborah requested a loo stop. Warren made some comment about a towel on the backseat sufficing, but I was feeling magnanimous, so we called into the Vinegar Hill camping spot. Maho went to the loo too, which is a trivial but personal piece of information that has no place being in a trip report. Will she even read it?

The final leg of the journey along Peka Rd was interesting, with a low-slung car and a pack of heavies inside lowering it further. Driving with the wheels in the ruts caused the car's undercarriage to get stone blasted or grass polished depending on what was in the centre of the road. Out of concern for the muffler and oil sump, I ended up driving above the rut, with two wheels on the mound in the centre of the road, and two right on the edge of the road. Deborah said she was glad we hadn't brought her car.

We extracted ourselves from the can at the carpark, signed the visitors' book, and payed our \$5 per person fee (April Fools!). Then began the 30 min walk across the verdant farmland, with Skye dog on a leash, of course. The farm owner, a very friendly guy, turned up on his quad bike with a couple of kids on board. They were getting ready for a community BBQ and massive Easter egg hunt at 1pm amongst the boulders. We were invited, but ended up not staying for that. Apparently, people who visit the boulders shortly after Easter each year end up leaving comments in the visitors' book that they found stray Easter eggs (missed by the kids who hunted for them).



*Here we are at the boulders... not.*

We had quite a lengthy chat on the farmland not far above river level. I thought it would be impossible to fence off the waterway from stock because a flood would take out any

fence. The farmer pointed at a fence well back from the river and said Horizons went halves in putting it in. The solution had been simple: put the fence far enough back, and then only allow sheep, not cattle, to graze the grass near the river. Have you ever seen sheep wading in a river? This outcome seemed to suit the farm owner just fine, and the unfenced tract makes a convenient route to the boulders. The farmer on the other side of the river seems less concerned about protecting the water way as no fence has gone up yet and we saw cattle there. I guess putting up a fence and installing troughs would be quite a capital outlay.

Our farmer said that people visiting the boulders are pretty good overall. Seldom any litter, just the odd water bottle accidentally lost. Occasionally a gate gets left open, or a gate that should be open gets closed (the better of the two misdemeanours).

We lunched amongst the concretions. Warren produced a chocolate concretion from his pack and enticed Conan to smash it on his head. You are probably wondering whether "his" refers to Conan's head or Warren's head. Not telling, you should have come on the trip. The choc concretion tasted better than the rock ones but, unfortunately, couldn't match them in size.



*Conan contemplating cracking an egg.*

It looked like a snow storm had been through as many dead and broken branches hung from the tops of the trees. Miraculously, none of these came crashing down, even when Conan swung on the vines.

We went down to the Rangitikei River and encouraged Conan to have a play at the bottom of the cliff, looking for projecting concretions. No earthquake at that precise moment, which vastly improved his survival odds.

Then we had the short but steep slog back up to the car, which Debra found a bit of a grunt, having done the full Manawatu Gorge walk both ways the day before.

Conan, Skye and I were the only ones to brave the cold water. We (well, not Skye of course) had our reef shoes with us this time, which was much easier on the feet. Someone has added a couple of new knotted ropes to help swimmers (well, not Skye of course) climb out of the water onto the slippery papa bank.

As Conan swam beneath the cliff, I pointed out the overhanging papa blocks at the top of the cliff that could come down at any moment. Last time we were here, a group just leaving had seen six chunks fall. Of course, this reminded us of the tragedy at Pohangina some years back. The fact that the water was too cold to stay in indefinitely vastly improved Conan's survival odds. We go through life taking risks based on statistical probabilities, sometimes throwing caution to the wind and recklessly gorging on Easter chocolate.

We sped home via Rangiwahia, with Warren giving driving advice, like to speed up when encountering stray sheep at the side of the road so that if they jump in front of the car they will be properly deflected rather than cause me to swerve.

I asked the rhetorical question, "Who wants to stop for an ice cream at Cheltenham?" Maho, Conan and I had just been to I Scream for Ice Cream in Feilding the day before but, hey, you only live once. I wonder if the Indian guy in the Cheltenham dairy knows that he has a reputation among trampers for being generous. Maho gave Skye the last bit of her cone, but I gently reprimanded her for not pushing a bit of ice cream right down to the bottom of the cone with her tongue. Animal rights and all that.

As a statistician might say, that pretty much sums up the day.

We were Debra Sayer, Warren Wheeler, Maho & Doug & Conan Strachan. And Skye Strachan (of course).

**8 April 2018**  
**Puketurua-Burn Hut (almost)**  
**Ernie Cook**

"From the end of the Mangahao Road the idea is to follow the track around the top reservoir

(No.1) to Baber Creek. We will then head up the old Puketurua Track to the main ridge and go north along the ridge to reach the Burn Hut Track a kilometre or so south of Burn Hut. This section along the ridge through tussock and scrub is basically untracked, so be prepared for a bit of bush bashing. Lunch at Burn Hut then follow back and head down the track to College Creek and out to the top Mangahao Reservoir again."

Your mission should you decide to accept it. (Apologies to "Mission Impossible.")

Five intrepid trampers armed with loppers and saws assembled at the muster point on a bright looking Sunday morning. Originally seven individuals had expressed interest in the trip. The phrase "dodged a bullet" comes to mind. With one vehicle deemed to be sufficient we piled into Ernie's van and set off. After negotiating the long winding gravel road in and managing to avoid most of the ruts and raised stones we arrived at our start point about nine o'clock. There were several other vehicles parked up. Walking across the dam top showed the tide to be well out. A pile of old tree stumps was evidence to some recent activity to remove them from the reservoir.

A pleasant amble along the track brought us to the junction of College and Baber creeks and with it the choice of routes. We crossed College Creek and began a steady climb up the old Puketurua Track. A well-marked path led us easily up the spur to the main ridge. Sightings of rata flower drew appreciative comments from Warren and Dave.

A potpourri of coloured markers led us along the ridge initially but seemed to disappear as the undergrowth thinned and we emerged out of the bush to a sea of knee to waist high leatherwood. Sometimes we thought a track could be discerned through the leatherwood but it may have been wistful thinking. After a period of making our own individual paths through the vegetation we halted for lunch. By this time the idea of the Thursday walkers venturing this way had been well and truly discounted. At least the leatherwood afforded some respite from the wind.

After lunch Warren literally stumbled into a corridor through the leatherwood and spirits were raised at the sighting of "pink tape". The head high corridor bore testament to the adage that the vegetation does best on the eastern side of the ridge. There was even evidence of ancient track clearing and some

sign of someone else having passed this way. The loppers were given some use and I made a cut with my saw to justify having carried it. Emerging from the leatherwood we followed the semblance of a track and when we deviated from it we backtracked to pick it up again. By this time the vegetation was knee high at worst and we confidently forged ahead uphill to the junction with the Burn Track.



*Route finding along the tops [Warren Wheeler]*

Burn Hut was sighted in the near distance but as we turned left there would be no points earned or huts bagged today. After a bit of uphill we descended a pleasant track to College Creek which was the "track" back down. Numerous crossings ensued as we scrambled our way downstream over slippery rocks with two falls at least noted. Thigh deep passage was about the furthest my legs went to the creek bed. A short creek side side was a pleasant change but short lived and the orange markers in the creek bed assured us that we were on track.



*Pleasant travel down College Creek [WW]*

The junction with Baber Creek was reached necessitating a decision as to which way home. Bush or creek bed. Ernie declared that he had had enough of creek travel. Warren pointed out an orange triangle clearly visible in the creek bed. At the prospect of the group splitting up Dave purposefully set off striding

down the creek bed and the decision was made. Travel was comfortable enough and progress good.

Near the dam and seeing some orange in the bush Ernie scrambled up to the track and followed it back to the dam finding Warren had just arrived beforehand. The peace was disturbed by the strident noise of a couple of Quad bikes playing in the mud. There was smug satisfaction and a steely resolve not to lend any assistance when one bike become stuck in the mud. We arrived back at our vehicle for a 4:30 p.m. departure having accomplished a round trip to near Burn Hut and not having trod the same ground twice. Certainly preferable to the long trek back down the road that sometimes accompanies a visit to Burn Hut.

Thanks to Dave Grant for arranging this excursion. Blood was shed by Dave, Warren, Brendon and Ernie while Naser claimed to be unscathed.

### **15 April 2018 Farm Walk Anne Lawrence**

The best weather day of the weekend was well read by Malcolm: Sunday was calm and sunny all day – a perfect day for our farm walk.

Eight of us arrived at Malcolm and Edith's farm promptly at 8am. With Malcom and Edith, this made 5 per car with one car starting at each end of our walk. One group started at Otairi station on Turakina Valley Road and the other group started a fair way up Watershed Road.

The walk covers over 20km and gently rises the whole way from Otairi to the highest point at over 700m before dropping fairly sharply down to Watershed Road.

I was in the group starting at Otairi. Edith was our capable leader, route finder and story teller. The two groups met around midday – perfect time and place for lunch – and even while eating, drinking, admiring the views, debating whether to climb the nearby named highpoint (we all lost interest once we were reminded that only places on DOC land counted for our Huts and High Places competition), we did remember to also swap car keys! Malcolm and Edith also swapped groups, each returning the way they had come. Bonus: we got to hear Malcolm's stories as well as Edith's.

Our route was mostly over farm tracks, with Grant finding only few parts that he couldn't have easily driven over in his 4x4. The walking was easy going with a gentle gradient. The views were fantastic – looking north to uncountable numbers of hills – they seem to go on forever - and as we gained height we could see Ruapehu, and Kapiti, some snow covered Tararua peaks (Dundas/ Arete?) and Ruahines with bits of snow on, Malcolm pointing out Mangaweka and Tunupo as well as the cliffs of the Mangaweka campground.



*Enjoying the sunshine and views. [WW]*

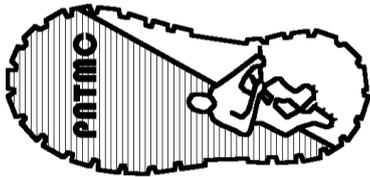
Our route finished with a steepish descent through some slightly muddy terrain – I think we were all quite pleased to see Malcolm's car at the bottom! We drove back to Leary's farm via Hunterville where we stopped for ice creams (Malcolm being a particular fan of the real fruit ice creams made in the service station there). Then to the farm where we found the other group relaxing over drinks and nibbles.

Not long after we got back, Edith produced dinner for all – an impressive feat given she had been tramping all day. (Edith credits slow cookers for this, but I think much credit goes to Edith as well!) After our feast, it was time to head home.

I really enjoyed the trip: the views, weather, company and Malcolm and Edith's hospitality combined to make it a memorable day. I especially enjoyed hearing about the farming personalities and farm histories of the area.

Thanks to Malcolm and Edith, trip leaders extraordinaire!

We were: Fiona Burleigh, Anthony Behrens, Kathy Corner, Sally Hewson, Warren Wheeler, Grant Christian, Anne and Martin Lawrence, Malcolm and Edith Leary.



Palmerston North  
Tramping and  
Mountaineering  
Club Inc.

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

P.O. Box 1217,  
Palmerston North

## PNTMC Newsletter May 2018

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

- Presidents Report from AGM
- Snowcraft Programme 2018 – enrol now
- Pouakai Circuit – a Taranaki favourite
- Fun at Ohingaiti White Cliffs Boulders
- A Bush Bash in Northern Taranaki
- Otairi Farm Walk across Hunterville hills
- 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  
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Palmerston North**

### PNTMC Contacts

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	Martin Lawrence	357 1695
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Gear Custodian	Grant Christian	354 5843
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