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## Palmerston North Tramping and Mountaineering Club

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

PO Box 1217, Palmerston North

### Newsletter July 2023

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*Having a lovely time in Nepal- wish you were here?.*

*Pic from Kathy Corner*

### Club Nights

*Club nights are generally held on the second and last Thursday of each month at the Quakers Hall, 227 College Street, Palmerston North. Doors open 7.15pm for meeting start at 7.30pm. All welcome.*

**13 July 2023**

**Getting on Top of Tappy**

**Malcolm Leary**

Malcolm Leary, Chris Rayner and Dieter Stalman will share some of their adventures in climbing Tapuae-o-Uenuku, the highest peak in the Kaikoura Range.

**27 July 2023**

**Beyond 100 Peaks**

**Don French**

What do you do once you have achieved the goal of completing the NZ Alpine Club 100 Peaks Challenge? You keep on climbing mountains of course! Come along and hear what Don has been up to since February 2021.

## Upcoming Trips

**1-2 July 2023                    TBA**

If anyone wants to lead an overnight trip this weekend or a day trip on Saturday please phone Warren 06 356 1998. Keep an eye out for any trip details on our website.

**2 July 2023                    Billy Goat Creek            E                    Verity Elder            021 260 1885**

This variation on the Coppermine Loop Track involves going up through the farmland from Coppermine Roadend and dropping down the lovely Billy Goat Track. Return the same way with a short side detour to a lookout for lunch. Depart Milverton Park at 8.00am.

**8-9 July 2023                    Snowcraft 1            Instruction            Dieter Stalman            027 450 9460**

Learn basic alpine skills on Mt Ruapehu. This is the first of our two Snowcraft weekends. See "Snowcraft" on our website for registration and other details.

**9 July 2023                    Maharahara Peak            M                    Verity Elder            021 260 1885**

From Opawe Road (just before the Highland Youth Camp) the track climbs first through farm land followed by forest before reaching leatherwood and the Maharahara Peak. Fun fact: the southern Ruahine Ranges has the largest, unbroken mass of leatherwood in New Zealand. Depart Milverton Park 7:30am.

**15-16 July 2023                    Matariki Weekend            All                    Janet Wilson            06 329 4722**

Our combined Mid-winter Celebration, to be held at Riversdale on the East Wairarapa Coast. Contact Janet early for more details.

**16 July 2023                    TBA**

If anyone wants to lead a day trip on Sunday please phone Warren 06 356 1998. Keep an eye out for any trip details on our website.

**22-23 July 2023                    Snowcraft 2            Instruction            Dieter Stalman            027 450 9460**

Learn climbing skills using ropes - our second Snowcraft weekend on Mt Ruapehu. See "Snowcraft" on our website for Registration and other details.

**23 July 2023                    Toka Loop                    M                    Warren Wheeler            06 356 1998**

A western Ruahine classic. Up Knights Track to Toka peak and south along the tops then back down Shorts Track. Depart Milverton Park 7.30am.

**29-30 July 2023                    Otaki Forks                    M                    Ernie Cook            027 303 1363**

We intend to leave early on Friday morning to allow more time for this trip. What we are able to do will depend on prevailing weather conditions at the time. I am hopeful of overnighing in Kime Hut. Please contact Ernie no later than the Tuesday prior.

**30 July 2023                    Colonial Knob Coastal Walk            E/M                    Janet Wilson            06 329 4722**

A nice winter walk along the coast near Wellington.

**5-6 August 2023                    Ruapehu Climbing            FE/T                    Grant Christian            021 6921 117**

Best Weather Day, Sat or Sun. Climbing Te Heu Heu and Ruapehu Summit Plateau from Whakapapa. A steady climb via Pinnacle Ridge to the top of Ruapehu's second highest point, climb to the nearby Tukino peak and descend into the summit plateau before returning via The

Dome, Glacier Knob and the Whakapapa ski field. Could take a rope if participants want some practice. Please contact Grant no later than the weekend before.

**6 August 2023                    TBA**

If anyone wants to lead a day trip on Sunday please phone Warren 06 356 1998. Keep an eye out for any trip details on our website.

***Forthcoming Great Barrier Trip -- Expressions of Interest Wanted***

**28 Sept-3 Oct 2023            Great Barrier Island            E/M                    Barry Scott 021 070 4848**

Would you like to spend a few days walking some of the tracks of Aotea/Great Barrier Island along with seeing some of the other sights. Christine and I have a house there and are willing to host a group of 8 people for the period Thursday 28 Sept through to Tuesday 3 Oct (5 nights). Plan would be to enjoy Awana Bay (site of our house), do an overnight trip into Mt Heale Hut and summit Hirikimata (Mt Hobson), visit the hot pools and walk the Harataonga track. Specific plans will be decided closer to the dates to take into account the weather forecast for that period. There will be no charge for accommodation at our house but I would like to set aside a few hours one day for some native plant restoration work around the Awana estuary. Costs will include food, air travel from PN to Auckland return, Auckland to Great Barrier return (currently \$150 each way for voucher tickets I hold), rental for extra car that will be needed and fuel. House is totally off the grid but has good internet, plenty of solar power and water. If you are interested please let me know soon. Barry Scott. Tel: 0210704848 or email:[d.b.scott@massey.ac.nz](mailto:d.b.scott@massey.ac.nz)

**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     | Other Grades:        |
| Medium (M):             | 5-6 hrs     | Family (Fam)         |
| Fit (F):                | about 8 hrs | Technical skills (T) |
| Fitness Essential (FE): | over 8 hrs  | Inst (Instruction)   |

BWD = Best weather day of a weekend

**Trip participants**

Contact the leader at least 3 days in advance. Trips usually 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, over-trousers, 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.

**Overdue Trips**

If a club trip is late returning, please do not worry as there is probably a good reason for the delay. If you are in any doubt, please phone Martin Lawrence 357 1695 or Graeme Richards 021 149 8267.



## Notices



Our Snowcraft Courses are programmed to be held over two weekends on Ruapehu.

Each course is a prerequisite for the next unless you already have sufficient skills.

SC1 is ideal for trampers who want more confidence when venturing into alpine areas, while SC2 is for more technical mountaineering.

### Snowcraft Programme 2023

**8-9 July - SC1** - basic alpine skills;

**22-23 July - SC2** - climbing skills using ropes;

To consolidate climbing skills, instead of a specific SC3 weekend in August, there will be instructional trips programmed after SC2.

**SC1 cost:** \$115 for PNTMC members, \$125 for non-members.

**SC2 cost:** \$140 for PNTMC members, \$150 for non-members.

Each weekend is preceded by a Wednesday briefing session at Quakers Hall, 227 College Street, Palmerston North.

More details on our website. To register please contact Dieter Stalman on 027 450 9460.

### HUTS AND HIGH POINTS SCRABBLE CHALLENGE Half Way Points

| Club Member   | Scrabble | Bonus | TOTAL |
|---------------|----------|-------|-------|
| Elly          | 241      | 37    | 278   |
| Janet         | 122      | 116   | 238   |
| Blair         | 121      | 137   | 258   |
| Chris T       | 156      | 92    | 248   |
| Ernie         | 106      | 126   | 232   |
| Monika        | 96       | 95    | 191   |
| Heather       | 87       | 69    | 156   |
| Adam          | 98       | 29    | 127   |
| Kirsten       | 67       | 60    | 127   |
| Stephen       | 67       | 60    | 127   |
| Warren        | 45       | 51    | 96    |
| Grant         | 46       | 25    | 71    |
| Graham        | 38       | 29    | 67    |
| Neil          | 46       | 15    | 61    |
| Anne          | 34       | 24    | 58    |
| Martin        | 30       | 19    | 49    |
| Bruce the dog | 24       | 23    | 47    |
| Michelle      | 31       | 2     | 33    |

## Trip Reports

**21 May 2023**

**Greens Road and Linton Cycleway**

**Report by Stephen Legg**

At 9 am the rain came down in torrents and no one turned up! But we had cycled in from home, so what were we to do?

The plan was for the team going on the Club cycling kayaking and tramping trip to Samoa in June, to all practice cycling together, then enjoy a convivial coffee at the Café Esplanade at 11 am to discuss our plans for the trip. The route was to be from the Esplanade Café, around Greens Road, then via the new Linton walk and cycle-way adjacent to the Manawatu River, crossing the new pedestrian bridge and back to the café. The route was about 20 km. The cycle was opened-up to all club members.



Pa site overlooking the river. Robyn and Warren then returned towards the café and explored a little further upstream, whilst Kirsten and I repeated the Linton loop.

We were Stephen Legg (Leader), Kirsten Olsen, Warren Wheeler, Robyn Boocock, and others for coffee afterwards.

**28 May 2023**

### **Gentle Annie Loop**

**Report by Verity Elder**

On a beautifully clear and mild autumn day we began this trip by turning off the main track after the Atiwhakatu bridge and quickly climbing 320m to Holdsworth Lookout. The sign said 800m in 1 hour, we did it in slightly less. At the look out we had our first snack and rest and used the dial on the plinth to spot various high points and huts: Powell hut, Mt Holdsworth, Jumbo Hut (which was a little trickier to spot in shadow), Mitre Peak and the humps of Pinnacles ridge to our right.



Following this we climbed a little higher and then meandered along toward the descent into Gentle Annie Saddle. Just before the descent we came across a fork with another track that veered strongly to the right, but this seemed to circle back around to where we had come from and we knew that the Gentle Annie Creek was beneath Holdsworth Lookout, and so more to the left of where we were. We opted for the left-hand track and proceeded to drop what felt like the sum of our gain at the start of the day into the saddle.

Shortly after we met two Masterton Tramping Club members doing the same loop in the opposite direction. They shared their local knowledge and assured us we were on the right track. One of them recognised me from the Blue Range Hut trip where we had crossed paths last year (lead by Graeme Richards). She, and two others from their club were doing their annual service of Blue Range Hut while we sat and had lunch.

In the saddle we had another short snack break before proceeding to climb to meet Carrington Ridge Track and eventually the old Gentle Annie Track which would take us back down to Holdsworth Lodge. We were treated to an incredible variety of ferns and mosses, in particular, at one point, a grove of liver wort as far as the eye could see. I started to feel a bit 'funny' and as we climbed out of the saddle felt unwell. My progress up the hill was slow and (if I am honest) I started to get a bit worried I would not make it. I slowly chipped away, regularly falling behind the group, and eventually made it up to the top of the first part of the climb. It was here, in a small opening in the bush by the Carrington track sign (hand written of course



as this is not the main track) and on a soft mossy floor, we had lunch. Warren very kindly encouraged me to eat and checked I was having enough water. And as we settled into the quietness of the bush a couple of tomtits (miromiro) and silver eyes (tauhou) came to visit.



With a little food in me I felt a little better, now choosing to go in front. I found if I kept moving I felt better, and as the blue sky on the ridge line gradually became clearer I knew we were near the top. 'A sign!' I declared to the others as we came to the top. And sure enough, 3 old-school labels looking like old street signs were nailed to a tree! Moving in the direction of the sign which read 'Holdsworth Lodge' we made our way down the old Gentle Annie track. This led us to the new Gentle Annie track sooner than we expected. A few minutes down the main track Warren pointed out where the old track converged again and invited us to continue the less populated route for a bit more adventure. Although the thought of not having to bump into the many joggers on the main track appealed, still not feeling great, I opted to continue by myself down the well formed new Gentle Annie.



I met up with the others at Holdsworth carpark, where they reported they had found 2 extra rocky lookouts!

I am deeply appreciative of the kindness and patience from everyone given how slowly I was moving at times. Manaaki koe to you all.

Finally, a special mention to Alex, as it was her birthday on the day. Happy Birthday Alex, hope your Year 13 studies continue to go well and maybe we will see you again out on the trail.

We topped the day off with a celebratory ice-cream at a local Masterton service station, before heading home.

We were Bronwyn, Catherine, Alex, Verity, Warren (trip leader)

**5 June 2023**

**Linton Stroll on King's Birthday**

**Report by Gina Fermor**

We had a really lovely morning walk to Linton and back. There were 4 of us, Duncan, Roy, myself and Bella Madonna (my dog). We started the walk at 9am. The weather was windy, but fine, with the occasional swift shower.

The track was very well set out and maintained. There were stunning views across the Manawatu River, for much of the way. A small tower with a viewing platform has been built along the track, giving spectacular views of the surrounding countryside.

There were a number of other walkers, as well as cyclists. We arrived at Linton around 10 15am, and rested outside the Linton Store, with drinks and ice creams. We then headed home, arriving at the car park at 12 20pm.

There were coffee and ice cream vans with tables set out, so we finished the walk with lattes and flat whites. It was a really interesting and enjoyable morning. Thank you to Duncan and Roy for their excellent company.

**10 June 2023**

**Rangiwahia Hut**

**Report by Blair Petersen**

Woody Lee and I left at 8am on a cold Palmerston North morning, with the forecast promising colder weather to come.

Upon arriving at the Renfrew Rd car park there were a few other cars and good views out to Ruapehu. We passed a group of five before the bridge (how does that tree still stay upright at the bottom of the gorge?), with views improving out to the west.



We must have left town a bit too early, because we were at the hut by about 10.45am (just in time for 'brunch'), in bright warm sunshine. Two other groups were already there, having stayed the night. We'd just finished our brunch lunch when Chris Tuffley arrived, on his way to Triangle.

On the way back down, we passed several groups heading up for the afternoon and night, and also managed to clear and reset several traps. 3 Scrabble points bagged and home early!



## PNTMC Newsletter July 2023

- Upcoming Trips and Club Nights
- Snowcraft Almost Here – enrol now
- Scrabble Challenge progress -
- Trip reports: Greens Road and Linton  
Cycleway Café Rendezvous, Gentle  
Annie Loop, Linton Stroll Kings Birthday,  
Rangj Hut .

Send articles to

the newsletter editor at [pntmci@gmail.com](mailto:pntmci@gmail.com)



Find us on facebook

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*Get out and about with us!*

### PNTMC Contacts

|                       |                      |              |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| President             | Janet Wilson         | 329-4722     |
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| Secretary             | Anne Lawrence        | 357-1695     |
| Treasurer             | Warren Wheeler       | 356-1998     |
| Webmaster             | Martin Lawrence      | 357-1695     |
| Membership Enquiries  | Warren Wheeler       | 356-1998     |
| Gear Custodian        | Anne/Martin Lawrence | 357-1695     |
| Newsletter Editor     | Warren Wheeler       | 356-1998     |
| Trip Coordinator      | Janet Wilson         | 329-4722     |
| Beginner Tramps       | Anne Lawrence        | 357-1695     |
| Snowcraft Coordinator | Dieter Stalman       | 027 450 9460 |

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