

post: P.O. Box 245, Palmerston North
web: www.mtsc.org.nz



Upcoming club nights

club nights: 7.30pm, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, at the Manawatu Aero Club rooms, Airport Drive.



1st Mar – Old Drover's Track, Outback Australia

A not to be missed evening by our colourful character Peter Carver. He has once again been adventuring in the Australian Outback. This time he will enlighten us about Old Drover's Track.

15th Mar – Evening Walk

This is a great opportunity to walk one of Palmerston North City walkways in the company of other club members. This is instead of having our usual clubnight at the aero club. Meet at Bledisloe Park car park at 7pm sharp and bring a torch

22nd March – Trip Card Meeting

Want to bag a hut?

Want to bag a track?

Or just want to lead an old favourite?

This is your opportunity. So come along to the Rose and Crown at 6pm. Meal optional.

Where we've been...



Above: McGregor Bivouac in the sunshine, see page 6 for the full report on this trip. (Photo: Bev Akers)

The long summer...

It seems like this nice weather is going to stick around for a while longer although there is a definite chill starting to creep in.

The absence of rain has been nice although I suspect those of us dependent on tank water are getting a tad nervous.

March is full of great tramps and even one of the club nights is going to be a club walk. Get out and about before you have to dust off the winter gear! Happy trails!

Wei-Hang Chua (Editor)

Club notices



President's Report

by Christine Scott

Last weekend three of us from the club participated in a SARINZ course in Track and Clue Awareness at Sixtus Lodge, a course run by the Tai Poutini Polytechnic based in Greymouth. Interestingly, one tutor was based in Rangiora and the other in Tauranga and they travel all round NZ delivering these courses. The TAC course is part of a Diploma in Search (Land) which is made up of six modules: track & clue awareness, tracking, search methods, suburban search, search team leader, and management of land search, that allow people to develop a wide range of qualifications in land search and rescue. It was an excellent weekend having a mixture of theory and practice - getting out there and following someone's trail through bush during the day and night. I would recommend anyone with an interest in Search and Rescue to participate in these courses!

Christine Scott

Phone (06) 354-0510 or email: C.A.Scott@massey.ac.nz

Helpers needed for mountain clean up

The mountain clean is scheduled for Saturday the 19th of March with a bad weather Sunday the 20th of March. People wanting to attend should contact Rob Pringle so that he can let DoC aware of numbers.

Cheers

Rob Pringle

Phone (06) 355 9174

bobkat@maxnet.co.nz



Upcoming trips

Moki Track

26-27th Feb

Mark Learmonth

Medium

355-9143

"A Stroll in the Park"

27th Feb

Sue &

Howard Nicholson

Family

357-6325

St James Walkway

1-9 Mar

Ann Green

06 374-5208

Wednesday Day Trip

2 Mar

Donna Hayes

06 322-8686

Phone for details of the destination.

Thursday Day Trip

3 Mar

Peter Carver

354-4479

Phone for details of the destination.

Crow Hut

5-6 Mar

Garry Grayson

Medium/Fit

353-3117

We'll leave town at 7.00am Sat' morning and drive to Kawhatau Base road end. The first day is going to be a climb up via Colenso Trig to Mokai Patea tops and head south east to the track drop off down to Crow Hut for the night, (some may wish to include an extra short walk to the top of high point Rongotea before starting down to Crow).

On Sunday it's a short Kawhatau river section to reach the track leading on up via Mckinnon Hut to the Hikurangi Range and NorthEast back down to Kawhatau Base. If it's really hot then returning to Base via the Kawatau River could be an option if people agree.

Cattle Creek Hut

6 Mar

Christine Scott

Medium/Fit

354-0510

Depart from the Police Station at 7.30am.

Cattle Creek Hut is in the Ruahines, north west of Dannevirke. From the West Tamaki Road End we follow the track to Stanfield Hut and then up and over a saddle into the head waters of the Pohangina River where Cattle Creek Hut is located. After lunch at Cattle Creek Hut we will climb up onto the ridge and follow the track back to Stanfield Hut and the road end.

Stanfield Hut

6 Mar

Alan Hardacre

Easy

356-8322

Judy Callesen will now be in Auckland for this weekend and Alan Hardacre has offered to take the trip. It is a pleasant trip in the Ruahines, a wander along the hills up above the river on the way in and it may be a walk back down the river on the way out. Alan may let you tackle the big hill behind the hut at lunch time.

Thursday Day Trip

10 Mar

Merv Matthews

357-2858

Phone for details of the destination.

Ngamoko-Piripiri Huts**12-13 Mar****Medium****Bev Akers****325-8879**

Follow the track to Mid-Pohangina Hut for a late lunch. Then an afternoon stroll up the river to Ngamoko Hut for the night. Next day it is a matter of finding our way along to Piripiri Hut and hopefully end up back at the vehicle. Looking forward to somewhere new.

Jumbo – Baldy**13 Mar****Fit****Mark Street****353-7442**

Jumbo and Baldy are peaks to the north of Mt Holdsworth in the eastern Tararuas. The plan is to depart from the Mt Holdsworth carpark head up the Atiwhakatu Track to the Atiwhakatu Saddle and then climb up the spur track to Baldy and on to the main ridge near South King (altitude gain from Atiwhakatu Stream is 910m). Of course the views and

the weather will be superb as we head Southwest to Angle Knob then Southeast to go on an elephant ride (courtesy of Jumbo). From this point we descend to Atiwhakatu Hut via Raingauge Spur then out the same valley track we came in to the park.

The only section where there is a small scramble is the northern approach on the Broken Axe Pinnacles but in summer conditions this is no great drama. Departure from P.N. will be 6:15 am because of the estimated 10 to 11 hours tramping (dependant on party fitness) and 2.5 hours travelling involved. It is definitely a fit category trip because of the sheer distance involved but it will be very rewarding to complete the circuit. The trip could be derated to simply climb Baldy and descend the northern Barton Track if need be, but if fitness/conditions

permit the original plan is the objective.

Atiwhakatu Hut**13 Mar****Easy****Sue Tuohy****353-3303**

We plan to leave PN around 8.30ish and make our way to the track that is in the Tararua's just in from Masterton. The walk to the hut goes along side the Akiwhakatu River on an easy-benched track, takes about 1.75 – 2 hours,. We will return the same way.

Wednesday Day Trip**16 Mar****Bev Akers****325-8879**

Phone for details of the destination.

Thursday Day Trip**17 Mar****Carolyn Brodie****358-6576**

Phone for details of the destination.

Track notes

Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

New bridge opens at Otaki Forks

Issued: 3 February 2005



After two and a half weeks of construction in often sweltering conditions, Department of Conservation staff are relieved to announce the new interim Waiotauru Bridge is now open at Otaki Forks. The original Waiotauru suspension bridge, which linked the visitor car park with Parawai Hut and several tracks into the Tararua Forest Park, was swept away with the current during last month's flooding.

A team of six DOC staff have been building the interim swing bridge in mid-thirties temperatures, to give trampers and day walkers safe access when the Waiotauru River is high. "It is definitely an interim bridge", says Kapiti Area visitor assets programme manager Wayne Boness. "It's now been completed to standard and signed off by a DOC engineer and Kapiti Coast District Council building inspector".

Measuring 58 metres tower to tower, the bridge comprises 40 hangers, 400 tread plates, nearly 1000 bolts, 3000 bag ties and approximately one kilometre of wire rope. "We carried everything across to the other side of the river by hand, including a cubic metre of cement for the towers in 10 litre paint pails", says Mr Boness. A site has been chosen and plans are being drawn up for its permanent replacement, due for public use in the next 12 to 18 months.

In the meantime, the new interim bridge has a limit of one person at a time. "We urge people to take heed of the loading, as they will notice it is not as solid to cross as the last one," , says Mr Boness. The best way to cross it is to focus on the tower at the other side and walk at a steady pace."

He also advises people "the bridge is for access, not to stand out in the middle of and swing". Further up the Otaki Forks valley, the road and campground remain closed to the public because of slips and floodwater debris. The road and campground are expected to reopen in late February. Mr Boness reminds the public that they may still encounter slips and trees across the tracks in the wake of the flooding. "We encourage people to report any damage with an accurate description of the location and problem by telephoning 0800 36 24 68 or +64 4 296 1112."

Sources: DoC website

Waterfall Hut**19-20 Mar**
Adam Matich**Medium/Fit**
359-2796**Mania Track****20 Mar**
Neville Gray**Easy/Medium**
357-2768**Thursday Day Trip****24 Mar****Harry & Chris Allardice** 323-4390
Phone for details of the destination.**Helicopter in the Kaweka's****25-28th Mar****Gary Bevins****Medium**
3258879

Would you please register your interest by the end of February so that the helicopter operator can be organized. Approx cost of this will be \$120-160 depending on numbers. We will be flying to Venison Tops and exiting at Poronui. Huts on the route include Mangaturutu, Tira Lodge, Te Pukeohikarua, Harkness, Tussock, Boyd Lodge, Oamaru.

Wednesday Day Trip**30 Mar****Mona Webb****323-4212**

Phone for details of the destination.

Thursday Day Trip**31 Mar****Ann Green****06 374-5208**

Phone for details of the destination.

Karori Bird Reserve**10 Apr****Christine Scott****Easy****354-0510**

The Kapiti Island trip has had to been changed to the Karori Bird Reserve in Wellington as I have been unable to get permits to visit Kapiti Island.



Photo: Wei-Hang Chua

Editor's Note:

Janet Allan is my copy procurer. If you have led, or are scheduled to lead a trip, Janet may phone to remind you to send in a preview or report. Don't give her any lip!

Whanganui River Trip**21-24th January**

by Christine Scott

Sixteen of us met at the Taumaranui Holiday Camp on Friday night

before heading back to the Blazing Paddles Base 10km south of Taumaranui on Saturday morning. There we were handed drums and waterproof bags to pack all our gear into. Everyone had taken advantage of not having to carry food in a pack and there was an excess of food and wine, large tents, blow up mattresses, barbeques and a number of other things to make camping on the banks of the Whanganui a luxury. Finally the last lettuce was delicately placed in a drum and all the drums were placed on a trailer along with the canoes for transport to Whakahoro, our entry point to the Whanganui River.

We had 7 Canadian canoes and 2 Loons (kayaks) so divided into 2 groups for the first 2 hour stretch to the campsite at Mangapapa. The first spill occurred less than 2 minutes into the paddle with 2 people up ending in the river as soon as they pushed off from shore. However it was a good confidence builder as they quickly realized that it wasn't too scary after all falling out of a boat. They also had plenty of help to get back in.

We had another stop at the Ohauora Campsite and then a rather weary group pulled into John Coult

Right & Below:
Photos from the
Whanganui River Trip
(Photos: Adam Matich).





Above: The Bridge to Nowhere (Photo: Adam Matich).

Hut after 6 hours on the river.

Every morning we woke to river mist shrouding the trees and river but it quickly burned off in the sun and we had 3 glorious days of sunshine. The Whanganui River winds its way through luxuriant subtropical rainforest with steep cliffs covered in tree ferns and large native trees. The river has carved its way through the soft mud rock over thousands of years leaving very steep sided river banks and narrow gorges which small side streams tumble down into the Whanganui or still side streams create narrow chasms roofed in ferns. Two blue ducks were spotted at the entrance to one of these side streams. There are 199 named rapids on this section of the Whanganui but only 3 are of any real significance with the Ngaporo rapids tossing 4 of our party into the river for a refreshing swim. Unfortu-

nately there wasn't time to go back again and conquer the rapids.

The walk into the Bridge to Nowhere on the second day reminded us all of the difficult times the soldiers returning from the first world war faced when given this beautiful but un-farmable land as a reward for their efforts in the war. Now it is all over grown in tree ferns and the only reminders are the landing, the Bridge to Nowhere, a few macrocarpa trees and a couple of signs stating what families lived where. After 5 hours paddling on the second day the second night was spent at Tieke Marae with some opting to stay on the opposite bank at the Bridge to Nowhere Lodge. Unfortunately transferring gear from the canoes to the jet boat proved more dangerous than the canoeing itself and one person was jetboated out to Pipiriki with a dislocated shoul-

der to meet the ambulance. There were only 4 hours of paddling on the last day (broken up by the big 3 rapids) and we were met at Pipiriki at 2.30pm by Blazing Paddles. They had driven our vehicles through for us and after unpacking and repacking gear we were soon back off to Palmerston North.

We were: Lawrence Brooshoft, Janina & Adam Mazierska, Marek Syrzycki, John & Heather Todd, Anne Young, Vanessa Kapper. Darlene Westrupp, Wendy Ross, Lance Morrison, Dave & Jan Chapman, Adam Matich, Jean Garman, and Christine Scott

Pukerua Bay 23rd January

by Ade Beech

We headed south on a pleasant Sunday morning to Pukerua Bay. It was a beautiful walk along a lovely

stoney shoreline littered with paua shells and other treasures. We walked for about 2 hours towards Plimerton, had lunch beside a big rock then turned around and walked back again. Great scenery, great company, great day! We were Pam Pheese, Margaret Gillingham, Jill Chapman, John Gee-Taylor, Ade Beech

McGregor Bivouac 29-30th January

by Gary Bevins
Friday night saw us heading into Donnelly Flats to camp for the night. Next morning we set sail for Jumbo Hut. This was the day of the Jumbo-Holdsworth Challenge, so we were to have a lot of company and entertainment. A break at Atiwakatu Hut allowed a large section of the runners to pass by. We recognised three of our club members, but for some reason they didn't stop for a chat! Bev sat outside the hut with the log book, filling in our intentions. The runners saw her, and immediately called out their numbers thinking that she was a race official! We informed them that the real officials were further on. Bev moved position and returned the log book to avoid confusion. One older runner diverted down to the river for a drink and a dip. He was followed by another four runners. On his way back we heard him say to the runners "Don't follow me", and then whispered to us "That's one way to lose the opposition!".

We continued up to Jumbo and upon reaching the hut, we found two race officials in residence. One headed off as we boiled the billy. There was an excess of banana lollies so we were forced to indulge ourselves to lighten the load of the remaining official. We had a long lazy lunch and chatted to the race official who was a keen tramp. He mentioned that he had passed by McGregor Bivouac, but had never stayed in it. We welcomed him to join us and he accepted. So six of us, and two of main's best friend's, set off. The weather was beginning to clear. As we left Angle Knob the clouds broke up and at the turn-off

to the bivouac we were rewarded with views. On the way down to the bivouac we sat down with cameras and binoculars to take in the scenery. We could see Dorset, Nichols and Maungahuka Huts. Upon arrival at McGregor Bivouac we lay around in the sun, resulting in some rather red legs. Our visitor headed up the spur to get back to Jumbo to be the hut warden for the night, and we made camp.

It was a cool morning and we were away by 7.30am as the day was forecast to be hot. We passed Angle Knob, headed back to Jumbo Junction, enroute to Holdsworth. We had a pleasant but windy walk along the tops and down to Powell. A break at Powell and then down into the bush where it was a lot warmer. The trip back to the truck was a bit of a drag in the heat.

We were Peter Rawlins, Lynda Hunt, Garry Grayson, Bev Akers, Gary Bevins, Jemma and Jess (trip leader).

Oriwa Bivouac 5-6th February

by Gary Bevins
What a lovely spot! A leisurely start saw us at Waiopehu Hut by 1.30pm. We were coated in sweat

from the intense 32°C heat. As we lay on the deck having a late lunch, and sipping cappuccinos, our heats went out to our fellow trampers on the tops above the Oroua. We had been in the bush, with a short stretch in the open. They would be in the open most of the day.

After a two hour lunch break we headed over Waiopehu Peak to find Oriwa Bivouac. Navigation was relatively easy on the open bush ridge, even though it was broad and flat in places. After a couple of hours we came across an old campsite on the ridge. Scouting around we found a track that led to the large open, grassy area where Oriwa Bivvy sits. In the trees opposite the bivvy there is a clearing where we set up camp.

We awoke to a breathless morning and fog. After a very late start (8am) we headed down a blazed ridge to Makaretu Stream. One and a half hours had us standing next to the stream. Recent heavy rainfall and flooding had turned the stream into a mass of gravel. The going was easy and the large river flats were impressive. After 4 hours in the river, the pipe bridge at the road end was a welcome sight. We were Bev Akers, Gary Bevins, Dave Mitchell, and Jemma (tail end Charlie).



Above: Looking staunch in front of Oriwa Bivouac (Photo: Adam Matich).



Whanahuia-Oroua River

5-6th February

by Jean Garman

A warm and sticky evening saw us strolling towards Heritage Lodge. Initial mutterings favoured taking the track in preference to getting wet shorts but as the junction of trails was reached and sweat was dripping from everyone's brow the call of the cool waters was too great. The river was refreshing if not a tad slippery and seemed to have more deep bits than anyone remembered but before long the campsite was spotted. Tent sites were chosen and there was even time for a brew before darkness arrived.

Next morning we threw ourselves at the foot of the ridge and scrambled up what must have once been a track but with very little evidence to show for it. One blaze was spotted and in the narrow bits a bit of a foot trail could be seen. Just below the leatherwood where it is essential to pick up the right route we walked into a hunters campsite and from there a faint trail lead us to what was once a wide gap through the leatherwood. Unfortunately over time plants do grow and while the gap had become very narrow to almost non-existent in some places it was mostly pretty good. Before long and with very few scratches we popped out into the tussock lands to endless fabulous blue sky views. We romped across the gently undulating slopes heading for a tarn to replenish our water bottles that were already well and truly drained. A rather unappetising tarn was passed in favour of the one marked on the map. Unfortunately the later was dry so we had to return to the former which didn't look too bad once in the drink bottle and was only delicately flavoured. Before the last climb up to meet the deadmans track we stopped for lunch and watched a large group move very slowly across the skyline.

After lunch we moved very slowly uphill. The heat was horrendous and the next several hours consisted primarily of rests, as I tried not to succumb to heat shock. After a while even resting was a bad idea as we were just about out of water again and sweating profusely even when sitting still. At last another tarn was spied and rehydrated with cooled feet we could truly indulge in a nice long break. With evening approaching it started to



Top: Camping at the tarn just east of Maungamahue on the Whanahuia Range.
Bottom: Gorge a couple of minutes upstream of Triangle hut (Photos: Adam Matich).

cool and a quick sidle round a hill brought our campsite for the night into view. A good tarn and ample reasonably sheltered camp spots. Around dinner time a cloud of blow flies came to visit and eventually when they sauntered off again we tucked our rather sunburnt selves up for the night. Not too long after it got dark the stars disappeared and the next morning we woke to thick damp mist. We headed off to the Te Hekenga ridge and at Brian's grunts of disgust at my proposed drop off point we carried on a bit further in case I was confused. Everything looks different when you can't see very far. Turns out it was the right place and it was actually easy to dodge the odd leatherwood bush, slide down the scree patches and hop into the stream which then presented absolutely no waterfalls what so ever all the way down to the lovely open flats at the bottom.

The cloud had cleared by now and a pleasant stroll took us down river, over a massive log jamb and through the world's smallest (but very fetching and much photographed) gorge to triangle hut for morning tea. Carrying on down the river we stopped for lunch just before the gorgy bits, which the up and over track bypasses. A few swims were necessary followed by some big bouldery scrambles (I think the track is quicker) then we were at iron gates hut. As we lazed around in the sun or shade depending on personal preference we thought how nice it would be to spend the rest of the afternoon here but alas we had to go home. So once more into the river we dove and splashed our way all the way back to the get out point then sweated our way all the way back to the car. We were Brian Webster, Adam Matich, Garry Grayson and Jean Garman

Dragonflies at Ngahere a Tane 6th February

by David Newstead

The day dawned overcast, we passed Table Flat Rd in mist, just the thing for the slog up the near-vertical Shorts Track, but we were in no hurry. With 20-year old For-



Above: Climbing the scree up Mt Taranaki (Photo: Adam Matich).

est-Service Shorts Track Teachers Guidebook in hand we stopped and checked at all the marker pegs, A-K. The "E"-peg entry indicated "view of forest damage". We could not see so much of the said damage now with 20 years of new growth beginning to fill the gaps, but we could see, through the thinning mist, the scattering of slip-scars pock-marking the distant spurs - from the previous February's storm. Shortly after we four are descending the Loop Track. The new carpet of tawhai leaves cushions our foot fall, the forest is permeated by the hum of a million insects, a kahukahu (red admiral) meanders by in search of ongaonga to lay her eggs, the day is heating up as the sun breaks through the clouds and mist in the late morning. Lunch in the sun by the stream (Coal Creek), where Deerford, the Loop and Knights Tracks meet. A murmur of clattering wings, just overhead, and a kapokapowai (*Uroptala carovei*) swoops past, wings glittering in the noon sun. These giants are dominant today.

Down Deerford Track and back to the stream every 50 yards or so they swoop past, or, with their big eyes watch you pass from a perch a few feet away as they rest their 5-inch-span wings; they land on your hat, on your shoulder, on your hand, but the moment they spot an intruder (one of their own kind) within a hundred yards they're gone, in a flash, to chase it off. After all, when you need to catch 20 flies an hour

you really can't afford to share.

On such a sunny summer day, if you take the time to look, there are uncountable species of flying insects, strange daddy-long-legs flies all around, giant hover flies over the stream, not to mention the little blue and copper butterflies, and trees and shrubs are blooming. The kamahi was just about finished and the putaputawheta in full bloom. A brief stroll round the numbered pegs (1-11) at Ngahere a Tane (with Forest Service Guidebook number 2), and by mid afternoon we're eating ice creams at Cheltenham.

Climb Mt Taranaki 12-13th February

by Adam Matich

This relaxed trip required a 3½ hour drive to reach North Egmont road end via Egmont Village. From here we headed up The Puffer (80 min) which is a very steep 4WD track leading up to the communication tower and Taurangi Lodge, a climb of 550 m. Fortunately, we had a key to the Lodge (Gayle Pearce; Taranaki Alpine Club; \$15 pp) and so were able to settle in for a pleasant night in civilized surroundings. The lodge has power for cooking (cook-top & microwave), hot water (shower in the ladies) and lighting, and has pots, pans, crockery and cutlery, which made life pretty easy.

We started our 1018 m climb at about 7 on Sunday morning, taking an easy three hours to go up the North Ridge route via the 999 steps

and the Lizard, reaching the top not much after 10. Above the 999 easy steps was a section of maybe half the climb which consisted of quite a lot of scree slopes, followed by the Lizard. This rocky section goes all the way to the top and drops one into the crater via a sidle below a bluff and above a drop onto the snow. It looked steep when we looked behind us. Unfortunately it was a typical Taranaki day and so we had no views, it was windy (but not distressingly so), cold and damp. There was ice on the rocks at and around the crater, which still had a good amount of snow in it.

Despite all the minor impediments, we made it to the crater, shuffled gingerly across the snow and climbed the final rocky bit to the peak (2518 m) where we huddled in the sheltered spot by the bronze plaque which commemorates the first Europeans to climb of the mountain (23rd December 1839). After a break some photos and a little grumbling about the view.....or lack thereof, we all trooped back down again, taking only two hours to reach Tahurangi Lodge for lunch, the scree slopes having helped increase the speed of our downward travel. We had an hour back down to the road end and the café at the visitors' centre which does rather good iced coffee and chocolate.

We were Dan and Tim Swale, Garry Grayson, Bev Akers, Mark Learmonth, Marek Syrzycki, John Crawford, Linda Campbell, Peter Rawlins, John Livingstone, and Adam Matich.



Above: 999-steps up Mt Taranaki (Photo: Adam Matich).

wednesday & thursday trampers



2nd Feb (Wed) Six Disc Track – South Ohau River

Leader: Pam Wilson (16 trampers)

Three new people out with us on such a hot 30C day. Takes about 1.25 hours up on the Waiopehu Track to the Junction. Drop down on the Six Disc Track to the South Ohau River (1.25 hrs) for a swim and lunch. 1.25 hr walk back out above the river to carpark.

3rd Feb (Thu) Kime Hut

10 trampers

Another stinking hot day. They climbed up to Kime Hut for lunch (4.25 hrs). Think they were the first over the new bridge at Otaki Forks carpark. The approaches are solid but a bit swingy in the middle.

10th Feb (Thu) Kapakapanui

Leader: Gordon Clark (6 trampers)

They walked the track clockwise which makes it hard for the knees coming down the steep drop off (6.25 hrs total).

Club Information

Annual Hut Passes

Support our club huts in the Tararuas. Buy your Annual Hut Pass through DoC Waikanae. Full price \$90, with FMC card discount \$63. Jean Garman will provide you with a form to fill in which will be sent off with your cheque and your FMC card (if you have one) to DoC Waikanae who will post your Annual Hut Pass back to you. Please note that MTSC family memberships only pay one FMC sub so only one FMC card (and therefore discount) is available per family. Email: jean.garman@fonterra.com or phone (06) 354-3536.

For Sale

Howard's Bargain Basement

DOC hut tickets – discount rates to members. Phone Howard on 357-6325.

Accommodation at the MTSC lodge on

Mt Ruapehu

The lodge is reasonably close to Iwikau Village, has power, hot showers, and is stocked with food. The phone number there is (07) 892 3860.

Photo: Anja Feise



Lodge bookings may be made between 9:30am and 9:30pm on any day of the week. Please don't call outside these hours. Note that bookings are not confirmed until the fees are paid. Payment is in advance by cheque or cash.

	Members	Non-members
Adult	\$21	\$33
Sec. School	\$18	\$30
Primary School	\$15	\$26
Group Prices	on application	on application

Booking and use of the MTSC Transit Van

The normal run-of-the-mill things you need to do if using the Transit Van are:

1. Book preferably by Thursday, and certainly no later than 6pm Friday.
2. Cancel bookings by these times so others who may want the van have time to amend their travel arrangements.
3. Check oil, water, and tyres.
4. Fill in the travel sheet (kilometres, people, and dollars).



Trip leaders and those planning trips should seriously consider using this cost effective club asset. **Neville Gray** is our mini-bus custodian, and he can be contacted at 357-2768.

Club equipment

We have packs, 2 and 3 person tents, fly-sheets, snow mats, sleeping bag cover, gas cookers, size 8 and 9 boots, billys, two new bivvy bags and two of the big tent flies. Ice axes, crampons, and helmets are also available. Food Dehydrator: ideal for drying large and small quantities of fruit, vegetables, and meat for tramping rips. Easy to use, works well, and is available for hire from the Gear Custodian. Hire cost for members, \$1 per day. Contact the Gear Custodian – Peter Rawlins on 356 7443.

People to contact

If you would like to contact the club with general inquiries, please drop a line to Manawatu Tramping & Skiing Club, P.O. Box 245, Palmerston North and it will reach the appropriate person. If you want a particular topic discussed at the Committee meetings, this is a good way to go about it.

MTSC 2004–05 Committee

President	Christine Scott	354 0510
Secretary	Howard Nicholson	357 6325
Treasurer	Doug McNeur	359 1893
Chief Guide	Gary Bevins	325 8879
Day Trip Convenor	Bev Akers	325 8879
Membership Sec.	Mark Street	353-7442

mtsc@inspire.net.nz

Newsletter Editor	Wei-Hang Chua	021 212 0369
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morepork@ihug.co.nz

Social Convenor	Bev Akers	325 8879
Ski Captain	Peter Rawlins	356 7443
Lodge Manager	Rob Pringle	355 9174
Lodge Booking Officers	Hugh & Liz Wilde	356 9450
Mini-bus Manager	Neville Gray	357 2768
General Committee	Garry Grayson	353 3117
	Ken Mercer	356 7497
	Darlene Westrupp	354 5764

wildeh@clear.net.nz

Articles for the newsletter

Send by the 15th of each month, to Wei-Hang Chua (editor) at morepork@ihug.co.nz, phone on (021) 212 0369. If you'd prefer to receive your newsletter by email only, please contact the editor. Send changes of address to the Membership Secretary at P.O. Box 245, Palmerston North.

Club website

This includes a club contact e-mail address InSPire Net. The club webpage is maintained by Peter Rawlins and Adam Matich and is kindly hosted by InSPire Net.

