

post: P.O. Box 245, Palmerston North  
web: [www.mtsc.org.nz](http://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.



### 3rd May – Winter Tramping Gear

Learn all about what you need to take with you on those winter trips! Being prepared is everything out there. One club night you can't afford to miss. Come listen to some of the clubs most experienced members give out some invaluable advice.

## AGM 2005

### 17th May – MTSC Club Annual General Meeting 2005

The MTSC AGM will be held at 7:30pm at the Manawatu Districts Aero Club rooms (off Airport Drive, near the control tower at the airport). This will be an exciting opportunity to get involved with another aspect of the club. All welcome.



### 7th June – Alpine tramping and climbing

Following on from the winter tramping gear night in May, we kick off June by looking at different aspects of tramping and climbing in alpine conditions. Ever fancied heading out onto the tops in winter or dabbled in the snow and ice, then this club night is for you!



Where we've been...

Descending to the Ngaruroro River (Photo: Howard Nicholson).

# Club notices

## President's Report

by Christine Scott

The AGM is very rapidly approaching and I hope many of will be there to contribute your piece to the future of the club. Issues coming up include putting a safety management plan into action, catering for a wide variety of trips, encouraging more people to get out tramping and looking after the lodge. If you would like to contribute to these issues (or any other issues) please give myself or another committee member a call and come along to the AGM. It would be great to have some new faces on the committee.

Christine Scott

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

## Chief Guide's Helicopter Drop

by Gary Bevins

In March, two day trips had no takers and the destination of two of the weekend trips was changed. The Kaweka-Kimanawa helicopter trip consisted of eight members, and the weather was a lot better than expected.

The trip card is printed and ready to go. Thanks to all those people who put their names down to lead trips, without you the trip card would look very bare.

This will be one of my last blurbs as I am standing down as Chief Guide. Thanks for putting up with me!

## New Club Members

Roger & Zoe Athersuch & Family (PN) | Jonathan Spencer & Lorna Fox & Family (New Plymouth)

## Flood News

contributed by Tony Gates  
Flood News

The Orongorongo Valley, in the Rimutaka Forest Park, has recently suffered considerable flood dam-

age. The access road was washed out in two places. Several bush huts were damaged, including the Tararua Tramping Clubs' Waeranga Hut. Goat stream flooded with such ferocity that it destroyed two huts completely. Typical of a rapidly eroding greywacke mountain range, these side creeks produced massive shingle fans in the spacious Orongorongo river bed. Tramping Club members may be familiar with the popular Orongorongo Track, which has been blocked by slips, trees, and a damaged foot bridge. The best route into the valley now is directly from Wainuiomata, over the Whakanui track. More recent information available from DOC.



## Early Bird Season Passes

contributed by Peter Rawlins

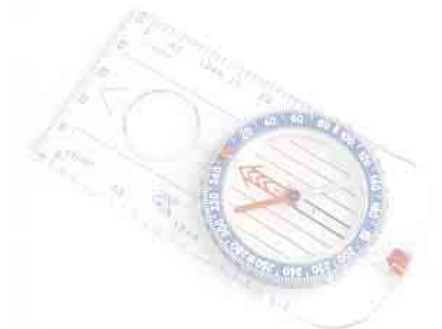
That's right the ski season is looming and its time to consider getting

geared up for the season. RAL are offering their early bird rates on their website:

[www.mtruapehu.com/rates.html](http://www.mtruapehu.com/rates.html) so go and have a look.

Basically they are: \$329 for the adult pass; \$279 for students and \$189 for youths. They are on sale from the 1st of April to the 30th April so be in to win.

In addition to this the club has purchased two sets of Alpine Trekkers (to convert downhill bindings to touring bindings) and some skins (for going UP hills). These will be available for hire from me at \$10 per day for a set (if you had to purchase the then it would be over \$650 worth if kit). We will be looking to have some ski touring trips on the trip card so come along and have a go but be quick to secure the gear.



## Upcoming trips

### Wednesday Day Trip

**27 Apr**

**Jill Chapman**

**326-8605**

Phone for details of the destination.

### Thursday Day Trip

**28 Apr**

**Merv Matthews**

**357-2858**

Phone for details of the destination.

### Howletts Hut

**30 Apr – 1 May**

**Medium**

**Christine Scott**

**354-0510**

### Blue Range Hut

**1 May**

**Easy/Medium**

**Helen Davidson**

**356-2249**

### Thursday Day Trip

**5 May**

**Ray Pratt**

**328-7884**

Phone for details of the destination.

## Track notes



Department of Conservation  
Te Papa Atawhai

Issued: April 2005

### WESTERN RUAHINES

Rangiwahia Track is Open via detour

A detour is in place around the big slip about 20 minutes into the start of the track from the carpark. The detour may add an extra hour onto your trip and is very steep in places. Signs are up at the road end warning of the detour and of the steepness of part of the track. No longer an easy walk.

### Otukota Hut

Big slips on track in from Mokai Station. These are difficult to cross, and extreme care is needed. Alternative route via the next major ridge -Bruce Ridge -further east on Mokai Patea, but is not poled. (Shorter walk via Kawhatau Base / Colenso trig).

New fireplace installed in hut.

### Kelly Knight Hut

Farm and river access is now available. However, access through the farm (Pourangaki Access) is by foot only. This will add approximately an hour onto your journey.

EASTERN RUAHINES (Phone 06 834 3111 for enquiries about Eastern Ruahines)

Coppermine track is closed until further notice.

This includes access to the Coppermine Loop, Wharite Peak and Billy Goat tracks.

Sources: DoC April track report (contributed by Tony Gates)

### Triangle Hut

**7-8 May**

**Jenny McCarthy**

**Med/Fit**

**06 376-8838**

### Field Hut

**8 May**

**Dave Allan**

**Easy/Medium**

**323 9734**

**or 027 212 1005**

John Gee-Taylor has asked me to lead the scheduled trip to Field Hut on Sunday May 8 in his absence. I would plan to meet at the Palmerston North Police Station at 7.30am. Whether the van is used will depend on numbers. Happy to accommodate all types of trampers on this out and back trip to a very historic and recently refurbished hut on the Southern Crossing route from Otaki Forks.

### Wednesday Day Trip

**11 May**

**Jill Spencer**

**329-8738**

Phone for details of the destination.

### Thursday Day Trip

**12 May**

**Keith Fisher**

**357-1724**

Phone for details of the destination.

### Gentle Annie Loop

**15 May**

**Adam Matich**

**Medium/Fit**

**359-2796**

This trip of uncertain duration and difficulty will leave from the Holdsworth road end. We are going to investigate going up to the Forest Lookout, which is pretty well south of Holdsworth Lodge. From there we head up to 670 and then down to Gentle Annie Saddle, if there is someone in the group who can navigate or who has a GPS. Once in the saddle, we just head WNW up onto Carrington Ridge to find... surprise, surprise... the Carrington Ridge track. This will lead us up to 801 and the Holdsworth Track not far beyond. I am not likely to be available Wed-Fri of that week, so contact me either Mon-Tues or on the Saturday before the trip.

### Longview Hut

**15 May**

**Mark Street**

**Easy/Medium**

**353-7442**

Longview Hut is situated on the eastern side of the Ruahine Range. It is 1.5 to 2 hours of relatively easy tramping in from the Kashmir Road carpark. The altitude gain is about 440m, so it is not overly strenuous but for those so inclined there is scope for obtaining even better views than those afforded by reaching the hut. For example Rocky Knob and Pohangina Saddle - Otu-more peak can be considered. The wishes of all the participants (and the weather) will dictate what we do on the day. Depart from P.N. 7:30 am. Trip cost \$18 if taking cars (cheaper if the minibus).

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### Thursday Day Trip

**19 May**

**Tony Evans**

**357-3780**

Phone for details of the destination.

### Leon Kinvig Crossing

**21-22 May**

**Garry Grayson**

**Medium/Fit**

**353-3117**

This trip differs slightly from that listed in that is now not a crossing through L.K. but will begin and finish at Kashmir Road end. The plan is to walk up from this road end to Longview Hut, then drop into the headwaters of the Pohangina River, travel down via Top Gorge Hut and on to be at Leon Kinvig Hut hopefully before the moon comes out. After a night of R&R we'll return to Longview via the ridge track



through Rocky Knob and back to the road end. This will require an early-ish start on Sat' morning, or the circuit can be done in reverse if a longer day on Sunday is desired.

### **Toka**

**22 May**                      **Medium**  
**Rod McKenzie**            **357-0136**

### **Wednesday Day Trip**

**25 May**  
**Jill Chapman**            **326-8605**  
Phone for details of the destination.

### **Thursday Day Trip**

**26 May**  
**Ken Rush**                    **357-2529**  
Phone for details of the destination.

### **Bell Track (Mt Pirongia)**

**28-29 May**                    **Medium**  
**Mark Learmonth**        **355-9143**

### **Waipawa Forks Hut**

**29 May**                      **Easy/Medium**  
**Christine Scott**         **354-0510**

The Waipawa River is on the eastern side of the Ruahines, inland from Ongaonga. I plan to follow the track up towards Sunrise Hut but branch off and head down to the Waipawa River and up to the Waipawa Saddle for lunch in the sunshine. We will visit Waipawa Forks Hut on the way back down the Waipawa River to the roadend. There are lots of river crossings in the lower Waipawa but if the river is high we will stay on the Sunrise Hut Track. Departure time: 8am from the Police Station.



Above: The current state of the slip on the Rangiwahia track (Photos: Tony Gates, Leatherwood Lenz).



#### *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!*

### **Rangiwahia Hut 16th February (Wed Trampers)**

by Jill Chapman  
Seven trampers set out on a cloudy day to check out the diversion around the slip on the Rangiwahia Track. We travelled in two cars, one from Terrace End and the other from Feilding. One of the driv-

ers decided that their car needed refueling so an unscheduled stop at Kimbolton was required. We were in luck, this was the last day that petrol would be served without a specific card to gain access. The next little surprise happened to the kind soul who jumped out to open the gate and then hooked the latch up to a powered line...

Finally reached the car park and set off up the track, it was about

half an hour to the diversion which was steep in parts but on the whole there were plenty of small trees to hang on to.

The leader who was at the back got sidetracked, and with everybody out of sight, missed the arrows and climbed over a barrier of branches and landed up on the slip and had to yell for someone to come back and show the way.

The sun was shining when we reached the hut for lunch. Mount Ruapehu and Ngaurahoe could be clearly seen. After lunch, five departed on the homeward trail, and two in need of more exercise carried on beyond the hut. We were halfway over the diversion when the two explorers caught up. The diversion seemed so much easier on the homeward run. We stopped on the way back at Cheltenham for ice cream. We were Ken Rush, Jill Spencer, Jill Chapman, Monica Cantwell, Mona Webb, Rita, and Pauleen Hall.

### **Mountain Cleanup Day 19th March**

by Ken Mercer

There is a theory which says if you are nice to people others will be

nice to you. Another goes if you pick up rubbish others won't drop more. Whatever the reason I volunteered our family to help with the cleanup.

Saturday at the lodge dawned calm with a blue sky. DOC/RAL were relieved as on Friday it had rained buckets. In total about 40 volunteers gathered outside Lorenz's for a briefing. We indicated we had some helicopter experience but naturally didn't mention it was terribly rusty.

Groups were allocated areas to clean, all below Hut Flat. Ours was the Amphitheatre Valley, the gully behind our lodge. We were supplied with large plastic bags, wire ties, and gloves if we wanted them. After an all too short helicopter ride we strolled down the gully collecting all manner of plastic sheeting, drink bottles, sun block containers, pieces of mobile phones, corrugated iron... It was actually quite a pleasant occupation on a lovely sunny mountain morning.

There weren't huge volumes of rubbish in our area. Much of it had probably already been swept down the streams. Even so it is a large area and we filled 10 bags, leaving them tied and in prominent places

for later airlifting out.

By 1.00 we were back at Lorenz's where we enjoyed a BBQ and spot prizes. Ken won the season's pass, but it was another Ken.

### **Penn Creek Trauma 19-20th March**

by Adam Matich

The Hawke's Bay rivers were at their highest for three months, so it was decided that a trip into Waterfall Hut probably wouldn't be enjoyable....for most of the party. Therefore, those members of the party who were agreeable, agreed upon a little adventure into Penn Creek. We headed up to Field Hut from Otaki Forks, leaving Jean behind to gossip with the DoC guy, which put her an hour behind everyone else. We were beginning to worry about the double chocolate cake she was carrying with her and just as we were debating investigating its fate, Jean arrived. Unlike in the east, it was a warm, and sometimes sunny day so everyone still got wet. Another 2½ hours uneventful travel saw us at Penn Creek hut, where we elected to sleep outside under the fly because the group from Levin-Waiopetu were not equipped to do so, and there were eight of us.



Above: Rubbish away! Helicopter clean up on the mountain (Photo: Ken Mercer).

It was a warm evening...a little bit too warm. A big dinner was had followed by the extra heavy cake, some of which we donated to the Levin-Waiopahu group who looked a bit skinny.

It being a daylight saving weekend trip leader forbade the turning back of watches, so that the party would leave an hour early next morning in the overly optimistic hope of getting out by lunch time. Our 7 a.m. start saw us eagerly making our way down Penn Creek and past the beginning of the Penn Creek track, but a few minutes climb up through the bush put us back on track. Travel down to the Otaki River track wasn't too bad apart from a sidle across one slightly unpleasant slip. For the most part, the Otaki River sidle track is still in good condition and quite well marked, except for the difficult sections, which were... difficult. The first major slip was encountered in a side stream 1.5 km down river from Penn Creek. We had to climb out of the stream up the side of one slip to a small island in between it and the adjacent slip. Because of the unstable footing, and an uncool attack of common sense, climbing up to the island required a rope for some of us...it was good practice. The less brave of us then climbed up the island and over the adjacent slip, while Jean and Ivan tip-toed across the steep face below us and cooled their heels while we were thrashing around above.

Another stream-crossing trial involved a rope thoughtfully provided for people to lower themselves down a short sharp face into the rocky stream bed. Unfortunately, when Ivan dropped down to investigate he found that the stream bed was metres lower than it used to be, leaving the rope dangling in clear air. Yuck! Jean found a spot a bit down stream where we could lower ourselves safely into the stream using trip leader's trusty length of all purpose plastic hand-hurting rope. Not too far from this adventure we found another stream crossing, complicated by a small steep slip, which we had to climb up and across. Trip leader had to fend off

a rock thoughtfully kicked loose by someone up-hill.

Next we sidled across a big wide slip that has been around a long time and has a well padded track across it. But guess what, the down-river end had collapsed and the nice trail ended in a steep rock fall. Jean bounced down it, but the rest of us decided to resort to the trusty rope again, for a slightly awkward section at the top, while Jean loitered at the bottom hoping to get that perfect photo of someone losing their footing and falling to their death or merely embarrassment or injury. She nearly scored as another thoughtful person (possibly the same one) knocked a very substantial

boulder loose. Tony was half way down to Jean when it came bouncing straight at him and bounced neatly between his legs. Very nearly nasty. If the track kept throwing this sort of hazards at us, eventually there would be tears before bed time.

Finally, we reached the last slip. Another horror. It was 2-3 times wider than when trip leader last crossed it and commensurately more difficult. We all managed to cross the first section to a small grassy island. The braver party members then started across the second half of the slip while the rest of us looked on in consternation. These people were climbers, and they were gingerly



Above: One of the slips to negotiate on the Penn Creek Trip (Photo: Adam Matich).

pussy-footing their way across the very steep slope and consulting with each other about the effectively non-existing footing. The rest of us thought "bugger this, no way are we going across there". Gary had a quite look at climbing up and over, but it just got steeper and steeper. People were already hugging the hillside and looking rather unenthused by the whole proceedings. Down looked better. So we scrambled down the island, through a couple of trees and after not too much effort, found a safe crossing to where the rest of the party were waiting for us with bored looks on their faces. By now we were hoping that was the last slip. And a few minutes later we found that it was as we walked out of the forest onto the open flats near the Waitewaewae Bridge after a seven hour day... a little bit more than the expected 4-5 hours. According to Jean, this route has been worse. I would want it to get a whole lot better than it is now before I go through again. At least we didn't suffer the embarrassment of injury or of needing to be rescued.

We were Jean Garman, Ivan Rienks, Peter Rawlins, Allyn Higgins, Tony Evans, Gary Bevins, Garry Grayson, and Adam Matich.

### **Kaweka-Kaimanawa 25-28th March**

by Gary Bevins

The highlight of the van ride up was the break at the Hot Bread Shop in Taupo. There had been a competition between someone in the front seas, and a dog, to see who could create the worst smell. So it was an opportunity to get some fresh air, and have a pig out!

The first party of four, along with all the packs, flew by Squirrel helicopter to Venison Tops. The next three, along with Jemma, went by Hughes 500D. I wasn't amused, when the pilot of the 500D said it looked a but marginal, and he may have to drop us in the valley at Rocks Ahead. From here we would have to climb to Venison Tops. However, there was a break in the weather that saved us a long walk. We left Tira



Above: Outdoor camp at Penn Creek Hut (Photo: Adam Matich).

Lodge together and tramped approximately two hours to Mangaturu Hut. The hut is in an exposed position and the temperature had dropped. We lit the fire, cooked tea, and ate in front of the flames.

After a leisurely start, we headed along the tops, passing through patches of bush. We stopped when in the open, to study the map, and get our bearings. We arrived at Te Pukeohikama for an early lunch. There was a small climb from Te Puke to the tops, and we were on the way to Harkness. There were several stream crossings just before the Harkness and it was futile to try and keep dry feet. Two hunters and a dog were in residence at Harkness, having flown in by chopper. A tent and a fly were erected, and some slept outdoors while the others shared the hut. Those outside had to put up with heavy rain. Those inside, had to endure heavy snoring coming from the dog.

Next morning it was a nice stroll to Tussock Hut following the river valley, where we had morning tea. Another little climb, and a wander through the bush and we were looking into the Ngaruroro River valley. We boiled the billy and had lunch next to the Ngaruroro River. Boyd

Lodge was reached shortly after lunch.

The original intention was to stay at Boyd Lodge. As the day was still young we decided to press onto the saddle, which would take us to the Oamaru Track. This would make Sunday a shorter day. There were a couple of campsites after the saddle, but how far, we were unsure.

The day was becoming long, but the pace was suddenly stepped up, when a couple of the party were stung by bees. We moved along quickly but cautiously, until walking into the campsite around 5 o'clock. We set up camp, a tent, and two flys. Managing to cook tea and eat it before the rain.

An early start saw us on the track at 7 o'clock and before we know it, we were at Oamaru Hut, but not before more members were stung by bees.

Across the river, and we started the trek along the track and through the trees on Poronui Station. This did seem to go on a bit, especially the last section on the road. The helicopter hangar was a welcome site for all!

We were Peter Rawlins, Lynda



Above: Arriving at Oamaru Hut (from Howard Nicholson's Easter photos).

Hunt, Garry Grayson, Adam Matich, Howard Nicholson, Gary Bevins, Bev Akers, and Jemma.

### **Te Matawai Pyjama Party 2-3rd April**

by Jean Garman

An overcast morning saw five of us sauntering up the Ohau River with bits of wood and pruning equipment strapped to our packs. The January storm had deposited large amounts of gravel in the riverbed, which made for easy and quick travel with the water being no deeper than knee height. A pleasant change from the usual wet shorts - long may it last. On the final approach to the South Ohau hut site we came across Dave Mitchell and the very energetic Fred heading out. By the time we had finished chatting and continued up river to the hut site it was time for lunch. While it was a very pleasant temperature for walking things got a little chilly when stopped for a while so it wasn't a long break before we puffed our way up the hill. It threatened to rain on us over the last couple of 100m to Te Matawai and did in fact drizzle enthusiastically while we had a brew. The hut is looking very nice, well worth a visit. When the drizzle stopped Brian and Ivan set to work fixing up the front steps while the rest of us headed back to the

helo pad to clear back the beech saplings that were encroaching on tail rotor space. Brian got energetic and grubbed out some grasses and the odd flax as well. Everything big enough to burn was dragged back to the hut and laboriously sawed into suitable lengths. Then it was time to light the fire and dress up for drinkies and dinner. It seemed that finding night attire was a common problem amongst the group who all admitted to wearing very little or nothing to bed as a general rule. However, Howard managed to out-

shine us all in a stunningly brilliant blue silk dressing gown. Luckily no one else was at the hut. With the lowered insulated ceiling the fire rapidly warmed the living area and then the bunkroom as we opened the door to cool down a little. Being old and boring as the evening wore on we ignored Howard's attempts to start up a game of hacky sack and showed a remarkable tendency to go to sleep. A long and restful night later a lovely day dawned as we set about cleaning the hut walls, windows, toilet and anything else that looked dirty. A little while later the cloud had come down over the tops and we sent Howard on his merry way onwards and upwards in the general direction of the Holdsworth road end. We exited via the Gable End Ridge for a spot of variety, while a tad muddy in the odd spot it did provide an interesting diversion to the usual route.

Many thanks to the keen little helpers: Howard Nicholson, Jenny McCarthy, Brian Webster, Ivan Rienks and Jean Garman.

### **Burn Hut loop 3rd April**

by Glenn Pendergrast

Five of us walked around the upper Mangahao dam to Baber forks and then sloshed up College creek to the Burn hut track. At the top of the spur we met a party of Levin



Above: Andrew Brodie and a Kaka friend on Kapiti Island (Photo: Christine Allardice).





Left: Some of the weekday trampers having a good time outside Hapi Daze Hut (Photo: Chris Allardice).

Sea Scouts who told us that Burn hut was closed for painting, but luckily they had 'been prepared' and had brought tents. The weather was warm as we walked along the tops and although it was a cloudy day we had good views. The painters had gone by the time we reached the hut (though not the paint smell) so we sat in the bright white interior for lunch. As we dropped down into the Mangahao I was expecting the slimy step down into the first side stream with its number 8 wire handrail when, what should we find but a bridge. Not a little bridge but a big wooden humpbacked monster. The area is getting far too civilised. After following the increasingly renovated track to the number 2 dam we waited patiently while Dave and Alan retrieved the other car from the top dam. All-in-all a pleasant trip; varied terrain but not too demanding.

We were: Dave Allan, Robert Bruce, Dave Allan, Michael Beech, and Glenn Pendergrast.

## wednesday & thursday trampers



### 16th Mar (Wed) Mikimiki Tramway

Leader: Donna Hayes (16 Trampers)  
Walked in from Mikimiki Road to Kiriwhakapapa Shelter (2.75 hr). Lovely walk.

### 17th Mar (Thu) Toka Loop

Leader: Carolyn Brodie (14 Trampers)  
Despite the rain some managed to do the full loop.

### 24th Mar (Thu) Cattle Creek Hut

Leader: Harry and Chris Allardice (6 Trampers)

### 30th Mar (Wed) Manawatu Gorge

Leader: Mona Webb (10 Trampers)

### 31st Mar (Wed) A-Frame Hut

Leader: Anne Green (12 Trampers)  
Last minute change of plans due to high rivers. 12 trampers

went to Tamaki W, up to the A frame hut then headed south on the Takapari Road to the highpoint 1141m. Good views over southern Hawkes Bay and the Manawatu.

### 7th Apr (Thu) Makaratu Hut

Leader: Graham Pritchard (18 Trampers)  
Hard to believe when we set off in dismal conditions from Terrace End that we would be basking in warm sunshine by lunchtime. The club van plus two carloads of trampers set off across the Ellison and Tylee properties (permission required from both). Good to discover that Happy Daze has had a fresh lease of life with new bunks and mattresses. Around 75 minutes up the south Makaretu, the hut emerged through the trees in fresh glowing orange colours and a new indoor makeover. Some made a short foray up the Longview track - all back out at the road by 4 pm.

# 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](mailto:jean.garman@fonterra.com) or phone (06) 354-3536.

## For Sale

One pair 150 cm Atomic E 5's skis with integral Atomic 310 bindings. Only one season old just been waxed. We bought Lynda some touring skis and so have decided to sell her existing downhill skis which are only one season old. Excellent buy for someone who is looking for a good forgiving, easy turning carving ski. Just \$400. Give us a ring. Peter and Lynda 3567443.

## 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.



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, billies, 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
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Social Convenor	Bev Akers	325 8879
Ski Captain	Peter Rawlins	356 7443
Lodge Manager	Rob Pringle	355 9174
Lodge Booking	Hugh & Liz Wilde	356 9450
Officers		<a href="mailto:wildeh@clear.net.nz">wildeh@clear.net.nz</a>
Mini-bus Manager	Neville Gray	357 2768
General Committee	Garry Grayson	353 3117
	Ken Mercer	356 7497
	Darlene Westrupp	354 5764

## Articles for the newsletter

Send by the 15th of each month, to Wei-Hang Chua (editor) at [morepork@ihug.co.nz](mailto: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 and is hosted by InSPire Net. The club webpage is maintained by Howard Nicholson and Adam Matich and is kindly hosted by InSPire Net.

