

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.



### 7th March – Kahurangi National Park

Recently **Doug McNeur** did a 6 day trip in the Kahurangi National park travelling through the Mt Arthur area to the Cobb valley and northwards coming out on the road to the Heaphy track. Glorious days, spectacular scenery and very few people! Come along and discover what you missed out on.

### 8th March – Trip Card Night

The Trip Card Meeting will be held at the Rose and Crown. We will meet at 6.30pm for a meal and get to the business of organising the trip card at 7.30pm. All are welcome to come along with suggestions or if you are unable to attend please contact Tony Evans on 357-4355 (or [tevanspn@hotmail.com](mailto:tevanspn@hotmail.com)) prior to the meeting.

### 21st March – The weather

**Richard Heerdegen**, well known weather expert recently retired from Massey, is coming to tell us what weather signals to be aware of when we are out tramping and skiing. Invaluable opportunity for all club members here!

### 4th April – St Johns Ambulance

**Howard Wills**, an advanced paramedic with St Johns Ambulance, will be speaking to us about the St Johns Ambulance service. He is also called out to attend search and rescue missions, so is used to tramping mishaps. He will be giving us pointers and advice on what to do in the case of accidents in the bush and mountains.



## Clubnight ideas?

Is there a topic or person you would like to see at a club night? Perhaps you have something that would be of interest to club members at a club night? The committee would like some suggestions from the club membership. Contact **Darlene Westrupp** at [darlene@madv.co.nz](mailto:darlene@madv.co.nz) or phone on (06) 353 6901 wk or (06) 354 5764 home.

I'm away for most of March so if you can, please send me your items for the April newsletter by early March if possible.

Wei-Hang Chua (Newsletter Ed.)  
[morepork@ihug.co.nz](mailto:morepork@ihug.co.nz)

## Where we've been...



Above: River travel downstream from the Tregear Spur.  
(Snowy River Trip | 28-29/01/2006 | Photo: Adam Matich).

# Club notices

## President's Piece by Christine Scott

My mother always said: once you hit February you can forget the rest of the year because it goes by so fast. I am beginning to believe her!! I have finally handed on the Beech Leaf Award to Sue Touhy for all her work with the club, particularly all the newsletters she has folded and put in envelopes; and the Most Spirited Trampler Award to Tony Evans for all the trips he has lead and being prepared to step up and become Chief Guide.

We have our AGM in May with all committee positions up for grabs. I will be standing down as President as 3 years is the maximum time anyone can stand for President. Other positions that no-one has indicated they are willing to stand for yet include secretary, social convenor and the general committee.

A question that came up at the last committee meeting was whether or not the Club should invest in an Emergency Locator Beacon that could be left in the mini bus and carried by anyone on club trips who felt that it was a good safety back up. These little suckers cost in the order of \$1000. We would be interested in your feedback.

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

## Chief Guide's Report

by Tony Evans

The weather has been great for tramping lately in spite of the need to carry extra water on the hotter days, having spent 8 days in the hills over the past month with 2 more planned this week I am making the most of my opportunities. The more I travel in other countries the more I appreciate our own country.

A cautionary tale of compasses and cell phones. On a recent trip our group reached open tops and stopped to admire the views, maps out we were pointing out the direction of various landmarks when it became obvious that your Chief Guide was pointing in the wrong directions. Slightly red in the face I checked the map and compass again, the landmarks we could see were still in the wrong place but when I stepped away from my pack the compass needle swung nearly 90 degrees. Investigation showed that my cell phone, which was in

the top pocket of my pack and turned off, was causing the problem. Quite funny at the time but something to watch out for when accurate navigation is required.



## Skiing from Queenstown

Is anyone interested in up to 5-7 days skiing based from Frankton (Queenstown) in August? I have extra cheap accommodation in Frankton for up to 9 people (would have to include 2 couples as 2 beds are double beds!) and a car. Public transport is available from Frankton to Coronet, Remarkables and Cardrona. Contact Christine - 354 0510.

## Official Notice of AGM

The MTSC AGM will be on the **16th May 2006** at 7.30 p.m. the Manawatu Districts Aero Club rooms (off Airport Drive, near the control tower at the airport).

We are looking for people to put themselves forward or for nominations for all committee positions. This will be an exciting opportunity to get involved with another aspect of the club. Contact Christine ([C.A.Scott@massey.ac.nz](mailto:C.A.Scott@massey.ac.nz)) should you be interested or know of someone who is interested in becoming part of the committee team. All are welcome.

## Gorge Track Sundays

Just a reminder: there is a standing invitation to anyone who would like company walking the Gorge Track of a Sunday morning. I go more Sundays than I don't (anywhere between 7:30 (seldom) and 8:30 (more usual)), meet my wife, Leslie, at the Beyond-the-Bridge Cafe for morn-



Above: Jean Garman and support outside Punga Hut. (Scotts Road-Tararua Crossing Trip | 27/11/2005 | Photo: Gary Bevins).

ing tea (or lunch more often) and get a ride back through the gorge (or, very occasionally, walk back). So if you want to join me for a walk, and us for lunch, just give us a call. David Newstead (025) 576 175.



## Upcoming trips

### TRIP GRADING

The times listed below include tramping, rest and meal stops. In assessing the trip times and grades, terrain, weather and party fitness (a party is as fast as its slowest member) must be considered.

As these factors will never repeat themselves, times are only estimates. *Contact the trip leader if you are unsure about trip gradings for a specific trip.*

**ALL:** All welcome

**EASY:** 4 hours per day, pace slower than E/M. Does not relate to terrain.

**EASY/MEDIUM:** 5 hours per day at a pace slower than medium.

**MEDIUM:** 7 hours per day at a standard walking pace.

**MEDIUM/FIT:** 8 hours per day at a pace faster than medium.

**FIT:** Over 8 hours per day at a pace faster than medium/fit.

**TECHNICAL:** Qualifying requirements to be announced by Trip Organiser.

### Thursday Day Trip

**23 Feb** **Easy-Medium**  
**Ken Rush** **357-2529**

### Climbing Ngauruhoe

**25-26 Feb** **Medium**  
**Adam Matich** **359-2796**

This trip will start from the Mangatepopo Road end. The intention is to climb Ngauruhoe and quite possibly Tongariro as well. This all depends upon the weather, the phase of the moon, and how people (meaning me) feel on the day. Under ideal conditions we might climb Ngauruhoe on Saturday and camp in the South Crater to return to the Road End via Tongariro on Sunday. If conditions are a little less ideal we may lazily go into Mangatepopo Hut

for Saturday night and then climb Ngauruhoe on Sunday.

### Murderers Hut

**26 Feb** **Easy/Medium**  
**John Stantiall** **354-5521**

### Wednesday Trampers

**1 Mar** **Easy**  
**Sue & Lawson Pither** **357 3033**

### Thursday Trampers

**2 Mar** **Easy-Medium**  
**Neville Gray** **357 2768**

### Hinerua & Smiths Stream Huts

**4-5 Mar** **Easy/Medium**  
**Gary & Bev** **325-8879**

Depending on permission and numbers there are two road ends we can choose, Mill Rd or Alder Rd. We intend to stay at Hinerua Hut as it's the best of the two.

### Gable End – Waiopahu Loop

**5 Mar** **Medium/Fit**  
**Mark Street** **353-7442**

This trip starts from Poads farm in the western Tararuas at the back of Levin. The intention is to take the track adjacent to the Ohau River, then at the site of the former Ohau Shelter climb Gable End Ridge, turn SE at Richards Knob and trek over the tussock tops of the Twin Peaks and Waiopahu. We will pass the relatively new Waiopahu Hut en route down the Waiopahu Ridge ultimately ending back at the farm carpark. On a good day there are grand views to be had of the Tararua peaks and Horowhenua countryside. There are no river crossings.

Tramping time: 8.5 to 9 h

Distance: Approx. 19 km

Start from Police Station: 6.30am

Cost: \$12

### Thursday Trampers

**9 Mar** **Easy-Medium**  
**Gordon Clark** **359-2500**

### Dundas Hut

**11-12 Mar** **Medium/Fit**  
**Garry Grayson** **353-3117**

This trip will depart P.N. 7.30 Sat' morning, driving up to and parking our vehicle at the top dam (#1 Mangahao). From this point make our way to Harris Creek, take a big

breath, then on up (about 900mtr climb) to West Peak, south along the tops and drop into Dundas for the night.

Sunday's return trip may be a 'tad' adventurous in that (conditions permitting) we'll go NorthEast back along the top's over West and East Peak's, continuing North once we reach Ruapae, then a 'little' scratchy stuff through Massey Knob and down the ridge from Ngapuketuru eventually reaching Puketuru Track and exit back to #1 Dam. Cut off day for names will be Sun'5th March!

### **Sledge Track**

**12 Mar**

**Christine Scott**

This is a nice close trip to town at the head of the Kahuterewa Valley. Highlights of the trip will be mine shafts, views over both the Manawatu and Wairarapa, tussock flats and native bush. We will leave the Police Station at 7.30am. The plan is to do the full loop up onto South Range Road and along the ridge looking down into the Wairarapa. Estimated time about 7 hours.

### **Carrington Loop – Holdsworth**

**16 Mar**

**Bev Akers**

**Easy/Medium**

**325-8879**

### **Mt Taranaki**

**18-19 Mar**

**Linda Campbell**

The plan is to leave early afternoon on the Saturday. We will drive to Dawson Falls and walk to Kapuni Lodge. Kapuni Lodge has solar power, gas stoves, crockery, cutlery, pots, pans etc. It is \$17 a night for non members. On the Sunday, weather permitting those who wish to can climb Taranaki via Fanthams Peak. It is expected that there will be at least one member of Mt Egmont Alpine Club with us. For those who would prefer not to climb, or if the weather is against us we will walk down to Lake Dive / Lake Dive Hut and back to Dawson Falls.

### **Waikamaka Hut**

**25-26 Mar**

**Doug McNeur 359-1893**

Waikamaka hut is a lovely part of the world. Nestled by a river in the eastern Ruahine ranges, it features the only octagonal toilet I know and is generally a nice place to stay. We'll wobble up one river, over a saddle and



**Above:** Castle Point.

(Wednesday Trampers Trip | 07/12/2005 | Photo: Bev Akers).

down another river before arriving at the hut. What could be nicer? Call me if you're interested.

### **Forest Lookout-Carrington Loop**

**26 Mar**

**Adam Matich**

**Easy/Med-Tech**

**359-2796**

This was rated as a medium, but upon investigation we found the day length to be roughly 5 hours. Both times we became momentarily geographically embarrassed, partly because we were too busy not paying attention to the route. I am hoping that this time I will get it right..... although someone might want to bring along a GPS. This trip starts from the Holdsworth road end, where upon crossing the Atiwhakatu stream one takes a left to head south up to the forest lookout. This is steep in places but it takes less than an hour. From the lookout we climb up on top of the ridge and head in a westerly direction until the sparse remains of a hut are spotted on the northern side of the ridge (15 min).

From there we drop NW onto a side track, which we follow down into Gentle Annie Saddle for an early lunch, if we didn't get lost on the way down. Then we climb straight up onto Carrington Ridge and the Carrington Ridge track, which will take us up to Bump 801 and ultimately the Mt Holdsworth Track.

### **Thursday Trampers**

**30 Mar**

**Anne Green**

**Easy-Medium**

**06 374-5208**

### **Te Matawai Work Party**

**1-2 Apr**

**Jean Garman**

**Medium/Party**

**354-3536**

We will leave PN at 7.30am on Saturday. Make our way to Te Matawai Hut via the Ohau River or Gable End if the river is up. Spend the afternoon cleaning, cutting firewood and hopefully tidying up and enjoying the new entrance deck, which weather etc permitting will have been built in late March. A rewarding and sociable dinner - not forgetting that it's April Fools Day. A final tidy up Sunday morning then we will head out via the route

of common consensus on Sunday. Should be back in PN by late afternoon/early evening.

### **Mill Block**

**2 Apr** **Family**  
**Howard & Sue Nicholson** **357-6325**

Bring a picnic and your kids and come for a walk across farmland and through bush up the Makahika Stream. We will leave Palmerston North at 8:30am, drive to Levin, and then to the end of Gladstone Road. Come prepared for a sunny day in the western Tararuas (so pack a parka just in case).

### **Wooden Peg Loop**

**2 Apr** **Medium**  
**Neville Gray** **357-2768**



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!*

### **Arawaru Trig via Scotts Road** **11th January (Thu)**

Leader: Graham Pritchard  
Trip took 5.5 hours.

### **Pretender Loop** **19th January (Thu)**

Leader: Merv Matthews  
10 trampers  
Started from Coppermine, to Pretender (967m) via an old hunters' route, then south along the Mangapapa track, across the link track to the Wharite track, then down to Coppermine. The Wharite track is still very overgrown (7 hours).

### **Waipawa Saddle** **26th January**

Leader: Gordon Clark

### **Snowy River Loop** **28-29th January**

by Adam Matich  
On our way to the Otaki Forks overnight car park we passed the truck carrying the yet-to-be-assembled new Elder Hut. At the carp ark Jean secured us a lift to the road end in Wayne's DoC vehicle. The helicopter was due to arrive at midday to start flying the bits and pieces up to Elder Peak. Unfortunately, Wayne seemed disinclined to give us a lift to our campsite in the Snowy and so we dropped into the Waiotauru River and headed south to reach Waiotauru Forks, after two hours, for lunch and a swim as it was a hot day. Wayne advised us against the track as recent heavy rain had done some damage.

After lunch we headed east up the Eastern Waiotauru (Snowy) River. Some sections of this river are deeper than last time we went through. It is no longer possible to reach Tregear Spur with dry gruts. However, the gorge, 20 minutes before Snowy River hut is now quite shallow and does not require a swim. Two hour travel saw us at Snowy

River Hut for a brief break before continuing our easy travel up the river for less than another two hours (six hour day) to our campsite for the night. This was on a small river flat at around 400 m, notable for the small collection of bleached animal bones. This is the highest point we found suitable for camping, and so it meant the next day would be slightly longer than a "medium".

Garry and Gary were given permission to get up early (5:45 instead of 6:45 a.m.) so we could get an early, 7 a.m. start on what was to be our day of fear, loathing, and jolly adventure. The gradient of the river was still gentle and remained so for probably the first 2 km, which was half the remaining distance up the river. From there on it just got steeper and steeper...and even a little bit steeper still. There were marvelous swimming holes, but we were in the shade for a large part of the morning and so didn't need to cool off. It was in this upper 2 km that we encountered the picturesque waterfalls. The first fall was a warm up and had an easy sidle along a rock ledge on the true left. The second major waterfall was the biggest and caused some trepidation, but we were able to climb through the bush on the true right without much



**Above:** Camping in the snowy.  
(Snowy River Trip | 28-29/01/2006 | Photo: Adam Matich).

difficulty. However, immediately above this was a smaller waterfall, again passable on the true right, but with considerable more difficulty and erosion of confidence and will.

Jean led the way up, over, and down the slippery rock face without any apparent concern, but the other girls in the group weren't so happy.

Johanna managed it without too much grief, but Pam and Bev were less than happy. Gary had to procure his climbing tape for them to lower themselves down by, with people below ready to jump out of the way if they should fall. Ironically up the rock face on the true left and across the falls just below the lip was found to be an easier climb by Garry and trip leader. It was all much of a muchness to Jemma, who seemed happy to clamber up and down pretty well anywhere. After this pleasant bit of trauma we carried on up to the "proper" slopes. There were no more waterfalls, but the steep, rocky watercourse implied (falsely) worse to come. Unlike in previous trips in which we hooked a left out of the main watercourse to end up very close to the top of Field peak, on this trip we stayed in the main channel. This avoided a tight climb up a slippery rock.

Eventually the rocky gully led us onto a very loose, steep scree slope. Jean led the way across to the left hand side, while an error in judgement saw Gary, Bev and trip leader scrambling up through the leatherwood and Spaniard on the right hand side. Eventually it was decided that perhaps Jean knew best and so they crossed over the scree and made their way up. The Billy Goat bones half way up the scree didn't do much for their confidence, but their



**Above:** Heading up the upper reaches of the Snowy. (Snowy River Trip | 28-29/01/2006 | Photo: Adam Match).

fears were allayed upon finding a shot gun cartridge wad further up. Above the scree slope was a narrow rocky gully out of which they climbed, 2/3 of the way up when it started to get nasty, onto an almost equally steep tussocky spur. Twenty metres from the top (the saddle between Field Peak and Mt Hector) Bev rested on an overhanging rock to look back in wonder at the terrain up which she had been "gently persuaded" to travel. Another 30 seconds' saw the tail-end-charlies up the top 30 min after the others and 5.5 hr and 1000 m up from the campsite of the night before. Suddenly everyone was happy again. It was a nice sunny day (perhaps a little bit too much so), we had views for lunch and it was safe, mostly down-hill travel back to the van. Best of all, trip leader had the satisfaction of running a trip that scared the bejesus out of some of the participants... a lofty ambition achieved... once again.

After 40 min travel we topped up our water at Kime Hut and headed on down to the welcome shade of Field Hut. The track between the two huts was oven-hot as the rocks and dry earth radiated the heat back at us. The forest below Field Hut was much better, but we still dropped our packs at the swing-bridge and had a good wallow in the river to cool off. Icecreams in Otaki were very welcome.

This was an unusual trip as there were more women than men in the group. This sort of gender imbalance does not often happen on a serious overnighter. The animal magnetism of the trip leader perhaps. We were Johanna Lieske, Pam Dransfield, Bev Akers, Jean Gorman, Gary Bevins and Jemma, Garry Grayson, and Adam Match.



**Above:** Looking back down from near the top of the Snowy. (Snowy River Trip | 28-29/01/2006 | Photo: Adam Match).

## Herepai Hut

**29th January**

by Darlene Westrupp

This was my first trip as Trip Leader and seven brave trampers thought that they would risk all and join me (no doubt encouraged by the thought that Chief Guide Tony was coming too). Don McDonald, Tony, Chris (a visitor from Whangaparaoa) and I met at the Police Station at 7.30 and were joined by Roger, (skier, but first time trumper) and nine year old daughter Eve, up by the Pacific College. Tim Swale and Linda Campbell joined us at the road end.

We left Palmerston North in clear blue skies, but met quite heavy cloud on the other side of the ranges. This followed us all the way to our destination but showed signs of clearing when we arrived.

We had a pleasant walk along the river for about 3/4 hr then had a small snack to fortify us for the steep climb up to Herepai Hut.

We were thankful for the bush cover as the day was proving to be extremely warm. We stopped for a chat with a family group at the Herepai/Roaring Stag track junction. They had spent the night at Herepai. It was a good opportunity to stop to rest and take on more water to counteract the heat.

Once we arrived at the hut we had an early lunch. We met another group of six infrequent trampers from Palmerston North at the hut. Never to let a chance go by for recruiting new members I gave them one of our trip cards and invited them to our meetings.

After lunch we left our packs at the hut and climbed the track to the high point where the clouds parted to give us great views of the surrounding tops and the valley below. The walk down back to the road end was a lot less gueling, then it was off to Eketahuna for well earned ice creams before heading back home.

Roger and Eve (who was up with the leader all day) enjoyed their tramp and are looking forward to their next one. Chris also enjoyed his day and invited any club members to join his North Shore Tramping Club on a trip any time we are in the vicinity.

## Kaiparoro - Eastern Tararuas

**1st February (Wed)**

Leader: Jill Chapman

8 trampers

Cloudy and drizzle to start with, lots of logging done since my last visit to this area. The cloud cover was appreciated for the steeper parts of the track. Once out of the bush, we marked a few bushes with tape to make the return journey easier. We headed for the trig and then went right to find the native crayfish pond. The boggy area surrounding the pond was much drier than

usual making walking less hazardous. We had lunch by the pool in brilliant sunshine. The marker tape served its purpose but one male thought he knew the way and disappeared over the bank to the right. We had to yell to get him back on track. Cloudy on the way down and there was some drizzle as we

reached the bus. A very enjoyable day and a stop at Eketahuna for ice cream. We were Jill, Bev, Bernard, Ivan, Margaret G, Margaret F, Pauline and Lynne.

## Blue Range - Eastern Tararuas

**2nd February (Thu)**

Leader: Ray Pratt

14 trampers

## Round Ruapehu

**4-6th February.**

by Christine Scott

"Tramp around Ruapehu in 3 days?"

"I know a short cut - give me your subway vouchers and I will guide you"

"Can we catch a bus up the hill to avoid 2 hours tramping on the last day?"

"Sure can - just pay \$5 a head - plus we will stay at the Skotel for the last night and soak in the spa".

And so the plans were laid. A quick chat to 'Hughie' to guarantee good weather and 8 of us set off in the minibus for Ohakune on Friday night to camp at the Mangawhero Camp Site; all ready for an early start the next day.

From the Ohakune Mountain Road the track passes



Above: Taking a break for a snack and to take in the views. (Round Ruapehu | 4-6/02/2006 | Photo: Barry Scott).

through native bush, past water falls and tarns set in wetland tussock until you reach Mangaeheuehu Hut. After that the clumps of bush get sparser until finally you are tramping over bare volcanic rock strewn slopes. There was a short sharp descent down into the Waihianoa Gorge and once up the other side it was only another 40 minutes to Rangipo Hut, well hidden behind a bare rock ridge and sitting on the only patch of grass/tussock around.

Tony tested out Kiwi-Nipon relationships by 'pouring' boiling water on the foot of a Japanese trumper and because his sorry was neither genuine nor adequate enough was threatened with a piece of wood. We retreated to the verandah to watch the army tanks firing live shells until relationships calmed down.

Saturday was spectacular as we tramped over the harsh moon-scape of old lave flows and shattered volcanic rock. We crossed the Whangaehu river with its dire warnings of not crossing if there was any rumblings up river and not to stop while in the valley. Shortly after crossing the Tukino Ski Field Road, Peter led us on his short cut to miss out Waihohonu Hut. It was spectacular countryside - very easy travel due to our guide avoiding all the cliffs, with soft gravel lifted by perma frost in the winter crunching underfoot. Luckily we reached the track leading up to the Tama Lakes in good time, which ensured that there was plenty of time to luxuriate in a spa once we reached the Skotel. Respectable clothes were dragged out of the packs in order to be presentable for an a la carte meal in the Skotel Dining Room (it was too much of an effort to walk anywhere else).

Our transport picked us up at 8.15 in the morning and ferried us up to Scoria Flat where we set off for the Whakapapaiti Valley. From here round to Lake Surprise was again spectacular but very different from the previous day as we walked through open tussock and bush looking up into huge cliffs towering on

the mountain above us. Boardwalks protected the delicate wetlands around Lake Surprise and Mangaturuturu Hut. After clambering up the side of the Waitonga Cascades it was a short walk back to the Mountain Road where Tony had kindly gone on ahead and run down the road to the van to bring it back to the rest of us. Tramping times each day ranged from six and a half hours to seven and a quarter hours.

We were: Royce & Owen Mills, Peter Rawlins, Linda Hunt, Scott Wyche, Tony Evans and Barry & Christine Scott

### **Daphne Hut** **9th February (Thu)**

Leader: Keith Fisher

7 trampers

We left the van at Kashmir Rd at 9:30 a.m. and reached the track junction with the Longview Hut track after 1 hour 30 minutes. After a break it took another hour to reach the Tukituki River and then a further 15 minutes up through the small gorge on the north branch of the river to Daphne Hut. The



**Above:** Members of the party that went to Daphne Hut.  
(Daphne Hut Trip | 9/02/2006 | Photo: Christine Allardice).

river level was low and easy traveling.

After a look round and lunch at the hut we headed back. It was a grind climbing back up the ridge again and on to the track junction. This took close to 1 hour 35 minutes and after a stop we were all back at the van by 4:00 p.m. The return trip from Daphne Hut took about 2 hours 40 minutes tramping time. The weather was good, some high cloud, no wind and it only rained as we climbed back into the van.

### **Sunrise Hut** **12th February**

by Tim Swale

One of the wonderful things about tramping is the way that it binds together such a varied group of people in the enjoyment of a simple outdoor pursuit. Our group of twelve intrepid trampers included the amazing Eve, who at just 9 years old is simply bursting with energy and never far from the front, and at the other end of the age scale, Helen, Jill, Neville and Peter whose enviable





**Above:** The photographer must have been taking roll call.  
(Sunrise Hut Trip | 12/02/2006 | Photo: Tim Swale).

fitness and willingness to impart their vast experience in the outdoors is just awesome.

The Sunrise track is a gentle although unrelenting ascent for a couple of hours up to the recently extended hut where we had lunch. The walk up had been in very warm conditions so it was interesting to poke our heads over the ridge behind the hut and feel the chilling effects of both altitude and wind before posing for the obligatory photo and then returning to the minibus at the Triplex car park. A very pleasant day was rounded off with an ice cream



**Above:** The bigger and brighter Sunrise Hut.  
(Sunrise Hut Trip | 12/02/2006 | Photo: Tim Swale).

sat in the sun at the historic village of Onga Onga. We were: Kara Eaton, Jill Chapman, Helen Davidson, Ken and Christina Mercer, Eve, Zoe and Roger Athersuch, Peter Carver, Neville Gray, Alla Seleznyova and Tim Swale.

### **Blue Range Hut 15th February (Wed)**

Leader: Donna Hayes

### **A Frame & Stanfield Hut Loop 16th February (Thu)**

Leader: Tony Evans

8 trampers left from the Tamaki West Road-end and up the track to A-Frame Hut where we sat in the sun for morning tea. Then north along Takapari Road and the well-cut track towards Stanfield Hut, 4 keen trampers headed up the overgrown track up to Takapari Trig while 4 of us had lunch before heading down to Stanfield Hut for another break, then down the Tamaki Stream to the van for another rest until the keen trampers arrived. A warm summers day tramping, more relaxing for some than others and all enjoyed the compulsory ice-cream stop in Woodville on the way home.

 Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*

## Wanganui DoC News

### **Bridge to Nowhere Access Reopened**

January 2006

The track from the Whanganui River to the Bridge to Nowhere which was closed for a period late last year due to a slip was reopened just before Christmas. A new bridge across Morgan's Bluff was completed and tested in December allowing river users to once again enjoy the 40 minute stroll to the icon of Whanganui National Park.

The Bridge to Nowhere is in good condition for its age but further conservation work is planned for later this year.

*Source: DoC website*

# 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

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 minibus 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 2005-06 Committee

President	Christine Scott	354 0510
Secretary	Howard Nicholson	357 6325
Treasurer	Doug McNeur	359 1893
Chief Guide	Tony Evans	357 4355
Day Trip Convenor	Vacant	
Membership Sec.	Mark Street	353-7442
		<a href="mailto:mtsc@inspire.net.nz">mtsc@inspire.net.nz</a>
Newsletter Editor	Wei-Hang Chua	021 212 0369
		<a href="mailto:morepork@ihug.co.nz">morepork@ihug.co.nz</a>
Social Convenor	Darlene Westrupp	354 5764
Ski Captain	Peter Rawlins	356 7443
Lodge Manager	Rob Pringle	358 3319
Lodge Booking Officers	Hugh & Liz Wilde	356 9450
		<a href="mailto:wildeh@clear.net.nz">wildeh@clear.net.nz</a>
Mini-bus Manager	Neville Gray	357 2768
General Committee	Ken Mercer	356 7497
	Tim Swale	06 376 6556

## 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 | [www.mtsc.org.nz](http://www.mtsc.org.nz)

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.

