

## UPCOMING CLUBNIGHTS

7.30 pm, 1st Tue of the month, Rose City Aquatic Club Room, 50 Park Road, Palmerston North

**6 SEPTEMBER 2011 | 4 OCTOBER 2011**

### New Members

Benjamin Dellabarca, Norman, Bo & Sam Hensley,  
Gill, Mike, Brook & Chase Wharfe, Erin, Lesli & Jack Eggleston

All prospective members are encouraged to go on a club trip or attend a club night before joining. This is a great way to meet current members who can nominate you.

Prospective members must be nominated by a Proposer and a Secunder who are current MTSC members and have been so for at least one year. New memberships are usually confirmed at the next monthly committee meeting.

For further information or an application form please visit: [www.mtsc.org.nz](http://www.mtsc.org.nz)

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If you would like to receive your newsletter by email as a pdf in full colour rather than by post then please send an email request to [editor@mtsc.org.nz](mailto:editor@mtsc.org.nz). For change of contact details please email the club membership secretary at [membership@mtsc.org.nz](mailto:membership@mtsc.org.nz) as well as copying the message to [editor@mtsc.org.nz](mailto:editor@mtsc.org.nz).

The deadline for newsletter contributions is @ the 1<sup>st</sup> week of the month. Please include a date with trip reports & images. Photos are welcome and will be included where possible - remember to include an appropriate caption for the photo, including names of people.

**AUGUST 25:** Interclub quiz night hosted this year by PNTMC at the Quakers Hall 227 College St 19:45.

**SEPTEMBER 6:** is the annual photo competition night. There are several categories to enter your images, so make sure you get your entries in to win prizes. See Club Nights & Notices section for more detail.

**OCTOBER 4:** Glenn Pendergast will be covering health topics relating to the outdoors. These may include 1. The decades of decrepitude: tramping and skiing between 60 and 80 2. Hypothermia: strategies to save the conscious, the unconscious, and the near dead. 3. General physio questions from the floor.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**  
**KEN MERCER**  
 president@mtsc.org.nz  
 PHONE (06) 356 7497 or (027) 364 6475



From time to time bad things happen. Unfortunately the time arrived & the bad thing was petrol in the van's diesel tank. At this point the motor appears OK but the injector pump, if it continues to operate, will have had its life shortened considerably.

The wonderful thing about software is that it never makes mistakes. People are less reliable & it is a deficiency of the vehicle that such an error is possible. Apparently this sort of thing happens 400 times every day in England which one would think might have encouraged the auto industry to fit detectors to the tank. Perhaps there is profit in selling injector pumps? The only solutions the committee can come up with are a more visible notice near the filler cap and eternal vigilance by the passengers. Further suggestions are welcome.

On a brighter note I organised an impromptu interclub ski touring trip to our local mountain early Tuesday morning under a clear blue sky. Doug Pringle & Tony Gates (on snowshoes) joined me for a couple of runs before work in the fresh PN powder above North Range Road. Fantastic!



**SKI CAPTAIN**  
 Howard (tom between two loves) Nicholson.

The mid-August southerly outbreak certainly did skiers a huge favour, topping up the snow base at Turoa to 298cm and Whakapapa to over 180cm. This bodes well for a cracker spring ski season. The lodge is an ideal base for your mountain adventures - at present you can ski/ride to the door after a great day on the slopes. During a recent weekend we almost had the lodge to ourselves. The polar blast was forecast to arrive on Sunday night, but there was skiing on Saturday and the following morning. A "bad" forecast may not eventuate and if you are on the mountain you can get the best of the weather while it lasts. Hope to see you up there soon.



Ken Mercer on the North Range Road ski slopes – Palmerston North in background

## CLUB NIGHTS & NOTICES

### The Mystery of the Missing Pillowslips

Where, oh where, are the light blue pillowslips from the lodge?

Sometime after the end of the ski season last year virtually all the pillowslips vanished from MTSC lodge on Mt Ruapehu. Our guess is that someone took them home to wash. Such action is to be commended but we would like them back now – especially as we have nice new pillows and want to keep them as clean as possible. (It is true that occupants are meant to bring their own pillowslips but people, especially school children, can easily forget them.) If you have the pillowslips or know who has them please let us know. Then we can make arrangements to return them to their rightful place.

Thanks, Mary Mercer (H) 06 356 7497

**October issue of Beechleaves** will feature a selection of images in the upcoming club competition. It may even be in colour, but of course, the electronic version is ALWAYS in colour...! If you want to get your copy via email contact the membership secretary & editor via their emails (last page has details).

### OCTOBER CLUBNIGHT

For the upcoming October clubnight, Glenn Pendergast has generously offered to cover health topics related to the outdoors – some that might be covered are:

1. The decades of decrepitude: tramping and skiing between 60 and 80.
2. Hypothermia: strategies to save the conscious, the unconscious, and the near dead.
3. General physio questions from the floor.

So if you have any burning questions, pop along to ask!

### Photo Competition - 6 September

It's time to get snapping and sorting - the annual photo competition has again sneaked up on us. Winners of our competition go on to the interclub competition three weeks later. Last year the major prizes were donated by Macpac and several people received day packs; Macpac, Bivouac Outdoors and MTSC donated the lesser prizes. This year we expect to have at least a bag of lollies up for grabs - tempting, huh? The categories are:

**Landscapes** - Pictorial interest in NZ, no people.

**Above Bushline** - Predominantly alpine scenery in NZ, e.g. rock and snow, tussock, etc., may include people.

**Below Bushline** – NZ. Predominantly bush, scrub, lowland to sub-alpine areas, may include people.

**Natural History** - NZ flora and fauna or detail, e.g. geology, ice formations, animals, plants etc.

**Topical** - People or detail related to tramping, climbing, skiing etc. in NZ

**Overseas** - taken overseas - open category: e.g. landscape, people, natural history, etc.

Further details can be found on the club web site, including a dedicated email address for entries, or you can call Howard Nicholson on (06) 3576325.

### First Aid Training and the MTSC.

A Committee discussion on members' preparedness & 1st aid training has led to two decisions. It was agreed it would be helpful for trip leaders to know who has current 1st aid training & that the Club will, on application, provide a subsidy of up to half the cost of attending a MSC {Mountain Safety Council} outdoor 1st aid-course. The current cost is \$120 for an intensive weekend course. Club members are asked to support these decisions by contacting Ken Mercer if you are interested in the MSC course (fee includes food and accommodation). In addition, if you have a current 1st aid qualification email your name & the details of the qualification to; [fristaid@mtsc.org.nz](mailto:fristaid@mtsc.org.nz)



Mt Arthur tablelands viewed from the deck of Sylvester Lodge. T.Tyler



## Help for the Next Generation of Trampers.

**Tramping Clubs 2.0: How the digital age is impacting clubs** was the title of a recent article in Wilderness Magazine. In addition to considering the impact of the social media, the article examined why many clubs have a declining and aging membership.

The introduction of the social media sites has led to the rise of hiking clubs. A hike will be proposed and anybody interested invited to sign up and join in. Typically, there is no cost to join the site or to participate in hikes. There also is no committee, assets, constitution, forms to complete, or safety precautions. One such club in Auckland has about 1000 “members”. The committee discussed ways in which young trampers could be attracted to join conventional clubs such as our own. In discussion, it emerged that many young people gain an introduction to tramping through participation in the Duke of Edinburgh awards scheme & that there was an opportunity to meet them by providing “shadow trampers”. Although committee members had had mixed experiences in providing this support it was agreed that members be asked if they are prepared to assist in this. Please contact Ken Mercer if you would be prepared to assist in this. The committee also seeks additional suggestions on how more younger members could be attracted.

## UPCOMING TRIPS

31 Aug (Wed) Mike Oliver	355 5320
1 Sep (Thu) John Thornley	356 9681
<b>3-4 Sep Tokomaru overnighter</b> <b>Gary Bevins</b>	<b>Medium</b> <b>325 8879</b>
<b>4 Sep (Sun) Longview</b> <b>Linda Campbell</b>	<b>Easy/Medium</b> <b>027 3334493</b>
7 Sep (Wed) Andrew Brodie	358 6576
8 Sep (Thu) Brian Evans	323 7614
<b>10-11 Sep Herepai Hut &amp; Beyond</b> <b>Bev Akers</b>	<b>Easy/Medium</b> <b>325 8879</b>
<b>10-11 Sep Syme Hut</b> <b>Brian Webster</b>	<b>Medium/Technical</b> <b>357 0189</b>
14 Sep (Wed) Jerry Tanguay	356 9973
15 Sep (Thu) Jo O’Halloran	353 0300
<b>17-18 Waihohonu Hut</b> <b>Howard Nicholson</b>	<b>Easy/Medium</b> <b>357 6325</b>
<b>17 (Sat) Peak - NW Tararua</b> <b>Dave Harrington</b>	<b>Fit</b> <b>06 8395766</b>
21 Sep (Wed) John Hunt	324 0339
22 Sep (Thu) Alan Cameron	358 3848
<b>24-25 Ski field Traverse</b> <b>Adam Matich</b>	<b>Technical</b> <b>359 2796</b>
28 Sep (Wed) David Newstead	027 457 6175
29 Sep (Thu) Richard Ellis	357 6410
<b>1-2 October Ruahine Ramble</b> <b>Jean Garman</b>	<b>Medium/Fit</b> <b>354 3536</b>
5 Oct (Wed) Pauline Hall	329 7707
6 Oct (Thu) Nigel & Jill Spencer	329 8738

## Trip Grading

The times listed below include tramping, rest & stops. In assessing the trip times & guides, terrain, weather & party fitness (which is as fast as the slowest member) must be considered. Consult the trip leader if you are unsure about the trip grading for a particular trip.

<b>FAMILY</b>	All welcome, casual pace, any age
<b>EASY</b>	4 hours per day, pace slower than Easy/Med. Does not relate to terrain
<b>EASY/MEDIUM</b>	5 hours per day at a pace slower than Medium
<b>MEDIUM</b>	7 hours per day at a standard walking pace
<b>MEDIUM/FIT</b>	8 hours per day at a pace faster than Medium
<b>FIT</b>	Over 8 hours per day at a pace faster than Med/Fit
<b>TECHNICAL</b>	Qualifying requirements to be announced by the trip organiser

Weekday trips generally range between Easy & Medium/Fit, so call the leader for details on these to plan a daytrip to suit your preference & ability.

## PREVIEW 24-25 September Ski Field Traverse T Adam Matich 359-2796

If we can manage the transport, this ice axe and crampon trip will involve a climb from Whakapapa to the Ruapehu Crater Lake and a descent to Turoa ski field. At the moment the intention is to leave a car at Turoa on Saturday and get a shuttle around to Whakapapa where we will stay at the lodge for the night. Next morning we will do our so-called traverse. If transport or weather is difficult, then we will just do a day trip climb up to the crater lake from the Whakapapa ski field and return from same ski-field by a slightly different route on the day with the best weather. For the day trip option we will be leaving early in the morning.



**PREVIEW 17 Sept (Saturday)** – fit – From No2 Mangahao Dam will follow track for a kilometre to bridge then climb south up the leading spur to trig point ‘Peak’ in leatherwood country. Will then head west onto spot 866 (another trig point called ‘The Peaks’) then crash on down to No 1 dam somehow. My last leatherwood trip for the year!

### **PREVIEW 28 September – trip leader Dave Newstead**

We take the Capital Connection (06:15) to Wellington & No.11 bus to Seatoun. Then find our way to the Pass of Branda, between Seatoun and Breaker Bay where the walkway starts. The basic loop (9 km) takes us up to the top of the peninsula, by the signal station, South by the Atatürk Memorial to Palmer Head & the Wahine Memorial & back round the coast at Breaker Bay, by Point Dorset (depends on tide) to Churchill Park Seatoun, & a lateish lunch or cuppa (two cafés to choose from). We could possibly add a spur West to Moa Point on the way (extra 5 km return) if there’s any interest. From the top of the peninsula we get spectacular views (fine or storm, maybe more so in storm) – SE across Pencarrow Head to Cape Palliser; South & West to the Southern Mountains & the Great Ocean. We return to the Railway Station by the No. 11 Bus, or some may wish to take the Harbour Ferry to Queens Wharf (via Days Bay) – one only at 16:00. The train leaves at 17:15.

Timetable (transport)

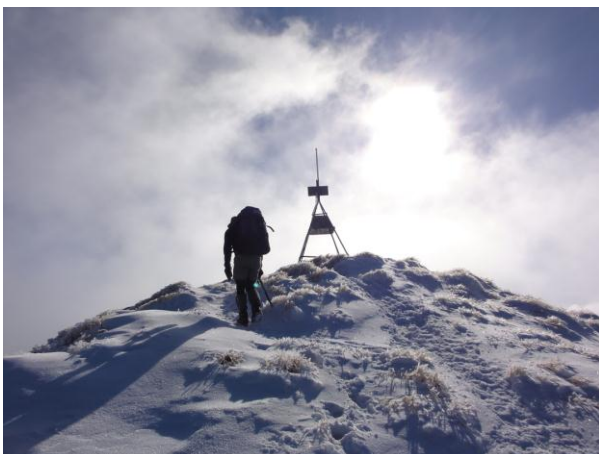
06:15 Capital Connection leaves Palmerston North Railway Station and arrives in Wellington at 08:30. No.11 buses leave Railway Station every 15 minutes for Seatoun Park, journey time 40 min. We will probably take the 09:00. About 10:00 we start the walk at the Pass of Branda. It will take about 3 to 4 h, so that we should be back to Seatoun village centre by 13:30 to 14:00. (I intend to have a late lunch at the Seatoun Café (the Jazz Café is across the road). Return Transport – No. 11 bus leaves (from outside the Café) every 15 min from 2 min to the hour; so the last bus to catch the train is at 15:58. The Harbour Ferry leaves the Seatoun Wharf, 0.6 km from the village centre, at 16:00 and goes by way of Days Bay to arrive at Queens Wharf at 16:35, 40min before the train – 2.6 km to walk to the Railway Station. This would be a nice cruise, with time for the train if you hurry and there are no hold ups! Capital Connection leaves P9 17:15 arrives Palmerston North 19:20.

Fares (as Jan 2011)

Capital Connection 10-trip concession \$19.80 each way (\$39.60 return) [\$24.50 single fare] Bus to Seatoun \$4 (free to over 65 year olds between 09:00 and 15:00).

Harbour Ferry \$10.

## **TRIP REPORTS**



Images from a recent trip up Mt Holdsworth on 31 July.



**May at Snail's Pace**, by Tim Tyler.

In Takaka for work on Friday 13th (inauspicious, but the stars happened to be aligned on this date, evening it out... & I had a near full moon) I listened to the awful weather forecast - should I go for a cheeky trip up the Cobb, or return to Nelson & daywalks with my father in law? A local hunter opined that I may as well have a look because it can be clear in town, raining in Upper Takaka & snowing in the Cobb area - or vice versa... I took the advice & headed up to see for myself. It was tipping down in Upper Takaka but as I got further in, it lessened in intensity. At the ridge shelter I paused to scribble in the intentions book as a clearing squall allowed a peek around the corner of the shelter. I caught a glimpse of a dramatic greywashed vista spread out before me. I ducked back to the car, whipped out my kit & slipped into something more comfortable, ignoring the complaints of the resident weka at my pale buttocks. Into the car, down the hill, along the reservoir - things rapidly improved; by the time I arrived at Trilobite Hut the valley was down to a shower squall every 5 minutes or so. Pondering the inside of the uninspiring hut I realised that a) it was only 1830, b) I had two lots of fresh rechargeable 1600 MAh batteries & c) the weka was right, I was a bit fat. Moving the car to Mytton Hut carpark (a bit of gravelled dirt by the single track road) I popped my "new"(from TradeMe) Genesis on & lit up the H7. Back down the road to Bullock Track 25 mins later in not discouraging weather & some nice moonlight, I climbed up through manuka to Peat Saddle, emerging out into subalpine red tussock. From here I turned left then next right along tracks, beginning a long descent down to the Takaka River under a beech canopy. A couple of windfalls near the bottom slowed me up but gaining the wire bridge was encouraging. Having good light, I was confident of avoiding standing on any Powelliphanta & made it to the lower junction bridge in reasonable order. The erosion to the section of track between here & Upper Junction from MTB tyres is fairly substantial already - it will need more TLC than a foot track. However, I think it is a small price to pay for opening up wider recreational (& tourism?) opportunities - the track is already there!

Across the Upper Junction, a gentle but persistent climb ensued in gusts to Growler Shelter. Pausing here at 2230 for a muesli bar, battery swap & a sit down I wondered why I had not spotted any snail life thus far in near perfect conditions. However, 5 mins after starting out, I spotted a good one in light mizzle & continued on, pleased to have seen it. I named it "Steppenwolf", for the song.



Smile thanks to 15yo ESS jacket & boxers... T.Tyler

Popping out into tussock for the final section, I was able to view Gordon's pyramid bathed in occasional moonlight before gaining the hut at 2345. At dawn, the 2 others in the hut wanted to know "why" so I explained the snails & new batteries. The weather packed in after a couple of quick photos so they decided to tag along with me instead of climbing Mt.Arthur. Picking our way up to Balloon Hut we took an early lunch there & the weather abated, giving us a clear run up the ridge over to Lake Peel before clagging out again briefly. On Cobb Ridge, a kea did a fly-by before we dropped off down through beech to Myttons Hut. A gully on the way down was notable for it's fine stand of Dracophyllum. Returning to the car, a hubcap was missing but found @15 km back towards Takaka.



Cobb Reservoir from Cobb Ridge. T.Tyler



Steppenwolf's cousin in Dec 2010. T.Tyler

### Longview-Rocky Knob-Awatere Loop -June 12

At the tail end of a southerly is a good time to tramp in the Longview region. Anything is better than a north-westerly! The long, steep section on Kashmir road was a bit mogully, but lots of other front-wheel-drive cars had made it up there. The clouds were still winning over the sun and so our climb up the spur to Longview hut (75 min) was not too hot. We had first lunch at the hut because the wind was cold and full lunch out in the open might have been unpleasant. We then rugged up for our trip south along the ridge to Rocky Knob; from the top of which we headed SE down towards Awatere Hut. There was a faint trail down from the top for 30 metres down before we hit the leatherwood.

It wasn't time for tears yet as the leatherwood was interspersed with tussock and scrub, so we could shimmy our way through it quite easily. But another 30 metres lower it started to look like tears might be in order. However, while the leatherwood was now dense, it was old and there was quite a lot of space for us to in most cases walk along underneath. We had very little crawling and not much pushing through the vegetation for around 30 minutes before we broke back out into the tussock. We were able to travel around 100m down through the tussock before we reached the tree line where we had second lunch in the sun.

Once we were in the forest we were home and hosed. Travel was easy, and the only remaining issue was Jean getting the navigation right. At some altitudes, the spur was not so well defined and so a little bit of care was necessary. Jean didn't disgrace herself and so we dropped into the stream just West of Awatere Hut and from there reached the hut 1 ¾ hrs from the top of Rocky Knob. From the hut we headed back to the road end (1 hr) via the ridge track to get back to the car after a 5 ½ hour day, without the need for rain coats. Not really much of a feat this winter though!

We were Jenny McCarthy, Jean Garman & Adam Matich.

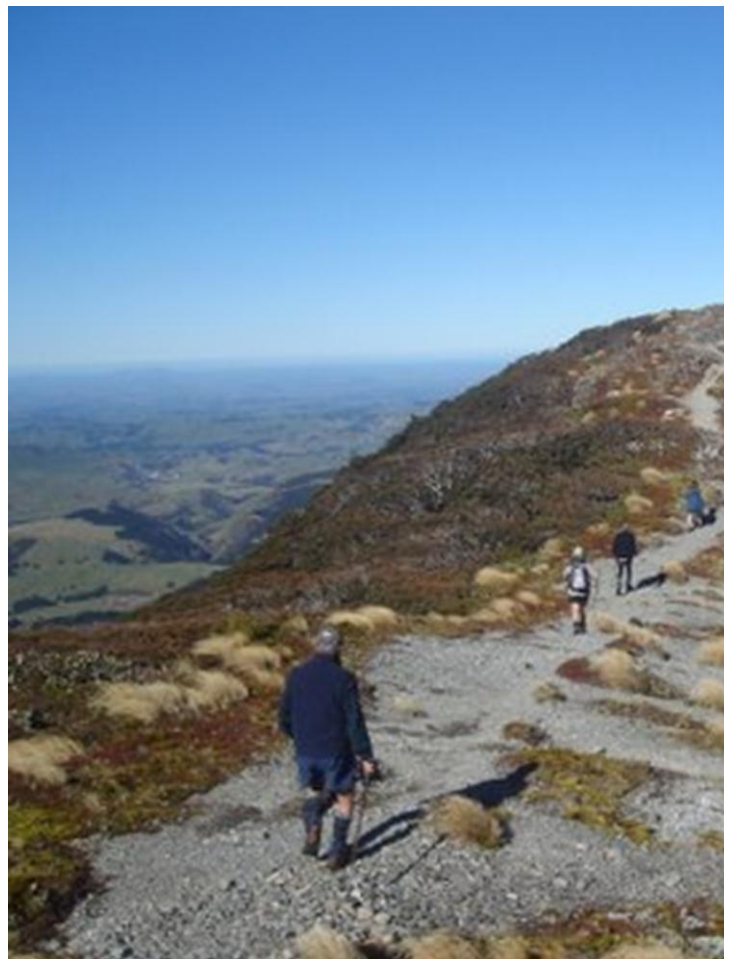


Adam Matich looking less than enthused despite the nifty Leatherwood duelling scar. Image from the Ross Peak trip. D.Harrington

### Oroua Valley Stoat Line check

Whilst the Ross Peak expedition was underway on 24 July (delayed one week), Karen and Tim Tyler popped up the Tunupo Ridge track from the newly redeveloped carpark & had a peek at the traps – only one kiore & a single stoat, which is nice. Let's keep it that way! The creeks were high-ish & it snowed on us above 800m but the bush was very ethereal with the odd tantalising glimpse of snow covered slope above.

If anyone is interested in checking a line or lines, or even better, would be able to provide some coordination support to this project, contact Kelly Stratford at DoC in Palmerston North.



Sunrise track on lovely day 1

**Panatewaewae Ridge, 11 August.  
By Graham Pritchard**

It's seven years since the Thursday trampers last started off up the Panatewaewae track at the end of the North Manakau Road up the Waikawa Stream valley. Then our goal was mainly to get to the grassy clearing at the top of the old logging track (527m) from where a wonderful view of the landscape north can be enjoyed. We had made then, and on one previous occasion, a sortie along the ridge to the east leading to Panatewaewae high point (728m) but did not get very far before turning back. The old track still shown on the last of the old 260 series maps was described as overgrown. This time, 15 trampers set off determined to get further despite this discouragement and forecast rain. On both scores, weather and overgrown track, we were agreeably surprised. After a few minor incorrect decisions, we soon picked up a very obvious track which matched Merv Matthews' GPS plotted route perfectly. It appeared to be a quad bike trail with a few boggy patches as we headed down and up to the 437 point where we had lunch. The track continued east along the ridge in very good condition until, as indicated on the old 260 series map route, it veered off the line of the ridge sidling around to the north of the 635 point coming to an end abruptly (again as indicated on the 260 series map). Gillian Thornley spotted what looked like a route climbing steeply up in the direction of 635. A bit of a scramble but most of the group got to 635 only a kilometre short of Panatewaewae. Another hour at most, with a bit of probably easy bush-bashing and we would have made it to the top. On the return trip we followed the direct ridge line back from 635 to where it joined the main wide and relatively easy track (just a few ups and downs) back to the grassy clearing for another look at the view and then down to the road and the picnic area where we had left the cars (van out of commission for the day). And the weather had been just right – no rain at all!. In the light of our learnings we could easily shave an hour or more off the trip allowing us to get right to Panatewaewae and even exploring the possibility of a further route north along the main ridge to Spion Kop. Apart from the great view at the grassed clearing, the lack of any further extensive views was the only minor frustration. A satisfying day. Acknowledgement to John Hunt of Wednesday trampers for information on the track.

**East Holdsworth 31st July 2011**

The day for this trip was well chosen the sun shone and the wind just a gentle breeze. We had lunch while still in the bush and then out into the snow which was really friendly we were able to walk on top of it most of the time. On the last climb up to Holdsworth we put on our crampons which made it worth carrying them up the hill. On the way down we stopped at Powell Hut for a snack and Brian had not been there since the new hut had been build. The most treacherous part of the journey was still to come, the track down from Powel to the bush line was really icy and great care had to be taken. Especially on the rocky area that were covered in a thin layer of ice. It was a fun day out in the hills we were Jenny McCarthy, Maren Domke, Adam Matich and Brian Webster.



Whakapapa snowcraft July 2011

**Ventura Crash Site**

Thursday Trampers(17) 28 July, Merv Matthews. The last time we visited this aircraft wreck was in July 1999. The remains lie close to a track which leads to spot height 877 labelled 'Mick'. This track, which begins along the banks of the Waitohu Stream, is shown on the latest Topo maps. With the exact crash site loaded into a GPS and the supposed route also loaded, we were confident of finding it, but it was not to be. There were other former logging tracks plainly visible in the area, but the one which should have led us across a gully to the correct ridge could not be found. We will try again in the Summer.



Whakapapa snowcraft July 2011



## CLUB INFORMATION

### Ross Peak, quite recently, By Adam Matich

We couldn't quite make it up the last 500 m to the public car park at the end of No. 2 line, because the track was a bit slippery for a 2WD vehicle. The poled route crossed the farmland to the park boundary sign, where we crossed the stream and commenced the 300m climb up the grassy spur. At the bush-line we donned rain-coats as the vegetation was wet. Travel up through the bush was easy, it just being a matter of heading up hill on a more-or-less compass bearing. Eventually we reached a little high point at 960m, 90 minutes from the road end. From here we took a left turn to head east, leaving the friendly horopito-laden bush and entering the somewhat less-than-friendly leatherwood. The 200m distance we traveled to drop into the shallow saddle was not too grim, but from thereon our enthusiasm for Ross Peak began to fade.

The leatherwood required us to do lots of crawling, wriggling, and breaking, as well as some bleeding and swearing. At around 1040m we reached a high point with a little clearing and thought we had made it, but David's GPS claimed otherwise; the trig was still 272m away. The more sensible members of the party felt that enough was enough, but Jenny was insistent that we continue on, asserting that failure to reach the trig was out of the question. David was similarly loopy, displaying an "I would rather die in the attempt than turn back" attitude, even though it was now very cold and the snow was falling sideways continuously. So they dragged the unwilling, sensible minority along with them, pushing on through the mess to reach first, the helipad; second, the frame of a shelter; and third, the timber trig, which was really well anchored to the ground. This was 2 hours of leatherwood nastiness away from bump 960 m. David took a quick photo of us next to the trig and we got the hell out of there. On a nice sunny day there would have been some great views to enjoy but today every minute we weren't moving we were just getting colder. We weren't even able to stop for lunch.

Our return journey took another 3½ hours, partly because we were getting tired, and partly because navigation on the return trip was more difficult. Visibility was poor, and it was easy to get disorientated while thrashing around and tiredly falling over in the leatherwood. David's compass was our best friend! Somewhere around the little saddle between 960 m and Ross Peak Jenny decided that she was "really over this trip". Well, some of us decided that a couple of hours ago. Not too long after Jenny's belated declaration, we found ourselves back on bump 960, which was memorable enough that we could recognize it as our turning point for heading down through the horopito to the farmland. Everyone started feeling a lot happier, despite being filthy, cold, and wet, as we were now pretty sure we would get out alive. Navigation down the top 40m of the descent was a bit dicey, but once we hit the flat section at around 900m we knew where we were and the rest of the way to the bush edge got easier and easier.

Well, we won't be going back there in a hurry. It is a little bit sad really because if the route was tracked it would make really nice day trip.....in summer. We were Jenny McCarthy, Adam Matich and David Harrington.



Jenny McCarthy looking happy because she is probably going to survive the day scaling Ross Peak. D.Harrington



Wednesday trampers Linda Darbyshire, Liz Flint, Anne Rush & Bev Akers on the Apiti Track, 27 July. Photo by Andrew Brodie.



## Annual Hut Passes

Buy your Annual Hut Pass through DoC. The full price of an Annual Hut Pass is now \$122.60 but is reduced to \$85.60 with your Federated Mountain Club (FMC) card discount. For further information or for the forms to complete contact Jean at [jeanandivan@value.net.nz](mailto:jeanandivan@value.net.nz) or call (06) 354 3536.

## Accommodation at the MTSC lodge on Mount Ruapehu

The lodge is close to Iwikau Village, has mains power, heating, hot showers and is well stocked with food. Members and their guests are welcome. (Lodge phone number is (07) 892 3860).

Lodge bookings should be emailed to Liz and Hugh Wilde [lodge.bookings@mtsc.org.nz](mailto:lodge.bookings@mtsc.org.nz). If you cannot email, please phone (06) 356 9450. To confirm your booking, payment must be made in advance by cheque, or cash (in person) to 179 Cook St, Palmerston North 4410. Internet payment is not available for lodge fees.

	Members	Guests
Adult	\$26	\$39
Secondary School	\$23	\$36
Primary School	\$20	\$31
Pre-school (3-5 yo)	\$11	\$11

### Preview - Waihohonu Hut 17-18 September 2011

This is an easy trip to a very special and historic part of Tongariro National Park.

We will visit all of the Waihohonu Huts, located to the south-east of Ngauruhoe. A 7am departure from PN should see us at the huts by 1pm, which will give us plenty of time for exploring and sunbathing if you are keen. Expect snow. We will return on Sunday afternoon. Contact Howard Nicholson 357 6325 for further details.

## Booking and use of the MTSC 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 6 pm Friday.
2. Cancel bookings by these times so others needing the van have time to amend travel arrangements.
3. A fly should be carried on every tramp, there is always one in the passenger door of the club van and they are available from the Gear Custodian at no charge. There is a Personal Locator Beacon, in the glove box, for people using the van to take with them.

Trip leaders and those planning trips should use this club asset. Adam Matich is our minibus custodian and he can be contacted at (06) 359 2796 or at work (06) 953 7679.

## Club Equipment

We have two personal locator beacons (PLB), packs, 2 and 3 person tents, fly-sheets, snow mats, sleeping bag cover, gas cookers, size 8 and 9 boots, billies, two bivvy bags and two 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 trips. Easy to use, works well, and is available for hire from the Gear Custodian. Hire cost for members, \$1 per day (no charge for PLB). Contact the Gear Custodian: Peter Rawlins on (06) 356 7443.

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

This includes a list of contact details and a club email address. Back issues of Beechleaves can be found on the site and it is updated regularly with new information.

The club webpage is maintained by Howard Nicholson and is kindly hosted by **InSPire Net**, a locally based company.

## People to Contact

If you would like to contact the club with general inquiries, please write to MTSC, P.O. Box 245, Palmerston North and it will reach the appropriate person.

If you want a particular topic discussed at Committee meetings, this is a good way to go about it.

Alternatively an email to the below addresses will suffice.

### MTSC 2010-11 Committee

President	Ken Mercer	06 356 7497 <a href="mailto:president@mtsc.org.nz">president@mtsc.org.nz</a>
Secretary	Tim Swale	06 376 6556
Treasurer	Christine Scott	06 354 0510 <a href="mailto:treasurer@mtsc.org.nz">treasurer@mtsc.org.nz</a>
Chief Guide	Kim Fraser	06 355 5496
Day Trip Convenor	Bev Akers	06 325 8879
Membership Sec.	Jenny McCarthy	06 376 8838 <a href="mailto:membership@mtsc.org.nz">membership@mtsc.org.nz</a>
Newsletter Editor	Tim Tyler	06 356 6008 <a href="mailto:editor@mtsc.org.nz">editor@mtsc.org.nz</a>
Social Convenor	Linda Campbell	06 323 3836
Ski Captain	Howard Nicholson	06 357 6325
Lodge Manager	Ryan Badger	027 445 997
Lodge Bookings	Hugh & Liz Wilde	06 356 9450
Mini-Bus Manager	Bev Akers	06 325 8879
General Committee	Liz Flint Bob Hodgson	06 356 7654