

beechleaves

Newsletter of the Manawatu Tramping and Skiing Club



P.O. Box 245, Palmerston North 4440 www.mtsc.org.nz <https://www.facebook.com/MTandSC>

Issue 4: May 2017



Club meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month at the Rose City Aquatic Club Rooms, 50 Park Street, Palmerston North (next to the Lido). Meetings begin at 7.30pm.

Tuesday 2nd May: What kills urban and rural wildlife?

Professor Brett Gartrell, Director Wildbase, Massey University

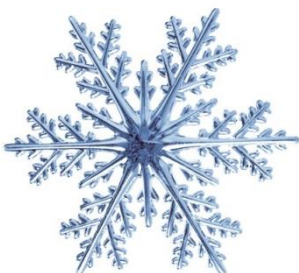


There is a drive in modern conservation efforts to bring wildlife into our cities and farms. However, living in these habitats brings new hazards for the wildlife involved. In this talk, Professor Brett Gartrell of Wildbase, Massey University will use cases from the Wildbase Hospital files to discuss causes of mortality for urban and rural wildlife that include our architecture, our pets, our building materials and our hunting culture. He will lead discussion on how we can engage the public in finding the solution to these issues, with a focus on the Wildbase Recovery facility under construction in the Esplanade Gardens.

Tuesday 16th May: 2017 Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 16th May 2017 at the Rose City Aquatic Club Rooms, 50 Park Road, Palmerston North (next to the Lido Aquatic Centre). If you want to find out what is happening, have your say, get voted into a committee position, or nominate and vote someone else in then come along.

Tuesday 6th June: That 4-letter word beginning with S...



There are many ways to enjoy "snow". Be it on skis, a board, toboggan, bag or in boots, many of our members get into it at every opportunity. This club night is all about getting out and about in the depths of Winter and having a ball. Get some insights into what to take to ensure a good time in the snow. A few keen people will share their adventures along the way, to whet your appetite.



REPORTS AND NOTICES

MTSC President: John Beech

president@mtsc.org.nz



Hi all, after a couple of communication glitches, I have returned to continue with my monthly reports. Hopefully you have all had some time in the outdoors over the recent couple of months, at least, when the weather has been reasonable.

Recently there has been much talk in the media about the pressure of tourists on our infrastructure. No doubt you would have seen the various media reports about freedom campers parking up then departing and leaving the resultant mess for someone else to clean up. Usually the cleaner uppers are DOC or council staff. This has led to much debate about how the government should fund the extra infrastructure needed. Some proposals include a tax on tourists at the gate, differentiated charging for Great Walks and various other ideas. Unfortunately, DOC often has to try and clean up and provide more and more facilities, usually in the high tourist spots such as Nelson or the Fiordland regions. Their budget is already stretched to the limit and so they are continuously looking for savings. My concern is that the regions that are not so touristy tend to have to struggle along and make do with ever less money. The recent closure of the Ongaonga DOC base is an example of this, to save a measly few dollars a year. I sympathise with the regional DOC staff that have to carry out the continuous cost cutting imposed by Wellington. Nevertheless, we have been given a commitment that services will not suffer in the Ruahines. The recent RUG meeting provided some positive feedback on what is being done in our region and the partnerships with the community are proving to be positive and beneficial for the community. So what is the best option for funding our infrastructure? Tourist charges, taxes, differentiated hut fees or what? This is one of the issues that are being discussed by the FMC executive, particularly with it being an election year. As your representatives, we would encourage you to make your thoughts known. If you have a specific point of view, feel free to let me know and I can pass it on to the rest of the executive. And that goes for any issue that you think is important, including local issues that I can also approach DOC about if necessary.

Recently I had the privilege of getting up into a part of the Ruahines that is difficult to access. I was lucky enough to get a positive result from the ballot allowing access through Big Hill station to get through to Nomans road and up into that part of the park. Although there is often some criticism of farmers in regard to access, I think that there is a positive aspect as well which is often understated. The fact that access must be negotiated often gives the local landowner an idea of who is going through their land. This has the advantage of generally keeping the idiots out of that area of the park. On this particular trip, we arrived at Ruahine hut to find it in excellent condition. This is often not the case with huts that have road access. For those farmers and other landowners that allow access through the ballot or just through a phone call to gain permission, we really appreciate the privilege. Big Hill is a beautiful part of the country and the scenery on the drive through the station was beautiful.

Enjoy the Easter break coming up, hopefully with sometime in the outdoors.

John

MTSC Chief Guide Report: Ken Mercer

chief.guide@mtsc.org.nz



Folding a raincoat. Lightweight raincoats often pack into a pocket forming a compact package. My coat uses a tough fabric and is full length so it is quite bulky. If yours is similar then you may appreciate this approach. Howie first showed me and I've used it ever since.

Lay the coat out on the ground with the hood away from you. Fold the arms then the sides into the middle so it is long and narrow then fold/roll from the bottom up until you have a bundle which can be tucked into the hood. It is very quick, surprisingly robust, and heaps better than stuffing the thing loosely into your pack.

First Tracks - Ski Captain Howard Nicholson



Ski passes at pre-season rates are on sale this month at <http://www.mtruapehu.com/>.

With your "Early Bird" season pass, and an MTSC membership allowing cheap rates at our lodge, skiing and boarding is as cost-effective as it gets.

Now, imagine if all of that early April rain had instead fallen as SNOW on the mountain - I'm getting goosebumps just thinking about it...

Powell Hut Strengthening

Powell Hut is undergoing strengthening work. In the meantime, the hut is structurally compromised during extreme wind events (exceeding 180 kph). DOC considered closing the hut, but determined that given its location, the risk of hypothermia or overexposure to trampers if they were caught without shelter was too significant. The hut will remain open for as much of the remedial work as possible but be aware there is a risk that the structure may not withstand winds in excess 180 kph. Alternatives to staying in Powell Hut include staying at one of the next closest huts: Jumbo Hut or Atiwhakatu Hut.



We welcome Margaret McKenzie and Dianne Fontaine-Cody to the club.



May Wednesday Tramps		
Date	Leader	Phone
3	Bob Hodgson	356 2915
10	Jill Faulkner	323 6094
17	Rita Hodson	323 5491
24	Maurice McDonald	357 5522
31	Margaret Foot	357 8003

May Thursday Tramps		
Date	Leader	Phone
4	Syd Easton	356 7462
11	Richard Ellis	357 6410
18	Carolyn Brodie	358 6576
25	Suzanne Clark	356 8322

May Weekend Trips				
Date	Trip	Grade	Leader	Phone
6 - 7	Tutuwai Hut	Medium	Ken Mercer	027 364 6475
13 - 14	Sparrowhawk Biv	Medium	Jean Garman	021 176 0209
21 (Sun)	Glacier Ridge (Ohakune)	Medium/Fit	David Harrington	021 240 9056
27 - 28	Ngamoko Hut	Medium/Fit	Howard Nicholson	027 294 1941
28 (Sun)	Kapakapanui Loop	Medium	Linda Campbell	323 3836

Trip Intentions: The email address for leaving trip intentions is intentions@mtsc.org.nz. Intentions sent to this address will not be acted upon UNLESS a party is reported overdue (e.g. by a family member, flatmate, friend, etc). The email is sent to several MTSC members. This information will be provided to LandSAR/RCC only if the party is reported overdue or a PLB is activated. The email should include: a list of participants and their contact details; a brief description of the intended route and possible alternative routes; starting point; start date; date/time due out; vehicle registration; and any other relevant details.

6th – 7th May: Tutuwai Hut

Medium Ken Mercer 027 364 6475

Tutuwai Hut is in the South Eastern Tararuas. We will access it from the Waiohine River road. Having never been there, I want to go! Over the weekend we'll manage a loop combining the Mt Reeves and Cone Hut tracks.

13th – 14th May: Sparrowhawk Biv

Medium Jean Garman 021 176 0209 trampski.cave@gmail.com

The primary aim of this trip is to 'tidy up' the little bit of ridgeline between Sunrise and Sparrowhawk which has scrub/bush on it. Looking at an in/out walk from the North Block Road through Sunrise and along to the cosy Sparrowhawk Biv.

Sunday 21st May: Glacier Ridge (Ohakune)

Medium/Fit David Harrington 021 240 9056

From the top end of the Ohakune Mountain Road, we'll head over to the South East Basin then up both the Glacier Ridge and Skyline Ridge towards the top. There are possibilities of visiting either Tahurangi or Girdlestone Peak, but we'll decide on the day. We'll return down the Skyline Ridge, then cut across to the Sunset Ridge to follow that down to the Round the Mountain Track. May take a direct route back to the start.

27th – 28th May: Ngamoko Hut

Medium/Fit Howard Nicholson 027 294 1941

Bush tracks, scrub and tussock tops will provide our route over the Ngamoko Range to Ngamoko Hut for the night. The intention is to visit the high point of Toka (1519m) along the way. Days are short at this time of year, so remember to pack a torch.

Sunday 28th May: Kapakapanui Loop

Medium Linda Campbell 323 3836 lindammc@xtra.co.nz

Kapakapanui, a peak of around 1102 metres, can be seen from the Kapiti coast. Weather permitting, there are great views of the Southern Tararua Crossing, the Renata-Maymorn-Akatarawa uplands, the Kapiti coastline and Kapiti Island from the summit. The climb is steep and the track rough and muddy in places. We will start from Waikanae travelling along Reikorangi Road before turning into Ngatiawa Road. The track begins on private property. In the first 15 to 20 minutes there are several unbridged river crossings so we will get wet feet. If the river is in flood we will not be going and an alternative walk will be considered.

1st – 6th June: Abel Tasman Loop

Medium/Fit Adam Matich 022 358 8062 adam.j.matich@gmail.com

This extended Queen's Birthday weekend (6 days) is a trip covering both the coastal and inland sections of the Abel Tasman track system, starting and finishing at the Eastern end. Winter is a good time to do this tramp as there is generally next to no one there to fill up the huts, which is useful as we are not going to do our hut bookings until the last moment when we know what the weather will be doing. If people are not feeling energetic, they can come along and only do one half of the trip in that time and use transport services to get back to the start, or take a shortcut somewhere. I have one vehicle booked on the ferry, which at this stage is likely to be full so if more people wish to come we will have to book another vehicle.



Wednesday 15th March: WWW Tramp to Ross Peak

Report: Dennis Jensen

Photos & Phone App Images: William

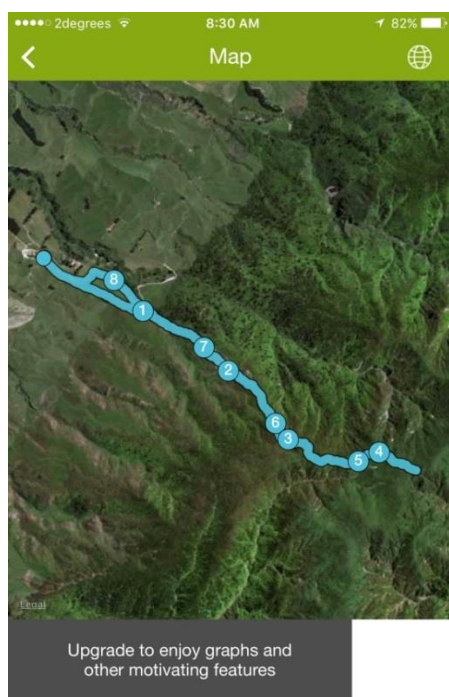
In contrast to last year, the weather was unpredictable to say the least - wet, windy, cloudy with some sun at the very end. A day of raincoats on and off as the weather and the temperature continuously changed. The South Easterly wind was bitterly cold when we first took off up the steep ascent on the open grass ridge. We stopped at the bush line for everyone to catch up and have morning tea. Chris Teo-Sherrell took off ahead to clean up parts of the track that hadn't been cleared since we were there last year.

Eight of the 21 strong group reached Ross Peak just before midday where we stopped for lunch, then we turned and retraced our steps. Within 10 minutes we met the rest of the group who had also stopped for their lunch break. If

the tramp leader had not been so dictatorial about stopping at 12 for lunch, the rest would have reached the trig within 10 minutes - they were all that close.



This was a challenging tramp - climbing over logs, a wet and slippery track and as Anne West said at the end "What you step over, some of us have to climb over" - a great achievement for all who took part. We ended a great day with coffee and comradeship at the Herb Farm. Thanks to Van Driver Chris and Marion's transport from Feilding.



Distance km	Time hh:mm:ss	Speed km/h
1.00	23:59	2.5
2.00	1:03:30	1.5
3.00	2:08:53	0.9
4.00	3:00:56	1.2
5.00	3:54:30	1.1
6.00	4:25:58	1.9
7.00	5:21:29	1.1
8.00	5:45:20	2.5
8.74	5:58:46	3.3



Wednesday 22nd March: WWW Tramp No 1 Line towards Kiritaki Hut.

Report: Bob Hodgson

Photos: William

A good turnout of Wednesday Trampers "enjoyed" a challenging tramp starting from the No.1 line Road End, Ruahine Forest Park Entrance. We tramped up in light rain and poor visibility. The track is steep and of a modest standard up to the Seat viewpoint at about 820m and then for some time becomes just a well-marked route with some recent track work evident. As the day went on, the rain intensified and the track became progressively more slippery. Of the party, only a very few made it all the way to the hut. All others turned at intermediate points with most of the fast group turning about 1.5km from the hut. It was described by them as "a good hard tramp". The slow group made it to the Seat soon after morning tea then tramped on for about an hour before turning. There were many muddy bums. All were safely out before 4pm for our visit to The Herb Farm Cafe. Thanks also to Trip Leader Chris T, our drivers, including van driver Chris.

Here are some thoughts on the day from Dennis who made it to the Hut.

No 1 Line to Kiritaki Hut on a fine day is hard enough but the bonus is the rewarding view. No 1 Line to Kiritaki Hut on a miserable day like last Wednesday with mud, rain, wind and no views was a challenge for those who participated. Sitting in the hut at lunch time, trip leader Chris T remarked that no matter the weather nothing seems to deter the WWW's from having a go. The last thought goes to Marion who said in the car park before we started "Listen to the Cicada's, we only hear them on a fine day" Wrong Marion! In summary, a Zen-like reflection on the absurdity of all our efforts would be. In time, we all returned more or less muddied and more or less exhausted to our starting point.....Meanwhile some cicadas sang on!



You Can't Beat The Ruahines on a Good Day!



Aftermath function at the Herb farm

25th – 26th March: Eastwoodhill Arboretum

Report: Carolyn Nixon

Photos: Helen Peek

It was a dark and stormy morning when we left Palmerston North to travel east. With a quick stop in Taradale and some expert driving from Helen while listening to Karen's folk CDs, we out ran the rain and reached Eastwoodhill at about 2pm. The accommodation block is behind the visitor's centre and attached to the library/education centre. It has a well-equipped large kitchen and lounge, with tidy but limited accommodation (8-bed bunk room, single rooms and one-bedroom studio), and lovely outdoor seating areas on both sides. If staying you get a \$5 reduction on your entry fee to Eastwoodhill. You may be sharing with other visitors and tourists, as we did. After unpacking and a quick cup of tea, we were off for a wander around (and checking out the children's playground – the slide is awesome!).



Lagerstromia Himalayan Myrtle



Sholyo's Christening Planting

The garden areas around the visitor's centre and the old homestead are the most established and resemble a public park. The autumn colours were just starting and a tease for what must be a great show of colour in the coming weeks. Towards the north end of the arboretum it is more like farm forestry with lots of pines and some sheep. There are many tracks around the site so a lot of time was spent checking maps. On Sunday morning even with the constant rain, and no wind, it was an enjoyable trek around with some ups and downs. On a clear day, you would be able to see Mt Hikurangi from the top lookout.

I would recommend making the effort to visit and stay at least overnight as it was a very quiet and peaceful area, and we could get out on Sunday morning to have a hike around by ourselves before the gates opened at 9am. For those wanting to spend some time there voluntary work can be undertaken on the WWOOFing principal of free labour for free accommodation.

After leaving on Sunday morning, we travelled a bit further up the road to Rere Falls (very pretty) and then a bit further up the road to the Rere Rock Slide, where we just missed seeing two small boys and their father go down the rock slide on a airbed mattress. It looked like something I wouldn't do without a helmet. But we managed a small thrill of our own with a mud slide getting out of the car park!



Karen making friends



Rere Falls

On the way back to Wairoa, we took the inland route and after doing our good deed for the day by clearing some big papa rocks that had fallen on to the road we stopped to check out Te Reinga Falls (there is a lot of water in this region), which is also well worth a visit. After that, it was a quick trip back home to find rainbows in Tararua, clouds over Wharite and some sunshine in the Manawatu.

We decided the trip description should be: long drive, short walks, big meal! But all of us would return for a longer time, and at any time of year. Margaret the Administrator, Curator Dan and his wife Monique made us most welcome and it was a very pleasant weekend away.

We were Karen Tutt, Doug Lagerstedt, Helen Peek and Carolyn Nixon.



Wednesday 29th March: 34 WWWs Tramp Rangitikei Forest and Bird Reserves.

Report: Bob Hodgson

Photos: William & Maureen

After the tramp last week up No 1 Line where the mud and rain could be compared with WW 1 without bullets, the tramp on 29th March made a welcome contrast. In fine weather we visited three reserves, each having a distinctive and different character. There was little mud, the worst hazard was the potential for neck strain from peering skywards up the trucks of lofty trees and later the large portions of cake. The three reserves visited were Pryce's Rahui Reserve, Laird's Reserve and the Sutherland Puriri Reserve. See <http://www.forestandbird.org.nz/what-we-do/reserves> for details.

Descending into Laird's Reserve



All three reserves are well worth a visit and none presented significant difficulties to the WWWs. Pryce's Rahui reserve is essentially on a river flat, whereas Laird's Reserve sits in a basin hidden from the road and accessed along a farm track. Sutherland's Puriri Reserve sits at the junction of the Mangahoe and Turikina Valley road 20km west of Hunterville. The bush in this reserve is thought to be the result of 100 plus years of regeneration following a fire. The bird life in all three was thriving and their song made a welcome change to the silent bush that we are

accustomed too. All three reserves contained magnificent specimen trees with Laird's Reserve being the most impressive.



Lunch with Horses

We had a cheerful, social day as the phalanx* of trampers wound its way through these three wonderful samples of the pre-European landscape. Just as we completed our last circuit, light rain started and we made our way to the Sugar Plum Cafe. Thanks to trip organiser Andrew, trip leader Bev (who commanded us not to get lost and later got the better of a dangerously large portion of carrot cake!)



*Phalanx: a formation of Greek soldiers in ancient times.

In Search of Coffee!

Thursday 30th March: Sheridan Creek

Report: Royce Mills

Photos: Royce Mills and Darlene Westrupp

We drove in steady rain towards Otaki Forks, but to our pleasant surprise it was not raining when we parked at the camping area. Also, to our surprise, the Waitotauru River and Sheridan Creek were both low, clear and easy to cross. It is two years since the Thursday trampers have been here and it was noticeable how much Sheridan Creek has deteriorated, with more slips, erosion, log jams and deep pools. All these were slowly negotiated and at one point a knotted rope is provided at a washout to "abseil" back down into the creek. So it was a late morning tea stop at the old boiler shelter. Part two now began, a return to Sheridan Creek and an off-track climb up to the Field Hut track. We knew from past experience to bring secateurs and slowly snipped our way upwards through the jungle of vines. This "journey of 1,000 cuts" took us 3½ hours including a short lunch stop on the steep slope.



Late morning tea at the boiler, or was it an early lunch?



Tangled in the vines

Upon reaching the Field track hut at 565m, we enjoyed a snack stop before heading down to the car park. We all appreciated the easy finish to the day which took us 7 hours. There were 15 in our group, thanks to our leader, John McLeod.

Saturday 1st April: Holdsworth Creek

Report: Jean Garman

Photos: Adam, Howard and Jean

My plan was just to find our way up Holdsworth Creek, but then David did some research and unearthed a couple of interesting features that needed to be checked out along the way. I had noted that on the map there was a waterfall marked very high up in the stream. As it turns out this waterfall has a name (McGregor Falls, formerly Channel falls) and a history having been known about since the early 1900s. This put it on the must see list.

From the Holdsworth Road end, we headed up the well graded but slightly damaged in places Atiwhakatu track as far as the Holdsworth Creek swingbridge where we turned off the track and headed up the creek itself. The first part was very easy, pleasant walking either in or beside the creek. But as creeks tend to do, it got persistently steeper. Nothing overly difficult but more and more scrambling up rocks and through windfalls was required ensuring we got a full body workout.

19th October 1908

The decision of the Mount Holdsworth Track Committee, on Friday, not to cut a track to the Channel Falls, was a wise one, as the scenery is such as should not be interfered with, and access may be gained by following the Mount Holdsworth Creek through Threepenny Gully. It should be explained that, although the Channel Falls have hitherto been called by a good many people McGregor's Falls, they were originally christened Channel Falls by their discoverer, Mr R. Graham, on account of their passing through a natural cut in the rock, and neither he nor Mr McGregor have known them by any other name. In the summer time, tourists and visitors might be provided with a really pleasant outing by following the route mentioned, returning the same way, and following the creek till it joins the Maugaterara stream, thence down the Maugaterara Valley to Mr Thomsen's.



A short way before the top confluence marked on the map, the going got too difficult to stay in the creek bed. We climbed up on the True Right to get around a waterfall only to find that the sides of the creek stayed sheer and we could not find anywhere to get back down into the creek. Instead we carried on beside and above the creek by-passing the top confluence and then around the corner the McGregor Falls (estimated 30m) came into view. They were quite spectacular. We got a good view point from about half way up where we all took photos which unfortunately don't really do the falls justice. Howie's video was much better.



The stream above the falls was still in a tight channel (which we assumed was where the falls got the original name of Channel Falls from) so we carried on climbing beside the creek till we found a way to get back into it.



Then it was just a hop, skip and jump up through the leatherwood zone and into the tussock. I have never seen so many bidibids and the hook grass was quite brutal too. We carried on up till we pretty much ran out of water then up some more to hit the Mt Holdsworth Track. From there it was downhill past Powell Hut and onto the hard track and the many many steps which are much harder on the body than clambering up creeks. For a break on the way down we took a detour to check out a hut that David had also found out about. The instructions we had were quite minimal but after a bit of work interpreting them we stumbled right onto it. While it looked quite primitive from the outside it was dry and had a wooden floor, a couple of bunks, a fire place (lots of dry firewood) and a water tank.



Somewhere between 9 and 9½ hours after leaving the car park we got back there. A very interesting trip of exploration - we were David, Adam, Howard and Jean.

Wednesday 5th April: WWWs Divert to the Totara Reserve

Report: Bob Hodgson

Photos: William & Evan

After yet another dark and stormy night, Wednesday the 5th of April dawned to reveal a drenched landscape with a forecast of yet more to come from the remnants of tropical cyclone Debbie. In these circumstances the planned Kapiti Coast tramp was postponed for a time of more clement weather and so it was that a band of fifteen weather-defiant Wednesday Wilderness Wanderers (remnants of the original thirty) assembled at the start of the Fern Walk in the Totara Reserve. We tramped around in rain that slowly abated as the day wore on. Yes it was muddy, but the bush was resplendent in the wet and the bird song was a treat. At one place on the track we were surprised to see the water level rhythmically oscillating up and down by several centimetres. It was soon realised that this unusual phenomenon was caused by the movement of the root platform of a substantial tree in response to the gusting wind. As the tree was festooned with widow-makers, we rapidly tramped on!

At about 11am, after about two and a half hours of tramping, we emerged from the bush and then motored up to the camp ground where we found that a cluster of three large popular trees had been felled by the weather narrowly missing two shelters and a service block (see photo). After a sociable lunch, we motored back to the start of the Pettifar Loop to tramp down the steps to the start of the Pettifar and Gilchrist loops that most of us tramped as a figure 8. Both loops were very wet and muddy in places. Two stream crossings on the Gilchrist loop were challenging with waist deep water as the unwanted reward for lapses of balance. On all three tracks, large trees had come down and needed to be clambered over or around. In places we tramped through flowing boot deep water.



First Stop at the Top Look-out



Thankfully, not the unstable tree!



Bob followed by the sodden 15

We tramped about 12km in adverse conditions and used over 3000 calories to emerge at about 2.30pm. After a welcome change of clothes, we joyfully converged on the Herb Farm Cafe where we were made most welcome, for coffee, cakes and heroic conversations.



Four Cavaliers



Some challenging stream crossings!



John & Jill cross the bridge

PS. I had been around all three tracks about a month ago: half a meter of rain makes quite a difference!

Thanks to trip co-leaders Ian and Bob and to our drivers Chris and Marion.



Contact Details

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Committee 2015 - 2016

President	John Beech	president@mtsc.org.nz	06 354 9310
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Mini-Bus Manager	Ken Mercer		06 356 7497

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Ski Captain	Howard Nicholson	ski@mtsc.org.nz	06 357 6325
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Thursday Trips	Merv Matthews	merv6817@gmail.com	06 357 2858
Facebook	Ivan Rienks	facebook@mtsc.org.nz	

New Members

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 confirmed at the next monthly committee meeting. Prospective members are encouraged to go on a club trip or attend a club night before joining. For further information or an application form please see the club website.

Club Equipment

Hire equipment: we have packs, 2 and 3 person tents, tent flies (small and large), snow mats, gas cookers, size 8 and 9 boots, billies, food dehydrator and two bivvy bags. Ice axes, crampons, and helmets are also available. We have two personal locator beacons (PLB) for which there is no charge. Contact the Gear Custodian: Peter Rawlins on (06) 356 7443.

Website www.mtsc.org.nz

This contains club information, photos, contact details and back issues of this newsletter, Beechleaves. The club website is maintained by Howard Nicholson (06) 357 6325 and is kindly hosted by **Inspire Net**, a locally based company.

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/MTandSC>

Accommodation at the MTSC lodge on Mount Ruapehu

The lodge is close to Iwikau Village, has power, heating, hot showers and is stocked with food. Members and their guests are welcome. For Lodge bookings email Liz and Hugh Wilde lodge.bookings@mtsc.org.nz or phone (06) 356 9450. To confirm your booking, payment must be made by cheque to 179 Cook St Palmerston North 4410, by cash in person or internet payment (please email to confirm before depositing) Westpac account number 03 1521 022035300.

	Members	Guests
Adult	\$36	\$51
Secondary School	\$29	\$44
Primary School	\$24	\$39
Pre-school (3-5 yo)	\$11	\$11

The Lodge phone number is (07) 892 3860.

Booking the MTSC Van

For bookings: Contact Ken Mercer (06) 356 7497. Cancellations should be made as soon as practicable to accommodate other potential users. A tent fly (in the passenger door) and a Personal Locator Beacon (in the glove box) are available for use free of charge on trips.