

# beechleaves

Newsletter of the Manawatu Tramping and Skiing Club



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

## Issue 7: August 2018



Club meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 August 7<sup>th</sup> – Photo competition – Howie Nicholson

#### *Categories*

- 1) ABOVE BUSHLINE** (With no Human Element) - Predominantly alpine scenery in NZ, above bushline, e.g. rock and snow, tussock, etc., no people or man-made objects.
- 2) ABOVE BUSHLINE** (With a Human Element) - Same as above, may include people or man-made objects.
- 3) BELOW BUSHLINE** (With no Human Element) - Predominantly bush, scrub, lowland to sub-alpine areas, no people or man-made objects.
- 4) BELOW BUSHLINE** (With a Human Element) - Same as above, may include people or man-made objects.
- 5) HISTORIC** - Photos taken prior to 1 January 2016, of historic interest.
- 6) NATIVE FLORA and FAUNA** - NZ flora and fauna.

#### ***How to Submit Your Entries:***

Please submit your best images - guidelines are a maximum 3 images per category and 15 images per person. File sizes of at least 1MB and up to 5MB are recommended (i.e. send the original photos, not copies that have been reduced in size).

Contact Howard Nicholson via email at [photocomp@mtsc.org.nz](mailto:photocomp@mtsc.org.nz) or text/phone (027)294 1941 to:

- Provide a link to your images (e.g. DropBox, Google Drive, OneDrive)
- Upload images to a Dropbox folder (Howard will send you a link to use)
- Email your entries to Howard directly (but only if you have 1-2 images)
- Deliver your entries to Howard on a USB drive or CD/DVD

Entries close on Friday 3 August 2018.

#### ***Conditions of Entry***

The rules governing the FMC Photo Competition (except Rule 7) shall apply to the MTSC Photo Competition. See the Rules section of the [FMC Photo Competition web page](#) for details.

Photos must be taken within New Zealand.

Photos entered in the contemporary categories must be taken after 1 January 2016, and photos in the Historic category must be taken prior to 1 January 2016.

Unless you notify us otherwise, by entering this competition you grant MTSC the right to:

- Use submitted images for MTSC publicity purposes
- Submit your entries into the local Interclub competition to be held on Thursday 27 September 2018
- Submit your entries into the Federated Mountain Clubs annual photo competition (See [FMC Photo Competition web page](#) for details)

## Tuesday September 4<sup>th</sup> - Inter-club Quiz run by MTSC

Bob Hodgson is the genial quiz master {He will try very hard to be genial}

Sections may include questions related to: Hut bagging, Sir Ed, bird identification, native trees and shrubs, NZ geography, anatomy and first aid, & NZ celebrity spotting.

Sugary rewards for the winners and tail enders.

## Thursday Sept 27<sup>th</sup> – Inter-club photo competition run by PNTMC



### MTSC President: Rob Pringle

[president@mtsc.org.nz](mailto:president@mtsc.org.nz)



Take only photos.... leave only footprints ... This was a common mantra during my impressionable years tramping and skiing my way around the country, and it has stood the test of time, ... Whilst this simple message is so oft repeated it is with new respect for it that I have found myself reflecting on things this past month.

The trampers among us will attest to the fact that a change is afoot .... Access is no longer as simple as it once was ... Renewed focus on health and safety, combined with the implications for livestock and for the farming communities, perhaps even a disregard of the implications by the odd wanderer, all affect the way that we interact with the outdoors. The skiers will attest to a similar shift - a new year, new management up the mountain, revised practices and implementation of new policies...

One thing that rings clear through both activities is that the once treasured access to national parks is now suffering at the hands of health and safety. We need a fresh look at the far reaching the implications of our interactions with these treasured spaces. Change is afoot. No longer is a walk up the mountain or access to the national parks we all enjoy quite so simple.

By and large the approaches and attitudes taken by our membership are befitting the values upheld by the club ( and something to be applauded ). These, in my view, will have a lasting effect on the attitudes of those whose land is used to gain access to various parks we enjoy. Keep up the good work of leaving a positive impression with those we interact with. The interesting question I face going forwards is how do we preserve access for generations to come ...? What will access look like ten years from now? With this in mind, it brings

fresh appreciation for the lobbying and advocacy work that is undertaken by the likes of FMC and the volunteer hours that are poured into these activities.

There is no silver bullet or clear cut path to ensure that access is maintained, but, by keeping discussions alive positive outcomes for all user groups may be achievable.

On another note, and briefly before I sign off, it's great to see the positive take up on the rescue beacons advertised in the last newsletter. From a batch of 200+ beacons for sale nearly all have been snapped up. We were fortunate enough to score 7 of the few remaining. In the instance of a requirement to evacuate, these ( and other beacons ) are a lifeline and provide clear coordinates to facilitate as efficient an extraction as possible. It's a good sign that people take their own safety and the safety of those around them seriously. Great to see.

**First Tracks:** Ski Captain Report: Howie Nicholson

[ski@mtsc.org.nz](mailto:ski@mtsc.org.nz)

Developments are taking shape at Whakapapa Ski Area. New lifts and facilities installed over the past few years and a proposed gondola for next year are transforming the skifield. You can access all this while staying at the lodge. Make plans and make your way to the mountain to enjoy the many wonders of Winter.

*We welcome Liam Almond; Richard Brooker and family; Stefan Kiss and family; Doug Largerstedt; Reubin Harland; Jayme McCulloch; James McGuire and family; Tyler Waters; Petronella Watson and family to the club.*

**Summer Trip Card Suggestions**

It's time to start thinking of those summer adventures you would like to. Follow the link below to the web site, choose your weekend and fill in the details. If there is somewhere you would like to go but don't feel confident about leading, add the destination and you may inspire someone to lead the trip.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mnfgdAccRKExwO-MlwveJ9Q64C9uos0hDdBBR7s-9ik/edit?usp=sharing>

Alternatively contact Jenny McCarthy on 021 215 2197.



August Wednesday Tramps			August Thursday Tramps		
1	Harold Pettersson	357 4248	2	Hugh Wilde	356 9450
8	Anne Rush	357 2529	9	David Grant	328 7788
15	Bob Hargreaves	357 0734	16	Judy Swainson	358 4082
22	Richard Hunter	357 6821	23	John & Gillian Thornley	356 9681
29	William Laing	358 4876	30	Merv Matthews	357 2858
August Weekend Trips					
4-5	Kime Hut	Medium	Dave Mitchell	329 2803	
18-19	Oturere Hut	Medium/Technical	Adam Matich	022 358 8062	

**Trip Intentions:** The email address for leaving trip intentions is [intentions@mtsc.org.nz](mailto: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 Land SAR/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.

#### **4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> August Kime Hut**

**Dave Mitchell**

**Medium**

**329 2803**

This trip will be weather dependant so it may run as day trip. Kime hut is 5 to 6 hrs walking time. It is located on the tops below Mt. Hector and is part of the Southern crossing of the Tararuas. It can be very cold in winter and is quite a popular hut to stay at. Anyone interested can call me during the week before the tramp.

#### **18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Oturere Hut**

**Adam Matich**

**Medium /Technical**

**022 358 8062**

We will start off from the Mangatepopo road end and make our way via the South and Red Craters, and the Emerald Lakes, down into the Oturere Valley (ca. 5 hr). It is not uncommon for the climb up to the Red Crater and the descent into the Oturere Valley to require crampons. On the way out we will take a slightly different route that will see us sidle the lower slopes of Ngauruhoe. This is all weather permitting, of course.

#### **Early Notice:**

#### **19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>th</sup> Oct Northern Kaimai Range**

**Adam Matich**

**Medium**

**022 358-8062**

No one from down this area ever goes to the Kaimais, so this is your chance, unless you organise a trip yourself. The area we are going to is NW of Tauranga, viz. west of Katikati, so we will travel part way and stay somewhere (probably Rotorua) on Friday night. The two huts we are staying at are Waitawheta Hut on Saturday night and Daly's Clearing Hut, somewhat to the north, on Sunday night. Waitawheta Hut will have to be booked months ahead if you want to be assured of a bed.

We will start off on the eastern side at Woodland Road, follow Wairoa Stream Track, touch on Lindemann's Loop Track, steam through Wairoa Shelter, and then travel NW along Upper Waitawheta Track, from the intersection, to Waitawheta Hut for the night. On day two we will head west on Waipapa Track towards Te Aroha and north on Mangakino Pack Track to Daly's Clearing Hut for the night. This is a fair distance. Then on day three we will head east to eventually drop onto Waitengaeue Stm Track and through to Woodlands Road.

If you don't want to commit early to hut bookings, there is nothing stopping you taking your chances on there being space at Waitawheta Hut rather closer to the weekend. Apparently there is also space available for camping.

The Kaimais have quite a history of gold mining, and so some of the tracks (but not all) are on defunct tramways which means fast, easy travel. As a result the distances involved don't always have to be daunting. In certain areas of the northern Kaimais there are relics of the mining era, so it is not just a walk in the bush. There will be other things to see. Have a look at the DoC propaganda.

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/Documents/parks-and-recreation/tracks-and-walks/bay-of-plenty/kaimai-to-coast-brochure.pdf>

# TRIP REPORTS

## 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> June Putaputa Stm Hut – Karariki Tuhua Trig

Report and photos: Adam Matich

Rain forecast for the southern Tarauas encouraged us to go north to the Pureora Forest Park to visit Tuhua Trig which is on a plateau bounded on its southern side by bluffs. Our aim was to then sidle east around under the bluffs and circle back to the Hauhungaroa Track. Near the end of Mangakahu Road we started looking for the track marked on the topo map. This track was ill-omened, as it magically appeared on the



*Lots of navigation needed*

topomaps when the inch-to-mile maps were replaced by the metric ones, and no one in the area had ever travelled it, including the Taumarunui Tramping Club. There was no beginning to the track, and we actually started 200 m further back along the road where there is a faint ridge-line. David thought this a more rational spot to start from, and we soon

found ourselves on a hunter's trail which stayed west of the

marked track. It was easy climbing up through the forest, but we never found the official track, even when we crossed it. Up where it was supposed to turn to the SW to head up onto pt 1015, we had to veer east as there is no way the track could ever have gone in that direction; there were some un-marked bluffs in the way.

We didn't have to go far to avoid the bluffs, and eventually climbed onto the plateau somewhere SE of pt 1015. The forest up there wasn't so good; the vegetation was wet and a bit close. So our travel slowed down markedly. It wasn't until we were around 1 km from the trig that the forest opened up a bit. It was another 900 m before we actually found a track. Next to the trig was



*Huzzah , Tuhua Trig*

a tower with a communications antenna on top, and which was solar powered with a big biv to hold the batteries. The forest below the bluffs didn't look inviting; some of it looked swampy and the trees weren't the forest giants that are supposed to be endemic in the Pureora FP. It had taken us 4 1/2 hours to reach the trig instead of the estimated maximum of 3 hours. With the day moving on and uninviting looking forest below the bluffs, we pretty much lost the will to continue on so we dropped into the little gully north of Tuhua, passing a small cave on the way, and followed an almost good trail to a fence line. We were able to tramp along outside this fence (an almost circuitous

route) to eventually land at the parking area where the road end used to be before the road was washed out a bit further back (2 hr). What was intended as an overnighter had turned into a day trip, but we didn't get home all that late. So if ever you want to go to Tuhua Trig, don't bother with the track as it isn't there! We were David Harrington and Adam Matich.



*Finally escaping into the light*



*Antenna Battery Box next to the Trig*

## 20<sup>th</sup> June: If you go down to the woods.....Kohitere Forest Capers

Report: Anne West

Photos: Maureen and Judith

Plot: Bob/Bev

On a fine winter's day, thirty Wednesday trampers headed to Kohitere Forest near Levin, intending to explore the mountain-bike / walking tracks through the forest. With an 8.45am start, three groups formed,

and the fastest group set off towards the hill at such a pace that they missed the turn-off and had to be whistled back. Finding the right trail, we climbed the hill on an easy zigzag path through mature pine forest. Coming out onto the forestry road, we turned left towards Arapaepae lookout. The Trip leader had advised group 1 to continue on this road beyond the lookout, as far as Makahika, before returning to the lookout for lunch. Either her instructions and maps were not clear enough, or the group had not listened.



*The briefing at Denton Rd*

We were surprised to see them returning towards us before we had even reached the lookout! The second group continued along the road, and down the hill almost to Makahika, while group 1

explored a side road which went nowhere. Both groups returned to the lookout for lunch and enjoyed the extensive views.

The third group had ventured only as far as the lookout, then returned south to the Trig for their lunch stop. Most of us took another off-road trail towards the Trig, but some members of the party chose the road and raced ahead. From this point we



*Lunch at the Lookout*

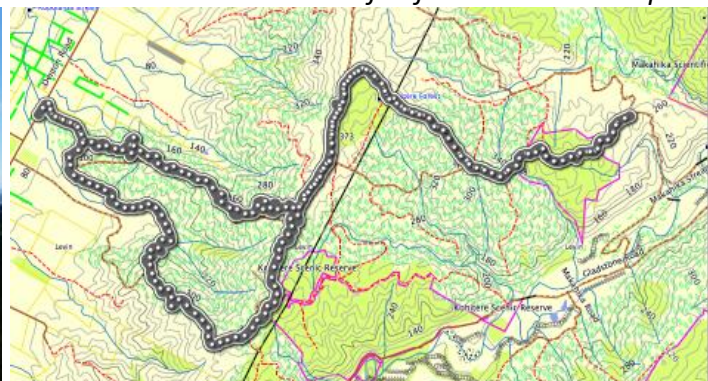
descended firstly on a forestry road. The Trip leader had cautioned her troops to follow their guides, as the track to return to the carpark was one of several side-tracks from this road, and could easily be missed. Four eager trampers raced ahead and were well past the turn off point when we tried to call them back. Three returned, but Evan was out of range and could not be recalled. While four of our group stayed behind to try and contact him, the majority followed the correct trail, and voted it the nicest trail of the day, passing by some impressive tree ferns.

Apart from a few slippery wooden bridges, these tracks were in good order and not too muddy. A nice alternative to walking on the forestry roads. All trampers had returned to the vehicles by 2.30pm. Even the wayward Evan had found his way back by then. Many thanks to Bev and Russell for guiding, to van driver Chris and car drivers Anne, Margaret, Arthur, Rita and Sue.

*The 15 km Track and Profile for the Main Group*



*View from Lookout*



## 21<sup>st</sup> June Sunrise Hut

Report: Norman Cooper

As you tramp up to the Hut you realize that the leaves high up in the trees are getting whiter and whiter. Then it hits you that the snow from a few days ago has frozen. It's beautiful. Not a breath of wind and the whiteness gets lower and lower as we get higher. They had an overnight low of 2° with only a high of 6° forecast.

I assumed everyone had been to Sunrise Hut before but that was not the case. Lee-Ann, an occasional trumper with club, was being told of the view out the back just a quick walk away. Lee-Ann knew that a quick walk could be up to ½ an hour but I said two minutes tops. "Ok I will come and have a look." No views but what we could see around us was fantastic.

Mum is 94 and my step father nearly 90. (They will be 50 years married next year) As soon as I go in their door: Where did you go on Thursday? The Emails that come with pictures of the tramps are very much welcomed by myself and my parents. More than once: Oh! Those youngsters really look like they are enjoying themselves. And we do, putting just one leg in front of the other.

No sense in going any further that day so we fill in the book and sweep and clean up the hut (Allan was very good on broom). Once outside the hut a breeze with misty rain sent a chill right through your bones. Very slushy around the car park but not raining when we changed. The farmers were coming in as we were going out so 3 gates we didn't have to close. Whoopee! We stopped for afternoon tea at Norsewood. My 4<sup>th</sup> time trying for tea here. (The other 3 times they were closed.) They were very quick with service and it was warm inside. In the place where they keep their cakes and goodies the names of the items were still there but no food. They saw our disappointment and said most of that food was available but out the back. **SAVED.** I had carrot cake and almost half had some food they did not need, but it was very good, like our day.

Thanks Syd for driving and the other 15 for coming.

## 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> June Lodge Food Carry

Report: Howard Nicholson

A few hundred kilograms of food was transported to Ruapehu and carried over to the lodge. Multiple orders, food pickups, emails and phone calls culminated in over thirty people heading towards Ruapehu on the Friday night. Mechanical issues for some on our journey injected drama we could have done without. After a repair job involving a stone and a wheel brace the journey continued and soon we were walking to the lodge on a wonderfully calm evening.

A breakfast designed to fuel a day's hard yakka set us up for the tasks ahead. Shelves were cleaned, stock shifted, packs loaded and emptied, inventories recorded, scones baked and consumed and soup sipped. In the afternoon the lodge was cleaned from ceiling to floor and other maintenance tasks completed. The lodge really sparkled by evening time. A scrumptious dinner, convivial conversation and a tippie or two capped off a very productive day.



All hands on deck

before and during the work party; I hope you are feeling suitably chuffed with your efforts.

Annabella – pumpkin carrier extraordinaire



Deteriorating weather greeted us on Sunday morning. More cleaning and some further maintenance was completed, prior to people heading out for a wet ski or a warm cafe and an early trip home.

The lodge is well ready to receive skiers, boarders, trampers, mountaineers and chill-seekers over the Winter, thanks to all the people who contributed

## 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> June Cattle Ridge Hut

Report: Jean Garman

Photos: Jean and Garry Grayson

Dave's new tramping vehicle comfortably transported the five of us (Dave + Raj, Garry, Jenny and Jean) to the Putara Road end. No rain fell as we walked, chatted and carried out a bit of track clearance on the way



*Raj, Dave & Garry doing some track clearance*

into Roaring Stag hut, where we stopped for lunch. It was so cold inside the hut we chose to eat our lunch in the relative warmth of the veranda. After lunch it was time to cross the long swing-bridge then to climb steeply up towards Cattle Ridge hut - less talking and more puffing. A bit before the hut there is a little tarn which had a good layer of pretty solid ice over it - not quite enough to risk standing on it though! Rain showers were approaching from down the valley but we all made it into the hut before the rain really started. Then came a pleasant afternoon chatting, reading, snacking and consuming hot drinks (the fire isn't fitted yet) while it rained. Dave cooked us a yummy dinner followed by a real cheesecake and for those who had any room left - mallowpuffs. We discovered that copious condensation was forming on the skylight which then dripped onto the bunks below.

Garry took a mattress to the relative dryness of the floor, Jenny put her coat over the end of her sleeping bag and I put my bowl out to catch drips and scrunched down on the bunk to avoid the wet zone. By morning a fair bit of water had collected and the double-glazed windows were running with water - the hut is in desperate need of more ventilation as black mould has also started to form on the ceiling. It was still windy and raining so we all rugged up well before leaving. Thankfully it is only a short trip to get back into the shelter of the trees. Back down at Roaring Stag hut it was nice and cosy inside as the fire was going, so we hung around and chatted to some hunters for a while before heading out into the rain again. Luckily it was only raining lightly when we got back to the car and started to get changed. Unluckily it switched to heavy rain before we were finished. Luckily Dave had a big pile of fluffy towels for us to use (what a great trip leader!). Fun trip, great company and, as it is winter, a bit of rain is to be expected.



*Jenny on the steep climb up to Cattle Ridge Hut*



*Garry and Jenny arriving at Cattle Ridge Hut in sunshine*



*Jenny crossing Ruamahunga to return to Roaring Stag Hut*



## 27<sup>th</sup> June Pinnacle Ridge

Report: Christine

Photos: Bev, Bob, Maureen, William



*The river from the first climb*

The day started with a good frost as 28 hardy trampers set out from Holdsworth car park.

Just before the first bridge we headed off on a track along the true left of the Atiwhakatu river.

This is a treasure of a track with a pretty 30 min river sidling over roots, mud and through a stream. The track heads uphill at the big slip opposite Donnelly flat. The next 350m in altitude are indeed steep but the bush is beautiful with large rimu, beech and matai. The mosses and ferns are prolific - a true trampers track!

The track then eases off for the last half hour until we finally step out of the bush into a clearing on top of Pinnacle (877m). Snow covers this point and the snowy mountain tops of Holdsworth, Jumbo, Three Kings and Peggy's peak spread out on the other side of the valley. We could also see Powell, Jumbo and Cattle ridge huts. A cool breeze kept us alert, with temps sitting around 3°, minus chill factor.



*They knocked the bugger off!*



*Lunch at the top*



*The view from the top of Pinnacle Ridge*

## 30<sup>th</sup> June-1<sup>st</sup> July Cow Creek Hut

Report and photos: Garry Grayson

Departed Adam's place at 7:30am, for a drive via Pahiatua to collect Jenny, then on to park at Kiriwhakapapa Road end ready to walk by 9:00. This road end/parking area has toilets, a large shelter and lots of camping space if required, considerably more than Putara Rd end which has NOTHING!



The first km or so of the track is along a beautiful Redwood lined pathway beside Reef Creek before starting the climb up towards point 978 and the turnoff to Blue Range Hut. (No takers for a detour to this hut!)

Continuing on around the long undulating side past Te Mara seems to take for ever but eventually the descent towards the Waingawa river is encountered and soon a bit of 'boulder hopping' on the riverbed, due to track slippage, leads to the long footbridge over the river where the Hut is located.

As luck would have it, the hut was indeed unoccupied and due to our earlyish arrival time of 2:00pm a firewood

gathering session was commenced, even though there was already a good selection on hand in the hut. Sources of wood on this side off the river appeared scarce, so Jenny and I decided to 'lug' long lengths of windfall across the bridge from the other riverbank while Adam cut off as much as possible with the hut axe.

After an hour or so it was drinks break time accompanied by assorted blocks of chocolate. No further wood gathering was deemed appropriate after this so lazing around on bunks and lighting of the fire was the order.

Soon further snacks and Adam's homemade wine preceded tea followed by yet more chocolate, the final blow!

No late arrivals to the hut and only a curious possum perched near an outdoor seat area resulted in a trouble-free nights rest, although occasional bursts of 'chainsawing' echoed through the hut from time to time from various directions.

Next morning dawned overcast and threatened rain but the return climb back to Te Mara and down to the car was managed without raincoats, and, thanks to the shelter, changing of clothes was achieved in the dry, despite rain now falling continuously. This return trip took just 4 1/2hrs.

Mt Bruce Wildlife Park was designated lunch stop and after ejecting Jenny in Pahiatua, we arrival back in PN at a very respectable mid-afternoon hour. Participants were:- Garry, Adam & Jenny.



## 5<sup>th</sup> July Pukeatua

Report: Royce Mills

The Thursday tramping group enjoyed a spectacular winter's day today.

Blue sky and sunshine greeted us as we arrived at Otaki Forks. It was cool, but very calm.

We set off tramping at 9 am and took a morning tea stop along the way at a large, sunny clearing.

The high point, Pukeatua, 812 metres, was reached right on lunch time. There were very good views of the high Taranuwas which surprisingly had almost no snow, just traces.

Off we set again, retracing our steps and all the group were back to the car park by about 3pm.

Thanks to Syd Easton, our leader and driver. There were thirteen of us and we all came back with smiles after an excellent day in the outdoors.



## Contact Details

Postal Address: MTSC, P.O. Box 245, Palmerston North

### Committee 2018 - 2019

President	Rob Pringle	<a href="mailto:president@mtsc.org.nz">president@mtsc.org.nz</a>	027 426 2176
Secretary	Tim Swale	<a href="mailto:secretary@mtsc.org.nz">secretary@mtsc.org.nz</a>	06 376 6556
Treasurer	Arthur Flint	<a href="mailto:treasurer@mtsc.org.nz">treasurer@mtsc.org.nz</a>	06 356 7654
Chief Guide	Ken Mercer	<a href="mailto:chief.guide@mtsc.org.nz">chief.guide@mtsc.org.nz</a>	06 356 7497
Membership	Sue Nicholson	<a href="mailto:membership@mtsc.org.nz">membership@mtsc.org.nz</a>	06 357 6325
Newsletter Editor	Mary Mercer	<a href="mailto:editor@mtsc.org.nz">editor@mtsc.org.nz</a>	021 176 0209
Lodge Manager	John Lyttle	<a href="mailto:lodge.manager@mtsc.org.nz">lodge.manager@mtsc.org.nz</a>	027 433 6307
Mini-Bus Manager	Ken Mercer	<a href="mailto:minibus@mtsc.org.nz">minibus@mtsc.org.nz</a>	06 356 7497

**General Committee:** Bob Hodgson, Howard Nicholson, Linda Campbell, Karen Tutt, William Laing, John Beech

### Appointees

Lodge Bookings	Hugh & Liz Wilde	<a href="mailto:lodge.bookings@mtsc.org.nz">lodge.bookings@mtsc.org.nz</a>	0212 054 2560
Gear Custodian	Peter Rawlins	<a href="mailto:gear@mtsc.org.nz">gear@mtsc.org.nz</a>	06 356 7443
Ski Captain	Howard Nicholson	<a href="mailto:ski@mtsc.org.nz">ski@mtsc.org.nz</a>	06 357 6325
Social Convenor	Bob Hodgson	<a href="mailto:social@mtsc.org.nz">social@mtsc.org.nz</a>	06 356 2915
Wednesday Trips	Bev Akers	<a href="mailto:bevakers@xtra.co.nz">bevakers@xtra.co.nz</a>	06 325 8879
Thursday Trips	Merv Matthews	<a href="mailto:merv6817@gmail.com">merv6817@gmail.com</a>	06 357 2858
Facebook	Ivan Rienks, Karen Tutt, Howard Nicholson	<a href="mailto:facebook@mtsc.org.nz">facebook@mtsc.org.nz</a>	

### New Members

Prospective members must be nominated by a Proposer and a Seconder 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, billys, 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](http://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](mailto:lodge.bookings@mtsc.org.nz) or phone 021 054 2560. 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	The lodge phone number is (07) 892 3860.
Adult	\$37	\$52	
Secondary School	\$30	\$45	
Primary School	\$25	\$40	
Pre-school (3-5 yo)	\$12	\$12	

### 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.