

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>

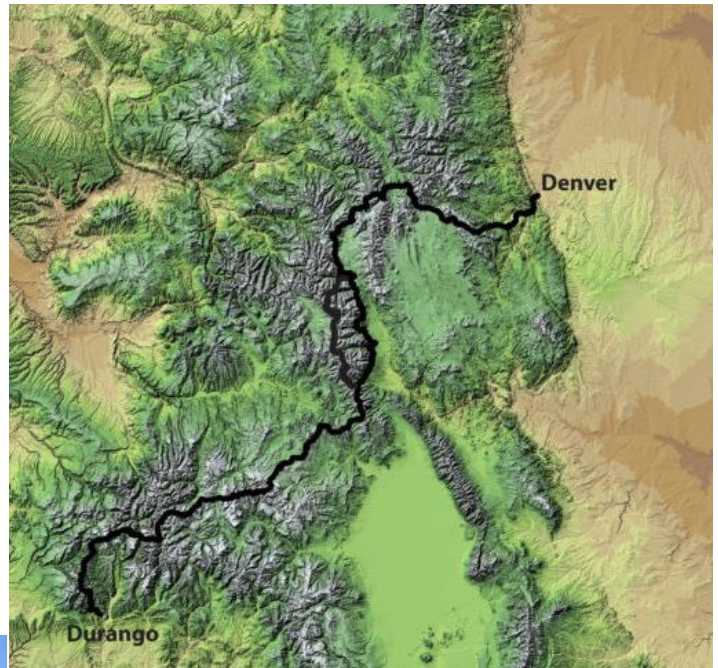
Issue 2. March 2020



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 3rd March, 2020: Glenn on the Colorado Trail

In August of 2019 Glenn Pendergrast hiked the 800 km long Colorado Trail. From the mile high city of Denver to the town of Durango, the rugged trail travels through the Rocky Mountains with 27,000 m of climbing and an average elevation of over 3,000 m, reaching a high point at over 4,000 m. An excellent adventure.



Tuesday 7th April, 2020: Walking Te Araroa by Clare Veltman



Clare left Cape Reinga on 23 September 2018 and reached Bluff on 4 February 2019, travelling solo. She mostly followed Te Araroa except when she couldn't. Nothing dramatic happened, though a couple of times it could have. She will talk about what she carried, what she ate, and what she saw. Listeners can liven up her talk by asking questions.

REPORTS AND NOTICES

MTSC President: Rob Pringle

president@mtsc.org.nz

Well another month has raced by and, for the most part, the weather has been fantastic enabling some great times to be had in the outdoors. No matter how you prefer to recreate, remember it's good to get out and exercise. I read a fascinating snippet this week which suggested (for those of us that are a little geeky) a target heart rate for exercise three times a week. The formula (waiver) for generally accepted age-adjusted heart rate is 220 minus your age, minus 40% so for those in and around the 100-plus age bracket, you can probably achieve this just by fetching Beechleaves from the mailbox.

It's been a busy summer period for a dedicated few within the committee, and those close by within the club. We've recently purchased a new Ford Transit minibus. This is to replace the aged one that we have all come to know. I'd like to take a minute to thank specifically Ewen, and Ken, who along with a number of others have put in an inordinate amount of work, pouring over specification sheets, wheel base dimensions, heights, fuel consumption and power output, as well as what, at one stage, felt like endless conversations about things like automatic steps, reversing cameras, blue tooth and steering wheel controls. This is before we even got into the nitty gritty of warranty, after sales support, trade-in values, and repairs to the old van! If you see Ewen or Ken in passing, make sure you give them your support and thank them for their efforts in making it all happen. Also make sure you get past the letter box and join us on a trip and take a spin in the new minibus.

The old minibus was put up for sale and has been moved onto a lovely family from Auckland, who presently have five children, are aiming for a sixth, and love to take extended holidays with the children and their friends. I was fortunate enough to be present to hand over the keys when it was picked up, and amongst the formalities, we had to pause, while a Facetime video was made for the new owner's wife, who was super excited by the purchase. I think it's a great use of the old van, and gratifying to know that it will continue making memories for people.

On a slightly different note, the committee has been putting together cards, using some of the photography competition winning pictures, and no doubt a few others that Richard has up his sleeve. The purpose of these is among other things to reach out to people in their time of need, to let them know that the club is thinking of them and values their input. If you happen to know of someone who's struggling with something, feel free to approach anyone on the committee to have a chat if it's appropriate.

For those of you who're interested in mountain biking, I had a brief explore of the Belmont regional park in Lower Hutt recently. There are some great mountain biking trails in the area. I was fortunate enough to get there after a couple of evenings of light drizzle so the dry dusty conditions we're experiencing at Arapuke at present had settled down nicely. Segueing into the world of geekiness again, the tracks ridden was able to be recognised by my device, and uploaded – After all, if it wasn't recorded, it didn't happen - right? On that note I shall leave you to ponder, till next month.

Stay safe out there, and enjoy the summer as we roll into Autumn.

Rob



*MTSC Lodge, Mt Ruapehu by Maureen Naylor
28-30 January trip*

Committee Update for First Meeting 2020: February

Minibus: Ken Mercer, the Minibus Manager prompted discussion of some aspects relating to the new minibus which became a wide ranging discussion. These included:

- The development of a new log book to provide better details about each tramp by recording the numbers of people in the bus and the total numbers on each tramp in addition to the information about destination and distance travelled.
- Getting signage including images on the bus to be a better billboard for club membership. It was agreed that club membership would be approached to canvas ideas for suitable graphics.
- A revision of charges including increasing the cost for use of the bus by “small groups”. The committee agreed that the charge for groups of 6 people or less should be increased to 55c/km for the whole minibus but that the charge per person, when there are 7 or more in the bus, should remain at 8c/km each.
- The fact that the cost of using the minibus is the same for non-members and members. As trip leaders are unlikely to know who the club members are and who are not, the approach agreed was non-members should be encouraged to join the club.
- Having “Roadside assist” for the minibus, so that regardless of driver, the minibus is covered by AMP’s programme which claims to give 24/7 assistance for a range of things from flat battery, to change of tyres, breakdown, after-hours recovery.... Details in the Roadside Assist brochure in the minibus.

The sale of the old minibus for \$11,000, \$4,300 more than the trade-in price (\$6,700) was approved.

Lodge: John Lyttle, the Lodge Manager reported that neither of the funding applications submitted to support completion of the Lodge project have been successful. The committee discussed the need for the club to maintain momentum on this project so as to avoid having to return to the consenting process, which would be expensive and for the Lodge to be as good a place as it can be for club members. In the interim, club funds were approved to complete the first stage. In the longer term alternative external funding will continue to be pursued.

General: General Committee member, Richard Lander, is progressing printing of MTSC cards, using selected images from the photo competition on the outside and blank on the inside so they can be used as necessary by/for club members. In light of recent accidents on tramps, General Committee member, William Laing, asked that the committee consider the need to have a tramping-focused first aid course. No consensus was reached, but the opportunity will be revisited.

NZ Outdoor First Aid Manual

Looking to buy, second-hand, the NZ Mountain Safety Council’s “NZ Outdoor First Aid Manual,” which is no longer being published. Please contact Chris Wigley on 021 02221262.

Hut Tickets for Sale

Hut tickets can be purchased from Howard Nicholson at club nights. \$5/ticket for adults and \$2.50 for youth (11-17 years). Information about Back Country Hut Passes, valid for 6 or 12 months, as well as the use of hut tickets is available on the [DOC web site](#).



Photo: Cheryl Dawson
Wed 12 Feb, 2020



UPCOMING TRIPS

March Wednesday Tramps			March Thursday Tramps		
04	Richard Lander	021 840 472	05	Craig Ross	355 3445
11	Bob Hargreaves	357 0734	12	Hugh Wilde D	356 9450
18	Rod McKenzie	357 0136	19	John Brock	329 4834
25	William Laing	358 4876	26	Carolyn Brodie	027 358 6037
March Weekend Trips					
7-8	High Ridge	Medium Fit	Jenny McCarthy	021 215 2197	
14-15	Mountain Biking Taupo	Medium	Peter Rawlins	027 678 0747	
21-22	Dorset Ridge Hut	Medium Fit	Dave Mitchell	06 329 2803	
Sunday 22	Atiwhakatu Hut	Easy Medium	Ewen Cameron	022 034 1180	
28-29	Otumore	Medium	Howard Nicholson	027 294 1941	

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 Land SAR/RCC only if the party is reported overdue or a MTSC-owned 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.

7th-8th March, 2020: High Ridge

Jenny McCarthy Medium Fit 021 215 2197

The High Ridge starts above Powell Hut at approximately 1300 meters. We will climb to this point and then follow the ridge down as far as the Flax Knob at 965 meters. From there we will go down towards the bridge by the Totara Flats hut. We will either stay at the hut or camp on the flats.

14th-15th March, 2020: Mountain Biking Taupo

Peter Rawlins Medium 027 678 0747

The plan for this trip is to head away on Friday, either during the day, for those lucky enough to have the day off, or after work. We will stay at [The Great Lake Taupo Holiday park](#) for Friday and Saturday night, returning on Sunday. If you want to come on this trip then you will need to book the level of accommodation that you want through their website.

On Saturday, we will be biking the [Kawakawa section of the Great Lake Taupo Trails](#). This is a nice intermediate grade track that has now become a loop (as of December 2019). On Sunday, I plan to do the [W2K track](#), another intermediate level track. No technical riding skills needed, but you will need a mountain bike. :-). Give me a ring if you would like to know more. We will need some help with transport of bikes and people.

21st – 22nd March, 2020: Dorset Ridge Hut

Dave Mitchell

Medium Fit

06 329 2803

I would like to leave on Friday night and walk into either Atiwhakatu or Mitre Flats hut which is about 3 hours. This will determine how we get to Girdlestone Peak which is on Tarn Ridge. Just along from there, on Tarn Ridge, is the turn off onto Dorset Ridge. The hut is another hour away along the ridge. The return tramp next day can be made following our footsteps or dropping down to the river and climbing up to meet the Baldy track. If the weather is bad on Saturday an alternative is to tramp up the Waingawa River to Cow Creek hut.

Sunday 22nd March, 2020: Atiwhakatu Hut

Ewen Cameron

Easy Medium

022 034 1180 or ewenacameron37@gmail.com

The tramp to Atiwhakatu hut will take place whatever the weather conditions and would suit people: interested in tramping who have a reasonable level of fitness; new to tramping and those trampers keen for a day out in the beautiful Atiwhakatu Valley. For those more experienced trampers who come along there is an option to return via the River Ridge and Gentle Annie tracks. We'll leave Palmerston North at 7:30am and return by 5:30pm. If you are interested please contact Ewen on or before March 19th.

28th March -29th March, 2020: Otumore

Howard Nicholson

Medium

027 2 941 941

This overnight loop trip is in the Eastern Ruahine Ranges, starting and finishing at Kashmir Road. Expect some bush, river and tops travel. If the weather is favourable, we will camp en route on the tops.



Sunday 12th January, 2020: An Explore

Trip Leader and Reporter: Ewen Cameron

Photographer: Helen Peek

Having driven past Loveday Road (off Top Grass Road) many times and wondered about the stream at the road end, it was great to lead our small group of six across the farmland and begin the tramp up the Raparapawai Stream on a beautifully sunny Sunday. The first hour of the trip up the stream was relatively easy but the rocks were slippery with slime. Unfortunately, just before morning tea one of our group, Bill, fell and hurt his knee. During our break, which we took where the Granges Track meets the Raparapawai Stream, Bill decided that he needed to get back to his car. After some discussion we agreed that Robbie would walk out with Bill and the rest of us would continue our tramp up the stream.

Upstream from the Granges track intersection, the Raparapawai Stream bed became much harder to walk on as its bed comprised much bigger boulders, tree trunks and pools. Although there used to be a track along the stream side as a route to Kiritaki Hut, and it is marked as such on some maps, all trace has long since been washed away. This would not be a route any of us would opt to use to get to Kiritaki hut! As it was a warm day and we were not set on getting to Kiritaki hut, we were



content to get to the sign on the stream's edge signalling that the hut was 1 hour away (and that the Loveday Road end was 3 hours away *(based on our trip this is about right)*). To Mangaatua Stream, *which is at the base of the Billy Goat track off the Coppermine Loop*, was 5 hours *(over Granges track)*. Our return was accomplished by going back downstream to the car, taking time to splash in the pools and enjoy the scenery as we went along.

25th – 26th January, 2020 Waterfall

Trip Leader, Reporter and Photographer: Jean Garman

In the end it was just the three of us so we decided to make life easier and cruised up to the road end early Friday evening for a pleasant wander up the river to Waipawa Forks Hut for the night. As an incentive I had promised dessert, a nice light tiramisu cheesecake. Despite many protestations that it would be impossible to eat it all, it all disappeared. The hut has three rooms so we had a room each, not actually the best idea as that means Adam feels free to snore and you can't easily throw something at him.

On Saturday it was a very pleasant walk up river and through the Waipawa Saddle and down the other side where we chased a pair of blue ducks downstream until we got somewhere wide enough to slip past them. We visited Waikamaka Hut which is looking in good shape with a new veranda, then carried on to Rangi Saddle doing a little pruning along the way. At the last cairn in the river we headed up beside the slip then scrub sidled into the saddle. At the saddle a good track reappears and it was a quick drop to Rangi Creek then up the beautiful Kauwhatau River to Waterfall Hut. It was early afternoon and getting pretty hot so we hung out in the shade of the hut and read, chatted and napped for the rest of the day. We made Adam sleep in the middle bunk and with the threat of being prodded in both directions if he snored - he didn't make a noise all night.



Sunday dawned clear and calm and, in fear of a mega hot day, we decided to retrace our steps figuring being in waterways would be nicer than being on the tops. The heat was really starting to kick in as we crested Rangi Saddle and we spent a bit of time getting hot and bothered trying to cut/mark a bit of a route from the saddle through to the slip. Probably OK to follow from the saddle but wouldn't pick it up coming the other way. By then it was getting seriously hot and the rest of the day was a bit of a nightmare. We may have been in the river but there's not much in the way of cover and the rocks were uncomfortably hot to touch and

therefore radiating serious amounts of heat upwards. With next to nothing in the way of a breeze it was like being in an oven. Luckily the car's aircon was working well and a refreshment stop in Dannevirke further cooled us down.

We were Jenny McCarthy, Adam Matich and Jean Garman.

Sunday 26th January, 2020: Atiwhakatu Gorge

Trip Leader and Reporter: Tim Swale

Photographer: Ben Swale

With a forecast temperature of 32 degrees for Masterton, our group of seven trampers were feeling pretty upbeat about the prospect of a good trip down the Atiwhakatu Gorge. The road-end was already crowded when we arrived about 10.30am, but we found a park and after slapping on plenty of sunscreen to combat

the very hot sun, we headed up the valley for an hour to the start of our gorge descent just opposite the Mountain House turn-off.

A short scramble down into the stream and then across to the opposite bank brought us to a lovely shingle beach where we could sit in the shade and have our lunch. Once fed and watered we set off again. We threaded our way between boulders, over tree trunks and from bank to bank, always looking for the easiest passage downstream. Gradually the gorge sides closed in and we started finding the river deeper and deeper until we got to a choke point where we had to clamber over a boulder and jump into a deep pool for our first swim. Once over the initial shock of plunging into the cool water we started to relish the crystal clear pools and thoroughly enjoyed the wades and swims through the rest of the gorge. This is a place of stunning beauty with its clean water, lush vegetation and feeling of solitude so close to a popular road end.



All too soon we were out of the gorge and the river opened up into a wide but shallow watercourse which gave us access to the old riverside track on the true right shortly before Donnelly Flat. We had a short afternoon tea stop at the DOC shelter, then back to the cars at the road end, by which time we were almost dry! With the car thermometer still saying 31 degrees, this awesome day was finished off with an ice-cream stop at the dairy in Masterton. Our happy band of trampers were: Mary and Ken Mercer, Helen Peek, Jill Stewart, Linda Campbell, Ben and Tim Swale.

28th-30th January, 2020: MTSC Lodge, Mt Ruapehu

Trip Leader and Reporter: Marion Beadle

Photographers: Cheryl Dawson and Marion Beadle

At the end of January, the Wednesday trampers did something different from our usual routes. We visited Taranaki Falls and the Tama Lakes on a rather warm day, then stayed at the MTSC Lodge at Iwikau Village. Experienced a trip on the impressive Sky Waka gondola and checked out the cafe at Knoll Ridge Chalet. Some climbed up to Skyline Ridge (2,300m) while others went around the Silica Rapids walking track. Next day we tramped in to Blythe Hut in light rain and dried out on the return trip. Many of us were first time visitors to the Lodge and were impressed with the facilities; leading to discussions on how our summer trips might be expanded by using Lodge accommodation. My thanks to everyone who helped with chores and huge thanks to our chef, Ewen, and our van driver, Robbie, who made this trip possible. A very enjoyable trip.



Wednesday Trampers at Top O the Bruce, Mt Ruapehu



1st-2nd February, 2020: Taranaki

Trip Leader and Reporter: Linda Campbell

Photographer: Tim Swale

Royce Mills, Louise Lahmert, Maria Lombard, Tim Swale and I headed to Taranaki on the Saturday morning. Four different weather forecasts had been checked and the weather looked good, except one forecast said strong to gale force winds Saturday night and Sunday. Surely three had to be right! We agreed to aim for Syme Hut, the highest DOC hut in the North Island, situated at 1,940m on Fanthams Peak/Panitahi.

After morning tea at the café at Dawson Falls we set off. We were not in a hurry so stopped briefly at the first seat and again at The Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay seat, erected by the Mount Egmont Alpine Club in April 1956 by members of the Egmont Alpine Club. We located a geocache near the seat before heading to Hooker Shelter for lunch. We had another stop at the turn off to Kapuni Lodge (privately owned by the Mt Egmont Alpine Club) where I took a short side trip to the lodge. After this point the walk gets a

bit more challenging. First there are about 1000 steps followed by a good distance of scoria where you go one step up and two back! This section was rather slow going and we were over taken by two strong young men who set themselves a goal of getting to Syme before us. We eventually we got to the rock and it was a bit of a scramble to clamber up and over from the route we had taken. With the last bit of scoria it was the toilet that we saw first and it was a very welcome sight as it meant the hut was nearby. It was at this stage we noted the wind was definitely more than the light or gentle winds suggested in three of the forecasts I had looked at!!



Syme Hut is a 10 bed hut named after Rod Syme. Rod was well known in South Taranaki as an agricultural instructor, mountaineer, conservationist and alpine sports administrator. In 1928 he formed the Mt Egmont Alpine Club. Rod received an MBE in the 1955 Queens Birthday honours for his services as an agricultural instructor and for fostering mountaineering. In 1929-1930 he, along with other Mt Egmont Alpine members, back packed all the materials needed to Fanthams Peak/Panitahi and erected Syme Hut. Given the

steepness and the challenge of the ascent, this was no mean feat!!

After settling in we went back out into the increasing wind to admire the views and look down on the cloud. It was truly spectacular. Once we had had dinner some of us ventured outside again to make the most of photographing the stunning sun set. We noted we could see land out at sea and believe it could possibly have been Farewell Spit. The wind continued to rise as we spent a pleasant evening chatting with the two young men, Kyle and Jamie from Taupo.

By Sunday morning it was really blowing. We thought we would wait a while to see if the wind dropped. It didn't!! Eventually we decided, as a group, we would venture out with the plan of returning if it was just too challenging for anyone. We staggered our way across to the rock and onto the scoria. The dust was whipping up stinging our eyes, turning our hair to straw and generally covering us completely. We were blown around a bit but we persevered and the further down we got the more sheltered we were. At the bottom of the scoria we stopped to admire the views and have



a snack before making our way down the stairs. The turn off to Kapuni Lodge was a great place to stop and remove a few layers as by then we were quite sheltered from the wind and it was considerably warmer!! We regrouped at Hooker Shelter and headed down for a lovely lunch at the café at Dawson Falls where it was a nice, still day. It was a wonderful trip with great company.

Wednesday 5th February, 2020: Herepai Hut

Trip leader and Reporter: Carolyn Brodie

Seventeen people joined this leisurely start (8am) trip to Herepai. After the heat in Palmerston North on Tuesday we were all relieved to have temperatures in the teens or low 20s all day and even a little bit of drizzle at times to contrast with the sun at other times. Tramping conditions were very good. Most of the group got to the hut for lunch and six went further on to get the views to the north from higher up; four went well up into the tussock area. The bush was beautiful and many longtailed cuckoos were heard, but hard to see. A lovely green day for us. The bonus for me as leader was that three members of the group had never done the Herepai trip before and three of the group that went further up had always stopped at the hut on past trips.

The new van was good to travel in (thanks driver) with comfortable seats and plenty of fresh air. Thanks everyone for coming and making the most of your opportunities and thanks for all the conversations along the way.

Sunday 9th February, 2020: Naenae Road End to Pukenaenae and beyond

Trip Leader and Reporter: Ewen Cameron

Photographer: Helen Peek

Our group of four set off early Sunday morning for a quick trip up from Naenae road to Pukenaenae and back. We were three club members, Robbie, Helen and myself, accompanied by Jenny a club prospect. As is usual for the track up from Naenae road and despite rain the day before, we crossed the Otangane Stream with dry feet and then puffed our way up the track to the Otangane Loop.

Once there, I was delighted to find that the track towards Pukenaenae has begun to be cleared so that the hook grass and bush lawyer I had found a nuisance there a few weeks ago was being cleared up. We made it to Pukenaenae in good time and enjoyed great views while having morning tea. Following some discussion amongst the group and as the group all wanted a longer day and most had not completed the Otangane loop, we decided to return to the Naenae road end by completing the Otangane Loop.

Although it was a sunny day the wind was rather cooling, so lunch was taken in one of the clearings on the uphill leg of the Otangane loop, heading back to the Naenae road track (Is this track now called the Argyle track?). The bush looked great and views fantastic. Following a quick descent, we were back at the car by mid-afternoon. The tramp covered more distance than I originally planned, but we all enjoyed ourselves and were still home in time to do other jobs.

Thanks to Robbie Green, Helen Peek and Jenny Mark for their company.

Wednesday 12th February, 2020: Toka or Bust

Trip leader and Reporter: Carole Kennerley

Photos: Andrea Hall and Cheryl Dawson

Second time lucky!



What an epic day we had up in the Ruahines. Fifteen of us went up Knights track to be rewarded with fabulous views. Most made it to the trig, and all of us followed the ridgeline whilst having a 360 degree panorama of the Hawkes Bay and Manawatu/Rangitikei/Ruapehu regions. The return down Shorts Track was slippery in places and, with the exposure to the sun for most of the way down, we were grateful to reach the shade of the Deerford Loop. The other eight members of our group of 23, headed around the Deerford Loop which includes quite a decent climb in itself, and some made their way up the Shorts Track to the tussock area. This tramp was a wonderful example of the community spirit of our club with everyone helping each other to enable all to complete the day successfully. I must also mention the significant role that the radios played in enabling us to keep in touch, and to call for help when assistance was needed. In fact I thank all of you for your kindness, willingness to help others and for making the day so memorable.



Thanks to those who were drivers with me - Robbie, Cheryl and Marion.

Wednesday 19th February, 2020: Mt Reeves Track to Centre of New Zealand Plaque

Trip Leader and Reporter: Rita Hodson

Reporter and Photographer: Rod McKenzie

The Mt Reeves track starts on the Waiohine Valley Road about 11kms from Greytown. A 20min road walk then a steep climb following the large orange markers into the pine forest for about 20 minutes then a gradual climb through the bush to the fairly recently discovered [centre of the extended continental shelf of NZ](#), now marked by a Plaque in the Tararua ranges.

The track is an old route with the modern orange markers, plus the tin can markers and the hatchet notches on the trees which marked the original route over the Tararua Ranges.

Nineteen trampers set out on a very hot day for tramping and were in the bush as quickly as possible to get out of the hot sun. With the gradual 3 hr climb, some reached the Rocky Knob and bit beyond and decided not to go any further. A group of four reached the Plaque in 2.5 hours



and another group of three getting there in 3 hours. Another 25 minutes or so on from the Plaque the smallest number of the group, two, managed to get to Mt Reeves.

Well done to everyone to where ever they got to on the track which, heat wise, was not an easy tramping day. On the way home some found a cafe still open in Carterton with an interesting book shop attached.

A big thank you to Robbie for driving the van and William and Bev for taking their cars.



Contact Details

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

Committee 2019 - 2020

President	Rob Pringle	president@mtsc.org.nz	020 426 2176
Secretary	Tim Swale	secretary@mtsc.org.nz	06 376 6556
Treasurer	Ewen Cameron	treasurer@mtsc.org.nz	0220341180
Chief Guide	Ken Mercer	chief.guide@mtsc.org.nz	027 364 6475
Membership	Sue Nicholson	membership@mtsc.org.nz	06 357 6325
Newsletter Editor	Mary Mercer	editor@mtsc.org.nz	027 372 5375
Lodge Manager	John Lyttle	lodge.manager@mtsc.org.nz	027 433 6307
Mini-Bus Manager	Ken Mercer	minibus@mtsc.org.nz	027 364 6475

General Committee: John Beech, William Laing, Richard Lander, Howard Nicholson, Peter Rawlins

Appointees

Lodge Bookings	Hugh & Liz Wilde	lodge.bookings@mtsc.org.nz	021 054 2560
Gear Custodian	Peter Rawlins	gear@mtsc.org.nz	027 678 0747
Ski Captain	Howard Nicholson	ski@mtsc.org.nz	027 294 1941
Social Convenor	Linda Campbell	social@mtsc.org.nz	027 333 4493
Wednesday Trips	Bev Akers	bevakers@xtra.co.nz	06 325 8879
Thursday Trips	Merv Matthews	merv6817@gmail.com	06 357 2858
Facebook	Ivan Rienks, Rob Pringle, Karen Tutt, Howard Nicholson 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 021 054 2560. To confirm your booking, payment must be made by cash to 179 Cook St Palmerston North 4410 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	\$40	\$58	
Secondary School	\$32	\$48	
Primary School	\$26	\$42	
Pre-school (3-5 yo)	\$13	\$13	

Booking the MTSC Van:For bookings: Contact Ken Mercer 027 364 6475. 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.