

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 5. June 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.

All programmed tramps have been postponed until the restrictions imposed by the New Zealand Government to control COVID-19 have been eased sufficiently.

Updates will be provided on the MTSC web site as appropriate.

7.30pm Tuesday 2 June, 2020 Club Night: Mel Harper on First Aid for Trampers and Age-Specific Issues

This is likely to be a Zoom meeting due to Covid19 restrictions. To register for the Zoom meeting, email clubnight@mtsc.org.nz and you will be emailed a link and password.

7.30 pm Tuesday 17 July, 2020: The Joys of Skiing in New Zealand



7.30 pm Tuesday 4 August, 2020: MTSC Photo Competition

Time to pull out your iPhone (or Hasselblad camera), head for the hills and take a few photos for the annual photo competition. Last year we had some fantastic images and a fun night voting on our favourites. Our sponsors have kindly donated prizes for the best images in each category. With your permission the best images will be entered into the interclub and FMC photo competitions. Entries to be sent to Richard Lander by the 28th July. Details on how to enter on pages 4-5.



7.30pm Tuesday 1 September, 2020 Club Night: Richard Lander on Wild Frontiers

In December 2019 Richard and Elizabeth Lander travelled to the Rift Valley in Africa to visit the endangered mountain gorillas in the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest, Uganda. They also sought out tree climbing lions in the Queen Elizabeth National Park and chimpanzees in the wild at the Kyambura Gorge and the Kibale Forest. Follow with them Wild Frontiers from the source of the Nile and through the national parks of Uganda to their encounters with our distant relatives.



MTSC President: Rob Pringle

president@mtsc.org.nz

There's been a noticeable drop in temperature during the last week or so – an all too timely reminder that winter is fast approaching. – Time to stock up on the firewood if you haven't already!

With winter approaching a lot of minds have turned to a burning question, about whether the lodge will open and function. The short answer is yes, it will. We're just working through the details on how. A lot of time and effort has gone into discussing how we keep groups safe during their stay at the lodge. At the time of writing there is no specific guidance around accommodation such as ours. Suffice to say that, as a committee, we've implemented a few guidelines to ensure safety between groups.

The backbone to keeping each other safe, is to have a super low tolerance to anyone showing any signs of being unwell. We'd ask that for the time being that you keep recreating but stay closer to home so as to avoid contact with other user groups. The other theme that has come through is implementing a 5 day stand down between groups at the lodge. This allows a suitable time for any surface borne virus to expire, without chance of infecting the next group of people to the lodge. We're also requesting a deep clean of any and all communal surfaces on your entry to, and exit from the lodge. We believe this gives us the best possible shot at keeping each other safe.

The net result of this is that bookings are being taken on in pencil form only. We have an incredibly fluid situation evolving, and as such there is presently no clear and specific guidance for clubs and how they are to operate. During this phase the committee is meeting regularly to ensure that we're responding appropriately to each announcement that is made. We ask for your patience in this!

At the time of writing we're 4 hours away from another announcement on what the world going forward will look like. – Fingers crossed for a positive outcome for all groups!

Stay safe out there, and happy wanderings.

Rob

Lodge

lodge.manager@mtsc.org.nz

We are presently planning the work party and are open to taking bookings for Winter. We may have to restrict numbers at the lodge and the lodge subcommittee is currently assessing the evolving Covid restrictions and will be setting up policy for the lodge to run this winter. We will post current policy of the Web site and the booking officer will convey the applicable policy at the time of your booking.

Cheers

John

Ski Captain

ski@mtsc.org.nz

A (reduced) food carry is scheduled for weekend of 20-21 June, 2020, possibly combined with a lodge work party mentioned above. We are likely to reduce the number of participants this year, so please keep an eye on the club website for further updates.

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](#).

Hut Closures for Maintenance

Sunrise Hut is undergoing some routine maintenance work. The hut is receiving a full interior polyurethane, graffiti removal, Wardens heating install, site work, firewood replenish and a general tidy up of the hut interior. Due to the type of work being undertaken inside Sunrise hut, it will need to be closed from 21st May to 10th June 2020. Shelter from the storm will be provided.

Longview Hut is estimated to be closed from 11th - 18th June. Work includes: Interior paint, firewood replenishment, site work and general hut maintenance work.

Rangiwahia Hut is estimated to be closed from 18th - 25th June. Work includes door replacement on the North wall, firewood replenishment, deck repairs, general hut maintenance and site work.

Due to the dates being dependant on weather, these dates may change. Thanks for your patience. If you have any questions, please give Shaun a call on 0275632111.

Shaun Ruddle

Recreation/Historic Ranger

DOC Palmerston North



Suggestions for up coming weekend trips for the next trip card are welcome and can be entered [here](#) or linked from <https://www.mtsc.org.nz/> . Day and overnight trips are now permitted but see [Guidance for Personal Outdoor Recreation during Covid19 Restrictions](#).

2020 MTSC Annual Photo Competition



7.30 pm, Tuesday, 4th August 2020, Rose City Aquatic Clubrooms

Entries need to be in by 28 July 2020

Categories

The best images in each category will be entered into the interclub and FMC competitions.

- **ABN ABOVE BUSHLINE** (With no Human Element, i.e. Alpine scenery with no people or man-made objects)
- **ABW ABOVE BUSHLINE** (With a Human Element i.e. may include people or man-made objects)
- **BBN BELOW BUSHLINE** (With no Human Element i.e. Bush/lowland/subalpine and no people or man-made objects)
- **BBW BELOW BUSHLINE** (With a Human Element)
- **HIS HISTORIC** (Photographs taken prior to 1 January 2016)
- **NFF NZ NATIVE FLORA & FAUNA**
- **LE LONG EXPOSURE**

Entries

You can enter up to 3 photographs in any category and up to 21 images in total.

Photo(s) should be in digital format as either a **.jpg** or **.tif** file with a minimum size of 1 MB and a maximum size of 5 MB.

Photo(s) must not have been digitally manipulated other than by cropping, sharpening, tonal / exposure adjustment or the stitching of panoramas. Removal or insertion of features not in the original image is not allowed.

Photo(s) must have been taken after 1 January 2017 (except for historic ones) and must have been taken in New Zealand, defined as within our Exclusive Economic Zone.

File naming convention

Please re-name all photos as follows;

Category, photographer and then caption in that order **e.g. BBN Jim Brown Dawn at the beach**
(Please note - no dots, dashes or underscores in the file name)

To enter

Contact Richard Lander via email at photocomp@mtsc.org.nz or text/phone 021 840472 to:
Either

- Email digital images directly (if you only have 5 or less images)
- Upload images to a Dropbox folder (email me and I will send you the link)
- Or give your photos to me on a USB drive before **28 July 2020**.

Rules

1. Definition of a “human element”

The definition of a “human element” is flexible but the general intention is: Where the photo contains as anything other than as a very minor feature: people, a hut, a track sign/marker, bridge, ice axe and anything else that has been introduced by humans into the environment then we would define that as having “a Human element”. But if a photo has what could be called a Human Element but that element is very small, inconsequential and not a feature in the photo then you could count it as “No Human Element”.

2. Entries for the contemporary categories must be taken after 1 Jan 2017. Any photos taken prior to this date will automatically be entered into the historic category.

3. Definition of “historic”

The intention for the historic category is for entrants to go back through club and individual archives to select “old photos” rather than “photos of old things”. As an example, a recent photo of a hut built in the 1950’s is not a ‘historic’ photo. However, a photo of the same hut taken in the 1960’s certainly is a ‘historic’ photo. Photos for the historic category must be taken before 1 Jan 2017. The prize for any winning photo from a club archive by a deceased member will go to the club. The prize for any winning photo from an individual archive by a deceased person will go to the person who entered the photo, whether through a club or as an individual supporter.

4. Definition of “Long Exposure”

The intention of the long exposure category is for photography of scenes that the naked eye cannot normally comprehend. These shots would require a very long exposure and the use of a tripod. The category is intended for highly technical images of shots taken at night, (including star trails), or in extremely low light situations such as caves or canyons. The category is not intended for normal dusk/dawn photography, or images where a long exposure is used to ‘blur’ the image (such as flowing water, or movement of the subject).

5. All photos must be taken within New Zealand, which is defined as within our Exclusive Economic Zone. This includes the following islands; North, South, Stewart, Chatham, Kermadec, Sub-Antarctic.

6. Rules on post processing:

- Adjustments for exposure, white balance, contrast & levels are allowed.
- Cropping is allowed
- Stitching for panoramic shots is allowed
- Removal or insertion of features not in the original image is **not** allowed.

7. Unless you notify us otherwise, by entering this competition you grant MTSC the right to submit winning photographs to the Interclub competition and the FMC for the annual FMC Photo Competition. You will have given your consent for any of these images to be used in publicity material, either produced by MTSC, FMC or a third party, which is used to promote the objectives of FMC.

Discount Ski Passes

Hi there Skiers and Riders, Disabled Snowsports Canterbury is pleased to announce the release of our new Bargain Books of vouchers for most South Island Ski Areas for the 2020 Season. In most cases the offers include two lift passes for the price of one, although a few fields have different offers and/or restrictions. This year we are proud to tell you that Treble Cone/Cardrona are back on the roster, after a few years away for TC. This is your best chance to spend some time on some different or less well known ski areas, while you are doing your bit to support local ventures.

Ski Fields participating this year include Cardrona, Treble Cone, Mt Cheeseman, Mt Olympus, Temple Basin, Porters, Mt Lyford, Mt Dobson, Broken River, Fox Peak, Ohau, Snow Farm, Rainbow, and Hanmer Springs. The Bargain Books are our major fundraiser each year, and although the 2020 Season may be a little different to previous years, the generous support from nearly all the Ski Areas is really heartening. It’s a wonderful indication of their positivity and eagerness to support our members. We very much appreciate your support too, and although the Bargain Books are still currently in production, we expect them to be ready for shipping and collection by early June.

All of the details are on our website <http://www.dsc.org.nz/bargain-booklets/>

Bargain Books are \$110 for the first one purchased and \$90 for subsequent ones. They can be purchased through our website.

Reserve your Booklets now and have them shipped to you as soon as they are ready; just contact webquery@dsc.org.nz

Thanks for your support and we wish you a fantastic 2020 Season.

Regards

Disabled Snowsports Canterbury



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 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, 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.