

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 7. August 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.

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: 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.



7.30pm Tuesday 6 October, 2020: Margaret McKenzie with Jill Faulkner on Old Ghost Road

A five day gourmet adventure traversing the South Island's 'Old Ghost Road' in March 2020. Presented by Margaret McKenzie and supported by Jill Faulkner

13 August, 2020: Interclub Quiz

The quiz will be hosted by the PNTMC this year and will be at their usual club night venue of Quakers Hall, 227 College St, PN. Doors open at 7.15pm for a cuppa before the 7.30pm start. Make up a team of MTSC members for a fun evening testing your knowledge of tramping with other local trampers from MUAC as well as PNTMC.

REPORTS AND NOTICES

MTSC President: Rob Pringle

president@mtsc.org.nz

I once watched an American comedy film where a young gentleman struts up to the door of what appeared to be a typical American homestead for his first date. Knocking timidly, the door swings open to reveal a muscle clad, six foot-plus gentleman who asks very politely, but ever so firmly, if the young man's intentions with his daughter are honourable. In an attempt to break the ice, the young man quickly responds, "well sir, that's mighty nice of you. I didn't realize I had a choice." The remainder of that man's evening turned out about as well as Aron Ralston's trip into the Bluejohn Canyon. For those who don't know about Aron's story, it was immortalized in the film 127 hours (run time of only 93 mins for those of you who want the shorter version). Aron undertook a solo canyoning trip where, partway through, he managed to dislodge a rock, pinning his arm, and rendering him stuck. In the coming days, it becomes apparent to him, that his only hope of survival, is to amputate the arm, rappel a 20m waterfall, and hike 11km to safety. He survived.

What struck me in the film, and in the above comical anecdote is that a) we have a choice, and b) we should leave intentions. For those who have seen the film, a standout part of the story was the fact that Aron evades giving intentions to a number of people on his way out the door. No motivation for this is clear, but when he is reflecting on those choices not to tell people where he's going while pinned in the canyon, it becomes really clear that outcomes could have changed if only he'd let people know.

This concept is relevant for the MTSC. For those of you who aren't aware, we run an email address specifically for leaving such information. It's intentions@mtsc.org.nz. It becomes the first port of call for any overdue party. It's a great idea to compose a brief email prior to your trip, outlining where you think you'll head, who's on the trip, what their contact details are, car registrations, and contact for next of kin. It's also super handy to include whether or not party members have a PLB on them. The club has a dedicated pool of people who can retrieve this information in the event of an overdue party notification. Having an accurate account of who's where can save vital time should search and rescue be required. It also helps formulate a response plan if SAR are aware of the party's details.

On another note, I alluded to the idea of a carparking booking system being introduced up Mt Ruapehu last month. This is now in play, and I strongly encourage those of you undertaking day trips on the weekends to familiarize yourself with the booking system. See <https://www.mtruapehu.com/parking> for more details. Be aware that carpark one will now be locked after hours to assist with snow clearing. Changes are afoot.

Good news though: Snow fell, and snow is continuing to fall, so time to dust the skis off, and get out there



and get amongst it. Don't let this winter pass you by, because as someone famous once said: "if you don't do it this year, you'll be another year older when you do!"

Rob

UPCOMING TRIPS

August Wednesday Tramps			August Thursday Tramps		
05	Richard Hunter	357 6821	06	Nigel & Jill Spencer	D 329 8738
12	Dennis Jensen	329 3229	13	Syd Easton	356 7462
19	Ian Brookes	358 7974	20	Judy Swainson	358 4082
26	Anne West	357 5716	27	John Brock	329 4834
August Weekend Trips					
1-2	Mt Hopeless, Nelson Lakes	Technical	Elliott O'Brien	021 941 653	
8-9	Elder Hut via Renata Hut	Medium Fit	Dave Mitchell	021 292 4109	

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.

31st July - 2nd August, 2020: Mt Hopeless, Nelson Lakes

Elliott O'Brien Technical 021 941 653

This trip depends on a decent weather and snow conditions outlook for 3 days over the weekend of 31 July - 2 August. I'll make a call on 29 July, book Sounds Air flights from Paraparaumu to Blenheim and book a car. Intention is to water taxi across Lake Rotoiti then tramp up to Cupola Hut. Saturday morning start under headlamp to ascend and descend the SW Ridge (steep rock will involve alpine trad to reach the top of the summit pyramid). Walk out from Cupola Hut early on Sunday morning for Sunday evening flight from Blenheim back to Paraparaumu. While the route is Mt Cook Grade 2, if you're keen to come along you should be comfortable climbing rock on natural protection in winter conditions and ready for 3 long days. Get in touch with me early, as if the weather looks good, I could spring this trip any time between now and late October.

8th – 9th August, 2020: Elder Hut via Renata Hut

Dave Mitchell Medium Fit 021 292 4109 or 06 329 2803

This trip has been re-scheduled from later in August.

Elder hut is 4 bunk hut on Renata ridge in the Otaki Forks area. It has good views of the greater Wellington area. The trip begins at Otaki Forks where we initially take the track to Waiotauru hut, then onto Renata hut. From Renata hut it's another 3-4 hours along Renata ridge to Elder hut. If the weather deteriorates, we can reassess how far we go. To get there will take 6 -8 hours tramping. We will take tents or flys regardless. Contact me on phone numbers listed above.

We welcome the following new members to the club: Alistair Beckermann and family (Freya, Blake, Maia and Anna), Benedicte Florin and family (Tony and Christopher Dagger), Brett Gillies, Isaac Gunn and family (Lysseas and Rieladri), Gay Jansson and Zac Smith.

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.

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](#).



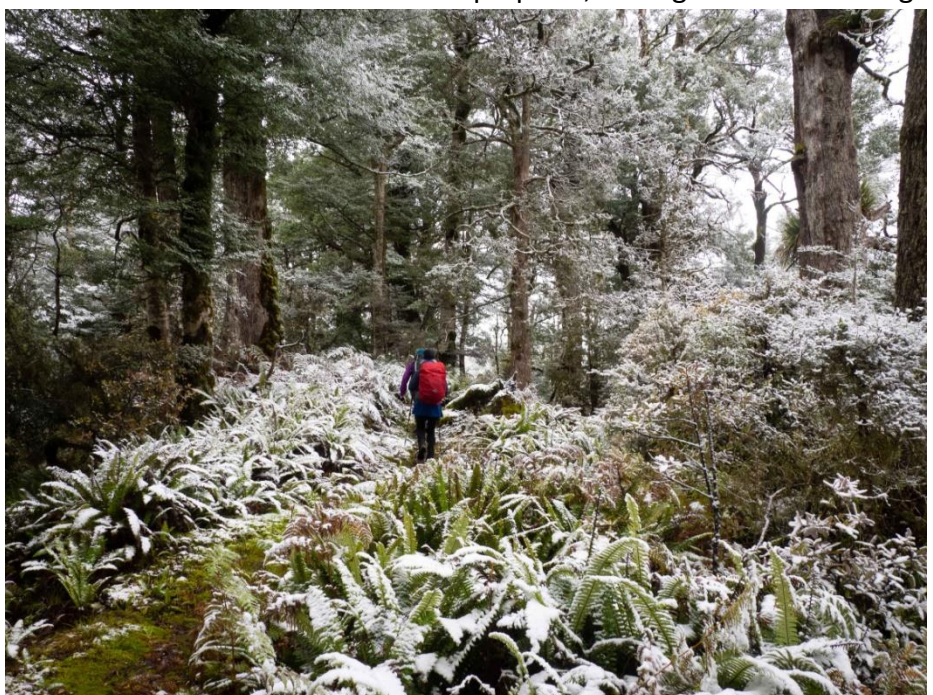
Wednesday 1 July, 2020: Tunupo

Reporter: Linda Darbyshire

Photographers: Richard Lander, Cheryl Dawson

I have always found the Tunupo track beautiful. It's a safe winter tramp option, having no river crossings and a stable track underfoot. On 1 July an enchanting bush experience was revealed to our group of 29 braving a cold day. The group set off with plans to make their way up the Tunupo track for as long as they wished, before heading back to Alice Nash Memorial Heritage Lodge Hut and regrouping before our walk back to the car park.

We stopped for morning tea after an hour, and made the decision that after another hour we would gauge the weather and decide when to head back to the hut. In that next hour climbing in altitude





the first snow for the season was gently sprinkled on the bush around us. Cameras were brought out left, right and centre, capturing the magical, mystical, beautiful, enchanting canvas we were now part of.

The radios were a great asset. The leading groups had one, myself in the middle, and the rear group used the other two. When the decision was made to turn back as the snow got heavier, the message was effectively shared throughout the group. Everyone returned to the hut for their lunch before walking out to the cars.

For me it was a most enjoyable lead. Thanks to those who looked out for others, communicated their intentions with me, and chose to simply enjoy the experience. Also thanks to the drivers, Robbie, Rod, Bev, Bernard, Richard H, Cheryl and Marion and everyone for sharing their photos....I was spoilt for choice.

Thursday 2 July, 2020: Tunupo (or not)

Trip Leader and Reporter: Suzanne Clarke

Photographer: Mary Mercer

Eleven intrepid (read mentally challenged) trampers set out on a very cold morning with the intention of walking the Tunupo track and then heading back to Alice Nash Hut for lunch if the weather was bad. Well, the weather was worse, snowing at Apiti. Even more snow as we drove up Table Flat Road until we were finally stopped by tree across the road. The tree was not to be budged, so the only avenue ahead was retreat. Thanks to Ken,

Chris and Syd for getting the chains on the wheels. Syd very carefully backed down the hill until we could turn around.

The Kimbolton Café then seemed a good option and we arrived there right on opening time at 10 am for coffee and cake. The leader made a decision that the only option open to us was to return to Ashurst and walk the Gorge Track. All agreed. This turned out to be a pleasant walk in cool but otherwise good conditions. We even saw some sun. Thanks to those trampers who turned out and to Syd for driving the van under less than ideal conditions.



Wednesday 8th July, 2020: Mania

Trip Reporter: Bob Hodgson

Photographer: Tim Swale

The Manawatu forecast was for periods of rain developing from morning easing to isolated showers towards evening and so it was! Twenty six brave trampers (and winter weather warriors) made a 9.20am start from the Mania Road at 680m along poled farm tracks to the Ruahine Forest Park entrance and the Mania Track. In places we tramped over and through mud; in the absence of cow and sheep dung, the track mud was the



less fragrant! It was also a little deeper than a good pair of tramping boots. Once into the bush, all trampers were delighted by the beauty of the tree ferns then the mainly untouched, predominantly beech, forest that also includes some fine rimu. All trampers made it to the vicinity of the Hunters' Camp at 936m, and a few continued various distances up the following steep inclines into the snow. At the level of the first Hunters' camp we again heard what Russell Poole has speculated to be whiteheads, a New Zealand native related to the South Island yellowheads (mohua).

It was a cold wet day so we needed to keep moving. All trampers were safely out by 2.30pm, ahead of the trip leaders suggested deadline of 3pm. All in all, an invigorating winter tramp and afterwards we were made very welcome at the Hansen's Kimbolton cafe.

Thanks to trip leader and van driver Robbie, and car drivers Bernard, Bill, Margaret and Judith.

Thursday 9th July, 2020: Herepai

Trip Leader, Reporter & Photographer:

William Laing

First 12 trampers (a full van load) then 10 then finally 11 trampers set out from the Putara Rd carpark up the Mangatainoka river on a fine but cool day. The mountains were clear with snowy peaks and the sky blue. While the blue didn't last, and it did snow a bit, at least it did not rain significantly. We crossed the two swing bridges and had morning tea half way up the steep climb to the cross roads to Herepai or Roaring Stag huts. The track for the lower part of the climb was dry



but rapidly got wetter under foot towards the top and along the top of the ridge. From there we reached Herepai Hut in time for lunch, with occasional snow flurries to beautify the bush.

Three of us continued on the track beyond the hut to the first rise where there was a view although the cloud had come down and obscured the mountains.

All were back well before 3 pm after enjoying an excellent day out with wonderful weather, great views and some strenuous walking. I must say, every time I do that walk it does seem to get easier, even though I am getting older. Thanks to John Brock for extra photos and Wayne for driving the van



Wednesday 15th July, 2020: Sunrise Hut

Trip Leaders: Coralie and Evan Davies

Photographer: Cheryl Dawson



Thursday 16th July, 2020: Exploring Hardings Park

Trip Leader and Reporter: Ewen Cameron

Photographer: William Laing

And then there were eleven.....

After an early start at the Kahuterawa carpark 17 trampers headed up the Sledge Track to begin the day's activities. At the suspension bridge, by Ross Creek, four of the group headed off to complete their walk around the Arapuke Bike park while the rest headed on up the hill towards Toetoe corner and morning tea (Part I). By the top of the hill another couple had decided to return to base. The remaining eleven headed off towards the Platinum Mines on the Toetoe loop. Although the track was as muddy as usual, we made good progress. Instead of going to the Platinum Mines, we followed the Blue triangle track up the hill and on to South Range Road. The initial steep section of this track serving as a reminder that the Platinum Mines are on the top of a hill.

From South Range Road the group had good views of various components of Mercury's wind turbine project



and received an excellent explanation about the future location of turbines, substations and power lines from two Mercury staff we met on the road. We understood well the reason the area has been selected for wind power generation because, while we were there, we faced a brisk, very cool, South Easterly breeze. By 11:15 we found some shelter near the 622m high point and enjoyed morning tea (Part II). After briefly inspecting what we now understand to be a proposed turbine site smack in the middle of "Old Hunta" track we returned to the high point and headed down through beautiful bush on the H2 trapline to the Toetoe loop for a late lunch.

After lunch, we took the Toetoe loop up to the 550m highpoint, where the Otangane loop track begins, and then returned to Toetoe Corner before heading back down to Ross Creek and out down the Sledge track. By the end of the day the promised rain was still holding off, but the wind remained chilly. We had been lucky to get good views when we wanted them and to have enjoyed great company over the day.

Wednesday 22 July, 2020: Alternative Tramp Confirms Gorge Track Open Again

Trip Leader: Bob Hodgson

Eight of us rendezvoused (!) at the Balance End of the Gorge with an 8.45 am start. We split into two groups, one intent on walking to the Apiti statue and back again, and a second that turned and lunched in heavy rain at the Windmill Lookout. All returned by about 2.45pm and called in at a Woodville cafe for coffee and chats. We had a good day and can report that the track is open again and that recent extensive track work at the Ballance end has resulted in much improved surfaces.

Thursday 23 July, 2020: Rangiwahia

Trip Leader: John Thornley

Photographer: John Brock

The intention had been to climb to the Rangiwahia Hut, but misty rain all day led us to an easier option: two tramps in the village, and lunch at the McKean Pinetum.

The first tramp was behind the graveyard, and offers a half hour climb through stands of native fuchsia on the flats and fully grown native trees at the higher levels.

Then it was the Rangiwahia Scenic Reserve, on the other side of the road and clearly signposted. The late Graham Pritchard, staunch member of our Thursday tramping group, had made it his personal commitment to record the major trees – total of 70 in the reserve – and provide name tags to mark the variety of natives surviving from the pioneer commitment to preserve the bush as a water catchment area. Recent working parties have done more work on the track, including making steps, ropes for inclined slopes, and boards over water-logged sections of the 4-wheel drive farm road. This work continues. Our group warmly recommends this scenic walk, which can be comfortably covered by young and old within an hour and a half. It has generous coverage on Google.

Finally, there was our visit to the McKean Pinetum, to the left 200 metres along Renfrew Road. For many this was their first visit. Built on the McKean family farm, the Pinetum is an 8 hectare gully, holding around 1500 conifers. The photograph shows us in a nail-less DIY Pagoda, in the heart of the park. It made the ideal lunching spot for sheltering nine trampers, looking to the rain clouds still hanging over Rangiwahia Hut. We had made the right decision!

Refreshments at the Kimbolton Restaurant completed the day, and we were back home by 3.30 pm.



Left to right: Bryce Buddle, John Thornley, Lynda Hunt (first time with us), Tony Evans at rear (car driver), Robyn Laing, Royce Mills (car driver), Raewyn Buddle, Judith Tonson (John Brock took the photo)

NZ Mountain Film Festival

Massey University Alpine Club is hosting the Palmerston North screening for the NZ Mountain Film Festival Tour again for 2020. The festival theme 'A Celebration of Adventurous Sports and Lifestyles' aims to showcase films from high-octane sports such as skiing, climbing, kayaking and mountain biking. It also features increasingly topical environmental and mountain culture films to inform and entertain.

This year we will be hosting the show in the MUSA Lounge on Massey campus, with a bit more of a relaxed atmosphere including comfy couches and beanbags to relax on while you watch the 8 kiwi made films with a running time of 145 minutes plus a 20 minute break. There will be a barbecue out the front before the show from 5.30pm, so come grab some food (vegetarian options will be available) and find a seat.

Important event details:

Programme: NZMFF Kiwi Made films

Date: Thursday 17th September 2020

Time: Show starts 6.30pm, BBQ and drinks available from 5.30pm

Location: MUSA Lounge, Massey University (opposite the Massey Library)

Tickets: Pre-sale tickets are \$15, purchase from Bivouac Palmerston North or email socialrep@muac.org.nz

Alternatively tickets will be sold at the door for \$20 - eftpos available.

Package Two, Kiwi Made: A popular package of amazing home grown films. A great second evening, or alternative to the mostly international films above. 145 minute run time.

Forgotten Highways, 16 minutes, Director: Deane Parker, NZ. The journey of discovery of both the Maori culture and exploring new country in the Whanganui District by a group of mates. The trip follows the river by packraft and trails both old and new by mountain biking, to link up a story of history and adventure.



Olivine, 10 minutes, Director: Patrick Clissold, NZ. In 2016 three women were given a grant by the Federated Mountain Clubs (FMC) to carry out a traverse of the Olivine Range.

It Is The People, 17 minutes, Director: Elina Osborne, NZ. They say your first thru-hike is like your first love. With just a pack on her back, a kiwi girl from West Auckland took a journey that would change her world. The continuous footpath that spans 4,270 kilometres from the border of Mexico up through California, Oregon, and Washington into Canada, is known as the Pacific Crest Trail; a hike far more intimidating than any she'd done before.

Grey Ghost, 28 minutes, Director: Allie Rood, NZ/USA. Nick Allen and Mark Heighton go to Stewart Island in search of rock climbing. With little to no information about climbing routes or rock quality, they embarked on what ended up being an adventure of a lifetime. The crew flew into Ruggedy Beach and carried 40 kgs of gear each in hopes of climbing on the Northern Slabs in the Ruggedy Range. They quickly realised the rock was much bigger than expected, but something much better lay just around the corner.



(Re)Discovering a Remarkable Backyard, 17 minutes, Director: Guillaume Charton, NZ.

This movie follows two local Queenstown climbers who are on a quest to re-visit their mountain: The Remarkables via two different challenges which could be seen as firsts: traversing its 12km long ridgeline, and climbing 1000m of rock routes on three different valleys.

Peace Mountain, 15 minutes, Director: Colleen Gentemann & Janina Kuzma, NZ. Follow local skier Janina Kuzma on the most epic adventure, a ski trip to ski Mount Hermon, a mountain range situated on the boarder between Israel, Lebanon and Syria. With the countries still officially at war, she is confronted with military soldiers on patrol on both sides of the border.

Building a \$12MD Bike Trail | The Pike 29 Track, 13 minutes, Director: Tom Woodward, NZ.

The Pike 29 Memorial Track cost \$12 million to build and passes through the rugged and storm battered mountains of the West Coast. It connects with the Paparoa Track then descends to the Pike Mine buildings. This film gives a taste of the effort that went into it's 3 year construction, and the conditions the trail builders dealt with while making it.

The KFC, 29 minutes, Director: Richard Sidey, NZ. Join five local pilots on a paragliding adventure in Tanzania, with the ultimate aim to fly from the summit of Mt Kilimanjaro. No training, no sponsors, no worries!





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	022 0341180
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: 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.