

July 2006
Issue 6

mail:
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Poutaki Hut
Photo: Adam Matich



Upcoming club nights

Patagonia + Club Nostalgia + Body Care

7.30 pm, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at the Manawatu Aero Club Rooms, Airport Drive

4th July - Tales of Patagonia

Tony Gates will be speaking to us about a recent journey to Patagonia. He visited Bariloche, then El Calafate, where the giant Glaciar Perito Moreno is located. Tony's presentation features tales of trekking in the Andes of Patagonia, with an interest in the flora and fauna. Like the New Zealand Wilderness there are forests of Nothofagus, with flowers like Senecio, Rannunculus, and Ourisia.

18th July - MTSC goes back in time...

Do you remember "Suzy", when hair was longer (or you had hair), bush shirts were the norm, or maybe even when the Lodge was being built, or Harris Creek was a great place to stay? What about when Burton's Whare was still a regular destination for club trips? Come along for a night of memories and marvel at how young we once were! Material from the MTSC archives will also be available for viewing.

1st August - Taking care of your body in the outdoors

Glenn Pendergrast will be speaking to us about taking care of your body in the outdoors. Topics include: 1. Pre ski-season fitness. This quick and easy programme really works. 2. Taking your creaking and arthritic joints out tramping. Don't just ignore those first signs. Things you should do..... 3. Surviving on the Tararua tops. Recent hypothermia, dehydration, and fatigue research. Practical advice for tramping in extreme conditions. 4. Answers to any physiotherapy questions you might have.

Annual subscriptions are due by the **30th of June**, and need to be paid to get the benefits of membership, not least of which are this fine newsletter, and the extraordinary value of Lodge accommodation at member's rates. If you have not paid yet, then why not do it right now?

President's Report

Search and Rescue + Ruapehu Mountain Clubs Association

by Howard Nicholson

email mtsc.president@xtra.co.nz or phone (06) 357 6325

Members will be aware that MTSC provides personnel when required for Search and Rescue. On 27-28 May, thirteen members were involved in two operations. The first was the night rescue, including a stretcher carry over difficult terrain, of a badly injured person from a gnarly side stream in the Manawatu Gorge. The second was a search for a missing elderly woman in the Ballance Bridge area. It is awesome to know that our Club members can contribute such a high level of skill and expertise to this worthwhile cause, often at a moment's notice.

Ruapehu Mountain Clubs Association (RMCA) is calling for nominations for the positions of President and six Councillors. If you are interested in finding out more, then please contact me for more details and a nomination form.

The snow is falling, so its time to head for the hills. I hope to see you there...

Chief Guide's Report

Being prepared

by Tony Evans

Carry a fly, yes I am repeating myself but wait, there is more! To make them more easily available to members I have one at my house. If unable to contact Peter Rawlins or myself, Howard Nicholson has access to the club gear and there are flies kept in the mini-bus.

Should we listen to weather forecasts? Yes we should but that does not necessarily mean staying at home because of a bad forecast. On my recent mid-Ruahine trip I considered cancelling because the forecast was so bad but went ahead and it was a very good trip. The weather was not as bad as predicted and was better in the Ruahines than in Palmy that weekend.

There is no magic formula, "to go or not to go", it is a judgement call. Just be prepared so that if the weather does its worst your safety is

not compromised.

New Club Members

The club welcomes:

Ian Algie (Pahiatua)

Andy & Wendy Brooke & Family (PN)

Chris & Denise Brunskill (PN)

Mark & Robyn Futter & Family (Wellington)

Mark & Helen Lewis & Family (Lower Hutt)

Angela Paterson (Napier)

Ann Young (PN)

Message from the Lodge Booking Officers

by Hugh and Liz Wilde

Lodge bookings for weekends and school holidays are rather heavy this year. So if you are considering taking a chance by turning up at the lodge on the off chance that there will be room – don't! Always ring the booking officer first because there will be a good chance that the lodge is full. If there is space available because somebody hasn't turned up then the lodge leader should have notified us of the vacancy.

Poutaki Hut Track
(L)

Trampers breakfast
(R)

Photos: Adam Match
Poutaki Hut Trip
27-28 May 2006



If you are on a day trip to the mountain, for example, and you want to stay over but you can't contact Liz or me, then ring the lodge and talk to the lodge leader to see if there is a vacancy. Then ring us and tell us you are staying there. Don't just turn up expecting to find a spare bed. It's not easy for lodge leaders to turn people away who arrive heavily laden without bookings when the lodge is full. However they must do this because we should not break the terms of our license by exceeding our maximum number of guests.

Note: if you want to ring us from the lodge ring collect. We will refuse the call, of course, but will call back immediately so stay by the phone. This procedure minimises our toll charges, thanks to Telecom's collect calling system.

MTSC Photo Competition

Time to dust off those slides and prints or go through that collection of digital photos on your computer as the annual club photo competition is coming up on the 16th of August. Basically you enter photos in the following categories with the one condition that photos shouldn't have been entered in a previous photo competition.

Alpine (NZ)

Predominantly alpine scenery in NZ (i.e. above the bushline).

Scenic (NZ)

Pictorial interest in NZ hills etc (i.e. predominantly below the bushline).

Natural History (NZ)

NZ flora and fauna or detail (e.g. geology, ice formations etc).

Topical (NZ)

People or detail related to tramping, climbing, or skiing related activities in NZ

Overseas: Open

Alpine or scenic; People met while tramping or climbing overseas.

The best three photos in each category will be put forward to represent the club at this years Interclub photo competition between PNTMC, MUAC and ourselves.

If possible, please send your digital picture entries to Howard Nicholson by the 13th of August, via CDs or email (mtsc.president@xtra.co.nz) so that they can be arranged into categories and tested prior to the night. I can also scan slides if you wish.

MTSC Lodge Lockers

by Howard Nicholson

The allocation of lockers at the Lodge has been a wee problem over the last couple of years. Chris White took on the task of sorting out who is paying for which locker, and has produced a list that matches members to lockers. There are a few lockers for which the users cannot be traced. As the lockers are apparently not being paid for, nor actively used, they will be reallocated to active lodge users who are on the locker waiting list.

To this end, any contents in lockers "F", "O", "S" and "V" will be removed and the lockers reallocated. Any contents will be bagged up and stowed in the Warden's Room at the lodge. Please contact Chris if you believe any of this gear may belong to you.

Please note that this is being done to get the maximum use out of a limited number of lockers. If you are currently allocated a locker but you are not an active user of the lodge, or if you no longer require a locker, then please notify Chris White (359 2232) as soon as possible.

Calling Old Timers...

by Howard Nicholson

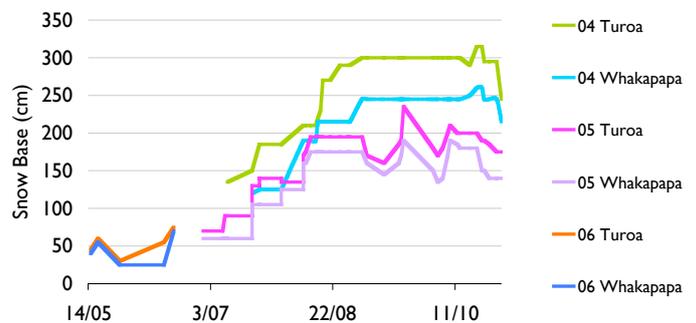
On the 18th of July we are planning a club night on MTSC over the years. We will have some of the club archive material available, but if you have any pictures or stories that you could contribute, then please let me know. Material from the period 1980-2000 would be particularly appreciated. Thanks. Contact Howard Nicholson, email mtsc.president@xtra.co.nz or phone (06) 357 6325.

Historic Snow Levels

by Ken Mercer

Our Ski Captain has kindly compiled a graphic of the 2004-2005 snow base levels on Mt Ruapehu. Those with printed versions may wish to see the colour graph which can be accessed by downloading the newsletter from the web.

Mt Ruapehu Snow Levels 2004, 2005, 2006



Forest & Bird Lodge Caretaker required

by Brent Barrett

Like wintersport? Like free rent at Whakapapa village? A caretaker is required for Forest & Bird's Ruapehu Lodge (near DoC Visitor's Centre at Whakapapa Village) during winter 2006. Free private room in exchange for warden duties. For further info contact Tracey Hinton t.hinton@forestandbird.org.nz or (04) 385 7374.

Upcoming trips

TRIP GRADING

The times listed below include tramping, rest and meal stops. In assessing the trip times and grades, terrain, weather and party fitness (a party is as fast as its slowest member) must be considered. As these factors will never repeat themselves, times are only estimates. Contact the trip leader if you are unsure about trip gradings for a specific trip.

ALL	All welcome
EASY	4 hours per day, pace slower than Easy/Med. Does not relate to terrain.
EASY/MEDIUM	5 hours per day at a pace slower than medium.
MEDIUM	7 hours per day at a standard walking pace.
MEDIUM/FIT	8 hours per day at a pace faster than medium.
FIT	Over 8 hours per day at a pace faster than medium/fit.
TECHNICAL	Qualifying requirements to be announced by the trip organiser.

Maharahara

25 June

Easy/Medium

Rod McKenzie

357 0136

The high point of Maharahara is situated in the southwest Ruahines and is accessed from Opawe Road in the Pohangina Valley. The walk starts across farmland then climbs up through the bush. Weather permitting we will lunch on the top amongst the leatherwood. Leaving PN Police Station at 8 am.

Waitewaewae Hut (Tararuas)

1-2 July

Easy/Medium

Dave Allan

323 9734

Meet at PN Police Station 8.30 am on Saturday. A trip into an interesting part of the Tararuas with no "tops" travel. Contact me after hours on the number above or (027) 212 1005.

Tokomaru Bush Bash - CANCELLED

2 July

Gary Bevins

Cancelled due to another commitment.

Wednesday Trampers

5 July

Easy

Liz Flint

356 7654

Please phone for details.

Thursday Trampers

6 July

Easy/Medium

Bev Akers

325 8879

Please phone for details.

Gold Creek Hut

8-9 July

Easy/Medium

John Beech

354 9310

We will head up the Makororo to the junction with Gold Creek then up the ridge and down into Gold Creek again to the hut. If the weather is poor i.e. the river is up we may try and go through the farmers property to avoid the Makororo.

Te Mara Loop

9 July

Medium

Adam Matich

359 2796

I am not entirely sure what I am going to do with this one. It can be taken as read that I want to head up to Te Mara Peak via the Blue Range track, but from that point on there are a couple of choices for looping back. One option is to head South-East down the spur off Te Mara peak to hit the Mikimiki tramway at the saddle (2722960E, 6039890N) and then head back along the tramway to the Kiriwhakapapa road end. This may require navigation. The other option is to head South-West along Blue Range to Bruce Hill and head South-East down that spur (which has an old track) to end up at the foot bridge at the southern end of the Mikimiki Tramway and back along there to the Road End. We will play it by ear I suppose.

Thursday Trampers

13 July

Easy/Medium

Peter Carver

354 4479

Please phone for details.

Howletts Hut

15-16 July

Medium

Christine Scott

354 0510

Howletts Hut is high in the Ruahines above Daphne Hut. It has a coal fire, 10 bunks and an excellent view. What more could you ask for with snow all around! We leave the Police Station at 7.30 am Saturday. This trip is dependent on the weather as heavy rain can make the river uncross-able.

Billy Goat Creek Circuit

16 July

Easy

Jan and Allan Watts

357 6848

This trip in the south-eastern Ruahines begins from the Coppermine road end, and follows the sidle track for a time before climbing up to the site of the old Coppermine hut and then follow-

ing a marked route through the bush up the ridge. The 'track' climbs steadily until an intersection with the Billy Goat Creek track, then breaks out to the bush edge and returns to the car park over rolling farmland. This trip will leave the Police Station at 9.30 am (very civilised!). Those needing transport will need to let us know before Friday, 14th July.

Wednesday Trampers

19 July

Pauline Hall

Please phone for details.

Easy

329 7707

Purity Hut (Thursday Trampers)

20 July

Graham Pritchard

We will visit the new Purity Hut assuming building is completed by then. If not an alternative venue will be advised.

Easy/Medium

357 1393

Beginners Alpine

22-23 July

Brian Webster

Please phone for details.

Technical

357 0189

Cow Creek Hut

22-23 July

Garry Grayson

This hut is situated on the Waingawa River and can be reached from a number of directions, however, on this occasion from the Kiriwhakapapa Road end. Upon reaching the road end, a little uphill bit is required to reach a T-junction at 978 m where a right turn will take us to Blue Range Hut for lunch stop. Then backtrack to 978 junction and straight on to reach a point where we may find ourselves following an overgrown track which comes out at Cow Saddle on the Ruamahanga River route. A left and short sprint down to the bridge over the Waingawa near Cow Creek Hut. Next morning we'll take the standard route back up the hill to the T-junction then back down towards the car park.

Medium

326 8837

Waipawa Forks Hut

23 July

Ade Beech

This will be an easy Sunday stroll from the Sunrise carpark up the Sunrise track and down to Waipawa Forks hut. Return the same way or possibly down the Waipawa river depending on the weather.

Easy/Medium

354 9310

Thursday Trampers

27 July

Merv Matthews

Please phone for details.

Medium

357 2858

Mangatainoka Hot Springs (Kawekas)

29-30 July

Tim Swale

This is an excellent winter walk that follows the Mohaka River to Te Puia Lodge and then beyond

Easy/Medium

06 376 6556

to the thermal area at Mangatainoka hot springs. Assuming the ford north of Puketitiri is passable, the walk starts at the road end at Mangatutu Hot Springs. The intention is to then walk for a couple of hours to Te Puia Lodge, leave heavy overnight gear and take togs and torch another 45 minutes up to the hot springs. After a warming soak in the hot tubs, just the perfect antidote to a chilly evening, we will return to the hut for dinner. The next day we walk back downstream to Mangatutu Hot Springs where those keen can have another dip before starting the long drive home.

Wharite

30 July

Tony Evans

From the Coppermine Road car park we follow the track a short distance up the stream before taking the track to the left which follows a ridge all the way to the main divide, then left again along the top to the tower for lunch. Retracing our steps to the road end with maybe a detour to some of the old mining works on the way.

Easy/Medium

357 4355

Mangaturuturu Hut/Lake Surprise

5-6 August

Hilary Hurst

Only a couple of hours walk to the hut and maybe another hour to the lake (but a couple of hours drive as we go up the Ohakune Mountain Road). This is a beautiful trip – about a third in tussock; a third negotiating the cascades and finishing with a wee bit of beech forest before the hut. Here we drop the heavy stuff and head up for a look at the lake. It is easy time-wise but can be technical at times if there is a bit of ice and snow about. So good boots and wet weather gear is important. We went in 2004 and had a magical weekend. Definitely appropriate to bring a bottle of wine and relaxed attitude. Don't worry about ice and snow cos a bit of team work will get us through (provided we get up the road). Plan B would be a longer walk up the road before getting to the track; or going to Blyth Hut. Contact me on the number above or (021) 343 451.

Easy/Medium

359 1905

Colenso Trig

20 August

Mark Street

This trip starts from the DoC Kawhatau field base at the end of Rangitane Road in the western Ruahines. The climb up to the trig has two reasonably steep sections with a gently grade in between. The altitude gain is 740 m. Colenso trig is on a prominent high point in tussock country; so in fine weather the views are impressive. Tramping time 5.5 to 6 hours. Start time: 7 am.

Easy/Medium

353 7442



Left: **Thursday Trampers outside Waiopahu Hut**
Photo: Keith Fisher (Thursday Day Trip | 18 May 2006)

Below: **Poutaki Hut**
Photo: Adam Matich (Poutaki Hut Trip | 28 May 2006)



Trip reports

Waiopahu Hut

18 May

Leader: Ivan Alve

17 trampers

Waikanae River Side Walk

24 May

Leader: Bernard Cobb

20 trampers

Toka Loop

25 May

Leader: Ray Pratt

8 trampers

Up Knights Track and down Shorts Track (6.5 hr).

Poutaki Hut

27-28 May

by Jean Garman

Adam had an easy trip planned to what Jean hoped was a nice hut where we could have a good fire, eat lots of yummy food, read books and do some embroidery. The forecast was for lots of rain on Saturday and a bit better on Sunday.

As Adam had a nice new clean shiny car we made him take it. Breakfast was had at a bakery in Dannevirke, extra yummys were also purchased for lunch. Despite several heavy showers on the way up it wasn't actually raining when we arrived at the car park. There were no other cars and the river was low, so low in fact that those with leather boots and gaiters managed to prance across only getting slightly damp in the boot department.

We headed down river to the first stream on the true left where we picked up a bit of a track which took us up to the logging road. From there we trudged along to Leatherwood Road which took us up to a nice new sign marking the start of the track. It was steep, very steep, through regenerating bush with the odd beech tree, loads of manuka/kanuka and lots of interesting little plants. Luckily the gradient quickly reduced and it was only a 300 m climb onto the ridge line where the odd pine tree or two was to be found. From here we had lovely views of deep black clouds and veils of rain. However, it still wasn't raining on us! We made our way along the ridge to the Poutaki high point. A few skiffs of drizzle had us contemplating raincoats but they never hung around long enough for us to bother getting them out. On the high point there are aials and solar panels and we had a very good view of rapidly incoming weather so we didn't hang around but scarpered down to the hut. The hut is a blaze of orange in



View across the ranges from
Tunupo to Longview Hut
Photo: Lynda Hunt (3 June 2006)

the middle of a large clearing with stunning views out towards Napier. It is a tidy 4 bunker with a great little pot belly stove. We changed into our relaxing clothes as the rain started to fall. Adam started on the fire, then Jenny took over while Jean gave helpful hints from under her sleeping bag – eventually they got it going. Out came the frypan, it was time for pikelets with whipped cream and jam for afternoon tea. The fire was by now hot enough to cook on and a very pleasant process it was. Jenny and Jean did much sewing and Adam had a nap, then it was diner time. Fresh pasta with sun-dried tomato pesto, bierstick, olives, fresh basil, parmesan, and roasted pine nuts hit the spot nicely. Then with very full bellies we scoffed our way through a box of chocolates – well Adam and Jean did, Jenny saved some of hers till the morning. The weather was clearing and the stars were stunning before we went to bed.

The morning dawned extremely sunny as we cooked up our breakfasts of bacon, eggs and fried tomatoes before eventually packing up and leaving at about 10.00 am. Back the way we came the clouds had cleared and we had views

for miles. The rugged rocky terrain of the Wakarara Range was revealed in all its glory. Back along the road, down the track to the river, bouncing across the river and back to the car. We left getting changed until the car was up the first little hill as there was nasty slippery mud across the road and it might have been a bit much for the poor little car. But bravely it ploughed on with no problems although it was no longer clean and shiny. A visit to Norsewear on the way home rounded off the trip. A nice relaxing weekend in an obscure part of the ranges, good food, good company and our raincoats never left our packs – what more could you ask for? We were Adam Matich, Jenny McCarthy and Jean Garman.

Powell-Holdsworth 28 May

by Mark Street

This did not go on account of the leader being involved in a stretcher carry on Saturday night/Sunday morning.

Thursday
Trampers on the
Mokai Patea
Range
Photo: Keith Fisher
(8 June 2006)



Mania Track**1 June****by Keith Fisher**

Fifteen trampers headed off on what was a fine winter's day. We lunched on the tops with great views. The mist drifting over from the east was generally below us so the views of Ruapehu were good. Track was a bit muddy and we had a leisurely trip down to be back at the van after about a 6 hour tramp.

Mid-Ruahine Meander**3-5 June****by Tony Evans**

After leaving Palmerston North at 7 am on Saturday morning we were tramping shortly after 8. From Heritage lodge car park and up to Tunupo and along the top of the Ngamoko Range in fine weather but with a cold breeze blowing. We decided to keep to the high route over Otumore while the weather was good because the forecast for the next day was awful. Arriving at Longview Hut after a seven hour day the early start was not needed but still good insurance with the shorter days at this time of year.

A clear night with the lights of Hastings visible in the distance the hut lived up to its name. With gas heating and the company of another party we spent a comfortable night and a text weather forecast suggested the next days weather would be reasonable but turning bad on the Monday. Next morning we set off south along the main range until we judged we were directly above Top Gorge Hut and then bush bashed down until we reached the Pohangina just a few minutes upstream from the hut. An early lunch at the hut and up the track onto the Ngamoko Range where we had high cloud above us and looking down on the lower cloud fine where we were. Then onto the long ridge that leads down to Irongates Hut and with gentle rain falling we reached the hut after another 7 hour day.

Snug inside the hut with the fire going we listened to the wind and rain in the evening and woke to a calm and crystal-clear morning with a light layer of snow on the ground. A stroll back down the track to the car park included a steep scramble where DOC has cut a new track

around the slip, ice-creams in Cheltenham and back in the city by early afternoon. We were Linda Hunt, Peter Rawlins, Gary Evans and leader Tony Evans.

Waitewaewae Boiler**7 June****Leader: Jill Spencer**

16 trampers

Mokai Patea Range**8 June****by Tony Evans**

Up SH1 and past Utiku, follow the signs to the bungy jump and on to Mokai Station. Leaving the van we walk across farmland and up onto the tussock tops of the Mokai-Patea Range, no bush-walking today as the pasture merges with tussock. Some walk as far as the junction where the track leads down to Otukota Hut but most of us hang about the high point 1202 and admire the 360 degree views; the Umakarikaris, Aorangi, Potae, the Hikurangis, the Ruahines, Egmont/Taranaki, Ruapehu, Ngauruhoe. Yes it was one of those magic clear winter days and only nine Thursday trampers up there to appreciate it.

Kapakapanui**11 June****by Hugh Wilde**

This trip went according to plan apart from the weather. It was a bit slower than usual owing mainly to the muddy conditions. As it was a little bit windy on top we didn't linger, apart from a couple of photos but pressed on to have lunch at the hut. We got little rain. There were a couple of changes to the track: it seems that the branch track down to the Ngatiawa Camp has been closed (I didn't see the old sign) and the last part of the return track down from Ngatiawa trig has been redone and zigzags down more to the south where it drops into the tributary of the Ngatiawa River, close to the memorial cairn. This was noted in the last issue of Beechleaves. Thus it avoids the private land where they are trying to regenerate the forest.

**Kapakapanui Trig**

Photo: Tim Swale
(11 June 2006)

Originally there were only five of us going on this trip but we managed to coax Neville out of his Sunday morning sleep in and that was great because he brought the minibus along with him which gave us a bit more room for wet

packs and clothes. Thanks Neville. Those who braved the elements: Tanja Mildner, Scott Wythe, Tim Swale, Linda Campbell, Neville Gray and Hugh Wilde.

Department of Conservation Hut and Track Notes



Pohangina Field Centre Ruahine News

Tracks and Huts

- Tracks to cableway and river from Kawhatau Base have been cut.
- Kelly Knights Hut has had vegetation clearance.
- Work for the season has wound down and no track workers on again till Oct/Nov 06 reactive work only.
- Planning complete for coming inspections of all Ruahine tracks and huts over next 6 months.
- There has been wasp control conducted on the nest below Otukota Hut.

Threats and Pests

- Pohangina staff killed 14 goats this month.
- Six of the eight judas goat transmitter collars have been recovered so far. One collar has failed and is missing south of Maharahara track attached to a female black goat. If anyone sees this goat we'd be keen to hear about it. The collars are blaze orange and stand out pretty well. We don't mind if the animal is shot but would like to recover the collar. Ph (06) 328 4732 daytime or 06 3551302 after hours.

For further details contact:

Jo Greig (Community Relations Manager, Department of Conservation, Palmerston North Office.

Email: jgreig@doc.govt.nz).

Left:

Poutaki Hut Track
Photo: Jean Garman
Poutaki Hut Trip
27-28 May 2006



Right:

Koitiata Coast Care's
Peter Fraser with pupil
from Oroua Downs
School planting one of
about 950 pingao
plants at Himitangi
Beach, Manawatu for
Arbor Day.
Photo: Jo Greig, DoC



Club Information

Annual Hut Passes

Support our club in the Tararuas. Buy your Annual Hut Pass through DoC. The full price of an Annual Hut Pass is \$90 but is reduced to \$63 with your Federated Mountain Club (FMC) card discount. Jean Garman will provide you with a form to fill in which will be sent off with your cheque and FMC card (if you have one) to DoC Waikanae who will post you an Annual Hut Pass. Note that MTSC family memberships only pay one FMC sub so only one FMC card (and therefore discount) is available per family. Contact Jean at jean.garman@fonterra.com or phone (06) 354 3536.

For Sale

DoC hut tickets - discount rates to members. Contact: Howard Nicholson on (06) 357 6325.

Accommodation at the MTSC lodge on Mount Ruapehu

The lodge is close to Iwikau Village, has power, hot showers, and is stocked with food. The lodge phone number is (07) 892 3860. Lodge bookings can be made between 9:30 am and 9:30 pm on any day of the week. Please do not call outside of these hours. Note that bookings are not confirmed until the fees are paid. Payment is in advance by cheque or cash. Contact Hugh & Liz Wilde on (06) 356 9450.



	Members	Non-members
Adult	\$21	\$33
Secondary School	\$18	\$30
Primary School	\$15	\$26
Group prices	on application	on application

Booking and use of the MTSC Transit Van

The normal run-of-the-mill things you need to do if using the Transit Van are:

1. Book preferably by Thursday, and certainly no later than 6 pm Friday.
2. Cancel bookings by these times so others needing the van have time to amend travel arrangements.
3. Check the oil, water, and tyres.
4. Fill in the travel sheet (km, people, and dollars).
5. A fly should be carried on every tramp, there is always one in the passenger door of the club van and they are available from the Gear Custodian at no charge.

Trip leaders and those planning trips should seriously consider using this cost effect club asset. Neville Gray is our minibus custodian and he can be contacted at (06) 357 2768.



Club Equipment

We have packs, 2 and 3 person tents, fly-sheets, snow mats, sleeping bag cover, gas cookers, size 8 and 9 boots, billies, two bivvy bags and two big tent flies. Ice axes, crampons, and helmets are also available. Food Dehydrator: ideal for drying large and small quantities of fruit, vegetables, and meat for tramping rips. Easy to use, works well, and is available for hire from the Gear Custodian. Hire cost for members, \$1 per day. Contact the Gear Custodian: Peter Rawlins on (06) 356 7443.

Articles for the newsletter

Send by the 15th of each month to Wei-Hang Chua (editor) at morepork@ihug.co.nz. Please contact me if you'd prefer to receive your newsletter by email only. Send changes of address to the Membership Secretary at P.O. Box 245, Palmerston North.

Club website | www.mtsc.org.nz

This includes a club contact email address and is hosted by InSPire Net. The club webpage is maintained by Howard Nicholson and is kindly hosted by InSPire Net.

People to contact

If you would like to contact the club with general inquiries, please drop a line to MTSC, P.O. Box 245, Palmerston North and it will reach the appropriate person. If you want a particular topic discussed at Committee meetings, this is a good way to go about it.

MTSC 2006-07 Committee

President	Howard Nicholson	357 6325 mtsc.president.xtra.co.nz
Secretary	Tim Swale	06 376 6556
Treasurer	Doug McNeur	359 1893
Chief Guide	Tony Evans	357 4355
Day Trip Convenor	Bev Akers	325 8879
Membership Sec.	Mark Street	353 7442 mtsc@inspire.net.nz
Newsletter Editor	Wei-Hang Chua	021 212 0369 morepork@ihug.co.nz
Social Convenor	Linda Campbell	323 3836
Ski Captain	Ken Mercer	356 7497
Lodge Manager	Ryan Badger	027 445 1997
Lodge Booking Officers	Hugh & Liz Wilde	356 9450 wildeh@clear.net.nz
Mini-bus manager	Neville Gray	357 2768
General Committee	Bev Akers	325 8879
	Roger Athersuch	353 0434
	Darlene Westrupp	354 5764
Imm. Past President	Christine Scott	354 0510