



Upcoming club nights - Details on page 3

7.30 pm, 1st Tue of the month | Rose City Aquatic Club Room, 50 Park Road, Palmerston North

Tuesday 7 September 2010 | MTSC Photo Competition

Friday 17 September 2010 | Interclub Quiz, Hosts MUAC

Tuesday 5 October 2010 | Interclub Photo Competition

New Members

Rene van Oosten - Palmerston North
David Cushing - Palmerston North
Kerry & Janice Sinclair & Family - Palmerston North
Donna & Glen Howe & Family - Whangarei
Catherine & Daryl Iwikau & Family - Palmerston North



All prospective members are encouraged to go on a club trip or attend a club night before joining. This is a great way to meet current members who can nominate you. 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 usually confirmed at the next monthly committee meeting.

For further information or an application form please visit: www.mtsc.org.nz

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If you'd like to receive your newsletter by email as a pdf in full colour rather than by post then please send an email request to editor@mtsc.org.nz. Change of contact details please email the club membership secretary at membership@mtsc.org.nz as well as copying the message to editor@mtsc.org.nz.

Items for the newsletter: The deadline for newsletter items is the end of the month. Please include a date with trip reports. Photos are appreciated, any number of images at 1024x768 pixels or greater if possible. For example a 2 megapixel image is 1600 x 1200 pixels. Please include the date and an appropriate caption for the photo, including names of people.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
KEN MERCER
president@mtsc.org.nz
PHONE (06) 356 7497 or (027) 364 6475



SKI CAPTAIN
ROB PRINGLE
rob.kate.pringle@gmail.com
PHONE 06 354 0218

A couple of years ago the MTSC transferred the insurance for the lodge from AMP to a collective scheme set up by the Ruapehu Mountain Clubs Association and Alpine Risk Management. The collective buying power of the RMCA scheme gave us replacement insurance for a similar cost to what we were paying for indemnity insurance and we are very happy with it.

Part of the scheme includes \$500,000 public liability which covers all club members on club trips against an accident or negligence leading to an immense bill. Many tramping clubs in New Zealand are insured for this amount.

What might lead to a claim? An obvious example would be a cooker going critical and starting a fire. The cost of firefighting or hut replacement would be covered by this insurance. However, I don't know that this would be of much comfort if I was the one stranded in the bush with everything burning! As always – take care.

On another front I'm just back from participating in our Alpine Instruction II course which Howard Nicholson and Peter Rawlins ran in a most able fashion. Tim, Greg, and Josh also participated. The weather was a bit damp and windy so it was quite cold – perhaps not ideal for instruction but very realistic alpine conditions.

The snow levels this year as posted by RAL are very low and the rain this weekend hasn't helped but don't let that put you off skiing. Artificial snow making on the lower mountain has kept it open while the upper mountain gets less rain and more snow. Mary and I have been skiing most weekends and are really enjoying winter!

When you see reports of “freshies” and “avalanche control” on the Mt Ruapehu website, one can only maintain a glimmer of hope for what has been so far a rather dismal ski season. It's still fairly boney on the hill but the crew are pumping out the artificial snow when they can and with the forecast for more fresh snow in the coming days the conditions can only improve.

Whakapapa 100cm base
Turoa 145cm base

As I travel up and down the country I am reminded of the importance of staying safe on the roads and I think that this is so much more so when we generally leave Palmerston North at the crack of dawn after a late night packing, or late in the evening when heading towards the mountain. Remember to drive safely and wisely, maintaining a safe travelling distance between cars and driving to the conditions. Additionally, on the return trip, don't forget to stop and make the most of some of our great bakeries and café's on the journey or just get out and stretch your legs.

Safe travelling, and I hope to see you out there on the slopes.

CHIEF GUIDE – KIM FRASER

SUMMER 2010/2011 TRIP CARD

mtsctripcard@hotmail.co.nz

There will be no specific meeting to discuss the summer trip card.

Kim will be at the next club meeting on 7 September to catch up with all leaders and potential leaders.

This year the trip-card is available online for members to view, add and edit their trips. If you would like to have access to the trip-card please email Kim at the address above and she will send you a link

All trips can be emailed for Kim to add to the tripcard along with ideas and enquiries. Please include location, trip grading, your name and contact details when providing information for the tripcard.

Deadline for trips to be included in the summer tripcard will be at the club meeting on 7 September 2010.



MTSC PHOTO COMPETITION



The MTSC photo competition is to be held at our club night on **Tuesday 7 September**.

You may recall the fantastic range of quality pictures that we saw last year, and want a chance to win a prize or two again this year. There is still time to take a winning shot, so get snappin'!

This year we are proposing some new categories, aligning to some degree with the Federated Mountain Clubs competition categories. This should reduce confusion over what constitutes an alpine or scenic image. The categories are:

CATEGORIES:

Landscapes (NZ) - Pictorial interest in NZ, no people

Above Bushline (NZ) - Predominantly alpine scenery in NZ, above bushline, e.g. rock and snow, tussock, etc., may include people

Below Bushline (NZ) - Predominantly bush, scrub, lowland to sub-alpine areas, may include people

Natural History (NZ) - NZ flora and fauna or detail, e.g. geology, ice formations, animals, plants etc.

Topical (NZ) - People or detail related to tramping, climbing, skiing etc. in NZ

Overseas - Photos taken overseas, open category: e.g. landscape, people, natural history, etc.

Entries shall not have been entered in a previous Interclub Competition. If possible, please send your digital picture entries, along with a title and/or brief description, to Howard by 27 August, on CD (call me so that I know when to expect them – 357 6325) or email (photocomp@mtsc.org.nz) so that they can be arranged into categories and tested/judged prior to the night. I can also scan slides if you wish, provided I have them by 20 August.

The 3 winners in each category will go forward to the MTSC/MUAC/PNTMC Interclub competition, which will also be hosted by MTSC this year (date to be finalised, but possibly 5 October).



INTERCLUB QUIZ

Hosted by MUAC

7pm, Friday 17 September

MUBar

Student Services Building
Massey University Campus

Nibbles provided, Discounted Drinks
Teams of 4-6 people – more than 1 team
per club is encouraged.

For further details or if you have any
inquiries please call Jess Costall
0212162446

INTERCLUB PHOTO COMP

Hosted by MTSC

7.30pm, Tuesday 5 October

Rose City Aquatic Club Room
50 Park Road, Palmerston North

Winners in recent MUAC, MTSC and
PNTMC Photo Competitions will be
showcased to club members and
judged with some awesome prizes up
for grabs.

JUDGE: Keith Dobson

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 grading 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.

TRIP SAFETY

Trip leaders are reminded that trip intentions can be emailed to intentions@mtsc.org.nz, although this is not a substitute for leaving full written details with the designated contacts within the club. If you require further information on this please contact the Chief Guide. The club also has tent flies and personal locator beacons available free of charge, the club transit van will always have these so there isn't any reason not to take these on a trip short or long, they way next to nothing.

Manawatu Gorge Track

Standing Invitation

David Newstead

Easy
027 4576175

I walk the Gorge Track (W to E) most Sunday mornings. This is a reminder that the invitation to join me still stands.

Starting time is usually 8:00 to 9:00 (flexible). I walk over and meet my wife at Beyond-the-Bridge Cafe, for morning tea / lunch, as appropriate, and she drives us back to the Western car park. So if you feel like a Sunday morning walk (vigorous or ambling, your choice) give me a call. Families, young children, everyone welcome.

Wednesday Trampers

1 September

Liz Flint

Easy/Medium
06 356 7654

Please call for more details.

Thursday Trampers

2 September

David Grant

Medium
06 357 8269

Please call for more details

McKinnon Hut

4-5 September

Jenny McCarthy

Tech/Medium
06 376 8838

The walk to McKinnon hut involves a steep ascent to the bush line and then onto the rolling tops where hopefully we will need to use our crampons. That is the reason for the technical part in the trip grading. We will be coming out the same way. Please call for more details.

Ski Trip

4-5 September

Christine Scott

All
06 354 0510

Wednesday Trampers

8 September

John Hunt

Easy/Medium
06 324 0339

Please call for more details

Thursday Trampers – Square Knob

9 September

Royce Mills

Medium
06 355 8556

An explore of some bush and ridges near the southern end of the Makahika track. Please call for more details

Poheke

12 September – Sunday

David Harrington

Fit
06 839 5766

Intending of climbing bush spur to Poheke from farmland then sidle below leatherwood band to Ratapu, down another bush spur to farmland. All bush travel with no tracks. Trip may change a bit due to if permission is granted or not.



ADAM MATICH | JENNY ALMOST IN AMONGST THE SKIERS



UPCOMING TRIPS

Wednesday Trampers

15 September

Bernard Cobb

Please call for more details.

Easy/Medium

06 328 8088

Thursday Trampers

16 September

Geraldine Fovakis

Please call for more details

Medium

06 356 4327

Wednesday Trampers

22 September

Margaret Gillingham

Please call for more details

Easy/Medium

06 356 8812

Thursday Trampers

23 September

Graham Pritchard

Please call for more details

Medium

06 357 1393

Waiopehu Hut

25-26 September

Bev Akers

Please call for more details

Easy/Medium

06 325 8879

Totara Flats High Ridge

25-26 September

Jenny McCarthy

This involves climbing up past Powell Hut to the High Ridge and then following the ridge down to Totara Flats. Sounds simple, it is several years since I have been down this ridge and the last time we did make it to the Hut "by dark". Please call for more details

Medium/Fit

06 376 8838

Wednesday Trampers

29 September

Lorraine Green

Please call for more details

Easy/Medium

06 354 6158

Thursday Trampers

30 September

Merv Matthews

Please call for more details

Medium

06 357 2858



JOHN DOOLAN | DON McDONALD KEEPING HIS FEET WARM AND DRY IN THE HUT (no heating in this hut)

WANTED

For the Lodge

- 2 x large Frypans
- 2 x Large Saucepans (domestic)
- Cake Tins
- Casserole Dishes
- Large Metal Colander
- Large plastic Mixing Bowls (microwavable)
- 2 x Pyrex Jugs 2L
- Clock

If you are willing to donate any of the above items for use at the Lodge they will be put to good use and greatly appreciated.

Please contact Kate 0277659416
rob.kate.pringle@gmail.com

Burton's Track – Te Araroa Walkway

14th JULY

By Bev Akers

Burton's Track (part of the Te Araroa walkway) is one of those difficult tracks to organise with transport. We had a bus load plus 3 car loads parked at the beginning of Burtons track via Scotts Road. Trying to organise vehicles is a task on its own, add 18 people wanting to do different things – had me in a fluster.

We all set off together and as long as I had drivers organised with keys, we were set.

Once reaching the high point, before crossing the style that leads into the bush, I was already down on my tally by one - Drivers will collect him on our way back. We had our morning tea together, then 12 left to do the full walk while drivers plus a couple extras relaxed to enjoy the views.

Was time to head off, back down the 4x4 track to the car park hoping to meet up with John.

He was no where to be seen. Now I never imagined this small group would give me any grief. Strange but John's car was unlocked – but no pack inside. So we whistled, called, tooted horns, checked out the stream, ¾ hour later, I saw this red hat bobbing along the track coming from Burtons. John had taken the wrong turn at the last gate before the top. I'd told the others that out of any of us, John was the one with all the right gear - GPS, map, compass and more knowledge than any of us with 81 ? yrs experience. But he was just recovering from surgery.

This was a lesson to others, just how easy it happens - Anyway I was relieved.

John felt so guilty, he wanted to shout us coffee. No need for that, but we did stop at the Horseman Café - Shannon for a break in driving !!

Driving up Mangahao Road is a mission on its own with logging trucks. Fortunately we could drive right up past the end of the Burton's track and park in a pull in area for trucks.

Off we walked down hill to meet them, getting as far as the stream crossings, when we met up with them all together (co leader had all under control)

Just a climb to the vehicles. Big relief not having to walk the road.

Back out by 4pm and of course another coffee at the Horseman – Shannon.

Blue Range Track

15 July

By Stuart Malcolm

Eleven trampers took part in this Thursday trip. From the upper junction five went to Blue Range Hut and then back to walk the loop track with geocaching interests to the fore. The other six went up to Te Mara peak and returned by the main track. A relatively easy day but the winter weather turned out much better than had been forecast.



RITA HODSON | MARAGET GILLINGHAM AT PURITY

Purity

28th July 2010

By Rita Hodson

13 trampers wanted the sun but it didn't come as we climbed "the hill" with intermittent showers.

A welcome stop at the trig for morning tea and then a gentle climb through lovely beech forest. A sprinkling of snow on the ground made us forget about sun and quicken our step in anticipation of more further up.

To our delight the showers turned to softly falling snow -a beautiful sight as it landed gently on the ground and the surrounding bush.

A fallen tree on the track brought us back to reality as it was a little challenging getting over and avoiding the bush lawyer.

With snow still falling we had our lunch in the warmth of the hut - conditions outside cold and not ideal for Caroline and Andrew trying to find the cache somewhere up there. As we made our way down the temperature warmed up there were glimpses of sun and a lovely view of the valley below.

An enjoyable tramping day out with great company and a relaxing coffee at the Mangaweka Airport cafe. Also a successful cache find for Caroline and Andrew somewhere in Mangaweka. Thanks to Mike for driving the van.



RITA HODSON | TRAMPERS ON WAY DOWN FROM PURITY HUT

Island Ridge
7 August
By Jean Garman

This was our second attempt to traverse Island Ridge in the Tararuas. On Friday there were 5 confirmed with 2 maybes. Come Saturday morning one of the maybes had withdrawn, the other had fortuitously mentioned that he was going on the Sunday day trip so was told off for not reading the newsletter which clearly said Saturday. As we waited for our last definite to show it dawned on us that maybe more than one person wasn't very good at reading specifics in newsletters/emails and a quick phone call confirmed that this was true so Jenny wouldn't be joining us. Five of us piled into David's ute and headed for the top Mangahao dam. We were pleasantly surprised to find it not raining on our arrival so set off across the top dam and into Baber creek, which most people managed to cross without getting their feet wet.



JEAN GARMAN | ADAM, DAVID, DEBBIE AND MONIQUE HEADING UP THE BABER CREEK, ISLAND RIDGE TRIP

After picking a friendly looking spur we pressed onwards and upwards through relatively pleasant open bush. It wasn't till significant height had been gained and we entered the mist zone that the bush became wet and an interesting gradation in dampness developed through the party from the front person being completely soaked to the last person being almost bone dry.

The friendly bush continued along the ridge for further than expected luring us into a false sense of security but eventually the odd leatherwood bush was spotted and the rate of forward progress slowed dramatically. It was never solid leatherwood and travel switched between crawling on hands and knees through little tunnels in the vegetation, smashing through the odd thick bit to even walking upright and relatively unconstrained for several meters at a time. It still wasn't raining at lunch time although by now we were all wearing coats as the vegetation was very wet and leatherwood slimy. To determine our exact location a new fangled GPS thingy was dragged out, first it had to be changed back to the old geodatum to match our old school maps and then we flatly refused to believe the coordinates it was giving us. We knew we weren't a couple of hundred meters off the side of the ridge in a stream. Eventually it chose to agree with us but it took quite a while. We pressed (literally) onwards and a while later there was no longer a ridge in front of us and we were looking down into the Mangahao valley.

The travel down the spur at the end of the ridge was still difficult and seemed to drag on for longer than expected before eventually we were back into nice forest again. As we lost height the spur got progressively steeper and was starting to look pretty daunting when we stumbled across a series of blue triangles marking a rat survey line. Figuring that DoC would take the easy route for a survey line we chose to follow the markers back to the track. Well either DoC workers are sado-masochists or the end of the spur is frightful as the survey line was alarmingly vertical for most of its length. Eventually we dropped (again literally) onto the sidle track. Not having to thrash through wet bush any more it was off with the coats; needless to say not long after that it started to rain. We were protected for quite a while in the bush with noticeable drops only starting to penetrate the canopy near the swing bridge. At this point we took on a regional division with Hawkes Bay continuing on the track while Manawatu took to the river.

It still wasn't raining hard and we were pretty grubby so we decided that there was no point in putting the raincoats back on. The river is quicker and we arrived at the road end 15 min before the others. Cake and coffee before we headed for home a little after 5pm. Interesting trip, not much sign of having been travelled apart from a lolly packet (grubby hunters) spotted near the beginning of the ridge, don't think I will ever do it again....

We were David (trip leader), Debbie, Monique, Adam and Jean.

ARAWARU**29 JULY**

By Hugh Wilde

Arawaru (otherwise known as Baldy) is a prominent peak east of the Gordon Kear Forest, and in clear weather is visible from Palmerston North. Access is gained from just past the locked gate off Scott's Road and through private land before entering the Tararua Forest Park.

Fourteen of us set out on this trip. The weather was reasonable (although we briefly had light hail later during the day on our return through the bush).

We had intended to drive through the forest and walk to Punga Hut in the so-called Rimu Forest, but were advised by the forester that the roads were too cut up by four-wheel drive enthusiasts for our van to negotiate. So Arawaru was second choice.

We headed off through the private land, across the stream (cleaning our boots from the previous week's mud bath on the Mid Pohangina track), up the forestry track and into the bush. The route is reasonably straightforward, albeit muddy to begin with, along the ridge to Arawaru. The track was quite well defined and had faded orange paint blobs and occasional plastic ribbon markers.

Three branches in the track were passed: one to the left, down to adjacent farm land and the deer trap, one leading to the right a short distance to the old fly camp, and the last closer to Arawaru and leading left to Peak 664 but right to Arawaru. About three hours from the start of our trip we reached Arawaru which was our lunch stop. We had brief views of Palmerston North and part of the Wairarapa before the mist rolled in ending the lunch break as the temperature fell.

Our return was a little more eventful navigation-wise than the route in because we (a) deviated a little (took a shortcut) from the Peak 664 turnoff and the area is also awash with marked tracks through the bush. Once the route and direction were sorted with our compass and gps navigation once again was straightforward, and we eventually emerged from the bush exactly where we went in. One hour or so later we were home and cleaning our boots.



TIM SWALE | PETER & HOWARD SHOWING HOW IT'S DONE |

SNOWCRAFT 2

SNOWCRAFT 2 MOUNT RUAPEHU**14 - 15 AUGUST**

By Tim Swale

This weekend saw the second snow-craft course run by MTSC this winter and was intended to build on the skills learned in "Snow-craft One" by getting into steep terrain travel using ropes for protection. We hoped to dig and spend the night in a snow-cave on Saturday evening so had plenty of warm gear packed when we met at Howard's house on Friday evening. Peter brought the Club climbing gear round and divided it up between Ken, Greg, Josh and myself. When fully loaded with this hardware it became apparent that a mountaineer needs the constitution of a pack horse but with the thermal insulation properties of a polar bear.

The weather forecast was abysmal with heavy rain and gale force winds expected. Approaching Waiouru wind gust warnings flashed up on the roadside electronic sign. The last hour's drive to the Lodge was quite unpleasant and the walk to the Lodge in the rain even more so with two streams to cross. Where was all the snow?

Next morning was not much better. Howie pointed out that a snow cave is not very waterproof so despite Peter's mumblings of "whimps" and "get hard" the very sensible decision was made to support the Lodge income and have another night with a roof over our heads. After going over harness fitting, tying of knots, use of karabiners etc. unnecessary overnight gear was taken out and we headed off up the mountain. We had to go quite high to find good snow but eventually got to a point where we could set up a rock belay and abseil off the ridge into a snow filled valley. Setting up an anchor and then a second anchor just in case the first failed took time but seemed like a good idea when your life literally depends on getting it right. All the time the wind blew and the rain came down. It's times like this that you appreciate good weatherproof clothing as it can get pretty cold standing around.

Once down, we roped up for glacier travel and practised arresting the fall of our buddy who simulated falling into a crevasse. It worked really well despite Ken nearly being garrotted because his prusik loop was set at the wrong length! It was then back to the lodge just before dark for a lovely warming meal of apricot chicken which Sonya and her team had organised. Fantastic – glad we were not huddled in a dripping snow cave! The evening fun and frolics started with prusiking practice, ascending up a rope to the ceiling of the lodge – not quite so easy with a full pack. We were then entertained by Josh' gibbon like antics on the beam traverse. Chimneying up to the ceiling by the washroom and swinging from anchor to anchor until reaching the dining area was very impressive, but far too energetic for us old fellas.

TRIP REPORTS



TIM SWALE | MINI SAREX | AUGUST 2010

SNOWCRAFT 2 MOUNT RUAPEHU CONT...

With the snow so high on the mountain we decided to take the chair to the top instead of walking. A bit of negotiation was needed as sightseeing tickets were not being sold because of the bad weather. However RAL relented and let us go – they agreed we had enough gear to take care of ourselves if we needed to walk down again. Twenty minutes walk above the café we found snow suitable for practising making anchors with snow stakes (well, just about) and belayed each other as we climbed up the slope. After freezing our butts off sitting in the snow with the wind constantly buffeting us it was great to retreat to the café for lunch. The new café is nearly finished and looks a very impressive affair. Our final session of the weekend was on setting up other types of protection and then avalanche transceivers. With the snow being so soft, aluminium snow stakes struggled to hold and using ice screws was totally impossible.

Howie resorted to jamming his nuts in a crack to keep us entertained while Peter hid the avalanche transceivers. It was then onto a quick game of hunt the transceiver and use of avalanche probes before setting off back down the mountain. By then the lift had stopped working with an electrical fault so we did indeed have the pleasure of walking down as far as the mid station. Finally back at the van we checked gear in and set off back to Palmy. All in all, a very enjoyable weekend with some really useful skills learned.

We are extremely fortunate as a club to be able to have access to specialised equipment at no charge but above all to have the expertise of hugely knowledgeable and experienced club members like Howard and Peter who are prepared to give up their time to pass on their skills.

FERN WALK/OLD COACH ROAD**Wednesday 18 August****By Anne Rush**

Because the rain was bucketing down at 8.00 am our trip to Copper Mine Creek/Billy Goat was aborted and instead a quick decision was made to go up the Pohangina Valley. A good decision as we had sun for a good part of the day and the rain had stopped by the time we got to Ashhurst. It started again on our return home.

The Fern Walk is always an enjoyable place to be with fine examples of Totaras and a massive Rata. The track was in good condition although a little wet underfoot. The area should look even more beautiful in 2 - 3 weeks time when the Kowhai are flowering.

The two loops of the Old Coach Road were walked. A bit muddy but very pleasant. The track had been washed out in one place but fortunately not too much time had to be spent getting back on track.

A coffee stop has become a very pleasant addition to our trips and the Fusion Cafe at Ashhurst can be recommended.

Eleven people participated and special thanks go to our driver, Mike Oliver.

Annual Hut Passes

Buy your Annual Hut Pass through DoC. The full price of an Annual Hut Pass is \$120 but is reduced to \$84 with your Federated Mountain Club (FMC) card discount. For further information or for the forms to complete contact Jean at jeanandivan@value.net.nz or phone (06) 354 3536.

Accommodation at the MTSC lodge on Mount Ruapehu

The lodge is close to Iwikau Village, has mains power, heating, hot showers and is well stocked with food. Members and their guests are welcome. (Lodge phone number is (07) 892 3860).

Lodge bookings should be emailed to Liz and Hugh Wilde lodge.bookings@mtsc.org.nz. If for some reason you cannot email, please phone 06 356 9450. To confirm your booking, payment must be made in advance by cheque, or cash (in person) to 179 Cook St, Palmerston North 4410. Internet payment is not available for lodge fees.

	Members	Guests
Adult	\$25	\$38
Secondary School	\$22	\$35
Primary School	\$19	\$30
Pre-school (3-5 yo)	\$10	\$10



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. 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. There is a Personal Locator Beacon, in the glove box, for people using the van to take with them.

Trip leaders and those planning trips should use this club asset. Adam Matich is our minibus custodian and he can be contacted at (06) 359 2796 or at work (06) 953 7679.

Club Equipment

We have two personal locator beacons (PLB), 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 (no charge for PLB). Contact the Gear Custodian: Peter Rawlins on (06) 356 7443.

Club website | www.mtsc.org.nz

This includes a list of contact details and a club email address. 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. B ox 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 2010-11 Committee

President	Ken Mercer	06 356 7497 president@mtsc.org.nz
Secretary	Tim Swale	06 376 6556
Treasurer	Christine Scott	06 354 0510 treasurer@mtsc.org.nz
Chief Guide	Kim Fraser	06 355 5496
Day Trip Convenor	Bev Akers	06 325 8879
Membership Sec.	Jenny McCarthy	06 376 8838 membership@mtsc.org.nz
Newsletter Editor	Kate Pringle	06 354 0218 editor@mtsc.org.nz
Social Convenor	Lynda Campbell	06 323 3836
Ski Captain	Rob Pringle	06 354 0218
Lodge Manager	Ryan Badger	027445 997
Lodge Bookings	Hugh & Liz Wilde	06 356 9450
Mini-Bus Custodian	Adam Matich	06 359 2796
General Committee	David Newstead	0274576175
	Hillary Hurst	021343451
	Howard Nicholson	06 357 6325