



Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ (Inc)

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FMC Member News October 2011

Here is a summary of activities by the Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand in October 2011, plus news on significant developments of importance to trampers, climbers and all interested in outdoor recreation.

FMC Secretary - Position Available

The present Secretary is stepping down and we will be appointing a new Secretary. The position is a contract position and is paid by way of an agreed annual figure paid as negotiated with the appointee.

The Secretary serves the Executive and the membership and works in close liaison with the Administration Officer. A reasonable degree of competence in MS Word, Excel and the efficient use of email is required. There is opportunity for the new appointee to bring other skills to the position.

The position is one that is worked from home. FMC will supply a laptop if required. Applicants need not live in Wellington (though this can be an advantage) and must have good access to, and confidence in using, the Internet. The workload is variable – it might be 15 – 20 hours in one week and almost nothing in other weeks. Applicants would be required to attend the meetings of the Executive. For further details, go to: <http://www.fmc.org.nz>.

Please send your details, any relevant references and a brief summary of how you feel you can contribute to the work of FMC to P O Box 1604, Wellington by 30 November 2011. Enquiries to secretary@fmc.org.nz

FMC Webmaster - Position Available

The present Webmaster is stepping down and we want to appoint a new Webmaster. The position is a contract position and is paid by way of an agreed annual figure paid as negotiated with the appointee.

The webmaster works from home in close liaison with the Secretary and Administration Officer. The position requires that you maintain the website with up to date information provided by the Executive and also advise the Executive on IT developments which may be of benefit to the work of FMC

Applicants need not live in Wellington and would not be expected to attend any meetings. A written report would be required for each Executive meeting. For further details, go to: <http://www.fmc.org.nz>.

Please send your details, a summary of your experience with website work, any relevant references and a brief summary of how you feel you can contribute to the work of FMC to P O Box 1604, Wellington by 30 November. Enquiries to secretary@fmc.org.nz

Request to Members and Clubs in Canterbury - Volunteer Painter Required Please

The 600 m² flat concrete roof of a commercial building in New Brighton, Christchurch, owned by the Maerewhenua Trust requires a repaint. The Maerewhenua Trust has been a loyal financial supporter of FMC - Most recently, the trust has assisted with the FMC Youth Scholarships. It would be greatly appreciated if a few FMC members might be able to return a good deed and help the trust. Please contact John Simpson, 03 304 8486 or 027 341 9446 if you are able to assist.

FMC Membership Card - New Discount Provider

FMC is pleased to welcome **Four Peaks High Country Track** into its manifold of service and merchant providers on the Discount Card. The Four Peaks High Country Track is a 3 or 4 day/night walk or mountain bike ride over a historic, privately-owned, sheep & cattle station, in the hills between Geraldine & Fairlie. They are offering a 10% discount to FMC discount card holders. Guests stay in upgraded musterer's huts with flush toilets and hot showers, and a ton of charm. The walk offers wonderful scenery and a great way to explore some of New Zealand's high country paradise. The full list of discount providers and their contact details can be found at: <http://www.fmc.org.nz/discount-card/>

FMC Travel Club - New Links with Heritage Expeditions and Wild Earth Travel

Readers may have heard of Rodney Russ and [Heritage Expeditions](#), who are based in Christchurch. They have been providing brilliant natural history expedition cruises to our Sub-Antarctic Islands and Antarctica for 12 years, and have won many awards. A recent association with [Wild Earth Travel](#) has expanded the range of superb specialist nature-watch cruises around the world to unusual and remote places. They are recognized worldwide and offer truly unique, amazing adventures.

The Travel Club has a new link to these companies, which we are very excited to promote. If their trips appeal and you book either through FMC Travel Club or by mentioning your link with FMC if going direct, then FMC will receive a payment in recognition. This is wonderful new way to extend real value to FMC! To learn more about the amazing adventures available, contact John Dobbs (john@tsnapier.co.nz), or visit the respective websites (linked in the text above).

Progress on the Old Ghost Road Cycle and Walkway Project

Executive member, Tony Haddon, is FMC's liaison person with the Lyell-Mokihinui Trust. The Trust, with assistance from DOC and other organisations, is constructing a walk- and cycle-way linking Lyell with Seddonville. As a result of community feedback, the track will not be following the south branch of the Mokihinui River but will traverse the Lyell Range instead. Three huts (with provision for a fourth) are to be constructed along this length of the track. The construction of Ghost Lake Hut is scheduled to start this month. The track is expected to be completed as far as Mokihinui Forks by June 2013. Tony has been providing feedback to both FMC and the parties involved with the project, to ensure that adverse environmental impacts arising from the track and hut construction are minimized.

Trial Bookings for Powell Hut, Tararua Forest Park

As a result of high use during peak periods reducing the enjoyment of users' experiences at Powell Hut (Mt Holdsworth, Tararua FP), the Department of Conservation is to trial a booking system for the period 1 November 2011 until 28 February 2012. All users/parties are expected to book if they require accommodation at Powell Hut during this period. The hut fees will not change [\$15 for adults (18+) and \$5 for youth (11-17)]. An additional \$5 to \$10 management fee will apply depending on party size. Transfers and cancellations are subject to conditions. The only charge backcountry hut pass holders incur is the management fee for their party. The hut can be booked over the phone through the Wairarapa DoC office (06) 377 0700, or in person at 220 South Road, Masterton. The information obtained during the trial booking period will be used to assess further management options for this hut, and other huts, on the popular Holdsworth-Jumbo circuit.

FMC is continuing to work with representatives from DoC on matters relating to hut bookings so as to ensure consistency across conservancies and to ensure that the value of the annual backcountry hut pass is not eroded. We will keep you updated, as information comes to hand, via this newsletter.

2011 Election Manifesto - Wild Forever - Vote for the Backcountry!

FMC has prepared an Election Manifesto. Read it and go along to election meetings and challenge candidates to speak up for the Back-country of New Zealand. Copies are available via: <http://www.fmc.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/Bulletin/Manifesto2011.pdf>, or can be found in the August edition of the *FMC Bulletin*.

Reminder - 2012 Photo Competition

A reminder that clubs can send their entries in now - You don't have to wait for the closing date in April. The revised entry form (one per club instead of one per photo) is at <http://www.fmc.org.nz/services-to-clubs/photo-competition/>

Reminder - 2012 Tramping Calendar

FMC is supporting the 2012 NZ Tramping Calendar and by buying one you will in turn support FMC. The order form is now available on our website: <http://www.fmc.org.nz/sales/calendar/>. Clubs can buy this in bulk and get a substantial discount.

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