

"THE HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)"

JUNE, 1939.

Ron. Craig,
Hon. Secretary,
P.O.Box 62,
HASTINGS.

F. J. Green,
Hon. Treasurer,
P.O.Box 86,
HASTINGS.

It is with regret we have to publish the following letter:

The Editor,

Sir,

If I may presume to take up a little of your valuable space, I should like to bring under the notice of the "Powers that be" one or two matters which I consider should be looked into, and if possible, remedied.

Primarily, the matter of "rough-housing" as it is so fondly termed by its many indulgents. I don't wish to complain, but I, for one, object to being jumped on, sat on, pushed upon, thrown about and generally treated like one sack of chaff. I think a word in the ear or ears of our Napier members might be the means of ending this inane form of amusement and recreation.

Secondly, a new cult seems to have sprung into being, and to be a member of this section, apparently, one has to be capable of going out for a tramp, taking little or no food of his or her own, getting, by fair means or foul, a goodly portion of everybody else's, and above all keeping up an appearance of light-heartedness "camaraderie" and all that sort of thing. Again I don't wish to complain, but to my mind it is hardly good enough. I would like to see a commission set up to go into this matter - "Winning" I think is the correct term for the activities of this cult.

Hoping that some abler pen than mine will take up this matter,

I am,

Sir,

"KAWEKA".

N.B. I take no responsibility for any of the opinions expressed as they are entirely those of the correspondent.

ED.

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"SOCIAL NOTES:"

"Popeye" Collett is tracking Holt, Toop & Co. and has left for the "Old Country" - very sudden Popeye ? We hope you will find the foreign climes to your liking and send you our very best wishes for a pleasant trip.

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This is not the Hatched, Matched, Dispatched, column, but our members have been doing big things lately and we have to congratulate "ABE" Lincoln, Stan Craven, Norman & Hilary Collinge, and Mrs. Lindsay Wellwood (Marg.) who have further increased our numbers by further increasing their own numbers. Our heartiest congratulations to you all.

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Jack Dempsey has been transferred to Blenheim - getting further and further afield Jack ? However a great welcome is always awaiting you should you venture Hastings-wards again.

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WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH HASTINGS????????

It is noticed with growing concern the depletion of our trampers and we have to report the withdrawal of four of our members.

A calamitous state of affairs: June Budd has definitely decided to leave Hastings (What ? Again June ?) Leaving on the 23rd. instant she will be on her way to Auckland to take up a position with John Burns Ltd. June is one of the old identities of the Club and it will not seem the same without her. At who now can we cast aspersions ? Well June, you are decided and now we can only convey to you our most sincerest wishes and hope you will revel in your new surroundings and the fair city.

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Joan Leicester has cut herself adrift from Havelock North and the T.C. and is endeavouring to discover if "Life is real, Life is earnest". She takes up duties as a Karitane Nurse in Wanganui. Our sincerest wishes go with you Joan.

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Terry Hitchcock and Nancy Williams have also decided on fresh worlds to conquer. Terry leaves for Australia shortly and Nancy is heading for Waipukurau. Our best wishes to you two too.

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Once again - WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH HASTINGS ?????????

How's that for the ideal Club Room?

Members will be pleased to hear that the proposed Club's Library is well on the way to becoming such a one as never conceived by the original suggesters. Several raffles are being run in this connection and "Oh & how the money rolls in " When you are asked for your contribution pay up, pay up, and pay again.

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A vote of thanks is due to Val McKenzie who has generously contributed an excellent book to our growing library. This book is Hugh Rutledge's "Everest 1933". Many thanks Val.

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Five of our members were down at the official opening of the "Ian Powell Hut" at Mount Holdsworth recently and are still singing its praises. Wait till our new Hut is finished though???

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Doug Callow the Ford Fury has adopted a new method of dropping members on their return to Hastings. June suffered under this rather harsh treatment. Doug is very keen on non-stop runs and requests members to depart while the car is still in motion. (I might point out that this procedure is a violation of the Traffic Laws . Ed.) Packs are slung out into the middle of the road and passengers duly follow. June found herself rubbing noses with a particularly cold piece of curbstone in the gutter.---- And the little pig got up and slowly walked away. " Future passengers BEWARE

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A little reminder from the Treasurer:

If I were you
And you were me
A different story this would be

If you were me
And I were you
My sub. would not be overdue.

Since I am I
And you are you
Please send your cheque in P.D.Q.

Q.E.D.

This piece of doggerel is not original but serves the purpose admirably.

SO. N.B.

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With the approach of winter and the wet weather here are two water-proofing recipes applicable to both cloth and canvas. Both these recipes have been tried and tested and found satisfactory in every respect.

(1) Ingredients:

$\frac{1}{2}$ oz. sugar of lead
 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. powdered alum

Stir together in 1 gallon of water. When mixture is clear, pour away upper liquid and immerse coat (or other garment) in it for 24 hours. At the end of that time take out, dry, and press. Cloth will be uninjured.

N.B. This mixture is poisonous and should not be applied to garments worn next to the skin.

- (2) Dissolve 1 lb. of good yellow soap in hot water (1 gallon) In another vessell dissolve 1 lb. alum in water. (Immerse coat (or other garment) in first liquid for half an hour, remove, wring out and immerse in second liquid for half an hour. Remove, rinse, and hang to dry.

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CLUB ROOM EVENTS:

20/4/39:

To quite a large gathering of trappers Dr. Gorodiski gave an excellent talk on his travels and experiences in Europe and elsewhere. Dr. Gorodiski has had a very interesting life and recounted some of his travels, as a school-boy, in the North Sea. Leaving School he joined the army in the Ambulance Section and in 1916 joined the Grenadiers taking part in the Battle of the Somme. He was amongst the wounded and went with the English wounded which included 13 more Germans to Le Havre and finally to England. He was a prisoner of war for three and a quarter years and has some pleasant memories of this time spent in England. He travelled back to Germany by tramp steamer but didn't remain long there, travelling extensively, and between the years 1924 to 1927 he visited 12 different countries, hiking part of the way. He saw a good deal of Italy and likens the climate of Northern Italy to our own. He was taken with the beauties of Milan, but as a contrast said Genoa was not a very choice spot, being dirty and in summer months a rather smelly city.

He next travelled through France and related a rather amusing incident. He was looking for Board & Lodgings and enquired of a boarding house proprietress, not knowing the French Language he spoke in English, however the good lady could not comprenez so sent in her daughter to interprete. After listening for a while the girl asked him if he were an American. Our speaker next related his travels in England - this time as a tourist - and admires the country very much. In Scotland he saw a number of the Lochs but did not see the Loch Ness Monster. In August 1937 he left for New Zealand via Canada and arrived in Auckland 2 months later. New Zealand he describes as God's own country. This is one of the most interesting talks with which we have been entertained and we thanked Dr. Gorodiski in a fitting manner.

CLUB ROOM EVENTS:4/5/39:

At the conclusion of the usual business Mr. Pohlen of the Soil Survey Department spent an hour enlightening us on Hawke's Bay Soils.

The Department was organised to determine the nature of the land for industrial purposes and also as a means of benefiting farmers generally. The Department has almost completed its survey and has mapped most of the district, which, we were surprised to learn covers 5050 sq. miles, and obtained samples of almost every type of soil. Whereas in previous surveys only the top soil has been classified, this time the various layers from the top soil to the rock has been dealt with.

Mentioning various places we know very well, he spoke of the soil formation and its possible origin. Kuripapanga for instance has a surface of pumice soil and it is believed to have been deposited there by the ash shower created by the eruption of Lake Taupo. Mr. Pohlen mentioned soil erosion and its effects on the land. Flooding in H. B. which is becoming more frequent can be traced back to erosion, mostly caused by the effect of water on the soil in the high country. Samples of various soils along with various maps of the country were shown which made the talk of interest to us all.

It will be a common thing no doubt, for one member to remark to another "That's a fine specimen of ardulite adhering to your left elbow & " instead of the usual "Mud on Elbow".

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18/5/39: Shipwreck Night.

The first sign of rocks ahead was the sight of a distressed mariner tack-ling across Market Street from "Wales". While all hands were mustering the deck was prepared by holystoning it with Hoben. (I thought night-gowns as a sleeping rig were extinct) The serious work of the evening then started. Mardi Budd and Margaret May tickled a mean ivory and were joined later by Sealy Wood with a borrowed fiddle. As ghastly a crowd as ever huddled in a long boat took the floor, in various stages of dress and undress, and did their stuff, hampered here and there by shoes that refused to enclose their owner's feet, and pants hastily repaired with safety Pins. A solitary first class castaway aloof and cool contrasted strangely with his neighbours.

Later in the evening the Volga Boatmen in the eerie light of a solitary torch performed their task with a melancholy and haunting dignity. Prizes were then awarded - the judges were frankly bewildered by the rich diversity of garb, and were fain to decide by the cowardly expedient of tossing up - to Mim Laing as the greatest wreck, and Spriggles as the queerest sight on the horizon..... A nautical time was enjoyed by all?????????

Opportunity was taken to congratulate Dudley Shoppard on his recent 21st. birthday.

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COMING SOCIAL EVENTS:

- 29th June : A talk by John Grace of the Maori Land Court. Probable.
As an alternative a Snap Shot evening - an opportunity
to get your album up to date and see other peoples .
Paste Pot provided.
- 13th. July: Conjuring Evening. Bring along your conundrums and
white rabbits.
- 27th. July: Talk by Doc. Bathgate.
10. August: Talk by Mr. Phhlen illustrated by lantern slides.

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PRIVATE TRIPS:

Private Trippers have been very busy lately and have been making a thorough survey of the region around the Waikamaka forks, where the site of a new hut is being carefully looked into.

Reports of the Trips:8-9/4/39:

On Saturday afternoon a party of three left for the Waipawa forks, arriving there at 7 p.m. after an hours travelling up the river in the dark.

Next morning - fairly easy going to the Waipawa Saddle. From there we dropped down to the Eastern Head of the Waikamaka, which was steep and narrow at the top with two waterfalls to be negotiated. Three quarters of an hour brought us to the Waikamaka forks where we stopped for a welcome meal. The head of the Waikamaka is open with tussock flats and a good site for a hut being only $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours from the mill. A 1000 ft. climb from the forks and we were on the Mokai ridge with an excellent view of the Kawhatau valley, Iron Peg and Te Hekonga in front of us. We left the ridge at 2.30 and arrived back at the mill at 6.20

Leader : Norman Elder.

15-16/4/39:

Norman Elder put in another very full week-end in this region and a lot of new country was given the once over.

New Lake:

Mr. E. B. Davidson of Deer Culling fame reports a lake of ~~an~~ considerable area down the Mangatera River near Remutupo) actually in the angle below the Waikamaka trig.) The access sounds adjectival at our present state of knowledge.-----

PRIVATE TRIPS CONTD:29-30/4/39:

A party of five arrived at McCullochs Mill at 5.35 having had a spot of bother with the car on the way down. Travelled up the river with torches for two hours, reaching the top at 8 p.m. Experienced difficulty with the fire but were all fed and tucked in by 11 p.m. Next morning we did some track cutting up to the Waikamaka, bearing round to the right under 67 before going down. Found the going rather tough on the account of the scrub. Arrived at the forks at 11.45 a.m. As the weather was very dirtyish we decided against going any further but had a scratch meal before turning back for the camp. Reached the mill at 4.30 where we had a meal before leaving for home.

Leader : Joan Leicester.

(This was the trip on which the Ford Fury made his non-stop run. Ed.)

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20-21/5/39:

A party of four went into the Waikamaka Forks on Saturday night and on Sunday morning were joined by Jas Higgs. The day was profitably spent marking out the hut site and erecting a bivy of substantial proportions for storing the materials. Our new hut is well on the way to becoming a fact of considerable importance, and with the co-operation of Club Members should be no time in coming into being.

Trip No. 92:Kaweka Working Party: 25-26/3/39:

Twenty two trampers spent the week-end at the Kaweka Hut, the object being to clear the tracks, paint the roof and generally effect repairs to the hut.

The party contained a number of over energetic members and during a furious assault on some tough vegetation two of the six slashers were broken. Nevertheless the slasher gang did some great work though in some places some spirited minded person had done even greater work by burning the scrub, leaving an open track.

It was seven by the time everyone reached the hut. This was found to be occupied by an advance party of four who were gazing vacantly, but with obvious satisfaction, at the empty plates before them. Parking space was rather lacking but in time during musical ? interludes and other noisy diversions the party bunked down, though owing to the arrival of three late comers at 11 p.m. it was after midnight before peace and quietness reigned.

At 4 p.m. out of the still morning air rose the sounds of a furious tussle, no need for alarm however, 'twas only June carrying on a squealing competition with a rat, needless to say - June won. At 5 am. a deer stalking enthusiast and an offsider rose, breakfasted, and departed at 6. Peace reigned ---- til 7 a.m.

Trip No. 92 Cntd.

After breakfast the workers began their labours while the surplus rombled over to Little Kaweka Hut for the day. On returning to the mainn hut they found the roof painted a bright green with a huge arrow or "this way to heaven" sign placed at one end. The interior decor-ators were just finishing repairs to the bunks.

On the return trip more slashing work was done and the remainder of the track cleared. Mim and Nora had a hasty? but very refreshing swim we are told. The party reached the road at 5.30 and after a quick change of rainment were soon on the homeward way singing and swinging most of the popular airs.

No. in Party: 22.

Loader: Doug Callow.

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Trip No. 93:

Easter 1939. 7-10/4/39:

at 7 p.m. on Thursday April 6th the first contingent of 14 left Hastings in the Parlour Coach and after an uneventful run to Wairoa were gaily sailing along the Waikaremoana Road, when a lost wheel caused a longish delay. A search party went out and finally located it, and after Arch Lowe had put right the touring tyre the journey continued. The Waikaremoana Camping Ground was reached about 3.30 a.m. The second contingent left Hastings about 9.30 p.m. and after an uneventful trip arrived at 4.30 a.m. As soon as there was sufficient light the buses were abandoned and breakfast cooked, and camp pitched. After various inspections of the sights rowboats were the order of the day and the Club took to the water for a lengthy hour. In the afternoon the party climbed to Ngamoko Trig (3644) from which a beautiful panoramic view of Waikaremoana was obtained. In the evening an impromptu dance in the hall concluded a reasonably early night. Unfortunately rain set in, so the morning wasn't too cheery, but did we despair? - No - we got a buckshoe ride across the Lake to the Aniwanuiwa River and followed the track to Waikareiti inspecting the Aniwanui Falls on the way. We joined up with a party of the Tararua Trampers and eventually all reached the Lake Side Hut. We had only a glimpse of the bush clad islands when the mists shifted a little. On the way back the party formed column of route and marched out to the martial strains of George Denfords one man band. On the way back we visited the Papakorito Falls and the girls induced a friendly old gentleman to ransack his vegetable garden for us. This evening we had another entertainemnt well attended by the Tararuas, to say nothing of all the motor campers.

Rain continued and the morning of Easter Sunday was still dampish but, nothing daunted we chartered the launch and set out to encircle Waikaremoana. The bush clad slopes and steep bluffs, Panokiri with its tilted strata, and the little bays enchanted us all. We lunched in a delightful bay near ~~the-fringe~~ Hopuaruahine on the fringe of the Urewera country.

Easter Trip Contnd:

On the return our family trees were looked up, hushed up, pruned, transplanted, and arranged as required.

Insidentally George Denford acquired a new family. Jack Hammond on the other hand went netting and caught more than he bargained for. In the evening another and grander performance - the threat of a dip in the Lake produced oceans of talent.

In the morning - brilliantly fine - 15 unfortunates left, homeward-bound, but dilly dallied a little inspecting the outlet, Tuai Power House and the Wairoa Regatta, and eventually reached home about 10 p.m. The remainder enjoyed the day in various ways - some went to Waikareiti to see it in favourable conditions and were duly charmed. Others boated, swam, and sunbathed.

On Tuesday the party left fairly early and after seeing the Power Station had a good run home.

Everyone has memories of bush and lake, hills and bluffs, wide views, rippling waters, and of good companions. ----- Waikaromoana Au Revoir.

Leader: Ron Craig.
Sub " Fred Green.

No. in Party: 31.

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TRIP NO. 94.

Te Apiti - 23/4/39:

The prospects of fine weather on Sunday were nil, however ten toughened trampers turned out and left for Havelock at 8.30 a.m. Leaving the lorry the party headed for the bush at the top of Te Arapipi. Weather still unsettled and raining, with a southerly wind and clouds on the tops. Keeping just below the cloud we passed isolated patches of bush and crossed several muddy streams. It took easily three hours going to reach Te Apiti. A call on the house-keeper was made - she was very surprised to see us, however she gave us a billy of tea and the use of the shearers quarters, where we had the opportunity of drying our clothes. Lunch over we indulged in a little country dancing. We had another boil up before leaving for the lorry. The return journey was made straight up the valley which reduced the time to 1 ½ hours. Back in Havelock Nth. at 7 p.m.

No. in Party? 10

Leader: Joan Leicester.

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Trip No. 85:

Shut - Eye, Trial Search. 7/5/39:

The party assembled punctually at six, lorry not so punctual. The advance party made a flying start, reaching Buttercup Hollow at 10.30, an hour and forty minutes from the road. Had a meal and left as the main party was coming in to survey the western side of Armstrong Saddle. Below the Saddle the valley soon narrowed in with scrubby sides, so the obvious course was to lead the leading party to follow the stream down as far as possible, the following parties combing the scrub on either bank. This was a slow and arduous process, but a limited area was fairly closely covered. Meantime the leading party was having a rough passage down the creek which was narrow with numerous waterfalls, so that anyone attempting to follow it would soon be forced into the scrub unless possessed of exceptional perseverance and agility. On their return the Creek party forced their way up on to the Southern ridge.

The weather was perfect in the earlier part of the day, windless and sunny, but became overcast and cool towards evening - favourable conditions for a punctual and early return to civilization.

No. in Party: 21.

Leader: Norman Eldor.

Trip No. 96:

Ellis' Whare ? ?, 21/5/39:

Like lambs being led to the slaughter 29 trampers left Hastings at 8 a.m. on a proposed visit to Ellis' Whare. The lorry, well laden with its cargo, arrived at Poporangi at 9.20, raining steadily. Remembering the remarks published re this trip viz. "Good Track, no climbing" the party found the track and followed it down to the second stream where they parted company with it and began a track of their own. The main track was a bit overgrown with muddy patches in which one or two of the "Lambs" delighted in bog-trotting - this however should not account for a lost track and it is very disappointing to know that unless the members are accompanied by an very experienced trumper, the way is liable to be mislaid. No blame to the poor leader who was there in name only, the older and more experienced ones ? ? led the way. Discovering they were on the wrong track Doug and Max decided to put things straight and went in search of the Hut. The remainder lunched after difficulties - in drizzling rain. Doug arrived back while the party were still dining, with great news; the Hut had been sighted, and he volunteered to act as a guide for the trip. Ten left with Doug and most of the others made their way back to the lorry. One or two others decided to paddle their own canoe - in the case of Mim and Bill. The party on the way back from the elusive Hut saw, as they thought, distress signals, but on closer scrutiny discovered Mim and Bill having a little afternoon pea party all on their own How nice for them.

All the members assembled at the lorry at 6.30 p.m. having made certain where their mistake had been made on the track AND were soon on the road homowards.

No. in Party: 29.

Hostess : June Budd.

LIBRARY BOOKS:List No. 3:

1. Plant Hunters Paradise - Exploration at source of the Irawaddy Kingdon Ward.
2. Nanga Parabat German expedition - Great Photography. Bechtold.
3. Light of Experience Interesting reminiscences of India & Himalyas Younghusband.
4. Tibetan Trek A companion work to Kingdon Ward's Plant Hunter in Tibet Kaulbach.
5. Long White Clouds. The story of New Zealand W.P. Reeves.
6. Story of 20th Century Exploration. An excellent summary including all Everest Expeditions. C. E. Key.

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FUTURE TRIPS:

- No. 99. 2/7/39:
Hukarangi. Easy Day, Good view of Kawekas from Leader: Ron Craig.
North. 43 miles approx. Phone 3521.
- No. 100. 15-16/7/39:
Rangi-O-Te-Atua. The H.T.C.'s Century Trip. Winter ascent of the highest peak in the divide. Leader: Max McCormick.
Phone: 6265.
- No. 101 30/7/39:
Northern Wakarara Breakheart & Wairangi Station Leader Dudley Shepherd.
- No. 102. 13/8/39:
Shute Eye: Depending on weather and snow. Leader: John Von Dadelzen.
Tacklo "66". Phone: 2967.
- No. 103: 26-27/8/39:
Visit Shutes or No Man's Hut: as circumstances suggest. Leader: Stan Craven
Phone: 2891.

FUTURE TRIPS CONTD:No. 104, 10/9/39. Mackintosh Camp:Research work on old track
across from Kuripapanga.Leader: Doug. Callow
Phone: Napier 1443.No. 105, 24/9/39:Ellis' Hut:Via Yeoman & Gardners
MillLeader: Bill Hayman.
Phone: 3012.No. 106: 8/10/39:Te Iranga.Leader: D. Cooke.
Phone: 3613.No. 107, 21-23/10/39: Probably work to be done on
Waikamaka Forks. new hut site.Leader: D. Callow
Phone: Napier 1443.