HERETAUNGA TRAMPTNG CLUB (INC.)

BULLETIN NO. 22

DECEMBER. 1939

Ron Craig,
Hon. Secretary
Ellis Street
HASTINGS

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

We have decided to publish a Christmas Number this year and, to make it different, to reprint information from previous issue: which will prove of interest to old and new members alike.

As is customary in Christmas Numbers we hope that the ensuitable months will be fraught with unabounded joy and happiness to you all - in short - A Happy Christmas and a Bright New Year.

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL:

It is with sympathy that we make the following announcement:

- 1, The engagement of our Treasurer, Freddy Green.
- 2. The engagement of our good friend Geoff Piesso.

The Club took all care but accepts no responsibility. The Club once noted for its Glamour has let two of our best slip through its fingers. Og Girls; where is thy sting?

Arch Lowe - the furious flyer - left us on the 14th inst., for Wigram to commence duties as a mechanic in the R.N.Z.A.F. A versudden departure without any warning, however Arch, the Club wishes y the very best of luck.

CLUB ROOM EVENTS.

2/11/39

In Napier, Mr. Hurst showed coloured slides of his travels through Italy, France and England. The greater part of the English

slides were taken in Cornwall, Devon and Scotland and were excellent in every respect. The photography was first class and we were all greatly interested in Mr. Hurst's descriptions. Owing to the number of slides put through, the time for each one was a bit short, and we would have liked a little more time with each one, however this was a mere detail.

We hope our applause justified any trouble our speaker may have been put to in giving us this interesting evening's entertainment.

16/11/39.

Arch Toop entranced us with an account of his voyage home from England through the United States. He had taken three or four reels of film and while he ran through these he kept up a descriptive running commentary.

There were scenes of London before the departure, but the majority of the film was taken in U.S.A. Seenes of the World Fair, Niagara Falls, and a host of other places were all very instructive. A touching scene between "Popeye" Collett and Les Holt on the benks of the Niagara Falls was witnessed and everyone was on the point of producing handkerchiefs when the scene changed. Alie Baird and Les Holt figured largely in the latter parts of the film and at Auckland we caught a glimpse of June Budd wanting to welcome the wanderers.

A very fine show Arche

30/11/39

Frank Simpson, plus a magic lantern and a number of slides, put on a very interesting le hours entertainment. These colour slides were taken by J. Pascoe in and about N.Z. mountains. They embraced the Mt. Cook Region - Arthur's Pass - the Oronaaronga's - Tararuas - Rakaia Gorge and Central Otago. Some excellent rock climbing scenes were greatly enjoyed. This was truly a fine show and gave us a good idea of tramping and climbing conditions in other parts of N.Z. We hate to admit it but there are other places in N.Z. equally as interesting as the Kawekas and the Ruahines.

Frank; the man of the hour, was interesting with his descriptions of these scenes and all together it was a very fine evening.

Many thanks Frank.

In passing it would be jast as well to acquaint members with a rather amusing incident which occurred to one of our well known members :

This H.T. (hardened tramper) in full tramping kit, was waiting the arrival of his means of conveyance to take him off to the ranges. Esconced in a convenient public seat our H.T. was feeling very much at peace with the world, when a real old Sun-Downer bowled up to him and opened fire; "Joined the band too, lad?" quothe the S.D.

Our H.T. Was a bit taken aback at this but nodded his head. "Things aint so good as they uster he, take it from me" continued the S.D.

"Not" saith our H.T. very amiably.

"A word of advice, young fella, you won't get far in them shows" wound up the old S.D.

Our H.T. looked down at his one time best pair of tennis shoes and went into convulsions. The arrival of the car prevented the collapse of our H.T.

DISTRESS SIGNALS

A full list of distress signals for lost trampers appear in the booklet "Safety in the Mountains". Members could well be advised to make themselves conversant with them as one can never be too careful in this tramping sport. Members not possessing a copy of the above booklet can obtain same from the editor

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Many requests have been made that the story of the lizar on the Club Badge should be put into print again. The first club's trip's meeting with a lizard recalled the story of a celebrated pioneers

"POHOKURA"

On the arrival of the Takitumu cance, the newcomers finding the land already inhabited, proceeded down the coast to pick up a suitable site for settlement. The most venture some of them was Tamatea, known as Pkoai Whenua, -Tamatea the Map roller- from the extent of his explorations. On reaching Heretaunga he set off up sountry to pick up the lie of the land and eventually came to a pa called Otupac on the snowy shoulder of the Ruahines that we see opposite Ruapehu in the Taruarua gap. Here while he sat and rested he put down the calabash which always accompanied him, containing his two pet Pohokura, a lizard, and Kahu-o-te-Rangi, a crayfish, and when he came to pick it up his pets had escaped. Pohokura's outlines are visible today in the ridges of the Ruahine Range and the moaning of Kahu-o-te-Rangi, who lurks in the valleys, can still be heard when bad weather is approaching,

Colenso in his account of his attempt on the crossing of the Ruahines gives translations of some familiar place names which briefly are:-

feeling.

To Atua-O-Parapara..... A place of snow, dregs or leavings (may be "66") of a southerly gale.

To Papakai-A-Kuuta of the interior.

Trampors who strain under the weight of that weekend pack will be able to make full use of the following list of weights in an ordinary weekend packs-

Pack, sleeping bag and cover............ 8½ lbs.

Bush coat, sou! wester, 2 prs sox, longs, shirt, singlet, pullover,

FOOD Broad | lb.Biscuits \(\frac{1}{4} \) lb. Buttor \(\frac{1}{4} \) lb. Jam \(\frac{1}{2} \) lb. (tea)

Milk \(\frac{1}{4} \) b. sugar \(\frac{1}{2} \) lb. meat | lb.

osgs \(\frac{1}{2} \) lb. cake \(\frac{1}{2} \) lb.

Rice \(\frac{1}{4} \) lb. s.

5 lbs.

IDIOSYNCRACIES: such as extra pullover, notebook, tobacco, soap, olive oil, stan wberries, beer, oranges,

Ration List:

A ration list for large parties based on 100 man days (say 20 persons for 5 days) is given in the Rus-Sac for May ,1939. It is a holiday rather than a tramping dietary, but as such hits uses. We addin comparison a list of our own for a trip of 7 to 8 days.

RUS-SAC LIST:	H.T.C. LIST:	lbs.
Apples	potted Butter Honey Sugar Dried Fruit Flour Rice Oatmeal Dried milk Tea Salt Soup packets	
Lemons		lbs.

For the information of those who are interested in seeing New Zealand first the Club equipment may be hired at the following rates:

TENTS:

2/6 per week ond

Users to be responsible for an

damage • 5/- per week

To be returned promptly and in good order, and condition.

ICE AXES:

l/- each per weekend For any period over one week
special application must be ma

2/- oach por week

made to the committee.

MAPS:

The following maps can be ordered through the Hon. Treasurer.

N. Ruahine (1/-, helio 1/6) Taruarua - Te Atua Mahuri C. Ruahine(1/-, helio 1/6) To Atua Mahuri - To Hekenga Kaweka (1/6, helio 2/3) Mohaka - Kuripapanga. Kaimanawa (2/-, helio, 2/9) Desert Rd. - Ngaruroro.

The lower prices are for blue prints, Any corrections, additions or local names should be passed on to the Club Captain if possible.

CONCESSIONS:

The Railway Dept. have agreed to consider special cases where members of a sporting party (the minimum number being six) assemble from different places and only make part of the journey together. This would particularly apply to parties assembling at Palmerston North for National Park.

HUTS:

Huts of Ruahine; Kaweka, and Kaimanawa Ranges:

Purity Hut Shut Eye Shack	Ruahine Hut No mans Hut	Boyds Hut Little Kawoka
Rangiwhhia Ski Club	Kawoka Hut	Hut
Hut	Taruarau Hut	Waikamaka Hut
Pohangina Hut	Shutos Whare	Herricks Hut.

In the Whakarara Range:

Poutaki Hut;

Between the Whakararas and the Ruahines;

Matthews Hut.

Ellis Hut.

FROM OTHER CLUBS: 1939.

Ruahine Range.

The March 1939 Tararua Tramper contains an account of an Anniversary week-end trip to Rangi-O-Te-Atua, Broken Ridge and "66". In the April Tramper is a good photograph of the eastern face of "66", also some correspondence on the matter of naming peaks in the Rushines.

The October Tramper has another account of a somewhat similar Kings Birthday week-end trip, from Shut eye over "66" and Rangi-O-Te-Atua, the party striking down off broken Ridge and returning apparently via the Blackburn Ridge.

Ruapehu Pinnacles:

An account of the traverse of the Pinnacles by Pascoe appears in a recent Tararua Tramper.

Home Made Skis:

Very full notes on the making of skis are given in the bulletins brought out this year by the Otaihape A.C.

Packs:

A long article dealing in considerable length and detail with good and bad points of different types of packs appears in the Ruc Sac (Ruc Sac T.C.) for September, 1939. Anyone considering getting a new type of pack would be well advaces to study this. There are far too many unsuitable packs on the market.

A List of Clubs with whom we exchange Bullotins:

Auckland Tramping Club.
Hutt Valley Tramping Club.
Manawatu Tramping Club.
Otago Tramping Club.
Ataihape Alpine Club.
Paua Tramping Club.
Rangiwahia Tramping Club.
Ruahine Tramping Club.
Ruapehu Ski Club.
Wairarapa Tramping Club.
Eltham Alpine Club.
Mt. Egment Alpine Club.
Ruc-Sac Tramping Club.
Tararua Tramping Club.

The Glub Captain has the various bulletins of these clubs and members wishing to peruse same should get in touch with him.

Annual Report Dept. of Internal Affairs: 1938-39

Ruahine Range Areas

This divide constituted one of the flanger spots from the point of view of deer damage to forest and erosion. The seasons experience shows that the commencement of operations there was timely. Number of deer killed to 31st March totalled 3746.

The following is an account of a trip made by Norm Elder and John von Dadelszen way back in the New Year of 1938, to the Manson country and of their visit to the Manson Hut.

One second day out we crossed the Ngaruroro below Kiwi Saddlo and found ourselves in new country still pretty blank on the map. Even when we saw show hoof-marks up the long spur, we did not connect them with the rumour of deer-cullers in the ranges. For one thing we couldn't at the time connect them with any through route, as the end of the spur, up which we had just climbed, dropped too steeply into the Ngaruroro.

They were fairly recent too. Rabbiters went in there we know, possibly musterers did also, but why take horses down that spur, has us beaten. A thousand feet above the river the interminable manuka scrub and pumice blow gave place to grass, quite good grass some of it, evidently sown at some time. Soon after

we saw the hut, a squat, black oblong against a triangular clumpof beach on a terrace. Half an hour later as we came over the
rise above it a figure came out into the glaring sunlight and
answering our hail, sat down philosophically in the shade to
await our arrhval. There was a fly pitched under the trees and
firewood neatly stacked at the door -- evidently a permanent
camp.

Hot -- yes, it was a hot day, the bill de boiling in a few minutes. Horse tracks -- yes, the pack train had t taken out a load of hides on Wednesday. The pack-track left the ridge lower down to sidle into the Manson Creek and then up again to the Surveyor's Rock. Seen tents down by the creek? Well we'd seen something white, looked too small for tents. Ch, they were 6 by 8 climbing tents for flying camps.

Just hiking Yes, - and as an afterthought, added that we were mapping the ridges beyond the river.

Oh, that's more useful, -- and the conversation immediately took a livelier turn. They had maps, giving such information as the department possessed, 4 mile to the inch, without as much detail as this of course. They had used some good tramping maps in the South Island -- yes, he knew Len's map and had found it accurate. The billy's boiling.

The hut was like an oven inside with the afternoon sun beating full on the low roof. There were four wide bunks and a lot of gear and provisions all very shipshape; but the heat soon drove us out again. Under the trees deer hides were drying on Yes, they hrought in practically all the skins in this country and got 2/- each for them. That was a sort of a bonus as they had a weekly wage and their keep. Ton or twelve wet skins was a fair load, and the old frame packs used to give trouble mostly through throwing them down in a hurry to use as a rifle rest, but this season the department had brought out their own design. We'd see it when the others came in, -- the new chap had no gear of his own yet and had borrowed a pack for the da Should be in about dark, but might be any time after, it depended on how many skins they had to bring in and the difficulty of closecting them. They didn't get back till eleven the night before; had been working the opposite spur; looked easy to come up the creek to the hut; in fact they'd thought of putting up drying lines down there; ran into a twenty foot waterfall just on dark, (you wouldn't think there was anything down there, would you) and had to sidle up on the other side. He'd slipped and damaged his ankle -- didn't know if he had broken something -which was why he was spending the day at the hut. Quite a lot to do; baking, firewood, putting the hides out, scraping the fat off, stacking them under the fly at sunset.

Was there a trig at the head of the ridge? stick up there -- might be. We'd go up to take photographs before sunset and pick up the country. Right oh, we'd probably pick up the others, two of them, the chap in charge, a little chap, a bit of a goer and the new hand. An hour by sheep tracks and pumice blows saw us on the trig point, photographing the ridges and sketching them roughly on the map. The flat ridge leading to the Golden Hills was not far on and once a shot was fired, away over towards the edge of the bush but we could pick no one up, and by sunset we gave up and came down to cook a meal and listen to stories of culling in the Southerm Alps, not only deer, but chamois and thar on rock ridges and snow fields, of country so rough that the bonus was paid on tails alone and of the differential rates paid on hides and tails to encourage the bringing in of skins whereever possible, of the strip of hide attached to an official "tail" to ensure that the bonus is not paid on both hide and tail.

About 9' clock a crash and a voice announced that someone had tripped over the (colourful) firewood and the rest of the
party arrived, announcing that the (colourful) track was full of
unnecessary holes and the leader's fallen into every (colourful)
one. Also his (colourful) rifle had nickelled up and been
shooting high all day. The new hand flopped into his bunk and
added a few footnotes to the same effect. However when the
rifles had been cleaned, some venison went into the camp oven and
with a leisurely supper under way conversation became more general
and less explosive.

The senior members of the party were South Island cullers making their first trip up north, unwillingly from rumours of the bush and scrub stalking they would have to do, but their agreement with the Internal Affairs Department committed them to going However this particular area had been unexpectedwhere required. ly good; plenty of deer, easy and open. The field officors came in first and picked the areas for the gangs, this was one, the ranges across the river another, and a third was south of the They expected to shift to other areas in about a month road. (information about the Te Koao block was welcomed) and return in the rogring season. If a man wanted a head he could have it by buying it off the department, who claimed all heads. instructions and their practice, were to spare all good heads.

Local landowners did not generally favour deer-culling -- deer kept tracks open -- unlike South Island runholders who were better aware of the damage done by them. They agreed that there, as here the main damage was probably done by burning and that overstocking and excessive numbers of deer perpetuated it, by not giving the vegetation a chance to recover. They were surprised to hear that the shingle and manuka faces across the valley were beech forest and tussock seventy years ago.

Would our route out in the morning disturb their programme? Not a bit; all the better for deer to get used to people moving about. The deer were in the open morning and evening mostly anyway. As it was impossible to cover both periods they usually set out well on in the morning and did most of their shooting on the way in. Had tried telescopic sights — ideal for chamois — but mostly used aperture sights of a robust pattern. Where the deer were thick preferred working in pairs, first shot at the leader to turn them, second at the last to make them bunch. In that case ammunition and hides were pooled, otherwise each man kept his own tally. The amount of forms to be filled in was increasing and was becoming a burden at the end of the day.

The department's standard sleeping-bag was too cumbersome; eiderdown the best of course but very expensive; some laminated wool bags not warm enough but the latest were all right.

Eleven o'clock -- how about a bit of shut-eye?

WAIKAMAKA HUT LOG.

Labour Day (See Leaders Report)

All material on site. Wall and roofing framing erected. Dwangs inserted.

29th Oct.

Day party of 5. Wall bracing and roof netting carried in Bracing put up.

11-12 Nov.

Week-end party of 4 went in late, reaching site after 10.30p.m. Reset and trimmed purlins, extra bracing on roof, also jack-studs and got well on with wirenetting on walls. Day party of 5 arrived at 12.30. Iron and ridging straightened for putting on.

Trip No. 107 WAIKAMAKA FORKS - HUT SITE

The anniversaryoof the institution of the 8 hour day was celebrated by staging a working bee at the new hut in course of eredtion at the Waikamaka Forks.

Nine members left Hastings on Saturday, a morning party of 5

who carried some timber with them over the Waipawa Saddle to the site, and an afternoon party of four whose most notable burden was a huge saw. The latter is to be part of the Club! ehut equipment and the Club!s acknowledgements are due to the donor.

Two tents (twins) were pitched side by side on the floor space of the hut, the framework erected the previous fortnight being used instead of tent poles. There was a light frost

during the night.

On Sautrday morning by stout effort on the part of all members the balance of the material left on previous trips at dumps on the slopes of the Waipawa Saddle was carried over to the site. While working in the Saddle itself the re was light rain, sleet and a few flakes of snow. The timber was pushed down the screes to the Waikamaka stream in fine

style.

After lunch two members returned to town and the remain-der having gathered in a few odds and ends of material set to work on the hut. Dwangs were inserted and by judicipus guess work and mush consultation part of the roof framework was placed in position. During the latter stages of the work a steady cold drizzle set in making conditions very unpleasan What could be seen of the tops was in mist. The objections of the inmate of one tent to having a rafter dropped from above made the carpenters realise that they were really miserably cold and wet though cheerful. The party retired at dusk and chatted in the comfort of sleeping bags.

As on the previous night there was a frost. On this occasion however the tents were so wet from the evening rain that they froze hard, while the wet rocks were coated with

slippery ice.

The morning broke clear and cloudless and work recommend

ed. The hut was definitely taking shape.

After lunch there arrived a party of three who had joined a working party of 10 Ruahine trampers at Thomson's slab hut in the Tukituki on Saturday evening. They had climbed Daphne Ridge on Sunday morning and proceeded north along the tops in increasingly heavy mist and falling snow till they reached the head of the Kawatau Valley where they camped the night. They had cut and carried tenty poles from Howlett's site. On Monday they climbed to the main divide again and carried on over Rangi-o-te-Atua where they lunched and sunbathed and finally dropped to the Waipawa Saddle where they left their packs to join us.

The greetings were also a signal for us to stop work, and after posing on the scaffiolding for photographs the party packed up and returned home. McCulloch's Mill was reached

at about 5 p.m.

D.W. Callow Leader Total in all - 122.

Trip No. 108 4-5/11/39.

RONGAIKA

11/11/09 0 11/mm 2-31

A party of 12 left Holts at 2.20 p.m. and proceeding to Haumoana picked up 6 Napier members as well as a goodly supply of lemons, from McCormicks, Clifton was reached at 3.15 and half an hour later the party moved off along the pleasant-ly hard sands towards Rongaika. The Cape hut was reached at 5.15, and moving on again a visit was made to the Penguin and Travelling along the tops the wind was very frigid family. but as Rongaika was gradually reached conditions improved and by the time tents were pitched, tea cooked and eaten, everyone fant able to appreciate the fireworks display. This was a very fine effort and it was enjoyed and appreciated (?) by all- the only fly in the eintment being the inability of the rocket manipulators to get their infernal machines off the ground without first creating havoc amongst the onlookers; When all the expensive foreworks had gone up in smoke, the party scrambled into their sleeping bags, the majority longing for the wide open spaces, slept with the stars as their ceiling.

Sunday dawned dull but rapidly improved and by 7.30 real sunshine was experienced. The girls were treated to breakfast in bed - how spoilt they are.? Dave broke his fast with a crayfish and a couple of pawas. The sea was too rough for fishing. The morning was spent in sunbathing, swimming and general messing about, in ideal weather. Seven more members joined the ranks during the morning. One of the travelled members recounted tales of his wanderings in foreign climes and all were interested to hear that Waikiki Beach is no

bigggr then the bay at Rongaika.

After lunch the party split up, 13 going round the beach while the other 12 followed Dave over the hills back to Clifton The sands south of Rongaika are pleasing to the eye but hard on the feet. This fact forced the hill party to climb the Whakapau Cliffs and then down to the Whakapau stream, There was little water in the stream but what there was had collected in deep-looking pools. The wet pawa on the banks and bod of the stream was very slippery and the party had to move with caro. Ocean beach was almost reached before striking off towards Makarau, and reaching the maori redoubts the party climbed the hill heading for Clifton. The views were all worth seeing and every one felt well rewarded for the stiff climb. With pauses for pineapple and other delicacies the party finally reached Clifton in time to see the lorryyarriveing. The beach party were all changed and at 7.30 the bus

was speeding homewards, carrying a tired, sunburnt but jovial contingent of the H.T.C.

Leader: Joan Lovell-Smith,

Sub Leader: Dave Williams,

No inparty: 12

Trip No. 109

KAWEKA HUT.

18 - 19,11,39

A party of 24, including 10 High School pupils, left Hastings at 2.15 p.m., and after an uneventful trip in the lorry were on the track at 5 p.m. and into the hut by 7p.m. Two recent visitors to the hut had made and left a very fine chair and the hut was in good order with plenty of firewood on hand. After tea a small party went back down the track to meet Joan Lovell-Smith and her car-load, who were not able to leave Hastings until 7p.m.

Sunday morning found the main party away from the hut at 8 o'clock under the leadership of Stan Craven. The Bivvy and Trig were both visited and some went on towards the Northern Trig. Visibility was good and there were some grand views. A rapid descent via Cook's Horn shingle slide brought the party back to the hut at 2.30p.m. for lunch.

A small party, with Doug Callow as leader, reached the road via the Mackintosh country, which was explored with a view to future trips.

Leader R. Hoben, No in party: 24.

FUTURE TRIPS

Trip No. 111 17th Doc.	Rangi-o-te-Atua	
17th Doce	Via Three Johns in conjunction eith High School Party	Leader Bruce Beechey 3613
Trip No. 112	Few bites as yet. Possibility o	f 5

day trip in Northern Tararuas.

New Year. (To be arranged)

Trip 113 Ohara Stream Kereru
14th January A Pick me up for tired holiday
makers

Leader Peggy Morris Trip no.114 20-22nd Jan.

Anniversary Day

Leader Arch Toop

Shutes Hut & No Man's

Trip no 115

Trig K via Yoeman & Gardaess Ron Craig

4th Feb.

and/or Ellis Hut via Y & G's

and/or Bruce Beechey

Trip No.116

Waikamaka Hut-Kawhatau Valley

Leader Doug Callow

17/18th Feb

Guaranteedd non-working party Visit New Zealand's Newest hut (all mode cone, he & co, all under

one roof)

Trip no 117

Three Fingers of Matthews Spur

Leader Arch Toop

Trip No.11.8 16-17th Mar. Shut Eye-te-Atua Mahuri

Leader Bill Hayman

Easter

Mangatipopo Hut-National Park

Leader Frank Simpson Sub leader to be appointed from Hastings party

and then then are the CO O O are the test desired then the

THE TREASURER'S LAMENT

I wish I had some one to pay me, Some money to call my own, I wish I had some one to pay me; I'm tired of being a loam.

STOP PRESS The next meeting will be held in the room behind the members stand at the race course on the 11th January/40 at the usual time 7.30°

We have pleasure in announcing the following new members and we hope to make better their acquaintance on future trips-

J. Armitage Tui Crawford

W.E.Boyd

Daphne Reeves

S.Haraldsen Pauline Tyres

The wanderer returns: The dimmed light of the club is now back to its former brilliance - in fact, June Budd has roturn ed to Hastings - nace going June - we hope you make a new Yea resolution to be out with the club again toute de suite.