

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)

" P O H O K U R A "

BULLETIN NO. 47

DECEMBER 1947

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To all members at home and overseas we wish a happy Christmas
and good tramping in 1948 .

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the H.T.C. was held in the Red Cross Rooms
on 16th October 1947 .

Office bearers for the following year were elected as follows :-

PATRON: E.J. Herrick Esq.,

PRESIDENT: E.S. Craven Esq.,

VICE-PRESIDENTS: Messrs. N.L. Elder, L. Holt , L. Lloyd .

CLUB CAPTAIN: W.G. Lowe Esq.,

SECRETARY: Miss U. Greenwood .

TREASURER: N. Fendall Esq.,

AUDITOR: A. Oulaghan .

EDITOR: Miss P. Morris

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Mrs. H. Collins, Misses P. Morris, P. Tyers,
D. Yule, Messrs. R. Keys, S. Haraldsen .

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Misses. P. Morris, P. Tyers, J. Goymour,
M. Shaw, Messrs. E. Mervin , B. Monaghan .

MEMBERSHIP:

This year closed with a total membership made up as follows :-

Full Members	83	(65)
Absentee Members	33	(40)
Associate Members	5	(8)
Honorary Members	9	(9)

The year just concluded has been another active one for the Club . Much ground has been trodden underfoot and varied new and familiar sites have been visited . If the parties have not been as large as could have been wished, at least the enthusiasm of the trampers has been as great . With more settled conditions and increased leisure for older members, and with our continued increase in active members, it is hoped that greater numbers will be out on the hilltops and beaches .

Financially, the year has been run at an apparent loss, but this is justified by the subsidies on transport and by the purchase of material for another hut .

The sub-committee have functioned well, life has become more assured with our stay in the Red Cross Rooms, and we can anticipate another successful year .

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Club Trips: The Club expected a greater enthusiasm following the War. This year has only shown a fair response . The transport fund has been called upon heavily (to the extent of £13.5.0) to subsidise lorry fares . We have run 18 trips with an average attendance of 15. Increased interest in tramping was shown after the Kaweka rescue and the Tacon search , and numbers were up considerably on trips . A balance between range trips and local "picnic trips" has been maintained .

Private Trips: Members have been active in both North and South Island mountains. In the North, parties have visited ~~Ruahine~~ ~~trigs~~ in Winter (Sixty Six and Rangī); Ruahine Plateau; Chateau, ostensibly for skiing; Te Atua Mahura, and Kaweka Trig.

In the South Island, car and tramping trip to Eglinton Valley, Milford Track and Hollyford Valley. In the Mt. Cook area, visits to all the main glaciars and huts, a Copland Pass crossing and climbs of Kinsey, Madonna, Footstool, Glacier Dome and Minarets, (the latter one of the seventeen 10,000 ft. peaks); also participation in the Dobson Valley accident.

A private Club party crossed the Alps from the Waimekariri River via three passes (Harmon, Whitehorn, Browning) to the Arghure River and out to Hokitika, followed by a flying visit by car down the West Coast to the Franz Joseph Glacier. An Easter was spent by one of our members at the Canterbury Mountaineering Club's Climbing Instruction Camp at the Waimekariri headwaters. Another member was one of a Terarua Tramping Club party which crossed the Spencer Mts. in Marlborough.

Combined Trips: Fraternising with kindred Clubs has continued, one trip with the Terarua Tramping Club (Ruahine West-to-East crossing), and with the Waipukureu Wednesday Social Club to Cape Kidnappers. The Rover Scouts have joined in with many Club trips, especially in the packing of gear to the Kiwi Saddle hut site.

Transport: As commented before, the rise in costs is a problem, making the fare for one-day trips great; 6/6 and 6/9 were the charges for the last two trips. A payload of 16 full fares was evolved to which the transport fund would subsidise up to £1 per trip. On occasions this subsidy has been increased. This subsidy was introduced as an emergency to keep up the trips until numbers increased, but as yet there has been no appreciable increase in the number of members on trips.

New Members: There has been an encouraging influx of new members during the past year and they have been appearing regularly on trips.

Support of Trips: Trips cannot be run unless the truck is full. Assistance to the leader and Club officials in this respect is very necessary.

Kaweka Accident: The accident on the snow above the Kaweka Hut was the main incident this year. That a serious accident could occur on snow a little above 3000 ft. was a sharp reminder of the care and knowledge necessary to all or most of any party venturing into the ranges in Winter. One member encountered hard-crust frozen snow and slid out of control for two or three hundred feet down a gully and was luckily saved from falling further by a fallen tree. No bones were broken but cuts and abrasions were considerable.

The rescue operations went smoothly and well. The leader of the accident party organised his party excellently; getting the casualty safely back to the Kaweka Hut and administering efficient

first aid, and despatching a fast party to the road to get aid from the main party (Cattle Hill party led by Dr. Bathgate), and to ring for ambulance and stretchers. A clear account of what followed was published in the August "Pohokura" by Dr. Bathgate.

Following the accident, the Club organised a "Snow Instruction" trip to the Kaweka Hut. Snow conditions were not good but instruction was given on how to check a slip with an ice-axe. Although not much practical work was done, it served to make the members snow-condition conscious.

I can only repeat that snow trips require not only someone of experience and care as leader, but a party sensible of the dangers as well as the joys of snow climbing.

Tacon Search: The police requested the Club to be ready to send parties out in the early stages of the search, in case definite information came in calling for ground parties. Accordingly, the pending fixtures were cancelled and parties and relief parties organised, ready to move. A later request for week-end searchers was cancelled officially, however, two parties were sent out on either side of the Taupo Road in spite of indifferent weather, and a third party was sent in to the Ripis to follow up a report from one of these, but by this time the Ripis was in flood and they had to turn back.

In view of the negative result of the air search, it was disappointing that more was not done on the ground; but the possible area was so vast, and reports pointing so generally to the north of Taupo made it impossible to devise any methodical plan with the numbers available.

EQUIPMENT REPORT:

More use has been made of Club gear of late. New Members or those about to join should avail themselves of the equipment for hire. Our stocks have been increased during the year and we now have for hire :-

Tents	3	(6' x 8')	:	Rucksacks	2	:	Sleeping-bag Cover	1	:
Ice Axes	2	:	Slashers	2	:	Billies	(various)	:	

Please return gear promptly to the Equipment Box c/o Les. Holt (at Holt & Sons), and see the equipment officer personally when borrowing or returning gear.

HUT AND TRACK REPORT:

All material for the Kiwi Saddle Hut was carried up on the Labour Day week-end of 1946 with the assistance of the Rovers, a fine effort. During the year a week-end party cut red beech for most of the blocks and a certain amount of poles for frames, and collected some stone slabs for the fireplace. The coming Labour Day working party should see the construction advanced considerably.

PUBLICITY REPORT:

Three issues of "Pohokuro" have been produced this year, with the help of members who co-operated to make the job a little lighter. Our difficulties with regard to stencils and duplicating paper seem to have smoothed out for the moment.

I should like to thank everyone who has helped in any way with the bulletin, especially the typists, on whom the bulk of the work always falls. Mr. Patterson continues to give us every consideration and satisfaction with the duplicating.

The Executive Committee has decided to appoint an official publicity officer whom the Press can contact immediately any time official information is required. It will therefore be necessary for members to refer any enquiries back to this officer of the Club.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE,

The Social Committee would like to place on record its appreciation of the help it has received from those people who have come along to Club meetings and entertained us with talks, films and slides. Although there are too many of them to mention by name, we are none the less grateful for their co-operation.

Several members of the St. John's Ambulance Division gave us a lecture and demonstration in practical first aid at a recent Club meeting. We hope that we shall never have to use our newly acquired knowledge but feel that it is desirable that Club members should be reasonably competent to deal with any accident that might occur.

It has been decided not to have a ball this year, but to wind up Club activities with an informal dance just before Christmas.

The system adopted this year of co-opting members to assist the Social Committee with the supper at Club meetings seems to have worked fairly well and is to be recommended to the incoming Committee.

LIBRARY REPORT:

Now that our Library cupboard is complete with doors and available at Club meetings, much good reading is being done by members. During the year 29 books were taken out, and receipts totalled 12/1. We now have 81 books on our list.

APPRECIATION:

Once again we would like to record our appreciation and thanks to those kind and long-suffering people who have permitted us to wander over their land; and also to the members of the St. John's Ambulance Division and all those who assisted in our rescue operations.

NOTICESNEW MEMBERS:-

We should like to welcome the following new members and hope they will be happy in their association with the Club . If you would like any tips or advice re gear, please don't hesitate to approach those who are very willing to give from the benefit of their experience .

New Members -

Doug. Napier, Clive Quigg, George Couper, Max Brown,
John Bremner .

FOOD PARCELS.

It has been decided to revive the custom of making a collection at Club meetings , the proceeds to be used for buying food parcels for Britain .

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

A reminder from the Treasurer that subs. paid before the end of December are reducible from 15/- to 12/6. , a cut worth taking advantage of . He would be grateful if all subscriptions are paid as soon as possible .

WORKING PARTIES.

In order to augment the Transport Fund, members have decided to organise working parties . It seems clear labour will be short this year and by adding our weight we will have the satisfaction of knowing we have achieved a double objective .

CLUB ROOM FUND.

An anonymous well-wisher has promised the Club £100. towards the cost of a Club Room . When this was announced at a recent meeting, members were literally struck dumb at such generosity . It is hoped that from this nucleus there should grow a fund which can be used for the building of a permanent home for the Club .

CLUB BADGES.

Don't forget that Club badges can be obtained from the Secretary - price 5/6d.

PUBLICITY OFFICER.

Rolf Keyes has been appointed to this position and will shortly give a talk outlining Club policy in this direction .

MINUTES OF MEETING 1st NOVEMBER 1938CODE OF BY-LAWS.

A code of By-Laws to be drawn up and issued to members. The following points were considered .

1. Duties of Leader to Party.
2. Duties of Party to Leader.
3. Duties of Club to new members.
4. Duties of Members to general public.
5. Regulations regarding hire of equipment.
6. Regulations regarding use of huts .

DUTIES OF LEADER TO PARTY.

General. The Leader is responsible for the safety and comfort of his party .

Route. He must either know the proposed route or see that there is someone in the party who does. He should always have a line of retreat or alternative routes clear in his mind in case of a hold up.

Equipment. He should carry map and compass and see that the party is equipped with first aid and such special equipment as slashers , ice-axes etc., as may be necessary .

In addition he should satisfy himself that each member is adequately equipped and should have no hesitation in refusing to take anyone whose lack of equipment or fitness makes him a liability .

Control. He must see that the pace of the party is suited to the slower members and keep in touch with stragglers. In difficult country, at night or in thick weather, he should detail some responsible person to keep in the rear with instructions to let nobody drop behind him . In difficult conditions the weaker members should be kept immediately behind whoever is leading .

Should he find it desirable to split the party , a definite sub-leader should be named who should be given information as to rendezvous , times, etc.. He must satisfy himself that this party is sufficiently equipped to work independently .

Trips should be run to schedule with a time-limit for meals, breaking camp etc., so that the necessity of bustling the party along does not arise . The leader should make a point of keeping the rendezvous with transport on time and generally considering the truck driver . Should a mishap occur, he should make every endeavour to bring his party out complete .

Organisation. The leader will normally obtain permission to cross private property, arrange transport, collect fares and pay

the driver and distribute camp equipment such as tents, billies, etc. . Usually he will supply tea only, but on longer trips he will draw up ration lists and may find it advisable to purchase bulk rations . On return he should furnish an account of the trips to the Bulletin Editor , and for the more important trips , a short account for publication in the press should also be drafted , as this is a useful form of publicity for tramping . Any special matters affecting the conduct of trips should be communicated to the Club Captain . Should he be unable to lead a trip, he should arrange for a substitute leader and notify some member of the Fixture Committee .

Comfort of Party. Securing the comfort and enjoyment of the party involves balancing conflicting claims, for an ideal trip to the most energetic may be revoltingly arduous to the less ambitious .

So that there need be no misapprehension, the leader should, when the party is being made up, outline his intentions so that they may know what they are in for .

Halts for rests or for meals should be called at reasonable intervals in the interests of the weaker or less experienced members, who should be watched if they seem at all likely to crack up .

Miscellaneous. The goodwill of property owners is an invaluable asset . Leaders must see that stock is not disturbed, nor property damaged, and gates left as they were found . Huts should be left in at least as good order when found, firewood replenished etc.

DUTIES OF PARTY TO LEADER.

Support. The success of a Tramping Club depends on the support given to trips and the success of a trip depends on the support given to the leader .

An untried leader should be able to count on the presence and support of the more experienced members of the club on the trip he is called upon to lead , and the same applies to the support of any leader on a difficult trip .

Though the leader has the responsibility , it does not follow that he should be left to do all the coolie work . All members of the party should do their share of cooking, tent-pitching, wood-chopping , and early rising .

Schedule. For any trip to be successful, it must be run to time . The leader's problems are greatly eased if the party assembles punctually, wastes no time over changing, lends a hand with striking camp and does not exceed the allotted time for meals .

When on the move, there should be no avoidable straggling and, as important, there should be no racing ahead, which has exactly the same effect, of spreading the party out and adding enormously to the leader's responsibilities and worries. Whoever is in the lead should be choosing the route and setting the pace for the whole party. He should be left to do so. Amateur efforts to find a better route are not appreciated and do much to tire those at the rear.

No one should go off on a side trip without the leader's consent as he is responsible for the whole party until its return and must know where everyone is.

In an emergency, while advice may be given, the leader's decision is final and must be loyally accepted.

Publicity. Loyalty to the Club as well as to the leader demands that no report of events, particularly in the case of misadventure or accident, be given to persons outside the club who may use it for indiscriminate publicity. Any statements to the press should come from the club's accredited representatives.

DUTIES OF CLUB TO NEW MEMBERS.

The initial responsibility for a new member rests with his proposer and seconder who should make a point of introducing him to his neighbours at meetings and generally making him feel at home.

He should be advised on suitable trips and equipment and assisted if necessary to borrow or hire the latter. Preferably an intending member should be invited out on one or more preliminary trips.

It may be necessary to counteract the prevalent idea that all trampers are paragons of toughness.

The more active members should make a point of including promising new members on private trips of particular interest.

DUTIES OF CLUB TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

It may be assumed that the general public hold that trampers are odd fish. There is no need to emphasize this by putting on any public performances in support.

Discretion should be shown on the railways or in service cars especially.

Property Owners. The goodwill of property owners is essential.

Permission to cross property should always be obtained. Stock should not be disturbed, particularly at lambing time, dogs should never be permitted on club trips and guns only carried for

special reasons, when property owners ~~should be notified accordingly.~~

Fences should not be damaged, huts left in good order, and gates left open or shut, as found .

Any special services rendered to a party should be suitably acknowledged .

Assistance in Emergencies.

It is an understood thing that the Police can call upon the club's search organization to look for or rescue persons not connected with the club . In the case of disasters such as flood, earthquake or fire, the same organization could be employed to do rescue work, especially where normal means of access were non-existent . The club has already offered its services to the Forestry Department in the case of forest fires.

Working Parties. Among the objects of the club is the preservation of the native fauna and flora . Club parties have assisted the Te Mata Park Board in their tree planting schemes and this work could well be extended .

NEWS OF MEMBERS.

The Club would like to extend its congratulations to Bill Hayman who was recently married in Wellington. His bride, we understand, was in the London branch of the bank where Bill worked for a few months after being repatriated from Germany . All the best from the gang to you both . Let us hear from you Bill .

Weddings are in the air. June Hyland married Bruce Baird on November 22nd and they are making their home in Christchurch . Good luck and our best wishes for your happiness .

Some people do get about ! The latest news of Nancy Williams comes from Gippsland, Victoria, Australia, where she is "spanking" cows and thoroughly enjoying the outdoor existence . Cheers from the Club, Nancy.

Jack Hannah wrote recently giving all the news of his son, Peter John. The new generation is increasing very rapidly . When are you bringing him up to look us over, Hack? We have never met Janet, you know . Best wishes .

Betty Marven, nursing in Japan, seems to be having a very bright time . How about squeezing in a letter to the Club , Betty?

We were sorry to lose Nancy Tanner from active membership with the Club . She too , has taken to the land and is on a sheep station well away from us all . She hopes, in time, to be called up for service with the Wrens . Her work as Secretary was much appreciated by us all .

CLUB TRIP TO MT. RUAPAHU.

We left Hastings punctually, stopping for Angus in Napier, tea at Tarawera and lunch in Taupo. Here somebody made eyes at a waitress who promptly gave notice. The weather at the Chateau prevented us from seeing the mountains for two days so we indulged in blind skiing near Salt Hut. The hut was occupied by the Auckland Tramping Club who gave us tea, bless 'em. We left late one morning to climb to the crater lake, and were fortunate in having a wonderful view which made up for the otherwise pointless snow-wallow. The snow hardened so much in the next few days even the skiers found skiing difficult, so some climbing trips set out. Walter, Hugo and Angus started early one morning for the Crater Lake; Bailey and the two visitor types went to the Toma Lakes and Taranaki Falls; Jo, Dave and Mac made tracks to Mangatapopo in order to climb Ngauruhoe the following day. At Thompson Lodge a bright night life lasted throughout the trip; Angus M.C'd a boots and all dance in the cookhouse, while several people suffering from the effects of the dry area had to be fire-extinguished. The two nurses, Lois Goymour and Marie Hyde, proved too much for the boys, so, when the leader was at Ngauruhoe, they dealt with them, one had a bone in her ankle broken, and the other was knocked out with a bucket of snow. The only unpleasant things about the trip were the black pudding elimination rations and the thought of coming home. We all wish to thank June Hyland for arranging the transport.

Number in party, 15.

Leader, J. Mac.

NGAURUHOE.

Jo, Dave and Mac found wind, snow and foot marks of the local wild dogs at Manatapopo. The next morning brought clouds sweeping down over Ngauruhoe so we delayed the start. Conditions improved, however, to give us a great climb with axes and rope on hard though mixed snow and transparent blue ice which was caused no doubt by water running down from thawing snow near the fumeroles. Time stopped us 200 ft (of step-cutting) from the top so we descended to leave Mangatapopo at 6 p.m., arriving at the Chateau at 9.45 p.m.

KIWI SADDLE HUT

Desiring a hut on Kiwi Saddle a site was chosen by a party of nine members on July 21st 1946.

Labour Week End October 26th 1946. Fourteen members went out on a working party and camped at the cottage at Kuripapanga. A track was cut to the scree and ridge abreast of the lakes and malthoid, wire netting and nails were taken to the site.

February 1947. Stan Craven led out a party of 13 and work was carried out on the site, rocks and timber being collected. As materials were deteriorating, the leader of the Labour Day party visited the architect, Archie Toop, with a view to finalising arrangements. It was decided that a party of three, Archie Toop, Clem Smith and Angus Russell, should go out on Thursday October 23rd to start work in preparation for the main party. As this party would have to carry in food for five days as well as tools, a flying squad left the Sunday before, Oct. 19th, to carry tents, billies, nails and boards to the site. Time from road to the site, 3 hours 20 mins.

October 23rd. Archie Toop's party left Les Holt's at 6.15 a.m. and staggered with 50 lb. packs to the Saddle. Time - an eternity! Tents were erected, malthoid placed across poles to form a sleeping pavilion and water supply improved.

Friday, October 24th. At 4 a.m. Archie had us up and we cleared the site, fixed the main piles, felled 4" diameter trees for plates and ridges. Clem continued on this job without a mate while the two builders set out the frame, - ceased work 7 p.m. Sore shoulders for Clem. Meanwhile Les Holt and party :- George Lowe, Lindsay Lloyd and Noel Fendall left town 7.30 p.m. Friday and camped at the drover's whare. They arrived 11 a.m. next morning carrying wool packs for bunks. Lindsay specialised in bunk joinery. The race to get the frame up for the main party never ceased until light failed.

Saturday October 25th. The main party consisted of Muriel Shaw, Muriel Saywell, Betty Beckett, Jo Goymour, Doc. Bathgate, John MacIntyre, Max Brown, Doug. Napier, Walter Shaw, Bailly Carrodus, Ian McArthur, John Bathgate, old Uncle Tom Cobley and all. The party was led by Stan Craven. They left town 6.30 a.m. - willows 9.20 - arrived 2 p.m. carrying woolpacks, door and a thirst. Light nor'west showers at night. Clem, Bailey and Muriel showed great fortitude in enduring the dripping water torture while asleep!

Sunday October 26th. All knobs on frame-work likely to contact malthoid were smoothed down, wire-netting in place and all the fencing wire stays bracing the building were well stapled. Time, 10 a.m. and the malthoid found itself being nailed in place. Windows were yet to be made so it became very dark inside. However, it was a hut and gave comfort to 16 sleepers on Sunday night. See their faces in the flashlight photo. Rocks and logs were stacked around the piles where the plate of the wood was well clear of the floor.

On Monday the door was hung and sundry details were attended to. Some parties moved off, the main party reaching the road at 6 p.m.. The tents had dried during the day.

George Lowe and John MacIntyre retrieved some malthoid from the Kaweka slopes.

Muriel Shaw and team put on some first class stews and we are indebted to Clem for a fine series of photos. Everyone was eager to speed the job along in any way but our success was mainly due to the skill, drive and persistency of Archie Toop and the assistance given by Les Holt in preparing and procuring materials and gear. We later members have learnt from them why the Club pushed ahead in pre-war days. There is real Club companionship and enjoyment in working parties.

Red beech was used for the piles. The windows and chimney are yet to be made and fixed, the visitors' book and a mirror provided. Experience may dictate that we leave the floor in its present state and free from stones. Most important of all, we must protect every living tree, shrub and ground plant in the environs. Keep the axe blunt - a sharp axe or slasher creates impulsive destructive insanity in some souls! The water supply must be improved. The latrine will be placed on the eastern slope well away from the water supply.

This is a wonderful site with a good stand of suitable poles for building. It is convenient, providing a great extension of good trips. We hope in time to find an easier, safer and more sheltered route to the Kaweka Track. We must guard against erosion caused by tracks. It has been suggested that we take periodic photos and records of the growth or decline of all nearby vegetation. This should in time become valuable data for the Catchment Board.

We appreciate the help given by some of the Rover Scouts who have accompanied us on some of our trips.

May our chimney be smoking by Christmas, then we can admire one another, our completed hut and its glorious surroundings.

How much each of us owes to the efforts of all the others.

ANGUS RUSSELL
Leader.

CLUB ROOM EVENTS

Meetings have been well attended lately with an encouraging influx of new members. A team from the St. John's Ambulance Division came along one evening and gave us an instructive lecture and demonstration. We hope they will continue with this next year some time.

One of the most enjoyable film evenings we've had was given recently by Mr. Greer. The highlights were two aerial films - one of the Mt. Cook region taken by Mr. Alva Cutler and the other of the National Park area. Mr. Piet van Asche gave a short commentary during the course of the films. The

rest of the programme consisted of local films taken by Mr. Greer .
A very enjoyable evening . Thank you .

SUB - COMMITTEES

At a recent meeting of the Executive the following sub-committees were appointed .

FIXTURE COMMITTEE -

G. Lowe, H. Collins, N. Fendall .

HUT COMMITTEE -

L. Holt , L. Lloyd , A. Toop .

SEARCH COMMITTEE -

(President, Secretary, Club Captain,
Dr. Bathgate, N.L. Elder .

EQUIPMENT OFFICER - L. Holt .

PUBLICITY OFFICER - R. Keys .

LIBRARIAN - L. Lloyd .

EDITOR - P. Morris .

CONVENOR SOCIAL COMMITTEE - P. Morris.

KAWEKA ACCIDENT

The accident sub-committee have conducted an enquiry, as a matter of routine, into the accident above Kāweka Hut last winter . That such an accident should occur at such a low altitude and under the snow conditions prevailing is a sharp reminder of the need of caution on all snow trips and of the need of club members becoming acquainted with the elements of safety precautions . This will apply even more particularly to winter ascents of the higher peaks and the committee considers it necessary to devote more attention to training in these matters and intends to provide opportunities .

CLUB TRIPS

No. 310

HOT SPRINGS , PUKETITLRI

23rd & 24th August 1947

Fourteen bodies assembled at Holts somewhere around 9 a.m. for this trip . The truck left pretty promptly for the

two and a half hour drive . Once the township of Puketitiri was passed the road became steadily worse and those on the back had a pretty rough time of it . The walk in to the Springs was a very pleasant one and we arrived there in plenty of time to get a stew under control and cut bracken etc.. for our beds. After the tea was well on the way to being cooked the girls in the party decided to try the Springs out and after having a grand time and feeling really refreshed, they went back to camp to find the stew just ready . The usual talk around the camp fire took place until about 8.30 when we decided that bed was the best place . Quite a few decided to sleep under the stars while the rest went under the canvas . We made a rather early start home in the morning as we could see rain coming down the valley . After breakfast and the men's turn for the bathroom, we set off on the homeward track, first of all Dave took us to a cave to view some wild honey comb and bees etc., Most of us took our time going home . Lunch took place at and was quite a lengthy affair . On arrival back to the starting point we found we did not have to wait very long for the return of the truck . A few wild pigs were sighted on our way into the springs but saw no sign of them coming home .

Number in Party - 14

Leader - W. PASCOE.

No. 311.

MARAEOTARA FALLS

7th September 1947.

Very stylish footwear was worn on this trip , ranging from gumboots, sandshoes, cuban heels, to - oh horrors - Cobergers !

A gang of twenty-six started from Clifton Station about 9.15 on a glorious sunny Sunday , and wandered over the hills to arrive at the Falls shortly before noon . It is very surprising that these beautiful falls are almost unknown .

Lunch and sunbathing was enjoyed by all . Truly it was a lovely Spring day . Later we strolled upstream gazing at scenery, eels, and goats (the four legged type mostly) .

We returned to our lunch place, collected packs, and headed downstream for Clifton .

It was lovely paddling down the cool stream . Marie enjoyed it so much !

A further stop was made for a boil up about an hour from the road, and very welcome it was too .

This should be a splendid place for a weekend trip during the Summer months .

Leader - M.D. SHAW.

No. 312.

WHAKARARA TRAVERSE.

20th - 21st Sept. 1947.

Left Hastings and went up through Maraekakaho Valley Road to Smedley. Quickly got into tramping togs and set out for the tops. Got on wrong side of creek, eventually got on to tops, the weather did not look too good so pushed on and landed at Poutaki Hut at dinner time. Angus and I looked for and found water while George Lowe got the fire going. Had an hour and a half for lunch and then set off for Whakarara Station via Poutaki Stream. Got into Stream and eventually struck the Ellis track and came out at the Whakarara Station at 4.30 p.m. Owing to some misunderstanding, the trip home was a long one as the truck driver took us back to Tikokino and down the Valley Road.

Number in Party - 10.

Leader - DAVE WILLIAMS.

No. 313

BLACK BIRCH RANGE

5th October 1947.

We left Holts as usual, picking up several people at Stortford Lodge. The lorry left us at Mr. Whittle's woolshed, so we tramped once more as usual, towards the saddle which leads to the tops. Here convention was breached, some people wanted to see the Donald River, so, instead of making north to the saddle, we crossed the gorge stream to climb straight up a bumpy spur to the tops. The half mile this saved us cost us several hours of strenuous climbing. After a boil up in the clearing some people wandered south to see the Donald; on their return the billy was again boiling. The return journey from here was made through the beech woods until we came out over the trig. Here we had a great view of the Kawekas, and we glowed with virtue as we saw a dense blanket of cloud lying from Puketitiri to the sea, covering the Sunday stay-at-homes. A pioneer party of two forced a route down a new ridge, while we less ambitious types contented ourselves with the usual route in reverse. The trip showed a profit of 9d. and the weather was perfect above the fog bank, so we left for home, happy, if a little late.

Number in Party -

Leader -

H.T.C.	16
Buffalos	2
Rovers	1

J. MAC.

No. 315

RONGA IKA

8th - 9th November 1947.

Left Hastings by bus for Clifton at 9.30 a.m. Arrived at Clifton Domain and got going promptly for Rabbit Gully where a stop of a few minutes was enjoyed. Set off for Middle Trig yards where the billy was boiled. During this spell some blue and red raddle

was found and nearly every one looked as though they were going to the freezer as fat stock instead of tramping. After a discussion with Bailey, the leader decided to let him go to the lady of his seeking for afternoon tea while the rest of the party left for Rongaiika. Crossing a deep gully and coming out on the Houpouru Boundary the party made their way to Whaling Station. Arriving there the leader got the party away looking for firewood. A few Katipo spiders were found. A stew was prepared, cooked and eaten. After a ramble, then to bed. Awake early in the morning, after breakfast the party had a stroll along the beach. The Sunday party arrived and after a cup of tea decided to go to Cape Hut where lunch was partaken of. John and Josephine got to work practising for their Christmas trip and everyone took some interest in the rope work. Packed up and trekked back to Clifton, Lorry and home.

Number on trip unknown as there were two parties.

Leader of weekend trip, - Dave Williams.

NEWS FROM OUR "ENGLISH BRANCH, H.T.C."

c/o Queen Elizabeth Hosp.
Edgbaston,
Birmingham, England.
28:10:47.

Dear H.T.C.

The Bully arrived yesterday. A joy. I had written a letter the day previously to Sealy and had mentioned that I'd not seen a Bulletin for months. Amazing how just a paper magazine can make one homesick - but I do envy you all when I think of those roddy types, Holt - Sam Haraldson, Dave Lynch, and the rest - not forgetting that old wily veteran Angus who I see is as ever if not more active. What news of all the strays - Bill Hayman I hear is engaged and are the Cooks still in N.Z.?

I seem to have travelled a long way since last I wrote and while I still remember it, Frank Simpson, a mass of Airforce dash, called to see me - He seems to have given up escorting V.I.P's and is now feeding the stomachs of the starving Britons. He looks well and we dug out a lot of H.T.C. news.

I'm doing a bit more of the Florrie work here. A most modern and up-to-date Hospital - Not content with losing myself in London and then in Birmingham, I got lost on the job and got into the most amazing departments.

You're right - Sealy sold me the idea of a motor-bike but it is simplified down to an auto-cycle and there is no doubt about it - I must look a wreckum as I note even the cows look and walk away. Must be my L. signs. A grand idea if you want most of the night away. I bought the thing second hand 3 months ago and there is no limit to where it can and has taken me. Three weeks ago I left for Scotland. Travelled the entire length from London. All bar about 100 miles. At times on good roads and no

traffic, I felt the thing was bolting. You can literally fly through the air. A rather extraordinary "putting" sound - many the time I've thought that I had company and it was only myself making all the noise! - Travelled through the counties of Northampton, Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Cumberland, Northumberland, Roxburgh (Scotland) and Edinburgh. Just the most beautiful spots and all in my own time - (13 days) 6 days in Scotland, unfortunately the Scottish weather was moody and I did not reach Fort William as I had intended doing - Next year perhaps. Went to Ilkley Moor and sang (without words) the popular ditty. Yorkshire is a lovely county - but I rather fell for Cumberland, so much so I had my first fall - speeding through a gateway over loose shingle - an old bloke from a near by lorry rushed to pick me up - Nice to feel girls that the age of chivalry is not dead!!! Crossed the Pennine range twice, quite a pull for a fragile bike and it was mighty cold on top. I'm fast becoming a mechanic. No telling where this bike will lead me to. I think it was Sealy who said "They're so simple - fool proof" I wish Sealy could see me on my non-fool proof days. There is just no limit to its antics and my tongue will soon be thread bare.

I went to Paris and Brussels but that was at Whit Sun, Paris is very disappointing. There must be life but I never saw it, only expense at every turn. I'm trying to get a 2 months job in Sweden or Norway and after the Spring I'll be singing "Now is the Hour" - which incidently is the hot number in London these days.

There is so much to write about and no more room but I'll be writing to Peg Morris and Joan C. Smith. What news of nee June Budd?

Sealy sits his exams very soon. It used to be grand to see his "Kiwi Grin" across the body at Hammersmith. Again many thanks for Bulletin and all my Best Wishes to the H.T.C. See you all next year and I'll be writing before Xmas.

Kia-ora

Huckleberry Finn

FIXTURE LIST

<u>Trip No.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Fare</u>
318	Jan. 25-26	Makaroro	N. Fendall	7/6
319	Feb. 8 - 9	Club Picnic Waimarama	J. Lloyd	4/-
320	Feb. 22nd	Working Party Kiwi Hut	G. Lowe	6/9
321	Mar. 7 - 8	Kaweka Trip (Build Memorial Cairn)	L. Lloyd	6/9
322	Mar. 21st	Tutira	D.A. Bathgate	6/3

Trips and fares subject to alteration if necessary.