

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)

" POHOKURA "

BULLETIN NO. 50

DECEMBER 1948

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TO ALL MEMBERS WE WISH A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND GOOD TRAMPING  
IN 1949.

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ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the H.T.C. was held in the Girl Guide  
Rooms on 14th October 1948 .

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

<u>PATRON :</u>	Dr. Bathgate .
<u>PRESIDENT:</u>	L.H. Lloyd Esq.
<u>VICE PRESIDENTS:</u>	Messrs. E.S. Craven, N.L. Elder, L.H. Holt .
<u>CLUB CAPTAIN:</u>	Mr. W.G. Lowe .
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	Miss U. Greenwood .
<u>TREASURER:</u>	Miss M. Shaw .
<u>AUDITOR:</u>	Mr. A. Oulaghan.
<u>EDITOR:</u>	Miss J. Lloyd .
<u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:</u>	Mrs. J. Lloyd, Misses P. Morris, D. Yule , B. Beckett. Messrs. G. Couper, D. Bathgate , R. Custance .
<u>SOCIAL COMMITTEE:</u>	Misses W. Pascoe, M. Moroney, M. Wyatt . Messrs. John Bremner, David Bathgate, Hugo McKay .

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

Full members	72	(83)
Junior members	6	(0)
Associate members	4	(5)
Absentee members	29	(33)
Honorary members	9	(9)

There are now six members overseas .

The Club has carried on for another year and again the time for stocktaking is with us . In tramping as in everything else there is no marking time - we climb or we hit the shingle slide - and we must review our activities dispassionately . To those who have been out along the beaches, the riverbeds and the hilltops , the reward has been full and satisfying . Our standing in the community is high, though sometimes when girt for action we may be regarded somewhat strangely .

However, though the joys of tramping lie largely in anticipation and in retrospect, we must not live too much in a world of ideas . As members of a Club we must do what we can to enable our fellows to function fully as trampers . A somewhat alarming disparity between the number of active members and the average number of active trampers per trip leaves us with no feeling of complacency . The need for active trampers with not too many rival interests is apparent . Our hope lies in fostering the interest of those who have given some indication of their desires in this field, rather than in pressing all and sundry to have a try at it . A minimum of advertising and a maximum of encouragement should be our watchword .

#### CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT:

Club Trips: The past year has seen some enthusiastic tramping, enjoyed in the main by only a limited number . There have not been enough people to fill the requisite number on the truck, consequently most trips have been subsidised. However, private transport has been used to carry the "enthusiastic few" to the hills . We have run 15 club trips with an average attendance of 13 .

The Rovers approached the Club early this year and asked to join in the use of the truck transport, this was granted .

Working Parties: During the fruit season orchard working parties were organised and earned an appreciable amount, which has been used to subsidise all lorry fares .

Search: The search organisation was called upon once, the Police calling on the Club to join in the search for an overdue pig-hunter . This was accomplished promptly and local settlers found the man .

The search files have been revised and brought up to date .

Kiwi Hut: Labour week-end last year saw the building of the Kiwi Hut . The chimney was completed during May of this year . This labour of love created tramping interest .

Memorial: After some years of consideration, the Kaweka Memorial Cairn has begun to take shape. The site of Kaweka Trig, 5652' (the highest point in Hawke's Bay). The tablet is completed, engraved with the names of the nine Club members who gave their lives during the war. We have planned the completion and dedication of this memorial during November of this year.

Easter Trip: The Easter trip this year covered new ground for the Club, a crossing of the Tararua being made. I hope that a similar trip may be attempted next year.

Combined Trips: For Colenso's Centennial (the first crossing of the Ruahines), our Club joined the Manawatu and Ruahine Tramping Clubs in crossing the range to attend a memorial service at Mokai Patea.

We also joined the Tamaki Tramping Club for a weekend at the Waikamaka Hut, when journeys to Hikurangi and Sixty-Six were successfully made.

Private Trips: Several people have been active in both North and South Islands. Private parties have traversed along the Ruahine tops in winter, from Waikamaka to Howlett's Hut, also Trigg 66; Mokamokanui Urawera clearing, Poronui; Te Hoi Valley (Maungaharurus); and a party of senior High School boys visited the Kaweka and Kiwi Huts.

A private party of three climbing Aiguille Rouge (9,731) and Glacier Dome (8,047'). Two of the party returned while another joined the original member to climb Mts. Cook (12,349'), Tasman (11,475'), Malte Brun (10,421'), Elie de Beaumont (10,200'), Walter (9,507') and Green (9,305'). Other valleys visited were the Minga, Edwards, Godley and the Milford Track.

Ruapehu: The skiing trip to Ruapehu this year was a great success, for those who were lucky enough to be there.

New Members: Many people have joined the Club and drifted away without attempting tramping. In future I suggest that people who intend joining should attend two or three trips before they are invited to become members of the Club. Thereafter the proposers should count themselves responsible for the new members.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT: During 1948 we have had very few arranged social meetings, but Club members have filled the breach admirably and given most interesting talks. In May of this year we shifted our headquarters once again - this time to Queen Street in rooms rented from the Girl Guides Association. These make very comfortable club rooms and every facility for providing supper for voracious trampers! Definitely a move for the best.

Two dances have been held and voted quite a success by those who attended.

At a recent meeting we were fortunate in seeing Lloyd Wilson's pictures of various trips he has made in New Zealand. Members were keenly interested and followed Lloyd's commentary closely. Some of the "angle" shots put on inadvertently by Rolf Keys at the lantern added to the spontaneous enjoyment of the occasion!

We lost two members of the Committee during the year - Jo. Goymour who has left for pastures new and Eric Marven who has been on the 'retired' list for some time due to ill-health.

In conclusion our thanks to those people who have given the Club talks, pictures and light entertainment.

"POHOKURA": Three numbers of our Club Bulletin, "Pohokura" have been brought out this year and, we hope, kindly received by the Club members.

The compiling of "Pohokura" is a community effort and made easier by the co-operation we have received from overseas members whose letters provide us with interesting and amusing fare; from leaders who provide local colour with accounts of trips (rather difficult to extract at times); and from members who provide topical articles of general interest and write up accounts of private trips.

And lastly, we have to thank the typists who do the bulk of the work.

Mr. Patterson, Karamu Road, continues to do a good job with the duplicating and we wish to thank him for his continued service and interest in the Club.

LIBRARY REPORT: The books in the Library now number 86. The number read this year was 53, cash receipts being 13/3. Thanks are due to Miss U. Greenwood for donating Scott Russell's "Mountain Prospect".

Please scan your shelves for the following missing books:

No. 36: Jungle Lindsay - Lindsay.

No. 44: Dangerous Islands - Clifford Gessler.

A good book on skiing technique would at this time be welcomed by members.

HUT TRACKS AND EQUIPMENT: The construction of Kiwi Saddle Hut and the cutting of a track thereto (with the prospecting of alternative routes) had been the achievement of the year. The dearth of big parties has allowed the scrub to gain ground on some of our tracks and some new discing (Herrick's Spur for example) could well be tackled in the near future. Material at the Keweka Bivy is waiting to improve the shelter there or to be carried further along the tops to another site.

Now that we have a strongroom at our disposal, it is recommended that all the less bulky equipment be stored at our club rooms, where it will be more readily available to members. The new committee could consider the purchase of another ice axe, hut cooking utensils and tent replacements.

FINANCIAL REPORT: This year expenses have kept pace with income received but the books show a small profit.

Subscriptions have been very slow in being paid and there are quite a few still to be paid. Maps and badges are popular and continue to sell well.

The Transport Fund, thanks to working parties, is still on the credit side of the ledger. Donations for food for Britain have been approximately £10.

The memorial plaque (not yet erected) has been paid for . The cost of the Kiwi Hut has been computed and the Government subsidy will be applied for .

The financial position, though not improved, is shown to be very steady .

APPRECIATION: Once again we would like to record our appreciation and thanks to those kind and ever-patient people who have permitted us to wander over their land .

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### STAN

To any old member like myself there was a touch of sadness at the Annual Meeting to see Stan give up the job of President . Not that there is any doubt that Lin will be a worthy successor, but, somehow, there will be something different at the meetings without Stan's familiar "Basso profundo" .

Stan was one of the dozen or so who met in Doc. Bathgate's rooms in 1935 and decided to form the Club . He was elected to the first executive and immediately applied himself both to the active and administrative sides of the Club . His celebrated pack, a sugar-bag and some rope, is well remembered as against some of the flash new outfits of some of us to-day .

When Doc. relinquished the President's Chair in 1937, Stan was elected in his stead and he has held his office through the years with conspicuous success . The Club flourished under his guidance, and we were going great guns when the war came along . Difficult years were ahead, but by his enthusiastic guidance and understanding Stan steered the Club through . Some of the meagre attendances at the meetings must have made him ponder, but each fortnight , in our various meeting places, the President was always on deck . When the war was over, our difficulties were not finished but Stan, at his personal inconvenience, carried on until he felt sure we were on our feet again .

Those who acted on the executive will ever remember the kindness and hospitality of Val and Stan when the Committee Meetings were held at their home . We hope, Stan, that in your new office we shall have many years of your advice and company .

R.K.

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### NEWS OF MEMBERS

NORA FINN. Huck has returned to New Zealand and managed to fit in a visit to Hawke's Bay before taking up her new job in Christchurch . We wish her all the best in her new position .

BILL HAYMAN. Our congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Bill Hayman on the birth of a daughter .

HEATHER AND JOHN COLLINS., also have a daughter . Our congratulations to Heather and John and a very warm welcome to Jennifer Mary .

### CLUB ROOM & SOCIAL EVENTS

Since last going to press we have had several most interesting talks at Club meetings .

Dr. Bathgate gave us a most instructive lecture on native birds. This was illustrated by coloured lantern slides . On our last trip only one Kaka, two pigeons and a tomtit presented themselves for identification, but the interest manifested in them showed the influence of the Doc's talk .

The night Huck Finn paid us a visit we managed to prevail on her to tell us about Scandinavia . "Fantastic" was her description of it . We were given glimpses of snow glistening in the lamplight, people skiing down city streets, Christmas festivities lasting ten days and work in operating theatres which were supplied with the very latest in steel equipment but where the risk involved lay in the fact that Huck knew very little Swedish, while the rest of the staff knew very little English !

Ken Sherris gave us a fascinating talk on his training in Burma with Wingate's Chindits . Then, another evening, in direct contrast, he gave us an account of conducted tours among the Alps while he was at school in Switzerland and other trips on skis, not so conducted, during school holidays .

A party of us went to see the film showing the T.T.C. building their hut at Totara Flats . Typical Tararua weather prevailed and we admired their perseverance in the face of swollen river and driving rain .

On November 6th, the Social Committee staged another popular vice-versa dance at St. Barnabas's Hall . Really entrancing were some of the beautiful damsels - one was even adorned with a necklace of new potatoes . The pianist did such wonders with the Hall piano that the dancers insisted on having three Gay Gordons ! There was literally oodles of supper - more than even the Tramping Club could cope with, and a large carton of it was taken on the Waipetiki trip next day . Although the crowd was not as large as was expected, we made a profit of 18/- and an Aussie florin .

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### MATTERS ARISING FROM COMMITTEE MEETING

#### NEW MEMBERS

We welcome as new members , Molly Young and Doris Torbett and wish them good tramping for many years to come .

SUB COMMITTEES

The following sub-committees were appointed :-

Fixture: G. Lowe., M. Shaw., D. Bathgate .  
Hut & Track: G. Couper., L. Holt., R. Custence.  
Search: President, Secretary, Club Captain .  
 Dr. Bathgate, N. Elder, S. Craven .  
Equipment Officer: D. Bathgate .  
Press Relations Officer: R. Keys .  
Librarian: A. Russell .  
Editor: J. Lloyd , with assistant Editor, P. Morris .  
Custodian of Albums: B. Beckett .  
Programme Organiser: B. Beckett.  
Liaison with Social Committee: G. Couper .

RESOLUTION RE MEMBERSHIP

Acting on a recommendation from the Annual General Meeting, the Committee passed the following Resolution :-

" That the Club proposes in future to accept nomination for membership only from those who have made two trips as guests of the Club, one to be a hill trip ."

RE TRUCK

In order to give Mr. Dunlop decent time to make the necessary arrangements , leaders of trips must ring him early on Friday morning .

CLUB TRIPS

No. 336.

Craggy Range to Ocean Beach

Sunday 3rd Oct.  
1948.

Although when we left Hastings at 8 o'clock the weather was fine and warm, a cold wind was blowing when we piled out of the truck at Craggy Range . Some left their longs on when we started off, but by the time we had skirted a swamp and climbed on to a small saddle , all of us were in shorts . The tops looked much more exciting to us than following up the valley so we climbed to the top and wandered along vaguely . We did our good deed for the day when we found a sheep which was cast and put it on its feet again . From the tops we dropped fairly steeply down into a beautiful green valley with the Maraetotara Stream flowing through it . We picked out a nice spot beneath some willows and here, at 10.45 a.m. we lit a fire and proceeded to prepare for morning-tea-cum lunch . Twelve o'clock saw us once more wandering along this delightful stream until we came to a swing bridge which we crossed and then headed off over green pastures towards the sea . Some fine specimens of bulls were to be seen on the opposite side of the fence to us, My! How they stared!!

At 1 o'clock we were on the beach . The sky was very cloudy and the sea not very inviting . In dribs and drabs we wandered along to where a small stream flows into the sea and here we lit a fire and cooked pipis which Angus had gathered . Boy, were they good stewed in their own juice ! The truck arrived earlier than we had expected and as the sky was gradually becoming darker and the atmosphere much colder, we decided to climb aboard and set off for home, arriving in Hastings at approximately 4 o'clock , just before rain began to fall . This trip was most enjoyable but I think it could be even more so in the summer .

Number in Party : 14

Leader: Betty Beckett .

No. 337.

LABOUR DAY WEEKEND

October 23-25th.

WAIKAMAKA PARTY

Regardless of warnings about the weather history of Waikamaka at this weekend, five decided to tramp to Waikamaka Hut, with hopes of crossing to Howlett's along the Rushine tops on the Sunday . At Howlett's Hut a similar party (5) were to make the crossing the opposite way - in order that we might both have transport home . It was quite a commendable plan if the weather held.

Our party left town at 6.30 a.m. on the Saturday morning . The Rushine tops were clear, but cloud was trying to form . At 9 a.m. we booted up beside Triplex Creek . The ford is now rough and cut by two separate streams . It was a cold, windy, and finally, a wet trip into the hut . When below the Waipawa Saddle we saw a party of five ahead of us outlined against the sky . They carried rifles . Soon after, a young deer stood in like position . They did not see it . The shooters were in the hut when we arrived . With ten bodies it seemed crowded . In the corner five rifles were stacked . At Muriel's enquiry as to their dangerous qualities, the father of the party unloaded the charged guns . It was my second experience with loaded rifles in huts - I don't like it .

Once in Waikamaka we were destined to spend three days in the sack - with short sorties for food . The fire burned quite well , but the chimney smoked unceasingly .

On Saturday morning the shooters left for the road . All the day the wind, snow and hail straffed the hut; more food, more sleep . We knew it was Monday because the murk was less murky . We left for the road - it was snowing and hail was heaped high round the Waikamaka door .

Party: Muriel Shaw, Dulcie Yule, Molly Young, Cyril Davy, George Lowe

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HOWLETT'S HUT PARTY

Having left Hastings at 7 o'clock , the party of five reached Thompson's where in weather conditions that looked forbidding,



to say the least . The district, far from being uninhabited, already harboured two stalkers and there was promise of more to come .

The Party made an early start next morning, pushing up the Tuki Tuki towards the rain and the climb of Daphne Ridge . A boil-up at the bottom of the ridge preceded a damp climb and we reached Howlett's in the evening in blizzard conditions .

Sunday morning broke and the steadily falling snow put an end to the prospect of the trip along the tops to the Waikamaka . We hoped the other party would not be setting out in similar conditions as we sat and shivered before a well-coached but poorly-responsive fire .

A party equipped with a toboggan marched out of the hut for some exercise in the snow but presently marched into the hut once more convinced that Howlett's was "it" as far as cold weather went .

In a grey, snow-filled Monday dawning we pushed through the leather wood and tussock and down the Daphne Ridge . In the heavy bush near the Tuki Tuki the leader shot a young stag which was rapidly quartered and put in packs .

As we left Thomson's in the car the sun broke through the mists feebly to bid us farewell .

Number in Party - 5.

Leader - Alva Cutler .

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No. 338

LABOUR DAY WEEKEND

PLAQUE TRIP

A somewhat smaller party joined in with Pauline and eight Rangers and left for the Kawekas at about 7.45 a.m. on Saturday . The object was to carry in to the site of the cairn the plaque and its attendant odds and ends of nuts, bolts, iron rods, angle iron etc. Just after we left Swamp House, rumbling thunder heralded heavy rain and we were all pretty soaked by the time we got to the Hut . However, Les Holt, Rolf Keys and Peg Morris who had gone in ahead had a roaring fire going and we soon dried out . On Sunday Les's party headed back to the road, Angus went off to Kiwi Saddle and the rest of us, viz, Walter Shaw, Bill Wilkie, Janet Lloyd, Lin Lloyd, took the plaque up to the cairn site . The weather was fine, but bitterly cold . We made our way back to the Hut as quickly as possible . It was snowing round the Hut next morning, but we had a dry trip out to the road in the afternoon . Our thanks are due to the Rangers for a good spring clean of the hut .

Number in Party : 8 plus Pauline & 8 Rangers .

Leader : Lin Lloyd .

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No. 339.

CAIRN WORKING PARTY

Weekend 30th &amp; 31st Oct.

Small working party, Stan Craven, David Bathgate, Molly Young, Lin Lloyd and George Lowe left in Lowe's car about 7.30 p.m. Friday 29th Slept in Swamp House. Up 4.40 a.m. to Kaweka Hut. A boil up there, then on to Studholme Saddle, dumping packs on the ridge between Surveyor's Creek and Bivy Creek. Reached Kaweka J about 2 p.m. and worked on the building of the Cairn until 6.15 p.m. Down a shingle slide to the Bivy where Lowe and Molly Young had pitched tents and cooked a meal. A fine night. Sunday morning 4.40 a.m. found us up then breakfast and a brisk trip to Kaweka J. The Cairn was finished by 9.30 a.m. Lunch at Kaweka Hut, then out and home about 6.30 p.m. A very worthwhile trip.

Number in Party : 5Leader : Lin Lloyd.

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No. 340.

WAIPATIKI BEACH

November 7th.

A very good beginning to Summer tramps was made by Members each enthusiastically talking one or two friends into participating in what was described as a picnic trip to Waipatiki Beach - bring swimming and fishing gear.

"Where is it?" enquired the hesitant friends - Vague replies were given, as no Club trip seems to have been made to that district for many moons. However, the leader was most enthusiastic and described the Beach and scenery to the best of her ability and eventually we had forty-one bods clambering upon two trucks at Holt's at 9 o'clock the morning of 7th November. A beautiful clear sunny morning too.

Travelling via Napier we collected 3 bods from outside G.P.O. and eventually arrived at Waipatiki approximately 2½ hours later. Already several people had burnt faces and arms, so fierce were the rays of the sun.

Swimming, surfing and sunbathing was the order of the day. Later a few slightly more energetic (or should I say "less tired?") people meandered over the hills and through the bush, either botanising or just enjoying the cool shade of the trees.

Another boil up and by 5 o'clock we were "sardined" onto the trucks once more, where, led by Norman, tramping songs both old and new, were warbled for the duration.

Special thanks to Mr. Beckett for use of his truck on this trip. Many would have been left behind but for his kindly gesture.

Number in Party : 44Leader : Muriel Shaw.

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No. 341.

CAIRN TRIP

November 20th - 21st .

Forty-seven members of the Heretaunga Tramping Club and guests climbed into the Kaweka Range during the week-end for the dedication of a memorial cairn, erected in memory of nine club members who gave their lives in the service of their country during the Second World War . The dedication was performed by the Rev. H.A. Mitchell, a wartime padre overseas .

By 10 p.m. on Saturday 47 members and guests had assembled at the Kaweka and Kiwi Saddle Huts, the overflow from bunk and tent accommodation finding suitable floor space in the Hut . Despite wet and crowded conditions, a happy atmosphere prevailed with community cooking and fireside entertainment of song and reminiscences .

Fires replenished at dawn enabled breakfast to be served between 5.30 a.m. and 6.30 a.m. and the main party set off at 7 a.m. to link up with the Kiwi Saddle Hut party which had left at 6.30 a.m. The two groups met at the pre-arranged time ( 9 a.m.) on Kaiarahi (4915ft) and moved on to the Cairn sited near the Trig (5652ft.) arriving at 10.50 a.m. in time for the ceremony to begin at 11 a.m.

The Patron of the Club, Dr. D.A. Bathgate, who was also the Club's first president, introduced the speakers .

Mr. E.S. Craven, president from 1937 to 1947 , spoke of the proud record of the club during the Second World War, particularly of the 40 members who saw active service overseas .

The President, Mr. L.H. Lloyd, spoke on behalf of the returned Servicemen, expressing appreciation of the present ceremony and for the close contact maintained between the club and its overseas members to whom the Club had meant so much .

Mrs. N. Elder then unveiled the memorial and a sheaf of red, white and blue flowers from the women members of the club was placed beneath the plaque .

The Rev. Mitchell , in his dedication address, praised the spirit of self-sacrifice shown by the trampers on this occasion, and the example of self-sacrifice offered by those members to whose memory the present gathering was paying tribute . Those members had strengthened all that was best in the Club . After a short prayer the cairn was dedicated to the memory of the nine members who had given their lives, and the padre pronounced the Benediction .

. During the ceremony awe-inspiring atmospheric conditions prevailed . The day till then had been wet and over-cast with a steady wind . For an hour the wind dropped and a warm sun enabled the gathering to stand in comfort, after which a sudden hail-storm heralded severe weather for the rest of the day . The return to hut and road was safely accomplished . The 47 who set out made the distance without exception .

The Club has reason to feel gratification by the success of the occasion and by the interest displayed . One member, Miss Molineux made a plane trip from Christchurch for the week-end .

The names on the plaque are :-

B. Beechey	F.J. Green
W.E. Boyd	K. McLeay
C.L. Bright	M. McCormick
D.W. Callow	H.W. Meldrum
B. Wyn Irwin	

The thanks of the Club are due to the Rev. Mitchell who came such a long way to dedicate our cairn .

Apart from the solemnity of this occasion the trip had its lighter touches . We had thought that the previous record of thirty-two in the Kaweka Hut was capacity, but forty odd all eating there at once was simply deafening, difficulty being experienced in keeping one's spoon on the same plate . Finding owners for eighty half-dry socks took some doing and who got down on the Doctor's boots ?

The following are the names of those who took part in the ceremony :-

Stan Craven  
 Doctor Bathgate  
 Rev. Mitchell  
 David Bathgate  
 Ray Custance  
 Ursula Greenwood  
 Kath Elder  
 Dulcie Yule  
 Barbara Hill  
 George Lowe  
 John McIntyre  
 Molly Young  
 Hugo McKay  
 David Sherry  
 Doris Torbett  
 Mabel Wyatt  
 Wendy Pascoe  
 Colin McLennaghan  
 Cyril Devey  
 Walter Shaw  
 John Bremner  
 John Mitchel

Lin Lloyd  
 Janet Lloyd  
 Harold Bush  
 John von Dodelszen  
 Blue Monaghan  
 Steel Therklison  
 Shirley Single  
 Bill Wilkie  
 Sam Haraldsen  
 Dave Lynch  
 Molly Molineux  
 Mary Moroney  
 Clem Smith  
 Joan Smith  
 Angus Russell  
 Betty Beckett  
 George Couper  
 Geoff Piesse  
 Bernard Piesse  
 Howard Piesse

4 Rovers : Alan Oulaghan  
 Rob. Comrie  
 Alf Dixon  
 Bruce Jenkinson .

Addresses at the Cairn

(1) Mr. E.S. Craven spoke as follows :-

"Our purpose is to dedicate this cairn to the memory of those members of the Club who lost their lives in the War .

The record of the Club with its many activities during those years is a proud one and that pride is especially justified by the numbers and by the conduct of those who saw active service . Some forty members went overseas, nine of whom did not return . Their departure thinned the ranks of active trampers in the district, but their continued interest, shown by their letters and by their formation of a "Middle East branch" was an inspiration that helped to keep the Club going .

Much consideration has been given to the form that any memorial should take . A hut was considered, a cairn and plaque more easily accessible was a possibility ; but it will be agreed now that this cairn, simple, impressive and remote, is a most suitable permanent tribute to the memory of those men whose names are engraved upon it .

The widespread interest in this memorial, the large attendance to-day and the assistance given to make this attendance possible have been an encouragement to those who have undertaken its erection . Already from several of the next-of-kin have come expressions of appreciation of what we are doing now and we can hope that this ceremony with photos of the cairn and plaque will afford some solace to the bereaved . "

(2) Mr. Lloyd's address :-

Les Holt<sup>who</sup> was to have spoken for the men in the Services was unable to attend the ceremony on account of illness, Lin Lloyd spoke in his stead .

" This club of ours, pre-war, was one big close-knit family . The members had travelled many a tough trip together and had thus gained a thorough knowledge and appreciation of each other .

When war came and scattered us to the four winds the feeling of brotherhood persisted . A Middle East branch of the H.T.C. was formed and in Italy, too, many a journey was undertaken so that members might foregather with members as they had delighted to do in the past . With the Club in New Zealand too , the link remained strong and overseas men owe a great deal to the few who were left who worked steadily throughout the war to hold the Club as such together by writing of letters and sending parcels not only to us, but more important still, to those of our number who were prisoners of war .

The men whom we are here to honour to-day played their full part in the opening up of our first tracks, in the building of our first permanent shelter and in the map making which was to make safer the journeys of those to follow .

With the war over, the old happy family is broken up . There is too much lost time to make up in civvy street . There are new ties - many have married and a whole host of new interests are crowding their lives . The Club must build anew and has begun very successfully to do so . In building for the future we cannot do better than keep alive and prominent the spirit of that first membership - a spirit of unselfishness and co-operation - the same spirit evident to an even more marked extent in the fighting units in which these men served .

May this cairn ever serve to remind us that it is only because these men gave their lives in the prime of their youths that we may still wander over the hills of our own land as we will . May we ever honour them accordingly ."

(3) Rev. Mitchell's Address:

"I suppose this will be the first time that an address has been delivered on the topmost point of Hawke's Bay . And indeed it says something for the Club that it should plan so greatly and carry to its completion such a project . This cairn will stand long after we tramp these hills no more , looking down on the plains where these your fellow-members worked whom you commemorate to-day . May I say that this whole idea in its conception and execution is a striking tribute to the spirit of your Tramping Club . It is altogether fitting that the memorial to these men should be up in the heights where they tramped and amid the snows and storms , a fitting symbol of the storm of war through which they passed . Although they have gone and your Tramping Club must do without their presence, yet your Club is not weakened but strengthened by their going, and infinitely widened . I mean this : Rupert Brooks the poet wrote these lines and they became true for him , for he died in the First War and he is buried in an island of the Argean Sea :

" If I should die, think only this of me :  
That there is some corner of a foreign field  
That is for ever England."

There are crosses in many lands, and places under the seas, that are for ever a part of your Club ; now woven into the fabric and spirit of your club , part of your heritage .

What of these men now ? They no longer tramp the hills of home, but do they tramp any other hills ? As we came up through the rain we could see that the tops here were covered in mist . Are they now as their memorial cairn was then : away in a mist of obliteration? But **just** before we got here the mist lifted , and here we are in sunshine . That is a parable . I am sure that they live on and tramp other hills . Consider : if we have any very precious thing, how we look after it . If someone had , say , a Stradivarius violin, and heedlessly smashed it when he had finished playing it, we would think it blasphemy . Do you think then that the Creator of all things , of these hills and all the beauty of the world, is going to do that with the greatest thing ever made : Man ? Here we stand, the heirs of the ages . All the past is at our disposal . We didn't have to fight the battles for liberty . That was done before we were born . But we get the benefit of those victories . We use maps for our climbing which we didn't make . All the inventions of the past are ours . And it

took all the past ages to make us . In all those ages there has been an evolutionary process upwards . At the end of that long upward lift, we come, and we are here for only a moment in the long roll of the centuries, for one little flicker compared with eternity . Is it conceivable that, after taking all the ages to make us, we are here for a moment only, and then oblivion ? We would think it a tragedy if one climbed after great struggle a long upward slope to the top of the mountain, and then just crashed down a precipice on the other side into nothingness . But that is precisely what is happening if there be no life beyond this one .

No, I believe these men whom we remember , who died for their country, still live on .

But what of us, who remain ? Is it sufficient that we should build a memorial ? Surely not . A soldier's true memorial can never be found in cairns or stone columns, however beautiful . They are reminders, and in this case a very worthy and fitting reminder of something we owe . We remember best by living for the things for which they died ; else have they died in vain . They didn't go the hard way so that we could live in ease . It would be a mockery of their sacrifice if all we thought of was our ease and pleasure . A needy world needs sacrifice, yet how complacent we are in New Zealand . The world is starving and torn, but we are one of the three countries in the world which has a higher standard of living than before the war . And may I suggest that the sacrifice we make, whatever it be, be in the same spirit in which this cairn was built and dedicated . It took some effort to get up to this mountain top to-day, and even more for those who came up to build the cairn . There was something of sacrifice of ease in it . Yet though it meant some sacrifice , you didn't think of it in that way at all . It was adventure . Now sacrifice as adventure will do wonders, for the community and the world . That was the spirit of these men who gave their lives in war . Let it be ours in peace ."

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No. 342 .

CLIFTON TO MARAETOTARA FALLS

Nov. 28th .

Nine members shared a truck with the Junior National Party as far as Clifton . The J.N.P. went on to Kidnappers while the H.T.C. followed up the Maraetotara stream . We had been asked by the property owner to be particularly careful of fires, so when lunch time came we boiled the billy on some papa rock in the creek itself . What we did not know was that the heat of the fire would crack the rock . The first pop or two caused comment, but real consternation was experienced when half the rock exploded and the fire went with it !

From the falls we came back overland to Clifton and had a more serene boil-up at the cookhouse . There we met some of the Club who had spent the weekend at Clifton . They had been to Kidnappers and had had an extremely wet trip back on account of an unusually high tide which refused to recede .

We waited for odd stragglers of the JNP who came in soaked to the skin and finally got back to Hastings about 9 p.m.

Number in Party : 9

Leader : M. Shaw.

The following account of a tramp in Fiji comes to us from Edna Steele :

" We made tramping history in Fiji about a month ago. There is a rock stands out on the skyline rising up sheer from the range . It had beckoned to me ever since I had seen it first but there was little enthusiasm towards climbing it from anyone here so I arranged with a Fijian guide to take 4 of the bigger children . By this time two of the lads here decided they would make the attempt also .

We set off about 11.30 a.m. on Saturday by bus till we came to the hill track . We met the guide plus a horse here and set off - one of the children rode the horse and some of the baggage went on too .

It was open country as the bush has all been cleared and took us four hours steady going to reach the village where we were to spend the night . We had a swim in the river before tea and then the old Chief packed us off to bed on the floor . We stayed in his house and were most comfortable . The floor had been covered with some form of bracken and then mats on top of that and for sleeping we had a pile of about two dozen mats , a pillow and a blanket . It was quite chilly in the early hours .

We were up at daybreak and the kids soon had breakfast ready . The last stretch up to the rock - called the Thumb-hook - about two hours up all the way . The last quarter of a mile was perpendicular and wooded so there were plenty of footholds and handholds .

The rock itself stands out sheer on one side and is wooded to within about 200 feet of the top on the other side . We climbed the wooded side and when there I decided it was definitely too risky for the kids to tackle so I stayed there with them and the two Fijian guides and the other two men started off . They made it and lit a fire on top to show the world we had reached the top . Coming down was harder as one lad said, someone seemed to have removed every foothold . After a very slow progress they got their feet on horizontal ground once more. Harry reckoned it was the most dangerous thing he had done .

They were the first to climb it anyway - one American went up but he had sent a Fijian ahead of him to send down a rope to haul him up so we discount that . We had lunch at the river on the way back and another swim in the river by the village before we set off for home .

The return trip took only a little over two hours . It made a grand weekend but I can't raise any enthusiasm for any more so I'll stick to the kids for companions . "

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FIXTURE LIST

17.

16th JAN.

HORSE-SHOE BEND

Leader : Doris Torbett .

29th - 30th JAN.

CLUB PICNIC - POURERE BEACH

Leader : Lin Lloyd & Mrs.

13th FEB.

OPUAHIE LAKE & MAUNGAHARARU TRIG

Leader : Stan Craven .

26th - 27th FEB.

WORKING PARTY.

1. Clearing track above Kuripapanga Lake .
2. Roofing iron to Kiwi Hut .

Leaders : Les. Holt & Geo. Lowe

13th MARCH

BLOWHARD BUSH & DONALD RIVER

Leader : Dr. Bathgate .

26th - 27th MARCH.

IRON WHARE &/or HOT SPRINGS FROM MAKAHU RIVER

Leader : David Bathgate .

10th APRIL.

OPEN WEEKEND - To be arranged or left free .

EASTER 1949

1. Log Cabin, Manson, Ngaruroro R., Kiwi Hut .
  - or 2. Ruahine, No-Mans , Te Atua Mahurie , Shut-Eye Shack ,
  - or 3. Rangitikei - Camaru R., Boyd's Hut & Ngamatea .
- Leaders : To be arranged.

24th April

RABBIT GULLY & CLIFTON

Leader : John Mitchell

8th MAY

TUKI TUKI, MIDDLE ROAD, SILVER RANGE.

Leader : Betty Beckett

21st - 22nd MAY

HERRICK'S HUT, NO-MAN'S , RUAHINE HUT.

Leader: George Couper .

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