HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (Inc)

"POHOKURA"

Bulletin No.89.

December 1961

President:

Mr. A.V. Berry, 10 Nimon St., Havelock North. 'Phone 77.223

Hon. Secretary:

Miss A. Tremewan, 411W St. Aubyn Street, Hastings. 'Phone 83.703

Hon. Treasurer:

Mrs. B. Taylor, Te Awanga, R.D.2, Hastings. 'Phone HMN 829

Club Captain: *

Mr. M. Taylor, Te Awanga, R.D.2, Hastings. 'Phone HMN 829

ANNUAL REPORT

President's Report.

Membership has been remarkably static over the past few years and at present stands at ninety.

Although numerically the Club continues strong it is an unfortunate fact that the proportion of active experienced members has probably never been lower. We are grateful to our junior members for the support they have given trips but as we are well aware, the results have at times been rather disconcerting. The club is largely dependent for its recruiting of new members upon the approval of parents and we do value their goodwill very highly. It is understandable that parents should take a dim view of the frequency of overdue parties and other misadventures which we have experienced during the past two years and we do hope that members will in future pay greater regard to the rules of safe tramping and common sense.

Although the year's financial results are not quite as satisfactory as of recent years, the Club is in a very sound position. Quite a lot has been spent on the truck during the year, some of which has really been in the nature of improvements and this has contributed to the substantial increase in the net cost of transport.

We are particularly indebted to Nigel Thompson's father for making available his paddock for our crop of sweetcorn. We rely upon working parties to balance our budget and it is always encouraging to see that members are just as ready to work for the Club as they are to take part in the trips. Another crop of corn is in already so we can look forward to further working parties fairly soon.

A Club such as ours depends a lot on the efforts of individual members to keep it running smoothly and we are grateful to all who have assisted during the year. In particular I should like to thank our Secretary and Treasurer for so capably looking after the administrative side of the Club's affairs.

Fixture, Hut and Track Committee.

Fixtures: Suggestions for future trips are best handed in in writing. The club policy of a trip each fortnight, weekend and Sunday about has been maintained. The two or three long weekends and a semi-club trip at Christmas give opportunity to strike further afield. We shall make a determined effort this coming year to run a fast and a slow trip with each fixture. To do this an experienced senior is needed with the faster group and we hope the older members will not allow their boots to wear out merely as gardening boots.

Huts: In view of the Forestry Service subsidy of £10 a hut per annum, we must consider bringing our three huts up to standard - improved drainage or flooring being required.

<u>Kaweka</u>. Club members are reminded that in this hut particularly, where large parties often use the facilities, they should check that billies are left clean and up-ended, food remains buried or burnt and the door securely closed. We are glad to allow use of the hut and trust that no shelter trees will be cut and that the fire is completely extinguished.

<u>Kiwi</u>. Repairs to the bunks have been made and the next job will be attention to the porch.

<u>Waikamaka</u>. No doubt the chimney will defeat all attempts to control it. Apart from the occasional suggestion of blue haze, it permits the entry of considerable quantities of rain water. There are other problems of drainage too.

Shut Eye. The shack is in serious need of attention to the chimney, door and water-containers. However a new Forestry air-drop hut at the head of Gold Creek may replace the Shut Eye Shack.

<u>Howletts</u>. We are pleased to hear that M.T.C. have plans for improving the number of bunks etc.

<u>Forestry Huts</u>. New huts since last report are Ahurua and Ngaarapurua (see page 16-17 of last year's report) and one at the Raoraoroa River (which runs into the Ngaruroro near the bend at Hogget Saddle.) Also a new hut is likely on the Mangatainoka, a tributary of the Mohaka opposite Big Ben.

Tracks: The club has had a respite from track cutting and clearing, but the Smith-Russell (to Kiwi) has been improved and also the run-out from the foot of the shingle slide. Only three poles above the shingle slide are standing. The poles on 4594 need renewing again.

Club Captain.

<u>Club Trips</u>: During the year 3 trips were cancelled. Also one diverted to gathering manuka etc. to decorate the Club Truck for the Blossom Parade. This left 23 trips for members and the average participation was 15. A slight drop on the previous year owing to the cancellations.

Private Trips: Over the past twelve months club members have been active as in the past and while none ventured to the South Island many good trips were had locally. Search: An excellent trial search was held in the Waipawa river headwater area with a total of 35 bods taking part. One of the most interesting aspects was the fact of a reported track up Three Johns but parties working on this report found no track in the vicinity and no evidence to show that there had been one in the last fifty years. Strangely, under these conditions parties do not meet at previously agreed times and with limited time available organization goes somewhat by the board. At least some mistaker which have shown up in the past were not repeated and new?? difficulties were found instead to beset our Search and Rescue Organisation.

Special Comments: Junior members are still stronger numerically on trips than senior male members and this is still causing the Club (and Parents) some concern as our older members just aren't as fast as they used to be and the young ones are naturally getting fitter and faster as more experience is gained.

Unfortunately some are just not applying their knowledge at the right time and a spirit of show-off and tramping just do not combine with a very good effect, as some have found out to their cost.

Tinned hash still seems to be popular and if only some of this was dumped in preference to essential equipment, packs would be lighter and also leaders wouldn't have so much trouble bestowing tents, ropes etc around the party.

It has been easy to see how much effect has the printed word, as last year's report still holds as good now as it did then, so buck up one and all, for a good trip without anxiety for parents and your search committee is also a good trip for yourself.

Search Committee.

In April of this year assistance was requested for a police search for a missing fisherman in the Mohaka River. The search was unsuccessful, but was a valuable experience in that the gorge with the river up a little was unexpectedly difficult, making it in effect a "mountain" rather than a "police" search. The H.T.C. - R.E.C. party, allotted a separate sector at the lower end of the gorge, put on a model performance, maintaining radio contact throughout. Failing to meet any upstream party the leader split his own party, one section returning and completing the downstream search, the other bivouacking in the gorge and continuing through next morning, even communicating in morse with Hastings.

Arising from this experience discussions have been held with the police and with Hastings and Napier Deerstalkers' Clubs with the aim of widening the basis of search organization and of increasing its effectiveness. The position is that in an emergency considerable mumbers of fit men would be available, many of them with an intimate knowledge of various limited areas but with little appreciation of methodical team-work. A joint practice is proposed towards the end of the summer to demonstrate this aspect of the job and increase the number of competent party leaders in the district. The support given to this will show what the prospect is of developing a stronger organization in Hawkes Bay.

Truck Committee.

The Bedford continues to give the Club good service and to provide members with transport at what are really very low fares. We are most fortunate in having our own vehicle and we owe a lot to the members whose efforts on fund raising working parties in past years have mede this possible.

We are grateful to Maurie Taylor for the interest he has taken in the truck's maintenance and also for his work in making the new canopy. This just finishes off our truck and we are now the possessors of transport that is the envy of many other clubs.

Social Committee.

Social events this year 1960-61 got away to a start with the usual Christmas party, but as this was poorly supported the committee decided to abandon further for this year. Those who came did, I think, enjoy themselves immensely.

We have also had the following guest speakers along on vlub nights, namely: Mr. Townsend of the R.E.C. very kindly gave a talk on the new lightweight field transistor radio. Mr. Robin Bell on the history of the Taupo Road, illustrated by some very interesting photos. Two Officers of the F.R.E.S. and the N.Z.F.S. on high country planting and the care and maintenance of huts etc. Mr. Ian Snadden on first aid in the ranges. We would like to thank these people.

We have also been running a series of occupational talks amongst club members and these have been extremely interesting. This year once again, we have been dependent on the National Film Library for the greater part of our social activities.

Now the Blossom Float. - This year the emphasis was on Search and Rescue. The R.E.C. lent us a radio and operator and St. John Ambulance a Neil Robertson stretcher, to go on the back of the truck. About 8 boys volunteered to do rapelling down the truck side and a number walked behind in full mountaineering gear, and although we didn't collect a placing, everyone had plenty of fun.

Club Album.

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This year we fortunate in having Ian Wallis here in our club and through him have kept the album fairly well up to date. Still, all contributions gratefully received.

Publicity.

In addition to the usual press accounts of trips a feature this year has been the accompanying photographs to several of them, thanks to Ian Wallis, an active member and on the staff of the Herald-Tribune.

Another new departure has been the inclusion of club activities on occasion in sports summaries over the radio.

"Pohokura".

The usual three issues have been published this year and we thank all those who have made this possible. These include the contributors to our columns, our typists and the working parties for duplicating, assembling and addressing.

Library.

The returns from the library this year are disappointing - only 4/6 for the whole year! The copy of "Peaks, Packs and Mountain Tracks" is missing, also "Moirs' Guide Book" and "Flynn's Flying Doctors" has gone missing again. Perhaps we need some new books to entice members into using the library.

Gear Custodian.

One nylon rope has been added to club gear during the year, but on the debit side one more billy lid has been left in the ranges - this time at Pohangina Hut.

Of personal gear for hire, the three parkas are now in a pretty worn state, and owing to being absent from so many club nights I have still to trace 2 pairs of boots.

Hire fees brought in £5. 9. 0. made up as follows: Boots 8/- Parkas 14/- Packs £1.15. 0. Billies 11/-Slashers & Axes 6/- Tents £1. 5. 0. Rope 2/-Sleeping bag cover 8/-.

I presume this drop in hire of tents is due to the greater number of huts available for private parties.

Owing to my absences from club nights the habit of leaving borrowed gear on the truck has been established. This is not altogether satisfactory and I hope next year a custodian will be present at meetings to receive and give proper inspection to gear between trips.

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ANNUAL MEETING.

At the Annual General Meeting held on October 25th, 1961, the following officers were elected:-

Patron: Dr. D.A. Bathgate

President: Mr. A.V. Berry

Vice-Presidents: Mrs. L. Lloyd, Messrs N.L. Elder and R.W. Chaplin

Club Captain: Mr. M. Taylor

Secretary: Miss A. Tremewan

Treasurer: Mrs. B. Taylor

Auditor: Miss C. Stirling

Executive Committee: Misses N. Tanner and H. Hill, Messrs P. Bayens, K. Garratt, H. Christian, N. Thompson, G. Evans. Social Committee: Misses M. Mison, G. Lobban, G. Macdonald, Messrs K. Garratt, C. Johnson, K. Tustin.

Sub-Committees

The executive committee has elected the following subcommittees:-

Hut, Track and Fixture:- Hal Christian (convenor), Maurie Taylor, Phil Bayens, Nancy Tanner.

<u>Search Committee</u>:- Alan Berry, Maurie Taylor, Annette Tremewan, Norm Elder, Janet Lloyd.

Truck Committee: Maurie Taylor, Alan Berry.

<u>Gear Custodian</u>: Kath Elder. Assistant: Nancy Tanner.

Editor: Janet Lloyd. Assistant: Annette Tremewan.

Publicity: Alan Berry, Norm Elder.

Album: Hal Christian.

Library: Edna Ansell.

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AUDITORS' REPORT:

I have examined the books, accounts and vouchers of the Heretaunga Tramping Club, and have obtained all the information and explanations that I have required. I have accepted the certificate of the Secretary as to the value of badges, maps and books on hand.

In my opinion, according to the best of my information and the explanations given me and as shown by the books of the Club, the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account are properly drawn up so as to give respectively a true and fair view of the state of the Club's affairs at 30th September, 1961, and of the results of its activities for the year ended on that date.

> Catherine Stirling, A.R.A.N.Z. HON. AUDITOR.

HASTINGS 24th October, 1961. 7. HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC)

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR	YEAR	ENDED	30th	SEPTEMBER,	1961
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BALANCE SHEET

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DUTIES OF THE TRIP LEADER

All members should understand what leading a trip involves and the following points are set out for your guidance:

- 1. If you are not sure of the route or have any other doubts about the country to be crossed, ask someone who knows the area for advice.
- 2. Obtain permission of landowners if necessary. The Secretary will tell you who to contact.
- 3. Outline the trip to members at the previous club meeting and explain if any special equipment or clothing is required.
- 4. Collect the fares and hand to the treasurer.
- 5. Decide what party equipment is required and arrange with the gear custddian for its collection. Bring the tea.
- 6. Consider whether the party would be better split into fast and slow groups, having regard to the fitness of members and the country to be covered. If it is decided to split the party, arrange for a leader for the other group.
- 7. Make sure the trip list is completed and left at Holts before the truck leaves.
- 8. See that tents, billies etc. are fairly distributed amongst the party, bearing in mind the relative fitness of members. Load down the racehorses and keep an eye on the packs of new members to see that they are not setting out with a packful of unnecessary gear.
- 9. When on the move it is the responsibility of the leader to choose the route and to set the pace. See that the party does not become strung out and make sure that an experienced member brings up the rear to collect any stragglers.
- 10. The responsibility for the conduct of the trip is <u>entirely yours</u>. If in doubt though, do not hesitate to ask the opinion of other experienced members the final decision must be made by you but their advice may help you to make the decision.
- 11.You are responsible for the activities of any small groups that may want to break off from the main party to try a different route or to do a bit of exploring. Make sure that they are themselves capable and in the hands of a competent sub-leader before agreeing to their going.
- 12. See that everyone shares in camp duties and make sure that huts are left in order, firewood replaced and fires out before leaving.
- 13.0n return from the trip, ring one of the publicity sub-committee with details for the Press report.
- 14. Make sure that all gear is returned to the gear custodian, billies clean and tents dry.

14. Write the report for "Pohokura" and hand to the editor, promptly.

PRIVATE TRIPS

WAIKAMAKA-HIKURANGI-PUKETARAMEA-TE ATUA MAHURU - Nov. 14-18th Weather adverse. Left Roadhead at 9.30 a.m. Arrived Nov, 14 Waikamaka - lunch-12.15 2 cullers arrived from Kawhatau. 1. 45 Left for Waterfall Creek Hut via Rangi Saddle. Arrived Waterfall Creek Hut (6 Man Hut, built April '61). Thick 4.05 Grassland boys in occupation. 51 hrs. mist and wind. Nov. 15 Left Hut for Hikurangi Range - weather still bad. 6,45 Proceeded up Trig Creek to Mangaweka, 5687! - 10.00 a.m. 12.00 Hikurangi, 5622' - misty. 1. 00 Arrived Hikurangi Hut - new hut - for lunch. 2. 00 Left for Kawhatau River - good ridge. In River - met Gorge - log jam. Backpedalled to last stream 3.00 from Mokai Patea Range. 5.00 Camped down in stream bed. $10\frac{3}{4} \text{ hrs.}$ Nov. 16Woke late (4.45 a.m.) Left for Rongotea - cold wind - mist. 6.00 Rongotea Top and tarns/ Good travelling along tops - occasion-8.00 al views of other side. al views of other side. Bruce Hut - Private Hut - pushed through to Waikamaka River -11.00 good ridge - several deer. 12.00 In river. Arrived at Maropea confluence by Check c (miscalculation) . 1, 45 lunch. Decided to proceed to Colenso Hut - met with log jams, cliffs 2.30 and waterfalls. Up ridge through fern & windfalls. 6.30 Camped in bog hole on tops. ll hrs. Rain during the night with wind. Nov.17 6.00 headed for Colenso - met bluffs, (mist, wind and rain) Decided to return to stream and try for Puketaramea - more wind-7.00 falls - difficult for navigation. 5.00 pm. Puketaramea - saw Meropea Hut. Camped on top of ridge on bush edge. 6,00 Sleep. Verv windy. 8,00 Nov.18 Howling gale, left for Main Range. 7,00 Somehow missed Maropea, saw Makaroro River, went north in hail. 8.00 Top of Te Atua Mahuru, 5028'. 9.00 11.15 At Makaroro River. Halls. Contacted Mrs Garratt. Walked and hitched a ride to Wakarara School (no water) - first supshine to speak of (2.00) 12.40 Transport arrived - chinwag. 7 hrs. 4. 00 5.45 Hastings. SUMMARY/

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SUMMARY

Total deer - 14 (no rifle) Total sunshine - $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. Distance travelled - 50 miles Time in travelling - 50 hours Food left at end of trip - none Total height climbed (uncountable) Types met - 5 A WET SUCCESSFUL TRIP.

Party: A.Corbin, G.Hare, N.Thompson.

WAIORONGOMAI

The valley drains roughtly south from behind Te Aroha Mountain. A graded track following the line of an old waterrace leads to the hut about $\frac{1}{2}$ way up the valley, which above this is pretty steep country. The hut is a large $l\frac{1}{2}$ decker, Tararua style, and is well used though mostly by casual day parties. In the log there were 90 names in $2\frac{1}{2}$ months from the 1st September, with no very big parties, a remarkable tally.

Just a road tour. Karioi on the coast is an impressive mass of steep bush country comparable with Pirongia and the back roads run through quite a lot of bush. N.L.E.

PIRONGIA

17 Nov.

This was only a half-day up to an open knob on the main track to the trig. The old crater appears to be in the form of a horseshoe with the opening facing E. We went up a logging track on the N.E. tip till we struck the main track and came down that. N.L.E.

MOUNTAIN CRAFT COURSE

RUAPEHU 4-5th Nov.

8.30 p.m. on Friday, 3rd Nov. saw Tony Corbin, Keith Garratt, Maury Taylor & Nigel Thompson packed in the Bedford van heading for the Ruapehu Ski Club Memorial LODGE on Ruapehu. After topping up with petrol we left the Napier boundary at 8.40 and arrived at the lake at 11.20, finally stopping at 12.05 a.m. on the banks of the Waimarino Stream. Pitched the tent, had a bite, cup of coffee and hit the sack.

Up at 5.30, away at 6.50 to eventually arrive at the Lodge at 8.40., giving us time to settle into our bunk rooms and sort out before the course started at 9.00. There were ten sections to the first day, comprising in order - 1. Introductions. 2. Stepkicking,

15 Nov.

Stepcutting, Cramponning. 3. Saving technique, on move belays, Rope management. 4. Explanation of static belays. 5. Equipment. 6.Art of instructing. 7. Use of training aids. 8. Selected display of slides and films. 9. Snowcaves, Safety, Rescue. 10. Supper --- General discussion.

Of the above sections only two parts of 9. were not covered snowcaves and rescue. Safety as a lecture was not included, but the whole course emphasized in practically every phase SAGETY. In fact during a demonstration of how not to stop a slide wearing crampons one instructor remarked that the whole idea of the course was to instil safe mountaineering more than the idea of safe falling. Most were in bed by 11.30. Lights on in the morning at 5.15 and breakfast sharp at 5.30 saw us away to an early start at 6.30 in the snow on Static belays --- Shaft, pick, shaft anchor, piton anchor, piton belay, dynamic belays, direct belays. Next snowcraft and crevasse technique. 11.30 at the Lodge saw a discussion on belays and 12.30 Lunch, followed at 1.30 by - Explanation and demonstration of rock climbing belays. Smoko at 3.30 included 'Question Time' and at 3.58 the course concluded, the only remaining chore being to clean up.

The whole of the course was of a very informal nature and not a case of being told that 'this is the only way to do so & so'. Very much the opposite. Any variations were asked for and tried out and in a number of cases were adopted with slight alterations. Instructors handled their sections most ably & as above asked other instructors for their comment on the particular technique being shown. All instructors have had oversees experience which includes Antarctic, Himalavan, European, United Kingdom and three of the instructors will be away to the Andes shortly, so that one can see that only the best was good enough for the F.M.C. on this course.

A quick trip to Taupo, a swim & fish & chips, then off, Hastings bound; but alas, we had just reached the tarseal at Opepe when smoke began to filter into the cab. Muttered oaths were scattered to the four winds and on investigation we found that flexible hose to the oil gauge was no longer flexible. Three spanners, a pair of vicegrips and a dirty back, then off again arriving at Hastings at 11.30.

Apart from our slightly dusty trip we all had a very enjoyable and highly instructive weekend and can only hope that we four will be able to impart this information as clearly as it was given to us.

Finally we wish to thank the club for giving us the opportunity to attend this course and also F.M.C., R.S.C. and finally the instructors whose clear explanations showed their grip of the various phases of mountaincraft.

WAIKATO TRAMPING CLUB

Extract from Pohokura, Nov. 1940. News of Doug.callow, the misogynist:-

"Dougal has found some tramping possibilities in Hamilton and has even spent an enforced night in the bush on Pirongia....The National Fitness campaign has inaugurated a tramping club in Hamilton and Doug., knowing the workings of such things, has been put on the committee. Apart from a preponderance of females in the club, Doug says it has possibilities".

This club went into recess but was later reformed as the Waikato Tramping Club. On a recent visit to Hamilton we spent three days poking round their area with John Kendrick, their present club captain, and a few notes on their set up may be of interest. There is a surprising amount of bush country both east and west of Hamilton and only 30 to 40 miles away, none of it much over 3000 ft. but rough enough to satisfy the most active. Their Waiorongomai Hut in the Kaimai is built on to an old chimney, the whole valley being full of overgrown workings, tracks and tramlines.

Towards the coast on the western side of Pirongia there is a big stretch of bush and a little to the north of it "tomo" country. The Chateau is within 150 miles and the W.T.C. have a hut in the Whakapapa colony. What with skiing, speleology and bush-whacking to sav nothing of torrent-navigation the club has a fair scope. Membership about 140.

N.L.E.

TAMATEA POKAI WHENUA

Tamatea the father of Kahungunu is a famous ancestor pf the Ngati Kahungunu and there are many stories of his exploits, but these are complicated by the fact that some branches of the tribe have two Tamateas in their Whakapapa and others only one. As a point of honour everyone must hold to the truth of his own whakapapa; but from a historical point of view seen through pakeha eves events fit together better if there were two Tamatea, Tamatea-ariki-nui who arrived in the Takitimu cance and two hundred years later Tamatea-pokai-whenua the explorer of the island who came by sea with his son Kahungunu to Otiere pa in the Inner Harbour about 1550 A.D.

Tamatea had with him two pets which he carried with him in a calabash, Pohokura, a lizard and Kahu-o-te-Rangi, a large cravfish. (Both of them are shown in the panels of Oruamatua at Moawhango).

They struck inland in the general direction of the Taruarau Gap and after a delay at Ohiti because the lizard got away.

There are several versions of the story even in Hawke's Bay and once across the Ruahines they become more widely different with Inland Patea, Wanganui, Taupo and even Bay of Plenty, traditions of a real journey of exploration which took place say 200 years before Cook came to Poverty Bay. The lizard Pohokura was brought from Tauranga or collected on Tapu-te-Ranga (The Watchman) in the Inner Harbour. Pohokura either escaped or was liberated with a heitiki round his neck in a cave on Pohokura; Kahu-o-te-rangi, the crayfish, either made a dive for a hiding place in the Kaimanawas or was carefully placed in a deep pool called Puna-awatea, which in different versions is placed either on the Hawke's Bay coast, or somewhere about Big Hill, or in a tributary of the Moawhango.

Two Hawke's Bay versions agree about the setting up of a meteorological station but one places it in the Kaimanawas where Kahu-o-te-Rangi moans when southerly busters are on their way, but the saving:-"E' Ko te mokomoko-kakariki a Kahungunu e aue ana te Tohu marangai" (Oh! It is the lizard of Kahungunu crving out. A Sign of storm.) makes Pohokura the forecaster.

They are said in one version to have crossed to Pohokura by way of Rakautaonga. This name, meaning approximately "The Cache marked by a pole" is connected with a later story when it was an intertribal boundary at which a dowry was returned - I have some vague idea of some other story of the locals putting in an advanced dump to assist Tamatea on his journey. (There is also a more modern boundary mark carved on a boulder in Big Hill Stream :

> 1870 RAHUI T. KOTEKO.)

It is difficult to fit this in with evidence for another route by was of the Tapu Rock at the head of the Taruarau Gorge. This has two names, "Toka a Tamahautu" and "Te Upoko o Kahungunu", and just to complicate the issue the old Blake's map repeats the same pair of names at the bottom of the gorge. This looks as though they had come through the gorge and that people from opposite sides had had different ideas about placing the particular rock. Anyone who has battled from Shute's Hut to Lessong's Monument is likely to agree that you can't combine either tapu rock with Rakautaonga and get a sensible route.

On the other side of the Ruahines Tamatea's story takes much more shape. He had a bunch of lizards which he left on prominent points to act not only as survey pegs but as guardians of the territories for the descendants who followed him/ In addition to Pohokura, another lizard was left on the flat top of Aorangi which it shared with am amiable taniwha (with a nice kind face like a cow) by name Tarakumukumu. Across the Rangitikei on Puke o Kahu he left a third lizard, the crayfish in a deep pool under a waterfall in the Tikirero Stream and a fourth lizard on Whakatara in the Kaikawaka Bush. Beyond Mabouru his journey becomes a Wanganui story.

Meantime Kahungunu had abandoned the trip before the crossed the the Rangitikei at "The Narrows", the site of the ancient Ngati Hotu pa Akaratawhiti, and struck north to return to the Bay of Plenty. The story of his misadventures has been told to the club - I can't find any reference to it in Pohokura though - because Derek Conway's Easter 1956 party made a crash camp in a traditional site - Kahungunu having pushed up the Waiotapurita overshooting the Oamaru saddles, let himself in for a real flounder across the eastern head of the Tauranga-Taupo, just like lesser mortals.

ODE TO A FORESTER

from a tired tramper.

I wish the Forest Service chaps, Weren't so keen for then perhaps, Erosion just might mean that some, Day the ranges might become, Much flatter.

Instead of all the up and down, Then we'd have one gentle mound, And that would suit the likes of me, In days to come when I might be, Much fatter.

But then maybe on second thought, A lot of good they may have wrought, For the ranges without trees, A barren burned up mess of screes, Wouldn't be worth visiting anyway!

SWEETCORN.

Our sweetcorn is coming along nicely. Phil did one lot of cultivating and hired a rotary hoe to do a bit more. Then he, together with Russell and Alan Berry, Norm and Kath Elder put in the seed and some fertiliser.

On Saturday morning, Nov. 18th, the following 18 averaged a couple of hours' thinning and weeding:-

Alan Berry, Keith Garratt, Russell Berry, Fhil Bayens (and Philip junior), Bob Adams, Hugh Wilde, Graeme Evans, Hal Christian, Tricia Bammond, Nancy Tanner, Annette Tremewan, Janet Lloyd, Margaret Mison, Adrienne Low, Jim Glass, David Evans, Gae Lobban, Athol Mace.

Mr. Thompson very kindly let us have the use of his irrigation plant.

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CLUB TRIPS,

No. 665.

RAKAUTANU - TARAPONUI

6th August.

The prospect of attempting to squeeze the approximately 35 names on the trip list into the truck, plus three family parties in cars, fell in inverse proportion to the rising of the wind and the falling of the rain as Saturday progressed. However, Sunday's weather was a distinct improvement and nineteen bods were eventually hauled aboard in Hastings, Clive and Napier.

Our first call was to Holt's bush, "Rakautanu", at the foot of Darkie's Spur, west of Lake Tutira. Mr. Harold Holt showed us over the 40 acre reserve where planting started in 1933. Most of the trees are exotic conifers, with a few eucalypts, and opposite the house deciduous trees have been planted to provide some colour with daffodils under them, and rhododendrons and berrying shrubs to attract the birds. There is a very nice area along a stream planted in a number of native species including some fine totara, cedars, beeches, rimu, kauri, and many others. After more than an hour's Wander round, we took off again up the Mokomoko Road.

A call was made on the Groomes, and as the pangs of hunger had begun to gnaw, Audrey very kindly boiled up for us inside, and three groups made themselves comfortable on matresses round about outside. After this early meal we pressed on to the end of the road, whence most set off for Taraponut. A small party investigated a nearby patch of bush which produced some mighty totara trees, in girth rather than in height.

Six hardy types reached the top of Taraponui, two others were not far away, and the rest cidetracked to find a little bit of snow for the uninitiated. The weather was mainly cloudy with odd patches of sunshine and a keen breeze, one slight snow shower was the only moisture from above.

A brew of tea, coffee or soup, according to taste, sent us off inwardly fortified to sing our way home to a very damp 13th City which we reached about 8.30.

No. in party: 19

Leader: Nanvy Tanner.

Norm Elder, Maurie Taylor, Rex Chaplin, Russell Berry, Graeme Evans, Jim Glass, Ken Carmichael, Fred and Athol Mace, Jeff Lýnn, Edna Ansell, Helen Hill, Margaret Mison, Annette Tremewan, and Coralie Pedlar, Jennifer Wenman, Beverley Cumberbeach, Linda Farrell, H. G. H. S.

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NO. 666. TE IRINGA - THE HOGGET - TE MAHANGA

August 19-20th.

This turned out to be a snow trip all the way excepting the last bit of Boyd's **Bsh**. The route was to have included Log Cabin But a ring to Ngamatea broke the news that Log Cabin had been burnt out and as it happened the long plod through snow slowed us down so much that we could not make the side trip from The Hogget to Log Cabin and back. Thanks to Maurie providing the truck at the right places we were able to make a round trip starting at Gentle Annie and finishing at Te Mahanga.

Leavingthe top of Gentle Annie at 10 a.m. we made for Te Iringa 4342' where the photographers got to work on tempting glimpses of the Ngaruroro far below but were frustrated by mist. We then made downhill along the edge of the bush but the head of the party was too keen to push straight ahead instead of bearing left towards the Hogget. So we spent a time floundering through soft snow and fallen logs before we were back on the proper route. We found the best travelling a chain or so in from the bush edge but by a quarter to four we were ready to call it a day. At about 3000' a few minutes before going down to the Hogget saddle, we found the only piece of ground free of snow for miles around, and as this was flat and a good camping place, we lit the fire, pitched the tents and settled down.

We made a ten o'clock start on Sunday as the fog was reluctant to leave the Hogget. This turned out very well as the top of the Hogget 3997' greeted us with sunshine and a cloudless view of Ruapehu and Ngawruhoe giving plenty of scope to the photographers. Leaving the good snow on top we were soon down to slush. We had a boil-up at the creek at the edge of the bush, where a kaka was seen. The party straggled into Te Mahanga about 3.30, some getting somewhat "bushed".

No. in party: 21.

Leader: Rex Chaplin.

Maurie Taylor, Barbara Taylor, Ken Tustin, Peter Curnow, Tony Collins, Neville Brown, Jeff Lynn, Tony Corbin, Peter Mayson, Athol Mace, Graeme Evans, Paul Ralph, Hugh Wilde, Wayne Wright, Peter Lewis, Ian Wallis, Tricia Hammond, Nancy Tanner, Annette Tremewan, Sally Holt.

No. 667. COLLECTING MATERIAL FOR FLOAT, Sept. 3rd.

The miserable weather that had been hanging around during the later days of August ruled out the intended trip to Hinerua Ridge. However ten die-hard types were waiting at Holt's on the wet Sunday morning. A short trip to procure some material for the Blossom Festival float, was organised.

The kanuka was obtained from past Rissington. Most of the tome while we were cutting it rained, so no time was wasted. As soon as we had enough wood we put on our day clothes and made our way back to Hastings, which was reached at 1 p.m.

No, in party: 10.

Leader: Bob Adams.

Hugh Wilde, Graeme Evans, Stuart Barcham, Trevor Rendell, Miss Rendell, Russell Berry,

No. 668.

POUTAKI HUT.

16-17th Sept.

Ten keen trampers left Holt's at about 7.30 a.m. with an additional two to propel the truck out and take it back to town on the Saturday. As Poutaki was supposed to be only a three man hut, two tents were taken which later proved to be four.

After trapsing through Gwavas to the Poporangi Stream, Phil gave us our last instructions. When we had sloshed through a tributary of the Poporangi and bashed our way through scrub we finally arrived on a grassy ridge. From here we proceeded up to a bare knob and then down to a saddle from which we had to climb up ! up ! Up to another knob and this continued until all one could think of was a cool mountain stream.

At about midday one caught the first glimpse of the hut which appeared to be the size of a barn. The afternoon continued with more ups and downs finally finishing with a grind up to the hut. Five keen men slept out in the tents leaving five to sleep on two bunks and the floor.

Next day we headed off at 9 a.m., this time starting with a downhill slope and then up to the Crag. From here we continued with a down slope and a sidling which cut out at least one up and down. Luck ran out about here and we continued over ups and downs until we decided to follow the stream back to the crossing. After dropping over a twenty foot cliff we proceeded to bash our way down a spur into the stream. From here we strolled along the stream to the crossing for the last slog up to the track where we met two shooters who had brought the truck out, and returned us to Hastings.

We arrived in town fairly early after a hot and exhausting weekend of ups and downs.

No. in party; 10/ Leader: Graeme Evans.

Annette Tremewan, Koleen and Trevor Rendell, Hugh Wilde, Neville Brown, Athol Mace, Paul Ralph, Stuart Barcham, Tony Corbin.

No. 669.

COMBINED H, T.C.; M.T.C.

30th Sept-1st Oct.

HOWLETT'S

A six o'clock start saw us away at 6.25 & after a bit of fog & a herd of cattle we met up with three M.T.D. at the Ashley Clinton turnoff. A spot of photography, then up to The Homestead. A natter with the rest of the M, T, C, & off eight took off for Howlett's via Pohangina. Two of this party later back tracked to the Central Tuki Hut via the overland route following in the rest of the party's footsteps. Seven females and one opposite wintered over at the Central Tuki Hut. Two H.T.C. staggered up Daphne in company with the M,T,C, & Howlett's was reached at varying intervals from 4 p.m. At 5.45 the six from Pohangina Tea, talking & more tea filled in the evening and with arrived. nine bods sleeping outside - - to bed. Sunday dawned bright & clear & with four M, T, C, away early to climb Tiraha & four of our own later to attempt Tiraha, Sawtooth, Ohuinga & Black Ridge. The rest of us ambled around for a few hours taking photos etc., then back to the hut to pack up & discuss ways & means of improving the conditions. Eventually the following plan was evolved :- All bunks to be widened and lowered, a second tier above the eastern wall. The southern or door end to have a platform above the door & bunk at ceiling joist height for storing provisions etc., to help keep clear the wooden floor to be installed. Chimney to be restayed & spouting to be added on the eastern roof with sll available cans assembled under a downpipe arrangement to help with more water.

After another meal down to the Central Tuki for another boilup then out over the overland route (what a struggle on a hot afternoon) to the Moorcock & thence to the Homestead. Meanwhile the party that had stayed at the Tuki did a spot of exploration up & along the ridge east of the S Tuki surveying a possible escape route in inclement weather. In any case they arrived at the truck before us so apparently the ridge could be used IF the gorge could be negotiated. Waiting in vain till 10 p.m. for the Black Ridge Ramblers we took off for Hastings via Mill Farm & after a spot of trouble with the truck, rang Alan from the Ashley Clinton school at 11.30 to tell of our late arrival. A good workover on the truck again & Hastings was sighted at 1.90 a.m. Self in bed at 2.55 & woken by my daughter at 5.40, breakfast, another chat with Alan on plan of operations and away to Ashley Clinton again & on to the Mill Farm with no sign of the Ramblers, so back to Kashmir road. Halfway into the Homestead located the Ramblers - sitting. Back to Ashley Clinton, ring once more, partake of a coppa & a bite to eat & off to Hastings arriving at 12.50. Five weary bodie's.

No. in party: 15.

Leader: Maury Taylor.

Nancy Tanner, Annette Tremewan, Edna Ansell, Joan Wards, Tricia Hammond, Adrienne Low, Margaret Mison, Helen Hill, Pam McKain, Hugh Wilde, Bob Adams, Tony Corbin, Tony Collins, Maurie Taylor, Graeme Evans.

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No. 670.

CATTE HILL

Oct. 15th.

We departed from Holt's at 7.30 a.m. the usual seven o'clock start which still seems to be too early for some folk. On arriving at the Blowhard we tried to locate ourselves on the mapwith a compass by taking bearings on the Blowhard Trig, Te Iringa, Cattle Hill and Kohinga. The result did not prove too successful.

After pushing off and basising through scrub the first obstacle we came to was a narrow gorge, which we combatted successfully. After a slight climb up into a sheltered position in the rocks, we had a boilup and continued climbing onto the topof Cattle Hill arriving at about 1 p.m.

A quick descent onto a plateau above the limestone cliffs proved them to be not as high as one had imagined. From here we proceeded to climb towards the Calf until we found a rock with about a twenty foot werical face, just ideal for rock climbing and roping. Everyone climbed the rock with a belay and proceeded down using a double rope. About two to three hours were spent in this manner and from here we continued on our way up the Calf, and down into the scrub again until we came to afence which led us out onto a road and the truck.

We arrived home very early after a pleasant stroll on the Blowhard.

No. in party: 9

Leader; Graeme Evans.

Annette Tremewan, Tricia Hammond, Helen Hill, Pam McKain, Adrienne Low, Alan Berry, Russell Berry, Bob Cooper,

No. 671,

BLYTH HUT, TONGARIRONATIONAL PARK

LABOUR WEEKND 1961

Twenty trampers left Holt's at 9.25 Friday night with Russell & the wheel bound for Blyth hut via the Hastings-Taihape road & Ohakune. A change of drivers & a mug of coffee at the top of Gentle Annie at 12.0 midnight & we were off again with another stop & more coffee at the Rangitkei River. A further stop for coffee just short of the main heighway which we reached at 2.50 a.m., finally arriving at the end of the Mountain Road at 5.25 after 7 hours' travelling. Three wea Three weary individuals emerged from the cab, grabbed a tent, pitched it &were dead to the world inside five minutes. Surely a record for Cessation of noise about 8.15 roused us to find we three $H, T \cdot C$ alone in the wilderness. With eyes still bleary we got out the primus, put the billy on & when it was almost boiling, what should one of us espy - a billy of water over still glowing embers not ten feet away! HO HUM. A bite to eat & three more joined us to carry up surplas geer & we were away to reach the hut in about 35 mins. Here all was orderly & the day advanced with all of us eventually reaching the snow after various Q our return a stupendous tea, a vociferous noise amblings. called a sing song & all were in bed by nine. Up at approx. 5.30; breakfast & 17 were away at 7.10. One dropped out at the snowline & then there were 16. Two thirds up Gliding Gladys three more stopped by the wayside & then there were 13. A hasty snack & away with five eventually reaching 1975', the remainder staying in the small saddle just below. With numbers back to 16 we practised slipping while roped & while odd bodies slipped and yelled the rest of the rope would hold them (sometimes). A bigger man made mess on a mountain slope I have yet to see; it was even discernable from the main heighway atOhakune. Back to the hut in dribs & drabs to a brew of soup, then a cuppa & finally a terrific tea. A real feast.

Four W.TM.C joined us for the night which passed very pleasantly except for somebody dreaming that they were falling off the mountain & yelling out "HOLD".! A lessurely breakfast & packup & plus 3 W.T.MC. " 12 packs with a few more bods hopping on en route to Ohakune. Well stoked up with food & drink (soft) & the truck with fuel & so away at 1,10pm. for Taupo with 2 compulsory stops to be advised about escaped prisoners & a further 4 slow downs to allow ourselved to be scrutinised by Police officers in search of above escapees.

Two more stops to satisfy the shutter bugs & Taupo was reached at 4.40. Three hours' travelling for 92 miles. Onve again H.T.C. hired the A.C. baths for half an hour & after fish & chips, etc. !!! left for home. A roundabout gourney through Napier-Taradale-Meanee & Mangateretere to Hastings arriving at. midnight.

A very enjoyable trip made possible by HUGHIE & the cooperation shown by all on the trip. Those to enjoy a very pleasant trip were;-

Annette Tremewan, Roy & Jackie Peacock, Nancy Tanner, Margaret Mson, Gay McDonald, Tricia Hammond, Hugh Wilde, Tony Corbin, Maury Taylor, Tony Collins, Peter Lewis, Athol Maee, Jeff Lynn, Graeme Evans, Russell Berry, Adrienne Low, Pam McKain, Chris Johnson, Wayne Wright, Neville Brown. No. in party: 21.

Leader: Maury Taylor.

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No. 672. BIG HILL STATION -TIXORANGI *RAKAUTAONGA

HOLLOWBACK SPUR

Oct. 29th

Thirteen of us left Holt's at 6.45 a.m. (official starting time 6 a.m. What a hope !!) for Big Hill Station. This time we did not climb Big Hill but followed Big Hill stream then cut across the paddocks until we found the old fence, which according to the experts, is 60 years old. Some parts were still in good nick; even the wire netting did not show any sign of rust. They must have used good stuff in "the olden - days." We followed the fence for a while until we got to an old gate opening, which was at the foot of the spur leading towards Tikorangi. The going was good, apart from on top of the spur, which seems to end in some sort of a small creek. The water in the creek was very welcome, because it was getting on for midday and the temperature has risen considerably. Just before Tikorangi we spotted five deer. Hed lunch on Tikorangi, which by the way is just a flat top not worthy of any name. Pushed on to Rekauteonga to get on to Hollowback Spur, where the fun started. Why they called the thing Hollowback is amystery. Admittedly it's got one low saddle in it, but a more appropriate name isSerubby-Back, and Scrubby with a capital S. Any decent ridge has a deer track, but this one was just solid scrub and no deer track. At least, Many a shirt got ripped, frame packs we could not find it. got entangled, legs scratched and many a word spoken, which should not be heard, ler alone written. But all good things come to an end, and open paddocks greeted us, through which

we ambled to the truck and home sweet home.

My advice: Steer clear of Hollowback Spur.

No. in party: 13.

Annette Tremewan, Tricia Hammond, Joan Wards, Bob Cooper, BBuce Taylor, Neville Brown, Russell Berry, Graeme Evans, David Evans, Hugh Wilde, David Wilson, Athol Mace,

Leader: Phil Bayens.

Take your torches !

No. 673.

HORSHESHOE BEND

Oct. 4th.

As two different times had been stated, there was a bit of a mix up and bods kept arriving from 1.30 till after 2 p.m. The total number in the truck came to 6 at Holt's and we picked up 1 in Havelock Nth. We arrived at our destination at about 3 p.m. to find only one person in residence. Apparently the others had gone swimming in the only deep hole, about 1 mile upstream.

Towards evening more people arrived for tea, the ones with families armed with fireworks. The bonfire was lit at 8 p.m. L think the final count was 31. The truck left at midnight with 3 on board. The rest stayed behind to clean up and listen to a description of "Yellsapoppin". We left at 1 a.m.

No. in party: 31

Leader: Margaret Mison

Annette Tremewan, Joan Newey, Tricia Hammond, Pam McKain, Gay McDonald, Gae Lobban, Nancy Tanner, Edna Ansell, Bob Adams, Chris Johnson, Lew Christianson, Hugh Wilde, Graeme Evans, Tony Collins, Athol Mace, Trevor Rendle, John Cerroll, Graeme Hare, Russell Berry, David Wilson, Neville Brown, Hal Christian & Family, George Prebble & Family.

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No. 674.

CAIRN TRIP

11 - 12th Nov.

Accompanied by clouds of dust collected on the way up to Whittles, 17 bods poured out of the canopy, and by 9 am the 1961 Cairn Trip was under way.

At Baldy the party split, the main group proceeding direct to Makahu by way of Trig I, while a small party of 6 set off to make their way by way of Lotkow Hut (Lawrence-over-<u>Te-Kowhai-and-out-to-Whittles</u>) and the Black Birch. We of the six had a good trip down Gorge Stream and were pleasantly surprised to find a nice Class II highway in final stages of completion along the eastern bank of Jackson Creek. The track sidles high out of the creek from a point about 200 yards above its junction with Gorge Stream and continues in a very handsome manner right to the hut door (even bridges, mind you, for the benefit of those who are not as yet web-footed.)

The hut was in spotless condition and some horticulturally minded resident had even planted a wee plot of sweetcorn!

After an unsuccessful attempt to raise the other party on the new transistorised R E.C. set, we pushed on at 115. A bash through ome jungle brought us to the ridge that runs parallel to, butto the East and South of, the Birch itself. The way leads North for half an hour and then by way of a saddle up a stiff climb to the main Black Birch. The weather was inclement so we scuttled along the top for an hour and a half and dived into the bush at the point where the Gorge Stream track to Mahaku comes in. Hut 6.10 p.m., to find some of the tents up and a three course meal coming along nicely. Doc's carload had meanwhile arrived by way of Gorge Stream and the usual route.

Fourteen squeezed into the hut while nine of us spent the night under canvas. When Hughie let ud have a few really decent gusts, I couldn't help but wonder, Maurie, whether we have really explained to members lately just how a twnt should be pitched so that it won't fly away during the night. Put in a few extra pegs just in case but all was well.

At 8 o'clock sharp next morning we leapt intp gear and tore off up the 3000' to the top. One or two did anyway - the rest of us just trickled along and arrived in due course, to be greeted by a cool wind but fair skies overhead.

The supreme sacrifice made by the ten boys of the Club was remembered in the short service at the Cairn and the wreath was lasd by Adrienne Low as an outward symbol of our respect to their memory.

The REC experts extracted only professional sounding noises from their set to start off with but eventually linked with Hilton Meyer in Napier for the relay of the service. Quite a fest for a radio not much bigger than a whetbix packet.

A lingering drift of snow on the top provided glisseding until we wore it out and soon we were padding off home again. Away from the hut at 2pm, some making their way out by way of Unittles and Trig I and the rest by the Gorge Stream switchback. The two parties reunited at Baldy and arrived at the truck a little after the eight who had not come up to the tops.

Agood party and an excellent trip in all aspects.

No. in party: 23

Leader; Alan Berry.

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Helen Hill, Nancy Tanner, Pam McKain, Adrienne Low, Pamela Adie, Annette Tremewan, Tricia Hammond, Kath & Norm Elder, Jim Glass, Bruce Robertson (O.U.T.C.), barry Donkin, Bob Shepperd, and Stan White, (all R E C.), Doc Bethgate, Graeme Evans, Peter Lewis, Bob Cooper, David Wilson, and Barbara Wilkie, Charmaine Hamilton, Coleen Russell (H.G.H.S.).

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	SOCIAL PROGRAMME.	
January 17th:	Ten Minute Talk - guest speaker.	:
January 31st:	Films.	
February 14th:	Ten Minute Talk. Guest Speaker (fire fighting).	
February 28th:	Ten Minute Talk. Trial search(?).	•
March 14th:	Guest Speaker - (first aid and mouth-to-mouth).	
March 28th:	Films. Ten Minute Talk.	

MARRIAGE: Owen Brown to Janet Silson.

HIGHER HIRE CHARGE: The hire charge for the Club's nylon rope will in future be 2/6 a day with a minimum of 5/-.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS REDUCED: from 25/- to £1 if paid by December 31st.

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<u>OVERDUE</u> <u>TRAMPERS</u>

If a club party at any time becomes overdue, would parents X or members please first contact one of the following:- X Norman Elder 'phone 77.924 X Alan Berry 'phone 77.223 X

Mrs. Janet Lloyd 'phone 87.666 All active trampers - please show this to your parents!

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome the following new members to the Club:-

Joan Wards, 'Tricia Hammond, Sally Holt, Adrienne Low, Pam McKain, Russell Lacey, Athol Mace, Russell Berry, Ian Wallis, Peter Lewis, Jeff Lynn (jr). FIXTURE LIST.

Date:	Trip:	Leader:	Fare:
Dec. 10th:	Kairakau Beach - Family Outing.	Jim Glass	9/-
Dec. 23-26th:	? Ngamatea - Golden Hills - Boyd's Hut - Poronui. Kaimanawas		. •
Dec. 30-Jan. 2:	Rebuild Cairn - Survey Kaweka & Kiwi Huts.	Graeme Evans.	10/-
Jan. 21st:	Waipatiki Beach.	Margaret Mison.	9/-
Blow Lard Feb. 3-4th:	Kawhatau River () Mangaweka, alternative - Waikamaka.	Tony Corbin.	10/-
Feb. 18th:	Mohaka River (lilo trip) - Pakaututu to Taupo Road bridge.	Phil Bayens.	14/-
March 3-4th:	Trial Search.	Alan Berry.	
March 18th:	Middle Creek Hut - 3 Johns (fast party).	Annette Tremewan.	10/-
March 31-Apr. 1	st: Kaweka Hut, maintenance.		10/-
April 15th: (Mill Farm - Tukituki - Hinerua Hut.	Hal Christian.	10/-
April 20-28rd: Easter.	Cook's Cottage - Ballard Hut - Venison Top Ahurua Hut - Te Pukeohikarua - Makino (N.		10/-
April 29th:	The Comet (via Gentle Annie).	Norm Elder.	
May 12-13th:	Kiwi Hut, maintenance.	Maury Taylor.	10/-
N.B.: These	fares are reducible by 2/- if paid before	or on the trip.	

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A Merry Christmas to all members and good tramping in 1962. First meeting in 1962 will be held in the Radiant Living Hall on January 17th.