

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)

" P O H O K U R A "

Bulletin No. 96.

President:

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

Hon. Secretary:

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

Hon. Treasurer:

Mrs. K. Berry, 10 Nimon St., Havelock North. 'Phone 77.223.

Club Captain:

Miss N. Tanner, 56 Te Mata Rd., Havelock North. 'Phone 77.619.

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CLUB TRIPS

No. 732.                      THE ROGUE - UPPER TUTAEKURI                      Dec. 7-8th.

We thought we would do a bit of exploring on this trip, just for a change. The idea was to try to travel up the Tutaekuri to Castle Camp, and then out via Kiwi, but I'm afraid things don't always work out as planned on tramping trips.

Fourteen of us left the truck at the Pine Tree at 8.40 am and reached the Tutaekuri at 10.15am. From here the going at first up the river was very easy, but it became progressively worse, until we were stopped by a deep pool and a waterfall. An attempt was made to climb around a rock wall beside the pool but this ended up only by proving that it is possible to swim with a pack on.

Eventually, with the aid of a rope on several occasions, we climbed out on to a spur which ran up to the Rogue. By 2.45 we were clear of the manuka, and a belated lunch was enjoyed by all. Kaiarahi was reached at 6.20 pm., in thick mist. The turn off to Castle Camp was not clear, so with approaching darkness, we headed for Studholme's hut, which we reached at 7.40.

When dawn arrived, one member of the party was under the weather, so we took the shortest route out. We even managed to get away half an hour before our planned leaving time of 8 am. Quite a feat!

At 11am. we stopped for a long lunch at Kaweka hut. The

truck was reached at 3.30 pm. On the way home, we stopped at the Blowhard Bush, and had a look at the fine progress the Forest and Bird Society were making on their new hut. After spending a very pleasant hour here, a happy and well party headed for home.

No. in Party: 14.

Leader: Russell Berry.

Maureen Miers, Kath Berry, Christine Prebble, Heather McKay, Barbara Butler, Graeme Evans, David Evans, Peter Lewis, Tony Corbin, Norrie, Johnson, Derek White, Dick Howell, Alan Culver.

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No. 733.

OHITI PICNIC.

Dec. 22nd.

Even though the trip officially started at the late hour of 8 o'clock we had the usual hold-ups and found ourselves leaving about half an hour late for the Ngaruroro.

We climbed the hill up to the old Ohiti Pa, then crossed to the graveyard where we found many stones had been knocked over. The spring did not give us a very good reception as there was a dead cow nearby. On returning to the cars we found three archeologists practising their trade.

Several family parties turned up in time for lunch. After a short siesta some took to liloing while others preferred practising rope work. Tent pitching gave good practice to a few of the newer members.

Soon after we had some river crossing practice. This soon proved to us the old rule of safety in numbers because many soloists found the current too strong.

A small snack and rest soon ended a lazy day which was enjoyed by all partakers.

No. in Party: 19.

Leader: Maury Taylor.

Peter Lewis, Derek White, Dick Howell, Alan Berry, Noel Evans, Alan Culver, Keith Garratt, Barbara Taylor + 4, Nancy Tanner, Annette Tremewan, Kath Berry, Heather McKay, Pam Lewis, Anne Garratt.

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Jan. 1st to 5th 1964.

As Maury had offered to drive us out we took the opportunity to explore even more country by going in from Pakeututu Station, north of the Mohaka. On New Year's day Mrs. Lewis regaled the ten trampers and their chauffeur with tea and scones at Puketitiri. Then the truck took us on to our starting point at the bush edge on the old Loch Inver track. After a digression on the logging road, we were away in the right direction on the rather overgrown track. Eventually we arrived at the mossy antlers nailed to a totara tree - our signal to leave the track and strike west, then SW for the Mohaka opposite the Mangatainoka. Bush country does not make for easy navigation, but we struck it lucky and caught a glimpse of the river well below us from an open bluff. By 6pm, six hours from the truck, heavy packs and very steep descent made for weary, wobbly knees and we camped in a pleasant sheltered bush basin beside a streamlet. Strong NW gusts in the treetops didn't reach ground level. Saw a stag and hind five minutes from truck and a group of at least four hinds on the way down to the river.

Thursday morning brought showers, but we were able to pack up dry. Ten minutes took us down to the Mohaka River - but were we above or below the Mangatainoka? Fishing and nesting large black and white-throated shags were disturbed as we made casts up and down. Downstream seemed the more likely. A friendly robin in the bush and a large trout in a river back-water added interest. Less than half a mile down we made our only crossing of the Mohaka (wet shorts but fortunately not a very swift current, boulders slippery), and almost at once were in the Mangatainoka River. Three large trout in a pool made our mouths water. At 10.45 in steady rain we ste off up the Mangatainoka, a very nice river - must be lovely on a sunny day - and good going. Lunched from 12 to 1 during a lull in rain with some sunshine, while the stream rose about 2 inches. Put up a blue duck and saw many shags flying up and down at treetop level. Almost immediately on resuming our journey we met the gorge - a narrow, rock-sided with many small falls and cataracts. Sided comfortably on the steep bush face on the true right bank. Came across a small treeful of 5 half-grown shags with a tenanted nest opposite alongside a waterfall. Several adult birds also flew out. The first sizeable stream came in soon after on the true right - gorgy itself - and then we were at the top end of the gorge - perhaps  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile long. The going remained pleasant thereafter.

It was 7.45am before anyone stirred on Saturday. Anyway, it was to be a short day - Route Guide says 6 hours to Ballard Hut. Usual NWester with scudding clouds when we set out at 10.30. Southwards towards Venison Top brought the inevitable bush knobs and a low saddle with a steep pull up. Only very old nicks here and there on trees. Discs at bush edges but mainly hidden by branches. Sharp swing to E on Venison Top plateau and down a steep bush ridge. Then we were left floundering for what seemed

interminable ages in featureless, flattish bush, littered with deadfalls and scratchy shrubbery (mercifully no lawyer or leathwood). Very, very occasionally we came across an old blaze and 2 discs not far from either end. Our two willing and able route finders led us safely through this wilderness and at last we emerged onto the Kawekas proper about a mile SW of Ballard Hut. Extensive views again became ours, and we looked with distaste back over our route to Ahurua and on to Te Puku. By 7 we were all at Ballard and had a feast appropriate to the last night.

Sunday was even windier than before, and we left the hut (not mouseless) at 8am. On the tops near Trig E the wind had become a nuisance and we donned parkas and longs and gloves. It was clear to the East with passing showers westwards. A dreary slog south along the tops. Continually being blown off balance was rather disconcerting. By the time we reached N. Kaweka either we were somewhat sheltered or the wind had abated a bit. A leisurely trip saw the rearguard at Makahu Hut at 1pm for lunch. Leaving soon after 2pm we followed the snow poled and disced track across Little's Clearing and down the new bush track. A bit of scrub bashing and then over the Lewis' paddocks back to the truck by 6pm. The Berrys and Taylors had made a picnic day of it to Gorge Stream and Ball's Clearing. Mrs. Lewis gave us a wonderful repast of soup, scones, and jam and cake and tea; our most grateful thanks to her for all the hospitality on this and previous trips. By 7pm we were off in the truck on our dusty way homewards, dropping bods in Napier and at various points in Hastings, reaching Havelock North at 9.30pm.

I feel the New Year has started well for the club with this successful 5 day trip into new country for all concerned. Let's hope the yeey continues this way.

No. in Party: 10.

Leader: Nancy Tanner.

Helen Hill, Tui Maxwell, Christine Prebble, Peter Lewis,  
Jim Price, Graeme Evans, Colin Hope, Dempster Thompson,  
David Evans.

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No. 735.

TE AWANGA

Jan. -19th.

As the day dawned salubrious, both for picking sweetcorn and gallivanting around beaches, five determined souls left for Havelock in the truck and were later joined by another happy throng. An early frost had somewhat hindered a prolific growth and many areas were rather disappointing. The crop was duly picked, packed and delivered to Phil at approx. 11am. The number of bods increased as the day progressed, and at Te Awanga a total of 20 were seated at lunch time (drooling in anticipation) to participate enthusiastically in the orgy of sweetcorn mastication.

As a brisk breeze didn't inspire beach fires, the corn was cooked at Maury's. Sunbathing and swimming before lunch was popular, although clouds in the afternoon gave an invigorating chill to mussel seeking expeditions.

A long leisurely afternoon tea was enjoyed behind shelter provided by the transport. Hastings was sighted about 5.30.

No. in Working Party: 11. Total No. at Lunchtime: 20.

Russell, Alan & Kath Berry, Nancy Tanner, Christine Prebble, Janet Lloyd, Norm Elder, Heather McKay, Tony Corbin, Peter Lewis, Joan Newey (11). Jim Wilshire + 3, Barbara Taylor + 2, Annette Tremewan.

Leader: Christine Prebble.

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No. 736.

TE KOOTI'S LOOKOUT.

Feb. 1st-2nd.

A fine day and a reasonable start from Holt's saw us motoring towards Tutira and over a steep and winding road for a pleasant weekend at Te Kooti's Lookout by the Mohaka River. After a stop at two houses to check on permission and to chat to a farmer and his wife at the end of the road, we eventually reached the Mohaka River in a hot and grimy condition. The river was crossed and recrossed by various means, viz: wading, horseback and aerial cage-way. By then lunchtime was sending pangs of hunger into our stomachs, so swimming and feasting were the order of the day. Dragging ourselves away after lunch, we followed a good track which took us above the river under Te Kooti's lookout. At the last water-hole, we collected about 3 gallons of water and drank enough to last us for the weekend. (or so we thought!)

We staggered up the ridge in various stages, arriving at the lookout about 5.00pm. Camp was set up on the summit, and we set about making the stew with the minimum amount of water possible. It wasn't a success. Perhaps the sun had had its effect on everyone's scalp, as the party was not in Al condition that evening. Consequently most of the stew went over the cliffs to feed the mountain goats.

Our exploration of the lookout found that the point is ringed by cliffs, the only way up or down being the ridge we had ascended. The only remains of Maori occupation were 2 rather old palisade poles lying in the trees.

We tried to get some shuteye, but whether it was because we were on old Maori stamping ground, or because of some insect that kept rasping its legs against its hide, or because of

animals that kept charging through our camp, I wouldn't call it a restful night.

We woke up to a grey misty dawn, but felt better than the previous evening, but rather thirsty. So after breakfast, we packed up and charged down the ridge to the first available water. Our thirst quenched, we ambled back to the river to lunch. After a lengthy stop to chat to the farmer and his wife we wound our way homeward. Not what one would call a very energetic trip, but enjoyed by all.

No. in Party: 10.

Leader: A. Corbin.

Peter Lewis, Peter Linnell, Colin Hope, Noel Evans, Alan Culver, Dale Prebble, Annette Tremewan, Heather McKey, Christine Prebble.

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No. 737.

LILLO TRIP, NGARURORO RIVER

Feb. 16th.

Twenty-three game-for-anything bods set sail from Hastings at (sshh!) nearly 8.00am. The official start was 7.00 from Holt's, but a slight delay occurred through failure to arrange for someone to bring the truck from Havelock. Oh well, blame it on the leader.

Arrived at the turntable near Kuripapango about 10.15 and straggled off upstream curiously garbed in a motley collection of swimsuits and most untramperlike footgear ranging from jandals to gumboots (well, almost). The weather was fine and warm, but with a hint of rainclouds gathering. The river was not running high, but there was sufficient water to provide some interesting rapids. A move to lunch at Cameron Hut was not greeted with enthusiasm, and we stopped at 12.15 on a pleasant sandy bank. In no time at all Lilos were inflated, and bods sprawled out for a pre-, during-, and post-lunch siesta, reminiscent of an eastern banquet.

After lunch the more energetically inclined pushed on to find the Cameron Hut which was reached after barely fifteen minutes walking at 1.45pm. The hut is a well-found Rushine style six bunker and is set about a hundred yards back on the right bank (looking upstream). The location can be recognised by some steep eroded bluffs on the opposite bank. Returned to join the others and the fun began.

Lying flat on the lilo is the only way for most of us, though some say that sitting astride is the thing. At nose level, the miniature rapids look like Niagara Falls, and a horrific impression of speed is attained. It wasn't long before riders parted company with lilo, or got stuck jammed crosswise against rocks. Some who survived by clutching lilos with feet a-dangle reported absolutely no bottom in the eddying whirlpools at the bends.

Meantime Hughie, who had been saving it up for just such an occasion, let rip with a thunderstorm. This made little difference to the prevailing state of wetness, but was resented as a sort of 'st tu Brute' stab in the back. It was still raining when we left the river, and the last lap was done with lilo on head in lieu of an umbrella, and conditions while changing were not quite Ritz-Carlton.

The rain petered out on the way home, and streets were dry when Hastings was reached shortly before 8.00pm.

No. of Web-footed participants: 23. Leader: Jim Wilshere.

Allen Bradley, Colin Hope, Dempster Thompson, Richard Howell, Ross Culver, Bruce Culver, Brenda Butcher, David Butcher, Jim Glass, Heather McKay, Maureen Miers, Bill Morison, Rona Budgett, Pam Lewis, John Healey, Christine Prebble, Nancy Tanner, Noel Evans, Peter Lewis, Annette Tremewan, Graeme Evans, Tony Corbin.

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No. 738.

TUKITUKI TRIP

Feb. 29 - March 1st

The party was a composite one made up of 5 H.T.C. members and 5 scouts, including two scout-masters. The total number, 13, must have been an omen. At the last minute the leaders of each of the two groups was unable to come. But we left Holt's in good spirits even if a little late.

Arriving at Mill Farm at 9am both groups combined and we followed the Moorcock upstream a short distance before climbing up the ridge separating it from the main river. We reached the top at 12.30 and made our way through dense bush down to the Tukituki River. Rain set in as we reached the valley bed and we were glad to reach Daphne Hut about 3pm.

The weather caused us to stay the night in the hut. Strangely enough, though there are only 4 bunks there were only 5 sleeping on the floor.

The rain eased the following morning and the H.T.C. bods explored the Tukituki upstream from the hut - very gorgy, bouldery and waterfally - while the others made a leisurely trip downstream. Too far downstream as it happened, since they bypassed the Moorcock and trudged for a further two hours before realising their mistake. Whereupon they went overland. The scouts, aged 11 to 13 did magnificently but were very pleased to see civilisation - even if it was the wrong road. With the willing help of a local farmer the truck was retrieved from Mill Farm where the rest of the party had been waiting for about four hours. Back to Mr. Aldridge's farm where a cup of tea did much to help us on our rather late journey back to Hastings. - arrival time 11pm!

No. in Party: 13.

Leader: Owen Brown

Heather McKay, Peter Lewis, Peter Linnell, Dempster Thompson, Owen Brown, plus six scouts and two scout-masters.

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No. 739.

SHUTEYE SHACK TRIP.

15th March.

After some confusion about departure time the truck with 25 people aboard and a car carrying 6 set off at about 6.30am. We arrived at Triplex at about 9am. It was decided that a fast party would set off so that they could get on with repairs to the hut while a slower party brought up the rear. The trip into the hut was straightforward and on arrival repairs were started. However the same may not be said of the fire which seemed reluctant to start until coaxed to do so by the hand of an expert. When the rearguard tramped in we found that a group of four had had to turn back when about half way in as some were suffering from blisters. During lunch one had the option of eating indoors whilst being suffocated and blinded by smoke or of eating outdoors and being drenched and frozen. Hughie was not at his most co-operative that day.

After lunch a party of the more energetic ones wandered off to Buttercup Hollow whilst the remainder stayed behind to catch up on forty winks or continued with the repairs to the hut. On the climb to Buttercup Hollow we battled against furiously windswept sleet which made for very hard going. The hollow itself afforded quite good shelter but we left that for several minutes to view the landscape and then hastily retreated to the hut.

Within about ten minutes we were heading home and were delighted to find a billy of soup awaiting us. After a cup of soup we changed and headed back for Hastings after a good leisurely trip. We were back at Holt's at about 7.0pm.

No. in Party: 29

Leader: Bill Morison.

Helen Hill, Kath Berry, Mrs. Sullivan, Peter Sullivan, Sally Sullivan, Maria Boon, D. Linyard, L. Yeoman, Helen Tustin, Susan Cowlrick, F. Barnett, Rona Budget, Brenda Butcher, Barbara Butler, Beryl Hammond, Annette Tremewan, B. Hawkes, Heather Wilshire, Jim Wilshire, Noel Hadwin, Derek White, Richard Howell, Noel Evans, Alan Culver, Bill Morison, Bruce Harrison, Russell Berry, Mr. & Mrs. Dunn.

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Easter,  
March 27-30th.

Each year is decidedly different from the previous, as new opportunities appear bringing a fresh variety for those who are willing to accept it. As it happened this Easter appeared to be a perfect example, for arrangements had been made to take a party into the depths of the Ureweras in order to climb Maungapahatu, which is a small mountain of 4353', held sacred by the Tuhoe Tribe, who have lived in this area for centuries.

With mounting spirits we left Napier to sleep in peace as we began our lengthy journey on a cold and overcast morning. En route we made several stops; the first being Lake Tutira, followed by the Mohaka Viaduct and finally Wairoa after visiting Bernard Teague, a well known botanist and authority on the history of the Urewera Country. The journey from Wairoa to Waikaremoana was pleasant for the sun had come out and we were able to enjoy the pale yellow tints of the changing trees, through a screen of dust. Following a brief stop at Sandy Bay we followed a very winding route around the edge of the Lake, passing the beautiful Cascade Falls, then plunging into an avenue of gigantic trees. Branching from the main route we followed a rough logging road through a depressing 'cut over' forest, until we reached the Tuhoe Village. Nancy and Maury went down to get permission to camp. The reason for Maungapahatu being sacred is that the bones of the Dead are buried in reputedly haunted caves near the summit.

It was completely dark by the time the truck was parked and the fire lit. One could only see the dark outlines of the mountains that rose on every side. The water collected for the soup was found in miniature waterfalls surrounded by ferns. The night was so bright that it seemed a pity to waste it by retiring conventionally to sleeping bags. Consequently a small group wandered off to explore the remaining piece of track which was blocked byrning further access.

To everyone's relief Saturday was fine for generally Maungapahatu is shrouded in mist, but this morning it stood boldly against the clear morning sky. Breakfast was hurried for Joe, our guide, was determined to get an early start. As happens on most trips the more eager and energetic bodies stride away in the front, leaving the slower, perhaps more wary, to bring up the rear. On this particular morning we crawled slowly up a steep track into the bush, wondering in desperation if the top would ever be reached. However once in our stride we were able to walk leisurely along an open track, hearing an occasional Tui, or the resounding crash of a tree in the distance. Half-way through the morning we reached a small grassy clearing where we made our final halt before the ascent. To everyone's surprise we were told that all food was to be left behind in order to obey certain Tuhoe customs, and our plans for camping on the summit were ruined. The climb was slow up the gradually steepening slopes that were strewn with boulders and tough shrubs. Occasional halts were made to admire the mountains

that spread beneath us. Ngauruhoe, Tongararo and Tarawera were recognized and pointed out. The ascent was relatively easy until we reached the 'Obelisk', a tall solid chimney of rock whose sides we carefully skirted and climbed upward by means of a rope. On reaching the top we made our first encounter with leatherwood, a tough densely growing bush which is a nightmare to fight through. However, the impossible was accomplished and the summit reached. The descent was a repetition of past agonies, however these soon faded into awe as the burial oaves were passed. The relief on safely reaching the bottom was strongly felt by everyone, but more especially Joe, who left us to search for water as he returned to the Village.

The following day we returned to the truck making a visit to the Village before leaving. The meeting house was only a modern replica, however everyone was quite contented to photograph it and remember that only recently the grounds had accommodated over a thousand people who were present for the opening of the new logging road, the first access to be cut through to the highway. It was fascinating to wander about recreating a picture of what the village must have been like during the time of Rua and his followers. Time passed too quickly and it was not long before we were returning to Waikaremoana where we hoped to spend the night.

It was after sunset before we reached Aniwanuiwa where most of the boys dashed off for a swim in a river that flowed past the camp, while the remainder more sensibly built a fire for the evening stew. After tea a party of us went down to look at the rapids before turning in.

Before leaving on Monday morning we all walked over the hill through virgin bush to Lake Waikare-iti. On first glance there seemed to be two lakes but there was a long arm of land jutting out forming an incomplete division, while surrounding inlets formed scollops. After leaving Aniwanuiwa we made three stops, the first being at Sandy Bay where we made a point of seeing the initials of soldiers from the Armed Constabulary which were carved into the cliff face not far from their campsite overlooking the lake. Following this on our way home we stopped at Tuai power station and watched its two generators spring into action. The final halt was made at Wairoa for a snack at a milk bar. The final stretch home was barely noticed and it wasn't long before packs were being sorted out and last words of the thoroughly enjoyed trip exchanged before the truck departed.

No. in party: 19.

Guide: Nancy Tanner. Leader: Barbara Butler.

Peter Lewis, Russell Berry, Bill Morison, Tui Maxwell, Rona Budgett, Brenda Thomas, Norrie Johnson, Alan Culver, Paul Trude, Allen Bradley, Winston Oliver, Peter Walsh, Dick Howell, Maurie & Barbara Taylor & Robin & Susan.

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No. 741.

The Club's Trial Search was superseded by the real thing. The following are extracts from the President's personal log:-

#### TATARA-A-KINA SEARCH.

1st-9th April 1964.

#### PHASE 1

Wednesday 1st April.

At 2.15 pm. I received advise from Senior Sergeant Lawrence, of the Napier Police, that a man by the name of Peter Neverman was missing in the Tatara-a-kina area. Together with his brother Dick and a mill hand named Les Styles he had gone out shooting in part of the logging workings at 6 am. on Easter Monday. The arrangement amongst the party was that they should return within a short time, after

getting some meat, but Peter Neverman had not been seen since. Brother Dick had returned to the area on the Tuesday with two or three others and had made a search, but failing to find anything they had contacted the police on Tuesday evening (or afternoon?).

Twenty-eight men under Sergeant Wheeler had on Wednesday morning combed one side of the basin in which the man had gone missing and intended completing the other side during the afternoon. Sergeant Wheeler had however advised the Napier Station at mid-day that he thought the search should be enlarged in scope to a class 11 on Thursday. Senior Sergeant Lawrence mentioned that the police had tried to contact me the previous day (Tuesday) but had been unable to get any reply. (This was the day that we were on the Blowhard laying clues for the Club's trial search.)

I agreed to alert a search party to be ready to search the next morning in case no word should come from Sergeant Wheeler during the afternoon.

I contacted Nancy Tanner, who was at work at Waiapu, and told her the story. As it was not convenient for her to use the phone for a long period I said I would ring around for a party and it was just as I was starting to do this that Norman Elder rang to say that he was out of hospital and had completed the submissions on noxious animals. I put him into the picture and asked if he had any maps of the area or could explain the country from his own knowledge. He agreed to come into town with this information.

Just as Norm arrived in the office Inspector Bell rang and briefly recapitulated the story to date. In a three was discussion with Norm we talked over the position. Later I continued with my endeavours to raise a party and arranged for thirteen men.

#### Thursday 2nd April.

We proceeded to Napier by car and reported at the police station at 6.15 am. The appointed meeting time was 6.30 but it appeared that Sergeant Wheeler had organized parties at the mill end to be ready to move off at 6 am., on the assumption that the town parties would be leaving from Napier no later than 4.30 am. Army transport was laid on but the majority went by car, the club members being the main users of the transport provided, leaving at 7 am.

All of the searchers congregated at the junction of the main logging track up the Mokomokonui Stream and the subsidiary track leading around into the valley of the Po and further south. I discussed the position generally with Sergeant Wheeler as the opportunity afforded itself and was able to get a little more of the background.

It had been reported that a deer carcass, minus the two back legs and skin, had been found by the police searchers on the Wednesday, near the main divide. This was in the basin in which Neverman had gone missing, but was some considerable distance from the point at which he left his companions. He was carrying a .270 rifle but there was considerable difference of opinion amongst the experts as to whether the carcass found near the divide had in fact been shot with this calibre rifle. The bullet had passed right through.

We eventually left at 10 am. for Cold Creek, the next stream up the Mokomokonui on the true left bank. The party of seventeen then set out to cover the valley, seven members of the club taking one side and the remaining club members and other personnel, ten in all, taking the other side. We spread out up the slope but were unable to give better than a sketchy cover, the top members being out of touch with those nearer the bottom most of the time, even by voice. We did a

contour type of search and eventually lunched in the true left fork of Cold Creek. When contact was made with Peter Lewis, who had been proceeding along the skyline of the ridge, he reported that he had met someone on the bulldozed track and had been told that a single shot had been heard on Tuesday and Wednesday (?) at precisely 12 noon. Vic Keane confirmed this when I mentioned it to him so we all sat and listened at mid-day but nothing was heard.

At lunch time we made contact with base by way of our 208 set ZL2EQD without difficulty.

The party split again and Vic Keane, Fletcher's "bush boss", took his ten over into the true right fork while I took our original seven to do the headwaters of the true left fork. I particularly wanted to get up on to the main divide to have a look around, and especially to look over into the country to the east of the divide, so after carrying out the assignment up until we reached the top portion of the catchment, Peter Lewis and I moved up on to the top, north along the divide and down the central spur. Time was running out and the remaining members of our party moved down the stream to the fork as well. When we arrived at the fork Philip Bayens and Bob Woon reported having found a peculiar smell near the divide, up the central spur. Four of us therefore went back up with Vic Keane but although the exact spot was relocated, nothing could then be smelled. We came down and moved out to the road by way of the creek, arriving at 6.05 pm. We were taken back to the Tarawera Hotel and provided with a meal, and were eventually able to sleep in one of the hotel rooms.

#### Friday 3rd. April.

Army transport was laid on at 6.30 am. and took us to the same place as the previous morning. The morning was fairly misty but the higher country soon cleared. By the time that we arrived the police and others from town were already there and the assignments for the day had been organized. We were instructed to take six of our men with the bush boss to follow up a shot heard by Max Lissette, the tractor driver. Lissette had been on a knob one third of the way up the spur between Cold Creek and the Po and had heard a single shot on Thursday at 8.30 am., from a south-westerly direction. While we covered this area the balance of the club's party went across the Mokomokonui and did a high spur to the west.

A plane flew over during the morning and seemed to give the area a good coverage.

After completing the lower end of our spur we dropped down to the road leading to the base in the Po and were eventually picked up by Jack Wheeler in his Landrover. He took us up to the top skids where the search base had been sited. I said that I would like to go up to the top to have a look around and Jack Wheeler volunteered to take us up to the point where Neverman had last been seen. On our way he told me that a party on Thursday had found some bloodstains on a log. He was not sure where they were found exactly but showed us on the map that they were in the reasonably immediate vicinity of the carcass. A portion of the log bearing the bloodstains had been cut out and had been forwarded to Napier for a pathologist's report as to whether the blood was human or animal. This struck me as being a most important clue as if bloodstains either animal or human had been found reasonably handy to the carcass they could indicate the direction of travel of the person who shot the deer. The uncertainty as to whether the stains were animal or human did not seem to be any reason why the lead should not be followed up. I therefore asked if we could go up the logging tracks to gain height and if Sergeant Wheeler would, when making contact with the party who had found the stains, ask them to come up to show us precisely where they had been found. This he agreed to do. However, as we climbed the logging tracks we actually met the party. At our request, they took us down and showed us the stains, which actually proved to be about three hundred feet up the spur immediately behind base camp and about half a mile from the point indicated previously.

We radioed from this spot as it seemed that if they were animal bloodstains they would not be relevant in view of the distance from the carcass. It also appeared from discussion with others in the area that the carcass was only a small one and the skin and both hind legs would have been put in Neverman's pack, any blood drying quickly. At 1.30 we received advice that the stains were definitely not human and we were asked to continue with whatever we had in mind. Accordingly, we climbed to the main divide, as I wanted to have a look at the carcass itself. At 3.15 we made radio contact with base and were requested to return as further information had just come to light.

When we arrived at base at 4 pm. we found about 50 men assembled. Sergeant Wheeler had taken two parties, including the rest of the Club members, to Wakeman's Clearing, following upon information received from a party of 13 which had dropped over to the east and into the Mangakara, that evidence had been found in the creek bed. Shortly after we arrived a further message came through to the effect that a fire with red hot embers had been found and that the party of 13 were proceeding down stream as fast as possible towards the Mohaka. It seemed advisable to send a party to Glenfalls to reach the junction of the Mangakara and the Mohaka as quickly as possible in case Neverman should be working his way down the Mangakara.

Jack Wheeler arrived back on the scene at this point and after a brief discussion with him a party of 6 club members was taken by Landrover to Glenfalls. After being led astray by the Manager, we were off-loaded on a farm track and made a brief meal. We then climbed into our sleeping bags but a quarter-hour later two of the shepherds arrived in their four wheel drive Austin and took us to the correct place, a gate on the road down to the Mohaka River. We camped again but were awoken at 11 pm. by two shots, which the locals said later would have been from spot-lighters.

#### Saturday April 4th.

The night was mild with a light breeze. We were up next morning at 6 am. and away by 6.15, taking the bulldozed track down to the Mohaka. The river fortunately was fairly low and no undue difficulty was experienced on any of the three crossings although the one below the Waipunga confluence was plenty deep enough.

We reached the neck of the Horseshoe at about 9 am., having been overtaken in the meantime by three shepherds from Glenfalls, on horseback. We radioed base and were requested to (a) Check the fishermen's hut in the lower Waipunga and to (b) Check the rabbiters' hut at the Horseshoe, for signs of an Auckland hunting party known to be in the area. On our way to the hut it was thought that a shout was heard from a little down stream but later investigations showed nothing. Possibly goats.

We had breakfast at the hut at 9.30, another radio schedule, and then pressed on to the mouth of the Mangakara, which we reached at 11.15 am. The shepherds checked the fishermen's hut in the afternoon. Les Styles' party was just preparing to leave for Glenfalls after completing their trip down the Mangakara. After they left for Glenfalls we had lunch and left for Glenfalls at 12.30, taking only two hours for the journey out. We called base from the roadhead and after some misunderstanding regarding transport, were eventually picked up by landrover at about 6 pm.

A fire had been seen on the tops the previous night and considerable time was spent before leaving Glenfalls in taking bearings and confirming that this was the signal fire on Wakeman's Clearing.

It was evident when we arrived back at the Tarawera Hotel that the search personnel were by now completely done and morale was at a very low ebb. The

only piece of concrete information that I could pick up was from Roy Peacock, who had been with the club's party at Wakeman's the previous afternoon and also Saturday. Apparently there had been no organized leaders in the parties sent to Wakeman's so Roy had taken over this job and dispatched the parties as he thought best. He had himself come across footprints with a similar pattern, up one of the spurs in the head of the Mangakara. There had also been the impression where someone had sat upon a mossy log and marks of a rifle butt being used as a walking stick. Roy could not however positively identify the boot pattern from the drawings that I made.

The girls of the club had come up the previous evening and had been assisting with rationing. In particular, they had expressed concern to the Police at the type of food being provided for the searchers and had sent off to the Napier Police a list of provisions of the type that they thought was required.

We spent the night in one of the empty houses at the old Tarawera Mill, after pacifying the caretaker (?) who had come, armed, to eject us.

#### Sunday April 5th.

We returned to the skids next morning and I hoped that I might have the opportunity of moving up the divide to have a look at the footprints Roy had found. We were however requested by Sergeant Wheeler to go south and have a look at the saddle to the west of "the knob" as he was looking at the possibility of the missing man having come up from the Mangakara, passing through the saddle and proceeding down the next creek back into the Mangakara again. He said that a party had been in the area the previous day but had not done a particularly thorough job. He then handed us over to the "bush boss" who drew a map showing where we were to go, marking in the knob and the saddle. He then marked in the route of the party who had been in the area the previous day indicating by a series of strokes what I took to be a spur, starting from immediately to the east of the kill and continuing in a south easterly direction. He explained that the party who had been down there the previous day had left a deer's antler on a log at their furthest point. No one however told us that the missing man's footprints had been found within 300 yards of our area the previous day. We were not aware of this, or the fact that the previous day's party had actually searched a creek, not a spur, until we discussed the matter with that party later in the day.

We left the skids at 7.50 and made our way down the divide to the point which we judged was the take-off for the saddle. We were however a little too far south but we ended up in the headwaters of a small creek just to the south east of the saddle. Here we boiled up, failed to make radio contact through a fault in the set and then moved up into the saddle only a short distance away. We examined the saddle area itself minutely and although we fancied that we could make out one large boot impression in the litter we could not be certain of this. We then returned up the correct spur to the tops and then moved northwards until we met the large signal fire.

As it happened the party who had found the footprints on the Saturday were at the fire and they told us of their find. They were prepared to swear that the creek in which the prints were found ran between the knob and the divide and then on south-eastwards to the Mangakara but they eventually agreed that this could not have been so in view of the fact that there is a high saddle between the divide and the knob.

It was fairly late by the time we got back to the skids and we waited for some time in case Max Lissette's two day party intended returning that way, as had apparently been arranged. Light rain set in and a police driver was eventually left in the area with a vehicle while the rest of us returned to the hotel. We had in the meantime had a substantial meal, prepared by the girls at the roadhead. Upon reaching the hotel we found that Max Lissette had in fact come out by a different route and that they had found a seemingly fresh puna frond bed and fire the previous night.

They had been unable however to operate their Mark I radio to pass the information out and had spent part of Sunday searching in the vicinity of this evidence. They had also found an arrow scratched in the sand in the Mangakara, pointing up a spur towards the area of the bed and fire.

Several of us met at Vic Keane's house to discuss this report but we eventually left for town in the Club truck, arriving some time after midnight.

#### PHASE 11.

7th - 9th April 1964.

#### Monday 6th April (evening).

At about 6.30 Inspector Bell rang, saying that the Neverman family were at the Station and that they had all been discussing the position. In addition, he reported that Max Lissette's party, who had found the fire and bed on Saturday, had also picked up but failed to report the finding of two .270 empty cases. As Peter Neverman had been in the practice of saving his empties for reloading it was possible to obtain a sample round that had been fired from his rifle in order that the firing pin mark might be compared with those found on Saturday.

He asked whether we would be prepared to look after the search control side if the police were to initiate another search with full police backing. After discussing the position with club captain Nancy Tanner and F.M.C. representative Norman Elder I rang back and told Inspector Bell that we would be quite happy to do this, although we would probably need the assistance of the police in obtaining man power.

Norman Elder called, as did Max Lissette who had found the most recent evidence, and we discussed the areas to be covered in the second phase of the search. At this stage it was intended that it should be of only two days' duration. From the indications of the various items of evidence found, and in view of the fact that there had been practically no coverage of the area to the east and south of Tataara-a-kina, it was decided to make a fairly intensive sweep of this area. Approximately 100,000 acres was involved. It seemed unlikely that Neverman could have moved any distance through this area without leaving traces that could be picked up reasonably readily.

The area to be covered was thereupon divided into nine two-day tasks and written instructions prepared. Additional supplies of maps were obtained from the Lands & Survey, N.Z. Aerial Mapping was approached for aerials, and tents and other equipment arranged for. Club members assisted in preparing maps, drawing in spurs and numbering all spurs and creeks in the area to be covered. In the meantime other club members were contacting search personnel, principally deerstalkers' clubs and the Heretaunga Tramping Club.

#### Tuesday 7th April.

6.15 am. Arrived at Police Station Napier, where all personnel were assembling. Eight TRPl's had been organized by the Police and had been dispatched from Wellington by the "Dominion" car. The Police had also laid on rations and transport. Departure from Napier 6.45 am.

8.45 am. Arrived Tataara-a-kina mill, where base was to be established. All personnel were called together and put into the picture, given instructions by the St. John Ambulance, and the leaders also instructed in the use of the TRPl's. In view of the numbers available a tenth party was organized. Total personnel in the field 42.

9.45 am. Ten parties moved into the field, five to the top skids where the previous search base had been established, two to roadheads near Turangakumu and three to the nearest point of access to Tatara-a-kina.

12.55 pm. The first party from the skids met five members of a Gisborne Canoe and Tramping Club party, plus two others, on the divide. The Gisborne party was instructed to form party number 11 and was allocated a task covering ground immediately to the north of the main search area. The other two were to link up with Max Lissette's party. The Gisborne party was instructed to rendezvous at nightfall in the Mangakara with one of the radio equipped parties.

During the early afternoon various parties checked up by radio, advising current positions.

1.30 pm. Party of five N.Z. Forest Service personnel arrived at base and were allotted an area on the western bank of the lower reaches of the Mangakara.

6 pm. Party 2 (without radio) had now linked up with party 10 (radio) and advised that they had located a bed of fern in the saddle between "the Knob" and the main divide. (Reference 093945). It appeared to be at least two or three days old.

The Gisborne party had located, in a side creek, the carcass of a young stag with the head missing and back steaks removed. It appeared to have been there for at least several days. Radio reception at this stage was particularly bad and it was difficult to obtain full details.

6.18 pm. Party 8 reported having heard a single shot at 4 pm. from the direction of "the Knob".

6.25 pm. Party 10 advised that they had met up with a party of private searchers, known to be in the area, and it was they who had fired the shot heard by party 8. They also passed on party 2's description of the bed found - full length, very well made, under an overhang, indications that a pack had rested on the ground beside the bed.

6.40 pm. Party 3 reported that they were now at the bed found the previous Saturday night (Reference 105935).

There was considerable difficulty in maintaining radio contact with field parties and one of the H.T.C. members assisted by acting as a relay station with a Mark 1 from a trig near Turangakumu.

The day's operations were considered and it was decided to ask Max Lissette to go to the bed found that day and to compare it with the one which he had located the previous Saturday. John Groome, leader of party 10, was to look at the deer carcass found by the Gisborne party and to assess any information obtainable therefrom.

Wednesday 8th April.

5.30 am. Unable to make contact with party 10 as previously scheduled, on account of unfavourable radio conditions. General message sent out for ZL2EX to be roused to assist in relaying. However, by the time they were on the air conditions had improved and it was possible to get messages through to the field. The instructions decided upon the previous night were then passed, as also was a re-allocation of tasks amongst the various searchers now assembled in the Mangakara.

7 am. The twowha had been left on the divide to link up with party 3 the previous afternoon had failed to make contact and had accordingly returned to the top skids. One of them reported having heard what sounded to him like human noises near the divide, followed by sounds of movement. They were accordingly asked to check this and to then proceed to the Mangakara.



A party of two had spent the night on a trig near Turangakumu, overlooking the search area and a little time was spent in accounting for a fire which they had seen.

8.40 am. Report from top skids that Constable Coote and George Studd (R.E.C.) had just returned from the ridge behind the skids. They had been sitting down at a point approximately 400 ft. above the skids when, at 8.23am, they had heard three shots. From the deliberate, evenly spaced manner in which the shots were fired, they had concluded that possibly they were a signal. The shots appeared to have come from a northerly direction but they later indicated that they could not be emphatic on this point.

The hearing of these shots set in train a further line of enquiry which was pursued throughout the day.

9.20 am. Party 10 reported that the headless carcass found the previous day was definitely older than Friday 3rd April (i.e. not more recent than other items of evidence).

9.40 am. Peter Lewis, on establishing radio contact from Turangakumu, advised that a shooter had fired three shots near the old Kiosk at approximately 8.25 am.

9.43 am. Okay given to Gisborne Canoe and Tramping Club party to divide and move eastwards to search the Poamoko and Te Awaokaiwhaka Streams providing they fend for themselves.

9.45 am. Peter Lewis advised that firing pattern of shots on Turangakumu appeared to be different from those heard from the top skids.

Although it seemed unlikely that the shots heard by the party above the top skids could have been those fired on Turangakumu, the coincidence of time appeared to necessitate further follow-up. The party who had heard the shots was accordingly sent back to their previous position and Nancy Tanner sent with a rifle to Turangakumu to fire a pre-arranged pattern of shots at 11.09 am. precisely. Those listening from above the skids heard nothing.

11 am. Party 3 in the saddle looking for the bed found by party 2 the previous day.

Various parties reported from time to time, giving position references and reports on activities.

11.12 am. Party 4, who seemed to be ahead of their schedule, were requested to drop into Mangakara and inspect a favourable stretch for signs and then to proceed to Glenfalls by the best available route.

11.20 am. Party 5 (Reference 095920) reported hearing shots at 11 am. from vicinity of mouth of creek 3.

12.00 noon. Party 10 reported that the two who had left the top skids that morning had picked up tracks showing the correct pattern, in the right branch of creek 1 (measurements given). Unfortunately, difficult radio conditions prevented much coherent conversation with party 10 who seemed to be in the centre of the area showing most activity. (It was later established that the prints were of the one other man in all of the search parties who had a similar pattern boot.)

1.15 pm. Party 4 reported having heard the shots at 11 am. and had subsequently met a horse party who admitted to having fired them.

1.20 pm. Asked for weather report from Napier.

1.25 pm. Party 3 reported having searched the saddle area without locating the bed previously found by party 2.

We were unable to make contact with party 2 to send them to the assistance of party 3, who were working on map reference only.

1.53 pm. Constable Schmidt requested to go to Wakeman's Clearing to made enquiries from bush workers there as to whether they could account for the three shots heard at 8.23 am.

2.45 pm. Weather report; today, cloudy - tomorrow, scattered rain early morning possibly becoming persistent later.

2.50 pm. Urgent message from Napier Police for Dick Neverman to ring, but he had in the meantime been sent on a short assignment. Police consequently advised that spirit-uualists in the family had informed them that Peter Neverman would be found at map reference 130940 (the possibility of Neverman being in this area was becoming more credible as time passed but it had not previously been covered).

3.45 pm. The party of relations returned to top skids and confirmed that they had not fired the three shots nor had they any knowledge of them. Constable Schmidt confirmed that Wakeman's parties knew nothing of them either.

5 pm. Parties moving out of field. Transport organized and parties brought back to base for hot meal, prepared by Heretaunga Tramping Club girls and others, and leaders de-briefed.

Max Lissette's party 3 reported that they had been unable to locate anything other than pig beds in the area indicated by party 2 and it seems probable that it was one of these that they had seen. Max Lissette also reported having found (very fortunately) the carcass of a sheep on the Mokomokonui side of the divide, and he considered that the animal had been shot early that morning or the previous evening. A whisky bottle in the soil beside the carcass, part of which had been removed, gave the locals an indication as to who may have shot the sheep, despite the fact that no-one was meant to have been in the area. The person concerned was approached on the Thursday but would not admit to having been in the area.

The finding of the freshly killed sheep carcass cast doubts on the value of the three shots heard but by this time one-day parties had been organized for the Thursday on the strength of these shots. Coote and Studd were the only persons who heard them, they being the only persons on the western side of the divide apart from roadhead personnel. No one on the eastern side of the divide had heard the shots although the various parties were further to the south. Prior to the finding of the sheep carcass the indications were that the only conceivable place from which the shots could have come if they were intended as a signal was the upper reaches of the Mangakara stream, to the north of the area which had been covered during the previous two days.

Dick Neverman has expressed the opinion that, if his brother Peter has wished to fire a distress signal, it was most likely that he would have used three quick shots.

All maps were recalled and remarked and numbered to cover the additional area to be searched on the Thursday. Search assignments for eight parties prepared. This was later changed to ten in view of the number of searchers available.

#### Thursday 9th April.

5.50 am. Briefing of leaders began and instruction in use of radios.

6 am. Briefing of all searchers, progress to date, reasons for the extension of the search for a further day and plan of day's operations.

7 am. (approximately). All parties moving into respective areas.

There was mist on the tops early in the morning and the cloud ceiling progressively lowered during the day to about 2,700 ft. Visibility on the tops was practically nil, with drizzle and rain.

Various reports came in during the morning indicating that some parties had experienced difficulty in pin-pointing their precise search areas by reason of the weather conditions but that all seemed to be not far out.

12.05 pm. Information turned up that one of John Groome's party had found half a calico flour bag the previous day. This was followed up by ringing John Groome at Tokoroa and he said that in view of the apparent newness of the bag he had thought it must have been dropped by one of the previous search parties. The bag apparently was found above the bed of creek 1, on the slopes of the Knob. Dick Neverman did not know whether Peter would have been carrying this item but indicated that it was possible.

12.35 pm. Report that sheath, belt and curved knife picked up at Reference 092953, down hill from the original carcass on the western side of the divide. Enquiries indicated that this was not Peter Neverman's.

12.50 pm. With the comparatively limited area being covered, various parties met from time to time. In view of the doubtful weather conditions parties 5 and 6 were combined.

1.45 pm. Requested the Napier Police to ask Sergeant Wheeler whether any searcher could have dropped the flour bag approximate reference 095947. Apparently this message did not get through as no reply was forthcoming.

3.40 pm. Party 7 reported finding bandage, canvas, and twine at reference 074949. Enquiries indicated however that this was not relevant.

4.35 pm. Two searchers who had been in the Moose Creek area were sent to search base by Fletcher's "bush boss" to account for their activities. They had not fired, nor had they heard the three shots the previous day but they did however advise that another shooting party was operating to the west of the Mokomokonui and that if they had been shooting on the tops the sound of their rifles would have carried to the top skids area.

A party with a Constable was sent to the Pohokura Mill that evening in an endeavour to contact the party concerned but time precluded their getting to the hunters' camp in time. The Police ascertained from Motor Registrations the owners of two vehicles at the Tarawera Hotel, from which the hunters concerned had gone in, and messages were left for them to report to the police.

6 pm. Discussed with George Cave, who has been hunting in the Mangakara for many years, the footprints which he had found on Thursday 2nd April. According to him the prints were going upstream and were definitely fresh at 9 am. Thursday. After learning that there was a man missing in the area they had spent four and a half days searching the creeks and spurs of the lower Mangakara.

They had heard a shot at 1.10 pm. Saturday and had dropped into the Mangakara to search the area from which it had come without any success.

All parties were de-briefed as they came in and eventually returned to town after a hot meal.

The position had been fully discussed with Inspector Bell and the search was

called off Thursday night. We were satisfied that, in the absence of any recent firm indications that Neverman was alive, and with no leads as to the direction which he had taken, a continuation of the official search could not be justified.

# CONCLUSIONS.

It seems from the various evidence found that Neverman initially went astray on the divide immediately above the carcass of his Monday's kill. There are several knobs on the tops and one could easily be led down towards the Mangakara if not paying particular attention.

The footprints found going down creek 1 either mean that he eventually ended up in that creek on the Monday and went down to the Mangakara, or, seemingly less likely, that he passed down that creek on a later occasion.

The crusts of bread and eggshells found near the mouth of creek 3 would indicate Monday's lunch, the elapsed time being about right for the distance.

At some stage, presumably fairly early in the week, he dumped the skin and pelvis at point K. It may be that he went up the spur towards the knob then or else he went on downstream to end up at the bottom waterfall on Monday or Tuesday night. The waterfall is formidable and he turned back upstream. In the opinion of George Cave he went up and down at least part of the Mangakara twice. He returned to the top waterfall where he lit the hot fire on Wednesday or Thursday night. George Cave swears that the footprint he saw in the Mangakara between the two waterfalls at 9 am. Thursday was made that morning.

At some stage he spent a night on the spur to the south-east of the knob and went on up, cutting an arrow pointing approximately north in a tree.

It would appear that he may have moved out of the Mangakara on Friday morning, only six hours ahead of the first search party through the area. One of that party thought he heard two shots on Friday afternoon, from the general direction of where Max Lisette on Saturday found a bed which he considered to be either Thursday or Friday night's.

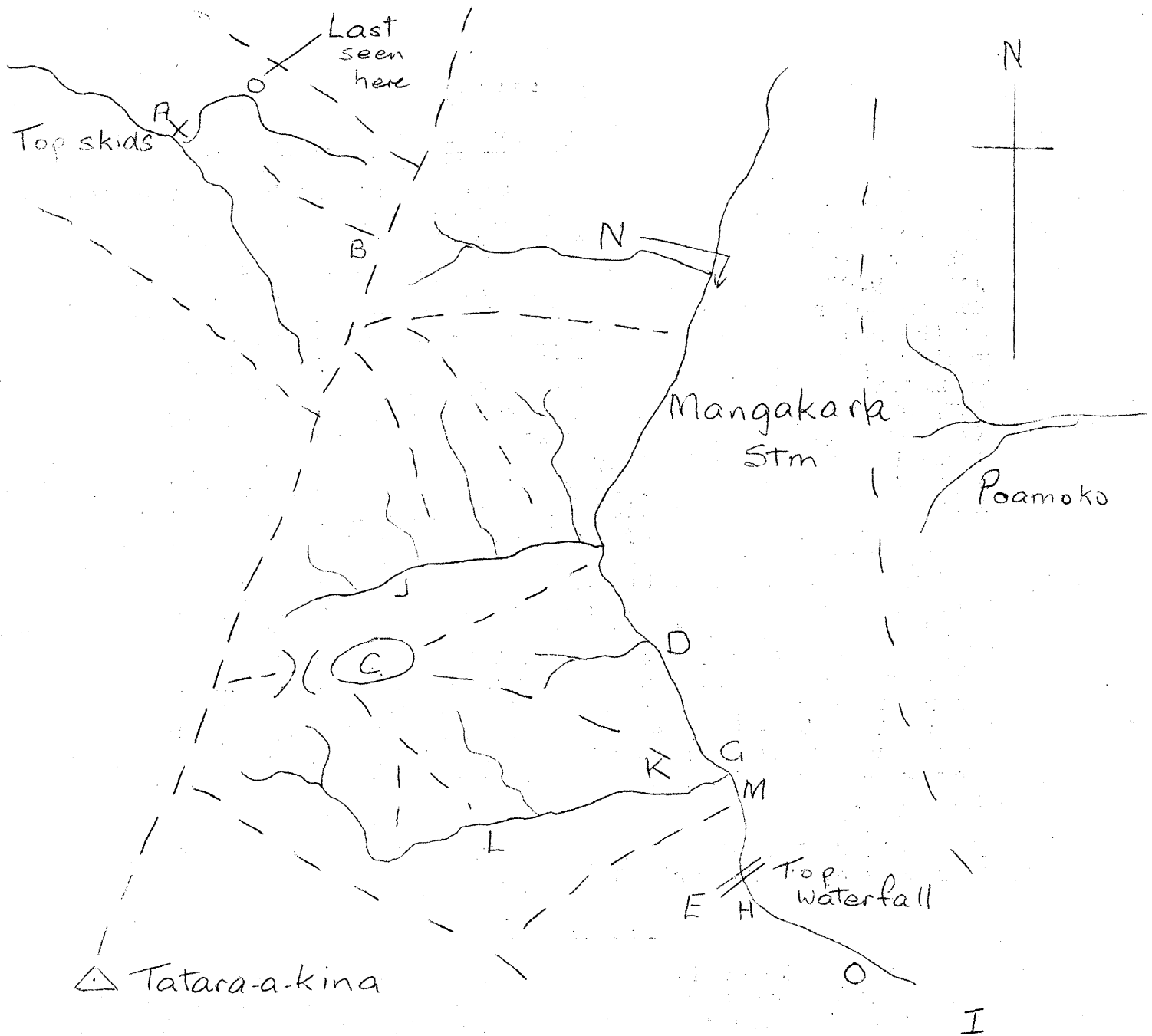
Nothing has been found to indicate that he was alive after either Thursday or Friday night. Either he died or became immobile suddenly at about that time, or else he somehow got out of the Mangakara again and headed for the rough country to the East. Up to Thursday he seems to have been going strongly.

He did not make smoke when the plane came over on Friday. Possibly he was asleep, did not hear the plane, had run out of matches or could not make sufficient volume of smoke. Alternatively, he was incapable of doing so.

A.V. Berry.

For names of H.T.C. taking part in search, see page 30.

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- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| A | Top Skids                                   | L | Bed and fire (Saturday)                   |
| B | Deer Carcase                                | M | 2 x .270 shells, arrow (Saturday)         |
| C | "The Knob"                                  | N | Route of Friday's party                   |
| D | First footprints (Friday)                   | O | Footprint found Thursday morning (approx) |
| E | Upper Waterfall                             |   |   |
| F | Lower Waterfall (not shown)                 |   |   |
| G | Eggshells & breadcrumbs, approx. (Friday)   |   |   |
| H | Hot fire and bed (Friday)                   |   |   |
| I | Cold fire and bed (Friday)                  |   |   |
| J | Footprints down creek (Saturday)            |   |   |
| K | Skin, pelvic remains, bed, arrow (Saturday) |   |   |

PRIVATE TRIPSMIDDLE HILL HUT - Dec. 15th 1963

With the idea of having a "looksee" at the Northern Kawekas, even with Hughie sending down light rain, nine of us proceeded out to Puketitiri where we picked up Peter. After a chinwag it was decided to go to Middle Hill Hut, a fairly recent Forestry job. 9.00 saw us across the Makahu (some were carried across) and on to the Hot Springs road. Upon reaching the second ridge on the road, we clambered through wet undergrowth to the nearest vantage point just to survey the situation. A couple of stalkers we met there didn't think much of our chances of getting to the Hut, but we could see the track taking off up a ridge from the Koaro stream, so decided to carry on. We struggled through dense Manuka and eventually found ourselves in the disced stream bed. Once on the ridge, it was just a wet crawl up to Trig A -3320. A break in the mist enabled us to see the Hut, and after dropping off, we reached it at 1.30. We chased a few mice out of the flour, warmed ourselves by the fire, lunched etc., and managed to drag ourselves away by 2.45. Dropping into the Koaro, we found it dirty and up, but no difficulty was experienced. We didn't feel inclined to bush bash again, so got on to a river bench which eventually took us out to the Mangatutu valley. A very wet stroll along the road back to the truck. The Makahu was dirty and up also, but still fordable. A pleasant stop was made at the Lewis's - tea, scones and hot baths for some soaked specimens. Many thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Lewis. A rather wet trip back into town which was finally reached around 11.00 - very enjoyable.

A. Corbin C. Prebble, D. Prebble, P. Lewis, A. Tremewan, G. Evans, D. Thompson, C. Stewart, H. Wilde.

MAKAHU BACK RIDGE HUT

A violently early start was planned, but fortunately this theme wasn't developed further and we got away before six. The road from Whittles gets a little doubtful after Baldy. Nevertheless we were still able to ride in comfort along the top of Middle range. From there it was only a short step to the new Forestry track. One is able to roar along this in fine style, but after a while the novelty of a wide clear track wears off and a faint lack of enthusiasm is detected.

The sun was blazing down with unrestrained ferocity from a cloudless sky. Consequently, five nicely warmed trampers reached Makahu "glowing" freely and streaming gently. A leisurely lunch was enjoyed at 11 following which a long, warm, slow grind up to the Cairn. Five blobs of dehydrated human flesh collapsed triumphantly by the Trig at 3.15. There was no clouds to obscure the view but a heat haze did just that very efficiently.

Only one bod had been on to Back Ridge hut so doubts were expressed as to its whereabouts. Fortunately for that one member, the hut was seen from the ridge right in position and reached by 5.15.

There were liberal indications that rats had been the predominant occupants over the past year. Briefly, the hut was revolting. A thorough clean up was followed by the usual three course meal. During the night, only one rodent dared to enter our presence, and it was so enthusiastically mashed with a tomahawk that the others stayed up in the roof protesting vehemently. It sounded like a series of endurance tests to see which rat could make the most noise for the longest time.

Up at 6 and away by 8.15. As the sun was shining with renewed enthusiasm, we unanimously agreed to follow the stream. The stream was not by nature sadistic although we encountered a few restrained waterfalls which were painlessly circumnavigated. by 10.30 we were on the tops again and then on down to Makahu. Lunch, siesta, followed by a down hill stroll back to the transport.

Fred, Christine and Dale Prebble, Heather McKay, Jim Wilshire

#### MAKORORO - PUKETITIRI

26th Dec 1963 & 1st Jan 1964

8 a.m. Boxing Day saw two keen type trampers over the gate and up the Makaroro. An hour to Colenso spur seeing several Paradise ducks en route. Towards the top one not excessively fit member found a year at Varsity with little or no exercise not too good. The high winds on the way to Remutupo Hut held us up. Lunched at Remutupo, then the three hour dawdle down the river to Colenso. 27th After reference to Dick Clarke's map from Aerial photos, took off in direction of Potae. 4th left then 3rd left and right out under the rocks. The creek revealed a Blue Mountain duck and young, red monks hood orchid and a hind. 4 hours to Ruahine corner - no mice! The weather had cleared, so to sunbathing which was interrupted by a furry wabbit friend. We split the remaining half of a 18" dia. cedar log.

23th Tussock along to the sink hole seems to be becoming shorter and into a small clumps. En route to Otupae Range saw about a dozen sheep and two deer on the tops. Reached Cedars after 7 solid hours.

29th Left at 7 a.m. with Otupae shrouded in mist which later cleared. Saw an 8 - 10 pointer, the largest stag seen was in the hour trip to the road. 2½ hours to Ngamatea Station. After a spell at the Taruarau river over to Log Cabin by 3 o'clock. Still following the stock track through tussock to Rocky Point at 5. The weather closed in with rain south of Pohokura Outstation but it did not catch up with us. We saw a hind and spotty just before we dropped into the Mangakotukutuku. Soon after hitting the stream we sidled over the neck of the peninsular between.

the stream and the Ngaruroro to the new suspension bridge. Had a swim to cool off on the way to Kiwi Mouth which was reached at 6 o'clock just 11 hours from Cedars. There had been no rain there since October. In our proposed trip 2 days had been completed in one.

30th Climbed on to Back Ridge on a cut track after a late start. On the ups and downs of Back Ridge of which there are many in its 2500' climb a total of 3 stags and 5 hinds were seen. Our slow trip of 4 hours to Back Hut was further added to with a 2 hour stop to clean out the top cupboard and the hut generally. The rats' droppings from the bunks formed a recognisable pile outside while the rats themselves played tag in the ceiling. 2 hours to Makahu after a little trouble in the mist in 10 yard visibility.

31st A day of rest after our toil while the wind blew and it poured with rain. A pile of wood was collected when the weather cleared.

1st Up early and away. Looking into the glaring sun we took the wrong track which gave us an hour's detour. As time wore on faster the distance to Lewis's became rapidly shortened. Two rather shaggy haired and unwashed trampers waited half an hour for their transport to continue at a rather relaxed pace with 8 other H.T.Cs. (David and Graeme then did the Club's New Year trip straight on top. Some marathon! - Ed)

David and Graeme Evans

EREWHON STATION TO HOKITIKA - via CLYDE RIVER, GARDEN OF ALLAH,  
GARDEN OF EDEN, PERTH RIVER Christmas 1963-1964

21/12/63 Saturday: 2.30 p.m. Transport has broken down - awaiting arrival of another taxi "patience is a virtue" S.W. winds - fresh, cloud clearing. Left Erewhon 5.30 p.m. Staggered  $1\frac{3}{4}$  hours up the Clyde to junction of Lawrence river - camped in bushlodge. Darkness fell about 9.00 p.m.

22/12/63 Sunday: From campsite in Clyde - fine day N.W. wind mild. Moving upstream to Agnes Bivy (approx 4-6 hours) Away by 4.30 a.m. "N.Wester" appears to be coming when we arrived at junction of Clyde and McCoy - moved into McCoy hut in anticipation of foul weather. Agnes Bivy would be overpopulated with C.M.C. Hoping to move upstream tomorrow and camp on Francis Glacier. The Francis valley appears to narrow from here, so it should prove interesting. The party is dubious of snow conditions on the Garden of Allah and Eden owing to a fresh fall within the last few days. The bridges on the glacier are possibly out of condition.

23/12/63 Monday: Evacuated McCoy's at 7.20 a.m. At Agnes by 9.00 Weather fine in valley but murky on Lambert Col. and the Francis Neve. Hope to get into Garden of Allah tomorrow. Made camp on mid-moraine high on Francis glacier at 3.00 p.m. Weather deteriorating - rain, mist, snow - cold and miserable - avalanches constantly peeling off the valley walls.

24/12/63 Tuesday: (6.00 a.m.) A light snow covers everything. Fine weather but steady cold wind is blowing down valley. This is our first camp without running water. This morning snow dehydration is already obvious (or was it because there was too much salt in last night's stew??)



Decided to move on to Lambert Col thus on to the Garden of Allah.

Arrived on Lambert Col -  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours from campsite. The soft new snow gave steady plugging up the glacier to the Col. - crevasses well covered with snow although conditions were at times a little indecisive. Arrived at Col in a flurry of snow and wind. Little prospect of weather improving. Have a campsite behind a big rock with rock walls to protect us from Hughie's wrath. Water supply appears to be ample - little pools in the rocks. The new snow has obviously put the peaks out of condition.

Tonight is Xmas Eve. Hope Xmas day will dawn fine to enable us to photograph the scenery. If the weather does not break, our Garden Party will be a washout. Perhaps our Xmas bottle will bring a different Xmas cheer!!

25/12/63 Wednesday Xmas day: A pleasant sunrise with the mist slowly emptying out of the Garden of Allah. The Col. resounded to clatter of cameras. Good views of Lambert Peak and Lambert glacier. A little excursion to an unnamed peak gave brief views before mist and snow conditions forced us back to camp. Depending on the weather, will attempt Mt. Lambert tomorrow.

26/12/63 Thursday: 3.00 a.m. Cold wind - misty 4.20 No improvement - no climbing 7.00 "N.Wester" has arrived with heavy sleet. 9.30 Howling gale and white out. 11.30 tents started breaking away. 12.00 Had packed up and cramponned into the Col. and down the glacier. Some rock avalanches near Agnes could have proved serious. Got blown past Agnes and washed down to McCoy Hut 6 C.M.C's and 2 shooters in the hut - venison for tea.

27/12/63 Friday: Fine weather in valley but still foul on the tops. Spent day drying out, re-allocating food etc., Finally moved back upstream to camp under a rock by Agnes Bivy. Hope to get up to Perth Col and the Garden of Eden tomorrow.

28/12/63 Saturday: Left rock bivouac at 7.00 a.m. Proceeded up right lateral moraine and up the Wee McGregor glacier. Moved on to Perth Col. at 11 a.m. in heavy mist which turned to a white out. A snow cave evacuated by a party of Tararuas was quickly enlarged and occupied - hit the sack early.

29/12/63 Sunday: Another white-out. Spent the day in the sack.

30/12/63 Monday: A brief break in the weather enabled us to climb Mt. Baker (10 minutes from our cave) Good views of the Garden of Eden. Observed 12 climbers clinging to Mt. Tyndall. Decided to attempt Mt. Outram (7,800') Spent 7 hours clinging to broken rock, soft snow etc., to arrive back at the cave rather defeated and dejected.

31/12/63 Tuesday: White-out conditions with snow filling up the tunnel entrance. 2 members of the party are considering making their exit to the West Coast via the Perth Glacier and river. Tonight is New Year's Eve and have little to celebrate in the way of climbs or climbing prospects.

1/1/64 Wednesday: Still snowing heavily. Conditions are really abnormal. The prospect of moving out in this weather does not help one's morale. The cave almost looks like the Black Hole of Calcutta, what with the foul air, sinking sleeping benches, wet spots in the ceiling and accumulated waste in the entrance

+ the cold! It is interesting to note the efforts of those who are forced to retire outside for a short and necessary period. Shovel in hand the brave six made their exit in a flurry of snow to return a little later cold, wet, and disillusioned about the heavy weather outside - but oh! the relief!

Hope to move down into the Perth tomorrow - no hope of climbing now. The coffee had turned up at last. Ovaltine was getting monotonous and nauseating after a while.

2/1/64 Thursday: This was the day of my initiation into West Coast river technology and bush travel. Breakfast at 5.30 a.m. then leaving the cave at 7.30, we roped up and cramponned down the Perth Glacier in cold white-out conditions. The new powdered snow made going difficult over the rocky moraine and the hidden crevasses. Keeping to the left bank, we bashed our way through heavy sub-alpine bush on to the snow grass terrace by Adverse Creek. Just below Tarn creek, we located a cave (6 hours from the Col.) and promptly set about making ourselves comfortable. A roaring fire roused our spirits, but a cold night in wet gear soon doused them.

3/1/64 Friday: A day in the sack with the rain pouring down and the river thundering below - the wet West Coast is aptly named.

4/1/64 Saturday: We are still looking out over the river through a curtain of rain to the roaring river, the mist swept peaks. A dismal day playing cards etc., A morale-boosting flash of sunlight appeared at sunset, but only for a brief watery period.

5/1/64 Sunday: Today saw us on the move again. At 8.30 a.m. we moved down the Perth river in breaking weather. After alternate spells of river travel and bush bashing, we arrived at the junction of Scone Creek (5½ hours). A camp was made downstream of the junction, but the weather closed again giving us another wet night in the Perth valley.

6/1/64 Monday: Devouring some excess food we broke camp at 11a.m. amid claps of thunder to reach Nolan's hut by the Perth river. A confusion in times and incorrect maps led to one member of the party spending a wet night in the bush. After bypassing the hut. The following morning saw him back at the hut, tired, but wiser!

7/1/64 Tuesday: Dragging ourselves away from the Hut by 11.30 a.m. heading for the main West Coast road by Whataroa. Two hours of paddling in knee-deep mud in a cattle track saw us at the Whataroa river. It was in heavy flood and looked very awesome. Then with heavy thunder and frequent flashes of lightning, a cloud burst dropped its contents on the Whataroa river and its tributaries. Small streams became uncrossable torrents whipped by gale force winds from down valley, leaving one member stranded on the wrong side of Alpheas Creek, with a few hours of daylight left. We camped by the last creek only 30 minutes from the road. 3 hours later saw all of our party together again much to everyone's relief. An electrical storm continued all night showing us how puny we are.

8/1/64 Wednesday: A watery dawn and mosquitoes forced us out

to the Whataroa bridge at 6.30 a.m. The flooded streams were now mere trickles.

Catching a bus to Hokitika saw us on our first leg of our journey home again.

Although our sojourn into the Alps was not remarkable for its good weather, it was remarkable for its variety, its extremes of conditions and human experiences, and these must remain invaluable to us in the future.

A. Corbin and 5 Hutt Valley T.C. members.

#### FORESTRY TRIPS

Doronui 15-18 Nov. 1963 A visit to the site of Mavis's deer hide on a knoll up the Mangapapa valley where a mass of hut material has been dumped by helicopter. Marked a track upstream to pick up the blazes at the toe of the ridge leading south to the Harkness or sidling east into the Mangatainoka saddle.

Ellis's Hut 4-6 Feb 1964 My intention was to continue the line we were cutting last May mainly to age more rimu stumps by ring counting and also to see how the seedlings were coming away on the ground scarified by bulldozing 12 months ago. The rimu stumps are getting so rotten that few ring counts are better than an informed guess - dissappointing. Drove the Minx to the door of Ellis's Hut.

Castle Rock 11-13 Feb. Plane tabling in the vicinity of Mavis's hide, which is close to castle rock itself but over an hour beyond the so-called Castle Rock bivvy. There are the remains of an earlier musterer's whare buried in the scrub near this bivvy.

Doronui-Harkness 14-21 Feb Mavis's party came out for the night then took off up the Taupo road in the morning to do the same plane tabling job at the Mangapapa hide. That finished we investigated a low-level route across to the Ngaawapurua by following the main Mangapapa to its head. This was practicable enough but very slow, so we returned by the very direct leading rodge. The recent 6 bunk hut is inconveniently sited for general use, being the best part of an hour down from the head of the tussock and poked away up a side creek.

N.L.E.

#### PRIVATE TRIP

Lion Mountain 22 Dec 1963 A private trip with members of the Whangarei Tramping Club through 2nd growth bush to a 1250ft viewpoint, between two fantastic volcanic crags, Manaia and Bream Head.

N.L.E.

TATARA-A-KINA SEARCH.

(For detailed report see pages 10-21).

An unsuccessful search like this is a mystifying and distressing experience for everyone concerned with it. This is no place for a detailed report but some aspects of it can be usefully explained.

A hunter left his mates on the morning of Easter Monday, went off to get a shot and vanished. The weather stayed fine for most of that week and the country was not more than ordinarily difficult. The first thought naturally was that he had met with an accident near where he was last seen, but after some days as the search area was extended traces of him were found further in the bush and he was apparently still on his feet. These clues were fairly certain as his boot soles had an unusual pattern and, more definitely, two .270 cartridge cases which were found matched his rifle.

He had then been in five days, the clues were no longer fresh and led to dead ends. Further clues reported after the first search had been closed, raised hopes of a definite lead and the search was resumed to follow this on a more intensive and methodical basis, but no fresh clues were found, time was running out, searchers were becoming exhausted, and no further organized search could be justified. Private parties will still go in to check on something unusual or to follow hunches, but that is all. The search as such has failed.

Searchers go into the country to find a man who will be trying to find his way out. If both thought alike they would meet, probably at the bush edge; but when they don't think alike there is a search on. At first it is rather like a game of hide and seek, but as the days go by and the obvious moves fail, the searchers have to think of odder and odder things the missing man must have done.

This is no fun with a human life involved; searchers are working under a considerable strain, flogging themselves along and in the end are left with the nagging feeling that they could have done a bit more, or tackled something differently.

Practically the whole of this search area lies east of the Mokomokonui Valley which you look up from the Double Crossing on the Taupo Road. The Tutira map (N 114) does not show ridges and the logging roads are not up to date by 5 or 6 years but the creeks and gullies have been plotted from aerial photos. There are two main streams east of the Mokomokonui and roughly parallel to it (that is running south) - the Mangakara and the Poamoko, before you come to the edge of the bush at the Mohaka River.

It was in the middle valley, the Mangakara, that the main evidence was found but only on the fifth day of his disappearance. He appeared to have moved down the valley till he came to a high waterfall and then turned back. The weather had been fine and mild and with such definite landmarks as the sharp peaks of Tatarakina to the west and the Maungaharuru Range across the Mohaka, it was difficult to imagine that anyone could stay lost within 2-3 hours' travel of the logging roads.

There was of course the likelihood that the missing man had moved east or north ahead of the official search, but private parties going in from Tutira, Waikoau, and Glenfalls and Waitere Stations had independently reconnoitred a wide stretch of country on that side without finding any trace of his having moved out of the Mangakara Valley.

The peculiar feature of this search is that it began as almost a contact search run by day parties of experienced bushmen in numbers which increased to nearly 100 by the fifth day when the Mangakara clues were found. When these clues gave no quick solution we were in a disagreeable position. S.A.R. had not been called in but practically all the manpower it could depend on, radio, trampers, deerstalkers, had already become involved and were not quickly available. Had S.A.R. organisation

been called on at this stage it was fairly certain that fresh teams would have had to be called in from outside districts, turning it into practically a class 111 search - which would of course have to be decided on in Wellington. Luckily Hugh Elder, who has had varied experience of search and rescue work in the Wellington district, was just then on his way south and was in a position to explain the situation fully to Bill Bridge, the Mountain Clubs' representative on S.A.R. This resulted in his visit to the district during the second stage of the search, which was in effect a hastily arranged class 11 search in a limited area using such men as were immediately available.

He was able to see for himself where the local organisation had broken down and we can hope that one gain from his visit will be to bring us nearer to Tararua standards for future searches, in common sense even if not in numbers.

The second stage search came on the ninth and tenth days with a sweep of the area towards which the clues (already several days old) pointed; the reconnaissance stage was still proceeding up to the close of the search, the Gisborne parties reaching the Mohaka River on the twelfth day.

"A hundred experienced bushmen" is the old story again on a larger scale than usual. Everyone likes to think of himself as an experienced bushman, but who judges the experience? Are people who can't face a night in the bush experienced, or those who can travel through the bush but can't say where they've been or describe what they've seen?.

The club parties were only a drop in the bucket and didn't make much of a show amongst the assembled talent, but their value was that they had had experience of real or practice searches, knew some of the snags, could carry out instructions, read maps and were able to look after themselves. Few people bother to turn out for a practice search. "It'll be right on the day". Tatara-a-kina was one of the days when it was not right. That all parties got out on the last two nights with the weather shutting down was quite a feat, even if it included a certain amount of luck.

One or two matters particularly affecting the H.T.C. should be mentioned here. As most of you will know, we sent parties in when we were asked but lost touch with them almost completely till the girls went up. We were left with only skeletal search organization and no information. Those members and ex-members who came out early could give information which was urgent and valuable about what was happening. Our thanks are due to those who rang up one or other of the search committee. Another useful thing old members could do in an emergency would be to ring up and put their names on a sort of stand-by list. A case arose after the search had officially finished where Bill Wilkie was worrying about a possible smoke signal. All he wanted was somebody to sit on a spur and give him a line on another spur, but we had no one on hand, and Bill, being Bill, went in alone, which is not according to the book.

In conclusion, the official responsibility for a search rests with the police; our responsibility is no doubt a minor one officially but it is of a different nature. People who go into the ranges have a sense of brotherhood, very like the brotherhood of the sea. The official mind is slow to grasp this, and is always being surprised at what volunteers can do not being hampered by red tape. The label on the tin is not important when there is a real emergency. Mountain Search and Rescue is not a sort of illegitimate extension of Sea Air Rescue. Collaboration between police, the mountain clubs and radio emergency corps had been established for 30 years or so. It may not look much on paper but it works, and if the Police will use it they can rely on loyal support under their unquestioned authority.

N.L.E.

H.T.C. SEARCH PARTIES.

35 members and ex-members of the Club assisted with the search:-

<u>Party (1):</u>	<u>Party (2):</u>	<u>Party (3):-</u> augmenting Party 2 for last day -
Alan Berry	Chris Johnson	Jim Glass
Phil Bayens	Tony Collins	Bob Woon
Peter Lewis	Roy Peacock	Colin Hope
Martin Conway	Len Hodgson	Dempster Thompson
Chris Johnson	Jack van Bavel	Ian Stirling
Bill Morrison	Ian Berry	Phil Bayens
Roy Peacock	Russell Berry	Peter Pattullo
Jim Price	Peter Linnell	Owen Brown
Jim Wilshere	Jim Price	
Tony Collins	Derek Boshier	
Stan Woon	Peter Lewis	Heather McKay ) at
Bob Woon	Alan Berry	Annette Tremewan ) Base.
Ian Stirling		
Peter Pattullo		

Nancy Tanner )	Nancy Tanner ) at
Kath Berry )	Kath Berry ) Base.
Annette Tremewan ) Base.	

Home Base: Norm Elder, Janet Lloyd.

With other parties: Athol Mace, Des Coote, Norrie Johnson.

Helen Hill and Nigel Thompson also helped drawing in ridges on the maps.

---oOo---

S O C I A L N E W S.

Birth: To George and Sue Lowe, Santiago, a son.

Departures: David Evans and Ken Tustin to Forestry School at Rotorua.  
Tony Corbin to Wellington.  
Madge & Bert McConnell to Ireland.  
Jeff Lynn is now at the Reefton Ranger School for National Park Rangers.

Death: It is with deep regret that we record the death of Marge Holt. Marge joined the club in its early days and for some time did all the typing for "Pohokura". She was a keen supporter of Old Members' picnics. We shall miss her cheerful enthusiasm. We extend our sympathy to Les, also to Sally and John.

New Members: We welcome to the club:-  
Winston Oliver (Jr.), Dempster Thompson (Jr.), Alan Culver (Jr.).

New Members for Social Committee:

At a recent meeting of the Executive, Colin Hope and Barbara Butler were appointed to the Social Committee. One vacancy dated from the Annual General Meeting, the other was caused by Tony Corbin's resignation on returning to Wellington.

Anzac Day Poppies:

Please hand your poppies in to Annette. They are used to make the wreath for the Cairn in November.

Sweetcorn:

There were two picking parties, one numbering 11 held prior to the club trip of 19/1/64 as reported, the other numbering 8, held on 26/1/64. Those taking part in the latter were:-

Norm Elder, Christopher Garnett, Jim Glass, Janet Lloyd, Noel Evans, Graeme Evans, Tony Corbin, Nancy Tanner.

Kath Berry and Nancy Tanner also picked some for private orders.

Frost damage resulted in a much smaller crop than usual. The gross takings came to about £40, but this won't do much more than cover expenses.

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Recognition of the Moorcock Junction.

Two parties coming out down the Tukituki from Daphne have had trouble recognising the Moorcock.

Look for a group of pine trees on the true left bank. The river also takes a left hand sweep and runs below a spur that ends in a definite bump. The Moorcock runs from behind this spur.

Read your Route Guide for an estimate of times for your trip. It should be in your pack along with the LATEST "Safety in the Mountains".

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

X OVERDUE TRAMPERS. X

X X

X If a club party at any time becomes overdue, would parents or X

X members please first contact one of the following:- X

X X

X Norman Elder 'phone 77.924 X

X Alan Berry 'phone 77.223 X

X Mrs. Janet Lloyd 'phone 87.666 X

X X

X All Active Trampers - please show this to your parents! X

X X

X X

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

FIXTURE LIST

1964

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Trip:</u>	<u>Leader:</u>	<u>Fare:</u>
May 23-24th	Ohuka Hut from Taraponui via Tutira.	Heather McKay	14/-
May 30- June 1 Queens B'day	Kaweka Hut. ? Working Party.	Russell Berry	10/-
June 7th	Kahuranaki	Noel Evans	7/-
June 20-21st	No-Mans via Grassy Knob Spur, Herricks	Jim Glass	9/-
July 5th	H ukanui via Balls Clearing	Barbara Butler	10/-
July 18-19th	Hinerua Hut, Paemutu. Snowcraft.	Maury Taylor	10/-
August 2nd	Castle Rock, Gold Creek. (Blowhard)	Phil Bayens	9/-
Aug. 15-16th	Howletts, Sawtooth.	Alan Berry	10/-
August 30th	East Face "66" or up "67"	Roy Peacock	10/-
Sept. 12-13th	Hawkston, Don Juan, Lotkow Hut, Gorge Stream.	Peter Lewis	9/-

N.B.: These fares are reducible by 2/- if paid at the meeting before,  
or on the trip.

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