

HEAETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)

"POHOKURA"

BULLETIN No. 110

December, 1968

President:

Mr. P. Bayens, St. George's Road Nth, R.D. 2 Hastings
Phone 84-498

Hon. Secretary:

Mr. G. Griffiths, Box 242, Hastings, Phone 81-325

Hon. Treasurer:

Mrs. M. McConnell, 306 McLean St., Hastings, Phone 69-655

Club Captain:

Mr. G. Thorp, 133 Vigor Brown St., Napier Phone 5260N

ANNUAL REPORT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Once again it is my job to write the President's report, and every year it seems to get harder to write something constructive without repeating what I wrote last time. But when the subject is tramping, it does not give you much choice.

Meetings: These have been very well attended which is a most encouraging sign. At the meetings, we hear the report of the previous trip. As a member of the Club you should endeavour to come out on as many trips as possible so that at the meetings when the leader gives his report, you can retramp the trip in comfort. I personally find the trip reports more interesting when I have been on the trip myself.

While on the subject of meetings, the Social Committee has always managed to produce some sort of surprise for us. You never know what speaker and what subject is going to turn up next. Many thanks and keep it up, Pam.

Behaviour: This is a very touchy subject and everybody has his own standard. Thank goodness the Club has a very high standard, but there has been the odd occasion when youthful exuberance and energy have defeated good sense. Don't forget that you not only drag your own name down, but also that of the Club, and that concerns us all.

Alcohol: Under no circumstances is this allowed on a trip. Any fool can drink, but it takes a wise man to know when to stop.

Club: We will like to put experienced leaders in charge of the trip but leaders have to be trained and that concerns every member of the party. Give the budding leader a chance through your co-operation and useful hints. Being a leader does not mean that you are the chief cook, bottle washer and woodchopper. Last of all the leader has the final say after deliberation with the members of the party.

Working parties: With the loss of Mr. Thompson's land, we had to fall back on fund-raising parties. Two successful ones were held. We badly failed with one track-cutting working party. The track is still there and the scrub keeps on growing, so more work next time.

Truck: There seems to be a steady demand for the truck by the two High School tramping clubs. Bert and Owen must be creating a lot of tramping interest among their pupils which will surely benefit the club in the long run.

Once again I would like to thank the various committees for doing their work so efficiently. It always amazes me the way members turn up at working parties, where without fuss and with much laughter, the job gets done. A classic example is the last working party on the truck.

Membership: This seems to increase slowly:-

1966,	120
1967,	122
1968,	127

P.B.

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

This past year has been a very active one for the Club. We now have a hard core of members who are very keen on rock, snow and ice climbing. Several members have taken part in mountain craft courses on the rock at Titahi Bay and on the snow of Ruapehu. This has led to a large number of private trips into the back country of both islands. The Club has also had more adventurous trips further afield, the most notable being the crossing of the Milford track by a party of twelve. This was the first official Club trip to the South Island for several years and it has acted as a stepping stone for better things to come.

Although most of the trips have been well patronised, there has been a slight drop in the average weekend parties from seventeen to fifteen. The day trips have remained the same as last year at twenty-six. Leaders are becoming a bit of a problem on some of the trips, both due to the relatively low average age of some parties, and also the large numbers in some other parties. On some of the day trips it is just

impossible for one man to keep track of the whole party.

The weather conditions on most of the trips has generally been very good especially for the Howlett's Sawtooth trip which was perfect in every respect. On the other hand, there have been one or two when the weather has been atrocious. On the Christmas trip the party was forced to go out to the Taihape Road in torrential rain with the transport still sitting at the Makaroro river on the opposite side of the Ruahines.

The Club's good accident free record over past years was abruptly broken this year with an unfortunate slip which resulted in an air-lift by helicopter from Dunkirk Hut in the Kaimanawas to Taupo. This accident was then followed by a run of mishaps of a more minor nature on some of the following trips. Fortunately the parties in each case managed to handle the situation quite skilfully, but it serves to remind one that a sound knowledge of first aid is essential in the bush.

As time passes, the number of trips that are spent actually camping in the bush is becoming less and less. The forestry huts certainly make things just that much easier and one tends to forget how much forestry have done building huts and cutting tracks. Our thanks once again to Forestry for the use of their huts and to all the farmers that have given us permission to cross their land and for the help they have given us on various trips.

G. R. T.

TRACK COMMITTEE

Well, another year has passed without too many headaches on the transport side. Maintenance has been kept up to scratch with small Saturday morning working parties which have been held whenever necessary. Peter has spent long hours on the truck and we are all grateful for the work he has done. Repairs that have been carried out by the various working parties include:- the replacement of both cab steps, the refitting of the rear passenger step, overhaul of the starter-motor, the fitting of indicator lights and a light in the canopy, periodic brake adjustments, cleaning and repairing the fuel system.

The major expenses incurred were due to the replacement of one of the tyres, the canvas cover for the passengers, the battery, and several items that are now required by the Transport Department. Fortunately we managed to obtain an exemption from passenger seating which is now required for most vehicles.

Notably the maintenance costs are fairly reasonable considering the amount of use the truck gets nowadays. School Tramping Clubs are now making more frequent and longer trips (including a one week trip to Puapehu) and consequently there are not many weekends when the truck is idle.

G.R.T.

HUT, TRACK & FIXTURE

Fixture: It has been our endeavour to provide a selection of trips that will suit everybody. Some easy, some hard, although quite often one that was meant to be easy, turns out hard. We have had the usual picnic trips such as the lilo and marathon which again drew the largest numbers over the whole year. Just on sixty on the marathon and forty odd on the lilo. It is good to see the yearly trips to the South Island starting again, thanks to Pam's organising.

Hut's: Since our efforts in 1967, building Waikamaka, there hasn't been any work carried out on our huts, but next month we hope to finish painting Waikamaka and then that hut should be good for a few years. Apart from paint and the need to make it opossum proof. Kiwi is in good shape. We were going to have a trip into Kaweka Hut to tidy that up, but it got changed to an apple picking party, so that will have to be done shortly. I think it is a good thing to put in a few hours' work a year on our huts and not wait until we have a major job on our hands.

Tracks: A day's work on Kaweka track should put that right and I think it wouldn't be a bad idea to keep our hand in at track discing and have a look at Colenso Track as I understand that is hard to follow on the way down.

J.G.

CLUB ALBUM

With the photo competition coming up and with the keen photographic processors we now have in the Club, things are looking up for the Club album, after a number of lean years when everybody seemed to be taking colour slides. I would like to thank donors of photos and slides, and look forward to more in the coming year.

J.G.

GEAR CUSTODIAN'S REPORT

There does not seem to be much pressure in gear hire these days though the number of hirings and monetary return therefrom remains fairly static. Tents do not get much use and many members have their own which they use in preference.

The spike was broken off one iceaxe, the sole gear casualty for the year.

Hirings and hire fees were:-

Ice-axes (10 hirings)	5.20
Packs (23 hirings)	6.95
Parkas (9 hirings)	2.05
Sleeping bag covers (2 hirings)	.45
Boots (9 hirings)	1.90
Billy (1 hiring)	.25
Rope (1 hiring)	.50
	<u>\$17.30</u>
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I should be grateful for reports of any gear in need of repair. Thank you to those who returned gear in good order after use.

N.T.

LIBRARY

Very little interest has been shown in the library for the greater part of the year. However, following a short talk one evening and a showing of a few of the books, several have been taken out.

Several years' copies of "Pohokura" have been bound.

The instructors of the Mountain Craft Courses recommenced a couple of books to be read by those attending their courses. One of these books, "On Snow and Rock", was purchased and another "Mountaineering the Freedom of the Hills" was ordered.

K.B.

"POHOKURA"

Thanks to our contributors, typistes and stapling parties, the usual three copies of "Pohokura" have been produced this year. Increased membership makes the publishing rather strenuous but so far we have coped.

J.L.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Socially, the Club has enjoyed another happy year and we are indebted to the many who have so ably contributed to the success of our evenings. The Guy Fawkes barbecue and Xmas party proved popular social events and entertainment on Club nights has included talks and slides by guest speakers on such subjects as Poor Knights' Islands, Rotary Exchange

Students' experiences, the work of the D.S.I.R., South African Safari, Rocks, the work involved in Prison administration, S.P.C.A. Samoa and coral, Japanese travel, Orchid growing, the history of the H.T.C. and the Hokanui Tramping Club's activities. Our members have contributed with private trip reports and have shown their slides at regular intervals. Two films have been shown on rock-climbing and bushcraft.

This year has seen the introduction of three new ventures which should prove beneficial. A six monthly photographic competition is now being run with a silver cup being awarded for the best entry. The Club has been approved for membership to the National Film Library and with negotiations under way for the regular use of a projector we can anticipate seeing more good films next year. The third venture has been the introduction of 10 minute talks by members. These have not only proved educational and humorous, but have been of help to our newer members and have included such aspects as packs, boots, clothing, sleeping bags, map and compass, first aid, alpine equipment, tents conduct and party responsibilities, food and the use and care of Club property and huts. We particularly thank members who have willingly given these talks and so made the meetings more interesting and constructive for others.

The continuous good attendance at Club evenings is most gratifying for us and makes the "behind scenes work" of our committee so much more worthwhile. We realize that every evening cannot suit everybody and so we endeavour to run varied programmes for you. We are always ready for suggestions from you for speakers and talk subjects.

Finally, I would like to extend sincere thanks to the committee members for their help and support throughout the year.

P.M.L.

SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

This has been a rather more active year than usual with one search, three alerts and one domestic rescue.

The search was for a hunter overdue in the Toropapa stream area of the Ahimanawas. This was a case of appalling disregard for even the most basic rules of bushcraft and the chap concerned was fortunate to be found before coming to much harm.

The most serious of the alerts concerned was a party of "Junior Bushmen" overdue on a trip to Waikamaka. We are still a bit mystified as to the circumstances surrounding

this episode but suffice to say that the missing party turned up half an hour before our reconnaissance teams reached the roadhead at Wakarara. On another occasion, a hunter misjudged the difficulty of a creek near the confluence of the Ngaruroro and the Taruarau and turned up the next morning instead of the night before. Several boys were overdue in the Donald river but were located without the Club's being called in.

The search season finished with a flourish with a rather more than usually exciting trial search in the Mackintosh area of the Kawekas. The search teams tracked down the "missing" party without too much difficulty but an unexpected complication arose in the form of a cold front that dumped four inches of snow on the search area during Saturday night. The "rescue" phase of the exercise was abandoned and all efforts concentrated on an orderly withdrawal from the scene of operations.

More people are using the ranges for recreational purposes every year and in conjunction with a long term campaign to educate the public in the safe use of the mountains, a Hawke's Bay Mountain Safety Committee has been formed. The Club is represented on this committee.

A. V. B.

PUBLICITY

Reports of most trips have been published in the local press but there has been little other activity on publicity. May I again ask trip leaders to ensure that reports are phoned to one of the publicity sub-committee on the Sunday night or early on Monday morning.

A. V. B.

AUDITOR'S 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 & 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 1968, and of the results of its activities for the year ended on that date.

Hastings, 22nd October 1968

Catherine Stirling A.P.A.N.Z.
Hon. Auditor.

ANNUAL MEETING

At the Annual General Meeting held on October 30th 1968 the following officers were elected:-

Patron: Dr. D.A. Bathgate
President: Mr. P. Bayens
Vice-Presidents: Miss. N. Tanner, Messrs. A.V. Berry and G. Thorp
Club Captain: Mr. G. Thorp
Secretary: Mr. G. Griffiths
Treasurer: Mrs. M. McConnell
Auditor: Miss C. Stirling

Executive Committee:

Kath Berry, Pam Lewis, Peter Lewis, Bertie McConnell, Russell Millington, Maury Taylor, Brian Turner

Social Committee:

Sue Adcock, Pam Lewis, Trevor Baldwin, Warren Greer, Russell Millington, Alan Thurston.

Sub-Committees:

At a subsequent meeting of the Executive Committee the following sub-committees were appointed:-

Fixture Hut & Track:

Graham Thorp, Peter Lewis, Russell Millington, Brian Turner,

Search:

Alan Berry, Maury Taylor, Phil Bayens, Graham Thorp, Graham Griffiths.

Truck: Graham Griffiths, Russell Millington

Editor: Janet Lloyd

Publicity: Alan Berry, Bert McConnell

Gear Custodian: Nancy Tanner

Photo Album: Russell Millington

Librarian and

Scrap Album: Kath Berry.

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC) INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1968.

<u>1967</u>	<u>INCOME:</u>	The Club's Income comprised -	
159	Subscriptions	191.57	
17	Equipment Hire	17.30	
50	Meeting Contributions	64.24	
3	Donations	-	
115	Net Proceeds Cropping & Working Parties	123.97	
47	Interest	60.17	
-	Profit on Maps	25.36	
-	Library Fees	.75	
10	S.A.R. Administration Grant	10.00	
73	Surplus on Transport	28.60	
<u>474</u>			<u>521.96</u>

	<u>EXPENDITURE:</u>	The Expenses incurred in running the Club were:	
66	Rent of Meeting Room	69.10	
9	Advertising	3.00	
6	Supper & Social Expenses	15.50	
7	Equipment Maintenance	21.27	
55	Bulletin Expenses	65.53	
6	Subscriptions: Royal Society, Alpine Club etc.	6.50	
14	F.M.C. Capitation	14.40	
3	Insurance	3.02	
2	Stationery	19.67	
-	Books Purchased for Library	6.55	
4	Petty Cash & General Expenses	18.09	
	Transport Costs	491.78	
	Truck Depreciation	80.00	
		<u>571.78</u>	
	Loss Fares Received	600.38	
		<u>28.60</u>	

172 242.63

<u>\$302</u>	There was therefore a surplus of Income over Expenditure of -	<u><u>\$279.33</u></u>
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10.
HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC) BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1968.

<u>1967</u>	At Balance date the Club owned the following Assets:	
1187	Bank of New South Wales	1369.05
733	Post Office Savings Bank	834.86
-	Account owing for Maps	4.00
97	Equipment	96.60
10	Cash on Hand	1.40
96	Stocks	160.17
	Bedford Truck at Cost	921.71
	Less Depreciation to date	800.00
202		<u>121.71</u>
	Huts valued in the books as follows -	
	Kawoka	10.00
	Kiwi	50.00
	Waikamaka	<u>54.79</u>
114		114.79
50	Projector	<u>50.00</u>
<u>2489</u>	The total value of the Assets being	2752.58
	However, of this amount there has been set aside for -	
70	Rounion Funds	69.38
24	Search Fund	23.94
36	Maintenance of Rescue Kits	36.26
89	Hut Maintenance	88.63
7	Subscriptions received in Advance	3.00
11	Accounts owing amounted to	<u>- -</u>
237		<u>221.21</u>
<u>2252</u>		<u>2531.37</u>
	This figure represents the Balance in Accumulated Funds which is made up as follows:-	
	Balance 1st October, 1967	2252.04
	Plus Surplus Income over Expenditure for year	<u>279.33</u>
		<u>\$2531.37</u>

Results of Photographic Competition

October 1968

We are indebted to Mr. Baldwin for performing the unenviable task of judging our first photographic competition. His suggestions were most helpful and we hope to see more entries in the next competition, to be judged about April next year. By then we will have a few more rules to make judging a little easier.

The standard of entries was considered very high, and 27 slides were entered in the colour section. Monochrome entries were small, only 10, and unfortunately unnamed, but pride of place in this division must go to Alan Berry. We congratulate Brenda for being the first to receive the silver cup, and we thank contributors for their support.

Placings:-

Slides: 1st - Brenda Butcher - "Heaphy Track".
 2nd - Peter Lewis - "Smith's Creek Hut".
 3rd - Russell Millington - "Snow and Rock".
 v.h.c. - Margaret Culloty - "Waikaremoana".
 " - Pam Lewis - "Mt. Cook and Hooker Valley".

Monochrome: - Alan Berry.

P.M.L.

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Truck Working Party

It was very pleasing to have such a good muster out for a working party on the truck, especially since it was held on the same Saturday as the Blossom Parade. As usual there were lots of small jobs to do and most of the bods were kept busy throughout the morning. Peter found plenty to do on the wiring and worked right through to 7.00pm.

Some of the work carried out included repairing part of the deck and the rear step which had broken off in an argument with a small bridge that wouldn't take the truck's weight. At the same time the spare tyre carrier was somewhat distorted but a few very long crow bars made short work of that and once again we can put the spare tyre under the truck. The starter motor was overhauled, and the brakes were adjusted, and a small seat was placed in between the passengers' and driver's seat.

Unfortunately rain dampened things a little during the morning but this didn't slow up work, and everyone was pleased to partake of morning tea which was provided by Els and Pam.

G.R.T.

Party consisted of:-

Warren Greer, Owen Brown, Alan Thurston, Jim Glass, Pam Lewis, Brian Mote, Russell Millington, Phil and Els Bayens, Peter Lewis, Graham Griffiths and Graham Thorp.

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GUY FAWKE'S BARBECUE

5th November 1968

We were most fortunate in being allowed the use of Mr. Yule's property in Ormond Road for the Guy Fawkes Barbecue this year. This proved a perfect site with grass sloping down to the river and a full moon rising over the willows across the water. The night was calm and mild and 64 bods from 2 years upwards assembled to enjoy the crackers and sizzled sausages round a mighty bonfire. Those with children had to leave early but others stayed on to enjoy a sing-song and brew round the dying embers.

A few high spirited pranks led to yelps for help with the odd burn and shattered nerves. A major casualty was narrowly averted when a cracker exploded in one girl's face, causing burns severe enough to require medical attention later - reminding us how necessary it is to take adequate care, particularly when the children join in with us.

Thanks to all for taking such good care with rubbish, which made cleaning up next day so very much quicker and easier for us.

P.M.L.

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SOCIAL NEWS

Engagements: Elizabeth Buchanan to Rynne Tanton.

Alan Culver to Maureen Boyd.

Bereavement: Our sympathy to Rosemary Greenwood in the loss of her father.

Honour Awarded: Norm Elder has been made an Honorary Life Member of the Hawkes Bay Branch of the Royal Society.

NEW MEMBERS We welcome the following to the Club:-

Trevor Taylor, Sandra Smith, Susan Greer, David White, Kay Johnstone, Judith Mercer (Hokanui T.C.), Pat Roberts, Lance Pell, Jane Harmer (Jr.), Alan Morton, Peter O'Kane (Jr.), Chris O'Kane (Jr.).

XXX

X
y

OVERDUE TRAMPERS

X
y

X IF a Club Party at any time becomes overdue, would parents X
X or members please first contact one of the following:- X

X	Alan Berry	'phone	77.223	X
X				
X	Maury Taylor	"	HMN.829	X
X				
X	Janet Lloyd	"	87.666	X

X All active trampers - Please show this to your parents. X

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13.
CLUB TRIPS.

No. 864

SAWTOOTH TRIP.

Aug. 10- 11th

Thirteen of us arrived in warm sunshine at Farm Mill on the Saturday morning and proceeded to arouse Pete who had spent the night there in the Kombi.

We decided to keep our feet dry as long as possible and headed overland eventually descending into the Tuki about two thirds of the way into Daphne. I still don't recommend this route except in time of flood since it involves at least 1200' of needless ascent and descent and is definitely slower than the river route.

Daphne Hut and lunch about 12.30 in bright sunshine - after we had cleared the possum mess out of the hut and washed the floor. Lunch was a lingering affair and it was 2.30 before we headed up the spur to Howlett's. Fit types arrived around 4.30 to clean up after yet another possum invasion - the others straggled in until around 5.15.

The hardy annuals pitched tents on snow-free patches while the others settled down in the disinfected hut. Bed followed promptly after tea since we planned a 4am rise to make the maximum use of daylight. The weather had been a bit threatening on the Saturday evening but Sunday dawned fine as we left the hut at 6.10am and headed for Tiraha. A full moon bathed our left or Western side while the rising sun reddened our right. It was a memorable sight.

Eight of us roped up in pairs and cramponned to the summit of Tiraha by 8.20. Only the thought of what lay ahead spurred us on. The temptation to linger in the warm morning sunlight and savour the view was indeed great. The others spent the morning in the sun and snow and went out down the Tuki from Howlett's.

The Sawtooth proved interesting with the Eastern slopes heavily snowed under and quite icy in the shade while much of the Western side was bare rock of the crumbling greywacke variety.

After several breathers and stops for photos, we reached Ohuinga at 12.20. By this time we had removed crampons and ropes but realising that the most technical part of the climb lay ahead, the descent from Ohuinga, we put on the ropes again but not the crampons. This decision of mine undoubtedly delayed the descent and reduced the safety factor. This combined with

the controlled self-arrest was a real "brain storm". It is rather frightening to realise how easy it is to make faulty decisions even in good conditions.

However, the Gods were on our side and by 3.30 we were having a belated lunch beside a little tarn on Black Ridge. The descent via Black Ridge and Rosvalls then out along the Tuki was a race against the setting sun and we made it in twilight to the truck at 6.40pm.

A 12½ hour trip in perfect winter conditions as regards to snow and weather by a well equipped and fit party. You can see why unscheduled nights out are not unknown on this winter trip./

No. in Party, 14.

Leader: Bert McConnell.

Sawtooth: Bert McConnell, Pam Lewis, Bruce Lusher, David Whyte, Russell Millington, Trevor Baldwin, Warren Greer, Brian Smith.

Howlett's Party: Peter Lewis, Graham Thorpe, Brian Mote, Elizabeth Pindar, Kay Johnstone, Jane Harmer.

No. 865

WORKING PARTY.

Aug; 25th 1968

A party of thirty-five assembled at the roadhead for the track-cutting trip into Kaweka Hut. A few hearty souls did some track-cutting and as there were not enough tools to go round, the rest of the party went on to the hut and got the billy boiling and had lunch while the others caught up. After lunch the party split up into three. Some went climbing, some went for a walk to the snowline while the rest stayed at the hut. Soon after 2.30 we left on the return trip which was a pleasant stroll back with many rests. The full party had returned by 5.30. Three bods had started out for Kiwi Saddle Hut with mattresses but were unsuccessful because of ice on the tops. They arrived back at the truck before the main party. We arrived in Hastings at 8.30. A jolly good day was spent by all.

Leader: Warren Greer.

Party: Roy Swain, Brian Turner, Graeme Coutts, David White, Peter Lewis, Alan Thurston, Gerald Edmonds, Brian Mote, Graham Griffiths, Graham Thorpe, Brian Germain, Noel Evans, David Schutz, Toby Easton, Russell Millington. Madge McConnell, Bert McConnell, Margaret Turner, Jackie Smith, Norah Hobcroft, Elizabeth Pindar, Pam Lewis +3, Jane Harmer, Susan Greer, Christine Carding, Alan Mortcn, Gerald Minogue, Sue Taylor, Margaret Buchanan, Jim Wilshire, Bruce Lusher.

It was 8.30am when the party of thirteen left the truck and headed in towards Castle Rock Bivy. The track which takes off about two miles before Swamp Cottage is a wide bulldozed one and follows parallel to the Kaweka Hut track, until Castle Rock Bivy is reached after about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours. After leaving the Bivy, the track continues for about 200 yards when it is bisected almost at right angles. The track to the left goes directly out to the Kaweka Track, while the one to the right takes a somewhat devious route eventually arriving at Lawrence Hut. However, we continued straight ahead until after about 200 yards the track terminated with a large vehicle turning area. Here we had a little difficulty in finding where the track started again, but after a little scouting around we found it well over to the right of the turning area. From this point on, the track to Mackintosh is not shown on the map as it has only recently been completed. The drop down to the Tutaekuri is some 800 feet and the track is an excellent one with much hard work gone into its making. At the bottom, the river is crossed by a single-wire bridge, and once we were up the other side it was fairly plain sailing up to Mackintosh Hut which we reached at 2pm. As it was only mid afternoon by the time we'd had lunch, the party split up for the remainder of the day with various groups visiting local places of interest. Two of the boys reached Studholme's Saddle, some went along the track to Makahu Hut via Matauria Ridge, others wandered over to Mackintosh Spur from where we had superb views of the Kaweka Tops and Donald River, while the rest went looking for a large sinkhole in the vicinity of the hut. The exact whereabouts of the sinkhole are described in the hut's log, and it is said to contain quite a sizeable colony of large Wetas. However, despite an intensive search of the area, we never found anything that even looked like a weta stronghold. Maybe the wetas were lucky we didn't find their hideout, or maybe we were lucky.

Sunday morning saw us away from the hut at 9am. As the weather was clear and sunny, good views were obtained as we progressed along Matauria Ridge. Down the end of the ridge and into the Donald, then into the Tutaekuri, and after only a matter of minutes downstream we were at Lawrence at 1pm. After lunch on the riverbank beneath the swingbridge, we headed back to the road via Black Hut and Lowry Lodge with the exception of three boys who went via Castle Rock Bivy. On arriving at Lowry Lodge we had a boil-up and kept a brew waiting for when the other three arrived from Castle Rock. They arrived after we had been there for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours, but were too weary and tired to think about eating, their one thought was to get home. With a rather hurried exit from Lowry Lodge, we were packed up and away by 6pm, arriving home at 7-30pm.

No. in Party 13.

16.

Leader: Brian Turner.

Tony Rule, Peter Lewis, Alan Thurston, Trevor Taylor, Owen Brown, Graham Thorn, Raymond Cook, Brian Mote, Martin du Fresne, Elizabeth Pindar, Sandra Smith, Glenys Richdale.

No. 867.

TRIG K - CENTRAL MAKARORO HUT.

22nd Sept; 1968

With the truck full of trampers, we arrived at Wakarara Mill at 8.15. Away at 8.45 and crossed the bridge to follow the old road to Ellis's Hut. The track to Trig K soon leaves this old road. It is well marked and cut all the way. Most of the party turned off just short of the trig, down another well marked track and dropped steeply down to the river to cross on a swing bridge to the hut. Five fitter members continued on along the ridge before dropping into the river. They continued up the Makaroro River to the Gorge at the foot of Tupari but found the river at this point too deep to negotiate without getting wet so turned around and came down to Central Makaroro Hut. Here they caught up with the tail end of the other party. From here it was a pleasant stroll back to the track. Left for home at 6.15pm.

No. in Party, 25.

Leader: Kath Berry.

Peter Lewis, Brian Turner, Roy Swain, Raymond Cook, Jim Glass, Alan Thurston, Trevor Taylor, Alan Morton, Graham Thorp, Brian Mote, Russell Millington, Neroli Wilton, Dorothy Bowman, Judith Mercer, Glenys Richdale, Pam Lewis, Sandra Smith, Robin Heath, Brenda Butcher, Margaret Fothergill, Helen Schmack, Lorraine Telfer, Lois Lindsay, Clare Wetherall.

No. 868.

"OPERATION MACKINTOSH"

Oct; 5-6th 1968

PLOT. A party of 12 high school children accompanied by an experienced teacher entered the country to the east of the main Kaweka Divide at Blowhard Bush on Thursday for a two day botany and geology study expedition. They were due out at Baldy, beyond Puketitiri, at 5pm on Friday. Nothing had been heard from the party at 11pm and arrangements were accordingly made to send Reconnaissance teams into the area at first light on Saturday.

FIELD SEARCH CONTROLLER'S LOG (ABBREVIATED)

- 6.30am. Personnel from the Napier/Hastings area assembled at the Hastings Police Station for allocation of assignments, instruction in the use of the TR3 radios and general briefing.
- 7.15am. Teams 1, 2, and 3 left for Puketitiri, team 4 plus the base establishment leaving for the site of the field headquarters, to be set up in a roadman's cottage on the Blowhard.
- 9.20am. Three teams in the field at the Blowhard end, 1 team coming from Hastings and the other 2 coming from Central Hawke's Bay and Southern Hawke's Bay respectively.
- 9.40am. A report from the leader of team 3 indicated that the 3 northern teams had now moved into the search area.
- 9.45am. A note in Lowry Lodge confirmed that the missing party had passed through on Thursday morning.
- 10.23am. Team 4 reported from Lawrence Hut that a message in the log stated that the missing party had passed through and were heading for Mackintosh Hut.
- 11.40am. Team 5 reported from Lawrence Hut that one of their number had aggravated an injured knee. A relief team was despatched to bring this man out to the roadhead.
- 12.00. All teams had reported during the morning and had been instructed to proceed with various assignments, the three northern teams moving South towards the Donald River area and the three southern teams moving into the Tutaekuri River and on to the Mackintosh Plateau.
- 12.42pm. Team 6 reported from Mackintosh Hut that a log entry indicated that the missing party had arrived from Lawrence at 4pm. on the Thursday and had left at 9am. on Friday for Makahu Hut "after detour to fault line".
- 12.50pm. All teams were brought up to date and allocated fresh assignments in the light of the information now available.
- 1.45pm. Three members of the missing party turned up at Mackintosh Hut, where they met team 6, reporting that the party leader had met with an accident in one of the tributaries of the Donald River, near the fault line. They reported that the leader had sustained head and leg injuries. Further, three other members of the party had also left to summon aid but it was not known in what direction they had headed. Team 6 was directed to the map reference of the accident and the other teams in the vicinity directed likewise as they made contact.
- One team was allocated the task of finding a suitable helicopter landing site in the vicinity of the accident and another given the task of following up any information available on the three boys who had left the main party to get help. Three teams found themselves well to the east of the scene of most activity and were directed towards the Mackintosh Hut and the upper Donald River by various routes.

4.33pm. Team 6 reported that they had located 7 more of the party (leaving only 3 not accounted for) at a reference p approximately 500 yards from that originally given. A St John Ambulance officer with the team rendered first aid and reported the injuries as "concussion, fractured Knee-cap and suspected fractured ribs".

The Police or field search controller must be able to rely on the various organisations approached for man-power to turn out teams adequately equipped to spend several days in the hills, taking the weather as they find it. Those searchers who went out on this exercise without adequate clothing, gloves, tents etc., could not have proceeded with their assignments had they been required to do so on the Sunday in adverse weather conditions and would have become a burden upon the organisation. Some members of the "missing" party also appeared to be inadequately clothed and it is apparent that the local Mountain Safety Committee has plenty of scope for education in this respect.

A.V.B.

No. of H.T.C., 15.

Pam Lewis, Bert McConnell, Tony Rule, Trevor Baldwin, Graham Thorp, Peter Lewis, David White, David Hall, Warren Greer, Alan Thurston, Alan Morton, Russell Millington, Brian Mote, Maury Taylor
Alan Berry.

No. 869.

THREE JOHNS - MIDDLE CREEK.

Oct; 20th 1968.

A fairly large party of 28 left Holt's at 0630, collected petrol at 0650, and headed off to the "Old Homestead" via Tikokino and Wakarara - north block road. We started tramping at 0915. Most of us left our dry socks off until we had crossed the Waipawa River. It is a fairly stiff climb up the ridge towards Three Johns. The track is a little rough and badly marked for the first mile or so but improves later. Six fit members led by Graham Thorp went up Middle Creek route. The Weather was good with periods of hot sun-shine but there was a very cold wind on the tops. We arrived below the last climb to the tops at a time suitable for lunch and decided to eat there to obtain the benefit of the shelter. Water wasn't available so we used snow of which there was plenty - up to 3ft deep in places. The water took a long time to boil and did not need tea leaves for colour/ While we were waiting, a squall came up and it looked as if we would have to leave quickly but the weather improved so we battled on to the top of the Three Johns in very good timing as the other six with Graham Thorp could be seen coming up the ridge from Middle Creek. We waited on the tops for about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour. There was a

(We regret that the following was inadvertently omitted from "Operation MacKintosh" in Bulletin No. 110/ It follows on after the paragraph headed "4.33 p.m." on page 18. Ed.)

5.00 p.m. By this time three teams were in the immediate vicinity of the accident site and were instructed to make camp. The remaining three teams were instructed to make camp at various points in the Donald River and on the Mackintosh Plateau.

During the night 5/6 October a cold front passed over at about 11 p.m. and snow fell heavily in the search area. At the search headquarters (2000 ft.) there was approximately 2" of snow and in the area in which the higher teams were camped, the fresh snow was approximately 6" and more deep by morning. Snow was still falling steadily at dawn, but fortunately there was little or no wind.

Sunday 6th October.

7.00 a.m. All teams were contacted. These camped in snow at approximately 3000 ft. all reported fit after a good night, despite the conditions. One team had made its way back to Lawrence Hut while the remaining two had spent a wet and uncomfortable night in the bed of the Donald River. In view of the possibilities that the wind would rise and conditions become severe at the higher altitudes, the rescue phase ~~was~~ of the exercise was abandoned and attention given to effecting an orderly withdrawal from the search area.

9.10 a.m. ~~Three of the original 13 member party had not yet been located.~~ Four teams plus ten of the missing party reached Mackintosh Hut and reported a log entry dated the previous day (Saturday) at 6 p.m., which indicated that the three still unaccounted for had headed out towards the roadhead at the Castle Rocks bivvy.

Transport proved a problem as there was heavy snow on the track in to the Castle Rocks bivvy. After considerable difficulty a Land-rover got through the initial sticky patch on this track and was able to ferry teams back to the main road as they came out of the search area.

12.45 p.m. The first arrivals back at base brought news that the three boys that had previously been not accounted for had been picked up by one of the teams near the Tutaekuri River.

The various search teams and the "missing party" had all withdrawn from the search area and returned to base by 2.10 p.m. Transport had been arranged, and after a hot meal the personnel were returned to Napier and Hastings.

OBSERVATIONS. The exercise proceeded smoothly on the Saturday, communications being excellent and everything going more or less according to plan. The teams covered a good deal of ground very rapidly, and in fact caught up with the first team of boys heading for help rather earlier than had been anticipated.

The sudden change in weather conditions added an extra touch of realism to the exercise, making it desirable to withdraw the search teams as quickly as possible in case the weather should take a further turn for the worse. The transport arrangements became a bit disorganised, but were eventually sorted out, and the transport function was performed satisfactorily.

The real eye-opener of the exercise was to find out just how inadequately equipped some of the search personnel were. Quite a number did not appear to have a change of clothes, and had made no preparation for cold conditions. Some even scorned tents - at least until it started to rain, when those who had tents found their shelter much sought after.

very cold icy wind, but a good open view of the country. We then all left together to descend via a series of rather inadequate shingle slides into the Waipawa River with not too much water in it, but signs of enormous land slips and erosion damage over this winter.

The party was strung out but we had a uneventful river tramp back to the truck, leaving at 7.15 and arriving in Hastings at 8.40pm.

No. in Party 28.

Leader: Roy Swain

Peter Lewis, Brian Turner, Robin Weterening, Graeme Coutts, Terry Minogue, Stephen Lungley, Alan Thurston, Neil Pulford, David White, Colin Flood, Jeffrey Richard, Warren Greer, Glenys McGavin, Elizabeth Pindar, Sue Greer, Alan Morton, Brian Mote, Graham Thorp, Margot Cook, Pam MacLaurin, Joanna Willis, Kay Johnstone, John Furminger, Micheal Brennan, Tim Kearney, Dale Prebble, Russell Millington.

No. 870.

LAKE WAIKAREITI - MANUOHA -
CASCADE FALLS.

Oct 26-28th 1968

At approximately 8.00pm., nine of us left Napier and arrived at Aniwanuiwa at 11.30pm. after an enjoyable trip. Not long after it started raining.

The next morning Trevor and Russell arrived, having spent most of the night at one of the bays back down the road. After breakfast they took the Kombi around to Cascade falls.

When they returned at about 8.00 we, eleven of us, set off for Waikareiti in overcast conditions. When we got to Lake Waikareiti, it started raining and blowing so we took refuge in a shelter hut while we had something to eat. From there, in teaming rain, it took us about four hours to reach Waikareiti Hut. Although our plans had been to camp on the Tundra, we decided to stay at Waikareiti for the night.

Sunday 27th dawned fine and clear. We were on our way by 7.30. As Trevor Baldwin, Russell Millington and Brian Mote had decided to stay behind, the party numbered eight.

On our way to Pukepuke we passed several beautiful lagoons and at the foot of Pukepuke is the silted lake bed at which point the track ended. From there on we had to rely on our own navigation. After some near wrong turns and some good co-operative navigation, we arrived at Pukepuke at 10.30. As we neared the top of Pukepuke the undergrowth thinned considerably

and made the going much quicker.

Going by the map, it looked as though it would take us $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours to reach the saddle to Manuoha, but having no undergrowth to contend with, one hour later we found we had overshot the saddle by some distance. At 1.30 we were back on the right ridge. After some more co-operative navigation, we found ourselves on a cut track. The weather had by this time deteriorated again and after one hour, we arrived at Manuoha Hut.

With three bunks for eight people, two keen beds pitched a tent and Peter slept under his bit of plastic for the night. During the night it rain and hailed.

Next day dawned clear but with a very cold wind. After a short tramp we found ourselves at Cascade Falls and then at the road. After a bit of sunbathing we headed for home.

With a few minor stops, we arrived home at 8.00.

No. in Party 11.

Leader: Graham Griffiths

Elizabeth Pindar, Sue Greer, David White, Warren Greer, Lance Pell, Peter Lewis, Neil Pulfor, Brian Mote, Russell Millington, Trevor Baldwin.

No. 871.

CAIRN TRIP.

NOV; 2-3rd 1968

This is becoming more of a family outing than in previous years. With the road metalled over Littles Clearing up to the Bush line, it is now an easy and very pleasant fifty minutes walk through the bush to Makahu Saddle Hut. After a cup of tea here, you can start the climb up Makahu Spur to the Cairn or stay back at the Hut and admire the scenery.

For a change, the weather was beautiful. Brilliant sunshine and no wind. Most of us left the Makahu Hut at 8pm and had a slow leisurely trip up the spur where we met up with Pam's party who had spent the night on top of the spur. Here we had a long laze in the sun. The snow flew freely down members' backs. It is rather cold when you are sunbathing and suddenly a slump of snow lands not too gently on your back. Then up to the Cairn where we waited for five more members we saw coming up the ridge.

In the meantime we made the Cairn look like a Cairn again instead of a rather sagging heap of rocks. At 11.15am we held a short service in memory of the club members fallen during the War.

Five went back to the Hut via Kaweka J, the remainder the normal way. Thirty three members took part in the service at the Cairn. The youngest was 8 and the oldest, a question mark. Back at the Hut five more members had arrived but due to their off-spring, could not make it to the Cairn. The youngest at the Hut was ten months old. All told, there were forty-four members at Makahu. As usual on the Cairn trip, members arrived at the Hut at all hours of the day and night.

We left the Hut at 2pm. and got home at a reasonable hour, approx 6pm. All in all, a most enjoyable trip.

No. in Party, 44.

Leader: P. Bayens.

Alan Thurston, Raymond Cook, David White, Lance Pell, Warren Greer, Brian Turner, Adrian Turner, Gavin Sharp, Russell Millington, Trevor Baldwin, Maury Taylor, Babara Taylor, Trevor, Susan, and Robin Taylor, Peter Frener, Clyde Nicholls, Pam Lewis, Elizabeth Pindar. (Saturday Morning)

Saturday Afternoon. Phil Bayens (Sr), Jim Glass, Phil Bayens (Jr), Susan Glass, Helen Hill, Peter and Chris O'kane, Christine Carding, Sue Adcock, Kath Berry.

Sunday. Bert, Madge and Lara McConnell, Peter Lewis, Tony Rule, Graham Thorp, Jackie Smith, Dorothy Bowman, Judith Mercer, Margaret Turner, Ken Zambra, Brian Mote.

No. 872.

WAIKAMAKA WORKING PARTY.

Nov: 17th 1968.

Thirteen trappers left Holt's at 5.15am with a clear day over-head, but when we arrived at the end of the North Block Rd just after 7.00am. it was cloudy with a strong wind blowing.

The hike up the Waipawa was easy until we neared the shingle slide from the Three Johns where we encountered a very strong and gusty wind coming over the Waipawa Saddle. As we started climbing up the saddle the wind wasn't so bad, but when we hit the top and for about 100yds down the Waikamaka side the wind was a fearful torrent. Once down, the going was easy again and we arrived at the Hut at 10.30am to find the Saturday Party working on the path from the river to the hut and cutting the overhanging iron around the roof. We had a brew up and then got down to work. The painting of the hut was called off because the weather didn't look too good, even so, there was plenty to do to the grounds around the hut.

Most worked on the paths down to the river and around the hut while others nailed down the iron on one side of the hut and

and covered the hole where the opossums were getting in. The drains around the hut were cleaned and the wood was moved from the shelter so that the ground could be built up higher inside, like the path between the hut and the small bridge. While this was being done, a chain was formed in two stages to bring up stones from the river for the sides of the top path and inside the shelter. By the time this job was completed, some were becoming rather hungry, the time being 2pm, so we had a brew and some eats. After this the wood was cut and stacked back in the shelter high and dry and the top path received a coat of shingle.

With all the main jobs finished, the Sunday party left for the truck about 2.45pm leaving two members with the Saturday party that stayed behind to do the odd bits and pieces around the hut.

The hike out was easy and the wind had died down altogether. With the last person arriving at the truck at 4.50pm. we left for home ten minutes later and reached Holt's at 6.40pm.

No. in Party 13.

Leader: David White

Elizabeth Pindar, Jackie Smith, Sandra Smith, Noel Evans, Jerry Minogue, Peter and Chris O'Kane, Lance Pell, Tony Rule, Graham Thorp, Robert Weterings, Alan Berry.

CHRISTMAS PARTY BARBECUE

This year the Xmas party will be held on Mr. Yule's riverbank property at the end of Ormond Road, (Oak Avenue), Twyford.

Directions: Proceed along Oak Avenue beyond tarseal, over small white concrete bridge, through two gates, thence along farm road, through willow trees and over river embankment, where ample parking is available. We must be careful not to disturb stock, to leave gates as found, and to keep the place tidy. We are very privileged to be allowed the use of this area again.

Transport: Will leave from Holt's at 6.45pm. Camping overnight on the river bank is permissible. An early start on the spot will enable us to get the area tidied up before leaving for the Marathon!

Programme: Is varied - with some surprises!

What to Wear: Old clothes - bring some spares.

What to Bring: A mug (no glasses, as stock cannot digest broken glass)!

A plate please, and/or barbecue goodies.

A torch that works. Song Book. Swimming togs.

Water for drinking (Fruit punch, tea, coffee is provided).

Boys: Bring some item that will help YOU win a Male Beauty Contest.

Alternative Place: If the weather is too bad, activities will be diverted indoors to Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin's home in Lanes Road, Havelock North. If in doubt about suitability of weather for an outdoors barbecue, for confirmation of place ring, on Saturday afternoon, either:

Mrs. Greer 'phone 69.739 Hastings or Mrs. Tremewan 'phone 83.703 Hbn.

MAIN NORTH ISLAND PEAKSAxial Ranges (Over 5000 ft.)Main Volcanic Eminences

Hikurangi	5753	Rau.	Tahurangi	9175
Mangaweka	5687	Ru.	Te Heu Heu	9040
Makorako	5665	Kai.	Paretetaitonga	9025
Kaweka J	5657	Ka.	The Dome	8750
Patutu	5625	Kai.	Ruapehu - Cathedral Rocks	8738
Hikurangi	5622	Ru.	Girdlestone	8715
North Kaweka	5600	Ka.	Pyramid	8650
Rangioteatua V	5589	Ru.	Mitre	8500
Unnamed peak	5580	Kai.		
Iron Peg	5565	Ru.	Egmont - Summit	8260
Te Hekenga	5562	Ru.	Fanthams Peak	6438
Karikaringa	5558	Kai.		
Wooden Peg	5550	Ru.	Ngauruhoe -	7515
Ohuinga	5530	Ru.		
Taumataomekura	5520	Ru.	Tongariro - Summit	6458
T2	5500	Kai.	Rotopaunga	6088
Tiraha	5472	Ru.	Te Mari	5641
Maungamahue	5450	Ru.		
Te Atuaoparapara 66	5450	Ru.	Pukekaikiore	5700
Thunder Bolt	5435	Kai.	Tama	5276
Otirikau	5400	Kai.	Hauhungatahi	4983
Trig E	5384	Ka.	Pouakai	4530
69	5367	Ru.	Pihanga	4352
Paemutu	5367	Ru.	Kakaramea	4269
Dog Hill	5340	Ka.	Pukeonake	4018
Whakamarumaruru	5287	Kai.	Pureora	3825
High Cone	5260	Kai.	Tarawere	3646
Umukarikari	5222	Kai.	Tauhara	3566
T1	5220	Kai.	Titirapunga	3420
Dowden	5200	Kai.	Pirongia	3156
Mangahuia	5194	Ru.	Te Aroha	3126
Tawaki Tohunga	5181	Kai.	Mangaongaonga	2764
Mitre	5154	Ta.	Edgecumbe	2697
Tonupo S	5144	Ru.	Mangatautari	2616
Rongotea	5144	Ru.	Ngongotaha	2484
Three Johns	5120	Ru.	Rainbow Mtn.	2438
Peggy's Peak	5105	Ta.	Karioi	2420
North King	5100	Ta.		
Bannister	5080	Ta.		
McGregor	5080	Ta.		
Waipahihi	5072	Kai.		
Remutupo	5050	Ru.		
Pourangaki	5050	Ru.		
Te Atuamahuru	5028	Ru.		
Brockett	5020	Ta.		
Hector	5016	Ta.		
Toka	5006	Ru.		
Tupari	5006	Ru.		
Prominent Cone	5000	Kai.		

Abbreviations:-

Rau. - Raukumara Range
 Ru. - Ruahine Range
 Kai. - Kaimanawa Range
 Ka. - Kaweka Range
 Ta. - Tararua Range

FIXTURE LIST

Leaders to give a short description of the trip - locality, fitness required, etc., at the meeting before the trip.

1968December

14th Christmas Party - For details see Page 22.

15th Marathon Maury Taylor \$1.

27-10Jan. Mt. Cook and Westland National Parks,
Copland Pass. Pam Lewis

1969January

12th Green Flats, Puketitiri - Picnic. Jim Glass \$1.

25-26th Kuripapango; Rocks Ahead Hut; Ngaruroro. Brian Smith \$1.

February

9th Lilo Trip (Anne McHardy \$1.
(Roy Swain

22-23rd Shute's Hut. Russell Millington \$1.

March

9th Hinerua Hut; Smith's Creek Gorge. Brian Mote \$1.

22-23rd Ripia Valley, Puketitiri. Warren Greer \$1.

April

4 to 7th Otaki Forks - Tararua Main Range. Peter Lewis \$4.

Easter (Jun. \$3.50)

20th Dead Dog Hut; Herricks Spur. David White .90c

25-27th Shut-Eye; Maropea Forks Hut;
Remutupo Hut. Graham Thorp \$1.

May

4th Makino Hut; Puketitiri Hot Springs. Alan Thurston \$1.

FARES (except Easter) are reducible by 20c for seniors, half fares for juniors by 10c, if paid at the meeting before or on the trip.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are now due. If paid by 31st December 1968, they are reduced to \$2. for single members and \$3. for married couples.

THE FIRST MEETING next year will be held on Wednesday 8th January, 1969, in the Radiant Living Hall, Warren Street N., Hastings.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS to all and Good Tramping in 1969.

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