

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC)

Box 386, Hastings.

"POHOKURA"

Bulletin No. 128

December, 1974

President: Mr M. Taylor,
2 Leyland Road, Te Awanga, R.D. 2, Hastings.
Phone HMN 829

Secretary: Mr G. Thorp,
110 Riverbend Road, Napier.
Phone 34-238

Treasurer: Miss J. Smith,
1009E Heretaunga Street, Hastings.
Phone 68-249

Club Captain: Mr P. Manning,
117 Gascoigne Street, Hastings.

ANNUAL REPORT

President's report:

Price hike for petrol. Increase in battery prices. Tyre costs increased 14%. But when we tried to purchase the size to fit our truck we were told "We haven't seen that size for twelve months. You'll just have to come down a size." That means 7 new tyres and tubes. Just a sign of the times. Luckily for trampers there is no price rise for entering our ranges and National Parks. Access roads gradually open up country and what were previously classed as long weekend trips are now two day ventures and chalet type buildings are adding to our comfort. This opening up of the ranges has meant the general public can now drive right up to the edge of good tramping country instead of having to bash for three or four hours through scrub beforehand. This easier access has also resulted in formation of a second tramping club in Hawke's Bay. Our best wishes to them in their desire to explore and appreciate our back country.

Committee members are to be thanked for the time and effort spent on the affairs of the club, also property owners for allowing us access and kindred clubs and Govt. Depts. for their assistance in SAR callouts.

M.G.T.

Club Captain's report:

Tramps again have varied in form, field and scope. They have included a wide range of country, from the Nelson Lakes and Abel Tasman National Park in the South to the Ureweras in the North, and the Tongariro National Park in the West. A miserably cold venture into the Tararuas was balanced

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by the warmth of Ketetahi Hot Springs, and a regretfully unforgettable Maropea Forks could be compared with the regretfully unbelievable Umukarikari epic.

A keen group of younger members have been achieving some interesting private tramps and providing entertaining reports at meetings.

Snowcraft and a Compass Course have featured on the training agenda and proved to be worthwhile for those attending. Because of the interest in the Compass Course it is hoped to repeat the venture shortly. Unfortunately many are not interested in the technical aspects of a trip. However, we hope that the continuing rising trend in average age will provide a more mature approach to navigation and general trip requirements.

Weekend trips are again rising in popularity with an average of 19 attending. Day trips have had an average of 27; these relatively large numbers placing considerable strain and responsibility on leaders. These figures indicate that good use of the club truck can be made. This has associated troubles with the onus of truck driving falling on a few. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the drivers without whose sacrifice fares would rocket.

Thanks again to the landholders, NZ Forest Service and the National and Forest Park authorities for access, advice and the use of their facilities.

T.S.P.

Social Committee Report:

Once again, thanks to club members' response with talks and slides on places visited and general activities along with suggestions for outside speakers, the social committee has been able to arrange something each club night; although, this year, not just transport difficulties, but 'flu and odd working hours have made meetings harder than ever to arrange.

The photo competition fluctuates according to the number of slide takers active on the tramping scene, but no sooner does it happen that, although quality is there, lack of quantity makes a competition difficult to organise, then new 'shutterbugs' come up. Two new names appear as this year's winners, Jenny Thomson and Peter Boomen - Congratulations.

Movies from the National Film Library and NAC, slides on river crossing from the Mountain Safety Council, West Irian's odd juxtaposition of equatorial jungle and 12,000ft high glaciers, an introduction to astronomy, Ayers Rock, White Island, Canada, and the Outdoor Pursuits Course were some of the assorted subjects on the programme as well as club slides and discussions.

Guy Fawkes and Christmas saw their usual parties and one or two other social occasions such as a bonfire and a shed party saw the same keen faces.

The social committee wishes to thank everyone who helped in any way through the year, and to you all for participating in the meetings.

E.R.P.

Library:

The library has been well used this year with 48 books borrowed and \$1.96 taken; this from donations, as the 5c fee was abolished last year.

"Aorangi", a³ book well-worth reading, has been given to the library, and two books of some rarity have been lent to Havelock North Public Library for use in their local history collection.

E.R.P.

Fixture Hut and Track:

We hear much about the hectic pace of modern life and people "rushing round in ever-diminishing circles", and our fixture committee seems to have been so much affected that at none of its meetings this year were all of its members able to be present. (In fact one of them wasn't even a "meeting" as Peter Manning had to prepare one fixture list all by himself). Still, thanks to those who did the work, and also those who came up with suggestions for trips, this year's fixture lists seem to have provided trips to cater for an even wider range of interests than usual. The large number of people on many of them, in spite of the generally poor weather, is encouraging.

The fireplace at Waikamaka Hut had never been really properly completed, and towards the end of last year some timber underneath the hearth caught fire while a Colenso High School party were in residence. They were able to extinguish it in time, so we were more fortunate that the Forest Service were with their new hut at the Mohaka/Makino junction a few months later. Thanks to Randall Goldfinch, who carried in the cement, and the small but hardworking party who went in with Peter Manning and Randall on a subsequent weekend, there is now a real professional looking concrete hearth.

Three more sheets of iron have been taken in and applied to the walls of Kiwi Hut, almost completeing the job. Now only a few details require attention.

Some work was done on the new track from Waikamaka down to the river, but this is still not completed.

P.L.

Search and Rescue:

A number of incidents over the past year resulted in SAR calling out club members. The largest was the Robson search west of Pakaututu when 42 searchers in all took part for two days before Mr Robson was found, a trifle hungry but otherwise fit and well.

Two hunters tipped out of a raft while descending the flooded Mohaka were retrieved from the northern bank by two teams of Napier deerstalkers.

The next incident involved six club members in a rescue of youths in the Cook's Horn area. Rescuers were delivered into the area by helicopter right on darkness, the rescue and journey out being finalised about 11,30pm.

Finally, approximately 24 searchers in all were involved for Rex Lowe, missing in the Back Ridge, Ngaruroro, Rocks Ahead area in blizzard conditions.

Luckily an RNZAF Iroquois was made available to ferry teams and he was eventually located about 12.30pm at Rocks Ahead Hut.

SAR was most fortunate in that the majority of rescues were concluded very quickly and with no injury to personnel or victims.

M.T.

Truck:

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I wonder if the club members realise what a great asset the truck is. It provides us with our own transport whenever and wherever we want it, (apart from an occasional problem over a driver) and the control of our own fares. We don't need to make a profit; it is enough to break even. Just imagine what this has done to hold the fares so low.

A lot of work goes on behind the scenes. A driver comes in after the trip and says: "This is wrong and that needs fixing". O.K. and most of the time it gets fixed before the next trip. While I've got the ballpoint in my hand I would like to thank the other members of the truck committee for their assistance in keeping the truck in running order.

P.B.

"Pohokura":

It is surprising how many club members work for "Pohokura". The stapling parties number up to 12, there are 4 typists, generally about 8 contributors of trip accounts and up to about 6 authors of private trips.

The club's thanks to all of these and especially to Ingram, Thompson & Berry who let us use their duplicator.

J.L.

Training Committee Report:

At the first executive meeting of the current year it was decided to form a training committee to take charge and also help train younger members in the use of maps and compasses.

A compass and mapreading course was held at Puketitiri. The actual course was borrowed from the Mountain Safety crowd as we were unable to map one out on forestry property at Blowhard due to fog. A lack of knowledge hindered us here as this was the first time it had been attempted by the club from scratch.

Not a large party turned out for the trip, but there were as many as the instructors could handle.

It is intended in the coming year to have more instruction and talks at meetings and possibly two compass courses in the field.

P.M.

Gear Custodian's Report:

The number of hirings made this year is the same as last year - 32; but once again we have had an increase in income over last year of \$5.25. The increase this time is due to the generosity of some club members who have given donations for the gear they have hired. These donations are included in the total sum.

Articles hired were as follows:

Boots	12	hirings	\$9.00
Packs	10	"	6.80
Tents	3	"	5.60
Ice axes	4	"	3.90
Sleeping bag	1	"	1.00
Billy	2	"	0.40
total			<u>26.70</u>

5.
No gear has been purchased this year. However a set of poles was donated for use with the club tent by one hirer. One billy was lost during a trip to Waikaremoana and a pair of size 6 boots were worn out. Both of these items will be replaced in the coming year.

G.R.T.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday, 23rd October 1974, the following officers were elected:

Patron: Mr R. W. Chaplin.

President: Mr M. G. Taylor.

Vice-Presidents: Messrs. P. Bayens, T. Plowman, K. Thomson.

Club Captain: Mr P. Manning.

Secretary: Mr G. Thorp.

Treasurer: Miss J. Smith.

Auditor: Mr A. V. Berry.

Executive Committee: Miss E. Pindar, Messrs P. Lewis, R. Goldfinch, G. Soppit, D. Northe, C. Persen, B. Moreton.

Social Committee: Miss E. Pindar, Miss A. Bloomer, Messrs R. Elder, P. Boomen, G. Orr, D. Northe..

Sub-committees

At a subsequent meeting of the executive the following were appointed:

Fixture, Hut & Track: P. Manning, G. Soppit, D. Northe, K. Thomson, R. Goldfinch.

Training: P. Lewis, P. Manning, T. Plowman, B. Moreton, C. Persen.

Truck: K. Thomson, P. Bayens.

Search Representatives: A. Berry, M. Taylor, G. Thorp.

Gear Custodian: G. Thorp.

Publicity: E. Pindar.

Editor: Helen Hill. (J. Lloyd, acting temporarily).

Album: G. Soppit.

Scrap book: J. Glass.

Library: E. Pindar.

Y.M.C.A. WALKABOUT

19th October.

Arriving home from work on Wednesday night I found my doorstep in the possession of P. Boomen Esq. Peter was in fine form, holding forth like an encyclopaedia salesman and in no time at all had sold us the idea of a trip by Shanks pony from Hastings to Napier.

The idea was that entry forms were purchased from the YMCA for 75c. leaving us chasing sponsors for money over and above the 75c. This surplus money could go to any club, school or worthy cause of the walkers' own choosing, namely the H.T.C.

By Thursday night I had not had much luck with sponsors so I departed to Peter Boomen's where we commandeered the household phone. This was the second night in a row to run the phone red hot as Peter had already spent two hours the previous evening frantically ringing walkers and sponsors and doing quite well.

We met again at the YMCA on the Saturday morning amid drizzle and thousands of other mad footsloggers. After many minutes of queueing, getting forms stamped and more cards we were off. The grand band of the HTC, all 7 of us, complete with banner (which nearly blew away in the strong wind), out the gate and off down the road 14 miles in front of us.

Well, you know the road to Napier, but we 7 know it better. Everything was going well till just after half way point when due to the heat things inside my shirt were getting rather hot so off it came. About this time we caught up with Peter Boomen's two sisters and friend, two of whom were having trouble with blisters. A stop was made at the St. John's caravan for application of sticking plaster to said blisters and away again. Into Riverbend Road and on the last leg we had a stop for a chinwag with Graham Thorp and family who were busily working but looked only too glad to stop. Our next stop a bit further down the road at Trevor's new residence. He came bouncing across the road trying to look as if he had not just got out of bed. On around the corner and into the YMCA. What a fight! Biscuits, drinks and buses. What a squash! 500 people trying to get on a 50 seater bus. The 5 younger members decided they had not had enough walking so went off in search of a feed. All they got for their trouble was a dead pie. Incidentally one member passed within 200 yards of her home but decided to make use of the free bus ride.

Many thanks to the sponsors and those walking.

The walkers were:- Peter Boomen, Peter Berry, Peter Manning, Joan Manning, Geoff Orr, Jill Robinson, Murray Ball.

Many thanks also to Peter Boomen for being on the ball and doing all the ground work.

The amount raised for the Club was approx. \$50.

P.M.

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HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTFOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1974

1973	<u>INCOME:</u> The Club's Income comprised -		
264	Subscriptions	249	
23	Equipment Hire	28	
102	Meeting Contributions	96	
3	Donations - General	19	
	- for use of Hut	10	
88	Interest	94	
4	Profit on Maps & Badges	3	
29	Profit on Transport	26	
-	Library Fees	1	
-	Sale of Firewood	108	
-	Subsidy from Ministry of Sport	75	
		<u>709</u>	
513	<u>EXPENDITURE:</u> The Expenses incurred in running the Club were		
97	Rent of Meeting Room	101	
28	Supper & Social Expenses	31	
46	Equipment & Hut Maintenance	12	
9	Subscriptions: Royal Society, Alpine Club etc.	9	
45	F.M.C. Capitation	59	
7	Insurance	7	
110	Bulletin Expenses	105	
5	Donation - St. John Ambulance	-	
30	Stationery, stamps etc	34	
38	Loss on sale of projector	-	
2	General Expenses	5	
25	Maps & Route Guides written off	-	
	Transport Costs	747	
	Truck Depreciation	150	
		<u>897</u>	
	Fares Received	923	
		<u>\$ 26</u>	
(442)			363
71	There was therefore a Profit for the year of		\$ 346

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HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1974

1973	At Balance Date the Club owned the following Assets:		
1017	Bank of New South Wales	1452	
67	Post Office Savings Bank	69	
97	Equipment	97	
21	Cash on Hand	3	
223	Stocks on Hand	196	
	Bedford truck and canopy, at cost	1290	
	<u>Less Depreciation to date</u>	<u>850</u>	
590			440
1000	Investment - Hastings City Council, due 1978 @ 5 3/4%		1000
	Huts valued in the books as follows:		
	Kaweka	10	
	Kiwi	50	
	Waikamaka	<u>55</u>	
115			115
a 69	Projector at cost		<u>69</u>
3199	The total value of the Assets being:		3441
	However, of this amount there has been set aside for -		
116	Accounts owing	-	
69	Reunion Fund	69	
19	Search Fund	19	
36	Maintenance of Rescue Kits	36	
4	Subscriptions in Advance	<u>16</u>	
244			<u>140</u>
\$ 2955	Leaving a surplus of Assets over liabilities of		<u>\$ 3301</u>
This figure represents the Balance in Accumulated Funds, which is made up as follows:			
	Balance 1st October, 1973	2955	
	Surplus of Income over Expenditure	<u>346</u>	
			<u>\$ 3301</u>

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I report that I have examined the books and records of the Club and have obtained all the information and explanations I have required. In my opinion the Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Account show respectively a true and fair view of the Club's position at 30th September 1974 and of the results for the year ended on that date.

A.V. Berry A.C.A.
Auditor.

CLUB TRIPS

No. 1040

PARK'S PEAK

Aug. 3 - 4th

We set off at 7 o'clock (departure time 6 a.m.) and headed for the Ruahines. Arrived at the start of the track in good time, with only the usual number of sheep and cattle on the road. Set off at a good pace and after a short stop at Sentry Box Hut, to shed unwanted clothing, we were on our way up the track to Park's Peak Hut. Half an hour later we had climbed about 500ft and were so worn out we had to have a rest. We continued on at a more leisurely pace, up the track and after a few more stops and starts reached the hut around 1p.m. where some kind person had a brew going. Over a beautiful lunch in the sunshine, we discussed whether to go on to Aranga Hut, Upper Makaroro Hut or to stay at Park's Peak Hut and just look around the ridges. Peter Lewis suggested that Upper Makaroro would be warmer than the other two, so we decided to drop down the track to the hut, where we arrived at approx. 4.30p.m. After helping a few people across the swinging bridge, we collected wood to light a fire.

Went to bed with five of us on four bunks, six on four mattresses, one under a bunk, Peter outside and me on the six inches of hard floor between the mattress and the rubbish tins. I was on the outer mattress.

In the morning, we got up late, left about 9.15 for Park's Peak and boy! is it a long way up. Arrived mid-day and had a good tramp down the Ministry of Works track via the water measuring station on the Kaumatua stream and got back to the truck around 5 p.m.

No. in party: ;4

Leader John Berry

No. 1041

KAWEKA COMPASS COURSE

August 18th

This trip started some time before the actual day with a few meetings and much indecision but we finally decided to map out a course at Blowhard. This intrepid effort was torpedoed by fog, visibility 50-60 yds.

At the meeting on Wednesday night Trevor turned up with copies of an old course of the Mountain Safety Committee and saved our bacon.

On a rather murky morning 21 of us departed for the unknown. A cold hour was spent in the truck at the shingle pit on Makahu Road while Trevor explained the workings of map and compass. A start was made on the course about 9.30 a.m.

We started a few hundred yards S.W. of Baldy.

- No. 1 Map ref. for starting point 909-646
One party 300 yds out, rest inside 200 yds
- No. 2 Map ref. of high rounded hill nearly due N. 915-673
Half the party took nearer hill slightly W. of N.
map ref. 908-657. With a more careful study of the
map they would have seen by the contour lines that this
was a ridge with a knob. Choice of three with no bear-
ing to make you study the map.
- No. 3 Point asking for bearing 145-150 degrees true
All correct. An easily identified point to the S.E.
- No. 4 Move down road and take bearing on water tank
75 degrees true. All within 10 degrees.
- No. 5 Probable map ref of tank 923-638
This was rather a hard one. A lot more land has been
broken in and fenced since the map was made; also the
full hill was not visible. The tank is sitting on a
definite hillock but under 100ft above the surrounding
land so it did not show on the map. One, 1000yds east
and 500yds north. Another gave a ref. 1500yds east
putting said tank in neighbour's property on other side
of road by cattlestop and gate on way in. Another,
800 yds south down in a creek. A popular one was the
actual knob shown on the map. Only one party correct.
- No. 6 Map ref. for position after moving on 908-629. The
ridge here is about 15ft wide and readings were given
from 300 yds on one side to 100 yds on the other. Two
other readings had taken their position as just below
the high point and marked trig on the ridge putting
them 1000yds south. Others varied 200 to 300 yds up
or down the ridge.
- No. 7 Give bearing of Baldy degree true
These varied from true N. to 40 degrees which covers
from one bush edge on the bare top to the other.
About 300 yds
- No. 8 Take bearing of spot height 2753. 032degrees true.
All near enough except one group whose bearing would put
them 500 yds back down the ridge.
- No. 9 Map ref. to identify 906-629
All identified correctly as scrub covered.
- No. 10 Find map ref. where road leaves stream 904-623
Another difficult one with many answers. Eight round
about the same within 100yds and two others 1000yds S.
A check on ridges and sidestreams would probably have
remedied this.
- No. 11 A spot to stop and a height to check. All correct within
50ft.
- No. 12 Proceed downhill to a map ref. 903-620
All gave reasonable readings although it looks as if
some came down upstream of dinner area, but I don't
think so.
- No. 13 Map ref. for position 909-636
Three correct and one 100 yds west.
- No. 14 A lot of trouble here as our instructions were wet,
soggy and unreadable so we departed for the truck.

Altogether a successful trip. A lot was learnt and confidence inspired in many, (stirring words, what). We hope to follow this up with talks on meeting nights.

No. in party 21

Leader: P. Manning

T. Plowman, G. Soppit, R. Goldfinch, P. Boomen, A. Betts, D. Wilkins, T. Thompson, M. Ball, P. Maddison, R. Snowball, L. Sudselt, J. Bennett, L. Pindar, J. Grover, L. Hanger, D. Hanger, R. Dixon, J. Berry, B. Couchman, D. Plowman.

No. 1042 (A)

RUAPEHU (SNOWCRAFT) Aug 31-Sept 1st

An extremely fine morning causing a fair degree of enthusiasm, five keen bods turned the Kombi about in Hastings and headed for Ruapehu. Leaving the 'Top of the Bruce' about 11 a.m. we climbed to the Alpine Club Hut and were shortly after joined by Murray Ball and Malcolm Ingpen. The conditions were ideal - fine weather and a good covering of crisp snow. The afternoon began with rope and ice axe use. About 4 p.m. a ski patrol passed towing a boat (mountain rescue stretcher) A skier had been injured and we were asked to assist in belaying the stretcher down to the Bruce. The ice was greezing making us glad of our crampons. At 6 p.m. we reached the Bruce and began the ascent again. The sun was setting on the Pinnacle Ridge and the brilliant full moon was rising above it. Quite a combination. As the twilight faded the moonlight gradually intensified lighting the frozen slope with a steel blue light. We were hooked - a moonlight climb to the summit. Arriving back at the hut we cooked dinner and left at 9.30p.m. The ice provided excellent cramponning conditions and progress up the ridge was good. A sub zero breeze insisted that that we had all our clothing and parkas on. But we were kept warm by our exertions and the warm sights below. The Whakapapa valley lodges, Chateau, National Park township, all glowed and twinkled below to the west, and to the north over the clearly defined Pinnacle Ridge were Lake Taupo and the towns of the Central Plateau reaching into the distance. The moon was bright enough for us to identify the colours of our clothing. Arriving at the Dome Shelter, we decided to shelter for a few minutes from the bitter wind and get a few bites to eat. Enthusiasm was waning as we had been up since 5 a.m. on Saturday morning so we decided to go only as far as Parate-taitenga. However on emerging twenty minutes later, much to our dismay, we saw rolling up the mountain from below, a huge cloud formation. A white-out at night could be more than interesting - in fact it could be disastrous, so stepping along quite rapidly, we moved into the valley which the snowcat had been using to run tourists to the Crater Lake. Keeping religiously to its tracks we followed them down

until we recognised where they passed close to the hut. By this time visibility was very poor and it was very difficult to identify any contrast on the surface of the snow. A few minutes later we were relieved to be back in the hut, as shortly afterwards it was impossible to see the corner of the hut from the doorway two feet away.

Sunday was foul - cold rain and sleet, driven by a biting wind. We left the hut at midday and could justify belaying practice most of the way back to the skifields.

From the mountain we came back to town via De Bretts, where we watched a climbing film on the T.V.

Number in party: 5

Trevor Plowman, Peter Lewis, Alan Betts, Les and Darren Hanger.

No. 1042 (b)

Aug 30 - Sept 1st

We left Hastings on Friday afternoon at 3.30, arriving at Triplex hut about 5.30. In due course, we arrived at Shuteye Shack at 8 a.m. feeling in real need of a good night's sleep, but due to the bunks which were designed by the devil, we had a lousy night's rest and consequently were up and about by 6.30 a.m.

Saturday morning:

By 8. a.m. we were on our way to Maropea arriving without incident at 10.20 and after a brew-up returned to Armstrong only to find that the wind had increased to about 50m.p.h. We crossed the saddle and commended the long hard grind up the east face of 66. After a fairly uneventful climb the summit was reached at 12.15. Here we noticed a sharp increase in the wind.

The walk along the south face commended after a short rest. We had only gone about a third of the way when Peter Berry complained of having weak legs and needed a rest. After another rest we continued our slow progress of cutting steps for Peter Berry who had no ice axe. Then we came to a very steep icy section which was going to make cutting steps very difficult. After a short discussion Peter Berry threatened to give in and slide down the south face.

We had just started to cut steps when my hat and glasses blew over the face. At just about the same instant Peter Berry started his record breaking 500' streak down the snow slope on his backside. He finished up in the headwaters of a small stream and after successfully negotiating a 50' - 60' waterfall arrived at Waikamaka Hut at 3.45. After we had seen him wave Peter Boomen and I continued moving down mainly by sliding, cutting a few steps only when absolutely necessary. Only five minutes after Peter Berry's skating trick, Peter Boomen slipped

and lost hold of his ice axe but after a worrying few minutes he was able to climb back up and grab it and we continued our erratic progress towards 67.

At about 2 p.m. we more or less fell down the last slope to 67 where a large rock provided temporary shelter from the wind while we attempted to rid ourselves of a bad dose of the cramp. After 20 minutes we moved off slowly towards Waikamaka saddle where we noticed (much to our surprise) a complete lack of boot prints on the snow. The H.T.C. snowcraft party were supposed to be somewhere in the area (in fact, they went to Ruapehu). After what seemed like hours of walking down a tributary to the Waikamaka, we staggered into the hut at 3.15. After half an hour's rest, we began to discuss what had happened to Peter Berry. Just then we heard a queer shout coming from outside and a quick stagger to the door revealed that Peter Berry had made it but only just.

Next day after a solid night's sleep we slowly made our way home down the Waipawa River arriving back at the car after one of the slowest tramps out from Waikamaka ever - from 10.30 to 3.30 in the afternoon.

No. in party 3.
Peter Boonen, Peter Berry, Peter McBride.

No. 1043 KIWI SADDLE WORKING PARTY Sept. 15th

Twentyfive of us arrived at the track 60 Kiwi Saddle and were just getting going when Roger Conroy and his wife and baby arrived so that made it twenty-eight, all loaded up with tin, paint and hammer etc., We arrived in at Kiwi Saddle Hut about 1.30 p.m.

Had lunch and started work. We raised the fireplace 6" and stopped the water going into the fireplace, also put a new handle on the axe. At about 2.00p.m. three quarters the party left for home and at about 5.15 p.m. the rest of us followed.

No. in party 28 Leader: Malcolm Ingpen

Gillian Ingpen, Peter Lewis, David Northe, Peter McBride, Robert Snowball, Roger Thomas, Bob Moreton, Trevor Plowman, Grant Fraser, Les Hanger, Chris Persen, John Ball, Murray Ball, Warren Bayliss, Peter Berry, Jill Robinson, Denise Robinson, Geoff Orr, Lynne Sadfelt, Liz Pindar, Peter Manning, Joan Manning, Randall Goldfinch, Joan Bennett, Nils Borgesius, Ray Dixon, Roger Conway + 2.

No. 1044

HINERUA HUT - SMITH'S CREEK HUT

28-29th Sept

The weather forecast for this weekend predicted southerlies with rain - not very inviting. On Saturday morning at 8 a.m. 17 bods in our party arrived at the end of Mill Road and headed down on to the Tuki Tuki river bed. We crossed the river and from a group of fine trees wandered north over farm land and found the track at the bush line. Most of this track to Hinerua Hut is sheltered by beech trees etc., but due to the wet winter the track was boggy.

Arriving at Hinerua Hut, we soon made ourselves at home, firing up the stove and having lunch. In the afternoon five members of the party decided to continue on to Smith's Creek Hut for a more pleasant night at a lower altitude.

Sunday morning greeted us with low cloud and snow falling. By 1 p.m. all five had returned from Smith's Creek Hut. After lunch the party left Hinerua Hut returning down the same track to cross the Tuki Tuki river and back to the truck at Mill farm.

No. in partyE ;7

Leader: Randell Goldfinch

Peter Lewis, Les Hanger, Peter Boomer, Jill Robinson, Warren Bayliss, Murray Ball, Chip Daniels, Geoff Orr, Graham Allely, Ian Andrews, Trevor Plowman, Nils Borgesius, Jane Holt, Judith Little, Bobbie Couchman, Bob Moreton

No. 1045

LAWRENCE - MACINTOSH HUT

We left Holt's about 6.30, the weather being cool and cloudy. Arrived at Kaweka Forestry Base to get the gate key at about 8 a.m. then continued along the forestry road to Lawrence Hut.

We parked the truck just up from the Tutaekuri river and walked to the forestry swing bridge that led us on to Lotkow track. We followed this for about an hour and then found a new unmarked track. There was a bit of doubt as to which way we should go. We decided to take the unmarked track. We marched around, up and down to find the track ended abruptly. We ploughed our way through the Kanuka till we reached the Donald river. Waiting across the river was the well-marked track that led us up the Mackintosh spur. With a short rest we took the grunt. About two-thirds up it started to drizzle off and on and we were all getting rather hot. We continued to the top in more drizzle. At the top of the spur the mob bolted to the hut (fit ones) while the tail took things more easily, arriving at Mackintosh Hut about 1.15p.m.

We had about an hour for lunch then Randall took 10 of the fit mob around Castle Rock Rd.,

The slow party backtracked down to the Donald River and taking the river as an alternative route travelled down it to the truck - a very leisurely and pleasant homeward trip. We arrived at the truck about 6 p.m. to find the fast party already there with a brew up.

No. in party: 20

Leader: Geoff Orr

Peter Lewis, Peter Manning, Simon O'Kane, John Grover, Alan Betts, Peter Boomen, Les Hanger, Warren Bayliss, Jill Robinson, Peter Berry, Randall Goldfinch + 2, Ian Andrews, Liz Pindar, David Wilkins, Sarah Croucher, Michael Croucher.

No. 1046

PORONUI ACCESS

This trip originally was to be the Kaimanawas. The Club was asked to join a mass tramp and become some of the first to use this 'new' access. The Kaimanawa access via the present Poronui Station was surveyed as a legal 'road' in 1910. The road was never developed and has remained in an unformed state since. In the course of time, the original survey pegs have become shifted and lost. The access is basically a series of straight one chain wide, lengths. When a gorge has to be negotiated the legal road widens to allow for sidling. Approximately 150 people mainly from tramping and deerstalking clubs, met at the junction of the Taupo and Taharua Roads on Saturday morning. A short speech was made explaining the difficulties encountered with the County Council and the landholder over the 'reopening' of the access. The landholder had been forced by the Taupo Magistrates' Court to erect gates wherever his fences intercepted the legal road. The road had been re-marked earlier that day by numerous bamboo stakes with rag attached. These would be marking the right hand boundary of the road on the way in.

Shortly after we found ourselves bouncing over very rough tussock paddocks. We left the truck about two miles in from the formed road as beyond this terrain seemed only suitable for trail bikes and Volkswagons. After an hour of uneventfulness - walking across paddocks, opening and shutting gates, we had lunch. Another 4½ hours of cold, wet rain put us at the Mohaka downstream of the Napier and Oamaru confluence. During the walk in we saw several unusual things. First there were gates in the same fenceline, not much more than 12 feet away from one another. We used the one clearly labelled 'public road'. Another part of the road seemed to go through the middle of the Lower Poronui Homestead complex. This was preceded by a barbed wire fence which had a sign on it in the middle of a paddock - 'public road'. Crossing one paddock we had to move out of the way of a stampede of frightened cattle.

Saturday night the sky seemed to fall on our heads. About 1½" rain fell and gave some tents a rather amphibious look. The Mohaka came up about 2ft and we had to go the long way over to the Oamaru hut by first heading off up the Kaipo until a suitable place to cross was found. We had left two semi-drowned members of our party at the campsite to dry their gear (and ours) while the remainder went on a short day trip up the Oamaru. Arriving at the Oamaru Hut we were met by Sandra Smith II. She and some friends had been flown in earlier in the week to do some hunting. We had lunch at the hut and afterwards wandered up the Oamaru for some miles. It is very similar to parts of the Mohaka above Makino and in its lower reaches broad tussock flats make it a very pleasant valley.

At the point of turn around we struck across the river and were lucky enough to meet Murray Ball & Co., These three intrepid trappers had come through from Ngamatea and were hoping for a lift home with us. Afternoon rain again struck us and made preparing the evening meal once more very miserable. It also killed any social life which could have been quite good, as there were many tents and even more people camped at this place.

Next morning after flooded night number two, the weather cleared sufficiently to allow the tents and gear to be stowed in packs relatively dryly.

After a few hours the truck appeared on the horizon, and after another few hours we reached it, boarded it and left for home.

No. in party: 12

Leader: Trevor Plowman

Peter Lewis, Jill Robinson, Peter Berry, Liz Pindar, Bob Moreton, Grant Fraser, Randall Goldfinch, Alan Betts, Les Hanger, Warren Bayliss, Geoff Orr

No. 1047 (A)

CAIRN TRIP

Nov. 11th

Away from Hastings shortly after 5 a.m. we arrived at Makahu car park at 7.30 with the leader doubled up with stomach cramp. All were away by 8 with two carloads, onwards and upwards by 8.30. Shortly after 11 o'clock Owen Brown read the service after which lunch was the order of the day. Meanwhile Pam and Brian Turner and family with David Lewis had given up short of the cairn because of high wind affecting the kiddies. A pleasant day marred somewhat by a high level wind.

No. in party: 26

Leader: M. Taylor

P. & D. Lewis, P. & B. Turner with Julie and Kathlee, Christine Smith, O. Brown and Kerry, A. Hoggarth, Louis & Sandy. D. Wilkins, Ursula Milner-White, I. Andrews, R. Marshall, S. O'Kane, Liz Pindar, B. Burgess, A. Keehan. P. Berry, B & M. Taylor with Robyn, Susan and Kevan Roger Conroy his wife and baby.

Another party of five scouts who had travelled from Castle Rocks on a weekend trip joined us at the Cairn.

No. 1047 (B) STUDHOLMES SADDLE HUT 9th -10th November

This was one trip that didn't start from Holt's. Two Napier members spent the Friday night at my place, five Hastings bods gathered round at 6 a.m. and we departed for the Kawekas. We picked up a key for access to Castle Rocks Road, left the cars above Twin Lakes and departed for Kaweka Hut. A brief stop here and 2 left for Studholme via Cook's Horn and Kaiarahi, the rest taking the Mackintosh track.

The weather was quite warm and very sunny at this stage but shortly after stopping for lunch at the turnoff from Mackintosh ridge to the hut it clouded over and rain started, rather dampening our picnic by a small stream.

On and up the Mackintosh ridge, parkas and woollen shirts were put on in rain, cold and cloud. About half way up one member who had trodden on a green rock in a creek and taken a rather nasty dive found his knee was getting very sore. With plenty of rests and pack changes, we managed up to the top to the sign. A sharp drop off down to the bivvy in the river and 10 mins up the river to the hut. Time taken, about 7 hours. The hut looked good in the rain, smoke coming out of the chimney etc. BUT it turned out to be one of a certain person's fires, all smoke, no flame and him in his pit to keep warm. A good fire was organised and an excellent stew put together and consumed with gusto.

Next morning about 7.30 Peter Boomen departed for Back Hut. The rest of us departed for the Cairn about 8 a.m. leaving the one with the sore knee at the hut intending to pick him up in the Saddle on the way back. As we climbed, the wind got stronger and colder until over the side of Mad Dog hill parkas, leggings and gloves were needed to combat the loss of heat. We held a meeting in the lee of the hill, and deciding that discretion was the better part of valour, we about faced dragged back over Mad Dog Hill into the teeth of the gale and dropped into Studholmes Saddle. The wind was still fairly strong and the weather looked as if anything could happen.

At this stage we met 5 scouts from Mackintosh Hut

bound for the Cairn. They were going out via Makahu and weren't committed as we were to coming out to the Taihape Rd.

We had a pleasant quarter of an hour in a hollow in the sun waiting for Peter McBride to catch up after dropping into the hut to pick up the one with the sore knee. Deciding to stay out of the wind we dropped down Mackintosh spur shedding clothing in stages on the way down as it warmed up. We arrived at Mackintosh Hut for dinner once again in singlets and shorts.

After a pleasant picnic lunch in the sun, we left for the Tutaekuri river and out down the road to the cars and it was all over. Amidst much thrashing in the scrub at this time appeared Randall with a size 13 grin, "Have you got a Forestry key? You've save me a long walk". With him was Peter Boomen and several others who came up from Makahu. By this time the weather had really closed in, low cloud, cold and heavy showers, so we departed in a hurry for home. A good trip with good company, although our goal eluded us.

No. in party: 8

Leader: P Manning.

P. Manning, P. Boomen, P. McBride, G. Fraser, L. Hanger, J. Chawner, J. Robinson, D. Bloomer.

Another party of 3 came up from Back Hut to the Cairn.

No. 1048

TE MATAI

24th November

We arrived at Pakaututu Station at about 9 a.m. and got under way, leaving one member (talking to himself?) behind. Later on, he proved invaluable in finding the right track which led us in a N.W. direction through beautiful bush. At 12 o'clock we decided not to push on to Te Matai, but to turn left over a side bridge which would finish in a knoll from where, Peter Lewis assured us, we should have a good view over the valleys of the Mohaka and Mangatainoka rivers. After $\frac{3}{4}$ of a hour we reached the lunch spot. Magnificent weather, hot, sunny, blue sky and a terrific panorama kept us there until 2.30 p.m. The way back was interrupted by a boil up at the camp site.

No. in party: 19

Leader: N. Borgesius

Peter Lewis, Peter Boomen, Peter McBride, Jill Robinson, Anna Bloomer, Julia Reading, Elizabeth Hall, Johanna Campbell, Joan Bennett, Les Hanger, Warren Bayliss, Neir Weiss, Paul Frude, Trevor Rynhart and his wife, Bobby Couchman, Ray Dixon, N. Borgesius plus one.

REX LOWE RESCUE - 13th/14th July, 1974.

Advice was received from the Police at about 4p.m. on Saturday 13th July that Mr. Rex Lowe was missing in the Kaweka Range, in the vicinity of the Rocks Ahead Hut. He had gone in via Makahu Saddle the previous Wednesday to meet friends who had been opossum hunting from Rocks Ahead but they had left the hut before he arrived and had made their way out to the Taihape Road. They learned that Lowe had gone into the ranges to join them and in fact followed his tracks for most of the way from Makahu Saddle upon their return trip to Rocks Ahead Hut on Thursday 11th July.

The first indication of any problem was when they found his pack and rifle placed carefully beside the track on the spur down from Back Ridge to Rocks Ahead Hut. His footprints continued for a short distance down the spur but were then lost. By this time it was nightfall Thursday evening and the two friends Saxton and Ross pressed on to Rocks Ahead, expecting to find him in the hut.

Lowe was not at the hut and next morning one of his friends came out to Whittle's and raised the alarm. A preliminary meeting of the Police, Search Advisers and representatives of the other organisations involved was held at the Police Station on Saturday evening and arrangements made for a fairly large scale search to be launched **at first light** on Sunday morning. It was felt that immediate action was required in view of the fact that the weather had been fairly rough in the Kawekas since Lowe had gone missing and he was without food, spare clothing or sleeping bag.

A 4a.m. start at the Napier Police Station saw the search teams briefed and ready to start in the field at Whittle's before dawn. Then began the long wait. We had arranged for an Iroquois helicopter to be available from the RNZAF but it could not get to Whittle's from Whenuapai before 9.15. We had to be ready for a dawn start though, just in case the weather was too bad for the helicopter to operate, in which case we would have gone in on foot. The day however dawned fine so we were therefore able to put our feet up again and await the Iroquois, which eventually arrived an hour and a half late at 10.45 a.m.

The first lift placed **two** teams on Back Ridge and the second lift went in to Rocks Ahead Hut itself. There they were greeted by our missing man, who had managed to make his way to the hut by himself on the Saturday afternoon. Everything into reverse again and out we all came, the operation winding up by about 2 p.m. on the Sunday afternoon.

The helicopter demonstrated its capabilities very ably on this rescue. If it had not been available, the search teams would have needed to tramp into the Rocks Ahead Hut and almost certainly they would not have been able to return to Whittle's until some time Monday. Lowe had very ~~some~~ feet, possibly as the result of mild frost bite and would have needed to either be carried out or left in the hut for several days to recuperate. Either way a great deal of ~~man~~ hours would have been lost.

Our thanks to the club members and others who participated in what proved to be a very effective rescue.

Club members involved: Peter Lewis, Randall Goldfinch, Murray Ball, Peter Boomen, Roy Frost, Brian Smith, Ross Hislop, Graham Thorp, Maury Taylor, and Alan Berry.

A.V.B.

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PRIVATE TRIPWAIKAMAKA PARTY

August 23-24th

For some time several of us had been considering having a private trip and party for the "Oldies" and after much organising by one or two keen and capable heads we departed one rainy morning to Waikamaka. We did some shuttle service with vehicles and people over the ford (in case the rain caused difficulties later) and, very heavily-laden, plodded off up-river. Every so often the cloud cleared to show snow-covered ridges, but surprisingly the river was not very deep nor as cold as I had expected. Snow was first met at the steep shingle climb. The track through the tussock was well snowed-up and some spaniards took advantage of that by attacking unsuspecting trampers.

Across the saddle, down to the hut, and then up with the decorations - the hut was soon as gay as we could make it with streamers, balloons, greenery and good smells. Randall went back to the trees to give a hand to two late leavers, and the rest of us watched the cooks at work! The spread was terrific - crisps and onion dip, with assorted drinks of course, and then, just as we were wondering where the other three were they arrived in the dark clinking and clattering with more goodies, including two litres of icecream - which we placed in the 'champagne bucket' to keep cool. Then dinner was served, steak or curried mince, with fresh tomatoes, pineapple, mushrooms (NO PEAS!) followed by mixed fruit compote, icecream, instant pud, steamed pudding and fresh cream with cheese, drinks and coffee to follow! After a pause of an hour or two to recover enough energy to move, we started dancing the 'chacha', Gay Gordons, etc., followed by singing by firelight and more drinks, and then, my lovely warm bed.

The next morning, to the sizzling of bacon and eggs (2 doz) and the slurping of 4 gallons (or was it quarts) of cocoa, we made sure we were prepared for the rigors of the return trip. The hut was left spotless for we cobwebbed even the roof timbers, but we left the balloons and streamers to cheer the spirit of any wandering tramper. We frolicked out with much lighter packs, had further sustenance at the Waipawa chalet where some hydraulic engineers did their thing, and so out to the transport, after a really wacky weekend - despite the rain which managed to fall solidly all weekend with a wee break for snow!

E.P.

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WAIKAMAKA RIVER, UREWERA NATIONAL PARKLabour Weekend 1974

This was an official Rotorua Tramping and Skiing Club trip. Late Friday evening I arrived at the Mimiha bridge 4 miles from Ruatahuna after a long drive up through Wairoa. The party numbered 14 altogether but we never met as one group until mid Monday. Myself with two others camped at

the bridge and departed up the Mimiha stream at 7.30am on Saturday. The rest would arrive from Rotorua an hour or so later. We followed a dis-used logging road for about an hour across scrubby farmland, up over a ridge and down through bush into the Parahaki stream. Here the fun started. The stream from here flows through a long gorge into the Waiau river, and it was starting to rain.

We had to cross the stream on an average of about every 25 yards. At times we crossed diagonally then immediately went back again to gain a mere 20 yards or so downstream from our first point. This was easy going at first but later it got deeper. Fortunately the water did not begin to rise too much until after we left the river, but for the last hour or so we had to get together on poles each time.

According to the map the track follows the river bed right down the Parahaki and Waiau, but where the Te Totara stream flows into the Parahaki about half way down there is a hut. From this hut a high level track follows the ridge along to the Parahaki Hut at the Waiau junction. We did not know this then, but were told by some hunters when we arrived at the Parahaki hut at about 2pm. We were also told about a high level track down the Waiau to Central Waiau hut but this took us about 45 minutes to find, bashing straight up about 500ft through creepers. A nice wire bridge crosses the Waiau at Parahaki hut and had we crossed by this instead of barging through the river again we would have found the track easily, but we eventually reached Central Waiau at about 4.30. An hour later 5 more members of our party arrived. They came the easy way.

As the rain had set in for a while, the river was high and dirty and the remainder had stayed back at Parahaki, we decided to stay where we were until Monday. We tried some fishing with several rods brought along and some shooting with a rifle and some ammunition left in the hut, but with no success at either. The rest of the time was spent socializing.

On Monday we were back at Parahaki in an hour and a half after a 7am start and then we followed the high level track back to Te Totara for lunch after some of us had collected large amounts of venison and pork acquired for us by some other very successful hunters. At lunch time the 14 of us finally met as a complete party. River crossings were performed again to get back upstream but the river had dropped a lot by then although poles were still needed.

At 5pm we reached our cars and all that remained for me was to proceed into Rotorua for a good feed and some petrol, then back to Hastings.

R.D.S.

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RESULTS OF PHOTO COMPETITION

August 28th.

This was judged by three previous prize winners:- Peter Lewis, David White, Paul Richards.

1. Home - Peter Boomen
2. Ngauruhoe from South Crater - Peter Berry
- 3= (Mountain Girl - Liz Pindar
(Tracks in Snow - Owen Brown

4. Jenny - David Northe
 5. (Wandering Water - David Northe
 (Snowdon - Owen Brown

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GUY FAWKES

On Sunday 2nd November the club had a Guy Fawkes bonfire at Te Awanga. A fine smoke screen from 20 tyres soon obscured Napier, while sausages, chops etc. cooked over smaller fires out of range of spark showers. The usual bangers and crackers were let off by the usual bombers, and the group broke up fairly early, despite 'Summer Time' complications. About 50 people attended and seemed to enjoy themselves.

E.P.

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SOCIAL NEWS

Birth: To Gae and Earle Culver - a son.

Engagement: Clyde Nicholls to Gwenda Wooster.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following to the club:-

Les Hanger, Darren Hanger (jr.), Alan Betts, Joan Manning, Philip Thomson (jr.).

LIFE MEMBER

Janet Lloyd has been made a Life Member in recognition of her services as Editor of "Pohokura".

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THE FIRST MEETING OF 1975

The first meeting of 1975 will be held on Wednesday, January 15th.

Typists for this issue: Joan Bennett, Barbara Taylor, Nancy Tanner.

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FIXTURE LIST

(On many trips, if necessary, parties may divide so that fitter members can undertake a challenging trip while other members enjoy a less strenuous outing. Suggestions for next trip list welcome. Note that changes could be made to suit weather conditions, Forestry permits, or opportunities for other trips, so if you cannot attend the meeting on the Wednesday evening before the trip, please check with someone who has, or enquire from the Secretary or one of the following:- Peter Lewis, phone 56789, Liz Pindar, phone 80457, Murray Ball, 84251.)

1975

Christmas - New Year period; members organising their own trips.

JANUARY

5-11 approx. NORTHERN KAIMANAWAS from Clements Access Road.

Leader: Ray Dixon

Probably private vehicles.

19

Gold Creek, Ruahines. Cool bush, sparkling streams.

More active members may come out over Te Patiki.

Leader: Graham Soppit

Driver: Maury Taylor

FEBRUARY

1-2

Te Hoe River, Southern Urewera. A camping-out trip, the length of which should be adjustable to suit the party.

Leader & Driver: Peter Manning.

16

Mohaka River - Lilo trip. Walk in to Puketitiri Hot Springs.

Lilo down to Pakaututu Bridge or return by road.

Leader: Peter Lewis

Driver: George Prebble.

MARCH

1-2

Makaretu River, South Ruahines. Probably camping out; fit ones perhaps over to Pohangina.

Leader: Warren Bayliss

Driver: Peter Manning.

16

Map & Compass Practice.

Leader: Bob Moreton

Driver: Les Hanger

28-31 (Easter) Mount Tarawera. Easy four-day trip, camp out, bring towel and togs also.

Leader & Driver: Ian Andrews

APRIL

13

Middle Creek, Ruahines.

Leader: Dennis Galyer

Driver: Owen Brown

25-27

Kapiti Island, or Western side of Tararua. Bookings for Island will have to be in early. Probably camping out.

Leader: Randall Goldfinch

Driver: ?

MAY

11

Kiwi Saddle Hut, Working Party.

Leader: Peter Boomen.

Driver: Phil Bayens.

24-25

Otupae - Mahgaohane - Aorangi area, N.W. Ruahines. High tussock country, probably camping out.

Leader: John Ball

Driver: Peter Manning

31-2JUNE

W. Kaimanawas from Hydro access roads. Fit ones can have a look at the tops. Camping out, bring towel and togs also.

Leader & Driver: Les Hanger.

TRANSPORT CONTRIBUTIONS: Usually \$1. for seniors, 60cents for juniors, for ordinary trips, and in vicinity of \$3. (juniors \$2.50) for trips to other districts, subject to review as costs continue to increase.

Other proposed trips, subject to confirmation in next Pohokura:-

June 8th - Don Juan, from Lotkow side. Julie Paterson;June 21-22 - Remutupo Hut, if no snow; Snowcraft if plenty. Malcolm Ingpen;July 6th - Kaweka Hut, Cooks Horn. Alan Betts;July 19-20 - Waikamaka. Jane Holt;Aug. 3rd - Burns Range from Taihape Road. Denise Robinson;Aug. 16-17 - Ballard Hut N. Kawekas. Peter McBride;Aug. 31 - Wakararas from Ellis Hut side. Anna Bloomer;Sept. 13-14 - Shutes Hut N. Ruahines. Nils Borgesius.

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OVERDUE TRAMPERS

Although returning parties usually plan to be out of the bush well before dark, considerations of safety must always come first. Even after arriving back at the transport, they could be two or more hours on the return journey, plus any unexpected delays, so beginners should make sure that parents or any others who may worry about them know this. Although not normally nearly as late as this, unless the return to town is likely to be later than about 10pm it would not be regarded as cause for parents to worry, but in case some unusual delay might occur, all newcomers should see that the list which the leader leaves in town includes their phone number.

For inquiries about OVERDUE PARTIES please first contact one of the following:-

BERRY 77.223

TURNER 68.995

TAYLOR HMN829

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