

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC)

BOX 447, HASTINGS

'P O H O K U R A'

Bulletin No. 152

December 1982

PRESIDENT:

Mr G Robinson
605 A Grays Road, HASTINGS
Phone 87 863

SECRETARY:

Mr L Hanger
804 Ferguson Street, HASTINGS
Phone 88 731

TREASURER:

Miss J Smith
1009 E Heretaunga Street, HASTINGS
Phone 68 249

CLUB CAPTAIN:

Mr E Holmes
310 Pepper Street, HASTINGS
Phone 83 345

ANNUAL REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The continuing support and skills of our experienced trampers has enabled the Club to enjoy another full and varied tramping calendar. During this, our 47th year the enemy of time seems to have been plaguing more of us. Unfortunately, unlike our rivers, mountains and forests, time cannot be conserved and many of us have found our aspirations and ideals limited by this elusive resource. The problem is simple: we participate in too many worthwhile pursuits. The solution is difficult (if indeed there is one) but let's face it, once in the hills time is still relatively unimportant, and in getting away from it all, problems and commitments are forgotten. Tramping with the Club has a lot to offer, it is challenging and rewarding. The use of Club facilities and organisation is trouble free and enjoyable. Let's strive to retain these facilities, continue to train new leaders and support programmed trips.

The keenness in our newer and younger members is very encouraging. These are among the regulars and their viewpoints should be represented when trip lists are being formulated.

We must congratulate Dave Harrington and Jenny Christmas on their Cook Strait - to - Bay of Plenty montane traverse. This was not only a very creditable trip but I believe a FIRST. The feat was undertaken quietly and efficiently by Dave and Jenny: a fantastic effort.

After a tenure of some 25-30 years in the Radiant Living Hall we have been advised of the impending sale of the property and we are currently looking at possible new venues for our fortnightly meetings. The Radiant Living Hall will hold a lot of memories in many minds.

Our unrelenting and hard working Club Captain has not been letting our huts lie down and die. Randall, almost single handedly is re-creating the Waikamaka cooking and heating facilities: out with the old open fire and in (almost) with a new efficient stove complete with new North wall, flue, drying rack and panoramic window. With up to four trips in and out per weekend it looks like we may have to replace the track as well!

I wish to thank those who have represented Club viewpoints on various committees and also those who have prepared and presented submissions on the Club's behalf. My thanks to the Social Committee and to all those associated with the Club's administration for their co-operation and management of the Club's affairs during the year. I wish to especially thank Les and Jacky for their good work.

Finally I wish the Club a prosperous and active 1983.

T.P.

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Considering the past year's trip fixtures, the weekends further afield have not been as popular as the day trips close to home, the Ruapehu Ski weekend being the exception. Possible factors are; members having to put school work before tramping, hassels with money, lack of experience and equipment. Although our Club cannot overcome all these problems for young people it does provide a good set-up to train them, and allow them to experience tramping and basic mountaineering amongst good companionship.

We have visited most mountainous areas of the Southern North Island on a regular basis, with a few variations from tramping like snow skiing, yachting, etc. The yachting at Lake Taupo involved members personal equipment and facilities which I for one appreciated, thank you.

Trip leaders have done a great job planning their trips with accommodation, transport and illustrated maps to explain things clearly. Working parties have been few.

My thanks to all those who contributed to make our tramping club what it is during this last year. As this is my last term in this position, I have been grateful for the support and work other committees and people have done behind the scenes.

On behalf of the Club I would like to thank the NZFS for the use of their huts, and land owners for their advice and permission to cross their land.

R.G.

HUT, TRACK AND FIXTURE COMMITTEE

HUTS

The Club has four huts on which, apart from the fantastic new water tank at Howletts, only minor maintainance has been done, such as the new Nova roof at Kaweka. We also discovered three name carvers there - Rob is their teacher at school.....

Kaweka Hut now requires only a few more bunk boards and perhaps a few less rats!

Kiwi Saddle is looking a bit dozy in some of the studs and we have a water tank to go in there which is still to be flown in. The water supply having a pronounced tendency to err slightly on the dry side.

Howletts - well what can you say about Howletts - Moua - what a hut! Number one on the Ranges and it is unique to Hawkes Bay!

Last but not least Waikamaka, the place of the much feared longdrop. I will not say too much about it here because Randall is still working on it. He has done one hell of a lot of good hard work and before long we may see a big improvement to the winter temperatures in the old Waikamaka. Sounds as though it will be a bit like Howletts, with everyone flaking out with heat exhaustion before they have time to get their parkas and mittens off!

TRACKS

We leave them to the forestry boys who are paid to look after them. We did however, fix the Kanuka bridge on the Kaweka track, but that was last year so it hardly counts.

FIXTURES

We have not roamed too far afield during this last year with the lower numbers on the trips making this rather uneconomic, but we did manage Ruapehu a couple of times with a full truck. The day trips however have been much better patronised and around our local region we have had some exceptional trips with the weather for the year being fairly good. Although, the less said about Easter the better.

We have been to Tarewera South, to Coppermine Creek, the Tararuas, Kawekas, Kaimanawas and Ruahines, back to the Orua River and yet again to what some people thought was the track to Colenso Lakes. Little did they know! Snow has been seen, touched and cursed. Feet have been blistered. Smaller trampers have been windblasted (which tends to stunt growth even further) and we have been alternatively wet, cold, dry, hot, had fantastic views and had such poor views that we didn't even notice the Onga Onga until we waded into it, and combinations of all these.

All in all we have seen some new places, some bootworn tracks and had a really tremendous time doing it all.

Club members were more involved in the fixture list this year and it had paid dividends - not in dollars - but in enjoyment.

A rose by any other name would smell as sweet,
Would you sniff a rose if it's name was feet,
Or sweat, or socks, or green ratten meat?

SEARCH & RESCUE REPORT

The past year has been one of the more active years from a SAR point of view. Club members have been involved in at least six alerts which resulted in three field operations. The alerts included:

1. A call for two men overdue at Cameron Hut.
2. A hunter missing and presumed injured behind Middle Hill Hut.
3. A woman separated from a rafting party at Te Puia Hut.
4. Two Boys Brigade Boys lost in Kaweka Hut, MacIntosh Area.
5. A call for assistance for a school party at Timahanga Station.
6. Keith King missing from Makahu car park.

(A more detailed report on the above is later in the magazine.)

The search for a hunter behind Middle Hill Hut and the Keith King Search in the Makahu Spur/Kaweka J area required the largest involvement by club members.

The King search had members out for a total of eight days. Some members were out for most of the search while others came out for shorter periods. The search commenced on the first of July in extremely bad weather conditions (the worst for an operation since I have been involved with search and rescue) and was scaled down after 4½ days without having located any positive sign.

Two weeks later club members were out again on the trial search. This was held at Kuripapango. While most of the activities were centred at Kuripapango the weather was good enough for a team to have another look around Makahu Spur and the tops. The wind got up during the morning and by late afternoon it was very strong on the tops. Again we were forced to retire without any positive clues being found.

Shortly after the SAREX the thaw set in and despite other private trips the body of King was not found until the 31st of July. King was found on Makahu Spur just above Dominie Hut and a small group representing most of the original organisations went in on the 1st August to recover the body. (One month after the original callout).

While we were well supported by club members on the operations held this year it once again highlighted the limited depth in experience we have for good fit team personnel if we have to carry out a large operation.

As mentioned in past reports many people from all clubs are tending to make themselves available for the real thing but are not so keen to come out on exercises. This gives us little chance to gauge the ability of some people and it also reduces our ability to operate effectively when the need arises. If this trend continues it may be necessary to pull other teams in from the main centres to fill out our numbers. This may cause some complaints from other organisations but we may have no other choice if we are to operate as an efficient organisation.

I am very thankful however that club members have once again acted as the main force supporting SAR operations and this has played no small part in the successful conclusions of operations. I would once again like to thank all those who have made themselves available to participate on both searches and training exercises.

G.T.

TRAINING COMMITTEE REPORT

1982 has been a relatively quiet year for the training committee. However we did have a very successful training trip held at the 'Old Mill' site at the end of the Wakarara Road.

Twenty eight enthusiastic trampers came on the trip and it was good to see that a large proportion were new members and students.

Everyone was shown the correct use of a map and compass and also how to identify useful plants in the bush. This was followed by a short tramp to enable us to put into practice what we had learnt.

I am sure everyone gained some knowledge from the trip, and enjoyed themselves at the same time.

Training exercises like these are of great benefit to the Club in improving the skills and knowledge of all members, and the safety on Club trips.

Thank you to all who have assisted the Training Committee.

G.B.

EDITORS REPORT

This year has been a frustrating one for me as magazine editor. My teaching workload left me with little time or enthusiasm to do the job. This was not helped by the reluctance of people to write reports. Instead of reports coming in at a steady trickle the tendency has been for them to all arrive at once, usually about the time when the magazine should have been completed.

The editors' job should ideally be one where he or she simply puts together articles contributed by the club members. However the Pohokura editor seems to need the qualities of a press gang to get anything written at all.

Sue Taylor and Karen Lancaster have done a great job again as typists for the magazine. Their work goes largely unnoticed but is the most essential part of putting the magazine together. Any other members with typing ability would be greatly appreciated. However, what would be more appreciated is if members would ensure they get trip reports due into the editor promptly. Then the typist can prepare the magazine bit by bit rather than in one go.

Thanks also to Ingram, Thomson and Berry for the use of their duplicating facilities and to all the willing helpers who attend stapling evenings.

R.C.

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1982

<u>1981</u>	At Balance date the Club owned the following Assets:	
1060	Bank of New South Wales	2045.92
3000	" " " " " Investment Account	3000.00
394	Eastern & Central Savings Bank	617.49
170	Equipment	169.63
511	Stocks on Hand	278.41
	1971 Bedford Truck at cost	9363.51
	<u>Less Depreciation to date</u>	<u>4683.51</u>
5460		4680.00

Huts valued in the books as follows:

Kaweka	10.00
Kiwi	50.00
Waikamaka	55.00
Howletts	<u>1905.17</u>

2020		2020.17
69	Projector at cost	69.00
177	Bookcase	177.23
554	Brother Electric Typewriter	<u>442.80</u>

13415 The total value of the Assets being 13500.65

However, of this amount there has been set aside for -

137	Accounts owing	109.04
69	Reunion Fund	139.00
70	Subscriptions in Advance	<u>5.00</u>

(276) 253.04

13139 Leaving a surplus of Assets over Liabilities of \$ 13247.61

This surplus is represented by the balance in Accumulated Funds:

Balance as at 1st October 1981	13138.90
Plus profit for the year	<u>108.71</u>

\$ 13247.61

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 and Expenditure Account show respectively a true and fair view of the Club's position at 30th September 1982 and of the results for the year ended on that date.

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

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1982

1981 INCOME: The Club's Income comprised:

668	Subscriptions	517.50	
485	Working Party Proceeds	238.00	
85	Equipment Hire	117.20	
211	Meeting Contributions	294.44	
70	Donations - General	18.60	
	- Forest Service grant for hut maintenance	280.00	
445	- Motere Trust for hut maintenance	350.00	
391	Interest Received	443.08	
21	Profit on Maps, Tee Shirts etc	-	
18	Sale of Carbide	-	
2394			2258.82

EXPENDITURE: The Expenses incurred in running the Club were:

209	Advertising	7.52	
286	Rent of Meeting Room	340.00	
38	Supper and Social Expenses	24.00	
223	Equipment & Hut Maintenance	793.25	
29	Subscriptions: Royal Society, Alpine Club etc	37.50	
171	F.M.C. Capitation	192.00	
31	Insurance	65.33	
338	Bulletin Expenses	220.36	
76	Stationery, stamps etc	48.85	
25	Loss on resales	44.10	
-	Loss on social evening	79.00	
11	General Expenses	57.15	
-			
-	Depreciation - Typewriter	110.70	
-	Transport Costs	1885.62	
-	Truck Depreciation	780.00	
		2665.62	
	Fares Received	2535.27	
1114	Loss on Transport	130.35	
2551			2150.11
157	There was therefore a profit for the year of		408.71

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. The truck is being written off over 12 years at the rate of \$780 a year

LIBRARY

The 1981-82 year is as usual low on takings - 20 cents to be exact. Thirteen books were issued officially, although I have a feeling that more have been read than appear in the issues book.

It is a pity the library isn't more used, as there are some of the 'classic' mountain climbs in it, as well as an interesting range of other books, including a good selection of New Zealand material, and of course, bulletins from other clubs, and associated material ranging from conservation to climbing equipment.

E.R.P.

PUBLICITY REPORT

Over the past 12 months publicity has been very quiet. Our club posters have been distributed in various locations around Hastings and Napier.

A new poster has been designed to illustrate our new meeting venue in Park Road, Hastings. If anyone can assist in the distribution of posters please get in contact with any one of our committee members.

C.T.

GEAR CUSTODIANS REPORT

Since I took over the gear hire in February we have recieved a total of \$105.20. Gear Hire in December to January amounted to \$44.00, giving a total income of \$149.20.

Items hired and number of times:

Day packs	12
Weekend packs	4
Leather boots	26
Rubber boots	7
Billy	1
Parkas	4
Ice Axes	24
Tent	1

Generally I have found the gear has been returned promptly, clean, and in good order. Nevertheless two pairs of leather boots have been discarded totally worn out.

J.McB.

PHOTO ALBUMN REPORT

Few people here today seem to know that we have an official Photograph Albumn. It is in the Club library cupboard in three big volumes and available for any person to look at anytime.

This Albumn is a visual record of almost all of the Club trips since the formation of the Club in 1935. Sadly, since about 1965 it has been very neglected, and little material has been added since then. I hope with the advent recently of fast colour processing more people will start to provide pictures for the albumn.

Its real value is for people to look back and instantly recall faces and events from past trips and also over to years to note the changes in the landscape that we visit so often.

The Clubs 50th Jubilee is coming up soon and the albumn MUST be COMPLETELY up to date before then. Past members who come will wish to see it, and in the future younger members who are here now will wish to have something on record to look back on when they are less active.

So this is an appeal to all here who have camera's and like taking photo's on Club trips. Shots of interest are those with people in them who are easily recognisable against backgrounds or scenes that are notable and identifiable.

Please show your good tramping photos to the Albumn Custodian and copies can be made to keep an on going record of the Club activities.

R.S.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

To start the year off with a social event we organised and ran a 'Bad Taste Party' out at Roys' Hill Deerstalkers Hall. It was in the chilly month of June, on the 19th. About 40 people turned up in all their 'Bad Taste Gaff'. The night was successful and I think everyone enjoyed themselves. Thank you to all the people who spent most of their saturday helping with the hall.

On July 3rd Goeff Holmes left Hawkes Bay to go into the Air Force. We arranged a going away evening at the D.B. Te Mata, but due to a massive Search and Rescue operation in action on that particular weekend only 14 or so people managed to turn up, thank you to those people.

On August 28th we arranged a Progressive Dinner. To start with we went to Ross Berry's house for soup, then moved on to Geoff Robinson's house for the main meal and then travelled to Napier to Karen Lancaster's for dessert, then all around to Randall Goldfinch's house for a party. Everyone enjoyed it, I would like to thank all those who helped make the evening go so well.

Social events at the Heretaunga Tramping Club meetings included slides, snowcraft talks, David Harrington and Jenny Christmas with slides on their trip earlier this year, many people made special efforts to come along and hear the next episode of their journey, these talks covered three meetings. We also had a tupperware evening where members were able to buy tupperware goods.

All in all this year has been a successful one; I hope everyone enjoyed the social 'things' that have been organised.

Good luck to the next Social Committee for 1983.

K.L.

SEARCH AND RESCUE DETAILS

After a long period without much activity the local SAR organisation has suddenly found itself up to it's eyeballs in work. The rush started late in April with five calls in about three weeks. Club members were involved in all callouts which included;

1. Two men overdue in Cameron Hut. They came out just as the first team was about to leave the station.
2. A search for a hunter who had fired off an emergency signal behind Middle Hill Hut. Three teams entered the area and found the man fit and well at their campsite around 2.30 pm the next day.
3. A search for a woman who had been rafting down the Mohaka. The woman had left Te Puia Hut late in the evening and had not been seen at the road by 2.00 pm the next day. She was later found by a Police car doing a reconnaissance trip around the road heads.
4. A search for two Boys Brigade Boys who went missing going to Kaweka Hut. We spent some time searching the area that night and it looked like the boys had gone to MacIntosh Hut. They were later found by a search team after a hunter had taken them round from MacIntosh to Kaweka Hut.

5. The last in the series was for a school party overdue at Timahunga Station. This search was taken over by the Taihape Police and we did not get past the call out stage.

We then had several weeks rest before being called to try and locate a man by the name of Keith King who had been reported missing from his home and work. His car was found at Makahu Hut car park and it was later found that he had been positively seen wearing light clothing on Makahu Spur above Dominie Hut.

Six teams were called out to search the area on Thursday the 1st July. This was 2½ full days since King had gone missing and by this time the weather was rapidly deteriorating. Snow conditions were already difficult with the main range well covered in snow. The two men who had seen King on the Spur had cut steps to get down the ridge and this may have given King the opportunity to climb to the tops.

Teams assembled at 5.00 am on the Thursday and then headed for base at Whittles farm, after a briefing at the Napier Police Station. All Teams were in the field by 0800 with the usual tasks of searching main routes, ridges and creeks around Makahu Spur.

It soon became obvious however that the teams covering the high altitude areas were going to have only limited effect as far as searching was concerned. The winds increased during the day and the visibility dropped quickly to full white out conditions. We also had a problem with the TR 105 radios. This was the first time they had given trouble on a search and we later found that at least three sets had problems. Rob Clark's set gave up after the first couple of words and we did not hear from his team again until the end of the day when we heard that two of the team were walking out along the road to base. Two teams were combined at this point to make a larger and more concentrated search around Bivvi next day.

By the end of the first day the tops had been covered from Kaweka J to almost Ballard Hut. The creeks to the east of the main ridges had been covered together with Don's and Makahu Spur. Other teams had covered the route to MacIntosh and Kaweka Huts and the route to Kaweka Flats Bivvi and Middle Hill Hut. Teams spent the night in Makahu, Kaweka, Back and Middle Hill Huts.

Next day (Friday) teams were tasked to cover more of the tops, to the south of the J and Ballards Hut. Included in the tasks were areas in the head of Kiwi Creek and Donald River. Unfortunately the weather was even worse than Thursday and the teams didn't manage to complete these tasks. However Makahu Spur was given another good going over.

Having discussed conditions on the tops with teams on their return it was quite obvious that we were not going to achieve more than a search of the main routes and huts in the area. Teams were experiencing complete white-out conditions and coming over the tops were finding that parkas and leggings were becoming completely iced up. Ice axes were developing a layer of ice over them and searching was becoming more of a survival exercise. Conditions were such that there was a good chance of being caught out and maybe losing personnel.

A round table discussion was held with the Police Search Controller (he came up from Napier) on the Friday afternoon and it was generally agreed that there was little chance of anyone being alive on the tops and if King was to be found alive it would have to be in the bush at a lower altitude. The most likely areas being the head of the Donald River or Kiwi Creek. The head of Rocks Ahead and Makahu Rivers were still on the list of possibilities even though teams had covered the most likely areas. However, the white-out conditions had prevented the teams from covering more than a 10 to 20 metre wide path along the route that they had followed.

It was therefore decided to scale down the search from the eastern side of the range until the weather cleared and a chopper was arranged to check out the huts that hadn't been covered on the western side of the range. This was done on the Saturday morning and all but Kiwi Saddle Hut were checked.

Just before lunch on Saturday Randall, Rob, Janet and Peter Berry arrived back at Search H.Q. to see if they could assist further. It was suggested that they should check the Kiwi Creek headwaters. They were given a radio and they set off to see what they could find.

It wasn't that long before they called base to say that a note had been found in Dominie Bivvi. This was an interesting find when you consider just how many teams had passed through this hut without seeing the note. It just shows how careful one must be when checking out a hut. Every detail must be considered.

Randall and Co. then climbed to the tops and spent about an hour or so checking around Kaweka J. This still seemed to be a prime area but the weather conditions were still poor and it soon became too cold for them to stay any longer. They then returned to Makahu for the night. Next morning the weather was still bad so they returned home.

The next check of the area was made during the SAREX when Randall lead a team of 8 onto the tops to do a pattern search of all the area between the j and

North Kaweka. Most of this area was thoroughly checked within the limits of the deep snow conditions and the sides of the ridge down to Studholmes Saddle was also checked as the team left the tops for the night. By this time there was a very strong westerly wind blowing which made conditions dangerous. SAREX teams around Kiwi Saddle also had trouble with the wind.

The body of King was finally found by a private party tramping on Makahu Spur after the snow thawed. A team of 12 of us then entered the field to recover the body. King was found on Makahu Spur between Dominie Bivvi and the Tops. There was little doubt that his body was covered in snow during the search and on my figuring at least four teams passed within 10 feet of him during the main search as did the team on the SAREX.

Recovery of the body took about five hours. It is suprising just how difficult it is to carry a stretcher down a place like Makahu Spur. Even though the ridge is open rock it is still very difficult to follow the narrow tracks.

I would like to thank all those who assisted in this search. Conditions were very difficult and all HTC members carried out their tasks with the usual enthusiasm and one has to be careful not to take the contributions made for granted.

G.T.

Those Participating:

Bruce Perry, Randall Goldfinch, Alan Holden, Dave Harrington, Peter Berry, Lee Barrett, Bill Bainbridge, Lyle Lawrence, Janet Brown, Rob Clark, Ross Berry, Edward Holmes, Alan Thurston, Clive Thurston, Keith Dixon, Trevor Plowman, Graham Thorp, Jenny Christmas, Graham Bailey.

TRUCK REPORT

Once again our truck has performed well over the last year with no major problems cropping up.

Expenses over the year on maintenance included one tyre retreaded, air horns fitted, front exhaust pipe replaced, steering joint replaced and one puncture repaired. Total expenditure on repairs being \$961.47. Total fuel and oil expenditure was \$1193.38. Insurance, registration and licenses of \$382.83, less unused portions make up a total expenditure of \$1935.08.

The truck has travelled a total of 4264 kilometers this year to local ranges and two trips to Tongariro National Park and although not always loaded to capacity a close watch kept on expenses and use has seen an income from fares of \$2411.00 plus income of \$170.63 from petrol tax rebate to make a total of \$2581.63 income for the year. Balance of expenditure over income after depreciation is \$133.45.

Some temporary work was done earlier in the year on the canopy but far more extensive repairs to the metalwork will be necessary in the near future to keep the comfort in the back up to scratch. Brackets for the safety rope have to be specially made and are under way now.

I would like to thank all drivers and also those who assisted on working parties on the truck, these all help to keep costs down.

P.M.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Trampers are usually inclined to be individualistic. Therefore few clubs would expect their members to do all their tramping with official parties. Many trampers, as they gain experience, join particular club friends from time to time to visit localities of special interest to them, going on scheduled club trips on other occasions.

The only obligations are to maintain a standard of conduct and safety that is in accordance with the good name of tramping and their club and to take a share in leadership and working parties.

An important feature of tramping is that, like enjoyment of the outdoors, it is open to everyone regardless of class, colour, or creed. Clubs have therefore to cope with a wide range of people, all with their own political and social attitudes, their strengths and weaknesses.

Members of the Club go through many pleasures and perils together and thus share bonds of common endeavour which develop into bonds of friendship strong enough to last a lifetime.

G.R.

CLUB TRIPS

No. 1254

2 September

IRON WHARE - KAWEKA FLATS

All was well as about twelve unfit, unhealthy looking trampers with sleepy dust in their eyes piled into the truck and snuggled under the tarpoulin and blankets to catch up on a couple of hours sleep.

The sun peeped through a crack in the clouds to reassure us it was in fact becoming day. The southwesterly wind howled from the snow clad Kaweka Range.

Slowly but surely we made our way up the Puketitiri Rd and onto Whittle Rd, we slowly ground up hill to Little's Clearing where we off loaded, donned boots and headed off to the right up a four wheel drive track to a trig point - we then headed in a north-east direction along Black Birch Range towards the Mohaka. We reached the point we thought seemed ideal and bush bashed down a spur to the Makahu stream.

After smoko we took the plunge into ice cold water and after three crossings upstream reached a ridgewhich was in about the right spot. We slogged upwards on a vague track for about an hour and a 'bit' and then weaving in and out of some enormous beech trees until finally arriving at Iron Whare. A beautiful little hut with a dirt floor, it was originally a shepherds hut when sheep were taken up onto the main range every year to graze the tops. It is probably the second or third edition but never mind it's still nice to come across.

We then continued our westerly course towards the main range for about an hour until by expert navigation by the author we struck the Kaweka Flats - Middle Hill track.

We dined in a pretty little spot in the sun and sheltered from the wind until not a speck of food could be rumaged from any pack. Never-the-less we trugged on for twenty minutes in the southerly direction drawn foward by the smell of Les Hangers lunch at the Flats Bivvi. Again we rested a while and then plodded back towards Makahu and the truck. It was a most excellent trip and brought back a few memories to some of us. A nice area and could be visited more frequently but with slight changes now and again.

Thanks to Les for driving.

E.H.

Leader: Peter Berry

No. in Party: 12

Sue Clark, Karen Lancaster, Heather McBride, Christine Hardy, Sue Taylor, Randall Goldfinch, Craig Ball, Edward Holmes, Les Hanger, Shane Tahu and Blair

No. 1255

18-19 September

MOUNTAIN SAFETY COUNCIL BUSHCRAFT COURSE

At 6.00 am on 18th September the club truck driven by Les Hanger left Hastings Police Station. Aboard were members of HTC, Venturers, ATC and one guy who was lucky to be there as Les spotted him heading in the wrong direction on the far side of the railway line.

Meeting place and check in was the car park area on Lakes Road, off Castle Rocks Road. The course had instructors from the Mountain Safety Council, Forestry, Fire Service and Tramping Clubs. After check in we were divided into four groups, a leader and deputy decided and issued with a C.B. Radio and a Mountain Radio. Next we had a lecture on Radio and Communications and Map and Compass work.

After a morning tea, organised by those staying the weekend at the carpark, maintaining the radio link, we set off to the hut. Les and Lou, on the pretext of doing some hut repairs, and a tin of rat poison between them to back up the claim, headed out in front of the groups, which set off at five minute intervals. In our group of 13 was Jack Bilky a tree expert who pointed out the different bushes and trees, with information on edible and medicinal parts of the plants.

Every 30 minutes en route we had to call base on the C.B. but try as he might, Perry Hicks our Radio Op couldn't get any response - the radio was faulty. At the river we were shown the methods of crossing swollen and swift rivers.

Two hours later our group reached Kaweka Hut to find Les and Lou with tents pitched and the edge of the helipad, where the rest of us HTC members set up camp. Two fly-sheets!

After lunch there was a bush walk for tree and plant identification with Jack Bilkey. We were led by Les through the thickest bush lawyer he could find! Next lecture was on survival and lost procedure. Craig and Geoff set up the Mountain Radio at the helipad and called base for the evening schedule. After tea we met in the hut for a talk on camping out and Environmental impact. It was reported the 62 people were at one time inside the hut.

Craft talk started the day followed by first aid then finally came some action with the Fire Service teaching the basics on fire fighting. Learners went to the far river bank beside the track towards MacIntosh Hut, others

went further up the river to higher banks.

The weather was slowly closing in by 1.00 pm when we struck camp and walked out to the vehicles where saveloys and tea were waiting.

After a debrief we set off for Hastings, getting home at 4.30 pm.

No. in party:8

Craig Ball, Lee Barrett, Les Hanger, Lou Harrison, Nancy McLean, Geoff Robinson, Sue Clark, Perry Hicks.

No. 1256

3 October

MANGAKARA STREAM

Sunday dawned a grey wind blown day with little promise in the 5.30 am weather forecast. Napier members, with the extra $\frac{1}{2}$ hour in bed heard the 6.00 am weather forecast which, it seems, had been rewritten. The day turned out warm with wall to wall blue sky.

Our destination was a picnic ground, on the banks of the Mohaka River, some miles up the Waitara Road. On the trip up we caught glimpses of the Kaweka and Maungaharuru Ranges showing off their coating of fresh snow.

Shortly after leaving the truck we reached the Mohaka - high, wide and dirty. It was some time before a 'safe' crossing point was found, and tried. It's depth ranged from waist deep to chest deep depending on your height. We crossed the river in small groups. One group of four turned around mid river and walked out backwards. This of course was to prevent photographic identification in case of mishap.

The Mangakara Stream was about 2-3 metres wide and knee deep. It didn't change much in size as we tramped up it. Its bottom was of sandy gravel and round slippery rocks which made travelling in it interesting. The banks were about a meter above the stream and were covered in a fine green moss with small manukas evenly spread along them.

After lunch we moved on up the stream for a little while more before returning to the Mohaka for another bash at river crossing.

The Mohaka was a little lower and clearer. We crossed at the same place but because of the angle of attack, we found it a little deeper. No fancy stuff this time!

After a change of clothes we headed home with a short stop along the way to view the Orans, a rock formation about $\frac{1}{2}$ way down the road.

We arrived at Tony Rieds's at 17.30. Thanks Geoff for driving.

Leader: Gerald Blackburn M.B.
No. in Party: 14

Sue O'Malley, Randall Goldfinch, Rob Vork, Nancy McLean, Stephen Bowden, Peter Berry, Craig Ball, Lee Barrett, Bill Bainbridge, Blair Horrocks, Mitch Barrett, Geoff Robinson, Mike Bull.

No. 1257

17 October

PARKS PEAK VIA MAKARORA

With the weather looking quite promising eight enthusiasts met at Holts corner. After deciding on the destination Peter thought he would need his boots so off in Eddie Holmes' converted Mazda we went to Havelock North. All aboard, fully equipped, we reached the derelict mill site at Wakarara. Crossing the river we noticed the forestry bloke in residence at the hut. The four wheel drive track wound up the rise past the junction to Ellis hut and Lower Makarora Hut then petered out at a small new foot bridge. We climbed up the Makaroro track up and up and up with an odd dark cloud passing over but not bearing much. Once on the top we were in 2-3 inches of powder snow. Large windfallen trees in patches made going a little more interesting. After a lunch stop beside a couple of blown over trees with pools of stagnant water at their base, we carried on along the tops. Not all the party felt up to making an effort for the hut so turned back. An hours burst put us into Parks Peak Hut for a bite to eat. The hut had a new log book brought up the previous day by a forestry worker and his dog. We had windy but mainly sunny conditions throughout the day apart from the occasional large clouds. The way out was marked by spotting one parakeet. We also heard the first shining cuckoo of the season. The ridge to Makaroro seemed far steeper than on the way up. Maybe just that the legs were tired! The group got fairly spread out on the bottom trails. Peter, Eddie and Craig decided to bring the Mazda over the river and up the track for the rest of us. Kind thoughts. On rounding the last bend before the river it was with alarm to spot the boys knee deep in water beside the stuck truck, which still running, had Eddie sweating at the steering wheel. What a stroke of luck a local farmer had decided on that spot at that time for his Sunday drive. Eddie's long thin tow rope completed the picture. Thoughts of having

dry feet at the end of the day were squashed. Every one ended up wetter than ever. After changing into dry clothes we headed back to town all satisfied with a good days outing.

N. McL

Leader: Peter Berry

No. in Party: 8

Sue Taylor, Edward Holmes, Craig Ball Geoff Robinson,
Nancy McLean, Val Barcham, Judy Sandilands.

No. 1258

22-25 October

MAKORAKO - KAIMANAWAS

Leaving Napier on Thursday night at 6.30 pm we finally arrived at Turangi approximately 10.15 pm making our stay at the Forestry Base. On waking up to a fine, sunny morning we continued our journey along Highway 1 turning off on the Des - Road access and leaving the truck towards the end of the Kaimanawa Road. With our boots and packs on we finally started on our way up the Waikoko Stream leaving it for a 2000 ft hot climb up to the tops clambering our way over tree falls towards to top. We come out on to the open top and headed north-east towards 'Sharp Cone', the weather being very warm but windy, we made shelter behind a rock and had lunch. We then continued along the range towards 'Umukarikari Point' before gradually dropping down to Waipakiki Hut for the night, arriving approximately 2.30 pm, we spent the rest of the day enjoying the sun but also made time for a map and compass session.

Next morning we awoke to overcast weather and left the hut at 8.15 am gradually climbing 1200 ft to the top of 'Junction Tops' and dropping down on the other side to the Rangitiki River, by this stage it had started to drizzle. We crossed the cold river to the other side to climb yet another 1600 ft to the top of Island Range, but unfortunately due to wet, cold overcast conditions we were left with no alternative but to go back down the same way to the Rangitiki River where we had a bit of a 'make up your mind' session on what to do, but with the rain pouring down in bucket fulls it didn't take us long to decide to head back the same way to Waipakiki Hut where we remained for the night. (With three major climbs done in one day we all slept well).

The next morning, much to our surprise we awoke to about a foot of snow around the hut which well and truly mucked up our plans, leaving us unable to move anywhere, so the day was spent staying put in the hut playing cards, reading, etc.

The following morning with about 3 feet of snow lying around the hut, we decided to brave the elements and walk out via the Waipakiki River, so with most of our woolies on we ventured our way down the river for about $3\frac{3}{4}$ hours until arriving at the track junction leading to 'Umukarikari Range'. After a change of clothing we climbed 1500 ft to the top and headed west which was particually hard going insuch soft and deep snow but we finally arrived at the bush edge which dropped us 2000ft to the road which we followed around, though leading us to a dead end. We dropped down into the bush for about 400 ft which brought us out behind the truck.

ON the whole, an enjoyable trip, except for the weather.

Leader: David Harrington

No. inParty: 4

Jenny Christmas, Micheal Henley, Craig Ball.

No. 1259

30 October

WAIKAMAKA WORKING PARTY

We arrived at the roadhead in North Block Road to find Randall waiting for us; he had stayed the night at Triplex Base after, would you believe it, making two trips the previous day. Spread out on the ground were several 10 lb packets of cement and other sundry tools. I couldn't help thinking that we could have been smugglers with packets of drugs that we were going to carry over the pass.

The cement and tools disappeared into packs and we headed up the river into a stiff wind. One thing I did notice, growing in the shingle of the river bed, were all the lupin plants. I believe the seed was air dropped. A couple of stops and we pushed over the saddle into the usual wind and dropped down past the water which was going up some of the time and on down Waikamaka Stream where we passed a bed of moss on which were all these freshly hatched-out furry caterpillars; well over a hundred of them.

A quick lunch in the hut and we set about various tasks. In next to no time Bill had a stockpile of builders mix down in the stream bed. We cleared the ground around the chimney and chain-ganged the shingle up. We made a ladder to reach the top of the chimney, and we also cleared the track to the toilet.

We still had to look at the precut board and the new stove and its flue which Randall had carried in over the past five weeks. So it looks as though when the working party comes round in December the job will be all ready to go.

With hogs-back clouds forming above and the wind getting up even more we scurried back over the saddle and down the river bed back to the truck.

A good day with the work well done, thanks to everyone.

J.G.

Leader: Jim Glass

No. in Party: 15

Bill Bainbridge, Lee Barrett, Mitch Barrett, Geoff Robinson, Randall Goldfinch Nancy McLean, Mike Bull, Blair Horrocks, Jim Vernon, Perry Hicks, Adam Walls, Clive Thurston, Craig Ball, Selwyn June.

No. 1260

14 November

CAIRN TRIP

After a wet and windy Saturday, it was with some surprise that Sunday dawned so fine and clear. After collecting people along the way and in Napier we headed for the hills with 14 aboard the truck.

Arriving safely at Makahu Roadhead, we set off up Makahu Spur. It was not long before we met very strong winds which were to plague us all the way to the top. We had a short break at Dominie Shelter before we plunged back into the wind for the final assault. At the top we feasted our eyes on the panorama of snow clad Ruapehu and Ngauruhoe.

A short memorial service was held at the Cairn in memory of those from the Club who lost their lives during the 2nd World War. A wreath was laid, which had been made by Karen Glass, and before we retreated from the wind, more rocks were gathered and added to the Cairn.

After a lunch break it was decided to head off along the tops where we dropped off just this side of North Kaweka down a long spur. After some distance we climbed down the side of the spur through open Beech trees to Boulder Stream where we had a pleasant rest in the sun. The stream was easily negotiated till we picked up the track on the true right which led us through some great beech forest before meeting up with the Kaweka Flats track which led us back to the truck.

A pleasant days outing was had in fine company.

G.R.

Leader: Geoff Robinson

No. in Party: 14

Randall Goldfinch, Mike Bull, Philip Lavary, Rob Clark, Janet Brown, Liz Pindar, Lew Harrison, Nancy McLean, Susan Taylor, Clive Thurston, Karen Glass, Edward Holmes, Craig Ball,



1982 MEMORIAL CAIRN TRIP

Front Row left: Philip Lavery, Craig Ball, Karen Glass
Middle Row left: Randell Goldfinch, Rob Clark, Liz Pinder, Edward Holmes, Nancy McLean
Back Row left: Lew Harrison, Mike Bull, Geof Robinson, Sue Taylor

Photo by Clive Thurston

TRAMPING CLUB EQUIPMENT HIRE.

The following is a list of tramping equipment available for hire:-

	<u>Charge per day</u>
Leather Boots	\$1.00
Lace-up rubber gunboots	1.00
Weekend frame packs	1.00
Day packs	2.00
Ice axes	1.00
Crampons	1.00
Tents	1.00
Billy	.20¢
Lilo	1.00

If you wish to hire any of this gear, please get in contact with:-

Mrs McBride,
101 Kenilworth Road,
Hastings.

Phone HBN. 69756

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Waikamaka Mouse Trap

Randell invented a new type of mousetrap and took it along to be patented. It consisted of a board with a razor blade in the middle pointing upwards, and a piece of cheese on one side of the blade.

"How does it work?" asked the lawyer.

"The mouse comes up on one side of the blade, leans over to eat the cheese and cuts his throat."

"But why shouldn't the mouse walk around the blade to get at the cheese?"

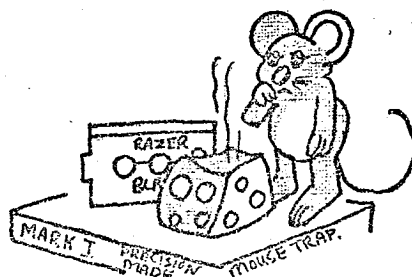
Randell studied the board closely.

"Man, but you lawyers are clever. I'll have to go and make another trap."

Two months later Randell returned with a mark II design to be patented. This time the board had an upturned hacksaw blade right across the middle, but no cheese.

The lawyer looked confused. "Sorry, Randell, but I still don't follow how this trap works."

"Can't you see, man?" said Randell, beaming. "The mouse climbs on the board and runs from side to side, sniffing lower and lower over the blade, saying to himself: 'Where's the bloody cheese?'"



PRIVATE TRIPS

24 October

BOUNDARY STREAM

On Sunday of Labour weekend Nancy and I picked up Chris and Albert, who were camping at Lake Tutira, and went up to Boundary Stream reserve.

Spring had arrived and the Kowhai flowers were magnificent all along the rock outcrops through the bush with greedy half-drunk Tui's sitting guzzling on nectar and fat Gluttonous pigeons eating the blossom as fast as they could, and the air was perfumed with rangiora and clematis bloom.

While we were having lunch at Shines' falls we were greeted by shining cuckoos having snacks also, and later we were given a demonstration of flycatching with wide open mouths and a big gulp, by several of these decorative birds; nasty habits they may have but they are lovely to watch. Warblers were flitting about and also a pair of tom tits.

Reluctantly we left, not having time to go right down to Heay's Access Road, as one of us had to start work at 7.00 pm.

It was a trip well worth it just to see the shining cuckoos, and the song of the tui's was the richest I've ever heard.

E.R.P.

Nancy McLean, Liz Pindar, Chris and Albert Verplanke.

Thoughts of a newly appointed editor
on veiwing the magnitude of her task!

With my dictionary upon my knee
And my eyes at strange spelling goggling,
I re-syntax my way through the trips of the day.
An editor's task is mind-boggling.

E.R.P.

OVERDUE TRAMPERS

Although returning parties usually plan to be out of the bush well before dark, consideration 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 10.00 pm, until then it would not normally be regarded as cause for parents to worry, but in case some unusual delay should occur, all newcomers should see that the list left in town by the leader included their phone number. For enquiries about OVERDUE PARTIES please contact one of the following:

BERRY 777 223 PLOWMAN 54 303 THORP 434 238

FIXTURE LIST

On many trips parties may divide so that fitter members can undertake a more strenuous trip in the same area. Changes due to unforeseen circumstances could be made on the trip list prior to a trip. Enquire from one of the following:

Peter Manning	82963	Randall Goldfinch	439 163
Liz Pindar	67889	Les Hanger	88 731

TRANSPORT CONTRIBUTIONS: Local trips are \$6.00 per person, and \$10.00 per person for trips outside the Bay.

These contributions are payable at the meeting before the trip. If paid on the day of the trip or after, 50 cents is added. If you are unable to make the trip and notify the leader, your fee will be refunded. If the leader is not notified of cancellation, your fee will be accepted with thanks.

MEETING DATES

Club meetings will now be held at St. Davids Hall, corner of Park Road and Queen Street, Hastings. Starting time for meetings is 7.45 pm.

Meeting dates are as follows:

January	19	March	30
February	2	April	13
February	16	April	27
March	2	May	11
March	16	May	25

FIXTURE LIST

January

- 23 Beach Trip
Ease into the 1983 tramping scene with the beach trip/barbeque. An opportunity for those just returned from the South Island to rest aching limbs.

Leaders: to be decided

February

- 5-6 Makahu - Ballards - Vension Tops - Rocks Ahead - Back Ridge - Kaweka J - Makahu
A solid three day trip along the tops of the Kawekas. Remember to bring a big water bottle! For others not keen on such arduous activity there is Studholmes and Back Ridge Hut to visit.

Leaders: Micheal Henley
Craig Ball

- 20 Lilo/Raft Trip
Always plenty of excitement here on either the Nguaruroro or the Mohaka Rivers. Life Jackets are necessary for safety reasons.

Leaders: Ross Berry 777 223
Randall Goldfinch 439 163

March

- 5-6 Northern Kaimanawa Forest Park
Access via Kiko Road. New country to explore thanks to the access way through the pine trees. Camping out could be the order of the night.

Leaders: David Harrington 435 367
Jenny Christmas 439 318

- 20 Middle Creek Hut - Smith's Creek Hut via Waterfall
Not too far from home in the Rauhiine Ranges. A nice stream and bush walk.

Leaders: Jim Glass 778 748
Karen Lancaster 58 033

April

- 1-4 Whakatane River Trip/Waikaremoana Lake Track/
Waikareui Tundra
Plenty of variety in this area to satisfy everyone..

Leaders: Lee Barrett 67 513
Bill Bainbridge 777 665

- 17 Kiwi Saddle Hut Area
The shingle slide off 4100 is always worth the slog up the hill. Kiwi Saddle Hut is of course one of the Club huts.

Leaders: Ray Lowe 789 372
Karen Glass 778 748

- 23-25 ANZAC Weekend
To be Arranged.

May

- 15 Summit Gentle Annie - Te Iringa Trig -
Hoodoo Bush - Timananea Station
This is what happens when you don't attend Hut, Track and Fixture meetings - they give you trips like this one!! Last time we attempted to find a way through Hoodoo Bush we were turned back by man-eating bush lawyer vines which had a habit of wrapping themselves around your jugular vein. Sure to be full of excitement, bad language, and bruises.

Leaders: Rob Clark 55 956
Janet Brown 55 956

- 29 Shut Eye Shack - Armstrong Saddle - Gold
Creek
An enjoyable round trip up Armstrong Saddle and down to the Flounder. An alternative is to drop down the shingle slide into Triplex Creek. An easier trip is up the Flounder and into Gold Creek Hut.

Leaders: Geoff Robinson 87 863
Rob Vork

June

- 4-6 Tongariro National Park. Waihohehu Hut -
Oturere Hut - Ketetahi Hut
Around the mountains for three days. This trip takes you over Tongariro to reach the hot springs at Ketetahi Hut.

Leaders: Gerald Blackburn 797 245
Bill Bainbridge 777 665