

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC)

BOX 47, HASTINGS

'P O H O K U R A'

Bulletin No.160

August 1985

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CLUB TRIPS

CAMERON HUT

Trip 1326

14 April

In fine cloudy weather, 19 bods arrived in the truck at the Lakes Road carpark, by 8.00 am. Eleven of us climbed up the footpath to Kuripapango Hill, gaining the top by 9.00 am. The view over the Tutaekuri River side was obscured with cloud and over the Ngaruroro River side little better.

Trotting along the tops heading for Kiwi Saddle Hut was very pleasant, with a stop here and there so new people could soak up the scenery. Gaining the last high top by 10.00 am, before Kiwi Saddle Hut, we headed west down a ridge track to Cameron Hut at 1.00 pm.

The track follows down steeply at first, then levels out with small ups and downs, on a well defined ridge. Few track markers are evident, making good tramping through beech trees with views down to the river. The last section of track from where you can see down on Cameron Hut, is really steep and due care is needed - not recommended for coming up.

At Cameron Hut we went down to the Ngaruroro River for lunch and a long drink, leaving by 1.45 pm down the river to the Taihape Rd Carpark by 4.30 pm.

With some welcome sunshine, and the reasonable water-level, a dozen river crossings and some forgotten tracks were negotiated OK.

The other day trippers and the truck were waiting for us at the carpark from where we drove home. Many thanks to Mitch Barrett for driving the truck.

R.G.

Leader. Randall Goldfinch.

No. in party. 10

Robert Marshall, Tony Alexander, Ted Sapsford, T. Vossen, R. Stoltenborg, Jane Elliot, Cus Simmons, Micheal Wootton, Heather McBride, Randall Goldfinch.

Day trippers No. 9.

Nick White, Malcolm Lightband, Andrew Doole, Mitch Barrett, Clinton Manners, John MacIntosh, Liz Pindar, Clifford Holmes, Colleen MacIntosh.

KURIPAPANGO TRAINING DAY

Trip 1327'A'

12 May

It was decided to travel up to Robson's Lodge late

Saturday afternoon in the club truck and have a social gathering that night which we did, with Russell leading the singalong on his guitar.

We were accommodated in the ranger's hostel as Robson's Lodge was being renovated. Some slept in the truck, while two of the boys tried out a new tunnel tent.

We were awoken at 6.30 am by some of the others arriving by car and after an enjoyable breakfast were ready to start by 8.00 am.

After instructions in the use of the compass as it applies in the bush, we set out in groups of two on a previously laid out course, which proved very interesting. We had been told that no real obstacles were in the way to prevent us reaching each next objective and when one set of instructions read 350 degrees (by mistake) and to travel 300 metres, it led a young group of keen types across the river and up a steep bluff looking for the next objective. Fortunately Russell arrived on the scene and put us all right.

Following this, Jim led us into an emergency shelter building course, and it was surprising to see that some of the shelters that we had made the year before were still standing.

Also a pack search was carried out to see what everyone was carrying in the event that one might be forced to camp out for an extra night or two. I believe that everyone learnt a thing or two here - we all tend to get a bit lax!

After lunch and before the river crossing exercise, Jim again taught us the fundamentals of fire lighting. I for one quickly learnt that my emergency fire lighters had grown old and were of no use. Far better to use small pieces of tyre tube or similar.

This was followed by the river crossing exercise.
G.R.

Leader. Geeff Robinson

No in party 27

Geoff Robinson, Russell & Jo Perry and family, Alva McAdam, Randall Goldfinch, David Harrington, Andrew Doole, Bill & Hetty Craig, Jenny Lean, Catherine & Joan Fitzgerald, Sue Potter, Clifford Holmes, Marcus Reinders, Hamish Tait, Haydon Marshall, Peter Berry
And for the second part Glenda Hooper, Micheal Wootten, Jenny Weston, Jim Glass, Martin Glass, Paul Handyside and friend, Clinton Manners, Tony Alexander.

"River crossing"

trip 1327 'B'

The river crossing session started at 2.00 pm. I, Russell, covered some of the basic principles and outlined the types of crossing methods to be used on the circuit. River fatalities (drowning) are the third highest in the outdoor mortuary stakes, so the importance of gaining experience on days such as this, and preparing adequately, with efficient clothing and equipment were stressed. Amazingly, we discovered that a number of junior members were wearing cotton next to their skin. I hope this reinforced for our leaders that the handing out of gear lists is fine in principle but frequently useless in effect. It really needs a two part rivercrossing- one done in cotton, one done in wool - to prove the advantages of wool. Let's hope nobody has to learn the hard way. So, upon a swift redressing, we entered the chilly Ngaruroro.

The course takes approximately two hours and usually covers pair crossing, simple wading, groups with linked arms, pole groups, single crossing with pole. and pack floating. I say usually, because, unlike a school party, you can't coerce people in a group like this to try everything and it seemed that only half a dozen of us were determined enough to try the lot. Part of an exercise is to test the body and the equipment and gain as much experience as possible in a safe situation. Reluctance to get really wet (and cold) is a very limiting factor! Though I'm sure that everyone learned something, I'm not satisfied that they gained as much as was offered.

R.P.

THE GREAT MAKINO RIVER EXPEDITION.

25 - 26 May

Trip 1328

Three cars and twelve bods arrived at Pink's Hut at 8.30 in the morning ready and eager to take on Mother Nature.

It was into our boots and running shoes (does this mean trouble because he is the leader) and off at 9.00 am to arrive at Te Puia by 11.20 am.

cont..

After a munch up and a nosey in the log book, it was off up the Makino River where the merry trampers headed. We had lunch in the sun at 2.00 pm where the track to the Mangaturutu Hut leaves the river and where we bade goodbye to Randall and Hamish.

We slashed on our way until we came face to face with a waterfall. As it was getting dark and everybody was getting tired, we decided to look for a suitable campsite. We bashed our way up out of the river and camped under a big totara.

Being real tough blokes, we slept under the stars. (Who needs a tent fly?) We hit the pits early for an early start the next morning. Early ...7.15am ... we started to show signs of life and were away by 8.45am.

We splashed our way up the river, slipping and sliding as we went. Taking a side stream on the true right, we faced another waterfall and climbed up the side of it, only to find yet another waterfall. It was decided to climb out of the river and bushbash to the Ballards track. Once there after bashing through mountain beech (ouch), it was time for a munch up and a parka stop as the weather was closing in. At 11.30 we were off in the direction of Makino Hut for lunch.

We passed the sign for Ballard Hut at midday with hunger pains making their presence felt. (hint hint) But no, it was "carry on to Makino".

Along the tops we went in the wind and rain toward Makino via Whetu, following the snowpoles into the bush.

Eventually, we came across a tree with three big signs....

Ballards - nope, been there....Middle Hill, 20 minutes....

Kaweka Flats, what's that doing here....OOPS, looks like someone has boo-booed somewhere.. I shall not mention who.

After positively assessing the situation, ie laughing, it was off to Middle Hill for an extended lunch hour at 2.30.

We departed from Middle Hill at 4.00 pm and were out at Pink's Hut where Randall was waiting at 5.15 pm.

On the whole, it was a great trip covering a lot of new country for most.

A.D.

Leader Andrew Doole

No in party 10+

Randall Goldfinch, Marcus Reinders, Andrew Doole, Nick White, Heather McBride, Hayden Marshall, Michael Wootton, Clifford Holmes, Hamish Tait.

PUREORA, QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY TRIP.

trip 1329

1 - 3 June.

An early start on Friday evening was planned, but because no-one knew exactly who was coming, we got away late as usual.

Had a good trip up in the truck, with Selwyn driving and Alva navigating and also leading us astray... still we were in Pureora somewhere and at that hour of the night it was good enough for us, so out with the pits and a good night in the back of the truck.

cont.

Despite pessimists, the day dawned slightly overcast but fine. I was up before dawn having a look around the Kokako camping ground and the start of the Rimu Track nearby which some of us went around before breakfast - some of the best rimu forest I have ever seen.

After breakfast we headed up the road to the start of the Arataki Track... an easy climb through interesting bush to the large rock which makes up the top of Titiraupenga (1½ hours.) Only the last few feet are difficult as you have to climb up a rope but the view at the top is incredible! After lunch on top, Heather, Selwyn, Liz & Alva went back to take the track round while the rest of us walked out via the Link Track (3 hr) .. again with interesting bush but also a lot, unfortunately, of Forest Service selective logging (select a forest and then log it) with the resultant windthrow etc. We were wondering when we would get to the end when Liz came round in time to hear me moaning about the distance.*(This track is very overgrown and hard to follow in places) On to the park headquarters for a good tea! Had an early night.

Up before dawn again and off down the Totara Track for some bird-watching. This is an easy wide track and has some of the finest totaras in the country.

Everyone had a walk round while we discussed the wonderful news that a car rally was going to close the roads for most of the day. So we had to walk up a side road and cut across country to get to our next objective, the Outdoor Education Centre. This is an interesting area with a bush walk having everything from a hollow rewa rewa one metre through to a totara you can stand up inside of. Bird life was also abundant and we had close views of many native birds, including a morepork and a falcon. Quick walk back to the truck, and after looking around, back to Park H.Q. for

the night where the ranger turned out to be a pretty good bloke, and offered to take us to see some kokako in the morning. So it was another early start (6.30) in the truck up a side road where despite tapes and a great deal of patience shown by all, kokako were heard only in the distance.

Back to the campsite to pack up when nearly every native bird in the place arrived, tui, whitehead, kaka, kakariki, tomtit, rifleman and pigeon.

Next we went up to the Mt. Pureora Track, 1 hour up, ½ back, really easy and WHAT a view! We could see Taupo, Ruapehu, Egmont etc.

Quick stop in Taupo for fuel and junk food, then back to the Bay. Arrived back just after dark from a relaxed but very interesting trip.

J. Berry

Leader Peter Berry

Driver Selwyn Hawthorne

and Heather Hawthorne, Glenda Hooper, Liz Pinder, Alva McAdam, Sue Keswick, John Berry, Andrew Boyd & Nick Hay.

*Ed's note.

Comments, not exactly flattering were heard, first about the track, then about me - ie. "never thought I'd be so pleased to see Liz! "

MYSTERY PA HUNT, DONALD RIVER

9 June 1985

Trip 1330

One, Pat Parsons, has often intrigued me with his tales of early pa in Hawkes Bay. He mentioned last year that he knew of a pa in the Tutaekuri - Donald confluence which no-one has yet located. What better people to look for it than a tramping club?

The information he gave us was this.

"Ngutuhao was a pa site of the Ngai Tangihia section of the Ngati Mahu people. This tribe inhabited the land in the headwater area of the Tutaekuri River. Ngutuhao is described as being on the eastern side of the Kaweka Ranges. It was abandoned in the 1815 - 1830 period when the Tuwharetoa tribe from Taupo captured it and imprisoned Tuhriau and his sister, Kau. It was never reoccupied.

... Considering (the) Ngai Tangihia used the Tutaekuri as a highway, it is likely that they followed a tributary right to the site. The description of it's location being on the eastern side of the Kawekas suggests the Donald River as the most logical starting point. It can't have been impossible to find as the Tuwharetoa discovered it. It will certainly be covered in bush now. Well concealed pa were often located a few hundred yards up a minor stream leading into the tributary. It is not unlikely that a palisade pole or two still stands. They still exist in comparable remote locations."

Armed with that lot, 18 of us crossed the Tutaekuri River via the swingbridge at Lawrence one chilly June morning, amateur anthropologists all. We moved the short distance upstream to the Donald River and struck almost immediately the first of many crossings. Oh dear! 'Tis the wrong time of the year for this nonsense. But, hardy creatures that trampers are, scarcely a moan escaped blue lips. To the slosh and gurgle of boots and the accompaniment of enamelled castanets dancing the light fantastic betwixt clenched jaws, we marched forth.

Pat led for the morning. He was able to briefly search and dismiss many potential sites without troubling the bulk of the party. But, around 10 o'clock, we reached another possible site which turned out to be our most likely of the day. It was easily defended, with cliffs almost completely surrounding it, a small stream at it's rear, two narrow paths climbing up to it at opposite corners, and commanding views of the Donald River so that raiders could be spotted easily if they wanted to advertise their presence. (It also is someone's excellent bivvy site, so I won't destroy their privacy by giving a grid reference.) A group of us had quite a good nosey but found nothing to further commend the place as a positive pa site, so we moved on upstream to a sunny lunch spot.

Here, we split the party in two. A group would return down the Donald to where Cable Stream enters, then walk up this until they intercepted the Lotkow - Lawrence track, finally to follow this back to the Tutaekuri and the truck.

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cont.

A smaller group, some of whom were greatly coerced into coming along, would continue to follow the Donald upstream hoping eventually to reach the Mackintosh track, thence to climb onto the Mackintosh Plateau and follow tracks on it back to the truck to.

All went as planned, and everyone spent a most enjoyable afternoon. The Mackintosh group found the upper Donald Gorge distinctly chilly and eventually reached one particularly narrow and deep spot where more had to be committed than what we were prepared to sacrifice! The constant immersions were causing cramps, and so out we lifted up a scrubby spur to the tops. Mackintosh Hut was no more than half a kilometre away from where we bashed our way out of the manuka.

By 5.30 everyone was back at the truck. We quickly peeled off the wet stuff, dived into the truck, and Mitch drove us safely home. That relaxing hour or so in the truck is so often one of the most pleasant of the trip. There's not a damn thing you can do but relax!

Thanks, Mitch.

Thanks, Pat, for your motivation and assistance. Thanks Ngati Mahu, for giving us something to seek. A very pleasant trip.

R.P.

Leader. Russell Perry

Party. Mitch Barrett, Peter Berry, Glenda Hooper, Hamish Tait, Lew Harrison, Sue Keswick, John Giddens, Marcus Reinders & friend, Ted Sapsford & son, Liz Pinder, Alva McAdam, George Prebble, Susan Lopdell, Tony Alexander and Pat Parsons.

Reprinted from "Pohokura" No. 84, April 1960.

How Kuripapango Got Its Name.

Makeo was a pa on Kohurau about ten miles from Puketitiri. The Kohurau Block includes the Blowhard and the pa was probably down towards the Tutaekuri, perhaps near Waiahenua.

Raupirau lived at Kohurau about 250 years ago. His grandson, Rangipotahi, went to investigate a fire which was seen burning at Kaimoko (Boyd's Bush). He reported to his grandfather, that from the speech, the strangers were from Whanganui, and because they had come under the cover of darkness it was for no peaceful purpose.

Raupirau and his people attacked them and Mokotapuarau and Kuripapango were killed. This fight was called Whakaata-Marama, (which means the moon casting a shadow) so it appears to have been a night engagement fought at moonrise or moonset. This information comes from Mr Hamlin.

Kuripapango is said to have been so named from his conspicuous black dogskin coat. I believe Te Iringa o nga Kahu o Tamakorako, the full name of Te Iringa, has some connection with this fight.)

Norman Elder.

WAIKAMAKA HUT

Trip 1331

22 - 23 June.

The trip was planned into the Waikamaka Hut area and with the possibilities of going on further into Waterfall Creek Hut, but the weather got the better of us for the weekend. The weather forecast was for lots of rain and it certainly was very accurate. We had 13 people, some of whom were new to tramping, so we took it fairly easily up the river. It was very cold and wet going over Waipawa Saddle and so we didn't hang about to admire the scenery. We arrived at the hut about lunchtime and found that it was difficult to move ourselves from the warmth of the hut that afternoon. So the rest of the day went in eating, drinking and generally socialising.

The following day dawned fine but cloudy. A small group decided to head back over '65, '66, & '67 and we said bye to them about 8.45 am. The rest of us decided to go for a little saunter up to Rangi Saddle and had a lot of fun finding different variations up to it. A fast trot back to the hut, a leisurely lunch, return back over the saddle and up and over to Triplex Hut. The others were already waiting and so we got out and away before dark. Despite the weather it was generally a pleasant weekend. Many thanks to Frank and Jenny for providing their cars.

Leader Janet Brown

Party Frank Hooper, Jenny Lean, Clifford Holmes, Andrew Doole, Mathew Brown, Shane Goffin, Cathryn Davey, Claire Barrand, Micheal Wootton, Ben Harding, Sue Keswick, and Joan Fitzgerald.

OKOEKE STREAM.

Trip 1332A

7 July 1985.

There ~~were~~ only twelve starters for this trip and no truck driver, so we travelled northwards from Napier in 3 cars. It was a very frosty morning and just after the Mohaka River we could see the frost still thick on the backs of the cattle grazing in a paddock beside the road.

The Okoeke Stream is a tributary of the Waipunga River and crosses the State Highway a little after Tarawera, immediately after the area that was devastated by the March floods. We parked in the rest area beside the Waipunga River and slowly got ready. Dave took the fast party which consisted of himself, Clifford and Michael and headed off while the rest of us followed at a more sedate pace.

The water was cold but the sun was shining so it must warm up eventually. Apparently this stream used to be very tight, but the floods had opened it up a lot, flattening the cuttygrass and destroying the onga onga. This made the going relatively easy, except where there were numerous stream crossings and in places it was quite deep (although those

cont.

of longer leg could cross without getting their shorts wet). In the lower reaches of the stream the storm had also caused a considerable amount of erosion. After a while, one member of the party complained of being cold and two woe tee shirts and an acrylic jersey were replaced with woollen items and it was decided that part of the party would return under Alva's guidance.

The rest of us were able to continue up river at a faster pace making the cold far more bearable and we reached the waterfall about an hour later. In the upper reaches, evidence of the flood was still very apparent but little erosion had occurred. The waterfall is really quite impressive as the numerous photos that were taken will soon prove. It would be much the same size as Shines Falls and it would have been spectacular when in flood. We stopped at the falls for about an hour while we had lunch and then retraced our way down to the car park taking about an hour less on the return trip. We were right - the sun had warmed the water considerably making the river travel much more pleasant.

We were back at the rest area at about 3.30 pm and the fast party were waiting for us. Alva had left for home about 1.00 pm. We got changed and headed for home arriving at Napier about 5.30. Thanks Alva, Russell and Peter for driving us, and thanks to Sue for transporting the extra bods from Hastings to Napier.

Leader Glenda Hooper

No in party 12

Party.

Peter Berry, Dave Harrington, Alva McAdam, Clifford Holmes, Micheal Wootton, Sue Keswick, John Giddens, Fay Stephenson, Sue Davis, Russell Perry and Rosaka Riddell.

OKOEKE STREAM - 'B' party

Trip 1332B

After leaving Glenda's party at the Picnic Area, Clifford, Michael and I headed up the frosty banks of the Okoeke Stream with reasonably good going as far as the massive waterfall at G.R. 962018. We climbed steeply up to the true right of the falls, then scrub-bashed down to their top. We either scrub-bashed along beside the stream, or splashed up the stream itself resulting in "no - feel" frozen feet. The nature of the stream above the falls is entirely different from below, the bed being flat, smooth rock with grooves throughout it and no pools. At 11.00am we stopped for lunch at the source of the Okoeke Stream where the Takahaipo and Pareraniu Streams meet. With our feet getting no warmer on the frozen ground we decided to climb south up a low-lying, scrub covered spur which turned into high towering scrub until we arrived in beautifully open bush. Better still, there happened to be a track heading our way, and even better again, at the ridge junction at G.R. 953002 there was another track which headed W-N-E along another ridge that we had planned to take.

cont.

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After a leisurely stroll along the track in beautiful bush, we finished up at GR 974015, several yards up a side stream from the Okoeke Stream. We wandered back down the stream with the water temperature being more respectable, then arrived back at the Picnic Area at 2.40 where we waited for Glenda's party to arrive.

Dave Harrington

.....

UPPER MAKARORO HUT

Trip 1333

20 - 21 July 1985

Leaving Ed's party of 4 to pike at Aranga Hut, Andrew and I left the hut at 12.15 in cold, drizzling weather, following the track back to Park's Peak Range, then along the track along Park's Peak Range to G.R. 895677. Leaving the track here, we travelled S-W down a reasonably good open bush covered ridge to a stream at G.R. 878654 which we followed down to the Makaroro River, encountering a 3 metre waterfall easily sidled, on the true left. Following the Makaroro River down was easy going until we struck a mighty waterfall, about 10m high, at G.R. 871656. We sidled this on the true left through good but steep bush, then once back down, it was easy going down to the Upper Makaroro Hut where we arrived at 4.30.

During the night it rained hard, and in the morning it still hadn't stopped. The Makaroro was in flood and rising rapidly while we eating breakfast. A quarter of the way across the river, our feet wouldn't stay on the bottom, so off we ran, down with the current, reaching the otherside just before the rough stuff. Off up to Park's Peak Hut we went and arrived there at 10.10. An hour later after a hot brew we went, with water cascading down the track, into the cold driving rain, splashing along the water-laden track, to Golden Crown Ridge. We followed this down, again with water cascading down the track, and at 3.20 we arrived at Master's Shelter with Ed's party already there. (Map used is N.Z.M.S.260 V21)

Andrew Doole, David Harrington, Nicholas Hay, C. Holmes,
M. Wootton, E. Holmes.

.....

BLACK BIRCH RANGE

Trip 1334.

August 4th 1985.

The weather was not too bad as we came up to the Birch road and we could see snow on the trees higher up. But ... about 300 yards from the top of the Birch our plans to go up Kaweka J and down Coxcomb Stream were dashed. The truck skidded to a stop in the snow and that was that. So, out with shovels and ice axes and by 11.30 we had cleared 300 yards of foot deep snow and a VW Combi off the road. With the chains on it was just possible to turn and head downhill (with some help from a landrover)

Because it was so late we set out down down the Makahu Road, the slow party plugging their way through soft snow to Black Birch Bivvy, the fast party, except Nick and Ross who went to the Bivvy too, building a really cracker igloo in the carpark at the far end of Little's clearing. It was a real boomer with room for all 6 of us with a ton of space to spare. PB

Nick White, David Harrington, Jenny Harrington, Andrew Doole, Sharon Hasler (?) Tony Nash, Ross Berry, Sue Davis, Glenda Hooper, C. Holmes, Hamish Tait, Mitch Barrett, Marcus Reinders, Michael Wootton, **** Carl Barrett., Leader Peter Berry.

JUBILEE JUBILEE JUBILEEE JUBILEE

LABOUR WEEKEND 1985

We have had a good response so far with about 80 coming to the dinner.

We want over 100 so if you haven't registered yet do so now and enjoy a good weekend.

RING ME 778748 OR WRITE Box 477 HASTINGS

JIM GLASS

JUBILEE COMMITTEE

JUBILLEE JUBILEE JUBILEE

PRIVATE TRIPSPOWLETTS - THE EASY WAY

29-30 Jan 1985

I had not been to the club's huts in the Ruahines (Howletts and Waikamaka). It was the end of the school holidays and I was wishing that I could have fitted in a break for myself.. ; still school started tomorrow, I'd have to fit it in during the day.

Phone rang....Malcolm answered it. "No I can't, school starts tomorrow" ----pause----"Mum, phone"---

cont.

"oh, hi, Geoff, - - oh, all the schools are starting tomorrow, - - you're off to Howletts with materials"-
(long silence) - "are you asking me to go with you?"
- oh, you know of an easy way, alright you're on"

Now it didn't cross my mind that if there was an easy way to Howletts, why weren't they doing it, but Geoff would'nt put me crook - would he?

Left Hastings at 8.15 am on an overcast, misty day. Geoff had been wining and dining the night before, so that would slow him down a bit, thank goodness. Geoff strapped a big aluminium roll on the outside of his pack and off we went.

We decided to have lunch about 11.30 am to let it settle down about $\frac{1}{2}$ - 1 hour before climbing this easy track. There were three different types of native orchid at our lunch site - amazing how they must survive floods from the river (actually 1 month later the orchids had dried and the seed heads gone).

Popped into Daphne and picked up some wood to go to Howletts then off up a nice track (Oruas). Geoff let it slip here, that actually it was Russell, Bruce Perry and Froofie the dog, that had told him about this track and they did it previously to Otupae... we just continued on the right - easy, eh???

Why I didn't see danger signals then, I don't know perhaps puffing to much to care but must admit the mention of Perry's name did bring a little hesitancy, but anyway, Geoff should know - - HE wasn't feeling too energetic, HE wouldn't put me crook, eh?

On and on, up and up, lovely ferns, mosses, lichens, birdlife. Fantastic. Introduced Geoff to quite a variety. We still hadn't checked a map.. had a quick snack near Otupae turnoff and some fresh sign of deer was prevalent. Geoff kept reassuring me, "lovely track, eh? Good grade, much better than the other normal way, you know, it will be one way to get that big dormer window up here - easy, couple of young fit boys would carry it."

"Yes, Geoff" through the puffs.

We soon ran out of the leatherwood, bush concentration, onto tussock, spaniard and odd leatherwood bushes. "Look" said Geoff, pointing "i can see the track to Howletts going round and up the hill." "Neat" I replied, "shouldn't take that long up here, over the saddle and turn left - about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours at the most". Checked map, but no compass work - that must be the highest point in front of us befor the saddle, hm'm, how come Howletts is down there.

"Yes, Geoff"

We ran out of track... just stopped nowhere really... We kept to one side of the tussock etc, to avoid pitfalls, until we came to a Bluff we had to climb up and over. Geoff dissappeared.

"Hey Geoff"

"hulloa"

"hey, I'm in trouble here..."

cont.

... big trouble," (don't look down, why do all the nicest alpine flowers appear in these inhospitable, inaccessible places for me, better keep moving upwards - where to ? ?)
 "Hey GEOFF" more plaintive
 "Hulloa"

"Hey, I'm in trouble here - big trouble"

"Well now, move further over to the right, move foot up so high, don't pull on rocks, push down, keep that hand there, move L leg over .etc.." It seemed never ending, but we did it.

"Hey, Geoff, how about stopping for something to eat and drink - long time since lunchtime". So we collapsed on the top of the saddle. I regained some legs and settled a rumibly, fluttery stomach.

It was this time we looked at a map. Critically...hullo... that highest point is in front of us on the other side of the saddle and the track turns right, not left, and Howletts is way, way back there...oh dear, it's about 4.30 crumbs. I never heard another comment about it being easy, then, or since!!!

Geoff dissappeared down the side to fill up water bottles and I plodded on and on, up and up. I waited for Geoff who muttered "look, there's the track, way back there... see the posts." (Gee Geoff, they must be mighty big ones, still this would be pretty high up, suppose they need big markers here) "Yes Geoff" "Hey, look up there" "yes Geoff" "Look it's a person up there looking down on us" "EH Geoff" "Look, call out - perhaps they can't see us - Hulloa hulloa" "But Geoff, it's a funny shape - look Geoff, it's not moving, it would have come over"

"Hulloa ... hulloa"

"Oh, Geoff" ?

Approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour later we came across the person - it was two spaniard stalks - poor Geoff.

At this point, Geoff became confused about where we were. I had to take him to the edge. point out the ridge and saddle and tell him according to the map Howletts was back there in front of us - only place it could be, several times. Coming across this section we kept falling over, dodging tussock holes, spaniard and leatherwood bushes. The aluminium roll became squashed though the wooden poles became good probes. Geoff's head would pop up about the same time as mine and we'd collapse laughing. Another time we just lay there, quietly, in the end I broke the silence as the cloudy sun was getting lower in the sky.

"Look, Geoff - you say Howletts is near some bush"

"Yes"

"Well, that's the only bush up here - back there in front of us"

"I don't recognise any country - where are we?"

"Well, Geoff, if we are going to have to sleep out, I'd rather make for that bush, go under cover."

"Okay, suppose so, better get going then." On we floundered Suddenly, Geoff looked back and stopped - never said a word I stopped and blinked.

"Hey Geoff". An exhausted voice became excited - "hey, those are markers"

cont.

"I wasn't going to say a thing - especially after those spaniard flowers. I was wondering whether I was really seeing them" (the flowers I presume).

I might add that the markers were ordinary markers, and what we saw from the saddle were dead trees. We motored around the hill, and there was a lovely sight - a hut to sleep in. Geoff recognised this country. We got inside and Geoff made for the top bunk with the view. "Well Alva, all the years of tramps up here, I've never had this position."

"Yes Geoff - but next time my turn."

"Well, I'm going to get tea."

"B..... tea I haven't tramped to 8.45 pm and not seen much of the day - I'm going to see the sunset." So we both went and had a look. As the sun came down below the clouds I could fully relax and enjoy it and, boy, tea tasted good too. It seemed like we had it in the middle of the night. Geoff informed me that he had the keys for the forestry cupboard? I'd never seen inside one, so we looked in.

"Gee Geoff, I wouldn't like to eat anything in those rusty tins, I'd need to be really desperate."

"Well, they have a drop sometime this month of more provisions."

"What, Geoff - surely they could bring the window up if that's the case."

"Well now - hmm, no harm in asking - cost us a fortune when we helicoptered something in on our own. Won't do any harm asking, eh?"

"No, Geoff, especially when they use the hut too."

Next morning dawned misty. We went for a walk along the top towards Tiraha (Sawtooth) and it cleared to a beautiful hot day. Collected firewood, cleaned the hut and away.

We came down the "Hard Way" in about 1½ hours. As we needed to drink plenty the shade of the trees was super. We found in the Tuki Tuki that we went from tree to tree as it was so hot, and we drank gallons from the picturesque side streams.

Travelling along highway 50. sweltering hot -

"Hey Geoff"

"Hulloa"

"Would love a long, cold, cool drink... also got a message for Harry"

"No better get home for the meeting" Several miles up the road.

"Pretty hot, eh? Perhaps a quick one"

"Neat"

Just as we were leaving Tikokino, Harry (Osbourne) appeared. I passed on the message and Geoff asked about the dormer window and markers for the track to go up on the Forestry drop. Harry said it was very, very soon and he would work on it. He did and we are grateful for everyone for their cooperation. In fact it was ready by Friday and the dormer window was placed in the hut, markers were dropped off plus two extra mattresses for the hut. "AN easy trip" will not be forgotten and yes, I have now done it the Hard way, one month later and enjoyed it too.

A WEEK AT TE PUKE HUT

9 - 15 June 1985

Sunday. Having left my car at Pink's Hut on the Makahu Rd, we started tramping about 8.00 am into Te Puia Lodge, with the weather fine & warm. From Te Puia at 11.00am it was on up the Makino River with lunch at 2.30 pm where the Mangaturutu track starts. The climb up with heavy packs was a real "grunt" and we arrived at Mangaturutu Hut at 7.00 pm.

Monday. With a late start, 10.00 am, we wandered over to Te Puke Hut by 2.00 pm and made ourselves comfortable.

Tuesday - Thursday The weather remained fine and frosty. This enabled Mark to do some casual deer-stalking with success on Wednesday.

Friday Time to start going home, so we left Te Puke at 9.00 am in cold rain heading to Tira Lodge (3.00 pm arrival)

Saturday Left about 8.00 am in the same poor weather, continuing up past Ballards Hut over the misty tops down to Middle Hill Hut, 1.00 pm, for lunch, then out on the new track to Pink's Hut where the car was parked

Randell Goldfinch & Mark Poots.

.....

KAWEKA RANGE

Reprinted from "POHOKURA"

No 84 April 1960

The Kaweka Block of 50,000 acres was bought for £130 in 1859.

A sketch map in the McLean Papers in the Turnbull Library of the Kaweka Range was apparently made by Donald McLean from about Pakatutu in the course of the purchase.

The range was divided between two groups of owners by a boundary which ran up the Frame from the Mohaka River, then continued up the Middle Spur to a point on the crest, apparently 5384 ft. then continued down the other side to Mangatoutou (or Mangatoatoa) which is a stream name, most likely Rocks Ahead. The name Kotuku is put near here with no explanation.

On either side of the claims one boundary ran up the Makino to a point Puknui which must be on Venison Top. The other ran up the Anewanewa Stream then cut across the Black Birch to the Ngaruroro at Waiharakeke, which is one of the names of the creek at the Swamp Cottage.

The owners of the southern Kawekas were Wakatokapari, Warerongi & others. of northern Kaweka Whetu, also talkative Ihaka. Counce's Flat is named Ranga a Tawhau and a track is shown running across it to the mouth of the Makino. One curious point is that the Frame is called Makahu and the present Makahu the Mangatutu. McLean is unlikely to have made a mistake.

Norman Elder.

RELATED TO THE CLUB ?

In this important year for our club, its half-century, I am proud to put on record my special relationship with the organisation. Although I joined H.T.C. thirty years ago it was not until I married a few years later that I discovered certain family links.

It is well known that H.T.C. was born mainly out of the need to have an organisation at the ready to provide trained searchers in the local ranges. The particular event which brought matters to a head was when a plane, piloted by Hamish Armstrong, went missing in the Ruahines. The plane was found near Armstrong Saddle, but not the pilot, and a tramping club was established as a result of the searchers involved in that event.

My relationship stems from the fact that my wife's great great grandfather, Robert Linton, married Barbara Armstrong, whose two brothers bought and developed Akitio Station. Hamish Armstrong, when flying from Akitio on that ill-fated day in 1935, was a grandson of the original owner.

I hesitate to suggest that this all means that I am in some way related to the club but I find the relationship interesting, even if rather remote. But then, it is the sense of remoteness that attracts us all to the mountains, isn't it?

Owen Brown.

Scotland: Ben Nevis mountain

Karen and Clive Thurston write:

Our hostelling has brought us to the Glen Nevis hostel at the foot of Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain at 4,406 ft.

Ben Nevis is situated on the west coast of Scotland near the town of Fort William. Staying at the hostel for two nights we decided to climb the mountain. We headed out around 9.30am and crossed the river Nevis to the grass and heather covered slopes of Ben Nevis. The height of the mountain doesn't sound very significant but it is when you start out at 60 ft a.s.l.

The track is very wide and zig-zags up the slope of Meall-an-Suidhe, a neighbouring hill, at 2,232 ft. The terrain is rolling heather and grass with occasional rocky outcrops. In the saddle is Lochan Meall, a small lake and marsh area.

We stopped here and had a photo stop and a bite to eat. This was the 1/2-way mark, the rougher terrain was yet to come. The weather was overcast when we started out but it had gradually deteriorated to a chilling wind and scattered rain. We carried on up the slope crossing the Red Burn onto the shingle slopes. This mountain was once a volcano which accounts for the rock and shingle terrain.

We reached the summit just after 1.00pm and sheltered in the ruins of a weather station for some lunch. The wind was getting colder and forced us to put on more warm clothing.

On the

On the south slopes of Ben Nevis there are sheer rock faces and gullies that drop 2000 ft into the valley below. It was only the day before that a tourist lost his life when he became lost on the summit and during the night fell over a bluff.

During the winter there is a lot of scope for rock and ice climbing on the south slopes; in the summer it is a leisurely walk taking around 5-6 hours return.

Clive and Karen

Chilean National Parks

Last October to December Marilyn (previously featuring in Scottish and Milford Track sagas) and myself visited Bolivia, Peru and Chile. We were with 2 Spanish-speakers, Ian, Marilyn's brother, and Gloria, who works in the same job in the 1st 2 countries; in the s. of Chile we were on our own, with a dictionary!

We visited several national parks. E.G. Lauca: at 15,000 ft.

On our way back from Peru we spent 2 days in Arica, in the far north of Chile, in the middle of the Atacama desert.. A tour bus, 9-seater, left early, collecting us before breakfast, which was provided. We started in a heavy overcast, result of the Humboldt Current, which gives the only moisture to the area in the form of dew. Up the irrigated riverflats (Snowfed) between sandhills we passed the police checkpoint and were off up to the desert proper; up through the dense cloud layer and suddenly into a brilliant orange sand world with no vegetation at all, just the road showing that it was not beyond civilization. No plants, just hollowed stones through the ceaseless erosion of the wind and sun; then candelabra cacti, high as a telephone pole, growing only between 2000-2500 metres, then a few more scattered cacti as we climbed higher. An Inca fort on a rocky point overlooked a canyon with a pool of water and a bright patch of alfalfa (lucerne), then up again past several lorries laden with gold-bearing ore (a mining town is up here) then a prison camp for 'politicals' where our driver advised us not to photograph, then a customs and guard post (it is very near the Bolivian border) where we dropped a newspaper to the guard, who liked to see the 'ladies' by the way his eyes twinkled! Up still to the black clouds, mist and hailstorms that were bringing the rainy season to the altiplano.

Plants like vegetable sheep, tussock, vicuna herds, viscacha (which look like a squirrel-tailed rabbit) borax pans (not salt), beautiful conical volcanoes that did not appear through the heavy cloud, and finally the highest lakes in the world; one, many-armed, with flamingoes in one shallow bay, the other, with alpine-type vegetation along its edges, things like hebes, ihaka, etc and lots of water birds. At 15,000 ft I found it a bit tiring to run, or even climb a 5ft bank, but one of our party had to have oxygen (carried in the bus) and most people looked 'had-it'. Appetite is supposed to lessen with altitude - I really enjoyed my lunch and some of Marilyn's too!

We had to clear a small landslide on our way back, in heavy cold rain, nearly snow, and the descent was interrupted for a visit to Parinacota, an Indian village, at about 13,500 ft, with 2 children on bicycles, a soccer pitch and herds of llama and alpaca, which are beautiful - dignified, adof and so elegant. Vegetation, tussock and small cacti, including on the soccer pitch - they come tough up there!

Then downhill all the way 10 miles, 15,000ft; after a nerve-racking descent through the sunset tinted desert, with a driver who thought he was better than he really was!

.18.
FEELING HUNGRY?-- THESE ARE RECOMMENDED.

Mountain Loaf

4 cups wholemeal flour
3 tablespoons milk powder
1½ teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
¾ cup brown sugar
½ cup honey
¼ cup golden syrup
1/3 cup oil
1 cup water

Mix; grease 9"x8" tin; bake 160 degrees C for 1 hr approx.
Will keep 3-4 weeks without special protection.

Peanut squares (high protein lunch)

150 g butter
½ cup brown sugar
1 tablespoon golden syrup or treacle
½ cup flour
2 tablespoons non-fat milk powder
½ teaspoon baking powder
½ cup wholemeal flour
½ cup wheatgerm
½ cup peanuts finely chopped

Preheat oven to 180 degrees C.

Grease a swiss roll tin 30cm x 30 cm.

Cream well together butter, sugar and golden syrup

Sift into bowl flour, milk powder and baking powder

Stir in remaining ingredients

Mix dry ingredients with creamed butter etc

Spread in tin, smooth top with wet spoon

Bake at 180 degrees for 20 min approx.

Mark into squares while warm, but leave in tin till cool.

Makes about 20 biscuits. Can eat with spreads, too.

Rolled oat shortbread

2 cups rolled oats
1 cup coconut
¾ cup sugar (white or brown)
Pinch salt

Melt 1 good tablespoon butter and 1 of golden syrup;
tip into dry ingredients and mix.

Tip into flat buttered tin; press down hard with back
of spoon; cook in slow oven; cut when warm.

Tararua biscuits (1)

14 oz rolled oats	8 oz wholemeal flour
¼ cup wheatgerm	½ cup bran
½ cup coconut	½ teaspoon nutmeg
½ teaspoon cinnamon	1 teaspoon salt
½ cup sultanas	½ cup minced peanuts

6 oz butter melted together with 1-2 cups honey

Mix melted butter and honey into dry ingredients; add water
or milk to finish mixing so mixture sticks together; press into
roasting dish; bake at 350 F. for 20 minutes; cut when warm.

Tararua biscuits (2)

14 oz Milk Oaties	1½ teaspoons salt	
6 oz flour	1 teaspoon malt	butter
2oz white sugar	2-4 teaspoons honey melted with 6 oz	
2 oz brown sugar	4 oz mixed fruit, prunes, nuts, chocolate	

mix and cook as above recipe.

And now for some main courses:

Black-eyed beans with mushrooms and tomatoes

Soak $\frac{1}{2}$ lb beans overnight, then cook for approx. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr; alternatively boil for 2 mins. then soak for 1 hr, bring to boil again for $\frac{1}{2}$ hr.

Fry in 6 tbsps. oil: 1 tsp cumin seeds
1 tsp cinnamon
5 or (2 small) onions
4 cloves garlic

Add when browned; $\frac{1}{2}$ lb mushrooms and 14 oz roughly chopped tomatoes,
2 tsp coriander 1 tsp cumin
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp cayenne pepper $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp tumeric

Cover and simmer 10 min.; add to beans with salt and pepper and
3 tsp parsley. Simmer till tender. Serves 4.

Curried lentils and rice

Predried at home the meal can be ready in 5-10 min. and is light to carry. It is a complete meal on its own.

1 cup brown lentils 1 cup long grain rice
1 tbs curry powder 1 tsp tumeric
1 onion, dried 1 pkt mixed veg
1 tsp salt 3 cups boiling water

Put washed rice and lentils into boiling water, cover and simmer 10 minutes. boil off unabsorbed water, add onion and spices, stir thro'.

Spread thinly onto 2 oiled (not buttered) trays. place in oven at 65 Deg. C. Leave oven door slightly open. Dry for 3 hrs. Store in plastic bag in Frig. To reconstitute put dried mixed veg into pot with 4 cups cold water. Bring to boil. In separate pot bring 3 cups water to boil, add rice and lentils. When they are tender, 5-10 min., drain, mix together and serve. Serves 6 to 8.

Dried meat sauce for pasta.

500 lean minced beef 2 medium onions, diced
6 cloves garlic crushed salt and pepper
365 gms tinned concentrated tomato paste
2 tsp dried oreganum 100 gms parmesan cheese

Fry the mince, onion and garlic without any oil for 5 min, browning meat all over. Spoon out all fat by tilting pan (any left will turn rancid) Add salt and pepper to taste then stir in concentrated tomato paste. Spread the mixture out in a thin layer on an oiled baking tray. Place in oven at 65 deg. C Hold the door open a bit with wooden spoon handle. Leave for 6 hrs or so until dry and brittle, do not overdry or the tomato will become bitter. Break the mixture add crumbled oreganum and store in plastic bag. Grate cheese and pack separately. On the tramp, Bring 6 cups water to the boil and add 500 gms pasta (preferably vermicelli). Boil

3 min. then add the dried meat sauce and simmer, covered, about 5 min. longer. Serve topped with cheese. Serves 4.

Corn meal bread or 'mush'

1 cup corn meal 1 tsp sugar $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp salt

Mix gradually with one cup of water in the billy. Cook slowly stirring constantly until all the water is absorbed and a stiff porridge forms. Cook a few minutes longer. Best served hot with stew for dinner, or prepared at breakfast and taken to eat cold for lunch. This is apparently the staple diet of poor people all over the world.

And breakfasts , which provide much of the energy for the first half of the day's activities. If you are planning an early start choose a breakfast which is quickly prepared and have a hot drink. Suggestions: Muesli, wholemeal bread, butter, honey, cheese,, porridge, bacon and eggs, pancakes, soaked dried fruit.

Here is a Muesli recipe

8 cups rolled oats	2 tsps cinnamon
2 cups coconut	2 tsps nutmeg
2 cups bran ³ / ₄	2 tsps salt
2 cups wheatgerm	1 cup sesame seeds
2 cups peanuts/walnuts (crushed)	1 cups Allbran (optional)

3-4 cups sultanas
Mix all these dry ingredients well. Extra dried fruit, e.g. dates, apricots, may be chipped and added after cooking.

Melt: 1 cup of oil

3-4 tbsps honey (or more)

3 tsps vanilla essence

Bake at 350 Deg. F. for approx: 10 min., turn occasionally to prevent burning. Important - don't overcook.

SOCIAL NEWS:

Geoff Robinson had a holiday - and now announces his
ENGAGEMENT - to Virginia. Congrats, Mr. President!
Joanne and Russ Perry have a son, Christopher. What
sized tramping boots does he take?

NEW MEMBERS:

The club welcomes Sue Keswick.

Typist for this issue was Joy Hill. (She didn't
do it all, some wishes to remain anonymous!)

OVERDUE TRAMPERS

.21.

Although returning parties usually plan to be out of the bush well before dark, safety considerations must always come first. Even after arriving back at the transport, it may take two or more hours to return, plus any unexpected delays. Beginners should make sure that any who may worry about them know this. Although usually earlier than 10pm, until then there would be no cause for worry. In case of concern, all newcomers should make sure that their contact's phone number is included in the list the leader leaves in town. For enquiries about overdue parties please contact one of the following:

BERRY 777223 PLOWMAN 54303 THORP 434238

FARE/CONFIRMATION & CANCELLATION

Fare: LOCAL: \$10 Senior, \$8 Sec Student

OTHER: Fare set by Trip Leader to cover costs.

You must confirm your intention to take part in the trip by paying the fare NOT LATER THAN THE THURSDAY PRIOR TO THE TRIP. (Meeting night payment is preferred.)

Cancellation: If unable to make the trip, notify the leader beforehand and your fee will be refunded. (On longer trips a portion may be retained if costs have already been incurred.) Rarely does the Club cancel the trip. If in doubt, contact the leader or check at the embarkation point.

FIXTURE LIST

On many trips, parties may divide to undertake different tasks. Though the area for the trip is generally adhered to, the suggested objective may not be for any number of reasons. For pre-trip enquiries you may contact:

JANET BROWN 57041
GEOFF ROBINSON 87863

PETER BERRY 774183
RUSSELL PERRY 797158

September

1-12 RUAHINE

Up Three Johns Spur, out via Rangi and Middle Stream.
Ldr: Michael Hawthorne 750544 Map: U22

14-15

TARARUA

Into Mitre Flat area. Fit party on to Dorset Ridge, others to Cow Creek area. Maps: S25, Tararua S.F.P.
Ldr: Dave Harrington 56614

29

KAWEKA

Into Middle Hill from Pink's Hut. Straight forward trip - attractive area. Map: U20, Kaweka S.F.P.
Ldr: Noel Marano 86099(Bus)

October

12-13 SAREX

19-20 KAWEKA

Hut maintenance in preparation for Jubilee trips.

26-28 **50th JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS** (Have you registered?)

November

10 KAWEKA

Annual Cairn Trip and Memorial Service on Kaweka J.
Ldr: President Map: U20, Kaweka S.F.P.

November

24 RUAHINE

Smith's Stream - exploration of valley downstream from the hut. A new area for most - probably gorges!

Ldr: Randall Goldfinch 439163 Map: U22

December

7-8 WAIPUNGA STATE FOREST

Into the Otawhiri River - reputed to have fine bush. New.

Ldr: David Harrington 56614 Map: N104, N114

22 KAWEKA

Fling yourself with Gay A. Bandon (she's a newcomer) over the waterfalls of Gold Creek, plunge your pinkies into the steaming torrents of the Tutaekuri hot leak, and enjoy our Christmas picnic near Lawrence Hut. A social one.

Ldrs: Exec & Social Committee.

*****Interested in a New Year trip of possibly FIVE days.

See your Club Captain. (Dates prob. Jan 1-5, '86)

January ** Leaders for these trips in December Pohokura **

19 KAWEKA

Raft trip down the Mohaka River, Hot Spring to Pakatutu.

February

1-2 RUAHINE

Over Waipawa Saddle, down the Waikamaka. Sunday return via the Maropea. Lots of scope for all abilities.

16 BEACH TRIP

Probably Rongaiika.

March

1-2 RUAHINE

Into the Northern Ruahine and the Ikiwatea Stream, from the Taihape Road.

16 KAWEKA

Bush Orienteering in the Boyd's Bush - Hoodoo Saddle area. Designed to have a fun day and test navigation skills. Lots of enthusiasm required.

29-30 RUAHINE

Up onto Black Ridge via various stream and bush routes, camp west of the divide, and return via the northern Tukituki.

Meeting dates;

The club meets at St. David's Church Hall, corner of Queen St and Park Rd., Hastings, at 7.30 p mp on the following dates:

11 Sept

20 November

25 Sept

4 December

9 October

18 December

23 October

15 January 1986

6 November
