

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC).

BOX 447,


'P O H O K U R A'

Bulletin No. 176.

December 1990.

Officers of the Club 1990 - 1991.

Patron: Mrs Janet Lloyd.



President	Stan Woon	8784630
Imm. Past President	Russell Perry	8568313
Vice Presidents	Jim Glass	8778748
	Shirley Bathgate	8778511
Secretary	Kath Berry	8777223
Treasurer	Jackie Smith	8768249
Club Captain	David Harrington	8439999
Editor	Peter Berry	8774183
Auditor	Alan Berry	8777223
Committee		
	David Charteris	8447501
	Sandie Dungan	8355209
	Christine Hardie	8434912
	Susan Lopdell	8446697
	Martin Mallow	8776442
	Alistair Moffitt	8443693
	Geoff Robinson	8787863
	Julie Turner	8768995
Social Committee	Lyn Gentry	8750542
	John Montgomerie	8777358
	Fiona Sapsford	8798993
	Rhonda Foote	8366914
	Sandie Dungan	8355209

Subcommittees:

Fixtures: D Harrington, S Lopdell, J Glass, J Turner & S Dungan

Hut & Track: E Holmes, D Charteris, A Moffitt & G Robinson

Training: D Harrington, S Lopdell & C Hardie

S.A.R: D Harrington & R Berry

Publicity: S Woon

Gear: Judy McBride (8769756)

Library: Liz Pindar (8700145)

Environment: S Bathgate



PETER'S PONDERRINGS. (Canceled cos he's sick)

## KAWEKA FOREST PARK DRAFT CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN.

DoC have recently published a draft Conservation Management Plan for the Kaweka F.P. Submissions are now invited and these should be sent to: Regional Conservator, DoC, Box 644, Napier by 18/2/91.

The first part of the draft plan is a description of the Park, covering topics such as physical and natural features, climate, history and Park uses. The second part deals with management planning. Sections of particular interest to the HTC include, the proposed management of Pinus contorta, revegetation, introduced animals, fire control and public use (eg huts, camping, rubbish).

It appears, from a very brief look at the plan, that the proposed management is basically the status quo. It is important that many people help with our submission so that we have a good representation of Club Members desires in the management of our tramping area. If you can help, contact Shirley (8778511) who has a copy of the plan (or else get one from the library).

## ANNUAL REPORTS.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

This year I am going to cheat a little bit in my report. I will include some lines from Norman Elder's presidential reports of the early 1950s and Lyn Lloyd's report from the year 1950. Two very fine Presidents who took charge of our Club in the very difficult years after World War 2.

M.L.E.: 'We are a small tramping club with an enormous stamping ground. The real balance sheet at the end of the year is not the one our Treasurer works out and Alan certifies, but the number of active bodies and the amount of country covered.' - As regards the country covered we may claim a good year. A large part of the Ruahine and Kaweka skyline has been traversed. In September we were going to hit the Tararua's "Mt Holdsworth" with a large party but foul weather with floods etc. kept us out, but we will be back in that area early next year. A party of 18 had a look at the Paparoa Forest Park in the northern west coast of the South Island in a very interesting trip. Now another South Island trip is being planned for the New Year of 1992 further south, in Southland country.

Our distance from the ranges has always made transport a problem. Just after the war we hired lorries and the expense was prohibitive. Finally, in 1953 we bought our own truck, an old Bedford, off the P&T for about \$400. Now in the year 1990 we have bought a brand new ISUSU truck. Work on this is progressing very well, the cost complete will be just under \$30,000 and our transport problems should be over for many years. I ask all Club members to get out

on the working parties and get this truck project financially cleared.

During its existence the club has had little experience of accidents but the few that have occurred have given warning that the country we tramp in though not particularly difficult, can present dangers. Correct procedures can best be learnt by experience on trips. There is room for more talks at Club meetings on the elements of good tramping practice, as well as training out in the field during tramps.

Our trip for the celebration of the year 1990 was held Labour Weekend. This tramp followed William Colenso's trek through the Ruahines. To Christine, for organising it, a great triumph - a very hard trip but well worth it I am sure. From Lindsay Lloyd, a man of words of wisdom and poems: 'Confucius says, "Everything comes to those who go and get it for themselves". The Club can do anything it wants if it happens to feel collectively and a sufficient urge to want.' Under present conditions folk who really wish to tramp whenever possible, who thrive on difficulties and have a sense of responsibilities to the duties they accept are assured of a warm welcome in our Club.

To the committee of 1989 I say you have done well, the Club is in good heart. The social side, a very important aspect of our Club, is going great guns. Support their efforts - we have had some great nights. To the people who have joined our Club in 1990, welcome, don't be backwards in asking for advice and above all enjoy your tramping. To those more experienced members, their are still New Horizons out there in them there hills for you to reach and conquer. Keep at it, the day will come when you can only talk about it and dream. In the early 1950s permits to shoot in the ranges came into being - unbelievable! Every time politicians open their mouth today one wonders whether a trumper or hunter will be stopped by law to enter the back country and mountains and streams be closed off forever to the happy wanderer. But I'm sure they will never keep a good kiwi out - law or not we would find a way through some where.

Many thanks to Jim and Shirley for stepping into my shoes and doing an excellent job on my behalf. To the 1990 Committee not seeking re-election, thank you for your efforts over the year.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a great New Year of tramping for 1991.

Stan Woon.

#### CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT.

During the last 12 months the Club has been quite busy in various activities. We had our two Pinus contorta trips, one at Ruapehu and the other near Kuripapango. In February we, along with the H.B. Orienteering Club, ran a mountain marathon along the Kaweka Range. This was a great success and we are well into it again for next February.

Trips during the year have mainly been to the Kaweka and Ruahine Ranges plus one into the Rangitikei Forest and another into the

Waipunga Forest. We also had a beach trip, a caving trip, a SAR exercise and several family trips. The mid week Amblers Club is also visiting many places.

The Christmas trip to the Paparoa National Park was a great success although the weather did upset a few plans and a few minor injuries had its part too. The Christmas trip this year is to the southern Kaimanawa Forest Park.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the land-owners for their permission to cross their land. Also many thanks to you members who make trips possible and enjoyable in whatever conditions we face. For you newer members, remember, the best way to get to know us is to come out tramping. Thank you.

David Harrington.

#### FIXTURES REPORT.

In the past 12 months we have maintained every second trip as a weekend trip and these have averaged out at 15 members per trip, a slight rise on last year.

As for day trips, we have averaged 20 members per trip, again a slight rise on last year. Unfortunately we had 3 trips that failed to get under way due to various reasons. If possible we will try to avoid this happening again.

At Fixtures Meetings we would like to receive more ideas from club members. I am sure everyone has an ideal tramp, so please let us know. Thank you.

David Harrington.

#### TRAINING REPORT.

Over the past twelve months we have had several training nights on subjects such as map & compass, first aid, route finding, country code and gear for day trips.

No bush-craft course was held in the last 12 months but we have one coming up next month. With these courses it is very difficult to teach everything to everybody in one day properly. One way to overcome this, I think, is to incorporate it with trips. For example river crossing when there is a trip down a river, or camping when there is an overnight trip. We may try this method in the coming year and see how it works.

David Harrington.



HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC)  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1990

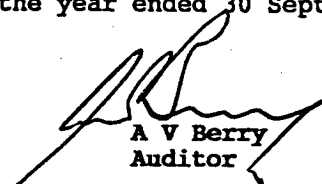
1989 \$		1989 \$
	<u>ASSETS</u>	
	CURRENT ASSETS	
	Cash on Hand	154
1,000	Advance expenditure - Marathon	111
4,201	Trust Bank - Cheque Account	2,162
2,383	Trust Bank - Savings Account	519
11,181	Trust Bank - Investment Accounts	
	UDC Finance Ltd - deposit	920
	Accounts Receivable	690
-----		-----
18,765		4,556
	FIXED ASSETS	
	1990 Isuzu Truck - cost to date	22,500
	HUTS	
10	Kaweka	10
6,060	Kiwi	6,060
55	Waikamaka	55
1,905	Howletts	1,905
-----		-----
8,030		8,030
	FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT	
170	Equipment	170
177	Bookcase	177
69	Projector at cost	69
93	Brother Electric Typewriter	53
	Brother AX25 Elect Typewriter	500
237	12 Drawer Cabinet	237
-----		-----
746		1,206
-----		-----
27,541	Total value of assets	36,292
	However, of this amount, there has been set aside for:	
	Truck Replacement fund	4,007
	Accounts owing	97
		-----
		4,104
-----		-----
\$27,541	Leaving a surplus of assets over liabilities	\$32,188
=====		=====
	This surplus is represented by the balance in ACCUMULATED FUNDS	
24,156	Balance as at 1 October 1989	27,541
2,685	Surplus for year	4,647
700	Donations for Kiwi Saddle Hut	
-----		-----
\$27,541	Total accumulated funds	\$32,188
=====		=====

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I report that I have examined the books and records of the Club and have obtained all the information and explanations that I have required.

With organisations such as the Club, it is not possible for the auditor to verify all cash received during the year and my examination of income has accordingly been limited to a comparison of recorded receipts with bank deposits. I did not however note anything that would indicate the existence of receipts not banked.

Subject to the possible effect of the limited control over income referred to in the preceding paragraph, in my opinion the Income and Expenditure account and Balance Sheet show respectively a true and fair view of the Club's activities for the year ended 30 September 1990 and of the financial position at that date.

  
A V Berry  
Auditor

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC)  
PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1990

1989 \$		1990 \$
	INCOME:	
1,767	Subscriptions	2,455
320	Working Party Proceeds	331
383	Equipment Hire	573
415	Meeting Contributions	389
287	Donations - huts & general	307
	Donations South Island trip	897
450	Donations - Motere Trust	450
117	Mountain Marathon	1,503
	Recycling sales	60
	Truck Fundraising	4,007
1,730	Interest Received	1,892
	Sales:	
886	Sale of Maps	1,006
42	Sale of Monograms & Badges	18
	Sale of Hut Passes	8
91	Sale of Plastic Liners	11
	Sale of T Shirts	132
	Sale of Calendars	322
13	Sale of Bushcraft & First Aid books	11
6,501		14,372
	EXPENSES:	
102	Advertising	91
857	Purchase of items for resale	1,766
98	Supper & Social Expenses	125
	Library & Photo Album	11
683	FMC Capitation	719
202	Bulletin Expenses	399
100	Donation, Thyangboche Monastery	
66	Stationery stamps etc	130
201	Equipment & Hut Maintenance	85
73	Subscriptions	73
139	General Expenses	396
207	Insurance - Equipment & Huts	186
391	Rent of Meeting Room	425
23	Equipment depreciation	96
6,002	Transport costs	6,663
(5,329)	Fares received	(5,447)
673	Loss on Transport	1,216
3,815		5,718
2,686	Net Income for year	8,654
	Less truck fundraising transferred to Truck Replacement Fund	4,007
\$2,686	Net income transferred to Accumulated Funds.	\$4,647
=====		=====

1990 YEAR STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. The Bedford truck has been fully written off. The 1990 Isuzu truck has been shown at cost to date.
2. Items bought for resale have been shown as expenditure and receipts from sales have been detailed under the income heading. No account has been taken of stocks on hand.
3. Some supper expenses were paid out of receipts.
4. Kiwi Saddle and Howletts huts have been recorded at cost, Kaweka and Waikamaka at nominal values. The Club is only a licensee in respect of the hut sites and the huts therefore have no recoverable values.
5. Both typewriters have been depreciated at 10% on cost price to write them off over 10 years.
6. There have been no material changes from the accounting policies observed last year.

EDITOR'S REPORT.

Trip reports have generally come in promptly which is very helpful. They have been varied and interesting and we have tried to edit them only to the extent of shortening the odd over long passages.

We hope in future magazines to have more photocopied material, especially as the Gestetner is becoming somewhat temperamental. We are currently looking into ways of improving the poor print quality caused both by the state of the Gestetner and the use of photocopy paper.

We would appreciate more private trip reports and fill in material.

Thanks to all the people who have contributed reports and also those who helped at stapling parties.

Peter Berry.

HUT REPORT.

Throughout the last 12 months or so we've had good positive feedback on our huts. Many grateful parties who are pleased to find that some huts still come free.

The Club has adopted the 'no rubbish hole' rule that DOC is at present trying to bring about. Signs are to be erected at huts requesting that rubbish be carried out. With responsible users this should lead to a rat free night in the huts.

Kiwi Saddle is about to get its Fatso potbelly to replace the existing fire. Window latches also need repairs and a general scrub up wouldn't go amiss.

Waikamaka Hut, and the well know Waikamaka Bog have hit the head lines. For many years the long drop presently in use has been the topic for discussion throughout the back country. Well, finally it must go, however, it will continue to be talked about for many years yet. The replacement bog has been built and awaits air lifting in. Art Deco - well maybe not, but none the less, octagonal design with an octagonal spire as the roof, it is to be fitted with no less than a cross and a stained glass window. A hole has already been dug and has a capacity of approx. 4000 movements.

Howletts has received no loving care but has seen a few familiar faces through the year. This coming year it will require a spruce up.

Kaweka Hut has had many visitors and much abuse, particularly to the surrounding bush. The viability of this hut remains doubtful. Perhaps if it wasn't there things could regrow or would vandalism move on? Should we perhaps keep it going for its historic value, however, it is obviously not worth pouring heaps of money into.

Many thanks to the Department of Conservation for their on going help and support and to everyone who has assisted in working parties or visited our Club Huts, keeping them clean and tidy.

Eddie Holmes.

TRUCK REPORT.

It has been 14 years since we purchased our present 1972 TK-Bedford truck and although it has served us well over the past years, having traveled from as far a field as Crowwell in the South Island to Mt Taranaki in the west and as far north as Warkworth, beyond Auckland, it was decided to replace it with a newer, more economical diesel truck. I am sure we have made the right decision in the light of the Middle East crisis and petrol prices on the increase.

We were able to purchase a brand new Isuzu 4 tonner, with partially completed cab and rolling chassis. Work is well on the way in constructing our specially designed canopy out at Eddie's workshop at Puketapu. I would like to thank all who have been able to give their time and expertise on the construction so far and also those who have come along to the working bees (no pun intended) to help cover costs to date. Still much to be done by those able to handle a paint brush, drill a hole, use a wire brush or such like, in the weeks leading up to Christmas.

We would like to think that it will be ready to roll early in the new year, so don't leave it to the few, come and do your bit. Its your Club Truck and its in your hands. Hopefully we will have a truck that will give our members many years of trouble-free, enjoyable motoring.

Geoff Robinson.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

On the social side of the meetings through the year we have had many and varied speakers talking to us on their travels to many parts of the world; Southern Africa, India and Nepal and other speakers talking to us on other things and not forgetting the Turner Trio. I would like to thank all of these people.

I would like to thank the Social Committee for organising the barbecues, parties, progressive dinner etc. Thanks also to Fiona for looking after the milk and eats for supper every meeting night.

My job as Publicity Officer has been a bit of a non event this year. Most of the publicity we get is from our participation in searches and the publicity we get from the Mountain Marathon. We seem to get a steady stream of new members so I suppose we don't need much publicity.

The Scrap Book has been kept up to date throughout the year.

Jim Glass.

ENVIRONMENT REPORT.

The year commenced in January with submissions on the Hooker Wilderness area supporting EMC stand to preserve some of it in its entirety. Boundaries requested took in Landsborough River on the eastern border of the Southern Alps. We were successful with this issue as 40,000 hectares have just been gazetted a Wilderness Area.

In March the Eaimanawa Forest Park Draft Management Plan was open



for comment. As this area is of interest to the Club a brief account of our comments are given:

1. Wilderness: Much of the land in the headwaters of the Rangitikei River (e.g. Ecology Stream, Waipakihi, Waiataka and Tiraki areas) to be retained in their natural state. We have asked that the headwaters of the Otamateanui Stream and Thunderbolt Creek also be included..
2. We have urged DOC to make a corridor north of Waiouru Army land (which they do not own) and would like public access from the Napier/Taupo Road. There is only one track into Oamaru Hut and river in the area.
3. We support the National Water Conservation order for the wild and scenic river status for the Mohaka catchment.
4. We support the banning of mining in the park.

The document indicates that tracks and appointed areas are to be put aside for day users interested in the Park and its environs and the hut policy is well defined. D.O.C. is to hold a hearing covering this plan next year.

Further to the above, the HTC sent in a submission to the Minister of Environment supporting the Conservation Order for the Mohaka River. This is one of the last rivers of its kind in the North Island which has not been tampered by dams by Electrocorp so far. Sporting uses, scenic characteristics, wildlife, spiritual and historical values are such that it is important that the river remains in its pristine state - we do not want this river ruined as the Whanganui has been. There is to be another hearing on this next year as Electrocorp has appealed the preliminary decision.

The Queens Chain is still a contentious issue and National does not seem to be interested in upholding it. The Club wrote to the Minister of Environment stating that we are currently entitled to access to marginal strips all over N.Z. for walks, tramps, picnics and mountaineering and must always have it.

Another issue nearer home is the access into Timberland and the padlocking of gates. This should only occur during times of extreme fire danger. Also access through Big Hill Station is being looked into by F.M.C.

F.M.C. has asked clubs to look into the future of the Walkway System. This system consists of all types, e.g. semi urban, rural, pastoral, historical, geological and alpine peaks.

There is to be a Management Plan produced for the Arthurs Pass area, although this has been delayed because of the Management Law Reform Bill.

We also received a draft Management Plan for the Paparoa National Park. This document expressed concern at the numbers of possums, goats etc. Comments were also made on the flora and fauna and wilderness areas. Also it may be necessary to limit the numbers of people going through the caves etc. because of the fragility of these areas.

A submission was sent on the Northland Kauri Forest Parks. This area contains three major kauri parks and about 30 smaller reserves and DOC wish to amalgamate all under one National Park. A letter from the Regional Conservator has informed us that the submission will be analysed along with others, next year.

A final submission was made on the draft N.Z. Coastal Policy Statement. This is an important document as it sets the rules which must be adhered to by all coastal authorities and is prepared under the Resource Management Bill. Parts of this bill are not so good. For example, reclamation no longer requires an Act of Parliament. A separate policy for the coastline is important as much of it has been carelessly contaminated (e.g. factory wastes, buildings etc. too close to the coastline and throwing of rubbish, particularly non biodegradable plastics, along the beaches). It is DOCs responsibility to see that the coastline is managed correctly and with environmental care. This coastal policy was a long and important submission and also took into account rivers, lakes, waterfalls, streams, ponds and swamps.

Finally, you are all probably wondering why regions etc. outside N.B. come into HTC environmental issues. We are associated to the Federated Mountain Clubs of N.Z. and in our time may visit any one of these parks and reserves. Also, these are part of our heritage. It is up to us to know how these places are managed and help to contribute to their upkeep and preservation, to enjoy our freedom to tramp in them, to feel part of them and to look after them.

Shirley Bathgate.

#### SEARCH AND RESCUE.

The past 12 months has seen our SAR volunteers much busier than we have come to expect. Most of the call-out were due to missing hunters but our members were also put on stand by for a plane crash in the Pakaututu area.

The search that involved the most input from the HTC was for a lost policeman, Paul Sindlen, and was based in the Maori block near Te Matai, north of the Mohaka River. This was the same area in which we had a search in the previous year. The search lasted 2 days with about 10 SAR teams in the field, including about a dozen HTC members. Four helicopters were also used at various stages of the search. Sindlen was found about 10am on the second day suffering badly from hypothermia.

Another more recent call out was for a solo tramper who had spent about a week in the Kawekas but was overdue by 2 days. This person was located walking down Lakes Road by a helicopter. It appears that he had tried to cover too much ground and to make things worse, no one could give SAR Advisors a clear account of his intentions or an accurate description of his clothing, boots etc. The lost party also failed to leave any messages in the huts through which he passed. With user-pays it seems that more and more trampers and hunters are failing to use Hut Books to indicate their intentions.

This years SAREX was held at the Wakarara School Camp and took the form of an Orienteering Course with an overnight point being Gold Creek Hut. The exercise turned into the real thing on Sunday with the teams being recalled to base as fast as possible. Two hunters were missing in the Ngaruroro River above the Water Gauge. The pair were soon picked up by helicopter, they had been held up by high river levels.

Our thanks go to all those volunteers who have given their time so willingly, especially to Julie, who has been called out 4 or 5 times but as yet seen no action.

Ross Berry.

3

HELP WANTED.

HELP WANTED.

HELP WANTED.

TRUCK FUND RAISING.

Waimarama Beach,

Saturday 29 December 1990.

We've arranged to assist the Waimarama Surf Club on their BEACH.

OUR DUTIES:

- Direct Traffic
- Collect Gate Takings

TIME:

- 8.30 am to 2.30 pm

REWARD:

- 20 % of gate takings.

I need at least 20 people to assist on this day.

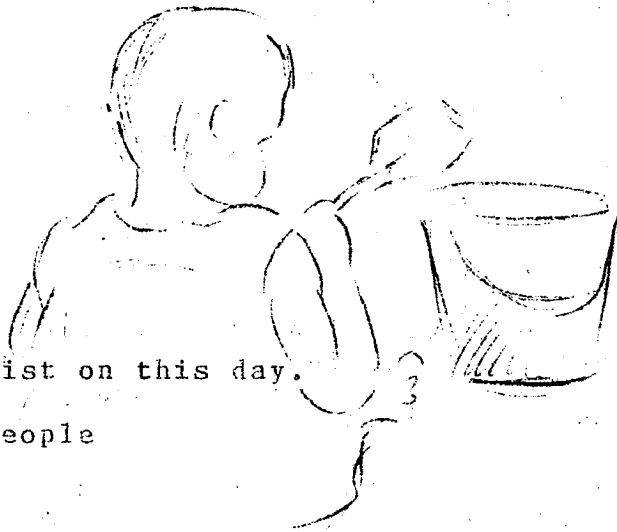
They are expecting 4000 - 5000 people

We are expecting \$1000 approx.

This is a commitment we must meet - They are relying on us.

IF YOU CAN HELP AND I HAVEN'T GOT YOUR NAME PLEASE RING 877-6354  
AND LET US KNOW YOU'LL BE THERE

David Cormack for Truck Fund raising.



## CLUB NEWS.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to the following new members:

Ralph Sutton  
Ray Slavin  
Shirley Hayward  
Alf Brunt  
Roger Burn

TRUCK: We have bought a brand new 1987 Isuzu and have been working madly getting it on the road and making money to pay for it.

We have had three working bees to make money; one at Thelma T.S. fencing and two at Arataki pulling wires out of honey frames. Thanks to Thelma and Arataki for providing the opportunities. There had also been many working bees on the truck which now has its steel frame work complete and is partially clad with aluminium. Its steps, bull bars and cassette radio have all been fitted. However, we would like some new faces at future working bees.

A barbecue cooker has been purchased for the truck. This will replace the old cooker.

GEAR: We need to replace some of the week end packs in our gear hire. Does anyone have any they wish to sell or donate?

HUTS: In accordance with DOC policy all users of our huts are to carry out all rubbish.

The Waikamaka Toilet is now complete and should have been helicoptered in courtesy of DOC. Many thanks to the labours of Eddie, Lyn, Peter and Stan and to the transportation trio of Mike, Mark and John M.

We have a new stove for Kiwi Saddle. This is awaiting a DOC helicopter for lifting in.

PERSONNEL: Congratulations to Pam Turner and Janet Turvey who have recently been appointed on to the Hawkes Bay Conservation Board. They are involved in the management of all DOC owned land in the Hawkes Bay region.

Congratulations also to Sandie Dungan and Len Frost, who were jointly awarded the 'Tramper of the Year' award.

POHOKURA: We have had another gestetner donated which, in conjunction with the use of heavier paper, gives a much better copy.

After a request from Exec. personnel, the content of the old 'Fixtures List' has been changed to a 'Coming Tramps' lists and now includes only official Club trips, excluding Family trips (apparently the previous format was confusing to some). However, as there have been a number of requests for additional information on these pages, we have now produced a true 'Fixtures List' which hopefully includes all Club activities. This is on the last page of the Pohokura.

CLUB TRIPS.

Black Birch Range.

12 August 1990.

Trip No 1472.

Sunday 12 August dawned fine with stars shining down on the plains. As the truck and 15 fine specimens neared the Kawekas, the cloud drew near. Past the Whittles property the road showed recent grader work and the first steep hill proved too much for the Bedford truck. No end of pushing by the many hands could move the truck any further - the wheels rotated but no ground was covered. Then along came Dave with his mighty Suzuki 4WD. A strong hawser attached to the Bedford and, with many hands leaning on the truck, the ground was finally covered. This was the only 'hitch' for the day, the Suzuki was not needed again.

The main party was dropped off at Littles Clearing while Geoff, Arch and Adrian took the truck around to Lotkow Hut to meet us later in the day. The rain and wind was now very evident, with raincoats on all and longjohns on many. We left Littles Clearing via the bush track and made our way along the Black Birch Range heading for the Clover Patch. A good pace was kept and everybody stayed warm, the wind proving not to be such a problem.

Leaving the ridge, the group headed down to the road, with some sections of the track being very slippery. The track exit onto the road from the Black Birch Range is wrongly marked on the map. From here we headed south up the hill, taking the track running parallel to the road - an interesting easy to follow track running along the top of the ridge with many pines and scrub extending their height as the years go by.

Lunch was taken just before we left the shelter of the trees. As we all crowded in under the pines, each trying to find a place not dripping, the rain continued to fall. Mr Lyn G. had a piece of plastic - firstly under him and the other Lyn and Jenny, then deciding it would be better over him. This provided entertainment for the lunch break, Lyn finding it difficult to hear as the plastic crinkled and crunched with every movement. I don't think the piece of plastic will travel again.

A short lunch was had due to everybody starting to cool down. Off down the ridge the track was followed, with a left branch being noted (or was it a right branch?) As we traveled down the right branch we had good views down to the Donald then the track ended abruptly. Here 4 bds bush bashed down into the valley intent on going up to the Mackintosh Plateau. The rest of the party (9) headed back to the left branch of the track and followed this rarely used section down to a short branch of track into the tributary of Cable Creek, the main track heading up to Lotkow.

I had forgotten how up hill this section of the Lawrence - Lotkow was. The hut was reached by 3.30 and a great tomato brew up was waiting at the truck. Thanks Geoff and Arch. The rain had stopped and everyone was able to change. An interesting day with new territory for most.

Geoff, Arch and Adrian had traveled down the track to Cable Creek with Geoff and Arch heading back from here. Adrian carried on

and headed into the Donald, up to Cable Creek and then followed the creek back up to the track. Before splitting up a deer was spotted and watched for a number of minutes, Adrian regretting not having his rifle.

After warming up, Ted, Dave, Dave and Martin turned up. Having reached the Donald and realizing time was slipping away, they followed the tracks of Adrian up Cable Creek and up the main route to Lotkow Hut. Another day to the Kawekas will be required for the Mackintosh section of this trip.

Thank you Geoff for driving, it was a safe and careful drive in and out. Thanks to all those who came along, especially Ralph Sutton having been in the country for just a week. The Kawekas have a little more shape than the Lakes District I guess. Hope to see you again out tramping.

N.B.

Party: Nigel Brown (leader), Geoff Robinson, Christine Hardie, Thelma Tasman Smith, Adrian Brown, Lyn & Lyn Gentry, Martin Stafford Ted Sapsford, Rowan Sapsford, Arch Lowe, Jenny Lean, Ben Tanfield, Dave Cormack, Ralph Sutton and Dave Fisher.

Mt Holdsworth Via Makahu.

26 August 1990.

Trip No. 1473.

We were all organized for a great weekend in the Tararuas, an area into which we infrequently venture. Unfortunately the powers that be decided to present us with some very un tropical and very ..... very wet weather on the Wednesday and Thursday leading up to our departure. We conducted a group discussion via the twisted pair on the Thursday night and decided that sanity must prevail and therefore the proposed trip was deferred until a later date.

Out of the discussion came the suggestion that we head up towards Kaweka J on the Sunday, weather permitting. Sunday morning saw eleven of us heading for Makahu Saddle, from which point the party split in two with some heading north towards Kaweka Flats Bivvy while others joined me in search of some greater adventure. Actually, I think the more sensible members of the party wished to escape the technicolour dazzle of Andrew's new bib overall.

It was sometime after 9.00 when we left the saddle. At the point where the two ridges meet below Dominee, we stopped to put on parkas hats etc. before heading into the snow and a rather stiff southerly breeze. After a quick peruse of the log book at Dominee we continued up the ridge a bit until a spot was found to do some basic snowcraft training. We spent a bit of time kicking steps, practising self arrests and cutting steps before continuing on up towards the tops. By this time the weather had improved considerably and was almost warm.

Unfortunately the snow was too soft for comfortable travel so after half an hour or so of sinking up to our knees we back tracked to Dominee where we had a leisurely lunch. We arrived back at the truck shortly before the others and were back in Hastings by about 6.00. Thanks to Dad B for offering his driving skills.

R.B.

Side Trip: Five of us decided to keep out of the snow and followed the track to Kaweka Bivvy. We had a bite to eat there, did some map reading practice and tried to find the other party, through the binoculars, as they went up the ridge towards the cairn.

We had some time to spare so we thought we would try and find Iron Whare. First we followed the track north, and then east. Much bush bashing and before we found the hut, time ran out, so back to the track and a quick walk back to the truck where the others were already waiting.

K.B.

Party: Main Trip; Ross Berry (Leader), Andrew Dacey, Susan Lopdell Christine Hardie, Gordon Tapp & Jenny Lean.

Side Trip; Alan & Kath Berry, Judy McBride, Christopher Frost & Lyn Gentry (Mrs).

Family Tramp To Mangakuri Beach.

2 September 1990.

Trip No. 1474.

Three cars left Havelock North a little late due to Trevor not leaving Napier until just before our designated departure time. However, we knew they were coming as Jeanette's Mum, who had just traveled over from Feilding, was also waiting for them there.

We headed off down Middle Road and then just before Patangata -

hello - no Trevor, I bet David was carsick. While waiting at Patangata, John, Karen & kids arrived - yes definitely a case of carsickness back down the road. The Plowmans duly arrived and just as we were setting off again up rolled the Perry's van and 10 more family trampers.

We arrived at Mangakuri Beach and caught up with the Boalers, who had arrived much earlier, and spent the rest of the morning fossicking in the numerous rock pools. Lunch was had at the Boaler's well appointed bach (thanks Heather and Graeme) then it was time for frisbies, sand castles and a leisurely walk up the beach.

While the morning had been lovely and warm, there was a cool southerly breeze in the afternoon, so around 2.30 we packed up and headed for the Elsthorpe Scenic Reserve. This was a lovely interlude and after all the rain in the previous weeks there was rather a lengthy two board 'bridge' to cross which had water lapping just under the boards. One youngster managed to get wet feet but David Plowman confidently crossed the entire length completely unaided. Back at the cars we said our good-byes and headed home down the Kahuranaki Road.

G.H.

Party: John, Karen, Chris, Phillip & Stuart Berry, Pat Berry, Peter, Daniel & Donna Berry & Glenda Hooper, Russell, Joanne, Rachel, Matthew, Christopher, Samuel & Rebekka Perry, Trevor, Jeanette, David & Anna Plowman, Norma Watson, Clive, Karen & Heather Thurston, Graeme, Heather, Tammy & Libby Boaler and Rose, Marita & Graydon Conway.

Tamaki Area.

9 September 1990.

Trip No. 1475.

Sixteen trampers left Hastings with the threat of bad weather ahead of us, looming over our heads. The forecast wasn't good, but making sure we were all well prepared, we set off from the truck from the picnic area at the end of Tamaki West Road at about 8.30 and started up the track to Travers Hut (more commonly called the A Frame). The day was fine, clear and warm, much to everyone's delight, and remained so all day. The track, however, was wet, muddy and very slippery in places, as Jade and Liz discovered several times.

We reached the A Frame with out much ado and discovered that the 'Travers Coffee Bar' was open for business. Thankyou to the Dannevirke 'blokes' for having the billy boiling, coffee, tea and even real milk on hand for us. They even had disposable cups for those without their own. - A note for newcomers - This sort of treatment is a very welcome rarity, not to be expected on most trips.

The walk along the tops was very enjoyable with little wind and the party split into two at a track junction below Takapari, with Dave and his merry men going up to the high point and the rest of us going down to Stanfield Hut where we had a late lunch in the sun. We stayed there for over an hour and then decided to stir ourselves and head on down the river to the truck. This took us only 1 hour 20 minutes with only our feet getting wet, the river being low hence allowing easy traveling. Kath, Alan and Shirley were already back, having done a smaller trip, while Dave and his followers arrived half an hour later.

It had been a lovely day and we were back in Hastings by 7 pm. Thankyou, Martin for driving (our newest available driver with all the required licences).

S.D.

Side Trip:

We followed the bulldozed track north along the ridge opposite the car park. A pleasant walk along this to the sign pointing us down the hill to the hut. There was no wood around so we scrounged around and found enough to get the fire going for a cuppa. I had pulled a muscle in my back so though it better just to walk on back down the river to the truck rather than go any further. Alan and Shirley, however, decided to go up to A Frame Hut from the car park, Alan running the last bit to get there and back down to the truck in the time available.

K.B.

Party: Sandie Dungan (Leader), Bruce Almond, Liz Pindar, Alf Brunt, Lyn Gentry (Mrs), Ralph Sutton, Trevor Fitness, Brian Lloyd, Shirley Hayward, Martin Mallow, Jade Dungan, Al Moffitt, Dave Harrington, Alan & Kath Berry, Shirley Bathgate and Dave Mulinder (who we picked up from Dannevirke).



Tira Lodge.

22 & 23 September 1990.

Trip No. 1476.

It was an early 6.15 am start from Eddie Holme's place for 12 keen people. It did not take long for everyone to snuggle down in the truck as the morning was quite chilly with an overcast sky. By 8.15 we were all geared up and on our way over 766 and Ihaka Spur to Whetu. The climb up was uneventful and we made good time. We did, however, manage to surprise one bod who was still in his bunk when we walked into Middle Hill Hut.

From Whetu there were many patches of snow and the air was very cold but the climb had most of us boiling. At the Ballards Hut junction Len & Kate Frost and Jenny decided to stay at Ballards and possibly meet up with the main party the next day on the way to Makino Hut. The view from here was not good as the weather had closed in with mist and later, wind and sleet. One almost felt human again as we crossed the flat scrub and tussock area heading towards Venison Tops. For awhile the sun came out and tired bodies soaked up the pleasant warmth before we disappeared once more into the bush for the final approach to Tira Lodge. We arrived at the lodge at 4.15 and it was dropped packs, slung boots and hot drinks, as we relaxed and slowly regained bodily feelings lost some hours back. After an early tea, tables and forms were rearranged for a game of cards but nobody showed any enthusiasm and one by one we all retired to our sleeping bags for a well earned sleep.

A good breakfast under our belts saw us on our way again at 7.15 am headed for Mangaturutu Hut and then the long descent to the Makino River. There we crossed a three wire bridge and spent some time resting, eating and just enjoying the solitude of a lovely bush valley area. We then made our way along the valley past some good camp sites to the track for the long climb up to Makino Hut. PHEW!

David, Sandie and Andrew left us at the bridge and bush bashed up through 1055 to the top track and then on to Makino Hut. Some problems skirting 2 or 3 bluffs slowed them down somewhat and they were to arrive back at the truck much later than the rest of us. Meanwhile, the Ballards Hut team had crossed 1379 to Makino Hut and left a note at the track junction for us to find. At Makino Hut there was a welcome break as we lunched and once more enjoyed the sun. This hut must have had some sort of attraction for us as we left and returned to it several times, finding the loo, the rubbish hole and then the safe before finally finding the track out. From here it was all down hill, past the Makino Bivouac, to the road and then a short distance to arrive at the truck about 5.30 pm.

Many thanks to our leader, Lyn, for a long, hard but very rewarding tramp. Many thanks also to Christine for driving us home, I'm sure that she would have liked to be resting in the back of the truck with the rest of us.

L.B.

Party: Lyn Gentry (Mr Leader), Leo Brunton, Christine Hardie, David Harrington, Sandie Dungan, Andrew Dacey, Jenny Lean, Alf Brunt, Len & Kate Frost, Henry Cornes and Bruce Almond.

Gold Creek.

7 October 1990.

Trip No. 1477.

With ominous looking black clouds hiding the Ruahines as we headed down State Highway 50, things did not look too good weather wise. On reaching Halls Farm at the end of Glenny Road the rain was horizontal and the wind was very cold and strong, so it was on with all the gear. We headed across the farm land to where it meets the bush on the spur between Gold Creek and the farmland. The track up the spur must be one of the nicest you could wish to go on, big beech trees and not too steep a walk. Today the wind was screaming in the tree tops, but at least the rain had stopped.

We passed some tired looking SAREX teams hurrying out to go on a real search. Just after this Hadley took sick and Joy kindly volunteered to return with him. Picking up the track that goes around the Flounder we went down to Gold Creek Hut. On the way down it started to snow and sleet but by the time we reached the hut the sun was out again.

After lunch we started off down Gold Creek on what I thought would be just over a 2 hour walk back to the truck. The stream was about a foot higher than it should have been and the rocks were very greasy so care had to be taken every time you crossed. Shirley managed to get down on her own, using a pole to lean on. Only once did we find her lying in the middle of the stream! - and the water was cold.

Eventually we reached the dirty looking Makaroro River and made our way over the farm land back to the truck, 3 3/4 hours after leaving Gold Creek Hut.

J.G.

Party: Jim Glass (Leader), Judy McBride, Jenny Lean, Shirley Bathgate, Heather Hill, Joy Stratford, Karen Thurston, Hadley Willan, Roger Burn and Geoff Robinson.

Colenso Lake. The 1990 Trip.

19 - 22 October 1990.

Trip No. 1478.

Billed as the trip of the year, if not the decade, this event was designed as a 1990 activity to commemorate the epic treks of William Colenso and companions through the Ruahine Ranges in the 1840s and 50s. Accordingly, the trip leader planned a huge wander through the wilds designed to take in Lake Colenso, the edges of Hikurangi and Mokai Patea ranges and visits to the Waikamaka, Kawhatau, Makaroro and Mangatera Rivers .....places, incidentally, where she had never been herself!!

A dozen people were keen to come so the trip was all on. It started in fine form with the leader being late, very late. Not the usual 10 or 15 minutes but a whole hour late. What a way to begin. (Actually she had a perfectly legitimate excuse but no-one was going to listen to that).

The drive to the start of the tramp was uneventful but very long. We had decided to start on the western side of the range and work

generally east - not exactly the same way that Colenso did it but we would cover the same territory.

Kawhatau Base, in the vicinity of Mangaweka, was where we were headed for and even though the truck performed flawlessly it still took over 4 hours to get there. After lunch the trip proper began. And what a trip!! It had something for everyone: white-out conditions, map and compass work, night tramping, pack floating, river crossings, lost parties, deer slaughtering, long steep hills to go down and steeper hills to climb up, and all the usual joys of tent camping plus dehy food banquets.

It was decided to modify the trip slightly because of its huge size, so most of the party set off from Kawhatau Base up onto the Mokai Patea Range (instead of going in the other direction to Crow Hut) and turned south east to travel along the tops. Chris Frost decided early on that he wouldn't be able to make it the whole way so he turned back to rejoin Stan and Joy who were to stay the night at the base before driving back to Hastings.

The rest of us continued along what turned out to be a fairly long plod along the tussock. The weather had started cloudy and slowly deteriorated until visibility was about 5 metres, although fortunately it wasn't very windy or cold. Regular checks with the compass had to be made to ensure that we didn't wander off the wrong spur and eventually we reached Rongatea as the cloud lifted a little. At the top a radio call was made by Ray to the Mountain Base in Napier (although with varying standards of reception) and he had a good chat with Ron Ward about the weather.

We then continued down the spur to Wakelings Hut. Darkness fell before we reached the bottom which made the last part interesting. Most of us camped near the river although a few joined the hunter who was already in the hut. Craig and Richard had joined us at the top, after traveling up the Kawhatau River and via Crow Hut. They reported it being fairly deep in places.

The next day was also long. Jenny decided to join Ray and Dave and go up the Waikamaka River, over the Waipawa Saddle and out to Triplex where they would be picked up as planned. The weather had cleared and we had a great day for the next installment of our expedition. The 9 of us climbed up from the river and followed the track that goes to Piringa and then drops down steeply to Maropea Forks Hut. We all got there except Gordon and Len who eventually arrived about 90 minutes later. They had lost the track when they got a little way ahead of the rest of us and dropped down the wrong side of the spur into the river and ended up somewhere way north of the junction. However, they very competently navigated their way to the hut and joined us none the worse for wear.

The youngsters took off ahead of us with plans to visit Otukota Hut on the way to Ironbark, where we expected to meet them. Once again it was up and up and up and up right to the top at Puketaramea and along for magnificent views of where we had been and where we planned to go. The leader disturbed a giant hare in the grass at the top and later in the day we saw (and heard) kaka flying around, but that was the extent of the wildlife we encountered.

The route to Iron Bark is reasonably gentle but again fairly long. We noticed a great deal of windfall throughout the bush and acres of

of fern in places where there had once been trees. The possums and deer are not helping either as they are happily eating nearly everything that is trying to regenerate.

We eventually got down to the spectacular swingbridge that is not far from Iron Bark and, because it was again close to dark, decided to camp there and negotiate the river in the morning. This we did without problems although a pack float was necessary at one part. Rather bracing at 8 am!!

At Iron Bark we found Richard and Craig who had completed their trip as planned and spent a night in the hut, which is rather old and picturesque. Another party was also there, on a rather leisurely trip in from Mokia Base for a day or two. We all agreed about the error on the map which shows the junction to Otukota in the wrong place - no doubt a message will be sent to DOSLI.

Another steep climb and then a wander through bush before eventually getting to Lake Colenso. We discovered from the other people also that the route through the Unknown Campsite is passable, contrary to the information we had been given before the trip started. Never mind; we saw a new area for all of us.

Some of us branched off to see the lake and it really is a lovely spot, very tranquil and secluded. We marveled at the tenacity of Colenso's party to get there before the days of tracks. Lunch was eaten by Colenso Hut, where a party of Taupo hunters were in long term residence - and wasn't the sloping floor in the toilet wonderful? Then off up the river which proved to be surprisingly good travel despite a few log jams. The weather continued excellent and we made very good progress. Again, camp was made by the river, but this time well before dark, so we had plenty of time to prepare and eat our various gourmet delights brought for dinner. Just on dark we were delighted to encounter a pair of blue ducks which swam very close to our washing hole before realising that we were there.

The next day, Labour Day, was supposed to be the easiest but once again the leader was talking rot. The weather had deteriorated a little but nothing serious. Big excitement of the day happened up stream not long after we all set off. The party spooked a deer just ahead which damaged its leg and could not escape up the hill. So the hunters moved in ....trapped the poor young spiker, overturned it and stuck it with their steely knives, as the old folk song goes. After dispatching it, Bruce, Len, John and Henry posed for photos with the body and then promptly decided to carve it up to take home. Such blood sport was not to everyone's taste so Dave C., Gordon and C.H. carried on up the valley. Craig and Richard had already decided to go up the slip, the site of an old track to Te Atua Mahuru which we had been advised was wiped out due to the expansion of the slip. (There is an alternative which they found).

Despite considerable searching and deliberation, none of us could find the more southern track marked on the map and we decided that it had been wiped out by the fairly recent slips we could see. So we finally had to stop looking and start climbing up to Papakiakuta Ridge. And it was a struggle. After many intimate experiences with the leatherwood and shingle slides, we finally, finally made it to the top into cloudy, windy conditions. We could

see the 'butcher party' at times and they didn't find the track either.

After a long haul around the top and past the tarns we (that is the leader's group) finally found ourselves at Te Atua Mahara trig, or the remains of it. The Colenso Spur stretched for miles ahead and we could see the Makaroro River at the foot of it. A final compass reading was needed to make sure we went down the correct side of the spur as the track is not clearly marked in the tussock at the top. Thanks to Gordon we got it right and were on the track in no time. The spur is a long, long, long haul down and by the end of it the leader vowed never, never, never to go up it - ever. By this time light rain was falling, but we had seen the other group on the tops behind us so knew that they would be on their way and probably catch up with us. At the junction to Barlow Hut, Joy had left a note indicating that she would be waiting for us as planned - she had come up the river and investigated Barlow's Hut with three others on an overnight trip.

Finally to the bottom and a look at the memorial cairn. AAAAAARGH - it was dated 1845. We were 5 years early for the 150th jubilee... The last part was a slog down the Makaroro River to Yeoman's where Joy and co. were waiting with the truck. The young ones had been there for ages!! Especially noticeable down the river were the masses of brilliant kowhai and clematis blooms.

Now all we had to do was sit, rest and wait for the others. But they didn't come and they didn't come. Just on dark a local farmer went up the river in his ute for a bit of spotlighting. He promised to look out for the missing ones but returned with no sign to report.

The leader then went with the farmer (Steve Wilson) to ring Stan from the farmhouse - the ute's mobile phone didn't work very well in the riverbed. Stan was highly entertained by the story of the deer kill by knife, but got the search programme into action. We knew that the overdue ones had a radio with them and, as long as there had not been an accident, would not have difficulty coping in the bush by themselves (they probably had 50 years hunting/tramping experience between them). Eventually Stan rang to tell us to come home and indeed by the time we arrived at Riverslea Road he was able to tell us that a radio message had been received by the party. It appears that they had taken the wrong route down Colenso Spur and ended upriver from the junction from the junction when it became too dark to carry on. What an adventure!

Final comments from leader after this saga: thanks to all party members who came and gave only positive feedback throughout the trip despite its long days. I was impressed at the standard of map and compass work displayed by people on the trip; we sure did a lot of it. Many thanks to Stan for his support of the trip and coming with us at the start. And the biggest thank you must go to Joy who collected, filled and brought the truck to the trip start, then drove it back via Taihape before setting out again to drive to Yeoman's to pick us up, as well as conducting a smaller trip of her own. We all appreciate her part in the trip very much.

C.H.

## Second Day of the Two Day Trip:

Dave, Ray and I watched the main party heading off to Colenso. We decided to go up the river to Waikamaka Hut as I didn't like the idea of bush bashing all the way up to the tops which Dave hadn't seen for several years.

We left Wakeling Hut about 9, the river wasn't too cold, although Dave & Ray thought so. It was very greasy in many places but not very deep. There was one place where we had to crawl around some rock, getting wet up to our waist - which was very cold.

We stopped about 12.30 at a junction for a feed and to soak up the sunshine. Then into the river again, before arriving at Waikamaka Hut around 3 o'clock. We stopped to have a quick look around and then it was up over the saddle and down to the river. By this time the tops were clouding over.

We got to the car park and then had to walk to the second car park where Ray's wife & son were waiting. We got there just after 6 with some tired legs, then off home to a hot bath.

Many thanks to Mrs Slavin for picking us up.

J.L.

Party: Christine Hardie (Leader), Gordon Tapp (NTC), Dave Cormack, Len Frost, Bruce Almond, Henry Cornes, John Montgomerie, Richard Ackerley, Craig Double, Ray Slavin, David Harrington, Jenny Lean, Christopher, Frost and support crew of Joy Stratford and Stan Woon. Alf Brunt, Sara Johanassen (from Sweden) & Maria Podoin (from Canada) accompanied Joy on her trip up to Barlows

## Family Tramp to Monckton's Walkway.

21 October 1990.

Trip No. 1479.

Our original date for this trip had been canceled due to a clash with an orienteering event the HTC were involved in (which was subsequently washed out) so a quick ring round early in Labour Weekend finally got the trip on the road.

A group of five cars arrived at Monckton's Reserve just after 10 and the occupants started the rather slow task of getting everyone ready for the tramp. The walkway is a loop track which basically follows the Tangarewai Stream. This provided a frequent source of interest to the younger trampers. The track is well formed, making it easy for the youngsters, with Claire, Nikki and Daniel all competing the entire walkway unaided.

It is a lovely area with many fine podocarp trees and an added bonus was the kowhai, tree fuchsia and clematis which were all in full bloom.

We arrived back at the car park for a late lunch. Then it was a laze in the hot sun for some while others played frisbee. Then the men folk spent a considerable time throwing stones at innocent objects down by the stream.

Around 3 we packed up and on the way home stopped in at Guavas Station to look at their 'Open Garden'. An hour here within the grandeur of the many trees, then all off to their respective homes.

G.H.

Party: Sue, Eddie, Claire & Glen Holmes, Maurice & Barbara Taylor, Clive, Karen & Heather Thurston, David, Jenny & Nikki Harrington, Glenda Hooper & Peter, Daniel & Donna Berry.

#### Cairn Trip.

4 November 1990

Trip No. 1480.

There was no wind when we arrived at Makahu Saddle car park and with high cloud, the prospects for a fine day were good. Before we started off we were greeted with yodeling from up the ridge, it was Brian from way above Dominee, we found out later.

Some opted to go up Trial Spur with the rest of us going up the old route. I seemed to spend my time looking across to the other people to see if I was above them or not. Dominee was reached in an hour and in two hours, most of us were at the cairn, where we spent 1/2 hour eating and waiting for the rest to turn up before we held the service. This year we used one written for us by Shirley's brother, Rev Kim Bathgate. Eileen Turner, being the youngest there, laid the wreath which was beautifully made by Joy, thank you very much Joy. The short service was finished with Liz reading the poem (on next page) written by Lester Masters.

We were just discussing which way we were going down, I wanted to go down Dons Spur but couldn't get any starters, when the weather started to turn rough, so most of us headed towards North Kawaka. We were stopped just before we got there by cold driving sleety rain, so back down we went the way we came up, arriving back at the truck at the early hour of 2.30. A lie down in the sun eating and drinking was nice and then off home, via Eddie & Sue's to look at the new truck.

Thanks very much to Martin M. for driving the truck.

J.G.

Party: Jim Glass, Jenny Lean, Judy McBride, Lady Lyn Gentry, Kathy Turner, Arch Lowe, Robert Marshall, Ralph Sutton, Alf Brunt, Julie Turner, Dave Charteris, Martin Stafford, Roger Burn, Martin Mallow, Jeremy Cole, Thelma Tasman Smith, Liz Pindar, Heather & John Jones, Brian & Pam Turner, Eileen Turner, Owen Brown and Kathy & Brian Hansen.



## HIGH HILLS.

Gently let my ashes rest  
 'Mid the high hills of the west,  
 Where the golden tussocks grow  
 And the graceful red deer go.

Where down in the gorges dim  
 Blue ducks of the mountains swim,  
 And the red stags' roars resound  
 Through my happy hunting ground.

While through beeches straight and tall  
 Mountain breezes softly call,  
 And the mad world's worries cease  
 'Mid those ancient hills of peace.

Those forgotten trails I'll tramp,  
 Forgotten make the final camp  
 Where the bellbirds sing the best  
 'Mid the high hills of the west.

For remembrance only these,  
 Lefty hill and stately trees,  
 Azure lake and rippling shore,  
 Grace of life forever more.

From: 'Unfenced Country and Other Poems', by Lester Masters.

## Family Tramp to Blowhard.

11 November 1990.

Trip No. 1481.

Blowhard turned out to be a very enjoyable ramble with perfect weather. The children enjoyed the caves and the rock formations. Moving slowly, we made our way through the bush undergrowth and bush up on to the top of the Blowhard where lunch was had.

Magnificent views of the Kawekas were had and after lunch we wandered back down, passing some large podocarps. Another bite to eat was had back at the cars and then all set off homewards around 2.30.

Glenda and I drove around to Eddie and Sue's to have a look at progress on the truck, meeting Janet Lloyd and Peter and Lesley Lattey who had also come around for a deco. Great to see them taking an interest.

P.B.

Party: Graeme, Heather, Tammy & Libby Boaler, Janet, Bill & Avril Turvey, Karen, Phillip & Stuart Berry, Pat Berry, Glenda Hooper & Peter Daniel & Donna Berry.

## Night Tramp to Sunrise Hut.

17 & 18 November 1990.

Trip No. 1482.

By the time we had dropped off cars at Stan's place and filled up with petrol it was closer to 8 o'clock (pm) than 7 for leaving. It was 10 pm on the dot when we left Triplex Hut for our night



walk up to Sunrise Hut.

I have never willingly tramped at night before and, as we entered the forest, there was a definite difference in mood compared to day time tramping. Unfortunately, with only a new moon for light which kept hiding behind patchy mist, we had to use torches which spoiled the effect somewhat. "Dip your headlights, there is oncoming traffic" I teased the people behind me. Apart from the occasional giggle and chatter from someone, it was very quiet in the forest. There was no night life about at all, although we did see a few glow-worms in the 'Emu' holes.

Five poor trampers suffered from a nightmare of 13 more arriving at 12.30 am! They showed us their unappreciation of this by retaining the only 5 mattresses there and not moving over a bit. So, some slept on the table, others under it, in the sink, etc, but it didn't matter because, by the time we had all settled down, sunrise was only 4 hours away.

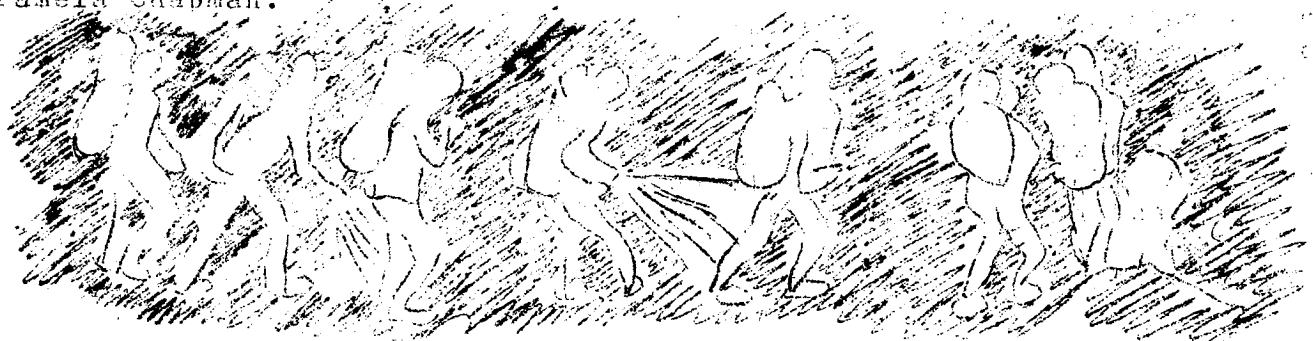
Despite a bad weather forecast, we were greeted by a beautiful day. By 8 we were all off up and along the ridge to 66. On the way up I snagged my watch on a leatherwood and lost it. The whole party stopped to help look for it. Half an hour later, Pamela bursts out laughing holding my watch. She had found it lying in my rolled up campers mat which I had strapped to the outside of my pack. Oh well, at least we had a good long stop. So, from then on, when someone wanted a breather, they yelled out that they had lost their watch!

Some of us saw some deer on the way. They would have been easy targets for hunter. With still big patches of snow up on 66, most of us couldn't resist a good snow fight. The views were fantastic all around, to Ruapehu, Ngauruhoe, Three Johns & Hawkes Bay. However, by lunch time the weather began to keep its promise and a few were left to do the last bit down to Waipawa Saddle in thick, cold mist.

Lunch break was at the top of the Waipawa Saddle, where we were joined by Christine, who came up from the opposite direction. The afternoon saw us trundling down the Waipawa River and out to the car park. Poor Alf slipped on a slimy rock while crossing the river, causing himself a big gash in the knee. Anyone else would have been a 'carry-out case', but not Alf, he carried on as if nothing had happened! Apart from that, no one else injured themselves and we ended up having a very enjoyable trip.

N.M.

Party: Martin Mallow (Leader), Alf Brunt, James Chittenden, Al Moffitt, Leo Brunton, Andre Brunton, Julian Kettle, Kirsten Rudolf, Julie Turner, Colin Moffet, Jannes Boyd, Nick Chapman and Pamela Chapman.



PRIVATE TRIPS.

Kiwi Saddle.

3 &amp; 4 August 1990.

Our two day winter hunting trip turned out to be a very hot slog into Kiwi Saddle Hut without any deer in sight. Our choice of days was well chosen, not a cloud in the sky or a breath of wind and temperatures around 20 degrees.

The hut is not showing any signs of damage except for the two entry doors jamming - probably due to the damp. One problem that we have to address soon is the disposal of rubbish. We had to fill in the rubbish hole at the rear of the hut because it was overflowing. The rubbish hole at the front, near the lee was also getting very full and would probably need seeing too very soon. Perhaps people could adopt the habit of carrying out all their rubbish. There is still plenty of windfall firewood around the hut to collect, instead of cutting live trees down.

Our walk out the next day was once again casual with no sighting of wild life.

Clive Thurston (Scribe) and Mitch Barrett.

SAREX 1990.

6 &amp; 7 October 1990.

We left Napier at 6 in a Police bus, picked up the rest of the crowd at Hastings Police Station and continued down to the Wakarara Camp of the Education Board. The object of the weekend was to show search personnel the importance of navigation for SAR.

The morning was spent in the classroom with me giving a talk on map reading, followed by Ted on compass reading and finishing with a quick talk on radio operation. Half an hour later we were heading to Glenay Road and in 2 army trucks, with supplied lunch of 2 filled buns, a hard boiled egg, an apple and a muesli bar.

There were eight teams of 2 or 4 and each team had a different control point to find. These were set by Ted beforehand. The next set of points were up on the ridge track which involved bush bashing up spurs, except for one or two teams who decided to go out of the way to stay on tracks. Some teams spent a couple of hours looking for their controls, doubting whether or not the positions were correct. Weather conditions were very windy on top with patches of snow under foot. The next set of controls were in Gold Creek and again some teams kept to the tracks rather than taking the more direct routes. All teams were then directed to Gold Creek Hut for the night with the first ones, that's me, having first choice of camp sites and the last ones camped in the open and had their tent fly blown away a couple of times.

Overnight rain was still with us in the morning as we set about for our exercise, which was the reverse of yesterday's but different control points. The radio calls from the first control points directed us to abort the exercise and head for the nearest road end. This was due to a call out for a search near Kuripapango. Unfortunately, not all received this information, so we just wandered off down Gold Creek with high water to the

.....Continued on page 29.

## HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB.

OVERDUE TRAMPERS.

Although returning parties plan to be out of the bush well before dark, safety considerations must come first. Even after arriving back at the transport it may take 2 hours or more to return. Beginners should make sure that any who may worry about them know this. Leaders will try to get a message through to one of the overdue contacts if return seems likely to be later than 10 pm. In case of concern, all newcomers should ensure that their contacts phone number is included with the list the leader leaves in town. For enquiries about overdue trampers please contact one of the following:

Stan Woon 8784680 Kath Berry 8777223 Peter Berry 8774183

FARE CONFIRMATION AND CANCELLATION.

Fare:

Local: Senior \$10 Junior Member \$5 Jnr Non Member \$8

Other: Fare set by leader to cover costs.

The above fares must be paid NO LATER THAN THE THURSDAY PRIOR TO THE TRAMP. Meeting night payment is preferred. Persons paying late will only be accepted at the leaders discretion and then only if a late fee is paid.

Cancellation: If unable to make the trip, contact the Leader BEFOREHAND and your fare will normally be refunded (a portion could be retained if costs have already been incurred.) Rarely does the Club cancel a trip. If in doubt, contact the Leader or check at the embarkation point.

COMING TRAMPS.

The tramps listed below are designed to cater for people of average fitness. Although the area for the trip is general adhered to, the suggested objective may change for a number of reasons. For pre trip enquiries contact the Leader, David Harrington (8439999) or Stan Woon (8784680).

January 13 1990. Stoney Creek. Ahimanawa Range.

A wander up the tributaries of Stoney Creek, an area of podocarp forest, hot springs and good stream travel.

Map: V19 Leader: Geoff Robinson 8787863

January 27 & 28: Te Matai. NE Kaweka F.P.

An area of land between the Mohaka and Ripia Rivers in which we have had two searches recently. Very nice beech podocarp forest.

Map: U19 & maybe U20 & V19 Leader: Eddie Holmes 8446032

February 10: Kuripapango. Kaweka F.P.

A day out with the HB Orienteering Club to mark some tracks etc for the Kaweka Challenge.

Map: U20 Leader: Ted Safford 8798993

February 24: Ocean Beach.

A day at the beach for everyone. Tramp is to Cape Kidnappers. Maybe a two day tramp if interest is shown.

Maps: W21 & W22 Leader: Martin Mallow 8776442

9 & 10 March: Mt Holdsworth.

Taranua F.P.

We will try again. Up to Junbo and Mt Holdsworth as a round trip.

Maybe another party to McGregor Riv.

Map: S26

Leader: Ross Berry 8774436

23 & 24 March: Pinus contorta, Ruapehu.

Our annual trip to the lower slopes of Mt Ruapehu to help the DOC rid the park of Pinus contorta.

Leader: Nigel Brown 8793239

7 April: No Mans - Mangleton Rd.

Ruahine F.P.

Into No Mans Hut by truck, out to Mangleton Rd via Three Fingers spur, Golden Crown or Sentry Box.

Map: U21

Leader: Christine Hardie 8434912

12 - 15 April (Easter): Mt Egmont (Taranaki).

Maybe follow the track over Pouakai Range and also a climb onto the summit of Mt Egmont.

Map: P20

Leader: Susan Loddell 8446697

21 April: Waikoau Stream.

Tutira Area.

Down from the Pohokura Road to near Blue Lake. A spectacular limestone river.

Maps: V19 & V20

Leader: Jim Glass 3778743

4 & 5 May: Makaroro River & Kylie Bivvy.

Ruahine F.P.

Up Colenso Spur, along to Kylie Bivvy for night. Back out via Makaroro River.

Maps: U21 & U22

Leader: John Montgomerie 3777358

19 May: Mt Tahara.

Taupo Area.

A climb up Mt Tahara, a swim at De Bretts and a wander around Huka Falls.

Map: U18

Leader: Martin Mallow 3776442

CLUB MEETINGS. These are held every second Wednesday (the ones before the above tramps\*<sup>1</sup>). They are held at St Marks Church Hall\*<sup>2</sup>, corner of Queens St and Park Road. Doors open at 7.30 pm. Visitors are welcome.

\*<sup>1</sup> - not the one before Easter.

\*<sup>2</sup> - except Feb 20th when meeting is at Te Awanga Hall.

SUBS ARE NOW DUE.

SUBS ARE NOW DUE.

Please pay promptly - a \$5 discount applies to all subs paid by 30 January 1991.

the 1990/91 subs are the same as last year: i.e.:

Before 30 Jan.

After 30 Jan.

Active Senior:	\$13	\$23
Active Junior:	\$13	\$18
Family/Couple:	\$27	\$32
Absentee/Associate:	\$9	\$14

## SOCIAL NEWS.

Orienteering Event: Results of the NTC v HTC orienteering event held in a very damp Holts forest behind Whirinaki Mill were:

NTC.			
Harry Osborne	1-02-06		
HTC			
Ross B	0-45-07	Ted S	1-00-04
Eddie H & Peter B	1-06-06	Jim G	1-21-22
Nigel B	1-21-48	Lyn G	1-23-14
Alan B	1-33-38	Clive T & Mitch B	1-42-14
Sandie D & Lyn G	1-53-38	Kath Glenda Christine	1-58-41

As the winning team was determined by the lowest average time for all competitors in each Club, the NTC, with only 1 competitor, won.

BARN DANCE: Another great success and a good turnout. Unfortunately not such a good turn out the next day for the clean up - only one person from the many names on the list of intending clean uppers arrived. Thanks Lyn and your helpers.

Also many thanks to Sandie for hosting the "Come as you are" party. Another enjoyable evening by all accounts.

Congratulations to Heather (was McBride) and John Jones who got married last August. And I am afraid that, because of a lack of contributions, babies, space and Editor, that is all the HTC gossip

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Private Trips continued from page 26.

...Makaroro River. This was waist deep and swift but we crossed it no problems to the waiting army truck. On the way out to Wakarara Camp we were notified that the missing party had been found. Our Base personnel had all disappeared, along with our Sunday supplied lunch, towards Kuripapango before it was called off. We all then left for town in the Police bus with a rather active trip, due to a water pistol being used by some restless persons.

D.H.

HTC Personnel: David Harrington, Sandie Dungan, Christine Hardie, Roger Pawluk, Clive Thurston, Nigel Brown, Len Frost, Mark Craven, Julie Turner, Craig Double, Lyn Gentry, John Berry, Mitch Barrett, Robert Marshall & Ted Sapsford plus Dave Mulinder & Greg Barrow from Ruahine T.C. While Ross Berry, Graeme Thorpe and Trevor Plowman were at Base.

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# FIXTURES LIST.

- 29 Dec: Beach Day, Waimarama. See page 11.
- 2 - 6 Jan. Tramp - Kaimanawa F.P. Contact David H. 8439999
- 6 Jan: Family Tramp to Lake Tutira. Trips round Lake Tutira for the fast ones or Lake Waikopiro for the others. Canoes will be available. Contact Glenda H. 8774183
- 9 Jan: Club Meeting. Hosts: Clive Thurston & John Berry  
Supper: Audrey Holmes & Shelley McMurtrie
- 13 Jan: Tramp - Stoney Creek.
- 23 Jan: Club Meeting. Hosts: Nigel Brown & Bruce Porter  
Supper: Eddie Turi & Heather Hill
- 26 & 27 Jan: Tramp - Te Matai area.
- 30 Jan: Exec Meeting at Kath Berry's place.
- 2 & 3 Feb: Family Tramp and Social Evening at McMurtrie's Beach. Leaving Saturday afternoon to set up camp at the beach. Social get together in the evening and beach walks next morning.  
Contact Glenda H. 8774183
- 6 Feb: Club Meeting. Hosts: Bruce Almond & Dave Charteris  
Supper: Fiona Sapsford & Len Frost
- 10 Feb: Tramp - Kuripapango
- 16 & 17 Feb: MACPAC Kaweka Challenge.  
Lots of people are needed for manning control points in the field. overnight camps and start/finish line. Contact: David H. 8439999
- 20 Feb: Annual Pot Luck Dinner and Meeting at Te Awanga Hall.  
Hosts: Shirley Bathgate & Jim Glass
- 24 Feb: Tramp - Ocean Beach.
- 28 Feb - 4 Mar: Extended family tramp. Possibly to Pureora but this is still open for discussion. Contact: Glenda H. 8774183
- 6 Mar: Club Meeting. Hosts: Andrew Dacey & Martin Mallow  
Supper: Dave Cormack & Mark Craven
- 9 & 10 Mar: Tramp - Mt Holdsworth
- 17 Mar. Family Tramp to Mount Tulloch Farm.  
A trip to Frank & Sandra Hooper's place on Kahuranaki Road. Farm walks, gig rides and a barbecue. Contact: Glenda H. 8774183
- 20 Mar: Club Meeting. Hosts: Sandie Dungan & Judy McBride  
Supper: Peter Berry & Susan Lopdell
- 23 & 24 Mar: Pinus contorta weekend at Ruaeahu
- 27 Mar: Exec Meeting at Shirley's place
- 4 Apr: Club Meeting. Hosts: Craig Double & Geoff Robinson  
Supper: John Berry & Ross Berry.
- 7 Apr: Tramp - No Mans
- 12 - 15 Apr: Tramp - Mt Egmont.
- 17 Apr: Club Meeting. Hosts: Alistair Moffitt & Eddie Holmes  
Supper: Bruce Almond & Shirley Bathgate.
- 21 Apr: Tramp - Waikoa Stream
- 28 Apr: Family Tramp in the Wakarara area. Contact Glenda H. 8774183
- 1 May: Club Meeting. Hosts: Christine Hardie & Christiana Stevens  
Supper: Arch Lowe & Thelma Tasman Smith.