



HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC):

P.O. BOX 447

"P O H O K U R A"

Bulletin No 179

December 1991

Officers of the Club 1991-1992

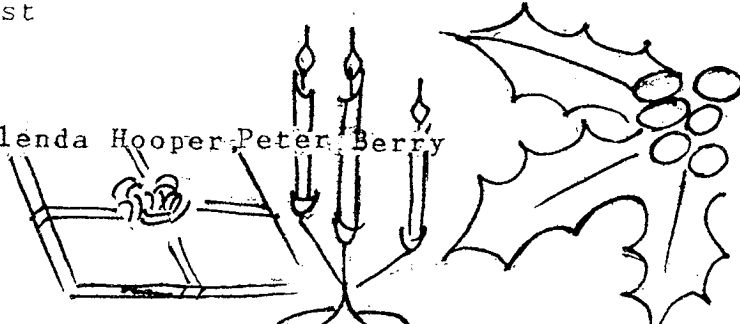
Patron: Mrs Janet Lloyd

PRESIDENT:	David Cormack	8776354
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:	Stan Woon	8784680
VICE PRESIDENTS:	Jim Glass	8778748
	Shirley Bathgate	8778511
CLUB CAPTAIN:	David Harrington	8439999
SECRETARY:	Kath Berry	8777223
TREASURER:	Jackie Smith	8768249
EDITOR:	Lyn Gentry (Mrs)	8750542
COMMITTEE:	Susan Lopdell	8446697
	Martin Mallow	8776442
	Julie Turner	8763992
	Peter Berry	8774183
	Lyn Gentry (Mr)	8750542
	Geoff Robinson	8787863
	Len Frost	8778824
SOCIAL COMMITTEE:	Lyn Gentry (Mr)	8750542
	Sandie Dungan	8355209
	Kay Ward	8795903
	Stan Woon	8784680

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Subcommittees:

Truck:	Geoff Robinson
Fixtures:	David Harrington (chair), Sue Lopdell, Martin Mallow
Hut and Track:	Len Frost (chair), Stan Woon
Training:	Julie Turner (chair), David Cormack
S.A.R.:	David Harrington
Publicity:	Stan Woon
Meetings:	Jim Glass (chair), David Cormack, Sue Lopdell, Stan Woon, Len Frost
Library:	Liz Pindar
Scrapbook:	Jim Glass
Gear:	Judy McBride
Environment:	Shirley Bathgate, Glenda Hooper, Peter Berry
Editor:	Lyn Gentry (Mrs)
Album:	Shirley Bathgate



ANNUAL REPORTSPRESIDENTS REPORT

After 4½ years I think it is about time for the Club to have a new leader, with some new ideas. After all, there is always room for improvements, and possibly the best suggestions come from the average club members. Don't be backward giving your ideas either, verbally or written to any committee member. I have been very lucky during my period as President with the assistance received from the various committees and Vice Presidents, especially during late 1988 and 1989, a very bad period for myself, and to you, the members, I thank you for your support. The Secretaries Glenda and Kath, and the Treasurer Jackie, all who did a terrific job.

The last few years have indeed been very exciting clubwise with the building of Kiwi Hut and more recently our new truck. These were indeed great milestones in the history of the club. To those who put in many hours on working parties, you must feel a great satisfaction on the completion of these two projects. On discussing the projects one must think of Edward and Sue Holmes. Eddie for his planning and amount of hours he must have put in, and to Sue for putting up with the whole of the HTC tearing around her home for months on end and making cups of tea - we say a big thanks.

I have just returned back from NSW Australia where they were in a drought (in September) and bush fires just a mile away from where I was staying. Travelling out to the Blue Mountains and Snowy River districts where all one could see was blue gums and more blue gums.

I am writing this report in a small settlement called Pukawa at the southern end of Lake Taupo, and looking out of the window I see holiday cottages scattered around the hillside amongst Native bush. It has just finished raining and the bush is looking marvellous. In the room with me is our old mate Jim Glass and he is studying a map. In the last couple of days we have tramped up close to Ngauruhoe, wandered into Pureora, travelled into the Kaimanawas and caught a trout each, my what a wonderful country we have and isn't it good to be able to hump the old pack on and take off for the hills. I wonder if it will be like it in 20 years time, or is access going to get harder. After all, it is getting pretty tough to get in to some areas already. So we as a club and you as individuals must endeavour, for future generations to keep the back country open for all to enjoy in the future. At present there is a fight going on to preserve the Mohaka River from Electro Corp, and what to do with the wild horses in the Kaimanawas. We can't hold back progress, but where does it start and where dose it finish. Every one has different ideas, what is yours?

Looking at our four club huts. For the effort the club has put into building these I would like to see them visited more often by members.

During my term as President the back country has moved from the control of NZ Forest Service to the Department of Conservation. A change I think, for the better. I feel that

DOC is much closer to the users of the parks, very approachable and good listeners. This is from the top people to the junior office personnel out to the young guys in the field. We know they are under control of the big wigs in Wellington and can't do like they or we would like them to do on many occasions, but a big thanks to them for their assistance especially on the siting of Kiwi Hut.

How lucky we are to have our Club Captain Dave Harrington. His knowledge of huts, tracks and where not to go is amazing. There are not many places in the local ranges he hasn't been, and his instruction on map and compass reading are well worth attending. Thank you Dave for your support throughout the years. I hope you are available for many years to come. I think it is time for the club to possibly look at Assistant Treasurers, Secretary and Vic Captain.

Finally I wish to say what an honour and a thrill it has been to be your President and to have followed in the footsteps of two gentlemen such as Stan Craven and Norm Elder. This in its own has meant quite a bit to me as I looked up to them both as a teenager. To you the members of the HTC, I am still enjoying your friendship and company and may our tramping days go on forever.

Thanking you - Stan Woon

CLUB CAPTAINS REPORT

During the last 12 months the club has been quite busy in various activities. We had two Pinus Contorta trips, one at Ruapehu and the other near Kuripaponga. In February we, along with the H.B. Orienteering Club ran our 3rd Mountain Marathon along the Kaweka Range. This was a great success and we are well into it again for next February.

Besides the Kaweka and Ruahine Ranges we had quite a few trips covering other parts of the North Island. These included the Kaimanawas, Tararuas, Tongariro, Egmont, Taupo and Waikaremoana. We also had a beach trip, S & R exercise and family tramps.

Now for some statistics. During the 12 months we had 15 weekend plus trips, an increase on the previous year. Numbers on these trips average 17, another increase on the previous year. What I found to be most interesting is that the 3 most popular trips were Egmont, Waikaremoana and Tongariro, all further afield trips.

As for day trips, we had 15 trips, a decrease on the previous year. This averaged out at 17 trampers per trip, another decrease on the previous year.

During this period we held one bushcraft course, which was poorly attended although enjoyed by most. Also we had several training evenings covering a range of subjects and it seems that members are gaining more experience through this, along with tramping trips.

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. Thank you.

David Harrington

EDITORS REPORT

Two years and two children later, Glenda and I are retiring as Editor due to, too many children and too little time. Perhaps when the average age of our 3 kids is no longer two we'll give it another bash.

When I say Glenda and I, I mean both of us, although I'm officially Editor everyone knows who's in charge. Glenda did the typing, the punctuation, spelling and much of the editing, while I wrote the editorial comments, slanderous comments and did the Gestetnering.

Much have I learned about the dreaded Gestetner. I used to fight and struggle to get reasonable results from the old one, cranking it by hand because the motor didn't work. Then Sue kindly got us a new one. Instant grey! Jim and I agonised over it for a whole evening and finally got it working 95% of the time. The other 5% was a disaster of torn sheets, over inking, half done sheets etc. An unappreciated, unpredictable beast, it strove to get its own back at every opportunity; - too dark, too light, and half way through the last magazine it blew up. I was not sorry! I have got the old one working again (sort of) but for this Pohokura we are using a copying machine. It will cost about \$60 an issue more but the quality should be better and it will save heaps of hassle for the editor and typist.

To everyone who got their reports in on time, a heartfelt thanks, and for those who were a bit late - thank you anyway. A big thank you to Glenda for all her sterling work and also to Mrs Lyn who has taken over the typing of this Pohokura due to the arrival of Natalie.

We hope you have enjoyed the magazines we have edited. We have tried not to chop and change the way they were written so that the writers could feel that what they wrote was what was going in. We did however trim a few that were considered overlong.

Best wishes to the new Editor who we will of course help settle in.

Peter Berry

VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT

We have had a good year on the social side of the meetings with many and varied speakers. With two accounts of members epic trips, - one south to north up the island, the other west to east, and another talk on a little visited country, the Kingdom of Sikkim. We had talks on gear, Shirleys video on the Rees Valley and a very interesting talk on the workings of the Mountain Safety Council.

I would like to thank all those people and also Martin for having taken on the unenviable task of running the photo competition, and Dave for his very informative training evenings. Lastly, thanks to Sandie for looking after milk and eats for supper at every meeting night.

Jim Glass

TRUCK REPORT

Our new truck has been on the road since early this year with it's first trip going to Taupo with Eddie at the wheel. Our longest trip to date was to Mt Taraniki at Easter, and has now completed 7000kms since it has been on the road.

The truck is a pleasure to drive and I'm sure the passengers appreciate how quiet and comfortable the ride in the back is. A new awning has been made for the side which will serve the purpose well. Sign writing has been completed and now only some minor details remain to be done before we take it to Queenstown over Christmas on it's first trip to the South Island.

I would like to thank all the members who were able to work on our truck and working bees to help pay the expenses, and especially to Eddie and Sue Holmes for allowing the use of their workshop and the work they put into it.

Geoff Robinson

SOCIAL REPORT

This year Social activities had a rather slow start. The barn dance was held last December at Te Awanga where every-one danced the night away.

The annual competition against Napier Tramping Club had to be postponed due to the Were search being on and a lot of our members out there. The Progressive Dinner was held in August with all who attended enjoying themselves.

We thought the first day of spring a good day for the picnic/tabloid sports against Napier T.C. which was very successful. Caber throwing, sack races, blindfolded navigating and egg throwing were among some of the days activities, and of course H.T.C. proved to be tops with table traversing champ, Dave Charteris.

A couple of weeks later saw lots of people leave on various and assorted bicycles on the approx 35K bike ride round the Lawn Rd., Red Bridge, Tukituki Rd. block with a restful lunch under Red Bridge, and enough time to allow some to recover to tackle the ride back to the Gentrys.

Thanks to those who have pitched in and helped and we look forward to more fun next year.

Lyn Gentry

LIBRARY REPORT

It is worth your while to take a look in the library cupboard to see the range of books the club has. Two large boxes are under my spare bed and if you are desperate for reading material DO come and borrow some of those as well. The Club has some very interesting books, particularly of the early Big Climbs. 15 books were issued this year and the grand total of \$3.29 cents taken.

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

It has been a full and busy year with the largest and most important document being the Resource Management Bill which is still incomplete due to Government trying to form a separate Mining & Minerals Legislation.

Submissions, letters, articles, & D.O.C. meetings as follows:

1. Director General D.O.C. Wellington re N.Z. Coastal Policies update.
2. Director General Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society re protection of rainforests/chipmilling etc. and letters to Prime Minister/M.P.s & Mitsubishi Corporation, Japan.
3. Kaweka Draft Management Plan which was of great interest to us at H.T.C. and an excellent report from D.O.C. Napier.
4. To Prime Minister re indigenous forests and stressing fact 160,000 cubic metres of pine forest available for chipping.
5. Letter and article from D.O.C. in Canterbury re Arthurs Pass management plan - submission sent.
6. Wanganui River V's Electrocorp stressing factor to Prime Minister of return of much of the flow which at present causing deviation to water, fish, wildlife and forest edges.
7. Further letter to D.O.C. re future extra sessions to get rid of pinus contorta in the Kaweka/Ruahine which the club carry out yearly.
8. Letter to P.M. NOT to privatise Lake Manapouri and passing from hands of Guardians of the Lake could cause irreparable damage.
9. To Mr Marshall to stop logging of privately owned indigenous forests.
10. Letters to Select Committee re principles of Resource Management stressing protection of National and Forest Parks and the principles of physical research.
11. To Director General of Conservation re Draft Guidelines on concessions for sporting events and concern that H.T.C. should pay.
12. Submissions to Electrocorp on river flows.

Also a submission on the effect of Wild Horses and damage on the Central North Island Plateau, and lastly thanks to Bronwyn Hunt, D.O.C. for her magnificent work on Ruahine Draft Management Planning Submission sent by H.T.C.

Finally it has been an interesting and somewhat controversial year with some issues solved and some yet to be solved.

We join with all N.Z. Tramping Clubs in preserving our heritage so we may all go out and enjoy the mountains, rivers, hills, valleys and coast. Good tramping.

Shirley Bathgate

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I once visited a weather station where I was shown all the latest innovations in forecasting technology. I was impressed by what I saw. At the end of the briefing I asked "How do you assess the probability when you say there's a 75% chance of rain?" The supervisor responded immediately: "It means there are four of us here, and three of us think it will rain."

- Sam Speight

SEARCH AND RESCUE REPORT

For three weeks during the period of April and May things were fairly busy. First of all I along with a St Johns fellow flew into Mangatainoha Hot Springs to bring out an injured Polish girl. A few days later 4 of us helped out on the National Police Search and Rescue Exercise for four days in the eastern Ruahines. On the last day of this we ended up on standby for a missing plane that had crashed near Taupo. Several days later we were called out to look for a missing hunter, "Robert Were" in the Kaumatua Stream area. This search lasted 6 days in which a lot of our members helped with. Although the search ran very smoothly Robert Were was never found, and some presumed that he was washed down stream during heavy rains at the time.

The annual SAREX was held in the eastern Kawekas last month and concentrated on first aid and stretcher carrying. Although there were lots of moans I'm sure everyone learnt something.

A few training evenings have been held to increase or refresh our knowledge for Search and Rescue.

I would like to thank all club members who make themselves available for Search and Rescue because without you it wouldn't work.

David Harrington

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FROM THE MEDIA-----

An updated second edition of a book which has become a handbook for Hawke's Bay outdoor enthusiasts, "The Happy Wanderer", is being rewritten.

Ashley Cunningham, husband of the late Shelia Cunningham, who wrote The Happy Wanderer in 1982, is writing the book because of public demand. All seven hundred copies that were printed were all sold in Hawke's Bay.

Any changes that have occurred in the 70 walks have been included, and also another 30 new walks due to an extended area to include walks toward Taupo and the southern Ruahine. The book should be released during winter next year.

-H.B.Herald Tribune

28 Police Districts are to receive plaques from Police Commissioner John Jamieson for recognition of the S.A.R. squads and volunteer support teams outstanding work over the past 25 years - from 1966 to 1991, of saving lives. Hundreds of lives have been saved and now Search and Rescue is taken for granted, with the main categories in which people get into trouble being tramping, climbing and hunting on land, and yachting and boating at sea.

- The Dominion

FMC REPORT

Federated Mountain Clubs Executive has continued its programme of reports, submissions and recommendations throughout the year. There has been input into DoC's hut review and track classification proposals.

We took up the proposed Special Events charging scheme - this is of interest to HTC members because of the way it could change the Kaweka Challenge through charging for use of the conservation estate.

Access is an ongoing problem with a tendency nationwide for land occupiers to charge fees, sometimes illegally. Readers of the Bulletin will have noted the long battle over the Waikaia Bush Road in Otago. We have now obtained a directive that it was illegally closed all along so hopefully that problem has been resolved.

Closer to home Access 10 in the Kaimanawa Park has been of interest to us all. FMC has also pursued the handing back of Hikurangi without public input into the status of the mountain and access for all; a precedent has been set that is not necessarily to trampers' advantage.

All DoC management plans have had submissions and, where required, appearances at hearings. The Resource Management Act has meant a change in environment management which we all now have a legal right to be part of. FMC is involved in offering training for us to know how to go about it.

The AGM was held in Auckland in June. The levy per head was increased by 50 cents to \$7 a year. I myself don't think it an excessive amount for all the benefits that clubs gain (Bulletin and other publications, discounted books and maps, gear testing information, SAR organisation, effective lobbying of government agencies on their management of the conservation estate that we use), but we appreciate that many members consider it a large amount to pay and there will be no increases next year.

Highlight of 1991: The Back Country Recreation Conference held in September at St Arnaud which I Attended. A good cross-section of outdoor recreationalists and conservationists met to discuss important issues. There will be a publication out about it soon and I will advise members of what was decided.

FEEDBACK: I always like to hear from club members about what FMC is doing. Are we doing a good job? Do you read the Bulletin - do you like the coloured cover? Do you use the book order form? Are there any issues that we should be addressing that we aren't? LET US KNOW.

COMING EVENTS: February 1992 - Seminar on the Resource Management legislation. How to become involved at a local level with the management of our environment here in Hawke's Bay.  
March - Walk Week - Hillary Commission has given money for a national week of promoting walking. I have volunteered us to be involved so get thinking about walks (not tramps) that we can promote.

Christine Hardie

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1991**

| 1990    |                              | 1991  |
|---------|------------------------------|-------|
| \$      |                              | \$    |
|         | <b>INCOME:</b>               |       |
| 2,455   | Subscriptions                | 1,987 |
| 331     | Working Party Proceeds       | 454   |
| 573     | Equipment Hire               | 549   |
| 389     | Meeting Contributions        | 449   |
| 307     | Donations - huts & general   | 173   |
| 897     | Donations South Island trip  |       |
| 450     | Donations - Motere Trust     | 450   |
| 1,503   | Mountain Marathon            |       |
| 60      | Recycling sales              |       |
| 1,892   | Interest Received            | 123   |
|         | <b>SALES:</b>                |       |
| 1,006   | Maps                         | 1,137 |
| 18      | Monograms & Badges           | 7     |
| 8       | Hut Passes                   | 330   |
| 11      | Plastic Liners               | 40    |
| 132     | T Shirts                     | 162   |
| 322     | Calendars                    | 171   |
| 11      | Cans & Food                  | 133   |
| -----   |                              | ----- |
| 10,365  |                              | 6,165 |
|         | <b>EXPENSES:</b>             |       |
| 91      | Advertising                  | 112   |
| 1,766   | Purchase of items for resale | 1,773 |
| 125     | Supper & Social Expenses     | 70    |
| 11      | Library & Photo Album        |       |
| 719     | FMC Capitation               | 812   |
| 399     | Bulletin Expenses            | 388   |
| 130     | Stationery stamps etc        | 162   |
| 85      | Equipment & Hut Maintenance  | 29    |
| 73      | Subscriptions                | 75    |
| 396     | General Expenses             | 21    |
| 186     | Insurance - Equipment & Huts | 194   |
|         | Interest                     | 388   |
| 425     | Rent of Meeting Room         | 425   |
| 96      | Equipment depreciation       | 108   |
| 6,663   | Transport costs              | 4,401 |
|         | Truck Depreciation           | 1,829 |
| -----   |                              | ----- |
| 6,663   |                              | 6,230 |
| 5,447   | Fares received               | 5,078 |
| -----   |                              | ----- |
| 1,216   | Loss (Profit) on Transport   | 1,152 |
| -----   |                              | ----- |
| 5,718   |                              | 5,709 |
| -----   |                              | ----- |
| \$4,647 | Net income transferred to    | \$456 |
| =====   | Accumulated Funds            | ===== |

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**GENERAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The measurement base adopted is that of historical cost.

Accrual accounting is used to match expenses and revenues.

**PARTICULAR ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The Isuzu Truck is being depreciated at 5% on cost price for the first 15 years and then the policy will be reviewed. The estimated useful life of the Truck is 25 years.

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.

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 therefore they have no recoverable values.

The Brother AX5 Both typewriter has been depreciated at 10% on cost price to write it off over 10 years.

The Brother Electric Typewriter has been written off.

**CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

There have been no changes from the accounting policies observed in the preparation of last year's financial statements. All policies have been consistently applied.

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC)  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1991

1990  
\$

1991  
\$

**ASSETS**

**CURRENT ASSETS**

|       |                                |       |
|-------|--------------------------------|-------|
| 154   | Cash on Hand                   | 25    |
| 111   | Advance Expenditure Marathon   | 600   |
| 2,162 | Trust Bank Central             | 1,477 |
| 519   | Trust Bank Central Hit Account | 547   |
| 920   | UDC Finance Ltd                | 443   |
| 690   | Accounts Receivable            | 446   |
| 4,556 |                                | 3,538 |

**FIXED ASSETS**

|        |                           |        |
|--------|---------------------------|--------|
| 22,500 | 1990 Isuzu Truck          | 36,586 |
|        | Less Depreciation to date | 1,829  |
| 22,500 |                           | 34,757 |

**HUTS:**

|       |           |       |
|-------|-----------|-------|
| 10    | Kaweka    | 10    |
| 6,060 | Kiwi      | 6,360 |
| 55    | Waikamaka | 55    |
| 1,905 | Howletts  | 1,905 |
| 8,030 |           | 8,330 |

**FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT:**

|        |                               |        |
|--------|-------------------------------|--------|
| 170    | Equipment                     | 369    |
| 177    | Bookcase                      | 177    |
| 69     | Projector at cost             | 69     |
| 53     | Brother Electric Typewriter   |        |
| 500    | Brother AX25 Elect Typewriter | 445    |
| 237    | 12 Drawer Cabinet             | 237    |
| 1,206  |                               | 1,297  |
| 31,736 |                               | 44,384 |

|                 |                     |                 |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| <b>\$36,292</b> | <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b> | <b>\$47,922</b> |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|

However, of this amount, there has been set aside for Truck Replacement Fund:

|       |                              |        |
|-------|------------------------------|--------|
| 4,007 | Balance as at 1 October 1990 | 4,007  |
|       | Sale of Bedford Truck        | 2,200  |
| 4,007 | Funds Received               | 8,711  |
|       |                              | 14,918 |

|       |                                                                     |        |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 4,007 | Funds used to purchase Isuzu Truck transferred to Accumulated Funds | 14,918 |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|

|    |                                |     |
|----|--------------------------------|-----|
| 97 | Accounts owing                 | 318 |
|    | Ingram, Thompson & Berry Trust | 10  |
|    | Subscriptions rec'd in advance | 32  |

|                |                          |              |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| <b>\$4,104</b> | <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b> | <b>\$360</b> |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------|

|                 |                                       |                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>\$32,188</b> | <b>EXCESS ASSETS OVER LIABILITIES</b> | <b>\$47,562</b> |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|

**THE EXCESS OF ASSETS OVER LIABILITIES IS REPRESENTED BY ACCUMULATED FUNDS:**

|        |                                      |        |
|--------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 27,541 | Balance as at 1 October 1990         | 32,188 |
| 4,647  | Transfer from Truck Replacement Fund | 14,918 |
|        | Surplus for year                     | 456    |

|                 |                                |                 |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>\$32,188</b> | <b>TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b> | <b>\$47,562</b> |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|

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 1991 and of the financial position at that date.

A V Berry  
Auditor

**AUDITORS REPORT TO MEMBERS OF HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB**

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.

CLUB TRIPS

Patiki

Trip No. 1508.

August 11 1991.

Several weeks ago I went to visit Nigel Brown to check out his new property. Quite a hassle really as for 16 years we used to commute by going through the gap in the hedge. This time I had to drive. To add insult to injury he ended up transferring the Patiki tramp to me while I was there. Not that I really minded as I had intended doing the trip myself.

On the due date the weather forecast was not very encouraging, though conditions looked reasonable as we left Hastings. The Ruahine tops were covered in cloud but as we got closer to them we could see that it was not very thick.

We progressed up the track to Armstrong Saddle and it did not take long before we reached the snow, a fine layer on track and trees. When we reached the cloud level we were greeted by a fine gentle sleety sort of snow drifting around us, quite pleasant actually. We stragglers reached Sunrise Hut in about 2 hours after leaving the Triplex carpark. On arrival we were met by a fusillade of snowballs. After obliterating this inferior and disorganised force we stopped for a welcome teabreak at the hut. As there was a lot of snow on the ground Lew and Wayne went forward to check the practicality of continuing with our proposed route. The snow was fresh, ice was minimal and visibility was good so we decided to press on. Just south of spot height 1499 I managed to throw consternation into the whole party when pointing out our direction of travel and final destination. Only major problem was a directional change of 90°, which if achieved would have got us back to Sunrise and Triplex. Next time I will clean the snow and sweat from glasses and consult map before engaging tongue. At this point, for some unaccountable reason, Sue and Rodger decided to retrace their route. Ross and Mike also left us and dropped into Triplex Creek. Some people have no faith. The remaining 16 of us skirted 1499 to just above the ridge out to Patiki, then a short swift bum slide in the snow got us right onto the ridge. This part of the route was over an enchanting fairyland sort of place. Snowy tunnels through the Manuka, sheer white and grey faces dropping into the depth beside us and bushy clearings with the sun filtering through the trees onto the frosted tussock. Not to mention walls of white coated Leatherwood. The effect of the area on our spirit was fairly obvious as spontaneous snowfights broke out with little, if any, provocation. It took about an hour to reach Patiki and a view of our route. We all sorted out lunch spots, trying to get a view, which was sheltered from a light but keen breeze, without sitting in a snowdrift.

The next section was an interesting one as we soon dropped into bush and last visibility. Our general direction was North West and we had to follow a long curving spur to avoid dropping into a stream catchment to our East. The top half of the spur was not very definite and was the critical bit as far as navigation was concerned. I must have got it right as after 45 minutes we descended to a level where the spur ridge became obvious, and we were on top of it. About two thirds of the way

down we passed the occasional blue plastic marker, and as we descended further the vestiges of an old track became obvious in places. We reached the bottom of the spur at a saddle about 300 metres West of Trig 14021. Christine and I got rid of a bit of surplus wet weather gear here while the others carried on to the nearby trig. We caught up to the group who were in full conference, and on sighting us accused us of sending them off on a wild goose chase. My fault, I had forgotten to tell them there was an unmapped gully between us and the trig, and no track. Five minutes later we reached the trig which was a good spot to have a tea break or general breather.

We left the trig and continued North East down the Gold Creek track. I used this track several times last year just after D.O.C. had recut it, and at that time it was in excellent condition. Quite a few windfalls had fallen across the track since then and it's condition had markedly deteriorated. Just over an hour after leaving the trig we reached the end of the track and open farmland was directly below us to the East, and the Makororo River to the North. We opted for a South East route through Mr Hall's paddocks to meet Ross and the truck at the end of Glenny Road. It was just after 4.00PM.

Welcome to Lesley, Lynette, Kees, Wayne, Phillip and Steve, - all who came out with us for the first time. I hope you enjoyed your day, and will come out with us again.

Thanks Ross for driving.

T.S.

Party: Ted Sapsford (leader), Christine Hardie, Peter Bullock, Kees Van den Munckhof, Wayne Hatcher, Lesley Griffen, Phillip Mardon, Jenny Lean, Rodger Burn, Leo Brunton, Goeff Robinson, Susan Lopdell, Lew Harrison, Mandy and Callum McMillan, Rowan Sapaford, Mike Bull, Lynette Sharpe, Steve Chalmers and Ross Berry.

Family Tramp To Waipatiki Scenic Reserve.

Trip No 1509

August 18 1991

The 10 o'clock departure time from Erika's place was somewhat delayed due to a neighbouring garage sale - Trevor and Jeanette, in particular, gaining lots of "bargins". Anyhow by 11.30 we had left the cars by the Waipatiki Road and started walking.

The Waipatiki Scenic Reserve extends between the Waipatiki Road in the valley and the Aropaoanui Road on the ridge above. The plant life in the first section of the track is almost exclusively Nikau palms from the 'grass' on the track (Nikau seedlings) to the mature trees. It was all very impressive and it was a pity that the evidence of over enthusiastic track cutters from several months ago was still very visible in the form of dead trees and foliage and, more disturbingly, mutilated trees. Anyhow the slow progress over this section was attributable to botanizing and seed collecting adults and not to their enthusiastic youngsters.

Twelve o'clock was lunch time, had around a large rock on a sloping grassy area above the Nikaus. After lunch we followed the track up through huge Manuka (or were they Kanuka)<sup>88</sup> and other natives until we reached the top and the Aropaoanui Road.

On the way down the leading adult decided to humour the juvenile explorers and took the track over the troll bridge, leaving orders for the rest of us to follow. This was why, half an hour later, when reaching the end of the track, we were all back on top of the ridge beside the Aropaoanui Road. Oh dear - still as far as ever to the cars - will the kids make it? So it was about turn, back to the footbridge and a troll and lolly break, then down, down, down. The children were excellent, hardly a mutiny amongst them, and we finally got back to the cars at 4 o'clock.

The weather by this stage had changed from what was a reasonably warm sunny day, (provided you were out of the wind) to one of a more dubious nature and all the adults except Trevor were ready for home. So guess who enlisted the help of the youngsters with suggestions of a visit to the beach? So of course there was a quick visit to the beach to satisfy Trevor and the kids, and then home after a great day out.

G.H.

Party: Trevor, Jeanette, David and Anna Plowman; Greg, Erika and Conal Bristow and Josie Boland; Sue, Claire and Glen Holmes; Donna Berry and Glenda Hooper.

Tongariro National Park

Trip No 1510

August 24 - 25 1991

The weather forecast wasn't very inspiring as we left Hastings on the Friday night with nineteen people on board the truck. After a quick pick up in Napier we headed toward the Ketetahi carpark on the northern side of Mt Tongariro, where we arrived at about 10.30 pm. As we were arriving, the first spots of rain fell and while the new truck awning was being erected it started to pour down. By midnight we were all settled down for a fairly peaceful night.

Saturday dawned fairly fine but a little breezy and after a leisurely breakfast we ambled off up the track toward Ketetahi Hut. As we emerged from the trees we were hit by a sudden hail storm. Unfortunately the hail didn't turn to snow and fifteen minutes later the hail had blown away to annoy trampers elsewhere. Half way to the hut we reached the snow-line although it was obvious that the snow level had been much lower only a few days earlier. Most of us managed to avoid the snowballs and arrived safely at Ketetahi Hut in time for a leisurely lunch.

Soon after our arrival a group of six trampers from Auckland arrived. After lunch some of us set off toward the top of Tongariro with crampons, ice axes and various other items of hardware. It soon became obvious that the snow was too soft for crampons but wonderful for skiing, so Edward decided to zip back to the truck and collect his skis. The rest of us

carried on up into the murk before dropping down into the gully on the left hand side of the track. We spent an hour or so playing around and making the most of the soft snow conditions before returning to the hut. Four of the party camped outside for the night. During the evening it poured with rain and Sunday morning dawned overcast and not very promising. Once again a few of us set out for the top, but both the weather and the snow conditions were against us so after an hour or so we skied/walked/slid back to the hut. We packed up fairly quickly and the last of our group left the hut by about 11am. Some of the group found a hot puddle to sit in for a while, but most of us carried on straight down to the truck. We left the carpark at about 1.30pm. After a fairly leisurely stop at the Tokaanu Hot Pools we filled up with diesel, pies, drinks and chips before heading for home.

R.B.

Party: Ross Berry (Leader), Christine Hardie, Mrs Lyn and Regan Gentry, Len and Christopher Frost, David Harrington, Mark Craven, Rowan Sapsford, John Montgomerie, Martin Mallow, Kolm Stevens, Clive Appleton, Wayne Hatcher, Lesley Griffen, Edward Holmes, Richard Ackerley, Lew Harrison, David Charteris and Clive Thurston.

Mangaharuru Range

Trip No 1511

September 8 1991

Our first Spring trip, and a promising weather report brought the trampers out in droves with 29 bods being collected from Havelock North, Hastings and Napier in record time. Martin was driving with real flair, and with navigation by courtesey of Dave Cormack we soon found ourselves disembarking at the Mangaharuru Range on the Pohokura Road.

There was still a nip in the air as bush shirts were donned (did we really have to start at 6am) for the uphill slog to Bell Rock. However, before long the bush shirts and balaclavas were shed as the morning warmed up and in a short time we stopped at Bell Rock for smoko and a photo session among the oddly shaped sandstone and limestone rock formations, with Te Kooti's lookout being prominent.

Soon we were on our way looking for the access to the walkway, and saw evidence of opossum damage among the broadleaf, and some very smelly goat carcasses which had fallen victim to the hunters bullet or cyanide poison. The track was picked up and in no time we were all back on the Pohokura Road. Most of us were still feeling quite energetic and decided to walk down to the start of the Boundary Stream Walkway, whilst Martin ran back up the road to fetch the truck, and at one stage 4 senior members were reliably reported as being seen to be "running" down the Pohokura Road.

At Craigs Track Joy and Heather offered to drive the truck down to the Heays access Road carpark and meet us for lunch at Shines Falls. Ours was a mainly downhill trip with some fine examples of nature and trees evident. We could hear Shines Falls long before we saw it and the track dropped rapidly to meet the stream

which was just a few minutes from Shines Falls (58 Metres) where we had a well deserved lunch and rested our sore legs.

The party left in small groups and made their way back along the track with the high sandstone cliffs to the carpark. After soaking up the sun for a while we drove home via Lake Tutira and arrived in Hastings at 5.15PM. A great day was had by all.

Thank you for driving us Martin.

R.B.

Party: Julie Turner (leader), Heather Hill, Joy Stratford, Dave Cormack, Judy McBride, Wayne Hatcher, Rowan Sapsford, Christiana Stevens, Martin Mallow, Annette Duncan, Helen Ricketts, Dave Charteris, Sue Holmes, Jim Brown, Jan Brown, Peter Brown, Leo Brunton, Al Moffitt, Geoff Robinson, Lyn Gentry (Mr), Rodger Burn, Ted Sapsford, Bing Potts, Liz Pindar, Anne Cantrink, Robyn Berry, Heidi and Mrs Stevens, and Denise Bailes.

Family Tramp To Tainui Reserve, Havelock North

Trip No 1512

September 15 1991

Due to uncertain weather at Blowhard, the family tramp was changed to Havelock North, where we met at the civilized hour of 10AM.

We ambled off up the valley at the end of Keith Sands Grove, and because of the rain on Saturday we were blessed with lots of mud and puddles. It was then over a bridge occupied by various members of the troll family, which were out to get any stray billy goats, and off up the hill past the pa site and onto our lunch stop just below the water reservoirs.

After lunch the new sub-division being developed was walked over and discussed, then off down the valley to join up with the track of the morning. Next we went up another valley which had many bridges, trolls, billy goats, muddy puddles and eerie tunnels of fig trees to negotiate. From the top of this valley the track sidles up and around into the next valley and then down along the valley side and over a final bridge, or under a final bridge, depending upon which generation you were from.

Mike and Anthony headed home and Daniel was taken home to welcome his new sister Natalie. The rest of us stopped off at Karen and Clive's for afternoon tea; a delicious carrot cake produced by Josie, which had so many candles that the first ones had melted puddles of wax into the icing before the final ones were lit!

A really great family day out, especially enjoyed by the children.

S.H.

Party: Mike and Anthony Bull, Josie Boland with Erika and Conal Bristow, Daniel Berry, Clive, Karen and Heather Thurston, Eddie, Sue, Claire and Glen Holmes.

Waterfall Hut. Ruahine Ranges

Trip No 1513

September 21-22 1991

On arriving at the end of North Block Road we realised that the weather did not look very promising. Heavy cloud, rain, and a long walk in the Waipawa River wasn't too appealing, even for hardened trampers, but as the weekend progressed the weather cleared, the scenery improved, moral lifted and the jokes got better.

The walk up the Waipawa Saddle was at a leisurely pace. Looking back towards the Wakararas always amazes me how high you actually climb in the river. Just below the saddle you could hear the wind howling over the saddle carrying rain and sleet. Everyone donned parkas and hats and hastily headed over the saddle down into the stream towards Waikamaka Hut. We all decided to have a stop at Waikamaka Hut for an early lunch and ponder on our next move. The majority of the group were keen to go forth into the lousy weather and conquer a hut not commonly visited. The remainder were determined and decided to give it their best. (Maybe it will get better).

After lunch we headed up the Waikamaka River towards Rangi Saddle. By now it was getting very cold in the stream and just as we sighted Rangi Saddle three of the party decided to turn back to Waikamaka Hut. From here on it was new territory for most of us which added to the excitement of what was around the next corner. It is true Rangi Saddle is covered in spaniard, the track is not clearly marked, and it is a rather steep climb.

From Rangi Saddle the weather improved and we were able to glimpse the large Kawhatau Valley. The walk down Rangi Creek was very pleasant with little obstructions. A short distance down we came to the Kawhatua River junction and turned left up the river and found Waterfall Hut a few minutes up on the left side. I was amazed at how wide the river valley was, and it hosted numerous campsites on either side in beautiful settings. Being only a 6 bunk hut meant that a few of our party of 12 had to sleep out. There were no straws drawn, those who opted to sleep out chose to which was very good of them. Well, what a night! Jokes - you should have been there. With Eddie, Lyn and a few others cracking jokes about Ladas and Blondes it was a night to remember.

Sunday the weather cleared and we decided to take Rangi Creek up on to the main divide and drop into Middle Stream. The headwaters of Rangi Creek was plain sailing with very interesting rock formations. Towards the top we struck snow in the valley which tended to chill the wet feet until the toes were numb. Although the weather was an improvement we didn't waste any time on the tops and sheltered on the eastern side. Our route down into Middle Stream was via a steep snow chute which took us down to the start of Middle Stream. Gingerly we descended down the chute making sure our axes were firmly secured before taking the next step. As we descended the snow softened which opened up the opportunity for an enormous bum-slide. Sure enough, away we went, and within minutes we dropped 1000s of feet. The best slide we have experienced in years.

Some stopped at Middle Stream Hut for lunch and others blindly walked on down stream to where the track turnoff is. From Middle Stream we crossed the farm land over to the Waipawa River and back to the truck.

A great trip. Thanks Eddie for driving.

C.T.

Party: Clive Thurston (leader), Lord Lyn Gentry, Wayne Hatcher, Annette Duncan, Dave Charteris, Rowan Sapsford, Eddie Holmes, James Chittenden, Dave Harrington, Rodger Burn, John Montgomery, Alf Brunt, Len Frost, Martin Mallow, Gordon Tapp.

Middle Hill - Makino

Trip No 1514

October 6 1991

Daylight saving may have it's advantages, but not on change-over day when you have a "long day" ahead. A compromise was made for a 6.30am (read 5.30am) start.

Middle Hill Hut seemed to be on top of a very large hill, but this was just the beginning. However, it did justify an early lunch. The so called "scrub" in this area is very attractive, and the beech forest beautiful, which quite justified any uphill track. A second lunch was required before the last major climb as we sat at the top of the valley overlooking the Makino Ridge, but not for long as it started to rain (again). The climb wasn't as bab as it appeared and we ended up stopping more often to don/remove raincoats/bushshirts as the rain started/stopped or just threatened.

Eight hours later we all agreed it was an excellent day. The bush in this area is well worth a visit, and it never really rained.

Two sub-groups took deviation trips. George and Hal took their time up to Middle Hill Hut and back to the truck, while Christine and Ted missed the hut and travelled ahead to Te Puia Hut, and out along the Mohaka to the road end, where we drove in to meet them walking out.

Home, to our leader's home at Puketapu, not before dark, but by 8.40pm (really only 7.40pm on my time scale).

J.B.

Party: Sue Holmes (leader), Ted Sapsford, Helen Ricketts, Peter Messervy, Anne Cantrick, Denise Bailes, Mike Craven, Judy McBride, George Prebble, Hal Christian, and Josie Boland.

Family Tramp To Maraetotara Valley

Trip No 1515

October 13 1991

We headed into the Mohi Bush Reserve by walking along the southern boundary, and it wasn't too long before fences and farmland disappeared behind the native bush and once again we

entered that timeless zone where the "Rat Race" can't get you.

The kids were all introduced to the Ongaonga with warnings of it's dangers and the odd story relating past encounters, while the parents were introduced to the noise generated by a bit of polystyrene being rubbed on a glass jar. It was supposed to sound like the call of the Fantail, and it wasn't too long before a couple of Fantails responded.

We ambled on to the high point on the north eastern corner of the reserve to spy a glimpse of the sea, and from there we moved on into a grassy spot for lunch where the mobile disposal units did what they do best.

Back into the bush on the homeward leg took us through what I felt was some of the nicest bush I have been in. The junior squad found holes to check out, and trees to climb - it was a pleasure seeing the kids have so much fun.

A great day with good company in a delightful piece of bush with easy access.

M.B.

Party: Mike & Anthony Bull, Josie Boland, Greg, Erika, & Conal Bristow, Sue, Eddie, Claire & Glen Holmes, Clive, Karen & Heather Thurston, Glenda Hooper, Peter, Daniel, Donna & Natalie Berry, Chris & Phillip Berry with Nana Pat (Berry), Maurie & Barbara Taylor, Graeme, Heather, Tammy & Libby Boaler.

Te Waka Range

Trip No 1516

October 20 1991

I have always wanted to walk through from Puketitiri to the Napier-Taupo highway. Finally Club Captain included it in the clubs programme. 19 adults, 1 junior and three preschoolers left the district for this venture. Eddie kindly drove the truck for us, and making excellent time we arrived at John Carswell's woolshed in Potters Road soon after 7.30am. The weather was first class for a trip over open farm country and an exposed ridge, - cool and calm. We set off to climb the 300 metres to the ridge from whence our altitude fluctuated between 800m-1021 metres, later being the height of the microwave station on Te Waka. Our tramp involved a traverse of the Te Waka Range making our exit at the Titiokura Summit at 2.30pm.

There were two diversions on the way. 1. Poor Jenny Lean dropped her camera over a cliff, and in spite of a team effort to recover it, it was never seen again. 2. Two of our young mothers tended a calf, which to all intents appeared to be abandoned. It was too weak to stand, and dehydrated, so they lovingly poured a litre of water down it's throat, and made it more comfortable by bodily moving it into the shade. I must admit to being somewhat nervous in case the old cow returned during the above episode. I subsequently reported this calf to Perry King, the farmer on whose property we were on, and we were thanked for our efforts.

The rock formations on the tops are well worth a study for their fantastic shapes and geology. A big thank you to Eddie for driving the truck through the Crohane Forest, not to mention his co-drivers Ross and three small cousins.

It turned out to be an incredibly easy walk, but a most enjoyable day.

T.T.S.

Party: Thelma Tasman-Smith (leader), Alva McAdam, Jenny Ives, Judy McBride, Jenny Lean, Helen Ricketts, Dave Charteris, Geoff Robinson, Christine Hardie, Sue, Eddie, Claire and Glen Holmes, Bing Potts, Danise Baile, Aldert Verplanke and partner, Timothy Verplanke, Jackie Hill, Peter Bullock, Robin, Ross and Sarah Berry.

Boys Lodge - Kaimanawas

Trip No 1517

October 25 - 27 1991

After a few planning hassels with some wanting four days rather than three I was picked up from home, (door to door service) at 6.30am Friday morning, as I was the only one from Napier. The trip up consisted mainly of general man to man conversation ..... women, cars, women, cars etc. with a little politics thrown in for good measure. Breakfast of mince pies, hot dogs and chips went down well at the summit kiosk before turning off at Taharua Road.

By 9am the tone of the trip had lowered to a typical all male tramp as we set out on foot from the Te Iringa carpark. During the 1 hour 25 minute tramp to Te Iringa through beech and fern we caught some glimpses of Ruapehu and Lake Taupo under clear blue skies. After smoko at Te Iringa Hut it was on to the footbridge over the Kaipo River for lunch. The bush in this area is really neat, and if you ever get the chance, tramp in the Kaimanawas. We did map reading practice as we followed the Kaipo River towards Oamaru Hut ensuring we knew where we were at all times ... oh sometimes ... well you know. We even passed up the chance of a big trout for dinner which was observed in one of the many pools along the way.

While resting in the sun and tussock on the bush line Bruce noticed two women disappearing around the corner towards Oamaru Hut about 10 minutes away. It's amazing how such a thought can move a group of guys. Obviously the ladies had left as the hut was occupied by about 10 guys who'd taken the easy way in, (chopper) or they were hiding from this group of unruly derelicts heading towards the hut. After a short break we headed down into the Oamaru River and followed up the open tussock valley towards the bushline where we set up camp at the mouth of the Ruatea Stream at 5.00pm. Unfortunately the site wasn't quite big enough for 4 fly's so it was first in, first served. Martin and Peter camped down by the river, and as they seemed to have the best fire site we all sat round it listening to tall stories till 9.00pm.

The next day was Saturday, and we set off across the Ruatea River and up the track, where Lyn made the same mistake as one of the Berry's made a while back, as he headed up the track on the true left of the Ruatea ... didn't want wet feet aye. Once again progress was closely studied as we headed up the Oamaru River. This valley is heavily wooded in beech forest almost to the top of the Waitawhero Saddle where we broke out into the open and gazed in amazement at the awesome tussock covered Ngaruroro River Valley towards the Boyds Airstrip.

After photos we headed down into the valley reaching the river at 11.30am. Lyn and Martin braved the cold waters before some of us headed up to Boyd Lodge to graffiti the log book. Arriving back at the river most of us settled down to lunch, while Chris, Daniel and Lyn disappeared up stream. The rest of us followed half an hour later after watching two helicopters making about five flights each into Boyds. Thank goodness we weren't staying the night.

Progress up to the Mangamingi Stream was quick across easy open tussock and following a track most of the way. After that however, was a different story, - we'd either lost the track good and proper or there simply wasn't one as we pushed through tussock, Manuka, swamps and a few river crossings. Arriving at the private airstrip at 3.50pm we met the others just starting on smoko and talking to a hunter who'd been in residence for a week. They had also met a group from Napier Tramping Club heading downstream who advised them Cascade Hut was full.

Every-one was feeling a bit tired but seemed to feel it was better to get over the first hills and into Cascade Stream today rather than in the morning, especially with the promise of heaps of great campsites all the way down Cascade Stream. We pumped it up the first hill and over the Waiotupuritia Saddle and up the second hill before collapsing with exhaustion. After a feed and water it was down to Cascade Stream with a few breaks to observe Lake Taupo through the beech trees. Soon we were on the flat again moving hard out down the stream. Before we knew it we were at Cascade Hut ... so much for all the campsites. The conclusion was drawn that beech trees only take a couple of years to grow as Chris and I both remembered heaps of grassy campsites all the way down ... oops.

Anyway, we put our names in the book and had a chat with the hunters in residence who advised us that the "old guys" Lyn (oldest !), Henry, Bruce and Peter had continued to Stansfields Whare. 100 Metres down the track we heard Bruce calling us. After a quick scrub bash through the cutty grass we found him and a campsite, where the general concensus was to set up camp for the night. The time was 7.20pm. We were all exhausted so after a huge feast and dessert it was into bed. It rained heavily during the night, and due to someone sleep talking, (no, of course it wasn't me) no one else got any sleep.

We were "politely" woken by Bruce at 6.15am and by 7.50am all were set to go except me. Half an hour later I was on my way up the Tauranga Taupo River stopping for a photo of Stansfields Whare enroute. This old hut has a stone floor, timber sidings to the walls and an old stone chimney, ... well worth a look. After a few minutes establishing the best way back to the track I was on my way again in early morning drizzle, and starting

the long uphill slog out. By 9.10am I'd caught the others up just below the first spot height of 1159M, and we stopped for a feed and a rest at the second spot height of 1240M before the descent into the upper reaches of the Hinemaiaia Stream. At the stream - track junction we talked to a hunter who was camping there. He too was on his way out in an hour or so and offered Martin a ride from the road end back to the truck.

Progress was once again plotted on the map as we proceeded to the road end. A few stops were made to look at the views including a waterfall, or just to bask in the sun before reaching the road, where yet again the "old men" were trying to determine who was the oldest, ... it's a bit hard when the memory begins to fade and birth dates start ranging from the early forties to the late fifties! Our extra days food (just in case it did take four days) was devoured before Martin departed for the truck. Just over an hour later the truck arrived - all of us very grateful that we didn't have to walk out.

It was hotdogs, chips, pies and milkshakes as per usual at the summit kiosk before returning home to a roast dinner around 7.00pm. All in all a great trip with not too bad a company. Thanks guys.

D.C.

Party: Dave Charteris, Martin Mallow (leaders) Bruce Almond, Henry Cornes, Chris Frost, Daniel Lewthwaite, Peter Bullock, Lyn Gentry (Mr).

Northern Ruahine

Trip No 1518

November 3 1991

Very few people were interested in doing a trip straight after Labour Weekend, it seemed, but Alva and I decided that the club's reputation could not suffer so we decided to tramp somewhere in spite of lack of general enthusiasm! In the process it was going to be an all-female trip. Possibly a first for the club!

We made it a day trip and went in from Sentry Box. DoC has been busy cutting new tracks - the new two metre wide variety which I am not wholly in favour of. It seems a very wide swathe to cut through the vegetation and I am not sure it is necessary to expose such a large space to the elements. I have always found a narrower path to be quite adequate. We also found this large version to be very slippery in the wet and it was harder to get anything to hang on to to slow our descent.

We made it at a leisurely plod to the top and then wandered along to have a snack at Pohatuhaha. The weather was deteriorating from the south as forecast and the views were not good. We then retraced our steps to the junction and went on to have a look at Parks Peak Hut. By the time we got there the rain was coming down in earnest. We met two men from Hastings who said the track to Upper Makororo has also just been cut and the going was not difficult.

We went back the same way as we came in with no problems - we

just had to be careful where the track cutters had left snowgrass all over the track because that is also very slippery when it rains. We got back in steady rain which lasted all the way to Napier.

Christine Hardie, Alva McAdam

# Family Tramp To Turangakumu

Trip No 1519

November 10 1991

Although the truck left Puketapu at 9.15 (an early start for family tramps) it was definitely time for lunch by the time we arrived at the Turangakumu Scenic Reserve. (If we had known the turn-off was at the Te Haroto Store we may have got away with a morning tea).

We were not in a hurry anyway, so after our picnic on a grassy road verge in the sun we organised ourselves - 12 children and 12 adults, into a walk further up the road. First stop was a small reservoir, presumably for fire-fighting as the area is surrounded by Pinus Radiata. From there we made a "climb" up a bank designed to challenge three year olds, and up on to a trig. Panoramic views of the surrounding countryside (in the words of my guide book). The bush was interesting with regenerating broadleaves and podocarps, but not too startling as yet. A quick search was made for the Maori fortifications, but to no avail, and the women were not keen to be left with the children while a more serious search was organised, due to the nature of the traffic through the Reserve.

The long trip back in the truck was lightened somewhat by a medley of childrens songs to entertain those who refused to sleep.

Fine weather and a good trip for all.

J.B.

Party: Karen, Clive & Heather Thurston, Peter, Daniel, Donna & Natalie Berry & Glenda Hooper, Heather, Graeme Tammy & Libby Boaler, Jeanette, Trevor, David & Anna Plowman, Sue, Eddie, Claire & Glen Holmes, Josie Boland & Erika & Conal Bristow, Dorothy Turner.

# Cairn Trip

Trip No 1520

November 17 1991

Our large party set off from various pick-up points on a very fine day up to Makahu carpark, reaching there shortly after 8 o'clock. After a light snack/cup of tea we managed to get under way at 8.30 up the very familiar ground to Kaweka J. The pace of the party varied according to stops made by various people and their levels of fitness. The view was perfect on reaching the top and Ngaruhoe and Ruapehu stood out very clearly. Shortly after 11 o'clock the last party had arrived and the service in memory of those who have lost their lives took place.

SAREX 5-6 1991

Most sparrows can feed fairly jolly at 5.30am in the rain. Relatively few of even the keenest trampers do, however they turned up at Hastings Police Station in commendable numbers for the October SAREX trip. More appeared from the dim shadows at Napier at 6am. HTC took the majority of the coach seats, but Napier Tramping Club and a few token deerstalkers also joined our forces.

We arrived at Whittles farm at 7.30am and dreamed of warm beds and filling breakfasts as we hung around in continual draughts which found us no matter which crevice we'd crept into. At 8.30am we began bush first aid. This was with two enthusiastic St John's Ambulance members, who managed to draw our minds away from chill winds and warm blankets and onto hypothermia, and how to toss someone into a stretcher with a minimum of expertise. We joked as we assessed the extent of the hypothetical injuries - either by peering behind eyelids, pinching somewhere appropriate or simply by asking. We bandaged each other from heads to toes and transported temporarily incapacitated bodies from one end of the woolshed to the other, ably instructed by the Police. We all seemed to learn something new and valuable though I suspect would be less jovial and confident in the field.

After stowing away the excess lunches in our packs and pulling out the warm winter woollies - it had snowed the previous night - the scenario of a group of hunters who had become separated and required assistance, was set. The 6 groups of four, each received a radio and initial instructions of areas to search, and were on the track by 4pm. Some searched creeks and some headed for the tops. No 1 hunter was found "alone and palely loitering" by Dominic Bivvy. Those who anticipated a warm night at Makahu Hut were disappointed as the information from this hunter led to a change of focus. Missing person No 2 was found at Kaweka Flats Bivvy, and confused everyone by being the same person as No 1. He had forgotten to use his alias, (must have been early hypothermia ! ). Long after dark, about 9.30pm, injured party No 3 was found complete with broken ankle ..... and anxious to finish his tea before he was enthusiastically rescued. Team No 4 who located him also directed their energy into roping in every party in the field to assist them, just as we were setting up camp for the night. They were not fully successful - Team No 1 kept noticeably silent as they listened incognito to the radio activity. Team No 5, after a chilly start and no radio contact, settled in for a cosy evening in Makahu Hut after thoughtfully making contact by foot - all the way to the river before the climb up to Kaweka Flats. It was candles out at midnight for most of us, with clocks forward just to confuse the unwary. Some were consequently, less than eager to leap from their sleeping bags at 7am, despite gleeful attempts by others to rouse them.

The information from the various located group members led us to further searching up the stream between Pinnacle and Dick's Spur, to find 3 injured patries; one with a broken leg and back. They were fed up waiting and were walking back downstream to meet us! They were duly assessed and the appropriate one bundled into the stretcher. Stretcher bearing is a learned skill and our combined experiences did not amount to much. I'll guarantee

our patient had a shakey trip downstream and when we reached the junction with the track he was most anxious to free himself, (having made a medically miraculous recovery.) We discovered some of the difficulties of river crossings, pack carrying and amalgamating teams. We also stopped on the return track to practise belaying a stretcher and occupant down a steep gully.

We returned to a good meal to sustain us through the long debrief. Radios were the principal complaint, but many informative points were raised, and those who listened to the practical criticism picked up tips to benefit them on the next SAREX (can't wait). It was a busy weekend for all participating groups with a lot of hard work, organization and learning behind the scenes, as well as fun.

K.W.

Dave Cormack, Mitch Barrett, Dave Harrington, Dave Charteris, Wayne Hatcher, Jenny Lean, Mr Lyn, Mrs Lyn and Regan Gentry, Len Frost, Heather Jones, Kay Ward, and Eddie Holmes on Saturday only.

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#### SEARCH & RESCUE STATISTICS 1990/91

There were 351 land based SAR operations throughout New Zealand, 168 in the North Island and 183 in the South Island. The percentages of operations by the activity involved is shown below.

| ACTIVITY | % / activity<br>SOUTH ISLAND | % / activity<br>NORTH ISLAND | % / activity<br>NATIONWIDE |
|----------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| HUNTING  | 17                           | 31                           | 24                         |
| TRAMPING | 48                           | 30                           | 39                         |
| WALKING  | 12                           | 23                           | 17.5                       |
| CLIMBING | 17                           | 7                            | 12                         |
| SKIING   | 3                            | 2                            | 25                         |
| OTHER    | 3                            | 7                            | 5 - "Waikato Trampler"     |

\*\*\*\*\*

#### BUSHED

I've just had a ring from the local "john",  
There's a young fellow missing and the big hunt's on.  
So throw in a blanket with the grub in your pack,  
I haven't a clue when we'll get back,  
We may be gone for a day or a week.  
He'll be all right if he follows a creek,  
But if he's done his block and he's on the run,  
It'll take some time and it won't be fun.

If you ever get bushed boy, follow a creek,  
Keep on going, if it takes you a week.  
If you follow a creek to the end you will see  
That every river runs down to the sea.  
And whatever you do boy, keep your head,  
For a man who panics is as good as dead.

- from "The Wanganui Trampler"

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PINUS CONTORTA

The following is an extract from the 1991 School Certificate English exam.....

The best documented case of wilding pine infestation in New Zealand is that of Tongariro National Park.

Between 1927 and 1935 Pinus Contorta was planted in Karioi Forest, on the southern slopes of Mount Ruapehu. Every summer - and this still occurs - seeds can travel 12 kilometres from the parent tree, aided by the fact that the seeds are very light and winged.

DSIR botanist Dr Ian Atkinson first alerted Park staff to the magnitude of the problem in 1962. Unless action was taken, he said, most of the upper slopes of Mount Ruapehu between 1300 and 2000 metres would be covered by pine forest by the end of the century. Despite the opposition of foresters Park staff began an eradication programme: in 1967 volunteer pine weeders began arriving on a regular basis, usually either tramping groups or from conservation organisations. One tramping club's record would be hard to beat: it has not only supplied volunteers for weekends, but the club sets aside a week each year when it's members carry out weeding, and have been doing so for the past 20 years.

Thanks to these efforts, the problem within the Park has been contained. However, on the slopes below the Park towards Karioi Forest is a substantial area of land which has also been infested. All the work in the Park will be for nothing unless this other area is cleared. It is here that volunteers are now operating.

Pinus Contortas spread has not been confined to the Park and its immediate environs. To the East, the military have also been learning to live with the weed. Some scientists view the military controlled land around Waiouru as ecologically more significant than the Park itself. This huge landscape of open vegetation - almost 100,000 hectares - is much older than the area to the west, and is able to tell us about the evolution of New Zealand's plants and animals.

When Pinus Contorta initially spread into the army land, it was welcomed by some officers because of the shelter and shade it provided. However, once tanks found it difficult to move through its by now dense pine shrub/forest, the army saw the sense of eradication. But eradication is an expensive business. In 1987 the army spent almost \$500,000, and the programme is destined to go on well into the 1990s. One area providing a headache is the 2500 hectare firing range, where the presence of live ammunition makes it dangerous for soldiers to enter by vehicle or on foot. Here, for the moment, Pinus Contorta flourishes.

Right, ..... Now you've read about "the weed" think hard about heading over to Ruapehu on 21-22 March 1992 for our Clubs annual effort in that area. (See Fixtures List for details).

#####

To EXERCISE is human. Not to is divine.

PETERS PONDERINGS

Hear the lonely Blue Duck's cry  
 Echo from the ridges high  
 Sudden darkness, leaden sky  
 Rain makes the mountain beeches sigh.

Cursing the duck, your luck and the muck coming down from the sky you stumble on in the all pervading gloom which is beginning to remind you of the time you went caving with flat batteries. And why haven't you pitched your tent and made yourself uncomfortable while it was still light?

Ah! there it is at last. The hut, not just any hut either. This is one of our huts. Everyone strips off their soaking gear, the fire is lit, billies are boiled and a sense of martyred self pity gives way to a warm commeradery.

Our four huts are a great asset. It would be cheaper to pay hut fees in all probability, but most of what we lay out on their maintenance is time. I for one have always enjoyed hut working parties as much, and sometimes more than (well, there is really no such thing as an ordinary tramp) but non-working party tramps anyway. All you need to be is willing and after a few times all of a sudden you become knowledgeable as well.

So, when a working bee comes up, come out, enjoy yourselves and add something to the legacy we have helped build and which has helped build our club.

Having done my plug for the joys of hut building, I'll return you to the closing scene back in the hills.

.....Exercised induced appetites have demolished the delicious meals (which would not have rated a mention back home). Smoke mingles with the steam from unwashed bodies and well composted socks, stupifying the occupants and sending them off, one by one into a well deserved slumber - until someone starts telling jokes!

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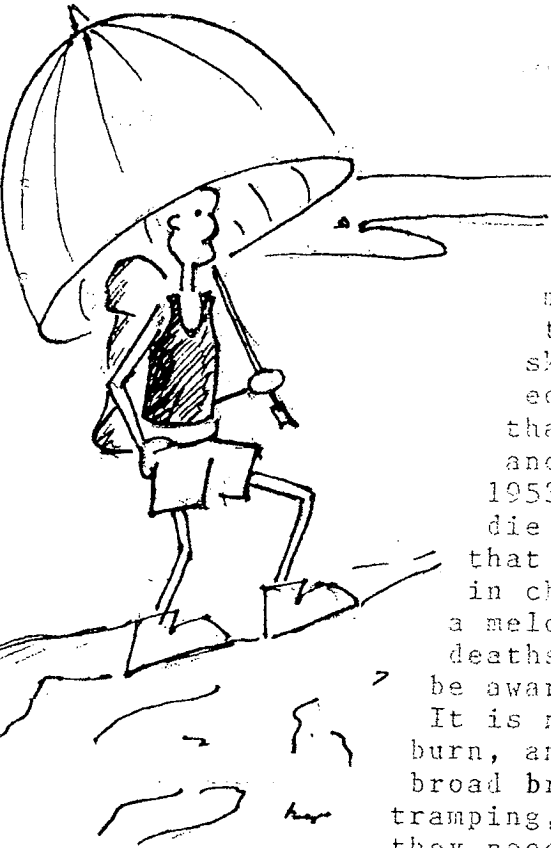
FROM THE MEDIA ----

40 signs and information boards are being erected in the Kaweka and Ruahine Forest Parks at road ends to help hunters, trampers and visitors. DoC will be putting these in place early next year.

- H.B. Herald Tribune

Blue ducks are living in avaries in the Akatarawa Wildlife Park as part of a programme in helping the blue duck population to recover. The Conservation Department and Ducks Unlimited administer the programme and have 16 pairs of captive-reared birds.

-The Dominion

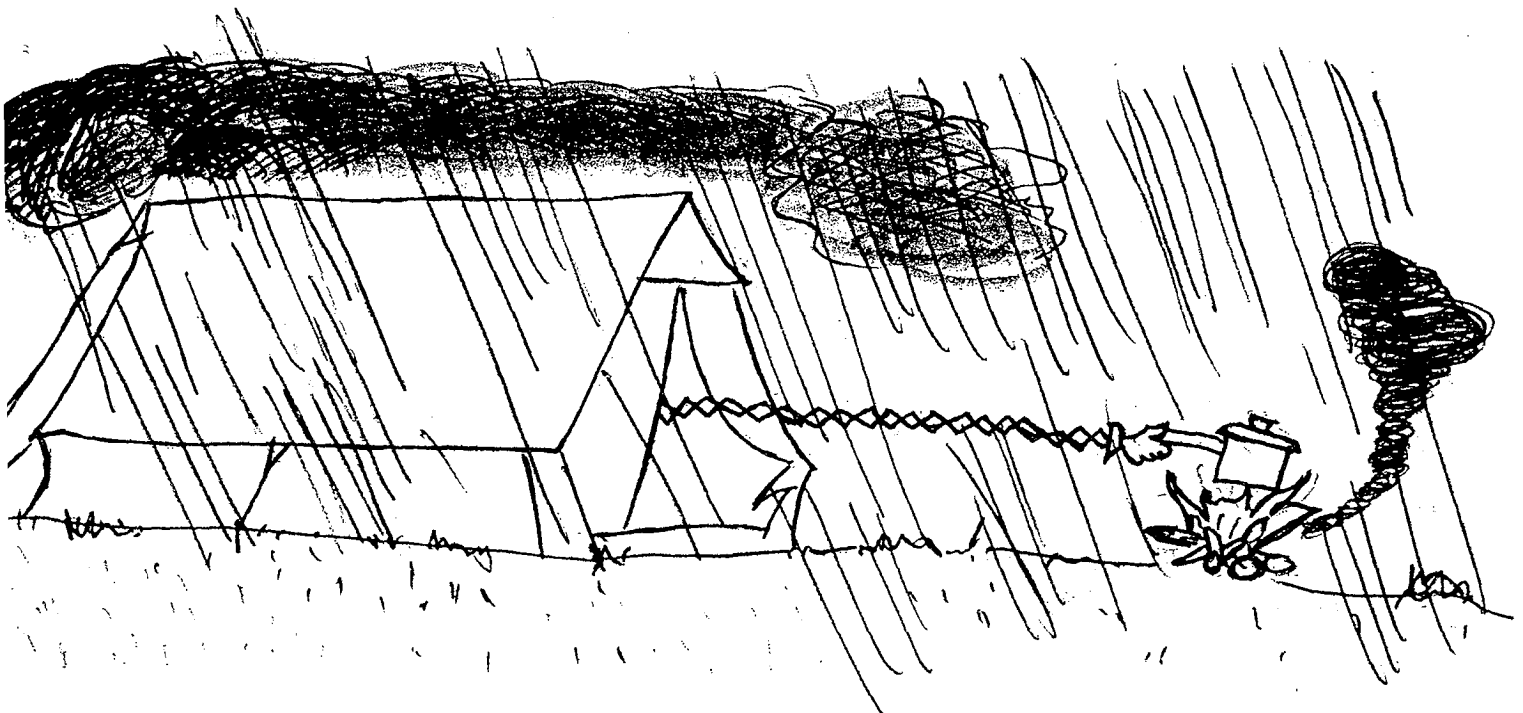
MELONOMA AWARENESS

Are you aware that as we venture into the mountains the amount of ultraviolet radiation from the sun increases with altitude, and this puts us at greater risk of skin cancer.

Melonoma is the least common of the three main groups of skin cancer, but it's certainly the most important as it is the cause of most skin cancer deaths. Recent statistics published in the New Zealand Medical Journal shows that a three fold increase in both incidence and death rate from melonoma occurred between 1953 and 1983, and over 200 New Zealanders will die from Melonoma this year. It is believed that intermittent episodes of sunburn, particularly in childhood, precondition the skin to develop a melonoma later in life. However, since half the deaths occur in men 45 or older, this group should be aware of what they can do to minimise the risk. It is never too late to cover up to prevent sunburn, and clothing also gives good protection. A broad brimmed hat is good protection for summer tramping, and sunscreens give good protection, but they need to be applied at least 15 minutes before going out into the sun to allow the chemicals to bond with the skin, and cream needs to be re-applied several times during a hot summer day to provide the protection needed. Use a cream with a high SPF number (greater than 15) and apply to all exposed areas. Happy summer tramping and take care not to burn.

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Extract from FMC Bulletin



ATTENTIONATTENTIONATTENTIONATTENTIONATTENTIONATTENTIONATTENTION

NOW DUE SUBS ARE NOW DUE SUBS ARE NOW DUE SUBS ARE NOW DUE SUBS ARE

Please pay promptly - a \$5 discount applies to all subs paid by 31 December 1991.

The 1991/1992 subs are the same as last year: i.e.:

	Before 31 Dec	After 31 Dec
Active Senior:	\$18	\$23
Active Junior:	\$13	\$18
Family/Couple:	\$27	\$32
Absentee/Associate:	\$ 9	\$14

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DATES TO REMEMBER:

January 8 1992 1st Meeting for the New Year.

February 19 1992POT LUCK DINNER Te Awanga Hall, 6pm.

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MEETINGS; DATES AND DUTIES

DATE	HOSTS	SUPPER
Jan 8	Mark Craven, Leo Brunton	Sandie Dungan, Kolm Stevens
Jan 22	Stan Voon, Shirley Bathgate	Liz Pindar, Jim Glass
Feb 5	John Berry, Dave Charteris	Jenny Lean, Nigel Brown
Feb 19	Al Moffitt, Ted Sapsford	Christiana Stevens, Martin Mallow
Mar 4	Lyn Gentry, Anette Duncan	Lyn Gentry, Mike Craven
Mar 13	Wayne Hatcher, Peter Berry	Joy Stratford, Heather Hill
Apr 1	Pam Turner, Anne Cantrink	Kay Ward, Bing Potts
Apr 15	Christine Hardie, Henry Cornes	Len & Christopher Frost
Apr 29	Thelma T/Smith, Ross Berry	Callum McMillan, Rowan Sapsford
May 13	Julie Turner, Rodger Burns	Jenny Ives, Eddie Holmes

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CLUB NEWS

## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members, and we hope your time with the Club will be long, enjoyable and stacks of fun.

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Wayne Hatcher  | Amanda McMillan |
| Rowan Sapsford | Calum McMillan  |
| Kolm Stevens   | Annette Duncan  |
| Jenny Ives     | Henry Cornes    |

Congratulations to the Berry families for the arrival of two new "Berry Beautiful Babies". A daughter Natalie, to Glenda and Peter, and another son Robert, to Karen and John.

## TRAMPER OF THE YEAR

This year a joint award was made to Lyn and Lyn Gentry as Trampers of the Year. - We were very surprised, but thrilled.-Ed.

EXECUTIVE NEWS

Jim Glass has been nominated for a position on the Rangitikei/Hawkes Bay Conservation Board.

The policy of DoC is now to cut tracks 2 metres wide. Concern has been expressed about this as it would create 2M wide tracks of mud.

Would anyone visiting our Club Huts please take note of any work needing to be done, and then contact someone on the Hut committee.

Mid-week tramping group:- are you interested? If so, contact Stan Woon.

We are looking for businessess to place advertisements in the "Pohokura". If you think you could be interested please contact the Editor.

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From the Ed.

Yes, all of us in our home have survived me getting this first Pohokura together for you, even though the typewriter almost got the better of me in the first day or so, - thanks to Glenda for her unending patience with me.

This is OUR Club magazine which means I'd like plenty of contributions from members - stories, poems, hints, ideas and so on, so I'll be keenly waiting to see what you can throw my way. Hopefully this new printing process will mean we can now use photos.

It has been our busy time of the year and I now dream of getting out tramping again. It's wonderful what a day in the hills can do for a frazzled mind and body. And on that note I'll go away and continue to dream.....

Happy tramping - Lyn

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 anyone 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 10pm. 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 TRAMPSFIXTURES LIST

The tramps listed below are designed to cater for people of average fitness. Although the area for the trip is generally adhered to, the suggested objective may change for a number of reasons. For pre trip enquiries contact the Leader, David Harrington (8439999) or Lyn Gentry (8750542).

January 4-5 Family Camp Out

A trial run for extended family trip near Balls Clearing. Leaving town mid Saturday afternoon. Evening and morning strolls, then lunch and return early afternoon. Contact: Clive Thurston 8789900

January 12: Toropapa Stream

From Sika Hut, along ridge top, down a spur to the Toropapa Stream, and following the stream out.

Map - V19    Leader: Jim Glass 8778748

January 25-26: No Mans to Shutes

From No Mans Hut along the ridge tops to Shutes Hut. Out via Ruahine Hut.

Map - U21    Leader: John Berry 8776205

January 27 -February 2: Extended Family Tramp to Coromandel

We will leave in the truck on the Monday, probably returning the following Sunday. Coromandel is the general location but still have to work out the finer details.

Contact: Josie Boland 8951805

February 9: Waipatiki Beach

From Waipatiki Beach along to Aropaoanui Beach and back overland or from Waipatiki through to Tangoio Beach.

Map - W20

Leader: Martin Mallow 8776442

February 15-16: Mountain Marathon

Based in the Kaweka Range, we need lots of people to man control points etc.

Map - U20

Contact: David Harrington 8439999

February 22-23: Otaki Forks, Tararua

Two tramps are available. One up to Kime Hut on the top and back via Penn Creek. The other along to Waiotauru and Kapakapanui.

Map - S26

Leader: David Harrington 8439999

March 1: Family Tramp to Kairakau Beach

From beach to water-fall - not too extending. Maybe some rock climbing for the Dads. Finish with BBQ and beach romp.

Contact: Graeme Boaler 8774698

March 8: Dutch Creek

From Makaroro River, up Dutch Creek, back via Yoemans Track. Maybe lunch at Ellis Hut.

Maps - U21 & U22

Leader: Julie Turner 8763992

March 21-22: Pinus Contorta, Ruapehu

Our annual aborta session with the contorta to help DOC to free Ruapehu from it.

Map - S20

Leader: Peter Berry 8774183

March 28-29: Great Ormondville Train Trip

Train leaving Hastings just before 3pm and arriving Ormondville about 4.30pm. Camp/Bus/Truck/Shed Out at Peter and Glenda's estate. Sunday morning we will visit the Ngapaeruru Scenic Reserve and return to Hastings after lunch by truck.

Contact: Glenda Berry 8774183

April 5: Hinerua Ridge

From Alder Road up to Hinerua Hut. Maybe back via Foote's Mistake and Tukutuki River.

Map - U22

Leader: Thelma Tasman-Smith 8777599

April 17-20: Mt Hikurangi (Easter trip)

A chance to climb North Islands highest non-volcanic peak and be the first to see the sun of the new day.

Map - Y15

Leader: Susan Lopdell 8446697

April 26: Tentatively the Esk Forest Recreational AreaMay 3: Te Koote's Lookout

A high point near the confluence of the Te Hoo River with the Mohaka River.

Map - V19

Leader: Edward Holmes 8446032

May 16-17: Ruahine Traverse Stage 2

Continuing on from Kumeti Hut heading northwards. A series of trips to enable members to tramp length of Ruahine Ranges.

Maps - T23 & U23

Leader: Heather Jones 8776707

CLUB MEETINGS: Held every 2nd Wed. at St Marks Church Hall, cnr. Queens St & Park Rd, Hastings. Starts 7.30pm. Visitors Welcome.

Christiana Stevens laid the wreath on the cairn and John Montgomery read the very appropriate poem "High Hills".

After the service we enjoyed snow fights and snow slides on the odd heavy pockets of snow. Everyone participated reluctantly or otherwise, and a good time was had by all.

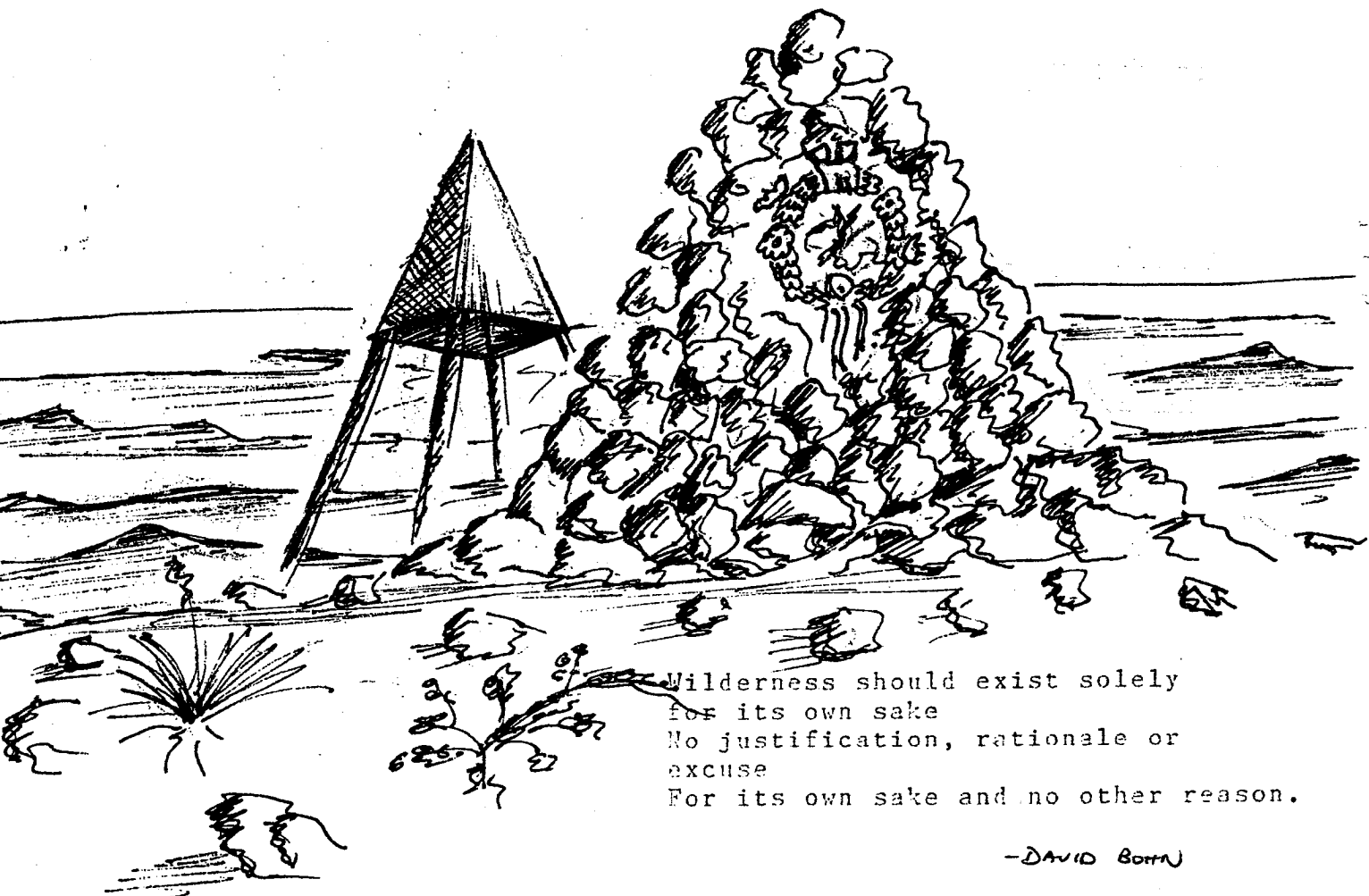
At the top of the J we were joined by a very large Scout party and there were a couple of other groups up there at the time so the area looked like Wellington Railway Station on a Friday night. However, given the beautiful day that we had this was not surprising.

A few of our members headed to North Kaweka while the rest of the party made their way down to the carpark. This didn't take very long and after we'd had a bite to eat at the bottom, we were able to move away and be back in town about 5pm.

The day was a most enjoyable one and for many of us it was good to get back in time to enjoy the rest of the evening with our families. Thanks to Martin Mallow for driving, and our "honorary" florist, Joy, for the wreath.

D.C.

Party: David Cormack (leader), Rodger Burn, Justine Burn, Bing Potts, Sarah Jobson, Kolm Stevens, Heidi Stevens, Sandy Dungan, Eileen Turner, Pam & Brian Turner, John & Richard Montgomery, Arch Lowe, Graham Thorp, Susan Lopdell, David Charteris, Denise Baillie, Kay Ward, Rowan Sapsford, Sue Holmes, Jenny Lean, Judy McBride, Jim Glass, Martin Mallow, David Lewis, Christiana Stevens, Glenys Taylor.



Wilderness should exist solely  
for its own sake  
No justification, rationale or  
excuse  
For its own sake and no other reason.

-DAVID BOTTJ