

**HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC).**

**P.O. BOX 14086 MAYFAIR, HASTINGS**

**"POHOKURA"**

Bulletin No 198

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President:	Susan Lopdell	844 6697
Vice President:	Ann Cantrick	844 8149
Secretary:	Christiana Stevens	878 8001
Treasurer:	Glenda Hooper	877 4183
Club Captain:	David Heaps	875 0088
Editor :	Mike Malone	877 8332
Committee:	Mike Lusk	877 8328
	John Montgomerie	877 7358
	Graham Shepherd	843 7787
	Chris Waldron	875 0034
	Neil Mora	(025) 222 4357
	Shirley Bathgate	877 8511
	Leo Brunton	844 7228

**Sub-committees: Spokesperson:**

- Fixtures: Neil Mora: David Heaps, Lyn Gentry (Mrs), Rodger Burn, Chris Waldron, Anne Cantrick, Gavin Scoble, John Montgomerie, Susan Lopdell
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- Scrapbook: Jim Glass
- Album: Shirley Bathgate
- Supper:
- Librarian: Liz Pindar
- Gear Hire: Karen Berry: Ph 877 6205

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Club Meetings: These are held every second Wednesday (one before a tramp) at the Hastings Harrier Clubrooms in Sylvan Road, Hastings. Visitors are most welcome

## TRIP REPORTS

**Barlow's Hut - Trip 1703**

**30 November 1997**

### *Party B*

This was a popular trip with the need to accommodate 3 extras on the way home meaning a full truck and 2 cars went to the old Wakarara site.

The day started cool and calm with the pitiful sight of certain members of the party crossing the Makororo in bare feet to keep their boots dry. The B party plunged in boots and all, then passing through the devastation of the clear-felled exotic plantation and were soon climbing the gentle track from Yeomans to the ridge. Once there we could see the old track which runs south to the toe of the ridge. This track is apparently not maintained but is easily visible at the bottom end too.

Turning north we pass through areas of substantial wind damage but where in most places vigorous vegetation was occurring. There was very little deer sign on this trip. The junction of the track to Barlows is marked at an old stump and soon descends into a small much eroded gully with an exit marked on the steep true right track.

It then sidles around the top of a small gully and onto the spur which runs down to Barlows Hut. This track is in serious decline and those who managed to follow it probably did as much bush bashing as those did not. The going is open but steep in parts with many loose rocks.

Craig head-butted one such just as it was about to pass him, suffering a scalp wound but not concussion and an increasingly painful upper neck. His party, with an improvised collar and with some difficulty helped him across the Makororo and to the nearby hut. There the decision was made to call for the helicopter because of the possibility of a significant neck injury.

So small groups were given various tasks. One walked out to make contact one set off to bring out the tail end of the group .. one cleared a landing area near the hut (there is now a superb picnic spot right by the river), while others ministered to Craig's need with pain relief, reassurance and fluids. Special thanks to Robyn for being such an alternative and effective nurse. I tried to entertain the patient with a very interesting large weta, but he was not at all grateful.

By the time the chopper arrived the wind was increasing with inpressure gusts sweeping down the valley, but after offloading 2 crew, touchdown was achieved and Craig was on his way. The ambulance paramedic, very experienced said it was his worst trip ever and he needed an anti-nausea injection when he got to hospital.

The four who had stayed at Barlows set off for the walk out down a valley swept with savage wind gust, in sheets of spray off the river and dust clouds off any bare areas.

Opposite Gold Creek we took to the plateau, thinking to gain some shelter and better footing. The latter was excellent, but the former was not, all the trees having been cut down. It was a

spectacular sight to see Robyn and Doug blown off the road and into the water table by a huge blast of wind. Doug adding some more wounds to those sustained earlier.

The tramp itself is a very good day trip. Barlows Hut is solid and comfortable and the river is most attractive.

Thanks to a large and amicable party which demonstrated excellent co-operation and problem solving skills. *Mike Lusk*

Party: Glenda Hooper, Sue Holmes, Christine Hardie, Gary Smith, Rodger Burn, Marjoleine Friedeman, Rob Sullivan, Viv Roberts, Doug King, Robyn Madden, Lyn Gentry (x2), Judy McBride, Craig Shaw, Lex Smith, Chris Waldron, Scott Aitken, Jenny Lean, Mike Lusk, Robyn, Ross, Sarah and Katrina Berry.

### **Makahu Saddle - Trip 1704**

**13 - 14 December 1997**

From 12 noon on the Saturday the club truck and a trail of cars slowly meandered their way up to Makahu Base for a social wind up for the year. After the accommodation was created, tents of all shapes, sizes and colours, people scattered to roam Coxcomb Stream, Ngahere track, Kaweka J and surrounding environs, even a couple attempting to shoot some venison without success.

The barbecues were stoked up and an abundance of food produced and a very convivial evening was held by all. Father Xmas appeared and the kids tried to de-beard him to find out which parent it was. Jokes and club stories abounded and with John and Leo with mouth organs a sing song commenced.

Sunday saw the contract workers from Castle Camp plus a 18' deep freeze being ferried in by helicopter. And the morning saw groups wondering through the surrounding bush in a mini search for one individual who had wandered off without informing anyone. After lunch the cavalcade left for the Mangaone Stream at Rissington for a swim. A relaxing time was had by all.

The group: Leo Brunton, Dave & Leonie Heaps, Nick Perkins, Matthew Fryer, Robyn Madden, Shirley Bathgate, Anne Cantrick, Neil Curtis, Chris & Bob Waldron, Jim Glass, Mike & Ros Lusk, Randall Goldfinch, Geoff Robinson, John & Karen Berry & family, Peter & Glenda Berry/Hooper & family, Sue & Eddie Holmes & family, Clive & Karen Thurston & family, Josie & Greg Boland/Bristow & family.

### **Middle Stream and Bomb Up Spur - Trip 1705**

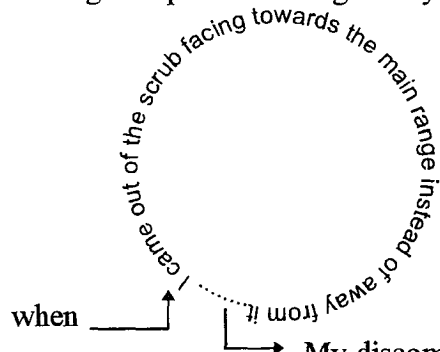
**11 January 1998**

#### *Party A*

Dark cloud shrouded the main range and a stiff Sth-Westerly greeted us as we arrived at the end of North Block Road. The Waipawa was low and getting very bouldery so it presented no problems of wet feet to most of us. Soon the party of 25 began to string out as we walked up across Cullen's farm but we regrouped out of the wind at the pines on the Park boundary. Then all 25 of us walked the track to just above Middle Stream where Mr Lyn expressed

amazement at my having found a track all the way through - a feat he has not previously been able to emulate.

At the track junction we split up, 6 going upstream, 9 downstream while the other 10 followed me off up Bombup. I think I should have taken the next spur downstream where another track comes down but, except for the first scramble, it was good open going right up to the top of the spur. We then had to bash our way through regenerating beech-totara forest towards where I intended to get to further down Bombup Spur. Fortunately it was fairly open and it wasn't long before we were sitting in the sun eating lunch in a pleasant grassy clearing. A few minutes after that we came out onto a cut track I'd found on previous visits and this took us out to a clearing with an old fence line in it. "Cracker" I said "All we have to do is to follow this fencing all the way to the bottom". So we set off, but the others kept going too far to the right and as I pushed through the scrub looking for the fence line Susan Holmes even had the effrontery to suggest I was going around in a circle! Huh, as if she knew anything about leading a trip! Well. Imagine my surprise and consternation (not to mention embarrassment)



My discomfit was further increased by the realisation that I was back in the clearing I had just come from - oh the shame and ignominy of it all!

Laughing it off I got out my map and compass, but as we set forth once more, it was obvious that my position in the party (behind the blokes and in front of the girls) was no longer that of respected leader, but rather that of someone to be watched over and cared for due to my rapidly declining mental faculties. Fortunately some small scrap of self respect was recovered when the rest of the trip down the fence line went very well and, following down the Park boundary, we were soon looking down on the B party disappearing down Middle Stream.

We never did catch Party B up but we did make very good time down Middle Stream which was open and pleasant, and then up the Waipawa River which was also mostly fast and open, getting back to the truck in good time after a most enjoyable trip. *Peter Berry*

Party: Peter Berry, Susan Holmes, Neil Mora, Mike & Ros Lusk, Lex Smith, Greg Smith, Lyn & Lyn Gentry and Sandie Claudatos.

### *Party B*

We had an early pickup, 6.30 am, just a wee bit difficult on a poor soul like me who was facing her first real tramp for many a year. The day looked good weather wise but as we approached the ranges we could see dark thick clouds hanging over the ridge lines. Disembarking, we found out how windy it was and we were pretty quick getting ready and setting off.

We dropped down a four wheel drive track into the Waipawa, crossing it and having a laugh at Daniel Berry, the first to fall over in the water for the day. We continued up the other side

on a farm road, buffeted by the wind and not really having much fun. We finally got off the exposed farmland and dropped down into a tributary of Middle Stream, crossed this and proceeded over a little bush clad ridge before dropping into Middle Stream itself.

We all had a little rest here while deciding which way we would all go. Julie and I had psyched ourselves up for a river trip so were determined to follow the original plan. Thankfully a few others decided they too would follow Middle Stream down even though members of the A party were trying to put us off. Eventually nine of us headed down the stream. It was absolutely beautiful and for the first half hour or so we all managed to keep our boots dry.

Eventually the gorge closed in on us and we were forced to get our feet wet, one or two deciding to get a little more wet than others by falling in! The gorge closed it until it was only about 5 meters across with sheer cliffs rising up into the sky, it was very quiet and very beautiful. Then we found our first compulsory pack float. John Berry decided to be a hero and try to navigate himself around the top of some rocks that proved too slippery for him and he took the first, involuntary, plunge, hurting his finger on the way in. Putting on a brave face he turned around and instructed us not to follow him! Darren was the first to jump off the waterfall and stood waist deep down below waiting to catch all the rest of us. I was next down, positioned myself and slid down the rocks, only to discover it was only waist deep right where Darren was standing, he managed to fool everyone!! We were quite sure the A party was hearing our screams as we hit the icy water. Jennie paused at the top of the waterfall to make sure she had her bearings right and managed to act like a dam. When she finally moved a huge torrent of water came pouring down knocking Darren off his perch. Sue also caused a bit of a laugh managing to go face first into the water leaving only her floppy blue hat floating on the surface above where she'd disappeared.

There were a few more tricky spots for us to get around. We saw many trout (one swimming between Jennies legs) and a huge eel. Now the eel was quite happily sitting in a little alcove well away from where we would have to walk, but John Berry (again) had heard the little things liked to be tickled. He had heard wrong and this huge eel quickly swam into the deep pool of water that we all then had to swim through! We nervously discussed whether eels really did bite people before gently finding our way to the other side of the stream. We made it out of Middle Stream and built a cairn where it met the Waipawa river to show the A party we had made it out. Then we slogged up the Waipawa back to the truck. We passed three gentlemen on the way looking for a waterfall, one wearing jeans, another in bare feet! What a way to tramp!

All in all it was a very enjoyable day and a really good trip as a first tramp for greenies like myself. I would only recommend the trip however, when the water levels are low. It would be a little hairy if the river had been any higher. - *Sharon Hamilton*

Party: Sharon Hamilton, Julie Mercer, John Berry, Sue Lopdell, Gail Harvey, Jenny Lean, Darren Sayer, Greg Harvey & Trish Dillon.

### *Party C*

Having heard it would be a long day if we went on the two advertised trip we decided that, in deference to the two 10 year olds, we would opt for a simpler trip and leaving the other two parties to go down Middle Stream we headed off upstream towards Middle Stream. The stream was low and the going relatively easy and after an hour or so we stopped for lunch.

After lunch we decided that we wouldn't carry on to the hut so instead we retraced our steps to get back to the truck at 3 p.m., well before the other two parties. - *Glenda Hooper*

Glenda Hooper, Daniel Berry, Josie Boland, Erika Bristow, Shirley Bathgate & Neil Curtis.

## **Kiwi Mouth Hut/Kiwi Saddle Hut - Trip 1706**

**24 & 25 January 1998**

### *Party A*

Lyn's Effort.

If only I had delegated this 2 months ago but Glenda keeps ringing "Where's the trip report?". This is belatedly it.

Team of six, we climbed up from the water gauge to the junction of Cameron and Kiwi Saddle Hut, then down the Cameron Track, bush bashed off the track, got lost for 12 hours, arrived at Kiwi Mouth Hut 9.15, dark & wet. Not lost any more but in the wrong place. The following morning we went down the river to Cameron for lunch and out to the water gauge.

Now the true story (many thanks to Sandy who produced this 2 months after the event - seems she has a much better memory than Lyn)

All parties headed off together up Mt Kuripapango on a very humid morning. Many breaks were had as the parties gathered together drinking copious amounts of water. On reaching the tops the view was well worth the effort. After an early lunch we set off on our various trips.

Six keen trampers made up the A party, we carried along the Cameron Hut track for a further two hours. As the original destination had changed slightly, we were now to detour off the track, down a gut towards the river, where, depending on time, would either camp out or make our way to Cameron Hut. After much debate our leader (and two other competent map and compass users) assured us that we were leaving the track at the correct place. About an hour later, still bush bashing through moderate undergrowth, we were pleased to come across a stream to fill our drink bottles. We had a short break, then were joined by a very friendly Robin that shared afternoon tea with us.

Pushing onwards through quite a bit of bushlawyer was a bit tedious but was soon relieved by the challenge of negotiating around the first of many high waterfalls that blocked our way. The afternoon passed really quickly with these many obstacles, and it was soon early evening with no apparent end yet! It was then established that we must have taken the wrong gut off the track. About 8 PM the gradient evened out and we decided to look for somewhere to camp. It started to rain heavily at this stage but it was not cold. At last a suitable flat spot was found and we started setting up camp, meanwhile John had a feeling he knew where we were and went for a look around. Soon after he returned announcing that we were only 15 minutes from Kiwi Mouth Hit so we stuffed everything into our packs and headed off with renewed enthusiasm at the thought of a warm dry hut. However, this was not to be, as we approached tents were seen on every flat site and on opening the door we were greeted by three men and 12 teenage boys from the Taupo Baptist Church group on a hunting trip. By this stage the rain was very hard and consistent and dark had set in. These guys were very considerate and offered us hot water and even a tent for Gail and myself. We had a quick tea and retired for the night, Paul staying on the floor in the hut and the others in flies and tents put up in the pouring rain.

The next morning it was fine and now, knowing where we were, made off towards the Ngaruroro River at about am. John and Lew went ahead of us a bit earlier and just as we arrived down at the river John caught a good sized rainbow trout. It was a very pleasant day with countless river crossings, some deep enough to lift you off the bottom but as it was quite hot we didn't mind at all. We called into Cameron Hut hoping to meet the other group but they had long since left, after lunch we carried on down the river. At one stage Gail noticed a bright green thing scurry away in the stone, we were all fascinated as this gecko opened its bright red mouth trying to scare us away with quite load unusual noises.

About 4 pm we arrived back at the truck to be greeted by Liz and a large box of yummy nectarines. I personally enjoyed this trip as I'm sure the others did, especially Paul being his first. Although we were geographically embarrassed for a short time at no time was I concerned for our safety. Thanks to Lyn for being a great leader, always offering encouragement and humour when needed and to the others for their good company on a great trip. *Sandy Claudatos*

Party: Lyn Gentry (Leader), Gail Harvey, John Berry, Lew Harrison, Sandy Claudatos and Paul Madden.

#### *Party B*

The leaders of both party A and B were confident of a quick and easy trip over the weekend and it was with optimism and the hope of an easy day that the truck left Pernel Orchard at 7 am, an hour later than normal.

At 8.45 am we commenced the trek from the water gauge and began the rather steep ascent to the 4100 spot. This was tentatively shown by DOC to be only an hour away but it wasn't until 11.30 am that we arrived at this point. The temperature had risen very quickly, humidity was rising and a few of our party had not been out for a while and, as a result, the pace was a little less than what was anticipated. Two of our members, Judy and Rodger, were unwell and this did not help. We stopped for lunch for half an hour and then continued the walk to the top of the ridge above Kiwi Saddle Hut which we did at a much improved pace arriving there at 1.45 pm. At this stage our party of ten was reduced to four with three having left party B earlier and joined party A, three continued on to Kiwi Saddle and the brave 4 that were left, Julie, Sharon, Margreat and myself commenced the descent down to Cameron. This proved to be a long walk along the ridge until we reached the spur above Cameron Hut and then a very steep walk through beech forest and over clay pans to the Hut at 6.45 pm. Our optimistic 5 or 6 hour tramp had extended to 10 hours. All the party being very tired and suffering a little from dehydration. It was good to hear Sharon say just before we began our descent "I am absolutely stuffed but feeling great", thank you Sharon.

On arrival at Cameron Hut it was time for a swim or wash and this was assisted by a 5 hour deluge which helped slightly to cool down the evening and made us very appreciative of the fact that the Hut was ours alone and for our comfort. There was a slight concern that the river would rise too much for the walk out the following day but nobody had the courage to openly voice that thought

After a welcome cup of coffee/tea/milo/water and a nice meal, we all went to bed listening to the rain descend.

The following day we waited for the A party until 9.30 am and then without them, commenced our walk down the river to the water gauge. A reasonable day ahead of us kept the parka's in

our packs but we certainly did not stay dry. After numerous river crossings, some chest high, we couldn't hope to keep at all dry. In fact with the day becoming quite warm and the water reasonably warm Julie and Sharon took advantage of the water to pack float wherever able, especially closer to the water gauge. Margreat being some what lighter than the rest of us and a little shorter found the river bed hard to find at times but thanks to our river crossing technique, which we had plenty of occasions to practice, all crossings were effective. We arrived at the water gauge at 2.10 pm, got changed and awaited the arrival of the other two parties.

Three things were learnt from this exercise. The first we had greatly underestimated the distance that we had to travel, over estimated the effect of the weather and the fitness of our party and the third lesson was not to take any notice of the DOC signs. They were far too light in their estimate of time. My thanks to the B party for being so stoic. It was an interesting challenge which was met with different degrees of success. Thank you team B for an enjoyable weekend. - *Dave Cormack*

Party: David Cormack (Leader) Sharon Hamilton, Julie Mercer, Judy McBride, Margreat Colledge, Jenny Lean, Rodger Burn and (Gail Harvey and Paul Madden having previously moved to the A Team - obviously wanting a longer trip?)

#### *Party C*

A few of us headed straight up the ridge to Kuripapango while the main party used the sidle track. We had a cool breeze for most of the way but the others sweltered in the heat until we met at the junction and continued to the top, where the fast ones waited for the stragglers to catch up. I think that the heat got at everybody and sapped the energy needed for the rest of the trip.

At the Cameron Hut junction we left the A and B parties having lunch before their descent down the ridge and we carried on to Kiwi Saddle Hut for lunch. We split up into groups after lunch, some to wire brush the outside walls of the hut, some to paint and others to scout around and pick up rubbish. By about 3.30 dark clouds had gathered and it threatened to rain so the painting stopped. Mike, Ros and Anne made their way back to the car and home while the rest of us prepared for tea and bed. By about 6.00 it started raining and continued steadily for the rest of the night.

The next morning was bright and clear and as some of the paint had been washed off the guttering, mainly because it was full of leaves and rubbish and had overflowed, it was repainted and some other areas were painted until the paint ran out, leaving part of the rear wall to be finished. Further rubbish was picked up in the bush surrounding the hut and placed in the bivvy for removal.

By 11.30 we were all packed and back on the track home. Kiwi Saddle Hut certainly looks much better with its coat of paint and general clean up. Many thanks to the Club members who gave their time and effort. - *Leo Brunton*

Party: Leo Brunton, Jenny Lean, Rodger Burn, David Heaps, Anne Cantrick, Mike and Ros Lusk, Judy McBride, Neil Curtis and Nicholas Perkins.



*Party A*

Fri.-6th:

Departed Pernel orchard at 0530hrs, bound for the Upper Waingawa Rd end, West of Masterton. We arrived at 0900, after a couple of stops for nourishment, here a pie there a pie, low flying jetplanes and a visual display choreographed by Chris. The walk along the Barra track, sidles above the Waingawa R., fortunately cut by a number of tributaries, as the day was hot enough to cause salt trails. Mitre flats hut was invaded at 1315hrs, lunch and a dip was had in the river. A pleasant spot, with grassed flats for camping, the hut popular enough to justify hut warden's quarters. At 1415hrs we began the climb to Peggys peak (1545m) and Mitre (1571m-Tararua's highest summit), heading further west and closer to an ominous bank of cloud. Once out of the tall, mature bush, an angled walk into a very gusty wind made progress slow. From Mitre, little to the west could be seen, as the misty wet cloud swirled about us, in the setting sun however, it made for interesting visual effects, out to the east and the Wairarapa plains, it was still a fine hot day. Onwards to Brockett (1538m) and Girdlestone (1547m), a couple a saddles between on the alpine meadow ridges. A 90( turn at Girdlestone and along the bony very narrow Tarn ridge, the headwaters of the Waingawa R. and mighty Waiohine R. below us sinking in darkness and obscured from view in the endless mist, which had fully enveloped us. Fortunately sooner than later the large longdrop structure of the new Tarn ridge hut (1400m), loomed below us and we descended off the crest of the ridge to an extremely plush hut, with nobody there. Tired bodies made the place eventful, as the last rays of unseen sun sunk below the horizon. (Quote of the day, "This bog gives new meaning to the phrase dying for a crap," its positioning many metres from the hut, a difficult traverse in bad weather.)

Sat. 7th:

A chorus of vocal chords, watch chimes and gusty wind, made sure everyone was awake. There was still an all-enveloping mist, so there wasn't much to look at. Starting late, it was back to Girdlestone, South before us, unseen was the ridge to Jumbo, which incorporates six other named peaks. The wind gusty, with showers of rain and swirling mist did not make the choice of routes difficult, we went back to Mitre and down to Mitre flats. On the way meeting several groups coming up for a look, but not keen to venture on, if the weather didn't improve. Lunch and another dip, Chris and Dave headed back to the truck, enjoying another swim in a large pool, of the Waingawa R.. The remainder of the group, crossing the South Mitre stream, climbed towards Pinnacle ridge saddle, a round about track that gets you into the headwaters of the Atiwhakatu R.. At a campsite occupied by tents, in the riverbed, 1700hrs, we prepared ourselves for the final climb of the day. Thankfully the day had cooled. Over the 620m climb many a joke was told, laughter echoed in the trees, as we made our way to Jumbo hut (1200m) just above the bush line. Out into the open, as the sun went down behind the main range, we caught glimpses of the Broken Axe pinnacles, the Kings and the Masterton plains. A couple of dogs greeted us from Jumbo hut, fortunately there were four bunks left and we shared the available space with twelve other people. Almost torturous, the smell of massage oil made sore muscles quiver while we prepared our meals.

Sun. 8th:

We got away early in anticipation of clearer weather, and we were rewarded. Up the ridge to Jumbo (1405m), looking West, North and South the view cleared to other peaks, as a fresh wind ushered clouds past. A quick traverse and stood on the summit of Holdsworth (1470m), others still climbing from other departure points we had a portrait sitting of the Tararua trekkers branch of the HTC. Down the ridge to Powell hut (1200m) at the bushline we met

Dave and then Chris, making their way up from the Holdsworth carpark, great views into other river valleys. Back to the carpark on a well-benched, graded track, with a stop at the Mountain House, sixty odd visitors had recorded their intentions over the long weekend period. Before settling down into the truck we had a dip in the Atiwhakatu R..

Thanks for a long, but rewarding trip, good company, Dave for driving us down and back.  
*Neil Mora.(Magic)*

Party: Neil Mora (Leader), Dave Heaps, Chris Waldron, Paul Madden, John Montgomery, Ann Cantrick,

### **Maungaharuru Range - Trip 1708**

**8 March 1988**

Last time I lead a trip to traverse this range, the team mutinied at Bell Rock due to severe winds. This time the mutiny was mechanical. The truck had one dud battery and after establishing this diagnosis (thanks to Phillip and David Marden, rudely awakened), we set off in private cars.

First of all we went through the bush at the top of the Mainland Island sanctuary and along the farmland to Bell Rock, where we were able to enjoy the views west across the Mohaka Valley and east to Tutira and beyond. Finding enough mushrooms to feed me and Ros was an added bonus.

Back at the cars we ate lunch and sorted out whose cars and which people would travel to the Shines Falls end of the track and who would do the downhill walk. Eventually after everyone had had a turn speaking with their mouths full, 2 cars departed with 10 trampers.

It was superb at the falls but rapidly became uncomfortably hot beyond, even in the shade of the bush. Evidence of vermin control efforts was frequent but at least two goats have eluded the hunters.

We exchanged car keys when the two groups crossed on the track, later meeting at the road junction without mishap. It was, I think, a good day with plenty of exertion, especially for those who did the uphill walk in the afternoon but it was disappointing not to achieve the planned trip. Speaking to all the landowners (and I may have missed one) was quite a performance but there is now a phone list of relevant numbers with the secretary and one with me. Who ever leads the next attempt should ask each landowner whose property is either side of him so none is missed.

ML

Party: Rodger Burn, Shirley Bathgate, Lex Smith, Mike Malone, Gail Harvey, Karen Berry, Paul Madden, Peggy Gulliver, Robyn Madden, Scott Aitken, Leonie Heaps, Garry Smith, Sandy Claudatos, Neil Curtis, Gavin Scoble and Mike & Ros Lusk.

### **Tutaekuri Kayak trip - Trip 1709**

**22 March 1988**

The day dawned fine, windy and fit for men wearing skirts, kayak spray decks, that is. We departed Pernell orchard just after 0700hrs. Six kayaks were hired from the Guthrie Smith Outdoor centre, the other four of various nature, the most intriguing, a Gentry version of the Titanic. All entered the river near Dartmoor.

Inevitably the Titanic was the first to capsize, completely wetting its occupant. Who then took it upon himself to get everyone else wet, which didn't just involve paddle sprays, but leaving his vessel and chasing others in shallow water, of which we encountered now and again, along with a couple of sharp bends and overhanging willow. Generally though it was a real cruise trip. A pit stop at the Puketapu bridge, for scones, jam and cream gratefully accepted, supplied by the Holmes family made for morning tea entertainment, as Lyn's kayak, paddle and buoyancy aid decided they'd be better off making their own way down the river, without him. Lunch was had sunbathing on rocks and watching water flow gently past. Very relaxing. Dave departed at the polytechnic bridge and Jim Glass took his place for quick paddle down to the motorway bridge, where Dave met us again with the truck, about mid-afternoon. An excellent event, which hopefully will become an annual fixture, with an overnight camp and bar-b-q. Thanks everyone for your keen participation. *Neil Mora*(Magic)

Neil Mora (Leader) Dave Heaps, Leone Heaps, Nick Perkins, Sandy Claudatos, Graham Shepherd, Rachael Corry, (Mr)Lyn Gentry, Clive Thurston, Heather Thurston, Gail Harvey.

## LOCAL DAY TRIPS

### Happy Daze Hut

25 January 1998

The two car loads from Hastings followed Dave Mulinder from the end of Snee Road, along Ellison Road, over the Makaretu Stream and then along a farm track which follows up the left hand side of the stream. This track is a little rough in places, especially for the low hung Chariot and after a little while passengers in Geoff's ute ahead were amused to note a quick change of drivers in the Chariot. I have never claimed to be telepathic - so after comments from my ever loving back seat driver such as, "drive with your hands off the wheel" and "Do as I mean, Not as I say", when negotiating a particularly rutted section, I left him to it - after all he probably does understand himself.

Leaving the cars a little after 9 we followed along the river terrace into a pine plantation and through this we descended down to the river. Here Dave decided to follow the 4 wheel drive track to Happy Daze Hut but the rest of us opted for stream travel which was very shallow and easy walking and full of many pieces of colourful green and red jasper. An hour or so later we rejoined Dave and went up to inspect the old Happy Daze Hut, which is now in the Park, and the private new hut which is further up on farmland.

Back at the river Peter had a short dip and we then carried on up river, taking the south branch so as to go to Makaretu Hut. The rocks were a little more slippery in this stretch but it was still easy going and very pretty. Makaretu Hut is situated in a lovely little clearing on a spur just above a fork in the river. It has recently been painted buttermilk yellow on the walls and grass-almost-lime green on the roof. I am glad DOC has gone away from the environmentally drab huts of 5 or so years ago. We reached the hut round mid day and while Peter expressed his displeasure to the hunters in residence, who had recently indiscriminately blazed and cut (trees up to 6 inches across had been cut down) a track up from the river fork to the hut, the rest of us enjoyed the sun, which had just emerged from the misty morning.

After lunch we observed a couple of stick insects, one a five legged one, presumably because Christianna had been sitting on it and we then headed off back down the Makaretu. We stopped for a swim just below the confluence with the north branch in a lovely deep and relatively warm swimming hole and were off again. The last of us reached the cars around 4 o'clock and after another yarn we were off home. - *Glenda Hooper*

Party: Glenda Hooper, Peter Berry, Susan Holmes, Shirley Bathgate, Wayne and Christianna Hatcher, Geoff Robinson, Darren Sayer and Dave Mulinder.

### **Kahuranaki Trip**

**21 March 1998**

Eight of us met at the Rose & Shamrock, Havelock North at the civilised hour of 8 am and left by private cars for Kahuranaki Station where we started our walk at 8.40. The day was clear and quite blustery which was to be the format for the rest of the day.

We were pleased to welcome 4 new prospective trampers to our party and we initially set off up the 4 WD track which leads to the summit. However, we soon decided to flag that route away as we would be at the top in no time at all and therefore we opted to go cross country which was more interesting. Mike was looking under rocks for gecko with no success and we stopped behind natural windbreaks to admire the views and points of interest.

We reached the top about 11.30 and had a bit of a look and those interested did a refresher on compass work and map reading.

Lunch was taken around 12 just below the summit on a sunny position facing east. After a pleasant lunch we sidled around the mount and made our way down to one of the numerous tracks which tool us back to the farm yards, arriving at 2.45 pm and we returned to Havelock North shortly afterwards.. A very pleasant Sunday stroll which was enjoyed by all. - *Rodger Burn*

Party: Neil Curtis, Ros & Mike Lusk, Bob Carter, Peggy Gulliver, Dorothy Dollimore, Glynis Moleta and Rodger Burn.

## **FAMILY TRAMPS**

### **Kaweka Hut - January 17 - 18**

Nine children, four Mums and one Dad set out on Saturday morning for the annual overnight tramp to Kaweka Hut. All the kids tramped extremely well considering the heat and that they were all carrying good sized packs. The new carpark added 45 minutes to the trip so it was a late lunch down at the Tutaekuri, then on to Kaweka Hut. With camp set up it was off to the stream for the kids where clay, rocks, water, spiders and centipedes provided the entertainment. A series of perplexing booms was heard in the late afternoon, after various suggestions, including Ruapehu erupting it was decided that it must have been the army doing army type activities. A peaceful night followed with no wind or rats and only one opossum. We set off the next day to be back at the Tutaekuri for lunch and a swim. Roger Dunn and family met us there. The hot trudge out relieved by another swim at the Lakes.

## **Triple X Hut - January 31 - February 1**

Triple X Hut was invaded early Saturday evening by hordes of kids and parents, with tents springing up every where. We're not sure what the two blokes from the UK made of it all. Next morning most were woken by two rifle shots ringing out, Peter had shot himself a deer 10 minutes from the hut! The walk for the day was up the Sunrise Track to the saddle, dropping down into the Waipawa and then down the river for a late lunch back at the cars. Unfortunately the weather had cooled down a bit much for swimming.

## **Mangataura Stream 1 March**

The Mangataura Stream flows under the bridge that you cross just before getting to the Wakarara Outdoor Education centre. From this point it winds its way downstream to the Waipawa River in a deep gorge which in most places is only a few hundred yards from the main road in. We entered the stream at the bridge around 11 o'clock and any idea of keeping one's feet dry was soon dispelled. It is a clean, small stream with a stony/silty bottom and numerous deep pools, difficult to avoid in places because of dense clumps of bitter willow growing along the banks right to the gorge edge. As it was yet another hot day this didn't pose too much of a problem. Lunch was had in a grassy area beside the stream after which we carried on down. The children's ages ranged from Secondary School years down to 4 years so the party became rather strung out after lunch, the last of us reaching Mathews Road, our get out point, at around 5 o'clock, somewhat later than we had expected. A welcome, here to the Grey family on their first family trip with the club, although Dad, William tramped with the HTC members many years ago.

Families participating during this period: Heather & Hamish Thurston, Jessica, Steven, Kimberley and Russell Dodd, Michael, Alistair, Anthony and Douglas Grey, Anthony Bull with friend Aaron, Tammy & Libby Boaler with friend Jade, Daniel Donna & Natalie Berry, Claire & Glen Holmes, Michelle, Morgan & Hannah Dunn with friend Rachel and Erika & Conal Boland Bristow plus Mums, Dads and Grandma Barbara.

### **Family Tramp Fixtures List:**

**26 Apr:** Littles Clearing: A walk up to Black Birch bivvy and back.

**24 May:** A walk to the Lizard and a visit to the Blowhard Reserve.

**21 June:** The Te Mata Walkway from Waimarama Road up to the Te Mata Park and then down to the main car park.

**July 19:** Waipawa Area: Visit the Lindsay Scenic Reserve and then a walk along the stop banks for a visit to a disused water race tunnel which we can go through.

**August 16:** We hope to have a snow trip -will chose the venue a few days beforehand.

Contact people for these trips: Susan Holmes 8446032 or Glenda Hooper 8774183

### **A Message to the Parents**

We have been waiting for about an hour  
The water tasted really sour.  
We have been waiting for far too long,  
If you wonder where we have gone,  
We've gone the way the arrow points.  
So come on and move those muscly joints.

By Donna Berry (aged 8)

### **PETER THE BERRY**

Peter The Berry is one of a bunch  
Who concoct their words with a poetic punch.

He loves vocal fun, in pun or in verse;  
The can't read his own writing, which makes him curse.

But he fixes us, an ear to ear grin;  
And re-launches himself with vigour and vim!

He visits issues we all think about:  
And proclaims his judgements, with raised fist and shout.

He pokes fun and preens: a perfect Peacock!  
His ego outstrips anyone in a frock!

And his heart thrills to the call of the wild:  
While sorrow digs deep at the death of a child.

He's part of team, that rescues our lost  
In mountains or lowlands; no matter the cost

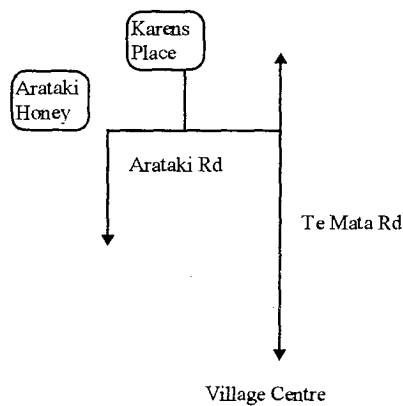
He varies his face, by growing his hair  
From his nose to his chin, or shaving it bare.

Peter The Berry is a ratty treat:  
Whether reshaping wood or here for a bleat.  
*Carole A Stewart.*

## GEAR HIRE.

The following gear/clothing is available to members and Club visitors at a nominal charge.  
They are kept at Karen Berry's place, 46 Arataki Road, Havelock North.  
Phone 8776205

Weekend Packs  
Day Pack  
Karri Mats  
Parkas  
Bushshirts  
Jackets  
Woollen Singlets  
Woollen Long Johns  
Woollen Jerseys  
Overtrousers  
Billies



## MEETING DATES AND DUTIES

### HOSTS

### SUPPER

<b>13 May</b>	Jim Glass, Gloria Abraham	Darren Sayer, Peter Pryor
<b>27 May</b>	Lew Harrison, Margaret Jones	John Jones, Mandy Leslie
<b>10 June</b>	Rick Bowker, Shirley Bathgate	Jan Hawke, Bobby Couchman
<b>24 June</b>	Garry Smith, Lord Lyn	Geoprge Prebble, Bary Pacey
<b>8 July</b>	Alastair Moffett, Liz Pindar	John Lane, Mike Bull
<b>22 July</b>	Mike Lusk, Sandy Claudatos	Paul Handyside, Sharon Hamilton
<b>5 August</b>	Christine Hardie, Martin Mallow	Randall Goldfinch, Craig Shaw
<b>19 August</b>	Lex Smith, Robyn Madden	Geoff Robinson, Craig Shaw
<b>2 September</b>	David Harrington, Judy McBride	Debbie, Thomas, Paul Madden

## CLUB NEWS.

Firstly, welcome to Paul Madden who has recently joined the Club we hope you enjoy your time out with us.

Thank you to:

- Bing Potts for generously donating his tramping gear to the Club's gear hire.
- To all the Club members who contributed to the successful fund-raisers, namely the MacPac Kaweka Challenge and the rubbish bag delivery day. The amount made from the ventures has yet to be finalised.

Thanks also to all those who participated in the annual Club auction from which we raised \$253. All this money was sent to the Lowe Walker Helicopter trust as a donation from the Club.

## Coming Events

- Pub dinner - to be held during the winter months - anyone knowing of a good venture contact Peter Berry.
- Awful night (well some do call it offal) - for those who like to eat those disgusting things like brains, liver & kidneys.
- And in the latter half of the year a Barn Dance.

In closing our Club News we would like to extend our condolences to Joy Lowe and to Margaret and Graham Griffiths, two families who have recently lost loved ones.



God sighed a deep sigh of satisfaction and proudly pointed downwards through the clouds; "look son, look what I'm making". Archangel Michael looked puzzled and said, "what is it?" God replied, "it's another planet but I'm putting LIFE on it. I've named it earth and there's going to be a balance between everything on it. For example, there's north America and south America. North America is going to be rich and south America is going to be poor, and the narrow bit joining them - that's going to be a hot spot. Now look over here. I've put a continent of white people in the north and another one of black people in the south.

And then the archangel said, "and what's that long white line there?"

And God said "ahhh that's the land of the long white cloud -Aotearoa - that's a very special place. That's going to be the most glorious spot on earth; Beautiful mountains, lakes, rivers, streams, and an exquisite coast line. These people here are going to be modest, intelligent and humorous and they're going to be fond of travelling the world.

They'll be extremely sociable, hard working and high achieving. And I'm going to give them this superhuman, undefeatable rugby team which will be blessed with the most talented, and charismatic specimens on the planet, and will be admired and feared by all who come across them.

Michael the Archangel gasped in wonder and admiration but then seeming startled proclaimed: "Hold on a second, what about the BALANCE, you said there was going to be a balance...

God replied wisely.

"Just wait till you see the neighbours I'm going to give them"

#### **Murphy's laws**

1. If anything can go wrong, invariably it will.
2. Nothing is as simple as it first seems.
3. Everything you decide to do costs more than first estimated.
4. Every activity takes more time than you have.
5. By trying to please everybody, somebody will be displeased.
6. By working faithfully eight hours a day, you may eventually get to be a boss....and work twelve hours a day.
7. It is a fundamental law of nature that nothing ever quite works out.
8. It is easier to make a commitment or to get involved in something than to get out of.
9. Whatever you set out to do, something else must be done first.
10. If you improve or tinker with something long enough, eventually it will break or malfunction.
11. By making something absolutely clear, someone will become confused.
12. Every clarification breeds new questions.
13. You can fool some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time and that is sufficient.
14. Persons disagreeing with your facts are always emotional and employ faulty reasoning.
15. Enough research will tend to support your conclusions.
16. The greater the importance of decisions to be made the larger must be the committee assigned to make them.
17. The more urgent the need for decision the less apparent is the identity of the decision-maker.
18. A penny saved is still a penny.
19. An easily understood, workable falsehood is more useful than a complex, incomprehensible truth.
20. The further away the disaster or accident occurs the greater the number of dead or injured.
21. No name, no matter how simple, can be correctly understood over the phone.
22. Things get worse under pressure.
23. Leftover nuts never match leftover bolts.
24. Them that has, gets.

## Obituary

Archibald William Lowe

19 December 1917 - 7 January 1998



Club members were very saddened in January to hear of the death of HTC's Patron and Life Member, Arch Lowe, after a short illness.

Arch was known to us as a quiet man of many practical talents and a dry sense of humour. He was a member of our club for 60 years, including war service, and tramped with us only two months before he died. Arch was generous with his time on club activities such as his contribution to the building of our present truck; his fixit abilities were also invaluable when little things didn't work or a driver got the truck stuck in a muddy ditch!

Arch's tramping and travelling exploits were not confined to New Zealand. Many of us remember talks at club nights when Arch and his wife, Joy, recounted their adventures travelling in remote areas of the world such as Tibet, Patagonia, Zaire, China, Greenland and the Amazon. Only last year they undertook a trip to Vietnam and Sulawesi.

We miss Arch's regular attendances at meetings (with his supervision of the kitchen brigade!) and his advice on club matters. The club's sympathy is extended to Joy and the rest of Arch's family. *Christine Hardie*

## **FIXTURES MAY-SEPTEMBER 1998.**

**30 May- 1 June, Queens Birthday Weekend, Urewera's.**      **\$20**      **Map W 18**

DRIVER, Christine Hardie

PARTY A. LEADER,

From Hopuruahine up to Manuoha hut for the night. Follow route along ridge, wonderful views, then down to Sandy Bay hut on shore of L. Wairakeiti. Next day out to DOC headquarters via Wairakeiti track or L. Ruapani.

PART B. LEADER,

From Sandy Bay carpark up to new Panekiri Bluff hut for the night. Enjoy the early morning lake views, then off to Ngamoko circuit or varying other options. Plenty of scope for B and truck parties.

### **Local Day trip, 31 May.**

Over the Lawrence swing bridge and up to the saddle on the Lotkow track. Go down to the Donald R. from the track junction and follow it down to the Tutaekuri and swing bridge.

CONTACT, GLENDA HOOPER, 877 4183.

**14 June, Sth Ruahines. \$10**

**Map U22**

DRIVER,

PARTY A. LEADER, Wayne Hatcher.

Kasimir Rd to Longview hut, drop into the Pohangina R., follow it down to Top gorge. Up to ridge track, back via Rocky Knob and Longview.

PARTY B. LEADER, Neil Mora 025 222 4357

Up to Longview hut, then drop into upper reaches of the Makaretu R., down to Awatere hut. Ridge track out to Moorcock's.

**27, 28 June, Confidence and Skills Development Course.**

**TO BE CONFIRMED.**

Whakarawa camp.

FACILATATOR, Ross Gordon.

### **Local Day trip, 28 June, Cattle Hill.**

WANTED Good looking women ( and plenty of them ) to accompany Peter ( for fun times ) up a geologically interesting, well rounded and curvaceous hill.

CONTACT, PETER BERRY, 877 4183.

**12 July, Kaweka's. \$10**

**Map U20**

DRIVER, Peter Berry?

PARTY A. LEADER, Peter Berry?

Drop into Makahu stream from on the Black Birch, follow upstream. Out at Makahu saddle via Boulder or Pinnacle streams and Ngahere track.

PARTY B. LEADER, Neil Mora 025 222 4357

Drop into Makahu stream from on the Black Birch, up spur to Iron Whare. Out to Makahu via Kaweka flats.

**25, 26 July Kaweka's. \$10**

**Map U 20**

DRIVER, Christine Hardie.

PARTY A. LEADER, ANNE CANTRICK 844 8149

Up to Kaweka J and around the tops to Tira Lodge for the night. Down to Rocks Ahead, then out via Back ridge.

PARTY B. LEADER, GAVIN SCOBLE

Up to Kaweka J and around the tops to Ballards hut for the night. Out via Camp spur and Kaweka flats.

**Local Day trip, 26 July, Kaweka hut.**

A walk into Kaweka hut from the new carpark, lunch at the hut and return via the track that leads down from track to Mackintosh. (chance to get lost!)

CONTACT, LYN GENTRY 875 0542

**9 August, Central Ruahines, \$10**

**Map U22**

DRIVER, Peter Berry.

LEADER, ANNE CANTRICK 844 8149

Snow playtime. Have some fun and build up confidence and snowcraft skills, before the Ruapehu trip. In to Sunrise hut, along to Armstrong saddle and up onto "66". A variety of options for a second party to have a day around the Sunrise hut area.

**22, 23 August, Ruapehu. PROBABLE.**

**Map S 20, T 20, T 19**

DRIVER,

LEADER, EDDIE HOLMES.

Looking at booking a lodge for days during the week, plus weekend. Chance to socialise, ski, climb, tramp, kayak, mountainbike, heaps of skills to gain, many experiences to be had.

**Local Day trip, 23 August, Wharite peak.**

Park by Coppermine creek and take track up to Wharite peak. Return the same way.

CONTACT, GLENDA HOOPER, 877 4183.

**6 September, Southern Ruahines, \$10**

**Map T23**

DRIVER,

PARTY A. LEADER, Lew Harrison

Up to Travers hut, along the main divide. Down to Stanfield hut, back along Tamaki R..

PARTY B. LEADER,

Along Holmes ridge track to Stanfield hut, back along Tamaki R..

**OVERDUE TRAMPERS**

Although returning parties plan to be out of the bush before dark, safety considerations must come first. This may mean that parties are late returning to transport. Even after arriving back at the transport, it may take 2 hours or more to return to the embarkation point. Beginners should make sure that anyone who might worry about them is informed of 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. All newcomers should ensure that their own emergency number is noted in the party list that the leader leaves in town. For all inquiries about overdue trampers please ring one of the following:

**Cancellations:** If you can not make a trip please contact the leader **BEFOREHAND** so as to avoid unnecessary delays for the rest of the party.

**Ross Berry 8774436**

**Jim Glass 8778748**

**Glenda Hooper 8774183**

**Club Meetings:** These are held every second Wednesday (the one before a tramp) at the Hastings Harrier Clubrooms in Sylvan Road, Hastings. Doors open 7.25 PM, visitors are welcome.