

Club Patron:	Jim Glass	877 8748	
President:	Mike Lusk	877 8328	mrlusk@clear.net.nz
Vice President:	Glenda Hooper	877 4183	gwhoop@clear.net.nz
Secretary:	Gloria Abraham	875 1152	gabraham@free.net.nz
Treasurer:	Lex Smith	877 4087	smithers@xtra.co.nz
Club Captain:	David Heaps	875 0088	
Editor:	Marjoleine Turel	877 3944	mturel@clear.net.nz
Committee:	Shirley Bathgate	877 8511	
	Geoff Clibborn	844 6039	
	Gail Harvey	873 3609	
	Glenda Hooper	877 4183	
	Bob Carter	879 5609	
	Tina Godbert	835 0064	
	Susan Lopdell	844 6697	

**Sub Committees: (Spokesperson underlined)**

**Environment:** Shirley Bathgate, Mike Lusk, Glenda Hooper, Tina Godbert  
**Truck:** Geoff Clibborn, David Heaps  
**Fixtures:** Susan Lopdell, Rodger Burn, Tina Godburn, Lex Smith, David Heaps, Glenda Hooper,  
**Huts:** David Heaps, Geoff Clibborn  
**Training:** David Heaps, Gail Harvey, Andy Fowler, Andrew Taylor, Peter Pryor  
**SAR:** David Heaps, Eddie Holmes, John Montgomerie  
**Meetings:** Susan Lopdell, Glenda Hooper, Lex Smith, Bob Carter  
**Social:** Mr Lyn Gentry, Peter Berry, Gloria Abraham, Bob Carter, Graeme Hare  
**Scrap Book:** Jim Glass  
**Supper:** Jenny Lean  
**Album:** Shirley Bathgate  
**Library:** Liz Pindar (8700145)  
**Gear Hire:** Climbing gear Ed Holmes (844 6032)  
**Sales Rep:** Robyn Madden (844 9661)

**Club Meetings:** are held every second Wednesday (before a tramp) at the Hastings Harrier Clubrooms in Sylvan Road, Hastings. Visitors are most welcome.  
 50 c donation gratefully accepted each meeting towards hall hire (*place in the old boot*).

Contents:	Page:		
Tripreports	2	HTC general	21
Clubnews	17	Triplist	22
Clubmeetings	20		

## TRIP REPORTS

### Beachtrip – Rabbit Gully

20 January 2002

Way back on a fine January Saturday afternoon 35 HTC members gathered at Scotsmans at about 1pm Point at Clifton. Actually I think it was showerey, cause everyone put coats on. Off along the beach and the group soon became a multicoloured gaggle spreading out over half a kilometre or so.

The beach leg was covered in 20 minutes and we regrouped at the gully entrance. We walked through some tall stands of Kanuka growing up on the sides of the gully and soon found ourselves standing on seams of Lignite, some 400.000 years old, with beds of shingle from the Tuki Tuki river and Vulcanic Ash from Lake Taupo covering it. Lignite is the half way stage to becoming pure coal. Then we entered a small cavern carved out of the red metal by the creek. Water merged into a narrow sided area before breaking out into a wider area for 200 m or so and then narrowed again. A clamber up a small waterfall took us along a passage like a tunnel with glowworm webs and lichens on the sides. Looking up you could see the road bridge spanning the gully about 20 metres above us. Around the corner it opened out into bush again and a scramble up a side creek put us onto a track and 10 or 20 metres later we popped out onto the road. Another regroup and an hour later we were back at the cars, and some ended up at my house for a barbeque. I'm sure everyone enjoyed this short but varied trip and I hope to get permission to carry on from where we left off, next January.

*Dave Heaps*

### Tutaekuri Gorge Trip

March 17 2002

First find your track in amongst all the slash from the logging operations and then head on down the track to the three wire bridge. Then comes the difficult part, convincing about a dozen purportedly sane people to jump into a freezing cold river that is all too obviously over critical depth, still if a few words of encouragement don't work a surreptitious pushing in of the first victim usually works, the rest follow like sheep and once you're around the bend there is no turning back. Then it's a case of climbing over the rock beside the chute that I've always been too scared to slide down, float through a couple of deep bits and either jump down the waterfall or claw your way down using Gerald as a rope substitute. After the waterfall the river becomes either easier, or less interesting, or in some cases less horrifying and it's an easy stroll down to the hot dribble situated high up on the true left. The group of us wallowing in this hot steep mud puddle is a sight probably best left to the imagination, but we enjoyed it. After a good feed four of us set off straight back up the hill to move the truck around. On the road out there were heaps of ferotox bait stations all with their compliment of at least one and often up to four road rugs. The party going down the river had no problems or swims and arrived at Lawrence half an hour after us.

*PB*

Party: Peter Berry, John Berry, Ken Nugent, Julia King, Gail Harvey, Tina Godbert, Andy Fowler, Gerald Blackburn, Jeremy Blackburn & Sue Holmes

We left the truck at the carpark around 7.30 on a fine morning and headed off down the zig zag track to the three wire bridge. With only 8 of us in the party the bridge was quickly crossed by all and we made our way back up the slope on the other side. We were at Mackintosh for morning tea , 2 hours after leaving the truck.

Refuelled we headed towards Kaweka Hut and Lyn and I, at the back of the party were lucky enough to hear a Kaka as we made our way down the valley to the Kaiarahi Stream. By noon we were at the turn off to Kaweka Hut so we sat down here for our lunch in the sun.

After lunch we all went over to Kaweka Hut and then carried on downwards to the Tutaekuri River and up the other side to the truck which had been left at the Lakes Road carpark by the other party. We were back at the truck by 2.30 which we moved down to the Mackintosh carpark to await the arrival of the A party an hour later. A most enjoyable day. Thanks Geoff for driving.

GH

Party: Marion Nicholason, Judy McBride, Lyn Gentry, Geoff Clibborn, Lynnette Blackburn, Denise McBride, Jim Hewes & Glenda Hooper

When Eddie described the alterations he and his team had been doing to Sunrise Hut at our previous meeting, our leaderless party decided a personal inspection was the prime objective of our party of nine inspectors.

On a cool autumn morning we were away from the truck at 8.30am. Eddie had advised us that the alterations, removing the sleeping platforms and installing bunks for double jointed midgets did not improve accommodation. We were impressed on arriving at the Sheraton Sunrise to find picture windows with multi-milliondollar views, verandahs across the front with seats and rails to sit on, skylights letting natural light in and celestial windows in the apex, new foam mattresses, the cold rear wind tunnel closed in, and a welcoming front door. As Sunrise has many visitors they will be impressed so long as parties are a maximum of 12 people. The hut looks trendy with its eye catching decor and roof line. I trust govt. funds continue to be available to upgrade DOC huts with a bit of practical input from our club's Builders requested in the future.

We pranced around Armstrong Saddle. Because the advertised trip had shingle slides, some of our team rode the slides down near the saddle. After another meal break we cruised down to the truck.

As we were a consensus party, here are our parties 'highlight of the day'-

Gloria Abraham - Skipping down the track

Susan Fraser - Sliding and flying down the shingle slides

Marion Nicholson - Good company

Judy McBride - Good trip

Mandy Leslie - Meeting 5 unattached Massey Alpine Club guys who came over from

Waikamaka

Chris Brown - Having a flock of 22 Whiteheads feeding around us

Geoff Clibborn - The rugged rock formations

Robyn Madden - The Whiteheads and Fantails in convoy in the bush

Graeme Hare - Having my Leki stick retrieved by Chris & Marion when I thought it was still at the hut.

GRH

**Kaweka Forest - Kiwi Saddle Hut Working Bee –**  
The Return of the Ladderman

**12 May 2002**

It is always a pleasure to walk in to Kiwi Saddle Hut. This time we planned to wash and paint the interior, and to install a ladder to provide access to the mezzanine floor above the foyer, so to encourage people not to stand on (and break) the door handle.

On the last working bee Randall, renowned for carting awkward burdens about the ranges, had carried a stepladder slung about his person, causing terror amongst the wildlife. This time a ladder in pieces small enough to carry in packs, and he installed it expertly while the rest of us washed and painted. Ed busied himself replacing the corroded downpipe, bending PVC with cautiously applied heat, and we compiled an inventory of the various materials stored under the hut. A large and historic container of the evil mix used to paint the walls of the hut when new, was discovered and removed for recycling. Finally, while a small group walked on towards Castle Camp, others split and stacked the wood remaining from the trees recently cleared from close to the hut.

With a good number of willing workers we were ready to leave quite early, and we were back at the road at a civilized hour.

ML

Party: Geoff Clibborn, Sandy Claudatos, Gloria Abraham, Peter & Jonathan Pryor, Lex Smith, Peter Berry, Bobby Couchman, Denise McBride, Sue Holmes, Jenny Lean, Anne Cantrick, Garry Smith, Stefan Kraemer, Randall Goldfinch, Ed Holmes

**Waipunga/Whirinaki Forest Parks**

**24-26 May 2002**

After a phone conversation with the president of the Napier Tramping Club, the traverse of the Waipunga Forest Park was a no-go area because  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the track was grossly overgrown and not being maintained by DoC.

We traveled along the Napier Taupo Highway turning off at Pohukura Rd onto the freshly graded Waipunga Rd (due to logging) which was a much smoother ride than in Nov 2001. No problems with the navigation through the pines and we parked at the start of the track on Pine Milling Rd.

It was a chilly, blustery start with a temperature of about 4 degrees plus wind chill factor. Everyone quickly donned the winter gear and we set off along an old 4-wheel-drive track to the remains of the Matakuhia Saddle Hut.

Just to the left of the carpark a well formed track leads off following the Matakuhia Stream through some nice patches of regenerating bush, predominately beech with small podocarps here and there. This part of the park was recut about 18 months ago by DoC and members of the Taupo Tramping Club. All the wooden footbridges have been removed and tossed to the

side- with heavy rainfall certain parts of the track will be washed away and one wonders if any maintenance in the future will keep this beautiful spot easily available to trampers.

We neared the hut, the smell of a burning fire propelled us along, and 2 hunters had a billy on – what luxury! Lunched in the hut and some had a look around the area before we returned to the track about 3.30pm. Drove around to the Plateau Road carpark where 6 hardy souls set off to Central Whirinaki Hut for the night. As we had only 1½ hours of daylight left we walked at a hot pace and spooked 2 deer grazing beside the track. About ½ an hour out from the hut, the men finally caught us up and we wandered the last bit with torches on. Had the hut to ourselves, chopped some firewood and settled in for the night, enjoying each others company. Sunday morning wandered around the area, enjoying the birdlife (blue duck, robins, tomtits etc) before retracing our steps, allowing time to show Stefan the beautiful bush. Stopped to look at the cave and met up with the truck party who had managed to lose 2 of their members. A great trip into a great area, my thanks to all for their company and our driver.

SL

Party: Lew Harrison, Stefan, Lex Smith, Judy McBride, Marion Nicholson, Susan Lopdell, Geoff Clibborn, Gloria Abrahams, Graham Hare, Rodger Burn, Peter Berry, Susan Lopdell

### **Whirinaki Forest Park**

**Queens Birthday 1–3 June 2002**

Saturday The A party had cancelled at the eleventh hour leaving the B party to carry the club flag. The B party moved from the original 'Tongariro Trip' due to snowy weather conditions on mountain. Departed Pernel at 6.00am with 9 hearty souls and with some astute navigation through the forest by Mr Lyn we arrived at the River Road park entry about 9.15am.

We intended heading for Central Whirinaki Hut for Saturday night but encountered an Auckland Baptist TC in the carpark with the same idea so revised our plan and headed for Mangamate Hut. Departing about 9.45am we arrived after a number of stops including lunch about 1.30pm. A bit cold with the numerous crossings of the Mangamate Stream so got the fire underway and settled into some relaxation including some serious card playing for some. After a variety of meals a reasonably early night for all.

Sunday morning up and about and once fed and a replenishment of the wood supply we departed about 9.00am for Central Whirinaki Hut. Numerous stops and lunch enroute saw us arrive about 1.30pm. Once again the journey had involved many stream crossings initially the Mangamate then the Taumutu and although a diversion through Upper Whirinaki was a thought this was not proceeded with as it would have added up to 3 hours to the journey. Dry out time again with wood collection and an early fire. The card sharks were at it again while others wandered into the forest around the hut. After dinner the evening took on a different slant as the 'Whirinaki Winter Games' got under way and club members were joined by a Bulgarian couple and two young Auckland female trampers (not Lew's Swedish blondes). We saw room traversing by Lew and one of the Auckland girls, Table traversing (some creditable attempts by some) with Ryota outstanding here, the Frog Lift or Cork Sucking once again Ryota joined by Geoff, Lew, Lex, Lyn and Steffan, Log Balancing with Rope and a coin game courtesy of Mr Lyn.

Monday morning saw us up and away by 8.00am with a view to going into the Arahaki lagoon if we got out to the road end in good time. This time we were travelling the Whirinaki river and after the Falls Lyn and Ken followed the true left of the river, the rest the right. Out about 1.00pm and a quick lunch. Over the three days we had encountered good weather, a good track system, enjoyed beautiful forest in particular some magnificent trees and good birdlife including blue duck. We had a quick lunch and headed for the Arahaki carpark and 5

still energetic trampers got ready for the round trip but a heavy rainsquall saw them quickly get back into the truck for the journey home. This was completed without incident, although a "road closed" notice stopped us while we cleared it up with the loggers in the area. Arrived back at Pernel about 5.00pm – thanks to all on the trip especially driver Geoff.

Party; Lex Smith (Leader), Geoff Clibborn, Sue Lopdell, Judy McBride, Steffan Kraemer, Ryota Suzuki, Ken Nugent and Lyn Gentry.

### **Kaweka Forest Park – Mangatainoka Hot Springs**

**9 June 2002**

On a cloudy but mild morning seventeen of us departed from Pernelles and headed for the Mangatainoka Hot Springs. We left Geoff at the truck with his wife Evelyn to potter around at the truck and relax and soak it up in the first spring while the rest of us carried on through to Te Puia Hut for morning tea in well under two hours. The intermingling of the surrounding bush and the ever present river sounds is always sheer magic in this area. After a lovely welcome morning cuppa and break at the hut, Marion, Jenny and Karl decided they would turn back as they were keen to have an extra long soak at the first springs. With so many of us heading for the second springs, they couldn't see how we were all going to fit.

By midday, we hastily prepared for our hot soak in our designated dressing quarters under the trees after arriving in dribs and drabs. The sheer luxury of relaxing in those steaming tubs for an hour in such surroundings was amazing! Sandy made the most of alternating between the river and the hot pools while the rest of us were content just to stay put in the tubs. We were savouring every moment. If only time would stand still, but all too soon it was time to think about lunch back at the Hut. Lou discovered his dressing quarters were invaded by women and had to patiently wait and pace while Graham Hare remained unperturbed and happily but discreetly shared our quarters.

Back at Te Puia, we relaxed having lunch before venturing forth back to the first springs. Two hours or so later we were relaxing with Geoff and Evelyn over afternoon tea around the table while waiting for the re-appearance of Mike and Gerald who had wandered off earlier to catch a fish but to no avail.

All in all, it was a wonderfully, social, rejuvenating day out with a great group of people. We were also lucky to be so sheltered most of the time from the wind.

GA

Party: Gail Harvey, Karl Eggers, Jim Hewes, Graeme Hare, Ray Laking, Marion Nicholson, Bobby Couchman, Jenny Lean, Mike and Ros Lusk, Peter Berry, Sandy Claudatos, Geoff and Evelyn Clibborn, Lou Harrison, Gerald Blackburn, Gloria Abraham

### **Ruahine Forest Park**

**22-23 June 2002**

Ten hardy but slightly touched souls departed the truck and Geoff in the Waipawa riverbed after having set off from Pernel's at 5.30 am. We headed off in inclement weather laden with enough food to sink a ship. As some of us were missing out on a mid winters xmas party to come on this trip we decided to have our own at Waterfall hut.

Numerous stops were made and the usual 2½ - 3 hrs to Waikamaka took just on 4 hours. The Waipawa was swift and grubby in the lower reaches and link-ups were necessary on most crossings.

An early lunch was the go at Waikemaka while we dried out a bit, with the rain still falling steadily outside. When it was time to go it was heard leaving a snug warm hut to go back into the wet outdoors. However the rain had eased as the team climbed up the creek and onto Rangi Saddle. There were big pockets of snow in the sheltered shutes and the odd snowball or two went flying around. The descent into Rangi creek was dodgy to say the least; slippery and slimy as the rocks were hidden under the grass. Down Rangi to the Kawhatau was easy going and after crossing the Kawhatau twice, we reached Waterfall hut around 3.30 pm.

The first job was to gather dry firewood in the wet bush, and after about ½ an hour there was a big pile in front of the hut. No sooner had we finished and were inside and the skied opened up and lashed out again.

It was a bit tight inside as Waterfall is only a six bunker, but we managed OK. Then out came the food: nibbles and chocolate for entrees, 3 huge chickens that Tina carried in, real spuds, kumara, yams, broccoli and cauliflower, beans and peas for the first course. Spongy Xmas puds and custard for the second. The two newcomers, (from Japan and Denmark) looked on in awe from the top bunks as we went about the task of cooking this feast. As well as all this there were party hats, Santa hats and even a real Santa (Tina had brought a red robe and shawl and looked the part) along with reindeer and a sleigh.

Eating all of this tucker was an impossible mission, and even after feeding all ten of us there was enough left over for lunch the next day. After patting tummies, burping and eructating our gratification by the fire, our next trick was to get 10 bods into 6 bunks. We did it by pushing the 3 bunks together we had 2 platforms, enough for 5 on top and 5 on the bottom. Ken decided to sleep on the floor (which was a wise move, as extricating oneself in the middle of the night for a toilet outing proved a laughable task). In the morning breakfast was had at leisure as it was still bucketing down outside and very windy with it. So the planned route up the Trig creek and onto Mangaweka was not a good idea. After a lengthy cleanup along with stocking up the woodshed, we left Waterfall hut at around 9.30am, in the rain and wind, and headed off the way we had come, getting to Waikamaka for an early lunch, and a dry out. Out came the leftovers. Gerald got a fire going and when it was time to go no one wanted to. However we prised ourselves away and staggered off up the creek, fully gut laden (not Bin Laden), back down the Waipawa, linking up on crossings again until we the white of the truck on the riverbed and great plumes of smoke rising up beside it. Geoff had a raging fire going for us, just great for changing by and warming up. It was then off home for The Bay.

A neat weekend even though we didn't make it out west. Thanks everyone and thanks for driving Geoff.

DH

The Christmas Party: Gerald Blackburn, Gail Harvey, John Montgommery, Tina Godbert, Andy Fowler, Chris Perry, Ken Nugent, Stefan Kraemer (from Denmark), Yrota Susuki (from Japan), Dave Heaps

---

**Middle Hill Hut - Local Day trip**

**23 June 2002**

Four of us left Pernal Orchard and picked up two others at Puketapu and all hoped the showers forecasted for the ranges would not happen. A good trip to the car park and that early cuppa had us all in a good mood for the climb. We were at the hut by mid morning and after a

snack decided to go on to the bush line. From the hut the track is flat for some distance and lovely with ferns and moss covered logs. After the next climb the bush is spoilt by very thick bush lawyer. Getting towards the top the track is very steep and the encouragement the two men gave to Judy and myself was appreciated and rewarded with the views we got above the tree line. We could pick out Dicks Spur that some of us had come down at the time of the Cairn trip and the other group had come down from Ihaka Spur on the ridge we were on. Sue and Anne went on up the spur while we enjoyed the sun and the views until the cold wind had us on the move. The other two caught up to us as we got to the hut. The forecasted showers stayed away to make for a nice day, good company, good track, good climb, good views and all down hill back to the carpark.

*MN.*

Party: Anne Cantrick, Susan Holmes, Judy McBride, Marion Nicholson, Ray Laking, Chris Brown

<b>Southern Ruahine Forest Park</b>
-------------------------------------

<b>7 July 2002</b>
--------------------

The weather forecast for the weekend was not very good and as we got further south along the Takapau Plains we could see the Rauhines shrouded in dark angry looking clouds.

We duly arrived at the Tamaki Rd end after picking up Dave Mullinder at Dannevirke.

It was decided that the farm track and Holmes Ridge was a better option than walking up the Tamaki River with sloshy wet boots.

The rain was holding off for the moment, but there were not going to be many nice views today. The farmland soon turned to native bush as we dropped back down to the Tamaki River, and on up stream to Stanfield Hut. We had no sooner stepped in the door and down came the rain. Stanfield is a really nice hut, all lined and painted with a new wood fire. It certainly wasn't easy to leave with the rain pouring down, but it had to be done. So, after an hour of eating and hot drinks, nine of us with parka's on left Stanfield to climb the ridge onto the tops and the 4WD track to Traverse Hut. The track was very muddy and slippery, and as we climbed higher the wind increased in velocity and the temperature dropped.

The bush always looks it's best when it's wet, even the dreaded leatherwood, which was giving us a bit of shelter from the howling wind. The exposed ridge along the tops to Traverse Hut was bitterly cold, so we didn't stop until we got to the Hut. Traverse is a typical "road end" Hut. Nothing much in it, no fireplace and bullet holes through the windows. We sheltered there and had a late lunch hoping that the rain and wind might stop, but not to be so parka's back on, and off down the hill towards the Tamaki Road End. The track was now a steep muddy stream with hidden tree roots just waiting to trip you up. It was about 3pm when we got to the truck and out of our wet gear.

An enjoyable day apart from the weather, it would be nice to go back on a fine day.

*GB*

Party: Gail Harvey, Greg Munn, Chris Waldron, Bobby Couchman, Sandy Claudatos, Susan Fraser, Ed Holmes(driver), Peter Brown, Dave Mullinger, Gerald Blackburn (leader)



**A Party**

We were driven by Geoff leaving Pernells at 6.00 and starting from the Waihaha Stream Road end at 9.30. The walk up beside the Waihaha river with its many clear pools is very varied and with the exception of a short (100m) rise very cruisy. What we noticed particularly on this section but throughout the whole walk was the constantly changing vegetation. We saw more Tanikaha here than I've seen anywhere else. Interesting how they were growing side by side with Toatoa and in one place a grove of Tanikaha so uniform it was like a pine plantation – a celery pine plantation. We took time to clamber down to the rapids with swirled out cauldrons alongside – very worthwhile. The track passes through frost flats then enters BIG dense bush, with HUGE Rimu for a while before the Waihaha hut. We reached this after 3 ¼ hours which included a first lunch and a few photo stops. The new 10 bunk hut is very pleasant with a big veranda where we enjoyed a second lunch and boil up. We felt the hut was a bit oversized to just sleep 10 people. Soon after leaving Waihaha we saw and heard kaka. A 1¼ hour stroll through magnificent trees still heading up the Waihaha found us at the campsite a big grassy clearing near to a side stream. It needed a bit of a cleanup, so everyone swung into action. After some impressive origami Sue and Lynette erected their tent. Despite sodden wood Murray soon had a mega blaze roaring & steaming. We of the gas and dehyd watched in admiration as Murray & Robin simmered their stew over the fire. The weather was really mild and a big moon made life easy.

A good nights sleep then we set off up the hill. The track was all ready cut and thoroughly marked – such a pleasure walking up with the morning light glowing through kidney ferns. The 7 ½ hour walk rises up 400m in 4 manageable 100m bites with flat areas between. We were impressed with Murray's pyromania again when he gathered twigs and boiled us up billy tea at lunch time on a mini fire. All day the vegetation changed with the altitude and we were serenaded by birds, lots of Tui, Bellbirds, pigeons & clouds of little brown birds. As we dropped down from the trig we were overjoyed to be ambushed by the B party of John Berry and Geoff Clibborn who had walked in to meet us and avoid bed sores from lounging in the truck. We found the last few k's down the road a bit hard on the hoof and were glad to see the truck.

Wow what an excellent trip. I thoroughly recommend this area to all club members, both A & B parties.

AF

Party: Lynette Blackburn, Sue Holmes, Murray Tonks, Robin Heath, Tina Godbert, Andy Fowler

**Manawatu Gorge – Local daytrip****21 July 2002**

Two carloads were disgorged at the Palmerston North end on the track, and while Ray and I ferried Marion's ute to the other end, the rest of the party moved off, the drivers naturally assuming that they would wait for us a short distance up the track. But wait they did not, and it was some time before we caught them, having climbed up the small gully lined with Parataniwha plants, reached the top, and crossed over 2 large braided wire cables from which hang one of the meshes which protect the road from rockfalls.

On the way we were passed by 2 runners, in training for their 11th Kaweka Challenge.

There are some big trees in this thin strip of bush, including excellent specimens of Pukatea with their magnificent buttressed roots, and somewhat to our surprise we saw scattered

flowers on a couple of large Rata. It was pretty cold at the first lookout, so we found a sheltered spot in the bush and ate out lunch under some Mahoe, the ground littered with their skeletonized leaves.

The second lookout is a little way off the track, and gives a good view down into the river and across it to the railway, but after a quick look we moved on, lured by the prospect a visit to the cafe near the Ballance Bridge. A cafe at the end of a track is to be highly recommended, but regrettably rare, so we sat at the outside tables and made the most of it, especially Gloria, who drank hers out of what appeared to be a large chamberpot.

There was time for a brief stop at Norsewear, where money was saved by buying seconds which were not actually needed, and so home.

*ML*

Party: Jim Hewes, Chris Brown, Ray Laking, Bobby Couchman, Judy McBride, Marion Nicholson, Gloria Abraham, Barbara Taylor, Ros and Mike Lusk

<b>Kaweka Hut Working Bee</b>
-------------------------------

<b>4 August 2002</b>
----------------------

The year of the working bee continued with a visit to our oldest hut, mainly to remove trees from close to it, and for the builders to plot and plan. The Tutaekuri was up a bit but the track was not too wet, and we were soon assembled in and about the hut. There we had a quick brew before Dave unleashed the chainsaw and became a lumberjack. An efficient system soon developed with trees needing roping being roped off the ladder, and as soon as each had hit the ground it was delimbed and the parts removed for storage. Some of them were 30' high, and many were slim enough to have potential for use in the renovations. John had carried in an axe, so the larger logs, up to 35 years old were cut up and split expertly, with Sue Holmes the star. One round when split, revealed the well developed pupa of a puriri moth, and after we had admired it Glenda remade its home and took it into the bush, where it will hopefully hatch in due time.

Some of the party moved on to do the Mackintosh circuit, and the remainder ate a relaxed lunch. Glen Holmes and the billy team kept us supplied with plenty of boiling water for the obligatory brews, and well fortified, Dave, the chainsaw and a few others set off to clear the track to the tops, and see how much snow was there. There were a couple of steep slippery places in the contorta and these have been bypassed.

There was only a little snow on the ridge, but we didn't linger as the breeze was keen. We had half expected to see those of our group who had gone in to Kiwi Saddle, but had to do instead with Russell, Chris and Samuel Perry who had stayed there the night and come round via CastleCamp.

We made a quick descent to the rather naked hut, gathered up those who had stayed and were soon back at the truck, arriving almost simultaneously with the other 2 parties. Working together is one of the great strengths of HTC and I am sure all of us are looking forward to the spring when we will start on the renovations to the Kaweka Hut itself.

Thanks to Geoff for driving and to Philip not only for his company, but also for the box of apples and pears. *ML*

#### Party B:

The weather was sunny if windy and we set out with the main party from the Lakes Carpark to Kaweka Hut.

The rivers and stream along the way were up, but nothing too difficult for seasoned trampers. We had 2 newcomers in our group: Jill, who has just moved to HB from Wellington and Livia, an exchange student from Brazil, who was anxious to experience our beautiful NZ bush.

We arrived at the hut for morning tea and soon set about helping with stacking chopped firewood, but after a while we found we were tripping over one another, so a group of seven decided to hoof it to Mackintosh Hut. This party included Jill and Livia and we enjoyed education Olivia about our native plants and the problems NZ faces with introduced pests. She thought our beech forest were beautiful.

A short way along the track Gloria took a nasty tumble in one of the streams and was badly bruised and shaken for a while, but managed to walk on, and with the aid of a stick was able to keep up.

We arrived at Mackintosh and had lunch in the forest clearing. We had a chat with a couple of deer hunters who, as usual, hadn't shot any deer and were laying around in the sun.

We then set off for the truck. The two new girls had no problem crossing the big slip and Livia was suitably freaked out upon crossing the three wire bridge. They shot up the steep climb to the road so they have no fitness problems.

We then started the long walk along the road back to the truck. Now that all the pine trees have been logged it is quite an awe inspiring landscape with the wind howling around your ears and the snow capped mountains in the background.

We reached the truck just as everyone else did and after a quick cuppa climbed aboard for home. A great day.

Thanks to Geoff for driving.

B.C.

Party: Bobby Couchman, Gloria Abraham, Jill Beaver, Joan Ruffel, Livia, Marion Nicholson

Rest Party: Geoff Clibborn, Chris Waldron, Ed Holmes, Sandy Claudatus, Anne Cantrick, Sue Mood, Mike Bull, peter & Jonathan Pryor, Joen Berry, Jenny Lean, Chris Brown, Phillip Mardonj, Mike Lusk, Glenda Hooper

<b>Tongariro National Park</b>	<b>16-18</b>	<b>August 2002</b>
--------------------------------	--------------	--------------------

#### Friday Night

Some of us had gone up on Thursday for some skiing and a lot of laughs. Robyn and Simon came from Palmerston North independent like and Andy escaped some factory in Auckland, which left a small truckload of 8 making the treck on Friday night.

The early birds (and blokes) had walked in and established that Mangatepopo hut was empty and the heater worked. We had a grave suspicion that the truck crew would mutiny and stay put on their warm mattresses so we marched back out to the carpark to entice them. John Berry had thoughtfully brought flowers to decorate the hut so he at least was intending to walk in.

No sooner had our whole crew of 16 settled in to the hut when torchlight after torch light (all unnecessary under the large moon on a crisp but beautifully clear night) came bobbing through the tussock. Both the Auckland and Hamilton clubs had turned out in force! We

squeezed up charitably to give a few bunk spaces and boy did we regret that later when one turned out to be Mr Snorer of the Universe Champ.

Saturday:

We woke to a perfect morning, frosty and clear with Ngaruahoe gleaming above us. The "snow flurries" of the previous few days had left fresh snow and we had thought it might be too soft to go up Ngaruahoe but the cold night had firmed things up nicely. After a good breakfast we got away at 8.00 and enjoyed the views as we walked up the Mangatepopo valley.

The forecast was for a southerly to come in mid-day so at the bottom of the staircase we split into three groups to give the mountain goats the best chance of getting up while there was still a view.

Groups A and A-minus then tucked together and were caught snacking at the top of the staircase by group C-plus. We split up again and the 2 A teams headed up Ngaruahoe, all 13 made it to the summit, a good club effort for the year of the mountain and some did a victory lap of the crater to celebrate. It must have been to celebrate as it was not for the view, sadly the cloud had come down in true Ngaruahoe style just before they had reached the top.

The C-plus group with Livia, Geoff and Tina meanwhile had stomped off across the pristine snowy wastes of south crater and headed up the ridge to red crater. We turned back before the top persuaded by a combination of too few crampons and iceaxes and the looming clouds of the southerly front. We had fabulous views of Ngaruahoe and the others looking like ants and as we lunched in the shelter of the castle like rock on the ridge we felt very happy with our day and our decision. We had a side trip to soda springs and made a fine snowman before the A teams started trickling down from the swirling clouds above.

Chris Perry, Gerald and Andy were summit pigs and went the whole hog to the top top of Tongariro as well, they followed the ridge up from the top of the staircase and said it was a really interesting route. They then dropped off the west side of the summit down the ridge above Mangatepopo valley to the Hut.

Most arrived back within an hour of each other and after a few coppers and retrieving stashed gear from the tussock we headed back to the truck at around 4 pm. At the carpark we found some idiots had broken in to Eddie's new wagon along with three others vehicles. This put a real damper on what had been a magnificent day.

We stayed Saturday night at Slalom Lodge in Raurimu, cheap and O.K. pretty basic but good drying rooms and good grub for the lazy ones.

Sunday:

Forecast was for a lot of breeze as the day went on so we canned the idea of heading to the top of Ruapehu but got away at 7.00 am and polished up plan B in the Whakapapa carpark. Three misguided souls headed off skiing. John, Geoff and Livia planned (and executed) a fine figure of eight round first the silica rapids walk and then the waterfall loop on the Tama lakes track. The remaining crew, which numbered 11 (once one skier had been retrieved by Edd's one window Taxi service) hitched up the Bruce road to the start of the Whakapapaiti loop. Once we had prised Sandy from the luxury of a BMW and disentangled others from crowded back seats full of kids we counted heads and set off. It was really blowing and we were very grateful for the fitness of Chris Perry who broke steps in the deep snow all the way across the top for an hour.

Conditions were exhilarating and Ken's dubious yellow rain coat made a fine spectacle billowing in the blast.

We were all glad to drop into the Whakapapaiti Valley where we followed a fairy tail trail through low beech trees coated with snow. The hut was a welcome shelter and unanimous

unspoken consent was given to an early lunch, after all it was Christmas (at least it looked a lot like it). The track from there followed the river down the valley with mercifully only one river-crossing, which we all made dry shod. The second half of the walk returned us through nice mixed bush mostly still decorated or armed with snow depending on who you were walking next to.

We were back at the truck by 2 pm after a round trip including lunch of about 4.5 hours. We had a good trip back with private cars stopping for a dip in Taupo.

Thanks to the whole motley lot of you especially the drivers and we hope to see Robyn and Simon on the Taranaki trip if not before. *TG*

**Party** Peter Prior, Jonathan Prior, Chris Perry, Eddie Holmes, Tina Godbert, Andy Fowler, Sandy Claudatos, Gail Harvey, Chrissie Waldron, Gerald Blackburn, Geoff Clibborn, Livia, Ken Nugent, Robyn Gulliver, Simon Jones, John Berry.

<b>Bell Rock / Boundary Stream -Local Daytrip</b>
---

<b>August 18 2002</b>
-----------------------

A front had flicked through on Saturday night and another was sheduled for Sunday night, and we were able to enjoy the fine period between them.

Six cars set off at 7am and we could soon see the fresh snow on Taraponui, the high point of the Maungaharuru Range. The car park at the start of the track through the upper part of the Boundary Stream Mainland Island is a bit of a squeeze, which will become an increasing problem as more people visit, but we all found space more or less off the road. It being a well marked track we wandered off at our various paces, spotting a variety of birds as we went, but observing deer browse, goat or sheep droppings, and pig rooting on the way. Out of the bush there were small patches of snow, fast melting, and there was only a slight breeze at Bell Rock, where most of us sat a while and snacked. A short climb up the steep rocky hillside due east gave us an expansive view across the Bay, with Tutira way below. Some made their way back along the ridge and others retraced their steps through the bush, and we decided to move on to the point where the road swings down into the Mohaka Valley, for lunch on a warm grassy slope. There we relaxed in sunshine, with fine views of the ranges to the west, until a brief water fight signally that boredom had arrived. So we drove back to the beginning of the walkways into the major part of the sanctuary, and allowing ourselves the luxury of no packs, set off, once again in casual order, to wander the loop tracks. There are some fine Maire, Matai, Rimu and Kamahi along the way and flourishing Kakabeak seedlings. Matthew, Jeremy and Natalie found a long hanging vine and swung high over the track, doing plausible imitations of Tarzan and Jane while most of us swung around and made our way back to the cars. Eventually it was noticed that Glenda and Lady Lyn had not returned, and after displaying a brief and token anxiety, their respective husbands began speculating on which of the available women in the group would make reasonable replacements. But none seemed particularly alluring, so they decided they would probably be better off with each other, especially when Lyn discovered that Peter can make gravy without lumps. Just as we were offering them our good wishes for a long and fruitful relationship, the missing wives appeared, protesting unconvincingly that they hadn't been lost, and hastening to reclaim their husbands, For better or for worse.

We arrived back at base at a civilized hour, and did not feel at all jealous of the real trampers struggling in the clag on the central mountains. Overnight the predicted front rushed through,

and the Maungaharuru Range was well covered with enough fresh snow to get its picture on the front of the page.

*ML*

Party. Matthew, Jeremy and Lynette Blackburn, Peter, Glenda and Natalie Berry, Pam Turner, Anne from British Columbia, Shirley Bathgate, Judy McBride, Barbara Taylor, Jenny Lean, Rodger Burn, Ray Laking, Christine Hardie, Sue Lopdell, Marion Nicholson, the Gentrys, Bobby Couchman, Joan Ruffell, Anne Cantrick, Mike Lusk.

## **Winter beachtrip**

**1 September 2002**

The advertised walk north from Aropaoanui being impossible because of ongoing slipping, we decided to visit the coast further south.

A 7am start meant that the passengers were more alert than usual, so the driver was given plenty of advice about the quickest route to Blackhead Beach. Eventually he switched the intercom off and listened only to Randall, finding his way without difficulty.

Joining us was Geoff's canoe slung cleverly from the ceiling, and as we wandered off up the beach in perfect conditions, (after a visit to the camping ground toilets), Geoff paddled along offshore. There was a moderate swell, and it seemed to become larger as we arrived at Stingray Bay, large enough to tip him out, so that he crossed the rock platform chasing, then towing, his craft.

DOC have installed a toilet for visitors to Te Angi Angi marine reserve and in front of it is a structure like a multiperson pulpit, no doubt for the preaching of environmental sermons. Here we were joined by Glenda and kids who had walked south from Aramoana.

The tide being well on the way in, the outer edges of the rock platform were not accessible, but we were able to look at a variety of crabs, shrimps, small fish and other long suffering living creatures in the tidal pools. As we walked we could see the fragile nature of the land. The mudstone is covered with a sparse layer of grass and is waiting for the next rain to help it continue its inevitable ooze to the sea.

Next stop Aramoana, where we enjoyed a leisurely morning tea, and where the third toilet in a few km made up for the lack of bushes to go behind.

A little further along we found our first seal, but it was rather dull, being dead. Then we came to another, which was extremely emaciated and only an occasional blink showed that it was not dead too. So initial impressions were that things were not rosy for seals.

As we approached Pourere, Glenda, who had driven round, met us again, but she would not let us stop for lunch as hers was back in the car. So we forced ourselves on, stopping only to admire some White-fronted Terns camped on a group of rocks.

Finally we struggled up the highest hill we were to tackle all day (it was more of a cliff really and at least 3m above the beach), and where we sat on a small platform of buffalo grass. While we ate we watched a very boring but apparently healthy seal practicing being dead on a rock. There were also a bunch of variable oystercatchers standing on the sand and more terns squabbling to retain perches on rocks being overtaken by the tide.

Glenda, being only a few metres from her car, plumbed new depths of antisocial behaviour by setting up a picnic table and chairs. We tried to ignore her.

By this time the truck had been parked just past a conveniently placed toilet, so we carried our packs to the former, having visited the latter, and by common consent, though not without a degree of guilt, set off to Paoanui Pt packless.

Navigation is not difficult on the coast-one just needs to remember to keep the sea on the same side all the way out, so we made the headland without difficulty, there being neither seals nor toilet when we got there. So we turned around, carefully keeping the sea on the other side, and nobody got lost even briefly.

Geoff had moved the truck 1km or so closer to us and conveniently close to toilet number 5, and after another relaxed meal, we set off for home in good time. I reckon that we walked about 15 km, all on sand, crossed 3 small streams without getting our feet wet, and gained about 7m in height, (4m to the toilet at the reserve and 3m to the lunch spot). The kids covered about twice that distance, with the exception of Nats who covered 3 times.

Just north of Otane, the front passenger tyre blew out with a tremendous bang. Geoff responded with considerable skill and was able to bring us to a smooth halt, so we piled out, and Geoff was able to move the truck onto a nearby property where the wheel was replaced quickly. We still arrived at Pernel Orchard by 4pm, and everyone seemed to have enjoyed an undemanding walk in most pleasant conditions.

Thanks to Geoff for getting us there and back, for shifting the truck, and for coping with the emergency in such a way as to make it seem like a minor incident. *ML*

Party. Livia Giovanetti from Brazil, Christine Hardie, Susan Lopdell, Rodger Burn, Gary Smith, Bobby Couchman, Jenny Lean, Marion Nicholson, Judy McBride, Ros and Mike Lusk, Robyn Madden, Glenda Hooper, Daniel, Donna and Natalie, Randall Goldfinch, Liz Pindar, Anne Cantrick, John, Stuart and Robbie Berry, Geoff Clibborn (driver)

## POHUKURA...50 Years ago....

### Bulletin 423 - 1952

#### TITIOKURA SADDLE – GALBRAITH HUT

Twelve left Holt's at 8am and picked up two more en route. We parked the truck at Titikura Saddle at 10.12 am and were off on the track eighteen minutes later, with an Auster monoplane dropping rabbit poison overhead.

Our intention was to spend a night at the Galbraith Hut below Taraponui and next morning explore that end of the Mangaharuru Range. We took a track to the left of the range, travelling due north for a mile or so. This led on to rolling country and eventually 12 pm saw us having the usual at the foot of a huge basin, from which, half way up, a spring issues forth. 2.15pm saw us at the hut after over an hour of Sol at his best, and a spectacle of burning-off operations down in the Mohaka.

Heavy mist enshrouded Taraponui (4281') ten minutes later, but that did not deter Stan and Doug (who had not brought their rifles) from enjoying (?) the wonderful freedom from danger thus afforded seven deer not far from the hut.

Several boil-ups were enjoyed till the stew at 7pm. Then everyone sat back and laughter and gaiety were the dominant notes till 9.30pm, bedtime.

A strong wind got up in the night with driving rain and many an ear was cocked for the flapping tents till at 12.30am. a large dead cabbage tree, to which a tent fly was tied, crashed down between Dave and Angus. Dave evidently received a glancing blow from the trunk, which broke his wrist and injured his chest and hip. People rallied round and soon he was in the hut being treated for shock and having his arm put in splints.

At daybreak Peter and Ian set off for the road to inform Norm of the proceedings. The nearest telephone was at Te Pohue. The remaining party constructed a stretcher from young trees, ground sheets and sleeping bags, then all but Pam moved off with packs to halfway out. There six men dumped their packs and returned for Dave. The remaining three girls relayed the packs from there to the road.

Putting the tallest on the down side and the shortest uphill of the stretcher which we carried at shoulder height, we set out. We found we needed all six carrying at once, so there could be no change of bearers till Norm's party met us early in the afternoon. He brought eight men, a roadhead runner and a Neill Robertson stretcher. This stretcher however would have applied pressure on to the injured arm and could not be used. Steady progress was made till we reached Angus who had the billy ready boiling at the stream.

A request for morphine had been sent to Napier. This was brought by Dr. Berry and reached us just as we got to a point overlooking the saddle. We reached the saddle at 5.15 pm and the ambulance arrived a few minutes later.

Party: Derek Conway (leader), Helen Hill, Pat Bolt, Pearl Smith, Pam Dyson, Peter Smith, Ian Berry, Jim Gibb, Dick Burton, Stan Woon, Wally Romaine, Angus Russell, Dave Williams, Doug Reid.

Rescue Party: Norm Elder, Hugh and Mark Elder, Ken Thomas, John Mitchell, Bob Woon, Jim McCahon (T.T.C.), Ian Stirling.

### Letter to the Editor

*Dear Tramping Club,*

*I chuckled at Mike's reference to Randall opening a store at Howletts Hut in your last edition (re April 02 – Howletts Working Bee).*

*Members may be interested that William Howlett himself did just that over one hundred years ago. It was located out on the farmland not too far from Howlett's beloved Ruahine Ranges, was named after the proprietor, and specialised in things useful for work in the bush. Here is the store's closing sale list.*

*Regards, and happy tramping.*

*Tony Gates*



**14th December 1888**

The stock to date includes a considerable quantity of general goods.

Groceries and sundries.

## Hardware

## Drapery

Goods not delivered.

Hours. 8.00 AM- 8.00 PM. No trade on Sundays.

W F Howlett.

## CLUB NEWS

- ❖ The Heretaunga Tramping Club AGM will be held on **Wednesday 6 november**

Here is your opportunity to join the committee and do your bit to help run our club.

[illegible]

- ❖ Welcome back to the fold, Christine Hardie from her teaching stint in Sabah, and Anne Cantrick, who seems to have been everywhere. We look forward to hearing more about their overseas experiences.
- ❖ Congratulations to George Prebble who recently turned 80. At the last meeting we celebrated the event with an wonderful fruitcake provided by George.

❖ **Opera in the Ranges** 5 July 2002

The annual HTC cultural pilgrimage to Puketitiri was again a great success. As usual we occupied the front rows and thoroughly enjoyed Deborah's production of 'Guys and Sheilas', the more so because we now know most of the performers who become more polished each year. Amongst the many highlights was the DOC chorus in drag. Why is it that men in women's clothing cause us great mirth, while women in mens clothing are simply going to work?

Drinking gluhwein with the audience and cast made a pleasant sequel to the show. Thence some of us moved on to Pam's where we yarned awhile but were soon in bed.

The insomniacs were in the bush early, returning to share a leisurely breakfast with the sluggards, after which we earned our lunch by planting replacement pines and splitting firewood. The stacking of the wood in the container by Randall and his helpers was a work of precision and art.

Thanks to Pam for making us so welcome in her house, for the conducted tour of the property, and for the wonderful vegetable and insect soup.

*Mike Lusk*

❖ **The Awful Offal Party** 27 July 02

Peter's tendency to inflict disgusting things on others prompted him to organize this event, but those brave enough to attend were relieved to find that there was plenty of normal food too. The offal included tripe, liver, kidneys and stuffed heart, all delicious and no doubt very good for the health.

Thanks to Glenda and Peter for welcoming us to their home and for arranging another successful gathering of HTC friends.

*Mike Lusk*

❖ **The Annual**

## **Photo Competition**

### **CATEGORY WINNERS**

<b>WILDLIFE</b>	<b>Gerald Blackburn</b>
<b>PANORAMA</b>	<b>Ros Lusk</b>
<b>CLUB CHARACTER</b>	<b>Ros Lusk</b>
<b>SLIDES</b>	<b>Tony Gates</b>
<b>CUP WINNERS</b>	<b>Ros Lusk and Tony Gates</b>

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all those who entered photos to make the evening a success.

*Jim Glas*

## IN MEMORIAM

*Kathleen Mary Berry*

A sister, wife, mother, aunt, nana and friend - nothing unusual about that - but it was the quality of her character that Kath brought to these roles that made her such an inspirational person. Always cheerful, hard working, totally dedicated to whatever task she undertook. Kath was so practical in every way, she loved a challenge and contributed fully to so many worthwhile groups; Embroiderers Guild, church charities, orienteering, working bees - baking her marmalade!! She was a foundation member of the Amblers Tramping Club (for Heretaunga Tramping Club "has beens").

Kath joined the Heretaunga Tramping Club in 1957 (the same Pohokura that records her as a new member also announces her engagement to Alan). Kath's total love of the outdoors endeared her to Heretaunga Tramping Club members from 1957 onwards, she was always there, quietly helping and supporting. She was the Club's Treasurer from 1962 to 1967 and Secretary from 1989 to 1992 and more recently she served on the Kaweka Challenge Committee.

A wizard with figures, a love of young people especially from her teaching days, a quiet compassion and interest in all who came her way, always smiling and a subtle sense of humour - Kath was indeed a rare character, more of whom this world desperately needs today.

Even through her illness Kath kept smiling, working on her many handicraft projects and her crosswords.

To Alan, Jan, Ross, their families and wider circle of relatives and friends we extend our deepest sympathy in the passing of a truly very special Kath.

*Pam Turner*

Ashley Cunningham sent in following poem by *Sheila Cunningham*. In accompanying letter he writes:

"....I thought (it) may interest members of the HTC....It was written in 1987, when Sheila was vaguely aware of the cancer that was soon to take her life. Some years previously she had traveled to the memorial cairn on the Kaweka summit with Mavis Davidson and Norman Elder to scatter the ashes of Kath Elder. Kath and Norman will be known to your older members..."

## FOR MAVIS

### FOR YOU

I said hello to the forest,  
To the tuis and the bellbirds,  
Fantails, cuckoos and chaffinches,  
And warblers softly trilling.

### FOR YOU...

I said hello to the snowberries  
Sheltering beneath the saddle trees,  
Hung with tight little bunches  
Of 'lily of the valley' bells.

### FOR YOU...

I said hello to the daisies,  
New leaves thrusting upwards,  
Tight centres pregnant,  
With a promise of summer flowers.

### FOR YOU...

I said hello to the buttercups,  
Glossy petals newly born,  
Gently curved as though to catch  
A shallow pool of golden sunlight.

### FOR YOU...

I said hello to the hills,  
To Kohinga and Castle Rock,  
Mackintosh and Tutaekuri,  
Shadowed by a western sun.

### FOR BOTH OF US...

I said hello to the cairn,  
To those who gave their lives  
In a war so long since past.  
And Kath, who sleeps amid  
The lichened rocks, and plants  
That creep and shelter in between  
From winter snows and summer storms  
That sweep the open tops.

### FOR ME...

I said goodbye to trig and view;  
Grey clouds fast riding from the south  
Swept all the serried hills away.  
Rocks and flowers alone remained.  
Darkened tarns marked the way  
And a lonely pipit ran ahead.  
Fast edging down the ridge,  
In the misty void that swirled around,  
Pinnacles, screes and beech tree tops  
Loomed and faded, came and went.  
Boulder Stream a truly welcome sound  
To bring me safely aback again.

## CLUB MEETINGS

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER/COMMENTS	HOSTS	SUPPER HELP
11 Sep		Christine Hardie will regale us with her recent adventures.	Anne Cantrick, Denise McBride	Garry Smith Greg Munn
25 Sep	Coming Trips	Bring along your slides & prints of forth coming trip areas	Gerald Blackburn, Jenny Lean	Murray Tonks Bobby Couchman
9 Oct	Cookery Corner	An evening when the Club Chefs show us their secrets.	John Berry, Lew Harrison	Gail Harvey Chris Brown
23 Oct	The Tararua Ranges.	Tony Gates - See below for more details*	Ros Lusk Peggy Gulliver	Lyn Gentry Joan Ruffel
6 Nov	AGM	Nominations for positions should be in at start of meeting	Peter Pryor, Glenda Hooper	Lex Smith Marion Nicholson
20 Nov	DOC	Tamsin Ward-Smith will give an uodate on Boundary Stream	Phillip Mardon, Susan Lopdell	Jim Glass Marjoleine Turel
4 Dec	Compass exercise	Bring your compass along for some navigating in Windsor Pk.	Rodger Burn, Geoff Clibborn	Liz Pindar, Randall Goldfinch
18 Dec	Car Rally	There will be a rolling start from 7.15 for the rally. Meeting with start around 8.30 PM	John Montgomerie, Judy McBride	Shirley Bathgate, Alva McAdam
15 Jan	Informal night	Catch up on the holiday going ons	Ken Nugent Bob Carter	Robyn Madden, Peter Berry

### \*Spotlight on the Tararua Ranges

A slide presentation by Tony Gates.

Tony has spent considerable time in the Ranges over the past thirty years, and occasionally strays south from his beloved Ruahines, to the Tararuas. This talk features tales of skiing, hunting, tubing down gorges, gourmet trips, and even that age old recreation called tramping in the Tararua Ranges. Tony will show you photographs of some great tramping areas, and hopefully guide you in person to some of them.

### Duties of those on Supper and Host:

**HOSTS:** Greet visitors and fill in visitors book. Sweep floors and check that heaters and lights are off at the end of the meeting.

**SUPPER:** Put zip on, cups etc out, wash dishes and leave kitchen clean and tidy at end of evening and generally help Jenny.

**Club Meetings:** are held every second Wednesday at the Hastings Harrier Clubrooms in Sylvan Road, Hastings. Visitors are most welcome.

50 c donation gratefully accepted each meeting towards hall hire (*place in the old boot*).

## HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB

### ARE YOU FIT ENOUGH TO TRAMP ?

Even the easiest of club trips require a reasonable degree of fitness, and from time to time tramps have been seriously delayed by unfit party members. While individuals may have varying degrees of basic fitness it is unlikely that a person who has a sedentary job, or who plays no sport, will manage an average B Party trip. The best preparation for tramping is tramping and there are hilly places in Napier and close to Hastings which make excellent training areas. For example, a walk from the cattle stop car park in Te Mata Park to the top of the peak, via the big redwoods, and back to the cattlestop via the road-side track with an 8 kg pack should take about 70- 80 minutes. Further, this pace should be able to be maintained for 5 to 6 hours.

### TRIP GRADINGS

**EASY:** 4-6 hours tramping - suitable for beginners.

**MEDIUM:** 6-8 hours tramping - suitable for those with some experience.

**HARD:** 7 hrs+ tramping - experience & a high level of fitness necessary.

**Unless otherwise specified:** an "A" trip would have a "HARD" grading and a "B" trip a "MEDIUM" grading.

### GEAR LIST FOR DAY & WEEKEND TRAMPS

<u>Wear/Carry</u>	<u>DAY TRIPS</u> <u>Carry</u>	<u>WEEKEND TRIPS</u> All items listed for day trip plus
Pack & pack liner	Map & Compass	Sleeping bag
Boots & gaiters	High energy snacks	Sleeping mat
Socks	At least 1 litre water	Food for 3 additional meals
Parka & over trousers	Lunch	Cooker & Billy & matches
Fast drying shorts	First aid kit	Extra snacks
Fleece or wool Jumper	Torch, spare batteries & bulb	Toilet gear, small towel & toilet paper
Longjohns & singlet	Sunscreen	Additional warm clothes
Sunhat & warm hat	Emergency food	Plate, mug, knife, fork , spoons etc
Gloves/mittens & overmitts	Survival kit (whistle, cord, matches etc, pencil, paper)	
Whistle	Complete set of spare warm clothing	

**Leave at truck/car:** Complete set of clothing for the return trip.

## **TRIP LIST      September – December 2002**

Although the area for the trip is general adhered to, the suggested objectives may change for a number of reasons. For pre trip enquiries contact the leader or Dave heaps 875 0088

### **14&15 September      Kaweka Forest Park      \$10      Map U20**

**Party A:** Wander in to Kiwi Saddle on Friday night. On Saturday carry on down to Kiwi Mouth Hut then on up to Manson and down to Rocks Ahead Hut for the night. Sunday climb up to Back Ridge and then on out to the Makahu Saddle via Kaweka J.

**Party B:** Friday night in to Kiwi Saddle Hut with A party. Saturday down to Kiwi Mouth Hut then up Back Ridge to camp by the bivvy. Sunday out to Makahu Saddle via the J.

**Organizer:** A Party: Dave Heaps 8750088 B Party: Peter Pryor 8765666 **Driver:** Geoff Clibborn

**Local day trip:** Iron Whare via Kaweka Flats Biv: Travel to Makahu Saddle in the truck then walk to Iron Whare via Kaweka Flats. Back out the same way, picking up the weekenders at Makahu Saddle

### **29 September      Ruahine Forest Park      \$10      Map U22**

Drive to Triplex then climb up to Sunrise Hut and on up to Armstrong Saddle. Carry on to Waipawa Saddle via 66, then down the Waipawa River and back to the truck. Other options are available if the weather is inclement.

**Organizer:** Chris Waldron 8750034

### **12-13 October (SAREX Weekend) Morere and Mahia Peninsula      \$15**

This trip is a ramble around Mahia Peninsula Scenic Reserve and the Morere Hot Springs Reserve with a chance for a hot soak at the pool complex.

**Organizer:** Susan Lopdell 8446697

**Driver:** Christine Hardie

#### **Local Day trip: Awatere Hut**

**Map U22**

Leave from Moorcocks Saddle and head along the low ridge to Awatere Hut. About 30 minutes downstream from the hut is the ruins of Black Stag Hut which is always worth a visit. A different route back is to go via the side stream which is just upstream of the ridge track.

**Organizer:**

### **25 - 28 October – Labour Weekend Mt Egmont (Taranaki)      \$25**

Leave Thursday night to arrive in Stratford around midnight and stay the night at the Thompsons house. From here it is a short drive up the road to the Mountain House (East Egmont) and the Plateau Carpark. Choices from here include summit assaults, and an upper or lower mountain circuit dependent upon weather conditions. Scope for all abilities and plenty of shorter walks for a truck party. (It is also the ideal time to visit the rhododendron gardens ).

**Organizer A Party:** Andy Fowler 8350064 **B Party**

**Driver:** Geoff Clibborn

### **27 October Local Day trip Yeomans Track.      Map U21**

This is a great time to do this gentle low lying track as the Kowhai should be in full bloom. The track is situated west of Onga Onga and starts with a bracing river crossing at Yeomans Mill.

**Organizer:** Robyn Madden 8449661

### **10 November      Cairn Trip      \$10      Map U20**

Every year, around Armistice Day, the Club holds a short service at the cairn on Kaweka J, the highest point on the Kaweka Range, to remember members of the Club who lost their lives in World War II. The tramp leaves from Makahu Saddle and the aim is to be at the Cairn by 11 o'clock for the service. After the service there is usually a number of choices to descend back down to Makahu carpark.

**Organizer:** The Club President

**Driver:** Dave Heaps

**23 - 24 November Western Ruahine****\$20 Maps T23 & U23**

**Party A.** From Sixtus Lodge, which situated in the Upper Pohangina Valley, follow Deerford Track to Coal Creek then go up the steep Knights Track to Toka Trig passing from red beech through leatherwood and onto the tussock. From Toka Trig go on down to the Pohangina River and Leon Kinvig Hut for the night. On Sunday travel out to Ngamoko Road via the Apiti track.

**Party B:** Leave Pohangina Valley East Road on a sidle track passing through big rimu and miro forest to Mid Pohangina Hut for the night (this should take 5 - 6 hours). Sunday return back to the truck via a circuit.

**Organizers:** A Party Peter Pryor 8765666 B Party:

**Driver:** Geoff Clibborn

**24 November: Local Day Trip: Lake Tutira.**

Leave from the camp ground at the Lake to walk along the Kahahakuri Track and on up to the ridge track. Walk along the Ridge track to climb back down to the Lake near the smaller Lake Waikopiro.

**Organizer:** Bobby Couchman 8782503

**7- 8 December -Xmas Social Trip- at Pam Turners place, Balls Clearing**

Saturday night is a social evening based around Pam's house opposite Balls Clearing. A twilight walk to the Clearing may result in bat sightings. On Sunday some can pack float down the Mohaka while others can explore the Anawhenua Stream which is at the back of Pam's property.

**Organizers:** Social Committee

**New Year: Mt Hikurangi**

In line with the Year of the Mountain theme there will be a trip to this East Coast high point. This will be for 4 or 5 days over the New Year and gives an opportunity for a fit experience group to do a crossing of the Raukumara Range.

**Organizer:** Susan Lopdell 8446697

**5 January 2003 Beach trip from Tangoio**

Leave from Tangoio Beach road and head northwards along the coast. Visit Flat Rock and Stingray Bay and carry on along a cliff face to Taits Beach, a 1 1/2 kilometre beach of sand. From here carry on to Waipatiki Beach and if time and the body is willing press on to Aropoanui Beach and walk up the road to the Waipatiki Scenic Reserve then walk down the reserve to Waipatiki Road.

**Organizer:** Mike Lusk 8778328

**Driver:**

**12 January 2003 Rabbit Gully Extension**

Last year we went up Rabbit Gully from the coast up to where the farm track crosses it. This time we will enter at the farm track and carry on upwards to explore some more.

**Organizer:** Dave Heaps 8750088

**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:

**Dave Heaps** 8750088

**Jim Glass** 8778748

**Glenda Hooper** 8774183

**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

