

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB PO BOX 14086 MAYFAIR HASTINGS

POHUKURA – Bulletin No 213

April 2003

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:	Graeme Hare	844 8656	GRHMHARE@xtra.co.nz
Treasurer:	Lex Smith	877 4087	smithers@xtra.co.nz
Club Captain:	David Heaps	875 0088	
Editor:	Andy Fowler	835 0064	htc_nz@yahoo.com
Committee:	Shirley Bathgate	877 8511	
	Geoff Clibborn	844 6039	
	Gail Harvey	873 3609	
	Glenda Hooper	877 4183	
	Gloria Abraham	875 1152	
	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 Godbert, Lex Smith,
David Heaps, Glenda Hooper,

Huts: David Heaps, Geoff Clibborn

Training: Andrew Taylor, Gail Harvey, Andy Fowler, David Heaps, Peter Pryor

SAR: David Heaps, Eddie Holmes, John Montgomerie

Meetings: Glenda Hooper, Susan Lopdell, Lex Smith

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 (870 0145)

Gear Hire: Climbing gear David Heaps (875 0088)

Sales Rep: Robyn Madden (844 9661)

Club Meetings: These are held every second Wednesday (before a tramp) at the Hastings Harrier Clubrooms in Sylvan Road, Hastings. Doors open 7:25pm, visitors are most welcome.

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

"POHOKURA"

Poho, n. *abdomen; bosom; chest.*

Kura, a. *Red, glowing.*

The name of the lizard that adorns the club badge, taken from the Maori legend:



“On the arrival of the Takitimu canoe the newcomers, finding the land already inhabited, proceeded down the coast to pick out a suitable site for settlement. The most venturesome of them was Tamatea, known as Pokai Whenua – Tamatea the Map Roller – from the extent of his explorations. On reaching Heretaunga he set off up-country to pick up the lie of the land and eventually came to a pa called Otupae on the snowy shoulder of the Ruahines that we see opposite Ruapehu in the Taruarau gap. Here, while he sat and rested, he put down his calabash which always accompanied him containing his two pets, Pohokura a lizard, and Kahu-o-te-Rangi a crayfish, but when he came to pick it up his pets had escaped. Pohokura’s outlines are visible today in the ridges of the Ruahine Range and moaning of Kahu-o-te-Rangi who lurks in the valleys can still be heard when bad weather is approaching.”

TRAINING BULLETIN - HYPOTHERMIA

Since we’re coming into winter it’s a good time to think about hypothermia.

The easiest place to get very chilled is when you get to the top of a stiff climb, are hot and sweaty and come out onto an exposed top or out of the bush, where the wind very quickly cools the body. Anticipate early and stop to dress up before getting into an exposed, chilly location.



First signs: Cold Exhaustion

If detected early, cold exhaustion is easy to treat. In this first stage the mind is still alert and willing to cooperate but the body isn’t always capable of responding.

Be alert to the following signs:

- Feel tired (often due to lack of food, water, fitness).
- Shivering
- Have numb limbs (feet, hands)
- Complaining of feeling cold/chilled **even when still exercising.**

If one person is found in this condition, assume all members are developing a low core temperature, including yourself. The time to react is NOW, not in 30 minutes when you get to the bush line.

- **Prevent further heat loss** by removing any damp clothing and replacing with dry clothing, then add warm and windproof layers, particularly to the head. Move the person to a more sheltered spot if possible.
- **Increase heat production** by giving the person high energy food and warm drinks and after a **short** stop get them exercising again, particularly using the leg muscles.
- **Extend care.** Your priority is to prevent a recurrence of cold exhaustion. Consider altering the pace of the activity to match the person’s fitness, or change the plan and head for a more sheltered area, or a closer hut.

Hypothermia

If the symptoms of cold exhaustion are ignored, the patient’s core cools further, the brain becomes affected, and they are no longer able to help themselves or even recognise the problem. Hypothermia is when the core temperature drops to 35C or lower.

What to look for:

- Loss of coordination – they may stumble and trip. Muscles stiffen, slowing the person further.
- Refusing to admit anything is wrong, showing apathy and lack of concern.
- Slow thought, slurred speech and the appearance of drunkenness.
- Character change – the most sensible person may appear confused and make stupid decisions.
- Removing clothing in the belief they are too hot.
- Shivering may stop.

What to do:

- Stop any exercise and **treat the person very gently**. Bumps and jolts can cause the heart to stop.
- Remove damp clothing and replace with dry, warm and windproof layers, particularly to the head.
- Put the person in a sleeping bag and lie on an insulating mat. Inside a shelter if possible.
- **Re-warm the core**, apply warmth to the head, neck and chest **only**:
 - Water containers filled with warm water.
 - Chemical warm packs.
 - Other people to apply body-to-body warmth, lying beside the patient.
 - Other people to breathe out warm air in the enclosed area of the sleeping bag.
 - Warm, not hot, sweet fluids only if the patient is fully conscious.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Should I rub the skin?

A: No, this rewarms the surface only, encouraging blood away from the core to the skin.

Q: What about a hot bath?

A: No, again this primarily rewarms the skin and limbs, drawing blood away from the core. This can cause cardiac arrest.

Q: Is a warm fire good for the patient?

A: It's fine if it just heats the air the person is breathing in but not OK if it is rewarming their skin.

Q: Should I put hot water bottles at the feet or armpits?

A: No, warm feet or armpits will mislead the brain into thinking the rest of the body is warm.

Q: How about some brandy to warm the patient up?

A: No, alcohol causes the small blood vessels in the skin to open, allowing blood to flow to the surface to cool off, exactly opposite of what is wanted.

Extended Care:

- If unconscious monitor the ABC's and place in recovery position.
- Gently turn the patient every two hours and continue to rewarm.
- Do not allow them to move or exercise for at least 48 hours.
- **Arrange and urgent evacuation as treatment in the field is difficult and cardiac arrest common in severe cases.**

(Taken from the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council Outdoor First Aid Manual)

TRIP REPORTS

Tongoio to Waipatiki

5 January 2003

After several very hot clear days it was a relief to walk mostly under thin cloud, and starting at 7.30 was a bonus too. We picked Deborah up at Bayview, but only after a full-scale search, and I want it to be clearly understood that no part of the fault was mine. First call past the baches at Tongoio was Flat Rock where we chatted to a couple of fishermen, before completing the circumnavigation, bypassing a young blackbacked gull as its anxious parents circled above. After a fruitless search for Katipo spiders at Stingray Bay we resumed the walk north, avoiding a pair of juvenile oystercatchers as we did. Most of the passage to Tait's Beach is on a track at the base of towering cliffs and above the boulders, so the going is easy and we were soon walking on the clean sand of the beach. Many of the team swam there, but Ken put his mask on and I caught numerous infant kahawai, which were released wiser. Near the northern end of the beach we admired the house with the tented roof, but I suspect most of us approved more the traditional bach before it. Beyond Tait's the going became a little more difficult, being largely negotiating jumbled spiky boulders, with only a few small beaches for relief. At one such we stopped for lunch, being sprinkled occasionally by drops from a dribbling waterfall, and watching gannets make spectacular dives. The kahawai were bigger there and after some aqua gymnastics at both ends of the line a five pounder came to the scales. Meantime Ken had found some legal paua amongst a reassuring number of smaller ones. It wasn't far to Waipatiki, where we found Geoff and the truck waiting and where some enjoyed another swim in the perfect conditions. We were ready to go by about 4pm, after a relaxing and productive wander. Thanks to Geoff for ferrying the truck around. *ML*

Party: Sue Lopdell, Marion Nicholson, Ken Nugent, Jim Hewes, Randall Goldfinch, Jennifer Marshall, Deborah Turner, Peter and Bindy Headifen, Robyn Madden, Denise McBride, Ros and Mike Lusk, Geoff Clibborn, Chris Brown.

Whirinaki Forest Park

19 January 2003

For a day tramp it's a long way into this beautiful podocarp forest, in fact a 3 hr journey along a state highway and through forestry roads, but well worth the effort. D.O.C. has made some improvements at the Plateau road carpark, namely a new loo with short legged people in mind. Also a new entrance shelter with information board & a newly graveled stepped path leading into the bush.

Set off in a crocodile file descending a well-benched track, weather slightly overcast with a cool breeze. Stopped at the caves which have been eroded out of ignimbrite and a few hardy souls ventured along a tunnel hoping to see wetas, whilst the others basked in sunshine admiring the vibrant colours of a giant dragonfly flitting about. Continued over swing bridge, the Whirinaki river increasing in size, with some nice moss covered cascades but alas no blue duck to be seen. Before we knew it, Central Whirinaki was our lunch spot, with the party sitting by the river, some hardy souls soaking their tired feet.

The trees around the hut have been cleared, providing future firewood and the extensions now include the warden's quarters. An extra 6 bunks inside with a large new fireplace against the back wall. Bird life was quite scarce round the hut, which was most unusual.

At 1.00 the party split off into 2, with the majority backtracking to the Taumutu bridge and criss crossing the stream up a pretty valley, climbing onto a low saddle before descending to the upper Whirinaki hut, nestled in a grassy clearing. After a brief stop, 5 minutes later crossed the Whirinaki river and began a steep, shortish ascent up along the ridge track arriving back at the truck just after 4 o'clock where hot drinks awaited them.

The remaining few fossicked around central Whirinaki Hut for a while longer and during this time, someone had managed to lock themselves in the toilet. After yelling or help she was rescued from her predicament – as the door closed the outside latch had slipped down!

We meandered back the way we had entered the park admiring the Robins and flowering Tawari, a low native tree abundant in this area and got back to the truck about 40 mins before the rest. A magnificent place to admire the bush & birds & I thoroughly enjoy each trip into this area. Christine did a great job driving the truck after a break of 2 years – not too many gears missed! *SL*

Party: Kaye Hunter, Susan Lopdell, Marian Nicholson, Judy McBride, Jenny Lean, Bobby Couchman, Shirley Bathgate, Robyn Berry, Ros & Mike Lusk, Graeme Hare, Robyn Madden, Christine Hardie, Lynette, Gerald & Jeremy Blackburn

Makahu Saddle to Whittles Farm - The Old Route

26 January 2003

“Thirty two, look there’s thirty three”. We were tramping on the old track spotting the discs. They were orange/yellow painted tin lids nailed onto the track in 1956 marking the route from Whittles Farm to Makahu Saddle.

Our group of ten had taken Eddie’s van into the saddle for the A party after leaving 2 vehicles on Lotkow Road for our journey home. We had already started the day in style having tea and coffee with Pam at her Puketitiri house while Sue ferried the A’s to Jack Nicholas’ farm.

It was obvious the Ngahere Loop Track with thirty three discs was on the old side route. When it reached Kaweka Road, the road appeared to be established on the same path. Maybe the tramping engineers had established the track on the best possible road site as decided by the roading engineers. A lone disc, “thirty four”, was sighted just off the edge of the road, but we could not find any more beside the road. Our next discs were beside the vegetation control enclosure in the bush beside the picnic area on Littles Clearing. On the track up to the Black Birch Range through the bush occasional discs were sighted, the last being “thirty nine”.



We lunched in amongst the big red tussocks of Littles Clearing. The original track into Makahu, as I recalled, dropped into gorge stream then climbed an easy ridge onto the crest of the Black Birch range. Now we had to reverse our tracks and pick the best route down. Initially it was very easy going but on the last 1/3 we slipped off the track and bush bashed our way down to gorge stream and Whittles farm. Even so our team were at the cars by 3.15pm.

Thanks to our drivers Joan, Marion & Sue for making the logistics of this trip without a truck driver very simple and to the following for joining me on a nostalgic trip into the past. *GH*

Party: Joan Ruffell, Marion Nicholson, Sue Holmes, Glenda Hooper, Jim Hewes, Ken Nugent, Matthew Blackburn, Natalie Berry, Glen Holmes, Graeme Hare



Makahu River

26 January 2003

After a brief stop at Balls Clearing to reorganise transport, six of us were kindly dropped off at Jack Nicholas’s Farm by Sue. Two “hand reared” lambs tried very hard to prevent us from going anywhere, by standing on our gear and pushing against our legs and making a general nuisance of

themselves in the hope of some food (they had a particular interest in Gail for some reason!). After 15 minutes walk across farmland, we were braving the slippery brown rocks of the Makahu. The water level was quite low, but we often linked up on the crossings because of those glistening brown rocks.

As we made our way up the river, the scrub on the sides of the river became less and the beech forest took over. We saw 2 trout in pools and after a pretty pathetic attempt by me at catching one, I gave up with Andy having a go at the next. He also had no luck. After 2 lunch stops (which Jeremy enjoyed) we continued up the river mindful of the time and distance still to be covered. We came across a number of hunters bivvies and camp sites in this stretch of the river, with all sorts of decaying food and bedding inside them.

The river forked, with us continuing up Pinnacle Stream. We reached a section in the stream where a "Human Pyramid" came into action to scale a small waterfall. From this point the stream started to close in, with more cutty grass and vegetation making our progress slower, at times having to climb out of the stream and sidle.

We eventually reached the Kaweka Flats Track just below Makahu Hut, with a short walk up to the carpark.

The trip in total took 9 hours, with it being the described by Chrissy as the "best river trip I have done". Very picturesque, relatively easy, and worthwhile visiting. *GB*

Party: Andy Fowler, Tina Godbert, Gail Harvey, Chrissy Waldron, Jeremy Blackburn, Gerald Blackburn

Howlett's Hut	2 & 3 February 2003
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'B' Party

A combination of 21 A and B party members strode enthusiastically off up the Tukituki river, the bed of which was full of gravel, and the flow low, making crossings easier than usual. Occasional gusts of wind swept down the valley but overall it was a pleasant walk to Daphne. We sat in the sun at the base of Daphne Spur eating a leisurely lunch and fortifying ourselves for the assault on the steep climb before us.

It is a relentless grunt to Howlett's and it soon sorted out the very fit from the fit. By the time the B party tail reached the hut the roof had been scraped down and the dunny was on its side. Tony Gates and friend from Palmerston North were there making a group of 23, but only 12 slept in the hut, the rest being scattered up to 200m from it, some in tents, some under flies and a few in bivvy bags snuggled into the tussock. That evening Tony shot a deer north of the hut and it was retrieved the following morning.

After a cool and windy night, a look at the Sawtooth made the A party modify its intention to cross it. So we gave them a head start as they set off for Longview. We followed with Randall in the lead, and the wind battered us until we dropped off Taumataua into the saddle at the top of the catchment we were circumnavigating. After some more wind on the other side of the saddle we dropped into the beech forest and found a very pleasant sunny spot for lunch, and there we were able to remove several outer layers of clothing. The track down to Daphne Hut is mossy and in parts quite springy to walk on, but are a few steep bits which tested all our knees.

It took about 4 hours from Howlett's around and down to Daphne, a trip made slower by the strong wind on the tops. A stroll down the river took us a further 3 hr 30, and we were able to spot some of the trout Mike had caught and released a few weeks before.

Having now done the trip that Randall and Tony did in worse weather about a year ago, searching for me, I now fully appreciate what a major physical effort it was, especially as they climbed Daphne Spur twice that day.

Thanks to Geoff for driving, and to a happy and helpful group. RL

Party: Judy McBride, Jenny Lean, Randall Goldfinch, Bobbie Couchman, Lynette and Jeremy Blackburn, Chris Waldron, Marion Nicholson, Ros and Mike Lusk, Geoff Clibborn, Poppa Heaps and Tye.

'A' Party

After a pleasant walk and swim on the way up the Tukituki we stopped for lunch at the foot of Daphne spur. All drank deeply from the river in preparation for the haul up Daphne in what was really sticky heat. Jeremy Blackburn wore his thumbs out relaxing everyone's shoulders with a massage. Once up at Howletts the team set to work at the hut. A good work out was had digging the new dunny hole and shifting the throne to a position, which retained the reputation of the best view in Hawkes Bay. The roof was given a new coat of paint to replace the one that had been washed off very shortly after it was placed. Later following a pleasant nibble of Gerald's trout the party went in search of sleeping spots. After most prime real estate was quickly bagged Mike and Ros headed back towards Daphne spur and found a hollow that deflected the wind over the top before they quite reached the bush line. Tina and Andy found an equally snug spot in the bush along the ridge towards Tiraha, the pozzy under dwarf beech was much admired by a string of inspectors from the hut. The resting spot that took the cake though was Murray and Robin who rolled themselves up in raincoats and rolled under some tussock again much admired as they dozed by the crowd of inspectors.

Sunday we regrettably agreed that the low cloud was scudding too fast over and around Tiraha to make Sawtooth a wise route. A decision was made to head down via Longview and we strolled off buffeted by the wind and increased our pace as we saw the B party hot on our heels. The gusting winds had been a bit awkward in the tussock but once we passed the turn off to Daphne hut and headed South toward Otumore the going was much easier because although windy it was mostly short turf so fine to be blown all over it without being tripped by tussocks and spaniards. The weather remained warm and we lunched just below the top of Otumore before another scoff at Longview.

Once at Kashmir road end we had to throw ourselves into a couple of shallow pools in the creek to cool off before settling into a real blow out feast; hot fresh pancakes, honey and all. Just as we were wondering if we should start walking (by now far too full to seriously consider that), Dave turned up with his wagon to pick up Curly and found that with a bit of squishing and 2 on the back you can fit 10 people and their packs in and around a Hilux surf- for a few K's. *T & A*

Party: Andy Fowler, Alan McGregor, Gerald Blackburn and Curly, Gail Harvey, Tina Godbert, Gregg Munn, Robin Heath and Murray Tonks.

Note from Mike: Quite apart from a most enjoyable tramp, major works were achieved at the Hut. The roof and walls were painted, a new grating made by Ed was installed in front of the tank, and the dunny was shifted in a great cloud of agitated blowflies. The cunning plan to re-use the old hole was thwarted by the discovery that the most recent deposits (6yrs old) had composted barely at all. The blowflies became very sentimental. So a new and very deep hole was dug, and the blowies can go about their business in peace and comfort once more. Thanks to an enthusiastic and hard-working party we are now pretty well up to date with hut maintenance.

Wairarapa Womble**6 to 9 February 2003**

We departed from Pernel's at 6.30am with our intrepid organiser & driver Geoff at the wheel. We were a small but enthusiastic group of eight. First stop was Mount Bruce Wildlife Centre. We headed for the cafe and coffee and viewed their film. After which we toured the trails and saw Hi Hi (stitch bird), Kokako, Kaka, a Kiwi looking for grubs, the Campbell Island Teal, & a free flying Kaka. The Shore Plover did not show itself. Next we headed for the Mount Bruce Pioneer Museum, viewing a huge assortment of memorabilia and relics from by-gone days. Queen Elizabeth Park in Masterton was our lunch time stop. At Featherston we had a chance to appreciate the enthusiasm of the volunteers at the Fell Train Museum. Then over the Rimutaka's to the Kaitoke Regional Park for the night. It was full of day trippers and children making a dam in the stream. A very pleasant spot. Basic loos, barbecues and a place to wash dishes. We spent a cosy night in the back of the truck and Geoff in the cab even though most had tents. It was a bit windy.

Next morning after another wander through the magnificent beech forest around the water intake we crossed the main road to get to the start of the Rimutaka Incline Walk. We had a warm sunny day for our 17 km walk which is more like a narrow back country road than a railway now. All the tunnels which were built by pick and shovel are in remarkably good order. Two men were killed during their construction over 100 years ago. The incline was supposed to be temporary but served the Wairarapa District for 70 years until the Tunnel was built in 1955. Geoff was waiting with the truck at the road end for us. Our next stop was the Lake Ferry Camping Ground for the night. We all headed for the showers. Again a pleasant area. Five of us had fish and chips at the hotel. Very nice too. We had glimpses of the South Island and Tapuaenuku the highest point on the Inland Kaikoura Range before a spectacular sunset. Geoff put up his tent, but the rest of us were tempted to stay on the mattresses in the back of the truck.

Saturday we explored the Palliser Bay area. Our first stop was at Ngawihi to marvel at the mechanical monsters -the huge tractors and trailers needed to launch and recover commercial fishing boats from open surf. A medium sized boat was recovered just as we arrived. The road to Palliser is narrow and winding. We stopped to see the big colony of fur seals near the end of the road. At the road end we all climbed the 258 steps to the Palliser Lighthouse and had a look around the beach. Again the weather was perfect. It would be interesting to be there in a storm. We reversed our route returning to the Putangirua Pinnacles to stay at the DOC campsite. We walked, about 45 mins up the nearly dry river bed to view the amazing eroded shingle pinnacles. Basic loos at the camp and nothing much else. Quite a pleasant spot though. Had a visit from a group bus/campervaners / trampers who spend a lot of time going to different parts of the country doing various day walks. Good to see people doing this.

Sunday saw us heading home, deviating to Castlepoint - another fine day - getting almost monotonous. Climbed to the lighthouse and generally explored around the rocks. Lots of families enjoying the long weekend and fine weather. We stopped at Pahiatua for an ice-cream. Ann had the unpleasant experience at the toilet, putting her foot into sewage that had leaked from a broken pipe and disguised by the bright green grass. The last lap home was uneventful, arriving at Pernel at 5.30 pm.

No in party 8. Geoff Clibborn Leader and Organiser, Ann & Lex Smith, Sue Lopdell, Pam Turner, Helen & Graeme Hare, Barbara Taylor.

G-String Caves, Waikoau Gorge**16 February 2003**

My Friend Ewan Boyle was coming on this trip, so I was hoping that it was going to be awesome - and it was. After leaving Pernells we were the first to be dropped off. Many of the group that were going down the Gorge came for a quick look at the cave entrance before going on to the Gorge. After a very short walk, and hunting briefly for the cave entrance, we found it.

Peter Berry gave us a brief outline on where to go as he had recently been through the cave. "Follow the stream and about $\frac{3}{4}$'s of the way thru, go up onto a platform, down on the other side and turn right," he said. More on that later!

Some of us put on our bike helmets (I'd forgotten mine) to protect our heads from the sharp rocks and off we went.

The Cave was pitch black, with lots of awesome stalactites and stalagmites. Dad took some photos inside the cave that turn out really well. There were a few scrambly bits with some parts being a bit tricky to get round but it wasn't too hard. Some parts we had to take our packs off and push them through in front of us to get through the squeeze bits. Around $\frac{1}{2}$ way through the cave we came to a waterfall that we had to jump down.

Towards the end we got to the platform that Peter had talked about – but – after about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour of trying to find our way through this part of the cave, Ken discovered it was the complete opposite to what Peter had said. We had taken our packs off and put them on the platform while we were searching, and Ewan and I discovered that there were glow-worms crawling over our packs. They lit our packs up and looked funky.

20 minutes on we noticed some light that was coming from the end of the cave. After a short but steep climb out of the cave exit, we walked up a small bank and up onto the road, and then back to the waiting Truck and Geoff.

We were in the cave for about $2\frac{3}{4}$ hours. Dad, Ken and Allan then went down to meet the Gorge group, while Ewan and I stayed with Geoff at the Truck. Special thanks to Geoff for Driving the Truck and looking after Ewan and I when we had a swim in Lake Opouahi while waiting for the group from the Gorge Trip to join us.

Jeremy Blackburn

Party: Ewan Boyle, Jeremy Blackburn, Gerald Blackburn, Ken Nugent, Allan ????

Waikoau Gorge	16 February 2003
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Sunday the 16th was a beautiful fine Hawke's Bay day just the sort to enjoy a walk down the river and through a gorge.

Five of the group decided to go caving, though we all had a look at the entrance, then it was back in the truck to the airstrip where Sue quickly found the route down. The Waikoau River runs through limestone country where over the years it has carved itself a winding very picturesque rocky route.

The tracks are very overgrown since the goats have gone and the stinging nettle is everywhere.

The last few km's is through a narrow gorge with lots of pack floating, but some of us chose the easy way out – climbed out to the farmland, near Blue Lake. The caving party were already waiting there and most of us had a swim. Some stayed to welcome the pack floating group out while the rest slowly climbed up to Lake Opouahi and the truck. *Judy McBride*

Party: Sue Lopdell, Peter Berry & Natalie Berry, Gail Harvey, Sue Holmes and Glen Holmes, John Berry, Tina Godbert, Isabella Godbert, Marian Nicholson, Kay Hunter, Roger Burn, Jenny Lean and Denise McBride.

The 14th Kaweka Challenge	21 -23 February 2003
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The 14th Kaweka Challenge was run on the weekend 21 -23 February. The fact that Cliff Richard was also in the Bay did not deter the 355 keen , fit competitors who entered the highest mountain race in New Zealand.

They ran, tramped and in some cases, staggered over the 5 Courses, varying in length from 41km to 13km. The competitors really enjoy, and are challenged by the event and many of them thank the event personel and committee members for making the event happen. The Kaweka Challenge is an event run jointly by the Heretaunga Tramping Club and the HB Orienteering Club and would not be possible without the assistance of the Napier and Hastings Amateur Radio Clubs. All clubs make a financial gain from the event.

HTC club members -Andrew Taylor, Deborah Turner, Sue Lopdell, Robyn Madden and Randall Goldfinch (also radio) are on the organizing committee - lead by Max Kerrison from HB Orienteering. The committee has a rest for a few months during the winter - and then meets monthly and more frequently in January and February. HTC members are very generous with their time. This year 35 members assisted prior and over the weekend and bought with them much needed skills such as:- Search and Rescue, First Aid, Accurate Documentation, Stamina and Fitness, Organization skills. Plus gathering up and packing equipment, talking to Sponsors, Patience and a great Sense of Humour. The Committee members thank all of you who contribute to and support the Event.

With all the preparation done, the weekend finally arrived. For some it is a rush home from work and then up the Taihape Rd. Others are already at the site -such as Geoff Clibborn with the truck. With plenty of hands, the truck and tents were ready in time for the start of gear checking and Registration at 7pm. Meanwhile the Site Personel were making their way - often in the dark to where they would camp over night. The forecasted heavy rain arrived when most tents were up. The Competitors kept arriving well into the night and by morning a tent city had appeared on the grass site at Kuripapango. Morning brought another surprise in the form of a heavy frost and snow on Kaweka J!

Gear checking and registration started early and Max briefed Course One competitors at 7am. They started at 7.30. Sue Lopdell and Rob Worledge had already climbed part way up Kuri Hill to take magnificent official event photos of the competitors. By 9.30 all the 4 courses had started and the Event Centre was quietening down. There were still tasks to be completed such as setting out and organizing the prizes, organizing the finish while in the truck Geoff Clibborn on the Radio and Ross Berry on Data entry were starting to get busy. Their work would be constant for the whole weekend. Every competitor is plotted around the course and everyone was happy at the end of the weekend when no-one had been "lost"!

Saturday morning did bring the Lowe Walker Helicopter to pick up a long time competitor Martin Crundwell. Martin, running in Course One fell about 30 minutes before Kiwi Saddle hut and badly dislocated his shoulder. He decided to return to base and was helped by other runners. He tells us that his recovery is progressing well and he is already planning his training for 2004.

Meanwhile, the early morning frost and fog had cleared and it was a beautiful, fine, hot day. It was reported that the views from the tops were magnificent!

Colin Rolfe won the event for the 3rd time by completing Course One in 5 hours 37 minutes and 45 seconds. The day continued with tired competitors trickling in. Sharon Mardon and her helpers recording the race numbers and times at the finish. Committee members greeted and congratulated all competitors as they finished - the prize winners had their gear checked. Day One prize giving was held at about 3.30pm. There were lots of spot prizes so there were plenty of happy runners.

The runners in the 2 day events camped at Makahu and Macintosh. No problems there - except for all campers there was another very hard frost on Saturday night! Sunday brought another fine hot day.

Some tired people turned up at the Event Centre, having been into Town for the Mission Concert. Course 5 was started at 9am. The Site personnel were kept particularly busy at Lakes road . No mishaps on Sunday except for the collection of a "bit" of orange tape. The Prize giving was held at about 2.30pm-again plenty of spot prizes. This year 3 competitors received an engraved glass to celebrate competing in 10 events and 11 received a 5 year glass.

Thank-you for all help so generously given .

Please mark your diary for 21-22 February 2004 -the 15 th Kaweka Challenge.

Robyn Madden

Upper Waipawa River – Ruahine Forest Park
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2 March 2003

‘A’ Party

The drought had been well broken by a week of wet easterlies. It was drizzling when we left Hastings at 6:30. The driver thankfully remembered to pick up Allan on the way as the leader was checking the back of his eyelids. Did manage to open them as we crossed the bridge over the Makaroro river, to see a grey/brown seething torrent – not very encouraging. Arrived at XXX to sunshine & misty cloud breaking up. Discussed options with Glenda, leader of the B party, we decided we’d probably go up to Armstrong Saddle then down the ridge south of Gold creek, thereby avoiding the swollen rivers, while the B party were going to go up to Sunrise.

An hour and half later we were at the hut in still, sunny conditions with fleeting glimpses of the plains. A young man at the hut said that it had only drizzled the night before. Hhhmm – very interesting, and it was a beautiful day for walking along the tops, and Gold Creek was quite a small stream, and it would be dropping, and if we couldn’t get across we’d be stuck, and what the hell – does anyone fancy sticking to the original plan and going along to Sparrowhawk and risking the crossing? YES !!!! So we left a note in the hut book for Glenda and headed North from Armstrong Saddle. The ridge to Sparrowhawk bivvy is fairly straightforward, not poled, a few track markers in the wooded bits, no nasty leatherwood, but it does have three stiff climbs. Including lunch break it took us 4 hours to get to the bivvy from Sunrise.

We then headed east down the well cut track towards the confluence of Gold Creek and the Makaroro. It passed through some lovely totara forest. Dark clouds were building and after 2 ½ hours a few splashes were falling and we could see the Makaroro river roaring below. The track then follows a narrow arete from which we could see Gold creek. It was grey and rushing across shingle but didn’t look too bad. We split into two teams of 4 and 5. Our team put the strongest person in the 2nd position and all linked our arms round each others packs in the approved fashion. We took a deep breath and plunged into the grey flood the water barely came up to our knees! Safely across we headed across farmland, in increasing rain, to the eventual, welcome site of the truck. It had been a great 9 hour day walk, with a happy, competent, brave party. Many thanks to Christine for driving. AF.

Party: Randall Goldfinch, Allan McGregor, John Wintry, Lynette Blackburn, Sue Holmes, Ann Cantrick, Lex Smith, Lew Harrison, Andy Fowler.

Sunrise Alternative to Gold Creek
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2 March 2003

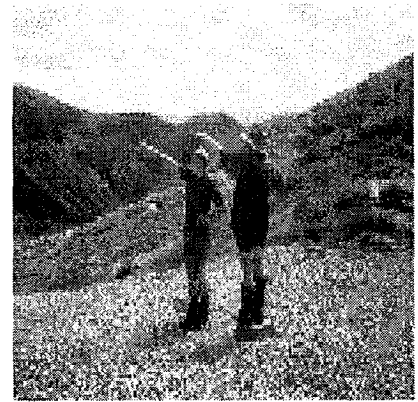
‘B’ Party

As we crossed the Makaroro River bridge in the truck we saw that the river was very high and starting considering the alternatives to Gold Creek Hut via the river. We decided that as none of the 4 of us had seen Sunrise since its alterations that was where we would head. So once the A team had rushed off up towards Triplex we calmly sorted ourselves out and followed them at a discrete distance. First stop of course was at Triplex where a group of 4 had stayed the night. These intrepid trampers had decided that after all the travelling they had done the previous night (from Palmerston North) they were too exhausted to contemplate a trip to Sunrise. We tried to encourage them, but given that this was the last we saw of them, I think it was to no avail.



It was an excellent day to go to Sunrise, the rain of the previous days had stopped and we had good views and plenty of sun to bask on. Since I was last up this track DOC has put in a few information boards on various aspects of the track and these provided a good excuse for a breather as we zig zagged our way upwards.

After inspecting the hut and eating lunch we went on up to Armstrong Saddle - there was not a breath of wind just lots of sun so we were able to really appreciate the last of the alpine flowers along the way. We lazed around at the saddle for awhile then back to the hut to laze around some more before heading off back down to the truck.



We had a quick chat to the farmer, while we waited an hour or so at Glenny Road for the others to appear then it was back to town.

Thanks to Christine for driving. *GH*

Party: Glenda Hooper, Garry Smith, Christine Hardie and Rodger Burn

Tararuas

15-16 March 2003

As is often the case there was limited interest in a Tararua trip, so it was a small party which met Tony in Woodville, and were soon setting off on the walk up the Mangatainoka valley to Herepai Hut. The track is wide and the bush in the lower reaches mainly Red Beech, but we soon encountered dense Kamahi. This remained the dominant tree for most of the trip, with many Rimu and Miro scattered amongst it as we ascended. After a couple of crossings of the river on swing bridges, the second one long and high above the water, we climbed steeply onto the ridge which led to the hut. This we reached in time for a pleasant lunch in the sun, and while dining we heard several Kakariki calls. Leaving packs at the hut we climbed half an hour through tall Leatherwood and Horopito out onto the tussock. From there the view included our access road, and down into the Ruapae valley which wound away towards its junction with the Ruamahanga.



A little way back past the hut we dropped off the track and descended easily first through Crown Fern then down a very fresh slip and were soon in the very attractive Ruapae stream. The going being easy

we were soon at the large terraced flats between the lower Ruapae and the Ruamahanga so we climbed up the terraces and through wonderful Podocarp forest before dropping into the Ruamahanga just above the junction. After some debate we set up camp in a patch of young Kanuka on what would become a small island in a big flood.

Tony then directed us to a hidden lake a little upstream on the first terrace, and after scrambling about a bit and an encounter with a wasps' nest, during which Peter was stung a few times, and we met him there. The lake is perhaps 100m long and 40 wide and offered great photo opportunities and time for contemplation. The small drainage trickles from lake to river were easily visible, having stained the steep riverbank brown with tannin. As we made our way back to the camp, we watched a 5lb brown trout, quite unconcerned by our presence and easily visible in the clear water. One of many good reasons to go back! Tony settled down at camp with his Dominion, and the innocent took his advice that the junction was only little way downstream, and that the swing bridge to Roaring Stag Hut was visible from there. "No more than 5 minutes", he said. Eventually we came to the junction, but not before the young ladies of the party had undertaken some most unladylike skirt-hitchings on the crossings. Five bends below the junction we spotted the bridge, and were able to chat to an elderly fellow who was sitting inside the hut apparently not entirely sure where he was. The hut is large, very dark and smoky, and has no mattresses. With the help of the map on the wall, Peter helped the occupant to work out his location, and he came back to the riverbank and watched us head off upstream. When we reached Tony after an hour and a half away, he assured us that he had meant that Colin Rolfe could have easily done it in 5 minutes!



Soon we were sitting on the riverside boulders around a small fire, listening to the local morepork and admiring the Southern Cross low in the east. There was light misty rain in the morning, so we had a quick breakfast and set off past the trout pool to explore a more gorgy part of the Ruamahanga. The going remained easy even as the boulders became larger and the whole place was delightful especially when the drizzle eased. The only disappointment was spotting 2 stoats running about on the banks.

Packing up about midmorning we crossed the river just below the junction and climbed through more Crown Fern onto the Roaring Stag Hut track, and on up it to a point where we could drop down into a tributary of the Mangatainoka. This we soon found and stopped for lunch on a mossy bank. Going downstream was basically easy with only occasional small detours to avoid trees brought down by slips. Eventually we reached the Mangatainoka just below the high swing bridge, and were soon back at the car after a couple of most enjoyable days in magnificent country. It was particularly good to do some off track travel. Thanks to Tony for leading and to a happy group. ML
Party: Tony Gates, Sue Holmes, Anne Cantrick, Peter Brown, Mike Lusk.

B. Party Trip to Kaweka Hut

30 March 2003

A 6-30 am start from Pernel's to the Lakes carpark. Six of us set off with the main party and because it was such a still and beautiful day we decided to make it to the tops. We travelled north a long Rogue Ridge admiring the gentians and the great cloud festooned views. We slid and slipped our way down to Kaweka Hut where we had lunch, then, because everyone felt good, we decided to head out via Mackintosh Hut. The new addition of a veranda to this hut was admired and is a great improvement. The bell birds were in full song around the hut and there was a lovely autumnal feel to the air. We

introduced the Swiss visitor in our group to the thrills of the three wire bridge across the Tutaekuri River, which she enjoyed and after the puff up the side of the gorge, we emerged on the Road for the half hour trudge back to the truck to where the A party had just arrived, so it was great timing. A very enjoyable day. Thanks to Dave for driving the truck. BC.

Party: Bobby Couchman, Judy McBride, Jenny Lean, Marion Nicholson, Chris Brown, Doris Fuchs (our Swiss visitor)

PRIVATE TRIPS

Waikamaka Hut working bee

27 & 28 December 2002

As an antidote to the excesses of Xmas what could be more effective than a walk over the Waipawa saddle to continue painting Waikamaka Hut? Three of us set off on a perfect morning, up the increasingly washed out bed of the Waipawa, and were soon sitting in the hut enjoying the first of a seemingly endless supply of Randal's Xmas pies. The roof had been given a coat earlier in the year, so we applied a second in the early afternoon, after which Randal defied gravity and OSH to apply a coat to the roof of the dunny, which now has an Aussie colour scheme. The dunny was in the territory of some very tame riflemen, and they observed each trip from no more than 1m, as close as I have ever seen them come. We were able to spend the rest of the day reading, exploring and gathering firewood. The wildflowers were wonderful, notably many large buttercups at the height of their quite long season-some were in flower in October. Very few had been browsed and we saw almost no deer sign in the area.

Ros and I pitched our new tent on a terrace close to the creek, and were treated to a vibrant dawn chorus, which briefly drowned out the busy water noise. Breakfast done, we tackled the ceiling, again a second coat, and just as that was complete, Robyn and Chrissie appeared after a quick walk from the carpark. The resultant hot air soon dried the paint, and we were able to wash the walls, which need to be painted soon. (Paint needs to be taken in for this). We ate lunch in the sun, packed up the small amount of rubbish and perishable food in the hut, and made a leisurely trip out to complete a pleasant and satisfying tramp.

Thanks to Randal for driving, for having a small workshop in his pack and for cleaning my brushes of the paint remaining from their last 17 uses. ML

Party. Randal Goldfinch, Ros and Mike Lusk, Chrissie Waldron, Robyn Madden

Moutohora (Whale Island)

As you approach Whakatane by road you see this steep sided hill in front of you and you would think it is part of the mainland, but it is an island several kilometres off shore.

Cook named it Whale Island but I'm pleased to say it still has its Maori name of Moutohore. As viewed from the mainland it always reminds me of an old admirals hat.

Two years ago I tried to go there but the trip was cancelled because of rough weather. This time was much more promising as we bounced out way over the Whakatane River Bar. There were 30 of us on the trip run by Dept of Conservation, Whakatane Coastguard and Ngati Awa, half an hour later saw us anchored 100m off this lovely sandy beach of Boulder Bay. On shore they pumped up an old rubber dinghy which they rowed out to us with line attached to the shore to Berry us ashore 6 at a time.

We were welcomed on the Island and given the history of the Island from the early Maori History, then from late in 1800's it had served private owners who tried to farm it. Sulphur was mined 8 rocks that line the Whakatane River were quarried. Deep since 1986 when the Crown purchased the Island it

has been a wildlife refuge under the Dept of Conservation. Six volunteer fire watchers do a week at a time over the summer. Fire being the biggest danger to the forest and wildlife.

We all headed off for the saddle between Pa Hill and the main summit (353m), we opted to have a go at the main summit and it was as steep as it looked, puffing yourself up by rocks and trees. Once up a bit the angle petered out a bit, but we had to be careful you didn't put your foot down a nesting hole of a Gray Faced Petrel (North Island Mutton Bird), about 40,000 nest on the Island in the winter, they lay their eggs in May, the young have gone by November. The only ones we saw were the odd dead ones that get hooked up in the trees. We also saw several Saddle Backs, they were released on the Island several years ago and are doing very well. We saw NZ Falcons and Red Fronted Parakeets, Geckos in piles of old timber and there are also Tuataras and Kiwis.

Returning to the beach we had time to explore Suffure Bay and have a very nice swim before the boat returned to take us back to the mainland. Like most Island Wildlife Sancturaries, Moutohora is a beautiful place and well worth a visit. Think I might volunteer as a fire watcher next year.

Jim Glass.

Hope Arm & Humpridge track

22-27 February 2003

On the 22nd Feb Judy and I flew to Invercargill then shuttle to Manapouri to do an overnight to Hope Arm hut. Adventure charters took us across Waiau river, we did the long track the first day with a very steep climb to the only viewing point, then a long walk down the ridge, the rest of the track is mostly flat. It's a very narrow track, well marked and the bush is just beautiful, valleys covered in ladder fern, filmy fern and large areas carpeted in moss. Bird life in big numbers, we were standing inches away from a family of Fern birds. Hope Arm hut was basic and slept 20 and was alive at night with mice, dozens of mosquitoes and a possum on the roof, it was a long night. We set off early in the morning to be back at the landing by 10am as we were doing the trip to the Manapouri Dam. 2Km in to the mountain, a great engineering feat.

Bobby met us on the 25th at Tuatapere and found you can not get your hut pass for Humpridge with out going to a briefing either 5-15pm or 7-15am, we did the 7-15am and got it all in writing as well. Started the track at 10 past 8, its bush, coast walk (Dolphins in the bay) then bush for 3 hours, at this point the track meets the track coming out. 10 min into the uphill it was board walk for the next hour then the steep section, its not steep steep but it go's on for a long time , I was glad I had done the time training.

Just after four o'clock we were at Okaka hut, its very nice and the top of Humpridge was magic with alpine gardens, tarns and spectacular views. There was 12 of us at the hut and for 2 of those it was their second night. Its all board walk at the top and a lot of the way down to the viaducts, there were three of them. Percy Burn is the highest and oldest timber viaduct in the world and has been restored. For the next two and a half hours it was walking along the old rail track to Port Craig village hut, the rails have gone but the sleepers with there spikes are still there ready to trip you up. The hut again was very nice and dozens of Bell birds were in full song with Hector Dolphins playing very close to shore in the bay. Walking out we missed the tide and had to keep to the bush track but its lovely so the extra hour didn't matter.

We had great weather and all the mud we had heard about wasn't to bad. Judy and I experienced the great South Island hospitality when two young ladies went out of their way to take us to Invercargill when the shuttle forgot to pick us up at Tuatapere.

I thank Judy and Bobby for their good company on a great trip. Marion Nicholson

If you have the time when South I recommend the Manapouri track.

ΦΡΟΜ ΤΗ ΑΡΧΗΕΣ:

Easter in the Kawekas

3rd-6th April 1953

Our plans to go in from Puketitiri, past the Hot Springs, follow up the Makino River, then on to the spur and so out via the Makahu Saddle and Whittle's or Makahu River, went west when the bad weather came.

Instead of the scheduled trip we had a thrilling three-day trip into Kaweka Hut and out to the Road.

We left Hastings about 8.30am. A slow trip in bad weather saw us at the road end at 11.00am, and all ready and tramping at 12.30am. The trip in to the Tutaekuri was very wet but otherwise uneventful. When we arrived at the river we were greeted by the sight of a heaving brown and white mass of water rushing down to the sea. However, things were not as bad as they looked, and using poles we crossed the river fairly easily. We continued on our wet and weary way and arrived at the hut at 2.00pm. Kaweka Hut is a very welcome sight in these conditions and it was made all the more cheerful by the grand fire we soon had going. Dick's portable radio gave us the weather forecast and spirits were not particularly raised by the gloomy prophecies of the weatherman. Stew and then an early night was the order of the day.

When we woke it was still raining and the mist was right down around the Hut. Everybody lay in their sleeping bags until fairly late. During the day Peter, Phillip and I got fed up with doing nothing and went for a stroll up to Kaiarahi and back. The tops were very cold with a southeasterly blowing, rain, and visibility almost nil. While we were out Dick and Ian also went for a stroll and came back reporting that the river was not as high as it had been the day before.

That evening we listened to the weather forecast again, and as there was no improvement in the reports we decided that home was the best place in this type of weather.

With old Hughie still doing his best to inundate the country, we were all up late on Sunday morning. After a leisurely breakfast we packed and left the hut about 11.00am. Conditions were lousy and we tramped slowly out. The Tutaekuri was still swollen but not as high as it had been on Friday, so the crossing was easier. A slow trip out to the road saw us arrive there about 2.00pm, and we left for Hastings at 2.30pm saying "Good riddance" to the Kawekas for that weekend at least.

No. in party: 9 Leader: Bob Woon

Helen Hill, Edna Ansell, Dick Burton, Philip Bayens, Peter Pattullo, Ian Berry, Walter Shaw, Jim Gi bbs.

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Book Reviews. By Tony Gates.

Three Books by Lester Masters.

I was pleased to borrow and read three of Lester Masters' books from the HTC library. They were "Back Country Tales", "The Waiting West", and "Unfenced Country", all dated from the late 1950's. I can only assume that these are all now out of print (NB I would love to see some of them reprinted). The author was obviously quite a character, and a talented writer and poet as well as bushman. Hawkes Bay is lucky to have such an important slice of its tramping history so well recorded.

I visited Mavis Davidson last Christmas. She is a grand old lady of the mountains, with many happy memories of tramping with Norman Elder, Ian Powell, and the HTC back in the 1940's and 1950's. (She continued to be active in the hills till the 1970's). Anyway, Mavis agreed to donate another of Lester's books, "Tales of the Mails", from her own private library to the HTC, and I accepted on the clubs behalf provided that it is looked after and enjoyed. The book, which I think was the authors last, is about Lester, as a youth in the early 1900's. He is reminiscing about what old people were telling him of early days of European settlement in Hawkes Bay, and re hashes their stories in his typically humorous and interesting style. (Some of these had been printed before, in Newspapers of the time). Period photographs, line drawings, and poems (by Lester) are provided. There are many short stories of the mail service over 100 years ago, by horse drawn wagon and controlled by often very whiskey influenced drivers. There are several excellent tales of places we know well, such as Kuripapango, Kereru, and Mohaka. The author specialises in telling stories about the characters of the day (including Dr D A Bathgate), and frequently mentions other points of interest, such as botanical features, wild animals.

Doctor in the Sticks. By D A Bathgate (1972), Collins.

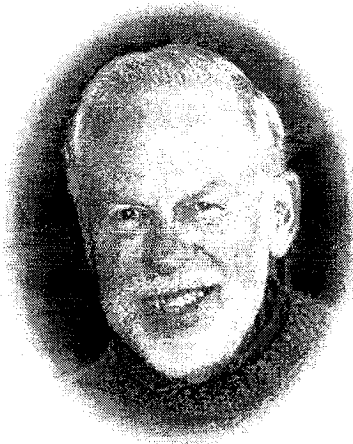
I was touring down south, browsing second hand book stalls and the like, and the name "Bathgate" caught my eye. My goodness, a book by one of HTC's founders, and another volume to add to HTC's exciting and historic library. Older club members probably know the story well- a young doctor working in the South Island's back country around Otira- Arthurs Pass during the 1920's. He shifted to Hastings, witnessed the Napier Earthquake of 1931, and was instrumental in forming- and leading- the Heretaunga Tramping Club during the late 1930's. Indeed, David Bathgate served as our very own club president for ten years.

It's a nice book, well bound, (in fact this copy is as good as new), easy to read, and with excellent black and white photographs. The author's love of the outdoors is obvious. Unfortunately, there are only a few pages towards the end of the book about the HTC and the Kawekas. The author was involved in a search and rescue event with a happy ending to Kiwi Saddle Hut. A tramping Doctor was obviously a valuable person before the days of helicopters!

Howletts Hut number three, new Log Book.

This is a one off (well, there might be another later), planned to commence soon, and reside in the heart of the Ruahine Ranges until it is full (which should be at least ten years from now). I am currently in the process of obtaining the services of a printer to bind a new, archive friendly log book for Howletts Hut, with a few pages of word documents, poetry, and photographs of its history. Why, you ask, make a professional (and expensive) book? Well, one Fred Lemberg, who was one of the original builders in 1940, made a shiny new log book holder for the hut. That deserved a special log book, a really special log book. The case is shiny, yes very, because it is made of stainless steel (Fred has an engineering workshop). Fancy, yes, extremely, because Fred, being retired, had the time, energy, and love to make it. He made a plate sized emblem of solid stainless steel, with an illustration of Howletts Hut, Tiraha and Sawtooth Ridge, etched in it, and another plate with the HTC initials (sorry, we haven't yet made one of the lizard emblem). The case is made with the sort of workmanship that will last forever, so it is with great pleasure that I donate this book, and its holder, to Howletts Hut, and the Heretaunga Tramping Club.

LEO GORDON BRUNTON 1934-2003



Leo joined HTC in 1990, and while no doubt he gained much from the Club, he always gave back more than he took. He was a fit and able trumper, never grumpy and always considerate of those who were for one reason or another finding the going tough. Ros, for example will always remember Leo helping her on a grim day on the notorious Daphne Spur. For my part, I will be forever grateful for Leo's interest in gadgets. One misty day on the top of the Maungaharuru Range, he was able not only to agree with me that I had lost my party, but with the help of his Global Positioning Satellite Receiver to tell me to within 100m just how lost we were. During the long months of his illness we have often thought of Leo when we have been in one of the beautiful places he had

enjoyed with us, and we will continue to see his name in hut books on our travels. Leo is a great loss to HTC, but of course a much greater one to June and to their family. They know that his tramping friends will take him in spirit to all the wild places he loved so much. *ML*

Leo

By Alistair Moffitt

Friends or Family,

The unbelievable has happened to our strong tough trumper – Leo. Heretaunga Tramping Club will sorely miss his unstinted help out on the checkpoints for our annual mountain races which we call the Kaweka Challenge.

Again, as I recall, it was Leo's engineering skills, which helped the club to sort out the best projector for wall maps and sharing members' trip photos. Over the past several years he also played a big part in maintaining our vital transport link – the Isuzu Passenger Truck.

To June and the family; may we sympathise in your loss of Leo as Husband, Friend & Father. We who love the mountains & wild places will miss you Leo, your cheerfulness and enthusiasm, especially on the tough trips.

Be at Peace, Friend

Puketitiri Pantopral Players

(alias Opera in the Ranges)

H.T.C's annual night of "Culture"

At Hutchinsons Domain – Puketitiri - On **Friday 27th June** at 7.30pm

Tickets \$10 – includes show and supper – please book early and save last minute hassles or disappointment.

Come with an open mind, expecting a rousing rendition of Deborah Turner's talented tribe presenting their version of:

"Ca-rows-a!"

Usual farm hospitality available over the weekend (Bring your own)

Bookings/enquiries to Pam Turner 876 8995 or Farm 839 8681

FOR SALE

BLANK GREETING CARDS, By Leatherwood Lenz.

Leatherwood Lenz has produced a number of blank cards, each with a quality colour digital image of a tramping scene. (Well, there is one black and white). These are designed for Christmas, birthday, and general use, to show people the enjoyment and scenery of tramping. A variety of tramping themes and areas throughout the Ruahines and Tararuas are presented. New cards can be customized to your request.

Cards are \$2.50 each, or \$20.00 for ten.

For details, contact leatherwood@pcconnect.co.nz
Tony Gates, 025 246 1901, 06 357 7439 (H).

CLUB NEWS:

Coming Meetings:

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER/COMMENTS	HOSTS	SUPPER HELP
7 May	Climbing wall	Quick meeting then off to Karamu High School for some climbing	Robyn Madden Alan Peterson	Christine Snooke Randall Goldfinch
21 May	Show and Tell Part 2	Another night where members show off their gadgets and nic nacs	Anne Cantrick, Garry Smith	Denise McBride, Peter Brown
4 Jun	DOC update	Peter Williamson from DOC will speak to us	Murray Tonks Bobby Couchman	Gerald Blackburn, Sandy Claudatos
18 Jun	Lowe Helicopter	A quick meeting then a visit to the Rescue Helicopter	John Berry, Gail Harvey	Lew Harrison, Chris Brown
2 Jul	Mid Winter Feast	A 7 PM start with a pot luck finger food dinner preceding the meeting.	Lyn Gentry Joan Ruffel	Ros Lusk Peggy Gulliver
16 Jul	Where to next?	Bring along photos etc to promote trip ide for the next trip list. Any requests for meeting nights??	Marion Nicholson Graham Thorp	Peter Pryor, Glenda Hooper
30 Jul	Photo Competition	Annual competition see below for details	Susan Lopdell Marjoleine Turel	Phillip Mardon, Ken Nugent
13 Aug	Quiz time	Quiz and fun evening	Rodger Burn Randall Goldfinch	Liz Pindar, Geoff Clibborn
29 Aug	Diet Time	Kay Ward, club member and dietitian, will entertain us on aspects of tramping food.	Shirley Bathgate, Alva McAdam	John Montgomerie, Judy McBride
10 Sep	Stewart Island	Photos and talk by Alan Petersen	Chris Waldron, Andrew Taylor	Eddie Holmes, Bob Carter

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.

PHOTO COMPETITION 2003

Categories:

- Club Character
- Wild Life
- Panaroma
- Best Slide
- Overall best image

All photos and slides should be taken in the last 2 years by the person entering them





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> <u>All items listed for day trip plus</u>
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)	Tent/Fly if required
Whistle	Complete set of spare warm clothing	

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

TRIP LIST April – September 2003



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

25 - 27 April (ANZAC) Urewera National Park **\$25** **Maps W18 & W17**
 Parties A&B: From the northern side of Lake Waikaremoana climb up the ridge to Manuoha Hut for the night. On Sunday follow the poled route to Sandy Bay Hut. Monday out via the Ruapani Lakes to the DOC headquarters. If party over a certain size will split into 2 and go from either end. (Medium grading)
 Truck Party: Plenty of scope for a party to base themselves at the truck and do short trips.
 Organiser : Tina Godbert 8350064 Driver: John Berry 8776 205
27 Apr: Local Day trip: Cattle Hill, Taihape Road. Organiser:

11 May Northern Ruahine Range **\$10** **Map U21**
A: From Gull Road climb Herricks spur onto and along the main range. Descend down Golden Crown to Masters Shelter
B: Across farm land from Gull Road to start of track. Then up Three Fingers Spur to main range and down Golden Crown
 Organisers: Driver: Peter Berry
 8774183

24 & 25 May Central Ruahine Range **\$10** **Map: U22**
A: In from Alder Road, up Hinerua Ridge and camp near Ohuinga Saddle. On Sunday go out via Paemutu, Rangi and the Waipawa River to the carpark.
B: Go up Hinerua Ridge from Alder Road to Hinerua Hut for morning tea. Drop down to Smiths Stream Hut for the night. On Sunday go out to the Waipawa River carpark via the Middle Stream track.
C: Come in with the driver and walk to Middle Stream Hut for night back out with the B party.
 Organisers: A: B: Peter Berry 8774183 Driver:
Local Day Trip 25 May: Travel to North Block Road and walk in to Middle Stream Hut and meet up with the B party. Organiser:

31 May - 2 Jun (Queens Birthday). Kaweka Range **\$10** **Map: U20**
A Party: Drive to the Lakes Road carpark on Friday night and walk into Kiwi Saddle Hut. Saturday walk along main range to Tira Lodge. Sunday down Makino to Hot Springs and enjoy the hot tub. Monday out to the carpark at the Gums via Te Puia Hut.
B Party: Saturday morning walk to Ballards Hut via Middle Hill. On Sunday go down the ridge track to Makino Hut. Monday, descend down to the Mohaka River and follow the track out to the Gums carpark
 Organisers A: Tina Godbert 8350064 B: Lynette Blackburn 8772340 Driver:

7&8 Jun Central Ruahine Range **\$10** **Map : U22**
Combined A & B party up to Sunrise Hut late Saturday and stay in hut for the night. Sunday, (weather conditions permitting) travel across 65, 66 and 67 to the Waipawa Saddle and return down the river to the carpark. - Opportunities to walk round Swamp Track and Armstrong Saddle for a C type Party.
 Organisers Gail Harvey 873 3609 Driver: John Berry 8776 205

21&22 Jun Pureora Forest Park \$25 Maps: T17 & T18
Party A: Climb Titiraupenga and then across to Mt Pureora. Follow track south to Bog Inn, Weraroa and spend the night at well known camp site. Sunday, dependent on time and conditions out to Western Bays Road via the Waihaha Hut.
Party B: In from Bog Inn Road up to Weraroa Trig and then southwards to Waihaha Hut. Sunday explore some splendid bush around Waihaha River then walk out to Western Bay Road in the afternoon
Party C: Drive round with driver to Western Bay Road and walk in to Waihaha Hut to join party B for rest of weekend.
 Organisers: A: Dave Heaps 875 0088 B: Lex Smith 877 4087 C: Driver: Dave Heaps
Local Day Trip 22 Jun: In from Mangelton Road to main range via Sentry Box Hut to lunch at Parkes Peak Hut. Return by same route. Organiser:

6 July Kaweka Range \$10 Map: U20
Party A: From Makahu Carpark traverse Matauria Ridge dropping down to the Donald River. Short wander up side stream before climbing up onto Black Birch and returning to the truck on Lotkow Road.
Party B: From the end of Lotkow Road go down Iron Spike Ridge to the Donald River. Return to the truck via Cable Creek Track.
 Organisers: A: Sue Holmes 8446032 B: Peter Berry 8774183 Driver: P Berry

19 & 20 July Tongariro National Park \$60 Map: T19,T20 & S20
 Drive up on Friday night and stay at Memorial Hut for the weekend. Scope for everyone: skiers, climbers, or wander along the bushline tracks. The \$60 price includes \$35 for the food provided for the weekend
 Organisers: Peter Pryor 876 5666 Driver:
Local Day trip 20 Jul: Travel along to Craigs Hut and drop down to the Gold Creek junction. Travel upstream to the hut and return via ridge track and out to Yeomans Mill. Organiser:

3 Aug Maungaharuru Range \$10 Map: V19 & V20
 Follow the Maungaharuru Range from the Pohokura Saddle to the Titiokura Summit. Splendid views limestone abutments and wildlife.
 Organiser: Driver:

16 & 17 Aug Crossing of Ruahine Range \$25 Map: U20
Party A: From Kawhatau Base to Purity and up onto Mangaweka, Iron Peg, down Pinnacle Creek to Waterfall Hut for the night. Sunday up the Rangi Saddle then down to Waikamaka Hut and out via the Waipawa Saddle and the Waipawa River.
Party B: From Kawhatau Base to McKinnon Hut for the night. On Sunday climb onto the Hikurangi Range and along it to Mangaweka then down to Purity and back to truck.
 Organisers: A: Andy Fowler 8350064 B: Driver:
Local day Trip 17 Aug: Wander along to the Kaweka Flats area or climb the J if the day is right. Organiser:

31 Aug Kaweka Range \$10 Map: U20
Party A: From Makahu Road ascend to GR 073181 and drop off and follow ridge down to Mohaka River near the Gums.
Party B: Walk into Middle Hill Hut from Makahu Road then go across to Makino Bivvy and follow the track out to the road.
 Organisers: A: Gerald Blackburn 8772304 B: Mike Lusk 877832 Driver:

13&14 Sep Southern Ruahine Range \$10 Map: U23

Party A: Leave from Tamaki West Road end, ascend the Holmes Ridge track. Drop down to Stanfield Hut then cross over the saddle to Cattle Creek Hut and carry on to Mid Pohangina Hut for the night. On Sunday return to Cattle Creek Hut then head north east to follow the track to the Apiti Track junction, then out to the Ngamoko Road end.

Party B: Leave from the Ngamoko Road end and head off along the Apiti Track to do the Cattle Creek to Ngamoko Road section of the A Party trip in reverse. Spend the night at Cattle Creek Hut. Sunday return to the saddle above Stanfield Hut then climb up to Takapari and follow the main range to A Frame Hut. Descend down to carpark from here.

Party C: Leave from Tamaki West Road and follow A Party to Cattle Creek Hut to spend the night with the B Party. Sunday either return by same route or go with the B Party.

Organisers: A:Tina Godbert 8350064 B:Sue Holmes 844 6032 Driver:

Local Day Trip 14 Sep: Traverse through farmland from Mt Erin to Te Mata Peak. A very popular trip last time. Organiser: Mike Lusk 8778328

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 875 0088

Jim Glass 877 8748

Glenda Hooper 877 4183

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.

CLUB ACCOUNTS – 2002 by Lex Smith, Treasurer

INCOME	NOTES	2002	2001
Subscriptions		\$3,249	\$3,319
Equipment hire		\$16	\$42
Fares received		\$4,030	\$3,656
Meeting Contributions		\$410	\$412
Donations			
Hut		\$228	\$155
General		\$105	\$175
Motere trust		\$200	\$300
Fund-raising		\$9,291	\$7,312
Interest Income		\$1,289	\$997
Sundry		\$0	\$0
Sales		\$132	\$215
		<u>\$18,950</u>	<u>\$16,584</u>
EXPENSES			
Audit & Accountancy		\$250	\$250
General Expenses		\$236	\$0
Donations		\$472	\$260
Insurance (huts & equipment)		\$453	\$485
Rent of meeting room		\$300	\$312
Stationery, photocopying stamps etc.		\$308	\$438
Supper & social expenses		\$219	\$249
Library & photo album		\$0	\$77
FMC Capitation		\$930	\$960
Bulletin		\$923	\$883
Training		\$0	\$180
Hut maintenance		\$191	\$623
Subscriptions		\$82	\$49
Transport costs		\$3,006	\$2,967
Truck Insurance		\$582	\$582
Phones		\$0	\$15
Write off Shed			\$78
Depreciation		\$5,300	\$5,372
		<u>\$13,252</u>	<u>\$13,780</u>
NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR TRANSFERRED			
TO ACCUMULATED FUNDS		<u>\$5,698</u>	<u>\$2,804</u>

	2002	2001
CURRENT ASSETS		
Kaweke deposit	\$600	0
Cash on hand	\$0	\$0
Westpac Cheque Account	\$11,340	\$3,700
Accounts receivable	\$0	\$0
	<u>\$11,940</u>	<u>\$3,700</u>
NON CURRENT ASSETS		
Westpac Term Deposits	\$25,992	\$23,234
Hastings Building Society	\$132	\$132
Fixed Assets	\$52,492	\$57,792
	<u>\$90,556</u>	<u>\$84,858</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Sundry payables	\$250	\$250
	<u>\$250</u>	<u>\$250</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		
NET ASSETS	<u>\$90,306</u>	<u>\$84,608</u>
Represented by:		
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
Balance at 1 October 2001	\$84,608	\$81,803
Surplus for the year	\$5,698	\$2,804
	<u>\$90,306</u>	<u>\$84,608</u>
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
AUDITOR'S REPORT TO MEMBERS OF THE HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)		
I report that I have examined the books and records of the Club and have obtained all the information and explanations that I have required.		
With organisations such as the Club, it is not possible for the auditors to verify all cash received during the year and my examination of income has accordingly been limited to a comparison of recorded receipts with bank deposits. I did not however note anything that would indicate the existence of receipts not banked.		
Subject to the possible effect of the limited control over income referred to in the proceeding paragraph, in my opinion the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet show respectively a fair view of the Club's activities for the year ended 30 September 2002 and of the financial position at that date.		
W.A. Stacey. ACA(Retired)	J.A. Smith Treasurer	