

POHUKURA – Bulletin No 217**September 2004**

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Supper:	Jenny Lean
Album:	Shirley Bathgate.
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Gear Hire:	Dave Heaps, climbing gear (875 0088); Glenda Hooper- gear registrar
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*).

Web: www.htc.org.nz

Mail: Box 14086, Mayfair, Hastings

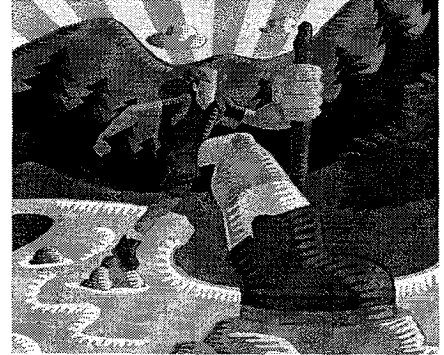
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TRAINING BULLETIN

RIVER CROSSING

Rivers present possibly the greatest hazard in the bush and mountains. Treat all rivers with respect; err on the side of safety and caution.

IF IN DOUBT DON'T CROSS



Basic principles for river crossing

1. Before you cross:

- Keep your boots on. Although gaiters keep stones out they also increase drag on your legs if they are loose.
- Avoid loose, baggy clothes like overtrousers. Parka pockets should be closed. Shorts are preferable, but if crossing several times in cold conditions, wool or polypro leggings have advantages.
- Pack all your gear in plastic bags, preferably have a double bag liner, twist the neck tightly and tie it off. Put things you don't want to get wet at the top. The pack is your buoyancy aid if you slip and fall in so make sure the liner is watertight.
- Find a trusty branch or stick to use as a staff.

2. Choosing a place to cross

Try to view the river from a high point, consider the following:

- The Run-out – Look downstream for rapids, holes, submerged trees, swirling current into a bluff.
- River bed – Look for an even bottom – gravel spits, areas where gravel is deposited, like at the end of a pool.
- River width – the wider the river the less depth and speed.
- River speed – Throw a stick in, try to keep pace with it along the bank, if this is more than walking pace its potentially dangerous.
- Depth – Think carefully about any crossing much above the knees.
- Entry and Exit points – check you can get in and escape back out easily from either side. Steep banks are often associated with very deep water.
- Braiding – By choosing a route carefully and crossing a number of small channels a major crossing can be avoided.

3. Crossing

- Loosen shoulder straps and undo the chest strap, keep the hip belt on but make it available to be undone quickly.
- LINK UP – a solo crosser is far more likely to go for a swim. Put the strongest person in the group 2nd to the upstream position.
- Put arms around each other, inserting the arms between the pack and the back of their neighbour and grab hold of the bottom of the shoulder strap on the opposite side. The upstream and downstream person should have a pole in their free arm for support.
- Move as a single unit, keeping parallel to the current. If a party member slips they can be held upright by their companions.
- DO NOT LET GO. If your feet leave the bottom your pack will keep you afloat. Keep cycling your feet trying to get a push forward off the bottom.

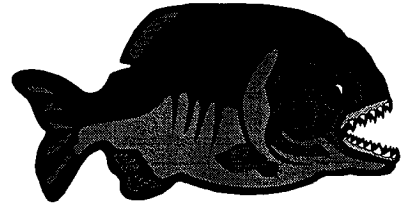
4. If you're swept away from the group: pack float - lie back, angle towards the nearest bank and use your arms and legs to propel yourself.

If travelling down serious rapids going head first on your back allows the pack to protect your head and back, and prevents your dangling legs from jamming in rocks.

(taken from the Mountain Safety Council Bushcraft manual).

HOW TO CROSS A PIRANHA INFESTED RIVER

1. Do not cross if you have an open wound.
Piranhas are attracted to blood.
2. Avoid areas with netted fish, docks where fish are cleaned and areas around bird rookeries.
Piranhas may become habituated to feeding in these areas and may be more aggressive there.
3. Stay out of the water when Piranhas are feeding.
When large numbers of Piranhas are attacking prey- a true feeding frenzy- they may snap at anything around them. If you see them feeding stay out of the water or well up stream.
4. Cross the river at night.
Virtually every species of Piranha rests at night and when awakened will swim away rather than attack. Piranhas are most active at dawn, though some large adults may hunt in the evening.
5. Swim or walk across quickly and quietly.
Try not to create a large disturbance in the water that might awaken Piranhas.



BE AWARE

- Piranhas are freshwater, tropical fish. In the wild they exist only in South America in slow-moving rivers backwaters or floodplain lakes. Piranhas generally do not live in either mountain lakes or streams; the water is too fast and flows too fast.
- Piranhas generally do not attack Humans or large animals- unless they are already dead or injured. During the dry season however, when their food supply is scarce, Piranhas can be more aggressive. When driving cattle across a river suspected of containing Piranhas farmers will sometimes sacrifice a sick or injured animal downstream before letting the herd in the water.

(taken from the Worst-Case Scenario survival handbook).

TRIP REPORTS

Ruahines

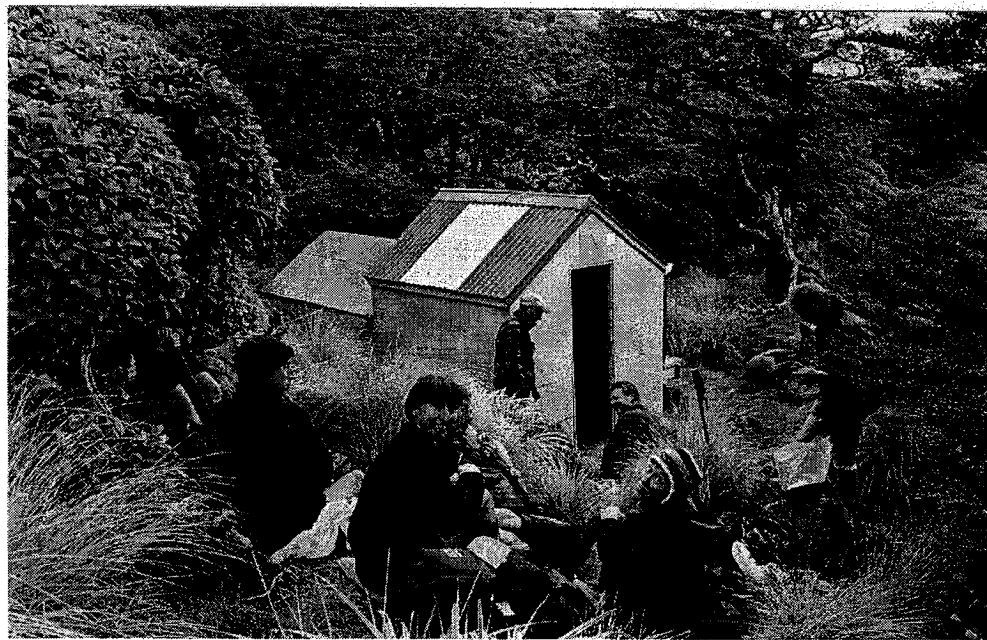
25 April, 2004

A Party - Colenso Spur - John Montgomerie

A 5.30 start for this trip was met with a lack of enthusiasm by some, [mainly the B party, but they needed all the time they could get too as they were out well after dark!] but was taking into account that it was to be a long one day trip for us on the tops, about 24 km in total and with a good climb too. I think we left the truck at 7.30 and up the river with the water level quite low for April for the 7 odd km to the base of Colenso Spur – where we found that the floods a month or so before had torn away the base of where the track went up, to a 2 metre rock wall, up we scrambled and either changed socks or wrung them out, and then ever on and upwards to the top. Mid way up, the valley below was filling with fog and the tops clear, but the higher we went the more it was closing in. We had an early lunch just under Te Atu Mahuru by which time it had closed in. Compass and maps needed soon after the trig, although the odd quick glimpse was possible for a second or so, and the most important point was to do a 45 left at Maroparea to continue on the tops rather than head west down to Maropea Forks hut direction. As we climbed up to Orupu the cloud was clearing more than not and some views were possible to the west and south, and soon the Sparrowhawk Bivvy saddle could be seen. We knew that Dave Mullinder and Murray were staying at the bivvy after some venison, and we had the rest of our lunch there with them at about 1.30. Then the long boring trudge down Sparrowhawk Spur, and wet feet once again to look forward to in the river, and out at the truck at 5.15, and the wait for the B party, who we thought were doing an overnight one day trip!

J M

Party : Ed Holmes, Sandy Claudatos, Tina Godbert, Dave Heaps, Gerald Blackburn, Chris Waldron, Michelle Burden, John Winters and John Montgomerie - leader.



B Party

This was a trip that had been talked about for a couple of years and after Mike Lusk had sounded out DOC it was decided that it was on.

Pohokura

A 5.30am start (at the insistence of the A party) saw 12 bods tumbling out of the truck at 7 am at the old mill site to be promptly joined by 3 others who had come by car.

We got off to a late start (7.45) due to a top up breakfast and then some decided to keep their boots dry so therefore waded across the Makaroa which was very low..

DOC have done a good job in tidying up the parks peak track and we made good time plus a couple of Smoko stops before the final grunt onto the tops and we reached the turn off for the Barlow track at 10.35. which we clearly remarked.

As with any well organised team (and after all we had both the age and wisdom) we split our team into different work groups. We had Trackers, sawers, Track markers, lopers and then most important the Ladies coming along behind clearing up our mess and with diligent use of their secateurs.

The eagle eye of Graeme Hare spotting any shirkers and dealt to them.

The track was mostly easy to follow but regrowth over the years was impressive and windthrow made for slow progress but we had the time and Mike took the opportunity to use his digital camera on the many fungi.

After a 30 minute lunch stop it was a 600 metre drop down to the river and we arrived at the Barlow's hut at 3.30pm, mostly nursing sore knees. The last 70 metres or so of the track is non existent (or we missed it) and some work will need to be done there.

Glenda who had come up with the young girls had done some clearing and marking there.

After a bite to eat and a rest we were on the last lap back down river to the truck but dusk beat us all and we arrived back between 6.00 and 6.15pm.

The other parties who were getting a bit concerned about our non appearance had sent up Dave Mullinder who was on a private trip to meet us about 15 minutes up stream and he gave a welcome lift back for a couple who were getting a bit foot sore.

We will need to revisit the track next year perhaps with two parties. One to start from the top and give the track a gentle manicure, and a more serious effort to sort out the final 70 metres to the river.

This was a really worth while effort for the club and thanks to all who met the challenge.

Rodger.

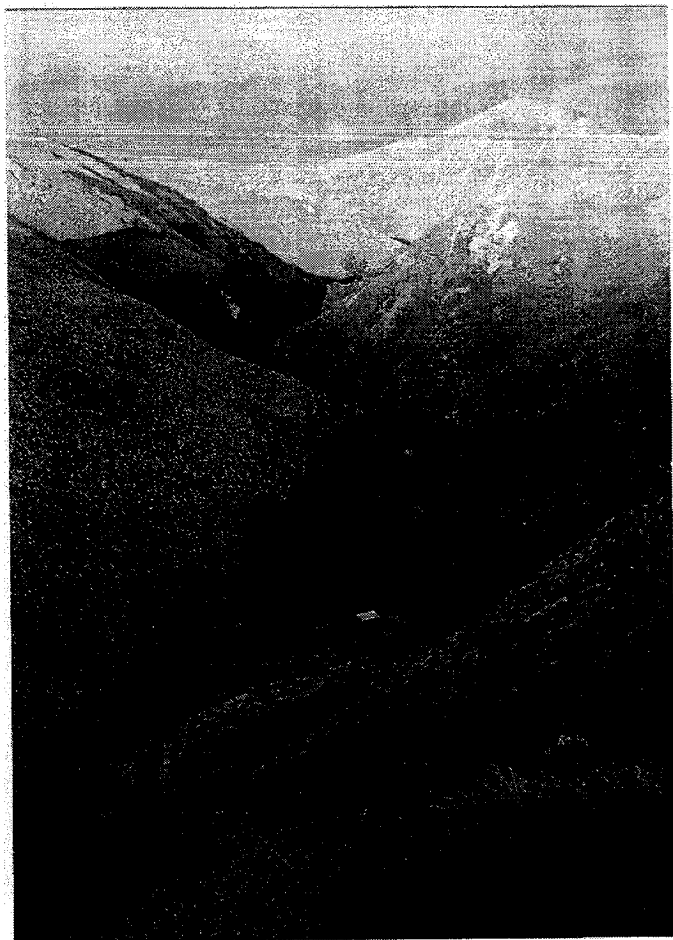
Party: Rodger Burn, Geoff Clibborn, Max Neumegan, Marion Nicholson, Judy McBride, Robyn Madden, Ray Manning, Ken Nugent, Lex Smith, Roz and Mike Lusk, Jenny Lean, Graeme Hare and Garry Smith

Kawekas	8 & 9 May, 2004
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A Party

Friday night saw us setting off in the dark from Lakes car park to Kiwi Saddle. Despite the full moon hiding behind cloud and a breezy evening we twinkled our way happily by torchlight. We were just reaching the top of the last rise when Mike Hawthorne came jogging up behind us. We had Kiwi Saddle to ourselves and had a good nights sleep after hot drinks and cake.

Saturday was sunny and we took to the waters of Kiwi Stream without too much reluctance. It was my first trip down this river and I was impressed by how lovely it was with some really tempting swimming holes. We ground up the steepest bit of Backridge over hot clay pans before lunch then enjoyed the increasing views to Manson and the back of the Kawekas as we climbed gradually higher. At the lunch stop an eagle eyed Jeremy spotted a late Easter rabbit on the track. It soon became an even later rabbit as it was devoured by the party.



Mike left us at about 2pm to continue his run around the tops and back to Lakes. It was a hot dry afternoon and we were glad when a sidle popped us out at Back Ridge Biv and we were able to refill our water.

The low afternoon light was beautiful as we ducked in and out of the patches of stunted beech and open tussock areas in the last leg to Back Ridge Hut. There were glimpses of Ruapehu and views to the Kaimanawas. We had a very cheery, cosy evening in the hut. With 4 bunks and a party of 8 it was an opportunity for the inaugural pitching of the new Big Blue Fly. Three of us spent a comfortable night under it, then had a job shaking the ice off it in the morning.

Sunday dawned as clear as Saturday but without a breath of wind. The way up to the J was enlivened with a view of a falcon chasing down a small bird. On reaching the J it was so unusually still that we boiled up for a cup of tea and consumed the last of the party's considerable cake supplies.

As we descended Mad Dog we saw the gleam of the B Party's fluoro coats on Kaiarahi so we raced on. They kindly waited for us at the Tits and we lunched together before trudging down The Rogue, again happy to drink deeply at the River.

A great party and one of those weekends that you wish you were on the tops...and we were!!
TG

Party: Gerald and Jeremy Blackburn, Andy Fowler, Robin Heath, Murray Tonks, Michelle Burden, John Winters, Tina Godbert with a visit from Mike Hawthorn.

B Party

About 8.30am Lynette, Sue and I headed up from Lakes car park, we had great weather all day with lovely views everywhere.

Randall had headed off earlier carrying the spouting for the front of Kiwi Saddle hut. We kept on finding notes from him saying what time he had got there and how he was still puffing up the hill with his load. Just before we got to the last bit we stopped and had a map and compass reading exercise, as we had plenty of time. Getting to the hut at 11.30am we had lunch then Sue headed back, only being available for the day.

Lynette and I cleaned the windows inside and out, and then washed the outside walls with mould killer, which looked great afterwards. Randall put the new spouting up which didn't make it rain.

Before we had finished all the cleaning a lovely couple from Napier arrived, Penny and Keith Ishwood and afforded us great company. That night Randall made a great big chocolate pudding which we all could not eat so somebody finished it for breakfast.

Sunday was another fine day, we left about 8.30am stopping at Castle Camp for eats and drink then on to Kaiarahi about lunch time.

We had to wait a while as the A party had not arrived. When they got near the bottom of the hill we three headed off to find a good lunch spot where the A party met us. Then we all set off down Rogue Ridge together and arrived back at the car park about 4pm. Great trip.

JL

Party: Lynette Blackburn, Randall Goldfinch, Jenny Lean, Saturday Day tripper – Sue Holmes.

Mt Kuripapanga – Local day trip

9 May, 2003

The local day trip was to be a walk up Mt Kuripapanga - but which way? Discussion at Club night revealed that 3 of the club members going had never walked the track from the water gauge on the Ngaruroro river / Kuripapanga carpark. Wasn't it a longer steeper route? Encouraged with the thought of beautiful views, fields of celmisia and a new route to explore, they agreed to do it. Mike Lusk suggested that we take hand saws and secateurs to eradicate some pinus contorta while we were at the top.

On Sunday, a party of 6 left Taradale by 8am in 2 cars. We had started walking by about 9.30 am. We chose to walk up the alternative, sheltered route through well grown kanuka. After about 30 minutes we came back onto the main, more exposed track. The views looking down on the Ngaruroro River were magnificent - as we climbed higher someone commented that the river looked like a beautiful velvet ribbon. It was a clear day, warm with blue skies and no wind. We were rewarded with views of the snow covered mountains of National Park. Other diversions were quite a number of tomtits and one large stick insect. With a number of stops for the view, the steepness was managed comfortably by all the party.

We gained the top in time for lunch -choosing to sit near the summit to admire the view from Mahia to Cape Kidnappers. After lunch we set to and pulled out or cut down all the contorta over the summit of Mt Kuripapanga. There were still a few late harebells and eyebright in flower.

Cutting and pulling contorta becomes addictive and we couldn't resist getting rid of a few more on the way down. We took the steeper alternative route on the way down and admired the falls on the Waikarokaro Stream -they do look inviting for a hot summer-day trip. As we weren't in a rush, we all sat and admired the view looking down at the Ngaruroro River and decided that the peace and the stillness were great preparation for a busy week. We were back in Taradale by 5pm. All agreed that we had had a lovely day in the hills. *RM*

Party: B. Couchman, C.Brown , R. Madden , D. McBride and friend , Rebecca (a German visitor on Agriculture exchange)

Northern Ruahines

23 May, 2003

A Party

With all of the rain in HB we had quite a number of punters back out, but at 6am we adventurous, hardy souls left Hastings and drove the long "Big Hill" and "No Man's" roads where a little drama ensued- the truck got stuck in the mud and took 1.5 hours to get out thanks to a lot of pushing, pulling, digging, rock throwing and generally getting "down and dirty". Ed's 4WD came in pretty handy that day.

The hiccup caused both teams to re-evaluate and the A party was unsure if we would complete our intended trip with the time left. We set off to Dianne's Hut anyway, with a couple of options under our belt. After crossing the flooded creek we had a bite to eat there and a few had 'hook weed' fights (Hairy legs lost of course!). We carried on up the steep hill to the tops and on to Taruarau which had just been renovated by Dave on contract, it's a great little spot on the edge of trees and looking down the valley. As we had made good time it was a popular decision to continue on our intended trip to 'No Mans' Hut.

This is a lovely piece of country with views down the valleys to the green plains below. There's a lot of colour in the foliage and many changes in the terrain, with open shale and patches of trees. The weather held well for most of the day but turned to light drizzle for the last couple of hours. We had a bite to eat on the porch of a private hut about 45 mins from the truck, by this time it was getting quite cold and we moved on quickly, past No Mans Hut and along the road to the truck. We had hoped that a message, given to Mrs Hair, might have got through to the B party for them to collect us from the road end but alas this was not to be. We reached the truck just on dark and there ensued a fair bit of ribbing about the others being nicely tucked up in blankets, with no water boiling for us. This led to them being 'volunteered' to get out in the cold and take the chains off the truck at the gate, which they did in good humour.

Thanks to Gerald for getting the dirtiest and organising the trip, he had to get permission for the Maori Land access, etc, and to Dave for driving, and Ed for helping spring us out of our predicament. Thanks also to Judy and Marion who kindly volunteered to clean the truck for us during the week.

Chris Waldron

Party: Dave Heaps, Gerald and Jeremy Blackburn, Andy Fowler, Tina Godbert, Chris Waldron, Michelle Burden, Sandy Claudatos, Gail Harvey, Sue Holmes, John Winters, Ed Holmes

B Party

We expected to be a party of twelve but as the weekend progressed our party got smaller until only five B party stalwarts left Pernel. The rain was easing as we drove up the No Mans road. Even so a steep greasy pitch caused us to stop and we slid gracefully into the water table. If Eddie had not been taking his ute in we may still have been sliding along the ditch trying to dig and jack ourselves out. Tyre-chains are very useful but a strong ute and a not so strong rope are even better. . (The truck now has 2 new strops)

As we were now one and a half hours behind schedule our party did not need to be convinced a direct trip to Dead Dog Hut was big enough for us. We kept Eddie's ute while the A party went back a few kms to their start point in the truck. The DOC sign indicated a 1 ½ to 2 ½ hour trip to Dead Dog Hut. After dropping down through interesting big beech stands we were at the stream in 1 ¾ hours. This was close enough to the hut for us as the stream was deep, swift and cloudy so we stopped for lunch.

Judy set a steady pace back up the track and we were surprised to be back on the road again in 2 hours. As the weather improved progressively during the day I did not need to wear my parka during the tramp. We drove back to the truck to await the others. Our team were snuggled down in the truck at dusk wondering when the A's would arrive and as it got dark they turned up. They had been trying to contact us to take the ute to No Mans to save them a road walk.

Another enjoyable trip. Remember the weather is usually not as bad in the hills as you expect!!! GH

Marion Nicholson, Judy McBride, Garry Smith, Peter Brown, Graeme Hare.

This trip was to be going through Mt Meany to Otutu but permission was denied, so instead six of us (four ladies, a big bloke and a smaller bloke,) set off from Lakes car park towards the Manson. There was a cool wind blowing, upon reaching the ridgeline, with a grey bleak sky towards the west.

By the time we reached the Kiwi /Cameron track junction, the day had warmed and the sun came out. The outcome of a quick group discussion here, had us bounding off down the Cameron track and around to the high point way above Kiwi mouth instead of going down the creek. This had the advantage of dry feet, but the disadvantage of taking longer to reach Kiwi mouth. Never mind. A good lunch in the sun and a rest was the go here, and it was about one o'clock when we strode off towards the swingbridge. One by one we were all across including my dog who had a crash course in crossing human bush bridges with lots of bigger than paw sized holes on the bottom of it.

The big chugalug up the other side kept us warm until we left the bushline where it started cooling off and clouding in.

Upon arriving at Manson hut the weather had closed in and there was a definite feel of snow about to fall. It was about 4 pm. The original plan was to get to Otutu today but that was out now, as the lure of an empty six bunk with a toasty warm fire about to be set alight overcame the desire to go any further. By now it was snowing steadily, and all of us except the dog were in the nice warm confines of the hut. Dog was in the nice warm confines of the porch. (well he thought it was.)

A good hot cup of soup all round and a hot meal was just what the doctor ordered and not long after that, we all crawled into our scratchers.

I got up early and got the fire going again, it was freezing cold, as there were brass monkey testicles on the porch just out of the dogs reach. The snow had swirled right into the porch to where Tae had slept.

The troops slowly surfaced and went about getting breakfast. The plan yesterday was to get to Otutu then onto Rocks Ahead then up over the J and back across to the truck, but as we had not reached Otutu the first day and there was a lot of snow on the main range, the going would be considerably slower, making it a big ask to our incredibly fit bodies, in the time frame. So we decided on a day trip circuit to Otutu around Spion Kop and back across the face of Mt Manson and back to the hut. The weather was foul, blowing & snowing most of the way to Otutu, and I nearly had a cruel mutiny on my hands, but managed to narrowly avert it, by threatening them with a tickling session, instigated by my second in command, Jeremy.

At Otutu I found a couple of packets of eggs left by someone, so we made a huge omelet to go with our lunch, with some still left for the next people. This put me back on speaking terms with the ladies, but Jeremy still had to gain a few brownie points.

Off again, and the sun was shining on and off as we headed towards Spion Kop. The weather had cleared somewhat and we had views of Ngamatea, Ruapehu and the Kaimanawas. Upon reaching the northern flanks of Mt Manson the wind had got so strong that we had to walk in pairs to avoid being blown off our feet. Once we were on the big flat area known as the cricket pitch, it wasn't as bad, and arrived back at the hut at about 3.30pm.

Firewood gathering and cutting for the next half an hour was the first job, then a change into dry socks etc and getting the fire cranked up were the priorities. Tea followed with a variety of grub including a concoction that Annie threw together with some of the ingredients left on the huts shelf. It was edible but only just, as long as it was washed down quickly with a few mouthfuls of tea. Desert was another concoction, but that was very palatable and went down a treat. Into the pits not long after that and it was snowing again.

I was up first again and lit the fire (gaining me brownie points with the fairer sex I hope), and warmed things up a bit before the others got up. Finally with breakfast over and the gear all packed up, it was off back across the Manson, crunching through the frozen landscape towards Kiwi Mouth. Back up

Kiwi creek this time and boy was it cold. Further up the creek, walking along the edge of the creek, I slipped on a rock and smacked my head on another, resulting in a river of claret coming from my swede. (This was actually a cunning plan to see if the girls would run to my aid. "They did".) AT first I thought one of them had hit me from behind for bringing them up the creek. So they taped me up, and we set of again, climbing out of the creek about ten minutes later. Up to Kiwi Saddle for a break and something to eat then back down to the truck in the mid afternoon. A neat winter walk with lots laughs and good company. *DH*.

Party: Anne Cantrick, Michelle Burden, Chris Waldron, Sue Holmes, Jeremy Blackburn, Dave Heaps.

Mid Winter Progressive Dinner

19 June, 2004

Mid Winter Progressive Dinner

Soup and Breads at Pam Turners place set the tone for the evening, with a bunch of people turning up dressed in various outfits representing kiwiana. Rugby Players happily mingled with New Zealand flowers, a nurse, native birds and even a marmite jar! It never fails to amaze me how inventive people can be with their costumes (if only I had that kind of imagination)!

Mains were hosted by Lex and Ann, who had even gone to the trouble of baking fresh bread. Mike's trout was quickly eaten and enjoyed by the troops, along with an assortment of other delicious goodies provided by everyone.

Dessert followed at the Blackburn's, where the crew divided into two groups, one inside watching the Rugby, and the other outside enjoying a fire.

An enjoyable evening, many thanks to everyone for their contributions to the feast!

Social Committee.

Northern Kawekas – Middle Hill – Makino Bivy

20 June, 2004

Pinks-Middle Hill hut-under Whetu- down to Makino hut and bivi- out to saddle and Pinks.

Fifteen left for the trip-both parties- in fair weather with a mediocre weather report for the area. At about Patoka it became evident that there was a change coming up, and the ford at Makahu Station was about 300mm deep. Raining now and while we got geared up at the truck for the day was a disappointing start. Notwithstanding, my party of four fearlessly forayed forth into the murk. The day went in 2 hour chunks – got to Middle Hill hut about 10.30, and did not realize how hard the rain was until we were under the roof and could hear the noise.

It so happened we all had a thermos so a hot drink was had and a 'fuel up' as I expected that there would not be any pleasant snack stops until Makino Hut they way the day was deteriorating. Leaving at 11am putting on soggy parkas---yuk, ever onwards and upwards in the rain up the Camp Spur. Above the junction over to Kaweka Flats bivi we found a dead hind by the track, in a very poor state, died from some natural cause as no shot wound was evident. On breaking out of the bush the tops were clear as we could see, but quite cold and on getting to the top a stiff wind was waiting for us, and the visibility closed in but the good old standards were visible and led to the sign down to the north, this section had taken 2 hours too, and about an hour on the open tops was enough to become quite chilled in the rain and hail coming in sideways! So the entry into the beech trees was a pleasant change for a brief stop to adjust clothing and a snack, and on down the long ridge to Makino Hut, again a refuge from the RAIN while we had the last of the thermos's [thermi] and an afternoon tea

break- was 3 pm -and yes, 2 hours from the top! We could not contain ourselves to rush to put on soggy parkas at 3.15 and head off to the saddle above Pinks and the twin bridges, arriving at 5.15- yes in the rain. We had only missed the B party by about 20 minutes at the junction from Middle Hill, and in fact caught up on the last of them half way out to the truck. The Mohaka River appeared to be about a metre up at least, and very dirty, so the rain had been consistent, and I suspect about 50-75mm or 2-3 inches for the day.

We had seen only fleeting views higher up but lots of rain, and I think that I could describe it as the most consistent rainy day for a while that I have spent in the hills.

All was not over yet – on arriving at the ford at the Makahu River we found quite a raging torrent showing in the truck headlights, I volunteered to walk in and see how deep it was—well over my knees – and would have been right up the boot box and fuel tank and was doing about 10 km/hr and considered a risk to avoid. Jack Nicholas had said to use the bridge but our driver was not so keen on this, a thought shared by others too. So, we drove up to his house and phoned to alert town that we would be staying in the truck until morning, and were given permission to use the quarters to have a meal etc. Peter Berry had driven up with some sleeping bags and food, and taken back three persons who really had to be back for work next morning. After a mixed night in the truck- there were some snorers I believe- we breakfasted and assessed the river, again I was used as a water gauge and the depth now was well below the knee, so John carefully nosed our precious carrier into the brown, the water did not quite make the boot box this time, and so we were on our way ,back to town at about 10am.

The A team : Michelle Burden, Sue Holmes, Greg Munn and John Montgomerie [leader]

B Party

Eleven trampers left the truck at about 8.45am as light rain began to fall, as the day wore on it became quite steady and heavy at times. On the way in to Middle Hill hut we stopped at times to admire minute delicate toadstools and other fungus under the authority of Mike. I have always been amazed how these fragile things survive in the conditions they live in.

On arriving at Middle Hill hut we found the A party making ready to move on. After a short break 20mins we moved on. The next few hours we spent descending ridges 3 times. Because of the rain I don't think many people realized what a lovely bush area we travelled through, at times the beech tree leaves became overloaded with rain drops, I felt that if one was quick enough you could count each drop as it struck you. On reaching the junction with the Makino ridge track, we only paused for a few minutes and then headed off to the Makino Bivy and then out to the road, we all kept up a steady pace as it was still raining and the light was fading, there were a large number of quite deep ponds on the track. The trip took 8 ½ hours, I had done this tramp a few years ago in fine weather and it took us 8 ½ hrs, we had stopped a number of times to enjoy the sun and stayed a bit long enjoying the sun.

Party: Barbara Taylor, Pam Turner, Bobby Couchman, Helen and Graeme Hare, Roger Burn, John Berry, Glenda, Peter, Donna and Natalie Berry, Sue, Claire and Glen Holmes, Robyn Madden, Ken Nugent, Marion Nicholson, Lex Smith, Lyn Gentry, Geoff Clibborn, Bruce Parsons, Ros and Mike Lusk

Foot note

We could not drive out on Sunday night, as the Makahu River was up and the bridge John said was unsafe. So we drove up to Jack Nicholas' house who kindly let us ring out to tell people what had happened, also he said we could park outside the opossum hunters' quarters and use the amenities which was very kind of him. Peter Berry kindly drove up bringing some food up for us. I think people seemed to enjoy the evening more than the tramp as there was a lot of laughter and stories told. We awoke to find the weather was clearing. On checking the river John decided to try the ford, the rest of us crossed over the bridge and watched as he drove through the river. I arrived home at 11.15am and personally enjoyed the trip and would like to thank every one who helped to make the outing a pleasant one. Special thanks to John Berry for driving and making the trip possible.

How often does it start with a dodgy forecast? Heavy rain and snow during the week leading up to the trip saw a nervous leader assemble the troops at 6am. Eddie pointed out that it would be quickest to go via the Gentle Annie roller coaster and through Taihape but I had already organised to meet Murray in Takepo, so through the Manawatu Gorge it was. This proved entertaining as from the height of the truck we could see down into the gorge to view the devastation left by all the flooding since last February. The low clouds gave our navigators few clues and we were soon somewhere, heading in probably the right direction.

At the junction toward Kawhatau the truck was stopped by the local cocky and we learnt that the road was blocked by a slip on this side, and the bridge was out on the Taihape side. A quick look at the map to revise the Colenso crossing plan turned up another crossing route via Iron Gate and Longview. The truck was spun around and we wound our way through small slips to Table Flat Road. It was raining and windy and the party was getting a bit doubtful, coffee shops were mentioned. When we arrived at the car park, BLAST another truck, from Wellington Tramping Club. Oh no, can we go anywhere else? Already getting late in the day, maybe they'll have gone a different way, there could be millions of them in OUR hut. We reluctantly got changed and walked the 20 minutes to Heritage Lodge. They'd stayed there last night, and the hut book said if the weather was good they'd go to Longview, if not they'd head to Iron Gate, and the weather was terrible – DRAT. Off we went anyway, we can always camp in the rain.

The track up by the Oraua River was lovely, the rain was intermittent and after a couple of hours we were at the hut, and no Welly's. We set to work gathering wood and chopping it up. Sleeping bags were brought out, and card games ensued. The fire chugged away and we ate our dinners, still no clomp, clomp, clomp noises from outside. We settled in with two sleeping on the floor.

The next morning the rain had stopped. Jeremy was feeling crook, so Gerald decided to head back with him and the B party to the truck. We headed up the hill with a few views down the valley. We headed into the snow at the bushline, Eddie heroically surged through the thigh deep, iced up undergrowth and we got a few views over the tops. Michelle was feeling really crook as well, but had the determination to push on. We thought we saw a group of people further along the ridge, but when we got there found them to have been deer, an interesting optical illusion. Once we got to the trig the



wind was biting and after a quick bite and a slug we headed down to Longview and the vista of the Takepo plains. We cranked up the heater in the hut and ate all our remaining food, cheese on toast was delicious. I phoned the truck and they were still winding towards the Manawatu Gorge. We

settled in for a bit longer then continued down to roadend. After a bit of a wait (it is a long way to drive right round) the truck appeared. We found out the WTC had headed up onto the tops but turned back to stay at Heritage Lodge while we were at Iron Gate – a lucky escape.

Thanks very much to Peter for doing a massive amount of driving, and the rest of the gang for seeing the humorous side of the flexi planning. *Andy*

Party: Michelle Burden, Ann Cantrick, Eddie Holmes, Chris Waldron, Murray Alderson, Sandy Claudatos, John Montgomerie, Gerald & Jeremy Blackburn, Peter Berry, Ken Nugent, Peter Brown.

Sunrise Hut	4 July, 2004
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There is always interest in the easy walk to Sunrise Hut, and a winter trip on a clear day with fresh snow is a pleasure indeed. From the road in we could see that the snow was well below the bushline, and the first patches appeared at the Waipawa Forks track junction. Soon there were icicles hanging off the moss and each leaf on the trackside shrubbery was coated with a thick layer of white velvet, to stunning effect. By the time we reached the hut the snow was deep and the tarn by the hut well frozen. Beside the hut the red fruits on a Coprosma shone in the whiteness. Some of us crossed to the saddle and plugged up the first hill on the way to 66, admiring ice-covered alpine shrubs as we went. One of us was able to walk across the tarn on the saddle on the way over, but not on the way back, falling through to knee depth three times and losing sympathy with each successive plunge. We reassembled back at the hut and wandered back to the cars. A gentle day, but one to remember. *ML*

Party: Chris Brown, Marion Nicholson, Bobbie Couchman, Lynette Blackburn, Jenny Lean, Barbara Taylor, Judy McBride, Sue Holmes, Mike Lusk

Morere Area	17,18 July, 2004
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Set off on Saturday and had a short walk on the way. Arrived at the “Shearers Quarters”, where the party was staying for the night and started making dinner. Headed over the road to the Morere hot springs and ended up luxuriating for so long it was a dark stumble back to the quarters. Had a fantastic feed including Pam’s seafood soup. In the morning it was raining so headed back to Napier. An enjoyable trip, a jolly time had by all.

Ruahine Tramp – Sunrise	15 August, 2004
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This trip produced a new connotation to the derivation of the “A” and “B” parties: “A” is “Absent pikers” and “B” is for “Botanizers”.

As we amassed at Pernel (with not an A Party in sight) the dire weather forecast precipitated the changing of the original objective, Coppermine Creek, to a closer and more sheltered Sunrise Hut tramp. After a quick phone call to Dave in Dannevirke to advise him of the change we were off in three cars (having not a truck driver amongst us). We arrived at the Triplex carpark just before 8 where Dave joined us.

Two kereru were sighted in the bush in the farmland as we walked up to Triplex Hut and at the hut we had a brief stop before dropping down onto the track to start zigging and zagging our way up the hill.

Pohokura

Members brushed up on the tree identification knowledge as we walked on up through cool but relatively dry conditions and by 10:30 we were all at Sunrise Hut where it was quite cold.

We had a very early “morningunch” at the hut with a few of us going up above the trees to see what the conditions were like – they were soon back. We cooled down rapidly so by 11:15 we were heading off downwards again, in light sleety rain, with 4 of the party opting to use the old “Staircase” Track in the lower stretches. We regrouped again at Triplex about 1 o’clock where we had our “afternoonunch”. After this we walked back to the cars via the Swamp Track loop with all enjoying the lovely trees along the track.

We were back at the cars by 2:30 where after a quick cuppa we headed off back to town everybody having enjoyed a good days outing.

This was Anna Lie Xu’s first trip with the Club – welcome Anna hope you photos came out well, fellow Botanizers were:

Dave Mulinder, Ken Nugent, Judy McBride, Bobby Couchman, Graeme Hare, Christine Snook, Jenny Lean, Robyn Madden, Peggy Gulliver and Glenda Hooper.

GH

PRIVATE TRIPS**Tongariro National Park****9 to 12 April, 2004**

EASTER 2004 KAIMANAWA FOREST PARK

9 – 12 APRIL – Boyd –Mangamaire-Maorako-Rangitikei River-Umukarikari- Desert Road.

The weather forecast was reasonable but what we got on the plains on the way to Taupo was not encouraging! Air Charter Taupo seemed confident of getting us in by mid morning-we had arrived there at 8am- and after contact with other air operators as to conditions in the field, we loaded our gear into ZK UWE, a Cessna 172, at 9.30, and our pilot Arthur headed us on the way.

The fair weather route is straight over Cascade and down the North arm, but after dodging under and around the worst patches, had to give up and head in through Poronui valley, up the Oamaru valley, over Waitawhero saddle, and drop down into the Ngaruroro and so land at Boyd strip in the rain.

As the plane vanished, we had no option but to start walking! Fortunately the rain stopped as we got our gear together after the flight, but the tussock and scrub was wet so were soon wet from the waist down.

A very pleasant view from the Mangamingi/North Arm corner up the Mangamingi valley, and an easy walk too. Stopping at the A frame hut [operated by Air Charter Taupo for hunters] we spoke to a woman who had a baby of only a few months age. Not far from the hut I said ‘ I can feel a cup of tea coming on’ and on knocking on the door and asked in, the woman said would you like a cup of tea ! She must have heard me.! We declined anyway, her husband was up the valley hunting, but was aware that we would be passing through. The storm of last February has really cut into the upper reaches and made it quite deep in places, anyway on and up to the Mangamingi Saddle and down to the Mangamaire River to camp, not long before dark.

It was a good frost that night as our boots and socks froze inside the tent! But the sun was on the site at about 7.30- it is amazing what a difference it makes when you are cold and feel the warmth. Then the big grunt up to Makorako, we picked up the route through the alpine brush which made it a little more quick, and enjoyed the views in all directions as ascending, I think we left the top after scaling the Makorako trig, at about 1.30, and spending some time soaking up the ambience- full 360 views- --anyway on down to the saddle below and along the Island Range and north towards the Rangitikei river for the night.. As we would have not got there until dark, we decided to find a camp site if there was water available on the tops – and then happened on a good sized clean pond and so it was there we camped, just before Te More high point. Although cool, it was pleasant until the sun went down and the temps dropped, but at 7am next day the sun was shining right in the tent door as I was making breakfast. No hurry today so made it to the Rangitikei river at about 1 pm for a long lunch, and then I got into trouble[with Anne] as the track up to junction tops was not so obvious, I decide to just head up on the next spur to the south and end up on the right spur on the way up -- well the deer tracks were good and deteriorated the higher up we went until it was a battle with lawyer and all the wiry springy underscrub you could find, and the spur was not passable on either side and the top was impenetrable, so with time to get back to the river by dark, we headed down knowing of the good camp site by the river, just setting up before dark- good pioneering stuff I thought!

So day 4 now and the weather was forecasted to change today and had the looks that way too, so we went on – on the real track! Up to Junction Tops and out to Waipakahi hut for lunch which we shared with a lone hunter and then out along the boring Umukarakari tops which by now were at about zero degrees and a stiff wind, so had to tog up to survive. We had arranged with John and Margaret Jones[now living at Turangi] to meet us there – where they plied us with hot pumpkin soup, sandwiches, short bread and tea – did not expect that but was dam good though!. They drove us right up to the Taupo airport to our waiting vehicles and so the trip had ended. It had been 13 years since I had been through there, although in the opposite direction, and the first time for Anne.

John Montgomerie and Anne Cantrick.

In memory of Jack Nicholas – Makahu Station

by Gerald Blackburn



During 50 years at Makahu Station Jack was a friend to so many people.

My own friendship with Jack had been for more than 25 years. You couldn't wish to find a nicer guy. Always a friendly face, and time for a chat which often included some good sound advice. Jack was really a big softie behind the gruff exterior.

Over the years he helped so many people out and was only to happy to do so. He was a friend to the Tramping Club allowing access over his land and more recently extending his hospitality to a group that were stranded by a flooded Makahu River.

Jack was a conservationist, and genuinely loved the land. He was a hard worker, turning a block of scrub into a beautiful farm. Jack had become a local legend over the time he was part of the Puketitiri Community with farmers, hunters and trampers.

It is very hard to imagine going through the Makahu area on the way to the Kaweka Ranges knowing Jack is no longer there. He will be sorely missed.

Jack's life was tragically taken at the age of 72, and our deepest sympathy go to his wife Agnes, and his sons Oliver and Edward.

In Memory of- Mavis Davidson, OBE, 1910- 2004

by Tony Gates



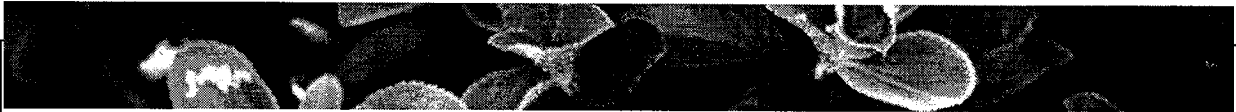
Mavis Davidson was a remarkable woman. She was fit and experienced in the mountains, and climbed with the likes of Sir Edmund Hillary during the 1940's. In 1952, she led the first all woman ascent of Mt Cook, which was quite a feat at the time, both in social and mountaineering terms. She co wrote some guide/ coffee table books about New Zealand mountains, one of which features a photograph by Norman Elder of Howletts Hut (Mavis was also known as a talented photographer, and produced many [photographic Christmas cards). She may be associated more with the mountains, but she was also a keen person in the bush, and was associated with HTC as a close friend of Norman and Kath Elder. She also no doubt knew Ian Powell (another HTC founding father). Mavis features in our club photograph album from the 1950's (on an extensive Norman Elder Ruahine traverse), and she was present at the scattering of Kath Elder's ashes on Kaweka J during 1962.

Mavis was well known for her outdoor profession as a Scientist/ Ecologist specialising in deer, especially sika deer. She led pioneering work studying herd activity and dispersal, and interaction between different species. To achieve those results, she spent considerable time at Kuripapango, the Domine Bivvy, and the Kaimanawa Ranges. She was therefore well known to the deer cullers, who must have marvelled at a women, probably as old as their own mothers, running about the ranges.

Mavis was active with club administration, acting as Vice President of the New Zealand Alpine Club and Federated Mountain Clubs. She was a life member of the Tararua Tramping Club, the club rooms of where I attended a memorial service to her during June 2004. Many people of my father and mothers generation spoke about this amazing woman, strong in character as well as in fitness and

ability, kind and helpful, and a natural leader. Most speakers were 20 or so years her junior, most starting long tramping and climbing lives in the late 1940's that have naturally come to an end. They greatly appreciated Mavis looking over them, guiding and assisting them with mountain matters. She obviously gained huge respect from these young men and women- and kept it. Like Norman Elder, she was active in the outdoors for at least fifty years.

Twice over the past four years I was lucky to visit Mavis at her home in Leigh, Warkworth. She was an old friend of my father's, and I was researching some HTC history. We shared a few icy gin and tonic's on hot Auckland days, and yarned about the mountains. She had an excellent recollection of people and places, and she showed me her very extensive personal library about mountains. She loved to hear and read about people continuing to do what she loved- spend time in the hills and mountains.



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:

Social News

N Z Film Festival - Touching the Void - Thursday 19 August 2004.

This is a film that anyone who enjoys mountains and climbing should see.

The 37 HTC members like everyone else in a near capacity Century Theatre were riveted by the documentary/drama as it unfolded before them.

I felt the interviews with Joe Simpson and Simon Yates, as background to their emotions and feelings on the climb, brought the film to life.

Thanks for coming guys.

GH

Kaweka Korus – Puketitiri - 21/22 August 2004

After the sing-a-long at our club meeting I was asked to arrange another singing night.

As the Puketitiri Players were not having an Opera this year, we accepted Pam's invitation to visit her Puketitiri house for a Saturday night of music with Deborah T.

It was a great night too, with 16 vocalists accompanied by 11 assorted instruments singing non stop from 8pm to 11pm without repeating one song.

When I moved into the next room to listen to the Kaweka Korus in full voice I was amazed at the melodious joyful sound they made.

Thank you Pam for your hospitality, Deborah for your musical leadership, and all who played and sang to make it another memorable weekend. GH

❖ Can you help with the Kaweka Challenge?

Three or four new committee members required as HTC representatives. Meet monthly with members of the Orienteering Club to arrange our club's major fundraiser. A lot of fun/enjoyment mixing with competitors, sponsors and outdoor enthusiasts.

❖ Latest from the Club Huts

Kiwi Hut has had new guttering thanks to Randall.

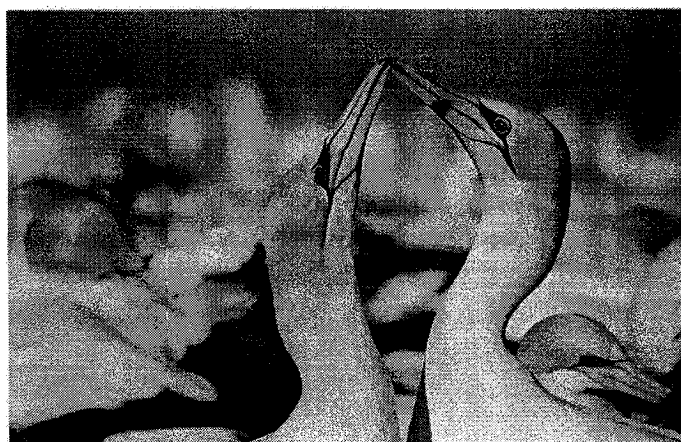
❖ The club has a fantastic new web site – check it out – www.htc.org.nz .Great effort by Glenda to get this completed.

CLUB PHOTO COMPETITION

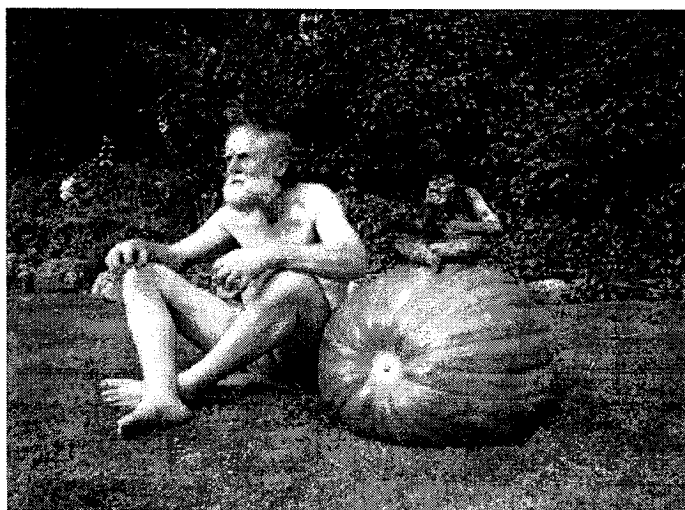
A lot of inspirational entries again this year. After a hard round of voting the eventual winner was Bobby Coachman with this stunning shot of the Spey River on the Dusky track.



Tina Godbert won the Wildlife section with this gannet picture:



And Ros Lusk won the Club Character category when she snapped this unusual chap in her garden:



Coming Meetings:

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER/COMMENTS	Hosts	Supper Help
8 Sep	Coming Trips	Slides etc of previous trips in the same area as our coming trips. Contributions welcome!	Joan Ruffell Jim Glass	Susan Fraser Sue Holmes
22 Sep	Richard Reaney	Richard Reaney will speak to us about his time in Antarctica.	Chris Brown Garry Smith	Shirley Bathgate Sandy Claudatos
6 Oct	Alaska	Lex Smith will talk on his recent trip to Alaska	Chris Waldron Christine Snooke	Robyn Madden Pam Turner
20 Oct	Social	Pre labour weekend trip organisation and social time.	Denise McBride Eddie Holmes	Randall Goldfinch Phillip Mardon
3 Nov	Sea Horse Farm	The Manager of the Seahorse Farm at Awatoto will talk to us about seahorses and other marine creatures.	Joan Ruffel Greg Munn	Peter Pryor Peter Berry
17 Nov	AGM	The AGM starts immediately after the meeting business tonight.	Jim Glass Jim Hewes	Robyn Heath Murray Tonks
1 Dec	Orienteering	This meeting will be held in Te Mata park starting at the car park by the main gates. Bring your compass.	John Montgomerie Lew Harrison	Marjoleine Turel Marion Nicholson
15 Dec	Car Rally	Anybody willing to organise this years car rally please contact Glenda. Cars will leave between 7.00 and 7.40.	Liz Pindar Marion Nicholson	Lyn Gentry Lyn Blackburn
12 Jan	Social	A social night and a chance to share those holiday snaps	Geoff Clibborn Graham Thorp	Liz Pindar Ken Nugent

Duties of those on Supper and Host:

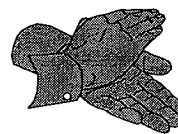
HOSTS: Greet visitors and fill in visitor's book. Sweep floors and check that heaters and lights are off at the end of the meeting.

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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 17 November

Come and have your say.





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 and a mug with something to flavour hot water from the Clibbornette.

TRIP LIST September – January 2005

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



12 September Ruahines

\$10 Map

A: From Alder Rd to Hinerua up onto Paemutu & to spot 1710. Down ridge to Smith Stream and back up to Hinerua Hut and out to truck.

B: Wander up to Hinerua Hut & Smith Stream.

Organisers: A: Tina Godbert 8350064

B: Susan Lopdell 8446697

Driver:

25/26 Sept. Tararuas

\$25 Map

A: Holdsworth roadend to Powell Hut & Mt Holdsworth to site of plane crash. Broken Pinnacles, Baldy and Atiwhakatu.

B: Up to Powell Hut, Mt Holdsworth to Jumbo Hut for night & Atiwhakatu.

Organisers: A: Eddie Holmes 8353058

B: Lex Smith 877 4087 or Mike Lusk 877 8328

Driver:

Local Day Trip: Mt Kohinga (Bonnie Mary)

10 Oct Ruahines

\$10 Map T23

From Kumeti Rd into Kumeti Hut, up track to Matanginui high point, down and out via Oruakeretaki Stream.

Organiser: John Winters 879 5908

Driver:

22-25 Oct (Labour Weekend)

Ureweras

\$25 Map

A: From the Maungapohatu Rd, along Six Foot Track through to Tawhana, back through either Tauranga River to Te Pua Hut, along Mangatoatoa Stream to Mangatoatoa Hut and out via Makomako Hut to roadend.

Organisers: A:

B: Sue Lopdell 844 6697

Driver:

Local Day Trip:

7th Nov Cairn Trip Kawekas Map U20
 The Tramping Club's annual pilgrimage onto Kaweka J to remember those members who died in WWI. Various routes back to Makahu Carpark.
 Organiser: A: Club President
 Driver:

20-21 Nov Ruahines, Colenso Crossing \$20 MapU22
A: Drive across Taihape Rd and camp Friday night along the way. From Kawhatau Base onto Mokai Patea Range, to Rongotea, Wakelings or Maropea Forks for the night. Sunday onto main Rauhine Range and out via Colenso or Sparrowhawk Spur.
B: Drive around to Table Flat Rd, walk into Heritage Lodge and climb up onto Ngamoko Range and down to Iron Gate Hut. Sunday follow Oraua River out to Truck and collect the others.
 Organisers: A: Andy Fowler 835 0064 B:
 Driver:
Local Day Trip:

5th Dec Patron's Trip – Waikamaka Ruahines \$10 Map U22
 Wander up the river, climb to Waipawa Saddle and down to Waikamaka Hut. Various options for return journey.
 Organiser: Graeme Hare 844 8656
 Driver:

19th Dec Xmas Social Trip – Boundary Stream \$10 Map
 Boundry Stream with BBQ to follow at Shines Falls Carpark.
 Organiser: Lynette Blackburn 877 2340
 Driver:

27 Dec – 5 Jan Kahurangi National Park \$160 Map M26,M27,M28
A: Aorere Valley to Boulder Lake, Green Saddle, Lonely Lake, Needles Eye, Dragons Teeth, Douglas and Lockett Ranges to Cobb Reservoir
B: Wangapeka Track, up Karamea Valley to Karamea Bend, Mt Arthur Tablelands to Cobb Reservoir.
C: Mt Arthur Tablelands, Fenella Hut & Sylvester Lakes.
 A: Tina Godbert 835 0064 & Dave Heaps 875 0088 B: Susan Lopdell 844 6697
 Driver: Dave Heaps, would like a B or C party driver as well.

9 Jan Beach Trip - Pourerere to Mangakuri \$10 Maps
 Enjoy a summers day walking from Pourerere to Mangakuri. Good variety of beaches, from rocky foreshore to sand.
 Organiser & Driver: John Berry 877 6205

16 Jan Barlow and Colenso Track - Ruahines \$10 Map U21

Working bee on our latest projects, the Barlow and Colenso Tracks.

Organiser: Rodger Burn 877 6322

Driver:

23 Jan Waikoau Gorge + Caving \$10 Map

A: Follow this spectacular hidden gorge down to Blue Lake or continue and pack float through the lower section. Or go through "G-string", the cave that HTC found, an amazing 2 hour underground expedition.

B: Go down the upper gorge, or explore Bell Bird bush.

Organisers: A: Gerald Blackburn 877 2340 B:

Driver:

29-30 Jan Okataina Lake & Walkway \$25 Map

Travel to the area on Friday. On Saturday drive to Road end through Kawarau Forest park and walk back to outdoor Education Centre via Tarawera Track and E Okataina Walkway (6-8hrs). Sunday walk from outdoor Education Centre to Millar Rd via E. Okataina Walkway (5-7hrs)

Organisers: Glenda Hooper 877 4183

Driver:

13 Feb Tutaekuri River Trip \$10 Map U20

A: From 3 wire bridge pack float down the Tutaekuri to Lawrence Rd.

B: MacIntosh – Lawrence swingbridge via tracks.

Organisers: A: Peter Berry 877 4183 B:

Driver: Peter Berry

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.