

POHOKURA – Bulletin No 231

May 2009

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

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April 2009

President's Report

Summer has been and gone and we are well through autumn. The Fixtures Committee has worked out a varied programme for winter and early spring. David needs help with drivers and leaders. Some recent trips have been cancelled for lack of support which is a bit disappointing. Unfortunately in my case, tramping is on hold for a while because of a hernia. A real pain!! Hopefully it will be sorted out soon.

The Kaweka Challenge organisers and those in the field were severely tested with the horrible weather on the Saturday. Well done to those who had to make the tough decisions as the day progressed. I got to know the Clover Patch quite intimately. Stuck in the wet fly tent listening to the radio traffic (until our radio conked out) I did ponder the considerable risk the Club is taking in running this event, compared to the return.

Graeme, Christine and I were privileged to be invited to dinner with the FMC Executive whilst they were in Napier. It was great to meet those on the Committee and be pleasantly surprised by the entertainment. The FMC (including our Lex) does a great job protecting the collective interests on behalf of trampers.

The auction for the Helicopter Trust raised over \$600. A good effort. I really enjoyed my first auction. I reckon I must be the only auctioneer who has sold an "old fart". Thanks to those who donated and those who purchased.

The Committee is working on developing a long term maintenance plan for our huts. Once this is done planned maintenance can be undertaken, rather than an ad hoc approach, to keep our huts in good shape.

Enjoy the winter tramping.

Alan Petersen

TRIP REPORTS



#2060

Urewera

5 – 8 Jan 2009

The A Party, Urewera - Taupeupe Saddle to Huiarau Range to Whaktaka Hut and Pukekohu Range to Maraunui Bay and around Lake to Hopuruahine Landing.

After a sleep in the truck at the Onepoto car park [arriving on the Thursday evening] we set off at about 8am Friday around the lake to leave the small group to start the Manuoha loop trip, and on up SH 38 to the Taupeupe Saddle opposite where the road goes into Mangapohatu.

The only takers for this trip numbered three, although the truck party group came some way in on the first day. The sign at the start of the track indicated a poor track and that normal times may be doubled, and we soon found that the track was overgrown, indistinct in places and quite good in others.

We were aware of this before the trip so was not such a surprise. The general impression were given was of extreme wind damage from a storm a couple of years ago, but we considered that this was not the main issue at all, rather very old windfalls and an overgrown track.

I think it took us 7 hours to do about 10km to get to Whakataka Hut, very easy tops in terms of climbing but generally wide and flat ridges and so where the track was hard to find it was not so predictable where it may head, as compared to a defined sharper ridge. Whakataka Hut is in need of some TLC as the window is just about rotting, the inside needs a good clean up and a new fire box as the lid has rusted off the old one, but still a good place to rest up, I think it is the same design as the Manuoha Hut.

On the Saturday we left the hut at 7.30 and back tracked to the main ridge, and on towards Whakataka trig, the track to there was reasonable and good views were available from its 1252m height, then continuing south west along the Pukekohu Range.

We did not know what we were in for from here on! I do not think that this track has seen any maintenance for 20 years, and has few markers that may give a clue as to continuing direction. Although not a lot of altitude change there were some considerable direction changes and combined with the almost non existent and in some places no sign at all of a track progress was slow to say the least, with the easy rolling top or 'ridge' and no track signs then one could easily go off 'line' and spend a lot of time searching for clues, so the easiest way was to get a GPS position at the last known point and take a bearing where the track direction on the map indicated or just use good bush intuition for direction. In places the track was open and as good as any, but then ----- . At times the three of us were searching for the way and could spend 5-10 minutes at worst to get moving again, and again worst where the ridge was wide and almost flat.

This was the order of the day and continued for all day down to the 'helipad' at the track junction down to Maraunui Bay on the lake and took from 7.30am till about 5pm or 10.5 hours to go about 12km !!

As we progressed along the view of the lake changed and we were viewing it from an unusual direction and the Panekiri hill was the main feature.

At the helipad – a well cleared area – for primarily SAR use, we assumed that the track would be of a 'higher quality'! down to the lake – surprise, surprise, it was possibly worse, wind fall continuous and with the area being so dry any twig that contacted you in the scramble seemed to do damage. We were all short of water as there is none on the tops and we nearly drank the Manganuiohou River dry. We thought that the next small range to scale would see an improvement, being closer to the lake highway – but ---- probably even more windfall and it was getting to low light by now. The last hour and a half was in torch light, and I was very pleased I had taken my LED spotlight to find the very dull markers ahead in amongst the windfall rubbish to keep on route, and I was the one who copped a lot of wasp stings as we obviously walked over a nest in the dark !

We finally crashed onto the super highway track around the lake at Maraunui Bay and went a little on to find a camp site by the lake, we were so stuffed that we really only had a hot drink and after kicking the possums out of the way got to our tents and some well earned sleep.

This day had taken 15.5 hours to do something in the order of 20 – 22 km !!!! a BIG day out !

Sunday morning was a perfect clear sunny day and off we set on the way for the 15km leg to Hopuruahine landing for the pickup. We had a couple of dips on the way as the temperatures after midday was in the early 30's, and we were feeling a little jaded after the previous two days!

Many thanks to the 'team' for their perseverance to get the job done, someone had to do it ! and the person who set the trip was not present either, should be compulsory !

JM

Party: Murray Alderson, Anne Cantrick and John Montgomerie [leader]

The B Party, Manoha/Waikareiti Loop, both of us, were dropped off on the roadside, where the absence of signs showed that vandalism is doing well in Te Urewera NP. John and Sue were reassuring, but as they left I did have a quick look at the map! A long-tailed cuckoo flew in to check us out as we set off and very soon the steep climb started. The track ascends at that gradient through red beech for about for about 90min, then becomes less steep as the beech changes to silver beech in goblin forest mode. At last the leatherwood zone arrived and very soon the little cap of sub-alpine plants and Manuoha Hut, set just back in the goblin forest but only a couple of minutes from the trig. From there are superb panoramic views over all the park and way beyond. We were joined by a tramping/climbing athlete who was in the midst of climbing to the highpoints of all our National Parks, a laudable aim no doubt, but he didn't appear to have noticed much on the way.

Having done the uphill bit we set off next day on our way down to Waikareiti which was visible through the tangled trees from time to time, as eventually were the Kaipo Lagoons. There we stopped for lunch, with some botanising for one and another couple of patient Sudokus for the other. Sandy Bay is barely an hour away but we had to another 150m to find water deep enough for a swim-the shallows were hot and we had to retreat back from the beach into the bush to find any relief from the blazing sun and the sand-flies. Last time we were there the first 10cm of the shallows froze overnight.

The hut-dwelling halfwits who lit a fire on the beach that night and again in the morning must have been worried about the sudden return of such conditions.

Day 3 promised to be just as hot so we set off early and were sitting at the shelter at the other end of the lake when the truck party appeared for a swim. By lunchtime we were back at the big lake, and there we stayed close to the ice creams while Dave and the others drove around to pick up the adventurers of the A team.

The heat notwithstanding it would be hard to imagine a better B party tramp-an interesting, well maintained track, wonderful views, excellent huts/campsites, and plenty of birds, including a plague of riflemen. Do it before you get too old!

Party: Ros and Mike Lusk, ably transported by Dave

#2061

Shutes Hut

15 Feb 2009

Nine of us left Pernel at 6.00am in good weather. We made our way down the steep drop of 700metres to the Taruarau river.

Pam Turner had come in on the Saturday and we met her at the river with the news she had damaged her hip from the constant impact during the descent on the way in and wasn't able to walk back out. We talked over the situation and decided to press the button on the Emergency Locator Beacon. Geoff, Graeme and myself stayed with Pam while the others went on to Shutes Hut. The Lowe Corporation Rescue Helicopter was there within the hour. The helicopter crew were pleased with the operation as it was their first call-out with the new 406 GPS Personal Locator Beacons. Within 12 minutes Pam was onboard for a 10 minute flight to Hastings. The hospital doctor commented that attempting to walk out would have completely damaged the hip and praised the decision to use the rescue helicopter. Hopefully Pam can undertake 'no impact walking' but at the time of printing the bulletin she is still receiving physiotherapy. So within a week of the old 121.5 beacons being withdrawn from service nationwide our replacement 406 Personal Locator Beacons have proved their worth. The exercise, also involved Rescue Co-ordination Centre Headquarters in Wellington phoning our Club's contacts to confirm where the actual beacons were being used. The speed and efficiency of this whole operation was outstanding, proving the value of this new beacon to trampers in trouble.



Pam on board Lowe Corpn Rescue Helicopter at the Taruarau river.

Shutes Hut built in 1920 of local stone held together with cement and an iron roof, as a musterers hut, is still in very good condition.

Everyone came back up the hill in there own time. On the return climb I was lucky to see a morepork fly towards me.

Thank you to Geoff Clibborn for driving and the company of Maureen Broad, Diane Sye, Ken Nugent, Graeme Hare, Murry Alderson, Ryan Baukham, and Alex . Leader: Marion Nicholson

#2062	Ocean Beach to Rangaiika Walk	Wed 25 Feb 2009
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Our party of 11 left Summerset in Havelock at 8am and travelled to Ocean Beach via Haupouri Station as far as the southern end of the predator proof fence (permission had kindly been given by Warwick Hansen).

We reached "White Cliffs " about 2 hours before low tide and there was a small wave break and we donned our togs and carrying packs followed Mike and Murray into the sea 30 metres off the cliff face over a even sand bank for 100 metres before rejoining the beach.

The weather was perfect and the 3Km walk from the cliffs to Rangaiika on firm beach sand was very enjoyable. We stopped for lunch at Flat Rock noting some very interesting wave cut channels in the sandstone rocky shelf. The ladies plus Mike dined at a wooden BBQ table whilst the men in true Kiwi tradition opted for a stony site near the archway to admire the views.

On the return we noticed a young sick gannet but had to leave nature to take its course. Robyn and Murray found 2 stingrays while snorkelling and retreated whilst 5 others had an enjoyable swim in a small bay without incident.

The return trip was easy around the cliffs with only knee deep water and we arrived back at the cars about 3.30pm for a cup of tea after a 16Km walk enjoyed by all.

KT

Party: Mike & Ros Lusk, Alasdair Shaw, Robyn Heath, Murray Tonks, Judy McBride, Marion Nicholson, Des Smith, Cliff Bravington, Rodger Burn, Keith Thomson

#2063	Wairunga Farm	Wed. 4 Mar 2009
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I had heard that the Wairunga Farm walk was a good day out; and it was. Five hours of varied terrain, from farm paddocks, patches of old and new bush, limestone rocks, a waterfall, a small lake as well as views from the summit of Te Aratipi. We were able to see the beach at Rangaiika where we had been the previous Wednesday, Bluff hill at Napier, and of course Waimarama and Bare Island and lots of sea. Inland was a bit hazy, but on a clear day there would be amazing views of the Ruahine and Kaweka ranges. We all enjoyed our day and it was well worth the gate charge.

JMcB

Party: Bobby Couchman, Jocelyn Baker, Marion Nicholson, Marjorie Musson, Rodger Burn, Des Smith, Alastair Shaw, Cliff Broughton, Judy McBride.

#2064	Parks Peak Hut	15 March 2009
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We arrived at the Sentry Box car park and were ready to start tramping about 7.30 AM. We quickly formed into two groups, the (3) men and the (6) ladies, the latter opting for the return trip while the men planned to return via Golden Crown.

It was misty and calm as we passed Sentry Box hut and started up the steep ridge. Later the mist was to clear and give way to a fine cool morning. We stopped for a break on Rocky Knob then carried on upwards reaching the main range about 10.30, and the hut by 11.15 having passed the men's group who by this time were heading northwards toward the start of Golden Crown.



We were impressed by the hut – it was almost too new to go into – but we did and had a good look around before having lunch on its veranda. During lunch a solo hunter arrived and also checked out the hut.

We left the hut sometime before 1 o'clock, retracing our steps, with the last of us ladies returning to the truck (and driver Geoff, who with grandson Ethan had remained within the vicinity of the truck) by around 3 o'clock.

We then drove down to

Masters Shelter to wait an hour or so for the men's party to appear. This was Jocelyn's first weekend tramp with the Club and we hope to see her out for more soon.

A great day out and many thanks to Geoff for driving.

GH

Party: Glenda Hooper, Maureen Broad, Bobby Couchman, Jocelyn Baker, Marion Nicholson & Judy McBride, Peter Brown, Des Smith & Gregor Lambert, Geoff Clibborn & Ethan

#2065

Tramp to Daphne Hut

Wed 18 March 2009

We left Pernel at 7.15 AM in heavy mist, meeting up with Jocelyn on the Ashcott Road SH50 corner a bit later than expected due to the slow going and travelled down Mill Road and Kashmir Road to the farm at the old Moorcock base now owned by Stanley Stubbs of Takapau.

We tramped over farmland to the ridgeline and then descended through bush to meet the DOC track and then dropped quite steeply down to the upper Tukituki by the gorge and then waded upriver to the Daphne hut for lunch.

The day had turned out to be quite windless and cloudless and we returned by the same route a bit slower this time arriving at our cars about 5.30PM. after a most enjoyable day.

I estimated that we saved about 150 Metres of climbing compared to the traditional DOC route.

KT.

Party: Judy McBride, Marion Nicholson, Jocelyn Baker (from Wanstead CHB) Graeme Hare, Keith Thomson plus Belgium Student, Thibault Wautier.

#2066

FMC Executive visiting Sunrise Hut

22 March 2009

The Federated Mountain Club's Executive hold one of their meetings during the year at a venue other than Wellington. For 2009 it was held on Saturday 21 March in Napier at the Kennedy Park facilities. President Alan and I had a meal with them on Saturday night and thanked them for their hospitality.

On the Sunday they wanted to see some of our countryside and requested a visit to Sunrise Hut. Lex our FMC exec representative gathered those that were able to come on the truck and together with a small number of club members and Napier Tramping Club members we set off for the Ruahines. The truck had 18 people on board, 11 FMC, 2 NTC, and 6 HTC. . It was a fairly noisy and animated trip out. In addition a couple of car loads that were driving home after the tramp came too.

The team enjoyed the tramp on what I term Hawkes Bay's Great Walk and were very impressed with Sunrise Hut. Because of our late start and the fact that some had to be at the airport late afternoon only

a few keen trippers were able to get up to Armstrong Saddle in the time available. It was not a 360 degree visibility day anyway.

A distinct characteristic of the executive was the wide ranging talents and skills that the executive have between them. The combining of all this knowledge puts the Federated Mountain Clubs in a strong position when representing us. It was a very interesting day!

The Federated Mountain Club executive on the truck were; Rob Mitchell -FMC Pres, Viv and Nancy Milne, Tony and Gretchen Haddon, Barbara Morris, Dennis Page, David Round, Graeme Lythgoe, David Barnes.

Napier Tramping Club; Murray White -NTC Pres, Keith Moretta.

Heretaunga Tramping Club; John Montgomerie, Maranu Gasgoigne, Thibault Wautier, Mike Lusk, Lex Smith, Graeme Hare.

P.S. On the following Monday /Tuesday Lex and his son Craig had an additional couple of days in the Southern Kawekas with two of the FMC team. GRH.

#2067	Wellington Wander	31 - 6 April 2009
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Tues: With a final shove the last piece of luggage was forced into the crammed lockers and we proceeded south to meet an approaching front. Having pretty well passed through it we enjoyed a brief coffee at Mt Bruce, reaching the Wainuiomata Supermarket in good time, and soon after were emptying out at the Catchpool Reserve. The walk to the Orongorongo River valley is a short and gentle one but the group stretched out so that the stragglers arrived at Raukawa Hut to find the wood-burner blazing and the shower water warming up nicely.

Wed: The morning was cool and showery so there seemed little point in climbing one of the highpoints to prove there was no view. But people did head out to explore the local area and check out some of the 50 or so huts tucked into the bush on the riverbanks. Most are still privately owned but all will, upon with the death of the owner, revert to the Crown. As the day passed the weather continued to improve and the brisk southerly abated. The evening belonged to the card players.

Thur: By mid morning we were back at the truck and off to visit the Turakirae Reserve on the south coast. The reserve occupies a narrow strip of jumbled rock clothed with tough low-growing plants, which provide food and shelter for skinks and various insects including large numbers of pretty copper butterflies. But we were there primarily to visit a colony of NZ fur seals which we duly found and observed. They were much less excited to see us, some barely bothering to wake up. Geoff continued the endless search for geo-caches but at least one eluded him and his helpers. Back at Catchpool Reserve we set up camp making use of the gas and hot showers. Some of the men fulfilled their fantasies by using the ladies showers.

Fri: The southerly had left the air cold enough for a frost so it was not much fun packing tents which were wet inside and out. But by the time we reached Day's Bay the sun was warm and there we met Kerry and Bruce Popplewell, who accompanied us over a low range to Butterfly Creek, a popular local picnic area set in large beech trees. After a leisurely lunch it was back over the hill and onto the ferry which bore us across a glassy harbour to Matiu/Somes Island, which after a long history of various human and animal occupation has been turned over to lizards and wetas under the care of DOC. There we were re-united with Gloria and Patrick, and after being de-rodentized found our way to the 2 accommodation houses. The track around the island is mainly through natives, the result of an outstanding volunteer re-vegetation project. While enjoying extensive views of the harbour we were entertained by abundant kakariki and skinks. Dinner was shared and noisy, and followed by a weta/penguin/tuatara hunt, the last being elusive, though Pam did see one.

Sat: After the houses were cleaned, we assembled at the jetty to await the ferry. While in that area we searched for geckoes and easily found some, which generously allowed many a photo. Back at Day's Bay we farewelled Gloria and Patrick, and made for Belmont reserve, a large area of bush in the hills west of Hutt Valley. There we walked to a small and completely silted-up dam, formerly the water supply for Pita-one, (now Petone). Lunch was taken there, and soon the truck was outside another supermarket, this time in Carterton, en route to the Holdsworth camping area, large and well ordered

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beside the Atiwhakatu Stream. The 40 cars in the carpark made us glad we hadn't planned to be in Powell Hut that night. We later learned it had indeed been full. The lodge at the camping ground was unlocked and is very well setup, although without showers.

Sun: A leisurely start and a relaxing walk up to the hut for most of the team, apart from a couple who peeled off along the way and re-joined Pam and Geoff at the truck for the night. There was a fierce and very cold wind about the hut, and a short walk beyond confirmed that the ascent of Mt Holdsworth would have been difficult. So we resisted the temptation. After dinner the singers sang and the 3 young men with whom we shared the hut retreated as far away as possible to play monopoly on their cell phones.

Mon: Some of us were up early enough to enjoy the dawn and a stunning sunrise over the Wairarapa, and all were back at the truck by various routes in time for our final lunch. This included a snack of fresh local venison supplied by Tony Gates. It seemed appropriate to stop for a team photo at the Dannevirke dunnies, now fully automated, and for yet another coffee at the café close by.



Team Photo in Dannevirke

Wellington Wander

We wandered down to Catchpool
Along the Onga Track;
We camped up in Raukawa Lodge
Among the Supplejack.

The couples grabbed the upstairs suite
We couldn't see the action;
Rodger's problem grieved us all -
With his lower bowel compaction.
We were assured two days later,
As we drove along the way
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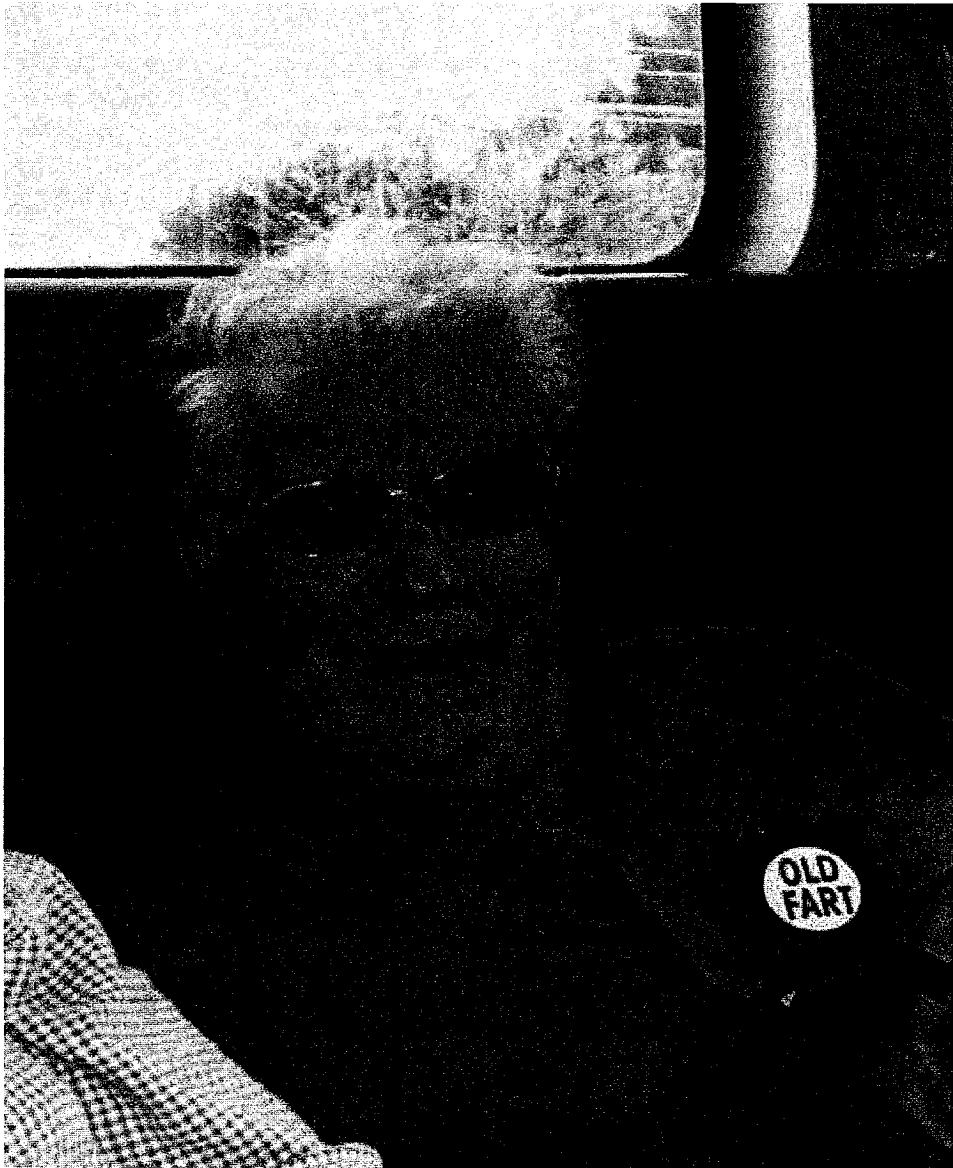
The Cannon Ball had been released
And Rodger. again could play.

We sailed across the gentle seas
Where Jo stole Randall's heart
"Oh, No John, No John, No John, No!!!"
Wailed Leader, Tough Old Fart.

Belmont, dams and yummy food,
Safe drivers chose the way,
Into Holdsworth Sanctuary
Our last two nights to stay.

And now we're heading home once more
With full and happy hearts
Thanks again to all who laughed
Especially the tough Old Fart!

Pam Turner 6/4/09



Trip Leader: Graeme Hare

April 2009

Pohokura

In summary: A superb trip, made the more so by the large high that sat over us, by Graeme's meticulous planning, and by his benign governance. Geoff and Lex once again drove us safely and everyone was prepared to help find the many items lost from time to time.

ML

Party: Pam Turner, Marion Nicholson, Sue Lopdell, Bobbie Couchman, Rodger Burn, Lex and Anne Smith, Glenda Hooper, Raewyn Ricketts, Joan Ruffell, Judy Mc Bride, Randall Goldfinch, Geoff Clibborn, Graeme Hare, Ros and Mike Lusk.

#2068

Bell Rock

Wed 15 April 2009

Another beautiful day in the Bay. Seven of us set off for Bell Rock. Three of our party had never been there so it was an extra thrill for them. We began our walk through the bush at the start of the track on Pohokura Road. The birdlife was stunning with their birdsong deafening and only on Stewart Island have I heard such birdsong, plump Kereru were everywhere and the tree stations had fat wetas in them. It was a truly uplifting morning.

Eventually we emerged on the open farmland and over a rise we were suddenly faced with the panorama of the mountains and the Mohaka Valley below us overlooking the Taihape Road, plus we still had Bell Rock to come.

After half an hour we came upon the rock and our three new adventurers were duly impressed. We lazed around for an hour then started back along the cliff top to the road. At the track end there is another rock formation which Ali had to climb for great views. We met a DOC worker who was servicing the traps and complimented him on the bird life. On the way back by car we stopped at Lake Opuahi to give Jocelyn a break and have a cup of tea, she shot around the Lake with Ali for a breath of fresh air. Everyone had had an interesting and relaxing day.

BC

Party: Jocelyn Baker, Ali Hollington, Marjorie Musson, Rodger Burn, Alisdair Shaw, Des Smith, Bobby Couchman

#2069

Tramp Ruahines – Komatu Hut

Wed 29 April 2009

Another great day for tramping, leaving Pernel at 7a.m., a little early for our group. The weather still good but not so warm. A few showers met us but nothing to worry about. The road to Taihape is well graded and the Gentle Annie is tar-sealed even further than remembered. As we took the turn off to Komatu hut we caught a young man in an embarrassing situation and we gave him a cheery wave.

The beautiful tussock grass is flourishing and we felt proud of our efforts last year helping D.O.C. pull out the pinus contorta seedlings which are threatening this area.

Komatu hut is in excellent condition, newly painted and with chairs inside. We usually have to sit on the floor in pouring rain.

After a "cuppa" we set off along the track towards Shutes hut, climbing steadily we soon got good views of Te Mahunga Station spread below us. An hour later we reached the top and plunged into the pine forest. Lots of fungi around but little native bush. Then we came into a lovely stand of red beech for 20 minutes then back into pine. Just before we drop down the steep path that leads to Shutes we turned off to the right along a little known hunters track, very lightly marked, so we took care to tie ribbons behind us for the return journey.

After 3/4 of an hour through scrubby bush we found the turn off to the shelter, which still has its loo in the middle of the floor [not installed].

It was mild enough to have our lunch outside. The views from the shelter are stunning. We could see the river below us and across the mountains Cape Kidnappers and the ocean.

We returned the same way we had come, removing the tags and were home by 3.30p.m.

BC

Party: Bobby Couchman, Roger Burn, Alasdair Shaw, Jocelyn Baker, Cliff Brabington, Gary Smith.

HTC Bike Trips



Tuki Tuki Circuit

18 Feb 2009

The first bike trip of the new year saw 5 set off on the popular Tuki Tuki circuit. Some of us hadn't been on our bikes for a decent ride since before Christmas so were a bit slow getting up the hills, but Peggy with a new bike and a new knee just flew up. A good day and a great start for the year.
JM

Cyclist: Judy McBride, Marion Nicholson, Peggy Gulliver, Scott Campbell, Alisdair Shaw

Central Hawke's Bay Area

Wed 11 March 2009

It was to be cycling within the Central Hawke's Bay area but because of the high winds forecast for that area we changed it to the Cycle Ways in the Bay. Six of us met at the back of Clive Hotel to start the track over the Clive bridge. On the way to Taradale pathway Peggy got a puncture before Mitre 10 so dropped out to wait for a pick-up from her husband.

A lovely hot drink at EIT and back on to the cycle way with the wind behind our backs until we turned at Hohepa Homes, where the wind hit full on, glad it was only a short way back to the Clive Hotel.

Another good trip of 41km with good company.

Cyclist: Judy McBride, Rodger Burn, Alasdair Shaw, Jim Hewes, Peggy Gulliver, Leader Marion Nicholson

Bays Cycle Ride

Wed 25 March 2009

A cool morning saw 7 of us leaving from Royston Medical centre to follow the route of the annual "Tour of the Bays" cycle ride.

This is another of our annual cycle rides and we enjoyed the best weather ever even the usual dreaded southerlies on SH50 were absent as we cruised along at a brisk pace to the turn off to Valley Road. Smoko was taken at the junction with Valley Road and we took this opportunity to shed surplus clothing. The undulating and scenic route was almost traffic free and under a cloudless blue sky we rode through to the Raukawa Community hall where we stopped for lunch.

It was just so nice that it took a little effort to get going again but soon we were "racing along" Raukawa road (Well perhaps except for the hills) on the home leg. Another event-free trip with no punctures and a welcome back for Mr Lyn Gentry who we had not seen for a little while. A total distance of 53 Km.
RB.

Cyclist: Bobby Couchman, Judy McBride, Marion Nicholson, Bob Carter, Alasdair Shaw, Lyn Gentry, Rodger Burn

April 2009

Cycle ride Otane Area.

Wed 22 April 2009

Our biking was to be from Camp David to Otane area. As the weather looked a bit doubtful we decided to keep close to Havelock Nth.

Four of us set off from Rose and Shamrock car park, south into Middle Rd, up Lucknow Rd to get the heart pumping, down Iona Rd then into Margaret Ave and into the rural subdivision. Then on to Endsleigh Rd and up into the rural life style subdivision with a few little rises to climb. We spoke to one resident about how dry it was and waiting for rain to do more planting and how to deal with rabbits, hares plus the wind.

Bobbie suggested that we call into Birdwood cafe for coffee. What a great collection of Zimbabwean made gifts & garden ornaments. On our bikes again over to St Georges Rd, Crosses Rd, Thompson Rd, Napier Mangateretere Rd and back to Havelock Nth. An easy 33km ride.
BC

Cyclist: Peggy Gulliver, Bobbie Couchman, Rodger Burn & Bob Carter.

CLUB NEWS:

Pot Luck Dinner:

Saturday night, 11th July, We are asking for one person to kindly offer their home as a venue. Bring your-selves plus something yummy for dinner. Details will be revealed closer to the time.

Joke: Point of view tough to argue with.

Indian Chief 'Two Eagles' was asked by a white government official, "You have observed the white man for 90 years. You've seen his wars & his technological advances. You've seen his progress, & the damage he's done." The Chief nodded in agreement. The official continued, "Considering all these events, in your opinion, where did the white man go wrong?"

The Chief stared at the government official for over a minute & then calmly replied.

"When white man find land, Indians running it, no taxes, no debt, medicine man free, plenty buffalo, plenty beaver, clean water. Women did all the work. Indian men spent all day hunting & fishing, all night having sex."

Then the Chief leaned back & smiled. "Only white man is dumb enough to think he could improve system like that.

(Ed.)

Heretaunga Tramping Club Meeting and Trip Information



Coming Meetings:

DATE	TOPIC/ SPEAKER	COMMENTS	Hosts	Supper Help
6 May	Lex & Anne Smith	Mongolia via Trans Siberian to Russia	Lynette Blackburn, Owen Brown	Helen Hare, Garry Smith
20 May	Owen Brown	His choice slides on his tramping days, in 50s & 60s.	Maureen Broad, Pam Turner	John Berry, Joan Ruffell
3 June	Members who dare.	Tell us about your scariest tramping moment. Tell your story so others may learn.	Alasdair Shaw, Peggy Gulliver	Geoff Clibborn Randall Goldfinch
17 June	John Montgomerie, Anne Cantrick	5 Passes trip, Mt Aspiring Nat Park. Hear about their recent trip.	Brent Hickey, Marjorie Musson	Chris Waldron, Jim Glass
1 July	Peter Berry snr on Beekeeping	To Bee or not to Bee	Gerald Eyles, Anne Cantrick	Jeff Robertson, Judy McBride
15 July	David Harrington	Shows us his select slides on some special trips	Graham Ede, Anne Blake	Ken Nugent, Marion Nicholson
29 July	Debate Night. 3 per team.	"That tramping is good for you" Body & Soul	Max Neumegen, Diane Sye	Jenny Lean, Graham Thorp
12 Aug	Social night	Catch up on news	Murray Aitken, Des Smith	John Montgomerie, Ros Lusk
26 Aug	Mary Gray	Highlights of being a Hut Warden at Tongariro Nat Park	Peter Brown, Christine Snook	Liz Pindar, Rodger Burn
9 Sept	Mike Lusk	Native plant identification competition.	Helen Hare, Garry Smith	Lynette Blackburn, Owen Brown
23 Sept	Lyn + Lyn Gentry	Cycling somewhere?	John Berry, Joan Ruffell	Maureen Broad, Pam Turner
7 Oct	Alan Petersen, Christine Snook	The Tablelands or Sodom & Gomorrah, Kahurangi Nat Park		

Meetings Committee; Alan Petersen, Anne Blake and Shirley Bathgate.
Please refer ideas for club night speakers and activities to us.

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 Bobby.

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.

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 10.00 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:

David Blake 835 3284

Graeme Hare 844 8656

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

TRIP LIST 2009

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 organiser or David Blake 835 3284

Please sent request trips to dblake@vodafone.net.nz



23rd & 24th May Mackintosh Hut \$15 Map U20
 Leave Pernels at midday on Saturday to Lakes car park, walk up to Mackintosh Hut for the night.
 On Sunday walk down Mackintosh spur, Donald river & exit at Lawrence Hut to meet the truck.
 Organiser: Graeme Hare Ph 844 8656
 Driver: Geoff Clibborn

30th May - 1st June (Queens Birthday) Whirinaki – Minginui \$30 Map V18
 Sat 30th May to 1st June 2009. Bus to leave Friday night, 7.15pm from Pernell's.
 A Party: Day 1; Okahu Rd End to Skips 2 hrs, to Rogers, 1.5 hrs, Mangakahika 3 hrs for Sat night.
 Day 2; To Central Te Hoe, 3.5hrs, Upper Te Hoe, 4.5hrs for Sun night. Day 3 to Pine Milling Rd end, 4.5hrs.
 B Party: Day 1, River Rd end (as for bus party); Do some short walk Bus Party options below until lunch time. Then to Central Whirinaki for night, 3.5 hrs. Day 2, on to Upper Whirinaki via 2 options, Taumutu Stream, 3 hrs or via Caves, 3.5hrs for Sun night, 3.5 hrs. Day 3 on towards track to junction with Upper Te Hoe then to Pine Milling Rd.
 C Party: After dropping off A Party at Okahu Rd; to Minginui, River Rd end; Arohaki Lagoon, 3-4 hrs return. Options for rest of day 1 and Sunday morning Day 2, Waiatuu Falls, 1.5 hrs return; H-tree track; 45 mins return, Forest Sanctuary; 1.25 hrs, Te Whati-Nui-A Toi Canyon, 15mins from Carpark. Spend night at Mangamati Waterfall Camp. Day 2 after short walks in Whirinaki, go Taupiri Lookout, 1 hr return drive in bus. Then on to Plateau Rd end. Tramp to Central Whirinaki via caves for Sunday night, 2.5 hrs. Day 3; Monday back to Plateau Car park. Drive bus round to Pine Milling Rd to pick up A & B parties. Overall Organiser but not going on trip: Alan Petersen Ph 027 5765 058
 Leader A Party: ? Leader B Party: ?
 Driver: Geoff Clibborn

3rd June Wed Cycle ride the Central HB country lanes
 Organisers: Marion Nicholson Ph 873 5935

7th June. Barlow track cut \$15 Map U21
 Help the club keep this track open, bring along pruning gear, secateurs, saws, etc. if you have any.
 From Sentry Box up to Parks Peak, along the top to Barlows track then time to do a bit of a trim, as we drop down to Barlows hut. Out down the Makaroro river to the truck at the old mill site.
 Organiser: Mike Lusk Ph 877 8328
 Driver:

10th June Wed Tramp to Longview Hut - Ruahines Map U22
 Maybe we will be lucky with the weather this time and along to tarn.
 Organisers: Rodger Burn Ph 877 6322

17th June Wed Cycle ride Puketitiri Road – Seafield Road areas.
 Organisers: Peggy Gulliver Ph 873 5935

20th-21st June. Kaimanawa \$25 Maps U19
 Off Track A Party: Clements road end to Whangatikitiki (high point), Kaipo river, Te Iringa & road.
 B Party: Road to Te Iringa, to Oamaru Hut for the night then through Poronui Station to road end.
 Organisers: A party: Dave Harrington. Ph 839 5766. B party: ?
 Drivers: Geoff Clibborn

24th - 25th June Wed 'Birthdays Boys' Bash – Robson Lodge.

Your choice, one or two nights. Tramp, Cycle, Fish or just relax in this comfortable Lodge \$10/night.
Organisers: Rodger Burn Ph 877 6322

1st July Wed Cycle ride Cycle to Kahuranaki Station and Beyond.

Organisers: Jim Hewes Ph 877 6784

5th July. Kaweka J in the snow. \$15 MapU20

Hopefully the more experienced will show some snow skills to us inexperienced in the white stuff.
A & B parties to go up the J. A party down Dicks spur and B party down Dons spur.
Plenty of bail-out options and C party options.

Organiser: John Montgomerie Ph 877 7358 & Anne Cantrick Ph 844 8149

Driver: Geoff Clibborn

8th July Wed Tramp Holts Bush and Lake Tutira area.

Organisers: Judy McBride Ph 876 9756

15th July Wed Cycle the Crownthorpe circuit.

From Pukehamoamo, Crownthorpe Rd to Matapiro Rd and maybe Ohiti Rd

Organisers: Rodger Burn Ph 877 6322

17th-19th July, Pureora forest park lodge \$30 Maps

We will depart on Friday night for a fun weekend. More planning to be done yet but lots of walking options and a warm lodge for the nights. Come along!

Organiser: Lynette Blackburn Ph 877 2340.

Driver:

22nd July Wed Tramp the Tuki Tuki Stopbanks and beyond.

A repeat of our inaugural mid week tramp of April 2005 led once again by the 'Evergreen' Lyn Gentry. We follow the stop banks from Haumoana, Black Bridge, upstream to the Moore Rd turnoff by the Scout Camp, down the Tuki Tuki valley Rd, over private farmlands to Te Awanga and along the beach to Kim Crawfords Winery.

Organisers: Lyn Gentry Ph 875 0542

29th July Wed Cycle from Pakowhai park along Stop banks to Haumoana and return via Clive.

Organisers: Judy McBride Ph 876 9756

5th August Wed Tramp from Te Aute Rd to Kaitewhenua reserve.

From Glenda's place in Te Aute Rd along Stop banks to Crosses Rd bridge in Havelock Nth, then up to the Kaitewhenua reserve and other nearby reserves.

We could maybe cycle back to Glenda's if sufficient interest.

Organisers: Glenda Hooper Ph 877 4183

2nd August Waikamaka Hut \$15 MapU22

Walk as far as you like up the Waipawa river and over the saddle to a HTC hut, then return.

Organiser:?

Driver?

12th August Wed Cycle from Camp David to Waipawa & return.

From Camp David on Middle Rd along the back roads to Waipawa and return via Racecourse road.

Organisers: Bob Carter Ph 875 1163

19th August Wed Napier Hills Walk.

Walk the Napier Hill area with their many points of interest & history, plus a coffee stop somewhere.
Organisers: Judy McBride Ph 876 9756

14th-16th August.

Tongarairo (Ice axes etc.)

\$30

Maps T19&T20

Travel on Friday night.

A party: Mangatepopo up Pukekikoura ridge, climb Ngauruhoe, then back to Mangatepopo hut for the night. On Sunday take the truck around to Waihohonu and walk in to B party or further.

B party: Mangatepopo across saddle to Oturere hut for the night, then out to Waihohonu and road.

Organisers: A Party: John Montgomerie Ph 877 7358 & Anne Cantrick Ph 844 8149

B Party: ?

Driver:

26th August Wed Cycle from Hohepa, EIT, Napier circuit.

From Hohepa, along the cycle way Stop bank to EIT, along Church Rd, Prebensen Dr to Napier for lunch and after we return along the seafront cycle way back to Hohepa.

Organisers: Lyn Gentry Ph 875 0542

2nd September Wed Tramp to Lawrence Hut Area.

Map

Organisers: Raewyn Ricketts Ph 877 9377.

30th August

Boundary Stream

\$15

Map ?

Boundary stream to Shine Falls and out Lower end. Plus other short options.

Organisers: Marion Nicholson Ph 873 5935

Driver:

9th September Wed Cycle Hastings and Havelock Nth circuits.

A cycle ride taking in points of interest and a hill or two.

Organisers: Peggy Gulliver Ph 879 7763

16th September Wed Tramp the Havelock Nth Hills.

Maybe a few surprises here.

Organisers: Alasdair Shaw Ph 877 6225

12th-13th September.

Kiwi Saddle Hut

\$15

Map U20

Leave Pernel at midday Saturday, to Lakes car-park. Then walk to Kiwi saddle hut for the night. On Sunday walk around past Castle Camp and B party can go down Kaiarahi, the Tits, and the rogue. While the A party does a loop via Mackintosh.

Organisers A-Party: Gerald Blackburn Ph 877 2340 B-Party:?

Driver: Geoff Clibborn

23rd September Wed Cycle from Lake Lopez to Maraetotora Rd, along to Mohi Bush & rtn.

Organisers: Jim Hewes Ph 877 6784

30th September Wed Tramp the Manawatu Gorge Track.

We will start at the Southern end and two cars will be required for this expedition.

Organisers: Joan Ruffell Ph 870 1549

Correction to the Phone Number Published on page 30 of last Pohokura January 2009.
Kerry & Bruce Popplewell Ph 04 479 2144 9 Orari St, Ngaio, Wellington 6035

