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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*).

**Web:** [www.htc.org.nz](http://www.htc.org.nz)

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**Club Cellphones (held in the truck)**

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August 2009

## President's Report

Winter is gone and Spring has sprung. The Fixture's Committee has worked out another varied programme for spring and summer. So you can all look forward to some great tramping. But David needs help with drivers and leaders. I should be back soon. Had my little op but "thou shalt not carry a pack for 60 days".

Graeme has his Taranaki Troopers Trip organised so that should be a great jaunt.

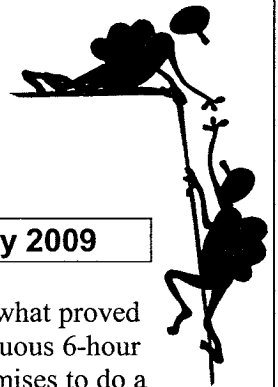
We also have an interesting meeting schedule ahead and will try out a couple of new ideas. The 75th Anniversary committee is working away on next year's main event. There will be plenty of jobs to do. We managed to spring a big surprise on Randall to the point he was speechless. His Life Membership in this Club is well deserved.

The AGM is in November so if anyone wants to depose current officers put in your nomination and make it a real competition.

The Club just keeps on keeping on which is great.

Alan Petersen

# TRIP REPORTS



**#2070**

**Ngaruroro Stopbanks**

**Wed 6 May 2009**

Nine members met at Pakowhai Park at 9am in sunny and calm conditions, to undertake what proved to be a memorable walk. Instead of a leisurely 3 hour jaunt, it turned into a somewhat arduous 6-hour tramp, especially for those who may not have had full lunches with them. The writer promises to do a proper recce for his next outing!

Crossing the Chesterhope Bridge to reach the western stopbank was not pleasant as the traffic (especially trucks) seemed very close. Raewyn and Joan had their dogs Maisey and Moon with them and had a more difficult time.

Once on the stopbank we set out for Fernhill with the vast paddocks of the Fernie Estate on our right, gradually changing to Korokipo vineyards and orchards.

The Fernhill Bridge was reached just after midday. After crossing the bridge, which is a lot more user-friendly with a designated pedestrian walkway, lunch was taken at a pleasant spot on the river's edge. Roger made the most of his emergency rations, some getting near the use-by date.! Raewyn's dog found her own lunch, a ripe bone. Joan, with nurse's gloves on, managed to prise Maisey's jaws apart and remove the disappointed animal's lunch.

After starting the homeward leg, dark clouds started rumbling in from the southwest. Showers were over Havelock North, a rainbow stretched out along Omahu road. It looked as if we would be caught in a real downpour. A few gusts of wind and heavy spots of rain fell. Coats went on and came off, thankfully nothing eventuated.

Some of us were left behind by the faster walkers, including the writer who longed for his bicycle! The rearguard sensibly had a couple of stops, with Graham H. scouring the orchards in vain for his favourite apple! We all came together by the Expressway bridge and made our way to Pakowhai Park, after 6 hours and 22 kilometres. Funny, no one stayed for a cup of tea!

AS

Party; Marion Nicholson, Bobby Couchman, Judy McBride, Raewyn Ricketts, Heather Carter, Bob Carter, Graham Hare, Roger Burn, Alasdair Shaw

#2071

Hinerua Hut

10 May 2009

We were late leaving Pernels as we waited for two lads who didn't turn up and as a result were a tad late in picking Jocelyn up at Wakarara Rd.

However we were soon in new territory driving along Lookout Road heading for Alder Road which was where the problem started but eventually we found it off the Hinerua Rd extension.

Alder road is unmarked and the Farmer had kindly left the gates open for us and we followed a good 4WD track over a number of creeks and a few tight bends which were no problem to Geoff arriving at the Airstrip in good time.

After a quick cuppa we trudged up the 4WD track for a while arriving at the locked Deer fence and here the party became separated while exploring the different options of getting around the fence.

We regrouped at the park boundary and continued again up the 4WD track to the tops .

This was a quick way to gain the 310 Metres to where we turned left and after climbing a slight rise Randall found the track OPPOSITE the track marker and then on it was plain sailing on a good undulating track in Beech forest arriving at Hinerua Hut at 10.30 AM.

The hut was clean and in good condition and we noted that DOC have put some new signposts in the area since our last visit.

After a early lunchette we planned to go up onto the Tussock Tops (Randall had flagged his trip to Smiths creek away) which were only 45 minutes away but the weather was looking quite bleak and it started hailing so we returned to the hut and later returned to the truck the same way and finished the rest of our lunch.

We were soon on our way home arriving in Hastings about 4PM after a most enjoyable day in an area we seldom go to.

Thanks to Christine for making the access arrangements with the farmers and Geoff for his flawless driving.

RB.

Party: Randall Goldfinch, Jocelyn Baker, Marion Nicholson, Judy McBride, Maureen Broad, Scott Campbell, Des Smith, Rodger Burn.

#2072

Sunrise Hut

Wed 13 May 2009

Again a change of venue this being due to logging on the Tongoio road.

Another early start for us ( 7AM ) and with a good weather forecast .

We picked up Jocelyn at Wakarara Rd and by the time we reached the Triplex Car park the weather on the tops was not looking very reassuring.

However at the Car Park we were pleasantly surprised to see that DOC have put a rather flash toilet there which merited inspection by the Ladies.

The trek up the sunrise track was quite uneventful for the first 100 minutes with Graham and Colleen taking in the views, the last 25 minutes we were walking through snow which had frozen overnight and was quite slippery and near the tops we encountered very strong winds.

Sunrise was very picturesque with snow covered tussock and on entering the hut we found a couple from Wellington who had the heaters going which was most welcome.

After 10 minutes we were amazed when a party of Fruit pickers from Vanuatu arrived guided by their Kiwi foreman all looking somewhat cold and we gave them priority seating by the fire.

They had expressed the desire to see snow and seemed quite impressed with the hut if not the weather.

Our two new members had a brief look over the tops behind the hut just to experience the wind force and didn't dwell there for more than a few seconds as it was quite vicious.

## Pohokura

After drinks and snacks we quickly made our way back down the track to our cars and then drove through to the DOC office at Ongaonga where we had a chat with the Ranger and finished off our lunches.

We were again back in Hastings at 4pm. A welcome back to Graham Ede and also to Colleen Smith a new member who was most enthusiastic about the day.

RB.

Party: Judy McBride, Marion Nicholson, Colleen Smith, Bobby Couchman, Jocelyn Baker, Graham Ede, Graeme Hare, Rodger Burn.

**#2073**

**Mackintosh Hut**

**23 - 24 May 2009**

This trip had the aura of luxury about it from the start, a noon departure on Saturday. The weather could have been bleak and suggestions of that by the forecasters put a few off so we had 7 in our team.

After crossing the Tutaekuri River by the new "Queen Street" style bridge and a steady walk we were at the hut in less than 2 hours. Most of us had not seen the classy upgrade that has been given to Mackintosh Hut by DOC, building extended by 2metres, double sleeping platforms, fully lined, painted and insulated, opening vented windows, bench, table and washing up bench covered in stainless steel, covered verandas on 2 sides. It is a very functional revamp of a 50 year old hut. We had time to fill the wood shed before an old fashioned communal stew was prepared. In fact we had a sumptuous three course meal. During the night we expected it to snow or at least rain and woke to only a dull slightly damp morning.

The rain had to come and it started during the morning as the group went east on the Mackintosh Plateau and dropped into the Donald River. To save ourselves a trudge and possible bush bash to get back to the Mackintosh Car Park, Graeme brought the truck around to the upper Lawrence Road Car Park. The rain was setting in when we reunited soon after midday.

Thanks to David for driving and for the group who made this a very enjoyable trip. GRH.

Party: Andy Fowler, Tina Godbert, Randall Goldfinch, Jocelyn Baker, Anne & David Blake, Graeme Hare.

**#2074**

**Whirinaki - Minginui**

**30 May – 1 June 2009**

A slightly grizzly forecast of bitter cold with snow to low levels prompted a flurry of discussions about the planned trip but our esteemed leader and other sage folk said "she'll be right" –actually they looked at the detail of the forecast on various sites and deduced that although cold we were unlikely to get very much precipitation.... Let's Hope!

On Friday night David Blake bravely drove us through from Pohokura Rd to Minginui with the navigational guidance of Scott Campbell whose local knowledge was invaluable.

We slept at Okahu Road end and woke early to a starry morning setting off 7.30 at first light with the early mist in the valleys shrouding the majestic Whirinaki trees. The first section of the track to Rogers or Te Wairoa hut had just been realigned and was wide and in excellent condition. We passed a little digger resting on the side of the track. Morning tea at Skips hut, in a clearing backed with young Rimu.

Blue ducks called their Whio cry and were admired as they fed in a rapid. We had an early Lunch at 11.30 at Rogers. This historical hut is one of a series built for deer cullers in 1952. It is in beautiful condition complete with stained glass window, obviously much loved.

The day remained fine but was slowly clouding in so we wasted no time in trotting on to Mangakahika. The track though not recently cleared is easy going and very pleasant as it winds along beside the river. The Mixed broad leaf and Podocarp changing more to Beech as we headed south and

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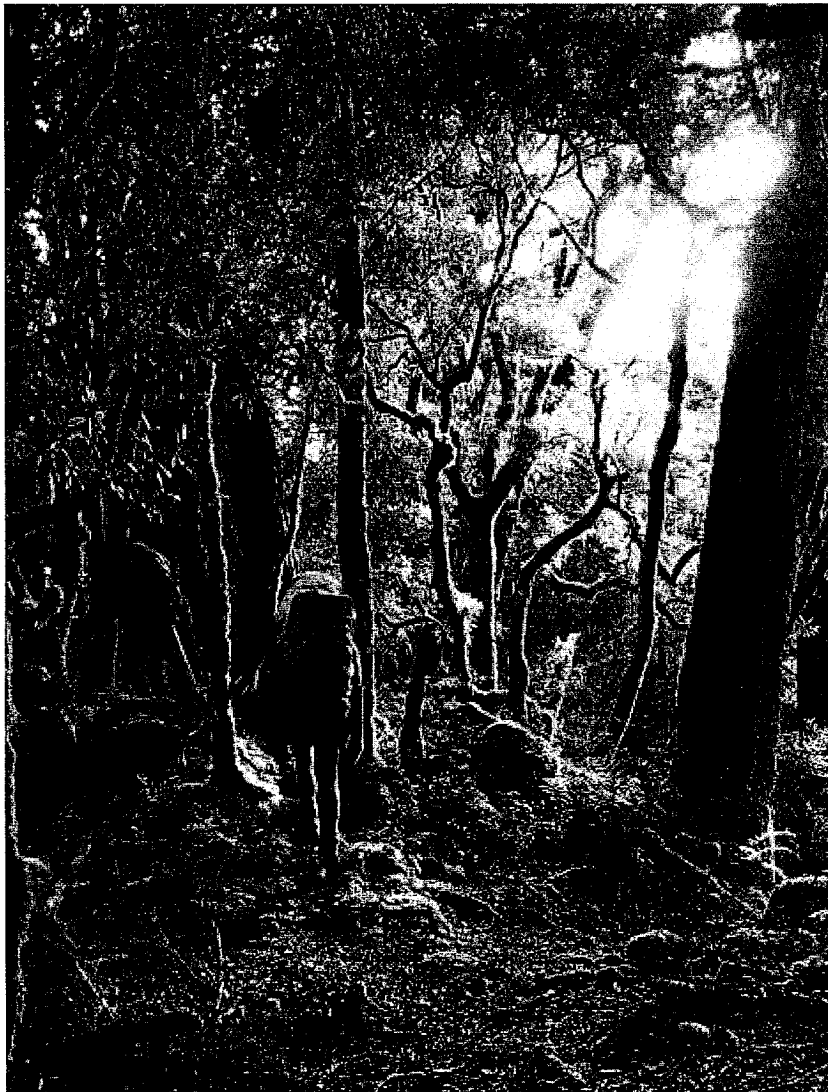
## Pohokura

rose a bit higher. We arrived at 3.30 luckily having kept under the DOC track times slightly all day so that we arrived just as it started to rain. A quick but effective firewood round up and we settled into this cosy 9 bunk hut with its excellent wood burner stove. The stove was so effective that most of us cooked our dinner on it and we had leisurely meals and a game of cards before a blissfully early bed-very welcome after only marginal sleep in the crowded truck and an early start.

The hut was so well insulated that some complained of it being too hot in the night and Randall left us to sleep on the veranda though the snoring concerto may have been part of the reason.

Sunday Morning Monty's alarm had us all up at 6ish again and on the track at 7.20. This was the day that had been predicted to be very cold and snowy so we were relieved to find the overnight rain had dried up and we again started in dry conditions. Similarly well benched and slightly overgrown track took us over a saddle and down to central Te Hoe past a deer enclosure, an old deer trap and a real live deer standing for ages looking back at us. We also passed more blue duck. An even earlier lunch was had after arriving at Central Te Hoe before 11. There was little temptation to push on and every incentive to have a sheltered lunch with hot soup at the hut because looking up the hill ahead it had started to blow and started to snow ( well rain actually but that doesn't rhyme).

We piled on our raingear and warmer layers but luckily the rain stopped as we left the hut. From here we released an A-plus party of three to forge ahead, gather firewood in and get the billy on for us.

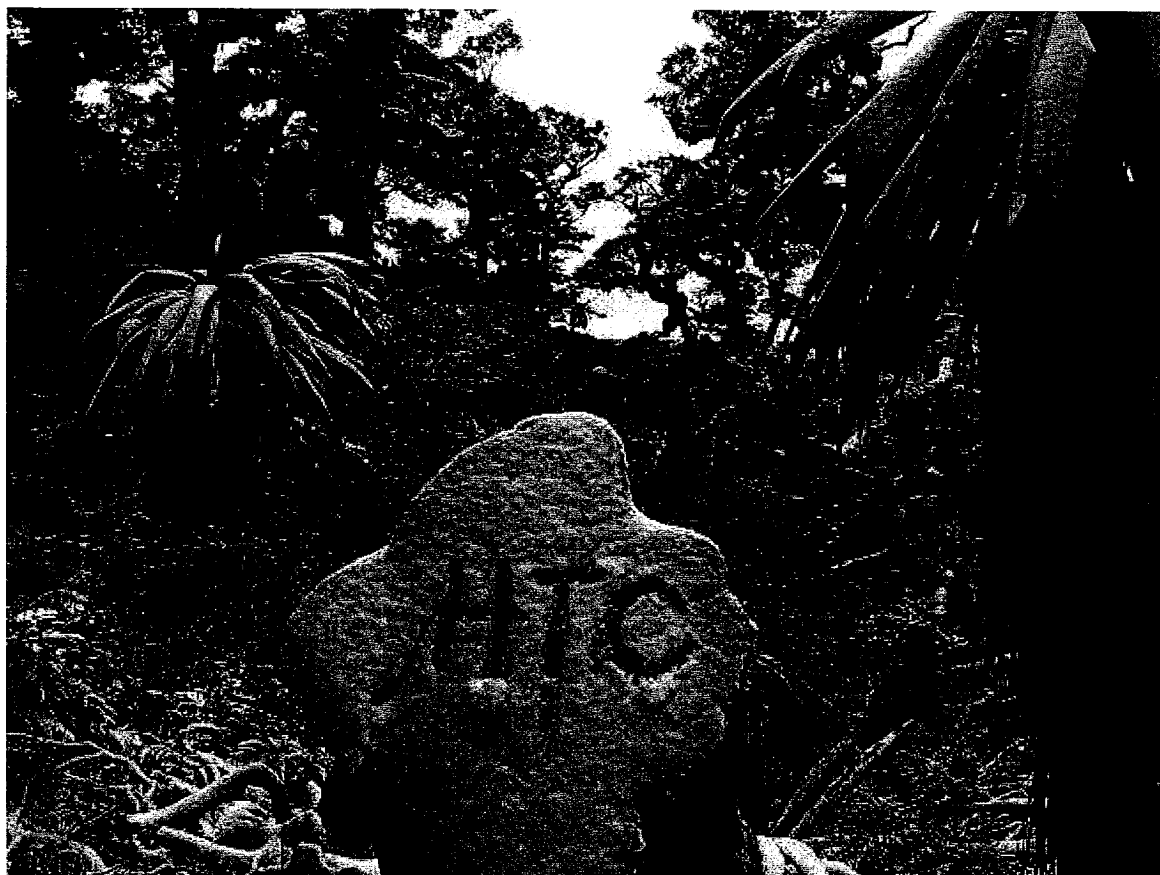


It was a steady 5 hour journey for the rest of us up an initially benched track then onto the old very beautiful track. The old track follows the ridge and is attractive with kidney ferns and Dracophyllum

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plus lots of other fancy stuff. Just as we were feeling that there was one too many ups on the journey along the top we hit another wide benched track that delivered us steadily with gentle gradient to the valley floor. It started to snow in a delightful-drifting through the trees-manner in the last half an hour before we hit the river. There we crossed the Te Hoe again (bridge), heard another pair of blue duck and climbed up to Upper Te Hoe hut in its position overlooking the valley. Very welcome cup of tea and a repeat of the cosy evening with leisurely feasts cooked on the wood burning stove.

It snowed in a noisy, gusty hailey sort of way intermittently through the night and we were delighted to wake to winter wonderland. Just enough snow to decorate every fern and not enough to be a nuisance (except perhaps to the hardy souls who waded ahead through the overgrown track knocking the snow off for their lucky followers). We again were close to DOC times and arrived at the road end at about 12.00 after 4.5 hours. This patch of forest with its heavily moss laden beech limbs and profusion of Mountain cabbage tree (Toii) is always beautiful but was exceptionally lovely with its dusting of snow. The track was well benched with a gentle gradient but overdue for a haircut and had it been wet instead of snow we would have got soaked pushing through the foliage.



While most of us kept our hands firmly in our gloves on this pretty chilly (0-4degrees) day Dave Mullinder amazed us by continuing with his usual practice of carrying secateurs in his bare hands and trimming the track clear of bush lawyer and other overhanging nuisances as he went.

After emerging through the botanically unusual stunted forest at the end of the track we found the Pine Milling road in very good condition and strode up it to where the truck was waiting at the top of the hill. A snowy section had put them off driving down the hill but they had the Clibbornette on with a welcome head of steam for a cuppa and last of the home baking all round.

We are very grateful to Dave for driving round and making this trip possible.

Thanks to an entertaining and cheerful party for a great weekend out: Randall Goldfinch, John Montgomerie, Dave Mullinder, Peter Brown, Anne Cantrick, Scott Campbell (a wealth of historical knowledge of the area), Andy Fowler (Esteemed Leader), and Tina Godbert ( Leader's Achilles heal and scribe)

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#2075

**Barlow's Track Maintenance****7 June 2009**

The abiding memory of the trip will be, for me at least, that snow fed rivers are very cold. The first experience of this was early, when we crossed the Makororo within 30m of the warm truck. The river was up a little and the deepest crossing was that first, (and last) one. All did it bootless the first time but we were soon warm again, as we climbed up from Yeoman's Track to the ridge. Up there was fresh very fine snow, resting lightly on the mountain beech and tussock, demanding to be admired and photographed. West across the riverbed the cloud was low enough to obscure the white tops but we enjoyed some thin sunshine and made good time to the junction, now indicated by a smart DoC sign. The steep clay slope at the top of the track needed a couple of cairns, the construction of which required rocks to be kicked free of the ice glue. We were early at the small clay pan close to the start of the descent but sat on the frozen moss for a quick lunch, moved along by a light fall of very fine powder snow. At this level the route is a bit obscured by patches of tussock with leaves too tough for my slasher and too numerous for secateurs. But most of our markers were still in place so finding the way was never difficult. The wind there must at times be ferocious, as even under a good canopy some of the triangles had been blown off their nails. The lower end of the track was, as usual, smothered by rampant Buddleia and as usual we hacked it back.

After a brief stop at the very smart Barlow's Hut we made our way rather slowly down the frigid river bed, eventually catching Andy who claimed to have landed an enormous trout. But as none of us actually saw it we put it down to a hallucination brought on by cold knees, and the wish not to be seen as yet another underachieving Scot. A rising full moon guided us back to the truck and comfort. David drove us back to the realities of civilization at the end of a productive day.

ML

Party: Graeme Hare, Brent Hickey, Andy Fowler, Tina Godbert, Anne and David Blake, Glenda Hooper, Maureen Broad, Chris Waldron, Mike Lusk.

#2076

**Tramp Longview Hut****Wed 10 June 2009**

A 7AM start for this as we had some distance to cover.

The weather forecast was not too flash but it was quite warm and we picked up Jocelyn at Wakarara Road and soon arrived at Kashmir Road. Two or three of the inclines together with boggy patches proved quite a challenge for Colleens car grounding on a couple of occasions but these were overcome with no further problems. Since my last visit to Moorcock Saddle a nice toilet and information board have been added to the parking area. A nice one DOC !.

Given that the weather had closed in most of us donned all our gear and made our way up the track into the thick mist which was to stay with us till Longview hut in just under 2 hours. Some rainy and squally patches but not too unpleasant but Longview didn't live up to its name for the view but the hut was very tidy and Keith managed to get the heater working with some juggling. A far cry from the Longview of old.

After lunch some elected to walk along to Rocky Knob to find the Tarn whilst the others elected to return to the Car Park where we regrouped and after hot drinks we returned to Pernel's arriving about 4.30 PM.

RB.

Party: Marion Nicholson, Colleen Smith, Jocelyn Baker, Bobby Couchman, Keith Thompson, Gary Smith, Rodger Burn

Off track, camping, shortest day, recent snow fall, cold southerlies forecast....Hell with Harrington...we shivered in anticipation.

Climbing out of the truck at 8.30am at Clements Road end the reality was Happy with Harrington as Dave led us on a crisp but sunny morning up the beautiful track towards Cascade Hut. We left the track at the highpoint and headed east. Had an early lunch at 11.30 in a sheltered and sunny saddle before climbing onto a ridge. The Ridge system would lead over a high point of 1338m then eventually with a few twists and turns continue all the way down to the confluence of the Tiki Tiki and the Kaipo rivers.

We found occasional evidence of an old forest service track and generally good going through open beech forest despite debris from past winter storms. It was fun picking a route and trying to travel at a reasonable speed because we had a fair distance to travel and not much daylight. Even with the ridge being as clear as could be hoped for we only made 1-1.5 km per hour.

A cold southerly blew across the ridge and the next hill to the south was clagged in. A rainbow wavered menacingly towards us across the valley for much of the afternoon but thankfully it held off and we stayed in sunshine. At a saddle 3km from the confluence we decided that with daylight in short supply we would drop down to the north and take our chances beside the closer Tiki Tiki instead of continuing to the Kaipo.



After longer than expected climbing in and out of small ravines and scrambling over and under rotten logs we arrived in the gathering gloom on the banks of the Tiki Tiki. To our right the river roared and narrowed so we turned upstream and happily found a good camping spot 5 minutes up the creek. Resident Blue Ducks checked us out and Whioed at us and came back again when we lit a camp fire to tell us what they thought about that.



## Pohokura

A social evening beside the fire with rounds of post prandial treats was followed by a very welcome early bed.

Sunday we had a shorter walk so cruised off about 8.30 to explore down the Tiki Tiki. The roaring gorge of the night before was very impressive and the river valley lovely in the low green light. Dave kept his promise of keeping our feet dry with the unexpected assistance of a natural pumice bridge over a side stream.

An hour later we joined the Te Iringa-Oamaru track at a lovely campsite beside a major side stream. This benched track steadily eased our way up to Te Iringa. After a fine lunch at the old hut site, being still well ahead of schedule we dozed in the sun. Kakariki were calling and seen over the clearing. We were at the carpark by 2.30 where we brewed up and played games to keep warm until birthday boy Graeme Hare arrived with the White Carriage to whisk us home.

Thank you Graeme for soloing to Cascade on your birthday thus making our one way trip possible. Thank you Dave Blake for driving at the crack of dawn on Saturday and bringing us snoozers all safely home again. Thank you Dave and Debbie for sharing navigational tips, involving us all in decision making, taking us to this beautiful area and inspiring us to tramp more off track.

It takes 3 hours from Taradale to Clements road end-longer than you would think looking at the map.  
TG

Happy with Harrington Party: Dave and Debbie Harrington, Dave Blake, Anne Cantrick, Andy Fowler and Tina Godbert.

<b>#2078</b>	<b>Birthday Boys Bash at Robson Lodge</b>	<b>24 - 25 June 2009</b>
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After the disappointment of having to cancel last year due to weather conditions this year the Weather Gods offered us brilliant weather.

A good turnout of 12 members staying at the Lodge plus 4 in their mobile homes and we had all the ingredients for a great night. Robson Lodge was very clean and with a log fireplace and wetback allowing for constant hot water which was a bonus.

As we didn't have to carry our chattels very far all the little luxuries were in evidence with Pam ( our Camp Mother ) having made huge tureen of soup, Randall had made a fruit cake, Garry brought Ice cream with stewed Black Doris plums and everybody else brought a whole pile of tasty snacks and something to drink.

That afternoon some of us went down to the 23M waterfalls on the Waikarokaro stream which was quite impressive Mike went to the twin Lakes for a spot of fishing and returned much later to find the logging trucks had locked the gate. The Gentry's soon organised games in the evening whilst others just socialised or read books in the most comfortable lounge with Randall keeping the fire going from the ample supply of wood.

Thursday we split into different parties with Randall disappearing at speed on a private mission to our hut at Kiwi Saddle whilst Graeme led a small party up mount Te Iringa into the snow. Others on a time constrain elected to go up the Comet with Ken to a DOC Forestry hut on the Eastern Side of the Range along a well concealed route off the main track which needed some caution at times. All groups were back at the Lodge by Mid Afternoon and after fortifying ourselves with the rest of Pam's soup and snacks most packed up and made their way back to town.

Rodger, Randall and Jim had the Lodge to themselves for Thursday night and with a much reduced decibel level managed to polish off all the surplus food. Friday morning we cleared up, refilled the wood bins and just prior to leaving Eddie Te Kahika the DOC area manager turned up and we had quite a chat and complemented him on the facilities. Everyone said how much they enjoyed the occasion and want more of the same for next year so I will provisionally book it in for the same time in 2010. Thanks to everyone for making it such a successful occasion. RB.

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Party: Jim Hewes, Marion Nicholson, Pam Turner. Shirley Bathgate, Graeme Hare, Mr & Mrs Lyn Gentry, Randall Goldfinch, Gary Smith, Judy McBride, Mike and Ros Lusk, Ken Nugent, Marg Musson, Philip Mardon, Rodger Burn,

**#2079      Holts Bush & Lake Tutira area**

**Wed 8 July 2009**

It was not the best of weather to be going for a walk, never-the-less seven of us plus Marions 2 grandsons decided to go anyway. Holts Bush was Robert Holts life long leisure project, He and his wife converted a wilderness of bracken fern and manuka into a beautiful area of trees and flowering shrubs. In the understory there were lots of luxurious native ferns as well as plants to provide food for the birds. We walked around most of the tracks and all was well until Colleen slipped on a greasy board while crossing a bridge. After a rest she appeared okay so we slowly made our way back to the cars. Not the best day to have a lunch in the open so we packed up and drove to Lake Opouahi where there is a good shelter. After lunch we decided to go home rather than walk round in the drizzle.

Party: Bobby Couchman, Garry Smith, Marg Musson, Colleen Smith, Graeme Hare, Judy McBride Marion Nicholson plus 2

**#2080      Napier Hills**

**Wed 15 July 2009**

Nine keen trampers met in Thackeray St Napier to walk up and down as many steps as we could fit in while doing a circuit round - through Hospital and Bluff hill. Graeme started off by wanting morning tea but he had to wait till we got to the lookout above the port at lunchtime.

It was a perfect place for a picnic, sunny and out of the wind. On the way back Graeme wanted to walk through the new Scenic Circle hotel entrance. I don't think they had ever had such a scruffy bunch going through before! Still he showed us how to recognise Art Deco buildings so we had an interesting and enjoyable day out with very good company. We finished off at a Cafe for a welcome coffee.

Party: Bobby Couchman, Keith Thompson, Gary Smith, Graeme Hare, Marion Nicholson, Marg Musson, Alistair Shaw, Rodger Burns, Judy McBride.

**#2081      Waikamaka & Sunrise Huts**

**2 August 2009**

Party A: Our Day trip to Waikamaka Hut via the Waipawa River started with some people choosing to walk in past Triplex Base Hut, up the Sunrise track, then turn off at the saddle down to the Waipawa river. Others continued with the truck to the road end and started walking up the Waipawa river where we all met on the river bed upstream of the Waipawa Forks Hut. The weather remained dry with a cool draughty wind blowing up at the Saddle where we negotiated large patches of firm snow.

Graeme & Adrian decided to turn back before the saddle and return to Waipawa Forks Hut for lunch. The remainder continued down the Waikamaka Stream side with more snow to fool around on, finally reaching Waikamaka hut for lunch and hot drinks. I had never been there in winter time, with so much snow around, it made travel slower and everyone was certainly happy to be in the hut for shelter. Afterwards the group was off on the return trip back over saddle and down the Waipawa River direct to the truck parked on the river bed. Hot drinks, food plus dry clothes and off home. A good day out and nice to have some new company.

RG

Party: Andy Fowler, John Montgomerie, Randall Goldfinch, Gerald Blackburn, Jason McKinley, Des Smith, Peter Brown, Adrian Brown, Graeme Hare.

Party B: After the real Trampers had made their minds up to go up to Waipawa Saddle and beyond in most unpleasant conditions the More sensible ones elected to go to Sunrise hut.

A DOC notice at the start of the track warned about track damage and heavy snow near the tops but even so it only took a extra 20 minutes at a leisurely pace to reach the hut in the face of a freezing gale.

A young Maori lad Roydon from Gisborne had his first walk in snow and his excitement was quite infectious and withstanding that he was about a quarter of our age his enthusiasm was dulled a bit when he poked his nose over the ridge behind the hut and experienced the full force of mother nature.

Mike arrived just a little later and we were the only ones at the hut although on the return journey we met some walkers quite inadequately dressed for the conditions and advised them accordingly.

We ambled back via the swamp track to the track at the end of North block road and relaxed over a hot drink for the others who returned a bit later looking the worse for wear.

RB

Party B: Judy McBride, Marion Nicholson, Bobby Couchman, Marge Musson, Roydon, Mike Lusk plus 2 friends, Rodger Burn

## Private Trips

### Five Pass Trip - Fiordland

12-20 April 2009

After looking forward to the challenge of this trip for a year or so, after the planning and then arranging cheap flights to Queenstown [booked in February] it was so good to be finally in a van on the way to Glenorchy on the Monday morning the 12<sup>th</sup> April.

Since the Five Pass trip, in the direction [anti clockwise] that we were doing it in, in fact ended up at the start of the Routeburn track, and decided to try to get a food dump at the Routeburn track road end to re stock our food after the five pass trip. This trip, just known as The Five Pass Trip goes into remote Fiordland and apart from the beginning of the first day and the end of the last day is through untracked territory, covering about 60km in distance over five alpine passes, through river valleys, no huts and just the odd rock bivvy.

On the way from Napier to Christchurch – once we could see the S I mountains, they were looking like full winter snow! Oh dear.

We knew there had been some snow but on DOC advice did not take crampons [only ice axes in case] and as we left Christchurch, we pondered on the no crampons question. On descending into Queenstown and got below the cloud there was little evidence of snow apart from what you would expect on the tops, so we were a little relieved !

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> [day 1] Our prayers were answered when Shirley Bathgate contacted her good friend Iris Scott of Rees Valley Station just above Glenorchy and we were able to contact her directly to make arrangements for the food dump - the van from Queenstown on the Sunday morning dropped us off at Rees Valley Station where we met Iris, and as time was short for the distance we had to cover to make the food dump - we had to reluctantly turn down the offer of a cup of tea.

Both our six day packs and a 10 litre paint pail [ with three extra days food, other necessities and some luxuries] were loaded onto the tray of the Landrover, off we set for the Routeburn Track road end, found a suitable hiding place for the food, then returned back to the station and then up the road on the other side of the Dart River to Chinamans Bluff where the road ended, this all involved about a 70km round trip.

The day was almost perfect, clear and sunny yet cloud was obscuring only the tops way deep in Fiordland so was a great positive start for us.

The reason for the tight timing was that Dart River Jet Boats by prior arrangement had said that if we were there at 10.30am at Chinamans Bluff that they could take us across and about 3km up the Dart to drop us off at the Beans Burn confluence, to save the risks [high] of crossing the dart which was in fact still high from a 10 year flood the previous Wednesday.

This was interesting in itself as the river had changed big time and some of the rapids were quite “bony” scraping the hull as the driver was trying to read the river as we went along. Incidentally the price of this jet boat trip was a dozen Heinekin beers.

A pair of hunters shared the jet boat ride too and as it left there, we were now committed to a great

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adventure, and the hunters were to camp somewhere handy, so off up the Beans Burn we headed. The first hour is on a marked track then onto a long grassed flat and more bush until it broke out into the open country of the upper valley about 10km from the start. We located the rock bivvy and made ourselves comfortable in the one we thought was best, it is an enormous rock fall from aeons ago and had several cavities to choose from which over the years have been carpeted with tussock leaves harvested from outside. We chose the Hilton option, the highest one but had a disadvantage of being a wind tunnel from the south – our sleeping bags got blown to the back of the cave at one stage! and there was even an old blue tarpaulin to put on the floor too which had to be weighted with rocks.

The weather packed it in that night and it rained from the southwest and strong winds, our bivvy was not threatened by rain as the entrance was a wide 'tunnel' so keeping dry was not an issue.

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> [ day 2 ] Next morning more of the same and more wind – so the decision was made to hole up for the day, as it was unpleasant and the Fohn Saddle would have been zero visibility stuff, not to mention navigation, and no views or enjoyment.

We had allowed 6 days if necessary [and had 7 days food if it came to the worst] to do the trip which has been done in about four days by some but would have not been enjoyable, and so the Monday 13<sup>th</sup> was a 'rest' day that we could afford anyway at this early stage – sleep in and cups of tea and for guess who – coffee ! we were both dozing after lunchtime and heard voices! Who has invaded our territory! it was a group of 10 from Otago who were the remains of a group of 12, but two had to turn back mid way through being unfit, they had done the trip clockwise starting at the Routeburn Track. We 'joined' them as they had their lunch in another cave of the bivvy - most were in a wet cold state which was not surprising.

Well darn it later in the day about mid afternoon two guys from Dunedin woke me up by talking down below our bivvy cave and startling me - I thought it was in the morning! but on coming too realized what was what, Anne too I think. Anyway they had seen nothing all day and had difficulty navigating down from the saddle, so decided to pitch tent in the shelter below our cave and spend the night. We had some contact with them, and blow me down about 6pm a young couple who were students from Dunedin stopped to talk but moved on to camp as late as near darkness would get them down the Beans Burn. They had struggled down from the Fohn Saddle too.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> [ day 3 ] dawned clear and calm, what luck, and so bade farewell to our cave haven and yesterdays campers and pressed on up the valley to where we had to ascend a very steep tussock face up into an alpine basin and on up to the Fohn Saddle. Views back on the way up were magnificent, and a fore runner of what we were yet to see on the trip.

As we climbed up to the Fohn Saddle we were anticipating what we would see based on what others had said and we had read, great vistas of the Barrier Range, the Olivine River valley and the Darran Mountains and Mount Tutoko in the distance – all a bit on the grand scale compared to the Kaweka's !

After lunching in the sun on the saddle and photos we moved down to the actual lakes and after wondering if we were sane, had an obligatory dip in the lake, probably only a few degrees C ! refreshing to say the least.

The way down to the Olivine ledge was clear and obvious and just as the pre reading said, down through rocky areas and bluffs to the actual 'ledge'. We forgot to have a look at the rock bivvy there unfortunately and carried on along the ledge – a wide sloping terrace heading towards Fiery Col and after a few kilometers found a series of tarns at the highest point and pitched tent there for the night. Our meal was finished by dark [which is an hour later down there than the N. I] It was a calm night and after watching a spectacular sunset the stars were so clear and bright.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> – [day 4] onwards on another clear bright day along the ledge to cross Fiery Creek and climb on up to the Col through the red 'ultramafic' rock as it is known. It was just on 0 deg C with a breeze and from here you could see back along the Ledge, down the Olivine River and up the Forgotten River valley up to the snowy tops of the Olivine Ice Plateau area which I would have dearly liked to have got to, but would have meant another four days minimum to do, and an arduous route as well. To the east below was Cow Saddle – the third 'pass' of the five to which we descended down rock fall slopes and around bluffs to get to, and a very wet boggy area too, would be hard to find a dry spot to camp on !

We had considered going from Cow Saddle west down the Olivine River to climb Alabaster Pass for

a look over further west and in to the Hollyford valley, but quickly worked out that it would have taken really another day, so the option of using this at the other end was attractive instead.

As we were descending to the saddle, with a view to the west we could see a change in the weather coming. Not long over the Saddle while checking out the rock bivvy that is in amongst dozens of rocks the size of houses, it was a case of looking at the area and guessing which rock is the bivvy. We did find it but it was too early in the day and if it rained we were on the wrong side of the river [ Hidden Falls Creek ] - and did it rain ! It was just persistent light rain but as we made our way down the valley through a couple of kilometers of rock fall from the range above – very slow going – it got heavier. We then crossed the river at the point Moirs Guide South indicates and proceeded to a suitable area to camp in under Park Pass. A grassy area under young beech trees was the spot but by now the rain was good old Fiordland RAIN, getting the tent up and our stuff into it was a mission keeping things dry. I had made up a small ‘porch’ for my tunnel tent that could be attached to suitably placed trees and used it for the first time, choosing a spot that had trees strategically placed! This proved a godsend as we could cook under it [after filling up everything that would hold water from the river] to save having to get out again.

It rained cats and dogs all night and the river got angry, and the wind blew, roaring through the trees, no half dead old ones though luckily, and at times finding its way down through them and lash the tent, it was like someone kicking the tent ! We were so pleased that we were not camped out on the open Olivine ledge as we had the previous night! It was a case of hoping the tent would hold up, and it did.

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> [ day 5 ] Next morning at daylight I got up and what a soggy sight. Any way breakfast had and packed up, our luck was holding as the rain stopped and a clearance was looking likely. Off down the valley to pick up the reportedly hard to find route up to Park Pass which was not hard to find, and was it steep – 600 m climb in 1km! and once on the pass or at least above the bush line it was clear and almost sunny but cool. If we could have trusted the day to continue we might have wound our way up through the bluffs and seen the vista of the Park Glacier. After enjoying the views we descended into the Rock Burn valley which is fed by the water from the Park Glacier, and is it cold – the water has only been about five minutes since it had been ice! Continuing on we camped in a nice spot in the first main grassy flat above Theatre Flat . It was just humbling to be there and feel an insignificant part of what was around us, glacial carved valleys, high mountains and snow and ice on the tops, and to have lived in harmony with our surroundings and coped with the risks and challenges it presents ,for it cares not whether we live or die there.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> [ day 6 ] dawned mostly clear after a rain shower in the night, so on down the valley to Theatre Flat , a long grassy flat with ‘islands’ of beech trees along the way and eventually to the bush margin, across the bridge to carry on the true right through beech forest. But about midday the rain started and kept on and on .After spotting a white tail hind and fawn, the only deer we saw [ and heard none – considering it was in the ‘roar’ season ] we carried on to lunch in the shelter of an overhanging rock with the company of a little robin, just below where the track splits up to Sugar Loaf Pass or carries on down to the Dart River. It was again straight up, and the rain getting heavier, and of course eventually we broke the bushline and had some distance over tussocky water saturated land to the highest point, where I found that the cellphone worked [027] I made a few calls trying to keep the phone from drowning in the rain ! On down through tree root infested tracks – nice in the rain – to pop out on a REAL track, the Routeburn track , not far up the track from the road end shelter. We arrive at the \$.9m shelter OUT OF THE RAIN, luxury about 6pm. I immediately went and retrieved the 10l paint pail and marvelled at its contents, some of which was some high octane rocket fuel, nice to taste. We were able to take over the shelter and spread out and get into dry gear and relax as the rain continued. It was surprising how comfortable the thermarest mattresses were on cold concrete, with a bit more puff into them.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> [ day 7 ] Could we believe it – a clear sunny day for us to use, I think it was about 10am [ quite slack really ! ] before we re- hid the bucket and set off to use the remaining days that we could have needed on the big trip but thankfully still had at our disposal.

The track [highway] was hard to get used to! and having not been there before was another story unfolding. The scenery of the Routeburn River churning through the gorge, then the peace of the Routeburn Flats and on to the ‘hut’ of the same name for lunch in the sun and finishing the drying of

still wet clothing from yesterday. From here good vistas of the new surroundings, and a look up Emily Creek and up to Emily pass where we would cross back to here from in two days as a short cut back. On up to the Routeburn Falls hut [castle] for after noon tea and soon pressed on through the high valley above to the Harris Saddle and the remarkable views from there. We left the shelter there and moved up the valley and camped above Lake Harris for the night. A constantly changing sight was the fog/cloud that intermittently poured through the Harris Saddle from the south like a big monster breathing.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> [ day 8 ] A foggy night cleared up but cloudy, and today [ at the suggestion of the DOC warden at Routeburn Falls hut who we met on the way in ] we left packs and headed up the Valley of the Trolls in the Routeburn headwaters, climbed to the views of Wilson Lake, a five hour side trip, but worth it, amazing green-emerald green waters which would have illuminated if the sun had come out. It was a true hanging valley glacial lake , we were so pleased to have known about it.

Back to our packs and down the valley to the Harris shelter again to mingle with the 'Routeburn walkers' or tourists and moved quickly on above the Hollyford high up and on to Lake McKenzie with a mix of mysterious foggy and clear sunny views on the way. After quite a few k's traversing at a high level the track zigzags down to Mckenzie hut, with good views up the valley to Emily Pass where we would be climbing tomorrow. A quick brew on the hut cooker and on again driving ourselves! We made it about a quarter of the way up to the Pass and were forced to find a compromise camp site in the rocky valley modified by ice axe and lots of tutu brush to soften the rocky base, as darkness was coming, it seems to come on much more quickly than up north. I had a job finding water but succeeded. We had effectively covered about three quarters of the whole track in a day and a quarter!

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> [ day 9] Up and away by about 7.30 in passing cloud/fog up to Emily Pass and arrived there in the clear after a route of continuous rock fall, at about mid morning. We had views 360 deg especially out towards Mt Earnslaw which we had not seen before and again at about 0 deg. We had no time to waste as we had a bus to catch at 2pm at the road end, so descended the north side of the pass, was ok to start but became a snowgrass rock descent at about 70 deg slope for a bit , so good footholds were important ! Down into the tussock basin to find the route down into Emily Creek which was about as vertical as a creek could be, and emerged again on to the Routeburn track and booted it back to the road end, Anne got there before me and saw the back of the bus disappearing with no intention of waiting for us!

We regrouped at the shelter again and a family worked out our dilemma and kindly offered to take us to Queenstown and would not let us even shout them an ice cream at Glenorchy !

Back to the back packers and a clean up and a pork roast at the food hall at the shopping mall, boy, did we enjoy that!

Civilisation was nice now but the wilderness had been a moving experience and a real eye opener.

The wilderness will never be out of my blood I think, and Anne too - she calls it her temple - in it there is peace, solitude, challenge and reflection.

Next day a bus trip to become tourists at Arrowtown before the flight back to Hawkes Bay after lunch.

John Montgomerie and Anne Cantrick.

# HTC Bike Trips



## **Apley Road Circuit**

**Wed 18 May 2009**

We were down to explore the Kereru Road area but we opted for a new venue instead.

Meeting at the Puketapu Hotel at 9.30 the FAB 5 were soon away into a strong biting head wind along Dartmoor Road .

On turning into Apley Road we enjoyed a strong tail wind which carried us up Apley road with ease till the junction with Puketitiri Road where we just soaked up the views for a little while.

On again along the tops we were again buffeted by strong winds as we attacked the undulating Puketitiri road enjoying the rural scenes before dropping down to the Hotel arriving back about 11.45. covering a quite hard fought 28Km. We were all home before 1Pm.

RB.

Cyclist: Mr & Mrs Lyn Gentry, Judy McBride, Alasdair Shaw, Rodger Burn

## **Cycle Ride Rotary Pathway**

**Wed 3 June 2009**

Again a change of venue but it doesn't seem to affect attendances.

We met at the Clive Hotel at the very civilised hour of 10AM and with the prospect of a very pleasant ride which proved to be the case. Joining the cycleway at the Clive bridge and dodging the cow poo for the first Km we were soon on the smooth pathway and coasting along the Marine parade arriving at the Harbour side quite quickly.

After all this frantic activity we stopped at a Cafe which Bob had selected for a Coffee where we enjoyed a most leisurely break before returning to Clive by the same route.

RB

Cyclists: Judy McBride, Joan Ruffell, Bobby Couchman, Mr & Mrs Lyn Gentry, Bob & Heather Carter, Alasdair Shaw, Rodger Burn

## **Cycle Ride Puketitiri Rd – Seafield Rd**

**Wed 17 June 2009**

On Wednesday morning, 3 of us met at Taradale ready to attack the "Puketitiri Circuit". There was a very cold southerly blowing but the sun was shining and when we got into the hills it became quite warm. Our first hill, 5 minutes into the trip was the Poraiti rising. Well done Judy, the only one who didn't have to resort to walking. Further along the Puketitiri Road we came to our second hill. This was a rather long affair and half way up we had to stop and take off one of our layers of clothes (and have a rest)! Suddenly we spotted a cyclist putting us to shame, cruising up the hill. To our surprise our numbers grew to 4 as we welcomed Max to our group. He had managed to sleep in but didn't have too much trouble catching us.

We continued up and down, up and down, turning into Seafield Road and rolling into Bay View. The hills were a great riding (walking) challenge but the going down was completely exhilarating. Speeds in excess of 50 kph were achieved. We continued along the pathways back to Taradale with Max showing us a few short cuts through a camping ground and over the old bridge at Pandora. We arrived back at our cars at 12.30. This was a great ride. A very enjoyable challenge and lovely company.

P.G.

Cyclists: Peggy Gulliver, Judy McBride, Mr Lyn Gentry, Max Neumegen.

August 2009

**Cycle ride Pakowhai Country Park to Clifton Cafe & Return**

**Wed 29 July 2009**

The ride began at the Pakowhai Park, and the first obstacle was soon encountered, a dog-dropping slalom on the old bridge. This was a foretaste of droppings ahead, as we encountered those of sheep, goat, horse and cow, the last organic. Also noted were the odour of pig waste, (also organic), and human, (no doubt partly so). All very rural, and the possibility of an opposition to the Wine Trail obviously arises.

Much of the chat focussed upon that area between and above the big toes called, in polite sports commentary, 'the groin'. While we mercifully didn't actually see any of these, we did spot a groyne just south of the Ngaruroro river mouth, and in the easterly conditions it too was being punished.

Rodger was at his most attentive, especially when any of the ladies had maladjusted seats, but eventually his second flat tire diverted him. Being the Leader, he unfurled his cell phone and commanded the presence of his support team, but Pam didn't arrive until we had staggered, humiliated, into the Clifton Café. It being lunchtime, we had morning tea.

The return journey was more focussed and we arrived back, via another puncture, in time for a late lunch, or early dinner.

Lessons to be learned:

1 Don't carry heavy cameras in loosely attached front baskets. In doing just that, I realised why well endowed ladies weave such an unsteady course, especially when hurrying.

2 You don't get punctures while tramping.

3 The exaggerated codpieces worn by Tour de France competitors are not just to attract the podium bimbos. ML

Cyclists: Rodger Burn, Jim Hewes, Peggy Gulliver, Bobby Couchman, Judy McBride, The Gentrys, the Lusks, the Carters, Gary Smith, Marion Nicholson

**Cycle from Camp David to Waipawa & return**

**Wed 12 August 2009**

8.30 am. On a cool fine morning at Rose & Shamrock car park 10 of us met and then drove together out to Camp David to park our cars and have the use of toilets. We thanked them with a donation of \$10.

9.10 am. We headed south along Middle Rd. A helicopter was spraying the pasture on the side of the hills. What for, we couldn't work out. We turned right into Te Karu Rd, through into Elsthorpe Road, stopping in a farm gate way for drinks & nibbles. Here Mr Lyn spied two old cars in the garage needing TLC. Our ride took us left into Todds Rd. What good looking country this is, with new born lambs running around everywhere. Then right into Pourerere Rd with the Tuki Tuki river on our left, right again up the hill into Ireland Rd at Waipawa township. Most of us walked up this. My excuse was to warm up my feet! Then it was about 5km along White Rd into Otane, where we had a great lunch at McCauleys Store & Cafe outside in the sun.

Homeward bound via Elsthorpe Rd, Te Kura Rd, then Middle Rd to Camp David at around 2 pm. At 48.5 km, a good days biking.

BC

Cyclists: Marion Nicholson, Diane Sye, Peggy Gulliver, Bobbie Couchman, Lyn & Lyn Gentry, Rodger Burn, Alasdair Shaw, Garry Smith & Bob Carter



## **HTC DRIVERS; WHAT AN INCREDIBLE BUNCH!**

I am sure we all agree that our truck/bus IS THE CLUB. It unites us in every way. It is transport, shelter, and even a bedroom. The camaraderie, fun, serious discussions, rest and relaxation on the journeys has to be experienced to be understood; all the while our drivers', sacrificing so much, so uncomplainingly ferry us far and wide.

What a reliable bunch of people they are; and where would HTC be without them? They often sacrifice the pleasures of actually going off on the trips, to keep themselves rested and alert for driving. They nurture the "Truck Party," putting up with idle chatter when in fact they would rather be quietly reading or even having a zzzzzzzz. The Drivers are the ones, often standing out in the rain, who pull the petrol at refuelling stops, check tyres and everything else while we race inside for the warmth, hot drinks, food and toilets. We race back out again, tumbling into our little house- haven, with delightful smells of food wafting around us, leaving the Driver to put up the ladder, close doors and check all is well.

Pause now and think how YOU can make it just that little bit easier for the Driver. It is not their job to check the lockers are closed, doors shut, Clibbornette put away, and gear not left lying about. Yes, we are all anxious to get started on the trip, but that is no excuse for leaving the tidying up to someone else. With a big trip like the forthcoming Taranaki Trundle coming up, think ahead how YOU can help, how YOU can make it that little bit easier and more enjoyable for the most important people; the Driver and the Leader. Share responsibility, keep organised and tidy; ACT instead of just watching others do it. Cherish our Drivers, make it that little bit easier for them, so they too can enjoy all that HTC has to offer.

Three Cheers for Our DRIVERS.

Pam Turner.

# **CLUB NEWS:**

### **Obituary: Jack Landman**

I suppose that there won't be many of you reading this who tramped with Jack, because Jack's tramping days were back in the 1950s. But some of you might have known Jack as a teacher, or through his other activities as a car enthusiast, musician, lover of ocean beach, family man or in his later years, woodturning. I remember Jack from when I was a child and he used to work with Dad at Arataki, which is not surprising as he saved my life, pulling me out of the swimming pool at Golden Springs, thank you Jack. After he retired from teaching he returned to Arataki as a retirement job and we became friends, especially after we introduced him to the woodturning club. Jack tramped at a time which for most of us is now just a legend, with Phill Bayens and my Father, back when there was no road to Makahu saddle, no helicopters, no FS70 forestry huts and stretchers were made out of logs and pack frames. We will miss him and send our condolences to his wife June and his family both here and back in Holland.

Peter Berry

### **Obituary: Alastair Moffitt**

Alastair aged 80 years died in April 2009, he lived his early years in Southland, his later education was at Lincoln University where he specialized in horticulture. He came to Hawke's Bay in the 1950's for orchard experience where he met his future wife Lois while working in her family's orchard at Pakowahi. Alastair joined HTC in 1956 together with Lois (Graeme Hare joined the same year). He enjoyed his club trips until his health failed in later years.

Owen Brown

### **Annual General Meeting:**

The Clubs Annual General Meeting will be held at the Hastings Harrier Club rooms on Wednesday 18 November 2009 commencing immediately after the normal fortnightly meeting. As usual all positions are open for nominations and it would be great to have some more new faces on the committee.

**Please send any remits or nominations to the Club Secretary.**

### New Members:

The Club welcomes Colleen Smith.

### 2010 HTC Calendars Selling Now:

Orders are being taken now for next years HTC Calendar. The price has dropped to \$20 and it is the same glossy paper and format as last year in size A4. We were overwhelmed with the number of quality photographs that were submitted so are sure you will enjoy them month after month. We are printing only the number that are ordered so as not to risk having stock unsold and at this stage will probably only do one print run. It would help if you have your orders in by mid September as we intend to have them printed ready for early October well in time for Christmas posting. You can contact Lynette Blackburn on 8772340 [Blackburn.family@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Blackburn.family@xtra.co.nz) or put your order in the book at the next club meeting.

### Personal Contact Information:

If you change your Mailing Address, Home Phone number, Email Address please inform the Club Secretary Ph 844 8656 or the Club Editor Ph 845 0942. Otherwise we can loss contact with you.

## Heretaunga Tramping Club Meeting and Trip Information

### Coming Meetings:

Date	Speaker/Topic	Topic	Hosts	Supper Help
9 Sept	Mike Lusk	Native plant and wood 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	Photo competition	Show your best photos.	Chris Waldron, Jim Glass	Brent Hickey, Marjorie Musson
21 Oct	The Debate (Take 2)	"Tramping is good for you". Come & see some sparks fly.	Jeff Robertson, Judy McBride	Gerald Eyles, Anne Cantrick
4 Nov	The new DOC HB Manager Jan Hania	Hear what he has to say & it will be a chance to meet him	Ken Nugent, Marion Nicholson	Graham Ede, Anne Blake
18 Nov	AGM	Deal with the formalities then normal club night.	Jenny Lean, Graham Thorp	Des Smith, Dianne Sye
2 Dec	Randall Goldfinch	New 1:50,000 National Map series Topo50.	Murray Aitken, Des Smith	Members contribute to a Pot Luck Supper
16 Dec	Open air meeting on Marine Parade Carpark Nth of pools	After the meeting how about a round of slash & bash cricket, then a swim.	Liz Pindar, Rodger Burn	Peter Brown, Christine Snook
2010 13 Jan	Christmas trips round-a-bout	Tell about your Xmas adventures. We'll save the long trips for Club Night talks	Lynette Blackburn, Owen Brown	Helen Hare, Colleen Smith
27 Jan	Mike Lusk	Medical misadventures!!	Maureen Broad, Pam Turner	John Berry, Joan Ruffell

Meetings Committee: Alan Petersen, Anne Blake and Shirley Bathgate.

Please refer ideas for club night speakers and activities to us.

Duties of those on Host and Supper:

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](mailto:dblake@vodafone.net.nz)

**30<sup>th</sup> August**                      **Boundary Stream**                      **\$15**                      **Map V19**  
Boundary stream to Shine Falls and out Lower end. Plus other short options.  
Organiser: Marion Nicholson Ph 873 5935  
Driver:

**2<sup>nd</sup> September Wed**                      **Tramp to Lawrence Hut Area.**                      **Map U20**  
Organiser: Raewyn Ricketts Ph 877 9377.

**9<sup>th</sup> September Wed**                      **A Bike Skills Workshop**  
This will now be Max's bike skills workshop and will be held at 9.30AM @30 Leyland Rd, Onekawa. Max will run through Bike maintenance (Brakes, Oiling, Wheel removal and Chains etc) plus any other points you may wish to raise together with defensive riding and general bike skills. This is a must for all cyclists and all wannabe cyclists and we can learn a lot from this.  
Please advise either Max or Rodger if you plan to attend ...Afterwards we can go for a bike ride.  
Organiser: Max Neumegan Ph 843 6943

**12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> September.**                      **Kiwi Saddle Hut**                      **\$15**                      **Map U20**  
Leave Pernels 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

**16<sup>th</sup> September Wed**                      **Tramp the Havelock Nth Hills.**  
Maybe a few surprises here.  
Organiser: Alasdair Shaw Ph 877 6225

**23<sup>rd</sup> September Wed** **Cycle from Lake Lopez to Maraetotora Rd, along to Mohi Bush & rtn.**  
Organiser: Jim Hewes Ph877 6784

**26<sup>th</sup> Sept - 4<sup>th</sup> Oct.**                      **Taranaki Trundle**  
Come and enjoy a weekend in Taranaki, based at a 50 bunk camp in Eltham. We will be tramping and exploring the region including an overnight trip to the Pouakai hut and another to the Mt Egmont Alpine Club's Kapuni Lodge. Ring the organiser for more information.  
Organiser: Graeme Hare 844 8656  
Driver: Lex Smith & Geoff Clibborn

**30<sup>th</sup> September Wed**                      **Tramp the Manawatu Gorge Track.**  
We will start at the Southern end and two cars will be required for this expedition.  
Organiser: Joan Ruffell Ph 870 1549

**7<sup>th</sup> October Wed**                      **Cycle the Tour of the Bays Circuit**  
Organiser: Judy McBride Ph 876 9756

**9<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> October      Tongariro Crossing      \$30      Map T19 & T20**  
 A Party: Sth crater, Ngauruhoe, Red crater, Emerald lake, Oturere hut for the night, out to Desert Rd.  
 B Party: Friday night in Truck, carpark via Tama lakes, to Oturere hut for night, out as for A Party.  
 C Party: Walks with Pam including night at Waihohonu hut.  
 Organisers: A Party: John Montgomerie, Ph 877 7358, B Party: Susan Lopdell Ph 844 8697,  
 C Party: Pam Turner Ph 876 8995  
 Driver:

**14<sup>th</sup> October Wed      Overland Farm jaunt or walk the Yeomans**  
 Organiser: Marion Nicholson Ph 873 5935

**21st October Wed      Cycle Central HB Country Lanes**  
 Organiser: Marion Nicholson Ph 873 5935

**23<sup>rd</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> Oct (Labour W/end)      Tararuas      \$35      Map S26**  
 A Party: Day 0: Up to Powell Hut Thursday night.  
 Day 1: Powell- Isabell- mid Waiohine-Aokaparangi- Mangahuka  
 Day 2: Mangahuka- Kime. (and trips from there if spare time.)  
 Day 3: Kime- Alpha hut or area via dress circle.  
 Day 4: Alpha via Hells Gate and Cone Hut to Waiohine.  
 B Party: Day 1: Starting from Holdsworth carpark follow the Gentle Annie track to Powell Hut, up to Mt Holdsworth along tops to Jumbo Hut for the night.  
 Day 2: Drop Down and follow the Atiwhakatu stream back to the car park.  
 Day 3: Drive to coast S.E. of Masterton and walk the Honeycomb walkway (5-6 hours).  
 Day 4: Return tramp from Kaitoke to the Smith stream confluence. (4 hours).  
 Organisers:  
 Driver:

**28<sup>th</sup> October Wed      Tramp the Tutira Tops & Others**  
 Organiser: Rodger Burn Ph 877 6322

**4<sup>th</sup> November Wed      Cycle the Crownthorpe Circuit**  
 Organiser: Rodger Burn Ph 877 6322

**8<sup>th</sup> November      Cairn Trip      \$15      Map U20**  
 Come join the Club President on the annual pilgrimage to the memorial cairn on top of the Kaweka's.  
 A brief service will be held to remember past members. Take various options for the return journey.  
 Organiser: Alan Petersen  
 Driver:

**11<sup>th</sup> November Wed..... Tramp to Parks Peak via Sentry Box      Map U21**  
 Organiser: Judy McBride Ph 876 9756

**14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> November      Annual Hazmobile Collection**  
 We have been asked to assist at the Hazmobile Collection again in Hastings & Napier. This is a very good fundraiser for the Club and you get fed (that is good). Helpers required at the collection yards.  
 Organiser: Graeme Hare Ph 844 8656

**18<sup>th</sup> November Wed      Cycle the Tuki Tuki Circuit**  
 Organiser: Jim Hewes Ph 877 6784

**22<sup>nd</sup> November      Kaweka's      \$15      Map U20**  
 A Party: Pinks Hut, Makino Hut west along Mangaturutu Hut track to Makino river, down river to Mohaka River and out to Gums.  
 B Party: Gums into Te Puia Hut then up to Makino track and out to Pinks Hut or Hot Spring and return on Mohaka River track.  
 Organisers: A:      B: Susan Lopdell Ph 844 6697  
 Driver:

**25<sup>th</sup> November Wed      Tramp the Upper Ripia River Area      Map U19**  
 A Rare opportunity for a trip up Pakaututu Road and over the Mohaka towards the peaks with some magnificent stands of old Matai trees worth seeing.  
 Organisers: Keith Thomson Ph 877 5391

**2<sup>nd</sup> December 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

**5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> December      Ruahine Crossing      \$20      Maps T22& U22**  
 Drive Table flat Rd, Limestone Rd, Deer ford track.  
 A Party: Up Knights track, Ngamoko range via Toka & Tunup trigs to high point (trig 14071) 1590m, out via Longview Hut or Daphne Hut tracks.  
 B Party: Carpark up short track to main range, overnight at Toka Biv, return via Knights track then drive around to A party.  
 Organiser: Jeff Robertson 021 0276 1935  
 Driver:

**9<sup>th</sup> December Wed      Tramp to the Clover Patch      Map U20**  
 A easy walk via the Black Birch Bivvy. Bring your small hand saw or loppers.  
 Organisers: Jim Hewes Ph 877 6784

**20<sup>th</sup> December      Xmas family BBQ Lake Tutira      \$15.**  
 Go up the day before if you like and camp.  
 Driver:

**3<sup>rd</sup> January      Beach - Cape Kidnappers.      \$      Map W21**  
 Probably a 10am start. Walk from Te Awanga to Cape and return.  
 Organiser:  
 Driver:

**10<sup>th</sup> January      Upper Tutaekuri River      \$15      Map U20**  
 Mackintosh carpark to Tutaekuri River foot bridge and down stream to Lawrence Shelter.  
 Dry Party go to Mackintosh Hut and down spur etc to Lawrence Shelter.  
 Organiser:  
 Driver:

**17<sup>th</sup> January      Gwavas Wakarara range      \$15      Map U22**  
 From Leatherwood road up to main ridge & Poutaki Hut. Out via western branch of Poporangi Stream to GR982600 to meet the truck. Some might explore tops and return to truck to drive it around.  
 Organiser: Glenda Hooper Ph 877 4183  
 Driver:

**23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> January      Mohaka - Te Kooti's Lookout      \$15      Map V19**

When we had the last January 2009 trip Te Wae Wae in the rain we were able to look across to Te Kooti's lookout and we talked about a SUNNY weekend trip in January based by the Mohaka River going to Te Kooti's lookout and attacking Te Wae Wae from the river, up to higher ground. Could be interesting. I would be happy to arrange it.

Cheers Graeme Hare Ph 844 8656.

Driver:

**30<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> January      Waikamaka Hut plus...      \$15      Map U22**

All parties up from Triplex carpark to Waikamaka hut then...

A Party: to Waklings, Maropea forks/ Top Maropea and return.

B Party: to Waterfall Hut via Rangi saddle & return.

C Party: stay at Waikamaka Hut with the Blue ducks for the night.

Organisers A:

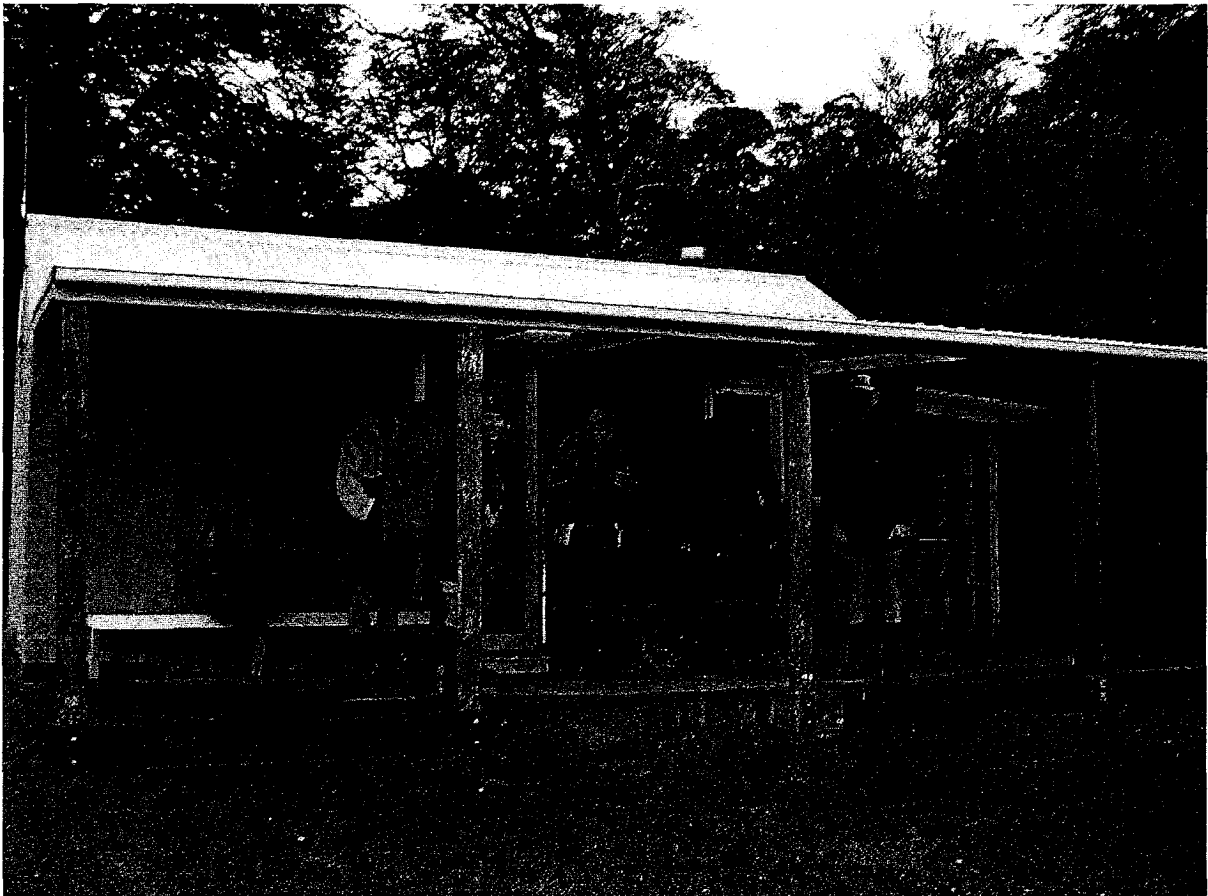
B:

C:

Driver:

**27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> February      Kaweka Challenge      Map U20**

Come and support a major club fundraiser and have some fun manning Control-sites with fellow trampers over various courses. This time overnight Makahu Course 2 has this year been dropped due to dwindling numbers. Give YOUR NAME to Sue Lopdell Ph 844 6697



Mackintosh Hut 23-24 May 2009

On a cool wet Sunday morning preparing to zoom off to Lawrence Road Car park.

