

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB P O BOX 14086 MAYFAIR
HASTINGS 4159

POHOKURA – Bulletin No 245

January 2014

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Truck:	<u>Geoff Clibborn</u> , Lex Smith
Fixtures:	<u>Susan Lopdell</u> , John Montgomerie, Graeme Hare
	Glenda Hooper, Rodger Burn (Mid-Week Group)
Huts:	John Montgomerie, Susan Lopdell, Ray Manning, Mike Lusk
Training:	<u>John Montgomerie</u> , Susan Lopdell, Mike Bull
Environment:	<u>Mike Lusk</u> , Penny Isherwood, Raewyn Ricketts
SAR:	<u>John Montgomerie</u> , Gerald Blackburn, Graham Thorp
Meetings:	<u>Lex Smith</u> , Penny Isherwood, Graeme Hare
Social:	Glenda Hooper, Raewyn Ricketts, Lyn Gentry, Heather Stephenson
Sales Rep:	Marjorie Musson, Penny Isherwood
Scrap Book:	Marjorie Musson
Library:	Liz Pindar
Editor's Assistant:	Christine Hardie
Supper:	Joan Ruffell
Photographic Records:	Glenda Hooper, Lex Smith
Membership Records:	Glenda Hooper
Web Editor:	Glenda Hooper

Club Meetings: These are held every second Wednesday (before a tramp) at the Hastings Harrier Clubrooms in Sylvan Road, Hastings. Doors open 7:30pm; visitors are most welcome. 50c donation gratefully accepted each meeting towards hall hire (*place in the old boot*).

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2013 AGM Reports

President

In a recent issue of *Wilderness* magazine, writer Shaun Barnett offered a summary of 12 types of trampers that can supposedly be encountered in the New Zealand backcountry. He described the gear freak, the great walker, the twig and tweeter, the great stalker and the survivalist among others. He gently satirised those who left rubbish or who were inconsiderate of other hut users or who talked endlessly about places overseas that they had been to. It was cleverly done and enjoyable to read, and probably there was an element of truth in it. Among the stereotypes was only one category describing someone from a club and this trumper was a freeloader! This person was someone who did no work, paid no hut fees and complained endlessly about DoC. Surely not a member of HTC – must be someone from one of those big-city clubs!!!

Which begs the question, what image does the term “club member” bring to mind? It would appear nowadays that it is somewhat old-fashioned to belong to a club of any sort. In a world of social media, professional sport, contract jobs and a huge range of leisure activities to choose from, clubs do not rate highly in many peoples’ lives, especially young people. But for someone who does belong to a club, the image is different. Clubs such as HTC provide huge social benefits for their members. They have a history of shared enjoyment, mutual support and development of skills; in short they are a reflection of the communities they are part of. Which is a long-winded way of saying that, once again, I am able to reflect on a successful year for HTC and acknowledge the part that all club members play. At the AGM we celebrate the highlights of the past year and once again recognise outstanding service by awarding our annual trophies. This time we also conferred a life membership on Susan Lopdell for her many years of outstanding contributions to HTC in a number of areas.

Looking forward: over the summer there will be a focus on maintenance of our club huts. There has already been a lot of work done on Kiwi Saddle and Howletts - with more to come – and Waikamaka will be attended to early in 2014. This is a fantastic effort and the workers involved deserve a huge vote of thanks. The huts will be in good shape for years to come.

Christine Hardie

Club Captain

Only six weeks, 42 sleeps, to Christmas! Although there is no official holiday club trip, I have no doubts that club members will be planning excursions into the hills. Already the coming year has a hive of activity planned for both the mid-week and weekend trampers. Unfortunately, this past year, a number of club trips were cancelled mainly due to adverse weather conditions but sometimes because of lack of interest. We have spread our wings wide travelling to Pureora, Whirinaki, Maungataniwha and Mount Taranaki plus the many trips within our local ranges. We have had successful combined trips with Wanganui and Manawatu Tramping Clubs and more are planned in the upcoming year. The fixtures committee has tried to deliver options to entice members out such as a one and a half-day trip into Kiwi Saddle Hut, a three-day weekend into the Northern Kawekas in September, and in early February, a four-day weekend around Waitangi Day into Waterfall Hut and our very own Waikamaka Hut. Mid-week and weekend day trips have averaged 10-11 members with weekend trips eight members and long weekend trips averaging six members. Once again Graeme Hare’s trip to Northland proved very successful as was Mike Lusk’s into the privately-owned Maungataniwha block where we assisted the ecological trust by sinking 40 gecko traps before spending the rest of the weekend exploring the vast array of tracks.

Once again Rodger Burn and his troops must be congratulated on the mid-week fixtures, with the cycling trips gaining in popularity resulting in several new members joining the club. I would like to acknowledge all those who have been on the hut, training and fixtures committees: thank you all for your contributions – a special mention to David Blake, a past Club Captain and Committee member who has resigned from all committees. Lastly, I wish to say a big thank you to all our drivers: your time and effort is much appreciated in carting us to all corners of the conservation estate.

Merry Christmas to you all, good health and safe tramping in 2014.

Susan Lopdell

January 2014

Truck

Distance covered is now 119,000 km over 14 years.

We had a series of starting problems at mid-year caused by two aged batteries and two electrical faults. All is now fixed: new batteries are in and there have been no further problems. Frontal contact with a slow duck a few months ago caused some damage to the plastic grille above the front bumper and unknown damage to the duck! A second-hand replacement (for the grille, not the duck) was sourced, modified and installed. Total cost to HTC was \$120 + GST, so no insurance claim was made. The same incident broke the RH polycarbonate headlight protector, which has yet to be replaced.

Running costs continue to rise. The latest Road User Charges for 5,000km cost \$442 which is almost nine cents per kilometre for using the road. A required Certificate of Fitness now costs \$127 every six months - just to check the truck's roadworthiness. This figure goes up each year, too.

Diesel is now \$1.50 per litre but is still cheaper than petrol. At present, walking is still free but it costs to get to the start of the track!

Our thanks are due to our small pool of drivers, especially President Christine who does lots of other stuff as well. Thanks are also due to Marion, who ensures that our mattresses always have clean covers.

Keep Trucking On!

Geoff Clibborn

Training

This year has we have unfortunately had very little in the training programme - due in part to insufficient planning and attention - and so an effort is indicated for this coming club year.

At a meeting in October we had a pack session showing the contents required for a day pack and then a weekend pack with the merits of some options, inclusions and a discussion on items.

Brian Smith also gave an interesting talk on tips for taking good photographs which was enlightening as to composing photographs, light use and the 'thirds rule' in balancing a shot.

John Montgomerie

At the Annual General Meeting held at the Hastings Harrier Club rooms on Wednesday 13 November 2013 the following awards were presented:

TRAMPER OF THE YEAR AWARD (Stan Woon Memorial Trophy)

Club Patron Jim Glass presented the award to Susan Lopdell

LEATHERWOOD TROPHY (For valuable contribution to HTC)

Graeme Hare spoke and presented the award to Geoff Clibborn

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDED

Glenda Hooper spoke and presented the award to Susan Lopdell

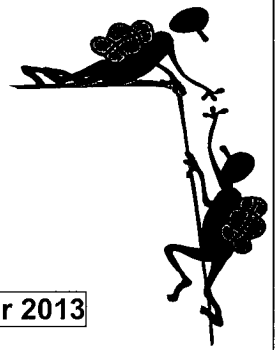
Treasurer's Report 2013

INCOME	NOTES	2013	2012
Subscriptions		\$ 2,176	\$ 2,583
Fares Received	1	\$ 9,094	\$ 6,029
Bicycle Transport		\$ 70	\$ 90
Meeting Contributions		\$ 418	\$ 431
Donations			
Hut	2	\$ 917	\$ 3,386
General	3	\$ 665	\$ 85
Fund-raising		\$ 4,224	\$ 5,603
Interest Income		\$ 6,509	\$ 6,746
Sales	4	-\$ 114	-\$ 91
		\$23,959	\$24,861
EXPENSES			
Administration		\$ 272	\$ 296
Audit & Accountancy		\$ 260	\$ 260
General Expenses		\$ 17	\$
Donations	5	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,155
Insurance (huts & equipment)		\$ 932	\$ 932
Rent of Meeting Room		\$ 408	\$ 120
Supper & Social Expenses		\$ 789	\$ 125
Library & Photo Album		\$ -	\$ -
FMC Capitation		\$ 1,030	\$ 1,010
Pohokura (Bulletin)		\$ 654	\$ 901
Hut Maintenance	6	\$ 821	\$ -
Subscriptions		\$ 57	\$ 57
Transport Costs		\$ 6,902	\$ 7,009
Truck Insurance		\$ 595	\$ 595
Equipment		\$ 397	\$ -
Telephone & Website		\$ 41	\$ 70
Write-Off	7	\$ 1,159	\$ -
Depreciation		\$ 977	\$ 4,686
		\$16,560	\$17,216
NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR TRANSFERRED			
TO ACCUMULATED FUNDS		\$ 7,399	\$ 7,646
NOTES:			
1. Fares – include 2013 Northland Trip & 2014 South Island Trip \$2280			
2. Hut Donations – 2012 One off Capital disbursement \$2750 Motere Trust wind-up			
3. Includes Nancy Tanner bequest, \$500 yet to be spent			
4. Minimal loss due to mis-match purchases and sales. Includes calendar crossover			
5. Donations – includes Lowe Walker Helicopter Trust \$1200			
6. Howletts Hut – paint flown in but application pending completion			
7. Howletts Hut - new stove / coal / helicopter			
8. Write-offs – screen/EPERB/ rope/projector/ epidioscope/tent			

Pohokura

CURRENT ASSETS		2013	2012
Westpac Cheque Account		\$ 4,754	\$ 12,432
Accounts Receivable		\$ -	\$ -
		\$ 4,754	\$ 12,432
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Westpac	Term Deposit	\$ 16,200	\$ 15,544
	Term Deposit	\$ 25,584	\$ 24,513
	Term Deposit	\$ 13,663	\$ 13,108
	Term Deposit	\$ 14,400	\$ 13,798
	Term Deposit	\$ 10,213	
HBS Bank	Term Deposit	\$ 15,257	\$ 14,615
	Term Deposit	\$ 64,768	\$ 62,064
Fixed Assets		\$ 3,881	\$ 5,259
TOTAL ASSETS		\$168,730	\$161,331
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Sundry payables		\$ 250	\$ 250
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$ 250	\$ 250
NET ASSETS		\$168,480	\$161,081
Represented by:			
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Balance at 1 October 2013		\$161,081	\$153,435
Surplus for the year		\$ 7,399	\$ 7,646
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS		\$168,480	\$161,081
AUDITOR'S REPORT TO MEMBERS OF THE HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)			
I report that I have examined the financial records of the Club and have obtained all the information and explanations that I have required.			
With organisations such as the Club, it is not possible to verify all cash received during the year and my examination of income has accordingly been limited to a comparison of recorded receipts with bank deposits. I did not however note anything that would indicate the existence of receipts not banked.			
Subject to the possible effect of the limited control over income referred to in the preceding paragraph, in my opinion, the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet show respectively a fair view of the Club's activities for the year ended 30 September 2013 and of the financial position at that date.			
W.A. Stacey.	A.C.A.	J.A. Smith	HTC Treasurer

TRIP REPORTS



#2235

Northern Kawekas

20th – 22nd September 2013

Party A

The fixtures committee decided to try a three-day weekend option by including a Friday “long weekend” and this trip was the first. The crowds were not evident as I was the only one on the A trip! Circumstances changed for the B party which also headed off via Middle Hill hut [they were destined for Ballards Hut]. It soon became evident that Scott was not so fit and he decided to join the C party of Sue and Glenda to go back to the truck at Pinks Hut. Peter had gone on ahead up the track towards Whetu but soon found that he was not going to carry on so the third member of the B party, Janice, accepted the challenge of accompanying me on the A trip! We worked our way up Ihaka Spur Track and were pleased to see that the weather was lifting. The cloud cover allowed intermittent views as we topped the bush-line. It was very cool and a strong wind from the west buffeted us on the way to Whetu high point. Snow was still widespread and we were crossing patches on our way. Apart from the very top of the Kaweka Range views were clear all round - Janice could now see the far-away Venison Tops. Onwards west past the Ballard turnoff and down into the bush for the long saddle to Venison Tops and Tira [Kelvinator] Lodge Hut, arriving there at about 6pm. It had been a 16km and 1250m climb day [sounds better at 4100 feet!] so we were pleased to stop and rest.



Tira Lodge (aka Kelvinator Lodge) at Venison Tops



Leaving Tira Lodge

Saturday morning had us moving off across another long and deeper saddle north-west towards the Mangaturutu tops with minimal visibility conditions and a cold wind. We did not linger on the open tops. Back into the bush and down to enjoy a break at Mangaturutu Hut. Forging on down the long Mangaturutu Spur got us to the headwaters of the Makino River which we travelled down in preference to the climb up to Makino Ridge and then down the steep ridge to Te Puia Hut. By now it was raining again and so we had a drippy trip. It's amazing how much water a mingi bush can douse you with! The river was much higher than usual but clear and, in the seven or so kilometres, we crossed about six times to try to pick up the bits of track. This we most often succeeded in doing and scrub-bashed the rest. One crossing was waist deep at the best place but we were pretty wet anyway so, what the heck? It amazes me that, with this valley being a good hunting area, hunters have not developed a reasonable track. There were some rudimentary track markers but they only seemed to indicate the up-river direction. Today had been about 14 km but we dropped about 990 metres.

On arrival at Te Puia Lodge at about 4pm we were surprised to find it full plus! There were 47 in three groups from schools and our HTC five - us, Sue, Glenda and Peter - so it was sardine-packed bunk space and really hot. The level of excitement from all the young people having a good time playing cards and talking, all at the same time, was so noisy that it would have been an advantage to have had earmuffs on! The decibel level was astoundingly uncomfortable but they were there for fun so that is good. Some dorks insisted on closing the doors as they got up in the night which did not help. Space was minimal to put out gear and cook. No-one from our group went to the Mangatainoka Hot Pools as there were about 20 kids there and it was raining so we lost enthusiasm. Hard rain fell at times in the night but by 7:15am had stopped and the trip out was latterly in sunshine and made for a pleasant journey. I think we got to the Gums at about 9:30am and back in town just after lunch. Janice had never done such a long trip before what with the distance and climbs and was really stoked at what she had achieved. We had had a Plan B to divert to Ballard on Day One if she had not coped well but that was not needed to be called on at all. Thanks Janice for the company or I would have been talking to myself for the trip.

JM

Party: Janice Love, John Montgomerie [leader]

Party B

A six o'clock start at Pernel Orchard [because it was going to be a big day for John's team] saw us arrive at the Middle Hill carpark just after 8am. The A & B teams hurried off but Susan and I had time to sit around and wait to hear the outcome of the America's Cup race - a loss to NZ. Saying our good-byes to Geoff and the truck, we set off along the path that first takes you down to a bridge over the Mangatutunui Stream. As we come up to the bridge Susan reckoned she saw a blue duck fly off. After the stream it was the long trudge up the spur and then the ridge until after 90 minutes or so it levelled off to a more convenient angle. It was a lovely, sunny day and many spells were had.

We arrived at the hut around noon and met up with the others to learn that Party B had now disappeared, we had gained two and John had gained Janice who headed off while we sat down for lunch. After lunch Susan and I walked through to the start of Camp Spur Track before returning to the hut. With Peter, we explored off-track some of the bush to the east of the hut and then checked out the top of the first steep descent towards Makino Hut. Back at the hut around 4 o'clock we relaxed, eventually making tea and diving into bed where we observed the brilliant full moon.

The next morning we arose early and were on our way back to the truck before eight. The weather had changed and we had our coats on before we got back to the truck (around 9:30) although it was only a drizzle. We then were transported to the Gums where we hopped out again and headed off to Te Puia, leaving Scott and Geoff at the truck.. It became wetter the further we walked and, by the time we got to the hut, we were quite damp. There were two hunters at the hut but they soon headed off to Makino Hut where the rest of their group was so we had the hut to ourselves.....

Just as it was getting time to think about heading off to the hot pools a group of 25 scouts arrived, dropped their gear and headed to the pools - so the idea of a nice soak cooled. Later, a group of 12 international students and teacher arrived and then, to cap that off we had a group of 10 Duke of Edinburgh girls arrived [having found Makino Hut full]. A bedraggled John and Janice arrived as dusk approached. So there were around 50 bodies sleeping in the hut that night and all three big groups had asked DoC who told them that it was unlikely to be crowded! Given this number of people at the hut we left early to go back to the truck (to hear us lose the next cup race) and were back in town by lunch time. GH

Party: Glenda Hooper, Susan Lopdell, Peter Brown, Scott Campbell

#2235	Maungataniwha Native Forest	5th – 6th October 2013
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I'd been to this wonderful area on the eastern side of the Whirinaki Forest a couple of times, once to help plant kaka beak and once to assist with mist netting whitehead for the Cape Kidnappers Sanctuary. So, when in conversation with Pete Shaw [who manages the area for Simon Hall] and he suggested setting up a lizard monitoring system, I decided to encourage the willing hole diggers from HTC to join me on a weekend trip. The drive from Pernel Orchard via a Taradale pick-up to the junction of Willowflat and Mokonui Roads took two hours and from there we were guided to the camp (another 30 minutes away) by caretaker Barry Crene as the road is narrow and the logging traffic is not.

Base consists of a large and very comfortable kitchen/dining/lounge room with facilities to satisfy the most critical of housewives. The picture of a pretty girl on the wall pleased the men. Close to this building is a sleeping area with shower and flush toilet and an implement shed including a large chiller and generator. Past more sheds/huts is a long flat grassy area mowed by the local deer and, just beyond that, is a stream where a pair of blue ducks and three ducklings live. The dawn chorus was loud and kiwis called in the night. Moreporks were attracted to the many puriri moths which came to the lights and on porches were boulders with dinosaur fossils clearly recognisable. All pretty overwhelming, as was the hospitality of Barry who give good advice and was quite prepared to drive us anywhere we wanted to go. Also staying were two volunteers, one a French Canadian, the other German, who were enthusiastic enough to sit at a kiwi nest from which, after a long night, they stole the egg. Two eggs were collected that night and were on their way to Rotorua by volunteer driver early next morning.

Pohokura

We put in the first pitfall grid close to base and, after lunch, the second on a terrace below a hut down on the Waiau River. It became disturbingly apparent that many members of HTC have trouble counting to 20, but at the end of the day there were roughly 20 traps at each site. Barry ferried the materials down for us and took some of us back up the hill after the work and a pleasant fossick in the area. At one spot on the riverbank were three species of spider orchid in flower, with a possible fourth, all in a radius of about 10m.

Dinner was a feast starting with nuts, cheese and biscuits and a large whitebait entrée - the results of Ken's generosity. Main course was BBQ meat expertly cooked by Peter and Brent (including plenty of venison from the latter), with a wide variety of veg both cooked and in salad form. Many of us accompanied the good food with a beer or a wine or both. Dessert, after a decent pause, was a large fruit salad with yoghurt. Thence to the sofas and a yarn or ten. The next dehy meal will bring back the happy memory of a splendid occasion. The remnants of the meal made for bubble and squeak on Sunday morning after which Christine drove us along to a track which took us to the Mangahouanga Stream where the remarkable Joan Wiffen had toiled in beautiful surrounds locating her dinosaur fossils. We didn't quite make the main site as we needed to be back at base for lunch and a little later for our exit with Barry. The trip home was broken for an ice cream at the Tutira store and it was a very satisfied group which left the truck not long after.

It seems like a good idea to set and check the traps on successive days early next year and to explore more of the area at that time.

Very grateful thanks to Simon Hall, Pete Shaw and especially to Barry Crene. In spite of there being no charge for the accommodation there was a consensus that a donation should be made to the Trust and \$20 from each on the trip will be extracted by Glenda, by force if necessary. ML

Party: Christine Hardie (driver), Sue Lopdell, Anne Cantrick, Penny Isherwood, Marion Nicholson, Fred Chesterman, Peter Brown, Graeme Hare, Brent Hickey, Glenda Hooper, Ken Nugent, Keith Thomson, Mike Lusk (organiser)

#2236	Thomas' Bush and Lake Opouahi	9th October 2013
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Ten of us set out for this easy tramp in fairly pleasant weather with a good forecast. We arrived at Lake Opouahi and first inspected the new shelter. At the entrance were huge bushes of kaka beak in full bloom. The group set off around the lake and began the climb up to Thomas's Bush. Because of the predator-proof fence we heard plenty of birdlife, saw three kereru and a delightful robin. After crossing the marshy section we exited the protective area, then passed through paddocks with cows with calves at foot.

Into Thomas's Bush and on to the lookout; there was plenty of clematis, fuschia and ongaonga in bloom. From the lookout we had good views but, because of the wind, we headed for a lunch stop in a sheltered spot. The rain began to steadily fall as we finished lunch so it was raincoats on as we retraced our steps back to the truck. A good day for all and especially Bobby as it was her first trip out since breaking her ankle.

Party: Sue Miles, Sandra James, Penny Isherwood, Marion Nicholson, Bobby Couchman, Christine Hardie, Garry Smith, Philip Mardon, Keith Thomson, Neil Scholes

#2236	Te Iringa, Kaweka FP	20th October 2013
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We were allowed to start at 7 o'clock this week (a much nicer approach for a tramp) and, with Peter driving a party of nine, we headed off up the Taihape Road and the Gentle Annie to the bottom of Te Iringa Ridge. With the permit to tramp in the area in the pack we started walking at around 8:30 after first doing a circuit to find the track which was essentially a tunnel through manuka and flax all the way up the spur to the ridge. Another fine day - some complained it was too hot - and there were great views out over Timahanga and Pohokura as we ascended the ridge.



The vegetation on the ridge was tussock and small shrubs interspersed with small pockets of beech trees and, in the shady spots, ourisia (mountain foxglove) were in full flower. These flowers were different from other ourisia I have seen because of their purplish sheen on what was otherwise a white petal.



Part-way up the ridge we came across a hunter lamenting the one that got away. We carried on upwards to reach the first trig around noon. The mountains on the Central Plateau were fantastic and, after taking many photos, we had lunch. Some of the group ventured over to the Mount Cameron trig but after an hour we all descended to the truck together, getting there around 3 o'clock. It was a great day out - thanks Peter for driving and to the Owahaoko C Trust for permitting us to tramp on their land. GH

Party: Glenda Hooper, Peter Berry, Mark Hutchinson, Peter Brown, Susan Lopdell, Penny Isherwood, Marion Nicholson, Fred Chesterman, Des Smith

#2237	Whirinaki Forest Park	25th – 28th October 2013
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Party A

Friday: left Pernel at 6:30am and Taradale at 6:45am to travel up the Taupo Road to Waipanga River Road where we continued via forestry roads to ex-Pukahunia Hut site. From here our mini-party A, consisting of three bods, started at 10:00am and tramped eastwards on a track up towards the Whirinaki FP track circuit and Upper Te Hoe Hut. Before reaching the circuit track and accompanied by rain showers we gained the high ridge tops, finding a derelict campsite with heaps of rubbish. We lost the track here while following the ridge top through bush thick with lawyer and the GPS working overtime. Mark dragged us back onto the track. Thereafter we were soon on the circuit track and by 4:00pm were resident at Upper Te Hoe Hut. The Wx had deteriorated with heavy rain and strong wind.

Saturday: we awoke to a lovely blue sky day and departed at 8:00am for Central Te Hoe Hut [which impressed Janice and Mark], arriving by 12pm. The track then gradually climbed south-east up to a ridge top then down to a saddle. From here the track heads downhill, blasted into the rocky hillside. After lunchtime we continued northwards along the track which had been cleared of vegetation so progress was good. Arrived at Mangakahika Hut at 4:00pm with no-one anywhere - it had been occupied by a track clearing gang which had departed for the long weekend. Their tools and equipment were all around with even a small motorised, tracked dump truck. The track from the bridge to the hut has been reformed like a narrow roadway.

Sunday: with an overcast, cooler day we departed 7:45am to Te Wairoa Hut by 10:00 – 11:00am. For the first seventy-five minutes we followed a re-cut track to meet the small excavator they used for the work. We continued on the uncleared tracks with good pace. The native bush is wonderful with massive trees. The streams and rivers are pristine, all so clear and perfect. At Te Wairoa Hut we met Scott Campbell and continued as a group of four towards Moerangi Hut which we reached by 2:00pm. Later a group of four Auckland University Tramping Club bods joined us for the night, all good company.

Monday: the weather had improved with a fine sunny day. We were packed and left Moerangi Hut by 7:10am. The track out was a gradual climb but, once over a saddle, it was downhill. We passed a section of

4WD track then back onto a track connecting to the Whirinaki River Track, later reaching the River roadend near Minganui. Once all the other tramps had arrived back we departed for Napier via Taupo.

Party: Mark Hutchinson, Janice Love, Scott Campbell, Randall Goldfinch

#2238

Cairn Trip – Kaweka FP

3rd November 2013

Hard to believe it's that time of year again! A good number of people had signed up by Saturday night and fine weather beckoned [for a change!] The President was feeling the effects of a stomach disorder so delegated truck care and fare-collecting to others which meant that preparation and departure went smoothly. The Kaweka massif was clear and snow-free on our arrival so everyone was underway fairly quickly. Trials Spur was the ascent route of choice: the lower zigzags continue to show the effects of numerous heavy rain storms but higher up the route remains easy to follow, even in the notorious gut above Dominie. Nobody reported any problems and even the slowest group was at the J within a couple of hours. Everyone had a rest, a snack and a good look at the views on every side.

Not long after 11 o'clock, right on cue, Chris Cross' little yellow chopper appeared from the east and moved smartly upwards before describing a grand aerial circle above the flat piece of ground below the trig where it settled gracefully. Out of the cabin appeared our visiting celebrities, Patron Jim Glass escorted by HTC Life Member, Pam Turner and her granddaughter, Carlee. The helicopter took off immediately [it is allowed to carry out drop-offs and pick-ups only at this point] and our "visitors" joined the HTC throng. Once everyone was gathered, a short commemoration was held with Jim giving a reading of Lester Masters' poem, "High Hills", an appropriate piece for the occasion. Once again, we thought about the men whose names are on the cairn plaque before laying the wreath that Pam had constructed and that Brent had carried up to the J. It is reassuring to note that such a high importance is placed on this tradition and that the Cairn Trip remains so well supported by HTC members.



People didn't linger on the tops because of the cool southerly breeze that was slowly gaining in strength. John Monty took off with a small group to descend Makahu Spur while the majority elected to come down the same way as they had come up. As we all moved off, the chopper reappeared from its resting place at Makahu Chalet and picked up its party. After another circle it flew quickly over Matauria and Black Birch Ranges towards its Puketitiri base. The main group of walkers was back at the truck before two and Monty's group emerged, a little scratched by contorta, not long afterwards. This meant that we had nothing left to do except find our way to the Turner farm for afternoon tea. A fantastic spread awaited us, thanks to Marion who had come out to the farm to oversee preparations. When everyone was replete we had a wander about

Pohokura

the paddocks near the house before piling into the truck and going home. Unfortunately, as we later found out, we left about fifteen minutes before the kiwi team arrived from Makino with two chicks ready for the Opouahi crèche so the chopper party members were the only ones lucky enough to see such a rare treat! CH

Party by Truck: Christine Hardie [leading from the rear], Susan Lopdell, Geoff Clibborn [driver], Randall Goldfinch, Alan Berry, Glenda Hooper, Graeme May, Brent Hickey, Graeme Hare, Des Smith, Elizabeth Pindar, John and Richard Montgomerie, Penny Isherwood, Mark Hutchinson, Janice Love, Ray Manning, Derek Boshier, Roy Frost, Garry Smith, Ali Hollington, Fred Chesterman

Joined by: Michael Bull, Kathy and Samara Eggers [on foot];
Pam Turner, Jim Glass, Carlee Eggers [airborne]

#2238	Manawatu Gorge Track	20th November 2013
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This was a long awaited trip that had had to be cancelled a number of times due to the weather. On this day it was superb. A party of 21 set off with Graham May kindly taking a car load making for enough room in the truck plus the luxury of two drivers. We met up with Bruce and Christine at Woodville which enabled us to leave a vehicle at each end of the track. After a quick smoko we were off from the Ashhurst end to start climbing up the well-graded and bridged track among the tawa groves. From the top we dropped down to the "big slip" lookout which was most impressive and a great photo stop. We then rejoined the main track, stopping at the various other lookouts to take in the views. A couple of lunchettes were taken before a slight diversion for a closer view of the wind turbine farm which brought on some discussion about the merits or otherwise of this form of energy. The track is in great condition and very well signposted with a lot of work done by DoC. Because of all this information-gathering we never got around to our usual coffee stop but settled for an ice-cream in Woodville.

Party: Christine Hardie, Heather Stephenson, Janice Love, Marion Nicholson, Barbara Phillips, Bobby Couchman, Maureen Broad, Margaret Graham, Geoff Clibborn, Roy Frost, Fred Chesterman, Murray Aitken, Bob Carter, Ray Manning, Keith Thomson, Bruce & Christine Turner, Brent Hickey, Graeme and Tracy May, Rodger Burn

#2238	Shutes Hut	1st December 2013
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Eleven HTC Members left Pernel at 6:30am. We crossed the Ngaruroro River at Fernhill, still swollen after the first heavy rainfall in several months, and headed through the flush farmland to Sherenden, Otamauri and Waiwhare. A brief stop was had at Kuripapango to survey the bulldozed entrance of the new DoC camping area then on to check out the level of the Taruarua River at the Taihape road bridge. It looked relatively benign. So, onwards to the Comet Hut via Comet Road on the Kaikomata Range, passing some splendid high-country tussock lands.

Ten of us headed off at around 9:00am and ground our way up, along and then steeply down to the Taruarau River. To our horror we were confronted by a much larger river than we saw at the main road bridge. The six of us present had a break and contemplated the river. Upon Christine's final arrival, Andy was spurred into action and Mark, also being of Scottish ancestry, roused his brave-heart. They crept courageously into the Taruarau River as their other tramping buddies looked anxiously on. Fortunately the crossing went smoothly and they surfaced on the other side to continue on to Shute's Hut, 25mins away. We were met by the helicopter party of Pam, Judy and Brent who fed us up with scones and cream which they had to unpack again because they thought no-one was coming. The hut is still solid and strong after 93 years with a huge old hut book and rustic charm. [A lot of the charm was thanks to Pam's party cleaning it up].

We soon had to leave this isolated spot and re-negotiate the Taruarau River which was over our heads in one spot. We had a refreshing swim before tackling the steep climb. Slowly we reached the top and were presented with clear views of Ruapehu and Ngauruhoe mountains plus the grandness of the high country surrounding the Gentle Annie with blue north-west skies. MH

Party: Andy Fowler, Mark Hutchinson, Des Smith, Anne Cantrick, Janice Love, Fred Chesterman, Christine Hardie, Susan Lopdell, Scott Campbell, Marion Nicholson, Geoff Clibborn (driver)

January 2014

2238**Smith's Stream - Ruahines****2 January 2014**

Only three of us HTC club members showed up for the trip into Smith Stream Hut and when we met up at Pernel at 6:45am on Sunday morning, we were almost reduced to only two. Susan, who was the trip organiser, reported that she wasn't feeling well and wouldn't be accompanying us. However, we were able to persuade her to come along with us for the ride and just see how she felt as the day progressed. It was a good decision as she was feeling much improved by the time we arrived at the Sunrise Hut car park. She ended up having an enjoyable time taking it quietly and doing a solo return trip to Waipawa Chalet and then a stroll to Middle Stream before returning to the Waipawa River flats to await the the other two members.

At 8:30am we were all set with packs on and ready to go. We had decided to walk the extra 20 minutes from the Sunrise Hut car park to the Waipawa River as the access road as far as the car-park was quite badly rutted and potentially hazardous for our old 2WD Subaru vehicle. As it turned out, the road beyond the car park was in far better condition and it would not have been a problem. We could have saved ourselves some leg work. However, no one was complaining as it was such a beautiful sunny day and we were all looking forward to whatever the day held for us... After crossing the Waipawa River at the bridge we said farewell to Susan as she headed off upstream. Mark and Des went up the bulldozed farm access track a couple of hundred metres and then picked up the start of the track that leads to the Smiths Stream Hut some four hours distant. The track follows a fence line for approximately 30 minutes before entering the lowland native bush. There was plenty of birdlife evident in these lower reaches with regular tui and bell bird calls being heard from the surrounding bush. The track meandered through several lovely grassed clearings on the way to Smiths Stream, some of which were covered in a wide range of small wild flowers. From the higher vantage points of the track, the views of the surrounding mountains and out across the distant farmland were spectacular.

From a saddle above Smith Stream there is a track sign post giving an estimated travel time of further two hours to reach the Smith Stream Hut. We descended 30 minutes past this sign into Smith Stream. At this point the track ceases and it is still another 1.5 hours of boulder hopping along the stream bed to get to the hut. We decided that we would have our well-earned lunch break at this idyllic spot on the stream bank and then head back out. We had a nice leisurely three hours trip back to the car park. All three of us had a most enjoyable day and arrived back at Pernel in Hastings at 5:30pm.

DS

Party: Susan Lopdell, Mark Hutchinson, Des Smith

2239**Yeomans Track - Ruahines****Wed 15 January 2014**

A spell of hot dry weather, a low level track equals an easy day and we had a good turnout for our first midweek walk for 2014.

Setting off from the old mill site most elected to put their boots on after crossing the low level Makaroro river and the walk was a delight on a good dry track and we carried on to the Parks Peak turnoff where we had a lunchette before arriving at Ellis hut just after 12 where of course we had lunch.

The historical Ellis hut was in good condition and particularly interesting for Fred and Brent who hadn't been there before.

After lunch we returned the same way and a few brave souls had a quick dip in the river which was surprisingly cold.

A great day had by all and thanks to Christine for driving.

RB.

Party: Christine Hardie, Penny Isherwood, Heather Stephenson, Margaret Graham, Barbara Phillips, Marion Nicholson, Joan Ruffell, Marj Musson, Bruce & Christine Turner, Garry Smith, Scott Campbell, Fred Chesterman, Keith Thomson, Alasdair Shaw, Brent Hickey, Rodger Burn

From the Archives**Sixty-five Years Ago**

As a result of a search for missing school boys in the 1940s, HTC decided to build a hut in a suitable location at Kiwi Saddle in the Kaweka Ranges. The Pohokura records at least six working parties in 1947-8 alone not to mention many trips just to carry in materials. All of this was done on foot and sometimes in daunting conditions as the following extract from May 1949 shows. Thirteen people were led by Steele Therkelson. [Editor: I suspect that the term "pieces of timber" refers to rather large and heavy planks].

We left Hastings at 7:30.....had excellent views of the ranges which were heavily coated in snow as we were to find out later. After arrival at Kuripapango and the inevitable boil-up, the remaining eleven pieces of timber were shouldered and the party moved off. After a long and tough haul up the shingle slide, which was over two feet deep in snow, we sat down for lunch at the top of 4100. From then on the leaders of the team were hard at it, breaking trail through an average depth of three feet of snow. It was hard, slow work. As the afternoon wore on it became obvious that the party would not reach the hut by nightfall. To add to the difficulties, thick cloud came over from the east and cut visibility down to 30 or 40 yards. By this time the party was beginning to feel tired and cold so the timber was stacked at the end of the beech forest for the night and the team pushed on

for Kiwi. Arrived at the hut at about 6:30 to find the fireplace full of snow, all the bunks wet and the firewood supplies down. However we soon had a cuppa made and the stew on. After the meal the outfit settled down for the night. Those who were first up in the morning were treated to an excellent view of Ruapehu bathed in a pink glow from the rising sun – really a sight worth getting up for. After breakfast three of the boys went off, heavily clad, to retrieve the timber. It was found that the best way to transport the wood was to drag it by a piece of rope over the top of the snow. All the wood was at the hut, which had 18 inches of snow on the roof, by about midday so the party was packed up and refreshed for the return trip.....certainly a trip which will live for many years to come in the minds of those who took part.

HTC BIKE TRIPS

**Tour of the Bay Circuit****Wed 2nd October**

Beautiful spring weather greeted us as we assembled at the Hastings Golf Club for our ride around the old Tour of the Bay cycle course. Our ride was a distance of about 40km. We proceeded through Bridge Pa settlement and took a left turn into Rawkawa Road. Newly born lambs and other livestock abounded in the paddocks as did the sweet smell of spring flowers.....this all made the cycling enjoyable. But then we came to the hills! However, everyone reached the tops.....and then enjoyed the downhill sections. Called into the Rawkawa Hall and had a lunchette (a combination of smoko and lunch). We were not the only ones taking in "the airs" and riders, mostly in the other direction, were also enjoying the day. Proceeded along Valley Road and re-grouped on the corner of Valley Road and SH50. About 10km to go and all flat. Not even a head

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wind.....bliss. Everyone negotiated this last section safely and arrived back at the Golf Club, and there were no punctures! Thanks, Marion, for arranging the use of the Golf Club car-park.

Cyclists: Christine Hardie, Jim Hewes, Brent Hickey, Bobby Couchman, Scott Campbell, Dennis Beets, Ian Stewart, Penny Isherwood, Maureen Broad, Alasdair Shaw, Joan Ruffell, Peggy Gulliver, Garry Smith, Christine and Bruce Turner, Marion Nicholson Graeme Hare, Richard Waterer, Judy McBride

Clive – Tukituki Circuit

Wed 16 October

We left Clive at 9:30 with pending rainstorm and winds. The temperature was very cold but we stayed dry as we cycled to Black Bridge then up to Moores Road for smoko. We carried on around the Tukituki Road and the weather started improving. Over Red Bridge to Tandem Cafe for lunch then back to Clive via Riverlands and the cycle track. By 2:30pm there was bright sunshine and a good ride was had by all.

Cyclists: Mr Lyn Gentry, Rodger Burn, Jim Hewes, Garry Smith, Neal, Scott Campbell, Ian Stewart, Dennis Beets, Marion Nicholson, Judy McBride, Penny Isherwood, Pam Pike, Brent Hickey, Richard Waterer, Bobby Couchman, Mrs Lyn

Maraetotara Valley

Wed 13 November

Nineteen of us left Lake Lopez at 9:30am. Seven of us went up Maraetotara Valley to Fred's farmhouse where Marion had put on her usual high-class spread while the rest headed for Waimarama and then up the never-ending, steep hill in the drizzle and cool to Mohi Bush Road junction where the groups met. From there it was an enjoyable downhill ride back to the lake and a lunch in sunshine.

Cyclists: Jim Hewes, Heather Stephenson, Scott Campbell, Bruce and Christine Turner, Christine Hardie, Anne Cantrick, Penny Isherwood, Marj Musson, Pam Pike, Ian Stewart, Dennis Beets, Richard Waterer, Mr Lyn, Maureen Broad, Graham Hare, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Marion Nicholson [the important baker]

Argyll East

Wed 30 October

A sunny calm day saw nine people arrive at Hugh McBain's property at Pukehou. The ride is classed as fairly taxing as it has about twelve hills. It is through lovely countryside with mostly working farms and very little traffic. You are rewarded near the end of the ride with a 5km descent down Te Onepu Road with three or four alpine road-like hairpin bends. This takes you to Highway 2 with just over 2.5kms left to reach the long, tree-lined drive back to the McBain's house. Lunch had been had on a lookout point on Te Onepu Road with great views.

The club is indebted to Hugh and Di McBain for the use of their property for parking and access to College Road to start the ride.

AS

Cyclists: Christine and Bruce Turner, Rodger Burn, Jim Hewes, Lyn Gentry, Anne Cantrick, Joan Ruffell, Heather Stephenson, Alasdair Shaw

Raukawa and Valley Roads

Wed 11 December 2013

Another beautiful day as we assembled at the Maraekakaho Memorial for our ride. The route took us initially up the steep Whakapirau Road - about 3.5km. Once at the top, a beautiful vista unwinds so the effort is worth it. Calm conditions made riding all the more pleasant. The road is undulating along the top but relief was at hand as we turned down Raukawa Road into Valley Rd. Nearly every time we venture along these roads a mob of cattle appears and today was no exception. A friendly farmer and his well-trained dogs soon had a path cleared and once again we were on our way. On to Valley Road with the slightest of tail winds to cover the 12km to SH50. Then it was about 3km to the Memorial and lunch.

JH

Cyclists: Jim Hewes, Christine Hardie, Scott Campbell, Heather Stephenson, Rodger Burn, Maureen Broad, Marion Nicholson, Christine and Bruce Turner, Judy Dobson, Bobby Couchman, Pam Pike, Graham Hare, Brent Hickey

CLUB NEWS:

ITEMS for SALE

The club has a number of useful tramping items for sale at discounted prices.

New Topo 50 Maps:	\$5.00
Large blue survival bags	\$5.00
Smaller white pack liners	\$2.50
Metal HTC club badges	\$8.00
Blue HTC caps	\$17.00
Bushcraft books	\$12.00
Safety in the Mountains	\$5.00
Revised Safety in the Mountains book	\$12.00

These can all be ordered from **Marj Musson** Ph 878 8279 mussons@xtra.co.nz
or **Penny Isherwood** Ph 844 9994 p.isherwood@orcon.net.nz

Orders are collated in batches to save on courier charges so you may not get your maps straight away.

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Any photos included will be in colour and you can print it as you wish.

You have the following options:

1. We send you a pdf copy via email to try as well as the usual magazine hard copy.
2. We send you a pdf copy only via email.
3. Don't reply to this and we will keep sending you the usual magazine hard copy.

If you would like to avail yourself of these options, send an email to the editor, randall.g@xtra.co.nz

Explanation from the Editor: pdf means Portable Document Format.

The Pohokura magazine is produced on computer with Microsoft Word programme. From this document a pdf is made which the printing company uses to print out the magazine. The pdf is preferred by the printer because it can't be changed and remains stable. For email purposes the pdf medium has a reduced data size making it more practical to download through a dial-up modem internet connection. If you are unsure whether your internet connection can handle this pdf download, choose Option 1 and you will soon find out at no cost. In time this is where most clubs are going to save costs but it's dependent on the majority having good internet (i.e. broadband) connections.

Personal Contact Information:

If you change your mailing address, home phone number or e-mail address please inform the Club Editor Phone 845 4913. Otherwise, we could lose contact with you.

Obituaries

BARBARA TAYLOR (nee HARE) 25.02.1930 – 23.10.2013.

Barbara followed sister Judy's boot prints, joining Heretaunga Tramping Club in the 1950's. She rapidly became a very steady trumper, a real toughie, keeping up without complaint and revelling in all that the club had to offer. She LOVED her tramping and was never happier than when out in the hills with boots and binoculars. She ultimately married adept fellow trumper, Maury Taylor. Barbara held office on club committees and proved a very able Treasurer for many years. Although a competent swimmer, Barbara did not relish river trips and often recalled brother Graeme being there to guide her over rocks and rapids. After each trip Barbara meticulously wrote up her own reports and secured them, along with her own photographs, in what is now a very readable and remarkable record, worthy of inclusion in club archives.

Barbara was the quiet one, a fund of knowledge but never showing this until actually asked -- like the time on Matiu/ Somes Island when eminent botanists hummed and hawed over plant identification; only when asked, did Barbara supply not only its common name but the lengthy Latin one as well! She developed a knowledgeable interest in birds and made great contributions to ornithological records with her observant recordings as well as dedicating hours devoted to beach patrols. Barbara quietly put others first, such as when, rather than risk disturbing a hut full of trampers with her perceived "problem snoring", she rolled herself up in a tent under a bush, and spent the night in the cold and rain. She had a great sense of humour and could laugh at herself: I recall the time we went either side of a bush while crossing a swamp and Barbara fell in - badly! As I hauled her out, her boot got left behind, and somehow her glasses were hanging off a manuka bush! Barbara was the first to laugh. But she could also remonstrate ----- we once met a cold, ill-equipped hunter in the wet bush miles from anywhere, forlornly sucking on a sodden cigarette. Barbara fixed him with a steely stare and said, "That won't do you any good," at the same time digging into her pocket for barley sugars to give him.

Barbara leaves many happy memories. She will be sadly missed, but the world is a better place for her having been here.

Pam Turner

TONY GATES 1959 – 2013

Tony came from a well-known Wellington tramping family and gained enormous experience in the outdoors from a very young age. He had a particular interest in the Ruahine Ranges and spent many trips investigating every part of them. As well as tramping and skiing he researched the history of and huts, and spent many hours going through HTC's archives to produce accounts of our huts, particularly Howletts which was a favourite of his. Tony's writings have appeared in numerous books and magazines as well as his photographs which were marketed under the name Leatherwood Lenz.

HTC was sorry to learn a couple of years ago that Tony had a serious heart condition which limited his tramping for the last few years and ultimately caused his deterioration. His memory will live on in HTC with our annual award, the Leatherwood Trophy which is given for valuable contribution to the club.

SPECIAL REPORTS

This summer, 2013-14, has seen a concerted effort by a number of keen club members to complete a programme of maintenance of our huts in the Kaweka and Ruahine Ranges. The executive committee agreed to spend a fairly large sum of club money to renovate, paint, repair and generally improve the condition of all the huts, and have them in good enough state to stand up to many more years of very harsh conditions. All the workers doing these jobs have willingly volunteered considerable time and expertise to do this work and the club would like to record appreciation for such dedication.

KIWI SADDLE HUT

This hut has required the most work. The original hut, constructed in the late 1940s, was maintained and upgraded a number of times until it became obvious that its time was up in the 1980s. So it was goodbye to beech poles, malthoid, sacking bunks and a huge fireplace and welcome to a smart, pre-fabricated structure which was flown up in sections and built by a team led by member and builder, Eddie Holmes. A grand opening was held in late January 1988 and, since then, the hut has been one of the most used in the Kaweka Forest Park.

However, after 25 years of hard use and harder weather conditions Kiwi Saddle Hut was showing its age with rusty roof and guttering, exterior walls growing mushrooms and a grubby interior which needed a make-over. Retired tradesman and builder, Geoff Clibborn put his hand up and offered to undertake the very large task of restoration and renewal. He co-opted fellow club member and builder, Ray Manning, to fly in, measure, check out the situation, consult and then buy necessary materials. The team decided to sheathe the hut in colour steel, redo the water supply system, overhaul all windows and doors, renew the fireplace and paint the interior. To assist with the actual work he roped in long-time members, Randall Goldfinch and Pam Turner. An entire working week was set aside for all the necessary tasks. A nightly radio report kept HTC officers in town up-to-date with the job as it progressed.

The club was fortunate to be able to get building materials at wholesale rates through Geoff's contacts in the trade. As well as this we opted in to the Dulux company's free paint as part of their nationwide promotion to paint backcountry huts. HTC was also fortunate to have the peerless services of Chris Crosse of East Kaweka Helicopters to transport all the freight and personnel. DoC staff at Puketitiri were also supportive of our work and have been unstinting with their advice and interest for which we thank them.

A diary of highlights shows what was achieved in the week 9th – 13th December, 2013.

Day One: seven airlifts from Puketitiri and Kuripapango DoC base with freight and passengers – over 1000kg altogether. After the team's arrival and a good cup of tea the old roof was removed, cleaned up and most of the new colour steel roof screwed on.

Day Two: roof completed but no end flashings because exterior wall work was needed; battens nailed around exterior walls, window sashes removed and cleaned then repainted with new wooden frames attached; exterior door hinges replaced and veranda roof rafter relocated to enable door to fold open 180 degrees; floor between the two doors covered with plywood to prevent vermin getting in; door locks/handles replaced.

Day Three: sheet metal window flashings fitted and colour steel sheets fastened to battens around exterior hut walls for better weather protection.

Day Four: porch re-roofed; installed new rain-water guttering and collection system to the water tank with leaf filtering; back into their holes finally; fitted roof flashings and ridging in a temp way because rain started and we were caught short. Anne Cantrick and President Christine came to visit for the day and assisted with a few tasks such as putting paint on the woodshed walls and helping with the re-patching the water tank; they arrived in perfect conditions and left in a spectacular thunderstorm.

Day Five: finished exterior wall colour steel above veranda; packed up and were helicoptered out with all the old roofing iron, tools and personal gear.

BUT.....the job was not finished and another working party was pencilled in for late January, 2014. Before this happened, Randall spent his days off between Xmas and New Year by walking in from Lakes Carpark to clean and paint the interior roof trusses and wood work with four coats of paint. He went in again on January 10th – 11th to dismantle the flue and replace the outer top rusty cylinder with stainless steel, take

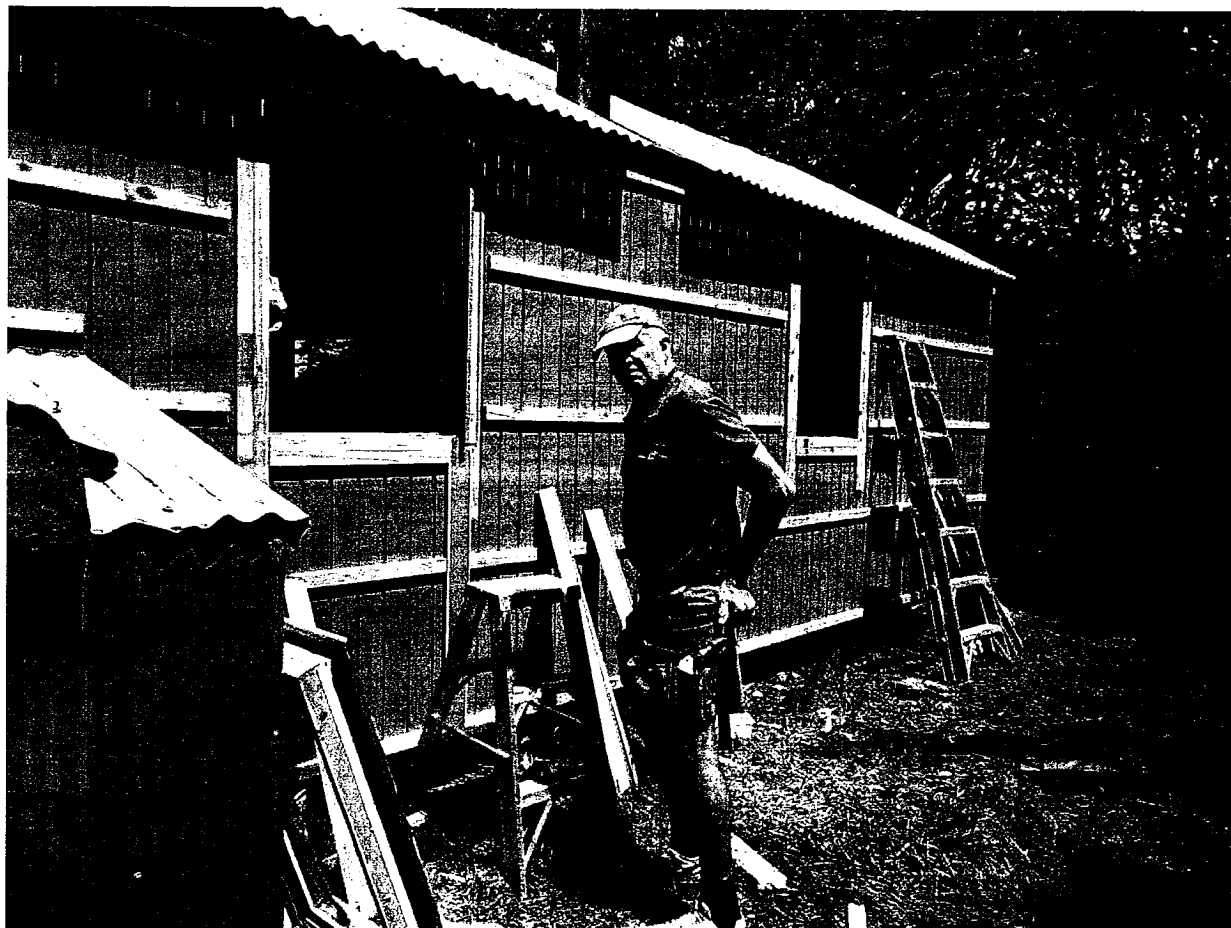
Pohokura

down the interior top heat shield, remove a large rat's nest behind that and clean it up before reinstalling the heat shield and the flue.

As this Pohokura goes to print, the second working party is preparing to leave for another week's work. As well as completing the work around the fireplace, the roof will be secured and the interior will be given its final coats of paint. To do this work, the party will now include painting maestro, Garry Smith and gofer, Rodger Burn. As well as all this, HTC has been delighted to receive a fibreglass Norski toilet to replace our old wooden structure. This gift is courtesy of the DoC team at Puketitiri and we are again grateful to Malcolm, Paddy, Johnno and Daniel for looking after us so well. It means that Geoff has gained extra work constructing the wooden base but he has accomplished that on top of his other jobs.



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HOWLETTS HUT

John Montgomerie took it upon himself to continue his programme of painting and general maintenance which he had started with Anne Cantrick earlier in 2013. So on December 10th he and Janice Love toiled up to Howletts carrying five-day day packs as well as painting tools and three four-litre tins of paint. They went via the Tukituki River route from Mill Road and managed to get the paint up to the first plateau above the steep climb from Daphne Hut before being forced to leave it there in order to make the hut in a day! They went down very early the next day to retrieve the collection of tins. They later reported that their treat for the week was venison provided by a hunter in residence who even assisted them around the hut.

Work done: drying wires attached to the porch rafters; untied a tangle of steel standards and wires, straightened some and stored them under the meat safe; cleaned gutters [east side was full to the brim], blocked underground pipe from downpipe; patched hole in east gutter; dug out blocked, rotted, rusted underground 'pipe' and fashioned a temporary one from roof iron; firewood was dragged from bush to track on the way up; cleaned and painted loo; Janice scrubbed all the mattresses with a pot scourer to almost get the worst off - very hard work; cleaned windows and platforms; wire-brushed/scraped roof for painting; painted roof, south end wall with a three litre tin of probably old blue paint already there and in good enough state to use and north end wall above porch; patch-painted side walls of rusty or bare areas; dug out drain from tank-stand tap which was a real mess; laid rat poison; cleaned spider webs from inside; "planed" carefully the wooden, north-end dormer window with a 10 point saw as it was jamming shut and to open it was risking broken glass; patched under a crack at the lower edge of the polycarbonate clear light sheet above the above the bench; measured and recorded gutters for replacement in future.





John has recorded his thanks to Janice for her company and hard work. He also informed us that he contracted a good dose of tonsillitis while he was working which made him feel below par. He is to be commended for achieving so much in the circumstances.

HTC has also had support from DoC field staff for this hut maintenance - Ken Mills from OngaOnga base had offered to go and help during his leave and even fly in some of the food and equipment. However, safety warnings from his superiors [mostly about having to wear a harness when working on Howletts' roof] deterred him and he was eventually unable to come. However, HTC is grateful for his keen interest in the hut and thanks him for his logistical assistance in the past.

Again, at the time of publication, Monty has gone in to complete the unfinished work and taken Anne Cantrick and Mike Bull with him. A marvellous effort all round and thanks, people, from the rest of HTC.

Heretaunga Tramping Club Meeting and Trip Information

Coming Meetings:

Date	Speaker	Topic	Host	Supper Help
08 Jan	All Members	Holiday Activities	Geoff Clibborn	Randall Goldfinch
22 Jan	Alan Berry	Saga of Kiwi Saddle Hut	Janice Love	Bobby Couchman
05 Feb	Pre-Waitangi Weekend Fixtures Committee	Where Are We Going Next?	Marj Musson	Penny Isherwood
19 Feb	Guest Speaker	Topic To Be Arranged	Liz Pindar	Jim Hewes
05 Mar	All Members	Annual Helicopter Fund Auction	Raewyn Ricketts	Scott Campbell
19 Mar	Volunteer from the Club	An Overseas Trip	Garry Smith	Heather Stephenson
02 Apr	Training Committee	Maybe River Crossings and Waterways	Geoff Clibborn	Des Smith
16 Apr	Pre-Easter and ANZAC Volunteers	Talk About the Coming Tramps	Graeme Hare	Rodger Burn
30 Apr	Guest Speaker	To Be Confirmed	John Montgomerie	Marion Nicholson
14 May	Social Committee	Perhaps a Quiz or a Photo Show	Alan Berry	Judy McBride
28 May	Club Members	Important Issues for Discussion	Maureen Broad	Helen Hare

Meetings Sub-Committee: Lex Smith, Penny Isherwood, Graeme Hare

We want ideas for club night speakers and activities.

Supper:

Put out cups, wash dishes, leave kitchen clean and tidy, and generally help Joan. Sweep floors and check that heaters and lights are off at the end of the meeting.

Club Meetings: These are held every second Wednesday (the one before a weekend tramp) at the Harrier Clubrooms in Sylvan Road, Hastings. Doors open at 7.30 pm; visitors are welcome.

ARE YOU FIT ENOUGH TO TRAMP?

Even the easiest of club trips requires 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 cattle-stop via the roadside track with an eight kilogram pack should take about 70 - 80 minutes. Further, this pace should be able to be maintained for five to six 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 and 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		
DAY TRIPS		WEEKEND TRIPS
<u>Wear/Carry</u>	<u>Carry</u>	All items listed for day trip plus
Pack and pack liner	Map & compass	Sleeping bag
Boots and gaiters	High energy snacks	Sleeping mat
Socks	At least a litre of water	Food for three additional meals
Parka and over-trou	Lunch	Cooker, billy and matches or lighter
Fast-drying shorts	First aid kit	Extra snacks
Fleece or woollen jumper	Torch, spare batteries and bulb	Toilet gear, small towel and toilet paper
Long-johns & singlet	Sunscreen	Additional warm clothes
Sunhat & warm hat	Emergency food	Plate, mug, cutlery
Gloves/mittens Overmitts	Survival kit (whistle, cord, matches, 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 tea / coffee / sugar or whatever to have a hot drink 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 two hours or more to return to the embarkation point. Beginners should make sure that anyone who might worry about them is informed of this. Leaders will try to get a message through to one of the "overdue contacts" if return seems likely to be later than 10.00 pm. All newcomers should ensure that their own emergency number is noted in the party list that the leader leaves in town. For all enquiries about overdue trampers please ring one of the following:

Susan Lopdell 844 6697

Graeme Hare 844 8656

Glenda Hooper 877 4183

Cancellations: If you cannot make a trip please contact the leader BEFOREHAND so as to avoid unnecessary delays for the rest of the party.

TRIP LIST 2014

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 Susan Lopdell Ph 844 6697. Please email trip requests to susansplace@xtra.co.nz



19 Jan Northern Ruahines \$15 Map BK37
Enter the Ruahine FP at the old Kaumatua Hut site and sidle south to exit on the last farm along Mangletown Road.

22 Jan Wed Cycle Apley Road Circuit
A bit of hill work around Dartmoor and Poraiti then gather at Puketapu Pub.
Organiser: Jim Hewes Ph 877 6784

26 Jan Boundary Stream \$15 Map BH39
This mainland island keeps on amazing all visitors - new bird species are being reintroduced into this area.
Organiser: David Blake Ph 835 3284

29 Jan Wed Beach or Riverside Walk
Depending on time and tide - more information closer to the time.
Organiser: Rodger Burn Ph 877 6322

5 Feb Wed Cycle Along Local Pathways
Organiser: Marion Nicholson Ph 873 5935

6 – 9 Feb Central Ruahine Range \$15 Map BK36
A Party: Sunrise to Waikamaka by midday Saturday via Top Maropaea, Maropaea Forks, Wakelings Huts
B Party: Waikamaka to Waterfall Hut and back; explore the surrounding area.
Organiser: Grame Hare Ph 8448656

8 – 9 Feb Waikamaka Hut Working Bee Map BK36
Our club hut needs its annual cleaning and maintenance - all hands on board.
Organiser: Huts Committee

12 Feb Wed Gold Creek Ridge, Ruahine FP
Organiser: Garry Smith Ph 844 9931

19 Feb Wed Cycle Otane to Boundary Road Circuit
A new route in Central Hawke's Bay
Organiser: Alasdair Shaw Ph 877 6225

26 Feb Wed Ngaruroro River
Walk at least some of the way towards Cameron Hut in the Kaweka Ranges.
Organiser: Christine Hardie Ph 844 9590

5 March Wed Jim's Choice Cycle Ride
Organiser: Jim Hewes Ph 877 6784

8 - 9 March No official trip because of Lex's South Island Sojourn

19 March Wed Rodger's Choice Cycle
Organiser: Rodger Burn Ph 877 6322

22 - 23 Mar Lake Waikaremoana \$TBC Map BJ37
A Party: Hopuruahine to Manuoha and Sandy Bay; out via Waikareiti.
B Party: Hopuruahine to Maruti Hut and Korokoro Falls; return via water taxi.

26 March Wed Mount Kahuranaki
 Dependant on access permission; look out for field mushrooms!
Organiser: Alasdair Shaw Ph 877 6225

2 April Wed Cycle Havelock North to Hastings
 From Pakowhai over the Havelock hills and down to Birdwood then around the city perimeter to Fernhill.
Organiser: Peggy Gulliver Ph 879 7763

6 April Central Ruahine FP \$15 Maps BK36 BK37
 Yeoman's Mill up Park's Peak track over to Barlow Hut and down the Makororo. Bring your secateurs.
Organiser: Track Committee

9 April Wed Kaweka Flats
 From Makahu Saddle through attractive forest to the bivvy.
Organiser: Graeme Hare Ph 844 8656

16 April Wed Cycle Delights in CHB
Organiser: Christine Turner Ph 06 857 5227

18 - 21 April (Easter) Southern Kaweka Huts Tour \$15 Map: BJ37
A Party: Circuit from Lakes carpark to Kiwi Saddle, Kiwi Mouth, Manson, Rocks Ahead, Back Ridge Studholme Saddle and back over the J. It's a bargain!
B Party: Lakes to Manson via Kiwi Saddle, Kiwi Mouth and return.
Organiser: John Montgomerie Ph 877 7358

23 April Wed Fred Chesterman's Farms (Version 3)
 Hills, grass, bulls, views and rock formations with Guide Fred.
Organiser: Marion Nicholson Ph 873 5935

25 - 27 April (ANZAC) Northern Tararuas \$35 Map: BN34
 A delightful area from Mangahao Flats to Te Matawai and out to Poas Road or day trips exploring the river with two reservoirs.
Organiser: Susan Lopdell Ph 844 6697

30 April Wed Cycle Seafield Road Circuit
 Taradale to Eskdale over the hills; second option is to cycle along the flat seafront to Bay View.
Organiser: Christine Hardie Ph 844 9590

4 May Eastern Kaweka \$15 Map BJ37
 Lotkow to Don Juan, Cable Creek, Donald River and return via Lawrence Track.

7 May Holts Bush \$15

Go with a guide and find out details of this remarkable reserve.

Organiser: Janice Love Ph 877 5442

14 May Wed Cycle from Pakowhai Park to Fernhill

Return the same way or devise another route.

Organiser: Joan Ruffell Ph 870 1549

16 – 18 May Central Plateau – Ruapehu \$TBC

Join Wanganui Tramping Club to go to Whakapapa, Fishers Track, National Park to Horopito, Ruatiti to Whakahoro. Accommodation at WTC's Possum Lodge.

Organisers: Dave Scoullar, Esther Williams [WTC]

21 May Wed Napier Hills

Wander around the streets and stairs then maybe down the Marine Parade.

Organiser: Penny Isherwood Ph 844 9994

28 May Wed Cycle Aorangi Circuit

Start and finish at the Maraekakaho War Memorial.

Organiser: Jim Hewes Ph 877 678

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Name	Phone	Address
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Life Members

Alan Berry	877 7223	12 Woodford Heights, Havelock Nth 4130
Eddie Holmes	835 2073	24 Lighthouse Rd, Bluff Hill, Napier 4110
Glenda Hooper	877 4183	316 Te Aute Rd, RD2, Hastings 4172
Jim Glass	877 8748	14 Plassey St, Havelock Nth 4130
Liz Pindar	870 0145	Station Rd, RD10, Hastings 4180
Pam Turner	876 8995	414 Lyndon Rd West, Hastings 4122
Randall Goldfinch	845 4913	4 Tukes Pl, Greenmeadows, Napier 4112
Susan Lopdell	844 6697	55 Waterhouse St, Taradale, Napier 4112

Active Members

Alan & Christine Petersen/Snook	835 7456	18 Seapoint Rd, Bluff Hill, Napier 4110
Alasdair Shaw	877 6225	33 Chambers St, Havelock Nth 4130
Amy Knowles	876 8408	608 St Aubyn St East, Parkvale, Hastings 4122
Anne Cantrick	844 8149	35c Church Rd, Taradale, Napier 4112
Annetta Keys	878 3210	408 Lascelles St, Saint Leonards, Hastings 4120
Barabara Phillips	877 5459	21A Simla Ave, Havelock Nth 4130
Bob Carter	875 1163	45 Tuki Tuki Hills Rd, RD10, Hastings 4180
Bobby Couchman	877 8557	Flat 27, 18 Durham Dr, Havelock Nth 4130
Brenda Thomas	027 6285979	103 Frimley Ave, Mahora, Hastings 4120
Brent Hickey	876 5873	915 Rimu St, Mahora, Hastings 4120
Bruce & Christine Turner	06 857 5227	28 Domain Rd, Waipawa 4210,
Bruce Finn	027 5082686	10 Tokomaru Dr, Havelock Nth 4130
Cathy Wakefield	877 7765	8 Kingswood Close, Havelock Nth 4130
Chris Waldron	875 0034	11 Pipi Street, Te Awanga 4102
Christine Hardie	844 9590	51a Church Rd, Taradale, Napier 4112
Dave Mulinder	06 374 7305	18c Burns St, Dannevirke 4930
David & Anne Blake	835 3284	4 Ashridge Rd, Napier South, Napier 4110
David & Debbie Harrington	839 5766	PO Box 1031, Napier
David & Leonie Heaps	875 0088	160 Clifton Rd, Te Awanga 4102
Dennis Beets	874 6555	123 Harper Rd, Waimarama, RD12, Havelock Nth 4294
Derek Boshier	021 2159016	140 Gloucester Rd, Mount Manganui 3118
Des Smith	878 4043	706 Ballantyne Pl, Frimley, Hastings 4120
Fred Chesterman	874 7728	811 Maraetotara Rd, RD12, Havelock Nth 4294
Garry Smith	844 9931	131 Avondale Rd, Greenmeadows, Napier 4112
Geoff Clibborn	844 6039	30 Kent Tce, Taradale, Napier 4112
Geoff Robinson	878 7863	605a Grays Rd, Mahora, Hastings 4120
Gerald Eyles	876 7074	409a Collinge Rd, Mayfair, Hastings 4122
Gerald, Lyn & Jeremy Blackburn	877 2340	PO Box 534, Hastings
Graeme & Helen Hare	844 8656	65 Kensington Dr, Taradale, Napier 4112
Graeme May	845 3856	9A Merlot Dr, Greenmeadows, Napier 4112
Graham & Marilyn Thorp	845 2274	28 Hetley Cres., Taradale, Napier 4112
Heather Stephenson	843 9157	31 Logan Ave, Marewa, Napier 4110
Ian Stewart	875 8474	149 Durham Dr, Havelock Nth 4130
Janet Titchener	875 0805	44 Shrimpton Rd, Haumoana, Hastings 4102
Janice Love	877 5442	46 James Cook St, Havelock Nth 4130
Jason McKinley	870 9198	218 Wolseley St, Mayfair, Hastings 4122
Jim Hewes	877 6784	44 Durham Dr, Havelock Nth 4130
Joan Ruffell	870 1549	13 Albert St, Clive 4102

HTC Phone List

22 January 2014

Name	Phone	Address
John Montgomerie	877 7358	11 Gardiner Pl, Havelock Nth 4130
John & Karen Berry	877 6205	46 Arataki Rd, Havelock Nth 4130
Judy McBride	876 9756	101 Kenilworth Rd, Hastings 4122
Keith Thomson	877 5391	Villa 43, Summerset Village, Havelock Nth 4130
Ken Nugent	876 5395	404 Lumsden Rd, Akina, Hastings 4122
Lex & Anne Smith	877 4087	1 Reeve Dr, Havelock Nth 4130
Lyn & Lyn Gentry	875 0542	319 Parkhill Rd, RD10, Hastings 4180
Margaret Graham	021 2591201	21 Parkhill Rd, RD10, Hastings 4180
Marion Nicholson	873 5935	917 Rimu St, Mahora, Hastings 4120
Marjoleine Turel	875 1180	3 Tirimoana Pl, Te Awanga 4102
Marjorie Musson	878 8279	3/400 Nelson St Sth, Hastings 4120
Mark Hutchinson	878 2360	813 Ngaio St, Mahora, Hastings 4120
Mary Gray	844 2838	8 Forbury Way, Taradale, Napier 4112
Maureen Broad	877 1748	69 Napier Rd, Havelock Nth 4130
Mike Bull	843 6052	51 Liverpool Cres, Tamatea, Napier 4112
Mike & Ros Lusk	877 8328	158 Te Mata Peak Rd, Havelock Nth 4130
Murray Aitken	879 5253	605 Henry St, Raureka, Hastings 4120
Murray & Robin Tonks/Heath	835 5228	21 Thompson Rd, Bluff Hill, Napier 4110
Owen Brown	835 3908	22 Nelson Cres, Napier South, Napier 4110
Pam Pike	873 8478	Villa 50, Mary Doyle Trust, Havelock Nth 4130
Paul Whateley	876 0930	3/1026 Tomoana Rd, Mahora, Hastings 4120
Pauline & Brien Mahoney	844 1052	47 Auckland Rd, Greenmeadows, Napier 4112
Peggy Gulliver	879 7763	2264 Highway 50, RD5, Hastings 4175
Penny Isherwood	844 9994	49 Avondale Rd, Taradale, Napier 4112
Peter & Natalie Berry	877 4183	316 Te Aute Rd, RD2, Hastings 4172
Peter Brown	877 2907	7 Durham Dr, Havelock Nth 4130
Philip Mardon	876 8558	24 Evenden Rd, Tomoana, Hastings 4120
Raewyn Ricketts	877 9377	Flat 12, 18 Durham Dr, Havelock Nth 4130
Ray Manning	845 1316	3 West Pl, Greenmeadows, Napier 4112
Richard & Vivienne Waterer	875 8561	14 Kaponga Rd, Havelock Nth 4130
Robyn Madden	844 9661	65 Osier Rd, Greenmeadows, Napier 4112
Rod Knight	879 9403	6 Burton Pl, Flaxmere, Hastings 4120
Rodger Burn	877 6322	5c Goddard Lane, Havelock Nth 4130
Ross Berry	877 7216	501 Burma Rd, RD4, Raukawa, Hastings 4174
Roy Frost	875 0128	8 Cedar Rd, Te Awanga 4102
Scott Campbell	879 8554	23 Kirkcaldy Cres, Flaxmere, Hastings 4120
Susan Taylor	844 6032	651 Puketapu Rd, RD3, Napier 4183
Tina & Andy Godbert/ Fowler	835 0064	16 Selwyn Rd, Hospital Hill, Napier 4110

Associate/ Honorary Members

Ian & Pat Berry	877 8772	George Prebble	873 7964
Russell & Annette Berry	07 366 6115	Brian Smith	04 475 8849
Kathy Eggers	834 3931	Derek Conway	03 348 5788
Julie Mercer	878 3246	Eileen Turner	876 8995
Kerry & Bruce Popplewell	04 479 2144	Margaret Mowll	844 9175