

**HTC Committee:**

Club Patron:	Jim Glass	877 8748	james@martinglass.nz
Treasurer:	Lex Smith	877 4087	smithers@xtra.co.nz
Club Captain:	John Montgomerie	877 7358	j.montgomerie@paradise.net.nz
Editor:	Randall Goldfinch	845 4913	randall.g@xtra.co.nz
Committee:	Penny Isherwood	844 9994	p.isherwood@orcon.net.nz
	Janice Love	877 5442	janice.love@xtra.co.nz
	Joan Ruffell	877 6225	cbird011@hotmail.com
	Glenda Hooper	877 4183	hoopberry@orcon.net.nz
	Brent Hickey	876 5873	brenthickey@xtra.co.nz

Truck:	<u>Lex Smith</u> , Geoff Clibborn
Fixtures:	<u>John Montgomerie</u> , Glenda Hooper, Brent Hickey, Rodger Burn (Mid-Week Group)
Huts:	<u>John Montgomerie</u> , Janice Love, Brent Hickey
Training:	<u>John Montgomerie</u> , Mike Bull, Joan Ruffell
Environment:	Penny Isherwood, Mike Lusk, Raewyn Ricketts
SAR:	<u>John Montgomerie</u> , Gerald Blackburn, Graham Thorp
Meetings:	<u>Lex Smith</u> , Penny Isherwood, Graeme Hare
Social:	Joan Ruffell, Raewyn Ricketts,
Sales Rep:	Penny Isherwood
Scrap Book:	Joan Ruffell, Janice Love
Library:	Liz Pindar
Editor's Assistant:	Christine Hardie
Supper:	Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw
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

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

Mail: P.O. Box 14086, Mayfair, Hastings 4159

Enquiries: Glenda Hooper 8774183      Graeme Hare 8448656      John Montgomerie 8777358

**Club Cellphone (held in the truck) 027 438 6474**

## Comment

How many of us leapt out of bed on New Year's Day full of resolve to effect changes and/or improvements in our lives over the coming year? Did you decide to subscribe to the traditional yearly mania for enhancement revolving around one's physique or health or appearance? The many flyers that have appeared over the last few weeks in your letter boxes for gym memberships and health products may have inspired you. Doctor Libby's words of wisdom may have led you to clear out your pantry, ditch the sugar, alcohol and carbohydrates and fill up on legumes, nuts and cereals. Oprah and the Weight Watchers may have inspired you to diet your way to a new shape and subsequent lifestyle transformation. Or you may have had a Tui moment and ignored the lot. Dedicated trampers will, of course, vow to go on more trips and enjoy the outdoors while they can. This is to be expected in the summer when the weather is warmer and the days are longer. So, the motivation is there to make sure they can physically cope with the trips that they would like to do for the coming year.

Every issue of the Pohokura carries the page about being fit enough to tramp. It has not been revised for many years which goes to show how sound the advice is and how clearly it explains the gradings on trips. For those of you who haven't read it for a while it's worth looking at. The example it gives about training for tramping is straightforward and now that the club is running boot camp sessions to help with tramping fitness, people can be supported and guided in their efforts. There are many other sources of advice: in the last six issues alone of Wilderness magazine there are instructions about yoga exercises [such as the reclining figure four], leg stretches [such as eagle pose and horse lunge], back exercises [again like an eagle], plyometric exercises, the rest step technique and hydration, all designed to help with strength, flexibility and stamina. Given the average age of our members [as noted in the club captain's report] some of them could be worth investigating. There is no doubt that even though people's endurance may still be reasonable as they get older, attributes such as flexibility, lung capacity and joint strength may not be keeping up with the demands that tramping makes. Given also that many of us cannot afford lots of imported lightweight gear to lighten our loads or helicopter rides to whisk us to our destinations maybe a little work on our bodies will pay off in the long run. We would all like to emulate senior members of HTC who are still enviably active into their seventies and in a number of cases, their eighties.

HTC is striding into its eighty-first year with another programme of trips and events planned. There is something for everyone at different levels and in a variety of areas in the North Island. So go ahead and make the most of the opportunity to get out and enjoy all that the parks and reserves have to offer. CH

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## 2015 AGM Reports

### Committee Report

We have just completed the 80th year of the Heretaunga Tramping with a committee of nine but no President, Vice-President or Secretary. However, team work triumphed and our small team has accomplished a good deal during this period. Committee members have rotated to fill the chair at their own meetings and the same has happened at the Wednesday general meetings with volunteers from committee lending assistance. Two of the main focuses during the year included a workshop led by Mark von Dadelszen to determine the way forward for the Club and the 80th anniversary dinner at the Havelock North Club which was enjoyed by all who came. The "Club Future" is a work in progress and members have been kept updated with regular emails throughout the year.

We gained six new members this year, a mix of mid-week and weekend trampers. This is an increase on the last few years so thanks to those who are spreading the word and making newcomers feel welcome. Unfortunately three of our committee did not seek re-election this year: Susan Lopdell, Geoff Clibborn and Marj Musson. Susan has been on the committee for 26 years, six of them as Club Captain; Geoff joined the committee in 2000 and, among other things, has spent the last 15 years looking after the truck; Marj has spent the last five years on the committee quietly helping out where ever she could. On behalf of the club

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we thank you all. Thanks must also go to Randall Goldfinch and the effort his team puts in to providing us with an interesting Pohokura, to Mike Bull and his fellow archivists, the volunteer meeting chairpeople, to all those who have helped on working bees - be they track-clearing, river bank clean-ups or Hazmobile work - and to those who lend a hand when they see a need. All your efforts are appreciated. Our final thank you goes to all the members and visitors who entertained and/or informed us on the Wednesday nights; we have covered a diverse range of topics over the year.

Our good relationship with the local Department of Conservation continues and next year we hope to help Alan Lee of DoC with the (postponed) weeding of broom at The Gums campground on the Mohaka River banks. We have also kept in good communication with FMC and John Montgomerie made a short presentation at their AGM in June. HTC is also now included on FMC's central email group. We were successful in an application for funds from the Recreation Outdoor Consortium to reimburse the travel costs and hut fees involved in maintaining the two tracks we look after in the Ruahines and this year we are applying for funding to build a deck and verandah at Waikamaka Hut. This year we held our inter-club competition against the Napier Tramping Club and it is a pleasure to announce that HTC is now the holder of the LOWWLOT trophy - renamed the Pureora Log by the NTC since they held it for so long!! We intend to increase contact with the Napier Club and have a planned combined trip in January.

Lex Smith and Glenda Hooper

## Club Captain Happy 80th HTC

The average age of club members is in the 60s and our club has been extremely active this year, tramping not only in our local ranges but further afield in the North Island. Weekend day-trips have averaged 10 members and mid-week tramps averaged 17 with some walks seeing 20 to 25 trippers; weekend tramps have averaged eight and long weekend excursions have averaged six people. This year we travelled to Pureora FP (12) and based ourselves in cabins to do day tramps in the area. Over Waitangi Weekend 16 members stayed in the Havelock North Ski Lodge and tramped within the Tongariro National Park, again doing day trips. We also visited the Tararua and Whirinaki FPs, the western side of Lake Taupo, Timahanga Station, Lake Tutira Regional Park plus Arboretum and, once again, had a very successful trip around the North Island's East Coast in the wake of Cyclone Pam. There were two working bees, both in the Ruahines, with contrasting weather conditions: our annual weekend maintenance of Barlow's Track was in hot and humid weather whilst the track-clearing and marking of the route up the Waipawa River a very wintry day with eight hardy souls barely escaping hyperthermia. A memorial plaque was attached to the old fireplace at the Kaweka Hut site (with DoC's assistance) and members walked in for the unveiling on another cold, snowy day. This year's Cairn Trip saw 19 at Kaweka J. Our club patron, Jim Glass, and his minder, Pam Turner, choppered in for a brief visit in marginal conditions courtesy of East Kaweka Helicopters. A brief service was held and the wreath attached with everyone placing a rock on the cairn before everyone quickly headed down as weather conditions were not conducive to lingering on the tops. Early next year we plan to have the DoC/HTC broom removal working bee at The Gums, a rafting and canoeing trip, a weekend in Whirinaki FP and, at Waitangi Weekend, the club is visiting the Kaimai Ranges. Lots to look forward to in 2016.

Thank you to all those who organise and lead tramps, to our merry band of truck drivers and the members who continue to come out tramping. A special thank you must go to the fixtures sub-committee. Please assist them by submitting tramp ideas although maybe we need to look at a different means of doing the fixtures list. I wish to gratefully acknowledge the assistance and good relationships the club has with the Department of Conservation and also with the local landowners who allow us to follow our tramping and conservation paths. I wish the new committee all the best for 2016 as I am standing down. Happy tramping.

Susan Lopdell

## Truck

Our truck has now covered 133,000km, another 7,000km since the last Annual Report. This is a very low reading for a 16 year-old vehicle. It still gets a mixture of mid-week outings, weekend trips and the annual

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nine- day jaunt. We are grateful to our very small pool of drivers, primarily Christine and Lex but also David Blake and Peter Berry who are still able to occasionally do the job for us. Thanks again to Marion and others who continue to look after mattresses and fittings as necessary; five of the mattresses were replaced this year at a cost of \$350. Operating costs continue to rise:

Certificate of Fitness every six months = 2 x \$130	\$260
Insurance for a year	\$600
Annual servicing	\$370
Annual Rego (vehicle re-licencing)	\$650
Road User Charges [10 cents per km]	\$670
Passenger Service Driver Licence Endorsement	\$67
Fuel	\$1,640
Flat tyre and call-out	\$690
Truck Storage	\$400
Total	\$4,657
Cost per week	\$89

The committee regularly considers whether the truck still meets our needs at an acceptable cost or whether we should downsize to a smaller mini-bus which may be cheaper to run and probably allow more drivers to participate. Such a vehicle/s would have some obvious advantages but, if a trailer was needed, this would add to costs, i.e. wof, registration and insurance.

Geoff Clibborn

## Huts

### WAIKAMAKA

After the main work at Waikamaka in March, [fire replacement and exterior painting] Janice and I did most of the last jobs from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014. This included completion of the interior painting and other jobs such as putting up an inside clothes lines, replacing the loo seat, shielding vermin entry points with heavy aluminium foil, painting the window, mounting a kitchen sink on standards and a new seat outside, putting weed-killer around the hut, fastening new handles on hut billies and scrubbing mattresses. Between January 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> we went in again in to finish the little paint jobs such as the roof trusses, patched up about half of the mattresses that had been chewed, repainted the window and dragged a heap of firewood in - some to the hut and cut up, some left for others plus a pile down on the riverbank to dry and be carried up by hut users. On the Sunday we had a quick stroll up and over to Waterfall Hut, notably avoiding the spaniards on guard duty on the way to Rangi Saddle! The committee has approved the addition of a full deck and porch roof to replace the existing porch/woodshed, a stainless steel bench top and the installation of a tank. I have obtained detailed quotes for materials and helicopter which is in the region of \$7000. I have put in an application for funding via the Outdoor Recreation Consortium but that has not been confirmed yet. DoC is happy with the plans and construction methods. A written Building Consent exemption from the Rangitikei District Council is needed as the scope of the work does not require consent provided it is built to NZS 3604 specifications. If the funding is approved then work could be planned for late summer 2016.

### KIWI SADDLE

For the Nancy Tanner Memorial Seat at Kiwi Saddle Hut I had organised the load to be choppered in on December 19<sup>th</sup> by pilot Peter from East Kaweka Helicopters: the park bench-style seat made by Peter Berry, bags of redicrete [concrete mix], a 7-13 foot folding ladder, two steel-framed kitchen chairs, tools needed and some timber for the steps down to the toilet. This was trailered to the Makahu Saddle DoC base, lifted straight in and we were away. Sue and self were the work party and the first task was to decide where the seat should be put. The final option on the grassy western side of the hut was chosen so holes were dug and 10mm reinforcing rods bored into the legs back and front to give it a good bond into the concrete. Levels were meticulously checked [by the highly technical eye appraisal method!] to ensure a level back and a flat seat. A banquet was consumed that evening – it's great not having to carry food in. Out late morning next with the satisfaction of knowing that the seat looks just great there. I'm sure Nancy would have approved.

### HOWLETT'S

30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May saw a solo trip to carry in and put up the new “corporate” door sign, finish the bookshelf unit with a new top shelf, and put in a supply of rat bait. I carried all this along with some tools. With help from

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some Victoria University Tramping Club people in the area, I gathered heaps of wood from along the track to Tiraha and completely filled the woodshed – when I arrived I found absolutely no wood at the hut. I have never seen that before! The new signage in the hut now asks for \$10 per night and points out that the bags of coal cost us \$57 each to land there. As well, the club trip in late June took in a bait station to set up.

#### KAWEKA HUT SITE

Built in 1936, burned down in 2003. A gathering on 19<sup>th</sup> August at the old hut-site dedicated a plaque which Malcolm Lock from DoC had mounted a few weeks before on a stainless steel plinth on the side of the old fireplace. The party went in snow but the day was not too unpleasant as there was no wind. There was no need to cover the plaque for the dedication ‘speech’ as it had a neat cover of snow that was wiped off at the appropriate time!

We can be proud of our club huts which are in prime locations and serve the tramping fraternity well – especially my favourite, Howletts.

John Montgomerie

#### **At the Annual General Meeting held at the Hastings Harrier Club rooms on Wednesday, 25 November 2015 the following awards were presented:**

##### **TRAMPER OF THE YEAR AWARD (Stan Woon Memorial Trophy)**

Club Captain Susan Lopdell presented the award to Brent Hickey

##### **LEATHERWOOD TROPHY (For valuable contribution to HTC)**

Club Captain Susan Lopdell presented the award to Mike Bull

#### **Mid-Week Group**

The Wednesday fixtures have been going now for well over a decade and look set to continue for a few years yet. Scepticism from some at the beginning has faded and it is now the best-attended section of the club’s programmes. It’s all part of the trend in many tramping clubs throughout the country which have expanded their range of outdoor activities this century – cycling and tramping are the best-known pastimes but there are many instances of other things such as climbing, rafting, kayaking, caving, skiing, tubing and canyoning going on. In essence, HTC mid-week tramping trips are likely to be less demanding and time-consuming than those in the weekend programmes, and this suits the proportion of participants who are in their sixties and seventies [with several now in their eighties]. Keen people switch from one programme to the other as it suits so we are fortunate to have a choice available. Libertarians in our midst must be rejoicing at the way HTC has responded to market demand.

This year, 2015, has produced another full calendar of tramps and cycle rides with average numbers of 14 and 17 respectively; our highest attendance was 26. Because we run trips every week there is a certain amount of repetition in our programme every two or three years but, despite that, members came up with several new outings during the year from farm walks to themed cycle rides to mystery outings to investigations of obscure corners of the Bay. It’s great to have such enthusiastic support and interest. We are lucky to have Rodger as facilitator of our programme and we all look forward to his regular emails. Cancellations happen in really bad weather, usually in the depths of winter, but fortunately they are not too numerous. We are looking forward to another successful year in 2016.

Christine Hardie and Rodger Burn

## Treasurer's Report for the Year Ended 30 September 2015

INCOME	NOTES	2015	2014
Subscriptions		\$ 2,401	\$ 2,,494
Fares Received	1	\$ 4,982	\$ 4,353
Bicycle Transport		\$ -	\$ 6
Meeting Contributions		\$ 207	\$ 341
Donations			
Hut	2	\$ 1,110	\$ 1,042
General		\$ -	\$ 020
Fund-raising		\$ 4,333	\$ 4,717
Interest Income		\$ 6,437	\$ 6,688
Sales		\$ 472	-\$ 580
		\$19,942	\$20,241
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Administration		\$ 203	\$ 257
Audit & Accountancy	3	\$ 460	\$ 260
General Expenses		\$ 56	\$ 186
Donations	4	\$ 1,395	\$ 1,647
Insurance (huts & equipment)		\$ 932	\$ 932
Rent of Meeting Room		\$ 384	\$ 300
Supper & Social Expenses	5	\$ 1,686	\$ 138
Library & Photo Album		\$ -	\$ 73
FMC Capitation		\$ 1,000	\$ 1,050
Meetings		\$ 346	\$ -
Pohokura (bulletin)		\$ 1,272	\$ 1,660
Hut Maintenance	6	\$ 1,158	\$16,875
Subscriptions		\$ 157	\$ 57
Training		\$ 271	\$ -
Transport Costs		\$ 4,930	\$ 5,782
Truck Insurance		\$ 595	\$ 595
Equipment		\$ -	\$ -
Telephone & Website		\$ 296	\$ 41
Write-Off	7	\$ 381	\$ -
Depreciation		\$ 520	\$ 762
		\$16,038	\$30,615
NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR TRANSFERRED			
TO ACCUMULATED FUNDS		\$ 3,904	\$10,375
<b>NOTES:</b>			
1. Fares – include nine-day Eastland Trip 2015 and regular midweek trips			
2. Hut Donations – steady income in response to hut notices			
3. Audit – 2015 fee paid early at reduced rate			
4. Donations – \$1345 Lowe Walker Helicopter Trust			
5. 80 <sup>th</sup> Club Birthday costs met by club \$1560			
6. Continued maintenance/overdue maintenance on all three huts 2014			
7. W/off – 1 EPERB, replaced in 2015			

Pohokura

<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Westpac Cheque Account		\$ 4,621	\$ 2,709
Accounts Receivable		\$ -	\$ -
		\$ 4,621	\$ 2,709
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Westpac 0004	Term Deposit	\$ 17,597	\$ 16,885
0005	Term Deposit	\$ 27,738	\$ 26,642
0007	Term Deposit	\$ 10,589	\$ 14,956
0008	Term Deposit	\$ 11,075	\$ 10,638
HBS Bank 011	Term Deposit	\$ 16,636	\$ 15,908
012 (Truck Replacement)	Term Deposit	\$ 70,308	\$ 67,498
Cost	Term Deposit	\$ 78,138	\$ 81,235
Accumulated Deposits	Term Deposit	\$ 74,434	\$ 78,116
	Term Deposit	\$ 3,694	\$ 3,119
Fixed Assets	Term Deposit	\$ 3,119	\$ 3,881
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$162,259</b>	<b>\$158,355</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Sundry payables		\$ 250	\$ 250
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>\$ 250</b>	<b>\$ 250</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>\$162,009</b>	<b>\$158,105</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>			
Balance at 1 October 2014		\$158,105	\$168,480
Surplus for the year		\$ 3,904	-\$ 10,375
<b>TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>		<b>\$162,009</b>	<b>\$158,105</b>
<b>AUDITOR'S REPORT TO MEMBERS OF THE HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)</b>			
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 this 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 2015 and of the financial position at that date.			
W.A. Stacey.	A.C.A.	J.A. Smith	HTC Treasurer

**Heretaunga Tramping Club (INC)****Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2015.****[1] STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES.**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice. The measurement base adopted is that of historical cost.

**PARTICULAR ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Differential Reporting** – The Club, due to its size, qualifies under the Accounting Standard DIFF REP “Framework for differential reporting” issued by the NZ Society of Accountants. The Club has taken advantage of all exemptions available e.g., non-publication of a cash flow statement etc.

**Depreciation** is charged to write off the cost of fixed assets over their expected economic lives. The principal rates of depreciation are as follows;

Truck 7.5% Huts 5% SL Club Gear 10% DV & 20% SL Bicycle Gear 10% DV

The Club Gear is grouped into five different categories: Truck Equipment, Meeting Night Equipment, Administrative Equipment, Mountaineering Equipment and Safety Equipment. A schedule of this gear is maintained and updated annually.

The huts were depreciated for the first time in 1994/95 and this practice has been continued annually. The Club is only a licensee in respect of the hut sites and therefore they have no recoverable value.

**Items bought for resale** – the figure given is a net value. No account has been taken of stock on hand.

**Goods & Services Tax** – the Club is not registered for GST purposes, therefore the Financial Statements have been prepared on a GST-inclusive basis.

**Taxation** – the Club is classified as a sporting club for income tax purpose and is exempt from Income Tax.

**Accounts receivable** – Stated at their estimated net realisable value.

**Fixed assets** – recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation.

**Reserves for Specific Purposes** – special reserves have been established for truck replacement, hut replacement and outdoor education. Sufficient funds to cover the truck depreciation charge are transferred each year to Term Deposit. Funds are transferred to the other reserve accounts in line with policy and at the discretion of the Committee. Term Deposit accounts are maintained at both Westpac and Hastings Building Society for these purposes.

**CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES** - changes from the accounting policies observed in the preparation of last year's financial statements. All policies have been consistently applied.

**[2] FIXED ASSETS**

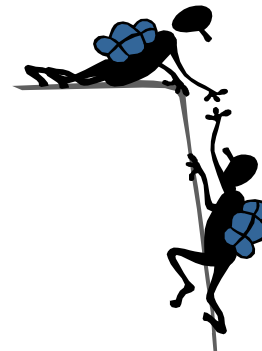
	Rate	Dep	2015BV	2014BV
Isuzu Truck	7.5% SL	\$ -	-\$ 0	-\$ 0
Truck equipment	10% DV	\$ 34	\$ 303	\$ 336
Bicycle Racks	10% DV	\$ 45	\$ 403	\$ 448
Huts	5% SL	\$ 1	\$ 0	\$ 1
Meeting night equipment	10% DV	\$ 44	\$ 400	\$ 444
Meeting night equipment	20% SL	\$ 195	\$ 779	\$ 0
Admin Equipment	10% DV	\$ 4	\$ 33	\$ 37
Hire Equipment	10% DV	\$ 68	\$ 613	\$ 681
Mountaineering equipment	10% DV	\$ 129	\$ 1,164	\$ 1,173
Safety Equipment		\$ 520	\$ 3,694	\$ 3,119

**[3] ACCUMULATED FUNDS**

	Truck Replace Reserve	Hut Replace Reserve	Outdoor Education Fund	Accum Surpluses	2015 Accum Funds	2014 Accum Funds
Balance 01.10.2014	\$ 87,341	\$ 680	\$ 902	\$ 69,180	\$ 158,103	\$ 168,477
Add surplus for year				\$ 3,904	\$ 3,904	-\$ 10,375
Transfers to Spl Reserves		\$ 1,110		\$ 1,110		
Interest on reserve funds	\$ 3,834	\$ 27		\$ 3,861		
Less transfers out		\$ 1,158		\$ 1,158		
Balance 30.09.2015	\$ 91,175	\$ 659	\$ 902	\$ 69,271	\$ 162,007	\$ 158,103



# TRIP REPORTS



#2304

Kaweka Range

22 - 23 August 2015

Studholme Circuit, Makahu Saddle, across Donald River, up MacIntosh Spur to Studholme Hut, on to Mad Dog, to Kaweka J, down Makahu Spur. John drove us up to Makahu Spur in his ute where a pleasant cool morning saw us heading off along Matauria Ridge. Then it was the steep plunge down to the Donald River, which for the dry boot-conscious involved a footwear change into crocs. The scramble up the other side is blinking steep with the track route not all that clear at times. Eventually we reached the top and lunched among the pinus contorta (bit of a feature of this route unfortunately); panted up MacIntosh Spur to bump into Napier Tramping Club stalwart Julia Mackie out for a solo tramp. Bit of a natter before heading down to Studholme for a look at the bivvy then through the snow up to the hut. There was NO WOOD, much to our disgust, so we got to work hauling branches and logs through the snow and chopping them up. The fire was blazing away then a big feed and early night. The next morning looked a bit windswept and interesting on the tops as we headed up behind the hut then scrunched up the ridge. Crampons went on near the top as it was very windy and icy in patches - unfortunately for John his beautiful tungsten alloy crampons refused to stay on his boots, but it'll take more than a bit of ice to stop a Monty! John contacted Eddie and Sandy who were on the J somewhere but, with the howling wind, were not waiting for us. Up to the cairn in good "buried in your hood conditions", a quick dram at the top then aaah – the playground. And no wind!

Down Makahu spur to lunch at Domini Biv before return to the ute for home. Thanks, John, for driving and for a good weekend circuit. AF

**Party:** Andy Fowler, John Montgomerie

#2305

Ahuriri Estuary Walk

Wed 26 August 2015

Another change of venue due to lambing and this week 12 of us had an easy Ahuriri Amble starting out from the Humber Street Pandora area. It was a fabulous calm, sunny day with reflections all over the place in the water and birds pecking around in the mudflats. We wandered over the boardwalks and pathways around the estuary stopping periodically to read the interesting information boards. The little gallery opposite the yacht club was worth a look for its lovely paintings and clever ceramics. We also had a look in the old National Tobacco Company building [this brought back memories for Des who used to work for Rothmans] before heading up the hill to look at progress on the demolition of the old Napier Hospital – two walls of the clinical services block is the only part left standing now. After mutterings about lunch we carried on to the Botanical Gardens where we ate before heading back via the cemetery to our cars at Pandora. RB

**Party:** Judy McBride, Penny Isherwood, Lyn Walch, Christine Hardie, Pauline Mahoney, Heather Stephenson, Murray Aitken, Des Smith, Graeme Hare, Peter Hewitt, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn

#2306

Esk Forest Walk

Wed 9 September 2015

Please note that the listed beach walk for this date did not go ahead because of storm damage on the eastern coastal areas so we did the following trip. This was a new area for all of us as we now have access to the Eskdale Mountain Bike Park under the control of the HBMTB club. Expectations were high although we were initially delayed because we stopped at the wrong access point!! However we eventually set off from Waipunga Road on the higher northern side of the forest and followed a steepish, wide track up to the fence line then along the tops for a while.

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## Pohokura

The vistas were stunning with views from Tangoio's Flat Rock back to Napier Port and we took smoko here. We then carried on up and down the quirkily-named pine needle-covered trails for a while till Graeme Hare decided we had to have a food stop. After lunch we plunged into the bowels of the forest park on more well-maintained tracks trying to keep to the route planned on our maps which we had managed to get several copies of. Despite all the tracks being pretty well signposted we somehow missed a turn-off down in the valley and had to go up some unscheduled hills in a loop circuit to get to our start point! Everyone agreed that it had been a great day was had by all in perfect weather conditions in an area which offers plenty of opportunities to explore further on foot plus a couple of easy cycle rides around the perimeter of the park. If anyone in the club wants information about the MTB park or the permits needed to go in there, see Rodger.

**Party:** Christine Hardie, Heather Stephenson, Penny Isherwood, Bobby Couchman, Judy McBride, Lyn Walch, Garry Smith, Murray Aitkin, Ray Manning, Graeme May, Des Smith, Graeme Hare, Scott Campbell, Brent Hickey, Rodger Burn [organiser and scribe]

<b>#2307</b>	<b>Waipunga Forest Park</b>	<b>Sat 19 September 2015</b>
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I went on to the computer early on Friday morning: Saturday forecast was for scattered showers with rain developing early evening, and Sunday had heavy rain (55mm over a six hour period), gale south-easterlies and a severe weather watch attached. The trip was originally planned to do the Poronui-Oamaru-Te Iringa circuit in the Kaimanawas which involves crossing two waterways and camping out by Kaipo Bridge. Plans were immediately changed to a day trip on the Saturday with the group reducing by half to three hardy souls. Glenda and Mark collected me at 7:10am and we set off to drive to Waipunga Forest Park, accessible from the Napier-Taupo Road. This is an area that the club frequented a lot in the 1980s and 1990s before DOC stopped maintaining the tracks. It took one and half hours travelling from Napier to the old Pohokura Road Bridge and another hour to reach the entry point along Pine Milling Road.

Waipunga Forest has become the forgotten neighbour of the much-publicised Whirinaki Forest Park but has its own special bush and is well worth visiting. The weather forecast was promising rain for late afternoon and we were greeted with blue skies and sunshine whilst we changed into our tramping boots. A short walk down a forestry road to a small grassy clearing and carpark where there is still the remains of the fireplace of the Matakuhia Saddle Hut. The track entry is easy to find with the old green DoC sign and, just 200 metres further on, an intentions book set high on a post with a strategically placed block of concrete for those, like myself, who are vertically challenged! We descended through initially regenerating bush with mature trees lower down in the valley - predominately beech in this northern section. We sidled alongside Matakuhia Stream, an undulating track with a few slips due to windfalls and heavy rain (more obvious on the opposite side of the stream) with a few novel boardwalks such as those with chicken wire nailed onto fallen logs rather than DoC wooden structures. The track is reasonably good going with only a few narrow tricky areas on unstable pumice ground. After two hours (sign had stated three hours to the hut) we came to a tussock clearing with Upper Matakuhia Hut sited close to the bushline; an old hut, well cared-for with pot belly stove, freshly cut firewood so it was here that we lunched. Perusing the hut book we noted a couple of trampers or hunters from Tokoroa who stay every six weeks, maintaining the traplines and track into the hut – thank you, it is much appreciated.

From other entries in the book it is obvious that there has been no track maintenance in the southern end of this park. It was once a well-benched tramping track between the upper and lower huts, an area well used by trampers and hunters and featuring several pairs of blue duck. Due to the maintained trap-line many birds are now seen or heard: grey warblers, whiteheads, fantails, tomits, tui and many robins – alas no kereru. Return took two and half hours, setting a slightly more leisurely pace to our vehicle by 3.00pm. SL

**Party:** Susan Lopdell, Mark Hutchinson, Glenda Hooper

<b>#2308</b>	<b>Apiti Track</b>	<b>4 October 2015</b>
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Gale force winds were forecasted for later in the afternoon but they appeared to arrive early. The pine trees at the car park off Ngamoko Road were roaring as we clambered out of the truck and put our gear on. I seemed to lose people throughout the morning – the first was our driver who decided he needed a bit more sleep before he ventured out. Then, five minutes later, I lost another after she looked at her feet and noted

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that she had two different boots on and rushed back to the truck to change one (she did return to us later). A little bit further on another turned back because she was feeling sick and she spent the time ambling with the now-awake driver whom she met coming up the track! The wind was still very strong but the track winds its way slowly upwards through horopito-dominated scrub land and it was pleasant enough in the sheltered stretches. There was time to take in the good views across the Southern Hawkes Bay farmland and to admire the ourisia which were in full bloom on the wetter sections. We all stopped for a refuel just below the first high point at which stage I lost another five who decided they were going to push on and go to Makaretu Hut and come out down the river. That left five of us. We carried on along the track after them for an hour or so through the kamahi forest until we reached a saddle where the wind was roaring through. At this point we turned round and retraced our steps getting to the truck around 2:30pm. We waited at the car park till just after four and drove round to the river, arriving there at the same time as the Makaretu Hut party.

**NB:** The section of river below Makaretu Hut and the short cut from Happy Daze Hut to the river passes through private land and permission should be obtained from the land-owners before walking them.

**Party:** (in order of disappearance): Peter Berry, Susan Lopdell, Penny Isherwood, Janet Titchener, Janice Love, Brent Hickey, Des Smith, Mark Hutchinson, Scott Campbell, Mike Bull, Anne Doig, Glenda Hooper

<b>#2309</b>	<b>Roy's Hill and Fernhill Ramble</b>	<b>Wed 21 Oct 2015</b>
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On a very sunny Wednesday 20 trampers set off to explore Roy's Hill and Fernhill. We departed from Peggy's place on Highway 50 and made our way across the old rifle range and army land to Roy's Hill. We continued to walk around the river side of this hill through a lovely glade, following a creek that used to feed the Hastings aquifer for about 3kms until the track came to an end. We chose this as a good place to have morning tea in the shade. After tramping back via a different route and sending some walkers such as Marion with her newly replaced knee joint back with Peggy's husband, Frank, we then went along the stop bank past Craggy Range vineyard. When the stop bank ran out we dropped down into the river bed, found a lovely shady spot in the trees for lunch and then continued on our way to Fernhill. It was amazing to see a very large vineyard and a lovely little apple orchard nestled behind the old Fernhill Pub. From there we climbed up Fern Hill itself, going across private land (Don McLeod's farm) and were able to take in the wonderful views of the river and surrounding area. Then it was a short trip down the hill, a walk along Mere Road to the Roy's Hill Reserve (which was the old Hastings rubbish dump) and a well-earned drink at Unison Vineyard on Highway 50. Some people were very thankful to Geoff who was able to offer them a lift in his motor home back to where their cars were parked. A great tramp and although it was 18kms in very warm and windy conditions, the trampers appeared to enjoy a different area to explore. PG

**Party:** Dorothy Sole, Janice Love, Christine Hardie, Rodger Burn, Barbara Phillips, Scott Campbell, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Bobby Couchman, Graeme Hare, Des Smith, Judy McBride, Pat McCourtie, Brent Hickey, Marion Nicholson, Peter and Yvonne Hewitt, Geoff Clibborn, Garry Smith, Peggy Gulliver [organiser]

<b>#2310</b>	<b>Tararua Range</b>	<b>Labour Weekend 23 - 26 October 2015</b>
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**Party A:** A dreary wet day was greeting us as we approached Eketahuna. A wet start.....aaargh. Our party of three was away by about 10a.m. by which time the drizzle had stopped so it was along the Mangatainoka River headwaters and the grunt up to Herepai Ridge. From about here the heavy rain started and very strong winds got up. The tops to the west had clagged in and looked uninviting - Cattle Ridge Hut over there being our intended night stay. As the day progressed so did the rain and wind which made the side creeks like little rivers! On arrival at Roaring Stag Hut the rain was torrential with accompanying gale-force winds. The river came up quickly and the wind roared upriver like a jet engine thrust. A couple from Wellington had been just ahead of us so we acquainted ourselves and made a wise choice to stay the night there. The big grunt up to Cattle Ridge Hut would have been very exposed and unpleasant to say the least so we would have arrived there wet, bedraggled and with no fire! The rain stopped overnight with resulting clear skies but clagged to the west. The spur up is steep and huge so we were pleased to get to Cattle Ridge Hut for smoko. Up to the ridge and along south was good but long periods of white-out slowed us down a little. We eventually lunched on Waingawa's high point in clear conditions. My Wairarapa friend, Derrick Field, had told me about an old track down a spur to Arete Forks Hut just 300m west of Waingawa. We found this without any trouble but it was a steeply



*On Girdlestone: Mark Hutchinson, John Montgomerie, Jason McKinley*



*Tarn Ridge Hut and Brockett Peak*

defined spur down. About halfway down it became leatherwood with a reasonable route then a steep vertical gut as the only way down from that point. This was slow work but soon we were on to a plateau and into the beech forest following markers that Derrick had put in - no track, just intermittent permolat. This brought us down to above the Arete West Fork still carrying deepish water from yesterday, then the south branch to cross to the hut for the night. On Day Three the decision was made to go up Pinnacle Spur to the tops rather than battle the higher-than-usual south branch river as originally planned. This would have got us almost right under Tarn Ridge Hut. Pinnacle Ridge is not called that for nothing - straight up and some pinnacles too! The last pitch to the actual Waiohine Pinnacles on the main range was almost vertical and Mark muttered something like he was over his comfort zone limits. Then there were the actual Waiohine Pinnacles which necessitated careful footing and holds. It was a perfect day with sun, a little breeze and views for

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Africa as they say. We hurried for Tarn Ridge Hut by 4pm to beat the masses considering that it was day three of a long weekend. We were the only ones there until three arrived at 11pm gleefully making noise setting up, noisily chopping up carrots and so on before cooking dinner! We had the last laugh though as we were up at 5:30 next morning! The tops were fogged-in at times before dark but the forecast was still good. Day 4 had us away on a clear cool morning [a frost up there] at 7:15. We had to get out to and over Girdlestone and Brockett Peaks, go past the steep north face of Mitre and down Table Ridge to Cow Creek Hut on the way out. This is an alpine ridge but slow going with rock and tussock. We then found the spur needed to get down, very indistinct at the bush edge but an A1 track further on. Getting down from Tarn Ridge Hut to Cow Creek took 4 ½ hours – longer by an hour than expected – and so set us behind the time out given as 2p.m. I think. From Cow Creek it was still a good jaunt up to and along Blue Range back to Kiriwhakapapa Road end. We made it out just after 4pm feeling rather spent from our fast pace on tired feet. People we met there said the truck had gone! Oh bother, we said! We figured that they had gone out to get phone coverage which was so, and as there were no messages to change our exit point, they returned to a jubilant three. A change from our grotty gear felt a little better and, with refreshments consumed, we were underway at about 4:30. A stop was agreed on at Dannevirke for food at the café opposite KFC, where a ‘family meal’ was shared with the B party with tables joined – a pleasant end to the weekend. Getting three days out of four with perfect weather is not usual in the Tararua Ranges so we were indeed lucky. Jason has not been tramping much lately but coped well; he described it as a tough trip. Thanks, Mark and Jason, for being good company in great territory in the mighty Tararuas once again, and to Lex for being our transport operator from road end to road end, and there and back. JM

**Party:** Mark Hutchinson, Jason McKinley and John Montgomerie [leader]

**Party B:** We arrived at Putara Road end on the Friday morning to wet and windy conditions and, as no-one was enthused to begin tramping, we waited for an improvement in the weather. The four of us lounged in the back of the truck until midday! We finally changed into our tramping gear, parkas on and initially wandered through farmland on a wet and muddy truck to the first swing-bridge over the Mangatainoka River. Then it was along a good track through beech forest and kamahi to the second wire bridge. It was a steady climb of two hours through forest of mainly beech with totara, miro and rimu to the track junction (Herepai/Roaring Stag). It was at this time that the Tararua FP lived up to its reputation: very wet! very windy! very cold! No stopping to admire the views, just steadily plodding upwards. From the track junction we walked along a ridge crest with more stunted vegetation and were extremely pleased to come to the hut after an hour and 20 minutes. Herepai is an older hut, nestled in a hollow just below the main range and sleeps 12 on platform bunks. We immediately changed into dry clothes, lit the fire, brewed a hot drink, and soon the inside of the hut resembled a Chinese laundry with very damp gear, including a sleeping bag, drying out. The wind and rain continued until 4:00am but Saturday dawned with blue skies and sunshine. What a contrast! Two of the party ventured up behind the hut till the track ran out and were greeted with splendid views of the Mangatainoka and Ruamahanga Rivers and surrounding countryside with East and West Peaks and Herepai high point clear on the main range. After a cuppa we slowly returned to the truck, stopping frequently to take photos in the filtered sunshine. We then drove to the Kiriwhakapapa Reserve and set up camp between the shelter and information kiosk along with several other groups in tents (Tararua Tramping Club Family Group) plus various motorhomes. After our evening meal we walked the loop track (45 mins) through a large redwood grove and then did a circuit around a stream in the fading light.

Sunday saw the group have a leisurely start and we followed the old bush tramline through to Mikimiki Road, about 15kms in total; initially a flat track following a stream then a gentle climb up to a saddle before dropping down the other side. Towards the end of the track we came across a nursery planted in 1930 which has since been left to itself (macrocarpa, a couple of hundred redwoods, gums). We came to the park boundary and farmland where there are still remains of the old tramway with totara sleepers and some moss-covered rails. Lots of birdlife was either seen or heard – tui, fantails, whiteheads, tomtits, bellbirds, grey warblers, chaffinches and kereru.

On Monday we wandered through the substantial redwood grove (bigger than Te Mata Peak's) and gradually climbed upwards on the track to Blue Range Hut. We passed an impressive rimu and stopped frequently to view the Masterton countryside. Soon after the junction with Cow Creek Hut we came across a good area for viewing the main range and saw Cattle Ridge Hut as a tiny speck in the distance. About half an hour later we came to the hut now painted a bright blue with various signs from the old Masterton Hospital attached to the



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outside and to the toilet. Inside, there are old topographical maps lining the roof. We spoke with a group which had stayed the night and had a quick bite to eat whilst sitting at the picnic table basking in the sunshine. Returned back the same route to the reserve and got there at about 12:45pm, just before the other group's scheduled arrival time of 1:00pm. 1:00pm, 2:00pm, 3:00pm went past and no sign of John's group so, at 3:45 we all piled into the truck and drove down the road to where our cell phones would work – no messages! We did an about-turn and arrived at the reserve car park to find three very, very tired chaps - a relief to us all. It was as I thought - due to the weather conditions on the Friday, the party did not achieve its destination. On the way home we stopped off for a meal in Dannevirke and arrived back to a wet Hastings. Thank you all for your company and to Lex for driving; a trip that started in atrocious weather but the Tararuas did come up trumps with three sunny days.

**Party:** Janice Love, Susan Lopdell, Lex Smith [driver], Anne Doig

**#2311**

**Tuki Tuki River to Hinerua**

**1 November 2015**

We had a late start to the tramp as some of the party wanted to watch the final of the rugby world cup so we finally left town about 7:45am and drove to Mill Road, arriving by about 9:30. We had to climb around a washout on the track down to the river where we met a hunter returning from an unsuccessful morning hunt. Once at the river we walked upstream for a while to reach the bottom of the spur to Hinerua Hut at around 10.30am where the sign indicated it was three hours to the hut. The agreement was made that we would turn for home at around one o'clock whether or not we had reached the hut so three sped off while another three climbed upwards at a slower rate. It is quite a climb up through the farmland before you get into the forest park but once there it is lovely with lots of moss and today a shining cuckoo in full song. At about one o'clock the three at the back met two of the others coming down (they had probably got to 30 minutes short of the hut) and the five of us headed back down to the Tukituki for a rest. Shortly later Des, our sixth member, caught up to us - he was the only one to get to Hinerua Hut.



On the trek down-river four of us found the marked track for the walk back and this was a much faster route - it basically follows the far edge of the true right of the river channel. The only trick was that we then had a bit of a wait for one of the other two to realise that we were waiting for him at the bottom of the track that heads up back to the carpark. Thanks, Lex, for driving us safely there and back.

**Party:** Des Smith, Lex Smith, Brent Hickey, Ken Nugent, Mike Bull, Glenda Hooper.

January 2016

Eleven of us arrived at Makahu Saddle carpark just after 8am and meeting up with Mary Gray. We followed Kathy Eggers and her children [they have all been on this trip since being babies and so they know the Spur well!]. Up to Dominie Bivvy and a spell about an hour from the carpark then we continued to arrive at the top by about 10:30. At times on our drive-in the tops were well clagged-in to just above Dominie but as we progressed it cleared. However, as forecast, it was blowing a NW gale: 60-80 km/hr with a good wind chill to boot. As Pam and Jim were to be delivered by Chris of East Kaweka Helicopters, I had kept in phone contact with him on the way up so that I could advise him of the wind situation at the top. Chris was doubtful but decided to try anyway. The landing at 11:05 was done in marginal conditions with just five minutes allowed from drop-off to pick-up again so he stayed with the machine. A short service was conducted by myself to honour the eleven club members who gave their lives for their country in WW2. Very cold gale conditions. Fittingly we did not linger at all so it was across The Playground and down Makahu Spur to the haven of Dominie for a little lunch. Then it was on and down Trials Spur to the truck.

While at the J we assessed the Cairn for any restorative work needed. Over the years since 1946 the Cairn has grown enormously. Its first form was that of a vertically-sided column of carefully stacked rocks about one metre in diameter and two metres high. Although still about the same height it has grown in the last 69 years to become a pyramid of about four metres at the base. I was amazed to see photos of it on the first service, then the 1961 shape, the rebuild in 1962 and to compare it with its shape today. At some time in the future it needs just a relatively small number of rocks at the top removed, the netting reshaped and tied back to its original form and checking that the plaque is well fixed in place. It is a shame the trig station nearby has fallen down as it was another icon up there. I doubt that it would ever be rebuilt in these technological days of GPS and other technology. After regrouping at the truck it was away to Pam's place for a **sumptuous** lunch/afternoon tea prepared by Pam, Marion and Fred with other helpers. We battled through the delicacies for an hour or so, constantly struggling with the desire to "see food, eat food"! I, personally, gave up and went for it! So 17 made it on foot and two by the local air force to witness the annual patronage we pay to those men. Thank you to the perseverance of all to get there and see the job through. Jim was over the moon to have made it there again. Thanks too to our driver, Lex to get us there and back safely. JM

**Party:** Lex Smith [driver] Mary Gray, Mark Hutchinson, John Hutchinson, Brent Hickey, Janice Love, Graeme Hare, Janet Titchener, Randall Goldfinch, Brian Smith, Derek Boshier, Kathy Eggers, Korbin Eggers, Samara Eggers, Carlee Eggers, Finlay Campbell, John Montgomerie [leader] on foot; Pam Turner and Jim Glass by air



*Cairn Trip 1950s – Jim Glass 4th from left, standing*



Pohokura



*1962 - Reconstruction of the Cairn*



*1986 - Glenda Hooper*



#2313

Holts Forest Park

Wed 18 November 2015

We took an optimistic view of the weather forecast but this time we dipped out and had a light drizzle for much of the day. However this did not deter the obvious enthusiasm of our host and park trustee, Sandy Hampton, who met us at the park as did Graeme and Tracy May with Zinnie. After viewing the rhododendrons which were in full bloom on the eastern side of the woods [and which had been the initial inspiration for a trip at this time of the year], Sandy escorted us around the park explaining the founding history of the forest, and the various species of trees and their characteristics plus his experiences working with Harold Holt. We were especially intrigued by the Davidia trees with their leaf-like flower structures which had fallen and were scattered widely over the ground. A lot of the original Douglas Firs have reached enormous sizes as have other species such as macrocarpas which were originally put in as windbreaks. The Holt Trust now has to decide if and how some of the older trees have to be removed as they have reached a status of potential danger. Because of the steadily increasing rain we decided to have lunch at Lake Tutira but the driver somehow missed the turn-off and we ended up at the White Pine Bush picnic area where we had the company of the resident rooster.

RB

**Party:** Barbara Phillips, Liz Pindar, Christine Hardie, Bobby Couchman, Penny Isherwood, Anne Cantrick, Christine Snook, Graeme and Tracy May, Marion Nicholson, Fred Chesterman, Des Smith, Sandy Hampton, Rodger Burn

#2314

Maungataniwha

28 - 29 November 2015

About a year ago a group from HTC checked the pitfall traps for skinks and installed two lines of gecko houses - small boxes mounted on trees. We went back this year partly to set and check the pitfalls and to do a first check on the gecko houses but also to enjoy all the comforts of home (except TV) in a lovely bush setting. Glenda, in her role as group conscience, even found a short tramp for us. We made the meeting point at the appointed time to allow a good 2.5 hrs from Pernel Orchard. Barry ferried us thorough to base as the pine logging continues and it pays not to be on the road in competition with a laden truck. Once restored by several cups of tea we proceeded to the first pitfall grid which was unfortunately rather waterlogged and which therefore needed moving. On down the 4WD track to the Waiau River, on the banks of which are both a hut and the second pitfall grid. This we primed with a morsel of canned pear in each tin before proceeding back up the road, checking part of one gecko line on the way. In those houses were a couple of tree weta, a few cave weta, the occasional spider and a native roach or more. Geoff and Marion had been kindly granted the use of a very smart four-wheeler meaning that they were able to get to and from the river with us.

Just before the base we re-established and set the first pitfall line on higher ground before ending the day with a fine meal including lamb chops and venison expertly barbequed by Fred and Brent while the women found contentment in the kitchen. Barry feeds apples to some local deer each evening and well before he'd spread them out the deer were hanging about. Eventually, in the dusk, they approached the dining room though with a degree of caution. It had rained off and on all day but by nightfall that was well gone.

Sunday was perfect. Having checked both traps and houses with not a lizard to be seen we did Glenda's suggested walk, parallel with the river but just out of sight of it. The bush was beautiful with some large podocarps and a good number of tanekaha, not a tree we often encounter in our local ranges. Lunch was a bit late and very relaxed but eventually we had to go, this time without Barry but with a radio and good instructions. While a bit disappointing to find no lizards the lack suggested that any present are pretty uncommon and that ties in with the fact that Barry and others see very few. Hopefully numbers will increase with on-going predator control.

Thanks to Simon Hall, owner, Pete Shaw, manager, the inestimable Barry Creane and to Peter who not only drove with his usual competence but had, in the evening, warbled tunefully to the strains of his guitar. ML

**Party:** Glenda Hooper, Peter Berry, Geoff Clibborn, Marion Nicholson, Fred Chesterman, Brent Hickey, Mary Gray, Christine Snook, Alan Peterson, Mike Lusk [forest liaison]

<b>#2315</b>	<b>Community Service: Waitangi Clean-Up</b>	<b>Wed 2 December 2015</b>
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What a team of “goers” the tramping club is! As a helping hand to the Regional Council which maintains kilometres of cycling trails throughout Hawkes Bay, nineteen of our members spent more than two hours in cool, overcast conditions picking up all sorts of rubbish in the Waitangi vicinity mainly between the two bridges and the foreshore to the shingle works. I personally don’t think any cyclist left one piece of what we picked up but it’s the gesture that counts. Tom, of the regional council works team, thanked us for our terrific effort, a trailer filled with goodies for the trip. My thanks to all who came. GRH

**Party:** Pam Turner, Peter Hewitt, Christine Snook, Bobby Couchman, Rodger Burn, Brent Hickey, Barbara Phillips, Janice Love, Judy McBride, Anne Doig, Marion Nicholson, Christine Hardie, Pam Pike, Penny Isherwood, Graeme May, Tracy May with Zinfandel, Geoff Clibborn, Alasdair Shaw, Graeme Hare [C O]



<b>#2316</b>	<b>Track Maintenance: Barlows Hut to Parks Peak Hut</b>	<b>13 December 2015</b>
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A carload of four people drove down to Yeomans Mill site on a reasonably fine morning. We left my place at 6:30 and had crossed the Makaroro and put on our boots for the climb up by 8 a.m. A shining cuckoo was in fine song as we left the river and walked along the forestry road with raincoats on because of the light drizzle which was at times replaced with rain and, at one stage, a small amount of fine hail. Later on in the day we heard the squawks of long-tailed cuckoo. Three hours on we had reached the start of the route that we maintain for DoC. On our previous working bee we had run out of time to do the top section so it was our job to rectify this. Much of our effort was in a section just below the first creek where windfall had obliterated the track. We established and marked a bypass around this and removed markers that now pointed the wrong way. We had lunch in a small clearing; the weather had cleared by now although it was not terribly warm.

After lunch we returned up-hill adding more markers where required and got back to the track junction around 1pm. One of our party was still keen and cleared quite a bit of the recent windfall on the DoC-maintained Parks Peak Track. We got back to our car at about 3:30, pleased that we had been able to complete our task. We had two new people out for the day - many thanks for your efforts and I hope you enjoyed your day. GH

**Party:** Robin and Michael Pohlenz, Janice Love, Glenda Hooper

The Department of Conservation put the word around that volunteers were needed for three days of help with the upgrading of Mohi Bush facilities as part of the DoC/HBRC **Cape to City** project so the mid-week group thought, why not? We can do a day. Christine acted as liaison officer and over 20 people leapt at the chance of a day's work [although a number were later unable to come on the nominated day].

Some of us met at Pernel on the designated morning and took the truck through Havelock North to pick up more members before chugging up the Maraetotara Valley to the reserve. There we were met by Kelly Mayo [DoC Ranger Services] who had organised the working bee. She gave us an introduction and safety briefing before we were divided into teams of four or five – each with a DoC or HBRC ranger or staff member in charge - and sent out to different sections of the bush. Our tasks involved putting in a grid of bait stations and self-resetting rat traps plus clearing and marking tracks that would enable staff to access these traps on a monthly basis. The overall aim is to severely reduce or eradicate rodents and other pests in Mohi Bush so that native birds can flourish. This is a big challenge, considering that the bush is completely surrounded by farmland and open to constant re-infestation.

In true HTC style we set to. Each team had to walk up and down steep hills alongside the forest before going in through the fences to follow a route that had already been marked with fluoro tape to put the traps at every 100 metres. This was not as straightforward as you would think as supplejack is a large component of Mohi's ecosystem. There was never more than a few metres that were free of large tangled masses of vines that were very difficult to push through. DoC does not allow slashers or chainsaws on working bees involving volunteers so there were hours of hand saw, lopper and secateur work ahead of us.

Reports indicate that all teams handled the tasks very efficiently and cleared the required tracks well. The traps and bait stations have to be correctly installed at certain heights above the ground; the trees for this were already marked so progress was reasonably good. The access tracks are now well marked with enough plastic triangles that can be seen in both directions. By two o'clock everyone had finished their assigned sections and made their way back to the carpark where the DoC staff had prepared a meal of barbecued sausages with coleslaw, buns and sauce to fill us up. The threatened rain had not arrived before we left so everyone was happy.

It was really great to see the terrific response to this exercise from our members. It was a tribute to 80 years of HTC camaraderie and a great end to the mid-week 2015 programme. Thanks everyone.

*Note: I had a call from Roy Frost a couple of days after the working bee; he had been unable to come on the 16<sup>th</sup> so went along the next day to put in a day's work. Great stuff!* CH

Workers: Christine Hardie [co-ordinator], Rodger Burn, Garry Smith, Geoff Clibborn, Scott Campbell, Penny Isherwood, Allan Russell, Graeme May, Janice Love, Graeme Hare, Alan Berry, Marion Nicholson, Fred Chesterman, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Anne Doig, Viv Waterer, Peter Hewitt, Brent Hickey

## Private Tramping Trips

**Howletts Hut**

**23 - 25 November 2015**

A trip to Howletts always requires determination and I had been wanting to return there for some time. (A helicopter trip in 2006, “oh so quick”, is not the same). Des and I were waiting for fine weather and it arrived on cue late in November. Our plan was to do a Sawtooth circuit in two and a half days. A quick decision on Sunday afternoon: let’s leave home at 11am tomorrow.

It was a hot night in Daphne Hut after crossing and re-crossing the TukiTuki for what seemed hours. A cracker day dawned and we were soon plodding up the notorious Daphne Ridge. Des quickly got into a good rhythm and soon left me behind to arrive at the hut two hours later. It took me another hour. The hut, after all the work Monty and his teams have done, is immaculate. Great effort, guys. Howletts is such a neat hut in a superb setting that gives all visitors a sense of achievement and satisfaction no matter what the weather or the season. The difference between the old 1938 hut built by the Ruahine Tramping Club, assisted by HTC, is huge. Then it was dirt floor, sacking bunks, cold, sometimes blocked by snow drifts that tried to sneak in through cracks but always a welcome haven. Our modern comfortable hut is paradise by comparison.

In the afternoon we went off to Tiraha and it was then that I realised that my dream of crossing Sawtooth tomorrow was too ambitious. On the Wednesday morning it was blowing steadily so to return the way we had come was not so disappointing. A really enjoyable and satisfying tramp in great company. GRH

**Party:** Des Smith, Graeme Hare





**Howletts Hut: 1956 photos courtesy of Alan Berry**



*It was a very different structure from what we have now: no floor but a layer of lovely dry snowgrass as a carpet, so long as people took their boots off.*



*From left: Edna Ansell, perpetually youthful Graeme Hare, Alan Berry, Hal Christian. The glare from the snow was too much for some. Alan must have set up the camera on his pack and then run around to join the crowd as there were only four of us on that trip.*

# HTC Bike Trips



## Clive to Bay View Cycle

Wed 19 August 2015

Once again the scheduled ride from Poraiti [Park Island] Cemetery had to be changed, this time because of lambing so a decision was made to start from Clive instead. A mere couple of minutes saw our first obstruction: bridge repairs! This meant dodging cones and barriers but the lovely workmen had provided appropriate temporary ramps so we weren't held up for long. Then, it was into the stiff nor'easterly head wind, over the trail to Awatoto and along the foreshore to Napier. On the way we noted a construction site jutting out into the sea, part of the drainage upgrade that has been going on for several months and soon to be opened as the great Marine Parade Viewing Platform. There are also several new shelters along the route, some provided by Rotary clubs and some from council resources. We made a stop in one of them for a snack and recharge.

Around the hill the wind swirled in different directions as we pedalled on – at times it was very strong. We still made good time past the Port, along the Esplanade, dodged Perfume Point [if that's what it's still called!], through the café quarter and the yacht club and along Westshore Beach before finally cruising through Bay View to end up at Snapper Café. It had taken us about two hours.

By this time we were ready for some serious nourishment so we all swarmed into the café for a selection of food and drink. After a suitable interval it was time to go back; fingers crossed that the wind hadn't changed direction. We were in luck and the tail wind helped us speed over the same route back to the Evers-Swindell Reserve under Clive Bridge from where we had started. The weather was still overcast but there was never more than a half-hearted spit or two of rain for which we were grateful. Back at the cars we all efficiently loaded our bikes on to vehicles, and Christine distributed mandarins and the latest Pohokura magazines to all present. Sustenance for mind and body!!!

GS

**Cyclists:** Joan Ruffell, Judy McBride, Lyn Walch, Dennis Beets, Ian Stewart, Pat Sheridan, Rodger Burn, Peter Hewitt, Christine Hardie, Pam Pike, Graeme May, Pauline Mahoney, Garry Smith

## Maraekakaho District

Wed 2 September 2015

A sunny day greeted us as we assembled at the Maraekakaho War Memorial. No wind and a milky sun soon saw us on our way with good natured banter over the first few kilometres. These first few kilometres are quite flat but with an uphill flavour as we headed in the general directions of the ranges. After turning onto Aorangi Road there are a few distinct ups.....a few of us dismounted our bikes obviously to "obtain a better view of the terrain". We duly arrived at the road end - morning tea time and threatening to rain. However, after setting the world straight, we retraced our steps back to the War Memorial. The rigours of all the uphill soon went away and we all enjoyed the downhill grade. Lunch was at the usual place at the memorial in the now warm sun. After lunch we all went home.....another good ride.

**Cyclists:** Rodger Burn, Jim Hewes, Joan Ruffell, Christine Hardie, Lyn Walch, Ian Stewart, Heather Stephenson, Pam Pike, Peggy Gulliver

## Chesterhope

Wed 16 September 2015

Again our group was blessed with a sunny day as 13 of us set off from the Pukehamoamo School on Taihape Road. We travelled along Matapiro Road into a bit of a wind and once we had dealt with the hills we stopped for smoko before pedalling along the long straights past Matapiro Station to the historic Crownthorpe Church where we had a well-deserved rest and early lunch amid quiet surroundings. Garry entertained us with tales of painting various buildings in very hot conditions on the local farms during his days as an apprentice.

## Pohokura

Graeme Hare, now suitably fortified, decided to carry on to the Whanawhana turn-off while the rest took the easy option of returning the same way assisted with a very welcome tail wind. Midway along Matapiro Road, three cyclists elected to return via the hilly Crownthorpe Settlement Road. We all regrouped back at school in surprisingly quick time. A total of 34 kilometres was ridden in and a great day had by all. RB

**Cyclists:** Joan Ruffell, Heather Stephenson, Judy McBride, Christine Hardie, Peggy Gulliver, Bobby Couchman, Scott Campbell, Graeme May, Jim Hewes, Garry Smith, Peter Hewitt, Graeme Hare, Rodger Burn

## Clive to Clifton

**Wed 30 September 2015**

A change of venue did not seem to deter members who descended from all corners for this easy ride, a dry and sunny day for the 26 cyclists who took off and followed the cycle paths from Clive to Clifton.

Evidence of the recent heavy storms was apparent with brush and tree debris scattered over the pathways by the lagoon which we deftly avoided and continued onwards. The Clifton Cafe was reached before 11am and the owners beamed \$ signs of delight as we descended onto a largely empty cafe for a lengthy smoko. We were pleasantly surprised to be met by Marion and Marj who had arrived by car. Later, some went for a quick look along the motor camp access road to see the considerable damage caused by storms over the last year before, as usual, making our ways home over various routes. RB

**Cyclists:** Christine Hardie, Pam Pike, Pauline Mahoney, Heather Stephenson, Raewyn Ricketts, Bobby Couchman, Penny Isherwood, Marion Nicholson, Marj Musson, Joan Ruffell, Lyn and Lyn Gentry, Vivienne and Richard Waterer, Judy McBride, Graeme Hare, Pete Hewitt, Brent Hickey, Bob Carter, Alasdair Shaw, Graeme May, Ray Manning, Scott Campbell, Garry Smith, Alan Russell, Dennis Beets, Ian Stewart, Rodger Burn

## Central Hawkes Bay Cycleways

**Wed 14 October 2015**

This was a will we or won't we decision and 16 of us put our faith in the forecast which was for early showers then clearing which, to our infinite relief, proved to be correct. Our group met at SH2/Tapairu Road junction out of Waipawa and while some drove down to the start of the cycle path the majority elected to cycle the extra 5km to the start. Then we were off on a good track that was new to most of us [although it had been checked out by Rodger, Garry and Christine a few weeks earlier]. Before long we had arrived at the Waipukurau Bridge on the main road. After going under and round we regrouped in the park before heading off on the eastern side to follow the Tukituki River past the famous sewage treatment plant which bubbles away busily. Again on a good track till near the end when for the last kilometre or so it is ungraded and a bit boggy. It stops at the riverbank nearly opposite the starting point but it is deep and fast here so bikes cannot be taken across. We need a bridge like the one at Whakatu! Then it was back the way we came with a fun detour through the parallel mountain bike route. On the way home some of us stopped at Te Aute's Mulberry Cafe for coffee and snacks. RB

**Cyclists:** Judy McBride, Bobby Couchman, Pam Pike, Peggy Gulliver, Christine Hardie, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Pete Hewitt, Mr Lyn Gentry, Jim Hewes, Allan Russell, Roy Frost, Dennis Beets, Ian Stewart, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn

## Apley Road Circuit

**Wed 28 October 2015**

Rain was threatening somewhere nearby but not enough to deter us. We gathered at the river end of Guppy Road in Taradale where there is room to park cars. After spending a bit of time admiring Roy's new bike we hit the cycle way and headed for Puketapu via the south bank of the Tutaekuri River. This is always a pleasant ride with open stretches interspersed with groves of trees. Every time we go down this route we look at all the peach and walnut trees lining the trail side and resolve to return in the harvest season but nothing ever comes of it.

After refreshments at Dartmoor Park we carried on past the vineyards to the junction with Apley Road. At this stage Mike decided to leave us and return home where he had pressing tasks awaiting him. The rest of us

## Pohokura

split into two groups: six members set off along the Apley Road route while the larger group carried on along Dartmoor Road in the direction of Sacred Hill.

The Apley ride is a long series of uphill slogs to Puketitiri Road where we turned east and the gradient is even steeper! At long last we all finally made it with no mishaps although Joan and Alasdair later had to stop for a bike check. The long swoop downhill is always a good chance for Mr Lyn to race everyone in sight – he came out the winner by a small margin when he overtook Christine on the last descent. Then it was the familiar fast flat bit before turning into Puketapu Road, past Alexander Alexander's memorial, noting the sheep, charolais and alpacas as we zoomed past to the pub. Both parties met for a light lunch and a heavy chat before following the north bank trail back to Taradale. The wind picked up a little but the rain held off.

**Cyclists:** Christine Hardie [supervisor], Lyn Gentry, Peter Hewitt, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Graeme Hare, Scott Campbell, Roy Frost, Heather Stephenson, Ray Manning, Mike Bull, Rodger Burn, Bobby Couchman, Pauline Mahoney, Garry Smith, Pam Pike

## Cycle Round the Memorials

**Wed 11 November 2015**

This time we decided to have a cycle ride with a theme: in keeping with the World War 1 commemorations that have been going on all year and given that today is Armistice Day, it was an obvious choice. Christine drew up a plan for the group to start at Clive and then head off to visit some of the monuments and buildings that are dedicated to local servicemen in the great 20th century wars. A keen group turned up, ready to go.

First stop was the enclosure on the side of the main road in Clive. The main monument is four-sided with names from both world wars listed – as usual in many small towns there is a lot of repetition of names and it is sobering to realise that many families lost more than one member in these conflicts. From there we ducked over the Clive River Bridge – all newly and beautifully refurbished – to look at the memorial gates to Farndon Park. Back to Clive then south along the main road before turning on to the cycle trail that goes through Whakatu. We turned off at Elwood Road and moved along St Georges Road and Crosses Road before turning into Napier Road towards the Havelock North CBD. Originally we were going to have a lunchette at the Domain but Rodger invited us to stop at his place which is just around the corner. We were in like robbers' dogs, as the old saying goes. Imagine his wife's surprise at seeing a mob of cyclists taking up the back lawn but she graciously greeted us and we had a good range of drinks courtesy of the Burn family [thanks, Pam and Rodger].

By now the day was heating up so it was a slowish trip for some to the Havelock North cemetery and a look around the services section under the beautiful trees. Then it was downhill and left to meander around the (Poppy) streets that the RSA recently marked because they are named after Victoria Cross recipients [e.g. Ngarimu, Elliott, Upham]. Then it was through the town where Alasdair guided us to the discreet memorial opposite the information centre. On the road to Hastings and we made our way to the Memorial Library to have a good look at the huge McIntyre mural and the windows in the lobby of the building as well as other memorabilia.

At this point we stopped in the courtyard outside to have lunch – some members zoomed off to buy indulgent food at the local bakery while others stuck to their healthy homemade packages. As it was getting very warm by this stage we decided not to go on to the Fallen Soldiers' Memorial Hospital and view the information there. We headed off past the pou figures in the cultural centre park and had a stop at the Andrew Russell statue next to the memorial on the western side. Like all the memorials we looked at, it had a flag flying well in the steady breeze. Then it was down Tomoana Road and through the side streets to the cycleway and back to Clive. Most members decided it had been an interesting exercise but there were justified reservations about the number of busy roads we had to use and the amount of traffic that had to be negotiated. With that caveat in mind there may still be enough interest to do a similar ride in Napier next year so watch this space.

CH

**Cyclists:** Dennis Beets, Roy Frost, Heather Stephenson, Bobby Couchman, Mr Lyn Gentry, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Rodger Burn, Christine Hardie, Anne Cantrick, Judy McBride, Garry Smith, Graeme Hare



## **Clive to Bay View**

**Wed 9 December 2015**

Our last-listed cycle ride for the year and whether it was that fact or that it was an all-flat 44km circuit which appealed most, we had another good turnout. Starting from Clive we followed the cycle paths through to Awatoto where the Taradidlians joined us but Graeme May departed to have two broken spokes fixed.

A warm day and a slight tail wind meant for a pleasant outward trip stopping briefly along the Marine Parade Reserve for smoko. At Westshore the Christmas spirit was evident with a dummy Father Christmas firmly secured by the cycle way catching our attention. We soon arrived at Bay View's Snapper Cafe for an early lunch although most members elected to go to the beach to eat their home-made goodies.

Homeward-bound we copped a head wind which was quite strong near the port and at Ahuriri the Taradale team left us. In exchange we gained Graeme Hare and grandson for the rest of our ride back to Clive. RB

**Cyclists:** Christine Hardie, Judy McBride, Bobby Couchman, Heather Stephenson, Rodger Burn, Joan Ruffell, Vivienne and Dick Waterer, Jim Hewes, Ray Manning, Roy Frost, Pete Hewitt, Brent Hickey, Alan Russell, Scott Campbell, Garry Smith, Des Smith, Graeme May, Mr Lyn Gentry

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## **CLUB NEWS:**

### **New Member**

Welcome to Pete Hewitt who has recently joined the club.

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### **Interclub Challenge**

The 13<sup>th</sup> November was lucky for HTC. In a challenge of Superstrike (Indoor Bowling) against the Napier Tramping Club we were victorious and eleven competitors claimed back the challenge trophy. The evening was enjoyed by all and the general consensus is that we will hold this more often. Congratulations go to Lex who was our top scorer.

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### **Waikamaka Hut Verandah**

HTC was successful in its application to the Outdoors Recreation Consortium for funds to construct a verandah at Waikamaka Hut in the Ruahines and this should be built over this summer/autumn period.

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### **Condolences**

We were saddened to hear of the death of Frank McBride who was a member for a few years in the 1950s but is better known as husband/father/father-in-law of Judy, Peter, Karen, John, Heather and John all of whom have been connected with the club for many years.

Other club members have suffered bereavements this year – we have sent messages to those that we know of and HTC extends its condolences to them all.

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### **Mountain Biking**

The club is a member of HBMTB Club; if anyone wants to use its trail network in the Esk Forest north of Napier please contact Rodger Burn for information and permits. Ph 8776322

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## Photo Competition Results

Congratulations to the following winners via members' choice in our annual photo competition.



*Overall winner and winner of Outdoors Landscape - Tina Godbert*



*Tina also won the Native Flora and Fauna, Below the Bushline and Hut and Camp Life sections*



## Pohokura



*John Montgomerie won Above the Bushline and Club Characters sections*



*Alan Berry won the Historic Section*

The Judges choice winners will be determined soon and advised in the next Pohokura.

### **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.

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### **ITEMS for SALE**

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

<b>New</b> 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 **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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### **HazMobile Waste Collection**

**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

Once again a full team of members volunteered to assist in the annual fundraiser. The dedication of so many - which makes this a very easy project to arrange - always astounds me especially if I need to change the day that they work. Thank you to all who helped notably those who came for both days. The councils have purchased from Auckland their full HazMobile kits, self-contained units of necessary gear and equipment - a good sign of the continuing commitment by local councils. Our thanks go to everyone who came and helped at the Haz Waste Collection; your efforts made the show run smoothly.

*[Thanks, Graeme, for all your efforts to keep this show on the road every year – Editor].*

**Saturday** - Brent, Marion, Fred, Roy, Bobby, Liz, Janice, Rodger, Alan, Glenda, Peter, Anne, Lex, Korbin, John M, Graeme Hare.

**Sunday** - Pam, Susan, Bob, Ken, Randall, Geoff, Heather, Des, Mark, Christine H, Christine S, Ray, John B, Max, John M, Graeme Hare [organiser and liaison person with NCC and HDC]

## Heretaunga Tramping Club Meeting and Trip Information

### Coming Meetings:

Date	Chair	Speaker	Topic	Host/Supper
<b>2016</b> 06 Jan	Lex Smith	All Members	Holiday Activities	Janice Love
20 Jan	Pam Turner	Arnim Littek	His Work at Cape Sanctuary	Jim Hewes
03 Feb	John Montgomerie	Training	Map Compass EPLB	Judy McBride
17 Feb	Graeme Hare	Brett Gilmore	Summit-to-Sea Trip Ruapehu to HB	Graeme May
02 Mar	Penny Isherwood	Auction - Produce	Proceeds to Westpac Rescue Helicopter	Margaret Graham
16 Mar	Susan Lopdell	Grace Terry	Coffin Club	Marion Nicholson
30 Mar	Alan Berry	Auction - Bric a Brac	Proceeds to Westpac Rescue Helicopter	Anne Doig
13 Apr	Brent Hickey	All Members	Special Trip Reports	Fred Chesterman
27 Apr	Lex Smith	Susan Lopdell	Scotland, including the Orkney Islands	Bobby Couchman
11 May	Geoff Clibborn	Alan Berry and Raewyn Ricketts	Sunshine and Sin	Des Smith
25 May	Pam Turner	All Members	Special Trip Reports	Janice Love
08 June	Graeme Hare	Brien and Pauline Mahoney	Trekking in Nepal	Raewyn Ricketts

**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
<b>Wear/Carry</b>	<b>Carry</b>	<b>All items listed for day trip plus</b>
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	Survival kit (whistle, cord, matches, pencil, paper)	Tent/fly if required
Overmitts		
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 contact" people listed below if a trip 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:

**John Montgomerie 877 7358**

**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 2016

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 John Montgomerie, Ph 877 7358. Please email trip requests to [htc@orcon.net.nz](mailto:htc@orcon.net.nz)



### 10 Jan Wed River Sports \$TBA

Rafting and canoeing in easy water somewhere.

**Organiser:**

### 13<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> January Wednesdays

Cycle rides venues and leaders to be decided closer to the time.

### 16 - 17 Jan Whirinaki Forest Park \$35 Map: BG39

Whirinaki area, past Minginui on the Murupara to Waikaremoana road, then down to Okahu Road end and so to Skips Hut and stay at Rodgers Hut, back the same way. This is an easy trip on well benched tracks with only minimal small climbs and approx 11km each way. Prime example of some of the best forest walks.

**Organiser:** Susan Lopdell Ph 844 6697 and Scott Campbell Ph 879 8554

### 24 Jan Sun Tutira Backcountry \$15 Maps: BH39

Boundary Stream is always a lovely area to visit with a number of options depending on party and weather: Bell Rock, Boundary Stream Walkway to Shines Falls and Heays Access Road or shorter jaunts.

### 31 Jan Sun Joint Napier Tramping Club - Heretaunga TC TBC

Likely to be Kiwi Saddle area for the two clubs to socialise while staying overnight in our hut.

**Organiser:** John Montgomerie Ph 877 7358

### 02 Feb Wed Ruahine: Waipawa Forks Hut

Walk to the chalet via Sunrise Track and out via the gorge.

**Organiser:** Janice Love Ph 877 5442

### 4 Feb Wed Cycle Ashley Clinton – Monckton Reserve

**Organiser:** Alasdair Shaw Ph 877 6225

### 6 - 8 Feb Kaimai Range \$TBC Map: BC35 Paeroa

Endless possibilities. Suggest day 1 up the Wairongomai Valley and over the range to the new Waitawheta Hut now near the old mill site, day 2 down to Daleys Clearing Hut area, day 3 out via Pipeline Track, then the Windows Walk, then following the amazing gorge track to Karangahake 'village' on the main road. Coffee and muffins! [The only real climb is day one and it's not a long trip]. For those wishing to do day tramps only we will stay at a camping ground and do day trips in the Wairongomai, Te Aroha and on the last day, the Karangahake area. There are also opportunities for bikers on the Te Aroha, Paeroa and Karangahake Gorge sections of the Hauraki Rail Trail.

**Organiser:**

### 10 Feb Wed Eskdale Forest Park

**Organiser:** Christine Hardie Ph 844 9590

### 17 Feb Wed Ruahine FP \$15 Map: BK36

Return trip up and down Makaroro River to Barlows Hut.

**Organiser:** Garry Smith Ph 844 9931

**21 Feb Sun Ruahine \$15 Map: BK36 & BK37**  
A day trip to Barlows Hut going overland to Gold Creek then up the Makaroro to Colenso Spur and Colenso's Monument, part-way up the spur then down the side track to the hut. Return down the river.  
**Organiser:** Glenda Hooper Ph 877 4183 and Janet Titchener Phone 875 0805

**24 Feb Wed Cycle from Maraekakaho War Memorial**  
**Organiser:** Graeme Hare Ph 844 8656

**2 March Wed Spooners Hill – Bell Bush**  
**Organiser:** Roy Frost Ph 875 0128

**5 – 6 March Eastern Kaimanawa \$20 Map: BH37**  
From SH2, Napier – Taupo road via Taharua Road, Tramp from Poronui road end to Oamaru Hut and roam in the vicinity or continue on west to camp by the Kaipo Stream junction and walk out to Clements Road via Te Iringa Hill. It may be possible for a B party to return on Sunday to the truck at the Poronui road end before it is driven to mid-Clements road park to collect the main party. Different scenery, rivers and tussock valleys to explore.  
**Organiser:** Susan Lopdell Ph 844 6697

**9 March Wed Cycle Central HB**  
McCauleys Café/Patangata circuit.  
**Organiser:** Rodger Burn Ph 877 6322

**15 - 16 March Tues - Wed Mohaka River, Kaweka FP Map: BJ37**  
Would like to camp at the Gums/Mangatutu area before walking in the next day towards Te Puia Hut.  
**Organiser:** Christine Hardie Ph 844 9590

**20 March Sun Northern Kaweka Working Bee Free to Workers Map: BJ37 & BH37**  
HTC/DoC venture to the Gums carpark at the end of Makahu Road, Puketitiri - a working bee to remove broom in the area. We will probably travel out there on the Saturday and camp out with a bit of fishing, swimming and/or soaking in the Mangatutu hot tub.  
**Organiser:** Penny Isherwood Ph 844 9994

**23 March Wed Cycle Maraetotora or Waimarama Road Circuits**  
**Organiser:** Dennis Beets Ph 874 6555

**25 - 28 March Whanganui River Area \$40 Map: BH32, BH33, BJ32, BJ33**  
Endless possibilities. Maybe - tramp Ruatiti to Mangapurua or Whakahoro or canoe Whakahoro to Mangapurua and tramp back to Whakahoro via Mangapurua and Kaiwhakauka valleys. It is a few years since the club was in this area. Maybe a 3 day tramp to Mangapurua via Kaiwhakauka and Mangapurua valleys with jet boat [**\$160 each**] back to Mangapurua on Monday – need to book well ahead as it is Easter. Cost of possible jet boat ride to be established. It seems that any trip in the area would need to have an element of the river to be complete. If there are people wishing to kayak we will need to book early so please advise us ASAP if you are interested.  
Note that the cost for the kayak section alone will be at least \$160.  
For more information click on the link on the Coming Up – Tramps page on our website.  
**Organiser:** Mike Bull Ph 843 6052

**30 March Wed Walk on another of Fred's Farms**  
**Organiser:** Marion Nicholson Ph 873 5935



**2 - 3 April                      Waikamaka Weekend                      \$15                      Map: BL36**  
Come and join Graeme Hare to celebrate 60 years tramping with HTC: must be close to a record!? In to Waikamaka Hut via Waipawa Saddle or, for anyone so keen, up to Sunrise and over '66' to Waipawa Saddle. Return down Waipawa River.  
**Organiser:** Graeme Hare   Ph 844 8656

**6 April Wed                      Cycle from Peggy's**  
Go from Roy's Hill over farmland to Fernhill and then maybe along part of the cycle trail.  
**Organiser:** Peggy Gulliver   Ph 879 7763

**13 April Wed                      Tramp to Macintosh Hut – Kaweka FP**  
**Organiser:** Des Smith   Ph 844 0190

**17 April Sun                      Moorcock – Ruahine FP                      \$15                      Map: BL36**  
Two choices: A loop tramp going first up the overland track to Daphne Hut then across the open tussock ridge south to Longview Hut and back to Moorcock. Or in to Awatere Hut from Moorcocks on Kashmir Road and back.

**20 April Wed                      Cycle Tour of the Bays**  
Start from the Golf Club.  
**Organiser:** Jim Hewes Ph 877 6784

**23 - 25 April ANZAC W/E                      Ruahine Corner Hut – Ruahine FP                      \$ TBA                      Map: BK36**  
4WD to near Ruahine Corner Hut. Dependant on a number of 4WD vehicles being available. In through Otupae and Mangaohane Stations to the private land boundary. About a 7km walk to the hut across open tussock rolling hills. For those inclined, carry on to Colenso Hut and Lake for the night, either on the first day, back out the second day, or go on day 2 meaning coming right out to the vehicles on day 3. An interesting area, Mt Aorangi fortress, peat bogs, dolines, red tussock for miles and Mountain Cedars [Kaikawaka] abound.  
**Organiser:** John Montgomerie Ph 877 7358

**27 April Wed                      ANZAC - Havelock North reserve**  
Walk from Woodford Heights through the eastern town to Karamu Stream near Crosses Road.  
**Organiser:** Alan Berry   Ph 877 7223

**1 May Sun                      Eastern Ruahine Range                      \$15                      Map: BK37**  
Leave from Mangleton Road, past Masters Shelter and up Golden Crown. Return the same way or stretch your legs and come down Sentry Box spur.  
**Organiser:** Janice Love   Ph 877 5442

**4 May Wed                      Cycle Waipawa – Onga Onga in CHB**  
**Organiser:** Garry Smith   Ph 844 9931

**11 May Wed                      Parks Peak Track**  
From Yeomans to the tops and Barlow's Track junction.  
**Organiser:** Christine Hardie   Ph 844 9590

**14 - 15 May                      Nuhaka Area                      \$15                      Map: BJ37**  
This is still in the planning stage but we are hoping to do a bit of caving, some hot pooling plus tramping. Morere Reserve and the Kopuawhara Memorial track will feature in the weekend.  
**Organiser:**

**18 May Wed      Cycle Kahuranaki Road from Waimarama Bridge**

**Organiser:** Alasdair Shaw    Ph 877 6225

**25 May Wed      Bell Rock - Maungaharuru Range**

**Organiser:** Judy McBride    Ph 876 9756

**29 May Sun      Kaweka Range**

**\$15**

**Map: BJ37**

A short but grunty day: from Lakes Road climb up Kuripapango 4100 then come down the track to Cameron car park near the water gauge. May also be a day for a swim - if you are brave!

**Organiser:**

**01 June Wed      Cycle the Tuki Tuki Circuit**

**Organiser:** Heather Stephenson    Ph 843 9157

**4 – 6 June Queens Birthday      Kaweka Walkabout**

**\$15**

**Map: BJ37**

A chance for a bit of hut bagging in the Kaweka Range. Leave from Pinks Hut on Makahu Road, Puketitiri, climb up to Middle Hill Hut then go on to the northern end of the Kaweka Range past Ballards and Tira Lodge for the night. Next day it's over to Mangaturutu, down the ridge to Makino Valley, and down to the Mohaka River and TePuia Lodge. Out the last day to the Blue Gums car park. Alternatives are to Ballards, up and over to Makino Hut by the end of day 2 and out to the saddle track or down to Te Puia and out via the river; or night 1 at Middle Hill, night 2 at Makino or Te Puia and out. Bring a very warm jacket.

**Organiser:**

**08 June Wed      Matauria Ridge – Kaweka FP**

From the top end this time.

**Organiser:** Scott Campbell    Ph 879 8554

**15 June Wed      Cycle Clive to Puketapu**

**Organiser:** Jim Hewes    Ph 877 6784

**22 June Wed      Walk in Te Mata Park**

**Organiser:** Rodger Burn    Ph 877 6322

**29 June Wed      Cycle Clive or Pakowhai to Bay View**

**Organiser:** Pete Hewitt    Ph 877 5188