

**POHOKURA – Bulletin No 252**

**May 2016**

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**Club Meetings:** These are held every second Wednesday (before a tramp) at the Hastings Harrier Clubrooms in Sylvan Road, Hastings.  
Doors open at 7:30pm; visitors are most welcome.

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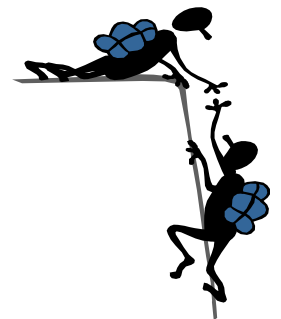
## Commentary

It's fast approaching the middle of the year and we have been enjoying temperatures up to 25°C and occasionally higher over the last few weeks. Many of us can still use our summer tramping gear when we go out on trips and the warmth certainly enhances our experiences in the outdoors. Mind you, we seem to have had a succession of mostly good summers in Hawke's Bay; a trawl through recent *Pohokura* magazines shows how often I have commented on it! It is instructive to re-read issues that have been brought up in these writings over the past six years – some of which you may have forgotten. Last year at this time HTC held a forum to talk about the present and future of the club. Some interesting ideas were discussed but there has been little publicity about any follow-up. It would be good to have an update on any initiatives that have been implemented as a result of that day-long meeting. A scan of our current membership shows that just over 55% of people on the list have been on one trip or more with the club in the last two years so some kind of report could well be welcomed by those who tramp even more rarely or who are non-participating supporters. We look forward to it.

Other issues have wider application: changes in the management of the conservation estate including perceived creep in privatisation plus the rise of volunteer input, DoC's struggles with under-resourcing, access difficulties, environmental problems, the impact of vastly increased tourism which has led to more commercialisation of the back country, the decline of club tramping throughout the nation, the Ruataniwha Dam debates, conservation initiatives in Hawke's Bay, characteristics of older trampers and so it goes on. All very worthy topics but maybe people have had enough of them. Despite the majority of [verbal] feedback being encouraging there is no doubt that someone else should be able to have their say. Over the past 80 years there have been periods of vigorous debate in *Pohokura* about members' concerns. Even letters to the Editor! What has happened to all that? The initial purpose of the present type of commentary was to leaven the tri-yearly diet of trip reports and notices. Other peoples' opinions or expertise should be aired so come on out of the woodwork and contribute. Let's hear from you!

CH

# TRIP REPORTS



#2318

Ahuriri Estuary

Wed 10 January 2016

At 8:00am four of us started the walk at Park Island (two of us had never been there before) and walked along the hillside track to the exercise area near the Taradale entrance, had a play, and continued on. Penny joined us shortly after this and we walked along the pathway that follows the bottom of the Poraiti Hills. We saw the usual wetland birds: white faced herons, shags, pukeko, and detoured off the pathway crossing the bridge over the Taipo Stream and followed the foot track until it ended at the end of Poraiti Road. Several months ago Penny had been in this area on a working bee removing the agapanthas - they had missed some so we removed the flower heads so they couldn't seed. We retraced our steps and carried along on the pathway until the first hide - there were no birds to be seen at there. As this was just a morning walk we returned back along the pathway to Park Island and walked a bit more of this park to get to our cars and return home.

**Party:** Penny Isherwood, Janice Love, Anne Doig, Glenda Hooper, Peter Berry

**Party B** Talk about rough, Trevor, talk about slow....the powers-that-be in the forestry obviously don't want the likes of us driving through to Minginui. We made it anyway. I certainly wouldn't take a town-type car through there at the moment. Anyway, after picking up Scott at Minginui we continued on up the road to Waikaremoana before turning off onto Okahu Road which we followed for some ten kilometres through regenerating bush to the road end itself. The weather was lovely as we set off for Skips Hut, climbing - but not too steeply - to a saddle then continuing on down the Whangatawhia Stream through truly lovely bush, crossing the river a number of times on bridges with *danger one person at a time* signs on their approaches. These incredibly over-engineered artefacts were not high enough above the river to be a real danger, and could have carried as many people on them as could have been fitted on the decking, all bouncing up and down and wearing two week packs! Really, it's time the government stopped this stupid "safety" business and used sensible signage that people might possibly believe – then, maybe when there is a need for a restriction, people might take some notice of it.

We had heard most of the usual bush birds including long-tailed cuckoo and robin and spotted some kiwi footprints in the mud on the track. About half an hour from the hut we spotted some mistletoe flowers on the ground although we couldn't see any up in the trees. Skips Hut is in a lovely clearing with flowering toi toi all around it just above the river on the true right. Scott, Derek and Lex continued on to the historic Rogers Hut with most of the rest of us walking part of the way there before coming back to Skips for the night. In the morning I took off first to try and get a look at the mistletoe by the bridge. To my delight, on arriving there, I found a pair of blue duck swimming underneath. So it was out with the camera, expecting them to take off just as I was about to take the first picture. And, get this - they just moseyed around within a few feet of me while I took photo after photo for 15 minutes until the others caught up! About halfway back to the truck the party from Rogers caught us up and we proceeded on in lovely fine weather till we reached the road end. We drove back via Murupara and Waitapu which was 100km further but slightly quicker and ever so slightly smoother.

**Party A** On arriving at Skips at 2:00pm after a pleasant 2.5 hour walk (including a lunch break) and finding the hut empty, some expressed a desire to spend the night there instead of continuing on. After a short discussion an A party was formed, consisting of Derek, Lex and Scott who decided to brave the heat of the day and carry on to Rogers despite reports that there were DoC workers operating from the hut. It was decided, however, to carry on regardless and the party of three departed Skips at 2:25pm.

After a steady uphill climb the saddle was reached at 3:10pm and, after a short rest they carried on, the balance of the journey being downhill on an easy gradient. About halfway down they saw numerous coloured markers leading off the main track on both sides as well as wooden trap boxes laid out along the trackside at various intervals - possibly for eventual relocation at a later time. The hut finally hove into view at 4:15pm and it was unoccupied. The DoC workers had gone for the weekend, leaving their gear in and around the hut. Fortunately there was ample room for the lads who soon made themselves at home. There was a detailed area map on the wall showing the layout of the various trap and bait lines as well as a sizeable bundle of yet more trap boxes sitting outside. It was heartening to see that DoC is actively pursuing viable options for pest control other than 1080. The scrub and other debris around the hut had also been extensively cleared which led Scott to comment that he had never seen the place so tidy - his association with the hut goes back to 1967. So, top marks to DoC on all counts! The opportunity afforded by a nice cool stream on a sweltering hot day for a swim was too good to miss so in they all went! None too soon, for they were joined shortly afterwards by a couple from Rotorua who were quite happy to set up camp on the terrace below the hut next to the stream. In the meantime Derek, Lex and Scott thrashed out most of the world's problems over cups of tea and the evening meal while watching the sun slowly going down on what had been a perfect day. Sleep came relatively easy despite the warm temperature inside the hut and the hordes of mosquitoes were mercifully absent. Sunday morning was misty but with the promise of another fine day. Breakfast was a leisurely affair after which the three packed up, cleaned up and hit the trail at 7:25am, the objective being to beat the heat and connect with the B party before 9:00am. Shortly after leaving the hut, Derek poured on the pace and was soon lost to sight while Lex and Scott carried on at a more moderate pace, finally reaching Skips at 8:40am and finding that the others had already left. After a short break they were back on the trail at 9:15am, finally reaching the road end at 11:05am. Derek, the Human Rocket, had passed the others en route

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and had already left for home by the time the B party arrived back at the truck! After a rest and a lunch break the happy wanderers climbed into the truck and headed for home at 12:10pm, first dropping Scott off at his friends' home at Te Whaiti at 1:00pm. Lex had wisely decided to return via Rainbow Mountain and Taupo due to the shocking state of the back road through to Minginui - longer but much easier on the truck and its passengers.

**Party:** Susan Lopdell/Scott Campbell (co-leaders), Lex Smith, Peter Berry (drivers) Glenda Hooper, Rodger Burn, Derek Boshier, Marion Nicholson, Fred Chesterman

<b>#2320</b>	<b>Boundary Stream</b>	<b>23 January 2016</b>
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On our trip to Boundary Stream we were greeted by five very friendly kaka at the carpark. After admiring them we climbed up to Bell Rock and enjoyed the view before returning to the shelter and the kaka for lunch. A couple of skinks were sighted in the grass land near Bell Rock. After lunch we walked the Kamahi Loop as well as the Tumanako Loop. The day was very hot and sunny and the bird song was great.

**Party:** Glenda Hooper, Natalie Berry, Robyn and Michael Pohlenz, Oliver Wagner, Ruby Xxx

<b>#2321</b>	<b>Joint Napier Tramping Club – Heretaunga TC</b>	<b>31 January 2016</b>
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A small party of seven represented the club on this Heretaunga and Napier Tramping Clubs combined weekend to our club hut in the Kaweka Ranges. A reasonable day going in although a little rain and we kept ourselves busy pulling out pinus contorta seedlings or small plants as we went. What a great sight to see our hut looking resplendent after the complete makeover a couple of years ago. Napier Tramping Club's group of about six had already decided to not stay with us overnight so, after meeting them and lunching and chatting, they were on their way home, having come in via Rogue Ridge, Kaiarahi and Castle Camp. We had most of the afternoon to settle in and started collecting some firewood, mostly by handsaw cutting-up of a beech tree that had been axed down by someone near the hut. The weather was looking like deteriorating so for those who had not been there before, I suggested going past the hut to the ridge to the north in order to look over the vast country to the west through the Kaweka Ranges over towards Manson Country and beyond with some views of the Kaimanawas. We had about one minute to do this before a fog descended and ruined all views. A hearty meal was consumed: nibbles, mains and a grand selection of desserts that were shared - there were even seconds and leftovers! On the way out next day we all declared war on the contorta and realistically probably pulled several thousand out between us. Several in our group had not been to Kiwi Saddle Hut before so were pleased they had made the effort to get there. JM

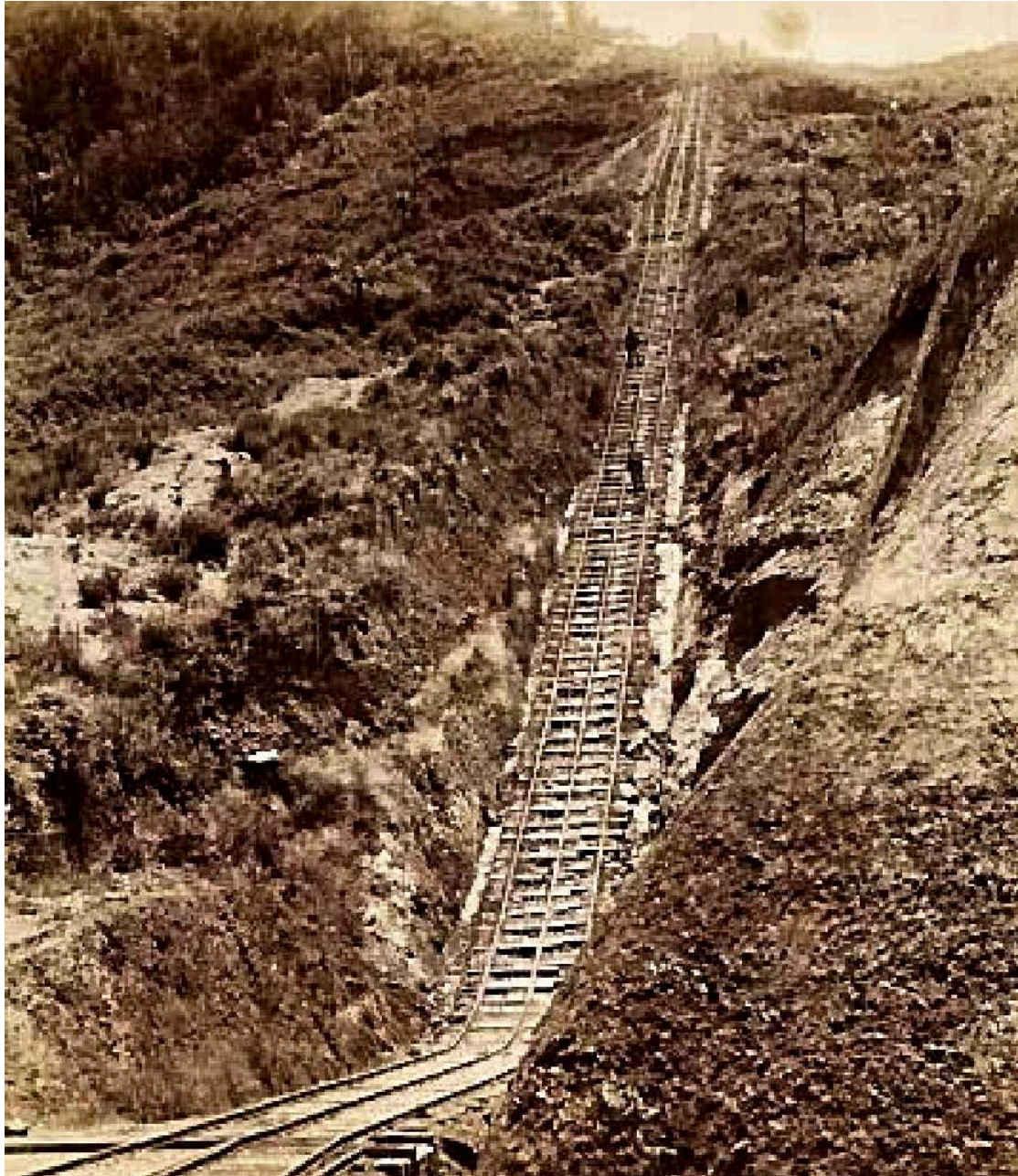
**Party:** Robin and Michael Pohlenz, Janice Love, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Lex Smith (driver) John Montgomerie (leader)

<b>#2322</b>	<b>Waipawa Forks Hut – Ruahine FP</b>	<b>Wed 3 February 2016</b>
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On a warm summer's morning 12 members left Pernel in the truck at 8:00am. We arrived at the North Block road carpark at around 9:30am then proceeded up Sunrise Track for about an hour to the turn-off point where we had a snack and drink. It was very warm and humid with no breeze to cool us but the descent to the river was easier for all. We found some shade at the Forks Hut for lunch then walked in and out of the Waipawa River for just over an hour where we had another break to re-group. The river was cooling on the feet and very low so crossing it was no problem. Our final hour was walking through the ever-pleasant Swamp Track with a few bird calls ending our enjoyable day. JL

**Party:** Christine Hardie (driver) Mike Bull, Des Smith, Scott Campbell, Marion Nicholson, Fred Chesterman, Lynn Walch, Robyn Pohlenz, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn, Ray Manning, Janice Love





*May Queen Incline*

A 6:00am start at Pernel Orchard; David was our driver, ably assisted by Keri. On arrival at Waiorongomai Roadend, an area steeped in gold mining history, there was drizzle but not cold.

Party A: soon got going after inspecting some rock crusher remains from gold mining, later used for roading and construction. Up the steep Butler's Incline but it was so much fun we also climbed up the May Queen Incline. (These are tramways where the trolleys were controlled with cables and counter weights). When the rain increased and we were already thoroughly wet, we donned our raincoats. Up we went across the main divide over Pukekohatu then down the new track to the new Waitawheta Hut. We passed numerous creeks.

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The waterfalls were impressive. A bit like some South Island trips in the rain. Luckily there was room for us in the Waitawheta Hut as it rained most of the night.

Sunday morning was dry and improving as the day went on. We now travelled north alongside Waitawheta River. Just before midday we met our fellow HTC trampers at a junction for a track to some kauri trees. The river was a bit high for my liking, but Janice and John made it across and went up for a look. I just found some nice kauri trees much closer by and helped Keri build a castle. Party B went on its way when Janet and Brent returned from their kauri tree trip. Our Party A group did the same a little later after a bite to eat. We went via Daly's Clearing Hut (in a bad state) and Mangakino Track to where the Mangakino and Waitawheta Rivers meet. There, we crossed the Mangakino to get to our very nice camp site. Perfect spot.

Monday saw us away before 8:00am. There were some great stands of kauri trees along our track. Waitawheta River had receded quite a bit. Just as well, as we had to cross it to get to Dickeys Flat. Only got the bottom of our shorts wet; Janice a little higher. There were still a lot of people camping at Dickeys Flat when we went through. We had our torches on for the walk through the water pipe tunnel. This once supplied water to Paeroa. Following the water pipe track was not too taxing. The pioneers put in so much hard work and it is impressive to see the mine works, windows walk, tramways and so on. Well you really need to see it. Karangahake Gorge is spectacular and all the history is amazing.

Party B: once the A party had left we put on packs and followed them along the Low Level track, detouring to view the cyanide tanks at the Bendigo Battery site before continuing on to the bottom of Butlers Incline. Here we had lunch then David and Keri left us to return along the Piako County Tramway while we continued up and up and up Butlers Incline. Butler Incline is 443 metres long and, at an angle of 25°, climbs 190 metres vertically. At the top we followed the track to the bottom of the May Queen Incline then retraced our steps to Butlers and followed Cadman (Buck) Track along to the top of Fern Incline. This stretch of bush had a sub-tropical feel - a great diversity of plants with lots of nikau, puriri and tree ferns. We got back to the truck around 3:30 and headed towards Karangahake Gorge and Dickey Flat where we planned to camp for the next two nights. However, fate was against us: first there was a major accident in the gorge and we weren't allowed through until 6:00pm and then, when we got to the camp ground, it was completely packed and an absolute quagmire. No-one felt like staying there so, after a bit of web-surfing, we arrived at the Waihi Motor Camp and booked in for two nights in the lovely grounds, relaxed atmosphere, hot showers, camp kitchen ....it was tough.

Sunday morning we travelled to Waitawheta Valley which is south of Waihi and walked the old Waitawheta Tramway. This was built to cart kauri logs from the area and was used for this purpose between 1898 and 1928. An hour's walk took us to the top end of Bluff Stream Kauri Loop where Janet and Brent crossed the Waitawheta River to go look at the kauri (unfortunately they turned back before they got to the two big ones). Once they returned, we back-tracked a bit to Daley's Clearing Hut where (another) lunch was had. After lunch we completed the loop track back to the truck, firstly along Mangakino Stream Track and then Deam Track. This area also had many nikau, tawa and tree ferns as well as kohekohe and the fluted buttresses of the odd pukatea were noted. We got back to the truck at around 4:00pm and had a quick inspection of Martha Mine in Waihi (well worth a visit if you are in the area) before returning to camp.

Monday we drove to the main car park in Karangahake Gorge, crossed Ohinemuri River and walked the Windows Walk which is another old gold mining tramway and tunnel system that goes up the lower Waitawheta River. It unfortunately must have made it into Lonely Planet and is extremely popular with both New Zealanders and overseas people. However, the track upstream of Windows Walk, the old Waitawheta Pipe Line is far less used and we walked up it for an hour to where part of the river flows through a tunnel in the rock. The A party passed us just before here so after a short break there we returned back to the truck and headed homewards.....a very enjoyable weekend. We had lots of laughs and great company. Many thanks to all participants and special thanks to David and Keri

MG & GH

**Party A:** John Montgomerie, Janice Love, Mary Gray

**Party B:** Susan Lopdell, Anne Doig, Janet Titchener, Brent Hickey, Glenda Hooper, David and Keri Blake

An early morning start for the mid-weekers - the mattress covers had to be put on before we left. The day was overcast and warm but rain grew heavier as we headed through Tikokino. It had retreated a little by the time we arrived at the old mill site at about 9:15am so there was no reason to dally.

We readied ourselves and edged delicately down to the water and into the first crossing. The four real men - Graeme, Scott, Mike and Des - had a longer trip in mind so they sprinted ahead like there was no tomorrow and were soon lost to sight. The rest of us plodded along over the massive shingle drifts that now fill the riverbed from bank to bank. Many comments were made about the Ruataniwha Dam project and how any built structure would have to cope with the massive flows of eroded material that come off the eastern Ruahine Range; some of us who have tramped the area for many years are convinced that there is more shingle than there was 20 or 30 years ago and the regular heavy storms that batter the hills every winter are contributing mightily to the deposits. We also noted the huge quantities of weed that fill every channel of the river below the Gold Creek Junction. Interestingly enough, a conversation with Fisherman Roy on one of our trips explored his opinion that the river is in the worst condition he has seen in over 50 years of fishing. Certainly there is much to be concerned about with our waterways, as we all know.

The showers were intermittently heavy and we stopped under a tree at the Gold Creek turnoff to have a small morning tea. As we were munching away we saw a hunter approaching from upriver followed by his dog. When he reached us he stopped for a chat and we discovered that the dog was a recent acquisition – she had appeared out of the bush closer to Barlow and attached herself to this man. He reported that she had been pretty hungry and footsore so he had handed over a good portion of his food and now she wasn't going to let him out of her sight! We all concluded that she was someone's dog gone astray and gave the hunter, a fairly recent English immigrant to Hawke's Bay, some ideas about who to contact when he got out of the forest park. [Note: we discovered at the end of the day that the local farmer had a reasonably good idea whose dog it was and had put the hunter in touch with the probable owner so it was a tale that ended well].

By now, our river crossings were becoming deeper and the shingle bed gave way to rocks. In several places you now have to clamber over large boulders as some of the old shingle beaches have been swept away and there are a number of logjams. Eventually we stopped for lunch not far downriver from the hut. The weather was clearing but time was ticking on so most of us decided to turn back – after all, we had seen the hut not so long ago. When we passed Colenso Spur, Christine decided to investigate the plaque as it was a while since she had last seen it. However it is no longer possible to wander casually up from the riverside; now you have to clamber up a mini-cliff to get on to the track. Not an elegant sight! No-one else ventured up there but the rest of the party waited patiently below while she confirmed that, yes, Colenso's plaque is still there quietly commemorating his 1845 crossing. It sports a luxuriant growth of moss and blends in well with the surrounding undergrowth. Back on track and down the river without incident although we were all sick of shingle by the time we reached the truck at about 4.15pm. Steve the farmer stopped on his way to chase sheep and we chatted about hunting, damming and other outdoor pursuits. Within an hour the real men brigade arrived. They had walked the track above Barlow Hut that connects it with Colenso Spur - quite a slog apparently but they obviously steamed through it with no trouble. Well done, chaps as someone used to say.

GS

**Party:** Rodger Burn, Christine Hardie, Garry Smith [leader], Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Mike Bull, Bobby Couchman, Barbara Phillips, Mike Bull, Scott Campbell, Des Smith, Graeme Hare

What a stunning day of sunshine for the 10 of us going to Barlow Hut! After pulling up on private farmland at the end of Glenny Road, we were met by Paul, the local farmer, who kindly led us over his paddocks and down to the river. The next hour or so was a very pleasant walk up the Makaroro River: multiple crossings - not particularly deep although quite fast-flowing in places. A bit surprised to meet a party camping on the riverbanks as well as a couple coming down from Barlow Hut. The majority of the group split off to make their way up Colenso Spur Track while three trampers chose to continue up the river to Barlow Hut. Colenso Spur was a hefty climb for an hour with Peter complaining of "tripping over the grid lines" with a just-as-steep and somewhat hairy climb down to the hut. It is a well-marked track and the turn-off to Barlow Hut

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very well sign-posted. After lunch, rest and relaxation, we all set off down the Makaroro River back to the truck, stopping for a fabulous swim in one of the many clear deep pools. A great day finished off by oversized ice-creams in Waipawa. Thanks to Peter for doing all the driving.

**Party:** Janet Titchener (leader), Susan Lopdell, Glenda Hooper, Peter Berry, Brent Hickey, Pat Hill, Janice Love, Robyn and Michael Pohlenz, USA guest Oliver Wagner

#2326

Eastern Kaimanawa FP

5 – 6 March 2016

Ten, eight, seven and down to two vehicles with six club members travelling along the Napier-Taupo Highway to Clements Road, on to Taharua Road and the public car park alongside an extremely busy Heli Sika whose carpark was chockka! The two helicopters were returning to pick up a fresh load every five minutes. We changed into our boots and the decision was made that there would be two parties of three, initially walking together then with one group tenting out near the Kaipo Bridge. We went through the impressive stone entrance of Poronui Station and walked along on a gravel road past two accommodation areas and three staff houses with deer whistling at us from behind fences. Wagyu cattle were grazing in the distance and swans were flying overhead. After 30 minutes we crossed a ford (feet wet) and then we were on a grassy track travelling alongside the Taharua River, stopping every hour for a brief snack. Last time I was in the area the gum plantations appeared to have a blight on them; now, most of the gums have been felled and piled in huge stacks ready to be burned. This has opened up views over the station and towards the forest park. The main homestead is now clearly visible in its pink and grey colours with four chimneys, as are the private Poronui and Red Huts. We lunched in the shade just before the park boundary and then crossed over the fence to find a new sidle track that bypasses two crossings of the Mohaka River. It meanders through very nice beech forest with one crossing of the Kaipo River before traversing the grassy clearing and the climb onto the terrace where Oamaru Hut sits. This hut has had its cooking/dining area extended and a good verandah (enclosed at one end) put in plus two bunk rooms sleeping 12. Two hunters were in residence and, after half an hour, Janice, Brent and Scott left us to camp at the Tikitiki Stream campsite then continue to Clements Road via Te Iringa Track on Sunday.

B Party: Glenda, Anne and I walked for two kilometres along the track towards the swingbridge before returning to the hut - mainly through beech forest with lots of splendid burls, fungi and butterflies. Our hunting companions went out just on dusk and came back empty-handed although they had seen quite a few deer. Glenda commandeered Anne's Readers Digest and we all tested our word vocabulary completing *It Pays to Increase your Word Power*. Sunday's return trip was again in hot weather and we arrived back at the cars just after lunch.

A Party: after a 30 minute rest at Oamaru Hut we said goodbye to the B party and continued along an easy well-shaded track towards our camping spot for the night. Obstacles on the way were fallen trees, wasp nests (two we walked through) and some bog areas where DoC had made stepping stones from tree logs for easy crossing. We saw some amazing fungi starting to appear in the moist autumn conditions. A morepork, visible from the track, amused us with its head tilting antics. Late afternoon we arrived at the camp site near Tiki Tiki Stream and the swing bridge. We set up tents had an 'around the camp' tea and an early night for the men. Stars and moon shone through the trees above - a beautiful night and a perfect camping spot. By 8.00am on Sunday we were on our way to meet the B party at Clements Roadend; stopping at Te Iringa Hut site for lunch, we then ascended along a very easy shaded track to the carpark where Glenda met us. Thank you, Glenda and Susan for transport.

**Party:** Janice Love, Brent Hickey, Scott Campbell, Glenda Hooper, Susan Lopdell, Anne Doig



The truck arrived at the carpark near the Waipawa River at around 8:30am but the twelve trampers couldn't start until around 9:00am as they had to wait for a large flock of sheep to pass by. The day was sunny and the temperature warm and, as we travelled southwards, we split up into a number of groups.

We had one group make it 20 minutes past Smith Stream Hut before turning back while another group made it to the top of the ridge past Middle Stream where they could take in the views. The other two groups lunched on terraces either side of Middle Stream before turning back towards Waipawa River. I have done this tramp a number of times over the last 30 years and each time the landscape improves as the retired farmland reverts back to bush.



*Smith's Stream Hut*

Most got back to the truck at around 3:00pm but we had a longish wait before we could head for home because of a knee injury sustained when returning along Smith Stream. However we were on our way heading for home not long after 5.30pm with everyone having enjoyed their day out. GH

**Party:** Andy Zender, Des Smith, Peter Berry, Susan Lopdell, Joan Ruffell, Janice Love, Rodger Burn, Brent Hickey, Glenda Hooper, Mike Bull, Robyn and Michael Pohlenz

A good weather forecast, late starting and an escorted trip by Fred guaranteed a good turnout so we had 21 club members on the day. Fred met us at the farm on Maraetotara Road and we walked up a series of 4WD and cattle tracks towards the tops, stopping frequently for a number of our group to pick mushrooms. The views from the tops down to the Tukituki and over to Te Mata Peak were great and we soon found a sheltered spot for lunch before carrying on to an area of pine plantings in a spot we last saw felled, peeled and sawn on a previous visit. Fred explained that some 40,000 pines were planted by 10 workers in a week with very successful strike rates. Maturity is about 23 years away so most will just take his word on that. Other areas of native trees and shrubs which had been planted were noted and Fred was optimistic in spite of the ongoing battle with hares (the four-legged variety).

For the return we split up into two groups and picked up even more mushrooms as we went. We all met up again back at the truck for afternoon smoko. Thank you, Fred, for a most enjoyable day. RB

**Party:** Marion Nicholson, Pat Hill, Judy McBride, Anne Cantrick, Joan Ruffell, Christine Hardie, Heather Stephenson, Raewyn Ricketts, Lynn Walch, Heather and Bob Carter, Des Smith, Garry Smith, Graeme May, Scott Campbell, Ray Manning, Peter Hewitt, Fred Chesterman, Keith Thomson, Graeme Hare, Rodger Burn

**#2329 Waikamaka Weekend**

**2 – 3 April 2016**

Who would have believed that, 10 years after having a “50 years since my first trip” celebration, we would be repeating another commemoration, 60 years later? Our tramp to Waikamaka Hut was a repeat of my first ever HTC trip in 1956. The old hut with malthoid walls, adzed bottom plates, a dirt floor and a chimney that didn’t know it was supposed to take the smoke away was Stone Age compared with today’s modern hut. Our party of twelve left Hastings at 8.00am after being reminded that we might take a little longer now days. Quite true! We had no reason to rush and had a few stops to gather the team together and snack as we plodded towards the saddle in overcast conditions. It was as the gradient got steeper that the physical effort required took its toll on some of us and the team strung out over the saddle. I was very pleased to have Doctor Janet with us as she was able to make a medical assessment that Brent, with great pain in his legs, needed to be airlifted out. As we had telephone coverage 200 metres from the saddle, we called the police on 111. After talking to Janet, they quickly had the Lowe Corp helicopter preparing to leave base.



Arriving an hour later, the helicopter crew decided that winching was the safest option for the rescue. They were also able to take Christine, who currently is having medical treatment and was physically exhausted, out as well. It was late in the afternoon before all of the remaining ten trampers were gathered together to prepare the communal stew in Waikamaka Hut. What a magnificent feast we had. After dinner we asked Peter to sing and we had musical treats from a freezing works ballad and Irish folk songs to Italian and German opera solos. Super. Later, Janet went out into her new one-person tent while the rest of us tried to settle in a warm hut. Shortly after, every one was sleeping peacefully Anne had a screaming nightmare that roused us all with pounding hearts. Our immediate thought was the rats had joined her but this was not the case. In the morn, after a leisurely breakfast, wood was collected, the rat bait-station was replenished and the hut tidied for the next visitors.



### Pohokura

By 9:00am, after a group photo, we left for the saddle. Peter took some of us up the water course above the waterfall which eliminated the rocky and undercut track that is slowly being eroded. This could be developed into a safer route if necessary. Once we were below the forks in a clear blue sky the temperature rose rapidly. By 4:00pm we were back at Pernel. Thanks to all who came and helped me celebrate a special occasion and to Peter for driving. GRH

**Party:** Robyn and Michael Pohlenz, Janice Love, Anne Doig, Derek Boshier, Christine Snook, Randall Goldfinch, Brent Hickey, Janet Titchener, Maureen Broad, Peter Berry, Graeme Hare



#2330

MacIntosh Hut

Wed 13 April 2016

With a good turnout of ten mid-week trampers on board, we set off in the club truck from Pernel at the very civilized time of 8:00am. Arriving at our start point for the tramp at the end of Castle Rock road at around 9:30am, we were all booted up and heading on our way down the track by 10:00am. The party which was doing the MacIntosh Hut/Kaweka Hut site circuit headed off first, closely followed by the main group which intended going only as far as MacIntosh Hut. There were a few stiff legs later reported after the steep descent to the Tutaekuri Bridge crossing. As everyone was well warmed-up by then, several layers of clothing were dispensed with before the climb to the clay pans leading to MacIntosh Hut.

The leading party comprising Alan, Janice and Des had a brief early lunch stop at MacIntosh Hut before heading off for Kaweka Hut site. As we proceeded along the track through beautiful bush-covered faces, there was a sika stag loudly calling close to the track but well concealed in the dense bush. It was a very eerie, stirring sound to listen to for anyone with a interest in hunting. We stopped briefly at the top of the large slip where the old track used to drop down into the creek below Kaweka Hut site. The section of old track which has been swept away would have provided a short cut back to Lakes Carpark but it has been gone for some years now and the remaining track is no doubt well overgrown. It was very interesting to hear Alan's tales of his Kaweka Challenge exploits back in the day.....he also pointed out to us an earthquake fault line which runs for miles through the Kaweka Ranges and up over Cook's Horn Basin. We did an obligatory stop to inspect the HTC commemorative plaque at Kaweka Hut site before proceeding back down to Lakes Carpark to meet up with the rest of the party members who had driven around to pick us up in the truck. The forecast rain arrived just an hour or so before we finished our five-hour circuit but in no way

May 2016

Pohokura

detracted from a great day out in the hills with excellent company. We timed it perfectly by walking out onto the carpark area spot on our ETA of 3:30pm just as the truck appeared with the rest of the crew to pick us up and safely whisk us all back to Hastings. DS

**Party:** Christine Hardie (driver), Des Smith (leader), Janice Love, Rodger Burn, Alan Berry, Garry Smith, Mike Bull, Pat Hill, Pauline Mahoney, Heather Stephenson

#2331	Longview Circuit – Ruahine FP	17 April 2016
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Des, Mike, Janet and Janice made their way up the benched, marked Longview Track for lunch at the hut. We had several stops looking at the vast and amazing views to the east. As we climbed higher we could see more to the west and Longview Hut in the distance. Half-way up we met a Scottish couple in typical highland gear who had stayed in the hut overnight. The winds were strong and cool as we reached the tops so we sheltered in the hut where we met a father and son doing a return trip. The tussock grass was horizontal as we walked along the tops but we were sheltered from the wind on the lee side. We stopped for a break to read the map and Mike noticed his camera missing. Des and Janice retraced our way for about 15 minutes when Des spotted the camera not far from a recent resting place. Once we reached the signpost in the bush it was all downhill on a track which was steep and slippery towards the end. Our arrival timing was perfect to meet the other four at the carpark where we exchanged trip highlights.

**Party:** Janice Love, Des Smith, Janet Titchener, Peter Berry, Glenda Hooper, John Montgomerie, Mike Bull

2332	Havelock North Reserves	Wed 27 April 2016
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We could not have had a better day for our walk through the reserves of Havelock North: lovely autumn weather, sunny and windless, yet not too warm. This time the dogs came too – six of them. Starting at the Tanner Street gate we first made our way through the historic Keirunga Gardens, home of George Nelson until he gifted the property to the Havelock North Town Board in 1961. Then it was up the road to the Tanner Street Reserve, one time site of a “temple” for the Havelock Work, the semi-mystical organisation also known as the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn or Whare Ra, to which anyone who was anyone in Havelock North belonged in the 1920’s and 1930’s. This reserve leads upwards to Tainui Drive and the Tainui Reserve through which we wandered downwards and then climbed to the seat below the water tanks for our first morning tea stop. This is a lovely spot with views across the plains to the Ruahines, Ruapehu and the Kawekas. Then, on past the water tanks on Hikanui Drive, down through Hikanui Reserve to Tauroa Road and Tauroa Road Reserve. There are many hidden treasures and little secrets around the Havelock Hills including a wee lane from Peak Road to our next reserve in James Cook Street, around to Reeve Drive and the Karituwhenua Stream for our second smoko. It is important to keep one’s strength up and be well hydrated on these walks. The Karituwhenua is the site of the original Fulford’s Pottery which I visited with the school in 1945 to watch them making flowerpots and clay drainage tiles. The Karituwhenua is now a beautiful, tree-filled reserve created from a rubbish-filled stream and then maintained by a group of retired locals, to their very great credit.

And so it was on down the stream, across Te Mata Road, through the lower Karituwhenua Reserve and the grounds of the three schools then on to the Bridge Club on Brookvale Road. Across Guthrie Park, along past Te Karamu Reserve and – surprise, surprise, we arrived at the Crosses Road café right on the appointed hour of 12:45pm. Lunch at the café provided an ideal conclusion to a great walk with friends.

**Party:** Anne Cantrick and friend Margaret Dunford, Pauline Mahoney, Pat Hill and grandson Fenton, Christine Hardie, Lynn Walch, Marion Nicholson, Sharon Mardon, Barbara Phillips, Cathy Bentley [Tikokino], Rodger Burn, Peter Hewitt, Garry Smith, Raewyn Ricketts and Alan Berry (organisers)

Two cars left Pernel at 7:00am with six members, meeting up with Randall at Maraekakaho turn-off. Passing through attractive farmland and stunning autumn colours we arrived at Master's Shelter Track on Mangleton Road. Here we separated into two teams, one for Golden Crown circuit and two members to walk the track from Sentry Box to Pohatuhaha signpost.

Golden Crown Ridge: five left the shelter at 8:30am in very nice weather and climbed the ridge which rises abruptly for a good hour. We admired the view to the valley several times through the tall vegetation. Soon we were in more shrubland vegetation and exposed limestone rocks as we made headway through the beech forest and a 10:00am break. The track was undulating but in great order as we arrived at the plateau. The wind was very chilling here plus low cloud so we all wrapped up for the conditions. Not long after we were shedding layers as we approached the turnoff to Park's Peak and Sentry Box. It was warm and sheltered on this side. At 2.00pm we departed here to tackle the steep descent to Sentry Box where we had a short stop before meeting up with the other party. Glenda transported Randall back to his vehicle at Master's Shelter and he then returned to collect the remaining three ladies who had started walking the road to meet him. For the five of us who had either never walked this track or who had walked it many years ago, it was an interesting day of changeable weather and terrific views from high points. Thanks to Glenda, Randall and Joan for transport. JL

Party: Glenda Hooper, Anne Doig, Janet Tichener, Joan Ruffell, Janice Love, Randall Goldfinch, Andy Zender

Back to the Ruahine Ranges, this time on a cloudy, mild day – cooler than the previous week or two when temperatures in the mid-twenties had been experienced. Amazing conditions for May and everyone is still wondering when the annual cold season will finally begin. Conditions were very dry everywhere so it was not difficult to ease the truck down the last little hill to Yeomans paddock. We noted that DoC has removed the large notice board in the shelter by the ford; no idea whether it is to make way for the dam construction or whether it's a result of vandalism. The river was low so there was little chance of gaining wet feet. The group wandered up the first rise above the river to Makaroro [Forestry] Road. Whoops, wrong way but RB put us right and we headed down the correct branch then onto the old pack track through the bush to the Ellis Hut/Parks Peak junction. Here, we divided into two smaller parties: Rodger, Garry, Heather and Peter headed for Murderers Hut while the others tackled the hill.

The forest was picturesque with the many different green colours looking very intense against the greyish sky in the background. At the bottom of the spur there are still a few large trees which the loggers left and they loom impressively over the smaller stuff. We plodded on and the slope steepened....."you'll be there in a couple of hours," Uncle Rodger had promised but we had all conveniently overlooked the fact that we are not as fast as we used to be and needed to add on another quarter to half an hour! Every now and then we paused to look at the farmland which we could see way below us through gaps in the trees. A few birds were heard: kereru once, grey warbler here and there, blackbirds of course and we did see a couple of piwakawaka and robin when we stopped. More steep hill, a lunchette, back on the upward slog and then finally to the end of the spur to turn in a more northerly direction. The trees were shrinking in height and the wind was a lot fresher. We had another lunchette in a sheltered spot and then clambered up the last few bumps. Time was getting on so Des dashed up the last hill to touch the sign – the rest of us turned around and went home. After the long up, of course, is the long down but we negotiated it well and made our way without incident back to the truck where the others were waiting with reports of their successful trip. CH

Flatties: Rodger Burn, Garry Smith, Heather Stephenson, Peter Hewitt

Hill Climbers: Graeme Hare, Des Smith, Lyn Walch, Christine Hardie



## From the Archives

Sixty-Two Years Ago

### WHO WERE THE THREE JOHNS?

*In September 1954 the club ran a trip to Waikamaka via Three Johns, starting from the farmland beyond the Waipawa River. In September 2012 a number of us made the mistake of joining Graeme Hare on an expedition to “re-discover” the same route to Three Johns.....not a good idea!*

*Anyway, who were the Three Johns? I repeat part of an item from Pohokura April 1988, with a little added narrative from recollections of what Norman Elder told me in the 1950s.*

Just exactly when this peak was so named is not quite clear but it is very likely to have been in 1933. Norman Elder taught at Hereworth School from 1931 – 1954 and he introduced a large number of boys to tramping during his time at the school. Some of those boys later became members of the HTC. Norman formed the Kiwi Tramping Club within the school and membership was a privilege extended to boys in their final year. In 1933 Norman took a party of boys into the Ruahines and they climbed this un-named peak just south of the Waipawa Saddle, probably by the same route as we did in 1954 (and did not in 2012).

Three of the boys were: Herbert John Collins, a pupil from 1930 – 1933, John Grant Dasent, a pupil from 1929 – 1933 and Edmond John Wilder, a pupil from 1930 – 1933.

All three were prefects in their final year at Hereworth and all went by the name of “John”.

Norman told me that, although the peak is a little unremarkable, the coincidence of having three boys of the same name on the top of a peak at the same time was too good to pass by. And so he named the peak “Three Johns”.

Alan Berry

## HTC Bike Trips



### Radiating from Maraekakaho

Wed 24 February 2016

Rodger offered us four cycling options radiating from the Maraekakaho Memorial ranging from 18 kms on very level roads (Mangatahi and Aorangi Roads) to a grunty hill climb of two kilometres and many more hills over a 40kms plus ride (Whakapirau and Raukawa Roads). We sorted ourselves into two groups: six riding the flat and seven on the plateau. What a beautiful day for riding on rural Hawkes Bay roads - no wind, no rain, good visibility, a warm day that developed into a hot day and great company. Those that had not had lunchettes on the way were able to sit under the trees at the memorial for a late lunch.

I trust everyone enjoyed the day as much as I did. Thanks for coming!! GRH

**Flat Folk:** Lyn Walch, Dennis Beets, Pat Hill, Pam Pirie, Roy Frost, Scott Campbell

**Sky Riders:** Judy McBride, Christine Hardie, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn, Graeme Hare (leader)



### Otane Loop Cycle

Wed 9 March 2016

After a few days of searing heat we were delighted to have an overcast day with an acceptable temp of 20°C and light winds. Leaving McCauleys Cafe at about 9:30am, we had the benefit of flat, quiet country roads for the first seven kilometres before striking our first hill which we all coped with easily. We continued down Racecourse Road and swung onto Tod Road, noting how dry and barren the hills looked. At this stage we were all whizzing along, soon joining with Pourerere Road and downhill to Tamumu Bridge for smoko. We had a look at the poor, weedy condition of the Tuki Tuki there. On again along River Road to the Patangata Tavern before tackling the daunting but short, steep Elsthorpe Road hill back to the flats; about half of us cycled up and half walked - Alasdair just flew past us all.

Only another 10 kilometres plus a couple more manageable hills and the thought of lunch at McCauleys gave an extra zing to our efforts so we all arrived at much the same time. A great ride of 34 kms and no punctures or mishaps. Lunch was a lengthy affair and we debated all the local issues before setting off home having had a great day.

RB

**Cyclists:** Judy McBride, Heather Stephenson, Christine Hardie, Mr Lyn Gentry, Ian Stewart, Roy Frost, Bob Carter, Garry Smith, Alasdair Shaw, Rodger Burn

### Maraetotora or Waimarama Road Circuits

Wed 23 March 2016

A reasonable turnout met in pleasant conditions at the Trading Post on Waimarama Road for a popular ride towards Mohi Bush area. An added incentive was the mid-morning stop at Fred's farm where Marion had put on a quite decadent spread for our morning smoko. Fred afterwards showed us around his nursery where with patience and TLC he has grown from seedlings a large number of kahikatea, rimu, kauri and others that will be planted out at some stage. Many are sourced via Sandy from Holts Forest. After all this added interest we were bums back on bikes and tackling the next series of hills although not before Joan and Mr Lyn stopped to pick up roadside mushrooms. Before too long we had regrouped at the intersection with Waipoapoa Road just three kilometres from Mohi Bush where a couple elected to carry on to for lunch. The rest returned to the Maraetotora Scenic Reserve to eat.

Christine had the great misfortune of a gear cable snap which resulted in the derailleur being jammed – she had to make it back to the Trading Post in unbudging top gear which entailed more-than-usual effort.

## Pohokura

Fortunately the return lap has significant down hill sections. It was 34km for us and 40km for the Mohi group with the wind just starting to pick up as we finished; a most enjoyable day had by all. RB

**Cyclists:** Anne Cantrick, Heather Stephenson, Joan Ruffell, Christine Hardie, Garry Smith, Graeme Hare, Mr Lyn Gentry, Ian Stewart, Peter Hewitt, Alasdair Shaw, Rodger Burn

## Vineyards and River Banks

**Wed 6 April 2016**

Fourteen cyclists met at Bridge Pa Golf Club ready for a bike ride around the local vineyards and river bank. We set off along Maraekakaho Road for four kilometres until we came to a section of the *On Yer Bike* Trail which led us through Te Mata Estate vineyard and out onto Highway 50. There was quite a heavy gravel surface; luckily no-one had bought road bikes with skinny tyres. We cycled along the trail on Highway 50 until we came to a driveway that leads to the Ngaruroro River. There is track here that follows the river south and at the end of this we stopped for a break: well-earned because biking on rough surfaces is not easy. Then it was north along the stop bank, through Mill Reef Vineyard and out onto Mere Road where we turned left onto Dunvegan Road and cycled around the bottom of Fernhill through private farmland. Some very fit cyclists managed to bike up to the top of Fern Hill for wonderful views of the area- their energy was impressive! We crossed Highway 50 onto the stopbank and joined the Winery Cycle Trail for a short while. We lifted our bikes over a fence so that we could exit at Hill Road and it was full steam ahead through Flaxmere's streets and back to the golf club for lunch - a very pleasant 35kms with lovely company. PG

**Cyclists:** Christine Hardie, Judy McBride, Garry Smith, Lyn Walch, Anne Cantrick, Pauline Mahoney, Pete Hewitt, Sharon Mardon, Ian Stewart, Des Smith, Rodger Burn, Peggy Gulliver

## Cycle Tour of the Bays

**Wed 20 April 2016**

Again we were blessed with perfect weather as our group of 12 cyclists left Hastings Golf Club and were soon heading along Raukawa Road's flat straights, admiring the autumn toning of the stands of trees as we passed. We tackled the first of a few modest hills before stopping at Raukawa Community Hall where we had smoko as usual. This was a fortunate stop as a herd of cattle passed by on the road while being mustered onto a adjoining farm. We then carried onwards on a pleasant circuit and over the last hills and a rapid descent to SH50 where we enjoyed a slight tail wind. We were soon back at the golf club where we met up with Marion, Judy and Marj who had come up by car to join us for lunch.

Mindful of a recent newspaper article about the lycra ban down south, we spruced ourselves up and enjoyed a relaxing time there. We passed pleasantries with the Napier mens cycle group also there enjoying the hospitality – we have met before on the trails. A very pleasant day was had by all and 39km cycled. RB

**Cyclists:** Lyn Walch, Christine Hardie, Vivienne and Dick Waterer, Mr Lyn Gentry, Des Smith, Peter Hewitt, Graeme Hare, Alasdair Shaw, Alan Russell, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn

## Waipawa to Onga Onga

**Wed 04 May 2016**

Today may go down in HTC cycling history as the perfect bike ride. We arrived at the Waipawa starting point and were ready to go by 9:30am as planned but waited a bit longer to see if Des would turn up. The weather was fresh but clear and windless; it looked like a great day was ahead of us. And so it proved to be. Des was nowhere to be seen so we eventually set off, most to climb the first hill which is a slow gradient. A few folk drove on further before unloading their bikes and taking a different route westwards. After this initial effort it was all flat going with very little traffic to worry about. Our ride gave us time to admire the colourful trees with their leaves all changing colour during the autumn season.

The Ongaonga café has a large wooden terrace with tables and chairs plus two large new tables set further out on the grassy lawn. Ideal for us all to sit and consume our morning tea with coffees, pies and muffins from the shop if we felt like indulging ourselves. The early arrivals reported that they had met Des on his

May 2016

## Pohokura

way through the village – after a short stop he decided to carry on by himself and we discovered later that he had devised a journey that took in the Tikokino Pub among other highlights. We were relieved to know that we hadn't lost him somewhere in CHB and he has provided us with a possible new ride for the future. We biked back to the cars and were all impressed with our efforts because no-one had to walk their bike up the return hill! Everything was just right – perfect weather, great views and 34 km of easy roads - so maybe now we will call this the Goldilocks Ride! Proper lunch was held at the Waipawa Domain and a couple of the ladies investigated the second hand shops before going home by mid-afternoon.

**Cyclists:** Rodger Burn, Garry Smith [leader], Christine Hardie, Pam Pike and neighbour Sharon, Brent Hickey, Judy McBride, Marion Nicholson, Pauline Mahoney, Heather Stephenson, Dick Waterer, Lyn Walch, Ian Stewart, Des Smith [in spirit]

## CLUB NEWS:

- There is to be a First Aid course on Saturday 18th June from 9:00am – 1:00pm at the Red Cross Hall in Hastings. This will not result in any certificate but will give us the essential First Aid knowledge that we need for when we are out tramping plus it is free. Ten to 20 people can be catered for so get your names in now.
- There is to be a mid-winter club dinner at the RSA in Napier on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> June.
- The construction of the Waikamaka Hut deck has been delayed a bit mainly because of HB Regional Council planning demands but it will be going ahead at some stage. Watch this space.....
- Janice is collecting photos for the HTC calendar so please forward these to her at [janice.love1944@gmail.com](mailto:janice.love1944@gmail.com)

- Photo Competition – Judge's Choices.

The judge this year was Sandie Hooper and she chose the following winners:

Above the Bush Line:	Tina Godbert
Below the Bushline:	Andy Fowler
Outdoor Landscapes:	Graeme Hare
Hut and Camp Life:	Janice Love
Club Character:	Peter Berry
Native Fauna and Flora:	Graeme Hare

These, as well as the popular choice winners named in the last Pohokura, were sent to the FMC photo competition - Tina Godbert and Alan Berry both won prizes. **Congratulations**, you two.

HB Biodiversity Strategy was launched by HBRC/DoC recently. Invited attendees were treated to a lavish array of finger food before an entertaining presentation by Ruud Kleinpaste, the Bug Man. HTC is a supporter of this initiative which includes the development of a wildlife corridor from the city to the sea.

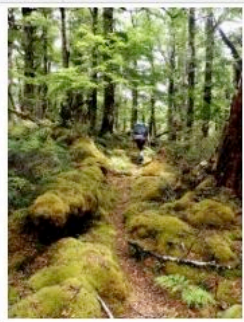
May 2016



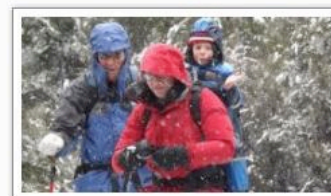
## Pohokura



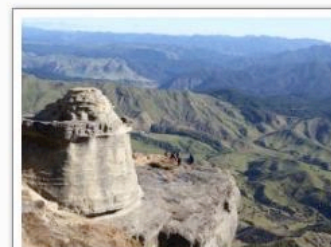
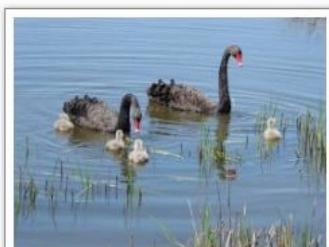
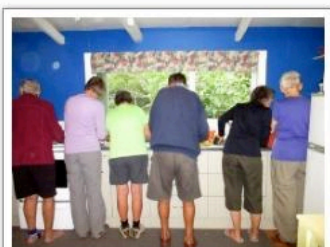
ABL Heretaunga TC Tina Godbert Seriously above the bushline!



BBL Heretaunga TC Andy Fowler Mossy Track



Club Characters PeterBerry\_DSCF5580



### New Members

Robyn and Michael Pohlenz have recently joined the club.

### 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
FMC pack liners	\$2.50
Large blue survival bags	\$5.00
Smaller white pack liners	\$2.50
Metal HTC club badges	\$8.00
Blue/red HTC caps with emblem	\$17.00
Bushcraft books	\$12.00
Safety in the Mountains [booklet] by Robin McNeill	\$5.00
Revised Safety in the Mountains book	\$12.00

Orders will be taken at general club meetings or contact **Penny Isherwood** Ph 844 9994 or [p.isherwood@orcon.net.nz](mailto:p.isherwood@orcon.net.nz) Map orders are collated in batches (to save on courier charges) so you may not get your maps straight away.

### 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.



## Next Autumn

Since completing the Long Walk Home in the summer of 1990/91, I've developed a penchant for the longer tramps. Between then and now, I have sated my appetite with numerous tramps in the South Island with the Milton Rotary Tramping Club. Now, as an esteemed Gold Card member of society, I find (or fear) that the prospect of humping food for five days (more or less) is clipping my wings and I see the curtain is soon to come down on one aspect of a lifetime activity. But then there are helicopters . . . !!!

I'm interested in organising a week (or two) based at Waikamaka Hut (or Kiwi Saddle Hut) in late summer/early autumn in 2017: tramp in with lunch and an emergency meal and have food for the duration - your sleeping bag and toothbrush will be flown in. Based at Waikamaka Hut facilitates day trips (Waterfall Hut) or overnight trips to Wakelings etc. Based at Kiwi Saddle Hut facilitates day trips (Kiwi Mouth Hut) or overnight trips to Manson and so on.

**Please contact me at [rlb.mbb@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rlb.mbb@xtra.co.nz) if you are interested.**

Cheers, Mike Bull

## HTC Calendars

Do you want a calendar for next year? Then please send your photos to [janice.love1944@gmail.com](mailto:janice.love1944@gmail.com) a.s.a.p. for selection. This all takes time and she then has to send them off to Brian Smith for final sorting and printing. They are busy people and can't do it all overnight! Co-operation from YOU, the contributors, means we can get them distributed in time for overseas Christmas posting. To date Janice has pics from only ONE contributor! **NO PICS MEANS NO CALENDAR!** **Get Going!**

## Heretaunga Tramping Club Meeting and Trip Information

### Coming Meetings

Date	Chair	Speaker	Topic	Host/Supper
25 May	Pam Turner	All members	Group Dynamics	John Montgomerie
08 June	Graeme Hare	Brien and Pauline Mahoney	Stranded on Tilicho, Nepal	Raewyn Ricketts
22 June	Penny Isherwood	All members		Janice Love
06 July	Susan Lopdell	Pat Hill	Trek/Canoe Zimbabwe	Penny Isherwood
20 July	Alan Berry	All members	Games? Share board games/puzzles	Heather Stephenson
03 Aug	Lex Smith	Susan Lopdell	Scotland/Orkney Islands	Brent Hickey
17 Aug	John Montgomerie	All members		Marion Nicholson
31 Aug	Brent Hickey	John Berry	Codfish Island Sea Bird Work	Ann Doig
14 Sept	Pam Turner	All members	Quiz? Subject to Confirmation	Lex Smith
28 Sept	Graeme Hare	Ros Rowe	Leg-Up Trust (Working with Kids and Horses)	Christine Snook
12 Oct	Penny Isherwood	All members		Garry Smith

**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.

## 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.

<b>GEAR LIST FOR DAY &amp; WEEKEND TRAMPS</b>		
<b>DAY TRIPS</b>		<b>WEEKEND TRIPS</b>
<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 Overmitts	Survival kit (whistle, cord, matches, pencil, paper)	Tent/fly if required
Whistle	Complete set of spare warm clothing	

**Leave at truck/car:** Complete set of clothing for the return trip and a mug with tea / coffee / sugar or whatever to have a hot drink from the Clibbornette.

### OVERDUE TRAMPERS

Although returning parties plan to be out of the bush before dark safety considerations must come first. This may mean that parties are late returning to transport. Even after arriving back at the transport, it may take two hours or more to return to the embarkation point. Beginners should make sure that anyone who might worry about them is informed of this. Leaders will try to get a message through to one of the "overdue contacts" if return seems likely to be later than 10.00 pm. All newcomers should ensure that their own emergency number is noted in the party list that the leader leaves in town. For all enquiries about overdue trampers please ring one of the following:

**Glenda Hooper 877 4183**

**Graeme Hare 844 8656**

**John Montgomerie 877 7358**

**Cancellations:** If you cannot make a trip please contact the leader BEFOREHAND to avoid 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)



### **25 May Wed      Cycle the Twin City Flatlands**

**Organiser:** Christine Hardie   Ph 8449 590

### **29 May              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      Mautauria Ridge – Kaweka FP**

**Organiser:** Scott Campbell   Ph 879 8554

### **8 June Wed              Cycle the Tuki Tuki Circuit**

**Organiser:** Heather Stephenson   Ph 843 9157

### **12 June              Lizard and/or Blowhard**

**Map:BJ37**

This is an easy trip to an area of fascinating and unusual geology, basically across the road from Blowhard Bush. This area has been stripped of much of its soil by wind and rain, leaving the exposed plates of limestone looking, for all the world, like the back of a stegosaurus. There is plenty of scope in the area for the more adventurous, a feature of the descent over towards Cattle Hill being the fence line that runs through the fully mature kanuka that, last time I saw it, is as tight as the day it went up.

**Organiser:** Peter Berry 877 4183

### **15 June Wed              Te Mata Park**

**Organiser:** Rodger Burn   Ph 877 6322

### **22 June Wed              Cycle Clive to Bayview**

**Organiser:** Peter Hewitt   Ph 877 5188

### **25-26 June              Studholme Saddle Hut**

**\$15**

**Map:BJ37**

We will leave from MacIntosh carpark and walk to MacIntosh Hut (where some may choose to stay) then on and up MacIntosh Spur Track. At the junction we go north along the ridge and then drop down to Studholme Saddle Hut for the night. The trip out on Sunday has many possibilities: Kiwi Saddle via Rogue Ridge, via the old Kaweka Hut site or back the way we came.

**Organisers:** Janet Titchener and Brent Hickey

### **29 June Wed              PanPac Eskdale Forest Park**

Walk the tracks of this pine forest.

**Organiser:** Rodger Burn   Ph 877 6322

### **06 July Wed              Cycle to View the Murals of Seaside Napier**

**Organiser:** Ray Manning   Ph 845 1316

**10 July Kahuranaki Station, Tukituki valley \$10 Map: BK39**  
 A stroll up to Kahuranaki Trig overlooking the Tukituki Valley: 360° views from a place not often visited.  
 Park at the cattle yards.  
**Organiser:** John Montgomerie Ph 877 7358

**13 July Wed Kaweka Hut Site**  
**Organiser:** Judy McBride Ph 876 9756

**20 July Wed Cycle Clive to Puketapu Area**  
**Organiser:** Jim Hewes Ph 877 6784

**23 – 24 July Taupo \$ 30 Maps: BH35/BJ35**  
 On the Saturday we will drive to Lake Taupo and then down to Turangi and the Tongariro River where we will walk (two to three hours) or cycle (90 minutes) the 15 km Tongariro River Trail. We will probably have lunch near the National Trout Centre. The afternoon's walk will be to and around Lake Rotopounamu after which we will soak in some hot pools. Sunday's plan is [Map BJ35] down the Desert Road to near the Tukino Ski Club Road turn-off. From the carpark walk the 'corridor' where the Kaimanawa FP borders the Defence Force land up to a high point, Castle Rocks 1460 metres. It's all on open tussock land with 360° views; 12km and five hours return – 360m climb spread over the 6km walk-in. This can be seen at [www.wildernessmag.co.nz](http://www.wildernessmag.co.nz) then Taupo - Castle Rocks.  
**Organiser:** Saturday: Glenda Hooper Ph 8774183 Sunday: John Montgomerie Ph 877 7358

**27 July Wed Walk the Napier Hills**  
**Organiser:** Christine Hardie Ph 844 9590

**03 Aug Wed Cycle in Central Hawkes Bay**  
**Organiser:** Alasdair Shaw Ph 877 6225

**07 Aug Lawrence to Lotkow \$15 Map:BJ37**  
 The last time the organiser visited Lawrence was in 1971 so it might be a case of leading from the rear! We will take the track to Lotkow and see what the day and the weather allow.  
**Organiser:** Alan Berry 877 7223

**10 Aug Wed Sunrise Hut – Ruahine FP**  
**Organiser:** Judy McBride Ph 876 9756

**17 Aug Wed Cycle Local Pathways**  
**Organiser:** Garry Smith Ph 844 9931

**20-21 Aug Snow Trip \$15? Maps: ?**  
 Location depends on snow conditions and where it is - possibly up to Kaweka J [Back Ridge Hut], in to Kiwi Saddle, Armstrong Saddle [Sunrise] or up to the Longview area. Need lots of snow!  
**Organiser:** John Montgomerie Ph 877 7358

**24 Aug Wed Waipataki to Aropoanui Circuit**  
 A walk at the beach.  
**Organiser:** Alan Berry Ph 877 7223

**31 Aug Wed Cycle in Kereru and Beyond**  
**Organiser:** Graeme Hare Ph 844 8656

**04 Sept Poutaki Hut \$15 Map: BK37**  
 In via Leatherwood Road in Guavas Forest to the roadend then a gentle(?) climb pretty much straight up to the top and Poutaki Hut - a neat hut in a magic grass basin.  
**Organiser:**

**07 Sept Wed A Walk in Taradale or Eskdale Reserves**  
**Organiser:** Pauline Mahoney Ph 844 1052

**14 Sept Wed Mystery Cycle Ride**  
**Organiser:** Lyn Gentry Ph 875 0542

**17 - 18 Sept Onepoto / Waikaremoana \$25 Map: BG40**  
 Based at Lex Smith's family bach at Onepoto - would involve some camping depending on numbers coming; plans for trips up to Panekiri, Ngamoko Track or Kaitawa Walk plus other options.  
**Organiser:** Sue Lopdell Ph 844 6697

**21 Sept Wed Kuripapango / 4100 area**  
**Organiser:** Christine Hardie Ph 844 9590

**28 Sept Wed Cycle Seafield Road to Bayview**  
**Organiser:** Des Smith Ph 844 9590

**02 Oct Te Iringa and Mount Cameron \$15 Map: BJ37**  
 From the crest of Gentle Annie, Taihape Road, through open ridges up to Te Iringa and Mount Cameron. Views up the Ngaruroro River, southern Kawekas and over towards Ngamatea and Golden Hills country.  
**Organiser:**

**05 Oct Wed Rogue Ridge Area – Kaweka FP**  
**Organiser:** Graeme Hare Ph 844 8656

**12 Oct Wed Cycle the Waimarama / Maraetotora Circuits**  
 Maybe from the beach end this time.  
**Organiser:** Richard Waterer Ph 875 8561

**19 Oct Wed Manawatu Gorge Track**  
**Organiser:** Garry Smith Ph 844 9931

**26 Oct Wed Cycle Waipukurau, Hatumu, Oruawharo Circuit**  
**Organiser:** Joan Ruffell Ph 877 6225