

Club Patron	Jim Glass		
Treasurer	Lex Smith	877 4087	smithers@xtra.co.nz
Club Captain	John Montgomerie	877 7358	monts@outlook.co.nz
Secretary	Glenda Hooper	877 4183	hoopberry@orcon.net.nz
Editor	Randall Goldfinch	845 4913	randall.g@xtra.co.nz
Committee	Penny Isherwood	844 9994	p.isherwood@orcon.net.nz
	Joan Ruffell	877 6225	cbird011@gmail.com
	Brent Hickey	876 5873	brenthickey@xtra.co.nz
	Janet Titchener	027 234 1687	janet.titchener@gmail.com
	Jude Hay	027 517 4275	judehay25@gmail.com

Truck	<u>Lex Smith</u> , Janice Love, Peter Berry, Peter Hewitt		
Fixtures	<u>John Montgomerie</u> , Susan Lopdell, Brent Hickey, Jude Hay		
	Glenda Hooper, Rodger Burn (Mid-Week Group)		
Huts	<u>John Montgomerie</u> , Janice Love, Randall Goldfinch		
Training	<u>John Montgomerie</u> , Mike Bull		
Environment	<u>Penny Isherwood</u> , Joan Ruffell		
Meetings	Penny Isherwood, Graeme Hare, Philip Mardon		
Social	Joan Ruffell, Anne Doig, Marion Nicholson		
Sales Rep	Penny Isherwood		
Scrap Book	Janice Love		
Library	Liz Pindar		
Supper	Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw		
Photographic Records	Janice Love		
Membership Records	Glenda Hooper		
Publicity	Glenda Hooper, Jude Hay, Janet Titchener, Pat Hill, Robyn Pohlenz		

Club Meetings

These are held every second Wednesday [before a weekend tramp] at the Hastings Harrier Clubrooms in Sylvan Road, Hastings. Doors open 7:30pm; visitors are most welcome.

Website: www.htc.org.nz

Mail: P.O. Box 14 086, Mayfair, Hastings 4159

Enquiries:

Glenda Hooper 877 4183 Graeme Hare 844 8656 John Montgomerie 877 7358

The Front Page

Every now and then it is easy to get the feeling that the planets are all lined up [as the old saying goes] but this time they're the wrong way round. It doesn't seem to matter where you look, the portents are all bad or, at the least dispiriting. During this year negative stories regarding the outdoors seem to be piling up from one end of the country to the other. Some of them concern the ongoing issues surrounding commercialisation of the public estate, access issues in various parts of the country and preparation [or lack of it] in the face of climate change. Possibly the biggest and undoubtedly saddest disaster concerns the acceleration of species extinction. All over the world animals and plants are vanishing. The causes are pretty well known – 100% of this decline is due to humans. Whether it be by over-exploitation, habitat loss, pesticide overuse or that really there are just too many of us homo sapiens and we all want very high standards of living, the results are there for all of us to see. In New Zealand reputable scientific study tells us that 80% of our native bird species are not in good shape. Yes, you read that right: 80% of indigenous/endemic birds are facing serious threats to their continued existence. And even the numbers of introduced birds are falling year by year as confirmed by the annual bird survey. The damage being done to our invertebrates and marine species among others is still being calculated.

But wait, there's more. Other tragedies are taking place on a daily basis: kauri dieback makes you wonder if these iconic trees will be gone by lunchtime, as they say in political circles. Myrtle rust is spreading rapidly, our waterways are being ruined by what many people consider to be inappropriate land use and, all the time, millions of furry predators are chomping and hunting their merry way through the land. And now there is even a drop-off [admittedly small] in the number of tourists travelling to our so-called pure and green little Eden. Some of them are apparently citing overcrowding, lack of infrastructure and pollution as reasons not to come. Serious stuff given that tourism is now our second-largest dollar earner.

But of course, in reality, all concerns are local and people always respond more strongly to things that personally affect them. Many of us in tramping clubs as well as others who love our backcountry have long been aware of these problems and many of our members give hours of their time in such projects as local forest restoration, marine biodiversity, urban reserves and Hawke's Bay pest control. It seems nowadays that there is more awareness and concern, at least in the rich countries, about the state of the environment. Despite the current revived furore in New Zealand over the use of 1080 there is general agreement that we must work towards improvement of the situation in much of our public lands so the zeitgeist is here for things to change for the better. Even DoC seems to be seizing the day with renewed vigour.

Speaking of improvements the time has finally arrived for our modified club magazine. Our editor, Randall G, has produced the smaller format Pohokura that you now behold. He has worked on this model for quite some time. Hopefully readers will now realise that there are benefits to a pocket edition, so to speak, and it is nothing to be afraid of. For one thing the costs of production and distribution will be reduced which must surely be counted as a good thing. Naturally, RG will be looking for feedback and suggestions regarding this move. And there is nothing to stop enthusiastic contributions!

CH

TRIP REPORTS

2407

Waipatiki Coastline

13 May 2018

The weather man said it would be fine by afternoon so we delayed our leaving time until 11 a.m. and then six people in two vehicles headed to Waipatiki Beach. By the time we started walking along the coastal walkway the morning rain had gone and the sky was blue.

The coastal walkway used to run from Waipatiki through to the Waikare River mouth but it is currently closed due to slips and unstable land in the middle section. The track north from Waipatiki starts off about at 25 metres above sea level and, except for a couple of detours down to the pebbly shore, stays up at this level until about a kilometre from the Aropaoanui River mouth. Lunch was had at the first pebbly beach after which we continued on northwards. Two of us elected not to walk the final kilometre along the beach to the river mouth and rested while the other four carried on and reached Aropaoanui River just after two. It was then time to head back to our cars which we reached at around 4pm. Before driving home we stopped and walked a short track in Waipatiki Scenic Reserve in order to admire the impressive nikau and kahikatea there.



Party: Glenda Hooper, Janice Love, Dale Barnard, Glenn and Dorian Kastrinos, Kjelsty Hansen

The forecast was not ideal or all that inviting really but the crew was up for the task. We crammed into my ute and headed for the end of North Block Road, meeting the farm manager who was pleased we were not the bunch of louts that he had encountered before who up to no good. We were relieved to have passed good judgement! I think he thought we were nuts heading to Waikamaka on such a day. It was looking a bit bleak and uninviting. The fastest and easiest route was the river despite the lack of appeal of wet boots very soon as the river was up a little but once past the North Branch of the Waipawa it halved in volume. The gravel/stone/rocks that have come from the east face of Te Atua O Parapara or '66' have filled the valley flat in places to 20 or 30 metres wide where there was once just a river course on the bedrock. There will never be a shortage of gravel coming out down country! Where the rutted steep spur leaves the river bed the snow was getting thicker and continued so to be a good cover on the Waipawa Saddle.

The day was far from warm, predictably windy and threatening showers but it was not a great drama and at the saddle gave us a good 60 or 70 km/hr blast. As the track down the spur to the waterfall is now dangerous coupled with the snow present, I decided to go down the gut to the left and down the two waterfalls - the first one was the trickiest, the Hillary Step. Neither had ice forming yet. This done carefully and slowly got us through without incident. By now I think it was snowing then the 45 min plod down the river to the hut, to settle in, hang up wet gear, get comfortable and a fire going.



Fiona and Warren Greer with John Montgomerie working in the background

Pohokura

Some got too comfortable and it was left to Fiona and me to do the chore of carrying up sawn rounds of large beech wood from way down at the bivvy. Well, someone had to do the hard yards; we gave the slackers a ribbing later! Dinners prepared and consumed, lots of stories and lies told at the fireside and finally to bed. It rained on and off during the night, the river was up a little concernedly, the rain became heavier and more persistent and so up the river came, both branches and got quite angry. As it had not changed by midday the decision was made to wait out till tomorrow. We had generally wanted a three day trip and actually got it! Later in the day it snowed enough to make the 'lawn' quite white. Warren and I with my ice axe modified the padbolt retainer bracket and so it now closes easily, the rat bait replaced, gone mouldy, no customers. All appreciated the water tank to save the bucket trips to the river which by then was mineral water anyway!

Monday, the river was down 300mm on my marker rock and quite do-able if a little high and off we went. By the time we reached where you leave the river bed it was snowing quite well and all the tussock and cliff drips overnight were full blown icicles by now and more snow, quite pretty and yet making the scene look more grim than it actually was. All the rock in the creek now was ice encrusted up to 20 or so mm thick so care was needed to get traction. At the Hillary Step I chipped the ice from strategic rock holds. Warren pulled the crew up after I got up and so then up to the saddle. The north west wind was still blowing well again today at the saddle so out of the grips of it made strategic phone calls to alert the world to our lateness. There was more snow now which hindered foot holds and slowed us a little, and then down to the river gravel again. It was a happy time as we descended the sun out at times and just talking and enjoying the event. Not long now till wet boots again and down to the riverbed carpark to change, stow gear and away. We stopped at the Onga Onga store to have some goodies from the food cabinet and a coffee, enjoying and reminiscing about the trip in a warm place. A neat end to a fulfilling trip in difficult conditions that might have made it less pleasant, but we all survived and got a buzz. Thanks to all for a very memorable and fun trip and great to have tramped with Fiona and Warren for the first time. JM

Party: Warren and Fiona Greer, Derek Boshier, Janice Love,
John Montgomerie (organiser)

2409	Pohokura Road	Wed 30 May 2018
-------------	----------------------	------------------------

This Wednesday we were fortunate to get permission to explore part of Opouahi Farm now under the governance of the Maungaharuru Tangaitu Trust. We were a bit late leaving but our Taradale contingent was patiently waiting for us so it was onwards to our venue where we had a brief smoko before following a farm track down to Lake Opouahi to circumnavigate the lake and walk part of Thomas Bush track before returning to the truck. We were blessed with good weather and the views were great.

After lunch we carried on over farmland, stopping to admire and explore the magnificent limestone boulders weathered by wind and rain into interesting shapes with mosses growing on them and native trees firmly anchored on the rocks. This was new territory for most and our thanks go to Pete for arranging our access permits. Permission is granted for school activities such as bushcraft, abseiling and orienteering in the area. Thanks also to Pete Hewitt for driving.

RB

Party: Joan Ruffell, Barbara Phillips, Lynn Walch, Peter Hewitt, Garry Smith, Des Smith, Graeme Hare, Rodger Burn (organiser)



A big team effort here – we don't know if the rock moved....

2410	Waitangi Falls - Eastwoodhill Arboretum	2 – 4 June 2018
-------------	--	------------------------

Left Havelock North travelling on SH2 to Wairoa, to Tiniroro Road, past Te Reinga Falls onto Ereputi and Ruakuturi Roads, finally coming to the entrance of Papuni Station. At this stage Derek had caught up with us in his new, once spotless vehicle. Along the main farm track it was very wet and at times the truck found it hard to get traction - a wee bit scary. Arrived at our destination after three to four hours driving. As we were changing into our tramping gear, a couple of shepherds on horseback rode past, each with a small dead pig slung over the saddle. “Our kai,” was their greeting on being asked if they were competing in the pig hunting competition.

Set off trying to follow the white markers along the route across farmland: up and down, sidling, avoiding blackberry and hawthorn bushes, and inevitably gathering mud. Every time we moved, the mud would act as a suction - I'm sure I gathered a kilo of mud per boot!! Yes, I had been forewarned by the station manager that the ground was a bit boggy - too right it was! After two hours we stopped for a lunch break under a tree and a rock outcrop [the only non-muddy spot] with views down to the Ruatikuri River. After some discussion decided to return to the truck as there was no way we would reach the falls and return in daylight. As we were navigating our way back, the A party of three had made the same decision. To be able to visit these magnificent cascades it needs to be a summer trip and to stay overnight in the nearby packers accommodation.

Onward to Poverty Bay, passing through Patutahi, along Ngatapa back roads to arrive at Eastwoodhill Arboretum at about 7:00pm. We had the two bunk rooms with six in each plus the company of three young people (a couple and one young woman from Napier).

Pohokura

Showered, cooked our shared meal and sat around relaxing before heading for bed. Sunday dawned drizzly and we all set out on the long track which took us up to the high viewpoint - about 1-2 hours. Back for lunch then everyone either stayed indoors enjoying the fire or wandered the many tracks. There were still trees with their autumn colours, the camellias and rododendrons were beginning to flower and the birdlife - mainly tuis and bellbirds - filled the air with song. Another gourmet shared meal before board games, and Derek and Annie serenaded us with songs from the 60s and 70s.



The weather for Gisborne on Monday was terrible with 50+mm of rain forecast from midnight to 6:00a.m. Our thoughts of walking the old railway line at Otoko soon disappeared and, after some discussion, decided to return home via SH1. After a leisurely start we departed for Wairoa at about 9:00am, bypassing Osler's Cafe [oh, the moans from the back] and drove along the Marine Parade before walking up to the knoll to view the river mouth, estuary, and coastline south to Mahia. I accompanied Lex back to the truck whilst the rest of the party walked alongside the estuary for us all to unite and eat our lunch by the picnic area. Although we didn't do any serious tramping, there was good camaraderie amongst the group. Thank you Lex for all the driving!

Party: Susan Lopdell (organiser), Anne Cantrick, Debra Seek, Brent Hickey, Anne Doig, Glenda Hooper, Anne and Lex Smith, Rodger Burn, Garry Smith, Derek Boshier, Janice Love

2411**MacIntosh Hut Area****24 June 2018**

A cracker July Sunday saw a single carload of four club members head out to Kaweka Lakes car park. A visit to MacIntosh Hut was the scheduled day's walk for us - this takes some two hours into the Kawekas and two hours back to the car park so a not too demanding walk was expected with fine weather and no winds. The drop down to the Tutaekuri was refreshing; the river was clear and fast-flowing - a choice day for Janice to take photos. We saw an elusive morepork stay a safe distance ahead of us watching our chosen path to take along the track. The hut had a couple of hunters based there from Northland trying their luck with a seven-month old Labrador and her skills in deer-hunting. I don't know if she was a help or a hindrance! After a brief lunch we made good time to return to the carpark, back into Hastings. Thanks, Dillon, for providing your vehicle and for an enjoyable day that was had by all.

Party: Dale Barnard, Dillon Lavona, Janice Love, Brent Hickey

2412**In Napier Again****Wed 27 June 2018**

A smaller party than usual met at Humber Street to walk around parts of Ahuriri Estuary and Hospital Hill. The weather was sunny with a slightly chilly breeze and everyone set off with great enthusiasm. The first part covered the estuary walk where we were able to refresh our local knowledge by reading the DoC information panels that are scattered along the route. We also observed what birdlife there was poking among the mud and stones – the top prize always seems to go to whoever can spot a royal spoonbill! Back along the main road, over the bridge at Pandora Pond and through Yacht Club territory we went [we're going on a bear hunt?] before stopping for a snack on the grassy bank overlooking Scapa Flow [which, as we all know, is named after the famous bay in Scotland that houses the submarines for the Royal Navy]. We watched the comings and goings connected with the fishing fleet and, after resuming our walk, paused to look at the Veronica Memorial which commemorates the mooring place of that NZ ship whose crew gave such enormous assistance to the people of Napier after the Feb 1931 earthquake.

Then it was a swing inland to the bottom of the hill and a trudge up Goldsmith Road, one of the steepest streets in the area. A kereru was spotted in the trees here. This is where the 65th Regiment's kitchen was located in the 1860s complete with bake ovens built into the hillsides, according to the historic record. We then had an interesting wander along Hospital Terrace below the former hospital site which is now mostly demolished. Lots of classy apartment blocks have already been built along the southern end of this road and no doubt there will be many more in the future. At the junction with Napier Terrace, we stopped to look at Hinepare, the old Nurses' Home which is now boarded-up and deserted with a very shabby exterior. No-one seems to be able to tell us what is scheduled to happen on the site – apparently the 1952 building is the largest local example of the post-war modernist style. From there it was down to the Chaucer Road steps – with another kereru frolicking in the trees at the top. Or maybe it was the same one following us.....our group then crossed

the road and turned right to head towards the sea. We noted the old tram shelter with its murals, went past the oldest cottage on the hill as well as the ship cottage further along and then over the bypass to Breakwater Road and along the walkway. We treated ourselves to a lunch stop in the playground at Spriggs Park before walking through the Ahuriri CBD and back to our cars in Humber Street.

Party: Rodger Burn, Christine Hardie, Garry Smith [organiser], Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Graeme May, Elizabeth McKerris

2413

Koanui to McNeill's Farms

08 July 2018

Luckily we had a reasonable day for the walk - although cool it was overcast and windy. I started off by collecting Peter McNeill from his Waimarama Road farm then going cross-country in my Hilux through his farm and into Fred Chesterman's to the farm sheds and cattle sale rostrum which timed with the arrival of the club trip members. Marion had promised and over-delivered a smoko fit for kings at the rostrum which we devoured but left plenty for the farm smokos next week too! It was an opportunity for the people to meet Peter and Fred in their home surroundings, and a few words of introduction by them about their farms and operation.

Peter drove my vehicle back to Waimarama with us while we walked over Koanui, through the boundary gate and so into Peter's farm. One unusual point of interest was the limestone rock formations that run north-south for some distance and have eroded to leave upstanding pillars, outcrops and knobs. He has planted extensively in blocks and sidings with 18 varieties of eucalyptus, Tasmanian Blackwoods [*Acacia melanoxin*] and alders, many of which are now mature trees. Towards the end we climbed a moderate hill above the woolshed to gain great views over to Waimarama township, the coast and Bare Island/Motu-o-Kura. Following this I transported the car drivers back cross-country to Fred's farm so they could go around to Waimarama Road and re-collect their passengers. I was pleased to see two visitors: Samantha and Felicity on their first trip with us. Also Dale, a newer member with friend, Hannah plus Dillon. We hope to see them back with us for future trips and enjoyment of the outdoors. JM

Party: Susan Lopdell, Jude Hay, Anne Doig, Marion Nicholson, Fred Chesterman, Dillon Lavona, Barbara Phillips, Samantha and Felicity Charman, Glenda Hooper, Raewyn Ricketts, Dale Barnard, Hannah, John Montgomerie [organiser]

2414

Iron Whare – Kaweka Ranges

22 July 2018

We changed the proposed trip due to the promise of blizzard conditions at Tongariro National Park. Instead, on this sunny Hawkes Bay Sunday, we drove to Makahu Saddle to walk in to Kaweka Flats Bivvy. While the snow damage from the storm of 2016 is still evident, the track is clear, and we had no trouble walking in to the hut for our lunch. There were plenty of whiteheads (of the avian variety) to view in the bushy sections. We also heard kakariki in the distance as well as the usual bush birds. There had been no deer sign

until we were nearly at Iron Whare where a deer must have walked along the track just a few minutes before us.



Those who visited the dunny at Iron Whare enjoyed quite reflection on the seat with no walls to obscure their view - no wonder it is a fair distance from the hut. The return tramp was just as easy and we were back in the truck heading for home by 4:00 p.m.

Party: Dale Barnard, Kim Morgan, Dillon Lavona, Hannah, Peter Berry, Anne Doig, Glenda Hooper [organiser]

2415 MacIntosh Hut and Blowhard Bush

Wed 25 July 2018

Rodger had told us that the trip into MacIntosh would take two hours and he was right. It was a glorious sunny winter day without any wind and we arrived at exactly midday. Someone was in residence but out and about. We had a very relaxed lunch hour before our party of five returned over the ever-changing track: beech forest, clay pans, manuka scrub, tall kanuka, a solid down, a very rigid bridge (it's a pity the three-wire bridge has been removed) and a very definite up to the carpark. Again, a two-hour walk.

The most unexpected part of the day was on the way home. As Christine drove along Lakes Road towards Napier - Taihape Road, she spied two dogs lurking motionless on the roadside in the shade of the pine trees. We had already seen posters put into the hut which included a photo of these dogs which had scarpered from their owner on 1st July at Littles Clearing. They had been roaming in the Kawekas since then – it is thought that they had

been over the J at one stage as their footprints had been seen in the snow in mid-July. DoC had diverted staff over the previous 25 days to track them and two helicopter sorties had already been made with a third booked for next week with a professional tracker who was to come up from the South Island. The alarm centred around what what they might have eaten - kiwi??? This is one of the areas where the kiwi recovery team works and there was huge concern that the dogs would have targeted the birds as easy meat, so to speak. Both HB Today and The DominionPost had had several articles asking for assistance to locate them. As it turned out, all fears were unfounded. The dogs had not eaten well at all – their ribs were clearly visible and they had no energy to run away when Christine approached them. In fact, the smaller of the two kept collapsing and had to be carried to the truck.

The dogs were quite happy to accept part of a sandwich each [*ed. note – this is where Mr Hare's enormous food supply came in handy. He is often given stick for the number of meals he requires on a tramp so in this case he still had supplies whereas everyone else had eaten theirs, leaving only chocolate scraps and licorice both entirely unsuitable for canines. For once his careful preparation had paid off!*] and they rode uncomplainingly in a boot-locker to Havelock North where Rodger kindly offered to look after them overnight. DoC and the HDC Pound staff picked them up early the next day after a good night with Rodger's wife, Pam who is something of an authority on animal welfare.

Thanks, guys and girls, for coming and making this a very enjoyable and successful day.
GRH

Party: Christine Hardie, Rick Bowker, Jan Hawke, Anne Doig, Graeme Hare [organiser]

The alternative team (Fab Five) elected for an easier day and Christine dropped us off at the F&B shelter at Blowhard Bush. Time we had a-plenty and the weather was good so we ambled up Tui Track and on to Lowry Shelter via Rewi Track. We decided it was far too early for lunch so we had smoko. [Lunchette no. 1?] Continuing at a snail's pace we headed off to the Kaweka lookout where the views were great thanks to clear blue sky. We took the opportunity to brush up on our compass skills before retreating to a sunny glade near the shelter for proper lunch. We then walked a few kms along Blowhard Road before returning along Tui Track to our starting point via Troglodyte Track for another brew-up while waiting for Christine and the truck. They turned up a bit late at 3:45pm with a couple of non-paying passengers!

RB

Party: Lynn Walch, Scott Campbell, Roy Frost, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn



2416	Kiwi Saddle Hut	18 – 19 August 2018
-------------	------------------------	----------------------------

I understand this year the Fixtures Sub-committee wanted to include trips to our three huts - a very good plan as it's easy not to visit them. Prior to departing on our winter trip to Kiwi Saddle Hut I did not expect that we would have the pleasure of tramping in snow. I was wrong. By not hurrying to the hut the cruisy ones enjoyed walking through the white stuff. As the day progressed our numbers kept increasing: twelve from HTC plus four young hunters and their dog, Stella. The inside of the hut became more sauna-like as clothes aired, gas cookers were lit and sixteen people socialised. In fact the lads went out into the snow to cut firewood. I guess they were not expecting a full house.

You may wonder how the sleeping arrangements were settled: four mates above the door with feet over the edge resting on a rafter, nine on the sleeping platforms and three on the floor. I was surprised how early everyone climbed into their sleeping bags for what was a cosy night's sleep!!! Once the boys decided it was time to get up and go hunting we were all awake and doing a breakfast dance.

Rather than splitting our team into two we all decided to return via the Smith-Russell Track which was rather nice and pretty. In fact we had a long lunch at the truck and were back at Havelock North by 3pm. I enjoyed going to our club hut and thank the members who have, over recent years, given many hours to maintain and improve our three huts both in the Kawekas and the Ruahines. They are a credit to the club and we should all be proud of them. I am sure the people that use them are quietly grateful for the convenience of them especially if it's a cold stormy night.

Thank you for coming to Kiwi Saddle Hut and to David for driving.
GRH

Party: David Blake, Keri Blake, Mary Gray, Derek Boshier, Anne Cantrick, Scott Campbell, Anne Doig, Janice Love, Randall Goldfinch, Joan Ruffell, Dale Barnard, Graeme Hare [organiser]



Shelter from the storm....

2417	A-Frame [Travers] Hut - Ruahines	02 September 2018
-------------	---	--------------------------

Party A: A-Frame to Stanfield and out. On way down from the Bay the weather was not looking flash, neither was the forecast but at the Tamaki West roadend the rain stopped and a clearance was happening.

The A party did the climb up to the A Frame hut [shelter now] on Takapari Road, had a smoko stop then north on the road to enter the track into the leatherwood towards Takapari Trig. The old original Stanfield down track is sign-posted by DoC but indicating that it was not maintained from the top it did not look too bad. Anyway along and down the new track we went, consistently steep to Stanfield Hut in the valley of the Tamaki River. Lunch was consumed with the sound of rain on the roof and the need for a rain jacket as we left but soon stopped to our relief. After about a kilometre in the river we took Holmes Ridge Track or road as it is back to the truck. A good wee grunt of 6½ hours and 13km, I discovered I

Pohokura

was not so fit! Thanks to Peter for the driving to get us all there. As we left the weather was closing in so we were lucky to keep dry.

Party: Anne Cantrick, Dale Barnard, John Montgomerie

Party B: A-Frame hut and out. Travers Hut in the Southern Ruahine Range, inland from Dannevirke, is a tramp I have long wanted to do and this was to be the day. At 7:00 a.m. our party of seven set off from Te Aute Road. By 8:15 we had collected Dave Mulinder at the northern end of Dannevirke. Then at 9:00 a.m. we were passing through the grassed picnic area with picnic tables and flushing toilets (Dave says Dannevirke has all the amenities). The start of the track is zig-zagged and gravelled and through podocarp forest which has a similar feel to Sunrise Track. Gosh, the first hour took a long time but after a refuelling stop we continued our journey. The last hour (and without another refuelling stop) was uphill, initially steep over roots and rocks. Higher up and through leatherwood the journey is still steep but there is less shingle, more slush and mud.



By 12:00 p.m. we were at the A-Frame Hut where the hut book showed the A Party had left at 11:00). The hut was a welcome shelter from the cold wind. However it is neglected and DoC describes it as derelict; due to constant vandalism it is not maintained and all facilities have been removed. There is a four-wheel drive track from Pohangina Valley on the Manawatu side of the range which was constructed by the NZ Forest Service early in the

1970s to allow access for planting *Pinus contorta* for erosion control. The A-Frame Hut was built to accommodate forest service workers.

12:30 p.m. saw us begin our return journey. Now, about the area of mud, slush and leatherwoods: it was here that I had numerous spills on to my backside. I found it difficult to avoid the larger areas of slush so my boots became covered in mud. It was almost a pleasure to get to the area of roots and rock but, ah, it was steep. Going down required thought as to whether to go down forwards or backwards and the party below looked to be straight below. The promised rain was kind as it came when we were on the more level path and was to last about 15 minutes. We had a few rest stops on the way down and were back at the truck by 2:45 p.m. The A Party was to join us at 3:15 p.m. Thanks to all trampers who shared this trip and to Peter, our driver.
AD

Party: Peter Berry (driver), Glenda Hooper, Maureen Gilchrist, Dave Mulinder, Anne Doig (organiser)

HTC BIKE TRIPS



Cycling Napier Area

Wed 16 May 2018

Due to the adverse weather forecast for the Kaweka Ranges, the decision was taken to put our scheduled Wednesday trip along Black Birch Range to the Clover Patch on hold - for the third time! An alternative plan was quickly put together by Rodger, Garry and Christine so the word went out and nine keen members met at Park Island Reserve at 10:00 a.m. with the intention of cycling through the Napier area towards the foreshore in whatever direction took our fancy for as far as we wanted to go in the time available....the weather was better than anticipated down on the coast - sunny with some cloud, mild, with not much wind, (initially), and all flat going!

We followed a somewhat circular route through Onekawa, Marewa, around Maraenui Golf Links, and along Te Awa Road with Graeme mostly in the lead checking out all the new sub-divisions along the way - he should have been a Real Estate Agent! We eventually crossed Marine Parade onto the cycleway, where we stopped for a quick snack at approximately 11:15am, using a clump of trees as shelter from the wind which was increasing in intensity. We pressed on regardless through the Port area to Pandora where we paused to consider our options. Des, Heather, Lynn and Scott decided to carry on to Snapper Park for lunch - Graeme and Elizabeth arrived 15 minutes later - while the rest of the group chose to return to Park Island and/or home by various routes. After an enjoyable time, the party of six set off on the last leg of the journey, being rewarded for their efforts

by a strong tailwind which got them to Pandora in record time. From there they followed the cycle trails through the Ahuriri wetlands to Prebensen Drive and then home.

Sometimes trips that could be classed as “salvage operations” wind up being more enjoyable - those who took part would most likely agree with this observation!

Cyclists: Elizabeth McKerras, Lynn Walch, Heather Stephenson, Christine Hardie, Garry Smith, Graeme Hare, Des Smith, Rodger Burn, Scott Campbell (organiser)

Tuki Tuki Circuit

Wed 04 July 2018

After a run of weather-influenced cancellations the cyclists were keen to take advantage of perfect weather conditions and 13 took to the cycle paths from River road Havelock by the Tuki Tuki. The cycle paths were in good condition in spite of heavy rain in the weeks prior and it took us no time to re-group at Clive Bakery for a lengthy smoko. We continued from Clive to the Hastings Showgrounds via Whakatu cycle paths and then back via Hastings streets in Windsor Park region to our starting point in Havelock North. A very pleasant easy 31km ride was enjoyed by all and nice to see Marion back on her bike. RB

Cyclists: Christine Hardie, Joan Ruffell, Lynn Walch, Anne Cantrick, Marion Nicholson, Elizabeth McKerras, Mr and Mrs Lyn Gentry, Garry Smith, Pete Hewitt, Alasdair Shaw, Scott Campbell, Rodger Burn (organiser)

Trails from Pakowhai Park

Wed 18 July 2018

The last week of the school holidays and the weather was just great for our group of cyclists. Our traditional starting point at Pakowhai Country Park is currently undergoing reconstruction with a roundabout being put in as part of the expressway extension from Havelock North so we started off from the alternative Farndon Road car park next to the river. From there we briskly followed the cycle paths to Fernhill where Graeme ordered a smoko stop. We then carried on over Omaha Bridge and past the church to Swamp Road. This stretch is often a grind but today it passed quickly and soon we were at Puketapu Park where we had lunch along with large numbers of children from a kura kaupapa who were using the facilities. Mr Lyn indulged himself with something in the pub and joined us before our return lap. We moved along the north side of the Tutaekuri to Taradale where three local riders left us to go home. Des headed off to parts unknown as he frequently does [you can check him on Strava]. Forty-one pleasant kilometres had passed without incident.

Cyclists: Lyn Walsh, Maureen Gilchrist, Christine Hardie, Roy Frost, Graeme Hare, Mr Lyn Gentry, Des Smith, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn [organiser]

Otane Circuit

Wed 01 August 2018

Ten of us drove down to meet up at the Highway 50/Wakarara Road gravel pit at 9:30 a.m. In perfect cycling conditions we headed off in a westerly direction up Wakarara Road. After a leisurely ride gradually uphill to Hardy Road turn-off, we decided to stop and have our morning tea break. Whilst relaxing on the side of the road, enjoying the beautiful sunny conditions, we discussed our options for the remainder of the day's ride. It was eventually decided that the cycling party would split into two groups: six members elected to return down Wakarara Road across SH50 and on to Plantation Road before looping around to the Ongaonga General Store and Café. The remaining four of us - Alasdair, Scott, Graeme and Des - decided to continue up to the top of Hardy Road, and then travel along Blackburn Rd to complete the circuit. We would then ride along SH50 to join up with the others for our coffee/lunch break at Ongaonga.

The views from the top of Hardy Road were stunning. With the snow-capped Ruahine Ranges as a backdrop it was a spectacular 360° view. It was possible to identify many of the familiar old tramping hut locations and the routes that we had travelled along on past tramping trips. It was a challenging grunt on our bikes to get up to the highest point on Hardy Road but our reward was the very easy and enjoyable downhill ride right thru to SH50 at the bottom of Blackburn Road. We were able to ride quite safely at speeds of up to 55km/hr on some of the lower tar-sealed downhill sections of this road. There was virtually no vehicle traffic at all on this section so we made the most of the perfect cycling conditions; what a great adrenalin buzz it was....The historic church on Blackburn Road, which was built in 1911 by the Bibby family, was well worth our investigation. We were all very impressed with its stained glass windows and the immaculate condition of the church and its surrounding grounds - such a credit to the local community.

We all enjoyed catching up with one another and swapping tall stories at the Ongaonga Café with everyone in agreement that we had all had a thoroughly enjoyable day. According to my smart phone, Strava app, the distance covered was 37.5km, 2hr 38mins moving, with a max elevation of 541metres. DS

Cyclists: Lynn Walch, Joan Ruffell, Christine Hardie, Rodger Burn, Jim Hewes,
Alasdair Shaw, Scott Campbell, Graeme Hare, Garry Smith,
Des Smith [organiser]

Cycle Your Hearts Out

Wed 15 August 2018

This was the day of cloud and constant winds, from moderately strong to what felt like gale force. But the Boots on Bikes members like a challenge now and again so we were undeterred! From Guppy Road in Taradale we headed off to Awatoto to join the coastal cycleway. All went well till we got to the rail bridge just past the Waitangi Airfield [where we were able to see the devastation wrought by heavy rain and flooding last month]. The tide was in and the trail was underwater! However, the fearless among us [Alasdair, Garry, Christine, Maureen, Scott] were not prepared to go back and we knew that there is a

concrete bottom to the cycleway at this point so it was now the Charge of the Bike Brigade! We hurtled through the water at speed to come out the other side successfully. The other riders turned back and sought a higher route past the Agrow site and on to the road by the fertiliser works.

The wind was a side-on blower at this stage but we heroically carried on to the Marine Parade, Napier Port and round the bend to Ahuriri. By this stage some of us were feeling chilly so we unanimously decided to have a pit stop at the Kitchen Café for hot drinks. This is where you can pretend you are a Parisian sitting on the boulevard near the Champs Elysée.

After said refreshments it was on our bikes again and forward to the Iron Pot, past Bluewater and out to the main road, round to the estuary and over to Embankment Bridge. At this stage the intrepid leader said she was leaving [as previously announced] to head back to base and then on to another appointment. The rest of the crew debated whether to go to Bay View and back before heading home. By this time the wind was very strong and would be a header all the way home. In the end everyone decided to go back so it was off to Prebensen Drive and then through Tamatea and Greenmeadows before reaching the cars. All up, it was a 34km journey with a couple more kilometres for those who biked to the initial meeting point.

Cyclists: Christine Hardie [organiser/scribe], Rodger Burn, Garry Smith, Lynn Walch, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Scott Campbell, Heather Stephenson, Anne Cantrick, Maureen Gilchrist, Des Smith

Taradale – Awatoto

Wed 29 August 2018

Once again the mid-week group managed a "Houdini Act" and got home dry before the forecast rain arrived. An initial group of 15 met at the Evers-Swindell reserve in Clive, some having cycled from Havelock North and others from Taradale. We welcomed Peter Bailey, another keen cyclist, before we took off and followed the picturesque cycle pathways through to Black Bridge where Joan and Alasdair joined us. The pathways were deserted as we continued on in the face of the wind but before too long our destination was in sight, much to the relief of Graeme Hare.

The Clifton Cafe has undergone refurbishment recently and allows for a very relaxed stopover with a menu to suit which ticked all the boxes. After a lengthy rest we retraced our steps enjoying a tail wind and, as usual, some left us at Black Bridge to follow the cycle paths to Havelock North while the others continued on their way to Clive and home. A very enjoyable day had by all.

RB

Cyclists: Heather Stephenson, Lyn Walch, Christine Hardie, Pam Pike, Sharon Wellwood, Joan Ruffell, Elizabeth McKerras, Anne Cantrick, Scott Thompson, Allan Russell, Peter Bailey, Des Smith, Garry Smith, Graeme Hare, Alasdair Shaw, Graeme May, Rodger Burn (organiser)

Committee News

New Members: welcome to Dillon Lavona who has recently joined the club and welcome back to Rick Bowker, a returning member. Dillon has been to Mackintosh Hut and Iron Whare with HTC as well as walking with us across the Maraetotara range from Fred's place to Waimarama Road while Rick has been out with the mid-week group a number of times recently.

Club Strategy: to ensure good decisions relating to the club's future are made we have prepared a Club Strategy based on five major areas of concern. These are membership, management, attendance, transport and huts [one of our hut strategies was to visit our huts more often and in the last four months the club has visited all three club huts). This strategy was emailed out to all members so, if you didn't receive it, contact Glenda and she will post/email you a copy. Thanks to those who gave us feedback on this strategy because to be successful this needs to be embraced by the club as a whole. We are now working on the implementation of the strategy and again welcome input from all members.

Annual General Meeting: the AGM is to be held on Wednesday November 21st. This includes the election of club officers (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Club Captain, Secretary) as well as seven committee members. Please consider coming on to the committee as it is always beneficial to have new ideas.

Social Activities: we had an enjoyable dinner at the Havelock North Club at the end of August while in July a small group went to Super Strike for an evening of Ten Pin Bowling. The club meeting night on 19th Dec will start early with a pot luck meal and will include Christmas festivities. More details on this later.

Department of Conservation: Lex and John have had a productive meeting with Moana Smith-Dunlop who is standing in for Connie Norgate while she is on secondment to Auckland DoC. During this meeting they thanked DoC for the new mattresses provided for Kiwi Saddle Hut and discussed contorta control in the Kiwi Saddle area which has been let slip. During this meeting it was decided to join with DoC to promote both Conservation Week and our Club's profile by holding a "Conservation Week Tramp" open to the public. This will be promoted in DoC's newsletter and on their website – it will be to Sunrise Hut in the Ruahine Range on Wednesday 19th September with Janice Love leading.

ITEMS for SALE

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

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

These can all be ordered from **Penny Isherwood** Ph 844 9994 or email p.isherwood@orcon.net.nz

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

Heretaunga Tramping Club Meeting and Trip Information

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Chairperson	Speaker and Topic	Host/Supper
2018			
26 Sep	Graeme Hare	All Members	Brent Hickey
10 Oct	Pam Turner	John Berry Anchor Island, Dusky Sound	Judy McBride
24 Oct	Lex Smith	All Members	John Montgomerie
07 Nov	Alan Berry	How to Make your Tramping More Enjoyable	Raewyn Ricketts
21 Nov	Jude Hay	Annual General Meeting	Graeme Hare
05 Dec	Penny Isherwood	Quiz Night	Marion Nicholson
19 Dec	John Montgomerie	Christmas Party	Anne Doig
2019			
16 Jan	Brent Hickey	All Members	Pam Turner
30 Jan	Susan Lopdell	Philip Mardon The Story behind Percy and Nell	Jude Hay
13 Feb	Pam Turner	Produce Auction Proceeds to Westpac Rescue Helicopter	Janice Love
27 Feb	Graeme Hare	All Members	Brent Hicky
13 Mar	Lex Smith	General Auction Anything + Everything Proceeds to Rescue Helicopter	Judy McBride
27 Mar	Alan Berry	All Members	John Montgomerie

Meetings Sub-Committee: Graeme Hare, Philip Mardon, Penny Isherwood

We want ideas for club night speakers and activities.

Supper: Put out cups, wash dishes, leave kitchen clean and tidy, and generally help Joan and Alasdair. Sweep floors and check that heaters and lights are off at the end of the meeting. Don't drag the furniture as it marks the floor.

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 specified an "A" trip would have a **HARD** grading and a "B" trip a **MEDIUM** grading.

GEAR LIST FOR DAY & WEEKEND TRAMPS		
DAY TRIPS		WEEKEND TRIPS
<u>Wear/Carry</u>	<u>Carry</u>	All items listed for day trip plus
Pack and pack liner	Map & compass	Sleeping bag
Boots and gaiters	High energy snacks	Sleeping mat
Socks	At least a litre of water	Food for three additional meals
Parka and over-trousers	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 vehicle: Complete set of clothing for the return trip and a mug with tea/coffee/chocolate 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

TRIP LIST 2018



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

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

Wed 26 Sept Cycle in CHB

Somewhere in the countryside which will be at its springtime best.

Organiser: Alasdair Shaw Ph 877 6225

30 Sept The Hogget – Kaweka FP \$15 Map BJ37

Access via Timahanga Station [with permission from Jack Roberts]; up through the old logging track to Tahuhunui Range ridge and from there to The Hogget high point. Return the same way.

Wed 03 October Waipataki to Aropaoanui

A walk along the coastal track; maybe a look at the nikau grove.

Organiser: Lynn Walch Ph 650 6965

Wed 10 October Members' Choice

People will decide closer to the date whether to go walking or riding somewhere. Let us know your favourite!

Organiser: Rodger Burn Ph 8776322

14 October MacIntosh Hut and Plateau \$15 Map BJ37

From Lawrence road end carpark, over Tutaekuri Bridge, a short distance up the Donald River to the plateau and around to MacIntosh Hut and return.

Organiser: Des Smith Ph 022 3706 118 [cellphone only]

Wed 17 October Cycle from Whakapirau Road

Up the hill and around the Raukawa Highlands in whichever direction has the best wind conditions.

Organiser: Graeme Hare Ph 844 8656

19-22 October (Labour Weekend) Mt Egmont \$40 Maps BH29/BJ28/29
 Opportunities to have either a base for day walks or over-nighting in the many huts in this park; options include an ascent of the summit, walking part or all of the round the mountain track, doing the Holly Hut/Pouakai Hut circuit, visiting Tahurangi Lodge or Maketawa Hut. All are from North Egmont.
Organiser: Susan Lopdell Ph 844 6697

Wed 24 October Bell Rock – Maungaharuru Range
Organiser: Roy Frost Ph 021 0238 4519 [cellphone only]

28 October Makahu Saddle \$15 Maps BJ37
 From Makahu Saddle carpark do the Ngahere Loop cross country to the Black Birch track and around to Littles Clearing.

Wed 31 October Cycle to Waimarama
 Meet at Lake Lopez to go to Mohi Bush area via Maraetotora Road or out to Waimarama and up the big hill.
Organiser: Jim Hewes Ph 877 6784

Wed 7 November Lake Tutira Walk
 Walk from the lake up the track to Table Mountain (494m) and along the tops to enjoy coastal views.
Organiser: Garry Smith Ph 844 9931

11 November Cairn Trip Free Maps BJ37
 Our annual trip to remember those club members who did not come home from WW2: a short service of remembrance is timed for 11a.m. at our Memorial Cairn on top of Kaweka J. It is not often that this pilgrimage happens on the exact day of November 11.
Organiser: HTC Committee

Wed 14 November Seafeld Road Cycle Ride
 A choice of something for the hill addicts or the cycle paths to the Bayview area starting from Park Island.
Organiser: Christine Hardie Ph 844 9590

Wed 21 November Clover Patch – Kaweka FP
 An easy tramp [third time lucky] from Littles Clearing to the Clover Patch via Black Birch Bivvy.
Organiser: Scott Campbell Ph 879 8554

24/25 November Stanfield and Cattle Creek Huts \$15 Maps BL36
 In from Tamaki West Road past Stanfield Hut then on to Cattle Creek Hut for the night; out via Apiti Track to Ngamoko Roadend.

Wed 28 November Cycleways Ride

From Farndon Road carpark along stop banks to Fernhill and down SH50 to Hastings Golf Club at Bridge Pa for lunch; return via Flaxmere and Ormond Road.

Organiser: Rodger Burn Ph 877 6322

Wed 05 December Tangoio Beach

Walk along beach tracks, subject to favourable tides.

Organiser: Joan Ruffell Ph 877 6225

9 December Parks Peak Hut - Ruahines \$15 Maps BK37

Along Mangleton Road to Sentry Box track access, up and along to the cute cottage of Parks Peak Hut. The very keen could go down to Upper Makaroro Hut and back as a side trip.

Organiser: Janice Love Ph 877 5442

Wed 12 December Mystery Cycle Ride

Another fun day with Mister Lyn.

Organiser: Lyn Gentry Ph 875 0542

Wed 19 December Mid-week Social Day

Walk or ride somewhere to celebrate another successful year and a good holiday ahead.

Organiser: Christine Hardie Ph 844 9590

Late December and through January 2019 period Midweek Group Activities

During this time period we can have cycle rides on request – let us know what you are willing to lead.

Organiser: Rodger Burn Ph 877 6322

6 January 2019 Beach Trip \$15 Maps BK37

We will drive past Lake Tutira to Waikare and follow Waikare Road to the DoC camping ground which is near the river mouth. From here we will walk southwards along a long stretch of beach on the Hawkes Bay coastal walkway. Further south there have been slips which have closed the walkway so once leaving the beach we will go as far as we can and then return to our transport.

Organiser: Glenda Hooper Ph 877 4183

13 January 2019	Poutaki Hut	\$15	Maps BK37
We will hopefully get permission to drive through Gwavas Forest to Leatherwood Road to start our walk; alternatively we will start at Yeomans Carpark on Wakarara Road, go down the new track to the Makaroro River and then on to the forest section of Wakarara Road via Dutch Creek. [Leatherwood Road is two kilometres along this road]. From there it is a steady climb to Poutaki Hut which is sited just off the Wakarara ridgeline. From Poutaki Hut some may wish to continue northwards along the Wakarara Range, then down to Wakarara Road, Poutaki Road to Duff Road to be picked up while the rest will retrace their steps. Another option for the day is to walk or bike through to Ellis Hut. This can either be a loop trip using forestry roads and Yeomans Track or just an in-and-out along the track.			
19/20 January	Te Hoe River area	\$20	Maps BG38
From Plateau Road walk into Upper Whirinaki Hut via Ridge Track (6-9 bunks; three hours). A Central Whirinaki - Upper Whirinaki circuit via Taumutu Link Track is a possibility for those wanting to stretch their legs. This is a beautiful area with abundant birdlife – if you haven't been in this forest park before, come and enjoy it with HTC. Organiser: Susan Lopdell Ph 844 6697			
27 January	Waipawa River	\$15	Maps BK36
On a sunny day, as an alternative or an addition to a walk to Middle Stream, we will head down the Waipawa River from the end of North Block Road to Waipawa River Gorge. The bottom stretch of this gorge is reportedly only two metres wide. The return trip should take about three hours so there will be plenty of time to walk the Swamp Track as well. Organiser: Glenda Hooper Ph 877 4183			
2/3 February	Western Ruahines	\$30	Maps BL36
Iron Gate Hut from Heritage Lodge: from Table Flat Road, it is an easy 40-minute walk into Heritage Lodge - have a leisurely tramp, stay here overnight and amble around the environs. Continue on an undulating track, cross some unbridged side streams to six-bunk Irongate Hut [about four hours]. This hut is nestled on a grassy terrace above the Oroua River. Return the same way on Sunday. Organiser: John Montgomerie Ph 877 7358			
17 February	Tutira Walkway	\$15	Maps BJ39
This tramp will start near the Lake Tutira camping ground and follow either Kahikanui or Galbraith's Track to the hill tops on the eastern side of the lake to meet the ridgeline track not far from Ridgemount Road carpark. We will then follow the ridgeline track southwards to descend to the lake by Para's Track. This tramp should take about five hours but those wishing for an easier day could walk the lake side tracks or visit the Tutira Arboretum which is a short walking distance from the lake. Organiser: Anne Doig Ph 878 8694			

2/3 March	Maungataniwha Lizards	\$20	Maps BH39
Join Mike Lusk at Maungataniwha to explore the area, botanise, look for wetas and reptiles, and see the good work that has been done in restoring the area to native bush.			
Organiser: Mike Lusk Ph 877 8328			