

<b>Club Patron:</b>	Jim Glass		
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Lex Smith	877 4087	smithers@xtra.co.nz
<b>Club Captain:</b>	John Montgomerie	877 7358	monts@outlook.co.nz
<b>Secretary:</b>	Glenda Hooper	877 4183	hoopberry@orcon.net.nz
<b>Editor:</b>	Randall Goldfinch	845 4913	randall.g@xtra.co.nz
<b>Committee:</b>	Joan Ruffell	877 6225	cbird011@gmail.com
	Janet Titchener	027 234 1687	janet.titchener@gmail.com
	Scott Campbell	879 8554	bellmark@xtra.co.nz
	Jude Hay	027 517 4275	judehay25@gmail.com
	Alan Berry	877 7223	alan.berry@xtra.co.nz

**Sub Committees:**

<b>Truck</b>	<u>Lex Smith</u> , Janice Love, Peter Berry, Peter Hewitt
<b>Fixtures</b>	<u>John Montgomerie</u> , Susan Lopdell, Scott Campbell, Jude Hay Glenda Hooper, Rodger Burn (Mid-Week Group)
<b>Huts</b>	<u>John Montgomerie</u> , Janice Love, Randall Goldfinch, Scott Campbell
<b>Training</b>	<u>Alan Berry</u> , Scott Campbell, John Montgomerie
<b>Meetings</b>	<u>Graeme Hare</u> , Philip Mardon
<b>Social</b>	Joan Ruffell, Anne Doig
<b>Sales</b>	Penny Isherwood
<b>Scrap Book</b>	Janice Love
<b>Library</b>	Liz Pindar
<b>Supper</b>	Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw
<b>Photographic Records</b>	Janice Love
<b>Membership Records</b>	Glenda Hooper
<b>Publicity</b>	Glenda Hooper, Jude Hay, Janet Titchener, 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 at 7:30pm; visitors are most welcome.

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

The yearly cycle has turned again and here we are looking down the barrel of another annus trampingus. And another lecture in print from the sage of the front page – always something worth waiting for! Sadly, the absence of contributions about the issues that matter to trampers from the 113 other members of HTC, active or associate [but not sure if that counts life members] means that you, dear reader, get another dose of the same. Yes, more sparkling insights into the meaning of life or whatever else takes this writer's fancy. Well it's a nice thought! I do know that some people read what I write because they have given me occasional feedback - largely complimentary, I have to say, so thanks for that interest.

I took a trip through the last few years of my writings to see what has changed [or not] as we embark on 2019. A lot of my words have been dedicated in many issues of Pohokura to the management of the conservation estate; under the present government there has been an uptick with more concern being shown and money being allocated to provide resources including staffing. There now seems to be a lot more public awareness about the state of our environment and consequent demands for improvement – the long fight over the Ruataniwha dam is testament to that feeling. Worries about the effects of tourism throughout the country continue as does the emotive issue of [mammalian] pest control which has recently had a lot of publicity; whether to leave the environment alone to reach its own balance or actively care for/restore it? Everyone from the Anti-1080 Party to Genetic Rescue has a vested interest. Sadly, marine environments have not had the same high profile until recently and conditions at sea are dire in many areas.

Technology continues to evolve and many trampers now carry a small arsenal of digital and electronic equipment into the field. All good until batteries expire and we Luddites can rejoice in our skills with map and compass!

In HTC the biggest work in progress is still the future of the club. It is nearly a decade since a couple of us started banging on about our dwindling membership and current demographic status with all those implications. There have been bursts of activity with seminars, consultations and surveys [all in the club's archives by now] but no significant plans for succession have surfaced. Late last year Stuff/Fairfax media companies ran some articles about the problems facing many if not most clubs in NZ. According to Sport NZ only 22% of our population now participates in clubs; down by a third since 1998. As well as covering the major sports codes, the authors did studies of tramping clubs. Even the bigger urban clubs are undergoing downturns and their solutions vary from amalgamation to widening their repertoire of activities to giving up ownership of club huts and lodges. Online sites such as Meetup and Bucket List are hoovering up the young people these days it would seem.

Speaking of larger tramping clubs, this year is the centenary of Wellington's Tararua Tramping Club, the first in the country, the mother ship of all the clubs, so to speak. I'm sure that HTC will send its best wishes and we will be looking forward to our own Hundred Year Party soon. Only 16 years to go; wahoo.

CH

COMMITTEE

During this last year we have had four new members join and two former members rejoin so we now have a membership of 102 [financially] active and 12 associate members, three more than at the same time last year. Part of the club's strategy is to visit our club huts more frequently. In the past 12 months we have visited Kiwi Saddle Hut twice, and Waikamaka and Howletts once each on club trips (there were other visits by members working on the huts). These club trips involved 17 different club members, one of whom was on all five tramps plus one visitor. Watch your next Pohokura for some more opportunities to visit them. HTC continues to liaise with FMC and DoC; Lex and John attended the FMC meeting held in Palmerston North in October while John regularly attends Ruahine User Group [RUG] meetings. We have had a report included in Wilderlife, FMC's on-line magazine, and hope to send some more contributions to them (any volunteers?). FMC regularly sends us FMC News which is forwarded to all active members to raise awareness of what FMC does.

Mid-year Lex and John had a meeting with DoC's Moana Smith-Dunlop to discuss Kaweka issues and this led to the club hosting a Conservation Week tramp which was open to the public. Our agreement with DoC to maintain our three huts is currently being negotiated - as this is with the Director-General of Conservation we have requested that they include all three huts in one agreement rather than having one agreement for the Ruahine huts and another for Kiwi Saddle Hut. These on-going communications with FMC and DoC no doubt helped us obtain funding through the Backcountry Trust for upgrading the bench-top at Howletts. We wish to record our thanks to the Backcountry Trust for this funding

We have had a number of social gatherings in the last 12 months, starting off with a pre-Christmas camp-over/picnic at Kuripapango. Later last summer we had a pot-luck meal outside the club rooms while in July we tried our hand again at ten-pin bowling. In August we went to Havelock North Club for an evening meal. Our Facebook followers have increased by another 40% in the last year while our website receives around 100 hits a week. Thanks go to Robyn Pohlenz who has helped with Facebook posts.

Many thanks are due to Randall Goldfinch, John Montgomerie and Janice Love for the work they have done maintaining our huts over the last year and also to Randall for the production and continual development of the Pohokura including the production of a A5 magazine which we will trial for a year. Our Wednesday night entertainment has been a varied and interesting selection and our thanks go to all members and visitors who contributed. Thanks also to club members who were on sub-committees, who led tramps or helped in other ways. Our final thank you goes to landowners who kindly allow access to us; the club rarely has problems getting this permission.

For various reasons we have four people standing down from committee this year: Penny, Janet, John and Brent. On behalf of HTC we thank them for all their efforts in the past. Once again, we need to reiterate that our committee is small and needs more people on it – so, if you can [even if you have been on it before] please offer to stand on committee or put

you name down for a sub-committee. With 102 active members we should be able to form a reasonable sized committee.

Lex Smith and Glenda Hooper

## HUTS

**Howletts** had an inside replacement stainless steel bench flown in in February 2018 on the sixth attempt after lots of wasted standby time under the Back Country Trust scheme as well as paint provided by Dulux under the DoC programme for completely painting the hut in the next year or so. A bench seat was installed on the porch/deck, a replacement chair was provided as well as some firewood, tools and painting equipment. In September JM carried in netting to staple to the duck board at the tankstand; all else is in good order to serve the outdoor community. The coal stocks stood at 16 bags in September so about one bag per month on average is used. We trust users will see reason to pay a hut fee to stay there.

**Waikamaka** is all done now relating to the hut but the toilet needs shifting this summer, probably to a position to the right behind the hut above the slope down to the helipad. This will require a fly in and out with a chainsaw and gear to clear the area and dig the hole. JM **Kiwi Saddle** has had a DoC volunteer group visit the hut in the last few weeks. They removed all rubbish, relocated a candle stick holder over the bench and gave the bench a clean. They also cleaned the fibreglass toilet, emptied ash from out of the wood stove and applied stove flue sealant to the flue-to-stove joint. The wood stove grate that was removed out of the stove has finally disappeared. DoC may have removed it. On the veranda decking I have stapled galvanised wire netting - this had been requested by the public visiting the hut because it gets slippery in the winter months. I refitted a HTC poster and re-baited the rat box underneath the hut. I tried out a flue brush with extension rods to clean the spouting with a different smaller bush which I think will work better.

RG

All three club huts have been visited in a relatively short time span: Waikamaka in May, Kiwi Saddle in August and Howletts in September. It is a long time since this has happened but it was planned in the fixtures lists for this year. Once again we can be proud to provide three huts of a high standard for the outdoor fraternity.

## TRAINING

There has been very little happening here apart from Mountain Safety Council videos, *The Outdoor Code* which were shown at meetings.

## CLUB CAPTAIN

This role in HTC has not had any real demand but the majority of questions/route selection/advice has come from clubs all over the N.I. relating to the Ruahines, Kawekas and Kaimanawas.

John Montgomerie

## TRUCK

Another year with multiple truck carers and a big thank you to Peter Berry for his share of the work in dealing with the COFs and general care. Our truck has now covered 148,292km, only 4,000km since the last annual report and a very low reading for a 19-year old vehicle. It still gets a mix of mid-week outings and weekend trips but another year without any nine-day jaunt. It is well maintained and serviced. We are grateful to our very



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small pool of drivers in order of trips: Peter Berry, Christine Hardie, David Blake, Lex Smith and Peter Hewitt. Not used this year were John Berry and Ross Berry although they are still able to do the job for us. Thanks also to the team of ladies who continue to look after the interior including the mattresses and fittings.

Operating costs are down this year - no battery, tyre or driver licence costs.

Certificate of fitness every six months	\$140	
Insurance for year	\$580	
Annual Registration	\$379	
Road User Charges @ 10cents per km	\$525	
Sundry	\$168	
Diesel Fuel	\$1,037	
Tyre	<u>\$295</u>	
	<u>\$2,887</u>	
Cost per week	\$56	(2017=\$99)

The committee regularly considers whether the truck still meets our needs at an acceptable cost or if we should downsize to a smaller vehicle. This may be cheaper to run and possibly allow more drivers to participate but this would depend on what we downsize to/how many and if a trailer was then necessary. Such a vehicle/s may have some obvious advantages but if they are light or with limited ground clearance this would affect our roadend options. If a trailer was necessary this would add to costs, i.e. WoF/Registration and insurance but could also limit our limit our roadend options.

We have switched our fuel supply this year from Fleetcard (one card) to Kiwi Fuel (Mobil and BP cards) with no monthly admin costs. We keep an open mind as rules and regulations are changing and will continue to do so. The truck continues to be stored at Peter and Glenda's Te Aute Road property – a big thank you.

Lex Smith

## BOOTS ON BIKES

The fun on wheels has continued for another twelve months. A good number of people turn out regularly and we have devised a large roster of routes to choose from. The number of electric bikes has increased slowly and many of the rest of us are saving hard to get them for ourselves. Fantastic machines! In November we were invited by CAN and My Ride Hastings to a demonstration/information session [complete with drinks and finger food] which several of us attended and found very useful. Six new people have tested the waters so to speak in the last few months so maybe they will return and join us for another year. The year was rounded off with a celebration at Clearview Winery just before Xmas.

At the Annual General Meeting the following awards were presented:

TRAMPER OF THE YEAR AWARD [Stan Woon Memorial Trophy]

Presented to Dale Barnard by Glenda Hooper

LEATHERWOOD TROPHY [For valuable contribution to HTC]

Presented to Glenda Hooper by John Montgomerie

**HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC). INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2018**

INCOME	NOTES	2018	2017
Subscriptions		\$ 2,355	\$ 2,135
Fares received	1	\$ 2,511	\$ 3,285
Donations			
Hut	2	\$ 3,542	\$ 9,730
General		\$ -	\$ -
Fund-raising		\$ 3,456	\$ 3,460
Auction	3	\$ 1,361	\$ 1,406
Interest Income		\$ 5,764	\$ 5,667
Sales	6	\$ 123	\$ 140
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$ 18,865	\$ 25,811
EXPENSES			
Administration		\$ 155	\$ 182
Audit & Accountancy		\$ 275	\$ 275
General Expenses		\$ 33	\$ 60
Donations	3	\$ 1,361	\$ 1,246
Insurance (huts & equipment)		\$ 911	\$ 911
Rent of meeting room		\$ 570	\$ 668
Supper & social expenses		\$ 391	\$ 165
Library & photo album		\$ 78	\$ 35
FMC Capitation	4	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,410
Meetings		\$ 134	\$ 300
Pohokura (Bulletin)		\$ 987	\$ 1,041
Hut maintenance	5	\$ 2,583	\$ 11,395
Subscriptions		\$ 114	\$ 57
Training		\$ 12	\$ -
Transport costs	1	\$ 2,308	\$ 4,547
Truck Insurance		\$ 579	\$ 579
Equipment		\$ 255	\$ 98
Telephone & website		\$ 184	\$ 85
Write-off		\$ -	\$ -
Depreciation		\$ 650	\$ 678
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$ 13,081	\$ 23,733
NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR			
(to accumulated funds)		\$ 2,078	\$ 2,078

NOTES:

1. Reduced overall/trips and truck costs
2. Hut Donations - FMC/BCT funding plus steady income in response to hut notices
3. Donations to Lowe Walker Helicopter Trust
4. FMC capitation \$15 per head
5. Howletts bench/Waikamaka Hut deck upgrade – funded BCT/Club
6. Mis-match of Income post-cost of product/calendars

**HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC). BALANCE SHEET.****AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2018**

CURRENT ASSETS		2018	2017
Westpac Cheque Account		\$ 3,867	\$ 89
Accounts receivable		\$ -	\$ -
		<u>\$ 3,867</u>	<u>\$ 89</u>
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Westpac	Term Deposit	\$ 16,373	\$ 18,925
	Term Deposit	\$ 30,744	\$ 29,735
	Term Deposit	\$ 11,723	\$ 11,361
	Term Deposit	\$ 12,173	\$ 11,775
HBS Bank	Term Deposit	\$ 18,572	\$ 17,910
	Term Deposit	\$ 78,901	\$ 76,123
Fixed Assets		\$ 3,055	\$ 3,706
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>\$ 175,408</u>	<u>\$ 169,623</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Sundry payables		\$ 250	\$ 250
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>\$ 250</u>	<u>\$ 250</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>\$ 175,158</u>	<u>\$ 169,373</u>
Represented by:			
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Balance at 1 October 2017		\$ 169,373	\$ 167,295
Surplus for the year		\$ 5,785	\$ 2,078
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS		<u>\$ 175,158</u>	<u>\$ 169,373</u>

**AUDITOR'S REPORT TO MEMBERS OF THE HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC.)**

I report that I have examined the financial records of the club and have obtained all the information and explanations that I have required.

With organisations such as this club it is not possible to verify all cash received during the year and my examination of income has accordingly been limited to a comparison of recorded receipts with bank deposits. I did not however note anything that would indicate the existence of receipts not banked.

Subject to the possible effect of the limited control over income referred to in the preceding paragraph, in my opinion, the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet show respectively a fair view of the club's activities for the year ended 30 September 2018 and of the financial position at that date.

W.A. Stacey      A.C.A.      J.A. Smith      HTC Treasurer

**2418      Howletts Hut - Ruahines**
**14 - 17 Sept 2018**

It was decided to make a four-day trip into Howletts Hut. When it had been only a weekend trip I was going, with others, as far as Daphne Hut. The stories I have heard about Howletts make it rather a daunting trip and I was certainly not fit enough to do it in and out in two days (in fact, was I even fit enough to get up to Howletts?). With Graeme's encouragement and Rodger Burn's times for reference I decided I would join the group. Janice, Graeme, Derek and I were to make the trip in with a stop-off at Daphne. The two things I have heard of Daphne Hut are 1) that it is cold as it gets little sun and 2) there is a limited supply of firewood. At 1:30pm, loaded with an armful of firewood, we arrived at the hut. Both of those myths were dispelled. Daphne was bathed in sunlight and there was an abundance of firewood. The high water of the Tukituki River previously that week may have helped with this. With some wood gathered we were able to sit and rest in the sun. Monty saw us settled in the hut then continued his journey with Anne Cantrick to Howletts.

Derek, Janice, Graeme and I continued our wood collection and, when completed, we settled in for a hot drink. Water needs to be collected from the river. (I now understood the vast selection of water bottles on the hut bench). There was an abundance of wood but the wherewithal to cut it was very limited so it was fed into the fire. The night sky at Daphne was just magical with the Magellanic Cloud as a backdrop to the Milky Way. Our stay was a pleasant with time to relax, refuel and sleep in comfort.



*Graeme Hare and Derek Boshier [note the leggy firewood growing out of the wood stove – ed.]*

Our journey up Daphne Spur to Howletts started at about 7:30am. With uphill of varying degrees of difficulty, some required skilled foot and hand work and the rest just a continual climb punctuated with rests for refuelling of snacks and water. The bush was delightful and

the weather fine. There was about an hour above the bush line through tussock until we gained the Daphne Ridge. It was twelve noon and the roof of Howletts was the most delightful sight as was the sign 10 minutes to Howletts Hut. Once at the hut, water was boiled for the necessary hot drink and lunch eaten. I am proud to have made it to Howletts the highest hut in the Ruahine Range. The company was excellent as was the scenery, Hawke's Bay was a little hazy, and the sunrises delightful. Many thanks to you all for making this such a great weekend. AD

**Party:** Graeme Hare, Janice Love, Derek Boshier, Anne Doig

The trip had morphed into a four-day event, originally because Pam had a desire to get there by helicopter along with Phillip Mardon. Fiona and Warren Greer from Haast were also keen to come up and be on the trip. At zero hour Phillip could not participate and the Greers had to make the decision to pull out as Fiona was not well. Pam was disappointed but there could be another time. As the likelihood of walking participants who could not make the four days was minimal, the four day trip happened. Since there had been bulk snow just the week before it was necessary to take the sharp and pointy gear with us...crampons were sorted and ice axes issued.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup>: we travelled in mine and Derek's utes to Stan Stubbs' farm on Kashmir Road where he kindly offered to take us all in and on his 4WD across the farm and down to Moorcock Stream thus saving us a couple of kms. Up the hill then and to the start of the old [25 years since DoC used] track down the spur and coasting along the hillside to meet the new track about 20 minutes up from the Tukituki river. Some including myself bothered to change to temporary footwear for the half hour trip up to Daphne for the comfort of dry feet thereon. Anne D, Graeme, Derek and Janice planned to stop at Daphne for the night, even though having arrived at about 1pm. Anne C and I had planned to go on up the grunt to Howletts and arrived at about 3:30pm. There was a good heap of firewood in the bin which I was pleased to see but after a regulation cup of tea, we gathered a lot more as in three nights we would use an amount and conserve the coal... which stands at 16 bags... 30 delivered August 2017 so usage is about a bag per month.

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>: Anne and self away about 8am for the tops at Tiraha. The snow was continuous from about a quarter the way up and crampons donned for the sidle up to the summit ridge. It was firm on this sidle but on top it was surprisingly hard ice with all trace of our travel just indistinct crampon points in the ice. The day was clear and calm so was just absolutely perfect in all ways. On we crunched to Tiraha in jubilation. Ruapehu was in splendour, and the snow and ice to the northern higher range was spectacular, looking for all the world like a mini-Southern Alps! We savoured the time there, waxing lyrical about it, the best winter scene I have ever seen there in 25 years and it was September!

Down we crunched and back to Howletts to meet up with the four up from Daphne at 1pm. After they settled in we had another firewood foraging expedition with the amount that six found made a large heap to cut and split which was duly done. A pleasant Saturday night with still great weather and expected for tomorrow too.

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>: Sunday was just as good weatherwise and Anne and I went on our way to knock off Tiraha. The snow had thinned and gone to about halfway up but was softer. On up the side to the main ridge again and definitely crampons to the summit. Just a breeze today and very pleasant. After the ooing and aahing about the classic scenery it was time



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to retreat to lower altitudes. On the way down Graeme tipped upside down in a patch of leatherwood, probably unable to self-extract. [We considered leaving him there!] It was quite a pull to get him out. Back down to Howletts for a rather lazy afternoon and almost sunbathing. Great sunsets and sunrises, many pics taken - trying to get the ultimate best one.



*Views over Sawtooth Ridge*

Monday 17<sup>th</sup>: away about 8am for the trek down with a cold wind and threat of rain which turned into a short shower only. Back at the Tukituki some changed footwear again then down to the overland track start and out through Kashmir Farm. A compulsory stop was made at the OngaOnga store for a real coffee and goodies from the counter cabinet. These were consumed outside thankfully as Graeme tended to spill his coffee over everything. The weekend must have been too much for him or he was excited by the trip - he had not had crampons on for decades, he said. Jokes aside, it was a pleasant and hilarious 'party' there at the store but reality set in and we returned reluctantly to civilisation. Janice had never before worn crampons and with instruction and guidance did everything perfectly. Looking back now at the ranges we were surprised to see that there had been a clearance to another good day up there. Great company and the chance of a cruisy four-day weekend with good weather and the snow conditions which made for a truly memorable trip. Derek had again come all the way from Tauranga. JM

**Party:** Anne Doig, Anne Cantrick, Graeme Hare, Derek Boshier, Janice Love  
John Montgomerie (leader)





2419

Sunrise Hut – Ruahine FP

Wed 19 Sept 2018



This was Conservation Week so we teamed up with DC to advertise through their website that Heretaunga Tramping Club was hosting a tramp to Sunrise Hut. Two of the public were



## Pohokura

interested, one of whom joined us to Sunrise and the other will follow up with a visit to our meeting nights. Also Matt who came along with us after contacting the club through the website so, in total, we had 11 in our party. The day started with low cloud and drizzle, and stayed with us most of the day. At the carpark a group of rural school children and their leaders moved off as we arrived. Later, they were leaving as we reached the hut. At the half way point two people in our group returned to the truck via the Swamp Track and the remainder arrived at the hut at different times for lunch.



The photo above shows the tee shirt logo for conservation week – worn at Sunrise Hut at DoC request for later publicity - then at 1pm we were on our way down the well-graded path surrounded by attractive forest. Thanks to all who supported this tramp for Conservation Week and thanks to Christine, our driver. JL

**Party:** Garry Smith, Des Smith, Brent Hickey, Matt Leist, Angela Johnson, Mary Gray, Lynn Walch, Joan Ruffell, Christine Hardie, Marion Nicholson, Janice Love

<b>2420</b>	<b>The Hogget – Kaweka FP</b>	<b>30 Sept 2018</b>
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Eight set off on a beautiful morning, eventually pulling into Timahanga Station (and this, my friends, is one of the big advantages of belonging to a club; you get to see places that other people don't have access to). When we reached the sheds we had the usual discussion of which way to go and then drove off in the likeliest (to me) direction, parking not far from the old Boyds homestead.



The walk follows a four-wheel drive track until you come to the stream in time to argue about where the track is and where to cross until you all meet up on the other side and follow an old logging track along through Boyds Bush. This has been logged but is regenerating nicely. One of the outstanding features of this piece of bush was the amazing number of robins heard on the walk: every fifty metres there would be another one. After a bite to eat



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on a sunny log we kept going, the track gradually getting steeper and eventually climbing out of the beech-podocarp forest and into manuka which eventually got low enough to see over, giving us a great view 360 degrees taking in the Ruahines, all around Cattle Hill, westward up Taihape Road and out over Ruapehu.

Nobody walked far once the top was reached, basically just taking in lunch and the views and admiring the rock garden underfoot. The Hogget was never reached. On the way back down Susan and I saw two moreporks. Back at the truck some of us wandered over to have a look at the old homestead which has just been cleared around. I was surprised at just how much of it is left now that you can walk around it. All in all, a very pleasant and interesting walk in very pleasant conditions. PB

**Party:** Peter Berry, Susan Lopdell, Mary Gray, Dale Barnard, Anne Doig, Des Smith, Janice Love, Glenda Hooper



*Views from the top*

**2421**

**Waipatiki Costal Walk**

**Wed 3 Oct 2018**

A party of fourteen of us met at nine o'clock in Taradale and we set off in our cars to Waipatiki Beach. What a beautiful day out there. We headed off on the coastal walk along the narrow path, dodging overgrown blackberry on the way which slowed progress. We stopped for lunch with a way to go to Aropoanui Stream and admired the magnificent views before returning the same way where we appreciated a little shade and a gentle breeze



which revived us. Back to our cars and five of us, Des, Christine, Garry, Graeme and Lynn did the Nikau Palms Track. The rest headed off in their cars. A great day was had by all.

LW

**Party:** Rodger Burn, Mike Bull, Roy Frost, Christine Hardie, Graeme Hare, Pauline Mahoney, Sharon and Philip Mardon, Marion Nicholson, Joan Ruffell, Heather Stephenson, Garry Smith, Des Smith, Lynn Walch

## **2422      Lawrence - MacIntosh Hut**

**14 October 2018**

The Sunday morning dawned clear and frosty as we headed off from Glenda and Peter's property in Te Aute Rd at 7am with David at the helm of the trusty old HTC truck. After refuelling the truck and stopping to pick up three more of our party at various locations, we did well to reach Lawrence Roadend and be crossing the Tutaekuri River by 9am. Janice provided us all with some entertainment as she managed to drop her trekking pole over the side of the lurching wire swing bridge. The prolific bird life was particularly noticeable in this area with the beautiful yellow-flowered kowhai all out in full bloom. After we had all negotiated the bridge successfully we headed off up Lotkow Track. Just short of Cable Creek we took the signposted, left-hand fork in the track which took us down to the Donald River. When we regrouped there our driver, David, headed back downstream to the truck and drove it around to Castle Rocks Road and the DoC carpark which was the end point of our tramping circuit. After moving a short distance upstream we located the start of the track which we followed up onto the MacIntosh Plateau. The weather was sunny and quite warm as we negotiated the steep climb out of the Donald River onto the MacIntosh Plateau. When we stopped for a short break at the top, the weather changed very quickly. In a period of 15 minutes it clouded over and the temperature plummeted. We even experienced some light hail showers as we moved along the track towards the shelter of MacIntosh Hut. There was a good coating of fresh snow on the surrounding tops and we all enjoyed the luxury of a hot drink with our lunch at the hut. We were all very impressed with the good condition of the hut with plenty of nice dry firewood neatly stacked under the veranda bench seats.





We had noticed some evidence of mountain bike tyre tracks as we walked along MacIntosh Plateau and there was an entry confirming their presence in the hut log book. At around 1:30pm we set off from the hut for the final leg of our tramp: down the gorge, across the nice solidly built, steel foot bridge and up the other side to the awaiting truck at Castle Rocks carpark where we arrived at 3pm. Everyone enjoyed doing a tramp which was last done by the club over five years ago. Many thanks to David who went the extra mile for us, literally, by shuttling the truck around - with his careful driving, we were all safely delivered back to base by around 5pm. DS

**Party:** Des Smith (organiser), David Blake (driver), Anne Cantrick, Janice Love, Glenda Hooper, Peter Berry, Sam Dunnett, Anne Doig, Maureen Gilchrist, Kim Morgan, Mary Gray

2423	Lake Opouahi Working Bee	Wed 17 October 2018
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Following on from the very interesting evening when Kahori Nakagawa spoke to us about ECOED and all the work that they and a big team of volunteers do especially in their Save the Kiwi programme, we offered our services for a working bee. Kahori was quick to accept our offer and a team of twelve went to Lake Opouahi to help where we could. In the morning the main assignment was to check and clear the perimeter fence where necessary, and clean the shelter. In the afternoon our job was at the weir where recent floods had swept under the fence to escape downstream. Napier Tramping Club had already done some repairs here and our efforts will help control the water flow. However, a permanently engineered solution is required in the long term.



*Des and Peter applying technology*



## Pohokura

Kahori was impressed by Des who plunged into the chilly water to aid the construction and clear weeds. Thanks to everyone who came to assist Kahori and ECOED. They have written to the club thanking us for our support. It was very enjoyable being at Opouahi on a beautiful sunny day.

GRH

**Party:** Anne Cantrick, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Marion Nicholson, Liz Pindar, Des Smith, Rodger Burn, Mary Gray, Garry Smith, Peter Berry, Christine Hardie, Graeme Hare (organiser)

<b>2424</b>	<b>Mt Egmont-Taranaki</b>	<b>[Labour Weedend] 19 - 22 October 2018</b>
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Two carloads left Hastings at 7:30am on Friday morning, stopping at Norsewood to collect Murray. It was a long trip over to Taranaki in perfect weather with a stop at Bulls and lunch beside Virginia Lake in Whanganui. As we neared our destination we had wonderful vistas of the snow clad mountains - Ruapehu, Tongariro, Ngauruhoe and Taranaki. The leader had swapped our tramping plans from the North Egmont area to walks from Dawson Falls side of the mountain where there would be less pressure on huts and tracks.



We arrived at the visitor centre early afternoon, collected our keys and encamped at Konini Lodge (38 bunks). This lodge costs \$25 pp per night with 2-3 person and 4-8 person bunkrooms, men's and women's shower rooms, drying room, large, fully equipped kitchen and two living areas plus large deck. After settling in and a cuppa, we wandered along the Kapuni Loop track which weaves its way through forest to a viewing platform overlooking the 18 metre falls with spectacular rock formations on either side of the falls. We continued and, just before crossing Manaia Road, the party split up with some doing the Ridge/



## Pohokura

Wilkie's Pools tracks while the rest visited the historic power station which still contributes power to the private Dawson's Falls Lodge.

Saturday saw all nine of us leave the visitors centre to begin the climb up to Kapuni Lodge and the upper Round-the-Mountain Track, initially through forest to the Hillary Seat, then through scrub and leatherwood to Hooker Shelter where boardwalks were being installed. Came across our first patches of snow, melting and making muddy conditions. The overnight group left us and we watched their progress as well as that of an alpine party slowly wending its way up to Syme Hut and the summit. It was a clear day with a slight breeze and not a cloud anywhere to be seen; great views of the mountain and the towns of Eltham, Stratford and Inglewood as we lunched on the deck of the Alpine Club Lodge.

Returning the same way, we passed several groups kitted out with alpine gear going to Syme Hut (it would have been overflowing as it only has 10 bunks). Fred and Marion left and three of us started along the lower Round-the-Mountain track. It needs some maintenance as it is overgrown with some ladder steps in urgent need of repair (a short-legged person had real trouble with these when coming back). Our destination was Hastie's Hill. After  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour we made the decision not to continue and returned to the lodge. The evening after dinner was spent star-gazing and enjoying the sunset from the nearby viewing platform.



On Sunday we donned our tramping gear and set off on Wilkie's Pools Track. The first 300 metres is wheelchair-friendly before crossing the stream and heading up towards Stratford Plateau where we were greeted by a very cool wind. Looked up towards Manganui Ski Field which was devoid of any snow and Manganui Lodge and walked along to the lookout but due to low, wispy cloud formation only caught glimpses of the countryside. Backtracked for 15 minutes to Enchanted Walk Track junction past Jackson's Lookout, through goblin forest before descending steeply in taller forest to Waingongoro Track junction, 40 minutes from East Egmont Carpark. We were following the Waingongoro River, crossing several small unbridged streams then slowly upwards through very nice

## Pohokura

forest to the swing bridge over the gorge where it was a gentle half an hour to the hut nestled high above the river. We had a lunch break in this very nice Lockwood-style hut with several party members trying out the new log splitter - it was not as easy as it looked! Back-tracked to the swing bridge and collected Sam who was fascinated with the bridge and had gone back to cross it again. We climbed steadily upwards joining up with the ridge track then back on the main highway (Willkie's Pools) where we met up with the hordes of day trippers plus two of the overnight party (Murray and Mary). Walked back and five or six of us had a latte at the private lodge. What a way to finish about a six-hour tramp!



On Monday morning we breakfasted, cleaned Konini Lodge and left Mount Egmont shrouded in cloud as we headed to Lake Rotokare, a wildlife sanctuary 15 kms from Eltham. We decided to walk round the lake track and were delighted to see numerous saddlebacks [tieke] feasting on the tree trunks as well as the elusive stitch birds [hihi] – a highlight of the trip. Since I was last here a lot of work has been carried out with feeding stations, boardwalks and a pontoon viewing platform. We stopped at the last stream and, this time, were able to see the endangered banded kokopu or native fish. After lunch we set off for Hawke's Bay, stopping at Norsewood to let Murray off and arrived in Napier at about 5.00 pm. Our appreciation goes to Fred and Mary who took and drove their vehicles - a long trip with about five to five and a half hours of driving. It was a good weekend: weather, views, forest and birdlife were excellent as was the company, thanks everyone. SL

**Party:** Mary Gray, Fred Chesterman (drivers), Dale Barnard, Anne Doig, Sam Dunnett, Derek Boshier, Susan Lopdell, Marion Nicholson, Murry Alderson

<b>2425</b>	<b>Bell Rock – Maungaharuru Range</b>	<b>24 October 2018</b>
Four members left Havelock North, picking up four more from Taradale on a calm, warm pleasant morning. There was high cloud but this soon burned off as the sun rose. Turning off the main highway above Lake Tutira we eventually got to the Bell Rock carpark. After a short break and a chat about which way we would go, we walked up the road to where the 4WD track started and followed this, climbing slowly to the track. We then followed this road guided by pole markers through the tussock. On the way up we met two DoC volunteers who were checking the traps and re-baiting them. After a brief chat we continued		

on to Bell Rock. On arriving we settled down for some lunch and took in the magnificent scenery with clear skies, a light breeze with a haze over the far ranges but nothing to stop us seeing this beautiful country as far as the eye could see.

After lunch we proceeded back along the track to a point where the party split up, some taking the same track back, the rest of us on the alternative track in front of and around the rocky outcrops. Eventually we all met up where the track led us downhill into the bush away from the 4WD track. Walking under a canopy of beech and other native trees which was enhanced with the sun's rays filtering through the bush, we listened to the native birds in song. Arriving back at the truck we stopped for a snack then proceeded home. A good day out with good company and thanks to Christine for driving. RF

**Party:** Roy Frost, Christine Hardie, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn, Des Smith, Lynn Walch, Heather Stephenson, Pauline Mahoney

2426	Cairn Trip – Kaweka FP	11 November 2018
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It seemed fitting that our annual pilgrimage to our cairn fell on the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day. At 6am eight trampers left Havelock North, picking up six more in Taradale plus two at Whittles Rd. We headed for Makahu Saddle carpark, admiring the flowering mountain cabbage trees along the roadside bush. In great tramping conditions we left at 8:30am to go up Trials Spur and reached Dominie Bivvy an hour later. (Liz and Anne S proceeded as far as able and held their own little commemoration) The fog and views came and went but there was only a slight breeze. An hour later we were all on Kaweka J, and met up with five others who had come up independently. Two locals also joined us, making a gathering of twenty three.

The sun shone as we had a rest and a snack and just before 11am we gathered around the Cairn. To the moving strains of "The Battle of the Somme", the youngest and oldest members present laid the wreath beneath the eleven names on the Plaque. Poems were read by Graeme, Carlee and Joan while contributions from the two Annes remembered the effects that war had on those men and women who returned, the magnitude of the loss of eleven members from the club during WW2 and the loss of all but three horses in WW1. We observed two minutes silence then, in keeping with the celebration of the signing of the Armistice when signalling the end of the war, we made a lot of noise with whistles, horns and bells. As the weather was conducive, some young and young-at-heart people commenced sliding down snow remnants on plastic bags [in the 1970s HTC members called this spastic haggling]. After our lunch on the tops we returned to Makahu Saddle the same way and headed to Pam's where she, with help from Marion and Fred, provided a sumptuous afternoon tea including the customary chocolate strawberries. After a suitable break, several of us were keen to walk Bathgate Track in Ball's Clearing. The bush is looking lush and beautiful.

Back into the truck, 15 of us returned home, arriving at about 6pm. Thank you to everyone who participated by coming on this trip and contributing to this very special day. Special thanks go to Peter for driving the truck and playing the whistle at the ceremony, to Pam for



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making the wreath and for her hospitality, and to Marion and Fred who baked and quietly worked away helping Pam look after us. JR



**Party:** Janice Love, Derek Boshier, Anne Cantrick, Elizabeth Pindar, Brent Hickey, Graeme Hare, Derek Devane, Brian Smith, Alli Hollington, Kathy, Samara & Carlee Eggers, Stacey Watts, Glenda Hooper, Peter Berry, Anne Doig, Anne Smith, Maureen Broad, Joan Ruffell

### 2427 Tangoio Beach – Flat Rock

5 December 2018

What a beautiful day to enjoy a coastal walk although the wind was strong to gale-force. Five people left Havelock North at 9am, picking up five more in Taradale, followed by Graeme with Zinnie in his car. At 10:15am we began the scramble up and down the narrow hillside track, coming down onto rocks and little bays as we progressed. The blackberry was rampant and erosion plus landslides are severe which slowed some people markedly. We stopped for a leisurely morning tea out of the wind and sun while looking south to Napier. Graeme provided a decadent chocolate masterpiece, left over from one of his gourmet dinner parties. The front runners forged ahead into the wind along the coastal goat track from the neck while the slower ones continued to Flat Rock which looks.....flat! On the horizon were five container ships waiting out at sea for today's two huge cruise liners to leave and give them room to dock. A couple of us then continued around the headland which requires some careful stepping along faint animal tracks. Eventually we met at a large log that was comparatively sheltered to have lunch on the beach and watch the little figures of the coastal walkers to the north. Eventually they ran out of enthusiasm and returned to make up stories about a discarded monitoring bracelet that Scott found among the debris on the ground. Which prisoner had been this way, we wondered?

After another suitable interval, during which some of us climbed the headland to get an even better view of the sea, we made our way back. The tide was low which meant that we



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could speed along the boulders instead of going up and down the cliffs all the time. The wind was still strong but everyone made it back to Tangoio Beach in time for another round of refreshments. There is now a very small number of baches out there – it is no longer possible to construct anything and the landowner is gradually removing buildings as leases expire. Thanks go to all participants and to Christine for driving. JR

**Party:** Rodger Burn, Christine Hardie, Anne Doig, Graeme Hare, Janice Love, Graeme May, Scott Campbell, Pauline Mahoney, Anne Cantrick, Des Smith, Joan Ruffell [organiser]



<b>2428</b>	<b>Parks Peak Hut – Ruahines</b>	<b>9 Dec 2018</b>
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On a cool clear Sunday morning 11 HTC trampers left Havelock North in the truck at 6:30am arriving at 8:00 at the start of Peaks Park Track on Mangletown Road. The sun was now streaming down; already we could see it was going to be a hot day. Our first hour to Rocky Knoll was steep and steady and soon we divided into three groups. Stunning views on this glorious day had us stopping for photos which included Ruapehu and Ngauruhoe capped with snow against a blue sky. The flora and fauna were admired by all and was made more interesting with members who could identify the birds and know the names of many species of alpine plants. The viewing point about 10 minutes from the signposts now has a new red chair which was used for photo shots and discussions of its history. We are not sure how long the “tradition of the red chair” goes back. From here it was another 30 minutes walk to have lunch at the hut. The beech tree forest covered in lichen and moss covered ground was a welcome retreat from the sun. About an hour was spent at the hut, some having kips, there was lots of chatter and Mary did a walk along Makaroro Track where there were wonderful views to the Bay.



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Returning the same way, Kim diverted to the trig lookout which he reported giving the most stunning 360° view. It was a slow descent to the truck but made easier with the steep track being cleared of the Tutu and cutty grass which used to cover it. A quick cool off in the river near Sentry Box Hut then home in the truck driven by Peter Berry. Thank you.

**Party:** Mary Gray, Maureen Broad, Derek Boshier, Brent Hickey, Kim Morgan, Anne Doig, Glenda Hooper, Graeme Hare, Janet Tichener, Peter Berry, Janice Love (organiser)



*Peter Berry on Rocky Knoll*

<b>2429</b>	<b>Waikare Beach</b>	<b>6 January 2019</b>
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This Sunday was a very sunny and very warm day so a beach trip was ideal. We left town at 7:30am in two cars, drove to Putorino and then to the DoC camp-ground at the end of Waikare Road, arriving just after 9 o'clock. The camping ground was fairly full and is much tidier than I remembered from many years ago. It is situated beside a very green river estuary about 500 metres from the sea. To reach the sea one follows a rough track which climbs about 50 metres before it meets a farm track that takes you back down and on to the beach.

Low tide was around 1:00pm so conditions were perfect and the compact sandy surface made walking easy. After two hours of walking southwards under cliffs that were reminiscent of the Cape Kidnappers coast, we reached the first of the rocky outcrops. We walked around a couple of them and then decided to stop for lunch. Three of us ventured into the sea there to cool down in the waves. Our lunch spot was pretty much below the earthquake slip that I had camped on 30 something years ago so after lunch some climbed up to view it. There is now a lot of small manuka growing on it and the only clear sections were the swampy ones. There was also a small colony of gulls nesting in the cliffs above. Bird life was not abundant: the odd gull, a shag and some Canadian geese which bobbed around the surf as we passed by. Goats were plentiful, including a group that appeared to

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be drinking water from the tidal zone - maybe there were some freshwater spring there?  
After lunch we returned back along the beach then up the killer climb in <30°C temperatures and back to the cars, getting there at around 2:30pm. To cool down we had a quick stop for icecreams at at Tutira Store before continuing our journey back.

**Party:** Anne Doig, Daniel Haddock, Brent Hickey, Dale Barnard, Jude Hay,  
Barbara Phillips, Glenda Hooper



*Waikare Beach*

<b>2430</b>	<b>Yeoman's Track - Ruahines</b>	<b>13 January 2019</b>
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As we did not feel like a long walk along forestry roads to the start of the track to Poutaki Hut we opted instead for a walk to Ellis Hut along Yeoman's Track. There were five of us and the day was much cooler than earlier in the week and quite overcast. We left the cars in the carpark at the end of the public road and followed the poled route down to the Makaroro River. We then had to follow the river upstream for a kilometre to the track up from the river opposite Yeomans Mill site. All in all it took about 40 minutes to walk from the cars to where Yeomans Track leaves from the forestry roads. There has obviously been a weather event in the area in relatively recent times as parts of the tarsealed road in had been damaged and bits of Yeomans Track has been washed away or has had slips on it. However, all these have been attended to and they did not hinder our progress. The bush here is lovely and there were plenty of bird calls, including robins, shining cuckoo and whiteheads. We got to Ellis Hut just after 11:30 and, as we took our photos of the hut, the clouds lifted and the sun came out. Lunch was had sitting on a stool just outside the hut after which we started back along the track. We made slightly better time on the way back and were at our cars at around 3pm. A stop off at the shop in Onga Onga for icecreams rounded off a good



day's outing.

**Party:** Dale Barnard, Susan Lopdell, Jude Hay, Anne Doig, Glenda Hooper



Jude Hay walking past Ellis Hut

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*A wee note from the Editor*

### **BACKCOUNTRY – Quarterly Bulletin of the Federated Mountain Clubs**

Members who attend meetings can receive their bulletins and take extra copies to hand deliver to other members who live near them. For members who don't attend meetings and don't receive hand-delivered copies I have in the past included their bulletin in with the Pohokura [hard copy].

The Committee no longer wants me to include Backcountry in with your Pohokura. Glenda will mail bulletins out separately for these members.

# HTC BIKE TRIPS



## **Cycling Past Camp David**

**Wed 12 Sept 2018**

Starting at Otane, we cycled down Elsthorpe Road to Middle Road where we continued along Middle Road to inspect the flooded Tukituki River flowing under Patangata Bridge. We then cycled to Tamumu Bridge where we stopped under the shade of a tree at the old gravel pit for our morning tea break. After a nice relaxing time there, six of our party decided to continue to Otane to enjoy the lunch offerings at McCauley's Store & Cafe. Des, Graeme and Scott carried along Pourerere Rd to Waipawa. Graeme and Scott returned to Otane to join up with the others for lunch via Ireland and White Roads. Meanwhile Des continued to Waipukurau via the recently opened Tarewa Suspension Bridge. It was a very pleasant, sunny day, with only a light S.W. breeze, so everyone had a great time enjoying the Central H.B. scenery and one another's company. D.S.

**Cyclists:** Des Smith (organiser), Alasdair Shaw, Garry Smith, Christine Hardie, Scott Campbell, Graeme Hare, Lynn Walch, Peter Bailey, Elizabeth McKerras

## **Local Cycleways**

**Wed 10 October 2018**

Another local ride was the general agreement so 14 of us met at Park Island in sunny but blustery conditions. We followed the Water Ride tracks around the lagoons and under the bridges, admiring the varied birdlife before eventually ending up by Watchman Road and the new entrance to the airport with its new cycle track which proved very nice. Carrying on we eventually reached the Bay View area by Rorokuri Hill and paused for a breather. Then it was over the road to Snapper Park where some elected to stay in the cafe while the others, as usual, preferred the beach and a clear blue sky. The returning riders enjoyed the benefit of a tail wind along the water front to Westshore and beyond. We got back to our cars by various routes after a very pleasant day totalling 30km. Interestingly, the outward journey took 18km and the return by the direct route only twelve. RB

**Cyclists:** Pam Pike, Sharron Wellwood, Heather Stephenson, Lynn Walch, Elizabeth McKerras, Christine Hardie, Lyn & Lyn Gentry, Rodger Burn, Ray Manning, Roy Frost, Alan Russell, Garry Smith, Des Smith,

## **Cycle to Waimarama**

**Wed 31 October 2018**

Despite a gloomy forecast we had 10 optimists meeting at Fred Chesterman's Maraetotora Road farm on a clear, fine but oh-so-windy day. It was soon apparent that we were to have two parties with Graeme and Rodger leading their respective flocks. Rodger's peloton [the B party?] aided by a very strong tail wind made it back down Maraetotora Road in record time with barely a gear change before going onward and down Ocean Beach Road to

Haupouri Farms where they had a smoko break. The return was a different story as we now enjoyed a mean head wind and it was only the thought of Marion's baking that kept our spirits up.

**Cyclists:** Lynn Walch, Garry Smith, Jim Hewes, Rodger Burn

### **Heading For Waimarama**

**Wed 31 October**

From Fred's home a group of five headed south, climbing to the junction of Maraetotara, Waipoapoa and Okaihau Roads where we had a breather. Christine, who had left a little later, surprised us by riding up to joining though she opted to go up to Mohi Bush before returning to base – she later commented on the high numbers of turkeys and ducks with large flocks of babies busily travelling along the quiet roads. The famous five continued down Okaihau Road, dropping speedily and steeply to Waimarama. It was such a beautiful day that we went to the beach domain for lunch. The return trip, as you will be aware, requires a solid hill climb out of Waimarama and along the main road before the gentler grades of Maraetotara Road guided us back to Fred's where Marion's sumptuous afternoon tea awaited us. A 44km ride in excellent conditions.

**Cyclists:** Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Des Smith, Ray Manning, Graeme Hare  
Christine Hardie [the lone ranger]

### **Last Call for the North Face**

**Wed 21 November 2018**

Another nice day for cycling and our destination for a very special Boots on Bikes morning tea was Bob and Heather Carter's house high on Tukituki Hills above the river. Most of us set off from Clive on the cycleways to Moore Road and others travelled from Havelock North by bike or car. Our group of twenty plus arrived on or before the due time – except Joan and Alasdair who got confused and turned up a bit later!

After a sumptuous morning tea and a few speeches plus photos, we explored their magnificent gardens and reflected on all the work done over their 15 years on the property which they have transformed from bare land to a House & Garden level. We were all amazed and impressed to see the growth of their forest which now goes down the North Face along [comparatively] Soggy Bottom and up the other side. All the hedges and trees such as the pohutukawa have increased in size hugely since our last visit. The Carter networks of tracks and quirky ornaments remain – their road signs, letter box and elderly bicycle always give rise to happy comments. In the upper grounds there were many beds of flowers which had magnificent displays; we particularly noted the roses around the end of the drive. The gardeners in our group had a great time peering and chatting about everything. Sadly, time marches on - Bob and Heather have decided to sell up and move closer to town so this was the last visit that Boots on Bikes will be able to make to this lovely place. Thanks, B & H for your hospitality on many visits.

Our group finally left and various routes were taken: Ray and Des went off on another epic ride around the Bay, others went on roads and stopbanks to Havelock North, Clive or Taradale. A fulfilling time for everyone.



## Pohokura



*Standing L to R: Capt Rodger Burn, Peter Bailey, Des Smith, Scott Campbell, Ray Manning, Roy Frost, Jim Hewes, Lynn Walch, Raewyn Ricketts, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Heather Carter, Judy McBride, Marion Nicholson  
Kneeling L to R: Garry Smith, Bob Carter, Fred Chesterman, Christine Hardie, Sharron Wellwood, Pam Pike, Anne Cantrick*

## Clive to Havelock North

**Wed 9 January 2019**

Perfect weather for another cycle ride for Boots on Bikes and 15 of us left from Clive through the township then following the picturesque river bank on the cycle paths. The section through Whakatu is now an interesting tour through its industrial area with thriving businesses and the new road alignment which so far looks very efficient. Then it was along Otene Road and a regroup at Tomoana Showgrounds southern entrance. The next section



## Pohokura

took in the streets between Hastings and Havelock North [at last free of road works] before we descended on Pam and Rodger's house for a lengthy pit stop in the shade with cool drinks – thanks, Pam for putting up with the invasion. Eventually it was back in the saddle to cycle to the other side of town and on to River Road. We followed the cycle path by the Tukituki River to Black Bridge; several other groups were out and about, including visitors enjoying the delights of Hawke's Bay. Back to our cars at Clive and lunchette at the seats under the trees before disbanding - the keen types continued cycling to Taradale [or Flaxmere] while the rest of us resorted to our normal pattern of using vehicles.

**Cyclists:** Rodger Burn, Christine Hardie, Garry Smith, Lynn Walch, Scott Campbell, Graeme Hare, Ray Manning, Des Smith, Pam Pike, Alasdair Shaw, Joan Ruffell, Anne Cantrick, Des Smith, Heather Stephenson

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## NEW MEMBER

Welcome to Jeanette Louisson who has recently joined the Club. Jeanette first came out with us to Kiritaki Hut and Sparrowhawk Bivvy in 2017 and more recently ventured on the epic round trip to Cattle Creek Hut last November. The photo is of Jeanette and Janice on Holmes ridge.





## BOOKS for SALE

The Club has 3 copies of the book - View From The Summit by Sir Edmund Hillary. These are new paperback books and have been signed by Sir Ed, For more details on the book go to <https://www.penguin.co.nz/books/view-from-the-summit-9780552151047> Send in your offer to [HTC@orcon.net.nz](mailto:HTC@orcon.net.nz) (or phone Glenda) and provided the offers are over \$25 they will go to the 3 highest bidders.

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## ITEMS for SALE

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

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

These can all be ordered from **Penny Isherwood** Ph 844 9994 or email [p.isherwood@orcon.net.nz](mailto:p.isherwood@orcon.net.nz)

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

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## Heretaunga Tramping Club Meeting and Trip Information

### Upcoming Meetings

Date	Chairperson	Speaker and Topic	Host/Supper
<b>2019</b>			
16 Jan	Brent Hickey	Happy New Year All Members	H – Fred Chesterman S – Marion Nicholson
30 Jan	Graeme Hare	Janet Titchener HTC Strategy Plans	H – Janice Love S – Judy McBride
13 Feb	Susan Lopdell	Produce Auction Proceeds to Rescue Helicopter	H – Rodger Burn S – Anne Doig
27 Feb	Pam Turner	All Members	H – Scott Campbell S – Garry Smith
13 Mar	Lex Smith	General Auction:Anything + Everything - Proceeds to Rescue Helicopter	H – Brent Hickey S – Randall Goldfinch
27 Mar	Alan Berry	Glenda Hooper Using the Internet for Current Tramping Information	H – Penny Isherwood S – Fred Chesterman
10 Apr	Jude Hay	All Members	H – Pam Turner S – Kim Morgan
24 Apr	Scott Campbell	Philip Mardon The Story of Pernel Orchard	H – John Montgomerie S – Graeme Hare
8 May	Penny Isherwood	Are the HTC Strategy Plans Operating?	H – Raewyn Ricketts S – Janice Love
22 May	Graeme Hare	Anne Cantrick and John Montgomerie Stewart Island	H – Susan Lopdell S – Rodger Burn
5 June	Anne Cantrick	All Members	H – Jude Hay S – Anne Doig
19 June	Pam Turner	John Berry Anchor Island – Dusky Sound	H – Randall Goldfinch S – Marion Nicholson
3 July	John Montgomerie	All Members	H – Janice Love S – Scott Campbell

**Meetings Sub-Committee:** Graeme Hare, Philip Mardon

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-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 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](mailto: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.

**2/3 Feb 2019                      Western Ruahines                      \$30                      Maps BL36**  
Iron Gate Hut from Heritage Lodge. From Table Flat Road, it is an easy 40 min walk into Heritage Lodge (have a leisurely tramp staying here overnight and ambling around the environs). Continue on an undulating track, crossing some unbridged side streams to the 6 bunk Irongate Hut (About 4 hrs), this hut is nestled on a grassy terrace above the Oroua river. On Sunday returning the same way.  
**Organiser:** John Montgomerie   Ph 877 7358

**Wed 6 Feb 2019                      Tangoio Falls and White Pine Bush**  
**Organiser:** Scott Campbell   Ph 879 8554

**Wed 13 Feb                      Cycle Clive to Puketapu**  
Pub or Domain? You choose.  
**Organiser:** Garry Smith   Ph 844 9931

**17 Feb                      Tutira Walkway                      \$15                      Maps BJ39**  
This tramp will start near the Lake Tutira camping ground and follow either the Kahikanui or Galibraiths Track to the tops on the eastern side of the lake to meet the Ridgeline Track not far from the Ridgemount Road carpark. We will then follow the Ridgeline Track southwards and descend to the lake by Paras Track. This tramp should take about 5 hours but for 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

**Wed 20 Feb                      Tramp to Kaweka Hut Site**  
**Organiser:** Scott Campbell   Ph 879 8554

**Wed 27 Feb                      Cycle from Waipawa to Ongaonga**  
**Organiser:** Jim Hewes   Ph 877 6784

**2/3 March                      Maungataniwha Forest                      \$20                      Maps BH39**

Join Mike at Maungataniwha to explore the area, botanise, look for wetas and reptiles and see the good work in restoring the area to native bush.

**Organiser:** Mike Lusk    Ph 877 8328

**Wed 6 March                      Happy Daze Hut – Ruahine FP**

Along the 4-WD road and through the gorge.

**Organiser:** Rodger Burn    Ph 877 6322

**Wed 13 March                      Local Cycle Ride**

**Organiser:** Christine Hardie    Ph 844 9590

**17 March                      Ruahines                      \$15                      Maps BL36**

From Ellison Road an easy wander along the Makaretu visiting Happy Daze and Awatere Huts; return the same way. Access through Fernlea Farm; can drive part-way through farm.

**Organiser:** Janice Love    Ph 877 5442

**Wed 20 March                      Yeomans Track**

Check out Ellis Hut and/or the track to the top.

**Organiser:** Janice Love    Ph 877 5442

**Wed 27 March                      Cycle from Maraekakaho War Memorial**

**Organiser:** Graeme Hare    Ph 844 8656

**29/30 March                      Kaweka FP                      \$15                      Maps BJ37**

From Cameron carpark at Kuripapango, wade up the Ngaruroro River to overnight at Cameron Hut; return same route. On the Saturday there is an overland option via Smith Russell Track to Cameron Hut with a downriver on Sunday.

**Wed 3 April                      Golden Crown**

See if we can get to Parks Peak Hut this time.

**Organiser:** Christine Hardie    Ph 844 9590

**Wed 10 April                      Cycle Waipawa - Waipukurau**

Over the Tukituki river on the newish bridge is a highlight.

**Organiser:** Alasdair Shaw    Ph 877 6225

**13/14 April                      Ruahine FP                      \$15                      Maps BK36**

Leave Te Aute Road at midday on Saturday and walk up Waipawa River to our club hut, Waikamaka. Sunday is a chance to explore around the area before returning the same way back. A shorter option is to Waipawa Chalet (Forks) Hut for the night.

**Wed 17 April      Holts Bush**

An Autumn visit.

**Organiser:** Pauline Mahoney    Ph 844 1052

**19/22 April      Easter - Kaimanawas      \$      Maps BH35/BH36/BJ35**

Leave from Kaimanawa Road, climb up on to Umukarikari Range with superb views over Lake Taupo and Tongariro National Park; drop down to overnight at Waipakihi Hut. On Saturday follow Waipakahi River to a well-used campsite just before the junction with Urchin Track. On Sunday it's up to Urchin Ridge, northwest back to the ridgeline, head towards Sharp Cone high point and return to the truck. On Monday we will drive along The Desert Road and walk into Castle Rock high point along the army corridor before departing for home. Depending on weather, the order of visiting the two areas could be reversed.

**Wed 24 April      Cycle the Tukituki Circuit**

**Organiser:** Rodger Burn    Ph 877 6322

**28 April      Ruahines      \$15      Maps BL36**

From Alder Road ascend initially over farmland and, once in the bush, follow a well-marked track to Hinerua Hut; possibility to drop down a side stream and visit Smiths Stream Hut to rejoin the party at Hinerua before returning by the same route. This is dependent on getting permission from the landowners; if not forthcoming we may have to access from Mill Road.

**Organiser:** Glenda Hooper    Ph 877 4183

**Wed 1 May      Gold Creek Area – Ruahines**

To the hut this time.

**Organiser:** Graeme Hare    Ph 844 8656

**Wed 8 May      Cycle Apley Road Circuit**

**Organiser:** Lyn Walch    Ph 650 6965

**11/12 May      Kawekas      \$15      Maps BJ37, BH37**

Drive to the end of Makahu Road and follow the Mohaka to Te Puia Lodge; then an easy stroll to Mangatainoka Hot Springs for a soak before dinner. Sunday, climb towards Makino Hut; at the junction turn left, descend along the ridgeline to the saddle on Makahu Road.

**Organiser:** Susan Lopdell    Ph 844 6697

**Wed 15 May      Limestone Rocks and Caves**

Revisit this area off Pohokura Road.

**Organiser:** Pete Hewitt    Ph 877 5188

**Wed 22 May      Cycle the Otane Loop Tracks**

A CHB tour de force.

**Organiser:** Des Smith    Ph 022 3706 118

**26 May                      Kaweka Memorial Cairn                      \$15                      Maps BJ37**  
 There has been much chatter about rebuilding the club's memorial cairn atop of Kaweka J to what it was when first erected. This tramp is to do a reece and see what work is required and gather stones in preparation for the rebuilding. Returning either by Dick's/Trial/Don's spur to Makahu Saddle carpark

**Wed 29 May                      Spooners Hill**  
 A pretty walk in the bush and also to other areas in the vicinity.  
**Organiser:** Roy Frost    Ph 021 0238 4519

**1-3 June                      Queens Birthday - Ruahines                      \$15                      Maps BL36**  
 From Kashmir Farm wander in to one of our club huts – Howletts, via Daphne ridge. Sunday, head southwards to Longview hut via the Oroua Saddle, Otumore and the Pohangina Saddle. Monday, returning to the transport. Possibility for an alternative to stay at Daphne hut and back out the same way.  
**Organiser:** John Montgomeie    Ph 877 7358

**Wed 7 June                      Cycle Park Island to Bay View various options.**  
**Organiser:** Garry Smith    Ph 844 9931

**9 June                      Te Kooti's Lookout                      \$15                      Maps BH39**  
 This trip is dependent on getting permission from the landowners. Cross over the bridge on the Mohaka and wander along forestry road then ascend to the remnants of Te Kooti's Lookout; there were two totem poles remaining when the club last visited this historic spot.

**Wed 12 June                      Walks in Te Mata Park**  
**Organiser:** Rodger Burn    Ph 877 6322

**Wed 19 June                      Cycle Ride Somewhere in CHB**  
**Organiser:** Alasdair Shaw    Ph 877 6225

**Wed 26 June                      Clover Patch – Kaweka FP**  
 Start from Littles Clearing.  
**Organiser:** Scott Campbell    Ph 879 8554