

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB

(Inc)

Bulletin No. 11.

22nd, January, 1938.

New Year. Here it is at long last - the first Bulletin of the Humble apologies for the lateness of publication.

Many of our Members have been too busy to worry about getting a Bulletin anyway - but at least two Members have been worrying about getting it out.

As is usual at this time of the year most of our active members have been scattered over a large area. Quite a number graced Taupo with their presence but nothing strenuous was attempted. Normen Elder has been flitting fairly well all over the country-side. Two dashes into the Ruahines from the Taihape side, one trip into the Manson Country and several other day trips. Dr. Bathgate, Dr. Wyn Irwin and Fred Green were in the Mt. Arthur tableland, Nelson, with the Hutt Valley Tramping Club.

Other members either left town quietly or lay low to recover from Christmas and New Year revelry because nothing has been heard re their doings.

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PERSONALS:

Congratulations to Dave and Elsie Christie - these two foundation members have a daughter - the first of the new generation of Trampers.

Our congratulations also to the Fitzgeralds who have a daughter.

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Dave Williams has been having a bad spin with his health and he has had to give up tramping for a short time. Dave has been out on every trip since the Club started and on recent trips we have missed not only his company but the fine photos he turns out.

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Doug Cooke is still one of the stiff - his knee is still in plaster. However he should be right again before the snow falls.

PERSONALS CONTD

Peter Lattey, the designer of the Kaweka Hut, went up to inspect the completed job recently and said some very nice things about those who were instrumental in completing the Hut.

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John H. von Dadelszen, Barrister and Solicitor ! At this year's examinations John has picked himself two flowers which give him this title. Great work John. Should the Tramping Club get into trouble at any time we shall contact you for a competitive quote for legal services !

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Ailie Baird has the distinction of having paid the first subscription in the Club's third year. Other members are not to be discouraged but are requested to pay up in the usual way and nothing further will be said.

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FEDERATION BUSINESS:

The Federation has approved our suggestion that Dick Clark should be added to the list of persons to whom the Police could refer if Search is necessary in the East Coast area.

The Heretaunga Tramping Club's Colours and Badge have been approved by the Colours Sub-Committee.

MOUNTAIN GUIDES' ACT:

The Government propose that proposed regulations covering the licensing of Guides should be extended to cover unpaid Guides as well as professionals. This obviously affects Tramping Clubs closely and a special Meeting of the Federation executive is being held to go into this question.

PAST TRIPS.

Trip No. 55. Nov. 6th - 7th. Kaweka Hut: This trip went off rather well. Three parties went up to Kuripapanga on Saturday and Sunday. An early party on Saturday morning spent the day on the tops and the main party which left Hastings only twenty-five minutes late were in at the Hut by 7.30p.m. Someone should tell Jack Hannah that the Tutaekuri River was put there to cross not to bathe in. Another shocking mishap was breakfast in bed for the girls on Sunday morning. It may be necessary to set up a Royal Commission to go into this. However, the tramping was good, the leader took the party to the Kaweka Trig 5652' in 3½ hours from the Hut - this included stops for meals, glissading etc. Nice work Doug. Coming back from the Trig the main party met a small day party and combined, returning to the Hut vis Cook's Horn. Should anyone wish to know the way down from this landmark ask Fred. He'll tell you all the wrong ways then all you have to do is take the only alternative and your difficulties are solved. Elementary my dear Watson!

16 plus N.Elder's party. Doug Callow.

Trip No. 56. Nov. 21st. Te Kowhai: Main party left Hastings at 6.30 a.m. (so the leader said!) and picked up eight members from Napier. It must have been a tough ride because on arrival at Hawkston at 9 a.m. some of the members had to pep up their energy by one horsepower to stagger into the TeKowhai Homestead. Some of the party stayed to mind the horses while the others went up the long low ridge at the back of the Homestead and round the tops of the TeKowhai block. Apparently they were on the top of Don Juan but to make sure Rolf photographed a group on every peak in case there was some mistake. Quite an interesting easy day over new country.

22. Les Holt.

Trip No. 57. Dec. 4th-5th. Rushine Hut: This was a great trip and though weather was not too good at the beginning it was perfect on Sunday. Ronagh staggered up to the Hut carrying overweight in the form of a jar of strawberries (plus the cream) and like all others who have more than their share of the better things of life found she had many friends that night. Jack Taylor turned on a nice line of entertainment on an accordian. Next day although some of the party hoped to get as far as the Concrete Whare this was found to be out of the question, but they had quite a decent day following the Te Koa stream down to the Ngaruroro. Hunter Holt went little game shooting. The leader conferred with his followers as to advisability of going down the Ngaruroro but this was abandoned on account of the river being too high. Arrived back at the Hut 5 p.m. and were out at the road by 8p.m. Owing to the small number on this trip Fred gave a nice song and dance entitled "Drain on the Transport Funds". This was unfortunate - (the drain, not the song and dance.)

11 Arch Toop.

Trip No. 58. Dec 12th. Shut Eye Shack: This trip was a fizzer. An alternative trip to Red Island was substituted, was cancelled owing to foul weather. However, it is understood that the trip went off on the 19th with quite a good crowd in attendance. No leader's report to hand.

No. 59. New Year. Ruahine Crossing: The party reached Taihape by rail on the 29th. December and spent the night in the Domain. 30th/Dec. Nicholl's mail lorry left about 9 a.m. next morning and the party had left Mokai station before noon climbing 1500' on the pack track, then sidling into the saddle between Check and Mokai, then sidling again till a good spur into the Maropea presented itself. This reached the Maropea about an hour below the forks, which were under five hours' travelling time from the homestead. The Maropea is narrow for some distance above the forks and the first possible camp sites were  $\frac{5}{4}$  hour on. 31st. Dec.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours' wading up a rather cramped stream bed brought the party to the upper basin, where there is an abrupt change, tributaries coming down from Maropea and Armstrong's Saddle to form an open basin worth future investigation. However after a meal the northern spur was followed by a good game track  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours to the main ridge, 3 to the tussock, south of Remutupo and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to a camp site on a narrow bench beyond Te Atua Mahuri. The weather promptly broke as the tend went up. 1st. Jan, 1938 Still thick and drizzling outside. Away at 11 a.m. left Tupari at 1 p.m. and in attempting to steer by watch and compass round the head of the Mangatera overshot the turn and after spending an hour or more trying to locate the route, dropped down into the bush to a deer wallow and camped. Mist and intermittent drizzle all evening. 2nd. Jan. The mist partly lifted at sunrise to show Pohatuhaha and the Makaroro Valley ahead. An early start took us back to the tops and less than two hours travelling had the party at the old camp at the head of the Makaroro at 9 a.m.. Mist was intermittent but not troublesome - the sharp turn off Piopio being clear.

The next two hours were entirely clear and the first part of the plateau was tackled in great style. All being fairly clear ahead an hour's halt was made for lunch in a gully at the head of the tussock, but a misty drizzle wet in suddenly and hopes of getting through that night were dashed. The next stretch, apparently level plateau, is actually a labyrinth of even-topped ridges, and all smothered in scrubby bush which the deer appear to have abandoned judging from the overgrown tracks. About 3 hours' effective travelling by compass was done that afternoon and another  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours exploring a very complete dead-end. The party turned one complete circle in trying to locate a track. 3rd. Jan. An hour through some awkward bush saddles saw the party on tussock near Herrick's Spur and in familiar country.  $\frac{5}{4}$  hour was spent on Ohawai remapping the plateau and 2 hours at No Man's Hut, washing the cooking. Tracks of the weekend party were first seen where the track turns south near Lessong's Monument, their note picked up at the gate. Leaving the Ruahine Hut at 3.25 the party reached Big Hill at 6.15 to find the

phones out of order. However a message was relayed through, thanks to Mrs. Jowsey, and John von D. made a very welcome guest to supper.

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PRIVATE TRIPS:

Dec. 24th-28th. Mokai Patea: Brian Mason (C.M.C.) and N.L.Elder. After sampling Christmas hospitality of the Inland Patea cut out Taihape and went into the whare (unroofed) on Mokai Patea. Series of fine days with mist 4p.m. to 8 a.m. Reached Rongotea, picked an easy cross-country route into the Maropea forks. The main object of the trip to find some snails related to the Takaka group was successful.

Jan. 6th.- 9th. 1938. John von D. and N.L.Elder, put the Manson Hut on the map, meeting a party of deer cullers there, mapped the country west of the Ngaruroro and returned via Kaweka Trig. The wildyl-rocky creek west of the Trig was attempted and has been given the provisional name of Rowks Ahead Creek.

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CLUB ROOM EVENTS:

On the 5th. November Bill Reid, Tararua Tramping Club, substituted at short notice for Mr. E.J.Herrick, who was indisposed, and gave a really fine talk on "Roping on Roak Fac es."

From the way Bill handled the tangled rope supplied he should be a little wizard with fishing or knitting problems.

There seems to be more than meets the eye in this roping business. Its not just a matter of tying bodies up like a string of sausages - care must be taken so that each member of the party is roped firmly but comfortably, sothat in the case of one slipping two or more of the others are in a position to take the strain. It would appear that the leader of a rock-climbing party should have the combined qualities of a montain goat and an Empire State building window-cleaner because the safety of the party depends on the judgment and ability of this man. Another important fact mentioned is the necessity to keep moving. It is far better to look back at a rocky crag crumbling away than to be standing still on it when it decides to stop being useful.

Bill told us many other interesting points and those members who missed his talk missed something invaluable.

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Mr. Ralph Paynter gave us an interesting talk on the 19th. November covering some of his experiences in Switzerland last year. It would be impossible to give members a detailed account of his talk as space does not permit. However some of the details -

Scenic Railway from Zermatt ascends from 5314' to 10289' in six miles (Trampers cannot compete) And for the privilege of having done this Tourists are charged 6/6 sterling at the top for a cup of tea. Practically all Switzerland railways are electrified.

35000 acres of grapes growing in the open air, average size of farms 22½ acres - women work as hard as men - (good, let's go there !)

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Most appeals usually cost someone something but this appeal is directed to those members who have been absent on our recent trips. If they heed this appeal it will only be necessary for them to expend a certain amount of energy which will be more than repaid by general physical fitness.

Look over the following list and make a resolution to come out on some of these trips.

No. 61. Feb 6th. Makaroro Forks: This will be a great river trip, through bush country.

Leader: Lesley Matheson,  
Phone : 3860

Feb 13th - 14th. Waimarama: C L U B P I C N I C, Weekend or day trip. If you can't come for the night come anyhow.

Ringmaster: Les Holt  
Phone : 2071.

No. 62. Feb 19th-20th. Blackburn: Last trip was unsuccessful, This time success should be well within our reach.

Leader: Ken Hindman  
Sub Leader: Max McCormick.

No. 63. Mar. 6th. Kairakau: Beach trip. Bring your buckets and spades.

Nursemaid: Geoff Piesse  
Phone: 2884

No. 64. Mar 20th. Southern Kawekas: Details to be arranged.

No. 65. Apl. 3rd. Shuteye Shack: Trial search Maropea. This is a bit of new ground and to make a thorough job of the search we would like a good crowd to turn out.

Leader: Janet Moncrieff  
Phone: Napier 454.

Sub Leader: Norman Elder  
Phone: 2968.

No. 66. Easter Apl 15th-18th: E C M O N T !!! Per Government Bus Book early and avoid disappointment.

Leader: Ronagh Hoben  
Phone 3996.

No. 67. Apl. 24th-25th. (Anzac Day): Kaweka Hut, Further details will be arranged later.

Leader: Arch Toop  
Phone: 4102

No. 68. May 1st. Whakararas: Bald Hill and Little Andrews. This will be new to most members and quite an easy trip.

Leader: Lloyd Wilson  
Phone: 2946.

No. 69. May 15th. Mangatutu Gorge: A new trip. The gorge is between Te Kohai and the Tutaekuri River.

Leader: Fred Green  
Phone: 2242.

No. 70. May 28th.-29th. Howlett's Hut:

Leader. Norman Elder  
Phone. 2968.

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Once again, Leaders are earnestly requested to assist in the preparation of the Bulletin by handing in reports of their trips. It is intended to compile a Club Log Book from these reports.

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