

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC)

BOX 447, HASTINGS

'P O H O K U R A'

Bulletin No. 151

August, 1982.

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CLUB TRIPS

No. 1241

4 April, 1982.

WAIKAMAKA :- THREE JOHNS

Sunday dawned somewhat overcast after a brilliant Saturday. This, however did not daunt 23 keen trampers from turning up more or less on time and heading for the headwaters of the Waipawa River. After a halt for one of two seedy members we arrived at the Triplex Creek ford where we met up with Stan Woon and two friends.

Leaving the truck at the end of the road, we were in the river and on our way by 8.30 a.m. after a leisurely trip up to the Waipawa River to the Waipawa Chalet we split into two parties and made our way up to the saddle. Halfway up, Huey started throwing his weight around and parkas and overtrousers were donned in to the inclement conditions. We met up with Dyan Coombes and friend just below the saddle and passed the time of day for as long as the blustery weather would allow then tootled on up and over the saddle.

By this time it was raining heavily but once over the saddle we were out of the wind and it was quite enjoyable boulder hopping down the stream in the rain everybody, with the exception of Jackie Smith and five others who had turned back at the saddle were escorted in the Waikamaka Hut and munching out by 12.30 p.m.. one or two of the later arrivals were feeling a little cold by the time they got there but soon warmed up after a brew.

We started moving out with the slower ones heading the bunch about 1.30 p.m. before we had reached the saddle the rain stopped and by the time we arrived at the chalet again there were patches of blue sky showing which prompted remarks from a foolish few to the effect that it might be an idea to go back up to the saddle and have a look at three Johns but common sense prevailed and that idea was squashed.

We arrived back at the truck about 4.30 p.m. and from there headed back to Hastings. via the fish and chip shop at Waipawa.

Leader: No. in Party 23

Lynette O'Connor, Karen Lancaster, Randall Goldfinch, Sara Gilkison, Shona Thimson, Jan Machiela, Michael Henly, Craig Ball, Keith Mitcherson, Gerald Blackburn, Peter Berry, Julie ann McCracken, Lee Barrett, Jackie Smith, Jason Stent, Casey Stent, Bill Bainbridge, Stan Woon, Steve Kildord, Tony Howard Chris White, Geoff Homes.

No. 1243 17-18 April, 1982

#### HOWLETTS

This trip was to place a plaque in Howletts Hut in memory of Pgil Bayens it was very good to see Else and her family present for this memorial service. To see such a large gathering of trampers just shows the high regard in which Phil was held within the Hertaunga Tramping Club. To the writer it was certainly a tramp up memory lane not just to Howletts Hut, but in memory of a young lad, the same age as myself who at the age of 22 years joined the H.T.C. and was immediately accepted as one of the boys. With my last trip to Howletts being around 1950, it was with great excitement and expectations I prepared my pack for this trip.

Saturday 17th April, 1982 dawned a beautiful, clear day. Off down to Holts for a 7 a.m. start, and it was the adre that was flowing. While driving from Waipukarau to Mill Farm and looking right up the spur to Howletts it did not look to be far way. Arriving at Mill Farm around 8.30 a.m. we donned packs and headed off down to the Moorcock Stream. Moorcock! that bought back some memories of planting trees and flying tents while assisting the forestry plant some trees at the head waters.

After 3½ to 4 hours of splashing our way up the Tuki-Tuki and noticing the big changes in the river-bed we arrived at Daphne Hut to a most welcome cuppa tea and lunch. Then over the river with dry feet and what was to be very long painful climb up Daphne Spur. Some grey-headed gentleman seemed to be climbing quite well until the half-way mark. Cramp set in first in one leg and then in the other. After struggling on for a while, some very kind, fit trampers relieved him of his pack thus enabling him to reach his ultimate aim - Howletts. Phil had described the hut and the alterations that had been done to me just after the grand opening. Seeing was believing, what a magnificent hut, the club has made, my congratulations to all of those who did the planning and the slogging it must have taken to complete, WOW!!!! I slept on a mattress in Howletts. It's far more comfortable than the old sack bunks.

With 23 bods all cooking tea at the same time, it was very surprising to see the variety of foods now available to trampers these days. The old stew used to be good but waiting 4 hours for it to cook was hard going. After much scraping i.e. scraping the paint off, and discussion by Randall and Trevor the spot for the plaque in memory of Phil was ready for the following morning. As usual we were entertained for some time by the twit nits of the party with great yarns and talks. Trampers will never change thank God!!!!

Sunday 18 th, we awoke to brilliant sunshine, no wind and a light mist. Jenny Christmas and David Harrington arrived during breakfast both looking very fit after their dash from Mill Farm.

With breakfast over and a clean-up Trevor read several messages from some of the members unable to make the trip and several of those present said a few words on how Phil had touched their lives in some way or other. Craig Ball, the youngest member on the trip, ably assisted by Debbie Bayens attached the plaque above the stove. After standing for a minute in memory of Phil, the hope was expressed that the plaque remain forever at Howletts in his memory. Photographs followed and the 'very slow' party headed off down Daphne, some on very shaky legs. On the way down tuis sang their songs, wood pigeons were in abundance and a stag roared on the opposite ridge.

Arriving at Daphne Hut we had lunch and then headed off down stream arriving at Mill Farm around 4.30 p.m. After a very happy and successful trip we arrived back in Hastings around 7.30 p.m.

Stan Woon.

Leader: Trevor Plowman

No in Party: 23

Chris White, Sara Gilkison, Karen Lancaster, Randall Goldfinch, Diane and Greg Jenks, Els, Debbie, Phillip and Michael Bayens, Stan Woon, Michael Henley, Luke Holmes, Cliff Epplett, Jan Machela, Bill Bainbridge, Peter Berry, Peter McBride, Jenny Christmas, David Harrington, Lee Barrett.

Trip No. 1244

Colenso Lakes (via Otukota)

The trip should have been to Colenso Lakes. Unfortunately we made a wrong turning on the farmland and ended up at the wrong road end. It seemed to be the correct one - a big carpark, a big sign and enormous white marker poles heading out over the farmland - just like Geoff had told us. The poles must lead to the Colenso Lakes track we thought. A couple of hours later, standing on top of the Mokai Patea range in the clag we thought again.

"I don't think we are supposed to be up here Randall."

"Ah well, gee Rob, I think you're right."

"Where are we then Randall?"

"Let's just keep following these big white poles Rob - they must lead us somewhere."

They did. To a big sign which said-----

" STATE FOREST PARK "

"Well that's a "?!\*!!"\*?!" lot of god!!!"

Some time later the intrepid team arrived down at the Maropea River just below Otukota Hut. But, determined not to make things easy for ourselves, we proceeded to make a minor epic out of getting to the hut. It took us full 15-20 minutes to progress 100 metres or so up to the terrace on which the hut stood.

The next day we headed downstream until reaching a swing bridge a short distance above Ironbark Hut. The trip down the river had been interesting with a few rather deep crossings in the icy water. The Maropea is a very steep river with some good rapids - almost canoeable at high water levels.

From the swing bridge we left the river and headed back up onto Mokai Patea. From the top we could see our mistake of yesterday. We had been on valley over from the correct one. Both had streams and almost identical 4 Wheel Drive tracks along them. To get to the correct road end you go through the stockyards where there is a big Forest Service Sign saying, DON'T GO THROUGH THE STOCKYARDS." You disobey this only if you have received permission from the property owner.

It was a enjoyable tramp despite the geographic embarrassment - however it took us all of 4 hours to drive to the road end, and that's a lot of travelling to not get to where you wanted to go.  
No in Party: ?

Rob Clark, Randall Goldfinch, Perry Hicks, Craig Ball, Micheal Henly, Keith Mitcheson, Cliff Epplett.

The trudge up to Pohangina Saddle had'nt got any easier since I last attempted it. It was nice to be on the tops on a pleasant day all the same. Originally we had thoughts of reaching Howletts Hut for lunch and then returning to Moorcocks Base via the Tukituki and Midge sidehill track. However, on reaching the deep saddle on the way common sense fortunately prevailed and we dropped off the ridge down a spur which came down to the Tuki tuki at Daphne Hut.

From Daphne Hut it took a little over 2 hours to reach the truck at the base via the side track. The track comes out on the ridge above Moorcocks Stream and it is a simple matter to drop down the obvious open spur, cross the stream and walk a short distance to the forestry base.

This route into Daphne would seem to be a far more sensible one in winter when the Tukituki can be very cold. It proved a very interesting tramp for most of us as we discovered new routes into a frequently visited area.

No in Party: 9

Allan Holden, Philip Holden, Janet Brown, Michael Henly, Craig Ball, Lew Harrison, Rob Clark, Perry Hicks.

No 1246 (b)

Pohangina - Awatere Trip

30th May, 1982.

Having arrived safely at Moorcocks forestry base road head on a lovely, clear, crisp, frosty morning, it was decided to split into two groups to allow the eight more hardy souls more time to do their thing. My bunch headed off tramping the usual long drag along the four wheel drive track.

We had a short break before heading up the fence line to the top of the ridge. From here good views were to be had out to the Heretaunga Plains and also up to Long View Hut. The track follows along this ridge until it drops down to the stream and across, which lies Awatere Hut, that was still surrounded by a heavy ground frost. It was decided to move back to the stream and the sun to boil the billy for lunch.

After lunch most of us explored further down the north branch of Makaretu Stream, finding the old Black Stag Hut on the left; on returning to the main group we split again, with some returning via the ridge which some of us headed back upstream before climbing out and up to the Longview Hut Track where we met up with some Napier Tramping Club members.

An enjoyable days tramping in the sun was had by all.

No in Party: 13

Leader: Geoff Robinson

Jackie Smith, Casey Stent, Roy Peacock, Iain Dickson, Betty Chittick, Steve Bowden, Dave McDonald, Lyndder Hirst, Jan Machiella, Stan Woon, Seale Kilford, Raymond Lowe.

5

Ruapehu - Snowcraft Weekend

Trip No: 1247 (a)

Queens Birthday

Once again the weather thwarted attempts to conduct a worthwhile weekend in the snow. Saturday and Sunday were marred by howling winds and rain, preventing us going up the mountain. Four people set off on a round Ngararuhoe and Tongariro trip whilst the remainder passed the time with a tramp to Tama Lakes on the Saturday and then a struggle against the wind up Mangatepopo Valley on the Sunday.

Then, magically, the weather cleared on Sunday night, revealing Ruapehu in all its splendour, lit by a full moon. Four of us headed up the mountain that night, and the rest were to come up the next morning to do some snowcraft.

The four of us who ventured up on Sunday night found that the gale force winds of earlier in the day had abated. The moon provided ample light to ascend without torches. After spending the night at the top of Knoll Ridge the next day we went up to the Crater Lake for a look-see (in perfect weather). Unfortunately we were under instructions to be down by 1.00 p.m. which gave us no time to climb anything.

We came down the mountain about 1.00 p.m. and met the others in the carpark. They had spent the day in Brokenleg Gulley practising their self arresting. However they did not get up the mountain until late in the morning and it seems a shame that they wasted so much of the day. Ruapehu doesn't often present you with a day as perfect as that Monday.

I feel that for future snow craft courses people should be made aware of what is required of them. If they are not prepared to give that sort of commitment than they would be far better going off on a day tramp around the mountain instead of holding up people who really do want to learn something about snow and ice.

No in Party: 15

Leader: Rob Clark

Rob Clark, Janet Brown, Lew Harrison, Paul Wolstenholm, Ross Berry, Peter Berry, Sue O'Malley, Clive Thurston, Karen Glass, Luke Holmes, Geoff Holmes, Lee Barret, Craig Ball, Michael<sup>3</sup> Henly, Delia Findly.

Trip No: 1247 (b)

5-7 June

Tongariro National Park

Party 2

Heading out from the Chateau we made our way towards Tama Lakes via the low track which took us along the Wairere Stream to the Tararaki Falls. We had a brief stop at Lower Tama to survey the lake. From the lookout the lake spread over a large area surrounded by sheer bluffs except for the outlet end of the lake. We were eager to head on to Waihoon Hut because Hutt Valley and Victoria University tramping

clgbs were in the same vicinity, and we wanted to be sure of a bunk for the night so the pace was on. We finally reached Waihohonu Hut around 4-30p.m.

The new hut, across the river, was full of Toi-Toi trekkers from Auckland and other private groups. We decided to stay in the Old Waihohonu Hut. The hut was very interesting because of its historic background. It was built in 1901 and a photograph on the hut wall shows coaches and buggies pulling up outside the hut. Initials on the walls and doors date back to 1901. The walls of the hut are about 8 inches thick, packed with pumus and lined with iron to give better insulation.

The next day, Sunday, was looking poor. The cloud was sitting low over Mt. Tongariro and there was a constant fall of sleet throughout the morning. We made Oturere Hut for lunch which we were all looking forward to.

"Shall we attempt Mt. Tongariro or shall we stay put until tomorrow and hope the weather clears?"

The decision was to go over Mt. Tongariro and head for Ketetahi Hut. We didn't waste time going over Tongariro. The winds were nearly gale force making it difficult to stand up and walk in a straight line. Going over Central Crater we only had time to glance at Emerald Lakes and the Blue Lake. The Central Crater area looks very inviting, on a fine day it would be fantastic.

Ketetahi Hut, as usual, was full but we managed to find a bunk and have a comfortable night. It was here Peter cursed Oturere Hut because he realised that he had left his billy full of food on the hut bench.

Monday was a brilliantly clear still day. The four of us wandered on down to the road and where the truck picked us up early that afternoon.

Thanks Geof Holmes for driving.

No in Party 4

Leader: Clive Thurston.

Karen Glass, Sue O'Malley, Peter Berry,

Trip No: 1248(a)

13 th June.

#### Coppermine Creek/ Wharite

Leaving Coppermine Hut at around 10.00am, four of us headed off towards Wharite television tower. It should be noted that the hut is marked incorrectly on the N.Z.M.S. N.149 map. G.R. of the hut is 363-492. The track leading to Wharite starts nearly directly opposite the hut and heads on to a prominent ridge. The first section of track was steep and very slippery. As we moved on to the tops the cloud came in and the rain started.

After tramping for over 1½ hours we saw this great tower standing high on the knob. We were unable to see the top

because of the low cloud. I was expecting to find a tiny control shed at the base of the tower, but was amazed to see this massive building probably covering over 2500sq. feet.

We made our way around to the front of this building and rung the door bell. Two technicians were on duty at the time who kindly showed us around the installation. The building was full of transmitting equipment for both television 1 and 2. There were a number of work shops, a control room, offices and a generator room. We were fortunate enough to use there smoko room for our lunch, and were able to watch a little television on the side.

It didn't take us long to return to the cars using the same track as we used to go up. As soon as we reached the cars it started to rain so we hurriedly changed and headed back to Hastings. Thankyou Randell and George for the use of your transport.

No in Party 4

Leader Clive Thurston.

Randall Goldfinch, Rob Vork, Michael Henley.

Trip No: 1248 (b)

#### Coppermine Creek

We moved slowly up the creek panning for gold and looking at rocks as we went. Didn't find any. We had lunch at Coppermine Creek Hut which was quite tidy, but had no fireplace. Then we had a grovel further up the creek looking for mines, but as it was miserable weather we turned back. Arriving not long before the others, then into Danivirke for greasies.

No in Party 3

Leader George Prebble.

Peter, Jan.

Trip No 1249

26-27 June.

#### Tararuas - Kime Hut

We left Hastings about 6-30 on Friday night and headed south, picking-up Allan and Judy on the way. We went into Parawai Hut at Otaki Forks, after all piling into David's Suzuki to cross the ford and travel the last bit to the hut.

In the morning no one was too keen for an early start. There was a good foot climb ahead and anyway it was still raining. We set off for field hut where we arrived 2½ hours later for lunch. Then the final summit push. Up we went onto the wide rolling tops where a gusty wind and softish snow made walking interesting. It took 2 more hours to reach Kime Hut, a big fairly new Tararua T.C. Hut. No mattereses so it was sore hips again for soft Hawkes Bay Trampers used to huts with mattereses.



There were two other groups in the hut. One was a rowdy bunch of Venturers who had climbed 4000 feet to have a party. They let everyone know how sorry they were that we weren't eating as well as they were. They also decided to get up in the middle of the night to see the lights of Wellington. By morning it was misty again, so we took our time with breakfast and left about 10.

The mist started to clear slowly and by the time we came to the ridge we had come up it had turned into a brilliant day. We could see Wellington and further south the two ranges of the Kaikouras. Mount Hector was sparkling persil white on one side of us, the west coast was on the other. We decided to go back a different way. We continued along the tops for another 2 miles or so then dropped off another ridge, all the way down to Penn Creek Hut for a quick lunch about 3.

We walked steadily as the sun dropped and we had to use torches for the last bit of bush. We got back to Parawai Hut about 6. A great trip. Why so little interest?

No in Party 5

Leader David Harrington.

Jenny Christmas, Judy Hansen, Alan Lee, Michael Henley.

Trip No: 1250

11th July.

#### Aranga HUT Via Golden Crown

Although the original intention was to go to Parks Peak Hut, I decided to go up Golden Crown because it was such a lovely day and I wanted the beginners to get up in the snow.

However the snow did not seem to be there any longer and I got the Raspberry about it all the way up until we reached the top and the snow whereupon I tried to look as though I knew it was there all along.

On the way up we'd passed some really wided ice. Ice 6 inches high, some beautifully fluted very delicate, almost petel like ice in a rosette around the base of a dead thistle. Inch thick ice was on a wallow with darker circles on it which turned out when the ice was transposed, to the circular ridges several inches deep, fantastically smooth like they'd been machined on a lathe.

Les and some of the others decided to have lunch and go back from the HUT Ruin sign, while the rest of us set off for Hut Ruin (sign), Aranga (map), or Akarana, (hutdoor) over a very icy track bordered with a foot of snow, past a frozen solid tarn for lunch. There we found one frozen solid wet Mike Henley (the ice on the tarn was as thick as MIKE) Had lunch outside at the hut because it was damp and dingy.

The weather still being fine although partly cloudy, we slipped and slid our way back up and down the rather overgrown track to Sentry Box Hut where Les had the truck waiting for us, and so home for a good feed of greagies. Thanks to Les for driving at very short notice. We must have more

trips with such good weather and company.

No in Party 19 Leader Peter Berry.  
Les Hanger, Mike Bull, Sue Clarke, Randall Goldfinch, Rob Vork, Raymond Lowe. Nancy Mc Lean, Aveleen De Groot, Mike Henley, Craig Ball, Lew Harrison, Clive Thurston, Steve Bowden, Greg Bristow, Stella James, Margaret Cornwell.

No. 1251

30-31 July, 1 August

RUAPEHU TRIP

With a bit of a scramble the truck left Hastings just after 6pm and picked up the Napier contingent around 6.30. After a brief stop in Taupo for dinner for a few minutes and for frozen peas to replace those left in Clives freezer, it was on to Forest and Bird Lodge, arriving there about 11.30pm.

Saturday dawned murky but fine and the truck left for the Top-o-Bruce at 8.30. Most people hired skis (even Randall) and headed for Hut Flat initially where those who had not skied before were pointed in the right direction. Bill Bainbridge got more and more adventurous on his 'controllable' sled until he was regularly going through the waterfall.

Dinner back at the lodge was enjoyable and most people went to bed early after an energetic day.

Sunday's weather was similar but we had to put chains on the truck and wait for the road to open. The Machiela family and Cliff spent the day near the lodge while the rest of us skied (or tobogganed!)

When we met at the truck about 2 pm it was blocked in by two cars - nothing 20 people couldn't fix! Back to the lodge for soup and a change of clothes and on the road home, arriving in Napier at 9 pm.

Thanks to Gerald for driving, to Clive for his help in organising and to all for doing their rostered duties eagerly.

Leader: Allan Holden

No. in Party: 26

Clive Thurston, Randall Goldfinch, Gerald Blackburn, Paul Wolstenholme and Tony, Rob Clark, Janet Brown, Philip Holden, Steve Bamford, Lloyd Beech, Cliff Epplatt, Rob Vork, Lee Barrett, Ross Berry, Machiela Family (5), Bill Bainbridge, Nancy McLean, Karen Glass, Daryl Nesbitt, Craig Ball, Lew Harrison.

No. 1252

8 August

KAWEKA HUT

A good healthy number turned out for this trip. Randall had some work to do on the hut and a number of people helped out before embarking on a trip to Macintosh Hut then out to the Lakes Road. Four of us headed up to the tops, encountering a very cold wind up there. The snow had virtually disappeared from all bar the main peaks. Kaiarahi had very little snow on it.

We dropped off down to Macintosh Hut for lunch then shot down the new track to the Tutarkuri River. The track sidles above the river until it reaches the 3 wire bridge. In two places it traverses scree slopes so it obviously won't last long. However, the river is quite hard going so it is worthwhile staying above it.

Everybody eventually ended up back at the truck after their various escapades and Peter entertained us with his dulcet tones most of the way home.

Another enjoyable H.T.C. trip.

No. in party: 26

Peter Manning, Mike Bull, Tim Wiggins, Wendy Holden, Rob Clark, Denise Wong, Debbie Campbell, Randall Goldfinch, Rob Vork, Steven Bowden, Jim Glass, Karen Glass, Martin Glass, Ross Berry, Geoff Robinson, Clive Thurston, Michael Henley, Mitch Barrett, Craig Ball, Lee Barrett, Lew Harrison, Nancy McLean, Peter Berry, Belinda Hay, Ray Lowe and Bronwyn.

No. 1253

21-22 August

BALLARDS VIA THE HAYBARN

During the week preceeding the trip, the weather had not been nice, with talk of snow down to lower levels. But come Saturday morning the weather was good with snow patches only on the very tops. Four of us lads left the car at Nicholas Hay Barn and tramped into Middle Hill Hut for morning tea, then made for the Kaweka Tops. The Ihaka track was taken so that we could gain some local knowledge, and make use of the good weather. I now consider the more direct track up from Middle Hill Hut is more protected from the weather, shorter in time and easier going. On the tops we headed North over patches of old snow, visability was good but a cold wind was blowing. There was no comparing the conditions in the area to those during the last 'SAR outing' which were atrocious. The good weather meant the snow poles and signs were easily found and problems we had during the search were analysed.

The route over to Ballards Hut was okay except for some tricky patches of snow that were getting icy as the

afternoon sun went down. Ballards Hut with 4 bunks was comfortable for the night.

Next morning we retraced our steps back to the tops, and then continued on down to Makino Hut for lunch. After which we hurried on down the track to the Hot Springs Access Road and David Harrington who gave us a ride up the road back to the hay barn.

Leader: Craig Ball

No. in Party: 4

Peter Scarborough, Michael Henley, Randall Goldfinch.

HERE'S HOPING

Before you go,  
There's one thing more  
Have you fixed  
The firewood store  
Burnt it all  
And gathered none  
A curse upon you  
More than one.

Here's hoping that  
Where next you spell  
The weather's wet  
It rains like Hell.  
The woods all gone  
The bush is soaking  
So once again I say  
Here's Hoping.

Dave Speedan

One time guide etc. with Dave Gunn of  
Hollyford fame. Poem written in Upper  
Pyke Hut, 1948

M.G.T.

PRIVATE TRIPS

18 May

FIVE DAYS IN THE KAWEKAS

We decided to get a good early start but unfortunately that didn't work out because we headed off up 4100 at 12.30 pm. We got to Kiwi Saddle at 4.00 pm and stayed there the night. The next day we took the river route to Kiwi Mouth, had lunch and set off to Manson. We wanted to go on to Ngaawapurua, but after looking in the hut book we found that we would not make it before dark.

On the third day we dropped right down to Ngaawapurua and up the valley to Harkness for the night. The next morning the weather was beautifully fine and we got a good start to Te Puke, but it took us a lot longer to get there because of the wind falls. We didn't think much of the Hut so we carried on to Mangaturutu. It took us three hours and there wasn't much left in us when we got there so we stayed and had lunch then left for Tira Ladge for the night. The next day all the weather permitted us to do was to go out over Middle Hill. Once there Craig called his father from Jack's place and we left for home at 8.00 pm. On Sunday Pete got a lift out to fetch his car from Kuripapango Forestry Base.

Mike Henley, Peter Scarborough, Craig Ball.

July

MID-TERM BREAK AT RUAPEHU

After all the lousy weather Ruapehu had thrown at us lately it was with some disbelief that I gazed out at a blood-red sunrise on a clear, still morning. Frozen feet had to be stomped into equally frozen boots, then the primus roared into life. Janet was eventually coaxed from her sleeping bag by a bowl of porridge and shortly afterwards we were on our way. Alone on the mountain on a perfect morning we climbed the main peak (Tahurangi) and Paretaitonaga then set off back down the mountain.

Then it began. Like a swarm of ants, skiers were coming up to Dome Shelter to ski down the glacier (because the skiing was hopeless lower down).

'You're going down early mate! You're missing the best part of the day', said the skiers, seemingly under the belief that life didn't exist before the chairlifts opened.

Out came the bivi-sac, time for a bit of fun. Down the slopes we hurtled towards the straggling line of ants. Whoops! Suddenly I slipped off the back and Janet accelerated to terminal velocity, sending up a rooster tail of snow as her feet applied the anchors.

Two days later we were standing just below the crater of Nguaruhoe, cursing at the camera which refused to work. Feelings of 'dej'. The same thing happened last time we stood on these slopes. We went up to the crater rim anyway. Nguaruhoe's evil looking crater had a surprise in store for us. As we peered over the edge into its depths it sent a billowing cloud of fumes up to greet us, hastening a rather undignified retreat.

Later that day we trudged up the southern slopes of Tongariro, encountering snow which looked for all the world like coconut ice - maybe that's where the name originated.

Then suddenly it was all over. We were back in the car speeding home to Hawkes Bay. A quick glance at our favourite playground rapidly disappearing in the rear vision mirror and then thoughts were turned to school-work not prepared, tests not marked, and long grass grown longer.

Rob Clark, Janet Brown.

24-25 July

#### EAST FACE OF 66

Rob and I had been planning to do this climb for a couple of months but we had not got a combination of heaps of snow and a nice sunny day.

Rob rang up about lunchtime on Saturday and suggested that we do the climb the following day. The Ruahines were well plastered with snow and the weather, beautifully fine. At about 7.30 pm that night Janet and Rob arrived and picked me up. Between the three of us our gear filled the boot and half the rear seat of the car. We were lucky that we weren't going for more than one day. After bouncing through the ford and retrieving a dropped duvet hood, we strolled into Triplex Hut at about 9.30 pm.

Janet suffered from toothache during the night and by morning decided it was bad enough to give the climb a miss. Rob and I left Triplex at 7.00 am and Janet stayed in bed. She was going back to Napier for treatment.

From the saddle overlooking the Waipawa Forks we had a beautiful view of the East Face. The sun was now up and there appeared to be plenty of snow. The hardest part of the entire trip was the 400 yd walk up the riverbed from the track to the forks. All the rocks were covered with ice and frost. These led to many an anxious moment, while crossing the river.

At the forks we had a discussion as to which route we would take once out of the creek. We then proceeded up the North Branch of the Waipawa River for about 150 yds

and went up the first creek above the forks on the true right bank. The creek is quite awkward to negotiate and it becomes very steep in places. A couple of waterfalls must also be scrambled around.

We had been instructed to keep left at both forks in the creek but at the second fork we went right as it was too difficult to negotiate the icy rocks. After about half an hour of snow plugging we reached the crest of a ridge, from where we saw the snow basin and the main face. By this stage the cloud had come down on the tops. We put crampons and bash hats/canoeing helmets on, traversed across the snow basin and headed up towards the rocks and hopefully the top. The snow was fairly soft but large patches of ice were also in abundance. We followed our nose though the rocky gullies and eventually came onto the top about thirty yards from the trig.

The top of '66' was sheet ice and because of the low cloud we decided to head for the Waipawa Saddle. Lunch was eaten on the top of '67' amidst some nice dry powder. Great for snow shoeing. May as well wear them instead of carrying them, so the snow on the top of '67' was duly scarred by odd shaped tennis rackets. After another quick nibble we zoomed off down the river to the Forks, and back on the overland track to Triplex, where we arrived at about 3.00 pm. We then continued on down to the ford and waited only about three minutes for Janet to arrive, much happier after seeing a dentist.

Thanks to Janet and Rob for a great trip, but I'm sorry that Janet couldn't do the climb with us.

N.B. This trip should not be attempted in groups of more than about four people, because near the top section is fairly confined and problems may occur with a multitude of people negotiating certain areas.

R.B.

Janet Brown, Rob Clark, Ross Berry.

22 August

### MOUNT EDGECUMBE

Mount Edgecumbe overlooks the milling district of Kawerau on the edge of the Matahina Forest. Edgecumbe is an old extinct volcano with a very prominent volcanic look. The slopes are very steep with a small crater only a few hundred yards in diameter at the top.

We started our journey from the floors of the Matahina forest up the 2000' slope on a 4-wheel drive track which zig-zagged, climbing steeply. It wasn't long before we were out of the forest and into the re-generating bush on the slopes. This was very dense off the track and we





At the Sabine Forks there is a choice of two huts 5 minutes apart. We chose the newer one but weren't very successful with a fire.

Next day (Monday it must be by now) was fine and sunny and we were in the bottom of a very deep valley looking longingly at the snowy tops. It was enjoyable walking down to Lake Rotoroa. Here we shared Sabine Hut with another party for the first time on our trip.

From Sabine Hut we climbed 3500 feet to Mt Cedric and then along the tops to Angelus Hut. The weather was fine and nearly calm and we thoroughly enjoyed being among the big snow basins and peaks. Even Lake Angelus and Hinapouri Tarn were covered in snow. That afternoon the cloud came down and during the night it started precipitating - hard to tell whether it was rain or snow.

Our hopes of going back to the car via Robert Ridge went with the weather so it was back down to the Travers Valley and out via Coldwater Hut.

We had heard about Red Deer Lodge (owned by Nelson Deerstalkers) and made arrangements at Park Headquarters to stay there.

We had the place to ourselves but were disappointed that we couldn't get the water system going for a shower. However at \$3.50 a night it's cheap.

Next day looked murky so we gave away the idea of skiing at Rainbow Valley and headed home.

The trip was our first in Nelson Lakes and convinced us that the area is well worth a return visit.

Allan Holden, Rob Clark, Janet Brown.

CLUB MEETINGS

The club will meet at 8.00 pm at the Radiant Living Hall, Warren Street North, Hastings until December 1982. After this contact L. Hanger PH 88 731. for new location. The meeting dates are:

November	10	AGM	March	30
November	24		April	13
December	8		April	27
December	22		May	11
January	19		May	25
February	2		June	8
February	16		June	22
March	2		July	6
March	16		July	20

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 47th Annual General Meeting will be held in the Radiant Living Hall, Warren Street North, Hastings following the usual fortnightly meeting on Wednesday 10th November, 1982.

OVERDUE TRAMPERS

Although returning parties usually plan to be out of the bush well before dark, consideration of safety must always come first. Even after arriving back at the transport, they could be two or more hours on the return journey, plus any unexpected delays. So beginners should make sure that parents or any others who may worry about them know this. Although not normally nearly as late as 10.00 pm, until then it would not be regarded as cause for parents to worry, but in case some unusual delay should occur, all newcomers should see that the list left in town by the leader includes their phone number. For enquiries about OVERDUE PARTIES please contact one of the following:

BERRY 777 223            PLOWMAN 54 303            THORP 434 238

FIXTURE LIST

On many trips parties may divide so the fitter members can undertake a more strenuous trip in the some area. Changes due to unforeseen circumstances could be made to the trip list prior to a trip. Enquire from one of the following:

Peter Manning 82 963            Randall Goldfinch 439 163  
Liz Pindar 67 889            Les Hanger 88 731

TRANSPORT CONTRIBUTIONS:

Due to rising petrol and other costs, these have been raised to \$6.00 per person for local trips and \$10.00 plus for trips outside the Bay. These contributions are payable to the meeting before the trip. If you are unable to make the trip and notify the leader, your fee will be refunded. If the leader is not notified your fee will be accepted with thanks.

November

13-14

Cairn Trip

A trip to the cairn at the top of the Kaweka Range for the memorial service,  
Leader: President

28

Waikoau Gorge

Leaders: Roy Peacock  
Bill Bainbridge

December

11-12 Waikamaka Hut  
This will be a working party with the stove installation in mind.  
Leaders: Randall Goldfinch  
Karen Lancaster

Dec 27 -  
January

10 New Year Trip - Arthur's Pass  
Leaders: Rob Clark  
Lew Harrison

23 Beach Trip  
Ease into the 1983 tramping scene with the beach trip/barbeque. An opportunity for those just returned from the South Island to rest aching limbs.  
Leaders: to be decided

February

5-6 Makahu - Ballards - Vension Tops - Rocks Ahead  
Back Ridge - Kaweka J - Makahu  
A solid two day trip along the tops of the Kawekas. Rember to bring a big water bottle! For others not keen on such arduous activity there is Studholmes or Backridge Hut to visit.  
Leaders: Michael Henley  
Craig Ball

20 Lilo/Raft Trip  
Always plenty of excitement here on either the Nguaruroro or the Mohaka Rivers. Life jackets are necessary for safety reasons  
Leaders: Ross Berry  
Randall Goldfinch

March

5-6 Northern Kaimanawa Forest Park  
Access via Kiko Road. New country to explore thanks to the access way through the pine trees. Camping out could be the order of the night.  
Leaders: David Harrington  
Jenny Christmas

20 Middle Creek Hut - Smith's Creek Hut via Waterfall  
Not too far from home in the Ruahine Ranges. A nice stream and bush walk.  
Leaders: Jim Glass  
Karen Lancaster

1-4 Whakatane River Trip/Waikaremoana Lake Track/  
Waikareui Fundra  
Plenty of variety in this area to satisfy everyone.  
Leaders: Lee Barrett  
Bill Bainbridge

April

- 17 Kiwi Saddle Hut Area  
The shingle slide off 4100 is always worth the slog up the hill. Kiwi Saddle Hut is of course one of the club huts.  
Leaders: Ray Lowe  
Karen Glass

May

- 15 Summit Gentle Annie - Te Iringa Trig - Hoodoo Bush - Timahanga Station  
This is what happens when you don't attend hut, track and fixture meetings - they give you trips like this one!!! Last time we attempted to find a way through Hoodoo Bush we were turned back by man-eating bush lawyer vines which had a habit of wrapping themselves around your jugular vein. Sure to be full of excitement, bad language, and bruises.  
Leaders: Rob Clark  
Janet Brown
- 29 Shut Eye Shack - Armstrong Saddle - Gold Creek  
An enjoyable round trip up Armstrong Saddle and down to the Flounder. An alternative is to drop down the shingle slide into Triplex Creek. An easier trip is up the Flounder and into Gold Creek Hut.  
Leaders: Geoff Robinson  
Rob Vork

June

- 4-6 Tongariro National Park. Waihohonu Hut - Oturere Hut - Ketetahi Hut  
Around the mountains for three days. This trip takes you over Tongariro to reach the hot springs at Ketetahi Hut  
Leaders: Gerald Blackburn  
Bill Bainbridge
- 12 Ahimanawa Range  
Up stream from Taupo Road to Grid Ref. 973910. Not an area we get into often. It should be an interesting exploratory trip.  
Leaders: Peter Berry  
Edward Holmes
- 25-26 Howletts Hut  
If the snow comes early this could provide some excitement. Howletts Hut is the highest in the Ruahines (at 4500'). It's also the nicest and this always makes the slog up Daphne Spur well worth it.  
Leaders: Bill Bainbridge  
Nancy McLean