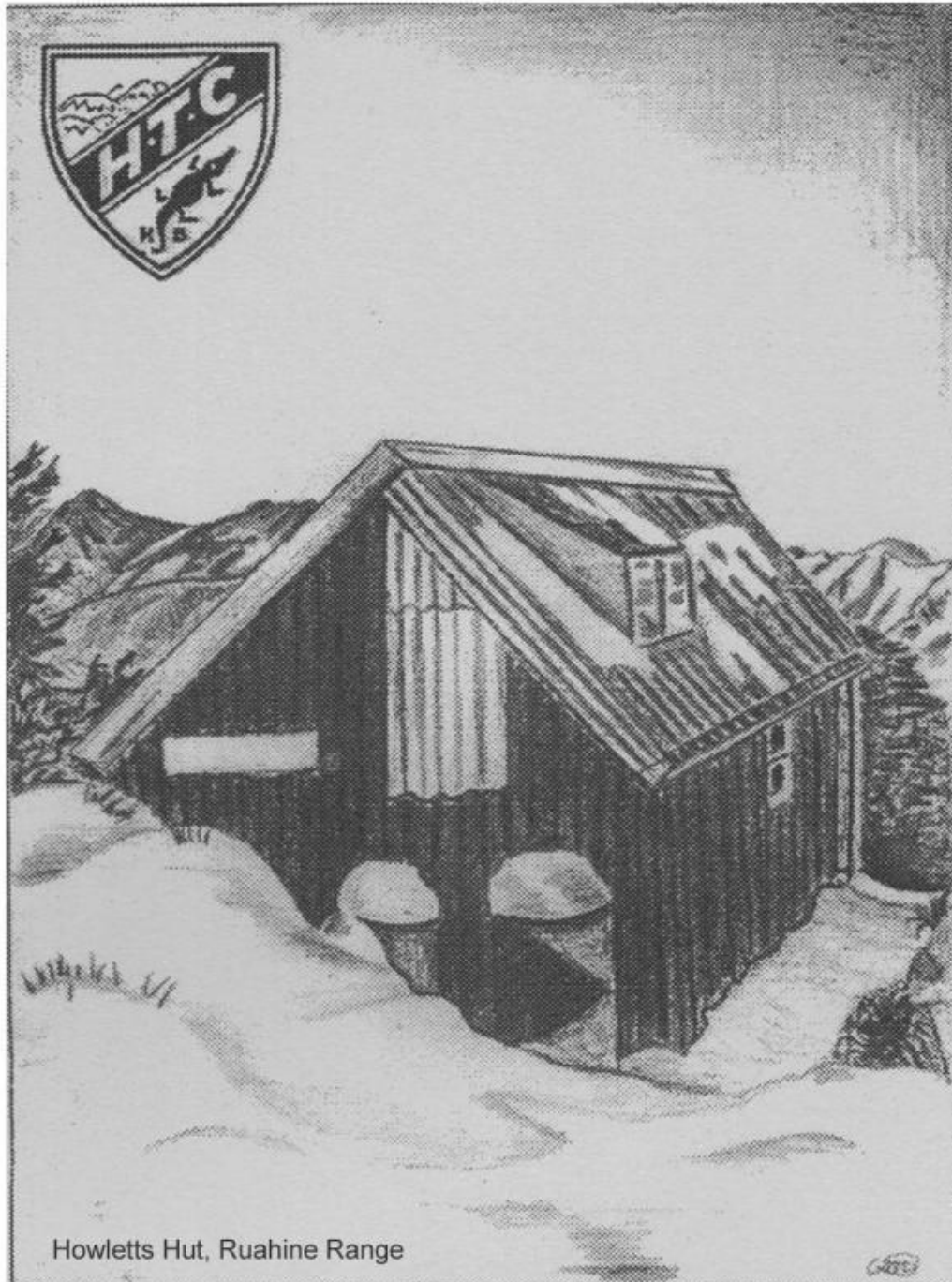


POHOKURA



HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB INC.
HAWKE'S BAY

Pohokura

Club Patron:	Jim Glass		
Treasurer:	Lex Smith	020 41343790	smithers@xtra.co.nz
Club Captain:			
Secretary:	Glenda Hooper	877 4183	1hoop1berry@gmail.com
Editor:	Anne Doig	878 8694	aspecialfx@xtra.co.nz
Committee:	Daniel Haddock	875 8470	danielhaddock2@gmail.com
	Anthea Chiappa	021 154 8608	antheachiappa@gmail.com
	Jude Hay	027 517 4275	judehay25@gmail.com
	Simon Whittam	027 595 4567	s.whittam@startmail.com

Sub Committees:

Hut & Track	John Montgomerie, Anthea Chiappa, Janice Love
Transport	Lex Smith, Peter Hewitt, Peter Berry, Janice Love
Fixtures	Glenda Hooper, Susan Lopdell, Anne Doig, Jude Hay, Simon Whittam, Daniel Haddock, Paula Kasper (Mid-Week Group) - Tramping: Christine Hardie .-. Boots on Bikes: Rodger Burn
Training	Susan Lopdell, Anthea Chiappa, Peter Berry
Social Committee	Jude Hay, Anthea Chiappa, Paula Kasper, Anne Doig
Publicity	Glenda Hooper, Anthea Chiappa, Daniel Haddock, Janice Love
Meetings	Graeme Hare, Philip Mardon
Sales	Penny Isherwood
Scrap Book	Janice Love
Calendar	Alan Berry, Janice Love
Library	Liz Pindar
Supper	Social Committee
Photographic Records	Janice Love
Membership Records	Glenda Hooper

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

Email: tramphtc@gmail.com

Mail: HTC, 316 Te Aute Road, RD 2, Hastings 4172.

Enquiries:

Glenda Hooper 877 4183 Graeme Hare 844 8656 Simon Whittam 027 595 4567

COMMITTEE REPORT 2020 – 2021

It is great that in spite of Covid - 19 and the subsequent fallout that has and still is affecting our daily lives, your club has weathered the storm and moved onwards and upwards. The increase in enthusiastic people joining us to learn about and tramp the valleys and hills with us that started mid 2020 has continued throughout 2021 to give very encouraging membership growth. A number of keen cyclists continue to sign up as well.

In our last Financial Year we had 19 new members join up, which is almost 4 times more than the average over the previous 10 years. Three of our new members participate on the mid-week outings while the rest are predominantly weekend/Sunday trampers. This has thus reflected in more people coming out on trips: Numbers out on Sunday trips over the last year averaged 11 per trip, 2 - 3 more per trip than the averages for the three preceding years. Numbers out on weekend tramps averaged just over 7 members per trip, similar to the previous 3 years (6.5-8). Four of our 5 long weekend trips this year had 9 or 10 participants (for which we owe a big thank you to Susan Lopdell who organised all 4 of them) but a low turnout of 3 on the Easter weekend reduced the average for the year to 7.4. In the previous 3 years there had been only 1 or 2 long trips per year with participant numbers ranging from 8 to 12 (an average of 9). The Wednesday walkers have also increased their numbers out on trips back to the 2018 level of around 11 people per walk compared to around 8 in 2019 and 2020.

We had one member utilize our training sponsorship this year; Paula attended the NZ Outdoor Training camp at Tamaki East which she really enjoyed. Any member can apply for funding for outdoor training from this fund and this does not have to be initiated by committee. So if you hear of a course you would like to go on talk to the committee and see if you can gain some sponsorship for it.

This year we bought a van and sold the truck. The replacement of the truck with the van has increased our pool of drivers and to date I think we have used 6 or 7 van drivers, a few more would be good. We would like to thank Peter Hewitt for all his help in selling our truck.

The e-presence of the Club continues to grow. We currently have over 500 “Followers” on Facebook which is up 100 from the same time last year and each trip featured on Facebook gets between 250 and 400 hits, most of these hits occurring within 24 hours of posting. Based on a statistics module installed on our site in January this year, hits to our website have ranged from 540 - 840 per month which is an average 7 viewers per day (on average there is 3.1 hits per viewer). As you would expect, over 95% of these people are from New Zealand.

In 2017 the Club held a workshop to determine a future plan for the Club, this was worked on throughout 2018 by committee to come up with objectives to move forward. It is now time to revisit this strategy to see how we are doing:

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As you have seen from the above we have achieved or nearly achieved the goals set for membership, attendance on tramps and driver numbers. We have deliberately not played around with the committee membership or Constitution because we are awaiting the finalization of the Incorporated Society Act first to ensure what we do decide on meets the Acts requirement. Our search for a more central location to house the truck and now van was unsuccessful but at least now the van is stored in a locked shed when it is not being used.

What needs further consideration?

We thought there should be a better integration between tramping and cycling. We scheduled tramps in locations with good cycle trails hoping to entice some of the cyclists along and we have had a few meeting night speakers with a cycling component, most recently Peter Hansen gave an interesting talk on his cycling tour down south. No cyclist came on the “joint” trips and only cyclists that were also trampers came to the meetings. Maybe the cyclists are just happy doing what they do and don’t need us to plan how to include them. If not they should give the committee their suggestions.

Subcommittees. Subcommittees are a way that non-committee members can help with managing the Club and it was pleasing to see most subcommittees had some non-committee members on them. There was one large omission, a non-existent Social Sub-committee. The Social sub-committee is tasked to hold about 3 functions per year and it would be great to find some keen members to fill this void this year.

Trip Leading: Weekend and Sunday tramps have relied on just 8 different people to lead them this year and we would like to see more members offering to lead tramps. Recently we have had 2 new co-leaders which is a good way to gain confidence in leading but we need more.

Huts: We would like more members to help out on hut maintenance activities and encourage you to let the Club Captain or Hut Committee know that you are keen. Often a requirement for a maintenance trip arises after the Fixtures List has been set and it would be good for them to know who is likely to be interested in helping out on it.

Trips to visit Club huts are scheduled so a tramp to each hut occurs about every 9 months which is more frequent than was previously done but less than our objective of twice per year. This is because to have that frequency would mean we would have very few weekend tramps to places other than our huts.

Finally a few more thank yous and a shout out to some of our past Club stalwarts:

As was announced in the latest Pohokura, Randall Goldfinch is resigning his position as editor. Randall has held this position since 2009, an amazing effort on what at times seems a thankless task, it is no wonder he is a Life Member, he deserves all our thanks. After 6 years as Club Captain, John Montgomerie has decided not to stand again. When John was made a Life member last year we cited all the work he has done for the Club over many years and he continued working hard for the Club again this year. Thank you John for your great endeavours. Another person retiring this year (and another Life Member) is committee

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member Alan Berry. Alan has spent the last 3 years giving sound advice to Committee and helping to prepare or update many of our policies, thank you Alan. Also standing down after 3 years on committee is Scott Campbell, thank you Scott for your input, particularly with the interactions with the Wednesday group. Joan and Al will not be continuing as our supper hosts, a role they have held since 2013. It is quite a commitment to get to nearly every meeting; and we thank you both for it. Thanks also to all the rest of you who have helped the club in any way this year, whether it be on committee, on subcommittee, fund raising, leading etc... Our club wouldn't be where it is today without such good team work. The club still has a good deal of experience in its membership and although some are dormant at present it would be great to see them out with us from time to time to share their knowledge - you know who we are talking about.

Glenda Hooper and Lex Smith

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC). INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT. FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

INCOME	NOTES	2021	2020
Subscriptions	1	\$2,534	\$2,294
Vehicle income	2	\$4,221	\$1,748
Donations			
Hut	3	\$2,612	\$1,420
General			
Equipment Hire		\$10	\$20
Fund-raising		\$2,860	\$-
Auction	4	\$1,274	\$1,261
Interest Income		\$2,723	\$5,365
Sales	6	\$11,654	\$24
		\$27,888	\$12,131
EXPENSES			
Administration		\$226	\$202
Audit & Accountancy		\$275	\$275
General Expenses		\$189	\$120
Donations	4	\$1,247	\$1,261
Insurance (huts & equipment)		\$903	\$907
Rent of meeting room		\$720	\$570
Supper & social expenses		\$144	\$122
Library & photo album		\$61	\$60
FMC Capitation		\$1,410	\$1,320
Meetings		\$-	\$309
Pohokura (Bulletin)		\$589	\$664
Hut maintenance	5	\$3,403	\$247
Subscriptions		\$-	\$-
Training		\$135	\$-
Vehicle costs / Ins	2	\$4,748	\$3,049
Truck Insurance		\$-	\$579
Equipment		\$-	\$-
Website		\$246	\$41
Write off		\$-	\$485

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Depreciation	\$3,735	\$360
	\$18,030	\$10,570
 NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR TRANSFERRED TO ACCUMULATED FUNDS	 \$9,857	 \$1,561

NOTES

1. Subscriptions - late sub notices 2020 / new membership
2. Covid - 2020 badly affected, 2021 more trips better supported
3. Covid - 2020 down due to closures, 2021 more people out and less closures
4. Auction / Donations - Lowe Walker Helicopter Trust - have maintain our Gold Status
5. 2021 year saw significant expense putting coal into Howletts Hut
6. Sale items to members have minimal or no return. Truck sales proceeds \$11,500

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC). BALANCE SHEET.

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

	2021	2020
CURRENT ASSETS		
Westpac Cheque Account	\$6,728	\$3,093
Accounts receivable	\$ -	\$ -
	\$6,728	\$3,093
 NON CURRENT ASSETS		
Westpac		
Term Deposit	\$17,747	\$17,443
Term Deposit	\$30,160	\$32,753
Term Deposit	\$ -	\$10,000
Term Deposit	\$13,269	\$13,080
Term Deposit	\$11,500	\$ -
SBS Bank		
Term Deposit	\$20,306	\$19,832
Term Deposit	\$49,175	\$84,333
Fixed Assets	\$43,091	\$1,586
 TOTAL ASSETS	 \$191,976	 \$182,119
 CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Sundry payables	\$250	\$250
 TOTAL LIABILITIES	 \$250	 \$250
 NET ASSETS	 \$191,726	 \$181,869
Represented by:		
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
Balance at 1 October 2020	\$181,869	\$180,308
Surplus for the year	\$9,857	\$1,561
 TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS	 \$191,726	 \$181,869

REVIEWER'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 the 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 2021 and of the financial position at that date.

W.A. Stacey. Reviewer J.A. Smith Treasurer

SUB-COMMITTEES

ANNUAL CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT FOR HUTS, TRACKS, TRAINING AND FIXTURES

Simple question.....but where did the year go please!

HUTS

HOWLETTS All huts in great order with some major maintenance at Howletts, when in February 2021, 700kg of coal was flown in by HTC and luckily another 100kg at no freight cost by the Taylor Corp helicopter that was flying some staff in there for a social event. As well they took in firewood from my stocks, a new ash bucket, axe and sundry items so was a bonus. With the coal drop off flight, Janice and self went in with food for a week to do the complete inside and outside repaint. The paint had been there since April 2019 via a hunters' helicopter trip. It all looked a million dollars as we reluctantly left... a week there is just magic and makes the painting work seem a breeze. Three minutes to fly in, six hours to walk out! A club trip also visited the hut in April 2021.

WAIKAMAKA Resplendent since its upgrade in Nov 2016, was visited in August 2020 and July 2021. The latter being the anniversary of 65 years since Graeme Hare's first actual club trip in there. Quite a milestone. A new axe was carried in, some rat bait and three chair seat bases to replace those smashed by some choice hut users, for firewood! This was a good winter trip with almost continuous snow from the Saddle to the hut.

The toilet must be relocated before this summer season ends, which will require a fly in with base timber for the now thirty year old masterpiece, tools and manpower to carve out a new platform away from water ingress. The back Country Trust will likely fund this operation.

KIWI SADDLE Sadly missed out on a club trip as far as I know, this must be remedied in the next fixtures round. It must be ten years since the upgrade that Geoff Clibborne headed, and Randall has kept everything there in order since.

Quite significant hut fees are being paid by users of recent times so is encouraging, to cover the cost of for example, coal to Howletts at \$80 odd dollars landed cost.

Pohokura

I suspect that this may be as a result of the recent upgrades improving the presentation of the huts to users and we have consistent professional signage on each hut door that creates a good image.

TRACKS

The only tracks we have had an association with are the Upper Waipawa River and the Barlows to Parks peak tracks. The former is just about a never ending annual job, as the Tutu and Buddleia grow so rapidly, so realistically only the better side tracks can be trimmed by passers-by to keep them useable. Otherwise it is a 100% rock bash trip.

The Parks Peak ridge to Barlow's had been removed by DoC from their track register and we had done very little work on it. It was disappointing to find that the circuit this track enabled was gone. DoC have indicated that they could look at reinstating it but no word yet.

TRAINING

This past year has seen little formal training except Mountain Safety videos and pack content demonstrations. Outdoor training has only been the alpine skills taught and practiced on the Tongariro trip last August.

FIXTURES

The four month periods we plan in the fixtures sub committee have gone as usual, with a spread of local ranges and some away trips including the Mount Egmont area. There had been disruption in early to mid-2020 and autumn 2021 by the Covid lockdowns so those trips not undertaken could be incorporated in the next round and include Kiwi Saddle too. The Wednesday Boots and Bikes group has been as usual very active, catering well for the members preferring the those trips and opportunities, doing their trip planning, along with the usual fortnightly programme by the sub committee.

Thank you to all those that have assisted in the undertaking of the achievements this year and all those that have made the trips memorable and enjoyable.

John Montgomerie 17 November 2021

HTC Vehicle/s Report to AGM 2021

A busy year on the vehicle front. As reported last year we signed an agreement to purchase a 2017 12-seater Ford Transit van from MS Ford in Nelson (7800km) and took ownership of this 9th December. It was delivered to Wellington via Bluebridge Ferries and picked up from there 14 December. I had an interesting drive home stopping a couple of times to consult the Manual!

We must thank Glenda and Peter for the offer to garage it at their place in Te Aute Road. 10th January saw the van out on its first trip to Ohara Stream. From January to July the club used a mix of Truck and Van on all trips.

Queen's Birthday weekend June saw the last big trip in the truck into the Pureora Forest area where we had a mix of accommodation and party trip starting points resulting in around 700km for the weekend. It has served us well as transport and accommodation on many trips

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and worked well on the numerous 7/9 days trips undertaken a few years ago. Around 165,000km were clocked up in its 22 years.

Probably timely to thank all those members who have driven both vehicles over the last 12 months. A thank you also to Peter Berry and Peter Hewitt for COF and minor maintenance on the truck over the year and prior to sale and Peter Hewitt for his involvement in the sale. Thanks also to the team of women who looked after the interior of the truck and have now moved onto the van.

However, we have moved on and are learning how to make the van work best for us. We have found that we are able to make use of more people to drive it for us which is a plus. Our pool of drivers; Peter Berry, Christine Hardie, Lex Smith, David Blake, Murray Alderson and Peter Hewitt has now increased to include Simon Whittam and Kim Morgan. HT and Passenger licenses are no longer a barrier.

The van is a work in progress with shelving only installed last month and it passed when tested on the Labour weekend trip to Taranaki. Loaded in the rain to come home.

Operating costs –

2 vehicles / differing running costs	\$4748	Income \$4221	Deficit \$521
Insurance	\$1416		
Fuel	\$1372		
COF/RUC/REG	\$1348		
Storage / Sundry	\$612		

We now have a year in front of us to see how the running costs of the van will pan out. Overall costs may not change; dearer van Insurance cover but other running costs may reduce.

Our Kiwi Fuel cards (Mobil and BP) continue to give us good discounts without fees.

Lex Smith

At the Annual General Meeting the following awards were made:

TRAMPER OF THE YEAR [Stan Woon Memorial Trophy]

Presented to Paula Kasper & Simon Whittam by John Montgomerie

LEATHERWOOD TROPHY [For valuable contribution to HTC]

Presented to Brian Smith by Alan Berry

TRIP REPORTS

2529

The Hogget

10 May 2021

Despite the somewhat shonky weather forecast the early morning sun blazed in the windscreen as we headed off with a full load for the new van. After an uneventful trip up the Taihape road with hardly any stalls or slow gear changes, we arrived at Timahanga station and drove through to near the old homestead. And yes Susan I was on the right farm track; it can be quite hurtful when close friends and wives still doubt your navigational ability after a few minor navigational errors many many years ago.

After parking we followed the road till it came to a small stream, crossing with dry feet and then followed the track, which is an old logging road, through Boyd's Bush. The going is pretty easy and after an hour walking through this lovely podocarp and beech forest we stopped for morning tea and then the fast party took off. Ten minutes later the slow party passed the fast party again as they had lost the track in exactly the same place as last time' For future reference, the track is pretty good, but is only marked where there is a change of direction, so when you get to a piece of pink tape, do not continue on straight ahead.

We crossed a tiny stream and then the track started to climb quite steeply through regenerating bush which gradually became more scrubby as we gained altitude, eventually coming out onto a fairly open ridge with great views to the south over the Comet, the Ruahines and Aorangi. Out to the north however, there was only really a view of big black rain clouds, although to be fair they kept away till after we got back.

It was reasonably warm for this time of year, but with a coolish breeze on the tops so we had lunch just off the ridge. We were soon joined by the fast party who had travelled a little further along the tops but had retreated because of the strong winds they encountered. We did a bit of basic map reading there and then headed back to the van.

I shared a bit of wisdom that I learned from some of the old buggers in the club when I was young and now that I'm an old bugger myself with nearly fifty years of tramping under my belt I'm going to share with you. **READ AND REMEMBER THIS IT MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE:** before you go on a trip work out which way is home if you get lost. At the very least you should know the general compass bearing to follow, in this case head south and eventually you will hit the Taihape road. It is a good idea to look at the map and figure out a better plan than just south! But if you are well and truly bushed knowing the direction of the nearest bit of civilisation is a really good start. As an example, one of the easiest and nastiest ways to get lost is to wander into a flattish saddle at the head of a creek and then head down the other side thinking you're in the creek you started in, knowing which way the road is can save you an awful lot of angst.

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When we got back to the van we wandered over for a look at the old Boyd homestead and then drove on home. Then Glenda went and got me fish and chips, what a sweetie.

PB

Party: Peter Berry, Glenda Hooper, Susan Lopdell, Daniel Haddock, John Chong, Janice Love, Anne Doig, Paula Kasper, Des Smith, Vivian Xie, Dale Barnard and Carol Clarke



Peter Berry and Carol Clarke

2530	Middle Hill Hut	25 – 26 September, 2021
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The proposed trip into the Western Tararua range was cancelled because cracks in the Otaki Forks Road, at Blue Bluff, has closed the road since September 2020. (There is a large under slip which is unsafe for vehicles and pedestrians. A second proposal in the Eastern Tararua range was also deemed not feasible due to heavy rain forecast on the Sunday. Therefore Glenda and Susan put together a weekend trip into Middle Hill Hut with two options; 1) leave from Makahu Road and tramp directly to Middle Hill Hut or 2) take the longer route up to Makino bivvy then head south with three major ups and downs on the way.

As the five participants were all at Te Aute Road in good time the van left at 6.50 a.m. with Simon driving. It is a 90 km trip from Peter and Glenda's to the Middle Hill car park. At the car park we discussed the options; Simon reminded us of the 3 gorges from Makino bivvy to Middle Hill hut so it was decided to go straight to the hut. Also discussed was the possibilities, once we reached the hut; perhaps some R&R, read Kim's Wilderness magazine or explore the tracks from the hut.

The path took us alongside the Mangatutunui Stream. Once over the picturesque stream it is a steep 400 metre ascent. The climb is through regenerating bush with manuka and kanuka the dominant forest. At 900 metres the track flattens and the last 2 km have an ascent of 80 metres. Once we had finished the initial climb, we stopped in a shady area for a leisurely morning tea break.

Pohokura

Middle Hill Hut sits on the edge of red beech forest with a grassy area in front. Built in 1963 it is an ex NZ Forest Service hut. It has three double metal bunks with an open fire which, later in the evening, was to give off a lovely orange glow, with the disadvantage of a chimney tended to smoke.

The hut attracts a lot of visitors many just passing through. Club member Andrew York was on a hunting trip, successfully bagging a deer, and was installed in the hut. Another group of hunters stopped off for a bite to eat as did a couple who were on a predator control mission checking and resetting traps. We were advised of wind fall on the track behind the hut and that it would be a good idea if we cleared it. After lunch, Kim set off to explore the Camp Spur Track, Derek and Paula collected firewood whilst Simon and I set about clearing the wind fall.



The preparation for dinner was to prove entertaining. Derek set about making toast using the dustpan as the conductor of heat. Paula showed Derek that it would be easier to hold the bread close to the flame of the burner. This was solemnly watched by Simon, Andrew and Derek. So with the toast cooked, Derek then set to heating the rest of his meal on the dust pan and eating it from the same vessel; this proved too much for the on lookers with the group in gales of laughter. As the hut door faces to the north, we were awake fairly early with the sun coming in the eastern windows. With a leisurely wake up, breakfast, Kim pulling down his tent and clean-up of the hut; we were ready to leave at 8.00. As we walked out we stopped to look at the various visible tracks; the one up Camp

Spur Ridge and the track up Trail Spur to Kaweka J. Once again we stopped in a leafy area for morning tea. This was shortly before we commenced our descent. We were all back at the van by 11.30. The planned cup of coffee and lunch was put on hold as the forecast rain set in so we decided to head for home.

AD

Party: Simon Whittam (driver), Kim Morgan, Paula Kasper, Derek Boshier, Anne Doig, and in absentia organisers: Glenda Hooper and Susan Lopdell

2532	Makairo Track	10 October 2021
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In October 2019 we walked the Makairo Track from the western end to the saddle and it was so lovely members told us we should do it more often. With a full van plus 5 in a car we travelled to the eastern side, near Coonoor, and parked at the end of Makairo East Road. From there was about an hour's walk up a nice grassy track to the saddle.

We regrouped at the saddle to discuss options after which David, Daniel and Simon decided to continue along the track while the rest decided to attempt to get to high point 789 which is on a ridge that heads southwards from the saddle. We lost Susan, Janice and Vivian after climbing up the first hillock, they decided to explore the head of one of the valleys and then return back to the saddle. The rest carried on bush-bashing through the unrelenting waist high

Pohokura

divaricating coprosma. Once we had got out of that we had to crawl under and around branches and trunks through a very short (in height) goblin forest. With such a big group it was very slow progress and we had conflicting ideas of which direction we should go, so after an hour or so I decided I would turn back. Unsurprisingly all but the 3 alpha males wanted to return with me so we left Peter, Alan and Murry to their own devices and started back. Our route up was hard to spot so with Derek using his GPS to ensure we stayed on the ridge line we crawled through even more dense bush and coprosma and made our way back down to the saddle. At the saddle we joined Susan, Janice and Vivian and sat down for lunch.

After lunch we made our way westwards along the Makairo Track to meet up with Daniel, Simon and David. The track from the saddle westwards is an utter mess, a 4WD club has been doing the track "up" and what was a lovely grassy tree lined track 2 years ago is now a quagmire with much of the vegetation severely slashed. We were not impressed and unfortunately the track up from the eastern side will no doubt become a similar state as there is a 4WD working bee in November to do further work (damage) to the track. Once we met up with the track party we all returned back to the saddle to find Peter, Alan and Murry there.

As we were back at the van fairly early we made a short detour on the way back to walk the loop track in the Mangatoro Reserve. The 30 minute walk in this 8 hectare reserve passes many impressive podocarp trees; matai, totara, rimu and kahikatea.



Marie Taylor, Dave Mulinder Murry Alderson, Simon Whittam (obscured)

The High Point Party: The bush was actually really easy going compared to a lot of bush bashing I've done in the past, but it kept pushing us left as this was where the more open goblin forest was in the lee of the more exposed ridge. The top here was really quite flat with no defined ridge and we needed a compass to keep in the general direction that we wanted to go. The trick in this type of country is to follow the easiest routes that lead in the general direction of travel and then try to get back onto the ridge every now and then, this worked particularly well when only 10 minutes after we left the others we found that the easier path we were following was actually a cut track, this wasn't marked but reasonably well cut with a trap line on it and we followed it with very little trouble until lunchtime.

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There were some good views in places and very interesting vegetation. On the return trip we did wander onto a side track for a couple of minutes, but soon picked up that we were travelling at 90 degrees to our intended route. It turns out that the track from the saddle goes out to the west almost level with the saddle for some distance in the clear country and then climbs up through a grassy face to enter the bush, now that we know where the track is it would be well worth the effort to return and try to get all the way through.

Everyone thought it was tiger country but it turned out to only be a pussy with a bit of attitude.

Party: Peter Berry, Alan Petersen, Susan Lopdell, Murry Alderson, David Mulinder, Christine Snook, Anthea Chiappa, Paula Kasper, Daniel Haddock, Janice Love, Anne Doig, Jude Hay, Marie Taylor, Derek Boshier, Vivian Xie, Simon Whittam, and Glenda Hooper.

2533

Boundary Stream

Wed 13 October 2021

A small group of “Eight” took advantage of a break in the weather and arrived at the Boundary Stream car park on Pohokura Road suitably impressed with the comfort of the club's new van. We split into two groups with some choosing to Botanise around the loop track and were impressed with the information panels and the work done by DOC on predator control which is obviously effective judging by the bird calls and healthy state of the regenerating forest.

The main party continued on towards the falls on a direct well marked track which descended quite steeply and the roar of the falls was heard some time before actually reaching the base. The B party meanwhile took the van around to the Heays Access Road picnic area and walked up the track over farmland in the shadow of the limestone cliffs to join up with the others returning from the falls.

A very easy day and we just escaped the rain

Party: Susan Lopdell, Joan Ruffell, Christine Hardie, Pete Hansen, Garry Smith, Graham Stichbury, Des Smith, Rodger Burn.

2534

Labour Weekend

22-25 October 2021

Friday morning just after sunrise, the van left Te Aute Road on its pilgrimage to Mount Taranaki with stops at Dannevirke and Lake Virginia in Wanganui for lunch. As we neared Taranaki, we caught glimpses of the three mountains in the Tongariro National Park. This was new territory for most and Anthea gave us a quick rundown on the history of the towns we drove through.

Arrived at the Mangorei Trailhead just after 1.00 pm and started along a couple of small stretches of tar seal before entering the bush – this track has boardwalks continuing all the way up to Pouakai Hut, a 2.5 hour tramp through montane forest. As we ascended, we met a steady stream of trampers plus a DOC working party on their way out. We had views over

Pohokura

New Plymouth, Paritu Rock and the coast, arriving at the hut, 16 bunk \$15 per person, which was fully booked. A small group went up onto the main Pouakai range and visited the tarn and took the obligatory photo shot, before we all regrouped and wandered back to the car park. Forty minutes later drove up the Egmont Road to the Visitors Centre, collected the bunkroom keys to the Camphouse, showered, ate and Susan talked about Saturday's tramp.

Another clear, sunny day. Some had wandered outside to see a magnificent sunrise before setting off on the track to Holly Hut. We started ascending immediately from our accommodation on a well maintained track past the William Ambury Monument to reach the lookout about an hour later. Past the turnoff to Tahurangi Lodge, heading right, past the Dieffenbach Cliffs, the track's highest point, giving the group a great outlook back to New Plymouth and surrounding countryside. The track zigzagged around the gullies and 1km later we came to Boomerang Slip with warning signs on either side advising no stopping on this still moving landscape. Continuing on came to the junction with the Korowai track on our right which is an option if weather conditions are extreme – soon we started descending, following a ridgeline down to the Ahukawakawa swamp, crossing Minarapa Stream to Holly Hut.

We spread ourselves through 2 bunkrooms and whilst having lunch, other trampers filed in. Mid-afternoon, we set off to Bells Falls (30 mtrs) on a undulating track and spent some time here soaking in this idyllic spot. If we have braved the cold water and wandered closer to the bottom of the falls, we would have been graced by the presence of a pair of whio. Back to Holly Hut, relaxing with a near full capacity of 28 trampers plus Elaine, the hut warden. In the early hours of Sunday morning the forecast rain began.

Elaine had checked Minarapa Stream and there was a steady low flow coming down, making the crossing very easy. As we walked out, we had steady light rain with fairly good visibility, everyone had wet weather gear on and we stayed together for the outward trip. As the day progressed, rain accumulated on the track and small waterfalls appeared (see Anthea's video on the members' blog on HTC website). Unfortunately one of our party slipped on the wet terrain and on falling forward opened a wound above her left eye. Our medic covered this and she was able to continue, minus pack back out to the Visitors Centre. (Thanks Anthea and Jo for carrying the pack).

We had intended to turn off, traverse the plateau to Maketawa Hut for Sunday night, the general consensus was to forgo this. Arrived back about 1.00pm, with Susan and Paula booking us in- bad idea, firstly 2 blind trampers had to get Doc to book us in and then neither of us had a credit card, thankfully, Lex came to our rescue. Everyone, changed, showered, had afternoon tea, before 3 of us drove into a Medical Centre in New Plymouth to have the patient checked. Seen after 1.5 hours by the Triage nurse and another 45minutes before we were seen (by this time were ready to have a G&T!) Finally out after 3hrs, did not want dehydrated food, stopping off for takeaways.

Monday dawned wet, cleaned up facilities and drove down to the centre, viewed displays, morning tea in the Information Centre before departing home. Stopped at Virginia Lake for a

Pohokura

lunch break, fuelled at Waipukurau and back at base to be greeted by Glenda. A good trip, new territory for most and our appreciation to Lex for driving and then tramping what a hero.

I really appreciated everyone stepping up and looking after each other, especially our injured party, which eased the pressure on the organiser – my heartfelt thanks to you all.

Where to next?

Party: Lex Smith(driver), Jude Hay; Simon Whittam; Paula Kaspar; Janice Love; Susan Lopdell; Anthea Chiappa; Jo Petty; Anne Doig



Anne Doig (under the waterfall), Jo Petty, Simon Whittam

2535

Rogue Ridge and old Kaweka Hut Site

Sat 20 October 2021

Six of us left Pukahu at 7 AM on the Saturday morning to drive up the Napier-Taihape Road to the Lakes Road car park and had started walking down to the Tutaekuri River by 8.30. The bottom of this track has been upgraded since I last walked down it, no scouring there now. The Tutaekuri River was low and easy to cross and it wasn't long before we were at the Rogue Ridge turn-off.

Peter encouraged all of us to forgo the easy trip and instead ascend the 600 odd metres up the Rogue Ridge. It was a brilliant sunny day and we decided the views would be worth it as we slowly made our way up the scrub, scree and contorta. They certainly were worth it, the central plateau mountains, Ruahines, Wakararas and everything in between were there for us to see.

There were a few early flowers on the tops which were duly photographed before we started off down the track to the old Kaweka Hut site in Cooks Horn Basin. We had lunch not far from the tops, after which Peter got out his map and compass to explain how to navigate without a GPS. We then descended to the hut site and had another rest.

Pohokura

All rested we took the direct route back to our van at the Lakes car park, arriving there around 4 PM.

Party: Peter Berry, Des Smith, Janice Love, Anne Doig, Derek Boshier and Glenda Hooper



Janice Love, Glenda Hooper, Peter Berry, Derek Boshier

2536

Awatere Hut / Longview Hut

Wed 24th November 2021

Awatere.

Our trip was originally planned for earlier in the year but Covid19 and bad weather prevented it so today's trip was eagerly awaited. This called for an early start for midweekers and after careful negotiation between Janice and Rodger a start at 7.30a.m was agreed.

Any concerns about the condition of Kashmir road were unfounded, so we arrived at the Moorcock Saddle car park in good time. The party going to Longview was soon off while the Awatere team took a little longer to leave. While climbing up to the spur and onto the ridge there were many predator control traps which were also evident down to the hut. Awatere Hut was in very good tidy condition. We had lunch there, left our packs and wandered a few hundred meters downstream to the very derelict Black Stag Hut. It is almost hidden in the bushes.

Returning to the car park, the cloud had cleared and from the ridge we could clearly see Longview hut. RB



Rodger Burn at Black Stag Hut

Party: Rodger Burn, Susan Lopdell, Christine Hardie

Pohokura

Longview

At last the weather was suitable to go to Longview. It was a perfect day with no wind. This was a special day for Janice who, 10 years ago joined the Heretaunga Tramping Club and Longview was the first tramp with some members.

At the Kashmir road end car park we had two groups. Five trampers to Longview Hut and three to Awatere Hut. Low clouds covered the tops of the Ruahines on the way to Longview but as we climbed higher the clouds dispersed to reveal the beautiful colours of the tussock grasses, a variety of summer flowers and the Longview Hut in the distance. Parts of the track were overgrown with tussock grass which held water from the morning dew. We arrived at the hut with damp shorts but that was soon forgotten as we ate lunch outside looking over the amazing 'longview' in the sunshine. It was Peter's and Anthea's first tramp to Longview so we did some botanising around the hut before leaving. With plenty of time to return to the van, we followed Graeme off track to view the ranges around us. Out came the map and with Graeme's knowledge of the area, we were all more informed of our surroundings. A leisurely descent back to the car park arriving right on the arranged time of 3pm. Thanks to all who shared this day with me and Christine/Des for driving. JL.

Party: Des Smith, Graeme Hare, Peter Hansen, Anthea Chiappa, Janice Love (leader)



Anthea Chiappa, Graeme Hare, Des Smith, Peter Hansen

2537

Cairn Service – Kaweka J

Sat 27 November 2021

After cancelling the planned Cairn Trip on account of the poor weather and road conditions the option was for either Saturday 27 or Sunday 28 and the consensus was for a Saturday Cairn Service. We left at 7am, as the 11am service of Remembrance Day was not relevant. In total we had twelve people at the Cairn for our midday service. Kathy, Samara and Carlee had gone to Studholme Saddle hut on Saturday and were waiting for us at the playground.

Pohokura

The blustery westerly wind kindly died as a gentle easterly and clear blue skies surrounded the group as we acknowledged the eleven club members who did not return to tramp the ranges after the Second World War.

It was a satisfying return, as after lunch, instead of retreating hurriedly to Pam's house for afternoon tea, Peter suggested we go down Don's Spur. This we enjoyed and easily negotiated. Peter who had played a poignant lament on his whistle at the end of the service enthralled us again with more laments as we retreated from the tops. Beautiful appropriate music.

Once again Pam assisted by Liz had a sumptuous afternoon tea with chocolate strawberries waiting for us. Thanks to Peter who drove the van, Pam & Liz for afternoon tea, and all who came to the highest point in Hawkes Bay for our 2021 Cairn Service.

Party: Joan Ruffell, Brian Smith, Anne Cantrick, Peter Berry, Glenda Hooper, Des Smith, Derek Boshier, Maggie Brown, Kathy, Samara, and Carlee Eggers, Graeme Hare (organiser)



2538

Top Gorge Trip

4-5 December, 2021

Numbers dropped from five to three as at Friday night so we travelled in my ute leaving at 7am. Murry was going to join us but was working until midday Saturday so joined us solo later in the day.

There were five vehicles at the Kashmir road end so we wondered where they all would be tonight, hopefully not at the four bunk Top Gorge hut! It was overcast but quite mild so was warming on the way up to Longview hut. We stopped for half an hour for an early lunch. Five day trippers arrived, relieved they were not heading our way. They reported nine cars at the road end, so it was quite populated somewhere.

Pohokura

The route to the headwaters of the Pohangina River goes down just south of the Longview Hut turnoff and showed 1.5 hours to Top Gorge hut, seemed a bit ambitious for the distance and that it was just a river route. The first entry into the water was above a non-navigable waterfall, so backtracked and found a doable entry below same. Having not been there before, I had thoughts of how it would be. Our time was in fact 3.5 hours, it is mostly not fast going navigating around the rocky bed and outcrops. It was slow although we wasted no time really. The river [creek at this stage] is mostly narrow sections with steep rock walls and is therefore slow going, careful foot placement and dodging slippery rock etc. There are several more waterfalls to negotiate, the worst has a rudimentary route on the true left and a drop back into the bed.

The three of us arrived at the hut about 4.30 followed soon after by Murry Alderson who had come in via the Longview Ridge route, down through the gap in the leatherwood below Rocky Knob, down a steep side creek and so down river to the hut, meeting us with a big grin. Good to see him again. I understand that the hut had an earth floor for a long time, but now has a concrete one. The inside is neatly lined with chipboard polyurethaned, quite smart.



Paula, Murry and Simon outside Top Gorge Hut

Various dinners were prepared and eaten and to the bunks by about 9pm. I had carried in a Mountain Radio to test out; spoke to the Hastings base operator with a good signal report. Rain seemed imminent many times on Saturday, in the evening and on the way out on Sunday but coats were not needed. Had we been there for two nights, we would have gone up the track to the west that gains the top of the Ngamoko Range at about the mid-point.

We departed Sunday morning at about 8am having found a track up behind the hut that got us easily to the ridge; then north up Rocky Knob and along to Longview Hut for lunch. Finally the clamber back down to the car park by about 2.30. Very little sign of venison, old droppings and sparse footprint marks so hunters may have thin pickings. The exterior of the

Pohokura

hut needs some attention, roof and walls need paint and the wooden windows need some TLC and paint too. A new meat safe has been flown in but is still resting on its back in the bush where it landed, just needing installation.

Thanks to all for a neat trip in this corner of the Ruahines that I had not been to before. We farewelled Murry and set off on our respective ways home.

Party: Paula Kasper, Simon Whittam, John Montgomerie [leader] and Murry Alderson, who joined us for the weekend.

2539

Christmas Social Event – Triplex Hut Area

19 December, 2021

The Triplex Hut area was chosen for the Christmas tramp as it offered a number of possibilities.

A party of 10 set out from Te Aute Road with Peter driving the van. Paula was picked up at the yellow bus on the SHW2 and Poukawa Road corner. We were to meet Murry and Dave at Triplex Hut. For variety Peter chose to drive the Tikokino Road on the northern side of the Waipawa River. At Makaroro Road we took a left turn, a short distance along, crossed SHW50 and continued on the eastern side of the Waipawa River. As is usual for the North Block Road end car park there were a good number of cars with parking at a premium. We were able to park, as usual, facing east.

We all set off for Triplex Hut where we were to make a decision on our destinations. At the hut we visited the hut with its central communal living room and a bedroom with external entrance either side, explored the environs and secreted the container with the Christmas food. A group of 5, Anne Cantrick, Greg, Jude, Nick and Paula were to go to Sunrise Hut and if possible cross the Armstrong Saddle. Dave and Murry had not yet caught us up so Glenda and I went back to the sign to Triplex Hut and left them a note.

Our plan was to get to the Waipawa Forks/Sunrise Track Saddle and then decide. As we tramped up Peter reminded us of the mistletoe cage on a bend. It was thought that there could be flowers. When we came upon the tree and cage there were red flowers. Photographing the flowers became a priority and we spent awhile getting the best shots. In my opinion a spot on the corner gave a good view of the few red flowers. Our journey continued on to the bench seat at the Waipawa Forks/Sunrise Track Saddle; where we took a break and decided what the plan was to be. After a while there was a stiff breeze on our backs; up from the Waipawa River so as the wind can funnel down the Waipawa River we decided to return and walk the Swamp Track.

Murry and Dave met us shortly after our return journey had started. We chatted for a bit telling of plans of the two parties. As Dave was keen to drop down to the Waipawa River, Murry went with him. The Swamp Track party decided that we would go back to Triplex Hut where we would have lunch. After a leisurely lunch we left our packs in the hut and it was on to the Swamp track; this we did going from the eastern side. This track has not had the same

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attention that has been lavished on the Sunrise Track, there are a number of trees that have fallen across the track; these are reasonably easy to navigate however, on the track out to the Waipawa River access, there is a large tree over the track which takes some clambering over. Back in the swamp area there were a number of large dragon flies, NZ Bush Giant Dragonfly – *uropetala carovei*. Peter referred to them as devil's darning needles. The western side of the track is a lot wetter, with a number of muddy patches to walk through, and the lush vegetation is encroaching on to the track.

Our plan was for all the groups to meet back at the hut by 3.00; where we would have a Christmas afternoon tea. Janice had brought decorations and fancy plates which she set up, in the shade, on a table made from two of the hut forms. The Sunrise party returned telling of their venture across the Armstrong Saddle. There was a chilly wind but they made the trip. A photo, taken by Paula, shows the other 4 members with their feet firmly planted on the ground and Jude's hair indicating the strength of the wind. Jude described the views as fabulous and sent two photos showing Ruapehu to the west and the farmland to the east



Armstrong Saddle looking to Mt Ruapehu

When Murry and Dave returned, they reported that they had dropped down to the Waipawa River. Murry had made it across the river however Dave was not as confident as the river was cloudy and flowing at a higher level than desired so they returned back up the track they had come down.

Joan had brought a game/challenge for us. She had created a large montage of well-known faces who we had to name. There were 38 however the faces were attached to bodies that were not theirs and not necessarily the correct sex. That kept us entertained and busy for about a quarter of an hour.

Pohokura



Joan Ruffell, Greg Smith (obscured), Nick Walkerdine, Jude Hay, Glenda Hooper, Anne Cantrick, Susan Lopdell, Paula Kasper (obscured) Anne Doig

Thanks to Joan and Janice for their help with this outing. Peter, as always, thank you for driving us.

AD

Party: Peter Berry (driver), Glenda Hooper, Susan Lopdell, Joan Ruffell, Janice Love, Anne Cantrick, Greg Smith, Jude Hay, Paula Kasper, Nick Walkerdine, Murry Alderson, Dave Mulinder, Anne Doig

2540 Waipatiki / Aropaoanui Beaches.

2 January, 2022

There were six HTC members who participated on the New Year's tramp on a very hot day leaving Te Aute Road @ 9.00am, a later time due to low tide being at 11.45am. Travelling along SH 2, turning off just past Tangoio and driving to the small settlement of Waipatiki with baches nestled against the hillside and a wide sandy beach full of beachgoers either swimming, or on boogie / paddle boards. Waipatiki means water.... sand flounder, and was so called as it was once an estuarine valley and a good fishing spot for the local Maori. We began our trek following a narrow well-worn track just above the rocks with tutu and blackberry starting to take over. A couple of slips had taken out the track but was easy to walk over. The ocean was a beautiful teal/ blue colour and although no seals were seen, a couple of divers were fossicking amongst the rocks for a feed of paua. Black backed gulls, black billed gulls, stilts, and shags were either seen or heard. After two hours we had reached Aropaoanui beach and sat under the shade of a pine tree to have our lunch.

We wandered over to where the river flows into the sea and the current exiting the lagoon which was quite swift, so we linked arms to cross safely. A lot of family groups were surf casting and sunbathing as we went past onto the access road. The main homestead and another couple of houses appeared to be empty and there were a lot of holidaymakers camping by the river beside a shearing shed. It was a long hot ascent up the road to the upper entrance of the Waipatiki reserve, thank goodness for the relief of an easterly breeze.

Pohokura



Simon Whittam and Glenda Hooper walking northward to Aropaoanui Beach

The reserve is 64 hectares in size, a remnant of coastal forest. The track initially zigzags down to join the loop track and we decided to take the lower route. The nikau palms make up a large proportion of the reserve and there was a massive build-up of old fronds on the ground (a fire would rocket through the debris). We saw or heard many kereru as the nikau berries were plentiful, fantails, tui, bellbirds, a tomtit, blackbirds and a thrush on this section of our walk. As we approached the bottom half of the reserve, a lot of lichens on trees and we crossed a small stream coming out onto the road and walked back to the vehicles and an ice block (thanks Paula).

Party: Paula Kaspar: Anne Doig: Simon Whittam: Daniel Haddock: Susan Lopdell and Glenda Hooper.

2541

Happy Daze and Makaretu Hut

Sun 9th January 2022

The access to this tramp was across farmed river terraces on the northern side of the Makaretu River off Pagets Road in the Ashley-Clinton district. All members of the party were required to sign Health & Safety documents for each of the two property owners whose land we would cross. Fortunately Murry had a vehicle that could take all of us and our gear from the Pagets Road entrance to starting point about 1.5 Km away. A small creek, number of gates, cattle and sheep had to be negotiated.

From the starting point, a 4wd track leads down to the Makaretu River and upstream to a track that exits on the southern side of the river. The track then siddles exposed grassy hillsides weaving its way towards more & more bush, creeks, private huts and past an old Fordson tractor. The grassy hillsides give great views of the lower hill ranges to the west. Rocky Knob and the ridge south of Longview hut were on the horizon.

Today was fine, I'm guessing around 26 degrees with gusty northwest winds blowing clouds across the tops. This made for a hasty walk past three fly blown hares strung up by the ears on barbed wire fence. Arriving at the Happy Daze, 4 bunk hut about 10:30am, an hour after starting and a less than strenuous walk, it was time for a late morning tea. The hut sits on the edge of the bush on grassy down hill slope which leads to the Makaretu River. The hut book

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indicated not a lot of use, but over holiday period a HTC member from Danniverke had been staying.

Sitting under the overhanging hut door roof and the shade of a nearby tree, somebody pipe up, surely there must be more tramping we could do. We can't be sitting here all day. How about the Makaretu hut upstream? Maybe it's 1.5 - 2 hours walking up the river. Back tracking from the Happy Daze a couple of minutes, is a track that siddles through the bush to the river. However it's over grown, with makers hidden or fallen. The result is 10 minutes exploring supposed tracks until we stumble on the correct track leading steeply to the river. This track is not marked on current topographic maps, but has DOC sign/marker at the river bank and comes out very close to the intersection of the South & North branches of the Makaretu River.

Once in the river bed, the south branch of the river weaves and climbs amongst steep bush hill sides. The water's warm. The water flow is not excessive and hill sides stop the sun from shining on us. We pass deep pools of clear water along rock faces, small waterfalls and dripping water over rock faces. The path upstream is mostly in the water with occasional detours along or through the bush to bypass bends in the river. And it wouldn't be this easy in bad weather conditions. Coming closer to the Makaretu hut is an apparent fork in the river or is it? The map says we need to be heading upstream on the "True Right" at a fork in the river. As it turns out the river has flowed either side of a piece of bush and the river upstream is not viewable from either side of the fork in the river. We stuck to the "True Right". A reminder that where you find yourself is not necessarily the place you think your at on the map!



Murry Alderson and Graeme Hare walking up the north branch of the Makaretu River

Arriving just after 1pm at the Makaretu, it's a welcome stop for lunch and a sitdown in the shade under the overhanging roof at the hut entrance. The hut is clean & tidy and could sleep at least 6, maybe 2 more at a squeeze. There's also space outside for some tents on a small grassy area. Infrequently we experience gale force North Wester winds down in the valley at the hut. If this is happening here, what's it like up at Longview Hut? It's 2pm and time to

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retrace our steps downstream, in fact going all the way downstream to where our day tramp began. Passing our entry point to the South Branch of the Makaretu, we see a "Happy Daze" hand carved sign suspended from tree branch along with suspended rocks pointing uphill. This leads straight up the hill to the hut.

Further down stream we're still criss crossing the river and come across more deep pools of water. There's even some decent size trout which some us blokes thought we might be able to catch. But they remain illusive, swimming as if there life depended on it, skirting our legs and sticks as we stand knee deep in the river. What a great day out. Our feet have become a bit tender having walked over so many riverbed stones. One last small climb up a 4wd farm track from the river and we're back at Murry's vehicle just after 5pm. Thank you one & all for your company.

Party:

Susan Lopdell, Anne Doig, Graeme Hare, Murry Alderson, Simon Whittam (organiser)

HTC BIKE TRIPS



Waipukurau, Ongaonga, Waipawa Circuit

Weds 17th November 2021

At around 9am the first of our eleven keen HTC cyclist assembled at CHB's Waipukurau, Russell Park car park. The group had their bikes and bodies sorted out, and ready to commence our ride shortly after the official departure time of 09:30hrs. We had originally intended to incorporate both sides of the new Pukeora Loop Cycle Trail, but pre-trip enquiries by Des had revealed that there were still two incomplete suspension bridges to be finished off on the northern side of the new loop trail. We were able to make a few tweaks in our original route plan to accommodate this, by using the now completed southern section of the Pukeora Loop Track as far south as Pukeora Hill. We then crossed over the Tukipo River Bridge and headed for Ongaonga along the Ongaonga - Waipukurau Rd. There was quite a fresh 35knot N.W. breeze to cycle into all the way to our coffee stop destination at Ongaonga, so by the time we got there everyone was quite happy to relax with their drinks and nibbles chatting around the picnic tables outside in the sunshine at the Ongaonga Café.

By consensus, it was then decided to take advantage of what would now be a nice following tail wind, back to Waipawa. Those people amongst our cycle group, still on the manual pedal powered bikes, revelled in the effortless assistance that the tail wind gave us all the way back to Waipawa. Talk about a free ride, it was wonderful... We all regrouped at the Waipawa River Bridge, before continuing along Tepairu Rd, and then back to Waipukurau via the Suspension bridge across the Tukituki River. After an afternoon tea debrief around the picnic tables at Russell Park, where we all agreed that with the exception of one of our team members having a minor unplanned dismount off her bike whilst coming down a twisty section of limestone trail towards the end of Tepairu Rd, and leaving some of her skin off her

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knee on the limestone trail, that we had all enjoyed our 43kms cycle trip enjoying the stunning C.H.B. scenery.

Cyclists: Des Smith (Organizer), Rodger Burn, Christine Hardie, Garry Smith, Peter Hansen, Anne Cantrick, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Graeme Hare, Pam Pike, Sharron Wellwood.



Mutiny Road Circuit 2021

Thursday 16 December

We cancelled a Wednesday ride because of the weather and struck gold today for our midweek Christmas breakup. A local ride from Havelock embracing the Mutiny Road circuit 34Km and the back to Rodgers for a great but slightly decadent tea break with contributions from the team and managed by Pam Burn.

RB organiser



Pam Pike, Joan Ruffell, Christine Hardie, Anne Cantrick, Rodger Burn, Garry Smith, Peter Hansen, Peter Hewitt, Roy Frost, (at Christine's feet) mascot: Stella,

Hazardous Waste Collection – Working Bee

Sunday 21 November 2021

Once again we were asked to assist the Hastings District Council for the 2021 Hazmobile Collection. This was the 18th time we have helped the councils. Using a booking system the public were able to register to come to the Regional Sports Park between 8am to 3pm which smoothed the load. This year we were able have some of our folk work only in the morning or afternoon providing sixteen 9 hour day equivalents. The council and the contractors are always amazed at the ability and standard of the helpful people we provide. The donation made to the club was received very promptly too.

My thanks to all who made themselves available to assist.

GRH

Working Party: John Montgomerie, Peter Berry, Glenda Hooper, Marion Nicholson, Fred Chesterman, Daniel Haddock, Janice Love, Anne Doig, Philip Mardon, Anne Smith, Lex Smith, Paula Kasper, Simon Whittam, Des Smith, Nick Walkerdine, Derek Boshier, Randall Goldfinch, Anne Cantrick, Graeme Hare. (organiser)



Anne Smith, Phillip Mardon, Daniel Haddock, Anne Doig, Fred Chesterman and unnamed gent

ITEMS for SALE

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

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

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

Pohokura

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

Club News

Vaccination Policy

(Record keeping and sign/scan in required at all levels)

Stay home if you are unwell

	RED	ORANGE	GREEN
General Meetings	No meetings	Unvaxed must wear masks and socially distance. Masks encouraged for rest.	Unvaxed must wear masks and socially distance.
Committee Meetings	CVC required, unvaxed zoom in	Unvaxed must wear masks and socially distance.	Unvaxed must wear masks and socially distance.
Van	CVC required	CVC required	CVC required
Tramps	Unvaxed must socially distance & advise leader of status.	Unvaxed must socially distance & advise leader of status.	Unvaxed must socially distance & advise leader of status.
Huts	CVCs required (as per DOC policy)	CVCs required (as per DOC policy)	CVCs required (as per DOC policy)
Working Bees	Case by case	Case by case	Case by case
Hut maintenance	Case by case	Case by case	Case by case
Social events	Case by case	Case by case	Case by case

*CVC - Covid Vaccination Certificate

Photo Competition Winners:

Category	Popular Vote	Judge's Choice
Above Bush line (no HE)	Janice Love	Colin Jones
Above Bush line (with HE*)	Janice Love	Tina Godbert
Below Bush line (no HE)	Tina Godbert	Janice Love
Below Bush line (with HE)	Janice Love	Janice Love
Native Flora & Fauna	Peter Berry	Tina Godbert
Club Character	Janice Love	Tina Godbert
Historic	Alan Berry	Tina Godbert

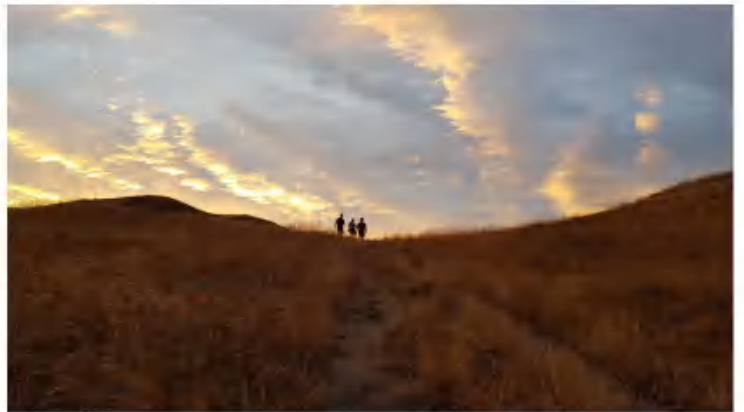
HE = Human Element HE* = Overall Winner

Go to <https://htc.org.nz/blog/> to see slide shows of these winning photos

Pohokura



Photo Competition Winners:
Janice Love : top Left, top right,
right and below



Peter Berry right, Tina Godbert
below left, Alan Berry below right



Heretaunga Tramping Club Meeting and Trip Information

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Chairperson	Speaker and Topic	Host/Supper
2022			
26 Jan	Alan Petersen	Photographic & Geographical Quiz Alan Berry	H – Liz Pindar S – Christine Snook
09 Feb	Penny Isherwood	“Across the Pass” – Shaun Barnett Graeme Hare	H – Pam Turner S – Brent Hickey
23 Feb	Jude Hay	Auction – Produce/General Goods (<i>one night only</i>) Proceeds to Rescue Helicopter	H – Marion Nicholson S – Greg Smith
09 Mar	Susan Lopdell	Long Tailed Bats Kay Griffiths	H – Janice Love S – Randall Goldfinch
23 Mar	Daniel Haddock	Quiz Night	H – Alan Berry S – Simon Whittam
6 April	Paula Kasper	Walking the Heaphy Track Paula Kasper	H – Jude Hay S – Colin Jones
20 Apr	Lex Smith	Open Floor Night	H – Anne Doig S – Anthea Chiappa
4 May	Graeme Hare	Stewart Island Glenda Hooper	H – Scott Campbell S – Brent Hickey
18 May	Anthea Chiappa	Wait and see what stories Anthea has for us – Anthea Chiappa	H – Susan Lopdell S – Raewyn Ricketts
01 June	Anne Doig	What has our smart movie maker created – Kurt Fenton	H – Randall Goldfinch S – Kim Morgan
15 June	Simon Whittam	Open Floor Night	H – Joan Ruffell S – Nick Walkerdine
29 June	Alan Berry	Time to cook & sample a cup of “Tramper’s Stew”	H – Fred Chesterman S – Philip Mardon

Meetings Sub-Committee: Graeme Hare, Philip Mardon (another volunteer to assist would be welcome) We want ideas for club night speakers and activities.

Supper: Put out cups, wash dishes, leave kitchen clean and tidy. Sweep floors, 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?

If we are going to enjoy our weekend tramping and not hold up the rest of the party we need a reasonable level of fitness, even at the B Party level – the sort of fitness that would allow us to wander around on Te Mata Peak or the Taradale hills for five or six hours with an eight kilogram pack. If you take a few hill walks you will soon recognise whether you have the core fitness to manage a trip into the ranges or whether you would be better to do some training beforehand. Wednesday walks are not so serious but again, you need a moderate level of fitness to keep up with the team.

It is important too that we all acknowledge any health issues that might cause problems on a trip. If in doubt, we should talk with the trip leader beforehand to understand the level of difficulty on the trip and make sure you are aware of possible issues.

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
Wear/Carry	Carry	
Pack and pack liner	Map & compass	All items listed for day trip plus
Boots and gaiters	High energy snacks	Sleeping bag
Socks	At least a litre of water	Sleeping mat
Parka and over-trou	Lunch	Food for three additional meals
Fast-drying shorts	First aid kit	Extra snacks
Fleece or woollen jumper	Torch, spare batteries and bulb	Cooker, billy and matches or lighter
Long-johns & singlet	Sunscreen	Plate, mug, cutlery
Sunhat & warm hat	Emergency food	Additional warm clothes
Gloves/mittens/Overmitts	Survival kit (whistle, cord, matches, pencil, paper)	Toilet gear, small towel and toilet paper
Whistle	Complete set of spare warm clothing	Tent/fly if required
Charged Cell Phone Money and Credit Card*		
*If you are injured and get evacuated via rescue helicopter to some distant town the cellphone, money and credit card will enable you to contact your family and get you back home		
Leave at vehicle: Complete set of clothing for the return		

MEDICATION

If we strike trouble in the ranges and need to call for assistance, it may be important that para-medics know what medication we are on. A very useful idea is to have a permanent note inside your first-aid kit giving details of medication or even the fact that we are on no medication. If everyone does this, fellow members on the trip will know where the paramedics should look.

Sun 30 Jan Waikoau Gorge or Thomas's Bush (if river is up) \$15 Map BJ39

The Waikoau Stream headwaters drain a section of the Maungaharuru Range just south of Bell Rock, an area with a lot of limestone. Access to the Waikoau Gorge is along a farm track not far past Lake Opouahi. Once at the stream some may wish to get wet and follow the river down through the gorge to near Blue Lake then climb up the hillside to Lake Opouahi (the gorge section could be quite deep and can be bypassed by walking over farmland on the true right).

Those not wanting to go down the river can spend their time exploring the limestone formations along one section of the stream then travel back to Lake Opouahi for a walk around the lake. The Thomas Bush Track, the wet weather option for this day starts at the far end of Lake Opouahi and runs up through Thomas Bush. It used to be a loop track but last time we were there the loop had not been maintained and was hard to follow.

Organiser: Peter Berry Ph. 877 4183

Wed 02 Feb Spooners Hill

Lovely bush to walk through near Tutira with a moderate climb to the top among the tomos

Organiser: Garry Smith Ph.844 9931

W/e 5/6/7 Feb Ruahine Corner Hut 4WD Trip \$25 Map BK36

Over the Gentle Annie on the Taihape Road, down to Otupae station, through and onto the tops of Mangaohane station and to the Aorangi Awarua Trust boundary, about a 10 km cross country trip to where we stop. Then a 7 km walk to Ruahine Corner Hut. There is an option by those keen; to continue on to Lake Colenso and hut for the night. The quiet and serene atmosphere at the lake is quite magic. Then back up to Ruahine Corner on the Sunday, stay at Ruahine Corner and out with those staying there. Lots of exploring can be done here, forests of Kaikawaka (Mountain Cedar), tussock lands, dolines and more.

This will be in 4WD vehicles and so a van fare \$20 + \$5.

Organiser: John Montgomerie Ph. 877 7358

Wed 09 Feb Tour of the Bays Cycle

Start at Hastings Golf Club and go through Bridge Pa, Raukawa area then back to the start.

Organiser: Peter Hansen 022 6210560

Sun 13 Feb Khyber Pass \$15 Map BL36

Leave from Mill Road end and walk down the Tukituki River, in an easterly direction, to the picturesque Khyber Pass. This is a pleasant way to enjoy a summer's day wading in and out of the river.

Organiser: Anne Doig Ph. 878 8694

Wed 16 Feb Blowhard Bush

Another look at the lovely limestone features and mature trees at the Forest & Bird reserve on the Napier –Taihape Road

Organiser: Lynn Walch Ph. 06 650 6965

W/e 19/20 Feb Maungataniwha Lizard survey and overnigher \$15 Map BH39

In 2013 the Club installed some traps to monitor lizards in the Maungataniwha Forest which is inland from Kotemaori beside the Waiau River. We have been returning there every so often to set these traps and see if any lizards are caught to get an idea as to whether the change from an exotic forest to a native forest has resulted in an increase in lizard numbers. This is best done in the warmer months, so on a date that is acceptable to the forest managers, we will drive there on the Saturday, set up the traps and enjoy a night in the accommodation there. On Sunday we will check and then unset the traps after which there is usually time for a bit of a tramp before returning to town. *The Maungataniwha Native Forest managers require all attendees to be fully vaccinated.*

Organizer: Mike Lusk Ph. 877 8328

Wed 23 Feb Wheeling in CHB

Wakarara Road from the gravel pit, heading west. Maybe do a loop down Hardy Road and SH50 if you are interested

Organiser: Alasdair Shaw Ph. 877 6225

Sun 27 Feb Te Puia Hut and/or Makino Hut \$15 Map: BJ37

Leave from The Gums and walk in to Te Puia Hut. Just past the hut, beside the Makino River, there is a steep climb up to high point 996 to endure before following this track down, past the Middle Hill Hut track junction and the old Makino Bivvy, to the Makino car park. A gentler option is a return tramp from the Makino car park to Makino hut and explore the environs.

Organiser: Glenda Hooper Ph. 877 4183

Wed 02 Mar Mackintosh Hut

A good hike to the plateau; those who don't fancy the big hill can potter about the Kaweka Twin Lakes

Organiser: Anne Cantrick Ph.844 8149

Wed 09 Mar Apley Road Circuit

From Awatoto to the hills around Puketapu and back along the cycleways

Organiser: Christine Hardie Ph. 844 9590

W/e 12-13 March Okahu Road to Rodgers Hut – Whirinaki Forest \$30 Map: BG39

It's an easy walk from the trailhead up and over to Skips Hut, gaining some 120m altitude along the dual house track. It takes just under two hours to reach the hut. Skips Hut is a clean nine-bunker and a deck that overlooks the Whangatawhia Stream. Carry on to Rodgers Hut, aka Te Wairoa Hut. Rodgers is an historic six bunker, resplendent with stained glass windows and hand hewn bunk beams. The Moerangi Stream flows past impressively and there's plenty around the hut to explore and enjoy. The hut is at the junction of the track to Mangakahika Hut. There are options for a fast party to continue towards Mangakahika Hut. *Please note that in December, due to COVID 19 concerns, kaitiaki, Ngāti Whare, invoked a rāhui over the whole Whirinaki Te Pua a Tāne Conservation Park which may mean we have to alter our plans.*

Organiser: No organiser as yet, email tramphtc@gmail.com

Wed 16 Mar Stanfield Hut, Ruahine Ranges

Along Holmes Road, a straightforward 4WD route to the river, keen people can take the high road.

Organiser: Janice Love Ph. 877 5442

W/e 26-27 March Robson Lodge area - Kaweka Range \$15 Map: BJ37

Robsons Lodge is situated at Kuripapango beside the Ngaruroro River and is a good place to practise our tramping skills as well as have a good social time.

Organiser: Peter Berry Ph.877 4183

Wed 23 Mar Cycle from Maraekakaho

On country roads with hills, a choice of routes. Go up Whakapirau or along Aorangi Road or even to Kereru

Organiser: Graeme Hare Ph.844 8656

Wed 30 Mar Havelock North Reserves

Another ramble through the reserves with many beautiful gardens and pieces of bush

Organiser: Barbara Phillips Ph.877 5459

Saturday 9 April Hinerua Hut - Ruahine Range \$15 Map: BL36

The tramp leaves from Mill Road, inland from Ashley Clinton. From the car park follow the track down to the Tukituki River; go upstream for 2 kilometres before crossing the river. The track then goes over private farmland before reaching the Park boundary. From here it is a steady climb up an old track that follows a spur to the Hinerua Ridge Track junction. From the junction it is a 30 minute walk to Hinerua Hut.

Organiser: Anne Doig Ph. 878 8694

Wed 06 Apr Cycle to Mohi Bush

Down and up Maraetotara Road to the reserve overlooking the valley, check on pest control that we helped install some years ago.

Organiser: Garry Smith Ph. 8449931

Wed 13 Apr Kaweka Flats

We haven't been here for a while. An attractive walk through beech forest then along to the bivvy. Iron Whare is also nearby.

Organiser: Des Smith Ph.022 3706118

Easter: 15-18 April Kiwi Saddle and beyond \$15 Map:BJ37

From the Lakes Road car park walk into our own Kiwi Saddle Hut – options to do a short or long circuit in this area. Fit party up to Manson, Back Ridge, Studholme Huts and out via Kiwi Saddle or medium group to Kiwi Mouth, and then to Castle Camp and out via the Rogue or Kaweka site.

Organiser: Janice Love Ph. 877 5442 co-leader required (Kiwi Saddle – 2 days)

Anzac W/e: 23-25 April Holdsworth Area - Tararua Range \$35 Maps: BP34/BP33

Drive to Masterton and the Mount Holdsworth car park. From the Lodge walk past Rocky Knob on the Mount Holdsworth track to the Mountain House Shelter continuing into Powell hut. Sunday climb up to Mt Holdsworth to Jumbo Hut. Monday descend to Atiwhakatu Hut and follow the Atiwhakatu River back to the vehicle.

Organiser: Susan Lopdell Ph. 844 6697

Wed 20 Apr Crownthorpe Cycle

Another old favourite from Pukeharamoamo – a couple of moderate hills plus long, fast stretches.

Organiser: Rodger Burns Ph.877 6322

Wed 27 Apr Bell Rock

An iconic Hawke's Bay attraction: stands of pest-free bush, tussocky tops and spectacular limestone formations

Organiser: Joan Ruffell Ph.877 6225

Wed 04 May Mystery Ride

Prepare your bikes. Where will Mr Hare take us?
Over the hills and far away

Organiser: Graeme Hare Ph.844 8656

8 May Upper Matakuhia Hut – Sth Whirinaki Forest Park \$20 Map: BG38/BH38

Tramp into the basic 8 bunk hut (maintained by a group of hunters from Tokoroa) through beech forest. Set in the southern corner of the Whirinaki Forest Park, we access the track from the Napier-Taupo Road, just north of the Waipunga Falls. Come and enjoy the forest, bird life and hut in a grassy setting.

Organiser: No organiser as yet, will be finalised in April Pohokura

Wed 11 May Happy Daze Hut

Over farmland to beautiful bush in the Ruahine foothills

Organiser: Rodger Burn Ph. 877 6322

Wed 18 May Biking in CHB

Start on the Waipawa to Waipukurau trail then beyond the town, maybe south, maybe west as the organiser sees fit. Or maybe it will be Otane or even Takapau. Wait and see.

Organiser: Des Smith Ph. 022 3706118

21-22 May - Studholme Saddle Hut or Back Ridge Hut \$15 Map: BJ37

Travel to Makahu Saddle on Saturday morning to climb up to Kaweka J. From there one party will go down to Studholme Hut for the night then come out to Makahu Saddle on Sunday via Mackintosh and Mataura Ridge tracks. The second party will descend from the J to Back Ridge Hut for the night. On Sunday they will return to the tops via the alternate track which hits the main range north of the Makahu Spur track. One may wish to continue to North Kaweka before returning to descend Makahu Spur.

Organiser: No organiser as yet, will be finalised in April Pohokura

Wed 25 May Beach Walk

Could be south to Blackhead, Pourerere or Kairakau or we could go north to Tangoio or Waipatiki areas. Tide dependent, of course

Organiser: Garry Smith Ph. 844 9931

Wed 01 June Havelock North Area Cycle

Head south or west on the outskirts of Havelock North – plenty of roads to choose from and moderate hills.

Organiser: Joan Ruffell Ph. 877 6225

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Queen's Birthday 4 – 6 June Putara – Nth Tararua Range \$25 Map: BN34
From Eketahuna, drive along Putara Road to car park. Walk into Herepai and Roaring Lion Huts or an easier option wander the flats around the private hut that is only an hour's walk from the road end.

Organiser: No organiser as yet, will be finalised in April Pohokura

Wed 08 June Sunrise Hut

The most popular walk in the Ruahine Range. Lunch at the hut or on Armstrong Saddle if the wind allows.

Potterers can go around the Swap Track

Organiser: Janice Love Ph. 877 5442

Wed 15 June Seafield Circuit Ride

Cycle from Park Island in Taradale to Bayview – take the high road or the low whichever site you on the day. Plenty of options for eBikes and non-powered cycles alike.

Organiser: Ray Manning Ph. 845 1316

Wed 22 June Te Mata Park

Ramble through the woods above Havelock North. Members from the planting and restoration group may show us the latest.

Organiser: Rodger Burn Ph. 877 6322

Wed 29 June Tukituki Cycle Mark two

Another ride along the Waimarama Road cycleway then along the Tuki to the coast and Clifton.

Organiser: Peter Hewitt Ph. 877 5188

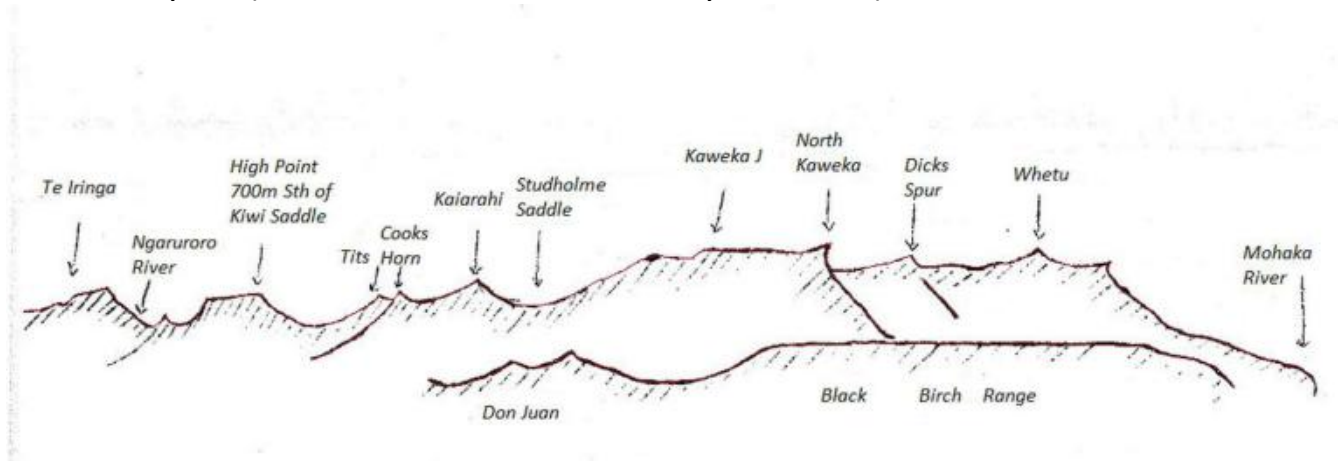
MAP NAMES (source: CBS in April 1971 Pohokura)

In the beginnings of the HTC, in the early thirties, the ranges of Hawke's Bay were virtually devoid of names. Norman Elder, who arrived on the scene from Wellington in 1931, played a large part in the early mapping and naming of the Ruahine, Kaweka and Kaimanawa Ranges, assisted in due course by others, in particular Doug Callow. Of the maps produced in those days some are still in current use.(eg Kaweka Map) and others have been the basis for later Lands and Survey maps (E.G.NZMS 74, Ruahines and NZMS 196 Kaimanawas)

In naming the various features of the countryside it was Norman Elder's policy, backed by the HTC committee, to hunt out traditional Maori names or established Pakeha names, rather than christen peaks after their conqueror - a practice which was rife in the Tararuas at the time. In the event of no previous name being unearthed appropriate Maori names were chosen. The meanings of the names are interesting and reveal in some cases, an amusing event.

Here are some names from the Kaweka Range: Firstly, "Te Iringa Oi Ngakahua Tamakorako" shortened by early surveyors (amongst numerous others) to "**Te Iringa**", commemorates a Maori battle of which "**Kuripapango**" (the dark dogskin cloak) was a participant. **Rogue Ridge** was named after an old and cunning sheep which used to defy musterers and lead the ewes astray. A name originating from the HTC is "**Kaiarahi**" which means 'the peak of the pathfinder'. This name was devised by Bishop Bennett at HTC's request in memory of Doug Callow, whose name appears on the Cairn.

Kaweka Skyline (Source: Norm Elder in an early Pohokura)



Pohokura

TRAMPING HAS SOME RISKS LOOK AFTER YOURSELF AND YOUR COMPANIONS

Club trips are organised and led by volunteers not by guides. We are, therefore, all responsible for our own safety, while at the same time looking out for our companions. It is important that we actually do some preparation and thinking for ourselves and do not turn up on a trip expecting that someone else will do all this for us.

Try this:

1. Read the description of the trip and make sure it is something within your ability. Ask someone for advice if necessary as there may be particular hazards on a trip that are specific to the terrain. A tramping party is only as strong as the weakest member so you may put everyone at risk if you cannot cope
2. Really pay attention to the Gear List published on the Pohokura. Don't rely on someone else taking those things you cannot immediately find. That will not help if you find yourself alone, especially when you need that torch you left behind.
3. Make a conscious effort to understand the hazards associated with tramping in the hills. They are all there on the Mountain Safety Council's website www.mountainsafety.org.nz . This has a mass of information including 42 sort videos under the tab "Get Outdoor Video Series". You will have received a copy of "Safety in the Mountains" when you joined the club. Do actually read through it from time to time.
4. And do make an effort to understand maps and how to use your compass. Maps are easy – using a compass is not but you will need them if you end up separated from your party.
5. The leader of the trip will have one of the club's locator beacons but think about buying one for yourself. They are an essential item on an independent trip. A cell phone will usually work from the higher point but not always.
6. Always take some spare medication if you need it, in case of a night out☺.
7. Learn to be at home in the mountains and bush, even if you are alone. That will come with learning, confidence and experience.

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