

# HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB

POHOKURA – Bulletin No. 269

April 2022

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## Sub Committees:

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

## Club Meetings

These are held every second Wednesday (before a weekend tramp) at the Hastings Harrier Clubrooms in Sylvan Road, Hastings. Doors open at 7.30p.m. Visitors are welcome

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# TRIP REPORTS

**2542 Mount Erin**
**8 December 2021**

This was our last listed midweek walk for the year and a group of 14 met at the start of the 4WD track. Access had been kindly given by the station manager and after completing the farm work safety requirements it was all go. The day was to prove very hot with little wind and on hindsight a much earlier start would have been beneficial as the forecasted rain never appeared.

The track is in good condition and we started out together in one group plus Alasdair on his trusty MTB who soon left us behind and reached the tops in a ride time of one hour. The rest meanwhile had split into two groups and the fast party took just over two hours and the rest a little later after plenty of rehydration stops and lunched in the shade of the tower while a couple stopped for lunch just short of the tops and all enjoyed the views to the ranges and Napier and beyond.



*Lunch at the top of Mount Erin*

Regrouping for the return and gravity propelled us back to our cars. A very enjoyable day was had by all on a track new to most.

**Party:** Anthea Chiappa, Barbara Phillips, Christine Hardie, Maggie Brown, Janice Love, Anne Cantrick, Joan Ruffell, Glenda Hooper, Alasdair Shaw, Garry Smith, Graeme Hare, Pete Hewitt, Pete Hansen, Rodger Burn.

**2543 Up the Ngaruroro River from Kuripapango Saturday 15 January, 2022**

Five of us headed off in the new van parking at the Cameron car park. The weather was a bit iffy, cooler and cloudy, but the river was reasonably low and as we discovered on the first crossing, quite warm.

This first crossing is the easiest on the entire trip, if you find it difficult or scary, turn around and go home! Most of the trip up the river is on sidle tracks, cutting off the corners and a few deeper bits, these tracks are generally much faster than trying to go up the river bed which, while not terrible going, is hardly up to grade one track standards.



*Susan Lopdell, Glenda Hooper, Jude Hay and Carol Clarke*

One of the features of the river in this part is the large number of kowhai trees, it must be quite a sight in the Spring although I doubt many people ever see it as the river is only suitable for foot traffic when it's low and warm. Now in the middle of summer a lot of the Kowhai were looking very much worse for wear, many of even the biggest ones having been completely defoliated by kowhai moth.



*Susan Lopdell, Carol Clarke and Jude Hay*

The river was greasy on many of the crossings, particularly where it was bouldery rather than shingle and we helped each other across, a 100 mm lower and it would have been considerably easier to cross, a 100 mm deeper and it would have been expert only territory. We weren't going anywhere in particular so we just plodded along taking in the



river, the bush and the spectacular slopes on either side of the river heading up towards Kiwi ridge and Te Iringa, very steep and rocky.

A bit before we stopped for lunch we came across some kiwi footprints in the muddy sand on the side of the river (like a chook but with no back claw). After lunch, a bit over half way up the river to the hut to Cameron Hut, we headed back down the way we had come, a very pleasant walk, not hot enough to want to go for a swim, but warm enough to not need heavy layers of clothing.

PB

**Party:** Glenda Hooper, Peter Berry, Susan Lopdell, Jude Hay, Carol Clarke

## 2544 Howletts / Daphne Huts

w/e 22/23 January, 2022



*How pleased is Graeme to be at Howletts Hut?*



*Susan Lopdell negotiating the Tukituki River*

I first went to Howletts Hut in September 1956 and 66 years later I was delighted to be able to knock on the door again as an 81year old.

Our trip this time had options, Janice & Derek departing Friday for a 4 day jaunt, having another 2 nights at Daphne Hut, seven on a normal weekend trip to Howletts and Susan & Anne D

overnighting at Daphne Hut. We had eleven people out enjoying warm, sunny/hot weather in the central Ruahine Ranges. The van left Havelock North just before 6am, arriving at the Kashmir Road car park at 8am. We could not have had better conditions walking to the Tukituki River where it was shallow and warm.

The crew enjoyed a really long lunch stop at Daphne Hut. Ahead of us was the infamous Daphne Spur, which when tackled steadily and smoothly is not as daunting as its reputation. I will admit out in the sun it was hot but we were delighted to be welcomed to the top at 4pm by Janice and Derek who had cleaned mattresses which were necessary after coming up from Daphne Hut.



*Anne Cantrick, Howletts Hut with Tiraha and the Sawtooth in the background*

I have still to meet a person who is disappointed on arrival at Howletts Hut, its site and position on the tops is magnificent and anyone who has helped in the anyway at Howletts is to be congratulated and thanked. Jude and Paula can now say "I have been to Howletts". Janice & Anne nipped away late in the afternoon to check that Tiraha was still there. During the late afternoon, three young couples arrived, two from Wellington and one from Palmerston Nth. One couple came over the Sawtooth and because of the crumbling rock said they would not be attempting that again. Simon put his tent up and we comfortably had fourteen inside for the night.

Our plan was to be up at 6am and away by 8am returning via the tops and Otumore & Longview. We were away by 7.45 as Janice & Derek very kindly offered to do our housework for us. A SW wind kept us cool and swept away the few clouds on the horizon as we cruised along the tops. The petite alpine flowers were all around us. The route was quite distinct with waratahs for guidance. Once our team were over the top of Otumore the wind died, it was

hot and time for a lunchette in the tussock. At Longview Hut we stopped for a snack and a drink.

We were down on the road by quarter to three before a walk along to the van, then home. But Des had descended quickly and brought the van back to meet us at a convenient turning place. Susan & Anne D who spent a night at Daphne were waiting for him at the van. An interesting & variable circuit and I hope everyone enjoyed the weekend as much as I did. Thanks Des for driving.

Thank You All for coming.

GRH

**Party:** Janice Love, Derek Boshier, Susan Lopdell, Anne Doig, Jude Hay, Paula Kasper, Anne Cantrick, Simon Whittam, Des Smith, Mark Hutchinson, Graeme Hare (organiser)

## 2545 Waikoau Tomos and Gorge

Sun 30 January, 2022

High summer and a gorge trip, what more could a man ask for. After signing in at the shearing shed, we headed back to the airstrip gate and wandered down to the airstrip past literally hundreds of bunnies.



*Susan Lopdell, Andy Fowler, Nic Walkerdine, Terry Fowler, Tina Godbert, Anne Doig, Glenda Hooper, Gabrielle Saxon, Marie Taylor (obscured)*

It was years since I was last there and my memory is notoriously wrong, so everyone had to argue about which way to go, but I figured that if we dropped into the patch of bush below us we would bump into the Waihimo Gorge eventually. The bush was open and easy going and we did indeed eventually

bump into the gorge, if a little further down than anticipated, so I headed back up the side of it to eventually find a route of sorts down into this hidden wonderland. Most of the party hadn't been there before and they were gob-smacked by the grandeur, beauty and sheer size of this collapsed cave system.

You follow a trickle of a stream down the bottom of it over huge limestone rocks while these giant cliffs either side of you tower and loom above you before almost meeting in the middle, all the while the sun streaming in through the narrow ribbon of sky high above. At the bottom, the gorge ends in a waterfall that you walk past later in the day as you go down the Waikoau River.

Scrambling back up the gorge we exited on the true right and came out by a corner post with a broken stay only a short walk from where the track leaves the farmland to go down to the Waikoau. Seven of us headed down the river spending some of the time in the river and some of the time sidling through some really nice bush, a bit eaten out by deer and goats but still considerably better than the disgraceful condition of the Boundary Stream and Bellbird Bush deer park just up the road.

Eventually we took a major sidle on the true left and couldn't get back into the river for miles unfortunately missing much of the stunning limestone gorge. At one point we did manage to drop back in for lunch and there were four giant meringues of foam circling each other in an eddy, there were also a number of places where the sunlight reflected off the water and onto the overhanging rocks.

When we came to the waterfall on the true left that marks the beginning of the slab sided gorge that you have to get through to get to the end of the trip Marie and Anne left us. They climbed out on the true right to walk overland to Blue Lake. The rest of us forged on down the gorge.

The Waikoau is not a very big river, but it is a very tight gorge with vertical unclimbable sides. The first half an hour of this gorge could be described as really exciting and/or, bloody scary depending on your point of view, I must be getting old because I was certainly leaning towards the more worried attitude.

After that for the next half an hour it's mostly just really deep with slippery sides that you can't hold onto, no current and in my case a pack that I was relying on for buoyancy that got heavier and heavier as I got lower and lower in the water. You come around the corner and it's shallow, you climb onto a





*Peter Berry clinging to the gorge wall. Terry Fowler well prepared for the river trip*

farm track, cross the bridge and stagger on up the big hill over farmland in the hot afternoon sun and arrive almost dry at Lake Opouahi car-park. I really am getting to old for this sort of trip, must do it again next year! Thanks Andy for walking up and collecting the van PB

**Party:** Peter Berry, Glenda Hooper, Susan Lopdell, Gabrielle Saxon, Anne Doig, Nic Walkerdine, Tina Godbert, Andy Fowler, Terry Fowler, Marie Taylor

## 2546 Spooners Hill

Wed 2 February, 2022

No report has been received for this tramp but it did happen and comments were: it was warm and windy and there were great views from the lookout. Tomos, limestone rocks covered in moss, overgrown parts of the track, shade in the bush all made our tramp enjoyable. Here are a couple of photos





**2547 Tangoio Walkway and White Pine Bush Sat 13 February, 2022**

With an expected high river flow in the Tukituki River we decided not to do the Khyber Pass trip and as heavy rain was forecasted for Sunday we decided to walk the Tutira and Tangoio walkways on Saturday. However, Graeme reminded me that the Wairoa Road was closed for the weekend (from the Aropaoanui turnoff northwards) meaning we couldn't get to Tutira so we decided to do a return walk of the Tangoio walkway and White Pine Bush. We went there in 2 cars, my car had a rather doubting Thomas in it, particularly as we drove through torrential rain between Napier and Bay View, I told him to keep driving. As we drove up the Tangoio valley the rain ceased and the grumbling stopped. We had a great day, there was plenty of water going over the waterfalls but none of it landed on us, in fact there even was a little sunshine at times.

We left an empty Tangoio carpark about 8 o'clock and started along the walkway through the Tangoio Scenic Reserve. We made the detour to see the Te Ana Falls and then carried on up to view the Tangoio Falls, passing many little waterfalls fuelled by the recent downpour, on the way. The vegetation in the scenic reserve is very varied and like the nearby Waipatiki Reserve has many splendid Nikaus sporting bracts of fruit. Needless to say the Kereru was quite evident there.



*Left: Te Ana Falls; Below Tangoio Falls*



After the scenic reserve the walkway passes through a recently logged area, the only thing of interest in this section was the explosion of about 10 pheasants from just above the track. The last part of the walkway passes first through a redwood grove and then through another native section before ending at the Napier Taupo Road immediately opposite White Pine Bush

Morning tea was had at the White Pine shelter after which we did the large loop and enjoyed the large Kahikatea, interrupting a tourist taking a selfie at one of the trees. We then re- crossed the road and retraced our steps back to the Tangoio car park passing quite a number of other groups out enjoying the break in the weather. Lunch was had at the Tangoio shelter and there, whilst under cover, we had the only rain of the trip.

After lunch Anthea and Jude headed back to town while Peter Janice & I drove down to the Tangoio beach and walked south down to the Pakarutahi river mouth. Seagulls were feasting on small fish as they were washed up on to the beach and Peter even spotted a frog there. GH

**Party:** Peter Berry, Anthea Chiappa, Janice Love, Jude Hay and Glenda Hooper

<b>2548 Blowhard Bush</b>	<b>Wednesday 16 February, 2022</b>
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What a super time we had up at Blowhard. Nine of us met at Fernhill and set off up Taihape Road. The weather was perfect and the bush and undergrowth looked very happy for the recent rain.

Walking up the Tui Track we took in all the interesting rock formations, the bush and the birdlife. We saw flocks of popokatea (whitehead) admired the friendly robins, heard tui, kereru, a long tailed cuckoo and were accompanied by fantails. *(Note spell check made fantails into fantastics)*

After a relax and cuppa in the sunny grass area near the Lowry Lodge, we took in the panoramic view of the Kawekas, before heading down to the Shelter for lunch. Along the way were many red admiral butterflies.

After lunch, most of us retraced our path up the Tui Track to traverse the Raukanui, where massive ancient matai and rimu impressed. The final fun was exploring the caves and troglodytes, studying the cave weta and stalactites.

Thanks to Christine for driving and to all participants who helped make the day so enjoyable.

**Party:** Graeme Hare, Rodger Burn, Susan Lopdell, Anthea Chiappa, Anne Cantrick, Alasdair Shaw, Christine Hardie, and we welcome Maureen Powell on her first trip out with us. Joan Ruffell (scribe)

**2549 Maungataniwha Lizard Survey**

**w/e 19/20 February, 2022**

There comes a time in the lives of some trampers when they realise that dashing about in the jungle with the aim of reaching the hut first is questionable and even frivolous. I'm the first to admit that increasing physical infirmity may also be involved but at least a few of our group were sound of mind, wind and limb. So it was that 12 of us with baggage, and with food for a week set off for Maungataniwha, a Forest Life Force restoration project on the east side of the Whirinaki forest. An observer would have guessed that we were on a rest home outing, not only because of the vehicle but because of the largely geriatric inhabitants.

The plan was to check pitfall traps and refuge boxes attached to trees for skinks and geckos respectively. The fact that we found neither did not necessarily reflect incompetence or the considerable damage or malfunction of some of the infrastructure, but it may be that the high rat numbers have kept lizard populations very low. Certainly the systems work well in other sites. We made some modifications and more will be made before our next visit. At one pitfall site the high deer population had destroyed many lids and damaged a few of the in-ground buckets. There were some tree and cave weta in the refuges but in numbers fewer than found at Boundary Stream not far to the south. Spiders were remarkably rare.





The accommodation is palatial by tramping standards, but we coped without difficulty or embarrassment. Each participant had something to contribute but special mention should be made of Lex for keeping the van on the road, Marion for leading a small group of diligent housewives of all genders, Joan for reducing at the local wasp population by 0.00037% and of course Pam was generous in her dispensing of wisdom and reminiscence and pudding.



My only regret was that the small group responsible for collecting mosquitoes were quite unable to fulfil that simple task. They will not be high on the list of invitees next time.

N.B. Allow 2 hours travel time direct to the usual meeting point on Haliburton Road and another 1/2hr to get to the base. Allow extra for pickups. They now have some cell phone reception and Wi-Fi up there.

**Party:** Joan Ruffell, Sue Lopdell (retired School Dental Nurse), Lex and Anne Smith, Brent Hickey, Graeme Hare, Dave Mulinder, Paula Kasper, Marion Nicholson, Fred Chesterman, Pam Turner, Mike Lusk

<b>2550 Makino/Te Puia Hut</b>	<b>27 February 2022</b>
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From Havelock North it is a two hour drive to the Makino Hut car park. As we travel through the settlements of Puketapu, Rissington, Patoka and Puketitiri; there is light rain. At the car park there was low cloud and a little drizzle which was to be the order of the day.

It is decided to go up to Makino Hut with the fast party having the opportunity to go down to Te Puia Hut and come out at the Gums car park. If this option is



taken; Lex and the B party will tramp in and return to the van then drive down to the Gums to collect them.

From the car park it is a steep 60 metre uphill from the road. After which the track undulates with a few ups and down to gain an altitude of 996 metres (the altitude at the road is 600 metres). For the first half hour the track is through regenerating bush; after which we enter beech forest and where the understory is horopito.

The rustic Makino Bivvy is still standing. It is a waist high A-frame of corrugated iron with beech pole framing on the forest floor with open ends. It would offer shelter in a storm but little comfort.



*Lex Smith at Makino Bivvy*

At the junction to Makino Hut Glenda and Lex studied the track to see if the fast party had gone down to Te Puia. It was decided that they hadn't so Lex, Glenda and I sat down to have lunch. It was only after lunch that the map was consulted and it was decided that the hut was not far away however by that time the faster party were returning from the hut.

Greg decided that he was keen to go down to Te Puia Hut if there were others who wanted to join him. Jude, Gabrielle, and Anthea decided they would go. Karl, Susan, Glenda, Lex and I returned on the path we had come in on. Once back at the van it was decided to delay our afternoon tea and drive down to the Mangatutu Hot Springs. Lex was wise and had brought his togs so he and Karl went down to the springs for a well-earned soak.



*Greg Smith with Gabrielle Saxon and Jude Hay in the background returning from Makino Hut*

Greg reports that the trip down to the Te Puia track was sketchy. The others on the tramp described it as steep. It is a 500 metre descent over 1500 metres. The foursome were all pleased to have completed the tramp despite the fatigue. I am not sure if Anthea was the most fatigued but she assured us that she was broken. AD

**Party:** Lex Smith (driver), Glenda Hooper, Greg Smith, Karl Jager, Susan Lopdell, Gabrielle Saxon, Anthea Chiappa, Jude Hay, Anne Doig

### **2551 Working Bee at Kiwi Creche Lake Opouahi Wed 2 March 2022**

The Save Our Kaweka Kiwi team are most appreciative of the HTC volunteers' continued support in maintaining the the creche weir. Once again an efficient team of gardeners cleared away the regrowth of grass, ferns blackberry and debris from the weir and stream banks.

After lunch there was time to tackle the thick, long grass from the surrounds of the security entryway and the small bushed area bordering the shelter. This transformed the creche entry area into being tidy and appealing to those who visit.



It was a very successful and enjoyable day. Thanks again for your great efforts. A special thanks to Peter Berry, our driver and to HTC for use of the van.

**The team:** Philip Mardon, Lex & Anne Smith, Glenda Hooper, Peter Hansen, Graeme Hare, Roy Frost, Maureen Powell, Marilyn Wright, Phil Kay, Anne Cantrick

**2552 Ruahine Corner**

**w/e 4-6 March, 2022**

A party of seven in two 4WD vehicles left from Fernhill, Friday afternoon, travelling over the Napier-Taihape Road. Approximately 2 hours later we were at the starting point having driven through the Otupae station and part of the Mangaohane station to the boundary of Aorangi Awarua Trust owned land.



*Murry Alderson, Simon Whittam, Paula Kasper, Anne Cantrick, Ed Homes, John Montgomerie*



Just prior to reaching our starting point we met a stockman wearing a bright green canvas shirt enjoying the view. He was with a horse and a pack of dogs, about 10km's from the station settlement on top of one of the higher hills.

For about 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours we walked 7 km over a rough farm track that goes up and over a prominent ridge. It's from this point we got good views all round. The landscape changed from grassed hill country to one of tussock grassland. One also sees rocky outcrops/bluffs, the northern Ruahines, Mt. Ruapehu and somewhere in the distance out of sight to the south where the tussock meets the bush is the Ruahine Corner hut. The track gradually narrows to single file track crossing a little used airstrip with a torn orange windsock and a couple of large stacks of pest traps. There, not far away, is Ruahine Corner Hut in a tussock basin. This last part of the track skirts a couple of sink holes/dolines /tomos.

Our party spent the night at this north facing 6 bunk hut with a verandah around two sides. For some of us this was new territory. Some had come in the same way before, others had come in from the east over the Ruahines.

The weather for the weekend remained fine, sunny with not a lot of wind with daytime temperatures in the mid-teens. On Saturday, 6 of the party travelled onto the Colenso Hut. John, nursing a tender knee, remained at the Ruahine Corner Hut until we met again on Sunday and retrace our route back to the vehicles.



*Sandy Sparling, Ed Holmes, Simon Whittam, Paula Kasper, Anne Cantrick, Murry Alderson*



From the Ruahine Corner Hut the track soon enters the bush, circling around slightly to the south, gradually climbing a ridge that narrows, has steep sides and very large vertical rocks that one walks beside or between. The high point we come to is Potae Peak. Again great views all round. We could see to the north the general direction from where our tramp began. Even the peak of Mt. Ngauruhoe is visible from here. A great vantage point to take a break and consider the very steep descent down to streams and rivers that take us to the Colenso Hut. During the descent 4 pest traps with dead rats were passed.

4  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours on from Ruahine Corner Hut we arrived at the Colenso Hut set above a lupin filled riverbed. There had been a large log jam to negotiate and even a deep stretch of water for one of our party to cool off in. The Colenso Hut, overlooking the river, is a freshly painted 8 bunk hut, good natural light inside, with a small verandah and a new wood shed.

Not far away from the hut, perhaps 7 minutes, is the beautiful Lake Colenso, with no natural outflow, set amongst large native trees and large rocky bluffs behind it. The afternoon was warm and sunny.

Sunday was the start of a long day, 6  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours of retracing our steps all the way back to our vehicles. Between Colenso Hut and Potae Peak two of our party experienced unforeseen incidents. Anne accidentally fell along a river bed experiencing discomfort to a hip. This required some rest, pain relief and the carrying of her pack for a while. The other incident involved the ground giving way on very narrow track 7m up above a rocky creek bed. Sandy slid down the bank and was stopped 3m above creek by a tree the thickness of one's thumb. Fortunately other members were able to assist Sandy, remove their packs and extract her. But it was a very precarious location, slippery, virtually nothing to hang on to or step on for both rescued and rescuer. The location of this incident was under the tree canopy and a long way from any open space. Sandy had a beacon on the shoulder strap of her pack. Continuing back up the steep ridge to Potae Peak it caused us all to think 'what if ...'

After a break at the top of Potae Peak it was a cautious walk down the narrow sections of the ridge and back to Ruahine Corner Hut. John, who had remained there, had explored around the tussock basin close by. Once back at Ruahine Corner Hut we took a good break and regrouped our party of 7 to walk back out to the vehicles the same way we had come in. No other tramping parties were seen on the tracks or at either of the huts. Once back at the vehicles an alternative farm track was taken through 10km of the Mangaohane station to the Mangaohane Road and back out to the Napier-Taihape Rd.

All members arrived back home early evening, Sunday night. Not all members of the tramping party had met before, but had supported and helped each other.

Thank you all for your contribution to this tramp.

SW

**Party:** Ed Holmes, Sandy Sparling, John Montgomerie, Paula Kasper, Anne Cantrick, Murry Alderson and Simon Whittam.

### 2553 Blowhard Bush

27 March, 2022

There was a 1 in 50 year flood in Central Hawkes Bay with many road closures and SH 2 and SH 5 north of Napier also had flooding and road closures so rather than cancel a day out we choose to go up the Taihape Road and visit Forest and Bird's Blowhard Bush. This meant our party of 8 was able to have a late, 9 AM, start from Pukahu.

There was very little evidence of storm damage on the Napier Taihape Road and we arrived at the Forest and Bird shelter just after 10. We started off heading anticlockwise on the Tui Track but after a short distance Peter lead us off this track to follow one of F&B's trap lines which took us up to the road along the top of the reserve just inside the eastern and northern boundaries of the reserve.



*A friendly robin on the Rewa track – image Marie Taylor*

Initially there were interesting rock formations to pass under and through then we descended down to the main stream, crossed it and climbed up to the fire-break on the northern boundary. We followed this fire-break until we met the top road just short of the view point. There was not much to see at the view point apart from mist so we dropped down to Lowry Lodge for a dry space to have our lunch.

After lunch we carried on down the Tui Track, detouring through the Rewa loop where most left Peter and Marie scavenging for seeds. Our final section was a walk along the Troglodyte Track and more rock formations - the stream was flowing clear but definitely higher than usual.

We were all back at the shelter by 2 PM and back into town just after 3 PM

**Party:** Peter Berry, Nat Berry, Susan Lopdell, Anne Doig, Daniel Haddock, Marie Taylor, Kevin Tinker, Glenda Hooper

<b>2554 Hinerua Hut</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9 April 2022</b>
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Regrettably we were not able to access Hinerua Hut through Adler Road. John Montgomerie organised for us to cross Stanley Stubbs land, which Janice ably guided us down the farm road to the paddock that we would cross to access the Moorcock Stream. This made for a comfortable walk across the farm land and a drop down to the stream.



*Glenda Hooper, Janice Love, Tom Little and Jude Hay crossing the Moorcock Stream*

The Moorcock Stream was a picturesque walk but within 15 minutes of starting our tramp we had wet feet. There were multiple crossings which required little effort as the stream bed was made up of shingle. We were at the Tukituki River within three quarters of an hour; from where we had a further quarter of an hour to the large orange triangle on the true left of the river.

Once out of the river there is a short, sharp, steep ascent. When that is negotiated a fence with barbed wire needed to be climbed. Thanks to Simon for lending his walking pole to act as a barrier and Peter and Tom for holding it over the barbed wire for us to climb over.

The next fence to be climbed had a stile. This lead into us into the farm land over which a D.o.C track is accessed. At this stage the D.o.C track is not obvious but Peter lead us up a bulldozed farm track from where we took an educated guess as to where the track starts. Fortunately we got it right and with some bush bashing we were able to follow the little used track. From the river it is a 280 metre steep ascent. Once out of the bush there is a short walk over fairly level farmland to another stile; over which we are in D.o.C land.

The D.o.C track undulates through native bush where we enjoyed the trees, the birds (Peter called in a large flock of whiteheads), and the lush greenery with an abundance of fungi. We found on the track a deceased powelliphanta (native snail) and evidence of a couple of shells.

The faster party (Janice, Jude, Simon, and Tom) made it to the hut. Peter, Glenda, and I had a pleasant tramp with a lunch break on the side of the track and decided to return the way we came as we were not going to make it to the hut.

Once both parties regrouped at the fence line we decided to walk down the fence line which, although extremely steep, would shorten our descent time. Down by the bottom stile we had a rest and Peter discussed how to read a map and use a compass with Tom.

Tom is a year 12 Taradale High School student who was out with us on his first trip with the club. Tom is very enthusiastic and asked lots of questions which Peter was happy to answer. Welcome Tom and thanks for your company.

After a short rest we negotiated the barbed wire fence and short, sharp, steep descent to the river. The walk back to the truck was a pleasure even if there





*Peter Berry, Tom Little and Glenda Hooper negotiating the fence line*

were multiple river and stream crossings. The walk up to the farm paddock was short with a gentle slope across the paddock to the van. AD

**Party:** Peter Berry (driver), Glenda Hooper, Janice Love, Jude Hay, Simon Whittam, Tom Little, Anne Doig (organiser)

## HTC BIKE TRIPS



### Cycle Ride

**Wed 9<sup>th</sup> February**

Lowering skies and glowering eyes greeted the Boots on Bikes Brigade as we rolled into the Hastings Golf Club on Wednesday 9 February ready to ride our annual (partial) Tour of the Bay route.

The lowering skies were the end of the easterly front passing through the Bay. Rain looked imminent. The glowering eyes were from some of the car club crew who assemble at the golf club to show off their cars. It appeared that we'd parked our cars in their preferred spot but no one ventured over to ask us

to move so we prepared for our 8.30am pedal off undeterred by some of the looks drilling into us.



After pedalling through Bridge Pa we headed off down Raukawa Road with a slight breeze assisting our progress. The countryside was looking surprisingly green for February thanks to the recent rain which, luckily for us, seemed like it was going to stay away.

Despite a couple of protests that it was too early for smoko and a suggestion that some might break ranks, the group ethos prevailed, everyone stayed, and we enjoyed our morning smoko on the deck of the Raukawa Hall.

Fully refreshed we pedalled on along the rest of Raukawa Road then turned into Valley Road, past what used to be Raukawa School, the numerous lifestyle blocks, the orchards and the maize. The ebikers pretty much flew up the couple of climbs while the pedallers grunted their way up and enjoyed the freewheeling down the other side.

We regrouped at the Valley Road/SH 50 junction and set off down the long, somewhat tedious stretch of highway, to the golf club. There the rewards were reaped. Cups of coffee and tea, light lunches, slices and biscuits were all consumed out on the deck in the sunshine. Both the lowering clouds and glowering eyes had disappeared with the sun. The only disappointment was that the cheese scones had all gone from the cabinet. Aah well you can't have everything.

Riders: Rodger Burn, Christine Hardie, Joan Ruffell, Alisdair Shaw, Des Smith, Graeme Hare, Garry Smith, Heather Stevenson, Roy Frost, Pam Pike , Sharon Wellwood , Pete Hansen

**Wakarara Cycle Ride****Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

Ten cyclists met at 9am in Wakarara Road just off route 50, 60ks from Havelock North comprising 7 electric and 3 pedal bikes. On the first few kilometres in Wakarara Road we encountered quite a lot of heavy trucks with trailers and farm vehicles. The road is not wide so we mainly rode single file.



The road came to Hardy Road where the terrain had become quite hilly. The usual break was had there with some discussion on the steepness of the coming Hardy Road. Most attacked it by going back into Wakarara Rd on to the flat and hurling themselves plus bikes up the 3ks of Hardy Rd which wasn't as steep as I remembered.



Electric bikes were soon ahead of pedal power. Who would have thought that 9.8ks of shingle road was ahead plus quite a strong crosswind that sent a few people plus bikes off the road, all managed to stay on their bikes. Peter Hansen

on his old lightweight road bike with narrow tyres did really well and in the end caught up with some of the electric ones.

The view to farmland and the Ruahines was spectacular at times on Hardy and Blackburn Roads. A treat in store was the stop at a church built in 1911 on a farm belonging to the Bibby family. It welcomed visitors so we spent time both inside taking in the traditional interior, pews and pulpit, the outside traditional design also.

A puncture on Christine's bike was soon mended with Roy showing his skills. Mostly downhill to Route 50 and into Ongaonga for coffee and cakes! Then back to Route 50 and our cars. About 40 kms of enjoyable, sometimes difficult riding. I was impressed by the lack of complaints about the shingle. I really did forget how much there was, believe it or not! AS

Cyclists: Rodger Burn, Peter Hansen, Christine Hardie, Heather Stephenson, Joan Ruffell, Pam Pike, Sharon Wellwood, Roy Frost, Des Smith & Alisdair Shaw

### **Mohi bush ride**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April**

How nice it was to see the sun again as twelve enthusiastic HTC cyclists met at Fred Chestermans farm for our days ride. After the usual social natter we were off tackling the undulating Maraetotora road which apart from a few logging trucks was largely deserted. We regrouped at the junction with Waipoapoa Road where we decided by popular debate to firstly stop at the Mohi Bush picnic area for an early lunch.

After lunch our group split up and the more active continued further along the now gravel road to the entrance of Waipoapoa Station where Alasdair who had worked there for a while in his youth gave us some of the stations history and then headed down Tawa road to a set of imposing gates announcing Anawai Station, which is another large station, before returning back to Fred's after a stop at the Maraetotora Falls Scenic Reserve.

After lunch the main party had wandered along Okaihau road for a few Kilometres to a high point overlooking Waimarama before returning to Fred's where once again we were totally spoilt by Fred's and Marion's hospitality and Marion's baking. A great day had by all and no mishaps. Eight E Bikes and Four regular.

**Party:** Heather Stephenson, Christine Hardie, Joan Ruffell, Pam Pike, Sharron Wellwood, Anne Cantrick, Raewyn Ricketts, Pete Hansen, Alasdair Shaw, Des Smith, Graeme Hare, Rodger Burn (organiser). RB.





### Graeme's Gallery

*Left: Garry and Rodger attempting to recruit a new boots on bikes, Randall. Below Left: It was difficult to get ahead of Ebikers on a push bike. Below Right An interesting time at Kim Morgan's pottery*

## **Pukehamoamoa -Crownthorpe circuit Wed 20th April 25, 2022**

Emerging from morning fog we arrived at Pukehamoamoa School on Matapiro road on a brilliantly clear day and no wind which is always a bonus on this circuit. Ten keen cyclists took off after the usual chatter and sped along the deserted Matapiro road with its few hills before our first stop for smoko as ordered by Graeme at Ohiti road junction.

Suitability restored we carried along the now mainly flat road past the renown Matapiro Station Homestead to St George Chapel Crownthorpe built in 1921 as a memorial for a local fallen soldier. An early lunch was enjoyed basking in the sun under the palm trees before reluctantly deciding to return but via the more hilly and scenic Crownthorpe road where E Bikes were much appreciated and onto the Settlement road back to our cars.

Des who had stayed behind and planned to return via Crownthorpe - Settlement Road and Sheridan had a dramatic change to his plans when attacked by a large unrestrained dog from a farm just past the bridge on

Crownthorpe road.

A farming couple heard the commotion and the wife who had nursing experience patched him up and returned both Des and his bike back to his car at the school. The dog has form and history and the matter reported to the HDC Dog Ranger for prompt action. (We were unaware of all this till much later and perhaps a stun gun needs to be part of our gear next time.) RB

**Cyclists:** Joan Ruffell, Heather Stephenson, Christine Hardie, Pam Pike, Sharron Wellwood, Graeme Hare, Roy Frost, Des Smith, Alasdair Shaw, Rodger Burn

### **Club and Committee News**

#### **New Members:**

We welcome these 3 new members to the Club

Gabrielle Saxon

Maureen Powell

Karl Jager

Gabrielle's first trip was to the Waikoau River followed up by a Makino/Te Puia loop tramp. Karl also came on our tramp to Makino Hut. Maureen came out with the Wednesday group to Blowhard Bush and she also came on the Opouahi working bee. Welcome to the Club you three!



*The photo on the left shows Karl and Gabrielle with Susan, Greg and Jude on the Makino tramp while the photo on the right shows Maureen (in centre) hard at work at Opouahi.*



### **DOC Hut Agreement.**

Finally, after many years, our new agreement with DOC, along with a health and safety plan, has been signed and finalized. This document outlines the procedures we must follow when maintaining our huts.

### **The Waikamaka and Kiwi Saddle Loos.**

The committee are very grateful for the immense amount of work that John Montgomerie, Mark Hutchinson and Janice Love put in to shift the Waikamaka loo, as well as the painting and cleaning they did. Also, thanks to Tina Godbert and Andy Fowler's party who were at Waikamaka Hut the week before the working bee and did a lot of the preliminary work for the loo shift. The Kiwi Saddle loo may also need moving and we hope to attract another group of members to do this job - many hands make light work.



*The Waikamaka Loo poised for take off with Janice and Mark standing guard*

### **Te Puia Hut.**

Napier DOC is considering making Te Puia Hut a booked hut and wanted our feedback. We submitted that the booking period should only be over the Summer months and that some beds should be left for non-booked individuals. Napier DOC are also considering only providing fuel at huts in Winter and wondered if anyone had any great ideas for a heat storage system.

### **Club Auction.**

Many thanks to all who came and brought and bought items. We made \$888 for the rescue helicopter, a sum that it still increasing with the odd sale of marmalade etc.

### Club Captain.

As you will be aware the Club Captain's position was not filled at last year's AGM. However, we are now pleased to report that Simon Whittam has agreed to be Acting Club Captain and will no doubt call on the knowledge of previous Club Captains as he learns what is involved.

### Club Get Together.

We had planned to have a BBQ and games evening on April 1 but this was cancelled due to Covid issues. We now hope to hold it sometime in May, when the forecast tells us to expect a fine, warm Friday or Saturday night.

### Updated Covid Policy.

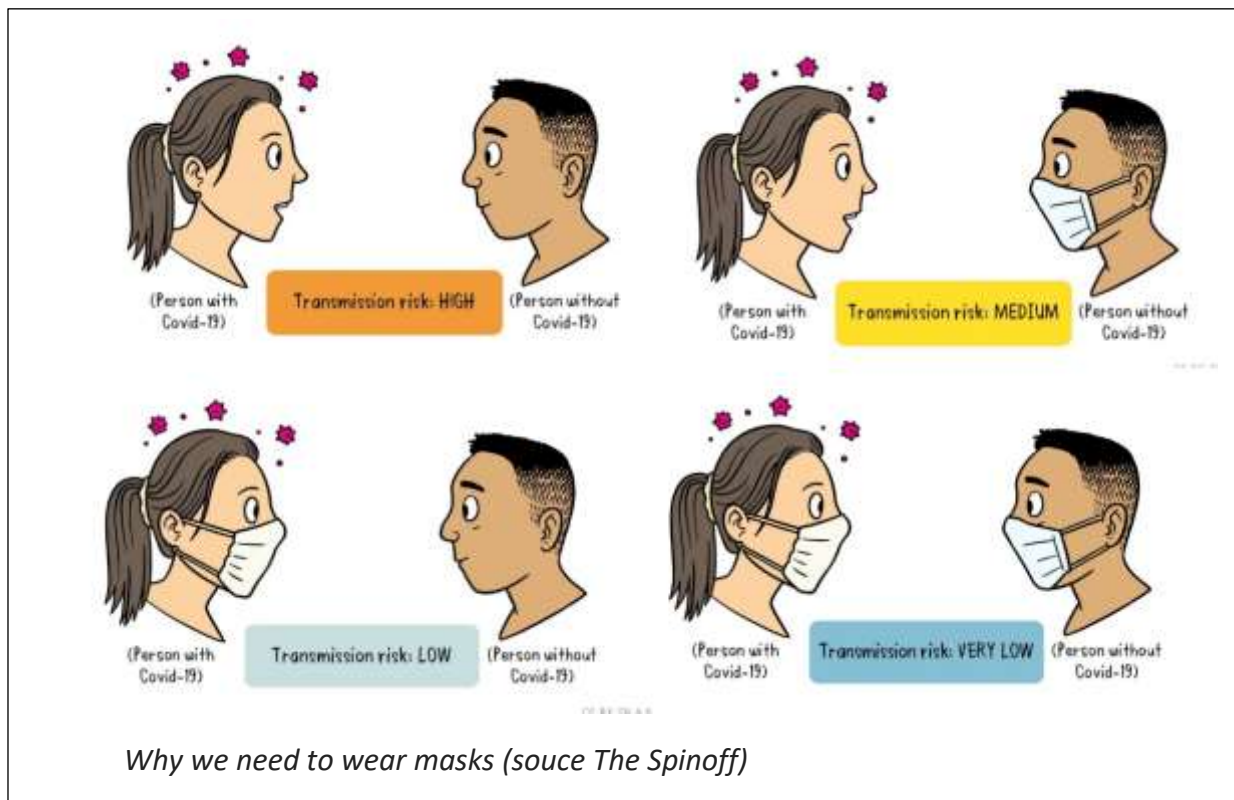
At the Committee meeting last week the Committee has changed the COVID policy in line with the current guidelines to:

**Meetings:** Everyone can now come to meetings but will need to wear masks. There will be no supper.

**Van:** Everyone can now travel in the van provided they wear masks .

**Note:** A mask exemption does not overrule the requirement for a mask even if vaccinated.

**Huts:** The same conditions as for DOC huts (which is everyone can use them but must wear masks except when eating or sleeping)





## Obituaries

### Remembering **Ian Berry** 7.10.1931 - 18.3.2022



*Ian: Christmas 2018*

Ian Berry's first tramp with the Heretaunga Tramping Club was to Cape Kidnappers in November 1951 and in April of the following year he became a member of the club. There began a line of Berrys joining the club: two brothers, two sons, 1 nephew and 1 granddaughter, all of whom are members today. Ian's continuous membership of 70 years must be one of the longest in the Club's history.

Just recently Ian spoke to Peter about one of his best times out tramping. This was a two week trip to Mount Ruapehu with Derek Conway (another old member who still gets our Pohokura) part of which was spent hiding in the hut from the weather while the rest was spent skiing, climbing up Ruapehu and watching a picture show at the Chateau.

Ian contributed to the club in a number of ways; he supplied and drove the truck for many trips, he helped out on working bees, he

was part of Search and Rescue, he was on the Fixtures, Truck and Social subcommittees for a year or so and was on the Executive committee from 1953 -1954.

April 1954 the "Social News" in the Pohokura reported on the engagement of Ian to Pat Bixley while the August issue reported their marriage.

Pressure of work meant that Ian's tramping days were few after 1954 but he still retained a great interest in the Club, reading the Pohokura and discussing tramps with his family. He thoroughly enjoyed the 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee celebrations, catching up with many of his old mates.

Our condolences go to Pat and all of her family for the loss of this loved and loving man.

## Remembering **Bruce Popplewell** 13.7.1940 - 6.4.2022

It is with sadness that we learned of the passing of Bruce Popplewell. Bruce joined the HTC in the early 2000s. His wife Kerry (nee Reidy) was a member of our club in 1957, when Helen Hill, a teacher at NGHS, introduced several of her pupils to tramping with HTC.



Living in Wellington, Bruce and Kerry were long time and very active members of the Tararua Tramping Club. But, they enjoyed coming to the Kawekas to tramp where the weather was often better than the Tararuas.

While on a club trip in the Donald River in 1999, we met them, Kerry recognising both my sisters, Barbara and Judy and me. In due course they re-joined the club and came on trips including to Waikamaka Hut, Hogget Trig, Wellington Wander and Northland Nomads. They were good company and fun to be with.

Bruce and Kerry, who walked the 1003km Billulmum Trail in Western Australia, came to an HTC meeting to share with us their adventures on their long and interesting journey.

In recent years, due to dementia, Bruce was in full time care. The club extends its sympathy to Kerry and family on the loss of a much loved husband, father and grandfather.

R.I.P. Bruce.

*GRH*

### 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 all can be ordered from Penny Isherwood Ph. 8449994 or

Email: [p.isherwood@orcon.net.nz](mailto:p.isherwood@orcon.net.nz)

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

### SUBS

Our sub years is from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 so subs will be due before the next Pohokura is out. If paid by 31 August 2022 the rates are as follows, after this date add another \$5 to the amount.

Active - senior - \$25 (for members who attend tramps and/or meetings)

Active - family - \$38 (for 2 or more members living at the same address)

Associate - \$15 (for members who are not active but wish to get our Pohokura)

Payment Options:

For on-line banking (our preferred option) our bank details are;

Heretaunga Tramping Club : 03-0642-0802494-00

(Please remember to put your name and the reference Subs)

Alternatively give your Subscription to Treasurer, Lex at a Club meeting.

## Heretaunga Tramping Club Meeting and Trip Information

### Upcoming Meetings

Date	Chairperson	Speaker and Topic	Host/Supper
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	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
13 July	Jude Hay	Kim Morgan A 14 man party Tramping for a week in the Deep South	H – Liz Pindar S – Susan Lopdell
27 July	Janice Love	Photo Competition	H – Colin Jones S - Marion Nicholson
10 Aug	Graeme Hare	Open Floor Night	H – Pam Turner S – Anthea Chiappa
24 Aug	Philip Mardon	Kay Griffiths – Bats	H – Simon Whittam S – Joan Ruffell
7 Sept	Randal Goldfinch	Graeme Hare – Quiz Time	H – Penny Isherwood S – Daniel Haddock

**Meeting 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 are off at the end of the meeting. Do not 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, 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** <sup>(E)</sup> 4-5 hours tramping – suitable for beginners

**MEDIUM** <sup>(M)</sup> 5-7 hours tramping – suitable for those with some experience

**HARD** <sup>(H)</sup> 8 hours + tramping – more experience and a high level of fitness and confidence, including coping with adverse conditions is necessary.

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
Cell Phone/money		
Medication		
<b>Leave at vehicle:</b> Complete set of clothing for the return		

### OVERDUE TRAMPERS

Although returning parties plan to be out of the bush before dark safety considerations must come first. This may mean that parties are late returning to transport. Even after arriving back at the transport, it may take two hours or more to return to the embarkation point. Beginners should make sure that anyone who might worry about them is informed of this. Leaders will try to get a message through to one of the “overdue contact” people listed below if a trip return seems likely to be later than 10:00 pm. All newcomers should ensure that their own emergency number is noted in the party list that the leader leaves in town. For all enquiries about overdue trampers please ring one of the following:

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

## TRIP LIST 2022



- ❖ Although the area for the trip is generally adhered to, the suggested objectives may change for a number of reasons.
- ❖ Please note that the costs indicated below are just the contribution towards fuel. There may be additional costs such as hut fees, access fees, koha etc. and these must be met by those participating on the tramp.

**For pre-trip enquiries contact the organiser or Simon Whittam 027 595 4567.**

Please email trip requests to [tramphtc@gmail.com](mailto:tramphtc@gmail.com)

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

**PLB on every trip:** organisers need to ensure a PLB is included for each tramping party.

<b>Wednesday 27 April</b>	<b>Bell Rock (E)</b>	<b>\$15</b>
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An iconic Hawke's Bay attraction: stands of pest-free bush, tussocky tops and spectacular limestone formations.

**Organiser:** Joan Ruffell Ph: 877 6225

<b>Wednesday 4 May</b>	<b>Mystery Ride</b>
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Prepare your bikes. Where will Mr Hare take us?  
Over the hills and far away.....

**Organiser:** Graeme Hare Ph: 844 8656

<b>8 May</b>	<b>Upper Matakuhia Hut – Sth Whirinaki (E)</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>Maps: BG38/BH38</b>
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Tramp into the basic 8 bunk hut (maintained by a group of hunters from Tokoroa) through beech forest. Set in the 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.

**Organisers:** Susan Lopdell Ph: 844 6697 & Anthea Chiappa Ph: 021 1548 608

<b>Wednesday 11 May</b>	<b>Happy Daze Hut (E)</b>	<b>\$15</b>
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Over farmland to beautiful bush in the Ruahine foothills.

**Organiser:** Rodger Burn Ph: 877 6322

**Wednesday 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      Back Ridge Hut or Studholme Saddle <sup>(M)</sup>      \$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, on Sunday, come out to Makahu Saddle via Mackintosh and Matauira 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 alternative track which hit the main range north of the Makahu Spur track. One may wish to continue to North Kaweka before returning to descend Makahu Spur.

**Organiser:** John Montgomerie    Ph: 877 7358

**Wednesday 25 May                      Beach Walk <sup>(E)</sup>                      \$15**

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

**Organiser:** Garry Smith    Ph: 844 9931

**Wednesday 1 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

**Queen's Birthday    4 – 6 June      Nth Tararua Range <sup>(E/M)</sup>      \$25      Map: BN34**

From Eketahuna, drive along Putara Road to car park. Walk into Herepai and Roaring Stag Huts or an easier option wander the flats around the private hut that is only an hour's walk from the road end.

**Organisers:** Peter Berry & Glenda Hooper Ph: 8774183

**Wednesday 8 June                      Sunrise Hut <sup>(E)</sup>                      \$15**

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

**Organiser:** Janice Love    Ph: 877 5442

**Wednesday 15 June                      Seafield Circuit Ride**

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

**Organiser:** Ray Manning    027 241 7550

**19 June Kaweka Flats & Iron Whare <sup>(E)</sup> \$15 Map: BJ 37**

Located in the eastern Kaweka Forest Park, Kaweka Flats Bivouac is situated 1-2 hours from the Makahu Saddle carpark. The track sidles north through surprisingly lush forest, a mixture of broadleaf shrubs and beech trees, and crosses several small creeks before a stiff, short climb onto Kaweka Flats. Located here is the 2 person Kaweka Flats Bivouac where sheep were once corralled. Iron Whare is a another hours walk to the NE.

**Organiser:** Anne Doig Ph: 878 8694

**Wednesday 22 June Te Mata Park <sup>(E)</sup>**

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

**24-26 June Whirinaki <sup>(M)</sup> \$35 Map:BG39**

Sat: Drive along SH 38 turning off at Okahu Road to car park. Walk into Te Wairoa Hut via Whangatawhia Hut. Afternoon, wander towards Mangakahika hut and return.

Sun: Follow the walking/cycle track to Moerangi hut for the night.

Mon: Walk out to the River road carpark.

This area has blue duck(whio) and would have a medium trip rating, not arduous. It would be great if there are two drivers available and a group+ driver would start off at each end.

**Organisers:** Simon Whittam 027 5954 567 & Susan Lopdell 844 6697 .

**Wednesday 29 June Tukituki Cycle Mark Two**

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

**Organiser:** Peter Hewitt Ph: 877 5188

**3 July Manawatu Gorge <sup>(E)</sup> \$20 Map: BM35**

An easy walk through native bush, enjoy scenic views and experience native wildlife. The track climbs steadily before levelling out for a spell high above the gorge. Five viewpoints along the way give spectacular views of the river, road, railway, reserve and turbines at nearby windfarms.

After climbing up from the Woodville end, the Upper Gorge Bridge track gives an alternative route back down to SH3. This return track takes between 1 hr 30 min to 2 hr. Easy Grade

**Organisers:** Jude Hay Ph: 027 5174 275 & Paula Kasper Ph: 021 1706 254

**Wednesday 6 July Kidnappers Walk <sup>(E)</sup>**



Subject to tides, of course. Walk along the beach and admire the landforms.  
A visit to Hygge is always possible.  
**Organiser:** Christine Hardie 8449590

**Wednesday 13 July Dartmoor/Sacred Hill Cycle**

From Taradale along the Tutaekuri stopbanks and then sealed roads as far as we like.

**Organiser:** Graeme Hare 8448656

**16-17 July Remutaka Incline/Kiriwhakapapa <sup>(M)</sup> \$35 Map:BP33 & BN34**

Sat: The Remutaka Rail Trail is an easy 17 km hike along a feat of railway engineering which should take 4 - 5 hours to walk. From the Upper Hutt side the track starts at 260 m and climbs gently to its high point, Summit Station at 348m. Shortly after the high point there is a 580 m long tunnel and then a steeper descent, taking in 2 more shorter tunnels, to Cross Creek at 100 m ASL . We will stay the night in cabins or maybe Holdsworth Lodge.

Sun: The access to Blue Range Hut begins from Kiriwhakapapa road, off State Highway 2 between Masterton and Mount Bruce. There is a camping area with a shelter. The track to the hut passes through a lovely redwood grove, before climbing past large rimu, passing through red beech- kamahi forest to the 4 bunk hut nestled on the end of the ridge with BBQ table affording good views across the valley. (4-5hr return)

**Organiser:** John Montgomerie Ph: 877 7358

**Wednesday 20 July Napier Hill Walk <sup>(E)</sup>**

Another route around the streets of Bluff and/or Hospital Hills. Great views from the high points.

**Organiser:** Lynn Walch 6506965

**Wednesday 27 July Pakowhai to Clifton or Napier Cycle**

May start at Park Island and ride out to the coast; decide then whether to go north or south.

**Organiser:** Rodger Burn 8776322

**30-31 July**

**Robsons Lodge area – Kaweka Range <sup>(E/M)</sup> \$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

**Organisers:** Peter Berry Ph 877 4183 & Susan Lopdell Ph: 844 6697

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**Wednesday 3 Aug Limestone Rocks Country <sup>(E)</sup> \$15**

A chance to frolic among the impressive rock formations inland from Lake Tutira, Time to visit Lake Opouahi as well.

Organiser: Peter Hewitt 8775188

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**Wednesday 10 Aug CHB Ride**

Could be from Otane, could be in the Ongaonga/Waipawa area; the organiser will decide.

Organiser: Alasdair Shaw 8776225

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**14 August Middle Stream or Armstrong Saddle <sup>(M)</sup> \$15 Map: BK36**

Two options to suit the varying weather conditions of August. Both leave from the North Block Road end in the Eastern Ruahine Range.

Cross the **Armstrong Saddle** from Sunrise Hut and enjoy views to the east and west. Snow could be on the ground. Perhaps tramp on to Top Maropea Hut.

Walking to **Middle Stream** takes us across regenerating retired farmland. A faster party might make it to Smith Stream Hut

**Organiser:** Anne Doig Ph: 878 8694

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**Wednesday 17 Aug Maggies Way and Otatara <sup>(E)</sup>**

These Taradale tracks have been extended and upgraded: heritage and rewilding galore.

Organiser: Heather Stephenson 8439157

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**Wednesday 24 Aug Tour of the Bays Cycle**

A blat around one of our favourite routes – direction of travel depends on the wind. Probably includes a visit to HGC.

Organiser: Peter Hansen 022 6210560

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**27-28 Aug Waipakihi Hut <sup>(M-H)</sup> \$30 Maps: BH35 BH36**

Turn off onto Kaimanawa Road from the Desert Road and drive to start of the track. Climb initially through bush before coming out onto the Umukarikari Range with views of Lake Taupo, Kaimanawa Range and the distant Kaweka Range. Descend to Waipakihi Hut ( 5-7 hrs, 12 bunks). Return same route on Sunday. This could be a snow trip so necessary to be well kitted. Glenda will organise day trip options <sup>(E/M)</sup> if required.

**Organisers:** Simon Whittam 027 5954 567 & John Montgomerie 877 7358  
Glenda Hooper Ph: 877 4183

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**Wednesday 31 Aug Tangoio and White Pine Bush <sup>(E)</sup> \$10**

Attractive forests and even a waterfall.

Organiser: Garry Smith 8449931

**Wednesday 7 Sep Puketapu – Swamp Road – Omahu – Pakowhai Cycle**

A mix of road and cycleway but essentially flat. Start in Taradale and do a circuit via Fernhill to Pakowhai Park and back to base.

Organiser: Christine Hardie 8449590

**11 Sep Stanfield Hut <sup>(E)</sup> \$15 Map:BL36**

Stanfield Hut is situated low in the Ruahine Ranges behind Dannevirke and is an easy day walk of about 5 - 6 hours return. The hut, built in 1965 by the NZFS, is named after George Stanfield, a local bushman and farmer. In December last year it was renovated by Backcountry Trust volunteers. From the road end we will cross the Tamaki River West Branch, go up and along the Holmes Ridge and then descend to cross the stream again. From there it is about 700 metres to Stanfield Hut, following the stream but some may first cross over to view a lovely patch of rimu forest on the right bank before heading upstream to the hut.

**Organisers:** Peter Berry Ph: 877 4183 & Paula Kasper Ph:021 1706 254

**Wednesday 14 Sep. Clover Patch – Kaweka FP <sup>(E)</sup>**

Will we make it this time? Hopefully our resident woodsman will be available to head the charge against pinus contorta.

**Organiser:** Scott Campbell 8798554

**Wednesday 21 Sep. Mystery Ride**

To be advised at the time. Who knows where we will end up?

**Organiser:** Ray Manning 027 2417550

**Wednesday 28 Sep. Yeoman's Bush <sup>(E)</sup>**

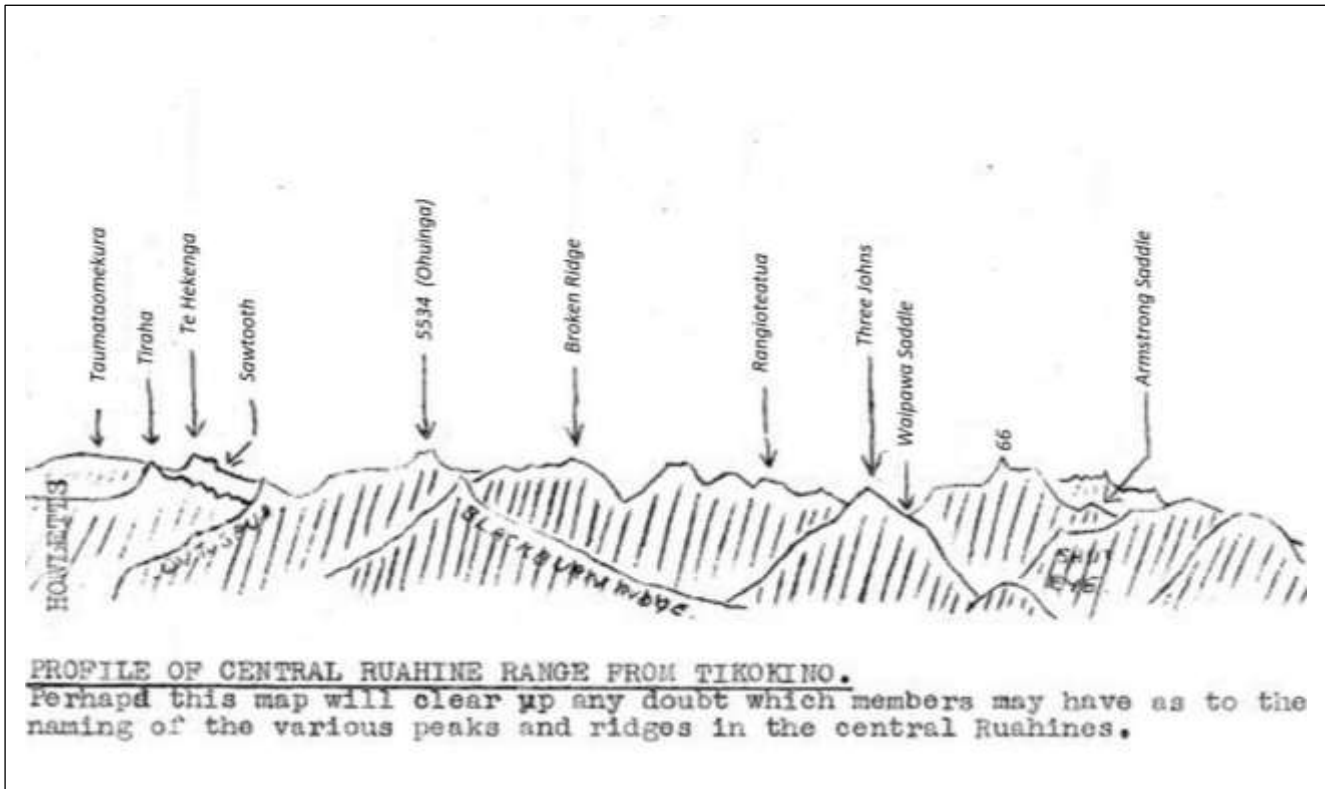
Down to CHB, over the Makaroro and hope that the spring flora have started to appear.

**Organiser:** Graeme Hare 8448656

**Wednesday 05 Oct Mutiny Road – Camp David Cycle**

Chocolate Fish Hill will not daunt us; some riders may even want to continue to Patangata.

**Organiser:** Peter Hansen 022 6210560



Source : August 1939 Pohokura. (the unreadable spur would be Government Spur and Blackburn Ridge is now called Black Ridge on current topo maps)

What's in a Name? (Sources early Pohokura & DOC website)

Te Atua Mahuru: the evil spirit opposed to good feeling

Te Atua-o-parpara (66): A place of snow and the dregs or leavings of a southerly gale

Te Hekenga: seems to be related to surveying as its full name "Te Hekenga o te rakau a tane Koeka" translates to "some unfortunate named Koeka whose pole wouldn't stand up straight"

Armstrong Saddle: is named after a pilot whose crashed plane was found there. Although he managed to get clear of the wreckage he was never seen again

Three Johns: were boys in a party from Hereworth School led by their headmaster, looking for Shuteye shack in 1933.

Ohuinga: The Geographic Board accepted HTC submission for the name of this peak on the main divide in the late 1940s (although I have not been able to find the rationale behind it - Google Translate defines Ohuinga as Hospitality)

Howletts: The original Howletts Hut was built in 1893 from split mountain cedar slab and shingles by a botanist and school teacher William Howlett.