

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB

POHOKURA – Bulletin No. 270

December 2022

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Hut & Track	John Montgomerie, Anthea Chiappa, Janice Love, Nic Walkerdine		
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Fixtures:	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		
Training:	Susan Lopdell, Anthea Chiappa, Peter Berry, John Montgomerie		
Publicity:	Glenda Hooper, Anthea Chiappa, Daniel Haddock, Janice Love		
Meetings:	Lex Smith		
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		
Social Committee:	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

Website: www.htc.org.nz

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2022 ANNUAL REPORTS

Committee Report.

The last 12 months has seen further disruption due to the Covid19 pandemic. Tramps were able to proceed, with provisions in place, but meetings were cancelled over January and February and only recently have we been able to resume having supper after the meetings. The effectiveness of these initiatives in preventing members infecting each other was probably best illustrated when in August, when most of the restrictions were dropped nationally, we had a meal out at the RSA in Napier. Poor protocols at the RSA saw 8 of the 22 members who went catch the virus there. Covid restricted our social activities such that the RSA dinner in August and our pre-Christmas meeting and tramp in 2021 were the only ones to eventuate. We hope that normal service will resume this coming year.

As at today the Club has 99 financial members. We had 8 keen new members join during the year while 5 members resigned and two; Ian Berry and Bruce Popplewell passed away in 2022.

The Incorporated Societies Act 2021 is now law and next year we need to address this. It requires that incorporated clubs must have a governing body (committee) of at least 3 members. Because of the amount of money the HTC has we are not classed as a "Small Society" and will therefore need to meet the External Reporting Board (XRB) accounting standards. Mark von Dadleszen (retired Solicitor) has offered to assist with the drafting of new rules.

This year your committee has submitted on a proposed closure of access to the SW Ruahine Range near Opawe and has initiated a conversation with FMC, DOC, CHBDC and the landowner on Alder Road regarding access to Hinerua Hut. This is a 'Legal Road' which the landowner has no right to restrict access to. We have recently contacted the Te Urewera Board to express our dismay at the removal of huts in Te Urewera and offered insights as how our club manages our huts at low cost. We have also re-negotiated the hut agreement with DOC for our 3 huts in the local ranges which will expire again in 2026.

Our web presence continues to expand; Facebook followers are up 160 (to 687) from this time last year while the average monthly views to our website has increased by 140 (to 928) over the same period.

As will be reported by Simon we held a successful training weekend this year and as well we have included a number of training snippets at our Wednesday

meetings and some informal training (map reading) out on tramps. Many thanks to those who are prepared to help out in this way. Jude Hay is currently on a 21 day Outdoor Pursuits course and, as we are sure the club will benefit from the skills she will gain from this, we helped with her funding from the Training sponsorship fund. Note that any member can apply for sponsorship from this fund for a suitable course.

A big thank-you goes to Graeme Hare and Phillip Marden in preparing a great selection of after-meeting talks and to the members who were coerced into providing this entertainment. Graeme is standing down from this role this year so we hope we get another enthusiastic person to take up the mantle. Again this year Graeme has helped organise our major fundraiser, the Hazmobile, and acts as an unofficial host at many of our meetings making newcomers welcome. It is for all these reasons that he has been awarded the Leatherwood trophy this year.

Thanks also to all the members who helped out this year; the supper people, the chair people, the hosts, subcommittee members, those on the hazmobile etc. etc. - your efforts are appreciated.

Glenda Hooper & Lex Smith

Club Captain's Report

Fixtures:

This past year has had a good variety of fixtures:

18 weekend day tramps, 7 weekend overnight tramp, 8 long weekend overnight tramps and approximately 20 Wednesday day tramps or cycle rides. These fixtures spanned Wairarapa, Eastern Tararua, Ruahine, Kawekas, Kaimanawa, Northern, Eastern & Southern Whirinaki Forests and central Hawkes Bay. Again the club members visited the Kaweka J memorial cairn in November to remember 11 club members who died serving our country in WW2. The numbers of folk on tramps was similar to last year:

day trip average	10 (11 previous year)
weekend trip average	8 (7 " ")
long weekend average	6 (7 " ")

HTC members have also volunteered at the Lake Opouahi kiwi creche working bee (removing vegetation from the outlet stream to protect the weir fence) as well as the Maungataniwha Lizard Survey on the east side of the Whirinaki forest.

Note that with respect to the club van, for some weekend / long weekend tramps, due to amount of gear needed to be taken, it may mean fewer people able to come in the van or the need to use additional vehicles.

We had 8 new members join this year and HTC hopes you find enjoyment, encouragement & help in your tramping experience with us.

HTC Huts

Waikamaka (Central Ruahines) - A working bee for the relocation of loo & maintenance in & around the hut, occurred early in the year. Thank you to all who were able assist.

Kiwi Saddle (Southern Kawekas) - A working bee for the relocation of loo & maintenance in & around the hut, took place in late May. Thank you again to all who were able assist.

Howletts Hut (Central Ruahines) As of end of June, 17 bags of coal remained out of the 800Kg (20 bags? flown in February 2021).

Receipt of funds indicates that some use of the club huts occurs by non HTC trampers.

HTC Training

A training weekend at Robson's Lodge weekend (Kuripapango, Napier/Taihapa Road) included:

- Training in use of maps & compass
- Construction of emergency bush shelters
- First Aid topics
- Hypothermia video

In addition there has been training on use of maps & compass on recent trips and formal Mountain safety videos on club nights.

Thank you to those who have helped with: driving & maintaining the club van, organising & co-leading trips, looking after club records and the library, putting together a calendar of fixtures, co-ordinating orders of maps & dehydrated meals, collating material & publishing Pohokura club magazine with fixtures & trip reports.

HTC would like to thank land owners who have granted access across land for our tramps.

Thank you also to DOC for assistance with getting material to Waikamaka hut.

Tramper of the year

Jude Hay has been nominated for this trophy and will be presented to her at our Christmas function as she is currently at Outward Bound.

Simon Whittam

Vehicle Report

Now coming up to our second anniversary for the van.

Another busy year; Odometer reading 20595 with approx. 6000km completed for the year.

Timely also to thank all those members who have driven the van over the last 12 months Our pool of drivers appears to be working well for us; Peter Berry, Christine Hardie, Lex Smith, Murray Alderson, Simon Whittam and Kim Morgan.

A thank-you also to Peter Berry for assisting with COF's and minor maintenance over the year.

Thanks also to the team of women who looked after the cleaning activities – namely Janice, Joan and Glenda. Inside the truck was never as bad with boots off at the door. We need to have a person per trip to do a quick sweep/wipe after the trip. The rear luggage shelving has worked well with a full van and weekend gear.

The operating costs for a full year for the van was \$5916:

Insurance	\$1383
Fuel	\$1630
COF/RUC/REG	\$ 879
Service	\$ 616
Storage	\$ 400
Sundry	\$1008 (includes; tyres, signage, side mirror)

While the Income was \$3713 which leaves a Deficit of \$2203.

We have now had a year to see how the running costs of the van have panned out.

Overall costs are up due to increased costs across the board and we also had some one-off items; better rear tires, sign writing the van and a damaged wing mirror.

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

Lex Smith

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC). INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

INCOME	NOTES	2022	2021
Subscriptions	1	\$1,963	\$2,534
Vehicle income	2	\$3,713	\$4,221
Donations			
Hut	3	\$2,585	\$2,612
General			
Equipment Hire		\$20	\$10
Fund-raising		\$3,600	\$2,860
Auction	4	\$918	\$1,274
Interest Income		\$2,060	\$2,723
Sales	6	\$98	\$11,654
		\$14,956	\$27,888
EXPENSES			
Administration		\$8	\$226
Audit & Accountancy		\$275	\$275
General Expenses		\$139	\$189
Donations	4	\$1,300	\$1,247
Insurance (huts & equipment)		\$903	\$903
Rent of meeting room		\$585	\$720
Supper & social expenses		\$112	\$144
Library & photo album		\$	\$61
FMC Capitation		\$1,440	\$1,410
Pohokura (Bulletin)		\$1,087	\$589
Hut maintenance	5	\$441	\$3,403
Subscriptions		\$80	\$-
Training		\$55	\$135
Vehicle costs / Ins	2	\$5,916	\$4,748
Equipment		\$320	\$-
Website		\$41	\$246
Write off		\$92	\$-
Depreciation		\$3,508	\$3,735
		\$16,302	\$18,030
NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR TRANSFERRED TO ACCUMULATED FUNDS		-\$1,346	\$9,857

NOTES:

1. Subscriptions - a number of outstanding subs.
2. Covid - still affected the number of trips. Ins etc higher on the Van
3. Covid - not having the same affect; more people out and about.
4. Auction / Donations - Lowe Walker Helicopter Trust - recognised as a club.
5. 2021 year saw significant expense putting coal into Howletts Hut
6. Sale items to members have minimal or no return. 2021 Truck sales proceeds \$11,500

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB (INC). BALANCE SHEET.

AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

CURRENT ASSETS		2022	2021
Westpac Cheque Account		\$ 4,745	\$6,728
Accounts receivable	\$ --	\$ --	-
NON CURRENT ASSETS		\$4,745	\$6,728
Westpac	Term Deposit	\$0	\$17,747
	Term Deposit	\$30,460	\$30,160
	Term Deposit	\$20,116	\$
	Term Deposit	\$13,403	\$13,269
	Term Deposit	\$11,638	\$11,500
SBS Bank	Term Deposit	\$20,730	\$20,306
	Term Deposit	\$50,048	\$49,175
Fixed Assets		\$39,491	\$43,091

TOTAL ASSETS

\$190,630 \$191,976

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Sundry payables \$250 \$250

TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$250 \$250

NET ASSETS

\$190,380 \$191,726

Represented by:

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

Balance at 1 October 2021 \$191,726 \$181,869
 Surplus for the year \$1,346 \$9,857

TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS

\$190,380 \$191,726

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 2022 and of the financial position at that date.

W.A. Stacey. Reviewer

J.A. Smith Treasurer

TRIP REPORTS

2668 Sunrise Hut and Armstrong Saddle	14 August 2022
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The Pohokura suggested Middle Stream or Armstrong Saddle as destinations for this tramp. The choice was to be based on the weather; with snow on the Ruahine Range it was decided that we'd try for a snow craft event on the Armstrong Saddle. A party of 14 left Te Aute Road; 10 in the van and the Blake family in their car. We were to pick up Paula at the yellow bus on the corner of Poukawa Road and SH2.

At Waipawa Peter took us up the Tikokino Road, which is on the true left side of the Waipawa River, veering onto Makaroro Road which crosses SH50 before joining Wakarara Road. As we approached the Ruahine Range we saw that the snow was not as thick as hoped for.

With the lack of snow, it was decided that, crampons would not be needed but it might be of value to take ice axes; thus began the first bit of snow craft education; how to attach an ice axe to a pack.

Triplex Hut was to be visited on the return trip so the group split into two parties. The faster party would aim for crossing the Armstrong Saddle.

Five club members crossed the Armstrong Saddle braving the chilling wind ascending from the valley below combined with the snow-capped mountains. With 2 ice axes between us we were hoping for some snow related skills. The snow was scarce so instead we marvelled at the views as far as Ruapehu and Ngauruhoe in the west and Hawkes Bay to the east. The track was sheltered from the wind in places but also a little treacherous with ice patches in the shade. The tarn was a great example of how cold it was above Sunrise hut. It was iced over and looked spectacular surrounded by the golden mountain flora.

Once at Sunrise Hut the remaining group found a sheltered spot on the eastern side veranda to have lunch. There was a smattering a snow around the hut; enough for a few snowballs to be made and thrown. A mobile snowman was



made by Kerri; as after photographing this I did not see it again I am sure that it became a missile for the orange clad yeti.

The Armstrong Saddle Group returned to the hut and after a few more photos from the 'knob' behind the hut, we regrouped and started the descent to the car park with a deviation into Triplex Hut. Triplex Hut is a standard \$5 per night hut in which it is now required to book a bunk on line.

The track is holding up well after its 2021 upgrade; there is little evidence of pooling of water and therefore the accumulation of mud. Some would say that it has been over manicured.

JL & AD

Party: Nic Walkerdine, Brent Hickey, Simon Whittam, Janice Love, Des Smith, Peter Berry, Glenda Hooper, Carole Clarke, Paula Kasper, Anne Doig and Anne, Kerri, Teresa and David Blake

2669 Napier Hills

Wednesday 17 August 2022

Eight keen walkers, plus Layla (Alisdair and Joan's very well behaved dog) set off from the Napier Centennial Gardens in Coote Road and proceeded on up to Priestly Terrace for a climb up the pathway, Lighthouse Road and a beautiful walk through Sturms Gully. We were entertained with a chorus of Tui singing which was delightful and continued on up to the Bluff Hill Lookout. What a magnificent view over Hawkes Bay and we spotted the new wharf too. Light drizzle didn't dampen our spirits either.

We carried on down the steps and into Karaka Road which is now open to traffic. Several streets were walked until we made our way down Shakespeare Road and across to Hardinge Road where we, of course, found a cafe and very welcome hot drinks and snacks. We arranged to meet up with Heather Stephenson so it was great for us all to catch up with her.

More steps up to Chaucer Road North and along Napier Tce and down more streets and several streets and eventually back to our cars.
An enjoyable walk with stunning views and loads of history on the hill.

LW

Walkers: Christine Hardy, Rodger Burn, Joan Ruffell, Alisdair Shaw, Layla, Barbara Phillips, Peter Hansen, Susan Lopdell, Lynn Walch (organiser)

2670 Waipakihi Hut

Kaimanawa- Umukarikari Range

27 – 28 August

With only four takers for the trip, at 6am we travelled in my ute, via the Taupo Road with a snack stop at Tūrangi. We had boots on about 9.30 and on up the hill to the bush line.

The day was overcast, cool at just a few degrees so we took the opportunity of a lunch stop inside the bush line. Once out on the ridge the wind came from the southeast, quite strongly at times with visibility a few hundred metres at times so no views beyond where we were. At times in the patches of alpine shrubs etc. and coloured rocks there were some spectacular gardens. Winter seems to enhance the colours of the shrubs.



Over half the distance of 13km was on the open exposed tops so was a cool journey. Waipakihi hut was visible from the end of the ridge which lifted spirits and got us in the bush again and a tad warmer. There had been heavy rain two days before so the rivers were up but fortunately the branch we had to cross to the hut was the lesser and had large rock stepping stones that kept most boots dry.

As there is only stunted Beech shrubs in the vicinity there is no firewood to be gathered and an inspection of the wood shelter revealed no wood. D.o.C had told me that firewood was to be delivered the next week! By the time we had four cookers going, hot food and four bodies, the temperature in the common room rose to a degree or two yet our breath was steaming in front of us. By about 8pm we sloped off to the bunkrooms/freezers.

By the morning there was evidence of a severe frost with skating ice on the deck. Our time in was 7.5 hours so we departed earlier at 7.30 to get us home in good time, under clear skies with the sun eventually trying to warm the day



Back on the tops was no warmer than yesterday and still a stiff wind so we did not tarry. Views were anywhere you wanted so the cameras were clicking. Lunch again at the end bush line and down to the car park. It is a reasonably grunty trip with the 3000' climbs and 26k return, so it seemed most were happy to take their boots off. Time out was 7 hours as was more downhill.

All but myself had not been in this area so was appreciated by Paula, Jo and Paul. After leaving the road end car park we travelled down the Urchin Road into the area of Tree Trunk Gorge and the Pillars of Hercules for a quick look. For a change of scenery we returned via the Desert Road, Taihape and the Taihape Road arriving back at 6pm. Lucky with the weather really as in bad weather the Umukarikari Range is a no go. Thanks to all for the company and a safe trip.

JM

Party:—Paula Kasper, Jo Petty, Paul Dandy, John Montgomerie (leader)

2671 Stanfield Hut	11 September
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A wet start to the day on setting off from Havelock North. So much persistent rain had fallen throughout the night before. Along the way we noted how much wider Poukawa lake appeared. Arriving in Norsewood to meet Murry, the rain was clearing and by the time we arrived in Dannevirke to pick up Dave, the sun was shining brightly. A great omen for the remainder of our tramping day to Stanfield Hut which is situated low in the Ruahine Ranges behind Dannevirke and was an easy day walk of about 5 hours return.

From the kindness of a local farmer who allowed us to park the HTC van near their shearing shed we set off once kitted out. We had two new keen and energetic trampers along, Manuela and Clint, to share and espouse the benefits of our fabulous Heretaunga Tramping Club. They have both have fitted in seamlessly.

A range of tramping terrains - we begun ascending through farmland, then down through the bush, across and up through a stream leading us to Stanfield Hut for lunch. 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 and is fresh bright orange outside and clean, white paint inside. We signed the Hut book and put our HTC sticker in too.

Making our way back in two parties the latter group slowly ambled along, enjoying the scenery, chatting enthusiastically and being impressed with the tenacious effort of Barbara who shows there is no age limit to tramping.

Although Peter was hoping to be with us we hope that he is feeling better soon to get back into tramping - we missed our flora feedback. A big shout out to my co-leader Glenda Hooper who ably assisted all the way and, particularly shielded us from the sight of dead possums - thank you!

Looking forward to our next tramp 😊

PK

Party: Paula Kasper, Glenda Hooper, Anne Doig, Jude Hay, Murry Alderson, Dave Mullinder, Simon Whittam, Nicholas Walkerdine, Barbara Phillips, Manuela Niedrist, Clint Beckett

2672 Oamaru Hut Kaimanawa	24 – 26 September
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Our drivers did a splendid job, arriving at the car park beside Heli Sika about 8.30am. Disembarked, quick snack, obligatory photo shot by the Poronui Station stone gate, then trudged along the metalled road for about an hour. Onto the grass, following a poled route, passing sika deer, wagyu cattle and the imposing Lodge, before crossing the Kaipo River and arriving at the hut shortly after 1:30 pm. We spread ourselves across both bunk rooms. Glenda, Susan

and Nick wandered in both directions from the hut through open tussock country.

Saturday we waved goodbye to Glenda and Paula who had come in for the night whilst the rest of us began the wander up the picturesque Ōamaru Valley towards Waitawhero Saddle. The track follows the Ōamaru River across grassy river flats, then into silver beech forest. It was an undulating route, climbing in and out of stream beds, crossing a couple of tributaries before we stopped for lunch.

We had passed a well set up hunters' camp and soon meet up with one of the



hunters and his black Labrador dog - he had no luck with the deer. We returned to the hut, arriving about 2.00pm and a short while later Simon and Paul set off towards the Kaipo swing bridge and set

up camp – on the Monday they would walk out on the Te Iringa track to Clements Road.

It was a busy hut on the Sunday night with four setting up tents on the grassy clearing below the hut, a young couple slept in the covered part of the deck, a family group from Rotorua moved into the second bunkroom and three young mountain bikers slept on the floor. All were away early on Monday morning, our group retracing our route back through Poronui Station, stopping for lunch by the gums. We then drove around to the car park on Clements Road and waited for Paul and Simon to come out.

Good long weekend, good weather, good company and a first weekend tramp for Nick. Thank you to Simon and Murry for all the driving.

SL

Party: Glenda Hooper and Paula Kaspar (weekend only), Murry Alderson, Simon Whittam, Nick Walkerdine, Anne Doig, Jude Hay, Janice Love, Susan Lopdell, Paul Dandy

2673 Tarn Bivy Ruahine Range**8 October**

On Saturday morning 3 people (Clint, Karl, and Nic) set off from Hastings in a private car to meet Murry at the corner of Makaretu Road and Highway 50 to complete the day's party of 4, we piled into Murry's ute, then headed off to the end of Mill Road where we would park up to start our tramp towards Tarn Bivvy.

It was a clear but frosty start to the day as we set off from the car park down to the Tukituki River with the aim of following it up-river to the Rosvalls Track which we would climb up to the Junction and then follow the ridge to Tarn Bivvy. During the previous week there had been heavy rain and snow in the Ruahines so the river levels were something we were keeping in mind as we headed off.

Once down at the river we initially found ourselves bush bashing through scrub as we headed up-river not realising there was a marked trail we could have followed on the left hand side of the river.

Heading up-river we alternated between moving through the scrub and or



crossing the river to give us the easiest path onwards, thankfully the river levels had dropped and while the water was cold, traversing through didn't present any major issues as we made our way to the Rosvalls Track turn off.

At the turn off we took a short break before heading upwards. The track upwards was steep for the most part, with the occasional sections where it would flatten off for a very brief period only to steeply climb again. To add to the challenge there were multiple trees which had fallen blocking the track at times we would have to detour around. It was at one of these flat sections we stopped for lunch about half way up, our progress being slower than anticipated due to Karl having some hip issues affecting his ability to climb uphill.



After lunch Clint, Murry and Nic continued to head upwards hoping to break through the tree line while Karl started his descent, as we climbed we did encounter a few small patches of snow however had to turn around before we were able to break through the tree line as there were concerns around trying to navigate the river on the return back if it got dark.

At the bottom of the Rosvalls Track we regrouped and headed back downstream, and this time we successfully found the marked trail we had missed on the way up, making the final section easier.

NW

Party: Clint Beckett, Karl Jager, Murry Alderson and Nicholas Walkerdine

2674 Kaweka Walkabout (Labour Weekend) 21 – 24 October

The trip combined Hawkes Bay anniversary day with the 3 day Labour weekend for what was to be a 4 day trip of weather contrasts and changeable plans while doing a circuitous tramp of the Kaweka tops. The party headed out from the departure point around 7am on Friday towards an ever darkening and windy sky at the Makahu saddle on the eastern side of the Kawekas.

Light snow flurries and wind greeted us at the Makahu saddle car park. Other folk were at the car park considering their options. Some decided to come back the next day. Others decided to do lower level tramps. And others like ourselves decided to head for the tops or at least to Dominie Biv. Colin Jones from HTC indicated he might consider a day trip up to Kaweka J and accompany us. However his plans changed and we didn't see him.

The plans for Day 1 were to go up the Makahu Spur, via the Kaweka J cairn, then down the southern spur to Back Ridge Hut. The higher up Makahu Spur we went, the more the weather closed in, with about 4-5cm of snow on the ground. A break at Dominie biv revealed a member of the Napier Tramping club waiting to see if others from their club were coming and also review the weather situation. Slowly and carefully we decided to push on for the top of Kaweka J. Visibility reduced to about 30m and it was considerably colder.

A very brief stop at the memorial cairn then down the ridge to the hut.



This wasn't the place to hang around. Ice was forming track markers and on facial hair. At times one couldn't make out the next track marker, so members of the party spread out with one at the last marker while others spaced out and moved on until the next marker was seen, then together moving on. It was a relief to get down the bush line with increased visibility and less wind. Back Ridge hut could be seen a long way down in the valley below.

Finally through snow covered bush we arrived at the track intersection down to Back Ridge Biv close to Sterns Saddle. Here Paul left us and continued on to Rocks Ahead hut (another 3 hrs.?) where he hoped to try his hand at fishing and we'd hopefully see him the next day. Fortunately Back Ridge hut was empty, 4 bunks for four blokes. A fire gradually warmed us up and dried us out. The Napier tramping club member we had met at Dominie hut later arrived having made good use of our snow foot prints over the tops.

Overnight the temperature dropped below zero resulting in a very hard frost, icing on the hut windows and condensation dripping from the inside ceiling. Simon woke in the morning unable to find his glasses and thought they had dropped between bunks onto the floor. A good search of the floor and bunks below revealed nothing. As a last resort check out outside! Somehow during a night trip to the loo, his glasses made it outside and were found unbroken, covered in frost centimetres from the side of the track leading to the loo and a metre or so out from the hut door.

Day 2 was a complete contrast, fine, sunny, very little wind and the snow on the tops had already started to melt. The Napier tramping club member left ahead of us returning to Makahu saddle car park.

Our party retracing our steps back to the track intersection near Sterns Saddle, over the saddle and up to Maminga Peak. Great views for 360 degrees, and in the distance to the west, all 3 of the mountains on the volcanic plateau. Here we had the opportunity practice map reading and compass bearings.

Down and along Back Ridge a brief excursion was made down to Back Ridge Biv from ridge at the track intersection leading to Rocks Ahead Hut. A deer bolted to the bush not far from the biv on our arrival. Down, down and steeply down went the track through bush to the Rocks Ahead hut into a nice sunny clearing. There in the river below the hut was Paul fly fishing upstream of some small rapids. Paul had had an exhausting trip the previous day, arriving on dusk.



Our party of 4 had thought of spending the night at Rocks ahead but after an hours rest decided to take the "gentle ridge track" up to Venison Tops Hut. Paul would meet us at the Venison Tops Hut early afternoon the next day as there was more fishing to be done. As it turned out another party of 3 arrived just as we were leaving. But first we had to try the 3 wire rope bridge with full packs, 1 person at a time and hope our footing/hand grip kept us from falling into the river below. Then the long slow slog up the "gentle ridge" to Venison Tops. Three and a half hours later, 1200m higher, just before sunset we arrived at the hut. Then for a well-earned meal, warm fire and a nights rest.

Day 3 for some was to have been a side excursion to Mangaturutu Hut and return. Waiting for Paul to arrive and then all heading onto Ballard Hut. But those who thought they had energy to burn decided a rest day (another night) at the hut would make the trip much more enjoyable. Plus would there be room at Ballard Hut, let alone space for tents? Paul agreed when his weary legs arrived early afternoon. As it turned out the HTC grouping had the hut all to ourselves for 2 nights.

While waiting for Paul to arrive there was opportunity to: go over the use of map co-ordinates, review compass bearings & map orientation / restock the wood bin / clear out dead possums from under the hut and a live one from the wood bin / sun bath and take in the views from the scrubby tops and the Kaweka range to the east with no snow.



Another party of 3 passed through and a lone bloke known to John who many years before, had participated in the Kaweka challenge adventure race. Time passed talking of some of life's experiences and tramping stories.

Just on dawn of the 3rd day on returning from the loo to the hut, Simon saw what looked like a string of 40 - 50 lights traversing the sky from south to north over a period of a minute. These were thought to low orbiting communications satellites belonging to Elon Musk.

Day 4 started out cool as we left Venison Tops hut around 8am heading down hill to the start of a low gradient ridge line that leads out of the bush to the tops past the turnoff to Ballard hut and onto Whetu peak. As we climbed out onto the exposed tops the weather was fine, but we needed coats on to keep warm in the wind. A glimpse of Ballard hut was seen through the bush down below a steeply descending track. Whetu peak provided great views with parts of the tracks leading to Makino & Middle Hill able to be seen.



Turning south from Whetu, we continued, stopping above Dicks Spur for lunch. On further, we stopped just to the south of North Kaweka. A couple of us went to the radio communication site at North

Kaweka and struggled to stay on our feet in the wind. Others got water from tarns just below the ridge.

Not far to go! We could see people descending Makahu Ridge and Dominie Biv to the side. Then we were at the top of the track leading down Makahu ridge. To the south a clear view of the snowless Kaweka J memorial cairn.

Down Makahu ridge track nice and slowly, a brief stop at Dominie Biv and then the wind from the south west made descent very marginal. Very strong winds made it difficult to maintain balance, some getting down on their backside, just at the point where the ridge narrows and there's steep scree slopes either side.

Fortunately all got down past this windy point and the wind abated. Within the hour we were all back at the Makahu saddle car park. This had been an 8 hour day

As an aside, at the car park was a person who had been previous member of HTC 20 years ago and now resides in Western Australia. They were out for a drive and had thought of going up Kaweka J but ran out of time. Then noticed the HTC details on the club van and introduced themselves.

Comments on the trip by Paul Dandy

A totally absorbing trip in which life back home became an afterthought. Here is why:

Day 1: A slog through ice, snow and mist put anything more than just getting there on my back burner.

Day 2: A very fishy day on a pristine mountain river capped off by a social evening in the company of 3 Russians at Rocks Head Hut. Apparently the Russian word for water starts with a V.

Day 3: Became a solo slog up hill to catch up with my English speaking mates at Tira Lodge (Venison Tops Hut) and another social evening but without Cossack dancing this time.

Day 4: What happened to my legs? Can't I just stay here?

Comments on the trip by Kurt Fenton

Starting a tramp with people I don't know always brings a bit of nervousness for me. Will I be able to keep up? Will we get along? Will we make safe decisions? However, tramping with people I don't know who are also from the HTC relieves that nervousness pretty early in the trip. And what a fantastic trip this was! Each day carried a new and confidence-building experience for me. Sharing those new experiences with the other guys only enhanced what I got

out of them. Cold wind and snow on the first day. Walking my first three-wire bridge the second day. Spending an entire day at a hut the third day. Near gale-force winds the fourth day. These were all new for me and “surviving” them has provided a new level of confidence as I continue to enjoy NZ’s backcountry.

Thank you, Simon and John, for leading and sharing your knowledge.

Thank you, Murray and Paul, for also adding what you did to make this such a great trip.

Courtesy of Kurt Fenton you can view some of this tramp on YouTube.com

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTWex0Qgc_xKPcCSaiBX_kw or

Freedom on the Trail

Search for these titles:

Walking in a Winter Wonderland...in the Spring! (Kaweka Ranges Circuit Day 1)

For the Longest Time (Kaweka Circuit Day 2)

Killin' Time (Kaweka Circuit Day 3)

Blowin' in the Wind (Kaweka Circuit Day 4)

‘Going over the J on the Friday was interesting in an Arctic blizzard, not that it was not predicted though, with a wind chill of about -10 deg.....then two almost perfect sunny days, including an unusual event in HTC trips, of a rest day at Tira Lodge! This presented quality time with trip members to go over compass use and GPS capabilities. Good to be back in the interior as it was about ten years since I was there.’

JM

Party: Paul Dandy, Kurt Fenton, Simon Whittam, Murry Alderson, John Montgomerie

2675 Boundary Stream / Shines Falls	Wednesday 26 October
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After a late getaway due to roadworks x 2 and traffic, we picked up the Napierites at 9am so didn't begin walking till 10.40 from Pohokura Rd. It was a beautiful clear day with a welcome breeze and 5 of us really enjoyed our tramp. Having seen clematis flowering as we drove to the track, the bush was tinged with dark red as the rewarewa was also in flower. We saw tui, kereru interacted with a lone robin and heard Kaka though couldn't see them (no grey ghosts).

Our morning tea stop was at a pretty stream, then proceeding on down to the falls we lunched. The treat for completion was a shining cuckoo singing away while we had our lunch.



Walking out to Heay's access Road we joined 6 others who had ambled in to the falls. As we have had plenty of rain, the falls were splendid, as Des's photos attest.

Thanks to all participants and to Christine for driving.

We welcomed Jurgen Grossklaus and Steve Borrett on their first outing with us.

JR

Party: Christine Hardie, Rodger Burn, Gary Smith, Lynn Walsh, Roy Frost, Barbara Philip's, Des Smith, Scott Campbell and Joan Ruffell (scribe)

2676 Cairn Trip

6 November

The van left Pukahu at 6.30 AM and we picked Brian up at the Whittle Road corner making 9 disembarking at Makahu Saddle. There was a brief stop at Rissington to admire the mammoth redwood sculpture depicting 2 soldiers. The four Eggers were waiting at the Makahu Saddle car park, Julie & Eileen Turner & Tamsyn had already started the climb up and Mark arrived with John and Jade shortly after us. This made a total of 19 heading for the cairn. We were all packed up and ready to leave the car park by 8.30 AM. It was a misty morning, cool, but calm which was great for the upwards climb.

We had the usual stop at Dominie and regrouped before continuing upwards into the mist. When the last of us had arrived at the cairn at a minute or so after 11 (or so we thought).

It was still misty and cold, so Peter, Brian and Joan convened a short service,



followed by group photos at which point, John & Jade appeared (we thought they were going to stay at Dominie with Anne). We left the Turner bunch up there to have their own memorial for their father, Brian Turner, who passed away

last year and made our way back down to Dominie. There were not as many alpine flowers as there were last year but still the Kaweka tops were very picturesque and as we descended the mist cleared a bit giving some interesting landscapes to photograph.

We were back at the saddle by about 2.30 and shortly after we motored on down the hill to Pam's Puketitiri Palace for a sumptuous afternoon tea.

Party: Julie Turner, Tamsyn Mercer, Eileen Turner, Kathy, Darrell, Samara and Carlee Eggers (& Rocko), Mark Hutchinson, John Hutchinson, Jade Moeke, Clint Beckett, Derek Boshier, Brian Smith, Anne Doig, Nicholas Walkerdine, Joan Ruffell, Nat Berry, Peter Berry & Glenda Hooper.

2677 Don Juan / Balls Clearing Kaweka Range 19 November 2022

It was a party of 4 who left Te Aute Road at 7.00 a.m. in Derek's truck heading for Don Juan trig. The hour and a quarter journey is scenic. Derek was taken on a nostalgic trip as we drove passed the Hastings Aerodrome at Bridge Pa. We continued on to Fernhill and along Swamp Road to Puketapu and continued on to Apley Road, at the top of which we joined Puketitiri Road.

At Rissington we admired the newly completed redwood memorial carving of two soldiers. Continuing on passed Patoka to Hawkston Road (first on the left passed Patoka) at Seaview Road veering left is Te Kowhai Road. Parking is at the top of the hill on Te Kowhai Road, about 200 metres passed Seaview Road. Further on is an extremely sturdy yellow forestry barrier stopping unauthorised traffic.

The car park is in shaded area which was very damp and muddy. A collapsible tripod chair gave me a dry place to change into my boots. The envy of the other members of the party.

Once we were suitably attired for our tramp we began the walk down the road. It is a leisurely ½ hour walk down to Metalpit Road; where there is a small green and yellow sign indicating the track direction. Five down the road we crossed a small stream and started our search for the track. There were no further markers since the turnoff. The area is overgrown with some very spiky shrubby bushes. We spent about ½ an hour going in varying directions.

I have to admire Clint who, with her tiny gaiters, waded into a path in the midst of low growing blackberry. Her efforts were not in vain as, underfoot,



she found the track sign. Fortunately Derek had some sturdy gloves on and was able to retrieve the sign from the undergrowth. Finding the sign prompted us once again to try an already attempted track. Here once again we had success, thanks to Clint. Clint explored the uphill track and found that we were in the right place but, with the excesses of rain that have been in the Patoka area, it was extremely slippery. With that, and in deference to the fact that all four of us were to help on the Hazmobile the next day, it was decided not to continue.

Our suggestion would be if this tramp is to be done again that track markers and secateurs would be of benefit.



So we returned back to Derek's truck. Having only been on a two hour excursion we decided to continue up to Balls Clearing. As we had only been on the shorter track; we took the Ramages Track. About ten minutes on the track we came across a massive area of trees down across the track which we were able to negotiate. Another five minutes and we were out at the fence line which we

continued along until we rejoined the track back through the bush. This is a very fine piece of bush and it was great to have time to enjoy it more fully.

On completion of the track we sat at one of the shelters, back at the roadside, and had our lunch. With lunch eaten we decided to have a look at the bush at Hutchinson Reserve but we were unable to locate access to it. Perhaps we needed to go through the sport's ground.

As the Hazmobile was the next day and we had run out of known (to us) options we returned to Te Aute Road and were back by 2.00 p.m.

Special thanks to Derek for taking his vehicle.

AD

Party: Derek Boshier (driver), Nic Walkerdine, Clint Beckett, Anne Doig

2678 4100/Kiwi Saddle Kaweka Range**Wed 23 November 2022**

Eight of us departed Glenda's, heading along the Taihape Road, turning off at the Castle Rock Road to the Lakes Road car park, the wind intensity increasing as we neared our destination.

We waited till the fast party went on their merry way, initially walking through Pan Pac's pine forest, then into kanuka, gently winding our way uphill, with young douglas fir sprouting up amongst the regenerating bush. No one was interested in diverting to the lookout over the Tutaekuri River, so continued on the track, through manuka, flax, hebes, senico, celmisia and a small patch of clementis. We stopped on various occasions to admire the headwaters of the Tutaekuri, across to Rogue ridge, Cooks Horn on our right, and through the gaps on our left, the twin Kaweka Lakes.



Everyone contributed some rocks to build up the rock cairns which are very useful when navigating through the pines, which unfortunately are spreading rapidly. Half the party found the track entrance to 4100 (rest wandered on to the track junction before retracing their steps) and the radio mast and as we came out of the scrubby bush were met by the full force of the wind!

A short respite here, looking down on a very swollen, discoloured Ngaruroro River and the Kuripapango Valley with Robson's Lodge nestled against the macrocarpa trees.

We dropped down to the main track to eat our lunch out of the wind, then wandered along to the track junction before returning, pulling out wilding pine seedlings, rebuilding rock cairns, before retracing our steps back to the van. Lounged in the sunshine till the other three windblown souls arrived, looking a little weary.

4100 Party: Janice Love, Stephen Borrett, Anne Doig, Susan Lopdell and Christine Hardie (Organiser)

Out of the seven members out for a return day tramp along the Kiwi Saddle Track, three members Anne Cantrick, Clint Beckett & Simon Whittam wanted to attempt getting to the Kiwi Saddle Hut. This would be Clint's first visit to the area. Having arrived around 9:00am at the Kaweka Lakes car park in the club van, Anne, Clint and Simon headed away first needing to make the most of the time available if they were to get to the Kiwi Saddle Hut and back. Typically it takes a little over three hours each way.

The day was overcast with very strong westerly winds which became evident on the exposed tops of the Smith Russell track. At the track intersection on Kuripapango peak where the track heads down the Kuripapango car park, our group met a homeward bound hunter with his dog.

The hunter had been as far as Manson Hut. He had inReach® satellite communicator on his shoulder strap and at our prompting, briefly explained some of the features. Most important was its usefulness in keeping his wife informed.

Coming out into the open at the western end of the Smith Russell track, coats were needed to be worn to stay warm. Also one wouldn't have been able to safely progress without a sturdy walking pole. Even with a walking pole we were being pushed off the track and fortunately away from the side of steep scree slopes.

Arriving at Kiwi Saddle Hut around midday, there were items which indicated other folk were in the vicinity and were staying at the hut. During our brief lunch break the other folk, father and adult son returned having seen deer and a pig but unable to get a shot in. Home for them was Paraparaumu and Norfolk Island.

A brief check of the long drop toilet indicated it was still fit for purpose having in recent months been relocated. The weather remained the same on the return to the Kaweka Lakes car park from the Kiwi Saddle Hut with the wind marginally helping us up the steep slope from the hut. Unfortunately Mt. Ruapehu could not be seen this time from the tops. Down in valley the Ngaruroro river was a dirty brown and in flood.

All arrived safely back at the Kaweka Lakes car park just before the agreed departure time.

Kiwi Saddle Party: Clint Beckett, Anne Cantrick, Simon Whittam

2679	Kapiti Coast Capers	Weekend 3 – 4 December 2022
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The van left Pukahu just before 7 and picked up Paula shortly afterwards with all seats then filled. We had stops at both Dannevirke and Shannon and arrived at our destination, the Hemi Matenga Scenic Reserve behind Waikanae about 10:30. Eight of the group set off up the Parata Track heading for the lookout, a 370 metre climb. Peter met the hares returning back down the track, they thought the high point 468 was the lookout. However they were encouraged to retrace their steps and carry on another 300 metres through a saddle to the real lookout. The lookout gives a great view of the coast and Kapiti Island and it was agreed that the back track was well worth while. Meanwhile the remaining 4 were content to walk the low level Kohekohe track. The Hemi Matenga reserve is part of one of the largest remaining kohekohe forest in New Zealand and this forest is very different to what we see in Hawkes Bay. Kohekohe, Olearia, Pukatea and Nikau abound there.

About 12:45 everyone was ready to carry on to Paekakariki where the Escarpment track was the goal for 7 of the party. This track involves the climbing up of many hundreds of steps along an escarpment above the Kapiti coast. At the top there is an area and a few seats to rest on before the descent down to Pukerua Bay and another many hundreds of steps plus a couple of swing bridges. While they were sweating the way up the steps Brent took off to visit relatives and Peter Penny Anne and I went to the Paekakariki Holiday camp to sign in and unload our gear. The camp is on the edge of the Queen Elizabeth Regional Park, and we spent a couple of hours walking through a part of it. This park could do with better mapping and better signage however we spent an enjoyable time taking in coastal views, swamp land and grassy tracks before returning to the camp. Whilst out there we had a number of texts and calls from our party up the escarpment as Carol found her hips objected to the steps and was returning back down and would walk to the camp.

About 5 o'clock we headed off in the van to get the others from Pukerua Bay, picking Carol up on the way and by about 5.30 all were retrieved and we were back at camp. For dinner that night we headed to a great Turkish restaurant at Paraparaumu Beach where Daniel (Berry) and Anika joined us. All were amazed how the manager, there on his own, managed to remember all 14 orders correctly without writing anything down.

Sunday morning 9 AM we were back again at Paraparaumu Beach, had a biosecurity check and hopped on a boat with 18 other visitors. Half way across the 5 km stretch to Kapiti the boat's engine started playing up and we had a bit of a wallow while they decided whether or not to continue to the island. They



continued on and after a great introductory talk by a guide doing her first talk on her own we were let loose. Seven decided to go to the top via the Trig Track and return down the Wilkinson Track while the remaining five started off walking along the tracks at the bottom, four making it up to the Hihi feeding station half way up the Wilkinson Track. The weather was overcast so the view at the top wasn't that great

but all enjoyed themselves. Birds seen included Saddlebacks, Hihi, Kaka, Kokako, Weka, Takahe, Kakariki as well as most of the bush birds we see in Hawkes Bay.

At 3.30 it was time to return back to Paraparaumu Beach, on a different much faster boat. Then it was time to head home stopping at Dannevirke for dinner and arriving at Pukahu a bit after 8. Thanks everyone for a great weekend, especially Simon & Peter for their driving.

Party: Simon Whittam, Paula Kasper, Anthea Chiappa, Anne Doig, Colin Jones, Greg Smith, Des Smith, Penny Isherwood, Brent Hickey, Carol Clarke, Peter Berry & Glenda Hooper

Ad Hoc Wednesday Walks

A number of times this year the scheduled Wednesday walk has been cancelled due to a bad weather forecast in the area of the proposed tramp. We have now decided that whenever possible we will provide an alternative walk in an area of better weather. This will usually be within an hour's drive from Hastings and about 3 to 4 hours walking. We have had 2 such walks this year.

Dolbel Reserve and Sugar Loaf: 28 September.



The Yeomans Track tramp was cancelled so instead 3 of us turned up at Susan's place and walked from there up into Dolbel Reserve via an access-way off O'Dowd Road. We made our way up to the top and then down the other side along the Kauri walk to Dolbel St. After walking down Dolbel Street and along Puketapu Road for a short distance we accessed Maggie's Way

which we followed up to Tironui Drive. It was then just a short distance to the Lance Leikis Reserve and the climb up Sugar Loaf. We then followed the track down to Church Road and headed back to Susan's stopped for a quick refreshment on the way. A good 3 hour walk in fine weather and we were pleased to have taken Bronwen out on her first outing with the Club.

Party: Susan Lopdell, Bronwen Kerr, Peter Berry and Glenda Hooper.

Red Island: 7 December.

Rain forecasted in the Kawekas meant that the Kaweka Flats tramp was cancelled so we choose instead to go to Red Island which had favourable weather forecasted and a low tide just before mid-day. We left Havelock North just after 9 and started walking from the most southern parking area at Waimarama about 9:45. There was slight drizzle and a fresh breeze at the start but the drizzle soon stopped. The worst obstacle, a rock out crop, about 20 minutes' walk from the start was easy to walk around given the tide and within the hour we were at Cray Bay.



The geology of this area is quite raw, eroding hillsides oozing downwards, strewn with pine trees that had lost the battle to stabilize the land. However, this meant that there were many interesting rocks to inspect on the beaches including the big round boulders reminiscent of the Moeraki boulders.

We disturbed a seal just before the Cray Bay and watched as it swam out in the sea. After a bite to eat we carried on, rock hopping most of the way. At around noon Anne and I stopped at the last headland but Susan and Peter carried on to the island. The trip back seemed faster, although Peter was somewhat hampered by a large rock he decided we needed for our garden, and we were back at the car by 2 o'clock.

Party: Anne Doig, Susan Lopdell, Peter Berry and Glenda Hooper

Note: We know there are a number of people still keen on mid-week walks and as the Wednesday group have decided to have only one walk a month there will be more of these mid-week ad hoc tramps. We are compiling an email list of those who want to be advised of these walks - if you didn't receive an email regarding the Red Island trip and would like to be notified of future walks let Glenda know (tramphtc@gmail.com) - also let her know which day (Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday) suits you best.

HTC BIKE TRIPS



Cycle Ride	Clive – Whakatu	Wed 31 August 2022
<p>Nine hardy “Boots on Bikes” souls braved a very frosty morning and met at Pakowhai Park before doubling back to Ruahapia road and joined up with the cycle path behind the Whakatu industrial estate and then following the fast flowing Clive River to emerge near Clive and joined up with Christine who was waiting for us at Evers Swindell reserve.</p> <p>By this time we had warmed up nicely and the day had clear blue sky and little wind as followed along the limestone cycle tracks which were in excellent condition in spite of recent heavy rain along via the picturesque lagoons which were at low tide with plenty of swans and ducks to complete the picturesque setting before arriving at Black bridge which we successfully crossed.</p> <p>We carried on along the cycle paths and foreshore to Haumoana where by general agreement and to take advantage of the great day we continued on to the Hygge Cafe for a lengthy stop before returning home in different directions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">RB.</p> <p>Cyclists: Pam Pike, Sharron Wellwood, Joan Ruffell, Lyn Walch, Christine Hardie, Karen Fry, Jonathan Fry, Alasdair Shaw, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn(organiser)</p>		

Cycle Ride**Clive to Napier****Wednesday 14 September**

At short notice we had seven keen cyclists meet at the Evers Swindell Reserve Clive for an easy local ride, a reduction from ten as others who had planned to come had home maintenance issues to deal with. Before starting a senior member confessed that he had left his E-Bike Battery at home which caused a selection of comments but fortunately today's brief circuit was all flat.



We followed the excellent the bridges over past the Atea a Rangi star compass and Awatoto and noticed how deserted the pathways were, perhaps due to the weather forecast and stopped by the Boardwalk Cafe where we had arranged to split into two parties.

A group of three of the ladies were keen to progress on to Snapper Jack at Bay View for lunch while the others decided that a stop at Adoro's Bridge Street had appeal.

After a decent lunch stop and mindful of the darkening sky the race was on to get home before the rain hit us but we lost that battle and it was only scattered rain for the most part. An enjoyable few hours had by all.

RB

Party: Joan Ruffell, Sharron Wellwood, Lyn Walch, Heather Stephenson, Ray Manning, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn

Cycle Ride**Camp David****Wednesday 5th October**

A group of seven keen cyclists taking advantage of a dry day left Havelock and threaded our way through the remnants of the morning rush hour onto a Middle Road for our 26Km trip to Camp David as it used to be called. While it was fairly warm we had to "enjoy" NW winds changing to head winds on the outward leg which coupled with some decent hills made most of us thankful for E-Bikes although Alasdair sticking with his traditional MTB showed us a clean pair of heels.

However at the base of the Camp David hill we met Heather who was returning to base as she was having some battery issues with her new e-bike

and then Garry and Rodger after spending time with Heather got delayed with stock movements on Middle road.

Lunch was had in the Camp David grounds which are currently undergoing some tidying up and restoration work.

To our dismay the hoped for tail winds for the return lap did not eventuate and we had more of the same and after an enjoyable ride we were back in Havelock about 2Pm and as forecasted it started to rain a couple of hours later

RB

Party: Heather Stephenson, Gabrielle Saxton, Christine Hardie, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn (organiser)

Cycle Ride Tiki Tour with Boots on Bikes Wednesday 19 October

Well; after a false start a few weeks back because of rotten weather , our group of 10 eager Cyclists, (9 E-Bikes & 1 Road Bike) gathered at the river end of Guppy Rd for a 9-30 start. Beautiful fine day ready for a mixed bag of tracks that Ray had previously tested out.

We began on the road cycle lanes of Guppy Road then proceeded through Anderson Park and on to Westminster Ave and regrouped at the new Hawkes Bay Rugby Headquarters. A decision was made and we progressed through a narrow grassy track what was an old Kiwi Fruit Farm. The exception was Lynn whose bike had only narrow road tyres, who connected back with us at the Parklands Housing Sub Division.

Sticking to cycle lanes where possible we made our way to Kennedy Road then out to and along Te Awa Ave to our first water stop on the Marine Parade (22kms) No complaints of being saddle sore. Further on out to Snapper Park, Bay View for a much deserved coffee/lunch break.



The return journey was via the old Westshore Bridge back to our cars, 50/57 kms for the day. Great day out and ride by all

Cyclists: Lynn Walch, Garry Smith, Christine Hardie , Rodger Burn, Heather Stevenson, Sharon Wellwood , Pam Pike, Roy Frost, Peter Hewitt, Ray Manning (Organiser)

Cycle Ride	Fernhill / Roys Hill	Wednesday 2nd November
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The promise of continued good weather brought twelve members of the "Boots on Bikes" team to Pakowhai Park for another easy ride and Des's new state of the art E Bike generated a lot of interest among the lads.

Eventually we got going and followed along the stop banks towards Fernhill meeting up with Scott along the way and regrouped by the garage at Fernhill before continuing on the cycle paths by SH50 for a stop at the Roys Hill scenic reserve for a break. We welcomed Bromwen to our Midweek group today and she proved to be a very capable cyclist whom we hope to see more of her in the future.

The temperatures were rising and we carried on along Ngatarawa Road to the Hastings Golf Club where our plan was to stop for lunch but to our horror we found the golf club was closed due to work on the greens and this caused some confusion but Alasdair in a moment of inspiration suggested we continue on to the Luppucco Cafe on Omaha Road which proved to be a excellent choice and ticked all the boxes.

All was well again and with a renewal of energy we continued back to Pakowhai Park via Ormond Road and the stop banks. The actual distance was 37Km but some continued for a more extended trip but a great day was had by all and we later heard that the temperature had touched Thirty! Thank goodness for E Bikes.

RB

Party: Heather Stephenson, Pam Pike, Sharron Wellwood, Christine Hardie, Bronwen Kerr, Ray Manning, Des Smith, Garry Smith, Alasdair Shaw, Scott Campbell, Roy Frost Rodger Burn (organiser),

Cycle Ride	West of Maraekakaho	Wednesday 16 November
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The weather forecast had some a little doubtful of the viability of a ride today but the leader assured all that the weather would be ok which proved to be



the case and a group of Ten of the Boots on Bikes team met at the Maraekakaho School to decide which of the many options appealed most.

Des was keen to take his new high tech E bike out for a longer ride under variable road surfaces and conditions and opted for the 49Km return circuit via Kereru school and he later advised was delighted with his bikes performance and the weather conditions good. He stopped at stony creek ranch for smoko and enjoyed the hospitality of the owner for a while before continuing on with his ride. in good conditions and only just a few spots of rain at one point but did have some logging trucks to watch for.

The rest of us decided that the Aorangi road return route (32Km) had appeal and after the usual messing about we were under way in great weather conditions and we carried on to the end of the road for a break and snacks before returning back to our cars and to take advantage of the Container Cafe which is now a well-established part of the school grounds.

Both Bronwen and Anne did very well on their standard bikes and we had about 4 small hills to tackle. A very enjoyable day was had by all and no mishaps and little traffic on our route.

RB.

Party: Pam Pike, Sharron Wellwood, Anne Cantrick, Bronwen Kerr, Heather Stephenson, Roy Frost, Garry Smith, Des Smith, Ray Manning, Rodger Burn (organiser)

Cycle Ride	Tuki Tuki Circuit	Wed. 30th November 2022
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A group is Six of the Boots on Bikes team took. Advantage of a uncommonly wind free Wednesday to meet at the Evers Swindell reserve for another local ride and welcomed back Pete Hansen from his lengthy USA trip.

After leaving Clive we followed the cycle paths pausing to admire the bird life on the picturesque lagoons before regrouping at Black Bridge Haumoana.

After crossing the Tuki Tuki we met up as arranged with Sharon and Alasdair and continued along at a leisurely pace to Moore Road and then the Tuki Tuki road where we had to put a little more effort on the hills before a very welcome stop at the Red Container cafe at Red Bridge for our now traditional coffee stop.

After a while threatening black clouds forced us into action and we continued on along the cycle ways crossing over by Craggy Range onto the newer cycle path which has just been nicely regraded after recent rains and regrouped at River road where some continued back to Clive via the cycle paths and the Havelock contingent made their own way home.

RB.

Party: Heather Stephenson, Sharon Wellwood, Bronwen Kerr, Christine Hardie, Pete Hansen, Alasdair Shaw, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn (organiser)

Cycle Ride	Waipukurau to Ongaonga Circuit	Wed. 7th Dec 2022
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A small group of five HTC cyclists departed from Russell Park, Waipukurau, at around 09:50 hrs. Bronwen and Des who had arrived at 09:15hrs, were starting to wonder if unbeknown to them, the trip had been cancelled, but eventually the rest of the crew showed up, and we all headed off on our bikes towards Ongaonga, via the Lindsay Bush, Tukituki, and limestone cycle trail.

We stopped to check out the 200 meters long Lindsay tunnel which was once part of a water race that was 10 km long. It was built by the Harding family of Mt Vernon in the 1870's. The tunnel had been built by hand, with pick and shovel, thru solid limestone, and was a monument to the past determination of those hardy and very determined early settlers, in contrast to us intrepid explores of today, who in our case, only went into the tunnel to explore it as far as the first muddy puddle.

As we proceeded on our bikes towards the Parson Rd end of the trail, we encountered many parents, teachers, and supervised school children, walking back along the trail towards the Waipukurau trail end. They had possibly done the whole of the Tukituki loop, which would have been a very good end of year walk for them.



By the time we arrived at the end of Parson Rd, the light rain that we had experienced up until then was looking like it might get considerably heavier. However, we decided that the smell of coffee from the Ongaonga Café was well worth risking getting properly wet thru, so we decided to pedal on. As it turned out, the weather improved considerably after we had enjoyed our early coffee, comfort stop, at Ongaonga. We set off for Waipawa, along what were now nice dry roads,

and were soon sitting down enjoying our lunch break at the Waipawa cenotaph picnic area. Our return to Russell Park, Waipukurau, was along the recently completed, nicely concreted, shared pathway, which runs parallel to the main State Highway 2. Being so close to the heavy traffic, it is certainly not a particularly scenic route, but the smooth concrete surface more than makes up for its lack of scenery and traffic noise, as it is an excellent surface to ride on.

Everyone arrived back to base, safe and sound, no punctures, or mechanical misadventures, so there were smiley faces all around as we headed off back home in our vehicles at around 14:00hrs.

D.S.

Cyclist: Peter Hansen, Bronwen Kerr, Christine Hardie, Garry Smith, Des Smith

Cycle Ride	Christmas Ride	Wed 14th December
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Our last planned ride for the year and was to include a bit of everything to suit all tastes but the weather forecast was not too encouraging but still after defections we had eleven starters and how nice to see Joan back in action again.

We started on time, for once, from Rodger's and followed the cycle paths along Crosses Road and Ada street and onto Park Road which we then followed in a southerly direction to join up with the limestone tracks running parallel to the Southland drain and up to now we had met no other cyclists.

Onto St George's road and over Te Aute Road and followed School Road down to Middle Road where again we joined up with the fairly new cycle paths which took us past the ever popular Birdwoods cafe to Endsleigh Road where we stopped for a team talk; up to now we had covered a very easy twelve kilometres but low clouds were looking a bit threatening and four decided to take an easier return lap and go to Alasdair's and catch up later. We were now left with seven of us and we powered up Endsleigh Road pausing near the tops to admire some Alpacas grazing in the fields before continuing along and upwards to Endsleigh Drive before a pleasant downhill blast to Middle Road. The rain had not started so we continued along and up the rather steep Aintree Road to the tops which was covered in mist and no views but it had just started to rain on and off so our next move was back to Rodger's in Havelock, where the others soon joined us.

We had been very lucky with the weather and the rain had now settled in but we all relaxed in comfort and were spoilt by Rodger's wife Pam, the perfect

host who fed us on oven fresh sausage rolls, mince pies etc. plus contributions from the team and a fitting end to the Boots on Bikes season.



Party: Heather Stephenson, Anne Cantrick, Lyn Walch, Bronwen Kerr, Christine Hardie, Pam Pike, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Pete Hansen, Garry Smith, Rodger Burn (organiser)

Club and Committee News

This Pohokura we welcome another 3 new members:

Tom Little, Manuela Niedrist and Clint Beckett.

Tom is a high school student who came out on our trip to Hinerua Hut and he and Simon visited Kiwi Saddle Hut over Easter.

Both Manuela and Clint's first tramp with us was to Stanfield Hut and Clint has come out regularly since then.

Below: Tom on route to Hinerua, Right: Manuela, Simon, Jude and Clint on Holmes



Good news from the FMC Photo Competition - A photo from our archives won the Historic section (the photo was from Bill Rainbow's album and was entered by Alan Berry) As a prize we have received a copy of "Seeking the

Light” by Gavin Lang, plus a year’s subscription to Excio and a professionally printed A1 (or as large as image quality allows) print which will be exhibited in the Pūmanawa Gallery Space, upstairs in the Christchurch Art Gallery 13-18 December 2022, before being sent to us..

Our **library** collection has grown by 2 books, the Gavin Lang book mentioned above and “TAMATEA DUSKY The Remarkable Story of Fiordland’s Dusky Sound” By Peta Carey, for the Club library which we have purchased. - Happy reading.

Many thanks to Graeme Hare and the rest of you who helped out at this year’s Hazmobile, another successful fund-raiser which netted \$4375 for the Club. It is mainly due to this fund-raiser that we are able to keep van fares and subs so low.

And while we are talking about the van ... if you need to tow the van there is a tow point under the left hand front light and the towing eyebolt (left hand thread) and shackle can be found under the passenger seat immediately behind the driver.

Sub committees: We have a number of sub-committees which we would love to have some new members on, these are all listed in the front of this Pohokura. You will note that the Meetings subcommittee has no members (Graeme Hare & Philip Mardon have done this for many years and are having a well-earned break). Please contact a committee member if you are prepared to go on any of these sub-committees. They are a good way to get to know the Club better.

Finally congratulations to the winners of our 2 trophies: :

❖Tramper of the Year award - Jude Hay

❖Leatherwood Trophy: Graeme Hare



Obituary - Maureen Gilchrist (formerly Broad).

Sadly Maureen passed away on 18 December. Maureen joined the club back in 2006 and tramped regularly with us for twelve years, usually near the front of the pack. One of the things she will be remembered for was her ability to sleep anywhere. It didn’t take many kilometres in the truck before she had nodded off and during a long weekend trip to the Kaimais she managed to do it while sitting in an armchair, watching telly and holding a cup of tea.

Maureen's last tramp with us was to the Kaweka Hut site in August 2019 on a very wet day and the photo shows her on her last Cairn Trip in 2018. She became very ill in 2020, a rare condition that she never recovered from. We will miss you Maureen and our condolences go to your family.

ATTENTION:

HTC mid-week group aka Wednesday Walkers aka Boots on Bikes.

- * we are trialling a variation on the traditional 17-year old programme of one week tramp, one week cycle, undertaken every Wednesday.
- * after **EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION** with all our regular participants we are reducing the number of tramps to one a month (on every first Wednesday at this stage) and filling the following three to four weeks with cycle rides; there are occasional exceptions but this is the general pattern.
- * this is largely because of demand - the uptake on our tramps has often declined over the last year or two as some of our participants have succumbed to ailments (particularly joint problems) and find it more challenging these days to do backcountry tramps.
- * on the other hand the enthusiasm for cycling has increased and we are getting larger numbers signing up for cycle rides; undoubtedly the increasing ownership of eBikes has influenced this trend but we also have very competent riders who stick to traditional bikes and perform magnificently. Everyone is welcome.
- * undoubtedly this disadvantages people who do not cycle but this trial could open up a gap for someone to organise tramps that could complement the cycle rides - in fact, we have heard that this has already been considered in the wider club but cannot confirm anything as communication has been poor.
- * We intend to review this pattern after the six-month programme is over and find out (via extensive consultation, naturally) if members wish to continue it. If not we will revert to the traditional model or to a pattern that the members find agreeable.

Here's hoping everyone has a great festive season: Happy Christmas and all that and we look forward to seeing everyone in 2023 for more fun outings.

ITEMS for SALE

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

New Topo 50 Maps:	\$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
 Orders are collated in batches to save on courier charges so you may not get
 your maps straight away.

Heretaunga Tramping Club Meeting and Trip Information

Upcoming Meetings

Date	Chairperson	Speaker and Topic	Host/Supper
2023 11 Jan	Kurt Fenton	Open Night Happy New Year	H – Daniel Haddock S – Marion Nicholson
25 Jan	Graeme Hare	Susan, Janice, Paula & Lex The Paparoa Great Walk & The Old Ghost Road	H – Janice Love S – Liz Pindar
8 Feb	Pam Turner	Kurt Fenton A super video of Club Trip Over Labour W/end in the Kaweka Ranges	H – John Montgomerie S – Penny Isherwood
22 Feb	Alan Peterson	Auction – Produce & General Goods One night only Proceeds to Rescue Helicopter Trust	H – Jude Hay S – Clint Beckett
8 Mar	Nick Walkerdine	Jude Hay My Time at Outward Bound	H – Fred Chesterman S – Graeme Hare
22 Mar	Daniel Haddock	Open Night	H – Susan Lopdell S – Anne Doig
5 Apr	Simon Whittam	Kay Griffiths Bats @ Puahanui Bush	H – Paula Kasper S – Christine Snook
19 Apr	Colin Jones	Back Stage @ Toi Toi Lianney Donnelly	H – Graeme Hare S – Joan Ruffell
3 May	Randall Goldfinch	Alan Berry Fun with Photography What can be done with camera & pictures	H – Kurt Fenton S – Janice Love

Meeting Sub Committee: 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 ^(E) 4-5 hours tramping – suitable for beginners

MEDIUM ^(M) 5-7 hours tramping – suitable for those with some experience

HARD ^(H) 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		
Leave at vehicle: 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 2023



- ❖ 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

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.

W/e - 2-3 Jan 2023 Barlows Hut - Ruahine Range ^(E) \$15 Maps BK36 & BK37

Barlows Hut is about a 4 hour walk from Yeomans Mill up the Makaroro River, with many swimming holes to cool off in on a hot sunny day (i.e. expect wet feet). The hut is a cosy Lockwood design sleeping 8. (A \$5 hut ticket is required to stay at this hut). Sunday can either be back down the river or a 600 metre climb to the Parks Peak track which you follow down to Yeomans Mill.

Organiser: Murry Alderson 027 9474 726

8 Jan - Porangahau Beach ^(E) \$15 Map: BM39pt BM38

Low tide at Porangahau Beach is just after 1.30pm. This will give us plenty of time to walk to the beach via the access from Blackhead Road and then head north, past Blackhead Point, toward Blackhead. The remains of the Maroro, a ship which ran aground in 1927, maybe evident just before the point and last time we saw fur seals just past the point.

Organiser: Anne Doig 878 8694

W/e - 14-15 Jan Waikamaka Hut ^(M-H) \$15 Map BK36

This tramp is a must for everyone, especially our HTC members to undertake! The first Waikamaka hut was planned and built in 1939. By 1966 the stream near the hut had started to undermine it and it was decided to rebuild it at the present site. . It is good that the hut was moved, the fireplace from the old hut has now disappeared under the shingle in the creek below. In 1982 - 1983 a potbelly stove was carried to the hut in pieces, and the hut was fully lined inside and painted. Many of our current members took an active part in this rebuild! In 2016, the Heretaunga Tramping Club upgraded the hut with a new deck, veranda with a wood storage space and a rainwater tank. The latest update this year 2022 was the movement of the toilet - to a new location.

This tramp will follow the river upstream until you reach the headwaters. From here the track climbs steeply to Waipawa Saddle, before dropping into a stream on the other side – be aware here as sections of the track are steep, narrow and exposed. By following this stream down the valley for another 1 hour until you reach Waikamaka Hut on the true left bank, where the east and south branches of the Waikamaka River meet. A truly, idyllic little spot. We stay overnight then return the same way the next day.

Organiser: John Montgomerie 877 7358

22 Jan - Iron Whare ^(E) \$15 MapBJ37

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. The historic Iron Whare is a another hours walk to the NE

Organiser Jude Hay 027 5174 275

Wednesday 25 January Graeme May Memorial Ride

Start from Evers-Swindell Park under the bridge at Clive and go to either Clifton or to Bay View. TBD on the day.

Leader: Christine Hardie 06 8449590

8 Jan - Porangahau Beach ^(E) \$15 Map: BM39pt BM38

Low tide at Porangahau Beach is just after 1.30pm. This will give us plenty of time to walk to the beach via the access from Blackhead Road and then head north, past Blackhead Point, toward Blackhead. The remains of the Maroro, a ship which ran aground in 1927, maybe evident just before the point and last time we saw fur seals just past the point.

Organiser: Anne Doig 878 8694

W/e 28-29 January Whirinaki FP ^(M) \$20 Maps: BH38 & BG38

Turn off SH5 onto Pohokura Road, Waipunga Road, then onto Pine Milling Road to the car park beside the Pukahunui Stream. A gradual climb of about 400 metres to the Upper Te Hoe Track / Whirinaki River Track junction. Just past here, the track descends past a beautiful line of mountain cabbage trees, to the 9 bunk Upper Te Hoe Hut (in reality a 6 bunk). Plenty of space for tents near the hut or 20 mins down to the large grassy clearing beside the bridge over the Te Hoe River – last time there was a pair of whoio ducks in residence. Sunday return the same route back to the van.

Organisers: Susan Lopdell 027 2878 765 and Jude Hay 027 5174 275

Wednesday 1 February Kaweka Flats

An attractive walk, through beech forest and on to the bivvy. Iron Whare is in the vicinity for keen people.

Leader: Des Smith 022 3706118

W/e 4 – 6 February Waitangi Weekend

* Cost to be confirmed - includes van cost (\$40) plus jet boat fare.

This track is a dual tramp/cycle track. There are NO huts, tents are necessary. It could leave on the Friday of Waitangi weekend. The tracks follow two different valleys- the Mangapurua with its many open flats and the narrower Kaiwhakauka which has many patches of undisturbed native bush. These valleys were rehabilitation settlements where land was offered to soldiers following World War 1. There is a link on “Trip Locations” on <https://htc.org.nz/blog/> to DOCs pdf on these tracks.

The cost of a jet boat from Whakahora to the landing is \$195 but the track is currently closed between the Bridge and the last camp site so alternative options are being considered:

1: Travel to Whakahora and catch jet boat to the Mangapurua Landing. Walk into Bridge to Nowhere (40mins). Continue on up the valley, passing remnants of past settlements to camp somewhere in the middle reaches.

Saturday carry on to the Mangapurua Trig and camp near the Raetihi-Ohura road entry. Sunday head north down the Kaiwhakauka Stm through to Whakahora

2: Travel to Whakahora and walk part way to the Bridge and return

3: Travel to the end of Ruatiti Road and walk part way to the Bridge and return

(Note that 1 group could do option 1 and another do option 2.)

If you are interested let, Susan know your preferences on leaving date and trip option ASAP.

Organiser: Susan Lopdell 844 6697

Wed - 8 Feb Tour of the Bays Cycle

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

Leader: Peter Hansen 022 6210560

12 Feb - Khyber Pass ^(E)

\$15

Map BL36

Leave from Mill Road end and walk downstream on the river bank and in northern reaches of the Tuki Tuki River to the Khyber Pass. A pleasant way to spend a warm summer's day with a picturesque Khyber Pass as the reward.

Organiser: Anne Doig 06 8788694

Wed - 15 Feb

Central Hawke's Bay Ride

Up College Road to Argyll East and then through the back way to Waipawa on sealed roads.

Leader: Alasdair Shaw 06 8776225

Wed - 22 Feb

Cycle Apley Road Circuit

From Awatoto to the hills around Puketapu mostly along roads. A visit to Puketapu Pub could be on the cards.

Leader: Ray Manning 027 2417550

W/e - 25-26 Feb Mangahao River ^(M)

\$30

Map: BN34

Traveling 22.5 km to the east behind Shannon into the Tararua Range brings you to the Mangahao No.1 Reservoir. Here there is the opportunity to camp, fish or head up to the 6 Bunk Burns Hut (752m) in the centre of the range. No hut ticket required. The tramp into the Burns Hut can be made from the Mangahao No.1 Reservoir (South) or the Mangahao No.2 Reservoir (North), a difference of 4 km by road. Allow 3-4 hrs to get to the hut and leatherwood tops from either road end. In places the routes traverses riverbeds, with some gorgy sections with possible boulder hopping.

Organisers: Simon Whittam 027 5954 567 & Paula Kasper 021 1706 254

Wed - 01 Mar Lake Opouahi

Working Bee at the kiwi sanctuary west of Tutira. Plenty of chopping, cutting trees and dredging the weir.

Leader: Anne Cantrick 06 8448149

Wed - 08 Mar Cycle Maraetotara Valley

Start from Fred's farm if permitted and go to Mohi Bush along roads; check on the pest control that we helped install some years ago.

Leader: Garry Smith 021 2115806

12 Mar - Sparrowhawk/ Gold Creek ^(E - H) \$15 Maps: BK36 & BK37

OPTION A : Walk through Hall's farm, up the Makaroa River to the start of the track to Sparrowhawk Bivy and return same way ^(H)

OPTION B: Walk through Hall's Farm, follow Makaroa River upstream to the Gold Creek junction. Walk upstream to Gold Creek Hut for lunch, climb up onto the ridge and follow the track down to the river, returning via Hall's farm.

Organisers: Simon Whittam 027 5954 567 & Glenda Hooper 877 4183

Wed - 15 Mar Mount Bruce, Wairarapa

Something different: a drive to this Wairarapa icon to bird watch and/or walk the hill trail behind the base. Extra cost involved.

Leader: Christine Hardie 06 8449590

Wed - 22 Mar Cycle from Pakowhai Park

Probably to Omahu, Roys Hill and Hastings Golf Club. One of our favourites; a mix of cycleway and roads.

Leader: Heather Stephenson 06 8439157

W/e - 25-26 Mar Kiwi Saddle ^(M) \$15 Map: BJ37

With extended daylight hours, good moon light and your own headlight, why not tramp into HTC's 8 bunk Kiwi Saddle Hut from the Kaweka Lakes car park off the Napier – Taihape Road. Expect a 3.5 - 4 hour tramp, climbing up to Kuripapango Peak (1250m), along Smith Russell track (1359m) before descending to the Kiwi Saddle Hut (1160m) set in bush. The western end of this track can experience VERY strong winds and in these conditions a walking pole is highly recommended. Hopefully over the weekend you'll get an understanding of further places to explore to the west, the Ngaruroro River and Cameron hut, Kiwi Mouth Hut, Manson Hut and other tracks in the

Kawekas. Mount Ruapehu provides a great picture on a clear day. Do you want to give it a go?

Organiser: Simon Whittam 027 5954 567

Wed - 29 Mar Kereru Kingdom Ride

Start from Maraekakaho and go to Kereru along sealed roads with a few hills. Keen riders can carry on up and along Salisbury Road then down and down to SH50 – this part includes some gravelled road.

Leader: Rodger Burn 06 8776322

Wed - 05 Apr Limestone Rocks

Frolic among the impressive rock formations inland from Lake Tutira; not a long trip so we could also go to Lake Tutira.

Leader: Peter Hewitt 06 8775188

W/e - Easter 7 - 10 Apr Kaimai Ranges ^(M-H)

Spend Easter in the Kaimai Ranges. One party can do a multi-day tramp utilizing some of the Kaimai Ridgeway track system while a second party can do day trips including the Wairere Fallstrack, the Wairongomai Tracks and Mount Te Aroha

Organiser: To be advised

Wed - 12 Apr Central Hawke's Bay Cycle

Start at Otane then head along roads east towards Porangahau or south to Waipawa or both. A mix of flatland and hills.

Leader: Des Smith 022 3706118

Wed - 19 Apr Camp David Cycle

Another road ride south of Havelock North: start in town or near Mutiny Road, whichever appeals. A mix of flat and hills to the former camp, now a Christian retreat and farm

Leader: Joan Ruffell 06 8776225

Tues - ANZAC Day, 25 Apr Te Angi Angi ^(E) \$15 Map: BM39 pt BM38

Low tide is about 3.30 PM so we will be able to have a later start for this trip to the marine reserve at Te Angi Angi which is between Aromoana and

Blackhead Beaches. It is easy walking and there are many rock pools to inspect, coastal birds and maybe the odd fur seal or two.

Organiser: Janice Love 877 5442

Wed - 26 Apr Park Island Cycle

Mostly cycleways following the Water Ride and flat flat flat. Regroup at Lovely Snapper Park or carry on to Le Quesne Road and back

Leader: Garry Smith 021 2115806

Wed - 03 May 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 Swamp Track.

Leader: Janice Love 06 8775442

W/e 6-7 May Nth Ruahine - ArangaHut \$15 Map: BK37

From the Mangerton Road walk into Masters Shelter begin the gradual climb onto the main range (3 hrs), south along track to the recently refurbished Aranga Hut (1 hr). Camping available near the hut. On Sunday return via same route.

Organiser: Simon Whittam 027 5954 567 & Jude Hay 027 5174 275

Wed - 10 May Crownthorpe Ride

A road ride from Ohiti Road to Matapiro and Crownthorpe Church west of Fernhill. Some hills here and there.

Leader: Rodger Burn 8776322

Wed - 17 May A Mystery Biking Trip

Trundle around the roads and stop banks of Napier or Hastings or Havelock North. Wait and see.

Leader: Ray Manning 027 2417550

21 May Boundary Stream (E-M) \$15 Map: BH39

A number of options here; Walk though from Pohokura Road to Shine Falls exiting at the Heays Access Road car. Walk in from Heays Access Road to Shine Falls. Walk into Bell Rock. Complete the Tumunako loop and/or the Kamaki Loop Tracks. Or a combination of some of these.

Organiser: Glenda Hooper 877 4183

Wed - 24 May CHB Selection

Start in Waipukurau and follow the trails west of town or maybe go south over the roads towards Takapau. TBD.

Leader: Des Smith 022 3706118