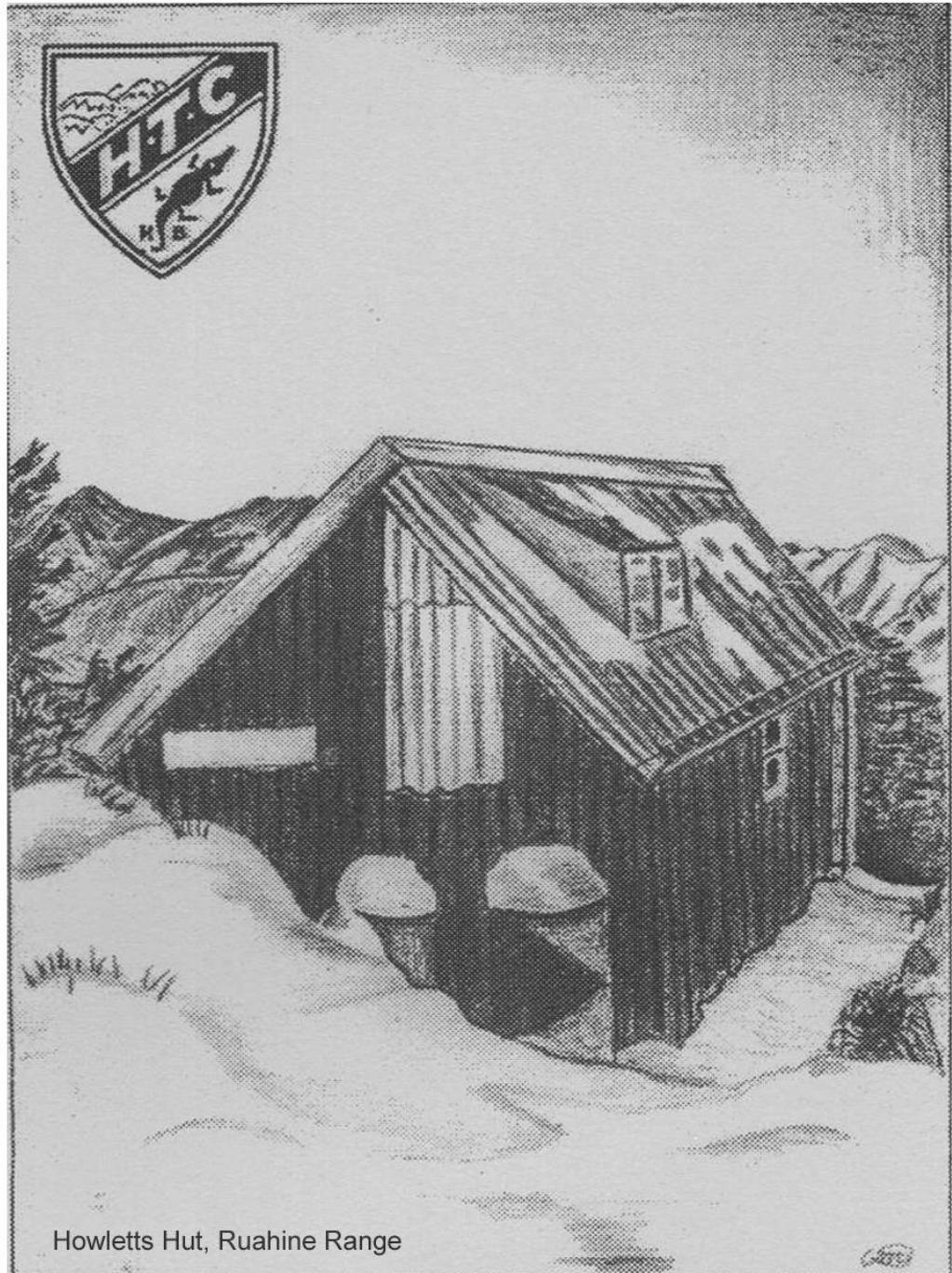


POHOKURA



HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB INC.
HAWKE'S BAY

Pohokura

HERETAUNGA TRAMPING CLUB

POHOKURA – Bulletin No. 272

April 2023

Club Patron:	Jim Glass		
Treasurer:	Lex Smith	02041343790	smithers@xtra.co.nz
Club Captain:	Simon Whittam	0275954567	s.whittam@startmail.com
Secretary:	Glenda Hooper	877 4183	1hoop1berry@gmail.com
Editor:	Anne Doig	878 8694	aspecialfx@xtra.co.nz
Committee:	Daniel Haddock	875 8470	danielhaddock2@gmail.com
	Anthea Chiappa	0211548608	antheachiappa@gmail.com
	Jude Hay	0275174275	judehay25@gmail.com
	Nic Walkerdine	02041305354	nwalkerdine@gmail.com

Sub Committees:

Hut & Track John Montgomerie, Anthea Chiappa, Janice Love, Nic Walkerdine

Transport: Lex Smith, Peter Hewitt, Peter Berry, Janice Love

Fixtures: Glenda Hooper, Susan Lopdell, Anne Doig, Jude Hay, Paula Kasper, Simon Whittam, Daniel Haddock, Nic Walkerdine
(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, Anthea Chiappa, Daniel Haddock

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. Meeting starts at 7.30p.m. Visitors are welcome

Website: www.htc.org.nz

Email: tramphtc@gmail.com

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

Enquiries: Glenda Hooper 877 4183 Graeme Hare 844 8656 Simon Whittam 0275954567

TRIP REPORTS

2680 Barlows Hut**2-3rd January 2023**

Simon, Gabrielle and Robyn departed in the club van around 8am from Te Aute Road driving to the intersection of SH50 & Wakarara Road, where we met up with Murry and Dave. In separate vehicles all of us drove to the end of Wakarara road, above what was once the site of Yeomans Mill.

The idea being we would walk up the Makaroro River from the farm at the end of Glenny Road off Wakarara Road to Barlows Hut. If the conditions were favourable the next day and we could make good progress time wise, we'd tramp through to the Parks Peak track from Barlows Hut and back down to the site that had been Yeomans Mill. A vehicle would be left at the start & finishing locations. With the exception of Murry & Dave, this was all new territory for the remainder of the group.

The day had started fine and slightly overcast away from the ranges, but arriving at the starting location there was low cloud, occasional light showers and light winds. Forget about dry footwear, one is almost continuously crossing the river for the whole trip duration. The river may have been slightly up and some crossings were made as a combined group. The deepest crossing had the water up to our thighs. If it had been hot one could have found many good swimming holes.

While travelling along the river a special high light was to see a family of 8 Whio (Blue ducks) feeding along the river edge only 10 metres away and unconcerned at our presence. We passed several old large slips that had come all the way down from the adjacent peaks.

Another interesting site was at the start of the Colenso Spur track, climbing up a near vertical 2 metre rocky bank and going 10 metres further, one can see a brass plaque inset into a rock cairn. This is in memory of William Colenso, a Cornish Christian missionary to New Zealand, and also a printer, botanist, explorer and politician, who in 1845 made his first journey to cross the Ruahine Range.



Around 3pm we see the 8 bunk Barlows hut up on the higher of two small terraces above the true right of the river. We get there walking through the wet knee high long grass as light rain again starts to fall.

Three of the group make a brief 20 minute exploration of the area close to the hut. One tries looking for the start of the Barlow Track that heads towards the Colenso Spur track and two head upstream about 50 metres to investigate the start of little used (overgrown?) track that climbs up to the Parks Peak track.

Unfortunately the light rain persisted for the remainder of the day and most of the night. So our time was spent indoors, boiling up a brew, treating ourselves to whatever food we brought in, talking of some of life's experiences AND which way should we return, was the river going to be any higher the next day?

The next morning it was drizzly and misty. The river may have risen a fraction. It was decided to return the same way we came in. The walk in had taken about 4 1/2 hours.

The track up to the Parks Peak track and out to the old Yeomans Mill site was longer and not shown on current maps. The peaks were in cloud. So the walkout that way would have been more of an unknown and best left for finer conditions.

Leaving the hut around 8am the walk out was a little quicker than the walk in. Fewer distractions? No Whio (Blue ducks) seen this time, only one deep pool of water with two trout.



We returned to the club van at the Glenly Road end farm, then drove back to the end of Wakarara Road above the old Yeomans mill site for lunch. There had been a possibility of meeting some others from the tramping club out for a day walk up Parks Peak track but their walk didn't eventuate.

After lunch we made a brief walking excursion down the closed off road to the Makaroro river via the site of the old Yeomans Mill. Since being here on a previous trip, the pine trees that existed on the hill side had been harvested. And on the return walk back up the hill, we came across sea shells embedded in a small cliff face.

Home awaited us, the closer to home the sunnier and warmer it got.
Thank you for your company.

Party: Murry Alderson, Dave Mulinder, Simon Whittam, Gabrielle Saxon, Robyn Wilson

2681 Waikamaka Hut / Top Maropea Hut 14-15th January 2023
--

WAIKAMAKA HUT. TRAMP AND WORKING BEE.

After 350mm rain at the HBRC gauge at North Block Road end between Saturday 7 January and Wednesday 11th, the river levels were up seriously. This was exacerbated by [on the Wednesday 11th before the weekend trip] a record rainfall of 96mm between 2 and 4pm! This caused major devastation to farms in the area. After keeping a constant eye on rain gauges and river levels

on the HBRC website from Wednesday on it was evident that the rain had stopped and the levels were fortunately falling gradually.

On the actual day of departure on Saturday, at 7am I phoned a farmer acquaintance in North Block Road, who drove to the concrete crossing before the first gate to see if it was passable as big rains sometimes smother it with rocks and gravel. This was much appreciated and in fact it was passable.

I went in in my vehicle ahead of the club van on the Saturday morning to check the Waipawa at the road end, to find that it was doable but would have been hard work, it was a bit milky too, so met the van group at the Sunrise car park and proceeded up the Sunrise track to the saddle and down to cross the Waipawa North branch.



My vehicle was there to bring back those of us who came out on Monday. The North branch is narrow and it was with care that we crossed at the best place, on up the main river, now about half the flow as only being the west branch. Due to the Sunrise track diversion it took us over six hours to get to the

hut. The rains had changed the river bed and swept vast amounts of gravel and rocks everywhere making it harder than usual, as well as tearing away sides that had made for good travel in the past.

Many general jobs were done Saturday afternoon while the five of us were there and the Sunday full day with our remaining three achieved the roof scrub down and remaining jobs on the list. Was good to again have water at the tap in the hut porch.

The last three of us departed on Monday, and apart from being able to get the majority of the jobs done on Sunday, it gave a rest day from rock bash tramping which was welcome.

Sunday morning we farewelled Simon and Nic as they departed for civilization. Later in the morning a tramper from Hastings who had gone through to Waterfall hut Saturday passed through on his way out commenting about the

plethora of Speargrass or Spaniard that he had to navigate through to and from Rangi Saddle. I had meant to warn him as he passed us on Saturday but he got away ahead too quickly. The weather was not settled and was more cloudy and possibly showery than fine.

Monday we cleaned up a few last jobs and departed slightly before our time set, just before 9am. The day was clear and warm but by the time we were into the upper Waipawa looking back dirty clouds were building up again.



As Janice, Derek and I were on the roof wire brushing it down, I reflected on something I had said in my Club Captains annual report a couple of years ago, it was that I was concerned at who would be doing hut maintenance in the near future... as I observed and at the very time; commented that our respective ages on that roof were 77, 78 and 79! Time for the next 'generation' to step up, but from where?

Work done

Toilet tied back to standards, replaced plumbing from tank to hut sink tap, including lagging for frost protection [freezing cracked the original polybutylene pipe] cleaned downpipe to tank, wire brushed porch and west hut roof, scrubbed exterior hut walls and toilet inside and out, adjusted hut door closure bolt action, cut back vegetation to toilet, dug big pampas grass away from back and end of hut, granular herbicide applied to weeds and hut surrounds, measured roof iron length on both sides and hut length. Bored holes in Talon rat bait so can be used in the bait station retaining clips. Cut a heap of firewood from tree trimmings from when toilet shifted Feb 22.

Rat bait stocks..... 2 x 500g Talon/Pestoff.

Jobs still to be done....

Netting ball for gutter downpipe filter, paint toilet exterior, paint old historic stool/form, further window adjustment and paint of the window frame.

Needed..

Replacement hut roof [not porch roof though]

New hut book.....8 pages left [av. 3-4 pages per year]

Secateurs for track trimming.

A big thank you to all present to get the jobs done and keep the maintenance up at one of our iconic and historic huts.

JM

Party : Derek Boshier, Janice Love, John Montgomerie [Leader] in Saturday, out Monday. Nicholas Walkerdine and Simon Whittam in Saturday and out Sunday.



Top Maropea Hut

6.30am departure saw the van heading down SH1, turning off onto Wakarara Road heading for North Block Road and Triplex car park. It was overcast and slightly cool as we commenced the Sunrise track with its many zigzags.

All stopped at the bench seat at the saddle for a jellybean snack before the hut maintenance crew departed down the Waipawa Forks track and my party of three continued on to Sunrise. We passed about 12 trampers leaving the hut and as we climbed there were intermittent views of the farmland below. Reached Sunrise after 3.5 hours and stopped for a bite of lunch. As we stepped

out behind the hut heading for Armstrong Saddle had reasonable visibility, no wind - couldn't see Waipawa Saddle in the distance as the mist came and went. Past the info sign about Hamish Armstrong and the tarn, ascending onto the ridgeline and came to DOC sign where we followed spur down.

Initially open rocky track, then into beech forest, very tree rooted and slippery due to the rainfall over the week. Arrived at Top Maropea hut after two hours



travel from Sunrise. It is a historic hut built around 1958, four bunks, open fireplace, unlined, malthoid ceiling and a shelter protecting hut entrance. It is regularly used by both hunters and trampers and DOC should spend some money on maintenance. Some idiot had taken an axe to the toilet door which was lying on the ground, allowing the mold to grow inside. Thank you to those who had chopped up the firewood, which we didn't need to use. Carol from Waikanae turned up about 3.00pm and was relieved there was a spare bunk and we spent the rest of the day chatting, taking turns using the small stainless bench or outside to set up our cookers. About 6.30 pm steady light rain began to fall and this continued on to the early hours. Awoke and found weather had improved with views towards the north east. After cleaning up, set forth up through the beech and onto the open spur, in misty conditions, visibility 3 waratahs which did not concern me.

Arrived at Sunrise to find only three slept there last night and when they departed, had left food scraps in the outside sink and messy inside hut. We met a party from the Palmerston North TC and Shirley Bathgate's nephew and his grandson on the way down. The lower we descended, the mist disappeared and sunshine bathed the track, birdlife out and about- cuckoo, robin, tomtit,

grey warbler, wax-eyes, chaffinch, kereru, whitehead and tui. We turned off to Triplex hut as Clint had not been there and chatted to a grandad and his two granddaughters who were staying overnight. On reaching the van were very surprised to see Simon and Nic sitting on the grass as 4.00 pm was the return time. Stopped off for ice creams in Waipawa, arriving at Glenda's around 4.30 pm.

Thanks Simon for driving and all for the company. Thoroughly enjoyed returning to Top Maropea.

SL

Party: Susan Lopdell, Clint Beckett, and Anne Doig.

2682 Kaweka Flats / Iron Whare

5 February 2023

Much effort had been put in by Susan to organise a trip into the Whanganui National Park and a chance to visit the Bridge to Nowhere. As there are no huts on the Mangapurua Track many of us had invested in new tents and were keen to see how they performed. However the weather this summer put paid to these plans as there were slips on the track and more inclement weather forecast; so the three day trip was cancelled.

With the weather on Sunday promising to be fine, a trip into Makahu Saddle and onto Kaweka Flats biv and Iron Whare was offered. There were thirteen who took this up. It was great to have three new to the Club; Jenny, Marwati and Andrianus. Dale and Barbara joined us having spent awhile away. Special thanks to Glenda and Peter for taking their vehicle.

As well as the usual Te Aute Road departure spot, there was collection at the bus stop by EIT, Taradale. Here we collected Dale, Jenny, Des and Robyn then returned along Gloucester Street to the Springfield Road which we took and skirted the hills behind Taradale to connect with Puketapu Road. (Writing this report 6 weeks after the tramp; it is difficult to imagine the devastation that was to follow with the flooding of 14 February as a result of cyclone Gabrielle. There is no Waiohiki Bridge, the Redcliffe substation is out of action, the Puketapu Bridge has been destroyed and the Rissington Bridge has also gone with the river crossing now twice of what it used to be). Our sincere sympathy is with all those effected in this devastation.

After much summer rain, the drive up Whittle Road to Makahu Saddle was very greasy with numerous potholes navigating these were certainly a testament to Simon's driving skills.

Arriving at the Saddle the weather was mild and overcast with little visibility of the peaks above. However we did not have the mountain range in our sights. We were to tramp below the Kaweka Range in a north-nor east direction.



This took us through lush forest and over several streams. The first two are named on the topo map Pinnacle stream (a couple of km from Pinnacle Spur and not rising there) and Makahu River rising in Dick Spur. Eventually all these streams converge with the Makahu Stream. The fourth and final stream before the short steep climb up to the start of the Kaweka Flats has a pleasant walk down the true right. A red admiral butterfly was spotted although we didn't see any Ongaonga plant which is its host plant.

The bright orange two man Kaweka Flats biv is situated in a grassy clearing among manuka. It was pleasant to have a snack here and admire the Kaweka Range above of which Peter pointed out landmarks.

Before we reached the second stream the faster party had left the ambler and gone on to tramp into the Iron Whare. The Iron Ware is the oldest hut in the Kaweka Range dating back to the 1870s when shepherds used to graze sheep on the ranges.

After a short rest we continued on towards Iron Whare. This is a somewhat flatter section of the track and here there was area of surface water to be

skirted. One of the joys of this was the dragon fly which for a brief moment settled on a couple of us. The taller beech trees on the track were to be our stopping spot where we had lunch and returned the way we had come.

Although the day started out overcast it was soon a blue sky sunny day. Thanks to all how came on the trip.

Iron Whare Party: Simon Whittam, (van driver) Nic Walkerdine, Barbara Hamilton, Dale Barnard, Jude Hay, Jenny Burns, Robyn Wilson, Des Smith,
Kaweka Biv Party: Marwati Karyono,, Andrianus Nugroho, Anne Doig , Glenda Hooper, Peter Berry (own vehicle)

2683 Awatere/Longview Huts	12 February 2023
-----------------------------------	-------------------------

Much effort went into the proposed tramp to Khyber Pass, a fabulous trip on a warm summer's day. A watch was on the weather river flows, with thanks to John Montgomerie for steering me in the direction of the regional council river flow radar*, and also the potential air temperature. It wasn't looking promising.

Glenda had also been on this watch and came up with the alternative trip to the Longview and Awatere Huts. With the email sent out there was a number of takers for the trip getting up to 14 in the van. However by Sunday our number had dwindled to 8.

Instead of going to the end of Mill Road and walk down river to Khyber Pass, we took the Kashmir Road turn off and drove up to Moorcock Saddle. Peter kept the revs up and the van made it all the way there without stalling.

Misty weather suggested there would be little to view from the tops so all decided to walk into Awatere Hut; 5 in the first group and 3 amblers. It took around 90 minutes for the amblers to get to Awatere Hut, having taken time to enjoy the scenery and attempting (unsuccessfully) to call in a fernbird which was right beside the track. The others weren't at the hut so they had a little rest before heading downstream to view Black Stag Hut. Just downstream from Awatere Hut they met the others and the discussion was raised about if some wanted to climb up to Longview Hut by following the Makaretu River North Branch up the valley as far as possible before then climbing out up a spur and sliding around a large slip to get to Longview Hut.

Looking at a map this seems a simple enough idea and while parts looked to be steep, nothing seemed unreasonable, so 5 of us set off. Heading up the river valley was straight forward, the river was low meaning you were able to

cross back and forth without getting your boot wet and there were no major obstacles blocking our path. We made good time as we climbed upwards, following the main branch. The weather was overcast with a bit of a breeze until we reached the fork which would lead towards the base of the slip, then we started to get occasional light shower. Heading up towards the large slip the valley grew significantly narrower, we found ourselves climbing over boulders and rocks which had started to become slippery and unstable at times, progress was slower due to this. Looking up the sides of the valley as we continued upwards no simple way to climb up either side presented itself. It had been around 3 hours since the start of the trip and we have covered around 7 km.

On the right hand side of the valley there was a small grassy slip which we decided to clamber up to get out of the valley and make progress to get onto the ridge. The top of the small slip led us into bush which at times was thick but still allowed us to progress slowly. Thanks to GPSs (1 GPS and a cell phone with Topo maps app) we were able to continue upwards through the bush and eventually broke out into light scrub where we stopped for a break to snack and regain energy, we would going to need for the next part. From here it was a short climb which took us to the top of the ridge but then into very dense scrub.

At this point progress slowed to crawl as we attempted to bush bash our way through, we were unable to head directly towards Longview and instead initially drifted westward trying to find ways forward, at time we would hit deer trails or a small stream bed which would allow us to progress faster but generally it was forcing our way through thick scrub, at time having to double back at points due to the scrub being impassable. We eventually made it to Longview Hut, however the last 2 km had taken about 2h and 45 minutes, (9 km, roughly 5h 15 mins total) the weather had also started to deteriorate as we reached the hut with mist reducing visibility and rain starting to come down in heavier waves.

We had a short lunch break in the hut before heading off back toward Moorcock Saddle grateful to have a clear and marked path before us. The path down was muddy and slippery underfoot at times, and the wind strong enough to have the rain falling horizontal at times but not enough to hamper progress downwards. We finally made it back to the van rather damp with the rain chasing us downhill, 14 km and 7 hours 10 minutes later.

While the first party made their way towards Longview the amblers viewed Black Stag and returned back to Awatere Hut for a leisurely morning tea.

Around 11 o'clock they started on the return journey to Moorcocks Saddle and as they got near the top of the climb up from the river they could see Brent's fluoro orange raincoat in the river below. They were back at the van by 12 to have their lunch after which Peter had a snooze and Anne and Glenda did a bit of separate sightseeing.

Glenda walked 30 minutes up the track towards Longview, enjoying having the time to have a really good look around. Unsure of which way the first party would return she did not continue up to meet them. So all three amblers were back at the van by around 1.30 hoping the other party would turn up in the next hour or so. However it was just on 4 when they did arrive along with some torrential rain; Cyclone Gabrielle was arriving. Worried about the road down, we tried to rush them into the van as fast as possible (a bit like herding cats) but even so Peter had to negotiate his way down Kashmir Road which was rapidly changing to the Kashmir Stream.



Congratulations to Peter on his superb driving firstly up the two steep hills of Kashmir Road on the journey in. Then the journey out was along the road that had become a torrent. However Peter's tenacious driving cannot be compared to that of the two pack cyclists who in the morning we passed coming out from Moorcock Saddle.

Awatere/Longview party: Brent Hickey, Colin Jones, Jude Hay, Nic Walkerdine, Simon Whittam

Awatere Party: Peter Berry, Anne Doig, Glenda Hooper

*<https://data.hbrc.govt.nz/hydrotel/cgi-bin/HydWebServer.cgi/points/details?point=3743>

NW, GH & AD

2684 Southern Escape

11 – 12 March 2023

Cyclone Gabrielle had closed easy access to both the Kaweka Range and the eastern Ruahine north of Norsewood, while SH 5 and SH 2 north of Bay View were closed. This meant if we wanted to go tramping we had to head south. So Saturday morning eight of us did just that, driving to Arapuke Park in the northern Tararua Range behind Linton. We arrived there about 9.45 AM where upon a party of 5 led the way up the Sledge Track planning to do one of two loops in Hardings Park.

Jude, Paula and Derek carried on from the Sledge track to complete the Toe toe and Platinum Mines loop tracks with beautiful scenery along the way. The path is very well marked with quite a few steps of stairs along the way. The Platinum Mines track is a short loop extension at the northern end of the Toe toe track which take you further to a number of old mine-shafts. They were able to see down into the vertical and horizontal mine shafts although they couldn't explore them because they were blocked with mud and debris. It was a fantastic loop walk and took about 4 hours or so to complete.

Simon and Nic left them at the junction and carried on eastwards to the start of the Otangane loop. They followed along the southern side of the loop, their goal was to visit high point Aruwaru. After taking in the views at Aruwaru they returned back on a marked, overgrown unmapped track south of the loop.

Meanwhile Peter, Anne and Glenda walked the Sledge Track at a more sedate pace taking many photos of the typically NI west coast bush and the picturesque Kahuterawa Stream. After about an hour they reached the end of the Sledge Track, which is the point where the track to the Toe Toe and Otangane loops starts. Instead of following this track they crossed the stream and zigzagged up a steep hillside into the Arapuke Forest Park, a mountain biker's haven. As they climbed they could see windmills to the north east, some of which were still in construction, and to the east they could see where our other parties were headed.

Arapuke Park was once a forestry plantation but is now slowly regenerating back to bush and wildling pines.



There are many mountain bike tracks in the park but there are two tracks where walkers are allowed. They took the longer track, Arapuke Road, which took them along to another entry to the park at the end of Scotts Road. From

Scotts Road they were once again in the bush as they followed the Back Track back to Kahuterawa Road and our van. The Back Track, an old road that was closed in the early 1980s, is part of the Te Araroa Trail and part way along it there is a sign indicating the 1500 km mark which is the half-way point of the trail.

The Arapuke trio were back at the van before 3 and had an hour or 2 wait for the other parties, first the Toe Toe Loop party and then the Aruwaru party. We then drove over the Pahiatua Track, to Woodville for fish and chips and then to the Ferry Reserve at the eastern end of the Manawatu Gorge to camp for the night.

Sunday morning, after filling water bottles at Woodville, we headed off to Top Grass Road and then Kumeti Road to park at the road end. We were not impressed with the pile of domestic waste at the road end, nor the smelly deer carcasses there, and have since informed DOC and the Council of this. The first part of the tramp was a walk up the Mangapuaka Stream to the track that goes up a spur near where the old Kumeti Hut was once. The stream is easy walking but obviously not easy driving if the remains of a drowned car in the river was anything to go by.

A party of 5 (Derek, Jude, Nic, Paula, Simon) set off up the spur first with the goal of reaching the high point just past the junction for the turn off to Kiritaki Hut. The track up the hill is a fairly steep climb in parts with about a 250 metre climb to the top of the ridge, here after a brief break we continued along the ridge towards our goal. The path along the ridge was slower going than anticipated, with large parts of it overgrown enough to require caution to proceed to ensure we didn't trip over hidden obstacles on the track or the occasional hole.

Going along the ridge you continue to climb upwards (however nothing like going up the spur) and we were rewarded with views down both sides of the ridge at times. As we continued on we moved into leatherwood along the sides of the track leaving us more exposed but providing great views.

Just after the 5 km mark we hit a section overgrown with Toe toe making it hard to follow the person in front and to determine where the track was meant to be headed. At this time we had been going for just under 3 hours and the decision was made to turn around here, about an hour short of our goal knowing that we would still need to head back down the spur to the river.



Meanwhile we the amblers, Peter, Glenda and Anne, didn't notice the steep gradient of the spur because it was so pretty. We enjoyed the multitude of flowering Easter orchids and small white rata flowers plus many red

admiral butterflies as we made our way upwards. As well as this, as we climbed higher we had good views of the Dannevirke hinterland and the surrounding forest. We met a couple of hunters, with bows and guns, coming down the spur, one was from Wellington and one from Cambridge, and they told us they had passed the other group at the top of the spur.



We had our lunch at the top of the spur and then headed back, getting the van just before 3 pm. We drove a few 100 metres back along the road to the picnic

area (away from the rubbish) to wait for the others. In the bush around the picnic area is a very large rata (maybe 800 years old) that is well worth a look. The others arrived back to the picnic area around 4.30 pm and it was then back to the Bay.

GH, JH & NW

Party: Simon Whittam, Nic Walkerdine, Jude Hay, Paula Kasper, Derek Boshier, Anne Doig, Peter Berry and Glenda Hooper

2685 Trip to Pukaha/Mt Bruce

Wednesday 15th March

This was close to a perfect day. Despite the normal portents of the Ides of March, a full-to-the-brim van left Te Aute Road pretty much on time [even though the driver had to come through the daily post- Gabrielle crowds on the expressway]. Thanks, PB for getting the van out for us so early and enabling us to achieve lift-off.

The roads south were good, the traffic was light and the sunrise was beautiful as we scooted along. Only one stop was needed and this was at Waipukurau Railway Station. The day was chilly to start with and Lyn did battle with the heating system as requested by the back seaters. By the time we got to Pūkaha/Mount Bruce at mid-morning it was time for refreshments and that's where we headed. Coffees, scones and sweet stuff were the first priority then it was the decision what to do next.

We bought our entrance tickets and found that even after the OAP discount we got an additional group price to bring the fee down to just over \$16.00. Regular price is \$24 so that's not bad. First, there was a lively talk from a local ranger from the Rangitāne Iwi which runs the place. For those readers who don't know, Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre is not far from Eketahuna [as well as the model railway attraction] and specialises in captive breeding and care of NZ wildlife: birds, reptiles, water life and so on. It is probably most famous for little white kiwi and giant longfin eels!

Through the interactive exhibition hall and on to the aviaries. We were able to linger in front of the kākārīki and tīeke enclosures but the biggest treat is the close encounter of the kokako kind. This hand-reared female comes right up close and chats to people from a few inches inside the wire. We had been told that she adores tall, blond, bearded men with glasses because that is the description of the person who reared and imprinted on her. Several people in our group thought that they fitted that description so they spent some time chatting with her with an interesting range of chirps and whistles.

At this point, Barbara, Liz, Christine, Steve and accompanied by Alasdair for part of the way branched off along Te Arapiki o Tawhaki which is a two- hour loop track up and along a ridge at the back of the centre. The track is reasonably wide and well-surfaced with a moderately steep incline at either end. The northern half is through attractive stands of bush with tawa, maire, punga and the odd large rimu or matai. Plenty of rewarewa, lancewood, tarata, kawakawa, putaputa, rangiora and so on. The southern half has obviously been logged and is sadly overrun with pest plants as well as bracken and grasses plus pinus radiata. A small grove of redwoods has also been planted near where the aviaries now are. There are birds here and there but not many today. Some kaka overhead and fantails were the most obvious but there are good populations of released kiwi and kokako as well as more widely known tui and kereru if you are lucky enough to be there at the right time.

There is a lookout at the top of the ridge, 478m, with tiered seating and views to the Tararua Range on one side and the rest of Pukaha Reserve on the other so naturally we sat there. Some of us had brought tea and sammies with us so that was a good pastime. Back down the hill where we could all follow our own interests: Pam and Sharron visited the whare whakairo where the carving team is making pou for the new marae and education building which will be open by next year if all goes well.



Joan, Lyn and Janice took their turn on the loop walk, and Rodger and Roy pottered about. The giant metal weta sculpture is a great sight, crouching in the undergrowth. It was made for a Burning Man Festival in Nevada originally and had flaming propane out its feelers in its prime. That I would love to see in real time but there is a good photo of it alongside the site.

Most of us watched the eel/tuna feeding and admired these enormous slithery creatures in the water – all of them here are female. The ranger on duty gave a very clear talk about them and everyone

watching was fascinated by the writhing mass as they rose out of the water towards her feet while she fed them yummy dead mice that had been caught in pest traps of which there are 160 km worth in the entire reserve.

We had more café refreshments as we needed them [or not in some cases] and lingered until 3pm to see the daily kaka feeding. The same ranger doled out nuts and seeds, and some of the birds flew very close overhead to get to the stations. Like kea, they have lovely red flashings on their underwings. By then it was time to go so we gathered ourselves up and went back to the van. It was still very warm and sunny, and everyone agreed it had been a fun day that was something different from the usual outings. The trip home was also uneventful; Alasdair kept us entertained with funny stories about his late father who was a well-known local identity of Hastings back in the day. Despite being a very distinguished man of the legal persuasion, he apparently had a flair for interesting cars which he liked to drive at speeds over the limit through town. He also had a flair for avoiding charges and sounds like a very colourful character.

CH

Party: Rodger Burn, Sharron Wellwood, Pam Pike, Liz Slexman, Steve Borrett, Barabara Phillips, Janice Love, Lyn Walch, Joan Ruffell, Alisdair Shaw, Roy Frost, Christine Hardie

2686 Kiwi Saddle Hut	25th-26th March 2023
-----------------------------	---

Departed 7:00am from Te Aute Road heading for the Kaweka Lakes car park in the southern Kawekas for an overnight tramp to HTC's Kiwi Saddle hut. This was the first time out to part of the Kawekas after cyclone Gabrielle.

Crossing the Ngaruroro river at Fernhill and then through Omahu all the way up to Matapiro road on the Napier - Taihape road, we saw evidence of where the water had flooded homes, wrecked crops and fences. The closer we got to the old Forest Headquarters the more slips we saw. Beyond the old Forest Headquarters there had been substantial slips on the side of the road and there currently exists about 6 washouts reducing the road to single lane access. The start of the road into Kaweka Lakes car park from the Napier - Taihape road has a slightly eroded surface, but this soon reverts to a good gravel road surface.

Arriving around 8:15am at the car park, there were 3 other vehicles and we were to meet others over the next 24 hours at the Kiwi Saddle Hut.

Out of the group of 5 heading to the hut, 2 had never been to the hut before. We departed towards the hut around 8:30am and climbed up to Kuripapango peak and along Smith Russell track. The weather was slightly overcast with a cool westerly wind on the tops.

For some, it was interesting to see Robson Lodge where HTC had previously held a training weekend, from a different perspective way down in the Kuripapango valley to the south. Mount Ruapehu and Ngauruhoe were partly visible through a cloudy horizon to the west.

The track in had no major damage and only two very small branch obstructions needed to be shifted to clear the track. We arrived to an empty hut about 12 noon. I say empty, but there was a 8cm weta clinging vertically under the porch roof.



After lunch and a period of rest, our group carried out some housekeeping, cleaning the toilet, gathering/cutting wood, cleaning gutters/windows, cleaning gauze mesh on down pipes into water tank.

A spare section of chimney flue and wood were found lying close to the bottom of the hut rear. Was it due to strong winds or was it some animal playing games?

During the afternoon two hunters stopped briefly while on a day hunt, heading via Castle Camp, Kaiarahi Peak, the Tits and back to Kaweka Lakes car park.

The rest of the afternoon was a time to lie in the sun, doze off, play a card game of Monopoly, explore the bush/tracks around the hut and light the hut fire.

While exploring 50m down the hill beyond the old toilet site, a fenced off area of bush about 1 & 1/2 times the enclosed area of the hut was discovered with wire linked fencing mesh placed up to a metre off the ground and several parallel rows of fencing wire above that. There was evidence of deer being in the area, but it looked like deer had broken through into what was supposed to be deer/pig free piece of bush.

Late afternoon two more hunters arrived with a dog carrying its own double sausage roll pack. One tented and the other used the hut. They were looking to be out this way for two nights.

After tea and on sunset our group headed down the track just past the edge of the bush to catch a glimpse of the sun setting behind Mount Ruapehu. A great view with a cool breeze and different members using others as wind breaks. The night was no different to other nights with nocturnal activities inside and outside the hut.

Sunday morning after breakfast and tidy up of the inside of the hut the group set off back to the car park. Just a slow grind back up to the top of the ridge, again slightly cloudy and gusty wind on the tops. The return trip was uneventful and the time taken about 30 minutes less than what it took to get to the hut. The track had evidence of deer and pigs being around.

Lunch was had at the Blowhard bush shelter about 5kms back towards Napier down Lawrence road. After lunch an attempt was made to see if we could drive to the Lawrence reserve, but at least two slips have obstructed the road. The Lawrence reserve is another access point to the Mackintosh Hut.

Home by about 2pm. Thank you for your company.

SW

Party: Janice Love, Jude Hay, Anthea Chiappa, Nic Walkerdine, Simon Whittam

HTC BIKE TRIPS



Memorial Ride

Wednesday 25th January 2023

Great to see all the Boots on Bikers today, especially those who haven't been out with us for a while. Thanks for turning up and making a good start to 2023. Look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Christine



Cycle Ride

Wednesday 29th March 2023

Along with other sporting groups it has been difficult to keep to schedule with the effects of the cyclone and while some of the cycle paths have been unusable we have been fortunate to have a flexible team happy to cruise on quiet country roads.

This Wednesday we had a smaller than usual group as some were helping with community work after cyclone Gabrielle and others put off by potential winds so we had just five meeting at Maraekakaho School. After a little debate and taking into account the blustery conditions we elected to do the relatively low altitude 32Km Aorangi road circuit as the most suitable on the day.

The ride gave us the opportunity to see the damage done by the cyclone to the steep sides on the gorge and erosion as we steadily cycled along and road works were also evident, signs of winter were visible on the Kawekas with sprinkling's of snow to be seen.

Before too long we thankfully reached the end of the road after experiencing frequent blustery cross winds and we stopped for snacks by the shelter of the wall at road ends. This was all very nice till Joan discovered an active wasps nest just where we were sitting and caused a hasty exit while she attempted to deal with it.

The return lap back to our cars was much quicker as we had tail winds but caution again was needed and credit must go to Pete and Alasdair who completed the ride in style on standard bikes while the other three enjoyed E Bikes.

Back at the School we enjoyed the rest of our lunch before returning home.

RB

Party: Christine Hardie, Joan Ruffell, Alasdair Shaw, Pete Hansen, Rodger Burn (organiser)

Cycle Ride	Otane to Elsthorpe Circuit	12th April 2023
-------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Our unusually small group of four HTC cyclists departed from Otane at 09:30 hrs. As we headed off for our destination along Elsthorpe Rd in perfect cycling conditions, it was a pleasure to be back on one of our favourite CHB roads, where the traffic is generally very sparse and courteous towards cyclists.

We arrived at the Patangata pub at 10:30 hrs to find it still closed, as it did not open for business until 11:00 hrs. As we proceeded on over the flood damaged Tukituki River Bridge, we could see how compromised Cyclone Gabrielle has made it. There are whole sections of the roads paving seriously misaligned due to the undermining and slumping of the bridge pile supports. I noticed that the pipework railing on one section of the bridge was rattling as we slowly cycled across it. Not very reassuring if you were in a heavy 4x4 farm vehicle. On reaching the top of our steady climb up the hill, we stopped at the lookout point on the side of the road to take in the lovely view of the Silver Range hills. There was hardly a breath of wind, even the fronds on the roadside toe toe bushes were motionless. As we continued quietly on our short undulating ride to Elsthorpe settlement, we were overtaken by three big powerful, noisy,

Harley Davidson motor bikes, ridden by equally big powerful looking Mongrel Mob garbed gentleman. They were no trouble overtaking us, but I could not help but notice the contrast in our choice of transport. I think I will stick to the quiet ebike option for the time being.



Rodger Burn, Christine Hardie and Sharron Wellwood

On arrival at our destination at around 11:30 hrs, the rickety old picnic table at the Elsthorpe Scenic Reserve was put to good use. We all just chilled out there, catching up, and enjoying an early light lunch snack, sitting in the warm sun, before doing the short bush walk which is adjacent to the picnic table area. There are some impressive examples of mature lowland forest trees in the scenic reserve, but the understory and regenerating trees are looking very sparse indeed. There is impressive looking mature Rimu, and Matai trees, but very little leaf litter on the forest floor, or evidence of other regenerating forest. To be honest, it was a sorry looking remnant of what must have once been, part of a magnificent lowland native forest. The bird life within the forest was sparse too, except for the friendly Fantails that were there in good numbers, and totally fearless as they foraged in our wake for what I imagine would be very lean pickings.

After our walk we took a short detour on our bikes as we passed thru Elsthorpe. We checked out the local Elsthorpe School and surrounds, which is down towards the end of Kenderdine Rd. Des had a good old country chat to a local lad who was working on an excavator, putting in a driveway, to a yet to be built house for his young family. The kids will be able to literally hop their fence, to get to school. The long and short of my conversation with the guy was that his family-owned part of the bush on his side of the road, not the side where we walked thru off Kairakau Rd. He informed me that there were no known walking tracks thru this DOC block of native bush that he was aware of, and that part of it was still grazed by local farmers. Shock horror!!!

We eventually departed from Elsthorpe, and cycled down the fast section of downhill road, regrouping at the bottom at the now open, and bustling, Patangata Pub. No one was interested in having a drink or getting a hot meal at the pub. Due to Todd Rd still being closed to thru traffic that ruled out the option of returning to Otane via River Rd and Todd Rd.

Three of the team elected to continue back to Otane for their coffee fix at the café via Elsthorpe Rd, while Des wanting to tick another couple of places off his bucket list, backtracked up the hill to the Mangarara Rd turnoff, and spent the afternoon checking out the beautiful Horseshoe Lake, and the Bush Walk area at the very end of the gravelled farm access tracks. Later in the afternoon he retraced his steps to Patangata, and then continued cycling up River Rd, to Waipawa township, completing his 66 km circuit via White Rd at around 15:45 hrs. Everyone arrived back to base, safe and sound, with no punctures, or mechanical misadventures. Another good day on our bikes.

D.S.

Cyclists: Rodger Burn, Sharron Wellwood, Christine Hardie, Des Smith (Organizer)

Cycle Ride

Wednesday 19 April 2023

Another change in plans and this week we opted for a Park Island meeting point. Nine of us took advantage of an excellent forecast and it was great to welcome both Lyn.W and Graeme back and a welcome also to Bryan a new prospect.

After a little debate we decided to give the hilly option a miss and settled for an easier ride along the trail ways and Initially we followed Prebensen Drive and then headed off along the limestone tracks towards Napier stopping for photo opportunities before continuing on and under the express ways with a very low tide so no worries for the electrics on our E bikes

We followed Christine on a quite twisty route before ended up by the airport and then headed down towards the hills again stopping to admire the lagoons and bird life. The tracks were in remarkably good condition and before too we found ourselves at Snapper Jacks Bay View where we had lunch.

The return route was shorter and easier following the coastal pathways to Westshore and on to Onekawa and Prebensen Drive back to Park Island all safe and sound after an easy 35Km.

Party: Lyn Walch, Bronwen Kerr, Sharron Wellwood, Christine Hardie, Brian Pierce, Graeme Hare, Des Smith, Ray Manning, Rodger Burn



Private Trips

Outward Bound - January 2023

Last month I was fortunate enough to spend 21 days at Outward Bound on the Mind Body and Soul Course in the beautiful Anakiwa. I took the ferry over to Picton on the 6th January. It was easy enough to work out who else was going to Outward Bound and once we arrived in Picton we all had to do a mandatory Covid test! The Marlborough Sounds is a stunning place - and I was amazed from the start and so excited about all the adventures in front of me. When we arrived in Anakiwa at the OB campus - we were given a Pōwhiri, and then put into our watches. I was in the best watch - Huriwhenua 697, and with the most interesting people from all over NZ. Each watch is made up of 14 people - and is accompanied by two instructors. There was at least 8 watches, so it was very busy. It's been running since 1962 so it is a very smooth operation.



My favourite times were the adventures we went on. Sailing and rowing Totaranui (the Queen Charlotte Sound) and seeing the bioluminescent in the water as we rowed into our bay for the night at 11pm! We sailed up to Cooks Cove/Ship Cove and we were welcomed by some very cheeky little weka. I will have to walk the Queen Charlotte Track

at some stage it would be amazing. The stars in the sky as we slept aboard the cutter were magnificent and lit up the sky. Something I will never forget. I didn't like having to do my ablutions into a bucket on that adventure though!



Another special time was tramping in the Richmond Forest Park - sleeping under flies and having amazing conversations. It was very handy learning how to use a compass and navigating off track - but I struggled with the compass! We walked along a track which was near the Pelorus River where we swam and kayaked the rapids on another trip.

Then there was the solo! Two nights by myself in the bush with a tiny amount of food. I was very lucky my instructors gave me a spot with the most wonderful view out amongst

Anakiwa and the bay. I found this time very peaceful and a great time to plan goals and think. We weren't allowed our watches so didn't know what the time was however each morning at the OB campus they ring bells to indicate its PT or breakfast so I had some idea of the time.

On the last full day of Outward Bound we had to run a half marathon which was challenging but rewarding and everyone supported each other. We ran half of the half marathon up the Queen Charlotte track which was very hilly!

Others bits I loved was the PT at 6:20am followed by a cold swim in the ocean! The energetic chef, Marcel from the Netherlands and his tasty food, but the best bit of all was the people I met. Spending 21 days with the same people can get challenging but it is very special and you become very close. The friendships which have come from Outward Bound are very special and luckily we all got on well. Outward Bound is an absolutely amazing course and organisation - I have become more confident, got better at working in a team, become more aware, motivated and ready for life's challenges. I'll never forget my OB experience and I would recommend it for everyone.

Tom Little



Stephen (front) & Juergen at Boundary Strm

Club and Committee News

New Members:

Welcome to Stephen Borrett and Juergen Grossklaus who became members of the club in December. Both men were on the October Wednesday tramp to Shines Fall, their first tramp with the Club. Stephen also went with the Wednesday group to Mt Kuripapango.

Two others, Tyne-Marie and Lianne, are also keen to join our club and are just waiting for a second outing to finalize their membership.

Club Auction:

Because of the impacts of a very wet Summer and Cycle Gabrielle we have decided to change the auction date to the 31 May. There will be just the one auction night so produce and surplus camping gear etc. will all be auctioned then. All

the proceeds go to the Lowe Rescue helicopter so dig deep on the night.

If anyone has produce that can't wait until 31 May we can accommodate them on any meeting night, just like we do with Liz's marmalade.

Outward Bound:

Tom Little went on a 21 day Outward Bound course in January and his report on his experiences is in this Pohokura. Part of his costs have been paid for by the Club through the Training Sponsorship.

Thanks:

Many thanks to John M, Derek, Janice, Simon and Nic for their recent work at Waikamaka Hut (see January 14-16 trip report). Yet some more jobs well done. As well, Kiwi Saddle got a bit of a spruce up by Janice, Simon, Nic, Anthea and Jude during their recent tramp to the hut so thanks to them too.

Publicity:

The Bay Buzz February magazine, Wings and Wildlife May 2023 Newsletter

and the April Wilderness magazine all have content provided by the Club - just another way of letting Hawkes Bay people know about us.

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: 0272669279 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
3 May	Anne Doig	Alan Berry Fun with Photography - What can be done with camera & pictures	H – Kurt Fenton S – Janice Love
17 May	Jude Hay	Open Night	H – Liz Pinder S – Marion Nicholson
31 May	Daniel Haddock	Club auction	H – Penny I S – Jude Hay
14 June	Graeme Hare	Colin Jones Winter tramping	H – Clint Beckett S – Fred Chesterman
28 June	Pam Turner	Open Night	H – John Montgomerie S – Anne Doig
12 July	Susan Lopdell	Anthea Tongariro/Te Araroa	H – Paula Kasper S – Joan Ruffell
26 July	Alan Peterson	Open Night	H – Christine Snook S – Kurt Fenton
9 Aug	Anthea	Photo Competition	H – Janice Love S – Nic Walkerdine
23 Aug	Colin Jones	Open Night	H – Anne Doig S – Daniel Haddock
6 Sept	Simon Whittam	Susan Lopdell Tasmania	H – Anne Cantrick S – Pam Turner

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.

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 - Aranga Hut

\$15

Map: BK37

From the Mangleton 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

17 May - Wednesday Ad Hoc Tramp

The tramp location will be decided the Monday, before based on weather forecasts and who is keen to go. Email tramphtc@gmail.com by the Sunday to register your interest.

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 Kamahi 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

Wed - 31 May Tukituki Circuit

From Clive to Black Bridger and beyond or maybe the other way round from Havelock North. Roads and cycleways

Leader: Alasdair Shaw 06 8776225

W/e - 3-5 June Kings Birthday Mahia, Morere & Gisborne (E-M) \$35 Maps: BG42 BH42 BH43

The new 24-kilometre Te Aratia Walkway is opening in December so here is a chance to check it out. It starts at the Whangawehi Inlet on the northern coast and crosses the peninsula, on private land, to the Mahia Scenic Reserve to exit on Kinikini Road. We will also walk some of the tracks at Morere and

enjoy the hot pools there with the possibility of a walk closer to Gisborne

Organiser: Susan Lopdell 844 6697

07 June Napier Hill Walk

A good winter workout over the hills and stairways on Bluff and Hospital Hills.

Leader: Lynn Walch 06 6506965

17 - 18 June Parks Peak from Yeomans ^(M-H) \$15 Map: BK36 & BK37

On Saturday tramp for 4 hours into Barlows Hut from Yeomans Mill up the Makaroro River. Expect to cross the river numerous times. The hut is a cosy Lockwood design sleeping 8. A \$5 hut ticket is required to stay at the hut. Sunday climb up 600m to the Parks Peak track (possibly going to the Parks Peak Hut) and returning down the track to Yeomans Mill.

You may want to consider bringing a pruning implement to help make the track more defined.

The track from Barlows to Parks Peak is not shown on current maps.

See <http://www.mapspast.org.nz/> then select the NZMS260 1999 map to see where the track is supposed to be. Suspect Sunday tramp could be longer than 4 Hours.

Organisers: Simon Whittam 027 5954 567 & Murry Alderson 0279474726

2 July Kahuranaki Trig and Mokapeka Caves ^(E) \$10 Map: BK39

Drive up the Kahuranaki Road to the foot of Kahuranaki and then walk up the road to the top and for some great views over Hawkes Bay. If time permits we will visit Mokapeka Caves on the way out.

Organiser: Anthea Chiappa 021 1548 608

14-17 July Mangahao River ^(M) \$30 Map: BN34

Travelling 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.

Another option for some maybe to do a return day walk along some of the Burttons Track from the end of the Tokomaru Valley Road (about 3Km from the Tokomaru No. 3 Reservoir). The Burttons track forms part of the Te Araroa Trail. Then tent close to the Mangahao No.1 Reservoir (South) for the night where there are toilets, water and plenty of camping sites.

<https://www.ttc.org.nz/pmwiki/pmwiki.php/TararuaFootprints/MangahaoValley>

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

19 July Wednesday Ad Hoc Tramp

The tramp location will be decided the Monday, before based on weather forecasts and who is keen to go. Email tramphtc@gmail.com by the Sunday to register your interest

30 July A Frame Hut ^(M)

\$15

Map: BL36

Enjoy this 5.5km out and back moderate tramp in the bushland surrounding the ridge line with the abundance of leatherwoods. The A-Frame hut has colourful Māori koru motif alongside a DOC sign highlighting the name, meaning 'The realm of the Leatherwood trees'. This aptly named tramp refers to Te Ao Tūpare Hut (A-Frame hut) its Māori namesake where we will see its distinctive roofline, new with the old corrugated iron and building materials that is still observable.

Organiser: Jude Hay 027 5174 275

12 - 13 Aug Naenae Track and Makairo Track ^(M) \$25 Maps: BN34 & BM36

The Naenae Track is situated in the northern Tararua Range west of Mangamaire near the Pahiatua Track. The plan is to walk up the track to the Otangane Loop track and walk part or all of the loop before returning back to Naenae Road. On Sunday we drive to the west side of the Makairo Track in the Waewaepa Reserve and walk through to the saddle and back. We will probably spend Saturday night in cabins at Pahiatua.

Organisers: Simon Whittam 027 5954 567 and Peter Berry 877 4183

16 August Wednesday 16 August Ad Hoc Tramp

The tramp location will be decided the Monday, before based on weather forecasts and who is keen to go. Email tramphtc@gmail.com by the Sunday to register your interest

27 Aug. Sparrowhawk/ Gold Creek ^(E H)

\$15

Maps: BK36 & BK37

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

OPTION B ^(E) :Walk through Hall's Farm and climb up onto Gold Creek ridge. Walk up the ridge track before descending down the track to the river and Gold Creek Hut. Return the same way.

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

9 - 10 Sept Howletts Hut ^(M-H)

\$15

Map: BL36

To Our club hut. From Kashmir Road car park via Daphne Hut and from there

up to Howletts. Weather permitting back out via the tops through the Oroua and Pohangina saddles past Longview Hut. Those wanting an easier tramp can do a return trip to Daphne Hut.

Organiser: John Montgomerie 877 7358

13 September Wednesday Ad Hoc Tramp

The tramp location will be decided the Monday, before based on weather forecasts and who is keen to go. Email tramphtc@gmail.com by the Sunday to register your interest

23 - 24 Sept Training weekend at Robsons Lodge \$15 + Map: BJ37

An chance to brush up on your bushcraft skills and spend a night in this historic lodge

Kiwi Saddle

This meeting place of triple tracks
Where weary men once camped
The lost school boys they searched to find,
'cross every ridge they'd tramped.

A resting place they then had found
Beneath the whispering trees.
Soft voices of the Moreporks' call
Had drifted on the breeze.

Where Kiwi once had wandered by,
A little hut was dreamed
To shelter weary tramping folk
A haven from storms, it seemed

And so they heaved up passed Clem's Rock
With sweat and tears, through snow,
To carry malthoid and timber poles,
To build this hut we know.

Golden shafts of setting sun –
Slanting through Beech trees,
Dappling patterns on knobbly roots
Light and shade on fallen leaves.

Soft twitterings of weary birds
As they seek their place of rest,
Dimming blue of evening sky,
Brightening star far in the west.

Now two huts later, in Paradise,
Come, ease your weary feet.
Remember Nancy Tanner's life
As you rest upon her seat.

Remember fun and laughter shared;
Warm fire and candle light,
The comfort of bubbling stew –
The deepening peace of coming night.

Pam. Turner 2014

TRAMPING HAS SOME RISKS LOOK AFTER YOURSELF AND YOUR COMPANIONS

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

Try this:

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

