

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for Apr 2013

<http://techs.net.nz/trusthouse.co.nz/sport/swtc/>

newsletter editor: Lynne King lynne.king@xtra.co.nz 04 478 7795

Club night:

Tuesday 9 April 7.30 pm

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Helen Morison & Clive Baxter

Speaker: Peter and Shirley Spooner *Iran*

Trip List

Apr – May 2013

Date	Destination	Trip organiser/leader	Phone	Fitness	Cost
6 Apr	Near Martinborough. Rolling hill country walk, not steep.	Derek Wilson	306 9079	M	\$2
13 Apr	Kaitoke / Te Marua Good tracks.	Peter & Ruth Graham	306 8822	M	
20 Apr	Pararaki Hut, Cape Palliser area. Mostly walking up an easy river bed. No big boulders.	Janet Corlett	306 9079	M	
27 Apr	Finnis work party	John Rhodes	304 9095		
4 May	Martinborough region	David Lawrence	306 8122	M	
11 May	Clearing gorse on Reeves track. Club has done this several times over the years but not for a long time.	John Rhodes	304 9095		
18/19 May	Sayers Hut Totara Flats overnight	Vicki Brooks	379 8576	F	

If you wish to go on a trip, please let the organiser know by the Thursday prior.

Trip Gradings

The letters after the cost for a trip are an indication of how tough it will be.

- VE** **Very Easy.** A stroll suitable for the youngest, oldest and least fit of people.
E **Easy.** Up to four hours walk. May involve some uphill. Lots of stops.
M **Moderate fitness.** 4-6 hours walk per day. Lunch and smoko breaks.
F **More fitness.** Some experience needed. May go off tracks. 6 – 8 hours walk per day.
FE **Fitness extreme.** 8 – 18 hours walk, fast. Heaps of climbing. Stops are hurried. Enjoyed only by masochists. May take up to a week to recover.

Leaders: please remember to collect the personal locator beacon from Stan Smith prior to your trip. If unable to lead your trip it is your responsibility to find a replacement leader / trip.

Trip Reports

ATIWHAKATU OFF TRACK 2 MARCH

We met in Carterton and drove up to Holdsworth road end, put on our boots and left the car park just after 9am. We headed up the Atiwhakatu track, and just before crossing the stream before the Mountain House turnoff we found the bottom of the ridge that would hopefully take us up to the Gentle Annie track. We left the track at 10am and followed the ridge up for a while before deciding to stop for smoko. After smoko we carried on and had no trouble following the ridge, and about an hour and a half after leaving the bottom we arrived at the Gentle Annie track, a bit higher up than I thought we should have been. It was decided seeing that we had got to the top early we would go on up to Pig Flat for lunch, and have a look at the caravan that Vicki had heard that DOC had flown into the clearing for the track workers. We had lunch then headed back to the cars and a welcome cold drink that Ed and Juliet had in their motorhome fridge.

On the trip were Ed and Juliet Cooke, Ian Montgomerie, Vicki Brooks, Mary Lambert and Stan Smith leader and scribe.



GREYTOWN RAIL TRAIL AND WAIOHINE RIVER 9 MARCH

A good turnout of ten for the day's walk. It was cloudy but warm, and the river level was very low, owing to near-drought conditions.

We enjoyed the good track, the shady old oak trees dating from the railway years, and the picnic tables for morning tea at the Woodside end of the trail.

After descending to the Waiohine River beside the rail bridge, we headed downstream, exchanging the westerly Tararua views we had had on the rail trail, for a down-river view, poplars and willows slightly tinged with yellow, and the easterly hills in the distance.

We tried to stick to the bulldozer tracks, which made for easier walking, criss-crossing the river 10 - or was it 12? - times. The water was beautifully cool, silky-smooth in the wider areas.

Lunch was eaten just past Kuratawhiti Street, on a small patch of green grass under some willows - rather more attractive than the general long brown dry grass and blackberries.

River crossings from then on were much easier, as the stones were smaller, and not slippery. As we neared the road bridge the noise of traffic on SH2 disturbed the peace, and the rubbish strewn

around the carpark at the end of the road spoiled what could otherwise have been a beautiful river scene. Does anyone ever clear up that area?

Those on the tramp were Kaye Bowie, Pete and Ruth Graham, Mary Lambert, Faye Mangin, Helen Morison, Stan Smith, Margaret Tonkes, and Ed and Juliet Cooke (leaders and scribe).



PUTANGIRUA PINNACLES 16 MARCH

We met in Greytown at 8am and went down to Bowies to meet Kay & Helen and to transfer one of my passengers. We drove down through Martinborough and out to the Pinnacles, put our gear on and started walking at 9.10am, heading up the river bed to the start of the Loop Track. We made our way up to the lookout where we stopped and had smoko, and went back to the Loop Track and followed that up to the bulldozed track.

We had to make a decision as to what we were going to do from there; go down across the farmland and back to the cars, or go up the track towards the Washpool Hut. It was decided to go a little way up towards Washpool and find a spot in the shade to have lunch. We didn't go too far before it was decided that it was too hot and there weren't many views, so we turned back to have lunch down on the stream bed at the bottom of the Pinnacles. We managed to find a shady spot with soft rocks for lunch, and afterwards some of us went further up and had a look around amongst the pinnacles before heading back to the cars, arriving there about 1 30pm.

Those on the trip were Ian and Dianne Bardsley, Carol Major, Helen Morison, Margaret Mackley, Kay Bowie and Stan Smith as stand in leader for Bruce and Mary.



OCEAN BEACH BIKE RIDE 23 MARCH

A very good muster of club members and visitors (fifteen in total) turned up at Ocean Beach, Western Lake, for an intended cycle to Orongorongo Station. Some chose to walk along the coastal route, or four wheel drive track, which takes you around to Wainuiomata - not that we got that far! The day was very pleasant, sunny and fine with no wind apart from a light sea air which made for a great day, apart from areas of soft sand and the odd steep bit which made pushing the bikes a must. Large shingle slides have made areas of the track difficult to bike. Some decided it would be easier to walk, leaving their bikes at the side of the track, but not too far behind the biking group. Lunch stop was at the far end of the bay, a total of two hours and then the return trip. The trip went very well. Thanks to Mike for the use of his trailer to transport the bikes.

Those who cycled or walked were: Rosie and Ian, and Marg and Norm from W.A., Faye Mangin, Barry Kempton, Theresa Fawdray, Stan Smith, Mary and Bruce Lambert, Mike Gall, Margaret Mackley, Margaret Tonkes, Vicki Brooks, and her friend Clare.

