

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for June 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 11 June

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Stan Smith & Vicki Brooks

Speaker: Ed & Juliet Cooke - Hadrian's Wall and China.

Trip List

June 2013

Date	Destination	Trip organiser/leader	Phone	Fitness	Cost
1 June	Blue Range Hut / Kiriwhakapapa. Some steep climb but not for long.	Stan Smith	379 7592	F	
8 June	Powell Hut	Bruce & Mary Lambert	379 6106	F	
15 June	working party Reeves track	John Rhodes	304 9095		
22/23 June	Sayers Hut Totara Flats overnight	Vicki Brooks	379 8576	F	
29 June	Ara Hakeke walkway Pukerua Bay to Paremata. Downhill on formed road	Ed & Juliet Cooke		M	

After 29 June until late September trips will be run fortnightly. If the weather is bad on the scheduled day the trip will run a week later.

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

MARTINBOROUGH 4 MAY

On a fine, warm and windless day we drove up the Ponatahi valley and descended on Benhar, the property of Owen & Gaylene Neal. There we decided to head straight up past his airstrip and after a steep pinch arrived on the ridge top, not far south of the TV3 aerial. From there we walked south, enjoying views mostly of the Ponatahi valley with Greytown and Martinborough plus Tararuas in the background. We also had glimpses of the Longbush valley and found it difficult to reconcile this with the landmarks at ground level.

After lunch and a ridge descent of about 1.5 kms, some members were looking for an easier route home without more climbing. Alas, no other option but to descend and cross the farm creek and climb to the civilised 'M1' - the track most used on the Cresswell property. We arrived home about 3pm in time for a well earned cuppa. We were Bruce & Mary Lambert, Theresa Fawdray, Rosie & Ian Montgomerie, Stan Smith, Juliet and Ed Cooke, Bill Dolan, a visitor from Gladstone Gillian Atkinson and David Lawrence (scribe).

NORTHERN WALKWAY NGAIO GORGE TO IAN GALLOWAY PARK WGTN 25 MAY

Originally we were to do part of the Skyline Walkway, but when I heard the wind in the morning I suggested to Barry that we rethink. Being the tough trumper that he is he was reluctant to abandon the hills and told me this is a tramping club, but I told him firmly that it's meant to be *fun*, and being blown off the tops didn't strike me as fun. So after a quick check on a couple of websites we had a plan B formed. We met the others at Johnsonville railway station as arranged, and headed off to the Ngaio Gorge. David Bowie wasn't walking, so he was instructed where to meet us at the other end and went off to entertain himself for a few hours.

We walked up the valley of the Kaiwharawhara Stream through beautiful bush, with only the sound of an occasional train to remind us that we weren't miles from anywhere. It's obviously a popular place for local dog walkers; we saw all shapes and sizes, mostly running twice as far as their owners walked. We came out on Waikowhai Street by the railway overbridge, and walked on the footpath past the demolished and about to be rebuilt Crofton Downs Mall and Bowen Hospital to Wilton's Bush, where we were back on a bush track again.

The Troup Lawn was a great place to have lunch, with a sturdy shelter – not that we needed it, it was a lovely sunny day – rubbish bins, and an upmarket loo with hot water, soap and air driers. Some families were having a glorious time in the creek, with small children who miraculously managed not to get completely soaked. We saw a group of Nordic walkers who looked alarmingly professional, but they assured us they weren't going as far as us and thought we looked pretty good.

The track from there to Ian Galloway Park was flat and open apart from a few metres' scramble up a bank. We wandered up the tarsealed road and found David cruising down looking for us. He had been having a lovely time browsing around the Karori Cemetery, so after he drove Bruce and me back to Ngaio to collect the other vehicles we all took a stroll around the cemetery. It is absolutely huge, and finding a grave without some sort of map or good recollection would be impossible. The Wellington City Council website has a link for cemetery searches and it's easy to find where the person is, but to locate that spot in the cemetery you have to contact the council.

Those on the trip were Kay Bowie, with David as driver, Bruce and Mary Lambert, Theresa Fawdray, Carol Major, Stan Smith, Barry Kempton and myself Lynne King.



Kaiwharawhara Stream



Troup Lawn