

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for July 2013

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

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Club night:

Tuesday 9 July 7.30 pm

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Margaret Tonkes and Wayne Hodgson

Speaker: John Rhodes: cycle trip across America

MID WINTER CHRISTMAS PARTY! Saturday 6 July 6 pm Barry Kempton's 28 Cross's Line.
Bring food to share, drinks, your own crockery and cutlery.

Trip List

Jul - Sep 2012

Date	Destination	Trip organiser/leader	Phone	Fitness	Cost
29 June	Paekakariki to Pukerua Bay	Juliet & Ed Cooke	394 9497	M	\$8
13 Jul	Reeves track work party	John Rhodes	304 9095	M	
27 Jul	Wairarapa eastern hills	Rosie & Ian Montgomerie	304 9252	M	\$4
10 Aug					
24 Aug	Cape Palliser lighthouse to stone wall	Derek Wilson	3069722	M	\$5
7 Sep					
21 Sep					

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

BLUE RANGE HUT 1 JUNE

We met in Carterton at 8 30am and drove up to the Kiriwhakapapa Road end, heading away from there just after 9 am. After a stop for smoko we carried on up and made it to the rock at the top at about 11.40. We usually have lunch there in the sun, but we found that there was a very cold wind blowing and no views, with the mountains shrouded in cloud. We didn't hang around there for long and headed for the hut to have lunch. After lunch we made our way back down and once we got below the Cow Creek turnoff we found that the wind wasn't as cold. We took a short detour to bypass the very slippery clay section at the bottom end of the track and got back to the cars at 2.20.

On the trip were Ed & Juliet Cooke, Carol Major, Bruce & Mary Lambert and Stan Smith leader and scribe.



POWELL HUT 8 JUNE

Eleven trampers met in Carterton at 8.30 and drove to Mt Holdsworth to commence to climb to Powell Hut. The weather was fine with no wind. There were heaps of people at the carpark and a school party that was camping out for the night. We set out at 9.10am and walked up slowly, stopping at Rocky Lookout where Barry decided he was having his cuppa in the sun. The rest of us carried on and had our smoko at the helicopter pad in the sun as well. There is no more muddy track to contend with as DOC have built raised walkways over the worst of the track - really good. After smoko we carried on to the Mountain House shelter via the new track that DOC have built to the side of the old one which eroded badly.

Barry left us at this stage and went on down the Atiwhakatu Track back to his vehicle. The rest of us carried on up lots of new steps. The ones over the big rocky area just before Powell were especially good with bannister rails. We still had to be careful of the ice that had formed overnight, and there were pockets of snow here and there. We arrived at the hut in 3 hr 15 min - good timing for this old lot.

We left again at 1pm. Niki's partner Tommo was having trouble with his knees so it was a slow trip down for him. He borrowed a knee band from Vicki and myself and that helped. Vicki spied a morepork in a tree but it flew away before she got a photo. We arrived back at the carpark after 3. It was a good day with perfect weather.

Those who came were Carol Major, Stan Smith, Rosie and Ian Montgomerie, Janet Corlett, Graham Britten, Barry Kempton, Niki and Tommo, Vicki Brooks, Bruce and Mary Lambert leaders for the day.

REEVES TRACK WORKING BEE 15 JUNE

This trip showed the growing popularity of bicycle transport. Only four participants chose to travel by car, while everyone else biked. The cyclists agreed that it wasn't worth starting a car engine because the Reeves track is so close to Greytown. We spent a relaxing morning trimming gorse, which is steadily being out-competed by native vegetation but persists somewhat with more light. Graeme averted the crisis of a tea-less smoko (John forgot his billy) by lending an enamel mug big enough to sit on the stove. Phew!

Juliet & Ed Cooke, Graeme Britton, Ann & John Rhodes