

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for Mar 2014

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

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Club night:

Tuesday 11 March 7.30 pm

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Ken O'Dowd and Theresa Fawdray

Speaker: Ed and Juliet Cooke – out and about

Trip List

March 2014

Date	Destination	Trip organiser/leader	Phone	Fitness	Cost
8 Mar	Kelly's Track, crossing over to the Incline and out to Cross Creek	David and Kay Bowie	304 9530	M	
15 Mar	Gentle Annie Stream, circuit back to Holdsworth carpark	Ed & Juliet Cooke	304 9497		
22 Mar	Old Coach Road Ohariu to Mt Kaukau	Carol Major	304 8210	M	

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 if you are unable to lead your trip it is your responsibility to find a replacement leader / trip.

Here's a trip you might like to do. Forest and Bird Wellington region Tramping Group.

Wednesday 12th March: Gentle Annie Saddle and Carrington Ridge

Meet at Upper Hutt at 8.30am or Holdsworth 10.00am. 5hours plus, medium.

This trip will be new to most people. It is extra special at this time of year as there are large swathes of earena autumnalis. Also lovely bush and spectacular views (weather permitting!) The walk begins with a very steep climb but levels out afterwards though there is another more gentle climb onto Carrinton Ridge. The path is well-defined but markers are few.

We are expecting some members of the South Wairarapa Club to join us.

Heather Jones

Trip Reports

TURANGANUI RIVER WALK 15 FEB

Eight of us met at Martinborough Square at 9am, and arrived at the Whakatomotomo Road just south of Pirinoa to find a closed and locked gate. I had arranged with the farmer to leave the gate unlocked and promised to lock it on the way home. Not far from the gate we came across a deep water course which my little car could not go through but Bruce Lambert's vehicle could. My passengers had to walk a little way to where Bruce parked. The next part of the walk was on a formed road until we came to another locked gate that took us on to the river bed. We crossed the river and decided to stop for morning tea. The river seemed to have more water than last time I did the walk six or seven years ago. It was up to our knees in places.

After crossing the river many more times we were all feeling like lunch and found a shady area to settle down and eat. Coming back down the river seemed to be shorter, as it always does, but we still had to cross the water something like 10-12 times I think – nobody counted this time. Last time I went I took my two grandchildren and they counted 25 crossings but I think we started further down the river that time. We had a new member join us, Marie Dickens who lives in Martinborough, and I found that she was a distant cousin of mine. Also it was good to see John & Ann Rhodes back walking with us. The others who accompanied me were Mary and Bruce Lambert, Bill Dolan and Harvey Morison (my grandson). Leader & scribe Helen Morison.

BROOKLYN WIND TURBINE TO RED ROCKS 23 FEB

Nine people tramped from the turbine, past the Ostrich (all spread and ducking and waving madly), and the " Castle" to morning tea sheltering from the wind at the Radome. Once sated it was onwards to the trig on Te Kopahau, down to near the WWII observation post and into a valley on the Waipapa Stream and up, up to an unnamed hill (some were prepared to ascribe a name to it). The party split then and took two different routes down to the beach south of Red Rocks. One party (John, Abby and Dan Beatson, with Wendell Cooke) went by a mountain bike track via the Waipapa stream whilst the other (Juliet, Merran and Ed Cooke, Ian and Rosie Montgomerie) risked life and limb along the top of the ridge above the beach and a crumbling rock track at about 45 degrees to join the others at the beach. Admiration was expressed of the small baches sheltering in the rocks nearby. An enjoyable day for all.



Ed and Juliet have been on some interesting trips in other parts of the country.

The Cooke Report

1. Waikato River Trail: In November club members Cookes, Grahams and Bardsleys spent five days walking the Waikato River Trail. We had the WRT Association organise transport of us and our luggage as well as booking accommodation. We started the walk at Atiamuri dam and finished at Putaruru. The first three nights were spent at the Lake Maraetai Lodge at Mangakino which was like a backpackers only better equipped, so we self catered with assistance from the local 4 Square. The fourth night we succumbed to total luxury at a place named Out in the Styx near Mt Maungatautari (an inland sanctuary with 45km of predator proof fencing).

The track itself is not too demanding being well formed and mostly level (save for a couple of rises around 200m). It is a combined walking and cycle track and the route is interesting with the river changing from a deep swift flowing current to lakes wide and smooth above the dams (five in all). We were exceedingly glad that Dianne didn't break a leg or Peter suffer a severe heart problem on the trip!! Our best wishes to both for a speedy return to tramping.

2. The Karamea Branch of SWTC: Ed and Juliet took their motor caravan to Karamea and stayed with Margaret Mackley and Barry Thomson at their new establishment. They have an oldish house in a lovely position overlooking the river and bridge just before the township. Being keen gardeners they have set to to bring the grounds into shape, clearing out the banana passionfruit and rambler rose that had gone feral and finding treasures totally hidden such as a large lemon tree covered in fruit. They are planting natives, and fruit trees such as bananas, pawpaw and pineapple.

We did several walks with them -the Oparua archway/Fennian track, a walk to the big Rimu, a day walk towards the Heaphy River, and one at the start of the Wangapeka track. We need to organise a club excursion there - perhaps with a combination of transport-motor homes plus 4x4. There is plenty to do there.

3. The Naked Flames in the Bush at Murchison: For \$80 each we were taken on a four hour trip by firstly Landrover then on foot through farmland and then into DOC estate in the forest by a local guide (Merv) who has a concession. He had re-discovered this most unusual area and has developed the trip. We had walked for about an hour in the bush and suddenly came upon a small stream in a gully where there was a small clearing and flames coming out of the ground. In no time at all Merv had boiled the billy on the ground and cooked pancakes on a griddle, so we had a delicious morning tea of pancakes with honey from the honey dew on the beech trees from a local apiary, and billy tea. We understand that these are the only natural flames in the bush in the world although there are some other natural flamed areas such as in Turkey.
See www.naturalflames.co.nz

