

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for September 2017

www.swtc.org.nz

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Club night:

Tuesday 12 September 7.30 pm

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Jennifer Pomeroy

Speaker: Alan Wasmuth - Mts Kenya and Kilimanjaro

Trip List

2017

Date	Destination	Trip coordinator	Phone	Fitness
26.8	Mt Reeves working party	Barry Kempton	304 9353	
2.9	Round the bays cycle	Ian & Rosie Montgomerie	304 9252	M
9.9	Finis track work party	John Rhodes	304 9095	F
16.9	Western Lake	Barry Kempton	304 9353	
23.9	Tinakori hills	<i>leader required</i>		
30.9	Pigeon Bush	John Rhodes	304 9095	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 if you are unable to lead your trip it is your responsibility to find a replacement leader / trip.

Supper: At the end of each club meeting, the people who did the supper should pass the supper box to the people next on the roster.

For the next two meetings the roster is:

John and Ann Rhodes October

Janet Corlett & Bill Dolan November

SUBS ARE NOW DUE

The subs are \$45 for a family or \$35 for a single person.

They can be paid into our SWTC ANZ account - the number is 01 0623 0044755 00

or to South Wairarapa Tramping Club Inc, C/o Bruce Lambert 10 Danske Close Carterton 5713

Trip Reports

SATURDAY 12 AUGUST

Another rain-affected tramp!

We decided against Cannons Point Walkway, as the Upper Hutt forecast was for a much wetter day than in the Wairarapa. Due to all the rain recently making most Tararua tracks likely to be a mud bath, we chose to try out the option of a Mt Dick Circuit walk.

Sunshine in Greytown as we made ready to leave soon gave way to drizzle as we headed up Dalefield Road towards hills partially blotted out by cloud, beneath navy blue skies. Parkas were either worn right from the start, or put on five minutes later.

We had dramatic views out over the plains, watching the showers/heavy rain, shafts of sunlight, and rainbows move across our view.

After morning tea at the shelter we started off in pelting rain on the new (to us) section of track, bulldozed out during logging operations. We climbed cautiously over the succession of steep mounds designed to keep 4wd vehicles from driving further on. At first the track was a good gradient, providing views over to the main Mt Dick track, where we could see Francie descending, as she had decided to return to the vehicles that way.

The gradient steepened to extreme, the slipperiness also increased, as did the number of what began as little runnels of muddy water running down the track, becoming thick brown water channels the further we descended. The last descent, beside young pine trees, was perilous, especially negotiating our way round the "swimming pool" near the bottom of the track, but we all managed to stay upright! Walking up to Mt Dick this way could be a preferable direction to go, rather than coming down.

It took us just under an hour in these conditions to get down to Kaipatangata Rd, and another ten minutes back to the cars. None of us had any desire to come back and ride the track on mountain bikes, particularly the last stretch, but it is obviously doable by those who know what they are doing. We had seen bikers on the track from the top of Mt Dick, who must have made their way safely down without mishap, as we didn't find their bruised and muddy bodies en route!

Those on the walk were: Neil Johnstone, Mary Lambert, Frances Pike, Jen Pomeroy, and Ed & Juliet Cooke, coordinators.



MASTERTON WALK 19 AUGUST

At 8am it was raining, by 9.30 the sun was shining, great stuff, a lovely spring day. We set off up Gordon Street to the stock route. Jackets were taken off before we started up the hill. A promise of smoko when we got to the picnic tables. A bit of a whinge as it had already gone past 10 am.

We walked on down the road to the entrance of a track through bushes behind some houses then down the hill past a lake, turned right which made some of them think we were going the wrong way as we usually go the other way. Round the corner, Lake 2 and whoa.... the picnic tables. It was a nice place to stop and a cuppa was enjoyed. Warm sun, nice views. I think some of us would have stretched out for a bit longer, but knowing we had Milford Downs to conquer we packed up. I think it was a bit of a surprise for the ones who hadn't done it before but it was fun. Must get a dog like David had, it pulled him up all of the hills (good stuff).

Down the road a bit then back in the bushes and out the back entrance of Lansdowne Village. Unfortunately we couldn't short cut through there so had to do some street walking to the other end of Titoki Street. It was nice to see all the blossom on trees out and the nice houses and gardens.

It was a short walk way, then down the hill coming out behind Hansells. We followed the lime track to Third Street then down Opaki Road to the track by the river and over the swing bridge. That was a first time for some. Down past the deer pen and over the road to Henley Lake (cars getting closer). Some enjoyed taking a bit longer around the lake.

Some of us departed for home and a few of us enjoyed finishing off our smoko and having a chat at the tables and chairs. Thanks for your company. Walkers were Jen Pomeroy, Carol and David Major and their dog Raka, Anne and Steve Maddock, Barry Kempton, David and Kay Bowie, Neil Johnstone, Bruce and Mary Lambert and Frances Pike leader and scribe for the day.