

# South Wairarapa Tramping Club

## Newsletter for Oct 2014

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

newsletter editor: Lynne King [lynne.king@xtra.co.nz](mailto:lynne.king@xtra.co.nz) 04 478 7795

### Club night:

Tuesday 14 October 7.30 pm

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits)

Speaker: Theresa Fawdray – Images of Japan

### Trip List

Oct – Nov 2014

Date	Destination	Trip coordinator	Phone	Fitness	Cost
4 Oct	Castlepoint & Mataikona	Vicki Brooks	379 8576		
11 Oct	Corner Creek towards Wainuiomata coastal	Bruce & Mary Lambert	379 6106		
18 Oct	Percy's reserve	Barry Kempton	304 9353		
25 Oct	Hutt River Trail *	Ed & Juliet Cooke	304 0407		
1 Nov	Mt Kaiparoro	Kay Bowie	304 9530		

\* If no one wants to coordinate the Mt Bruce crossing that was suggested for Labour Weekend this trip will run instead.

Please send expressions of interest for the Herbertville weekend 5-7 Dec to Ed and Juliet, 304 0407 or [efjac@xtra.co.nz](mailto:efjac@xtra.co.nz), and also those interested in the Anniversary Weekend, 16-19 Jan should contact Sarah Ross, 304 9655 or [sarah.g.a.ross@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.g.a.ross@gmail.com).

**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.

## Subs are now due

They are \$30 for single person and \$40 for a family. On payment you will receive your member's card from FMC with their discount book.

You can pay either by cheque or cash to: South Wairarapa Tramping Club c/o Bruce Lambert  
10 Danske Close Carterton 5713  
or pay into our ANZ bank account 01 0623 0044755 00

## *Trip Reports*

MT FRITH 30 AUG

Frith, who wert thou?

The earliest map showing Mt Frith is government surveyor Llewellyn Smith's Topographic Plan SO 11783 of Waiohine & Eritonga Districts, drawn in 1881. Where did Smith get the name? We can do little more than guess.

However, one of Smith's colleagues was named Frith.

'The Coroner received word this morning that the camp of Mr Frith, Government Surveyor, up the Waitotara River, was buried by a landslip on Tuesday morning and a man named William Denniston killed. A constable has been despatched to the scene of the accident' [LANDSLIP ON A SURVEYOR'S CAMP, *Evening Post*, Vol. LIV, Issue 92, 15 October 1897, p. 5].

Frith survived the accident. A surveyor of the same name, but this time with initials (J.F. Frith), is listed as having worked in the Haurangi, Waipawa and Port Nicholson Districts in 1888 [*Appendix to the Journals of the House of Representatives*, 1888 Session I, C-01a]. And in 1891, he (or another Frith) appears again as follows: 'Palmerston-Pahiatua Road.—Mr. Frith prepared plans and specifications for the construction of a horse-road, and the formation is now being made by co-operative contracts. [DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY (ANNUAL REPORT ON 1891; *AJHR* 1892 Session I, C-01)]

Sadly, we have no knowledge of any of these Friths working in the southern Tararuas; and the mystery of the naming of Mt Frith remains nearly as impenetrable as that of the naming of Mt Reeves.

All this aside, the words 'working' and 'Frith' have a life of their own. They strike dread into the hearts of SWTC members; who upon hearing or reading them are powerfully stimulated to remember non-tramping activities that demand their time.

This does not apply to Juliet Cooke. Neither is it true of Masterton TC member Jesse Riddell, who is without fear where 'working' and 'Frith' are concerned.

Thus, four trampers (Juliet of SWTC, Jesse of MTC, John of SWTC and John of MTC) set out for Mt Frith from the double bridges on Highway 2. This was ostensibly a day tramp, on which the leader or co-ordinator suggested the carrying of loppers, five steel stakes, rammer, caulking gun and a cartridge of goo. Which Juliet, Jesse and the two Johns obligingly did.

Jesse pointed out goats, almost invisible to untrained non-hunters' eyes, on a distant clearing above the road. The four then ascended Chimney Spur—with a silent prayer for Bill Dolan—and walked in light drizzle to Mt Frith, looking for five blue plastic marker poles which the pair of Johns clearly remembered stashing in April 2013.

Not finding the poles, they lunched, dumped the stakes at a bend in the track and headed for home. Five hundred metres further on, two blue stakes were lying in the scrub and someone with the initial J was sent back for steel to reinforce them. Juliet and the two Johns snipped vegetation until he returned. The two marker poles were placed, and Juliet insisted on more vegetation-snipping of the gorse kind before the party descended 500 metres to Jesse's car.

Trampers: Jesse Riddell, Juliet Cooke, John Rhodes and John Rhodes.

## RIMUTAKA TRIG AND PYLON TRACK 6 SEP

We left Greytown at 8.30 with the weather promising to improve. We reached the top of the Rimutakas and decided to do the pylon track first as there wouldn't have been much of a view at the trig with all the low cloud. There were no views along the ridge either but it was good to be out.

As we advanced so did the weather, with quite persistent rain. We decided to return before reaching the pylon as the track was getting quite slippery and it's quite steep in places. We were back at the cars by midday, and being home for lunch sounded like a good idea. As we went further down the valley the road was dry and the sun was out. Oh well – you can't win them all and it did knock the dust off our coats.

Rosie and Ian Montgomerie, Bruce and Mary Lambert, Theresa Fawdray and Frances Pike leader.

## WHITE ROCK / TORA 13 SEP

Despite a threatening weather report, a group of seven walked the coast from White Rock to a point just short of Tora. This is a particularly dramatic stretch of coast and the group enjoyed seeing the seals, the wrecked fishing boat and the small fishing settlement just south of Tora. The weather held and the group found a sheltered lunch spot with a good view. The walkers were Bruce and Mary Lambert, Ian and Rosie Montgomerie, Carol Major, Fay Mangin and Bill Dolan (leader).

## 21 SEP

Due to the weather the Hutt River trail walk was postponed from the Saturday to the Sunday, and finally cancelled. But Jennifer Pomeroy, Sarah Ross, and Ed and Juliet Cooke walked the Greytown River Trail instead, mostly in the rain.