

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for May 2019

www.swtc.org.nz

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Club night:

Tuesday 14 May 7.30 pm

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Warren Harland and Fay Mangin

Speaker: Joe Nawalaniec on Ladakh

Trip List

2019

Date	Destination	Trip coordinator	Phone	Fitness
4.5	Mt Reeves	leader required		F
11.5	Waiohine River trail	Lou Gallagher & Liz Halliday	027 572 1010 Lou 021 914 986 Liz	M
18.5	Rimutaka Incline	Jennifer Pomeroy	304 8011	M
25.5	Mt Finnis from Boar Bush Gully	Ian Montgomerie	304 9252	F
1.6	Belmont Regional Park	Kaye and David Bowie	304 9530	M
8.6	Blue Range Hut	Ian Montgomerie	304 9252	F
15.6	Pauatahanui Inlet	Rosie and Ian	304 9252	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.

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:

June: Barry Kempton

July: Ian and Dianne Bardsley

Trip Reports

KAITOKE RIDGE TRACK 30 MARCH

It was a beautiful, warm, sunny autumn morning when six of us met up in Featherston to walk the Kaitoke Ridge Track. We organised two vehicles for the trip over the hill and left one car in the park at the Kaitoke (Pakuratahi Forks) end of the track before driving south to Te Marua to start the walk. It's a good uphill climb of about 180 metres to start with so by the time the track flattened out on the ridgeline there were distinct mutterings about morning tea being required asap. After a break we continued walking through the beautiful bush along the ridge. The track was relatively easy, with some rooted sections nearer the north end and a few surprisingly muddy patches. Halfway along the track we stopped at the lookout seat which is about 100 metres off the path. The view down the Hutt Valley over the water storage lakes was fantastic and well worth the stop as there are trees (mainly kamahi at first and then beech) along both sides of most of the ridgeline track. After about two hours or so we reached Tussock Knob, close to the highest point on the walk (about 480 metres) with lovely views north to the Tararuas, and had lunch. Then it was all downhill back to the carpark through magnificent beech forest with the last steep descent dropping quickly from 400 to 200 metres to the valley floor. The trip of 8 or 9 kilometres (depending whose app you were referring to) took us four hours including stops. The six trampers were Ruth and Pete Graham (leaders), Barry Kempton, Jane Lenting, Mary Lambert and Rosie Montgomerie.

MIKIMIKI TO KIRIWHAKAPAPA 13 APRIL

We met at SWWC at 8.30am and also Charles Street in Carterton and were at the end of Mikimiki Road by 9.10. As there are two carparks we took the left road and saved ourselves the 1-2 km walk to the start of the track. The skies had cleared albeit a few showers but nothing that meant we were wet, except for Liz slipping to cross the Mikimiki Stream on those really slippery rocks. We set a good pace and really enjoyed the lovely trees and bush. The light rays coming through the trees and the sound of the stream were lovely. The climb to the top of the ridge is a bit steep at times and there were lots of trees roots, leaf litter and stones as it had rained. It was slippery and muddy in places. We were passed by four bikers and their two big dogs (more on that later!) They were finding the ride a bit rough and we were glad to be walking.

The walk on the Kiriwhakapapa side is easy. We noted the sign to Blue Range Hut, a tramp Ian will lead in June. We had lunch in the sunshine at the shelter and thanks to Liz a great group photo. A hunter was returning from Blue Range.

The return was simple but... Monty the Jack Russel got very keen on following the scent of the two big dogs seen earlier and we were then unsure whether he actually was in front or had gone off track. We were left wondering until when Barry and Liz reached the carpark he was waiting for Sarah. He was one tired wee dog but we were very thankful we didn't need to set out looking for him.

A lovely day out with great company and we hope to see everyone again soon. Monty is welcome Sarah! Trampers were Liz, Sarah and Monty, Barry, Mary, Lesley and Rosie.

