

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for December 2019

www.swtc.org.nz

newsletter editor: Lynne King lynne.king@xtra.co.nz 04 478 7795

Club night:

Tuesday 10 December 7.30 pm

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Bruce and Mary Lambert

Speaker: Joe Nawalaniec

Club Christmas party

Saturday 7 December 6 pm. Shared meal. Barry Kempton's woolshed, third gateway past 48 Kempton's Line. It is a remarkably civilised venue, including toilets and a kitchen, but don't wear your best shoes and have an extra layer of clothing in case it gets cool.

Trip List

2019

Date	Destination	Trip coordinator	Phone	Fitness
7.12	Atiwhakatu triangle 1.	Juliet & Ed Cooke	304 9497	F
14.12	Mangatarere Valley 2.	Juliet & Ed Cooke	304 9497	F

1. From Holdsworth carpark, up beside the river, climb up to top track, and down usual track. Approx 3- 4 hours. (Short walk due to Xmas party in evening.)

2. Start from F/N 820 Mangatarere Rd, meeting there at 9.30, but gathering first, for those living to the south, at 9am at the SWWMC car park. The circular route will go from private land into DOC land, the Holdsworth Lookout, Point 670, and may include putting out chew cards to guide later trap placement. Those interested should contact Ed and Juliet.

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.

Trip Reports

THREE CANOES 9 NOVEMBER

We made a last minute change due to bad weather expected on Sunday, the advertised trip date, so 9 people embarked on the trip, rather than the 17 keen to do it the following day.

It took an hour from leaving Greytown to meet in Martinborough, put cars at the White Rock Road finish point, and transfer everyone to the starting point in Cannock Road.

The route is unmarked throughout, and "leading" the tramp relied on the cumulative memory of four of us, with suggestions from the rest. NB for next time - look for a gate in the first deer fence, possibly down to the right! This time the group split. Six climbed the deer fence, and three others continued along on the left of the fence, but we all eventually reunited in time for morning tea.

The track continued over thick pasture, up, down, up etc, and we finally reached Windy Point, 475m. In accordance with the name, the gentle breeze which had been saving us from getting too hot, increased to such an extent that we were all holding on to hats, and struggling to stay upright! We lunched in a possible "meteorite hole"(??), partly out of the wind, and then battled onwards and downwards until we got in to rather more sheltered areas.

We reached the woolshed and our cars after a satisfying but unpleasant-in-places tramp. We either walked 11.7km, or 14km (and 136 floors), depending on whose phone app is to be believed!

Many thanks to the farmers whose farms we traversed.

Those on the trip were Stuart Hammond and Allan Kelly (F&BTC), Doug Harris, Barry Kempton, Sara Murphy, John Rhodes, Lydia Wevers, and Ed and Juliet Cooke (coordinators).





This is a photo from the Battle Hill trip on 10 October. I have no trip report and I can't turn the wretched thing around 😞

PINNACLE TRIG 24 NOVEMBER

Two SWTC'ers met six members of the Wanganui Tramping Club (that is how they spell it on the side of their van) in the Mt Holdsworth car park. I have never seen so many cars there, they were parked right down the centre.

The weather was hot and expected to get hotter later on.

One of the Wanganui members didn't come as they had climbed to the centre of NZ on the Mt Reeves track on Saturday and wanted an easy day.

Our destination was Pinnacle, a high point of some 877 metres, situated off Pinnacle Ridge above the true left bank of the Atiwhakatu stream.

Our planned trip had been to do the whole Pinnacle ridge and Atiwhakatu circuit but this seemed like a very long day for us as our Wanganui friends still had to drive home afterwards.

We entered the bush immediately to the right of the bridge over the Atiwhakatu stream. We followed a well worn trail to opposite Donnelly's Flats, then it was straight up. This area is in the Project Kaka trapping programme so we observed dozens of traps en route, and were particularly interested in the newer gas operated ones that do multiple kills. Some we observed had several rats dead at their base. Really great to see this project is having a positive effect. We were also entertained by several kaka calling but didn't see them.

After two and a half hours we were on Pinnacle, not great views as we had expected because the smoke from the Australian fires made the sky very hazy. We had an early lunch then went back down carefully, it was steep.

Thank you Wanganui trampers, we enjoyed sharing a day with you.

SWTC trampers Liz Halliday and Barry Kempton. David Scoullar lead the visitors' team.

The Wanganui Tramping Club had a great walk to Pinnacle trig with SWTC on 24 November and enjoyed the company of Barry and Liz. We appreciate our relationship and hope we can host you in the not too distant future. -- David Scoullar WTC