

# South Wairarapa Tramping Club

## Newsletter for July 2020

[www.swtc.org.nz](http://www.swtc.org.nz)

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*Club night:*

Tuesday 14 July 7.30 pm

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

*Speaker:* Ann Hume on her recent trip to Siberia

*Supper:* (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Anne & Steve Maddock

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:

Warren Harland & Fay Mangin

Vicki Brooks & Jennifer Pomeroy

### ***Trip List***

2020

<b>Date</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Trip coordinator</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Fitness</b>
27.6	Atiwhakatu Triangle	Ed & Juliet Cooke	304 9497	M
4.7	Lansdowne circuit	Barry Kempton	304 9353	E
11.7	Te Marua start & finish, along Hutt River. Bike or walk	Jennifer Pomeroy	304 8011	M
18.7	Pinnacles circuit	Mary Lambert	379 6106	M
25.7				
1.8				
8.8	Winzenberg Hill	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.

It's that time of the year again, time for you to pay your South Wairarapa Tramping Club membership subs.

Family membership is \$55 and Single membership is \$45.

You can pay via internet banking to our Bank Account which is -  
ANZ 010623 0044755 00

Or you can pay by cheque made out to SWTC  
send to B Lambert  
10 Danske Close  
Carterton 5713

Or cash  
send to B Lambert  
10 Danske Close  
Carterton 5713

### ***Trip Reports***

#### RIMUTAKA RAIL TRAIL - 6 JUNE

We were amazed at the response for this tramp - 18 walkers E to W, plus 2 W to E, 4 cyclists, and 3 dogs!

The weather looked good as we left Greytown, but when we reached Cross Creek we were hit by a chilly wind in our faces as we headed up the valley.

Several people hadn't walked the Rail Trail before, so were interested to learn about the area's history, from other walkers and the photo and information boards.

We stopped for morning tea at the usual grassy area, huddled against the bushes to avoid the wind. Then onwards to the very impressive new bridge at Siberia, wide enough for 2 cyclists to pass, high netting sides, and plenty of reassuring stays holding it firm against the wind. Unfortunately one of the dogs showed distinct reluctance to trust the bridge, and had to be retrieved from the gully and led over! The Biking Lamberts met us at the bridge.

We emerged from the third tunnel into bright sunshine, but still a strong wind, so lunch was eaten in the station shelter by those in the lead, and sheltered in the lee of the station, or behind trees, for the rest. The Walking Lamberts joined us for lunch, and walked on down to Cross Creek to be picked up by their bikers/driver. John Rhodes, on his bike, made a fleeting appearance at the station, and was last seen heading west.

With the wind at our backs we kept up a good pace on the way down. Total time about five hours.

Those on the trip were Lesley Callaghan, Pete & Ruth Graham, Stuart Hammond, Kay & Richard Harvie + dogs, Charlene James, Barry Kempton, Lynne King, Mary & Bruce Lambert with grandchildren Asher & Blake, Jane Lenting, Allan Munro, Sara Murphy + dog, Jen Pomeroy, John Rhodes, Louise Smith, Fiona Vallance, Ingrid Ward, Kevin Wilkinson, and co-ordinators Ed & Juliet Cooke.



### MIKIMIKI TO KIRIWHAKAPAPA AND RETURN - 13 JUNE

The weather forecast was for a fine day, but we left Greytown in a slight mist, the Tararuas shrouded in grey cloud. As we drove north the hills cleared, and the day looked much more promising as we began our walk from the muddy car park at Mikimiki, along the grass and mud track. It was a relief to get into the bush, where we could mostly avoid the muddy sections. Some of us managed to keep dry feet at the stream crossing!

Morning tea at the saddle, and then down to Kiriwhakapapa where we had the shelter shed to ourselves for lunch. Jen's thermometer said 10 degrees, but it was colder than that in the bush, so thermoses were a welcome feature at morning tea and lunch.

The return trip was done at a quick pace in an effort to keep warm. Disappointingly, the stream level hadn't fallen! At the car park Jen provided barley sugars, and we set off for the drive home, after a 5 1/2 hour tramp.

It was interesting having Ann on the trip. Although she began life in the South Wairarapa, she has lived in the States for many years, and was most enthusiastic about the bush we were walking through. We

hope she remains in the safety of NZ and comes on many more tramps, before she decides it is safe to return to her present homeland.

Trampers were: Lesley Callaghan, Ann Hume, Mary Lambert, Jen Pomeroy, Ingrid Ward, Kevin Wilkinson, and Ed and Juliet Cooke, co-ordinators.



#### LOCAL QE2 BUSH COVENANTS 20 JUNE

Meeting at the SWWMC at 9 am, we decided that the majority would travel by car, rather than bike to visit three covenanted bush areas. John, Ian and Peter braved the misty drizzle to meet at Elm Grove. Barry gave us an interesting history about this outstanding QE2 bush. It covers 1.5 hectares of 200 year + Kahikitea and is a significant area of wetland. The Kemptons fenced it in 1973 and ten years later got DOC and Regional Council involved. It was then registered with QE2. These groups help with spraying of blackberry and some planting. The Wairarapa Biodiversity Group also helps with planting. The wetland dries in the summer and rare mudfish survive in wet gravel beneath the clay surface. The family has continued to develop and maintain this unique and substantial area of forest.

After a cuppa, sheltering from more rain, we drove to Alan and Sheila Wilde's property on Fabians Line. Unfortunately the spectacular views from the house, over paddocks to the Ruamahanga River, were covered in mist. Alan lead us down the hill to view his plantings. Puketea and Kahikitea have done exceptionally well. Alan explained that the land is prone to flooding. We all agreed he has achieved a lot with his legacy over the last 15 years.

We had lunch at the Montgomeries' at Ward's Line, and leaving the warm fire, we set off in light drizzle, past native fence plantings to the first area of 200 year old Kahikitea. This bush was fenced six years ago and under-planted with many natives. It is pleasing to see hundreds of seedlings coming up. The peat wetland has been drained over the years and has left the gnarly tree roots exposed.

We walked across to the QE2 covenant fenced about twenty years ago after being covenanted as QE2 ten years ago. Ian traps and poisons rats, rabbits, stoats and ferrets. This is a constant battle.

By the time we returned to the house, we were fairly wet.

Thank you to the farm owners, allowing us to visit these unique bush covenants. It's incredible what can be achieved.

Thanks to fellow trampers who endured a wet day's outing. Peter and Ruth Graham, John Rhodes and Peter Thompson (on bikes), Faye Mangin, Barry Kempton, Lynne King and leaders Rosie and Ian Montgomerie.

