

# South Wairarapa Tramping Club

## Newsletter for August 2020

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

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### *Club night:*

Tuesday 11 August 7.30 pm

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

*Speaker:* John Rhodes - slideshow

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

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:

Sep: Ed and Juliet Cooke

Oct: Bruce Eglinton

### ***Trip List***

2020

<b>Date</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Trip coordinator</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Fitness</b>
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.

## ***Trip Reports***

ATIWHAKATU 27 JUNE

Despite the wet weather, five of us set out from Holdsworth car park, intending to possibly do the scheduled Atiwhakatu circuit, but knowing there were shorter options if the rain kept on. We inspected the picnic table, and the shelter at Donnelly's Flats: unsurprisingly, no one was using them that day.

At the turn-off to Mountain House shelter we all decided it was so wet and muddy that we would just go as far as the suspension bridge, as Ann and Kevin hadn't been that far before, and would then retreat. We had morning tea standing in the rain beside the lovely DOC sign indicating what may happen if more than one person crosses the bridge at the same time - the bridge breaks and the people hurtle downwards! Would this have deterred Jonah Lomu from crossing? Perhaps a weight limit on the bridge would be desirable! Unfortunately the plastic film on which the diagram is printed has started to peel off. On our way back we passed several groups of trampers, including small children, heading out with packs, apparently undeterred by the conditions and intending to spend the night in a hut regardless.

We detoured along the loop track, and found some exceptional patches of Tararua Mud to show Ann and Kevin - Ann was pleased she wore her gumboots!

Those on the trip were Lesley Callaghan, Ann Hume, Kevin Wilkinson, and Ed and Juliet Cooke (co-ordinators).



## LANSDOWNE CIRCUIT 4 JULY

On a frosty morning sixteen keen trampers / biker set off from the end of Railway Crescent in Masterton.

We headed east along the Waipoua river bank, went under the main road bridge and did a partial circuit of Henley Lake.

We had a brief smoko stop on the lake edge and headed across the main road to Castlepoint and up Gordon Street. After several direction changes we were at the top of Masterton, near the Lansdowne golf course. The weather was bright and sunny but not hot.

While fifteen trampers were making their way down toward the main road north the biker in our group was off exploring the trails in the area but caught us up at our lunch spot just before we got back onto the pavement. A kilometre or so down Opaki Road and some adjacent streets and we were at the bridge, onto the river trail and back to our cars. A great walk for a winter's day.

Ed and Juliet Cooke, Bruce and Mary Lambert and two grandkids, Asher and Blake, Fiona Tuckett, Lesley Callaghan, Fay Mangin, Graeme Britton, Ian and Rosie Montgomerie, Lynne King (cyclist), Barry Kempton (leader).

## TE MARUA RETURN CYCLE / WALK 11 JULY

We were blessed with a beautiful day, sunny and cool with a breeze coming up after lunch.

Six bikers from South Wairarapa club and five walkers from Masterton set off from Te Marua at 9.30am.

The first part of the track, through the bush, was narrow and quite muddy proving a challenge to at least one of us older bikers! The remainder was generally good, although narrow in places where the river had cut into the bank. The bikers rode as far as Stokes Valley where four turned back but Lynne ensured Barry rode as far as Avalon! The four of us met the walkers at Moonshine for lunch.

We then all returned to Te Marua, the four bikers arriving there by 2.30pm. A good day, although a couple of us arrived home with some bruises!

On the trip from SWTC - Mary and Bruce, Lynne and Barry, Jennifer and Bob. From Masterton club - Mike and Laura, Chrissie, Chris and Nigila. Co-ordinator Jennifer.



#### PUTANGIRUA PINNACLES 18 JULY

It was an overcast day with no wind when we arrived at Putangirua Pinnacles car park at 9.30. Bruce dropped me off then he and Blake our grandson and another friend John went off for a fish.

Five of us set off down the stream bed for 15 minutes or so until we got to the turn off to climb up through the bush. There must have been a flood when we had that heavy rain two weeks ago because there were bushes uprooted and the track on the stream bed was pretty much gone.

We walked on up, muddy in places, and stopped for morning tea at our usual spot where there is a seat. At this point Graham left us and carried on up to the next turn-off down to the stream bed and to the bottom of the pinnacles. We had two lots of couples pass us going up to the look out. We walked on up to the top with the others taking a few photos, and carried on to the top track that goes either way to the Washpool Hut or Te Kopi Homestead accommodation which was the one we were taking. The four wheel track was slippery and muddy and had lots of water in it so we tried to avoid falling over as much as we could. We had good views of the coastline. We went through a gate with a paddock full of steers and crossed it and through to another gate and came down to a stile that had orange markers on it. Through to a grassy area and we followed a track along the creek which was the right way because we have done this walk before. The track then disappeared because of the debris of fallen bushes and tree roots everywhere (the flood would have done damage in there as well). Nothing we could do about it now, we were in there and we didn't want to back track. It was hard going scrambling on backsides and swinging around trees. What was supposed to be a half hour to go turned out to be a two hour extra walk in the stream. We finally heard traffic noise and knew we were nearly out. When we got to the road we were actually south of the Te Kopi homestead and had come down the stream right to the road by the sea.

We all had a much needed cup of tea and a sandwich. Bruce was waiting at the carpark and their day's catch wasn't great - eight sharks and a conga eel.

Thanks to members who joined me, Barry, Lesley, Kevin and Graham, on a good trip and an unexpected

diversion into a creek bed. My apologies if you were a bit body sore on Sunday because I was!!!

Mary Lambert leader for the day.



A message from John Rhodes:

**Frith-Finis track taken over by DOC**

**From:** The WUU2K The Wellington Urban Ultra [mailto:thewuu2k@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 July 2020 8:16 AM

**To:** John Rhodes <rhodesja@xtra.co.nz>

**Subject:** Frith Track Update

Hey John,

How's things? Just to let you know that I have been pushing the Frith track issue with DOC for the past year now, and with my race coming up in November, and after contacting the Prime Minister's office, they are assessing, and clearing the track. Frith track will now be assessed annually as opposed to 5 yearly, and will be cleared prior to my event - WAI2K in November. They were going to inspect it next year, but this has been brought forward. It's great news, and I look forward to seeing this track opened up for the community.

Regards,

Gareth

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