

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for June 2021

www.swtc.org.nz

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Club night:

Tuesday 8 June 7.30 pm

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

AGM

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Bruce Eglinton

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:

July: Barry Kempton

August: Ian & Rosie Montgomerie

Trip List

June 2021

Date	Destination	Trip coordinator	Phone	Fitness
5.6	Akatarawa Big Rata (led by Peter Harvey)	John Rhodes	304 9095	F
12.6	Zealandia	Ed & Juliet Cooke	304 9497	M
20.6 Sun	Joint trip with MTC (probably), Manawatu Gorge Walkway	Ed & Juliet Cooke	304 9497	F
26.6	Korokoro Dam, Belmont Regional Park	Barry Kempton	304 9353	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.

Trip Reports

NGAWAKA / NGARINGA FARMS SATURDAY 1 MAY

We met at SWWMC and set off to Ngawaka, Clifton Grove Road, that leads off Admiral Hill Road Gladstone. The skies were very overcast and once at our destination at Ngawaka the cold southerly wind had us put on all our layers. Hats and gloves - are we getting soft? We followed a well maintained track to the top point of the farms and the transmitter aerials. The views were vast, 360 degrees, but unlike two days prior the clarity over Lake Wairarapa and to the South Island was clouded over. The views are impressive with the craggy hilltops. We were at 568m. We had smoko in the shelter of a concrete shed and then proceeded on a downhill walk, following Rupert's map and several points we had seen on our recce trip two days prior. Beautiful kahikatea, huge limestone rocks and many dams. The water tank and yards were great landmarks. Pink ribbon on some gates confirmed we were heading across farm and down to the road end, where we had a sheltered lunch spot.

A kilometre of road walking took us to Gladstone Horse Treks, where Barry's partner Lynne had a trek while we tramped. We followed the horse track following the river and to a QE2 block of trees, including matai, totara and rimu.

Barry and Ian consulted the map to find a track up to the road. Some of us doubted, but we knew it would get steeper the further we went. We headed up a fairly steep ridge, some of us holding the fence in places, but John led the way and we then walked about 3 kms up Clifton Grove Road and returned to our cars. Five hours, approximately 13 kms.

We are very grateful to Rupert and Lizzie Barton of Ngaringa / Ngawaka Farm, Toby McDonald and Gladstone Horse Treks for the privilege of walking over their stunning hill country farms. The views (better on a clear day 😊) are still magnificent and different from our other tramps. Thank you for planning our walk. We all enjoyed this opportunity and hope to return for a future walk.

Great company and efforts by John Rhodes, Jennifer Pomeroy, Juliet Cooke, Lesley O'Callaghan, Carol McNaught, Chris and Liz Crowe, leaders Barry Kempton, Ian and Rosie Montgomerie. A wonderful day out.





SOMES ISLAND SAT 8 MAY

Five SWTC'ers and two guests left Day's Bay wharf for Matiu / Somes Island on the East by West ferry. It was cloudy with a calm sea. A twenty minute trip had us disembarking to be met by the DOC ranger who directed all passengers into a reception building. We were instructed to check all our gear thoroughly for pests and organic matter that could cause problems on the predator free island. On being released from this facility we met up with the eighth member of our party who had come across from Wellington.

Our party soon split into couples and made our way to various places on the island with a very relaxed plan to meet near the summit at lunch time. En route on the various tracks we viewed the old lighthouse, the graveyard from the time when Matiu / Somes was a quarantine station for overseas passengers who had arrived with some serious ailment (maybe tuberculosis, leprosy, smallpox etc.) as well as the Weta Motel. The views across to the mainland were great.

Some of us were at the gun emplacements (from the Second World War era) near the summit at lunchtime. After a couple of phone calls we all met up for lunch in a sheltered spot.

As our ferry was leaving at 2.40 we had some time to finish our exploration of the old quarantine station and more tracks before we met up on the beach to wait for the ferry. En route we spotted a Kakariki moving rapidly through the bush.

Trippers were Ed and Juliet Cooke, Chris and Liz Crowe, Barry Kempton, Lynne King, John Monroe and Trudy Keenan.







MIKIMIKI TO KIRIWHAKAPAPA SATURDAY 22 MAY.

Five of us met at Greytown and picked up Mary in Carterton before meeting with Robyn and Celia at the Mikimiki Road turn. The weather was cold and misty but fortunately the rain held off until we had almost returned to the cars. Morning tea was enjoyed by the stream and we were able to sit in the shelter at Kiriwhakapapa for lunch. The track was very muddy in places and the stream was running quite fast where we crossed it. Carol got to know it better than she planned but didn't suffer any damage apart from a cold wet leg. Two friendly huntaways joined us on the trip – Sue and Skye – they were friendly and well-behaved (as were their owners!) We arrived back at the vehicles about 3pm. An enjoyable day and we did well in the light of the weather of the following days.

Those enjoying the trip were Mary, Celia, Carol, Robyn, Barry, Rosie and Ian and Jennifer (leader)





David Bowie took this photo – with permission – of a party of Wellington people returning from a night at Atiwhakatu, using our recently repaired table at Donnelly's Flat.

