

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for August 2021

www.swtc.org.nz

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Club night:

Tuesday 10 Aug 7.30 pm

St John's Hall Main Street Greytown

Speaker: Jane Lenting – Martinborough

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Ian & Rosie Montgomerie

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:

September: Bruce & Mary Lambert

October: David & Kay Bowie

The subs for the South Wairarapa Tramping Club are now due.

The cost is \$55 for a family or \$45 for a single.

You can pay by direct into our bank account ANZ 010623 0044755 00

or cash to the Treasurer Bruce Lambert, 10 Danske Close Carterton, Ph 027 379 6106, email blambert@xtra.co.nz

If you are a new member could you please supply me with your name, email address, postal address and phone number. This is for mailing and contacting for trips and FMC magazines

Trip List

2021

Date	Destination	Trip coordinator	Phone	Fitness
24.7				
31.7	Bike ride Dakins Road	Ian & Rosie Montgomerie	021 189 3863	M
7.8				
14.8	Cannon Point walkway starting Harcourt Park	Ed & Juliet Cooke	304 9497	F
21.8	(Mountain films at Masterton 4pm)			
28.8	Belmont Dam	Barry Kempton	304 9353	

Trips with Wanganui TC: Sep 11 or 12 Wharite Peak, Nov 13 or 14 Holdsworth circuit via Mountain House.

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

HUTT RIVER WALK 3 JULY

Ten of us began our approximately 11 km walk from Te Marua on an icy cold frosty morning. As we walked along the newly built track above the river we could see steam rising in places, and grass and plants coated or rimmed by frost. Further along, by Birchville, from our sunny side of the river we observed a group of houses on the other side in deep shade, smoke spiralling up from their chimneys.

Our route took us past Harcourt Park and sunny sportsfields. It wasn't warm enough for us to start taking off layers of clothing, and we felt sorry for bystanders watching the games, standing motionless in maybe 8 or 9 degrees.

Having crossed the river by Totara Park, we lunched in the sun near the big riverbend, perched on a handy pile of large rocks, presumably destined for river and bank protection work.

Lesley left us at lunchtime, and Lynne's sore feet impelled her to take the footbridge and catch a bus back to her motorbike at Te Marua.

At Birchville Jen fed a large alpaca (llama?) her apple core. The smaller alpaca tried to get in on the action, but the larger one pushed it away. NB - next time bring two apple cores! We noted that some of the houses on the other side of the river that were in deep shade earlier were still in the shade.

We were back at the cars by about 1.30, an enjoyable walk in beautiful conditions.

Those on the walk were Lesley Callaghan, Liz and Chris Crowe, Barry Kempton, Lynne King, Rosie & Ian Montgomerie, Jen Pomeroy, and Ed & Juliet Cooke (co-ordinators).



MANAWATU GORGE 11 JULY

We set off at 8am, two cars of five people, one car going to each end of the track: the 1 1/2 hour drive is a bit of a disadvantage for this trip, now that the gorge road is closed. The weather was kind - cold, but sunny, and little wind. Luckily the light rain waited till we were on our way home.

The E to W group started walking slightly earlier, as we could park right by the entrance, but the W to E group had about ten minutes' walk from the carpark to the track, and the driving distance was a bit longer. We met up by one of the lookouts, which provided a mostly sunny lunch spot, looking across the gorge to wind turbines on the other side. Car keys were swapped back so that the drivers made the return journey in their own cars.

The most interesting items of interest on this tramp were:

1 - The nikau palms, especially on the western side, some with beautiful bunches of red berries.

2 - The orange berries on the ground, which turned out to be from the NZ passionflower, kohia/passiflora tetrandra, eaten by birds. Possums and rats also like them, but hopefully the numbers of traps we saw keep those pests down.

3 - The olive-like tawa berries, great food for kereru, and the tawa trees themselves, tall with smooth bark, shooting upwards with no side branches.

4 - The sculptures: 6m tall Whatonga, a 12th century historic seafarer and Rangitane chief, surrounded by nikau palms, and the taniwha, lying with mouth wide open, best viewed when walking east to west.

5 - The birdsong, especially on the western side - tui, bellbird, fantail, kereru and others - and the swish-swish of wind turbine blades.

The track is 11 km, and we took almost five hours, including morning tea and lunch stops.

Those on the tramp were: W to E, Liz and Chris Crowe and daughter-in-law Louise, Trudy Keenan and John Rhodes. E to W, Lesley Callaghan, Hilary Ryan, and Ed, Juliet & Wendell Cooke

