

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for February 2022

www.swtc.org.nz

newsletter editor: Lynne King lynne.king@xtra.co.nz 04 232 1426

Club night:

Tuesday 8 Feb 6.00 pm

Barbecue Kay and David Bowie's house, Clara Ann Grove, Greytown, at 6pm. Ring or email them if you want to attend. 027 448 6503, or email bowiedandk@gmail.com.

They will provide sausages. Please bring either a vegetable dish / salad, or a dessert, and tell the Bowies what you want to bring, so we don't have all desserts and no veg, or vice versa. BYO plates, cutlery and drinks.

Only come if you are WELL and have a vaccine pass.

Trip List

2021

Date	Destination	Trip coordinator	Phone	Fitness
29.1	Big Rata Akatarawa	John Rhodes	304 9095	F
5.2	Winzenburg Hill	John Rhodes	304 9095	F
12.2	TBA	Cookes	304 9497	
13.2	Annual Kakahi count Wairarapa Lake Shore Scenic Reserve 9 – 12.30	Renee.Mason@gw.govt.nz		

We would love to have some offers to take a tramp, or suggestions for where people would like to go.

Charlene is keen to go to the Patuna Chasm. If you are interested in going on that trip could you email her on charlenejames18a@gmail.com so she would have some idea of numbers before she contacts them about bookings.

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

BIKE RIDE DECEMBER 11

Ten members met at Danske Close for a bike ride down to the end of Matarawa Road. The weather was not so sunny, a bit cloudy, a good day for a bike ride. We met Lesley at Daffodil Grove corner and then biked on into Dalefield Road.

Neil led the way for a while up to Jervois Road where we turned and rode along to Moffat's Road and then into Matarawa Road. We biked along to nearly the end of road and stopped on a grass verge to have a cuppa. Neil biked on a bit further down the hill to where there is a house or two on to private land. Left again back down Matarawa Road and turned into Waterson's Line, and on to the corner of Dalefield Road. Neil left us there and went back to his place via Thomas and Mannings Road. The rest of the riders went back to my place arriving at 11.15.

A short but good bike ride.

Those who came were Jen and Bob Pomeroy, Billy Adair, Lesley Callagan, Kay and David Bowie, Ian Montgomerie, Steve Maddock, Neil Johnstone, Barry Kempton, and Mary Lambert organiser for the morning.



MTS. FINIS AND FRITH 18 DECEMBER

Photo 1: *Aseroe rubra* on the track to Finis

Photo 2: Barry, John, Nigel, Billy and Stuart on Finis (photo: Ian Montgomerie)

Photo 3: Alpha, Atkinson, the Beehives and Hector from Frith

Two MTC and three SWTC members gathered in Greytown at 8.35 am, in accordance with the new SWTC rule that trip participants may not gather on the hour or half hour. Another SWTC member and his motorbike, plus a Wellington Forest and Bird contingent of one, joined us in Featherston. Allowing for dual club membership, this brought our number to seven.

We left two cars and the motorbike at the illegal District Council sign prohibiting access to Boar Bush Gully. From there we walked up the road to the dam, then past the beehives and across the weir to the foot of the hill. On the way up Ian found a rare stinkhorn fungus, *Aseroe rubra* (of the family Phallaceae and order Phallales). We took morning tea shortly after 10 am. The track to Finis, cut by SWTC in the summer of 2017-2018, is a little overgrown but still easily followed.

Barry turned back from Mt. Finis and the rest of us continued along the main track (now well maintained by the WAI2K race organisers) through the saddle to Mt Frith, where we took in the view of the southern Tararua tops and lunched in the scrub, sheltering from a brisk westerly.

The return was uneventful.

Participants from Masterton TC were Nigel Boniface and John Rhodes; from South Wairarapa TC, Billy Adair, Barry Kempton, Ian Montgomerie and John Rhodes; from Wellington Forest and Bird, Stuart Hammond.





RAPAKI FARM WALK WITH A DIFFERENCE SATURDAY 15 JANUARY

The first tramp for the year was also a last chance for the club to walk the Rapaki Farm Walk in its current form as the farm has just been sold and the future of the track is unknown. However this turned out to be much more than simply the regular circuit. We met at Ruth and Pete's home at Atutahi which borders the north west corner of the farm and from there, with the owner's permission, we went on an extensive three hour ramble right round the whole farm. The route took us over paddocks, through orchards, along gulleys, up to the Te Muna Road lookout for morning tea, down the ridge line towards Te Muna Road, along the back of several vineyards, over creeks, up a long winding farm track and back up to the top of the hill. We stopped by Ineke Kershaw's memorial seat for lunch, enjoying the shade and admiring the view, then walked back down the hill to the farm stockyards, crossed three more paddocks and returned to the start. At various places en route we encountered and fed colonies of chooks and

peafowl which have been released onto the farm, but there was very little other stock. The farm was in beautiful condition, the day was perfect for walking and all seventeen of us had a most enjoyable tramp.

Participants:

Billy Adair, Lesley Callaghan, Juliet and Ed Cooke, Joy Cooper, Chris and Liz Crowe, Bill Dolan, Ruth and Pete Graham (leaders), Alison Herbert, Barry Kempton, Desiree Kortink, Carol McNaught, Ian and Rosie Montgomerie and Joelle Thomson.

