

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for October 2023

www.swtc.org.nz

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Club night:

Tuesday 10 October 7.30 pm

Studio 73, Main Street Greytown

Speaker: Ross Anderson, walking in the top end of Australia

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) David and Kay Bowie

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 meeting the roster is:
November – Billy Adair

Trip List

2023

Date	Destination	Trip coordinator	Phone	Fitness
30.10	Fensham Reserve	Ian & Rosie Montgomerie	021 189 3862	E
7.10	Te Marua to Kaitoke waterworks	Juliet & Ed Cooke	304 9497	M
14.10	Working bee Point 810	John Rhodes	304 9095	M
21.10	Rimutaka Incline bike ride	Bruce & Mary Lambert	379 6106	M

If you wish to go on a trip, please let the organiser know by the Thursday prior.

Trip Gradings

The letters are an indication of how tough it will be.

E **Easy.** Completely flat, no hills, 2 – 3 hours.

M **Moderate fitness.** Some hills, well formed tracks. 4-6 hours walk per day.

F **More fitness.** Steep hills, challenging tracks. May go off tracks. 6 – 8 hours walk per day.

Leaders: Please remember if you are unable to lead your trip it is your responsibility to find a replacement leader / trip.

Trip Reports

WAIRIO LAGOON 2 SEP

At last a fine Saturday and a turn out of fifteen fellow walkers, all keen for a wander along the lagoon pathways. We left Greytown at 8.30 and drove via SH 2, turning at Number 1 line onto Kahutara Road and met others at Parera Road, the turn off to Wairio.

The lagoon was quiet, and apart from swans and a family with cygnets and a few mallards there were few birds to be seen, just lovely views across the lagoon to the snow capped Tararuas in the distance. Spraying of the willows has certainly been successful, though some of us questioned the need to spray out the raupo, we thought would provide safe breeding places for the birds.

At our morning tea/ lunch spot at the duck shooters' lodge we asked, and the answer was access to mai mais and to stop it choking the waterways.

We made our way along the gravel road for the two kilometre walk back to the cars. A large flock of spoonbills were sedately positioned by the gum trees.

A total of 9660 steps, about five kilometres.

All agreed it was nice to get out with the club after many cancelled and/or lack of planned trips due to a wet winter.

Ian unfortunately tested Covid positive on Sunday and hopes no one else contracted this from him, like Rosie has.

Thanks to Carol, Marguerite, Pauline, Billy, Bruce, Ruth and Peter, Lesley, Rosie and Ian, Ingrid, Ross and Jeanette, Snita and John



KEITH GEORGE MEMORIAL PARK 9 SEP

Black Saturday - a dark day for NZ Rugby, but a beautifully sunny, calm day for the six SWTC trampers who ventured over the Rimutaka Hill to walk the walk at King George Memorial Park. We parked below a giant back-acter digger perched above us on a mound beside the Silverstream Bridge, then walked under and across said bridge, and through the underpass to the park. From the entry point we ascended a path to Pine Tops, from where we had a great view over the Hutt Valley to the harbour, whilst seated on felled pine tree trunks, having morning tea.

Then down to the Big Tree "roundabout" and on to Haywards Track, past the substation, to the main gravel road and the entrance to the Haywards Waterfall track. We didn't expect to meet anyone, as the waterfall notice is well hidden, about 30 paces inside the bush.

The ten stream crossings proved a bit tricky in places, as we endeavoured to keep our boots dry, and Juliet had her very own water fall, fortunately not recorded on film. We pondered over a large green mossy concrete block, but further concrete and corrugated iron relics just in front of the waterfall indicated that possibly in the past there was a dam, and a water supply.

After the ten re-crossings, by which time several of us had wet boots, we lunched in the sun, and then took the Haywards track back to the cars. Fortunately there hadn't been an earthquake, and the back-acter hadn't toppled over! It was a lovely five hour day out, we did 9.9kms, and climbed 330 metres in total.

Those on the walk were Chris and Liz Crowe, John Rhodes, Ross Sutherland, and Ed and Juliet Cooke (leaders).





OCEAN BEACH 16 SEP

We met in Greytown and travelled to Corner Creek at Ocean Beach. It was a very scenic drive, the rural and lake views in the sunshine were full of colour and the hundreds of newly born lambs were a great sign of spring.

As we travelled down the Western Lake Road the wind was getting stronger. Unfortunately by the time we arrived at the Corner Creek carpark the wind had picked up. The spray rising from the huge waves indicated this was a gale, and was true to the sign, "The Wild Coast Track."

We headed along the track, sheltered by bush to start with. We got to a scree slope and whilst four of the group braved the cross up to the opposite bank, four of us retreated back the way we had come. The confident trampers made it across but decided to return along the beach. The waves were significant and we were all sandblasted as we returned to Corner Creek. We enjoyed our cuppa on a sheltered grassy bank. Once at the carpark we wandered along the tracks where there are perfect little nooks for summertime camping.

On the way back Ian, Rosie and Snita had a walk along the shoreline at Onoke Spit, but again the wind was fierce at times and there were few birds to be seen, so it felt great to be back in the ute for a return to Greytown at 1.30.

Thanks for giving the walk a go, but sorry we didn't get to explore further.

Wind blown trampers, were Ed and Juliet, Liz and Chris Crowe, Liz Halliday, Snita and Rosie and Ian.



