

South Wairarapa Tramping Club

Newsletter for November 2023

www.swtc.org.nz

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Club night:

Tuesday 14 November 7.30 pm

Cookes, 57 Wood Street Greytown

Speaker: Merran Cooke - Walks and History in Austria, Slovenia, Croatia and Italy.

Supper: (tea towel, milk and biscuits) Billy Adair

From MTC: Glenys will be showing her wonderful photographs of her trip to the sub Antarctic islands at the MTC meeting next Wednesday night, 1st November, if you didn't get a chance to see it previously.

All invited, starts 19.30 pm at the Perry Street rooms.

Glenys is collecting a koha, to donate towards pig eradication on the Islands.

Trip List

2023

Date	Destination	Trip coordinator	Phone	Fitness
4.11				
11.11	Te Marua to Kaitoke	Ed & Juliet Cooke	304 9497	M
19.11	Walking weekend to Point 810 (assistants required)	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 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

ATIWHAKATU 8 OCTOBER

Having decided that the less wet weather was going to be north of the Rimutaka Hill, eight of us set out on the Atiwhakatu (now Te Whakaturakau) Triangle (AKA Hooper Loop). A slight mist and ominous clouds caused some of us to put parkas on, but as we neared the top of our climb up to the main ridge the sun came out.

We have never seen such mud on this track! There is usually one muddy section on the climb up from the river, but on this trip we just encountered bog after bog, and only the very nimble escaped putting a foot into deep mud at some stage. There were also numerous fallen trees.

The three faster members ate morning tea at Mountain House shelter, but the other five had a standing morning tea in order to provide their bodies with enough fuel to keep climbing upwards. Thanks to Chris, who provided silver sticky tape and a black felt pen, the ladders were able to leave a note at the cross-roads to let the fast group know not to head back down towards the river on a search party.

The Gentle Annie track was also affected by lots of heavy rain, and after the first ten or so minutes the track was crevassed by deep muddy gouges with a lot of broken rock, and the downhill was mostly unpleasant.

According to a Cooke Garmin watch we climbed a total of 756m, walked 12.1kms, and took 5 hours.

Those on the trip were Ross Anderson, Chris and Liz Crowe, Barry Kempton (his first tramp for 6 months!) and his dog Sioux, Stefan Van Trigt (welcome to Stefan!) John Wilson, and Ed and Juliet Cooke (co-ordinators).



POINT 810, 28 OCTOBER

Saturday morning was fine, the previous day's southerly having cleared. From the end of the Mangatarere Valley Road we climbed the Carterton Search and Rescue track, pausing at about the 500 metre contour for morning tea and to admire the primitive spore-bearing plant *Tmesipteris*.



At the top of the descent to Sayer Hut, we joined the cattle-worn rut of Sayers' Track. We followed this along the dividing ridge between the Waiohine and Mangatarere catchments and placed temporary plastic markers where the track turns to the east in readiness for next month's Wairarapa Walking Festival. An hour's work cleared the scrub on the last 100 metres of track to Point 810.



We then lunched in perfect conditions, enjoying a panoramic view of the Tararuas. It was even more extensive than in this photo by Chris, for it extended all the way from Marchant in the south to Kahiwiroa in the north.



On the way back down we cleared a few minor windfalls.
Chris Crowe and John Rhodes