

# beechleaves

Newsletter of the Manawatu Tramping and Skiing Club



P.O. Box 245, Palmerston North 4440 <https://www.mtsc.nz> or <https://www.facebook.com/MTandSC>

Issue 07 July, 2023



## 7.30 pm Tuesday 4 July, 2023: Exploring the Cobb Valley

In February this year seven of us ventured into the beautiful Cobb Valley in Kahurangi National Park, near Nelson, where the drive in is an adventure in itself. There are mountain ranges as far as the eye can see, beech forests, sub-alpine meadows, several tracks, lakes, tarns, streams, huts and plenty of weka. You will hear about our adventures along with some history of the area including some past rescues in Kahurangi National Park.

*Note the change of start time for future club nights.*

## 7 pm Tuesday 1 August, 2023: MTSC Photo Competition

It's time to look through your photos ready for this year's competition. The best 3 images in each category will be chosen by an independent judging panel and the best image in each category will be chosen by popular vote on the night. Categories will include:

- Alpine scenery with **no** people or man-made objects
- Alpine scenery **including** people or man-made objects
- Bush/lowland/subalpine and **no** people or man-made objects
- Bush/lowland/subalpine **with** a human element
- Historic Photographs (Before 1 January 2020)
- New Zealand native flora & fauna
- Long exposure

There will be a prize for every photographer who enters an image as well as prizes for the best image in each category and the best image overall. The competition rules are [on the club website](#). Entries need to be sent to Richard Lander by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July via email to [photocomp@mtsc.nz](mailto:photocomp@mtsc.nz). **Note:** *Voting for your favourite image will be electronic so please bring along a smart device with a QR code reader "on".*

## 7 pm Tuesday 5 September, 2023: Sensational Snow Sports

## 7 pm Tuesday 3 October, 2023: Towards a Manawatu Geopark by E. Professor Vince Neall

Moves are afoot to create a Manawatu Geopark centred upon Te Apiti, the Manawatu Gorge and its surrounding environs. There is a wealth of geological and geomorphological opportunities for designated geosites which help explain the evolution of the region, both from a neotectonic but also past climate history standpoint. In this talk I will explain the basis for a number of these sites and what you can see and understand about the geological history above a convergent plate boundary.

# REPORTS AND NOTICES

**MTSC President: Tim Swale**

[president@mtsc.nz](mailto:president@mtsc.nz)

With winter now upon us it is pleasing to see so many trips going out and exploring our wonderful back-country. At this time of year a little more care is needed as the weather can be quite unforgiving to those who are not well prepared with appropriate clothing and equipment. Good planning and preparation is key. Safety was a major topic at a recent meeting of our tramping sub-committee / focus group. It is clear that people join our club for a variety of reasons, but top of the list are social connection, exercise and the safety of walking with others. We discussed how our tramps are run and were unanimous in agreeing a few basic protocols for club trips.

- Where there are large numbers involved it is best to divide into sub -groups of between 4 and 10 people with perhaps, fast, medium and slower groups so that all abilities are catered for.
- Each group should have a leader and tail-end Charlie, both with a radio.
- The overall trip organiser then knows who is leading each sub-group and can keep in touch by radio.
- Throughout the tramp, the sub-groups stay together, stopping frequently to make sure everyone is okay, especially new members.
- At the end of the day the sub-group leaders report back to the trip organiser to confirm everyone is safely out, radios are returned etc.

Remember, these are club trips – it is not about being the fastest or getting to a destination at all costs. It is about having a good day out together, chatting, sharing experiences and making sure that we look after each other with everyone returning safely. Taking enough warm gear to keep you comfortable if you are going slower than usual is a good idea. The [trip leader guidelines](#) give a lot more information.

Another important discussion from our meeting was around the use of the minibus. As a club, we are always greatly appreciative of those members who are willing to help others by driving the minibus. This task usually involves arriving early to pick up the minibus, re-fuelling and often cleaning it afterwards. There was a feeling that members would like to acknowledge this effort by contributing extra so that the driver does not have to pay. However, at the full MTSC committee meeting it was pointed out that it would be illegal to do so. The NZTA website states that “Volunteer drivers are those who are not paid for their services as a driver. This means that passengers are not charged for the driver’s time .....

Insurance companies can refuse a claim and you can be prosecuted for driving without a P endorsement”. Therefore, please ensure that drivers are thanked for their efforts and given a helping hand with any clean up at the end, but not put in a position of acting illegally. As a club we value the many hours of voluntary effort put in by a multitude of people, organising trips, looking after club accounts, membership, lodge bookings, etc, none of which are rewarded financially.

Finally, a big thank you to all of the people involved in making our club such an inclusive organisation where there are so many great opportunities on offer and members are supported to participate fully. I look forward to catching up with you in the hills again soon.



*Longview Hut by Graham Irvine 21 June, 2023*

## New Web Site

MTSC has a new web site, located at <https://www.mtsc.nz>. Shortly, the old web site ([www.mtsc.org.nz](http://www.mtsc.org.nz)) will be redirected to the new site.

Also coming up, we will be enabling an online lodge booking system. This will require users to visit the new web site and use the login link. Only members will be given an account, and more details will follow when we are ready to roll with feature, which will be early to mid July.

If you notice any issues or broken links then please email me at [web\[at\]mtsc.nz](mailto:web[at]mtsc.nz). Thank you for your patience as we get up and running with the new system.

Howie Nicholson

*We welcome new members, Anita Esterbauer and Joanne Arnott, to the club.*

## Volunteering with Young People in the Outdoors



The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme is an international programme that encourages young people to make positive choices in life and includes service to others, learning a new skill, physical activity and undertaking an adventurous journey. However, it is the expedition which can be difficult to organise. In order to keep youngsters safe in the outdoors, it is a requirement that the group is accompanied or “shadowed” by a competent person to ensure they are making sound decisions regarding the route, weather, river crossings etc. Schools rarely have teachers available for this role and often parents don’t have the skills. Several MTSC members are involved in helping out with “shadowing” with the backing of Outdoor

Training New Zealand. I have always found it extremely rewarding to help young people in this endeavour, so would encourage you to consider getting involved as well. If you want to know more, have a chat with Linda Campbell, Ken Mercer or myself. We would love to have more club members involved.



July Wednesday Tramps			July Thursday Tramps		
05	Ken Mercer	027 364 6475	06	Carolyn Brodie	027 358 6037
12	Wendy Williams	027 240 2727	13	Bill Milham	027 443 3324
19	Bill Milham	027 443 3324	20	Ken Mercer	027 364 6475
26	Robyn Laing	021 267 8328	27	Nicki Fielder	021 215 2197
July Weekend					
8-9	Cycling Wellington	Tim Swale	022 134 8384	See over	



**Trip Intentions:** The email address for leaving trip intentions is [intentions@mtsc.nz](mailto:intentions@mtsc.nz). Intentions sent to this address will not be acted upon UNLESS a party is reported overdue (e.g. by a family member, flatmate, friend, etc). The email is sent to several MTSC members. This information will be provided to Land SAR/RCC only if the party is reported overdue or a MTSC-owned PLB is activated. The email should include: a list of participants and their contact details; a brief description of the intended route and possible alternative routes; starting point; start date; date/time due out; vehicle registration; and any other relevant details.

### 8-9 July, 2023: Wellington Rides - Biking Group

Tim Swale 022 134 8384

Two completely different rides are planned for this weekend.

Saturday – Makara Peak Mountain Bike Park, Karori. Meet at 10.30 am on 8 July at Karori Park.

Experience riding some awesome single track right up to the top of Makara Peak with stunning views over Wellington and across to the South Island. An intermediate ride with the option of riding back down on MTB trails or four-wheel drive track.

Sunday - Eastbourne to Baring Head and return. Meet at 10 am on 9 July at the corner of Marine Parade and Miro St, Eastbourne. A lovely waterside ride visiting three lighthouses and a shipwreck. Easy gravel road with no traffic, suited to all ability levels.

Ride both days or just pick one ride. Some accommodation will be available at my son’s place in Karori. Let me know if you are keen.



### For Sale!

All mountain Skis and bindings.

Bought new in 2017.

Used for one Season.

\$150

Contact: Richard Wilson 022 342 3454

*Whanganui and Palmerston North pick up.*





# TRIP REPORTS



## Wednesday 31 May, 2023: Gordon Kear Forest towards Tararua Forest Park

Trip Leader and Reporter: Anne West

Photographers: Mary Mercer and Alan Hawkins

"A sign in the bush between Arawaru and Gordon Kear Forest" was the advertised destination for our tramp.



What was so special about a sign? Well, 29 trampers came to find out!

The route we were to follow was not a marked track, so the pre-tramp briefing included instructions that all trampers must keep in their group and follow guides, Anne and Rod. There were several turns onto various forestry roads, a shallow stream crossing, and a gradual climb through young pines in the Gordon Kear Forest, then through mature pines on a privately owned forestry block. At our morning tea stop, Ken demonstrated the effectiveness of an (orange) fly to shelter a group of people.

We split into two groups before entering the regenerating native bush near the Tararua Forest Park. No mature trees remain in this area, but there was certainly an abundance of moss on the young trees. The trail here was in places overgrown by ferns and not easy to follow, but our team was on its best behaviour and took care to stay in their groups as we moved slowly towards our goal.

The sign was reached by the leading group at about 11.30 am. After pausing for photos we retraced our steps to a clearing which we had identified as a good spot for lunch.



The second group reached this clearing at the same time, and most of them pressed on to view "the sign" before returning to join us.

After lunch we returned via the same route, setting off in three groups this time with Christine helping to lead. Some trampers took an extra diversion to check out the Motorimu Shelter.

A big thank you to Mary and the other drivers who successfully navigated the ruts and potholes of the steep and winding Scotts Road. Thanks to Bev for showing us the route and to Ewen for organising this tramp.



## Thursday 1-2 June, 2023: Mt Urchin & Lake Rotopounamu

Trip Leader, Photographer and Reporter: Chris Mercer

Halfway up Mt Urchin, the army demolished some explosives making me jump; the noise roared and rumbled as it echoed off the volcanoes. We couldn't see the event because of the mist. At the summit, we only got a few views of nearby ridges but were pleased with our effort. The bush is beautiful there,



dominated by podocarps, kamahi and beech.

We arrived at our Hatepe accommodation at dusk and started the BBQ. The pot-luck dinner contributions were *haute cuisine*! The following day, we looked over the Hinemaiaia bush restoration project – the forest there a complete contrast to the previous day's being depauperate after clearance and grazing in the 1950s. The bush is kanuka dominant on a pumice fan.

In the late morning, we set off for the Lake Rotopounamu loop walk. The weather was showery but this gave the alpine lake its own beauty. Last century, the Ministry of Works made an offer to the Ministry of Tourism to make a road up to the lake so car passengers could view it but the MOT declined. We are left with an unspoilt area with no road noise, and on our day, no explosions! We were, Chris M, Carolyn B, Nicki F, Royce M, Audrey S, Judith T, Jeff B and Mike H.



## Wednesday 7 June, 2023: Six Discs - Waiopehu Loop Track (10.9 km with 500 m elevation)

Trip Leader and Reporter: Denise Shailer

Photographers: Denise Shailer and Cheryl Dawson

We were lucky enough to have a sunny, clear, wind free day to enjoy the natural beauty of this track.

Twenty three trampers set off from Poas Road car park at 9.00am. We split into two groups with "Leaders" and "Tail End Charlies" for both groups along the Six Discs track.



This is a nice track that meanders along above the Ohau river. As we reached the first slip there was a small number of trampers who decided to turn back, returning to the starting point of Six Discs and then up the Waiopehu track to meet us for lunch at the junction of Six Discs. There is a bit a scramble up the bank to go around the second slip and to join on to the Six Discs track. All routes were well marked and, luckily, not too muddy. (The paddock to the tracks was actually muddier than the tracks.) It was nice to see fellow trampers stopping to view



fungi, the rata trees and flowers, and to admire the large trees (possibly redwoods). Ken was also doing track maintenance as we proceeded through the walk.



All in all a very pleasant day. Special thanks to Anne West for doing a reconnaissance walk with me about three weeks ago, to assess the suitability of this track. Thanks to all the leaders today, Wendy for driving the van and all those who offered transport and organised themselves into vehicles.



## Wednesday 7 June, 2023: Summerhill Trails

Trip Leader and Reporter: Bob Hodgson

Mapper: Lyn Lewis

On a cool but fine day ten trampers gathered at the Summerhill car park at 9am for what was to be a cross between a nature walk and a tramp. About 100 m from the shopping centre we crossed Aokautere Drive and entered Adderstone Reserve, the first of many reserves we were to visit. Here we found several small teams at work planting. We had an interesting chat with Rosemary Gear who is the volunteer leader on the Green Corridors project which has now been running for 23 years. Under the direction of Russell Poole, a sometime regular Wednesday Trampers and a Green Corridors volunteer, we visited a sequence of reserves and enjoyed the regenerating bush in the reserves that were once bare grass. With a short stop for morning tea taken in a sunny spot, we returned to the Summerhill carpark at noon. Most of us had lunch at the Suny Cafe.



It proved to be a very pleasant morning; we were all impressed by the range of trees and plants now thriving in the reserves. A big thank you to Russell, our benign and knowledgeable guide.

## Thursday 8 June, 2023: Escarpment Walk

Trip Leader and Reporter: Wayne Lincoln

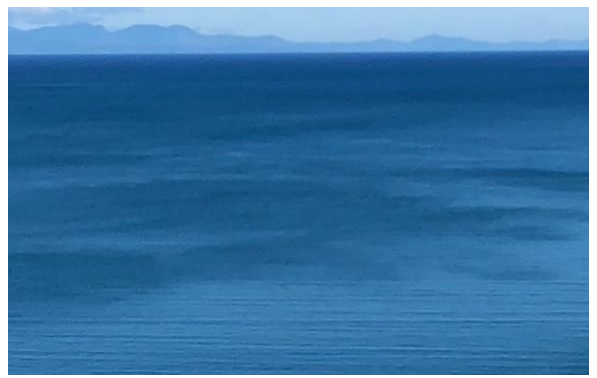
Photographer: Carolyn Brodie

When the choice of the trip location was made the weather did not look good and my warning may have scared a few off. It was a small group of eight that braved the sunny weather with an occasional gentle breeze to bring some cooling. Four opted out at Pukerua Bay and returned to Paekakariki to (I suspect) savour the delights of the café and coffee. The Escarpment trail begins at Paekakariki and, after a short stroll through native bush, climbs quickly and sidles below the ridge before descending equally quickly and crossing two suspension bridges to Pukerua Bay. We were treated to shy views of Mt. Taranaki, Mt. Ruapehu and the Kaikoura Ranges. Last year when I led this, in order to get to Plimmerton in time to use our gold cards, we hiked the trail beside the motorway to Plimmerton. That was boring. This time we took Arlie





Road and the Tua Tapu trail which climbs up through farmland with nice views and through housing to Plimmerton where we were able to use our gold cards and return to Paekakariki using the train. The Escarpment trail is generally in good order but there are some places where DOC could do some maintenance.



### 10 June, 2023: Cycling Tutaenui Loop

Trip leader and Reporter: Chris Brunskill

Photographer: Catherine Cawsey

Mapper: Ken Mercer

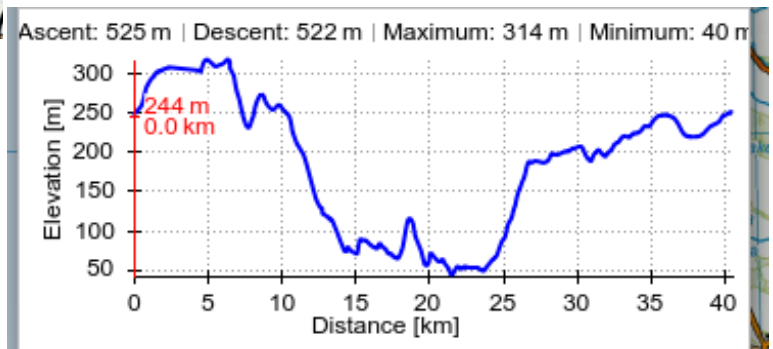


The day dawned with not a cloud in the sky nor a breath of wind. At 10 am 19 keen cyclists turned up at Tutaenui Hall for what turned out to be a challenging ride up some steep, long hill climbs interspersed with some fast downhill runs. Every one of the riders coped with all the difficulties that the terrain threw at them. I think all will want to do the ride again at some time in the future. After the almost three hour ride we all stopped at Moomaa cafe for a well-earned bite to eat, a coffee and a chat.

The 40 km Route (in red): From Tutaenui Hall (north of Marton) along Griffins Rd, left into Warrens Rd, right into Galpins Rd, then onto the gravel Taurimu Rd, left back onto seal at Turakina Valley Rd, left into Waimutu Rd, left

into Fern Flats Rd, across to Jeffersons Rd and back to Tutaenui Hall.

A 30 km option (that took two riders nearly 3 hrs!) was to turn left off Turakina Valley Rd 6 km earlier, at Makuhou Rd, right into Tutaenui Rd, right into Jeffersons Line and back to Tutaenui Hall.





## Wednesday 14 June, 2023: Tunupo

Trip leader and Reporter: Nicki Fielder

Photographer: Cheryl Dawson

Once again Tunupo proved to be an ideal winter tramp. The day started rather misty and with slight drizzle but as we began our walk it turned into one of those gorgeous, crisp, clear winter days where the sun has forgotten to share its heat. Thirty four keen trampers joined us. As organiser it was my goal to make sure everyone had a great tramp, walking at their level for the day and looking after those around them. With such a large group it was important that we divided into subgroups, each with an appointed leader and tail end Charlie.

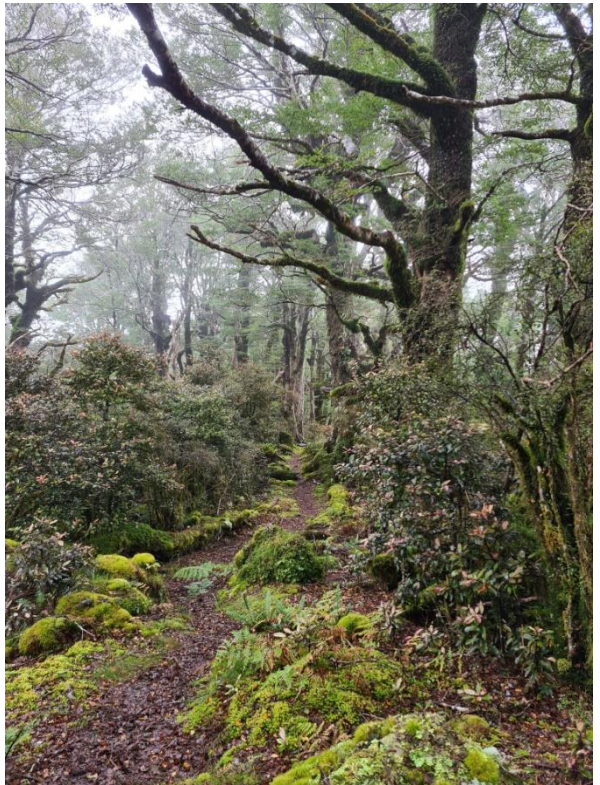
So, at the beginning of the day each trumper decided the group that best suited them, and that they would stay with, for the day. The group was recorded, radios were given to the Lead and Tail for each group and off they headed, down the hill and into the bush. General feedback was that this structure worked well.

Group **M** was a team of six keen to stride ahead; getting as far as they could and checking stoat traps as they walked. They got to beyond the Leatherwood. And it was a job well done ... clearing one stoat and two rats from the traps.

Group **T** was the largest group of 12 aiming to walk quickly and

Group **S**, also a big group, had the same agenda but was happy to walk a little slower.

Group **C**, of which I was a member, took our time enjoying the bush and the company of the group. Some fabulous conversations were had as we walked. We headed to the junction with Alice Nash Hut and turned up the hill towards Tunupo. It was an excellent walk..



There were also two smaller independent groups. One started earlier, headed up independently and then joined us for the walk back and afternoon tea. The other started later and walked in as far as Alice Nash Hut. The surface was generally excellent, if a little slippery in places. There were also a couple of places where the track had been diverted due to windfall or slips. I enjoyed hearing a tiny bit of birdlife amongst the well-established bush.

I cannot share too much more as I walked with my group but a lot was gleaned from our radio contact and everyone seemed in good spirits! As organiser, it worked well having one point of contact with each group. I was incredibly impressed with how well the radios were used both within and between groups. Everyone felt connected and well informed throughout the tramp.

All groups stopped for lunch around midday, before heading back to Alice Nash Hut well before 3pm. Here we had a shared afternoon tea. This was a great



opportunity to mix and mingle as a larger group and one of the highlights of the day. It was fabulous to have a couple of new members join us and to have Robbie tramping with us again. Thanks heaps to those who stepped into the role of Leader and Tailend Charlie for each of the sub groups ... Ken, John S, Robyn, Bob, Rod, Anne W, Evan, Alan. This was the key to a successful tramp; one where everyone could walk at their level and inclination for the day. Thanks also to Trevor for driving the van and to our many car drivers ... Robbie, Ken, Jeff B, Marion, Jenny, Pam/Cheryl and Nicki.

### **Thursday 15 June, 2023: Te Mara Loop**

Trip Leader and Reporter: Tony Evans

Photographer: Carolyn Brodie

With only five keen trampers and a good weather forecast, we filled the Camry and headed over the Pahiatua Track. We drove in thick fog through Mangamaire and Eketahuna, then over Mount Bruce and into brilliant sunshine - with the leader trying to take all the credit for organising the weather.

It was cold in the carpark at the Kiriwhakapapa Road end but we soon warmed up as we headed south on the Old Tram Track. After stopping for morning tea on the saddle, we left the main track and followed the ridge up to Te Mara Trig. There is a faint old track which is not easy to follow but navigation is simple: just keep heading uphill. The bush here is beautiful and open, easy walking apart from the uphill factor. With birdsong in our ears we arrived at the trig for a relaxed lunch break; the trig is marked only with a pipe driven into the ground with a small nameplate and a large horseshoe, at altitude 1104 metres; we had climbed almost 800 metres.



After lunch we followed the track on to meet the Cow Creek Track, near the Blue Range Hut Track junction, and on towards the hut as far as Lookout Rock where we had another break, sitting in the sunshine and identifying landmarks such as Mitre and Cattle Ridge, all framed by a cloudless blue sky. Then back down the track to the carpark, on to ice creams in Eketahuna and then home.

### **17-18 June, 2023: Mid Year Lodge Get Together**

Trip Leader and Reporter: Nicki Fielder

Photographers: Nicki Fielder and Chris Mercer

The weekend's predicted weather was ugly, possibly even needing chains to get up the mountain so I was watching it with interest ... After all, it is almost the shortest day! But, as we have come to expect, this blew over and we were treated to mild alpine conditions. Rain threatened at a couple of points but we were prepared for it and it never came to anything.

Jeff had us well sorted, picking up the club van in advance so that those traveling in the van could leave their vehicles safely outside his place.



Saturday began with an 8am departure from PN for Jeff, Denise, Karen and Rhona. Tim, Linda and Nicki piled into the van in Feilding and Robbie, Bill, Ken, Mary, John S and John C went in cars, meeting us in Ohakune for a morning tea we hadn't quite earned by then! Chris and Judith also travelled up in



their own car meeting us at the National Park Carpark for our first walk.

Taranaki Falls was a two hour tramp through alpine bush first of all to the falls. Lunch was had here and John S and Tim even walked down and in behind the massive waterfall. It was fabulous to be back in this terrain and the walk, which went back through beech forest along the Wairere Stream, was a great way to spend the afternoon.

From here we headed to the lodge. Once we unpacked, set up beds, put food in the kitchen and comfy clothes on, we all settled in for the evening. Good tunes (Thanks Jeff for bringing the speaker and Spotify playlist!), hot drinks, mulled wine and snacks set the tone for the evening. It was great to have Jaimie join us at the lodge.

As always, our tramping troops rose to the occasion. It sure was a Potluck dinner, second to none. There was a jovial mood in the lodge that night as everyone enjoyed the gorgeous food, great music and conversation. We even had balloons and party poppers decorating the lodge! (Thanks



Linda for going the extra mile to organise this!)



Sunday was rather clagged in and the view from the top would have been non-existent but everyone was keen for a decent walk so, following a lodge breakfast, we all tramped up to Meads Wall. This is approximately 15 minutes from the lodge and is a rather impressive natural structure!

We then organised a car shuttle and walked the Silica Rapids Track. The rapids flow over yellow, silica coated

rocks making them rather impressive amongst the alpine flora.

We timed it perfectly, arriving back at the lodge just as the rain set in. We didn't even need to make lunch! The remainder of that scrumptious dinner and cake was consumed before we all pitched in to clean the lodge and head for home. Absolute teamwork all around!!

Discussion on the way home confirmed that it was an enjoyable weekend for all. Let's plan another tramping weekend up there again soon ... and have another mid-year get together in 2024!

Thanks to everyone for making it a great weekend!!





## Wednesday 21 June, 2023: Longview Hut

Trip Leader and Reporter: Mary Mercer

Photographer: Christine Finnigan

Once we had driven out of the mist enveloping the wind turbines and northern Wairarapa, we were greeted by a lovely sunny, still day. Much to my relief, the unsealed Mill and then Kashmir Roads were in good condition and our three vehicles all made it to the road end without difficulty.



The eighteen trampers divided into two groups of nine so each Leader and Tail End Charlie had a radio. At least that was the plan.....which lasted about two minutes! Fortunately we did manage to maintain radio contact for most of the day and it was useful at the end of the walk when the second group were able to order up hot water for drinks from those of us back at the minibus.

The first part of the track was quite muddy and a bit slippery but, as we climbed, the surface became

firmer and quite rocky in places. We had fabulous views across the plains to the east and the hills all around us. The tramp starts at about 720 metres which may explain why the vegetation is quite low and heath-like for the most part. Interestingly some of the slopes have numerous cabbage trees poking up through the lower bushes.

Ken removed three rats and a mouse from four traps along the track before everyone paused for morning tea behind a hill which protected us from the cool breeze that had sprung up. Not long afterwards we were passed by two DoC workers on their way up to do track work and then a hunter and his partner came down, heading out. Five of our group continued along the ridge towards Rocky Knob and stopped at a tarn for lunch while most went down to Longview Hut. There Ken and others entertained themselves moving the fagdes of firewood, left by helicopter, into the woodshed so it would not get any wetter.

We were all back at the minibus by about 2.30pm and enjoyed a hot drink before heading off for the two hour drive back to Palmerston North. All in all, a pleasant day with no significant mishaps despite a few very muddy bottoms. Thanks to our drivers, Ken in the minibus, and Trevor and Jenny in their cars.

## Wednesday 21 June, 2023: Alternative Tramp

Trip Leader and reporter: Gay Janssen

Photographer: Coralie Davies

Seven of us started from the top of Homelands Avenue, Feilding, through the walkway up to the 5 ha Mount Taylor Reserve on Quail Avenue. A circular walkway takes you through the gully which still contains some large original trees plus newer natives.

Back to the cars and out to Mount Lees Reserve and homestead on Ngaio Road. Following morning tea we set out in perfect weather for two circuits around the reserve. The Manawatu

District Council has been doing a lot of work both on the homestead and also the extensive grounds. Most of the main tracks are now much improved with more programmed for next summer. A slight detour around Ranfurly Road to look at Browns Cows then the day finished with late lunch back in Feilding.



Meeting up with the Grizzled Grist at Mt Lees



## Thursday 22 June, 2023: Ross Peak via No 1 Line

Trip Leader and reporter: Judy Swainson

Photographers: Audrey Shepherd and Grant Baldwin

The intention was to climb to Ross Peak but strong easterly wind and rain meant this trip was abandoned. Instead the group ventured onto No 1 Line Track where there was protection from the wind but not the rain. This is a steep track and the wet, muddy conditions meant the walk was approached with caution. The bush and trees on this track are to be admired. The group divided and some went further than others but all returned to van around 1pm.

We then visited long time Thursday tramper, John Brock, and enjoyed a warm fire and a pleasant afternoon tea, with Claire's beautiful scones a speciality. Thank you for your hospitality, John and Claire.



Cheryl Dawson on  
Tunupo trip  
14 June, 2023



Mid Year Lodge Get Together  
Photo by Jaimie Soong  
17 June, 2023





**Contact Details**

**Postal Address:** MTSC, P.O. Box 245, Palmerston North

**Committee 2022 - 2023**

President	Tim Swale	<a href="mailto:president@mtsc.nz">president@mtsc.nz</a>	022 134 8384
Secretary	Linda Campbell	<a href="mailto:secretary@mtsc.nz">secretary@mtsc.nz</a>	027 333 4493
Treasurer	William Laing	<a href="mailto:treasurer@mtsc.org.nz">treasurer@mtsc.org.nz</a>	022 099 7988
Chief Guide	Ken Mercer	<a href="mailto:chief.guide@mtsc.nz">chief.guide@mtsc.nz</a>	027 364 6475
Membership	Anne Jolly	<a href="mailto:membership@mtsc.nz">membership@mtsc.nz</a>	021 067 5898
Newsletter Editor	Mary Mercer	<a href="mailto:editor@mtsc.nz">editor@mtsc.nz</a>	027 372 5375
Lodge Manager	John Lyttle	<a href="mailto:lodge.manager@mtsc.nz">lodge.manager@mtsc.nz</a>	027 433 6307
Mini-Bus Manager	Ken Mercer	<a href="mailto:minibus@mtsc.nz">minibus@mtsc.nz</a>	027 364 6475

**General Committee:** Nicki Fielder, Howard Nicholson, Blair Petersen, Rob Pringle, John Salisbury

**Appointees**

Lodge Bookings	Hugh & Liz Wilde	<a href="mailto:lodge.bookings@mtsc.nz">lodge.bookings@mtsc.nz</a>	021 054 2560
Gear Custodian	Rob Pringle	<a href="mailto:gear@mtsc.nz">gear@mtsc.nz</a>	020 678 0747
Ski Captain	Rob Pringle	<a href="mailto:ski@mtsc.nz">ski@mtsc.nz</a>	027 678 0747
Social Convenor	Nicki Fielder	<a href="mailto:social@mtsc.nz">social@mtsc.nz</a>	022 515 3807
Wednesday Trips	Rod McKenzie & Marion Beadle	<a href="mailto:wednesdaytrampers920@gmail.com">wednesdaytrampers920@gmail.com</a>	
Thursday Trips	William Laing		022 099 7988
Biking Trips	Nicki Fielder		022 515 3807
Website Administration	Howard Nicholson		027 294 1941
Lodge Food Coordinator	Howard Nicholson		027 294 1941
Facebook	Rob Pringle, Karen Tutt, Howard Nicholson	<a href="mailto:facebook@mtsc.nz">facebook@mtsc.nz</a>	

**New Members**

Prospective members must be nominated by a Proposer and a Secunder who are current MTSC members and have been so for at least one year. New memberships are confirmed at the next monthly committee meeting. Prospective members are encouraged to go on a club trip or attend a club night before joining. For further information or an application form please see the club website.

**Club Equipment**

Hire equipment: we have packs, 2 and 3 person tents, tent flies (small and large), snow mats, gas cookers, size 8 and 9 boots, billies and two bivvy bags. Ice axes, crampons, and helmets are also available. We have three personal locator beacons (PLB) for which there is no charge. Contact the Gear Custodian: Rob Pringle on 020 426 2176.

**Website** <https://www.mtsc.nz/>

This contains club information, photos, contact details and back issues of this newsletter, Beechleaves. The club website is maintained by Howard Nicholson 027 294 1941 and is kindly hosted by **Inspire Net**, a locally based company.

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/MTandSC>

**Accommodation at the MTSC lodge on Mount Ruapehu**

The lodge is close to Iwikau Village, has power, heating, hot showers and is stocked with food. Members and their guests are welcome. For Lodge bookings email Liz and Hugh Wilde [lodge.bookings@mtsc.org.nz](mailto:lodge.bookings@mtsc.org.nz) or phone 021 054 2560. To confirm your booking, payment must be made by internet payment (please email to confirm before depositing) Westpac account number 03 1521 022035300 or by cash to 179 Cook St Palmerston North 4410 in person.

	<b>Members</b>	<b>Guests</b>	<b>The lodge phone number is (07) 892 3860.</b>
<b>19+ yrs (Adult)</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>\$75</b>	
<b>12-18 yrs (Youth)</b>	<b>\$40</b>	<b>\$60</b>	
<b>5-11 yrs (Child)</b>	<b>\$32</b>	<b>\$52</b>	
<b>0-4 yrs (Pres-school)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	