



*HVTC Centenary logo*

Please submit your **April 2023** H&V articles to the editor by **31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

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<b>Editor H&amp;V:</b> Bruce Miller		563 5966	<a href="mailto:the-bruce@xtra.co.nz">the-bruce@xtra.co.nz</a>



## CLUB NIGHT PROGRAMME

Starts 7:30 pm promptly



### **1 March : Nicholas Boyack – A day In the life of a DomPost journalist.**

Club member Nicholas Boyack will talk about his job covering breaking news, writing obituaries and looking for tramping stories.

### **8 March : Open Night – Where is this?**

Members to please bring 2-10 photos of mystery shots for the audience to guess the locations.

### **15 March : YouTube Video.**

Rick Steves takes you on a 25 minute trip to Cinque a Terre (the five Italian villages on the coast between Florence and Sienna)

### **22 March : Chao Qin – Funny Stories of Bicycle Travels in Different Cultures**

About sixteen years ago Chao found his passion in long-distance travels on a bicycle in different cultures. He started from the more developed coastal provinces as well as the more remote Tibetan regions in China. He also cycled in Vietnam, Cambodia, Nepal, India, Canada, USA, and of course, New Zealand. According to his experiences, the most rewarding part of bicycle touring is to witness the nature & culture change as you cycle and the best memories are always the stories with the locals, especially the funny ones.

### **29 March : Marina Skinner – Paparoa multi-day trip and Mining Heritage day trips (November 2022).**

Mining history was the accidental theme of a club trip to the West Coast in November 2022. The Paparoa Track was the main event, with day trips to Waiuta ghost town, Denniston Plateau, Charming Creek Walkway and other historic sites. Thankfully, nature has started to reclaim the sites so we also enjoyed plenty of natural beauty.

### **5 April : Ian and John Flux – Remembering Doug.**

Doug Flux was a keen tramper, rock climber, kayaker, caver, snorkeler, caravaner, biker - on mountain, trial, and motor bikes, and photographer.

This talk by Ian and John will illustrate his early travels with the family through Africa, Europe, and across Asia, and his many solo tours in Australia, Canada, and America.



## FORTHCOMING TRIPS



### NOTES

Where there is no leader given for a trip, please contact the Trip Coordinator to volunteer to lead a trip, either as shown or an alternative.

#### **MARCH**

3 – 5	WP	Ruapehu Pinus contorta	John Simes	027 464 1824
	WP	Ava Park maintenance	John Simes	027 464 1824
5 – 14	T2	Dusky Track	Chris McMillan	569 9019
11 – 12	T1			
Sat 11/Sun 12	D1	Aquatic Speedys Creek & Crikey Canyon	John Simes	027 464 1824
11 – 24	T1	Lower South Island Hut Bash	Dennis Page	021 229 9901
18 – 19	T1			
	D1			
25 – 26	T1	Papatahi Hut booked Fri/Sat		
24 – 26	T2	Papatahi Hut booked Fri/Sat		
Sun 26	D1	Plimmerton – Pukerua Bay	Jo Scott	934 9229

**APRIL – Future Planning**

7 – 10

**Easter**

T1

T2 Raglan Range

Chris Keen

022 652 4002

Sun 9

D1

RL Tama Lakes/Ruapehu summit-  
plenty of options

Sat or Sun tba



Wairarapa

Ann Hayman

021 880 097

**BIKING SCHEDULE**

for Tuesday Evenings – 6.00 pm

**Helmet essential****MARCH**

Date	Grade	The Ride	Leaders	Phone
7	Easy Interm			
14	Easy Interm	Cornish St Korokoro – Pt Howard Polhill trails	Ann Hayman Andrew Fisher	589 6265 022 312 1713
21	Easy Interm	Remutaka Incline Tunnel Gully/Goat Track	Leader required Paul Labett	027 465 4640
28 Picnic?	Easy Interm D1	Baring Head Pencarrow Lakes - Cameron Ridge Walk tbc	Leena Debbie Labett Julie Lewis	027 672 1604 027 209 3721 526 7271

**FROM THE GENERAL COMMITTEE****March 2023**

Firstly, the General Committee is deeply saddened by the recent loss of Graeme Lythgoe.

Kua hinga te tōtara o Te Waonui a Tāne – A mighty tōtara has fallen.

Graeme contributed a huge amount to the club through leading many trips, both tramping and cycling, his sales table initiative, and his long-standing contribution to the general committee. He was a source of much knowledge, and we will miss him greatly at our monthly meetings as well as out and about riding and walking. Our love and support go to Michele and the Lythgoe whānau.

Both the Hutt Valley and Kaumatua tramping club committees have reviewed our informal trip sharing agreement and are happy to keep this going. We'll review it again in a year or so. We welcome Kaumatua members on our trips and we're welcome on theirs.

The General Committee has reviewed the mileage rate for use of private cars on club trips by comparing it with the rates used by two government departments – the IRD and the Ministry of Justice (based on the rate for jury service).

We have agreed to increase the mileage rate for the use of private vehicles on club trips to 35 cents per kilometre.

The General Committee will continue to monitor the government rates regularly and will adjust our rate if the government rates change significantly. We ask leaders to encourage carpooling on all trips to reduce our carbon footprint and to consider using the van if it is available.

Doc Watson and his son Daniel oiled the hall floor over the Christmas period. Many thanks to Doc and Daniel who gave up their time to do this. They removed as many marks as possible, mainly around where the chairs are stacked and in front of the kitchen then applied three coats to the floor. Kevin Cudby has donated two pairs of snow chains to the club, which can be used on club members' private vehicles. Doc has the details of wheel sizes etc for these chains.

Club members had a very successful working bee at the Ruapehu lodge in early February with 11 folk concentrating on inside jobs. The lodge has been thoroughly cleaned, including some fiddly jobs that often get overlooked, several pack loads of rubbish removed (including a whole cardboard box of door handles), mattress covers changed, and a full stock take completed.

*Phaedra Upton*

for the General Committee

## **FANNY BAYLISS BEQUEST GRANTS SCHEME**

**Mike Priest**

While you have all been out and about tramping and biking over this summer season have you thought of any:

- Opportunity for club members to expand their experience, competence and enjoyment of the natural environment.
- Improvement to club assets and facilities in line with the Club's overall objectives.
- Way to support the activities of an individual or organisation outside the Club which promotes our Club's primary objective.

If so the Fanny Bayliss sub-committee would be only too happy to hear from you with your proposal.

In submitting a written proposal to enable the sub-committee to evaluate it before making a recommendation to the General Committee for their final approval please:

- Describe the idea to be funded and why it is a good idea.
- Comment as to how members will benefit and whether it has the support of any other club member.
- Provide likely costings.

The Grant's Scheme currently has \$3,229 available for distribution.

Submissions by email may be made directly to me at [michael.priest@xtra.co.nz](mailto:michael.priest@xtra.co.nz)

Previous grants have been for a wide range of assets and activities however kindly note that routine maintenance is outside the scope of the Grant's Scheme.

The sub-committee looks forward to receiving your applications.

*Michael Priest*

(for the sub-committee)

## **HALL MAINTENANCE MATTERS - FIRE PROTECTION**

For added protection against a possible fire in the kitchen, the club has purchased a fire blanket which has now been attached to the kitchen wall and can be used to smother the flames of a burning pot should this unfortunate experience occur. This fire blanket is also suitable for adult clothing fires.

Two smoke alarms have also been fitted to the club rooms. One in the foyer and the other one above the kitchen door.

Along with these improvements the fire hose has recently been upgraded and is now compliant along with the existing fire extinguisher mounted in the kitchen.

Please familiarize yourself with these items and their locations.

*Doc Watson*

Clubroom Custodian

## CLUB CENTENARY



### UPDATE ON THE PLANNED CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS FOR THE WEEKEND OF FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER TO SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

Here is the latest update concerning the HVTC 100<sup>th</sup> commemorative celebrations planned for the weekend of 3-5 November 2023. There is also information below that advises on how to register for the events via the club's website. The organising sub-committee strongly encourages you to register early as this will help us in our advanced planning (particularly for events where numbers may need to be capped). Note, that there are other activities planned in May 2023 to mark the first tramping activities undertaken by the club on, or as close to, the same date that they occurred in 1923 -Those activities and how to partake in them form part of a separate notice (see elsewhere in this publication) and are not discussed further below.

The 3-5 November 2023 celebrations comprise the following:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> November (~ 5 pm to 8 pm): **A Friday Night cocktail party** at the HVTC clubrooms (**free to registered participants**; see below for registration details).
- 4<sup>th</sup> November (~ 2 pm – 5 pm) **Saturday afternoon “mix and mingle” afternoon tea** at the HVTC clubrooms (**free to registered participants**).
- 4<sup>th</sup> November (~ 6 pm to 10 pm) **Saturday night catered dinner at the Kensington Room, Petone Workingmen’s Club**. This dinner, likely a 3-course buffet, will be **at participants’ own expense** (estimated cost \$50-70 per head for the meal – there will also be a cash bar and drinks will be an additional cost to participants). The Saturday dinner also requires pre-registration (see below) and is limited to a maximum of 200 participants. Closer to the event, those that have pre-registered will be required to make advanced payment so that the club can



make a single payment to PWC (this may mean a non-refundable deposit so please be aware of this when considering your participation).

- 5<sup>th</sup> November (late morning to mid-afternoon) **Sunday BYO picnic/BBQ** at either Catchpole Valley (Wainuiomata) or Kaitoke Regional Park (venue to be confirmed later in the year). This event is also **free to registered participants** – Some limited BBQ condiments (e.g., bread, sauces) will be available but as noted above, the intent is that participants will bring their own picnic /BBQ food and drinks. The potential venues have also been selected so as to make the prospects of a short day-walk, or other similar activities possible, but this will depend on the willingness of leaders to come forward and offer to run them.

**Registration:** As noted above, pre-registration for all the planned weekend events that you wish to partake in is essential for planning purposes. To register you will need to visit the club's website([www.hvtc.org.nz](http://www.hvtc.org.nz)) where you can access a registration form via the home page. On the top right-hand side of the home page, look for the centenary logo, the same as that shown at the top of this notice, and directly below it there is some hyper-linked text that you can click on to go to a centenary section of the club's website (this section is also linked from the drop-down menu labelled 'More info'). The centennial pages will be updated as planning progresses to provide you with the most current information on the planned events. On the main centennial page, there is some red text that you need to click on to access the form. Fill in the form as instructed and then hit submit – this sends the form to the 100th committee and you will receive an acknowledgement of your submission. Further updates on your selected events will be provided to you via one or all of the following: e-mails, notices in Hills and Valleys, and updates to the club's website, as appropriate.

Finally, if you know of former club members who are currently out of contact with the club but whom you think would be interested in attending some or all of the November events, please feel free to direct them to the club's website and the centenary pages where they too can complete the registration form to get in contact with us.

Dennis Page  
(for HVTC 100<sup>th</sup> planning sub-committee)



## HVTC CENTENARY WALKS 14<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023

As part of the celebrations for the Club's centenary year, your organising committee is planning day walks in Belmont Regional Park on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023. We want to provide walks that are attractive to as many members as possible.

Our proposal is to meet initially at the regional park car park at Oakleigh Street, Maungaraki, for an official welcome and a group photograph, followed by:

- A. A walk from Oakleigh St car park to Belmont Trig and return via Baked Beans Bend (3-4 hours)
- B. A return walk from Stratton St to Belmont Trig (approx. 2.5 hours)

- C. A walk from Oakleigh St to Korokoro Dam and downstream to Cornish St (2.5 - 3 hours)
- D. A gentle stroll along Petone Beach and/or Hikiokio Reserve (1 hr) and/or morning tea beside the beach or in a local café

You can help with our planning by emailing [100th@hvtc.org.nz](mailto:100th@hvtc.org.nz) to express your interest in participating.

Please put '**HVTC Centenary May Walks**' in the subject line and indicate which walk you'd like to join.

Note: Please do not use the web registration form to indicate participation in the May walk(s). The registration form that is hyperlinked on the Club website's home page is for the November weekend activities only, not for the May walks.

If you know of any past- members who might be interested, please tell them about the walks.

In April we will provide more information in the Hills & Valleys and on the HVTC Centenary page on the Club's website.

Bob Deller  
(for HVTC 100th planning sub-committee)

## TRIP REPORTS

### TARN BIV

**Wellington Anniversary Weekend 21 - 23 January 2023**

Andrew Robinson

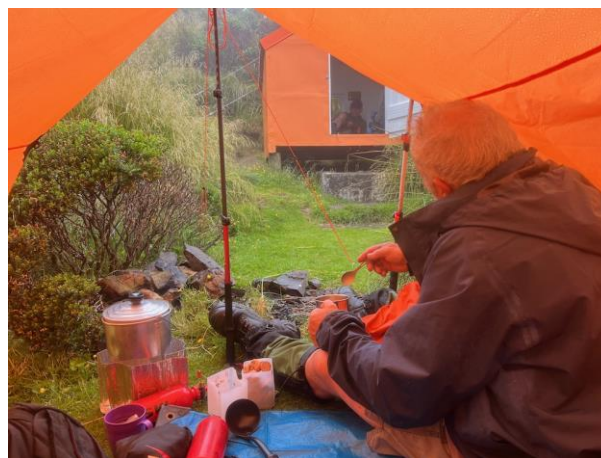
Doc Watson, Dave McQueen and I left the clubrooms just after 1 o'clock on the Friday afternoon which got us to Dannevirke a bit early for tea so we bought Subway sandwiches to have once we'd set up camp at Anzac Park 20 minutes up the road. We had a pleasant evening as we leisurely put up the tent, ate our Subways and went for a stroll on the bush tracks.

On Saturday it was a 45 minute drive from Anzac Park to the end of Mill Road. After parking Doc's ute we took a poled route for 10 minutes down a steepish gully till we hit a stream at the bottom. We lost the poles and spent a further 10 minutes weaving our way through scrub and tall grass until we got to the Tukituki River. It was quite discoloured but didn't look to be much above normal flow. It had obviously recently been up quite a bit. We linked up for our first crossing and while the water was quite swift it wasn't overly deep and the bottom was relatively even so there was no drama and we figured we'd be okay to carry on up the river. Over the next hour and a half we crossed the river multiple times, sometimes having to scout around to find the best place to cross. Mostly we linked up, but thankfully the crossings were all pretty straightforward. We had a decent break before we started on the long ascent of Rosvalls track. With 800 m of ascent ahead of us it was a case of finding a sustainable pace and just keeping going. We stopped every 30-40 minutes with the odd pause in between to regroup. Our lunch stop was a little over half way up and we eventually



*Dave and Doc crossing the Tukituki River*

reached the top at 2:40 p.m. It was a bit windy at the top so I thought the hour to the biv according to the sign might be hard work in places but it wasn't too bad. There's not much of a track along the ridge and visibility wasn't the best but fortunately Dave spotted the sign to the biv which is a bit off the ridge and could be hard to find if you missed the turnoff. In fact the biv was only 35 minutes from the top of Rosvalls track and it was empty so we could relax for the rest of the afternoon in relative comfort. It looked like rain was on its way so we put up the shelter tent and did our cooking in that. Doc spent the night in the shelter while Dave and I slept in the biv.



*Tarn biv and shelter tent*



*Thunderbox deluxe model at Tarn biv*

It rained overnight but in the morning it was fine and the forecast was okay. Our objective was to continue along the ridge we were on (Black Ridge) to the peak Ohuinga then head south along Sawtooth Ridge to Howletts hut. If the weather wasn't suitable for doing Sawtooth Ridge we could head back down along Black Ridge and continue to Daphne hut or as Dave suggested we could take Broken Ridge to Hinerua hut. I'd been to Hinerua hut once before and remembered it as a nice hut in a pleasant location.

Black Ridge was fairly easy going to begin with and we had good views of the parallel Sawtooth Ridge. As we got closer to Ohuinga the ridge narrowed and the final ascent to the peak was quite steep. We reached the top three and a quarter hours after leaving Tarn biv. My suspicion that we had been sheltered by Sawtooth Ridge was confirmed when we got blasted by the wind on Ohuinga. It looked like rain was coming from the west so conditions weren't going to be suitable for doing Sawtooth Ridge. To get to Broken Ridge we would have to descend to a saddle and climb back up to an unnamed peak almost as high as Ohuinga and would be exposed to the wind all the way. However, if we did manage to get onto Broken Ridge the wind would then be behind us and it ought to be relatively straightforward travel to Hinerua hut. The decision was made to have a go at getting onto Broken Ridge. If we were successful it would mean less river travel than the other options, which was appealing. Dave did the navigating down to the saddle which was just as well because he picked an easier route than the one I had been thinking of doing. We managed to find a relatively sheltered spot for lunch just before the saddle. After lunch the ascent was not as steep or as windy as I expected which was most welcome. It was good to turn our backs to the wind when we got to the top. The descent was a bit steep and narrow at the top but not too challenging. After that it was pretty good going, mostly downhill with just the occasional bump to climb over. Two and a quarter hours along Broken Ridge we got to the bushline from where it was half an hour to Hinerua hut. My memory had served me correctly – it is a nice hut in a bit of a saddle and we had it to ourselves.

Monday morning we gradually descended on a track for an hour and three quarters until we came to a fence. There was a camera on the fence. Hmm. No explanation. There was cellphone reception so I looked up the Walking Access map and saw that the fence was more or less on the park boundary. There was no track shown on the other side of the park boundary so I wondered if there was an old track that followed the boundary more or less. I set off to explore and the others followed. By the time we'd concluded that there probably wasn't a track I figured we might as well keep going and the others seemed happy enough with that. We had fairly open ground for a while but then ended up bush bashing and having the odd scramble. We eventually picked up a bit of a spur and the going was okay. It did give us a bit of variety. The stream we reached at the bottom



was running clear. Twenty minutes down that we reached the Tukituki River which was still discoloured but seemed to be marginally lower than on Saturday. An hour down the river we got to where we'd made our way to the river on Saturday. We were hopeful of finding marker poles a bit downstream but no joy so we had to weave our way through scrub and tall grass again to pick up the track to the road end. We got back to the vehicle in time for a late lunch and were back in Lower Hutt by about 6 p.m. Although we had to leave Sawtooth Ridge for another day it was a good trip with reasonable weather and plenty of variety.

*Andrew*

## THE RIDGE TRACK

### Monday 6 February 2023

Jackie West

The day tramp for Waitangi Weekend was on the syllabus as Smiths Creek Waterfall, on the preceding Wednesday I decided we would do this on Waitangi Day, for the best forecast. Unfortunately Sunday night was very wet and I was concerned about the state of Smiths Creek in which we would spend some time walking up stream with one tricky spot with a pool and a large rock to climb over. All my previous trips there has been in drier summers so we erred on the side of caution and choose to walk the Ridge Track instead.

We left the Te Marua car park at 9:50 am and Chris and I noticed that since we were last there at the beginning of March the track at the start of the climb had become almost over grown with blackberry. We all noticed the ripening blackberries so it was decided we would stop on the way back when we would have empty lunch boxes to fill. We stopped for morning tea where there is a short side track to a seat with a view of the Upper Hutt Valley. The track along the ridge seemed very wintry with all the puddles and muddy patches. At one point we stopped to listen to two long tail cuckoos having a territorial dispute.

It was 11:40 when we arrived at a very busy Kaitoke. The tables where Chris and I usually sat and ate lunch were occupied so we took the track to Rivendell and found a suitable spot. While eating a sudden sharp shower had everyone donning parkas by which time it had become a sun shower and then stopped completely. Before heading back we walked to the carpark and those who walked onto the bridge over the Hutt River were entertained by a woman tightrope walking on a rope strung between two large trees on the true right. While we watched she had two falls but her safety harness held and both times she climbed back up.



The walk back was uneventful but as promised we stopped to full the lunch boxes with blackberries before returning to the cars at 3:30 pm.

On the tramp: Marilyn Sickels, Mel Stoneham, John Smeith, David McQueen, Anja van Kesteren and Maarten Vink and Chris and Jackie West (leader)

*Jackie*

# DONALD DAVID KENNINGTON PATERSON



Don was a member of HVTC for many years, easily recognised by his height (6 ft, 6 inches) and woollen bonnet.

He remains an elusive character: I can find no record of when he died, but he was 82 when his death was notified in the Dominion Post on 4 February 2023.

A memorial service was held on 10.2.23, attended by about 20 relatives and friends, including Barry Davis (a former secretary of HVTC).

I knew Don well, as we often met accidentally for coffee at Waterloo Bakery and Cafe over the past 5 years.

The stories of his life ranged from credible - that he had been a professional boxer, a worldwide traveller, a mountaineer scaling the North face of the Eiger - to the unlikely - that because of his hooked nose he was constantly pursued by the Gestapo, his nights spent with friendly packs of wolves in Alaska, and Lions in Africa - to the unbelievable - that Muldoon was Hitler in disguise.

At his funeral it was apparent that his family were aware of his exaggerations. But he had been a top-class classical concert pianist, a noted landscape painter, and a great cartoonist. He also had an amazing library - we often swapped books.

The family chose this wonderfully fitting quotation for his memorial card:

"Well, I feel that we should always put a little art into what we do.

It's better that way." Jules Verne

*John Flax*





## DOUG'S IMAGES

Here are a couple of images that Doug Flux loaned to me some years ago.



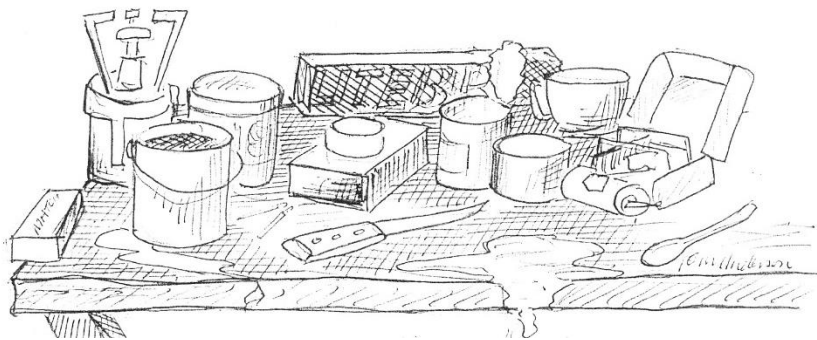
*View from South Temple, Gunsite Pass to left.*



*View from Gunsite Pass to Rabbiters Peak*

## Poor Bench

Poor bench you're cracked and torn  
Your skin is old you're warped and worn  
You've been covered in spirit and kerosene  
Candlewax and sunban cream  
Dried veg and instant pud  
and numerous kinds of freeze-dried food  
Curry, custard and long-grain rice  
Droppings from the local mice  
Porridge oats and milk that's dried  
Bacon that's been partly fried  
Muesli bits and peanut oil  
Beans and greasy mono-foil  
Drips from socks soaking wet  
Parts of sausage partly set  
Sticky honey and smelly cheese  
Squashed spaghetti and flattened peas  
Tea ringed, fruit juice stained  
Milo marked and coffee grained  
Poor bench do not despair  
A tramper will clean your skin with care  
You will be spick and span  
and then.....  
The spattering begins again!



*Tom Anderson*

*The views expressed in the articles in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the Hutt Valley Tramping Club. Any queries or comments should be directed to the writer of the article. Contributions to the Hills & Valleys are welcomed and encouraged but all are accepted on the understanding that the Editor has the authority to make minor changes if deemed necessary, refer back to the contributor for amendment, or return the contribution for amendment by the Writer.*