



Please submit your **October 2019** H&V articles to the editor by **28th August 2019**

HVTC Postal Address: PO Box 30-883, Lower Hutt:

Clubrooms: Birch Street Reserve, Birch Street, Waterloo

Internet: <http://www.hvtc.org.nz> E-mail: info@hvtc.org.nz

President: Dennis Page 970 6901

Secretary: Murray Presland 562 8194

Trip Coordinator: Chris McMillan 569 9019

Treasurer: Jim Cousins 586 2135

Editor H&V: Bruce Miller 563 5966 the-bruce@xtra.co.nz



WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMME

Starts 8.00 pm promptly



4 September : Cathy & Mike Priest – Walking in Spain

Two different Caminos two different ways: Camino via de la Plata and Camino del Norte.
(Caminos are a network of pilgrims' ways in Spain and France.)

11 September : The 8th International HVTC Film Festival

Join us for this great night of entertainment featuring some of the world's extreme and not so extreme clips from the great outdoors. Compiled and presented by Andrew Robinson and Neil Hickman, this evening features from downright crazy stuff to just feel good to make us happy.

18 September : Marina Skinner – High and dry on the Old Ghost Road

Twelve HVTC members who walked the Old Ghost Road in February never expected to find hut water tanks that had run dry. The upside of such relentless sunshine was spectacular views and beautiful photos.

25 September : Open Night

Members please bring along a few slides to share – probably around 10-12 each.

2 October : Debbie Bainbridge – Alaskan Adventures and Cruise

Bikes, boats, bears, bald eagles and glaciers were all part of the Alaskan Adventure Cruise. Come and join Debbie Bainbridge and Paul Labett to see some of the stunning scenery.



FORTHCOMING TRIPS



TRIP CATEGORIES

Tramping

T = Overnight or longer tramping trip

D = Day tramp

= Dog Friendly

= Moonlight Walk

Cycling



= Very easy



= Easy



= Intermediate





= Advanced

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.

SEPTEMBER					
Sat tba		Martinborough Circuit	Helen & Paul	589 7484	
7 – 8	T2				
Sun 8	D1	Bus Barns to Lowry Bay	Marina Skinner	021 792 260	
Tues 12		Eastern Bays	Helen Lukes & Paul Haines	589 7484	
14 – 15	TARARUA FOREST PARK : Wairarapa				
	T2	Neill Forks	John Evans	02041664410	
Sun 15	D1	Wharepapa Hut	Kate Livingston	0210731953	

RUAPEHU – Club Lodge					
20 – 22	Ski	Club ski races	Ian McIlraith	475 8458	
21 – 22	T1				
Sun 22	D1				
TARARUA FOREST PARK : Waiohine					
28 – 29	T1	Cone Hut – Tutuwai	Chris McMillan	569 9019	
Sun 29	D1	Te Marua to Kaitoke Ridgeline Track	Bob & Bernice Deller	938 4685	
RUAPEHU – Club Lodge					
30 Sep-4 Oct	Ski	School holiday week 1	Kate Brownsword	0275620177	
OCTOBER					
Tues 01		Hutt River from Belmont Domain	Rosie Doole	022 096 5303	
		Hutt River from Belmont Domain	Murray Presland	022 656 8309	
RUAHINE FOREST PARK : Kashmir Road					
5 – 6	T1	Longview Hut	Rene Davies	021 056 6442	
	T2	Top Gorge Hut	Andrew Robinson	586 2438	
Sun 6	D1	Orongorongo River			
	D2	Turere – McKerrow Loop	Jim Cousins	586 2135	
RUAPEHU – Club Lodge					
7 – 11	Ski	School holiday week 2	Ian McIlraith	475 8458	

[U1]

UPCOMING EVENTS

RUAPEHU EVENTS			
<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>	<i>Event</i>	
Mon 30 Sept	Fri 04 Oct	October School Holiday week 1	Contact Kate Brownsword 027 562 0177
Mon 08 Oct	Fri 12 Oct	October School Holiday week 2	Contact Ian McIlraith 475 8458

This list doesn't mean that you have to go on an organised trip. There are plenty of other opportunities to use the lodge throughout the winter season for skiing, climbing, ski touring or just relaxing. Just pick a time, contact the booking officer (details listed above) then come on up.

OCTOBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS (START 30 SEPTEMBER)

Ssssh don't tell anyone!

The best kept secret on the mountain

Bluebird days - and few people on the mountain. Families are thinking about summer sports and the child-free stay away because it's the holidays. For the last few years we've had a week or more of bluebird weather at this time and few queues.

Come and join us at the lodge with the best view and newest facilities.

School holidays 1st week : 30 September - 4 October

a number of spaces still available

contact Kate Brownsword 562 0177 or 027 562 0177 or email the.brownswords@xtra.co.nz

School holidays 2nd week : 7 - 11 October

a number of spaces still available

contact Ian McIlraith on 475 8458 or email ian@speyside.co.nz

This list doesn't mean that you have to go on an organised trip. There are plenty of other opportunities to use the lodge throughout the winter season for skiing, climbing, ski touring or just relaxing. Just pick a time, contact the booking officer (details listed below) then come on up.



Alison Newbald

Ruapehu Lodge Booking Officer

Phone: 027 4512 587

Email: alison.newbald@gmail.com

BITS OF INFO FROM THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

September 2019

Leading Trips: Chris's plunging, directly after taking up the role of Trip Coordinator at the AGM, into developing a Trips Schedule for the coming summer raises a long-standing challenge – finding leaders for all of the trips. Many have offered to lead their trip suggestions – which is wonderfully helpful; thank you! – but we also need to encourage more members to lead trips, to everyone's benefit.

There has been, languishing in the Club archives, a Handbook for Trip Leaders, written by Andrew Robinson in 2014. We have revised it – mostly in its formatting – to provide a quick guideline to all the things you should be aware of as a Trip Leader. Our intention with this documentation is to make the task easier, rather than more daunting! To those of us who have lead trips over many years it all seems a piece of cake – until an emergency arises! However one's experience and resilience does kick in and a solution is generated, but we understand it is helpful to be prepared beforehand as much as possible.

So we have held a couple of small workshops with new volunteers as potential leaders to find out what elements of the task they find most daunting. In light of their comments we are adding more information, and sources of information, to the Handbook. Please access the Handbook, from the web-site or ask for a printed copy - we will be happy to receive comments on the material, omissions and accuracy you find – and use whatever you find helpful!

October BikeFest: Councils in the Wellington region are promoting a programme of biking events throughout the region throughout October – to encourage citizens to spring out and be active on their bikes as Spring develops. Hutt Valley Tramping Club has been invited to contribute, in particular by opening our Tuesday evening rides, that begin on 1st October with the advent of Daylight Saving, to members of the public. There is some caution amongst the General Committee about simply opening all our programme since the leaders would be taking responsibility for completely unknown participants. As a compromise we have agreed to ask potential participants to contact a Club officer (me!) who will pass them onto contact with ride leaders after initial vetting about the appropriateness of the proposed ride.

The first rides – on 1st October – will be along Hutt River trails – not too challenging, we thought. Rosie Doole and I have volunteered to manage an easy and a moderate version, respectively, and will manage any difficulties that might arise.

This is an opportunity to actively display one of our Club's activities to the public of the Hutt Valley. Please welcome any, all, of those who choose to join us for the event. That will encourage them, perhaps, to join us into the future. We will let them know too about the Information Evening that is scheduled for 30th October.

Members of the General Committee will welcome your comments!

Murray Presland (secretary@hvtc.org.nz)

TRIP REPORTS

WAIOPEHU HUT 4-5 May 2019 Andrew Robinson

Waiopehu hut is one of the easier huts to get to in the Tararuas so I was surprised when I looked at my notes to see that it was seven years since I'd been there. Five of us set off from Poads Road ten days after the last time I was there. My memory of the track to Waiopehu was that it was fairly long and boring. My memory was wrong and it was an interesting walk in, enhanced by hearing stories from the others about their trips to Waiopehu. The hut was empty when we arrived. A couple turned up soon after but they decided to camp down the hill a bit at the clearing by the old hut site. An hour or two later a group of four women from Levin turned up then just before dark a young couple turned up, she with a large pack and he with a small one. As I suspected, it was a case of him easing back into tramping after an injury. He'd broken his shoulder getting

knocked off his bike by a car earlier in the year.

Dinner was a particularly flavoursome pasta and veggies, enhanced by Keith's kumara and



SR

Sharman's salt. Dessert was even better with

raspberries, chocolate, Dutch apple cakes and almond date rolls.

It was actually warmer in the morning. Jan had had a bit of leg trouble on the way in so he decided to return the way we'd come in, accompanied by Sharman. Although it was misty I figured it was worth ascending Waiopahu since we were so close. Of course once you're there it's about the same distance back to the van via Gable End Ridge as via Waiopahu hut so we went via Gable End Ridge as originally planned.

At Richards knob the Doc sign says Waiopahu hut 3 hours. Someone has scratched a note underneath "No, 1 hour 5 minutes" and that's exactly what it took us.



KT

That's another correction to send to the Department of Conservation.

Having recently been up Gable End Ridge I knew that although a bit muddy it wasn't as bad as some people seem to think it is. A couple of hours after we left Richards Knob we stopped for lunch, then it was a couple of hours back to the van where Jan and Sharman had been since lunch.

For the record, it took us 5 hours to get to Waiopahu hut via the Waiopahu track and 5:40 to return via Gable End Ridge

Trip members:

Jan Arts, Andrew Robinson (leader), Sharman Robinson, John Smeith and Keith Thomas

Andrew

MT KAUKAU - SILVERSKY

Saturday 13 July 2019

Graeme Lythgoe

A group of us met up late morning at our place and a car was re-positioned while the rest walked to the bottom of Mt Kaukau. It was very busy there with a couple of marathons having departed from there earlier that morning. We enjoyed a leisurely pace to the top and then as some had never been to the top we climbed a bit higher to reach the real summit - the trig. It was fine with a fresh NW wind but great views all around. Then we set off south along the Skyline ridge. We stopped for lunch in a reasonably sheltered



spot and enjoyed great views of the new subdivision at the end of Crofton Downs. Then we continued along to the pylon service road that leads gently down to Chartwell. Here Michele met us and we descended down the Silversky track which is in a pleasant wooded area of mainly mahoe. Then back to our place for refreshments after another pleasant outing in the middle of this mild winter.

Those on the tramp were: Bernice and Bob Deller, Elaine and Derek Richardson, Ida Yassein, Leanda Rock, Tony Jaegars, Michele, Dash and Graeme Lythgoe.

Graeme

MITRE FLATS

6-7 July 2019

Andrew Robinson

When Chris proposed changing the destination for the grade one trip for the first weekend of July to Atiwhakatu hut I was happy to change what I had in mind for the grade two trip to fit in. After a bit of thought I figured a repeat of a trip I went on with the Wests in 2011 would do nicely. Chris was wanting an early start Saturday morning allowing plenty of time for a side trip to maybe Jumbo for those that wanted. As it turned out Chris had a vanload of participants so my trip was able to leave an hour later. Three people signed up for my trip.

On Saturday, from the Mount Holdsworth carpark, we started with an hour and three quarter walk up the Atiwhakatu Stream to Atiwhakatu hut. We had lunch there with the grade one group who had arrived earlier, then we left Derek with them, as prearranged. We had another hour up the stream to a swingbridge across the Atiwhakatu Stream. I think it was our fifth or sixth swingbridge of the day. We had a fifteen-minute climb to the saddle we'd be turning off at the following day, then it was along Barton track to Mitre Flats hut. I'd done the track three times previously, once going down and twice going up. I couldn't remember much of the track apart from it being harder than it looked like it should and it wasn't particularly appealing. Keith, Phaedra and I agreed it was harder than it looked on the map and the long sidle in the middle of it was rather tedious. We'd had light rain for much of the day and it wasn't warm so it was a relief to get to the hut and

find the fire going. There was a group of 10 (including 7 women) from WTMC in the hut and they'd got the place warm for us. Over the course of the evening we got our clothes dry.

Sunday morning we left a bit after 8, aiming to get to the saddle and meet Derek there at about 11. It didn't take much longer going up than it took going down and we got to the saddle about twenty minutes early. Derek was already there so we didn't have to wait before heading off along Pinnacle Ridge. Decades ago the main route was along Pinnacle Ridge and there's still a good trail along it, including markers. The weather was fine, though there was an icy wind so it was fortunate that there was only a short section out of the bush, heading up to Pinnacle. On the previous two trips I'd been along the ridge we had crossed the Atiwhakatu Stream at the bottom, but I was hoping to avoid a crossing this time. Fortunately we found a trail on the true left. About twenty minutes on that took us back to the carpark. The relatively good conditions on Sunday made up for the gloomy weather on Saturday. I'm in no hurry to do Barton track again but Pinnacle Ridge is one I could do over and over.

Trip participants: Derek Richardson, Andrew Robinson (leader), Keith Thomas and Phaedra Upton.

Andrew

RESULTS OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION:

A: Above the Bushline (with no human element)

1. Derek Richardson: Tararua Tempest
2. Sharman Robinson: View from Waiopehu

B: Above the Bushline (with human element)

1. Grant Roberts: Descending from Girdlestone (Tararua Range)
2. Jan Arts: Christmas Morning - Hump Ridge Track

C: Below the Bushline (with no human element)

1. Sharman Robinson: Storm over the Kawekas

2. Jan Arts: Totara Creek - on a good day

D: Below the Bushline (with human element)

1. Grant Roberts: Cosy Cabin in the woods

2. Grant Roberts: On the track from Mytton's Hut - Cobb Valley

The above photos go through to the FMC Photographic Competition.

E: Historic. No entries.

F: Native Flora and Flora

1. Jan Arts: A Drinking Problem - Stewart Island

2. Derek Richardson: Fiordland flora

These entries go to FMC. HVTC Natural History Trophy for 1st place.

G: Long Exposure. No entries.

H: Topical. HVTC Trophy for 1st place

1. Grant Roberts: Communing with nature

2. Rosie Doole: Sunset ride - summit

I: Personality. HVTC Trophy for 1st place

1. Grant Roberts: Prime waterfront location

2. Grant Roberts: Just hanging out

J: Overseas. HVTC Trophy for 1st place

1. David Barnes: Taj Mahal

2. David Barnes: Walrus, Svalbard

K: Novice. HVTC Trophy for 1st place

1. Abigail Brownsword: Grey on grey

2. Abigail Brownsword: Daylight draining

The HVTC Scenic Trophy was awarded to Abigail Brownsword for 'Daylight draining'.

Runner up - Sharman Robinson for 'Storm over the Kawekas'.

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all members who entered. Good luck to those whose photos will be judged in the FMC Competition.

Very many thanks to John Flux for being our judge with helpful and encouraging comments, and to Murray Presland who did a sterling job to collate all the entries.

Helen Lukes
for Social Committee

THE WINNERS



Daylight draining



Tararua Tempest



A Drinking Problem



Descending from Girdlestone



Storm over the Kawakas



Cosy Cabin in the woods



Communing with nature



Prime waterfront location



Taj Mahal



Grey on Grey

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.