



“Stillness” by Sharman Robinson

Winner – FMC Category Below Bushline with Human Element

Winner – HVTC Scenic Cup

Please submit your **October 2021** H&V articles to the editor by **1st October 2021**

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](mailto:info@hvtc.org.nz)

**President:** Dennis Page 970 6901  
**Trip Coordinator:** Chris McMillan 569 9019

**Secretary:**  
**Treasurer:** Jim Cousins 586 2135

**Editor H&V:** Bruce Miller 563 5966 [the-bruce@xtra.co.nz](mailto:the-bruce@xtra.co.nz)



**CLUB NIGHT PROGRAMME**  
Starts 8.00 pm promptly



**1 September : Keith Thomas & Irene Davies – Three Spectacular Tramps in Peru and Chile**

Keith and Irene are giving a Zoom presentation of photos from three multi-day hiking trips that they have done in South America; the Huayhuash Circuit in Peru, the Condor Circuit near Descabezado Grande in Chile and the Dientes Circuit on Isla Navarino, also in Chile.

**8 September : Sandra Greig, JP – “Taita”**

Sandra is a former local Lower Hutt Regional Councillor and HVDHB member. Journalist from age 14 when she began having overseas magazines print her life down under.

TAITA the book began as a multi-story. First Sandra’s great grandparents lived there in 1855, proof on their wedding cert. Her immediate grandfather lived on High St Taita during 1940-60. Taita Hotel archaeologist report gave the HCC a booklet full of information on Taita town and the local Maori owning Taita Hotel with URUPA out the back, as did the Wellington Regional Council river works.

And so it began.

**15 September : Open Night**

Please bring around 12 or so of your photos to share with the members.

**22 September : Anja and Maarten – April 2021, around the Mountain Track**

Desert landscapes, scrublands and beech forests. Maarten will talk about completing the walk around Mt Ruapehu in April this year. This is a walk they started in 2014 but did not complete.

**29 September : David Barnes – Lewis Pass to St Arnaud**

David will talk about a New Year trip by the Whisky Connoisseurs' Tramping Club from Lewis Pass to St Arnaud. It was a week of mostly good weather, crossing four 1800 metre passes with great mates.

**6 October 2021 : Catherine Croucher – Biking Adventures**

“What, you’re by yourself?”, “Gosh, you’re brave” and “What about your husband?” Catherine often encounters such remarks while cycle-touring alone. She reflects on these and other related matters, while giving us an account of several bike trips she has recently done.



*Listed below are the tramping and cycling trips which may be on offer if the Covid-19 alert is reduced to Level 2 or below during this month. All trips will go ahead at the discretion of their leaders.*

**TRIP CATEGORIES**

**Tramping**

- D Day walk or evening stroll
- T Overnight or longer tramp
-  Dog Friendly
-  Moonlight Walk

Grade 1 Relaxed pace with plenty of rest stops. All terrain types may be encountered, occasionally off-track. Duration depends on the terrain and conditions, but is usually for no more than 6 hours per day.

- Grade 2 Steady walking pace with regular snack and drink breaks. Terrain may vary from flat river valleys to ridges above the bush line. Off-track travel may be involved. Up to 8 hours walking time per day, depending on conditions.
- Grade 3 Brisk pace with few drink and snack breaks. Terrain encountered is as for grade 2 trips but the distance travelled is usually much further. More than 8 hours walking time per day.
- Family Family trip. Very relaxed pace with plenty of rest stops. Suitable for small children.
- WP Working Party. Overnight or for a day. Voluntary work on HVTC Ruapehu Lodge or a conservation project.

### 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

tba		Martinborough - Ponatahi	Helen & Paul	589 7484
<b>11 – 12</b>		<b>TARARUA FP – WAIOHINE</b>		
	T1	Cone or Totara Flats		
	T2	Visit new Winchcombe Biv	Mike Wespel-Rose	027 562 6341
Sun 12	D1	Tregear Falls & Korokoro Dam	John Smeith	027 244 2498
<b>13 – 17</b>	ski	Ruapehu - Club Week 3 (Veterans & All-comers)	Russell Oliver	021 245 9596
<b>18 – 19</b>				
	T1	Trip required		
	T2	Trip required		
Sun 19	D1	Mt Climie	John Evans	020 4166 4410
Tue 21		Moonlight walk – Pauatahanui Inlet		
<b>25 – 26</b>		<b>REMUTAKA FP – CATCHPOOL</b>		
<b>Daylight Saving starts 2.00 am Sunday 26 September. Clocks go forward 1 hour.</b>				
	T1	Papatahi Hut (hut booked)	Jackie & Chris	528 4697
24 – 26	T2	Papatahi crossing	Andrew Robinson	586 2438
Sun 29	D1	Eastern Hills		

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### AN EPIC SOUTHERN ALPS TRAVERSE TUESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER, 2021 AT 7.30 PM

Tararua Tramping Club · 4 Moncrieff Street, Mount Victoria, Wellington 6011

A few years ago, when Maddy Whittaker walked the Te Araroa trail, she gazed at distant white mountains and thought how amazing it would be to 'do this but up there'.

In November 2020, Maddy and her partner Conor Vaessen, with friends Tom Hadley and Tōrea Scott-Fyfe, embarked on a three-month alpine traverse of the Southern Alps, from Arthur's Pass to Fiordland, along a route close to the Main Divide that took them into some of the most remote and inaccessible places in New Zealand.

The trip took a year to plan, with months spent preparing dehydrated food for the journey and carrying it into remote huts in big plastic drums. The group were sponsored by a number of organisations and received a couple of monetary grants, one from FMC. They carried 50 litre packs, took a PLB InReach satellite phone as their only communication with the outside world, and had a rotating group of support people who relayed them the weather forecast every few days, confirmed their location, and helped them to keep up their spirits.

The group came out for a few days in December to attend graduation at the University of Otago. During the Aoraki/Mt Cook section of the traverse, Maddy started vomiting regularly and decided to stop. Conor accompanied her out. Their two-month traverse of the Southern Alps had taken them from Arthur's Pass to the West Coast via the Bracken Snowfield, Garden of Eden Ice Plateau, a new route up Mt. Acland, the Murchison, Tasman, Fox and Franz Glaciers, the Lower Balfour, a new route over Belmont, the upper La Perouse, the shoulder of Mt. Hicks, Empress, the Hooker Glacier, Baker Saddle, the Strauchon and the Copland Valley. Tom and Tōrea kept going for another three weeks, finishing the traverse near Milford Sound. They had travelled 651km of backcountry and climbed 50 vertical km, the equivalent of climbing Mt Everest from sea level six times.

At the invitation of the Tararua Tramping Club and the Wellington Section of the NZ Alpine Club, Maddy and Conor will be giving a presentation on **21 September** in Wellington to talk about their trip and encourage others to follow their footprints. They have many dramatic stories and humorous anecdotes to tell. Don't miss them! In the meantime, have a look at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iEwVWL9Lwhl...> - it's a delightful short promo video, made by a great group of young, enthusiastic trampers driven by desire! You could do it too!!

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<b><i>RUAPEHU EVENTS 2021</i></b>			
<b><i>In</i></b>	<b><i>Out</i></b>	<b><i>Event</i></b>	
Mon 13 Sept	Fri 17 Sept	Club Week 4 (Veterans and All-comers)	<i>Contact Russell Oliver 021 245 9596</i>
Mon 04 Oct	Fri 08 Oct	October School Holiday week 1	<i>Contact Kate Brownsword 027 562 0177</i>
Mon 11 Oct	Fri 15 Oct	October School Holiday week 2	<i>Contact Booking Officer 027 451 2587</i>

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.

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**RUAPEHU LODGE VETERANS & ALL-COMERS WEEK**  
**MONDAY 13 SEPTEMBER TO FRIDAY 17 SEPTEMBER**

Planning on a great ski week at Mt Ruapehu?  
 Come join us this year

This trip is guaranteed to provide:-  
 Great food & wine  
 Great weather

Great snow for skiing walking or just looking at from the upper deck

Great company especially if you join us.

But the trip is not only for vets to come on, everybody is welcome. A good chance to bring friends along to experience the club's facilities, taste the pleasures of the mountain and enjoy the skiing and perhaps join the club.

New to the club and or skiing you are welcome. Let a few of us older, mature, well perhaps experienced, members show you the ropes so to speak. Come along and find out what a great asset the club has on the mountain.

### DECIDE NOW

### SAY YES TO A SKI WEEK AT OUR RUAPEHU LODGE

For Vets week initially contact Russell Oliver, [russell@gnawt.co.nz](mailto:russell@gnawt.co.nz) or 021 245 9596.

*Russell*

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## OCTOBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS (START 4 OCTOBER)

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 4 - 8 October

a number of spaces still available

contact Kate Brownsword or 027 562 0177 or email [the.brownswords@xtra.co.nz](mailto:the.brownswords@xtra.co.nz)

School holidays 2nd week : 11 - 15 October

contact the Booking Officer on 027 451 2587 or email [alison.newbald@gmail.com](mailto:alison.newbald@gmail.com)

## FROM THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

September 2021

### From the General Committee:

#### Club Officers:

**Emma Dobbie**, who wanted to continue as a member of the General Committee, has needed to resign. She has suffered two medical events, requiring emergency surgery, recently and has had to recognise the need to take a more relaxed attitude to activity. Our best wishes are extended to Emma – and our hope that she will recover her health well and be able to return to tramping within the Club soon.

**John Smeth** has agreed to take up responsibilities of Transport Officer for the Club. You can contact him at 027 244 2498. Thank you, John!

No-one has volunteered to be Club Secretary. All together this means the General Committee has four vacancies (Secretary + 3 members) and the Ruapehu Committee has space for 3 members. The Social Committee has a full complement of members. All help with managing the Club is appreciated!

## First Aid training:

The half-day Outdoor First Aid Course originally scheduled for 21 August had to be rescheduled. It will now run on Saturday 6th November. There are some spaces available; the cost is \$20 for each participant; please contact me if you wish to take up this training opportunity – Murray Presland (ph (04) 562 8194; e-mail [murray.presland@xtra.co.nz](mailto:murray.presland@xtra.co.nz) ).

## Heine Books – Auction and Sale (Friday 24, Saturday 25, September)

A flyer for this event is included in this edition of Hills and Valleys. Much help will be needed to run the auction and sale of the huge number of fascinating books from Arnold's Library. Jan, FMC Trust, Dave Bamford, Les Molloy, Alan Stevens, Murray Presland will all be enormously grateful for all offers of assistance. Please contact Murray ([secretary@hvtc.org.nz](mailto:secretary@hvtc.org.nz):ph 562 8194) to volunteer to help!

## Waitewaewae Hut

As reported at the AGM, Waitewaewae Hut is in need of loving attention – principally cleaning and painting the exterior and clearing vegetation from around the hut. An inspection visit would be helpful in estimating the size of the tasks – but meantime the General Committee has agreed to sponsor a work party to undertake them during the 2021 Spring-Summer. This will probably need to be for several days, perhaps across a weekend. The Tararua-Aorangi-Remutaka Huts Committee (now chaired by Derrick Field) is seeking funds for materials and helicopter flights. (The Club will not need a Maintenance Agreement with DoC.) Please contact me (Murray Presland ph (04) 562 8194; e-mail [murray.presland@xtra.co.nz](mailto:murray.presland@xtra.co.nz) ) if you are interested in helping to maintain the Club's long association with Waitewaewae! Work Parties are very enjoyable and rewarding!!The General Committee welcomes your comment on any Club issues at any time!

*Murray Presland* (former secretary - [secretary@hvtc.org.nz](mailto:secretary@hvtc.org.nz))

## VIRTUAL CLUB NIGHT MEETINGS

During the virus-induced lockdown, Hutt Valley Tramping Club invites you join in its internet Clubnights. We have used the technology a number of times over the last 18 months and found that Zoom meetings offer an excellent way of keeping our Club sort-of functioning and members sort-of in contact during the national lockdown. You can join the meeting any time from 7.30 pm onwards - which should enable you to sort out your video and audio connections.

Details of how to join in and of who is giving the presentation are being circulated each week by email. **To join the meeting you need only click on the URL highlighted in the email.** Although it may seem initially quite daunting, just follow the instructions and everything works fine.

Please join us - but bring your own cup of tea and biscuits!

## CLUB SUPPORT NETWORK:

Restrictions imposed by the present lockdown do not necessarily mean the end of all club interactions or relationships. Many of you will know other club members and have their contacts. Even if they are not part of your 'bubble' you can still phone, text or e-mail them to check that they are OK. If they live close and cannot get out for supplies (particularly for those aged over 70), a door drop without direct (closer than 2 m) contact could greatly assist. If you wish to help the committee implement this form of support network, or avail yourself of it, please contact committee member Dennis Page via [dennimpag@gmail.com](mailto:dennimpag@gmail.com) or 021 229 9901 and he will work to put you in touch with other members as appropriate.

# HVTC PHOTO COMPETITION 2021 WINNERS AND RUNNERS-UP

We were privileged to have well-known trumper, cyclist and photographer John Rhodes of the South Wairarapa Tramping Club to judge the 2021 HVTC Photo Competition. The 2021 competition surpassed even the bumper turnout of 2020, with 138 images from 16 photographers. Well done! Again, there was a last-minute flood, with over 90 of the entries received in the last four days of the submission period.

Little did John realise that Covid would interfere with his presentation of the competition on 25 August. Fortunately, Murray Presland stepped in early with expert remote tutoring on Zoom and John graciously adapted his multi-media presentation to this format. John put in a tremendous effort on the HVTC 2021 Photo Olympics, for which he deserved the endurance gold medal. I am sure that we all enjoyed the presentation of the images to music and the thought that John gave to his practical comments, useful tips aimed to improve the photography of both the entrants and the rest of the audience. Thank you, John and Murray.

I appreciated the willing assistance of the rest of the Social Committee with tasks such as collecting the cups from last year's winners and cleaning and engraving them, providing publicity and purchasing the prizes. Thank you, team.

The winning and runner-up entries in each category will be available soon under Photographs on the club website. First and second places in the FMC categories A-G will be submitted by the club to the nationwide FMC competition.

The cups and prizes will be awarded to the winners and second-place getters when meetings can resume at the clubrooms under Level 1.

Congratulations to the winners and second placegetters listed below, and to all who made the effort to submit entries.

## **FMC Category A - Above Bushline No Human Element**

Winner – Kirsten Reid - Oturere waterfall

Second – Ian Flux - Iced leatherwood, High Ridge

## **FMC Category B – Above Bushline with Human Element**

Winner – Dennis Page -Your refuge awaits

Second – Ian Flux – Ascent to Zit Saddle

## **FMC Category C – Below Bushline No Human Element**

Winner – Derek Richardson – Descent step by step

Second – Phaedra Upton – Queen Charlotte Track

## **FMC Category D – Below Bushline with Human Element**

Winner – Sharman Robinson - Stillness

Second – John Flux – Off on the wings of a gull

## **Scenic Cup - best of categories A-D**

Sharman Robinson - Stillness

## **FMC Category E – Historic (HVTC Historic Trophy)**

Winner – Sandra Pearce (submitter) - HVTC at Belmont Trig May 1930 (from Fred Akhurst collection, photographer unknown)

Second – no award

## **FMC Category F – Native Flora and Fauna (HVTC Natural History Trophy)**

Winner – John Flux – First swim lesson

Second – Derek Richardson – A meal in one

### **FMC Category G – Long Exposure**

No entries

### **Category H – HVTC Topical Trophy**

Winner – Grant Roberts – The photographer

Second – Sharman Robinson – Family time

### **Category I – HVTC Personality Trophy**

Winner – John Flux – Portrait (Rembrandt?)

Second – Maarten Vink – Windblown at South Saddle

### **Category J – HVTC Overseas Trophy**

Winner – Phaedra Upton – Prayer flags on Snowy La

Second – Ian Flux – France underground

### **Category K – HVTC Novice Trophy**

No entries

*Graeme McVerry*

Social Committee

## **MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**

A big welcome to four new members in recent months. Mel Stoneham, Seth Stoneham, Alisa Onuma and Tereska Zaloumis. We look forward to enjoying days in the hills with you all.

*Doreen Courtenay*

Membership Officer

## **LOCKDOWN READING**

### **MY LIFE ON THE MAUNGA**

**Laura Bruce**

In early 2021, I graduated from the University of Canterbury with a master's degree in geology and disaster risk, with the intention of establishing a career in the emergency management sector. This time last year, I saw myself completing further postgraduate study during 2021. So naturally, I ended up working on an active volcano... as a ski instructor.

Since June, I have been working as a full-time ski instructor at Whakapapa Ski Area, and also taking on the role of custodian at the HVTC Lodge. As the custodian, I manage the daily operations of the lodge in exchange for a pretty awesome place to live for the duration of the ski season. Some of my key responsibilities include; keeping an eye on potential maintenance issues, recording the level of the water tank, monitoring food stocks throughout the season, carrying rubbish bags down to the recycling centre as necessary, clearing the fire exits after heavy snowfall, welcoming and hosting any external groups, and ensuring that the lodge is warm for other club members.

Living on a mountain presents some interesting challenges that I have had to adapt to. My typical day begins at around 7am, when I head upstairs to make breakfast and lunch (most mornings the temperature of the lounge doesn't exceed 6 or 8 °C). Next up is my commute to work. On good

days, I am able to ski down the hill, on other days I have to walk. In good conditions the walk is easy and takes me around 15 minutes, but in fresh snow it has taken me as long as 40 minutes. There have also been several days when I have needed crampons to get down the hill.

As a ski instructor, a normal day at work consists of three two-hour ski lessons (almost always in Happy Valley), and a 30 minute lunch break. So far, my most challenging lessons include; school groups of up to 15 children (many of whom have no interest in skiing), uncoordinated adults who are trying skiing for the first time, and even a few 3-year-olds. Due to Happy Valley's brilliant location and topography, it is able to open in nearly any weather conditions. Since I started working at Whakapapa, Happy Valley has only been closed twice. The bad news is that we have to work in nearly any weather conditions. Nothing quite compares to working with children in the freezing rain for hours on end, and not even the best snow gear will keep you warm and dry. The best purchase I have made this winter is a pair of waterproof work gloves (they are glorified rubber gloves and a cult-favourite among Whakapapa ski instructors).

My afternoon commute is relatively similar to my morning commute. On good days, I am able to ride the Rangatira Express to Hut Flat, on other days I have to walk the whole way up to the lodge. Depending on weather conditions, this walk takes me anywhere between 20 and 40 minutes. In the evenings, I generally have a shower to warm up, cook my dinner, then do a load of washing. The lodge does not have a washing machine, so I have become very efficient at handwashing my clothes in a bucket. Luckily the drying room makes a great clothes dryer.

Prior to lockdown, I only left the mountain four times. Once to collect my uniform from National Park, twice to buy groceries from Ohakune, and one other trip to National Park. It's amazing how thrilling a few hours in Ohakune can be after spending several weeks on the mountain. My grocery lists have also become restricted by how much I can physically carry, rather than how

much money I should spend. My most eventful off-mountain trip was in early-August, when I drove to Raurimu for a staff party at Slalom Lodge. The plan was to spend the night with a friend who lives at the Downhill Ski Club in National Park, then drive back up to work in the morning. However, the next day, Whakapapa Ski Area, the Bruce Road and most other Central Plateau roads were closed due to a major storm and low snowfall. Down in National Park, we awoke to a decent layer of snow on the ground, with more snowfall throughout the day. We spent the day exploring National Park, sampling the local cuisine (at the infamous Schnapp's Bar), and visiting other ski instructors, which led to watching people attempt to ride a snowboard towed behind a ute.



*Snowdrift in front of the rentals building, during early-August storm*

The Bruce Road did not open until early afternoon the following day. During the storm, wind speeds at Knoll Ridge exceeded 250 km/h and created large snowdrifts across the ski area. RAL had to groom the Happy Valley Plaza in order to access the elevator doors, and staff members were required to dig out the main Happy Valley carpet which was entirely buried. Several lodges had substantial snowdrifts inside, but I returned to a weathertight lodge. Outside however, there was a 2 m snowdrift in front of the lodge and on the deck, and at least a 60 cm layer of snow on the balcony (thankfully another lodge's custodian helped me to clear the snow).

Many of the club lodges at Whakapapa opt to have winter custodians. The result is a unique (at least within New Zealand) and close-knit group of people who live on the mountain. There are around 20 custodians at Whakapapa this year, many of whom have been custodians for several years. The custodian community is strong, with people regularly helping each other out and

swapping supplies. It is nice to be connected with a group who can directly relate to my uncommon living situation, plus I always have people to ski with on my days off.



HVTTC Lodge on day one of lockdown

And then we went into lockdown. When I heard about New Zealand going back to Alert Level 4, I assumed that I would stay at Whakapapa, but possibly relocate to a different lodge with other custodians. However, around three hours after Jacinda's initial announcement, the Ruapehu Mountain Clubs Association (RMCA) reported that all lodge guests (including custodians) would have to vacate within 48 hours. This is because the Bruce Road will not be maintained during a lockdown and therefore will not be accessible to emergency services. So, on Wednesday, I had to evacuate the mountain in a blizzard. In an ideal world, I would have waited until the weather improved on Thursday, but there was some uncertainty around whether the Bruce Road would stay open. The unpleasant weather conditions meant that I could only make one trip down the hill. Without having any idea how long I'd be away for, I packed as many of my belongings as I could into my tramping pack, and one rubbish bag for overflow. I filled another rubbish bag with any fresh food that was likely to perish while I was gone. Due to the blizzard,

and my heavy bags, it was a pretty difficult walk down to my car. To make my evacuation slightly more interesting, I gave some clubbies from Tahurangi Ski Club a ride back to Wellington. They phoned the lodge on Tuesday night to ask if there were any spare seats going back to Wellington because they caught the train to National Park and had no other way home.

Whakapapa received around 50 cm of snow in this blizzard. Following the snowfall, the weather during the first week or so of lockdown was beautiful. The timing of this fine weather would have been perfect, because we were just heading into the peak of the season and were expecting high lodge occupancy. Unfortunately, nobody was able to make the most of it. Up until lockdown, I had the lodge completely to myself most nights, so I was looking forward to having some more people in the lodge for the rest of the season. Mt Ruapehu will reopen at Alert Level 2 (possibly from mid-September) and there is a lot of snow up there, so there is still plenty of time to experience some famous Whakapapa spring skiing through to late-October.

If you are interested in keeping up to date with the lodge, then follow our Facebook page: HVTTC Ruapehu Lodge

*Laura*

## TRIP REPORTS

### COW CREEK HUT 3-4 July 2021 Andrew Robinson

The first weekend in July this year was in need of a trip so I thought I'd fill it with a repeat of a two-day mid-winter tramp in the Tararuas I did nine years ago. From The pines up the Waingawa River to Cow Creek hut is sheltered from the wind so not too dependent on the weather. I advertised it and got a couple of takers in Doc and Kirsten. It had taken 8 hours the first time so I reckoned a 7am departure from the clubrooms would get us to Cow Creek hut around dusk, but if we had to tramp in the dark for a bit it wouldn't be too difficult.

We left at 7:05am which wasn't a bad start, but then the heater and fan in Doc's ute didn't work so the windscreen kept fogging up. It was rather chilly with the windows down to help clear the windscreen. A short coffee stop in Carterton meant we started tramping 20 minutes later than I had initially anticipated but I didn't think that was too bad. Doc grew up in Stokes Valley and so it turned out had Kirsten so the pair of them spent much of the day swapping stories of people and events in Stokes Valley. It was a beautifully fine and calm day, though it was only about 5°C most of the time. Apart from the first 40 minutes on a farm track, we were in the bush pretty much the whole time, but Kirsten still spotted some good photo opportunities. We got to Mitre Flats hut at 1:05 which had us back on schedule and we had some welcome sun as we ate our lunch.

We left for the second half to Cow Creek hut at 1:45. The signpost said 3 hrs 30 mins to Cow Creek. I expected it would take us at least 4 hours, but I was still optimistic that we might get there before dark. I knew there were no significant climbs ahead of us. I also knew there were lots of side streams to cross, but from memory there were only a couple of stream crossings where we might get wet feet. The track was a mix of river terraces and sidles. The terraces were sometimes muddy, sometimes not and included a short boardwalk section and a nice grassy flat. The sidles were not challenging, but were sometimes slow going. Peggy Stream was the first of the larger side streams and we were able to keep feet dry by boulder hopping across. We were still on target time-wise to about that point, but only if we didn't stop, which in reality meant we were going to be tramping in the dark for the last part. The next stream was North Mitre Stream, the second of the larger streams and I think we all got a bit of water in our boots as we crossed. We eventually had to stop to put our torches on at half past five. Doc and Kirsten took turns at navigating in the dark. If you're on a reasonable track, navigating in the dark is usually pretty straightforward. While I wouldn't call it a great track, it was reasonable enough and we finally reached Cow Creek hut just before 7pm.

I knew there would be others at the hut, because two had set off from The pines ahead of us, but I was surprised to find it full. Given the fine weather I guess it wasn't a complete surprise. While Doc and I went in search of a campsite Kirsten managed to find a place in the hut. One of the hut occupants directed us to a flat area near the bridge, big enough for several tents. We knew from Queen's birthday weekend the slightly uneven area under the trees would be a better prospect than the flat, but frosty area in the open. By the time we'd put the tent up Kirsten had cooked her tea and had potentially organised a ride back to Wellington from Kiriwhakapapa Road end the next day. She needed to be home when her son got dropped off Sunday evening so going out via Kiriwhakapapa would get her home in plenty of time, whereas going out via Mitre Flats hut we might be pushing it. I was happy for her to head out to Kiriwhakapapa Road with others, while Doc and I would head back the way we came in.



Afternoon frost at Mitre Flats hut

It took Doc and me somewhat longer than Kirsten to get our tea. It was eventually ready at 9:30, but it was nice and tasty so worth the wait. We had a four person tent so there was plenty of room in it for the two of us plus our packs. It turned out to be quite a comfortable spot and Doc said he had one of the best night's sleep he'd had on a tramping trip.

With no need to rush we had a leisurely start to the second day. Kirsten left with I think a father and son and maybe some others about 8:30. Doc and I didn't leave until 9:30 which would probably

mean walking by torch again at the end of the day. When we got to the grassy flat I worked out that tramping in the dark the previous night had only added about ten minutes to the total time. The rest of the walk out was uneventful. We did end up having to walk by torchlight, almost as much as the previous evening. Overall time was slightly less, but walking time was the same. The heater started working on the drive to Masterton so we didn't need the windows open for the drive over the Remutaka Hill. Aside from it being cold, it was a good trip, though I think if I do it again I'll do it in summer.

Trip members Doc Watson and Kirsten Reid, leader Andrew Robinson

*Andrew*

## BARING HEAD WORK PARTY

### Thursday 12th August

Graeme Lythgoe

This was the fourth WP that HVTC has run this winter with a large number of young trees having been grown at Remutaka Prison all needing permanent homes. We started by planting some trees put in place at the previous weekend before moving down to the coast. The following excerpt by Paula Warren (Chair of the FOBH) describes that activity.



Photo: Graeme Lythgoe

*We had a great outing with the Hutt Valley Tramping Club Thursday last week. They wanted an outing that had some proper tramping, and I was able to provide a walk to the beach over the scree in a Tararua tops-quality howling gale. We got some rare plants (*Muehlenbeckia ephedroides*) into the south coast exclosure, chased out some sheep and fixed the hole in the fence, removed a few poppies from the beach, and planted probably a couple of hundred plants on both sides of the scree slope. They also did a lot of preparation work for the event that has now been cancelled. We also inspected the 5 ngaio that they planted in the exclosure last year, and were delighted to find that they had been missed by the flooding effects and the sheep, although any bits that are poking out of their little protectors are being trimmed by (probably) a hare. We will need to give them a bigger hare proof cage. Fortunately we have been given some funding for exclosures, so we will use the funds for these sorts of locations.*

Then we planted the remaining Ngaio and *Cosprosmia robusta* plants before finishing up. The day started fine but became very windy by lunchtime. My thanks to those who gave up their day for this great cause: John Simes, Martin Watson, Jackie and Chris West, Murray Presland, Rosie Doole, Bruce Miller, Patrick Fotheringham and Graeme Lythgoe.

*Graeme*

# POWELL IN THE SNOW

Mike Wespel-Rose



On 15 August 12 of us on top of a cold but exciting winter Mt Holdsworth.

Icy track. Crampons helpful.

Left Club at 6am.

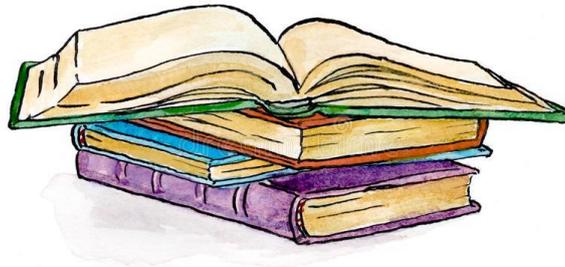
Walking by just after 8am.

Finished at 6pm.

A great day out.

*Mike*

## ARNOLD HEINE BOOK COLLECTION - AUCTION AND BOOK SALE.



Details for an Auction and Book Sale to disperse the books of Arnold Heine's magnificent library are given in the flyer on the next page. Jan has, generously, asked that the proceeds from the sale are donated to the FMC Mountain and Forest Trust. Les Molloy, Dave Bamford, Alan Stevens and I would be very grateful for the assistance of Club members to help make this event, especially on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September, a success. Please contact me if you will be able to help!

Murray Presland (04) 562 8194 or 022 656 8309

[murray.presland@xtra.co.nz](mailto:murray.presland@xtra.co.nz)

sale of the

# ARNOLD HEINE BOOK COLLECTION

**AUCTION: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2021**  
- books on view from 5.30 pm; auction from 7.30 pm

**BOOK SALE: Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2021**  
- from 9.30 am

**HUTT VALLEY TRAMPING CLUB**  
**Birch St Reserve, Waterloo, Lower Hutt**

hosted: Jan Heine  
Les Molloy, Patron of FMC  
Dave Bamford, NZAC  
Dennis Page, President of HVTC



**HEINE  
LIBRARY**

- Most of the late Arnold Heine's wonderful book collection, more than 1,500 books, will be sold.
- Jan, Arnold's widow, has generously asked that the proceeds of the Auction and Sale be donated to the Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand (FMC) Mountain and Forest Trust.
- Arnold's unique book collection is strong in mountaineering and exploration – ranging from the Himalaya and Tibet, through Central Asia and Siberia, Europe, North America, to the Pacific.
- There are many out-of-print books on New Zealand's mountaineering history, tramping, hunting, geology, ecology, conservation and culture, as well as guidebooks.
- Some books are signed by A J Heine:  
and some have a Heine Library bookplate (shown above).

- **AUCTION** - from 7.30 pm on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 - of 102 lots of rarer books - on view from 5.30 pm. A catalogue of the lots is available from <mailto:secretary@hvtc.org.nz> . Absentee bids accepted by e-mail to <mailto:secretary@xtra.co.nz> until Wed. 22<sup>nd</sup> September.
- **BOOK SALE** - from 9.30 am on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 - of all remaining books. These books will not be on view until 9.30 am on Saturday morning.
- **VENUE:** Hutt Valley Tramping Club, Birch St Reserve, from Birch St, Waterloo, Lower Hutt.

Note: Some seriously rare/collectable books from Arnold's Library - mostly Polar and Himalayan - are being sold through Colin Monteath's Barking Mad Books website:

[https://colinmonteath.photoshelter.com/gallery/ARNOLD-HEINE-POLAR-MOUNTAIN-BOOKS/G0000ZDc8Budxcdg/C0000CrD\\_31](https://colinmonteath.photoshelter.com/gallery/ARNOLD-HEINE-POLAR-MOUNTAIN-BOOKS/G0000ZDc8Budxcdg/C0000CrD_31) ; others at Dunbar Sloane's next book auction.