



Some of our longest standing members cutting the centenary cake. Photo: Jan Arts

Please submit your **February 2024** H&V articles to the editor by **3rd February 2024**

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: Marina Skinner 021 792 260
Trip Coordinator:

Secretary: Emma Dobbie
Treasurer: Jim Cousins

027 252 5045
586 2135

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



CLUB NIGHT PROGRAMME

Starts 7:30 pm promptly



6-December 2023: OPEN NIGHT – Theme: Informal photos from the centenary

13 December 2023: XMAS PARTY Pot luck

17 January 2024 : Welcome back 2024 Mix and Mingle

24 January 2024 : 1st film reel from the 100th

31 January 2024 : 2nd film reel from the 100th

7 February 2024 : TBC – Will be announced in WOW closer to the time









FORTHCOMING TRIPS



NOTES

Where there is no leader given for a trip, please email tripcoordinator@hvtc.org.nz to volunteer to lead a trip, either as shown or an alternative.

December 2023			
2 – 3	T1	Totara Flats hut	Leader required
Sun 3	D1+	Wainuiomata Hill - ECNZ Track to Taita	David B
		Manual bike ride 2hrs - 9.30 from Avalon Park	Leena
Tue 5		Waiwhetu Stream from Clubrooms	Leader required
		Te Whiti Riser from clubrooms	Debbie
9 – 10	T1	Camping on top of Cone	Mel
	T2	Neill Forks	Andrew R
Sun 10	D1	Avalon Park – Boulder Hill (return)	Marilyn / Heather
		Manual bike ride 2hrs - 9.30 from Avalon Park	Leena
Tue 12		Silverstream Kindergarten to Stokes Valley and Debbie & Paul's for fish n chips	Jackie W
		Silverstream Kindergarten to Stokes Valley and Debbie & Paul's for fish n chips	Debbie
Fri 15	Tramble	Canons Point	Doreen
Sun 17	D1	Norbett Creek Circuit & BBQ	Bob & Bernice
		Manual bike ride 2hrs - 9.30 from Avalon Park	Leena
Sun 24		Manual bike ride 2hrs - 9.30 from Avalon Park	Leena
Christmas / New Year Trips & holidays			
27 Dec - 6 Jan	T1	Lewis Pass	Derek
	T2	Lewis Pass	Andrew R
Sun 31		Manual bike ride 2hrs - 9.30 from Avalon Park	Leena
January 2024			
Sun 7	D1	Blue Range Hut	Bob & Bernice
		Manual bike ride 2hrs - 9.30 from Avalon Park	Leena
13 – 14	T1		
	T2		
Sun 14	D1	Tregear Falls	Mel
		Manual bike ride 2hrs - 9.30 from Avalon Park	Leena
Tue 16		Avalon Park to Manor park	Leader required
		Haywards to Harcourt Park	Debbie
20 – 22	Wellington Anniversary Weekend		
	T1	Your ideas please	

	T2	Your ideas please	
Sun 21	D1+	Smith's Creek Waterfall	Jackie & Chris
		Manual bike ride 2hrs - 9.30 from Avalon Park	Leena
Tue 23		Stratton Street to Old coach road via 4 Degrees	Leader required
		Stratton street to Belmont Trigg	Andrew F
27 – 28	T1	Te Whakatūrākau Stream Valley Camping Formally Atiwhakatu Stream	Bernice & Bob
	T2		
Sun 28	D1	Pukerua Bay – Plimmerton	Tony & Jo
		Manual bike ride 2hrs - 9.30 from Avalon Park	Leena
Tue 30		Tunnell Gully to Mangaroa	Leader required
		Tunnell Gully Twin lakes	Debbie
February 2024			
3 – 6		Waitangi Weekend	
	T1&T2	Walks from Kawhatau Base & Campsite	Andrew R
Sun 4	D1	Belmont Regional Park	Ann Hayman
March 2024			
		Conservation Weekend	
	WP	Pine Pulling Weekend Ruapehu	Derek R
Sat 2	WP	Ava Park Clean-up	Leader required
Sun 3	D1	Rewa Bush Conservation Area	David B
15 – 17	WP	Ruapehu Lodge work party	Kate B

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHRISTMAS PARTY - POT LUCK DINNER 13 December 2023



Wednesday 13th December 6pm

Christmas party – pot luck dinner

Please bring a plate of food to share for a pot luck dinner

BYO: Drinks, plates & cutlery

Please also bring a non perishable item of food for the Foodbank.

ENVIRONMENT WEEKEND: 1ST WEEKEND MARCH 2024

3 TRIPS ON OFFER.

John Simes

For over 40 years the club has had an environmental focus for one weekend a year in order to give back to the areas in which we recreate. This had become known as the Pinus contorta weekend. More recently our environmental effort has included a very easy and social half day trip to Ava Park as many of us are keen to assist the environment but are not necessarily able or available for a whole weekend activity. And, as a bonus, this year we are also offering a Sunday trip with an environmental focus to visit Rewa forest near Riversdale. Here are the details for these trips as they are known so far.

Pinus contorta eradication on the south slopes of Mount Ruapehu. Friday 1st March to Sunday 3rd March 2024. Leader Derek Richardson.

This weekend is at the invite and guidance of the Department of Conservation (DOC) where we get to work at removing small wilding pines in the herb fields of the middle slopes on the south side of mount Ruapehu just below the round the mountain track. DOC assist with the catering by putting on a BBQ and they provide a portaloos and locate us on a picturesque campsite not available to the public. This trip will leave in the club van 11am Friday 1st March and head to the Ohakune DOC amenity area where we will camp (loos and kitchen available) and dine at a local restaurant of our choice. Saturday we meet up with Whanganui Tramping club and under the guidance of DOC travel to the work area through Karioi Pine Forest. DOC guide us at all times and assume care for our safety but also inform us of the day to day details of what goes on in that part of the world. Sunday, more pine pulling in the morning and then after a late lunch we will head home. Transport is subsidised by DOC so the weekend is a very low cost one, as well as a very fulfilling one.



To register for Pinus contorta weekend email Derek on richard.derekson@gmail.com

Ava Park conservation project. Saturday morning 2nd March 2024. Leader to be advised, any offers?

This is a tiny patch of regenerating bush planted about 25 years ago on the banks of the Te Awakairangi, Hutt River that the club has adopted on behalf of Greater Wellington Regional Council. Our intention is to improve the conservation and aesthetic value of the patch by planting additional shelter, adding appropriate biodiversity and weeding out unwelcome invaders. All this with a view to it being the best possible patch of native bush on the banks of the lower reaches of the river. The patch borders the cycleway and is just 250m. northwest of the Ava train bridge on the west bank of the river. A picnic atmosphere has been established for this event and it has proved a very convivial club social and environmental activity.

Rewa Bush Conservation area visit. Sunday day trip 3rd March 2024 Leader David Barnes.

This is a day trip to the Wairarapa (Between Masterton and Riversdale but much closer to Riversdale) to experience a rarely visited 1200 hectare native first populated with a significant stand of podocarp trees. David has been invited through his work with the Outdoor Access Commission Herenga ā Nuku to bring a group there from the tramping club and this should be a great opportunity to find out about one of the many conservation projects in the Wairarapa. David

will share more details about this trip closer to the time. Google Rewa Bush Conservation area if you are wanting to find out more of Rewa Bush in the meantime.
To register for Rewa Bush Conservation area visit email David at David.Barnes@herengaanuku.govt.nz

I expect to be out of town this year for these events but am very happy to assist by keeping up the liaison with DOC and GWRC. Many thanks to Derek Richardson for leading the Pinus contorta weekend and to whoever puts their hand up to lead at Ava Park. I will be your helpful adviser from afar.

John

RUAPEHU LODGE WORK PARTY

15 – 17 March 2024

The first Ruapehu Lodge work party of 2024 is scheduled for the weekend of 15 – 17 March.

Here is your chance to help with the maintenance that keeps the lodge running for you. The "après work" facilities are outstanding. So come and join in the fun.

We are looking for 10-12 able bodied persons to undertake thorough spring cleaning of the lodge, food stock take, changing mattress covers etc. Extensive maintenance skills are not a requirement.

We won't have the benefit of using the chair lift for access this year so all tools and materials will have to be carried, although we don't expect to have too much of this.

If you are interested, please contact Kate Brownsword on ph. 027 562 0177 or the.brownswords@xtra.co.nz.

As the lodge will be open that weekend, if you wish to come up and enjoy the mountain but not participate in the work party, the usual very cheap summer rate of \$35 per night applies and there are plenty of yummy roasts in the freezer to be eaten! Book with the Booking Officer in the usual way at Ruapehubookings@hvtc.org.nz.

FROM THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MINUTES ON OUR WEBSITE

Minutes from General Committee and Ruapehu Committee meetings are now on our HVTC website for anyone keen to read about the key discussions and decisions made.

We are making approved minutes available, so club members have a clearer view of the committees' work.

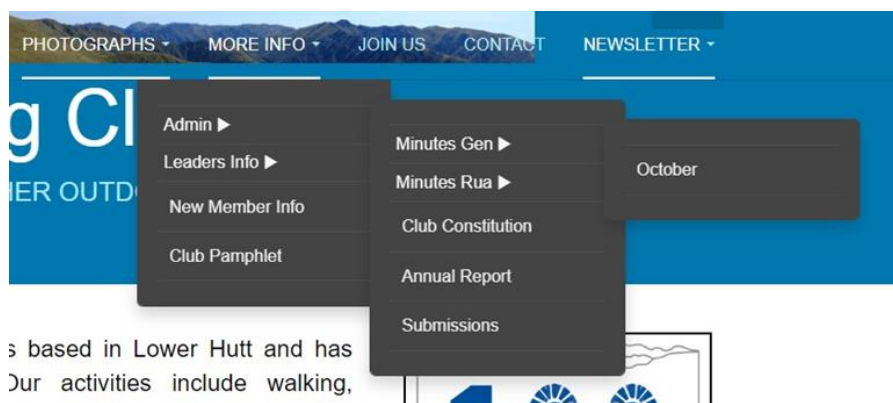
If you go to hvtc.org.nz and hover on the More info tab > Admin > Minutes Gen > October you'll open a PDF of the October minutes for the General Committee.

You'll see in these minutes that we considered setting up an email group, to which members could subscribe to receive the minutes.

But we decided in November to simplify things and make use of our website. Some other tramping clubs also post their committee minutes on their websites.

I'm interested in any feedback you have.

Marina Skinner



FANNY BAYLISS GRANT FOR SCHOOLS

The General Committee has approved a \$2,000 grant from the Fanny Bayliss Bequest to go towards the centenary school fund.

This follows the Fanny Bayliss Bequest Grant Scheme sub-committee's support for an application.

This year HVTC awarded three Hutt Valley secondary schools grants from the HVTC centenary school fund. Wainuiomata High School, Taita College and Hutt Valley High School all received \$1,616 each.

The fund was made up of donations from club members and a \$2,000 contribution from HVTC funds.

The Fanny Bayliss Bequest grant will now replace the contribution from HVTC funds.

The bequest sub-committee said the college applications for funding of items such as tents, cooking stoves, cooking sets, tramping packs, tarps, clothing, sleeping bags and outdoor trip-related expenses all came within the guidelines of the Fanny Bayliss Bequest Grant Scheme guidelines.

"We noted that the physical items will not be restricted to just one individual person but will be able to be shared by many present and future college pupils," the sub-committee said.

Marina Skinner

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Please welcome new members:

Jonathon Bartlett
Arden Callagher
Mitchell Drain
Mohammed Javed

Helen Murray
Rebecca Osborne
Beverley Slater
Janine Walker

We look forward to spending time in the hills with you all.

Doreen Courtenay
Membership Officer

RUAPEHU ROUNDUP

We had a solid winter season of bookings at lodge, especially given the uncertainty around RAL and the late sale of season passes. The snow was good, and we had a great run of clear weather at the height of the season.

The lodge is now open for summer bookings at the very reasonable price of \$35 per person per night! Come and stay and enjoy the wonderful volcanic landscape of the central North Island. The lodge is a great place for a break with family and friends. Book in the usual way by contacting our Booking Officer Shelly Bruce at Ruapehubookings@hvtc.org.nz

Our first work party for 2024 will be on 15-17 March - please see the advert in this month's Hills and Valleys.

The Ruapehu Mountain Clubs Association (of which HVTC is a member) is planning a mountain clean up in late January - more details to come if you would like to join this environmental weekend.

Kate Brownsword

On behalf of the Ruapehu Committee

DOC HUT TICKET SUPPLY

The DOC Poneke Wellington Visitor Centre will be closing on 22nd December 2023.

A DOC ranger will be available to answer queries via telephone and email and provide support for a few months after closure.

The supply of Hut Tickets will be moving to the DOC Kapiti/Wellington Office in Kenepuru. For this year, the last day to order Hut Tickets will be 1st December 2023. The office reopens 8 January 2024.

From the new year, to order Hut Tickets please email wellington@doc.govt.nz with your order details, quantity, type, and delivery address. Tickets will be mailed to you, and you will be invoiced by DOC as before.

Emma Dobbie

Club Secretary

NOTES FROM THE TRIP GROUP

What trips/rides would you like to do? The trips group welcome suggestions of trips you'd like to see the club offering in the next while (day trips/overnights/longer). These can be trips you'd like to do, and/or are happy to lead. E-mail tripcoordinator@hvtc.org.nz or talk to one of the trips group (Jackie West, Dorren Courtenay, Debbie Labbett, Derek Richardson, Heather Eskdale, Chris McMillan, Andrew Robinsons, Dave Hanley, Tania Hatfield).

Thinking about putting your hand up to lead a trip? We'd love more members to step up and lead trips. If you've been considering leading a trip for the first time but feel hesitant, then please reach out and have a chat.

Trip leaders – email your trip numbers to tripcoordinator@hvtc.org.nz

Contact Details on the Trip Schedule – going forward, the trip schedule will show the first name and phone number of trip leaders (e.g., Tania 0220535604) on all versions of the trip schedule

(print, e-mail, H&V, website) unless you specifically request to not have your phone number on the schedule.

The role of Trip Co-Ordinator is still open. Please reach out if you're interested.

Tania Hatfield has offered to be the interim lead of the trips group. This is temporary until a Trip Co-Ordinator can be found. This interim lead role comprises of ensuring the trips group are steering correctly, compiling trip numbers for monthly reporting, being an overall point of contact (i.e., the trip co-ordinator email list) and anything else that is required to ensure smooth functioning of the trips group.

Tania

KARMA

Patrick Fotheringham

His Turn

Some time ago I was skiing on the Whakapapa Valley T-Bar. I saw someone lying on the snow in the steeper part of the Valley Highway run. I did not take much notice until after I had gone past and realised they were not moving, I scrambled back uphill and said hello. The youngish teenager was very conscious and complained about a lot of pain. Someone else turned up that was wearing a name badge, he was a ski instructor, and the teenager was one of his class. The instructor looked barely older than his pupil and both looked a bit uncertain about what to do next. I quizzed the teenager about what happened, he said he was travelling quite fast until he caught the front edge of his snowboard and pitched forward onto the snow. He remembered the whole event with no gaps and was wearing a helmet, so likely hadn't knocked himself out. He was voluntarily moving both arms but with considerably reduced movement of his right arm. Looking at the variety of movements he made, I surmised that both his arms were ok, and his clothed shoulders looked symmetrical, making dislocation less likely. Rather than assume too much, I asked him what hurt the most, he said his right shoulder. In my minimal experience of people with broken bones, they may be reluctant to or be totally incapable of any voluntary movement in a limb with a broken bone. I asked him to wiggle his fingers, he managed a similar wiggle on both hands with relative ease, some confirmation that his arms were ok. I did not want to investigate his shoulder as it would involve opening his jacket, I wanted him to stay warm and I would also need his consent. The simplest test I could think of was to put a couple of my fingers in each of his palms and ask him to squeeze as hard as he could. He nearly crushed my fingers on his left side but could only manage a gentle squeeze on his right. That was enough for me. I told the instructor that the teenager had considerably reduced strength on his right side and this indicated he had a significant injury, my guess being a broken collarbone, and the Ski Patrol should be summoned. I assumed the instructor, being on the staff, knew the Ski Patrol people and it was better that the call came from him. I told the teenager that help was on the way. Over time, quite a few of the teenager's friends turned up and they kept him entertained.

There wasn't much patient handover. The ski patrol guy leapt in and did much the same initial checks that I did before embarking on a full patient assessment and administering pain relief. My job was done. I skied past a few more times before the teenager was finally carted away.

My Turn

I was skiing alone on a Tuesday, after taking a slightly early lunch. The day was quite windy and the T-Bar lifts had been closed all morning. I could see the T-Bars had been loaded on to the Valley T-Bar and it was running, I assumed it would soon take passengers so I went down to the queue area. After a few minutes of waiting with a small group we were told that there was a technical problem that would take some hours to resolve, there was no real choice, we all had to

ski out down the Valley Exit run and eventually catch the Sky Waka back up. I cruised off slowly behind a small group and I braked by side slipping my skis left and right to maintain a good trailing distance. I let my mind drift a bit as I looked around and stood almost vertically in my boots which put my skis almost flat on the snow, this set me up perfectly for the events to follow.

I felt I was dreaming. I could hear lots of voices but could not determine what was being said. I sensed I was the centre of attention. I could not figure out what part I had to play in what was happening. Part of my head was saying "Why am I dreaming in the middle of the day!"

Next I remember lying in a "banana boat", which is a gurney without wheels that slides over the snow like a toboggan. I was being strapped in and asking to have one hand free rather than being done up like a mummy. Next I asked after my skis. They were pointed out to me at my side, bound to the banana boat. The ski patrol guy asked if I was ok to go and I gave him a thumbs up.

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toboggan. I was being strapped in and asking to have one hand free rather than being done up like a mummy. Next I asked after my skis. They were pointed out to me at my side, bound to the banana boat. The ski patrol guy asked if I was ok to go and I gave him a thumbs up.

Just as I started to move away, I looked up and saw a couple of faces I recalled seeing at the Valley T-Bar queue area. The intriguing thing was that none of the events I remembered came as a surprise. It all felt like a natural sequence of events that must have started at a time before I could remember. The ride down seemed to go quite quickly, but I think I had some more periods of no memory.

At the ski field medical centre, I was addressed by name, which came as a surprise. I had no recollection of telling anyone my name. I was sent over to one of the beds and instructed to take my ski boots off, they don't like boots on the beds.

My head was not working very well. I could not consider thought much beyond my immediate circumstances. I felt I was slowly improving, like I was incrementally waking up. I lay on the bed and chilled out. I was later told, and probably not for the first time, that I had been unconscious for a short while and they were looking for a CT scanner somewhere that was not too busy to take a look inside my head. I recalled from first aid training that a head bump causing loss of consciousness raises a red flag indicating possible head injury. I also knew that going to Whanganui Hospital, as it turned out, was going to seriously disrupt my day. I remember looking at the clock on the wall and thinking about how much of the day I had lost. The previous couple of hours almost didn't exist in my head. By then my long term memory had solidly returned, as far as I could tell, and I was putting the recent events together based on what other people were saying.

I must have been looking a bit better when the doctor came over and asked some questions.

"Who was I?" no problem.

"Where was I?" no problem.

"What day is it?" I really had to think hard to reconstruct what had happened over the last few days to come up with "Tuesday", he appeared happy with that, and so was I.

Knowing I was in for a bit of a road trip, I took the liners out of my ski boots and wore them in lieu of shoes. The rest of my ski gear went to Lost & Found for safe keeping. My ambulance was returning to Whanganui after a crew swap day with Ohakune. They were quite happy to have a passenger for the trip home. The trip was uneventful, no sirens or flashing lights, but the crew were good company.

The Whanganui Hospital emergency department was very busy. I was placed in a chair in a corridor and waited. I could not help but overhear some of what was going on around me. One particularly logic-free individual in a nearby cubicle was providing some entertainment for the staff. His very badly injured ankle needed attention but he insisted he was going to be perfectly ok just hopping around, maybe for the rest of his life. They eventually won him over on the proposal that putting on a plaster cast was not such a bad idea. They then hit another snag, he did not want an anaesthetic injection before they reset his ankle. My CT scan showed no problems and I was discharged. The credit card I had in my pocket took on new significance. It was originally intended

for buying a coffee, on the ski field, to go with my sandwiches. Without it I may have have been stranded and hungry in Whanganui.

Fortunately, I was able to contact my sister, Helen, in Palmerston North and she was able to pick me up and look after me. I rested for a day and borrowed a car on Thursday to pick up Catherine, near Raetihi, from her independent walking trip then retrieve my ski gear and car from Whakapapa. I did have some symptomatic mental tiredness that I carefully managed by taking multiple coffee breaks on the journey.

In my brief reading on the topic of memory, I discovered there are many different types, all are important and have differing storage mechanisms. The memory types that mattered to me on the day were:

- Episodic memory, gives you a permanent(ish) record of what has happened. It can be disrupted by physical head trauma, and I also believe it is not laid down immediately. I believe this accounts for my blank period from, maybe, a few seconds before I fell over until I remembered being strapped into the banana boat. In the sheaf of papers I was given before my ambulance ride there was a note that I had failed a memory test. Obviously, I must have been conscious for the test but my episodic memory was simply not recording anything at the time.
- Semantic memory, is your general knowledge of the world. In the sheaf of papers was my name, email address, phone number etc. and all was correct. I was the only possible source of this information and obviously provided it in a competent manner but cannot remember doing so. Leaving one hand free, for comfort, when a patient is bound up for transport is something I picked up from an outdoor first aid course about 3 decades ago. Some parts of my head were working ok.
- Short term memory, holds information briefly, such as a phone number before dialing, seldom longer than about 30 seconds. It is closely related to working memory, which is important for problem solving, maintaining a conversation and I guess continuity of thought. I am sure, for a while, I was conscious and living in that tiny window of time. I was, I hope, responding appropriately to my circumstances based on previous memories and this likely accounts for my feeling of calmness. No way could I pass a memory test or remember where my skis were if I couldn't see them.

I believe I was the author of my own accident. I was traveling slowly when I stood up straight and my skis were flat on the snow while pushing slightly sideways. I was then vulnerable to the outside edge of a ski catching a lump of ice on the snow surface. I think one ski stopped suddenly and I toppled over like a marble statue, landing face first on the snow. All my kinetic energy went into my face plant. If I had maintained a proper stance, knees bent (which causes a hip bend as well) and edging my skis, even minimally, the ski may not have stopped dead. My body would have acted a bit like a spring thus absorbing a sudden change in ski speed, before I had time to think about it, and I would worst case have ended with a tumble. This would have been a much gentler stop than my face plant. I think my face was already half way to the snow before I could begin to react to my situation.

I was wearing a helmet. The doctor at Whanganui Hospital gave me a double thumbs up when I said so. The impact took some skin off my nose and left a red patch on the snow but the helmet likely saved me from serious injury. I was also told to replace the helmet, they are only designed to save you once.

I was lying still on the snow. The people behind did not see me fall but became concerned at my inactivity and checked on me. I am grateful for their intervention. Don't be afraid to check on anyone that might be in trouble, the favour may be returned one day.

Patrick

14/10/2023

RECYCLING



A friendly reminder to please keep collecting wine bottle tops and the aluminium can tabs. You can deposit tops and tabs in the black bucket with red lid in the HVTC club rooms.

Anja will forward this collection to the Wainuiomata Lions group who will then recycle these and use the money for charity projects.



No other items please (no beer bottle tops, no rip tabs!!!) as they will not be accepted by the Lions group!

Thanks to all those who have contributed. Please keep up the good work.

Anja and Maarten

E BIKES ON TRAINS

Club member Geoff Norton has been trying to find out if E bikes are allowed to be carried on the [Wairarapa](#) train. The following is an extract from the email response he received.

"Hi Geoff,

Thanks for your phone call earlier.

There is currently no restriction to loading E bikes onto the Wairarapa train so long as there is space. The crew have right to refusal if there is no more space in the luggage car. You are welcome to load your own bikes, but I am told most crew members like to assist with this. The AG Van is used all weekend which is larger than the standard generator car they use, so you are more likely to be able to fit on weekends.

I hope this answers your question in full."

THE MOST IMPORTANT BILLY LID.

A poem dedicated to Doc Watson

*The billy lid bent and twisted and ready for the scrap
Doc will bring it back to life, he cares and that's a fact.
Many many hours of careful beating
Doc knows the tricks , some would call it cheating.
Right down to the final blow
Doc's the only one that would give it a go.
So next time you're having a cupper on some tramp
Remember who fixed the billy lid,because he's a champ.*

James Somerville

Co-worker at Doc's former place of work

PENELOPE JANE FORSYTH

29 July 1953 – 4 November 2023

Long time members of HVTC will have been sad to hear Jane Forsyth passed away the weekend the Club celebrated its 100th Anniversary. She was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer earlier this year, and although in a style typical of her, accepted that she would not have long with her family and friends her passing is a very sad loss for all who knew her.

Jane, and her siblings Julia and Alec, were born into HVTC, with parents Mike and Jenny joining the Club in the 1940s. They were both very active organizing and running trips, as well as in the administration of the Club and were heavily involved in organizing the Club's 50th celebrations in 1973. Mike was made a Life Member in 1960. Jane, Julia and Alec became very involved in Club activities from very early ages as a result.



After attending Korokoro and Hutt Valley High Schools, Jane went to Victoria University to complete a BA in English. She worked at NZ Geological Survey in Lower Hutt where her writing skills were utilised in a number of publications. After moving to Dunedin in 1984 for work and gaining a Dip Grad in geology her work life took some interesting diversions, with much time spent on field work in various locations, including Antarctica and Sub-Antarctic islands. She amassed a significant publication record, specializing in writing for the general public and in geological mapping.

Jane was a very active trumper doing many weekend and multi-day trips in the Tararua's, Orongorongo's, Tongariro National Park, other North Island ranges, as well as in the South Island. Her writing skills are also very evident within HVTC with poems and numerous entertaining and informative articles in many issues of the HVTC Annuals and Hills and Valleys. She also edited the 1979, 1980 and 1981 HVTC Annuals. A couple of her articles feature in the 100th Publication. Jane also served on HVTC Committees as well as on FMC.

When Jane shifted to Dunedin she joined the OTMC for a time, but remained an active member of HVTC for many years, before resigning in 2006 and her love of the Tararua's remained strong. She wrote a Valedictory at the time, which is printed below, as we believe it gives a great insight into the person she was, the tramping she enjoyed and how much the membership of HVTC influenced her life.

Her love of the outdoors was evident in many of the activities she undertook. After retiring from geology and moving to Lake Hawea in 2013 she became deeply involved in native revegetation projects via Te Kakano, and predator control via Forest and Bird. Earlier this year Jane was elected Chairwoman of Guardians of Lake Hawea (the attached photo accompanied an article in the ODT about this).

Jane will be sadly missed and we express our sincere condolences to her husband Mo (Ian) Turnbull, siblings Julia and Alec, their families and all her friends.

Pat and John Tristram

(with thanks to Julia Forsyth and Mo Turnbull for their input and assistance)

VALEDICTORY

Jane Forsyth

After a lot of thought, I have decided not to renew my HVTC membership. I've been in Dunedin since 1984, and have been paying my sub each year out of sentiment, but have decided the time has come to move on.

Making this decision has taken a while, and it's caused me to think back to a lot of my old tramping companions. Some are still members but many are not. Hands up who remembers Stu Park, John Hagan, Eddie Dando, John Pearce, Grant Timlin and a fellow called Shack?? What about that inseparable pair Wilkins & Sowry? And Gollum? (if you put your hand up – gee you must be old).

There were a lot more blokes than sheilas doing the hard trips, but one sheila who stood out was Vicki Froude. Blokes got the two of us confused, seems they couldn't see past the blonde hair. Quite often someone from another club would say "Well hi, didn't I see you in Tarn Ridge (or Carkeek, Dorset or Bannister Basin) the other weekend?" . "Yes, that was me", I would lie shamelessly.

The lightweight tramping thing was quite big at one time - I remember one couple who used to take just one sleeping bag between them to save weight. Taking the minimal gear thing to extremes was positively correlated with bludging, a bit difficult if the rest of the party had the same idea. Once the HVTC boys went down the river to the next campsite and bluged all sorts of stuff off the Tongue&Meats who were usually very well equipped. Of course it was de rigeur to scoff at all members of other clubs, unless you wanted something at the time like a ride in their truck.

Razzing other people's gear and food was also a well-established pastime, and some of the food people took was pretty weird. Things like farex and rusks were tried as power food, along with glucose powder (it was possible to overdose on this) and home-made chocolate (cocoa and Kremelta). Very fast blokes often ate little but instant puddings and those cold-water jellies (no cooking needed). And there was some weird new gear as well. Chris Morris from Christchurch turned up with a headlamp, snow puttees and internal frame pack – and we scoffed, as we'd never seen these things before.

HVTC was an extension of my family and I always felt that was one of its strengths – there were two generations of several families and even 3 generations of Joneses. It always amazed me that my father knew so many people – whenever we were out in the hills and met another party there would generally be someone who knew Dad – and so there was also that feeling of being part of something bigger than just our family and our club. And in due course I went on to be involved with other clubs and FMC, with the wider world of trampers and greenies (though I don't think they were called that, then). There were times when it felt as though all those committees and submissions were getting in the way of the tramping, but in retrospect it was worth it. Remember the Otaki Power Scheme and our protests in defence of our beloved Tararua's? Save YTTY! And the track and hut working parties that were a small way of putting something back (although mostly they were just fun).

Speaking of fun, what about all that singing for hours at a time in the back of the truck? I'm pleased I put some of those words together in a songbook as I'll forget them in time, and they are a connection with the past. (Once, in a mountain hut in France, I met a party of Yorkshiremen who knew many of the same songs – old music-hall numbers. "Hi hi de hi he ho, the hole in the elephant's bottom".) And the gorge trips – all together now, "Wet Wool is Warm Wool" – dry wool is a damn sight warmer however. No wet suits then. I'm thinking of the bliss of a summer afternoon in the lower Tauherenikau with the cicadas deafening from the bank, or a hot jelly at

lunchtime, shivering people around a huge fire on some gravel beach between high rock walls. I'm sure those things haven't changed.

Tramping has given me so much in the way of values and experiences and I don't think it's too much of an overstatement to say it made me who I am (same goes for my brother and sister). I owe both my parents immense gratitude for all the work they put in. Take a kid tramping! It's worth it, it really is. But I probably don't need to tell you that.

There are many beautiful places in the south, but my heart is still in the Tararuas. I'm no longer official, but I'll always be a Hutt Valley and a Tararua trumper.

Jane Forsyth

CLUB CENTENARY

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO US ALL

More than 170 current and former members and their families got together to enjoy our centenary events on 1-3 November. They included several people who made the effort to come from overseas and around Aotearoa New Zealand.

The smiles and happy conversations were thanks to great organisation by our centenary sub-committee led by Dennis Page.

We marked our birthday with four events:

- A mixer and cocktails on Friday evening at the clubrooms.
- Afternoon tea on Saturday inside and outside the clubrooms, where we launched 100 years, 100 stories, our centennial publication compiled by Andrew Robinson; planted a native garden featuring the two silver ferns and a nikau palm from our club emblem; had group photos; viewed club photos from the past and present; and cut the birthday cake, decorated with a picture of the original Powell hut. Some of our longest-standing members – Thora Jones, Phil and Mary Rundle, Max and Pam Bruce – cut the cake.
- Dinner at the Petone Working Men's Club on Saturday evening.
- A series of walks and bike rides followed by a picnic lunch/BBQ at Kaitoke Regional Park on Sunday.

I'd like to thank the many club members who contributed hundreds of hours dreaming, planning and working incredibly hard to celebrate our 100th birthday at our November events, at our centenary walks on 14 May, and at our Ruapehu lodge on 1-3 September.

Other hard-working members contributed to the special year by delivering our centennial publication, cloth badges, calendars, T-shirts, and grants to three Hutt Valley secondary schools.

I spent several minutes at our afternoon tea event thanking all the individuals I was aware of who contributed during the year. You are all wonderful people and I'm very grateful for your care and commitment to our club.

Marina Skinner

Excerpt from Dennis's welcoming speech on Friday evening:

It is often customary on auspicious occasions to invite a dignitary or two to open the event, but the last time the HVTC tried that stunt at its 90th celebrations in 2013, the then Lower Hutt Mayor who

provided us with our official opening, two weeks later, then presided over a HCC meeting that sought to dispose of Philip Evans Reserve for the purposes of in-fill housing and to kick HVTC out of its clubrooms.

So, choose your dignitaries carefully I say – and on reflection, when it comes to what makes an organisation great, it is often responded to in Māoridom as “He tangata; te tangata; he tangata” – “It is people; it is people; it is people.”

So tonight, fellow guests, that makes you the dignitaries as you celebrate, among other things, 100 years of close-knit family. I will let you decide among you as to whether you are dignitaries with a small or capital ‘D.’

As part of the celebration preparations, I had the privilege of collating images from all of the individual decadal and special theme displays which you will get to see projected tomorrow and I must acknowledge Max Bruce’s tremendous efforts over many, many years in giving the club such a wealthy resource that richly augments more recent digital images.

In surveying over 800 images, one theme became very apparent – many of the bigger and recurring projects that the club invested in, be it hut building, lodges, clubrooms, gear and transport, SAR, FMC representation, conservation, or instruction courses, all had a “future-forward” component to them.

Sure, there was a “self-interest” aspect to satisfy a more immediate need but the investment in the future generations’ component was inextricably linked to the present. Our club faces a few challenges as we move into our next 100 years, but it is that “whanau-centred-willingness-to-share-with-others” component of club spirit that has served HVTC well in the past.

On that note, tangata whenua have another saying: “Kia whakatōmuri te haere whakamua,” which translates as: “I will walk backwards into the future with my eyes fixed on my past.” As we reflect and celebrate over this weekend, let’s uplift and apply those good things from the past as we journey forward into our next 100 years.

Dennis

Excerpt from Marina Skinner’s speech on Saturday afternoon:

Over the past century the demographic of our club has changed. In previous decades, we had many young club members who stretched themselves and accomplished extraordinary feats of physical and mental endurance on our mountains and in our forest valleys.

Some of you are here today.

These members cut tracks and built huts and helped to shape New Zealand’s tramping, mountaineering and skiing culture and knowledge base.

Today our club membership is older and less physically adventurous but we still tramp and ski and bike.

And we love getting into the outdoors and stretching ourselves. And our community contributions centre on conservation projects.

So some things have changed but the club’s core values and purpose remain.

In our centenary year, I am proud that we have expanded our club’s spirit of service by awarding grants to three Hutt Valley secondary schools.

The \$4,850 centenary school fund is helping school students who couldn’t otherwise afford to take part in outdoor recreation.

The grants are a way to foster a love of outdoor recreation and to promote its wellbeing benefits among a new generation.

It's important to me that we do everything we can to raise our profile in the community so that we continue to show our value and continue to attract new members

Our club founders would be thrilled to see us celebrating this centenary.

And I'd like to think of a happy Hutt Valley Tramping Club bicentenary in 2123.

Marina

CENTENNIAL TRIP REPORTS

CENTENNIAL AMBLE - PAKURATAHI & HUTT RIVERS

5 November 2023

Bruce Miller

Area 4 next to the BBQ building at Kaitoke Regional Park was the starting point for the club's centennial easy amble. The group was made up of goodly selection of youngsters and veterans. As we arrived the vegetation alongside approach road was being pruned by a group of enthusiastic young volunteers from the NZ Defence Force's Youth Development Unit (for further details see <https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/media-centre/news/making-a-difference-at-ydu/>)

After setting out, we picked up a small number of late-comers, a couple of whom kept me company all the way to the waterworks. The three of us had a pleasant amble along the Pakuratahi River, enjoying the slow pace and taking time to immerse ourselves in the beauty of the native bush in its springtime foliage. Most of the party were found waiting patiently at the Pakuratahi River bridge for me to catch up. A brief consultation resulted in the decision to take a look round the Lord of the Rings' Rivendell film location. Some of the group had never been there before and happily consulted all the informative displays. Alan displayed an extensive knowledge of the scenes. The group photo was taken at the replica Elven archway



The fairly recently built swing bridge over the Hutt River took us to the true right of the river and a short loop through mature native vegetation with explanatory notices. The group then split up, the majority continuing along the uphill track to get a sight of the new Kaitoke Flume Bridge which will not be open for another 12 months. The smaller group returned at a gentle pace back along the river track to the BBQ building. On the way we again encountered the youthful volunteers, this

time hard at work unloading and distributing trailers of mulch around the vegetation they had pruned earlier.

The members of the larger group soon appeared and joined in the celebrations.

Walkers: Alan and Helen Stevens, Graeme and Carolyn Lyons, Lex Grubner and Valrey Climo, Jeanette Jamieson, M.J., Jude and Joanne, Kwai Chan, Val Erhardt, Margaret Aitken, Mike and Kathy Priest, Doren Courtenay, Jan Arts, Felicity, Rory and Clara Maxwell, Tania Hatfield, Jane Maxwell, Helen Kettles, Maarten Vink and Bruce Miller (leader).

Bruce

CENTENNIAL WALK - TE MARUA TO KAITOKE

5 November 2023

Jackie West



Having led the Sunday walk for the Ninetieth Anniversary I was happy to lead the Centenary walk as the Sunday programme was the same for both events. My only concern leading up to the walk was the weather with a forecast of southerlies and showers, however on the day the weather could not have been better.

Before we left Te Marua, Maarten who had dropped Anja off took a few photos for the official records. There were 16 trampers down from 25 or so who went on the nineties tramp. Doc's historic pack which had belonged to Arnold Heine created much interest with its unusual triangular shape. In the trip notice I warned everyone about the state of the track which Chris and had walked in August and found it muddier than we had ever seen it, we soon discovered nothing had changed.

We stopped for morning tea and to our delight as we packed up were serenaded by a grey warbler. The next stop was the Upper Valley Lookout. Knowing space was limited four of us who often pass this way waited on the main track while the rest disappeared down the sidetrack to admire the view. Bev led the way to our next stop the seat at Tussock Mound where the rest of us found her relaxing on the seat and admiring the view with a couple who were out with their dog,

We reached the junction of tracks at Kaitoke at 12:30 where we turned right for the barbecue area. After a twenty-minute walk we dropped out packs and joined the happy band of Hutt Valleys

in the barbecue area. Thanks to John Smeith who drove the eight drivers in the club van back to Te Marua to get their cars.

On the walk: Kate Livingston, Bev Thorne, Doc Watson, Sharman Robinson, Owen Spearpoint, Pascale Michel, Grant Roberts, John Hoffsins, Anja van Kesteren, Ian and Vivienne Thorne, Neil Parker, Geoff Spearpoint, Ian Howick, Chris and Jackie West (leaders).

Jackie

CENTENNIAL BIKE RIDE - REMUTAKA RAIL TRAIL

5 November 2023

Paul Haines and Helen Lukes

24 cyclists supported the ride on the Remutaka Rail Trail to celebrate on the morning of the Club's picnic, decked out in colourful fashion with balloons. We gathered for a group photo before the faster members took off and the rest spread out along the route, arriving at the summit for morning tea. Half the group then opted to ride further to see the impressive bridge over the Siberia gully, built in 2020. The rest of us pedalled gently back, enjoying the delightful bush and perfect conditions after the midweek threat of rain. A couple of walkers wanted to know what the balloons were for so we did our advertising bit for the Club.



Those on the ride were: Jean Cookson, Pamela Campbell, Tony Birtwistle, Jo Scott, Diana Gabric and Iain, Anna and William Liao, Robyn and Frank Usmar, Don Herron, Martin Clapham and Jan, Geoff Norton, Ross and Trudy Gordon, John Smeith, Debbie and Paul Labett, Russell Oliver, Murray Presland, Pam Smith, Paul Haines and Helen Lukes (leaders)

Paul and Helen



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IMAGES



Friday evening



The 1990s intake



Contemplating the cake



Cheers



Planting the nikau, Saturday afternoon



Saturday night



Also Saturday night



Kaitoke Sunday afternoon



Recognise Arnold's pack?



Almost everyone