

Wellington Tramping & Mountaineering Club Inc.

Notice is hereby given that the sixty fourth annual general meeting of the Wellington Tramping and Mountaineering Club Inc. will be held in the Tararua Tramping Club Hall, 4 Moncrieff Street, Wellington on:

Wednesday 6th April 2011 at 8.00pm

1. Attendance and Apologies
2. Approval of Minutes of the 63rd AGM
3. Matters arising from the Minutes of the 63rd AGM
4. Consideration and adoption of the Annual Report and Annual Accounts
5. Election of Officers to the General Committee for the 2011 / 2012 term
6. Consideration and election of Life Members
7. General Business

Note: (a) Associate, Junior, Family Members and Friends of the Club do not have voting privileges.

(b) Please bring your copy of the Annual Report (which includes the Financial Report) to the meeting.

Nominations

Nominations closed on Wednesday 23rd March 2011 and this is the final list. It will be posted on the Club notice board and on the clubs website on Wednesday 30th March 2011.

Nominations received as at 23rd March 2011:

President.....	Sharron Came
Vice President.....	
Secretary.....	Mika Verheul
Treasurer.....	Steve Austin
Chief Guide.....	Amanda Wells
Assistant Chief Guide.....	Richard Lardner
Newsletter Editor.....	Sarah Young
Ruapehu Lodge Convenor.....	Sue Walsh
Social Convenor.....	Donna Maher
Transport Officer.....	Gareth Morton
Promotions Officer.....	Megan Banks
Membership Officer.....	Helen Law

BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE

Darren Hammond
President
March 24th, 2011

Minutes of the 63rd Annual General Meeting of the Wellington Tramping & Mountaineering Club Incorporated

Held in the Tararua Tramping Club Hall
Commencing at 8:10 PM on Wednesday April 14th, 2010

Chair: Darren Hammond (President)
Minutes: Simone Musin (Secretary)

1. Attendance and Apologies

2009/2010 General Committee Members present:

Darren Hammond (President), Simone Musin (Secretary) Sue Walsh (Rupehu Lodge Convenor), Steve Austin (Treasurer), Paul Jeffries (Chief Guide), Donna Maher (Social Convenor), Sally Colbeck (Social Convenor), Gareth Morton (Transport Officer), Jenny Beaumont (Membership Officer), Melissa Hewson (Assistant Chief Guide), Michael Lightbourne (Newsletter Editor), Amanda Wells (Promotions Officer)

Apologies were received from:

Beth and Kevin Griffiths, Pete Gent, Glynne Lloyd, Sharleen Grounds
(Approximately members were present 40)

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 62nd AGM

Motion: That the minutes of the 62nd Annual General Meeting of the Wellington Tramping and Mountaineering Club be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Andrew Trembath

Seconded: Donna Maher

Outcome: Passed

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of the 62nd AGM

There are no matters arising from the Minutes of the 62nd AGM.

4. Consideration and adoption of the Annual Report and Annual Accounts

Darren commented on the report that the trip statistics were not included, but a hand out was provided to everyone present and will be posted on the website.

With regard to the accounts there was a small loss in the last financial year.

Steve explained the accounts, stating the figures for the lodge income and depreciation figures, commenting that it has been a good year for the lodge. He noted an increase in the transport deficit was due to the bus process last year which was a one off item. He also stated interest was down in the last year but that the balance sheet is strong. Fixed assets have gone up due to second van purchased.

Steve also advised that an increase in lodge fees will occur this year and that this allows money to be put back into the lodge rather than taken from other areas of the club. He pointed out other areas of expenditure including money spent on the lounge furniture for the lodge and in buying the PLBs.

He noted we still have assets as shares with King Country Electricity.

One question asked about capital gain figures. Steve explained this reflects the amount of money we would earn if the King Country Electricity shares are sold.

Motion: That the 2009/2010 Annual Report and Annual Accounts as circulated be adopted.

Moved: Sue Walsh

Seconded: Hans Wiskerke

Outcome: **Passed**

5. Election of Officers to the General Committee for the 2009/2010 term

Darren went through the nominations for the General Committee positions, noting the addition of Amanda Wells for Chief Guide, Megan Sety for Promotions and Sharleen Grounds for Secretary.

Darren Hammond	President
Sharleen Grounds	Secretary
Steve Austin	Treasurer
Amanda Wells	Chief Guide
Melissa Hewson	Assistant Chief Guide
Michael Lightbourne	Editor
Sue Walsh	Ruapehu Lodge Convenor
Donna Maher	Social Convenor
Gareth Morton	Transport Officer
Megan Sety	Promotions Officer
Jenny Beaumont	Membership Officer

Motion: That the people nominated be duly elected to serve on the General Committee for the 2010/2011 term.

Moved: John Hickey

Seconded: Ray Walker

Outcome: **Passed**

Darren recognised the committee members who are standing down including Simone Musin, Paul Jeffries, Sally Colbeck and Amanda Wells.

Also Marie Henderson stood down as Gear Custodian and Anthony Mulick has come forward to take this on.

6. Consideration of the Election of Life Members

Darren explained the rules around the election of Life Members. There is a cap on the numbers of living life members which the club has not reached.

There were no nominations this year to consider.

7. General Business

Rowena Johnson with Wellington Land Search and Rescue stated that the SAR wanted to acknowledge the members of the club that are involved, and that the involvement of the club is acknowledged for the year going forward.

Meeting was closed at 8:25pm.

**Annual Report of
The Wellington Tramping & Mountaineering Club Inc.**

For the year ended 31st January 2011

Sixty-Fourth Annual Report

President's Comments

The Committee is pleased to present to members the 2010/2011 annual report and accounts.

Firstly, I would like to thank the committee for their hard work in the last year, my job is made much easier by the excellent job each person does. There was relatively little turnover on committee this year, it was good to be able to retain so much experience on committee for another year. Apart from the General Committee members listed below, there are a number of people who have roles which involve work throughout the year, I want to recognize our Webmaster, Mike Gilbert, who took over from Shane Connolly this year, our Emergency Contact Coordinator Kate Cushing, who took over from Jackie Foster this year, our Trip Statistics man, Mike McGavin (who we sadly lost to Australia at the end of the year), and last but not least, regular newsletter contributor Aunty Rata, who also does a number of other things for the club. Huge thanks to all of you.

Our club relies upon the efforts and sacrifices of volunteers, who give up their free time (and often their work time!) so that we can run trips and club nights, produce newsletters, and all the other things that we need to run a club of this size. I am enormously grateful to everyone who helps out the club in whatever capacity.

Now a few highlights of the last year. On the social front, a Winter Ball was held, for the first time in many years, and was a great night, well done to Donna and her team who organised this.

The committee made a strong submission, on behalf on the members, against the government's proposals to remove some National Park and other conservation land from Schedule 4 protection from mining, and we were delighted that these proposals were abandoned after public consultation.

Overall levels of activity in the club seem to have declined over the last year, while this is a problem that our club is far from alone in experiencing, the new committee will have a big challenge in working out what we can do to counter this and re-invigorate the club. I hope you will support them by helping out as much as you can.

I have enjoyed my second year as president of WT&MC, and it has been a pleasure to represent this great club. I move to Auckland in May, but will follow the club's fortunes with great interest from the Queen City.

Darren Hammond
President

General Committee Officers for 2010 / 2011

President	Darren Hammond
Vice President	vacant
Secretary	Sharleen Grounds (resigned September 2010) Mika Verhuel (from October 2010)
Treasurer	Steve Austin
Chief Guide	Amanda Wells
Assistant Chief Guide	Melissa Hewson
Newsletter Editor	Michael Lightbourne
Social Convenor	Donna Maher
Promotions Officer	Megan Sety (resigned September 2010) Megan Banks (from October 2010)
Ruapehu Lodge Convenor	Sue Walsh
Membership Secretary	Jenny Beaumont
Transport Officer	Gareth Morton
Journal Editor (Non AGM voted role)	Tony Gazley and Jackie Foster
Gear Custodian (Non AGM voted role)	Anthony Mulick (resigned August 2010) Pete Gent (from October 2010)

Committee Reports

Chief Guide

My first year as chief guide has been full of challenging tramping, inspiring people and mixed weather! Thank you to everyone who has helped out; the chief guide role is not one big task but many small tasks, and being able to share these around makes it very manageable. Simone Musin and then Richard Lardner have performed the crucial task of collating and posting trip sheets; Mike McGavin and then Steve Kohler have taken on the key job of statistics collection; Steve Austin and Darren Hammond have represented our club at regional hut committee meetings; Jackie Foster and Kate Cushing have tirelessly organised our emergency contacts system; and Anthony Mulick and then Pete Gent have been very effective gear custodians. A special thank you to Sharron Came, who very ably coordinates our alpine instruction, and to Sue Walsh, who has been the driving force behind our bushcraft and leadership courses. And also to Megan Sety and Illona Keenan, who pulled together a club recipe book that has made leaders' jobs significantly easier (and boosted the already high standard of our Saturday night meals). Without all these people, my role would be impossible.

The club is only as strong as its programme of trips, and we continued to offer an impressive programme in 2010. Participant numbers were down slightly, as you'll see below, but people continued to put their hands up to lead trips and new people regularly headed into the hills. Leadership is THE key role in our club, and I'd like to acknowledge all the people who have given up time and expended energy to lead a trip in the past year.

A new initiative in 2010 was monthly leadership forums. These gave leaders a dedicated time to discuss routes and trip planning. They were consistently attended, with 6-10 people showing up each month.

Instruction:

We ran an excellent and well-attended outdoor first aid course in April 2010, and are repeating it in April 2011 with the same instructor.

The leadership course held in May 2010 attracted 11 participants. They learned the basics of trip organisation and leading, as well as hearing about the intricacies of weather, tramping nutrition and embarking on a slightly challenging navigation exercise. There were the usual scenarios that tested our would-be leaders to make decisions, locate and treat the "victims" of tramping gone wrong. It's great to see the people who attended this course going on to confidently lead trips. Another leadership course is running in early April 2011.

A lack of numbers and pressure on instructors meant that snowcraft was cancelled in 2010. Instead a weekend 'refresher' gave people the chance to practice or pick up a few snow basics. We have decided to run snowcraft and AIC in alternate years, to ease the burden on instructors. AIC attracted four participants in 2010; snowcraft will be running in 2011.

Demand to sharpen navigation skills meant we ran a dedicated weekend of navigation tramps in September 2010, where punters of different grades spent some time exploring the intricacies of terrain near the Kiriwhakapapa road end. A similar weekend is planned for the winter schedule.

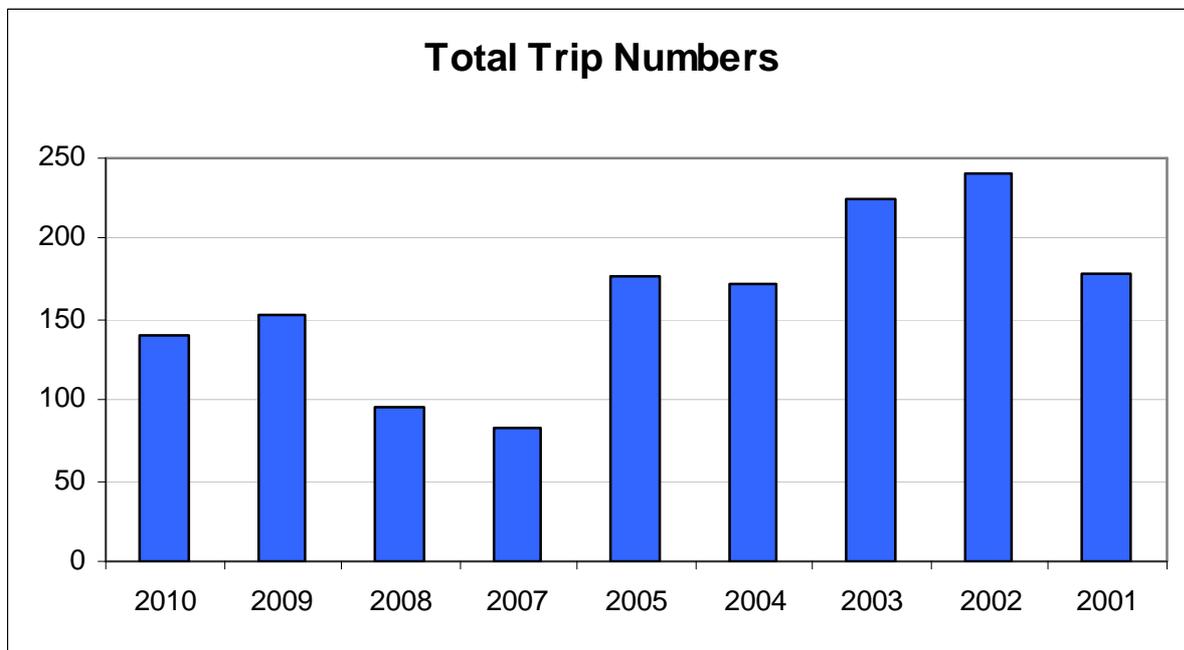
Nine people attended the Bushcraft 2011 course in March. Sue Walsh, Marie Henderson and Ray Walker put together an excellent weekend that involved some devious navigation, instruction on the finer points of fly erection and some fine cuisine at Paua hut.

Trip planning:

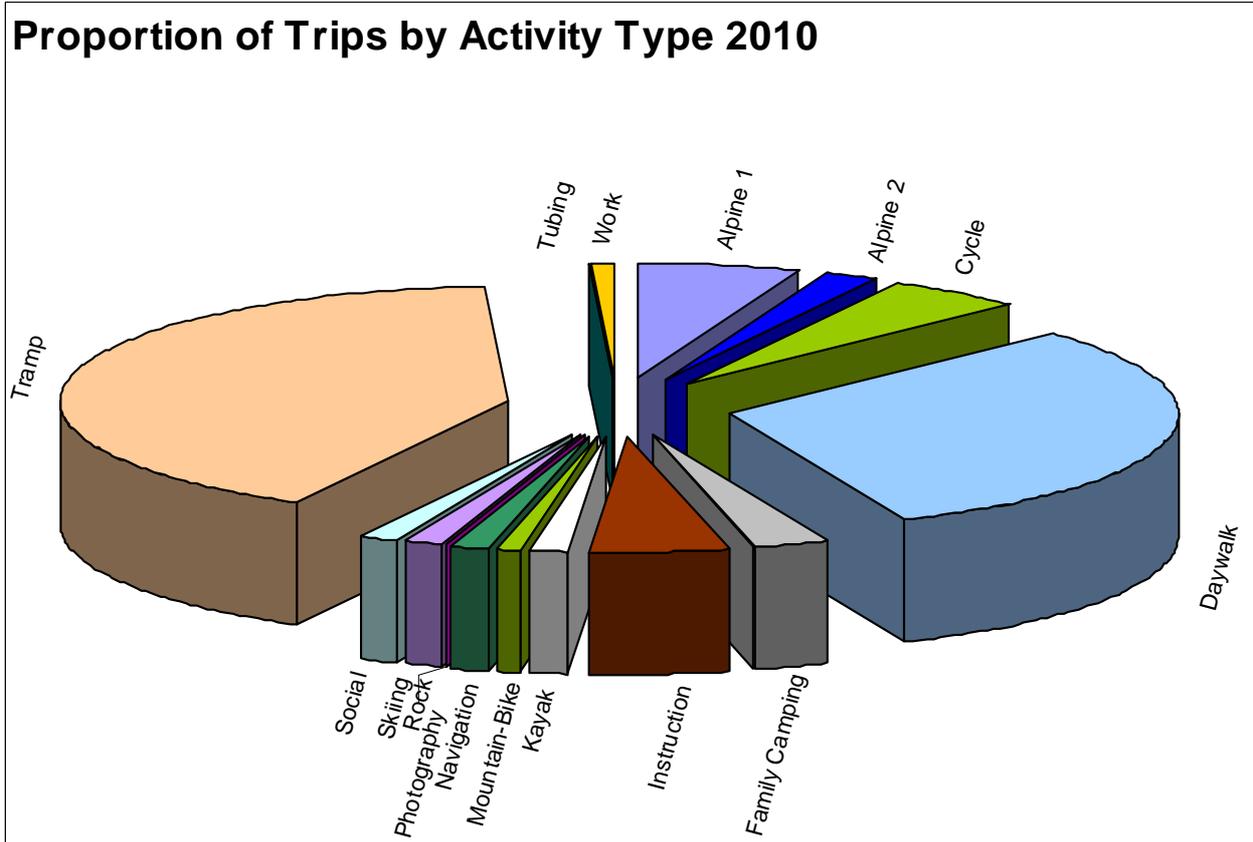
We introduced a new approach to schedule planning last year, which meant seeking suggestions of road ends then incorporating these into a skeleton schedule, which was fleshed out at a trip planning evening with trips for each grade. Leader-finding was the final stage of this three-step process. The change resulted in a more participatory approach to trip planning, and we achieved higher numbers of leaders signing up to lead trips as a result.

Trip statistics:

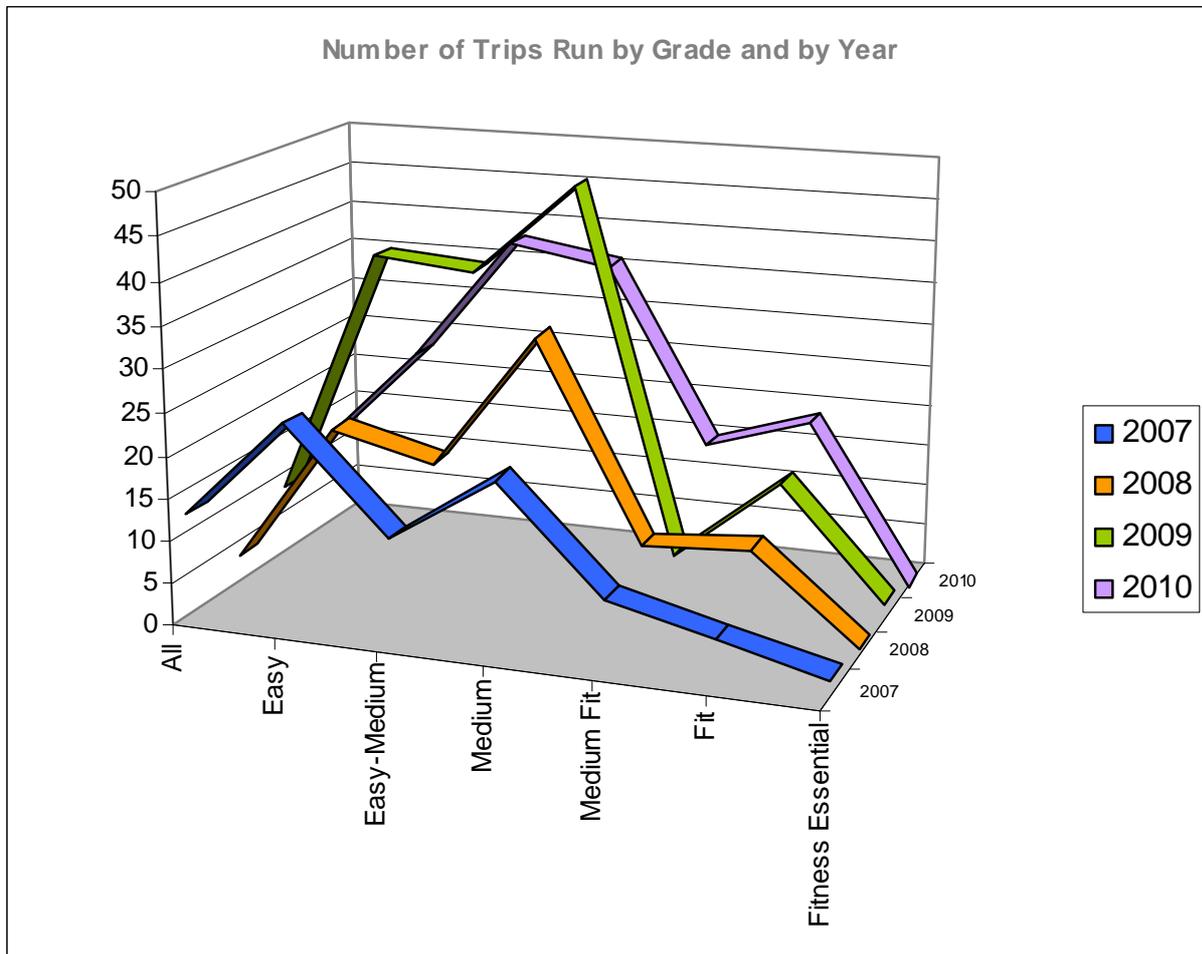
Total person days were down in 2010 on the previous year, though still higher than the lows of 2007 and 2008. The recession has had an obvious impact for a number of club members, in terms of both job security and the demands on their working hours, and it seems likely that this has had an influence on trip participation. Mixed winter weather also saw a decline in punter numbers.



Tramping continued to be the dominant activity type, though daywalks were a more significant proportion of total trips than in 2009. Many people who enjoy daywalks never go on weekend tramps, which presents some challenges in terms of becoming members and of leadership of daywalks. There was also a strong programme of alpine trips in 2010's winter and spring months. Family trips have seen a resurgence, spearheaded by Mike Gilbert.



Fewer Easy trips ran in 2010, with Easy Medium the dominant grade. There was a resurgence in Medium Fit and Fit trips compared to recent years.



Huts:

The Tararua Aorangi Rimutaka Huts Committee (TARHC) met in March and September in 2010 and our club was ably represented by Steve Austin and Darren Hammond respectively.

Mountain House Shelter - The club continues to maintain this shelter and to clear the surrounding area of rubbish.

Paua Hut - Mike Pratt, Ann and Phil Kendon, and Marty Green continue great work on maintaining this wonderful asset and managing the booking process.

Smith Creek Shelter - This shelter is not in great condition at the moment. Some consideration as to the future of this club asset would be useful.

Amanda Wells
Chief Guide

Ruapehu Lodge

We have a wonderful asset on the slopes of Ruapehu that is appreciated by both members and non-members. However the appreciation doesn't translate into high usage as you will see in the table below, so for significant periods of time throughout the year the lodge remains empty or having a few people only in it. There are, of course, weekends and weeks where it is bursting at the seams, which is wonderful to see. What would be better is a more consistent use of the lodge over the course of the whole year.

Lodge Usage Autumn/Winter 2010

	Number of Members	Number of Non-Members	Possible Bed Nights	Used Bed Nights	%age of Use
Autumn	27	127	4928	396	8.04
Winter	318	238	4928	1783	36.18

The promotion of the lodge was mentioned a while ago and this is something we are trying to spend more time on, however we all have limited time available. Over the last few months we have started looking for someone to work with the Booking Officer and myself regarding this. If you have the enthusiasm and time for this I'd love to hear from you.

Work Parties

Over the last year in the bathrooms we have put in a paper towel system which is proving to be very popular, and I'm sure is also stopping miscellaneous hands drying themselves on other people's towels. The steriliser has been replaced as has the microwave. Work was scheduled for the Taranaki window however this has been delayed and will occur in the 2011/2012 reporting year.

Sub-Committee

I'd like to extend a huge thanks to the members of the sub-committee for their continued enthusiasm, experience and knowledge. Every single person is key to the success of this group. In particular I want to thank Brian Goodwin for doing the bookings; Andrew Trembath for taking care of the food and Kevin Griffiths for literally being the person on the ground. Thank you!

Sue Walsh
Ruapehu Lodge Convenor

Membership

We had a healthy 474 members in 2010. Unlike many other tramping clubs, we have a vibrant, active tramping community which is fantastic – let's keep it this way!

Our membership consists of: 162 senior members, 46 couples (92 individuals), 49 veterans, 24 veteran couples (48 individuals), 56 family members, 20 life members, 20 associate members and 27 friends of the club.

Below is a summary of membership numbers over the last seven years. While membership is still relatively high compared with historic levels, we have lost a number of members since our peak in 2009. This reflects the relatively low numbers of new members joining throughout the year.

WTMC Membership history	2010 /11	2009 /10	2008 /09	2007 /08	2006 /07	2005 /06	2004 /05
Members start of year	494	478	453	442	429	428	435
Plus new members	19	38	37	30	41	34	34
Less resignations, deletions	39	22	12	19	28	33	41
Members at year end	474	494	478	453	442	429	428

The initiative to offer an email link to the on-line newsletter has been taken up widely by club members. It is great to be able to see the photos in colour as well as saving both paper and printing/postage costs

Progress has been made on the membership database in the past year and a new on-line system for accessing members' contact details will be up and running soon. This will make it very much easier for us to keep your details up-to-date in our database. Watch this space!

Members are encouraged to keep the club's database up to date with any changes in contact details by emailing me at membership@wtmc.org.nz or by editing the members' page on the club website.

Jenny Beaumont
Membership Officer

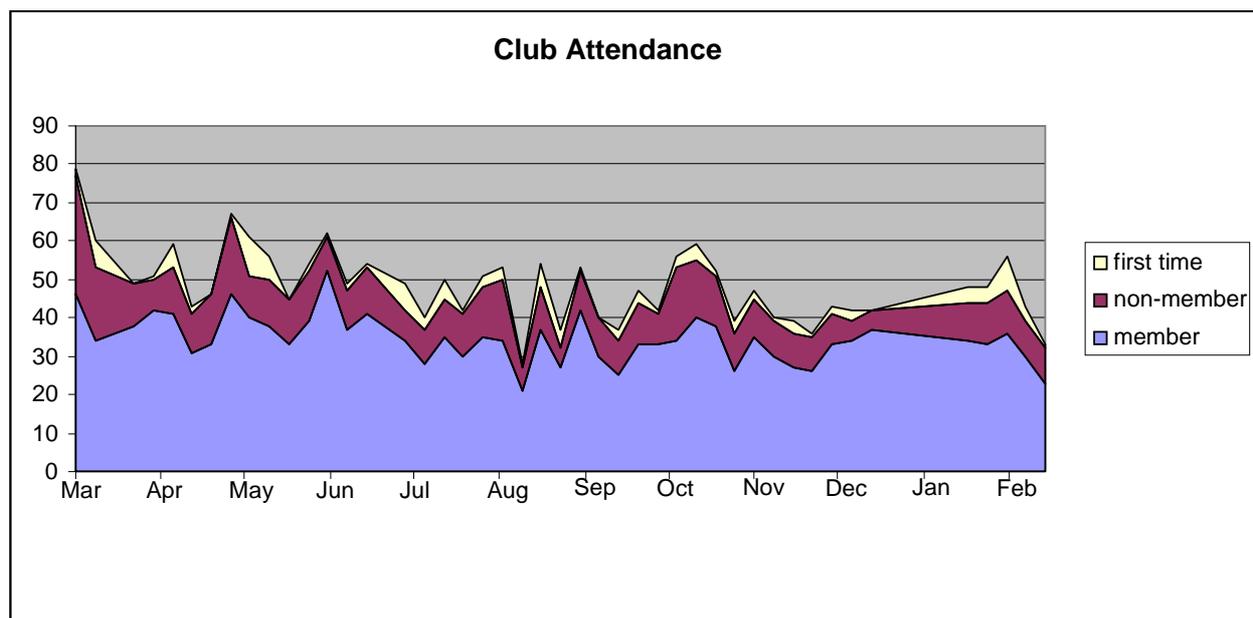
Promotions

The role of Promotions Officer was taken over by myself on Megan Sety's departure in October 2010.

Over the year there have been around 20 club members regularly helping on the door welcoming newcomers, and this is much the same number as in previous years. Thanks to them! I will be looking for new recruits to expand this number in the new year.

The weekly attendance to Wednesday club nights has been steady throughout the year with an average of 48 people attending. This is lower than the last two years when there was 62 for 2009/10 and 63 for 2008/09. It is much the same number as 2007/08 and 2006/07 with 51 and 50 respectively.

The highest number present at club was 79 in March, which was a talk by Sharron Came on her trip to the Olivine Wilderness area. The lowest number of attendees was in the month of September. The status of those attending throughout the year was made up of the averages of 34 members, 11 non-members and 3 first timers. The average number of members attending is slightly down from 40 last year. The number of 3 first timers each week is the same as previous years. Also similar to previous years was that nearly all nights had a first timer coming along. The highest number of first timers was 10 in May.



This year the annual new members' evening was held on 23 February. 18 members were enlisted to assist on the night and a number of others turned up to help answer questions. A big thank you goes to all these helpers with many of them being veterans at it now.

The event was advertised through the usual avenues – posters in outdoor shops, city libraries and recreation centres, advertisements on community radio stations, event websites and community newspapers. The article featuring Darren and a PLB in the

Cook Strait News was particularly successful with a number of new people referring to it on the night.

The night went well with around 45 new people coming along and a good number signing up on upcoming trips. This number is lower than the 60 last year which could possibly be attributed to the sombre events of the Christchurch earthquake the day before. However those who did come along were very attentive and interested and helpers were kept busy answering questions throughout the evening. It is thought an expansion of promotion avenues would be useful to help boost numbers for the new members' night next year.

Megan Banks
Promotions Officer

Transport

The club continues to own 2 Ford Transit 12-seater minivans of which it is very proud and also fortunate to possess. Over the last financial year it has become apparent that for many weekends only 1 van has been utilised, which is in line with the drop-off in new members and also current members participating in weekend trips. Hopefully this trend will not continue into the new financial year as the vans are required to help the club generate income. The club pays for weekly storage of the vans as well as ongoing maintenance, registration, Road User Charges, increasing diesel costs and depreciation; a depreciation loss of \$9167 was recorded this year by the vans.

The combined mileage driven by both vans within the last 12 months is 28,000kms, which may sound like a lot, but for 2 vehicles of this type is not that much. The vans sit in a warehouse being unused most of the time and the club committee may have to look at other ways to generate further income from the vans if we are to retain them both.

There are still approximately 55 vetted current club members who have volunteered to drive the vans, which is great and has not been an issue, though we are always keen to encourage as many volunteers as possible. Steve Austin again led a Minivan Familiarisation session to this end.

Neither van has suffered any major damage over the last 12 months apart from a windscreen which had to be replaced, though this was covered by insurance.

One of the vans was incorrectly filled with 30 litres of petrol rather than diesel which cost approximately \$550 to repair though has not left any long-term damage.

A new storage location had to be sourced after the RemarkIT Solutions warehouse was closed due to an asbestos problem in the ceiling. This turned out positively for the club in the end when we found a new home in the Freight Lines warehouse directly opposite from Platform 9. The new warehouse is just across Waterloo Quay from Platform 9 and can be walked in just a few minutes, making it an ideal storage location. We were able to continue paying the same storage fee as previously. This arrangement is currently working out OK with the new warehouse owners.

Gareth Morton
Transport Officer

Social Convenor

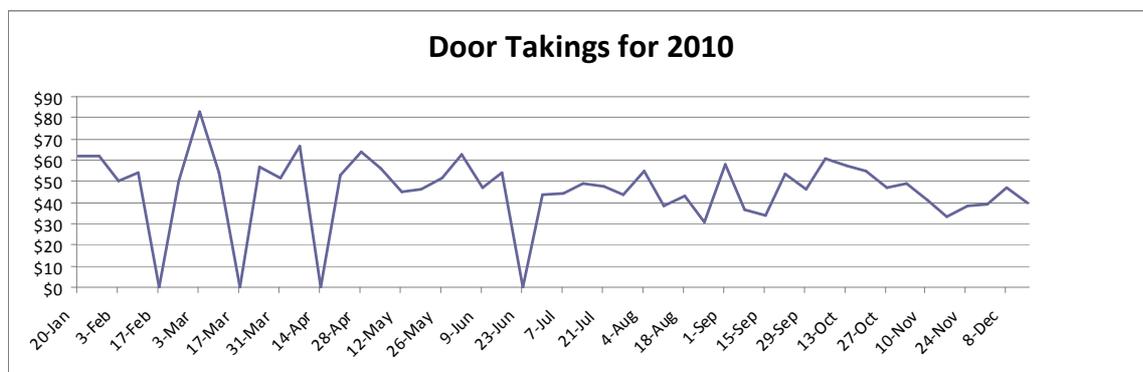
While we have seen less people than last year coming through the door on a club night, attendance has been relatively consistent through the year as shown in the chart below. This year the usual dip in the middle of the year was apparent but not as large as in other years. Due to other commitments and to coincide with the FMC photography competition we decided to leave it until March 2011 which also allowed people more time to take good shots.

The presentations this year have been of a very high standard and a large majority have been in New Zealand with a few taking us many places overseas. Again cycling has been a popular talking point as well as skiing. However it has still been mostly tramping we hear about in general which is what we are about. We have also had some very informative talks this year about a variety of things

Those presentations not focused on tramping trips have included: What FMC is all about, Belgium, Iceland and Greenland from Sue Walsh, Walking the Inca Trail, learning about the bush and eatable plants, walking in Ireland, Climbing Mount Everest from Mike Phethean, How the weather works, skiing in Sweden, Earth's Magnetism from Dr Gillian Turner, The Grand Cannon, Ethiopia, Thailand and Cambodia, and off course we can't forget Harry Smith's cycle tour in Australia.

Club members have been great about coming forward and sharing their stories and photos and I'm very grateful to all of them. Darren and Amanda have stepped in at the front when I've not been available so I thank them for that. Special thanks goes to Sharron Came who has this year given a few talks and again managed to bring in record numbers and she takes out the largest crowd award (if there was one that is) for her talk in March. This is evident in the chart below. And to all those who help out in the kitchen and set out chairs – thank you very much.

I have very much enjoyed the role of Social Convenor and hope to see you all again for the following year. Don't forget the club runs on the kind work of volunteers so please help out and give a presentation when you can.



Donna Maher
Social Convenor