



TRAIL BLAZER

The newsletter of the friends of the Greytown Trails Trust

December 2024

TAUWHARENKAU TRAIL—UNDERHILL ROAD



The final piece of the puzzle is now in place with the commissioning of the new trail extension which runs from the southern trail gate to the seal on Underhill Road, Featherston. The southern portion of Underhill Road can be busy at times with trucks coming and going from a nearby quarry but now cycling from Featherston to the Tauwharenikau Rail Trail Bridge is now so much safer. The Greytown Trails Trust (GTT) in partnership with



the South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) and local contractor Pope and Gray established the 2.2 km trail running adjacent to the gravel section on the upwind section of Underhill Rd South. The construction team from Pope and Gray led by John Gray and funded by the SWDC was constructed in May this year and commissioned for use. The trail crosses Underhill Rd in a couple of places so it is necessary to exercise caution when swapping from one side to the other. GTT will continue to maintain and manage the trail inside the gates and in proximity to the bridge. The establishment of this side track now completes the bridge link project. It is a magnificent achievement after 10 years of planning and significant hours invested by the trustees. Our vision to provide a link between Greytown and Featherston via a cycling trail across the Tauwharenikau has now come

to fruition. The trustees of the trail would like to thank all those involved over the years in the establishment of this magnificent asset for the South Wairarapa.



Welcome to this edition of the Trail Blazer. We hope you find something of interest here especially information on the recently formed cycle trail from the bridge to Featherston. If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, please contact us - trailblazerGTT@gmail.com
John & Kathleen



WHY WE LOVE THE TRAIL

*Ian and Rosie Montgomerie,
Greytown*



*Photos supplied
by Ian and Rosie*

The Rail Trail is a real asset for Greytown residents and visitors. The meandering track has a great surface for runners, walkers and cyclists. The trail has lovely native plantings and views over countryside towards the Tararuas. Our involvement began with helping to establish and help maintain the plantings which help to disguise the transfer station. From time to time we have to cut back over hanging branches, remove flaxes and occasional spraying to keep the weeds in check. We also help at the bridge end and it's pleasing to see this area becoming established. We always meet lovely people, out enjoying everything the trail provides. As cyclists we ride often and the new bridge is a wonderful extension, means an easy ride to Featherston from Greytown. Our only gripe is dogs not on leads and dog poo bags left for us to pick up or discover when weeding! More volunteers are always welcome at working bees and also to support the work of the Trails Trust.

TRAIL COUNT

171,013 visitors on the Greytown Trail to date and **63,968** on the new Tauwharenikau Trail

COMMUNITY AWARD

The Rotary Club of South Wairarapa Community Service and Pride of Workmanship Awards were held in the Greytown Town Hall on Wed 11 Oct 2024. This bi-annual event recognises individuals and groups whose contributions have had a lasting impact on local communities, whether through work or volunteer efforts.

We are extremely pleased to say that Ted Ward (a Trails Trust Trustee) and Lois Pitt (A Trails Trust committee member) were honoured with this award as the driving force behind the Greytown Country Markets and the mid-winter Christmas Market, in which 100% of the profits are donated to the Greytown Trails Trust.



Ted & Lois pictured here doing what they do so well— at the Greytown Country Market

GREYTOWN COUNTRY MARKET
3rd Sunday of every month – Oct thru March
greytowncountrymarket.org.nz

This market is run by volunteers from the Greytown Trails Trust and is a major fundraiser for the trail. The money we raise goes towards maintenance, upkeep and ongoing improvements to the trail.

The market also provides a gathering place for our community that celebrates the diversity and creativity of Wairarapa and Wellington.

For more information, whether as a visitor or potential stallholder, please contact the team at -

info@greytowncountrymarket.org.nz

BECOME A FRIEND

We have a steadily growing base of friends who get involved in working bees and are kept up to date with trail activities.

A minimum annual donation of \$10 is all it costs to become a Friend.

Please contact Margaret Cole -
bmcole@orcon.net.nz

HOW TO DONATE

To make a donation please contact Kathleen - trailblazergtt@gmail.com



parkrun is a free, fun and friendly community event where you can walk, run, jog, volunteer or spectate.

parkrun is 5km and takes place every Saturday at 8am starting at the trail near Woodside Station.

www.parkrun.co.nz/greytownwoodsidetrail