

TRAIL BLAZER

The newsletter of the friends of the Greytown Trails Trust



Welcome to the January 2018 issue of Trail Blazer.

The Greytown Rail Trail, established in 2010 has now been in existence for seven years and enjoys ever increasing traffic.

As usual there is a long list of people to thank for their continuing efforts in maintaining the Trail, too numerous to mention here but suffice it to say the Trail has never looked better.

We also want to thank those of the public who continue to donate generously through the donation boxes and use the trail, without this public patronage the Trail could not continue. We look forward to the expansion of the Trail in the New Year.



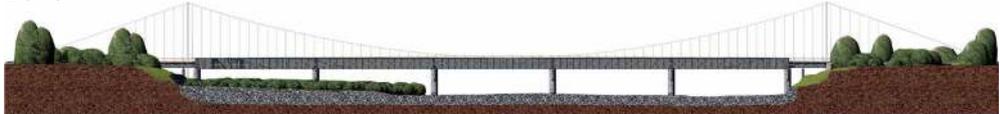
Shane Atkinson.
Chair Greytown
Trails Trust

Bridging the gap

The Greytown Trails Trust has developed the Woodside/Greytown Rail Trail and now has its sights set on completing a trail to Featherston via Underhill Road. The key part of this trail will be a proposed design for a cycle/pedestrian suspension bridge over the Tauherenikau River built alongside, and braced to, the Tauherenikau rail bridge. The design - artists impression seen above - has been positively received by Kiwirail engineers and approval has been granted in principle. The SWDC consent process has not yet started however landowner access is being finalised with positive goodwill toward the concept. Track design will meet NZ Cycle Trail Grade 1 standards and local community groups such as Wairarapa Whanau Trust and SW Rotary will work alongside the Greytown Trails Trust to develop the approaches to the bridge with a boardwalk through wetlands planned.

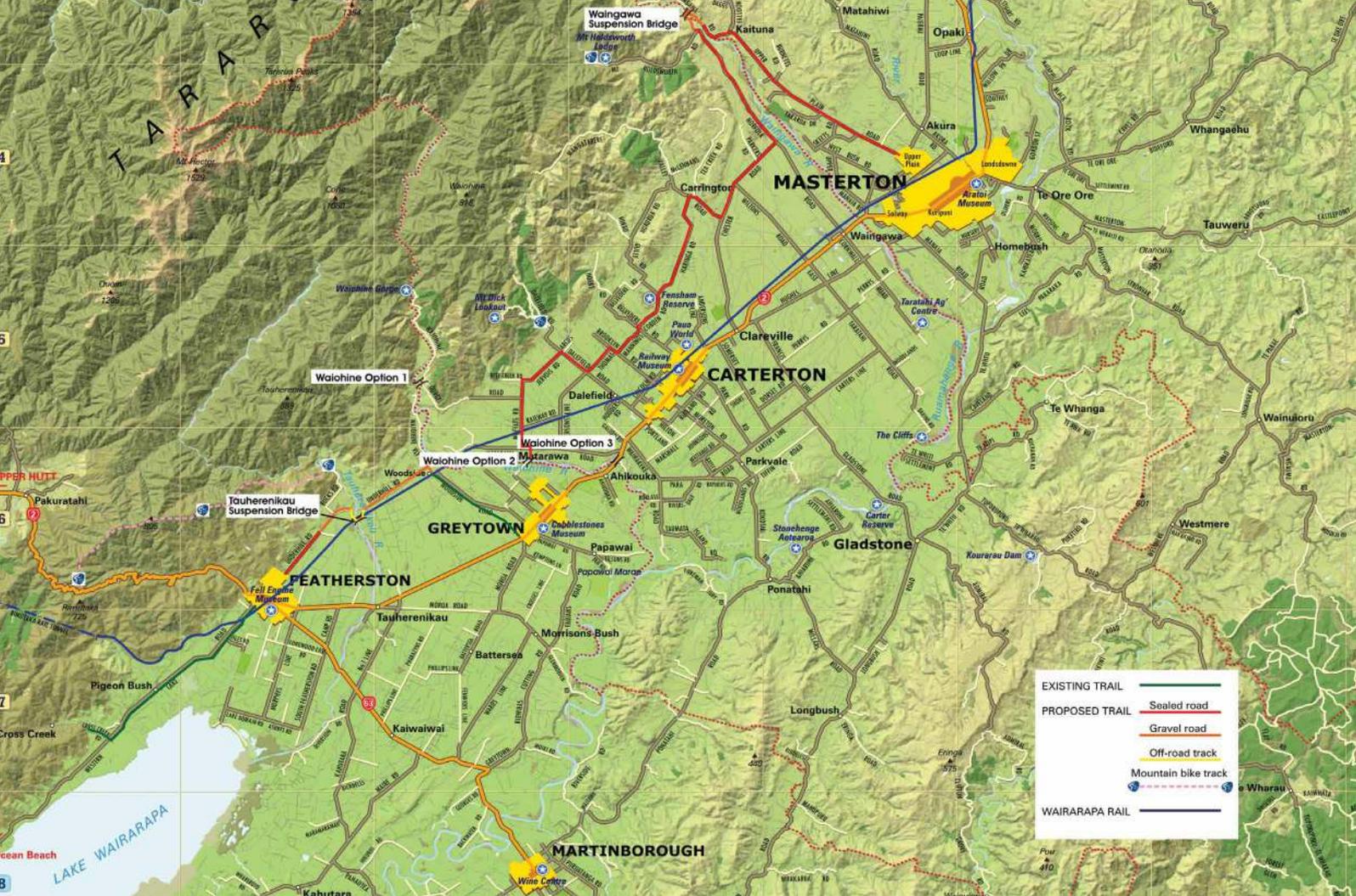
The bridge has been designed by Martin Wilson. Martin's company, Abseil Access Engineering of Wellington, will also build the 151 meter span structure - one of the longest of its type in the country. The bridge will be on the downstream side of the rail bridge to protect it from the wind and will be free standing but braced to the rail bridge for stability.

The Trust has received funding from the Greytown Community board and Greytown Trustlands for preparatory work enabling 'shovel ready' status by the end of March 2018.



Leave it to the experts!

A qualified engineer and active mountain climber, Abseil Access co-founder Martin Wilson is a director who likes to get his hands dirty. An early indication of Martin's intent to ensure that safety is a core element of the company's work ethic was Martin's involvement in setting up the Industrial Rope Access Association of NZ 1997. Martin's passion is designing and constructing suspension bridges.



The Five Towns Trails Trust

A trail linking the five Wairarapa towns, Featherston, Martinborough, Greytown, Carterton and Masterton is on the drawing board of a new entity named the Five Towns Trails Trust. The proposed Trail will be a significant new experience readily accessible from Wellington City and offering a great experience of the Wairarapa. Bridge infrastructure is key to crossing various rivers and some other trail work and road alignment will be required. Promotion will occur through Destination Wairarapa and WREDA Destination and Marketing.

The Greytown Woodside Trail recently received the accolade one of five "Signature Trails" in a review of cycle projects in the Wellington region.



Wow look at the growth!

Those who were around when the Trail was first built will remember the rocky bund at the Trail entrance. Have a look at it now! The flaxes and grasses that barely had a toothhold back then are now flourishing thanks to the efforts of many!

Recent and upcoming events on the Trail

The Trail has hosted various events recently including..... We look forward to the.....

Trail hero pic

2017 Trail Hero

Our 2017 trail hero is Ted Ward who has gone the extra mile mowing the grass alongside the trail during 2017.

HOW TO DONATE

To make a donation please contact Doug Ferguson 06 304 8911
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