



The Presidents Report

Welcome back everyone. Hope you had a nice time over the Christmas/New Year period and that Santa was good to you. Santa did not appreciate my boots were about to fall apart, so I had to make a hasty trip to TeAnau's Mitre 10 for some shoe glue & extra laces to bind them up with ten minutes before catching the bus to the start of the Routeburn Track! Luckily they held together, but now only good for being flower pots! What a lovely track this is. We are blessed with some wonderful spaces in our beautiful country. While we did not have the best of weather, myself and three others took a very leisurely 3 nights on the track (which can be done in one night – or even in a day for “track runners”) giving us plenty of time to explore the side tracks and enjoy hut life. I'd never been to Key Summit. What a magical spot surrounded by 360 degrees of mountains. I understand tracks like the Routeburn are booked out 6 months in advance. I have never seen Queenstown so busy. The foot paths were like Queen Street. We even got stuck in traffic jams. Tourism is alive and well in New Zealand.

After a shaky start summer is here, so get out there and make the most of it before it is all over. I've had 7 weekends in a row away from Auckland since Christmas! Might need a weekend at home soon to mow the lawns!

If you would like to join in our 40th birthday buffet lunch at the Swanson RSA on Saturday 11th of March and have not put your name down, let Joy know as soon as possible. Should be a nice day out catching up with folk we have not seen in a while who are no longer tramping with us as a result of dodgy hips or now living too far away.

Club member Verena Schiess who works at Henderson Library kindly provided us with a couple of book that were being deleted from their stock called “From Tussock to Tourist” and “Between The ports Collingwood to Waitapu”. If interesting in having a read, Jill E has them.

I read in the Western Leader of a new boardwalk has been developed from Onehunga's Taumanu Reserve to Bamfield Place marking the start of a 10km pathway on the Manukau harbour's northern coastline. If you've got the time (all you retired folk!), check it out and see if it could be incorporated into a Wednesday evening or Sunday walk and let our trip coordinator Louis S know. When completed the 10km Waikowwhai Coastal Walkway/cycleway will run from Onehunga to Blockhouse Bay.

The New Lynn night market has started up again. It could be fun to meet up there one night for a bit to eat followed by a walk in the area if anyone is interested in being the leader. Our mid-week walks don't necessarily have to be on a Wed night. This food market is a little different in that the stalls are often run by refugees trying to make a fresh start in our country. I've been there a couple of times and had interesting food from Congo, Myanmar and Iraq and felt good about helping someone get started in a new country. I can only imagine how hard this must be.

If you are planning a trip where you would like to use the club personal locator beacon, the following folk need to be copied in to an email to know of your plans. Tom Wood (beacon holder), Miriam Harwood, Dennis Badan and Peter Tuohy. It's one of those things where it is highly unlikely we would need to use it, but if we do, speed is essential and the more people who know of your plans the faster the necessary action can be put in place.

We've got a good variety of tramps coming up over the next month, several of which involve being in or around water, so enjoy while we can.

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INVITATION TO
WEST AUCKLAND DISTRICT TRAMPING CLUB
40th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION LUNCHEON

*Since 1977 our wonderful club has provided tramping opportunities to both
local and faraway places and most importantly fellowship & friendship
(and even a little romance here and there!)*

We would love you to join us for lunch to celebrate this milestone.

WHEN: *Saturday 11 March 2017 12noon*

(meal at 12.30pm – three course buffet)

WHERE: *Swanson RSA, Swanson Road, Swanson.*

COST: *\$10 per club Members & Invited Former Members.*

(\$10 Subsidy per member)

(Complimentary lunch to Veteran & Honorary members)

\$20 partners and others

Buy your own drinks

RSVP : *to Trish Hopkins 09835 4405, mob 021 127 3862,
waitakereforever@gmail.com She can advise if you are a veteran member (21 years).*

Payments should be made to WADTC 12-3034-0697604-00 by 3rd March.

*A tramp to Fairy Falls (the location of our club's first ever tramp) will
take place the next day and will be led by foundation member
Bruce Fletcher.*

Activities

19 February

Goldies Bush

Time: 8.30am

Grade: Moderate

Fare: \$6 members, \$11 non members

New leader! Peak of summer, so a wonderful opportunity to splash about in the lovely Wairere stream that passes through Goldies Bush. Great swimming opportunities, beautiful bush and great views from the northern end of Te Henga Walkway.

Leader: Louis Allerby P: 8279047 E: louall@xtra.co.nz



20 February

Club Night - Robin Kewell – Film Maker

7.30pm Kelston Community Centre Cnr Great North Road & Awaroa Road

Robin Kewell Film-maker for the past 30 years, started as a stunt cameraman, went on to making many documentaries for TV. Worked on filming the Eden Project in Cornwall from when it was a seed of an idea through to completion. Over 3000 hours of footage shot over 7 years. The Eden Project has been described as the 'Eighth Wonder of the World' and Robin was privileged to be involved from the beginning, capturing a 'warts and all' story of how a dream turned into reality. Robin will present to us a special selection from the feature documentary 'Eden the Complete Inside Story' and will be there to answer questions on any aspect of the project. \$2 Members for supper please.



26 February

Time: Please yourself. Why not make a weekend of it?

If intending to only come for the day on Sunday, catch the 9am Fullers ferry from town (no Glen Eden meeting). Notify the leader you are coming.

Sunday the 26th of Feb is race day on Onetangi beach where all manner of races take place, not only horse races. Bet you won't want to miss this one! A real carnival event. There will be walks and swims planned around this event. I plan on making a weekend of it and have booked a bed for the night at the Waiheke Backpackers at Onetangi. Care to join me??



Leader: Peter Tuohy P: 8283274 E: tait@slingshot.co.nz

05 March

Piha South - The Gap and Blowhole

8.30am

Grade: Moderate

Fare members \$5 non members \$10

Timing; 4 - 5hrs

We will be doing the southern end of Piha Beach featuring Green Rock, Puaotetai Bay, Dr. Finlay's Boatshed, The Keyhole, The Gap, The Blowhole, The "Tennis Courts", Blue Pool and Camel Rock. Most of this is fairly easy apart from a bit of clambering round on the Camel's back and the cliffs on the other side of the Gap. This lifts the degree of difficulty to moderate. Until fairly recently part of this area was privately owned but is now public. There may be a small area of gorse. Optional extras: A swim and a coffee/ice cream at the Piha Cafe. Timing 4-5 hours aprox.

Leader: John Miller P: 6220436



12 March

Fairy Falls - 40th Anniversary Tramp

8.30am

Grade: Moderate

Fare members \$5 non members \$10

Timing; 4 - 5hrs

Forty years ago our wonderful club was formed and the very first tramp the club held was to the scenic Fairy Falls off Scenic Drive. Bruce is one of our few remaining foundation members and will be leading a trip down memory lane. For the more adventurous we will be re-enacting how trampers accessed the Waitakere Rangers in the "good old days" by taking a train to Swanson Station, then walking from there up Swanson Pipeline & Opanuku tracks to join the Fairy Falls brigade. We may fire up the thermette* and have some billy tea and old fashioned scones and jam. *If you are under 50 – just Google it!

Leader: Bruce Fletcher

Peter Tuohy P: 828 3274 027 438 9944E: tait@slingshot.co.nz



19 March Anawhata – Cannibal Creek

8.30am

Grade: Difficult

Timing; 5+ hrs

Members \$6 Non members \$11

Meet at Anawhata Road. We will do a car shuttle and leave some vehicles back at Kuataika Track so we don't need to do a road bash at the end. From the carpark on Anawhata Road we will go down to the beach, along the beach and up, then follow the ridge north and eventually come down on Cannibal Creek. We will follow the creek for some distance and eventually come out near Kuataika Track. We will go back via Kuataika Track, up the hill and over the farmland. I have got permission to cross private land, so this is a different walk and includes a hidden waterfall (assuming I can find it!). There will be some route finding, several stream crossings and it will be about 5 or more hours. Bring togs.

Leader: Lynne Flood P: 622 0436 E: floods@ihug.co.nz



20 March

Club Night– Chris Vernon Walking/Running the Kepler Track

7.30pm Kelston Community Centre Cnr Great North Road
& Awaroa Road

I'm sure Chris Vernon's talk on walking and running the Kepler Track will be so interesting it will no doubt keep us on our toes!!



26 March

Balloons Over Hamilton (Free Event)

Grade: Easy as!

Fare members \$30 non members \$35

26 March **Balloons over Hamilton** (free event and buses)

It is some time since we enjoyed this fun event. Travel down any time on Saturday. We will stay at club member Dell Hood's house (might need own mattress and or tent). Flat section so a couple of campervans might be OK. From Dell's house we will catch a bus to and from the balloonsoverwaikato.co.nz/ night glow event at the University. On the Sunday we will take an enjoyable walk along the mighty Waikato River and/or if there is enough interest a bike ride. Lots of new paths to explore.



Leaders: Dell Hood P: 07 8550405 E: dhood@xtra.co.nz

Peter Tuohy P: 828 3274 027 438 9944 E: tait@slingshot.co.nz

Wednesday night walks

Wednesday 15th, meet outside Kathy Badan's by 7pm at 2a Puketitiro Street, Glen Eden for a few good ups and downs. Bring a torch.

If you would be able to organise a Wednesday night walk on 22nd Feb, 1st March or 8th March please advise members yourself as Jill is away.

Trip Reports

Jan 22 Karamatura Track 22 January Leader Astrid Crouth

After lots of rain during the night it cleared up for our walk on Sunday. Except for a few spots of rain it turned out to be a nice day.

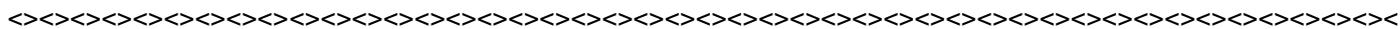
Nine of us met at 9.30 in Glen Eden and drove to Huia to walk the Fletcher / Karamaturatracks.

I had forgotten how long the uphill was and it seemed forever. A good workout though and we all enjoyed our lunch at

the Karamatura Forks. From there it was mainly all downhill.

We were honoured having Tom join us. Not only as the only chaperone for us 8 ladies but also as it was his first Sunday walk back after his mishap in 2012.

Thanks to Shirley O., Mandy, Valerie E. Trish, Jill D., Lynne, Annette and Tom for coming out and making it a great day.



Pakiri Beach to Matheson Bay 05 February Leader: Paul Williams

Our group travelled from far and wide – Perth, Glen Eden, Orewa, Matakana & Leigh – to enjoy a hot, sunny day and stunning coastal scenery. Eight walkers started out from the Pakiri Beach carpark with Denise in charge while the erstwhile leader “auto-walked” to Goat Island beach. After hiking south along beautiful Pakiri Beach, it was time to tackle the rocky foreshore. The tide was slightly higher than anticipated resulting in wet shoes as walkers negotiated a couple of tricky bits but everyone seemed to enjoy the challenge.

We reunited at Goat Island around 12:30pm and enjoyed a late lunch, in shade and back from the standing-room-only beach. It was absolutely packed for the Waitangi holiday weekend!! Then we moved onto the DoC track behind the University of Auckland’s Leigh Marine Laboratory, across farmland, all the while enjoying landmarks along the coast, from Whangarei Heads in the north to Hen & Chicken Islands to Little Barrier & Great Barrier Islands to Takatu Peninsula and a glimpse of Kawau Island to the south.



We paused at picturesque Leigh Harbour then joined the Leigh Clifftop Walkway. Looking down on Nordic Bay, the leader recounted the sad story of the small yacht *Nordic* that smashed onto rocks in 1962 after narrowly missing the Leigh Harbour entrance. A young girl had already died onboard, overcome by engine exhaust fumes, however her brother and parents were rescued by locals.

As we approached Matheson Bay we found another shady place for a rest and a talk, this time about the local whanau who were killed by a raiding party in the early 1800’s, and about brothers Angus and Duncan Matheson who built the brigantine *Spray* in Nova Scotia and sailed with other followers of Rev Norman McLeod to Auckland in 1857. They settled in the bay in 1859 and many descendants still live in the area.



The total walk took over five hours including lunch and stops. Thanks to Denise & niece Chynal, Dave S, Jill D & brother Peter, Pam, Jonathon and Shirley B for joining me on this walk and for helping with car shuttles, and to Louis S for organizing the Glen Eden end.

Advance Notices

Friday 28 April Gibbs Farm

Note: No meeting at Glen Eden

Today we will travel to the open air sculpture park at Gibbs Farm. This amazing farm sculpture park is always a good day out. Meet at Kaukapaka Hall, 947 Kaipara Coast Highway at 9.30 (approximately one hour from Henderson) and carpool to the entrance. (I have entrance tickets for each driver.) Numbers are restricted to 20 and bookings with the leader are essential.

The farm is opened from 10am to 2pm.

Cost: Free entrance \$10 car share, (if required) and \$5 fee for non-members

Contact: Pam Goldie P: 021 2146457

Club trip

Gold Coast Hinterland Rainforest



14-23 June 2017

Leader: Geoff Yates ph 8108456

With daily June temperatures around 21°C and only 1 day in 10 dropping to beneath 18°C where would you rather be spending next winter?

Lush rainforests, ancient trees, spectacular views, extensive walking tracks, exceptional ecological importance and natural beauty make this *Godwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area* an outstanding place to visit.

The intention is have a base for the week, (possibly in the Nerang area, a few km inland from Surfers Paradise) and take day trips into the magnificent Lamington National Park and other reserves in the area. Nerang is the gateway to the Gold Coast Hinterland's Rainforest Reserves.

Check out some of the proposed day trips at:

<http://www.nprsr.qld.gov.au/parks/lamington/about.html>

- Binna Bura area
- Green Mountain area
- Coomera Falls Circuit (17.5km)
- Dave's Creek Circuit (12km)
- Ballan Tui Falls (12km)
- Blue pool and Stairway fall (14km)
- Warrie Circuit (17km)

There are currently one-way **airfares** direct to Coolangatta advertised on Expedia for an amazingly low **\$16 (+taxes \$63)** on the 14th of June. You would have to move mighty quick to secure such an amazing bargain! Check with Geoff to see what flights others are on who have already committed to this trip. It is always much more fun travelling together.

Main costs to consider:

Airfares: approx \$300-400 return (unless you are lucky to score one of the above)

Accommodation: Shared cost

Car hire + fuel: Shared costs

Travel Insurance: \$50 +/-

Items of Interest

New Address!



Wendy Bassett

73a/21 Hunters Park Drive

Three Kings

Auckland 1024

Rošták is all about being a child
– even if this means being a little rascal

Our Rošták ethos is about having fun (and loads of it!)
and giving our kids the childhood we had.



Proudly **made in Europe** using traditional manufacturing methods giving little feet freedom to confidently venture on any terrain, no matter the weather.



Made with **premium quality leather** while featuring durable **waterproof and breathable membrane** keeping active feet comfy, toasty and dry.



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Affordable price range from \$75 to \$109 without compromising on the highest quality design and materials.



Our boys have worn and put to the test many of our shoes out in the bush, hiking up mountains, on muddy slopes and even in the snow. **They love them.**

Rošták Outdoors is helping kids joyfully create their own fun and make nature their playground. The outdoor range is enabling little rascals to confidently go on adventures. See for yourself at www.rostak.co.nz

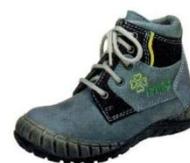


Quality leather shoes for your little rascals – fun,
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Tramping boots

Kids' tramping boots for the Rošták adventurers just like Mum's and Dad's.



All year round shoes

Every Rošták kid needs a go-to shoe that can be used all year round in the backyard, city park or on a bushwalk.



Casual shoes

Rošták kids love a casual shoe they can dress up or down and have fun playing in all day long.

The Manawatu Walking Festival March 10,11 & 12 – Palmerston North

11 Inspiring walks for families to trampers. Walks from beach to bush & so much more.

Bookings Essential

www.mwf.org.nz

Website messages:

DOC at 137 Quay Street has CLOSED. Planning is ongoing how DOC can meet customers' needs in the future.

Please check our website www.doc.govt.nz or phone 09 3796476 for update of our services.

HUT PASSES can currently be obtained on Mondays, Tuesday, Thursdays & Fridays from our Parnell office at 12-16 Nicholls Lane Parnell (off Stanley Street)

The Committee including non- committee Assistants(last four).

Peter Tuohy	President	828 3274	tait@slingshot.co.nz
Jill Engle	Secretary	626 4325	jengle23a@vodafone.co.nz
Trish Hopkins	Treasurer FMC mag distributor	835 4405	waitakereforever@gmail.com
Louis Allerby	Vice President/ Editor	827 9047	louall@xtra.co.nz
Louis Segedin	Trip Coordinator	817 6478	louis@rocketkitchen.co.nz
Colin Spencer	Marketing and New Members	838 5706	broncol@windowslive.com
Shirley Bulog	Club night speakers	810 9303	sbulog@hotmail.com
Chris Green	Newsletter printing	838 5888	cogreen@actrix.co.nz
Joy Prebble Shirley Bulog	Social Convenors	813 5330 810 9303	Joyprebble@xtra.co.nz sbulog@hotmail.com
Joy Prebble	Supper Host	813 5330	joyprebble@xtra.co.nz
Geoff Yates	Committee Member	8108456	
<i>Tom Wood</i>	<i>Locator Beacon holder</i>	<i>815 5795</i>	trwood@xtra.co.nz
<i>Mark Vazey</i>	<i>Gear Steward</i>	<i>8271552</i>	vazey@xtra.co.nz
<i>Miriam Harwood</i>	<i>Overdue parties</i>	<i>8189314</i>	m007harwood@gmail.com
<i>Christine Major</i>	<i>Webmaster</i>	<i>3784404</i>	christine.major@clear.net.nz