



The Presidents Report

Well the Waitakere's are now officially off limits (for now) and an increasing amount of the Hunuas. Even some other tracks that I thought would be safe for us the put on our programme such as the Okura walkway have been closed in the name of kauri protection, putting an even greater squeeze on our options. But we will soldier (march perhaps?) on. Bruce has taken the time to sift through old records and study maps etc to provide us with alternatives so we can continue to do what we love (all be it not in so much bush). His findings appear in this magazine. Please take a look at it as put your hand up to lead one.

Our AGM is upon us again on the 21st of May. Your attendance would be appreciated. We have sufficient committee members (with the majority of the existing team being willing to stay a bit longer which is appreciated), so don't think that by attending you will be put under pressure to sign up for the committee.

Reminder, subs are due by the 30th of May.

Annette is now our Personal Locator Beacon lady. So if you want to borrow it, contact her rather than Tom. Thanks Tom for having attended to this role in the past. The beacon is available as required but it is **YOUR** responsibility to return it promptly upon your return.

I accepted an open invitation to attend a recent Outdoors Activities Club meeting at which the FMC President Peter Wilson gave a talk about FMC (funnily enough). It was interesting and well attended. All our clubs face similar challenges with aging, restricted access and issues with away trips due to the terrible traffic getting back into Auckland. An interesting couple of points were that of the FMC executive of about 20 people, none live further north than Taupo. They are actively trying to change that so the area with 50% of New Zealand's population is involved. FMC also plan on directing more funds to ensure pressure is kept on Auckland Council to work on making at least some tracks available for those wanting more than a 5 minute walk to a lookout point. FMC is growing despite clubs declining with more individual membership and more non-traditional clubs joining such as pack rafting groups and canyoning. While not trampers, they too enjoy the great outdoors and support the work undertaking by FMC on our behalf. Such groups also tend to attract younger groups, which is all good.

Angela has suggested we go to the upcoming ABBA concert at the RSA on 8th of June which I think is a great idea. Come on now, admit it, you know you know ALL their songs. Promises to be a cheap fun night out.

We had another great guest speaker in April with Phillip Donnell sharing his "50 best NZ walks". I hope that each of you have 50 memorable walks as a result of being a member of this club or at least a bucket list of 50 if you are a newer member. I came away thinking I've still got some work to do.

We have had a brilliant summer and the mildest autumn I can remember, so get out on our tramps as often as you can – before it all turns to custard!

Peter



West Auckland District Tramping Club Inc.

Annual Subscription 2018/2019 - \$30.00

Subscriptions are due on 1st April 2017 and are payable *no later than 31st May 2017*

Veteran Members who have been financial members of the Club for twenty one years or more have the option to pay only \$20.00.

**IF PAYMENT IS NOT RECEIVED BY 31ST May 2017
a penalty of \$5 will be added to the amount due.**

Post your cheque, including your name and any changes to your address, phone numbers or email to

**West Auckland District Tramping Club (Inc),
C/- A209
15 Sel Peacock Drive
Henderson
Auckland 0610**

Or

Payment can also be made by Direct Credit to WADTC

ASB 12 3034 0697604 00 Please include your name

If you do not wish to renew your membership, please advise the Secretary Ph: 626-4325

Activities

20 May Green Bay to Onehunga

NO MEETING AT GLEN EDEN

Meet 8.30am at Green Bay Beach, Portage Rd

Grade: Moderate

Timing: 4+ hrs

We will need to do a car shuttle from here to the new beach at Onehunga so if you are coming from the Onehunga area please contact me beforehand so you can be part of the car shuttle. The Waikōwhai Walkway crosses a mix of forest paths, tidal mudflats, rock shelves, hard sand beaches, suburban parks and roads.

Information link for the new walkway.

<http://temp.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/parksfacilities/walkingtracks/Documents/waikowhaiwalkwaymap.pdf>

Leader: Denise Vazey P: 027 329 0052 E: vazey@xtra.co.nz



21 May WADTC Annual General Meeting 2018

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

The AGM is upon us so please come & have your say. Christine Major will also be giving us a talk on doing the Wonderland Trail around Mt Rainier and part of the Pacific Crest Trail in Washington state US



27 May Mt William – Miranda Shell Bank

8.30 Glen Eden

Grade: Easy/Moderate

Fare: \$12 members \$17 non-members

Lunch \$5

From the McMillan Rd end, the track follows a farm fence line with markers to the Mount William Scenic Reserve. The reserve hosts a wide variety of native trees and shrubs including kauri, hard beech and king ferns. From the Mount William summit (373 m) there are expansive views to the West Coast and Firth of Thames.

I will then purchase some famous Pokeno bacon & we will head to Miranda & cook you all bacon butties for lunch & then take a stroll along the shell bank.

If you wish to meet at McMillan Rd please let leader know.

Mount William is south of Auckland, just past the Bombay Hills. Turn left off SH1 onto Beaver Rd, then right into Razorback Rd and left into Puketutu Rd. Or turn onto SH2, then left into Irish Rd and left into McMillan Rd.

Leader: Louis Allerby P: 021 190 6472 E: louall@xtra.co.nz



02-04 June Queens Birthday Weekend – Leitch’s Clearing, Waikato

Leitch’s Track to Leitch’s Hut in the Whareorino Forest west of Te Kuiti

Meet at the car park at the end of Leitch Road on Saturday 2 June, ready for 11am start. It takes about 3 hours to get there from Auckland.

From Otorohanga take State Highway 3 to Kaka Street in Piopio (37 mins). Then take Mangaotaki Road to Leitch Road in Mangaotaki. There is a car park at the end of Leitch Road and the track enters the Whareorino forest here.

The tramp to the hut is about 3 hours and should be easy. Initially, the track is on an old four wheel drive track, then through bush to Leitch’s Hut. We will base ourselves in Leitch’s Hut for Saturday and Sunday nights. Optional walk Saturday afternoon. For Sunday, there is a choice of tracks to go on depending on the weather and the amount of rainfall over the last few weeks, as some of the tracks involve river crossings. On Sunday I propose we do a section of the Waikawau Track and return the same way. This track is pretty, with nice bush. It does have river crossings but the first crossing is outside the hut so we will know how we are placed.



The hut sleeps 16 and is first in, first served. Two hut tickets are needed. We will need some tents as a backup in case the hut is full. There is heating and mattresses and you need to bring your own gas.

Please phone Lynne by 26 May to book your place. Numbers are limited. We have space in our car for 1 or 2 people.

Leader: Lynne Flood P: 622 0436 E: lynneflood.healthwise@gmail.com

08 June Titirangi RSA-The Mermaids Perform the Music of Abba

Friday night (**8 June 8.30pm**) and the lights are low

Looking out for the place to go (**Titirangi RSA**)

Where they play the right music, getting in the swing

You come in to look for a king

Anybody could be that guy

Night is young and the music's high

With a bit of rock music, everything is fine

You're in the mood for a dance

And when you get the chance(**come along for some fun & a dance**)



Tickets available at the door or book online at www.titirangirsa.co.nz

10 June Cycling St Heliers to Westhaven

10.30am St Heliers-No Meeting at Glen Eden

Grade: Moderate

Timing: 4 hrs +

Meet at the northern end of Vellenoweth Green at St. Heliers (beside Tamaki Drive). We will cycle around the waterfront, through the city and on to Westhaven for lunch. We will then cycle to Victoria Park, up to Hobson St and along the pink viaduct to arrive at Upper Queen St. From here it is downhill through Grafton Gully and back to the waterfront to return to St. Heliers. Total distance should be approximately 32km.



Leader: Bruce Fletcher P: 522-6982 021-135-3022 E: fletchermb@xtra.co.nz

17 June Introductory Tramp around Lake Wainamu

Grade: Easy

Meet at Te Henga walkway car park for a 9.30am start.

Carpool at Swanson railway station at 9am or ring Jill by 9am if going directly to Te Henga walkway carpark as there is no cell phone coverage at Bethells, or organise own car pooling if coming from Gleneden.

This will be an easy fun day on the sand dunes and bush track in the Lake Wainamu area.

Prizes for the best performances on the sandcliff.

Phone 0212945700 (home ph 098323459) by 9am as no cell phone reception at Bethells.

Leader: Jill Dingle P:8323459 0212945700 E: jill.dingle@gmail.com

18 June Club Night – Mt Aconcagua

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

Jim Morrow is back with us once more to entertain us with another talk, this time, about being part of an expedition to the summit of Mt Aconcagua, Argentina, the highest peak outside the Himalayas.

Looking forward to this talk so hopefully we will see you at this club night.



24 June Dome Valley

8.30 Glen Eden

Grade: Moderate/Difficult

Fare: \$12 members \$17 non-members

Timing: 4+ hrs

Dome Valley bush walk from Dome car park. We will tramp in as far as time & conditions allow on the day. The walk is weather dependant and we will come back using the same track rather than do a car shuttle.

Travel distance to the Dome cafe car park is approx 90km.

Leader: Shirley O'Sullivan P: 021 423 340 630 9132 E: shirley.osullivan@gmail.com

30 June/01 July Anawhata Roast Dinner & Overnighter

Accommodation \$20 per night per person

Meal \$12 per person

Another mid winter roast beside the open fire in the Alpine Sports Club Hut.

This will be the fourth year that I have done this & I am certainly looking forward to you all joining me at the hut again for another great evening of wine, food and laughter.

The Alpine Sports Club Hut is only a short walk off Anawhata Road & sleeps 22.

Please contact me with interest as numbers are required for catering.

Leader: Louis Allerby P: 021 1906472 E: louall@xtra.co.nz



Trip Reports

Volcanoes of the North Shore 15 April Leader Christine Major

Eight huddled under Peter's shop veranda in Devonport before sprinting to the cars and driving through the rain to our first volcano Onepoto. Surprisingly by the time we walked the forest and wetland boardwalk track, raincoats were back in packs where they stayed for most of the warm, humid day.

We climbed out of the Onepoto crater to cross Exmouth Rd and descend into volcano two – Tuff Crater. As we partially circumnavigated the estuary we admired the wonderful ecological restoration work performed by Forest & Bird. After ascending the tuff ring we made our way through the Akoranga Campus to the splendid motorway footbridge and morning tea in the Esmond bus station.

On the track bordering the harbour inlet behind Barry's Point Rd we saw lava from our third volcano Pupuke on whose lakeside we meandered before making our way to the coast via Earnoch Ave. The fossil forest where Pupuke lava engulfed kauri and totara trees 200,000 years ago lay before us.



A Labrador made friends with us as we ate our lunch at the south end of Takapuna beach. From there we negotiated the shore platforms and beaches down to Narrow Neck, made a bit more interesting by the not very low "low tide" so we opted to climb up to Fort Takapuna to take the road route to Cheltenham Beach.

After a directissimo up Maungauika/North Head to a panoramic view, we made our way down via one of the tunnels and skirted round the coast to the Torpedo Bay Navy Museum. We traversed the Devonport Domain and the North Shore Football Club Grounds to arrive at volcano five – Mt Cambria. Sadly diminished by quarrying, at least a lovely park of lawns and trees remains and there are seats for weary trampers who choose to wait while others climb the remaining heights.

Lastly we climbed to the ring track of our final volcano Takarunga/Mt Victoria and strolled round the slopes back to our cars. We were John, Lynne, Ian, Cathy, Jim, Eleanor, Peter S and Christine.



City and Parks Ramble 22 April Leader Bronwyn Spencer

Fourteen members out today; nine of us made the trip into Britomart by train, meeting another five at Britomart on our arrival around 9am.

After leaving Britomart we headed up Queen St, through Vulcan Lane to Albert Park, where it was Peter picking up coins from the empty fountain, not Colin. Yes they were put back. After looking at the floral clock we headed through the grounds near Old Government House, down Waterloo Quadrant, Alten Rd passing St Andrews Church (for whom the bell tolls, and tolls) across Stanley St and up through a bush walk into the Domain to the Duck Pond, (no ducks only greyhounds) for our morning tea break.

We saw the hundreds of white crosses placed near the Museum in preparation for Anzac Day. Jonathan informed us that his uncle's name should be there. So we spent some time looking for it before finding out that they were for World War 1 only and his uncle was killed in World War 2.

Then it was on down Ayr St and Shore Rd with an extension suggested by Colin, up Shore Rd and down to Wilsons Beach, picture below, (named after Joseph Liston Wilson who helped found the New Zealand Herald)

overlooking Hobson Bay and the harbour for lunch.



We then headed back on part of the Hobson Bay boardwalk and up the Ayr Reserve Walkway, a pleasant bush walk, onto the top end of Brighton Rd, down St Stephens Ave, stopping for a look at Sir John Keys house which he has recently sold.

We then proceeded on down to the Parnell Baths and Judges Bay area. After a brief stop at Judges Bay, we went up through Dove-Myer Robinson Park and out to The Strand, along Quay St to Britomart, having a well-earned coffee break, before heading home.

The rain stayed away, the sun came out, it was a great day.

Thanks to Colin, Jill Dingle, Jill Engle, Val Mitchell, Val Ellis, Jonathan Pettit, Dennis & Kathy Baden, Peter Tuohy, Louis Allerby, Ian Song, Kathy Gong, & Bruce Fletcher, for making this an enjoyable day, on my first outing as leader.



Mahurangi Ramble 29 April Leader Ralph Lyon

The stormy weather in the previous two days and the less than encouraging forecast for Sunday was a bit discouraging and so we had a group of only six for this day out.

Starting from Sullivan’s Bay we were soon into the steep and somewhat slippery climb up to Tungutu Point with its extensive views over the Mahurangi Harbour. Then it was down the even steeper descent to the Mita Bay campground that we were pleased to get to without slipping over.

From the campground we wandered along the beach and onto the rocks to have morning tea in sight of Opahi Bay. From here it was along Mita (Otuawao) Bay beach and around the rocks for 20 mins to return to Sullivans (Otarawao) Bay. Here we went along the beach, up another good hill and along to Cudlip Point. Our descent from here took us past a big slip that has cut off the previous route down to the estuary. With the falling tide we all chose to get varying degrees of wet feet as we crossed Te Muri stream without removing our boots.



After following the estuary up a little we entered the Noke Noke paddock and followed the track past the former friar’s retreat and up to the saddle between Te Muri and the Puhoi estuary. A short way over the saddle we settled on a lunch stop during which we enjoyed some mild autumn sunshine and good views of Wenderholm.

After lunch we returned to the saddle and climbed towards Te Muri headland, entered a bush trail for a circuit before climbing a fence and descending steeply to Te Muri campground and along the third beach, which we had

all to ourselves, to re-cross the stream and begin the final ascent for the day before descending to the cars after approx 4.1/2 hours from our start

Trish, Sandra, Cathy and Ian, and Ralph and Lyndell enjoyed a no raincoats, no-kauri day.



Cycling Trip 06 May Leader Bruce Fletcher

It was good to see a group of 11 ready to go after early morning rain, with the promise of improving weather. We cycled initially along the Panmure Basin road frontage, across the bridge and on to the Pakuranga Rotary Shared Path. This path follows the estuary for approx. 9km and gives extensive views of the Tamaki River. It eventually joins a number of quiet roads and link paths to eventually arrive at Half Moon Bay, where we took the opportunity for a toilet stop. There is a boardwalk through to Bucklands Beach and a road ride to eventually arrive at Musick Point, by which time everybody was more than ready for lunch. The sun had now decided to shine and we spent a lazy extended lunch admiring the islands of the Gulf. It was then a short ride to a coffee break at Bucklands Beach where we managed to commandeer a long table for at least half an hour. The return ride was largely uneventful. About half the group decided to take the ride around the Panmure Basin, whilst the rest took the shortcut back to the cars. A round trip of approximately 32km. In all, a good day and the first cycle ride by the club for some considerable time.

Members of the group: Bruce; Colin; Pam; Doug; Jill; Louis; Peter; Cathy; Ian; Angela and Jean her young student.



The new look West Auckland District Tramping Club!!



Volcanoes of Mangere 13 May Leader Christine Major

How do they get the weather forecast so wrong? Instead of heavy rain and thunderstorms we had a warm sunny day inconvenienced by a single light sprinkle for which a few umbrellas were briefly deployed. The brollies went up again after lunch – this time serving as sun parasols.

Gloucester Park alias Hopua volcano was once an estuary but is now a lush green sports field although still recognisably a crater. After a quick traverse we were walking across Old Mangere Bridge and making our way up Woodward Ave towards Mangere Mountain where we stopped for morning tea. From the trig there were expansive views of the Manukau Harbour to admire before descending to Mangere Lagoon our third volcano.



We travelled south on the Watercare walkway to the Island Road causeway and a hike out to the native plantings at the gateway to the island, as close as we got to volcano four Puketutu . After a sunny lunch we returned to the coast on the walkway on the other side of the water.

At the Oruarangi Rd boat landing we deviated up to the road to see the tuff ring of Waitomokia volcano enclosing the Villa Maria winery before meandering further south on the walkway. The harbour with its spectacular heads and Puketutu Island looked stunning in the sunshine.

Finally we approached the Otuataua Stonefields and navigated our way around the quarried lava field and stone fences to the rim of Otuataua. Alas the apparent crater is an artefact of quarrying the scoria cone. We dropped down to the Stonefields entrance which was overlooked by our last volcano Pukeiti.

Eagle eyes spotted some avocados in the orchard and loaded with our green gold we made our way home. Thanks to Ian & Cathy, John & Lynne, Sandra, Shirley O, Trish, Jill D, Louis A, Jonathan who accompanied me.



Items of Interest

We would like to give a huge thanks to Bruce Fletcher for compiling the list below of walking & cycling opportunities.

Walking Opportunities

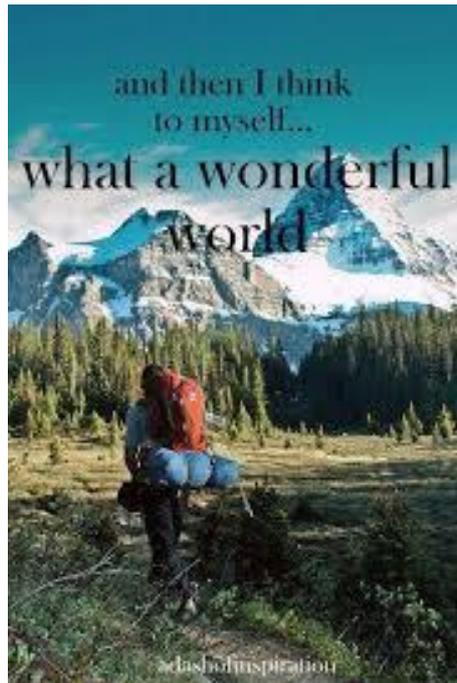
1. Exhibition Drive-Beveridge Tk-Arataki Nature trail return (Currently closed)
2. Te Henga Walkway
3. Huia Dam from Huia
4. Exhibition Drive-Pipeline Rd return
5. Henderson Ck from Flanshaw Rd return-café at Valley View Ranch
6. Coast To Coast
7. Coast to Coast variation-start at Grafton Station & include Mont Cecilia Park
8. Pt England Walkway-St Heliers to Tahuna Torea-return to St. Heliers
9. Britomart-Domain-Ayr St-Portland Rd-Mt Hobson-Mt St. John-Cornwall Park through to Ellerslie-return by train.
10. Long Bay-Takapuna-one way by bus-follow coast or Te Araroa Pathway
11. Long Bay Regional Park
12. Rangitoto Island-include summit
13. Rangitoto-walk through to Motutapu and return via coast.
14. Motutapu Island-farm walk-only available on planting days.
15. Motuihe Island-appears to be largely available on planting days
16. Devonport-North Head-Cheltenham-Ngataringa Bay-Mt Victoria-Mt Cambria
17. Devonport-Stanley Point-Naval Reserve-Mt Victoria-Mt Cambria-North Head
18. Waiheke Island-Matiatia-Fossil Bay loop
19. Waiheke-Matiatia-Church bay circuit
20. Waiheke-Onetangi-taking in F&B circuit
21. Waiheke-bus to Rocky Bay-walk around Whakanewa Regional Park
22. Waiheke-Rocky Bay ramble-Goldcard especially helpful on these!
23. Hunua Falls-Massey Tk-Cosseys Tk-Cosseys Gorge
24. Hunuas-Moumoukai hill access still available
25. Hunuas-Mangatawhiri access still available-Suspension Bridge Tk-Wairoa Loop
26. Hunuas-Mangatawhiri Reservoir-Lilburne Rd-Ernies Tk circuit
27. Waitawa Regional Park
28. Riverhead Forest
29. North Shore volcanoes-Onepoto-Pupuke-coast to Devonport
30. Keith Hay Park-Waterview return-follows new cycle path
31. Seven volcanoes walk-will have to wait until cyclepath work is completed
32. Muriwai-include Houghton's Farm-permission required
33. Shakespeare Regional Park
34. Maraetai-Omana-Beachlands return
35. Clevedon Reserve & Duders Regional Park
36. Train to Panmure-Rotary Pathway-Half Moon Bay-Bucklands Beach-return by ferry from Half Moon Bay
37. Ambury Park-Watercare Walkway

38. Ambury Park-Onehunga Bay return
39. Mangere Mountain-Puketutu Island-takes in part of Ambury
40. St Heliers to Westhaven-catch bus back
41. Te Atatu Peninsula
42. Green bay-Onehunga Bay-car shuttle
43. Onehunga Bay-Hugo Johnston Drive return-flat-follows coast
44. Orewa Estuary & Parks-return via beach
45. Panmure-start at Cleary Rd-round lagoon-Mt Wellington Reserves-Pt Engalnd-Tahuna Torea-return to Pt England and follow reserves to Glen Innes-return to Panmure by train
46. Northcote-Birkenhead-Little Shoal Bay-Kauri Point-Le Roys Bush
47. Grey Lynn Park-Cox's Bay Reserve-Fife St-William Denny-Meola Rd-Jaggers Bush-Western Springs-Grey Lynn Park
48. Western Springs-Jaggers Bush-Meola Reefs return-low tide
49. Rotoroa Island
50. Awhitu Regional Park
51. Botanical Gardens-Totara Park
52. Kawau Island-from Sandspit
53. Tawaharanui Regional Park
54. Tapapakanga Regional Park
55. Paremoremo Reserves
56. Seven Beaches of Whangaparo
57. Puhoi-Te Araroa Pathway-takes in Dunns Bush
58. Ohura Walkway(currently closed)
59. Mt Auckland
60. Atiu Ck Regional Park
61. Milford Beach-Campbells Bay return-takes in Centennial Park
62. Start at bottom of Francis St, Takapuna-Northbord Reserve-O'Neills Reserve-Ngataringa Rd-Ngataringa Park-Devonport-Narrow Neck beach(car shuttle)
63. Woodhill Forest

Cycling Opportunities

1. Panmure-Bucklands Beach-Musick Point
2. Takapuna-Devonport
3. Keith Hay Park-Pt Chev-return via Hendon park and Mt Roskill Reserves
4. St Heliers-Westhaven circuit
5. Kingsland-Lincoln Rd-Central Park Drive-Henderson Ck return
6. Te Atatu-Lincoln Rd-Central Park Drive-Oratia Stream-return via Henderson Ck(some on road)
7. Ambury-Watercare Pathway-Puketutu Island
8. Woodhill Forest from Muriwai





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

| | | | |
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