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**West Auckland District Tramping Club**  
**July 2018**  
Newsletter no. 454

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### *The Presidents Report*

Who wants to go to Nepal??? Nothing like long winter nights in New Zealand to spend time dreaming and planning adventures far and wide. Phil Donnell (our very interesting April guest speaker) is planning an exciting 3 week trip to all the wellknown spots in Nepal around the Everest region. Nepal is a very economical destination (I can personally vouch for the helicopter rescue service and hospital food!) This entire trip could be done for under 4K. See a bit of a teaser in the newsletter and if interested contact [Philpdonnell@orcon.net.nz](mailto:Philpdonnell@orcon.net.nz)

Looks like Jill Dingle has also been spending time planning escapes and has stumbled upon the wonderful array of adventures arranged by the Milton Rotary Club of Dunedin. I know of a couple of people who have been on their trips and report that they are very well organised. It might be the only way of getting on some of the bookable tracks now days due to their popularity. <https://www.otagorotarytrusttramps.org.nz/>

After a great ABBA night at the Titirangi RSA recently, another great band is booked to play there on Friday 14 September at 8.30. White Chapel Jak. Tickets \$20 presale or \$25 at the door. Very likely to sell out, so if you are keen on a bit of knees up to end the week, book your ticket now & we will see you there. You might remember this band as being the warm up band playing at Blockhouse Bay beach preceding Midge Marsden last summer. Check them out online or be modern and youtube them! While we are on the subject of entertainment, there is a movie on that is likely to appeal to members called Edie. *"After her controlling husband dies, an elderly woman embarks on a trip to fulfill her longtime dream of climbing a mountain in the Scottish Highlands"*. Keep an eye out for an email when a suitable time/location arises for anyone who wants to can come along.

Unfortunately we did not get enough interest for our midwinter roast dinner by the fire in June so the event was cancelled. Our resident master chef Louis A did however outdo himself once again and arranged a lovely pot of pumpkin soup we all shared for lunch on Bruce's recent Waterview walkabout.

Do note that not all of our tramps on our upcoming calendar depart from Glen Eden and not always at our traditional time of 8.30am, so do check the newsletter or website closely.

We have so many club members away on exotic trips at present. Perhaps one or two of them might be willing to give us a talk on their return??

Following on from an interesting club night talk on climbing in Argentina by regular visitor to our club Jim Morrow, we have another interesting guest speaker in July on sea caves. With all the world being captivated by the caving drama which unfolded in Thailand, the subject is very typical. Please make an effort and come along.

Wrap up warm and continue to get out there during the winter. Remember, there is no such thing as bad weather, only unsuitable clothing!

*Peter*

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## Activities

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### 15 July Hunuas – Upper Mangatawhiri Dam

8.30am Glen Eden or 9.30am at the location, see below.

Grade: Moderate/Difficult

Fare: members \$8 non members \$13

Timing: 6.5 hrs

9.30am Meeting point is the Upper Mangatawhiri Dam carpark at the end of Moumoukai Road. (The road on some maps changes its name to ARA Drive part way along.)

Upper Mangatawhiri Dam, Ernie's Track, Rata Ridge Track Loop and back to upper Mangatawhiri Dam via Lilburne Road (not a public road).

The Rata Ridge track could be avoided by tired trampers meaning a 5 hour tramp. Bush, a river crossing, mud, minimal board walking, a "pretty cool" bamboo grove, a disused mine, a couple of uphill slogs, easy bits too and great views.

Leader: John Miller P: 622 0436 E: [jmiller1954@gmail.com](mailto:jmiller1954@gmail.com)



### 16 July Club Night Peter Crossley – Auckland Sea Caves

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

Peter has been exploring and documenting Auckland's lava caves for 50 years. This was coupled with the fortune of joining the Auckland University as a technician in Geography, now Environment. Part of the work included geology and cave studies. Since retiring Peter is now almost full time liaising with other cave researchers and enthusiasts to preserve the caves from being destroyed.



### 21 July Tree Planting Ed Hillary Hope Reserve – Hamilton

No Glen Eden

Calling all volunteers.

Waikato based club member Dell Hood is involved with the [Native Forest Restoration Trust](#) and the establishment of the [Ed Hillary Hope Reserve](#) between Hamilton and Raglan. The organisation requires help in the form of a morning of tree planting. We could stay on a walk a little further into this 460 ha reserve. The tree planting needs to go ahead whatever the weather as the logistics of getting the new trees to the reserve and laid out are considerable.

Planting starts at 10 am.

The area being replanted is flat, a bit boggy but only about 100 m from the car park. (the signposts & toilet are yet to be installed – hopefully by 21 July)

Please contact Peter Tuohy if you are interested in assisting with this project.

P: 027 438 9944 E: [tait@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:tait@slingshot.co.nz)



**22 July**

## St Heliers to TahunaTorea Nature Reserve

No Glen Eden - Meet at the playground at the Southern end of St Heliers beach at 9.30am

Grade: Easy

Timing: 3-4 hrs

Fare: \$4 members \$9 non-members

We then head up the hill to Achilles point to check out the view. Then to Glover Park and from there to Churchill park in Glendowie where we will have morning tea. Churchill Park is a lovely bit of 'rural' experience right in the heart of Auckland. We follow the park through to the TahunaTorea nature reserve on the Tamaki estuary (<https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/parks-recreation/get-outdoors/find-a-walk/Pages/tahuna-torea.aspx>)

We will have lunch at TahunaTorea then head back on a slightly different route through Churchill Park.



**Leader:** Mandy Adams P: 021 177 6057 E: [mandyadams101@gmail.com](mailto:mandyadams101@gmail.com)

**29 July**

## Exhibition, Beveridge, Arataki Nature Trail

8.30 Glen Eden

Grade: Easy/Moderate

Fare: \$3 members \$8 non-members

Timing: 3-4 hrs

We have done this walk at the beginning of the year - but I thought it would be nice to do again as they have just reopened the Beveridge track last week. The Exhibition track is a flat walk and we will start at the Nihotupu Filter station. The Beveridge track has a bit of a climb with a lovely morning tea setting just before Arataki Centre. Crossing the road there we will walk the Arataki Nature trail.



**Leader:** Astrid Crouth P: 021489673 E: [phil.astrid@xtra.co.nz](mailto:phil.astrid@xtra.co.nz)

**05 August**

## Anawhata Paikea Bay Return

8.30am Glen Eden

Grade: Moderate/Difficult

Fare: members \$5 non- members \$10

Timing: 4-5 hours

This is from Anawhata Beach, south around the rocks to Paikea Bay (low tide), walk to the end of this beach then up the headland and down the track to Whites Beach. Then up Rose Track to Anawhata Road.

Rose Track is definitely open and this is a non kauri tree area.



**Leader:** John Miller P: 622 0436 E: [jmiller1954@gmail.com](mailto:jmiller1954@gmail.com)

## 12 August

## Mangawhai-Overnighter

No meeting at Glen Eden

Grade: Moderate

Fare: members \$8 non- members \$13

Timing: 5 hrs

Been a while since we did this walk. Drive to Mangawhai Sat afternoon and get together for a meal Sat night, or meet at the track carpark on King Road Mangawhai at 9.45am Sunday, we don't want it any later or the trip home will be too busy. **There Will Be No Glen Eden Meeting So Phone A Friend To Car Pool**

We start up the Tanekaha Waterfall track, along the Brynderwyn Ridge and back to the cars down the Tanekaha Forest Track.



**\*\*If you want to stay at the back packers please contact Trish by 2nd August.**

**\*\*Please phone Trish by 7.30am Sunday if you are meeting at King road so we know to wait before starting the walk.**

**Leader:** Trish Hopkins P: 021 1273862 or 09 835 4405 E:[waitakereforever@gmail.com](mailto:waitakereforever@gmail.com)

## 19 August

## Glen Eden to Newmarket via Onehunga

9.15am Glen Eden

Grade: Easy/Moderate

Timing: 3.5 hrs

We will meet at Glen Eden train station, take the **9.24am** train as far as Avondale, where we will commence our walk. We will follow the pathways and reserves through as far as Onehunga, with time to check out the newly formed beach, probably our lunch stop.

From Onehunga we will proceed up through the Onehunga Mall, on through Cornwall Park, and further on to Newmarket. At Newmarket we will return via the train to Glen Eden.



According to google maps this Should be a total walking time of around 3.5 hours, not including stops. And remember a cheap day for us Goldies.

Please arrive at Glen Eden 10 minutes prior to departure, Those wishing to board at other stations we will be on the last carriage.

**Leader:** Colin Spencer P: 838 5706 or 0224356839 E:[bronspen@gmail.com](mailto:bronspen@gmail.com)

## 20 August

## Club Night - TBA

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

**If you know of someone who may like to give a talk on this night, please contact**

**Shirley Bulog** P: 810 9303 E: [sbulog@hotmail.com](mailto:sbulog@hotmail.com)



**Waterview Walk 08 July Leader Bruce Fletcher**

With many areas in Auckland now closed off to walking, it is slightly challenging to think of walks which do not involve much "road bashing"- this was one such walk.

A good sized group of 13 met at the Valonia St reserve at 9.45 am to take in this recently completed walkway/cycleway which leads through Allen Wood Reserve, crosses New North Rd, crosses the railway line and goes through Harbutt Reserve and Phyllis Reserve, then through the grounds of Unitec to end up at Great North Rd. We had a slightly delayed morning tea break at Waterview Reserve, then followed a new path back to Great North Rd, crossed the motorway, then another new path to Eric Armshaw Park near Selwyn Village. (Where was Tom?) Back to the motorway and onto the Oakley Creek Walkway. A diversion was taken along here for one of the more interesting lunch spots experienced in recent times. Peter Tuohy had opened up his "café" and was serving hot pumpkin soup with a hint of chilly. Everyone agreed that this was a most agreeable lunch spot and should happen more frequently. It is not every day that a lunch spot is taken at such a luxury location! Thanks Peter, we will come again!



The return to Valonia St only took about 45 minutes and we were through by 2.00pm.

It is good to see the numbers still turning out for club trips. All the tramping clubs in Auckland are now in a difficult situation and are facing challenges to continue providing a programme for their members. Let's hope the trend continues.

Members of the group-: Bruce; Bronwyn; Colin; Jim; Christine; Sandra; Peter; Val Mitchell; Jill Engle; Shena; Louis Allerby; Angela and Eleanor.

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*Items of Interest*

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....ask every one you know or meet if they would be interested in coming along on a tramp or three or even inviting them to a club night and introducing them to the world of tramping and also to meet a great bunch of people!!



**FMC BULLETIN**

Please email [waitakereforever@gmail.com](mailto:waitakereforever@gmail.com) or phone TRISH 835-4405 if you want to receive the FMC magazine.

These are issued 4 times a year, late March, June, August and November. They will be available at the closest club night after we receive them and can be posted on request after the date of the meeting.



**21 July**

## **Aroha Kauri Day**

I'd like to let you all know about [Aroha Kauri Day](#) a wonderful and interesting event coming up, in Manurewa on 21 July. It's a chance to meet and hear from several key scientists involved in kauri dieback research and the latest art from the Kauri Project. There is no need to register, and there's no cost. Just come along.

The day runs 10am – 12pm at Botanic Gardens, and then moves to Nathan Homestead for 1pm – 3pm and the detailed science talks.

Prof Rosie Bradshaw is working on whether kauri dieback is “native or not” (and thinking about why that question may or may not matter)

Dr Monica Gerth is looking at how the dieback moves in the soil on its own steam.

A panel discussion with the scientists will then discuss, with time for audience questions, how all this science affects or relates to management on parks.

If you only wish to come for the talks, come to Nathan Homestead at 1pm.

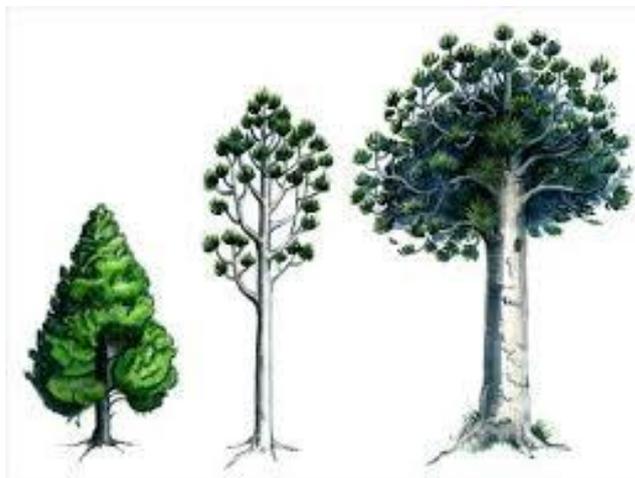
The full details for all activities on the day:

*10am til lunchtime: Auckland Botanic Gardens Visitors Centre (“VC”)*

- Science posters in the VC – Monica's students in the VC responding to questions, also some council staff who manage dieback.
- Children's activities - organized by our visitor service team (creative fun nature play type activities).
- Tree planting. We have kauri raised from the Colin McCahon trees in Titirangi and we will plant some in our Gondwana arboretum.

*1-3pm at Nathan Homestead:*

- 1-2 experts scientists (Rosie, Monica and Dr Nick Waipara) speak for 20 mins each
- 2-3 scientists join council staff managing dieback to discuss as a group, with questions welcomed from the audience, on how science can inform management.



**EXODUS EXCURSIONS AND EXPEDITIONS**  
*in association with iTREK NEPAL*

**EVEREST BASE CAMP**

with CHO-LA PASS, GOKYO LAKES and optional  
RENJO LA PASS

**Sunday 21 October - Saturday 10 November, 2018**



***Trip Leader***

**Phillip Donnell** lives in sunny Tauranga with his wife Katrina. He has three married children and nine grandchildren. He has been involved in outdoor activities for more than 40 years, leading hundreds of tramping expeditions in New Zealand and overseas, as well as extensive involvement in running and mountain-biking. He has run 100 marathons and 115 half-marathons. He has an M.A. in Geography, which has given him a deep enthusiasm for travel and for exploring places. He has been a teacher of Geography, History, English and ESOL; is a published author of poetry, articles and short stories; and currently works part-time in the tourist industry. He really enjoys visiting other countries and interacting with different cultures, and has the benefit of considerable experience in leading groups to overseas locations, including USA, Canada, Australia and Nepal.



**PRICE:** A special deal has been negotiated which works out at **\$NZ2750** (based on a minimum of 7 persons). Interested? Contact Phillip Donnell Email: [pjdonnell@orcon.net.nz](mailto:pjdonnell@orcon.net.nz)



**LIVE AT TITIRANGI RSA IN SEPTEMBER**  
**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH @ 8.30PM**

**PRESALES \$20 DOORSALES \$25**  
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE BAR OR [www.titirangirsa.co.nz](http://www.titirangirsa.co.nz)

**WHITE CHAPEL JAK**  
TIP TOP ACOUSTIC TUNES



***Can you relate to this!!!***

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

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