



# Warblings

*Out West*



## Season's Greetings

### From the Editor and Committee

I look forward to receiving notifications or reports from trip leaders, photographers and anyone who has taken part in the activities of the Club. **Cut-off date the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month please.**

Regular contributors to the Newsletter are;

- Lynne Flood: Trips and tramps planned
- Malcolm Robinson: Wednesday evening walks during the season.
- Wendy Bassett: Social events
- The Committee: announcements and corrections.

## West Auckland District Tramping Club Newsletter no. 415

**December 2014**

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A very enjoyable day was had by 5 of us at the Gibbs Sculpture farm at Kaipara- Dec 4.

See Facebook page for more photos.



## Club Calendar of Activities 2014

**Sunday tramps and what to bring:** Meeting place and car-pooling takes place, unless otherwise stated, from Glen Mall, Glen Eden at the Post Shop. Please be there before 8.30am to meet the Leader and give your contact phone number for the intentions form. **If you intend to meet the leader at the track you need to contact the Leader the night before the tramp.**

Reasonable fitness and comfortable walking (weather appropriate) attire, plus your food and drink for the day are essential.

**Club nights** are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday evening of each month at the Kelston Community Centre in Activity Room 2, at 7.30pm, unless otherwise stated.

## Final Club night for the year at Kelston Community Centre Room 1

### Tues December 9

**Bring and buy sale of tramping gear**

**Safety in the Mountains booklets for sale**

**Jill D. will take orders for a 2015 Calendar with tramping photos**

Due to the lack of entries last year we will not be running a photo competition. We will have a "Bring and Buy" and social evening instead. Bring along any tramping and camping gear you no longer need; attach your name and a suggested price to it and it could be just what someone else is looking for. It will be an evening for you to catch up with fellow members, buy or sell, with supper provided by the Committee. However, if you do have great photos bring them along to share.




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**10<sup>th</sup> December                      Wednesday Evening Walk – Green Bay to Blockhouse Bay                      7.00pm**

Meet at Portage Road, Green Bay Beach and walk along the cliff walkway to Blockhouse Bay, then back through roads and parks. Bring a torch.

Denise Vazey ph 827-1552

**14 December    Twin Peaks-Huia    8.30am**

Start from Karamatura, up Twin Peaks and back down via Tom Thumb. Should be dry underfoot and a good workout

Lynne Flood 817 5178

\$5.00 for members \$10 for non-members

**17 December    Wednesday Evening Walk - Oponuku & Oratia Streams    7.00pm**

Meet at Sunnyvale railway parking area and enjoy a lovely walk along the Oponuku and Oratia streams. Majority of the walk is off the road, on park pathways, and mostly level. We can make this walk as long or as short as we like on the night as there are a lot of options to take with different exits from the Oponuku walkway if anyone wants to get back sooner; alternatively we can add more if everyone is feeling energetic and wants to walk off some of the Christmas Pud !!

Trish Hopkins 835-4405 / 021-127-3862

## Christmas Picnic Sunday 21 December

### WENDERHOLM REGIONAL PARK

A fun day is planned with a short walk in the park and shared lunch. Sausages will be supplied by the club. We have disposable main and dessert plates and plastic cutlery. If you like flasher stuff – bring your own.

Anyone wishing to carpool meet at Glenmall at 10am and organise yourselves into cars. Arrive around 11am and expect to see an area marked out with signs at the park.

Make a note of Jill Engle's mobile – 021 031 5530 in case you can't find us.

You are welcome to bring friends and family for fun & games!

For more inspiration see <http://regionalparks.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/wenderholm>

As the club will be providing BBQ sausages. please register your intention to come with Peter Tuohy 027 438 9944 by Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>.



### 2015

**7 January**                      **Wednesday Evening Walk - Henderson**                      **7.00pm**

Jill Engle will lead a meander around Henderson. Meet by the gates of Waitakere Gardens, 15 Sel Peacock Drive at 7pm. You can bring your car inside - 1 hour restrictions do not apply after 6pm. Supper provided afterwards (bring \$2 if you would like a reasonable machine cup of coffee).  
Jill Engle

**11 January 2015**                      **Okura Walkway**                      **8.30am**

Okura Walkway to Stillwater with outstanding sea views along the way. Pass historic Dacre Cottage en route to Stillwater. An easy day. Finish with coffee at Albany or Northcross. Medium tramp.

Shirley phone 810-9303 mob 021 026 17171

Members \$10.00 Non-members \$15.00

**14 January**                      **Wednesday Evening Walk - Titirangi**                      **7.00pm**

Meet outside Pinesong Retirement Village (66 Avonleigh Road, Titirangi) for a walk around Green Bay. Coffee back at Val's place (Not more than 40 people please !)

Val Ellis 817 6813

**18 January 2015**                      **Karamatura/Fletcher Tracks**                      **8.30am**

We will walk the Karamatura/Fletcher tracks.

This is about a 4 hour walk with a few steep climbs and beautiful views over Huia..

Mandy ph 021 177 6057

Astrid 021 266 9499

Members \$5.00 Non Members \$10

**21 January**                      **Wednesday Evening Walk – Avondale**                      **7.00pm**

Meet at 23 Cradock Street, Avondale. Be enlightened by a walk encompassing no less than eight religious places of worship around multicultural Avondale. Hopefully we can arrange a viewing inside the magnificent Swaminaraya Hindu Temple and join the resident monks for supper inside a Buddhist stupa (gold coin). Expect the unexpected! Dress conservatively.

Peter Tuohy 828-3274 / 027-438-9944

**25 January****Piha Valley****8.30am**

Meet at Glen Eden Post Office to car pool for a walk in the Piha Valley. Home Track circuit up to Kauri Grove and back to cars at Glen Esk Road via Kitekite. Some nice hills, about 6hrs including breaks. Won't be too exhausting, I promise to be kind and give you plenty of breathers if needed after all our Christmas indulgences. Please phone if you want to meet at Glen Esk.

Trish 835-4405; mob 021 127-3862

\$5 members, \$10 non members

**28 January****Wednesday Evening Walk – Glen Eden Hills****7.00pm**

Meet at the Kelston Community Centre for one of my favourite walks through the cemetery to the back hills of Glen Eden, and back round a nice little loop. A couple of hills, but nothing too difficult for us. I may try to get you lost in the cemetery on the way back just to test your directional skills!

Trish Hopkins 835-4405 / 021-127-3862

**1 February****Introductory Tramp - St Helier's Area - Churchill Park - Very Easy****9.30am**

Meet at Glen Mall 9.30am or St Helier's near the children's playground at 10.15 -10.30am  
For an easy walk round this area won't be fast paced or too long; taking in some streets and reserves and Churchill Park which is part of the Point to Point Walkway near Pt England and hopefully out to the bird sanctuary.

Please call me if you wish to meet in St Helier's

Wendy Bassett Ph 832 2869 or 021 156 0140

Members \$7.00 Non-members \$12.00

**4 February****Wednesday Evening Walk – Whau River & Avondale Reserve****7.00pm**

Meet at 7pm in the Lynnmall car park, opposite the New Lynn RSA (Veronica Street/Totara Street) to do the Whau River walk to Avondale Reserve and back.

Steve Newson 828-4647

**8 February 2015****Whatipu To Donald McLean****8.30am**

As usual meet at Glen Eden Post Office to car pool. We will drive to Whatipu and head up the Kura Track, along Puriri, Donald McLean, Walker Ridge and back to cars along Gibbons. This will not be an early day and aimed at **those trampers who want a good workout**. Please phone if you are meeting us at Whatipu car park.

Trish 835-4405; mob 021 127-3862

\$7 members, \$12 non members

**11 February****Wednesday Evening Walk - Manukau Coastal Walk +****7.00pm**

Meet at Reception of Hillsborough Heights Village (1381 Dominion Rd Extn., Mt Roskill) to ramble a bit of the Coastal Walk and a few streets and parks around Waikowhai, Hillsborough and Mt Roskill. Tea/coffee/hot chocolate back at the Village.

Malcolm Robinson 627-4495

**Free Social Event Friday 13th February.**

Live music at Bethells beach at the Caravan from 6pm.

Bring money for dinner if you wish as they don't have eftpos. or just take your own picnic dinner.

Bring a chair/rug to sit on and settle in with the locals to enjoy the music.

Wendy Bassett.

832 2869 or 021 156 0140

**15 February****Whites Beach To Anawhata****8.30am**

From North Piha over to Whites Beach and over rocks to Anawhata with low tide. About four hours and note there will be some rocks and rough ground.

Leader Val Ellis Ph 817 6813

Members \$7.00 Non-members \$12.00

**22 February****Waitawa Regional Park**

After rave reviews following our first visit to Auckland's newest Regional Park last year, we will return for further exploration. Excellent swimming beach, so bring your swimming kit.

This park is 13km east of Clevedon and was for many years ICI chemical storage land.

For more inspiration see <http://regionalparks.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/waitawa>

Leader: Peter Tuohy 828 3274 027 438 9944

\$15 members, \$20 non members

## *President's Report*

That jolly whiskered man in the red suit is circulating again which means it's almost Xmas and the year will soon be over.

With not a lot of input from Members at the recent Trip Planning event there is no 6 month plan available. The Committee worked really hard to organize our program for the next few months. We do miss Bruce's cycling activities and welcome anyone who would wish to organize something.

There will be no Club Night or newsletter in January (as usual). The Editor and Committee take a well-earned break. It will be fun to catch up either at our social "Bring and Buy" on 9th December or the Wenderholm Picnic on the 21st. Have a happy holiday, hopefully with pleasant times spent in our great outdoors.

*Jill Engle*

## *Summer Opportunities in Coromandel*

The Moehau Environment Group Summer Programme for Jan 2015 is offering day trips to Cuvier Island on the 8th, 9th or 10th of January. This is a rare chance to explore this usually off-limits predator free island, observe resident endangered species and learn about the island's fascinating history.

Other activities include guided walks, Starlight Cinema, Upclose Kiwi Encounters, nocturnal walks and a Coastal clean-up at Waitete Bay. To find out what's on, visit [www.meg.org.nz/events/2015-summer-programme/](http://www.meg.org.nz/events/2015-summer-programme/)

Contact Natalie, Collicott Coordinator Moehau Environment Group, [natalie@meg.org.nz](mailto:natalie@meg.org.nz)

## *Volunteer Needed - No Prior Experience Required!!*

The Tramping Club has a Personal Locator Beacon that is borrowed by club members for both club and personal backpacking trips. Should an accident occur they would activate the beacon to alert rescue services. However before the Rescue Co-ordination Centre sends out the helicopter they need to confirm that the beacon has been set off by trampers out on the track and so they ring the contact numbers registered for the beacon. When they reach a contact, the contact needs to confirm "Yes we have trampers in Nelson" (for example) and so the rescue begins.

We need a third volunteer person for our list of contacts. When people borrow the beacon you will be emailed with what they are doing and when – so in the unlikely event of a phone call you will be able to say 'yes' or 'no'. Being on the list does not mean you have to have to restrict your life in any way so that you are contactable (because we have 3 people on the list - so someone should be around) but we would prefer a volunteer who is around much of the year and someone who normally has their mobile on.

If you are able to help, contact Christine 378 4404, 021 1095750, [christine.major@clear.net.nz](mailto:christine.major@clear.net.nz)

## Trip Reports

**We are bit earlier with publication this month and so no reports have come in, but here are some photos.**



Taking in the view up on the Hakarimata walkway – Huntly below. John Miller lead this tramp up Taupiri Mountain as well.



There's a group of real trampers: Lead by Ralph Lyon and inspired by Paul Thurston- who is currently not able to tramp but transported 2 of us down to this Waikato track – Te Tuhi -for an overnight at the Mangamuka Hut then a 6 hour trek out to the Wairere falls and Goodwin Road where Paul collected us. A really good weekend.

**Lookout for trip reports in the next Newsletter which will be in February 2015**

## Letter from '2 for the Road'

It seems unbelievable, but we have now been on the road for 6 weeks. Most of it in the Nelson-Golden Bay area, currently the driest part of the country-Nelson has had only 17mls of rain in the past month with Westport-225 and Hokitika 350mls. Highlights of the past month have included:

- 1- Nelson's Great Taste cycle trail including sections; Nelson to Richmond via the old rail route and return via Tahuna Richmond to Rabbit Island, Richmond to Wakefield, Tasman to Motueka, Tasman to Mapua and Motueka to Kaiteriteri.
- 2- Tramps in Abel Tasman National Park based at Totaranui (3 nights), Takaka (2 nights) and Marahau (2 nights). It certainly is very popular with the overseas visitors.
- 3- Golden Bay; Pūponga and Collingwood.

Next stop is St Arnaud where the snow level is currently down to 800 metres, should be marvellous, then it's on to Christchurch over the Lewis Pass, where we will catch up with ex members Carol & Ray Twist before returning to Auckland for a couple of weeks.

*Bruce & Maureen*

### The Committee

|                  |                   |         |                              |
|------------------|-------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| Jill Engle       | President         | 6264325 | jengle23a@vodafone.co.nz     |
| Christine Major  | Secretary         | 3784404 | christine.major@clear.net.nz |
| Trish Hopkins    | Treasurer         | 8354405 | waitakereforever@gmail.com   |
| Denise Vazey     | Vice President    | 8271552 | vazey@xtra.co.nz             |
| Lynne Flood      | Trips Coordinator | 8175178 | floods@ihug.co.nz            |
| Peter Tuohy      | Committee         | 8283274 | tait@slingshot.co.nz         |
| Malcolm Robinson | Wednesday walks   | 6274495 | malc.joan@gmail.com          |
| Chris Green      | Printing for mag. | 8385888 | cogreen@actrix.co.nz         |
| Shirley Bulog    | Committee         | 8109303 | sbulog@hotmail.com           |
| Wendy Bassett    | Social Convenor   | 8322869 | wmbm87@value.net.nz          |
| Mark Vazey       | Gear Steward      | 8271552 | vazey@xtra.co.nz             |
| Miriam Harwood   | Overdue parties   | 8189314 | m007harwood@gmail.com        |



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