
West Auckland District Tramping Club

October 2017

Newsletter no.446



The Presidents Report

We have had a good response to our next social night this Friday the 13th at the Titirangi RSA where we will enjoy the 60's entertainment legend "Shane & the Shazam band". If you are quick, there is still time to join in the fun and kick off your tramping boots and don your heels for a fun night out. Tickets available on the RSA website (\$10) or at the door (\$15).

After much deliberation (mostly on my part!), we have finally got around to having some club business cards printed that we can use to promote our club. The idea being we distribute them to club members at club nights, tramps and other gatherings so club members can carry a couple in their wallets to hand out to anyone who shows an interest. We can also leave a small supply at places potential trampers are likely to frequent – sport stores, Arataki Centre etc. We have had 250 printed for a great price of \$20, so if you have an outlet you would be keen to give a few to, let me know. We can always get more printed if need be. (Actual card not wonky – just my pic!)



Great turnout at our last club night to hear a very interesting talk of past club members Lorraine and Russell Williams talk of their recent kayaking/hiking adventures in Norway. This month's speak should be equally entertaining with a talk on Shackleton's Journey by Jim Morrow. Just a small point about club nights, please don't forget to put \$2 into the bowl at the door. We have been noticing the numbers attending does not equate to the money in the kitty! This cover charge goes a long way towards covering the cost running our club nights.

John Miller has been proactive in getting some of our upcoming trips mentioned in the Western Leader, which is always good publicity in our local catchment area. Thanks John.

I recently caught up with old(!) club members Linda Jepson & Graham Marshall when they returned to Auckland recently. They are very much enjoying their new life in sunny Hawkes Bay and say "hi" to all.

Auckland Council sent us some correspondence advising of an increasing flooding issue at the bottom of the Pararaha Valley due to a change in the sand hills resulting in the boardwalk frequently being under water. While pegs have been attached to the side of the boardwalk as a guide of where to walk more permanent options are being investigated. Good to know they are on to it.

After a few crappy Sundays on the weather front, let's hope we get some fine breaks soon. Pleasing to see the "less than inspiring" weather did not deter trampers last Sunday at the Botanical Gardens and the lovely Totara Park. The gardens were looking great with all their spring colours on display.

First long weekend in ages coming up soon (for us workers!), so be sure to get out there and make the most of it. Catch you on the trail.

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Activities

15 October

Mercer Bay / Ahu Ahu

8.30am

Grade: Moderate

Fare: \$6 members \$11 non members

Timing: 5 hours approx.

Spectacular views in the Piha area. Medium fitness required taking approx. 5 hours. We will drive to Ahu Ahu /Log Race Road and park at the Radar Station. We will take the well formed tracks down to Karekare Beach via Ahu Ahu track and return via coastal cliffs Comans and Mercer Bay loop tracks. Classic West Coast views.



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

16 October

Club Night - Shackletons Journey

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

Jim Morrow from the Auckland Tramping Club will be coming along to talk about retracing Shackletons journey, Falkland Islands and South Georgia. Jim is a very humorous entertaining speaker so we would really appreciate your support in coming along to Club Night.



20-23 October

Labour Weekend – Cycling Paihia

We have organised a trip to take in the recently completed Twin Coast Cycle Trail. This would take the form of 3 day-return trips which would be done as follows.

1: Opuā – Kawakawa – Otiria return

2: Otiria – Kaikohe return

3: Kaikohe – Okaihau return

Accommodation: This would be at the Beachside Holiday Park near Paihia. They have Tourist Flats available at \$100/night with 1 double bed and 2 singles. Tenting option is also available if you wish.

The trip would also be suitable for those who would like to go tramping.

We have obtained 2 cabins at the Waitangi Holiday Park. They hold a total of 10 people, so if you are interested, please contact us.

There are already 5 reservations.

We will now hopefully include the Horeke end of the trail on Saturday or Sunday as it is very different. This will depend on the weather, of course.



If you are interested, please contact Bruce

Leader: Bruce Fletcher P: 5226982 E: fletchermb@xtra.co.nz

29 October

8.30am

Classic Waitakere Tramp

Grade: Moderate

Fare \$5 members, \$10 non members

Classic Waitakere bush tramping. Starting out on the Cowan Track off Piha Road to Kauri Grove track thru to, Kitekite track, Home Track, Marguerite Track etc. Parts of track likely to be muddy so a Lekie pole highly recommended. All up it will take 5 plus hours.

Leader: Shirley O'Sullivan P:6309132 E:shirley.osullivan@gmail.com



01 November

7.00pm

Wednesday Walk - Titirangi

Meet at the Titirangi Library and we will head off for a ramble through bush to the beach and back up to the village for a coffee after.

Val Ellis P: 8176813 E: valellis11@outlook.co.nz



03 -05 November

Great Barrier Island – Aotea Track

Enjoy some Spring backpacking on Great Barrier Island. The Aotea track traverses spectacular landscapes and offers stunning views.

Friday: Windy Canyon - Mt Hobson → Kaiaraa Hut 6 hrs

Saturday: Kaiaraa Hut- Mt Heale Hut (via South Fork Track) 3hrs

Sunday: Mt Heale Hut-Whangaparapara Rd via hot springs 3 hrs

Flights \$178

Huts \$30 (bookable)

Shuttles \$20-\$30 depending on numbers

Any enquiries please contact the leader.

Leader: Christine Major P: 3784404 0211095750 E:
christine.major@clear.net.nz



08 November

7.00pm

Wednesday Walk – Blockhouse Bay Ramble

Meet me at the Craigavon carpark (cnr Connaught & Portage) and we will explore my new neighbourhood. Possibly a cake afterwards!!!

Leader: Louis Allerby P: 0211906472



12 November

8.30am

Te Henga Walkway

Grade: Moderate

Fare: \$6 members \$11 non members

One of the most scenic walks in Auckland. Can be wild and willy, but always invigorating with great views.
New leader today, so come along and give her some support.
Please advise leader if intending to go straight to start point (Car park on right after bridge leading into Bethells)



Leader: Angela Williams P: 027 5833800 E: jnaprop@gmail.com

15 November

7.00pm

Wednesday Walk - French Bay

Meet at French Bay & we will do a bush circuit to Titirangi Beach & return then take the PLUNGE!! Dare you to!!



Leader: Marcia Clark P: 8174079

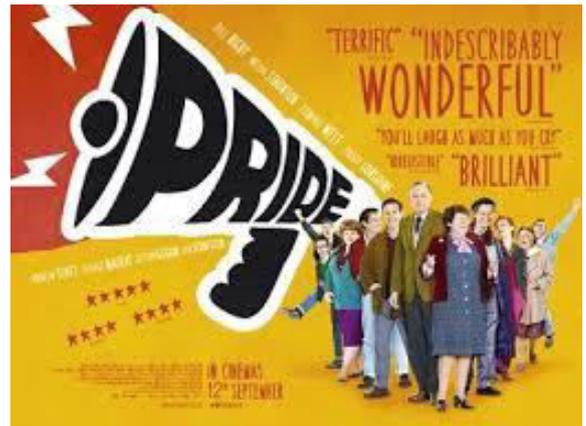
18 November

7.00pm

Ryders Theatre – Dinner & Movie

“Pride” isa2014 British LGBT-related historical comedy-drama film written by Stephen Beresford and directed by Matthew Warchus. It was screened as part of the Directors' Fortnight section of the 2014 Cannes Film Festival, where it won the Queer Palm award. Writer Stephen Beresford said a stage musical adaptation involving director Matthew Warchus is being planned.

The film was nominated for the Golden Globe Award for Best Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy and for the BAFTA for Best British Film, Best Actress in a Supporting Role for Imelda Staunton and for Outstanding Debut by a British Writer, Director or Producer.



Cost: \$30.00 which includes dinner & movie. BYO. The club will supply Dessert.
Please pay direct to WADTC bank account **12-3034-0697604-00** & use your name & Movie as reference.

Leader: Geoff Yates P: 09 810 8456 E: yatesfamily13@gmail.com

19 November

North Shore Coastal

8.30am

Grade: Moderate

Fare: \$6 members \$11 non members

Join Jill for a scenic walk north starting Browns Bay car park at the beach, heading north to lovely Long Bay and return. A mixture of coastal walking, clifftops and regional parks.

Please advise leader if intending to go straight to Browns Bay car park. (If anyone is able to do the Glen Eden paperwork, please contact the leader, it would save her an out of the way detour).

Leader: Jill Dingle P: 832 3459 E: jill.dingle@gmail.com



20 November

Club Night Louis Segedin

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

This club night is a must and an inspiration as Louis will be talking about his recent trip and huge trek across the alps.

How many pairs of boots did he go through??



22 November

Wednesday Walk New Lynn/Glen Eden

7.00pm

Meet at the end of Pamela Place & Annette will take us for a stroll around New Lynn through to Glen Eden & return. Afterwards a refreshing cuppa.

Leader: Annette Ellis

26 November

Three Dams & a Bit of History

8.30am

Grade: Moderate

Fare: \$5 members \$10 non members

Timing: 5-6 hrs

Upper Nihotupu Dam Road, Christies Track, Upper Huia Dam Track.

Featuring waterfalls, a bush tramway, a disused auxiliary dam, two working dams and some interesting tracks with an air of remoteness in parts.

Leader: John Miller P: 6220436 E: jmiller1954@gmail.com



Botanical Gardens – Totara Park 8 October Leader Bruce Fletcher

The weather forecast was absolutely awful, so I was pleasantly surprised to see 10 other members (no non-members) ready for this comparatively easy walk. We set off around the native plant area of the gardens in drizzly rain which was to remain with us almost till lunch time. Upon leaving the gardens, a track enters Totara Park which eventually goes into farmland and the highest point in the park. On a clear, sunny day the view from here across Auckland is extensive and spectacular. However, on a day such it was, there was very little to see. As it was raining and quite windy, we decided to make a hasty retreat into the valley below where it was nice and calm. We made a pleasant little detour around a nature trail which eventually joins up with the Puhinui Stream track. We thought we had lost Colin and Bronwyn at this stage, but a quick phone call quickly ascertained they were not far away.



Lunch was taken at the Totara Park carpark where we found suitable seating. We then re-entered the botanical gardens, walking through spring valley and on to the cherry trees which were still very colourful. The gardens at this time of year are spectacular with many flowers out including the rhododendrons. After a visit to the sculpture “bird lady” and many photographs taken with her, it was time to retire to the café and spend a very sociable hour discussing many issues including who Winston was going to go with.



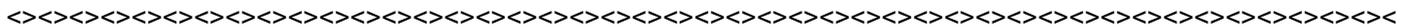
Members of the group-: Bruce; Peter; Louis; Lynne; John; Colin; Bronwyn; Val; Christine; Dave; Heather.

Items of Interest



New Member

Shena McGregor
P: 021 186 5200
E: shenamcgregor@ihug.co.nz



Seven safety tips for magpie swooping season

Magpies are fiercely territorial during nesting season. It's spring nesting season and magpies in both city and country areas are becoming highly protective of their young, swooping on territorial threats.

Here are some tips on how to get through the swooping season.

1. Pay attention to nesting areas.

If you see magpie nesting activity in trees in an area where you walk or cycle, it is time to plot a new route for the nesting season. Avoiding the nesting area altogether is always the best option if you are able.



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

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