



## *The President's Report*

Farewell, adios, auf Weiderschen, au revoir, sayonara. Here tis – my last President's report before handing the reins over to Jill Engle.

I hope to see a good turnout at our AGM on Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> of May. The formalities are normally pretty straight forward and over quite quickly after which we can relax and listen to Christine yodel & talking about travels among the hills that are live with music.

Please find attached to this magazine items pertaining to the upcoming AGM being our Auditor's report, financial report and minutes of the last AGM.

We have a couple of new people who jumped at the chance to fill the gaps created by our two departing committee members. They are chomping at the bit to get involved! Speaking of chomping – our resident "Bake Off" contender has promised to bake another of his culinary delights for the AGM supper. It will be worth coming just for that! If you were not quick enough to nab one of these prestigious roles, don't despair there is always next year. In the meantime, there are plenty of small jobs off the committee that you can put your hand up for or perhaps offer to lead a trip or two.

If you haven't paid your sub yet, time is running out. If not paid by 31 May a penalty of \$5 applies!

Well it's time for me to sign off and just be a "normal" member for a while. I hope I have served the club well during my term.

*Peter*

*The committee and fellow members of the club would like say a HUGETHANKS to Peter for the many years he has served on the Committee and for all his time & dedication to West Auckland District Tramping Club.*



# **REMINDER SUBS ARE DUE NOW**



## **West Auckland District Tramping Club Inc.**

### **Annual Subscription 2019/2020 - \$30.00\***

Subscriptions are due **NOW** and are payable **no later than 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019**

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 31<sup>ST</sup> May 2019  
a penalty of \$5 will be added to the amount due.**

Payment can be made by

Direct Credit to **ASB 12 3034 0697604 00**(state name/sub as reference)

or

Post your cheque, to

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

If you have changed your address, phone or email or do not wish to renew your membership, please advise the Secretary Ph: 626-4325

### **FMC Magazine**

Please let Trish know if you would like to receive the FMC magazine ASAP.

Trish's email– [waitakereforever@gmail.com](mailto:waitakereforever@gmail.com)

We only receive enough copies for those members that request it.

\*If you want it posted please add \$10 to your subs and make sure you put  
'post' in the particulars.

(Thanks to those few who have remembered to do that, much appreciated).

*See you at the AGM*

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## Activities

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### 19 May

### Piha

8.30am Glen Eden

Grade: Moderate

Time: Approx 4 hrs

Fare: members \$7 non members \$12

The walk will start at North Piha surf club car park, We will walk to the northern end of Piha beach where we will enter the bush onto Laird Thompson track. Morning tea will be at the lookout point which has beautiful views of the rugged coastline. We then will head to Rose track which takes us down to the beautiful pristine Whites beach. From here we will take the track at the Northern end of the beach which takes us up to a view point of Fishermans Rock and beyond. We will have lunch on this track and then retrace our steps back to the cars



The walk is easy-moderate and will take approx 4 hours

**Leader:** Mandy Adams P: 5282078 0211776057 E: [mandyadams101@gmail.com](mailto:mandyadams101@gmail.com)

### 20 May

### Club Night - AGM

7.30pm Kelston Centre Cnr Great North Road & Awaroa Rd

The AGM is almost upon us again. We would love to have some new blood on the committee with fresh ideas. None of the jobs are too onerous. Nomination forms enclosed.

The AGM will be followed by Christine Major's photos of her tramp around the mighty Mt Blanc massif on the classic tour route sampling the charms of European hiking in France, Italy and Switzerland. Journey through meadows of spring flowers amid panoramas of huge peaks and innumerable glaciers. Experience also a landscape tamed by man of picturesque villages and farms, plus the comforts of accommodation in European refuges.



### 26 May

### Walk and Talk

8.30am Glen Eden

Grade: Easy

Time: Approx 4 hrs

Fare: members \$2 non members \$7

We will make our way along Exhibition Drive, then up the Beveridge track to the Arataki Centre with the view of getting to the centre by 10.30am to sit in on a Kauri Science Series talk entitled "The rise and descent of an extreme species" by Dr Bruce Burns. Returning a similar way.



**Leader:** Peter Tuohy P 0274389944 8283274 E: [tait@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:tait@slingshot.co.nz)

**01-03 June**

## Queens Birthday Weekend

Nothings scheduled. Any suggestions contact our Trip Coordinators Trish Hopkins or Lynn Flood.

**09 June**

### Kumeu Farm

8.30am Glen Eden

Grade: Easy/Moderate

Time: 4-5 hours

Fare: members \$7 non members \$12

We will be walking around a 900 acre farm at the back of Kumeu. This is an easy walk with 2 steep inclines. There are views to the city and Muriwai. There are some magnificent stands of native bush with many mature Kauri. Bring your binoculars and togs for a mid-winter dip (optional). Meet at Glen Eden at 8.30 and from there proceed to the car park next to the Kumeu Fire Station. If going straight to Kumeu meet there at 9.00.



**Leader:** Shena McGregor P: 4128076 021 1865200 E:[shenamcgregor@ihug.co.nz](mailto:shenamcgregor@ihug.co.nz)

**16 June**

### Milford to Takapuna

8.30am Glen Eden

Grade: Easy

Time: 4+ hrs

Fare: members \$7 non members \$12

We will meet at Glen Eden 8.30am or the carpark at the northern end of Milford Beach at 9.00am. (please let the leader know if you are coming.)

We will walk from Milford beach to Takapuna Beach and then head back via Barry's Point, Smiths Bush and Lake Pupuke.



**Leader:** Pam Goldie P: 0212146457 E:[myneverendingsummer@hotmail.com](mailto:myneverendingsummer@hotmail.com)

**17 June**

### Club Night – Bird Rescue

7.30pm Kelston Centre Cnr Great North Road & Awaroa Rd

NZ Bird Rescue Charitable Trust accepts and cares for all New Zealand birds – both native and non native. They work with over 4000 birds each year including orphaned chicks, and victims of cat attacks, road accidents, pollution (eg. Botulism), human cruelty or bad weather.

Any donations of the following would be greatly appreciated: kitten food (chicken/beef), paper towels/tissues, bird seeds – all kinds, puppy food, dog biscuits, unscented washing machine powder and newspapers.



We would love to see you and as usual a cuppa & bickies afterwards.

## 23 June

## Hobsonville Walk/Run/Cycle

No Meeting at Glen Eden

Grade: Easy/Moderate

Time ~4 hrs leisurely scenic exercise

**Walkers:** 9.00am Meet at the Marina View School, 97 Marina View Dr. West Harbour  
The route will be explained to you by the leader Jill D.



**Bikers & Runners:** 10.00am Meet at the Marina View School, 97 Marina View Dr. West Harbour

We will ride through to Hobsonville Point via safe paths and streets, take in the market and Bomb Point circuit and a new pathway.

Both groups could then meet up at the market at Hobbie Point for an early lunch.

**Leader:** Jill Dingle P: 0212945700 E: [jill.dingle@gmail.com](mailto:jill.dingle@gmail.com)

## 30 June

## Puhinui Reserve & Weymouth Coastal Path

8.30am Glen Eden

Grade: Moderate

Fare: members \$5 non members \$10

Puhunui is a large, but seldom visited reserve not far from the airport. After a circuit of the reserve we will take a gravel path alongside Puhunui stream which after a bit of a street bash, we will join the Weymouth Walkway running alongside the Manukau harbour. An estimated 4 hour walk.



**Leader:** Peter Tuohy P 0274389944 8283274 E: [tait@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:tait@slingshot.co.nz)

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## Trip Reports

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### Mataia Homestead – Glorit April 14 Leader Sheena McGregor

Shortly after our arrival at the Mataia Homestead, Glorit, we were given a warm welcome by one of the owners. who took us to a lovely cottage and gave us a run down on the property. We were handed colour A3 maps of the farm and an information pamphlet of the two walks the farm offers.

What a delightful walk this was. We walked approximately 16 kilometres, all of it mown. There were yellow and orange markers (yellow for out and orange for coming back) and some named tracks. There was the occasional side track leading to the water or a lookout point. Of the 1600 hectares 400 hectares has been handed over to the QE Trust. This was the first area in the North Island that Brown Kiwi were released into, this taking place in 2012. This block has been and still is extensively trapped for predators. Xavier, John and Lynne's grandson, was noted for his voracious appetite and skipping ahead of the group like a young pup. At our frequent stops all eyes were trained on the Gibbs Farm and my binoculars were in high demand. We could see new developments happening so another trip could be planned in a year or two to see what eventuates.

Thank you to Eleanor, Jacky, John and Lynne and their grandson, Xavier, Heather, Jill D, Shena, newbie Caroline Northin and welcome back Bronwyn Watts.

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**Easter Weekend Ohope and Ureweras Leader Lynne Flood**

There were ten of us, myself, John, Dave and Heather, Jim D. Jill D. Louis S, Eleanor, Colin and Bronwyn. We left Auckland as planned at 6.00am on Easter Friday and had an easy trip down to the Ohope Bach, stopping off at Ngatea for a yummy breakfast at Glory Café. We arrived at Ohope at about 11.30am and put up tents on the lawn. Colin, Bronwyn and Dave arrived early afternoon. We had a walk on the beach in glorious sunshine, stopped to talk to the fishermen and saw mullet in the water. That night we walked up to the Ohope Store for dinner and this was good food and reasonably priced. That night Colin got a video going and we watched Dave Allen. Next day we set off by 8.30am for our tramp in the Ureweras, meeting my brother, Peter Askey, and two of his tramping club members on the way. We started off from Ogilvie Bridge at Tauwhare and sidled gently along and up to the top of the ridge. From there the track goes down to the stream but we turned off on the right and kept climbing up the ridge following a bait route through virgin bush which has had extensive predator control for many years. The bird life was awesome with all sorts of bird song that we don't usually hear. We saw and heard the Kokako, also Kakariki and lots of Tui. There were many huge Rimu, Tawa, Rata, Miro and Beech trees. We headed for a hut for lunch and sat outside in the sun, watching the birds in the fuschia tree. From there it was straight downhill and knees grumbled. We had a 20 minute walk back along the road, arriving at the cars at 3.00 and back to Ohope by 4.00. The first night at dinner, we had watched Heather slowly demolish a plate of Moroccan chicken and, on the strength of her obvious enjoyment, most of us ordered that the second night and it was easily the nicest meal out I have had. On Sunday we left about 8.30am for a walk from the West End of Ohope Beach. We went over a well worn track to Otawairere Bay. We discovered that this track is part of a 5-7 hour loop (next time?) Again, the weather was gorgeous and we relaxed on this beautiful beach, something akin to paradise, not wanting to ever leave but we had tents to take down so eventually we made it back to the bach and back to reality. It was a wonderful weekend and I would certainly be keen to do more tramping in this area. Thank you to everybody who came. Lynne.



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**Waiheke Island-Church Bay Circuit Leader Colin Spencer**

The day dawned with heavy rain and thunder forecast, and as I proceeded down the road to get the train to the meet up at Glen Eden, it was starting to drizzle.

On arrival at Glen Eden station, seven keen trampers joined me for the trip into Britomart. After exiting the train at Britomart we made our way across the road to the ferry terminal, the rain disappeared and there was only cloud.

Six other trampers joined us for the ferry ride to Waiheke, and at approximately 10.45am we began our walk, heading south toward Church bay. We had our lunch on the stony foreshore of Church Bay, before continuing on our walk. Part of the track was officially closed due to so called storm damage, but we proceeded on anyway and apart from a bit of overgrown gorse couldn't see any reason for the closure.

Two of our members took a shorter route back to Oneroa, the rest of us continued on before turning inland toward Oneroa, where we downed some refreshments before catching the bus back to Matiatia.

At around 2.45 pm we boarded the ferry to head back to town. Up until this stage we had had no rain, but then as we left Matiatia it bucketed down, and 15 minutes before docking at the ferry buildings it cleared up.

So on a day that threatened to be ruined by the weather, fourteen of us had a good walk, and for those lucky to be old enough a really cheap day.

Thanks to the following members and newcomers that came with me today

Lynne & John, Jill D, Jill E, Jim, Jackie, Pam, Shena, Peter T, Rob& Jean, Jane & Karen

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**Rata Ridge May 12 Leader Lynne Flood**

There were ten of us, myself, John, Shirley OS, Trish, Dave, Shena, Christine and three visitors, Gina Cameron, Chams and Steve. We arrived at the start to find the carpark full and dozens of bikes and riders. They took off along the flat and soon disappeared and we were told there were 120 Duke of Edinburgh kids arriving to do Ernies Track. We left about 9.45 am in mild grey weather and climbed up Lilburn Road. We stopped at the hut for morning tea and then continued round Rata Ridge. We didn't hear Kokako but there were lots of Tui and bird song galore. It was a real treat to hear. We met two members from Howick Club, the rest being involved with Mother's day. It became really windy on the way back down and Dave and I saw a large tree blow over in front of us. We heard the sound of 120 kids in the distance. As always, it was a pleasant day in the bush.

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*Items of Interest*

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**Trip to the Gold Coast with Geoff Yates June 2019**

Please contact Geoff if interested on 8108456 or [yates.family13@gmail.com](mailto:yates.family13@gmail.com)

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**Looking for volunteers**

Kia ora,

We are currently completing some remedial work on the Laird Thompson Track that runs from North Piha to Te Waha Point.

Although this track is outside the Kauri Dieback closure area, the track is seeing increased use so we want to ensure it is kept in really good condition.

We would greatly appreciate assistance in primarily the movement of bagged gravel to fill sections of track.

The work is relatively heavy and the track is steep in parts so a good level of fitness is required.

**Meet** at North Piha carpark Fri 17 May at 9 am.

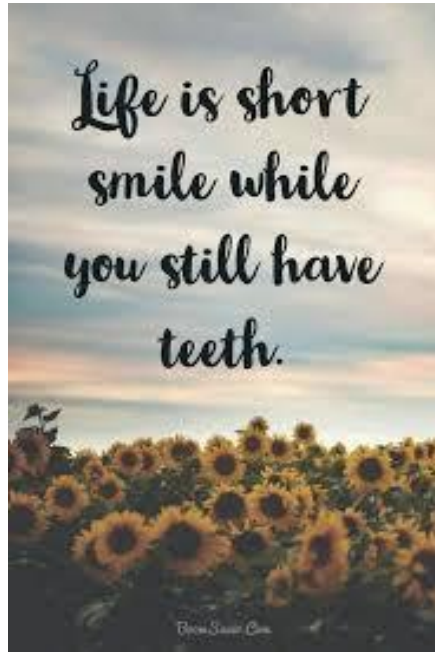
**Bring** Good supportive footwear, gloves, lunch and a drink (depending on how long you stay). Extra drinks and snacks will be provided.

**Duration** From 9 for as long as you like. Any help is greatly appreciated - if you need to arrive later than 9 head up Laird Thompson track and you will find us.

Nga mihi,

The Piha Park Ranger Team

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

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