
West Auckland District Tramping Club
July 2019
Newsletter no. 465



The President's Report

Hi Members

Great to see Members have the opportunity to enjoy a couple of hut expeditions.

Various tramps have been very well attended.

Nine came along to "Bitching Bingo". This was a "different" social evening, certainly not the type of Bingo played in the Village I live in! I was very happy with a win of a \$70 voucher and lots of fun.

Our Christine, a botanist, has offered her expertise to Auckland Track Users Forum on Kauri die back. She and Ralph Lyon have forwarded their combined opinions regarding track re-openings to ATUF on behalf of WADTC. They were the only two Members who responded to this request.

Your Committee decided Peter should be acknowledged for his dedication and commitment to the Club of around 30 years. His contributions as President, Executive positions, Leader and so many social events have been outstanding. We will "treat" Peter to a meal and subsidise current Committee Members who join him at \$30 each.

As our funds are over \$10,000, this is not considered reckless spending.

Get out tramping if you can – mud doesn't last forever!

Regards

Jill Engle



Keep Warm

Activities

14 July

Volcanoes of the North Shore

8.30am Glen Eden

Grade: Moderate

Time: 4.5 hrs aprox

Fare: members \$7 non members \$12

After a couple of warm up climbs and panoramic views in Devonport we will walk up the coast to Lake Pupuke stopping to look at the fossil forest. After tramping past lava flows and mangroves, we will cross the motorway bridge to the bird haven of Tuff Crater and we will finish following the forest paths of Onepoto. We are doing this walk in the opposite direction to the way we have done it in the past – so come and enjoy the different viewpoint. Please contact the leader if you wish to go directly to the North Shore.



Leader: Christine Major P: 0211095750 E: christinemajor25@gmail.com

15 July

Club Night - Kayaking

7.30pm Keaton Centre Cnr Great North Road & Awaroa Rd

We are very excited to announce that Lorraine & Russ Williams will be coming along to our club night to share in their adventures of Kayaking around Sardinia, Corsica, Cinque Terr and Italy. Another great evening to be had. Many of you will know Lorraine & Russ so it would be great to come along and say hi.



21 July

Tree Planting – Shakespear Regional Park 10am-1pm

8.30am Glen Eden

Grade: Easy

Time: 3 hrs

Fare: members \$6 non members \$11

Auckland City Council - Tree Planting. For all of us out-door people, this is a chance to put something back into the ground! The last time the club helped with this tree planting was 2017. Easy digging on the hillside, followed by tea, coffee and sausage sizzle. Some digging equipment is provided but is best to bring own spades.

Meet at Glen Eden as usual or if you prefer to go directly to the planting. Public car parking at Shakespear Reserve



your

Leader Louis Segedin P: 021 43 99 00 E: louissegedin55@gmail.com

28 July

8.30am Glen Eden

Comans Track

Grade: Moderate

Time: 4-5 hrs

Fare: members \$7 non members \$12

Meet at Glen Eden at 8.30am and then travel to Karekare. We will walk up the newly re-opened Comans Track. This cliff top track has spectacular views. Then back down to Karekare and along the Pohutukawa Glade Walk to the beach and some of the less travelled areas near the cliffs.



Leader: John Miller. P: 096220436 E: jmiller1954@gmail.com

04 August

8.30am Glen Eden

Starting Little Shoal Bay, Northcote

Grade: Easy

Time: 5 hrs aprox

Fare: members \$7 non members \$12

Car pool from Glen Eden by 8.30am or go directly to the start. Meet leader at 9am on Maritime Reserve Council terrace car park.

We will take some bush reserve tracks to Chelsea sugar Mill and then more tracks out to Kauri Point before climbing up to Highbury Shops for lunch. We will return to the Bay after taking in a detour to Onepoto domain, (where there may be a Mr Whippy truck waiting for us to return later) and walk up to the South Side of Tuff crater.

Easy tramping over 5 hours duration. Make sure your footwear is comfortable and you have adequate water and snacks.



Call Jill 0212945700 if you plan to meet at the start.

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

11 August

8.30am Glen Eden

Stonefields

Grade: Easy

Time: 4 hrs aprox

Fare: members \$6 non members \$11

8.30am start from Glen Eden. Meet Creamery Road carpark, Mangere by 9.00. We will go out to Pukatutu Island for morning tea and then round to Stonefields for lunch, with a bit of exploring. About 4 hours excluding break.



Leader: Lynne Flood P: 6220436 E: lynnflood.healthwise@gmail.com

18 August

Te Henga Walkway

8.30am Glen Eden

Grade: Moderate/Difficult

Time: 7 hrs aprox

Fare: members \$7 non members \$12

Leaving Glen Eden at 8.30am we will drive to the carpark on the right at the bridge at Bethells Beach. Hopefully we will have decent weather! We will continue to walk the track as far as we can with the aim of reaching the end of the coastal path but we will stop and turn back when we feel we have gone far enough.

Leader: Trish P: 0211273862 E: waitakereforever@gmail.com



19 August

Club Night

7.30pm Kelston Centre Cnr Great North Road & Awaroa Rd

Denis Brown from Auckland Tramping Club will be visiting us to share his travels on the Silk Road in Asia.

This should be a fascinating topic & we should all make the effort to come along.

Afterwards a cuppa & chat with guests & fellow members.



25 August

Waikowhai Coastal Walk

No meeting at Glen Eden

Grade: Moderate

Time: 5.5 hrs aprox

Meet at Green Bay beach 8.30am. The tide is out (I hope) so we will walk around the coastal walkway to Blockhouse Bay, then walk on the foreshore aiming to get to Onehunga before we turn around. The foreshore will be muddy so bring sturdy shoes and a walking pole if you have one. We can then walk back to Green Bay on the coastal pathway. We may leave a car at Lynfield Cove to save us walking back around the roads, Gilletta to Lewis streets. Good fitness level required, the coast footpath is up and down with steps in places.

I have attached the map for your information. [Wattle Bay loop map PDF download 3.6 MB](#)

Leader: Denise Vazey P: 8271552 0273290052 E: vazey@xtra.co.nz



Trip Reports

Kumeu Farm. 09 June Leader Shena McGregor

After nearly a week of atrocious weather, Sunday turned out a stunner. 15 of us met next to the Kumeu Fire Station and like a mother hen and her chicks, 6 cars followed me to the beginning of our walk.

Before the walk I had commented to someone that the farm was 900 acres and their comment was "Gosh, I didn't know there were farms of that size around Kumeu any more."

The farm has 2 steep(ish) inclines with a loop track around the plateau. At the top of the first incline there were views out to the city and if you turned around there were views to Muriwai. Was a real pity about the haze. Several peacocks were sighted in the distance, but it was a fleeting glimpse.

Morning tea was on a "grandstand like" bank where everyone enjoyed the wonderful bush vistas and the warmth of the winter sun. Colin, on the upper level, had a snooze.

Christine was expounding her expert knowledge on Kauri dieback as we walked through a section of very mature trees. No one took up my offer of a mid winter dip. We popped out briefly onto the end of a tar sealed road and back onto the farm at the top of the next rise we had lunch. About 50 young steers gathered around to see who these strange creatures were.

And to conclude, this was a first walk for the club.

Those who joined me were Christine Major, Peter S, Peter T, Louis A, Lynne, John, Angela Chen, Steve Chai, Chamara, Sandra, Heather, Colin, Alan and Jim.



Gold Coast Trip 09-21 June Leader Geoff Yates

SUN- four of us flew in to Coolangatta and after picking up our hire car, we headed off to mount Barney National Park. The gps took us by an interesting route and eventually we arrived at our accommodation a lovely big house 10km outside Rathdowney.

MON- the following day we completed our first walk at Cronan Creek Falls. The views of the surrounding peaks were excellent –the forest was very dry with different vegetation to our last trip. That night we headed off to the Rathdowney pub for a meal.

TUES- next morning we headed off for a 7km walk to Lower portals; a pretty place with interesting surrounding rocks. On the way back Ralph tripped and banged his head on a rock –plenty of blood and a trip to the medical centre to sew up the gash – however, it did not stop him completing all the walks I had planned. Later that day we headed off to Nerang to our 2nd accommodation-a town house in a gated community, with a short walk to the local rsl and supermarkets etc.

WED –the next day we returned to the Warrie Circuit. It was much drier so no leechs and less water over the waterfall. I managed to walk right past a snake without seeing it and later got to see the photo of it. At first we thought it was a tiger snake –but later decided it was a different species (still venomous but not quite as bad). We then went to the rsl for dinner.



THURS—we headed up to Brisbane and after parking near the river hopped on a ferry and headed off to explore the city. Paul headed off to the botanic gardens and Mt Cootha –where he saw yet another snake –while the rest of us headed to south bank where we could explore some of the city’s museums and art galleries. Later in the afternoon we headed back to Nerang.

FRI- today it was off to Binna Burra to walk the Coomera circuit –the bush was still very dry so yet again no leeches. The views down in to the gorge were spectacular and there were several river crossings –this walk was about 17 km. On completion we headed off to a coffee shop, where we sat and watched some people preparing to parasail down in to the valley below

SAT- today was a different type of tramp –we headed down to Burleigh Heads National Park to explore. There were lots of people in trendy out fits out for a short walk to admire the views. We then headed further down the coast to David Flaheys wild life reserve- there is a nice walk next to the park. It was very peaceful and we saw plenty of birdlife and fish jumping in the river and some very interesting little crabs. After this walk we went back to the park and watched their bird show and then walked around the other exhibits—it’s an interesting place.

SUN—this was the one day it rained so we headed off to the nearby Nerang National Park. It’s widely used by trail bikers, so we had to watch out for them when walking. Halfway through the walk, it started to rain, so we headed back. I just about took a wrong turning, as there are many tracks- but Ralph checked his phone and found the right way. This forest was the least interesting of the places we visited.



MON- our last walking day. We headed off to Green Mountains to complete the Box Forest Circuit. With far less rain, we were easily able to cross the ford at the bottom of the circuit and carry on around. Having finished, we headed back to Canungra for coffee and loud music.

TUE- after dropping Paul at the airport, the rest of us headed up to Brisbane to drop off the hire car and go our separate ways. Apart from one day, the weather was in the mid 20’s and we saw no leeches or ticks. Many thanks to Paul, Dave and Ralph for the enjoyable company- Geoff Yates.



Walk/bike ride to Hobsonville Point 23 June Leader Jill Dingle

We started from Luckens reserve at west Harbour on a blustery showery day and so I was pleasantly surprised to see off x3 walkers, at 9 am and 6 other bike riders ready to start at 10am. After an explanation of the route to take and giving them a map I pointed the walkers off in the right direction. Their route was to be a bit shorter than ours-leaving out the Scott road new housing development.

Our bike ride took us down to the marina boat ramp then up to Hobsonville shops then out old Clark Road then Scott road to as far as you can go towards the Upper Harbour beaches which look across to Beachhaven. Jim showed us the manicured little beach covered in broken ceramic pipe – waste material from the old factory at Limeburners Bay just around the corner. From there we took the new bike trail past all the new townhouses and back to Clark Rd past the high school and out around Bomb Point before arriving at Hobsonville point just as the walkers arrived. Good timing I thought(wondering to myself if they had perhaps taken a shortcut).

There had been free public transport available today and so the Point was very busy – just like in the summer. Buses and ferry transport coming and going and the market and restaurants full. My companions were not impressed and couldn’t wait to get away it seemed plus it was too cold to sit around people watching. Jim left on his bike shortly after the walkers headed off. Eleanor had a hockey match to go and play so she didn’t want to hang around and so we threaded our way past the people pushchairs and poodles on the new coastal pathway on the motorway side of the point and before returning to West harbour had a quick look at the foot-bridge and Clark Lane.

It was a good workout the peddling legs and we were back at the cars by 2pm and walkers Jackie, Steve and Chamara weren’t far behind. Thanks to Jim, Doug, Dave, Eleanor, Peter and Louis A, for coming along with their bikes.



Milford to Takapuna, Smiths Bush and around Lake Pupuke Leader Pam Goldie

The weather was sunny and warm and seven happy trampers spent started off finding out about the bridge at Milford marina. We then we then went along the beach. Literally every man and his dog was taking advantage of the sunshine and walking along the beach. We had our morning tea at Takapuna and watched the stand up paddle boarders and more people and dogs and one swimmer. Then it was off to Smiths Bush. It is only a tiny pocket of Bush but it has special memories for the leader as this is where I played as a child more than 60 years ago. Lunch was an amazing spot overlooking Lake Pupuke. Small yachts were whizzing around, swans were swimming and there was even a man who had caught a trout for his dinner. Thank you for joining me on my little trip down memory lane. Pam.



Puhunui to Weymouth 29 June Leader Peter Tuohy

On a perfect winters day 17 intrepid trampers gathered at one of Auckland's less visited Regional parks, Puhunui near the airport. A car shuttle was required to start the day with those left waiting beginning to think the drivers has headed to a cafe for coffee & cakes! After a circuit of the park which took about an hour, we picked up the Te Awaroa Walkway beside the Puhunui Stream out to Roscommon Road. This was the only road section of the day, section we were all keen to get out of the way with Roscommon being a busy road to walk along. The second section, Weymouth Coastal Walkway was thankfully much quieter with great views out over the Manukau Harbour to our destination of the Weymouth Boating Club. The final section requiring a little bit of mud negation which everyone thoroughly enjoyed (?) It was great to see such a good turn out to an area of Auckland that was not familiar to most.



Items of Interest



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Mike Denyer's new email : ak.bettergardens@gmail.com



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

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