



# THE BUSH TELEGRAPH

[www.pukekohetrampingclub.org](http://www.pukekohetrampingclub.org)

EDITION 557

January 2021

**Next Meeting: Monday 1st February 2021**

**VENUE: Anglican Church Hall, Wesley Street, Pukekohe.**

**Supper Duty November Meeting:** Lynne Lawrie, Anna Low, Frances Gibbon.

**Guest Speaker:** No Speaker this month.

**Muddy Boot Award:** At the December meeting it was decided that our President David Lawrie should have the honour of receiving the Muddy Boot for forgetting to bring the boot—where the key to the meeting room is stored- to the meeting.



**New Members :** A warm welcome to the following who has recently joined: Sharron Hickman.

**“Where am I?” Competition:**

Last month’s picture was identified by Annette Egbers as Mt William.

This month’s photograph is to the right.

To go in the draw for the prize at our next club night, email the correct identification to [deekeys22@gmail.com](mailto:deekeys22@gmail.com) or put your entry in the boot before the meeting on club night.



**Trip Leaders** please inform David Lawrie (2388407 or 021656369) or Glenn Clark (2386568 or 0212457468) about your trip intentions as they are the PTC Emergency Contacts. If they have no knowledge of when/where/who is on your trip, then they can’t be of any assistance if help is required. They also each hold a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) and First Aid Manual for trip leaders use. Please return these promptly so they are available for the next week’s trip.

## *“President’s Post”*

As we enter 2021 we hope that this year will be more settled and allow us a full year’s activities. I believe that travel restrictions will remain in place for the bulk of this year and that our activities will be confined to New Zealand. Hopefully the border controls will be maintained at a level to keep Covid-19 out of the general population.

In the meantime I hope that you had an enjoyable break and managed to complete some walks. I am aware of a number of members who have undertaken interesting trips and we look forward to hearing of these at some time in the future. Personally I had several trips onto the mudflats of the Manukau Harbour bird watching and also joined my sister on a 40km bike ride across Auckland which included getting caught in one of those dramatic downpours arriving back like drowned rats.

Recently however I was bird watching at Te Arai Beach near Mangawhai when I tripped on a tree root and severely ruptured a calf muscle. This is a clear warning that the body is aging and is not as resilient as it was 50 years ago. I therefore urge all members to be careful while in the field.

This report is written before the bbq at Te Toro but I am sure that it will be an enjoyable day. I thank Barry for organising this event and look forward to meeting as many of you there as possible.

This is a reminder that the next meeting is on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February and I look forward to a good attendance as we enter the new year. In the meantime take some pity on me if you see me hobbling up the main street.

David

### Quote of the Month



## PTC Committee 2020/2021



David Lawrie – President, Emergency Contact & PLB/First Aid Book/Walkie Talkie Holder  
[lawrie@ps.gen.nz](mailto:lawrie@ps.gen.nz) Ph. 238 8407 or 021 656 369

Glenn Clark – Vice President, Weekend Trip Coordinator, Emergency Contact & PLB/First Aid Book Holder  
[glennmaree.clark@gmail.com](mailto:glennmaree.clark@gmail.com) Ph. 238 6569 or 021 2457 468

Mark Leys - Secretary, New Member Contact, Aged Expo Organiser, 'Safety in Mountains' Book Holder  
[mleys@orcon.net.nz](mailto:mleys@orcon.net.nz) Ph. 09 294 8927

Raewyn Lane – Treasurer  
[raewynlane7@gmail.com](mailto:raewynlane7@gmail.com) Ph. 232 8005

Betty MacDonald – Midweek Trip Coordinator (assisted by Raewyn Lane), Club Shirt Sales  
[macdonald.betty@gmail.com](mailto:macdonald.betty@gmail.com) Ph. 235 7079

Dee Keys – Past President, Speaker co-ordinator, Photo Comp organiser  
[deekeys22@gmail.com](mailto:deekeys22@gmail.com) Ph. 235 9921

Barry Gibbon – New Member Greeter at Club Night  
[bandfgibbon@gmail.com](mailto:bandfgibbon@gmail.com) Ph. 235 9077

Charlie Browne - Gear Custodian (with Joy Browne)  
[brownex3@xtra.co.nz](mailto:brownex3@xtra.co.nz) Ph. 238 7298

Becky Banks – Publicity Officer & Facebook Administrator  
[rbanks2016@gmail.com](mailto:rbanks2016@gmail.com) Ph.0210 238 2178

Judy Donovan – Committee  
[judy.countryknits@gmail.com](mailto:judy.countryknits@gmail.com) Ph 027 477 4004

### Other positions but not on committee:

Peter Stewart - Bush Telegraph Editor  
[gardeningpete@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gardeningpete@xtra.co.nz) Ph. 239 1235

Anna Low – Supper box for Club Nights  
[annalow836@gmail.com](mailto:annalow836@gmail.com) Ph. 232 1835

Eric and Linda Muir – Archives and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary booklet

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## Trip Reports

### Waiuku Waterways Xmas Walk and Lunch – 13 Dec 2020

Leader: Dee Keys

17 walkers set off at 8.30am from Dee's house and arrived back there at 12.30pm after a pleasant 4 hours strolling around Waiuku township. The walk passed the woodchoppers beside the Glenbrook Train Station and took in the views of the lake with baby ducklings and the new Fred Graham monument. Then across to the viewing platform to see the historic village over the water and watch the old, restored charter boat "Ratahi" sail off on a cruise at 9.30am, a pretty sight. Walking around the reserve on the water's edge gave views of the harbour and steel mill in the distance before leading us on to the golf course. We saw the results of all the hard work done by the mudlarks and the estuary looked beautiful in the full tide. Morning tea was in the shade of a tree, a safe distance from flying golf balls, after admiring the water lilies in the lake. That loop completed it was on to the second loop around the Sandspit Beach peninsula where yachts were sailing, kids were swimming, families picnicking, herons wading, everyone enjoying the sunny, but windy day. From there it was home via the main street. It was nice looking at lovely gardens, Xmas lights and flowering pohutakawa trees from a different perspective to driving by. Waiuku is a lovely little town and the walk gave a feel for its community spirit. Shared Xmas lunch and good company finished off the last tramp for Pukekohe Tramping Club for 2020. In this topsy turvey year I think we all appreciated that we could safely walk around in a lovely environment and enjoy another wonderful day in NZ.



## Trip Reports cont:

### Waiuku Waterways Xmas Walk and Lunch cont.



## Private Trip :

### December 2020 Paparoa Trail Report.

Authored: Tony Ogilvie.

Paparoa National Park has some 30,000ha of mountainous forest, and about 6m annual rainfall.

Paparoa Great Walk runs from Smoke-Ho carpark near Blackball, to Punakaiki, and follows older tracks at each end, but largely is new construction, and must have cost DOC millions to make to cycling/tramper standard, and put in three new huts, and numerous bridges.

Distance 55km. Most people do the trip in three days, staying in two huts. There are short side trips on day 1 to a gold mining area and Croesus Knob. They are still constructing a there-and-back side trip, called Pike29 track, which will go down to an interpretation centre of the Pike River tragedy when open, which may add another day to the trip.

Shuttle buses run from Punakaiki to Smoko-Ho car park daily for morning start, picking up passengers from Blackball etc on the way.

Before-and-after accomodation: Blackball Hilton, with powered campervan sites beside. Top 10 Holiday Park at Punakaiki.

I took the usual three day tramp option:

Day one from Smoke-Ho carpark, passing Ces Clarke hut, and ending at Moonlight Tops hut. 7-8 hours, 20km. Ascent from 300m to 1000m.

Day two from Moonlight Tops hut to Pororari Hut, 5-7 hours, 19km. Runs along tops, dodgy in high winds, then from 900m down to 545m

Day three from Pororari hut to exit at Punakaiki, 4-5 hours, 16km. Drops to sea level.

Warm and water-resistant gear needed, rain and windy often.

Huts have cookers with gas provided.

I heard in December 2020 that Moonlight Tops hut was booked out till May 2021.

**Private Trip cont:**



Lots of new track has been carefully built in the tops



This part probably a dray track in gold-mining days

**Private Trip cont:**



Safety Barriers built where drops are precipitous.



Escarpment, viewed from Moonlight Tops hut, exposes layers of sandstone, mudstone, clay, coal and conglomerate, with a granite base.

**Future Trips**  
**Summer programme 2021**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Leader</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>\$</b>
January				
22/23/24	<b>Tararuas</b>	Becky Banks (02102382178)	M	
	Jumbo- Holdsworth Circuit	Trip FULL - HUTS Booked out		
Thurs 28th	<b>Auckland Coast to Coast</b>	Erna Walles 92352299)		
30/31/01	<b>Mt Ruapehu</b>	Linda Gillard (2351441)	M	
	Tama Lakes Explore	Ros Campbell (2321852)		
Wed 3rd Feb.	<b>One Tree Hill</b>	Gail Moy (095769177)		
		Jenny Hari (2384035)		
6,7,8	<b>Waitangi Weekend</b>			
Thurs 11th	<b>TBA</b>	Ray Handcock (092785878)		
14th	<b>Pinnacles</b>	Becky Banks (02102382178)	M	B
	Day trip to the Hut and Pinnacles			
Wed 17th	<b>Te Tapui Scenic reserve</b>	Shahar (2390662)		
20/21	<b>Kauearanga Valley</b>	Glenn & Maree Clark (2386569)	M	
	Camping weekend/day walks			
Thurs 25th	<b>Clevedon</b>	Joan Leitch (2363288)		
28th	<b>Goldies Bush &amp; Mokoroa Falls</b>	Becky Banks (02102382178)	M	B
	Walk back down river			
Wed 3rd Mar.	<b>Cossey-Massey, Hunuas</b>	Delwyn Connolly (0211254261)		
7th	<b>Tawharanui Regional Park</b>	Glenn & Maree Clark (2386569)	E/M	B
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>TBA</b>	Marion Rowe (0211764529)		
		Lorraine Alley (092947010)		
14th	<b>Hunuas</b>	Linda Gillard (2351441)	M	A
	Rata Ridge			
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Tapapakanga Regional Park</b>	Robert Dean (& Shah)		
20/21	<b>Rangitoto Station</b>	Glenn & Maree Clark (2386569)	M	60
	Track tidy up. Stay at house.			
Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Motukaraka Is., Beachlands</b>	Shaaron McKee		
28th				



## Future Trips cont:

### Summer programme 2021

2,3,4,5 April	<b>Te Paki Track (limit 10)</b>	Becky Banks (02102382178)	M	
	Top of the North Coastal track (camping)	Glenn Clark (2386569)		
Thurs 8th				
11th				
Wed 14th	<b>TBA</b>	Ray Handcock (092785878)		
18th	<b>Thames Area</b>	Linda Gillard (2351441)	M	B
	Rockys Track and Waiumu Kauris			
Thurs 22nd	<b>Waitakeres</b>	Diana Murray 92364566)		
24,25,26	<b>Anzac Weekend</b>			
Wed 28th				
30th to 2nd May	<b>Mangamate Loop Trip</b>	Becky Banks (02102382178)	M	

**As a guide: Easy=up to 4 hours tramping, Medium=4-6 hours, Hard=>6 hours**

**Costs- the leader will confirm final costs (A= up to \$10, B= \$10-20, C= \$20-30, D=\$30-45, E=\$45-60)**

**Weekend trip costs are estimates only**

**Midweek trips using public transport are usually free for gold card holders.**

Version- 4th December



## GEAR REQUIREMENTS

### **Day Trips:**

Small pack	Suitable footwear
Lunch and snacks	Full drink bottle
Rainwear	Hat (woollen or sun)
Gloves	Small first aid kit / whistle
Thermal blanket	Change of clothes

### **Weekend Trips:**

Waterproof pack large enough to hold all your equipment and food

Sleeping bag	Boots
Rainwear	Warm clothing eg fleece garments, polypropylene, etc
Woolly hat	Gloves/mittens
Torch or headlight	Thermal longs for winter trips or if above the bushline
Toilet gear	Plate and mug and cutlery

Small first aid pack / whistle

If in doubt ask the Trip Leader for advice for day, weekend or longer trips. It is recommended for all trips that the NZ Mountain Safety Council's pack liners be used. These are available from Charlie & Joy Browne (Phone 238 7298) at a cost of \$4.50 each.

### **Use of Whistle:**

Please remember the whistle should be your equipment of choice to attract attention if needed. If anybody falls behind and loses sight of others, feels unwell and must stop for a rest, becomes injured, etc then the agreed call to alert the Trip Leader and others in the party is **THREE (3) LONG whistle blasts, REPEATED as necessary**. The Trip Leader and/or others in the party will respond with **TWO (2) LONG blasts** indicating they have heard and are coming to your aid. It may be helpful in some circumstances that a repeat whistle blast will allow accurate location.

### **Club Gear:**

All Club gear is stored at Charlie & Joy Browne's residence, Jenkin Road, Pukekohe West. All Club members are welcome to use the gear for Club and private trips (however Club trips have booking priority) – hireage to non-members is not encouraged. Club gear is, at all times, to be returned in good, clean condition. All losses/damages must be reported to the Club's Gear Custodians.

## HANDY INFORMATION

### **Monthly Club Meeting:**

The Club meets at the Anglican Church Hall, Wesley Street, Pukekohe on the **first Monday of each month at 7.30pm** unless otherwise advised.

### **Annual Subscriptions:**

\$35.00 single                      \$45.00 family (two or more)

### **Saturday/Sunday Trips:**

Unless otherwise stated **SATURDAY/SUNDAY** Club trips leave from the carpark opposite McDonalds in Hall Street, Pukekohe. Members who wish to be picked up elsewhere must make arrangements with the Trip Leader. Leaders must be contacted by **Thursday** night if you are going on a **Sunday** trip or **Wednesday** night for a **Saturday** trip. Leaders reserve the right to refuse any member participation in any tramp not considered suitable.

### **Weekend and Longer Trips:**

**Monday** night is cut-off point. Any member who does not adhere to this will miss out. The reason for the cut-off point is to allow time for the Trip Leader to arrange, transport, food, bookings, etc.

### **Midweek Trips:**

Contact Trip Leader for start place and time for trip.

### **Clarification of Trip Leader's Responsibilities under OSH Regulations:**

Only **PAID** (ie Commercial) group leaders are under legal Health and Safety obligation to members of that group. As all Pukekohe Tramping Club leaders are **UNPAID VOLUNTEERS**, the responsibility is on **ALL** members of the group to observe and take responsibility for their own actions.