



The Bush Telegraph

www.pukekohetrampingclub.org.nz

Next meeting: 06th May 2023 @ 7:30pm AGM

Venue: Anglican Church Hall, Wesley Street – Pukekohe

Supper Duty: Frances Gibbon

Guest Speakers: None as we are holding the **AGM**

New Members – None

Presidents Notes

Hello trampers,

Our next meeting is in May and is our AGM. We are all hoping there will be news about Judy before then, at the time this goes out the search continues. We are extremely grateful to the efforts of all those involved in the extensive search and rescue operation, many of whom were volunteers who came from far and wide to help.

There are a few things on the horizon for the club, including our re-registration as an incorporated society once our constitution has been updated to the new regulations. We are working on the draft and, if it is ready in time, it will be circulated to all members before the AGM for approval. With this step done we will be able to proceed with re-registration. We have until 2026 to do this, so if we don't get there before this meeting it won't be a problem.

The main item on the agenda is filling our committee roles. As you know, the club is run by volunteers who generously give their time and energy to keep things going. I'd like to take this moment to acknowledge the work they do behind the scenes and their commitment to the club.

Vice President	-	Barry Gibbon
Treasurer	-	Raewyn Lane
Secretary	-	Shelena Wiggill

Mid-week trip coordinator	-	Raewyn Lane
Weekend trip coordinator	-	Glenn Clark
Emergency Contact, PLB, walkie talkies	-	David Lawrie
New Member Liaison	-	Mark Leys
Meeting Speakers	-	Dee Keys
Bi-annual Photo Competition	-	Dee Keys
Club Gear Custodians	-	Charlie and Joy Browne
Publicity (website)	-	John Jacobson

Shelena Wiggill has done an amazing job with the Bush telegraph and the secretary role for the last 2 years, but work commitments are encroaching on her time and she is hanging up her pencil for now. I 'd like to express deep gratitude both personally and on behalf of the club for her service in attempting to keep me on track and keep us all connected.

This means we have 2 committee roles to be filled for the coming year. If you have an interest in being our Bush Telegraph Editor or secretary, I urge you to reach out to Shelena (or Mark, past secretary) and have a chat about what they entail. If you have skills and interest in any other committee role or the trip leader role, please reach out to one of us. The club is only as strong as our member's commitment, so thanks to everyone who has participated over the last year in any way.

Please let me know if there is any other business you'd like added to the AGM agenda, otherwise I look forward to nominations pouring in. Stay safe and I hope to see a good turnout in May.

Becky

Future Trips – Programme

Summer programme 2024				
Date	Destination	Leader	Grade	£
January				
Thurs 11th				
14	New Year BBQ Te Toro	Barry		
Wed 17th	Harkers Track Onehero	Raewyn		
21				
Thurs 25th	Auckland Museum & Gardens	Shaaron		
27, 28, 29	Auckland Anniv Weekend	Becky		
Wed 31st	Daleys Clearing	Shahar		
FEB				
4th Feb				
Thurs 8th				
11	Kaimais Daleys Hut loop plus swim	Becky		
Wed 14th	Waiuke Forest	Erna		
18				
Thurs 22nd	Totara Park	Ngaire & Rita		
25	Mt Karioi	Mary Crawford		
Wed 28th	Thames	Annette T		

Edition 593 – March 2024

March				
3rd March	Hakarimata Through tramp	Becky		
Thurs 7 th	Waihi- around the gold mine	Annette T		
10th				
Wed 13 th	Beach walk TBC	Frances		
17	Awhitu Landcare sea week farm/coastal walk	Barry		
Thurs 21st	Pukemokemoke Reserve	Joan		
23/24	Rangitoto Island Weekend Stay over night at a bach	Michele Jameson		
23/24	Rangitoto Station Bait line work and stay at house	Glenn & Maree Clark (2386569)	H/E	B
Wed 27th				
31	Easter Kaimai - Traverse?	Becky	M/H	
April				
Thurs 4th				
6th or 7th	TBA Kaimais or Waihi?	Mary Crawford		
Wed 10th	TBC	Gail & Jenny		
14				
Thurs 18th	Murphy Bush or Barry Curtis Park	Shaaron		
21				
Wed 24th	TBC	Delwyn		
28-Jan				
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 \$15, B= \$15-25, C= \$25-35, D=\$35-50, E=\$50-70) Weekend trip costs are estimates For mid week costs (e.g. A/C with/without Gold card)				
Version- 26 January				

Trip Reports

Pukemokemoke Reserve, Thursday 21 March 2024

Trip Leader: Joan Leitch, and 24 participants

It was a beautiful cloudless autumn day for a trip into the Waikato. Despite misgivings, the Waikato Expressway didn't give us any grief, and we wound our way through interesting country roads to the hill standing alone – Pukemokemoke.

We tried to clean our boots, but the station was out of cleaning fluid. Mark Leys has since contacted them to point this out. There is a lovely stand of kauri, so it would be a shame to lose them to kauri die-back.

Morning tea in the clearing known as the Log Hauler site, then a climb through remnant bush, accompanied by birdsong, to the lookout for lunch. The day had warmed up enough that we were seeking the shade of the trees. Back down the western track, where we could hear the quarry working.

On the way home, we stopped at Woodlands café, admiring their gardens and cricket oval.

This is a lovely trip to take visitors on, showcasing some of NZ's best trees and countryside.

Hearing about a renewable energy offshore project Awhitu Peninsula

On Sunday March 17th about 12 members, a potential member and a UK guest of a member travelled to near the Manakau Light house to join a short walk over farmland to the coast. We were there there enjoy the walk, to collect rubbish and to hear about the early of stages of developing an off shore wind farm in the Waikato and South Taranaki. The winds we enjoy and endure are reportedly among the best on the work for such a development.



At present there is no legislation in NZ to allow such a development and there is no date for it to be on the parliamentary schedule. However work is underway to increase awareness, engage with relevant industries and education providers and local Iwi and community groups. We were told that there needed to be baseline studies of the environment and of the marine and plant life in the area. By understanding this mitigation of negative impacts can be considered in building and planning. All construction work will take place off shore. It is very early stages

After our walk down, about half an hour of beach cleaning and our talk we walked back to where we had started on the more gentle path we had used to get to the coast or the more direct route up the fence line. Both offered stunning views.

Wed 13 March 2024 Waiheke Sculpture Walk.



It's always a pleasure to visit Waiheke Island.

We were a small group of 13.

9 of us walked the trail and the others did their own exploration.

Most of us found the sculptures somewhat disappointing, especially when compared with previous years.

But the walk along the Matiatia clifftop was beautiful, with wonderful views of the Hauraki Gulf and islands and glimpses of amazing homes and vineyards.

The shuttle from and to the ferry was an excellent service and traveling by ferry is always enjoyable.

Maureen and Frances



Martha Mine Pit Rim Walkway and Mill Stream Walkway- 7th March, 2024

Leader- Annette Teague

A group of 23 walkers gathered at the historic Cornish Pump house at the start of the walkway. The day was overcast making for ideal walking conditions.

We followed the Pit Rim Walkway branching off to Union Hill and Mill Stream Walkway noting the historical features.

The group then crossed the road to Gilmour Park for lunch in very pleasant surroundings.

After lunch we walked around the lake and along Winner Hill track below the MTB tracks. We looped back along the

Ohinemuri River Walkway and Mill Stream to re-join the Pit Rim Walkway.

After our approximately 10km walk we had a well-earned coffee break at Banana Pepper Cafe before returning home.

Trip report Sunday 3.3.24 Hakarimata through trip (13.5kms, 7hrs)

Leader: Becky with John K, Anne and Owen, and Joe going North to South

John J with Tessa, Mary, Kathy and Jen going South to North

Two car loads left Pukekohe at the usuals time heading to Ngaruahia. The weather reports indicated we should expect some showers which would clear up towards the afternoon. The cars split up at Huntly to travel to their respective start points at either end of the range. As we arrived the heavens opened and we were treated to a heavy downpour which continued throughout the morning. We had a gradual climb up a benched track through the Kauri grove and to the lookout. Not much to see at this stage. The track then became a tramping grade track with multiple ups and downs, slippery roots and today mud. The rain certainly added a sparkle to the beautiful bush. The weather started improving and we were able to stop for a decent lunchbreak in the firebreak along the way. We met the other party a little further along the track where we had a quick check in and swapped keys. After another couple of hours we came to the summit lookout. From here the track is benched and much faster going, there were however many steps to descend.

The two parties met up again at Huntly McDonalds, after a long, taxing tramp we all deserved some refreshment.



Trip Report Totara Park Thursday 22 February 2024



Another warm Auckland day greeted us at Totara Park Manurewa. Our 36 big group all eager to stretch their legs. We followed the Puhinui Stream Forest trail to start, going clockwise staying to the outer loop. A pretty bush walk with many native trees including totara, nikau and puriri forming the bush canopy. Undulating and some stairs to challenge us along the way.

We will follow the trail which leads us across the open field to the Parks lookout with 360 views out to Steel Mill at Waiuku, to the sky tower in the city, to Rangitoto Island and round to views of the Hunuas in the distance to the south. We will follow the bridal trail back down the hill to the lunch spot at the parks picnic and pool area

which has plenty of shade under huge trees.

After lunch some of us finished the Puhinui trail across the other side of the bridal trail which was a pleasant walk to finish the day. Thanks to everyone for coming along. Coffee was at Chatz cafe by Manurewa Library. Ngaire and Rita

Shared Out of the latest wilderness magazine

QUIZ

What is the highest peak in the Remutaka Range?

- A: Mount Climie
- B: Mount Matthews
- C: Mount McKerrow
- D: Mount Papatahi

Scroll to the bottom of this email for the answer...

Thanks to Frances and Barry Gibbon for the delicious date and walnut loaf



DATE AND WALNUT LOAF

I just love this loaf. To make it a healthier treat, I sometimes make it with wholemeal flour and raw sugar.

Ingredients:

1 cup dates, chopped
1 cup sugar
25g (1oz) butter
1 tsp baking soda
2 cups flour
1 tsp baking powder
½ cup walnuts, chopped
1 tsp ground cinnamon or mixed spice

Method:

- Preheat oven to 180°C (350°F) and grease a loaf tin well.
- Pour 1 cup of water over first four ingredients. Leave to cool.
- Add sifted flour, baking powder, walnuts and spices and mix until combined.
- Pour into the prepared loaf tin and bake for 35-45 minutes or until a skewer inserted comes out clean.
- Delicious served warm or cold and spread with butter.

Serves: 10

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Cooking Time: 35-45 minutes

*Taken from "The World's Easiest Recipes"
by Linda Duncan, Harvey Publishers
Tampa, NZ, 2018*

The World's Best Mountain Films

Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour

New Zealand,
May | June | July 2024

Since 1976, the Banff Centre Mountain Film and Book Festival has been an industry leader in the celebration of Mountain Culture. Following the festival held every October, the annual World Tour reaches more than 40 countries on 7 continents, making it the largest adventure film tour on the planet.

From approximately 375 films entered into the annual festival, the world's best mountain films are chosen for the World Tour. This year's tour features a collection of the most inspiring action, environmental, cultural and adventure films from the festival.

In New Zealand, our programmes feature over 2 hours of thought-provoking films from the world's most prestigious mountain film festival!

For more details visit
<https://www.banff.nz/>

Can't make the Auckland screening? Check out the other stops on the NZ Tour

here: <https://www.banff.nz/tickets/>

Gear Requirement

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 nonmembers 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, and Pukekohe on the **first Monday of each month at 7.30pm** unless otherwise advised.

Annual Subscriptions:

\$25.00 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. **Online:** with your surname as the reference and "Sub" as the code, to the PTC bank which is ASB Pukekohe, account number **12 3023 0324204 00**

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 cutoff 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.

PTC Committee 2021/2022



Rebecca Banks – President

rbanks2016@gmail.com

Barry Gibbon – Vice President, New member Greeter at Club Night and Emergency Contact & PLB/ First Aid Book/Walkie Talkie Holder

bandfgibbon@gmail.com

Shelena Wiggill – Secretary, Bush Telegraph Editor and "Safety in Mountain" Book Holder

shelenanwiggill@gmail.com

Glenn Clark – Weekend Trip Coordinator

glennmaree.clark@gmail.com

David Lawrie – Emergency Contact & PLB/ First Aid Book/Walkie Talkie Holder

lawrie@ps.gen.nz

Mark Leys – New Member Contact & Aged Expo Organiser

mleys@orcon.net.nz

Raewyn Lane – Treasurer

raewynlane7@gmail.com

Raewyn Lane – Mid Week Coordinator (assisted by Betty MacDonald)

raewynlane7@gmail.com

Dee Keys – Past President, Speaker coordinator & Photo Comp organiser

deekeys22@gmail.com

Charlie and Joy Browne – Gear Custodian

brownex3@xtra.co.nz

Rebecca Banks and John Jacobson – Publicity Officer & Facebook Administrator

rbanks2016@gmail.com

Judy Donovan – Committee

judy.countryknits@gmail.com

Other Positions but not on Committee

Anna Low – Supper box for Club nights

annalow836@gmail.com

Eric and Linda Muir – Archives and 50th Anniversary booklets

Trip Leaders

Please inform David Lawrie (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.

QUIZ

Answer B: Mount Matthews

The highest peak in the Remutaka Range, the southernmost range in the North Island, is Mount Matthews at 940m. Mount Papatahi is 902m, Mount Climie is 862m and Mount McKerrow is 706m.