



# THE BUSH TELEGRAPH

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

EDITION 553

September 2020

**Next Meeting: Monday 7th September 2020 CANCELLED**

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

## September 7th Meeting Cancelled

**Supper Duty October Meeting:** Betty, Raewyn & Annette. Moved from cancelled September meeting.

**Guest Speaker:** No Speaker as Photo Competition moved to October meeting.

**New Members :** A warm welcome to the following who has recently joined: Lyn Pufflett

### **Muddy Boot Award:**

At the July meeting there was considerable discussion as to where the “Where am I” picture supplied by Hamish actually was. Hamish was not entirely sure—although thought it was possibly taken on Mt Taranaki. It was therefore felt appropriate that Hamish should be the recipient of the Muddy Boot.



### **“Where am I?” Competition:**

Last month’s picture was identified by Dee Keys as Leitch’s Hut, in the Whareorino Conservation Area.

Dee has supplied the photograph—right - to test our knowledge this month.

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”*

Well here we are in restricted access again! This will impact our activities over the next little while although hopefully within the next week or by the time of the next meeting we will have reduced restrictions.

In the meantime let’s make sure that we comply with the guidelines so that we can return to some form of normal in the near future.

We had a really good turnout of members for the last meeting to hear Wendy Goad talking about the volcanic fields mainly around Auckland. This should give us all more background as we travel around Pukekohe and the Franklin area.

All going well I will miss the next meeting as I am planning to have a week in Paihia. Dee has agreed to run the meeting if I have the opportunity to get through Auckland and up North.

Do not forget that it is the photographic competition and that you should turn up early to enable your photos to be displayed. We have arranged for an ex-professional photographer to act as the judge so there is likely to be interesting comments about what makes a good photo so there will be a learning opportunity for everyone.

We hope that the meeting can take place but it will depend on the notification from the government so stay alert for notices.

**STOP PRESS**. With the news that came through on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup>, it appears that we will still be in level 2 lockdown at the time of the next meeting, with a maximum number of 10 people for any meeting. I have therefore decided that it will be best to cancel the September meeting, so the photo competition will be held at the October meeting instead. Sorry about being the bearer of bad news but it is best to be safe, especially since many of us are older.

However the most important thing is to stay safe so that we can enjoy our activity in the future.

David Lawrie

## 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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Subs are now due.

\$35 per single

\$45 per couple/family.

Payment can be made in person to the Treasurer, Raewyn Lane at a club meeting

Or pay directly to the club bank account number **12 3023 0324204 00** using your surname as the reference and "Sub" as the code. Once done please email the Treasurer, Raewyn Lane with the date and amount deposited at [raewynlane7@gmail.com](mailto:raewynlane7@gmail.com)

## Trip Reports

### 5 Summits Trail (part 2) - 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2020

Leader: Betty MacDonald

The weather forecast did not look too promising but as the previous trip had been cancelled because of bad weather, I decided to go ahead. It was a local walk so it would be easy to shorten it if conditions turned nasty. The plan was to do Belmont Rise and optionally, Cape Hill.

12 set off from Cinema 3 carpark and headed to Belmont Rise – amazing how much development there has been in the area since the track opened in November. It doesn't look it, but this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest of the 5 summits at 108 metres. We collected a few oranges falling from the trees there, then headed to Ray Fausett Reserve. We climbed the fence to access Rae Powell's house where we had been invited for morning tea and toilet stop. Rae then joined us on the rest of the walk. Some of the track was quite slippery compared to how it was last summer but no one had any problems. We followed the trail map via streets, Kennelly Park and Hickey's Reserve to reach Paerata Road. Shah kindly invited us to have our lunch stop at his home in the Cape Hill area. A few left the group to attend to other commitments and the others took up his offer.

After lunch (and a chance to play with Shah's train set ;-)) we decided we had done enough for the day. The weather had been fine so why push our luck! A few decided to explore the track from the end of Isabella Drive to Cape Hill as a shortcut home with one solitary tramper, Mark, reaching the summit.

We had a lovely day – some of the locals had been unaware of these tracks in their own back yard and were quite impressed.

### Quote of the Month

**“I go to nature  
to be soothed  
and healed,  
and to have  
my senses  
put in order.”**

—JOHN BURROUGHS

## **Pukekohe Tramping Club Photo Competition for 2020**

The club competition will be held at club night on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October**

### **Note: New Date**

Even if you are not entering the comp, please do come along to enjoy other peoples' photographic stories. Learn tips for capturing those special moments from our professional guest judge. All invited, it will be fun!

### **\*\*FMC ENTRY RULES AND SEVEN CATEGORIES\*\***

Entries must not have been entered into the competition before. Photos that have been previously professionally published (in magazines/commercial websites/books etc) are not eligible for entry.

Each club member can enter a maximum of 2 photos per category, which are the same as the FMC competition:

*ABOVE BUSHLINE (With no Human Element)*

*ABOVE BUSHLINE (With a Human Element)*

*BELOW BUSHLINE (With no Human Element)*

*BELOW BUSHLINE (With a Human Element)*

*HISTORIC (Any image taken pre 2018)*

*LONG EXPOSURE*

*NATIVE FLORA & FAUNA (Plants and Animals)*

By entering the club comp, you are agreeing that if your photo wins, it will go forward to the FMC comp and that you agree that the photo can be used by FMC for promotional purposes. All photos must relate in some way to activities that the club participates in. Photos must be taken in NZ during 2018-2020, except Historic which must be pre 2018. All entrants must be paid up, current club members. Digital manipulation by cropping, adjustment for tone/contrast and stitching of photos is allowed. Filters are not. For more details about the FMC comp and the rules/prizes, visit the website: <http://www.fmc.org.nz/photo-competition/>

**Unite  
against  
COVID-19**

**September 7th Meeting cancelled.**

**Photograph Competition moved to October 5th meeting.**

## **\*\*PTC's OWN 'EXTRA' CATEGORIES\*\***

Again, photos must relate in some way to activities that our club participated in, but not limited to any particular year, with maximum 2 photos per category. Calling all members, even retired trampers; here is your chance to dig out those fantastic photos from present day to way back. The PTC categories are:

8. HUMOUR (plenty of scope here, go wild and tell us the funny story! Remember Joy would like these for the club history booklet that is being collated.)

9. URBAN (town/city walks, people, parks, modes of transport besides feet, scenery, come on mid-weekers!)

10. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES (club nights, dinners, movie nights, cafes, hut parties, mid-winter Xmas, 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, etc)

These sorts of photos are valuable for our club archives so your reward for entering is to have them go down in PTC history. In another 50 years at the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, the future members can see what the 'old days' looked like!

### **\*\*HOW TO ENTER\*\***

Bring your print(s) to club night on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. at 7pm.**

**NOTE**- this time is earlier than usual so photos can be set up before the meeting and judging, which both start at 7.30pm.

Please write your **name** and **category code** on the **back** of each image:

Eg. Your bird photo: "Joe Bloggs, FMC 7"

Eg. Your humorous photo: "Joe Bloggs, PTC 8"

There will be blue tack for you to attach your photos to the correctly labelled section of wall.

Please make sure you have the code correct and put your own photos up promptly at 7pm.

### **\*\*JUDGING\*\***

Our professional guest judge will make choices during the formal meeting from 7.30pm.

Supper will follow the meeting and give everyone time to view the display. We will then be treated to a talk about the winning images from the judge with lots of advice for taking great photos.

## Future Trips

### Spring programme 2020

<b>Date</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Leader</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Cost { \$ }</b>
Wed 2nd Sep.	<b>Ellerslie – Meadowbank via Stonefields</b>	Shahar		
5 & 6	<b>Rangitoto Station</b> Assist again with the Kokako Programme- 1st weekend	Glenn and Maree Clark (2386569)	M-H	E
Thurs 10th	<b>New Lynn area</b>	Shaaron McKee		
13				
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Pt Chev/Western Springs</b>	Carole Chambers		
20				
Thurs 24th	<b>Kaniwhaniwha, Pirongia Forest park</b>	Betty MacDonald		
27th				
Wed 30th	<b>Mangere Mountain +</b>	Ray Handcock		
4th Oct				
3 & 4	<b>Rangitoto Station</b> Assist again with the Kokako Programme- 2nd weekend	Barry Giibbon (2359077) ?	M	E
Thurs 8th	<b>Waihi Mine loop</b>	Annette Teague		
11				
Wed 14th	<b>Patumahoe</b>	Joan Leitch		
18				
Thurs 22nd	<b>Hamilton River walk – TBA</b>	Shaaron McKee		
24/25/26	<b>Labour Weeeknd- Taranaki</b> Stay New Plymouth- walk Pouakai Cross- ing	Linda Gillard		
Wed 28th	<b>Dubbo 96 track, Waihi</b>	Shahar		

Date	Destination	Leader	Grade	Cost {\$}
1 Nov.				
Thurs 5th	<b>Harker's Reserve</b>	Raewyn Lane		
7 & 8 Nov	<b>Rangitoto Station</b> Assist again with the Kokako Programme- 3rd weekend	Glenn and Maree Clark (2386569)	M-H	E
Wed 11th	<b>Waiuku Forest</b>	Annette Egbers		
15				
Thurs 19th	<b><u>Waterview/Oakley Creek</u></b>	Ruth Budden		
22				
Wed 25th	<b>Te Tapui loop track</b>	Shahar		
29				
Thurs 3 Dec.	<b>TBA</b>	Ray Handcock		
6				
Wed. 9th	<b>Karioitahi walk and pot luck lunch</b>	Annette Egbers		
13				

**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**

**For mid week costs (e.g. A/C with/without Gold card)**

## **Kiwi visits during lockdown**

The Department of Conservation ranger's residence on Hauturu-o-Toi Little Barrier Island Nature Reserve is a 2-story house, with an office on the ground floor and the living quarters above. Yesterday afternoon, ecologist Dr Leigh Joyce (who is the kākāpō ranger on the island) and her daughter Mahina were incredibly surprised when they heard a noise outside and looked up to see a young kiwi tapping its bill on the glass kitchen door! It was overcast and drizzling and the kiwi had walked upstairs using the external wooden ramp from the garden below. It then proceeded to walk around the house on the upstairs wooden deck, gently probing with its bill. They were even more amazed when it accidentally wandered inside through the open ranch-slider door! The rangers did not want to stress the bird by attempting to catch it - so they quietly stood by and watched as the kiwi casually made its way through the dining room and kitchen, before slowly heading out the kitchen door, down the ramp, and back into the forest... The young kiwi obviously wasn't aware of the importance of practising social distancing as it literally walked right past the rangers feet!

## 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.