



The Bush Telegraph

www.pukekohetrampingclub.org.nz

Next meeting: 4th November 2024 @ 7:30pm

Venue: Anglican Church Hall, Wesley Street – Pukekohe

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.

Supper Duty: Frances Gibbon

Speaker: No speaker this month so we will take the opportunity to cover some **navigation** essentials, we will cover using your phone to navigate (topo50 apps, about \$7 each), as well as some map and compass skills.

New Members:

The President's Notes

Last meeting we had a very inspiring speaker from Special Olympics Counties. Grace Payne spoke very eloquently about her journey with Autism, the challenges it has presented and the role Special Olympics has had in her finding purpose and fulfilment. Her current role as one of only 10 Sargent Shriver Global Messengers takes her around the world to spread the positive message of SO, but she began her journey with SO when she was still at school as an athlete and then an athlete ambassador. Attendees were very impressed by her achievements and all keen to continue to support SO Counties as we have previously with their AP Show car parking fundraising. Here's a little more information about Grace's role <https://specialolympics.org.nz/grace-payne/>. If you'd like to know more about supporting Special Olympics Counties, talk to Mary Crawford.

David reminded members that we have copies of Safety in the Mountains for sale at \$5.

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By the meeting we will have completed our third baiting weekend at Rangitoto Station. With only one car going again, we will have only managed to bait the one of our two lines this year. We will have one more weekend to go at the start of December.

We had a few gaps in the schedule over October as our leaders got busy, but it is looking good to the end of the year now.

FMC is running their Love Our Huts campaign in November, raising awareness of our amazing hut system in New Zealand and the pressure it is under. We have registered to give Pāhautea Hut on Mt Pirongia some love. What's involved?

Spring Clean - sweeping out the hut, cleaning the windows, wiping benches, taking out any rubbish, and leaving a spare roll of loo paper.

Simple Hut Health Check - Here we are wanting to know that doors and windows shut and that there are no leaks or problems with mice, rats or possums.

Hut Book review - This involves photographing the hut book (so the entries are legible) and also doing some quick tally-ups of who's using the hut. What are some of the most interesting entries?

They have well over 400 huts registered now across the network, it's so nice to know that they will be getting some TLC and we can do our bit to support this good mahi.

Skills bite - compass and map work

There are some great resources on the Mountain Safety Council website on basic navigation (<https://www.mountainsafety.org.nz/learn/skills/navigation>). A map is essential for planning your trip and staying on track during your walk or, worst-case scenario, knowing how to get back on track if you get lost. If you're using a mapping app on your phone, you should also take a printed map. You can print out the section of map you need and either laminate it or place it in a waterproof clear plastic bag. Or purchase a printed map from your local tramping or hunting store. Search for the map on LINZ's Map Chooser or find a map retailer. A magnetic compass – or one on your phone – doesn't just show you direction, it can also help you follow a route if bad weather or fading light reduces visibility. Watch the videos provided in the link and join us at the meeting to get a chance to practise.

If you'd like to learn more Outdoor Training NZ is running their next course at the end of November <https://www.facebook.com/events/308515658660706>. The club will subsidise 50% of the cost for members, and 100% for trip leaders.

Becky

Where am I Competition?



Phil says the photo was taken

- Within 30 kms of Pukekohe
- Close to Pokeno
- Not Waikaretu
- Not Harkers Reserve

Future Trips

Thursday 31st	Lake Hakanoa & Lake Kainui Huntly	Annette E	
November			
Saturday-Sunday 2nd & 3rd	Rangitoto Station Assist with Kokako Recovery	Barry & Glenn	M Cost \$65
Wednesday 6th	Dubbo 96 Track	Shahar	
Sunday 10th	Mt Kakepuku	Linda	
Thursday 14th	Moumoukai	Mark	
Saturday & Sunday 16th & 17th	Patuata Mt Pirongia (Hut Clean up)	Becky	H Cost \$35
Wednesday 20th	Maraetai to Beachlands	Chris	
Sunday 24th	Piha White Track to White Beach return Kitekite Falls & or Maungaroa Lookout	Pip	M
Thursday 28th	Waitawa	Dzintra	
December			
Sunday 1st	Kaitarakihi Summit	Becky	M/H Cost \$15-25
Wednesday 4th	Hunua	Ben	
Saturday-Sunday 7th & 8th	Rangitoto Station Assist with Kokako Recovery	Barry & Glenn	M Cost \$65
Sunday 8th	Hapuakohe Southern end to end with car swap	Mary & Pip	M/H
Thursday 12th	Takapuna & Lake Pupuke	Prue	

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Sunday 15th			
Wednesday 18th			

Completed / Past trips

Coast to Coast Walkway Saturday 28 September 16 kms 4 hrs 30 walking time.

Our party was 8 when we left Pukekohe at 8am and drove to Onehunga Bay Reserve (40m) where we left the cars for the day, public toilets available. We went across the road to bus stop 8737 Beachcroft Avenue roundabout and caught the 309 to City Centre, we changed to the green inner loop bus (Inn) at Newmarket stop A. We hopped off at Britomart Queens arcade at about 9.30am and walked 5 mins to the waterfront to make sure we got both coasts in, and started our walk.

The first stage took us through University of Auckland buildings and past Albert Park before walking over motorway 16 and into Auckland Domain. We stopped at the duck pond for morning tea. Public toilets and cafe here for refreshments if desired. We proceeded through the domain and its sports fields then back to street walking until we arrived at Mt Eden. Lots of people were out enjoying the sunshine, the city views from the top were exceptional. After Mt Eden we were back in University of Auckland domain, this time their Epsom campus. The residential streets were quiet compared to the reserves and pleasant walking. Cornwall Park was having a Heritage Day event, this was a surprise, and there were LOTS of people enjoying the cherry blossom as well as May Pole, tai chi, brass band, games, vintage cars and picnics. Great vibes but long queues at the cafe and toilet. We had a nice long break here for lunch under the trees. Then we took the track to the top of One Tree Hill, going past the hollowed out tree, before being treated to more beautiful views from the top. This was our last climb up, the rest of the walkway took us through residential areas, like Royal Oak (where we stopped at Ollies for ice creams), down to Onehunga and the cars. The traffic was heavier on our return drive, but still we were back in Pukekohe around 3.30pm.

Becky

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Orakei to Parnell - September 19th October lead by Robert

Where the rich live.

Wednesday afternoon and the forecast is not looking good so I emailed Raewyn and suggested she make the decision on whether we go ahead or not and she (rightly) emailed back saying "your walk your decision". So I took the bold step in the morning to proceed even though the forecast looked as if it could be a bit damp.

So fourteen members set off on the summer timetable on the train at 9:16 a.m arriving at Orakei just after 10: 00 a.m. A quick comfort stop and we were off.

I had accidentally on purpose forgotten to tell everybody where we were going so we headed to Paritai Drive for a multi-million dollar view of the city and the rich listers. I asked everybody to let me know if they saw somebody they knew so we could have morning tea with them but unfortunately there wasn't a soul on the street.

Amazing views back to the city and Bastion Point dwellings.

Down to Okahu Bay for morning tea (of course it had to rain when we broke for morning tea) then a stroll to the Parnell baths over the over-bridge around the pools and lunch in Dove Myer Robinson park.

Surprisingly we had neither walked Paritai Drive nor round the pools.

Testing our carbs down and then up the other side to Parnell to finish the 8K walk. Coffee at the Lala Café then round the corner to the Parnell station and off on the train with hardly a minute to spare.

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October 3rd Henderson (instead of Hunua)

We had originally planned to go to the Hunuas but the weather dictated that Henderson was a more suitable option. We caught the 0916 train with an enforced morning tea break at Newmarket due to a cancelled train. Betty joined us there and we then headed west to Sunnyvale. We followed the Oratia Stream towards the Waitakere Ranges and then crossed over to the Anamata Stream. We had a lunch break (refer Photo) before returning to Henderson via the Corban Art Centre. Once again our coffee plans had to be changed as the planned cafe closed just before we got there, so we had afternoon tea at Newmarket. We returned to Papakura just before 1600.

Mark



**Rangitoto Station Trip Report 4-6 October
Led by Glenn**

If you want a challenge and a new experience join a trip to Rangitoto Station (the first weekend of the month from October to March). Karen and I joined Glenn (who has been volunteering there for twenty years) and Becky, who both knew the ropes.

We left Pukekohe (in Glenn's vehicle that wasn't going to get damaged on the roads we were travelling on) at 3: 30 on Friday afternoon. We had dinner (burger and chips) at a very old fashioned burger bar in Otorohanga (everything cooked fresh with beetroot included). We still had some way to go half of it on not brilliantly maintained dirt roads with lots of getting in and out of the vehicle to open and close gates. Thanks to daylight saving we arrived at the Woolshed in the daylight. The accommodation is basic, but there are hot showers in the house (where Howick Tramping Club stay) and we weren't crowded.

After a good night's sleep we were on our way at 7 00 a.m. It was a 15 minute drive to the car park to the YELLOW Access bait lines (of which there were many). We had a two hour walk (with two breaks) before we started baiting. The walk is beautiful with lots of lovely trees. There are areas where it's not obvious where to go next with trees that have come down and markers obscured. It's quite open and there were lots of signs of pigs and deer. We carried bait in and Glenn and Becky added or replaced the bait in the containers nailed to trees. We had a few river crossings (the water was mid-calf only) but there was no chance of having dry feet. We ate lunch at Mangatutu Hut (stored the excess bait) and headed out. There is one longish climb after the hut and that's where the muscles fatigued somewhat. We hit the carpark at 3: 00 p.m, the ETA was exact. There was a great electrical storm starting about 3 45 ish and overnight. It would not have been fun to be out in that. Hot showers and an amazing three course meal at the house (with great company) rounded off the day.

We left early Sunday morning, had breakfast at the Fat Kiwi Cafe in Otorohanga (amazing) and were back on Pukekohe by 11 30 a.m on Sunday.

Next trip is in November, a great cause saving our native wildlife. The kokako are prolific there. We didn't see any but the bird song in the bush was great to hear.

Pip & Karen

Southern Hakarimata Loop and Taupiri Mountain Saturday October 19th

After 19,000 steps, many of which were uphill via stairs, seven tired but well exercised walkers arrived back in Pukekohe. It was a lovely Spring day to enjoy the Waikato and we were rewarded with lovely views on both of our walks.

The walk up the 1,359 steps to the summit was busy with many locals out for their regular walk. One little boy we saw commented to his mother that we were a group of old people and I guess we all felt that when we made it to the top of the trig. After a quick breather and refreshments we headed southwards towards Waingaro Road. The path

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still had lots of stairs with more ups and downs and flat sections in between. After enjoying a well earned early lunch near the road we wandered back into Ngāruawāhia and headed to Taupiri.

No escaping steep ascents today although this one was step free. The walk up took about 30 minutes and again the view of the Waikato was superb and varied. Eagle eyed Lisa spotted a Ruru (Morepork) which she and Pip amazed over for a few minutes as it was so close. We returned via a different track and the co-leaders were very appreciative of the work done by someone to clear fallen trees and generally tidy the track. The secateurs Pip took were put to good use and those going up and down the track over the next week will reap the rewards of her efforts!



Pukekohe Tramping Club Committee 2024/25		
Name	Position	email
Rebecca Banks	President	rbanks2016@gmail.com
Barry Gibbon	Vice President New Member Greeter at Club night First Aid Book	bandfgibbon@gmail.com
David Lawrie	Secretary Emergency Contact & PLB First Aid Book	lawrie@ps.gen.nz

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	Walkie Talkie Holder	
Glenn Clark	Weekend Trip Coordinator	glennmareeclark@gmail.com
Mark Leys	New Member Contact Aged Expo Organiser	mleys@orcon.net.nz
Raewyn Lane	Treasurer Mid-Week Walk Coordinator	raewynlane7@gmail.com
Dee Keys	Speaker Coordinator Photo Competition Organiser	dkeys22@gmail.com
Charlie & Joy Browne	Gear Custodian	brownesx3@xtra.co.nz
Pip Wooffindin	Bush Telegraph Editor	pipwoofnz@gmail.com
Rebecca Banks & John Jacobson	Publicity Facebook Page Administrator	rbanks2016@gmail.com
Shelena Wiggill	Committee Member	shelenanwiggill@gmail.com
Other Positions Not on the Committee		
Eric & Linda Muir	Archives 50th Anniversary Booklets	

Trip Leaders

Please inform David Lawrie 021 656 369 or Glenn Clark 09 2386568 or 021 245 7468 as to your trip intentions as they are Pukekohe Tramping Club Emergency Contacts.

If they have no knowledge of where you are or who is on your trip they are unable to be of assistance if help is required. They also hold a Personal Locator Beacon and First Aid Manual for trip leaders use. Please return these promptly as they will be required for next week's trip.


Clarification of Trip Leader's Responsibilities under OSH Regulations:

Commercial Group Leaders (employees) are responsible under legal Health and Safety Regulations for the members of the group they are leading. As 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. 

Trip Leaders reserve the right to refuse any member participation in any tramp not considered suitable.

Gear Requirement

Day Trips:

Small pack 
Suitable footwear
Lunch and snacks
Full drink bottle
Rainwear Hat (woollen or sun), gloves, change of clothes
Small first aid kit, whistle, thermal blanket

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
Thermal longs for winter trips or if above the bushline
Torch or headlight
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.

Weekend and Longer Trips:

Monday night is the 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:

These can be viewed in the Bush Telegraph in advance.

An email is sent out approximately a week in advance by the leader with details regarding transport and meeting points and more details of the walk.

You **DO NOT** need to contact the leader in advance of these trips. Just turn up at one of the appointed meeting places.

Contact the Trip Leader for further information as required.

Saturday or Sunday Trips:

These can be viewed in the Bush Telegraph in advance.

An email is sent out approximately a week in advance with information from the leader regarding transport, the meeting point and more details of the walk.

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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. You **DO** need to contact the leader in advance of these trips. Their details will be in the email. Contact the Trip Leader for further information as required.