



The Bush Telegraph

www.pukekohetrampingclub.org.nz

Next meeting: 5th June 2023 @ 7:30pm

Venue: Anglican Church Hall, Wesley Street – Pukekohe

Supper Duty: Frances Gibbon

Guest Speakers: None

New Members: Welcome to Ben Lazarus, Rita Green & Sharon Schultz

“Where am I competition”

David identified Barry photos that were submitted for last month –



David Lawrie has submitted a photo not of a place but of a bird. The identification is relatively easy but the story behind it is interesting.

However David is away at the Bird conference at the time of the June meeting, so will hold off on adding this photo until July meeting when David can tell the story.

So in the mean time I (Shelena) have submitted the June Photo: where am I???

President Notes

It has been another wet month, with rain falling on at least 15 days. Hopefully this hasn't impacted club activities too much. Three club members managed to complete the OTNZ compass and navigation course, after much nervous weather watching. Pip, Judy and I spent a wet evening in Henderson learning the basis, and then a day dodging squally showers at Wenderholm RP where we put our learning into practice. We all found the course to be lots of fun, as well as an instructive introduction to compass and map work. You can find online training on the Mountain Safety Council website here

<https://www.mountainsafety.org.nz/learn/skills/navigation/>. Outdoor Training NZ (OTNZ) offer a number of courses around keeping safe in the NZ outdoors run by qualified volunteers for a very reasonable cost. If this is something you are interested in the club will subsidize 50% of the cost for members and 100% for trip leaders or those intending to lead trips.

A small group are busy planning the upcoming skills weekend taking place in Waitawheta hut from 17-18 June. We have booked the whole hut for Saturday night, and though the bridge is out and you will have wet feet when you get to the hut, it is a relatively short and easy tramp in. The weekend will be designed to give those newer to tramping solid information to help them step up to more advanced and overnight tramps as safely and comfortably as possible. It will cover appropriate gear, food, safety practices, some river safety, etc. plus plenty of time for questions. We encourage experienced members to come along too and lend their support, it should be a fun weekend.

Early in the month Peter completed his 5 Summits challenge for the cancer society. He reported his knees took a bit of a battering, but he was back for his first tramp since then last weekend with Mary and Pip at Wairongomai, so no permanent harm done and a stellar effort for the cause. **Congratulations Peter!**

We are stepping into June and the start of winter. Hopefully the weather is kind, and we have more blue skies than rainclouds. But it is now official hot pool season, so there's always a silver lining 😊.

Happy tramping all

Becky

He just walked over 400km!

Peter Stewart is a PTC stalwart. He tramps a lot. Recently he completed an outstanding fundraising feat by walking the *PTC 5 Summits Trail* for 21 consecutive days. That's about 21km a day for 21 days in a row! His efforts raised over \$7500 for The Cancer Society as a marvellous tribute to his late wife Gaylene.



Peter walked solo for 18 of the 21 circuits, a workout for mind and body! He had support from PTC members Mary, Michelle J and Karen Mc who walked with him one weekend and then another weekend on a very wet Saturday he was accompanied by John, Rod, Steve, Bill, Mark & Barry. For the final circuit he was again joined by Barry, another PTC member who clocks up big kilometres tramping. At their lunch stop on top of Pukekohe Hill they were cheered on with hot coffee and chocolates by Dee, her son Dan and granddaughter Maia. Incidentally, another one of Peter's long fundraising charity walks was with Dan and Dee in Nepal for *Active Hearts Foundation* in 2019. At the conclusion of his mission Peter was welcomed home by Anna with a bottle of bubbly and hot nibbles to celebrate his success.



To top off this mammoth 21 day mission, Peter's workmates from Dalton's (Scott & Colin who also joined him for part of the last circuit) took him out for a well-deserved dinner.

Congratulations Peter, you are a legend! I wonder what is next?

Future Trips – Programme

Winter programme 2023

Thur 1st June	City By Ways	Mark		
3rd	Waitawa Regional Park	Mary Crawford	E	A
Wed 7	TBA	Shahar		
11	Wairere Falls	Peter Stewart (0272391235)	E	20
Thur 15	TBA	Ray		
17/18	Waitawheta Hut (Skills Weekend)	Becky Banks	E	C
Wed 21	Ponsonby Herne Bay	Gail and Jenny		
25		Peter Stewart (0272391235)		
Thur 29	Surf to Soil	Mark		
1st July	Hakarimata	Becky Banks (02102382178)	M	B
Wed 5				
9	Waiotahi Track	Peter Stewart (0272391235)	E	20
Thur 13	TBA	Shaaron		
14/15/16	Rangitoto Staion Track work	Glenn & Maree Clark (2386569)	E/M/H	60
Wed 19	Hill Park Reserve	Rita and Ngaire		
23	Mt Te Aroha	Peter Stewart (0272391235)	M	40
Thur 27	Parnell	Prue		
30	Mt Kakepuku	Shelena Wiggill (0274033446)	M	B

Wed 2 August TBA

Ray

6 Sentinal Rock

Becky Banks (02102382178)

M

B

Thur 10

13 Mt Auckland

Peter Stewart (0272391235)

E

15

Wed 16

20

Thur 24 TBA

Dzintra & Larry

27 Te Tapui Loop Track

Shelena Wiggill (0274033446)

M

C

Wed 30

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 only

Version- 8 May

Trip Reports

Report for Conifer Grove.

10 hardy walkers set out from Waiata Shore with the intention of walking the pathway beside the Papakura stream then heading on to Conifer Grove. Due to torrential rain the previous day the usually benign stream was across the paths and quite impassable. We gave that part a miss and headed straight onto Conifer Grove which was fine. The rain and watery sun came and went we finished our nearly 9 km walk at Birdsong cafe for a well deserved coffee



WATTLE BAY TO AWHITU REGIONAL PARK - SUNDAY 14th MAY

Leader: Steve

Trampers: Linda, Peter, Judy, Sharon, Pip, Jan-Louise, Mary, Bill, Michelle, Barry, Dee, Annie, Anna and Dave

15 trampers assembled on a clear morning at Wattle Bay Beach Reserve, ready to set off at 8.45am. We greeted a few fishermen surfcasting between Wattle Bay and Orua Bay, with one not long having landed a nice snapper. On reaching Orua Bay, we walked along the beach front, past the land and houses affected by the cliff face subsiding in the Auckland Anniversary Weekend storm. There was nothing to be seen of the house that the cliff came down on, and several neighbouring houses were stickered and taped off. During this entire walk, erosion, fallen trees, and slips on the cliffs and hillsides, were a common sight, with a lot of them being caused by the recent storms and constant heavy rainfall.



We stopped to admire the rock carvings between Orua Bay and Big Bay, before continuing on to Big Bay, and morning tea on the sand above the stream running out into the harbour.

It was not long before we reached Hudsons Beach, followed by Grahams Beach. As we were well on time, there was only a small amount of wading required to pass around Pyes Point, being careful of the rocks covered in sharp oyster shells.

We stopped for lunch outside Grumpy's, at Binnies Bay, then on past Greenock. We were lucky to sight a small number of spoonbills, before rounding the final point, and navigating the muddy banks to cross the low tide narrow channel at Kauritutahi Stream.

To finish, a climb up the one and only hill on the whole walk to Steve and Linda's home for a cuppa and slice of cake. Well done everyone!



Waiorongomai Trip Report 28th May

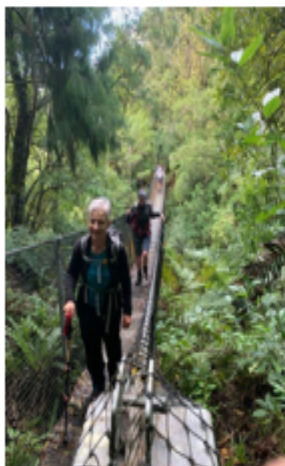
Pete, John, Suzy, Pip, Mary and Dave set out UP the High Level Pack Track in warm dry conditions, and climbed for just over an hour where we stopped for morning tea. The track was a lot muddier than the



reconnaissance trip we had done in April. We met up with a group of nine from the Cambridge Tramping Club and one of the guys was asking about a "Peter Stewart". Of course Pete was just standing there. It was funny to watch as the context stopped that instant recognition. This group had come up another way, more of that later.

We continued to climb up and then followed undulating terrain, crossing several small bridges and through the short tunnel. The water coming off the hills and across the track was faster and more copious than in April. The waterfalls were rushing with water.

The plan had been to climb to the saddle but we stopped just short of there and ate lunch in a sheltered spot but with no view. We retraced our steps for a short while and then joined the May Queen Incline walking over the Piako Tramway. Care was taken as the boards were very slippery and the mud was like thick soup between them.



When we arrived back at the junction where we would rejoin the High Level pack track down to the carpark we checked whether Pete knew anything about the Cadman Track, that the Cambridge group had come up. He said it was ten minutes longer but meant we wouldn't be covering old ground. What a great decision (thanks Pete). The track hugged the hills winding around and down. The forest was completely different, much more open with some wonderful old Puriri trees and lots of tui.

Fortunately the weather gods were on our side, with only about five minutes of a cold wind and five minutes of rain.

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, 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

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Barry Gibbon - Vice President, New member Greeter at Club Night and Emergency Contact & PLB/ First Aid Book/Walkie Talkie Holder
bandfgibbon@gmail.com

Ph. 235 9077

Shelena Wiggill - Secretary, Bush Telegraph Editor and Aged Expo Organiser, "Safety in Mountain" Book Holder
shelenawiggill@gmail.com

Ph. 027 4033446

Glenn Clark - Weekend Trip Coordinator
glennmaree.clark@gmail.com

Ph. 2386569 or 0212457 468

David Lawrie - Emergency Contact & PLB/ First Aid Book/Walkie Talkie Holder
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Ph. 021656369

Mark Leys - New Member Contact
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Raewyn Lane - Treasurer
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Raewyn Lane - Mid Week Coordinator (assisted by Betty MacDonald)
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Dee Keys - Speaker coordinator & Photo Comp organiser
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Charlie and Joy Browne - Gear Custodian
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Rebecca Banks and John Jacobson- Publicity Officer & Facebook Administrator
rbanks2016@gmail.com

Ph. 0210 238 2178

Judy Donovan - Committee
judy.countryknits@gmail.com

Ph. 027 477 4004

Other Positions but not on Committee

Anna Low - Supper box for Club nights
annalow836@gmail.com

Ph. 232 1835

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.

