



The Bush Telegraph

www.pukekohetrampingclub.org.nz

Next meeting: 5th August 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: Photo Competition

New Members: Welcome Lisa Schloots

The President's Notes

Greetings trampers,

This month I was lucky enough to hit that lovely weather window we had, to tackle a full circuit of the Abel Tasman NP, the inland and coastal tracks. This turned out to be a perfect winter tramp. The tracks were in good condition and well marked, even the inland track. The huts all had heating and were very comfortable. We had beautiful bush and some stunning views without having to deal with the dangers of more exposed tracks.

The club also had a very successful mid-winter weekend based at Athenree hot springs and campground. Making this the basecamp allowed for great flexibility, and evening hotpool soaks, very civilised. It was lovely that midweek and weekend members were all able to attend and enjoy it. The catering was a stand out, thank you to everyone who really went above and beyond in their contributions, and to Mary and Suzy for their organisational skills. Our next meeting is our bi-annual photo competition. I had some very enjoyable hours sifting through about a million photos to pick out some entries. It is staggering how many photos I have taken in the last 2 years and wonderful to reminisce on so many fantastic trips I have taken both with the club and individually. I really don't do anything with all

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the photos I inevitably take, so it was great to have a reason to go through them and pick out some favourites. Not an easy job. I'm looking forward to seeing all the entries. Big thanks to Dee for organising this event again.

In a similar vein, tickets are now on sale for the FMC mountain film festival roadshow. Winning films will be shown over 2 nights, one NZ entries, and the other international. This year the evenings are split, with the first in Waiuku and the second in Pukekohe. Come to one or both. I have attended both our previous years and can recommend the event without hesitation, I already have my tickets. Bonus, all profits will go to help Franklin youth attend a life changing outdoor education experience. Thank you to the Waiuku Lions for co-sponsoring this event, and to Barry and his team for organising it.

Not much else to report this month. We are coming to the end of our winter programme, and we have a few gaps in August to be filled at last look. Please have a think about whether you can offer a trip to fill a spot, support will be provided.

Matters from previous meeting

Reminder: There are track closures around Hunua Falls due to bridge maintenance, check online before heading out that way.

Linda asked if there was interest in including more 'easy' trips in the weekend schedule. The focus would still be on tramping, with the usual breaks. But these might be shorter tracks with less incline and allow for a slightly slower pace. Linda has put a couple of these in the schedule, if you are interested in this idea there are a few slots free that could be used to gauge interest if we can find leaders to fill them.

Safety Tip - Gear

No matter how short or 'easy' your intended adventure is, or what the weather forecast says, you should always carry basic equipment to help you if something goes wrong. These are the essential items recommended by MSC for every backcountry trip.



You will find all these items on the club gear list, published in each Bush Telegraph and on our website. Along with these items, we ask members to carry a whistle and personal first aid kit. Our trip leaders have access to the club PLBs (there are 2), but many members who regularly tramp choose to purchase their own.

Here is the full MSC PDF <https://www.mountainsafety.org.nz/assets/Resources/Basic-Gear-List-for-outdoors.pdf>

Here is the MSC video on packing for a day walk - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtF61k5r2MA>

Stay safe everyone Becky

Where am I Competition?



Breaking News

NZ Mountain Film Festival (NZMFF) is coming back to Franklin again in 2024, with both **Waiuku & Pukekohe** screenings this year - Now a True Franklin event

Waiuku Lions Station on Aug 9th @ 7pm for "NZ Pure show" - 7 x NZ films including 3 "World Premieres" over 2 hrs

Pukekohe Parkside Specialist School Hall on Aug 24th @ 7pm for "International Awards show" - 4 x Award winning films over 2.5hrs

Completely different show at each showing - only **one** chance to see each "Special 2 night price of only \$25pp available up till Aug 9th (plus online booking fee) as well as 1 night ticket @ \$15pp - make sure you correctly select Waiuku OR Pukekohe

NO INCREASE in ticket prices this year recognising current financial pressure within community

Online tickets @ www.eventfinda.co.nz/2024/nz-mountain-film-festival-2024-national-tour/auckland

Festival profits will fund a Spirit of Adventure OR Outward Bound sponsorship grant for senior College living in Franklin

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Please circulate this email widely to your work colleagues, your friends & family or your social media groups
The NZMFF is sponsored in part by Federation of Mountain Clubs (FMC) of which PTC is a member, the FMC aims are to build awareness & interest in & protect access to the outdoors, be that tramping like us, or biking, canoeing, rafting etc

The NZMFF also provides a "special 1 hour" show that is offered Free to Senior College students / Guide Rangers / Scout Venturers / Duke of Edinburgh /Outdoor Education groups.

The Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust

The Otago Goldfields Heritage Trust is organising a long weekend of hiking and camping on a local High Country Station close to some outstanding DOC area's. There are 4 day walks organised and led by local enthusiasts. 3 nights entertainment and all meals catered for \$395. I wonder if this might be of interest to some of your walking group members? See here for details. <https://goldfieldstrust.org.nz/introduction/the-spring-kick-starter/>

There are mountain biking (ebikes welcome) group rides also and there will be horse trails too. 5-7km days on Friday and Monday with 10 - 15km days Saturday and Sunday. Opportunities for keen ones to do a bit more or less keen ones to cut things short! It is really a social gathering of keen outdoors folk kicking off the warmer months with a bit of low intensity adventuring and great camp camaraderie. BYO camper, pitch a tent or sleep in the woolshed! Average age 65 but of course there are a few younger ones also.

Once you are down here there are a whole plethora of other hiking/walking opportunities which you may want to take advantage of before the 1st October price hikes and bookings make them less available!

2024 PTC PHOTO COMPETITION is at Club Night Monday 5th August

Hi Trampers, we need more photos for our competition!!! check through your photos. How about we all try to take photos this week on our walks!!!!

REMINDER: This is the final week to send your photos to enter the PTC Photo Competition. Deadline extended to Friday 26th July. See last month's *Bush Telegraph* for all the details. Maximum 2 labelled images per category.

Email to deekeys22@gmail.com

Come along to club night on Monday 5th August to see the wonderful entries and judging.

Future Trips

Winter Programme 2024			
Date	Destination	Leaders	Grade
Wednesday 31st	Lower Mt Eden	Jenny & Gail	
August			
Sunday 4th	Waharau Regional Park Loop Track	Mary	
Thursday 8th	TBC		
Sunday 11th	Dickeys Flat Loop	Linda Gillard	
Wednesday 14th	Taitua Arboretum Hamilton	Annette E	
Sunday 18th	TBC	Becky	
Thursday 22nd	Kaiaua	Mark	
Sunday 25th	Hapuakohe Walkway Northern	Shelena	
Wednesday 28th	TBC		
As a Guide Easy (E) up to 4 hours Medium (M) 4 - 6 hours Hard (H) more than 6 hours Leaders will confirm costs Weekend Trips Costs are estimates only			

Backcountry Hut Passes

Mary has twelve hut passes that are surplus to requirements. They expire February 2025. Please message her on +64210548324 if you are interested.

Completed / Past trips

Waiaata Shores 13th June - led by Robert

Things looked a bit dicey with the trains as there was to be some strike action on the rail so before we left I checked and discovered that our usual 9:36 was not running so we were expecting to catch the 9:56. Quite a number had arrived at the station early as they had caught an earlier train but as it turned out the 9:36 was running so the last of us caught that.

We headed off about 10:30 and made it to a morning tea stop quite early. From there we set out from there to Brylee Drive Reserve and from there up to the playground on Waituarua Drive for lunch at 11:30 which was a bit earlier than we had planned. We walked back along Waituarua Drive to the cafe for coffee and then back to Te Mahi station and the 2:23 train & home by 15:00.

Very easy walk and the day was great.

Mid Winter weekend - Athenree camping ground July 5-7

What a great gang we were - 24 of us staying in motorhomes, cabins, deluxe chalets and motels at the well managed and resourced Athenree campground. The camp kitchen and large dining area enabled us to enjoy 2 evenings of good chat, alcohol and food together. Night two saw us take over the sports area to watch the ABs win albeit by a small margin.

A mix of weekend and weekday members arrived on Friday afternoon and our time away started with mulled wine (see recipe below) and excellent pre dinner nibbles. These set a high standard that was maintained throughout the weekend. Each evening we had 3 different main courses and 2 salads to eat before a lovely selection of desserts. Given we were all driving to accommodation that had fridges everyone was asked to bring a particular dish. It worked well and thanks to everyone for doing their thing. Anne had made a divine Christmas cake that fuelled us in the evenings and at times during a break.

At the day one icebreaker pre dinner we learned the group included - people born in Aden, a morris dancer, someone of Latvian heritage, keen cyclists, rock and roll fans, kiwi fruit testers and someone paid to clean the wellies of a Lady to name but a few things.

The walks were enjoyed in dry, warm and at times very sunny weather. Saturday Waihi Beach to Homunga - a lovely walk of about 5 hours there and back mainly hugging the coast. After an hour we arrived at Orakawa Bay where we walked along the beach before stopping for a cuppa. At this point some of the group returned to Waihi Beach and the rest of us carried on for a couple of hours. Bar one slippery clay step area it was a fairly easy walk to Homunga where we sat at the edge of the beach to enjoy lunch, warm sun and the view. After our walk we returned to the camp ground where most of us enjoyed a soak in the hot pools before more lovely pre dinner nibbles.

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Sunday we all set off on the Lindemann Loop (about 3 kms north of Katikati) and after an hour or so (more not less) half the group returned to the car park the same way and headed homeward. The rest of us continued the loop - a walk all through lovely bush with views of the coast, local farmland and the Kaimai Ranges popping up. The track was well defined but had some interesting and slippery stream crossings that fortunately we all managed without incident.

Thanks to everyone for making the weekend such a success- being ready on time, participating in the icebreaker, providing the meals you were asked to, looking out for others during the walks and taking a turn at leading or being tail end Charlie if asked.

Anna's Mulled Wine

For 10 people

- 2 litre cask Red Wine (or 2 or 3 bottles)
- 1 litre sweet orange juice (e.g. Just Juice)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 cinnamon sticks
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp ground nutmeg
- 1 tsp ground cloves

1 lemon and 1 orange (thinly sliced)

My special ingredient: Replace some of the juice with Cointreau!

Heat slowly, stirring to dissolve sugar, but do not allow it to boil unless you want non alcoholic mulled wine!
Enjoy!





Kauri Glen Walk 3 July led by Prue



I'd seen an item on TV about this new walkway in Northcote so decided I needed to check it out and potentially lead a walk for the club. Two recces later with some other club members and I was ready.

The night before our walk I had a message from another club member asking "had I heard about the train driver strike for the next day?" No I hadn't! I did a bit of research and saw that the last train was going to be the 9.36, the one we planned to catch. Not really having much faith in what I read I decided it would be best if we caught the earlier 9.16 train. Raewyn was away so I contacted Mark L who was able to send out an email to all advising them of the new train time. This worked well and we were on our way, meeting Annette E and Sue in the city as they did take the later train. About 20 members came along so it was a great turnout.

We went over to the new PWC Building in Commercial Bay and used the 'posh' loos there before heading up the escalators to the cafes to get coffee and sit outside in the sunshine. Then it was down to get the bus in Quay St over to the shore alighting at Northcote College. We met Betty at the start of the track in Kauri Glen Rd and walked to the fantastic walkway. It really is something and it gets you almost above all the bush. There are some amazing kauri trees there – so tall and so many. The walk is very popular at the moment as it's quite new – don't go on the

weekend! Once we'd done a 'there and back' on the walkway we headed down the track only to find that the weekend rain had caused some track damage and it was blocked off so we had to head out to the roads for a bit. We got back into the bush in Woodside Rd then it was down to Onepoto Domain for the lunch stop.

After lunch we walked up to Exmouth St and down the track to the boardwalk around Tank Farm (a tuff ring) eventually ending up on Akoranga Drive for a walk through AUT to the Akoranga bus station and the bus back to the city. When we got back to the city we had to wait a little while for the trains to come back on after the drivers' stop work meeting, then it was a welcome seat home.

Everyone seemed to enjoy their day, especially the beautiful kauri trees.

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City Byways 11 July led by Mark Leys

We were blessed with a perfect winter day and having collected various walkers on the way to Britomart, we had 26 in all. Due to a thriving caffeine addiction it took a while to round up the stragglers. We began by heading up Emily Place for the required photograph and then to the university quad to collect yet more coffee, before going to the Albert Park Band rotunda which we found was occupied by a stunning Choir Games. They gave us a fabulous concert whilst we had morning tea and were just lovely people. We then wandered our way via Grafton Gully and the back streets of K. road before going to Myers Park (sadly we couldn't sing to the sculpture because a council worker was operating an extremely noisy machine under it). After lunch we headed past the back of Aotea Centre where an organiser mis-identified us as a choir. After checking two pioneer cottages off Hobson Street, we followed Federal Street via a series of escalators until we were forced to drink coffee again at the bottom of the ANZ building. Most members, caffeine replete, left us at that stage but after afternoon tea we all headed for the railway station and then home.



Waiuku Forest Walk: July 17th led by Annette Egbers

Ten intrepid walkers braved the drizzly weather to explore horse and four wheel drive trails in the North block of the forest. After approximately 1 hr one of the walkers began complaining of heart issues. A decision was made to stop for morning tea/ lunch to rest. Then two walked slowly back to the cars while another ran back to collect a vehicle to transport the couple back to their car.

The rest of the group took a different route back to the car park via a track along the mine site . A shorter route of 4.8 km completed

Coffee and cakes enjoyed at Oha cafe in Waiuku after the walk

All arrived home safely

SUNDAY 14th JULY – FOUR SHORT WALKS IN THE WAIKATO

Five trampers left Pukekohe at 8.00am, picking up a sixth at Bombay, and then heading south to Huntly. First stop, Lake Hakanoa, situated on the eastern side of Huntly township. The wind was definitely colder in the Waikato, but we warmed up with the 45 minute walk around the lake which features several different garden zones including the Green Cathedral which is used for outdoor celebrations.

It was a 15 minute drive to our next stop at Lake Puketirini, on the western side of the Waikato River. We stopped at the northern end of this lake for morning tea before completing the circuit (approximately one hour), and heading towards our third lake, Lake Kainui at Horsham Downs.

The carpark here was quite full and we encountered several walkers, many with their dogs, on this walk; also stopping to watch a couple of radio controlled model boats ripping across the water.

From Lake Kainui we headed to Pukemokemoke Bush Reserve, 40 hectares of native bush which includes, matai, kahikatea, rimu, totara and kauri. We walked to the gazebo for our lunch break, then followed the lower Mangatea Track before starting the climb to the summit and the lookout which provides extensive views of the area. The descent comprised a lot of boardwalk and steps, before completing the loop and arriving back at the carpark.

We were heading home by 2.15pm and counting ourselves lucky that the rain had held off for the day.



Lake Kainui

Kauri Grove (Hakarimata) & abandoned Taupiri Maunga Trip Report 21 July 2024

Four of us left Pukekohe and met the other two walkers at Parker Road, Huntly. The walk to the Kauri Grove Loop was dry and we didn't get any drizzle till we got close to the main track. It definitely wasn't rain. The track past the loop was muddy. We had a quick stop at the first lookout before heading to the Southern Lookout for morning tea. The weather looked questionable. We headed straight down to the carpark with Pip getting a lesson on frankles from Joe (photo examples below) and by that time the leaders had made a decision not to tackle Taupiri Maunga due to the steepness of the track and how slippery and muddy it would have been. We drove to Lake Puketirini and marched around there without any rain. Thanks Linda for including that in last week's walk as it was great to introduce the lake to the group. We then headed to Lake Hakanoa in the pouring rain. Two people decided to head off from there. While we were eating lunch in the steamed up car the rain stopped so off we went again. Mary & Pip




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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 Walkie Talkie Holder	lawrie@ps.gen.nz
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
<p>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.</p> <p>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</p>

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.

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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.

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.

Annual Subscriptions:

\$25.00 single \$35.00 family (two or more) **Saturday/Sunday Trips:**

Please pay your Subscriptions 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**