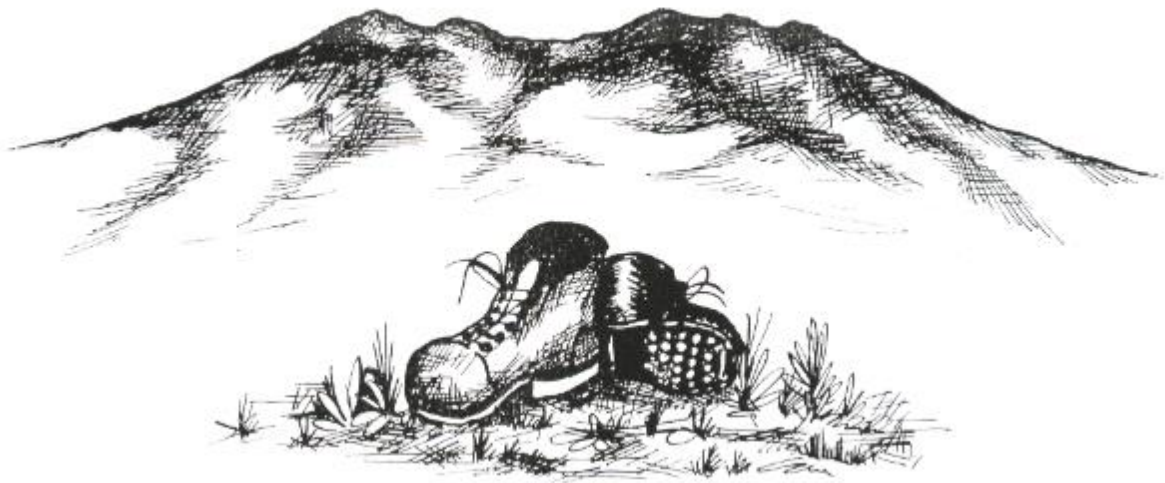


Wanderers Tramping Club Inc



Bulletin

September - December 2017

www.wandererstramping.org.nz

Wanderers Tramping Club Inc

PO Box 61, Hamilton 3240

Bank account number 03-0306-0208429-000 - Always put your name as a reference

Club Committee 2016/2017

President:	Keith Wilkinson	847 4399
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	Dianne Lee (Acting Secretary) leedi@clear.net.nz	027 272 6617
	Brenda Petersen (Bulletin Editor) brenda22269@hotmail.com	849 3716
	John Davies (Merchandise) deejohn@xtra.co.nz	854 0654
	Lyn Kingsbury (FMC Distributor/Advisor) L.Kingsbury@xtra.co.nz	856 8071
	Peter Scott (Bus Co-ordinator) peterscott@xtra.co.nz	854 5478
	Brett (New Members Convener) brett@hudsonhire.co.nz	855 6774
	Annemarie Farrell	021 549 737
	Carol Davies (Trip Co-ordinator) grandmacarol@xtra.co.nz	853 5527

Trip Programme

TRIP DATE	TRIP DETAILS	BOOKING INFORMATION
3 September	Bell Track Pirongia	Brett Rossiter Ph 07 855 6774 Open Monday 21 August
17 September	Oamaru Falls Mapora	Grant Svendsen Ph 07 853 3434 / 021 047 6518 Email gsveny@gmail.com Open Monday 4 September
1 October	Taratiki Stream Loop Paeroa	Peter or Audrey Ph 07 854 5478 Email peterscott@xtra.co.nz Open Monday 18 September
15 October	Summerhill Rec Farm Tauranga	Brenda Petersen Phone 07 8493 716 Txt 0273 117 372 Email brenda22269@hotmail.com Open Monday 2 October
29 October	Mangaokewa Reserve Te Kuiti	John Davies Ph 07 854 0654 / 021 294 1807 Email deejohn@xtra.co.nz Open Monday 16 October
31 October – 3 November	William Hartree Lodge Patoka Hawkes Bay	Grant Svendsen Ph 07 853 3434 / 021 047 6518 Email gsveny@gmail.com Open Monday 2 October Close Monday 16 October
12 November	Kauaeranga Valley Booms Flat Waiumu Valley	Ray Hoare Phone 07 856 2675 Txt 021 170 0713 email rayprivate@wave.co.nz Open Monday 30 October
26 November	Leitch's Hut Te Kuiti	Colin or Margaret Standing Ph 07 855 1335 Txt 027 326 6886 Email standings@xtra.co.nz Open Monday 13 November
10 December	Christmas Get Together Oropi	Pam Cornforth Phone 856 5922 email: pcornforth@xtra.co.nz Open Monday 13 November Close Monday 27 November for catering numbers

Emergency Information

Wanderers' trips occasionally return up to an hour or more beyond the stated return time given in the Bulletin. This happens due to the variable nature of the tramp, the weather and the people on the tramp. However, in the event of a trip being seriously held up (possibly two hours after the time indicated), communication will be made through the Operations Room, Central Police Headquarters, Hamilton.

Trip Bookings

Remember that any default in notifying the leader of cancellation of bookings renders you liable for the cost of the trip.

Responsibility

"Whilst the committee will take all reasonable care to ensure the safety of participants on trips, the participants themselves undertake such trips entirely at their own risk and no responsibility will be accepted for accidents, injury, loss, delays or other misadventures which may occur or happen to members while on trips arranged by the Group."

[Constitution, Rule 29]

Booking Information

Bookings for trips open two weeks before the trip date. Please choose a suitable time to ring the number given. Avoid early morning weekday calls and alternative calls to place of employment. If, after booking, you are unable to go on a trip, please cancel promptly so that your place may be reallocated.

It is essential that at least 24 hours' notice of cancellation be given.

Default in cancelling may render you liable for the cost of the trip.

If you check the programme you will see that each walk or tramp is graded 1, 2 or 3. These "gradings" are defined here:

Grade 1 (easy): A tramp on fairly level formed tracks, duration 4+ hours and where there may be the option of returning by the same track.

Grade 2 (moderate): A tramp of 5-6 hours, often on less well-formed tracks, or on off-track routes; can involve river crossings, or short sections of steep terrain.

Grade 3 (fit): Can be over 6 hours duration, tramping on either formed tracks or off-track routes, river crossings, steep terrain, snow conditions.

You will enjoy a tramp better if your level of fitness isn't of concern to you.

NOTE: Until further notice all trips will leave from the **Wintec student carpark, cnr Collingwood & Tristram Streets.**

President's Ponderings

Greetings fellow trampers

Here we are half way through the year. We have been treated to some enjoyable tramps over these colder winter months. With the weather being a little on the cooler side reminds us of having the correct warm and wet gear. On occasions with a larger party we may need to stop and regroup or for some other reason so we cool down quickly. It is very important to keep ourselves warm so if you get cold think about if are you wearing enough of the correct clothing, eg merino thermals. If not, you need to upgrade to these products for your safety and that of the party.

Once again, your committee and trip co-ordinator Carol have been busy organising a good selection of trips to take us up to the end of the year. So, come along, even bring a friend and enjoy these adventures.

We have our AGM coming up and may you might like to join us on the team and bring new ideas and skills.

Just a reminder about naming your gear where possible. Often there are items left in the van after a tramp and it is much easier to return these if we can identify who they belong to.

Enjoy your tramping and catch-ups with fellow trampers on our next selection of tramps.

Take care, enjoy, and stay warm. See you on the bus or in the vans.

Keith

WANDERERS' TRAMPING CLUB INC. AGM

Date:	Wednesday 11 October 2017
Venue:	The River Lounge, Celebrating Age Hall, Victoria Street, Hamilton
Time:	Hall opens at 7pm and the Formal meeting begins at 7.30pm Guest speaker The evening concludes with a light supper.
Contact person:	Dianne Lee - 027 272 6617

AGM



Where We Are Going

Sunday 3 September

Pirongia

Grades 1 & 3

Nikau Walk/Bell Track

A lovely tramp that follows a babbling stream through beautiful bush in the foothills of Pirongia. Both grades begin and finish at Kaniwhaniwha Stream carpark. The grade 1's will start out on the Nikau Loop Walk, then go to the Kaniwhaniwha Caves just at the start of the Bell track. These caves can be walked through and everybody will be encouraged to do just that! So, remember to bring a torch. The 1's then complete the loop back to the car park, getting back there by mid-afternoon. The track this group takes is very well maintained and mostly flat. There will be lots of stops on the way to admire the picturesque surroundings and to rest and take refreshment.

To begin with, the Grade 3's will go straight past the caves. The track quickly becomes undulating, wet and muddy. Their destination is a magnificent Kahikatea tree much further along the Bell track, just beyond an impressive swing bridge. At 66.5m this Kahikatea tree is the tallest recorded native tree still standing in the country. On the way back, if time permits the grade 3's can go also through the Kaniwhaniwha Caves (so bring a torch too just in case) before returning to the carpark. This group will tramp for about 6 hours.

The aim will be to have all the 1's travel in one van and all the 3's in the other so that the 1's will be able to return to Hamilton as soon as they get back to the carpark.

Depart: 8am

Return: 5pm approx

Cost: \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non-members)

Leaders: Carol Davies, Brenda Petersen, Brett Rossiter

Bookings: Open Monday 21 August
Contact Brett
Phone 07 855 6774 (If the answerphone picks up, please leave a message with your name and choice of tramp grade)



Sunday 17 September**Mapara****Grade 1+****Mapara Wildlife Reserve & Omaru Falls**

We are returning to Mapara, 35km South West of Te Kuiti, at a later date than our last visit as the weather should be better and the Kokako more vocal due to it being closer to the breeding season. John Innes from Landcare Research will be our guide again and will have a tape recording of Kokako calls which should help to draw them into range.

After leaving the reserve we will head to the Omaru Falls, not too far away.

Depart: 8am

Return: 4.30pm approx

Cost: \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non-members)

Leaders: Grant Svendsen, Keith Wilkinson and John Innes

Bookings: Open Monday 14 September
Contact Grant
Phone 07 853 3434
txt 021 047 6518
email gsveny@gmail.com



Sunday 1 October**Paeroa****Grade 1+ & 3****Taratiki Stream Loop**

G3 - This tramp in the hills east of Paeroa starts from the end of Old Reservoir Road. After crossing the Taratiki Stream we fork left onto a track leading away from the main stream. We follow a long easy ridge through mixed native forest including some rimu until we start to ease downhill past the site of an old hut, across a small stream then up through some lovely mature bush to our lunch spot.

After lunch, we climb a fence and re-enter the bush and head south inclining downward, sometimes steeply, through tawa and nikau to the stream. We then follow the stream until we re-ford the Taratiki and out to our waiting transport.

This walk should take about 6 hrs.

Karangahake Gorge

G1+ - Today's tramp will start from the car park where the old hall stood, across the river from the main gorge road. A restored bridge takes us over to the entrance of the old train tunnel (torches needed) which we will walk through to another bridge, which will take us back across to the other side of the river.

A walk alongside the river will eventually take us up to the windows and then back to the vehicle. If time allows, a visit to the old workings site and Waikino train station cafe will finish off the day.

Depart: 7.30am

Return: 6pm approx

Cost: \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non-members)

Leaders: G3 Grant Svendsen, Peter Scott, John Davies
G1 Keith Wilkinson

Bookings: Open Monday 18 September
Contact Peter or Audrey
Phone 07 854 5478
email peterscott@xtra.co.nz



Sunday 15 October**Tauranga****Grade 1+****Summerhill Recreational Trail**

Summerhill has many kilometres of amazing scenic walking trails through varied terrain including pasture, forests and native bush. From the carpark, we will start with a ridgeline walk through farmland to the Pa site in the adjoining Papamoa Hills Regional Park. Once at the trig point, if the weather is clear, we will have 360-degree views over the countryside right down to Whakatane, all of Mount Maunganui and Tauranga and the Kaimais!

Time allowing, we will explore some of the many other tracks in the park.



Depart: 8am

Return: 5pm approx

Cost: \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non-members)

Leaders: Brenda & Lyn

Bookings: Open Monday 2 October
 Contact Brenda
 Phone 07 8493 716
 Txt 0273 117 372
 Email brenda22269@hotmail.com

Sunday 29 October**Te Kuiti****Grades 1&2+****Mangaokewa Reserve****Grade 2+**

This group will start from the industrial area of Te Kuiti town and follow the trail beside the stream to the Mangaokewa Reserve. The group will continue south to cross the bridge over the Mangaokewa Stream and begin the return tramp to Te Kuiti via the Reserve. This is a good loop tramp mostly through bush beside the stream and across open farm land - very picturesque.

Grade 1

The 1's will start at the Mangaokewa Reserve and follow the same loop as above and return to the Reserve. There will plenty of options to stop and explore. We will pass pretty cascades and a waterfall, then a swing bridge and come back up the other side of the stream and return to the van. The lovely bush and native birds are a bonus.

Depart: 7.30am**Return:** 5.30pm approx

Cost: \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non-members)

Leaders: Grade 2+ John Davies and friends
Grade 1 Keith Wilkinson and friends

Bookings: Open Monday 16 October
Contact John Davies
Phone 07 854 0654
Txt 021 294 1807
Email deejohn@xtra.co.nz

**Club badges still available @ \$10.00****See John Davies***Badges are great for instant ID when you are travelling!***Plastic name badges @ \$10: also through John**

31 October – 3 November Hawkes Bay All Grades

William Hartree Lodge -

As this area is quite busy with hunters over Labour Weekend so we will be going down a little later. The Lodge can accommodate up to 10 and is well appointed. Take your own pillow, sleeping bag / linen. There are walks nearby and in the Kaweka Range. We will go down on the Tuesday and return on the Friday.

Take the usual multi day gear and food, with a small shared meal for the first night.

Transport will be by private vehicles, passengers to pay \$60 to drivers.

Accommodation cost will be about \$25pn, but will know closer to the time as F&B are in the process of handing it over to DOC.

An info sheet will be sent out to those booked at the end of the booking period.

Depart: Tuesday 31 October

Return: Friday 3 November

Cost: Accommodation payment \$75 due to Treasurer on booking.

Bank acct # 03-0306-0208429-00

Ref: Your name & Patoka

Let Colin Standing know you have sent it.

Leaders: Grant, Keith & Lyn

Bookings: Open Monday 2 October
Close Monday 16 October
Contact Grant
Phone 07 853 3434
Txt 021 047 6518
Email gsveny@gmail.com



Sunday 12 November Waiumu Valley Grades 1+ & 3

Kauaeranga Valley Walkabout/Booms Flat

Join us for a great day. This is a tramp with everything a trumper could want. We start at Booms Flat in the Kauaeranga Valley and finish at Waiumu on the Thames coast. It's a well-marked DOC track covering every variety of terrain.

We climb steadily to Orange Peel Corner, through some beautiful bush with abundant birdlife. The track then levels with some good views as we head towards Crosbies Clearing for lunch. From the clearing we begin our journey down to the coast. The last descent is very steep, but affords wonderful views of the Firth of Thames, Rangitoto and even the Sky Tower! As well, we pass through the Waiumu kauris - a truly impressive area. At the bottom there are several stream crossings before we emerge at the Waiumu Road end.

The walking is not particularly arduous, but it is a long day - 9 hours, including lunch and snack stops to rest and soak up the beauty.

Please note that on this tramp a separate 12-seater van will be used to transport Grade 3's, so seats are limited - book early to ensure your place.

Grade 1+

After dropping off the Grade 3's in the Kauaeranga Valley behind Thames we will come out and go back to Thames and do a walk perhaps along the coastal walkway or go up the coast to the Waiumu Valley and walk up to meet the others.

Bring extra money for coffee, ice cream etc

Depart: 7.30am

Return: 5.30pm approx

Cost: \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non-members)

Leaders: Ray & Keith and associates

Bookings: Open Monday 30 October
Contact Ray
Phone 07 856 2675
Txt 021 170 0713
Email rayprivate@wave.co.nz



Sunday 26 November**Te Kuiti****Grades 1 & 2****Leitch's Hut**

The vans will take us via Te Kuiti and Piopio to the track start point at the end of Leitch Road. A quick snack and drink and then off up the slow incline of the well graded track into the Whareorino forest. The track follows gentle ridges between sheep country and regenerating bush before descending to Leitch's Clearing, Leitch's hut and lunch.

After lunch, we retrace our steps back to the vans. On the way home, there may be time for berry ice cream at Piopio Berry Orchard, so bring a little extra cash.

Expect to walk about 6 hours.

A Grade 1 walk can follow the same route but terminate and return before reaching the clearing.

Depart: 7.30am

Return: 6pm approx

Cost: \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non-members)

Leaders: G2 Peter Scott and Colin Standing
G1 TBA

Bookings: Open Monday 13 November @ 6 pm
Contact Colin or Margaret
Phone 07 855 1335
Txt 027 326 6886
Email standings@xtra.co.nz



Sunday 10 December Christmas Outing All Grades

Otanewainuku, Oropi Pools



This tramp is inland from Tauranga, all in native bush. We will cover a loop track on the western side of the road, uphill to a viewing platform, which on a fine day gives very expansive views in all directions. Then down the other side of the loop back to the road. On the eastern side of the road we start downhill on another track back to the bus.

Once back on the bus and heading downhill towards Tauranga, we will celebrate the great year of tramping at the Oropi Pools and Restaurant complex with a lunch and a swim.

Costs for the day are \$25 (members) \$30 (non-members) each for bus plus lunch/swim is \$30. The club will subsidise members lunch \$10pp.

Depart: 7.30am

Return: 6pm approx

Cost: Members - Bus \$25.00 + \$20 for lunch + swim
Non-member - Bus \$30 + \$30 for lunch + swim
Please pay for lunch by closure date to treasurer
Bank account 03-0306-0208429-000
ref Xmas and your name

Leaders: Keith, Dianne and Pam

Bookings: Open Monday 13 November
Close Monday 27 November
Contact Pam
Phone 07 856 5922
Email pcornforth@xtra.co.nz



Where We Went

31 March - 3 April



Northland

Grade 1 – Kai Iwi Lakes

The excursion on Saturday took us to the beautiful Kai Iwi Lakes, north of Dargaville. These are crystal clear fresh water dune lakes with silky white sand.

Eleven Wanderers took a leisurely wander around the smallest of the lakes, with plenty of time for botanising and enjoying the lake views. A walk over farm land, including an interesting bank of stairs and eight stiles, led us to the west coast beach for lunch. The churning surf was intimidating so we returned



to the calm of the lakes to complete this fine day, with a swim for some in the clear waters of Lake Taharoa while others snoozed on the grass in the sunshine. A great day out in the North. *Maureen*

Grade 3 - Maunganui Bluff & Kai Iwi Lakes Saturday 1 April

On Saturday morning after our first night staying at Tangihua Lodge we were keen to embark on the planned tramps for the day. First Grade 3 trampers travelled in three cars through beautiful Northland countryside to the start of the Maunganui Bluff Coastal Walk. At the beginning looking up to the blue-sky Carol pointed out the mare's tail colour which I learned indicated future rain!

We wound our way up a well-formed track admiring the view of the shoreline far below us and listening to the sound of the crashing waves. It was pleasant to walk into the coolness of the bush which included hebe with bright purple flowers and rata bushes in full bloom.

Lunch was at the top of the Maunganui Bluff with magnificent views in all directions on this clear fine day.

Once back down to the cars we drove to Kai Iwi Lakes where we walked around the smaller lake, then because it was very hot some of us enjoyed a dip in the crystal clear warm water of Taharoa Lake – just like being at the beach! *Mary*

Sunday 2 April

Northland

Grade 3 - Tangihua Forest, Ridge Track Loop

On Sunday the Grade 3 tramp was the Ridge Track Loop in the Tangihua Forest starting from the lodge. The night before the group had studied the map of tracks in the area which we were to follow on our tramp.

With this in mind we were all keen to set out the next morning. It didn't take long to reach the kauri grove where we admired a huge old kauri. After tramping some distance, the terrain became very steep and several people decided to turn back which left Grant, Ray, Ken and myself keen to carry on.

Our goal was to walk up to the ridge track which was described as razor back with steep drop offs and exposed track areas for the experience trampers! Undaunted we kept the momentum up as we climbed higher and high to the top where there was signage saying Te Hauru Track. It was decided this would be a welcome lunch spot and it was here that we discovered beautiful tree orchids with their delicate scent.

Our trek now began along a tricky steep up and down track to the transmission tower. The highlight of this section was finding a live kauri snail nestled in the undergrowth at the side of the track.

After three hours of slipping and sliding and watching our every step we arrived in misty wet conditions at the tower.

After refuelling it was homeward bound mainly down through the bush and along a track with slipper tree roots, nikau fronds and rocks to negotiate. At last we reached a lower altitude and found a pleasant wide track to walk along as the rain started.

After eight challenging hours, we felt elated to reach the lodge where a warm welcome awaited us as well as hot showers, tea and coffee plus pikelets and jam!

Wild White Woman of Tangihua



Sunday 30 April

Rotorua

Rotorua - Part Two

Eleven trampers (plus the two who were waiting for us at the Te Puia carving centre) headed off on our explorations. After half an hour's stroll through the captivating Hemo Gorge we arrived at the Waipa clearing – the hub of mountain trial bike riding in this area.

Undaunted by the weather (slightly wet and muggy) we headed up to the hills to follow a meandering trail which bordered the Whakarewarewa Thermal Grounds. Our leader set a strenuous pace and in quick time we had reached the Waipa viewing platform. Although the view south was patchy because of the low fog we were more than compensated by a commanding view overlooking a rampant Pohutu Geyser at the northern trig site (facing Rotorua).

We cantered back down the tracks (avoiding the lone walker and dog) and arrived back at the clearing for lunch. Some trampers took advantage of the pop up cafe and hot drinks were well appreciated during the only deluge of the day. The likelihood of further rain might have kept the mountain bikers away as the tracks were remarkably quiet.

So, we were back at our starting point earlier than anticipated. However, always keen to make good use of time our travels took us the local hot pools for a well-deserved dip. Another stop for ice-cream and refreshments ended our day and we were transported safely home by our driver. These 1/1+ walks are certainly hard work!!!!

A big thank you to Keith, Dianne and John for looking out for us.

Scribe – *Wreck and Ravel*



Sunday 14 May

Huntly

Taupiri Expressway

Three busloads of enthusiastic trampers headed off for a once in a lifetime walk over 16kms of the Taupiri Expressway.

To say that it was an interesting tramp is such an understatement and does not cover the amount of information and details provided by our wonderful guide and Project Manager. Talks of inclinators, steel ladders embedded into banks in layers with dirt and rocks to hold up the banks that support bridges (the technical term being gravity), wicks to drain water out, cutting wedges between hills and taking that dirt and sorting it then using it as fill in the valleys. Culverts for every section of dirt taken, streams being moved, gecko's saved and the Taupiri forest pests eradicated by 90%.

Finding evidence of bones from a young male about 200yrs ago on the site, plus realising that there is an old fault line in the hills, all made for a very fascinating day.

The road itself was a wee bit muddy as evidenced by some of the photos and the highlight for me was climbing up on the biggest digger. I have digger envy.

This was by far the most interesting tramp yet!

Susan



Sunday 28 May

Rotorua

Lake Rotoma- Rendall's Mill

Two full vans departed Hamilton in the rain, so there was a scramble for coats when we stopped to look at the Waitangi Soda springs. In the rain, they looked inviting and I think some of us may visit again in our own time.

It was about 8kms along Manawahe road where we parked, had smoko and ensured we were warm, it was a few degrees cooler than Hamilton. We meet Helen (nee Rendall) our local guide and headed off on an old logging track.

At some stage the rain stopped, we got warm, removed a layer of clothing, talked, enjoyed the bush and made sure we didn't slip on the clay sections. But generally, the walk was of an easy gradient, and as this whole area had been milled we were following old tracks.



Some of us discussed it would be easy to get lost as there were many tracks and no significant topographic features. We heard very few birds, some did see a wallaby, and hunters do get deer and pigs in this bush. Some of the tracks are also used by 4WDers.

We had lunch on farmland overlooking the site of the houses that held the Rendall Families. Helen's father and his brothers held the milling lease for about 15 years and it's where she spent her childhood. It was hard to believe there had been houses down in this hollow now grazed by Hereford cattle. Brrrr it must have been a very cold damp place in winter. The only remnant of any settlement that remains is the well. Helen showed pictures of the houses and shared some of her memories, the bush was the playground, for her and her cousins, and they went to school in the vehicle used to deliver goods from the Kettle Store and Garage near Lake Rotoma.

Nearby on the edge of the bush across the old road to the mill is a deep trench (approx 3m & 50m long) dug to deter vehicle access to the farmland and stop poaching of farmed cattle. Then it was a bit more walking in the bush - back to the vehicles.

It was another good day of a wee bit of NZ history.

Thank you Keith

Sunday 11 June

Te Pahu Area

Karamu Walkway



We were transported by a smaller than usual bus to the start of the Karamu Walkway. Knowing we had a significant uphill followed by some ups and downs—we held off our morning tea till Old Mountain Road.

We were met by the bus, where any feeling faint hearted could take the opportunity to ride onto Lime Works Road to meet us there.

The sky was blue, no wind, a perfect day except for the odd muddy patch causing much slipping and sliding! We could see almost the whole of the Waikato from our lunch spot.

All had a great companionable day. It was good to have new people in the group -possibly thanks to Ray's Web Page.



Alison Williams

Sunday 25 June

Cambridge

Sanatorium Hill / Te Tapui

It was a murky Waikato wintery day when two van loads of Wanderers left Hamilton to tackle the Te Tapui track. It took just over an hour to travel via Scotsmans Valley to the start of the track. We wrapped up warm and covered our packs for what was expected to be a bit of a miserable day of weather.

The walk up the hill was relatively 'nice' as far as hills go with a nasty sting in its tail for the last ten minutes as we reached the top. We stopped for a short rest, eats and viewing from the lookout tower at the top. The Kaimai Ranges and Firth of Thames were hiding behind cloud cover but the view changed before our eyes as cloud moved in various directions. We didn't stay too long as we started to cool down quickly and headed off on the anti-clockwise downward track in drizzling rain.

The downwards track had a huge assortment of fungi in various colours, shapes and stages of development. Some areas had what looked like cascades of fungi rolling down the slopes.

We reached the bottom in good time, topped up our tummies and headed off to Sanatorium Hill via the scenic route.

Keith spoke to us about the history of Sanatorium Hill and we set off on the loop track at the top. The view from the platform was clearing but still rather gloomy. This was a short track with quite a few stairs that we tackled reasonably quickly before heading off back to Hamilton around 4pm.



Sunday July 23

Rotorua

Rainbow Mountain (743m) and Waikite Hot Springs

Early start, 26 of us set out on the bus at 7.30am in patchy fog, picked up three more trampers in Cambridge and then set off to Rotorua. We had low cloud and fog for a lot of the trip but once over the “hill” we had blue sky. After a comfort stop in Rotorua we headed for Rainbow Mountain on SH 5 for 26km. We had a morning tea break in the car park and a history lesson from Keith about the area and the volcanic mountain.

At 10.15am John D led us up to the first crater, then on further down the track to the beginning of the climb. The air was nippy but the sun was out and occasionally we got warm feet from the thermal area. At this stage, the climb was steep and very rough in places as well as slippery with pink mud, so caution was needed. We passed a total of two lakes which were originally volcanoes and lots of steam rising. I was tail end so made it up in 2 hours the others slightly ahead. Great 360-degree views of the countryside. Slight cool wind on the top but the side of the building offered shelter and a great lunch stop.



Then it was down again. I put on my crampons which helped greatly in the steep and muddy areas. We were back at the bus by 2.15. Then onto a quick side visit to a very active and entertaining FREE mud pool in the Waiotapu Thermal area. From here it was onto our long awaited hot soak at Waikite Valley Thermal Pools or for some the café was calling. We got home about 6.15pm.



The building at the top of the mountain was previously used as a Fire Forestry lookout in early 1900's and the area was devastated in 1889 when Mt Tarawera erupted, the bush is still recovering. Great day out had by everyone thanks to John, Keith and our driver.

Pink Muddy Feet

Sunday 6 August

Tauranga

Daisy Hardwick Walkway & Mount Ramble

Two van loads of intrepid Waikato Wanderers had two leisurely walks today. The first one was the Waikareao Estuary which was a very enjoyable two hours walk around the bay. Before we started off we had a lovely morning tea with a ginger cat to entertain us. There was some picturesque scenery of the water, estuary and various trees and different vegetation. A brief shower of rain and dodging the pushbike riders was the order of the day.



Then we returned to our morning tea spot for lunch and then a quick drive to the Mount, where some headed straight for the hot pools, others to the coffee lounges and some for another stroll - this time around the Mount.

A sun baking sea lion was on the rocks being annoyed by the sea gulls was a funny site to see.

A lovely stroll and social day out for all

Susan



TREK'N'TRAVEL

GEAR LIST FOR MULTI-DAY WALKS

FOR TREKKING

- Backpack / Pack Liner
- Sleeping Bag / Liner
- Towel
- Water Bottles / Bladder
- Sun Hat
- Quick Dry T-shirt / Shorts / Trousers
- Thermal Top / Pants / Leggings
- Wool or Fleece Hat / Gloves
- Mid Layer / Fleece Jacket
- Raincoat / Waterproof Overtrousers
- Boots / Trekking Shoes / Socks

EXTRAS

- Earplugs
- Insect Repellant
- Sunscreen
- Torch / Head Torch
- Trekking Poles
- Tent

FOR HUTS

- Toiletries
- Sleepwear
- Lightweight Clothing / Footwear

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