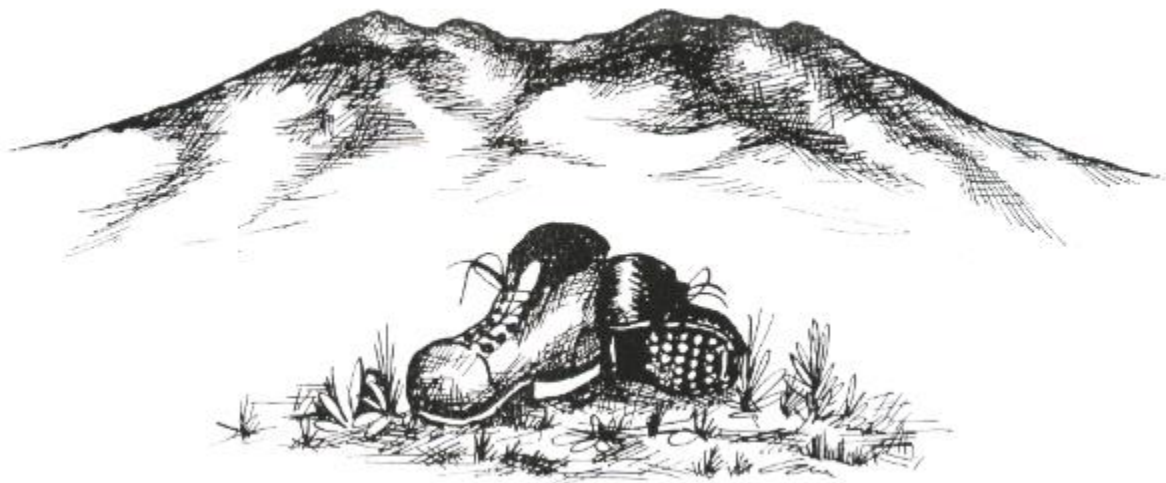


Wanderers Tramping Club Inc



Bulletin

June – September 2018

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 |
| Treasurer: | Colin Standing standings@xtra.co.nz | 855 1335 |
| Webmaster: | Ray Hoare info@wandererstramping.org.nz | 856 2675 |
| Committee: | Pam Cornforth (Social Convener) pcornforth@xtra.co.nz | 856 5922 |
| | Carol Davies (Secretary/Trip Co-ordinator) grandmacarol@xtra.co.nz | 853 5527 |
| | Dianne Lee leedi444@gmail.com | 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 |
| | Grant Svensen (Transport Co-ordinator) gsveny@gmail.com | 853 3434 |
| | Brett Rossiter (New Members Convener) brett@hudsonhire.co.nz | 855 6774 |
| | Annemarie Farrell | 021 549 737 |

Trip Programme

| TRIP DATE | TRIP DETAILS | BOOKING INFORMATION |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| 3 June | Waihou Walkway Blue Springs Putaruru | John Davies Phone : 07 8540654 Txt : 021 294 1807 Email : deejohn@xtra.co.nz Bookings not required |
| 17 June | Tihitoetoe Peak Pirongia | Lyn Kingsbury Phone : 07 856 8071 Txt : 021 150 7079 Email : L.Kingsbury@xtra.co.nz Open : Tuesday 5 June |
| 1 July | Sentinel Rock/Tuahua Saddle Katikati | Colin Standing Phone : 07 855 1335 Txt : 027 326 6886 Email : standings@xtra.co.nz Open : Monday 18 June |
| 15 July | Jim Barnett Reserve and Arapuni to Little Waihi Reserve Waotu | Ann Cloke Phone : 07 847 2460 Email : summerfields604@gmail.com Open : Monday 2 July |
| <u>Saturday</u> 28 July | Night walk Lake Hakanoa Huntly | Keith Wilkinson Phone : 07 847 499 Txt : 027 3666 194 Bookings not required |
| 12 August | Raglan Walks and Karioi Raglan | Pam Cornforth Phone : 07 856 5922 Txt : 027 278 0690 Email : pcornforth@xtra.co.nz Open : Monday 30 July |
| 26 August | Pa and Wash Whakarewarewa State Forest Rotorua | Pam Cornforth Phone : 07 856 5922 Txt : 027 278 0690 Email : pcornforth@xtra.co.nz Open : Monday 13 August |
| 9 September | Walk the Auckland City Cycleway Auckland | Brenda Petersen Phone : 07 8493 716 Txt : 0273 117 372 Email : brenda22269@hotmail.com Open : Monday 27 August |

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. \$3.00 parking fee or park free nearby on Collingwood Street the road**

President's Ponderings

Greetings Fellow Trampers

Welcome into a new year of adventure. Here we are into our fourth month and so far have been treated to some fabulous trips. Pukemokemoke was a short day but a nice day out. Okere Falls, Lake Okareka and the Blue Lakes trips were walked in a slight drizzle but we finished the day with a tasty bbq.

Wharepuhunga was sidelined so we could revisit the Huntly addition of the expressway which was a great day. Being able to see the progress made since our last visit was very interesting.

Te Whetu birthplace of the Wanderers saw us with a bus and about 34 walkers. Rex and Robin oozed with knowledge and we had an amazing time. The day ended with a traditional brew up and two great carrot cakes made by Pam which soon disappeared. A very great amount of effort by Rex had gone into this day and we thank him for making it happen.

The 50th anniversary lunch at the Gardens Café was a colourful and grand effort with 76 Wanderers attending. A huge thank you to the team who made it a great success. Reunions were made and chat was the order of the day. The only problem was we ran out of time! The large cake with two golden boots was cut and while this was happening the very early members gathered around and gave their support.

Next, we had a wonderful time with a group of eight trampers at Rangitoto Station at Otewa, this was another very enjoyable and successful trip.

Then we came to the city parks and reserves ramble led by Ann and Bernie on an interesting trail around the city passing through many places that you would not have known were there. Arriving back to the carpark we were treated to delicious pikelets, jam and cream along with tea and coffee.

The next tramp was to Waikino Railway Station to catch the old train to take us to Waihi. Time was in hand so we enjoyed coffee and goodies before we departed. Once at Waihi we walked back to Waikino along the bikeway admiring the lovely countryside that you would not normally see from the road. On reaching Waikino some did a runner back to the station for ice cream, etc while a small group inspected the Victoria Stamping Gallery, with two members getting a free ride around the grounds on a tiny train.

Well folks, thanks for your patronage which is greatly appreciated by our leaders. Also, at this point I would like to mention that we have a few of our flock who are having health issues and we would like to wish them better health and wellness in the future.

Appreciate every day and we will see you on the bus/in the van and out on the track.

Keith



Where We Are Going

Sunday 3 June

Putaruru

Grade 1

Waihou Walkway – Blue Springs

If you are looking for a great walk on Queen's Birthday Weekend, then this is it. What awaits you is a very picturesque, easy and interesting walk to the famous Blue Springs which supplies about 60% of New Zealand's bottled water because of its colour and clarity.

The walk follows a track alongside the Waihou River, through wetlands, across rolling pastoral land with views of small waterfalls, native bush, and on to the Blue Springs with glimpses of trout along the way. How good is that??!!

The walk is out and back starting at the Whites Road car park and takes about 1.5 hours each way, excluding stops. There should be time for an ice cream or a coffee in Putaruru on the way home. Come and join me and enjoy the day.

No bookings required, just meet in the carpark prior to 8am and we will travel together in cars.

Depart: 8am

Return: 4.30pm approx

Cost: \$5.00 to club and \$15 to driver

Leaders: John Davies & friends

Bookings: Not required

Contact John Davies

Phone 07 854 0654

Txt 021 294 1807

Email deejohn@xtra.co.nz



Sunday 17 June**Pirongia****Grade 2****Tihitoetoe Peak**

This Tramp is a steady climb from the carpark at the end of Sainsbury Road to the peak at 845 mtrs. The first part of the tramp is on a gravelled vehicle track, then through some pine trees, and then into the native bush. The view from the top looks toward the East Waikato.

We could walk on some of the MTB bike tracks on our return to the carpark.

Depart: 8am

Return: 4pm approx

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

Leaders: Lyn, Grant and Carol

Bookings: Open Tuesday 5 June
Contact Lyn Kingsbury
Phone 07 856 8071
Txt 021 150 7079
Email L.Kingsbury@xtra.co.nz

WANDERERS PERSONALISED NAME BADGES

Put these on your hat, pack or shirt to identify yourself and your club.

Only \$12.00 – contact John Davies

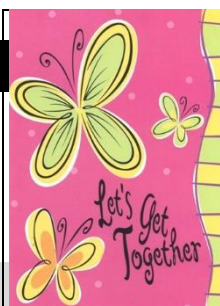
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

2018 AGM - Wednesday 17 October

SOCIAL LUNCHEON - Sunday 2 September

CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER - Sunday 2 December

Mark these dates in your diary - further details to come



Sunday 1 July**Katikati****Grade 1 ½ and 3****Sentinel Rock/Tuahu Saddle****Grade 1½ - Tuahu Saddle**

Our group will start at the end of Hot Springs Road, Katikati (same as the grade 3's). After going on a side track to look at a giant kauri or trees we retrace and head on up the Tuahu Track to the ridge which looks down on the Waikato Basin. After having lunch there we will return by the same track to the van. Planning to return to Hamilton approximately 6pm

Grade 3 – Sentinel Rock

Starting from the carpark at the top of Hot Springs Road we set off on the Tuahu Track.

After an easy 25-minute walk passing the giant Kauri tree, we take the track to the left signposted for the Sentinel Rock Lookout. After a steep climb the track follows an undulating ridge to reach the lookout. On a good day there are spectacular views of Sentinel Rock and the surrounding valley.

The top of Sentinel Rock is about another 30 minutes, but DOC warn that the maintained track stops at the lookout and the way on has steep drops and cliffs. We return on the same track.

Expect to walk about 5½– 6 hours.

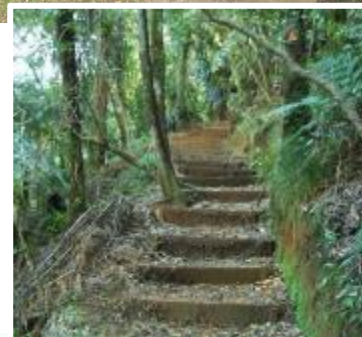
Depart: 7.30am

Return: 6.30pm approx

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

Leaders: G3 - Grant Svendsen and Colin Standing
G1 - Keith, Pam and Dianne

Bookings: Open 6:00 pm, Monday 18 June
Contact Colin
Phone 07 855 1335
Txt 027 326 6886
Email: standings@xtra.co.nz



Sunday 15 July**Waotu****Grade 1****Jim Barnett Reserve and Arapuni to Little Waihi Reserve**

We start the day at the Jim Barnett Reserve in the Waotu area by walking through native forest. Expect to see and hear many native birds. After our visit to the reserve we travel to Arapuni to commence our walk to the Little Waihi Reserve by crossing the Arapuni swing bridge which provides great views of the Arapuni Dam power house and river.

Thereafter we'll continue by walking alongside the river on a well graded, picturesque trail. Lunch will be taken at a spot along the way. On arrival at the reserve, weather permitting, we'll have a brew up to end our day.

Depart: 8am

Return: Late afternoon

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

Leaders: Bernie & Ann

Bookings: Open 6pm Monday 2 July
Contact Ann
Phone 847 2460
Email summerfields604@gmail.com



Saturday 28 July**Huntly****Grade - All****Night Walk – Lake Hakanoa**

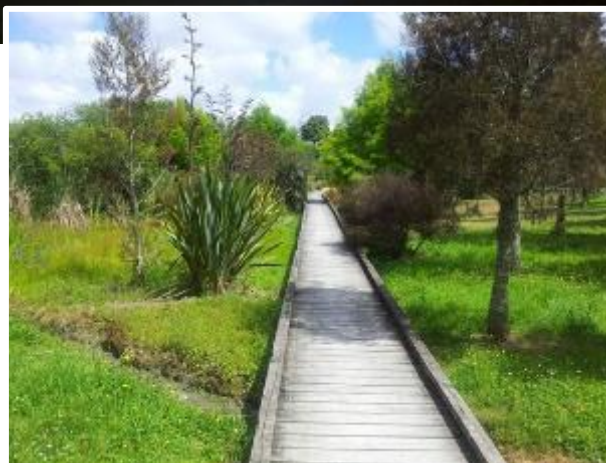
We haven't had a night walk for a while so this should be a great adventure for a Saturday winters night. The walk will take approximately one hour and is on a flat, good surface.

We will leave Collingwood Street at 5pm and travel by car to the lake at Huntly. Here we will set up tables and equipment before setting off on our walk with torches/lanterns. On return we will partake in some warm vege soup and pot luck finger food

Please bring:

- ★ plate of finger food to share
- ★ good torch or lantern
- ★ folding chair to sit on
- ★ warm clothing
- ★ cup for soup

No booking in required, just turn up at carpark at Collingwood Street before 5pm departure time



Depart: 5pm

Return: 8.30pm

Cost: \$5 to driver

Contact: Keith

Phone 847 4399

Txt 027 3666 194

Bookings: Not required

Sunday 12 August

Raglan

Grades 1 & 2

Raglan Walks/Karioi

Grade 1

The first walk is a 'there and back' amble following an old water race. We start from the old Bryant Home carpark, heading away from the coast. We walk through regenerating bush ending our one way at upper Wainui Road.

Then we take the wide downhill track from the car park to Ngarunui Beach. Finally, a beach walk to Wainui Reserve where we will meet our transport. If time permits then a coffee downtown Raglan.

Grade 2 - Karioi

We head out through Raglan to the Surf School - our bus will be shuttled to Te Toto Carpark. The Surf School has a private track up to the lookout on the DOC track across Karioi. From there we take the normal route back to the Te Toto Gorge end. Doing it this way means we get the great views, with a shorter day. Expect a steady climb of about 600m through good bush, which we will do in about 3 hours.

Depart: 8am

Return: 5pm approx

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

Leaders: G1 Keith, Dianne and Pam
G2 Ray

Bookings: Open 5.30pm Monday 30 July
Contact Pam
Phone 07 856 5922
Txt 027 278 0690
Email pcornforth@xtra.co.nz



Sunday 26 August**Rotorua****Grade 2****'Pa and Wash' Whakarewarewa State Forest**

Starting from the end of Long Mile Road we follow the purple markers. Initially we have a steady uphill climb, but this gives great views over Rotorua.

The track is mostly good and wide. We will have lunch near concrete water tanks by Tarawera Rd. Then we drop down to Death Valley, walk through felled forests probably meeting many enthusiastic mountain bikers. Then once more uphill again through pine forest, past some effluent ponds. Then downhill to our transport.

This walk is about 9km and will take 4-5hrs.

Depart: 8am

Return: 6pm approx

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

Leaders: Dianne, Keith and Pam

Bookings: Open 5.30pm Monday 13 August
Contact Pam
Phone 07 856 5922
Txt 027 278 0690
Email pcornforth@xtra.co.nz



Club badges still available @ \$10.00
See John Davies

Badges are great for instant ID when you are travelling!

Sunday 9 September**Auckland****Grade 1****Walk the Auckland City Cycleway**

This Sunday it's up to Auckland, as we will walk the ACC, which encompasses Quay St, Nelson St, the top of Newton Gully, parallel with Grafton Rd and Beach Rd.

The vans will take 1.5-2 hours to get to where we will park in the Grafton area, which is free parking on a Sunday. We cross the Grafton Bridge (built 1910) and head down Grafton Rd.

There may be time to walk through part of Auckland Domain.



Depart: 8am

Return: 4pm approx

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

Leaders: Brenda & Carol

Bookings: Open 6pm Monday 27 August
Contact Brenda
Phone 07 8493 716
Txt 0273 117 372
Email brenda22269@hotmail.com

Where We Went

31st October – 3 November

Kaweka Forest Park, Hawkes Bay



The William Hartree Lodge was a comfortable base for 12 Wanderers to explore some of the Kaweka Range in the Hawkes Bay. The Lodge had just been transferred from F&B to DOC and had the power disconnected. However, with the resourcefulness of the group, in particular Keith's and Alison's candelabra for lighting, Kerry's wood gathering and David's skill at keeping the log fire burning, we were very comfortable.

Balls Clearing and Little Bush Track – Tuesday, 31st October

On this sunny Hawkes Bay afternoon, we had two short walks, through these lovely reserves which had some impressive mature trees. Just enough exercise to get the legs moving after the drive down from Hamilton.

Te Puia Hut and Hot pools – Wednesday 1st November

Wednesday was to be the main tramp for most in the Mohaka River area, with the reward of a swim in some delightful hot pools nestled in the bush looking out to the River and a day fishing the Mohaka for Rodney.

Grade 3: The 5 keen ones set off on the G3 tramp, (upgraded to G4.5) taking a loop route by heading up a track towards Makino Hut, then onwards on the track to Te Puia Hut and on some more to a very welcome hot soak in the Mangatainoka Hot Pools, and some lunch.

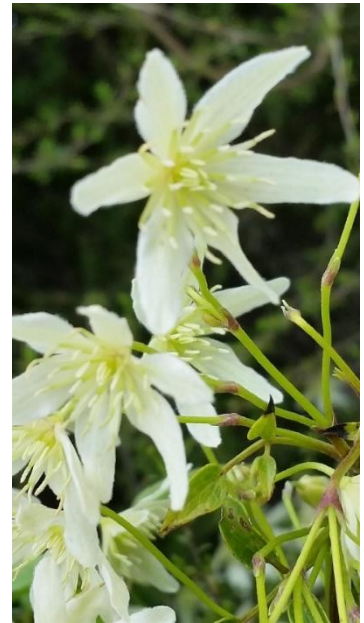


The group even had energy to give these pools a bit of a scrub and drain and refill them with clean water. They then retraced their steps for 45 minutes, with a short stop to explore the Te Puia Hut and camp site set by the river. Te Puia is a 26-bed serviced hut popular with fishermen and families. This hut is only a 2-3 hr walk from the carpark, if you take the direct route, following the river. But if you take the loop route, as our keen Wanderers did, then it turns into a long challenging day in the hills. So after more ups and downs for already tired legs, five weary Wanderers emerged to a welcome party of five not-so-weary Grade1's.



Grade 1-2: After leaving the Grade 3's the five wise ones travelled on to the end of the road. The day for this group was certainly more leisurely, with plenty of time for botanising and enjoying this attractive walk on the Te Puia Hut track. And there was plenty to see.

The clematis was in full bloom plus plenty of other spring flowering natives. We wisely turned around when the ups and downs became more challenging and made our way back. We then drove to the Mangatutu Hot Springs and climbed down the track to relax in these lovely springs in a bush setting, until we were invaded by those small buzzing things.



Kaweka J track – Thursday 2nd November

Today there was less enthusiasm for the Grade 3 walk. Fisherman Rodney and two wild white women of Kaweka did make a valiant attempt at Kaweka J, but with cloud covering the peak, and persistent scree slopes, they called it off.

The rest of the group had opted out much earlier at the loose scree slopes. Instead they ambled down through a wonderful alpine area with plenty of flora to discuss and photograph. We finished at Makahu Saddle Hut for lunch (minutes from the carpark) and an interesting meeting with a young woman who was checking out the local hunting opportunities. Keith was able to give her the benefit of his experience with some advice on carrying a beacon.



An early return to the lodge allowed 5 to go out and ramble through the William Hartree Memorial Reserve, which was rather overgrown. But we did see a lot of the native green mistletoe.

It was a great few days in Hawkes Bay with good company, entertainment and plenty of cake.



Thanks to Grant, Keith and Lyn.

Sunday 11 February

Rotorua

Okere Falls/Lake Okareka & Blue Lakes

I googled the word rain and found 42 different words...I will try to use as many as I can. The day started out with a drizzle or two, this turned into steady rainfall. A fine mist greeted us as we came into the north side of Rotorua.

The precipitation became worse...off to Okere falls to watch two river rafts go over thunderous falls - all related to the torrent of rain over the last few days. It was very exciting to see the rafting which looked like a lot of fun if you want to experience what it must be like to be in a washing machine! The second raft lost two overboard who were soon back in the raft and continued on their way, the only casualty was one oar as it floated down stream.

The rain became drizzle as we headed off to Lake Okareka, where showers were the norm turning to sheets of rain this resulted in a very quick brisk walk where our wet weather gear was sorted into either - kept us dry or did not! A lunch stop here was brightened by a lovely family of baby ducks and their mother.

Off the Blue Lake where the weather alternated between sun showers and drenching rain. This sort of weather does not dampen hardy trampers who found ice creams and coffee before a walk around the lake. This was a delightful walk even in thunderous showers.

Using the Postman's motto of "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom will stop us" the Wanderers enjoyed a lovely BBQ of beef patties, sausages, coleslaw and fizzy drinks. Even in the downpour it was an excellent BBQ.

Then it was back in the vans for the return drive home.

An excellent day for sorting out which gear worked in wet weather.

Susan



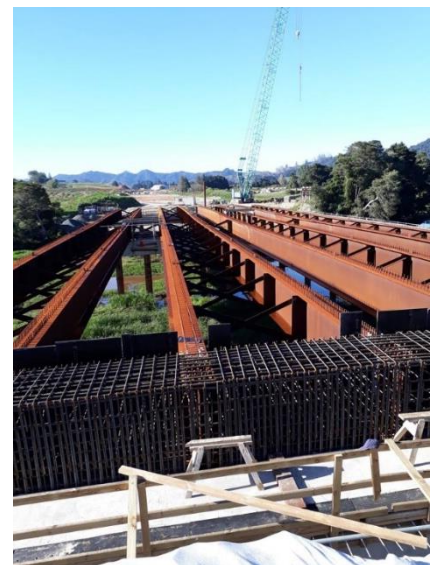
Sunday 25 February

Taupiri

Taupiri By-Pass #2

Well, if the last trip was all about rain then this tramp was all about sunshine! The tramp started out with a bit of fog then this burnt away to a glorious day of sunshine. This time we commenced the tramp from the Taupiri end and walked towards the Huntly end.

Our guide was brilliant, knowledgeable and never tired of our endless questions. As it was a working site, our group was considered a "hazard" (which I would agree with) and we were escorted by a ute with flashing light past the big diggers and dump trucks. To watch a working site was exceptionally interesting and to see how far they had come in 12 months was also inspiring. It was heartening to know that the bridges under construction can withstand a one in a thousand-year Earthquake event (and its where I will be rushing to if we have one).



The sun was relentless hot, tropical and at times oven like. Lunch was on top on one of the hills (that will be levelled as can't have trucks decreasing their speed to go up hills) and either in the shade or the workers site hut.

More sweltering heat met us for the remaining tramp to the main office site on the Huntly side of the Expressway. To keep the group amused whilst we waited for the vans, a lovely adopted cat was petted by most whilst others had a lovely snooze.

This was a day that tested sun block for some of us.

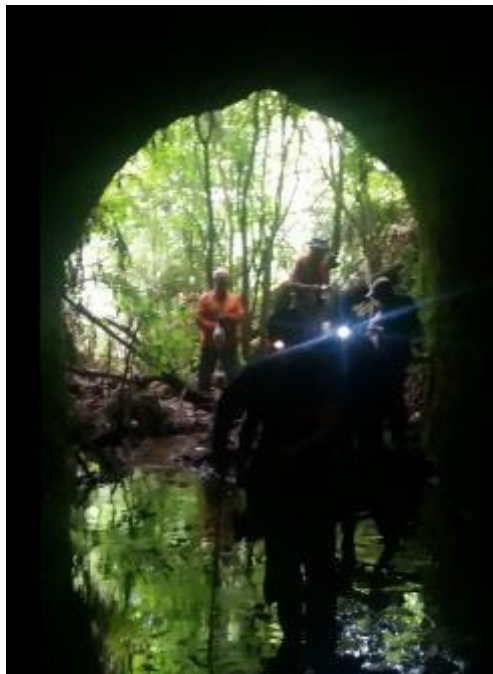
Susan



Sunday 11 March

Te Whetu

Birthplace of the Wanderers



Sunday 18 March

Hamilton Gardens Cafe

50th Anniversary Lunch

more photos on website : www.wandererstramping.org.nz/photo-shows



20-23 March

Rangitoto Station

A group of nine Wanderers travelled down to Rangitoto Station inland from Otorohanga for 3 nights, the week before Easter. The ride in was very adventurous due to travelling on a rough farm vehicle track. We stopped to look at Arthur Cowan's Hut about 200m off the access track. It was then on to the well-appointed farm house for our three night stay. After settling in we all walked down Rimu Rd, on the property next to the Station, where we heard a Kokako calling.

That night we had a lovely shared meal. Next morning four Grade 3's tramped the red track in the Mangatutu Forest (part of Pureora) which took most of the day, and the G1s walked the old access road. We had the left overs of the shared meal that night. Next day the G3s walked up to the Transmission Tower, then on the way back we walked up to Baldy, an open grassy area, then up to the Airstrip for a view of the surrounding district, then down a grassed vehicle track back to the house.



Meanwhile the G1s walked half way up to the Tower and back to the house for lunch, then a short walk in the afternoon. That night we had a sumptuous meal that Keith thought up and we all had a hand in cooking in the well-appointed kitchen. The last morning was clean-up, lemonade scones then back to civilization.

G.S.



Sunday 25 March

Hamilton

City Parks and Reserves Ramble

Eleven of us had a great day roaming around the parks and reserves east of the city on a bright sunny day (contrary to dire weather predictions). Throughout the day we learned some interesting facts from different members and through reading plaques along the way.

Crossing Victoria Bridge we dropped down into the Cenotaph area to view the incredibly inspiring WW1 bronze war horse memorial monument erected to acknowledge the thousands of NZ horses sent into foreign battlefields. Sometime later we arrived (via the new underpass) at the Hamilton Gardens where we took time out for morning tea.

Passing Cobham Bridge three young guys were spotted preparing to jump off the bridge but apparently were waiting for (?) whatever so we continued onward and through more reserves, arriving at Melville Park for a well-earned lunch.

Finally, we made our way to Innes Common, past the Railway Station and back to the city where Ann met us at the carpark with afternoon tea consisting of pikelets, jam, cream (yummy) and a welcome cuppa – on a table complete with tablecloth of course!

Thanks Bernie and Ann for a really interesting day (and Keith took credit for the great weather!).
“Townie” for the day

More snaps from the 50th Anniversary Lunch



Sunday 8 April

Waikino-Waihi

On this misty morning 24 Keen trampers set off in two vans. Our first stop was at the Waikino Station, where we waited for the train to come for an 11am departure. Most of the group treated themselves to morning tea in the cozy station cafe, which featured an open fireplace.

We then boarded the train bound for the Waihi Station, some on the outside carriage and some inside where it was warmer. The journey on this train was at a snail's pace so we could enjoy the scenery on the way.

On arrival in Waihi we had a comfort stop and a group photo before beginning our walk along the bike track back towards Waikino. This good track was shared with many cyclists - we called out 'bike' whenever one or more came towards us, as a command to move to the left to let them past. At 12:30pm we stopped for lunch in the trees beside the Ohinemuri river.

Along the rest of our walk we stopped along the way to look at places and items of interest, including some amazing fungi. Both Bernie and Keith gave short talks about these things.

On reaching the end a small group ventured to the Victoria Battery site and had a look at the rusty relics. Two of the group managed to have a ride on the miniature train, and others went back to the cafe for a much deserved coffee or ice cream before we departed at 3:30pm back to Hamilton.

A big thanks to Ann and Bernie for a wonderful day.

Keith & Jennifer



22 April Rotorua

Lake Okataina Circular Walk

Grade Ones

Three van loads of eager trampers hit the road for Lake Okataina on what ended up being a beautiful day. On arrival at the education centre the groups had time for a quick cuppa before the outnumbered group 3s ventured off to the trig. Kindly Keith herded the numerous Grade 1s into a semblance of order before leading them off into a leisurely walk through the bush.



We stopped briefly at two lookouts with great views of the smaller crater lakes. A very well-maintained track meandered through impressive rimu, totara, rata and kahikatea. We stopped for an early lunch at a grassy clearing and basked in the sun before heading off to complete the circuit.

Lake Okataina is known as the 'lake of laughter' and while the group didn't laugh too loudly they certainly made their presence known by the noise, loud chatter and joviality. Birdsong was scarce (may have been the noisy trampers) although the odd robin was heard. The Grade 1s finished their walk in time to heat up the brew and partake of the baking that was on offer. After a short time the Grade 3s returned from their amble as well. After numerous orders, directives and machinations the three vans were reordered with one van of non-swimmers returning back to Hamilton while the other two stopped at Hells Gate for swimming and other pursuits. A very relaxing day. Thank you, drivers and leaders.

Scribe – Mac Rat



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

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- Toiletries
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