

Trip Programme

Trip Date

Booking Information

August 26	Pukemokemoke/Taupiri	Kathy 853 8015 Open 13 August
September 1 [Saturday]	Club Dinner 6.00 pm	Ann: 847 2460 or Morva: 827 7261 Open NOW
September 9	Te Kauri/Kawhia	Alison 855 2370 Open 27 August
September 23	Rainbow Mountain	Pam 856 5922 Open 10 September
October 7	Rat's Tooth	Lorna gribbles@ihug.co.nz (prefer) 07 849 0940 Open 24 September
October 10	AGM and Social Evening	Margaret: 855 1335
October 20-22	Taranaki (Labour Weekend)	Open: NOW Grant 853 343 or gsveny@gmail.com
November 4	Kakepuku Mountain & Lake Ngaroto	Zoë 855 3751 Open Tues 23 October
November 3-4	Crosbies Clearing	Peter 854 5478 Open Tues 23 October
November 18	Workman to Waharau or Whakatiwai	Colin or Margaret 855 1335 Open Mon 5 November
December 2	Christmas Trip and Dinner	Ann or Bernie 847 2460 Open 19 November

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 **NOT BEFORE 5.30pm**. 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.

Grade 1 Easy – suitable for all-comers.

Grade 2 Medium – not strenuous but including a mixture of terrain. Suitable for those of medium fitness.

Grade 3 For those with a good standard of fitness. Trips often average 6 hours tramping and include significant uphill climbs.

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



President's Report

Hello everyone

We have had some good trips in the last bulletin, with good numbers attending. Fortunately the weather has been predominantly fine on our days out making our tramping more enjoyable.

Coming up we have put together a mixture of trips covering the Waikato area so am sure there will be something to suit everyone. The days are definitely getting longer, so let's get out there and do it!

Twelve of our members recently had a day course with John Greenwood of the Mountain Safety Council, regarding risk management. The purpose was to help us make our tramping safer. We all enjoyed John's stories and the information he provided; a very experienced outdoor man. The course was very informative and we have purchased a couple of books for reference – these are available should anyone wish to borrow them. You shall be hearing more about our initiatives in risk management and our procedures should we have an incident involving injury, death or being lost.

One thing that came across loud and clear is that all trampers must carry with them their personal medications and let a leader know (or someone else on the tramp) of anything that may cause concern and require immediate assistance, ie epilepsy.

Equally important is clothing, the day may be fine, however by lunch time it could be something else, so it's imperative that we all have the required clothing as we certainly don't want anyone to suffer hypothermia.

So c'mon everyone – check your packs, medications and the Emergency Personal information sheets you carry in the front of your packs (copies are available from the leaders). Make sure it is up to date. A good idea is to have it laminated.

Some good things coming up and look forward to seeing you out there enjoying the beauty of the bush.

Ann



Coming Up

Sunday 26 August

**Taupiri Mountain/
Pukemokemoke Reserve**

Grade 1+

Today we head a half hour north to climb 2 small peaks of the Waikato. The first is the sacred mountain of the Tainui tribe 'Taupiri'. It will take approx. 1 hour to climb to the trig for morning tea and where we will get good views over the Waikato region. We will then head back down to the transport and drive around to the Pukemokemoke Reserve. An easier walk up to the lookout for lunch which again will give us 360 degrees views as the pine trees have now been cut down.



Leaders: Kathy Old and Marie-Louise Van den Heuvel

Depart: 8.00am **Return:** 4.00pm \$25 (members)
\$30 (non members)

Bookings: 5.30 pm Monday 13 August 853 8015 (Kathy)



New Club badges available NOW
See Grant [Svendsen] to purchase yours [\$15]

Plastic name badges @ \$10 also available through Grant

→ **Springtime Dinner** ←

Come and join us in celebrating the start of SPRING, with a dinner on **Saturday evening** in a great venue.

Place: Red Cherry – Cambridge
SH1 & Forrest Road corner (very easy to find)

Time: 6.00 pm for social hour
No BYO but a full bar [or coffee if preferred]
7.00 pm – Dinner

Date: ***Saturday September 1st 2012***

Cost: \$30.00 per person – payable on night.
This includes: Bread and dips
2 main courses + vegetarian option
Dessert

Coffee and drinks extra

To make it easier for the staff and chef we will ask you to please pre-order your **main course** as you phone to book in.

The main courses are a steak dish, a chicken dish and a vegetarian dish (all with seasonal veges and tossed salads).

This will be an enjoyable experience for all. The staff are very helpful and pleasant and the food is yummy. We look forward to your company on Saturday 1st September.

Bookings open now: Please ring after 5.30 pm.

Ann: 847 2460

or

Morva: 827 7261



Sunday 9 September**Te Kauri , Kawhia****Grade 2**

Today's tramp combines 5 short tracks to form a figure eight loop walk. After the usual boots on and morning tea we will cross the road (carefully). We start by descending on Devlin's track with amazing bush and limestone bluffs. Then we climb up the McKenzie track (weather permitting we may be able to see Kawhia harbour), make brief contact with the Kawhia road, through some farmland and then descend down the pretty Sheep

track. We then walk alongside the Waikuku stream, cross a swing bridge and climb steadily via the Manuka track.

Expect to walk 4 hours.

Leaders: Carol Davies and Alison Orchard

Depart: 8.00 am **Return:** 6.00 pm \$25 (members)
\$30 (non members)

Bookings: Monday 27 August Alison (855 2370)

[Contact on the day 027 618 3569]

Sunday 23 September**Rainbow Mountain
(Waioapu – south of Rotorua)****Grade 2**

Come with us on one of our favourite walks, driving from Hamilton to Rotorua, then via Waimungu. We arrive at Lake Okaro and walk around this little jewel under the shadow of Rainbow Mountain (1 hr). On returning a light morning tea will be provided. Then it's on to the base of Rainbow Mountain where we start our ascent, passing 2 colourful lakes and thermal activities, climbing steadily up (approx 1½ hrs) to the summit. On a clear day a very fine vista can be had in all directions. After lunch we retrace back to the coach and if time permits we will take in a couple of free attractions, before we head off to Waikite Valley Hot Pools and take the waters for those who want to; or sample a coffee in the poolside café. Then it's homeward bound after a full day.

Usual winter gear + togs and extra money.

Leaders: Pam and Keith

Depart: 7.30 am **Return:** 6-6.30 pm (approx) \$25 (members)
\$30 (non members)

Bookings: Monday 10 September Can text on 027 278 0690
or phone (Pam) 856 5922

[Contact on day of departure only: 027 3666 194 – Keith]

Sunday 7 October

Rat's Tooth Rock

Grade 2

This distinctive rock on the ranges north of Paeroa can be seen from the main road. The day starts with a criss- crossing of the Onetai stream, wet feet are a certainty. Morning tea will near a small waterfall, and then we start climbing the more rugged terrain, in one part a clamber up an often slippery ridge with very few handholds until we get onto the ridge. Once on the main ridge we can have lunch. It is a short extension to summit the Tooth and get expansive views of the Hauraki plains. It is quite a scramble onto the Tooth and there is limited space on the top.

We will return to the lunch spot and pick up any trampers who choose not to climb the Tooth and continue our loop through the bush, along a benched track, and some pines, and finally back down the stream. It is an interesting area with logging history and also the remains of two Maori canoes.

Expect walk about 5.5-6hrs.

Leader: Lorna Gribble

Depart: Hamilton 8.00 am **Return:** 5.00 pm \$25 (members)
\$30 (non members)

Bookings: 6:00 pm Monday 24 September.

Contact preferred by email: gribbles@ihug.co.nz or ph 07 849 0940



Annual General Meeting and Social Evening

Date: Wednesday 10 October, 2012

Venue: River Lounge in the Celebrating Age Hall
Victoria Street

Time: 7.30 p.m.

The AGM will be followed by a presentation by Ray Hoare and the evening will conclude with supper.

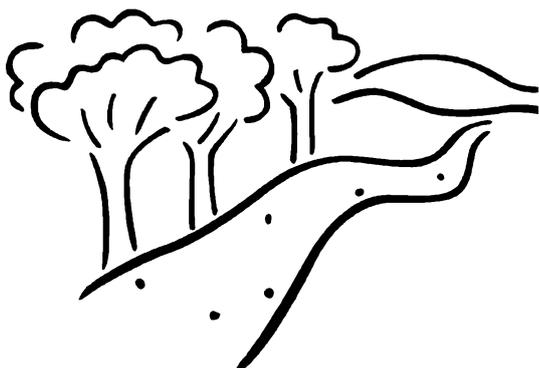


Ray spent a month travelling to Scott Base with the Our Far South expedition, and was delighted to come face to beak and snout with the inhabitants of several NZ and one Australian pest-free island on the way there and back. His trusty pocket digital cameras recorded many of

the close and far encounters, and the results will be presented via still photos, movie clips and live commentary for you to get a feel for places that few people go. And he will tell you about the “Million Dollar Mouse”!

A gold coin donation would be appreciated.

Contact person: Margaret Standing (07) 855 1335



Please support our sponsor
➤ Trek 'n' Travel

Fri–Mon: 19- 22 October**Taranaki
Labour Weekend****Grades 1 & 3**

This Labour weekend we will be going to Taranaki and will be based in Stratford. We will be staying at the Taranaki Accommodation Lodge which was the old Nurses Home (2 star).

Tramps planned: (G3) Lake Dive loop track (Sat); (G1) Kapuni Loop track, Wilkies Pool loop track (Sat); York track (Sun) and Cardiff Reserve track (Friday afternoon).



Transport: Travel by private vehicle (car pool where possible). Travel time approx 4 hours each way. Vehicles to try and be in Stratford by mid afternoon Friday. **Passengers to pay the driver \$60.**

Meals: A pot luck meal on Friday night, a meal at a local club on Saturday night and a pot luck meal (or leftovers) at the Lodge on Sunday night with a halloween theme. Dress up as witches, wizards or ghouls (optional).

What to bring: Pot luck meal for Fri / Sun, 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, nibbles and imbibing fluids and sleeping bag.

Costs: Accommodation **\$60** to be paid to the treasurer when booking
Club meal **\$30?** to be paid on the day

A trip is planned to go to the Tawhiti Museum at Hawera on Sunday at a cost of \$20 (entrance fee), to be paid on the day.

Leaders: Grant, Carol, Keith, Ann and Bernie.

Bookings: **Open now – close 5 Oct.**
Grant: 853 3434 or gsveny@gmail.com

Mobile ph. for weekend contact: 021 047 6518.

If anyone cancels, \$60 will be non refundable except on medical or compassionate grounds.

through an extensive kauri grove before meet Keith and our transport on the Thames Coast at Waiomu (with plenty of time for a coffee at the local café)!

The hut has mattresses on the bunks, a water supply and a modern long drop. However members will need to take their own food, a sleeping bag, toiletries, wet weather gear and a change of clothing plus a small tramping stove and fuel. If you don't have a suitable stove, please advise Peter S when booking so sharing can be arranged.

You can expect to walk approx. 5½ hrs on Saturday and 4½ on Sunday.

Please be aware that the accommodation available at the hut will limit numbers and early booking is advisable! Should you have any questions regarding this expedition contact Peter S.

Leaders: Peter Scott & Colin Standing

Cost pp: \$40.00 (\$25.00 transport plus \$15.00 DOC pp hut fee)

Depart: 7.30 am (the departure point to be confirmed with participants prior)

Return: 5.00 pm

Bookings: Open: 5.30 pm Tuesday 23 October

Close: Wednesday 31 October

854 5478 (Peter)

Sunday 18 November

**Workman to Waharau
or Whakatiwai**

Grades 1 & 3

Workman Track – Grade 1

Come along and enjoy a day in the Auckland Regional Authority water catchment area of the Hunuas. We will follow the Grade 3's at the start of the Workman track; however travelling at a more gentle rate. Approx 1 hr into the walk we'll descent on a track to the top of the Mangatangi Dam, enjoying really good views of the dam and lake along the way. We'll stop at the kiosk where we can see a display setting out the making of the dam before continuing on to the waiting bus. Depending on the day, we'll have lunch at the dam or on the Kaiua foreshore before travelling to the Waharau Regional Park. There we can do a loop walk through the bush to finish the day. Expect to walk 4 hrs in total.

Leaders: Ann and Bernie Cloke

Grade 3

The track starts next to the bridge, just prior to the ARA Mangatangi Reservoir and immediately begins the 1 hour, not-too-hard ascent, to the top of Workman (428 m). On the way up the track is bordered by large numbers of regenerating Kauri trees. Emerging out of the bush onto open ground near Workman trig, we are treated to expansive views of the Mangatangi reservoir and beyond. The track then follows the undulating ridge-line through variable bush to the junction of the Whakatiwai track, where DOC has provided a smart new shelter with water tank and toilet. For a short distance the track changes to a wide 4 wheel drive road.

Time permitting, the group will turn left at the junction and continue along the Waharau Ridge Track to descend through mature and regenerating bush to the Information Centre/toilets etc, at the Waharau Park entrance and the bus.



The ridge track provides some panoramic views of the Firth of Thames. The alternative descent is to Whakatiwai down a wide 4-wheel drive track and across farmland. As this is a reasonably long walk expect 2 lunch stops.

Expect to walk about 7½ hours.

Leaders: Colin Standing and John Davies

Depart: 07.30 am **Return:** 6.30 pm

\$25(members)
\$30 (non members)

Bookings: 6:00 pm Monday 5 November

855 1335 (Colin & Margaret)



Sunday 2nd December**Waikato River Trails****Grade 1****Christmas tramp**

The last tramp of the year and it should be a good one! We will walk a very scenic section of the Waikato River Trail between Jim Barnett Reserve and the Waipapa Dam. A feature of the trip is the newly constructed 80 m Mangawera suspension bridge, some 42 m above the water. This section of the trail is relatively inaccessible and is a first time walk for the club. We shall lunch along the way and meet the bus at the Dam to travel back to the Pairere Hall for some Christmas fun and a shared meal.

Expect to walk approx. 4+ hrs overall.

Details of the meal will be provided on booking.

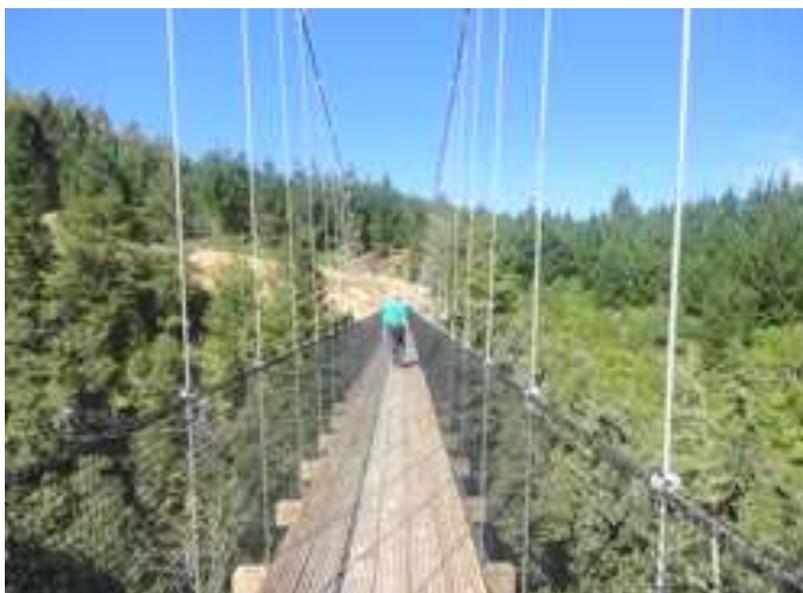
Leaders: Ann Cloke, John Younger and friends

Cost: \$25 + plate of food
\$30 (non members) + plate of food

Depart: 8.30 am **Return:** 7.00 pm

Bookings open: Monday, 19th November 5.30 pm.

Phone: Ann, 847 2460



Where we Went

Ruapehu: 20-23 April

Introduction: Camp life (Cheryl Meier)

When the trip notes arrived, complete with maps, walks and gear list, we knew an exciting and well-planned camp lay ahead. Four fine days – what could be better? Arriving at The Top o the Bruce, we settled into the Lodge with its wonderful views, spacious living area and well-stocked pantry. On our first night Zoë and helpers whipped up a delicious dinner of spaghetti bolognese followed by crusty bread and butter pudding. It was apparent that Zoë's cooking would be no ordinary camp fare. For the next few days we enjoyed an abundance of wonderful meals and home-made sweet treats.

A highlight on the last evening was Ray's presentation on his trip to Antarctica with Gareth and crew. It was a fine end to an amazing camp.

Thank you, Zoë and Hugh, for making it such a success.

Saturday 21 April: Rapids (Zoë Clifford)

Seven Grade 1's set out in high spirits on a glorious autumn morning, with the crunch of a heavy frost underfoot and clear blue sky above.

First we ventured up from Iwikau Village to Mead's Wall – a spectacular rocky outcrop with magnificent views of Ngauruhoe and the valley below. At the top of the chairlift the new Knoll Ridge Café is an award-winning, architectural marvel. Here we sampled the delights of the café before heading off uphill on what we thought was the Skyline Route – but no – we found we were heading up Knoll Ridge towards the crater. One by one we threw in the towel until the last of the group agreed we had done enough.

Knoll Ridge to Dome Shelter (Ray Hoare)

Five of us set off to the chairlift in perfect weather. Ray's invaluable track-finding advice was "go upwards" and John was happy that we could not go far wrong because his trusty GPS would show us the way back. We reached the first crater rim in about 2 hours from the café.

A discussion on what to do next was settled by some young Germans who had talked to DOC before they came, and learned that we should stay on the crater rim to get around to Dome. This we did, arriving for lunch at the hut in fine but windy conditions 2.5 hours from the café.

The return took 2 hours, forming an interesting loop pattern on the GPS since our way up was not obviously the way down. Tuis (in bottles) at the café in the sun completed a very satisfying walk.

Ngauruhoe Assault (Peter Scott)

It was 9.30 am and beautifully clear when the small group started from the Mangatepopo shelter heading for the tee junction on the saddle. At the saddle it was easy to see most of the near perfect cone of Ngauruhoe and the scars of avalanche routes, both natural and man-made by generations of climbers descending after summiting the mountain.

We decided to try and avoid the most treacherous footing by sideling upward across the slope to a more rocky area to provide some traction and a few handholds. Upward progress was slow with much slipping backwards. On finally gaining the crater rim we were surprised how narrow it was on top and that the internal crater walls were almost vertical and it would be almost impossible to climb out if someone should fall in even if they survived the fall! It was near dark by the time we reached the cars for the drive back to the ATC hut, satisfied that we had enjoyed a good challenge on a great day on the iconic mountain.

Sunday 22 April: Tongariro Alpine Crossing (John Davies)

At 8.00 am Dee, John and Kathy set off from the Mangatepopo car park in fine weather. Lunch at the Red Crater beside the Emerald Lakes was special. Then onwards and upwards, past the Blue Lake, ready to start the descent to Ketetahi Hut. We had done the “hard yards” and the long downhill zigzag track seemed endless, testing our stamina and patience – “how much further to the @#!?>@ carpark”? We got there at 4.45 pm.

Tama Lakes (Hugh Clifford)

All the way to Blue Lake it is more of a path than a track. It is graded and gravelled, board-walked and stepped where necessary. We (6 of us) reached Blue Lake and admired the colour down below us in the old crater. The water only covered about half the crater floor, and the rest was like the beach when the tide has gone out.

Then on to the Green Lake. This track took us fairly steeply upwards, being a rubblely scoria track, not a path. From here it was a routine return to the junction with the Taranaki Falls loop track. Here we took the truly delightful branch track to the falls and down the valley (this track has been described elsewhere). We were back to our vehicles about 5½ hours after we left them, and were very pleased with our day.

Taranaki Falls Loop Track (Zoë Clifford)

Five Grade 1's did the Taranaki Falls Loop track. The attractive 20 metre falls tumble over a large lava flow resulting from a Ruapehu eruption about 15,000 years ago. On the way in the track passes through alpine tussock and shrub lands with great views of Ngauruhoe's symmetrical cone, ringed this day by a wisp of cloud. The return along the Wairere Stream was very pretty with forest of beech and mountain totara, and plenty of ferns.

When we got back to our vehicle, we looked across the road at the Skotel..... The proprietor welcomed us cheerily and even gave us a tour of inspection, and what we saw and heard made us think that this place has distinct possibilities as a base for a future trip to this area.

Whakapapaiti Valley Track (by Ken Phillips)

Starting from the Bruce Road five of us set off on the “Round the Mountain Track”, traversing small valleys with an amazing variety of landscapes such as alpine gardens, old lava flows and stunted beech forests.

At The Ridge, the highest point on the track, we descended down a moraine slope and after many zigs and zags and switchbacks the track turned right and we reached the Whakapapaiti Hut after about 1½ hours. From the hut the track featured an easy stream crossing in the fine weather, a flat open tussock plain that was great in the fine weather, and a boardwalk to keep your boots off the sensitive plants and the soft ground. Then we were into the bush and crossed an old slip named “Slippery Gully”, then on to the next valley named “The Chute”. Along the track edges the *Astelia* plants were producing very juicy red and orange berries (not so nice to taste). Lunch was under some very impressive NZ Cedar trees. Thriving in the bush undergrowth were many cedar seedlings.

About 2 hours after lunch we joined the Silica Rapids Track, crossed the Whakapapanui River and arrived at the Visitor Centre very happy with our 11 km tramp.

Queen Vic’s Head: 6 May

A grade 3 to keep us honest! After initially “thrashing around in the bushes” we found our route up to the junction of the North South track. We then detoured off to the Motutapere hut for lunch. A great little hut, newly upgraded with a sunny helipad to dine on and excellent views. We had the company of a resident possum trapper and his puppy for lunch.

The ridgeline across the top also afforded some really wonderful views on either side – Matakana Island, Mt Maunganui, Taraunga and even White Island puffing away. This section gave good practice at hand over hand climbing, bum sliding and some rather good shimmying. We rested at the junction with the Tuahu track and then began the 2 hr descent, firstly through native bush then pine forest. Some exceptional singing helped us on our way! A longer than expected day saw us getting out just on dark – a timely reminder that we need to be prepared, especially at this time of year. A torch, warm clothing and extra food are all important items to have on board. An excellent day with both variation and challenges.

Many thanks to the leaders and to the Grade 1 trampers who waited so patiently.

Sharon

Hoe-o-Tainui : 20 May

The day started out brisk and sunny. Twenty intrepid trampers set off at 8 am in a car “convoy”. Time for a quick cuppa, gear on and then off down the cattle race over to the back of the farm, scaled the fence in different styles and into the bush.

Over the course of the morning we climbed, we slipped, we thanked Mother Nature for sturdy trees/branches (to pull, push and grab) and occasionally cursed the pigs for the mud. There were quite a few impersonations, lots of classic and unique slips/falls, most with a soft landing and lot of laughing. There was also a lot of “ducking”, climbing over the wind falls and shimmying through the over growth and over hangs on the track.



After a good steady climb and undulation we lunched at the trig and had a quick safety tip talk from Lorna on what we should be carrying (so carry a light, whistle, emergency blanket, phone and your emergency medical info) as well as your normal gear. Then it was off on the downhill run, slip, sliding. There were some good Tarzans in the making. More ducking, clambering over those wind falls (lots of interesting styles to be noted)

During the day we took a slight detour to the “plot” but it was bare, though it still had its fence and bamboo stakes, but I suspect Mr Plod is keeping a watchful eye on proceedings. We found the sign for vote for the Mayor and off course the telephone (it’s looking a bit worse for wear) oh and if anyone was looking for real-estate we found that sign too. On the home straight some went and looked at the surviving Kauri; then it was over the fence and back to the cars around 3.30 pm tired, slightly muddy and still laughing.

Thank you Lorna for a great tramp and everyone for your company. A special thank you to tail end Charlie and my other companions throughout the day.

Dianne

Elgood Road to Brownlee Ave: 17 June

Twenty keen trampers met at Wintec car park on a frosty clear morning. It was decided to travel by private vehicle, and seats were allocated accordingly. We drove to Ngaruawahia, to the starting point at Elgood Road.

The tramp started through farmland and we climbed uphill among brambles and long wet grass to an open meadow, where it was decided this was a great place for morning tea with its beautiful views of the North Waikato plains. We then continued on through undulating forest of mixed broadleaf, nikau and fern to a lunch spot on the main traverse track, having negotiated several steep valleys on the way. After a well earned rest we proceeded on to the lookout where panoramic views were enjoyed by all. From here we walked down to the intersecting track leading to Brownlee Road. At this point we descended down a steep wooden staircase to the end of the track. Some of our group took a short detour to view a small dam. Arriving at the carpark, we sat and had a relaxed chat while waiting for our transport to arrive for the return to Hamilton.

A big thank you to our leader Lorna for a very pleasant day.

Kerry R

