

Trip Programme

Trip Date

Booking Information

January 20	Wilson Clearing, Pirongia Grade 2+	Marion 827 5150 Open 7 January
February 3	Waipa Wetlegs Grade 2+	Peter & Audrey 854 5478 Open 21 January
February 16/17	Te Kauri Park (overnighter) Grades 1 & 3	Grant 853 3434 gsveny@gmail.com or txt 0210476518 Open 4 February
March 3	Tititiri Matangi Grade 1	Margaret & Colin 855 1335 Open 21 Jan: Close 4 Feb
March 17	Humphries Bay (Tarawera) Grades 1 & 2	Pam 856 5922 Open 4 March
March 30 – 01 April	Easter – Waitakere Area All grades (Auckland tramping hut)	Dianne 853 2980 Open 18 Feb: Close 15 Mar
April 14	Waiorongamai to Te Aroha Grades 3 & 2	Margaret & Colin 855 1335 Open 2 April
April 28	Tuahu Circuit Grade 3	Morva 827 7261 Open 15 April

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*Saturday 6 April: First aid course and locator beacon training
[see page 16 for details]*

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.

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 Report

We have had a wonderful 12 months of tramping and this bulletin provides some great trips for the first tramping period of 2013. From my office I can see the Christmas tree in Garden Place being erected and it's certainly a reminder that the silly season is about to start. Enjoy your Christmas with family or friends, at the beach or at home and take care out on the Waikato's notoriously dangerous roads.

The committee has been working hard on making our tramps as safe as possible and a couple of initiatives have taken place:

- ❖ You will note that the tramp gradings of 1, 2 and 3 have been re-written in order to make it clearer for you to decide on tramps and what to expect on a given tramp.
- ❖ A second locator beacon is being purchased for use on Grade 1 tramps.
- ❖ Four of our members undertook a river crossing course and on a tramp with a suitable river crossing, they will show us what, where, when to cross.

Sadly I advise 2 past and 1 present member of the Wanderers have passed away – Pixie Scott, Marie Peters and John Ackerley. A note has been sent to the families of these people, remembering their times with the Club. Pixie was in fact the last person to have been stretchered out with a badly broken ankle, some 10 years or so ago and the injury prevented her from coming tramping again.

A point to remember – should you have any complaints/grumbles about the way our trips are being run, or anything else, please call me to discuss. Your name will be kept confidential to me and our committee will work through the issues and endeavour to make your experience more enjoyable. I find it a little disturbing to hear people grumbling, so anything you wish to say, please say it to me. Our purpose in going tramping is to enjoy the environment and each other's companionship, so enjoy!

2012 had been a good year for me, Bernie and our family – and I hope it has been for you and yours too. The world is ending on 21st December, believe it or not! However know that we'll see your smiling faces every second Sunday, ready for a tramp in 2013. Take care everyone and enjoy the festive season!

Ann



Coming Up

Sunday 20 January

Wilson Clearing – Pirongia

Grade 2+

Have you ever looked at the topo map of Pirongia and wondered about the block called 'Wilson Clearing'?

Today we will explore a little in this area. We start from the Kaniwhaniwha carpark, turn onto the Bell track for about 3 hrs, the last 30-40 mins is an uphill grunt. Then we follow an old track to the boundary fence of Wilson Clearing, unfortunately the clearing is dominated with old man gorse which we avoid by following the fence line for some time until we pick up another old horse track, which leads us along the ridge and a rather steep down to the Blue Bull stream. The evidence of a swing bridge remains but we will walk thru the stream, and reconnect with the main Bell Track near the Nikau walk. Most of the day is easy walking with only one up and one down, and one stream crossing. Expect to take 6 plus hrs; we have the daylight so we don't have to hurry.

Leader: Lorna Gribble

Depart: 7:30 am **Return:** 5.00 pm

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

Bookings: Monday 7 January

827 5150 (Marion)

[Contact on the day only 021 122 9703]

Different Meanings:

Sky TV

*TV = the view. That huge expanse of blue and sun and clouds and all the trees on the edges and the birds that fly through. **That's real SKY.***

Takeout Meals

When you cook a wonderful meal with wholesome healthy ingredients then gather the family up and go outside. It's good to have a take-out meal and watch sky TV (as above) at the same time.

Play Station

The sandpit, the garden, in the bush, a tree, a stream, even a square foot of ground, all these are play stations.

Sunday 03 February**Waipa Wetlegs****Grade 2+**

It is midsummer and the timing is right to reschedule this favourite river wander last done by the Wanderers in 2009.

Our bus will do the climbing for us up to our start point at Rewarewa in the Rangitoto Ranges. The walk initially takes us across private farmland before tilting down through a lovely bush track into the valley of the upper Waipa River. After morning tea on the river bank we will set off upstream, crossing the clear shingle bottomed stream from time to time as dictated by the gentle meanders of the storied Waipa. As we progress onwards past varying scenery, there will be plenty of photo opportunities as well as tempting pools for a cooling swim or three!



Sometime after the lunch stop the valley narrows and the hillsides get steeper, enhancing the sense of remoteness, although the travel remains easy until eventually we need to leave the river. The climb up from the valley floor to the gentle

grazing lands of the Rangitoto Land Co. and to the waiting bus, is the only uphill of the entire tramp!

If the weather gods have obliged us, this day will have been “one for the memories.”

Leaders: Peter Scott, John Davies

Depart: 7.30 am **Return:** 7.00 pm \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non members)

Bookings: 5.30 pm Monday 21 January 8545478 (Peter or Audrey)



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

Plastic name badges @ \$10 also available through Grant

16 & 17 February Te Kauri Lodge Overnighter Grades 1 & 2+
Kawhia

Come and join the club for an overnight stay at Te Kauri Lodge on the Saturday and then do a grade 1 or 2+ tramp on the Sunday. Bring a sleeping bag and a shared meal (plus something for happy hour) for Saturday night and breakfast and lunch for Sunday.

Grade 1: Gavin O'Keef loop track. A short walk among tall tawa/kohekohe forest and 50-100 year old nikau palms. Then cross the road and go down the Devlins Route Track, onto the Waikuku Track then along to the Camp Out for lunch, then backtrack and up the Manuka track, back to the Lodge.

Grade 2+: Deversons Track. A 4 hour loop track starting from behind the lodge and descending to a steep gorge with a stream and back up again, passing through the same type of forest as the grade 1s.

Leaders: Grant Svendsen and Dianne Lee

Depart: **Saturday:** Carpool by private vehicle, to be at the lodge by midday for lunch and a walk to look at a Kauri Grove.

Sunday: [Those not going Saturday] carpool by private vehicle from usual carpark at 8 am.

\$20 to your driver: \$16 to the treasurer on booking for the Lodge (No Refunds).

Bookings: 5.30 pm Monday 4 February

Grant 853 3434
gsveny@gmail.com
or txt 0210476518



Sunday 03 March**Tiritiri Matangi Island****Grade 1**

A trip is planned to the Island on Sunday 3 March. However, the boat will need to be booked much earlier to avoid disappointment.

Therefore, bookings will open on **Monday 21 January and close on Monday 4 February**. The total cost for the boat is \$49 or \$44 for seniors and needs to be paid to the treasurer beforehand to confirm

bookings (non-refundable). The bus fares, to be paid on the day, will be \$25 as usual (\$30 non members), and there is a charge of \$5 for those who want to do the guided walk (to be paid direct to the guide).

Bookings: Margaret and Colin Standing

Phone: 855 1335
email: standings@xtra.co.nz

Details:

Leave Hamilton at **7.00 am** as the boat leaves from Gulf Harbour at 9.50 am. Return to Hamilton around 7.00 pm.

Important information: “Tiritiri Matangi Island is a wildlife sanctuary and it is vital that it remains pest free. Please ensure your footwear, clothing and bags are clean and free of seeds. No food can be purchased on the island.”
[360 Discovery Cruises pamphlet]

More information can be found in Google.

Don't forget to check out the new “gradings” on page 2.



**Sunday 17 March The Wonderful Tarawera Falls Grades 1 & 2
Revisited**

Please be aware the leaders reserve the right to substitute an alternative tramp in the same area as it is dependent on forestry access or lake conditions on the day.



We travel via Rotorua to Boat Shed Bay at Lake Tarawera to board the water taxi for a scenic trip across the lake to Humphries Bay where the Grade 2's will disembark and commence their tramp following the track close to the lake edge; it then trends gently uphill onto a low plateau and drops back down to the lake to reach the Tarawera Outlet. From here you will follow the Grade 1's track to the Tarawera Falls and on to the bus.

Grade 1's will continue their scenic boat trip to be dropped off by the water taxi at the Tarawera Outlet to *walk* on an easy track following the river, past pools (swimming) to a drain hole where the river disappears underground before emerging at the spectacular Tarawera Falls. From here it is a short walk to the waiting bus to return home via Kawerau.

[At time of writing boat details are incomplete and to be finalised. You will be updated when you book.]

Walking time: **Grade 2** – approx 6 hours **Grade 1** – approx 2.5 hours.
There should be time for swimming, if desired.

Leaders: Pam Cornforth, Dianne Lee & Keith Wilkinson

Depart: 7.30 am **Return:** approx 6.30-7.00 pm \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non members)

Bookings: 5.30 pm Monday 4 March 856 5922 (Pam)

Bring Swimming gear and extra money for water taxi (approx costs to be confirmed at time of booking).

[Contact on the day only – 027 3666194]

**29 March – 01 April
[Easter Weekend]**

Waitakere Area

All Grades

Come and join us for a fun weekend at Waitakere, leaving Hamilton morning/afternoon of Friday 29th March and staying at Ngaro Te Kotare Hut (Auckland Tramping Club) for 3 nights, returning Monday 01 April, afternoon. The hut can accommodate a maximum of 24 persons and provides a kitchen equipped with crockery, cutlery, cooking pots, 2 wood burning stoves and gas hobs. Mattresses are provided but you will need to bring sleeping bags and pillow/pillowcase etc. Accommodation charges at Ngaro Te Kotare are \$160/night, so this amount will be divided between the number attending.

Tramping

A large number of tracks catering for all grades is available in the local area ranging from ridgeline tracks to coastal tracks. Some tracks (Cascade, Kauri, Robinson Ridge etc) are closed due to Kauri dieback disease. Some tracks may be a short driving distance away. Decisions will be made on the day relative to weather and group requirements. Expect to walk on Saturday, Sunday and maybe a short walk on Monday before returning home or exploring locally. If sufficient members are interested a trip on the WaterCare Rain Forest Express can be arranged.

Costs: Accommodation – about \$10/night (depending on numbers), transport – (shared private vehicles) expect about \$25-35 each. Secure, off-road parking is available a short walk from the hut.

A seat on the Rain Forest Express will cost \$25 adults/ \$20 seniors (bring your 'gold card').

Food: Expect to provide your own dinner on Friday, maybe provide a shared pot-luck dinner for Saturday/Sunday, or eat out one of the evenings, or cook your own at the hut. Provide food for breakfasts and lunches + imbibing fluids where required.

There are limited places for this long weekend trip so book early to ensure your participation.

Leaders: Colin Standing, Lyn Kingsbury & Dianne Lee

Bookings: Open Monday 18th February, close Monday 15th March.

A \$25 non-refundable deposit (to treasurer) applies. Please indicate if you would like a seat on the Rain Forest Express train so that a block booking can be made.

Bookings to: Dianne 853 2980

Sunday 14 April**Waiorongomai to TeAroha****Grades 3 & 2**

Grade 3: This interesting tramp will commence from the car park at the Waiorongomai road end and will follow one of several historic track options through to the major track junction at the Waiorongomai Saddle. After a break there we will take a left turn onto the Plutus Claim track for the walk to Dog Kennel Flat, located near the Transmitter Road.



From the flat it is a relatively short walk up the Ridge track to enjoy the great view from the 952 m summit of Te Aroha. From the summit the party will walk the familiar well loved track down to the Te Aroha Domain to be reunited with the grade two group and the waiting bus.

This tramp will not be a bush bash as we will be following good, well established tracks; however participants (may there be many) can expect to walk for about 7 hours. [Leaders: Colin Standing and Peter Scott]

Grade 2: [High level pack track to Premier Creek, Low level track/New Era Branch.] Come and join Dianne and Justine to explore the Waiorongomai high level track and complete an interesting loop back to the bus that will give you slight climbs, historic sites, a little bit of a challenge and possibly wet feet. Expect to walk about 6 hours. [Leaders: Dianne and Justine]

Depart: 7.30 am **Return:** 6.30 (approx)

\$25.00(members)
\$30.00(non members)

Bookings: 5.30 pm Tuesday 2nd April

8551335 (Colin & Margaret)



Sunday 28 April**Tuahu Circuit****Grade 3**

We start from the beginning of the Tuahu track on the roadside and walk up a logging road in the pines. Feet may get wet but better than slipping off rocks into cold water. When we reach the bush line a minute or two will have us scrambling up the bank to traverse the side of a ridge. This is a straightforward route to the North/South Kaimai track. From here we turn south and walk with the views – if the weather permits! At the junction of the Tuahu we turn downhill (but not steep) and walk approx. 2 hours back to the bus. There are slippery little streams on the Tuahu so watch that the feet stay in control of the legs.

We hope you will enjoy your day out with us, but remember it is a winter tramp so take enough provisions to see you there and back and don't forget your layers.

Leaders: Morva, Pam, Isobel & Lyn K

Depart: 8.00 am **Return:** 5.00 pm (approx) \$25.00(members)
\$30.00(non members)

Bookings: 5.30 pm Monday 15 April 827 7261 (Morva)

Outdoor First Aid

The club has approved funds for **two** active club members to attend an Outdoor First Aid Course. The course we are planning for is instructed by the Mountain Safety Council and is held over one weekend (July 26-28) at Pirongia Forest Park Lodge. Having attended one of these courses I can highly recommend it; lots of learning based around practical scenarios, but the skills learnt are transferable to home or the workplace. More details of the course content can be obtained from the MSC website

http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz/Training/training_results.asp

Expressions of interest or questions to:

Lorna Gribble 021 1229703 or gribbles@ihug.co.nz

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Priorities of Survival

Written by Stu Gilbert who is a former Air Force survival instructor now running SOS Survival Training

Survival is about preserving life, if you follow the priorities in the order listed, in a survival situation, this could help you stay alive and be rescued.



- 1. First Aid:** Focus on your ability to prevent further injury, before moving on.
- 2. Clothing:** First line of defence against the elements, dress for the environmental conditions; avoid exposure by being fully covered at all times.
- 3. Shelter:** This will provide additional protection, and will depend on what is available but should be accomplished quickly.
- 4. Fire:** Keeps us warm, repels insects, boosts morale and is a means of cooking food and boiling water. Fire can also be used as a signal for rescue.
- 5. Location:** Necessary to make yourself as visible as possible. Use the equipment that you have such as torches, cameras, flash, emergency blanket and bright coloured clothing.
- 6. Water:** Dehydration affects people physically and mentally, so important to replace body fluids. If you are already thirsty you are already dehydrated.
- 7. Food:** Eating is the lowest priority in survival. Provided there is enough water, a fit person can survive for around 25-35 days without food.

Reference: Wilderness Magazine – July 2012

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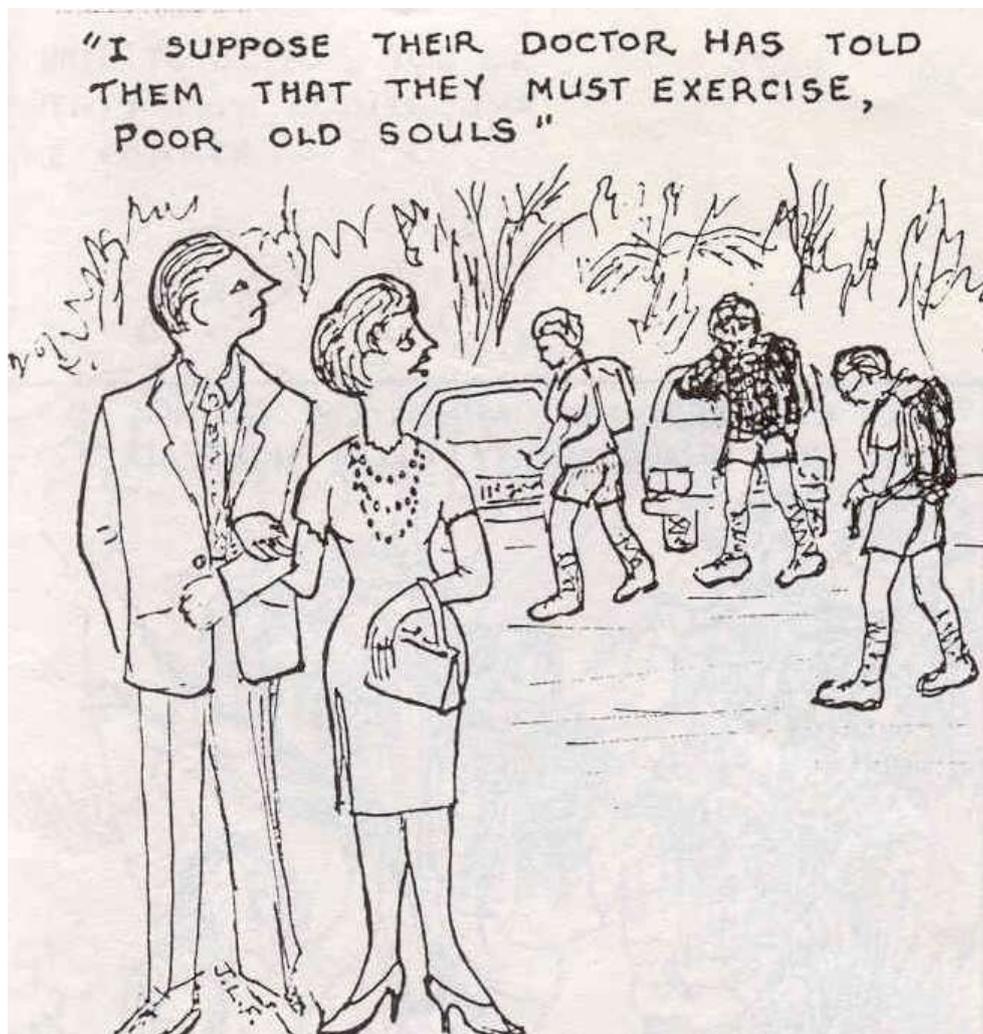
Where we Went

Pukemokemoke / Taupiri Tramp: 29 July

With 40 knot winds forecast, the Raglan Harbour cruise had to be postponed – luckily we could swap this tramp for another on the calendar. Thanks to Colin for that “juggling” act.

We first travelled to Taupiri where we climbed to the summit. A bit of a puff but we were rewarded with some great views over the Waikato. We descended via a different track, steeper but shorter. Then it was onto the bus and off to Pukemokemoke, a small reserve near Whitiakahu where a lot of work has been done planting and creating tracks. We lunched in a nice clearing set with an array of picnic tables. The loop track led us up to a viewing tower which afforded more wonderful views over the Waikato. The mix of old and regenerating bush made for an interesting walk back down and still the weather gods were kind to us!

Our thanks to Grant for taking on the unexpected leadership role for this trip – a very enjoyable day.



Raglan Harbour ramble/cruise: 26 August

Originally scheduled for late July, our trip was postponed to late August because of inclement weather. Our party of forty-three (including five from a Te Awamutu walking group) had perfect weather (not too hot/windy and no rain) for this coastal jaunt on the north side of Raglan harbour. The 'Wahine Moa' took us from Raglan wharf to Mussel Rock where after a very short stroll



we stopped briefly for morning tea, enjoying a fine view of Karioi. Continuing along the beach at a leisurely pace we came across an interesting array of flotsam and jetsam – a soccer ball entertained some members of the party as we moved north; the sad remains of a seal and later remains of a Canada goose and little blue penguin. However the beach-combing prize of the day went

to one member who picked up a hardwood seat base, to be recycled in the garden! We put up two pairs of dotterels close to the high tide mark so moved carefully back towards the water.

The group split into two at the far end of the beach with some members electing to check out the mussel beds and rock pools whilst the other group made their way up to the old pa site to enjoy lunch with great views to the north and south. We saw the first group making their way back so started our return via farmland and the dunes above the beach, coming across several middens of thickly layered shells. At the pick-up point two hardy members managed a quick swim just before the 'Wahine Moa' arrived to take us up the harbour for an hour long cruise.

The hamburger, tea, coffee and fruit juice put on by the friendly crew made for a lovely relaxing end to a fabulous day. Many thanks to Sharon and friends for a most enjoyable day out!

Rainbow Mountain Trip: 9 September

A full bus headed off for what unfolded to be a leisurely “social” day- which did include a tramp.

We first wandered around Lake Okaro in the sunshine, a lovely little walk, while Keith stayed back to prepare morning tea – yes – morning tea! A wonderful spread. An elaborate Devonshire tea with our traditional brew up. We then drew ourselves away to board the bus and go a short distance to Rainbow Mountain. What a little treasure, especially for those of us who had not been there before. We followed a well worn track to the summit, passing sparkling turquoise lakes and a mountainside of thermal activity. Quite a unique experience. The summit afforded us expansive views in every direction.

After lunch Keith, Rex and John delivered the “sermon on the hill” – an interesting history of the area we were looking down upon. Descending the mountain was fairly quick, then it was on to our next sightseeing excursion- the mud pools. Almost an iconic Rotorua experience! We then headed to Waikite Valley hot pools to soak away the pains of our “hard” day, followed by drinks and ice-creams at the poolside café.

A day of wonderful variety. Our thanks to Keith and Pam for their intricate organisation and also to our club historians for adding to the event. Everybody had a very enjoyable day.



First Aid Course: Saturday 6 April 9.00 am – 12.30 pm

Venue: 11 Mayfair Avenue, Hamilton

This first aid course will be held in conjunction with a locator beacon training course. These days a locator beacon is an essential part of our trip equipment and it is vital members know how to operate it in the event of an emergency.



Therefore members are urged to come along and learn/refresh their knowledge of both first aid and how to operate a locator beacon.

