

# *Wanderers Tramping Club Inc*



## **Bulletin**

**January – April 2016**

**[www.wandererstramping.org.nz](http://www.wandererstramping.org.nz)**

# Trip Programme

## Trip Date

## Booking Information

31 January	Carter's Beach - Te Akau	Grant (07 853 3434) txt 0210476518 gsveny@gmail.com Open 18 January
14 February	Ron's Walk – Kaimais	Grant (07 853 3434) txt 0210476518 gsveny@gmail.com Open 1 February
28 February	Rotorua Springs/Falls/Lake	Colin & Margaret (855 1335) standings@xtra.co.nz Open 15 February
13 March	Soggy Socks – Mangorewa Gorge	Colin & Margaret (855 1335) standings@xtra.co.nz Open 29 February
25-28 March	Mount Egmont National Park	Dianne (027 272 6617) Open 1 February
10 April	Te Rereatukahia Hut - Katikati	Peter & Audrey (854 5478) Open 29 March
24 April	Hakarimatas	No bookings - just turn up

# 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]

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# 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 Ponderings

Hi everyone

Another year is starting, the new committee and trip planners are in full swing.

It was brought to our attention that there are a few new people on our tramps who have gone in front of the leaders. It has been decided that the leader and tail end charley will wear HI VIS jackets, as part of our risk management for each trip, and that any identified risks will be discussed before each tramp starts off. All trampers should be behind the leader and in front of tail end person. If you need to stop or leave the track during a trip you need let one of these people know and leave your pack on the track. This means, if anything happens we know where you left the track, as we do not want to lose anyone (not a good look for the club).

We have some good tramps and challenges coming up. As requested we have a "wet legs" trip in March and off to Mount Egmont National Park for Easter Weekend (end of March). A heads up for labour weekend we are heading off to Ohakune (Mt Ruapehu) so lots to look forward to. Remember book early if you want to come on a trip.

Several of our members are off doing tramps throughout NZ, so I am looking forward to their trip write ups and photos for the website.

Happy tramping,  
see you on the track.

*Dianne*





**Sunday 14 February 2016****Kaimai's****Grade 2+****Ron's Walk**

Going to this very nice place to visit and tramp, coupled with a side shoot walk to a truly captivating series of swimming holes, should culminate in a great day out. This circuit is not difficult - two descents, one climb, and easy river crossings - with ever-changing bush as our direction changes.

There is a dedicated restoration taking place here with a recent release of weka.

We will exit the bush near our transport, where we can change, or pick up our bikinis and Speedos. We will then walk a few minutes to the river track, which is a half hour walk, to the swimming holes - a remarkable spot for cooling off, or just admiring. Others may be there, but there is room aplenty. Regardless of ability, if you can walk for 4.5 hours you will enjoy your day, and as if you need any more reasons to come along, you can catch up with Ron and Choko. See you there.

**Depart:** 7.30am **Return:** approx 5.30pm \$25.00 (members)  
\$30.00 (non members)

**Leaders:** Grant Svendson & Ron Crosby

**Bookings:** 5.30 pm 1 February 2016 Grant (07 853 3434)



**Sunday 28 February 2016****Rotorua****Grade 1****Hamurana Springs/Okere Falls/Blue Lake and swim**

With lots of members away doing their thing in the South Island, this will be a small group trip, easy with time to wander, photograph, swim, have coffee and a BBQ. We expect to take just one van due to the low numbers, but an extra car may be added if necessary.

We begin our walk at Hamurana which boasts the deepest natural spring in the North Island and enjoy an easy walk along the scenic loop track through the Californian Redwoods and return to the van. The surrounds are home to many bird species and expect to see rainbow trout in the stream. Then a short drive to walk the Okere Falls track and maybe see rafters and kayakers sweep over the highest commercially rafted waterfall in the world.

Another short van trip takes us to the Blue Lake, where those who wish can take a swim, followed by the 5.5 km Round-the-Lake walk, finishing with a BBQ (buns and sausages or vege patties supplied by the Club) on the Lake Shore.

Expect to walk about 4-5 hours

**Depart:** 8am **Return:** approx 6pm

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

**Leaders:** Colin and Margaret Standing

**Bookings:** 5.30 pm Monday Feb 15

Colin & Margaret  
855 1335  
standings@xtra.co.nz



**Sunday 13 March 2016****Mamaku's****Grade 3****Soggy Socks - Mangorewa Gorge to Dudley Road**

This is a fun wet trip with lots of laughing but needs special care. It is **essential** to wear thick woolen socks **over** your boots to be able to stand upright while traversing the slippery rocks in the Gorge (no socks for over your boots - then **no go**). We enter the Gorge at the bridge on the Tauranga Direct Road and travel downstream via a series of obstacles ranging from small climbs, to wading through deep pools. After a few hours we turn right at a side stream junction, encountering similar obstacles until finally reaching the remains of an old water pump as the signal to climb steeply through native bush and farmland, to emerge on Dudley Road.

Expect to walk about 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> -7 hours

This tramp cannot take place if the stream is high and an alternative tramp will be substituted if rained out.

For those not wanting to slip or get too wet, an alternative Grade 2 tramp on the Mangorewa Track (which starts nearby) could be offered on the day. The track enters the Mangorewa Ecological Area immediately behind the sign. From the track entrance the track leads directly to the Ohaupara Stream. The track crosses the stream several times before climbing to a ridge. Take the left fork and descend for an hour to a small stream. A 1-hour climb will take you to an open area, and a further half-hour to the Mangorewa Stream. Return the way you came. Leader appointed as necessary.

Approximately 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours return.

**Depart:** 7.30am **Return:** approx 7pm \$25.00 (members)  
\$30.00 (non members)

**Leaders:** Winston Fleming, Colin Standing and others

**Bookings:** 5.30pm Monday 29 Feb Colin & Margaret 855 1335  
standings@xtra.co.nz



## Friday 25 - Monday 28 March 2016 (Easter Weekend)

### The Camphouse – Mount Egmont National Park – Taranaki

We have booked the Historic Camphouse for sole occupancy. This is the oldest building within the national park, it was built in 1860's and has been fully restored, refurbished and is managed by DOC. The Camphouse is at the North Egmont road end, 29 km from New Plymouth. We are going to use it as a base to explore the North Egmont area of Egmont National Park. Possibilities of walking options are numerous from 1 hour to 8+ hours such as climb to the summit of Mt Taranaki, or simply sitting on the deck and enjoying the fantastic views over Taranaki to the mountains of the Central Plateau.



It sleeps 32 in 4 bunk rooms, has mattresses, well-appointed and stocked kitchen facilities, 2 Bathrooms with hot showers and flush toilets, communal lounge with heating and good parking close by (so not far to carry gear).

Provisional Accommodation costs at time of printing are \$30.00 per night pp – 3 nights = \$90.00 Plus travel cost paid to the driver of \$65.00 (this covers all travel costs over the weekend including to/from Taranaki). A further update newsletter will be sent via email after closing date to people who have paid.

**Leader:** Dianne Lee

**Bookings:** 1 February 2016

Dianne Lee – 027 272 6617 leave message/Txt  
or email leedi@clear.net.nz

If you book for this trip you will need to pay for accommodation to our treasurer by 21 March. This can be done via internet banking or cheque. No refunds for accommodation after 21/3/16.



**Sunday 24 April****Hakarimatas****All grades**

No Bookings required just turn up, this day will offer up several options.

We meet at our usual place, and will be travelling in private cars to Brownlee Ave, Ngaruawahia. From here you will be given walking options.

There could be a chance for an ice cream stop, so bring extra money.

**Depart:** 8am **Return:** approx 5pm

**\$15.00**  
\$5.00 (to club)  
+\$10.00 (to driver)

**Leaders:** Peter Scott and friends



**Latest "Safety in the Mountains" booklets still available  
[only \$5.00]**

**To purchase your copy contact John Davies.**



**New Club badges still available @ \$15.00  
See John Davies**

**Plastic name badges @ \$10: also through John**

# Where We Went

## Hunua Falls to North Road

23 August 2015

The tramp scheduled for this early spring day had been comprehensively surveyed by four male members only 10 days earlier – so what could go wrong?

The Wanderers who boarded one of the Go Bus's finest that morning were looking forward eagerly to walking the promised network of well-maintained tracks that would take us from the suspension bridge at the Wairoa Reservoir, to ultimately meet the waiting bus parked at the spectacular Hunua Falls.

The day did not work out as planned. It was fine and warm, however, as the bus negotiated the narrow access road only to be confronted by a large locked gate and an equally large official sign advising the park was closed due to an expected 1080 drop. Damn!! After some daring bus maneuvering by our driver Craig, we were off again to the distant, visitor friendly attraction of the Hunua Falls.

Plan B was working, down the tree lined tar-sealed Falls Access road when almost in sight of the falls the bus again was stopped by another big gate and official sign.

Damn again! Then Plan C was considered but no! Mt Williams would be closed for lambing! By then the leaders and the co-opted were out of plans so that was why the mutineers directed Craig to drive the bus to the North Road at Mangatarata for a real tramp through some real native trees and a real lunch was eaten at a point with a real nice view. After walking out to the bus a coffee at the Native Tree Café rounded out this unusual day.

And this story explains why the “advertised tramp” never got tramped!



## Karangahake Mountain

20 September 2015

A rather wet start with jackets on for the first half of the day. Both grades started together from the carpark in the reserve crossed the suspension bridge over the Ohinemuri River and went their separate ways early on. Grade 2s continued on up to No 7 level with a couple of river crossings and muddy patches. The weather kindly cleared up at the top of the mountain for great views while eating lunch. A very interesting day with lots of mining history supplied along the way. The well-deserved ice cream stop on the way home in Paeroa was enjoyed by all.



View of the mountain....  
When we started



When we finished



# Ngamuwahine to Old Kaimai Road

4 October 2015

Grade 3

13 not so hardy souls left the bus at 9:15 hoping the bus would find its reverse gear so the grade 1's could get to the pickup point before 4pm.

In mostly overcast but dry conditions we headed for Hurunui Hut, our lunch stop. Although not difficult tramping, mostly on old logging tramlines, the grade 3 was justified by the distance we had to travel – the hut was reached at 1:15. (Shh – don't wake the sleepers!)

One theme of the trip was stream crossings, and whether the challenge of keeping your feet dry was worth the danger of falling from slippery rocks. Brett was noted for calling on female assistance to keep his balance, but he never did deliver on his promise to carry his helper's pack in return. Bernie just trudged along anyway, and still had dry feet at the end!

Despite the later than expected arrival at the bus at 4:30, (Sorry for the wait, Grade 1's) it was another very enjoyable tramp within the extensive network of Kaimai tracks.



## Karakariki Loop

18 October 2015

Two vans with 21 members and one visitor (Stacey) left Hamilton and parked at the end of the Karakariki Valley Road. We all headed over the foot bridge and on to the 4WD club hut for a quick cuppa. From there the Grade 3's departed following a 4WD track up to a high point where we turned left over a fence, into bush and down a steep, twisty, narrow track to reach a point where we did the usual thing – remake all the height we had lost.

After reaching a small clearing on the ridge we turned to walk along the ridge for about 30 minutes before retracing our steps (with a little unintended deviation) back to the clearing to have lunch. From there we took a steep and often slippery trail down to another 4WD track which wandered down to farmland with some good views.



Then across paddocks (good view of the waterfall) back down to the 4WD hut and on to watch families playing in the stream. An easy walk along the stream returned us to the vans. A great day, starting just a little cool and threatening damp to end warm with sun. Thanks to leaders Grant and John.

*Colin S*



## Kauaeranga Valley Thames

## Labour Weekend

A sturdy group of trampers undertook the Pinnacles tramp on the Saturday of Labour weekend, on a delightful spring day with rain, cloud and, once at the top, heavier rain with fog.

The tramp up was lovely with a nice morning tea stop at Hydro Camp, and then the gradual up, up and more up until the Pinnacles hut.

This Hut was spectacular and we enjoyed the DOC guy's company for a short while. Here we left our packs and made our way to the Pinnacles Summit. Even though the view was shrouded in mist and rain it was an exhilarating climb up steel rungs to the top and we were all glad that we made it. Then followed the return trip to the Hut for a much appreciated lunch and the joy of going downhill. I loved this tramp very much and will be back (on a sunny day) to redo this one.

Dinner at Hut was a much appreciated and well enjoyed followed by the best ever game of Trivial Pursuit that I have been involved with. *Susan*



## Kauaeranga Valley Thames

## Labour Weekend

14 people came for the three nights, arriving on Friday afternoon to find a bunk, get organized and have a catch up with everyone. That night after dinner we went for a night walk through a small bush area on a boardwalk around the camp, which everyone enjoyed.

Saturday's weather looked marginal and ended up with heavy rain (which DOC had warned us about). A group went to climb the Pinnacles and have lunch at the Hutt, apparently not a lot to see, but the photo's look like they had fun. The rest of us went to find the Cookson and Wainora Kauri. DOC have upgraded the track to Cookson which is now stepped! (not necessarily a tramper's bet friend). This Kauri was magnificent. We then continued onto the tramping track to the Wainora Kauri where we had a lunch stop. On return to camp the fire was lit which was great as the lounge area became the Chinese laundry for us all to dry our gear.

Sunday the weather was better. Those who did the Pinnacles went to see the kauri's while the rest of us went exploring the gorge. We stopped at Hoffmans pool and nature walk, then on to Jasper Creek and onto the Edwards track which is used to abseil from. There was a beautiful view up the valley towards the Pinnacles. Because of the rain on Saturday we went to look at Billy Goat Falls which was spectacular at the beginning of the Pinnacles track. That night after dinner we had the Theme and met up with batman, a Korean maiden to name a few with lot of stories and laughs. Then onto the Wanderers Quiz, where at times the third umpire was considered, but you have to remember the Quiz Mistress is always right.

Monday we cleaned up and re walked the night walk, then made our way to the DOC visitors center where we watched the video on the history of the area (what a tough life they had and life expectancy was not long). We then walked to see the replica kauri dam, then on to the garden center for lunch where we said our goodbyes. What a great weekend, thanks everyone, great photos on the website.

*A Wanderer*



## Hiwikiwi Track - Pirongia

1 November 2015

Grade 3: Two vans full of eager trampers headed to the western side of Mt Pirongia to the start of the Hiwikiwi Track. Conditions were perfect. The No1's planned to reach the lookout for lunch and then return. The 'Threes' were planning to lunch at the hut then go over the summit and down the Tirohanga Track.

The new hut is a more adequate facility with bench on an outside deck so we could lunch whilst taking in the view. Mud has always been synonymous with Pirongia. This day was no exception. The trip down had its challenges as always. One trumper set the standard by hugging a tree and sliding down which added to the fun as did the mid-calf mud in places. There were chains to let ourselves down and pull ourselves up, and we witnessed at a distance the Westpac Rescue Helicopter doing what it does so well on the next ridge.

A tired but good natured bunch of trampers arrived at the base of the mountain to wait for the vans. We were sorry the No1's had such a long wait and drive to relocate the vans.

*Alison*



Grade 2: Seven of us set off after the 3s to begin our walk up to the lookout point. It was a steady climb with lots of mud encountered and along the way sections of boardwalk certainly helped. At one point we were rewarded with great views over the west coast harbours. Interesting bush and an abundance of ferns and the fine day brought out the bird life. Lunch was taken basking in the sun with great views.

-Coming back the mud had dried out a little, making conditions much easier. However one member unfortunately took a tumble and injured her knee. Just after this incident a small party of young people passed us and one turned and told us she was a nurse but didn't know much about sprains! However Nurse Carole tended first-class ministrations and we were soon on our way. The stream at the bottom was well used to clean boots etc and soon everyone spick and span to end a great day before setting off to pick up the 3s.

*Muddy M*

## Mangakino Pack Track

15 November 2015

Seven out of eight of us awoke in time to catch the van to the start of this Grade 3 trip from the Tui mine near Te Aroha to Franklin road on the other side of the range. The Grade 1's kindly planned to drive the van around to pick us up.

This 11km track has a great reputation, and as a "pack track" you would expect nice grades and wide paths. Only the first part is true – our time was slower than expected (8 hours) because of the need to pick our way carefully over narrow and rough parts of the track, with one near-accident on an exposed slippery bank and one hand injury due to a slip into a creek bed.

A major windfall was known to be a problem from our previous route survey (at -37.509011, 175.754696), so we had clippers and a hand saw to clear our path over it. Another windfall wasted some time until someone realised there was a route beneath the tree, rather than around as the leader tried to take us. We hoped the three mountain bikers who caught up with us at lunch time appreciated our track clearing!

Although it was a long and, for the last half a rather damp tramp, everyone got to the end in good spirits, and not too long after the last of the grade 1's returned from their trip to Waitawheta Hut. *Ray Hoare*



## Susan's Trip - The Kepler Tramp

November 2015

I had been at Te Anau for a couple of days prior to setting off, while the weather was spectacularly good, but the day I started the tramp the forecast was for rain and developing storms. (Perfectly in keeping with my previous tramps up mountains in rain!). My boots were already giving me some trouble so I was expecting an interesting time of it!

The track started out flat, following around Lake Te Anau until Brod Bay, where the uphill began. (By uphill I mean just over 1,000 meters up!) The weather was still fine at this stage and it was a forest climb until the bluff (see photo), where I tramped very fast going under the overhang with small rocks coming down at times. Once out of the forest and on to the Alpine section the weather suddenly became gale force winds and drizzle, so on with more layers and a slow tramp against the wind to Luxmore Hut. I wanted to stay at this hut forever, perched on the mountain with 360 views of Lake Te Anau and snow-capped mountains.

Day 2 was along the ridge line, which included the climb to Mount Luxmore at 1472 meters. This was by far the longest and hardest day, and the downward section to Iris Burn Hut was extremely long and arduous. One consequence was 4 blisters and squished toes – yes, new boots are being bought. Four of the other trampers did not make it to the hut that night, becoming too tired and instead bunking down in one of the emergency shelters.

Day 3 was a forest walk, where a deer was heard crashing through the forest after being disturbed by myself. Day 4 was following the river and through the large slip from 1984, to finish back at the start.

I am going to come back and stay at Luxmore Hut for a couple of days and to repeat the summit climb in sunshine, although the weather was much better than forecast, with only light drizzle when I was there. All in all a fabulous trip that has only whetted my appetite for more mountain tramps! - with a new pair of boots though.

*Susan Rogers*



## Ann's Yummy Chocolate Cake

*I've made this cake many, many times over the years and never yet had a failure. It is so easy to do and the end result is a favourite with everyone. Enjoy ... Ann C*

Mix together:

2 cups plain flour

2 cups sugar

½ cup cocoa

1 teasp baking soda

1 teasp baking powder

Melt 250 grms butter and add:

1 cup milk

2 eggs

and beat together

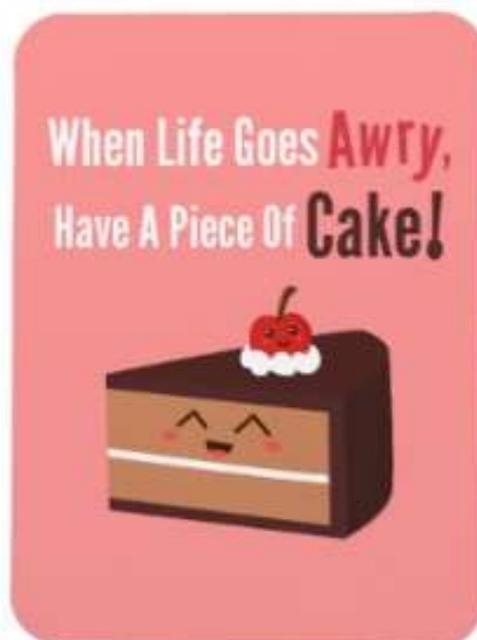
Mix liquid ingredients into dry ingredients.

Add 1 cup strong hot coffee (made with 2 teasp coffee powder).

Stir and pour into greased, lined 25cm x 25cm tin.

Cook 150C (fan bake) or 180C (standard) for 40 mins.

Dust with icing sugar, or ice when cold.



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