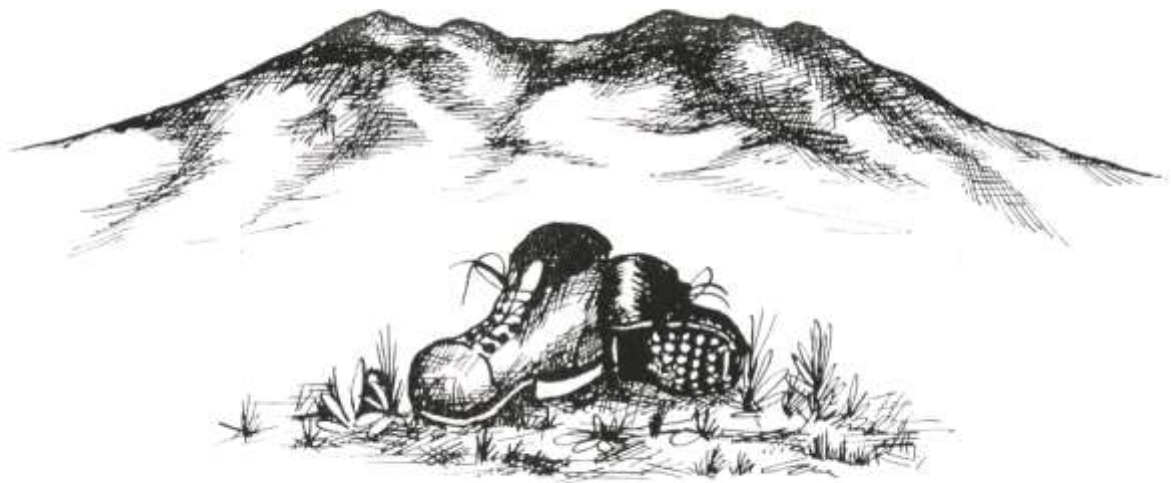


# **Wanderers Tramping Club Inc**



## **Bulletin**

**May – August 2016**

[www.wandererstramping.org.nz](http://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 2015/16

<b>President:</b>	Dianne Lee leedi@clear.net.nz	027 272 6617
<b>Secretary/ Social Convener:</b>	Margaret Standing standings@xtra.co.nz	855 1335
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Colin Standing standings@xtra.co.nz	855 1335
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Ray Hoare webmaster@wandererstramping.org.nz	856 2675
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<b>Committee:</b>	Pam Cornforth (Social Convener) pcornforth@xtra.co.nz	856 5922
	John Davies (Merchandise) deejohn@xtra.co.nz	854 0654
	Lyn Kingsbury (FMC Distributor) L.Kingsbury@xtra.co.nz	856 8071
	Susan Rogers rogers.susan96@yahoo.com	855 2226
	Peter Scott (Bus Coordinator) peterscott@xtra.co.nz	854 5478
	Keith F Wilkinson	847 4399
	Brett Rossiter (New Members Convener) brett@hudsonhire.co.nz	855 6774
	Annemarie Farrell	021 549 737

# Trip Programme

TRIP DATE	TRIP DETAILS	BOOKING INFORMATION
8/5/2016	<b>Suspension Bridge to Cossey's Dam</b>	Grant 853 3434 txt 021 047 6518 gsveny@gmail.com Open Monday 25 April
19/5/2016	<b>WINTEC Dinner</b>	Margaret 855 1335 standings@xtra.co.nz Open Monday 9 May
22/5/2016	<b>Blackridge - Hoe-o-Tainui</b>	Colin or Margaret 855 1335 standings@xtra.co.nz Open Monday 9 May
5/6/2016	<b>Maungatautari - up and over summit etc</b>	Ray 856 2675 rayprivate@wave.co.nz Open Monday 23 June
19/6/2016	<b>Huntly to Rangiriri Trail</b>	Peter Scott 854 5478 Open Monday 6 June
3/7/2016	<b>Kakepuku and Lake Ngaroto</b>	Brenda 849 3716 0273 117 372 brenda22269@hotmail.com Open Monday 20 June
17/7/2016	<b>Dean Track to Daly Hut Loop (Waitawheta)</b>	Ray 856 2675 rayprivate@wave.co.nz Open Monday 4 July
31/7/2016	<b>Kerikeri Battery and Mine (Thames/Paeroa area)</b>	Grant 853 3434 txt 0210476518 gsveny@gmail.com Open Monday 18 July
14/8/2016	<b>Lake Tarawera/ Hot Water Beach &amp; boat ride</b>	Lyn 856 8071 021 150 7079 l.kingsbury@xtra.co.nz Open Monday 1 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]

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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.**

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# President's Report

Hi Everyone

Well another year has started and what great trips we have had. Easter was at Mount Taranaki and the weather gods looked upon us in FINE manner. A group accompanied me on a guided tramp walking or "should I say wading" the Milford Track, where the weather gods were NOT FINE, we certainly saw and walked through lots of waterfalls and water, but we all made it through safely.

Thanks to Ray, the Wanderers along with Hamilton and Waikato Tramping clubs had a stall at the recent Waikato Show themed "Come Tramping with a Club". Thanks to everyone who helped it was great. There was plenty of interest as well.

This bulletins walks are varied and have a few challenges. As it is the winter one things are closer to home and durations have been shortened. Can't wait to see you on the track, once I get back from Perth.

Keep fit, keep well and keep happy

*Dianne*





# Coming Up

**Sunday 8 May**

**Hunua's**

**Grades 1 & 2**

## **Suspension Bridge to Cossey's Dam**

The 1's will start off with the 2's and do the Suspension Bridge Track Loop (1.5hrs) and then drive around to where the 2's finish and do the Cossey's Gorge Track and Massey Track Loop (3hrs).

The walk starts at the carpark on the Wairoa Reservoir access road and takes us through lush vegetation, climbing to a spectacular lookout platform above the Wairoa Reservoir. The track continues as the Wairoa/Cossey track with tree roots and soft mud patches in places. At the Massey track junction we continue straight to reach another lookout over Cosseys Reservoir. After a short walk on the Cossey access road we join the Cossey Gorge track at the information shelter near the gate.

The track then follows the Cossey Stream, including a stream crossing requiring a short wade until it meets a junction with the Massey Track (about 400m from the Hunua Falls lookout). Then just a short walk to the vehicles waiting at the Hunua Falls carpark.

**Depart:** 7.30am

**Return:** 5.30pm

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

**Leaders:** Grade 1's Bernie and Ann  
Grade 2's Grant and Colin

**Bookings:** Open Monday 25 April  
Grant 853 3434  
txt 021 047 6518  
gsveny@gmail.com







**Dinner at Wintec  
Thursday 19 May 2016  
at 6.30 pm**

Due to popular demand there will be an opportunity for members and their partners to attend a dinner at Wintec. There will be a three course meal, but those attending do not have to partake of all of these. The prices are very reasonable and the portions are not too large. Wine is also sold at a fair price (no BYO) and tea and coffee can be ordered after the meal.

The menu for May is not yet available but will be sent out by email nearer the time: there is usually a good selection of food to choose from.

Bookings open on **Monday 9 May at 5.30 pm** and close on the **evening of Monday 16 May**. I have made a reservation for 26 people.

*Please contact Margaret Standing:*

- *Phone: 855 1335*
- *Email: [standings@xtra.co.nz](mailto:standings@xtra.co.nz)*



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

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

## **Sunday 22 May    Hoe-O-Tainui (Black Ridge)    Grade 2**

This property has recently changed hands again and we are lucky to have been granted access. The walk starts at the farm tanker turning-circle with an easy stroll up the farm track to the bush edge, crossing the fence to follow a small stream with several easy crossings.

The track continues, with sometimes a bit of a push through scrub to climb steadily up to reach the old Te Hoe wooden trig. Then downhill all the way along the descending ridge, taking care to avoid roots etc. We pass the old P&T pay phone (if it's still there) and make a short side trip to see an impressive kauri tree. Back along the stream and across the farm completes the trip. A nice trip through variable bush.

Expect to walk about 5-6 hours

**Depart:**        8am

**Return:**        4.30pm

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

**Leaders:**     Peter Scott/Colin Standing

**Bookings:**    Open 5:30pm Monday 9 May  
                     Colin or Margaret  
                     855 1335  
                     [standings@xtra.co.nz](mailto:standings@xtra.co.nz)





**Sunday 5 June****Maungatautari****Grades 1 & 3+****Maungatautari – up and over**

Grade 3: We will start as one group to climb Maungatautari on the north side. After a gentle stroll up from Hicks Road the groups separate and we tramp up the original track which is steep in sections. At the top of the "Maunga" we will lunch with a view of the Waikato basin.



After lunch we walk down the southern track to finish at the Tari Road car park. This tramp should be approx 6 hrs.

Grade 1+: Will make their way on a well formed track up to the summit, returning the same way. Weather permitting there should be good views between the bush and hopefully a variety of bird life. We head back to the bus and pick up the others who have completed the traverse to the southern side. We will be walking (including breaks) for approx 4 hours.

Grade 3's: Will make their way on a well formed track up to the summit (as it is a decent climb we will take our time), returning the same way. Weather permitting there should be good views between the bush and hopefully a variety of bird life. We head back to the bus and pick up the others who have completed the traverse to the southern side. We will be walking (including breaks) for approx 4 hrs.

**Depart:** 8am

**Return:** late afternoon

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

**Leaders:** Grade 3 – Ray and friends,  
Grade 2 - Dianne and friends

**Bookings:** Open Monday 23 May  
Ray 07 856 2675  
after 5.30pm or leave message

rayprivate@wave.co.nz

**Sunday 19 June**

**Huntly**

**Grade 1**

### **Huntly to Rangiriri Trail**

Come and enjoy an easy walk on part of the Te Araroa Trail on the western side of the Waikato River. This will be a walk steeped in history.

The trail passes several significant sites of the Waikato land wars of the 1860's and ends near the old Rangiriri redoubt where in 1863 British troops fought a bloody battle with Maori warriors.

Expect to walk approx 5 hours.

**Depart:** 8am

**Return:** 4.30pm

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

**Leaders:** John Davies and Friends

**Bookings:** Open 5.30pm Monday 6 June  
Peter Scott  
854 5478



## **Sunday 3 July      Kakepuku/Lake Ngaroto      Grade 1+**

A nice day out with not too far to travel. Firstly we will visit the Kakepuku Track in Kakepuku Historic Reserve that climbs up through bush to the summit of Kakepuku, an old volcano near Te Awamutu.

From the car park there is a walking track to the summit. This track is an old farm road and is of an easy gradient.

Once at the top we will continue along a ridge through a fine remnant of original forest in the ancient crater and finally onto the summit itself (449m). It's just a short climb a few last steps to the top of the new lookout tower.

Sights and sounds of tui and kereru can be found and heard and we could possibly spot one of the 30 North Island robins that were released here in 1999.

From here we will visit Lake Ngaroto, home to a range of water-loving plants and animals, is one of the best places in the Waikato to experience natural wetland. A relatively easy walk around the picturesque lake.

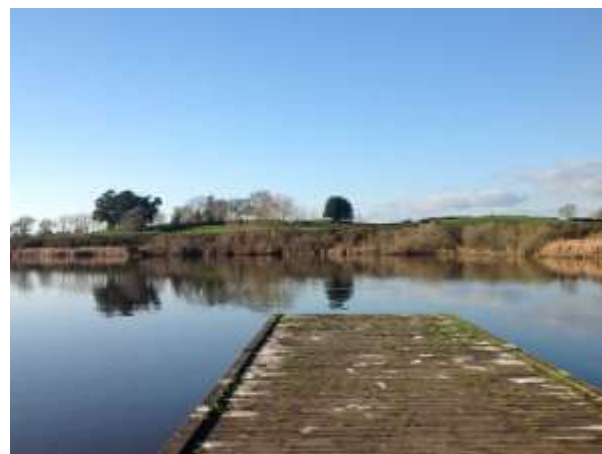
**Depart:** 8am

**Return:** 3pm

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

**Leaders:** Brenda and Susan

**Bookings:** Open Monday 20 June  
Brenda  
07 849 3716  
0273 117 372  
brenda22269@hotmail.com



**Sunday 17 July****Waitawheta****Grades 1 & 2****Daly Hut and Dean Track Loop**

Grade 2: We start off up the flat and well-formed Waitawheta Valley track. After about an hour we branch right towards Daly's clearing, rising 100m vertically over a distance of about 1km – not a hard walk at all. We arrive at the very clean and spacious Daly's hut in about 2 hours from the road end.

Depending on the weather and individual's energy we can have lunch there, or walk another half an hour through good bush to a picnic place with views of a couple of large kauris. After lunch we walk northwards on a section of the Mangakino pack track before branching off to Dean track, which takes us back to the road via nice nikau palms and a downhill stroll over farm paddocks. Total time 4 -5 hours of easy walking.



Grade 1: Much the same as Grade 2, but returning back through Daly's clearing after walking up to the Mangakino pack track to experience the nice bush on that part of the track.

**Depart:** 8am

**Return:** late afternoon

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

**Leaders:** Ray & John Davies

**Bookings:** Open 5.30pm Monday 4 July  
Ray 856 2675  
rayprivate@wave.co.nz





**Sunday 31 July****Thames/Paeroa****Grade 2****Kerikeri Battery & Mine - Puriri**

Today's tramp is into a historical mining area up the Neavesville Rd at Puriri on the southern side of the Coromandel Range. After parking the vehicles at the end of the road, we then walk 30min up a vehicle track to a gate and then head into a pine plantation, onto another vehicle track and then into native bush. The first piece of mining machinery we see will be the stamping battery which is situated down a slope not far from a stream.

Once back at the top we head off in an easterly direction passing a wheel and then a bucket in a tree and a set of dolly wheels (not in a tree) to the mine shaft. We then retrace our steps back to the road and down to the vehicles.

**Depart:** 8am

**Return:** 4.30pm

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

**Leaders:** Grant Svendsen & John Davies

**Bookings:** Open Monday 18 July  
Grant 853 3434  
txt 021 047 6518  
gsveny@gmail.com



## **Sunday 14 August      Tarawera Trail      Grades 2+ and 1**

### **Lake Tarawera/Hot Water Beach + boat ride**

From the Landing to Hot water beach is 13kms one way and provides breathtaking views of Lake Tarawera, the Scenic Reserve and the surrounding lakes and forests. There are quiet beaches along the way and toilet facilities and a picnic area at Hawaiki Bay.

The trail continues with intermittent climbs through lakeside forests along to Te Hinau Bay, the Oneroa lookout and then to Te Wairua Stream where the 1's will be picked up by water taxi at 2.15pm.

The 2+ group will continue on up to the Rotomahana Lookout and then descend to Te Rata Bay and enjoy a soak in the warm/ hot water of Hot Water Beach. The Grade 2+ group will be picked up by water taxi from Hot Water Beach at 2.30pm and taken back to the Landing to our waiting transport home.

The 2+ group will be walking about 5-6 hours, the grade 1 group at a slower pace for about 3½ hours. Bring togs for hot water beach, \$25 for water taxi and money for cafe at The Landing.

**Depart:** 7am

**Return:** 6pm approx

**Cost:** \$25.00 (members)  
\$30.00 (non members)  
+ \$25.00 extra cost for the water taxi

**Leaders:** Lyn Kingsbury, Pam Cornforth and friends

**Bookings:** Open 5.30pm Monday 1 August  
Lyn 856 8071  
021 150 7079  
l.kingsbury@xtra.co.nz





# Combined Tramping Clubs Stand at Waikato Show

FMC claim that many people roam the mountains, but I have observed that we only see a few of them in tramping clubs. About a year ago I got the idea that it would be good if all the local tramping clubs could entice some of these people to consider joining clubs – not just our club, but any club. And I thought that maybe a stand at the Waikato Show would help to do this.

I contacted all the local clubs I could think of and managed to get Wanderers, Waikato TC and Hamilton TC on board. We formed a little committee and the result was a stand at the recent Waikato show.

The stand was staffed in shifts by people from all three clubs, and we handed out flyers for the clubs to those who showed interest - about 300 of them! Our message was “Go to the web sites of all the clubs and see what ones suit you. Contact people and come on a trip.” Most people who showed an interest knew about tramping, and only a few were new to the sport.

It remains to be seen how many actually contact our clubs - I have seen a peak in our web site visits - about 30 new people. Over the next couple of months I will try to establish whether the clubs see any new members from this exercise.

Total cost was about \$500, shared among the 3 clubs.

Report by Ray Hoare



# Where We Went

## Train Travel/Manukau Harbour Walkways 29 November

Joy led a previous trip to Auckland which also included a train ride. Many of us were keen to see what this one offered. Our bus took us to Manukau where we boarded the train to Britomart. An unexpected wait there allowed time to pop out to take a look at the sites of Queen St. Then we took the Onehunga line to the Manukau Harbour walkways.



The first walk took us passed some historic photos of Onehunga's early days. Of particular note was the information about Elizabeth Yates who became the first woman in the British Empire to become mayor, in 1893. Walking on to St Peter's Church and the cemetery we saw her headstone and that of her husband. Sailors of the "Orpheus", which foundered on the Manukau bar in 1893, are also buried there.



Then on through some residential streets we came to a huge mural under the Mangere Bridge. We passed through another cemetery, the Waiaraka, before reaching our lunch spot on the edge of the harbour.



The second walk along the southern side of the Manukau is part of the Te Araroa walkway. It finished at the yacht club where our bus was waiting. The beautiful weather, a high tide and many pohutukawa (not quite in flower) made for a picturesque walk both for us and many others.



Thanks to Joy for making this trip so interesting and to her helpers Margaret and Colin.

## Christmas Trip - Wairongomai



## 8 December

A number of happy trampers went to the Wairongomai Valley for our Christmas outing. On arrival, as is tradition, the delicious Christmas cake made by the children at the Newstead Country Preschool was enjoyed by all. Once ready with boots and packs on, the Grade 3 group made their way up to the Buck Rock track, a steady climb all the way. They made it to “the rock” and enjoyed great views across the Waikato. Returning to the main track lunch was spent relaxing at the top of Butlers Incline. The downward tramp was via the May Queen Incline, a very steep and scrambly descent.

While the Grade 3's were enjoying themselves, the Grade 1's walked the lower tracks at a leisurely pace with Roger outlining the area's history along the way. The efforts of the Friends of the Wairongomai in restoring such things as the tramway, was appreciated by the trampers. A lot of work has been done by them. We continued walking up the track towards Butlers Incline and stopped for lunch along the way.

Upon returning to the bus we were taken into Te Aroha where some went for a well-deserved soak in the hot pools and others found their way to the cafes. Once all refreshed we made our way to the hotel for a lovely meal. Just what we needed to finish the Christmas 2015 outing.

Many thanks to all concerned in organising the event.





## Carter's Beach - Te Akau

31 January

A group of about 20 Wanderers set off from the Wintec carpark in private cars at the ungodly hour of 7am to take account of tides and weather. Great for us it was a beautiful and very hot day. Our drivers took us via Waingaro and Te Akau Roads and then the partly graveled Te Akau South Road to the dead end of Neilson Road. From there it was an easy walk over dry farmland to edge along a slow-moving little creek, past some pancaked limestone outcrops and onto the beach.

The views were lovely south to Karioi and north past a number of points – Parikotuku, Oharura and Ngatutura – towards the mouth of the Waikato and beyond. We admired the rocky pools, in one of which there was a large coral coloured starfish, and the quite extensive area of tessellated paving, best appreciated, however, from above. That meant a little scramble up the crumbling cliff (we found an easier way down later) and an easy walk up to the highest point and the only shade. This was beneath a group of fine karaka trees with their distinctive green and orange drupes or large fleshy berries. The views over farmland and coast were splendid.

Then it was back down to the beach and lunch and a refreshing dip for the keen before returning to the cars. The trip was an ideal little workout on a hot holiday weekend and easy for those who missed the early departure to enjoy the countryside and time on the beach. We were all glad to take advantage of a stop at a Ngaruawahia dairy to choose an ice cream from its well-stock cabinets. Thank you for an enjoyable day, Grant and co.



## Ron's Walk – Kaimais

14 February

Twenty nine happy, people boarded the bus for a pleasant day out. As the group got ready to walk after putting on their boots and having morning tea, there was a slight shower but it didn't last long. It had ended by the time coats had been excavated from packs and put on. The rest



of the day was fine and warm – very warm in fact. There were two groups, the grade 2s ably led by Ron and Choko and the grade 1s competently led by Grant.

The bush was beautiful and overall it was not a difficult tramp with just a few easy river crossings. The grade 2s covered more distance than the 1s and encountered a few more ups and downs but there was a rendezvous of the whole group at lunch time. We had been promised a dip in a glorious swimming hole; so all the water babies were keen to get back to the bus and change ready for a swim. To be honest it was a fair walk to the swimming place, about 25 to 30 mins but it was well worth it. Lots of lovely cold water!!

Once everyone was back at the bus we enjoyed a brew up and biscuits – and some Louisa plums from Colin's garden. Everyone was content. Unfortunately, the journey home was not straightforward. The bus was about to turn into Karangahake Gorge when it was stopped by police as there had been a bad road accident. Fortunately, the driver was allowed to turn the bus around and go back over the Kaimais; the alternative would have been to have waited for an indefinite time, until the road was cleared. Our driver kept a clear head, and was able to extend her hours so that she could drive us safely home and Grant was an excellent leader, finding out what was going on, keeping everyone informed and making good decisions. It was a longer day than had been planned but a very good one



Thanks to everyone involved.

*Margaret Standing*

## Rotorua Springs/Falls/Lake

28 February

Initially I thought the theme song for this trip would surely be “Singing in the Rain”. Hey, no worries, instead it turned out to be a “Here Comes the Sun” day – in fact a perfect day. So much for the one van planned – we set off with two full vans!

The tranquil setting of Hamurana Springs (deepest natural spring in the North Island) which runs into Lake Rotorua was our first stop. We enjoyed the bird life, Redwoods and natural beauty of the area and a few keen eyes spotted rainbow trout. Next stop was a short bush walk at Okere Falls to view the scenic lookouts over the river and its spectacular waterfalls and walk down the steps to the caves – unfortunately we missed seeing any rafters or kayakers. The trout pools here were next on the list before lunch.

We then proceeded to the Blue Lake (Tikitapu) where an event was just finishing (NZ Ocean Swim series) but managed to get close parking. The Wanderers quickly lived up to their name and dispersed in all directions – a few walking the 5.5 km round-the lake walk, some walking part of it and another group heading for ice creams (or you could watch the “goings-on”). Several also had an enjoyable dip in the lake. The BBQ “boys” later found a suitable place to set up and cook the sausages and patties supplied by the club – topped off by a cuppa.

“Spot on” Colin and Margaret and many thanks for the well planned successful outing; also to Keith and everyone else who assisted.

*Just one of the happy group*





## Waikato River Trail

**13 March**

### Little Waipa Domain Waikato to Jones Landing



A very enthusiastic group of 14 Wanderers assembled at the Domain on a very sunny and still early autumn day to begin the walk along the Waikato River Trail.

We were treated to great views of the river and plenty of birdsong (tuis) as we trod the shared path toward Arapuni, the only hazard being the occasional bike rider.

The highlight of the morning was crossing the magnificent suspension bridge above the Arapuni power station. The views were simply awesome.

After lunch atop the dam we tramped off toward Jones Landing. The path led us along the shore of Lake Arapuni, great views again, especially from a designated area off the trail. From there we could see much of the South Waikato countryside.

As we approached our destination we were met with another hazard -- wasps.

Three of the group were stung but by the time we left the Rhubarb Cafe they were recovering well.

It was a most enjoyable day and thanks to John Sheat for leading us.

*Big Foot*

## Mount Egmont National Park

## Easter 2016

21 souls went in convoy to Mount Egmont National Park and stayed in the Historic Camphouse. This majestic mountain had no snow except in the crater we were told by some trampers who had just been to the summit.

Friday we met at Mokau, had an early lunch then onto the Taranaki. After finding a bunk and getting organised we went for a nice walk through the 'gobblins forest'. Saturday the clouds rolled in, it was a bit weird because the camphouse was above the clouds.

One group did the challenge of the weekend and went around Stratford side for a good climb. The rest of us walked the Veronica loop in the morning in the clouds and after lunch went off to walk the York track. That night we had the famous Wanderers Trivia Quiz (no third umpire need this time).

Sunday the group went walking or should I say climbing to one of the lower level huts and an interesting walk in the bush. Sunday night Ann and Bernie had organised a Sunday pub dinner down the road, it was delicious. Monday after the clean-up Grant made is famous lemonade scones before we set off to visit a beautiful garden and house tour. From here we said our good byes and headed home. Thanks everyone of a great weekend.

*Dianne*

## Saturday 26 March

## Fanthoms Peak

Taranaki was shrouded in mist as we left the Dawson's falls car park to climb the thousand metres up to Fanthams Peak. We were not optimistic about seeing a view at the top, but were keen to reach the tiny Symes Hut up on the peak. The reports from trampers coming down from a night in the hut were not good. The mist and rain continued as we climbed up the steps to the tree line, and then the real challenge began. One and a half hours on a long scree slope. The thought of lunch in the hut spurred us on. The battered metal door of the hut was ajar and we thankfully shed our wet gear and squashed inside. The hut sleeps 10, but 19 had slept there the night before.



Before our descent we had a patchy view down to the ocean and glimpses of the farmland below. Rain and hail had set in and we had achieved our goal, so we were glad to pick our way down the scree towards the rainbow in the valley and leave the cold weather behind. Colin showed great tenacity and determination

and counted all 3273 steps on the way  
down. *Cheryl*

## Sunday 27 March

## Maketawa Hut

Nineteen trampers departed The Camphouse hut at 10.30am. The walk started behind our hut and initially we were using the same track as the summit climbers. It was a steady uphill climb with good views of the Taranaki plains and coast when drifting cloud cleared.

At the first track junction we took the left turn and started rapidly descending. Our path was narrow and well-hidden with alpine vegetation but always the hut was in our sight.

We had lunch on the sunny veranda of the Maketawa hut. Then we continued downhill, the track steep in parts, covered in roots and deep ruts often filled with water. Three steep wooden ladders, a dry stream bed, another hill and gully and we were back at The Camphouse.

Total walking time about 4 hours. A great day.



## What to take in your pack

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Information form   | <input type="checkbox"/> Water/wind proof parka |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spare clothing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Torch                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whistle  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boots or strong shoes  | <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch, snacks & water bottle   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thermal layer (polypropylene, polyester or wool)                     |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insulating layer of fleece or wool                                   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shorts/long johns/over trousers in cool or wet weather               |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pack cover and liner to keep everything dry                          |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra clothing to be left on the bus                                 |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra footwear and plastic bag for boots (no dirty boots on the bus) |   |

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- ❖ One Planet packs & sleeping bags
- ❖ Meindl boots, Garmont boots

Silva Compass – Pack liners  
Tramping and ski socks – Head lamps  
Stoves, pots, billies



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