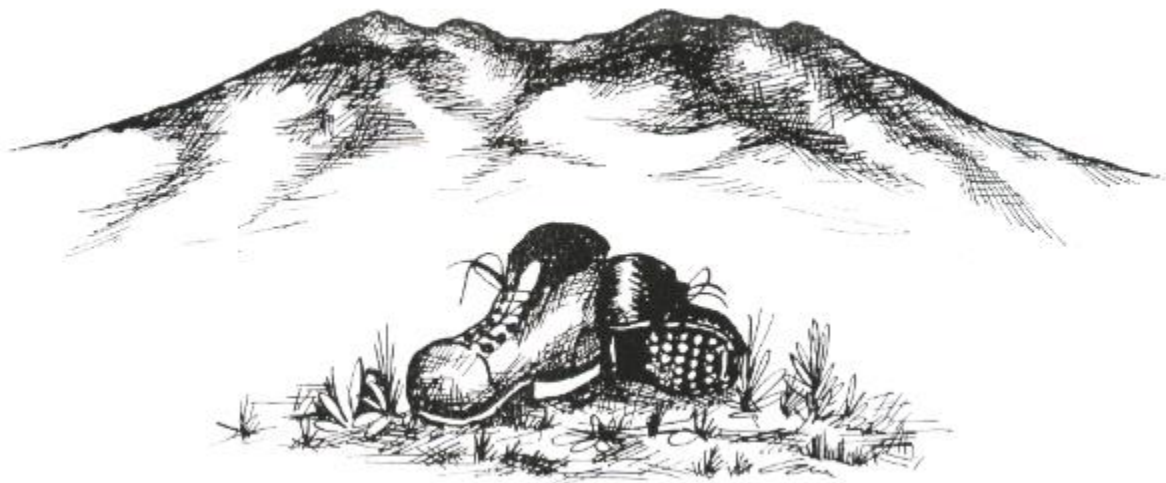


# **Wanderers Tramping Club Inc**



## **Bulletin**

**January – April 2019**

[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 2018/2019

<b>President:</b>	Keith Wilkinson	847 4399
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Colin Standing standings@xtra.co.nz	855 1335
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Ray Hoare info@wandererstramping.org.nz	856 2675
<b>Committee:</b>	Pam Cornforth (Social Convener) pcornforth@xtra.co.nz	856 5922
	Carol Davies (Secretary/Trip Co-ordinator) grandmacarol@xtra.co.nz	853 5527
	Brenda Petersen (Bulletin Editor) brenda22269@hotmail.com	0273 117 372
	John Davies (Merchandise) deejohn@xtra.co.nz	854 0654
	Lyn Kingsbury (FMC Distributor/Advisor) l.kingsbury.nz@gmail.com	856 8071
	Grant Svensen (Transport Co-ordinator) gsveny@gmail.com	853 3434
	Dianne Lee (First Aid Co-ordinator/Social) leedi444@gmail.com	027 272 6617
	Val McArthur (New Members Convener) val@herbaltouch.co.nz	855 6724
	Kathy Potter (Social committee) kathypotter25@gmail.com	855 6224
	Jenny West tsew.ynnej@gmail.com	856 3140

# Trip Programme

TRIP DATE	TRIP DETAILS	BOOKING INFORMATION
<b>20 January</b>	Ed Hillary Hope Reserve	Grant Svenson Phone : 07 853 3434 /Txt: 0210 476 518 Email : gsveny@gmail.com Open : Monday 7 January
<b>3 February</b>	Vandy Road	Brenda Petersen Phone : 07 8493 716/Txt : 0273 117 372 Email : brenda22269@hotmail.com Open : Monday 21 January
<b>17 February</b>	Tarawera Outlet	Alison Orchard Phone 07 855 2370/Txt : 027 618 3569 Email : alorchard14@gmail.com Open : Monday 4 February
<b>23-24 Feb</b>	Ohura King Country	Lorna Gribble Phone : 07 849 0940/Txt : 021 1229703 Email : lornagribble@gmail.com Open : Monday 11 February
<b>3 March</b>	Wentworth Falls Gold Mount	Keith Wilkinson Phone : 07 847 4399 Txt : 027 366 6194 Open : Monday 18 February
<b>17 March</b>	Te Waotu Arapuni	Pam Cornforth Phone : 07 856 5922 /Txt : 027 278 0690 Open Monday 4 March
<b>31 March</b>	Karioi/ Parakawai Valley	Keith Wilkinson Phone : 07 847 4399 Txt : 027 366 6194 Open Monday 18 March
<b>4-8 April</b>	Kaipara	Grant Svenson Phone : 07 853 3434 Email : gsveny@gmail.com Open : Monday 11 March Close : Friday 22 March
<b>14 April</b>	Rangitoto Island Auckland	Brenda Petersen Phone : 07 8493 716/Txt : 0273 117 372 Email : brenda22269@hotmail.com Open : Monday 1 April
<b>28 April</b>	Te Awa Walkway and The Black Swamp	Ann Cloke Phone : 07 847 2460 Txt : 021 0439 051 Email : summerfields604@gmail.com Open : Monday 15 April

## 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.** Please choose a suitable time to ring the number given. Avoid early morning weekday calls and alternative calls to place of employment. If, after booking, you are unable to go on a trip, please cancel promptly so that your place may be reallocated.

***It is essential that at least 24 hours' notice of cancellation be given.***

Default in cancelling may render you liable for the cost of the trip.

If you check the programme you will see that each walk or tramp is graded 1, 2 or 3. These "gradings" are defined here:

**Grade 1 (easy):** A tramp on fairly level formed tracks, duration 4+ hours and where there may be the option of returning by the same track.

**Grade 2 (moderate):** A tramp of 5-6 hours, often on less well-formed tracks, or on off-track routes; can involve river crossings, or short sections of steep terrain.

**Grade 3 (fit):** Can be over 6 hours duration, tramping on either formed tracks or off-track routes, river crossings, steep terrain, snow conditions.

**You will enjoy a tramp better if your level of fitness isn't of concern to you.**

**NOTE:** Until further notice all trips will leave from the **Wintec student carpark, cnr Collingwood & Tristram Streets. \$3.00 parking fee or park free nearby on Collingwood Street on the road.**

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## President's Ponderings

Greetings Fellow Trampers

Another year has almost passed, and we have been treated to another selection of fine and interesting outings.

With our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations behind us we go forth into a new year with a great selection of trips organised by a fine team.

Remember if you have some ideas for new places to go bring these forward and maybe even assist to lead them. There is plenty of help to get you going from committee members and others.

So, on behalf of your committee and myself we wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Enjoy your break, explore and please be safe so we will see you in the vans in 2019

Cheers

*Keith*







# Where We Are Going

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**Sunday 20 January**

**Raglan**

**Grade 1.5**

## **Ed Hillary Hope Reserve**

This is a recently gazetted reserve that is next to the Four Brothers Reserve on the South side of the Deviation, on the way to Raglan.

We will start the tramp at the main entrance off Old Mountain Rd. The first part is along a vehicle track, through native bush and then pasture, to a point where we head up to an airstrip with good views over the surrounding countryside. It is then down-hill on more pasture and through another stand of native bush back onto the vehicle track to the van.



As this is our first tramp for the year it is not overly strenuous, about 4-5 hours, with a cafe stop at Whatawhata on the way home.

**Depart:** 8am

**Return:** 2pm approx

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

**Leaders:** Grant and John D

**Bookings:** Open Monday 7 January  
Contact Grant  
Phone 07 8533434  
Txt 021 047 6518  
Email gsveny@gmail.com



**Sunday 3 February****Waitetuna****Grades 1+ & 2+****Vandy Road**

This tramp has not been done for quite some time. From the end of the road we all head up a 4WD track, which is a paper road, to where we will enter the bush and follow a marked route to a point where we will pop out back onto the paper road.

Here the G1+ group can walk up to the Wind Farm, then back to the paper road and return to their van.

The G2+ group, when exiting the bush will follow the paper road further on to where it opens out onto rolling pasture over-looking the West coast, then return to their van via the paper road.

**Depart:** 8am

**Return:** 3pm approx

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

**Leaders:** Grade 1+ Brenda and Lyn  
Grade 2+ Grant and Carol

**Bookings:** Open Monday 21 January  
Contact Brenda  
Phone 07 8493 716  
Txt 0273117372  
Email [brenda22269@hotmail.com](mailto:brenda22269@hotmail.com)



**Sunday 17 February****Kawerau****Grades 1&2****Tarawera Falls**

We will travel through Rotorua to Kawerau to pick up a permit for the vans from the Information Centre.

From here it's about 20 kms to the start of the Tarawera Falls track and a 20-minute walk to the falls. After taking in the spectacular view of the falls we will walk on to the Tarawera Outlet. This takes about 1 ½ hours. On the way there is a safe swimming spot on the river for us to enjoy or walk on to the lake and the reserve. Be sure to bring your swimming gear.

Those people who are keen to stretch their legs can walk on towards Humphries Bay although it is unlikely there will be time to get there and back (6 hours).

Please be aware that if the forest is closed due to fire risk an alternative tramp will be substituted.

**Depart:** 7.30am

**Return:** 6.30pm approx

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

**Leaders:** Alison Orchard and Cheryl Meier

**Bookings:** Open Monday 4 February at 5.30  
Contact Alison  
Phone 07 855 2370  
Txt 027 618 3569  
Email: alorchard14@gmail.com



bivouac/outdoor



Wanderers members can receive up to 15% discount off purchases in store at Bivouac, 311 Barton Street, Hamilton

Just mention you are a Wanderers TC member to receive your discount on non-sale items



**23-24 February****King Country****Grade 3****Ohura - Farm Visit**

This trip is a visit and overnight stay on Lorna's drystock and sheep farm in the King Country.

Open to 10 club members only. Accommodation is in a furnished farm house - walks will be decided on members present but hills cannot be avoided.

Transport by private vehicles that will leave Hamilton on Saturday morning, stay Saturday night and return Sunday evening.

The drive will be approx 2½ hours so there will be a walk on Saturday and another on Sunday, with possibly a trip into Ohura to make the most of the summer evening on Saturday.

**Depart:** Saturday 23 February (time TBA)

**Return:** Sunday 24 February (time TBA)

**Cost:** \$40.00 for transport  
\$15.00 for accommodation

**Leader:** Lorna

**Bookings:** Open Monday 11 February  
Contact Lorna Gribble  
Phone 07 849 0940  
Txt 021 1229703  
Email lornagribble@gmail.com

**WANDERERS PERSONALISED NAME BADGES**

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

**Only \$12.00** – contact John Davies



**Sunday 3 March****Whangamata****Grades 1 & 3****Wentworth Falls - Grade 1**

Today we will travel over to Wentworth Valley, just short of the settlement of Whangamata.

From roads end we will follow the track up to the Wentworth Falls then we will climb on a little further to a cleared area at the top of the Marototo Valley. Here we will probably have lunch and see if we can locate an old steam traction that we used to power a sawmill. From here we will return to the van.

**Gold Mount - Grade 3**

We start from the car park at the end of the Wentworth Valley Road and it's uphill for approximately 1.5 hours. At the T-junction we take the right-hand track for 30 minutes which brings us to the top of Gold Mountain and extensive views.

Returning to the junction we follow the left-hand track. We leave the bush and it's a 45-minute walk on a clay road negotiating water holes left by trail bikes.

At the Waipakehe sign we turn left and after an hour reach the top of the Wentworth Falls. From then on it's all downhill and we cross the two bridges on the way. Walking time approximately 6 hours.

**Depart:** 7.30am

**Return:** 6-6.30pm approx

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

**Leaders** G 3 – John & Ray  
G1 – Keith, Dianne & Pam

<b>Bookings:</b>	Open	Monday 18 February
	Contact	Keith
	Phone	07 847 4399
	Txt	027 366 6194

**Sunday 17 March****South Waikato****Grade 1+****Te Waotu - Arapuni**

Te Waotu is an abbreviation of a very long Maori place name which roughly translates into 'the place of tall bush that stands all by itself'.

Prior to the coming of Europeans, the district supported a very large Maori population until the early 1800's when the arrival of competing tribes exercising their customary rights made life untenable for the survivors who sought refuge elsewhere. Most of the tall forest has been removed with milling centred on Te Waotu. Today a few remaining pockets of native bush dot the countryside including the popular Jim Barrett Reserve.

Our walks today will include the Waikato River Trail from Arapuni Dam to Jones Landing and a visit to Rata Downs Station to walk to the impressive Piraunui Pa Site which commands a fine view over Lake Arapuni and beyond and is the southern link in a chain of Pa sites in this area.

Time will also be spent at the historic Te Waotu settlement to learn of its history.

The sequence of undertaking each section of the days activities will be decided when the survey has been completed.

**Depart:** 8am

**Return:** 6pm approx

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

**Leaders** Rex Foley & John Sheat

<b>Bookings:</b>	Open	Monday 4 March
	Contact	Pam Cornforth
	Phone	07 856 5922
	Txt	027 278 0690
	Email	pcornforth@xtra.co.nz



## Sunday 31 March      Raglan/Whangamata      Grades 1&2

### Parakawai Valley – Grade 1

Once again, we drive over to the Whangamata area and turn off before the Wentworth Valley. From roads end we will walk along an old roadway for approximately two hours.

Then we will reach a swimming hole and waterfall where we will have lunch.

After lunch some might like to continue on and re-join the track which we came in on. All the group will then return to the van.

### Karioi - Grade 2

Karioi We head out through Raglan to the Surf School - our bus will be shuttled to Te Toto Carpark. The Surf School has a private track up to the lookout on the DOC track across Karioi.

From there we take the normal route back to the Te Toto Gorge end. Doing it this way means we get the great views, with a shorter day. Expect a steady climb of about 600m through good bush, which we will do in about three hours.



**Depart:** 7.30am

**Return:** 4.30pm approx

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

**Leaders** Grade 1's - Keith and associates  
Grade 2's - Ray, Lyn & Alison O to assist

<b>Bookings:</b>	Open	Monday 18 March
	Contact	Keith
	Phone	07 847 4399
	Txt	027 366 6194

**4-7 April****Kaipara and Around****All Grades****Mataia Farm (Kaipara Harbour)**

We will be staying in the cottage that was moved to the farm in the early 1960s from the Grafton Bridge area. It has four bedrooms with a mix of beds and bunks (linen supplied), kitchen, lounge, shower/toilet.

Bring your walking/tramping gear, spare clothes, toiletries etc.

Food: Thursday night dinner will be a pot luck meal, Friday a catered meal (\$30 for 2 courses), Saturday a WTC meal (\$10), 3x breakfasts and 2x lunches, drinks and nibbles for happy hour (own supply).

Walks: There is a chance to walk around Gibbs Farm Sculpture Park on either Thursday or Friday if it coincides with one of their open days. There is a 12km walk on Mataia Farm, walks in the Atiu Creek Regional Park and Omeru Falls Scenic Reserve. Due to Kauri Dieback some areas in the Kaipara are closed.



**Depart:** Thursday – time TBC

**Return:** Sunday – time TBC

**Costs:** \$90 accommodation for the three nights  
 \$30 catered meal  
 \$10 WTC meal  
 \$40 transport (car pooling/for driver)

**Leaders** Grant, Carol and friends

<b>Bookings:</b> Open	Monday 11 March
Close	Friday 22 March
Contact	Grant
Phone	07 853 3434
Email	gsveny@gmail.com



**Sunday 14 April****Auckland****All Grades****Rangitoto Island**

We will travel by van to Auckland and then ferry across the Hauraki Gulf to Rangitoto Island. On reaching the island we will head up the summit track for approximately 45 minutes.

Just before reaching the summit there are lava caves to explore which are a 15-minute diversion off the track. Remember your torch if you would like to explore the caves fully, as it is quite dark.

We will lunch at the top and then we can descend via the same track or those who wish to can walk down around the islands coastal track that takes about 2.5 hours.

**What to bring**

- Good walking shoes, sun block and a sun hat (and warm clothes if it is a chilly day)
- Plenty of water, snacks and lunch (**there are no shops/cafes on the island** but you can buy light refreshments on the ferry). Your lunch must be packed in a rodent-proof/sealed container e.g. hard plastic.
- Rain jacket
- Torch

This day has quite a lot of travel so ensure you arrive well prepared and at the meeting point on time as we will need to get on the road and to our ferry.

**Depart:** 7am

**Return:** 6.30pm approx

**Cost:** \$25.00 (members)  
\$30.00 (non-members)  
+\$36 for return ferry to Rangitoto

**Leaders** Brenda and Carol

<b>Bookings:</b>	Open	Monday 1 April
	Contact	Brenda
	Phone	07 8493 716
	Txt	0273 117 372
	Email	brenda22269@hotmail.com

**Sunday 28 April****Hamilton****All Grades****Te Awa Walkway and The Black Swamp**

Our walk starts from the BP Service Centre at Te Rapa. It is a very pleasant stroll along Te Awa Walkway to Ngaruawahia beside our lovely river. We cross under and over several bridges along the trail we are so lucky to have.

The surface is all concrete so no boots, just good walking shoes. The distance is the same as walking around the lake.

When we reach the award-winning Perry Bridge there should be hundreds of red poppies fixed to the bridge and the fences for Anzac Day. There will be a spot if you really want to you can take the van to the lunch spot at the meeting of the waters or 'The Point' or carry on walking to The Point.



After a lazy lunch we will travel to Te Kowhai for the walk on a gravel surface beside the Black Swamp and stream along the Otamanui Walkway. This is not a big walk but very pleasant. It has not been done before by the club except for 'The Bikies'. We shall stop at the café at Te Kowhai for refreshments so bring some cash with you for your afternoon tea.

Hope to see lots of you there as this is a special spot in our own backyard.

**Depart:** 9am

**Return:** 4pm approx

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

**Leaders** Bernie

<b>Bookings:</b>	Open	Monday 15 April
	Contact	Ann
	Phone	07 847 2460
	Txt	021 0439 051
	Email	summerfields604@gmail.com

# Where We Went

**Sunday 26 August**

**Rotorua**



## **Whakarewarewa State Forest**

A fine, frosty start to the day and two vans packed with enthusiastic trampers. We commenced our walk after morning tea and paused at the "wishing" pool whose surface resembled a ghostly mirror with branches and other vegetation bleached white by the minerals in the water.

The Redwoods which were planted in 1901 towered above us and we passed stands of huge gum trees with silvered trunks as we climbed steadily up the first ridge.

We had to stand by the side of the track when a horse and rider approached. A tense moment when the horse seemed "spooked" possibly by our walking poles, but his rider quickly calmed him down and they moved on. We had lunch in a grassed area surrounded by trees and then split into two groups - those who wanted to go faster and those who preferred a more relaxed pace.

Perhaps the fast group wanted more time to enjoy the coffee break back at the Redwoods entrance. Another small drama when John disappeared down a steep slope and ended up slightly battered and bloodied but no broken bones or serious injury, and we were able to cope with the long uphill trudge through the pine forest after Death Valley without further mishap.

Distance covered was 12 kms and we were back in Hamilton before 6.00 pm with boots that didn't require cleaning. Always a bonus.

A most enjoyable day thanks to the efforts of our leaders - Keith, Dianne and Pam.





## Sunday 23 September

## Maratoto

### McBrinn's Track

I had not ventured into this area for a number of years, and today was a brilliantly fine day to be out exploring this lovely valley again. Our group of 8 Grade 3 trampers set off with Lorna and Brenda as our guides.

As we passed the old disused Quarry and followed the track up we could hear McBrinn's Creek flowing off to our right. A little further on we dropped down & crossed the creek for the first of a number of times - some got wet feet, others were lucky not to.



There were a few concrete foundations and odd relics along the way before we reached the old amalgamation plant. Still lying around we found a steam boiler, water tank, some kind of large pipe & three big McKay Amalgamating Pans among other bits & pieces. These big pans were used for crushing quartz brought in from other mines in the area. You wonder "how did they get all this big stuff in there?".

Climbing steeply up to a higher level we explored numerous mine shafts & a long tunnel. Lorna had left a nice rope for the adventurous to drop safely into one of the shafts – and more importantly to get out again! A number of Cave Weta with their long skinny legs could be seen scattered around.

Inside the tunnel the tiny glow worms were a little upset with the light & noise we made, however they soon glowed for us again once all was dark & quiet. The men explored a little further into the tunnel.

After this exploration of the mines we lunched in the warmth beside the old dam.



Possum trappers work this area and it was a little un-nerving to find a number of gin traps beside the track & also one smelly skinned possum hanging in a tree.

On our return we ventured up a side track and discovered an old tin shack still in pretty good nick, before returning to our van via the same track. *Lynne*

## Sunday 7 October

## Auckland

### Totara Park/Puhinui Stream Forest Trail

This tramp coincided with the Chinese New Year Festival and because of the possibility of a busy carpark at the Botanic Gardens, Colin decided that we would park at the Redoubt Road entrance.



We walked through Totara Park towards the Puhinui stream. There was farmland with good views and then the pleasant sounds of water and birds when walking in the bush. The track was good with a few ups and downs but no trouble for our group. Lunch was had alongside a children's playground with seating available.

Spring flowers greeted us at the Botanic Gardens, especially the blossom of the massed cherry trees. Some of us walked around the gardens while others opted for a coffee at the café. The café was decorated for the festival and visitors dressed in costumes celebrated in various ways including a dragon dance with the very skilled beating of a drum.



We walked back to the vans through massed planting of several varieties of trees including monkey trees. In all, we covered about 11 kms.



A very interesting place to visit. Thanks Colin and Margaret.

*Alison O*



## Sunday 21 October

## Rotorua

### Lake Rotoiti to Lake Okataina

Two van loads of intrepid trampers were off on a new tramp for most of us Wanderers.

A brief stop at the newly renovated Ngongotaha Reserve and then off to Lake Rotoiti - Western Okataina Walkway for a quick morning tea and then a good, steady, steep, climb up to the pylons and ridge...luckily it wasn't a race.

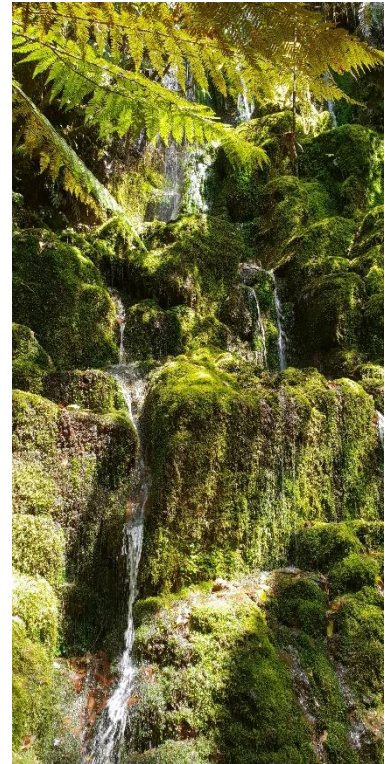
Then a bit of a walk to see the hidden crater which we climbed down into seeing lots of lovely plants such as wild Clementis and heard a cuckoo bird! Then we crossed the crater and proceeded zigging and zagging up the other side to join the Rongamai track.

We looped around a bit and came across a lovely waterfall Cascade Falls - which at night is covered in Glow worms and is where we had our lovely lunch, a truly magical place.

Then off up a bit of a hill and down to the Education Camp and Lake Okataina which was sparkling in the sunshine.

A truly lovely trip.

*Susan*



## Sunday 4 November

## Karangahake

### Grade 1:

On arrival at the newly built hall parking area Keith produced a book showing photographs of the area's history when it was a thriving gold district. We all (12 of us) then set off to the Windows Walk to explore the old gold mining tunnels via the round trip. Along the way discussions took place on various plant and tree species and I am sure all queries were "sussed" by the day's end. We did notice that work is well under way for a new pedestrian bridge across the Ohinemuri River.

Along the Windows Walk an eagle eye spotted some glow worms and it was also observed that two tunnels had been extended since our last visit. Emerging from here we made our way through the 1.1 km rail tunnel (seemed a bit longer!). Construction of this tunnel commenced in 1900 and was completed in 1905. Lunch was then "calling" and so we returned to the van.

The best was yet to come. Arriving at the Victoria Battery site we took advantage of all the options. Firstly, a tour through the underground roasting ore kilns tunnel where our guide spoke about the kilns and explained how the chutes worked and pointed out the air vents and emergency tunnel. One amazing fact was that timber was consumed at 5 ha every 2 days and which is why there are now very few big native trees in the area.

Emerging from the tunnel we climbed to the top of the sheltered kilns and viewed the ventilation shaft openings. Next was a fun 1.2 km trip on the battery-electric locomotive which winds through the remains and relics on the site (stamper mill, cyanide tank foundations etc). Our day ended with a tour of the fantastic museum which houses an incredible range of historic photographs and equipment exhibits.

It was then "home James" with a stop in Paeroa. Our appreciative thanks go to Keith, Diane and Pam for a fascinating day. *Never too old to learn*





## Sunday 4 November

## Karangahake

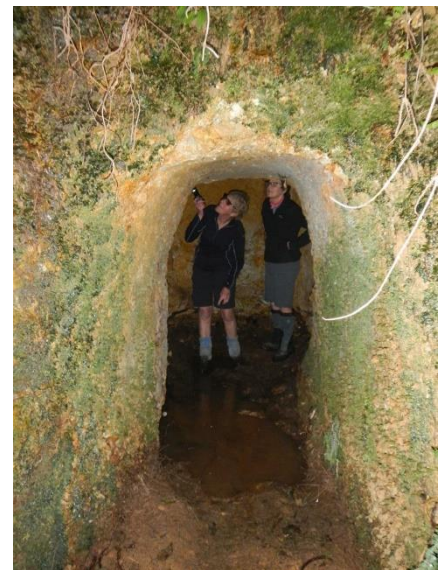
### Old Coach Road - Grade 2

Seven of us gathered at the carpark at Karangahake on a cool and rather blustery spring morning. We had to find our way around the safety fencing at the approaches to the new swing bridge nearing completion, to access the old bridge across the river.



We then left the main Karangahake walkway and headed up the Scotsman Gully track which follows a little stream up to join the County Road. Our route took us up the track which one follows to go to the summit. However, we kept on a lower level, having morning tea at a spot out of the wind and where there was a view down the valley, before dropping down through the bush to get on to an old disused road. This was clearly a benched road, at times wide and open, at other times almost hidden under regrowth and fallen trees or fallen away altogether.

We walked a good way around the mountain on this road before encountering a large fallen tree which was the sign to leave the road and start climbing up through open bush in order to avoid having to cross into private farmland. We soon came back out on the County Road where we had lunch. From there it was a straightforward walk back down to the point where we had left this road in the morning, and Scotsman Gully.



I had been up - and down - Karangahake in the past but never right round like this, so was grateful for the opportunity. The old benched road brings to mind the huge activity related to mining that was in this area in the past, the various mine drives we passed further reminders.

Highlights for me were the lovely rewarewa flowers and a bellbird feeding on same, the regenerating bush we walked through and the strong SW wind that we encountered at times before walking into an area of serene stillness.

Thanks to Brenda and Lorna for leading this tramp.

*Fiona Green*

## Sunday 18 November

## North Tauranga

### Puketoki Reserve

On arriving at our usual pick up spot I found a lively looking mob ready to go for a tramp – 18 of us. But woah....only one leader?? The other two I found out had gone AWOL somewhere in the frozen south. It was all up to camp mother aka 'Dianne' who was smartly dressed in all the right colours including a red hair do.

We had a pleasant trip over the hill to a wee stop in Tauranga. Then up the hill to our first walk, the Puketoki Reserve. This was a pleasant walk on a good track. We saw a very old gnarled rimu tree, thank goodness they had left her in the very cut over bush to multiply. We then took a short detour to a very old puriri in a very sad state. Back to the vans and off to our next tramp, but somehow the left hand of Camp Mother got mixed up with the right hand and we had a little extra touring. Thank goodness for Mr. Google!

Lunch was had at the next spot in a lovely sunny area. Off we went again up the Leyland O'Brian old tram lines to a small river crossing where nobody wanted to get their tooties wet, so back we went to the loop track with a "B" of a hill at the end.

Then off we went headed for home stopping for an ice cream. We all arrived safe and sound knowing we'd had a good day out.

Thanks heaps to Camp Mother – you did a great job. And Long John for the drive home.  
*'The Old Rooster' – AKA Bernie*





## Sunday 2 December

## Christmas Outing

### Te Puna Quarry Park

Well, Christmas Party for the Wanderers. An interesting drive up the Kaimai's for the three van drivers, some parts of the road were running rivers...we thought that we were in for a very wet tramp indeed.

On arrival at Te Puna Quarry Park we had lovely cuppa with Christmas fruit cake supplied by Carol, with the weather looking deciding worse, we set off around the park. Much to the surprise of all it stopped raining and we all enjoyed a splendid walk admiring all the flowers. It truly is a magnificent spot. All the flowers were in bloom and there must have been dozens of monarch butterflies as well.

A quick change and off again in the van's – when the heavens opened up again. By the time we were at Waihi beach it stopped raining and we enjoyed a lovely lunch at the Waihi Beach RSA.

The meal was ham and/or lamb, potatoes, broccoli and cheese sauce, crumbed fish bites and calamari rings, plus an array of salads.

Dessert was the NZ/Aussie favourite of pavlova and plum pudding with custard and ice cream. With full puku's we then headed home.

A truly lovely day and excellent time to end another year with the Waikato Wanderers (or as some tables were named "Wonderers").

*Susan*





# TREK'N'TRAVEL

## GEAR LIST FOR MULTI-DAY WALKS

### FOR TREKKING

- Backpack / Pack Liner
- Sleeping Bag / Liner
- Towel
- Water Bottles / Bladder
- Sun Hat
- Quick Dry T-shirt / Shorts / Trousers
- Thermal Top / Pants / Leggings
- Wool or Fleece Hat / Gloves
- Mid Layer / Fleece Jacket
- Raincoat / Waterproof Overtrousers
- Boots / Trekking Shoes / Socks

### EXTRAS

- Earplugs
- Insect Repellant
- Sunscreen
- Torch / Head Torch
- Trekking Poles
- Tent

### FOR HUTS

- Toiletries
- Sleepwear
- Lightweight Clothing / Footwear

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