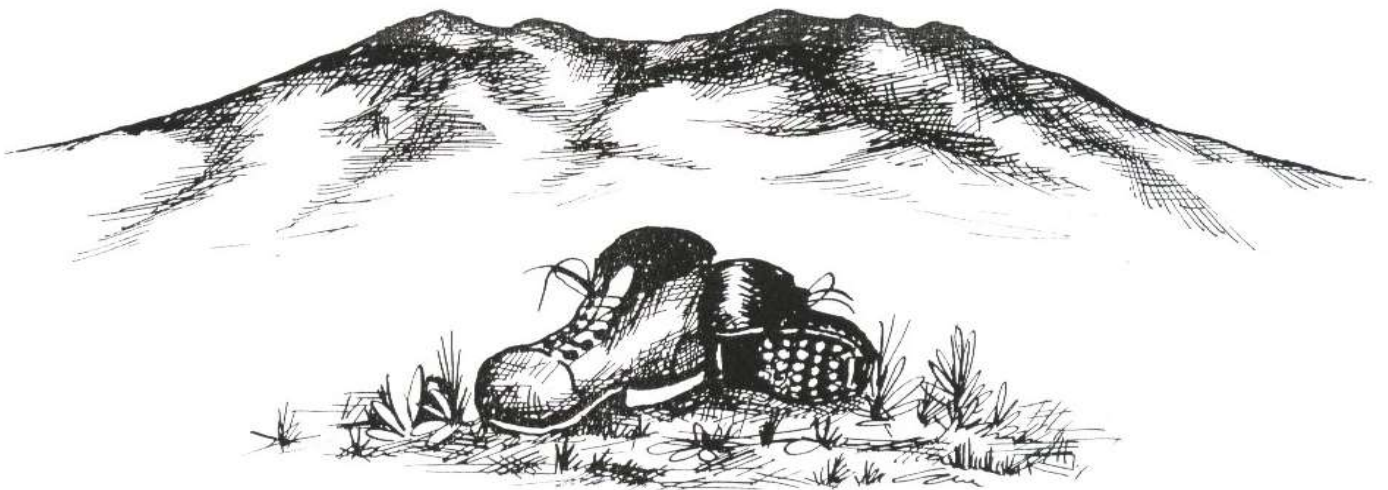


Wanderers Tramping Club Inc



BULLETIN

11th MAY TO 17th AUGUST 2025

www.wandererstramping.org.nz



<https://www.facebook.com/WanderersTramping>

Wanderers Tramping Club Inc

Club postal address : c/- 8 Camberley Way, Huntington, Hamilton, 3210

Bank account number 03-0306-0208429-000 - Always put your name as a reference

Club Committee 2024/2025

President/Treasurer: Dianne Lee 027 2726617
wandererstrampingclubnz@gmail.com

Social Convener: Pam Cornforth 027 2780690
pcornforth@xtra.co.nz

Secretary: Sue Grocock 027 4402448
rongee@xtra.co.nz

Bulletin Editor: Jennifer Wilkinson
wandererstrampingclubnz@gmail.com

New Member Co-ordinator: Sue Grocock 027 4402448

Committee
Ron Clarke
Glenys Morrow
Kathy Potter
Angus MacDonald

See Ron if you would like one of these embroidered badges to sew onto your tramping gear or shirt.
Only \$10 each.



Trip Programme

TRIP DATE	TRIP DETAILS	BOOKINGS
11 th May	Wairere Falls – Matamata G2 8am start	Leaders: Margaret & Ron Bookings: Margaret Open: 28 th April
25 th May	Waihou Blue Springs – Putaruru G1+ 8am start	Leaders: Carol & Margaret Bookings: Pam Open: 12 th May
8 th June	Mt Maunganui + Swim G1+/2 8am start	Leaders: Alison & Friends. Bookings: Margaret Open: 26 th May
22 nd June	TECT Park – Gate Pa Tauranga G1+ 8am start	Leaders: Dianne, Pam & Barbara Bookings: Pam Open: 9 th June
29 th June	Mid-Winter Lunch	Foundation Bar, The Base Shopping Centre, Te Awa Mall Contact: Pam Open: 26 th May
6 th July	Bridal Veil Falls + Raglan Ramble G2 8am start	Leaders: Alison & Sue Bookings: Alison Open: 23 rd June
8 th July	Trip Planning Meeting	Chartwell Cooperating Church, 126 Comries Rd, Chartwell Hamilton. Starts 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome.
20 th July	Kakepuku – Te Awamutu G2 8am start	Leaders: Barbara & friends Bookings: Dianne Open: 7 th July
3 rd August	Waotu Walks G1+ 8am start	Leaders: John & Ron Bookings: Pam Open: 21 st July
17 th August	Lake Okataina – Rotorua G1+ 7.30am start	Leaders: Dianne & Pam Bookings: Dianne Open: 4 th 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]

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 **Community Living Trust carpark, Collingwood Street. Park free on Collingwood Street on the road.**

President's Ponderings

Well, the first part of this year has gone fast, and we are now into the winter tramps for the year.

We are averaging a van per trip and sometimes a car, so not too bad, considering our membership has dropped slightly.

I'm going to be away for the first few tramps in this bulletin so transport will be organised by Alison Orchard. Thank you, Alison.

We are having a mid-winter lunch at the Foundation Bar & Kitchen which is in Te Awa Mall at The Base. See write up for more details and remember to book.

We are also revisiting some places we haven't been for a little while, so those newish members will have a treat.

As this is the winter bulletin, just a reminder you should have a torch, warm clothes (including hat and gloves), wear layers, wet weather gear, a change of footwear and clothes for the trip home.

You should carry a plastic bag with an extra layer in your packs just in case and a hot thermos is not a bad idea. I usually take hot water for a cup of soup.

Important information – Club Constitution Review.

The club needs to review our Club Constitution to bring it into line with the new Incorporated Societies law changes, so we will be asking for volunteers for a working party as this needs to be completed by April 2026, more hands light work, it is not as tough as you may think. Please help us out if you can.

Thanks for all the support from everyone, the club is still looking healthy but smaller in size.

See you on the track sometime.

Cheers

Dianne

Photo credit to Rosanne Ludbrook



GEAR LIST

- Lunch, snacks – plenty.
- Lots of drinking water - in an unbreakable bottle.
Take plenty in summer when it is hot – at least 2 litres.
- Raincoat or waterproof jacket with a hood or separate rain hat.
- Extra warm layer in case it gets cold or we need to stop for some reason.
- A torch - just in case.
- Plastic bag (or similar) to sit on when having lunch.
Keeps you dry when sitting.
- Toilet paper.
- Personal First-Aid Kit – including emergency blanket.
- Emergency Contact/Medical Details form: keep in a zip lock bag in a front pocket of your backpack.
- Whistle.
- **In winter include:**
warm hat, gloves, an extra warm layer, thermos of hot water (optional - but nice)
- **In summer include:**
sunhat, sunscreen, sunglasses.
- Money to cover tramp cost or internet bank in advance.
- Extra money if you wish for coffee/ice cream etc, for on the way home.
- Leave a spare change of clothing, including footwear, in the van.
This is in case you get wet, hot or dirty and need to change.



Optional Extras:

- Gaiters (good in muddy, stony or prickly conditions)
- Walking poles (useful on uneven terrain and when crossing rivers)



Where We Are Going

Sunday 11th May

Wairere Falls

Grade 1+

Grade 2+ (From the lookout)

Located in the Matamata area. The total walk is (5 kms).

Carpark to lookout: Time - about 45 mins one way, we return the same way.

From the car park an undulating track crosses large moss-covered rocks and tree roots. Sections of the track are wet, muddy, slippery and rocky so tramping boots are recommended.

Small wooden bridges take you across the stream at several points, offering lovely views of the water and its cascades. The track passes through rockfall zones, follow the signage and move carefully, through these areas.

There is a steady incline up the steps to the base of the cliff, through a grove of nīkau, pūriri and kohekohe. After this you arrive at a lookout platform with a spectacular view of the falls.

From the lookout to the top Time: about 90 minutes one way; return the same way. The track becomes much harder from this point as it climbs further up the hill to the top platform. There are plenty of steps and staircases in the steeper section. Take your time as you climb to the top of the falls.

Once you reach the top, the track passes through the forest before reaching the falls. The viewing platform at the top of the waterfall provides fantastic views of the Waikato valley. The falls drop 153 metres over the steep escarpment, please stay away from the edge.

Walking poles are recommended. (This description is adapted from the DOC Website)

From personal experience this is a very spectacular walk, but there are lots of steps, especially in the final section. Maybe if you are unsure, plan to walk to the lookout and then see how you feel.

The day concludes with a hot swim (\$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors) or coffee/ ice cream.

If it is raining very heavily on the day, the leaders may substitute another tramp, as the track could become very difficult and dangerous to negotiate.

Depart: 8am

Return: 5 - 6pm approx

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

Leaders: Margaret & Ron

Bookings: Open
Contact
Phone/Txt
Email

Monday 28th April
Margaret
021 253 1105
margaretstanding1@gmail.com

Sunday 25th May

Blue Springs – Putaruru

Grade 1+

About 9 kms from the centre of Putaruru is the Blue Springs and Te Waitou Walkway.

The walk along the river to the Springs is about 5 kms, with a couple of sets of steps but otherwise, it is mostly flat.

It is estimated to take about 1.5 kms each way: 3 hours in total. It is mostly easy walking, through privately owned farmland.

From personal experience (Margaret), I have always found this to be a very pleasant walk, not too taxing and the spring is a beautiful blue.

If you would like a mostly undemanding walk with plenty of variety, this is for you!

Interesting fact: The Blue Springs supplies around 70% of New Zealand's bottled water.

Depart:	8am	Return: 4 - 5pm approx
Cost:	\$25.00 (members) \$30.00 (non-members)	
Leaders:	Margaret & Carol	
Bookings:	Open	Monday 12 th May
	Contact	Pam
	Phone/Txt	027 278 0690
	Email	pcornforth@xtra.co.nz

Sunday 8 June

Tauranga and the Mount

Grade 1+

We start the day with a walk around the Waikareao Estuary in Tauranga on the Daisy Hardwick walkway. It is flat and made up of boardwalk and gravel type paths. It will take about 2 hours. We will see wetlands, native bush and views across the estuary and Motuopae island.

Then we will go to Mt Maunganui where there are several options:

These include a walk up or/and around the Mount, a walk on the beach and/or a swim/soak in the pools at the base of the Mount. There is a discount for a group booking of 10 or more at the pools including seniors.

A walk around the shops or a coffee/ice cream are of course other options.

Remember to bring extra money for swimming, coffee/ice cream etc

Depart:	8am	Return: 5 - 6pm approx
Cost:	\$25.00 (members) \$30.00 (non-members)	
Leaders:	Alison and friends	
Bookings:	Open	Monday 26 th May
	Contact	Margaret
	Phone/Txt	021 253 1105
	Email	margaretstanding1@gmail.com

TECT is an all-terrain Park, which is the first of its kind in NZ and is a joint venture with several groups.

The park is divided into zones catering for all the needs of the different users and activities undertaken.

It is located on SH36 (Pyes Pa Road) between Tauranga and Rotorua. There is good parking and general facilities such as toilets etc. We will have morning tea before we start and lunch on the track.

We are going to walk the Te Rerenga Tunnel Trail, you will need torches, and we might possibly get slightly wet feet as we follow part of a stream and depending on weather.

This is a medium grade loop track of approx. 3 -4km and takes about 2-3 hours plus stops. It starts at the car park and winds through mature pine forest and a bush clad gully of the Te Rerenga stream. The track is well formed, and the steep sections are stepped and includes boardwalks.

We go through a 60m tunnel dug in the early 1930's using picks, shovels and wheelbarrows and took approx. 3 years to complete. The tunnel has glow-worms and cave Weta.

We pass through Peterson's Camp where the crew lived while the tunnel was being constructed.

Good footwear is essential as the track can be slippery in sections, it's suggested to wear a light rain jacket as it can be windy and wet in parts, especially in the tunnel.

We may have an ice cream stop on the way home if time allows.

Depart: 8am

Return: 5pm approx

Cost: \$25.00 (members)

\$30.00 (non-members)

Leaders: Dianne, Pam & Barbara

Bookings: Open Monday 9th June

Contact Pam

Phone/Txt 027 278 0690

Email pcornforth@xtra.co.nz



Sunday 20th July

Kakepuku – Te Awamutu

Grade 2

We will climb Kakepuku along a shared mountain biking track for part of the way before continuing along the mountain ridge through remnants of original forest in the ancient volcano's crater before reaching the summit at 449m.

A viewing lookout tower at the top provides uninterrupted views over the Waipa and Waikato region, with panels offering historical and geological information on both the Kakepuku Mountain and surrounding area.

Native birdlife including tui, kereru and North Island robins, along with beautiful native fauna and stunning summit views make the climb well worth the effort.



Depart: 8am
Return: 3pm approx
Cost: \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non-members)
Leaders: Barbara & Friends
Bookings: Open Monday 7th July
Contact Dianne
Phone/Txt 027 2726617
Email leedi444@gmail.com

Sunday 3rd August

Waotu Walks

Grade 1

Today we have two short walks which are both in the Waotu area. (South Waikato)

The first is on private property with some untouched bush to explore.

Following this we will drive to Jim Barnett Reserve. There are 10 different tracks all easy walking but shared with Waikato River Trail cyclists. One track is even named after one of our own trampers.

There could be add-ons to this timetable. More details later.

Depart: 8am
Return: 4 - 5pm approx
Cost: \$25.00 (members)
\$30.00 (non-members)
Leaders: John & Ron
Bookings: Open Monday 21st July
Contact Pam
Phone/Txt 027 278 0690
Email pcornforth@xtra.co.nz

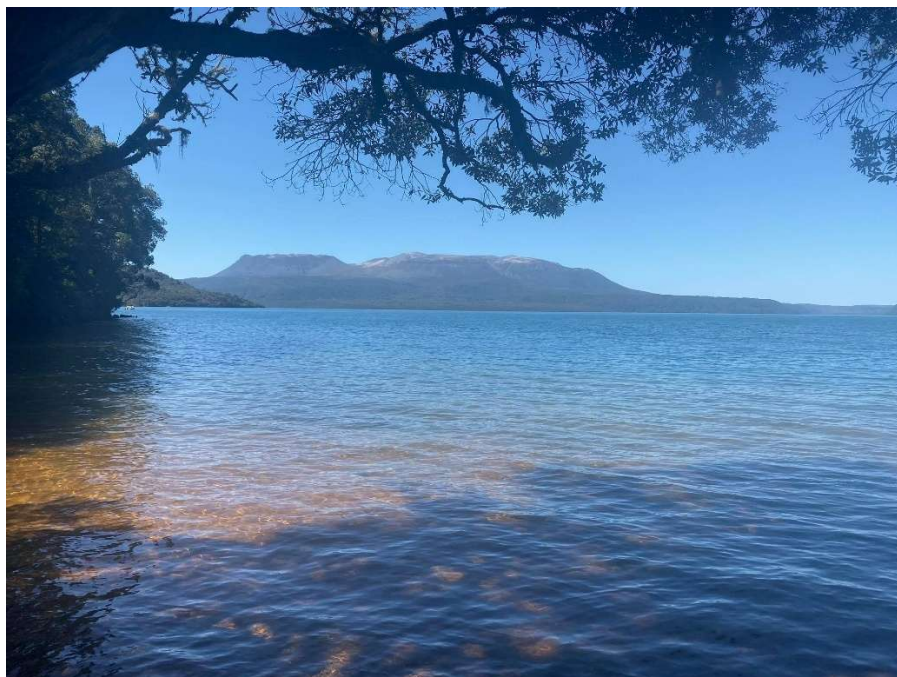
This a 7.30am start and will be a slightly longer day due to travelling distance. We will make our way to the Outdoor Education Centre at Lake Okataina where we will park and have morning tea. This is a joining of 3-4 tracks to make a loop returning to the centre. We will be walking 3-4 hours with stops. This is a great day and one of my (Dianne's) favourites.

We make our way back to the road and cross over for the start of the Ngahopua Track (Twin Lakes Track) with a 100m climb above the twin volcanic crater lakes of Rotongata and Rotorua formed 3,500 years ago. Great bush and bird life can be seen and heard. This connects to The Anaha Track which then connects to the Kepa Track. We cross the road to join our final track back up to the Outdoor Education Centre.

These tracks are known to be muddy, and the last part of the loop can be under a bit of water if there has been heavy rain. You will need a change of footwear and suggest a change of clothes for trip home.

If time allows, we may have an ice cream stop.

Depart:	7.30am	Note this Earlier start
Return:	5-6pm approx	
Cost:	\$25.00 (members)	
	\$30.00 (non-members)	
Leaders:	Dianne, Pam & Barbara	
Bookings:	Open	Monday 4 th August
	Contact	Dianne
	Phone/Txt	027 2726617
	Email	leedi444@gmail.com



Where We Went

Sunday 2nd February Raglan Beach Ramble Grade 1

On a beautiful morning eight of us gathered for the trip to Raglan and a wander along the beach. The weather was lovely and hot with a good breeze to keep us cool enough.

Starting from the Domain carpark we headed down the sand, the tide was well out and the beach was occupied by walkers with and without dogs and some fishermen. Along the way there was evidence of recent storm activity affecting the coastline with some erosion visible at the top of the beach. Four of our party stopped for a break by the steps just past the marae and then returned in their own time while the other four continued to see if we could get to the surf lifesaving station and return before the high tide at 1.30pm.

Given we had about three hours before high tide it only took 1 hour to get to the end of the beach and we turned to head back. It was nice to see so many dogs enjoying a run on the beach and a swim, we removed our shoes and paddled our way back up the beach to the carpark – the last bit of sand through the walkway was extremely hot and had Meghan and I hopping between bits of shade as we didn't put our shoes back on, rookie mistake!

After a quick regroup we headed off over the footbridge and met the first group in town having a coffee, then we all regrouped for fish and chips in the domain – the shop gets very busy so if you're unlucky it can be an hour wait for the take aways. Luckily, we found a shady table to eat our lunch and then headed home for an early return.

A very enjoyable day out and nice to catch up again after the Xmas break.

Catherine Hunter

Sunday 16th February Rotorua Grade 1+

It was a beautiful summers' day as the trampers loaded into the van and a car, for their day out. We enjoyed morning tea by Lake Rotoiti and then put on our boots, ready to walk.

We followed the bush track from our starting point to Lake Rotoehu. It was really delightful. The bush was varied and there were many interesting, native trees. It was quiet, apart from some welcome bird song and I just loved the peaceful atmosphere. The track wasn't challenging so everyone in the group, happily made it to our destination. Then of course we had lunch which was a leisurely affair, as there were no time limits.

The return walk was just as pleasant, and everyone travelled at their own pace.

When we got back to our starting point Lake Rotoiti looked glorious. It was clear and calm and one of our group just had to swim!

The rest of the trampers were content to sit and enjoy the views and eat whatever they had left in their packs. It was a relaxing time. With reluctance we headed for home, but as it was a hot day, we all enjoyed our usual ice creams.

Thanks to the leaders, it was an enjoyable outing, not too difficult, with time to look around and appreciate the special environment.

Margaret Standing

Sunday 2 March

Te Aroha

Grade 1+

14 of us + 1 lively local started our adventures by walking around the wetlands loop at Te Aroha. We were fascinated by the Spoonbills.

Tui Track with the cairns and huge Puriri trees was our next walk to the waterhole for lunch, then about turn.

Our "bonus" walk was up a few steps to the site of the old reservoir, a waterfall and a lookout.

Thank you, Roger and fellow Wanderers, for such an enjoyable outing.

Betty Dent

Our group of 13 trampers arrived in Te Aroha and at the Howarth Memorial Wetlands were

joined by a local tramper who brought our numbers up to 14.

We set out across the footbridge, high above the Waihou River. It was some years since we last walked this track, and we started out on a clockwise circuit. It was not long before we spotted a few spoonbills in the distant trees, then a flock of them wading in the water sweeping their long, black, spoon shaped bills from side to side while feeding. Further along the track we followed a boardwalk out over the water where black swans and a dabchick were swimming, reflected in the still lake. Continuing on our way we walked alongside the fast-flowing river for a time, stopping while Roger related some of its history.

After returning to our vehicles, we drove to Kotuku Street to walk the Tui/Domain track. We parked in a grassy area beside a stream to enjoy a cuppa. Roger told us that this was the stream that swept down the mountain carrying rocks and debris to flood the town in 1985.

Now it was time for our main walk of the day. It was going to be another hot day and we appreciated the shade as we entered the bush. The smaller trees gave way to taller ones as we gradually climbed. Our track levelled out as we crossed a road and walked past the large concrete reservoir tanks, then into the pleasant coolness of the bush again.

We continued on through the native forest until we reached a giant Puriri tree which would have been many hundreds of years old as it had a very wide girth.

A little further on, we could hear the sound of a stream. Breaking out into the sunshine, there before us was a small waterfall splashing down into a beautiful rock pool. This was a perfect spot for lunch and some relaxation before retracing our steps the way we had come.

On our way back a group of us climbed the steps behind the reservoir to a viewpoint giving panoramic views over the town and beyond. We then carried on to the Tutumangaero Falls which had less water than usual due to the lack of rain, before joining the rest of our group back at the vehicles.

Thank you, Roger, for taking us on a track that was new to many of us. It was a most enjoyable day.

Barbara



Photo credits to Barbara



Sunday 16 March

Kawhia

Grades 1+ & 2

Morning fog greeted us as we left Hamilton but soon cleared as we made our way to Te Kauri Lodge, stopping to pick up someone in Pirongia. We had checked the Kawhia road was open as three attempts at a survey had been thwarted by road closures.

Twelve of us set off and were enjoying the beautiful bush, even if the steps down the Manuka Track seemed to go on for ever! Then we came across a tree fall, quite a sizeable one too. In the process of trying to find a way around we came across a bypass track that had been created behind it. There had been some markers on what we thought was a small fallen tree, but it turned out to be the indicator to the bypass. Once again, we were on our way along the Waiuku stream to the camping area where we enjoyed our morning tea.

Returning to the stream track we set off up the Mackenzie track. This proved to be a long haul back up a reasonably steep hill to an intersection. Here we separated into two groups.

Some of us returned to the van, another hour walking. Some went along the Fort track, another couple of hours walking there and back to the intersection.

Those of us going back to the van enjoyed the view from the highest point (yes, a few more steps)

along the way. Once back at the van we sorted ourselves out, relaxed, ate lunch and some belated Christmas cake and explored around the lodge.

The rest of the group walked to the stream at the end of the Fort track, but it was a bit tricky getting to the stream, so they ate lunch at the end of the track. They arrived back at the van

looking tired but pleased with themselves for completing the whole tramp.

As we had to drop someone off in Pirongia it was also declared an ice cream stop.

We then continued home to Hamilton.

Thanks to Alison and Ron for their driving and leadership.

Carol

Sunday 30th March PIRONGIA - Sainsbury Reserve Walk G1+

At the end of March on yet another perfect autumn day fifteen trampers headed out through Pirongia to the top of Sainsbury Road and carpark.

On the way Roger took us to the Historic Alexandra Redoubt at Bellot Road on the Pirongia outskirts, a defence and lookout with deep trenches and high walls – part of the buffer zone on the “Aukati” line between the Maaori in the King Country and settlers in the Waikato.

It was built after the land wars as Settlers were nervous because of their close proximity to the Aukati boundary. This is well worth a look.

Just past the Sainsbury carpark was a table for a break and a map showing all the grades of cyclists tracks. As Roger led us on a gentle climb on the shady canopied forestry road, Dianne dressed in a high vis jacket and took to the rear and practiced blowing 3 whistles alerting us of approaching cyclists whereby most of us promptly moved to the left.

The cyclists were climbing too so no real threat on the ascent, but we needed the practice for the descent where the road was replaced by narrow windy tracks of different grades.

We did the grade 2 track and prayed for no speeding descending cyclists forcing us to jump over the edge.

At the top of the road had been a surprise as the bush took on a different form namely a forest of tall stately Sequoia (Redwoods) which were with us on a lot of the downhill tramp. I read that mature Sequoia can store as much as five times more carbon above ground than any older type of forest on the planet. They also have the capacity to be copied. They are however fussy trees, liking altitude, no frosts, sharp drainage, good rainfall.

On returning to the table by the carpark, we all hungrily ate our lunches. Apparently, the Wanderers had not done this tramp before which was estimated at 8 kms for us. It was a very pleasant attractive walk, but we had to be mindful that we shared with cyclists, runners and even horses.

Thank you Roger, John & friends, and brave Dianne at the rear.

Rosanne Ludbrook



Photo credits to Rosanne Ludbrook

Sunday 3rd April Papamoa Hills + Welcome Bay hot swim Grade 1+ / Grade 2

10 keen trampers set off on a lovely autumn day. We made good time and arrived in Papamoa a little earlier than expected. It was a new car park with toilets and seating areas that we utilized for morning tea.

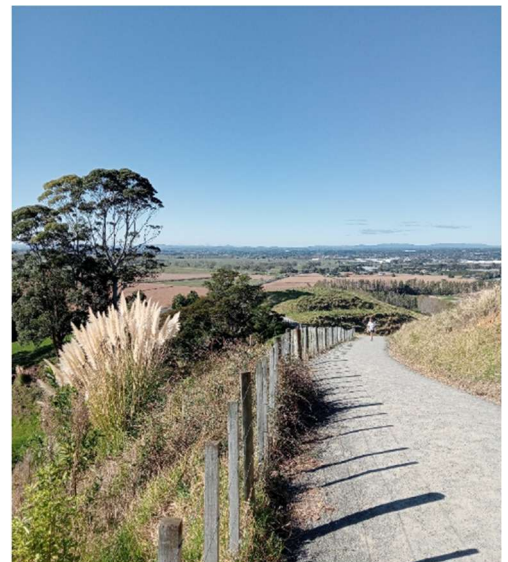
The bulletin write-up promised a hill and some steps (113 to be precise). We set off together, each walking at their own pace. There was the main group that went ahead and completed the whole walk and there were a few of us that followed along at a slower pace.

The views were spectacular, and a little breeze was very welcome as we got higher up. All of us made it to the top of the steps and a few of us turned back at that point. Coming down was a bit trickier as it was a gravel path with potential for slipping.

Once back at the car park we had our lunch before setting off for the pools. Half of us had a swim. For me one pool was too hot and the other too cold but still a welcome dip. The other half enjoyed an ice cream.

Then we headed home, a little earlier than expected (it seemed to be the pattern of the day!) Thanks to the leaders and drivers.

Carol



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