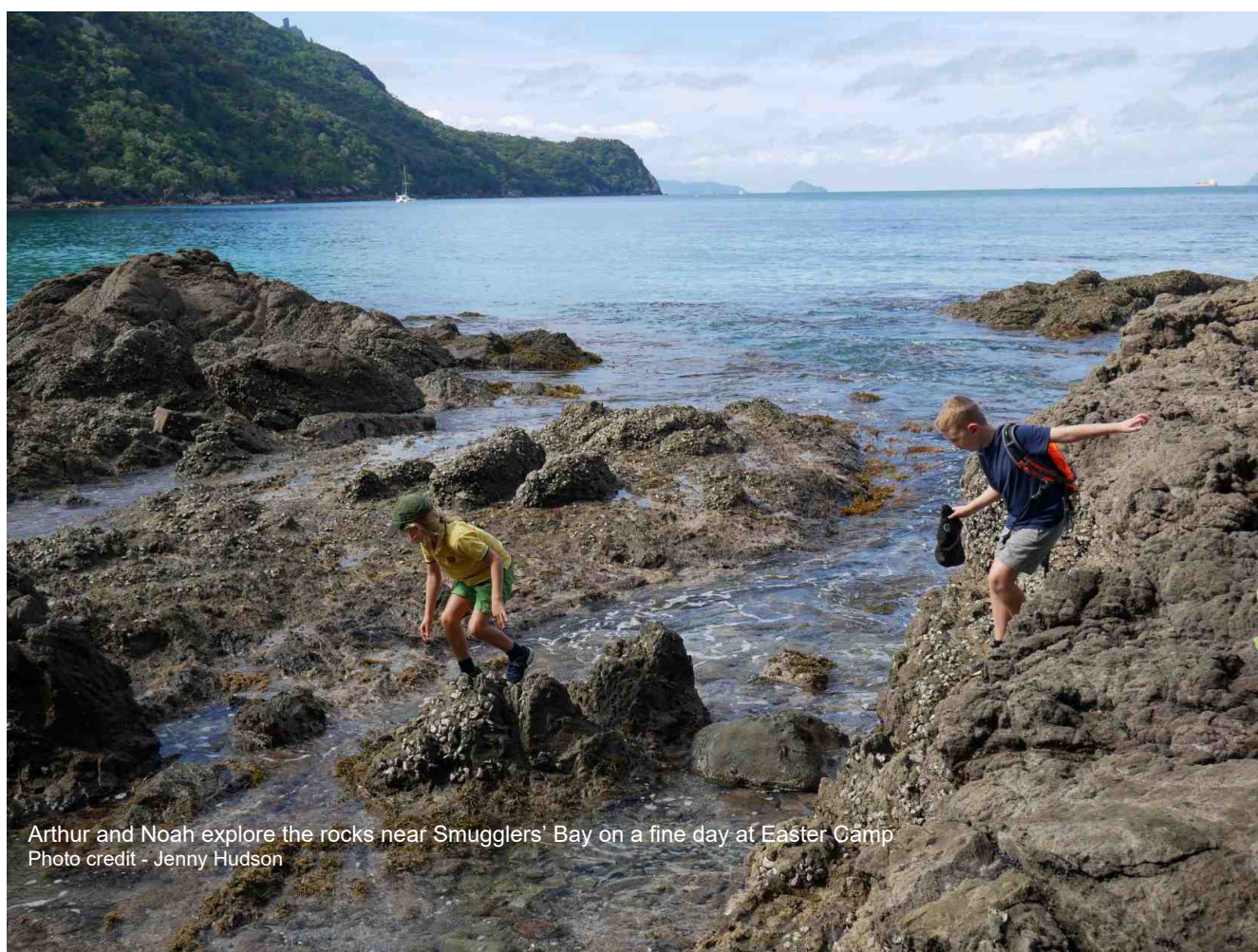


e-magazine

of the Alpine Sports
Club Incorporated

*Ita Montium via Nostra - the
Mountain Path is Our Way*

June 2022

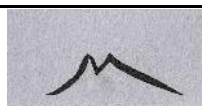


Arthur and Noah explore the rocks near Smugglers' Bay on a fine day at Easter Camp
Photo credit - Jenny Hudson

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CLUB CONTACTS

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Secretary	Jenny Hudson	021 626 330	secretary@alpinesport.org.nz
Treasurer	Jackie Ponting	021 209 3120	treasurer@alpinesport.org.nz
Ruapehu Co-ordinator	Johann Schoonees	0210 2405 2147	ruapehu@alpinesport.org.nz
-assisted by	Jane Rogers	0274585750	jane.rogers@xtra.co.nz
-assisted by	Bart Schroder	0211777367	bart@alpinesport.org.nz
Tours Officer	Mark Roberts	021 083 36285	tours@alpinesport.org.nz
- assisted by	Lesley Hawke	021 670 981	hawke.lesley@gmail.com
Ruapehu Booking Officer			bookings@alpinesport.org.nz

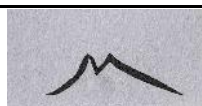


Membership Secretary	Tracey Laga	09 279 9110	membership@alpinesport.org.nz
Advisor and Past Treasurer	Warren Whyte	027 675 2147	wandjwhyte@xtra.co.nz
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Thursday Walks Co-ordinator	Clive Bolt	09 534 2946	cbolt@xtra.co.nz
Midis and Midis Plus Co-ordinator	Sherilyn Coney	0274 360 680	sconey@xtra.co.nz
Summer Camp Co-ordinators	Mark Roberts	021 083 36285	tours@alpinesport.org.nz
	Miranda Hutton	022 648 8733	miranda@alpinesport.org.nz
Club records archivist	Jenny Hudson	021 626 330	jenny@hudson.co.nz
RUAPEHU A-FRAME	PHONE NUMBER	07 892 3710	

RUAPEHU BOOKINGS QUICK REFERENCE (by website only)

Book by selecting the 'Online Booking' option on the Club website and follow the instructions. Likewise, for changing or cancelling a booking, or applying for a refund, follow the website instructions.

To contact Booking Officer, email: bookings@alpinesport.org.nz. See more details in the back pages of this magazine.



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CLUB NIGHT - 7:30 PM, TUESDAY 7 JUNE 2022

St Mark's Church Parish Hall, Remuera Road

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of AGM held on 1 June 2021 and matters arising
3. President's Report
4. Treasurer's Report and Financials for the year ended 31 March 2022
5. Committee Reports - Ruapehu, Waitakere, Trips and Tramps
6. Election of Club Officers for forthcoming year: President, Vice-Presidents (2), Secretary, Treasurer, Ruapehu Co-ordinator - to be split into 4 roles of Bookings, Maintenance, Operations and Promotions Co-ordinators, Trips & Tramps Co-ordinator, General Committee.
Note: The elected committee will have the power to co-opt others if necessary.
7. Appointment of Accounts Reviewer
8. General Business

Hear our guest speakers Nick and Vic talk about their Sounds to Sounds trip

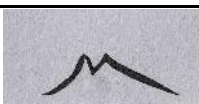


In March this year Nick Monteith and Vic FitzPatrick completed the inaugural Sounds to Sounds bikepacking Brevet.

The event organised by mountain biking's famous Kennett brothers started at Ship Cove in Queen Charlotte Sound and ended in Milford Sound.

The 1500 km route was 75% off road and linked together a string of classic cycling trails including the Queen Charlotte Track, Molesworth station, Omarama saddle, the new Lake Dunstan trail, the Nevis Road and finished on an eerily quiet Milford Road.

Come to club night to hear Nick and Vic's tales of cycling through alpine passes, fording swift rivers, dealing with mechanical misadventures and Nick's endless quest for the perfect pie.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is the time of the year when we have our AGM, review and then approve the 31 March 2022 financial statements, and have our election for the new 2022 President, Vice-Presidents (x2), Secretary, Treasurer and other Committee members.

For those of you who wish to fill or are interested in any of these positions please contact either Jenny Hudson (Secretary) or myself for more information on them.

We have all been putting up with Covid – 19 for quite some time now and I cannot see this unfortunate situation ceasing for quite a while yet.

I am aware that a number of our members have gone down with Covid – 19 and I wish you all a quick recovery.

But this does not mean that we in Auckland or elsewhere cannot go out for a walk everyday for an hour or so.

I recommend you all go out regularly for a walk in your own neighbourhood; you will be surprised what you find.

And now for a little bit of history...

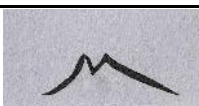
From around 1976 when I joined our Club I became very much involved with Ian McNab (President 1976 -1979) and Dave Lowe (President 1979 – 1981) in many club activities, predominantly the building of the new A Frame. In fact I even helped dig the foundation holes and concreting the new foundation in.

I was first appointed President in 1981, taking over from Dave Lowe, and held this position for 3 years until 1984. I then became President again in 2020, 36 years later!

I will not be standing again but if whoever is appointed wishes to contact me for some advice they are welcome to do so.

I would like to thank all the present committee members and many others for the work they have recently undertaken in multiple areas, we could not do without you!

Scott White



TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE 2021-2022 FINANCIAL YEAR

By Jackie Ponting , Honorary Treasurer

Editor's note: the financial statements are at the back of the magazine, pages 24 - 27

Sadly my report again reflects on the impacts of COVID on our results, and continued challenges experienced, as well as resilience, generosity and community spirit from the members.

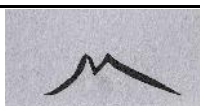
We received grants from 2 sources during the year:

- Active (strategic partner of Auckland Council and Sport NZ) covering the costs incurred relating to the Waitakere hut (our Auckland operations) during the level 4 lockdown in August 2021. This amounted to \$988.
- Foundation North (members may be more familiar with their previous name of ASB Community Trust). This again related to our Auckland activities and costs. Their generous grant amounted to \$5,000.

Several club members included a donation at the time of their subscription, and others also gave very generously when we put out the call for assistance during the Auckland lockdown. These donations amounted to \$4,344.

Summary of Income and Expenses

	This year \$	Last year \$	Prior year \$
Income was received from the following sources:-			
Subscriptions	30,442	27,546	27,230
Ruapehu bookings - members and groups	22,160	38,440	42,174
Ruapehu bookings - socially good group	2,435	557	9,765
Waitakere hut bookings	5,585	5,817	3,848
Grants and members donations	10,333	17,986	15,819
Other income	860	4,806	4,707
Total income	71,814	95,151	103,543
Expenditure:			
Communication and admin costs	11,636	13,957	11,511
Ruapehu operating costs	67,035	67,544	80,054
Waitakere operating costs	6,483	4,785	4,838
Other expenditure	2,445	3,803	887
Total expenditure	87,599	90,089	97,291
Operating Surplus	-15,785	5,062	6,252
Less abnormal expenditure items	0	0	0
Ruapehu huts fire alarm system replacement	0	-16,151	0
Less depreciation	-2,156	-4,053	-3,693
Net (Loss)/ Surplus as per annual accounts	-17,941	-15,142	2,559



Of course, our Ruapehu operations were again severely impacted by the incredibly long (gosh, I'm glad it's over) Auckland lockdown. The costs although reduced where possible, were similar to the previous year, despite income being just over half of that from 2019 (pre-Covid).

Luckily we have a stable membership base, thanks to all our members for continuing to support the club. There was actually an increase in the subscription income, with a small trickle of new members throughout the year.

I have separated out the Waitakere hut booking fees as this continues to be a stable and consistent income source, and fantastic asset that I am happy to see getting use by members and outside groups.

RUAPEHU ANNUAL REPORT 2022

by Johann Schoonees

That virus

The snow season on Mt Ruapehu was unfortunately again disrupted last year by a Covid-19 Alert Level 4 lockdown in Auckland from 18 August to 21 September, compounded by the late arrival of good snow in July. Our Hut Wardens Charlee Hutcheson and Joe Smith had to evacuate the mountain on 20 August for the countrywide lockdown, and were kindly accommodated in the Pinnacle Ski Club Ohakune Lodge at their minimum summer rate.

Bookings

So many Ruapehu hut bookings were moved, cancelled, refunded or abandoned that it is difficult to extract booked bunk numbers from the bookings register for our members and their guests.

We do, however, know what external groups used our huts:

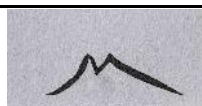
- Got To Get Out (Robert Bruce)
- Auckland Tramping Club (Jim Morrow)
- Beca Tauranga (Parneet Kohli)
- Hutt International Boys' School

These brought in \$14,040 from a total of 108 bunk-nights in the A-frame and 200 bunk-nights in the Bunkhouse (aka old Ruapehu Hut). Bookings by the University of Auckland Ski Club and St Kentigern College were foiled by the pandemic.

The website hut booking system did not cope well with such an extraordinary year, and the Club did not have funds for an extensive redesign. Our bookings officer Justine Checketts was overwhelmed with requests for booking alterations, cancellations and refunds as the pandemic rolled down the calendar. Our web hosting service, steered by Clive Bolt, has now made some changes to make bookings easier and more flexible.

Huts promotion

With the Club under financial pressure, we made a special effort to promote especially the Bunkhouse to non-members and groups. Justine did well to sign up five weekend group bookings before the August lockdown hit, and two more afterwards from outside of Auckland. Christina Richter, Fiona Heenan and Miranda Hutton wrote cover letters and proposed itineraries which Bart Schroder emailed to about 1,700 schools and 100 FMC clubs in early October. Uncertainty around the pandemic stymied many recipients' ability to plan ahead; schools especially put outdoor activities on hold.



Summer works

Our Ruapehu huts are in serviceable condition but require on-going maintenance and repairs in the challenging environment of a volcanic mountain above the winter snowline. We decided there were too many issues, particularly with regard to weather tightness, to address in one season of work parties. We therefore focussed this year on preserving the fabric and integrity of the buildings, mainly by painting the weathered south gable (kitchen end) of the A-frame, and treating and painting emerging rust spots on the roofs of both huts. Plus the usual annual fixing, tidying and spring clean.

There were seven working trips to the mountain this summer:

- Scaffold erecting (16-17 Feb)
- Three work parties (26-27 Feb, 5-6 Mar, 19-20 Mar)
- Plumbing (12-13 Mar)
- Soffit fitting and scaffold removal (1-2 Apr)
- Food drop (14-15 May).

The following wonderful volunteers helped at the work parties: Bronwyn, Steve, Giacomo and Louis Bayne; Kerry Bromell, Roger Carter, Carol, Richard, Edmund and Scott Christie; Russell Fail, Jackie Hillman, Jonathan, Janet and James Hodder; Scott Houghton, Jenny Hudson, John Hutton, Craig Jaensch, Eleanor and Lane; Lloyd Lin, Peter Loveridge, John Mackay, Martin Nelson, Tony Parlane, Jackie Ponting, Marc and Jody Richardson; Christina Richter, Mark Roberts, Jane Rogers, Bruce Rogers, Di and Don Rolls; Kate Schoonees, Bart Schroder, Christine Sheehy, Dave Tapp, Etienne and Wiona van Huyssteen; Andrea Ward, Annie Watts and Warren Whyte.

The paint job more than a year ago on the Bunkhouse seems in good condition. A bit early to tell, but it might be because we decided henceforth to treat any exposed cedar weatherboards with the paint manufacturers' recommended solvent-borne timber preservers and primers before proceeding with the top coats. This takes more time and costs more but we hope it will prolong paint survival in these extremely harsh conditions.

The deteriorating fibreboard soffits over the A-frame gable presented a challenge. After much planning they were painted with sealer and covered with a good quality, airtight membrane, then clad (in a freezing southwester) with board-and-batten similar to the cladding on the extension part of the A-frame hut. This will hopefully last a long time and require little maintenance.

Snowdrift and rainwater ingress into the A-frame ceiling spaces and upstairs doors and windows remain an annoying problem; we will try to remediate those next year.

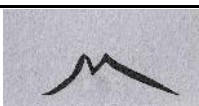
Hut wardens

We were fortunate to have our previous Hut Wardens Charlee Hutcheson and Joe Smith back again for the past year. It wasn't a great year to be a warden, with the huts empty and lonely for much of the season. The Club nevertheless benefited from their friendly hospitality, positive attitude and cheerful hard work. Food safety compliance was a new responsibility which they took on meticulously. When they expressed interest we gladly extended their tenure for this coming year too.

Wonderful members

The Ruapehu sub-committees this past year comprised:

- Justine Checketts (bookings)
- Brian Duffy (maintenance)
- Fiona Heenan (food safety & promotion)
- Scott Houghton (maintenance)
- Miranda Hutton (promotion)
- Tracey Laga (promotion)
- Lloyd Lin (maintenance)
- Jodi Reddell (promotion)
- Christina Richter (promotion)



- Jane Rogers (operations)
- Bart Schroder (maintenance)

Grateful thanks to all – it couldn't happen without you.

Those are the people officially on sub-committees; special thanks also go to Clive Bolt (bookings), Kerry Bromell, Roger Carter and Russell Fail (maintenance), and Kate Schoonees (food logistics) for stepping up when help was needed, to Lloyd and Andrea Lin for doing a plumbing work party all on their own (because the A-frame hut's water had to be turned off), and again to Bart Schroder for never saying no even while under the pump of his day job.

Proposed new committee roles

At the April meeting, the committee discussed the high burnout rate of some committee positions, in particular that of Ruapehu Co-ordinator. Recent incumbents have not lasted long and are reluctant or even opposed to taking up the role again. Committees have in the past delegated some of the Co-ordinator's responsibilities to another committee member such as a Bookings Officer; this has certainly helped.

The committee agreed in principle to separate the accountabilities of the Ruapehu Co-ordinator role into four roles:

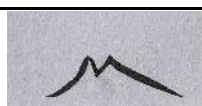
- Bookings Officer (more or less unchanged):
 - . On-line bookings support.
 - . Appointing weekend Hut Officers.
 - . Hut key distribution if necessary.
 - . Discretionary refunds.
 - . Group bookings.
- Huts Promotion (new):
 - . Marketing and promotion of huts to non-members (schools, other clubs, etc.)
- Ruapehu Huts Operations:
 - Food supply, stocktaking, freezers, food safety compliance, water testing, food drop organisation.
 - Materials and consumables stock control and replacement.
 - Warden selection, induction and liaison.
- Ruapehu Huts Maintenance:
 - Repairs and maintenance surveys, planning and prioritisation.
 - Regulatory inspections and certification.
 - Emergencies.
 - Work parties organisation.

It may be that the sum of this list of responsibilities was excessive, and the reason why the Co-ordinator role became overwhelming for its incumbents. The Co-ordinator had default accountability for everything to do with the Club's activities and assets on Mt Ruapehu.

The practice of appointing a subcommittee to which the Ruapehu Co-ordinator could delegate tasks did not address the fact that the Co-ordinator remained accountable for seeing that things were done. Responsibilities could be more or less successfully delegated, but accountability remained with the Co-ordinator.

Hopefully committee members should be able to manage the new roles for several years without burning out. Otherwise we will run out of people who want to do them.

Johann Schoonees
(Last) Ruapehu Co-ordinator



NOTICES

URGENT REMINDER.... 2022 - 23 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE

Please pay your subscription promptly if you haven't yet done so. If you are not sure what you need to pay, have a look at the April edition of Alpinesport where you will find the schedule and payment information.

COVID PROTOCOLS

The good news is we are now more or less back to our normal activities. Our huts are operating normally and our wardens Charlee and Joe are already in residence at Mt Ruapehu. The Waitakere hut is sporting some new kitchen cabinetry and looking sparkly.

HOWEVER, if you happen to be unwell with flu-like symptoms, have tested positive for Covid, or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, PLEASE DO NOT COME to any of our activities or huts until you have waited out the necessary self-isolation time recommended by the Ministry of Health. Please NOTIFY YOUR TRIP LEADER OR HUT OFFICER/WARDEN as soon as possible if any of these circumstances apply to you so we can contact people and arrange deep cleaning of bunkrooms etc or anything else necessary to minimise the risk to others.

Remember, in case of illness, you can change or cancel your Ruapehu booking yourself online and receive an automatic credit to be used later in the season.

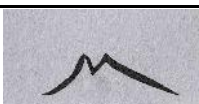
CLUB NIGHT TUESDAY 5 JULY 2022



The 5 Passes tramp is a classic backcountry hike, rated moderate to difficult. It crosses and re-crosses the Southern Divide and takes 3 to 6 days.

Reasonable navigation skills and good weather are needed on the exposed higher alpine areas as there are few refuge areas and no huts.

Come and hear Brian Duffy's and Bart Schroder's story about tackling this arduous 55 km route with a total elevation gain of more than 4,000m.



RUAPEHU VOLCANIC ALERT LEVEL 2

Mt Ruapehu has a level 2 volcanic alert in place. For updates on the alert level go to: <https://www.geonet.org.nz/volcano/ruapehu->

NEXT ALPINESPORT - AUGUST 2022

Look out for the next issue of Alpinesport in early August.

The deadline for content to be sent to the editor (media@alpinesport.org.nz) or jenny@hudson.co.nz is **15 July 2022. Keep those photos, trips and stories rolling in!**

WAITAKERE TRACKS UPDATE - CONNECTING WHATIPU TO PIHA AND ANAWHATA

by our Waitakere Regional Park Liaison person, John Mackay

The Waitakere park rangers (with patience, hard work and resources that the super city has previously starved them of) are steadily re-opening tracks all over the ranges. The really big one - at ANZAC weekend after four years of closure - was the Gibbons, Muir and Pararaha tracks, so it is now possible to follow the Hillary Trail from Upper Huia Dam down the Omanawanui ridgeline to Whatipu, then up the coastline to Piha and Anawhata. The final section, linking north to Te Henga and Muriwai, is under construction and should be open in about 12 months (COVID and washouts willing).

The rangers also have a vision for a more remote inland track using Cutty Grass Track and others to link through to a campground at the Cascades. For an up-to-date map of all re-opened tracks (including those in the Hunuas, on Waiheke, and in the Kaipatiki catchment, click on:

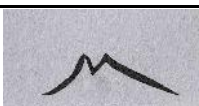
<https://aucklandcouncil.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=090a929b13884cfdb17078f7bb41c8a4>

Although I'm aware that I'm in an echo chamber on one side of the argument, it's becoming increasingly clear that the alarmist campaign and sudden closure of tracks was based on misinformation and poor science. The science is being reviewed (report due in June) and it seems possible that, after a bit of face-saving, most of the tracks may be re-opened. Below is an abridged post by Carsten Geuer - one of the more reasoned commentators:

I am very concerned (and frustrated) about the recent article in Stuff which once again is promoting the blatant misinformation that Kauri Dieback is caused by trampers spreading a newly introduced pathogen. After 15 years of research there is no scientific study supporting this claim. All the known facts are pointing to climate change as the cause for Kauri Dieback: very similar to Beech Dieback in the South Island where more frequent and serious droughts are responsible.


The only indication that a spreading pathogen is responsible was the statement that "about 70% of infected trees are within 50m of a track" which was fake news. In early 2018, based on this fake news, the promoters of the closure of the Waitākeres Ranges started a media campaign which led to the biggest closure of public space in the history of New Zealand.

In 2019 I received the attached LGOIMA response saying that "Auckland Council reports do not state that 70% of infected trees are within 50m of a track . . . Unfortunately, this sentence has been summarised and misquoted in the media and by some external parties." And the attached letter from



It seems to me that the raw data of the latest report shows a correlation with ridges which are (due to the often thin soil layers) drought prone. Not with tracks, except of course where a track goes along a ridge (for example Maungaroa Ridge Track). Forests around the world are dying due to climate change, there is absolute consensus about this. But instead of introducing public transport to the Waitākere Ranges (which would be a sensible response following the motto "think globally, act locally") Auckland Council closed walking tracks based on fake news.

<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0250422>

[illegible]

EASTER CAMP AT MANAIA BAPTIST CAMP, WHANGAREI

14 - 18 April 2022

by Jenny Hudson

An exciting, joyful and eventful Easter weekend for all

A total of 70 adults and kids spent a busy and at times noisy (to older ears) Easter at a delightful spot near the Whangarei Heads.



Most of us were in bunkrooms within the main building while a few families opted to stay in the camp cottages. Kathleen and Gemma exchanged uncertain weather for peace and quiet in their tent for a couple of nights.



There were playtimes, games and water sports aplenty down at the private beach with a couple of fabulous water slides (sorry, no pictures)....



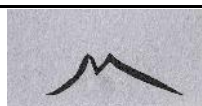
Hendrik's family practised their kayaking skills.



The small children made sandcastles under Abi's watchful eye.



The Easter egg colouring sheets came out for some quiet activity time.





The squishy lounge chairs were great for naps.



Exploration around the coast produced some surprises...



....and some classic views, before scrambling around the rocks. The more adventurous families explored Ocean Beach and Bream Head but

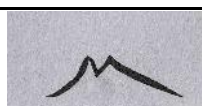
decided the full Te Whara Track was a bit ambitious for young legs.



Shrimps, crabs and small fish kept the kids entertained while the adults gossiped.



There was great excitement and anticipation at



the Easter egg hunt - **most** of the eggs found their way back to the collecting buckets to be shared out equally.



New friends Arthur and Noah solved the world's problems...



...and said a tearful farewell until next time.

The camp was rated a great success by attendees, despite a 3 hour power cut on Sunday afternoon. And two unlucky families found they had Covid in their midst on their return home!

Thank you Miranda and Mark for organising such a great Easter camp.

Photo credits: Kathleen Roberts, Peter Loveridge, Jenny Hudson

SUNDAY TRAMP - KARANGAHAKE GORGE AREA

Sunday 3 April 2022

by Sue Fitzpatrick

Ten members of the staunch, older trampers group met at the Karangahake Gorge Carpark on a beautiful sunny day early in April with the aim of climbing Mt Karangahake and whatever other exploring could be done in the time.

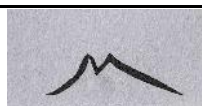
Dozens of others had also chosen the area that day for outdoor activities, so car parking was a slight issue. However, it was great to see so many out enjoying the last of summer. Cyclists, runners, trampers and families picnicking beside the river with children playing in the clear water.

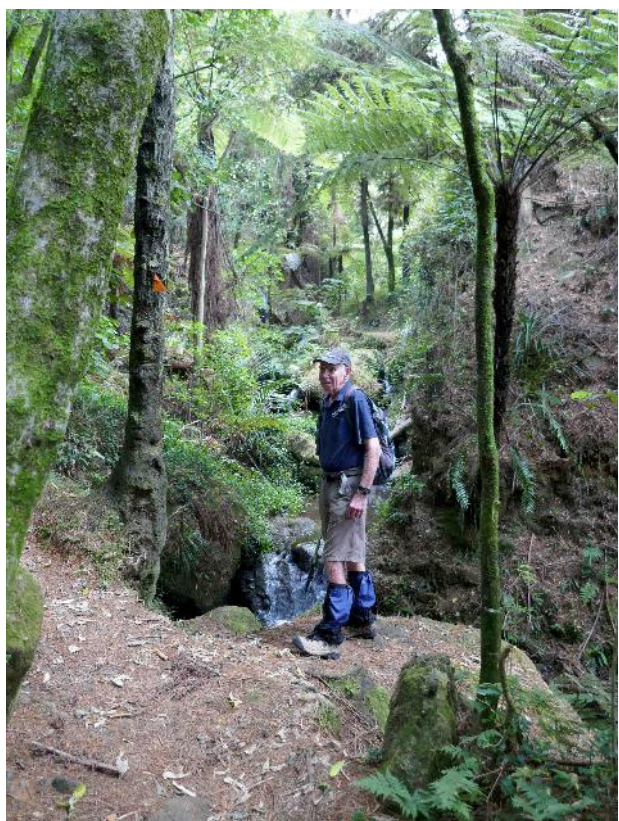
After crossing the Ohinemuri River we traversed Scotsman's Gully then began heading upwards along Crown Hill Road. There was a lot of chat and discussion about past tramps in the area but general agreement that something had caused the climb to be steeper than it used to be. On to County Road and ever upwards in very warm temperatures.



Definitely a tramping track!

Shady sections and stops for liquid replacement gave some relief. In spite of the fact the orange marker pointed straight ahead when we came to the junction of County Rd and Mountain Track, we decided it looked more interesting to head left up the track. Hurrah, a real tramping track on uneven terrain where we had to watch our feet.





Warren contemplating which way to go

On reaching the saddle the sight of the lookout on the high point was rather daunting. It seemed almost a sheer climb. To the right a much easier shorter climb to have lunch by a cell phone tower but Warren did a quick reccy and reported back it was a waste of time as the view wasn't great and there was little shade to relax and enjoy lunch. Decision: let's find a shady spot to sit and refuel and re-energise. Strangely after that the Lookout approach seemed easier and closer and so it proved to be. When our recharged bodies stood on the top it was worth every huff and puff of the day. Magnificent views in every direction and



right down to where we'd come from.



the happy trampers reach the top

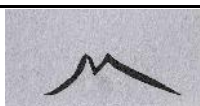
Retracing our steps to our lunch spot we continued back down along County Rd, completing a loop at the Mountain Rd junction. A feature on this part was an unsigned entrance to what appeared to be a very long, presumably gold mining tunnel. One member who wasn't likely to knock her head went some distance in without sighting an end. It would have been interesting if there had been a notice and explanation at the entrance.

There were various tracks on which we could have returned to our cars but we decided to leave further exploring in the area for another day. Nobody wanted to be out in the dusk.

Watch out for upcoming tramps of this sort. They are companionable and fun, giving participants a feeling of achievement.

Brian and Sue FitzPatrick, Maria Bullock, Don Baker, Jeanette and Murray Davidson, Elisabeth Jobbins, Rosemary Wakeman, Jocelyn and Warren Whyte

Photo credit: Don Baker



SUNDAY WALK - WAIHEKE ISLAND

8 May 2022

A Tramp of Attrition or: how to lose 40% of your party without even trying.



view of Motuihe and unusual cloud formations

Nineteen eager trampers set out for Waiheke on 8th May.

They were: Warren & Jocelyn Whyte (leader & scribe), David Addis, Helen & Clive Bolt, Maria Bullock with son Adrian & two grandchildren, Marjorie Buxton, Bill Dobbie, Sue & Brian Fitzpatrick, Elisabeth Jobbins, Jane & Bruce Rogers, Diane & John Syme, Rosemary Wakeman.

- By Church Bay the children had achieved their goal and four headed back to Oneroa.
- So 15 jolly trampers continued on till lunch.



no explanation needed here...

- Then one had trouble with his leg and left for an early ferry.



should this have been our transport?

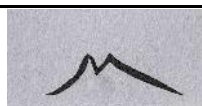
- The other 14 trampers went on towards Blackpool.
- One thought we'd taken a wrong turn so took an independent route.
- That meant that 13 happy trampers reached the Blackpool beach.
- Then two went off to find the last
- And 11 husky trampers continued up the road
- Until one decided he would take a short cut.
- Finally, 10 tiring trampers continued to Oneroa
- Where they each had a scrumptious ice cream before catching the ferry home.



... or here

A stunning autumn day was enjoyed by all.

Photo credit: Brian FitzPatrick





Keep a look out for updates on trips in our newsletters, Facebook page and the next issue of Alpinesport.

Walks are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month (except January and December). For further information contact Clive Bolt cbolt@xtra.co.nz. For details of proposed multi-day trips see the Club's Bulletin Board under "Tramping and Trips" where members seek others to join them or help in planning in trips.

Thursday Walks

Please remember that we are a vulnerable group so don't come if you have any respiratory symptoms or have been exposed to anyone that does have symptoms. Please let the leaders know by email that you are coming.

The whole Thursday walks programme is available on the link below.

Note that we are coming up towards some gaps that will need leaders if there is to be a trip on those dates. The link is:-

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HTGTP9K9aVEcroGvCjrrkF8xirLhCB3RpwC66cyCrU4/edit>

Thursday 26 May 2022 - North Warkworth

Last year we walked through old Warkworth and visited sites in the south. This year we will visit the north Warkworth area - a mix of concrete paths, bush trails, and rough tracks in Reserves. *Boots recommended.*

Meet in Hexham Street by the Methodist Church ready for 10.30am start. *No toilets at car park so visit toilets in town beforehand if required.*

Leader: Don Baker email: don.baker@xtra.co.nz

Thursday 9 June 2022 Devonport Peninsula, West Side Story

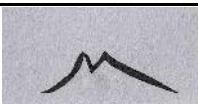
Details TBA

Leader Hilary Miller hilaryynz@gmail.com

Sunday Walks

12 June 2022 Waitakeres - Mercer Bay to Karekare return

From the end of Log Race Road follow the spectacular scenic coastal track past Mercer Bay down to Karekare for lunch in Pohutukawa Glade, returning to the cars in the afternoon. Meet at the end of



Log Race Road near Piha for a 10 am start. Book with leader: Elisabeth Jobbins Ph 276 7830 or email elisjobbins@xtra.co.nz

26 June 2022 Hunas: A Sunday tramp plus a Small People on Big Hills stroll.

Meet at the carpark near the suspension bridge just off Moumoukai Road at 10am. Trampers and families with older children (8+) will set off at 10:15am for the 9 km Suspension Bridge - Wairoa Loop track. Families going on the stroll will leave at 10:30am for the shorter Suspension Bridge loop 3.9km. Both routes pass lookouts with spectacular views of the Wairoa reservoir.

Contact: Mark mark2005roberts@yahoo.co.nz

3 July 2022 Mt Tamahunga (437m) Leigh

A climb of 400m through native bush via the DoC tramping track to the prominent peak behind Leigh. Our route will continue on the Te Araroa trail to Rodney Rd and via a Council track back to Schollum Rd. There is an opportunity to return (retrace footsteps) from summit. Being winter expect some mud, wear boots.

Meet at carpark 1km up Omaha Valley Rd after passing Big Omaha on Leigh Rd. Contact leaders for more information, distances and times.

Book with leaders: David and Marcia Roberts robs.mdn@xtra.co.nz ph 09 418 0397 or mob 021 1506 356

7 August 2022 Whatipu to Pararaha return

Auckland Regional Parks have recently upgraded and reopened the Te Araroa trail from Whatipu through to Karekare. Take the opportunity to walk the trail from Whatipu to Pararaha for lunch and return. The scenery from along the cliff top track is superb.

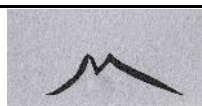
Meet at Whatipu for 10 am start. Book with leaders Bruce & Jane Rogers

jane.rogers@xtra.co.nz mob 027 499 3211 (Bruce) or 027 458 5750 (Jane)

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND KAWERAU 4 - 6 JUNE 2022

Claire is looking at booking a lodge for Queen's Birthday weekend depending on whether we get can sufficient numbers to book it out. This would include Saturday, Sunday and possibly Friday night.

Close to the lodge are family-friendly walks, mountain biking and the famous Tarawera Falls. Contact Claire for more details and to confirm your family's interest. More details will be added to the club website trips list when known.
Leader: Claire Jackson clairelouisejackson@gmail.com



Small People on Big Hills

Monday 6 June 2022 - Queen's Birthday walk and picnic Duder Regional Park

Will you be in Auckland on Queen's Birthday? Join Clara (8) and Lukas (5) for a local adventure. Meet at the Duder carpark at 10am and choose from two options.

For smaller legs, walk the Sustainable Trail 4km (1.5 hrs) through farmland with stunning views, and for longer legs the Farm Loop Walk plus the Whakakaiwhara Pā Walk combined, 6.7km (3hrs).

Allow plenty of extra time for a picnic and explore. Bring waterproof and warm gear, lunch, snacks and water. Contact Miranda miranda@alpinesport.org.nz to register 022 6488 733

Sunday 24 July 2022 - Maungakiekie ramble

Join Maddie (1 year old) for a ramble around Maungakiekie. Meet at 10.30am at the Sorrento carpark on the Royal Oak side of One Tree Hill. Bring snacks, drinks, lunch, sturdy shoes and warm/waterproof clothing for some off-track exploring this beautiful maunga. Contact Abi to register abimaeraymond@gmail.com

Saturday 9 July 2022 - Marshmallows in the bush

Start the school holidays by getting into the bush for the day! Join Lukas (5) and Clara (8) at 10am for some fun in and around our beautiful Waitakere Hut. Activities include a nature scavenger hunt, climbing in the rope net, building bivvies in the bush, fire lighting, toasting damper and marshmallows. Register with Miranda by email (not Facebook messenger) to find out how to get there. Email: miranda@alpinesport.org.nz. Bring lunch, marshmallows, teabags, milk and milo etc for hot drinks at the hut. Optional extra bush walk on the way home.

Sunday 31 July 2022 - Karangahake Gorge Adventure from 10:30 - 14:30

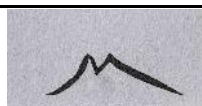
Come along to join Freya (6) and Arlo (4) on an adventure through the old mines and 1km-long rail tunnel, at the beautiful Karangahake Gorge.

We'll meet at the Karangahake Reserve carpark at 10:30, then start off on the 2.5km-long (very flat!) Rail Tunnel Loop walk, taking us through the 1km tunnel and along the river's edge.

There will be plenty of stops on the way to re-fuel the kids, and after we stop for a bit of lunch on the trail we'll then switch to the Windows Walk track (2km, mostly flat) to see some of the most spectacular parts of the Karangahake Gorge.

Families and children of all ages are welcome (both walks start/finish at the same car park, so there's an easy bail out option if you need it!). Bring good walking shoes, raincoats, warm clothes, plenty of food and snacks, water, and torches for the tunnels!

Contact Keri at keri.l.horn@gmail.com to register. Please provide the names of all those attending, the ages of the kids, and a contact number should we need to get in touch on the day. Thanks!



Sunday 21 August 2022 - two playgrounds in one day! Exploring the Green Bay and Blockhouse Bay coast

Meet Lukas (5) and Clara (8) at 10.00am at the Craigavon Park Carpark in Green Bay. After a quick play at the playground while the adults get organised, enter the search for the headwaters of the Whau River, an ancient canoe route between the Waitemata and Manukau Harbours. Then after a snack back at the cars, we'll rock-hop and slide around the rugged rocks from Green Bay to Blockhouse Bay, with lunch near a playground with an enclosed slide. We'll either return over the top of the cliffs via road, or perhaps take the steep but safe coastal path in dense bush. Bring lunch, snacks, drinks, raincoats and warm clothes. Contact Miranda miranda@alpinesport.org.nz 022 6488 733 to register.

GEAR AND EQUIPMENT

The Club's Directory and Membership list provides guidelines for participating in tramping, climbing and outdoor activities and a suggested gear list, food list and recipes can be found on the club website www.alpinesport.org.nz. The gear list below is an excerpt from the Directory - intended to act as a guide for beginners to tramping and a reminder to others of what is necessary, and what is optional if you are prepared to carry it. Keep the list in a place where you can use it as a checklist each time you go on a trip (best laminated and kept with your gear). Note that jeans are not suitable for tramping.

Bush Day Trip - Recommended Personal Gear

Day pack with gear in waterproof bags	Handkerchief
Waterproof parka with hood	Whistle (to blow if separated from group)
Sunhat and sunscreen	Torch
Warm hat and gloves	Watch
Fleece or wool jersey	Lunch, snacks and drinks (at least one litre)
Personal first aid kit and emergency blanket	Toilet paper and hand sanitizer
Personal medication	Ladies toiletries

Consider carrying: overtrousers, gaiters, plastic to sit on, trekking pole(s), mobile phone, map and compass, money.

Wear: quick-dry shorts, socks and boots or sturdy shoes, polyprop, woollen or silk tops (not cotton). Cut your toenails before the trip.

In the vehicle, leave: a small towel, change of clothes and shoes, plastic bag for dirty boots.

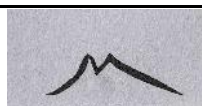
Personal first aid kit for day trips

Plasters 6 - 10	Cohesive bandage eg crepe or gauze
Plaster strip	Disposable gloves
Sticky tape	Triangular bandage
Safety pins	Personal medication including pain relief tablets
Scissors	CPR face shield
Tweezers or splinter probe	Paper and pencil
Non-alcohol wipes (or Betadine drops)	Sunscreen, lip balm, insect repellent
Non-adherent sterile dressings	

Leaders should have in addition:

Map and compass	Pocket knife and cord
Communications appropriate for the trip eg mobile phone, PLB, radio	Paper, pen, pencil
Emergency shelter eg fly sheet	First aid kit
	Close cell foam pad (emergency splint)

Overnight list: refer to the website and discuss requirements with your trip leader.



WINTER SKI LODGE BOOKING SYSTEM



We do not have a booking officer for the coming ski season. As a consequence you will all have to make your own bookings using the online booking system on the website, just as you have in the past. You will also need to make your own changes to the booking system. There is no one to do it for you.

Bookings for the winter season can be made at any time but you need to be a fully paid up member for the current year.

You can easily change your bookings, including the date, provided there are sufficient bunks available. Changing the date of a booking still requires that you cancel the old bunks and rebook the new dates and any changes to your number of bunks. Any new booking will be subject to availability on the new date.

Whereas in the past a cancellation surrendered the booking fee, now there is provision to automatically credit the cancelled booking fee against the cost of the new booking.

Net cancelled booking fees will accrue during the season. Refunds are not available for cancelled bookings except under exceptional circumstances. Any refunds will only be available at the end of the season. Refunds are entirely the decision of the committee and will always require reconciliation by the treasurer.

There are some changes to the system to make it clearer how to make and change bookings. There are two short instructional videos explaining how to make and how to change bookings on the website. Booking instructions can be downloaded from the website, on the Booking Instructions page under ASC Huts. Links to the instructional videos are also on the Booking Instructions page. You will need to be logged on to access it.

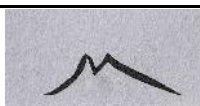
Go to Club website www.alpinesports.org.nz, click on "Mt Ruapehu Ski Lodge Bookings" and follow the prompts. You will need either your Credit Card or Bank Account number beside you.

Payment methods

Pay through Club website www.alpinesports.org.nz. Log into website and enter your password. If you have not created a password before follow the prompts on the screen by starting by entering your current email address.

Once you have created a password you can then login.

Click on "Shop" tab, then click "Memberships & Donations" tab then select your membership category and "add to cart". Click "FMC" tab and then "Donations" tab and "add to cart" if you wish. Click "check out" when finished and then pay with credit card if you have one available.



If you require assistance please contact membership@alpinesport.org.nz.

Or

Pay by Internet banking to our subscription account **12 3237 0007167 61**

Enter details to appear on the club bank statement as follows:

Particulars	Reference Code	Reference
Your initial & surname	A to K (from chart above)	Subscription

Or

You can make payment at any ASB branch using the same details as above.



WAITAKERE HUT BOOKINGS

Contact Joe Scott-Woods, for ALL bookings and payments email: pjscottwoods@icloud.com

