



ALPINESPORT

— NOV 19 / MAR 20 —

THE ALPINE SPORTS CLUB INC (est. 1929)

✉ secretary@alpinesport.org.nz

🌐 www.alpinesport.co.nz

📍 P.O. Box 131 AKL, 1140, NZ

— COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS 2019/20 —

President	Robert Oddy	021 442 077	president@alpinesport.org.nz
Vice President 1	Klare George	021 0853 6155	vp1@alpinesport.org.nz
Vice President 2	Bruce McCallum	021 830 747	vp2@alpinesport.org.nz
Secretary	Fiona Heenan	021 633 834	secretary@alpinesport.org.nz
Treasurer	Warren Whyte	09 528 4824	treasurer@alpinesport.org.nz
Ruapehu Coordinator	Lloyd Lin	027 229 1940	
- Assisted by	Alex Miller	027 284 7687	
	Tracey Laga	09 279 9110	
Trips & Tramps Coordinator	Mark Roberts	09 849 6563	tours@alpinesport.org.nz
- Assisted by	Scott White	027 497 9017	info@taxsmart.co.nz
	Lesley Hawke	021 670 981	hawke.lesley@gmail.com
Booking Officer	Zoe Pushon	021 207 1491	bookings@alpinesport.org.nz
Membership Contact	Justine Checketts	027 240 4628	membership@alpinesport.org.nz
Media & Marketing Manager	Klare George	021 0853 6155	media@alpinesport.org.nz
Media & Marketing Coordinator	Nathan Stopworth	021 070 6648	media@alpinesport.org.nz
Waitakere Hut Officer	Joe Scott-Woods	09 575 5383	pjscottwoods@icloud.co.nz
- Assisted by			
Waitakere Regional Park Liaison	John Mackay	09 303 2774	john@urbs.co.nz

— CLUB APPOINTMENTS 2019/20 —

Alpinesport Editor	Graham Wadams	09 525 7760	sales@mailandprint.co.nz
Alpinesport Graphic Designer	Sina Avei	09 525 7760	
Alpinesport Distribution	mailandprint.co.nz	09 525 7760	
Club Archivist	Jenny Hudson	09 427 6362	jenny@hudson.co.nz
Club Evening Coordinators	Fiona Heenan	021 633 834	secretary@alpinesport.org.nz
	Lesley Hawke	021 670 981	hawke.lesley@gmail.com
Club Evening Programme Organizer	Warren Whyte	09 528 4824	treasurer@alpinesport.org.nz
Club Gear for Hire (Personal Locator Beacons)	Murray Davidson	09 528 4504	ddihmjnz@gmail.com
Club Gear for Hire (Climbing & Snowcraft)	Brian Duffy	09 528 3782	bwd742@gmail.com
Membership Records and Subscriptions	Klare George	021 0853 6155	vp1@alpinesport.org.nz
Midis Group Contact	Sherilyn Coney	09 624 5447	sconey@xtra.co.nz
Thursday Walks Coordinator	Clive Bolt	09 534 2946	cbolt@xtra.co.nz
Minute Secretary	Miranda Hutton	022 648 8733	mirandajhutton@gmail.com
Summer Camp Coordinators	Mark Roberts	09 849 6563	tours@alpinesport.org.nz
	Miranda Hutton	022 648 8733	mirandajhutton@gmail.com
Webmaster	Bruce McCallum	021 830 747	vp2@alpinesport.org.nz

NOTICE BOARD



Has your postal, home or email address, or phone contact(s), changed since May last year?

If they have, please send details by email **NOW** to Justine Checketts membership@alpinesport.org.nz

And include the email address and phone details when different for each Member (e.g. for each partner/spouse). Thanks everyone – we want to be sure you will receive all ASC communications on time

Long-time member **Margaret Ussher** has offered for sale a copy of

'ALPINE SPORTS – 55 years of an Auckland Mountain Club 1929-1984'

All proceeds to be donated to the Alpine Sports Club.

Please contact Warren Whyte (ph. 528 4824) if interested
Offers of \$20 – \$25 considered

Please note these changes

Contact person for the **Midis** is:

Sherilyn Coney

 09 624 5447

 sconey@xtra.co.nz

Contact person for the **Thursday Walkers Group** is:

Clive Bolt

 09 534 2946

 cbolt@xtra.co.nz



TIP

Use the corner tip of your credit card to press the buttons on card readers (e.g. for password, account selection, etc) rather than your fingers – **help avoid picking up Covid-19** by absentmindedly touching your face, mouth, nose or eyes.

NOTICE BOARD

Waitakere Lodge Fees

The Committee has reviewed the fees that will apply once we are free to return to the Waitakere Ranges after Covid-19 and advises they will be:

For Overnight Stays

Adult ASC Member	: \$15 per night
Youth ASC Member (children over 5 and under 18)	: \$10 per night
Adult non-ASC Member	: \$30 per night
Youth non-ASC Member (children over 5 and under 18)	: \$20 per night

For Day Visits

Each person	: \$10
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A very warm welcome

to all who joined the Alpine Sports Club in 2019. We look forward to meeting you at one of our Club activities, including the monthly Club evening.

New member name

Jonathan Swale

Jacqueline Riddle

Natalie Devcich

Mark Chandler

Ricky Smith

Martin Brown

Kees Logman

Roy Tebbutt

Bruce Frith

Claire Jackson

Sara Cranston

Zofia Seymour

Barry Cobb

Jeanine Scholey

Spouse/Partner

n/a

n/a

Pete Sweeney

Kelly Chandler

Emma Thomas

Debra

n/a

Kim Tebbutt

Grace

n/a

n/a

n/a

Jodi Reddell

Dean

Children

n/a

n/a

Luca, Marco

James, Millie

n/a

Leo, Samuel

Jasmine, Olivia

Asher, Channing, Amber

Lucas, Marco

Harper

n/a

n/a

Charlie Cobb

Maya, Jake

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ROBERT ODDY



The considerable work by Klare George to upgrade the AlpineSport Magazine (ASM) last year attracted positive feedback and compliments from Members about

the changed format. Unfortunately, the enormous workload required to retain that quality of publication on a voluntary basis, particularly during frequent work periods overseas, became overwhelming.

Although digital newsletter updates were provided to bridge the gap (and a printed copy delivered by Fiona to the small number of Members with no internet access), I understand the disappointment felt by some in having no reports on trip and Club activity reports. This issue of ASM aims to correct that by including some of the wide ranging Club activities from the November 2019 delivery date of the previous ASM through to last month's Level 4 lockdown. Understandably, no list of future trips or Club activities is available until the Government advises the likely date of, and applicable rules for the downgrade to Level 2 and Level 1.

Our Club continues to operate through the enormous goodwill of many volunteers offering significant time and resources to

organise a variety of activities for Members and their guests. Two recently established activities – Small People on Big Hills organised by Miranda Hutton and the Women's 24hr Retreat organised by Fiona Heenan - have proven to be extremely popular.

It is time to remember with gratitude the huge effort over the past 14 years by Sherilyn Coney in first establishing and then organising the Midis and Thursday Walkers. Although Sherilyn handed the baton for the Thursday Walks to Clive Bolt in December, she remains the contact for the Midis.

Our Ruapehu work weekends that were cut short by the sudden Level 4 controls are planned to recommence when summer begins at the end of the year. Details of some significant deterioration issues found in the A-Frame, and which have been identified as needing urgent repair, will be provided in my Report to the AGM.

While we're working on getting the wheels back on the ASM production line, I'll be interested in hearing your thoughts about the benefit to you in continuing with emailed newsletters to update fresh information in between the bi-monthly ASM publications – and/or adding that information onto our website once its upgrade has been completed. Please email your comments to secretary@alpinesport.org.nz.

The Lines Company is to disconnect A-Frame and Ruapehu Lodge power on 5th and 6th May for around 5 minutes each day to allow it to isolate a section of High Voltage cable as part of its Mt Ruapehu upgrades.

Zoe Pushon has withdrawn from the Booking Officer role following her selection for a position in DOC's Wellington Head Office. Along with Dani Paterson, Zoe provided many happy memories for those who stayed in our lodges on the mountain last year, and particularly for the younger ones.

Bruce McCallum (VP2) has reported that Chris Bolt expects to provide us next week with the completed first major stage of our IT upgrade and with the second part to follow very soon afterwards.

The move to Level 3 lockdown on Tuesday 28th April does not provide relief for ASC activities. DOC has confirmed all Tongariro National Park roads, including to the Tongariro Alpine Crossing, will remain closed until Alert Level restrictions are lowered. Meanwhile, the proposed sewerage system upgrade and installation of water meters on Club water tanks has been postponed for further review next year. On a positive note, DOC said its 2020 charges for Ruapehu based mountain clubs will be the same as those charged over each of the past 10 years.

The Productivity Commission's Final Report on Local Government Funding & Financing was presented to the Government on 12 December 2019. One recommendation that may impact the proposed sewerage

upgrade is that central government should fund or part fund projects with a wider than local benefit (e.g. regional and/or national). The Report seems likely to be amongst other items set aside by the Government while it focuses on Covid-19.

Once transport and personal travel restrictions have been relaxed, RAL (Ruapehu Alpine Lifts) is understood to need probably 4 weeks of good weather to move equipment and parts from warehouses and wharves to the mountain then complete its maintenance programme to allow it to open some of its facilities. If the current positive NZ virus management trend continues, and weather plays its part, the potential exists for a reasonable mountain winter season this year – and for our Jersey-born Wardens, Joe and Charlee, to help Members and Guests to have a fun time on the mountain.

It is important to note that our Club has adequate cash in the bank to cope should regulatory restrictions or bad weather cause a shortened (or no) winter season. Our Club has successfully weathered numerous issues over the decades since its inception in 1929. It is the resilience of our current and past inter-generational membership, from the veteran through to the newest young family that provides confidence in our capacity to succeed.

However, it's vital that we continue virus blocking with social distancing, regular and effective hand washing, capturing our coughs and sneezes, and not touching our faces. That'll provide time for the development, testing, production and distribution of the sorely needed vaccines.

The lockdown has been severely disruptive for some Members and other Kiwis. There are those stunned by the loss of their jobs and others who've seen their business collapse; who fear that their inability to continue with mortgage repayments will cause the loss of their home.

As fear, anxiety and a sense of helplessness increases with further economic fallout, it is important we recognise and be grateful for what we have; to stay connected with those we love and care for, and to lend a helping hand. Now is the time to contact those you know; ask how they're doing, listen without judgement, and be empathetic.

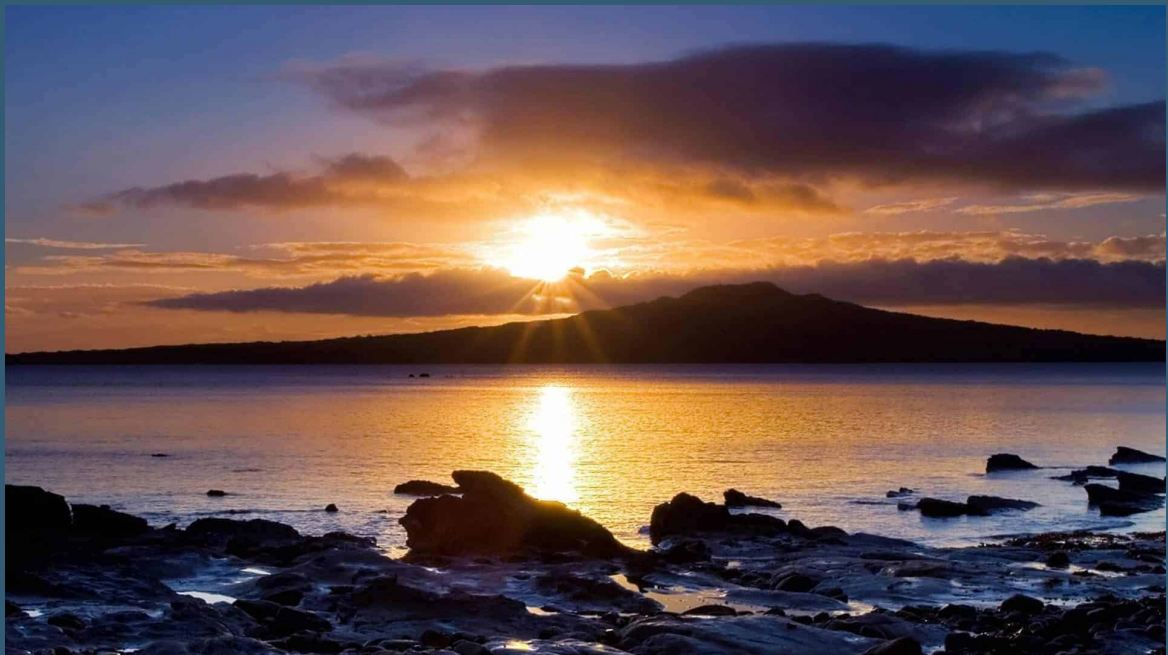
This virus will be brought under control; the current stressful period will end and a degree of normality will be restored to our lives.

When I was a kid, everyone used to smile and offer a friendly greeting or wave when they met people on the street and in parks. Visitors enjoyed our relaxed, confident life style – one where 'sweating the small stuff' seemed to have been banished.

It's time to bring back those qualities and to be kind to everyone. We're all in this together!

"We are not at the mercy of coronavirus. The great advantage we have is that the decisions we all make – as governments, businesses, communities, families and individuals – can influence the trajectory of this epidemic."

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General, WHO.



SUNDAY STROLL

PARNELL'S HIDDEN GULLIES AND RESERVES

3RD NOV 2019

The more we know about our city's history and the more we rub noses with it, the more we all come to appreciate and love it. A dozen ASC friends were led by David Addis on a circular route from Parnell's bush-clad valleys to what was known as the Ho Chi Minh trail in the Domain. Then it was on to Newmarket Park, Ayr's Bush, Hobson Bay and to the enchanting little St Stephen's Chapel (built by Bishop Selwyn in 1858) overlooking Judges' Bay.

Surprise, surprise, two of our group were married there, but not to each other! Jenny Hudson to her late husband and, seven years ago, David Addis to his present wife Jackie. In the memorial Rose Gardens, the 400 year old Kanuka tree and huge spreading Pohutukawa trees impressed us.



The proposed Mt Erebus memorial structure is planned to be built on a grassy slope here overlooking one of the best view points.

Ice creams all round to end with. Cheers to David. A Sunday outing to write home about.

Top row: Jenny Hudson, Joe Scott-Woods, Bruce Dwerryhouse, David Addis, Peter Loveridge
Bottom row: Sue Minchin, guest, Elisabeth Jobbins

WALKING THE WAKEMAN WALK

ST. MARY'S BAY, PONSONBY & FREEMAN'S BAY
14TH NOV 2019

Twenty-seven members joined us for this walk through some of the most beautiful and interesting parts of inner-city Auckland. The day dawned quite wet and the rain was forecast to continue until mid-day. This was perhaps fortunate, because on arrival at the meeting place, the Pt. Erin Park carpark, we found it conveniently part empty and all those who arrived by car found space there. Peter, the tour guide, came out with notes and an umbrella to read them under and the rain then departed for the duration. The trip ran to time – two and a half



The leaders and their disciples gathering for Freeman talk

hours before lunch, an hour and a bit after. In that time, we progressed through St. Mary's Bay to Three Lamps, along Ponsonby Road as far as Western Park, down through the park to lunch by the playground, back through Freeman's Bay &

across College Hill back into St. Mary's Bay and finally down *Jacob's Ladder* and along the original shoreline back to Pt. Erin. There were short side trips to all of this. Much was said by the tour guide, but the walk had been billed as an historical and architectural exploration of these areas and so it worked out.

Peter had his own personal anecdotes from his family history and he was not alone. We learned Di Speed's great-uncle had in the 1870s built a substantial house just further up Shelly Beach Road, which still stands and has a most intriguing history of its own.

Round the corner in Ring Terrace the antics of the renowned Flora McKenzie, a dressmaker turned 'madam with the mostest', were related, and Stephanie Markson remembered that it was Flora who had made her mother's wedding dress. Some of Tom Speed's forebears had actually lived in the historic *St. Anne's* in St. Mary's Road.

The convent chapel of St. Mary in New Street (1866) was designed by Tom Speed's great-grandfather, the famed architect Edward Mahoney. And so it went on. It was all very much a bonus.

The walk progressed via some delightful and historic buildings and some new developments as well. Well known, and some less well-known, names from Auckland's past were mentioned - Bishop Pompallier and the now *Venerable Mother Aubert*, the Leys Bros of *Leys Institute* fame, Bishop Selwyn, Professor Richard Toy and Edward Bartley as architects of the Anglican and Methodist churches in Ponsonby Road, fine early citizen Capt. William Crush Daldy and Auckland's perhaps strangest benefactor Edward Costley. Artist Charles Blomfield, sculptor John Radford and even the great painter Colin McCahon came into it; and we talked about the start of both Auckland Boys Grammar and Auckland Girls Grammar. Michael Joseph Savage got a passing mention too.

Short mention needs to be made of the post-luncheon lecture on James Stuart Freeman, which the tour leader thrust upon his captive audience. Freeman was an unfortunate, and probably well-meaning, character and the story of his mysterious wife Eleanor is quite tragic in its way. But the purpose of the talk was to point out that James forged for himself a unique place in New Zealand history, so much so that his meddlings and muddlings still affect the people of our country today and seem likely to continue to do so. A group of Thursday walkers may now have something to remember when the name Freeman's Bay, now sadly and incorrectly just called "Freemans Bay", crops up.

NGATUHOA

FAMILY WEEEEKEND AT NGATUHOA LODGE
15-17TH NOV 2019

Mark Roberts has proven to be a wizard when it comes to prizing out hidden secrets for ASC Members to enjoy. And Ngatuhua Lodge proved to be yet another success with 29 adults and kids having a fantastic and amazing weekend.

This internet-free location in rich bush, on the Ngatuhua River upstream of McLaren Falls in the Kaimai Ranges between Matamata and Tauranga, promotes itself as providing outdoor confidence building experiences for the young and young at heart. On Saturday, after the resident Warden had trained all of the adults in the safe operation of the fast zip line (previously called a flying fox), the first of the children began whistling their way through the trees high above the ground. Not all were happy to start immediately but everyone succeeded eventually in mastering their fears – and then didn't want to stop!

Next was abseiling over a steep cliff lined with boards. For many of the kids, this was their first time experiencing that surge of adrenaline and apprehension that can precede 'going over the edge'. But Arwen Vant and Anthony Sidwell were brilliant in calming jitters with their relaxed, confidence-building advice as the children were fitted with their equipment.



Successful first attempt

After lunch came the Confidence Course which included tests of climbing abilities, staying upright while running along unbalanced moving beams, and holding tightly onto swinging ropes.

Next up was the rubber tubing down rapids; while the apprehension was clear on some wee faces, others relished the challenge!



"A bit scary!" – Amaya Oddy



Skye and Elandra Shewin – easy exit from rapids

As everyone was already wet, carrying the kayaks and lifejackets down onto the pond and canal seemed a great idea. It didn't take long to learn after a few spills into the water that balance is a useful skill. Finding a bucket attached to a rope got the kids thinking – throw the bucket into the water, pull it up when full and pour onto the canal bank; do that several times and suddenly a mud slide into the water appears!



Playtime after dinner & toasted marshmallows

After breakfast and putting on boots, everyone galloped off for a half day tramp led by Mark & Nicholas Roberts up and down large bush clad hills. It was great to see developing teamwork skills amongst the children as they helped each other over tough sections. Weaving down through some thick bush around a stream

eventually got us back to the Lodge for lunch. While the parents packed their cars, the kids disappeared into the shrub to build bivvys... and were none too keen to leave. A promised stop to explore and swim at McClaren Falls on the way home proved adequate motivation.

MIDIS THURSDAY WALKERS

ROSE GARDENS TO PARNELL

28TH NOV 2019

On a lovely sunny day in November, the Thursday Walkers met in the Rose Gardens for our annual Midis Christmas Picnic and final walk for 2019. The walk took us through the Parnell Baths and across the pedestrian bridge to Tamaki Drive. Leaders, Sherilyn Coney and David Addis, then took us on the walks on either side of the Container Wharf. We were delighted to watch two seals at play very close to Tamaki Drive and were awed with the high speed of the trucks loading and unloading, which we saw from the end of the new walk on the city side of the Container Wharf.

Fifty two Midis and Thursday Walkers, then enjoyed lunch under the Pohutakawa trees in the Rose Garden – a special day as it was a farewell to Sherilyn Coney who was handing over the leadership of the walks to Clive Bolt. Sherilyn started the walks fourteen years ago and they have been super popular with up to fifty people walking on one day. A speech was given by Barbara Lamont, thanking Sherilyn and presenting a very generous shopping voucher.



Barbara Lamont presenting the voucher to Sherilyn Coney

David Addis then lead a short walk to the Palm Gardens in the gully behind the Parnell shops. It was idyllic walking along the board walk among some very old exotic palms. We returned through La Cigale Markets which would have been on the shore line at that time.

SUMMER CAMP

OPARAU, NEAR KAWHAI

26 DEC 2019 – 3 JAN 2020

Exactly thirty years after the last Summer Camp on the Oparau River, ASC returned but this time to the tiny village of Oparau itself, behind its historic hall. Campers had access to the Oparau Hall and kitchen, which was used as an all-weather meeting room and place for the noticeboard. The campsite itself was a pleasant paddock on the bend of a meandering tidal river, fringed by willows, and with a patch of bush on the opposite steep bank. A total of 85 adults and 40 children attended.

26th December - Setting up camp and meeting old and new friends.

27th December - Nick Roberts led a group mountain biking at Pirongia while Mark Roberts led a group of trampers part of the way up Mt Pirongia. Others used the first day at camp to settle in, explore the small township of Kawhia with its one Four Square, one café/takeaway shop and an art co-operative. The playground was greatly enjoyed by the children, and the Kawhia museum was always worth a visit: full of fossils and interesting information on Maori and colonial history.

28th December - With special permission from the farmer at the top of Lake Rd, Kawhia, a group of 30 trampers were led by farm-buggy across spectacular farmland and around the deep dune-Lake Parangi.



We had lunch at the peak Pukeatua with views to Aotea Harbour. Conversation was nearly impossible on the slog down the beach into the headwind; so glad to finally arrive at Te Puia Springs and get out of the wind for the car shuttle back to camp.

Lake Parangi

29th December - Matt Ward led a trip of about 30 trampers on the Tawarau Falls Loop Track. After an adventure driving down a narrow bramble-filled lane, the track led us along the Tawarau River past limestone features, through forest to the falls and back again. Three river crossings were negotiated along the way. Another party of 11, led by Jim Frater and Mike Frith tramped up Mt Karioi, 756metres, using the Wairake Track from the Ruapuke Road.

Miranda Hutton and Jane Rogers led another group of trampers around the Te Kauri Park loop walks near camp. The native bush was absolutely beautiful and the steep tracks were well made.

30th December - Jim Frater led a group of 16 up to the summit of Kakepuku/Hikurangi Pa, 449 metres. It is the third ancient volcano in the line of Karioi, Pirongia and then Kakepuku. Meanwhile, Arwen Vant and a team of others braved the cold windy weather, built sand sculptures, discovered buried treasure (toy cars lost in the sand).



31st December - The excitement around camp was palpable with many of the children rehearsing for the Talent Show. At 8pm our esteemed judges Jenny Hudson and Peter Loveridge took their seats and the Talent Show began. The line-up included a well-rehearsed Magic Show, two clowns who told jokes and sang, plus dance and gymnastic items.

1st January - New Year's Day sports organised by Nick Roberts was well attended, with generous trophies and medals donated by Garth Barfoot. Many campers packed up during or after the sports and the camp slowly thinned out.

SMALL PEOPLE ON BIG HILLS

AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND
25-26TH JAN 2020

Six happy families stayed at the ASC Waitakere Hut on Auckland Anniversary Weekend as part of the "Small People on Big Hills" series. This weekend was a chance for children and families to spend a night or two in a tramping hut and have some adventures in the bush and at the beach.

10 children attended and enjoyed exploring the hut and the bunk rooms, the third story of bunks being ever popular as an age-restricted climbing destination. The wetas in the long drop toilet were frequently visited, toy dolls were made from sticks, flowers and ferns, marshmallow toasting sticks were gathered from the wood pile, two beautiful sunsets admired and generally lots of play and fun around the hut was had.

On Saturday a sub-set of trampers walked part of the Upper Nihotupu Dam walk up to the first waterfall. The new gravel paths, although great for protecting Kauri, proved challenging for small legs and the children were counting how many slips and trip-ups they had. However, it was lovely watching them help and comfort each other when they did slip.



Lukas and Clara Voll, serious trampers striding out to Upper Nihotupo Dam



Exploring! Ben, Noah, Clara and Lukas

On Sunday a party of 15 walked down the steep track to Anawhata beach. It took the 3 year olds one hour to walk down to the beach, and the adults spent the next few hours wondering how on earth they were going to get them up to the carpark again. The stream and lagoon proved the perfect play destination, deep enough for a proper swim for the older children and shallow enough for some parent-assisted boogie board surfing for the nearly 2-year olds.



Time for the dreaded walk back to the carpark arrived; but the children astounded the adults and with the help of a "race" got up the hill in record time. Plenty of yummy food was shared and many cups of tea plus a few glasses of wine were drunk. Although it wasn't easy getting children to sleep at a decent time in the bunkrooms, everyone managed to get enough sleep to have fun again the next day.



We all agreed the Waitakere Hut is a wonderful asset. We came away energised and inspired to encourage more families to enjoy the outdoors and spend a night or two in the hut throughout the year.

Dinner after plenty of exercise - Ben, Lukas, Clara, Noah, Finley, Charlie; and Mums & Dads

SMALL PEOPLE ON BIG HILLS

MANGERE & AMBURY REGIONAL PARK

15-16TH FEB 2020

We had a wonderful trip with a total of 25 climbing the mountain on Saturday (12 children and 13 adults) and 18 going on to stay overnight at Ambury Regional Park (9 children and 9 adults). Highlights of the tramp included the children curling into balls playing "kumaras in the kumara pits", showing off their rock climbing skills on the steep slopes of the volcano, doing gymnastics in high winds on the trig and generally having a great time. The group who went on to camp at Ambury Regional Park enjoyed patting the very tame animals and walking out to the coast. It was delightful seeing the children of all ages from 17 months to 11 years playing with each other and enjoying the fresh air. They toasted, and burnt marshmallows over gas cookers, wrestled with one of the fathers, rode bikes, played lots of duplo and enjoyed interacting with the many chickens and chicks wandering around. Thanks to new members Jodi and Barry for initiating and leading the trip!



COULDREY HOUSE

EXPLORING THE WONDERS OF COULDREY HOUSE

27TH FEB 2020

Couldrey House is an historic Victorian-Edwardian family home set in a beautiful garden within Wenderholm Regional Park. Fully furnished in a mixture of styles reflecting the eras and preoccupations of some notable past owners, the two storey house has nine rooms on display.

Guide Carolyn Reid was pleasantly surprised when 48 ASC folk, led by Jan Watson, arrived for morning tea - "The biggest group ever". With us all seated in the formal dining room and adjoining reading room, Carolyn began explaining that the original house was built in 1857 by a Scotsman, Robert Graham, a tourism entrepreneur who in 1845 purchased land and developed nearby Waiwera Hot Springs.

From 1896-1917, Major John Whitley (soldier and founder of the Colonial Ammunition Company in 1885) and his talented artist wife, Harriet, doubled the size of the home to accommodate their generous entertainment lifestyle. Third owner was Mrs Annabella Geddes who enjoyed Wenderholm as a holiday retreat (1918-1927) from her busy philanthropic life in Auckland. Next was Captain Thomas Caradoc Kerry, a sea captain with charm and a colourful past – until he became reclusive and the home fell into disrepair.

In 1940, Tim Couldrey and his wife Phyllis purchased the home. After Phyllis' untimely death, he and his second wife Brenda (nee Edmonds of the baking powder family) restored the house. A highlight for the family in 1953 was the visit of Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh. After viewing the fascinating treasures from the decades since 1857, we moved along the boardwalk to a quiet spot in the shade for a picnic beside the Waiwera estuary. A stroll through bush up the hill to the lookout point to guess the names of the many islands before us made this a rewarding trip.

FAMILY CAMP

TAWHARANUI REGIONAL PARK

14-15TH MARCH 2020

We had a great weekend on this trip organised by Mark Roberts at an iconic beach inside a pest proof fence that allowed native birds to thrive. The weather was spot on which allowed lots of time boogie boarding in the surf and digging holes in the sand. We explored the caves that we could walk right through on the beach and spent a long time looking in the rock pools.

It was a perfect location; there was a hill next to the campsite that the kids enjoyed climbing and racing down on their boogie boards. And for parents, it was easy to supervise the children from a distance as we could see them all from the campsite.



The highlight of the trip was the Kiwi search on a clear evening with a star filled sky. We quietly walked through the park with red light torches and four year old Ben Chicketts was absolutely delighted to come across one right in the middle of the path. It just stood there so he could have a good look before running off into the bush. How many children (or adults) have been that lucky?

OTHER 2020 TRIPS

Port Waikato Thursday Walkers - 13th Feb 2020

Over twenty Thursday Walkers drove from Auckland and descended on Port Waikato, led by Maria Bullock, for a stroll around the community, have lunch, and check out the Bluff, beach, and river before returning home.



Rock Climbing & Mountain Biking - 15/16th Feb 2020

Staying at the Club's A-Frame Lodge on Mt Ruapehu makes it so much easier to access the crags of Mead's Wall. These photographs from Mark Roberts shows young climbers building their confidence as they seek out foot and hand holds to climb up to the top of the rock columns.

Hakarimata Range - 23 Feb 2020

Led by Sue and Brian FitzPatrick, 10 ASC Members tramped for 7 hours along the 12 km Hakarimata Walkway from Huntly to Ngaruawahia. DOC classify this as an advanced tramping track and it is renowned for being steep, hilly and arduous with much of it over tree roots – but the bush and views are worth it. The “Summit Track” that leads down from the Hakarimata Trig towards the Mangarata Stream has been adopted by the local community as a wellbeing tool. This track formed part of the training for the Influence Group's NZ Team participating in the 2018 Great Wall of China Marathon.

FINAL ASC CLUB MEETING FOR 2019

3 DECEMBER 2019

Warren and Joyce Whyte provided an illustrated talk about their recent Federated Mountain Clubs' thirty day hiking trip in the Canadian Rockies. Veteran Club Member Chris Barfoot offered signed copies of his recent book "Show me a Huia" for sale with all proceeds being donated to ASC. Award presentations followed:

Brian Duffy: **Life Membership** in recognition of his contribution to the ASC Committee from 2011-2018, including 6 years as President which included renegotiation of Ruapehu lease terms with DOC, work parties and leading Snow Craft Courses, avalanche recovery training, plus small party expeditions into the Southern Alps. Brian epitomises the ASC ideal Member, leading from the front as a kayaker, mountain climber, tramper, solo camper and mountain biker and completed several extreme events including Gods-Own, the Goat, and 45th Parallel.

Kerry Bromell **Life Membership** in recognition of her contributions from 2008 which included the demanding roles of Ruapehu Booking Officer, Membership/Subscriptions Secretary, and management of the annual Ruapehu food supplies (from selection, ordering, arranging transport then packing into stores on arrival at the A-Frame Lodge). These functions required fielding calls and messages from schools and outside groups plus from Members to manage altered and cancelled bookings. The collection and updating of Member information on old basic software programs required an enormous number of voluntary hours of work.

Paul Lyons

Lone Kauri Trophy – presented to the ASC Member who contributed the most to the Club over the preceding 12 months. The trophy was produced by Veteran Member Allan Ball in 1983 from a limb of the “Lone Kauri” tree that had been felled in 1933, against public wishes. Paul joined ASC in July 2003 and took on the role of Secretary in 2016. When the June 2016 AGM failed to find replacements for President and the two Vice-President positions, Paul volunteered to take on the role of acting President for 12 months in addition to his Secretary role. He produced several recommended changes to improve the ASC management systems and working hard to bring many of his ideas to fruition.

**Brian & Sue
FitzPatrick**



Sue FitzPatrick receiving the trophy

The Billy Can Trophy – presented in recognition of outstanding contributions to Trips and Tramps.

The trophy was made by Veteran Member Allan Ball with its base from Puriri, Billy Can from Rimu, and Sticks from Kanuka

and then donated by Esther Juhasz and Philip Stevem in May 2000. Brian and Sue are Life Members of ASC and, despite a reduced interest by Members in 2017 & 2018 weekend and full day tramps, continued to lead a series of full day tramps in Hunua and the Waikato region which gained a loyal group of participants. They are both very active in ASC activities and their nuggety strength, endurance and love of tramping is inspirational.

Murray Davidson **Distinguished Service Award.** Murray was a Committee Member for several years and has also managed the ASC evening programmes, finding speakers, and organising the technology in St Marks Hall. This award was made in recognition of Murray's past and continued support for ASC and its Members.

Bruce and Jane Rogers **Distinguished Service Award.** Bruce and Jane have been participants in all of the ASC outdoor activities and especially snow sports, tramping, plus Ruapehu work parties. They were both members of the Ruapehu Sub-Committee plus the Tramping Sub-Committee for several years and Bruce was a Committee Member plus the Convenor of the Summer Family Camps. Jane ensured annual housekeeping items such as removal of mattress covers, pillow cases and curtains for laundering in Auckland plus refitting on their return were completed. This award was made in recognition of their long support for ASC and its Members.

Miranda Hutton and her string quartet entertained with relaxing music before the lavish supper that had been organised by Bruce Rogers.

2020 RUAPEHU WORK PARTIES

4/5 JAN 2020

Who? Lloyd Lin, Robert Oddy

What? Review Lodges and list work party tasks; Track repairs

10/11 FEB 2020

Who? Lloyd Lin

What? Fit tempering valve to control hot water temperature; repair/replace taps in kitchen and bathrooms; replace broken toilet seats

28 FEB/1 MAR 2020

Who? Trish Beken, Val Tomlinson, Jonathan & Janet Hodder, James (16) & Zoe (14) Hodder, Pilar Cerezo, Marisa & Roberto, Robert Oddy, Sharon Hunter-Smith

What? Collected & carried down to Robert's vehicle for transport to Auckland laundry the drapes, curtains, mattress covers & pillow cases from lounge, dining room & A-Frame bunkrooms E to H; moved mattresses to bunkroom D & E; filled holes & gaps, sanded and painted ceilings & walls Bunkrooms F to H plus hall ceiling and the one outside bathrooms; repaired curtain and track in Warden's Room; commenced audit of tools and kitchen items

20/22 MAR 2020

Who? Jane & Keith Adams, Lloyd Lin & Andrea Ward & Cole, Phill Round, Robert Oddy

What? Returned mattresses to bunkrooms F to H; reinstalled laundered drapes, curtains, mattress covers & pillow cases to lounge, dining room & bunkrooms E to H; washed & dried all three freezers and fridge; placed tape/sign over freezer switches to warn not to switch off; completed food audit.