



# The Bush Telegraph

[www.pukekohetrampingclub.org.nz](http://www.pukekohetrampingclub.org.nz)

**Next meeting: 1st July 2024 @ 7:30pm**

**Venue: Anglican Church Hall, Wesley Street – Pukekohe**

## Monthly Club Meeting:

The Club meets at the Anglican Church Hall, Wesley Street, and Pukekohe on the **first Monday of each month at 7.30pm** unless otherwise advised.

## Supper Duty:

**Speaker: Becky - Summer on the Te Araroa Trail**

## New Members:

## The President's Notes

As we prepare to go into winter, the weather has been very kind, at least for our last few Sunday tramps which have been beautiful. Hopefully true for the mid-week trips too. Let's hope we continue to get lucky and dodge the less pleasant winter weather, but as always we prepare for the worst.

We held our AGM at the last meeting and I am delighted to welcome Pip Wooffindin as our new Bush Telegraph editor. She is taking over from Shelena who held the mantle since 2019. We are also welcoming a new Club Secretary as David Lawrie steps into the role. Big thanks to them both for stepping forwards and for the energy they will bring to the roles. All other club positions remained the same, and thank you all.

Subs also remain the same and are now due. We are also asking everyone to complete their membership forms again to ensure our records are up to date. It is very important that we have correct information to hand in the event trips do not go to plan. These should go to Mark a.s.a.p.

The committee will be meeting this week with a number of items on the agenda including bringing our constitution in line with the new regulations for incorporated societies, and the NZ Mountain Film Festival.

There is no meeting in June, it being King's birthday weekend. A few of us will be celebrating in and around Crosbies hut, hopefully you all find a way to enjoy the long weekend. Until we meet again in July (or before on the trail), stay safe. **Becky**

Where am I Competition?



Mary

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## 2024 PTC PHOTO COMPETITION is at Club Night Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August

**TO ENTER:** email your photos to Dee Keys by **Mon 22nd July**: [deekeys22@gmail.com](mailto:deekeys22@gmail.com)

You have just over 2 months to hunt out your favourite photos and email them to me (no need to print photos).

Photos must **relate to club activities** and must be taken **after Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 2022**, except **Historic** category which must be taken **pre 2020** (i.e. Not photos of old things but photos taken long ago, the earlier the year the better). Please enter a maximum of 2 images per category (see below) for however many categories you choose.

Please clearly give me the **category code** and a **caption/title** for every image.

Eg. image of an alpine hut above the bush line could be labelled: **ABW, Mt Ruapehu**.

Digital manipulation by cropping, adjustment for tone/contrast and stitching of photos is allowed but filters are not.

You don't need to resize images.

For more info about the criteria for the categories check out the FMC website at this link:

<https://fmc.org.nz/members-area/members-benefits/photo-competition/>

### **The Categories**

1. **ABOVE BUSHLINE** (No Human Element) - **ABN**
2. **ABOVE BUSHLINE** (With Human Element) - **ABW**
3. **BELOW BUSHLINE** (No Human Element) - **BBN**
4. **BELOW BUSHLINE** (With Human Element) - **BBW**
5. **HISTORIC** (Any image taken pre-2020) - **HIS**
6. **LONG EXPOSURE** – **LE**
7. **NATIVE FLORA, FAUNA & FUNGI** – **NFF**

**All members are welcome** to come to club night on **Monday 5th August** to see the wonderful entries and judging.

If you need help email me at: [deekeys22@gmail.com](mailto:deekeys22@gmail.com)

**Cheers, Dee**

## Future Trips

Winter Programme 2024			
Date	Destination	Leaders	Grade
<b>May</b>			
Thursday 30th	Makakawhau & Awhitu Regional Park	Sharron	
<b>June</b>			
1st, 2nd, 3rd	Crosbies Hut	Becky	
Wednesday 5th	Duder Regional Park	Erna	
Sunday 9th	Hunua Moumoukai River Trails	Barry	E/M
Thursday 13th	Waiata Shores	Robert	
Sunday 16th	Dalys Hut Loop	Linda Gillard	
Wednesday 19th	TBC		
Sunday 23rd	Waiorongomai Valley	Mary	
Thursday 27th	Dingle Dell Reserve	Robert	
28th, 29th, 30th Matariki Weekend			
<b>July</b>			
Wednesday 3rd	Kauri Glen to Akaroa	Prue	
Weekend Trip 6th & 7th	Lindemans &	Mary & Suzanne	

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Athenree	Homunga Bay		
Thursday 11th	City Byways	Mark	
Sunday 14th	Huntly Lakes & Pukemokemoke	Linda Gillard	
Wednesday 17th	Waiuku Forest	Annette E	
Sunday 21st	Taupiri Maunga & Kauri Loop (Hakarimata)	Pip & Mary	

Thursday 25th	Mt William	Pru & Alison	
Sunday 28th	TBC	Becky	
Wednesday 31st	Lower Mt Eden	Jenny & Gail	

**August**

Sunday 4th	Waharau Loop Track	Shelena Wiggill	
Thursday 8th	TBC		
Sunday 11th	TBC		
Wednesday 14th	Taitua Arboretum Hamilton	Annette E	
Sunday 18th	TBC	Becky	
Thursday 22nd	Kaiaua	Mark	
Sunday 25th	Hapuakohe Walkway Northern	Shelena	
Wednesday 28th	TBC		

**As a Guide**

**Easy (E) up to 4 hours**

**Medium (M) 4 - 6 hours**

**Hard (H) more than 6 hours**

**Leaders will confirm costs**

**Weekend Trips Costs are estimates only**

## Completed / Past trips

### Mt Karioi 28th April

It definitely was a case of third time lucky! Not only was there a van available to rent, it was a stunning dry and sunny day and best of all we actually left Pukekohe! Twelve of us set out from Te Tora gorge to walk and slip steeply up towards the summit. Three of us went as far as the chains and returned to the van to enjoy the gravel road, an isolated beach and wee campsite en route to the southern track access. Oh yes and a trip into Raglan for hot drinks and sustenance. Joe's vegetarian sandwich had chicken in it but other than that it was an uneventful side trip!

The 9 intrepid walkers in the up and over group led by Becky arrived at the van at 4.45 having conquered the chains and the summit in just over 5 hours.

The views were amazing and for many it was a test of endurance in terms of chains and a challenging track. Well done all of us!! **Mary**



### Round Lake Rotoroa

Twenty-seven walkers were on the walk on a beautiful autumn day around Lake Rotoroa.

Te Huia had 90 passengers travelling on it from Auckland with our group making the biggest percentage. Many of the group purchased morning tea and lunch from the buffet car.

We didn't have time to have lunch on our walk as the stay in Hamilton is now 30 mins shorter because of the rail upgrades.

The group walked at a good clip arriving back early to the train for afternoon tea. We saw Canadian geese along with several ducks on the lake waiting out duck shooting season. The vibrant autumn colours made the walk picturesque. There were school teams rowing on the lake.

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Leaders **Gail Moy and Jenny Hari**

### Montana Heritage Trail 12th May

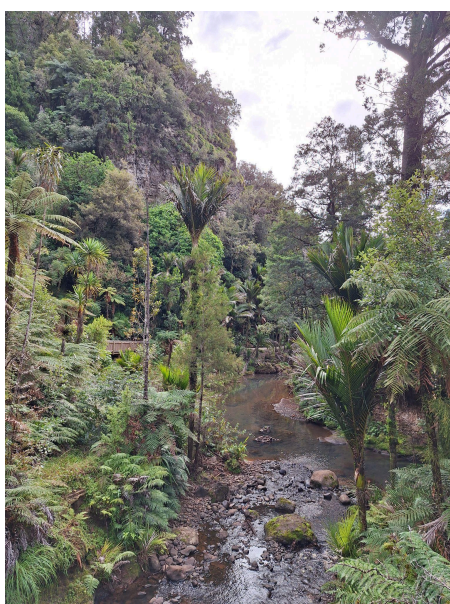
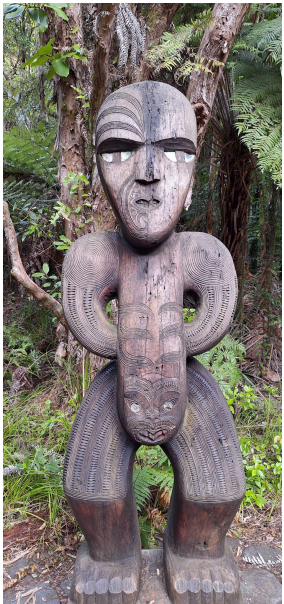
Just after 9 00 am fifteen trampers met at the Cascade Kauri carpark.. We took the track that forks to the right at the Guardian, Upper Kauri Track, and started climbing. The area is well named as there are plenty of young trees along the track and also some older and larger Kauri specimens, many right against it. After an hour of climbing we came to a picnic table and stopped for morning tea.

The track continued along the tops until we came to a junction. We explored a little further, but found all the other tracks in the area were closed, so backtracked and descended down the Long Road Track, then the Fence Line Track. This is when the reservoir came into view. We skirted the edge and as we came to the dam face we found a grassy slope. With the sun out this was a perfect spot for an early lunch. There is even a (smelly) long drop toilet for if you continue along the dam wall. A short exploration revealed the other tracks around here are also closed, including the Waitakere Tramline Walk, closed due to unsafe conditions in the valley beyond.

After a leisurely lunch we continued on the Fence Line Track, which climbed up and then down. We then met the Cascade Track which took us briefly past the Cascade Stream and back to the Guardian and the carpark. A brief investigation of the Golf Club cafe claims proved unfruitful, so we stopped at Swanson Railway Cafe on the way home for refreshments.

All up 4.5 hrs to do 10kms on a mixture of gravel, boardwalk and steps at a relaxed pace.

**Becky**



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**24<sup>th</sup> April Massey Cossey Loop Track**  
**Leader Delwyn Connolly**

A beautiful day weather wise, brought a larger than expected group of 26 to meet at the Hunua Falls car park at 10.15 am. Morning tea was in the car park whilst waiting for everyone to arrive. We took the Cossey Track up to the Cossey Dam, first crossing the swing bridge and up the steps enjoying the scenery on the way. At the dam it was time for an early lunch as there was plenty of seating and toilets available. Those who did not wish to do the whole track had the option of returning the way that we had come but everyone was happy to complete the whole loop. We took our time crossing the dam and climbing up to the lookout then continued the loop past the now closed Kauri Grove and back down to the Hunua Car Park. A few rest stops made walking back to the car park more enjoyable as did being in the bush and hearing the birds. We also stopped to have a quick look at the native orchid plants growing to the side of the track. The stop at Coffee Club in Bombay was a well-deserved treat at the end of our three hour walk.



**Papakura East 15th May**

The weather forecast was not flash, but twenty one walkers took the chance. We huddled under a shelter before heading east. A couple of pedestrian and road crossings later, we were in the greenery of McLennan Park. Then along a stock bank through a fortunate gap in the construction fencing. We crossed a waterway and went back into the residential area. When we asked the trip leader where we were it was not reassuring to be told he did not have a clue. Many reached for their smartphones. There was a succession of walkways and little parks before we were told not to look skyward for the Kauri but into the swamp/wetland for the massive remains of Kauri. The history of their milling can be found in the Papakura Museum. Once again our planned route had to be amended to accommodate red cones and a digger. We crossed Walters Road and into Bruce Pulman Park. Having crossed to the northern side, we formed into a line. With the Leader in front and tail end charlie in Hi Viz, we were lead along the verge of Airfield Road. It was like returning to a primary school experience. We then refuelled at Farmer Friend Cafe in the plant barn. We then backtracked to Bruce Pulman Park and then wandered through autumn leaves, finally we emerged from the Taka Reserve to the Takanini Railway Station and back to Papakura by train.



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**Hapuakohe Southern Walkway 19th May**

Imagine going on a walk in this area that is unfamiliar to Barry? Thanks Mary, great choice of walk and only 45 minutes drive from Pukekohe. The walkway starts from the very end of Mangapiko Valley Road through a short stretch of farm tracks before heading into the Mangaiko Scenic Reserve. The first section of bush is quite overgrown and got a bit of a trim with the secateurs we took with us. The whole way is steadily uphill following the orange markers through the bush. A number of spots windfall has covered the track and we needed to keep an eagle eye out to find the track again. The second section of bush after a short walk along a fenceline is much prettier and less overgrown. We had lunch near a cell phone tower with stunning 360° views of Hauraki Plains and Gulf, large areas of the Waikato, and hill country. We then proceeded another 30 minutes through another lovely bush section. We skipped this last bush section on our return by walking up the fenceline to the cell phone tower and then headed DOWNHILL back. Nine happy trampers returned to the car five hours after setting out. We look forward to walking other sections of the track later in the year.



**Sunday 21st April - Challenge & Downhill Tracks, Hunuas**

Are you up to the Challenge!! This is part of the Mangatawhiri Cycle Trail options. Departed Pukekohe at 0800, and as it's only a short 30 min trip to UpperMangatawhiri campground carpark, we had boots on and headed off at 0845 Going anticlockwise today - up onto dam face where water level was quite low, along Waterline Road following edge of Reservoir (past entrance to Ernies Track on RHS) at junction of Wairoa Hill Road we had a rest break, before carrying on up road to start of the Challenge Cycle track on LHS. The Challenge Track is a Level 3 Single Track which follows the ridge line between the Wairoa and Mangatawhiri Reservoirs, with excellent views of both water bodies in places. Track was a bit overgrown in places & after some rain in the days before the inclines were "quite slippery", so exciting climbs pulling up on trees & growth along edges, with some sliding down the declines testing balance. Reaching Repeater Camp (toilets & tables here) we stopped for lunch in sun, onward down Repeater Rd to visit the Upper Mangatawhiri Dam, and finally back on Moumoukai road, turned left, down the access road, turning

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off and walking the Challenge Downhill track, finally a short walk back to the carpark.  
 Good mix of conditions, 15.5km mix of access road, ridge ride, downhill track, 5 hrs, Medium  
 Leader Barry, Walkers Pip, Jenette, Joe & Karen B



#### Pukekohe Tramping Club Committee 2024/25

Name	Position	email
Rebecca Banks	<b>President</b>	<a href="mailto:rbanks2016@gmail.com">rbanks2016@gmail.com</a>
Barry Gibbon	<b>Vice President</b> New Member Greeter at Club night Emergency Contact & PLB First Aid Book Walkie Talkie Holder	<a href="mailto:bandfgibbon@gmail.com">bandfgibbon@gmail.com</a>
David Lawrie	<b>Secretary</b> Emergency Contact & PLB First Aid Book Walkie Talkie Holder	<a href="mailto:lawrie@ps.gen.nz">lawrie@ps.gen.nz</a>
Glenn Clark	<b>Weekend Trip Coordinator</b>	<a href="mailto:glennmareeclark@gmail.com">glennmareeclark@gmail.com</a>
Mark Leys	<b>New Member Contact</b> Aged Expo Organiser	<a href="mailto:mleys@orcon.net.nz">mleys@orcon.net.nz</a>
Raewyn Lane	<b>Treasurer</b> Mid-Week Walk Coordinator (assisted by Betty McDonald)	<a href="mailto:raewynlane7@gmail.com">raewynlane7@gmail.com</a>
Dee Keys	<b>Past President</b> <b>Speaker Coordinator</b> <b>Photo Competition Organiser</b>	<a href="mailto:dkeys22@gmail.com">dkeys22@gmail.com</a>

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Charlie & Joy Browne	Gear Custodian	<a href="mailto:brownesx3@xtra.co.nz">brownesx3@xtra.co.nz</a>
Pip Wooffindin	Bush Telegraph Editor	<a href="mailto:pipwoofnz@gmail.com">pipwoofnz@gmail.com</a>
Rebecca Banks & John Jacobson	Publicity Facebook Page Administrator	<a href="mailto:rbanks2016@gmail.com">rbanks2016@gmail.com</a>
Shelena Wiggill	Committee Member	<a href="mailto:shelenawiggill@gmail.com">shelenawiggill@gmail.com</a>
<b>Other Positions Not on the Committee</b>		
Eric & Linda Muir	Archives 50th Anniversary Booklets	

## Trip Leaders

**Please inform David Lawrie 021 656 369 or Glenn Clark 09 2386568 or 021 245 7468 as to your trip intentions as they are Pukekohe Tramping Club Emergency Contacts.**

If they have no knowledge of where you are or who is on your trip they are unable to be of assistance if help is required. They also hold a Personal Locator Beacon and First Aid Manual for trip leaders use. Please return these promptly as they will be required for next week's trip.


**Clarification of Trip Leader's Responsibilities under OSH Regulations:**

Commercial Group Leaders (employees) are responsible under legal Health and Safety Regulations for the members of the group they are leading. As Pukekohe Tramping Club leaders are **UNPAID VOLUNTEERS**, the responsibility is on **ALL** members of the group to observe and take responsibility for their own actions. 

Trip Leaders reserve the right to refuse any member participation in any tramp not considered suitable.

## Gear Requirement

**Day Trips:**

- Small pack 
- Suitable footwear
- Lunch and snacks
- Full drink bottle
- Rainwear Hat (woollen or sun) Gloves Change of clothes
- Small first aid kit / whistle Thermal blanket

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### **Weekend Trips:**

Waterproof pack large enough to hold all your equipment and food

Sleeping bag

Boots 

Rainwear Warm clothing eg fleece garments, polypropylene, etc

Woolly hat Gloves/mittens

Thermal longs for winter trips or if above the bushline

Torch or headlight

Toilet gear

Plate and mug and cutlery

Small first aid pack / whistle

If in doubt ask the Trip Leader for advice for day, weekend or longer trips.

It is recommended for all trips that the NZ Mountain Safety Council's pack liners be used. These are available from Charlie & Joy Browne (Phone 238 7298) at a cost of \$4.50 each. **Use of Whistle:**

Please remember the whistle should be your equipment of choice to attract attention if needed. If anybody falls behind and loses sight of others, feels unwell and must stop for a rest, becomes injured, etc then the agreed call to alert the Trip Leader and others in the party is **THREE (3) LONG whistle blasts, REPEATED as necessary.** The Trip Leader and/or others in the party will respond with **TWO (2) LONG blasts** indicating they have heard and are coming to your aid. It may be helpful in some circumstances that a repeat whistle blast will allow accurate location.

### **Weekend and Longer Trips:**

**Monday** night is the cut-off point. Any member who does not adhere to this will miss out.

The reason for the cutoff point is to allow time for the Trip Leader to arrange, transport, food, bookings, etc.

### **Midweek Trips:**

**These can be viewed in the Bush Telegraph in advance.**

An email is sent out approximately a week in advance by the leader with details regarding transport and meeting points and more details of the walk.

You **DO NOT** need to contact the leader in advance of these trips. Just turn up at one of the appointed meeting places.

Contact the Trip Leader for further information as required.

### **Saturday or Sunday Trips:**

**These can be viewed in the Bush Telegraph in advance.**

An email is sent out approximately a week in advance with information from the leader regarding transport, the meeting point and more details of the walk.

Unless otherwise stated **SATURDAY/SUNDAY** Club trips leave from the carpark opposite McDonalds in Hall Street, Pukekohe. Members who wish to be picked up elsewhere must make arrangements with the Trip Leader.

You **DO** need to contact the leader in advance of these trips. Their details will be in the email.

Contact the Trip Leader for further information as required.

## Annual Subscriptions:

\$25.00 single \$45.00 family (two or more) **Saturday/Sunday Trips:**

**Please pay your Subscriptions Online:** with your surname as the reference and "Sub" as the code, to the PTC bank which is ASB Pukekohe, account number **12 3023 0324204 00**

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