



# The Bush Telegraph

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

**Next meeting: 3rd February @ 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:** Frances Gibbons

**Speaker:** Barry Gibbons will speak about his 2024 visit to Liechtenstein.

**New Members:** Elizabeth Edmonds

## **The President's Notes**

Kia ora all,

I hope you were able to enjoy the opportunities of the festive period to connect with your nearest and dearest and that you and yours have started the new year in health and happiness.

The club had their first event earlier in January with the New Year BBQ, a purely social occasion and open to all, and we have already had the first tramp/s of the year. With the train service resuming from Pukekohe early in February, it will be interesting to see the impact, if any, this has on our trips.

I know many have taken the chance to have their own trips over the summer, including myself. I'm sure we are all looking forward to catching up on everyone's news and getting out on the trails again. See you soon I hope.

**Becky**

## Special Olympics Fundraising

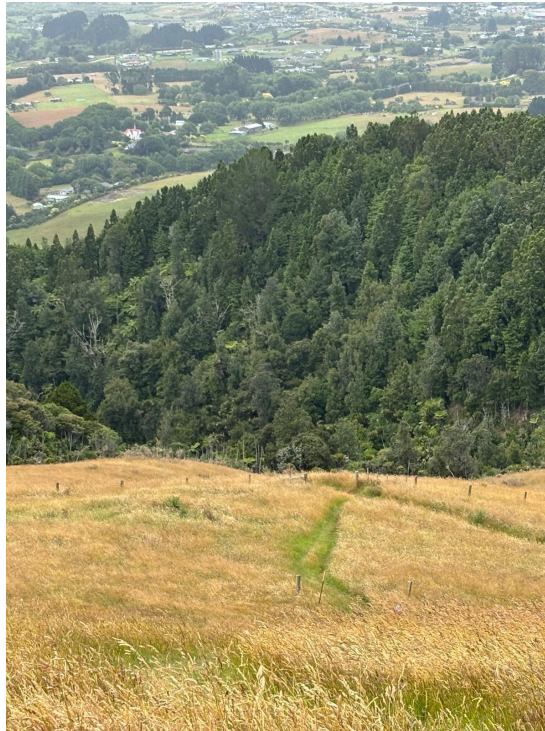
Franklin A & P Show Saturday/Sunday February 15/16  
8am - 3pm at the latest

Counties Special Olympics have again been asked to “man the gates” at the A & P Show. The fee received for this is a vital part of our annual income required to operate on a day to day basis.

Last year several PTC members gave their time to help and on behalf of the local SO committee I am asking for volunteers again. The time can be as little as two hours and if you really do not want to deal with money (cash &/or machines) you can be allocated a gate where this is not necessary.

If you are willing and/or want further information please contact Mary Crawford by email [mecrawford1953@gmail.com](mailto:mecrawford1953@gmail.com) or mobile 021 0548324 by Friday February 7th. If you are able to state when you can & can't help over the 2 days that would be helpful.

## Where am I Competition?



## Future Trips

### Summer Programme 2025

Date	Destination	Leaders	Grade
<b>January</b>			
Sat-Mon 25-27th	Rotoroa Island	Becky	
Wednesday 29th	Pokeno	Gail & Jenny	
<b>February</b>			
Sunday 2nd	Hapuakohe North (part section)	Pip & John	
Thursday 6th or Wed 5th	Henderson Creek	Ray	
Sunday 9th	TBC	Mary	
Wednesday 12th			
Sat & Sun 15-16th	Katikati Weekend	Becky	
Thursday 20th	Montana Heritage Trail	Shahar	
Sunday 23rd			

### March

Sunday 2nd			
Thursday 6th	Milford to Takapuna	Prue	
Sunday 9th			
Wednesday 12th	Thames	Annette E	
Sunday 16th	Local Walks	Linda & Steve	
Thursday 20th	Waitawa	Dzintra	
21st, 22nd & 23rd	Mangawhai Heads	Becky	

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Wednesday 26th			
Sunday 30th			
<b>April</b>			
Thursday 3rd			
Sunday 6th			
Wednesday 9th			
Sunday 13th			
Thursday 17th			
EASTER 18, 19, 20, 21	North South Track	Becky & Barry	
Wednesday 23rd			
Sunday 27th			

**Completed / Past trips**

**Kaitarakihi Summit Sunday 1 December 2024**

After a rainy Saturday the weather was supposed to improve with isolated showers forecast, yeah right! Pip, Lisa and I set out from Pukekohe and made it to the start of the track on the Kopu-Hikuai Rd by 9.30am with a small detour after taking the wrong road. There is parking on the side of the road opposite the track, look out for it as you crest the highest point of the road. We met Chrissy there who joined us for her first tramp with the club.

We started tramping at about 9.45am, the track climbs up from the road and then undulates up the ridgeline until climbing steeply at the end. It rained lightly most of the day and the track was overgrown in places, so it was a little slippery, particularly coming down. As it was a whiteout, we didn't bother going up the chains for no view, deciding to save that for a better day. So after having lunch at the base of the chains, we headed back down, slipping and sliding along. We met 3 others heading up as we came down and popped out at about 3.15pm.

**Becky**

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**Hunua 4th December**

Eight intrepid walkers met at the Mangatawhiri Dam car park for a steady uphill walk to Piggot's Campsite. The walk was along Lilburn road, and so we encountered a mix of full sunshine and shade. Lunch was taken at the campsite hut. A few of us met up with members of the Kokako Recovery group and learned a little of the work being undertaken.

We retraced our steps back to the carpark and had a well earned coffee at Bombay.

We found a lovely chocolate cake in the hut. But we were good and didn't eat it.

There was a group of pest control people who had bought their lovely lunches.



**Ben**

**Hapuakohe South 08 Dec 2024**

This walk was supposed to be a key swap but due to numbers (five) we made a decision to drop one vehicle on Ohinewai Road and then head to the southern end of the track to walk together. None of us had actually done the middle part of the track and we anticipated it would be more difficult than it was. The weather too was on our side with great cloud cover on the sections we were walking on farmland. The views are wonderful once you pop out of the bush.

The southern section is really well trimmed back due to the pruning we were doing on previous trips. The other sections seriously need some work, especially the middle bush section. What makes it tricky is that the track can be narrow, uneven and have tree roots to walk on but you can't see your feet due to the overgrown bushes. Fortunately we all survived unscathed after 5 ½ hours. We headed off to fetch the second car and have well deserved Pokeno ice creams. A big shout out to Becky who lugged a very heavy pack in training for her Te Araroa trip starting shortly.

**Pip & Mary**



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**Waiuku Forest Sunday 15th December**



**Sunday January 19th**

**Hunua ... Suspension Bridge to Cossey Dam (loop) return via Cossey/Wairoa track**

What a long tough walk we had. Maybe Ngaire and Rita who took the one way option were the smart ones! As billed in the promo the walk had highway like conditions either end on the 2 frequently walked and maintained loop tracks. Not that they aren't without ups and downs and many steps.

The recently reopened track is tough. Lots of ups and downs, many tree roots to catch you out and stairs of all different heights and sizes. A good workout.

Lunch by the dam gave us a chance to refresh our knowledge of the area and enjoy a sit down before the even longer return route. By the time we got back to Pukekohe at about 6pm we knew we had walked ourselves tired over the 22 kms!!!

Mary



Pukekohe Tramping Club Committee 2024/25		
Name	Position	email
Rebecca Banks	President	<a href="mailto:rbanks2016@gmail.com">rbanks2016@gmail.com</a>
Barry Gibbon	Vice President New Member Greeter at Club night First Aid Book	<a href="mailto:bandfgibbon@gmail.com">bandfgibbon@gmail.com</a>
David Lawrie	Secretary Emergency Contact & PLB First Aid Book Walkie Talkie Holder	<a href="mailto:lawrie@ps.gen.nz">lawrie@ps.gen.nz</a>
Glenn Clark	Weekend Trip Coordinator	<a href="mailto:glenmareeclark@gmail.com">glenmareeclark@gmail.com</a>



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<b>Mark Leys</b>	<b>New Member Contact</b> Aged Expo Organiser	<a href="mailto:mleys@orcon.net.nz">mleys@orcon.net.nz</a>
<b>Raewyn Lane</b>	<b>Treasurer</b> Mid-Week Walk Coordinator	<a href="mailto:raewynlane7@gmail.com">raewynlane7@gmail.com</a>
<b>Dee Keys</b>	<b>Speaker Coordinator</b> <b>Photo Competition Organiser</b>	<a href="mailto:dkeys22@gmail.com">dkeys22@gmail.com</a>
<b>Charlie &amp; Joy Browne</b>	<b>Gear Custodian</b>	<a href="mailto:brownesx3@xtra.co.nz">brownesx3@xtra.co.nz</a>
<b>Pip Wooffindin</b>	<b>Bush Telegraph Editor</b>	<a href="mailto:pipwoofnz@gmail.com">pipwoofnz@gmail.com</a>
<b>Rebecca Banks &amp; John Jacobson</b>	<b>Publicity</b> <b>Facebook Page Administrator</b>	<a href="mailto:rbanks2016@gmail.com">rbanks2016@gmail.com</a>
<b>Shelena Wiggill</b>	<b>Committee Member</b>	<a href="mailto:shelenanwiggill@gmail.com">shelenanwiggill@gmail.com</a>
<b>Other Positions Not on the Committee</b>		
<b>Eric &amp; Linda Muir</b>	<b>Archives</b> <b>50th Anniversary Booklets</b>	

## 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

### **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.

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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.