



Official Bulletin of  
WAIKATO TRAMPING CLUB  
P. O. Box 685, Hamilton 3240 • [www.wtc.org.nz](http://www.wtc.org.nz)

Free to members

Member of: Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand Inc  
Ruapehu Mountain Clubs Association

BULLETIN No 856

January 2024

### General Committee

(Contact details listed below)

<b>President:</b>	Judith Bogle	027 3810283
<b>Secretary:</b>	Dorothy Cawdron	027 7424222
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Guy Domett	027 2483008
<b>Members:</b>	John McArthur (VP Tramp)      Stephen Prendergast (VP Ski)	
	Stephen Phillips    Allan Wickens    Jacqui Dick	
	Mike Barker      Selwyn June	

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### Tramping Subcommittee

**Tramping email:** [waikatotrampingclub@gmail.com](mailto:waikatotrampingclub@gmail.com)

|                         |                                                                                  |             |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Chairperson:</b>     | John McArthur <a href="mailto:mcarthur@outlook.co.nz">mcarthur@outlook.co.nz</a> | 021 2889641 |
| <b>Club Captain:</b>    | Les Warren                                                                       | 027 8644937 |
| <b>Membership:</b>      | Jocelyn Widmer                                                                   | 027 8664795 |
| <b>Member:</b>          | Selwyn June                                                                      | 027 4978151 |
|                         | Rupert Craggs                                                                    | 027 6811926 |
| <b>Transport:</b>       | Allan Wickens                                                                    | 027 9509546 |
| <b>Social convenor:</b> | Jacqui Dick                                                                      | 021 1375201 |

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### Ski Subcommittee

**Ski email:** [waikatoski@gmail.com](mailto:waikatoski@gmail.com)

<b>Chairperson:</b>	Stephen Prendergast	021 466247
<b>Ski VP:</b>	Stephen Phillips	021 1031436
<b>Bookings:</b>	Ashley Hoskin	027 4909545
<b>Finance officer:</b>	Michael Barker	021 2463500
<b>Members:</b>	Ashley Hoskin	027 4909545

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Bulletin:</b>                    | Lesley Kuggeleijn                                                  | 027 4942414 |
| <b>Editor &amp; Club Librarian:</b> | Dianne June <a href="mailto:djune@xtra.co.nz">djune@xtra.co.nz</a> | 07 8433066  |

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**Waikato Tramping Club account:** 03 1555 0091625 02 (include the trip no.)

## Club Night, Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February

We are hoping to have a fresh-water ecologist as guest speaker so watch this space- more details later this month,

**Editorial:** This month there is just a list of trip descriptions coming to you, along with a couple of snippets of information. Our usual format will recommence in February

### Snippets:

- ✓ After a most enjoyable time at Judith & Ross' place for our annual Christmas function, someone took home the **wrong deck chair**. Your editor has a slightly faded navy blue one with a netting slot in one armrest for a glass. If this is yours please arrange a swap so we can give Lois back her one.
- ✓ **Bookings for Waikato Hut.** Looking for a neat place to spend some time relaxing or doing something energetic like get fit for those South Island trips? How about considering staying at Waikato Hut? The new booking officer is Ashley Hoskin, and the Hut will be open at various times over the summer holidays.
- ✓ Time for the fitness programme to be stepped up a bit? The Pirongia Restoration Society will shortly be looking for volunteers to help **carry 100 stoat traps** to various points on Mt Pirongia within their pest-controlled area. If you would like to assist with this work, please contact the team leader Richard Still, [richard@stillaitken.co.nz](mailto:richard@stillaitken.co.nz) and put your name forward.
- ✓ In the 1980s the club had a very active member who travelled widely – particularly to Antarctica, the African continent, Australia, and the Czech Republic carrying out botanical and ecological work. **Keith Thompson** was active with the Junats, and the National wetland Trust. Do you remember him? He died on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. His family are holding an gathering for Keith on January 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 Hillcrest Rd at 2.30pm. For further info please email his son [peterthompson171170@gmail.com](mailto:peterthompson171170@gmail.com)

## ACTIVITIES CALENDAR 2024

3099	14 Jan		Kaniwhaniwha & Nikau walk	Jacqui Dick
3100	19-21 Jan	E	Kawhia Camp/kayak	Theresa O'Leary
3101 A&B	25-29 Jan		Colenso Hut/ Ruahine corner	Les Warren / Mike Pack
3102	3-6 Feb		Kawekas- Manson	Les Warren
3103	11 Feb			Club captain
3104	18 Feb		Blue Bull falls	Theresa O'Leary
3105	23-25 Feb		Cascade Hut	Peter Ayson

	<b>24 Feb- 2 Mar</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Routeburn &amp; Greenstone tracks</b>	<b>Madeleine Fiddes</b>
<b>3106</b>	<b>24 Feb-8 Mar</b>	<b>E-F</b>	<b>Wilkin River &amp; lakes</b>	<b>Lois Rowell/ Helen Mitchell</b>
<b>3107</b>	<b>25 Feb - ?</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Paparoa Track</b>	<b>John Wilson</b>
<b>3108</b>	<b>3 Mar</b>		<b>Hauraki cycle trail</b>	<b>Mike Peck</b>
<b>3109</b>	<b>9/10 Mar</b>		<b>tba</b>	<b>Club captain</b>
<b>3110</b>	<b>10-15Mar</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>McArthur Craggs &amp; onward</b>	<b>John McArthur</b>
<b>3111</b>	<b>10-17 Mar</b>			<b>Club captain</b>
<b>3112</b>	<b>18-21 Mar</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Red Hills, Richmond range</b>	<b>Les Warren</b>
<b>3113</b>	<b>23-28 Mar</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Leathem Conservation area</b>	<b>Les Warren</b>

Don't let a lack of equipment deter you from coming on a trip. Talk to the trip leader - who may be able to assist with lending or sharing gear.

### **TIME and FITNESS GUIDELINES**

<b>E = Easy.</b>	Up to 4 hours per day, pace slower than E/M.
<b>E/M = Easy/Medium.</b>	Up to 5-6 hours/day, pace slower than M.
<b>M = Medium.</b>	Up to 6-7 hours/day, at standard walking pace.
<b>M/F = Medium/Fit.</b>	Up to 7-8 hours/day, pace faster than M.
<b>F = Fit.</b>	Over 8 hours/day, pace faster than M/F.

Note that factors such as party size, fitness, weather, terrain and leadership will influence actual times, so the above are estimates only.

**Bookings and Cancellations: no later than the WEDNESDAY before the trip.**

Any person withdrawing after this day without good reason will be charged the full cost of the trip.

**Departure Point: Weekend** trips depart from the Gate 1 at Waikato University. Park closer to other vehicles as this area is security monitored. Leave on Friday nights at 7pm sharp unless otherwise stated. **Day** trips depart from London St at the river end- park on the roadside. Leave Sunday mornings at 8am sharp.

If someone is concerned because a trip is **late back**, contact:

1) Club Captain; 2) President; 3) a committee member.

### **Minimum equipment required:**

**Day Trips:** A thermal layer (polypropylene, polyester etc or wool), an insulating layer of fleece (polartec etc) or wool and a water & wind-proof parka outer shell. Shorts or long-johns/over-trousers in cool or wet weather. Torch and sunscreen. Boots or strong shoes. Lunch, snacks and water bottle. First aid kit.

**Weekend Trips:** The above, plus pack with plastic liner bag, sleeping bag, tent, sleeping mat, cooker, billy, plate or bowl, spoon, food, spare dry clothes for evening, towel, toilet gear, light camp shoes. A water purifier can be useful. Plus, in extreme weather or country: additional warm top, over-trousers or woollen/ fleece trousers,

warm outdoor mittens or gloves, over-mitts, warm hat or balaclava, sunglasses. Ice axe and crampons for snow.

## Trip Descriptions

Remember: Click 'SUBMIT' to confirm your booking on the website

### **Trip 3099**                      **Kaniwhaniwha & Nikau Walk**                      **14 Jan**

This will be a nice easy afternoon walk to ease ourselves back into it after the Christmas holiday indulgence! We will be meeting at the Kaniwhaniwha car park on Limeworks Loop Road, Te Pahu at 2pm. From here we follow the stream to a loop walk that is lush with nikau palms and tree ferns. It is a good walk to do on a hot day as there is plenty of shade and we can have a swim if we want.

Afterwards we will have a shared picnic tea back where we started the walk as there is a lovely grassed area with trees to sit under and a swimming hole. Bring a plate of picnic food to share for dinner, a blanket or chairs to sit on and your togs.

**Leader:** Jacqui Dick

**Ph:** 021 1375 201

**Grade:** VE

**Email:** [jacquimd@me.com](mailto:jacquimd@me.com)

**Transport:** Private vehicles

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### **Trip 3100**                      **Kawhia family and kayaking camp**                      **19-21 Jan**

A long weekend at the beach, your style?

4 tent sites have been booked at the Beachside Scape Holiday Park in Kawhia for WTC – 2 powered (12 x 9m) and 2 non (9 x 6m). Book initially with Theresa and she will keep in touch with the camping ground if we need more sites etc.

\$25 per person powered and \$20 pp non-powered. They are big enough for 2 medium tents and one vehicle.

There are communal kitchen and bathroom facilities, Ovens, Microwave, toasters, jugs, fridge/freezer, TV room, Spa \$20 per hour, pool table, children's trampoline, Theresa has one large tent which sleeps 8?, one x2man and 1xsingle tent available – book places with her.

Cabins and motel units available – book yourself, let Theresa know you'll be joining in. Kayaks and Paddle boards for hire from the campground – make your own bookings. High tides (kayak trips best starting 2-3 hours before so we kayak on incoming tide).\

Friday 19<sup>th</sup>

5:28 PM

Sunset: 8:43PM

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>

6:15 AM

6:42 PM

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>

7:36 AM

**Leader:**

Theresa O'Leary

**Ph:** 07 871 0727/ 027 416 2633

**Grade:** E

**Email:** [theresa.oleary.eme@gmail.com](mailto:theresa.oleary.eme@gmail.com)

**Beachside Holiday camp:** [beachside@kawhia.nz](mailto:beachside@kawhia.nz)

**Website:** [www.kawhiabeachsidescape.co.nz](http://www.kawhiabeachsidescape.co.nz)

**Transport:** Private vehicles

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**Trip 3101A****Colenso Hut****25-29 Jan**

FMC announced that access to the north-western Ruahine Ranges thru Mokai Station has been re-instated from 24<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Great news for those Clubs such as ours and save the long journey to the Hawkes Bay for access. I believe the last time our Club used the Mokai access was in 1989.

Thursday 25: Travel to Taihape and stay at either Gretna hotel of backpackers, Drive Hamilton to Taihape (4hrs). Stay either at Gretna Hotel or Backpackers in Taihape.

Friday 26: Mokai Road End to Otukota Hut. Drive to Mokai Road End (40min). Walk – Ascend thru Mokai Station to the Mokai-Patea Range tops, follow the tops south for a short way before descending to Otukota Hut (6 beds) (allow around 5hrs). The last 30/45min is very steep. Excellent views along the tops if the weather is kind. We must, follow the designated / agreed poled route thru Mokai Station.

Saturday 27: Otukota Hut to Colenso Hut. Walk to Colenso Hut (8 beds) via Puketaramea (1338m) and Unknown Campsite (7-9hrs). Depending on the track condition, this will be a long day. Hopefully time will allow us to visit Colenso Lake, or we can visit next morning on way out. Not found any current information on this section so today will be “winging it”.

Sunday 28: Colenso Hut to Iron Bark Hu. Walk from Colenso Hut to Iron Bark Hut (6 beds) (4-5hrs). A short day after yesterday's long day. Tomorrow will be another long day.

Monday 29: Iron Bark Hut to Mokai Road End. Walk out to the Mokai Road End carpark. Unfortunately, we cannot use a 'short-cut' from Iron Bark Hut straight up and over the Tops as there is no agreement with Mokai Station.

From Iron Bark Hut, there are new track changes to Otukota Hut which is much shorter (and quicker) than the old track which still shows on the Topo maps. It will still be a long day back out to the carpark.

This trip will be a fit trip but aimed at a “slower fit trip”. One needs to be fit as there will be a lot of steep ascending and descending and some stream crossing (hopefully low level). A few days could well be longer days than we normally do. Times are based on what I can find from DoC websites or track times on Notice Board at Mokai Carpark – we may take a bit less time. A lot will depend on the group dynamics and the weather. As the Huts only have 6 to 8 beds, it is highly recommended that we take tents.

**Leader:** Les Warren

**Ph:** 027 8644937.

**Grade:** F but slower

**Email:** warrenlb2017@outlook.com

**Trip 3101B****Ruahine Corner****26-29 Jan**

My plan is to depart the Mokai carpark at the same time as the Colenso group and walk through to Colenso Hut for Friday night. Saturday, we tramp to Ruahine Corner Hut via the Potae Mangatera track. Sunday is RCH to Ironbark Hut via Ohutu Ridge where we'll meet the other group and walk out together on Monday.

**Leader:** Mike Peck

**Ph:** 021 369 256

**Grade:** F

**Email:** [mikeypeck@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeypeck@yahoo.com)

**Transport:** Senior member \$88

Senior non-member: Senior rate +\$10

**Trip 3102**

**Kawekas- Manson Country**

**3-6 Feb**

I have offered to Lead this trip as Allan has had to pull out. This trip will be a fit trip (at a slower pace than a fitter trip). If, there is a Leader keen to do a fitter trip, please contact me. Also, if there is a Leader keen to base themselves at the Cameron Road campsite and do day trips or a couple of overnight trips, also contact me.

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>: Travel to Cameron Road Campsite. It is 5hrs (plus a short stop) to Cameron Road Campsite.

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>: After a short drive to The Lakes Carpark, we walk to the Kiwi Mouth Hut via Kuripapango (6 – 7hrs).

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>: Today we walk to Otutu Hut via Manson Hut – In ‘Manson Country’ (6 – 8hrs)

Monday 5<sup>th</sup>: Today we walk to Back Ridge Hut via Rocks Ahead Hut (8-9hrs)

Tuesday 06: Walk out to The Lakes Carpark via Kaweka J and Studholme Saddle Hut (7-9hrs).

One needs to be fit as there will be a lot of steep ascending and descending, and some stream crossing (hopefully low level). NOTE: Most days could well be longer days than we normally do. A lot will depend on the group dynamics and the weather.

**As the Huts only have 6 or less beds, it is highly recommended that we take tents.**

**Leader:** Les Warren

**Phone:** 027 8644937.

**Grade:** F but slower

**Email:** [warrenlb2017@outlook.com](mailto:warrenlb2017@outlook.com)

**Transport:** Senior member \$88

Senior non-member: Senior rate +\$10

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**Trip 3104**

**Blue Bull falls**

**18 Feb**

In Jan 2022 a few WTC members joined John & Jean Wilson leading a venture to re-visit these falls – they had been there many years before. We loved the stream walk and having wet feet on a hot day but had to turn around before we found the falls. Let’s see if we can find them this time.

The highest waterfall in Pirongia Forest Park is in the headwaters of Blue Bull Stream. We will walk up from Kaniwhaniwha carpark. Perhaps this time we will go up the Bell Track, use compass bearings to drop down to the stream, explore & enjoy the falls, then walk out along the stream – 2 k’s approx.

**Leader:** Theresa O’Leary

**Ph:** 027 416 2633\_

**Grade:** M/F

**Email:** [theresa.oleary.eme@gmail.com](mailto:theresa.oleary.eme@gmail.com)

**Transport:** Senior member \$20-25

Senior non-member: Senior rate +\$10

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**Trip 3105**

**Cascade Hut**

**23-25 Feb**

This is a classic Kaimanawa trip. We will leave **Hamilton early on Friday morning** and drive to the end of Clements Mill Road to start the tramp at the swing bridge crossing over the Hinemaiaia Stream along a gentle stroll through the forest.

After approximately 50 minutes we will come to the confluence and the track takes a serious turn with a 460m climb to the highest point of the trip of 1240 meters. Then after one more down and up we drop to the Tauranga-Taupo river cross the Cascade stream and the hut (6 bunk). Approximately 7/8 hours.

Next day we will go to the 12 bunk Oamaru Hut from the Cascade via the Kaipō Track which is approximately 18.7; km and will take 5-6 hours. Day 3 will see us cross the Oamaru river twice and up through the forest and a gate into Poronui station. Hopefully 4 to 5 hours we will be out. I can promise you wet feet river swims and incredible scenery. Tents necessary.

**Leader:** Peter Ayson

**Ph:** 0274 797 077

**Grade:** M/F

**Email:** [peter.ayson@yahoo.com](mailto:peter.ayson@yahoo.com)

**Transport:** Senior member \$67

Senior non-member: Senior rate +\$10

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### Routeburn & Greenstone tracks

**24 Feb-2 Mar**

We are starting the Routeburn Track Saturday 24Feb - First night - Routeburn Falls Hut, 2nd night 25th Feb - Lake Mackenzie Hut. Walk out 26th Feb. We are planning to stay in Te Anau for 2 nights then start Greenstone Track over 3 nights and 4 days. McKellar hut to Deerstalker hut to Greenstone hut to car park.

Note: these huts require prior booking with DoC

**Leader:** Madeleine Fiddes

**Ph:** 021 2273560

**Grade:** M

**Email:** [madeleine@actrix.co.nz](mailto:madeleine@actrix.co.nz)

**Transport:** Private arrangements.

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### Trip 3106 Wilkin River-Lakes Diana, Lucidus & Castalia

**24 Feb-8 Mar**

Fly into Queenstown 27<sup>th</sup> and travel to Makarora for flight to Jumboland the following day. From Top Forks Hut we will explore Lakes Dianna, Lucidus and Castalia. The weather will dictate how many nights we stay at Top Forks. From there we walk back out to Kerin Forks Hut cross the river (preferably by boat) and walk to Siberia Hut. From there it is a day trip up to Lake Crucible. We expect to take the jet boat back to Makarora on the afternoon of 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> March. All participants will need to bring a tent and sleeping mat. Possible day trips are planned for the remaining days or others can return to Queenstown.

**Leaders:** Lois Rowell & Helen Mitchell **Ph:** 027 288 1148 or 021 523494

**Emails:** [loiserowell@gmail.com](mailto:loiserowell@gmail.com) or [hmitchie@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:hmitchie@hotmail.co.nz)

**Grades:** E to F

**Cost:** Private arrangements

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### Trip 3107

### Paparoa Track

**starting 25 Feb**

If you haven't already booked your accommodation, then you are too late.

**Leaders:** Jean & John Wilson

**Ph:** 021 266 8600

*Ed comment: keep an ear out for SI kokako- they may have been heard in this area and if you can get documented proof such as a photo, you could earn \$10,000.*

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### Trip 3108

### Hauraki cycle trail

**3 Mar**

Meet in Te Aroha at the old railway station. Cycle towards Paeroa and then on towards Waihi for lunch at Falls Retreat or Waihi township. Return the same way.

Distance is about 30-35km each way on mostly flat terrain. You will need a headlamp for the tunnel section in the Karangahake Gorge. It's a comfortable ride with about two hours biking each way to Falls retreat.

**Leader:** Mike Peck

**Ph:** 021 369256

**Grade:** M

**Email:** [mikeypeck@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeypeck@yahoo.com)

**Transport:** Private vehicles

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### **Trip 3110**

### **McArthur Craggs & onward**

**10-15 Mar**

We will get to Hokitika to start us off and shuttle to the bridge across the Arahura river bright and early. From there, a 6-7 hour tramp up to the Lower Olderog Biv (2 sleeping benches, no mattresses). This is close to the bush-line, and we break up to open tops to gain the McArthur Craggs, top of the McArthur Range at 1432m.

Here we have options:

a) the short traverse across Mt Kerr and down to either the West Coast Wilderness trail (cycle trail) or out north along the Wainihinihi river to the main road.

b) (preferred) so as not to waste the altitude, we would traverse the ridge to Top Olderog Biv (again just 2 berth) and on to Mt Olsen (1603m), the Tara Tama range, turn right over Dunn Saddle, Mt Edelweiss, Newton Saddle and down to Dunns Creek Hut. Then we can walk out the Taipo River to the main road, or

c) we could go up and over the Kelly Range staying at Carroll Hut (looks nice on the map). This gets us down into the Otira valley and the main road.

More planning and timing to be done, but small team and camping required.

**Leader:** John McArthur

**Ph:** 021 2889641

**Grade:** F

**Email:** [mcArthur@outlook.co.nz](mailto:mcArthur@outlook.co.nz)

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### **Trip 3112**

### **Red Hills, Richmond Ranges**

**18 -21 Mar**

Departure and End: St Arnaud. I am treating this 4 or 5-day trip as a warm-up for my Bounds Circuit Trip that will follow.

Day 1: Start walking from Six Creek Carpark to Red Hills Hut (2hrs).

Day 2: Walk to Hunters Hut via Porters Creek Hut (7hrs).

Day 3: Walk about 1km north on poled track then follow a stream up to the ridgeline near Pt 1374 OR, we can follow the poled track all the way to Pt 1374 via Mt Ellis. Then, continue along the ridgeline to Red Hill and descend to a tarn and camp for the night. If the availability of water is difficult, we may need to drop down to the upper valley of the Motueka River Right Branch to camp.

Day 4: From either camp site from last night, we make our way down the ridgeline to an area called The Plateau, and head for Red Hills Hut and possible onto the Carpark. If the going is slow, we can use the option of staying at Red Hills Hut for the night and walking out the next morning (only 2hrs).

The attraction of the Red Hills is the "ultramafic" geology. This means there is an abundance of minerals, including iron, magnesium, copper and chrome, which give the rocks brilliant colours, particularly reds and oranges. Due to the toxic nature of the soils for tree growth, much of the area is covered in scrub and tussock.

**Leader:** Les Warren

**Ph:** 027 8644937

**Grade:** M



**Email:** *warrenlb2017@outlook.com*

**Accommodation:** Mixture of camping and huts

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**Trip 3113      Bounds Circuit, Leatham Conservation Area      23- 28 Mar**

Departure and End: St Arnaud. To get to our start point, we travel towards Blenheim for a few km's to Leatham Road then follow Leatham Road to the end.

Day 1: We follow Leatham River south to Boundary Stream. Then follow Boundary Stream for about 4km, cross the stream and ascend spur following a fence line to ridgeline. From here, we follow a ridgeline and poled route to Hidden Hut (8 to 9hrs).

Day 2: Follow a poled route past Turkey's Nest to Gosling Hut (8 to 10hrs).

Day 3: Follow Gosling Stream down to the Waihopai River then follow a farm track south to Blue Mountain Hut (8hrs and a less stressful day for our bodies).

Day 4: Head up the Waihopai River to the Waterfall Stream then, follow Waterfall Stream all the way up to a tarn where we camp for the night (8hrs).

Day 5: Ascend north of the tarn to ridgeline then follow it to the upper section of Boundary Stream. Continue down Boundary Stream to Pt 807 where we will camp for our last night.

Day 6: Continue down Boundary Stream and the Leatham River to our carpark.

Most of this area is exposed to the elements with little bush. Will need to be prepared for hot weather tramping. Please note that times are only an estimate based on some blog reports I found.

**Leader:** Les Warren

**Ph:** 027 8644937

**Grade:** F

**Email:** *warrenlb2017@outlook.com*

**Accommodation:** Mixture of camping and huts. Huts are not big. A plus to tramping in this area is that not many people visit this area.

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### **Mid-week Walks & Tramps**

We have a walk or tramp on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. The activities have proven to be as varied as the group is and the communication is via the Mid-week W & Ts Group page on WhatsApp. If you would like to be part of this communication, please download WhatsApp on your phone and text your request to Isla on 021 209 6539.

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### **Kayakers unite**

Who is interested in kayak trips? Perhaps a bit similar to the 'Tramping on Bikes' trips.

Some for a single day trip, some with overnight camping. Some where you might hire a kayak when we get there, many where we will each need to have one and bring it. How this came about – thanks to Jacqui Dick, 14 of us had a great Raglan windy kayak recently. That got me thinking about more fun on the water, and how we might do that together.

I am putting my hand up to be the initiator of a WhatsApp group where we could all suggest impromptu trips – i.e. 'Looks fine this weekend, anyone keen to meet

at Raglan". I would also be ok with getting a few WTC trips underway if we have members who will benefit. I own 3 tents, small, medium and large (would fit 8+ tramping mattresses) that could become a base camp at a lake for instance.

If you are interested and would like to join in, please email me your permission [theresa.oleary.eme@gmail.com](mailto:theresa.oleary.eme@gmail.com) to add you and your mobile phone number into a WhatsApp 'WTC on water' group and that will get us off to a beginning. And do send suggestions for trips, and how you personally might help get this group off to a great start. Theresa O'Leary

### **Summer programme for Tongariro National Park**

Mahi Aroha, presented by Project Tongariro and DoC, offers a range of nature-based experiences for the whole family - with bookings open now for January's programme of events.

18<sup>th</sup> Jan Ohinetonga bat evening

12<sup>th</sup> Jan Te Porere redoubt cultural visit

13 & 14<sup>th</sup> Jan Kiwi & who aversion training in Taupo & Turangi,

13 & 20<sup>th</sup> Jan Kiwi aversion training in Raetihi/Owhango region

15<sup>th</sup> Jan Opepe Historic reserve hikoi – great for kids.

15<sup>th</sup> Jan Paengaroa plant picnic

17<sup>th</sup> Jan Old coach road historic heritage walk

18<sup>th</sup> Jan Waipahihi botanical gardens walk

19<sup>th</sup> Jan Historical cycle tour of Taupo lakefront

19<sup>th</sup> Jan Okupata caves – morning & afternoon trips

20 & 21<sup>st</sup> Jan Kaipo river swing bridge heli-hike with the Sika foundation (2 trips)

20<sup>th</sup> Jan Nature art watercolouring session in Turangi

22 & 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan Wairakei Golf course kiwi burrow visits

25 Jan Motutere Top 10 holiday park trap building

27 Jan Kaimanawa Alpine adventures heli-hike along a new MTB track

Visit the Project Tongariro website for more details & bookings:

*[Tongariro.org.nz/mahi-aroha](http://Tongariro.org.nz/mahi-aroha)*

### **February bulletin:**

If you are leading trips in March and April which do not have their trip descriptions already included here, please consider getting them to the editor before the February club night. Early receipt of the material is much appreciated.

