



**Summer Camp Fun — Full report and pictures inside**

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# COMMITTEE & CLUB CONTACTS

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Treasurer	Bruce Dwerryhouse	09 575 0480	treasurer@alpinesport.org.nz
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Ruapehu Buildings Co-ordinator	Nicolas Roberts	022 102355065	ruapehu@alpinesport.org.nz
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Events Co-ordinators	Keri and Eric Horn	021 914 173	kerianderic@alpinesport.org.nz
Wāitakere Hut Liaison	Mike Frith	021 0272 8662	mike@alpinesport.org.nz

## CLUB APPOINTMENTS

Website and database	Clive Bolt	09 534 2946	clive@alpinesport.org.nz
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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT.



*Miranda Hutton, Club President.*

February 2025

Kia ora koutou,

Happy New Year! I hope you enjoyed a relaxing summer holiday season and had a chance to get into the outdoors. December club activities included a delicious Christmas Lunch at the Waitākere Hut on the 15th of December and our traditional Summer Camp was held near Ohakune this year. You can read all about it later in the magazine. Thanks to Jenny Hudson for finding the site, Peter Jemmett for taking bookings, Bruce Derryhouse for his work as Camp Treasurer, Garth Barfoot for donating the cost of the hall for New Year's Eve, and Mark Roberts for organising and running a variety of trips every day.

Looking ahead, the Sunday and Thursday walks programmes are up and running already and the Small People on Big Hills have plans for a busy year. Mike Frith's team of baiters are starting the year on Sunday 2nd February, helping Ark in the Park by replenishing the bait stations around our Waitākere Hut. We always need more volunteers on the baiting team, so if you're interested in this worthwhile cause, please contact Mike.

The ski season at Ruapehu is looking good. It will be worth keeping an eye out on the [Whakapapa.com](http://Whakapapa.com) website to grab a season pass at great rates. Children 10 years old and under can get a FREE season pass, if purchased in March.

The best way you can support the club this February/March is to take part in a Working Bee at the club huts on Ruapehu. It's a fun and fulfilling way to spend a weekend – it's a beautiful drive to get there, great companionship, great food, and a feel-good way to spend a weekend helping the club. Look for the Working Bee dates later in the magazine.

Next week's Club Night on Tuesday 4th February will be our traditional picnic at the gas BBQ's on Grand Drive, One Tree Hill. Bring your own picnic and catch up with what everyone has been doing this summer.

On a sad note, we mark the passing of long-time member Sue Minchin. Sue was an active ASC member, bringing her three children Robert, Kathy and Patrick up in the club and attending countless camps, tramps and social activities. I have warm memories of Sue at summer camps and family gatherings. Her infectious laugh and hilarious stories lightened the atmosphere and made her a joy to be around. After a long battle with ill health, Sue passed away in December.

A memorial service for Sue will be held on Monday 10th of February. See notice later in the magazine for details.

Ngā mihi nui,

Miranda Hutton

## CLUB NIGHT SUGGESTIONS—PLEASE TALK TO SUE!

As Fiona Heenan is travelling overseas for a long period this year, Sue Fitzpatrick has very kindly leapt into the breach and has begun organizing club nights for the year ahead. She has most of the year pencilled in, however if you have something amazing to share with us all or ideas for speakers, please email Sue on [suzette@knockbane.co.nz](mailto:suzette@knockbane.co.nz)

Our **March** Club night will in fact feature Brian and Sue Fitzpatrick speaking on their recent walk along the **Camino Portuguese** from Porto in Portugal to Santiago in Spain.





# FEBRUARY CLUB NIGHT

Tuesday February 4th , 2025

## ANNUAL CLUB BBQ AT CORNWALL PARK

We're having our Club Night at Cornwall Park, as we have done in the past. Please bring a plate, something to BBQ and something to drink. It's no problem to bring a bottle of wine.

If you would like to sit, bring a picnic blanket or a folding chair.

Kids welcome. Start time is 5:30- 6:00 pm. It's best to come up Grand drive from Campbell Rd, there are parks. The Park closes at 8pm.

The meeting place is here:



If you have a question, please ring Bart on 021 1777 367, or email [bart.e.schroder@gmail.com](mailto:bart.e.schroder@gmail.com)

# GENERAL NEWS & NOTICES

## **NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING AND CLUB NIGHT - 7:30 PM, TUESDAY 4 MARCH 2025**

**St Mark's Church Parish Hall, 95 Remuera Road**

### **AGENDA**

**Proposed Amendment to the Revised Constitution Approved at the Club's AGM  
held on 4 June 2024 - Minor Change to the Club Name**

#### **1. The purpose of the meeting is to pass the following resolutions:-**

##### **RESOLVED:**

- i) that the previously adopted Constitution of the Club, prepared in compliance with the 2022 Incorporated Societies Act, be amended to show the name of the Club as the "Alpine Sports Club Incorporated" instead of "The Alpine Sports Club (Incorporated)" and under Interpretation, the first line be amended to read "Club" means the "Alpine Sports Club Incorporated"
- ii) In accordance with i) above, that any consequential amendments to the Constitution be made as necessary.
- iii) That the name of the Club be amended to the "Alpine Sports Club Incorporated" instead of "The Alpine Sports Club (Incorporated)" in any other statutory or official documents and/or registers, as deemed necessary.

#### **2. Reason for proposed amendment**

The Club's Constitution was redrafted to align with the requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 and approved by members at last year's AGM. On the advice of the Treasurer, Bruce Derryhouse, it will be filed with the Companies Office just before 31 March 2025 to tie in with new financial reporting requirements, which take effect as soon as the new Constitution is legally approved.

Our existing and new Constitution documents both refer to the club name as "**The** Alpine Sports Club (Incorporated)". However, we have received advice from the Companies Office that we cannot include "**The**" in our club name.

Furthermore, the club name currently registered with the Companies Office and the IRD is "Alpine Sports Club Incorporated" without "The." The name on our main bank accounts is also "Alpine Sports Club Incorporated" whereas the Waitakere Hut Certificates of Title are in the name of "The Alpine Sports Club Incorporated".

While both versions have been used interchangeably for decades, we must now follow the advice of the Companies Office and amend the Club name to be consistent across all statutory documents.



## SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

### -Additional information

The existing club constitution can be viewed on the club website [here](#) and the revised constitution with amendment will be available closer to the time of the special general meeting on March 4th.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR SUE MINCHIN

Kathy has asked us to share the following information about Sue's memorial service...

"The Memorial Service for Mum, Susan Minchin, will be held at 11AM on Monday, February 10th at St Philips Church, 92 Saint Heliers Bay Road, St Heliers. Afterwards there will be refreshments in the Church Hall next door. For catering purposes I'd appreciate it if you let me know if you will be able to attend by email [kathrynminchin@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynminchin@gmail.com) or phone (09)5759487"



## WHAKAPAPA NEWS

Carolyn Blackford would like you to know that submissions for the **Whakapapa Holding Ltd (WHL)** application for a new concession to operate the Whakapapa Skifields has opened. Submissions close on the 7th Feb. WHL is being fronted by **Dave Mazey** and **Tom Elworthy**, both very experienced skifield operators. This is probably our best shot at having a skifield.

We need that!

You can make a submission here: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/have-your-say/all-consultations/2024-consultations/whakapapa-holdings-2024-limited/>

You might also like to know that Season Passes are on sale in March. See details here: <https://mailchi.mp/mtruapehu.com/winter-at-whakapapa-is-here-13672944>

Season Passes include 50% off four Buddy Passes, 10% off group lessons, food, retail, rentals, and workshop. There will be an offer to Life Pass members.

Check Out <https://www.whakapapa.com/passes/ski-and-snowboard> for full pricing details.



Photo: Abi Raymond

## **RUAPEHU WORKING BEES 2025.....**

The club needs your help at the upcoming Ruapehu Working Bees

**8th & 9th Feb**

**1st & 2nd March**

**29th & 30th March**



The main aim is to finish the painting of the roof after getting half way through last year. This will involve ladders, harnesses and working at heights. We are looking for a small group of volunteers who are comfortable working on the roof but will also have a number of smaller jobs at ground level.

Even Google's satellite images show our half finished coat.





**Recent news from organisations that the club is in contact with, the links below will allow you to read what has been circulated to our club at your leisure ....**

### **Mountain Safety**

<https://mailchi.mp/mountainsafety/msc-connect-4807921?e=c3c7adc86c>

### **Kaimai Ridgeway Trust**

<https://mailchi.mp/2aaf41c343cf/kaimai-ridgeway-trust-september-2018-news-17606340?e=4da1da6741>

### **Federated Mountain Clubs**

[https://my.fmc.org.nz/civCRM/mailling/view?reset=1&id=488&cid=3098&cs=2ff788177f6bbcef74bd6c3e663716d1\\_1734585976\\_720](https://my.fmc.org.nz/civCRM/mailling/view?reset=1&id=488&cid=3098&cs=2ff788177f6bbcef74bd6c3e663716d1_1734585976_720)

### **Friends of Regional Parks**

<https://www.forparks.org.nz/news>

### **Federated Mountain Clubs - Correction to deadline for submissions on conservation law reform**

[https://my.fmc.org.nz/civCRM/mailling/view?reset=1&id=491&cid=3100&cs=64003b989044be8ed793d5376536e1c8\\_1734992156\\_720](https://my.fmc.org.nz/civCRM/mailling/view?reset=1&id=491&cid=3100&cs=64003b989044be8ed793d5376536e1c8_1734992156_720)



# TRIP REPORTS.

## ASC SUMMER CAMP REPORT

26 DECEMBER 2024 - 3 JANUARY 2025

Camping next to a freshwater, stream-fed lake on a 2000 acre farm near Ohakune was an unusual scenario for the club's summer camp this year. Some camp sites were scattered around a sheltered enclave close to the lake edge, while others were on higher more exposed ground overlooking the lake, with great views towards Mt Ruapehu.



The campsite

Those who arrived before mid afternoon on Boxing Day were able to put up tents and shelters in reasonable weather, but later on the rain pelted down. For a few unlucky arrivals who had to contend with challenging conditions, a ten minute drive to Ohakune was a welcome retreat for hot meals and alternative accommodation for the night.

After heavy rain there was some anxiety over vehicles getting stuck in soft mud in various places, but the ground dried out quickly. It was only the toilet delivery truck that encountered difficulties - the toilets being left some distance from the intended location closer to camp sites.



ASC campers are a determined bunch, though, and a pub lunch the following day proved to be an excellent 'Plan B' until the rain eased enough for bush exploration along the beautiful Mangawhero Forest Walk.



Mangawhero Forest Walk.





While the weather wasn't kind to us much of the time, we had one fabulous day when 30 of our members set out from the Ohakune Mountain Road on a 1 1/2 hour walk to Blyth Hut, passing the Waitonga Falls and mountain tarns on the way.



Blyth Hut track

We were rewarded with a stunning view of Mt Ruapehu.



Mt. Ruapehu from Blyth Hut track





Blyth Hut upper section of track

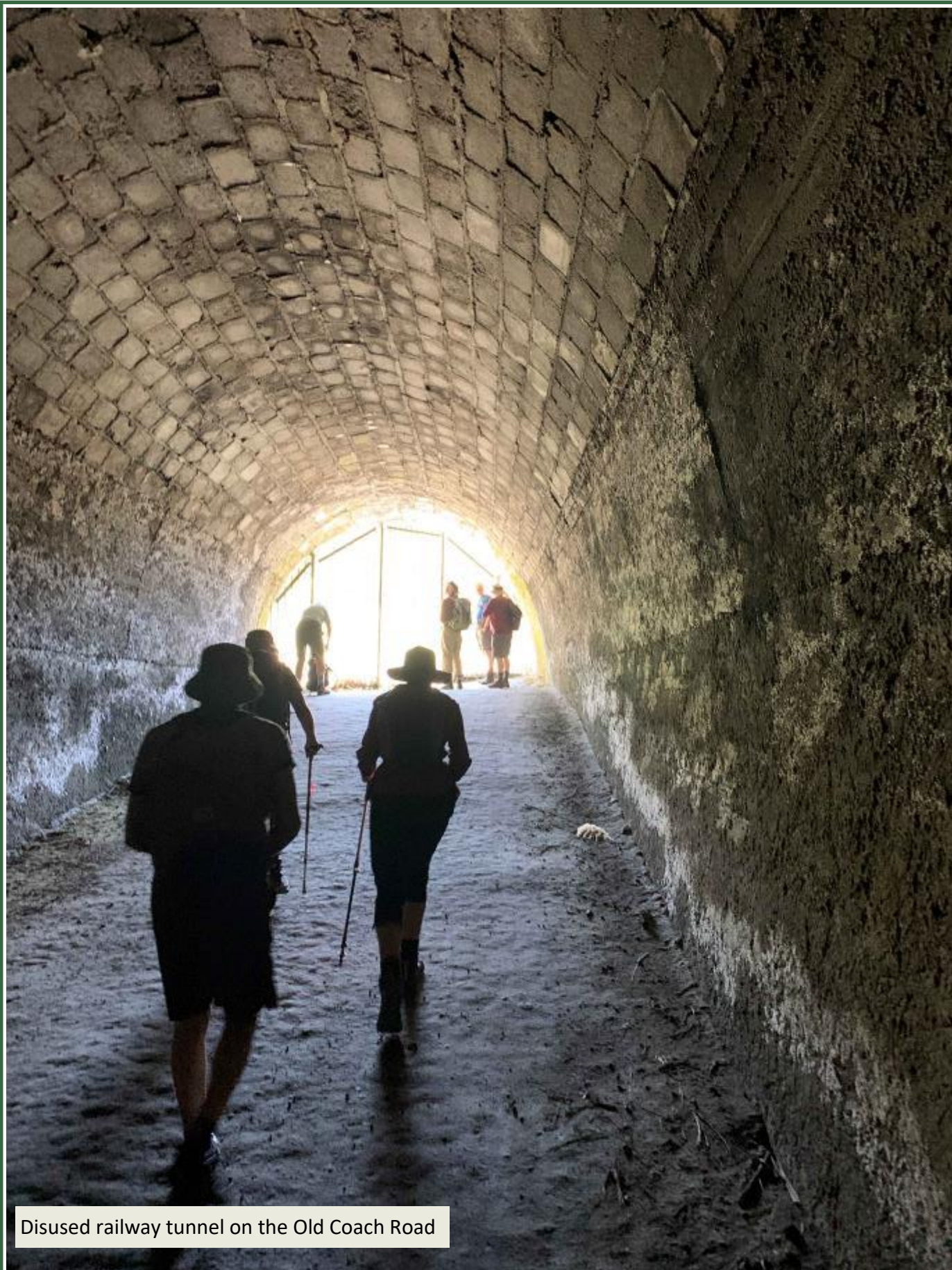
The upper section of the track was a little tricky.

On other days there was plenty to do with bush walks, exploration of the farm, mountain biking and trips to hot pools, the Waiouru Army Museum, an excellent children's playground and public swimming pool. The Old Coach Road proved popular for walking and cycling. At least one couple completed the Horopito - Ohakune on foot one day and e-bikes on another.

The Puketawa Track was another lovely bush walk on private land adjoining our campsite. On a fine day, the views to the mountain are spectacular. The chocolate éclair shop in Ohakune certainly deserved its reputation and the cafes were well supported by our members.

Some of the club's elders opted for comfortable accommodation in town, while participating in walks and social activities during the daytime.





Disused railway tunnel on the Old Coach Road





Hapuwhenua Viaduct—Old Coach Road

The historic Hapuwhenua Viaduct is a highlight of the Old Coach Road section of the Mountains to Sea - Nga Ara Tuhono - bike trail and walking track.

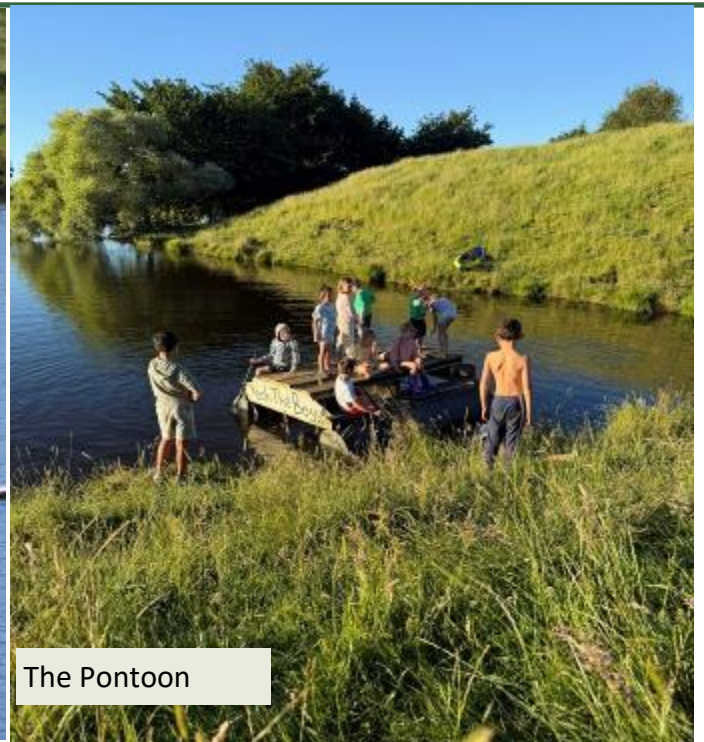
The Bridge to Nowhere also attracted some of our very fit and competent mountain bikers. Many of our campers made the most of the lake to try out paddle boards and other activities, and the pontoon provided by our hosts proved to be very popular.







Lake Activities



The Pontoon

Bad weather on New Year's Eve thwarted our usual on-site children's talent show, but luckily one resourceful camper arranged an alternative venue at the Horopito School Hall. Thank you Sarah Corbett! Garth Barfoot also deserves our appreciation for his donation of the hall hire cost, which made it possible for the families to enjoy their kids' talent show and for the adults to celebrate later on that evening in a dry and cosy venue.



New Years Eve talent show





New Years Day Fun Race



Tug O'War



Of course, no summer camp would be complete without the sports events on New Year's Day ably organised by Nicholas Roberts and with a wonderful selection of medals provided by Garth Barfoot.

It is likely that the distance from Auckland, uncertain weather and post-Covid travel to other places affected attendance numbers; nonetheless the 52 adults and 28 children who came along had an interesting and memorable experience. Special thanks to Mark Roberts for all his hard work in organising the camp, to Peter Jemmett for taking the bookings and to Bruce Dwerryhouse for arranging toilet hire and finances.

Photos: **Abi Raymond** and **Jenny Hudson** (scribe)



Garth and Lucy watching a race

# UPCOMING TRIPS

## **SATURDAY WALK—RIVERHEAD FOREST**

**Saturday February 1st, 2025**

Meet 9.30 am sharp at Barlow Rd entrance to Riverhead Forest for a tramp along a mixture of forestry roads, tramping and cycling tracks.

No matter what the weather the tracks should be dry and the temperatures pleasant when walking in the shade of the Pine Forest. This trip is suitable for all age groups.

When registering please indicate whether you are able to offer a ride to other passengers or alternatively that you would like a lift with someone else.

The starting point for the trip is the Barlow Road entrance to the forest off Ararimu Valley Road however full details will be provided following registration.

Please book with leaders: Bruce and Jane Rogers mob 027 499 3211 or email [bj\\_rogers@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bj_rogers@xtra.co.nz) before 30th January 2025 if possible so as to allow time to arrange transport.

## **2025 weekend day trip tramping programme**

**We are currently putting together a program of day trips for the first half of 2025.**

**If you have some ideas of places to visit or are willing to lead a trip please contact Warren Whyte on 09 528 4824 or [wandjwhyte@xtra.co.nz](mailto:wandjwhyte@xtra.co.nz)**

**We also have several ideas for trips should you need some help in this direction.**

## THURSDAY WALK—Mission Bay & Surrounds.

**Thursday 13 February**

Meet ready to start walking at 10:00am. The meeting point will be the beach side of the playground at Mission Bay.

We will walk up to the monument at **Bastion Point**, do a loop around the park to **Kupe street**, down to Okahu Bay Beach, up to the Purewa Community Hub, morning tea will be at or near the Kepa Road shops. We will go from there through the Kepa Road bush to the Te Ara Ki Uta Ki Tai walkway, join this walkway to the Orakei Basin where we will have lunch, from here we will walk to the Orakei Bay Village. We will take the bus back to Mission Bay from here, or anyone who wants to can walk back to Mission Bay via Bastion Point. We can have coffee at Mission Bay afterwards if anyone is interested, also at the Kepa Road shops where we will stop to use the toilets and maybe have morning tea, there is a coffee bar and a Bakers delight.

There will be a lot of walking on grass at Bastion Point and that the Kepa Road bush track is very narrow in places beside the stream, apart from these the paths are all very good. Stairs have good handrails. Please bring hiking poles if required, good walking shoes and your AT hop cards.

Toilets are available at Mission Bay beach, at Okahu Bay, at Kepa Road shops and at Orakei Bay village.

Walk is about 11 kilometres if we take the bus back and we will be back at the Mission Bay car park by 2:30, maybe by 2pm if we get the earlier bus. Please bring your AT hop card.

**Leader** Susan Stephens. Email: [susan.stephens565@gmail.com](mailto:susan.stephens565@gmail.com)

Cell: 021 143 6407



## STONY BATTER WAIHEKE—TOUR

Monday 24 February, 2025

*Warren Whyte has shared the following trip which you may wish to join.....*

Aucklanders have a remarkable attraction on their doorstep, but one that is hard to reach. The spectacular rocky outcrops and underground tunnels of the **Stony Batter** Historic Reserve are tucked away at the north-eastern end of Waiheke Island. To access them normally requires an expensive ferry fare combined with an even more expensive taxi fare. And the tunnels tour is very pricey if you are not part of a sizeable group.

Designed and built in 1942 in response to a threat of Japanese invasion from the sea- Stony Batter is the largest Coastal Defence Fortress ever constructed in New Zealand. It was so secret that not even the locals knew about it.

This truly massive complex has some 1.2kms of passages, chambers and tunnels. It has been repurposed to offer guided heritage tours, featuring lighting systems, a Concert Chamber, and museum exhibits. The complex is perfectly intact and entirely safe.

The Full Heritage Tour (1 hour long and ably conducted by **Timothy Moon**), begins at the Visitor Centre, proceeds to the bunkers, then descends 7 stories to the #3 passage, which is 500m long. Along the way you explore the massive Engine Room and the Command and Control Bunker. You learn about target acquisition, communications, and WWII threats to New Zealand. The tour concludes with a walk through first-growth forest back to the Visitors Centre.

The ferry fare for adults is \$29 each way. For seniors it is \$24 each way. You will need to purchase your own return ticket for the 8.30 sailing ex Hamer Street, returning from Kennedy Point at 3.30pm. The tunnels tour will cost \$40-\$50, depending on the number of participants (the more the better as it is a total of \$400 for up to 10 persons). Pay at the site. The 12 seater van transport will cost \$10pp (cash to Phillip please). We currently have five spare seats in the van.

If you would like to avail yourself of this opportunity, please contact **Phillip Donnell**: 021 172 3244, [footstepsanz@gmail.com](mailto:footstepsanz@gmail.com).

First in-first served. BYO lunch.



## SUNDAY WALK—COSSEY-MASSEY LOOP WALK, HUNUA

**Sunday March 9th 2025**

Meet at 9.30am at the Hunua Falls Parking area, located at the end of Falls Road, Hunua. Note early start due to limited car parking. We will walk up the Massey on a metalled and steps track to the ridge then lunch at the Cossey Dam.

Descent is via the Cossey Gorge Track also metalled and steps down. This walk is 8km long with a total ascent of 394m and 397m descent through lovely native bush so lots of shade. Suggest bring something to sit on, like a plastic bag, for morning tea and lunch stops.

Contact **Marion Browne** with numbers attending or for any further information. Phone 021 1479264 or email [mbrowne@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mbrowne@xtra.co.nz)

## EASTER CAMP—PIRONGIA

Easter 2025

More details closer to the time

## NGATUHOA LODGE WEEKEND

Labour Weekend 2025

More details closer to the time

**Sherilyn Coney** has come across this supplier of Walkers Wool and would like to share the information with fellow members:

### WALKERS' WOOL

100% natural NZ wool

CAN BE USED BY ANYONE TO PREVENT BLISTERS,  
AND PROVIDE FRICTION-FREE COMFORT  
IN YOUR TRAMPING, CLIMBING OR SKI BOOTS

*"It wicks away the moisture"*

Approx 30 grams - \$12

Buy from Blue Duck Station Shop  
Ohio Rd, Retaruke, on the Whanganui River  
07 895 6276 -

<https://blueduckstation.co.nz/shop>

**Try it, it works a treat.**



## More summer camp photos:

Thanks to Abi Raymond and Ellie Jones for the shots













# Starry Nights at Summer Camp January 2025



Photo: Abi Raymond