

*Merry Christmas to all*



# CONTENTS

♦ Club Contacts	3,4
♦ Presidents Report	5
♦ General news and notices	6-12
♦ Welcome New Members	10
♦ City Rock Climbing	13
♦ Trip Reports	14,15
♦ Gear for sale	16,17
♦ Upcoming Trips	18,20

# COMMITTEE & CLUB CONTACTS

COMMITTEE	NAME	PHONE NO	EMAIL ADDRESS
President	Miranda Hutton	022 6488 733	president@alpinesport.org.nz
Vice President 1	Maria Bullock	021 054 4227	maria@alpinesport.org.nz
Vice President 2	Johann Schoonees	0210 245 2147	johann@alpinesport.org.nz
Secretary	Jenny Hudson	021 626 330	secretary@alpinesport.org.nz
Treasurer	Jackie Ponting	021 209 3120	treasurer@alpinesport.org.nz
Membership Secretary	Jeanette Davidson	021 432 191	Membership@alpinesport.org.nz
Tours Officer	Greg Munford	021 166 6726	tours@alpinesport.org.nz
Ruapehu Buildings Co-ordinator	Nicolas Roberts	022102355065	ruapehu@alpinesport.org.nz
Ruapehu Operations Co-ordinator	VACANT		
Ruapehu Promotions	VACANT		
Events Co-ordinators	Keri and Eric Horn	021 914 173	kerianderic@alpinesport.org.nz
Waitakere 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
Waitakere Hut Bookings	Joe Scott-Woods	022 385 2100	pjscottwoods@icloud.co.nz
Waitakere Hut Officer	Paul Lyon	027 421 8100	plyon.plm@gmail.com
Waitakere Regional Park Liaison	John Mackay	09 303 2774	john@alpinesport.org.nz
Alpinesport Editor	Fiona Heenan	021 633 834	media@alpinesport.org.nz
Alpinesport Distribution	Miranda Hutton	022 648 8733	miranda@alpinesport.org.nz
Social Media Co-ordinator	Jeanine Scholey	022 500 8902	janscholey@gmail.com
FMC magazine distribution	Warren Whyte	027 675 2147	wandjwhyte@xtra.co.nz
Club Evening Co-ordinator (programme)	Fiona Heenan	021 633 834	fionaheenan@yahoo.com
Club Gear for Hire (PLB'S)	Murray Davidson	09 528 4504	ddjhmjnz@gmail.com
Club Gear for Hire (climbing and snowcraft)	Brian Duffy	09 528 3782	bwd742@gmail.com
Thursday Walks Co-ordinator	Clive Bolt	09 534 2946	thursday.walks@alpinesport.org.nz
Midis and Midis Plus Co-ordinator	Sherilyn Coney	0274 360 680	sconey@xtra.co.nz
Summer Camp Co-ordinators	Mark Roberts	021 083 36285	tours@alpinesport.org.nz
	Miranda Hutton	022 648 8733	miranda@alpinesport.org.nz
Club records archivist	Jenny Hudson	021 626 330	email@alpinesport.org.nz
Ruapehu bookings	Justine Checketts	027 240 4628	bookings@alpinesport.org.nz
Ruapehu hut wardens			aframe@alpinesport.org.nz
RUAPEHU A-FRAME	PHONE NUMBER	07 892 3710	

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT.



*Miranda Hutton, Club President.*

**1st December 2023**

Kia ora koutou,

Christmas is around the corner and the pohutukawa are starting to bloom. We look forward to the delights of a New Zealand summer, including ASC Summer Camp! 26<sup>th</sup> December – 3<sup>rd</sup> January near Te Aroha. If you haven't booked your place yet, email Peter Jemmett on [pmc.jemmett@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pmc.jemmett@xtra.co.nz)

Looking to the past month, we had an interesting speaker at the November Club Night, Tim Wills from the Adventure Specialties Trust. He spoke about the work the trust does helping people who are going through a hard time by using Adventure Therapy. Hearing Tim speak reinforced my belief that belonging to a club like ASC and getting out into the outdoors together does wonders for our mental and physical wellbeing.

Come along to hear some stories from our own adventurous club members this December at Club Night. Jocelyn & Warren Whyte and Vic Fitzpatrick & Nick Monteith will speak about their travels around Alice Springs and the Larapinta Trail. This will be followed by the presentation of our annual awards and a delicious Christmas supper organised by Bruce Rogers.

If you are short of Summer Holiday ideas (and Book-a-Bach is all booked out), remember we have our fabulous huts on Ruapehu. Remember to pick up a key in Auckland before you leave. You might like to support members taking part in the Goat Adventure Run on Ruapehu on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January. There is even talk of hosting our very own own ASC Kid run for younger members that day. Talk to Tours Officer Greg Munford at [tours@alpinesport.org.nz](mailto:tours@alpinesport.org.nz)

Keep your February weekends free to come and lend a hand at one of our Working Bees on Ruapehu. Nicholas Roberts will be organising these and you can get in touch with him via email [ruapehu@alpinesport.org.nz](mailto:ruapehu@alpinesport.org.nz)

I am very much looking forward to getting on my tramping boots (or crocs) and spending time outdoors. See you out there!

Merry Christmas,

Miranda Hutton

# GENERAL NEWS & NOTICES

## **CLUB NIGHT TUESDAY 5th December 2023**

**7:30 pm, St Mark's Parish Hall, Remuera Road**

## **Alice Springs and The Larapinta Trail**

Come along and hear about some of our club members adventures in this area earlier this year in Australia. We will also have our usual Christmas awards and festive supper.

## **2024**

### **JANUARY**

NO CLUB NIGHT TUESDAY 2ND JANUARY AS WE WILL BE AT SUMMER CAMP

### **FEBRUARY**

TUESDAY 6th FEBRUARY WE WILL HAVE OUR USUAL BBQ IN A LOCAL PARK. WE WILL RETURN TO INDOOR CLUB NIGHTS IN MARCH 2024 AS USUAL.

# NOTICE OF CHRISTMAS LUNCH



**DON'T FORGET**

Club Christmas Party at the **ASC Waitākere Hut**,  
Anawhata Road.

When : Sunday 17th December 2023

Come together to celebrate Christmas at the Waitākere hut  
with a delicious catered lunch.

Possible walks arranged before and after, but most im-  
portantly, arrive at the hut in time for lunch!

Cost: \$15 per adult with a discount available for families.

RSVP: By the 11th for catering purposes.

Register your attendance with Paul Lyon on 0274 218 100  
or [plyon.plm@gmail.com](mailto:plyon.plm@gmail.com).

Money will be collected on the day by Paul Lyon





# The Hūnua Traverse

The Hūnua Traverse which is classified as a Grade 4 Cycle Trail, suited to intermediate and advanced cyclists opened in full on Friday 1 December, providing a 44.5km two-way link between Auckland (Clevedon) and Waikato (Kaiaua) via the stunning Hūnua Ranges Regional Park.

Following last summer's gnarly weather, the central connector on this Ngā Haerenga Heartland Ride was closed due to road instability, meaning the Hūnua Traverse has – until now – only been opened as two unconnected segments.



Cyclists should expect steep, slippery hills and some sharp off-camber corners. The route can be ridden in both directions on shared roads.

Cyclists should expect vehicles, including trucks and machinery at times, and pedestrian traffic as well as other cyclists. The route follows public roads as well as unsealed Watercare service roads within the Hūnua Ranges Regional Park.



At the northern end, riders should note that car parking is available in Clevedon village and at the top of Moumoukai Hill Road but there is strictly no car parking at the top of Otau Mountain Road as parked cars block the turning circle required for service and emergency vehicles.

Temporary closures of the Hūnua Traverse may be required at times to accommodate forestry operations, pest control, maintenance or on occasion to mitigate fire risk during the fire season.



Bike washing station in the Hunuas to prevent spread of kauri dieback

Riders should check the Hūnua Traverse website for up-to-date access information.

The Hūnua Traverse has been funded by the Franklin Local Board and is delivered in partnership with Watercare, Auckland Regional Parks and Ngā Haerenga NZCT.

## New Members

**Welcome to Sarah and Elliott Rector and their two sons, Metolius (Meto) aged 10 and Tungsten (14).**

## High Tea at 2020m on Mt. Ruapehu this summer

If you have a special celebration or are entertaining visitors from overseas this summer, RAL are offering a number of packages around a gondola ride and High Tea or even Gin Tea at Knoll Ridge Café. The high 'Tea at 2020m' - consists of an evolving menu of sandwiches, savouries, and sweet treats. Served on a two-tiered cake stand, you can expect finger sandwiches, scones with jam and cream, a hot savoury, and a collection of sweet pastries and slices.



Why not book the A Frame and really savour the experience.

[Ruapehu summer](#)

SummerNav's are a fun way to get out into the parks of Auckland, experience the adventure sport of orienteering, practice map reading and navigation, improve your fitness, and explore areas you may not have visited before.

- Run, jog, or walk - you set the pace.
- By yourself, in a team, or as a family.
- Fun adventure or a competitive challenge and race.

You are provided with:

- a high quality park orienteering map
- a selection of preset courses

The challenge: plan and follow your best route to visit the points in correct order, taking the least amount of time.

The race is on! All are welcome to have a go! Individuals, families, and groups, kids, adults, and seniors, first timers through to competitive athletes

## Auckland Orienteering SUMMER NAV SERIES

For exact start locations and to pre-enter/pre-pay, please visit our website [www.auckoc.org.nz](http://www.auckoc.org.nz)

### 36th Auckland Orienteering Summer Series 2023 - 2024

- Courses vary between events. In general:
  - Course 1 - 6km to 10km, challenging
  - Course 2 - 4.5km to 5km, challenging
  - Course 3 - 2.5km to 3.5km, medium
  - Course 4 - under 2km, easy
- Start any time between 5.00pm and 6.45pm. Courses close at 7.45pm.
- Help is available - please ask.
- For tips on getting started and more information, see our website [www.auckoc.org.nz](http://www.auckoc.org.nz)

**October 2023**

Thu 26th **Western Springs**  
Western Springs Park

---

**November 2023**

Wed 1st **Point England**  
Point England Reserve

---

Tue 7th **Grafton**  
Auckland Domain

---

Tue 14th **Penrose**  
Hamlins Hill, Mutukaroa Regional Park

---

Wed 22nd **Mt Albert**  
Phyllis Reserve

---

Wed 29th **Mangere Bridge**  
Ambury Regional Park

---

**December 2023**

Thu 7th **Greenlane**  
Cornwall Park

---

Thu 14th **Blockhouse Bay**  
Craigavon Park

---

**January 2024**

Tue 23rd **Pakuranga**  
St Kentigern College

---

Wed 31st **Mangere**  
Mangere Central Park

---

**February 2024**

Thu 8th **St Johns**  
Waiatarua Reserve

---

Wed 14th **Greenlane**  
Alexandra Park

---

Tue 20th **Western Springs**  
Western Springs Park

---

Thu 29th **Pakuranga**  
Lloyd Elsmore Park

---

**March 2024**

Sat 2nd **Penrose**  
Hamlins Hill, Mutukaroa Regional Park  
**\*NIGHT EVENT\*** Start from 8.30pm, bring a torch.

---

Thu 7th **Mt Roskill**  
Mt Roskill War Memorial Park

---

Tue 12th **Grafton**  
Auckland Domain

---

Wed 20th **Greenlane**  
Cornwall Park

#### Auckland SummerNav Fees

Non members:	Student	Adult	Family
Single Entry	\$6	\$12	\$24
Season Ticket to all events	\$60	\$120	\$240
Club Membership*	\$20	\$60	\$90

\* Join during SummerNav 2023 and pay member prices until your membership ends at the end of SummerNav 2025! That's great value!

Members:	Student	Adult	Family
Single Entry	\$3	\$6	\$12
Season Ticket to all events	\$30	\$60	\$120

**Youth groups:** \$30 daily for as many maps as you need. Please advise us in advance with estimated group numbers.

Graphic design by LoodNoodle Design Ltd [www.loodnoodle.co.nz](http://www.loodnoodle.co.nz)

## Warren Whyte recognized for service to the community

Warren is a long standing member of Alpine Sports Club who has served in many roles over the years, volunteering countless hours for the benefit of our club.

Recently, Warren was recognized for his other community volunteering as a Justice of the Peace.



This photo is of Warren receiving a certificate of appreciation from our new local MP, Brooke van Velden, Deputy Leader of the Act Party, for his 30 years of service as a Justice of the Peace.

It was Brooke's first official duty as an elected MP.

The presentation took place at the Churchill Club in Glendowie over drinks and nibbles amongst fellow JP's and their spouses.

A very special evening for Warren as he was the longest serving JP at the function.

# INNER CITY ROCK CLIMBING OPPORTUNITIES



All Photos : Maungarei Springs facebook page

Maungarei Springs is just a few kilometres from my house and for years I have been meaning to check out the climbing opportunities there. The recent open day supported by NZAC and a big team of volunteers was the perfect time to check it out. The crag is located on reserve land between Lunn Ave and the Stonefields development.

A guide is available here <https://www.aucklandclimber.org.nz/guides> and there is an active facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/maungareispringscrag>

The open days are run a couple of times per year and while not suitable for absolute beginners, as there is no formal instruction provided, there is a range of routes set up with experienced belayers on hand to encourage climbers of all ages and stages.

This would be a good day out for anyone who has even climbed a couple of times indoors. There is a morning and an afternoon session which must be booked in advance and equipment is provided if you do not have your own harness and helmet.

There is no charge for the open day but a donation is encouraged towards the development of the crag

If you are keen to attend the next open day, follow the groups facebook page above.

Fiona Heenan



# TRIP REPORTS.

## HUNUA OVERNIGHT BY BIKE

**Saturday November 5th 2023**

This was not an advertised club trip but rather an exploratory one to check out the suitability of Piggotts campsite for an overnight tramping trip for the younger children in the club. With limited time on our hands we decided it would be a perfect excuse to ride in on mountain bikes late in the evening, camp overnight and then come out in the morning early, allowing time for coffee at the Hunua General Store before heading home.

I had heard lots of people mention Piggotts over the years but had never been there myself, nor had I had a good look at the contours on the service road that leads to the campsite—a bit steeper than anticipated!

Parking at Upper Mangatawhiri Campground, we were relieved we were not staying the night in that location as there was already a loud party underway. We loaded gear on the bikes and headed up past the reservoir just as it got dark.

Carrying on up the Lilburne Road under headtorches, it was a steady uphill climb most of the way to the campsite not the cruisey flat ride in we were expecting.....

On arrival we found one other tent, the occupants of which were quite surprised to have two bikes arrive so late in the evening.

The campsite is quite boggy in places so we opted to pitch the tents on the deck by the hut. The hut is a four bunker in great condition, with a cooking shelter and picnic table attached. There are two rain water tanks and a long drop toilet.

There was no one staying in the hut the night we were there but it was spotlessly clean. What goes up must come down and the following morning we had the pleasure of a downhill run all the way back to the car.

Party: Jodi Reddell & Fiona Heenan (scribe)



## TITIRANGI AND ARATAKI AREA SUNDAY WALK -

Sunday November 5th 2023

This area has only recently opened after the wild weather events of earlier in the year, and further we were fortunate with a warm and generally sunny day.

Car parking can clearly be problematic, since there is a small parking area beside the old filter station on Woodlands Park Rd. and an overflow area a little further up Scenic Drive.

We set out along Exhibition Drive, had a pause at Mackie's Rest to gaze at the view, and then continued on Beveridge Track till we reached the Arataki Visitor's Centre about noon.



The intention was to continue on after lunch to Cathedral Grove and the magnificent Kauri trees there, but the discovery that the round-trip from Arataki and back was 2 hours, added to what was going to be a further 2 hour return trip to the cars, meant that we all decided that we would not be seeing the Kauris that day!

Some of the group, with other afternoon commitments, decided to retrace the morning route back to the cars, but the remainder took the Slip Track which led to Pipeline Rd and ultimately back to Exhibition Drive.

At least on paper this seems a straightforward walk, but it is quite lengthy, so walkers need to factor in at least 4 and a half hours of walking to complete this circuit.

We were most fortunate to have a great group of people to walk with on the day.

Warren Whyte, Jocelyn Whyte, Liz Jobbins, Don Baker, Ariana Suvaiala, Victor Suvaiala, Greg Munford, John Munford, Jenni Lyons, Paul Lyons, Marion Brown, Susan Stephens and Maria Bullock (scribe)



# GEAR FOR SALE.



## GET READY FOR SUMMER

I have two **Ocean Kayaks** for sale which can be purchased either together or separately. These “sit-on-top” kayaks are noted for their stability, they are easy to get on and off, they have self bailing scupper holes and are the perfect platform for casual water play, snorkling, exploring and fishing. They are manufactured from high grade polyethylene and should not be compared to plastic or fibreglass kayaks which are not as robust.

**Scrambler:** length 3.36 mtr, weight 18.5 kg. Excellent family kayak, good in the sea, rivers, or lakes due to its stability and slightly shorter length. Discounted price \$500.00

**Scambler XT:** length 3.64 mtr, weight 22.5 kg. This kayak is based on the Scrambler mould and is a little longer and wider and is suitable for fishing and carrying extra gear. This is an ideal “sit on top” kayak for light touring. Discounted price \$600.00.

Both kayaks come with paddle and detachable fabric comfort seat which is included in the price of each kayak. Both have had minimal use and were purchased new from the manufacturer. The kayaks can be picked up from Kohimarama and are available for inspection before purchase. **Phone Warren 027 675 2147.**



## TENT FOR SALE

Kathmandu Retreat 150. Reasonable condition. One pole section split. Cost: Donation to the club. Contact: Sue Grant [kiwiguide@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kiwiguide@xtra.co.nz)

## PUFFER JACKET FOR SALE

Macpac Uberlight hooded down jacket in excellent condition size mens XS.

This would suit a young teenager, it was outgrown before it got used very much.

Current RRP \$120 ( in the sale).

Price \$50

[Fionaheenan@yahoo.com](mailto:Fionaheenan@yahoo.com)



# UPCOMING TRIPS

## **SUNDAY URBAN ADVENTURE - an urban walk with a difference in the East Tamaki Heights area.**

**Sunday 3rd December, 2023**

This is an area the club has not explored before – so it is something new.

**Meet at 9 am at the summit of Point View Reserve off Point View Drive.**

Hike on tracks, paths and some off track areas, mainly downhill following a stream to Murphys Bush for lunch.

Return through urban reserves via Barry Curtis Park via lesser travelled trails and then bus back to cars. About 10 km.

Bring lunch and Hop Card

Contact leader – Don Baker. Mob: 027 477 3834 or email: [don.baker@xtra.co.nz](mailto:don.baker@xtra.co.nz)

## **CROSBIES HUT & CAMPSITE FAMILY WEEKEND**

**December 9th & 10th, 2023:**

Family tramping trip for older children (7+) to Crosbies Hut in the Coromandel region. Following the Karaka (5hr/12.9km) and Waiomu (4hr/9.3km) tracks.

Book a campsite or bunk in the hut online with DOC, link below.

We will meet at the Thames road end (Collarbone Road) on Saturday morning and walk out early afternoon on Sunday to Waiomu. Depending on numbers we may car shuffle but the leader has already arranged one car pick up from Waiomu.

[Crosbies Hut Bookings](#)

Leader : **Mark Roberts** [mark2005roberts@yahoo.com](mailto:mark2005roberts@yahoo.com)

## SUMMER CAMP

**December 26th 2023 - January 3rd, 2024**

This years camp is only a 2 hour drive from Auckland, nestled against the western side of the Kaimais, just north of the charming village of Te Aroha. The campsite itself is isolated and a lovely mountain stream comes chattering off the pristine hills past our campsite.

Bordered by native bush, the stream will be a highlight for dam building and waterplay for children of all ages. For a proper water-hole experience we will need to swim in the public pools at Te Aroha or drive to the gorgeous Waitewheta, only 30 minutes away.

There is plenty to do in the area: we have permission to wander the farmers property which borders the Kaimai Mamaku Conservation Park, there are lots of fascinating tracks nearby, mining history, mountain biking opportunities and kayaking.

Paeroa is a 20 minute drive away, the Karangahake Gorge 25 minutes away and Waihi Beach is a 45 minute drive away.

To book a spot and for more information including the exact address contact **Peter Jemmett** ; [pmc.jemmett@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pmc.jemmett@xtra.co.nz)

## COSSEY-MASSEY LOOP, HUNUA RANGES.

**Thursday 22 February 2024**

We will meet at 10:30 am to walk the Cossey-Massey Loop track. A rewarding loop track, which provides long-range views, impressive native forest, sparkling waters and giant kauri trees. The track is metalled but is steep in places and involves wading or rock hopping across Cossey Creek. Walking poles are recommended. Bring your lunch and drink. For meeting place and more details and to be advised of any changes to the plan please contact the leader. Leader: Sue FitzPatrick – [suzette@knockbane.co.nz](mailto:suzette@knockbane.co.nz) or 021 111 5356

## NGATUHOA LODGE WEEKEND—KAIMAIS

**Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd March, 2023**

Surrounded by bush clad hills in the kaimais, our club weekend at this lodge includes the use of a mini confidence course, a flying fox, flat water kayaking and tubing in the stream. Further afield are walks to waterfalls, mountain bikes can be useful to access tracks uphill from the lodge.

Accommodation costs are \$50 per person for the weekend. Contact Eric to book, 50% deposit payable to confirm your place. Last summer this trip booked out very quickly, so please get in early to avoid disappointment. Members only weekend.

Bookings to **Eric Horn**: [kerianderic@alpinesport.org.nz](mailto:kerianderic@alpinesport.org.nz)

## EASTER CAMP 2024—TANGIHUA LIONS LODGE

**Friday March 29th—Monday April 1st, 2024**

Join the ASC Easter Camp tradition—walks, activities and plenty of fun for all ages. This year we have hired the Tangihua Lions Lodge, near Whangarei. It is a 2 ½ hour drive north of Auckland, surrounded by native bush and situated in the middle of the Tangihua Ranges.

Cost: approximately \$25 per person for the entire weekend (all ages).

Accommodation: There are 54 beds and plenty of space to camp.

Contact **Jane Preston** to book a spot [janeprestonnz@gmail.com](mailto:janeprestonnz@gmail.com)



Have a great Christmas, see you at Summer Camp!