

Summer Camp fun at
Broken Hills, Coromandel



FEBRUARY 2021

INSIDE...

- ▶ Feature article - Summer Camp at Broken Hills
- ▶ Trips and tramps
- ▶ Summer at Ruapehu
- ▶ Trip Reports

The Alpine Sports Club Inc (est 1929)

PO BOX 131, AUCKLAND 1140, NEW ZEALAND

Website address: www.alpinesport.org.nz

Email address: email@alpinesport.org.nz

COMMITTEE AND CLUB APPOINTMENTS 2020 - 2021

COMMITTEE	NAME	PHONE NO	EMAIL ADDRESS
President	Scott White	027 497 9017	president@alpinesport.org.nz
Vice President 1	Miranda Hutton	022 6488 733	miranda@alpinesport.org.nz
Vice President 2	Johann Schoonees	0210 2405 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
Ruapehu Co-ordinator	Bart Schroder	021 177 7367	ruapehu@alpinesport.org.nz
- assisted by	Brian Duffy	021 859 829	bwd742@gmail.com
	Lloyd Lin	021 0221 3112	lloydlin74@gmail.com
Tours Officer	Mark Roberts	021 083 36285	tours@alpinesport.org.nz
- assisted by	Scott White	027 497 9017	info@taxsmart.co.nz
	Lesley Hawke	021 670 981	hawke.lesley@gmail.com
Ruapehu Booking Officer	Justine Checketts	027 240 4628	bookings@alpinesport.org.nz
Membership Secretary	Justine Checketts	027 240 4628	membership@alpinesport.org.nz
Advisor and Past Treasurer	Warren Whyte	027 675 2147	wandjwhyte@xtra.co.nz
Waitakere Hut Officer	Paul Lyon	027 421 8100	plyon.plm@gmail.com
Strategy & Recruitment Co-ordinator	Jodi Reddell	022 156 4279	jodireddell@yahoo.com
CLUB APPOINTMENTS			
Waitakere Hut Bookings	Joe Scott-Woods	022 385 2100	pjscottwoods@icloud.co.nz
Waitakere Regional Park Liaison	John Mackay	09 303 2774	john@urbs.co.nz
Alpinesport Editor	Jenny Hudson	09 427 6362	media@alpinesport.org.nz
Alpinesport Distribution	Annette Voll	09 521 0034	annetteevoll@gmail.com
Website and database	Clive Bolt	09 534 2946	clive@alpinesport.org.nz
- assisted by	Dave Shorter	021 246 5815	dave@alpinesport.org.nz
Social Media Coordinators	Jeanine Scholey	022 500 8902	janscholey@gmail.com
	Abi Baya	021 934 715	abimaebaya@gmail.com
FMC magazine distribution	Warren Whyte	027 675 2147	wandjwhyte@xtra.co.nz
Club Evening Co-ordinator (key holder)	Lesley Hawke	021 670 981	hawke.lesley@gmail.com
Club Evening Co-ordinator (programme)	Sue FitzPatrick	09 576 1069	suzette@knockbane.co.nz
Club Gear for Hire (personal locator beacons)	Murray Davidson	09 528 4504	ddjhmjnz@gmail.com
Club Gear for Hire (climbing & snowcraft)	Brian Duffy	09 528 3782	bwd742@gmail.com
Thursday Walks Co-ordinator	Clive Bolt	09 534 2946	cbolt@xtra.co.nz
Midis Group Co-ordinator	Sherilyn Coney	09 624 5447	sconey@xtra.co.nz
Summer Camp Co-ordinators	Mark Roberts	09 849 6563	tours@alpinesport.org.nz
	Miranda Hutton	022 648 8733	miranda@alpinesport.org.nz
RUAPEHU A-FRAME	PHONE NUMBER	07 892 3710	



FEBRUARY CLUB NIGHT - TUESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2021



BBQ PICNIC AT CORNWALL PARK - AT THE BBQ AREA, CORNER GRAND DRIVE AND KENNETH MYERS DRIVE

*All members welcome - arrive any
time after 4:30 pm, depart before
the gates close at 9pm.*

Miranda and Annette will be there from 4.30pm with chips, drinks, balls and games for the kids (5.30pm official start). BYO food, something to cook on the BBQ, something to drink (alcohol is ok), games for kids. A picnic rug and folding chairs will add to your comfort.



Best access is off Campbell Road; there is plenty of parking close to the BBQ facilities. For a map of the park go to:

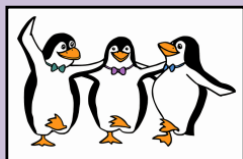
http://cornwallpark.co.nz/uploads/pages/visitor-info/03-Cornwall_Park_Map.

No need to register, just turn up.
Call Bart Schroder 09 524 7456 or
one of the committee if you have
any queries.

Club Night - 7:30 pm, Tuesday 2 March 2021

St Mark's Church Parish Hall, Remuera Road

Our guest speakers are club members Murray and Jeanette Davidson, who travelled to the Antarctic Peninsula in February 2020.



Come on an expedition cruise with Murray and Jeanette as they give a video presentation of their trip through this spectacular area, just before Covid closed the world.

See for yourself the incredible ice formations and abundant wildlife which make this such a stunning place to visit.

Congratulations to Warren Whyte



Alpine Sports Club sends its heartiest congratulations to Warren Whyte. Warren has been made a Fellow of the Chartered Accountants of Australia and New Zealand.

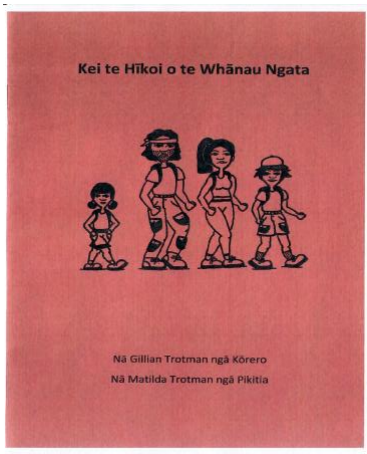
A very high honour indeed. We have witnessed the huge contribution Warren has made to our Club and ASC is only one of several organisations to whom he has contributed over many years.

Very well deserved, Warren!

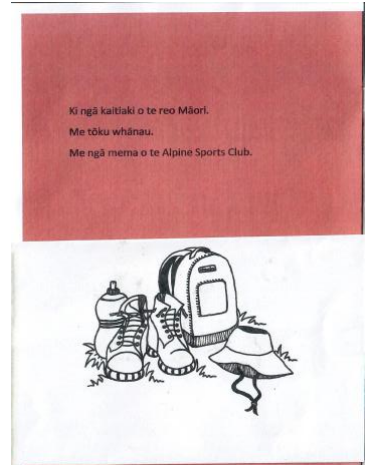


NOTICES

Gillian Trotman, one of our Thursday walkers has undertaken a course in te reo Māori. One of the assignments was to produce a booklet.



Gillian has written about walks undertaken by the Ngata family. It has been delightfully illustrated by Gillian's granddaughter, Matilda Trotman, and even if you don't understand te reo Māori it is a lot of fun for fellow walkers and



trampers. She has dedicated the book to the guardians of the Māori language, to her family and to the members of Alpine Sports Club. There is a copy of it in the Waitakere Hut.

Thank you Gillian

In Memory of Andrea Wood



Kokako in the bush south of Mt Pirongia. Andrea's husband Robert, a keen marathon runner, also came on some interesting tramps.

With two energetic sons Blair and Gareth, Andrea came to a number of summer camps - and is remembered for bringing a large number of items.

Even after moving back to her home town of Te Awamutu she stayed in touch with ASC. Visits to her home and wonderful garden continued and she often came to Auckland to catch up with her many friends from ASC and elsewhere.

It is sad to report on the passing of a former ASC member, Andrea Wood, well known to many members - particularly those attending summer camps.

Andrea was very proud of her boys and moved about a year ago to a beautiful new villa in Queenstown to be closer to the boys and her three grandchildren.

We first met Andrea on a tramp in the 1980's to the Coromandel Ranges to find the very large Opitini Kauri tree. The challenging terrain tested all our large group and some were never seen tramping again. But Andrea persisted and enjoyed many trips including our mission to find the then very rare

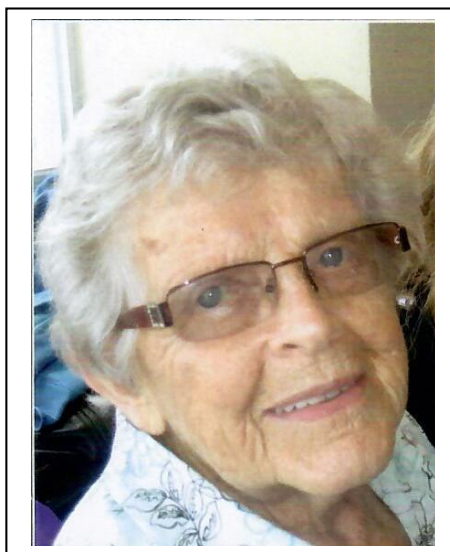
Not long after moving there, her battle with cancer began and as it slowly worsened, she had to move again to Timaru where Gareth lived. Here things went downhill fast with Andrea sadly passing away on 1st January aged 69 years.

Owen Sprosen

In Memory of Julie Mellsop

The Club extends sincere condolences to Gillian Mellsop on the recent death of her mother, Julie, at 92. Julie and her late husband, Phil, were active members of ASC for many years. They and their four children were among the families that supported the early family (now summer) camps. Gillian has rejoined the Club after returning from overseas.

Jocelyn Whyte



Trip Reports

WAIUKU WALK

Thursday 12 November 2020

A total of 37 made the trip out from Auckland to Waiuku including a potential member, Terry Dawson - a guest of Margaret Horsburgh. We were blessed with a nice sunny day and very fortunately the walk was not on Monday the 9th when the weather was atrocious.

We headed off from the car park in Kitchener Road onto a path developed by Waiuku Rotary and other volunteers on the eastern side of the Waiuku River estuary. We then crossed back onto the western side of the river and followed the track through the Tamakae reserve. This reserve is named after the Maori chief who won the heart of a high ranking Waikato chieftainess. He was working in kumara gardens and washed himself in the water (wai) and a particular type of mud (uku) at the stream where it flows into the Manukau. This did the trick and he won her heart and married her. From then on the place was named Waiuku.

We followed this track through the Riverside reserve until we came to Riverside Drive and continued on to Sandspit beach. Here we had lunch at this lovely sandy beach before returning to Waiuku town. The final part of the walk was along River Lane Reserve which is part of the historic portage (Te Pai O Kaiwaka) a Maori portage route that connected the Manukau harbour with the Waikato river. Wharf-like poles have been placed along the reserve tying in both sides of the river. Before making the journey back to Auckland most were able to stay for coffee at the OHA cafe conveniently located next to the carpark.

Leader and scribe: Graham Russell

OLD GHOST ROAD

25 - 29 November 2020

Fellow members of ASC had planned this trip and invited us to join them. Unfortunately, the foursome became a twosome when illness struck just before departure from Auckland.

The Old Ghost Road is a popular track with a ratio of about 2 mountain bikers to each walker. The huts can readily fill up so bookings should be made well in advance. 'Sleepouts' - small cabins that accommodate 4 people on two platforms - are available during the summer months and provided us with a quiet retreat while taking advantage of communal cooking and dining facilities in the main hut (cooking is not permitted in the sleepouts).



a sleepout at Lyell Saddle Hut

The track has 4 Category 1 huts at a suitable distance for walkers, whereas bikers tend to take only 1 – 2 days from end to end. The

track is managed by a Trust which sets its own policies for track use and, unlike DOC dual-purpose tracks such as the Heaphy, bikers can bike the track all year round.

There are several bus and shuttle operators providing drop-offs at Lyell and pickups at Seddonville. Vehicle transfers are also available for those with private transport. We used the Intercity service, currently a van with trailer. A shortage of foreign tourists has reduced demand to the point that the Nelson to Westport service is threatened with closure, but has been given a reprieve until April this year.

We started from the YHA Nelson and finished at the luxurious Rough and Tumble Lodge. For more basic accommodation, the Seddonville Hotel is not far away. The Karamea Express and others operate shuttle services to Westport or Karamea from the Hotel.

The track is a good standard to enable bikers to ride without difficulty. There are 4-wire fences where the track is narrow, to prevent falling off the steep drops. The track originally serviced gold mining and has a uniform gradient for the most part - a bonus for

walkers, demanding little huff and puff. The exception is a very steep descent with steps; bikes must be carried on this section.

From end to end the track is 85 km long with an 18 km first day and a 24 km slog on Day 4. There is a gentle ascent on the first day, which becomes a little monotonous in the absence of discernible vegetation changes as well as the limited views through mature trees; however the remnants of mining activities and early settlers' attempts to establish small towns along the steep sides of the valley make for interesting exploration. There is some change on the approaches to the Lyell Saddle Hut at 850 m.

Day 2 offers more time above the tree line, with wide views out to the coast. A shelter on the tops has cellphone coverage (the map provided to track users identifies each location where coverage is available).



view of the track in middle distance

At Ghost Lake Hut we took the opportunity to experience the innovative washing facilities, which have an open-roofed 'bath house' enclosure, comprising an elevated bucket reached from steps fixed to the side wall. This feeds the shower nozzle into which heated water carried in a kitchen kettle can be poured to get a comfortable temperature.



the 'bath house'

On Day 3, the descent from Ghost Lake Hut does have some tight corners for bikers to reduce the gradient, whereas a tramping track might have gone straight down the steep slope.



Ghost Lake Hut (white blob just below horizon) sits perched on a bluff

An easy day of 13 kms to Stern Valley Hut.

Day 4 is the longest day (24 km), so we departed at 7:15 am and enjoyed passing two tarns in the early morning mist, with delightful views down the valley as we ascended the Boneyard.

We were pleased to have started early which let us rest up and chat to the others on arrival at Specimen Point Hut, before making dinner and turning in early.



pretty tarn at the base of the Boneyard

Day 5 follows the Mokihinui gorge down to the carpark. Next to the carpark is the Rough and Tumble Lodge which provided some welcome refreshment with our fellow trampers before the others had to go their own ways. The Seddonville Hotel is another 4 km from the carpark.

Walkers and scribes: Peter Loveridge and Jenny Hudson



Mokihinui Gorge before and after overnight rain

WHIRINAKI FOREST: A 3-GENERATION FAMILY TRAMP

December 2020

At the beginning of December eight members of the FitzPatrick family set off on their third annual tramp designed to give the nine and five year olds the thrill of staying overnight in a back country hut and a taste of the slog to get there.

A much more relaxing way of spending a weekend so close to Christmas than fighting crowds at the local Shopping Mall.

Planned by Auntie Vic, Whirinaki into Rogers Hut proved an ideal choice. Whirinaki Te Rua-a-Tane Conservation Park is one of the world's last prehistoric rainforests

hosting thousand-year-old trees some of which tower up to 215 meters into the air.

Gary of Jail House Shuttles drove us from Te Whaiti as far as possible to the start of the track and was there to meet us on our return the next day. One slight hitch, one of the river crossings is no longer fordable so we began with a climb uphill on the metal road. It didn't deter the children, the adults probably muttered under their breath more. That part was forgotten as we entered the beautiful Whirinaki Forest and walked along the easy grade well maintained track.



Actually, Nick biked and covered many more kilometres than the walkers, as he explored side and loop tracks meeting up with us at night. The combined walk/bikeway means the tracks are well maintained. We remembered the protests in the 1980s and felt very grateful to those who spent so much time perched in the trees in an effort to save the forest with its huge old trees, lush undergrowth and wonderful bird life. The Park is home to many rare and endangered birds. If it all becomes too much for children Skips Huts Hut is about two hours in. A bigger Hut but access to the river not nearly so good. We had lunch there but still plenty of energy in the troops, so we continued on for about another

hour and half to the six bed Rogers Hut.



The children played in the river but the rest of us just soaked in the beauty!

The return trip the next day was a chance to see things from another angle and to keep enjoying the forest. We made good time back to our pick up so there was another chance for a play in the river. Back to our cars and then on to Rotorua. No prizes for guessing that ice-creams were the main attraction. A happy ending to a very refreshing family weekend.

Brian, Sue, Tim and Victoria FitzPatrick (club members), Nick Monteith, Jeremy FitzPatrick with Ethan (9) and Ashlinn (5).

FEATURE ARTICLE - SUMMER CAMP NEAR BROKEN HILLS, COROMANDEL

by Miranda Hutton

This issue features an extended report on the Club's summer camp, held at a new site in one of our favourite spots, the Coromandel Peninsula, from 26 December 2020 to 2 January 2021.



looking down on the campsite with the river in the background

One hundred and thirty-eight happy ASC campers were treated to a beautiful campsite in a hidden valley bordering DOC land, surrounded by native bush.

Our spacious paddock was fringed by tea tree and situated next to a branch of the Tairua River.

Tui and Kereru flew past during the day, Ruru and Kiwi called at night.

Road noise from state highway 25A was the only hint of civilisation.

The children quickly explored the surroundings, roaming up the tea tree covered hill and watching with interest as food-waste holes were dug with a post-hole borer.

Garth Barfoot and Bruce Davidson did an heroic job cutting a path through towering pampas grass and tutu to make an easy route to the water hole.

Our brand new Town Hall Tent kindly donated by Belinda Hutton was the centre of camp activities. The Town Hall houses the notice board with maps and a list of daily trips. Two evenings of “chips and chat” helped some of the 12 new families get to know some of the 35 regular families.

A total of 90 adults and 49 children attended from the following families: Barfoot, Bayne/Wong, Bolt, Brumby, Bryant, Cobb/Reddell, Christie, Chandler,

Carter, Davidson, Dwerryhouse, Frater, FitzPatrick, Gummer, Hanchard/Walters, Heard, Hill, Heenan, Hodder, Hudson/Loveridge, Hutton/Voll, Jemmett, Laga, Munford, Molnar, Mohr, Preston/Lynn, Palethorpe, Rogers, Roberts, Rolls, Sidwell/Vant, Scholey, Sewell/Noa Waa, Ward/Ellin, Waterworth/Alarcon, White, Whyte and Williams.

Of particular note were 9 three-generation families:- Chandler, Davidson, Dwerryhouse, Hanchard/Brumby, Hutton/Voll, Roberts, Sewell, Sidwell and Whyte. Several families go back to the days of the first camps over 50 years ago.

ASC was given access to a larger gorgeous swimming hole further down the valley and encouraged to stop and say hello to the farm animals – chickens, goats, pigs and piglets, sheep, cows and calves. At the end of the road were the start of exciting walks through beautiful bush and the old mining tunnels of Broken Hill. Most people took advantage of these tracks either through some small tunnels along a water race or through a longer 800m tunnel. Memorable was a large party of 48 people, including several 3 and 4 year olds, completing the Collins Drive Loop in 4 ½ hours. It was inspiring to see little legs tackling the big hills, and their excitement in the longer tunnel with glow worms.

On the 27th Mark Roberts led a large party up to the top of Kaitarakihi peak, 852m above sea level, a long and adventurous trip. Mark had learnt that the chains had recently been removed, so he brought a rope. 25 reached the summit. Jim and Janet Frater with Tim Carter later repeated part of this trip and also located the track to the Devcich Kauri. Unfortunately this track was closed due to Kauri die-back so they were unable to repeat the visit to the Kauri that they made 29 years ago from the 1991-92 camp. Several biking expeditions were made to the Whangamata Ridges Mountain Bike Park.



floating fun in the river



above: camp swimming hole



above: Collins Drive lookout; below left: singing the National Anthem in te reo.



above: what has Nick Roberts seen in the tunnel? below right: kids' talent quest





Clara's diamond hunt ready to go



Henry learning some surfing skills from Charlie and his mum



sports day bike race



choosing a real medal from Garth



campers old and young at Opoutere Beach

Opoutere Beach was enjoyed by many, but we kept well clear of the endangered nesting NZ Dotterel.



NZ Dotterel chick on Opoutere Beach

Many people visited nearby Tairua and Pauanui beaches, climbed Pauanui hill and explored the new cycleway which will eventually connect the two townships.



view from the top of Pauanui Hill

Another enjoyable walk, led by both Mark Roberts and the FitzPatricks on successive days was the Piraunui Track to the Kauaeranga Valley and back again. As well as busy days exploring the area, the children and adults enjoyed the beautiful campsite, the

river, catching up with old friends and making new friends.

Activities for the children at camp included several sing songs led by Anthony Sidwell, sliding down the steep grass hills on cardboard and boogie boards, mountain biking over jumps and around camp, playing “Alaskan Baseball” with a rubber chicken (thanks Fiona!), soccer and lots of chasing games.

Clara Voll (7) organised a “Diamond Hunt” of her own accord, in the stream beside camp, and had many children signing themselves up. The children and adults found a lot of interesting coloured stones and opals in the river and on the river banks.

Clara, 7: *“My favourite thing about camp was the river. I liked the way it was clean and calm. I liked the way that you could swim in it and it had gems in it. I liked going through the big mining tunnel. It was spooky.”*

Lukas, 4: *“I liked everything about camp. The waterhole, the monster hill – there were actually monsters, the big tramp, the tunnel with the glow worms, the meat in the river for the eels. I was happy I won the talent show. I liked my friends.”*

New Year’s Eve celebrations began for some with toasted marshmallows. The children entertained everyone with a Talent

Show skilfully compared by James Hodder and judged by Jeanette Davidson and Sue FitzPatrick. Anthony Sidwell led the children in a sing song before Kids' Midnight at 10pm, and was joined by Jim Frater and James Hodder for the traditional sing song leading up to midnight with Auld Lang Syne.

The ASC Annual New Year's Day Sports Day was a huge hit with all age categories competing in running races, three legged race, mountain biking, throw the gumboot, cartwheel race and tug-of-war. Thanks to Nick Roberts for his organisation and to Garth Barfoot for his expert announcing and gift of real medals and competitor t-shirts as prizes.

The first few nights at camp were bitterly cold, with campers needing to sleep in layers of clothing and woolly hats. However, the weather was mostly beautiful during the day, though sometimes rather windy at the coast. Thunderstorms were forecast for the 2nd of January so many people packed up on the 1st.

After a warning from a local farmer about the danger of crossing the ford after rain, the remaining few campers packed up one day early on the 2nd.

Most were driving to Auckland already when the torrential rain started in the afternoon.



Sports Day tug-o-war

Many new friendships were forged between children and adults alike. As another successful summer camp comes to a close, where shall we go next year? Suggestions anyone?

Camp organisers: Mark Roberts and Miranda Hutton (scribe). ASC Camp gear transported and provided by Bruce Rogers. Camp Treasurer: Bruce Derryhouse

Photo credits: Miranda Hutton, Clive Bolt, Jenny Hudson, Mark Roberts

Trips and Tramps

Editor's note: we still need to be vigilant regarding Covid-19, so please check the website or trip leaders whether restrictions apply.

Ruapehu Working Bee	Sat - Sun	23 - 24 Jan 2021
----------------------------	------------------	-------------------------

Leader: Bart Schroder 021 177 7367 ruapehu@alpinestport.org.nz

Piha	Sunday	24 Jan 2021
-------------	---------------	--------------------

Note: the Small People on Big Hills Weekend at the Waitakere Hut 23 - 24 Jan 2021 is fully booked. The Sunday picnic at Piha is part of the Small People on Big Hills weekend, open to everyone.

10am meet at the (South) Piha Surf Club. Picnic and day at the beach playing in the sea / sand. Option to walk around the Piha headland towards Kare Kare to check out the coast, rock pools etc. Designed for toddlers, preschoolers and their siblings but all ages welcome. Contact Jodi to register your interest. jodireddell@yahoo.com

Upper Huia Dam	Thursday	28 Jan 2021
-----------------------	-----------------	--------------------

Though this dam was completed in 1929, this may be the first time it has ever been visited by our club as it is fully within a watershed area. Now because so many routes have been closed by kauri dieback the gravel access road has been deemed safe to use. About 5 km each way. Meet at Lower Huia Dam Car Park at 10 am. There is a toilet there. Coffee at the historic Huia Store from 9 15 am is recommended as a pre-trip option. If time permits a loop on the new Kamaratura Loop Walkway in the same area is recommended as a post trip option.

Leader Garth Barfoot 0274 985 221 gbarfoot@xtra.co.nz

Small People on Big Hills - North Head	Monday (Anniversary Day)	1 Feb 2021
---	-------------------------------------	-------------------

Meet at 10am at the North Head Carpark, on the bend of Takarunga Rd. Join Clara (7) and Lukas (4) for some fun exploring the tunnels, sliding down the steep grass hills, having a picnic and swimming at the beach. Bring torches, lunch, drinks, sunhats, warm/weatherproof clothing as necessary, togs and towels.

Contact miranda@alpinesport.org.nz to register your interest.

Tongariro Crossing	Sat - Mon	6 - 8 Feb 2021
---------------------------	------------------	-----------------------

From the A-frame walk the Tongariro Crossing as a day trip & explore other tracks within the National Park. **Trip Leader wanted.**

Contact Mark Roberts mark2005roberts@yahoo.co.nz to express your interest as a leader or a participant.

Wattle Downs Walkway	Sunday	7 Feb 2021
-----------------------------	---------------	-------------------

Meet at 1.30pm in the Wattle Farm Reserve car park, off Wattle Farm Road (off Coxhead Road and Mahia Road). Stunning views of the Manukau Harbour. The walkway follows the coastal strip of reserve land adjoining the Wattle Downs residential area. This walkway consists of esplanade reserves with two larger reserves at Kauri Point and adjoining Kaanapali Crescent. The Manukau Harbour is the dominant influence.

Much of the land on the southern side of the Puhurehure inlet is rural. The coastal reserves provide a buffer between the residential uses and habitat areas of the harbour edge. Great for kids and both their bikes and leashed dogs! Distance: 8.7km

Leader: Scott White Ph. 0274-979-017 or info@taxsmart.co.nz



Kaipara - Mataia Coastal Walkway (Mataia Homestead)	Thursday	11 Feb 2021
--	-----------------	--------------------

12km coastal walk, anticipate 5 hours with breaks. Mid summer, be prepared. Travel time an hour to start. Meeting 10.30am. Read more at website Mataia Homestead coastal walk. <https://www.mataia.co.nz/the-trail>

Contact Stephanie Markson 0211065302

Children's Bushcraft Weekend FULLY BOOKED	Sat-Sun	13 - 14 Feb 2021
--	----------------	-------------------------

Practical Bushcraft led by Sue Grant. Making a shelter, making a bivvy, a short compass course. Aimed at 7 - 10 year old child members. Cost - course is free (thank you Sue!). Stay at Waitakere Hut members rates \$15 per adult, child members free.

Contact: Jeanine Scholey janscholey@gmail.com **FULLY BOOKED**

Small People on Big Hills Orakei Basin plus Orakei Bay Picnic and Swim	Sunday	14 Feb 2021
---	---------------	--------------------

Meet Lukas (4) at 10am at the Orakei Train Station parking lot. Bring pushchairs, bikes or your walking legs. The path has a lovely boardwalk plus some steps and a bushwalk section. 2.88km. Drive to Orakei Bay afterwards for a picnic, possible swim and play on the playground. Bring snacks and drinks for the walk, lunch for picnic for afterwards plus optional togs.

Contact Annette to register interest annetteevoll@gmail.com



Te Atatu Peninsula Walk	Sunday	21 Feb 2021
--------------------------------	---------------	--------------------

Meet at 1.30pm in the Harbourview Peoples Park car park in Te Atatu Road North, off the roundabout opposite Gloria Avenue (about 500 metres past the Z Station).

We start at the Harbourview - Orangihina Wetlands Reserve, an estuary wetland that provides habitat for flora and fauna such as the world-travelling godwits, the rare and reclusive fernbird and the native fish kokopu. We then follow the foreshore to the end of the Peninsula and you get wonderful harbour and distant city views. Dead flat and no hills. Good for the grandkids and their small bikes and scooters!

And also good for the older kids and their bigger bikes ... bring them all! Even dogs on a leash are welcome.

The paths are a mixture of paved, loose metal and boardwalks. Distance: 6.25km A great natural environment so close to Auckland.

Please register with me if you are coming. Leader: Scott White Ph. 0274-979-017 or info@taxsmart.co.nz

Hunua	Sat-Sun	20 - 21 Feb 2021
--------------	----------------	-------------------------

Join like-minded women of all ages for a sporty mini-adventure. Easy grade. Camp overnight, bike and/or walk in the Hunua Ranges. Timeframe - leaving Saturday afternoon, return Sunday. Cost \$9

Contact Jane Preston to find out more and to register janeprestonnz@gmail.com

Ruapehu Working Bee	Sat-Sun	20 - 21 Feb 2021
----------------------------	----------------	-------------------------

Leader: Bart Schroder 021 177 7367 ruapehu@alpinestport.org.nz



Ruapehu in the Summer	Mon - Fri	22 - 26 Feb 2021
-----------------------	-----------	------------------

- **Join a working party Saturday - Sunday 20 - 21 Feb 2021**
- **Stay for the week**
- **Monday - Friday 22 to 26 Feb 2021**
- **Join a working party Saturday - Sunday 27 - 28 Feb 2021**

Enjoy the camaraderie of fellow club members whilst staying in either one of our two Club lodges.

Arrive any day that you like and depart any day that suits. The committee would love some help with rubbing down and painting the weatherboards on the Bunkhouse (Ruapehu) Hut either in the first or second weekend, or just helping with the provision of food for the work parties. The more brush hands we have the quicker the job, as we are planning an undercoat and two top coats.

A wide range of activities is planned for Monday to Friday to suit all capabilities from half-day walks each day to the more strenuous full day walks such as the Tongariro Crossing or the Crater Lake (lake alert level, weather and numbers permitting). Some might enjoy day tripping to Ohakune, Turangi, Tokaanu hot pools or elsewhere.

A ride in the Gondola to the Knoll Ridge Cafe never fails to appeal, especially if you have never done it before. Evening dining is also a possibility.

This week of activities is for all club members both past and present, old and young. Make up a car load and come on down. Car pooling will be arranged where required, all food will be provided, and help given to anyone needing their gear carried from their car to the lodge.

Cost which includes dinner, bed, breakfast and a cut lunch is \$40 per person per night during the week and no charge if involved in the weekend work parties.

If not participating in the first weekend work party, arrive if possible Sunday afternoon and settle in ready for the Monday walking activity.

For further information and bookings:

For the 'Ruapehu in the Summer' week including/excluding helping at a weekend work party at either end contact Warren Whyte ph 528 4824 or mobile 0276752147 or email wandjwhyte@xtra.co.nz.

*For the **working parties only on either weekend** contact Bart Schroder 021 177 7367*

Ruapehu Working Bee	Sat-Sun	27 - 28 Feb 2021
----------------------------	----------------	-----------------------------

Leader: Bart Schroder 021 177 7367 ruapehu@alpinestport.org.nz

Ngatuhua Lodge Family Weekend FULLY BOOKED	Sat-Sun	27 - 28 Feb 2021
---	----------------	-----------------------------

Surrounded by bush clad hills in the Kaimais this lodge includes use of a mini confidence course, a flying fox, flat water kayaking, tubing in the stream and an abseiling wall. We will make use of the local activities on Saturday and do a hike Sunday. Accommodation costs are \$44 per person for the weekend. Contact Mark to book, 50% deposit payable to confirm your place.

Leader Mark Roberts mark2005roberts@yahoo.co.nz

City of Sails Explore	Sunday	7 March 2021
------------------------------	---------------	---------------------

Meet at 1.30pm in Pt Erin car park off Sarsfield Street, Herne Bay. We will walk through the park, down to the foreshore, under the Harbour Bridge and along the Westhaven Promenade to the Wynyard Quarter. Return by another little known route. Flat all the way and great for kids, bikes, scooters and real “Strollers!”

And dogs on a leash are more than welcome. Experience the modern walkway and various types of street art on the Way. Not to mention the total environment and atmosphere.

Leader: Scott White Ph. 0274-979-017 or info@taxsmart.co.nz

Ōtara Creek Walkway and Pedestrian Bridge	Thursday	11 March 2021
--	-----------------	----------------------

10:30 am meet at Ngāti Ōtara Reserve, at the end of Ōtara Road, Ōtara, to explore the Ōtara Creek Walkway and cross the new Ōtara Creek Pedestrian Bridge (opened 2020), the latest addition to Auckland Council’s Public Art portfolio. We will cross East Tāmaki Road to exploring a little further, then returning to lunch in the Ōtara Creek Reserve. After lunch we will explore the western side of the creek as we return to our cars.

For more details about the bridge and walkway go to: <https://www.aucklandpublicart.com/search?artwork=4178> and [Ōtara Creek Reserve | Short Walks In Auckland](https://www.aucklandpublicart.com/search?artwork=4178) <https://walksinauckland.com/tag/otara-creek-reserve/>

Sue (leader) and Brian FitzPatrick (navigator): Contact Ph: 576 1069 or suzette@knockbane.co.nz

Small People on Big Hills – Waitakere Hut Overnight Getaway - FULLY BOOKED	Sat-Sun	13 - 14 March 2021
---	----------------	---------------------------

Designed for toddlers and preschoolers, but older or younger siblings and older children welcome. Open to ASC members and non-members. Experience the adventure of a night away in a tramping hut in

the bush! Some age-appropriate preschool bushcraft skills will also be covered in a fun way. Children of all ages will love the bunk beds (preschoolers on the bottom bunks) and toasting marshmallows over the fire. Parents will love the microwave, fridge, stove and solar shower. Just a short drive off the Anawhata Rd and a short 5-10 minute walk from the carpark through native bush to the hut.

Contact Miranda Hutton to book a spot miranda@alpinesport.org.nz 022 6488 733.

Small People on Big Hills – Piha Beach Picnic	Saturday	13 March 2021
--	-----------------	----------------------

Meet at 10.30am at the Barnet Hall carpark, next to North Piha Lifeguard Service building. Leave lunch and togs in the car. Go for a short walk to explore the beautiful Marawhara stream and Nikau grove, then return to the beach by 12.30pm at the latest for a picnic and swim/play.

Optional - come and see the ASC Waitakere Hut afterwards where some of the lucky Small People on Big Hills will be spending the night (Booked Out, see above). Aimed at preschoolers and their older siblings, but suitable for all ages. Contact Miranda to register interest miranda@alpinesport.org.nz

Small People on Big Hills – Arataki Visitor Centre	Sunday	14 March 2021
---	---------------	----------------------

Meet Clara (7) and Lukas (4) at the Visitor Centre at 10.30am. Walk or bring bikes to complete some or all of the Beveridge track through beautiful bush. Easy, pushchair friendly. 3.5km return. Trip aimed at preschoolers and their older siblings, but suitable for all ages. Return to the Visitor Centre for picnic lunch and explore centre. Contact Miranda to register your interest. miranda@alpinesport.org.nz

River Crossing Course	Sunday	14 March 2021
------------------------------	---------------	----------------------

\$60 for the course. Contact Fiona Heenan to register fionaheenan@yahoo.com



Auckland Domain Sculpture Walk	- Sunday	21 March 2021
---------------------------------------	-----------------	----------------------

Meet at 1.30pm on the steps at the front of the Auckland Museum. There is plenty of 180 minute and longer parking available. The Artworks are by eight of New Zealand's leading contemporary artists and were installed in Auckland Domain throughout 2004, 2005 and 2006. How many of you knew they existed! The walk covers an open grassed area and then well formed paths from behind the Museum and then down the hill to Stanley Street and then back up again, visiting each of the sculptures.

I will have available detailed information on each of the sculptures so apart from a good solid walk it may be a learning period for some of you! I suggest you make the most of the Domain and what it has to offer.

Leader: Scott White Ph. 0274-979-017 or info@taxsmart.co.nz

Thursday walk TBA	Thursday	25 March 2021
--------------------------	-----------------	----------------------

Leader: Margaret Bell Margbell420@gmail.com

Lake Tarawera Trail	Sat - Sun	27 - 28 March 2021
----------------------------	------------------	---------------------------

Walk the Tarawera trail, camp at hot water beach on Lake Tarawera, cost \$15 adults, \$7.50 child, although appears to be a minimum charge of \$30 per site.

Camp sites booked at <https://whakarewarewa.com/experiences/hot-water-beach-campground/>.

Walk back on Sunday, or option to catch water taxi. Option to kayak for experienced kayakers also. Contact Leader Tracey Laga t.laga@xtra.co.nz

Micro Adventure - Muriwai	Sat - Sun	27 - 28 March 2021
----------------------------------	------------------	---------------------------

Meeting in Point Chevalier. Saturday afternoon. Cycle along the bike cycle path to Westgate, then on road to Muriwai to campground. Camp overnight. Option for surf lessons on Sunday morning and family day at the beach (if your family comes to pick you up) or cycle back. Designed for fit adults with competent bike skills.

Contact Jodi for more info and to register jodireddell@yahoo.com
Muriwai surf school: [Home - Muriwai Surf School](#)

Easter at Lake Okataina, near Rotorua	Friday - Tuesday	2 - 6 April 2021
--	-------------------------	-------------------------

Come and explore the Rotorua area with other ASC friends this Easter! Beautiful bushwalks, pristine Lake Okataina, lots of mountain biking possibilities, exciting thermal activity and a HUGE Easter Egg Hunt for the children.

ASC has booked the Okataina Outdoor Recreation and Education Trust Centre for our exclusive use. It is a 90-bed lodge with bunk-room style accommodation. Bring own linen and food. Communal kitchen with oven, microwave, etc. Over thirty ASC members have already booked to come, ranging in age from 2 - 78 years.

Email Miranda to book your place miranda@alpinesport.org.nz

Thursday walk - Rangitoto	Thursday	8 April 2021
----------------------------------	-----------------	---------------------

Further details to follow. Leaders Mike & Cathy Frith mandcfrith@gmail.com

Small People on Big Hills – Maungawhau (Mt Eden)	Sunday	11 April 2021
---	---------------	----------------------

Easy, family friendly walk in Auckland. Sunday morning. Meet at the playground at the base of Mt Eden (Normanby Road) at 10am. Join Freya (4) and Lydia (almost 2) as they summit beautiful Maungawhau. Bring a snack and a drink to enjoy at the top and then return to the playground for lunch. Contact Catherine to register interest catherinelydia@bird@gmail.com.

Mt Pirongia	Sat - Sun	17 - 18 April 2021
--------------------	------------------	-------------------------------

Up to the summit of Mt Pirongia via the Tirohanga Track on Saturday, a night in Pahautea Hut and return on the Sunday via Mahaukura Track. A challenging but rewarding tramp with stunning views of the mountain and the Waikato below. 8 - 11 hours/12km return. Children welcome. An extended option could involve leaving on Friday afternoon/evening and spending a night at the foot of the mountain before heading off earlier on the Saturday morning, if this is of interest. Around 2 hours drive from Auckland.

Contact: Lukas Adam lukas.p.adam@gmail.com

Thursday walk - TBA	Thursday	22 April 2021
----------------------------	-----------------	----------------------

Leader Gillian Mellsop gmellsop@gmail.com

Moerangi Track	Fri - Sun	23 - 25 April 2021
-----------------------	------------------	-------------------------------

Women's Overnight Adventure. More information to follow. Contact Ellie Jones to register. Email ellie31jones@gmail.com

Maungatautari Weekend	Mountain	Fri - Sun	7 - 9 May 2021
----------------------------------	-----------------	------------------	-----------------------

Drive down on Friday to the Mighty River Domain beside Lake Karapiro where we are staying at the chalets which have bunkroom accommodation. Bring your own bedding and food. Fully equipped kitchen. Adults \$32 and children under 12 yrs \$26 per night.

On Saturday we will drive to Pukeatua on the south side of the mountain and walk to the summit and return, either via the hard or easy tracks. There is also an option to visit the Southern Enclosure, cost \$25 for adults and \$12 for children. Saturday evening possibly a meal out in Cambridge or self cater at the camp. Sunday go to the Waihou River Trail and walk to the Blue Spring. Return to Auckland in the afternoon.

If interested could you please contact the leader before 28th Feb 2021 so that accommodation bookings can be made.

Leader : Bruce Rogers bj_rogers@xtra.co.nz

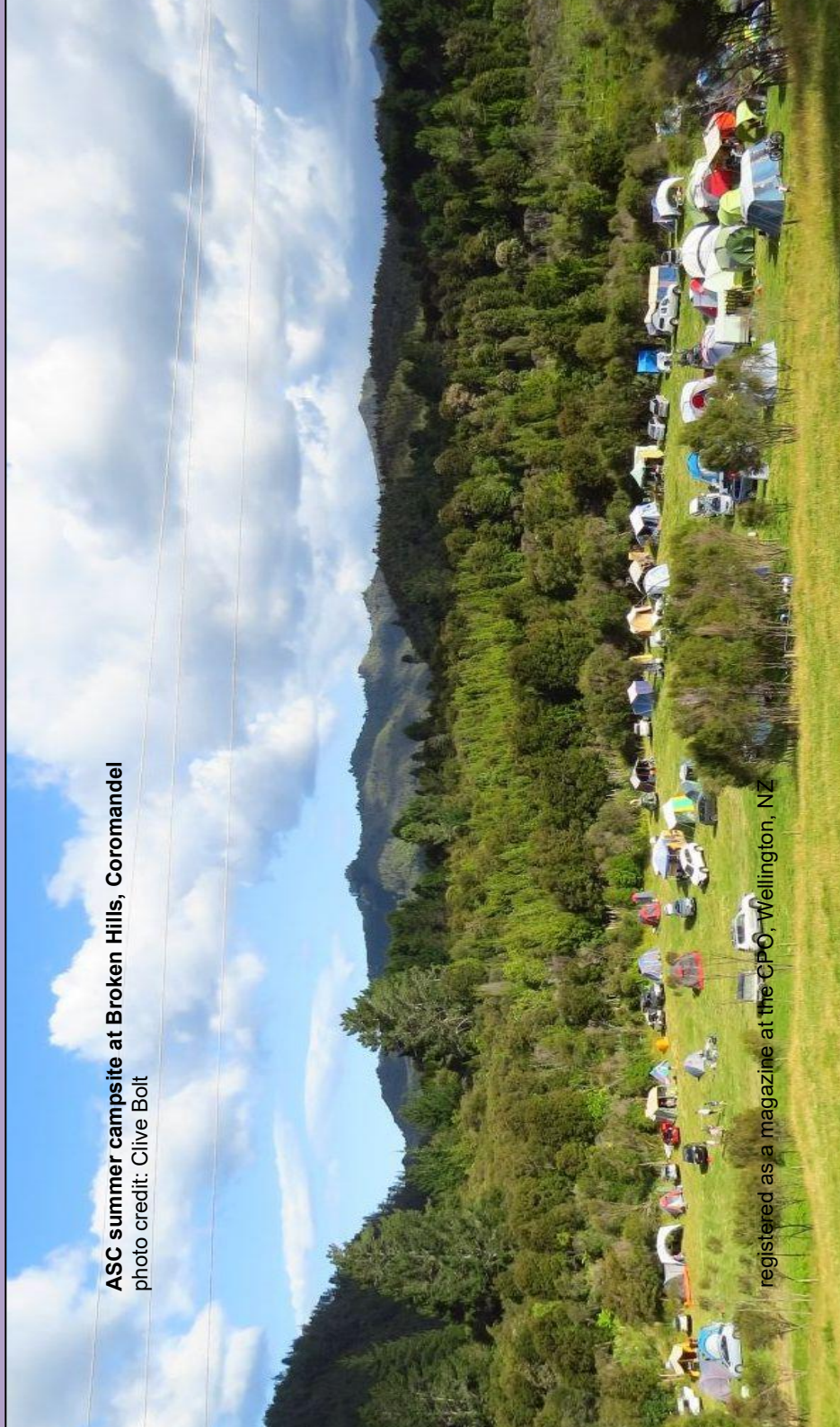
RECURRING WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Thursday Walks – Walks are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month (except January and December). For further information contact Clive Bolt cbolt@xtra.co.nz. For details of other proposed multi day trips see the Club's Bulletin Board under "Tramping and Trips" where members seek others to join them or help in planning in trips.

RUAPEHU BOOKINGS (by website only)

Book by selecting the 'Online Booking' option on the Club website and follow the instructions. Likewise, for changing or cancelling a booking, or applying for a refund, follow the website instructions. To contact Booking Officer, email: bookings@alpinesport.org.nz

ASC summer campsite at Broken Hills, Coromandel
photo credit: Clive Bolt



registered as a magazine at the CPO, Wellington, NZ