



Thumbs Up Adventure Club Inc.
www.tuac.co.nz

"The Thumbs Up Adventure Club is a social and active group of people who enjoy living life to the fullest"

President:	David Verrall	630 2588	Committee:	
Treasurer:	Libby Lyver	021 137 1488	Alison Philcox	021 257 6741
Secretaries:)	Helene Harper	838 6742	Raywyn Brinsden	021 455 863
)	June Bell	817 3093	Gerry Smith	520 5795
New Membership:	Leonie Caskey-Hatton	480 2800	Suzanne Caron	021 175 6994
Newsletter	Alan Grigg	027 493 6850	Hillary Scott	021 258 4186
Website:			Mike Maran	846 5350

Our account details: ASB Bank 12-3014-0118011-00 - For internet banking - state your name, cost and event you are paying for. Please deposit cheques directly into the Club's bank account and email Libby (libby.lyver@gmail.com) the same information.

CHECK WITH EVENT ORGANISER THAT PLACES ARE AVAILABLE BEFORE MAKING ANY PAYMENT

Non members may attend some club events. Members have priority and a surcharge will be applied. Contact the event organiser directly

If you have confirmed you wish to go to an event where the ticket is pre-paid by the organiser, please pay by the due date.

The ticket is still your responsibility to pay. You can sell it or give it away

If you cannot attend on the day, please advise the organiser immediately as they may have other people wishing to attend

December 2014 – January 2015

MANGAWHAI WALKING WEEKEND

40a Lincoln St. Mangawhai

Friday 28th to Sunday 30th November 2014

Join in a springtime weekend of walking and having fun
Saturday - Tanekaha Falls track, onto the Brenderwyn trig and then returning via the Tanekaha Forest Track - 4 hrs
Sunday - Logues Bush or walk of your choice

Bring: All camping and tramping gear
Food - breakfasts, lunches AND DRINKING WATER
Friday night, BBQ provided
Saturday night, dinner at 'The Club'

Cost: Nil - Free camping

Contact: June - 817 3093, 021 258 3013 or fiveofsix48@hotmail.com



KOHIMARAMA BEACH BBQ

Kohimarama Beach

Saturday 13th December 2014 from 5pm

Finish off the year with what is fast becoming an annual event.

Try beach volleyball, frisbee, go swimming if you want to, or just sit with a glass of wine and catch up with other club members.

Meet at the far end of Kohimarama Beach by the yacht club. Look out for TUAC banner. Plenty of parking close by. Please let me know if you are coming by "confirm by" date as I need to organise extra BBQ if needed.

Bring: Own cutlery, plates, drinks and meat and a plate to share (with serving utensils). Can either be a main or a dessert.

Cost: Free

Confirm by: Friday 12th December

Contact: Libby Lyver - 021 137 1488 or libby.lyver@gmail.com



DINNER, MOVIE, DRINKS

Event Cinema or Rialto Cinema, Newmarket

Saturday 6th December

Early dinner at Rialto Food Court.

Movie chosen for the night, drinks and music at the local hotel.

Further info: Online aa.co.nz/eventcinemas AA member 41% discount for Event Cinemas and Rialto Cinemas

Bring: Yourself and a friend if you like

Cost: Dinner, Movie, Drinks on the night

Contact: Libby Lyver - 021 137 1488 or libby.lyver@gmail.com



AUCKLAND BOTANIC GARDENS, PUHINUI STREAM

TRAIL, TOTARA PARK

Saturday 20th December at 10am

Meet at the main entrance at the Auckland Botanic Gardens, Hill Road, Manurewa at 10am. Walk through part of the Botanic Gardens to start our walk through the Puhinui Stream Forest Trail. The track links up the native forest walking tracks between Totara Park and the Botanic Gardens. The trail winds around Puhinui stream and through one of the best examples of lowland native forest. It's a gentle 4kms and will take about 2-2½ hours. We will return via another part of the Botanical Gardens in time for lunch at Café Miko which overlooks the gardens. Mike will also explain about some of the botanical features in the gardens.

Bring: Comfortable shoes, water, snacks

Cost: The cost of lunch

Contact: Mike - 846 5350, 0274 784 779 or mikemaran10@gmail.com



XMAS PARTY/CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH

Sunday 7th December at 10am

TUAC Annual Xmas Party. This year it will be held in Cornwall Park.

Bring: Deck chair, wine glass and a \$5 Secret Santa present

Cost: Nil

Further info: If wet, this event will be held at David Verrall's home, 29 Onslow Ave, Epsom. You will be advised on the day if we have to change the location.

An email will be sent to all those who have RSVP's Yes, with a map of which picnic spot has been chosen for this event.

Please let me know if you are vegetarian
Contact: David Verrall - 027 203 5508 or gundesenverrall@xtra.co.nz



TONGARIRO NORTHERN CIRCUIT

Tongariro National Park

28th December - 31st December 2014

The Tongariro Northern Circuit Great Walk is 43 kms, 4 days

and 3 nights in huts/campsites. See www.doc.govt.nz - Tongariro National Park

Details: 28th December start at Ngaterangi Hut, 29th stay Oturere Hut, 30th stay Waihohonu Hut

Places to stay before and after the tramp will be discussed once the huts are booked

Cost: At present price for huts or camp-sites

Contact: Alan - 027 493 6850 or alangrigg11@gmail.com



XMAS IN THE PARK REHEARSAL IN THE DOMAIN, AUCKLAND

Friday 12th December

Join us once again for a great night of entertainment under the stars without the crowds. Meet in front of the stage from 5.30pm onwards

Bring: A chair, dinner and liquid refreshment

Cost: Nil

Contact: June - 817 3093, 021 258 3013 or fiveofsix48@hotmail.com



**HUTS FULLY BOOKED
CAMP SITES ONLY**

MOIRS HILL BUSH WALK TO PUHOI (PIRIKI WALKWAY)

Saturday 10th January 2015 at 10am

Meet at Puhoi Hotel carpark at 10am

Carpool to Moirs Hill Rd 7km North of Puhoi. Turn left into Moirs Hill Rd and travel another 6.5kms to a sign on the left saying Piriki Walkway. It is about 10kms walk back down hill through bush to Puhoi Hotel

Bring: Walking shoes or boots, drink, raincoat and snack (track may be a little damp in places).

Cost: Money for food and drink at Puhoi Hotel.

Contact: David Verrall - 630 2588, 027 203 5508 or gundesenverrall@xtra.co.nz



LIGHT SHOW

Auckland Art Gallery, Cnr Kitchener & Wellesley Streets

Sunday 11th January 2015 at 10am

Following its sell out season at the Hayward Gallery in London, the spectacular Light Show comes to Auckland Art Gallery. Spilling out across two floors, this is the first major exhibition of international light based art to be seen in NZ. From atmospheric installations to intangible sculptures you can move around and even through, you'll be dazzled by some of the world's most brilliant artworks and experience light in all its spatial and sensory forms. Lunch afterwards (optional)

Cost: \$15 (friends of the Gallery \$12)
Lunch at your cost

Pay: On the day

Confirm by: 8th January 2015

Contact: Libby Lyver - 021 137 1488 or libby.lyver@gmail.com

NIGHT ZOO SAFARI AND BBQ

Auckland Zoo, Motions Road, Westmere
Friday 16th January 2015

If you go into the zoo at night you may get a big surprise! The big cats are out, lemurs are sleeping (in the most peculiar place) and the alligator may snap! Your Safari Night evening includes a barbeque dinner followed by a torch-lit adventure. Discover lions on the prowl, hippos looking for a late-night snack, nocturnal bats waking up, an elephant snacking on bamboo, or rhinos out in the cool of the evening.

These safaris are only held a few times during the year and spaces are strictly limited, so get in quick. BBQ at 6pm. You can arrive anytime from 4.30pm onwards. For those rushing from work, a 6pm arrival is fine. Just let me know what time you will be arriving and I can let gate security know.

Bring: Covered walking shoes e.g. sneakers, comfortable clothing, warm jacket & hat, torch with red cellophane covering the light, drink bottle.

Cost: \$50 including BBQ, Zoo entry, guided tour and supper

Pay by: 6th January 2015

Confirm by: 15th December 2014

Contact: Libby Lyver - 021 137 1488 or libby.lyver@gmail.com



BURGER, BOWLS & BEVERAGES

Onehunga Bowling Club, 146 Selwyn Street, Onehunga
Friday 30th January 2015

Come along for a fun evening with music, burgers, bowls and beverages. Come when you can from 4pm onwards. You can play for 30 minutes or up to 1½ hours until around 8pm. Club supplies bowls and tuition. Beverages at club prices

Bring: Wear comfortable shoes

Cost: \$20 for Burger, bowling, music and tuition

Pay by: 23rd January 2015

Confirm by: 2nd January 2015

Contact: Ann Melrose - 021 157 6005 or annmelrose@gmail.com



RANGITOTO ISLAND BACH TOUR

Saturday 17th January 2015

This guided walk takes 2½ hours, and covers approximately 2kms. It features the volcanic background of Rangitoto, a look at the different types of lava on the island, the botany (in particular, the iconic Pohutukawa), Maori history, DoC's successful pest eradication programme and introduction of several bird species, the early work of inmates from Auckland Prison, the military history, and some of the "industries" that have been trialed on the island. The walk also includes a visit to several of the historic baches. You will be able to step inside two of them and learn something about their fascinating history as well as hearing stories about the unique lifestyle on the island. The group will also meet one or two of the "locals"!

Further info: Catch the 9.15am ferry from Downtown. The 9.15 ferry goes via Devonport at 9.25am. Returning either on the 12.45pm ferry or if you want to do the summit walk or caves visit as well, return on the 4pm ferry. On the day, if the ferry cannot land at the wharf and goes to Islington Bay instead, we cannot do the tour. I will let everyone know early on the day after confirming with Fullers.

Bring: Water/drinks, all food, good sturdy shoes/boots, sunhat, sunscreen, swimsuit, towel (optional). Morning tea provided.

Cost: \$29.00 return for the ferry and \$7.50 for the bach tour.

Please pay the bach tour portion into the TUAC club account. Buy your ferry ticket either online www.fullers.co.nz or on the day.

Confirm by: 12th January 2015

Contact: Libby Lyver - 021 137 1488 or libby.lyver@gmail.com



BAT WATCHING

Cascade Kauri Car Park, off Falls Rd, off Te Henga Road
Wednesday 21st January at 8pm

Come at 8pm (or earlier if you want to have a picnic dinner on the grass) and learn about these fascinating little creatures as they take flight for their nightly foraging in the Te Henga Swamp. We start at the picture frame where we will be divided into groups and taken into the forest to see where they live then we go back to the grass area and wait until it is dark enough for them to come out.

Allow plenty of time to get there, remember there may be rush hour traffic to contend with. Take time off work if you need! I guarantee you will be thrilled with these little creatures. They are NOT vampires.

I will be by the TUAC banner

Bring: Wear warm clothing and something to sit on the ground

Food and drink if you are eating beforehand

Can bring a chair for the picnic or sit on the ground.

Cost: \$5 per person

Pay by: ASAP as I can only book for 15 people

Contact: Alison Philcox - 021 257 6741 or a.philcox@clear.net.nz



HEADLAND SCULPTURE - MATIATIA, WAIHEKE

Saturday 31st January 2015

Join us on a spectacular 2km coastal walkway on the Matiatia headland. This year there are 31 sculptures from a diverse group of artists, many of whom are new to the exhibition alongside several returning to Waiheke. These finalists were selected from over 120 submissions. We will be catching the shuttle to the beginning of the walk at the end of Nick Johnstone Drive. They leave every 15 - 20 minutes from the wharf. Expect the walk to take between 1.5 - 2.5 hours. We can have lunch in Oneroa afterwards or head straight back on the ferry.

We will be catching the 9am ferry from Downtown Auckland which calls into Devonport at 9.10am. When booking, please let me know where you will be catching the ferry from.

Further info: <http://sculptureonthegulf.co.nz>

Bring: Water, snacks, sun hat, camera, light coat depending on the weather

Cost: Ferry \$36 return, Gold Card users free

Shuttle bus to start of walk \$5.00

Pay by: Pay on the day

Contact: Alison Philcox - 021 257 6741 or a.philcox@clear.net.nz



TAIHAPE (GUMBOOT CAPITAL OF THE WORLD)

PLAN YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

Friday 6th February - Sunday 8th February 2015

Just imagine flying down the Rangitikei River canyon at 160kph 175m above the river in a flying fox or experience the canyon without the adrenalin in a hydrofoil water powered chair lift or there is always the giant swing with 50m free fall or an 80m bungee jump or all of them!!!

Saturday we can horse ride, do one of the many walks, visit the Taihape Museum or scenic river rafting. Of course all these things need to be booked in advance so if you are slightly interested or definitely interested, please let me know what you are interested in doing and the type of accommodation you would prefer ASAP.

Discounts can also apply for over 65s so let me know if you are in this category. I promise I won't tell anyone!

Accommodation will be at the River Valley Lodge. There is a choice of tenting, bunk house or variety of bedrooms. There is space for several campervans.

Car pooling can be arranged. Taihape is 5 hours from Auckland.

Further info: www.gravitycanyon.co.nz, <http://www.rivervalley.co.nz>

<http://taihapemuseum.wordpress.com>, <http://taihapemuseum.wordpress.com>, <http://rangitikei.com/activities-attractions>

Bring: To be advised

Cost: Accommodation plus activities and food

Pay by: Deposit to secure your accommodation to be advised

Full payment 5th January 2015

Contact: Alison Philcox - 021 257 6741 or email a.philcox@clear.net.nz

WINDSURFING AND STAND UP PADDLING

Sylvan Park, at the bottom of Sylvan Park Ave, Milford

Saturday 14th February 2015

Meet at 10:30am for an 11am start.

Great value for 2 hours of windsurfing, SUP or both. Instruction is given if required. Wetsuits and equipment supplied. Lake Pupuke is a safe environment as there are no big waves or tides to worry about. Have lunch locally afterwards.

When booking, please indicate what you want to do, your level of ability and if you want to join us for lunch.

Further info: www.madloop.co.nz

Bring: Bathing suit and a towel. Water and snacks if you want.

Cost: \$50.00

Lunch at your cost.

Pay by: 16th January 2015 or sooner

Contact: Alison Philcox 021 257 6741 or email a.philcox@clear.net.nz



ART DECO EXTRAVAGANZA – NAPIER 19th to 22nd February 2015



Expressions of interest are sought for this famous Art Deco event. Napier, New Zealand's Art Deco capital, celebrates its annual festival with the whole of the city becoming a stage set, with over 200 events including outdoor concerts, dinner dance extravaganzas, vintage car parades, fashion shows, steam train rides, great Gatsby picnics and more. Dressing up in 1930's style is not compulsory, but will be great fun if you want to do so. The programme of events will be published in October 2014. Accommodation is already reserved (shared motel units) and there is the option of extending your stay for the week, exploring further afield, or by biking around the wineries and going to the Mission Concert the following weekend. No details on the concert are out until later in the year and until this is announced, we do not know if it will follow on from the Art Deco weekend.

Cost: To be advised when programme is published

Pay by: End December 2014

Contact: Libby Lyver - 021 137 1488 or libby.lyver@gmail.com

HERITAGE TRAIL

Shakespear Regional Park, Whangaparaoa Peninsula
Saturday 28th February at 10am



A fascinating walk that begins at the Waterfall Gully car park and takes in historic sites, a WW2 gun emplacement, native forest, farmland, a wetland and spectacular views over Auckland and the islands of the Hauraki Gulf.

The track is an easy to moderate 4km of undulating terrain and is approx 2 hours return.

After our walk we will have lunch at one of the cafes besides the canals at Gulf Harbour Marina.

Further info: Drive to the end of Whangaparaoa Road and park in the Waterfall Gully car park for a 10am start. The entrance to the Heritage trail is well signposted.

Those who prefer to carpool meet and park at 9.30am at Kings Plant Barn Silverdale. Please let Mike know in advance.

Bring: Comfortable walking shoes, water, snacks and sunscreen.

Cost: The cost of lunch

Contact: Mike – 846 5350, 0274 784 779 or mikemaran10@gmail.com

TAPAPAKANGA REGIONAL PARK CAMPING W/END

Auckland Regional Park, Firth of Thames
Friday 6th March to Sunday 8th March 2015



Beachfront Campsite at Tapapakanga with views of the Firth of Thames

Facilities include toilets, tables, water and outdoor shower.

Walking and mountain bike tracks, fishing, canoeing, safe sandy swimming tidal beach. See web site <http://www.arc.govt.nz>

Tapapakanga Regional Park is 60 minute drive from Auckland CBD. Drive south on SH1. Take the Manurewa off ramp, head for Clevedon. From Clevedon follow the signs to Kawakawa Bay and turn right at the shop. Go 12.5km (past Orere Point) and turn off into Deery Road to the Tapapakanga Park.

Bring: All camping gear, tent, gas stove or BBQ, swimming togs, walking shoes, bikes and helmets, kayak if you want to.

Own food and drink as nearest shop is Orere Point Campground.

Shared meal on Saturday night

Cost: \$13 per night per person. Campsite takes 40 people

Pay by: ASAP Only 14 sites available - first in first served.

Contact: David Verrall - 630 2588, 027 203 5508 or gundesenverrall@xtra.co.nz

KUAOTUNU CAMPING WEEKEND, COROMANDEL

33 Bluff Rd, Matarangi (off SH 25)
Friday 21st March to Sunday 23rd March 2015



Places for 12 people (or 16 if needed)

Each campsite is on the edge of a stream and has a maximum of 4 people

Further info: The campsite has fully equipped kitchens, eating areas, BBQ, showers etc.

There is a café/pizza place and store 5 minutes up the road.

Activities: Kayaking, cycling, walking, swimming, skin diving, fishing (bring own equipment)

Optional: Walk on Saturday morning to Matarangi, or 19km bike ride www.kcq2008.com

Bring: Camping: tents, bedding etc.

Food for breakfasts, lunches

We will have a shared BBQ on Saturday night

More details nearer the time.

Cost: \$20 per person per night.

Buses and campervans welcome

Expressions of interest: ASAP

Contact: Hillary Scott - 0212 584 186 or hillary.scott.54@gmail.com

MEMBERS – INTRODUCE A NEW MEMBER

If you introduce a new member and they join the Club you will get a credit of \$10 on your next TUAC membership renewal account

"I acknowledge and accept that neither the Thumbs Up Adventure Club ("the club"), nor any other party associated with any activity arranged by or through the club shall have any responsibility for any liability, financial or otherwise, which might arise whether or not by negligence, from any direct or indirect loss, injury or death which might be sustained by me or any other party directly or indirectly associated with me, from my intended or actual participation in any event or its related activities."

EASTER AT WHITE ISLAND & WHAKATANE EAST COAST Friday 3rd to Sunday 6th April 2015

Expressions of interest for Easter in Whakatane with optional tours to White Island, Whale Island, mountain biking or walking the Motu Trail, local walks in Whakatane and more.

Further info: Will be supplied when to hand

Bring: To be advised

Cost: 3 night's accommodation around \$60 per night twin share. Exact costs will be worked out when numbers known.

Optional day tour to White Island \$199 or

Whale Island ½ day tour \$99.

Group rates once numbers known should reduce this cost

Pay by: To be advised

Contact: Libby Lyver - 021 137 1488 or libby.lyver@gmail.com

JOKE

One day I accidentally overturned my golf cart.

Monica, a very attractive and keen golfer, who lived in a villa next door, heard the noise and called out:

Are you okay, what's your name?"

"It's John and I'm okay thanks," I replied.

"John, forget your troubles, come to my villa, rest a while and I'll help you get the cart up later."

"That's mighty nice of you," I answered, but I don't think my wife would like it."

"Oh, come on," Monica insisted.

She was very pretty, very sexy and persuasive. . . I was weak.

"Well okay," I finally agreed, and added, "but my wife won't like it."

After a few restorative brandies, and some creative putting lessons, I thanked my host, "I feel a lot better now, but I know my wife is going to be really upset."

"Don't be silly!" Monica said with a smile, "she won't know anything, by the way, where is she?"

"Under the cart" I said.....



A Very Merry Christmas to Everyone