



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	027 203 5508	Committee:	
Treasurer:	Libby Lyver	021 137 1488	Alison Philcox	021 257 6741
Secretaries:)	Helene Harper	838 6742	Vonnie Hill	021 399 139
)	June Bell	817 3093	Gerry Smith	520 5795
New Membership:	Raywyn Brinsden	021 455 863	Mike Maran	846 5350
Newsletter	Alan Grigg	027 493 6850	Hillary Scott	021 258 4186
Website:			Peter Gerrard	0276 964 997
			Janice Calvert	0274 605 704
			Ann Melrose	021 157 6005

Our account details: ASB Bank 12-3014-0118011-00

**For internet banking - state the event you are paying for. If paying your subs please enter invoice number
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 2015 – January 2016

XMAS PARTY/CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH

Saturday 5th December at 10am

TUAC Annual Xmas Party at Cornwall Park

An email will be sent to all those who have RSVP'd Yes, with a map of which picnic spot has been chosen for this event. Please let me know if you are vegetarian.

Secret Santa present: This year you can either re-gift something that you have been given that you didn't want/like or need (can be any value but must be unused and preferably still in its packaging) **or** you can buy a \$5 gift.

Bring: Deck chair, wine glass and a Secret Santa present (as above)

Cost: Nil for the brunch / \$5 for Secret Santa gift

Contact: David Verrall – 027 203 5508 or gundesevrrall@xtra.co.nz



WEST COAST WILDERNESS CYCLING TRAIL & ARTHURS PASS DAY WALKS

Saturday 26th December 2015 to 4th January 2016

Basic itinerary – 26th December fly to Christchurch, shuttle to Greymouth and spend four days cycling the West Coast Wilderness Trail 31st December - Shuttle to Arthurs Pass and spend four days doing day walks from Arthurs Pass to Mt Aspiring relaxing

Contact: Jeanette 416 5574 or jeanettemc@orcon.net.nz



QUEEN CHARLOTTE SOUNDS

Tuesday 29th December 2015 to Saturday 2nd January 2016

A standard 5 day Independent Walk Package, 4 days tramping - 3 days tramping (3rd day a long 8 hour tramp) to The Portage, stay for 2 days over New Year then the final day to Anakiwa.



CYCLE RIDE WITH COMBINED WINE TASTING SWANSON TO KUMEU

Saturday 16th January at 10am

A cycle ride with a difference. Meet at 10am and park at the Metro carpark on Swanson Road. The Metro carpark is free and is located behind the Challenge Petrol Station, which is just before the Swanson Railway Station. From here we will cycle along Swanson Road on the footpath, then turn into Waitakere Road which is a quiet rural road cycling through Taupaki onto the Kumeu main road roundabout. From here we will cycle on the footpath to our 1st wine tasting at Soljans, then our 2nd wine tasting at Kumeu Winery Estate. We can have lunch after at the Bakehouse Cafe in Kumeu or bring your own lunch and have it in the Taupaki Domain

Further Info: The cycle ride is approx 14 km one way. Waitakere Rd is mainly flat with only 2 moderate hills each way. Although there are no cycle lanes, if we cycle in a single file with hi-vis jackets we should be safe. Lunch stop at Soljans is not recommended as it is up market and you need to book in advance. For those who do not have a car and want to join us for wine tasting, you are welcome. Please note the wineries charge for wine tasting - 6 different varieties

Bring: Your bike, snacks, water, hi-vis vest
Lunch if you are not eating at the cafe.
Cost: Soljans \$6 per person. Kumeu Estate \$5 per person. Cost of lunch.
Pay by: Pay direct to Wineries.
Confirm by: Please let Mike know a few days in advance before so he can advise the wineries of the numbers and arrival time.

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



XMAS IN THE PARK REHEARSAL

Auckland Domain - Friday 11th December

A great night to go to this event without the crowds.

Meet from 4.30pm onwards in front of the stage. Look out for the TUAC banner. Remember there is no alcohol allowed at these events, so bring a hip flask.

Bring: Chair, dinner and refreshments

Cost: Free

Contact: June Bell - 021 258 3013 or fiveofsix48@hotmail.com



POT LUCK BEACH BBQ

Kohimarama Beach

Sunday 13th December 2015 from 5pm onwards

Want to take a break from the hectic rush of Xmas shopping? Come along for a pot luck beach BBQ at the yacht club end of Kohni Beach on Tamaki Drive.

Plenty of parking available. Join in the fun of beach volleyball or frisbee, swim or just relax with a glass of wine in your beach chair. If enough people attending, fun games may be organised. Will be held unless raining too heavily as we have the large club gazebo to shelter under this year.

Bring: Your own meat, cutlery, glass & plate, alcohol & chair and plate to share. Please indicate what type of plate you are bringing so I can co-ordinate food so we don't double up. Please bring serving utensils for your shared dish.

Cost: Free

Confirm by: Friday 11th December

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



NEW LYNN HISTORICAL AND ECO WALK

Wolverton Street Olympic Park Childrens' Playground
Saturday 23rd January at 10am



Meet and park at the entrance to the playground where you will see a large spiders web from the road.

There is plenty of off street parking. Mike will have a TUAC parking sign beside the entrance.

Walk and explore the historical and ecological parts of New Lynn that you never knew that existed. We will walk through newly planted native trees, on to explore the New Lynn eco and environment house and the vege gardens. On to the last remnants of the old Crown Lynn Pottery then through a wet land area. Cross the road and walk behind the shops, through the old Bus company depot and down to see the new 'underground' rail station, before going through more re-generating native bushland back to the carpark at Olympic Park.

This is an easy walk and should take us about 2 - 2½ hours.

Bring: Water, snacks and good walking shoes, sunhat.

Cost: Nil. Cost of morning tea, if we decide to stop at one of the many cafes

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

TIMBER TRAIL MOUNTAIN BIKE RIDE

Saturday 30th January to Monday 1st February 2016
Pureora Forest, King Country



A mountain biker's paradise.

Saturday – a short loop ride through the Pureora Forest viewing the buried forest and historic sites.

Sunday – mountain bike part of the Timber Trail from Piropiro to Ongarue including the North Island's longest swing bridge.

Monday – short local walk or ride planned then return to Auckland.

Accommodation is Twin share at The Forge, Blackfern Lodge, Waimiha Valley with full kitchen facilities and BBQ available to use.

Carpooling from Auckland arranged – shared cost.

Bring: Own mountain bike and cycling gear, backpack, wet weather gear (just in case) and hiking boots/shoes. Optional mountain bike hire on site. Price on request.

Towel and sleeping bag or sheets and duvet.

Own food for 2 breakfasts, 3 lunches and snacks and own alcohol.

Dinner is a choice of BYO for 2 nights or you can order a wonderful home cooked meal. Just the thing after a days' riding. Price on request.

Cost: \$40.00 per night per person twin share (own ensuite).

Shuttle from Ongarue to Blackfern Lodge after ride \$40.00 per person.

Optional ride to the start of the trail at Piropiro in "Eddie the bush loco" \$5.00 per person.

Confirm by: 15th December 2015. Limited spaces available.

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

RIVER SLEDGING

Kaituna, Rotorua
Saturday 13th February 2016

No experience necessary as instruction is given. Awesome scenery as you negotiate your way down the river and through rapids propelled by the flippers on your feet and under the care and supervision of our guides. I love it so much, I am going back for more! See www.kaitiaki.co.nz/sledging.

Carpooling available

Bring: Bathing suit and towel

Cost: \$109

Pay by: ASAP to confirm place

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

V8 JET BOAT SPRINTS, DRAGWAY ROAD, MEREMERE

Sunday 14th February 11am - 4pm



This is the best action powered sport you will ever see. A day of fast moving spectacular thrills and excitement. The motorised jet boats go round at extreme speeds on a figure 8 and multi bend water canals. The canals on a purpose built natural amphitheatre next to the Waikato River. For the audience there is an excellent vantage and viewing points from all locations.

Further info: Dragway Road is located on the right hand side just past the old Meremere Power Station on State Highway 1. There is plenty of parking on site. For those wanting to carpool, I suggest we meet at 10am and park at Countdown Greenlane. Let Mike know. He can take 6 extra passengers. For those driving direct, meet at the entrance to Dragway Road at 11am.

Bring: Water, sunscreen, deck chairs, sun umbrella lunch or snacks. There are food caterers on site.

Cost: \$20 entry includes car parking

Pay by: Direct to gate attendants

Confirm: Please advise Mike if you are driving direct or prefer to car pool. We can also leave earlier than the last race if you have had your fill of thrills and spills.

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

BURGER & OUTDOOR BOWLS, ONEHUNGA BOWLING CLUB

146 Selwyn Street, Onehunga – Off Mt Smart Road
Friday 19th February 2016 at 6pm



Bring: Wear flat shoes

Cost: \$15.00 (Includes bowls, burger and tuition). Pay on the evening

Confirm by: 7th February 2016

Contact: Ann - 021 157 6005, 636 5417 or annmelrose@gmail.com

WIND SURFING AND STAND UP PADDLING

Sylvan Park car park at end of Sylvan Park Road, Milford
Saturday 20th February 2016



Meet at 10.30am for an 11am start. Two hours windsurfing or SUP or both. Instruction is given if required. Wetsuits and equipment is supplied.

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. See www.madloop.co.nz

Bring: Bathing suit and towel.

Cost: \$50.00. Lunch at your cost

Pay by: 5th February or sooner

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

SHAKESPEARE'S TWELFTH NIGHT

Pop-Up Globe Theatre (To be built in the carpark at the rear of Q Theatre and The Basement Theatre at 38 Greys Ave.)
Saturday 27th Feb 2016 at 8pm



Experience Shakespeare's brilliant comedy in the temporary full scale replica of the Globe Theatre that was originally built in 1614. I will book the Gentlemen's room on the middle gallery (up 1 staircase) for the first 6 people that pay. This is a private room overlooking the stage. Catering can be arranged for canapés and cocktails, room service will be available throughout the evening and dessert can be served during the interval. Don't know prices of these extras yet. If that is booked out, then I will book the Upper Gentleman's room on the upper gallery (3rd level up 2 staircases). If that is booked out 3rd option is the B reserve seats as I don't fancy standing for 2 hours in the "Penny stinkards" in the Groundlings. See www.popupglobe.co.nz

Bring: All seated areas are roofed but dress warmly as it may get cold later on.

Cost: \$114.00 each

Pay by: As soon as possible. Seats are going fast.

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

KUAOTUNU CAMPING WEEKEND COROMANDEL

33 Bluff Rd, Kuaotunu (off SH 25)
Friday 4th March to Sunday 6th March 2016



Campervans, campers or cabin hire (2-4 people) each campsite maximum 4 people.

The campsite has fully equipped kitchens, eating areas, BBQ, showers etc. Luke's Kitchen, Café/pizza place and store in Kuaotunu -5 mins up the road. Café and shops in Matarangi

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

Optional walk on Saturday morning - Kauri2000, (see video on website below) <http://www.kauri2000.co.nz/video-kauri2000.html> Walk is 6.4km, lunch en route in the Wetland

Bike Ride 1 possibility - 7-8 km ride to Otama beach. Lunch and walk along beach and same distance back - total 14-16km

Bring: Camping - tents, bedding etc. Food for breakfasts, lunches. Shared BBQ on Saturday night. More details nearer the time.

Cost: Campers and caravans \$20 per person per night. Cabins from \$65 per person in a double unit. Less if 4 in a unit.

Expressions of interest asap. I will organise the shared cabin bookings. Please let me know if willing to share cabins.

Contact: Hillary Scott - 021 258 4186 or hillary.scott.54@gmail.com

GIBBS SCULPTURE FARM

2421 Kaipara Coast Highway 16
Thursday 17th March 2016, 10am - 2pm



Visit this amazing farm of artwork, which is the biggest artwork artists have ever produced in NZ in a demanding landscape. This is a private property open to the general public monthly. Limited to 12 participants

Meet at the Kaukapakapa Hall at 9 30am. It is a 13km drive to the farm.

Bring: Good walking shoes, water and lunch, and camera.

There are no facilities on the property.

Cost: Free

Confirm by: 10th March 2016

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



TAWHARANUI REGIONAL PARK CAMPING WEEKEND

Auckland Regional Park, 1181 Takatu Road, Tawharanui
Friday 18th March to Sunday 20th March 2016

(Please note change of date)

Tawharanui Regional Park boasts some of Auckland's most beautiful white sandy beaches, rolling pastures, shingle bays, native coastal forest and regenerating wetlands.

Beachfront campsite facilities include toilets, tables, water, outdoor shower, walking in native sanctuary for NZ birdlife, canoeing and safe sandy swimming tidal beach.

See web site <http://www.arc.govt.nz/>

Bring: All camping gear/ tents/ gas stove or BBQ. Swimming togs, walking shoes, kayak if you want to. Own food/drink as nearest shop is Matakana.

Shared meal on Saturday night.

Cost: \$15 per night per person.

Pay by: Please pay TUAC ASAP as I have only 16 sites booked and paid for already.

Location: Take State Highway 1 North to Warkworth. Follow the signs to Matakana. Just past Matakana turn right at the Omaha turnoff, drive along Takatu Road and the Tawharanui Park is well sign posted.

(Note: The last 6km is narrow gravel road.)

Contact: David Verrall – 09 426 9588, 027 203 5508 or

gundesenverrall@xtra.co.nz



THE BIG EASY, NAPIER

Easter 2016 Friday 25th March to Monday 28th March 2016

Save the date for this event. The motel units are already booked! Bring your bike for the 45km Big Easy ride from Havelock North to Napier. This is run on Easter Saturday and includes a concert in one of the vineyards after the ride. Lots of buskers en route while biking along Napier's fabulous bike paths. Other activities will be planned over the weekend.

Costs: To be advised when they come to hand

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



We have just spent a fabulous 2 days at Thames having demonstrations of making 5 different cheeses. Great for people who have had this on their bucket lists or who are into natural products, foodie things that go with wine... Carol & David V

CHEESEMAKING DEMONSTRATION COURSES

by Katherine Mowbray - Renowned Cheesemaker
11 Edgewater Grove, Orewa

Friday 8th April 2016 6:30pm to 8:30pm - Mozzarella

Saturday 9th April 2016 10:30am to 2pm - Feta, Halloumi, Ricotta & Mascarpone

Friday night - Mozzarella is a wonderful little hand stretched cheese that follows many of the important steps of the cheesemaking process. It only requires 2 litres of milk so that within 1 hour and a half you can be eating the cheese. Very exciting!

Saturday - Make and eat 4 more cheeses - Feta, Halloumi, Ricotta, Mascarpone. It's a very social lunch with bread, crackers and a glass of wine

Bring: Pen and paper to add your own notes to provided recipes. BYO wine if wanted.

Cost: Friday night \$30
Saturday \$120. Attend both sessions for \$150 and you also get Katherine's Making Cheese at Home book worth \$30

Pay by: 23rd March 2016

Confirm by: 23rd March 2016 but please contact David if you are interested so we can get an idea of numbers.

Contact: David Verrall – 027 203 5508, 09 426 9588 preferred if you are leaving a message or gundesenverrall@xtra.co.nz



BRISBANE CYCLE TOUR

Saturday 20th August to Sunday 28th August 2016

Expressions of interest are wanted for this week long bike tour covering the Brisbane city bike paths and incorporating the Whale Trail Tour. The tour will be personalised for TUAC members by Bushranger Bikes. Great cycling, fantastic accommodation and food, and a brilliant package that offers the ultimate relaxing cycling adventure holiday, sun, sand, blue water and skies and whales – perfect! Dates have been firmed up and given to our personal tour guide who is coming up with a plan so work around these dates. Aiming to arrive in Brisbane Sat 20th and depart Sunday 28th. Only a few places left so get in quick.

Further details: Check out their website for more info on the Whale Trail component of this tour.

<http://www.bushrangerbikes.com.au/Southeastqldwhaletrail.htm>

Costs: Work on around \$2000 all-inclusive plus return airfares

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



WORLD OF WEARABLE ARTS, WELLINGTON

Friday 30th September to 2nd October 2016

Show is Saturday 1st October at 8pm Expressions of interest please ASAP as tickets go on sale in January and sell out fast.

We have chosen to go for the best seating possible. When there is a list of participants we will meet to discuss travel dates and accommodation. Some may go on Friday and others Saturday.

Cost: Ticket for show \$170 - for premium plus seating.

Airfare and accommodation extra.

Pay for ticket by 15th January 2016 to secure your place.

Please remember if you book this event, and find yourself unable to go, it will be your responsibility to find a replacement, and honour your accommodation booking.

Contact: June Bell - 021 258 3013 or fiveofsix48@hotmail.com or Libby Lyver - 021 137 1488 or libby.lyver@gmail.com



JOKE

A senior citizen was driving down the motorway way when his wife called his cell phone.

"Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on Route 280. Please be careful!"

"It's not just one car," said Herman, "It's hundreds of them!"



A Very Merry Christmas to Everyone

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."