



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

February - March 2015

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



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

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

TAKAPUNA TO DEVONPORT CYCLE RIDE

Saturday 7th February at 10am

Meet and park in Eldon Street which is off Esmonde Road. From here we will ride the cycle trail and do a return loop via the North Shore beaches.

The trail is well signposted and mostly flat. The cycle lanes are designated on shared footpaths through the quiet back streets, through the boardwalk bridges over the mangroves and through some of the local parks. From Devonport we will detour on the cycle lanes to the end of Stanley Point for a rest stop and stunning harbour views at Cyril Bassett Lookout. Return to Devonport and continue cycling to the end of King Edward Parade. A rest stop to look at some of NZ's naval history at the Naval Museum (free entry) and then brunch at the Navy cafe on site. From here we will return via Narrow Neck across Lake Rd to re-connect with the cycleway and return to Eldon Street about 1pm. The route also includes some of the best examples of Victorian Villas, bungalows and modern millionaire houses. Mike is also negotiating with the Harbourside Church on Esmonde Road to see if we can park in their large carpark. If ok will contact participants prior.

Bring: Your bicycle, water, snacks

Cost: The cost of brunch

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



MUSIC IN THE PARKS - HOT DIGGITY & TWISTIN' THE SWING

Nathan Homestead, Manurewa

Sunday 1st February, 3pm - 5pm

Come along and hear the music. The repertoire of Twistin' the Swing is a great mixture of world and gypsy swing music. Hot Diggity is the only all female bluegrass band currently playing in New Zealand.

See Auckland City Council 'Music in the Parks' website

Bring: Food and drink.

Cost: Free

Please let me know if you are coming so we can be on the look out for you.

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



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 for 1.1kms 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 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

LUNCH AT SKY TOWER – ORBIT 360 RESTAURANT

Cnr of Federal and Victoria Streets, Auckland

Sunday 8th February at 12pm

Take the time to relax and savour 360 degree views of Auckland city while enjoying a delicious stand out dining experience

www.skycityauckland.co.nz/restaurants/orbit/

Complimentary admission to the Sky Tower's Main Observation Level is available for Orbit diners 45 minutes prior to your reservation and/or upon completion of dining.

Bring: Yourself and a friend

Cost: Express lunch menu \$49.00.

Confirm by: 1st February

Pay: On the day

Contact: Raywyn - raywynbrinsden@gmail.com



MIDGE MARSDEN SUPPORTED BY RICK BRYANT & THE JIVE BOMBERS



Blockhouse Bay Reserve, 69-79 Endeavour St, Blockhouse Bay
Friday 13th February 6pm - 9pm

Come along to hear the music and move your feet! Arrive early and bring some food and drink.

Auckland City Council's most requested Music in Parks performer, Midge remains New Zealand's pre-eminent rhythm and blues artist. His combination of excellent musicians and unstoppable energy combine to guarantee a great show every time. Coffee and dessert afterwards at Suzanne's house in Blockhouse Bay

Bring: Food, drink, chair or blanket

Cost: Free

Contact: Suzanne Caron – 828 8506, 021 175 6994 or suzannecrn@yahoo.com

WINDSURFING AND STAND UP PADDLING

Sylvan Park, at the bottom of Sylvan Park Ave, Milford
Saturday 14th February



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: ASAP

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

HAURAKI RAIL TRAIL CYCLE RIDE

Paeroa to Waihi by bike and train
Sunday 15th February at 10am



Meet and park at the L&P Café/Information Centre located at 2 Seymour Street, Paeroa (cnr SH2). Hire bikes are available at the information centre for \$45 per day. The cycle trail is classed as Grade 1, easy and starts opposite the information Centre.

From here we will cycle through the spectacular Karangahake Gorge. We will cycle over the suspension bridges past old quarry and battery sites plus a waterfall. Continue cycling to the Waikino Rail Station and then on to Waihi (2 hours).

Lunch stop at one of the cafes in Waihi. Time permitting we can visit the lookout at the Martha Open Cast Gold Mine.

We will then cycle to the Waihi railway station to take the 1.45pm Goldfields Railway. We can transport our bikes on the train back to Waikino for the 1/2 hour nostalgic rail journey. Unload our bikes at Waikino and cycle back to return to Paeroa about 4pm

The trail is recommended for bikes with thicker or larger road tyres.

You should leave Auckland about 8.30am. For those without bikes and wanting to hire or carpool please let Mike know so that he can reserve for you.

Bring: Camera, clothing suitable for bikes, shoes, water and snacks.

Cost: Hire of bikes \$45 per day. (Optional).

Goldfields Railway \$12 one way plus \$2 for bikes
Cost of lunch.

Pay by: Pay direct to the hire shop and railway

The Goldfields railway wagon has a limit of 25 bicycles which I have reserved for TUAC members. Therefore the maximum number of people for this event will be capped at 25. At the time of printing we have 15 members booked. If intending to come please inform Mike ASAP

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

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 joining a stage set, with over 200 events including art exhibitions, concerts, dinner dance extravaganzas, vintage car parades, fashions 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.

Accommodation is a limited 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.

Cost: To be advised when programme is published

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



FULLY BOOKED

MUSIC IN THE PARKS - MOTOWN STYLE BIG BANDS RHYTHM BLUES SOUL PICNIC EVENING

Coyle Park, Pt Chevalier

Saturday 21st February 5pm - 8pm

Come to Coyle Park on the beach at the end of Point Chevalier ready for the best in live performances from Sal Valentine and the Baby Shakes - rhythm and blues with a quartet of horns, piano, double bass, supported by Motor City Family Funk 9 piece Motown Style band and Hipstamatics another 9 piece soul and funk group. Get ready to sing and dance!

Look for the TUAC banner.

Bring: Picnic food, drink, chair or blanket

Cost: Free (food and drink available from stalls at the venue)

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



BURGER, BOWLS & BEVERAGES

Onehunga Bowling Club, 146 Selwyn Street, Onehunga
Friday 27th February



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 1 1/2 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 February

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

CORNERSHOP CONFESSIONS

Uxbridge Arts Centre, 35 Uxbridge Rd, Howick

Saturday 28th February - Dinner 6pm, Show starts 7.30pm

Vijay is a budding DJ trying to break away from his father's store and make his own way in the world. His father struggles with his son's ambitions and is troubled at the prospect of having no-one to continue his legacy, the shop. With a grandmother who can't speak English, a sister who is not married and a desperately subservient mother this is a funny show with a big heart.

Meet at 6pm for a meal at 'Bollywood' (across the road from the Uxbridge).

Further info: See Uxbridge website.

Cost: Please could anyone interested book their own ticket.

Phone 535 6467 and we will meet on the day

Please let Hillary know who is coming by 14th Feb, for Bollywood booking

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



HERITAGE TRAIL

Shakespeare 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, spectacular views over Auckland and the islands of the Hauraki Gulf. The track is a moderate 4km of undulating terrain and is approx 2 hours return. After our walk we will have lunch at one of the cafes at Gulf Harbour Marina.

Further info: Drive to the end of Whangaparaoa Road and park in the Waterfall Gully car park. 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 – 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. 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



ROGER HALL'S PLAY *A SHORTCUT TO HAPPINESS*

Lopdell House Theatre, Titirangi
Saturday 14th March

Dinner at Handi Tandori next to Gull Station Titirangi at 6pm followed by the show at 8pm. Join in for this great comedy, should be a good night out.

Cost: \$20

Pay by: 15th February to secure your seat
Please let me know if you wish to join in for dinner.

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



MANGAWHAI WALKING WEEKEND

Friday to Sunday 27th – 29th March

Go to www.mangawhaiwalkingweekend.co.nz for information on the walks.

3 new walks are being offered. There will be information about the programme including Friday's Troubadour trail, the Art Trail, and the wine and food festival. Bookings usually become available in early January

Free camping available at Mangawhai

Cost: By choice of activities

Contact: June Bell - 817 3093, 021 258 0313 or
fiveofsix48@hotmail.com Please head TUAC



DUDER REGIONAL PARK

21st March at 10am

Experience the Hauraki Gulf without leaving the mainland. This is the only walk with guaranteed spectacular 360 degree views of the inner Hauraki Gulf and islands most of the way. The gentle undulating walk includes a walk to the summit, farm roads, bush, rolling pasture, sandy beaches and includes a Maori pa on the headland. We will return via the coastal beach by sliding down a grass bank. The walk is 8kms and will take us about 2½ to 3 hrs return. Lunch stop will be on the headland and we can stop on the way back at Maraetai for coffee.

The park is located 6kms from Maraetai beach. Drive to Whitford, continue on the Whitford Maraetai coastal road to Umupuia. The park entrance is signposted just 5 mins drive south from Umupuia.

For those wanting to carpool meet at McDonalds/Countdown carpark in Greenlane at 9am. Please advise Mike in advance

Bring: Comfortable walking shoes/boots. lunch, water, snacks and sunscreen

Cost: The cost of your own lunch/coffee at a Maraetai cafe afterwards or a donation of petrol money if carpooling.

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



KUAOTUNU CAMPING WEEKEND, COROMANDEL

33 Bluff Rd, Matarangi (off SH 25)

Friday 21st March to Sunday 23rd March

Places for 12 people (or 16 if needed)

Each campsite is on the edge of a stream and has a maximum of 4. 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 19 km bike ride. More details nearer the time. www.kcq2008.com

Bring: Camping: tents, bedding etc.

Food for breakfasts, lunches

We will have a shared BBQ on Saturday night

Cost: \$20 per person per night.

Buses and campervans welcome

To confirm your booking by the 31st January

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



BALLOONS OVER WAIKATO

Hamilton – Waikato University

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th March

Depending on what time you reach Hamilton, you could squish in a walk through the 38 hectares of Hamilton Gardens which consists of 18 beautifully landscaped themed gardens from Chinese and Japanese contemporary gardens to Italian Renaissance and Maori gardens. From 4pm – 9pm, as part of the University's 50th birthday, they are celebrating the last 5 decades of music from the 60's through to today's hits. Includes Total Addiction, Enigma, SQZ, and The Monroe's.

At 7.45pm the Night Glow starts. 8.20pm Fireworks, 8.30–9pm afterglow and more music.

Monday morning we can get up early and go to Innes Common to watch the balloons flying over or go to their great Farmers market at Te Rapa race course 8am–12pm or both.

Car pooling can be arranged.

Further info: www.ballonsoverwaikato.co.nz

Bring: Overnight stuff and something warm for Saturday night. Maybe bring a rug or something to sit on for Saturday night. **Cost:**

Accommodation for Saturday night yet to be arranged and meals

Pay by: 6th March 2015

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



EASTER AT WHITE ISLAND & WHAKATANE EAST COAST

Friday 3rd to Sunday 6th April

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

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

MYSTERY WEEKEND

Saturday April 25th to Monday April 27th (ANZAC Weekend)

Bring along your sense of adventure! Come for an active weekend!

The mystery is that you won't know where you'll be going or what you will be doing until two weeks beforehand when we will send out an information pack. A choice of fun activities planned!

Bring: To be advised in information pack

Cost: Approximate cost for 2 nights accommodation \$72 per person per

night – 3 in a room

\$80 per person per night – 2 in a room.

Breakfast included. Exact costs will be worked out when numbers known

Budget accommodation also available

Optional extras: \$40. Dinners a la carte for Sat. and Sun nights.

Further food requirements advised in information pack.

Carpooling can be arranged

Confirm & pay by: ASAP, but no later than Friday 27th March

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

Hillary Scott – 021 258 4186 or hillary.scott.54@gmail.com

COMING UP IN MAY

WALKING 'CAR' RALLY BY FOOT IN THE CBD

Saturday 2nd May at 2pm from the Britomart Rail Station.

Details in the next newsletter

Co leaders - Mike Maran & Helene Harper.

EDUCATIONAL AND INFORMATIVE GUIDED VOLCANO WALK
ON MANGERE MOUNTAIN with Geologist Murray Baker

Saturday 30th May

Details in the next newsletter.

Co leaders - Mike Maran & Murray Baker

JOKE

A young lady was eating lunch alone at a restaurant and couldn't help overhearing a discussion among four men at a neighbouring table
Said the first man "just spell it the simplest possible way: W O O M"
"There's a B in it, you dope" said the second. "It's spelled W O O M B"
"You don't have enough letters," objected the third. "I think it ought to be spelled W O O M M B"
"Nonsense," said the fourth, "It's ridiculous to put in all those letters, besides, there's a final R. It's W O M B R R"
The young lady could stand it no more. Having finished her meal, she approached the other table and said, "Gentlemen, if you'll consult the dictionary, you'll find that the word is spelled W O M B. That's all", and she walked away.

The men gazed after her with astonishment.

"Do you suppose she's right?" asked one.

"How can she be?" said a second. "A slip of a girl like that!

I'm sure that never in her whole life has she heard an elephant fart."

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."