Coming on trips - Please remember to contact the trip co-ordinator at least two days before a day tramp or oneweek before an overnight tramp. If the weather forecast looks bad, contact the co-ordinator anyway as sometimes tramps are rescheduled. **Tramps are graded 1 to 5.**

Please note: Trip coordinators are required to fill in the Trip Intentions Form (attached) before their trip, and email it to the contacts on the form. Also please read the Expectations of Trip Coordinators (page 5). The trip leader is responsible to be accurate with trip grading and description. The grading details in the newsletter are for assistance with this only. Happy tramping!

.........And a big thank you for all your wonderful trip reports and photos!

**P R O G R A M M E**

Friday 25 - Saturday 27 September - Wangapeka, Luna Tops and Mt Patriarch * Grade 4 - postponed due to weather forecast for Friday and Sunday.

**Instead, two days trips are on offer this Saturday 26 September:**

**Saturday 26 September - Mt Stevens *Grade 3-4**

The route up onto Mt Stevens, at 1300m the highest point in the Wakamarama Range, provides wonderful views of the Aorere Valley, south to Gouland Downs and the West Coast. The route is steep in places so you need to have a good standard of fitness. Plan for a **full day trip** and allow 3–5 hours to reach the summit and approx 3 hrs down again. Carry drinks, plenty of food & warm gear. **Petrol $13.**

**Saturday 26 September - Iron Hill Circuit * Grade 3**

Early start to get up to Lake Sylvester, then on to Iron Lake outlet before climbing the cairned route onto Iron Hill for spectacular views. We will follow the ridge down to access Iron Stream and return via Sylvester Hut. A very satisfying
Saturday 3 October - Kayak trip to Muddy River (Whanganui Inlet)

Kayak up the Muddy River on the high tide – approximate trip time is 3 hours, excluding travel time. Beautiful native bush, an opportunity to explore this part of Golden Bay by kayak. Petrol costs and transport to be organised. Please text Cathy 021 999 015.

Friday 9 - Monday 12 October Richmond Ranges * Grade 4-5

From the Hackett it’s a long climb to Mt Starveall before following the tops around, taking in Slaty Peak and Mt Rintoul. Views, views, views. Exit via the Wairoa River. This track has the reputation as being one of the most scenic (and most difficult) parts of Te Araroa. Cosy hut accommodation. Petrol cost $15. Phone Gaylene 022 170 7398 or email at beachgums@gmail.com

Sunday 18 October – Pigeon Saddle – Gibbs Hill – Wainui Bay Circuit* Grade 2

We’ll drop a car at the Wainui entrance to the Abel Tasman Track, then drive up to start walking from Pigeon Saddle. The first part of the walk is through beautiful mature bush, then we follow a ridgeline over Gibbs Hill to meet up with the track from Wainui over to Whariwharangi. A beautiful stroll on a late spring day. Approx 4 hours walk, plus travel. Petrol cost $7. Phone Julie 027 779 9999, or email julie.sherratt@xtra.co.nz

Thursday 24 - Saturday 26 October Luna Tops - 3 days * Grade 4

Celebrate daylight saving with a three day tramp. Day 1- Wangapeka Track to Stone Hut on a high standard track. Day 2 - Climb up to the Luna Tops for wonderful views over the Upper Karamea and Mt Owen, partially tracked. Stay at Kiwi Saddle hut. Day 3 - Starting through gorgeous sub-alpine forest, climbing to the tops and up Mt Patriarch. Walk a wee way along the ridge before descending.
down Gibbs Track to re-join the Wangapeka Track and head out. *Petrol cost and transport – to be organised.* Phone Gaylene 022 170 7398 or email at beachgums@gmail.com

**Sunday 1 November - (and/or Monday 30 November) – Full moon trip to Mt Arthur with an option to include Flora * Grade 3**

Another try for this amazing adventure, hoping for clear skies for the full moon. To Mt Arthur hut, up to Mt Arthur after dark, and back to the hut for the night. You are welcome even if you only want to go as far as the hut. If weather not suitable, we will try again. *Petrol $20. Phone Brian 525 8515*

**Sunday 8 November - Anatori to Paturau Beach Clean-up * Grade 2**

This trip was postponed last programme due to low numbers so offering again. Let’s revive this long standing annual GBATC tradition and enjoy a wonderful day exploring the wild west coast, and at the same time pick up some of the rubbish that lodges in the driftwood and threatens our native wildlife. Low tide at midday should give us plenty of time to cover this stretch. It’s an easy stroll, lots of fun and amazing what a difference an enthusiastic group can make! A full day’s expedition. *Petrol cost $20. Phone Julie 027 779 9999, or email julie.sherratt@xtra.co.nz*

**Saturday 21 - Sunday 22 November - Lake Angelus (2 Days) * Grade 3**

Along Robert Ridge to Angelus Basin for the night, then out via Speargrass Valley. Beautiful scenery, largely on the tops. Hugely popular for a good reason. *Petrol cost/transport – to be organised.* **Contact Gaylene on 022 170 7398 or beachgums@gmail.com**

**Tuesday 24 Tuesday – Club Night**

Guest Speaker Dave Melville will take us on a mountaineering adventure; a Grand Traverse of Mt Cook from the Hooker Valley to Plateau Hut via NW Couloir and Linda Glacier, with a bivy on the summit just for good measure. Same place same time – 7.30 pm at the Community Centre (behind the Brigand).
Monday 30 November - Wednesday 2 December - Kahurangi Point *

Grade 2-3

A two night/three day trip to this beautiful and iconic part of Golden Bay. This is a combined Tramping Club and Wednesday Walker's Group trip with beach walking and river crossings, so be prepared for wet feet. It is essential to work as a team so listening to the leader/guide Paul Kilgour is a requirement for participation. The former lighthouse keepers house is now a cosy DOC hut and pre-purchase of hut tickets (Takaka I-site) for overnight stay is necessary. Road end for cars is at the Anatori River. From there allow 5 hours walking to Big River. We need to be there for low tide so I suggest departing Takaka at 9.30 am. High clearance 4WD vehicles and competent drivers prepared to travel to Turimawiwi River could save us 1 1/2 hour of walking (Subarus and Suzukis need not apply!). The day at Kahurangi will be spent exploring locally: hidden waterfall and deep pool, secret cave, big sand dune and the lighthouse. Kahawai have been caught off rocks (you may want to bring your own fishing gear). Tempted?

*Petrol costs about $24 to Turimawiwi/ transport to be organised.* Wednesday Walker's phone: Christine or Erhard – 525 8372. For Tramping Club members: phone Paul - 525 7383.

5-6 December Navigation Weekend 2 days * Grade 3

Over Iron Hill and along the ridge to Ruby Lake to camp, then back via Lake Lockett. From Iron Lake we will be off track, learning how to navigate using map and compass. This trip will cater for all levels of navigation experience. *Petrol costs about $15/ transport to be organised.* Contact Gaylene 022 170 7398 or beachgums@gmail.com

Saturday 12 December (or alternative date is Sunday 13 December if weather dictates) – Asbestos Cottage – Cobb Ridge circuit* Grade 3

Walk through pretty beech forest, visit the site of the asbestos mine and explore the historical home of the Chaffeys, then climb into alpine country for views of mountains and the Cobb reservoir. Depending on numbers this trip could be done as a crossover, or I can relocate the car to enable a round trip. A full day including travel. *Petrol costs $15. Phone Julie 027 779 9999, or email julie.sherratt@xtra.co.nz*
**Wednesday 16 December - Crusader * Grade 5+**

This is a 12-13 hour day tramp with route finding as there is no track for most of it. You need to be fit, slightly crazy, GSOH and up for some fun. This will be exhilarating & rewarding & exhausting. We go up Lodestone then across to McMahon then up to Crusader. You will never look at Crusader the same way again. There is no water on this trip so you will need to carry a LOT. *Petrol costs about $15/ transport to be organised.* Text **Cathy 021 999 015** if interested.

**For the spontaneous tramers: The Kaituna Crossing will be offered again plus the Gibbs Hill tranline**

Trip leader Fiona Cameron prefers to phone anyone interested when the weather looks good and just get out there. So if interested to do the Kaituna (8-9 hrs) or the Abel Tasman tranlines (5-6 hrs) please contact **Fiona by phone 525 7376** or email **ficamrn@gmail.com** to register your interest.
Trip Reports

Saturday 4 July- Rangihaeata to Collingwood coastal walk

At one stage 8 people had expressed interest, however on the morning of the trip, only 2 others arrived at Paul and Janet's, one on foot and the other on an electric bicycle. So Fiona, Nigel Ritson, and Paul (scribe) were off, though quickly realising that Onahau estuary was still much too high for wading (summer time activity!). So Janet kindly drove them to Paton's Rock where she and Covid-trapped Carol from Madrid joined us until Pariwhakaoho Stream.

Very pleasant stroll along the coast. The sea was calm, shiny/atmospheric with storm clouds on the horizon. Whilst inland, obviously very stormy conditions, and occasional rainbows. Onekaka and Parapara river crossings straight forward although very cold! (winter!). Fiona left us at Parapara to jog back. Nigel and Paul reached Collingwood and met up with Janet - just after all the food/drink places had closed! Another delightful and easy trip.

Sunday 5 - Monday 6 July - Mt Arthur Hut (full moon)

Cancelled due to bad weather. Never give up – it is offered again in November.

Saturday 11 July - Canaan Downs - Bird's Clearing Crossover

Down jackets, beanies and gloves was the dress code for the chilly morning start for the Canaan Downs-Birds Clearing Crossover tramp. Once we’d sorted out the confusion around start time and direction we bundled into our cars and headed in opposite directions. My group of five (Tony, Gaylene, Lis and Rose were the other members) started at Canaan Downs. We admired the frost and views on the walk to the saddle where we grabbed a quick bite before the bush section. It didn’t take long before we emerged into the clearing at Wainui Hut.

Even though it was late morning there was still a lot of frost covering the ground and the temperature difference between sunny and shady areas was remarkable. About ten minutes later the group that had started at Bird’s Clearing arrived. They had a good time and had spotted or heard tui, bellbirds, tomtit, whio, kaka and robins.
We had a leisurely lunch, lingering in the warmth of the sun. Back in the bush we marvelled at the moss-covered trees, fancy ferns and sparkling water of the Wainui Stream. We finished with awesome views over Taupo Point to Farewell Spit.

Peni Connolly, Kirstie MacLeod, John Pemberton, Gita Krenek, Tony Lawton, Gaylene Wilkinson, Rose Roberts, Lis Pederson, Amanda Clarke (writer).
Saturday 18 July - WINTER WARMER - POT LUCK DINNER & CALEIGH
(Un)fortunately no pictures – it was one seriously hot dance party and great dinner. A big thank you to the organisers!

Tuesday 28 July - Taupo Point-Whariwharangi-Gibbs Hill via Trap lines

Tuesday dawned calm and overcast, a perfect day for some semi off-track walking. After a quick bite to eat on the beach at Taupo Point we set off up and over Taupo Hill to Whariwharangi Bay through relatively open bush arriving about an hour later for an early lunch on the beach. By this time the weather had brightened a bit and some intrepid souls decided a quick swim was in order including a local seal. After the swimmers had finally got all the sand out from between their toes and got their boots back on, we headed off up the Whariwharangi - Gibbs Hill trap line, initially following the creek and then up a steepish slope onto a ridge. After topping up our radiators we carried on up the ridge and were soon surrounded by mature native forest including beech, rimu, rata and nikau populated with numerous tui and bellbirds. Also notable were the numerous rimu seedlings and a couple of very large fungi on the tree trunks.

The "teenagers" among us also had fun tracking the route on their topo apps on their phones. Interestingly, all of them had followed the same route! After 2-3 hrs we came to the junction of the Gibbs Hill - Separation Point trap line and soon after that we arrived at the top of Gibbs Hill. After admiring the view over a flat calm Wainui Bay, we trundled off down the track to the Wainui carpark all feeling very satisfied with our wee adventure. An excellent day out, extremely well led by our intrepid leader Fiona along with Carol, Carolyn, Rose, Cathy, John and Dave (trip writer).

Saturday 26 July - Lunar Cliffs/Kaihoka

Joyce Wyllies’ trip on their 1000 hectare farm was billed as a grade 1 walk with plenty to interest and entice along the way. Eight of us took up her offer – guided by Joyce and daughter Mary. Trampers were Shay Oates, Fil and Albie Burgers, Lis Pedersen (writer), Gita Krenek, and Janet Huddleston.

The big news of the day was Joyce seen wearing tramping boots! These however didn’t last long as one boot soon lost its sole – which is what happens when you buy boots from the Hospice Shop I suppose – good thing it happened to Joyce and not one of us tender toes. To keep with the theme of losing things – Fil lost
a lens out of her glasses, but thankfully it was quickly spotted. Later Janet lost her car keys, but realised and backtracked to find them.

Upon arrival, Joyce announced that she’d been thinking white baiting when looking at the tide tables, so looked at high tide time rather than low tide. That meant the tide was already running in and we had to walk along the beach first instead of last. We commenced our walk in mature healthy bush – and Joyce pointed out where a flax mill camp had been – hence the very old trees. Next up was a Maori midden by the edge of the beach where historical items occasionally become uncovered by the tides.

Our beach walk was not as long as originally anticipated as waves meant we couldn’t get around a small headland. So instead we climbed, clambered and clawed out way upwards through a gut of handy bushes to hang on to, flax to bash our way through and more wind swept growth to entrust our lives to. At one point we crawled our way through muddy sheep tracks under low bushes. Good-bye grade 1 walk – hello grade 4 walk.

I think this was the point where Joyce commented she’d never been on this part of her property before!
The adventure continued safely above the Lunar coast – with increasing gale force winds greeting us when we dared poke our heads above the parapet. The views were always stunning, the rock formations fantastic and tempting an exploration.

Lunch was enjoyed in the lea of a sturdy hut, and then ever onwards and upwards to the top of Lunar Cliffs. We attempted to walk the full length of the Lunar Cliffs northwards, exploring towards the very edge, which is now fenced off so the stock can’t fall into the abyss. Without stock grazing, the shrubbery had grown up rather well, so we looked hilarious walking along with only our heads poking out of the bushes.

Orchids were admired before heading south into the wind. Mary guided us through a side trip of interesting rock formations and hanging roots and half the group later descended into a large cave (Pluto’s Retreat) and only turned around by water of unknown depth. Beautiful stalactites festooned the large cave entrance along with one majestic Nikau palm.

Eventually we headed back down the 4WD track to the parked truck, which transported us to Joyce’s house for a well-earned cup of tea and yummy loaf.

Thank you Joyce for a memorable day. I think I can safely say we all enjoyed it – and look forward to the next visit. We probably all slept very well that night!
Saturday 1 August - Te Hapu

Today’s tramp was splendid. And we are not saying that to please our host and guide for the day, Kevin. This is one of the most beautiful, varied and memorable walks we had in months! It’s not every day you get to walk on such a nice and private track with clear red signage and to go down with a ladder into a little canyon covered in nikau palms. You can see sheep everyday - but not that cast sheep we ran into, that could only walk on one side. Sure, you can see limestone everyday, but not these peculiars formations and patterns that you can admire at Te Hapu.

On top of that, when do you get to see a cave with stalactites, a pretty beach with fallen rocks and eat chocolate cookies? Why not come along next time? Who knows, you might even want to scream all your joy and wait for the echo to answer you on the amazing road back through the inlet.

If you don’t trust a couple of tourists, come and see for yourself! Kevin, Janet, Gita - and Alexis and Melanie (Kevin’s WOOFERS and trip writer was Melanie).

Saturday 8 - Lake Sylvester – Iron Hill - Sylvester Hut circuit day trip

The group had swelled to ten by Saturday morning & what a happy bunch of trampers we turned out to be! The happy trampers were Amanda, Gita, Heather, Dave, Lis, Jocelyn, Rose, Kirsty and Cathy (scribe) and Julie (trip coordinator) who had organised amazing weather & good ground conditions – meaning a bit of snow to make it look pretty, but not too much to hinder us.
It was a stunning winter day, little wind, quite sunny & warm for 1500+m in August. We walked up to Sylvester Hut, then headed round Lake Sylvester and up to Iron Lake. We returned to the hut over a knob behind Lake Sylvester.
Friday 14 - Sun 16 August - Flora Hut and surrounds and Saturday 15 August - Totaranui - Separation Point - Wainui Crossover - both trips cancelled.

Saturday 22 August - Kaituna Track Crossover * Grade 3

The Kaituna track day tramp had to be postponed due to heavy rain a few days before which would have made the Kaituna river too difficult to cross. As the forecast for the day was fine it was decided to offer an alternative tramp in the Abel Tasman, following some of the traplines. From Wainui we went up the usual track to the top of Gibb's Hill then took a trampoline track down to the Separation Point junction where we headed down to the beach at Whariwharangi. After quick swim in the sea for a few of us, there was a climb up Taupo Hill on another trapline, and at the top we went across to the firepond coming back out on the Gibb's Hill track down to Wainui. A nice round trip exploring a different part of the Abel Tasman with good company and great weather. Tish, Debbie, Kirsty, Peni and Fiona (scribe).

Saturday 29 August - Anatori to Paturau Beach Clean-up and Saturday 5 September - Mt Stevens - both trips were cancelled due to weather;

Saturday 12 – Sunday 13 September - Snow Skills Training Trip
Cancelled – lack of snow

Sunday 20 September - Haile's Knob * Grade 4

Perfect weather conditions! We met at the Information Centre carpark at 8.00 a.m. and left in two cars for the trip to Upper Takaka. We headed uphill to the north of Hailes Knob, partly on a farm track. A quick morning tea on a handily placed log and then up to the bush line and the long slog through trees in the general direction of the Knob. Many powelliphanta shells about and many horopito shrubs. We stopped for lunch in an open area (with magnificent views all around) just shy of Hailes Knob and then pressed on to our destination.
A good, keen Haile’ Knob team: Julie, David & Julie, Heather, Gita, Tish, Lis, Kirstie (trip reportwriter).

"Of all the paths you take in life, make sure that some of them are dirt"  

John Muir

*** Don't stop reading yet!***

See next pages for "Trip Intentions Form" and for "Expectations of Trip Coordinators"
TRAMP GRADING (approximate)

1 - Easy  
Maximum of 3 hours walking per day, with graded inclines and descents, on well-marked, benched track. Hut accommodation. e.g. Abel Tasman Track and other Great Walks, or Sylvester Hut.

2 - Easy/Moderate  
Maximum of 5 hours walking per day on marked tracks, with graded ascents/descents. Hut accommodation or camping in established campsites. e.g. Fenella Hut.

3 - Moderate  
Maximum of 6 hours walking per day on tracks or marked route. May involve some rough terrain and ascent of up to 900m per day. Hut accommodation or camping. e.g. Waingaro Forks Hut.

4 - Moderate/Hard  
About 8 hours tramping per day, using tracks, routes and sometimes navigating on untracked, rough terrain through bush/scrub. Ascents of up to 1500m per day. Fitness for multi-day trips essential. Often camping. e.g. Haupiri Range

5 - Hard  
8+ hours of tramping per day, regularly navigating on untracked, rough terrain, either in bush or at high altitude. Multiple ascents/descents per day, sometimes steep. Fitness and strength for multi-day trips essential. Usually camping. e.g. Quartz Range Farm to Adelaide Tarn via Lead Hills.

OTHER INFORMATION

Petrol contributions for tramps: The petrol contribution amount for each tramp is a guide only, based on four people in a car. It may be changed at the discretion of the trip leader. It is the leader's responsibility to collect money from each tramper and to distribute it to the drivers.

The following are available for hire for club members on private trips. Please pay for hire of equipment by internet banking to the club’s bank account 02 0764 0014613 00. Put your name and what you hired in the details. Contact Bob Kennedy 525 9958.

1) The club PLB and GPS - provided they are not needed for a club trip: $10 for members for each for up to a week, $20 for non-members.
2) The club **Macpac Minaret Alpine tent** can be hired for $5 per day. It weighs 2.4kg.

3) Billies and maps, loaned free to club members.

4) Back-copies of the club's **Wilderness magazines**, loaned free to club members.

We greatly appreciate Bob's offer to look after all the above

**Social Media**

We have a Group [Facebook](http://www.goldenbayatc.org/) page - Golden Bay Alpine Tramping Club. It is a closed group, but you can ask to join. And our **website** is http://www.goldenbayatc.org/

**Photos.** Please email photos to Ina (address below) for the newsletter, and post them direct to Facebook.

**Golden Bay Alpine and Tramping Club Committee 2019/2020**

*President* Gaylene Wilkinson 022 170 7398 or beachgums@gmail.com  
*Treasurer* Julie Sherratt 027 779 9999 or julie.sherratt@xtra.co.nz  
*Newsletter editor* Ina Holst 027 5257554 or hansina08@gmail.com  
*Committee*  
Rodney Watson 525 8847 or rjwatcon@gmail.com  
Cathy Rooney 021 999 015 or cath.roo@gmail.com  
Dave Melville 027490 0490 or themelvilles@xtra.co.nz  
Lis Pedersen 525 9070 or lis@lpcb.org
Golden Bay Alpine and Tramping Club

TRIP INTENTIONS FORM

Activity:

Where are you going? Detail of route, track, huts

Start Date:

Expected Date of Return: Time: am/pm

Trip Leader: Name:

Phone landline: Mobile:

Address:

Group Members: Name: Phone:
Medical Notes for the Group:

Vehicle left at start of trip? YES / NO Licence Plate No.

Where will it be parked?

Tick the emergency equipment the party will be carrying:

First Aid Emergency shelter
Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) GPS
Other communication equipment?

Leader’s contact person in case of plan changes: ph.

Bob Kennedy and Karen Brookes are the emergency contacts for the Club. They will hold this information in case it is required by emergency services. You are not required to notify them upon your safe return.

Email the completed form to them

robelkay@gmail.com
kabro@kinect.co.nz
GOLDEN BAY ALPINE & TRAMPING CLUB

Expectations of Trip Coordinators

Thank you for offering to coordinate a trip for our Club. Please ensure the following steps are followed in order to keep everyone as safe as possible.

1. **Trip participant information**
   Get phone numbers and emergency contact names/numbers for each trip participant. Ask if participant has any medical information that you should know about.

2. **Emergency Equipment**
   Ensure that you have a map for the area you are going, compass, first aid, spare food, and PLB for the trip. The club has a first aid kit, GPS, PLB, and some maps available free of charge to members (contact Julie Sherratt, Ph. 027 779 9999).
   Ensure each participant has thermal clothing, waterproof layers and personal medication with them.

3. **Arrange a Trip Contact Person**
   This is someone who is NOT going on the trip, who will have your intentions sheet. You will contact this person if plans change, or if you need help with making contact with people eg. emergency contact for a trip participant. You will ‘sign out’ with this person when you are all safe home.

3. **Leave Intentions**
   Before departure on your trip, complete the Trip Intentions Form (or type out the equivalent information on a blank sheet) and email it to
   
   a) your *trip contact person*, and
   
   b) the Club’s *emergency contacts, Bob Kennedy and Karen Brookes* - email robelkay@gmail.com and kabro@kinect.co.nz