



Auckland Tramping Club & SnowSports Lodge

Dear Tony

ATC SnowSports Lodge Newsletter — March 2014

In praise of Ruapehu in the summer time.

Stepping out of the car at Ruapehu after a trip from Auckland in February is a great feeling. In Winter, there is always a sense of serious activity going on. Not so in February. The air is not humid but cool and dry, the car park is empty and there is a certain peace. A very nice start. The white and grey black of winter is replaced by red and brown black of summer plus a few flowers and grasses.

We had a delightful few days there over Waitangi Weekend. Some harder tramps and some easier ones were undertaken by the group and I believe some took tea in the Chateau.

There are so many good tramps near the Lodge. In summer the weather is usually, but not always, a bit kinder which means less gear. Returning to the Lodge each night is also a treat. Food, drink and conviviality.

Annual Lodge Pass.

You can purchase an Annual Lodge Pass in April. While it does not include food, for the cost of \$200 you can stay as many nights as you please.

Food.

The food situation at the lodge will remain pretty much unchanged. We are providing the usual breakfast and dinner and we are returning to providing the very basics for lunch. If you would like to request any changes or additions to the Lodge menu then please get in touch and I will give them some consideration.

Working Bee April 11-13.

There is still time to join in this very useful and sociable weekend. Call Jim Morrow on Ph 834 4227. Mob 021 264 6085;

Easter Weekend.

There is a club trip to the Lodge over Easter weekend. Check it out on the club website:

<http://www.aucklandtramping.org.nz>

then Calendar

then April

then Multi-Day Trip: Ruapehu - Easter

NOTE The Annual Lodge Pass can be used for this stay

Warden.

Fancy a free week at the lodge ?

We need a warden to help out when Te Puke High School are at the Lodge 22 -26 September. There is very little required of this person. These are year 13 students, fairly mature and interesting. Your main tasks are pointing out how to run the lodge, show them where things are etc. and playing in the snow.

If you are interested, call John Dalley Ph (09) 827 4325

Things to think about for later.

Winter Activities.

Ski trip to Turoa – to be announced. August or September.

Ski Competition – September 27- 28 or October 4- 5.

Winter Trip.

There is an Alpine tramping / snow camping trip in the planning stages for mid September - Summit Plateau plus other options. (crampons / ice axes required) There are many fantastic options for trips like this.

If there is sufficient interest there is an idea to do a 'Snowcraft lite' weekend before this trip for those that wish to do alpine tramping but are not confident with the basic techniques. That would be around the Lodge. Register your interest with me

Take a trip to the Lodge before it snows.

Regards

Chris Burnett
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Sent to Tony Walton at walton.th@xtra.co.nz, 18 March 2014

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