MARCH

2 PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE Battle Hill Farm Forest Park

Sat 9.30am-11.30am Join the Park Ranger for a guided walk around the park. Check out a proposed section of Transmission Gully and learn the unique history of Battle Hill and how it got its name. Bring a picnic and togs for lunch and a swim after the walk. No dogs please. Getting there: See 6 Jan. Enter the park and turn left after the bridge.

KARAPOTI CLASSIC

Akatarawa Forest Sat from 10am

Entry fees apply

Based in the rugged and remote Akatarawa Ranges 10km north of Upper Hutt, this event boasts spectacular scenery and the biggest prize purse of any mountain bike race in the country. karapoti.co.nz

(B)(Fr **EXPLORE BUTTERFLY CREEK**

East Harbour Regional Park Sun 9.30am-2.30pm

Join MIRO and the Park Ranger for a guided walk to the picnic area at Butterfly Creek before going off-track along Gollans Stream. Return the same way. Learn from MIRO guides about the flora and fauna of the area and the

effect of restoration efforts over the past decade on this beautiful forest. Max 30 people. Getting there: Meet at the Muritai Track entrance between numbers 259 and 261 Muritai Rd, Eastbourne.

PEDALLING IN THE PARK Queen Elizabeth Park, Paekakariki

60 (M) Sun 10am-12noon Explore the flatter rides in Queen Elizabeth Park with friends and family. Options range from an easy 1km to a 4km or 8km loop. Fun for the whole family with jumps and seesaws. Getting there: Take SH1 to Paekakariki, take a right onto Wellington Rd and follow to the end.

SPORT WELLINGTON BUGGY WALK

Kaitoke Regional Park, Waterworks Rd entrance Thu 10.30am-12noon

Take your buggy along the stunning Pakuratahi River walk and into Rivendell where scenes from The Lord of the Rings were filmed. Coffee courtesy Caffe L'affare. Getting there: See 5 Jan. Meet at the park's campground. buggywalk.co.nz



Watch aeromodellers in action! The rally usually attracts aeromodellers from all over the North Island. BBQ and refreshments at the field.

Sat-Sun 10am start

9-10

10

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kapitimodelflyers.org.nz

TRAIL TO TRIG

Hutt River Trail, Harcourt Park Sun 9.30am-1.30pm

From Harcourt Park we follow the Hutt River Trail north to the start of the Cannon Point walkway. The first stop is the historic Birchville Dam. Then climb to the top of the ridge before following a track to Cannon Point trig. Stop for lunch while taking in views of the Hutt Valley and Wellington. Return to the start via Totara Park and the Hutt River Trail. Max 35 people. Getting there: Turn into Akatarawa Rd from SH2 at Upper Hutt. The entrance to Harcourt Park is off Akatarawa Rd.

AEROMODELLERS OPEN WEEKEND

Queen Elizabeth Park, MacKays Crossing

13 PARK IN THE DARK Tunnel Gully Recreation Area (Fr) (B) (E)

Wed 8pm-9.15pm Bring a torch for a guided walk in the dark! Keep your ears peeled for the ruru (morepork) call before spotlighting native fish in the stream. Then see how many glow worms you can see nestled in the bush. Max 40 people. Bring: Torch and warm clothing. Getting there: See 17 Jan. Meet the Park Rangers at the information kiosk.

16

OPENING OF THE LOWER DAM Wainuiomata Recreation Area (h) (Fr) (E)

Sat 9.30am-11am

Finished in 1884 and part of Wellington's water supply infrastructure until the 1950s, the historic Lower Dam will soon be open for everyone to enjoy. Join the Wellington Regional Council and our iwi partners as we celebrate a new milestone for this beautiful area. Getting there: See 10 Jan.

17 WAINUIOMATA WATER WALK

Wainuiomata Water Collection Area Sun 9am-2pm For event description, see Jan 13.

FARM DAY

Battle Hill Farm Forest Park Sun 10am-3pm

A great opportunity to introduce kids to farming in a fun and friendly way. Try your hand at some farm work, ask questions and enjoy a day at Battle Hill. farmday.org.nz

Cancellations

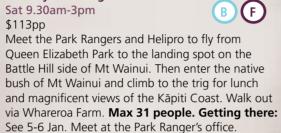
Cancellations are posted on the Breeze and Newstalk ZB. Cancellation messages on the day will be left on the booking officer's phone. No refunds will be given for non-attendance. An administration fee will apply to all refunds, other than events that are cancelled.

Public transport (P)

Plan your trip by phoning Metlink on 0800 801 700 or see metlink.org.nz and use the online journey planner. Look for the "PT" symbol for events that are accessible by public transport.

Sponsor

(5) Where you see this symbol, spot prizes will be provided by Dwights Outdoors.



8

BG

MT LOWRY CHALLENGE

17 BIKE THE TRAIL

Hutt River Trail

Sun 11am start

Bring the whānau for an easy, flat scenic bike ride

Try the 2½-hour ride from Harcourt Park in Upper

transport from 2pm-4pm. Under 14s must be

accompanied by an adult over 18 (1 adult to 3

children). All cyclists must wear an appropriate

helmet. bikethetrail.co.nz

23 MT WAINUI HELI-TRAMP

Queen Elizabeth Park,

MacKays Crossing

Sat 9.30am-3pm

\$113pp

down the Hutt River Trail to Hikoikoi Reserve, Petone.

Hutt or the 1-hour ride from Stokes Valley. Free return

East Harbour Regional Park Sun, registrations from 7.30am Entry fees apply

Take on Wellington's premier mountain run. Ideal for the whole family. Leaving from Days Bay, Eastbourne, it's a 12.75km run or walk that challenges different fitness levels. Rising from sea level to 350 metres. paardekooper.co.nz

S **RIDGE TRACK ADVENTURE** Kaitoke Regional Park,

Waterworks Rd entrance Sun 10am-3pm \$8pp

This 9km walk through regenerating bush and mature beech forest gives panoramic views of the Hutt Valley and Tararua Ranges. Meet at the information kiosk, then catch a bus to the start of the Ridge Track at Te Marua. Max 35 people. Getting there: Turn off SH2 at Waterworks Rd, 12km north of Upper Hutt. Drive to the info kiosk 50m inside the park entrance to meet the Park Ranger.

HAVE-A-GO ORIENTEERING

(60) Queen Elizabeth Park, MacKays Crossing Sun 10.30am-1.30pm Entry fees apply

Join the Wellington Orienteering Club and try courses for beginners, family groups and experienced orienteers in the dunes and valleys of Queen Elizabeth Park. No dogs please. Getting there: See 5-6 Jan. Follow the road to the Whareroa beach carpark. wellingtonorienteering.org.nz

What to bring

Weather conditions can change quickly. Always take a backpack with a waterproof jacket, warm clothes, tramping boots or strong lace-up shoes, water and a picnic lunch and/or snacks. On trips longer than two hours take thermal leggings, a long-sleeved top, warm hat and gloves. Always take a sun hat and sunscreen. The parks contain fresh air - please be smokefree.



Visit the AdventureSmart website to get tips, advice and links to help keep you safe in the great outdoors.

Bookings and information Most events are free. You must book ahead for events with maximum numbers. Look out for the "Bookings essential" symbol. For paid events,

payment must be made to confirm your enrolment. Pay via internet banking (phone or email the booking officer for internet payment instructions), or by eftpos, cheque or cash at the Wellington Regional Council, ground floor reception, 142 Wakefield Street, Wellington, or 1056 Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt.

bookings@gw.govt.nz or phone 04 830 4041





Escape with us this summer...

Explore the regional parks and forests on your doorstep with the Wellington Regional Council's Great Outdoors summer events programme. We offer more than 50 events, set in some of the region's most spectacular landscapes

For more information: **GW.GOVT.NZ/SUMMEREVENTS**

Follow the Greater Wellington Regional Council

Dwights



Max 40 people. Getting there: See 5 Jan.

WAINUIOMATA WATER WALK Wainuiomata Water Collection Area Sun 9am-2pm See some of the best lowland forest in the lower North Island in an easy 11km guided walk. Entry is by application. Phone 04 830 4406 for information or e-mail karen.broughan@gw.govt.nz. Getting there: See 10 Jan. Meet the Park Ranger at the main gates. **EXPLORE THE** WATERFALL TRACK (Fr)(M)(S) **Belmont Regional Park,** B Wf PT Dry Creek entrance Sun 10am-11.15am Criss-cross a stream to a beautiful waterfall and the end of the little known Waterfall Track. You'll get wet feet! Suitable 7 years and up. Max 30 people. Getting there: Park entrance is near the SH2 and SH58 (Haywards Hill) intersection and a 10 minute walk from Manor Park Railway Station.

17 KEV THE WANDERING KIWI M S

Thu 10.30am-12noon Join Kev the Wandering Kiwi on a family walk on the beautiful Tane's Track. Coffee courtesy Caffe L'affare. Getting there: From SH2, turn onto Plateau Rd at the Te Marua Store (6km north of Upper Hutt). Follow signs to Tunnel Gully.

9 RIMUTAKA RAIL TRAIL Pakuratahi Forest MPTS

Sat 9am-5.30pm Adults \$27, under 14s \$12

A long (17km) but easy 5-hour scenic walk exploring our unique railway history. Afternoon tea at Featherston's Fell Museum then back to Upper Hutt. Price includes bus, lunchtime sausage sizzle, afternoon tea and museum entry. Max 45 people. Getting there: Meet at Upper Hutt Railway Station. By car, follow SH2, take Gibbons St exit then Fergusson Dr to railway station.

(Fr) (E) (S) JUBILEE WALK AT **QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK** Queen Elizabeth Park, MacKays Crossing

Sat 9.45am-11.30am Celebrate the 60th jubilee of Queen Elizabeth Park. Join us for a guided walk around the lesser-known areas of the park. Learn about the recently upgraded US Marines memorial. Getting there: See 5-6 Jan. Meet at the Park Ranger's office.



THE BELMONT TRAVERSE Belmont Regional Park, Takapu Rd entrance

Sun 9am-3.30pm \$8pp



St. The walk takes you through Baked Beans Bend before starting the climb to Belmont trig with views of Wellington Harbour and the South Island. After lunch, cross to the Porirua city side of Belmont Regional Park through farmland and streams back to your car. Max 35 people. Getting there: Exit SH1 at Grenada

North and follow Takapu Rd to the north, meeting at the end of the road.

PAWS IN THE PARK Tunnel Gully Recreation Area Sun 11am-2pm



Walkies! Bring your dog and explore the beautiful podocarp and beech forest along Tane's Track. Then it's back to the picnic area for obedience displays and games with your dog. Bring: A picnic lunch and plastic bags for your dog's poop. Getting there: See 17 Jan.

SIMON WOOLF CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP (E) Battle Hill Farm Forest Park Sun 2pm-5pm

\$65pp

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Join award winning photographer Simon Woolf for an informative, practical and fun photographic session featuring the heritage, farm and wildlife of Battle Hill Farm Forest Park. Max 40 people. Getting there: See 6 Jan. woolf.co.nz

EXPLORE KAITOKE REGIONAL PARK Kaitoke Regional Park, Waterworks Rd entrance Sat 10am-11.15am



Starting in Rivendell, the home of the elves, this guided walk explores the park's engineering marvels and natural wonders. Discover magnificent native forest with towering rimu and rata. Suitable for all ages and abilities. Getting there: See 5 Jan.

EAT, DRINK AND BE CRAFTY **Battle Hill Farm Forest Park** Sat 10am-4pm

Enjoy more than 100 stalls with delicious food and fabulous crafts. Awesome games for kids of all ages. Free entry. eatdrinkcrafty.co.nz

27 KOROKORO BUSH WALK Belmont Regional Park, Oakleigh St entrance Sun 9.30am-1pm \$7pp



Explore a little-known area of pristine bush with ecologist Dr Mary McIntyre from the Friends of Belmont Regional Park. Meet at Oakleigh St before catching a bus to start the walk at Stratton St. There's a short steep climb before descending into lush forest that was once a water catchment area for Petone. Max 35 people. Getting there: Exit SH2 at Maungaraki, drive up Dowse Dr to top of the hill, turn left into Oakleigh St to park entrance.

BACK OF THE BAY FOREST WALK East Harbour Regional Park Wed 6.30pm-8.30pm



Come on an evening walk with the Park Ranger through lovely native coastal forest behind Lowry Bay. Learn about local forest ecosystems and enjoy stunning views. Max 35 people. Getting there: Turn off Marine Pd onto Cheviot Rd. Entrance at the end of the road.

FEBRUARY

HILL ROAD SOCIAL BIKE RIDE 🕒 Belmont Regional Park, Hill Rd entrance Sat 9.30am start

Join "Amanda's Social Beginner MTB Group" for a fun, friendly ride suitable for beginners and people who don't want to focus on fitness and timings. Bring: Mountain bike, water, first aid kit and a basic bike kit. RSVP amandasmtb@gmail.com.

SPEEDYS RESERVE BUSH WALK Belmont Regional Park, Major Drive

2-3



Sat 10am-1.30pm Meet the Park Ranger and the Hill Road community group for a walk on one of the lesser-known routes through Speedys Reserve. Thought to be an old path used for access to Porirua and Pauatahanui, the route includes an old pa site nestled in the bushes. Max 30 people. Getting there: Meet at Belmont School carpark, 702 Western Hutt Rd, Lower Hutt.

HUTT VALLEY GLIDING CLUB **OPEN WEEKEND** Pakuratahi Forest

Sat to Sun 9.30am-10.30am, 10.30am-11.30am, 1.30pm-2.30pm, 2.30pm-3.30pm, 3.30pm-4.30pm \$100pp

Ever wanted to soar like a bird? Enjoy the Kaitoke basin's scenery from the air with a qualified instructor as you feel the exhilaration of free flight. Max 2 people per session. Getting there: Turn right 9km north of Upper Hutt and follow signs for the Rimutaka Rail Trail. The access road to the airstrip is to your right and will be signposted.

EXPLORE BARING HEAD/ **ORUA-POUANUI** East Harbour Regional Park,

Baring Head/Ōrua-pouanui Sun 9.30am-1.30pm

Meet the Park Ranger for a guided walk around this fascinating area of East Harbour Regional Park. Historian Michael Kelly, the writer of a history of the lighthouse reserve, will join us to share his knowledge. Max 35 people. Getting there: See 12 Jan.

SPORT WELLINGTON **BUGGY WALK** Queen Elizabeth Park, MacKays Crossing

Thu 10.30am-12noon

ALL DAY

Enjoy a buggy walk on the coastal and inland tracks with stunning views of the ocean and the park's dune environment. Coffee courtesy Caffe L'affare. Getting there: See 5-6 Jan. Follow the road to the Whareroa beach carpark. **buggywalk.co.nz**

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PROGRAMME KEY



THE HUTT GREAT **GRAVEL GRAB**

Hutt River Trail, Moonshine Park Sat 10am-2pm

Help prevent flooding in the Hutt Valley. Join the Wellington Regional Council's Flood Protection team on the Hutt River and take some stones for your garden. Bring: Trailer and shovel. Getting there: Enter off Moonshine Rd.

(Fr)

CYCLE THE RIMUTAKA (B) (M) **RAIL TRAIL**

Pakuratahi Forest

Sat 10.35am Maymorn Railway Station or 11.30am Incline Rd, Kaitoke

\$15pp for return shuttle from Cross Creek, or \$40 per family (2 adults & 2 kids under 14). Free for those with own transport.

Enjoy a long (17km) but family-friendly bike ride along the historic Rimutaka Rail Trail. Learn the history of the Fell engine and enjoy a picnic and sausage sizzle at summit, site of an old railway village. Max 80 people for return shuttles. Getting there: By car, follow SH2 and turn right 9km north of Upper Hutt. Follow

SUNSET TOUR 2

Sat 5.30pm-9.15pm

signs to the Rimutaka Rail Trail.



\$5pp For event description, see 9 Jan.

EXPLORE CHRYSTALL'S BEND SH1, Ōtaki (Fr) (k) (D)

Sun 9.30am-11.30am

Join the Friends of Ōtaki River and the Wellington Regional Council's River Ranger to learn more about this hidden gem on the Kāpiti Coast. Getting there: Turn left after Ōtaki bridge and meet at the Regional Council's depot.

THE OLD FOREST WALK



(E)

Sun 9.30am-2pm Hear the spectacular birdsong of the Wainuiomata/ Orongorongo Water Collection Area. Learn more about what the Wellington Regional Council and volunteers are doing to keep pest numbers down while you walk among some of the region's biggest and oldest native trees. Max 30 people. Getting there: See 10 Jan.

HARAKEKE FLAX WEAVING ON THE COAST

Queen Elizabeth Park, Tilley Rd Sat 9am-12noon

\$10pp

Take a trip to the world of Māori weavers. Learn how to harvest, prepare and weave flax. Materials provided. Sausage sizzle to follow. Max 50 people. Getting there: Take SH1 to Paekakariki, turn right onto Wellington Rd, take a second right (Cecil Rd), turn left onto Tilley Rd. The Weaving Club is at the end of the road.

HIKOI KI WHITIREIA – WHITIREIA HISTORY WALK (Fr Whitireia Park (M)

Sat 5pm-7.30pm Whitireia Park was the landing place of the legendary Māori explorer Kupe and a focus of settlement by

Ngāti Toa Rangatira in the Porirua area. It later became the centre of landmark legislation on Treaty of Waitangi settlements and is a focal point of Porirua city. Join Ngāti Toa Rangatira and the Wellington Regional Council as we visit these historic sites and share our rich history. Getting there: See 12 Jan. Meet at the top carpark by the concrete pads.

16-17 CAPITAL COAST SURF LIFE SAVING CHAMPS



Sat-Sun 10am onwards 2013 is the centenary year for Paekakariki Surf Lifeguards Club. Check out the Capital Coast surf life saving clubs battling it out over two days at Paekakariki Beach.

paekakarikisurflifeguards.org.nz

Queen Elizabeth Park, Paekakariki

17 LIGHTHOUSE AND LAKES East Harbour Regional Park Sun 9am-4pm \$18pp



Join wetland specialist George Gibbs and MIRO to discover our rich ecological and maritime history on a walk around the Parangarahu Lakes area. Two steep uphill sections with stunning vistas of Wellington Harbour. Learn more about the history of Pencarrow Lighthouse. Max 45 people. Getting there: Drive through Eastbourne to Burdan's Gate carpark at the end of Muritai Rd. Bus provided to and from the lakes.

KĀPITI GREAT GRAVEL GRAB (FT SH1, Ōtaki

Sun 10am-2pm

Help prevent flooding on the Kāpiti Coast. Join the Wellington Regional Council's Flood Protection team on the Ōtaki river and take some stones for your garden. Bring: Trailer and shovel. Getting there: Turn left off SH1 immediately north of Ōtaki Bridge and follow the signs.

EGINNERS GUIDE TO FLYFISHING 1 Hutt River Trail, Belmont Hall



Sat 10am-2pm Learn the intricacies of fly fishing for trout. Members of the Hutt Valley Angling Club will guide you on tackle, knots and different fishing techniques before a mentor will help you to cast a line into the river. Suitable for over 16s. Sausage sizzle provided.

Max 30 people. Bring: Gumboots or wading shoes, and sunglasses. Rods and other gear supplied if you don't have your own. Getting there: Head north on SH2. 300m north of Kennedy Good Bridge turn right into Carter St, right into Norfolk St and meet at Belmont Scout Hall.

4WD BACK COUNTRY (B) AKATARAWA Akatarawa Forest

Sat 9am-12noon, 1.30pm-4.30pm \$20 per vehicle

Bring your vehicle and join the Cross Country Vehicle Club for a relaxed tagalong trip through Akatarawa Forest. The morning session departs from Totara Park, finishing at Maungakotukutuku Valley entrance. The 1.30pm session is in reverse. Max 30 vehicles per session. Getting there: Morning session - turn off at Totara Park and turn left immediately after crossing the bridge. Afternoon session if heading north on SH1 – turn left at MacKays Crossing, turn right under the underpass and left onto Emerald Glen Rd which leads onto Waterfall Rd, turn into Maungakotukutuku Rd and meet at the end.

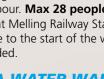
OLD COACH ROAD HISTORY TRAIL Belmont Regional Park Sun 10am-2.30pm



\$18pp Join the Friends of Belmont Regional Park on a guided walk along the first road between the Hutt Valley and Porirua. Passing many WWII ammunition bunkers, the route has great views of the Hutt Valley and Porirua Harbour. Max 28 people. Getting there: Meet at Melling Railway Station carpark for the bus ride to the start of the walk. Return transport provided.

WAINUIOMATA WATER WALK Wainuiomata Water Collection Area

Sun 9am-2pm For event description, see Jan 13.











Wainuiomata Water Collection Area

