



Free Beaches NZ

News from the raw edge!

April - May 2024



Inside this time:

Members are reminded that any remits for the constitution need to be in the secretary's hands by April 30th 2024.

Beatrice demonstrates the process of relaxing at Berwick - well, apart from the company, the food and the surfeit of things to do, what else would you go there for?



Free Beaches NZ Inc

PO Box 20-295, Bishopdale, Christchurch, 8543
fredbear@freebeaches.org.nz - freebeaches.org.nz - 021 495 021



Would you like to get hold of the free New Zealand Naturist Calendar?

NEW ZEALAND NATURIST FEDERATION



CALENDAR

2024



Each of the month's pages have several photos from a specified club source. However, the Free Beaches page (November) has no more than two people in any picture. It features the top-right picture used on this page. (Can we do better next year?)

This is the dropbox link to the whole calendar - which has 26 A4 landscape pages, in a 60 Mb PDF download!

<https://www.dropbox.com/sc/1fi/hpxjhfvlkk3phvlqgrx48/Calendar-High-Quality.pdf?rlkey=q2xv82sij7vs0dnvfxlqwpsnz&dl=0>

National Committee

President

Beatrice Bergamin 027 483 3493
president@freebeaches.org.nz

Secretary

Alan Geeves 03 930 8473
secretary@freebeaches.org.nz 027 448 8014

Treasurer

Gerald Hunt 021 215 0408
g.h.hunt@xtra.co.nz

Committee Members

Linda Geeves 03 930 8473
linda.geeves@slingshot.co.nz 027 249 8483

Alexander Hagen-Thorn 022 196 6365
aht-fbnz@pm.me

John Lowe 06 879 9262
j.loweSec@outlook.com 022 129 1036

Kevin Lunden 03 366 6693
kevinathome@xtra.co.nz 027 228 9860

Please note that we are always interested in adding to our list of contacts around the country.



If YOU would like to support the use of a local beach, pool, river or other suitable venue in your area, please let us know! We love to share a 'good word' on where and what the local family-friendly options are, for genuine Naturist recreation!

Area Contacts

Auckland -

Alexander Hagen-Thorn 022 196 6365
aht-fbnz@pm.me

Hauraki, Coromandel, Kaimai -

Andrew Cook 07 211 9106
Haurakinaturally.nz haurakinaturally@gmail.com

Central NI - Kawerau

George & Elaine Wright 07 323 6383
george.gw@xtra.co.nz 021 252 8085

Hawkes Bay -

Andrew Pointon 021 306 390
naturist007@gmail.com

Kapiti Coast

Chris Burtt 06 364 8481
cburtt@xtra.co.nz 021 375 119

Wellington

Gerald Davidson 04 938 3723
geraldsdavidson84@gmail.com

Canterbury -

Michel Adriaens 03 332 7531
canterburyfreebeaches@gmail.com 021 159 8426

South Canterbury -

Pam Robertson 03 684 9451
027 485 0973

West Coast -

Alan Smith 021 129 0671

Otago - Southland

Brent & Julie Patterson 027 471 8941
southernfreebeaches@gmail.com

Another dilemma: which one is the AI version?

The day before our picnic, we encountered a dilemma. The Ashley Gorge camp and picnic area unexpectedly hosted a gala event. Undeterred, we decided to proceed with our plans, intending to walk along the river away from the crowds. The weather was warm, with occasional hints of rain.

Upon arriving, we drove into the picnic area and were met with a sign demanding a \$10 parking fee. That wasn't going to fly, so we reversed out and parked across the road. As we walked toward the main access, we were asked for an entry fee. Despite the gala being advertised as a free event, we politely declined and took an alternate path down to the river. We strolled through the picnic area and eventually found a lovely spot by the water. There, we enjoyed a refreshing swim and a pleasant picnic.

Some of us ventured further upstream to a deep swimming hole. It struck me how abundant the water was at Ashley Gorge, yet by the time it reached Rangiora, it had vanished - like a disappearing act performed by a mighty river. The wind played tricks on us, alternating between cool breezes and sudden bursts of warmth.

In total, 16 of us attended, and we revelled in good company. Despite the nearby gala, its presence didn't bother us. On our way out, a few of us even treated ourselves to ice cream.

Cheers to memorable picnics and unexpected adventures!

The day before the picnic we faced a dilemma. The Ashley Gorge camp and picnic area was running a gala on the day which we only just found out about. We decided to go ahead anyway as we would walk up the river past any people. Weather was warm although there was a few hints of a shower.

Got up there and turned into the picnic area to be confronted by a sign saying parking \$10. Yeah that aint going to happen so reverse out and park across the road. Walk in down the main access and got asked for an entry fee. The gala was advertised as a free event and we wernt attending the gala so a quick thanks but no thanks and went down the other path to the river and round that way. Then walked through the picnic area and into the river and up another 200 meters to a nice spot where we had a swim in the river and nice picnic.

A few of us went further up to a lovely swimming hole which was very deep. Ashley had plenty of water here but by the time in got to Rangiora it was bone dry. Such a big river to just disappear. The wind was unusual, one second it was cool the next it was on fan bake then cool again.

16 of us attended and a good time was had by all. Despite being within earshot of the gala we were unbothered by there presence and a few of us bought ice-creams on the way out

What do you think of this? Is it worth making a proposition for the readers do decide which is the AI version, or do we need it for any coverage of this year's Waitati ride?

Berwick - the view from the balcony...



There have been a couple of panoramic shots of the Berwick accommodation building in previous newsletters, so this is a look at the other side of the road.



Russell and Brent take care of the Saturday barbecue...



Beside the raffles and quiz sessions there were occasional extensions to the normal fare at Berwick. In this case Kirsten reported on her return from a quick blat along a local shingle road, "the best time I've had while naked!"



... while Fred seems to be having trouble reading the flag...



Paul & Shirley keep track of the quiz prizes



... and this angle may suggest a cause of Fred's trouble!



It's a new day and Fred's back on duty, despite the heat



Anticipation of the possibility of a game



An overseas couple enjoying the large sports hall



Daniel is there for the inaugural Kubb game...



Andrea and friend Jeremy - there for the main course: relaxation



... and decides to settle in for the afternoon



A visiting couple appreciate their (raffle?) win



It was a long, warm, relaxing day

Next, the WNBR events, beginning with The Milnthorpe Beach walk



Just out of the carpark the first test: don't fall off the causeway



Matt and Possum record the 20th ride event for posterity



Heading off - into the unknown



Only about half the women-walkers could fit on the bench seat

About 15 km north of Takaka we find a tiny suburb in which to stop, at the bottom of Milnthorpe Park. The park has several walking tracks in a 3km long, half kilometre wide forest, just 3km south of Collingwood.

When the first clothed couple spotted us heading their way, they suddenly found a quick escape route, but we passed several others coming toward us who responded in like manner to our smiles and waves.

An abandoned 'photo frame' suggested a recent wedding photo session, which, after Andrew tested it for stability, found it made a nice photo opportunity.

All in all a nice experience!



Andrew and Robert's discovery



Remaining clothes abandoned



Not everyone tried the water, but those who did were enthusiastic



A short drive back from Milnthorpe, the Mussel Inn offered lunch...



Despite the clouds the weather was comfortably warm



... and a pleasant, outdoor spot to eat it



After the beach walk and leisurely lunch at the Mussel Inn, next it was off to Autumn Farm to set up the bikes for the inaugural night ride through town to the local beach, Rototai.



You may notice the same banner at many of these events



How do you dress up for night riding? With weird, lit hats



Kids and international all-comers were welcomed



Very long-time free beachers, Verne and Lisa from Hamilton, headed most of both day's rides on their unique trike. (Vern's blindness has never held them back from getting involved in nearly all our events, wherever they've been held around the country.)

But as time wore on though, the options for natural lighting diminished inevitably.



Sunday was a beautiful day for the main event! The ride started as usual at Pohara and finished at the new sponsor's premises: the Kiwi Spirit Distillery.



Matt negotiates picture options with Pia & Tsai



Jo Richards readies the camera for his newspaper's report



A little spread of riders on Abel Tasman Drive before...



... turning into Selwyn Street, for a swim



Andrea, Andrew (Rok), Tsai (starting to paint), Bryan & Jeremy



Many took advantage of the opportunity to cool off



The numbers creep up as the start of the ride looms



Then came the final time to line up for the photo opportunity ...



Verne & Lisa getting into position as ride leaders



... before riding in to quench thirsts at Bryan's prize-giving



Some 33 riders pose at the starting point, in anticipation of their stopping point: the Kiwi Spirits Distillery, where their welcome awaits



Milnthorpe

This was a harsh and barren land
That seemed to bear some dreadful curse
Abused, neglected, swept by fire
The tailings of the universe

And should one, lost, happen there
What comfort might he hope to find
Could splendid dreams and work contrive
To heal a tired and troubled mind

And could those dreams and work redeem
That land and make it whole again
Ten thousand trees can testify
Now growing in that green domain

So walk beneath those cherished trees
And you will feel and understand
How peace and harmony have come
To bless this once accursed land

Tripping over this 'sculpture' in the forest prompted me to try to find a reason for it. But sadly, although I saw a couple of possibilities, one may have been was at the original Milnthorpe (a 17th century village in in England) and the other due to local events related to local changes to the forest made some years ago. Any enlightenment offered would be most welcome!

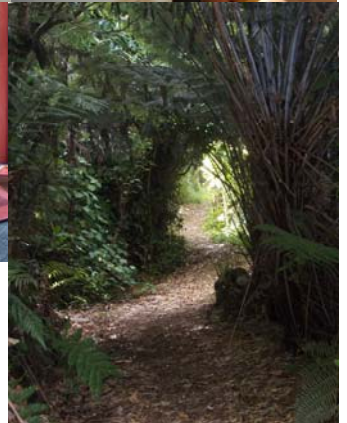


Some random pics!

Left, Warrington Beach. Below left - Andrea gets her revenge for my previous shot (inset). Below, Jeremy, Andrea and event organiser, Bryan, in discussion at Paul's homestay.



Bryan organising things in Paul's generous kitchen



Right, a peep into a Milnthorpe track through the bush

But wait - sorry; there's more!

Arriving (late) at the Waihi ride



Through my windscreen I spot Matt setting up for a video



Just past the end of Waihi's houses, the riders begin their return



Yes there was a big, green man there



The return ride to the start doubled the amusement for shoppers



A good opportunity to surprise walkers and dogs alike



The riders return to their starting point - to dress, sadly

Free Beaches NZ Inc.

Please email your order to Linda: linda.geeves@slingshot.co.nz
using our KiwiBank account: **38-9014-0140590-00** to pay.

ITEM	EACH	SHOP
Beach Towels	\$20	
Polo Shirts	\$20	
Sweat Shirts	\$25	
Hats, white (pockets in black band)	\$30 (+\$10)*	
Beach Flags (free to members)	(free)	
Car Stickers	(free)	
Sew-on Fred Bare badges	(free)	
FBNZ brochures	(free)	

* Notes: Except for the hat, a \$6 charge applies for local postage to a non-member. There is a POA surcharge for the hat, or for postage outside New Zealand. All prices are subject to availability of stock, and are subject to change.

Far North Emu



In Northland, on the road to East Beach only 4 km from S H 1, is Rosco & Gerri's Emu farm which offers direct access to the Rangaunu Harbour. Relax on a deck or go kayaking in the ocean estuary. Alongside the trees there's plenty of room for vans, tents & other accommodation.



Their fascinating and unique decorations are not just inside.



Rosco & Gerri's farm has plenty of room for parking, whatever vehicle you arrive in. On-site accommodation includes a caravan with double bed and nearby external toilet. Outside, along with the bird life, two kayaks are available for exploration of Rangaunu Harbour, which is easily accessed through the mangroves on their southern border. Nine km further along Kaimaumau Road there's easy access to East Beach. Park and walk 200m north.

Find them at 388 Kaimaumau Road Waiharara, Far North, 0486; contact options: ostemu23@gmail.com or phone number: 027 651 8885. They're only 13 km north of Awanui (which is 6km north of Kaitaia); turn right 3km north of Waiharara, into Kaimaumau Rd. The farm is 4km east, with its entrance on the right.

Naturist Swim Nights & Days!

Normal admission to Naturist area is \$26 per person.*
***Show your FBNZ Card
for a 25% discount!**



150 Parkhurst Road,
Hellensville
Ph (09) 420 8998

(Opposite Palm Springs)

www.parakaisprings.co.nz

Naturist days are on the **first & third Thursday**
every* month 10am - 7pm

(Please book, as otherwise management may cancel.)



Alex is our local liaison person — contact via:
022 196 6365 or aht-fbnz@pm.me

* Please note that the Naturist Days of 1st and 3rd
Thursdays of each month no longer apply during the school
holidays, *including* those of Christmas and New Year.

WORKSAFE

Protective Overalls for Painters



Completely washable
Lightweight and super comfortable
Breathable material
Automatic damage repair

Perfect fit, custom made.
Designed and manufactured
in your country of origin
Lifetime guarantee

Order yours **TODAY!**

www.haurakinaturally.nz

North Island ~ Events Calendar

AUCKLAND

April

Thu 4 th	Parakai Springs*	10am - 7pm 150 Parkhurst Rd, Parakai \$26 (20% discount with ID card)
Thu 18 th	Parakai Springs*	10am - 7pm 150 Parkhurst Rd, Parakai \$26 (20% discount with ID card)

May

Thu 2 nd	Parakai Springs*	10am - 7pm 150 Parkhurst Rd, Parakai \$26 (20% discount with ID card)
Thu 16 th	Parakai Springs*	10am - 7pm 150 Parkhurst Rd, Parakai \$26 (20% discount with ID card)

* [Parakai Springs](#) visitors, **please book or check** 0800 468 766 (HOT POOLS) as it is **not available** for nude use **after mid-December until mid-February**. But outside School months, it **can still be already booked!**

WELLINGTON

June

Sun 23 rd	Midwinter swim Peka Peka	1 pm (If wet, 3pm at Chris': BYO BBQ) 021 375 119 - cburttt@xtra.co.nz TBC
----------------------	---------------------------------	---

South Island ~ Events Calendar

CHRISTCHURCH

April

Sat 6 th	Spenserville Beach cleanup	10.00am For enquiries Alan 027 448 8014
	Spencerville Beach Meet	1.00pm For enquiries Michel: 021 159 8426
	Burwood Pool	6.30pm For enquiries Beatrice 027 483 3493
Sat 20 th	Burwood Pool	6.30pm For enquiries Beatrice 027 483 3493
Sun 21 st	Beach Meet Woodend	1.00pm For enquiries Linda: 027 249 8483 (final beach day)

May

Sat 4 th	Burwood Pool	6.30pm For enquiries Beatrice 027 483 3493
Sat 18 th	Burwood Pool	6.30pm For enquiries Beatrice 027 483 3493

June

Sat 1 st	Burwood Pool	6.30pm For enquiries Beatrice 027 483 3493
Sat 15 th	Burwood Pool	6.30pm For enquiries Beatrice 027 483 3493
Sat 22	Mid-winter swim	2pm South New Brighton, Beatty St Entrance Linda 027 249 8483
Sun 23	Mid-winter lunch	11am Pot Luck meal - ring Linda for details: 027 249 8483

July

Sat 6	Burwood Pool	6.30pm For enquiries, Beatrice 027 4833 3493
Sat 20	Burwood Pool	6.30pm For enquiries, Beatrice 027 4833 3493

Dunedin

April

--	--	--

May

--	--	--

Please note that the newsletters from some other Federation clubs are available on request to me, for our members. (JL)