Franklin Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Awhitu Trails

Presentation to Franklin Board
23rd October 2018
(Colin Harrington)
Awhitu Trails

- Awhitu Peninsula on Auckland’s Sunset Coast
  - One hour from Auckland Central/Airport
  - 30 minutes from Southern Motorway
Awhitu Trails

• The proposal is to update the Awhitu Peninsula road trail as set up by Tourism Franklin Inc. (1996)

• Promote the Awhitu Peninsula as Auckland’s Sunset Coast
  – By utilising local knowledge of history, community & environment
Attachment A

Awhitu Trails
Awhitu Trails

How do we achieve this?

– Promote the trails via internet (Local and Tourism NZ)
– New Website www.AwhituTrails.nz
– Continue and expand Awhitu – Waiuku presence in the South & East Auckland Map & Brochure
– Set up signage at all relevant Points Of Interest (POI)
  • Permanent e.g., Karioitahi Beach, Lake Pokurua, Lighthouse & Awhitu Regional Park plus all the 18 beaches that have toilet & camping facilities
  • Temporary – private tourism businesses e.g., accommodation, house riding, vineyards etc.
Attachment A

Awhitu Trails
Awhitu Trails

Attachment A

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Awhitu Trails

Attachment A

Item 8.1
Awhitu Trails

• The aim is to include
  – Arts Trail
  – Inner Harbour Kayak Trails
    – Waiuku Estuary Kayak Advantage (WEKA), Waimanu, (both part of the 195km Te Pae o Kaiwaka Trails which follows the historic “passage of food canoes” from the Waikato
    – See www.KayakTrails.co.nz
  – Walking Trails
    • Coastal / Inner Harbour Beach / Forest
  – Horse Riding & Mountain Biking
Awhitu Trails

Attachment A

Item 8.1
Attachment A

Awhitu Trails
Awhitu Trails

- The aim is to include (continued)
- Support of the businesses of the Awhitu/Waiuku community by a further presence in the successful South & East Auckland Map

Attachment A
Franklin Eco Adventures

Awhitu Peninsula, Auckland, New Zealand

**Auckland's Sunset Coast**

A range of accommodation, attractions and eco friendly activities on the Awhitu Peninsula of the Manukau Harbour in New Zealand.

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ACCOMMODATION

Awhitu Peninsula Map - Google Land Map and Points of Interest

Awhitu Regional Park - Campervan and tent sites on a working farm park (no dogs), alongside a Manukau Harbour Beach. BBQs bring your own wood. Three bedroom house also available. Small boat ramp. Brook Road, Waiuku (Awhitu Peninsula). Ph 09 3662000 for bookings.

- Bachs - Holiday Homes -
  Awhitu Regional Park - 3 bed room house available for daily rental at farm park, ph 09 3662000 option 2
  Big Bay Bachs - Bookabach #20595, Air BnB #1918375975
  Clarks Beach - Bookabach #19485, Air BnB #16679660
  Greehoo Farm and Beach Cottages - Farm cottage at private beach Bookabach #8653
  Grahams Beach Bachs - Bookabach #897, #9233, #26592
  Hudsons Bay Bachs - Bookabach #19187,
  Matakawau Beach - Bookabach #12428, #3729
  Orua Bay - Orua Bay Bach or Facebook, Bookabach #19971
  Pollok - Air BnB #17778107, #16258650

  Te Papa Eco Cottage - AirBnB.co.nz/rooms/11515699 Off grid self-contained. Farm Cottage overlooking Waiuku River. Ph 02108237312

  Te Toro Bach - Bookabach #26164

  Top Nest, Te Toro Beach - 2 x baches/sleepouts - 1 x Db and 1 x Twin plus bunks, on small beach, Greenfield Road, Te Toro Peninsula. From $75 dbl/night. 400 metres to all tide boat ramp. Ph 021414643, Email maurecnniles416@gmail.com

  Waiau Pa - Bookabach ..., Air BnB #16794925
Wattle Bay - Air BnB #17366617

B & B - Bed and Breakfast Residences -

CabbageTree Cottage - Peace in the country, 2km to Waimatuku west coast black sand beach. 60 West Coast Road. www.CabbageTreeCottage.co.nz

One Field Farm - Self-contained minisuit, fee Weekend Explorer or short stay packages. Healthy coastal environment, on Awhitu Peninsula farmland overlooking Lake Pekenia and the Tasman Sea. 10 min to Waiuku cafes and Peninsula beaches. Kohekohe, Waiuku.

Tasman Lodge Homestay - Manukau Heads Rd, Awhitu. $185 incl room, breakfast and dinner. Ph Gail 092351618 or Air BnB #11725663

The Roost - Homestay with separate accommodation, Columbo Rd, Waiuku, 5 minutes to town centre ph 0275 227653, www.theroost.co.nz

Campers and tenting -

Awinitu Regional Park - Ph 09 3010101 for bookings

Big Bay Motorcamp (see Motorcamps)

Clarke’s Beach Holiday Park (see Motorcamps)

Caravan Hire - Hire and sales

Castaways Resort - Accommodation and Adventures, Wedding venue. Overlooking New Zealand’s wild west coast. Award winning restaurant and conference venue. Accommodation Ph 092365041 ext226 www.Castaways.co.nz stay@Castaways.co.nz

Discovery River Cruises - Luxury houseboat on the Waiata Riverlands. One or more days/overnight trips for up to 12 persons. Day only trips for up to 40 passengers. Ph 093576105 / 021 1370066. Email: sales@discoveryrivercruises.co.nz www.DiscoveryRiverCruises.co.nz www.Houseboatholidays.co.nz

Freedom Camping - (self-contained vehicles), max. stay 2 nights. More information at Waiuku Information Centre, 2 Queen St


Hamiltons Gap (Waimatuku Reserve), West Coast - Campervans/buses (no tents). Max 2day/night. West Coast Road

Hoods Landing, Waiata River - Up to two self-contained campervans/buses (no tents). Boat ramp. Max 2day/night. Hoods Landing Road

Waiuku Town - Up to two camper vans. Public park behind library building, Constable Rd.

Waiuku Town - Certified Self Contained Ige Motorhomes/campers, Public Dump Station, Lady Jane Franklin Reserve, King Street near wharf.

Kentish Hotel - see the Kentish Hotel

Motels and Hotel Accommodation

Castaways Resort - (See separate listing, Castaways Resort in Accommodation and in Activities)

Discovery Houseboat - (See separate listing, Discovery River Cruises in Accommodation and in Activities)

the Kentish Hotel - (See separate listing, the Kentish Hotel)

Waiuku Motor Lodge - One and two bedroom units, 279 Kitchener Road, 3 minutes from Waiuku. Ph 092358874. www.WaiikutedgeMotel.co.nz

Waiuku Motel - Family units available. In main street of Waiuku, 100 Queen St. Ph 092359237. www.WaiukuMotel.co.nz

Motorcamps -
Big Bay Holiday Park - Ph 092351132, www.bigbayholidaypark.co.nz
Clark’s Beach Holiday Park and Motel - Ph 092321685, www.clarksbeachmotels.co.nz
Orau Bay Beach Motocamp and Accommodation - Permanently closed
Sandspit Motocamp, Waikuku - Campervan sites. Dumpstation, tent sites, on the beach at 15 Rangiwhaia Rd, Waikuku. Ph 092356913; 021107118; Email: SandspitMotocamp@xtra.co.nz
Waikuku Campervan Dumpstation - 3 King St Waikuku, by the Estuary, look for signs. (100 metres before the Waikuku Information Centre)

The Bunkhouse - Bunkhouse facilities (up to 20 beds) plus overflow camping for larger groups, for trampers and horse groups.

Approx $10 pp/night, min $50/night - min 2 nights. With paddock for horses if required ($5.00/horse/night). www.GetawayBack.com

The Kentish Hotel - NZ’s oldest continuously licenced hotel. Built 1852. Tavern, restaurant, accommodation. Weddings and wedding receptions at the Portside.

5 Queen St, Waikuku. Ph 092358367, 0800 Kentish Email: info@thekentishhotel.co.nz www.thekentishhotel.co.nz

ACTIVITIES and ATTRACTIONS

Awhitu Peninsula and Manukau Harbour Maps and Waikato River Maps

Adventure Activities - For the Beginners Guide to Kiwi Adventure - sea kayaking and mountain biking for all ages. www.stressfreeecoadventures.co.nz

Awhitu Trails -

Driving - Sightseeing Awhitu Peninsula Road Loop, up to 100km (Lighthouse, photo stop/rest areas, Awhitu Park, wine tasting at Awhitu

Wines, black sand surf beaches and safe inner harbour white sand swimming beaches). All roads are tarsealed.

Horse Riding Awhitu Farm Park / Karioitahi black sand surf beach / Waikuku Forest, Wilsons Rd entrance. Bring your own horse.

Kayaking Waimanu Trail, 43 km of trails along sheltered Manukau Harbour beaches, part of 205km Te Pae o Kaiwaka Trail.

Mountain biking Awhitu Farm Park / Waikuku Forest

Walking Awhitu Regional Park to Matakawau Point reserve. Short easy grade bush and beach walk (casual footwear ok),

one hour each way, no dogs in farm park. (Take care with recent cliff slips - children need supervision)

Karioitahi Beach - Black sand surf beach (all tide), up to 9 km one way.

Tidal beach walk, Orau Bay to Grahams Beach. Manukau Harbour (some rock scrambling), 5km one way.

Tidal beach walk, follow outgoing tide from Awhitu Park to Grahams Beach (can be muddy), 6km one way.

Matakawau Bush Walk, opp. church Matakawau Road. Native bush walk, 750 metres, very steep takes 25 minutes.

Waiuku Estuary (grassed trail). Starts at Tamaki Reserve opp Waiuku Info Centre to Riverside Drive, 1 km each way

Sandspit Reserve to McCall Drive (dog-friendly), one km each way.
Waiuku Information Centre

Awhitu Regional Park - Farm park with easy walking and horse and mountainbike trails. Two sandy safe swimming beaches. Brook Road, Awhitu.

Awhitu Golf Course and Food for Thought Cafe- Bistro meals, Friday evening 5.30pm - 8.30pm. Cafe Sunday 10am - 3pm,
9 hole golf course ($10 for 9 holes, $20 for 18 holes), Brook Road, Awhitu next to Awhitu Regional Park. www.awhitigolf.co.nz Ph 092351259


Bird Watching Kayak Trips - Waiuku Estuary, Manukau Harbour.
www.StressfreeEcoAdventures.co.nz

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Bird life on the Waiuku Estuary (Waimaukau Kayak Trail)

Car Hire - Short or long term - From one day or more. 1 to 3 days $50 per day including insurance, extra days $35 per day incl. insurance.

- Waiuku Rental Cars (car Kitchener Rd and Hosking Pl) 0275829818,
www.facebook.com/Waiuku-Rental-Cars-174565679259955/

Castaways Resort - Accommodation and Adventures, Wedding Venue. Overlooking New Zealand's wild west coast.

Award-winning restaurant and conference venue. Agave Restaurant - Ph 09 2365161
dine@castaways.co.nz

Discovery River Cruises - Luxury houseboat on the Waikato Riverlands. Day excursions or overnight trips. www.DiscoveryRiverCruises.co.nz

Fishing Spots on the Peninsula - Harbour
- Te Toro boat ramp. Mataawau Point. Off the beach at Gap Road Orua Bay.

- Coast
- Hamiltons Gap, West Coast Road.

- Karioitahi Beach - Permit required for vehicle use on beach from www.

Auckland Council.govt.nz/beachaccess

Harbour Walks - Awhitu Regional Park to Mataawau Point. Temp closure due to storm damage from Huttson Road creek use beach to Mataawau Pt-Tikalo, care needed.

Horse Riding - Karioitahi Beach - Waiuku Forest - Awhitu Park. Trails and unloading areas, free (bring your own horse).

- Oranmore Farms Trekking - Guided treks over farmland. Minimum age 10 yrs. Ph 021335500

- Silverfernriding - Riding, Waiuku Forest trails and lessons on a farm at Baldhill.
www.SilverfernRiding.nz Ph 0274383001

Information Centre - Waiuku Visitor Centre, opposite Kentish Queen St, Waiuku, ph 092356201, (10.00am - 3.00pm Tuesday to Sunday, winter hrs)

Karioitahi Beach Access - Access on foot or by horse is available 24hrs (including the designated area for horse floats/trucks). Access for any other vehicles is by council permit. Annual permits are free of charge and can be obtained from Auckland Council offices or the Auckland Council website. The beach is officially a road, unregistered motor vehicles are not permitted. www.AucklandCouncil.govt.nz/beachaccess

Kayak Hire - Stressfree Eco Adventures. Seakayaks, SOT fishing and recreational Sit on Top and sit in side family kayaks.
New Visitor Potential for the Waiuku -Awhitu Area

The pending closure (May 1) of most of Waitakere Forest walking trails could be followed by similar at Hunau Forest for the native forest areas. This gives us the opportunity to promote the town and the Peninsula as a viable alternative bus trip for day visitors to our area.

We have a local bus company already set up to do trips in the area for people arriving by bus/train. There are seven regular bus companies currently doing full or half day trips in the Auckland Waitakere area. A number have already thought of the Hunua Forest as an alternative but if that closes?

The Waiuku / Peninsula area lends itself to whole day trips from Auckland with

- Water fall visit at Waitangi Falls (needs toilets!) if the trip has not the time to visit Humua Falls
- Wild West Coast black sand beaches (as per North West Auckland) (Has toilets)
- Auckland's only lighthouse and one of only two in NZ that have internal access and viewing. (Has toilets).
- Short native forest bush walks, Matakawau, (has toilets nearby) and a drive thru/past kauris on Boiler Gully Road on the way to Awhitu Wines. Bus trips only allow short walks on Loopy tracks, (tourists need to return to start point for transport).
- Lunch breaks and walks on white sand beaches and farm park, Awhitu (has toilets). Awhitu Golf Course on the park has a licenced restaurant that currently opens on Friday evenings for meals and for afternoon tea on one day each weekend. It could open at other times if there was sufficient customers, or for booked bus trips. (Has toilets).
- Glenbrook Vintage Railway has potential to open its workshop on non-travel days
- A drink in the oldest licensed pub in NZ, the Kentish. (Has toilets). Can also be used for lunch if wet weather.
- A number of very good cafes in town, one of which has off-road parking. (Near public toilets)
- Waiiku Cemetery is the final resting place and headstone of the mother of Edward Constable, the 'father' of Waiuku's. Elspeth Constable was born in Kent, England in 1779, the same year that Captain James Cook discoverer of NZ for the British, was killed in Hawaii after his third voyage to NZ.
Colin J Harrington
Tourism Related C.V.

Previous
Tourism Related Background

Started in Tourism (Visitor) Industry as a resident of Awhitu.

1986 - Wool and crafts, with lunches for bus groups (Resource consent from Franklin District Council).

1989 - First President of Tourism Franklin Inc. (Wrote the incorporation documents for four Tourism/Visitor industry groups in the Franklin and Auckland area).

1993 - Under contract to Franklin District Council, set up and arranged funding for the first official Tourism NZ backed Visitor Information Network, Motorway based Information Centre on a motorway in NZ. Organised the set up and funding (by Franklin District Council and BP NZ).

The Franklin Information Centre was opened by the Deputy Prime Minister in 1993, staffed for 7 days a week. With ongoing funding provided in a BP owned and outfitted centre with a 3x3x3 year contract, rent free, and with annual grants from Franklin District Council - staff wages and expenses.

# This information Centre ran for 20+ years. It was closed (2012) by ATEED in favour of internet based online information and booking systems (along with another six i-SITES from towns amalgamated into Auckland City, all but the original four Auckland i-SITE Visitor Centres, which this year were closed or on sold to a Queenstown tourism consortium).

1996 – Trading as Stressfree Adventures and since 2007 as Stressfree Adventures Ltd Running adventures activities - kayaking, mountain biking on the Awhitu Peninsula.

Current
Tourism related Projects

I have been one of the volunteer front desk information people for a number of years at the Waiuku Information Centre which is in the Waiuku Business and Development Association offices and supported by the Business Association – rent, rates etc. (but currently has no funding for setting up projects such as Awhitu Trails.