

Banks Peninsula Walking Festival 2019

Programme

The Banks Peninsula Walking Festival runs over four weekends in November. Get off the beaten track, explore parts of Banks Peninsula not usually open to the public, visit local reserves and appreciate projects in progress. Our local guides will lead, inform and inspire you along the way!

See the full program below; select your walks, and then book. Be aware that places are limited and that walks fill up fast.

ALL WALKS MUST BE BOOKED AND PAID FOR IN ADVANCE

1. Prior to booking have ready your credit card and contact details plus emergency numbers for yourself and any others you are booking for.

2. To book visit <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/tickets/new-zealand/tour/2019/2019-banks-peninsula-walking-festival>

[Please be aware that credit card fees apply to bookings.](#)

3. Eventfinda will email you a ticket for each walk you book. Prior to your walk you will receive a separate email from the Festival Co-ordinator with a 'Walk Information Sheet' giving you details of the meeting point for your walk and what you need to wear and bring.

4. On the day of your walk please visit www.bpwalks.co.nz to check for any changes. Walks proceed in most weather conditions, but will be cancelled in severe weather. Full refunds are paid only if walks are cancelled by the Festival.

You are responsible for your own safety, equipment, vehicle and food. You must wear sturdy walking shoes or tramping boots and bring warm clothing, water, sun hat, sunscreen and a waterproof layer, plus lunch and snacks as stated in the programme. Walking poles are strongly advised.

If you do not have a computer or require assistance, please phone Festival Co-ordinator Sue on 021 0417 or email at bpwalkingfest@gmail.com

Book early to avoid disappointment!

Visit our "Banks Peninsula Walking Festival" Facebook page



Calling all keen photographers

We are always looking for great photos of the festival to celebrate it and promote it. If you are a keen photographer and are happy to share some of your photos (especially shots with people in them) please email bpwalkingfest@gmail.com Please be aware that photographs taken during the Walking Festival may be used for promotional purposes.

Take advantage of this Special Offer – Present your ticket to receive a 25% discount off all Traverse Walking Poles from Hunting & Fishing, Tower Junction



Walk Difficulty Key:

EASY WALK - Well formed track, easy mostly flat walking

WALK - Partly formed track, some up and down

TRAMP - Track mostly unformed with prolonged up and down

ROUTE - unformed and rough surface with prolonged up and down

Use these key words to check the walk is suitable for your abilities before booking!

Saturday 2nd November

1 **Kaitorete Spit with QEII Trust Representative Alice Shanks, Anita Spence from DOC Mahaanui, and Denise Ford, Coordinator of the Waihora Ellesmere Trust**

TRAMP Wear tramping boots or sturdy walking shoes, and gaiters or long socks with trousers tucked in to keep sand out of boots. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen and weatherproof gear.

Start time: 9:00am

Duration: Shorter 10km option 4 hours, or longer 16kms option 7-8 hours. This includes carpooling at the start & time for lunch

Cost: \$15

Alice has a goal to walk the entire Spit and around Te Waihora over 5 years and inspire more people to understand the natural and cultural values of the spit, lakeshore and wetlands, and how to access these areas. This walk begins that process. Alice will help you understand the dryland ecology here, and some of the recent issues with maintaining it. Denise will provide her knowledge on the birds, lizards, insects and plants. The walk will involve some car shuffling and carpooling to avoid having to walk there and back. Be prepared for a fascinating day. Note that this will be a moderate to hard walk because of the soft ground, distance, and exposure to wind and sun.

2 **Pā Bay and Greater Okains Bay: Blended Elements of our Landscape with Dr. Sam Hampton, Frontiers Abroad, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Canterbury, and Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū / Banks Peninsula Geopark**

TRAMP: Wear sturdy walking shoes with good grip or hiking boots. Bring snacks, lunch, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, layered clothing and a waterproof jacket

Start time: 9:30am

Duration: 7.5 hours

Cost: \$15

This walk begins in Okains Bay, and follow farms tracks through Kawatea (Little Okains Bay) and out along the eastern headland to the isolated Pā Bay. This walk will guide you through the geology of Banks Peninsula and explore the eruptive process and mechanisms of the rock exposures on the shore platform of Pā Bay. We examine the features of the pā sites (defences), kāinga (village), and gardens that are still recognisable in the landscape, and how the natural setting, biodiversity and resources led to the occupation and development of these sites. We will further discuss how our geology, ecology, archaeology and cultural history are interwoven in the 'Te Pātaka o Rākaihautū / Banks Peninsula Geopark'.

3 **Head of the Harbour Hike - Governors Bay with Peter Coldicott**

TRAMP: Wear sturdy boots. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen and weatherproof gear. Walking poles advised.

Start time: 9:30am

Duration: 6½ hours. Walk climbs about 500m.

Cost: \$15

Take a journey with Peter and treat yourself to this varied round trip walk along little-known paths above Governors Bay. Starting at the Summit Road enjoy the native bush clad gully's and rock outcrops, through to Ōhinetahi Reserve and gently contour around O'Farrell's Track and the crater rim to Living Springs, with spectacular views of the harbour. The smell of the sea beckons, through Living Springs passing by a gnarly 800-year-old Kahikatea tree, arguably the oldest on the Peninsula. Rest the legs round the foreshore walk by the sea, past volcanic rock formations and Sage Reserve. Finally walk up another little-known track from the Bay back up to the Summit Road. Peter has lived in Governors Bay for over 25 years, but says he is still not quite a local! You may get to hear about some of his own adventures along the way – hiking from Mexico to Canada and sailing to the Antarctic Peninsula to go skiing just to name a couple!

4 A 'Plalk' along Charteris Bay with Sarah Pritchett and Lisa Hurry

WALK: Wear sturdy walking shoes or boots. Bring gloves, reusable washable bags for collecting rubbish, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, jacket and camera

Start time: 10:30am

Duration: 2-3 hours

Cost: \$12

Back by request we are delighted to have a "plalk" on our programme again this year. Based on the popular sport of "plogging" you will have the chance to enhancing the environment by picking up any litter you find en-route from Charteris Bay to Church Bay. Starting at Paradise Beach you will journey past the Yacht Club, along the cliff track to Hayes Bay, continuing around Black Point before ending in Church Bay. Enjoy tea, coffee and biscuits with Sarah and Lisa at the end as a 'thanks' for all of your effort! Choose to either walk or car pool back to the start. Be aware that some areas of track are narrow and steep, but will be tackled slowly so should be easily manageable. Note that we can arrange transport from the Diamond Harbour Ferry if needed.

Sunday 3rd November

5 'Marooned on Quail Island' Nature Walk and Pirates Treasure Hunt with Ian McLennan from the Ōtamahua / Quail Island Ecological Restoration Trust, Suky Thompson from Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust, and Rachel Brown from DOC

WALK Wear sturdy walking shoes or boots. Bring snacks, lunch, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, camera and jacket.

Start time: 9:45am-3:30pm

Duration: 6-7 hours

Cost: \$35 adults, \$20 children - includes Ferry

Hop onto the Black Cat ferry and find yourself marooned on Ōtamahua/Quail Island for a fabulous fun day out with the family. Enjoy a nature trail, guided by Ian McLennan, from the Quail Island Ecological Restoration Trust. Take time to laze around on the beach, dare a dip, explore on your own, and 'get back to nature' in this beautiful setting. Save some energy for the 'OOOH AARG' Pirates Treasure Hunt in the afternoon. Get the kids racing around, with prizes for all participants. Check out Ōtamahua Hut – the family friendly island accommodation, and get inspired to plan a future visit with family and friends to create your own overnight adventure!

6 Hukahuka Turoa Walk with Antony & Fran Johnson, Annelies & Kees Pekelharing, Jody & Sandra Tuckwell, David Cameron & Jo Hewitson

TRAMP Wear tramping boots or sturdy walking shoes. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle and weatherproof gear.

Start time: 10:00am

Duration: 6 hours including time to carpool to start, 7kms. Walk climbs about 600m.

Cost: \$15

Climb up through four remote private properties off Montgomery's Road above Little River and visit their amazing combined Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust bush covenant. Start in regenerating forest, following the Hukahuka Turoa Stream, and continue through established kanuka and gorse scrub to grasslands. Climb to the ridge line overlooking the Kaituna Spur Scenic Reserve. Experience a changing landscape from retired farmland to established native bush with the land owners whose inspiration drives this splendid project.

7 Takamatua - The Middle Ground with Hugh and Kathrine Fraser

TRAMP Wear tramping boots or walking shoes with good grip. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen and weatherproof gear.

Start time: 10:30am

Duration: 4 hours, 5kms. Walk climbs about 200m

Cost: \$15

Starting at the Frasers farm with a carpool to the Heritage Park you will have the opportunity to take a guided walk through farmland, traversing across the Takamatua Valley. Gain a glimpse of Peninsula farming life and stop for lunch at the well-appointed 'smoko' hut, enjoying spectacular views of the Akaroa Basin. Drop down to the Valley floor, meandering past the creek, passing through native bush and visiting the beautiful waterfall on the property before returning to the starting point.

8 Governors Bay Heritage Trail with Local Historian David Bundy

EASY Wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen and jacket

Start time: 1:00pm

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: \$12

Discover hidden heritage gems of Governors Bay that you would never spot from your car and delve into the past with well-respected local historian David Bundy. A foreshore stroll, stunning harbour views, stories and charming old buildings make this walk a winning combination. Timed to allow you to enjoy lunch first in one of the lovely eateries in the center of Governors Bay and then gently work it off.

Saturday 9th November

9 Little Port Cooper Packsaddle Track with Sam Yeatman

TRAMP: Wear sturdy boots. Bring lunch, water bottle, sunscreen, sunhat, layered clothing and a waterproof jacket.

Start time: 9:30am

Duration: 5 hours, 9km

Cost: \$15

Te Pohue (Camp Bay), located in Lyttelton Harbour, is steeped in history, loaded with tales of French occupation, Maori vegetable gardens and harsh conditions of early European settlement. Te Pohue farm is 306 hectares and ranges from mainly steep tussock covered native pastures thick with over-sown clovers, to flat hilltops and rolling home paddocks. With scenery and views that will blow you away once you're on top of the farm, your hiking excursion continues out to a private accessed beach at Little Port Cooper, just as stunning as Camp Bay but more remote. Stop for a lunch break and view the 1890 School House at Little Port Cooper.

10 Robinsons Bay – Past to Present with Suky Thompson and Sue Church from Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust

EASY: Wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring picnic lunch, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen and a waterproof jacket

Start time: 10:30

Duration: 2 hours including lunch, 2kms

Cost: \$12 adult and \$3 per child

It is easy to drive past Robinsons Bay in the rush to Akaroa and miss the charms of this quiet valley. Discover the Story Trail in the secret School Reserve, see inside one of the smallest Post offices in Canterbury and meet local celebrities Poppy and Pickles. Learn how pioneers here changed the face of Banks Peninsula forever, stroll past the picturesque Pavitt Cottage and take the chance to wander through the award winning "Robinsons Bay Olive Grove". Enjoy a picnic lunch before passing through the 'Woodlands' native wetland covenant on the way back to your car. A fun morning out for all the family.

11 Grunts and Dykes with Robin Burleigh

TRAMP Wear tramping boots or sturdy walking shoes. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen and weatherproof gear.

Start time: 10.30am

Duration: 4-5 hours. Walk climbs about 450m

Cost: \$15

Explore new and old tracks in Panama Reserve at Le Bons Bay with Reserve Manager Robin Burleigh. Hike up to Langer Lodge and then through a dense jungle of native forest up the side of fantastic lava dyke that fed the rock dome. Reach the summit of the dome for magnificent views before heading down the steep "Grunt" track back to the lodge to linger over a well deserved lunch. Relax at Langer Lodge then head down to see the new family friendly mini-camp ground. Car pool back to the start.

Sunday 10th November

12 Explore Te Oka Reserve with Neil Brown and CCC Ranger John Fitch

TRAMP: Wear tramping boots. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, walking pole and weather proof gear

Start time: 9:30am

Duration: 8 hours including time to carpool to start. Walk climbs about 600m

Cost: \$15

Christchurch City Council has been gradually opening up Te Oka, its massive 900ha reserve, rising from the sea to the summit in the remote Southern Bays. Explore the depths of the reserve not currently signposted for public use and reach the bunkhouse by lunchtime. Then hit the beach before heading back up the tussock spur grassland track and appreciate this vast landscape with a multiple of ecological environments to observe.

13 Ōtepātotu – Place of the Fairies with Department of Conservation Rangers Vanessa Mander and Leeann Ellis

TRAMP: Wear sturdy walking shoes or boots. Bring morning tea, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, layered clothing and jacket

Start time: 10am

Duration: 1.5 to 2 hours. 1.6km, walk climbs about 150m

Cost: \$12 per adult and \$3 per child

This is a great walk for families. Nearing the summit of Lavericks Peak, trees are hung with weeping moss, creating a 'goblin forest' atmosphere, appropriate to the loose translation of the name Ōtepātotu, 'place of the fairies'. Enjoy morning tea on the tops, or down in the forest if windy. The return track travels down through a native fuchsia/kōtukutuku gully forest on the southern side – important kai for native birds. Look out for the 'Toyota Kiwi Guardians' post along the way, so you can redeem your medal afterwards. Bring a camera to record the amazing panoramic views and mysterious goblin forest! Please note that this is a steep track with steps and a reasonable level of fitness is required. Not suitable for children under 5 unless carried or experienced walkers.

14 Botanical Whaka Raupo with Brian Downey and Wendy Everingham

TRAMP: Wear boots. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, walking pole and weatherproof gear.

Start time: 10am

Duration: 6 hours. Length 9km. Walk climbs 450m.

Cost: \$15

Take a geological and botanical tramp with dedicated local experts to observe and learn more of the volcanic formations and native vegetation in the Port Hills above Lyttelton. Taking your time to stop and observe, discover some of the 140 known native plants in this area fossicking around the rocky knolls looking at shrubs, herbs, ferns and trees. A steep ascent is rewarded with an overland traverse in the region of The Tors and spectacular views of Lyttelton Harbour before descending down the historic Bridle Path.

15 Allandale to Living Springs with Anna Colombus

WALK Wear tramping boots or sturdy walking shoes. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen and weatherproof gear.

Start time: 10:00am

Duration: 3 hours including lunch, walk climbs 200m, length 2kms

Cost: \$15

From Allandale wind uphill through the Living Springs restoration plantings and existing bush, including an 800 year old Kahikatea tree. Ranger Anna will discuss the conservation efforts of Living Springs, particularly regarding the recent fire event nearby, the effects of which have influenced their planting programme. Learn more about this fantastic property that stretches from sea level to the crater rim and their aspirations to become an Eco-Sanctuary for Christchurch. Enjoy a break for lunch at the Camp and either walk back down or travel by van back to the start.

Saturday 16th November

16 Carews Peak Adventure - From Swamp to Summit with DOC Ranger Tom MacTavish

ROUTE Wear tramping boots. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen and weatherproof gear.

Start time: 9:30am

Duration: 7 hours including time to carpool to the start, 6kms

Cost: \$15

Explore the new DOC reserve encompassing the top of Carews Peak above Wainui, traversing conservation land between a regionally rare wetland and the third highest point on the southern summit ridgeline of Banks Peninsula. Prepare for a bit of a pioneering adventure, with tracks still unformed, but enjoy spectacular views in all directions, a wealth of knowledge from your guide, and lots of fun along the way!

17 Waibls Track to Coopers Knob with Gina Waibl

WALK Wear tramping boots or sturdy walking shoes. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen and weatherproof gear.

Start time: 10:00am

Duration: 2-3 hours, walk climbs 200m, length 4kms

Cost: \$15

Get really off the beaten track and enjoy stunning views of Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere and Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō on this special walk across private farmland near Gebbies Pass. This is an easy walk suitable for a range of ages and fitness, but the track is rough and only partly formed for much of the way. Climb over Coopers Knob and continue up above Ahuriri Reserve, before returning through regenerating scrub and along the spectacular ridgeline. Carpooling at the start removes the sting from the climb.

18 Hinewai Night Walk “A” with Paul Newport & Tricia Hewlett

EASY Wear sturdy boots. Bring a good quality head torch and a warm jacket.

Start time: 8:30-10:30pm

Duration: 2 hours, length 1km

Cost: \$15 adult, \$10 Child

Please note that Children must be 8 years old or over and accompanied by an adult.

Meet Hinewai Reserve’s night critters. Take a torchlight stroll through Hinewai’s Lower Valley Track seeking wētā, moths, spiders, slugs, beetles, fish and other creatures of the night. This is a rare opportunity to explore our native bush in the dark to discover another “world”. A world of activity with plants seen in a different light. A world of shadows, shading and shimmers, overseen by starry skies.

Sunday 17th November

19 Catherine Marshall Reserve Covenant – including Duvauchelle Peak, with Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust Covenants Officer Marie Neal and Landcare Scientist Dr Susan Wisser

ROUTE: Wear Tramping boots or very sturdy walking shoes (no sneakers please). Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat (or woolly hat if weather marginal), sunscreen, layered clothing and weatherproof gear.

Start time: 10:00am

Duration: 4.5 hours - 4.5kms with a 200m climb at altitude

Cost: \$15

Come and join the Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust for a walk around the privately-owned Catherine Marshall Reserve at the Head of Pipers Valley. The route will take you past the original 20ha gully covenant, and then up onto the spectacular new 5ha rocky outcrop extension which includes Duvauchelle Peak itself. Take in beautiful views of the species-diverse regenerating forest and hear fabulous birdsong along the way. From the magnificent bluffs enjoy a spectacular 360° panoramic view of the Peninsula, and on a clear day to the Kaikoura ranges. There will be plenty of opportunities to rest and take photos while learning more about our incredible and unique rocky outcrop flora and fauna from Dr Susan Wisser as we go along. Note that a good level of fitness is required for this walk.

20 “Heart of Hinewai” Circuit with Hugh Wilson and Paul Newport

Tramp Wear sturdy walking boots. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sun hat, sunscreen, layered clothing including waterproof jacket

Start time: 10:00am

Duration: 4-5 hours, walk climbs about 500m, length 6.5kms

Cost: \$15

The 4-5 hour circle takes in much of the diversity that Hinewai offers – regenerating bush, majestic old-growth red beech forest, ancient podocarps, wildlife (especially birds), streams, waterfalls, lookouts with amazing views, guides with intimate knowledge of the Reserve, and time to linger at the Visitors Centre near the end. Reasonable fitness is needed as the circuit descends from 500m down to 200m, then an altitude gain of 400m before the return down West Track – finally 50m from the Visitors Centre back up to the Wahanui (Main Entrance) Carpark.

21 Changing Vegetation of Diamond Harbour Reserves with Pete Ozich

WALK Wear sturdy walking shoes or boots. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, layered clothing and waterproof jacket

Start time: 10:00am

Duration: 3 hours, walk climbs about 200 m, length 6 km

Cost: \$15

Follow the coastal track from Diamond Harbour to Purau then saunter back on a historic stock route to return via Morgan’s Gully. Pete will describe his successful battle against wanton banana passion fruit and the transformation of the reserve to healthy beauty! See the impacts that people have had on the changing flora as the walk traverses through different ecosystems, both managed and unmanaged. Enjoy stunning views of Lyttelton Harbour and Godley Head, as you learn how the human introduced vegetation dramatically alters the landscape and environment.

Saturday 23rd November

22 Mt Pearce Ridge Walk with QEII Trust Representative Alice Shanks

TRAMP Wear tramping boots or sturdy walking shoes. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen and weatherproof gear.

Start time: 10:00am

Duration: 6 hours, climbs 220m, length 10kms

Cost: \$15

The ridgeline between Pigeon Bay and Little Akaloa has expansive views in all directions. From the Summit Road climb to the remote and little known DOC Reserve on Mt Pearce, traverse through a QEII National Trust covenant on private land and across farmland to the even less well-known Goodwin Reserve. Bring your camera! – the century old tōtara logs on the ridge and wind-sculptured regenerating bush are immensely photogenic. We won’t rush - there will be time to look closely at the vegetation and birds.

23 Godley Head’s Antarctic Hut and Penguins with Guides Dr. Bryan Storey and Richard Suggate from the Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust, and Penguin Researcher Dr. Chris Challies assisted by members of the White-Flipped Penguin Trust.

WALK Wear tramping boots or sturdy walking shoes. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen & weatherproof gear.

Start time: 10am

Duration: 5-6hrs, length 8kms

Cost: \$15

Start your exploration of stunning Godley Head with a new opportunity to get inside Scott’s Antarctic cabin, a joint relocation and restoration project between the Crichton family and DOC. Valerie and David Crichton, who donated the cabin, will say a few words about how the cabin came into their possession and their future vision for it. Learn more from Bryan Storey, retired director of Gateway Antarctica, then head off to see Godley Head’s WWII military defence relics. Get up close to Harris Bay’s unique penguin colony, with expert Dr. Chris Challies and members of the White-Flipped Penguin Trust. Visit www.penguin.org.nz or www.facebook.com/whiteflippedpenguitrust to learn more about their amazing work. Be prepared for scramble down to the rocks to the colony. Stunning views in all directions are a highlight of the day.

24 Ōhinetahi Reserve - Watlings and Bush Road Tracks with Viv and Mike Smith

TRAMP: Wear tramping boots or sturdy walking shoes. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, walking poles & weather proof gear.

Start time: 10am

Duration: 3 hours, 400m climb

Cost: \$15

Enjoy this section of the Summit Road Society's Ōhinetahi Reserve on the Watlings and Bush Road Tracks. Keep going up (and up!!) through native bush to the Summit, taking in spectacular scenery that gives you views right down Lyttelton Harbour. Keep a look out for tomtits, fantails, bellbirds and kāhu as you go and the volcanic bluffs that come into view as you come out of the bush. Hear first-hand from local volunteer fire fighters Viv and Mike as they share their experiences fighting the Port Hills fires in 2017, the impact the event had on the Reserve, and the natural regeneration that is now occurring since then. Please note that a reasonable level of fitness required.

25 Ecology of the Port Saddle and History of Lyttelton Port with Banks Peninsula Conservation Trusts Kate Whyte and Sophie Hartnell, and Neil McLennan, Lyttelton Port Company

WALK: Wear boots or sturdy walking shoes. Bring snacks, drink bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, layered clothing and waterproof jacket

Start time: 10:30am

Duration: 2.5 to 3 hours, 2km and climbing 150m

Cost: \$15

Enjoy panoramic views of Whakaraupo/Lyttelton Harbour from the Port Saddle, located between Sumner Road and the eastern edge of Lyttelton Township. The Banks Peninsula Conservation Trust (BPCT) and the Lyttelton Port Company (LPC) have partnered to restore native biodiversity by removing weeds and pests and restoring habitat through planting native trees. The walk will include ecological insight of the land and fascinating insight into the Port's history and development for the future.

26 Hinewai Night Walk "B" with Paul Newport & Tricia Hewlett

EASY Wear sturdy boots. Bring a good quality head torch and a warm jacket.

Start time: 8:30-10:30pm

Duration: 2 hours, length 1km

Cost: \$15 adult, \$10 Child

Please note that Children must be 8 years old or over and accompanied by an adult.

Meet Hinewai Reserve's night critters. Take a torchlight stroll through Hinewai's Lower Valley Track seeking wētā, moths, spiders, slugs, beetles, fish and other creatures of the night. This is a rare opportunity to explore our native bush in the dark to discover another "world". A world of activity with plants seen in a different light. A world of shadows, shading and shimmers, overseen by starry skies.

Sunday 24th November

27 Kids Nature Trail - Gibraltar Rock and Omahu Bush with Marie Gray and Paul Tebbutt, Summit Road Society

WALK Wear sturdy walking shoes or boots. Bring snacks, lunch, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, camera and jacket.

Start time: 10:00am-2:00pm

Duration: Two options – 1 hour for shorter 1km walk to Gibraltar Rock or 4 hours and 6km to Anne's Falls

Cost: \$12 per adult and \$3 per child

Join us for this kids adventure around Gibraltar Rock and down to the waterfall in Omahu Bush. The first section up to Gibraltar Rock is 1km return and is suitable for younger children. It involves a short walk through native bush, across grassland and up to a 502m high volcanic crag, Gibraltar Rock. We will stop for morning tea and then return back down to the bush. Here families will have the option to return to the carpark or continue down to the waterfall. The walk to Anne's Falls through Omahu Bush follows Kirks track and Nelsons tracks. This walk is about 5km in total and is suitable for adults and older children. The bush is a magical place, full of old remnant and regenerating bush and renowned for its ferns. Children will be given a nature trail checklist to find plants, flowers and fungi as we go. We will have lunch at the bottom of Rhodes track before heading back up through the bush to the carpark.

Children need to be accompanied by an adult with maximum of 5 children per adult.

28 'Recce' on Rocky Peak with Suky Thompson, Rod Donald Banks Peninsula Trust Manager and Sam Gillooly, the new DOC Ranger

TRAMP Wear tramping boots or sturdy walking shoes. Bring snacks, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen walking poles & weatherproof gear.

Start time: 10am

Duration: 4 hrs including lunch, length 5kms, 200m steep climb

Cost: \$15

Head up from Hilltop through Montgomery Reserve, on a steep track recently improved by the Trust and DOC as part of the Te Ara Pātaka project. Pay homage to the largest tōtara tree on Banks Peninsula, hear about plans to protect it, & spot some other remarkable specimens as you climb up the rock staircase through a narrow cleft in the ramparts of Montgomery Peak. Then reconnoitre on Rocky Peak in the Peninsula's newest reserve – another Te Ara Pātaka partnership success. Descend past more tōtara giants in the new reserve before car pooling to Hilltop Tavern for a well-earned lunch. Bring money for lunch.

29 Children's Bay Farm Walk with Debra & Humphry Rolleston

WALK Wear sturdy walking shoes or boots. Bring snacks, lunch, water bottle, sunhat, sunscreen, camera and jacket

Start time: 10:30am-1:00pm

Duration: 2.5 hours, length 6km

Cost: \$12

For those of you who have been to visit the famous Akaroa 'Rhino' there is now the opportunity to explore further on a new track around the entire headland between Akaroa and Takamatua, with spectacular views of the harbour, hills and historic. The walk will give you a unique opportunity to walk with the landowners Debra and Humphry Rolleston who have created this track on their property. You will also meet a long-extinct Moa along the way and visit the sheep resting under the trees. Loop back via Takamatua to return to Childrens Bay foreshore with a picnic stop en route.

30 Lyttelton Heritage Homes and Buildings with Local Historian Liza Rossie

WALK: Wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring a sunhat, jacket and camera

Start time: 11am

Duration: 1.5 hours, 1.5km

Cost: \$12

Liza has carries out extensive research for the Lyttelton Historic area and has a great knowledge of all of the local buildings, including those that were lost in the 2011 earthquakes. Starting with the oldest home, Grubb Cottage, walk through layers of history looking at different eras of historic homes in Lyttelton and the stories linked to these. Be prepared for some steep streets and to be surprised by the quirky charms of Lyttelton. Make the most of one of Lytteltons great cafes for lunch when you have finished!