

**MOTUEKA 50+ WALKING GROUP**

**AGM AGENDA**

**10.00am, 27 March 2025**

**RSA, High Street, Motueka**

**1. WELCOME**

Welcome everyone to the AGM for 2025

New members or visitors present? None.

**2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from: Fran Forsey, Dean and Petreah Carroll, Elaine Taggart, Maria Bennich, Wayne Chisnall, Kathy Chandler, Margaret Besier, Gwen Brookes, Trevor and Carol Michell.

Any further apologies?

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM 18 April 2024**

The Minutes of the April 18th 2024 AGM have been emailed to you all, posted on the website and there is a copy here on this table.

I propose that the Minutes be taken as read and to be accepted as a true and correct record.

Seconded: Daph Hamilton

Sign Minutes.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Are there any matters arising from the 2024 AGM Minutes?

**5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Motueka 50+ Walking Group**

**President's Report**

**AGM at Motueka RSA on 27.03.25**

This report is presented on behalf of the Motueka 50+ Walking Group for the period April 2024 – March 2025.

**Highlights:**

We successfully organised 109 walks during this period, covering a diverse range of terrain and distances, from gentle strolls to challenging tramps. This included 5 new walks.

The Westpac Rescue Helicopter was NOT called this past year, and we made our usual \$500 donation.

However, there were two near misses!

Our annual Xmas party was very enjoyable at Lillian Turner's property, where 40 members enjoyed great shared food and a swim. One of our best turnouts!

While I was away from mid-April to mid-June, the Group continued under the expert guidance of Tony Pearson. Thanks again Tony.

The mid-winter lunch at Club Waimea was popular as usual, as a bus provided transport for some, and 47 members enjoyed the social catch-up and delicious smorgasbord.

Three intrepid members summited Mt Arthur on Feb 6 (Waitangi Day), continuing this challenging tradition. For the first time, our Group volunteered to plant trees, on this occasion at Baton Valley. As it happened, we were delayed by huge tree falls which blocked the Baton Valley Rd enroute. It was a nice opportunity to 'give back' to the manager, Ange Palmer, who kindly allowed us to walk on the property, tour Baton House and have lunch on her sheltered deck.

### **Challenges:**

The weather was kind this past year with only two cancellations due to heavy rain.

Bus trips: After much time and research Tony has found a great air-conditioned Coastal bus with a volunteer driver, at a reasonable cost. This was very popular recently with a trip to Golden Bay and another to Lake Rotoiti, for W3 members. However, this Coastal bus is at risk of being discontinued by TDC, if there is no increase in patronage. Our Group would certainly like the service to continue.

Membership numbers: Sadly, in the past twelve months four members have passed away: Moppie Sharples, Maureen Harris, Ann Bassford and Ann Adams. We have gained 11 new members, so our total membership is now 150. Our honorary membership (over 80-year-olds) has increased to 58, which is 38% of total membership, plus one Godwit. This ever-growing group is strong and supportive to many of our members, especially those who have lost a partner recently. I hope the regular walking is also contributing to this group's longevity!

Volunteering: As noted in my report last year, this is our biggest challenge! For various reasons volunteering in NZ has declined: Popularity of E-bike groups, the economy keeping us working longer or P/T, babysitting grandkids while their parents work, holidays, or overseas trips, not wanting to take responsibility, not wanting a regular Thursday commitment, existing volunteers wanting to 'step back,' volunteer 'fatigue' and so on. Examples include the closure of Motueka Lionesses, many Scout and Guide groups, and an SPCA group in Hokitika. Thank you to those who have emailed me to offer support or to volunteer part-time.

**The Way Forward:** Recently our Walking Group was about to wind down, due to a lack of nominations for key positions. There was a need to stimulate interest in on-going organisational leadership. I breathed a sigh of relief as 10 new volunteers emailed to help on a shared or part-time basis. Many thanks to Petreah for initiating this response and starting a conversation. We had a coffee meeting, (as everything is easier with coffee), and after some discussion and votes, we came up with a plan. The President, Vice-President and Secretary role will be replaced by a pair of Co-ordinators, who will rotate quarterly. One member of this pair will 'hold the ball' ie hold overall responsibility, and the Group laptop. The Group email address will remain the same ie [secretary50pluswalkers@gmail.com](mailto:secretary50pluswalkers@gmail.com) This shared role is vital when unexpected things happen and is not set in stone. This will be a one-year trial, followed by a review.

It was decided to change to quarterly RSA meetings. These will be in April, July, October, and January, and will be chaired by the relevant pair of Co-ordinators. The next AGM will be rescheduled to April 2026. The members who wanted a more 'social focus', were asked if a monthly coffee meeting, when no RSA meeting was scheduled, was wanted. After some discussion with Estuarians and others, it was decided not to go ahead with this, as they meet weekly for walks and coffee anyway.

Everyone agreed that the quarterly Walks Program is most important. This is currently chaired by Tony Pearson. But, be aware, that this is his last year, as he wants to 'step back' in September. So, a replacement chair-person will be required sooner rather than later. We look forward to someone stepping up to give Tony a well-deserved break.

**Thankyou:** I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all our members for their continued enthusiasm and support. We have had lots of good times together and created many lasting friendships and memories.

A special thanks to Tony Pearson who was our Walks Chairman, for his constant support, knowledge, research, experience, good humour and for sometimes saying “No” to my crazy ideas! To Karen Gregory, who was our secretary for the past nearly 4 years, who has regularly saved my bacon when there were last minute changes and absentees from our monthly meetings. Also, for looking after any new members and making them feel welcome. To the members who willingly gave their time, vehicles, and experience to recce new walks: Ross McDonald, Bob White, Karen Gregory, Mark Falloon, Sarah Smeaton, Norah Morris, Jim Smith, Tony and Vivienne Pearson, and Polly Dyson. To Ross McDonald and Kevin Piper, for their time and expertise to create new maps, update existing maps, compose text for maps and managing the grading system. To Jim Smith, for the very interesting historical compositions he has researched before the relevant walks. To all 31 Committee members who do an amazing job to keep the wheels of this Group turning smoothly. As I now step down from this position, I take this opportunity to wish the Walking Group every success, and especially to wish the new Co-ordinators well in their endeavours.

Sincerely,  
Anita Lasenby  
President, Motueka 50+ Walking Group.

## **6. TREASURER’S REPORT**

### **Bill**

to give his annual financial report, 2024/25  
to propose the adoption of the report:  
Seconded: Neville Bibby

Is everyone in agreement to adopt our Treasurer’s report?  
(Passed)

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

Any correspondence pertinent to the AGM?  
Email from Bob White, who wants to resign as Landowner Contact, due to knee issues.  
Email from Kathy Chandler, thanking Anita for everything and wishing the new Co-ordinators well in their new roles.

## **8. THE WAY FORWARD**

### **Anita**

As there were no nominations for President, Vice-President or Secretary, there will be a change in our Group’s structure and meeting schedule.

### **How will this work?**

As Anita already explained the Group structure in her President’s Report, she asked if there any questions about how we go forward.

No questions.

For clarity, the following is included for those who were unable to attend the AGM:

### **Positions:**

- No President or Vice-President
- New shared role, combining previous responsibilities of President, Vice-P and Secretary.
- Shared by pairs of members, one member of pair will 'hold the ball' ie hold overall responsibility, and the Group laptop.
- Group email address status quo ie [secretary50pluswalkers@gmail.com](mailto:secretary50pluswalkers@gmail.com)
- Title: Co-ordinators
- Rotate quarterly after quarterly meetings
- Names of relevant Co-ordinators will be at bottom of your Walks Programs
- Share this role when one member of pair is N/A eg sick, holidays...
- Trial for one year. Then review.

### **Meetings:**

- RSA quarterly mtgs as a trial: Jan, Apr, July, Oct.
- AGM re-scheduled to April 2026
- Co-ordinators will chair these mtgs
- Anita asked Estuarians via Jane Cumming: If monthly informal social meetings at a local café wanted by Estuarians, when no quarterly mtgs scheduled. After some discussion, the request was declined.

### **Quarterly Walks Program:**

- Walks Program is 'most important' Therefore keep 'status quo'
- Walks Planning Committee is currently chaired by Tony Pearson. But he wants to 'step back' after the September W.C. meeting this year. He is happy to recruit a suitable 'apprentice.' Please approach Tony if you want more information or can help.
- All maps cancelled for April, anticipating closure of Group. If maps are required, the Walk Organiser, Leaders and TECS can download from website, using their PW. Be aware: maps may not be up to date!
- Maps will return from May onwards. Distribution via Walks Organisers.

### **Introduce the Co-ordinators:**

April, May, June, July: Cathie Johnson and Jane Smith. (April is handover month)

Aug, Sept, Oct: Dean and Petreah Carroll and Sharon McCarthy

Nov, Dec, Jan 2026: Helena Van der Laan and Marie Firth

Feb, Mar, April: Una McNair and Fran Forsey.

Norah would like to nominate these Co-ordinators for the relevant quarter of the 2025-26 year.

Seconder Tom Macartney

All in favour yes

Any against No

Anita "vacates the chair" and hands over to Cathie and Jane.

**Cathie: Introduces herself** She has been a school principal and still works part time with schools. She has been a member for about a year but believes in the continuation of the Group.

## **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

To save time, existing Committee members have been polled as to whether they are willing to continue serving the Group for the coming year. We are very grateful that the majority have kindly offered to continue in their roles for the next year:

**IT support:** Graham Ingram-Monk

**Treasurer:** Bill Heritage

**Almoner:** Norah Morris

**Walks Organisers:** Neville Bibby, Fran Forsey, Dean and Petreah Carroll, Phil Ferris, Fizz and Geoff McBride, Tony Pearson.

**Estuarians Lead:** Jane Cumming

**Walks Database:** Ross McDonald

**Maps and Gradings:** Ross McDonald and Kevin Piper

**Landowner Contact:** vacant

**Walks Committee Chair:** Tony Pearson

**Walks Committee Secretary:** Mary Devine

**Website Support:** Yvonne Hope

**Group Photographer:** Petreah Carroll

**Radios and Beacons:** Mark Falloon

**Morning Tea Leads:** Trish Ellis, Peter Beaumont, Lindsay & Ruth Cattermole

**RSA House management:** Bevan Cook

**Social Committee Lead:** Elaine Taggart

**Social Committee:** Francis Harris, Faye Green, vacant.

**Sales Table:** Lee Manning, Vivienne Pearson

**Name Badge Distribution:** Faye Green, Marja-Mia Brusse

**Name Badge Production:** Clive Dyson

**Honorary Auditor:** Tom Macartney

We have received nominations for the two vacant positions:

**Landowner Contact:** Sarah Smeaton has been nominated by Bob White but still to be confirmed.

**Social Committee:** Helena Van der Laan has been nominated by Anita Lasenby.

I propose that all the above members receive the approval of the members here today, to continue in the positions they have been nominated for or have volunteered for.

Seconder: Karen Gregory

All in favour yes

Any against no

## **9. THANKS**

**Jane** thanked all members who have carried out their roles in the past year and continue to be willing to carry on with their responsibilities. The Club could not operate without you.

Also, a special thanks to those who are stepping down: Bob White, as Landowner contact, and the multitude of other tasks including recces, laminating documents, navigator and standing in as Radio Keeper. Gary Brown and Angela Janes and Polly Dyson, who helped on the social committee.

## **10. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Walks Committee Meetings**

We have a quarterly Walks Committee Meeting to finalise the next programme and discuss issues and any ideas. This meeting is open to any member. I would like to acknowledge and thank those who have attended regularly and trust they will continue to support the Group. For those who wish to join a meeting of the Walks Committee, this is usually held on a **Monday, 0930am (here) at the RSA for each quarter**. All constructive ideas and comments welcome!

## **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Tony presented Anita and Karen with severance gifts with the Groups best wishes and thanks for services over their time in office.

He also thanked Bob for his time as the Land Owner contact, but this position is still to be confirmed.

## **12. MEETING CLOSED**

**Cathie** declares the meeting closed at 10.37 am.