TIMBER THE

December 2023

Issue 7 Robyn Kehoe | Administrator P: 027 341 4734

E: <u>friendsoftimbertrail@gmail.com</u>
W: fott.org.nz



We wish you a happy and safe holiday season

Merry Christmas everyone, Kia kaha

Christmas is a time to relax and enjoy life. I trust you will find time to do just that.

Bennett Road enhancement project is close to completion and well utilised by trail users.

Come for a walk/cycle to see them and enjoy a day out.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

We had a successful AGM on 20 November, with current committee members being re-elected for another 2 year term, plus 2 new members. To accommodate the enthusiasm of new people coming on board, we expanded our committee numbers.

Welcome to new members Darron Reti and Rachael Dey.

Your committee members are:

- ♦ Trevor Irwin Chair
- ♦ Robyn Kehoe Secretary
- Alaina Goulding Treasurer
- ♦ John Stock
- Lynley Twyman
- ♦ Frances Rata-Hughes
- ♦ Victoria Dawson
- Russell Malone
- Ewen Fraser
- Darron Reti
- Rachael Dey



PLANNING A TRIP—Go to the Timber Trail webpage and you will find all the information you need:

timbertrail.nz/organise

PROVIDERS ALONG THE TRAIL:

The Timber Trail is supported by an eco system of fantastic operators who are just as passionate about getting out riding as you are. All the operators listed here are partner members of the trail and where relevant current Department of Conservation Concession holders.

Timber Trail Lodge

Epic Cycle Adventures

Blackfern Lodge/Cottage/Forge/Shuttle Service

Pureora Cabins

Four B

Timber Trail Farmstay

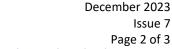
Twin Rivers Cottage

Alexander Motel

Nga Harenga and Piropiro Campsites

Timber Trail Shuttle & Bike Hire





Robyn Kehoe | Administrator P: 027 341 4734





BENNETT ROAD ENHANCEMENT

This project is near completion, with the installation of a new toilet block and shelter. This is the start and finish for many and is also an important stop for Te Araroa walkers and bike packers. On generously hosted private land, our team and contractors have been busy all year to have it ready for this summer season.

Finishes touches to be undertaken soon:

- Install solar panels on the toilet block for lighting
- Investigate improvements to turning and parking options at Bennett Rd for shuttle operators







TO OUR FUNDING PROVIDERS FOR THIS PROJECT AND GENEROUS DONATIONS FROM TRAIL USERS.

Also, to our volunteer team that planned and worked tirelessly to make this project a success.

Our committee has some ideas for future projects, but we would like to hear what you think.

Please email us at: friendsoftimbertrail@gmail.com



December 2023 Issue 7 Page 3 of 3

Robyn Kehoe | Administrator P: 027 341 4734 E: friendsoftimbertrail@gmail.com

W: fott.org.nz

Incorporated Societies Act 2022

At the Annual General Meeting held on 20 November 2023, the following motion was passed.

Resolution: That the Friends of the Timber Trail Incorporated proceed with re-registration in accordance with the Incorporated Societies Act 2022, and that a sub-committee be elected to review and advise the committee on amendments to its constitution in line with the Act, for ratification at the organisation's 2024 AGM.

Moved by: Robyn Kehoe
Seconded by: Victoria Dawson

CARRIED

This is the first step required under the new Incorporated Societies Act 2022.

STEP TWO:

We elected our Chair, Trevor Irwin and Administrator, Robyn Kehoe, to review the constitution and report back to the committee during the year.



TRAIL UPDATE

It has been a very busy year on the operational side for our local DOC team, with various upgrade projects undertaken and storm damage on multiple tracks. Members of our Heritage and Visitor team have been pulled away on multiple occasions throughout the year to assist with cyclone and storm response and track recovery in the Coromandel and Hawkes Bay, and are now busy tidying up our campgrounds and front country tracks before the Christmas and New Year holidays arrive.

The past 12 months on the Timber Trail have seen Maadi settle into his role as the Timber Trail Track Ranger, the expansion of the Pureora trailhead carpark, biannual vegetation maintenance underneath all 8 suspension bridges, and inspections and scaling work of over 20 monitored rockfall sites along the trail. The Pureora and Te Kuiti DOC staff have also been assisting with Search and Rescue operations, so we ran a mid-winter combined training exercise on the trail with Waitomo Land SAR and Waikato Police which left the groups more confident and equipped to respond when called upon.

The Goat Creek Slip which resulted in a detour near the 70km mark of the trail has been remedied and resurfaced, meaning the steeper detour track is no longer in effect. At the same time culverts were also upgraded from the 70km to the Ongarue Spiral and some muddier and uneven sections were resurfaced leaving the riding experience a lot smoother in places! Most recently, significant vegetation maintenance by abseil took place at the Ongarue Spiral cutting, leaving a much clearer view down to the tunnel and historic bridge remnants for trail users from the upper spiral bridge.

A big thank you to our wider team of neighbours, stakeholders, volunteers, and contractors who have contributed to maintenance and enhancements on the Timber Trail over the past 12 months.

TO REPORT MAINTENANCE ISSUES YOU SPOT ON THE TRAIL

Go to the Timber Trail website: timbertrail.nz/trail-hazard-maintenance/

DID YOU KNOW THAT AFTER YOUR RIDE: you can complete a trail survey and be in to win Go to the Timber Trail website: timbertrail.nz/survey