

# **AUTUMN 2023 UPDATE**



Hi Everyone,

We decided to skip the summer newsletter and start the year with the Autumn edition!

Firstly to all our friends that have been effected by the weather events this year we

really hope there is some light at the end of the tunnel. From road closures, slips, trail damage, events cancelled, and ultimately homes and lives lost, its over whelming and hard to comprehend. It feels like we dodged a bullet in Whangamata however we have also had our fair share of damage to the park and in town.



Unfortunately the Bullock Track and Luck at Last are closed for the foreseeable future however during the last couple of weeks the team has put in over 350hrs to get the immediate park up and running. This massive effort has been led by Phil, our trail manager, and a bunch of hardcore volunteers.

All the trails near town are open, along with the Shovel vs Boar, Pork Belly, and Otuwheti Road however please avoid D track.

Just a reminder, when the trail team are working on a track they will close it with

cones and tape... please don't ride the track, it is dangerous for both you and the trail crew.



Speaking of the trail crew, Phil and Guy have had a busy 6 months, not only looking after our park but taking their skills to the region and helping our friends at Ride Coromandel and Thames MTB develop their own parks.



Skills park up at Ride Coromandel

Guy is currently competing in the National Downhill Series (with some great results thus far) which sees him traveling all around NZ before he heads off to compete in the Enduro World Series. You can follow his progress at <a href="https://www.instagram.com/guyjohnston/">https://www.instagram.com/guyjohnston/</a> We wish him all the best.

The club has been fortunate to have Jonty come and stay just before Christmas. He helped give a few trails a tidy up, including the popular "Updog."



I think we can all agree that in our day, we have some of the best quality, safe, well maintained trails around. Our ability to employ Phil and the crew comes from consistent cash flow.

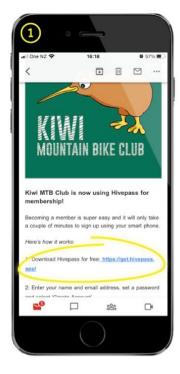
Funding & grants, sponsorship, regional trail work, and memberships are our main revenue streams and we appreciate all our support in these areas. These revenue streams each contribute about 25% of what's required to keep the club running annually and its aways a hustle!

The Whangamata Community Board, TCDC, Grassroots Trust, Tu Mānawa Active Aotearoa, The Coromandel, and Sport Waikato have believed in the positives that Mountain Biking is bringing to our community. We can't thank them enough for being part of the journey.

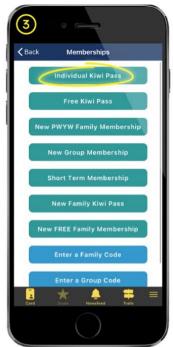
#### **Hivepass:**

This new membership platform seems to be working well and has streamlined a lot of the admin side of things for us. We now have 400 active members and still a lot more to come across from the old PayPal memberships that have expired at the end of 2022.

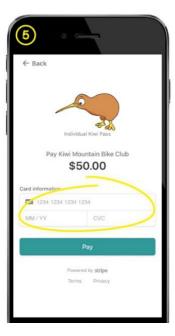
If you are currently riding in the park as an annual member and haven't joined Hive Pass your membership has expired <a href="https://join.hivepass.app/wmtbpark">https://join.hivepass.app/wmtbpark</a> If you are still having difficulties please reach out to us, we are here to help.













# Te Kura Paikara – WAS School Program:

JJ and Carrie have kicked off the school programme for 2023. There are currently over 100 students registered!! This awesome initiative was started last year and has grown in leaps and bounds. They are calling out for volunteers if

anyone can spare a few hours on Mondays or Thursdays afternoons to ride with the various groups





#### The Black Rock Enduro Weekend:

An epic few days is planned for the first weekend in April. Starting off with a Friday Night expression session (J Line) followed by a Whip Off Comp on Updog. The 5 Stage "Black Rock" Enduro is happening Saturday and some guided low key group rides on the Sunday. There is something for everyone and everyone's invited. To register head to <a href="https://eventlinks.co.nz/event/black-">https://eventlinks.co.nz/event/black-</a>

### rock-whangamata-enduro

If you can help with marshalling for the Enduro please get in touch.



## **Regional Events**

The club is becoming well represented at regional events and it's great to see our members gaining a presence with their fun and friendly approach to competing. It's also cool seeing our humble little Whangamata MTB Park T shirts amongst the crowd.... oh and we are well represented on the podiums too!!





Whangamatā MTB club representing at events



Club members on the podium at the GIANT 2W