Hiking Group

Our group has explored many great walks around d the Waikato area, some more challenging than others.

Last month A small group of 7 travelled to Putaruru and walked the Te Waihou walkway to the Blue Springs. This was the third time we had done this walk but had not covered the short section between the spring and the Lesley Road entry point. Last time we were there this section was closed because of a land slip but they have cleared that rerouted the path away from the hillside and built an extensive car park at Lesley Road. The weather was fine and the walkway was being well used by other walkers even though it was a week day. We met artist Christopher Dews from Tauranga on the walkway who had spent 3 hours the previous day, was spending 3 hours that day and was probably coming back for another few hours next day to finish the painting, all at the same time of the day so he could get consistent light. He is showing his art at the Poynton Studios in Auckland between the 3rd and 5th October and has issued an invitation to any of our friends to attend the opening at 5:30pm on 2nd October. You can see the invitation at the end of the U3A September newsletter.

Walks lined up for the remainder of the year include Killarney Lakes (near Te Aroha), Aongatete Loop Track (near Katikati) and another attempt at Daly's Clearing in Karangahake Gorge (depending on weather). We will try to fit in a longer day trip to scale Karioi at Raglan over the summer.

Des Johnston