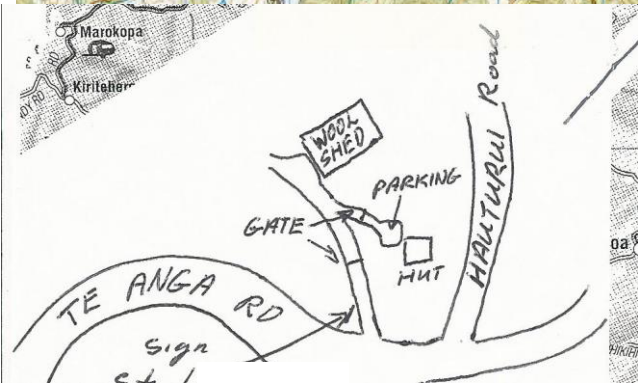
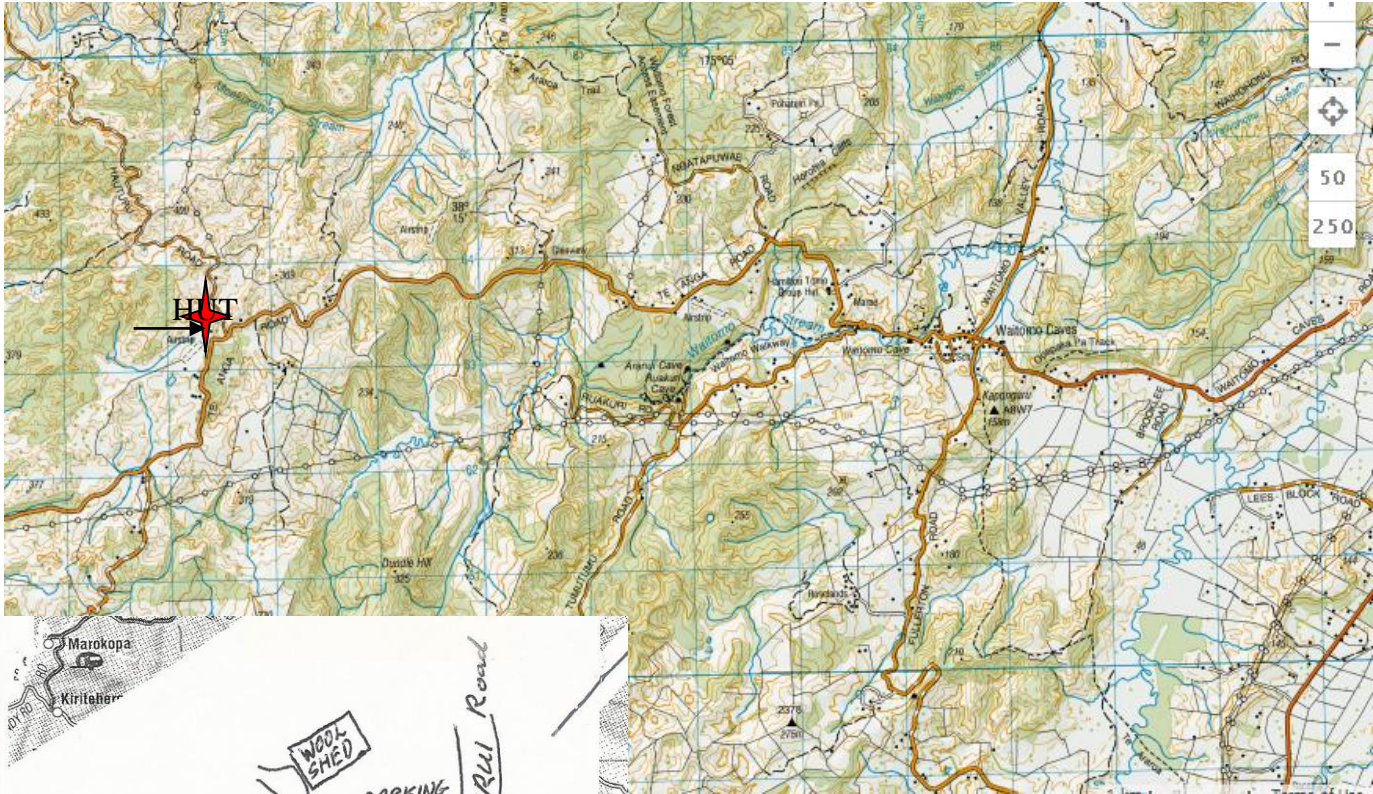


Quakers at Waitomo 15-17 Feb 2019



If you use an in-car GPS or Google Maps you can enter "airstrip bouldering" or "909 Te Anga Road", which is the house opposite as there is no address for our driveway.

I cut off the bottom of the drawing. The sign says "**Stubbs Farm Awatiro**". It is quite a big sign, but dark. I will try and remember to see if I can light it up and I will tie balloons to it. The driveway is gravel and can be quite rutted, especially after rain; take it slow. The first gate may or may not be open, just leave it as found. Go right up to the wool shed and turn around and then you can drive back down a little into our driveway. There should only be a few cars so just stay towards the left and just clear of the gate. There is rock underneath but it has sunk down so is very slippery if it is wet, as it is now all just grass.

The hut is much like a tramping hut: 3 bunk rooms with 2 communal bunks in each room; each room sleeping 8 to 10. Tenting is an option but there will be sheep pooh as the hut is located on an active farm. If that appeals to you please bring your own tent. Tenting at the hut has been successful in the past. If you would like to see a few picture from in and around the hut please go to:

<https://nzquakerevents.cf/cavinghut>

There is electricity and cellphone coverage. We have two stoves and lots of cooking equipment so no need for pots, plates or cutlery. Hot showers but an outside long-

drop toilet. All outside shoes get taken off at the door as there might be sheep poo around, so slippers are a good idea. Wood fire and lots of couches to relax on.

Other gear: I will bring helmets, lights and some overalls; if you have any overalls of your own then they would be worth bringing.

Cost: Hut fees are \$15 a night per adult but children free or koha. This has increased from the 2018 cost as the Auckland Speleo Group has increased its hut fees. We also ask for \$12 for gear per person for those who are planning to do a full day's (adult) caving (i.e., more than just an hour or two). This charge is for the whole weekend and to cover the cost of the batteries and ropes. These are expensive and need to be regularly replaced.

Gear to bring

1. Sleeping bag and pillow.
2. Normal going-away gear (toiletries, towel, PJs, change of undies, etc.)
3. Raincoat.
4. Caving footwear. We mainly use gumboots, but tramping boots or old running shoes (sturdy ones) are also OK.
5. Warm socks.
6. Polypro tops and bottoms. Two pairs if possible. **NO COTTON TO GO CAVING.** Let me know if you don't have anything as I have a selection of old stuff.
7. Thicker warm top – **NOT COTTON**; wool, fleece or fibrepile instead.
8. Gloves for caving, even dish washing gloves work quite well.
9. Water bottle.
10. A plastic bag to put lunch in. I will have several packs to put gear in as everything that goes caving will get muddy and clothing tends to change colour (wear your oldest undies, they will never be the same again).
11. Indoor shoes (e.g. slippers). The hut has a long-drop toilet down the garden, and the garden may be full of sheep (and sheep poo). This is why we leave our outdoor shoes at the door! Some crocs or jandals to wear to the toilet are quite useful (or just borrow someone else's).
12. The hut is very small and the walls are paper thin so earplugs might be a good idea.

Food to bring

Bring your own lunches – whatever you like. If you are caving it has to be packable to go underground (e.g. filled rolls or sammies).

Bring your own snacks – chocolate is good to eat underground!

Bring your own breakfasts. If you bring eggs and baked beans, etc. we can do a big communal cook-up.

We will provide the dinner on Saturday night. It will be vegetarian. Please let us know on the registration form if you have any dietary requirements (vegan, gluten free, etc.). We would appreciate it if you could contribute a small cash koha for

this meal.

Arrival and Departure

We will be arriving at the hut around 7pm on Friday 15 February. Please provide your own dinner on Friday night (e.g. takeaways on the way down). If you need to get there earlier please contact us by email (or let us know in your registration, in the additional comments section) and we will get in touch with instructions on how to access the hut.

We are happy for you to arrive Saturday morning. This saves on accommodation costs (as you won't need to pay to stay at the hut on Friday night) and there is no need to battle Friday night traffic. However, you will need to get up early to get to the hut by 9am Saturday morning to get ready for caving.

We plan to leave Waitomo mid-afternoon on the Sunday (around 3 to 4pm).

If you get lost on the way feel free to call:

Kevin Jose mobile: 021 987 521

If you have any questions please contact **Kevin Jose** at josebrothersfamily@gmail.com Hope you can make it. We're going to have fun!!

If you are interested please go to <https://nzquakerevents.cf/caving19> to register by Friday 9th February 2019

