

Walk of the Month

Welcome to 10,000 Steps Northland's 'Walk of the Month'. Each month a stunning walk somewhere in Northland will be highlighted so watch this space for your next walking adventure. (If you have a favourite track or walk in your community contact us on email at 10000steps@sportnorth.co.nz).

May's Walk of the Month – Limeburners Creek Wetlands (Whangarei)

May takes us to a fragile yet versatile wetland in Whangarei called Limeburners Creek. You will find the start of this lovely Whangarei District Council walk opposite the SPCA on Kioreroa Rd. It is on the left hand side of the road when driving east from State Highway 1 towards the Whangarei harbour, only a 5 minute drive from the city centre.

As read from the sign at the start of the track; *"Wetlands are often regarded as smelly, dirty and useless places, best used for rubbish dumps and development into farmland or industrial sites. But these waterways are far from being wastelands, wetlands are among the most fertile and productive ecosystems in the world."*

Wetlands are important for controlling water levels/flooding, maintaining water quality and supporting the habitats of a diverse range of plants and animals. These waterways are ideal breeding grounds for all kinds of birds and animals. Although New Zealand has destroyed approximately 90% of its wetlands with only a 2% covering over New Zealand's land area, they are still home to over 22% of all our native bird species.

We are lucky to have such a special, natural resource right at our door step.

The walkway around the Limeburners Creek Wetland is well maintained with enough room for walkers, wheelchairs and motorised scooters. There is a short area of boardwalk that meanders through the mangroves and offers view points out over the estuary.

The track circles around a large pond/wetland that is full of water lilies, ducks and other wetland birds. This 1500 Step (1.2 kilometres) walk is ideal for those of you interested in getting out and seeing something different. This walk is achievable for all walking levels and a wonderful place to visit.



Congratulations to the Innes Free Walking group that we met on the walk.

This Whangarei based walking group meet every week and walk some of our local tracks to keep fit and stay in touch.

They came to Limeburners Creek for lunch and a leisurely walk after completing the Portland Walking track (3 kilometres) that morning – GREAT EFFORT!

