

## Participant comments

These are typical of those received on the survey forms and unsolicited via emails following the events.

Event	Comments
Gollans Valley Adventure	Good being able to join in a group as rest of my family don't do this  Appreciated being able to do a route incorporating off-track route as I could not do this on my own.
Beech & the Bays	Gareth the guide was very knowledgeable, friendly and helpful and good looking. Great lunch spot. Great Walk.
Lighthouse & Lakes	Thank you for a very well organised enjoyable day. All the staff are welcoming, helpful, clear communicators. We really appreciated the wonderful coffee, chairs, sunshade, water, slip slop slap and you even organised dolphins! Ta!  Thoroughly enjoyable trip. The guided commentary was excellent and made the trip even more interesting. We learned heaps.
Discover the Hidden Valley	Well organised event - a good introduction to the park and a great encouragement to visit the park again!
Old Coach Rd History Trail	I found it very interesting to hear what the area used to be like. The information booklets were also very neat. I liked hearing about the macrocarpa as well.  Great, let's do it again. Buy the farm!  It's a shame they haven't got around to removing the tree at the Belmont Rd, Haywards end of the track. Maybe a portaloo. Found the history and scenery very interesting.
4WD Back Country Akatarawa	The facilities were great for first timers but more mud would have been good. Sign at the beginning of the road to the event would have been good.  Very good briefing. Not too challenging for drivers and vehicles. Worth doing again. Staff very helpful.  We thought the event was awesome.
Walk Transmission Gully	Rare opportunity to take part in a great walk  Appreciated the handout
4Wd Sunset Tour	It was really fun and loved all the bumpy bits. Would like to do it again.
Rimutaka Rail Trail	What a great day it was. The organization and the niceness of the staff was wonderful. And the barbeque lunch! Well, what a surprise. All in all, a day of magic  Got 5++ for interpretation  Take a bow. Cheers to Dean and Graeme (Jupp)

Return to Rivendell	<p>This event was a dream come true! Thank you for providing this opportunity. If I could come back next year I would! Thanks again and keep up the good work!</p> <p>Great to see GW promoting events like this where people are encouraged to get out into our wonderful parks and reserves.</p> <p>Before arrival the information wasn't sufficient. Would know what to bring next time (shoes, blankets, money for drinks etc). Next year would bring more people.</p> <p>Better signage before park. Programme could be condensed or shorter. Programme in advance. Didn't know about dinner (brought car load of food).</p> <p>Organisation would have been excellent but drawn out over dinner period. Very fortunate that weather was so kind! Great event, just needs tightening of the timetable. Would still return. Thank you very much.</p>
Paws in the Park	<p>First time and it's really fantastic! Something for everyone. Great location, walk enjoyed immensely. Good that little ones could enjoy it. Nice for the whole family and to include the dog a special treat.</p> <p>Thanks. Need sign from main road. Could do with shade etc (gazebo) Drinks &amp; sausage sizzle. Promote water for dog</p>
General (via email)	<p>Thank you all for the excellent programme you organised this year. The guiding was knowledgeable and friendly, the places were superb, the company was varied and interesting - and the rangers were lovely! It is splendid advertising for the district, and I hope you can keep on doing it every year</p> <p>Our thanks to the Regional Council staff for some great events, it was well worth attending each of them and we look forward to next year.</p> <p>Now that we have completed our walks that we registered for, we would like to thank all the staff for a wonderful experience. The transmission gully walk, was very interesting, the Ranger and his staff were very informative and complemented by the technical staff from the office. We really enjoyed the outing, despite that due to flood damage we were unable to complete the round trip.</p> <p>Then yesterday the Rimutaka Incline trip was even more enjoyable. Even the "Long drops" had toilet paper, the track was tidy and well prepared for the numbers that use it. I was looking forward to the cup of tea at the Summit that had been mentioned during briefing but we did not expect BBQ lunch and chocolate cake. Graeme was extremely interesting and willing to share his knowledge of the rail history. We felt we were treated like tourists, with the staff all keen to show locals their own "back yard".</p>