



Hey there,

We are now less than 2 months away from the Hunua Hillbilly! Yehaa!! So, I thought now would be a good time to get in touch and share some of the new information around the event with you all.

### **Event Background**

This event has been one of those ideas that's been bouncing around upstairs for years now.... For one reason or another never quite making it out to see the light of day.... Well now it has and to say I am a little excited about it would be the understatement of the century!

I've always felt at home in the Hunua's. Since I was a kid growing up in Papakura I had the Ranges on my back door step and ever since those first trips out with my Dad and brother, I have always felt a strong connection with the place. It is one of those special places – for many, you will already know what I am talking about and for those that have yet to experience its wonder, I am very excited for you!



On the 7th November it will be five years since we lost one of the trail running community's genuinely nice guys - Steve Neary. Many of you knew of Steve, and his love and relentless passion for running in NZ native bush.



The Hunua Ranges were Steve's 'backyard', and one of his favourite places to run - so what better way could there be to honour his memory than by coming together and testing ourselves over the hardest and most beautiful tracks that Hunua has to offer?!

This has been the catalyst to finally make this event idea a reality – and hopefully come Saturday 6th November you all agree it was a good idea to do so!

### **Training Programmes and Reccie runs**

A comprehensive [12-week training schedule](#) developed by one of the best coaches in the business as well as long-time supporter of Total Sport and good friend of Steve's – James Kuegler. At only \$60 (of which a massive \$40 goes to our event charity) this could be money very well spent... and still very worthwhile for some of you, with 8 weeks to go, I am sure.

James is also leading [3 training adventures](#) on different sections of the course and has very kindly opened these up to all Hunua Hillbilly participants

- Sunday, September 19. Ernies Loop Adventure.
- Sunday, October 10. Moumoukai Trail Run.
- Sunday, October 24. Pukapuka Adventure.

These are subject to Auckland lockdown levels of course but will go ahead in level 2.

## Course

We've seen a little bit of chat on FB etc. about the course lately, and just wanted to take this time to reiterate the fact that you should all hopefully already know... This course is tough! It is meant to be. It's very hilly (3000 meters vert) and many of the tracks are twisty, rooty, and can be muddy in places. So try to get as much practice on that stuff as you can while you still have time (which we know is very hard for Aucklanders right now 😊)

Keep an eye on the [Hunua Hillbilly Facebook page](#) over the coming weeks for some further course related insights.

## Hunua Hoedown

We've got some details sorted for the Saturday evening Hunua Hoedown and we think you are going to love it!

Krave Catering will be serving up a delicious American style low and slow BBQ with all the trimmings. Trust me, its good (I have tested it, just to make sure right 😊). Plus some of Steve's signature desserts thanks to our TS wonder chefs!

## HUNUA HILLBILLY – DINNER MENU

### Main

Low and Slow BBQ St Louis Swifty Pork Ribs, award winning meat juice glaze. (g/f)

Low and Slow BBQ Wagyu Brisket; low and slow, black out rub, smoked with Pohutukawa, served in a milk bun with apple ranch slaw. (g/f available)

Or

Vegetarian Option - BBQ Beetroot Pattie Burger + Chickpea Pattie Burger served in a milk bun with apple ranch slaw. (Vegan, g/f available)

### Sides

American Style Mac'n'Cheese

Smoked Bootleg Beans, with tomato, capsicum and corn (g/f & vegan)

Thrice Fried Agria Wedges (sour cream optional) (g/f & vegan)

Traditional American Waldorf Salad g/f vegan (g/f & vegan)

### Dessert

Pumpkin Pie

Carrot Cake (g/f & d/f)

Chocolate Brownie (g/f & vegan)

Ice Cream (both dairy and d/f options)



Cooper's Run - NZ's #1 country duo and will be smashing out the tunes for the evening and might even get us up for a line dance!

If you would like to add a ticket to the Hoedown (dinner and entertainment) you can do so via your confirmation email you received after you entered the event. We hope most of you will, this should be a cracker on an evening



## Prize Giving

Prize giving will be at 8pm once we have welcomed our final finishers across the finish line. We will be still serving dinner during this time, so those late finishers can enjoy prize giving while tucking into dinner.

Everyone is welcome at prize giving of course – not just those who have booked dinner/Hoedown tickets. We would love to have as many of you at prize giving as possible!

Merit Prizes will be awarded to first overall and in each age category. Spot Prizes will be given away at random for those who attend prize giving.

If through your workplace you have any products, vouchers, or services etc. that would make a great spot prize, please [get in touch](#) with us.

## Camping

We've had a large number of you book in for camping for the weekend, which is just awesome! Remember this is kindly included as a free option – thanks Auckland Council! If you would like to double check your camping booking or add a camping site to your booking, you can do so via your event confirmation email. Please only book if you are going to stay, and if your plans have changed or you have realised you and a mate have both booked a site but you only need one between you, please make

sure you edit your booking.

## Camping In Style....

We've been chatting with glamping tent company – Nomadic tents. If you are keen on doing the weekend in style this could be an appealing option! We need to have 10 people keen on this option for it to happen, so first step would be email me back and 'register your interest' and we can go from there! Various options and prices below.

**Glamping:** Comfy Foam mattresses, 2x side table crates, pillows, chair, sheet set, full bedding arrangements, pillowcases, electric lantern lighting, display table crate, floor rug, solar garden lights, small floral arrangements/plant, complimentary comfort items including ear plugs, shower gel, water.



**Camping plus:** Comfy Foam mattresses, pillows, full bedding arrangements, basic lighting.

**Camping:** Comfy Foam mattresses + base sheet



Camping		Camping plus		Glamping	
2 berth	<b>\$314</b>	2 berth	<b>\$389</b>	2 berth	<b>\$438</b>
3 berth	<b>\$414</b>	3 berth	<b>\$509</b>	3 berth	<b>\$578</b>
4 berth	<b>\$514</b>	4 berth	<b>\$629</b>	4 berth	<b>\$708</b>

### Hot Showers?

Just a heads up at this stage... We are still working hard to try and make this work, but currently its still a maybe. Because of the remote nature of the event base with nowhere to dispose of wastewater and only a very weak supply of running water, this is just taking a while to nail. Trust us - we know how good this will be to have, so will do our very best to make it happen.

All further info can be viewed on the [event website](#). Please get in touch if you are unclear about anything or have any feedback about the event – We really want to make this event special, so any idea's (especially those about remembering Steve) are most welcome!

Please let your trail running friends know that we still have plenty of room for them also.

Cheers, Dave Franks

Hunua Hillbilly Event Manger

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