SELF-GUIDE FIELD TRIP NOTES

REEF BAY (Wellington)

Fossick for English Flint – Low Tide

Fossick at beach opposite 156 Breaker Bay Road, on Wellington's southern coast.

PAKURATAHI RIVER (Kaitoke, north of Upper Hutt)

Fossick for Metamorphosed Basalt/Hematised Jasper

Drive north along SHW2. Turn right off highway at southern-end of Pakuratahi Bridge (just past Waterworks Road). Fossick downstream of bridge on river fans.

RED ROCKS (Wellington)

View this unusual rock formation which was created when an outcrop of ancient volcanic pillow lava was embedded in younger greywacke, along with red and green siltstone.

At Owhiro Bay, on Wellington's southern coast, drive south along Owhiro Bay Parade to the Red Rocks Walkway entrance. Red Rocks lies approx 4km from the carpark, and can be reached by car along the road that passes through the quarry and skirts along the shore from Monday to Saturday. Foot access only on Sundays.

HURUPI STREAM (Wairarapa)

Fossick for Marine Fossils/Selenite Crystals

Drive north along SHW2. At Featherston, take SHW53 to Martinborough. At Martinborough, take the Lake Ferry Road. Turn left into Cape Palliser Road. You will cross a bridge over the Hurupi Stream. Car park on right just beyond bridge. Short walk upstream and under bridge to fossick on exposed mudstone bank on right.

Take a putty knife to ease crystals out of bank.

TORA (Wairarapa)

Fossick for Agatised Flint/Jasper/Cone-in-Cone Calcite – Low Tide

Drive north along SHW2. At Featherston, take SHW53 to Martinborough. At Martinborough, take the Lake Ferry Road. Turn left into White Rock Road. Continue on this road past Tuturumuri. Further on, at the T-intersection, turn left (still on White Rock Road). Follow this road to the coast. At the beach, turn right and drive until you see the shipwreck (5 mins).

WHAREKAUHAU STREAM/WHAREPAPA RIVER (Wairarapa)

Fossick for Magnetite

Drive north along SHW2. At Featherston, turn right onto Western Lake Road. Continue past Lakes Wairarapa and Onoke. Road veers right up hill passed the Wharekauhau Lodge. Drop down steep, narrow road to Wharepapa River. A 2km drive further along coast takes you to the Wharekauhau River.

Take a magnet.

