



Monthly newsletter of PTC. Affiliate of Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ Inc.

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## September 2011

<b>President</b>	Leo Manders	356 1731	Dorota Giejsztowt	352 9130
<b>Vice-President</b>	Kevin Hughes	332 6281	Raymond Ford	351 9496
<b>Vice-President</b>	Mary Hines	942 6486	Dan Pryce	021 927 716
<b>Treasurer</b>	Geoff Price	337 2614	Brian Smith	Quartermaster 355 9945
<b>Trip Planner</b>	Gary Huish	332 7020		
<b>Secretary</b>	Merv Meredith	322 7239		
<b>Editor</b>	Kerry Moore	359 5069		

**New Member Enquiries** Please contact Stan Wilder, 980 5291, to request an info-pack. You will also receive three complimentary newsletters

**CORRESPONDENCE**, including changes of address etc. can be sent to the club secretary—see above

**OUR CLUB** consists of people of all ages who tramp for recreation. Regular trips are organised, ranging from 'easy' to 'hard', day trips to long weekends. Various instruction courses run each year to improve members' skills for back-country tramping. In addition to a monthly club meeting, a variety of social events are held.

**CLUB NIGHTS** are held on the **second Tuesday** of each month at the Canterbury Horticultural Centre, South Hagley Park (entrance on Riccarton Ave), starting promptly at 7.45 pm. Doors open 7.30.

**Tue 13 Sept** **WALKING ALL OVER THE PLANET - climate change and our love of nature**  
**Kaila Colbin** is a serial entrepreneur and one of just 17 Kiwis to train with Al Gore to deliver the *Inconvenient Truth* presentation. With a focus on the realities of human behaviour, her talk on the effects of climate change and the practicalities of combating it is sure to enlighten, inform and provoke.

**Supper Duty: Gerry or Jill Jaques, Lorelie Kennedy, Faine Kelly**

**Tue 11 Oct** **ACCESS INTO OUR BACK COUNTRY**  
**Geoff Holgate** our local New Zealand **Walking Access Commission** representative will outline the work of the Commission. We will be asking him about progress on resolving access issues, farmer permission, legal right-of-ways in areas where we are currently having difficulty. If you know of areas which are presenting access difficulties please contact Leo Manders two weeks before the meeting to give Geoff time to research these for us.

**Supper Duty: Dennis Kemp, Neroli Keating, Irene Kilgour**

## COMING TRIPS

### Day Trips:

Depart from and return to a convenient point on the side of town near to the destination. Non-members are asked to phone the trip leader in advance. If you doubt your suitability for a day-trip, or if the weather is turning bad, contact the trip leader beforehand. A phone inquiry does not oblige you to go on the trip.

### Weekend Trips:



May leave on a Friday night (usually for base camps) or Saturday morning. Please book with the trip leader by the closing date. Be certain you want to go on the trip when booking, as it is not fair on the leader to withdraw after the closing date (good excuses excepted). Numbers on some weekend trips are limited, so book promptly.

### Bike Trips:

For up-to-date details of any biking trips as highlighted below please contact

**Rick Bolch ph 980 5156 email rlbolch@paradise.net.nz** unless otherwise stated.

10-11 Sep Sat-Sun ■ ■	<b>MINGHA - DECEPTION</b> Kerry Moore 359 5069 <b>Moderate</b> , classic crossing of the main divide from Aickens, following the "Coast to Coast" route, up the Deception River, over 1070m Goat Pass and down the Mingha to Arthurs Pass. <b>List Closes: Thur 8 September</b>	<b>Maps BV20;K33</b>
11 Sep Sun ■	<b>GLENROCK STREAM - TURTONS SADDLE</b> Merv Meredith 322 7239 <b>Moderate</b> tramp on the south side of the Rakaia River, east of Double Hill Station and Godley Peak. From the saddle we'll climb 600m to point 1805m and head south along the ridge with views across Petticoat Lane to Godley Peak then down Turtons Stream for the walk out. Ice axe and crampons required. <b>Start: 7:30am Church Cnr (away from church)</b>	<b>Maps BW19,20;K35</b>  <b>Approx Cost: \$20</b>
17-18 Sep Sat-Sun ■ ■	<b>BUSHCRAFT</b> Kevin Hughes 332 6281 Further details in the president's report	
18 Sep Sun ■	<b>GRETA VALLEY WALKWAY</b> TBA Contact Kerry Moore 359 5069 if you would like to lead this trip <b>Easy</b> short loop walkway from Greta Valley village, across farmland, taking in a panoramic viewpoint of the surrounding country side. Should be plenty of time for either another short walk or a lengthy lunch stop afterwards, if people are agreeable. <b>Start: 8am Robbies near Placemakers Cranford St</b>	<b>Maps BV26;N33</b>  <b>Approx Cost: \$18</b>
24-25 Sep Sat-Sun ■ ■	<b>TEKAPO BASE CAMP</b> Leo Manders 356 1731 Spring in Tekapo! See Lake Tekapo with surrounding mountains in snow. Lots to explore including the new Te Araroa Trail link, Lake Alexandrina. Star gazing at night, optional hot pools. Opportunities for mountain biking and nearby skiing. Friday night start. <b>List Closes: Sat 3 September</b>	<b>Maps BY16,17;I37</b>
25 Sep Sun ■	<b>MT WALL</b> Keith McQuillan 384 6164 <b>Moderate</b> walk up to this 1874m outlier of the Craigieburn Range, between Cheeseman and Broken River ski fields. Starting from the Craigieburn visitor centre. Possibility of a round trip. <b>Start: 8am Church Cnr (away from church)</b>	<b>Maps BW21;K34</b>  <b>Approx Cost: \$17</b>

1-2 Oct Sat-Sun ■ ■	<b>MINGHA - LAKE MAVIS</b> Raymond Ford 351 9496 Moderate walk up the Mingha River to Goat Pass and then up to this scenic gem. We'll camp by the lake at 1600m. The moderate trip will return by the same route while there is a harder return option to the Edwards River. List Closes: Sat 24 September	Maps BV20;K33
2 Oct Sun ■	<b>CANNONBALL GORGE</b> Stan Wilder 980 5291 Easy-moderate walk in this odd-ball terrain. You'll see a large limestone slip which has created little lakes and revealed 70million-year-old dinosaur bones. Then you get to the giant "cannonballs"—hard limestone concretions. Stan knows the best route into the gorge and can even find a way out, enabling us to do a useful circuit. Start: 8am Robbies near Placemakers Cranford St	Maps BV24;M34  Approx Cost: \$10
8-9 Oct Sat-Sun ■ ■	<b>BUSHCRAFT</b> Leo Manders 356 1731 Further details in the president's report	
9 Oct Sun ■	<b>MT POTTS - EREWHON</b> Merv Meredith 322 7239 A hard trip starting from the Erewhon ski field road, past Lake Clearwater. Good views starting from the <i>Lord of the Rings</i> film site and finishing with a panorama of the Main Divide from Mt Cook/Tasman, D'Archiac, Garden of Eden, Bracken Snowfield to the Arrowsmiths. Start: 7:30am Church Cnr (away from church)	Maps BX18;J35,J36  Approx Cost: \$23
16 Oct Sun ■	<b>LAVERICKS RIDGE/ OTEPATOTU RESERVE</b> Chris Leaver 322 6445 A 4-5 hour easy walk (but uphill) via Panama Rd in Le Bons Bay. We will pass the Dykes at a safe distance and follow the ridgeline into beautiful Otepatotu Reserve. Panoramic views into Okains/Lavericks Bay, Akaroa Harbour and beyond. Start: 8am Halswell School	Maps BY25;N37  Approx Cost: \$15
21-24 Oct Fri-Mon 	<b>CLARENCE RIVER RESERVE</b>  Chris has booked a bach for the Friday night. 4 huts in the area. Approx 50km each day (start training!) Check out the DoC website.	
22-24 Oct Sat-Mon ■ ■ ■ Labour	<b>GLORIANA AND FAERIE QUEENE</b> Raymond Ford 351 9496 Hard climb starting from the St James Walkway to Ada Pass and camping high by tarns in Camera Gully. List Closes: Sat 24 September	Maps BT23;M31
22-24 Oct Sat-Mon ■ ■ ■ Labour	<b>HENRY RIVER – ANNE - BOUCHER</b> Mary Hines 942 6486 This moderate trip starts on The St James Walkway, before climbing to Henry Saddle to cross the Libretto Range to the new Anne Hut. Returning via Boucher Stream to Foleys Track. List Closes: Sat 24 September	Maps BT23;M31
22-24 Oct Sat-Mon ■ ■ ■ Labour	<b>SAWCUT GORGE</b> TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip An easy-moderate trip through these fascinating limestone gorges north of Kaikoura. The second gorge consists of a narrow slit that leads to a sculptured wonderland of water-worn limestone. Staying at Isolation Creek hut with the additional day for a side trip List Closes: Sat 24 September	Maps BS28,29;P29

22-24 Oct Sat-Mon ■■■ Labour	<b>LAWRENCE BASE</b> Leo Manders 356 1731 Labour weekend in Central Otago. We will leave early Fri afternoon to the pleasant village of Lawrence exploring sights in the region. Gabriels Gully, Central Otago Goldfields, Manuka Gorge including old railway tunnel, Millenium Track, Beaumont, Clutha Gorge and Roxburgh. Book in now so we can secure good accommodation. <b>List Closes: Sat 24 September</b>	<b>Maps CE14;G44</b>
23 Oct Sun ■	<b>MT HAMILTON</b> TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip We'll let our cars do the hard stuff, then walk up the Broken River ski field road. This will give us time to ascend to this <b>moderate</b> 1922m peak on the Craigieburn Range via Nervous Knob. Returning the same way. Snow will still be present, so bring your ice-axe. <b>Start: 8am Church Cnr (away from church)</b>	<b>Maps BW21;K34</b>  <b>Approx Cost: \$16</b>
29-30 Oct Sat-Sun ■■	<b>WALKER PASS – TARN COL - EDWARDS</b> Liz Stephenson One of the classic Arthur's Pass NP tramps. This <b>moderate</b> trip takes in the Hawdon and Edwards valleys, a couple of attractive alpine passes, an attractive alpine tarn and intimate views of what's left of Falling Mountain. <b>List Closes: Sat 15 October</b>	<b>Maps BV20,21;K33</b>
29-30 Oct Sat-Sun ■■	<b>WOOLSHED HILL - EAST HAWDON</b> Mary & Geoff Korver 355 3905 <b>Moderate</b> trip in Arthurs Pass National Park. We follow a bush track to Woolshed Hill, along the Savannah Range, then drop into East Hawdon. <b>List Closes: Sat 15 October</b>	<b>Maps BV20,21;K33,L33</b>
30 Oct Sun ■	<b>PORT LEVY - WILD CATTLE HILL</b> Chris Leaver 322 6445oi <b>Moderate</b> walk on the east side of Port Levy from sea level to 600m on Wild Cattle Hill. Coastal views towards both Port Levy and Pigeon Bay. <b>Start: 8am Princess Margaret (Hackthorne Rd end)</b>	<b>Maps BX25;N36</b>  <b>Approx Cost: \$8</b>
5-6 Nov Sat-Sun ■■	<b>MANUKA HUT FROM WOOLSHED CREEK</b> Kerry Moore 359 5069 <b>Moderate</b> trip starting on the walkway to Woolshed Creek hut then over to the Stour River <b>List Closes: Sat 29 October</b>	<b>Maps BX19;K36</b>
6 Nov Sun ■	<b>MT SOMERS FROM WOOLSHED CREEK</b> Keith McQuillan 384 6164 <b>Moderate</b> walk to this 1687m peak on the Winterslow Range. Starting from Woolshed Creek and travelling via Bus Stop. Take an ice axe. <b>Start: 8am Church Cnr (away from church)</b>	<b>Maps BX19,20;K36</b>  <b>Approx Cost: \$20</b>
11-13 Nov Fri-Sun ■■■ Show W/E	<b>MT EARNSLAW</b> Raymond Ford 351 9496 This <b>hard</b> trip plans to climb the east peak of 2800m Mt Earnslaw at the centre of the popular Rees-Dart circuit. Ice axe and crampons required. <b>List Closes: Sat 15 October</b>	<b>Maps CA10;E40</b>

<b>11-14 Nov</b>	<b>THREE PASSES</b>	<b>Maps BV19,20;J33, K33,34</b>
<b>Fri-Sun</b>	<b>Dorota Giejsztowt 352 9130 &amp; Tim Hines 942 6486</b>	
<b>■■■</b>	Celebrated <b>moderate-hard</b> route to the West Coast from Arthurs Pass NP. Travel is via Harman, Whitehorn and Browning Passes with a possible variant that includes a return to the start via Popes Pass and the Taipo River.	
<b>Show W/E</b>	<b>List Closes: Sat 15 October</b>	
<b>11-13 Nov</b>	<b>AHURIRI - DINGLE BURN</b>	<b>Maps BZ13,14;G38,39</b>
<b>Fri-Sun</b>	<b>Leo Manders 356 1731</b>	
<b>■■■</b>	We will stay Thurs night at Lake Hawea Hotel backpackers, drive beside Lake Hawea to Timaru River car park and climb up above the lake with views to Mt. Aspiring on a clear day. Fri night we'll stay the night at Pakituhi Hut. Next day we will climb over Breast Hill with more great views, before dropping to Stodys Hut for the night. Sun we will drop down to the Timaru River and follow the track back to Timaru River car park. Average 5 hours walking each day on tracks. Tops and river travel. This track forms a part of the Te Araroa Trail. Drive back to Christchurch Sun afternoon/evening.	
<b>Show W/E</b>	<b>List Closes: Sat 15 October</b>	
<b>11-13 Nov</b>	<b>PUNAKAIKI BASE CAMP</b>	<b>Maps BS19,20;K30</b>
<b>Fri-Sun</b>	<b>TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip</b>	
<b>■■■</b>	Time to return to The Coast and the spectacular coastline at Punakaiki. Walks <b>easy to moderate</b> , including our favourite river valley circuit passing the limestone bluffs of Bullock Creek-Fossil-Dilemma-Fox River. Driving to Punakaiki Thursday evening.	
<b>Show Wknd</b>	<b>List Closes: Sat 15 October</b>	

## President's Report

As we head into September, spring has finally arrived together with warmer weather and longer daylight hours. Daylight saving is only two weeks away. We have lots of great tramping opportunities to get you fit for the summer as well as some spaces left on our second bushcraft course in October. If you know of anyone, not necessarily a club member who could benefit from this please get them to book in. The first course in September is now fully booked.

### Bushcraft

Here is your opportunity to take part during spring this year, in time for full summer tramping. The courses are very comprehensive and aim to cover most situations applying in the bush. At the end of both courses you should have the knowledge necessary for the successful planning and running of your tramping trips, including leading trips. Course leaders will aim to specifically tailor the course to members' needs, so they are flexible in what we do and where we do it. We have different course leaders and instructors for each weekend to enable you to get a range of experiences from different people. Both courses have a limit of ten people with three instructors. When you enrol on the first course in Sept you will automatically be enrolled on the Oct follow-up course as well, unless you specifically request to only attend one, which will leave some spare spaces available for others. This is your opportunity, rarely available, to acquire the skills needed from experienced club members. Any club member will be able to attend at no charge, except for the normal transport, food, gear share costs as applicable on normal club trips. Club members have first priority for these courses (but you need to book promptly), however we will also advertise for non-members who will be able to attend for a non-refundable \$40 fee. At the end of the course this fee can go towards their club membership costs on successful application for membership. I encourage all club members to book in now.

**Bushcraft 1** Date Sept 17 - 18 (note different date from previously advertised) This course is now full. Thanks to the 10 participants booked. Kevin Hughes and Geoff Spearpoint will be in contact with you soon with details.

**Bushcraft 2** Date Oct 8 - 9. On going to print we still have about 5 spaces left on this course, so if you want to participate ring me now. Leo Manders 356 1731.

Course contents flexible, according to course members' needs and to follow up on what was learnt on course 1. Some points we hope to cover on this course include: steps to consider when planning trips, handling back-country challenges, thinking as you go - planning for changes to your trip en-route, due to weather changes

or party member problems, hut etiquette, navigation on tracks, picking up landmarks, map orientation, paper maps, computer maps, compass work navigation, GPS integrated with maps to find out exactly where you are, GPS for navigation, setting up way-points, locator beacons, mountain radios, what to do for search and rescue to be effective, navigation by sun and stars, uses of different gear and what is useful for weight reduction yet designed for rough weather and bush conditions, practising finding good places to cross rivers and why, food to take with you that is tasty and nutritious yet easy to prepare and weight-efficient, so you can carry it comfortably on multi-day trips, basics of first aid - what you need to take and use, covering off points from both weekends. Leader-- Leo Manders with two additional instructors. We will go in Sat morning 8 Oct to Hawdon Hut, Arthurs Pass and intend to use the Hut as a bush classroom. Course 1 will be tent-based. We will still take tents and those who were not on the first trip can practise camping along with others that may want a refresher.

### **Biking Trips**

We are highlighting biking trips in Footnotes. Thanks to Rick Bolch for organising these. If you are keen on biking, please contact Rick and get yourself on the Fat Tyre Fanatics email list. Rick holds an email list for bikers. Usually biking trips are arranged at short notice and can be changed for a variety of reasons. The usual updated communication is through the email list. Rick can be contacted on rlbolch@paradise.net.nz or phone 980 5156.

### **MSC National Incident Database**

National Mountain Safety Council holds a National Incident Database on any tramping incidents that occur around New Zealand. This involves both actual accidents and near misses. Results of some of these with names changed are published in the FMC magazine. The database helps us learn from incidents that occur from time to time, helping to create a safer tramping environment. Trip leaders are asked to report accidents or incidents to Trip Planner, Gary Huish or anyone on the PTC committee. Raymond Ford has taken on the role of submitting our club reports to MSC for inclusion in the National Incident Database.

### **Happy Tramping – Leo Manders**

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

### **Thur 22 Sept Clip'n Climb evening at the Roxx Climbing Centre**

Meet **6.15pm at the The Roxx, 239 Waltham Road, Waltham**

Cost: \$15 unless we get enough climbers for group rate of \$12

Clip'N Climb is an arena of themed climbing challenges that do not require a partner to hold your rope. All you need to do is clip yourself onto the automatic belay devices and get climbing! When you're ready, let go and the machine will lower you to the ground.

The extra daring can try the "Leap of Faith", a leap from a 6m high platform out to a flying trapeze!

At 7.45pm we will go to Filadelfios, Beckenham for a meal.

To book for Clip'n Climb and/or meal please contact

Mary Hines 942 6486, hinestandm@clear.net.nz

### **Thur 6 Oct CROQUET EVENING**

**6.00pm St Martins Croquet Club**, Gamblins Rd, St Martins followed by meal or drink at Filadelfio's Pizza Restaurant 150 Colombo St Beckenham at about 7.45pm.

The club is approx. halfway down Gamblins Road on the right as you leave what used to be New World. Limited parking, so best to leave cars on Gamblins Rd.

Dress code - informal: flat shoes (trainers or jandals are fine).

No experience necessary! Cost \$5 per person (lawn fee).

Please join us for the meal or drink if you can't make the croquet.

Names for croquet and/or meal by 1st Oct to **John Borner 942 0813**, eileenandjcb@hotmail.com

### **Fondue Review**

Despite yet another snow warning, the 70s Fondue night finally went ahead and a great time was had by all. Brian Bonsell won the prize for best outfit but it was a close call between him and Heather Murray (nice boots!) and Mike Bourke (original 70s suit - which he still fits into!) Thanks to everyone for a really fun evening! **MH**



Seventies Sheilas

## NOTICES

**Membership** We welcome **Ilia Iline, Marina Iina and Tim** who are rejoining the club

**Deadline for October newsletter** **Sunday 2 Oct.** Trip reports, news and items of interest may be e-mailed to Kerry Moore, [moorekj@xtra.co.nz](mailto:moorekj@xtra.co.nz) phone 359 5069

**Next committee meeting** **Tue 27 Sept** at Geoff Price's

## BITS AND PIECES

### **Whanganui River Journey 12-19 May 2012**

This trip is moving to late Feb or early March 2011 on advice of local operators due to weather and daylight hours. Approx cost now likely to be \$800 due to increased DoC fees as it will be in 'great walk' season (for transport, kayak/canoe/gear hire, DoC campsites/DoC user pass, backpackers on first and last nights). Food not included in this price.

The trip is currently full and an exact date will be chosen to suit those already booked in. However, there may be spaces due to the date change so please contact Tim and Mary Hines if you would like to put your name on the waiting list. 942 6486 [hinestandm@clear.net.nz](mailto:hinestandm@clear.net.nz)

## TRIP REPORTS

### **Nina Hut—23-24 July 2011**

The forecast was marginal with a severe weather watch for Sunday, but after much pouring over weather websites, consultation with DoC and fellow trampers, we decided that we had a window of good weather before the snow was due. Five of us set off from Christchurch at 8am on Saturday, meeting up with Trevor Blogg at Waikari as planned. We were parked up at the NZDA lodge on SH7 and tramping by 10.45am. There was a little snow on the ground and the sky was overcast but no wind, so pleasant tramping conditions. We crossed the swing-bridge over the Lewis within a few minute of leaving the road and carried on up the true left of the Nina.

The valley is very picturesque and several of us stopped regularly to take photos and look for trout in the deep green pools. In a flat area covered in lichen-covered trees but with very little undergrowth, we passed the sign-posted track leading to the Sylvia tops to our left. The new swing bridge about halfway up the valley over a very attractive gorge is of the newer wooden variety and quite a bit of snow had built up on it. The bridge took us onto the true right of the river and we stopped for lunch soon after, meeting a couple on a day walk from Boyle Lodge—the only other trampers we saw all weekend. The track then continued slightly uphill and we got to Nina Hut soon after 3pm. The new Nina hut is in a lovely location on a knoll in a clearing with lovely mountain views. There was quite a bit more snow there and very little dry wood, so before we settled in, we collected wood and Nick attacked the large logs left in the rather damp woodpile, with the axe. We got the fire going and put the damp bits of wood on top of the stove to dry out. Later we noticed it had got rather smoky in the hut and realised that one of the drying logs had caught! This was quickly dealt with and the other bits of wood were removed and checked carefully! No-one was particularly keen to explore further on, Nick went on a photographic stroll before we lost the light, while the rest of us relaxed in the cosy hut. Dinner was macaroni with veggies, cheese sauce and pepperoni, followed by chocolate pud and flake. Several times during the evening we heard a possum on the deck – turned out it was rather tame and didn't even run away when logs were thrown at it! We'd put the instant pud out to set just outside the door and the possum got the lid off, but we rescued our delicacy before the pest got any! Mulled wine and crossword puzzles in some old *Listener* magazines kept us entertained after dinner and most of us managed to stay awake until 9pm—wonderful sleeping draft that fresh air!

The hut wasn't as cold as we'd expected in the morning and we were all relieved to see that there hadn't been any new snow to speak of in the night. We set off at 9am so that we'd be out at the road by lunchtime in case the predicted big snow came in earlier than forecast. There was a bit of fine hail at one point and by the time we reached the cars the temperature had dropped and the wind had got up. We got changed and sped off to Culverden for lunch and hot drinks and then said goodbye to Trevor at Waikari. We were all back in Christchurch and safely home before the snow began! We were: **Trevor Blogg, Wayne Thomas, Colin Wilmshurst, Ann Schofield, Nick Webb and me, Mary Hines.** Thanks to everyone for a lovely trip! 🏠



**The View from Nina Hut**