



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

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March 2013

President	Leo Manders	356 1731	Raymond Ford	351 9496
Vice-President	Kevin Hughes	332 6281	Dan Pryce	384 7065
Vice-President	Mary Hines	942 6486	Liz Stephenson	358 3281
Treasurer	Geoff Price	337 2614	Brian Smith	Quartermaster 355 9945
Trip Planner	Gary Huish	332 7020		
Secretary	Merv Meredith	322 7239		
Editor	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 12 Mar



AGM plus Outdoor films of the 50's

Grant Hunter will treat us to a viewing of some of his movie collection

Supper Duty: Douglas Woods, Sophie Toutain, Aarn Tate

Tue 9 April



Volcanoes and Bears Of Kamchatka

Kath Varcoe will describe her 2 week exploration of the Kamchatka Peninsula in NE Russia.

Supper Duty: John Wilson, Maureen Anderson, Evelyn Barben



AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM —7:30pm Tue 12 March

The 81st Annual General Meeting of Peninsula Tramping Club will be held at Canterbury Horticultural Centre, Hagley Avenue

Agenda: Presentation of Exec. Reports
Election of officers, executive members and auditor

General Business: Nominations for all positions are called for. They may be sent, signed by nominee, proposer and seconder, to **Merv Meredith, Secretary, 322 7239**

COMING TRIPS**Day Trips:**

Depart from and return to a convenient point on the side of town nearest 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 on biking trips please contact
Rick Bolch ph 980 5156 email rlbolch@paradise.net.nz

9-10 Mar ZAMPA TOPS Maps BT23;M31

Sat-Sun Heather Murray & Kevin Hughes 332 6281

■ ■ This **moderate** trip traverses the tops to the east of Cannibal Gorge and gives spectacular views of the Spencer Mountains. 1710m Zampa overlooks a very nice large tarn.
List closes: Sat 2 Mar

9 Mar Wilding Pines Day—see Notices
Saturday

10 Mar NIKAU PALM GULLY Maps BY25;N37

Sun Kerry Moore 359 5069

■ This bush-clad gully is quite a dramatic spot, and the plentiful nikau palms here are notable for being the southern-most limit of this species in New Zealand. This is an **easy** tramp towards the eastern heads of Akaroa Harbour.
Start: 8am Halswell School **Approx Cost: \$15**

16-17 Mar GLENROY TOPS Maps BT23;L31,M31

Sat-Sun Liz Stephenson 358 3281

■ ■ A **moderate** circuit to the west of Lewis Pass. Starting on the Lake Daniels track before heading onto the interesting Glenroy Tops for a high camp by tarns. Continuing along the tops to return past the lake.
List closes: Sat 9 Mar

17 Mar TIMUTIMU HEAD - SCENERY NOOK Maps BY25;N37

Sun Bruce Cameron 365 8210

■ **Easy-moderate** tramp over Peninsula farmland, via 380m Lucas Peak to Timutimu Head, the western head of Akaroa Harbour. Returning via a natural tidal swimming pool at Scenery Nook.
Start: 8am Halswell School **Approx Cost: \$16**

23-24 Mar Sat-Sun ■■■	CAMERON RIVER - STH BRANCH ASHBURTON Gary Huish 332 7020 Moderate trip in close proximity to the Arrowsmith Range. We'll be in the headwaters of two river valleys, with a couple of crossings of the Wild Mans Brother Range. List closes: Sat 16 Mar	Maps BW18,19,BX19;J35
23 Mar Saturday	Wilding Pines Day—see Notices	
24 Mar Sun ■	PURPLE HILL Keith McQuillan 384 6164 Moderate round-trip from Flock Hill Station, returning via Flock Hill Stream. You will look down on Lakes Pearson, Grassmere, Marymere, and Hawdon in the Castle Hill Basin area. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BV21,BW21;L34 Approx Cost: \$20
29Mar-1 st Fri-Mon ■■■■ Easter	COPLAND PASS - WELCOME FLAT Raymond Ford 351 9496 The moderate-hard Copland Pass used to be one of New Zealand's greatest alpine tramps, linking the grandeur of Mount Cook with the West Coast bush and the hot springs at Welcome Flats. The erosion of Stewart and Copland Gullies on the eastern side of the Main Divide has isolated Hooker Hut on an inaccessible piece of lateral moraine. We intend to climb Copland Pass via a gully further up the glacier. Ice axe skills and crampons will be required. List closes: Sat 9 Mar	Maps BX15,BY15;H36
29Mar-1 st Fri-Mon ■■■■ Easter	WELCOME FLAT Heather Murray 332 6281 Leave Thursday evening for Hokitika. Friday drive to track start and walk in to Welcome flats hut and hot pools. Saturday we will tramp 3 hours to Douglas Rocks Hut where we will overnight. We'll do a day trip towards Copeland Pass for more views and to meet Raymond's group coming over the pass. Sunday, return to Welcome flats for a lunch-time dip in the hot pools before carrying on down the valley to camp for the night and get a head start for the next day. Monday walk out and drive back to Christchurch. As we will be taking a van and picking up the Copeland Pass group for the return trip, petrol costs should be quite low. List closes: Sat 9 Mar	Maps BX14,15;H36
29Mar-1 st Fri-Mon ■■■■ Easter	MOSS PASS TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip This moderate circuit up the Sabine River over Moss Pass and down the D'Urville River visits the jewel of Nelson Lakes, Blue Lake. List closes: Sat 9 Mar	Maps BS24,25;M30
29Mar-1 st Fri-Mon ■■■■ Easter	KARAMEA BASE CAMP Leo Manders 356 1731 Easy to moderate walks from this popular West Coast spot at the southern end of the Heaphy Track. Options include Scott Beach, Oparara Arches, Mirror Tarn, Fenian Basin and Cavern Creek Caves or Mt Stormy for the adventurous. List closes: Sat 9 Mar	Maps BQ22;L27,M28
31 Mar Sun ■	MT OXFORD Margot Bowden 332 7020 Moderate, popular walk to 1356m peak in the North Canterbury foothills. Good track, initially through beech forest, later through tussock. Start from Coopers Creek. Possible round trip. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BW23;L34,L35 Approx Cost: \$13

6-7 Apr Sat-Sun ■■	MOKIHINUI RIVER TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip Easy-moderate walk up the river at the southern end of the Karamea Bluffs now the hydro scheme has been dropped. Possibility of harder options on the adjacent Glasgow Range. List closes: Sat 23 Mar	Maps BR22;L28
6 Apr Saturday	Wilding Pines Day—see Notices	
7 Apr Sun ■	BEALEY SPUR - POWER STREAM Kerry Moore 359 5069 Moderate trip near Arthurs Pass up Power Stream and down Bealey Spur. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BV20;K34 Approx Cost: \$25
13-14 Apr Sat-Sun ■■	ROCKY CREEK - GRIFFIN CREEK TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip Moderate circuit between Rocky Creek and Griffin Creek to the north-west of Arthurs Pass national park. List closes: Sat 6 Apr	Maps BV19,20;K33
14 Apr Sun ■	KAITUNA VALLEY TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip Easy-moderate circuit at the head of Kaituna Valley Start: 8am Halswell School	Maps BX24;M36 Approx Cost: \$7
20-21 Apr Sat-Sun ■■	TURTONS SADDLE TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip An easy-moderate trip up Glenrock and Turtons Streams to 8 bunk Comyns Hut. This is part of the Te Araroa trail. List closes: Sat 13 Apr	Maps BW19,20;J36
21 Apr Sun ■	MT BARRON Gary Huish 332 7020 Moderate-hard trip in Arthurs Pass National Park to this 1700m peak west of Otira. Expect a long day. Check with leader if ice axe and crampons required. Start: 7am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BV20;K33 Approx Cost: \$30
25-28 Apr Thu-Sun ■■■■ Anzac WE	FREWS - MUNGO - CEDAR FLATS Kerry Moore 359 5069 A moderate-hard trip inland from Hokitika. Walking up the Frews River with a round-trip through the Mungo River to Cedar Flats. List closes: Sat 13 Apr	Maps BV19;J33,34
25-29 Apr Thu-Mon ■■■■■ Anzac WE	MILFORD TRACK Dan Pryce 356 2617 Moderate. One of New Zealand's world famous walking tracks in Fiordland National Park. Walking just outside the main season so normal hut fees apply. List closes: Sat 13 Apr	Maps CB08;D40,D41
25-29 Apr Thu-Mon ■■■■■ Anzac WE	ST JAMES WALKWAY Leo Manders 356 1731 Easy-moderate walk with well-spaced huts in a variety of terrain with views of the hopefully snow capped peaks of the Spenser Range. Good track through beech forest and river flats. List closes: Sat 13 Apr	Maps BT23,24,BU23;M31,M32

28 Apr Sun ■	KAIAPOI WALKWAY TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip Easy coastal walk north of Christchurch, taking in the Waimakariri River mouth and coastal trip to Woodend Beach. Start: 8am Robbies Cranford St (near Placemakers)	Maps BW24;M35 Approx Cost: \$5
30Apr-3M Tue-Fri ■■■■	KEPLER TRACK Dan Pryce 356 2617 The moderate Kepler Track is an alpine adventure with stunning panoramas. It takes you from the shore of Lake Te Anau to spend a night high above the clouds at Luxmore Hut (1085m). Traverse the ridgelines of the Kepler Mountains, drop down to beautiful Lake Manapouri, before heading back through peaceful beech forest. List closes: Sat 13 Apr	Maps CD07,08;C43
4-5 May Sat-Sun ■■	AKAROA BASE CAMP Leo Manders 356 1731 Accommodation is still to be arranged but there are many day walks, including coffee traverses in the area. List closes: Sat 27 Apr	Maps BX25,BY25;N36,N37
5 May Sun ■	MT BARROSA TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip A moderate trip in the Clent Hills area above the Ashburton Gorge Rd. Open tussock country with good views all the way up this 800m climb to 1364m Mt Barrosa. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BX19;J36 Approx Cost: \$22
Tue 7May	Trip Planning Evening 7pm 5 Patchett Place, Cashmere Have your say on where we go during the next tramping year.	
11-12 May Sat-Sun ■■	HURUNUI HUT TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip Easy-moderate overnight trip to this comfortable hut to the west of Lake Sumner. Starting from the Lake Taylor road. Option of a side-trip to Hurunui hot springs. List closes: Sat 4 May	Maps BU22;L32,L33

President's Report

As I am not seeking re election for president, this will be my final monthly report. During the last four years, I have reported on the issues facing the club as they have come up and provided members with the background information so you could see what was happening. Communication has been an important aspect for me. Some of these reports will be good to go back to for background information in the future.

Canterbury Community Trust Grant Application

The club applied for funding for the purchase of ten climbing helmets and to pay for The Press advertisement for the New Members' night. Liz Stephenson put our application together with help from relevant members of the executive—a big thank goes to Liz for doing this for us. I am pleased to report that the application was successful and the amount applied for has been deposited into the club's bank account.

Climbing Helmets

As a result of this grant we are now in the process of purchasing the 10 climbing helmets. Four blue ones will be small-medium in size and six orange will be medium-large size. The helmets will be stored at Merv Meredith's place not at Brian Smith's. Any club member can use a helmet at no charge for club or private trips—the same policy as for our PLB's.

New Members' Night

The club night on Tue 12 February was our "welcome to PTC" night aimed at both recent new members and interested in joining. Around 30 new people plus 40 members, made this a highly successful club night. Thanks again to Liz for both suggesting this as part of our new member strategy and with her able assistants, including Stan Wilder, for making this happen. Stan now has around 19 people recorded who would like to go further and

hopefully join in the future. We needed to promote the club night well in advance of knowing whether our grant application was successful. Your executive agreed the club should fund The Press advertisement anyway which we did and I think you have to agree that this was worth the effort. We also promoted the night through a number of other sources including our facebook page and our web site. Thanks to all those who assisted with the evening.

PTC Website

Just a reminder we now have our new web site up and running. Thanks To Kevin Hughes for setting this up and managing this for the club.

Tenure Review

We have recently submitted to tenure reviews covering Shag Valley and Middle Hill. We are concerned that our submissions regarding access provision to the high country is being ignored and over-ridden so we are looking at further options to make sure these important issues are not ignored. We also submitted on the Westland National Park proposed exclusive access road for commercial operators and the large increase in helicopter landings to be allowed.

Subscriptions

These were due by 31 January 2013. Thank you to those of you who have paid. If you still haven't paid, you will need to before the AGM on March 12 in order to vote. Any member not paid up by 31 March 2013 will automatically be deleted from our membership database on 1 April 2013. If you want any further information please contact our treasurer Geoff Price.

Happy Tramping – Leo Manders

SOCIAL EVENTS

Tues 19 Mar Heathcote River Walk

We will explore both banks of the river in the Ferrymead area. Make the most of evening daylight and come and join us. Meet 6 pm at Gould Crescent off Ferry Road. Please park near school and river. If running late, try joining us at Settlers Crescent.



Meal at Valley Inn Tavern, corner Marsden and Flavell St, Heathcote after the walk. This Inn has been completely rebuilt after the September quake and is in a lovely spot. See valleyinntavern.co.nz for a menu.

Booking essential for meal by 16 March please. Contact Sue Britain 388 2329, suebritain@gmail.com

NOTICES

Membership Lynda Janks is re-joining

Deadline for the February newsletter **Mon 1 April.** Trip reports, news and items of interest may be e-mailed to Kerry Moore, moorekj@xtra.co.nz Phone 359 5069

Next committee meeting 7:30pm Tue 26 April at Raymond's



Pinus Mugo

Wilding Tree Removal

Saturday 9 Mar

Saturday 23 Mar

Saturday 6 Apr

Raymond Ford 351 9496

Three outings to Flock Hill Station to help control the wilding pine spread. A satisfying day out with PTC and other like-minded trampers and outdoors people.

Tools provided. Transport by car-pool at no cost to you.

Meet at 8.00am in the Yaldhurst Hotel car park.

Ring Raymond before each day to get on the list.

TRIP REPORTS

The Garden of Eden and the Great Unknown 3-10 February 2013

Our driver, Chrys dropped eleven of us off at Erewhon Station and after the obligatory pack weigh-in we set off up the Clyde under clear skies and with a generally good week's forecast. The river was crossed with care three times before we reached [Watchdog Hut](#) on the true right by mid-afternoon. A period of heavy rain was forecast overnight and generated lengthy debate about whether we should head upstream to McCoy Hut or stay put. Cloud proceeding down-valley settled the discussion and we stayed, after which the rain set in with a vengeance. The next morning the river was high, moving was not an option and we settled in for a day of 5-handed 500, cryptic crosswords and yoga exercises. By Tuesday morning the rain and short southerly had passed and we set off for Perth Col up the true right of the Frances River which was by now a wide surging brown mass of rolling boulders.

Fresh snow covered the tops ahead but only the Agnes Stream presented any real challenge. This obstacle was eventually overcome with some drama, particularly for Geoff and Raymond, who had come back to assist the rest of us across and took some time thawing out. Progress up the Frances River to the terminal lake and then on the rubble up the Colin Campbell Glacier took time, particularly when avalanche debris had to be negotiated at the base of Mt Tyndall. We had a long day, arriving at our camping spot just under Perth Col late evening. That night was cold and clear and a group huddle proved the best way to survive the elements for most of the party. Dawn the next day was stunning for Geoff and Aarn who had slept out and spectacular for those who opted for more comfort. Some time was spent heading back to a viewpoint above our footsteps up the glacier and the morning fog down in the valley for the rumoured following CTC party. Laurayne demonstrated that tramping and style could coexist with her coordinated earrings and then it was time for action and a final ascent to Perth Col and a view of the Gardens.

The initial view of the Garden was everything that had been promised. There were some comments that it was better four years ago that led to some disparaging comments from Gary, who had missed out previously. The remainder of the Garden "newbies" thought it was close to heaven. Day 4 saw us traversing the length of the Gardens, taking time to check out Adams Col and a small rocky knoll above Angels Col at lunch-time. The scale of the Gardens was difficult to judge until we looked back on packs and people left and realised how small we were within in the landscape. A side-trip to Vertebrae Col and views to the Farrar Glacier showed other routes and options for a million future trips. Karen found how abrasive the glacial ice was on descent but the number of medically-trained staff proved equal to the occasion.

We camped at the foot of the ridge of The Great Unknown and Geoff set out that night to check routes around the more technical parts of the following day's route. Following his guidance the next day we traversed underneath and then up to the summit of this 2196m peak. The terrain was varied with large boulders and loose rocks, a 400m snow slope and some scrambling near the top. The last part of the ridge looked impassable with some impressive scrambling, however everyone reached the summit just as the rising valley cloud started to obscure the view of the Gardens. As Geoff said of this remote area, there is unlikely to have ever been eleven people on the summit previously.

Raymond found a way off the summit rocks and we descended into the rising coastal cloud. Ruth's view of a nimble chamois and immersion for some in a tepid tarn provided some light relief as we dropped and dropped. Unfortunately the promised tarns on the descent ridge did not materialise and we were forced to continue right down to the Elizabeth Stream flats in search of water, resulting in another long day. Aarn and Liz were seen to be offering thanks for arrival on flat land by some strange manoeuvres.

Day 6 was a difficult descent of Redfields Stream to the Perth. This did not give itself up easily to human travel, with many waterfalls and difficult sidles through thick west-coast scrub. The previous route description mentioned three waterfalls but we stopped counting at 43! We assume that the hunters' access that led to the bridge over the Perth has been degraded for some time. Eventually we

reached a sandy camping spot by the river just as night was drawing in.

After that we had relatively easy travel down to Scone Hut with the relative civilisation of a track. The flood debris from the new-year's rainfall was impressive with Five Finger Stream some 300m across and littered with car-sized boulders. Nolans Hut provided the welcome news that Chrys Horn had left shortly before and was waiting at a swimming hole just below Hughes Creek. It was fantastic to meet up with Chrys, not only for her company but for the fresh vegetables that would make the final night's meal palatable with cheesecake for desert! The last day was mercifully short and we ended up in Hari Hari for a big feed on Sunday.

What a trip! There were many memorable moments besides the great scenery but a few for me were the three sightings of whio, the rock wrens on The Great Unknown, the skinny-dipping competition, Gary teaching Karen cryptic crosswords, tasty dinners, finding the leader's ice-axe (don't ask!), wood-fire brews at lunch-time, and patched knees, shins and feet.

It was truly a great combined effort but a special mention has to go to Geoff Spearpoint who was a fantastic, patient leader, Chrys Horn who selflessly did the van shuffle, and the organising team for all the logistics. Roll on the next trip!

Trampers: Geoff Spearpoint, Gary Huish, Raymond Ford, Liz Stephenson, Laurayne Devereay, Chris Leaver, Karen Keith, Merv Meredith, Kevin Hughes, Aarn Tate, Chrys Horn and Ruth Barratt. 🏔️ RB

