



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

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September 2014

President	Gary Huish	332 7020	Brian Smith, Quartermaster	355 9945
Vice-President	Leo Manders	356 1731	Raymond Ford	351 9496
Vice-President	Kevin Hughes	332 6281	Margot Bowden	332 7020
Treasurer	Sue Piercey	384 9567	Maureen Thompson	377 2482
Trip Planner	Dan Pryce	379 1976	Ruth Barratt	335 0010
Secretary	Merv Meredith	322 7239	Geoff Price	343 5001
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 9 Sept

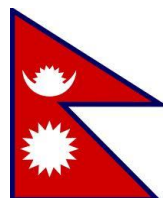


Mountains Memories and Myths

Limbo Thompson, a relatively new member to the Club had a miss-spent youth alpine climbing in NZ, including a number of first winter ascents. He will describe his memories of some of these although he admits that time may have clouded the accounts and myths may be a better description

Supper Duty: Irene Kilgour, Lorelie Kennedy, Dennis Kemp

Tue 14 Oct



Kiwi pioneers in the Khumbu – a recent trekker perspective

When **Grant and Anne Hunter** trekked in the Everest region last November they were watchful for Kiwi pioneers. They found abundant evidence etched into the landscape, from the visitor entry-point at the Tensing-Hillary Airport at Lukla, up-valley to the top of Mt Everest. First tracks were laid down, and first photographs taken in 1935, fifteen years before Nepal opened its borders.

Supper Duty: Frank King or Honora Renwick, Geoff or Mary Korver, Ken Lefever

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

- 7 Sep** **STEEPFACE HILL** **Maps BW20,K35**
 ■ **Gary Huish 332 7020**
- Sun** **Moderate-hard** snow trip overlooking the Rakaia River, climbing between Terrible Gully and Hutt Stream to this 1876m peak in the Mt Hutt Range. Ice axe and crampons required.
Start: 8am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$20**
- 13-14 Sep** **CROSS COUNTRY SKIING PISA RANGE** **Maps CB12,F40,41**
 ■■ **Calum McIntosh 376 6133**
- Sat-Sun** Cross country skiing originated in Scandinavia thousands of years ago. It's the great-great-grandfather of all ski sports. If you are an intermediate down-hill skier with moderate tramping fitness you will enjoy cross country skiing. Ph Calum to discuss.
List closes 30 Aug
- 13-14 Sep** **CAMERON HUT** **Maps BW18,19,BX19,J35**
 ■■ **Organiser Dan Pryce 379 1976**
- Sat-Sun** This **moderate** trip visits a spectacular area inland from Lake Heron with splendid views of the Arrowsmith Range. An early start Sunday morning allows time to enjoy the views of the glacier from a prominent lateral moraine an hour up from the hut before returning to the cars.
List closes 3 Sept
- 14 Sep** **DRY ACHERON STREAM TO BLACK HOLE** **Maps BW20,21,K35**
 ■ **Kerry Moore 359 5069**
- Sun** **Easy-moderate** trip to the south of the Korowai/Torlesse Tussockland Park. Travelling up the Dry Acheron Stream easement with a side trip to Black Hole (not as foreboding as it sounds)
 A nice area with snow-capped mountain views.
Start: 8am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$16**
- 20-22 Sep** **LAKE KANIERE BASE CAMP** **Maps BU19,BV19,J33**
 ■■■ **Geoff & Mary Korver 355 3905**
- Sat-Mon** Westland will be crisp and clear with snow on the surrounding peaks. We'll be staying at the lodge near this pretty lake and doing some of the day walks (all grades) in the area. Travel over Friday night returning Mon afternoon. Please book early as arrangements need to be made soon.
List closes 3 Sept
- 21 Sep** **MT CHEESEMAN - MT OLYMPUS** **Maps BW20,K34**
 ■ **Merv Meredith 322 7239**
- Sun** A **moderate** trip. We'll let our cars do the hard stuff, up to Cheeseman ski field. This will give us time to ascend to the crest of the Craigieburn Range and tramp along to Mt Olympus, one of the more dramatic viewpoints on the range. Returning the same way. Snow travel most of the day so ice axe and crampon experience required. If in doubt phone Merv to discuss.
Start: 7.30am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$18**

- 27-28 Sep** ■■ **LAKE MAN** **Maps BU22,L32,M32**
Liz Stephenson 027 633 2038
Sat-Sun **Moderate** tramp up the Doubtful River from Lewis Pass, to camp beside the Lake Man Biv or further up by the lake. We aim to return along the Doubtful Range over Mt Murray. Great opportunity to high camp and travel through the rolling hills of this dramatic terrain.
List closes 18 Sept
- 28 Sep** ■ **KOROWAI/TORLESSE TUSSOCKLANDS** **Maps BW21**
Helen Harkness 384 2890
Sun This **easy-moderate** track starts alongside highway 73 just before Porters Pass and climbs the well-graded track amongst diverse shrublands, traversing open ridges to Trig M above Lake Lyndon. We can push on to Rabbit Hill or lunch in the sun-warmed tussock and enjoy the mountain views. **Daylight Saving starts** so clocks will have gone forward 1 hr
Start: 9am Church Corner (across from church)
- 4-8 Oct** ■■■■■ **HEAPHY TRACK** **Maps BP22,23,L26,L27,M26**
Dan Pryce 379 1976
Sat-Wed The classic **easy-moderate** Heaphy Track in Kahurangi National Park is the longest of the DoC Great Walks. The trail crosses a range of landscapes over expansive tussock downs to the lush forests, nikau palms and roaring seas of Westland.
List closed
- 4-5 Oct** ■■ **KOWHAI - HAPUKU** **Maps BT27,O31**
Organiser Dan Pryce 379 1976
Sat-Sun This **moderate** tramp over the Kowhai Saddle, through two contrasting valleys in the Kaikoura foothills behind Mt Fyfe is typical Kaikoura country. Staying Sat night at Kowhai Hut. Sunday, over 1153m Kowhai Saddle 1153m then down the Hapuku. A section of track goes through some very nice lowland podocarp forest and emerges at the lower end of Hapuku Gorge
List closes 24 Sept
- 5 Oct** ■ **MOUNT GREY, RED BEECH TRACK** **Maps BV23**
Stan Wilder 980 5291
Sun From the Grey River picnic area we'll take the Red Beech route to the summit of Mt Grey/Maukatere, through tussock grasslands, stands of tall red beech and mountain beech, and totara. Expect panoramic views of the Canterbury Plains
Start: 8am Placemakers Cranford St **Approx cost \$10**
- 11-12 Oct** ■■ **BLACK HILL HUT - CHEST PEAK** **Maps BW22,L34**
Merv Meredith 322 7239
Sat-Sun A long **moderate-hard** trip from Lees Valley to this 1936m peak, the highest point on the Puketeraki Range offering views of the plains, Waimak Basin, Arthurs Pass NP and the Craigieburns. We will walk in to Black Hill Hut on **Saturday night** so take a good torch. Big day on Sunday.
List closes 2 Oct
- 12 Oct** ■ **CAMP SADDLE - LYNDON SADDLE** **Maps BW21,K34**
Chris Leaver 322 6445
Sun **Easy-moderate** loop that gets you above 1500m in the Craigieburn Range. Features some nice ridge walking, with great views of the range and its beech forests.
Start: 8am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$18**
- 18-19 Oct** ■■ **BARKER HUT MT HARPER / MT SPEIGHT** **Maps BV20,K33**
Gary Huish 332 7020 Raymond Ford 351 9496
Sat-Sun **Hard** trip at the head of the Waimakiriri River. We will walk into Carrington Hut Friday night. Early start Sat morning to Barker Hut. Plan is to climb Mt Harper or Mt Speight early Sunday and walk out late on Sunday night. Ice axe and crampons required.
List closes 2 Oct

- 18-19 Oct** ■■ **ROUGH CREEK - LAKE CHRISTABEL** **Maps BT22,L31 M31**
Dan Pryce 379 1976
Sat-Sun **Moderate** round-trip starting up Rough Creek from Lewis Pass with good views from the saddle on the way down to Lake Christabel Hut. Alongside the pretty lake on Sunday and down the Blue Grey River to Palmer Rd.
List closes 2 Oct
- 19 Oct** ■ **TIROMOANA BUSH - KATE VALLEY** **Maps BV24,N34**
Margot Bowden 332 7020
Easy coastal trip east of Waipara, through bush and wetlands to a remote beach. Great views to Pegasus Bay and Banks Peninsula. Nice walk and pleasant day out.
Start: 8.30am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$9**
- 25-27 Oct** ■■■ **WOOLLEY RIVER** **Maps BT19,20,L30,31**
Merv Meredith 322 7239
Sat-Mon Three day **moderate-hard** round trip on the east side of the Victoria Range, north of Springs Junction. Untracked travel through beech forest with camping at the bush line. Some tops
Labour travel before returning via another valley.
wknd **List closes 2 Oct**
- 25-27 Oct** ■■■ **NELSON LAKES SAINT ARNAUD BASE CAMP** **Maps BS24,M29,N29**
Maureen Thompson 377 2482
Sat-Mon A very pretty area with **all grades** of day-tramps catered for and organised by **Kevin Hughes**.
Labour There are nice walks on the shores of Lake Rotoiti, and on the 'mainland island' with its diverse
wknd wildlife. We have booked a modern spacious house with lake views so come along and enjoy the long weekend with your friends in a beautiful place.
List closes 2 Oct
- 27 Oct** ■ **MT OXFORD** **Maps BW23,L34,L35**
Leader to be advised.
Monday **Moderate**, popular walk to this 1356m peak in the North Canterbury foothills. Good track, initially through beech forest and tussock before the summit with views of Canterbury plains and beyond Round trip intended from Coopers Creek.
Start: 8am Placemakers Cranford St. **Approx cost \$12**
- 1-2 Nov** ■■ **MT BREWSTER / MT ARMSTRONG** **Maps BZ13,G38**
Raymond Ford 351 9496
Sat-Sun Based at Brewster Hut above Haast Pass, we plan a moderate climb of 2174m Mt Armstrong with a team pushing on to the **moderate-hard** climb of nearby 2515m Mt Brewster.
List closes 2 Oct
- 1-2 Nov** ■■ **WALKER PASS - AMBER COL - SUDDEN VALLEY** **Maps BV21,K33**
Merv Meredith 322 7239
Sat-Sun A satisfying **moderate-hard** round-trip in the southern section of APNP. We will camp near Amber Col and travel along the Polar Range. A rapid scree descent gives "back-door" access to Sudden Valley.
List closes 2 Oct
- 2 Nov** ■ **PORT ROBINSON - GORE BAY** **Maps BV26,O33**
Dan Pryce 379 1976
Sun **Easy** coastal North Canterbury walk. Beaches, bush, headlands and great ocean views. Tea and scones at the Dorrie Café (old railway station) on the way home.
Start: 8am Placemakers Cranford St. **Approx cost \$18**
- 8-9 Nov** ■■ **PRINCESS BATH, LAKE TENNYSON** **Maps BT24,M30,M31**
Organiser Dan Pryce 379 1976
Sat-Sun **Moderate** tramp to this tarn basin at 1700m, behind Lake Tennyson in the upper Clarence Valley. We plan to climb nearby 2126m Mt Princess. Camping out.
List closes 2 Oct

9 Nov

MT TORLESSE TRAVERSE

Maps BW21,K35 L34,35

■ Gary Huish 332 7020

Moderate-hard traverse of the Torlesse Range, taking in Castle Hill Peak, The Gap, Red Peak and Mt Torlesse. A big day and a great opportunity to complete this classic trek.

Start: 7am Church Corner (across from church)

Approx cost \$13

SOCIAL EVENTS

You Can Always Hand Them Back By Roger Hall

7.30pm Tuesday 23 September

We have booked the best seats in the Court Theatre, Bernard St, Addington.

Book your seat, \$42 discount price by Monday 1 September

with Brian Smith Ph 355 9945, 027 740 3035, or brian21x@xtra.co.nz

Directed by Dan Pengelly. Music and lyrics by Peter Skellern. Featuring Lynda Milligan

Roger Hall, NZ's favourite playwright, takes you on a light-hearted journey through the joys and horrors of grandparenthood, with all its painful pleasures. Retirees Maurice and Kath juggle golf, gin and four tiny terrors, to the wry tunes of Peter Skellern. Achingly funny New Zealand comedy

Tue 21 Oct

Hagley Park and Mona Vale Walk then dinner at Mexicano's in Victoria St



Meet at 6.15 pm on the corner of Victoria St and Dorset St. Walk to Mona Vale and back via Hagley Park.

Dine at Mexicano's, 131 Victoria St at 7.30 pm. Entrees \$8, Mains \$25–\$29 Sangria \$8, Moustache \$2, Mexican Hat \$10 (optional)

Bookings for the meal by Friday 17 October to

Maureen Thompson **377 2482, 021 266 5778** or mothompson@xtra.co.nz

No need to book if you are doing the walk and not the meal.

If the weather is bad we will still have the dinner.

NOTES

Deadline for the Oct newsletter Sunday 5 October

Next committee meeting 7:30pm Tue 30 Sept

TRIP REPORTS

CLOUDSLEY – ENYS — 10 Aug 2014

A Craigieburns trip two months running. This is good! Days ahead the forecast for Sunday predicted gale force nor-west whereas Saturday was looking ideal. So Milan did the circuit on his own. He reported brilliant but freezing weather. His stop on Enys was very brief. Milan also warned that the climb to Cloudsley without crampons was fine, but along the ridge there was frozen, hard snow with anything loose blown off.

Three of our party met at Church Corner at 7am—Penny, Merv and Kerry—but due to the marvels of modern electronics, Liz couldn't start her car, so we detoured to Templeton to collect her. The latest forecast had pushed the nor-west back to later in the day, so Merv changed the circuit to the usual anti-clockwise Cloudsley, Enys.

Tramping from Castle Hill Village at 8.40am, the first two hours was in calm sunny weather. Then the nor-west started to gradually build. On Cloudsley at 12.20pm, we donned crampons and clattered along the icy ridge, beginning to struggle a bit in the wind. We fortuitously managed a late lunch stop at one of the spots where a bump on the ridge deflected the wind. We were surprised to see a glider getting lift from our ridge.



There was enough breeze for a plastic bag to get away on Liz. She chased it leaving her sit-mat vulnerable. Kerry's mat had already blown far away as he got up from donning crampons on Cloudsley so he called to Penny to secure Liz's mat which was amusing because she got up leaving her mat unprotected. The breeze didn't claim either mat but when Penny tried to light her little burner for a cuppa, Liz's "light anywhere" matches wouldn't oblige.

On top of Enys well after 2pm, Merv didn't want to climb Carn Brae in the wind, to go down Dead Man Spur. Plus he was concerned about how hard the ice would be in the upper part of Enys Stream. So he opted for the spur via point 2046—the one we usually climb up. We should have gone down the stream. The spur was slow in those conditions so it was 5.10pm at the bottom and we still had the long walk around the bottom to get back to the village. But with a super moon we made reasonable speed. Even so, Penny's super-strong head torch was helpful. We—**Merv Meredith, Kerry Moore, Liz Stephenson and Penny Webster** arrived back at Penny's vehicle at 7.40pm. 🏔️ MM

Arthurs Pass Base—30-31 August 2014

Cars arrived at the Catholic Outdoor Club's house in Arthur's Pass Village at 8pm on the Friday night. Those that hadn't eaten had a bite. Plans were made for the Saturday hike and most of us turned in at about 10pm. A 7am start got seven of us walking towards Punchbowl Falls by 9. At a junction we departed the well-manicured track and headed up the rugged Mt Aitken track where we could look across the clouded-in valley. After a while we were impressed to look up to Mt Rolleston piercing the cloud and looking very tall. Gradually the peaks revealed themselves as the cloud burned off, until we had a clear sky and a perfect day. Clothing was peeled off down to one or two layers.

At 1100m the track reaches a scrubby patch giving us a splendid view into the Punchbowl Stream's snowy upper reaches. Both Margaret and Merv voiced a desire to go up that basin some day. Back in stunted beech forest the track has some awkward rocky patches before emerging to tussock tops. We climbed the spur on



gravelly terrain and had lunch when we reached the prominent NE-SW-facing ridge. With our batteries recharged we scrambled 1½km along the ridge to gain the last 200m to the 1863 point. My map shows Mt Aicken further along the ridge but its lower at 1858 so we weren't about to walk to the lower peak. Most of us descended using crampons but one steep rocky patch proved awkward. Going down a snow basin beside the ridge was easy, though we got a bit carried away and went a tad lower than our lunch spot.

Once down on the flat, chimneys were smoking and the day had cooled. No-one bothered going to P-B Falls for a cold shower, opting instead for the warmth of our base-house. The evening feast included pizza, savouries, kumera bake, two curries, pasta, carrot salad, rhubarb & apple crumble, fruit salad, ice-cream and custard. As usual, quantities of everything were over-generous and we went to bed feeling over-fed.

Left-over custard and fruit salad supplemented breakfast and then we drove over the pass to the well-used Otira Valley car park on another beautiful day. Thirty minutes got us to the bridge where the formed track ends. There was enough snow around for skiers to play on. Looking up the slope that leads towards Philistine we could see many ski-tracks in the snow.

Our group went up-valley as far as we wanted before returning to the bridge for lunch where we were visited by two Kea. When Heather's back was turned, tag 7 Kea, grabbed a giant red berry—an apple—from her lunch-box. We allowed it to eat a little before stealing it back. John and Margaret chose to exit early and walk the five or six kilometres back to base. Walking independently John arrived back without seeing Margaret which had us mystified. Margaret admits to dawdling after assuming we'd go all the way up Otira Valley. With everyone back we were able to pack, do the final clean-up and get home with plenty of day-light to spare. Thanks go to Merv for organizing a great weekend.

We were: **Merv Meredith, Maureen Thompson, Gayle O'Halloran, John Robinson, Kevin & Heather Hughes, Margaret Clark and Kerry Moore.** 🏔️ KM

