



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

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## November 2014

<b>President</b>	Gary Huish	332 7020	Brian Smith, Quartermaster	355 9945
<b>Vice-President</b>	Leo Manders	356 1731	Raymond Ford	351 9496
<b>Vice-President</b>	Kevin Hughes	332 6281	Margot Bowden	332 7020
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sue Piercey	384 9567	Maureen Thompson	377 2482
<b>Trip Planner</b>	Dan Pryce	379 1976	Ruth Barratt	335 0010
<b>Secretary</b>	Merv Meredith	322 7239	Geoff Price	343 5001
<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 11 Nov



### **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: Lynne Lochhead, Mary McKeown, Darcy Mawson**

Tue 9 Dec



### **Fun and Games**

Challenging little games, exercises and quiz questions to round off a year of club nights. Bring a pen and something to share at supper-time.

Organised by Maureen and Kerry

**Supper Duty: Pat or Callum McIntosh, Geoff or Mary Korver, Barry McKessar**

## 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 Nov<br>■<br>Sun                       | <b>MT TORLESSE TRAVERSE</b><br><b>Gary Huish 332 7020</b><br><b>Moderate-hard</b> 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. May need ice axes and crampons.<br><b>Start: 7am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd</b>   | <b>Maps BW21,K35 L34,35</b><br><br><b>Approx cost \$13</b> |
| 13-18 Nov<br>■■■■■■■<br>Thu-Tue         | <b>OLD GHOST ROAD</b><br><b>Dan Pryce 379 1976</b><br><b>Moderate</b> trip. An old gold miners' trail is being revived as a mountain bike and tramping track connecting the old dray road in the Lyell (Upper Buller Gorge) to the Mokihinui River in the north. The 80km track traverses native forest, open tussock tops, river flats and remote valleys.<br><b>List closes 16th Oct.</b> | <b>Maps BR22,L28</b>                                       |
| 14-16 Nov<br>■■■<br>Fri-Sun<br>Show w/e | <b>GLORIANA, FAERIE QUEENE</b><br><b>Gary Huish 332 7020</b><br><b>Hard</b> climbing trip starting from the St James walkway to Ada Pass and camping high at tarns above Camera Gully. Planning to climb Gloriana and possibly Faerie Queene.<br><b>List closes 3 Nov</b>   | <b>Maps BT23,M31</b>                                       |
| 14-16 Nov<br>■■■<br>Fri-Sun<br>Show w/e | <b>PUNAKAIKI BASE CAMP</b><br><b>Chris Leaver 322 6445</b><br>We return to Westland and the spectacular coastline at Punakaiki. <b>Easy</b> and <b>Moderate</b> walks to suit all members or just relax and enjoy this special place. Driving over Friday evening.<br><b>List closes 3 Nov</b>  | <b>Maps BS19,20,K30</b>                                    |
| 16 Nov<br>■<br>Sun                      | <b>MT ALEXANDER</b><br><b>Margaret Clark 348 4993</b><br><b>Easy</b> wander in open, rolling North Canterbury farm country, to this 750m lookout north-east of Waikari. Enjoy a day out with Margaret and lunch with a view.<br><b>Start: 8.30am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St</b>   | <b>Maps BV24,N33</b><br><br><b>Approx cost \$14</b>        |
| 22-23 Nov<br>■■■<br>Sat-Sun             | <b>LAKE TAYLOR BASE CAMP</b><br><b>Organiser Dan Pryce 379 1976</b><br>We'll take the bikes, boots and rods, camp beside the lake and enjoy the local walks and rides in the Lake Sumner area. A great camping spot in beautiful country. Driving up Fri evening, returning Sunday.<br><b>List closes 13 Nov</b>  | <b>Maps BU22/3,BT23,L32/3,M32/3</b>                        |

- 23 Nov**      **PUDDING HILL STREAM**      **Maps BX20,K35,K36**  
 ■ **Evelien Baas 03 317 9077**  
**Sun**      **Easy-moderate** walk along the ridge to the west of Mt Hutt forest. Good views of the plains, Mt Hutt and the Alfred and Taylor Ranges to the west.  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**      **Approx cost \$17**
- 28-30 Nov**      **COPLAND PASS - WELCOME FLAT**      **Maps BX15,BY15,H36**  
 ■■■ **Raymond Ford 351 9496**  
**Fri-Sun**      A classic **hard** alpine traverse, linking the grandeur of Mount Cook with Westland bush and the reward of hot springs at Welcome Flats. Details from Raymond.  
**List closes 18 Nov**
- 29-30 Nov**      **SAWCUT GORGE**      **Maps BS28,29,P29**  
 ■■ **Sue Johnston 03 575 6761**  
**Sat-Sun**      An **easy-moderate** trip through this fascinating limestone gorge north of Kaikoura. We'll drive up to Sue's place "Elterwater" near Ward. Fri evening, camp in Sue's back yard, walk SCG Sat, return to camp and dinner with Sue then do a local walk such as London Hill Sunday then home Sun evening.  
**List closes 21 Nov**
- 30 Nov**      **MT PHILISTINE**      **Maps BV20,K33**  
 ■ **Merv Meredith 322 7239**  
**Sun**      One of the most spectacular **moderate-hard** day climbs in the Arthur's Pass area. From the Otira Valley the "Phil Novis route" will be taken to the summit for marvellous views of Mt Rolleston, Westland and surrounding ranges.  
**Start: 7am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**      **Approx cost \$27**
- 6-7 Dec**      **MINGHA - LAKE MAVIS**      **Maps BV20,K33**  
 ■■ **Dan Pryce 379 1976**  
**Sat-Sun**      **Moderate** tramp up the Mingha River to Goat Pass and then up to the scenic Lake Mavis. We'll camp by the lake at 1600m and return by the same route Sunday.  
**List closes 28 Nov**
- 7 Dec**      **MT HAMILTON**      **Maps BW21,K34**  
 ■ **John Robinson 027 633 1476**  
**Sun**      Starting from the Broken River ski field road John will lead the ascent of this **moderate** 1922m peak on the Craigieburn Range via Nervous Knob. Terrific views and not far from town.  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**      **Approx cost \$18**
- 13-14 Dec**      **CARROLL HUT**      **Maps BV20,K33**  
 ■■ **Kerry Moore 359 5069**  
**Sat-Sun**      From Otira, a steady **easy-moderate** climb through bush to 8-bunk Carroll Hut, just above the bush line. Opportunity to explore the nice tops on the Kelly Range with abundant mountain flowers.  
**List closes 4 Dec**
- 13 Dec**      **MT HERBERT FROM ORTON BRADLEY**      **Maps BX24,M36**  
 ■ **Leader to be advised**  
**Saturday**      Classic **easy-moderate** walk to the highest point on Banks Peninsula (920m) Good tracks, historical interest at Orton Bradley Park, plus fine harbour views  
**8am PM Hospital, Hackthorne Rd end, across the road by the river.**      **Approx cost \$13**

- 14 Dec**      **YEAR-END PICNIC, DIAMOND HARBOUR**      **Maps BX24,M36**  
 ■ **Merv Meredith 322 7239**  
**Sun** Diamond Harbour and its reserve is too nice and convenient to ignore, with lots of options, so we are returning this summer. The picnic will be in the **Stoddart Point Reserve** on the lower level at Diamond Harbour. Drive in to the left of the shops on the road down to the jetty and then to the right at the first hairpin, into the reserve. You can catch the ferry from Lyttelton. Come when it suits you. As well as walking, there are plenty of options—swimming, kayaking, boating. For biking Camp Bay isn't far away, or try the Port Levy road.
- 20-21 Dec**      **FREYBERG RANGE - PELL STREAM**      **Maps BT22,23,L31,M31**  
 ■■ **Organiser Dan Pryce 379 1976**  
**Sat-Sun** A **moderate trip** in the Lewis Pass area travelling over the Freyberg Range, east of Mueller Tarn and down Pell Stream to the hut or camp out. A high tramp, no bugs no people! Big views!  
**List closes 11 Dec**
- 21 Dec**      **AVALANCHE PEAK - MT BEALEY**      **Maps BV20,K33**  
 ■ **Penny Webster 349 3693**  
**Sun** Traversing the range, via Lyell Peak, between two of the most popular tramping peaks in Arthur's Pass, makes an excellent **moderate-hard** round trip.  
**Start: 7am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**      **Approx cost \$26**
- 27 Dec-4 J**      **TE ARAROA - RICHMOND RANGE**      **Maps Q26,BR26,N28,N29**  
 ■■■■■■■■ **Kerry Moore 359 5069**  
 Driving in from Pelorous Bridge and walking the section of trail that goes to Hacketts Picnic ground then on to the Red Hills section to a car park 10km from St Arnaud. Dates may need adjustment. There may be an option for some to walk only one section.  
**List closes 14 Dec**
- 10-11 Jan**      **KELLYS CREEK - HUNTS CREEK – KELLY RANGE**      **Maps BV20,K33**  
 ■■ **Leader to be confirmed**  
 A **moderate**, trip in Arthurs Pass NP. Varied terrain, mostly off-track, a chance to travel through some less-visited APNP country.  
**Sat-Sun** **List closes 2 Jan**
- 11 Jan**      **MT ALFORD**      **Maps BX20**  
 ■ **Dan Pryce 379 1976**  
**Sun** Near Mt Hutt, this **easy-moderate** track passes through **Alford Scenic Reserve** before climbing beside a stream gully of beech trees then onto tussock grassland and through subalpine terrain to the summit of Mt Alford (1171m) to enjoy the wide views across the Canterbury Plains and inland mountains.  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**      **Approx cost \$17**
- 17-19 Jan**      **TE ARAROA - MESOPOTAMIA TO TEKAPO**      **Maps BX&Y17,18,I&J36**  
 ■■■ **Leader to be confirmed**  
**Sat-Mon** A **moderate** 3 day trip in big open country through Mesopotamia Station to Lake Tekapo via Crooked Spur, Royal, Camp Stream huts and Stag Saddle. Views of Tekapo, the Main Divide and across the plains.  
**List closes 7 Jan**
- 18 Jan**      **PURAU SADDLE HILLTOP**      **Maps BX24,M36**  
 ■ **Dan Pryce 379 1976**  
**Sun** A longish, **moderate** trip. Walking between Purau Saddle and Montgomery Park, near Hilltop Tavern, along the summit walkway through several bush reserves. Good views of Banks Peninsula. We aim to have a group starting at each end to do a cross-over trip.  
**8am PM Hospital, Hackthorne end, across the road by the river.**      **Approx cost \$5**

- 24-25 Jan** **ZAMPA TOPS** **Maps BT23,M31**  
 ■■■ **Kerry Moore 359 5069**  
**Sat-Sun** **Moderate** hike near Cannibal Gorge in the Lewis Pass. At the top end of the St James Walkway is 1710m Zampa. Below it is a good-sized tarn where we will camp. Day 2 we'll walk the tops to Ada Hut. Monday out.  
**List closes 17 Jan**
- 25 Jan** **MT HARPER** **Maps BX18,19,J36**  
 ■ **Gary Huish 332 7020**  
**Sun** A **moderate-hard** trip to this 1829m summit with extensive views of the upper Rangitata headwaters. Moderate options for those who don't want to do the full trip.  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd** **Approx cost \$25**
- 31 Jan-1 F** **BLACK HILL HUT** **Maps BW22,L34**  
 ■■ **Leader to be confirmed**  
**Sat-Sun** **Moderate** trip to this hut in Oxford Forest. On Sunday morning we will walk the short distance up to 1300m Black Hill.  
**List closes 24 Jan**
- 1 Feb** **BENMORE FROM LYNDON ROAD** **Maps BW21,K35**  
 ■ **Leader to be confirmed**  
**Sun** **Moderate** trip to this 1655m peak in Korowai/Torlesse Tussockland Park. A round-trip starting from the road between Lakes Lyndon and Coleridge. Views include Lake Coleridge basin and Rakaia River.  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd** **Approx cost \$16**

## SOCIAL EVENTS

**Tue 18 Nov**



### **New Brighton walk then dinner at The Bower**

Meet at 6.15pm in The Bower car-park (park away from restaurant) for a walk around the local area.

Later we will dine at **The Bower and Urban Cafe**, 487 New Brighton Road on the Bower Ave corner. See how 18 containers can be made into a very interesting eatery with great outdoor areas too. Meals include pizza, pasta (\$20) plus salads, meat, fish and vegetarian fare. More details on the web or facebook.

For the walk, just turn up. For the meal **phone Sue Britain 388 2329 by 16 Nov.**

**Sat 29 Nov**



### **Christmas in the Park**

HO HO HO! This wonderful free musical extravaganza starts at 7.30 pm in Hagley Park but some of us will go earlier at 6 pm to book some space. Look for a red banner with black boot-prints (as in our logo). We will have to lower the banner after 7.30 pm so get there early if you want to find us. Bring deck-chair, warm clothes (it can get really cold), rugs, hot toddies, yummy nibbles and your Christmas Spirit. Friends welcome. No need to book.

**Enquiries Maureen 377 2482 or 021 266 5778**

**Wed 17 Dec**



### **Victoria Park Walk & Pot Luck BBQ**

Walk through Victoria Park followed by pot luck barbeque at Gary and Margot's, 5 Patchett Place, Cashmere. Meet at **6pm** at 5 Patchett Place.

If you are coming for the BBQ please let Margot know by Sunday 15 Dec.

**Phone 332 7020 margot.bowden@gmail.com.**



## NOTES

**Membership** We welcome **John Allan**

**Conservation Week** Details at <http://www.doc.govt.nz/conservationweek/>

**Mountain Safety Courses available:** Above the Bushline, Risk Management Essentials, Workplace First Aid in the Outdoors. Details at <http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz/Training/>

**Deadline for the Dec newsletter** Mon 1 Dec

**Next committee meeting** 7:30pm Tue 25 Nov at Kevin's

## TRIP REPORTS

### Heaphy Track 3-8 Oct 2014

It was hoped the trip would go west to east as car relocation is cheaper that way but the Heaphy Hut was booked out on the 4th. We later found why.

**Friday.** Soon after 3pm Dan stopped at Leithfield for Bill who completed our party of five. By Culverden, "Chains Essential" signs began appearing. Without chains we managed, although snow fell before the Lewis and continued almost all the way to Murchison, our snack stop. With more snow on the Hope, it was a relief to reach Motueka's *Hot Mama's cafe* and *The Laughing Kiwi Backpackers*.

**Saturday.** Brown Hut to Perry Saddle Hut. 17.5km

The Takaka Hill snow proved drivable and soon after 11am we began the uphill tramp to Perry Saddle Hut leaving the car for relocation to the Kohaihai River end. A stand-up lunch was fitted in between rain, hail and snow as the Aore Shelter was four hours away. Just past the shelter, we met Derry our car relocater. He has been walking/running the Heaphy since 1976 and this was the most snow he had seen—no views of Mt. Taranaki today. We gasped on reaching the hut (880m) at 5.10 pm. Roof and verandahs were piled high with snow. A fire was coaxed into life and we enjoyed Dan's well-planned meal.





**Foaming brine on dry land!**

**Sunday.** Saddle Hut to James Mackay Hut. 24km

Unable to find the start of the track in all the snow, we were forced to return to the hut and ask! Two hours on, we snacked at the Goulard Downs Hut. It was still misty and snow-covered here. Another 1½ hours later, the Saxon Hut was perfect for a boil up and lunch. A couple here explained our failure to get the preferred Heaphy Hut booking. Nick Smith's party booked it out, perhaps intending to open the new James Mackay Hut. For the next 3 hours we had rain in our faces. Up until then, before each hut, we were cheered by "1 km to hut" pegs. This time, "2 km to hut". As Dan remarked "This is a trying day". Looming above the old hut, the new one is not quite ready and with thick mist obscuring views of the Tasman Sea and Heaphy River, we snuggled into the "old" hut.

**Monday.** James Mackay Hut to Heaphy Hut. 20.5km

As we finished breakfast, Derry appeared, having relocated our car. He had slept at the Lewis Hut and was going to Brown Hut and out, having left the Lewis at 5am. What a champion!

It felt warmer as we set out at 9.10am despite overnight heavy showers and gales. There were still patches of snow. Good team work got us through a large windfall. Nearing the Lewis, we met a seemingly endless line of young people, later found to be 10+2 from Waipukarau doing their Duke of Ed. Hillary Award. Dan declared a long lunch and boil up at the hut.

The nearby new 148m suspension bridge impressed and we were soon on another bridge spotting whitebait. Machete wielding DoC workers warned us about high winds at Heaphy Beach and on arrival at the hut no one braved the beach.

**Tuesday.** Heaphy Hut to Kohaihai River Mouth. 16.2km

As Bill promised it was fine and sunny this day. A deer wandered along our track then at Katipo Creek we watched two whio. We also saw several Powelliphanta. Just after the Katipo Shelter, foam stretched from the sea over the track to the bush. Wobbling and rippling, it came above our knees as we were forced to walk through it. Foam clung long after and we appeared to be wearing a job lot of ugg boots. A beach lunch in the sun preceded the last leg—Scots Beach to the Kohaihai River. At the high point of this section, looking down



to, and across the river we tried to spot Dan's car, I thought of my Karamea childhood picnics to Scots Beach. These had to be between milkings with suitable tides to wade the river. By 3 pm, we had crossed the swing bridge and were soon munching complimentary apples left by Derry in the car. At the *Last Resort* in Karamea, there was even time to sit in the sun before dinner.

### Wednesday. Karamea to Christchurch

A slip in the Buller Gorge delayed us for 1½ hr but Reefton's bakery did not disappoint.

Weather dominated the trip—snow, hail, gales, sun—we had it all. We did appreciate the marvellous bush and tussocks, the good huts and each other's company. Many thanks to Dan for driving, excellent food and good leadership. We were: **Dan Pryce, Lee Varty, Bill Hambidge, Pauline McFarlane, Helen Harkness.** 🏔️ HH

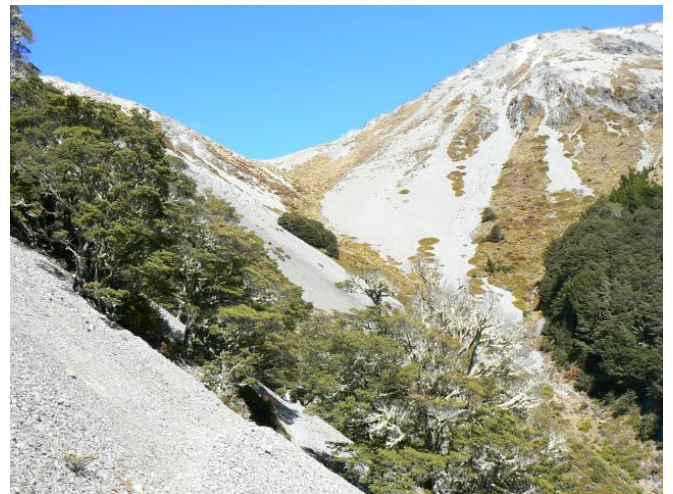
### CAMP SADDLE - LYNDON SADDLE—Sunday 12 Oct

Three cars parked on the flat where the Craigieburn ski road enters the beech forest. We walked on the road for a short while then onto the track that leads to Camp Saddle. Chris was our leader and chose to do an anti-clockwise circuit. Climbing up to Camp Saddle we enjoyed views of Craigieburn ski-field with its patchy snow. Lunch was enjoyed in pleasant sunny conditions on the saddle. Small patches of snow remained on the rocky ridge that leads to Helicopter Hill. From point 1525 useful scree helped us descend to the bush-line above Lyndon Saddle where we re-grouped. At the saddle we went south, around Helicopter Hill and onto the pine-infested flat that leads back to the Craigieburn ski road. A pleasant circuit on a fine day.

We were: **Chris Leaver, Graham Townsend, Jill Fenner, Jane Severn, John Allan, Graeme Nicholas, Callum & Pat McIntosh, Sandra White, Joy Schroeder, Kerry Moore.** 🏔️ KM



Ski Area, above. Camp Saddle below



Camp Saddle above

