

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

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Facebook name peninsula tramping club

April 2015

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			Ruth Barratt	335 0010
Secretary	Merv Meredith	322 7239	Geoff Price	343 5001
Editor	Kerry Moore	359 5069		

New Member	Please contact Stan Wilder, 021 255 3880 or swilder@clear.net.nz, to request an
Enquiries	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 **Baptist Church Hall, 286 Oxford Terrace** (**corner of Madras Street and Oxford Terrace**) starting promptly at 7.45 pm. Doors open 7.30.

Tue 14 Apr

Annual General Meeting plus Old Ghost Road Cycleway



The report on the club trip lead by Dan Pryce through the OGR in mid-November last year appeared in the Dec/Jan Footnotes. The track is open but not yet able to be biked continuously from Lyell north to Seddonville. Come and see what the PTC team experienced over five very different days

Supper Duty: Gayle O'Halloran, Stuart Payne, Miriam Preston

Tue 14 May

Blue Mountain Wanderings



Whilst visiting Sydney in late 2013, **Terry Thomsen** took several days out to visit the Blue Mountains, where he walked some of the best tracks in the Katoomba, Wentworth Falls and Blackheath areas.

Supper Duty: David Ramm or Aleksandra Jarmolik

Deborah Rhode.

John Rice or Lois Moore

New Venue for Peninsula Tramping Club Nights

PTC club nights are now held at the **Baptist Church Hall at 286 Oxford Terrace**, on the **corner of Madras Street and Oxford Terrace**, just south of the Avon River and Kilmore Street. The venue allows us to move back to the City Centre and is centrally located with good connection to the one-way streets and ample carparking.

AGM AGM AGM AGM —7:30pm Tue 14 April

The 83rd Annual General Meeting of Peninsula Tramping Club will be held at the

Baptist Church Hall, 286 Oxford Terrace

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.

12 Apr GOAT HILL Maps BV20,K33

Sun Leader to be advised

Easy-medium trip in Otira area. Track heads off from the landfill up the ridge near Barrack

Creek. Expect splendid views

Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd Approx cost \$25

19 Apr MAUKURATAWHAI Maps BT24,25,N31

Sun Calum McIntosh 376 6133

• Over Jacks Pass behind Hanmer, this **moderate** tramp climbs to this 1615m summit. Possible

round-trip.

Start: 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St Approx cost \$21

25-27 Apr MT BREWSTER Maps BT23,M29,N29

Sat-Mon Raymond Ford 351 9496

A medium-hard climb of 2515m Mt Brewster. We're having another shot at this peak after

Anzac weather forced postponements previously. Alpine experience essential.

wknd List closes 11April

25-28 Apr TARAMAKAU RIVER - HARPER PASS - LEWIS PASS Maps BU20-23,K33,L33

Sat-Tue Leader to be advised

Moderate. Classic crossing of the main divide from Aickens, up the Taramakau, over the 960m pass, to Lake Sumner Forest Park, down the Hurunui and Hope valleys, to Windy Point on the

wknd Lewis Pass Highway. Good huts and an opportunity for a dip in the Hurunui hot pool.

List closes 11 April

25-27 Apr UPPER MAKARORA BASE CAMP

Maps BZ13,F38,F39,G38,G39

Maps BT23,M31

Sat-Mon Kevin Hughes 332 6281

Makarora is located between Haast Pass and the head of Lake Wanaka.

Anzac The plan is to stay at the Makarora tourist centre in A-frame chalets.

wknd The area has an abundance of trips for all levels of fitness, even helicopter and jet boat

excursions. Trips such as:

Wills Valley Track - Wills Hut 5–6 hr, 7.5 km Mount Brewster Track - Brewster Hut 3–4 hr, 2.5 km Cameron Valley Track - Cameron Hut 4–5 hr, 7 km Blue Valley Track - Camp Flat 2–3 hr, 2.5 km

More detail will be available on the PTC website trips list closer to departure. Book early as we

will have to arrange the accommodation

List closes 11 April

26 Apr RYDE FALLS Maps BW22,L34

Sun Margot Bowden 332 7020

■ Easy walk to these pretty falls in the Oxford Forest which come down in three tiers amid a

 $mixture\ of\ bush.\ Starting\ from\ Coopers\ Creek.$

Start: 9am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St Approx cost \$9

2-3 May BRASS MONKEY BIV

Sat-Sun Kerry Moore 359 5069

A classic, **moderate-hard**, Lewis Pass tops trip to this bivvy situated just off the main divide.

Starting from the Lewis Pass west car park. The tops give commanding views into Maruia

Valley and the high peaks that contain The Grand Duchess.

List closes 24 April

3 May PORT LEVY TRACK Maps BX25,N36

Sun Murray Hight 347 4014

Easy-moderate walk on the east side of Port Levy.

8am PM Hospital, Hackthorne Rd end, across the road by the river. Approx cost \$7

Tue 5 May TRIP PLANNING

Helping to plan our annual trip schedule gives you the chance to have your say on where we venture. Our meeting will start at 7pm at Gary and Margot's. If you can't attend give your suggestions to Gary or another committee member.

9-17 May KEPLER TRACK Maps CD07,08,C43

Dan Prvce 379 1976

The **moderate** Kepler Track is an alpine adventure with stunning panoramas. It goes from the

shore of Lake Te Anau to Luxmore Hut (1085m) high above the clouds. The track crosses the

ridgelines of the Kepler Mountains

List closes 12 April

9-10 May MAGDALEN HUT – MARTHA – ROKEBY Maps BT23,24,M31,32

Sat-Sun Merv Meredith 322 7239

■■ Moderate-hard trip with Friday night travel to Magdalen Hut. Climb Martha (1409m) and

continue along the ridge, then drop to Rokeby Hut

List closes 29 April

10 May MT GUY Maps BX19,J36

Sun Chris Leaver 322 6445

■ An easy-moderate trip overlooking Lake Clearwater. Suitable for families.

Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd Approx cost \$23

16-17 May HOPE-KIWI LODGE

Sat-Sun Kerry Moore 359 5069

Easy-moderate tramp in Lake Sumner Forest Park, overnighting in Hope Kiwi Lodge. Good

track all the way through beech forest and river terraces with minimal up-and-down. With enough people we can do a cross-over trip from the Lake Sumner road and from Windy Point

with each group meeting in the middle at H-K Lodge

List closes 9 May

17 May PACKHORSE HUT FROM GEBBIES PASS

Maps BX24,M36

Maps BU22,23,L32, M32

Sun Maureen Thompson 377 2482

■ Easy walk on the peninsula, up through farmland, pine plantations and bush remnants, to cross

the volcanic dykes before reaching the sturdy stone Packhorse Hut, from which you'll enjoy

excellent views of Lyttelton Harbour.

9am PM Hospital, Hackthorne Rd end, across the road by the river. Approx cost \$3

23-24 May BANFIELD HUT

Maps BW19,J35

Sat-Sun Leader to be advised

Easy-moderate trip up the Rakaia River to a small hut a short way up Jagged Stream. Largely

4WD track with a stream crossing and possibly a little scrub and a washout to negotiate. From the hut there could be time for some exploration either up the side-stream or up the mountain-

sides, to give views of peaks and glaciers at the northern end of the Arrowsmiths.

List closes 16 May

24 May STOUR RIVER TO WOOLSHED CREEK

Maps BX19,K36

Sun Heather Hughes 332 6281

■ Easy-moderate walk off the Asburton Gorge Road starting up the Stour River before heading

up the ridge to the Woolshed Creek Hut. Heading back along the ridge above the old coal mine

back to the road.

Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd

Approx cost \$20

30 May-1J WILBERFORCE - UNKNOWN - MOA STREAM

Maps BV19,BW19,J34,K34

Sat-Mon Merv Meredith 322 7239

A moderate-hard trip up the Wilberforce, with three longish days. Early start on Saturday.

Q'Bday From the canal road end, we cross the Wilberforce in low winter flow and travel up the true right

to Moa Stream, staying the first night at Moa Stream Hut. From there, it's a steady walk up North Stream to Moa Saddle at 1078m, then a steep descent into Unknown Stream and

downstream to Unknown Hut. Monday is a long plod back down-river, but this time crossing to

Fanghill on the true left, after reaching Moa Hut on the right. A great early winter trip.

List closes 9 May

30 May-1J CEDAR FLAT

Maps BV19,J33,J34

Sat-Mon Raymond Ford 351 9496

An easy-moderate trip inland from Hokitika. Walking up the Toaroha River to Cedar Flats Hut

Q'Bday with its elusive hot springs and doing day or round-trips from this point.

List closes 9 May

31 May-2J OKARITO BASE CAMP

Maps BW16,H34

Sat-Mon Maureen Thompson 377 2482

The West Coast will hopefully be crisp and clear, with snow on the peaks. Accommodation at

Q'Bday the Okarito School House.

List closes 9 May

1 Jun OKUKU RIVER - PINCHGUT HUT

Maps BW23,M34

Sun Leader to be advised

Easy trip in to the Pinchgut Hut up the Okuku River. Options for round-trips on tracks cut

above the river.

Start: 9am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St Approx cost \$7

6-7 Jun JOLLIEBROOK - GABRIEL

Maps BU23,M32,M33

Sat-Sun Leader to be advised

Easy-moderate round-trip in lake Sumner Forest Park. Taking in the open river flat of the

Hurunui, the beech forest of Gabriel Stream, going over a low bush saddle to Jollie Brook and then to Jollie Brook Hut. Downstream from the hut the valley becomes a bit more open and

there are a few stream crossings.

List closes 30 May

7 Jun MT WALL Maps BW21,K34

Sun Kerry Moore 359 5069

■ Moderate walk up to this 1874m outlier of the Craigeburn Range between Cheeseman and Broken River ski fields. Starting from the Craigeburn visitor centre. Possibility of a round-trip.

Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd Approx cost \$17

13-14 Jun OTEHAKE HOT SPRING

Maps BV20,21,K33

Sat-Sun Kevin Hughes 3326281

■■ Moderate walk from Aickens, up the Taramakau, before turning off for Lake Kaurapataka.

There is a short climb to a saddle before dropping to the Otehake River. The hot springs are

further up the Otehake. Camping out.

List closes 6 June

SOCIAL EVENTS



Court Theatre Comedy



NZ History's funniest "What If"
Another hilariously topical comedy with more grudges than a Bledisloe Cup Match

Mon 4 May

PechaKucha Volume 23 Theatre Royal

7.30 pm

The PechaKucha format allows each speaker to talk about 20 slides for 20 seconds each image. Fast, quirky, interesting and funny. Meet in the foyer of the Theatre Royal at 7.30pm for a wine and chat. Event starts at 8.20 pm. Book at Eventbrite. https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/pechakucha-night-christchurch-volume-23-tickets-16214256277



Just \$16.34. There are no allocated seats so let **Maureen Thompson** now if you are coming so we can try to save seats together. Contact mothompson@xtra.co.nz or 021 266 5778 or leave a message on our Facebook page.

Topics include, Selfies Ruining Storytelling, Magical Maori Mysteries of the Canterbury Plains, The Wonders Of Small Wooden Huts In Antarctica, Becoming Historians Through Instagram, Archaeological Finds In The Rebuild, Processing Grief Through Cataloguing Quake Memories, Our Cycling History, Long Lost Arcades, What Is Really Going On In That Arts Centre Of Ours, and more!

Tues 19 May

Nordic Walking and Dinner at Coriander Restaurant



Come Nordic walking in Hagley Park with PTC member **Yvette So**. Yvette will provide poles and tuition free of charge. Meet at 6pm at Helmores Lane. Names for the walk to **Margot Bowden by 3 May**, to give Yvette time to get poles organized. Nordic walking can also be done with two tramping poles, if you prefer to wait until later to make the decision on whether to come. Dinner is at 7.15pm at Coriander Restaurant,

222 St Asaph Street, corner of Saint Asaph and Manchester Streets. Coriander is an ethnic Indian restaurant with mains from \$21. Please let Margot know if you are coming to the dinner by **17 May** margot.bowden@gmail.com phone 332 7020.

Tues 16 Jun

Cashmere Capers and mid-winter pot luck dinner



Come for a suburban walk around well-lit Cashmere Hill's streets, followed by a midwinter Christmas pot luck dinner at Margot and Gary's home, 5 Patchett Place, Cashmere Hills (please park on Hackthorne Road. Christmas pudding for dessert will be provided. Presents up to a maximum of \$10 can be exchanged and fought over. Walk will start at 6pm from 5 Patchett Place. Dinner at 7.15pm. Please let Margot know by **14 June** if you are coming to dinner. Contact Margot Bowden, margot.bowden@gmail.com or phone 332 7020

NOTES

Membership Joseph King is re-joining
Kenneth Brown is resigning

Deadline for the May newsletter Sun 3 May

Next committee meeting 7:30pm Tue 31 April

Crampon Auction

Two pairs of 12 point crampons will be auctioned at the May Club night. They are in excellent condition and have had little use. They will be available to view at the April and May Club nights. Absentee bids can be made. Questions to Gary or Brian

PTC Liability Insurance Cover For Accidental Fire

It has been a hot, dry summer, so now is a good time to remind PTC members of their situation should the worst happen and they accidentally cause a fire while on a PTC trip.

Section 43 of the Forest & Rural Fires Act 1977 provides for the person responsible for the outbreak of a fire to be levied the cost of suppressing the fire and the value of property damaged or destroyed, including consequential losses. As you can imagine, this could amount to a very large sum.

For many PTC members, their home CONTENTS insurance will provide legal liability cover, e.g. AMI provides cover up to \$1 million dollars with no excess for any claim, including up to \$250,000 for firefighting costs under Section 43.

But PTC is aware that not all members will have contents insurance. For that reason the club has for a number of years carried public liability insurance to cover its members. It also, provides \$1 million dollars public liability cover with \$250,000.00 cover under Section 43, but for which there is an excess of \$1,000 per claim.

So as a PTC member, you are covered to a limited degree. But as always, be careful out there! Were Meredith

WILDING TREES 2015—ECAN 'No Green Needles' days

Support the annual outings which allow tramping clubs to assist with the eradication of wilding trees in the Canterbury high country. The days are always good fun and let us go places we don't normally get to as well as giving a sense of achievement and helping Club funds significantly.

The first event is Sat 11 April. The second day is Sat 18 April.

For more info, phone or email Merv Meredith, 322 7239

TRIP REPORTS

Hut Spur - Jordan Saddle - Jordan Stream - Sunday 1 March 2015

Despite the mixed weather forecast, five keen trampers met at Church Corner at an early hour for the traverse of Hut Spur into Jordan Stream, via Jordan Saddle. The short car journey and a steady climb saw us arrive at the old musterers' hut on Bealey Spur at 9:45 am. It was refreshing to see parents with their young children camping and exploring the facility.

From the hut it was 5 km to the highest, and final point (1875m) on Hut Spur. Point 1581, with a large cairn and plaque in memory of Paddy Freaney, indicated the end of the well-trodden trail and grassy terrain. Rocky outcrops, small gendarmes and scree defined the long but straightforward route to point 1875 from there.

Point 1794 is the second significant point on the ridge and is also marked by a large cairn. On our arrival we walked into cloud and rain so coats were adorned, and GPS toys were retrieved. It was 2 pm. when we finally arrived at the highest point, 1875m. Photos and chocolate were shared before we headed off into the mist to start the 400m descent to Jordan Saddle, the next significant landmark. From the old tin sign at the saddle we descended into Jordan Stream. The descent from upper Jordan Stream involves scrambling around small waterfalls, descending short scree sections, and clambering through waist-high tussock. The stream then opens out to become one long wash-out before it flattens out near its intersection with the Waimak River.

From there it was 4.5 km along the home straight to the Bealey Bridge. Limbo and Jan had kindly relocated our car from the Bealey Spur car park, saving the walk back along the road and giving us time to have hot chips and coffee.

The inclement weather, whilst hiding the spectacular views, had provided a genuine opportunity to play with navigational toys and share Stuart's extensive, botanical knowledge. Apparently there are 60 different species of mountain daisies! Merv, who must have been nearly everywhere, enjoyed exploring new terrain. For former world rogaining champion, Kathrin Mueller, it was a first time outing with the PTC (new member?). For Julie and me it was a great fitness trip (it took 9.5 hr). As a group, we enjoyed good company, and tramped at a steady pace what I consider one of the best classic day trips in the Arthurs Pass region.

Stuart Payne, Kathryn Mueller, Merv Meredith, Julie Wagner and Penny Webster 📥 PW



Gable - Fyffe - Kowhai Saddle - Hapuku - 3-6 April 2015

NZ alpine Club's website, *Climb NZ* lists a number of ways to climb Mt Fyffe and the Sawyer Ridge route appealed because it's close enough to the Hapuku car park to allow a round trip. Leaving Chch at 0800 wasn't ideal because it's a long ridge and leads to 1586m Gable rather than 1602m Fyffe. With the generous help of one of the Frost brothers we left our car at an implement shed and were driven by 4WD to the ideal starting point. The cows were just being steered towards the milking shed at noon as we set off—once a day milking in force due to the drought. Our instructions were to follow the fence-line and this advice worked very well until we got off farmland and the fence stopped. Often we were surprised at how useful the deer tracks were but then we'd hit a patch of dense kanuka. Rocky patches were usually more sparsely vegetated and in places we had nice tussock land. A steep climb up through dracophylum scrub slowed us to a crawl so at 4pm with another 600m to climb we decided to save some of the torture for the following day. Yvette and Kerry pitched tents while Julie went down a gully in search of water, returning in twenty minutes with a good supply of the vital substance. In fine calm weather we made ourselves comfortable. We were thrilled to hear a stag roaring in the very inaccessible Waimangarara River nearby. We chose the easiest meal to cook outdoors—macaroni and cheese with butter beans thrown in. Large servings of traditional custard were appreciated by Julie and Kerry. Can you believe that Yvette doesn't like custard or gingernuts?

In the morning we left our pleasant camp-site at 1000m with an imposing, steep hillside of scrub to negotiate. It was tough going until we found a drier, easier slope and made good progress. Above, the bare, rocky spur

looked daunting from below but was wider and easier than we feared. On Gable we were exposed to a strong NWer and pressed on towards Mt F. As we got nearer to the high point we saw a number of people who'd come for the climb from Fyffe Hut. Many had camped near the hut. A 500m decent to the hut was rewarded with a long drink. We'd run very low on water. We lazed at the hut along with three well-armed but luckless hunters, then blew all our hard-won altitude descending Speargrass Spur to the Kowhai River. The sun was beaming directly onto the slope and with only a light breeze we were roasting by the time we reached the river. The walk up-river to Kowhai Hut was very pleasant with the sun now shaded by hills.

Dinner that night was lentil spaghetti then butterscotch instant pud. At 8:30 three head-torches attached to heads arrived from the direction of Kowhai Saddle. They were a German couple with their 6 year-old son. People had written in the hut book that the track was overgrown and hard to follow so the family did brilliantly to do it at night. They had tents but there are no camp-sites until you get to the hut where there are tonnes. The Germans had lived in NZ for three years and spoke very good English. The youngster was very chatty and hyped-up by his adventure. And yes they did have hut tickets.

At 12 midnight the club GPS's alarm went off keeping everyone awake until we traced the noise. Was Garmin telling us to reset the clock as daylight saving time was finishing? At 1am an android phone rooster crowed to tell us to get up to see a solar eclipse but the moon was clouded over so we went back to bed. By morning a misty drizzle had set in so we got quite wet wading through tall grass and over-hanging shrubbery. It was good to be walking in cool conditions but on Kowhai Saddle a breeze made it too cold to linger so we made a rapid descent in tall tussock then on gravel. Where this branch of the Hapuku becomes rugged a delightful track begins through totara forest and goes to a branch of the river then re-starts, leading all the way to the Hapuku Hut with vegetation appropriate to the altitude. We were indoors by 3pm for a lazy afternoon out of the cool misty weather. Dinner was the good old lentil curry then custard for two.

Monday dawned fine and cool. We needed raincoats on as we pushed through wet tutu and rampant buddleia. The track has been re-cut closer to the hillside. As for the Kowhai River flats, buddleia is taking over. This fast-growing garden shrub should be declared a noxious weed. The section of track that bypasses the Hapuku Gorge was a welcome relief. It's all-native with some big podocarps. The high waterfall near the gorge crossing was at an un-impressive low flow. An hour's walk down a wide boulder-strewn river got us to the car-park where Julie put on her running shoes to walk/run the 4km to collect the car. Yvette had boiled water for a cuppa by the time Julie returned. Well-satisfied we drove all the way home with no time-wasting café stops to delay us. At Avonhead by 4pm were: Julie Wagner, Yvette So and Kerry Moore.



Yvette and Julie looking seaward above Sawyers Ridge