



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

Postal Address: The Secretary, PTC, PO Box 13 258, Armagh, Christchurch 8141

Web address [www.peninsulatrampingclub.org.nz](http://www.peninsulatrampingclub.org.nz)

E-mail [secretary@peninsulatrampingclub.org.nz](mailto:secretary@peninsulatrampingclub.org.nz)

Facebook name [peninsula tramping club](https://www.facebook.com/peninsula.tramping.club)

## December, January 2015,16

<b>President</b>	Gary Huish	332 7020	Brian Smith, Quartermaster	355 9945
<b>Vice-President</b>	Leo Manders	356 1731	Raymond Ford	261 9310
<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>			Ruth Barratt	335 0010
<b>Secretary</b>	Merv Meredith	322 7239	Keith McQuillan	384 6164
<b>Editor</b>	Kerry Moore	359 5069		

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

**Tue 8 Dec**



### **CHRISTMAS PARTY – TABLEAU VIVANT AND SONGS WITHOUT MUSIC**

As usual our Christmas Party is done in-style and you provide the food and high quality entertainment. There are two types of entertainment and participation is voluntary as we need an appreciative audience as well. **Details under Social Events**

Please **bring a plate of finger-food** to share. Santa hats, party hats welcome. Usual time and venue at the Oxford Terrace Baptist Church Hall.

**Supper Duty:** Penny Webster, Bruce or Sandra White, Malcolm or Lorraine Wilmshurst

**Tue 9 Feb**



### **ALPINE PLANTS**

**Hamish Brown** will tell us about the plants that cling tenaciously to alpine gravel, resisting harsh climates and trampers' boots.

**Supper Duty:** Colin Wilmshurst or Heather Craig, Alice Yung, John Allan

## 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.

**6 Dec**                      **BANKS PENINSULA TRAVERSE**                      **Maps BX25,BY25,N36,N37**  
**Sun**                      **Merv Meredith 322 7239**

■ A long day makes this a **moderate** trip. Walking between Orton Bradley Park and Montgomery Park (near Hilltop Tavern) along the summit walkway. Includes Mt Herbert, the highpoint of the peninsula, and several bush reserves. Good views of much of Banks Peninsula. We aim to have a group starting at each end with a car-swap. Take plenty of water!

**Start: 7:30am PM Hospital, Hackthorne Rd end, on the river side.**                      **Approx cost \$13**

**12-13 Dec**                      **EDWARDS - STANLEY - FOWLER PASS**                      **Maps BT24,M31,N31**  
**Sat-Sun**                      **Kerry Moore 359 5069**

■■ **Moderate** tramp north of Hanmer Springs between the Clarence and Waiau rivers. Up the Edwards River, north of the Amuri skifield road, to Charlie's Saddle. Travel up the Waiau via The Racecourse, to the Stanley River to the hut at Glenrae Flat, southeast of Lake Guyon, and return via Fowler Pass.

**List closes 5 December**

**12 Dec**                      **ASHLEY GORGE**                      **Maps BW22,23,L34**  
**Saturday**                      **Merv Meredith 322 7239**

■ This is the classic splash downstream along the Ashley from Middle Bridge out to the domain. In moderate flow the walk typically takes six hours-plus. Always a wet trip, this is an **easy-moderate**, fun day. Don't forget the full change of clothes for afterwards. Glenda and Merv will be meeting the party from town at the Lees Valley turn-off on Ashley Gorge Rd. so ring Merv if you are able to organise the cars at Cranford St on the morning.

**Start: 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St**                      **Approx cost \$15**

**13 Dec**                      **YEAR END PICNIC, ASHLEY GORGE**                      **Maps BW22,23,L34**  
**Sun**                      ■ **Merv Meredith 322 7239**

As in 2012, Glenda and Merv will be in the camping ground, on the right, near the sheltered far end, from Friday evening. So make a weekend of it, pack the tent and join us. The camping ground is Ashley Gorge Holiday Park, 697 Ashley Gorge Rd, just before the bridge,

ph 03 312 4099. Powered sites are \$19 pp, there is a kitchen with fridge, etc. Showers are \$2 coin.

No need to book, pre-Christmas. Four/five bunk cabins are \$70 for the first two people.

Arriving any time on Saturday, provides options; this might be your first swim of the season. In Dec!

Bring the MTB and try the local roads.

On Sunday, the PTC picnic will run from late morning in the large, lower area immediately behind the river.

Look for our old silver Subaru. So pack the chilly-bin, all your goodies, the deck chairs, etc and be prepared to blob out. Extend the day and stay for an early BBQ tea. Bring your own everything.

Coming from town on Sunday morning, car pool from Placemakers, Cranford St, as you would for a tramping trip, but at **10am**. There is no 'trip leader' so make your own arrangements on the morning using the list that Merv will advertise by email on the club 'Communicator'. So give him a ring by Thursday evening if you are going and want a ride. Any questions? Ring Merv or Glenda.

**Start: 10am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St**

**Approx cost \$15**

<b>19-20 Dec</b> <b>Sat-Sun</b> ■■■	<b>CARROLL HUT</b> <b>Chris Leaver 322 6445</b> Near Otira, a short, sharp <b>easy-moderate</b> climb through bush to 8-bunk Carroll Hut, just above the bush-line. Opportunity to explore the nice tops on the Kelly Range. The alpine plants should be fully out at this time and there is still a missing gold mine to discover. <b>List closes 12 December</b>	<b>Maps BV20,K33</b>
<b>20 Dec</b> <b>Sun</b> ■	<b>MT LYNDON AND RED HILL</b> <b>Gary Huish 332 7020</b> <b>Moderate</b> round-trip just past Porters Pass. Ascending 1450m summits, with a bit of up-and-down. Nice views of the Craigieburn and Torlesse Ranges, and of Lake Lyndon. <b>Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd</b>	<b>Maps BW20,K34,K35</b>  <b>Approx cost \$15</b>
<b>10 Jan</b> <b>Sun</b> ■	<b>BIRDLINGS FLAT - OASHORE BAY</b> <b>Geoff Spearpoint 329 0008</b> <b>Easy-moderate</b> trip along the coast from Birdlings Flat to Oashore. Returning the same way. <b>Start: 8am Halswell School 437 Halswell Rd</b>	<b>Maps BY24,M37,N37</b>  <b>Approx cost \$7</b>
<b>16-17 Jan</b> <b>Sat-Sun</b> ■■■	<b>MT ARMSTRONG</b> <b>Raymond Ford 351 9496</b> A <b>hard</b> trip in Arthurs Pass up the Rolleston River to camp at Lake Florence, climbing Mt Armstrong and descending near Waimakiriri Col. <b>List closes 9 January</b>	<b>Maps BV20,K33</b>
<b>23-25 Jan</b> <b>Sat-Mon</b> ■■■	<b>MT COOK BASE CAMP</b> <b>Maureen Thompson 377 2482</b> Base camp at <b>Unwin Hut</b> . Superb day tramps for fitter people include Mueller Hut, Sefton Biv and Mt Wakefield, whilst easier tramps include Sealy Tarns, Red Lakes and the Hooker and Tasman valleys. <b>List closes 9 January</b>	<b>Maps BX15,BY15,H36</b>
<b>24 Jan</b> <b>Sun</b> ■	<b>MT MANSON FROM CRAIGIEBURN</b> <b>Chris Leaver 322 6445</b> This <b>moderate</b> trip starts from the Craigieburn ski road. The high gain makes for a steep but short climb to ascend to this 1860m peak at the northern end of the Craigieburn Range. <b>Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd</b>	<b>Maps BV21,BW21,L34</b>  <b>Approx cost \$19</b>
<b>30-31 Jan</b> <b>Sat-Sun</b> ■■■	<b>MT TECHNICAL - WATERFALL CREEK</b> <b>Keith McQuillan 384 6164</b> You'll get superb views on this <b>moderate-hard</b> Lewis Pass tops trip starting high at the Lewis Pass west car park. <b>List closes 23 January</b>	<b>Maps BT23,M31</b>
<b>31 Jan</b> <b>Sun</b> ■	<b>BLACK SERPENT PEAK</b> <b>Calum McIntosh 376 6133</b> <b>Moderate</b> tramp to this 1837m peak east of the Clarence River. Opposite Lake Tennyson. <b>Start: 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St</b>	<b>Maps BT24,M31,N31</b>  <b>Approx cost \$20</b>
<b>6-8 Feb</b> <b>Sat-Mon</b> ■■■	<b>ROUGH CREEK - BOSCAWEN SADDLE - NINA</b> <b>Kerry Moore 359 5069</b> <b>Moderate</b> round-trip starting up Rough Creek from Lewis Pass with good views from the saddle on the way to the Lake Christabel Hut. We'll use the Robinson Saddle track to get above scrub and on to Boscawen Saddle, then down to the Nina River. <b>List closes 30 January</b>	<b>Maps BT22,BU22,L31 M31</b>

- 6-13 Feb**  
**Sat-Sat**  
■■■■■■■■■
- SNOWFIELD TRAVERSE**  
**Geoff Spearpoint 329 0008**  
Traverse of one on the high snowfields. Location still to be determined.  
**List closes 23 January**
- 6-13 Feb**  
**Sat-Sat**  
■■■■■■■■■
- PARINGA CATTLE AND MOERAKI TRACK** **Maps BY12,13,F36,F37,G36,G37**  
**Heather Hughes 3326281**  
Moderate trip in South Westland following a historic bush track originally used by early goldminers, settlers and cattlemen. There may be an opportunity for some side-trips.  
**List closes 23 January**
- 7 Feb**  
**Sun**  
■
- TIMUTIMU HEAD - SCENERY NOOK** **Maps BY25,N37**  
**TBA Please contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip**  
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 437 Halswell Rd** **Approx cost \$15**
- 13-14 Feb**  
**Sat-Sun**  
■■
- LAKE STREAM - KLONDYKE** **Maps BT22,L31**  
**Kerry Moore 359 5069**  
Moderate tramp from Rahu Saddle in Victoria Forest Park. Camping out in a tarn basin below some 1500m peaks. A round-trip, dropping into Lake Stream for the return trip. Some great views of the surrounding area from the tops.  
**List closes 6 February**
- 14 Feb**  
**Sun**  
■
- PEAK HILL** **Maps BW20,K35**  
**Margot Bowden 332 7020**  
Easy-moderate climb in open country up a 1240m hill with superb views of Lk Coleridge on one side and the Rakaia River on the other. The upper slopes of Peak Hill are now crown land, with public access from the Algidus Road, thanks to Tenure Review of the pastoral lease property. Check out this excellent public facility.  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd** **Approx cost \$17**
- 20-21 Feb**  
**Sat-Sun**  
■■
- MT FITZGERALD - ROD DONALD HUT - HIGH BARE PEAK** **Maps X24,M36,N36**  
**Gary Huish 332 7020**  
Easy-moderate tramp from Cooptown to the new Rod Donald Hut on Banks Peninsula.  
**List closes 13 February**
- 20 Feb**  
**Sun**  
■
- MOUNT LYNDON - CLOUDY HILL** **Maps BW21,K35**  
**Keith McQuillan 384 6164**  
Moderate circuit between these two peaks near the Lake Lyndon Road and Porter Heights. Choice of route depending on conditions.  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd** **Approx cost \$13**
- 27-28 Feb**  
**Sat-Sun**  
■■
- WALKER PASS - AMBER COL - SUDDEN VALLEY** **Maps BV21,K33**  
**Merv Meredith 322 7239**  
Moderate-hard. A satisfying 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 17 February**

- 28 Feb Sun** ■ **PREBBLE HILL - CAVE STREAM** **Maps BW21,K34**  
**TBA Please contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip**  
 This **easy** trip goes over and under some of the more interesting limestone formations in the Castle Hill Basin. We start from the Cave Stream car park and head down Broken River before climbing 902m Prebble Hill. This is the one visible from SH73 apparently covered in pebbles but close up they are huge and erosion-carved into animal shapes, allowing your imagination to run wild. On our return we aim to traverse the underground Cave Stream. Bring a torch, some warm clothing and a full change for the car. You will get wet!  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd** **Approx cost \$15**
- 5-6 Mar Sat-Sun** ■■ **MINGHA - DECEPTION** **Maps BV20,K33**  
**Kerry Moore 359 5069**  
**Moderate.** Classic crossing of the main divide from Otira following the Coast to Coast route, up the Deception River, over the 1070m Goat Pass and down the Mingha to Arthurs Pass.  
**List closes 27 February**

## SOCIAL EVENTS

**Tue 8 Dec**



### Tableau Vivant and Songs Without Music

As usual our Christmas Party is done in-style and you provide the food and high quality entertainment. There are two types of entertainment and participation is voluntary as we need an appreciative audience as well.

**TABLEAU VIVANT:** Recreate a famous (or famous in Christchurch) painting or sculpture. The audience guesses what it is. It can be a still-life or involve a group of people. "Google" famous art to get ideas.

**SONG WITHOUT MUSIC:** Bring along a famous song and read it. Try out different styles of delivery at home first, such as dead-pan or melodramatic. Just one or two verses will be enough. We guess the name of the song or singer.

**FORMAT:** We will alternate the songs and paintings so that you have time to dress up behind the scenes in the foyer/ toilet area.

**HOW TO ENTER:** Get your entries in to **Maureen Thompson** so that we can ensure there are no double-ups. Let us know the name and author of your song/art so that we can write up some quiz questions and also how much time you might need to get dressed up so that we know when to call you to go out to get ready. Entries will be limited so get in soon.

**FOOD:** Please bring a plate of finger-food to share. Christmas party hats are welcome. Usual time and venue at the Oxford Terrace Baptist Church Hall.

**CONTACT:** Maureen Thompson: [mothompson@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mothompson@xtra.co.nz) 021 266 5778

**Tues 15 Dec**



### Walk and BBQ

Walk around Victoria Park area followed by a BBQ at Gary and Margot's. Details in the Nov newsletter. [margot.bowden@gmail.com](mailto:margot.bowden@gmail.com) phone 332 7020.

**Tues 19 Jan**



### 360° Christchurch circuit and dinner

Walk a section of the scenic 360 Christchurch walkway near QE2. Meet in Brooker Avenue just off New Brighton Road at 6pm. Dinner afterwards.

Details to follow. Contact: [margot.bowden@gmail.com](mailto:margot.bowden@gmail.com) or phone 332 7020.



## NOTES

Membership We welcome **Kathrin Mueller**

Deadline for the Feb newsletter Mon 1 Feb

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

## TRIP REPORTS

### Leith Hill - Saturday 3 October 2015

Nine trampers, including three people new to the club, enjoyed great weather for an easy-moderate trip to this 1384m peak behind Castle Hill Village. Ruth's navigation skills were a bit lacking at the start as we managed to take a wrong turn in the trees not long into the tramp. A U-turn easily rectified and we picked up the track again, popping out of the trees at the highest point at the bottom of the scree 'scoop' on the face of the hill—a good place for morning tea and to enjoy the weather and views.

The next leg to the top of the hill was a bit of a steep climb through scrub and tussock alongside the scree. We had even better views from the top, a good place to have lunch and take photos. We headed down the other side of the scree and then ventured onto it—interesting and fun for the three newbies who had never experienced a scree descent.

Back at the bush-line we completed a circular walk by following markers down the other side of the trees alongside a fence. This brought us back to the village with a short walk back to our cars. The obligatory ice cream and coffee stop on the way home completed a lovely day out. We were: **Vesna Mojsilovic, Norman Burden, Jane Meiforth, Maree Richards, SP Wang, Kerry Moore, Mary McKeown, Wendy Wallace and Ruth Barratt (leader)** 🏔️ RB



Photos by Wang





Looking over Castle Hill Station to the high peaks of the Torlesse Range

### **Big Ben via Dry Acheron Stream - 8 November 2015**

With a last minute change to the proposed tramp, six of us set off from the car park on Lyndon Road up Dry Acheron Stream. If I was hoping that I would get more people interested in an easy walk to the covenants in the area I was wrong and as the trip leader I could hardly not go with the other 5 keen trampers all the way up Big Ben.

It was new country for most of the party as they had never been up this stream or route. With just over 1000m height gain to the Big Ben summit and a reasonable walk in and out, the day turned out to be a good moderate grade with 7½ hours of tramping. We were lucky with the weather - sun and warmth with just a few spots of rain on the descent although the summit was too windy to hang about on.

Too late on the way home for a coffee stop. but just caught the Hororata dairy for ice-creams.

**Alison Maccoll, Hank Boer, Chris Leaver, John ?, Joy Schroeder and Ruth Barratt (leader).** 🏔️ RB



## Barker Hut - 12-13 November 2015

The weather forecast again wasn't good for the planned Show Weekend trip—Gloriana, Faerie Queene. We really needed a fine Saturday to climb and it was forecast to be anything but. In fact the mountain weather anywhere seemed to be bad for later in the weekend. People were dropping out with a variety of excuses, so plan B was invoked to go to Arthurs Pass a day early and only Yvette and Gary had the flexibility to head up on the Thursday.

We did the trudge up the Waimakariri towards Carrington Hut with only the consolation of a southerly tail-wind to distract us. Snow showers interspersed with sunshine led to a parka-on, parka-off existence. The river flow was low but not warm. The turn into the White River gave relief from the wind but Yvette was not impressed with her first view of Barker Hut, sitting high up on its rocky pinnacle. The last 400m climb up to the hut is never fun and made exasperating by the climb down to cross the White River, necessitated by DoC's removal of a bridge.

The forecast southerly abatement had not occurred and the evening mountain forecast of the north-west arrival on Friday night rather than Saturday noon had narrowed our weather window. We really wanted to drop down to Carrington Hut by Friday night in case the river came up.

Friday morning dawned with cloud that looked to be retreating but still high winds. The snow looked good for access to the White Glacier but the abrupt horizontal termination of avalanche debris showed significant crevasse country. Decision time for a climbing start on Mt Murchison passed and by the time the cloud had cleared and wind dropped at 9am it was too late to try for the top. We considered a trip up to one of the passes but the forecast persuaded us that we might as well just head out.

The scenery on the trip down the White River was superb, and additionally we were impressed by antics of a large chamois just below White Col. The trip down the Waimakariri River does not change and neither does the scenery for that long last hour. We were grateful for another tail-wind with the gathering nor-west cloud behind us.

While we did not achieve an ascent of Mt Murchison, we still had great days in the mountains. The setting of Barker Hut is unequalled in Canterbury, thanks to the CMC. With three glaciers terminating at the same height in close proximity, it is well worth the visit. Trampers were: **Yvette So and Gary Huish.** 🏔️ GH

