



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

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June 2016

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	Kerry Moore	359 5069	Keith McQuillan	384 6164
Secretary	Merv Meredith	322 7239		
Editor	Ruth Barratt	335 0010		

New Member Enquiries

Please contact Stan Wilder, 260 2340 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 14 June

Lydia Bradey—Tramping and Climbing through the Decades



Lydia was the first woman to ascend Mt Everest without oxygen, and is one of five female guides in New Zealand. Lydia will share some of her stories which will include her earlier days with Christchurch tramping clubs.

An entry charge of \$5 will be made to partly cover the cost of presenting this meeting. Lydia's choice of charity is **Forgotten Sherpas of Nepal Trust**. This trust is based in Geraldine, Canterbury. See their website <http://www.forgottensherpas.org/> for the work they are involved with. An opportunity will be available at the meeting to make a donation to this trust, otherwise a donation can be made via the trust website
Supper Duty: Mike Bourke, Sven Brabyn, Milan Brisnik, Sue Britain

Tue 12 July**Members' Photos**

Share your tramping photos with fellow trampers. Assemble a 10 minute (or less) collection on a flash drive and let Brian Smith know you are an exhibitor.

Supper Duty: Graham Burnip or Linda Creed, Peter Carson or Kathy Stanley, Carolyn Catt, Kathleen Casey

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.

11 Jun**HINEWAI****Maps BY25,N36,N37****Saturday****Margot Bowden 332 7020**

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This **easy-moderate** trip visits a 980ha botanical reserve occupying most of Otanerito Valley in south-east Banks Peninsula. The area has about 12km of tracks and is privately managed for the protection and restoration of native vegetation and wildlife.

Start: 8am Halswell School 437 Halswell Rd

Approx cost \$13**18-19 Jun****WOOLSHED CREEK BASE CAMP****Maps BX19,K36****Sat-Sun****Gary Huish 332 7020**

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Easy tramp to the comfortable hut, behind Mt Somers. Saturday morning departure from town, and only 3 hours walking without waist deep snow. We will celebrate the close to the longest night with a mid-winter feast.

List closes 12 June

19 Jun**CAMP SADDLE - LYNDON SADDLE****Maps BW21,K34****Sun****Kerry Moore 359 5069**

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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, 20 Yaldhurst Rd

Approx cost \$16**25-26 Jun****PINCHGUT HUT****Maps BW23,M34****Sat-Sun**

Call Kerry Moore 359 5069 if you would like to lead this trip

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An **easy**, almost flat, trip up the Okuku River in the Mt Thomas Forest to a comfortable hut.

List closes 18 June

26 Jun**MOUNT AICKEN – MOUNT O'MALLEY****Maps BV20,K33****Sun****Gary Huish 332 7020**

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This trip, traversing the range between two of the peaks in Arthur's Pass NP, makes an excellent **moderate** round-trip. Take your ice-axe and crampons.

Start: 7:30am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd

Approx cost \$24**2-3 July****EDWARDS - WILLIAMS SADDLE - MINGHA****Maps BV20,K33****Sat-Sun****Gary Huish 332 7020**

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A **moderate** round-trip up the Edwards River to the hut and crossing 1327m Williams Saddle and returning via the Mingha River.

List closes 25 June

- 3 July Sun**
■ **CRYSTAL BASIN, PORTER HEIGHTS** **Maps BV20,K33**
John Allan 326 4966
From Porter Heights Lodge carpark walk up ski field road to gain access to adjacent ridge on true left. Follow ridge to summit at Pt 1997 and traverse to Pt 2029. Follow ridge SE direction dropping down ridge towards stream, skifield out-buildings and track back to cars. Good views to Lake Coleridge and back towards Torlesse Range. Take ice axe and crampons.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$16**
- 3 July Sun**
■ **LAVERICKS RIDGE - OTEPATOTU RESERVE** **Maps BW21,L34**
Kerry Moore 359 5069
A 4-5 hour **easy** walk up Panama Rd in Le Bons Bay. We will pass the Dykes at a safe distance and follow the ridgeline into beautiful Otepatotu Reserve. Panoramic views into Okains and Lavericks Bays, Akaroa Harbour and beyond.
Start: 8am Halswell School 437 Halswell Rd **Approx cost \$13**
- 9-10 Jul Sat-Sun**
■■ **MESOPOTAMIA BASE CAMP** **Maps BX18,I36**
Kevin Hughes 332 6281
A chance to visit Mesopotamia Station at the end of the road inland from Mount Peel. The very rustic but comfortable Cookhouse holds about thirty people, with bunk rooms, good kitchen and showers. The Manager's Cottage, built in the 50s, has log burner, sleeps seven. There is so much to do with a whole range of possible tramps ranging from easy to hard. For those that just want to chill out, bring a good book.
List closes 25 June
- 10 Jul Sun**
■ **MT ALEXANDER** **Maps BV24,N33**
Jill Fenner 980 6228
Easy-moderate wander in open, rolling North Canterbury farm country, to this 750m lookout near Scargil.
Start: 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St **Approx cost \$14**
- 16-17 Jul Sat-Sun**
■■ **HAWDON BASE** **Maps BV21,K33**
Keith McQuillan 384 6164
Easy to moderate trips from the spacious, well-heated Kidson Lodge near Hawdon Shelter in Arthur's Pass NP. Opportunity for trips to the Sudden and Hawdon Valleys or the tarn on Woolshed Hill with views of the Savannah Range.
List closes 9 July
- 17 Jul Sun**
■ **MT BINSER - 3 PEAKS** **Maps BV21,L33/4**
Merv Meredith 322 7239
Moderate-hard trip in the south-east corner of Arthurs Pass National Park. We go up the Binsler track to the saddle before turning south up a spur. The route is then unmarked through bush and onto the open tops. There are three peaks, ranging from 1753m to 1860m with a deep saddle between the low and middle peak. Possible round-trip depending on conditions. Take ice axe and crampons.
Start: 7:30am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$23**
- 23-24 Jul Sat-Sun**
■■ **LAKE GUYON** **Maps BT24,M31**
Alison Maccoll 322 8540
Moderate tramp north of Hanmer Springs between the Clarence and Waiau rivers. Probable round-trip crossing the St James Range via Fowler Pass and the 4WD track over Maling Pass.
List closes 16 July
- 24 Jul Sun**
■ **PATERSON HILL** **Maps BW21,L34**
Graeme Paltridge 384 3592
A 1113m hill at the east end of Korowai/Torlesse Park. It overlooks the Waimak's Horseshoe Bend and Otarama Gorge. An **easy-moderate** tramp not far from town.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$13**

- 30-31 Jul** **BASINS HUT, AVOCA** **Maps BV20,K34**
Sat-Sun **Keith McQuillan 384 6164**
 ■■ **Easy moderate** walk from near the head of Lake Coleridge, following the Avoca River up to the 5 bunk Basins Hut. The hut is on the east side of Craigieburn Forest Park.
List closes 23 July
- 31 Jul** **MT OAKDEN** **Maps BW20,K34**
Sun **Merv Meredith 322 7239**
 ■ **Moderate** ascent of a 1630 m peak at the head of Lake Coleridge. Quite an uncompromising grunt, but you get superb views for your effort – up the Rakaia and Wilberforce Rivers towards the main divide, and of the lake itself.
Start: 7:30am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$21**
- 6-7 Aug** **WOOLSHED HILL - EAST HAWDON** **Maps BV20/1,K33**
Sat-Sun **Call Kerry Moore 359 5069 if you'd like to lead this trip**
 ■■ **Moderate** trip in Arthurs Pass National Park. Following bush track to Woolshed Hill, then along the Savannah Range and dropping into the East Hawdon.
List closes 30 July
- 7 Aug** **RED HILL** **Maps BW20,K34**
Sun **Call Kerry Moore 359 5069 if you'd like to lead this trip**
 ■ **Moderate** trip to this 1641m peak between Lake Lyndon Road and Porter Heights. This year we will approach from the Porter River and Coleridge Pass. Probable snow on the top so an ice axe may be an advantage.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$15**

SOCIAL EVENTS

Tues 21 June



Cashmere Walk and Mid-winter Pot-luck dinner

Enjoy a walk around Cashmere Hills by the light of a full moon, followed by a pot-luck dinner at Gary and Margot's house, 5 Patchett Place, Cashmere Hills. A present, maximum of \$10 and a festive Christmas hat, will help create the mid-winter mood. The walk will start at 6pm with dinner at 7pm. Please park on Hackthorne Road and walk down Patchett Place. Bookings to **Margot Bowden 332 7020 or margot.bowden@gmail.com**

Tues 19 July



City Walk and Dinner

Enjoy a street light walk around Christchurch, followed by dinner at the Indian Summer Restaurant, 138 Manchester Street, Christchurch. Mains from \$18.50. Meet at 6pm, opposite the Indian Summer Restaurant for the walk, with dinner at 7.15pm. Contact **Margot Bowden 332 7020 or margot.bowden@gmail.com** to book for the restaurant.

Thur 4 Aug



Botanic D'Lights

Dinner at the Pegasus Arms

Meet at the Museum entrance at 6.10 pm. We will explore an illuminated pathway which turns the Botanic Gardens and conservatories into a glittering winter wonderland. All to the beat of exciting soundscapes and special performances. Gold coin donation. If you get there early there are plenty of hot drinks and tasty street food from a range of food trucks on site. You can buy some great lighting goodies from the retail shop.

Please bring a torch. We will then walk to the Pegasus Arms for dinner at 7.15 pm. The walk is suitable for children. Names for dinner to Maureen Thompson by

Sunday 31 July. 021 266 5778, 377 2482 mothompson@xtra.co.nz.

NOTES

Deadline for the July newsletter Sun 3 July. Send items for the newsletter to Ruth Barratt

Next committee meeting: 7:30pm Tue 28 June at Merv's

TRIP REPORTS

Pigeon Bay Walkway—Sunday 15 May 2016

It didn't seem very wintry when I rang the farmer for permission to cross his land to go to Nikau Palm Gully but the answer-phone announced that tracks are closed for winter. Six of us drove to the alternative—Pigeon Bay, on a fairly grey, cool Sunday.


2km short of the bay we stopped at Hay Reserve and took a 20min stroll around it. The reserve is notable as being the southern-most location of NZ passion vine (kohia). We were struck by the amount of kawakawa with its trademark holes made by NZ looper caterpillars. There are some mighty big podocarps—mataī, kaikahikatea, tōtara, and miro.



We drove to the Pigeon Bay wharf and set off on the walkway which is notable for its lack of trees. I enjoyed looking up at the layered volcanic flows and was impressed with the range of rock colours at the track cuttings. At one point we wondered if it was worth going on, because



we already had a good view of the headland. We persisted and were rewarded with the beautiful rocky coastal views of Wakaroa Point and sun breaking through to warm the day.

We had lunch, stripped off a layer of clothing and headed back the six kilometres to the cars. The walkway may not have many trees but it has a stark rocky coastal beauty. I'd definitely go again on this easy, flat track. We were: **Helen Harkness, KyungSang Lee, Youmie Kim, Danny Lee, Mike Burrows and Kerry Moore**
 KM

Lake Lyndon Base Camp 20-22 May 2016

The intrepid team set off for Lake Lyndon Lodge, in rain despite weather reports of rain, rain, and more rain! The advance party set-to to make the place home, with Margaret as chief coal-range stoker and Colin as potbelly stoker when we arrived. It was good to have lots of space to ourselves and heaps of beds to choose from.

The rain continued through the night, but abated by morning, as we woke to a clearish sky and snow-capped mountains. So off we all tramped up the valley towards Red Hill, with Keith, Mary and Helen continuing up and the rest of us making a return trip. The “up” team encountered knee-deep snow near the ridge. As the weather was looking a bit dubious they headed towards Mt Lyndon and down a spur to the valley floor, and back to the vehicle.

We had earned enough “tramping points” to have the usual PTC pot-luck feast – and feast we did!



Saturday night was cold, but a lasting memory will be lying in my bunk and looking through the A-framed window, out onto the dark, snow-capped mountains, silhouetted against a moon-drenched sky; the mountains in their majesty, guarding the lake, alight and twinkling in the full moon—a wonderful view to fall asleep to.

Sunday dawned clear and bright. Margaret planned and led a round-trip up the valley, meandering through the scrub to Boundary Hill (1065m), then across the windy top for lunch with a perfect view. This was soon cut short as it started to snow, tiny dry crystals bouncing off us and the undergrowth. Fortunately it didn't last long, so coming through the scrub, was in fact a sunny journey down.

A great weekend was had by all. We were: Jim and Margaret Clark, Mary McKeown, Helen Harkness, Colin Wilmshurst, Jill Fenner, Maureen Thompson and Graham, Keith and Marion McQuillan (leaders) 🏠MMcQ

