



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

E-mail secretary@peninsulatrampingclub.org.nz

Facebook name peninsula tramping club

July 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 12 July Members' Photos

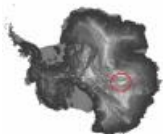


Share your tramping photos with fellow trampers. Assemble a 10 minute (or less) collection on a flash drive and let Brian Smith know you are an exhibitor.

See Brian at 7:25 and so he can load your photos onto the computer

Supper Duty: Graham Burnip or Linda Creed, John Cook

Tue 9 Aug Volunteering in Antarctica



Last summer, Grant Hunter spent a month at Scott Base, one of two volunteers supported by Antarctica NZ and the NZ Antarctic Society. Mostly sorting storage areas around Base, with plenty of time in the land of the midnight sun to get out and about. Be inspired by Grant's photographs and learn how you might volunteer.

Supper Duty: Carolyn Catt, Jim or Margaret Clark, Penny Coffey

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.

- | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| 9-10 July
Sat-Sun
■■ | MESOPOTAMIA BASE CAMP
Kevin Hughes 3326281 | Maps,BX18KI36,J36 |
| | A chance to visit Mesopotamia Station at the end of the road, inland from Peel Forest. 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 18 June | |
| 9-10 Jul
Sun
■ | MT ALEXANDER
Jill Fenner 980 6228 | Maps,BV24KN33 |
| | 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
Keith McQuillan 384 6164 | Maps,BV21KK33 |
| | 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 8 July | |
| 17 July
Sun
■ | MT BINSER - 3 PEAKS
Merv Meredith 322 7239 | Maps,BV21KL33,L34 |
| | Moderate-hard trip in the south-east corner of Arthurs Pass National Park. We go up the Binser 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: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd
Approx cost \$23 | |
| 23-24 Jul
Sat-Sun
■■ | LAKE GUYON
Alison Maccoll 322 8540 | Maps,BT24KM31,N31 |
| | Moderate tramp north of Hanmer Springs between the Clarence and Waiau rivers. Probable round-trip crossing the St James Range via Fowler Pass to Lake Guyon Hut then the 4WD track over Maling Pass.
List closes 18 June | |
| 24 Jul
Sun
■ | PATERSON HILL
Graeme Paltridge 384 3592 | Maps,BW21KL34 |
| | 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,BW20KK34**
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 on the West side of Craigieburn Forest Park.
List closes 18 June
- 31 Jul** **MT OAKDEN** **Maps,BW20KK34,K35**
Sun **Merv Meredith 322 7239**
 ■ **Moderate** ascent of a 1630m 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: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$21**
- 6-7 Aug** **EAST HAWDON** **Maps,BV20&1K&L33**
Sat-Sun **Kerry Moore 359 5069**
 ■■ **Moderate** trip in Arthurs Pass National Park. We'll head for the East Hawdon Biv, evaluate the snow to decide whether to go along the Savannah Range or climb Mt Valiant
List closes 30 July
- 7 Aug** **RED HILL** **Maps,BW20,21K34,35**
Sun **Keith McQuillan 384 6164**
 ■ **Moderate** trip to this 1641m peak between Lake Lyndon Road and Porter Heights. Choice of route depending on mood and conditions. Probable snow on the top so an ice axe may be an advantage
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$15**
- 13-14 Aug** **PUNAKAIKI BASE CAMP** **Maps BS19,20,K30**
Sat-Sun **Maureen Thompson 377 2482**
 ■■ Time to return to The Coast and the spectacular coastline at Punakaiki. Walks, easy to moderate, including our favourite river valley circuit passing the limestone bluffs of Bullock Creek-Fossil-Dilemma-Fox River. Driving to Puna Friday evening. Staying this time back at the Beach Camp (camping ground) in Punakaiki. It has a good-sized dining/social room. First in gets the bunks, so don't leave it too close to close off to book.
 Ballpark budget cost: \$50 for three nights in cabins plus \$50 car cost
List closes 30 July
- 14 Aug** **MT TORLESSE** **Maps BW21,L34,35**
Sun **Raymond Ford 351 9496**
 ■ Popular **moderate** trip to this almost 2000m peak on the Torlesse Range. Walking up the Kowai River to the hut before the serious climbing begins. Though not tricky it is still a 1100m ascent from the hut. Ice axe and possibly crampons required.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$13**
- 20-21 Aug** **MAGDALEN HUT** **Maps BU23,M32**
Sat-Sun **To be confirmed**
 ■■ **Easy** side trip off the southern end of the St James Walkway to this small, unusual hut. Mistletoe can be seen growing near the hut. Mixture of beech forest and the open flats of the Boyle river.
List closes 13 August
- 20 Aug** **MANUKA HUT FROM STOUR RIVER** **Maps BX19,K36**
Saturday **Geoff Korver 355 3905**
 🚲 **Easy-moderate** biking trip up the Stour River which flows into Lake Heron and heading for Manuka Hut.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$21**

- 21 Aug Sun** ■ **CAPTAIN THOMAS - GODLEY ROAD** **Maps BX24,M36**
To be confirmed
 An easy, popular walkway, taking in coastal views and old military buildings. Starting up the Captain Thomas Track behind Sumner to Evans Pass, before continuing along the ridge to Godley Head and returning to Sumner through Taylors Mistake.
Start: 9am Clock Tower, Sumner
- 27-28 Aug Sat-Sun** ■■ **BROKEN RIVER HUT** **Maps BW21,K34,L34**
Kerry Moore 359 5069
 An easy moderate trip in Castle Hill Basin starting from Flock Hill Station and taking Winding Stream route to Broken River Hut.
List closes 20 August
- 28 Aug Sun** ■ **PUDDING HILL RANGE** **Maps BX20,K35,K36**
Ruth Barratt 335 0010
 Moderate trip From Awa Awa Reserve, cross Pudding Hill Stream and head up the ridge towards 1829m Mount Bruce near Mt Hutt. Return the same way from whichever high point we reach.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$16**
- 3-5 Sep Sat-Mon** ■■■ **THREE MILE STREAM—MCMILLAN STREAM** **Maps BU22,23,L32,M32**
Margaret Clark 348 4993
 Easy-moderate tramp in Lake Sumner Forest Park starting from Windy Point. The circuit begins near Hope-Kiwi Lodge and runs alongside Lake Sumner at one point.
List closes 27 August
- 4 Sep Sun** ■ **MT AITKEN - O'MALLEY** **Maps BV20,K33**
Gary Huish 332 7020
 This trip, traversing the range between two of the peaks in Arthur's Pass, makes an excellent moderate round-trip. Take ice axe and crampons
Start: 7am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$25**
- 10-11 Sep Sat-Sun** ■■ **MT TECHNICAL-WATERFALL CREEK** **Maps BT23,M31**
Keith McQuillan 384 6164
 Moderate-hard Lewis Pass tops trip. Starting from the Lewis Pass west car park. Expect lots of tarns and commanding views.
List closes 3 September
- 11 Sep Sun** ■ **MT BRUCE** **Maps BV20,K34**
Kevin Hughes 332 6281
 Moderate tramp over 1630m Mt Bruce at the northern end of the Craigieburns. The route initially follows good track towards Lagoon Saddle, before turning off-track and climbing steep mixed scree and tussock slopes to the summit. There is a steepish scree slope down to the saddle at the head of Broad Stream, which can then be followed out. Great panoramic views from the top.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$21**

SOCIAL EVENTS

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

Membership: We welcome **Angela Grigg** who is rejoining

Deadline for the August newsletter: **Sunday 31 July** Send items for the newsletter to Ruth Barratt

Next committee meeting: 7:30pm **Tue 26 July** at Gary and Margot's

TRIP REPORTS

POTTS HUT - DOGS RANGE - MYSTERY LAKE - 7-8 May 2016

Mystery Lake is well named. It might be located on Te Araroa but as you head past Lake Clearwater to the Potts River Bridge it is very difficult to see where a large lake could be located within the extensive tussock terraces south of the Dogs Range. The inclusion of some of the historic station huts in the conservation estate has enabled this feature to be visited in a convenient weekend round trip.

Our party of four shouldered packs on the far side of the Potts River Bridge. The initial climb from 600m to about 1200m is harder than it looks. The river terrace appears to be even tussock slopes but there are a number of watercourses to be crossed. We took a route that climbs high to reduce the number of these "undulations" and reduces the exposure to matagouri in the river gorge section. Traversing at 1200m enables the worst of this to be avoided and minimizes the winter river crossings. We reached the former station hut a bit after six hours. The hut is a basic uninsulated 10 bunk hut with firebox that we decided not to light due to the lack of available firewood. You can lie in bed at night and watch the stars since the original roof iron has been reused with the previous nail holes now located on the ridges.



A frosty start the next day followed an old four-wheel track (and cycle track) on the 600m climb to Dogs Range (1500m). We decided to follow the track and not climb onto the end of the Dogs Range and were rewarded when we reached the large tarn that forms the start of Boundary Creek. This frost-rimed tarn provided perfect reflections in both directions. The track zig-zags steeply up the side of the range before reaching the 1546m high point. We traversed along the range through an extensive burnt area that had apparently been caused by lightning strike rather than careless trampers that we had feared. We finally connected with Te Araroa and the steep descent down to Mystery Lake. The water in the lake was refreshing but the slight breeze meant the reflections weren't quite as spectacular as at the earlier Boundary Creek tarn.

The track down the true left of Potts River seems endless, particularly when you can see the car for hours. There has been extensive four-wheel drive use of the route resulting in a very rutted track. This would be a character-building learning experience for mountain bikers of my ability.

This trip forms a great shoulder winter trip with minimal stream crossings and some spectacular reflections providing some of the deep snow on previous trips can be avoided.

Trampers were: **Angela Grigg, Miriam Preston, Joy Schroeder and Gary Huish.** 🏔️ GH



Lyndon Saddle – Camp Saddle—19 June 2016

Lesser mortals would have stayed home but we—**Vesna Mojsilovic, Wang (SP) Alan Ross and Kerry Moore**—ignored the forecast of occasional showers and brisk wind. Our foursome parked at the Broken River camp-ground shelter very close to the main road. A track goes up to Lyndon Saddle on the flanks of Helicopter Hill and took us nearly an hour. We carried on from there to connect with the Craigieburn Valley Track. Before climbing up to Camp Saddle we stopped in trees for an early lunch. Alan had seen some wilding pines on a previous trip and this time carried a saw to deal to the pests. He still managed to reach the saddle before me. Discounting the misty day with occasional drizzle we decided to head along the ridge in a light breeze. Nearing Lyndon Saddle with poor visibility we debated the route, decided we were heading too far east, back-tracked a little and scooted down the scree to the track that leads further down to Lyndon Saddle. On the final leg back to the car there is scree area where pines have been chopped but little pines were popping up so we spent ten minutes pulling them out. Driving home we encountered some serious rain near Porters Pass but arrived home to a dry Chch. In spite of needing our raincoats on all day we still had an enjoyable time in the hills. 🏔️ KM



On the ridge

Woolshed Creek Base Camp - 18-19 June 2016

Woolshed Creek Hut sounded like a great place for the weekend closest to the shortest day of the year to celebrate winter tramping at its finest, making the most of the short days tramping and the long nights eating and... There are no stream crossings to contend with and the track is well defined and unlikely to be blocked by snow drifts unlike some other places we have visited.

We were very aware that other people might have the same idea so when the twelve intrepid trampers disembarked at the car park we carefully scanned the other three cars. They didn't look "multiple-occupancy" so we thought bunks in the hut looked assured and left sleeping mats behind. Camping out certainly wasn't contemplated.

The track up the stream was frosty but scenic and the zig-zag up to the coal mine soon warmed us. Some of the relics at the coal mine (equipment, not us) were put to good use by Mary and Yvette as stretching devices. The sidle track up to the 934m high point had been recently worked on and the frost solidified the mud. The view up the Stour River and Mt Somers was enticing but the hut beckoned and down we headed. No sign of smoke, we might have it to ourselves! Sure enough, when we reached the hut, it was empty. The log book showed there had been 29 people in the 26 bunk hut the previous weekend and we heaved a sigh of relief that we had avoided that.

We established ourselves with a brew and then headed down to the gorge to look at the swing-bridge and waterfall. A small group from Lincoln High School had arrived but there were still lots of spare bunks. As we viewed the impressive gorge, we saw other small groups heading for the hut and by the time we got back to the hut it was practically full.

Our three-course meal was started and in full swing as people still kept arriving, including a couple with a small child. Musical chairs were being played for seating at the tables and cooking places were at a premium. Then the scouts arrived. At first it was one group but headlamps outside the hut then seemed to multiply. By the time we vacated our space at the table we counted between 54 and 58 people in the hut. It was hard to do an exact count. Two tents were erected outside but most people seemed intent on sleeping in the hut.

The next morning there were wall to wall people sleeping over and under every available surface. We had a leisurely breakfast while people packed, muddled and dispersed. It was impressive how such a large and disparate group had functioned in the hut. The spirit of cooperation and coexistence in the back country is well and alive. As possibly some of the more senior hut members, it was also great to see so many young people enjoying the outdoor facilities that are available.

We headed back along the four-wheel drive track. The lack of freeze had ensured the mud fluidity had risen and there was some slipping 'n sliding going on. At least the track is mostly downhill and progress was rapid.

The appeal of a trail lunch diminishes close to the road-end and we departed to the Staveley Café for lunch. The trip lived up to its easy grading this time while still falling into the category of winter tramping.

Trampers were: **Eileen Arnett, John Borner, Margot Bowden, Tim Hines, Mary & Geoff Korver, Mary McKeown, Marion & Keith McQuillan, Yvette So, Maureen Thompson and Gary Huish.** 🏠 GH



Exploring the Morgan Stream “cave”



Maureen with hut at very centre