



*PTC Monthly
Newsletter
June 2018*

PTC	Affiliate of Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ (Inc)
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Committee

President	Diane Mellish	337 5530	Editor	Raymond Ford	351 9496
Vice-President	Gary Huish	332 7020	Quartermaster	Brian Smith	355 9945
Vice-President	Kevin Hughes	332 6281	Social Events	Maureen Whalen	027 819 9251
Treasurer	Mike Bourke	332 7097	Committee	Keith McQuillan	384 6164
Trip Planner	Kerry Moore	359 5069	Committee	Maureen Thompson	021 2665778
Secretary	Merv Meredith	322 7239			

New Member Enquiries:	Stan Wilder	260 2340	Contact Stan to request an info-pack. You will also receive three complimentary newsletters
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Our Club

The PTC 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

Club Nights are held on the **second Tuesday** of each month at the **Baptist Church Hall, 286 Oxford Terrace (corner of Madras St. and Oxford Terrace)** at 7.45 pm. Doors open 7.30pm.

<p>Tues 12 June</p>	<p>Penny Webster - Climbing the Big Peaks of NZ.</p> <p>Penny Webster is one of our club members. She will show slides and tell us about a personal challenge she completed last year. She has now climbed all of NZ's 3000m peaks: a huge achievement. Come and hear about her adventures.</p>
<p>Tues 10 July</p>	<p>Members' Photos</p> <p>Share your tramping photos with fellow trampers. Book in (early) your 10 minute (or less) presentation with Brian Smith brian21x@xtra.co.nz</p> <p>Assemble your presentation and bring it to club night on a flash drive or laptop, and give it to Brian, by 7.30pm.</p>



FORTHCOMING 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, contact the trip leader beforehand. A phone inquiry does not oblige you to go on the trip. If the weather is turning bad, contact the trip leader or if you use email check the PTC Communicator the day before for trip updates.

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

The Club has a mountain biking section, Fat Tyre Fanatics, who head out on casual day trips throughout the year. For details on biking trips contact Chris Leaver 322 6445, or ptc75@clear.net.nz.

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|------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 9-10 Jun | Pinchgut Hut | Kerry Moore 359 5069 |
| | http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz33402/Pinchgut-Hut/Canterbury | |
| ** | An easy , almost flat, trip up the Okuku River in the Mt Thomas Forest to a comfortable hut with wood-stove
List closes 3 Jun | |
| 10-Jun | Thirteen Mile Bush | Norman Burden 358 5115 |
| Sun | http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz32558/THIRTEEN-MILE-BUSH/Canterbury | |
| * | Easy-moderate trip to a hut on the flanks of Ben More in the Big Ben Range. We park just 12km inland from Springfield. Thirteen Mile Bush contains the headwaters of North Selwyn River.
Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd Approx Cost \$12 | |
| 16-17 Jun | Otehake Hot Spring | Liz Stephenson 027 633 2038 |
| | http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz33704/Otehake-River/West-Coast | |
| ** | Moderate walk from Aickens, up the Taramakau Rr and Preifer Creek, past Lake Kaurapataka. There is a short climb to a saddle before dropping to the Otehake River. We'll camp at the hot springs further up the Otehake.
List closes 10 Jun | |
| 17-Jun | Mt Bradley from Kaituna Valley | Joy Schroeder 351 4655 |
| Sun | http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz29938/Mount-Bradley/Canterbury | |
| * | Easy-moderate. Morning tea at Packhorse Hut then along to the zig-zag track that flanks Mt Bradley. From the Te Ara Pataka track, it's just a short climb to 855m Mt Bradley.
Meet 8am PMH, Hackthorne Rd end, over the rd by the rr Approx Cost \$4 | |
| 23-24 Jun | Magdalen Hut | Pauline Hill 021 0872 1613 |
| | https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz35484/Magdalen-Hut/Canterbury | |
| ** | An easy , flat track to this modern little hut on the Boyle River
List closes 17 Jun | |

- 24-Jun Broken Hill Kerry Moore 359 5069**
Sun <http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz32867/Broken-Hill/Canterbury>
***** **Moderate** trip to this peak just off Highway 73, near Flock Hill Resort. Great views of Lake Pearson and Castle Hill Basin.
Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd Approx Cost \$18
- 30-1 Jun Boyle Base Kerry Moore 359 5069**
<https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz35457/Boyle-Village/Canterbury>
****** Staying near Boyle Village. We aim to climb Mt Norma and Garnet Peak. There are plenty of easy options as well. Friday night start.
List closes 24 June
- 30-4 Jun Kepler Track Merv Meredith 322 7239**
<https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/trck1292/Kepler-Track/Southland>
********* Rated **moderate-hard** at this time of year, the Kepler Track is an alpine adventure with stunning panoramas. It takes you from the shore of Lake Te Anau to spend a night high above the clouds at Luxmore Hut (1085m). We will traverse the ridgelines of the Kepler Mountains, then drop down to beautiful Lake Manapouri, before heading back through peaceful beech forest.
List closes 14 June
- 30 Jun Kennedys Bush-Governors Bay Margot Bowden 332 7020**
Saturday <http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz29916/Kennedys-Reserve/Canterbury>
***** An **easy** climb from Halswell Quarry up through Kennedy's Bush to the Summit Road then exploring the maze of tracks on the Governors Bay side of the crater rim.
Meet 8am at PMH, Hackthorne Rd end, over the road by the river
- 7-8 Jul Hawdon Hut Graeme Paltridge 384 3592**
<https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz33652/Hawdon-Hut/Canterbury>
****** A **flat** walk up the Hawdon River to this spacious hut with views of some impressive mountains
List closes 1 Jul
- 8-Jul Mt Foweracker Gary Huish 332 7020**
Sun <https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz33652/Hawdon-Hut/Canterbury>
***** **Moderate-hard** trip in Arthurs Pass National Park to this 1804m peak between Sudden Valley and Red Beech Stream. This peak lacked a name five years ago.
Meet 7am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd Approx Cost \$21
- 14-15 Jul Hope-Kiwi Lodge Sue Piercey 384 9567**
<https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz33974/Hope-Kiwi-Lodge/Canterbury>
****** **Easy-moderate** tramp in Lake Sumner Forest Park, overnighting in Hope Kiwi Lodge. Good track all the way, through beech forest and along river terraces.
List closes 7 July
- 15-Jul John Britten Reserve--Mt Pleasant Miriam Preston 329 3139**
Sun <http://tracks.org.nz/track/show/482>
***** An **easy** walk from the start of JBR at Longridge Drive up to the Summit Road and along to Mt Pleasant The 140 bus can get you up Mt Pleasant Road fairly close to Longridge Drive
Meet 0915 at the JBR entrance on Longridge Drive or
Meet at Stop Number 15728 by 0837 on Linwood Ave, near McGregors Road, near Eastgate Mall to catch the 140 bus to Madeley Road and walk up Mt Pleasant Road then Longridge Drive to JBR.

21-22 Jul	Crow Hut	Dan Pryce 356 1962
**	http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz32109/Crow-Hut/Canterbury Easy-moderate tramp to a comfortable hut (with woodfire) in a clearing between forested slopes and the Waimakariri River in Arthur's Pass National Park. List closes 15 July	
22-Jul	Baldy Hill	Peter Umlers 359 9118
Sun	https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz32879/Baldy-Hill/Canterbury A moderate climb of this 1834m hill at the north end of the Craigieburn Range. If you want to walk through forest this is not the place to visit. It is 'bald'. Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd	
		Approx Cost \$19
28-29 Jul	Jollie Brook	No leader yet
**	https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz34085/Jollie-Brook/Canterbury An easy , flat walk alongside the Hurunui River as it exits big Lake Sumner, past elderly Gabriel Hut and on to Jollie Brook Hut. We can return the same way with a side trip to Lake Sumner or go down Jollie Brook. List closes 22 July	
29-Jul	Paterson Hill	Kerry Moore 359 5069
Sun	http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz32669/Paterson-Hill/Canterbury A moderate circuit to this 1113m hill overlooking Staircase Gully at the SE end of the Torlesse Range. Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd	
		Approx Cost \$12
3-6 Aug	Cardrona—Cross-country skiing	Calum McIntosh 376 6133
****	https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz19969/Cardrona/Otago Moderate fitness required to ski the Cardrona Snow Farm. You can hire skis there if you don't have them. List closes 22 July	
4-5 Aug	Rod Donald Hut	Awaiting leader
**	https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz29946/Waipuna-Saddle/Canterbury An easy-moderate trip to this charming hut on Te Ara Pataka track and so close to Chch. List closes 22 July	
4-Aug	Sugar Loaf	Jillian Fulcher 351 4189
<u>Saturday</u>	http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz32928/Cass/Canterbury An moderate climb to this 1359m hill above Cass. Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd	
		Approx Cost \$20
5-Aug	Cheeseman—Izard	Merv Meredith 322 7239
Sun	http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz31523/Mount-Cheeseman/Canterbury A moderate-hard circuit taking in 2031m Cheeseman and 2019m Izard in the heart of the Craigieburn Range. Take ice-axe and crampons. Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd	
		Approx Cost \$18
11-12 Aug	Arthurs Pass Base	Merv Meredith 322 7239
**	https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz32156/Arthur%27s-Pass/Canterbury Staying in a comfortable house in the village from where we can climb some peaks or walk some of the beautiful nature walks. List closes 5 Aug	

12-Aug

Og--Gog—Magog

Stuart Payne 337 2275

Sun

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<http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz32909/Magog/Canterbury>

These Ogs come in a neat row so we can knock them off in one **easy-moderate** walk. We'll be looking into the Waimak Rr before it reaches the gorgy section.

Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd

Approx Cost \$19

18-19 Aug

Boyle Flat Hut – Faust

Kerry Moore 359 5069

<http://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz35491/Faust/Canterbury>

**

A **moderate-hard** climb from the Boyle over the Libretto Range via 1710m Faust. Anyone wanting an easy trip can return as for the inward leg.

List closes 12 Aug

SOCIAL EVENTS

Thurs 21 June



Winter Solstice bike ride or walk.

Let's join in this annual event open to the public. Participate as a cyclist or take a walk in Hagley Park and admire the spectacle of hundreds of brightly-lit bikes. Meet at Maureen Thompson's place (30 A Peacock St) by 4.55 pm. Both groups, the cyclists and walkers will walk, pushing our bikes to the start of the ride, at the Armagh Street/Park Terrace Gates aiming to get there at 5.25pm. The ride officially starts at 5.30 pm. It goes anti-clockwise around the park. Walkers can choose a route with the best view of the cyclists, then head back to Peacock St. Bring yourself, your bike, and a helmet with as many lights as you can. We should all be back at Peacock St by 6.30 pm or 7 pm.

We will pre-order some pizzas, including vegetarian options. Maureen will provide some mulled wine. Please bring a small plate of nibbles or sweet treats to share, and your own drinks. Maureen's place is pretty small so you might be sitting on the floor. For pizza catering, please give your name to Maureen by Tuesday 19 June. Email: mothompson1212@gmail.com or phone 021 266 5778. If the ride is cancelled, meet at Maureen's place any time after 6.00pm. www.facebook.com/events/598082050538833/

Tues 17 July



Crazy Whist Evening and Pot-luck Dinner

Brian and Mary-Jane Bonsell are hosting their famous Crazy Whist evening. Arrive any time after 5.30 pm. Dinner at 6 pm. Crazy Whist starts at 7 pm.

The Bonsells have an entertaining format where you change partners often. A very basic knowledge of tricks and trumps is helpful (It's easier than 500 or Euchre). Check out the YouTube link below which explains how to play in 3 mins 27 seconds.

Please bring a dish to share and your own drinks. If you have a card table, let the Bonsells know as it might be needed.

Email: bonsell@xtra.co.nz or phone 358 5259 to book by Friday 13 July.

Location: Avonhead Road (Address supplied when booking)

You tube video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=9v5UxlUg55Y>

On-line practice here: <https://cardgames.io/whist/>

NOTES

President's notes: Well, we have survived the first polar blast of the winter. Some very exciting news has come through recently: our very own Penny Webster climbed Mt Everest about 10 days ago. Wow! What a huge accomplishment. Well done Penny, we are so proud of you. And we can't wait to see you in person at our June club night.

Another request for help: the Committee needs a backup supper duty coordinator to help Margot. She will be away travelling in northern, warmer places during August and September, as will a number of other committee members. If you can help out, please give me a call. The job involves ringing people who are rostered on with reminders.

Keep warm and fit and enjoy what winter brings. Diane

PTC - FMC Photo Competitions 2018

Again this year, we are planning a full PTC competition to choose entries for the FMC Photo Competition which closes on 15th September. Entries to the PTC competition are open **NOW**, so please have a look at your recent pictures, load some on a memory stick and pass to Brian Smith or ask Brian how best to submit.

Full details of the PTC and FMC Photo Competition, including categories, formats, etc. were circulated on the PTC Communicator email 23.04.18, so hopefully, you have it in mind anyway.

Closing date for entries to the PTC competition is **30th JUNE 2018**, although you may be able to twist Brian's arm for a late entry any time prior to our July club night.

Merv Meredith

Trip Photos: The Club maintains a gallery of photographs on its website. Keeping this up to date allows people to see what recent trips the Club has undertaken. Can trip leaders send or nominate someone to send some photographs from each trip to Kevin Hughes, ptc@nivek.co.nz, so we can keep this record current.

Membership: The PTC welcomes new members – Bob Reid and Justin Loh.

Deadline for the June Newsletter: Thursday, 29 June – please send newsletter items to Raymond: fordm@snap.net.nz

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, 26 June 2018..

TRIP REPORTS

EASTER: 29 March – 2 April 2018 – Fyffe River- Mt. Owen – Bulmer

The circuit proposed for this trip was the same as Easter 2007, i.e.

Fri: Into Frying Pan Creek, over to Fyffe River and a full day up the Fyffe to Branch Creek Hut.

Sat: Navigate east to camp in tarns area south of Sanctuary Basin. Afternoon explore from there.

Sun: Continue south to Mt Owen, then drop off west to reach the top of the Bulmer lake amphitheatre. Camp at the lake's southern end.

Mon: Down Bulmer Creek through the bluffs and out down the Owen River.

The forecast had iffy weather due Saturday, so rather than camp in the open tarns area, Plan B would be to drop north to Granity Pass Hut, 12 bunk, for the night, then return south on Sunday.

To get an early start on Friday morning, camping in the reserve out the back of the Owen River Tavern on Thursday night has been the easiest option. So we left Derek's place at 1.00pm, stopped in Murchison for a coffee, and then drove up to Owen River. The reserve was a surprise. Fifteen other vehicles plus us. Good to see Juicy vans paying \$20 to stay where there are toilets. We set up the tents then wandered up to the tavern where, perhaps despite the pub food, dinner was enjoyable and convivial.



Saturday morning almost didn't start well. Our MSR didn't fire up properly and for a little while it was looking like our trip was dead in the water before we even started! Then we found the setscrew had fallen out of the top of the burner in the plastic bread bag! All back to normal. Once packed, we drove up the Owen Valley East Road and along the little Frying Pan turnoff to park under the trees before the ford, same as last time. Walking by 10.00am, half an hour in on Frying Pan, we walked up a pleasant little flat valley with bubbling stream that would be ideal to walk in to on a Thursday evening and camp. Note that for next time.

The track climbed out of Frying Pan, and dropped down into the Fyffe, with the gorge on the Fyffe visible from both down and upstream. The quality of the birdlife was soon apparent. Further along the birdsong stopped, but there were regular stoat traps. These were explained when eventually we came to a relocatable biodiversity hut in a clearing and the traps continued all the way up the valley, passed Branch Creek Hut, right to the bush line and as we found, beyond. The trapping is winning. In the upper valley, at different times, we saw three Whio pairs and may have heard more. The track condition in the upper valley is not as easy as it would have been eleven years ago, so it was not surprising that it took us 9hr 20m to reach the hut at 7.20pm. Very welcome and no one else there. With what poor fire wood was there, Gary worked diligently all evening to keep a fire of sorts going.

On Saturday, we left Branch Creek Hut about 9.00am in threatening weather, up the track to the bushline. Once on the route up the 1500m spur to Replica Hill, the weather got progressively damper. The norwester got up as well. Tempted by some markers below, we dropped off the ridge on the Nuggety side, but the markers proved to be stoat traps. As the weather worsened, at 11.20am Gary made a logical Plan C suggestion that didn't take any debating – Let's return to Branch Creek and do the whole circuit around and down to Bulmer tomorrow in fine weather. So we did. Climbing to the ridge to return to the bushline in fits and starts between norwest gusts when we stopped and braced. Back at the hut after 1.00pm, the rain had stopped by 2.00pm but the wind was still strong overhead. Gary's fire that evening was even feebler – but we were dry.

Sunday's weather was as the weather person promised. The cloud cleared early and the wind had dropped. Away from the hut at 7.50am daylight saving time, we returned to the bushline and this time, stuck to the ridge to Replica Hill before eventually sidling the north east face on mostly easily followed animal tracks. Around the corner beyond Replica, at 11.40am we came to the beaten



highway made by day trippers from Granity Pass going to Mt Owen. And we could see people. Lots of people! We were told by descending trampers that they were tenting at Granity as the hut was full. Glad we weren't there! Reaching the top we could see enough people buzzing about in the fine weather, to fill three huts. Tucked into the rocks on the northern edge for lunch out of the moderate breeze, it was good to see the two family groups just below us enjoying being there and the karst country.

Heading west after lunch for Bulmer Lake, we should have dropped toward Poverty Basin but were tempted to follow cairns down the spur west with some interesting rock navigation. Until it became clear the cairns were leading to even more interesting rocks and canyons. Time to drop and sidle. Back on route, I had felt that

in 2007 we had continued west too far above the Bulmer amphitheatre to approach it from the northwest, whereas we could have dropped in earlier. So we tried that only to be blocked at the last minute by the end of a bluff. Retracing our steps back up to the top we continued along the ridge to drop down the same scree we did in 2007. Further down, a nice terrace tempted us west. Bad choice. It eventually funneled into a scree chute that took a bit of careful descending. Below that, we could then sidle left onto the long scree that we should have looked for higher up. Below the scree, was a matter of navigating through the scrub covered rocks to gain the true left side of the lake and finally relax on its soft green edge about 5.30pm.

How spectacular is Bulmer! From our campsite on the track in the bush at the southern end of the lake, the amphitheatre really is a sight, with towering bluffs both sides and the steep scree at the head. Our camp was on the same spot as last time. Absolutely calm and silent. And not cold. It was great to be there.

Monday morning was again quite remarkable, as soon after leaving the lake, following down a dry river bed we came to the top of the enormous bluffs extending across the entire Bulmer Creek valley. Bit by bit the track descended this bluff helped with ropes and a caving ladder. From the creek bed below the bluffs, we once again looked back up wondering at the persistence of the cavers who had first found this route up through the bluffs in order to explore Bulmer caves. Descending the rest of Bulmer Creek was more relaxed, arriving at the junction of the Owen River and Bulmer Creek before 1.00pm for lunch. Then a straightforward walk down river, crossing and recrossing, to the Sunrise car park in a paddock on East Rd after 2.00pm. Merv and Derek then walked the 15 minutes down to the Frying Pan turn off to retrieve our vehicle. We packed and drove out on a still fine afternoon, stopping only to photograph 'Kerry's Mansion' as we passed, followed by an obligatory coffee stop at Rivers Café in Murchison.

For Gary and I, it was great to be able to repeat the trip eleven years later and for all of us, be able to count on the accuracy of current weather forecasting. It really is a spectacular round trip.

On the trip were: Derek Gane, Gary Huish, Merv Meredith (leader), Kathrin Mueller & Dan Pryce. 🏠 MM

Captain Thomas Track -- Godley Head -- Sunday 1 April 2018



Sixteen eager trampers assembled by the Sumner clock tower on a calm, sunny Easter Sunday. Leader Helen knew the streets of Sumner to navigate to get us past the horse paddock and on to the Captain Thomas Track.

We had a cuppa at Evans Pass, crossed the Godley Head section of the Summit Road to get on the track that runs close to Point 329, then on to the Breeze Bay Walking Track which runs on the harbour side of points 258 and 246 to arrive at the Godley Head car park. Aside from our troop there was a good crowd lunching at the beautifully landscaped picnic area.

After lunch we took the SE track to the pill-box--no sign of the old tunnel we used to take--then up to the gun emplacements. Parts of the emplacements are very securely fenced to keep people away from the quake-prone cliff edge.

We had a stop at charming little Boulder Bay then continued along Pilgrims Way Coastal Track to Taylors Mistake for a ten minute stop, then another climb along the Taylors Mistake Track emerging at Searidge Lane. The lane gives access to Nicholson Park which contains the Flowers Track, zig-zagging down to Heberden Ave and back to the clock-tower. John announced at walk's-end that we'd covered nearly 19km. Many thanks to Helen our very proficient Port Hills guide.

We were: Helen Harkness (leader), Margot Bowden, Sue Britain, Mike Bourke, Sandra White, Marion McQuillan, Kyung Sang Lee, Youmie Kim, Danny Lee, Lynn Tuanmu, John Borner, Eileen Arnett, Jill Fenner, Henk Boer, Wendy Wallace and Kerry Moore 🏠 KM