



*PTC Monthly
Newsletter
March 2020*

PTC	Affiliate of Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ (Inc)
Postal Address	The Secretary, PTC, PO Box 13 258, City East, Christchurch 8141
Web address	www.ptc.nz
E-mail	secretary@PTC.nz
Facebook name	Peninsula Tramping Club Christchurch
Correspondence	All correspondence to the Secretary, including change of contact details

Executive 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 Thompson	021 2665778
Treasurer	Mike Bourke	332 7097		Margot Bowden	332 7020
Trip Planner	Kerry Moore	359 5069	Committee	Keith McQuillan	384 6164
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. In addition to the monthly club meeting, a variety of social events are also held every month.

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.

Tuesday, 10 March 	AGM and Kyrgyzstan – Uzbekistan travels - Raymond Ford After the AGM, Raymond will talk about his trip to Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan in September 2019. Both countries are associated with the mystique of Central Asia and the Silk Road, and have a long rich histories and culture, diverse landscapes and hospitable people. <i>Supper Duty: Gavin Chalk</i>
Tuesday, 14 April 	Federated Mountain Clubs NZ - Liz Stephenson Liz Stephenson - PTC's successful nomination for FMC's Executive - will speak about FMC's role and its achievements. FMC celebrates and advocates for outdoor recreation in NZ. The organisation cherishes our backcountry and acts to protect our favourite places in the outdoors for now and for future generations. FMC is nearly 90 years in operation and has 21,000 members over 94 clubs (including PTC). Liz will also include some special photos from over 45 years tramping.

SOCIAL EVENTS

**Tuesday, 17
March**

Halswell hike followed by a pot luck dinner

For the walk, meet 6pm, 11 Watlings Place, Kennedy's Bush. Bring sturdy shoes & torch for an off track walk.

Pot luck dinner from 7:15pm. For further details, contact Chris Leaver or Graham Townsend – 03 322 6445 or Graham 021 143 8537.

NOTES

Notice of 2020 AGM

Notice is hereby given that the 88th Annual General Meeting of the Peninsula Tramping Club (Incorporated) will be held in the Baptist Church Hall, corner of Madras Street and Oxford Terrace, entrance off Madras, on:

Tuesday 10th March 2020 starting promptly at 7.30pm
AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of the minutes of the 87th Annual General Meeting
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Presentation of the Executive Reports
5. Presentation of the Financial Statements for the 12 months ended 31st Dec 2019
6. Election of Officers and Executive members **
7. Election of Auditor
8. Notified motions:

8.1. Financial Audit v Financial Review #

PTC has up to and including the 2019 financial year, had our Financial Statements prepared and fully audited by an external auditor. As with trends in similar organisations, the Executive will be proposing the external audit be reduced to a Financial Review only, still carried out externally. A document detailing the consequent wording changes required to our PTC Rules will be circulated via Communicator.

9. General Business

** Nominations for positions, approved by the nominee, proposer and seconder, may be sent to the Secretary to arrive prior to the meeting. In addition, nomination forms will be available at the door, so that nominations may be handed to the Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.

At the time of circulation of this notice, we have nominations for a number of Office holders and Executive member positions, but we have some 'gaps', plus would dearly love to have 'competition' for positions. So please do put your hand up and make this the year for you to help run our club.

Please note that as per clause 11.7 of our Rules, any member wishing to give notice of a motion for consideration at the AGM shall forward notice of same to the Secretary not less than 28 days before the meeting, i.e. by the February Club night. None have been received yet.

President's notes

Hello all. Two things in this blurb: website and trip planning. Please read my annual President's report which will arrive with this newsletter to find out what we have been doing to update our website. Then visit it! Preferably using the new shorter address www.ptc.nz.

Our annual trip planning evening is coming up in late April, so start now dreaming up ideas for new trips. Any club member is welcome to come to that evening, it is not just for the Executive Committee. You will not be

obliged to lead a trip you suggest, but of course we would love you to offer that if you feel able. And remember there is lots of support you can ask for if you would like to become a leader but are not sure about what to do.

See you at the AGM.

Diane Mellish

Our Patron Dennis Kemp is still recovering from a recent fall

It was most unfortunate that instead of celebrating his 90th birthday on Saturday, 1st February with family and friends, including a number of PTC members, Dennis ended up in the public hospital for a number of days as the result of a bad fall at home. We all wish him well for a speedy recovery and hope to see him back at Club nights soon.

Merv Meredith

2020 Subscriptions

ALL 2020 Peninsula Tramping Club subscriptions are due for renewal before the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 10th March. Either \$30 for an electronic newsletter subscription, or \$40 for a printed newsletter subscription.

Payment can be paid directly into the PTC Kiwibank account 38 9015 0030334 00 - either online or by cash or cheque deposit. **Please note:** Cheques will no longer be accepted by Kiwibank from 28 February 2020.

If paying online, please put SUB in the "Particulars" box and YOUR NAME in the "Reference" box, so that your payment can be identified. Members who have not paid their subscription by the AGM time will be unable to vote at the AGM and will no longer receive monthly newsletters.

Mike Bourke (Treasurer PTC)

Membership

The club accepts with regret the following resignations: Rick Bolch, Karen Taylor, and David Ramm.

Deadline for the April newsletter: 4 April 2020 – please send items for the newsletter, e.g. trip reports, notices, etc. to: Raymond Ford fordrm@snap.net.nz

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, 31 March 2020.

FORTHCOMING TRIPS

Day Trips

Depart from and return to a convenient point on the side of town nearest to the destination. Our website www.ptc.nz has maps of these meeting places. 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 accepted). 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 about club biking trips, contact Chris Leaver 03 322 6445, or newptc75@gmail.com.

- 8 Mar**
Sunday
● **[Bowenvale—Victoria Park Circuit](#)**
Wendy Wallace 338 0550
An easy-moderate walk on the wonderful Port Hills.
Meet 8am head of Bowenvale Road.
- 13-15 Mar**
Fri-Sun
●●● **[Waimakariri Falls Hut](#)**
Merv Meredith 322 7239
A moderate trip up the Waimakariri River to Waimakariri Falls Hut to help Colin Wilmshurst replace the mountain radio. While Colin is doing that we can do a day trip up to Waimakariri Col, on to point 1845m then explore a route down to Gorgy Lake—ice-axe, maybe crampons, required. Day 1 camp near Campbell Ck. Day 2 side trip from Falls Hut. Day 3, out.
List closes Thur. 5 March.
- 15 Mar**
Sunday
● **[Doctors Hills](#)**
Dan Pryce 356 1962
So-named because a local doctor used to wander there. This easy trip inland from Waikari gives views of Pyramid Valley and Moa Swamp.
Meet 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St. Approx cost \$14
- 21-23 Mar**
Sat-Mon
●●● **[Boanerges](#)**
Raymond Ford 022 318 0872 fordrm@snap.net.nz
Above the Hopkins, Huxley River corner in the Ohau area is Paradise Creek which leads to 2254m Boanerges.
List closes 15 March.
- 21 Mar**
Saturday
● **[Port Levy - Wild Cattle Hill](#)**
Awaiting leader
Moderate walk on the east side of Port Levy from sea level to 600m on Wild Cattle Hill. Coastal views towards both Port Levy and Pigeon Bay.
8am Princess Margaret Hospital, NE carpark off Cashmere Rd. Approx cost \$8
- 28-29 Mar**
Sat -Sun
●● **[Pinchgut Hut—Bobs Camp circuit](#)**
Gary Huish 332 7020
A moderate walk via Pinchgut Hut, up the Whare Track to Bobs Camp Biv then back via Cattle Peak Route.
List closes 22 March.
- 28 Mar**
Saturday
● **[Pines](#)**
Raymond Ford 022 318 0872 fordrm@snap.net.nz
A satisfying day in Castle Hill Basin cutting and pulling wildings to stem the westward march of pines.
List closes 6pm Friday 27 March. Exact cost \$0
- 29 Mar**
Sunday
● **[Mt Thomas—Pinchgut Hut](#)**
Sue Piercey 384 9567
Starts at the Mt Thomas Wooded Gully camping area and goes up the Summit Track, past Pinchgut Hut to the Okuku ford. A car from the Bobs Camp trip can help get drivers back to Wooded Gully campground or a larger group can split in two and do a crossover. Easy-moderate.
Meet 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St. Approx cost \$12

- 4-5 Apr**
Sat-Sun
●●
[Mt Somers Walkway](#)
Norman Burden 358 5115, 021 0228 9141
An easy-moderate walkway hike in fascinating volcanic terrain, from Woolshed Creek to the Staveley end. Sign on now as the hut has to be booked.
List closes 7 March.
- 5 Apr**
[Godley Head Walkway](#)
Mary McKeown 358 7717
An easy walk from Sumner to Godley Head.
Meet 9am Sumner Clock tower.
- 10-14 Apr**
Easter
●●●●
[Wilkin—Siberia--Crucible--Young](#)
Raymond Ford 022 318 0872 or fordrm@snap.net.nz
A popular moderate circuit over Gillespie Pass in Mt Aspiring National Park, with a bonus side trip to Crucible Lake. We may use local jet-boat transport get us to and from the track.
List closes 29 March.
- 10-14 Apr**
Easter
●●●●●
[Golden Bay Base Camp](#)
Kevin and Heather Hughes 332 6281
A host of things to do in this beautiful area.
List closes 29 March.
- 10-13 Apr**
Easter
●●●●
[Punakaiki - Inland Pack track - Mt Bovis](#)
Awaiting leader. Please contact Kerry Moore 359 5069 if you are willing to lead it.
An easy-moderate fine weather walk to the Ballroom overhang and beyond.
List closes 29 March.
- 12 Apr**
Sunday
●
[Pompeys Pillar—Red Bay](#)
Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905
An easy-moderate Banks Peninsula walk to seldom visited bays. We will pass through a covenanted patch of bush.
8am Princess Margaret Hospital, NE carpark off Cashmere Rd. Approx cost \$14
- 18-19 Apr**
Sat- Sun
●●
[Casey Saddle-Poulter River-Binser Saddle](#)
Gary Huish 332 7020
A straightforward Arthurs Pass National Park circuit with no rivers to cross and tracked all the way. Look for orange fronted parakeets and Mohua along the Poulter River.
List closes 12 April.
- 18 Apr**
Saturday
●
[Pines](#)
Kerry Moore 359 5069
A satisfying day in Castle Hill Basin cutting and pulling wildings to stem the westward march of pines
List closes 6pm Friday 17 April
- 19 Apr**
Sunday
●
[Baywatch II](#)
Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905
Another exploration of the many bays of our Banks Peninsula. Easy-moderate.
8am Princess Margaret Hospital, NE carpark off Cashmere Rd. Approx cost \$14

21 Apr
Tuesday

Trip Planning Meeting - 7pm. Place to be advised

Your chance to have a say on where the club goes and promote the trips you like doing
If you can't go on the night, please email your ideas to moorekj@xtra.co.nz

25-28 Apr

Harper Pass, Te Araroa Section

Sat-Tue

Names to Kerry Moore 359 5069

●●●●

A moderate crossing of the main divide from Aickens, up the Taramakau River, over the 960m pass, to Lake Sumner Forest Park, down the Hurunui and Hope valleys, to Windy Point on the Lewis Pass Highway. Good huts and an opportunity for a dip in the Hurunui Hot pool on-route.

List closes 19 April

26 Apr

Takamatua--Ellangowan Reserve

Sun

Awaiting leader

●

An easy-moderate tramp from near highway 75 to Ellangowan Reserve on the Old Le Bons Track

8am Princess Margaret Hospital, NE carpark off Cashmere Rd

Approx cost \$13

TRIP REPORTS

Wheel Creek Hut – Mt Crosscut - 30 November to 2 December 2019



Figure 1. Wheel Creek marked track. Photo courtesy of Gary Huish

Wheel Creek Hut in the Victoria Range is undeservedly under-visited. That might be due to reports about lack of a suitable marked route and good access information with mention of an uncut marked route back in 2010.

Four of us set out to investigate. The first pleasant surprise was the Ringmer farm track that had a usable road as far as Jones Creek with only 30 minutes to walk down the Maruia River to the start of Wheel Creek. The second surprise was a well-marked route up the true left with visible foot-trail in places. We had no problems following the markers, or rather Bill followed the markers and we had no trouble following him for

the five-hour trip up the creek. Lots of animal sign and goats that we nearly tripped over before they ambled off. Some track reports suggest following the creek, but rainfall events on the coast have changed that into a maze of downed trees.

The freshly painted standard 6 bunk forestry hut sits in a bright and sunny clearing with ample firewood supplies. There is no sign of the reported mouse infestation despite it being a mast year. Few sandflies too. We had a very pleasant evening sitting outside in the sun watching clouds start to arrive.

Rain overnight slowly dropped to light drizzle. We dithered and set off for 1613m Mt Crosscut mid-morning to miss the heavier rain forecast later that afternoon.

Our chosen route was up the obvious ridge directly behind the hut rather than traversing to the Waitahu Saddle. The ridge was steep but open vegetation allowed for a quick ascent before hitting the Victoria Range alpine scrub band which has a certain robust character.

Eventually we arrived on the open tussock tops. The heavier rain was following closely behind, but we did get a glimpse of the top of Mt Crosscut, with a distinctive resemblance to the tooth of an old saw. Pleasant tussock travel turned to traversing towering granite spires. Sidling steep wet snow-grass slopes looked less than appealing so we climbed up onto the northern end of the saw-tooth until we were blocked by a granite face with only one slight diagonal crack. The highest southern saw-tooth point was visible through the cloud about 400m away but the rain was now horizontal and heavy so



Figure 2. Traversing the rocks at the northern end of the upper ridge. Photo courtesy of Gary Huish

we had a hurried lunch in a sheltered hollow before turning back to face the wind. The return trip was dramatic, and we were even glad to bash down through the alpine scrub to gain the shelter of the trees.

Heavy rain overnight continued and there was little incentive to stop on the way out. Crossing Wheel Creek at the Maruia River after four hours travel was certainly a different experience compared to two days earlier but caused no problems. We were, however, surprised to find a four-wheel drive vehicle perched high on a pile of logs just downstream of Jones Creek. It looked abandoned but full of packs! Crossing Jones Creek turned into a mission as it had risen higher than Wheel Creek and our car was a welcome sight.

Wheel Creek Hut certainly warrants more attention than it has received. Despite one atypical day in October 2019 when 14 people visited, there has been an average of only 10 people each year. Surprising for a great hut, only 4-5 hours walk, providing excellent access to the Victoria Range.

The footnote to this story transpired in a conversation with the farmer who enquired about the vehicle near Jones Creek since it had not come through their property. Jones Creek had risen further and they had not been able to check it. Apparently if we had not got out on the Monday we would have been stuck for several days.

Trampers: Merv Meredith, Bill Templeton, Peter Umbers and Gary Huish (leader). 🏠 GH

South Ashburton Glacier - 3-5 January 2020

It is 0615 Friday morning and 2 car loads of eager trampers (6 of us in total) arrived from different directions at the agreed meeting point in Templeton spot on time. A quick trip through Mount Somers and beyond Lake Heron to the Cameron River carpark soon saw us heading up the Cameron River valley. Eventually, we turned and headed up the hill towards the saddle, stopping for lunch still looking up the Cameron valley. Once at the saddle we could look down into the much wider Ashburton river valley, before heading off towards Top Hut to find a perfect camping spot before having to cross the river.

It was a reasonably sheltered camping area that offered a number of tent places. Rocks were gathered to make a sheltered area for the cookers and dinner was soon underway. Once the sun disappeared behind the hills, it got quite cold quite quickly so it was an early night for all.



Figure 3. Finding a spot out of the wind to eat dinner. Photo courtesy of Darcy Mawson.

Saturday was spent walking up the river valley towards the Ashburton Glacier. We stopped in at Top Hut for a look. The walk up the valley was partly up the river's edge or along the banks. We all wanted to go a bit further to see what 'around' the next corner' -could we see the glacier, could we get that bit closer so we ended up on the lateral moraine looking up towards the glacier.

We went to bed on Saturday night, thinking it could well be raining by the morning. Well, it did rain over night, several of us were woken by the patter of rain on our tents, however, by the time it was light and time to get up, the rain had stopped and sun and wind dried out our tents before we packed them away.



Figure 4. Looking up the Ashburton River towards the Ashburton Glacier. Photo courtesy of Sue Piercey.

We set off back the way we had come two days earlier, with the strong gusty norwest wind at our backs, up and over the saddle and down into the Cameron River valley. We started straight down from the saddle. Once down on the valley floor we were able to cruise back to the car park, with a stop for lunch in a sheltered little clearing along the way. The trip home included a stop in Mt Somers for coffee, ice cream, pies and other snacks plus a top up of the water bottles

The highlights (for me that were hopefully shared by the others)

- camping out on a little terrace just above the Ashburton river.

- waking up to ice on our tents on the first morning – those who had got up in the night viewed a fabulous clear starry sky.
- being able to get up onto the lateral moraine beside the Ashburton Glacier and look straight up the glacier towards Mt Arrowsmith and the other tops in the range.
- lunch spots beside beautiful clear streams.
- great company, great leadership and great food
- good collaboration that meant everyone looked out for each other and shared the load.

We were: **Di Mellish (leader), Sue Piercey, Linda Gardiner, Norman Burden, Darcy Mawson and Alison Maccoll** 🏔️ AM

Lucas Peak--Timutimu Head—Scenery Nook, Saturday 11 January 2020

Gulls and Variable Oystercatchers squarked with alarm as we got too close to their nests. We could see the gulls' nests in a rock overhang/cave. Three Canada geese glided slowly on one of the pools. We drew back from the seal-viewing to have lunch and quieten the locals.

The walk to Scenery Nook was pushed along by a norwester that tried to blow our hats into the sea. We returned to the cars via Rocky Gully, bypassing Lucas Peak on its Akaroa Harbour side. Jillian Fulcher was our able guide.

We were: **Jillian Fulcher (leader) , Susan Brechin, Gary Huish, Margot Bowden, Mary McKeown, John Robinson, Kyung Sang Lee, Youmie Kim, Joy Shroeder, Dorota Giejsztowt, Dan Pryce, Kerry Moore** 🏔️ KM



Figure 5. The seals are the prime attraction at this beautiful spot. Photo courtesy of Kerry Moore.

Cave Stream - Gorge Hill – Saturday, 25 January 2020

Five 'cavers' left Church Corner on a cloudy Saturday morning. We got to Cave Stream Reserve while it was still quiet and walked through the cave at our own pace with no other walkers in sight. We met some intrigued, but unprepared tourists at the entrance, happy to take a group picture of us. The water was well above waist level at the down-stream entrance.

The flow of the river was strong enough to make us pleased to be in a group, as there were some places where it was impossible to climb up against the push of the water without help. Wendy and Mary were initially hesitant cavers, wondering aloud if they'd be crawling through tight spots and mud, but declared this cave a

worthwhile experience. We did wonder how the 30 little rugby players with their parents would get through with the water neck-high on many of them.

After a change of clothes and morning tea/lunch we set off for the walking part of the day. The trip title said 'Prebble Hill', but we quickly declared that too ambitious and walked from the Cave Stream car-park down the hill and across the river (why did we change clothes and shoes?) up Gorge Hill instead. We walked to the south side of the hill to enjoy the view of Prebble Hill, the Torlesse Gap and the valley below while we had a lunch break.

In our attempt to descend to the Porter River we found a steep section near the bottom with soft, crumbly slopes. This made it a bit too exciting for my liking, as my vertigo is under tenuous control when descending. We had to retrace our steps and sidle to the east side of Gorge Hill where the descent to the river was quite easy.



Figure 6. Heading to the Cave Stream exit—our entrance. Photo courtesy of Markus Kaufmann

The day had warmed up considerably and we were getting quite hot, so most of us had a dip or two in Broken River as we walked up the gorge, back to Cave Stream. Beautiful country and great views. The second part of the day ended much like the first part, with very wet but happy trampers. It was a very enjoyable trip.

Thank you **Wendy McCaughan, Mary McKeown, Markus Kaufmann and Kerry Moore** for the lovely trip and putting up with a very unfit leader, who had not been tramping in a long time. 🏔️ **Evelien Baas (leader)**



Figure 7. Emerging wet and triumphant. Photo courtesy of Markus Kaufmann

Cedar Flat - 6 – 8 February 2020

The last 400m of Middlebranch Road to the Kokatahi car-park has been scoured by floods so our Corolla, laden with four trampers scraped the road in a few places. Kevin and Heather were arriving later. By 11:30, we were walking through very green field. We said 'hello' to a big herd of beautiful yearling jersey cows, then onto a pedestrian gate and the track. At the start of the flood track, we decided on the low route and found that manageable. At the far end of the flood track, a formidable side stream made us hesitate and choose carefully which torrent to cross. The exit from the flood track looked difficult.

We got to the hut by late afternoon, taking more than the suggested 3½ hours. A couple arrived soon after with two dogs. We didn't object to the dogs being in the hut because they were very quiet and were search and rescue dogs so they deserved to be pampered! Later in the day, Kevin and Heather arrived to join our band. Very late in the day another group of eight arrived and divided themselves between the old hut and tents. They cooked dinner on the new hut's deck. Our dinner had been lentil spaghetti with a fresh leek and runner beans. The lentils went into the mix late so were quite chewy.

Cedar Flat Hut had a resident possum and an almost permanent possum trapper. Dave, a mine of local information, told us of a track to Allan Knob had been re-cut in the last year. We had thought of taking the track to Jumble-top, but the hut's wall-map says it's un-maintained. The track to the knob is steep in places and fairly rudimentary. From Allan Knob you can go to Crinkle Top and Pinnacle Bivvy then down to Boo Boo Hut on the Kokatahi River.

Back at the hut on the middle day the hut possum was wandering around in the daylight, a sign of ill-health. Dave's trap-line had produced only four possums that day so this hut possum would increase his tally by 20%. He would wait till we'd left the hut to do the execution.



Figure 8. The 'new' Cedar Flat hut. Photo courtesy of Murray Hight

During the day a young family had arrived to stay. While in the hut they played "hangman" and did a sudoku from the Press we'd taken in.

Over the three days we were there, we had ample time to visit the hot pool fifteen minutes away for a relaxing dip.

We aimed to exit the area on the Saturday so were up at 6am and away by 7:30. In fine weather and going down the Toharoa River we reached the cars in 4 hours, just as the rain started. Lunch was devoured on a picnic table just by Porky's Takeaways in Hokitika's Weld Street, then we were on our way back home. Many thanks to Murray for suggesting and running the trip.

We were: **Murray Hight, Mary McKeown, Kate Taylor, Kevin & Heather Hughes, Kerry Moore** 🏠 KM.

Magnet Bay – Saturday, 8 February 2020

A cool south wind made this a good day for the ups and downs required to reach the series of bays adjoining Birdlings Flat – Oashore, Tokoroa, Hikuraki and Magnet. The southerly swell made for some spectacular surf, crashing on the rocky shore.

Bustled along by our leader, Yvette, we didn't set foot on the beach or high-water driftwood pile of Oashore, but Kerry found a little piece of fishing net and plastic jerry-can to retrieve on the way back. The way out of Tokoroa Bay is quite steep, but a vehicle track took us a few hundred metres up-valley and got us on a useful sheep-track that led to another track and on to Hikuraki. Those sheep are masters of the gentle ascent. Hikuraki has a long sandy beach and is worth a closer look.

The cloud was thinning and the day warming as we descended a vehicle track into Magnet Bay. We ate lunch as we watched a seal casually swimming and surfers braving the rocks to take advantage of the southerly swell. Magnet Bay is accessible by road.

Our walk back to the cars took almost the same path as we'd used in the morning. Jill observed that she'd been on this walk before, but had never reached Magnet Bay. When we did the walk last summer we didn't make it all the way either. With Yvette cracking the whip, no dawdling is allowed.

Thank you for getting us all the way to Magnet Bay, Yvette!

We were: **Yvette So (leader)**, Jill Fenner, Joy Schroeder, Doug Forster, Sue Hely, Kyung Sang Lee, Youmie Kim, Danny Lee, Mary McKeown, Norman Burden and Kerry Moore 🏠 KM



Figure 9. The 'Baywatch' people. Photo courtesy of Kerry Moore