



## October 2022



<b>PTC</b>	Affiliate of Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ (Inc.)
<b>Postal Address</b>	The Secretary, PTC, PO Box 10167, Phillipstown, Christchurch 8145
<b>Web address</b>	<a href="http://www.ptc.nz">www.ptc.nz</a>
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:secretary@ptc.nz">secretary@ptc.nz</a>
<b>Facebook name</b>	Peninsula Tramping Club Christchurch
<b>Correspondence</b>	All correspondence to the Secretary, including change of contact details

Committee					
<b>Trip Planner 1</b>	Diane Mellish	337 5530	<b>Editor</b>	Kerry Moore	359 5069
<b>Trip Planner 2</b>	Alison Maccoll	322 8540	<b>Gear Custodian</b>	Evelien Baas	027 557 5521
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mike Bourke	332 7097	<b>Committee</b>	Bridget O'Regan	338 4785
<b>Secretary</b>	Merv Meredith	322 7239	<b>Committee</b>	Dan Pryce	027 384 7065

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

### Our Club

The PTC caters for people of all ages who tramp for recreation. We run trips regularly, ranging from 'easy' to 'hard', day trips to long weekends. In addition to the monthly club meeting, a variety of social events are held every month.

Club Nights	
Club Nights are held on the <b>second Tuesday</b> of the month at <b>Oxford Terrace Baptist Church Hall, 286 Oxford Terrace (corner of Madras St and Oxford Terrace)</b> at 7.45pm. Doors open 7.30pm.	
<b>Tuesday 11 Oct</b>  <b>Hato Hone St John</b>	<b>3 STEPS FOR LIFE</b> Delivered by Volunteer Community Educators, this programme is a free one-hour session and consists of public awareness sessions of basic CPR and AED (automated external defibrillator) training. It gives participants the skills and confidence to respond to someone in cardiac arrest by ① Calling 111, ② Starting CPR and ③ Using an AED.
<b>Tuesday 8 Nov</b> 	<b>ATMOSPHERIC ODDITIES</b> What connects the aurora, the Vatican, laughing gas, whistlers, Eunice Foote, sprites, cosmic rays and degeneracy? <b>Graham Townsend</b> will connect the dots for us in this illustrated, hands-on wander through assorted fun bits of atmospheric science. You will even see some relevance to our outdoor pursuits.

## Social Events



**Tuesday 18 Oct**

### October Social Walk and Dinner

Enjoy a spring walk in the Shirley area with local, Stan Wilder as guide. Meet 6pm at the Fox & Ferret, Palms Shopping Mall, 1 New Brighton Road, Shirley. There is plenty of parking in front of the Fox & Ferret. Dinner at **7pm at the Fox & Ferret.**

Menu at <https://www.foxpalms.co.nz/menu.html>

Please let Margot know if you are plan to dine, by Sunday 16 October.

[margot.bowden@gmail.com](mailto:margot.bowden@gmail.com)

03 332 7020

## NOTES

### Notice Of Special General Meeting

#### To Consider Proposed Increases to Subscriptions for the 2023 Year

At the **Special General Meeting** the Executive will unanimously recommend the following:

That our annual subscriptions for the 2023 year each be increased by \$5:

Electronic membership      Increase from \$35 to \$40

Hardcopy membership      Increase from \$50 to \$55

The rationale for this proposal is:

The ongoing operating loss in the club accounts year by year has been noted with contributing factors including:

1. A slow, steady reduction in membership numbers
2. Increasing cost of postage year by year

**The SGM will commence PROMPTLY at 7.30pm prior to the normal 11 October club night.**

A motion to the above effect will be put by our Treasurer, Mike Bourke and seconded by Kerry Moore Merv Meredith, [secretary@ptc.nz](mailto:secretary@ptc.nz)

**For Sale:** 2 Thule ProRide 591 Roof racks. They've had minimal use. \$200 each. Barbara 027 447 8183

## TRIPS

**8 Oct**

**Saturday**

### [Wild Cattle Hill](#)

**Kerry Moore 359 5069**

- Easy-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.  
**Meet 8am Cashmere Rd, opp PMH**

**15-16 Oct**

**Sat-Sun**

### [Princess Bath](#)

**Merv Meredith 322 7239**

- A moderate-hard trip to this big tarn and nearby 2126m Mt Princess. We'll stay in Hanmer or beyond on the Friday afternoon or evening. Using the Maling Pass track we climb to 1572m then east of 1902m to base ourselves at Princess Bath. With a light pack we can climb Mt Princess the same day. Sunday is then a short day's walk out. Take an ice-axe, crampons and helmet. The club has helmets to lend.  
**Book by 9 Oct**

- 16 Oct**  
**Sun**  
● [Tiromoana Bush](#)  
**Awaiting leader**  
Easy coastal trip east of Waipara, through bush and wetlands to a remote beach. Great views to Pegasus Bay and Banks Peninsula. Nice walk and pleasant day out.  
**Meet 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St.**
- 22-26 Oct**  
**Sat-Wed**  
●●●●● [Mt Arthur Tablelands](#)  
**Angela Grigg 027 578 9743**  
A moderate tour of the Mt Arthur tablelands including Mt Arthur, Mt Peel and the caves. Probably camping with a Friday afternoon departure - 4 days tramping.  
**Book by 15 Oct**
- 22 Oct**  
**Saturday**  
● [Diamond Harbour - Charteris Bay](#)  
**Hilaire Campbell 022 085 9501**  
We can take the launch to Diamond Harbour for this easy harbourside track to Church Bay and Charteris Bay.  
**Meet at Lyttelton ferry wharf to catch the 8.50am ferry**
- 29-30 Oct**  
**Sat-Sun**  
●● [Avalanche Peak--Crow Hut](#)  
**John Cook 384 1710**  
A popular crossing from Arthurs Pass village to the Crow River via 1833m Avalanche Peak. We'll probably need ice-axe and crampons.  
**Book by 23 Oct**
- 30 Oct**  
**Sun**  
● [Bealey Spur](#)  
**Dan Pryce 027 384 7065**  
An easy-moderate walk above the Bealey settlement to a historic hut, with beautiful views of many peaks in the national park.  
**Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**
- 5-6 Nov**  
**Sat-Sun**  
●● [Cass Saddle--Lagoon Saddle](#)  
**Graeme Nicholas 027 504 7726**  
A classic trip starting at Cass and heading over Cass Saddle. Staying overnight at Hamilton Hut then heading up the Harper River, over Lagoon Saddle and out to SH73.  
**Book by 30 Oct**
- 6 Nov**  
**Sun**  
● [Scotts Saddle from Awa Awa Rata Reserve](#)  
**Sue Piercey 384 9567**  
An easy-moderate day from Awa Awa Rata Reserve on Scotts Saddle Track in the Mt Hutt Range.  
**Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**
- 11-14 Nov**  
**Fri-Mon**  
●●●● [Danseys Pass to Kurow Ridge Traverse](#)  
**Diane Mellish 027 413 6468**  
From the top of Danseys Pass, traverse over Mts Kyeburn, Cone, Grayson, Domett and te Kohurau, dropping down to Kurow through the Awakino skifield.  
**Book early 27 October**
- 13 Nov**  
**Sun**  
● [City and Red Zone meander](#)  
**Awaiting leader**  
Come and wander about the city and red zone and see what is happening.

- 19-21 Nov** [Carroll Hut - Dillon Hut](#)  
**Sat-Mon** **Awaiting leader**  
 ●●● From near Otira, a short steep, moderate forest climb to stay at Carroll Hut just above the bush-line. On day 2 we cross Kelly Range and descend to stay at Dillon Hut on the Taipo River.  
**Book by 13 Nov**
- 20 Nov** [Mt Bradley circuit](#)  
**Sun** **Norman Burden 021 0228 9141**  
 ● Starting at Orton Bradley Park, heading to Packhorse Hut for morning tea then the ridge connecting Mt Herbert and Mt Bradley and back down to Orton Bradley Park.  
**Meet 8am Cashmere Rd, opp PMH**
- 26-28 Nov** [Travers Rr--Sunset Saddle--Lake Angelus](#)  
**Sat-Mon** **Kerry Moore 359 5069**  
 ●●● Moderate tramp to this alpine gem in Nelson Lakes National Park. A clockwise circuit to Hopeless Hut, then over Sunset Saddle to Lake Angelus, staying in or near Angelus Hut which needs to be booked--\$30. Exiting via Speargrass Flat.  
**Book by 19 Nov**
- 27 Nov** [Cass River - Point 1912](#)  
**Sun** **Merv Meredith 322 7239**  
 ● A moderate-hard trip in the Black Range. Starting up the Cass River Track to Long Valley Stream, sidle the waterfall on the TR and circle around the head of the basin up to peak 1912m for views all around. Then a great scree run back down to the track and out.  
**Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**
- 3 Dec** [John Brown's Tomb](#)  
**Saturday** **Graeme Nicholas 027 504 7726**  
 ● An easy-moderate exploration of this North Canterbury farmland to find John Brown's Tomb. Who was he and why is he buried there?  
**Meet 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St**
- 10-11 Dec** [Rough Creek--Lake Christabel](#)  
**Sat-Sun** **Dan Pryce 027 384 7065**  
 ●● A moderate trip up Rough Creek near Lewis Pass to Lake Christabel Hut.  
**Book by 4 Dec**
- 11 Dec** [Mt Enys from Porters Lodge](#)  
**Sun** **Peter Umbers 359 9118**  
 ● We're using the Porters Ski Road to do some of the climbing onto the main Craigieburn ridge heading for 2194m Mt Enys via points 1997, 1961, 2029, 2040. Take ice axe and crampons.  
**Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**

### **Hanmer Base                      2 – 4 September 2022**

Back to Hanmer, this time for a spring base, later in the year than previous bases and snowless. It still proved to be a good time to be there. In past years our Hanmer bases stayed at the Hanmer Springs Forest Camp but these days (since 2019) we have a good system of closing numbers early, then shopping for a holiday home to suit our team. This time we booked a nice two-storey timber house in St James Ave, very handy to the centre of town. Glenda and I arrived about 3.30pm Friday and opened the house up to air on a rather lovely afternoon. What we hadn't picked was that the only heating was the log-burner, so it fell to me to chop kindling and split logs with their blunt axe.

Base trips are usually interesting logistical exercises and this wasn't any different when it came to transport. Car-pooling was limited. Anyway, we ended up with our full complement there on Friday and Saturday nights, which made for a sociable weekend. On the Friday night some of us made our evening meals, while others supported the local food industry.

The forecast for the weekend was looking so-so—maybe cloudy with a nor-wester on Saturday, then sunnier but a stronger nor-wester on Sunday. So, on Saturday we ruled out anywhere up-wind such as over Jacks Pass to walk up to Fowler Pass, then climb Mt Seymour. Or even more westerly on Dumblane. Instead, we drove up Jollies Pass Road to the corner beyond the Trust Camp and started walking at 9am, up the road to the pass. From Jollies Pass we took the ridge track to Isobel. As we climbed the cloud blew away but then a series of misty, damp clouds came down-valley from the west, each with its own rainbow.



*Approaching Mt Isobel*





We reached the 1319m top at 12.20pm and chose a lunch spot out of the wind. Most of us had finished lunch as light rain prompted a move. We staggered along the exposed ridge in a strong nor-wester with sleet stinging our faces. It was a relief to divert down the eroded Dog Stream Track, away from the breeze. Clarence Valley Road connected nicely with Pawsons Road. On previous tramps there, I failed to find a good connection from Pawsons Rd to the town. This time we seemed to be doing the same again—too many bike tracks! But from a junction we took a track going sharp right to travel west that took us back past the wetlands and on to the walkway. That took us out exactly to Caverhill Close at 3:30, just up from St James Ave. John then took the drivers back along Jollies Pass Road to retrieve their cars.

Then came the joys of a base camp, a hot shower and cuppa, followed by a visit to the hot pools by a number and later, the usual Saturday evening base feast, thanks to everyone's contributions. Starting off with drinkies and nibbles after 6pm and finishing off with Kim's carrot cake.

Sunday's weather looked as forecast, sunny but nor-west, so a full day excursion seemed unlikely. Instead, we did the clean-up and went our separate ways by 9.30am. Sue and Mark drove to Kaikoura to visit family, Glenda and Merv went to check-out the current situation with three local tramping access points. Everyone else also did some short walks on the way home that you would not normally stop at—the restored Hurunui Bluffs fire lookout over the former plantation, the Maori rock drawings near Waikari, and the Weka Pass Frog Rock. How about that!

Glenda and Merv checked Chatterton Rd which leads to the track up to Jacks Pass—definitely 4WD at present. Also, Rogerson Track, west around the bottom to the old reservoir. The track beyond seems clearer



than previously but has now been ripped up by 4WD's. It may be better in summer. Away from Hanmer, on Leslie Hills Rd we checked a farm that had previously given permission for a walk on the Amuri Range. Driving to Waiau, we stopped at a very sheltered spot for lunch in the Riverside Reserve at Rotherham.

So, our base trampers went on no big expeditions but had a very enjoyable two days. We were: **Kim Ashmore, Sonya Donaldson, Wendy McCaughan, Glenda & Merv Meredith (leader), Kerry Moore, Sue & Mark Piercey and John Robinson.** 🌲 MM



*The Hurunui River from the former lookout*



*The site of Maori Rock drawings near Waikari*



## Misty Peaks, Akaroa Skyline

4 September 2022

It was a fine sunny morning as nine enthusiastic folk drove up to the top car park on Stony Bay Road. Much of this zest evaporated when we stepped out of the cars into a biting wind. Some of us wondered if wearing shorts had been a good idea, while others filched clothes from the unwary. Thankfully Mike's pep talk was short and we were soon on our way along the sheltered first section of the Skyline Walk, following a wide grassy track. We had fine views of Akaroa Harbour and soon reached the point where the track descends slightly and looks out onto the ocean bays. The track remained wide and had enough ups and downs to keep us warm. There was some minor damage from the July rains and a profuse growth of flowering gorse.

We made good time to the top of Lighthouse Road where the wind was not as strong as expected. We enjoyed lunch and photo opportunities. Lacking a teaspoon, Dan had to stir his drink with his sunglasses.



Well fed, we retraced our steps until we reached a sign stating 'Mt Brasenose 1 hour return'. Some wag had scratched 'Goat Track' on it, but we still followed Mike through the tall tussock and scrub. Poles and tags of blue cloth led us up to rocky sections and finally the summit of Brasenose at 785m. From there we had fine views of the harbour and ocean bays. We continued onwards into pine forest and followed an old trail close to the ridge-top, clambering over a few fallen trees along the way. This allowed us to avoid the ups and downs of our morning route and returned us to the Skyline Track at a sunny, flat spot. Most of us opted to walk up to the summit of Flag Peak (809m) while others sunbathed. It was an easy walk up with just a few spaniards to navigate through. Once again, we had fine views, particularly of Childrens Bay, Pompeys Pillar and even Pegasus Bay in the distance.





Some of us were keen to look at the relatively new Aylmer Track which descends to Aylmers Valley Road. Three kindly folk volunteered to drive the cars to the bottom car park and six of us set off on a wide, grassy track just beneath the summit pine forest. It was something of a rude shock when the poles pointed us down a steep ridge, then into the valley below. Thankfully recent nor-west winds had dried out the grass and most of the mud, which would have made the descent tricky. Two CCC rangers created this track, which, as I read later, Suky Thompson of the BP Trust recommends to walk uphill. Close to the bottom, we entered native bush and investigated the nearby Newton's waterfall before reaching the cars around 4.30pm.

We were: **Mike Bourke (leader), Graham Townsend, Chris Leaver, Tim Hines, Andrea Goebel, Dan Pryce, Joy Schroeder, Gavin Chalk and Sue Britain** 🏔️ SB

## **Mount Plenty—Ghost Creek Waterfall      Saturday 10 September 2022**

Five in Graeme's car parked in a big off-road car park on the west bank of the Porter River and headed downstream on broad boulder-strewn flats. Eventually we had to wash our socks and cross to connect with Ghost Creek. It is a ghost in that it's invisible in some lower reaches as it travels through the gravel. When scrub allowed, we diverted to climb on tussock-land to reach a spur that took us all the way up Mt Plenty. Further up the spur we started to see the occasional pine tree which Doug quickly sawed through. All the others could do was act as spotters. On 1459m Mt Plenty we had lunch in a gentle breeze and full sunshine, with minimal snow around us.

On the way down we went a little further east, on the same spur and came upon lots of pines, some of them pullable. Doug had a field-day cutting and still managed to catch us up as we looked for a safe way into Ghost Creek. We picked our way down a steep 40m section of scrub and gravel and headed up-stream in search of the waterfall many know about, though few have seen. The 1 hour walk to this secluded fall was worth it.

We reached the car at 5pm, the ignition key activated myriad lights and dials on the car but the very demanding starter motor was unmoved. Oh dear. Jumper leads came out but there was nothing available to connect to. Graeme went up to the main road and waved the leads at passing motorists. Within five minutes a kind gent in a small Honda stopped and provided 12 volts and many amps to activate the demanding diesel engine. With cheers and profuse thanks to the good Samaritan we were on our way, with definitely no stops on the way home. A good day out with **Graeme Nicholas leading, Doug Woods, Shi Ping Wang, John Robinson and Kerry Moore.** 🏔️ KM



*The team pretend to bag this trophy but Doug was doing the hard work*



*Spring snow on the Craigieburns with Castle Hill Basin below*





## Boyle Flat – Faust

24-25 September 2022

Our four set off from Chch at the reasonable time of 8am, heading for Boyle Village and was tramping in chilly conditions at eleven. On the true-right cows must have mis-read the 'one at a time' sign at the foot bridge as 'poop on the track here' and we had to tread carefully to avoid their deposits. They had also pugged the track so we were avoiding sections that were muddier than usual too. The day warmed up so we needed a big cuppa to replenish lost water by the time we arrived at the Boyle Flat Hut, just after 3pm. This was a three-day weekend to commemorate the passing of Queen Elizabeth, so we thought the hut would be well used. To our surprise we were the only hut occupants and our tents became redundant extra baggage. DoC had been working on the track in the area and the hut too was very [spick and span](#).

At 6pm (GMT+12) Merv set to, assembling his specialty meal with fresh ginger, pumpkin seeds and broccoli on rice. It's a real achievement to cook rice with an MSR all-or-nothing stove. The finished product was relished by all and the rice pot didn't need a pneumatic drill to clean it.

New, thicker and softer mattresses in the hut contributed to a restful night for weary trampers and we were up at first light. Wakeful people would have heard rain overnight. Some had changed their watches, or mindset, to the new improved, maximised daylight time but there was dispute for the rest of the day as to what time it was. To avoid contention let us settle on our hut departure time of, first light plus 2 hours.

Uphill exertion on this well-marked forest track overcame the chilly, overcast day but at the bush-line a cool breeze had us adding a layer again. Snow on shaded slopes higher up was easy to avoid, so our crampons were just passengers.

We reached the bush-line above Boyle Village at 2:30 and sat a while in warm sun. Another hour had us back to the settlement. An excellent trip with **Merv Meredith leading, Myles McCauley, Keith Hoard and Kerry Moore.** 🏔️ KM



*Looking back to Boyle Flat. Keith grabs a snack.*





*Keith examines a tiny ice sculpture. See inset in photo above. Mephistopheles behind.*