



November 2022

PTC	Affiliate of Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ (Inc.)
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Committee					
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Treasurer	Mike Bourke	332 7097	Committee	Bridget O'Regan	338 4785
Secretary	Merv Meredith	322 7239	Committee	Dan Pryce	027 384 7065
			Committee	Graeme Nicholas	027 504 7726

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

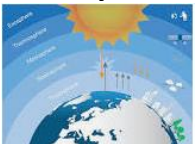
Our Club

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

Tuesday 8 Nov



ATMOSPHERIC ODDITIES

What connects the aurora, the Vatican, laughing gas, whistlers, Eunice Foote, sprites, cosmic rays and degeneracy? **Graham Townsend** 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.

Tuesday 13 Dec



CHRISTMAS FRIVOLITY

Enjoy a Christmas quiz and super supper on our last club night of the year. **Bring a plate** of supper food.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Tuesday 22 November

Social Walk and Dinner

Leaving from Longhurst commercial area we walk through **Murphys Reserve to Quaifes Road, Springlands Reserve**, a regenerating wetlands area.

Dining at 7pm at **Supa Panda Restaurant**, 2/1 Hamill Road, Longhurst, Halswell.

For the menu see: <https://supapandaonline.co.nz>

Meet at 6pm in [Hamill Road](#) near the Caulfield Avenue intersection.

Please let Margot know if you plan to dine, by Sunday 20 Nov.

margot.bowden@gmail.com

03 332 7020

NOTES

We are pleased to welcome **Graeme Nicholas** onto the PTC committee. Graeme is an enthusiastic and capable trumper and biker and will bring new ideas to the club.

St John First-Aid follow-up

Some people at last month's club night asked the instructors if doing CPR on someone who has a weak, undetected heartbeat would do any damage. The instructors got a second opinion to confirm their response on the night. The answer is, no, it won't damage the heart but may break ribs. Provided you check for breathing and pulse, and to the best of your knowledge are not able to find either, CPR should be started. If the patient doesn't need it, they will show signs of life, eg resist or moan or move. So, you would then cease CPR but continue to monitor signs and symptoms.

Does Tramping Damage Your knees?

The item placed [here](#) suggests that running strengthens knees, so we may be justified in thinking that tramping knees will be similarly helped.

An audio item broadcast on RNZ in July also addresses knee health. Available [here](#).

Your opinions are welcome.

TRIPS

6 Nov

[Scotts Saddle from Awa Awa Rata Reserve](#)

Sun

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

11-13 Nov

[Carroll Hut - Dillon Hut](#)

Fri-Sun

Kevin & Heather Hughes 332 6281 or ptc@nivek.co.nz

●●●

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. At the same time an easy-moderate trip to Carroll Hut with a day exploring the tops and returning to Kellys car park

Book by 6 Nov

- 11-13 Nov** [Taramakau Rr--Townsend Hut--Koropuku Hut](#)
Fri-Sun **Kerry Moore 359 5069**
 ●●● A moderate-hard trip up the Taramakau to Townsend Hut and over to secluded Koropuku Hut.
Book by 6 Nov
- 13 Nov** [City and Red Zone meander](#)
Sun **Awaiting leader**
 ● Come and wander about the city and red zone and see what is happening.
- 20 Nov** [Mt Bradley Circuit](#)
Sun **Awaiting leader**
 ● Starting at Orton Bradley Park, heading to Packhorse Hut on the Falkner Track then onto Te Ara Pataka Walkway to the head of Orton Bradley Park and down to the cars.
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, sidling the waterfall on the TR and circling around the head of the basin, up to peak 1912m for views all around. Then a great scree run down to the track and out.
Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd
- 3 Dec** [John Browns 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
- 4 Dec** [Banks Peninsula traverse](#)
Sun **Merv Meredith 322 7239**
 ● A moderate hike, with two groups. One group will go from Purau Saddle on the Monument Track and on to Te Ara Pataka Track, all the way to Pettigrews Road. The second group will go in the reverse direction. Take lots of water.
Meet 8am Cashmere Rd, opp PMH Hackthorne Rd end
- 10-11 Dec** [Lake Christabel](#)
Sat-Sun **Dan Pryce 027 384 7065**
 ●● An easy-moderate walk from Palmers Road alongside this large lake to stay at Lake Christabel Hut.
Book by 4 Dec

- 11 Dec** [The Pyramid](#)
Sun **Peter Umbers 359 9118**
● A moderate climb of The Pyramid in Arthurs Pass NP, with a scree descent to the Hawdon River.
Meet 7am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd
- 17-19 Dec** [Black Hill--Chest Peak](#)
Sat-Mon **Awaiting leader**
●●● Moderate trip to this hut in Oxford Forest. Three days, so we have a full day for a side trip to Chest Peak. Less energetic people could be content with a walk to the top of 1300m Black Hill.
Book by 11 Dec
- 18 Dec** **End of Year Picnic**
Sun **A lazy day near Christchurch. Details to come.**
- 22-26 Dec** [Christmas Base](#)
Thur-Mon **mothompson1212@gmail.com 021 266 5778**
●●●●● Maureen T will be at the Totaranui DoC camp 22-26 December. If anyone fancies a beach Christmas you'll be welcome. \$15 a night. Book online BUT it's fully booked after 26 December. BYO everything. We'll organise a potluck Christmas dinner. In the past we've camped near Zone L so we'll try to get a spot there.
- 31 Dec-4 Jan** [North Otago, South Canterbury Beauty Spots](#)
Sat- Thurs **Diane Mellish 027 413 6468**
●●●●●● Visiting the Ahuriri and Ohau areas, possibly Mt Cook area. Load-carrying for only 2 nights at a time. Camping in valleys and exploring up higher with a lighter day pack. Lots of options depending on weather and river flows.
Book by 24 Dec
- 7-8 Jan** [Ashburton Gorge](#)
Sat-Sun **Awaiting leader**
●● An easy-moderate overnight exploration of the Ashburton Gorge.
Meet 8am Cashmere Rd, opp PMH, Hackthorne Rd end
- 8 Jan** [Lucas Peak - Scenery Nook](#)
Sun **Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905**
● Easy-moderate tramp over Peninsula farmland, via 380m Lucas Peak to Timutimu Head, the western head of Akaroa Harbour. Eat lunch while watching the seals and birdlife at Scenery Nook.
Meet 8am Cashmere Rd, opp PMH

TRIP REPORTS

Halswell Quarry--Crater Rim--Cracroft Caverns Reserve Saturday 8 October 2022

The Sugarloaf Hills sector of the Christchurch 360 Trail is 18km long, so our nine chose to shorten it and go from Halswell Quarry to the Sign of the Kiwi, then down the Harry Ell track to Princess Margaret Hospital. Two carloads parked outside the quarry's single men's quarters and headed on this cold, windy morning up the

track which gives the walker great views into the former quarry. Excellent lookout points with information boards gave us a good idea of how the quarry operated.

Mountain bikers passed us as they struggled up the Kennedys Bush Track. Once on the crater rim we were relieved to be sheltered from the NE wind by native tree plantings and the prolific gorse and broom. There are other tracks along the Crater Rim to lead the unwary astray but sharp-eyed trampers kept us on track. We arrived at the Sign of the Kiwi at noon and on this sunny Saturday, joining the masses of people there for lunch. The Harry Ell track is in trees and in the lea of the NE wind, so was a warmer walk. At the Sign of the Takahe we walked down Dyers Pass Road to Hackthorne Road and with guidance from Mary we turned sharply onto Lady Polson Lane. The two of us leading at the time had missed it. The lane led us into Cracroft Caverns Reserve and though we looked around, hoping to see where the caverns were, we are none the wiser.

Back at PMH, Mary took the drivers to the quarry to retrieve their cars and most of us would have been home by 3pm. A good little work-out for: **Doug Forster, Helen Harkness, Kyung Sang Lee, Joy Schroeder, Graeme Nicholas, Sonya Donaldson, Mary McKeown, Wendy Templeton and Kerry Moore** 🏔️ KM



Eight of the team of nine in an avenue of bloomin' gorse



The harbour on a breezy day

Diamond Harbour – Charteris Bay

Saturday 22 October 2022

It was perfect walking weather with no wind and mild temperatures—better than the scorcher we had for this trip a year ago. Five enthusiastic PTCers showed up—a manageable number for a novice leader. We started up the hill from the Diamond Harbour wharf at 9.30am, passing joggers, shops and toilets (always worth noting) for what's been described as the perfect half-day circuit. We took five hours, including morning tea stops and lunch.

A short bush-track off Marine Drive led us to the hilly Bayview back road. Dawdling, it took us an hour or so, to reach the topiary kiwi, some live quails and beautiful views to the alps in the distance. Crossing Marine Drive again at the end of Bayview Rd, we found the way down to Charteris Bay Yacht Club and the beach where we ate and drank and sorted the world, as wise old heads are wont to do. From Charteris Bay we followed a shady tree-lined track above the beach and boat sheds to Hays Bay. This is a nice shelly beach where some of our people took a dip last year, but not this year.

To get around Black Point, we skirted rocks and then climbed up a bit of a slip to regain the track which was railed off and being repaired. Next stop, Church Bay at noon—more feasting, more talk, mainly about the social benefits of belonging to PTC and Pegasus, and how much we used to enjoy the annual barn-dance.

The last one-hour stretch on a winding track was very shaded in parts, then opened out to the sea and cliffs, covered in yellow-flowering boneseed and red valerian. There's even a desert-sized cactus. By 2.10pm we were at the Diamond Harbour Eatery for coffee and good-sized ice creams, with plenty of time to meet the next ferry to Lyttelton. This was a happy day out in the company of **Mary McKeown, Stuart Payne, Graeme Nicholas, John Robinson and Hilaire Campbell (leader)**. 🏔️ HC



Four of five, parking on a yellow line



The dawdlers. Two obliging kiwi posers, Graeme wanders, Mary wonders, could the gorse be cut into an animal shape?



Hays Bay. No swimming today



Stuart flying a flag of convenience



Our clockwise circuit. Long-term, the Coastal Cliffs Track will be part of the Head to Head Walkway.