



June 2024

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

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Treasurer	Mike Bourke	332 7097	Committee	Karen Fincham	027 554 0110
Secretary	Merv Meredith	322 7239	Committee	Graeme Nicholas	027 504 7726

New Member Enquiries: Contact Derek Gane, ph 03 337 8264, or Irene, 021 166 3586, to request an info pack. You will also receive three free newsletters. If you can't reach them, call any committee member.

Our Club

Peninsula Tramping Club (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.

Tue 11 June



Back Country Trust Hut Restoration

In January a PTC work party led by Mike Bourke helped finish restoration work on Griffin Creek Hut. Then in February a PTC crew helped on a major job on Yeats Ridge Hut, inland from Hokitika. All this was coordinated by **Ollie Clifton** of the BCT. Ollie is coming to talk to us about the bigger picture of the trust's funding and work over the last ten years on huts that would otherwise become derelict. With volunteer help BCT has restored and maintained many huts and bivs.

Tue 9 July



Hiking adventure in Greenland

Linda Lillburne and two friends planned and organised a hiking trip to South Greenland that involved pack-rafting, dramatic views that easily compensated for the midges, dodging a polar bear and bush bashing in a country that is tree-less!

NOTES

PLBs: People with PLBs should remember to do a battery check on their device before they take it into the wild. The maker of the KTi SA2G suggests once a month. KTi also says you can do a more elaborate test of its ability to contact satellites. Their instructions for the KTi SA2G model can be found [here](#)

TRIPS

- 8-9 Jun** **Pinchgut Hut**
Sat-Sun **Awaiting leader**
●● An easy-moderate trip up the Okuku River through kanuka and beech forest to this recently refurbished hut.
Book by 2 June
- 8-13 June** **Heaphy Track**
Sat-Thurs **Kerry Moore 359 5069**
●●●●●● A great walk completed out of season. Travel through expansive tussock downs, lush forests and nīkau palms to the roaring seas of the West Coast. Staying at Perry Saddle, Saxon, James Mackay and Heaphy Huts.
Book by 26 May
- 9 Jun** **Mt Aitken--Mt O'Malley**
Sun **Laurayne Robb 021 619 718**
● 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.
Meet 7am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd
- 16 Jun** **Mt Charon--Dumblane**
Sun **Peter Umbers 359 9118**
● A moderate trip to the summit of Mt Charon from Jacks Pass, also taking in the peak simply named Dumblane.
Meet 7am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St
- 16 Jun** **Packhorse Hut from Kaituna Valley**
Sun **Wendy Wallace 027 841 2051**
● An easy-moderate walk from Kaituna Valley to Packhorse Hut
Meet 8.30am at Halswell Library Carpark, near the Old Vicarage.
- 15-16 Jun** **Edwards Hut--Williams Saddle**
Sat-Sun **Awaiting leader**
●● A moderate round-trip to Edwards Hut then over 1327m Williams Saddle and returning down the Mingha River. The Edwards River is a good spot to see blue ducks
Book by 9 June
- 22 Jun** **Red Hill from Porters Road**
Sat **Graeme Nicholas 027 504 7726**
● A moderate trip to this 1641m peak between Lake Lyndon Road and Porter Heights. Probable snow on top so an ice axe may be helpful.
Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd

28-30 Jun

Fri-Sun

●●●

Moana Base

Chris Leaver 322 6445 or newptc75@gmail.com

Walks include Mt Te Kinga or as far as the lookout (3hr return), Carew falls, Jacks Mill school—a miniature bungalow—built by children in 1940.

Pot luck one night. Hotel meal one night.

Book by 18 June

1 July

Monday

7.30pm

TRIP PLANNING

All club members are invited to plan the club's trips for the next twelve months.

If you have day or overnight trips you'd like to do, or suggestions on how the club can improve its trips, come along and have your say.

One suggestion is to run easy day-trips during the week. The committee is keen to hear what members want. The meeting, with supper, will be at 7.30pm, Monday 1 July at 300a Memorial Avenue.

7 July

Sun

●

Woolshed Hill

Awaiting leader

From Hawdon Valley Campsite to this 1429m summit, an elevation gain of 800m.

Meet 7am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd

6-7 July

Sat-Sun

●●

Youngman Stream Hut—Lilburne Hill

Kerry Moore 359 5069

Easy-moderate tramp to Youngman Stream Hut in the upper Ashley River. We will exit via Lilburne Hill and Tarn Hut.

Book by 30 June

14 July

Sun

●

John Britten Reserve--Mt Pleasant

Awaiting leader

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 9am at track start

28 July

Sun

●

Waipara Wine Trail

Evelien Baas 027 557 5521

A pleasant walk around the vineyards of Waipara with opportunities to visit tasting rooms and enjoy the local hospitality.

Meet 9am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St

27-30 July

Fri-Mon

●●●●

Whataroa Rr--Butler Junction Hut--Ice Lake

Raymond Ford fordrm@snap.net.nz or 022 318 0872

A fairly rugged, moderate walk to Butler Hut then to Top Butler and the very scenic Ice Lake.

Exact dates dependant on weather.

27-30 July

Sat-Tue

●●●●

Mt Arthur Tablelands Circuit

Awaiting leader

A popular moderate circuit in karst country. Rock shelters, an open tussock plateau and tops with superb views, combine to make this an interesting tramp.

Book by 21 July

3-4 Aug

Sat-Sun

●●

Boyle Flat Hut – Faust

Kerry Moore 359 5069

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

Book by 28 July

10-11 Aug

Sat-Sun

●●

Cass Saddle--Lagoon Saddle

Awaiting leader

A popular **moderate** circuit trip, overnighing in the good-sized Hamilton Hut. Mainly good track, through beech forest, two tussock saddles and grassy flats, with some small river crossings thrown in. Day two is a section of the Te Araroa.

Book by 4 Aug

TRIP REPORTS

Rabbit Hill Sunday 5 May 2024

Six of us left Christchurch on a cloudy morning with expectations of the cloud clearing later in the day, so were pleasantly surprised when the sun burst through near West Melton. We parked near Porters Pass and started the walk up the wide track winding up the first hill. I had grabbed my old gardening boots instead of tramping boots on the way out the door and they soon started to lose a sole. A repair with masking tape helped a little and the sole flapped but stayed on for the rest of the journey.

While we stopped for morning tea, a guy passed us carrying his mountain bike on his shoulders. I did not envy the ride down he faced on the steep, rocky bits. Around noon, after ups and downs along the ridge, we reached the summit. The wind dropped, so we basked in the sun over lunch. The track was busy and we met several fellow day-trippers with their mutts at the top. We were back at the cars by 3:15, hoping to get to Springfield before the cafe closed but had to settle for coffees at the Challenge store. We'd had a great day out and an introduction to a prospective member. We were: **Kathryn Marshall, Toyomi Furuta, Joy Schroeder, Dorota Giejsztowt, Berny and Graeme Nicholas.** 🏔️ GN





Casey Saddle—Binser Saddle 4–5 May 2024

A 7am start got us to Andrews Shelter on this frosty morning and walking a bit after 9am. The climb upwards through beech forest soon got us up to operating temperature. By lunchtime we were on a sunny, almost warm, Hallelujah Flat. Casey Saddle is not very conspicuous, but we noticed a slight change of slope angled towards the Poulter River and then some pronounced downslopes as we got back into forest. The stream flowing north from the saddle isn't Casey Stream but Surprise Stream. After just a few kilometres it shows as Casey Stream on the map. Walkers don't get to see much of it as the track goes high past point 869 to a useful spur. John and Derek waited for Wendy and Kerry at the old, pre 2015 Casey Hut site, then we walked a further twenty minutes to the new Casey Hut around the corner, well up from the Poulter River. It was 4.10pm, so we'd taken seven hours as predicted by the DoC sign at Andrews Shelter.



John snapped this from the car as we approached Mt White Bridge



The mother and daughter pair that left Andrews just before we did, appeared to be well settled in. Later, a very athletic couple arrived with very small packs. They left Andrews late-morning and galloped along. They carried summer-weight sleeping bags, so kept the fire stoked, wanting the hut to stay warm all night but admitted they were on the chilly side by morning. To encourage others on Kerry's trips to volunteer to plan the evening meal, he cooked an unambitious, uninspiring pasta and tuna meal, followed by custard, without customary gingernuts. The mother-daughter team cooked oyster mushrooms they'd found on the way in. They knew their fungi and were fully alive in the morning.

At 8am mother, daughter and our four, headed down the well-frosted, long Poulter 4WD, track. The valley was shrouded in patches of mist. The sun appeared over the hill and gloved hands became warm. A 12km walk got us to Pete Stream and up a series of steep tracks onto terraces, then into forest.



A few hardy wasps had decided to hang about as it wasn't cold enough to go to wasp heaven yet and wasp poison put out in numerous bait stations obviously wasn't tasty enough. All the stations were empty of fipronil-based vespex at this time of year. The whole circuit is well-covered with mustelid traps too and the traps may have helped kakariki survive in the Casey Stream area. Wendy saw one-such bird. Derek, Wendy and John stopped at a nice sunny spot for lunch while Kerry walked on to get ahead of the faster trio. Derek and John were first to finish the 600m climb to the saddle and after a stop at a nice sunny clearing, they headed towards the road. We were amazed to see bike tyre-tracks on the steep track that had Wendy and Kerry picking their way carefully on clay. Our two athletes made very good time to the car. They'd walked down, gone 2km along the road and were driving into the car-park before Wendy and Kerry reached the Mt White Road. We were: **Wendy McCaughan, John Robinson, Derek Gane and Kerry Moore** 🏔️ KM



Mt Lance

Sunday 26 May 2024

Three cars, each with four trampers, passed through Waikari and Hawarden and after a delay when one car charged past the turn onto Mt Virginia Road, we reached Double Tops Station. The road/track into the newly restored Tommys Cabin passes through rolling farm country and let us park very close to the building.

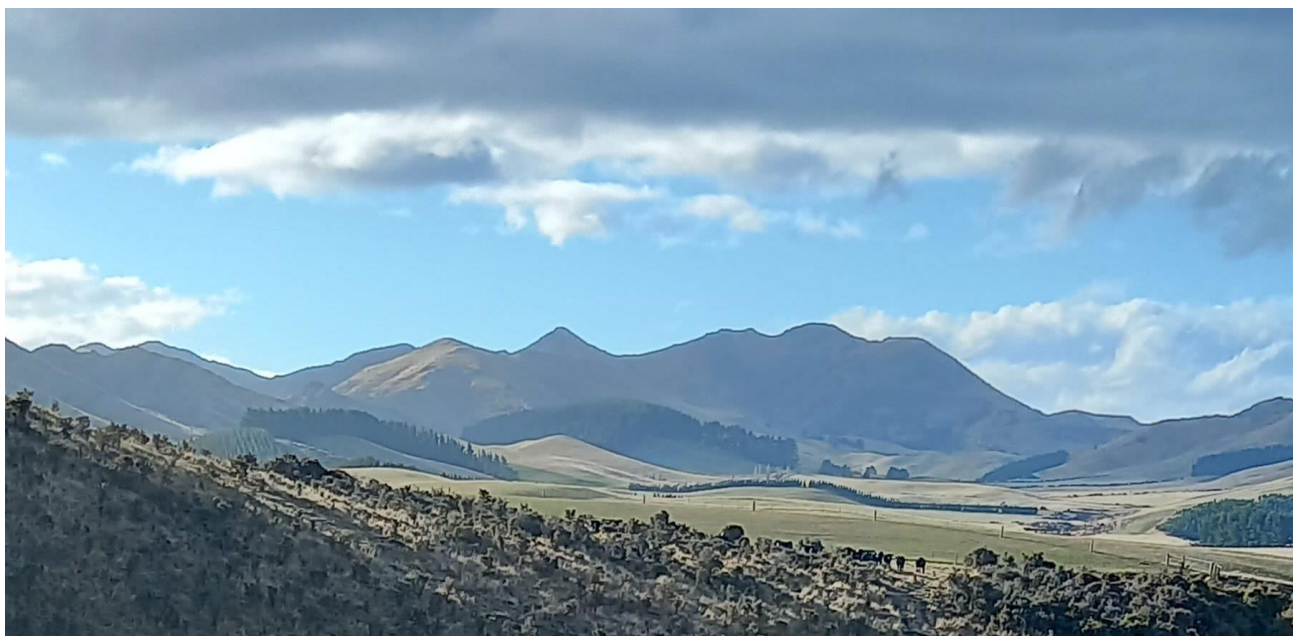
We set off over quite barren fields before climbing a hillside to point 578 and a 'smoko' stop. We had to descend to a saddle before climbing up to point 593 then a steady climb along a ridge to 778m Mt Lance for lunch in the sun. All retraced their steps part-way, then some went down a steep spur, while most went on to the saddle and down a farm track that led to Tommys Stream. The stream track led back to the cars.

The Waikari tearooms had a sudden flurry of trade as we arrived without noticing the 'closed' sign. They had forgotten to lock the door but were happy to dish out a quick round of ice-creams and we vacated the shop and headed home. This was a pleasant circuit that took us longer than expected

so we were able to have lunch at lunch-time. We were: **Peter Umbers, Doug Woods, Karen Fincham, Joy Schroeder, Gary of Rangiora, John Robinson (photo-snapper), Di Mellish, Ian Beale, Eileen Mackie, Heather Hughes, Jesse Pajwani and Kerry Moore** 🏔️ KM



Hard to miss, aye?



Looking towards Mt Mason as we follow the farm track back to the hut/cabin