



## September 2025

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

Committee					
<b>Trip Planner</b>	Sonja Risa	028 8517 3969	<b>Gear Custodian</b>	Evelien Baas	027 557 5521
<b>Treasurer</b>	Graeme Nicholas	027 504 7726	<b>Committee</b>		
<b>Secretary</b>	Committee		<b>Committee</b>		
<b>Editor</b>	Karen Fincham	027 554 0110	<b>Committee</b>		

**New Member Enquiries:** Please contact Derek Gane PH (03) 337-8264 or Irene PH 021-166-3586 for information. If you can't reach them, contact 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 9 September**



#### FORAGING IN NEW ZEALAND

Finding lunch outdoors if you have left your lunch box behind? Peter Langlands, intrepid outdoor naturalist, forager and conservation scientist, is our guest speaker tonight. He will have copies of his 2024 book *"Foraging New Zealand"* for sale.

**Tue 14 October**



#### THE LARAPINTA TRAIL IN CENTRAL AUSTRALIA

Mike Bourke has just completed a 13-day 200+km walk, along this popular trail, through undulating rocky terrain from Mt Sonder (1379m) eastwards towards Alice Springs (576m) and through parts of the West MacDonnell, Chewings and Heavitree Ranges. . . and in glorious winter sunshine.

## NOTES

### Welcomes and Goodbyes:

A warm welcome to another returning member, Murray Hight. We hope to meet you out on trips again and see you at club nights or social events. Thanks for stepping forward to offer to lead trips. 🏆

**FMC Backcountry Magazines:** These are now sent out as digital copies. Please, contact Mary McKeown at [marylmckeown@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:marylmckeown@yahoo.co.nz) 021 269 1165, if you would like a printed copy of the current and last edition of FMC's Backcountry magazine.

**FMC Cards:** We still have a number of unclaimed FMC cards. If you haven't already picked up your FMC card, come along to the club night and collect it or contact Graeme 027 504 7726 [gra.nicholas@gmail.com](mailto:gra.nicholas@gmail.com) to get one sent out you.

*We have made some additions to the PTC website, including a new member application form, a new easier mileage calculator form if you want to work out costs yourself, and a guide for leading day trips.*

## SOCIAL EVENTS

### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September: Downhill Mt Pleasant walk.

Meet at the cafe in Mitre 10 Mega on Ferry Road for coffee at about 9.45 am or earlier. Leave the cafe at 10.15 am to catch the 10.28 am Number 140 bus to the top of Major Hornbrook Road. It's an easy walk downhill on footpaths and via Old School Reserve and Bridle Path Road. Views and conversation guaranteed. Bring your bus card or cash.

Please contact Maureen by text or email 021-266-5778 or [mothompson1212@gmail.com](mailto:mothompson1212@gmail.com) if coming.

**For the most up-to-date information about Social Events**, check the **PTC website**, the **PTC Facebook page** and look out for messages from **PTC Communicator**. Maureen has been organising social events lately, but she welcomes help from others for daytime or evening social events. Please contact Maureen Thompson by phone or text **021-266-5778** or [mothompson1212@gmail.com](mailto:mothompson1212@gmail.com)

## TRIPS

**PLEASE NOTE: All proposals for trips, offers to lead, changes to trips or trip schedules MUST be directed to the trip planner, Sonja Risa, [sonja.risa@gmail.com](mailto:sonja.risa@gmail.com) who will review, make necessary changes to the trip schedule and inform members. We want to offer trips with ranges of difficulty so even if you haven't ventured out in a wee while, please consider leading an "easy" level trip for those members who need a less arduous or slower pace trip.**

*Although it hasn't been usual club practice, in future please contact the trip leader if you intend (or are just thinking about) going on a trip. This helps the trip leader with planning and you can be contacted directly if for some reason plans change or the trip is cancelled.*

6-7 Sep  
Sat-Sun

\*\*

### Mephistopheles Awaiting Leader

A moderate-hard snow trip in the Libretto Range, not far from Faust. It's 1736m so take an ice-axe and crampons. We'll make it an up-and-back so you won't be forced to reach the top.

- 7 Sep**  
**Sunday**  
\*  
**Le Bons Bay Circuit**  
**Kerry Moore**  
An easy-moderate walk from Le Bons Bay, up Lavericks Road, and along the ridge to Panama Rock. We descend on the dike track in Langer Reserve, then down Panama Road to Le Bons Bay Road.  
**Names to Kerry (03) 359-5069**
- 10 Sep**  
**Wednesday**  
\*  
**Mt Cloudsley**  
**Raymond Ford**  
A moderate day walk up this 2100m peak on the Craigieburn Range. Head up via Long Spur from behind Castle Hill Village. The weather forecast will determine which day we go. A mid-week trip either Wednesday 10 September or Thursday 11 September.  
Names to Raymond 022-318-0872 or [fordrm@snap.net.nz](mailto:fordrm@snap.net.nz). Book by 3<sup>rd</sup> September.  
Leaving Christchurch at 8.00am.
- 13-15 Sep**  
**Sat-Mon**  
\*\*\*  
**Edwards Hut--Tarn Col--Hawdon Hut**  
**Awaiting Leader**  
One of the popular Arthur's Pass National Park tramps. This moderate rated trip takes in the Hawdon and Edwards valleys, a couple of attractive alpine passes, an attractive alpine campsite and views of what's left of Falling Mountain.
- 13 Sep**  
**Saturday**  
\*  
**Mt Somers**  
**Awaiting Leader**  
A moderate trip starting at Staveley, climb up to the high point of Staveley Hill 1077m and traverse along the sub alpine south west route to Woolshed Creek Hut. Return via Pinnacles and Bowyer Stream to Staveley.
- 20-21 Sep**  
**Sat-Sun**  
\*\*  
**Camp Creek, Alexander Range**  
**Awaiting Leader**  
A moderate trip to the hut at the base of the Alexander Range east of Lake Brunner. Formerly rated easy-moderate but torrential rain changed the geography.
- 21 Sep**  
**Sunday**  
\*  
**Bealey Spur**  
**Graeme Nicholas**  
An easy-moderate walk up this spur above Waimakariri River with beautiful views of many peaks in the national park. Meet 8.00am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Road.  
**Names to Graeme 027-504-7726. Book by 14<sup>th</sup> September.**
- 23 Sep**  
**Tuesday**  
\*  
**Mt Cassidy, Arthurs Pass**  
**Raymond Ford**  
A moderate to hard walk up this peak, via Cons track. Depending on conditions, head to Blimit and possibly return via Temple Basin. The weather forecast will determine which day we go. Mid-week either Tuesday 23 September or Wednesday 24 September. Leaving Christchurch 7.00am.  
**Names to Raymond 022-318-0872 or [fordrm@snap.net.nz](mailto:fordrm@snap.net.nz). Book by 16<sup>th</sup> September.**
- 27 Sep**  
**Saturday**  
\*  
**Mt Torlesse**  
**Awaiting Leader**  
A popular moderate-hard snow trip to this near 2000m peak on the Torlesse Range. Walking up the Kowai River to the hut before the serious climbing begins. Though not tricky it is still a 1100m ascent from the hut. Ice axe and possibly crampons required.

- 27-28 Sep**  
**Sat-Sun**  
**\*\***
- Lake Sumner--Hope Kiwi** (rescheduled from August)  
**Graeme Nicholas 027-504-7726**  
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. A cross-over walk may be possible alongside Lake Sumner.  
**Names to Graeme 027-504-7726. Book by 20<sup>th</sup> September.**
- 4-5 Oct**  
**Sat-Sun**  
**\*\***
- Pinchgut Hut--Bobs Camp Circuit**  
**Awaiting Leader**  
A moderate circuit from Pinchgut Hut, up Cattle Peak Route to Bobs Camp Biv, and back to Pinchgut on the Whare Track. Trip could extend to three days with a second night at the hut.
- 5 Oct**  
**Sunday**  
**\***
- Charing Cross**  
**Murray Hight**  
An easy-moderate circuit walk on farm tracks in the Tekoa Range west of Hawarden. The peak claims to be exactly 1000m asl. Meet 8.00am Placemakers, 319 Cranford Street.  
**Names to Murray Hight [roslynfarm@gmail.com](mailto:roslynfarm@gmail.com) or 027-555-0059.**
- 11-12 Oct**  
**Sat-Sun**  
**\*\***
- Mt Tekoa**  
**Kerry Moore**  
A moderate climb of these 1469m and 1615m peaks in the Island Hills area. We plan to stay Saturday night at a farm hut and climb from there.  
**Names to Kerry (03) 359-5069. Book by 4<sup>th</sup> October.**
- 12 Oct**  
**Sunday**  
**\***
- Mt Alford**  
**Murray Hight**  
An easy-moderate climb starting in Alford Reserve and then into tussock land to this 1171m foothill inland from Methven. Meet 7.00am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Road.  
**Names to Murray Hight [roslynfarm@gmail.com](mailto:roslynfarm@gmail.com) or 027-555-0059. Book by 5<sup>th</sup> October.**
- 19 Oct**  
**Sunday**  
**\***
- Mt Foweraker**  
**Awaiting Leader**  
A moderate-hard trip in Arthurs Pass National Park to this 1804m peak between Sudden Valley and Red Beech Stream. This peak acquired its name just a few years ago.  
Meet 7.00am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Road.
- 25-27 Oct**  
**Sat-Mon**  
**\*\*\***
- Dillon Hut--Carroll Hut**  
**Awaiting Leader**  
A moderate rated crossing of the Kelly Range, with an easy first day to Dillon Hut. Day two takes us over the Kelly Range past a series of tarns to Carroll Hut. Day three is the short, steep descent to Kelly car park.
- 25 October**  
**Saturday**  
**\***
- Ghost Stream--Mt Plenty**  
**Awaiting Leader**  
A moderate climb starting at the Porter River bridge between Porters Pass and Castle Hill Village. Meet 8.00am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Road.



**PLEASE NOTE TRIP DETAILS ARE CORRECT AT TIME OF PUBLICATION BUT ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE - WATCH FOR UPDATED MESSAGES FROM TRIP PLANNER OR TRIP LEADER**

# TRIP REPORTS

Please email trip reports to the editor at [karenfincham97@gmail.com](mailto:karenfincham97@gmail.com) by the 28th of the month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter, in docx format with minimal formatting, or email text. Photos need to be around 640x480 pixels (about 100 to 200 kilobytes). Photos with date and time in the file-name allow them to be placed in the correct order.

## PLANTING ON QUAIL ISLAND (OTAMAHUA) : 2 AUGUST 2025

What a beautiful day for our annual outing to assist the Quail Island Ecological Restoration Trust with planting more native trees and shrubs in this special place. The Trust Chairman, Ian, and his assistant stayed overnight on the island getting plants and equipment ready for our arrival. We were very lucky to be planting on northern slopes with all day sunshine and calm conditions.

The walk to our site took us through thriving trees from previous plantings, and sparkling sea with colourful waka greeted us on arrival. We were working on a sloping site which had been well prepared for us, including colour coded canes marking planting spots for each species. Ian gave a detailed demonstration for our task of planting about 150 specimens of grey scrub species. These plants should cope with dry conditions, provide habitat for lizards, and permit island perimeter walkers clear views of the crater rim.

Most of us were rugged up for winter and digging soon had us removing layers and adding sunhats. By lunchtime we had made good progress and were told we had planted nearly all the Matagouri. Hopefully Hagley Tramping Club, who were set for planting next day, would appreciate this. Work continued after lunch until our quota had been planted. This left us with an hour or so to return to the jetty by the route of our choice.

Many thanks to Ian and the Trust for all the hard work in planning and preparing. We hope other planting days will go well and see all 650 plants for this year safely in the ground.

Our team: Mike Bourke, Sue Britain, Stephen Cameron, Terry Thomsen, Ian Umbers. 🏠 SB



Quail Island (Otamahua) Terry and Mike planting or leaning on spades? 2025\_0802\_SB



## ONEPUNGA SCARP – MT GREY/MAUKATERE : 10 AUGUST 2025

This was an unconventional approach to Mt Grey, on farmland from the north-west. After parking near point 400m of the prominent limestone scarp we set off into a cold southerly breeze. Keen to make some distance and warm up we took the vehicle track alongside the scarp. At a low point past the scarp we got onto a vehicle track, then to a snowy spur. We skirted beech forest with its heavy coating of snow, then reached the ridge that contains Mt Grey. At a sort of saddle, we found the Red Beech Track that took is through a fairyland of black trees plastered on one side with snow. It was cold enough that the snowy branches didn't dump on us. The track emerged from the forest and climbed to point 925, then Maukatere/Mt Grey at 933. Keen to get out of the chilly wind Keith and Kerry settled for the lower peak, while the others pressed on to the authentic peak. Back in red beech forest we stopped for lunch, then followed our tracks back the way we'd come. Those of us with walking poles found it a little easier to avoid slips on the snowy tussock. We made good time and with the wind at our tails, chose to walk along a section of the scarp. We were surprised to see a pile of well-stacked, square limestone blocks, each nearly a cubic metre in size, so it seems that the local stone has been used in Canterbury's buildings. These days quarries in the area extract limestone for fertiliser. We reached the cars at 3:30 and were home around 5pm. All were pleased we'd ignored the weather forecast and braved the chill to be rewarded with the magical experience of walking in pristine snow. We were: Eileen, Ian, Wang, Keith and Kerry. 🏔️ KM



2025\_0810\_1151\_KM



2025\_0810\_1251 Wang



2025\_0810\_1315 KM



2015\_0810\_





DOC track features with whiskers  
2025\_0810\_



2025\_0810\_1457\_KM

### **MOUNT LYNDON : 16 AUGUST 2025**

The day dawned clear and relatively warm for a winter's day. Five of us had registered for the trip and we parked at Lake Lyndon to start the climb. Although sunny there was a brisk northerly wind to chill the air somewhat. We made our way up the ridge through tussock and alpine scrub from the north end of the lake. We reached the top at about 11:15 and did a bit of a survey of the route to Cloudy Hill. The route looked to involve dropping into the upper valley and then climbing a long steep scree slope. A decision was made that this was probably going to be a bit of a mission combined with the cold wind so we decided to traverse along the ridge line south and loop back along the lake. There was almost no snow on top although we encountered plenty of pockets of snow as we descended the south aspect of the hill. Fortunately, once sheltered from the wind the sun made for a warm walk and soft snow. We made a mis-turn coming off the summit and had to divert east to get onto the right route. Once on the right ridge again the route was well formed with even other foot prints in the snowy parts to guide us. Nearing the south end of the lake there was small bit of bush bashing through scrub before coming onto the track leading to the lodge. There was a lot of activity on the lake shore including several fishermen. We made our way along the beach on the west side of the lake since it was quite low. We arrived back at the car about 2:15 and met up with Kerry who had stayed behind at the north end of the lake to dispose of some pesky pines.

Graeme (leader), Kerry, Wang, Joy and Murray. 🏔️ GN



Mt Lyndon Trip 2025\_0816\_GN



Mt Lyndon Trip 2025\_0816\_GN

### **URUMAU TRACK--MAJOR HORN BROOK TRACK : SUNDAY 24 AUGUST 2025**

All four of us appeared at the Lyttelton meeting point well rugged up, due to the heavy fog and cold wind. As we walked up the Urumau Track, the fog slowly lifted and the sun came out. Once on the Crater Rim there were great views down into the harbour and surrounding hills. Half-way along the rim we encountered some orienteers, a good thirty of them, racing around with compasses held in front of them. In no time we descended the muddy Major Hornbrook Track to Lyttelton. We did stop for lunch — in a reserve at the lower end of Major Hornbrook.

Thank you to the participants: Darcy, Joy and Helen with Murray (Leader). 🏔️ MH



The fog rolls away 2025\_0824\_1003\_MH



The view of the harbour 2025\_0824\_1105\_MH



# MESSAGES

A message from Olivia Dean (Ph: +64 27 347 3001) [olivia@summitadventures.co.nz](mailto:olivia@summitadventures.co.nz) Founder and Kiwi Guide of Summit Adventures, **Everest Base Camp Premium Tour 1<sup>st</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> April 2026;**

More than just a hike and holiday, Summit Adventures are designed by our team of local and kiwi guides, with a focus on meaningful and challenging experiences of personal growth and human connection. Find out more at <http://www.summitadventures.co.nz/why-choose-us>. Summit Adventures offer a very personal experience of Nepal and its mountains – you not only hike in the trekking capital of the world, you will meet locals, visit schools and children's homes, and serve the homeless. You have a Kiwi guide with you at all times and, being all-inclusive from the moment you touch down in Kathmandu, all your hassles are taken care of.

**Expert Kiwi Guide** – From the moment you land in Kathmandu, you're guided by a Kiwi expert, giving you deeper insight and support throughout your journey.

**Pokhara Trip** – We include return flights to Pokhara to stay at the idyllic and upbeat lakeside city – we believe this is a must-see in Nepal (also here you'll enjoy the included recovery massage).

**Community Impact** – As part of your trip you'll directly take part in giving back: serve meals to the homeless through Curry Without Worry and deliver supplies to programmes and schools with NGO's Sunsar Maya and IGWR/Nepal.

**All-Inclusive & Premium** – This EBC tour involves a helicopter back down from Lobuche to Kathmandu! As well as top-tier accommodation with swimming pools in the main cities. From arrival to departure, everything's covered.

Full tour information here: [www.summitadventures.co.nz/ebc-premium](http://www.summitadventures.co.nz/ebc-premium).

Your current executive committee members now have much more work to do, with fewer people on the committee and key roles unfulfilled, so please be patient and forgiving if things don't operate as usual, or we need to make some important changes to keep our club operating in a sustainable way.

