



February 2026



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

Committee			
Trip Planner	Sonja Risa	sonja.risa@gmail.com	028-8517-3969
Treasurer	Graeme Nicholas	gra.nicholas@gmail.com	027-504-7726
Secretary	Committee		
Editor	Karen Fincham	karenfincham97@gmail.com	027-554-0110
Gear Custodian	Evelien Baas	baasevelien@gmail.com	027-557-5521

New Member Enquiries: Please contact **Derek Gane Ph (03) 337-8264** or **Irene Kilgour Ph 021-166-3586** for information. If you can't reach them, contact any committee member or check our website for new member application form and information.

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', and 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 10 February 	THREE STEPS FOR LIFE <i>"Learn CPR for your loved one"</i> . A first aid awareness session and demonstration by Nikki McLauchlan, a Hato Hone St John volunteer covering basic CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) and use of AED (Automated External Defibrillator).
Tue 10 March 	PTC 94th AGM A VERY LONG WALK ON THE WILD SIDE - THE BIBBULMUN TRACK Darcy Mawson will talk about his adventures on this 1,000+ km-long track in Western Australia, which stretches from Kalamunda in the Perth Hills to Albany.

NOTES

FMC Backcountry Magazines: These are now sent out as digital copies. Please, contact Mary McKeown at 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.

With the absence of a Secretary, messages to PTC communicator (secretary@ptc.nz or ptc1932@gmail.com) are not being monitored regularly. We don't get a notification about messages, so we don't know messages are there, and your message may be ignored and/or response delayed. If you want to contact a PTC member, please email them directly – please do not reply to PTC communicator. If you are sending a message to members by PTC Communicator, please include your name and email or phone number so recipients can contact you.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Tuesday 3rd February : Lyttelton Nooks and Crannies . . .

A walk through some of Lyttelton's Nooks and Crannies, then dinner at Nomnom Kitchen.

Meet at 5.30pm outside Nomnom Kitchen, 47 London Street to do a 90-minute walk along the quieter lanes and roads of Lyttelton, including the Anglican Cemetery and Marina. We'll return to the restaurant at about 7.00pm for dinner. Meals are reasonably priced.

Names please to **Maureen Thompson** mothompson1212@gmail.com or 021 266 5778 by Sunday 1st February.



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 Thompson has been organising social events lately, and she welcomes help from others for daytime or evening social events. For any suggestions or assistance, please contact Maureen by phone or text 021-266-5778 or 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 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.

6-8 Feb
Fri-Sun

Floating Along the Waima **Honora Renwick**

Drive up and stay at Isolation Hut on the first day. Next day to Brian Boru Biv, past the formerly impassable windfall and do some hut lovin' in the spare time available. Third day journey down B.B Stream and the Waima. There is usually some pack floating so bring thermals and of course your wet weather gear to wear over that to reduce heat loss. An effective pack-liner is also required. A moderate level trip.

Names to **Honora Renwick** honorarenwick@gmail.com. Book by 30th January.

7 Feb
Saturday
*

Sudden Valley Biv
Murray Hight

From the meeting point we will drive over Porters Pass, and park up at the Hawdon Shelter Campsite. From the campsite, we begin our tramp and follow the Hawdon track for a short distance, before heading West up the Sudden Valley. The route is unmarked with only a few cairns. The initial section is through an open river bed, followed by boulder hopping and multiple river crossings, as the valley narrows. About 4km in, we will need to ascend a steep narrow scree slope to bypass the falls. After the scree slope, we will sidle through the bush, rejoin the stream and continue up the valley to the Biv, to have lunch. The descent is an out and back, so will be descending via the same path, carefully navigating the scree slope and river crossings on the way down. Sorry this trip is not for beginners. Be prepared for a full day of strenuous activity.

Names to Murray Hight roslynfarm@gmail.com or 027-555-0059 by 1st February.

15 Feb
Sunday
*

Bealey Spur (Note change of date)

Evelien Baas

A moderate walk up a spur above the Waimakariri River with beautiful views of many peaks in the national park. Probably quite snowy around the hut and above.

Names to Evelien Baas 027-557-5521. Book by 7th February.

Meet 9.00am at Church Corner.

21 Feb
Saturday
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Opawaho Divide, Christchurch 360 Trail

Hilaire Campbell

An easy flat 16km walk from Riccarton to Halswell Quarry. The “divide” is the separation of the Avon/Otakaro and Heathcote/Opawaho watersheds.

Names to Hilaire Campbell hilaire.campbell@gmail.com. Book by 14th February.

28 Feb
Saturday
*

Lyndon Saddle - Helicopter Hill

Graeme Nicholas

An easy-moderate 5-6hr circuit from Craigieburn Campsite shelter and take the Mistletoe Track to Lyndon Saddle with a side trip to Helicopter Hill. We then return to the saddle and go to the Craigieburn Edge Track which leads to the ski-field road where it joins with the Sidle Track and back to the cars.

Names to Graeme 027-504-7726.

7 Mar
Saturday
*

A Frame Hut—Hakatere Conservation Park

Murray Hight

Drive over the Rakaia Gorge bridge and turn right onto Double Hill Road. The start point is about 20 minutes up this road. Initially we will be following a four-wheel track through farmland, climbing up to Turton’s Saddle, with great views back to the Rakaia River. We then follow the track on a plateau for about one hour to have lunch at the A Frame Hut. A Medium level walk, 2.5 hrs each way.

Names to Murray Hight 027-555-0059. Book by 4th March.

Meet 7.45am at West Melton Pub Carpark.

15 Mar
Sunday
*

Prebble Hill--Cave Stream (Rescheduled - hoping for fine weather this time)

Evelien Baas

This easy trip goes over and under some of the more interesting limestone formations in the Castle Hill basin. We start from the Cave Stream car park and head down Broken River before climbing 902m Prebble Hill. This is the one visible from SH73 apparently covered in pebbles but close up they are huge and erosion carved into animal shapes that are only limited by the imagination. On our return we have the opportunity to traverse the underground Cave Stream. Bring a torch, some warm clothing and a full change for the car. You will get wet!

Names to Evelien 027-557-5521. Book by 10th March.

21-22 Mar
Sat-Sun
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Redcliff Saddle—Tribulation Hut

Graeme Nicholas

An easy-moderate walk from the Rakaia River, on a well-defined track alongside Redcliffe Stream. The return could take in 1450m Rat Hill.

Names to Graeme Nicholas 027-504-7726. Book by 15th March.

28 Mar
Saturday
*

Erewhon Ski Hut

Murray Hight

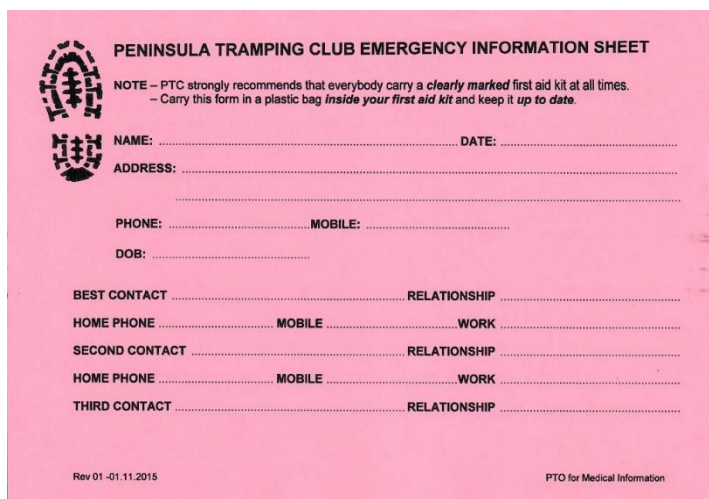
Start at the West Melton Pub car park and drive to Mount Somers and take the Hakatere Potts road. It is approximately 140km one way driving, estimated to take 1.5 hours each way. The tramp starts just before Erewhon Station and is well marked with a DOC sign on the side of the road. Starting at 650 metres elevation we follow the four-wheel track to the hut and should take about three hours. The pictures on the net show that this hut is on the luxury side and, should be, as to book the entire hut it is an eye watering \$1440 per night. An option could be to carry on and summit Mt Potts, if there is anyone keen. If enough people turn up an option is to split into two groups: fast and medium. Even at the locked hut, there are sweeping views of the High Country. Trip is graded medium.

Names to Murray Hight roslynfarm@gmail.com or 027-555-0059 by 21st March.

Meet 8.00am at the West Melton Pub Car park.

**PLEASE NOTE TRIP DETAILS ARE CORRECT AT TIME OF PUBLICATION BUT ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON WEATHER AND AVAILABILITY OF TRIP LEADER
WATCH FOR UPDATED MESSAGES FROM TRIP PLANNER OR TRIP LEADER**

We currently have no offers for trips for April. What trips can you lead?



PENINSULA TRAMPING CLUB EMERGENCY INFORMATION SHEET

NOTE – PTC strongly recommends that everybody carry a *clearly marked* first aid kit at all times.
– Carry this form in a plastic bag *inside your first aid kit* and keep it *up to date*.

NAME: DATE:

ADDRESS:

PHONE: MOBILE:

DOB:

BEST CONTACT RELATIONSHIP

HOME PHONE MOBILE WORK

SECOND CONTACT RELATIONSHIP

HOME PHONE MOBILE WORK

THIRD CONTACT RELATIONSHIP

Rev 01 -01.11.2015 PTO for Medical Information

Do you have one of these
Emergency Information Sheets in
your first aid kit in your pack?
Is the information on it up-to-date?
If you have answered NO to either
of these questions, please pick up a
new form from us at club night,
download a form from the website,
or ask a committee member to post
one out to you.

TRIP REPORTS

Please email trip reports to the editor at 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.

PERAKI BAY : SUNDAY 6th DECEMBER

Our four drove the winding Kinloch and Bossu Roads to Peraki Road and down into this beautiful valley. From the farm buildings we walked out to the beach with its landmark whale pot and anchor. Kyung Sang and Kerry walked on rocks to connect to the farm track leading to the headland. In spite of warning the others of walking on concealed seals, Kerry blundered close to a large animal. Fortunately, he was let off with a warning. From the loess, clay track we could hear seal pups calling from both sides of the bay. No-one was eager to walk the full extent of the headland, so we began the 6km walk up the spur track to Bossu Road, into a brisk, cooling easterly wind. Near noon four horses appeared a hundred metres away, and took a keen interest on our foursome. We found a sheltered spot out of the wind for lunch. Three of us looked for a shortcut to the valley road but quickly encountered a wall of gorse, so retreated to follow the longer, assured path that Pat had taken. We reached Bossu Road near Carews Peak to walk back to Peraki Road, then for the tree-lined road walk down the valley. A few keen sheep with lambs showed the way ahead, rather than risk the close encounter they'd need to get behind us. We followed like sheep.

Enjoying the coastal views on this large, green and pleasant farm were: Kerry (Leader), Pat, Joy and Kyung Sang. 🏠 KM



At the cooking pot 2025_1206 KM



It's a big bay 2025_1206 KM



Four horses – no apocalypse 2025_1206 KL



Pat knows how to pose like a gnome 2025_1206 KM

BRIDLE PATH 175 ANNIVERSARY WALK : SATURDAY 13th DECEMBER

The Ferrymead historical society sent the club an invite to walk the Bridle path and receive a certificate as part of the weekend 175 anniversary of the finding of Christchurch. This seemed like a good idea. We gathered at the gondola side car park and Graeme the trip leader gave a run-down of his historic connections to the first four colonial ships that arrived in 1850. The party soon split up into two groups due to the different walking speeds. Our group reached the top of the hill as the fast group reached Lyttelton.

Once the two groups met up, we went our separate ways with some of us spying out the Farmer's Market. Everyone declined to stock up on produce for the climb back to Christchurch (I can't imagine why?). Being a reasonably warm day our group decided to take the Stan Helmes track back up to the top which was a pleasant variation, then back down the Bridle track again. Having arrived at the gondola car park again we wondered how we collected our 175 Anniversary Walk certificate. Several of us then went down to the Ferrymead park to the expected event but became aware that there was no sign of such a thing being underway or actually much activity at all. So much for the anniversary acknowledgement! Anyway, it was a nice morning out even without our hoped-for certificate!

We were Graeme (Leader), Karen (*in in-appropriate dress!*), Murray, Steve, Sha, Evelien, Darcey, Gary and Margot. 🏔️GN



Steve, Karen, Evelien & Graeme on Bridle Path 2025_1213_1147 KF

LYTTTELTON-URUMAU RESERVE-CRATER RIM : SATURDAY 10th JANUARY

We had a great turn out for this trip, on a rare warm summer day, with 12 participants. We met at Lyttelton, at 9.15am and headed up the hill so soon had a wonderful view of the harbour below. After some debate as to when and where to have lunch, a convenient lunch spot was found on the top of the Tauhinu-Korokio Reserve on the Port Hills, then afterwards we headed downhill and we were all back to our cars in Lyttelton by 1.30pm. We were Mary McKeown (Leader), Karen Fincham, Kerry Moore, Kyung Sang Lee, Murray Hight, Darcy Mawson, Helen Harkness, Joy Schroeder, Sha, Eileen Mackie, Ian Beale and Chrissey McKeagh.



Lyttelton Harbour from Urumau
2026_0110_0942 KF



Shall we stop here? 2026_0110_1054 MH



Tauhinu-Korokio Reserve 2026_0110_1051 KF

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

Positive news! Since we announced the need for more club members to come onto the executive committee for the club to remain viable, we have had several expressions of interest and genuine offers of help for people willing to come onto the committee or assist with committee duties so we are very pleased and feeling very optimistic that our club will continue for some time yet.

Please see separate notice regarding nomination forms for Executive Committee nominations.

Notice of 2026 AGM

The **PTC 94th Annual General Meeting** is to be held in the Oxford Terrace Baptist Church Hall on **Tuesday 10th March 2026 starting promptly at 7.30pm** prior to any normal Club night activities.

The agenda will include:-

1. Election of Officers and Executive members

Nominations for positions, signed by the nominee, proposer and seconder, may be sent to secretary@ptc.nz prior to the meeting. In addition, nomination forms will be available at the door at the AGM on 10th March and must be handed to a committee member prior to the start of the AGM.

2. Notified motions

Please note that any member wishing to give notice of a motion for consideration at the AGM should forward their notice to secretary@ptc.nz or hand to a committee member at or prior to our **10th FEBRUARY Club night**.

The complete AGM agenda, including any Notices of Motion received, will be circulated on Communicator in February.

The PTC Executive Committee