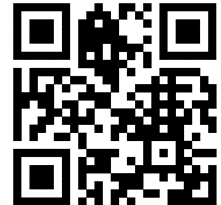




July 2026

PTC Affiliate of Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ (Inc.)
Web address www.ptc.nz (scan barcode)
E-mail secretary@ptc.nz
 (General correspondence and change of contact details)
Facebook name Peninsula Tramping Club Christchurch



PTC Website

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.



PTC Facebook Page

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.

CLUB NIGHTS

Club Nights are held on the **second Tuesday** of the month at **Lancaster Park Community Centre, 40 Stevens St, Waltham** at 7.45pm. Doors open 7.30pm.

Tues 14 July



'New Zealand's KIWI' by Alyse Boaz

Author, Alyse Boaz will talk about the five species of kiwi, three Tokoeka subspecies and four geographic divisions of the Kiwi-Nui; the likely origins and relatives of the kiwi; what they eat & where they live; their territorial behaviour; threats & what is being done to help our kiwi. Copies of her book will be for sale retail price \$35.

Tues 11 August



Trekking to Everest Base Camp in 2026 at my age! Should I have done this 40 years ago?

Karen Fincham will show photos and talk about her recent trek to Mt Everest basecamp.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Wednesday 29 July

Christchurch Adventure Park: ride, walk, or fly!

Have an energetic or cruisy short day in the Adventure Park.

Split into groups:

Energetic walkers: Start at 10am on the uphill track. Walk up, and ride chairlift down to meet others at cafe at 12.30pm. Perhaps walk the loop track after lunch.

Easy riders: Stroll to the start of the loop track (behind cafe). Walk the loop track, then go to chairlift. Enjoy the panorama from the top before descending to meet the others at the cafe.

You can buy lunch at the cafe, or bring your own. Everyone should be ready to leave by approx 2pm, unless you have booked a zipline - unsure of times for this but we can discuss earlier that week.



If you are a Christchurch ratepayer, you may have received a discount voucher or just bring a power bill or other ID with your address to show that you are a local.

There's a \$15 sightseer pass (chairlift up and down, and coffee and muffin at cafe) and/or a half price zipline tour.

Zipline tours must be booked in advance. Ph 0508 247478

For free: Walk up (1hr 30min - 2 hrs) and take a free chairlift ride down. There is also a free 30-40min forest loop walk.

Please phone Anne Hunter (021 023 13125) on Mon 27th or Tues 28th July if you would like to come.

Meet just before 10am in Adventure Park carpark on McVicar Drive (on the left just before the pine trees).

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. Contact Maureen Thompson by phone or text [021-266-5778](tel:021-266-5778) or mothompson1212@gmail.com

MESSAGES

It's with sadness that we note the passing of our Club Patron, Margaret Clark. A significant number of club members attended her funeral last week. There is to be a memorial Service for PTC and Alpine club members in July. The following Obituary was published in the Press.

OBITUARY: Margaret Clark

Mountaineering pioneer farewelled

Margaret Clark's lifelong relationship with the mountains began, by her own account, with a childhood climb over a ridge in the foothills of Canterbury. Drawn away from a family campsite in the South Island, she scrambled alone up a steep slope, driven by curiosity about what lay beyond the next rise. When she finally reached the top, there was no dramatic discovery - only another valley stretching ahead. But the experience left a lasting imprint: not disappointment, but an enduring desire to keep moving towards the next horizon.

Clark died peacefully aged 91, in Christchurch on Wednesday, June 17, with her son by her side.

A life member of the New Zealand Alpine Club (NZAC), she had been involved with the organisation for more than 68 years, joining in January 1958 and remaining active in the mountain community throughout her life. Her contribution to New Zealand mountaineering spanned pioneering climbs in the Southern Alps, international expeditions, and decades of mentoring younger climbers. Among her early achievements were first ascents of the northwest buttress of Mt Madeline in Fiordland's Darran Mountains in 1958, and the south ridge of North Peak in the Jollie Range in 1970.

In the same era, Clark joined an all-women expedition to Denali (then Mt McKinley), North America's highest peak. Reflecting later on the period's emerging women's liberation movement, she said: "I hadn't heard of women's lib, because no-one told me I wasn't liberated." Five years later she co-led a New Zealand-Indian women's expedition to Hardeol, a 7151-metre Himalayan peak in India. The expedition was marked by tragedy when two New Zealand climbers and two Indian climbers were killed in an avalanche.

Despite setbacks, Clark remained committed to expanding opportunities for women and young people in mountaineering. In 1992 she organised an overseas expedition to the Indian Himalayas as part of efforts to promote women's climbing. She later established Youth Expedition to India (YETI), helping young New Zealanders gain overseas adventure experience, and founded the specialist trekking company Tikanga Treks.

NZAC life member Geoff Gabites, who nominated Clark for life membership in 2016, said her influence extended far beyond her own climbing achievements. "She has endured, and this has allowed her to move through generations of female mountaineers, successively acting as a mentor and role model," he wrote. Among those she influenced was renowned New Zealand climber Lydia Bradey - the first woman to summit Mount Everest without supplemental oxygen in 1988 - who credited Clark and her husband Jim with helping shape her early climbing career through the Peninsula Tramping Club and NZAC. In a tribute posted after Clark's death, Bradey thanked her for "changing my life" and for showing "what a woman might do in the hills".

Author Cassidy Randall, who featured Clark in her book *Thirty Below*, described her as "a towering legend of mountaineering". Randall said she had spent time with Clark in New Zealand while researching the book, and remembered her as "smart as hell. Loved to laugh, modest... and a damn powerhouse in the mountains". "She inspired an entire generation of women climbers and scientists, a living example of casually doing the things women were not supposed to do," Randall wrote.

For Christchurch climber Maureen McCloy, Clark's influence was deeply personal. McCloy, a former president of the Canterbury Mountaineering Club, first met Clark through the Peninsula Tramping Club in the late 1980s, when Clark was running snowcraft and navigation courses. "She was the person who taught me how to use my ice axe and crampons and how to keep safe in the mountains," McCloy said. "She did that for a lot of people and a lot of women. She got us started and encouraged us and inspired us."

McCloy said Clark's influence extended well beyond technical mountaineering skills. One of the things Margaret showed us, especially us women, was what was possible," she said. "When she was young, no one ever told her that a woman couldn't do things, so she just did them. No one told her she couldn't be a mountaineer or an adventurer." McCloy said Clark's encouragement helped give her the confidence to become the first woman president of the Canterbury Mountaineering Club in 2002. "I would never have stepped into those shoes without Margaret's encouragement"

Even in her later years, Clark retained her adventurous spirit. McCloy recalled joining her for a walk in the Port Hills when Clark was 90, using a walker, determined not to miss out on what she called a "decent day out". "She didn't want an easy stroll around Hagley Park," McCloy said. "We had to go over to Governors Bay, along that rocky foreshore track towards Allandale. It was tough going with a walker, but she was absolutely determined to do it."

One of the lessons McCloy said she took from Clark was simple: if it looks doubtful, you still set off. "You can always turn back if it's no good," she said. "But if you never set off, you'll never have had that decent day out." "She just kept going."

Wei Shao (Christchurch Press)

Proposed Mt Ruapehu Trip Feb 2027

We would like to gauge if there was interest within PTC for a Mt Ruapehu base camp in early February 2027 (maybe 1-2 weeks to explore the area).

The plan is to stay in Alpine Sports Club's A frame hut: 32 bunks (4 bunks to a bunkroom) at around \$50/night/person (includes food for dinner and breakfast - stored in freezers and pantries. Cooking and housekeeping done by participants. People could leave for a multi-day tramp and then return to the hut so long as their actual days stayed in the hut were clear. Note: DOC no longer allow visits to Crater Lake.

Check out: <https://www.alpinesports.org.nz/huts/mt-ruapehu/>
<https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/parks-and-recreation/tracks-and-walks/tongariro-taupo/tongariro-national-park-walks.pdf>

Please email your interest to Chris Leaver newptc75@gmail.com

Volunteer opportunities

See Trip Programme for more details

Planting, Quail Island/Otamahua Saturday 8 August

A rewarding day revegetating the island. Free ferry ride. Tools provided.

Early indications of your keenness would be helpful.

Names to Kerry Moore mooorty@gmail.com 03 359 5069 by Thur 6th Aug.

Planting day for Summit Rd Society planned for Sunday 26th July in Ohinetahi Reserve

Our Ohinetahi Work Group this year has a quantity of seedlings provided to us to continue planting in our reserve. This year we are now about to plant in a new 'perimeter' area, similar to the planting adjacent to Bivvy Track we did last year. Our Work Group will have already grubbed planting patches and marked with sticks. On the day we may want help with moving further plants up to the site.

We would very much appreciate help from PTC members. Come to the site when it suits you. You don't have to let us know. Many thanks and we will see you on the day

Merv Meredith glendamervm@orcon.net.nz 322 7239, 027 37 27 318

TRIPS

All proposals for trips, offers to lead, changes to trips or trip schedules must be directed to the trip planner Chris Leaver newptc75@gmail.com so the trip can be reviewed, put onto the PTC calendar and advertised. Details of trips are given as accurately as possible at the time of newsletter distribution, but things can change, so please contact the trip leader and check with the PTC website or Facebook page or messages from PTC communicator for the most up-to-date information. 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.

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.

4 July

Rakaia Gorge

Sat

Jaimee Latham

●
Easy/Mod

This easy trip offers a return walk of 3 hours with a spectacular cliff top traverse of the Rakaia Gorge to the remains of the Snowdon coal mine. Views across the river to Mt Hutt. Drive 1 hour to the Gorge - Start walk 9.30am and get back to Christchurch by 5pm. Cost \$58/car
Meet 8.30 am at Mobile Yaldhurst where there is easy parking in large grass area by the road.
Contact Jaimee by **2nd July** **020 4134 3625**

10 –12 July

Carroll Hut/ Kelly Range/ Dillon Hut

Fri-Sun

Kerry Moore

●●●
Moderate

A three-day moderate walk with two short days and one longer day to Kelly Saddle, past a series of tarns and down to the Taipo River. Dates are flexible.

Contact Kerry by **4th July**

03 359 5069 or mooorty@gmail.com

11 July

Quail Island by Waka

Sat

Murray Hight

●

Paddling from Naval Point round Quail Island, with a lunch stop on the South side
Paddling instructions and life vest included. Bring lunch as we will stop at Quail Island for lunch and some exploring, a change of clothes in case you get wet and \$10.00 pp for waka hire.

Those booked meet 10.45 at Naval Point in Lyttelton (turn right when you exit the tunnel) for 11.00am paddle around Quail Island.

Trip is **FULL**

027 555 0059 or roslynfarm@gmail.com

18 July

Kaiapoi to Pines Beach

Sat

Jaimee Latham

●
Easy

Starting at Kaiapoi, Tom Ayers Reserve and following the river on the Pegasus Walkway out to pines beach and looping back to car on Beach Rd. 17 km, 3 hours. Dogs are allowed on this track.

Meet 9am at Tom Ayers Reserve, Kaiapoi

Contact Jaimee by **5pm 17th July**

020 4134 3625

25 July

Peak Hill, Lake Coleridge

Sat

Graeme Nicholas

●
Moderate

Loop trip with expansive views over Lake Coleridge. Coffee at Hororata on the way home. Contact Graeme if you plan to come. Cost \$92/car

Meet Church Corner 8 am.

Contact Graeme by **24th July**

027 504 7726

26 July

Tree planting, Ohinetahi Reserve with the Summit Road Society

Sun

Merv Meredith

●

Tree planting 10am - 2pm. Come to the site when it suits you, but we prefer to car pool. Bring usual tramping gear plus own gloves & small spade. Access to the area is along Summit Rd between Sign of Kiwi and the Hoon Hay carpark - just over the cattle grid passed the Worsley Rd turnoff. There is limited parking at the carpark itself, but up Worsley Rd is an option. From Worsley Rd walk 10mins or so up to the stile giving access to Faulkner and Trig V tracks. The planting area starts immediately over the stile and works uphill along boundary fence with Crater Rim Track.

To car pool meet 9:15 inside the car park, Gate 2, the old Princess Margaret Hospital site near the corner of Fairview St & Cashmere Rd.

No need to contact Merv unless you require more information.

glendamermv@orcon.net.nz

Ph 322 7239, 027 372 7318

2 August

Cockayne Alley – Cuckoo creek

Sun

Heather Hughes

●
Easy-Mod

We'll walk along the Dracophyllum Flat track from The Broken river ski field road then head up the Cockayne Alley Track (an easy 400m climb followed by a scenic traverse). After a short downhill road walk we'll complete the loop down the Cuckoo creek track to where it meets the Dracophyllum track which we'll follow back to the cars. These are bike tracks but are closed to bikes in winter.

Meet 8.30am at Church Corner

Contact Heather by **31st July**

021 0797 101

7 -8 Aug

Anti-Crow hut

Fri-Sat

Graeme Nicholas

●●
Easy

This is an easy -moderate trip up the Waimakariri river to the recently restored Anti-crow hut. This is on the south side of the river so should be a very pleasant winter trip if we get a sunny day (and probably keeping our boots dry too!) The Saturday night is already fully booked out so the trip is scheduled as a Friday 7th August / Saturday 8 August trip now. The hut is bookable and there are only 2 bunks left.

Contact Graeme by **1st August**

027 504 7726

7 -8 Aug **Anti-Crow hut- Bealey Spur**
Fri-Sat **Kevin Hughes**
●● As an addition to Graeme's Anti-Crow trip (above) I will be walking into the anti-crow with the group but returning via Jordon saddle then up a ridge onto Bealey spur being picked up at road end. Please let me know if you're interested. There is room for 2 people for this moderate hard return option.

Contact Kevin by **1st August**

027 4573 777

8 August **Planting - Quail Island/Otamahua**
Sat **Kerry Moore**
● A rewarding day helping to revegetate the island. We won't be planting unless there is some rain. Most likely we will be re-potting trees instead. Free ferry ride. Tools provided. Take gardening gloves and usual tramping gear. Early indications of your keenness would be helpful. Contact Kerry

Contact Kerry by **6th August**

03 359 5069 or mooorty@gmail.com

16 August **Opawaho Divide, Christchurch 360 Trail**
Sun **Chris Leaver**
● An easy, flat, 16 km 6-7 hour walk from Riccarton to Halswell Quarry. The "divide" is the separation of the Avon/Otakaro and Heathcote/Opawaho watersheds.

Meet 9:30 in Titoki St, near the corner with Rimu St, outside Riccarton Bush.

Contact Chris by **15th August**

021 0251 2011.

23 August **Mt Lyndon/ Cloudy Hill,**
Sun **Kerry Moore**
● A moderate circuit above Lake Lyndon taking in 1489m Mt Lyndon and 1442m Cloudy Hill. Fabulous 360 degree views at this time of year. Bring an ice axe.. Cost \$70/car

Meet 8 am Church Corner

Contact Kerry by **22th August**

03 359 5069 or mooorty@gmail.com

28-30 Aug **Lake Kaniere Base Camp**
Fri-Sun **Heather and Kevin Hughes**
●●● Staying in a cosy bach at Lake Kaniere there are walks of various grades (including the Lake Kaniere walkway, Water race walkway, Mt Brown and Mt Tuhua) or bring your bike and cycle a section of the West Coast wilderness trail. Leaving Christchurch on Friday morning or after work. Please book early so we can secure a bach.

Book with Heather and Kevin by **18th July**

021 0797 101 or 332 6281

TRIP REPORTS

Please email **trip reports** and photo's to the editor at heather@nivek.co.nz by the 25th of the month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter. Photos need to be around 640x480 pixels (about 100 to 200 KB). Photos with date and time in the file-name allow them to be placed in the correct order.

Linda Woods Reserve: Horotane Castle Rock Circuit

Sat 30th May 2026

The 10am relaxed starting time found nine walkers take the narrow access track from Horotane Valley up to Jacks Track in the Linda Woods Reserve. We took a clockwise circuit up the ridge directly below the volcanic crag of Castle rock. Nearer to the top the track became less defined and steeper with Mike taking the lead following his previous GPS tracked route.

We sat for a snack taking in superb views of north easterly clag cloaking the Mt Pleasant ridge and Pegasus Bay, but with sun and blue sky above.



Looking East from Castle Rock **SB**

The blocks of basalt rock covered in red algae, white lichen and flowering yellow gorse below were stunning. Walking over the closed summit road (keeping an eye out for the odd cyclist) we ambled down to the Avoca south gate. Doug mentioned he'd never walked before on the Kahu track which drops to join Jacks track. We passed seedlings PTC planted for Brian Smith several years ago, then back to Horotane Valley Rd.

Sue Britain, Mike Bourke, Sue Hely, Doug Forster, Karen Fincham, Carolyn Blackford, Graeme Nicholas, Graham Townsend, Chris Leaver 🏠 **CL**



Pic's by CL

F



Pic by KF



Port Levy Saddle to Mt Herbert

Sat 6 June 2026

It was eight enthusiastic trampers who met at PMH, on an improving day, so we thought. We picked up Geoff at Birdlings Flat turnoff to make it nine. At the Saddle carpark, we were greeted with a howling cold wind. We duly rugged up, with some of us having five layers on (no names mentioned). The track was well marked, with great views all round.

At the summit of Mt Herbert, we ran into some Uni students, who showed good interest in our club. We duly explained our Club and invited them to the next tramp. Would be good to get our average age down even a few years.

After lunch the weather improved dramatically with most of us removing at least two layers on the way back. It was a very enjoyable day.

Thanks to Joy, Darcy, Carolyn, Chris, Bill, Wendy, Lee, and Geoff.

🏔️ Murray Hight



3 Pics by MH



View of walking track along ridgeline and south to Little River and Akaroa hillsides. The slip in the pine forest (just visible) has closed the road from the saddle down into Port Levy. People are Geoff Spearpoint Wendy Templeton and Kyung Sang Lee (Murray with his back to photo). CL

Diamond harbour - Purau Circuit

Sat 13 June 2026

Three happy walkers (Joy Schroeder, Mary McKeown, Evelien Baas) enjoying the winter sun and views across to Ripapa Island, Whakaraupō (Lyttelton Harbour)

👤 **Chris Leaver**



Purple Peak

Sun 28 June 2026

A total of four trampers assembled at PMH, for today's tramp. A ninety minute drive to Akaroa, landed us at the start of the track. The day started off cold, but by ten o'clock, a few layers were peeled off.

At the Saddle we had good views over the Akaroa Harbour. A drop from the Saddle saw us at Cab stand for a small rest, before we climbed onto the start of the Curry Track.

We had lunch at the site of Captain Worsley's old house, with good views then we walked down Rue Grehan, across Woodhill's track, back to the car.

Thank you to the good company of Karen, Keith and Caroline.

👤 **Murray Hight**



NOTES

Committee

Co-Presidents	Graeme Nicholas	027 504 7726	gra.nicholas@gmail.com
	Evelien Baas	027 557 5521	baasevelien@gmail.com
Treasurer / Secretary	Graeme Nicholas	027 504 7726	gra.nicholas@gmail.com
Trip Planner	Chris Leaver	021 0251 2011	newptc75@gmail.com
Editor	Heather Hughes	021 0797 101	heather@nivek.co.nz
Gear Custodian	Evelien Baas	027 557 5521	baasevelien@gmail.com
Committee	Kevin Hughes	03 332 6281	home@nivek.co.nz
	Jaimee Latham	020 4134 3625	Jldarkhorse124@gmail.com

FMC Backcountry Magazines: These are now sent out as digital copies. Please, contact Mary McKeown at marylmckeown@yahoo.co.nz or 021 269 1165, if you would like to read a printed copy of the latest edition of FMC's Backcountry magazine.

Post Box: Due to changes at NZ Post, and changes in mailing habits, we have now terminated our PTC NZ Post Box so we no longer have a postal address. All correspondence should now be sent electronically to secretary@ptc.nz

Contacts: Messages to secretary@ptc.nz are now being monitored periodically however if you want to contact a PTC committee member or Trip Leader it is best to please email them directly.

If you want a message sent to all members by PTC Communicator, please e-mail the relevant committee member (e.g. trip planner, secretary etc) and include your name and email or phone number so recipients can contact you. Please do not reply to PTC communicator as these replies do not go to anyone.