



Monthly newsletter of PTC. Affiliate of Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ Inc.

Postal Address: The Secretary, PTC, PO Box 13 258, Armagh, Christchurch 8141

Web address www.peninsulatrampingclub.org.nz

E-mail secretary@peninsulatrampingclub.org.nz

Facebook name [peninsula tramping club](https://www.facebook.com/peninsula-tramping-club)

February 2012

President	Leo Manders	356 1731	Dorota Giejsztowt	352 9130
Vice-President	Kevin Hughes	332 6281	Raymond Ford	351 9496
Vice-President	Mary Hines	942 6486	Dan Pryce	356 2617
Treasurer	Geoff Price	337 2614	Brian Smith	Quartermaster 355 9945
Trip Planner	Gary Huish	332 7020		
Secretary	Merv Meredith	322 7239		
Editor	Kerry Moore	359 5069		

New Member Enquiries Please contact Stan Wilder, 980 5291, to request an info-pack. You will also receive three complimentary newsletters

CORRESPONDENCE, including changes of address etc. can be sent to the club secretary—see above

OUR CLUB consists of people of all ages who tramp for recreation. Regular trips are organised, ranging from 'easy' to 'hard', day trips to long weekends. Various instruction courses run each year to improve members' skills for back-country tramping. In addition to a monthly club meeting, a variety of social events are held.

CLUB NIGHTS are held on the **second Tuesday** of each month at the Canterbury Horticultural Centre, South Hagley Park (entrance on Riccarton Ave), starting promptly at 7.45 pm. Doors open 7.30.

Tue 14 Feb **NORTH AMERICAN ESCAPE**

Grant & Anne Hunter took a whistle-stop camping trip through north-east USA and south-east Canada, enjoying short autumnal walks in beautiful country. The trip culminated in a marathon run in New York.

Supper Duty: Arif Matthee, Pauline McFarlane, Barry McKessar

Tue 13 Mar **AGM followed by DRYING FOOD FOR TRAMPING**

Geoff and Mary Korver will share their expertise in dehydrating food

Supper Duty: Keith or Marion McQuillan, Paul Moreham, John Mouat

AGM AGM AGM AGM AGM —7:30pm Tue 13 March

The 80th Annual General Meeting of Peninsula Tramping Club will be held at Canterbury Horticultural Centre, Hagley Avenue

Agenda: Presentation of Exec. Reports
Election of officers, executive members and auditor

General Business: Nominations for all positions are called for. They may be sent, signed by nominee, proposer and seconder, to **Merv Meredith, Secretary, 322 7239**

COMING TRIPS**Day Trips:**

Depart from and return to a convenient point on the side of town nearest to the destination. Non-members are asked to phone the trip leader in advance. If you doubt your suitability for a day-trip, or if the weather is turning bad, contact the trip leader beforehand. A phone inquiry does not oblige you to go on the trip.

Weekend Trips:

May leave on a Friday night (usually for base camps) or Saturday morning. Please book with the trip leader by the closing date. Be certain you want to go on the trip when booking, as it is not fair on the leader to withdraw after the closing date (good excuses excepted). Numbers on some weekend trips are limited, so book promptly.

Bike Trips:

For up-to-date details of any biking trips highlighted below please contact

Rick Bolch ph 980 5156 email rlbolch@paradise.net.nz unless otherwise stated.

5 Feb	PEAK HILL	Maps BW20;K35
Sun	Jane Swift 337 1117	
■	Easy-moderate climb in open country up a 1240m hill with superb views of Lake Coleridge on one side and the Rakaia River on the other. The upper slopes of Peak Hill have recently become crown land, with public access from the Algidus Road, thanks to Tenure Review of the pastoral lease property. Possibility of a round trip. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Approx Cost: \$16
11-12 Feb	MT SOMERS CIRCUIT	Maps BX19,20;K36
Sat-Sun	Douglas Woods 021 242 9122	
■ ■	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 Bowyers Stream to Staveley. List Closes: Sat 28 January	
11 Feb	THREE DEANS	Maps BV24;M34
Saturday	Geoff Korver 355 3905	
■	Longish easy-moderate round-trip over open limestone country in North Canterbury, by the Waipara River. May include a close look at middle Waipara Gorge. Start: 8am Robbies near Placemakers (Cranford St)	Approx Cost: \$9
18-19 Feb	MT PEEL	Maps BY19;J37
Sat-Sun	Mary Hines 942 6486	
■ ■	Moderate-hard ascent of this 1743m landmark in South Canterbury, passing through podocarp forest and subalpine scrub with 7km along the tops beyond Little Mt Peel. Planning to drive down Friday evening, camp at Peel Forest campground. A 7am start on Sat for Big Mt Peel for an up-to 10hr day. Pot-luck evening meal at camp-ground. Short strolls on the Sunday, including the church and the giant fragrant himalayan lilies at the Mt Peel Station gardens. Drive back home after lunch List Closes: Sat 11 February	

19 Feb Sun ■	STONY BAY PEAK - MT BRASENOSE Chris Leaver 322 6445 Moderate walk behind Akaroa, crossing the new Misty Peaks Reserve between Stony Bay Peak and Mt Brasenose. Start: 8am Halswell School	Maps BX25,BY25;N36,N37 Approx Cost: \$13
25-26 Feb Sat-Sun ■ ■	THE LAZYMEN TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip Moderate tramp to a tussock plateau about 950m a.s.l., between the Puketeraki Range and the Esk River. Starting from Mt White Station, south-east of Arthurs Pass National Park, the Esk has to be crossed before climbing up the spur before it flattens out. List Closes: Sat 18 February	Maps BV22;L34
26 Feb Sun ■	MT BRUCE Mary Hines 942 6486 Moderate tramp over 1630m Mt Bruce at the northern end of the Craigieburns. The route initially follows good track towards Lagoon Saddle, before turning off-track and climbing steep mixed scree and tussock slopes to the summit. There is a steepish scree slope down to the saddle at the head of Broad Stream, which can then be followed out. Great panoramic views from the top. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BV20;K34 Approx Cost: \$20
3-4 Mar Sat-Sun ■ ■	OMARAMA BASE CAMP Mary Hines 942 6486 A range of easy to moderate walks in this scenic area as well as mountain biking opportunities. List Closes: Sat 18 February	Maps CA14,15;H39
3-4 Mar Sat-Sun ■ ■	TURTONS SADDLE Kerry Moore 359 5069 An easy-moderate trip up Glenrock and Turtons Streams to the 8 bunk Comyns Hut. List Closes: Sat 25 February	Maps BW19,20;J36
4 Mar Sun ■	CASTLE HILL PEAK - GAP - KOWAI STREAM Merv Meredith 322 7239 Moderate climb from Porters Pass to the highest peak on the Torlesse range at nearly 2000m. Fine views all around. Returning through The Gap and Kowai Stream. Start: 7:30am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BW21;L34,L35 Approx Cost: \$13
10-11 Mar Sat-Sun ■ ■	MT MISERY - PEAK 1912 - CASS SADDLE Merv Meredith 322 7239 Moderate-hard trip in the Craigieburns. Starting up Mt Misery to camp in Long Valley Stream, then up peak 1912, descending to the Cass Valley track. List Closes: Wed 29 February	Maps BV20,21;K34
10 Mar Saturday ■	MT MISERY Gary Huish 332 7020 Moderate tramp over 1765m Mt Misery at the end of the Black Range above Cass. Don't be put off by the name. Great panoramic views from the top including Mt Horrible. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BV20;K34 Approx Cost: \$19
17-24 Mar Sat-Sat ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■	WHANGANUI RIVER TRIP Mary Hines 942 6486 Classic kayaking and walking trip down the Whanganui River. Trip Closed	

17-18 Mar Sat-Sun ■ ■	ZAMPA TOPS Dan Pryce 356 2617 This moderate trip traverses the tops to the east of Cannibal Gorge and gives spectacular views of the Spencer Mountains. List Closes: Sat 11 March	Maps BT23;M31
18 Mar Sun ■	CAVE STREAM / FLOCK HILL Kerry Moore 359 5069 Easy-moderate walk following Cave Stream as it flows 360m underground and emerges into Broken River. Be prepared for wet and cold conditions. Take a torch and a second one for back-up if you have one, and a dry set of clothing to change into later. There will be time for extra walking to Castle Hill Rocks or Flock Hill. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BW21;K34 Approx Cost: \$15
24-25 Mar Sat-Sun ■ ■	YOUNGMAN STREAM HUT - LILLBURN HILL TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip Easy-moderate tramp to the Youngman Stream hut in the upper Ashley. Option of a partial round-trip above the bushline on the Puketeraki Range taking in Tarn Hut. List Closes: Sat 17 March	Maps BV22;M34
25 Mar Sun ■	MT BARROSA TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip A moderate trip in the Clent Hills area above the Ashburton Gorge Rd. Open tussock country with good views all the way up this 800m climb to a 1364m peak. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BX19;J36 Approx Cost: \$20
31 -1 Apr Sat-Sun ■ ■	LEWIS TOPS Kevin Hughes 332 6281 An easy-moderate Lewis Pass tops trip along the main divide starting from the Lewis Pass car park. Camping on the top for views up the Maruia River to the Spencer Mountains and across to the Freyberg Range. List Closes: Sat 24 March	Maps BT23;M31
1 Apr Sun ■	MONSERRAT TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip Easy-moderate walk in farm country to 457m hill overlooking North Canterbury coastline up to Motunau Island Start: 8am Robbies near Placemakers (Cranford St)	Maps BV25;N34 Approx Cost: \$18
6-9 Apr Fri-Mon ■ ■ ■ ■ Easter	HELLFIRE STREAM-MISERY STREAM-LEES CREEK Merv Meredith 322 7239 This moderate-hard tramp is a spectacular round trip, crossing two 1900m high passes on the Raglan Range into seldom-visited valleys. Don't let the names put you off. List Closes: Sat 17 March	Maps BS25;N29,30
6-9 Apr Fri-Mon ■ ■ ■ ■ Easter	THOUSAND ACRE PLATEAU (VIA MATIRI R.) Kevin Hughes 332 6281 Moderate trip to this classic limestone area that looks impregnable from afar but the initial climb leads to the almost horizontal tablelands. Great views to the Hundred Acre Plateau, Mt Misery, The Needle and the Haystack. List Closes: Sat 17 March	Maps BR23;M28,M29
6-9 Apr Fri-Mon ■ ■ ■ ■ Easter	HEAPHY TRACK Leo Manders 356 1731 Classic Great Walk in Kahurangi National Park with a great variety of terrain—beach, forest and downland. The geology and flora are distinctly unlike Canterbury's. . List Closes: Sat 17 March	Maps BP22,23;L26,L27,M26

6-9 Apr	NELSON BASE CAMP	Maps BQ25,26;O27
Fri-Mon	Mary & Geoff Korver 355 3905	
■■■■	The plan is to stay at a motor camp in Nelson and run day trips, with the option of some overnight tramps. Possibilities are Dun Mountain, Maungatapu Track, Mt Arthur Tablelands, and a range of shorter walks—something good for all levels of fitness.	
Easter	List Closes: Sat 17 March	

President's Report

Hope you are enjoying the summer tramping. We have lots of trips away around Waitangi weekend with reports of high demand for our club gear—great to see it out and about. The Mesopotamia Base Camp was a great success with many people coming and going, including walking the local part of the Te Araroa Trail. The venue was spacious and very comfortable. Thanks to Murray and Dennis for organising this. We are now into 2012 and things are already moving along. If you haven't looked at Easter trips yet, now is the time to book in. I have space available for those of you wanting to do the Heaphy Track.

Annual General Meeting

Elsewhere in Footnotes you will see the notice for our AGM. Nominations are called for all positions. We are particularly looking for a trip planner and someone to take charge of membership (see below), both will be executive positions. Someone to manage our email database with assistance from the treasurer to send out our group emails is also needed.

Membership

The 31 January 2012 has now been and gone which means if you haven't renewed your membership yet, your subscription is now **overdue**. As at 24 January 2012 just over half of you had renewed your membership, thank you to those members. To qualify for the club's membership benefits it is now more important than ever to make sure your subscription is up-to-date. Read my section in the December 2011 Footnotes for some of these member benefits. Any member who has not paid their subscriptions by **31 March 2012** will be automatically deleted **on that date** from our membership database. This action could exclude you from some trips and activities in the future which we can now only provide to members or potential new members due to new Health and Safety regulations relating to outdoor activities. You must be on our club database and that includes any family partner or children of a family membership.

New Membership

I would like us as a club to have the discussion on new membership, as for some time our membership has been static or even declining. Have a think about what else we could be providing in the way of member benefits that would entice new members. Different tramping clubs provide other benefits, what would you like our club to provide? Over the last three years we have done a number of things to attract new members including:

- Running bushcraft courses and publicly advertising these.
- Producing a brochure on what our club is about and encouraging our members to distribute these.
- Encouraging younger members through setting up an email database of potential young members and facebook for communication.
- Developing relationship with 360 Degree Trust as a follow-up for their young participants.
- Encouraging the families of our club members to register their young family members through their family memberships at no extra charge.
- Building a new website with many enhanced features especially aimed at potential new members.
- Having our own registered domain and links to make our website relatively easy to find.
- Encouraging our younger family members to refer their outdoor-minded friends.

Despite all of these efforts we still seem to fail to sign up new members in any numbers. I think it would be beneficial if one of you that already deals with young people, maybe in your job or other social avenues, could join our executive. Your role could then cover membership alone, including communicating with any new potential members that already come to us and the club's aspirations. You would be given the opportunity to guide both the executive and our club members in achieving our club's membership aims. Have a think about the membership issue. Tell us your thoughts. I would like some guidance on our future membership direction from our club members at our upcoming AGM, where I plan to put it on the agenda. We need to be realistic as we are all voluntary, with time limits and would not be looking at throwing money into this. Returns from what we have done to date indicate spending money on this issue would be risky.

Club Night Monthly Meeting Venue

In November 2011's Footnotes I talked about our club night charges and that our venue hire charges at the Horticultural Society Hall are increasing by around 50%. Since mentioning this it was heartening to see nearly all of you paying \$2 at our Dec club night which we now need to continue to do. Your executive is also currently looking at other potential venues and in doing so have come up with a hall that is council owned and therefore cheaper to hire for non-profit groups like ourselves which would make quite a difference to hire charges. Currently the venue is being checked for availability, facilities and parking. The venue is located by the old Wigram airfield near Sockburn. We would like your feedback on whether the location of this new venue would be suitable for you. The executive is making a decision at its next exec meeting on Tue 28 Feb 2012. If we did decide to move, we would probably do so from the April meeting onwards. Please let us know your thoughts.

Tenure Review - Cora Lynn

Cora Lynn has come up for Tenure Review and submissions close later in February. The area covered includes that land fronting State Highway 73 from Cass River through to Bealey Spur. Access issues include well known tracks here leading to Cass Lagoon Saddle and Bealey Spur in particular. Some chunks of front country are planned for freeholding to Cora Lynn Station and several parcels of land are planned to be transferred to Wilderness Lodge Arthurs Pass Ltd. If you want further information contact Merv, our secretary for an email on this.

Trip Planning Meeting

The Trip Planning meeting for trips from **1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013** will be held at Gary Huish's place 5 Patchett Place off upper Hackthorne Road, Cashmere starting at 7.00pm. This is your chance to think about what trips you would like the club to do. You can lead these if you like or we will find a suitable leader. Have a serious think about where we could go and don't be scared to suggest somewhere we haven't gone. Two examples in recent years include the bottom of Stewart Island and Chatham Islands. You need to be descriptive of where the trip should go, preferably the actual route. In my section above of enhanced member benefits, trips to great places are definitely right up there. Your thoughts please. If you can't make the trip planning meeting then please email your trip requests to gary.huish@xtra.co.nz. All trip requests need to be in by 17 April at the latest otherwise you will be waiting a further year before it can be considered as a club trip as our trips are planned a year ahead.

Happy Tramping – Leo Manders

SOCIAL EVENTS

Tue 21 Feb **ROGAINE EVENING AND MEAL**



We'll have a mini-rogaïne at Victoria Park. Douglas Woods has kindly offered to show us how it's done. Meet **6.30pm** in the main car park near the kids' playground

Dinner at around **8pm** will be at **Elevate, 2 Colombo Street, Cashmere**

Names for Rogaine and/or meal to Mary Hines 942 6486 or hinestandm@clear.net.nz

Please book by Thursday 16th Feb.

ROGAINE = "**R**ugged **O**utdoor **G**roup **A**ctivity **I**nvolving **N**avigation and **E**ndurance"

This won't be rugged or require endurance but will be good practice for those interested in taking part in the upcoming Rogaine Festival at Little River on Sat 3rd March: The festival will be a day full of action for all tastes, from novice to experts, with event durations of 12, 6, 3, and 1½ hr. The 1½ hr is designed as a family event.

Full details will be available nearer the time at: <http://www.madeventz.co.nz/tmrogaïne/>

NOTICES

Membership We welcome new members **Laura Haslam and Adrian Daly**
Paul and Sarah Gunningham are resigning and moving from Chch
Gillian Smeith is not renewing her membership

Deadline for March newsletter Sat 3 March. Trip reports, news and items of interest may be e-mailed to **Kerry Moore, moorekj@xtra.co.nz phone 359 5069**

Next committee meeting 7:30pm Tue 28 Feb at Gary's

TRIP REPORTS

Brewster Hut 11- 13 Nov 2011 (Show Weekend)

"I'm miffed!" was Raymond's comment. Fresh snow was predicted on Mt Earnslaw and according to the locals in Glenorchy, the Rees River was looking "sporty"! So six people and packs in a people transporter left town at 6:30 am on Show Day for our alternative, Brewster Hut. We had an uninspiring lunch at Makarora tea rooms, but with a little gentle persuasion the staff allowed us to leave spare luggage in their back shed.

The start of the track begins at Fantail Falls by the Haast Highway. After crossing the lovely, clear Haast River we proceeded to follow Dan, climbing steadily up through the beech forest. At the tree-line we stopped to don coats and hats against a cold wind and some light rain. Cloud and mist obscured the steep drop-off to our left as we meandered up the ridgeline track. After two hours forty minutes for the 1000m climb, we arrived at the stunning 4-year-old, red, Brewster Hut, still partly surrounded by snow. The view from the hut was obscured. Only the tussock base of the ridge to Mt Armstrong could be seen from the kitchen window, but occasionally we could see glimpses of the rock and the waterfall below the Brewster Glacier. Mt Brewster (further back) and Top Heavy a prominent peak across the valley were hidden. Hot tea and soup with the paper, cryptic crosswords and selected reading by Dan, punctuated by meaningful pauses, from D.H. Lawrence's classic, *The Virgin and the Gypsy* kept us delightfully entertained. A bottle of Malbec, a superb chicken laksa curry with fresh veges and noodles finished the night perfectly.

On Saturday morning thick mist made for a slow start but eventually Raymond succeeded in moving us out the door by 10am. It was a straightforward 700m climb across patches of snow to the top of Mt Armstrong (2169m). Fortunately there was little wind and we were happy to have a leisurely lunch at the top while waiting for Mt Brewster to emerge through the occasional snow shower interspersed with sunnier spells, and to gaze down the precipitous cliffs on the Makarora side of the ridge. We began to traverse over to the Brewster Glacier, but visibility was uncertain and the snow was very soft so we re-traced our steps back down. The red hut, snow and moody views across the valley made for great photos. Finally the sun came out and we all sun-bathed on the huge deck for the rest of the afternoon, or chatted to a couple of day-trippers.

Sunday, we reluctantly left the hut and returned via the track to the Haast River. The combination of warm sunshine, absence of sandflies and clear water proved too tempting. Everyone jumped into the river for a bracing dip. Apart from a brief stop at Makarora to collect our gear and get changed, we drove straight onto Wanaka for lunch and a chance meeting with Leo's party, then back to Christchurch, with a couple of mandatory stops—the trip leader insisted—at the salmon farm and the Tekapo hot pools.

Thanks Raymond for all the planning, you sure picked a winner in the alternative, Brewster Hut. Mt Earnslaw is re-scheduled for February. The Brewster bunch were: **Raymond Ford, Gary Huish, Sue Johnston, Dan Pryce, Liz Stephenson and Chris Leaver.** 🐾 CL

Mount Murchison 26-28 November 2011

This trip has a checkered history, having been originally scheduled for this weekend, shifted back before Show Weekend and shifted back again. Maybe it was all ordained to get the best weather. Eight of us were all set to go when we got an apologetic enquiry the day before. It's pretty hard to turn down Geoff Spearpoint for a climbing trip, though he did get a ribbing for the rest of the weekend.

Saturday morning saw us ploughing into a nor-wester up the Waimakariri. Turning the corner at Carrington was a relief but the sight of Barker Hut sitting high on its rocky pinnacle never fails to inspire a mixture of awe and dread and the last hour was the usual gut-buster. The stunning scenery got most people racing around after they dumped packs. It's not many huts that have three glaciers terminating at the same height in close proximity.

The wind buffeted the hut during the night but did not prevent a 6am start. Any cloud had vanished and rapid progress was made across the snow basin to the start of the White Glacier with a good covering of snow. The sun on the glacial snow slowed progress as we zig-zagged upwards. Crevasses fortunately were small but disconcerting for anyone who put their foot into one. We finally reached Kahutea Col about 9am and studied the hardest top 100m. The route direct from the col had a large chock-stone barring the way and Geoff recommended a snow chute 100m further north. The snow proved to be steep and soft but led to an icier drop on the other side, connecting with another snow slope close to the top. The sight of the top rocky knob after a short steep snow crest was exhilarating. The wind had vanished and the views in every direction were amazing. No animals were harmed in the ascent but some electrons were severely disturbed in the subsequent photography. The thought of the predicted rain for Monday finally drove us from the summit as we wanted to go down to Carrington Hut for the night. The rope was used for some pitches on the descent but the softening snow reduced the risk. The cliffs on the true left started avalanching in the sun so we kept right and managed to bum-slide most of the way down the glacier. A brew at Barker revived us sufficiently to rock hop down the White River and reach Carrington Hut. It had been a long day and some were uncharacteristically quiet. One crashed between main and desert.

The forecast rain started early and we beat a hasty retreat down the Waimakariri, at least this time, against the wind. Mount Murchison is the highest in Arthurs Pass and one of the more technical mountain climbs the club has attempted. Getting nine members to the summit illustrates the growing confidence and ability of club members in this sort of terrain. We were **Raymond Ford, Kevin Hughes, Gary Huish, Chris Leaver, Merv Meredith, Dan Pryce, Geoff Spearpoint, Liz Stephenson and Bill Templeton.** 🏔️ GH

