



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

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April 2012

President	Leo Manders	356 1731	Raymond Ford	351 9496
Vice-President	Kevin Hughes	332 6281	Dan Pryce	356 2617
Vice-President	Mary Hines	942 6486	Liz Stephenson	358 3281
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 10 Apr **MT KAILASH—THE SACRED MOUNTAIN KORA TREK**

Brian Smith will take us around this 6714m landmark of inspirational beauty on the Tibetan Plateau. He will include the acclimatization trek up the Karnali Valley, Nepal and the journey across Tibet via Rongbuk to Lhasa

Supper Duty: Graeme Paltridge, David Ramm, Stuart Payne

Tue 8 May **FMC INFORMATION EVENING**



Rob Brown our local Christchurch FMC executive member will talk to us about the role of FMC. Nearly a third of your PTC subscription payment goes to fund FMC. Find out what is happening in the bigger picture of our tramping environment and what we can do to improve it.

Supper Duty: Rachel Payne, Susan Pearson, Miriam Preston

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.

8 Apr Sun	MT ISOBEL Margaret Clark 348 4993	Maps BU24,25;N32
■	This easy-moderate trip traverses from Jacks Pass Road towards the Dog Stream waterfall before climbing steeply then travelling along the ridge to Mt Isobel. May be time for a soak in the hot pools. Start: 8am Robbies near Placemakers, Cranford St	Approx Cost: \$13
15 Apr Sun	MT TORLESSE Gary Huish 332 7020	Maps BW21;L34,35
■	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. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Approx Cost: \$13
Tue 17 April	Trip Planning Evening 7pm Have your say on where we go during the next tramping year. 5 Patchett Place, Cashmere	
21-22 Apr Sat-Sun	WALKER PASS - TARN COL - EDWARDS Liz Stephenson 358 3281	Maps BV20,21;K33
■ ■	One of the classic Arthurs Pass NP tramps. This moderate 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. List Closes: Sat 14 April	
21-22 Apr Sat-Sun	PINNACLE Kerry Moore 359 5069	Maps BT22;L31
■ ■	Moderate-hard trip in Victoria Forest Park, involving some bush-bashing, rock scrambling and ridge travel. Camping out in one of the numerous alpine tarn basins along the way. List Closes: Sat 14 April	
22 Apr Sun	LEITH HILL Keith McQuillan 384 6164	Maps BW21;K34,35
■	Easy-moderate trip to the 1384m peak behind Castle Hill Village. Possibility of round-trip behind the Castle Hill scenic reserve. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Approx Cost: \$15
26-29 Apr Thu-Sun	KEPLER TRACK Leo Manders 356 1731 leomanders@paradise.net.nz	Maps CD07,08;C43
■ ■ ■ ■	Experience the splendour of Fiordland on a this medium graded, well-defined track. We will travel down from Christchurch on Anzac day and start walking on Apr 26, the beginning of the off-season, ensuring cheaper hut fees. You will be able to use your annual hut pass or pay \$15.30 per night instead of the \$51 peak-season rate—not \$5 as mentioned at club night. Views	

into South Fiord while walking the alpine section are breath-taking. This is as close as you will get to the closed-off Takahe preservation area. Iris Burn is classic Fiordland river valley territory and a walk beside beautiful Lake Manapouri rounds off a truly great walk. We will stay at Te Anau Holiday Park on the first night—a secure place to leave cars. A shower on the last day is possible there before we head back to Christchurch. We will use the Holiday Park transport from Rainbow Reach on the last day. We need names now if you want to come.

List Closes: Sat 14 April

- 29 Apr Sun** ■ **OKUKU HILL** **Keith McQuillan 384 6164** **Maps BV23;M34**
Easy-moderate tramp to this 1143m foothill, approached from the Lees Valley Road. Mixture of farm tracks and possibly tussock and scrub. Will probably walk around Pigeon Bush and part of Retreat Stream catchment.
Start: 8am Robbies near Placemakers, Cranford St **Approx Cost: \$13**
- 2-6 May Wed-Sun** ■■■■■■ **ROUTE BURN - CAPLES** **Gary Huish 332 7020** **Maps CB09,10;D40,E40**
Moderate. One of New Zealand's world famous walking tracks and timed after the main season so normal hut fees apply. May start on 5 May through to 9 May depending on weather.
List Closes: Sat 21 April
- 5-6 May Sat-Sun** ■■ **HOKITIKA BASE CAMP** **Leo Manders 356 1731 leomanders@paradise.net.nz** **Maps BU19,BV19;H35**
 Suitable to all members, including families, young children, regardless of fitness. Leaving Christchurch Friday night May 4. Lots to see and do. Leo has lived in Hokitika for nearly 10 years so will be able to share a lot of the history and "inside story". Walks on offer include Rapid Creek, Sunset Point, Lake Kaniere Walkway, Hokitika Gorge, Mt. Tuhua, Lake Mahinapua Walkway, Hokitika Beach. If people book early enough Leo may be able to rent a bach for accommodation, a nicer option than the old motor camp.
 Please book this trip now and don't rely on the Footnotes closing dates. We may close earlier as some learned with the Heaphy Track which was booked out well before closing date.
List Closes: Sat 21 April
- 5-6 May Sat-Sun** ■■ **CASS SADDLE/LAGOON SADDLE** **Mary & Geoff Korver 355 3905** **Maps BV20,21;K34**
 Popular **moderate** round-trip in the Craigieburns, overnighing in the spacious Hamilton Hut. Mainly good track through beech forest, two tussock saddles, grassy flats, with a few river crossings thrown in.
List Closes: Sat 28 April
- 6 May Sun** ■ **MT WINTERSLOW** **Chris Leaver 322 6445** **Maps BX20;K36**
Moderate walk to the highest peak (1700m) on the Winterslow Range. Starting from Sharplin Falls car park, with potential views of Mts Cook and Tasman. Take ice axes and crampons.
Start: 7am Church Cnr (across from church) **Approx Cost: \$16**
- 12-15 May Sat-Tue** ■■■■■■ **MOTATAPU TRACK** **Dan Pryce 356 2617 & Gary Huish 332 7020** **Maps CB11,12;F40,41**
Moderate tramp of Shania Twain fame between Arrowtown and Wanaka.
List Closes: Sat 28 April
- 12-13 May Sat-Sun** ■■ **EDWARDS - STANLEY - FOWLER PASS** **TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip** **Maps BT24;M31,N31**
Moderate tramp north of Hanmer Springs between the Clarence and Waiiau rivers. Up the Edwards River, north of the Amuri skifield road, to Charlie's Saddle. Travel up the Waiiau via The Racecourse, to the Stanley River to the hut at Glenrae Flat, southeast of Lake Guyon, and return via Fowler Pass.
List Closes: Sat 5 May

- 13 May Sun** ■ **BIRDLINGS FLAT - MAGNET BAY** **Maps BY24;M37,N37**
TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip
Easy-moderate trip along the coast from Birdlings Flat to Oashore, Tokoroa, Hikuraki and Magnet Bays. Returning the same way.
Start: 8am Halswell School **Approx Cost: \$8**
- 19-20 May Sat-Sun** ■■ **THIRTEEN MILE BUSH - BIG BEN RANGE** **Maps BW21;K35,L35**
Kerry Moore 359 5069
Moderate-hard trip starting from Porters Pass and traversing along the Big Ben Range before dropping to a hut at the head of Thirteen Mile Bush. Heading down the valley next day.
List Closes: Sat 12 May
- 20 May Sun** ■ **MT ALEXANDER** **Maps BV24;N33**
TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip
Easy-moderate wander in open, rolling North Canterbury farm country, to this 750m lookout near Scargil.
Start: 8am Robbies near Placemakers, Cranford St **Approx Cost: \$14**
- 26-27 May Sat-Sun** ■■ **PINCHGUT HUT** **Maps BW23;M34**
TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip
An easy, almost flat trip up the Okuku River in the Mt Thomas Forest to a comfortable hut.
List Closes: Sat 19 May
- 27 May Sun** ■ **PORT ROBINSON WALKWAY** **Maps BV26;O33**
TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip
Easy coastal walk in North Canterbury, between Gore Bay and the Hurunui River mouth. The walk features beaches and headlands. The track could be a bit rough in places.
Start: 8am Robbies near Placemakers, Cranford St **Approx Cost: \$17**
- 2-4 Jun Sat-Mon** ■■■ **CASEY SADDLE - LAKE MINCHIN** **Maps BV21,22;K33**
Kevin Hughes 332 6281
Moderate tramp in Arthurs Pass NP. Starting from Andrews Shelter and crossing the low Casey Saddle, we'll stay at Poulter Hut with time for a day trip to remote Lake Minchin.
List Closes: Sat 19 May
- 2-4 Jun Sat-Mon** ■■■ **BUCKLAND PEAKS** **Maps BS20;K29**
Merv Meredith 322 7239
A **moderate** trip at the northern end of the Paparoa National Park. The route climbs steeply to Bucklands Peak Hut where great spotted kiwis can often be heard at night. A side trip to the Buckland Peaks, at 1325m, should give views from Mt Cook to Karamea.
List Closes: Sat 19 May
- 2-4 Jun Sat-Mon** ■■■ **ROSS BASE CAMP** **Maps BV18;J33**
Leo Manders 356 1731
Base camp in this popular area with a variety of walks amongst mining relics or some serious tramping.
List Closes: Sat 19 May
- 3 Jun Sun** ■ **HOGS BACK** **Maps BW21;K34**
TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip
Easy-moderate loop to the peak behind Cheeseman's Forest Lodge in the Craigieburn Range. Great views of the range and its beech forests.
Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church) **Approx Cost: \$20**
- 10 Jun Sun** ■ **80TH ANNIVERSARY DAY TRAMP** **Maps BX24;M36**
Leo Manders 356 1731
An easy tramp on the Port Hills.

President's Report

Our tramping club has entered its 80th year. Our 80th AGM was held last month. We will reach the official 80th birthday on the weekend of June 9th & 10th this year. We are planning an evening dinner on Sat June 9 and a celebration day walk on Sun June 10. Keep a look out for more specific details of this in future Footnotes. Thank you to all those who turned out for our AGM, all 39 of you—a great night with many suggestions from you on attracting new members. We now have one new committee member joining the executive and welcome Liz Stephenson.

Club Duties List

One of the first things our new incoming executive does is update our Club Duties List. This simply puts a name beside an area of club responsibility not already officially decided at the AGM.

For your information here is the list:

CLUB NIGHTS

Greeter at door and New Member Liaison, Liz Stephenson

Floating Greeter and back-up, Mary Hines

Hall key to open hall, Kevin Hughes, with back-up, Leo Manders

PTC Slide Projector and DVD player custodian, Leo Manders

PTC Projector Screen, Merv Meredith

Speaker Coordinator, Brian Smith

Computer and data projector set up for presentation, Leo Manders back up, Brian Smith

Computer and club hard drive for member use, Kevin Hughes

MC club meetings/Chairperson exec. and general meetings, President Leo Manders. Back-up Vice Presidents, Kevin Hughes, Mary Hines

Minutes at exec and general meetings Secretary, Merv Meredith

Supper Supplies, Chris Leaver, back up Kevin Hughes

Club Night Treasurer, Geoff Price, back-up, Leo Manders

PTC Promotion Brochures supply, Geoff Price

FMC bulletins, Footnotes spare copies, Stan Wilder

Librarian books, magazines, photo albums, club correspondence Secretary, Merv Meredith

PTC Digital Photo Archive, Leo Manders, Kerry Moore

CLUB GEAR

GEAR CUSTODIAN/QUARTERMASTER Brian Smith, back up Geoff Korver

PLB/First Aid Kits (3) Quartermaster Brian Smith, (1) Merv Meredith, (1) Kevin Hughes

PLB Contact people (3) Brian Smith, Leo Manders, John Borner

Note: Trip leaders need to email all three prior to trip, advising that trip is going and emergency contact person.

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP change of address etc all changes from members, Merv Meredith

Membership database, listings, maintenance, Geoff Price

Subscription renewal, Geoff Price

New Member enquiries, Liz Stephenson

PTC Communicator (emails to PTC members) Coordinator, Liz Stephenson

NEWSLETTER

Editor, production, printing and email, Kerry Moore

Distribution, Stan Wilder

Envelopes and address labelling, Geoff Price

TRIPS

Planner, trip schedule, trip leader liaison, Gary Huish with assistance from, Dan Pryce

Base Camps Booking officer in first instance, Dan Pryce, back-up, Geoff Korver

Transport officer to assist trip leaders arranging public transport, Leo Manders

WEBSITE

PTC Webmaster, Kevin Hughes

Facebook page, Liz Stephenson, Mary Hines, Chris Leaver

SOCIAL EVENTS

Coordinator, Mary Hines, back-up, Sue Britain, Chris Leaver

BARN DANCE

Coordinator, Dan Pryce

OTHER ORGANISATIONS

DoC/FMC Liaison contact person, Merv Meredith

Submissions coordinator, DoC, tenure review, Raymond Ford

MSC Incident Database Reporting, Raymond Ford

Note: Trip leaders to report accidents and serious incidents to Trip Planner, Gary Huish along with trip stats

MSC Coordinator, Kerry Moore

As you can see from the above club duties list, it takes a lot of people to help in the smooth running of our club. Then there are our trip leaders, we need around 30 of you to help lead club trips. If you haven't led a trip for a while or would like to start leading a trip please contact Gary Huish. We will make the process as painless as possible by giving you experienced member support on your trip, from planning to running the trip. Leading a club trip once a year should be a goal for most of you. Give our trip planner a hand by contacting him to volunteer to run a club trip. You can choose where you want to go and how you want to run the trip. See below under Trip Planning for more details.

PTC Communicator

For those of you receiving club emails recently, you will have noticed they are coming via PTC Communicator. This has been developed to make it easier for exec. members to directly communicate with you—another example of using new technology. For club members wanting to have emails sent club-wide, please contact Liz Stephenson. This arrangement replaces the function Kerry Moore has provided up to now. All emails sent should have your name as the sender (even if forwarding third party emails) to respect our club member recipients, who have a right to know who organised the email. Also please word the message as you'd like it to appear so Liz doesn't have to re-word it.

Emergency Information Sheet

As mentioned in Footnotes last month, PTC has inaugurated an Emergency Information Sheet. With this issue of Footnotes and the FMC bulletin, we have included an A5 sized sheet. Every person tramping with us in future should be carrying one of these in a sealed plastic bag inside their personal first-aid kit. If you require extra copies contact Geoff Price. Please take the time to fill in the detail on this form. Good information means better communication, so you will get more effective help in an emergency. When listing your emergency contacts, think about the people who may want to know about your well-being. Often these are the people that ring the club to find out if you are all right; it could be your children. Having this information on the form can also be helpful when trip leaders ask for your emergency contact details, so if you don't already have this information readily available on your cell-phone, you can retrieve it from your contact sheet. The Medical Information on the reverse of the form would be used if you become ill or have an accident requiring medical treatment. Having this information can save your life. Remember in the outdoors it takes longer to access medical help, even with today's personal locator beacons and modern helicopter rescues.

Change of Bank for PTC

As signalled at the AGM, the executive is in the process of changing banks from Westpac to Kiwibank. The treasurer is going through the first stages of this process and will report back at the next exec meeting. We will notify you when we have new accounts set up and new account numbers etc so you can change your bill payer information.

Membership

Thank you to all members who have now renewed their subscription. The numbers are slightly up on last year, but we still have a few who haven't renewed. If this applies to a friend of yours please tell them as they won't be getting this Footnotes or any other unless they rejoin. They also won't be covered by new health and safety rules applicable from 1 Nov 2011 and club insurance cover. They won't be able to use our club PLB's even on their private trips—a free service to club members. They may be excluded from some club activities as we can't afford to take the risk on them. We are registered to provide activities to club members, members of other clubs or potential new members checking us out before initially joining. We don't provide services to the general public of a risky nature like tramping. The cut-off for renewal was 31 March 2012, so former members will have been removed from our club database. The treasurer has tried to contact the last few members who have not renewed. If this is you, please contact the treasurer Geoff Price to rejoin.

New Members

We are working on initiatives to attract new members and have started the process by appointing Liz Stephenson to coordinate this for us. We have noted the many ideas provided at our AGM and will use these to help with the goal of attracting new members.

Trip Planning Meeting

Don't forget Tue 17 April starting 7.00pm at Gary Huish's place, 5 Patchett Place off Hackthorne Road Cashmere, Bring your ideas for club trips. If you can't make the meeting email gary.huish@xtra.co.nz with your suggestions.

We are also going to look at bushcraft courses, day courses covering specific topics like navigation, river crossing etc as well as probably a weekend one if the demand is there. We are looking at providing some specific trips for families, including those with young children. (The Hokitika Base Camp on 5 & 6 May 2012 as an example). We may also set up some trips targeting young people as we have some contacts for this. There will be opportunities for those of you who want to get back into tramping but may feel embarrassed to hold up the group. The family trip option could be a good opportunity to get back into tramping. We also need suggestions for exciting new places which we may not have done before or for quite a while.

FMC AGM

This year the FMC AGM is being held in Christchurch over the weekend of June 9 & 10 at the Sudima Hotel near the airport. Generally the meeting is on the Saturday during the day. Our club is having its 80th dinner on Sat 9 June in the evening. Usually FMC do a walk with an affiliated club on the Sun. It is our intention to invite FMC delegates to join us on the walk and possibly dinner. It would be great to have a number of PTC members at this year's FMC AGM, combining our 80th events with the AGM. Also consider accepting a nomination to join the FMC executive. If you do please contact Merv or myself asap.

Happy Tramping – Leo Manders

SOCIAL EVENTS

Fri 27 Apr



Astronomy evening, West Melton Observatory

Meet at Robbies Church Corner by 7pm (on Yaldhurst Road) to car-pool.

For a quick bite beforehand, suggest you arrive about 5:45 pm.

Please book via email (ptc75@clear.net.nz)

or phone Graham Townsend 322-6445, by **Tuesday 24th**

We will be outside for a couple of hours so ensure you have plenty of warm clothes. If cloudy/raining, there will be an indoor slide presentation.

Cost: \$10 entry, plus a donation to the driver

Wed 6 June

7.30pm



Much Ado About Nothing – by William Shakespeare

Directed by Ross Gumbley *Featuring Lisa Chappell*

Laced with Shakespearean wit, Much Ado About Nothing is the model for the modern romantic comedy. Beatrice and Benedick are engaged in a war of words; scorning love, marriage and each other. But with so many sparks flying, hearts are soon set alight.

We have booked the best seats in the new Court Theatre, Bernard Street, Addington.

Book your seat, \$39 discount price by **Tuesday 15th May**, with Brian Smith

Ph 355 9945, 027 740 3035, or brian21x@xtra.co.nz

NOTICES

Membership We welcome new member **Mark Pickering**

Deadline for May newsletter Mon 30 April. 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 24 April at Merv's

TRIP REPORTS

PINE HUNTING

Day 1 — 17 March

A large assortment of tramping clubs and others met at 0745 in the Yaldhurst Pub car park and headed off in cars for Parapet Rock, just past the Cave Stream car park. We were based up a vehicle track quite close to the main road below Flock Hill. Nearby was an army unit who'd been on manoeuvres but they stayed well clear of us. We chose our weapons from the boxes of saws, loppers and axes, got the usual lesson on pulling out the pines or cutting them off in their prime, making sure we didn't leave even a trace of green living material and headed off to seek and destroy the insidious pine menace. The terrain was easy with some of it very flat. Pines on the flat were mostly tiny ones that could be pulled out. Further up the slope, chain-saws were roaring though we foot-soldiers had to check the stump for low branches and needles. The day was warm and sunny and we welcomed a lunch-time break. At three we were told to down-tools and head back to the cars where we handed in our bright orange vests, leather gloves and hardware. ECAN certainly appreciate our efforts, explaining that if WELRA (Waimakariri Ecological and Landscape Restoration Alliance) had to pay contractors to do the work it would cost thousands. See <http://www.welra.org.nz/> to learn of their herbicide trials on high-density stands of pines in the area. We were sent on our way with chocolate bars, tired but well satisfied with our efforts. The PTC team was, from left: **Liz Stephenson, Rick Bolch, Grant Hunter, Geoff Spearpoint, Raymond Ford, Merv Meredith and Kerry Moore**



Day 2—31 March

At Yaldhurst we were loaded into 4WD club vehicles for a trip to the Flock Hill area, this time further from the main road inland from Flock Hill. Pines this time were bigger with nasty low branches that can hide in the grass and easily be missed, allowing the tree to re-grow. The day was warm and sunny and about 60 of us made a sizeable dent in the pine population there but we didn't manage to completely clear our assigned patch. Again we were rewarded with chocolate bars and all enjoyed our SUV excursion and a job well done.

The tree whackers were: **Merv Meredith, Grant & Anne Hunter, Bill Hotter, Lynne & Ian Lochhead and Kerry Moore** 🌲 KM