



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](http://www.peninsulatrampingclub.org.nz)

E-mail [secretary@peninsulatrampingclub.org.nz](mailto:secretary@peninsulatrampingclub.org.nz)

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

## October 2012

<b>President</b>	Leo Manders	356 1731	Raymond Ford	351 9496
<b>Vice-President</b>	Kevin Hughes	332 6281	Dan Pryce	356 2617
<b>Vice-President</b>	Mary Hines	942 6486	Liz Stephenson	358 3281
<b>Treasurer</b>	Geoff Price	337 2614	Brian Smith	Quartermaster 355 9945
<b>Trip Planner</b>	Gary Huish	332 7020		
<b>Secretary</b>	Merv Meredith	322 7239		
<b>Editor</b>	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 9 Oct **Wild Heart – the Possibility and Challenges of Wilderness in Aotearoa NZ**

Mick Abbott is a former equipment designer for Fairydown and Hallmark and has completed solo journeys along the length of South Island's main divide and to Fiordland's West Cape. He's a regular columnist for Wilderness magazine, and has co-edited a number of recent books including, *Wild Heart*, *Beyond the Scene* and *Making Our Place* "Heading into the hills I'm often struck by how strange it is to think of ourselves as visitors in our public conservation lands. It seems many of us have a far more intimate relationship".

**Supper Duty: Yvette So, Nic or Marg Webb, Malcolm or Lorraine Wilmshurst**

### Tue 13 Nov **Whanganui River Trip. Tall stories and antics**



The story of the Club's 6-day, 145 km journey paddling down-river, with thrill spills and laughs. A ragtag fleet of assorted craft started at Cherry Grove, ending at Pipariki Landing with a few excursions along the way.

**Supper Duty: Lisa Williams, Maureen Thompson, David Ramm**

**SGM SGM SGM SGM SGM —7:30pm Tue 13 November**

A **Special General Meeting** of Peninsula Tramping Club will be held at Canterbury Horticultural Centre, Hagley Avenue

**Aim: To remove the family membership surcharge**

**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 on biking trips please contact

**Rick Bolch ph 980 5156 email rlbolch@paradise.net.nz**

<b>7 Oct</b> <b>Sun</b> ■	<b>BEN MORE, FROM LYNDON ROAD</b> Terry Thomsen 379 8481 Moderate snow trip to this 1655m peak in Korowai/Torlesse Tussockland Park. We aim to do a round trip starting from the road between Lakes Lyndon and Coleridge. Views should include Lake Coleridge basin and Rakaia River. Ice axe required. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	<b>Maps BW21;K35</b>  <b>Approx Cost: \$13</b>
<b>13-14 Oct</b> <b>Sat-Sun</b> ■ ■	<b>WOOLSHED HILL - EAST HAWDON</b> Mary & Geoff Korver 355 3905 Moderate trip in Arthurs Pass National Park. Up a bush track to Woolshed Hill, then along the Savannah Range and dropping into East Hawdon. List closes: Sat 6 Oct	<b>Maps BV20,21;K,L33</b>
<b>14 Oct</b> <b>Sun</b> ■	<b>WHARFE DALE TRACK</b> Paul Moreham 339 8050 Easy walking on well-formed track near Mt Oxford. Beech forest so wasps may be a nuisance. Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	<b>Maps BW22;L34</b>  <b>Approx Cost: \$12</b>
<b>20-22 Oct</b> <b>Sat-Mon</b> ■ ■ ■ <b>Labour</b> <b>Wknd</b>	<b>BIG TOPS - KOROPUKU - TOWNSEND HUT</b> Kerry Moore 359 5069 A hard trip in Arthurs Pass NP up the Taramakau past Lake Kaurapataka up to Big Tops and on to seldom-visited Koropuku Hut. On day two we'll go up Koropuku Stream, past Mt Koeti and on to Townsend Hut. A bush track goes from the hut down to the Taramakau. List closes: Sat 13 Oct	<b>Maps BV20,21;K33</b>
<b>20-22 Oct</b> <b>Sat-Mon</b> ■ ■ ■ <b>Labour</b> <b>Wknd</b>	<b>HENRY RIVER - ANNE - BOUCHER</b> Douglas Woods 021 242 9122 This moderate trip starts on the St James Walkway and climbs to Henry Saddle to cross the Libretto Range and on to the newly built Anne Hut. Returning via Boucher Stream to Foleys Track. List closes: Sat 13 Oct	<b>Maps BT23;M31</b>

20-22 Oct Sat-Mon ■■■ Lab Wknd	<b>BOULDER LAKE</b> Leo Manders 356 1731 Easy-moderate trip in NW Kahurangi NP with access along Brown Cow Ridge. Spectacular rock formations and interesting geology. Possible side trip to view Anatoki Peaks. List closes: Sat 13 Oct	Maps BN23,24,BP23,24;M26
20-22 Oct Sat-Mon ■■■ Labour Wknd	<b>NELSON LAKES BASE CAMP</b> Heather Murray & Kevin Hughes 332 6281 A very pretty area with all grades of day-tramps catered for. One option is a moderate traverse along the St Arnaud Range, starting from the Rainbow ski-field so that the vehicles do the hard work, then dropping down to St Arnaud. Mt Robert is another excellent easy-moderate to moderate option, depending on how far you go. If you want an easier time of it, there are nice tracks on the shores of Lake Rotoiti, and in the 'mainland island' with its enhanced wildlife. We have 7 at the moment, hoping for 10 and will close off by Sat 6th to leave time to confirm accommodation. We will be leaving 6pm Friday and plan to stay at a modern bach. List closes: Sat 6 Oct	Maps BS24;M29,N29
21 Oct Sun ■	<b>MT GREY - RED BEECH TRACK</b> Stan Wilder 980 5291 Easy-moderate walk to this popular foothill inland from Amberley. Round-trip up the Grey River through beech and plantation forest to the tussock summit. Start: 8am Robbies near Placemakers, Cranford St	Maps BW,V23;M34 Approx Cost: \$10
27-28 Oct Sat-Sun ■■	<b>LEWIS TOPS</b> Heather Murray & 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 13 Oct	Maps BT23;M31
28 Oct Sun ■	<b>MAUKURATAWHAI</b> Gary Huish 332 7020 Over Jacks Pass behind Hanmer, this moderate tramp climbs to this 1615 m summit. Possible round trip. Start: 7am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BT24,25;N31 Approx Cost: \$21
3-5 Nov Sat-Mon ■■■	<b>MT ADAMS</b> Gary Huish 332 7020 This moderate-hard trip to the isolated sentinel of 2208m Mt Adams commences at 100m. The top commands a view from Cape Foulwind to Mt Cook. Ice axe and crampons required. List closes: Sat 27 Oct	Maps BW17;I34,35
3 Nov <u>Saturday</u> ■	<b>PACKHORSE HUT – FROM GEBBIES</b> Margot Bowden 332 7020 Easy walk on the peninsula, up through farmland, pine forest and bush remnants, to cross the volcanic dykes a short way from the sturdy stone Packhorse Hut, from which you'll enjoy excellent views of Lyttelton Harbour. Start: 8am Princess Margaret (Hackthorne Rd end)	Maps BX24;M36 Approx Cost: \$7
10-11 Nov Sat-Sun ■■	<b>PRINCESS BATH, LAKE TENNYSON</b> Liz Stephenson 358 3281 Moderate tramp to this impressive tarn basin at 1700m, behind Lake Tennyson in the upper Clarence Valley. We aim to climb nearby 2126m Mt Princess. Camping out. List closes: Sat 3 Nov	Maps BT24;M31,31

11 Nov Sun ■	<b>RED BEECH STREAM - SUDDEN VALLEY</b> Chrys Horn 338 0313 Moderate-hard circuit in the Hawdon River area on the south side of Arthurs Pass. Start: 7am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BV21;K33 Approx Cost: \$23
16-18 Nov Fri-Sun ■■■	<b>MT TAPUAE-O-UENNUKU</b> Kevin Hughes 332 6281 New Zealand's highest summit north of Mt Cook National Park is in the Inland Kaikoura Range, and happens to be a trumper's peak, for those competent with ice axe and crampons. The moderate-hard trip takes a day just to walk into the Hodder Huts near the foot of the mountain. List closes: Sat 2 Nov	Maps BS27;O29,30
16-19 Nov Fri-Mon ■■■■ Show w/e	<b>OHAU - ELCHO - BRODERICK</b> Raymond Ford 351 9496 Moderate-hard circuit between the Hopkins and Landsborough Rivers at the head of Lake Ohau. Ice axe and crampons required. List closes: Sat 2 Nov	Maps BY14;H37,H38
15-20 Nov Thu-Tue ■■■■■■ Show w/e	<b>WANGAPEKA TRACK</b> Leo Manders 356 1731 Classic, historic, moderate tramp, crossing the southern half of Kahurangi National Park. There are two saddles to cross and well-spaced huts to sleep in. If enough people sign on we can walk from each end and do a crossover trip. List closes: Sat 2 Nov	Maps BQ22,23;L27,M27,M28
16-18 Nov Fri-Sun ■■■ Show w/e	<b>MOANA BASE CAMP</b> Keith McQuillan 384 6164 Base camp in Moana village, on the shores of Lake Brunner, Westland. We'll have planned pot-luck meals. The main tramping attractions in the area are the easy-moderate to moderate ascents of Mts French and Te Kinga, giving great views above the bushline. There are easier walks such as nearby Nelson Creek too. A network of back roads in the bush is suitable for bikers. Just taking it easy in the village is an option. Friday evening departure from Chch. List closes: Sat 2 Nov	Maps BU19,20;K32
18 Nov Sun ■	<b>DRACOPHYLLUM FLAT</b> TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip An easy track runs from the lower section of the Broken River ski road in the Craieburn area Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)	Maps BW21;K34 Approx Cost: \$16
24-25 Nov Sat-Sun ■■	<b>MT MISERY - PEAK 1912 - CASS SADDLE</b> Merv Meredith 322 7239 Moderate-hard trip in the Craieburns. Starting up Mt Misery to camp in Long Valley Stream, then up Peak 1912, descending to the Cass Valley track. List closes: Wed 14 Nov	Maps BV20,21;K34 Approx Cost: \$13
24-25 Nov Sat-Sun ■■	<b>CAMERON HUT</b> TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip This moderate trip visits a spectacular location in from Lake Heron with splendid views of the Arrowsmith Range. An early start on Sunday morning gives time for a view down onto the glacier from a prominent lateral moraine before returning. List closes: Sat 17 Nov	Maps BW18,19,BX19;J35

<b>25 Nov Sun</b> ■	<b>MT PHILISTINE</b> <b>Gary Huish 332 7020</b> Probably the most spectacular of the <b>moderate-hard</b> day climbs in the Arthur's Pass area. From the Otira Valley, there's a tricky ascent through the Philistine Bluffs, and then it's fairly plain sailing to the summit for marvellous views of Mt Rolleston's Otira Face and Waimakariri Col. Ice axe and crampons required. <b>Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)</b>	<b>Maps BV20;K33</b>  <b>Approx Cost: \$25</b>
<b>1-3 Dec Sat-Mon</b> ■■■	<b>PLUTO PEAK</b> <b>Raymond Ford 351 9496</b> This <b>hard</b> trip plans to climb Pluto Peak via Spaniard Valley above the Dart. Ice axe and crampons required. <b>List closes: Sat 17 Nov</b>	<b>Maps CA10;E40</b>
<b>1-2 Dec Sat-Sun</b> ■■	<b>CARROLL HUT</b> <b>TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip</b> From Otira, a steady <b>easy-moderate</b> climb through bush to 8-bunk Carroll Hut, just above the bush line. Opportunity to explore the nice tops on the Kelly Range. <b>List closes: Sat 24 Nov</b>	<b>Maps BV20;K33</b>
<b>2 Dec Sun</b> ■	<b>PUDDING HILL STREAM - MT HUTT</b> <b>Evelien Baas evelien@farmsoftware.co.nz 03 317 9077 or 027 557 5521</b> <b>Easy-moderate</b> walk along the ridge to the west of Mt Hutt forest. Good views of the plains, Mt Hutt and the Alfred and Taylor Ranges to the west. <b>Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church) or 8:45am Darfield Supermarket</b>	<b>Maps BX20;K35,K36</b>  <b>Approx Cost: \$15</b>
<b>8-9 Dec Sat-Sun</b> ■■	<b>WAIMAKARIRI COL - MT PHILISTINE</b> <b>Raymond Ford 351 9496</b> This <b>hard</b> trip across the Main Divide is one of those "must-do" tramps. It still requires a slog up the Waimakariri but the location of the Falls Hut makes it worthwhile. Sunday will be a long day over the Col and up Mt Philistine and back past the bluffs. <b>List closes: Sat 1 Dec</b>	<b>Maps BV20;K33</b>
<b>8-9 Dec Sat-Sun</b> ■■	<b>MT PEEL</b> <b>TBA Contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you want to lead this trip</b> <b>Moderate hard</b> ascent of this 1743m landmark in South Canterbury, passing through podocarp forest and subalpine scrub with 7km along the tops beyond Little Mt Peel. Drive down Friday evening and camp at Peel Forest campground. Early start on Sat for Big Mt Peel for up to a 10hr day. Pot luck evening meal. 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. <b>List closes: Sat 1 Dec</b>	<b>Maps BY19;J37</b>
<b>9 Dec Sun</b> ■	<b>LITTLE MT PEEL</b> <b>Chris Leaver 322 6445</b> <b>Easy-moderate</b> to <b>moderate</b> ascent of this 1300m landmark in South Canterbury, passing through podocarp forest and subalpine scrub. Quite a long climb, but it's a good track. Those wanting an easier day may want to go only part of the way up, or explore the bush tracks in the area. <b>Start: 8am Church Cnr (across from church)</b>	<b>Maps BY19;J37</b>  <b>Approx Cost: \$24</b>

### Hollyford Track - Advance Information

Leaving Saturday **2 Feb**, returning **Sunday 10 Feb**. We currently have 5, possibly 7, names down for this classic tramp so get in quick. It's a four-day tramp, with no real climbing, from Gunn's Camp to Martins Bay where we will take a day to rest or visit the seal colony along the beach track towards Long Reef. Instead of retracing our entire route we will take a jet boat up Lake McKerrow then have only 1½ days to walk out. Closing date is 6th January or when full.

## President's Report

### Bushcraft Courses

We have now completed our series of bushcraft courses for 2012. Thank you to the people who helped organise and run these courses. By all accounts all participants got a good range of useful skills and information and we now have another dozen potential trip leaders.

### Tenure Review

Our club recently put in a submission for Middle Hill, Kaikoura expressing concerns for future access to conservation areas. We will also put in a submission on Omarama Station to support the proposed public access routes on this tenancy review proposal.

### PTC Recipe Book

Don't forget we are on the lookout for your favourite tramping recipe. Contact Liz Stephenson 358 3281 or email [stephensonbes@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stephensonbes@xtra.co.nz) Prizes will be awarded for the best creations. When providing quantities please stipulate how many people this is to serve. Liz will probably approach some of you direct for recipes. Contacting her first will save some work.

### Happy Tramping – Leo Manders

## SOCIAL EVENTS

Sat 13 Oct

### Photo Archiving Instruction Day

Starts 9.00am till 5.00pm. Bring your computer or laptop, camera with instruction book. Bring a pot luck lunch to share. You will learn how to set up your photos and incorporate other material like maps, title pages, written material, even movies into your computer photo album. How to transfer onto mobile devices, ipads etc. How to easily use the data projector or your TV for your presentations. How to set up your photos so that it only takes 10 minutes for you to organise any talk or presentation in the future. We will also cover scanning your prints, colour, black and white, slides into the digital format. We will cover order sequence of your photos and using both time order and area order to easily locate your photo groups. Limit of 8 people. Contact **Leo Manders 356 1731** [leomanders@paradise.net.nz](mailto:leomanders@paradise.net.nz) to enlist or for further information.



Tues 16 Oct

### Bowenvale Blitz: Bowenvale Walk and meal at Elevate Bar & Restaurant

Meet at Bowenvale Reserve car park at the end of Bowenvale Ave, Cashmere at **6pm** for a walk, then descend to **Elevate Bar & Restaurant, 2 Colombo Street**—Colombo/Dyers Pass Road/Centaurus Road intersection—for a meal at 7.30pm. Names for meal to Margot Bowden [Margot.bowden@gmail.com](mailto:Margot.bowden@gmail.com) or phone **332 7020** by **Sunday 14 October**



Thur 22 Nov

### Curletts Reserve Walk & Meal

Explore the source of the Heathcote River then dine at **Halswell Tavern**  
Meet at Templetons Road off Halswell Road at **6pm** for a walk along a large and secluded reserve along the young Heathcote River, then head to Halswell Tavern for a meal at **7.30pm**. Names for meal to Margot Bowden [Margot.Bowden@gmail.com](mailto:Margot.Bowden@gmail.com) or phone **332 7020** by **Saturday 17 November**



## NOTICES

**Calling Volunteers** – DoC Mackenzie Basin wilding tree control - 29 Oct to 2 Nov 2012

<http://www.doc.govt.nz/getting-involved/volunteer-join-or-start-a-project/volunteer/volunteer-programme-by-region/canterbury/mackenzie-basin-wilding-tree-and-weed-control/>

**Deadline for November newsletter Mon 5 Nov.** Trip reports, news and items of interest may be e-mailed to Kerry Moore, [moorekj@xtra.co.nz](mailto:moorekj@xtra.co.nz) Phone **359 5069**

**Next committee meeting 7:30pm Tue 30 Oct at Dan P's**

## TRIP REPORTS

### Hanmer Base Camp M32,N32 — 31 Aug – 2 Sept 2012

Once more back to the Forest Trust Camp in Jollie's Pass Rd, for a winter base camp, though a week later than planned because the camp suggested we wouldn't enjoy the earlier weekend with the rest of the camp booked out by a rugby club from Christchurch. The camp was expecting trouble. Base camps are usually interesting logistical exercises and this base camp wasn't any different when it came to transport. Car pooling was minimal. Anyway, we ended up with 14 people on Friday night and 16 on Saturday night, which made for a sociable weekend. Since we were there last, the progressive upgrade of the camp had continued, with new ladies shower and toilet block, plus the men's toilets. The men's showers will be rebuilt. The new facilities have in-floor heating, no less—oh, the luxury!

The weekend forecast was for NW winds and that was pretty much as it was—pleasant down at the camp and moderately strong over the top ridges. On Saturday morning we had two groups: Merv's, driving over Jack's Pass to walk up to Fowler Pass and up to Mt Seymour and Glenda's walking from the camp, up Jollie's Pass Rd and up the ridge toward Isobel. The trip to Seymour had been suggested by Trevor Blogg as a rewarding change from Isobel, Dumblane, Charon, etc. and so it was. Away from the camp first at 8.35am to drive the 33km to the heritage Fowler Hut, the group included Trevor B, Carolyn C, Chrys H, Merv M, John R, Jane S and Shane W. Up to Fowler Pass at 1296m was straightforward with snow remnants starting from about halfway up. From the pass, Pass Spur ascends east, then north-east. In firm snow and a steadily increasing NW, we were now getting sunnier skies. Before the somewhat steeper ridge to Seymour, crampons seemed a good idea, but Murphy then dictated that the surface was easy from there on. From Seymour at 1793m, a wide, easy ridge runs north to point 1810m and on to Blue Mountain at 1745m. It would have been well worth the trundle on a less windy day, but we retreated instead, back down to the pass for a late lunch. We also noted the spur running down south of Seymour Stream, as a possible future round trip. Back at Fowler Hut at 2.35pm, the sunshine and a light breeze was too good not to stretch out on the grass for a while.

Meanwhile, Glenda and Marion's group enjoyed the walk around Jollies Pass Road, albeit mostly in cloudy conditions. The group continued up the spur to Isobel in windy conditions, with Keith, Marion and Mary going to the top and the others part way for a sheltered lunch stop. By 4pm, both groups were back at the camp, with plenty of time for afternoon tea, showers, etc, before progressing into early evening drinks and nibbles, leading into the inevitable, indulgent Saturday night dinner.

Sunday's trip was different, too. A few weeks before, Bruce Cameron had phoned suggesting a farm-based trip onto the Amuri Range. It seemed ideal for a Sunday trip on the way home, so Bruce set it up with the farmer at Polo Hills Station. After the usual Sunday morning clean-up at the camp, the whole group, less Bill B and Pauline Hill, departed and drove up Leslie Hills Rd to the station. Don, the farmer, was there to meet us at his shearing shed at 10.30am, as arranged. He was very obliging; showing me on the map, the best round circuit to do on his farm tracks. It was ideal, ascending to the Amuri ridge at 800m not far west of Mt Paul for a lunch stop looking down into the Hanmer River and The Hossack. The return was west along the ridge to Lyndon Pass and back down another track to the farm yard about 4.30pm.

We couldn't help being dispirited by the wilding pine situation in the area. Pines from Hanmer Forest to the NW, have smothered the higher ground with now mature trees and they continue to encroach further down the slopes of Don's farmland. There's no easy answer, except for a 'Flock Hill' tactic of nibbling at the lower extremities to try to contain the spread. After a warm sunny day in a different area, we went our separate ways after another enjoyable Hanmer Base. We were: **Maureen Anderson, Bill Blake, Trevor Blogg, Carolyn Catt, Pauline Hill, Chrys Horn, Mary McKeown, Keith & Marion McQuillan, Glenda & Merv Meredith, Keith Paterson, John Robinson, Jane Swift, Maureen Thompson & Shane Wright.**

Oh and the rugby club from Christchurch? Yes, they were as bad or worse than the camp managers expected—drunken slob who left the camp in a mess. The club is now permanently banned from the camp.

 Merv

## Boyle Base Camp - 21-23 September 2012

My three passengers were punctual and we departed on time, although the boot was more than fully laden. I understand that not all vehicles were so fortunate as Stan let his exceptional organising skills slip a bit and allowed his vehicle's battery to run flat, but the hasty reloading of passengers and gear into another car saw them on their way. We counted three traffic cop cars on the road, one of them causing consternation when it u-turned to follow us a short distance, but fortunately there were no other incidents.

We expected to be the first to the Boyle Outdoor Education Centre, but Maureen and Murray preceded us by twenty minutes. We unloaded the car and claimed a bunk each, before sampling lovely hot drinks. Other vehicles started arriving, indicating that we were sharing the premises with another, smaller party. Friday evening passed pleasantly. Folks conversed, catching up with each other's news, whilst imbibing beer or wine and chomping on munchies. We prepared and duly consumed our own individual dinners, and eventually settled down for a good sleep.

Saturday dawned with an overcast sky, but it soon cleared to reveal beautiful white mountain-tops. We were ready to start walking early, and Merv left with four others who were keen to not only achieve the summit of Mt Faust but to also proceed further to have a good look at Mt Mephistopheles. The rest of us waited until 8.30 for Pauline to join us for the day, but when she didn't arrive we left without her. Maureen, who did not accompany us, later informed us that Pauline arrived only ten minutes after we had departed.

After crossing the road bridge, we made our way over several river terraces before ascending a fairly steep track through the bush. Eventually we were trudging through some snow beneath the green canopy, but immediately above the bush-line we found some exposed ground that was snow-free, so we paused for a coffee break cum scenic treat. Then it was onwards and upwards, mostly in the snow which fortunately was not icy. Unexpectedly we saw someone way up ahead waving to us. It had to be a member of the first group to leave, and when we caught up to him we found that it was Graeme. He had decided to wait and join up with our group. Continuing on, and after walking up a long ridge for some distance, many of us decided to go no further. We sat and lazed in the sunshine, enjoying a long lunch break, whilst the other four in our group continued on. Two of them achieved the summit of Mt Faust, as did the four in the first group.

Returning to base, we enjoyed hot showers before sampling our wines, beers, and munchies. As for the dinner that followed – WOW!! Most, if not all, of us succumbed to the pleasures of the palate and consumed far too much. I believe that everyone subsequently slept very well despite the discomforts of distended waists.

Our second morning dawned crisp and clear. After breakfast we zeroed in on the housekeeping chores and duly impressed Chrissy, the manageress. I think that we had completed them before anyone from the other group in residence was even astir.

We had decided to go off to do different walks, group compositions being largely determined by the cars that we had travelled in. Some went off towards Magdalen Hut, others opted for Cannibal Gorge, others again for the Nina. My group went up to enjoy snowy panoramas from the Lewis Tops. When each group had done its thing, it made its own way home independently.

This was a highly successful weekend. We all accorded a heartfelt thanks to Stan for his wonderful planning. He even arranged perfect weather for us!

Participants were: **Stan and Sue Wilder, Mary and Geoff Korver, Jane Swift, Maureen Thompson, Jill Fenner, Murray Hight, John Robinson, Calum MacIntosh, Graeme Nicholas, Derek Gane, Mervyn Meredith, Pauline Hill, Carolyn Catt and Darcy Mawson.** 🏔️ DM