



Peninsula Tramping Club (inc)

FOOTNOTES

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

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

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

July 2014

President	Gary Huish	332 7020	Brian Smith	Quartermaster	355 9945
Vice-President	Leo Manders	356 1731	Raymond Ford		351 9496
Vice-President	Kevin Hughes	332 6281	Margot Bowden		332 7020
Treasurer	Sue Piercey	384 9567	Maureen Thompson		377 2482
Trip Planner	Dan Pryce	379 1976	Ruth Barratt		335 0010
Secretary	Merv Meredith	322 7239	Geoff Price		343 5001
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 8 July

Mt Kenya - the Mountain, the Animals, the Plants.

Christine Leaver, Susan Shannon, and Yvette So will present the highlights of their trip in August 2013, to the second highest mountain on the African continent

Supper Duty: David or Siobhan Grimshaw

Grant or Anne Hunter

Iliia Iline or Marina Iliina



Tue 12 Aug

Te Araroa - New Zealand's 3000km pathway

Sue Piercey will present her experiences so far, as she aims to walk the length of this trail which runs from Cape Reinga to Bluff.

Supper Duty: Tanya Jacobson

Gerry or Gill Jaques

Janette Kear



ESTD

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

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 5-6 Jul
■ ■ | HAWDON HUT
Dan Pryce 379 1976 | Maps BV21,K33 |
| Sat-Sun | Easy-moderate tramp to this modern hut with woodburner, in Arthurs Pass National Park. Come and celebrate a "Mid-Winter Christmas" with a lavish Saturday night meal.
Trip closes 25 June. | |
| 6 Jul
■ | HALSWELL QUARRY - BELLBIRD
Stan Wilder 980 5291 | Maps BV20,M36 |
| Sun | An easy walk from the old quarry, up a good track to the summit road and along to Kennedys Bush and the Sign of the Bellbird.
Start: 9am by the toilets at the quarry car park | |
| 12-13 Jul
■ ■ | KIRWANS HUT
Sue Piercey 384 9567 | Maps BV21,L30 |
| Sat-Sun | Easy-moderate tramp up a well-graded old miners' pack track in Victoria Forest Park near Reefton. A steady 900m climb through the forest to this comfortable hut with log fire near the bush edge. Great views. Optional side-trip to tussock-topped Kirwans Hill.
Trip closes 5 July. | |
| 13 Jul
■ | MT CHEESEMAN - MT IZARD
Merv Meredith 322 7239 | Maps BW20,21,K34 |
| Sun | Moderate-hard snow trip to two 2000m peaks in the Craigieburns, via 1000m Hogsback. Ice axe and crampons required.
Start: 7am Church Corner (across from church) | Approx cost \$18 |
| 19-20 Jul
■ ■ | CROW HUT
Joy Schroeder 351 4655 | Maps BV20,K34 |
| Sat-Sun | Easy-moderate tramp to a comfortable hut with log fire in a clearing between forested slopes and the Crow River in Arthur's Pass National Park. We will meet up with the Avalanche Peak - Crow team Sat night.
Trip closes 12 July. | |
| 19-20 Jul
■ ■ | AVALANCHE PEAK- CROW HUT
Dan Pryce 379 1976 | Maps BV20,K33 |
| Sat-Sun | A classic moderate trip ascending Avalanche Peak from Arthurs Pass then following the ridge before dropping down a scree slope to Crow Hut. Sunday, walk out to Klondyke Corner with Joy's party.
Trip closes 12 July | |

- 26-27 Jul** **HANMER BASE CAMP** **Maps BU24,25,M31,N31,N32**
 ■■ **Merv Meredith 322 7239**
Sat-Sun The first of our classic winter base camps this year, doing it in style as we do in the winter, staying at the Forest Trust Camp. We have three bunkrooms booked in the modern Ensor Lodge, plus our usual kitchen/lounge, the Reid kitchen. Drive up Friday night, a full range of trips on offer from an easy few hours to moderate-hard all-day, with the opportunity of a soak in the hot pools afterwards. Be in early to book your place.
Trip closes 16 July
- 27 Jul** **HIGH PEAK** **Maps BX21,L35**
Sun **Chris Leaver 322 6445 & Evelien Baas 03 317 9077**
Easy-moderate walk to this 968m snowgrass-covered hill in the Rockwood Range. Fine views of Mt Hutt Range, upper Rakaia valley and upper Selwyn River.
Start: 8am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$18**
- 3 Aug** **RED HILL** **BW20,21,K34,35**
 ■ **Douglas Woods 021 242 9122 (texts ok)**
Sun **Moderate** winter trip to this 1641m peak between Lake Lyndon Road and Porter Heights. Choice of route depending on conditions. Ice axe, crampons and thermos(?) required.
Start: 8am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$16**
- 3 Aug** **REDCLIFFE SADDLE** **Maps BW20,BX20,K35**
 ■ **Maureen Thompson 377 2482**
Sun An **easy** trip on the south side of the Rakaia River to the new (2009) DoC scenic reserve by Redcliffe Stream. A track is marked from the road up the true right of Redcliffe Stream to the public conservation land at the base of Rat Hill.
Start: 8am Church Corner (across from the church) **Approx cost \$18**
- 9-10 Aug** **CAMERON RIVER - SOUTH BRANCH ASHBURTON** **Maps BW18,19,BX19,J35**
 ■■ **Bill Templeton 354 2277**
Sat-Sun **Moderate** trip in close proximity to the Arrowsmith Range. We'll be in the headwaters of two river valleys, with a couple of crossings of the Wild Mans Brother Range. Good opportunity to visit this impressive country and enjoy winter mountain views.
Trip closes 2 Aug
- 10 Aug** **MT ENYS - MT CLOUDESLEY** **Maps BW20,21,K34**
 ■ **Merv Meredith 322 7239**
Sun **Moderate-hard** snow climb between these 2100m peaks in the Craigieburns. Ice axe and crampons required. A chance to refresh snow & ice skills.
Start: 7am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$17**
- 16-17 Aug** **CROSS COUNTRY SKIING TWO THUMB RANGE** **Maps BY17,I37**
 ■■ **Calum McIntosh 376 6133**
Sat-Sun Back country skiing north of Lake Tekapo. Great opportunity to join Calum in the mountains. You don't have to be an experienced cross country skier but need to have at least an **intermediate** down-hill ability with moderate fitness. Details later. Limited numbers so contact Calum early to register interest.
Trip closes 26 July
- 16-17 Aug** **HARPER RIVER PINNACLES** **Maps BW20,K34**
 ■■ **Organiser Dan Pryce 379 1976**
Sat-Sun **Easy** and mostly flat walk in interesting hill and lake country near the head of Lake Coleridge. A crossing of the river at the end will allow a close inspection of these fascinating clay/rock formations.
Trip closes 30 July

- 17 Aug** **MT SOMERS TRAVERSE** **Maps BX19,20,K36**
 ■ **Trish Faulkner 384 3445**
Sun **Moderate** traverse of this 1687m peak on the Winterslow Range. Starting from Woolshed Creek and travelling to Staveley. A classic local winter trip. Ice axes and crampons to be carried. Hot drink flask optional.
Start: 7.30am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$22**
- 23-24 Aug** **ARTHUR'S PASS BASE CAMP** **Maps BV20,K33,34**
 ■■ **Merv Meredith 322 7239**
Sat-Sun A range of trips available from our base at the Catholic Outdoor Club house on the edge of the village. Leaving town Friday evening. Ice axe and possibly crampons required for some walks but plenty of easy and moderate options. Take advantage of Merv's knowledge and experience of the area and enjoy an alpine winter weekend in comfort and safety.
Trip closes 2 Aug
- 24 Aug** **HURUNUI PEAK** **Maps BU 24,M32**
 ■ **Margaret Clark 348 4993**
Sun **Easy-moderate** walk inland from Waikari. Margaret spied this very pleasant looking hill on an earlier trip in the area and is looking forward to the views from the top. Join her and enjoy a day in the country.
Start: 8am Placemakers Cranford St **Approx cost \$20**
- 30-31 Aug** **CASS SADDLE - LAGOON SADDLE** **Maps BV20,21,K34**
 ■■ **Keith McQuillan 384 6164**
Sat-Sun Popular **moderate** round-trip in the Craigieburns, overnighing in the comfortable Hamilton Hut warmed by a log fire. Good track through beech forest, two tussock saddles, grassy flats, mountain views, a varied and satisfying tramp close to home.
List closes 20 Aug
- 31 Aug** **MT ISOBEL** **Maps BU24,25,N32**
 ■ **Dan Pryce 379 1976**
Sun This **easy-moderate** well known walk starts high at 860m from Jacks Pass near Hanmer and goes up a spur to point 1195 then turns onto the ridge leading to 1324m Mt Isobel.
 Should be time for a soak in the hot pools before heading home.
Start: 8am Placemakers Cranford St **Approx cost \$21**
- 6-7 Sep** **CROESUS TRACK** **Maps BT19,20,K30,31**
 ■■ **Dan Pryce 379 1976**
Sat-Sun **Moderate.** One of the best-known tracks in the Paparoa Range. Take in lush forest, open tops and old gold workings. Staying at the Blackball Hilton Fri night, Ces Clark Hut on Saturday and on to Barrytown on Sun. We'll arrange for the cars to be moved from Blackball to Barrytown
List closes 23 Aug
- 7 Sep** **STEEPFACE HILL** **Maps BW20,K35**
 ■ **Gary Huish 332 7020**
Sun **Moderate-hard** snow trip overlooking the Rakaia River, climbing between Terrible Gully and Hutt Stream to this 1876m peak in the Mt Hutt Range,. Ice axe and crampons required.
Start: 8am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$20**

SOCIAL EVENTS

Barn Dance Report

The annual PTC barn dance was held on Saturday 21 June at St Peter's Church Hall at Church Corner. 77 people attended and danced the night away to **The Incredible Ceidilh Band**, who had a new caller this year. By the end of the evening the popular Strip the Willow was so enthusiastic we had to move tables to give the dancers more room!

Thanks to the generosity of **Bivouac and R & R Sport**, prizes for the best-dressed man and woman were awarded. We also gave spot prizes and a prize for pin the flea on the horse. The raffle for a hamper loaded with alcohol and chocolate was won by Chris Leaver. Supper was ably managed by Marion McQuillan and after an energetic evening of dancing all the large platters of food were quickly eaten.

17 Rangiora Tramping Club people went, all dressed the part and made the prize for the best-dressed man and woman difficult to judge. 23 PTCers enjoyed the evening.

Thank you to the PTC Executive Committee and Keith and Marion McQuillan for making the evening such a great success.

Margot Bowden, Barn Dance Coordinator

Tues 15 Jul



Short walk and evening meal at Little Saigon Restaurant

Meet outside the Little Saigon Restaurant at 6.15pm for a short walk to Cathedral Square followed by a 7pm meal at Little Saigon, 547 Colombo Street in the South City Centre.

BYO and licensed, mains \$11 to \$23. Please contact **Margot**, phone 332 7020 or margot.bowden@gmail.com by **Sunday 13 July** if you are coming for the meal.

You Can Always Hand Them Back By Roger Hall

7.30pm Tuesday 23 September

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

Book your seat, \$42 discount price by Monday 1 September

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

Directed by Dan Pengelly Music & Lyrics by Peter Skellern. Featuring Lynda Milligan

Roger Hall, NZ's favourite playwright, takes you on a light-hearted journey through the joys and horrors of grandparenthood, with all its painful pleasures. Retirees Maurice and Kath juggle golf, gin and four tiny terrors, to the wry tunes of Peter Skellern.

Achingly funny New Zealand comedy

NOTES

Tramping Recipes The PTC on-line cookbook now has 48 recipes. Thanks go to our collaborator the **Tararua TC, contributors, Liz and Raymond** for putting it together and Kevin for inserting it into the website. When you try the recipes please give feedback to Raymond.

Deadline for the August newsletter Sunday 3 Aug

Next committee meeting 7:30pm Tue 29 July at Sue P's

TRIP REPORTS

Sabine-Waiiau-Thompson-D'Urville Easter/ANZAC weekend 2014

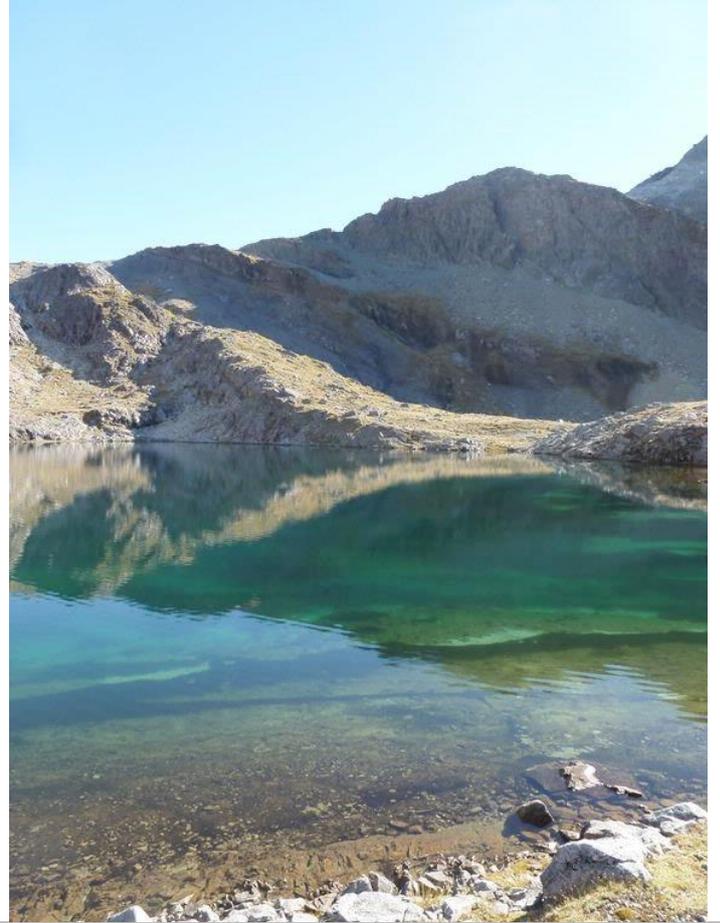
It was a successful tramp where nothing went according to plan. The original plan was to tramp from Lake Rotoroa up the Sabine, over Waiiau and Thompson passes then back down the D'Urville to Lake Rotoroa. Here we would reach our food drop and then spend 3 more days on the Mole Tops circuit. Easter rain was the first problem. However by postponing the tramp a few days and dropping the Mole Tops part we could catch a 3-4 day fine weather window, although this reduced our group from 5 to 3.

Driving to Rotoroa on Easter Sunday we realised that we could have an issue with windfall. After a short "tramp" of 20 metres from water taxi to hut we enjoyed a nice meal with wine and cheese at Sabine Hut where other trampers reported that while some tracks were badly affected by windfall the Sabine at least was OK.

Monday, we headed up the Sabine valley to East Sabine Hut where we decided to go on to Blue Lake Hut in one long day so we could take advantage of the good weather for the two passes. We pushed on but my lack of speed and the short days caught up with us and we arrived at Blue Lake Hut having walked the last half hour by torch light. The hut was empty and cold and the small fire barely took the chill off.



Lake Constance. Photo by apurdam



Lake Thompson. Photo by Phil21 in NZ Tramper

Tuesday was fine but cold and the views were superb as we climbed above Blue Lake and traversed above and around Lake Constance. Had we taken two days over this section it would have been easy to fill in the free afternoon exploring the area or camping at the head of Lake Constance. The climb over Waiiau Pass began with a reasonable zig zag up tussock slopes, then on scree—all good until the last little bit where it headed more steeply uphill in soft scree—one step back for every two forward. These last few metres were more tiring than all the rest of the climb. We stopped for lunch a bit below the top. The cloud closed in and there was even a light scattering of hail as we reached the top of the pass. Heading down the other side we unexpectedly found a small section where we were climbing down rocks and thought that this would surprise many people walking the Te Araroa Trail. I think it would be easier climbing Waiiau Pass from the Canterbury side—up rocks and down scree.

With the time getting on and cloud closing in, our plan to camp at Lake Thompson was changed to a low level camp in the valley. Even this wasn't to be after I sprained my ankle about 40 minutes from the bottom. We elected to stop and camp at a tarn we'd just passed—a good decision as it rained as we started putting up the tents and we got to cook under the minaret fly—unclip the odd corner bit and it works well. There was quite a lot of discussion concerning my ability to tackle the unknown terrain of Thompson Pass with a sprained ankle. In the morning I tried it out heading downhill and as I managed surprisingly well, thanks to Kevin and Keith who took some of my pack weight, so we continued as planned.

In the night the rain cleared and the wind came up (to dry our tents) and the next morning was fine but very cold with our little tarn frozen on top. An unanticipated bonus was the clear view of Thompson Pass from our campsite which allowed us to select a route we couldn't see in the previous afternoon's cloud. Instead of heading up the main stream, we headed up a gully above this. This took us across scree, over boulders, up a small stream. Then it was a short scramble out to just below Lake Thompson—actually a really good route. There are plenty of good campsites beside the stream just below the lake. There was decent scree down the other side of the pass but when that ran out there were thigh-high tussocks to deal to. We reached the stream and instead of an easy walk down-valley we found ourselves scrambling over rocky, lumpy tussock country or bush-bashing until we finally reached the beginning of the track. Perhaps we should have stayed high. We reached the bivy just before dark and were gutted to find it already occupied—another night camping but at least the rain held off until after dinner.

The next day we reached Ella Hut for a late lunch and decided to stay rather push on for yet another long day. We had a day up our sleeves and enough food so we decided to enjoy a relaxing afternoon washing and resting—a good decision as rain set in that afternoon. The next day we also only walked 3.5 hours to Morgan Hut, in rain all the way. The trampers at the biv had warned us that the last section from Morgan to D’Urville Hut took them an extra 2–3 hours due to extensive windfall.

We tried to avoid it. The river route didn’t work and we ended up spending 2 hours travelling 1km through continuous massive windfall on a steep slope. We tried crossing to the other side of the river but encountered more windfall and bush. The four hour tramp took us nearly 8 hours but when we reached the hut we retrieved the barrel of goodies we had dropped there by water taxi on the way in. The beer was especially appreciated.

I don’t think any days tramping actually matched the original plan but some tramps just require flexibility. My special thanks again to Kevin and Keith for helping carry extra weight after I sprained my ankle.

Kevin and Heather Hughes, Keith McQuillan. 🏔️ HH

1000 Acre Plateau, Queen’s Birthday Weekend 2014

The Thousand Acre Plateau is an ancient peneplain situated between the Mokihinui and Matiri Rivers, near Murchison. The Late Cretaceous peneplain was formed 70 million years ago as the result of erosion of the land mass to a sea-level plain. The plain was later raised and the Thousand Acre and nearby Hundred Acre Plateaux are rolling tussock landscapes dotted with sinkholes and crossed by limestone creeks.

We headed from Christchurch to the Riverview Holiday Park near Murchison on Friday night with a fabulous weather forecast. On Saturday morning we drove till we were stopped by a large fallen tree close to the Matiri car park. From there we sorted our gear and walked to the West Matiri River which was straight-forward to cross. The day before, this river was impassable. We continued on to Lake Matiri Hut overlooking the tranquil Lake Matiri for our first break.

The track continued to be easy until we reached just beyond Bay Creek where the track climbs abruptly up a spur. After about 40 minutes the track levelled again and lunch was a welcome break. The track continued steeply through a diverse forest of silver and mountain beech, kamahi, rata and mountain totara. Finally we reached the plateau rim and saw a huge expanse of tussock-land dotted with patches of stunted forest. Beyond the rim the marked route took us across the boggy-in-places plateau to Poor Petes Hut. We held a small committee meeting at this hut and a decision was made to go on and look for a camping spot, which we found just on dusk. Tents were pitched with Julie coping much better after it was pointed out that the fly was inside out! We had a roaring fire and enjoyed a venison stew, with Liz’s Pinot Noir followed by apple crumble and custard.

We awoke to a cracking frost and after breakfast headed off to Larrikins Hut following the well-marked track through tussock and beech forest. The mudstone and frosted rocks were extremely slippery. From Larrikins Hut we climbed up to The Needle and had our lunch on the summit with an amazing 360 degree view on a sunny, windless day. From this mudstone peak we could see the 100 Acre Plateau—the Devil’s Dining Table as it is also known. Six of the team decided to go on and have a closer look at The Haystack. This involved a little bit of frozen scree and an interesting descent to make for a little adventure before returning to camp. Again we had a warm fire, a great buffet meal including a triple treat dessert. Bill provided all the hot water for the meals and well-deserved the prize of extra ginger crunch. A special award went to Geoff who went back to pick up a camera which was accidentally left near Larrikins Hut. His reward was to sleep under the stars...

After an overnight low of minus 8°C we broke camp, put on frozen boots and headed for the sun. The descent down was slippery and seemed very long, making the lunch stop at Matiri Hut most welcome. From there it was back to the vehicles and a stop in Murchison before returning to Christchurch. Milan stayed in Murchison to continue tramping while the weather was fine.

We were: **Bill & Wendy Templeton, Raymond Ford, Dan Pryce, Milan Brisnik, Liz Stephenson, Geoff Spearpoint, Penny Webster and Julie Wagner.** 🏔️ JW

