



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

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August 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 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

Michael or Faine Kelly

Tue 9 Sept



Mountains Memories and Myths

Limbo Thompson, a relatively new member to the Club had a miss-spent youth alpine climbing in NZ, including a number of first winter ascents. He will describe his memories of some of these although he admits that time may have clouded the accounts and myths may be a better description

Supper Duty: Irene Kilgour, Lorelie Kennedy, Dennis Kemp

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.

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 and 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. Limited numbers so contact Calum early to register interest.

Trip closes 26 July

16 Aug **TREE PLANTING ON QUAIL ISLAND**
Saturday **Call Kerry Moore on 359 5069 by Thur night to enlist**

17 Aug **GODLEY HEAD WALKWAY**

■ **Jill Fenner 980 6228**

Sun Classic **easy** local walk starting from Taylors Mistake. Still a bit of winter to go but there should be great views and wildlife, including spotted shags, blue penquins and seals. A round trip is planned.

Start: 10am Taylors Mistake Carpark.

17 Aug **MT SOMERS TRAVERSE** **Maps BX19,20,K36**

■ **Organiser Dan Pryce 379 1976**

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. **Please phone Dan if you intend to go.**

Start: 7.30am Church Corner (across from church)

Approx cost \$22

23-24 Aug **CASS SADDLE – LAGOON SADDLE** **Maps BV20,21,K34**

■■ **Organiser Dan Pryce 379 1976**

Sat-Sun Popular **moderate** round trip in the Craigieburns, overnighing in the comfortable Hamilton Hut warmed by wood stove. Good track through beech forest, two tussock saddles, grassy flats and mountain views. A varied and satisfying tramp close to home.

Trip closes 13 Aug

- 24 Aug** **HURUNUI PEAK** **Maps BU 24,M32**
 ■ **Margaret Clark 348 4993**
Sun **Easy-moderate** walk inland from Culverden on the north side of the Hurunui River. 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 North Canterbury.
Start: 8am Placemakers Cranford St **Approx cost \$20**
- 30-31 Aug** **ARTHURS PASS BASE CAMP** **Maps BV20,K33,34**
 ■■ **Merv Meredith 322 7239**
Sat-Sun A range or trips available from our base camp 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.
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. Takes 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**
- 13-14 Sep** **CROSS COUNTRY SKIING PISA RANGE** **Maps CB12,F40,41**
 ■■ **Calum McIntosh 376 6133**
Sat-Sun Cross country skiing originated in Scandinavia thousands of years ago. It's the great-great-grandfather of all ski sports. If you are an intermediate down-hill skier with moderate tramping fitness you will enjoy cross country skiing. Ph Calum to discuss.
List closes 30 Aug
- 13-14 Sep** **CAMERON HUT** **Maps BW18,19,BX19,J35**
 ■■ **Organiser Dan Pryce 379 1976**
Sat-Sun This **moderate** trip visits a spectacular area inland from Lake Heron with splendid views of the Arrowsmith Range. An early start Sunday morning allows time to enjoy the views of the glacier from a prominent lateral moraine, an hour up from the hut, before returning to the cars.
List closes 3 Sept
- 14 Sep** **DRY ACHERON STREAM TO BLACK HOLE** **Maps BW20,21,K35**
 ■ **Kerry Moore 359 5069**
Sun **Easy-moderate** trip to the south of the Korowai/Torlesse Tussockland Park. Travelling up the Dry Acheron Stream easement with a side trip to Black Hole—not as foreboding as it sounds. A nice area with snow-capped mountain views.
Start: 8am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$16**

- 20-22 Sep** **LAKE KANIERE BASE CAMP** **Maps BU19,BV19,J33**
 ■■■■
Sat-Mon **Geoff & Mary Korver 355 3905**
 Westland will be crisp and clear with snow on the surrounding peaks. We'll be staying at the lodge near this pretty lake and doing some of the day walks (all grades) in the area. Travel over Friday night returning Mon afternoon. Please book early as arrangements need to be made soon.
List closes 3 Sept
- 21 Sep** **MT CHEESEMAN - MT OLYMPUS** **Maps BW20,K34**
 ■
Sun **Merv Meredith 322 7239**
 A moderate trip. We'll let our cars do the hard stuff, up to Cheeseman ski field. This will give us time to ascend to the crest of the Craigieburn Range and tramp along to Mt Olympus, one of the more dramatic viewpoints on the range. Returning the same way. Snow travel most of the day so ice axe and crampon experience required. If in doubt phone Merv to discuss.
Start: 7.30am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$18**
- 27-28 Sep** **LAKE MAN** **Maps BU22,L32,M32**
 ■■
Sat-Sun **Liz Stephenson 027 633 2038**
Moderate tramp up the Doubtful River from Lewis Pass, to camp beside the Lake Man Biv. Or further up by the lake. We aim to return along the Doubtful Range over Mt Murray.
List closes 18 Sept
- 28 Sep** **KOROWAI/TORLESSE TUSSOCKLANDS** **Maps BW21**
 ■
Sun **Helen Harkness 384 2890**
 This **easy-moderate** track starts alongside highway 73 just before Porters Pass and climbs the well-graded track amongst diverse shrublands, traversing open ridges to trig M above Lake Lyndon. We can push on to Rabbit Hill or lunch in the sun-warmed tussock and enjoy the mountain views.
Start: 9am Church Corner (across from church)
Daylight Saving starts this day so clocks will have gone forward 1 hr
- 4-8 Oct** **HEAPHY TRACK** **Maps BP22,23,L26,L27,M26**
 ■■■■■■
Sat-Wed **Dan Pryce 379 1976**
 The classic **easy-moderate** Heaphy Track in Kahurangi National Park is the longest of the DoC Great Walks. The trail crosses a range of landscapes over expansive tussock downs to the lush forests, nikau palms and roaring seas of Westland. We will take the less traveled route from Karamea through to Collingwood. Plans must be made well in advance so early registration is essential. Phone Dan to discuss soon.
List closes 23 Aug
- 4-5 Oct** **KOWHAI - HAPUKU** **Maps BT27,O31**
 ■■
Sat-Sun **Organiser Dan Pryce 379 1976**
 This **moderate** tramp over the Kowhai Saddle, through two contrasting valleys in the Kaikoura foothills behind Mt Fyfe is typical Kaikoura country. Staying Sat night at Kowhai Hut. Sunday, over 1153m Kowhai Saddle 1153m then down the Hapuku. A section of track goes through some very nice lowland podocarp forest and emerges at the lower end of Hapuku Gorge
List closes 24 Sept
- 5 Oct** **MOUNT GREY, RED BEECH TRACK** **Maps BV23**
 ■
Sun **Leader to be confirmed.**
 From the Grey River picnic area we'll take the Red Beech route to the summit of Mt Grey/Maukatere, through tussock grasslands, stands of tall red beech and mountain beech, and totara. Expect panoramic views of the Canterbury Plains
Start: 8am Placemakers Cranford St **Approx cost \$10**

- 11-12 Oct** **BLACK HILL HUT - CHEST PEAK** **Maps BW22,L34**
 ■■ **Merv Meredith 322 7239**
- Sat-Sun** A long **hard** trip from Lees Valley to this 1936m peak, the highest point on the Puketeraki Range offering views of the plains, Waimak Basin, Arthurs Pass NP and the Craigieburns. We will walk in to Black Hill Hut on **Saturday night** so take a good torch.
List closes 2 Oct
- 12 Oct** **CAMP SADDLE - LYNDON SADDLE** **Maps BW21,K34**
Sun **Dan Pryce 379 1976**
- **Easy-moderate** loop that gets you above 1500m in the Craigieburn Range. Features some nice ridge walking, with great views of the range and its beech forests.
Start: 8am Church Corner (across from church) **Approx cost \$18**

SOCIAL EVENTS

Thursday
28 August

Pot Luck Dinner at 6.30pm



Pot Luck dinner hosted by Linda Gardner, 205 Trents Road, Prebbleton. 205 is half-way between Main South Road and Shands Road.

Please phone Linda, **344 1977**, by Sunday 24 Aug if you plan to go.

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

Deadline for the Sept newsletter Sunday 31 August

Next committee meeting 7:30pm Tue 26 Aug at Sue P's

TRIP REPORTS

Hawdon Mid-Winter Dinner—5-6 July 2014

With a mere 3 hour walk to Hawdon Hut an early start was not required. We were tramping by 10:30 and soon had a thigh-high river crossing to make sure we were wide-awake. Forty minutes up the valley the wheels started coming off, or rather, Graham lost his sole. It soon became clear that taping the sole back on was not going to work so Graham and Linda walked back to the car where he had a pair of running shoes which would carry him to the hut. Four carried on in sunny but breezy weather and had their lunch where the East Hawdon joins its big brother. Soon after, we crossed to the true right of the Hawdon on a track that goes into the bush at times, past the former hut site and over Discovery Stream. Five minutes later the "new" 2007, unoccupied hut appeared with its splendid view up-river of snowy mountains near Rugged Peak and Trudge Col.

Dan set to, lighting the wood burner which seemed a very sluggish appliance. Splitting the wood to wrist diameter helped and after a few hours people could take their coats off. Graham and Linda arrived having



made good time, and because Linda had the coleman burner we were soon able to drink some internal warmth. Lee and Liz put up decorations to give the hut a Christmas flavour. Amazingly there was already a plastic Christmas tree on the table. Half of Dan's balloons wouldn't inflate, or popped themselves.

Liz's mulled wine smelled delicious and warmed the hut residents. Dan's dinner was a taste sensation—hot ham and chicken with gravy, mashed potato, carrot and broccoli. Dessert was plum pudding with custard. Bon-bons popped, and after-dinner mints consumed to top off the feast. Liz showed Lee and Kerry how to play *Yahtzee*. Graham had a pack of cards so Kerry introduced *Up and Down the River* with the help of written scoring instructions. The game is also known as Oh Hell and a dozen other names. Was it that Kerry supplied the rules or is he a good player as he won convincingly? A smart-phone provided a vast mass of song lyrics—in very small text to supplement the usual song sheets but with only six choristers we didn't manage to raise the roof.

In the morning a serious frost had frozen the tap on the water tank so it was good that someone had laid in billies of water the night before. The frosty Hawdon Valley was shrouded in mist as we crossed the East Hawdon. Near the car park Dan got very close to a large trout in a small side-stream. We thought it may have been spawning. Soon we were back at the cars where a team of uni students was getting ready to set off for Tarn Col. It was lunch time and rather than drive off to buy lunch food at Springfield we moved to the shelter to eat. One car even made it past the Springfield shops without stopping for coffee. It can be done.

We were: **Dan Pryce, Lee Varty, Graham Burnip, Linda Creed, Liz Wylie and Kerry Moore** 🌲 KM

MOUNTS CHEESEMAN – IZARD—13 JULY 2014

The forecast for Sunday firmed up a few days ahead—easing nor-west until a southerly change in the later afternoon. Gosh, you have to hand it to Metservice nowadays. They got it spot on.

At Church Corner at 7am, there was only Peter Umbers and me. Where were all the keen day trippers? Danny had phoned but didn't make it and Milan had cancelled, trusting some other forecast. So shall we go? Glenda had passed her cold of the last fortnight on to me on Friday and I was now in the depths of it. Maybe a blast up the Cheeseman spur would unblock me? So we went.

Everybody knows there is almost no snow up there at present. But, gee, wasn't that obvious as we drove up-country. Arriving at the Texas Flat car park on the Cheeseman Road was almost eerie! Not a vehicle to be seen or heard and its July! Anyway, walking at 8.35am, we followed the familiar route up onto the Cheeseman spur. My theory about a blast up the spur was never going to work—more like a crawl—with Peter patiently tagging along behind. Once over halfway, I didn't want to give up. Lunch on the top ridge was fairly brief without total shelter from the light nor-west.

Dropping down from the top ridge to the gap leading to point 1959, I regretted the decision not to carry the crampons. The steeper slope was the only face with sections of continuous snow and required significant step cutting but beyond there, no worries. Starting down the spur off Mt IZARD, we could have dropped off early into Waterfall Creek, such was the lack of snow. But we continued down the spur, dropped and regained it on the true right and continued to the bush-line. Either way, we were back to calm nor-west conditions.

Following one's nose down the terraces in Waterfall Creek, it's hard not to pick up some sort of track leading onto the Hogsback MTB track from Castle Hill Village. This we did and trundled back to Peter's 4WD by 4.45pm. Just after 5pm, the southerly change was starting to form across the Torlesse Range. So, on to the rain in Springfield and the warmth of the café. **Merv Meredith and Peter Umbers** 🏔️ MM

Rabbit Hill—15 June 2014

We (Dan Pryce, Kevin & Heather Hughes, Kerry Moore) parked half-way between Porters Pass and Lake Lyndon and climbed to trig M via point 1170 then along to Rabbit Hill where we had lunch and admired the snowy peaks visible in all directions. There were no rabbits on Rabbit Hill but Heather did see a hare. We returned to the car the same way. 🏔️ KM



Dan on Rabbit Hill with Mt Torlesse and Red Peak behind



Mt Lyndon above Lake Lyndon

Hanmer Springs – Base Camp—25–27 July 2014

The first of us arrived in Hanmer late on the Friday afternoon, with the peaks clouded over and a hint of snow up high. Others trickled in and Merv convened discussions about the when and where for the following morning.

Saturday morning dawned clear and blue, and off we trooped in different directions – but with the intent of getting to the top of Mt Isobel. Five of us (Margaret, Sandra, Milan, Bruce C and Bruce W) headed up to Jacks Pass in the car. Seven (Merv, Glenda, Kerry, Shane, Keith, Sophie and Trevor) walked from the Forest Trust camp up the Jollies Pass road and we eventually met on the ridge below the summit where car keys were swapped. The conditions were really good with enough snow to know it was winter, but minimal wind and great views in every direction. I confess I'm still not sure who had the harder trip, those that walked up the Jollies Pass Rd or those who walked down.

Madelaine and Julia indulged in some retail therapy in Hanmer and we were joined for Saturday dinner by Maureen and Graham, which made 16 in total. The conversation highlight of the evening was Margaret declaring that she had fallen short of her target for the day. According to her smart phone she had only climbed 550 metres for the day, having started at Jacks Pass. Upon inquiry, we discovered what her target is all about—her personal 80 week challenge involves 80 specific challenges such as hiking up a minimum elevation of 600 metres in a single day trip, or six hours tramping, or a leisurely 40km bike ride. And 550 metres up Mt Isobel with an hour for lunch just doesn't make the grade! Not to worry, Margaret is well ahead on her current count.

On the Sunday, most of the party went for a long wander through Rob Thomson's farm (thanks Rob) and up 558m Mt Culverden for splendid views of the Amuri Plain and the Waiau River stretching from just below the Hanmer junction down to Waiau village.

Many thanks to Merv and Glenda for organising a superb weekend. We were: **Glenda Meredith, Merv Meredith, Margaret Clark, Sophie Toutain, Trevor Blogg, Keith Paterson, Madelaine Newall, Shane Wright, Sandra White, Bruce White, Bruce Cameron, Julia Cummings, Milan Brisnik, Kerry Moore, Maureen Thompson and Graham Phitts-Black.** 🌲 BW