



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

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## June 2015

<b>President</b>	Gary Huish	332 7020	Brian Smith, Quartermaster	355 9945
<b>Vice-President</b>	Leo Manders	356 1731	Raymond Ford	351 9496
<b>Vice-President</b>	Kevin Hughes	332 6281	Margot Bowden	332 7020
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sue Piercey	384 9567	Maureen Thompson	377 2482
<b>Trip Planner</b>			Ruth Barratt	335 0010
<b>Secretary</b>	Merv Meredith	322 7239	Keith McQuillan	384 6164
<b>Editor</b>	Kerry Moore	359 5069		

**New Member Enquiries** Please contact Stan Wilder, 021 255 3880 or [swilder@clear.net.nz](mailto:swilder@clear.net.nz), 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 **Baptist Church Hall, 286 Oxford Terrace** (corner of Madras Street and Oxford Terrace) starting promptly at 7.45 pm. Doors open 7.30.

**Tue 9 June**



### Members' Photo Night

Give us a visual report of where you've been tramping or travelling. Your chance to show your photos. Let Brian Smith [brian21x@xtra.co.nz](mailto:brian21x@xtra.co.nz) know what you wish to display. Bring your photos on flash drive or CD. Book early to reserve your time slot.

**Supper Duty: Lois Moore, Jane Severn, Richard or Linda Smith**

**Tue 14 July**



### Larapinta Trail

**Rick Bolch and Darcy Mawson** spent two weeks in mid-2013 walking this very scenic 223km track that follows the Western MacDonnell Ranges out of Alice Springs in Central Australia.

**Supper Duty: Ian or Diane Roxburgh, Joy Schroeder, Yvette So**

## New Venue for Peninsula Tramping Club Nights

PTC club nights are now held at the **Baptist Church Hall at 286 Oxford Terrace**, on the corner of Madras Street and Oxford Terrace, just south of the Avon River and Kilmore Street.

### 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.

- |                              |   |                               |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>7 Jun<br/>Sun</b>         | <b>MT WALL</b><br><b>Kerry Moore 359 5069</b>   | <b>Maps BW21,K34</b>          |
| ■                            | Moderate walk up to this 1874m outlier of the Craieburn Range between Cheeseman and Broken River ski fields. Starting from the Craieburn visitor centre. Possibility of a round-trip.<br><b>Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd</b>   | <b>Approx cost \$17</b>       |
| <b>13-14 Jun<br/>Sat-Sun</b> | <b>OTEHAKE HOT SPRING</b><br><b>Kevin Hughes 3326281</b>  | <b>Maps BV20,21,K33</b>       |
| ■ ■                          | Moderate walk from Aickens, up the Taramakau, before turning off for Lake Kaurapataka. There is a short climb to a saddle before dropping to the Otehake River. The hot springs are further up the Otehake. Camping out.<br><b>List closes 6 June</b>   |                               |
| <b>14 Jun<br/>Sun</b>        | <b>STONY BAY PEAK - MT BRASENOSE</b><br><b>Sue Piercey 384 9567</b>   | <b>Maps BX25,BY25,N36,N37</b> |
| ■                            | Moderate walk above Akaroa, crossing the Misty Peaks Reserve between Stony Bay Peak and Mt Brasenose.<br><b>Start: 8am Halswell School 437 Halswell Rd</b>  | <b>Approx cost \$13</b>       |
| <b>21 Jun<br/>Sun</b>        | <b>TAYLORS MISTAKE - GODLEY HEAD</b><br><b>Margot Bowden 332 7020</b>   | <b>Maps BX24,N36</b>          |
| ■                            | An easy, popular walkway, taking in coastal views and old military buildings. Starting along the Boulder Bay track from Taylors Mistake, before continuing up to the military construction on Godley Head and returning to Taylors Mistake along a higher track.<br><b>Start: 9am Taylors Mistake - Boulder Bay Track near playground</b> |                               |
| <b>27-28 Jun<br/>Sat-Sun</b> | <b>LAKE DANIELS</b><br><b>Kerry Moore 359 5069</b>  | <b>Maps BT22,23,L31,M31</b>   |
| ■ ■                          | Easy trip to this beautiful lake to the west of Lewis Pass, surrounded by beech-forested hills. The high-standard, flat walking track is suitable for children.<br><b>List closes 20 June</b>   |                               |
| <b>27 Jun<br/>Saturday</b>   | <b>CASTLE HILL PEAK</b><br><b>Gary Huish 332 7020</b>   | <b>Maps BW21,K34,K35,L34</b>  |
| ■                            | Moderate climb from Porters Pass to the highest peak on the Torlesse range at nearly 2000m. Fine views all around. Ice axe required. Possible option of round-trip through The Gap.<br><b>Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd</b>   | <b>Approx cost \$12</b>       |



- 2 Aug Sun** **MT BINSER** **Maps BV21,L33,L34**  
**Merv Meredith 322 7239**  
 ■ **Moderate** trip to the low peak of Mt Binser in the south-east corner of Arthurs Pass National Park. The track is followed to Binser Saddle before turning south. The route is then unmarked through bush and onto the open tops to the low peak at 1753m.  
**Start: 7:30am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd** **Approx cost \$22**
- 8-9 Aug Sat-Sun** **NORTH TEMPLE - GUNSIGHT PASS - SOUTH TEMPLE** **Maps BZ14,G38,39**  
**TBA Please contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip.**  
 ■■ **Moderate** trip at the head of Lake Ohau. Travelling up the North branch of Temple and crossing Gunsight Pass into the South Temple.  
**List closes 20 June**
- 9 Aug Sun** **MT CLOUDSLEY** **Maps BW20,K34**  
**Merv Meredith 322 7239**  
 ■ **Moderate** walk up this 2100m peak on the Craigieburn Range. Ascending Long Spur from behind Castle Hill Village.  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd** **Approx cost \$16**

## SOCIAL EVENTS

**Tues 16 Jun**



### Cashmere Capers and Mid-Winter Pot Luck Dinner

Come for a suburban walk around well-lit Cashmere Hill's streets, followed by a mid-winter Christmas pot luck dinner at Margot and Gary's home, 5 Patchett Place, Cashmere Hills (please park on Hackthorne Road. Christmas pudding for dessert will be provided. Presents up to a maximum of \$10 can be exchanged and fought over. Walk will start at 6pm from 5 Patchett Place. Dinner at 7.15pm. Please let Margot know by **14 June** if you are coming to dinner.

Contact Margot Bowden, [margot.bowden@gmail.com](mailto:margot.bowden@gmail.com) or phone 332 7020

**Wed 8 July**



### Botanic Gardens Illuminations & dinner at the Pegasus Arms

**The Press Night of D'Light:** Walk an amazing illuminated route, experiencing the gardens in a new light under the cover of darkness. Food and drink available. Meet near the Museum entrance at 6.15 pm. \$2 Entry. We will explore the Botanic Gardens then at about 7 pm head to Pegasus Arms, 14 Oxford Tce for dinner. Probably best to park near the restaurant. Bookings for dinner to Maureen. [mothompson@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mothompson@xtra.co.nz) or 021 266 5778 by **Sunday 5 July**. No need to book for the walk.

## NOTES

**Medical Notes** Remember to take your personal medical notes with you when you go tramping so that vital information is available to medics if you are incapacitated. A new sheet will be distributed with the next FMC bulletin mail-out.

**Next committee meeting** 7:30pm Tue 30 June at Sue P's

**Deadline for the July newsletter** Sun 5 July

### Volunteer with DoC

**National Volunteer Week** is 21–27 June.

See latest volunteer listings at <http://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/volunteer/latest/>

Escape the city and volunteer on Raoul Island—volunteers are needed for weed control and maintenance

## TRIP REPORTS

### Brass Monkey Biv — 2 - 3 May 2015

Two groups of three met in Culverden and travelled on to Lewis Tops car park where **Julie, Penny** and **Kathryn** left their car and piled into Merv's empty car to drive on to the Rough Creek track start. **Merv, Vesna** and **Kerry** started up the Lewis Tops track. At the bush-line, snow from the previous Tuesday still lay in patches. Higher up, the snow was up to 15cm deep and firmer depending on how much sun hit it. South-facing slopes off high-points including Lucretia called for great care. We were helped by foot prints from days ago made when the snow was softer. We were pleased to be carrying walking poles but would have preferred ice-axes. Kerry fell behind, trying to sidle Lucretia in soft snow over snow-grass but gave up and joined the party. The sun got low and the snow got firmer. We sidled from a saddle between points 1605 and 1602 on a north-facing slope with minimal snow. This took us a little low from Brass Monkey and in darkness, headlamps on, we plodded. We had a club GPS but lacked the experience in its use. It did tell us we were lower in altitude than the biv. At 7pm we saw a light and a biv. The "girls" had arrived at 4pm and had eaten so welcomed us with hot drinks and helped us get our macaroni meal started. Visitors earlier in the week had tracked snow into the biv so the floor was wet. The best we could do was try to sweep water into a floor vent/drain. Kathryn and Vesna slept in the biv. Merv and Kerry, Julie and Penny tented. By 8pm frost was forming on anything left outside so we thought our tents would be icy in the morning but a breeze must have sprung up as we had dry flies in the morning.



Day 2. We three headed NW, sidling to get out of the One Mile Creek catchment and onto the ridge containing point 1390. This ridge leads via 1482 to a NE trending ridge that overlooks the Rough Ck catchment. Sidling on a steepish flank of 1482 we cautiously trod the shaded snow aided by earlier footprints. That was the only awkward bit of our Sunday. Looking into the Rough Ck basin it's not apparent but there are a few bluffy bits

which we had to bypass before we got onto the poled route that leads to Lake Christabel or down Rough Ck.

From our lunch stop near the bush line it's nearly a 700m descent and 4km in distance to the road so we were out by mid-afternoon for a leisurely drive home.

Julie's vehicle was waiting for the women to arrive as we passed the Lewis Tops car park. They got out at 4:45. We were: **Penny Webster, Julie Wagner, Kathryn Meuller, Vesna Mojsilovic, Merv Meredith, Kerry Moore.** 📍 KM



## Hope Kiwi - Lake Sumner — 16-17 May 2015

Eight keen trampers headed off to Windy Point near Lewis Pass, undeterred by the previous day's torrential rain, floods in Kapiti, and tornadoes in Mt Manganui. We actually ended up really lucky with the weather, even though showers were forecast. We left windy point at 9.45am on the Saturday morning.

The birdsong in the beech forest was beautiful, as if all the birds were so happy to be out of the rain and storm. I delighted in seeing bellbirds, tomtits, robins and fantails, coming out to feed on worms washed up from the rains, and the insects we disturbed, as we marched through the bush.

We headed up the Hope River valley, towards Hope-Kiwi Hut, with a sprinkling of snow on the mountains and a lot of water in the river. The track was pretty good, with the usual roots, rocks and patches of mud—nothing out of the ordinary. However at the start, the local farm track, is now fenced off and a new track is formed. Graeme thought he was back at work as a prison guard, as we clambered through an unlocked fence doorway. Our track wasn't as cattle-trodden anyway.

There were two swing bridges where tail-enders could catch up with the rest, due to the one person at a time ruling. Mind you, later on, next to the tarns and swampy bits, there were a few swamp crossing platforms that were more deserving. One twisted up one, represented the Canterbury earthquakes.

The air temperature was quite cold, but comfortable while we were walking. Near the middle hut we all got soaked up to our “sensitive bits”, as Pat put it—quite a flooded miniature lake. By this time the sole of Brennan’s boot which was just clinging on, flopped loose. Luckily he had his faithful Warehouse “croc” as back up and not jandals. They gave excellent drainage and survived the rest of the trip.

When we got to Hope halfway hut for lunch the steam was pouring off Gavin’s blue thermal shirt! We knew hunters were staying overnight there as there were the traditional spaghetti tins on the bench, and rolls of dog food. Later we saw a lot of evidence of pig rooting, so hoped they caught some. Pat and Kerry had plucked some yummy watercress from the stream to add to their “cordon Bleu” lunches. And Jane was in heaven with her dinner left-overs.

Our hut took another 2 hours to arrive. On the way a high-light for me was the swing-bridge over a gorgy section of the Hope River—the water was a beautiful turquoise colour. The whole journey from Windy Point took 5½ hr.

It was a beautiful sight to see the hut nestled in the grassy flats between high hills. Hope-Kiwi Lodge has 23 bunks, and is very roomy. Thanks to Chris Moore’s talent for chopping wood with a blunt axe, and Pat’s excellent fire-lighting skills, we had an awesome fire to warm up the living area. The warmth was so inviting that a couple of people transferred out there in the middle of the night—Gavin, Chris and Brennan. They claimed it was to avoid the beautiful harmony of the snorers. We were also very lucky with Kerry’s culinary skills. His lentil curry tasted better than the dahl from Indian restaurants, and it even included some fresh mushrooms picked that day! The custard, sago, gingernut desert was also divine, so thank you Kerry.

After some serious debate in the evening on the feasibility of some going out via Lake Sumner we settled on a 50/50 split. In the morning four headed back to the cars and the lucky group, Gavin, Chris, Pat and I headed off through fog and mist towards Lake Sumner and across the swampy flats up to Kiwi Saddle—the smallest saddle in history. The fog and mist gave an eerie impression as we passed tarns, swamps and listened to the birdsong again. Lake Marion, was very hard to see, as it was covered in mist. Then we headed, down, down, down to Lake Sumner. What a beautiful sight, as we sat beside it and admired the view. Still covered in mist, but we hoped by the afternoon we would see some mountain views.

It was a very eventful clamber along the side of Lake Sumner. There were quite a few wind-fallen trees that were easier to avoid by wading into the lake, mid-thigh deep. Sometimes the lake sloped steeply and with slippery gravel, so at one point Pat had a good slip into the lake, lucky her camera didn’t join her. I had a good face-plant into the gravel, but it was a fun adventure. The rocks were jagged and kept us on the ball. In places the track left the lake and we climbed up over very slippery black fungus-covered logs. Pat was ahead of us and unbeknown to her, disturbed a wasp nest. Chris and I coming up behind, had to do a bigger, steeper detour, to avoid angry wasps. We imagined chaos if they found our scent and started attacking!

As the day progressed, the mists did slowly rise and we saw stunning views of the peaks around Lake Sumner. It was just beautiful so we made the most of our lunch spot near the lake outlet to have a cappuccino or coffee, kindly brewed by Chris. He wanted his new member form signed this weekend and with his excellent skills, looking after the girls, as tail-end charlie, and organising a boil up, he is very welcome to join our club!!

From there it was meant to be about 2½ hr to the road. We passed the cute little historic Gabriel Hut and headed off through the last bit of forest toward the Hurunui River flats. It’s so weird how the cows always stared at us when we passed as if we are aliens! Gavin was ahead, looking forward to meeting Graeme who had kindly volunteered to drive in with his 4WD to pick us up. There was a little hitch—the Sisters Carpark isn’t clearly labelled and as Gavin arrived he saw the 4WD pass by on its way to Lake Taylor. Oh dear! One carload sitting at Waikari, one car at Lake Taylor and tired hungry trampers in the middle! But, Gavin to the rescue. He flagged down a passing motorcyclist and asked him to turn around in the opposite direction and chase Graeme to tell him where we were.

It all worked out in the end. All eight met in Waikari and drove home safely. I would like to thank Gavin, who led ably from the front and Chris who led ably from the rear, and to Kerry for leading an awesome trip with his great, kind, quiet, knowledgeable leadership style. Thanks everyone for the fun and laughs too. We were: **Kerry Moore, Gavin Clark, Pat McIntosh, Jane Smith, Graeme Hunter, Brennan Edwards, Chris Moore and Gayle O'Halloran** 🏔️ GO



Chris Moore, Gavin Chalk and Pat McIntosh at the outlet end of Lake Sumner. Photo by Gail O'H



The view from the track down to Lake Sumner