



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

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## November 2015

<b>President</b>	Gary Huish	332 7020	Brian Smith, Quartermaster	355 9945
<b>Vice-President</b>	Leo Manders	356 1731	Raymond Ford	261 9310
<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 10 Nov



**LOOKING UP: a Tramer's View of the Night Sky, with an almost entirely unsatisfactory excursion into cosmology**

**Graham Townsend** will focus on interesting objects and events that are visible in the southern night sky when you are forced outside because some bugger in the hut is snoring. You will learn about the nearest, furthest, biggest, smallest, brightest, oddest, most violently unstable, most colourful; plus a not-too-serious bit of background theory.

**Supper Duty: Barbara Brown, Wendy Wallace, Penny Webster**

Tue 8 Dec



**CHRISTMAS PARTY – TABLEAU VIVANT AND SONGS WITHOUT MUSIC**

As usual our Christmas Party is done in-style and you provide the food and high quality entertainment. There are two types of entertainment and participation is voluntary as we need an appreciative audience as well. **Details under Social Events**

Please **bring a plate of finger-food** to share. Santa hats, party hats welcome. Usual time and venue at the Oxford Terrace Baptist Church Hall.

**Supper Duty: Stan or Susan Wilder, Bruce or Sandra White, Douglas Woods**

## 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.

- 8 Nov**      **PUDDING HILL RANGE**      **Maps BX20,K35,K36**  
**Sun**      **Ruth Barratt 335 0010**  
 ■      **Moderate** trip from Awa Awa Reserve, cross Pudding Hill Stream and head up the ridge towards Mount Bruce (1829m). Return the same way from whichever high point we reach.  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**      **Approx cost \$16**
- 13-15 Nov**      **GLORIANA AND/OR FAERIE QUEENE**      **Maps BT23,M31**  
**Fri-Sun**      **Gary Huish 332 7020**  
 ■■■      **Hard** climb starting along St James walkway to Ada Pass, then down the Ada River to Camera Gully. We'll camp in or above the gully and climb Gloriana and/or Faerie Queene on Saturday, walking out on Sunday.  
**Show WE**      **List closes 7 November**
- 14 Nov - ?**      **TE ARAROA: TAKITIMU SECTION**      **Maps CD09,CE09,D43,44**  
**Sat - ?**      **Sue Piercey 384 9567**  
 ■■■?      Walking the Takitimu section of the trail from Mavora Lakes.  
**Show WE**      **Contact Sue about this trip.**
- 13-15 Nov**      **LAKE CLEARWATER BASE CAMP**      **Maps BX18,J36**  
**Fri-Sun**      **Keith McQuillan 384 6164**  
 ■■■      Staying at a comfortable house in this scenic location with many tramping opportunities - Mts Harper, Guy, Potts OR just lazing around.  
**Show WE**      **List closes 7 November**
- 14 Nov**      **KNOWLES TOP - ASHLEY GORGE**      **Maps BW22,23,L34**  
**Sun**      **TBA Please contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip**  
 ■      **Easy** trip up a ridge off the Glentui Road, with good views from Ashley Gorge to the coast.  
**Start: 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St**      **Approx cost \$8**
- 21-22 Nov**      **KELLYS CREEK - HUNTS SADDLE - KELLY RANGE**      **Maps BV20,K33**  
**Sat-Sun**      **TBA Please contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip**  
 ■■      A **moderate** trip in Arthurs Pass NP. Varied terrain, much of it off-track, a chance to travel through some less-visited APNP country.  
**List closes 13 November**
- 22 Nov**      **GOAT HILL**      **Maps BV20,K33**  
**Sun**      **Calum McIntosh 376 6133**  
 ■      **Easy-medium** trip in Otira area. Track heads off from the landfill up the ridge near Barrack Creek. Good views to be had from this location.  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**      **Approx cost \$25**

- 28-30 Nov**      **COPLAND PASS - WELCOME FLAT**      **Maps BX15,BY15,H36**  
**Sat-Mon**      **Raymond Ford 351 9496**  
 ■■■      The Copland Pass used to be one of New Zealand's greatest alpine tramps, linking the grandeur of Mount Cook, with the West Coast bush and the hot springs at Welcome Flats. The erosion of Stewart and Copland Gullies on the eastern side of the Main Divide has isolated Hooker Hut on an inaccessible piece of lateral moraine. We intend to climb Copland Pass via a gully further up the glacier. **Hard** trip with ice axe skills and crampons required.  
**List closes 14 November**
- 28-30 Nov**      **PINNACLE**      **Maps BT22,L31**  
**Sat-Mon**      **Kerry Moore 359 5069**  
 ■■■      **Moderate-hard** trip in Victoria Forest Park near Springs Junction. Camping out by one of the numerous alpine tarn basins along the way. The route crosses the Upper Grey River and takes in 1500m Pinnacle.  
**List closes 14 November**
- 29 Nov**      **MT CHEESEMAN - MT OLYMPUS**      **Maps BW20,K34**  
**Sun**      **Merv Meredith 322 7239**  
 ■      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. **Moderate-hard**  
**Start: 7am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**      **Approx cost \$17**
- 29 Nov**      **NGAIO POINT - ONAWE PENINSULA**      **Maps BX&Y25, N36**  
**Sun**      **Maureen Thompson 377 2482**  
 ■      Two **easy** one-hour circular walks around Akaroa Harbour. We will walk to the summit of Onawe Peninsula looking at the pa remains, then do the circular Ngaio Point walk where we will have a picnic lunch. Coffee stop at Hilltop tavern or Little River on the way home.  
**Start: 9:30am Halswell School 437 Halswell Rd**      **Approx cost \$10**
- 5-7 Dec**      **CASEY SADDLE - LAKE MINCHIN**      **Maps BV21,22,K33**  
**Sat-Mon**      **TBA Please contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip**  
 ■■■      **Moderate** tramp in Arthur's Pass NP. Starting from Andrews Shelter, then over Casey Saddle, we'll stay at the new Poulter Hut with time for a day trip to remote Lake Minchin.  
**List closes 28 October**
- 6 Dec**      **BANKS PENINSULA TRAVERSE**      **Maps BX25,BY25,N36,N37**  
**Sun**      **Merv Meredith 322 7239**  
 ■      A long day makes this a **moderate** trip. Walking between Orton Bradley Park and Montgomery Park (near Hilltop Tavern) along the summit walkway. Includes Mt Herbert, the highpoint of the peninsula, and several bush reserves. Good views of much of Banks Peninsula. We aim to have a group starting at each end with a car-swap. Take plenty of water!  
**Start: 7:30am PM Hospital, Hackthorne Rd end, on the river side.**      **Approx cost \$13**
- 12-13 Dec**      **EDWARDS - STANLEY - FOWLER PASS**      **Maps BT24,M31,N31**  
**Sat-Sun**      **Kerry Moore 359 5069**  
 ■■      **Moderate** tramp north of Hanmer Springs between the Clarence and Waiau rivers. Up the Edwards River, north of the Amuri skifield road, to Charlie's Saddle. Travel up the Waiau via The Racecourse, to the Stanley River to the hut at Glenrae Flat, southeast of Lake Guyon, and return via Fowler Pass.  
**List closes 5 December**
- 12 Dec**      **ASHLEY GORGE**      **Maps BW22,23,L34**  
**Saturday**      **Merv Meredith 322 7239**  
 ■      This is the classic splash downstream along the Ashley from Middle Bridge out to the domain. In moderate flow the walk typically takes six hours<sup>+</sup>. Always a wet trip, this is an **easy-**

**moderate**, fun day. Don't forget the full change of clothes for afterwards. Glenda and Merv will be meeting the party from town at the Lees Valley turn-off on Ashley Gorge Rd. so ring Merv if you are able to organise the cars at Cranford St on the morning.

**Start: 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St**

**Approx cost \$15**

**13 Dec  
Sun**

**YEAR END PICNIC, ASHLEY GORGE**

**Maps BW22,23,L34**

**Merv Meredith 322 7239**

■ As they did in 2012, Glenda and Merv be in the camping ground, on the right, near the sheltered far end, from Friday evening. So make a weekend of it, pack the tent and join us. The camping ground is Ashley Gorge Holiday Park, 697 Ashley Gorge Rd, just before the bridge, ph 03 312 4099. Powered sites are \$19 pp, there is a kitchen with fridge, etc. Showers are \$2 coin. No need to book, pre-Christmas. Four/five bunk cabins are \$70 for the first two people.

Arriving any time on Saturday, provides options; this is might be your first swim of the season. In Dec! Bring the MTB and try the local roads.

On Sunday, the PTC picnic will run from late morning in the large, lower area immediately behind the river. Look for our old silver Subaru. So pack the chilly-bin, all your goodies, the deck chairs, etc and be prepared to blob out. Extend the day and stay for an early BBQ tea. Bring your own everything.

Coming from town on Sunday morning and to car pool, meet at Placemakers, Cranford St, as you would for a tramping trip, but at **10am**. There is no 'trip leader' so make your own arrangements on the morning using the list that Merv will advertise by email on the club 'Communicator'. So give him a ring by Thursday evening if you are going and want a ride.

Any questions? Ring Merv or Glenda.

**Start: 10am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St**

**Approx cost \$15**

**19-20 Dec  
Sat-Sun**

**CARROLL HUT**

**Maps BV20,K33**

**Chris Leaver 322 6445**

■■ From Otira, a steady **easy-moderate** climb through bush to 8-bunk Carroll Hut, just above the bush line. Opportunity to explore the nice tops on the Kelly Range. The alpine plants should be fully out at this time and there is still a missing gold mine to discover.

**List closes 12 December**

**20 Dec  
Sun**

**MT LYNDON AND RED HILL**

**Maps BW20,K34,K35**

**Gary Huish 332 7020**

■ **Moderate** round-trip just past Porters Pass. Ascending 1450m summits, with a bit of up-and-down. Nice views of the Craigieburn and Torlesse Ranges, and of Lake Lyndon.

**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd**

**Approx cost \$15**

**16-17 Jan  
Sat-Sun**

**MT ARMSTRONG**

**Maps BV20,K33**

**Raymond Ford 351 9496**

■■ A **hard** trip in Arthurs Pass up the Rolleston River to camp at Lake Florence, climb Mt Armstrong and descend near Waimakiriri Col.

**List closes 9 January**

**17 Jan  
Sun**

**BIRDLINGS FLAT - MAGNET BAY**

**Maps BY24,M37,N37**

■ **TBA Please 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 Church Corner (across from church)**

**Approx cost \$7**

**23-25 Jan  
Sat-Mon**

**MT COOK BASE CAMP**

**Maps BX15,BY15,H36**

**Maureen Thompson 377 2482**

■■■ Base camp at Unwin Hut. Superb day tramps for fitter people include Mueller Hut, Sefton Biv and Mt Wakefield, whilst easier tramps include Sealy Tarns, Red Lakes and the Hooker and Tasman valleys.

**List closes 9 January**

- 24 Jan Sun** **MT MANSON FROM CRAIGIEBURN** **Maps BV21,BW21,L34**  
**Chris Leaver 322 6445**  
 ■ This **moderate** trip starts from the Craieburn ski road. The high gain makes for a steep but short climb to ascend to this 1860m peak at the northern end of the Craieburn Range.  
**Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd** **Approx cost \$19**
- 30-31 Jan Sat-Sun** **MT TECHNICAL - WATERFALL CREEK** **Maps BT23,M31**  
**Keith McQuillan 384 6164**  
 ■■ **Moderate-hard** Lewis Pass tops trip starting from the Lewis Pass west car park with commanding views.  
**List closes 23 January**
- 31 Jan Sun** **BLACK SERPENT PEAK** **Maps BT24,M31,N31**  
**Calum McIntosh 376 6133**  
 ■ **Moderate** tramp to this 1837m peak east of the Clarence River. Opposite Lake Tennyson.  
**Start: 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St** **Approx cost \$20**

## SOCIAL EVENTS

### Tues 17 Nov **Horseshoe Lake Walk**



Rain stopped play last time we tried to explore this red-zoned area so we will try again and see how busy nature and CERA have been around this peaceful river loop. Native plants are regenerating rapidly in the reserve. Please wear sturdy footwear and be prepared for a variety of terrain. **Meet 6 pm at Kingsford St and New Brighton Road intersection.** Followed by dinner at **Gas Monkey** at The Palms (TexMex cuisine, see gasmonkey.co.nz) More info from [suebritain@gmail.com](mailto:suebritain@gmail.com) or **ph. 388 2329**  
**Please book with Sue for restaurant by 15 Nov.**

### Tue 8 Dec



### **Tableau Vivant And Songs Without Music**

As usual our Christmas Party is done in-style and you provide the food and high quality entertainment. There are two types of entertainment and participation is voluntary as we need an appreciative audience as well.

**TABLEAU VIVANT:** Recreate a famous (or famous in Christchurch) painting or sculpture. The audience guesses what it is. It can be a still-life or involve a group of people. "Google" famous art to get ideas.

**SONG WITHOUT MUSIC:** Bring along a famous song and read it. Try out different styles of delivery at home first, such as dead-pan or melodramatic. Just one or two verses will be enough. We guess the name of the song or singer.

**FORMAT:** We will alternate the songs and paintings so that you have time to dress up behind the scenes in the foyer/ toilet area.

**HOW TO ENTER:** Get your entries in to **Maureen Thompson** so that we can ensure there are no double-ups. Let us know the name and author of your song/art so that we can write up some quiz questions and also how much time you might need to get dressed up so that we know when to call you to go out to get ready. Entries will be limited so get in soon.

**FOOD:** Please bring a plate of finger-food to share. Christmas party hats are welcome. Usual time and venue at the Oxford Terrace Baptist Church Hall.

**CONTACT:** Maureen Thompson: [mothompson@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mothompson@xtra.co.nz) 021 266 5778 or possibly 377 2482 but may change as MT is moving soon

Tues 15 Dec

**Walk and BBQ**

Walk around Victoria Park area followed by a BBQ at Gary and Margot's.  
 Details in the Nov newsletter. [margot.bowden@gmail.com](mailto:margot.bowden@gmail.com) phone 332 7020.

**NOTES**

Conservation Week events 1-8 Nov [www.conservationweek.org.nz](http://www.conservationweek.org.nz)

Deadline for the Dec newsletter Mon 30 Nov

Next committee meeting 7:30pm Tue 24 Nov

**PTC - FMC Photo Competitions 2016**

PTC will hold a photo competition to select the best photos to enter in the national FMC competition. Enter NOW. Please have a look at your treasured pics, load some on a memory stick and pass to one of the judges: **Kevin Hughes, Kerry Moore, Brian Smith and Nick Webb.**

You can also email to [ptc@nivek.co.nz](mailto:ptc@nivek.co.nz)

**Categories are:** Above the bushline (abl) Below bushline (bbp)

Historic (his) Hut or camp life (hcl)

Native flora or fauna (nff) Outdoor landscapes—no people (ols)

Full details of the PTC and FMC Photo Competitions were circulated on PTC Communicator 27 Oct 15 PTC entries close **9 Feb** at our Club-night. 🗣️ **Merv M**

**TRIP REPORTS****SPRING 2015 – PTC TRAMPS and OTHER GOODIES**

Despite El Nino, I personally had a good August with good snow day-trips most weekends.

**Hamilton Peak circuit via Broken River Ski field – Sun 30 August 2015**

Lead by Kevin H. on a brilliantly fine day but with a change forecast for the afternoon. We followed the usual circuit, parking at the tractor shed and walking up the road to cross under the ski tow, gain the Nervous Knob spur then sidle into Allens Basin, being careful to avoid ski runs. On the sunny faces it became a slower plug as the snow softened, but we were on the top ridge in good time to have lunch before the climb to 1922m Hamilton. After lunch we arrived on the top just as the cloud from the south did. So descending the south-east spur was a small concern to look out for the gentler terrain on the left that would take us down to Camp Saddle. It started to get wet as we began the descent. A parka would be good, but we waited until we were down a bit and after the bum-slide. Not a good decision. Yvette and I left that far too late! By 4.50pm we had regrouped at the bushline and were back at the vehicle at 5.10pm. We were: **Heather & Kevin Hughes, Merv Meredith & Yvette So.**

For me, September started well with the following Permolat track-clearing trip that Geoff Spearpoint organised.

**Waitaha Track Clearance – Sunday 6 to Thursday 10 September 2015**

This was a 5-day task for Phil Novis and I. Geoff had Phil and I choppered in to Kiwi Flat Hut to work up-valley toward Moonbeam Hut and walk out on Thursday. While Geoff, Andrew Buglass, Andrew Barker and Sven Brabyn flew in to Moonbeam to work further up-valley, including County Stream. Then down-valley to stay at Kiwi Flat before walking out on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>. By 3pm Monday, Phil and I had cleared and re-marked up onto the terrace, along the terrace and up around to the junction with Headlong Spur. We then needed to walk on to check out the state of the big slip into the Waitaha that had been putting everyone off in recent times. We could see why, with multiple recent slips. Climbing up the slip we found a good exit near the top to take us back west. So we sidled back, taping as we went and climbing higher as necessary to emerge a little up the Headlong Spur track, returning to the hut by dark.

On Tuesday and Wednesday we walked back in, marking and clearing a route on the eastern side of the slip down to the Moonbeam track and finished marking and clearing from the slip back to Headlong. Thursday morning we cleaned up at the hut, cut firewood, then walked in damp conditions back to our vehicle. Two days later when the Moonbeam four walked down valley, Andrew Barker explored and partly taped a lower side than ours that would save the height-gain up on to Headlong.

The sequel to this happened over Labour Weekend when the weather was pretty good on the Coast. Andrew Buglass and Doug Forster walked in to Kiwi Flat to cut and mark Andrew Barker's lower side. All done!



After that expedition, tramping for me was fairly slim. Henry-Anne-Boucher at the end of the month didn't happen, so Yvette and I did the day trip, below.

### **Red Hill – Mt Lyndon – Sun 27 September 2015**

Starting from the Lake Lyndon Lodge at 8.50am, we went over the low saddle behind the lodge and around the corner, we were on Red Hill in near perfect weather with hardly any snow, by 12 noon for lunch. Returning back along the top ridge and continuing north-east toward Mt Lyndon, we were puzzled by a sudden, brief burst of smoke from the Porters Pass direction.



Then we found ourselves arriving on the top at 3pm, at the same time as a group of ex-kiwi Australians. They had been at the lodge for a number of days and were exploring former stamping grounds from their youth—good to see. Descending the spur that leads to the lodge, we could see the Sunday traffic on the Porters road was stationary. However, by the time we got back to the lodge at 4.10pm and then drove out, the traffic was flowing slowly past the burnt-out shell of a camper-van. Since then, October tramping for me has been even slimmer. Glenroy Tops on 3-4 Oct didn't happen and there were strong nor-westers anyway.

### **Mt Winterslow, via Don's Track – Monday 26th Oct 2015**

The Labour Weekend, Freehold Creek – Dumb Bell Lake was cancelled with bad weather forecast. I was looking forward to camping up by Lake Ohau and exploring the tops. But Aarn and I did do Mt Winterslow on a warm, calm nor-west day. Walking from the Staveley end at 8.50am, we were soon up to the Don's Track turn-off and an uneventful climb up to the bush-line, allowing me to check out which sections of the track need attention next. Arriving on top at 12.30pm, it was interesting to see the peak with no snow cover, but the view of the Old Man Range behind, was still impressive. A leisurely summer-like lunch followed. Back to the vehicle at 4.15pm, we had seen all sorts of people out for a little walk up the falls track in the lovely Labour Day weather. 🌲 Merv M

### **Carrington Hut — 31 Oct – 1 Nov 2015**

At 0700 when the car collected Jane in Avonhead there were two trampers on board. At West Melton Gavin joined us. The fourth, Graeme joined the team at Waddington and we were on our way. From Klondyke Corner we were walking by 0915 on a clear, calm day. The first bone-chilling river crossing was over the full flow of the Waimak as we headed over to skirt Turkey Flat. Opposite the Crow River we had a great view of the Crow Glacier and the low peak of Mt Rolleston. If you get stuck on river gravel too long the walk can become tedious but we managed to find long stretches of “carpeted” flats, and nearer the hut, a section through beech forest. Looking up Greenlaw Creek we thought we could see Mounts Harper and Speight where the club was hoping to go on Labour weekend but was put off by an un-favourable weather forecast. At Carrington Hut, early afternoon we had a choice of 36 beds in four bunkrooms. We were the only ones there. Not only that, there was a pleasing shortage of sandflies, unlike at Klondyke corner. After a cuppa we took a stroll up to the Clough Cableway. Back at the hut we had soup, read the hut literature and studied the map. Dinner was a lentil spaghetti concoction with the traditional custard dessert.

Sunday dawned fine and sunny. From the front door of the hut we were treated to the magnificent view of Carrington Peak. The walk back to the car was a simple re-tracing of Saturday's steps. We drove back still not knowing what had happened at Twickenham. We'd had a good long, flat walk.

We were: **Jane Smith, Gavin Chalk, Graeme Hunter and Kerry Moore** 🌲 KM

