



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)

February 2016

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			Ruth Barratt	335 0010
Secretary	Merv Meredith	322 7239	Keith McQuillan	384 6164
Editor	Kerry Moore	359 5069		

New Member Enquiries Please contact Stan Wilder, 021 255 3880 or 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 Feb



ALPINE PLANTS

Hamish Brown will tell us about the plants that cling tenaciously in the NZ alpine zone, resisting harsh climates and trampers' boots. He will show photos and share stories.

Supper Duty: Colin Wilmshurst or Heather Craig, Alice Yung, John Allan

Tue 8 Mar



AGM followed by Competition Photos

The 84th Annual General Meeting of Peninsula Tramping Club will be held at the Baptist Church Hall, 286 Oxford Terrace

Agenda: Presentation of Exec. Reports. Election of officers, executive members, auditor. General Business: Nominations for all positions are called for. They may be sent, signed by nominee, proposer and seconder, to Merv Meredith, Secretary, 322 7239.

Supper Duty: Supper Duty: Graham Allely, Evelien Baas, Evelyn Barben

Subs Due

Subscriptions for 2016 are due and payable by 28 February—\$30 with electronic newsletter only, \$35 with hardcopy. Payments can be made to Kiwibank a/c: 38 9015 0030334 00.
Please ensure your **name is in the reference box**.

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.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| 7 Feb
Sun | TIMUTIMU HEAD - SCENERY NOOK
Sue Piercey 384 9567
■ Easy-moderate tramp over Peninsula farmland, via 380m Lucas Peak to Timutimu Head, the western head of Akaroa Harbour. Returning via a natural tidal swimming pool at Scenery Nook.
Start: 8am Halswell School 437 Halswell Rd | Maps BY25,N37

Approx cost \$15 |
| 13-14 Feb
Sat-Sun | LAKE STREAM - KLONDYKE
Kerry Moore 359 5069
■■ Moderate tramp from Rahu Saddle in Victoria Forest Park. Camping out in a tarn basin below some 1500m peaks. A round-trip, dropping into Lake Stream for the return trip. Some great views of the surrounding area from the tops.
List closes 6 February | Maps BT22,L31 |
| 14 Feb
Sun | PEAK HILL
Margot Bowden 332 7020
■ Easy-moderate climb in open country up a 1240m hill with superb views of Lk Coleridge on one side and the Rakaia River on the other. The upper slopes of Peak Hill are now crown land, with public access from the Algidus Road, thanks to Tenure Review of the pastoral lease property. Check out this excellent public facility.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd | Maps BW20,K35

Approx cost \$17 |
| 20-21 Feb
Sat-Sun | MT FITZGERALD - ROD DONALD HUT - HIGH BARE PEAK
Gary Huish 332 7020
■■ Easy-moderate tramp from Cooptown to the new Rod Donald Hut on Banks Peninsula.
List closes 13 February | Maps X24,M36,N36 |
| 20 Feb
Sun | MOUNT LYNDON - CLOUDY HILL
Keith McQuillan 384 6164
■ Moderate circuit between these two peaks near the Lake Lyndon Road and Porter Heights. Choice of route depending on conditions.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd | Maps BW21,K35

Approx cost \$13 |
| 27-28 Feb
Sat-Sun | WALKER PASS - AMBER COL - SUDDEN VALLEY
Merv Meredith 322 7239
■■ Moderate-hard . A satisfying round-trip in the southern section of APNP. We will camp near Amber Col and travel along the Polar Range. A rapid scree descent gives "back-door" access to Sudden Valley.
List closes 17 February | Maps BV21,K33 |

- 28 Feb Sun** ■ **MT KARETU** **Map BW&V23,M34**
TBA Please contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip
Easy-moderate trip to this 970m peak, west of Mt Grey. Starting from Okuku Pass and returning via a forestry track.
Start: 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St **Approx cost \$8**
- 5-6 Mar Sat-Sun** ■■ **MINGHA - DECEPTION** **Maps BV20,K33**
Kerry Moore 359 5069
Moderate. Classic crossing of the main divide from Otira following the Coast to Coast route, up the Deception River, over the 1070m Goat Pass and down the Mingha to Greyneys Shelter.
List closes 27 February
- 6 Mar Sun** ■ **PREBBLE HILL - CAVE STREAM** **Maps BW21,K34**
Stuart Payne 337 2275
This **easy** trip goes over and under some of the more interesting limestone formations in the Castle Hill Basin. We start from Cave Stream car park and head down Broken River to climb 902m Prebble Hill. This is the one visible from SH73, apparently covered in pebbles but close up they are huge and erosion-carved into animal shapes, allowing your imagination to run wild. On our return we aim to traverse the underground Cave Stream. Bring a torch, some warm clothing and a full change for the car. You will get wet!
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$15**
- 12 Mar Saturday** ■ **KAITUNA CHALLENGE** **Maps BQ27,M36**
Merv Meredith 322 7239
Our annual not-too-serious classic bike-walk-run. We have team, individual men's and individual women's categories. Once everyone is there, the day concludes with lunch and presentation of the prestigious trophy.
Entry fee to this popular event is a mere \$4 to cover costs.
Start: 8:30am Govenors Bay Hotel
- 13 Mar Sun** ■ **MT EVANS** **Maps BX24,N36**
Kerry Moore 359 5069
Easy-moderate walk to this 700m peak on Banks Peninsula, between Lyttelton Harbour and Port Levy.
Start: 8am PM Hospital, Hackthorne Rd end, on the river side. **Approx cost \$5**
- 19-20 Mar Sat-Sun** ■■ **MT PFEIFER TOPS** **Maps BV20,K33**
Kevin Hughes 3326281
Moderate-hard trip in Arthurs Pass National Park to this 1700m peak between the Deception and Otehake Rivers. Probably camping at the biv above the bush line.
List closes 12 March
- 20 Mar Sun** ■ **MT SAINT GEORGE** **Maps BT24,M31,N31**
Calum McIntosh 376 6133
Moderate tramp north of Hanmer Springs and west of the Clarence River. Probable round-trip including Mt Taliessin.
Start: 7am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St **Approx cost \$25**
- 25-28 Mar Fri-Mon** ■■■■ **AHURIRI - CANYON CREEK** **Maps BZ14,G38,39**
Merv Meredith 322 7239
Moderate trip up Ahuriri Valley crossing into spectacular Canyon Creek, through beech forest, an impressive gorge to the upper valley's waterfalls and grassy flats. A rock bivvy has stunning views of Mt Barth.
List closes 16 March
- Easter**

- 25-28 Mar** **NELSON BASE CAMP** **Maps BQ25,26,O27**
Fri-Mon **Margot Bowden 332 7020**
 ■■■■ The plan is to stay at a motor camp in Nelson and run day trips, with the option of some
Easter overnight tramps. Possibilities are Dun Mountain, Maungatapu Track, Mt Arthur tablelands, and
 a range of shorter walks—something for all levels of fitness in sunny Nelson!
List closes 9 March
- 27 Mar** **BEALEY SPUR** **Maps BV20,K34**
Sun **Penny Coffey 332 7182**
 ■ Popular **easy-moderate** walk to this historic shepherds' hut, through beech forest and tussock
Easter clearings which offer great views of the upper Waimak and the mountains of Arthurs Pass
 National Park. If time permits it is worth walking beyond the hut, further up the spur.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$21**
- 2-3 Apr** **BOUNDARY CREEK HUT - DOGS RANGE - MYSTERY LK** **Maps BX18,J35,J36**
Sat-Sun **Gary Huish 332 7020**
 ■■ **Moderate** tramp up Paddle Hill Creek to the historic Boundary Creek Hut. Return traversing
 Dogs Range and Mystery Lake to return to Lake Clearwater.
List closes 19 March
- 3 Apr** **LAKE RUBICON - BOBS KNOB** **Maps BW21,L35**
Sun **TBA Please contact Gary Huish 332 7020 if you would like to lead this trip**
 ■ Popular **moderate** round-trip up to a ridge below the Torlesse Range, with good views of the
 latter, taking in Lake Rubicon. An enjoyable tramp not far from town.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$11**
- 9-10 Apr** **CARLYLE HUT - GLENHOPE STATION** **Maps BU23,M32**
Sat-Sun **Kevin Hughes 3326281**
 ■■ An **easy-moderate** trip up Carlyle Stream to the hut among the forests and peaks on the north
 side of the Lewis Pass road. Could be a bit of snow around to add to the ambience. Staying in a
 character hut with an open fire.
List closes 2 April
- 10 Apr** **THIRTEEN MILE BUSH** **Maps BW21,K35,L35**
Sun **Kerry Moore 359 5069**
 ■ **Moderate** trip on the flanks of Ben More which lies in the Big Ben Range. Starting from Ben
 More Station just 12km inland from Springfield. Thirteen Mile Bush contains the headwaters of
 North Selwyn River.
Start: 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$11**

SOCIAL EVENTS

Tues 16 Feb

Walk and Dinner



Come and see Christchurch's street art and try the climbing frame at the new **Margaret Mahy Playground** in a walk around the streets of central Christchurch. Meet, 6pm at the corner of Manchester and Welles Streets (near Mum's Restaurant). Dinner will be at Mum's, 62 Manchester Street at 7.15pm.

Mum's is a Korean and Japanese Restaurant with mains from \$17. Please let Maureen Thompson know if you are coming to dinner.

Email mothompson@xtra.co.nz or phone 021 266 5778 or 377 2482.

Wed 2 Mar

Pecha Kucha night with dinner first at the Pegasus Arms

That's right folks, we're back for another year of Pecha Kucha goodness at the Spectrum Street Art Festival, where you will hear fantastic speakers, nestled amongst giant spray cans. Attendees will have a chance to see the whole exhibition while enjoying a drink and catching up with some of Christchurch's most interesting and creative people.

Dinner at Pegasus Arms at 6.00 pm then walk to the YMCA.

Doors open 7.30pm. **Pecha Kucha** will start at 8.20pm.

Buy your own tickets on-line for Pecha Kucha (details to follow) but book for dinner with Maureen Thompson by 26 February.

Email mothompson@xtra.co.nz phone 021 2665778 or 377 2482

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1426895563992170/>

Tues 22 Mar

Walk and Dinner

Make the most of the last summer walk before daylight saving ends. Come along for a walk around Halswell Quarry followed by dinner. Details to follow.

NOTES

Membership We welcome **Maureen Whalen**

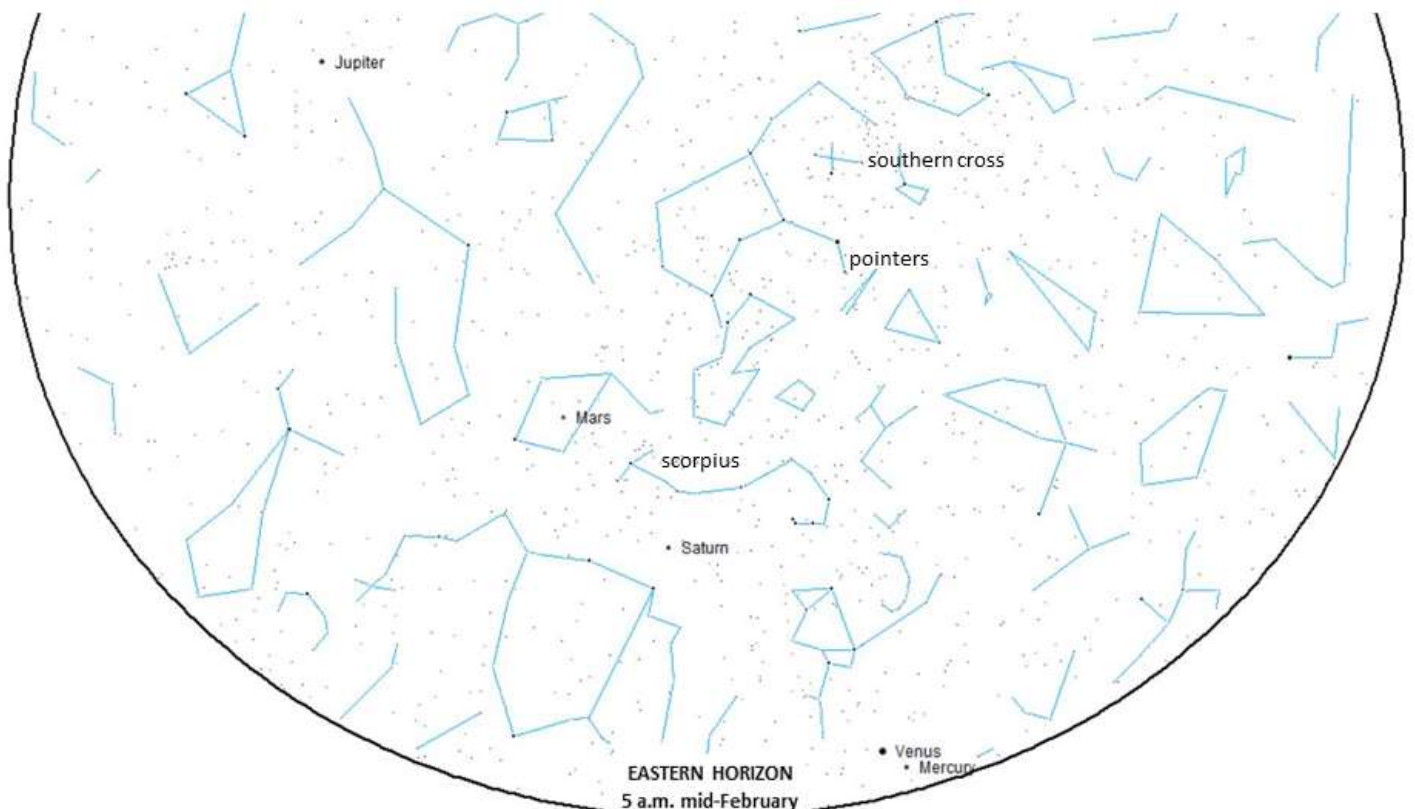
With regret we note the death of member **Bill Blake**

Deadline for the March newsletter **Mon 29 Feb**

Next committee meeting **7:30pm Tue 23 Feb at Maureen's**

Planetary Happenings

Graham Townsend reports that five planets will be visible in the southern sky this month, though little Mercury will be hard to spot just above the eastern horizon at 5am in mid-February.



TRIP REPORTS

East Hawdon Biv - Sunday 22 October 2015

The nor'wester blew with "severe gales in exposed places" and Calum decided the ridge of Goat Hill was very likely an exposed place. Never mind, nine people gathered for a good Plan B which stayed low and east of the Divide, exploring the East Hawdon valley up to the Biv. Much had been heard of this area but none of the party had been in before and it turned out to be well worth exploring.

A shift in the bed of the Hawdon since our last venture up the river necessitated crossing early-on and a lot of the old track had been washed out but a steady walk into the wind led us to the East Hawdon confluence and morning tea. Then we headed up-river finding some lengths of track on the true right in places to ease the passage. The track had been recut in March by a couple of volunteers and was very pleasant, so crossing the main stream could be avoided.

After a narrowing of the valley, shortly followed by a right angle bend it really started to feel remote and the upper valley opened out with great views of Mt Valiant. After four hours and a deceptive amount of gentle climbing we found the 2007 biv in excellent order—just the right timing for lunch. We managed to all cram into this two-bunk "hut" with Graham literally under the table. There was discussion about a possible return to climb Mt Valiant. The drizzle on the Divide cleared and a very pleasant walk out completed the trip.

River ramblers were: Calum & Pat McIntosh, Chris Leaver, Graham Townsend, Kathryn Mueller, Dorota Giejsztowt, John Robinson, John Allan, Gary Huish. 🏔️ PM

Carrington Hut - Harper Pass – Julia Hut – Hunts Creek Hut – Carroll Hut 28 Dec-1 Jan 2016

With no urgency to reach Carrington Hut we left the city at 9am and parked at Klondyke Corner, 1km in from highway 73. Sandflies urged us to get packed and walking on this warm day with some breeze. River crossings were welcomed to keep us cool as we plodded, mostly on the true right or centre. Late afternoon we reached the giant cairn that indicates the sharp turn towards Carrington Hut just a few hundred metres away. The hut had a few groups of people staying with plans to go in various directions. A resident warden made sure we were staying legally and gave helpful track and weather advice. One group tented (and smoked) outside while we endured 30° heat in the hut.

In the morning the White River was crossable without using the cableway and we enjoyed the climb up the Taipo-iti unimpeded by snow, though the stream was full enough to make crossings awkward in places. Mist near Harman Pass cleared as we arrived there, giving us super views to Whitehorn Pass. After a hefty snack-stop on the pass we detoured to view Ariel Tarns, then got back on track, down the steep route to Mary Creek. As we reached flatter terrain we crossed the creek and spent time looking for a track on a terrace but decided there isn't one. Cairns were few but are useful in indicating where to cross. We found the track more rugged than expected so took a little longer than regulation time to reach Julia Hut. The Kiwi-Israeli couple we met at Carrington reached Julia hours ahead of us and told us the hot pools were great so we headed there for a very welcome dip, un-bothered by sandflies. Anne made a delicious pasta and tuna meal cooked on Kerry's slow-burning pressure stove. At Carrington the stove was making a hearty roar but here it was a quiet whisper. Anne's load hereafter was lessened by two tuna cans. At 6pm a pair of tired trampers arrived from Harman Hut on the 3-pass route, via Popes Pass but were disappointed to find 6 in our hut so moved to the nearby old Julia Hut. The hut has been renovated but is still inferior to the newer hut.

On day three an 8am start along the Taipo track got us to Tumbledown Creek where there's a very necessary 3 wire bridge with string netting to give an impression it might catch you if you slip. On this bridge a loose wire on one of Anne's gaiters got well snagged in the netting and it took her a few minutes to extricate herself. When we reached Dry Creek at 0915 we got a surprise - it wasn't dry. In fact it was quite a brisk stream so we had a steep climb with frequent crossings. At about the 1000m level we looked up to the 1500m saddle and wondered if we could find a lower crossing point over the Hunts Ridge. We tried but were headed for some very craggy stuff so we bit the bullet and sidled to the official saddle north of point 1555. It was 5pm and we still had to descend to Hunts Creek and make our way 3 km to the hut. The descent on scree was rapid but down in the valley Hunts Creek meanders through tall tussock and as we walked down a trench the vegetation

was over our heads. It was a situation where, when you go one way the going looks better the other way. We managed to locate the area where a track over big boulders shows on the map and we knew we had no more trenched tussock to contend with. Four-bunk Hunts Creek Hut is on the edge of a swampy, tussock flat and was a welcome sight after a 13hr hike. We chose a quick-cooking macaroni meal but the stove was still on a go-slow so dinner was at 9:30. At least the instant pud didn't rely on the stove.



Descending to Hunts Creek to find the end of the rainbow. Photo by Ian Umbers

An 8am start got us to Hunt Saddle at 9, and more head-high tussock. Kellys Creek was getting started as we looked for the well-hidden, minimally-cut track that leads to the Kelly Range. Three of us walked past the turn-off but Ian was more assiduous and located it right by a tiny stream. Where we ran out of track we walked up the stream and were encouraged when we saw a cut branch. At a grassy, swampy clearing we floundered around searching for a track through dense bush. Eventually, on the far side of the flat we found a cairn that encouraged us to walk further NW where we found very faded tape on trees. After a lunch-break we got to a grassy area that we were sure would lead us to a very strategic spur. After more head-scratching we headed further NW and found a vital cairn that led to an obvious track up to a spur short of the main ridge. This spur seems to be a fault scarp and has a long tarn alongside. A nice track up the spur soon petered out and had us mystified again. A short scramble through tall scrub got us into a gully and at last the way to the master ridge seemed clear. At 1100m we were in the clear but still had to climb over a 1411m hill, well short of Carroll Hut. We noticed that the display of Mt Cook lilies and mountain flowers was a lot better at the Hunt Saddle end of Kelly Range. Our home for the night materialised at 8pm, so the day had taken us 12hr. Our friends from Julia Hut welcomed us. They'd come via Dillon Hut at Seven Mile Stream and found the climb up to Kelly Range hard work on a warm day. They took pity on us with our slow cooker and let us use their gas burner to cook our lentil spaghetti. Our third instant pud was eaten with gingernuts. We didn't need to

conserve food as we'd decided not to do a second leg trip up the Taramakau or Deception. January 1 would be a relaxing drive back to Christchurch. No one stayed up to greet the new year.

Kerry went to retrieve the car while the rest of the team relaxed at the hut rather than go down to Kelly's picnic ground where sandflies might be lurking. Out at the road it took 30 minutes to hitch a ride to Klondyke corner. Police cars were at the scene of the dramatic Otira Gorge bus crash as we passed. On return to Kellys, Kerry collected his pack from bushes by the road and stopped to answer questions from a tourist family who were hoping to walk to Carroll Hut. They needed to know if there were bedding and cooking facilities at the hut. In a fine coincidence, as the car drove into the picnic ground, the team was emerging from their descent. After changing and a quick lunch we drove to Springfield for a snack and then home for some new-year's-day relaxation. The team was: **Anne Hunter, Ian & Peter Umbers and Kerry Moore** 🏔️ **KM**



Ariel Tarn and Whitehorn Pass from Harman Pass

Photo by Ian Umbers

East Ahuriri 1-4 Jan 2016

I think this was plan D. We abandoned plans A, B and C as the weather gods fiddled with their isobars. We camped near Twizel on new-year's eve, then staggered up Freehold Creek the next day. As the tussock basins opened out, we turned leftish, hunting for the big tarn at 1514 m. After a long day, we were pleased to find a good camp spot on the shoreline of this attractive tarn—a better campsite, we thought, than the one at Lake Dumbbell, which would make a nice return day trip from here. The next day we completed a tops circuit of the cirque above our tarn, giving good views of the Barrier Range to the west, including Mt St Mary. The following breakfast was cut short by incoming rain so we rapidly packed up and headed down to join the marker poles along Te Araroa, heading down into the treeless East Ahuriri. Steady cold rain discouraged dawdling. It's pretty easy country, but several crossings of the river were needed. Eventually we started scanning the valley floor for the old East Ahuriri Hut, hoping that it might still have a roof... When we finally arrived, we were pleased to see it has been spruced up a bit and is weatherproof, although it only has two useable bunks and no fireplace. Applying dry socks to one end of the body and hot soup to the other soon restored the will to live. As the evening light slowly faded, two Americans arrived, then a lone and slightly chilly Swiss woman, all heading north up Te Araroa. Four of us slept in tents while the others snuggled in among the wet parkas, socks and gloves in the hut.

Blue skies and a fresh coating of snow on the tops greeted our final morning. We angled up, then along, before dropping down to the Quailburn Saddle. From there it's just a short hike through bush to the road end, but there has been massive recent windfall here, so we were pleased that DoC had been through with chainsaws. We'd left a bike at the old woolshed, so while the lazy ones sunbathed, Chris peddled back along the A2O trail to collect our car. All up, a fun trip to a place we'd not been before. Those who survived were:

Margaret Clark, Ann Schofield, Christine Leaver, and Graham Townsend. 🏔️ **GT**