



*PTC Monthly
Newsletter*
**September
2017**

PTC	Affiliate of Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ (Inc)
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Committee

President	Vacant		Quartermaster	Brian Smith	355 9945
Vice-President	Gary Huish	332 7020	Social Events	Maureen Whalen	027 819 9251
Vice-President	Kevin Hughes	332 6281	Committee	Diane Mellish	337 5530
Treasurer	Sue Piercey	384 9567	Committee	Leo Manders	356 1731
Trip Planner	Kerry Moore	359 5069	Committee	Raymond Ford	351 9496
Secretary	Merv Meredith	322 7239	Committee	Keith McQuillan	384 6164
Editor	Ruth Barratt	335 0010			

New Member Enquiries:	Stan Wilder	260 2340	Contact Stan to request an info-pack. You will also receive three complimentary newsletters
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Our Club

The PTC 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

Club Nights are held on the **second Tuesday** of each month at the **Baptist Church Hall, 286 Oxford Terrace (corner of Madras St. and Oxford Terrace)** at 7.45 pm. Doors open 7.30pm.

Tues 12 Sept



Geology of the Kaikōura / Hurunui earthquake - Marion Schoenfeld, Geological Hazards Analyst, Environment Canterbury

We are all familiar with the landscape that was changed by the Kaikōura / Hurunui earthquakes. Ms. Schoenfeld will talk about what happened, why and where it happened, and what next.

Supper Duty: Geoff and Mary Korver

Tues 10 Oct



Fixing an island from scratch: a first-hand account of island restoration in the Falkland Islands - Peter Carey Sub Antarctic Foundation for Ecosystems Research (SAFER).

About 20 years ago, Peter bought 4 islands in the Falklands with the plan to restore them to prime wildlife habitat. Since then he has been squeezing in field work there between work and family commitments in Christchurch, and just last winter undertook an eradication operation to rid the islands of mice, rats, and rabbits.



FORTHCOMING 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

The Club has a mountain biking section, Fat Tyre Fanatics, who head out on casual day trips throughout the year. For details in biking trips contact Chris Leaver 322 6445, or ptc75@clear.net.nz.

- 9-10 Sep Basins Hut--Casey Tarn--Birdwood Range K34 BV20,BW20**
Kerry Moore 359 5069
- ** A circuit along the Avoca River to Basins Hut then up to Casey Tarn and on to the Birdwood Range to exit at Glenthorne Station. **Moderate-hard**, or **easy** if anyone wants to go in and out the same way. **List closes 2 Sept**
- 9 Sep Ellangowen Reserve K34 L34, BY25**
Sat Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 tecbruce@gmail.com
- * Often passed by and rarely visited. A small reserve at the junction of Long Bay, Hickory and Summit roads above Akaroa. Starting up Takamatua Valley we follow an old stock route (Old Le Bons Track) up to the ridge, then head along the top to Ellengowan Reserve to explore the 3 bluffs. There are several options for the downhill return which will depend on the presence of ewes and lambs. **Easy**. [Ellangowan-Reserve](#)
Meet 8am, PMH car-park Cashmere Road opp. Bengal Drive Approx cost \$16
- 16-18 Sep Black Hill Hut K33 BV20**
Chris Leaver 322 6445
- *** **Moderate** trip to this hut in Oxford Forest. **Three days** so we have a full day for a side trip to Chest Peak. Less energetic people could be content with a walk to the top of 1300m Black Hill.
List closes 9 Sept
- 17 Sep Castle Hill Peak L34,L35 BW21**
Sun Raymond Ford 351 9496
- * **Moderate** climb from Porters Pass to the highest peak on the Torlesse range at nearly 2000m. Fine views all around. Returning the the same way. Take ice axe and crampons
Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd Approx cost \$12
- 17 Sep Castle Hill Peak--The Gap--Kowai Stream L34,L35 BW21**
Sun Merv Meredith 322 7239
- * **Moderate-hard** climb from Porters Pass to the highest peak on the Torlesse range at nearly 2000m. Fine views all around. Continuing through The Gap and down Kowai Stream. Take ice axe and crampons.
Meet 7am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd Approx cost \$12
- 23-24 Sep Kaikoura Base**
Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905
- *** A chance to explore the uplifted coast and maybe support some local businesses
List closes 16 Sept

- 30-1 Sep** **Hawdon - East Hawdon** **K33 BV21**
Kerry Moore 359 5069
****** A **moderate-hard** trip to East Hawdon Biv and on to Mt Valiant or along Savannah Range to Woolshed Hill
List closes 23 Sep
- 24 Sep** **Coach Stream - Rabbit Hill** **K35 BW21**
Sun **Keith McQuillan 384 6164**
***** **Easy-moderate** round trip to point 1179m in Korowai/Torlesse Tussocklands Park and returning on the old coach track. Starting from near the Big Pines at the bottom of Porters Pass.
Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$12**
- 29-01 Sep** **Princess Bath, Lake Tennyson** **M30,M31 BT24**
Diane Mellish 337 5530
****** **Moderate** tramp to this tarn basin at 1700m, behind Lake Tennyson in the upper Clarence Valley. Includes a chance to climb nearby 2126m Mt Princess. Camping out.
List closes 22 Sept
- 30 Sep** **Chch 360° Dunes and Wetlands**
Saturday **Barry McKessar 332 9591, 021 803 934**
***** This flat 16km sector of the CHRISTCHURCH 360 TRAIL will commence at Pages Road and finish at Lower Styx Road. Join a number of keen, non-PTC, day walkers for this joint PTC/community group walk. **Meet at 8.30am** at the corner of **Pages and Wairoa Road**, by the Pages Road bridge into New Brighton.
- 1 Oct** **Panama Rock--Otepatotu Reserve** **N37 BY25**
Sun **Chris Leaver 322 6445**
***** Starting in Le Bons Bay we'll explore tracks in Panama Rock Reserve including the grunt up to Laverick Ridge road. Then follow a legal road to Otepatotu Reserve and 755m Lavericks Peak. An **easy-moderate** tramp with spectacular views of the dyke, bays and remnant totara forest
Meet 8am Halswell School 437 Halswell Rd **Approx cost \$14**
- 7-8 Oct** **Lake Man** **L32,M32 BU22,23**
Liz Stephenson 027 633 2038
****** A **moderate** trip to this attractive alpine lake in the Lewis Pass area. Starting from near the Engineers' Camp, crossing the Boyle and up the Doubtful and Kedron to camp at the biv or near the lake. A track up to the Doubtful Range and along the ridge is a good return route back.
List closes 30 Sept
- 8 Oct** **Rakaia Gorge Walkway** **K35 BX20**
Sun **Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905**
***** This **easy** trip offers a return walk with a spectacular cliff-top traverse of the Rakaia Gorge to the remains of the Snowdon coal mine. Views across the river to Mt Hutt. Bruce has been known to stray a little and visit the nearby Terrace Downs for a cuppa
Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx. cost \$14**
- 14-15 Oct** **Walker Pass - Tarn Col - Edwards** **K33 BV20,21**
Kerry Moore 359 5069
****** One of the classic APNP tramps. This **moderate** trip takes in the Hawdon and Edwards valleys, a couple of attractive alpine passes and views of what's left of Falling Mountain.
List closes 7 Oct
- 15 Oct** **Mt Peel** **J37 BY19**
Sun **Merv Meredith 322 7239**
***** **Moderate-hard** ascent of this 1743m landmark in South Canterbury, passing through podocarp forest and subalpine scrub with 7km along the tops beyond Little Mt Peel. Planning to drive down Saturday afternoon and camp at Peel Forest campground. Early start on Sunday for Big Mt Peel for a longish day. **Ring Merv** **Approx cost \$24+**

- 21-23 Oct Freehold Creek - Dumb-Bell** **BZ14 BW17**
Merv Meredith 322 7239
***** Moderate** three-day tramp to very nice tops near the Ohau skifield. Plenty of alpine tarns to camp beside, and take in views of the main divide.
Lab wknd
List closes 14 Oct
- 22 Oct Te Oka Reserve-Devils Gap** **N37 BY24**
Sun Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905
***** An **easy-moderate** exploration of these two reserves with grand views of the southern bays. Devils Gap reserve contains impressive bluffs, popular with rock climbers.
8am PMH, Hackthorne Rd end, over the rd by the rr **Approx cost \$12**
- 21-23 Oct Murchison Base** **L29,M29 BR23**
Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help
***** Easy to moderate range** of tramps from our base in Murchison. There are some easy walkways very close to the town, while a short drive away are **easy-moderate** Lake Matiri and **moderate** 1469m Mt Murchison (via 4WD track). Lyell walkway is also not too far away.
Lab wknd
List closes 15 Oct
- 27-30 Oct St James Walkway** **M31,M32 BT23,24,BU23**
Deb Rhode deborahrhode@yahoo.com
****** Easy-moderate** ever-poplar circuit amid splendid scenery, through beech forest and along river flats. Well-spaced huts to stay in. Snow capped Gloriana and Faerie Queene peaks of the Spenser Range to admire.
List closes 20 Oct
- 29 Oct Paterson Hill** **L34 BW21**
Sun Gary Huish 332 7020
***** An **easy-moderate** circuit up to this 1113m hill overlooking Staircase Gully at the SE end of the Torlesse Range
Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$12**
- 4-5 Nov Cameron Rr - Sth Branch Ashburton** **J35 BW18,19,BX19**
Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help
**** 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.
List closes 29 Oct
- 4 Nov Chch 360 Walk: Halswell Quarry to Sign of the Kiwi**
Saturday Barry McKessar 332 9591, 021 803 934
***** A 9km sector of the CHRISTCHURCH 360 Trail
 Details in October's newsletter
- 5 Nov Red Hill** **K34,35 BW20,21**
Sun Andrew Duck 421 2321
***** **Moderate** trip to this 1641m peak between Lake Lyndon Road and Porter Heights. Choice of route depending on conditions.
Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd **Approx cost \$12**
- 11-13 Nov Lake McRae--Clarence River** **BT26**
Diane Mellish 337 5530
******* This is a **moderate** hike on the Molesworth east-west route. From the Molesworth Cob Cottage the 22km track to Lake McRae Hut is in easy tussocky terrain, with 4wd tracks and bulldozer tracks in places and follows a mustering trail. Day two could be spent day-tripping across to the Clarence River and back, or climbing to a nearer viewpoint behind the lake, or simply relaxing in the lake environs. And back to the Cob Cottage on day three.
 An **easy** option is Molesworth Cob Cottage base camping. There are lots of day trip options in this beautiful area.
List closes 4 Nov

- 12 Nov Sun** **Ngaio Pt—Onawe Peninsula** **N36 BX25,BY25**
Maureen Thompson 021 266 5778
 * Two **easy** one-hour circular walks in 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.
8am PMH, Hackthorne Rd end, over the rd by the rr **Approx cost \$12**
- 17-19 Nov** **Dun Fiunary** **BY15**
Raymond Ford 351 9496
 *** A **moderate-hard** 2500m climb in the Ben Ohau Range above Lake Pukaki
 Show **List closes 10 Nov**
 Wknd
- 17-20 Nov** **Karamea Base** **L27,M28 BQ22**
Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help
 **** **Easy to moderate** walks from this popular West Coast spot at the southern end of the Heaphy Track. Options include Scott Beach, Oparara Arches, Mirror Tarn, Fenian Basin and Cavern Creek Caves or Mt Stormy for the adventurous.
 Show **List closes: 10 Nov**
 Wknd
- 17-20 Nov** **Wangapeka Track** **L27,M27,M28 BQ22,23**
Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help
 **** Classic, historic, moderate tramp, crossing the southern half of Kahurangi National Park. Two saddles to cross and plenty of huts to sleep in. If enough people are interested then we can have a party starting from each end and crossing somewhere near the middle.
 Show **List closes: 10 Nov**
 Wknd
- 19 Nov Sun** **Port Levy - Wild Cattle Hill** **N36 BX25**
Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help
 * Moderate walk on the east side of Port Levy from sea level to 600m on Wild Cattle Hill. Coastal views towards both Port Levy and Pigeon Bay.
8am PMH, Hackthorne Rd end, over the rd by the rr **Approx cost \$12**
- 25-26 Nov** **Three Mile Stream - McMillan Stream** **L32,M32 BU22,23**
Peter Umbers 359 9118
 ** **Easy-moderate** tramp in Lake Sumner Forest Park starting from Lake Mason with a fairly flat circuit around McMillan and Three Mile streams.
List closes 18 Nov
- 26 Nov Sun** **The Grange - Knowles Gully – Point 884** **L34 BW22**
Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905
 * An **easy** trip near Oxford to an 884m hill with good views to Ashley Gorge and the plains
Meet 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St **Approx cost \$11**

SOCIAL EVENTS

Tues 19th Sept 	Dinner at Heathcote's Valley Inn Tavern, 2 Flavell Street. Meet 6pm for a short walk, with dinner to follow. Menu at http://www.valleyinntavern.co.nz/ . RSVP to Maureen Whalen 027 819 9251, mshwhalen47@gmail.com .
October	TBA

Christmas Base Camp 2017

This year's base camp will be run from Dec 24 2017 through to 2 Jan 2018. Feel free to spend as much or as little time that suits you.

We have booked the DOC cottage at the Cobb Reservoir for our exclusive use. A comfortable cottage with power, hot showers, toilets, full kitchen and bunks inside, also good camping sites outside. \$15 pp inside \$10 pp outside. Lower child rates also available. We were last here Christmas 2008. Big selection of walks short to long. Lake Sylvester, Cobb Valley, Lake Peel, Asbestos Cottage to name a few through to longer trips in Kahurangi National Park. If you want to come for Christmas Day dinner and further information please contact Leo Manders 356 1731 or 027 442 6080 leomanders@paradise.net.nz.

NOTES

Membership: The PTC welcomes new member Matthew Beuzenberg and previous members Kyung Sang Lee & Youmie Kim.

Deadline for the October Newsletter: 30th September - send to Ruth Barratt rannalong@gmail.com

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday 26th September 2017

Trip Photos:

The Club maintains a gallery of photographs on its website. Keeping this up to date allows people to see what recent trips the Club has undertaken. Can trip leaders send or nominate someone to send some photographs from each trip to Kevin Hughes, ptc@nivek.co.nz, so we can keep this record current.

Successful grant application for new PLB



**Rātā
Foundation**

The Rātā Foundation has recently approved a grant for the purchase of a replacement PLB for the club. The PTC acknowledges and thanks the generosity of the Rātā Foundation. PLBs for the trip leaders to use (or members' private hire) are

located at Strowan (Brian Smith), Halswell (Merv Meredith) and Barrington (Kevin Hughes).

For sale

Asolo Women's Full Grain Leather Tramping Boots Size UK 5 1/2 or EUR 38 2/3.

Hardly worn so still in excellent condition with original (unused) insoles. \$200 ono
Please contact Alison Maccoll alisonmaccoll@gmail.com or 021 0232 3693



TRIP REPORTS

THE FIRST PEAK OF BINSER 30TH JULY 2017

The three peaks of Binsler are visible from lots of angles when driving west. Approached up the Mt White road, the first hour is a walk in up the Binsler Saddle track to very near the saddle, before turning south off the track and heading up through the bush to the bushline. It is then a steady climb up a spur to the first of the three peaks at 1753m. At another time of year it is practical to continue on south, dropping then climbing again to the middle peak at 1831m, followed by a shallower drop and climb to Mt Binsler at 1860m. Then an escape down the spur to the south and out to the Mt White road to your waiting vehicle – you hope. But at this time of year, even with an early start, the first, or maybe the middle peak is the most we can aim for.

We had a party of eight from town, plus met Angela at the Binsler car park, on a day where the forecast had predicted fine weather with little wind. They got that right but what we didn't know was how much snow there would be after Friday's weather. Expecting lots down low, it was a surprise to see the snow level that far west, up fairly high. However, as we neared the saddle, the more snow we were in.

Turning south, the steady climb up through the bush was no trouble, emerging at the bushline at 12 noon. But the scramble that followed up through snow covered scrub wasn't easy, making our lunch stop at 1.30pm welcome. The climb to the top at 2.30pm after lunch was easier in more uniform snow. Great place to be in that weather and with a view of peaks two and three beyond, as well as all around. Retreating the way we had come was straightforward but it was still well after 5.00pm when we were out to the vehicles.

Another great day out, up the Mt White road again.

We were: **Raymond Ford, Angela Grigg, Merv Meredith, Kerry Moore, Yvette So, Geoff Spearpoint, Liz Stephenson, Peter Umbers and Wang. MM.**



Stony Bay Peak - Sunday 12 Aug 2017

Wendy offered to lead this trip when we were doing our annual trip plan and true to her word she gathered with eight fellow trampers at PMH on the day. A left turn from main-street (Rue Lavaud) at the BNZ bank and up Rue Balguerie took us to the the start of Purple Peak Road. Curious calves looked over the fence as we put our boots on, and set off up the sealed road to a gate where the commercial Peninsula Track starts. A large display board shows an array of tracks in the area. Purple Peak and S-B Peak loomed large as we reached the little shelter near the saddle and headed up the spur track that winds around the east side of our 806m quest.

The western, Akaroa side, looks formidable and is definitely not a tramping route. The peak's top is quite gorse-covered as is the track that leads towards Flag Peak. The gorse has made a vigorous come-back after a big fire in 2011. We joined the track that runs north below the peak then on to the Purple Peak track and down towards Akaroa. Passing flowering tree lucerne, we were entertained by ten wood pigeons feasting on the flowers and not in a hurry to flee from us.

Back at the cars the calves were still looking on as we took our boots off. Our group drove down to Rue Lavaud and away. That night the predicted rain came and Akaroa suffered serious flooding.

Our nine were: **Wendy Wallace (our genial leader) S-P Wang, Kim Ashmore, Matthew Beuzenberg, Norman Burden, Jill Fenner, Helen Harkness, Dorota Giejsztowt, Kerry Moore** □ KM





DOGS, DOGS, DOGS !

(Nordic Skiing at the Cardrona Snow Farm)

I'm betting a few more dog-lovers would have come on this trip if they had known we would share the hut area with twelve gorgeous Huskies overnight. Calum, Ann and I (Diane) struck the jackpot really.



The weather in Wanaka as we set out for the Snow Farm was wet, cloudy and uninviting. Calum had really needed his morning coffee to get him under way! Anyway, the conditions put less intrepid skiers off, leaving us with uncrowded trails to enjoy on what turned out to be a decent skiing day. This year there is great snow cover everywhere, but with heavy loading on steeper slopes forming an unstable looking wind-slab, we opted to stay on groomed trails and not venture into the more remote areas like we did last time. After some practice around the base area to reacquaint ourselves with the feeling of Nordic skiing we skied down the River Run to

Meadow Hut for an overnight stay. Our packs had been delivered there earlier by a skidoo so that we could travel light.



Just before dark the teams of dogs trotted in. Each team of four Huskies towed a sled with one client driving. How exciting! Under Dog Sled Dog Tours runs the operation, using Siberian and Alaskan Huskies who are veterans of the big North American races such as Iditarod and the Yukon Quest. At age 6 or 7, when their racing prime is over, they fly them down here for an easier life in the tourist industry. The two dog-handler/guides were very friendly and inclusive of us and we learned so much from them. We watched them feeding the dogs and cosying them up in pairs on little piles of straw on the snow so that they would get a good sleep. They hung the little doggy cordura booties (worn to prevent ice damage to the dogs' pads) by the fire to dry. They encouraged us to talk to the dogs and cuddle them. ☺ They even explained how they toilet train the dogs and scoop up their poo to keep the trails clean. Such a heart-warming time for us; an unexpected bonus. Pat was very quick to pick up on Calum's vibes and almost immediately texted back "and no, you can't have a Husky dog team for Christmas" !!



Next morning, after farewelling our beautiful canine friends, we re-engaged with the skiing and had another great day schushing along the trails. Calum's encouragement and willing sharing of his expertise helped Ann and me to improve our skills and increase in confidence. Wheee! I derailed from the tracks a few times, but then got my steering pretty much sorted. We had covered quite a bit of territory by the end of the day and

enjoyed plonking down in the café for a rest and a well-earned drink. Then a quiet night in Wanaka, with the long drive home next morning. And Calum making desolate noises about wanting to stay on for a week instead of going back to work, cos, you guessed it, the weather was now p-e-r-f-e-c-t. I can't wait to go again. Anyone proficient with the basics of downhill skiing (snow plough etc) and a good sense of adventure would enjoy trying Nordic skiing. Think about it for next year . . . you may even get to cuddle a Husky.

Diane Mellish (The skiers: Calum McIntosh, Ann Schofield, Diane Mellish)

Camp Creek Substitution Tramp - Benmore Hut 26-27 August 2017

Early on it was obvious that the West Coast weather wasn't going to co-operate with our plans to tramp to Camp Creek Hut to enjoy a soak in the outdoor bath. Geoff and Liz were keen to head into the bush to celebrate Geoff's birthday on Saturday so an alternate had to be found. In the end just the four of us headed into Benmore Hut in 13 Mile Bush for a relaxed celebratory weekend.

With a short drive to Springfield and a 2-2 ½ tramp, the two night people were able to enjoy a gloriously late 9am start from Christchurch. A half hour walk across farmland and a few stream crossings put us on a pleasant bush track which, after a time, left the stream to head uphill to the hut. A GPS check at lunch time revealed us to be a mere 400m from the hut so we had a full afternoon to relax (or so we thought). The unusual A-frame hut was empty when we arrived so we set to collecting and cutting firewood – a ridiculously easy job with the surrounding bush full of the standing deadwood of immature beach trees.

After a boil up we decided to explore a track heading downhill behind the hut. What I thought was a short track down to a stream continued on sidling through the bush until it emerged into the open at the top of a small hill. Surrounded in bush with good views of the Benmore range it was hard to believe we were so close to Christchurch. Geoff's idea to go off track and circle back to the hut seemed a good idea and continued to seem so as he navigated us down through the bush to the open stony bank of the river. Slowly fighting our way uphill through densely packed young beach trees it began to seem less so however. As it got later and later we began to realise that Liz's recommendation we take a torch even when accompanying Geoff on a gentle afternoon stroll wasn't actually a joke after all. We did use torches for the last 15 minutes or so but Geoff's navigation was flawless and only the dense bush slowed us down (not that that stopped us indulging in a little gentle piss-taking).

Back at the hut we started the birthday celebrations with wine and cheese. The evening was extremely convivial helped in no small part because the cask of wine Liz carried in had only four trampers to share it instead of the original six. The highlight was the fabulous Birthday Tiramisu which Liz created in the hut (complete with birthday candles).

It was a late night and a late start in the morning but too nice a day to not make the most of it. This morning followed another track up the hill towards the Benmore range. This very good track headed steadily uphill until it broke out above the bushline. The wind, which we had barely noticed in the trees, was very strong up here so we just stayed long enough to take some photos. The route from here on to Benmore looked very straight forward and beckons a return trip with more time (and less wind).

It was warm and sunny back at the hut but after lunch it was time to clean up and head on out. We all remarked on what a great spot this was, often overlooked because of its location on the edge of "tramping country". Mostly downhill, the walk out only took 2 hours so there was time for an ice cream in Springfield to top off a wonderful weekend in the hills.

Kevin, Heather, Geoff, Liz. (HH)

