



*PTC Monthly
Newsletter
February 2018*

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	Bridget O'Regan	338 4785			


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.

<p>Tues 13 Feb</p> 	<p>The Summit Road Story – Paula Jameson Harry Ell and his legacy – the Summit Road, the rest houses, the toll gates and the Summit Road Society. Hear an overview of the damage done by the February 2017 fires and the restoration work that has since been undertaken.</p> <p>Supper Duty: Honora Renwick and Frank King</p>
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Tues 13 March



Annual General Meeting at 7.30pm followed by Club Night.
The normal notice of meeting is under the PTC Notes section

FMC 2017 Photo Competition

The FMC 2017 Photo Competition produced 450 entries. Following the AGM Brian Smith will present a selection of the images from each of the six categories.

Supper Duty: TBA



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, contact the trip leader beforehand. A phone inquiry does not oblige you to go on the trip. If the weather is turning bad, contact the trip leader or if you use email check the Communicator the day before for trip updates.

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 on biking trips contact Chris Leaver 322 6445, or ptc75@clear.net.nz.

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|-----------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 4-Feb
Sun | Knowles Top - Ashley Gorge
Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 | L34 BW22,23 |
| * | Easy trip up a spur off the Glentui Rd, with good views of Ashley Gorge, plains and coast.
May include a little circuit near the Ashley Gorge picnic ground and a dip in the Ashley
Meet 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St | Approx cost \$10 |
| 10-12 Feb | Goat Pass--Lake Mavis--Edwards River
Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help | K33 BV20 |
| *** | Moderate-hard walk up the Mingha River to Goat Pass and then up to this scenic gem. We'll camp by the lake at 1600m. Day 2 will take us over to the Edwards River with a great view of Falling Mountain and Taruahuna Pass. Day 3 - Edwards Hut to the Mingha River then Greyneys Shelter.
List closes 4 Feb | |
| 11-Feb
Sun | Woolshed Creek Gorges
Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help | K36 BX19 |
| * | An easy exploration of Woolshed Creek and Morgan Stream gorges in this fascinating volcanic terrain. If its hot you can cool off in the steams but can avoid getting wet on a cool day
Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd | Approx cost \$19 |

- 17-18 Feb** **Centre Creek--Thesis Peak** **K34 BW20**
Kerry Moore 359 5069
****** **Moderate** climb to this 2042m peak in the Lake Coleridge area. Less energetic people could do a flat trip to Avoca Hut and back the same way.
List closes 11 Feb
- 18-Feb** **Mt Noble** **M33 BV23**
Sun **Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help**
***** A trip into the foothills off the Lake Sumner Road. An **easy-moderate** circuit with views of Virginia Peak and the Three Deans.
Meet 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St **Approx cost \$16**
- 23-27 Feb** **Serpentine** **CB09,10**
Raymond Ford 351 9496
********* **Moderate-hard** trip to the area north of the Routeburn Track. Ice axe and crampons may be required. Departing the day before and staying at Glenorchy. The trip will start and finish on the Routeburn Track. We will visit Lake Unknown, Park Pass Glacier and traverse along the Serpentine Range past Lake Nerine and Lake Wilson, camping along the way. The trip dates may vary a bit depending on the weather forecast.
List closes 3 Feb
- 24-25 Feb** **Turtons Saddle--Redcliff Saddle** **J36 BW19,20**
Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help
****** Part of the Te Araroa. An **easy-moderate** trip up Glenrock and Turtons Streams to the 8 bunk Comyns Hut.
List closes 18 Feb
- 25-Feb** **Banks Peninsula Traverse** **N36,N37 BX25,BY25**
Sun **Dan Pryce 356 1962**
***** A long day makes this a **moderate** trip. Walking between Purau Saddle 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
Meet 8am PMH, Hackthorne Rd end, over the rd by the rr **Approx cost \$18**
- 2-5 Mar** **Three Passes** **J33, K33, K34 BV19,20**
Gary Huish 332 7020
******** Celebrated **moderate-hard** route to the West Coast from the south side of Arthurs Pass NP. Travel is via Harman, Whitehorn and Browning Passes
List closes 25 Feb
- 04-Mar** **Birdlings Flat - Magnet Bay** **M37,N37 BY24**
Sun **Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help**
***** **Easy-moderate** trip along the coast from Birdlings Flat to Oashore, Tokoroa, Hikuraki and Magnet Bays. Returning the same way.
8am PMH, Hackthorne Rd end, over the rd by the rr **Approx cost \$7**
- 10-14 Mar** **Elcho – Broderick** **H37,H38 BY14**
Liz Stephenson 027 633 2038
********* **Moderate-hard** circuit between the Hopkins and Landsborough Rivers at the head of Lake Ohau.
List closes 24 Feb

- 10-11 Mar** **Mt Pfeifer Tops** **K33 BV20**
Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help
****** **Moderate-hard** trip in Arthurs Pass National Park to this 1700m peak between the Deception and Otehake Rivers. Probably camping out around the small biv above the bush line.
List closes 4 Mar
- 10-Mar** **Worsleys Spur - Governors Bay** **M36 BX24**
Saturday **Margot Bowden 332 7020**
***** **Easy** walk up Worsleys Spur to the summit road, then down to Governors Bay for lunch then returning the same way
Meet 8am Top of Worsleys Rd
- 17-18 Mar** **Bealey Spur--Bruce Stream** **BV20**
Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help
****** A **moderate** circuit camping near Bealey Spur Hut then continuing up the spur and dropping into Bruce Stream to return to the cars
List closes 11 Mar
- 18-Mar** **Mt Alexander** **N33 BV24**
Sun **Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help**
***** **Easy-moderate** wander in open, rolling North Canterbury farm country, to this 750m lookout near Scargil.
Meet 8am Placemakers, 319 Cranford St
- 24-25 Mar** **Broken River Hut** **K34,L34 BW21**
Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help
****** An **easy** almost flat walk via Winding Creek on Flock Hill Station
List closes 18 Mar
- 25-Mar** **Flagpole** **L35 BQ23,BR23**
Sun **Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help**
***** **Easy moderate** ramble in the Lady Barker Range behind Whitecliffs to this 900m viewpoint.
Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd
- 30-2 Mar** **Tekapo Base** **I37,BW21**
Easter **Maureen Whalen 027 819 9251**
******** Lots to explore including new Te Araroa Trail link, Lake Alexandrina. Star gazing at night, optional hot pools. Opportunities for mountain biking. Fri night start.
List closes 20 Mar
- 30-2 Mar** **Te Araroa: Mesopotamia--L. Tekapo** **BY16,17**
Easter **Heather Hughes 332 6281**

List closes 20 Mar

30-2 Mar	Lockett Range	M25,M26 BP23,24
Easter ****	Merv Meredith 322 7239 Moderate-hard tramp to the north of the Cobb Valley in Kahurangi National Park. What images are inspired by Diamond and Ruby Lakes? Will your images hold true on a journey of unfolding discovery along the Lockett Range from Fenella Hut? List closes 20 Mar	
01-Apr	Captain Thomas - Godley Head	M36 BX24
Sun *	Helen Harkness 384 2890 An easy , popular walkway, taking in coastal views and old military buildings. Starting up the Captain Thomas Track behind Sumner to Evans Pass, before continuing along the ridge to Godley Head and returning to Sumner through Taylors Mistake. Meet: Sumner Clock Tower 8.00am.	
7-8 Apr	Kellys Creek--Hunts Creek Hut	BV20
**	Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help A moderate trip in Arthurs Pass NP to some less-visited country. Staying at Hunts Creek Hut where you can hear kiwi calls at night. Returning the same way. List closes 1 Apr	
08-Apr	Mt Alford	K36 BX20
Sun *	Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help Near Mt Hutt, this easy-moderate walk passes through the Alford Scenic Reserve before climbing beside a stream gully of beech trees then onto tussock grassland and through subalpine terrain to the summit of Mt Alford (1171m) to enjoy the wide views across the Canterbury Plains and inland mountains. Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd	
14-15 Apr	Sylvia Tops	M31 BU23
**	Merv Meredith 322 7239 Moderate tramp over this 1500-1600m range between Nina and Doubtful valleys in the Lewis Pass area. Probably camping out at the bush-edge near Devils Den Biv. List closes 8 Apr	
15-Apr	Camp Saddle - Lyndon Saddle	K34 BW21
Sun *	Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help 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. Meet 8am Church Corner, 20 Yaldhurst Rd	
21-23 Apr	Campbell Pass--Gorgy Creek	BV20
***	Diane Mellish 337 5530 A moderate-hard climb via Campbell Pass to a beautiful tarn at the head of Gorgy Creek . List closes 15 Apr	

21-22 Apr **Broken River Hut**

K34,L34 BW21

****** **Awaiting leader. Call Kerry M 359 5069 if you can help**
An **easy-moderate**, fairly flat walk on Flock Hill Station along Winding Creek to Broken River Hut
List closes 15 Apr

22-Apr **Pinchgut--Mt Thomas**

M34 BW23

SOCIAL EVENTS

Wed 21 Feb



Halswell mystery walk and pot luck
Meet – [11 Watlings Place](#) **6:00 pm**
Contact **Chris Leaver** newptc75@gmail.com or **322 6445**

Wed 7 March



Croquet and dinner
Join us for a evening of entertainment and competition playing croquet at St Martin's Croquet Club, [11C Gamblins Road, St Martins](#) at **6pm**. No previous knowledge of croquet or skill required. Cost \$10.00 per person.
Dinner at Formaggio's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria, [150 Colombo Street, Beckenham](#) (next to the Police Station). Pizzas from \$23.00, pasta and spaghetti from \$22.50. For full menu see: <https://formaggios.co.nz/menu-list/>.
If interested please let Margot know by Friday, 2nd March.
Email: margot.bowden@gmail.com or phone 332 7020.

Wed 11 Apr



Court Theatre, Bernard Street, Addington , 7.30pm

Easy Money -
Written by Roger Hall Directed by Ross Gumbley
Featuring: Roy Snow and Luanne Gordon

We have booked the best seats in the Court Theatre, Bernard St, Addington.
Book your seat, \$49 discount price by Monday 19th March, with Brian Smith
Ph 355 9945, 027 740 3035, or brian21x@xtra.co.nz

"All it takes is a little confidence"

"If you listen closely, you might hear the neighbours whispering through Auckland's high-end apartment complex, The Cutlass. They're whispering about the glamorous new Australian couple, Trudi and Stephen, who have moved in down the hall. Rumour has it they've moved to New Zealand for a new business opportunity: selling the Auckland Harbour Bridge.

Trudi and Stephen are whispering too. They know Sir Robert Kingswood, long-time resident of The Cutlass, is worth millions. Not to mention Catherine who lives upstairs — since her husband died her bank account has been looking very healthy indeed. They've noticed poor young Trevor doesn't have much money, and they've also noticed he's a gullible fool.

With double-crosses, dirty tricks and all the dodgy dealings you can throw at a Jafa, Roger Hall's rejuvenation of The Alchemist is a laugh-a-minute satire of how fools and their money are soon parted."

NOTES

PTC Subscriptions for 2018: Thanks to those who have already paid their 2018 subscription. These are due and payable by **28 February** - \$30 with electronic newsletter, \$40 with hardcopy newsletter. Payments can be made to Kiwibank a/c: 38 9015 0030334 00

Membership: The PTC *welcomes* new members **Sue Brechin** and **Janine Osborne** and accepts with regret **Lesley Anderson's resignation**.

Molesworth Review and DOC Survey

Just a reminder that if you haven't already responded online to DoC's survey concerning the station's future, it's not too late.

The farming lease expires in 2020 and DoC are anticipating a wide range of suggestions about the station, from continuing farming as at present, to becoming a massive public park.

In our 12th Jan Communicator, a link was provided to a Stuff article, which included a SurveyMonkey link at the end. Have a look.

Deadline for the March Newsletter: Thursday 1 March - send to Raymond: fordm@snap.net.nz

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday 27 February 2018

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.

Notice of 2018 AGM

The PTC 86th Annual General Meeting is to be held in the Oxford Terrace Baptist Church Hall, on:
Tuesday 13th March 2018 starting promptly at 7.30pm, prior to our normal Clubnight

The agenda will include:-

1. Election of Officers and Executive members

Nominations for positions, signed by the nominee, proposer and seconder, may be sent to the Secretary prior to the meeting. In addition, nomination forms will be available at the door.

2. Notified motions

Note that any member wishing to give notice of a motion for consideration at the AGM should forward their notice to the Secretary *at, or prior to, our 13 February Clubnight.*

The complete AGM agenda, including any Notices of Motion received, will be circulated on Communicator in late February

Merv Meredith

Secretary

secretary@peninsulatrampingclub.org.nz

TRIP REPORTS

Glen Mary Glacier – Jamieson Stream 20 – 23 Jan 2018

Driving alongside Lake Ohau “our” glacier was showing prominently in the mountain massif at the head of the lake. With its lower reaches at 2000m and extending up to 2360m we knew we had a very physical couple of days ahead. We parked by the DoC sign near Huxley Lodge, had a quick lunch and set off up the Hopkins River on a good vehicle track with a warm, gusty nor-wester in our faces. It took two hours to get to Monument Hut and another hour to reach historic Red Hut, built in 1916 by Rodolph Wigley. Leaving the major crossing of the Hopkins river until we were abreast of the hut avoided being bluffed and having to make repeated crossings. We had a leisurely afternoon in this warm, sunny location with minimal sandflies.

Up at 5:30 we stoked the dragonfly and simmerlight stoves for breakfast, got ready and headed up a spur behind the hut, knowing we had a daunting 1700m climb ahead of us. In spite of our 7am start the temperature was still warm enough to have us sweating all too soon. The beech forest was uniformly steep with intermittent bluffs to wend our way through, but open enough to move easily on well-defined animal tracks. Even the scrub at 1280m had a crude track leading to tussock on the right of the spur as we climbed. A steep, rocky prominence and open spur offered good travel and avoided a slow frustrating bash in dense subalpine scrub and tussock. We left the spur looking for the small tarn that shows on the map and were amused to see a big tarn with only 1cm of water in it. We could walk into it without disturbing the rock-flour base and collect water with a dipper, 50ml at a time. It was 11:30 and we’d climbed 900m so we had an early lunch.

Proceeding up the moraine rubble we had nice stream-water in places to quench our incessant thirsts. The rock generally wasn’t too loose but needed constant vigilance and the gradient was relentless. In one steeper section when people were tiring, Milan took a tumble, landing on his chest. Ten seconds later a rock moved and Kerry fell backwards but somehow hit his forehead on a rock. Nurse Grigg saw the action and had immediate visions of a helicopter and hospital. The bumps needed minimal patching, the shock wore off and we were away again in about ten minutes.



Josh and Raymond catching their breath in front of Mt Glen Mary

With lots of smart-phones along for the walk we were able to chart our altitude regularly, 1700, 1900, 2100 and finally 2350m looking down on Glen Mary Glacier. What a thrill! After lots of warm weather and no frosts the snow was soft and manageable so Josh didn't put on his brand new crampons on this day. From past trips down the glacier Diane knew to divert to a spur that overlooks the Dobson valley for sightseeing--a superb scene. We could see all the Ben Ohau peaks including Mackenzies Peak and Dun Fiurnary, Mt Cook, Mt Sealy, Barron Saddle, Mt Huxley, Mt Ward, ... Lots of ideas for new places to explore.

An easy 300m descent got us to the foot of the glacier where Raymond and Diane went looking for the ideal tent sites where we could get clear water rather than the milky liquid the glacier was producing. Diane cooked up a delicious mince and vege meal which was very welcome after an 11.5 hour day.

The wind was occasionally gusty during the night and light rain started at about 5am. We were up at 7, fed packed and away in good time. With minimal rain falling, and crampons on, we headed down a steep, narrow snow couloir which was the headwaters of Jamieson Stream. Now Josh was getting a good opportunity to use all the mountaineering skills he had learned in his Ara outdoor course last year. Rocks were strewn on the snow at one point and as we got within 50m more rock came crashing down quite dramatically from the towering bluffs above. We didn't dally as we "ran the gauntlet" down the steepening slope. Then the old "Oh no!" moment. At about 1600m our descent was barred by a deep wide slot cutting across the snow. Diane knew from past experience that getting off our ramp of snow and onto the lower section was impossible and we needed to find an alternative route. We faced the depressing prospect of climbing back up but after retreating for five minutes Raymond found a way off our snow couloir and onto rock slabs on the true left. We waited for some time while he heroically searched for a way down-valley. He came back and gave us the thumbs-up but warned that lichen on the rock was wet and slippery. We followed Raymond down tussock slopes into the broadening Jamieson Valley. When we reached beech forest we stopped for a much-needed lunch and a hot cuppa, very glad that the major challenges were behind us. Rather than bashing down the rugged, bouldery river gorge, we found good sidling through the forest and

slips on the true right of the valley. The animal tracks were very helpful in showing us the way down to the Dobson flats.



On the glacier with Mt Huxley in the distance

The afternoon was warm and sunny as we walked down wide flats towards the Hopkins, not needing to cross the Dobson river at any stage. But to avoid engagement with large mobs of cattle we steered hard right towards a lengthy area of swamp which sapped our energy. We were happy to get on the vast gravelly river flats and reach the Hopkins. Alas, rain further west and snow-melt had swelled the river. It was silt laden and swift: not a pretty sight for exhausted climbers. Luckily Angela's phone got a signal so we could get a weather forecast and talk to our contact person in Christchurch. We searched for a crossing point and discussed some possibilities, but it looked too dangerous and everyone was exhausted after another very long 12 hour day. Diane made the wise decision to retreat and camp on the flats to let the river level fall. We had a relaxing time in mild, dry NW conditions. By sheer wizardry Diane and Raymond produced billies of clear sand-filtered water from the milky Hopkins River. Dinner and breakfast was snack food. Peter still had a packet of biscuits but we were worried that the brightly coloured "hundreds and thousands" on them might make us hyperactive. Dum-de-do!

By morning the river had dropped and cleared substantially, the weather was perfect, our energy was much higher, and we crossed the whole river at a single braid as a line of seven and walked 800m to the cars. At 10am in Twizel we indulged in a lavish breakfast before heading homeward on a hot day. Many thanks go to Diane for taking us on this adventure and Raymond for guiding us through some sticky spots. Also to Angela for on-the-spot first aid.

We were: **Diane Mellish, Raymond Ford, Angela Grigg, Josh McDowall, Milan Brisnik, Peter Umbers and Kerry Moore** 🗡️ (Report by Kerry and Diane)

Foggy Peak - Sunday 29 Oct 2017

Fine weather lured fourteen PTCers to Porters Pass for this easy-moderate 800m climb to 1741m Foggy Peak. Leader, Gary stayed near the tail-enders while Merv pushed for the top and then went part-way to Castle Hill Peak. On Foggy we sat on the lee side out of the cool NW wind to munch lunch and admire the snow-streaked spring landscape. Sue and Mike wandered around looking for unusual alpine plants but it was Gary who spotted the Haast Buttercup which Andy with his flash new camera captured with glee. There were plenty of a common variety of buttercup but *ranunculus hastii* is considered to be “at risk and declining” according to the NZ Plant Conservation Network. <http://www.nzpcn.org.nz>



Yellow was the colour of the day. Gary was sporting yellow gaiters and doing a fine Malvolio imitation. We must have razed him a little too much because the following Sunday he wore short, subdued green gaiters--the sensitive flower. Afternoon coffees and teas were had at Springfield and we were home with some afternoon remaining.

We were: **Gary Huish, Margot Bowden, Wendy Wallace, Merv Meredith, Aarn Tate, Sue Britain, Mike Bourke, Peter Umbers, Doug Forster, Susan Brechin, Norman Burden, Andy Duck, S-P Wang, and Kerry Moore. ## KM**

Cave Stream and Three Rivers -- Sunday 28 Jan 2018

Was there a late Saturday night movie on TV or were people avoiding Castle Hill Basin for fear of getting cooked after the spell of hot weather we'd had? Only three people turned up for this river and cave trip.

We parked at the Cave Stream Reserve and set off at 0930 for nearby **Broken River**, crossing it 200m upstream of the **Cave Stream** cave exit. Bruce led us up through limestone blocks to 793m **Gorge Hill** then along and down, heading towards Castle Hill Village so we could reach a major limestone overhang in the **Thomas River**, close to the **Porter River** junction. We met two fly fishermen as we crossed the Porter then

met them later and they said they saw 14 trout, caught 4 and released 4. On the east side of Gorge Hill we got into Broken River and made many crossings in this briskly flowing river as we headed to the starting point of our Cave Stream walk. A young Japanese couple had head torches on, preparing to walk the cave. They saw the water depth and quickly asked Helen to store their phones in her backpack. The young woman was not tall and looked a bit panicked as water got near to shoulder height. We settled to a steady pace in water mostly less than knee-high and not too cold and emerged to a warm, bright sunshine, gave back the phone and returned to the car to change.

This was an interesting, fun day in fascinating limestone country. Many thanks to Bruce for guiding us on five encounters of four rivers. **Bruce Cameron, Helen Smith, Kerry Moore** ☺ KM



The Torlesse Gap and Castle Hill seen from Gorge Hill