



# THE CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPER

Published by CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPING CLUB INC.

PO Box 527, Christchurch, [www.ctc.org.nz](http://www.ctc.org.nz)

We are affiliated to the Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ Inc.

Opinions expressed or events described in this newsletter might not actually represent Club policy – we can't be expected to be giving away our secrets.

Vol. 74

## November 2004

No. 6

<b>President</b>	Adrian Busby	383 4046	<b>Club Captain</b>	Honora Renwick	942 8368
<b>Vice President</b>	Rex Vink	352 5327	<b>TripOrganiser(day)</b>	Warwick Dowling	366 2045
<b>Vice President</b>	Nigel Watson	981 7929	<b>(weekend)</b>	Frank King	942 8368
<b>Secretary</b>	Jenny Harlow	349 2280	<b>Hut Convener</b>	Andrew Wrapson	381 6003
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kerrie Skinner	349 2280	<b>Gear Custodian</b>	Bernard Parawa	981 4931
<b>Editor</b>	Alastair Brown	343 5111	<b>New Members</b>	Alice Yung	382 3988
<b>Social Convener</b>	Alan Ross	384 6425		Nigel Watson	981 7929

The **CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPING CLUB** has members of all ages, and runs tramping trips every weekend, ranging from easy (no experience required) to hard (high fitness and experience required). We also organise instructional courses and hold weekly social meetings. Membership rates per year are \$35 member, \$55 couple, \$18 junior or associate.

**Equipment Hire:** The Club has a range of equipment for hire. Contact the Gear Custodian, Bernard Parawa 981 4931. Note: Club gear assigned to you is your responsibility; please take care of it.

Our **Club Hut** in the Arthur's Pass Township has the comforts of home but with the mountains at the back door. – Even better now with real showers and inside flushing loos (BYO toilet paper!). A great place for a few days away; take your usual gear and a pillowcase. **Please book**

before leaving town to ensure there is a bunk available. For keys and bookings phone Andrew Wrapson 381 6003; or if he's away, Rex Vink 352 5327; or if they're both away, Dave Watson 981 7929 (or pager 026 252 3284). Hut fees are \$8 member, \$8 member's partner, \$15 non-member, \$4 kids under 12. If you find any problems or maintenance required, please tell Andrew.

**Social Scene:** We meet on Thursdays 7:30 pm at the Canterbury Horticultural Centre (Watling Lounge), Hagley Park South, 57 Riccarton Avenue (entrance opposite the hospital). A variety of social functions are organised, the atmosphere informal, and tea and biscuits served. If you can give a presentation or have ideas, please contact Alan Ross 384 6425.

**Trips:** Unless otherwise stated, day trips depart at 8:00 am and weekend trips depart at 7:00 pm on Fridays, from Shell Carlton Corner Service Station at 1 Papanui Road (next to Liquor Land and opposite Derby Street). If you aren't taking your car on the trip, park on one of the nearby side streets, otherwise it may be wheel clamped or towed. If you are taking your car please refuel at Shell Carlton, as they are kind enough to hold our trip lists. Every trip gives an indication of petrol costs per person. Please bring it in cash to help the leader divvy up at the end. If you have comments or suggestions for trips, please contact the appropriate trip organiser (listed at top of the page).

**Leaders:** Please ask for the trip list box (disguised as a shiny red 'Stanley' toolbox) and post the trip list into the locked box. If anyone turns up after this, the service station has a key to open the box. Spare key holders are listed on the box.

<b>Rates:</b>	Tent	\$3/person/nigh
	Ice axes, crampons	
	harnesses, snow shovel	\$4/weekend
	Large/small weekend packs	\$2/weekend
	Mountain radio	\$25/weekend

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# Notices

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**Email:** The club operates a moderated email list, whose address is [members@ctc.org.nz](mailto:members@ctc.org.nz). This list is used to send out the newsletter, occasional tramping related messages and other invites, and from time to time a complete list of the email addresses of CTC members. Messages intended for the list, and requests to join or leave the list should be sent to the above email address. Note that the moderator will check as to the appropriateness of all messages.

**CTC Stickers:** The club has Christchurch Tramping Club stickers for members to stick in hut books when they visit. Please contact the secretary at [secretary@ctc.org.nz](mailto:secretary@ctc.org.nz).

**Photos:** Thanks to the multi-talented Paul Ashton, we now have photos on the web page to accompany trip reports. Please email photos to [P.Ashton@ext.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:P.Ashton@ext.canterbury.ac.nz)

**Membership Database:** If you know of any updates, errors or omissions, call Rex on 352 5327 or email [greta-vink@clear.net.nz](mailto:greta-vink@clear.net.nz).

**Access Database:** If you know of any new information that concerns obtaining access to the properties we tramp on (e.g. change of owner or phone number), please call Honora Renwick on 942 8368 or email [hrenwick@paradise.net.nz](mailto:hrenwick@paradise.net.nz).

**New Members:** A big welcome to the following new member – Janette Philp.

When using the Club Hut, please be careful when changing the taps when arriving and leaving. The consequences of cocking this up (no pun intended) could be severe, so please read the instructions carefully.

The **Committee** meets from 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of every month. The venue changes between committee members' homes. Club members may attend meetings to discuss matters. Contact the Secretary (349 2280 or [secretary@ctc.org.nz](mailto:secretary@ctc.org.nz)).

We now have three flash new email addresses: [secretary@ctc.org.nz](mailto:secretary@ctc.org.nz), [editor@ctc.org.nz](mailto:editor@ctc.org.nz) and [newmembers@ctc.org.nz](mailto:newmembers@ctc.org.nz). Thanks to Paul Ashton for sorting these out for us.

**FMC Leadership Course:** FMC will be running a leadership course in the Craigieburn area on the 27-28 November. Participants will be required to travel Friday night to ensure a prompt start on Saturday morning. The course will cover topics such as: group management, information and recommendations on liability and outdoor skills. FMC is subsidising the course fee by 50% with the CTC paying the other 50%. The fee includes accommodation and meals from Saturday morning to Sunday lunch; it does not cover transport costs. If you are interested, please email [gareth@hot.co.nz](mailto:gareth@hot.co.nz) with your name, address, phone number, email and a brief outline of your outdoor leadership and instruction experience or, alternatively, pass on the same details to one of your committee members. Nominations close 31 October. Please note FMC and the CTC want course participants to pass on what you have gained to other club members.

**Bequest:** As highlighted in the last newsletter, the club has received \$2500 from the Estate of Colin McCallum. If you have any creative ideas on how it should be spent, please get in touch with someone on the committee, so we can spend it in the best possible way. We've had a few good ideas so far, and we'll vote on the best idea at the next AGM.

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## Classified ad

Classified ads are available at *no charge* to CTC members.

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## External events of interest:

**[www.mountainz.co.nz](http://www.mountainz.co.nz):** A new website that is a source of news, articles, trip reports, photos and forums. They're also keen to get material on your adventures.

**MSC courses:** phone 351 0942. Check out the website for local courses on tramping and climbing related topics:

- Outdoor First Aid - teaches the skills to manage accidents and sudden illness in the outdoors. This is invaluable for the scenarios. Runs Friday evening through Sunday 29/31 October. \$80.
- River crossing: a theory session on Monday 1st November, then a practical day covering assessment, crossing and recovery.
- Belays and Anchors: a chance to learn safer methods of placing anchors on Saturday, 20th of

November.

# Calendar of Trips and Social Events

Thursday 28 October Club Night

**Newsletter Folding Night:** plus lots of verbal trip reports from all those Labour Weekend trips.

Saturday 30 October (Friday night at club hut.) Leader: Peter Eman 337 3003

**Mt Aicken:** APNP. Start at Devils Punchbowl Falls track at 780m. Climb steadily then steeply through bush to open tussock then rock. High point is 1860m. The last 200-300m along the ridge to Mt Aicken proper can be difficult for some people. Big views of Mt Rolleston. Ice axe and crampons required. Depart from Christchurch on Friday night.

Grade: ModHard  
Map: K33  
Approx: \$30  
List closes: 28 October

Weekend 30 – 31 October Leader: Frank King 942 8368

**Walker Pass - Mt Hunt – Trudge Col:** Up the Hawdon to stay in the hut on the Saturday evening – around the ridge the next day – then away home. We'll be seeing some pretty spectacular country up there.

Grade: Hard  
Map: K33  
Approx: \$20  
List closes: 28 October

Sunday 31 October Leader: Warwick Dowling 366 2045

**Hawdon Hut Return:** APNP. Start at Hawdon Shelter. Cross Hawdon River and pick up track on edge of river terraces. This flat, easy-going walk will take you through delightful glades and open river flats. Look forward to lunch at the Hawdon Hut. Return the way you came in.

Grade: Easy  
Map: K33  
Approx: \$25  
List closes: 28 October

Thursday 4 November Club Night

**Madagascar:** We have Margaret Clark, once again, to take us on an adventure to the Island of Madagascar (off the east coast of Africa). Margaret and Jim biked here for 3 months and will take us to some National Parks and show us some of the culture of this country, which is 2.5 times bigger than NZ.

Weekend 6 – 7 November Leader: Dayle Drummond 339 8287

**Greenlaw Creek - Fools Col - Anticrow:** Greenlaw Creek is rugged but not as bad as its reputation. Dayle's been there and is keen to go back on this neat circuit. He plans on dealing to Mt Damfool as he goes.

Grade: Hard  
Map: K33 K34  
Approx: \$25  
List closes: 28 October

Saturday 6 November Leader: Dave Henson 942 3954

**French Peak & Saddle Hill from Otehere:** Banks Peninsula. This is a new approach to French Peak for the CTC. Mostly it follows untracked but open ridges. There are some steepish gullies to be traversed. Little River cafes beckon on the way home.

Grade: EasyMod  
Map: N36 N37  
Approx: \$15  
List closes: 4 November

Sunday 7 November	Leader: Ian Dunn 343 2155
<b>Mt Plenty/Castle Hill Peak/Foggy Peak:</b> Torlesse/Korowai Tussocklands Park. Ian will take you up from the north side, starting at around 700m and topping out at 2000m at Castle Hill peak. Ice-axe and crampons may be required. Good views of the Craigeburns.	Grade: ModHard Map: K34 L34 Approx: \$20 List closes: 4 November

Thursday 11 November	No Club Night
Its Show weekend so <b>NO CLUB</b> tonight.	

Show Weekend 12 – 14 November	Leader: Frank King 942 8368 or 021 102 6805
<b>Top Hope – Hot Spring Creek &amp; optional extra Mt Ajax:</b> Starts at Windy Point on the Lewis Pass highway and follows a bush track and picturesque easy flats up the Hope River. The pool in Hot Spring Creek was featured in the September Wilderness mag (PTC trip). Come along to check it out – or climb Mt Ajax too.	Grade: Mod+Harder Map: L32 M32 Approx: \$30 List closes: 4 November

Show Weekend 12 – 14 November	Leader: Alan Ross 384 6425
<b>To Broderick Pass via Ohau:</b> Leaving Thursday night 7pm (meeting place to be decided). Camping at the road end Thurs night. Friday up the Hopkins then Huxley to a hut. Saturday up to Broderick pass with fantastic views and possibly an attempt on Mt McKenzie (2,172m). Out the same way on Sunday. <b>NOTE!</b> I will be in Auckland all the week we go (back in Chch 2 hours before we leave) so the list closes on the 6th. Ice Axe required.	Grade: Moderate Map: G37 H37 Approx: \$60 List closes: Sat 6 Nov

Friday 12 November	Leader: Gareth Rapley 027 231 8568
<b>Godley Peak Mother Miller's Spring:</b> Rakaia River region. Access from Double Hill Station. Godley Peak stands tall at 2083m. Will the elusive Mother Miller's Spring be found this time? Drivers – be prepared for a drive of about 40 km on rough unsealed road. Be in to grin!	Grade: ModHard Map: K35 Approx: \$25 List closes: Wed 10 Nov

Saturday 13 November	Leader: Dave Clark 326 6544
<b>Gebbies Pass – Packhorse Return:</b> Banks Peninsula. An easy walk from Gebbies Pass to the lunch stop of Pack Horse Hut near Mt Bradley. Plenty of views of water and volcanic rims. 300m of height gain. Return the way you came. Maybe 3 to 4 hours of walking - tops.	Grade: Easy Map: M36 Approx: \$5 List closes: Wed 10 Nov

Thursday 18 November	Club Night
Social night of verbal trip reports form all those Show Weekend trips. Find out what happened on all the other trips you couldn't go on.	

Saturday 20 November	Leader: Gareth Gilbert 355 7697
<b>Mt Bradley via the "eye of the needle":</b> The ridge facing Diamond Harbour will be the one taken on this trip to the summit of Mt Bradley, passing thru the eye of the needle just prior to reaching the summit. 800m height gain. The trip can be as easy or as hard as people want, by varying the route taken up the ridge (or just off it)!	Grade: EasyMod/Mod Map: M36 Approx: \$5 List closes: 18 Nov

Weekend 20 – 21 November Leader: Honora Renwick 942 8368

**New Carroll Hut – Kelly Tops – Hunt Saddle – Kellys Creek:**  
Stay the night at the cosy new hut. On Sunday navigate across the undulating grassy tops and down through scrub to the Kellys Creek and out.

Grade: ModHard  
Map: K33  
Approx: \$40  
List closes: 11 Nov

Sunday 21 November Leader: Bruce James 332 3473

**Broken Hill – Trig O:** Leave the cars near Broken River Ski Club turnoff from highway. Head NE to Trig G, then to the summit of Broken Hill, traverse East to Trig O (unnamed on map), and return via scree to Flock Hill Stream. Great views of the Castle Hill basin.

Grade: Mod  
Map: K34 L34  
Approx: \$25  
List closes: 18 Nov

Tuesday 23 November Social Event

Meal out at The Bodhi Tree (cuisine of Burma) 808 Colombo St. I am informed that the average cost is approx \$30, they apparently do not have mains as such. Please put your name on the list or phone Alan on 384 6425 before the 20<sup>th</sup>, thanks.

Thursday 25 November Club Night

Newsletter folding night plus a river crossing instruction video. Did you know that the leading cause of death while tramping in NZ is drowning?

Saturday 27 November Leader: Jenny Harlow 349 2280

**Mt Richardson and Bypass Tracks:** Access via Glentui Bush Road off the Oxford to Loburn road. It is no wonder that the tracks are very popular. There is beautiful forest, streams, waterfalls, tussock grasslands, open tops, great views, and an interesting loop back to the start. About 700m height gain.

Grade: Easy/Mod  
Map: L34 M34  
Approx: \$15  
List closes: 25 Nov

Weekend 27 – 28 November Leader: Under negotiation

**Otehake Hot Pools under full moon:** Classic trip! Cross the Otira at Aickens, and walk to Lake Kaurapataka (lunch spot?) then to the hot pools in the Otehake. Soak away under moonlight...

Grade: EasyMod  
Map: K33  
Approx: \$40  
List closes: 18 Nov

Sunday 28 November Leader: Doug Forster 337 5453

**Goat Hill Round Trip:** Arthurs Pass. (954 188). Starts at Barrack Creek up the usual track. Continue passed Goat Hill along the ridge above the Deception and descend to Barrack Creek via a track you never knew existed.

Grade: ModHard  
Map: K33  
Approx: \$30  
List closes: 25 Nov

Thursday 2 December Club Night

**Annual BBQ** at The Halswall Quarry. We have the Findlay area no 2 (by the big trees at the end of the road). Meet from 6pm. Bring own food and liquid. BBQs will be provided. You may wish to bring a water pistol to defend yourself. This is a great social time in the warm weather.

Saturday 4 December Leader: John Taylor TBA

**Harper River Pinnacles:** Lake Coleridge area. Turn off the Harper Road at Lake Evelyn and park beyond Little Knuckles. Follow the loop track to The Redoubt. The Pinnacles await you near the confluence of the Harper and Avoca Rivers. Simply beautiful and serene. About 4 hours walking and 300m height gain. Lots of tarns and lakes amongst grand hills.

Grade: Easy  
Map: K34  
Approx: \$25  
List closes: 2 Dec

Weekend 4 – 5 December Leader: Honora Renwick 942 8368

**Tara Tama via Dunns Creek:** Up the Taipo to spend the night at Dunns Creek Hut. Early start to nip up to Tara Tama via Dunn Saddle. Back to the hut for lunch and out. Probably ice axe and crampons still needed.

Grade: Hard  
Map: K33  
Approx: \$35  
List closes: 25 Nov

Sunday 5 December Leader: Andrew Turton 332 8275

**Purple Hill:** At the northern end of Lake Pearson and from the saddle, the route goes straight up the hillside to a shoulder leading to the top. There is a scree slope down to the lake, then sidle along the lake edge back to the cars.

Grade: Mod  
Map: L34  
Approx: \$25  
List closes: 2 Dec

Saturday 11 December (7am start) Leader: Gareth Rapley 027 231 8568

**Cass-Lagoon Saddle:** Northern Craigeburn area. This is normally a weekend tramp, following the Cass and Harper Rivers, but here it is being done in one long day – a day with attitude. So, get your skates on and whip through the sticks with Gareth in this pre-Christmas trainer.

Grade: Hard  
Map: K34  
Approx: \$25  
List closes: 9 Dec

Weekend 11 – 12 December Leader: Frank King 942 8368 or 021 102 6805

**Mt Pfeifer – Pfeifer Biv:** Rescheduled by popular demand (no nor'westers please). Sven called it hard – huh! – not now. Womble unrestricted up the staircase up Paratu Stream onto these golden tops. Camp in the tussock above Lake Kaurapataka. Complete the circuit down to Pfeifer Creek and the Taramakau.

Grade: Moderate  
Map: K33  
Approx: \$30  
List closes: 2 Dec

Sunday 12 December Leader: Mike Newlove 355 8360

**Mt Thomas:** Canterbury foothills NE of Oxford. Can be done as several different loops. A common route is up the Wooded Gully Track to the ridge to meet Track 1 that is followed to Mt Thomas. Height gain of 700m. Continue along Track 1 down to the cut area and through it to the cars.

Grade: EasyMod  
Map: M34  
Approx: \$15  
List closes: 9 Dec

### Christmas Trips

If anyone has any bright ideas for a Christmas or longish Summer Trip, tell Frank King about it, so we can get it into next month's newsletter, and you're not left wondering "What cool trips can I knock off this summer?"

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# Trip Reports

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17- 21 September 2004

## The St James Walkabout

### FRIDAY

Kay, Martin, Colleen & Trevor spent the night at the Boyle Lodge with heaters, showers & DVD video show (unbeknown to us of course!!) whilst Keith & myself did the night tramp in the intermittent rain up to Cannibal Gorge hut arriving just after 10 (no dry wood). Keith persevered and lit a coal fire. I retired to the warmth of my Everest.

### SATURDAY

The trampers at the Cannibal Gorge hut slept late and had a gentle stroll up to Ada hut in fine weather, lit the fire with the obligatory wet wood and enjoyed a leisurely lunch. We were about to head to Christopher hut @ 3.00 when low and behold the others turned up passing the troll too! Keith & I headed down to meet Colleen & Trevor who were absolutely thrilled to see the smoke coming out the chimney. Needless to say a wild party commenced and we stayed to join in and so did the weather; rain continued to fall followed by sleet, spindrift and later through the night snow and so consequently we all awoke to a gorgeous day complete with this awesome ~ new snow. Now back to the party! It consisted of Trevor's cooking "demonstration (lesson) complimented by everybody's clothes drying antics. Woo Hoo!

### SUNDAY

Keith & I headed off about 8 keen to get going to the Christopher hut for lunch. The day was clear; absolutely beautiful. The wild horses content to eyeball us whilst grazing or resting. As usual Keith headed off track to make the trip more interesting. On arriving at the Christopher hut Keith was spewing when he noticed the door had been left open and there was possum poo on the benches and table. On checking the hut book the previous idiot had written "The door was left open and there was kea poo everywhere." (Well make up your own mind.)

We waited for the others to arrive and chatted for a while then once again we headed off to Anne hut going VIA of course. Scenery awesome. As we approached the Anne hut we noticed 4 others approaching from the other side, Mmmmmmm roomies. We spied the bivvy, it looked like the Sheraton. As we got closer the noise became very noticeable and then the line of packs on the decking became visible. %@#^%! There's a swarm! (22 Christian youths) So across the stream, over the fence, dropped the packs at the bivvy, over to the hut, out with two mattresses and into the bivvy, SORTED. Then firewood (some people seem to think fires suddenly appear once you arrive at the hut and mysteriously keep burning, funny that) and a quiet cosy night was had.

The others were accommodated by the group who were model hut mates on all accounts. Congratulations to these youngsters.

### MONDAY

The next morning we headed to Rockerby hut for lunch, which proved to be further than we all thought. We all got eaten by the sandflies there. The walk there was very uneventful, Kay & Martin stopping along the way for a long coffee brewing break, Trevor & Colleen caught us up at the Rockerby and dealt to Colleen's blisters. We headed off together for the Boyle hut. As we arrived early afternoon, and the boys were enjoying the fine weather which made the mountains around look well worth climbing so they headed off to the one opposite the hut. Climbing 1000 feet in 40 to 45 minutes and then exploring the tops at their choice. I sang the tune The Bear Went Over The Mountain. Their descent proved to be rather interesting when their route took them through some very dense matahuri, fortunately they were through it just before dark and were reasonably burnt out on return to the hut. A very enjoyable evening was had by all especially Colleen who discovered a remedy for her insomnia! (Classified)

### TUESDAY

Kay & Martin headed off early to be out as soon as whilst the Scotts and us got going about 10; heading for the Magdelan for lunch. The latter couple opting for the gorge route (of course), meeting up with Colleen & Trevor on the way near the hut. On reaching the hut, due the gorgeous weather, it was decided to bush bash to the Lake for lunch (the name escapes me). On our way there we saw deer sign and a pig wallowing spot as well. Keith gave me the lead to

test my compass skills needless to say I went the opposite way planned but happened upon the creek that ran up the side of the beech making the going a lot easier for a while until we dove back into the beech to head for the lake. We also had occasion to tryout our whistles which proved to be less than audible especially my rape whistle. So this is going to be looked into further. On arriving at the lake we had a boil up to reduce the likelihood of contracting Duck Itch and then proceeded down the valley via a few paddocks then onto the 4WD track and out. After a quick lipstick check and change into bathers (Colleen being the sole owner of the unmentionable garment) we headed down to the hot pools to feed the sandflies. (I recommend leaving your polys on when hot pooling in the daylight) That done we found a great feed at the Culverden pub as well as some beers and on the way into Christchurch stumbled into the Norwester for a coffee and cake. Great weekend overall with heaps of laughs.

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26 September 2004

## Mts Hamilton & Wall, Craigieburn Range:

We left the car park at the tractor shed on the Craigieburn Ski Club access road at 10.00 am and headed briskly up to Camp Saddle. Care was taken to get over lots of frozen snowdrifts on the track. Within half an hour we arrived at the upper bush edge. A clear sky and no wind with a very mild temperate had us removing lots of layers of clothing.

Rather than head over to Camp Saddle itself, we took to the steep snow slope in front of us; and made our way north on to the ridge that leads to Mt Hamilton (1922m). After a scroggin stop midway, we'd bagged the peak by 12.30 pm. Lunch was enjoyed for its magnificent views; but there was a cold nor-wester that we had to shelter from.

At 1.00 pm we headed south-west along the main divide and bumped into a group of skiers on the top of Nervous Knob! We made quick progress and arrived at the turnoff at 3.00 pm to travel east to Mt Wall (1874m). This side ridge was a "knotty" little one to crack, with the snow patches and its razor sharpness. On the top of Mt Wall at 3.45 pm we took time to sus out the route down. Doug's GPS info was helpful. Carry on east down to the big slip in front was the decision. Unfortunately the snow was too soft and deep to walk down so we had to take to our bums. That quick descent was matched by a fast scree run through the bush and we were back at the car at 4.10 pm.

After the usual stop at Springfield we were back in town at 6.00 pm feeling well exercised and with a nice ruddy glow to our cheeks. A top tramp, with capable congenial company.

Pam Crosswell, Bryce Williamson, Doug Forster, and Tim Broad (leader and scribe).

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8-10 October

## The Lyell

Firstly to those who were subjected to a less than interesting oral report from someone who abhors off-the-cuff speaking – sorry. I promise not to repeat that ever again.

The five of us left Christchurch late on Friday afternoon; stopping for a pint and roast at Culverden. We arrived at the camping ground late in the evening and pitched camp. When the rain came we were all snug in our little beds. Waking to a brilliant day we were able to dry the tents before we headed onto the track. Ambling along we stopped to look at the old cemetery and then the battery and continued along quite happily until we came across several tracks; one going up; one going round and the other with an arrow indicating a down hill track. Hmmmm. The uphill one came to a sign, which said "Walkway Ends" so we didn't take that one any further. The one going around went along quite nicely; Keith went up front and slashed more head room, but it was soon encroached on by a large slip and as one of our party was obviously not up to this challenge we re-routed and went down the Marked track - well that arrow was the only one we saw for quite some time and then we saw one brown one on the actual track. The track continued to get less obvious and we eventually bashed to the river; crossing it to find a flat mossed area featuring a big shingle fan. After lunch we headed down the gorge via the river to try and find the real track. Eventually we found what would prove to be a superb camp site in a grassed area that was obviously an old settlement; opposite there was a stream; Irishmans creek and the side of the settlement another; Englishmans creek. As we proceeded down the river looking for this track I glanced up and noticed a flat metal structure that looked like a roof or some part of something but as the boys were continuing on I didn't mention it but after

exploring back up the river and not finding either the stream or the track it was decided to return to the grassed area and set up camp. Once there I enquired as to what that roof thingy was; it was the hut that was marked on the map that hooked up with the track! Keith went to investigate to confirm. On setting up camp Keith and Andrew proceeded to make this awesome bonfire, which successfully dried off our socks and toasted the marshmallows as well as attracted some ghosts which we all heard once we snug in bed. After only four hours on the hoof, we retired well after ten, and were up early for a leisurely breakfast; after which Keith, John and I went up to explore Englishmans creek. While at camp, we spied a wild goat in premium condition, grazing in the brilliant sunshine, high up on the edge of a slip behind us. When we finished exploring the site and taking on a last look at the very old-fashioned daffodils growing amongst the Manuka scrub, we prepared ourselves the waddle out to the car park - two hours max. On leaving the car park we headed into Murchison for lunch and then onto the hot pools where Keith and I enjoyed a quick soak while the others fed the sandflies. Stopping at the Culverden for a pint before arriving back in Christchurch obscenely early after a particularly relaxing and interesting weekend.

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## Light Entertainment

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### Oxford Terrace Dictionary of Tramping Phrases and Fables.

**'Lost'**. There are several acknowledged degrees of lost.

(1) First degree lost, usually referred to as "a little bit off-track", "this is a short-cut", or "I thought we'd take the scenic route" (depending on the situation and the gullibility of your companions). Not so much lost, as not precisely found.

(2) Second degree lost. "We are not lost; I know exactly where we are on the map", but unfortunately this does not correspond to where you intended to be on the ground. If the situation cannot be rectified with some brisk tramping inside the time necessary for recrimination and then reconciliation, then you may be moving toward third degree lost.

(3) Third degree lost. Appropriate for the situation where you have lost your map (so that all hope of converting the situation to second degree lost is gone), and your compass, marbles and other pocket contents. Appeals to previously unrecognised religious deities and unlikely promises to live a better life in future and sew up holes in pockets immediately are symptomatic of this condition. Proper trampers never experience third degree lost, but all know someone else who ignored their advice and did.

Please post or email articles for the December newsletter to the Editor (Alastair Brown) by Friday 19 November 2004.

Email: [editor@ctc.org.nz](mailto:editor@ctc.org.nz)  
Post: PO Box 527, Christchurch.

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