



THE CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPER

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Affiliated with the Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ Inc.

Any similarity between the opinions expressed in this newsletter and Club policy is purely coincidental.

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Camping in the Ballroom, November 2011

The CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPING CLUB has members of all ages, and runs tramping trips every weekend, ranging from easy (minimal experience required) to hard (high fitness and experience required). We also organise instructional courses and hold weekly social meetings. We have a club hut in Arthurs Pass and have gear available for hire to members. Membership rates per year are \$40 member, \$60 couple, \$23 junior or associate, with a \$5 discount for members who opt to obtain this newsletter electronically.

For more about how the club operates, see the last page.

News

New Members Welcome: We welcome two new members to the club this month: Sam Newhouse and Celia Cameron. Please accept the club's warm welcome.

Tramper of the Month: Janet Spittlehouse

<p>Give us the short summary of yourself: job, family, where you are from, etc...</p>	<p>I'm from Sheffield, UK originally but I feel very much at home in Christchurch. I came here just over 3 years ago after being offered a job at the medical school. I work there full-time running a study of ageing and do my PhD (personality and health/wellbeing) part time.</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Janet on Moss Pass</i></p>	<p><i>When did you join the CTC?</i> September 2008</p>
	<p><i>How did you find out about the CTC?</i> From the fantastic website!</p>
	<p><i>Who was the first CTC person you met?</i> Alice Yung at club night. She was very friendly and welcoming.</p>
	<p><i>Did you tramp before joining the CTC?</i> Yes, but usually alone in the UK. I wasn't a member of a tramping club there and I would often go walking into the Peak District and Snowdonia on my own if I couldn't talk anyone into coming with me</p>
<p><i>What was your first day trip?</i></p>	<p>Bealey spur hut led by Easy Eric Norder. It was a long drive but well worth it. There was snow on the ground and it was a beautiful day. I remember getting to the hut and thinking it was quaint but a bit stinky.</p>
<p><i>Your first weekend trip?</i></p>	<p>To Cannibal Gorge Hut (on the St James Walkway), with Andrew Wrapson. When we got to there it was full of scouts so we carried on to Ada Pass Hut.</p>
<p><i>Who had the biggest influence on your tramping?</i></p>	<p>Probably my brother. I did my first walk with him and my Grandpa up Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa) when I was a kid. Since then we have done a few walking holidays together in the Lake District and Spain.</p>
<p><i>Have you served on the club committee?</i></p>	<p>Yes, I've been the new members rep for 3 years.</p>
<p><i>What is your favourite tramp?</i></p>	<p>Up Mount Faust and back down or on to the St James Walkway to stay in Boyle Flat hut. In the UK I really like Cadair Idris and Cnicht (both in the Snowdonia National Park, in Wales).</p>
<p><i>What future trips are you most looking forward to?</i></p>	<p>Anything. I haven't been able to go tramping for about 8 months now...</p>
<p><i>Have any mishaps or embarrassing/funny things happened to you while tramping?</i></p>	<p>I came across a group of trampers above the tarn on Helvellyn (lake district). They had no map or compass and inadequate clothing. One had broken his leg and another was having a panic attack because she didn't like heights (bit silly to go up a fell then?). I spoke to mountain</p>

	rescue and gave the co-ordinates. Within about 20 mins the group were plucked from the mountain in a Sea King helicopter. I never made it to the top of the fell!
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Calendar of trips and Social Events

Trips: Unless otherwise stated, club trips depart either from Shell Carlton Corner Service Station at 1 Papanui Road (next to Liquor Land and opposite Derby Street) or from Caltex Russley on the corner of Russley Road and Yaldhurst Rd. If the departure point is not specified in the trip schedule, you may assume it's Shell Carlton. Day trips usually depart at 8am on Saturday or Sunday. Weekend trips may leave on either Friday evening or Saturday morning.

New or prospective members intending to go on any trip must sign up at club night or contact the trip leader in advance.

Social: 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 is informal, and tea and biscuits served. If you can give a presentation or have ideas, please contact Alan Ross 384-6425 or email alan.d.ross@orica.com. Please note that formalities start at 7:50 pm sharp, and if there is a guest speaker, he/she will start at 8:10 pm sharp.

Thursday 24 November	Club Night
Newsletter folding night: After we have folded the newsletters we will have some social time.	
Saturday 26 November Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014
Cold Stream Hut: Starting from the Lake Sumner Road we cross the Hurunui River on a bridge. We then tramp up the Jollie Brook River branching off to Cold stream and continuing upstream to the Cold stream Hut (620m) for lunch. Easy river travel in bush country guaranteeing wet feet AND no hills to climb (120m total height gain). River crossing skills not needed.	Grade: Easy Closes: 24 Nov Map: BU23 Approx: \$25
Weekend 26-27 November Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz
Otehake Hot Pool: This is a classic club trip to some natural hot pools. Walk up via Lake Kaurapataka, which is a lovely spot for lunch. Have a great soak in the pools with dinner by an open fire. Next day a leisurely walk out via the rivers or the same way back. This trip is for all those people who could not come with us on the September trip due to high demand.	Grade: EasyMod Closes: 17 Nov Map: BU20 BU21 BV21 Approx: \$35

Sunday 27 November		Leader: Andrew Tromans 379-2686	
Departure point: Shell Papanui			
<p>Blimit-Aicken: A great Arthurs Pass climber's traverse, from Aicken (1863m) to Blimit (1921m). The ridge between Aicken and Blimit is a grade 2 route, with some significant gendarmes if there is still snow on the ridge (bypassed with care on one side or the other) and is especially gnarly close to Blimit (if you aren't keen on some grade 14 rock climbing, the guidebook advises a sidle out on the southern flank...). A great day out for all the fighting-fit rock-geckos in the club.</p>		<p>Grade: ModHard Closed: 24 Nov Map: BV20 Approx: \$25</p>	
Tuesday 29 November		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045	
<p>CTC Hill Climb - every Tuesday: This weekly event involves roughly 70 minutes of moderate paced brisk walking about the safer hill trails around/near Mt Vernon Park. Note that the Mt Vernon Park is still officially closed, so all who partake are entirely responsible for their own welfare. We meet at the corner of Hillsborough Tce & Heybridge Lane, just near The Crescent, as the Mount Vernon Valley Track car park is closed. No trip list. No cost. Just turn up.</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate Closed: 24 Nov Map: BX24 Approx: \$0</p>	
Thursday 1 December		Club Night	
<p>Annual BBQ - Heathcote Valley: Annual BBQ: <i>note venue change</i>. This year we are going to a much more central location. It's the top end of Heathcote park at the corner of Port Hills Rd and Bridal Path Road (just below the turn into the Gondala). Aim to arrive after 6:30pm. BBQs will be arranged. Bring all your own food and liquid + any sports gear for soccer or cricket. I will on purpose not say anything about water pistols.</p>			
Saturday 3 December		Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014	
Departure point: Shell Papanui		Tecbruce@gmail.com	
<p>3 Lakes and a mountain: Situated in the alpine Lake Coleridge basin tussockland area we set out from Lake Georgina (542m) climbing to the small Mount Georgina (944m) perhaps assisted by the norwester for some great views. Descending through open scrub country visiting the Red lakes before returning for rehydration - icecreams!</p>		<p>Grade: Easy Closes: 1 Dec Map: BW20 Approx: \$20</p>	
Weekend 3-4 December		Leader: Leader Required	
Departure point: Caltex Russley			
<p>Lake Florence: We start up the Rolleston River track to above the bushline, then cross the river and attempt to find a cunning route avoiding scrub and bluffs on to the ridge and up to a high camp at Lake Florence. Should be enough time to wander up Anderson Peak or even have a go at Mt Armstrong. Homeward via the ridge and basins of the Barron Range to Mt Barron then down the track.</p>		<p>Grade: Hard Closes: 24 Nov Map: BV20 Approx: \$40</p>	

Sunday 4 December Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Andrew Wrapson 980-6006
<p>Cave Stream: Have you ever driven past Cave Stream on the way to another tramp, yet not plucked up the courage to stop and go through it? This trip is probably the shortest that CTC has done in a long while, with the distance being about 400m through the cave. However, this is usually a brisk 4°C air temp, so please make sure you bring a torch, leggings and polypro top, and something to change into after the trip. Ice-cream after the cave as well - what could be better?</p>	Grade: Easy+ (water trip) Closes: 1 Dec Map: BW21 Approx: \$15	
Sunday 4 December Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Antony White 381-5993
<p>Search for the mountain at the end of the Culverden Straight: We are off to search for the mountain at the end of the Culverden Straight. By dead reckoning, this could be Mt Tinline, or Mt Malingson, or something else. The plan is to drive up to the Mt Lyford skifield carpark (killing most of the uphill, but not us in the process), then do tops travel to Mt Tinline, and even across to Mt Malingson if time permits. Please note that there will be an early start (7am) from the Shell (Z) garage at Papanui Rd / Bealey Ave and ask the trip leader if crampons and ice axe will be required. You will need to take extra water on this trip as there will be little up there. Looking back in the database, it appears that the club has not done this trip before, unless I (Antony) stand corrected? [David Henson has corrected him: Ed]</p>	Grade: Moderate Closes: 1 Dec Map: BU25 Approx: \$30	
Thursday 8 December		Club Night
<p>Under New Zealand with our guide Jonathan Carr: Once again Jonathan will try and turn us to the dark side with unfamiliar photos from familiar places! Even if darkness isn't your thing, Karst (cave) landscapes tend to offer some of the most scenic tramping in NZ.</p>		
Saturday 10 December Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014 Tecbruce@gmail.com
<p>Mt Arden: Starting from Mount Arden Station, Hawdon area, we follow Tommys Stream. Then head up onto the ridge line cresting Mount Arden to take in the views over the Middle Waipara River and checking out some other interesting tops for future conquest. This is the area behind The Deans, Mount's Grey and Keretu. Following on along the ridgeline we then descend down to McDonald Downs and off for rehydration or perhaps ice creams.</p>	Grade: Easy Closes: 8 Dec Map: BV21 Approx: \$20	

Weekend 10-11 December Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Gareth Gilbert 981-1737 gilbert.gareth@gmail.com	
<p>Lucretia Tarn: Lewis Pass area. We'll let the road do most of the climbing, with our trip starting at the top of Lewis Pass, climbing 400m to the bushline then on to gentle rolling tussock tops. Camping at the Lucretia Tarns at the head of Lucretia stream (10km horizontal, 1000m vertical). Return the same way. There are options to either camp at the tarns just above the pass (height gain about 600m) or to do a loop by dropping down into Lucretia Stream and out down the Nina Valley.</p>		<p>Grade: EasyMod Closes: 1 Dec Map: BT23 Approx: \$35</p>	
Sunday 11 December Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bryce Williamson 351-6366	
<p>Point 1696 - North of Woolshed Hut: This is probably somewhere that the club has not been before - we walk into Woolshed Creek Hut in the Mt Somers area, then do a loop trip incorporating Peache Saddle, then up to point 1696 (un-named). This will be a longish day, but as this is in summer we won't need to have an early start.</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 8 Dec Map: BX19 BX20 Approx: \$25</p>	
Thursday 15 December		Club Night	
<p>Final meeting of the year-pot luck: End of year social break up (formerly 'The Plate and Crate'). This is the annual potluck dinner and the final social event for the year. Doors open at 6pm and eating begins at 6:30pm. Bring plenty of food to share. You will need your own eating tools (plate and cutlery) plus liquid refreshments. This is a great social night to catch up with friends as well as club members who do not usually come to club nights. Venue: the usual club night meeting room (Hort. Centre).</p>			
Saturday 17 December Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360	
<p>Lake Rubicon: Out west past Springfield. A pleasant day hike that leads in over rolling farm land and on up the valley to the little gem that is Lake Rubicon nestled in the foothills of Mt Torlesse. A perfect place for lunch. Further ramblings may be possible up the valley.</p>		<p>Grade: Easy Closes: 15 Dec Map: BW21 Approx: \$15</p>	

Weekend 17-18 December Departure point: Contact Leader	Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz
Pre-Christmas at the Club Hut: Christmas is near and before everyone is either busy with the family or away on private trips, I'd like to organise a more social weekend at the club hut. Leaving on Saturday morning we can do some easy walks along the way - Korowai Torlesse Tussockland, Helicopter Hill or Cave Stream are just a few options. Potluck dinner at the hut or having dinner at the Wobbly Kea. Heading home on Sunday and, optionally, another walk. This trip is intended to be suitable for the whole family but I won't stop you if you want to climb Avalanche Peak.	Grade: All / Family Closes: 8 Dec Map: BV20 Approx: \$40 + Accom

Sunday 18 December Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931
The Pyramid: An adventurous moderate trip with all the prerequisites for a classic CTC tramp - wet feet, a little scrambling around the top, and a possible scree descent. The Pyramid (1608m) is a sustained steep climb on an old ridge track overlooking Hawdon and Sudden valley confluence. Once out of the bush and onto the rocky ridge you'll have a commanding view of Waimakariri Basin and surrounding peaks. There are a couple of descent options - a scree chute to Sudden Valley and then the Sudden Valley track down the stream and through the gorge, or through the bush into the Hawdon Valley.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 15 Dec Map: BV21 Approx: \$20

Thursday 22 December	Club Night
No club, it's Christmas	

Long Weekend 26-30 December might change, talk to the leader Departure point: Contact Leader	Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz
Christmas Trip: Plan A: Toaroha River, Zit Saddle, Kokatahi River, Crawford Creek, Styx River. This has the potential to become an epic. Plan B: Te Araroa - St Arnaud to Boyle Village (6-7 days) Plan C: Te Araroa - Lake Tekapo to Mesopotamia (3-4 days) The trip date can be changed, talk to the leader if you can't make it on certain days. The trip grade will be at the easier end of moderate.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 15 Dec Map: TBD Approx: \$TBA

Thursday 29 December Thursday 5 January	Club Night
No club, it's Christmas/New Year	

Saturday 7 January Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
Cutty Grass Hut: A nice little trip up the North Branch Ashburton Gorge on a farm track to an old musterers hut (580m) then a cooler return down the river gorge (wet feet). River skills not required		Grade: Easy+	Closes: 5 Jan
		Map: BX20	Approx: \$25
Weekend 7-8 January Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz	
Zampa Tops: The Zampa Tops are north east of the Lewis Pass above the Cannibal Gorge. They are rolling tops studded with tarns with many great camping sites and stunning views of the Spenser mountains. The usual route is to climb up to the tops from just below Henry Saddle then traverse the tops to find a camp site (total height gain is about 800m). Side trips are possible for the keen and a round trip can be made by returning via Ada Pass and the Cannibal Gorge or via the Henry Valley and Henry Saddle.		Grade: EasyMod	Closes: 29 Dec
		Map: BT23	Approx: \$40
Sunday 8 January Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bryce Williamson 351-6366	
Mt Temple: We start on the very friendly zig-zag path up to the Temple Basin Ski area. At this time of year the basin can be a riot of lovely Mt Cook lilies. Above ski club huts, the climb is a bit steeper, leading to the final scree up to Temple Col (1774m) and the ridge between Phipps and Blimit. From the Col we start the final rocky scramble up to Mt Temple itself (1913m, a bit over 1000m up from the highway). Make sure you contact the leader directly to put your name down because he will have the list.		Grade: Moderate+ (requires snow skills)	Closes: 5 Jan
		Map: BV20	Approx: \$20
Thursday 12 January		Club Night	
First club night of the year: Tonight is a social night of verbal trip reports from all the club trips over the Christmas/NewYear period and a chance to catch up with people you have not seen since last year.			
Saturday 14 January Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014	
Peraki Saddle to Hilltop - complements Scenery Nook tramp: A nice wander along the South Akaroa harbour ridge line, Starting at Peraki Saddle crossing over French Hill to Hilltop giving great views over Akaroa Harbour, Okuti Valley. Followed by an icecream etc. at the pub.		Grade: Easy	Closes: 12 Jan
		Map: BY24	Approx: \$20

Weekend 14-15 January Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Catherine Tatarniuk 03 358 0109 ctatarniuk@hotmail.com
<p>Sawcut Gorge: A stunning geological feature - the Sawcut Gorge is a must-do summer trip. Only about 5km each way to Isolation Hut via the gorge but the walking is riverbed, not formed track. Options from the hut include climbing up to Ben More, Isolation Hill, or visiting the 'Zoo'. We'll do a communal 'Tramping Potluck Dinner' for Saturday night, where those wanting to express their hut-kitchen culinary skills get their chance. Please PLEASE let the leader know what you are going to bring, so that we don't end up eating a tiny ration of main course, and 10 mega-rich chocolate desserts!</p> <p>We'll leave 7am Saturday morning, as it's about a 4 hour drive.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy+ (water trip)</p> <p>Closes: 5 Jan</p> <p>Map: BS28</p> <p>Approx: \$45</p>

Saturday 14 January Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Easy Erik Norder 980-8022
<p>Scenery Nook: Scenery Nook is a little cove out on Timu Timu head (Banks Peninsula). It's only a shortish stroll so what's so special? Just come and see one of the most stunning sea cliffs in New Zealand, curving round to make the cove into an amazing amphitheatre of layered rock in earthy hues of red, pink and purple and a huge dyke - the cross-sectional side of a cone of harder grey volcanic rock - exposed to rise straight up through the multi-coloured strata. It is an area of Significant Natural Value according to ECan. If you have never seen it before, now's your chance . . . Bring your togs - we might get to have a swim if the seals let us. And bring your camera - it's a great trip for photographers.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy</p> <p>Closes: 12 Jan</p> <p>Map: BX25</p> <p>Approx: \$25</p>

Sunday 15 January Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Antony White 381-5993
<p>Mid Hill (up from Lagoon Saddle): This trip has not been done by the club for quite some time. We start at the Lagoon Saddle end of the Cass-Lagoon track, head to Lagoon Saddle Hut, then leave the track and crank it up to the top of Mid Hill (1823m). We'll aim to come back much the same way, but may knock of Mt Bruce for some variety. Total height gain for this trip is around 1300m at least, and it will be a long day...need I say more!</p>	<p>Grade: ModHard</p> <p>Closes: 12 Jan</p> <p>Map: BV20</p> <p>Approx: \$20</p>

Thursday 19 January	Club Night
<p>Three Great Walks in NZ: Not all overnight trips involve carrying a tent, gas and cookers. Join Erik on three Great Walks - The Heaphy (78.4 km), Kepler (60 km) and Milford Tracks (53.5 km). The Great Walks are the Department of Conservation premier walking tracks, through some of the best scenery in the country. The huts and tracks on the Great Walks are of a higher standard than other tramping tracks, and many of the Great Walks have booking systems to manage visitor pressure - a bunk is guaranteed! They are not just for tourists! Come and see why these track are so popular.</p>	

Saturday 21 January Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Alastair Brown 343-5111
<p>Having received 16 survey results, Alastair has provisionally decided that (by popular demand), it will be run as teams of 2 or 3, with a tail end charlie, probably a mid point marshal, and most excitingly, direction decided by a coin-toss! But that's only after 16 responses to the survey, and to be properly democratic we'd like some more responses, so make your voice heard at www.surveymonkey.com/s/PT8QDZS, or ring Alastair for a paper version if you prefer. Stay tuned to the club email list for updates on this one.</p>	<p>Grade: All Closes: 19 Jan Map: Approx:</p>

Weekend 21-22 January Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Andrew Wrapson 980-6006 andrewwrapson@yahoo.co.nz
<p>Carroll Hut - Kelly Range: It's a short but steep climb from the carpark at Kelly Shelter to the Carroll Hut where we'll stay the night. Plenty of time to wander along the Kelly Range or relax in the hut.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 12 Jan Map: BV20 BU20 Approx: \$40</p>

Sunday 22 January Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014
<p>Port Hills Wandering 1 - Sugarloaf: It's time to take a good look at our local hills, sadly neglected after the earthquakes but still there, and, even higher now! Up to Sugar Loaf (496m) via various tracks then back down via other various tracks thus making a great view with lots of variosity! NOTE: Meet opposite Bengal Street on Cashmere Road, 10AM</p>	<p>Grade: Easy Closes: 19 Jan Map: BX24 Approx: \$0</p>

Thursday 26 January	Club Night
<p>Newsletter folding night: After we fold the newsletters we can have some social time.</p>	

Saturday 28 January Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: TBA (Watch the website)
<p>River Crossing Course: Book in to be in! Once again the club is running the ever-popular river crossing course. Space will be strictly limited to 14 persons so put your name down quickly. A river crossing course is really a 'must' for all trampers regardless of how hard or not-hard you tramp: with our varied climate and number of rivers sooner or later all trampers will have to face that decision to cross or not to cross.</p> <p>Participants will need a complete change of clothes (to put on at the end) and should have lace-on boots (sandals or gumboots are unsuitable). You will need a weekend-size pack with a bomb-proof waterproof pack liner. The pack should have the bulk and weight of a weekend size pack. Don't put your usual tramping gear but fill it with blankets, bed quilts, old clothes etc and weight as necessary (old plastic soft drink bottles filled with water, rocks or bricks - very easy to obtain now - if necessary). The course will be held at the Waimakariri or - if that is flooded - the Ashley River. It will finish around 1pm. Meet at the usual place and time for a CTC trip (8 am at the Shell Service Station).</p>		Grade: Training Closes: 26 Jan Map: Approx: \$5
Saturday 28 January Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leaders: Michael Newlove, Bruce Cameron 355-8360
<p>Flockhill Stream: Starting from Cave Stream carpark we follow Broken River to the Flock Hill Stream confluence then head into a small gorge following the stream up past waterfalls exiting below the Flockhill escarpment. Returning along Flock Hill's (998m) amazing ridge line stone formations to icecreams. Ideal water trip for newbies. Bring extra dry clothes.</p>		Grade: Easy (water trip) Closes: 26 Jan Map: BW21 Approx: \$20
Saturday 28 January Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Penny Coffey 332-7182
<p>Mt Oakden: Mt Oakden (1633m) is an interesting almost stand-alone peak between the Wilberforce and lovely Lake Coleridge. It's a sustained and fairly steep clamber for about 1100m up but once there you get stunning 360 degree views over the foothills and the lake and up the Harper, Wilberforce and Rakaia Rivers. There are a variety of options for the way up and down, making a great loop trip in the Canterbury foothills. Early start - contact the leader.</p>		Grade: Moderate Closes: 26 Jan Map: BW20 Approx: \$25
Weekend 28-29 January Departure point: Caltex Russley		Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344 richard.lobb@canterbury.ac.nz
<p>Mingha Deception: The classic Arthur's Pass weekend trip. Come on this great trip and see one of the best parts of the National Park. A good hut (Goat Pass) to stay in on Saturday night. Climbing up to Lake Mavis optional.</p>		Grade: EasyMod+ Closes: 19 Jan Map: BV20 Approx: \$35

Thursday 2 February Club Night

Iceskating in Sweden by our newest Swedish club member: Ice, ice baby - come and get cooled down in the summer heat and experience the almost effortless way of covering distance on iceskates. Lovisa will be talking and showing pictures on a main outdoor activity in Swedish wintertime - long distance iceskating.

Long Weekend 4-6 February Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931
Departure point: Caltex Russley

<p>The Three Passes: How about spending the long weekend doing one of the classic New Zealand tramps? The Three Passes route takes us from the Waimak bridge over to Lake Kaniere on the West Coast via the beautiful Harman, Whitehorn and Browning passes. Ice axe and crampons may be required for crossing Whitehorn Pass. Great river and alpine scenery all the way. There's nothing terribly difficult, but you do need to be comfortable with rough off-track tramping, be able to handle an ice axe and have a reasonable head for heights on the way up to Browning Pass. Hopefully we'll have enough people to make a cross-over trip.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 26 Jan Map: BV20 BV19 Approx: \$TBA</p>
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Long Weekend 4-6 February Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507
thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz
Departure point: Shell Papanui

<p>Ahuriri Conservation Area: The Ahuriri Conservation Area (near Lake Ohau) has some wonderful tramping country and is surrounded by high mountains, a great setting for a trip in an area not often visited by the CTC. There are many possible routes in this area, e.g. an EasyMod trip over the low saddle between Snowy Gorge Creek and Maitland Stream, or a more moderate loop up Watson Stream and back via Snowy Gorge Creek.</p>	<p>Grade: EasyMod to Moderate Closes: 26 Jan Map: BZ14 Approx: \$60</p>
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Sunday 5 February Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014
Departure point: Shell Papanui

<p>Ashley Saddle - 900m: Located East of Mount Oxford overlooking Coopers, Oxford Creeks, Ashley Gorge and Canterbury plains. We follow a 4WD track from Adams Hut to Big Ben Saddle (640m) then scoot along the ridge to Ashley Saddle (900m) just below Mount Oxford. (Potential for another Oxford loop)</p>	<p>Grade: Easy+ Closes: 2 Feb Map: BW22 Approx: \$15</p>
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Sunday 5 February		Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Rome Ridge to Avalanche Peak: Rome Ridge takes you up about 1100m from the Arthurs Pass road to about 1825m, under Rolleston and with with great views onto the Crow Glacier, Jellicoe Ridge, etc etc. Mostly it is just steep, but there are a few sections where rock scrambling skills and a head for heights come in useful - last time we did this there was even a bit of a permanent snow field. From the top we trot along the nice little spine of ridge parallel to the Crow to meet up with Scotts Track/Avalanche Peak (1833m). And it's all downhill from there! This will probably be a longish day and you need to be able to keep going and cope with the more 'interesting' stuff, but it's a great trip if you're fit and keen to give it a go.</p>	Grade: Moderate	Closes: 2 Feb
	Map: BV20	Approx: \$25

Saturday 11 February		Leader: Adrian Busby 325-5001
<p>Navigation Course: Ever been wandering around in the hills with no idea where you are? Sick of relying on others who get themselves and you lost? Then, you can find your way out of a blizzard at 2am in the morning with this highly insightful course. Adrian has extensive experience in navigating in all sorts of terrain, including the infamous Rakaia Island trip, where even dead possums can be used as navigational aids!</p> <p>Learn those essential navigation skills - map, compass and the basics of using a GPS - on this navigation course. Recommended for all club members who lack a sense of direction. There will be a preparation session on Friday night, 7pm - 9.30 pm (probably at the Horticultural Hall) which you will need to attend as well as the practical day on Saturday. On Saturday we will meet at 9am at Little River. This will be a full day, learning skills and putting them into practice 'in the field' including not just map reading but real navigation in the hills. Normal full tramping gear, pack, lunch, etc required. An important part of the course will be the selection of suitable equipment (compasses, GPS etc). It was foggy during the previous two years' which were perfect conditions to learn how to navigate your way in poor visibilty, so bad weather is no excuse for this course.</p>	Grade: Training	Closes: 9 Feb
	Map: Maps	Approx: \$20

Weekend 11-12 February		Leader: Antony White 381-5993
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Waimak Falls Hut - Waimak Col traverse: Waimak Col is a high, easy but snow covered pass from the head of the Waimakariri river into the Rolleston river. Saturday night is spent in or around the wonderfully situated Waimakariri Falls Hut which must be one of the most scenic huts in the National Park. Sunday is a long day climbing up and over the Col (ice axe required) then we will do either a long traverse on tussock slopes before dropping down to the Rolleston river where a track is picked up out to the railway and the road, or out via Mt Phillistine. Great mountain scenery surrounds you for most of this day.</p>	Grade: Moderate+ (requires snow skills)	Closes: 2 Feb
	Map: BV20	Approx: \$35

Saturday 11 February Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014
Broken River Exploring: Another river exploration. in the Castle Hill area. Starting at cave stream carpark we follow the Broken River down its gorge to the Avoca Hut. This river is ideal for River Crossing newbies. Its an interesting relatively safe but chalanging trip, ideal in hot weather to gain some rivercrossing experance. RIVERCROSSING SKILLS NEEDED. Enrole in the clubs course.	Grade: Easy (water trip) Closes: 9 Feb Map: BW21 Approx: \$20	

Saturday 11 February Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bruce James 332-3473
Mt Barossa: In the Clent hills, Mt Barrosa is a wee bit further west than Mt Somers and a wee bit lower too (1364m). It is an interesting geological area (Barrosa Andesite) and rumour has it that keen rock hounds can find geodes (whatever they are). Historians and linguists will appreciate that this is not the `red earth barossa', redolent of red wine, but the 1911 Peninsula Wars version - NZ was, after all, originally a colony . . . Remember that at least basic-level snow skills are probably necessary for any moderate trip at this time of year.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 9 Feb Map: BX19 Approx: \$20	

Weekend 11-12 February Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Liz Tanner 021-1400531 or 03-3273473
Akaroa Weekend: Liz has booked a beautiful place in Akaroa (\$20 per person) which we will use as a cosy base camp for some day walks on the Peninsula: Nikau Palm Gully on Saturday and Hinewai Reserve on Sunday. Shared tea on Saturday for those who stay overnight. If you instead just want to do a day trip, Liz will try to organise transport for you. Contact her.	Grade: All / Family Closes: 2 Feb Map: BX25 BY25 Approx: \$20+Accom	

Saturday 18 February Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
Mt Oxford: Question: why is it always a southerly on Mt Oxford? Answer: because we always go there when the forecast for wherever we wanted to go originally is truly awful. This gives Mt Oxford rather a bit of a tough task, so today we'll make it our first option. Lovely beech forest, open tussock tops, about 1000m of height gain, probably snow, a convenient stone-wall shelter to cower behind for lunch at the top, and - if it is a good day - the possibility of a westward trek across the tops and a loop back... what more could you want?	Grade: Easy+ Closes: 16 Feb Map: BW22 Approx: \$15	

Saturday 18 February Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Andrew Wrapson 980-6006
Ashley Gorge: Ashley Gorge is one of the best picnic spots in Canterbury and a popular place to explore. Depending on water levels we hope to do a bit of floating down the gorge, and getting wet is the whole point of the trip. Another opportunity to practice all that river crossing training if you did the December course? Great fun in the sun (we hope). Talk to the leader if you're not sure what's involved in this summer water trip, and come along for one of the club's most popular social outings.	Grade: Easy (water trip) Closes: 16 Feb Map: BW23 Approx: \$15	
Saturday 18 February Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014 Tecbruce@gmail.com
Ashley Gorge - top half: Starting at the Townsend / Ashley Rivers confluence and entrance to the Ashley Gorge we travel down the gorge in the river visiting a hut and guaranteeing wet feet, and maybe more. Exit at the Middle Bridge. We then take vehicles to Ashley Picnic Ground and go in search of a lost 20m Waterfall. Joining up with lower gorge trampers it's off for rehydration. Be sure to bring extra clothing to change into.	Grade: Easy Closes: 16 Feb Map: BW22 Approx: \$15	
Weekend 18-19 February Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Gareth Gilbert 981-1737 gilbert.gareth@gmail.com
Kirwans Hut: Kirwans Hut is in an area of old gold workings on the west coast near Reefton. Superb views from Kirwans Hill and many mining relics to ponder on as you climb through red beech then silver beech forest to the hut. The track was originally used to cart heavy equipment by horse so is cut to a gentle grade but it is around 900 m height gain from the road to the hut.	Grade: EasyMod Closes: 9 Feb Map: BS21 BS22 Approx: \$50	
Weekend 18-19 February Departure point: Caltex Russley		Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344 richard.lobb@canterbury.ac.nz
Turtons Saddle to Lake Heron crossover: On Saturday we'll have an easy walk from Double Hill Run Rd beside the Rakaia, over Turtons Saddle and in to Comyns Hut, with perhaps a detour up into the range on the true right of Turtons Stream to get the blood flowing. There we should meet the ModHard party travelling in the opposite direction (see Lake Heron to Turtons Saddle). On Sunday we'll have a longish day criss-crossing the North Branch of the Ashburton/Hakatere River and Round Hill Creek, making our way up and over Clent Hills Saddle to emerge in Heron Basin where, hopefully, we can find the vehicle left by the ModHard party. There will probably be just a single car load of trampers going each way, so get your booking in early.	Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 9 Feb Map: BW20 BW19 BX19 Approx:	

Weekend 18-19 February		Leader: David Sutton 348 5998
Departure point: Contact Leader		
<p>Lake Heron to Turtons Saddle crossover: We'll probably leave Christchurch on Friday night, drive to near Lake Heron and walk into Double Hut by headlamp. On Saturday we'll cross Clent Hills Saddle and make our way downstream to meet up with the Moderate party at Comyns Hut (see previous trip description). On Sunday we'll hump our packs straight up from Comyns Hut to Pt 2114m, the high point of the Black Hill Range, known as Fruit Cake Peak. Then we'll make our way along the the ridge over several peaks as far as Black Hill, from where we'll descend to Turtons Saddle and out to the car left by the moderate party. Depending on the group and enthusiasm levels, a less demanding second day would be to traverse the range to the west of Turtons Stream over Pt 1836m. Also, rather than leaving on Friday night, a very early departure on Saturday morning is possible - check with the leader. There will probably be just a single car load of trampers going each way, so get your booking in early.</p>	Grade: ModHard to Hardish depending on route	Closes: 9 Feb
	Map:	
	Approx:	

Sunday 19 February		Leader: Antony White 381-5993
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Bealey Spur to Jordon River: There will be an early start of 7am, and it will be a long day. The plan is that we will head up the Bealey Spur, past the hut, and up to point 1875. Then, we will porceed down to the Jordan Saddle, down the stream to Turkey Flat and head back to the car. This will be a distance of around 26km, and a height gain of about 1300m, however, I don't recall the club leading this trip for a number of years.</p>	Grade: Moderate+	Closes: 16 Feb
	Map: BV20	
	Approx: \$25	

Saturday 25 February		Leader: Easy Erik Norder 980-8022
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Bealey Spur: Start above the baches at Bealey Spur and climb up through sheltering beech forest. On the way to the charming old hut at about 1240m, the ridge opens up in places to reveal immense views over the Waimakariri River and to the mountains beyond. The hut is about a 450m climb from the cars and the round trip is about 10km. More adventurous trampers can go up Hut Spur above the bushline for a bit to admire the impressive horseshoe ridge around to Blind Spur from a safe distance.</p>	Grade: Easy+	Closes: 23 Feb
	Map: BV20	
	Approx: \$20	

Sunday 26 February Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014
Charing Cross: With a name like this we have got to have a look. Located in the Tekoa Range a nice peak (1000m) above the Pahau River in the Culverden area looking over the Amuri Plains, Island Hills, Huruni River & Huruni Peak. Easy farm country. Tekoa is the distinctive snow covered pyramid-shaped peak seen from Weka Pass.	Grade: Easy Closes: 23 Feb Map: BU24 Approx: \$20

Sunday 26 February Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344 richard.lobb@canterbury.ac.nz
Mt Harper: In the Erewhon region, near Lake Emma; walk starts near Lake Camp. The climb to the summit (1829m) offers ever-changing views of the Lake Heron basin, Ashburton catchment and the craggy Arrowsmiths range. From the top we get stunning views into the Rangitata River, Mesopotamia station and Butler Downs. We return via Balmacaan Saddle to make a loop trip.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 23 Feb Map: BX19 Approx:

Trip Report: Inland Pack Track

11-13 November 2011

As mentioned in the club trip description, the Inland Pack Track is a route cut back in the 1860s to facilitate access to the new gold fields, long before the current coastal road was constructed in the 1920s. The long weekend's trip description, as stated in the club newsletter, was to start up the Fox river on Friday, with some cave exploration on the way to our first camp site at the Ballroom Overhang, using this site to hide from the forecast rain expected that night. Saturday was to involve a relaxed wamble up Dilemma and Fossil Creeks and to camp somewhere near the Taurus Major submergence on Bullock Creek, hoping the rain had done its bit by then. Sunday was to complete the Pack track and have pancakes at Punakaiki before the trip home. A nice easy walk through some extremely beautiful country.

This is not quite how things panned out.

A party of 7 keen explorers picked up Uncle Roddus at Springfield on a pleasant Canterbury morning, before heading off on our weekend's adventures. First stop (apart from morning tea at Arthurs Pass) was Dolomite Point, where we played tourists and visited the legendary Pancake Rocks, which is, I believe, where we were at 11:11am on the 11/11/11, although we were all too enthralled with the rock formations and too busy snapping away with our cameras to actually check the time. The sea was fairly calm, so we didn't get to see the blowholes in action. What with two Germans, one Iranian, one Irish, one Canadian and three kiwis in our group, it wasn't surprising that this was the first visit to the Pancakes for many in the group.

Next stop was the Fox River and the start of our massive expedition. We readied ourselves while the drivers did the obligatory car shuffle ready for our resurgence on Sunday.

The weather was holding as we headed up the Fox in overcast but warm and humid conditions. At the track junction, where the Pack track crosses the river, we ditched our packs, as the Activities Manager (Jonathan) took over from the Logistics Manager (Thomas), grabbed our headlights and a layer of warm clothing and headed off for the first of our weekend side trips to do a bit of Spelunking in Babylon Cave. After a steep and slippery, but short, climb through the bush on a barely discernible track lined with stinging nettle at both ends and where Uncle Roddus gave a short demonstration of downhill freeform somersaulting after placing too much faith in a rotten branch, we arrive at the gaping mouth of Babylon. We all excitedly climbed down into this rather large cavern and proceeded to travel up and down over big piles of rocks and wade through the narrower section with a flowing subterranean stream before reaching the half way point of the cave, beyond which we would need a permit to proceed. Still we had travelled several hundred metres. We took a group photo as evidence of our Spelunking and then proceeded to travel back to the surface.

Reunited with our packs, we continued on to our evening's destination. The limestone cliffs were starting to close in on the river as we progressed upstream and the natural beauty of the area was starting to become more apparent. We reached the Ballroom Overhang in the early evening and were suitably wowed by its size and the wonderful colours and patterns in the layers of rock. Tents were pitched, meals were cooked and discussions were had about how impressed we were with both Babylon and Ballroom. After eats, much discussion was had about what the Morrow's plans would be. Activities Manager had several items of interest he was willing to show us and Logistics Manager was very nonchalant about whatever plan we chose to adopt. As every one was so impressed with Ballroom as a campsite and the forecast rain had so far failed to materialise, it was suggested that we stay at Ballroom for both nights(to avoid camping in possible rain and repacking and re-pitching tents) and spend Saturday indulging in the very interesting and worthwhile activities that Activities Manager was suggesting. Finally we decided to wait until morning and see what the weather was doing before making the final decision.

The forecast rain didn't arrive and a bit of a lie in was had. The motivation to walk longish distances on this second day was ranging from low to over-enthusiastic and so much more discussion was had to what plan we would adopt. After Breakfast, it was pretty much decided to stay at Ballroom a second night and thus allow Activities Manager to wow us with his local knowledge. The first activity of the day then, was to walk up Welsh Stream and visit a small cave with some glow worms and a waterfall in it.

Welsh Stream is a stunningly beautiful moss covered creek bed flowing through the towering limestone cliffs on a limestone bed and greatly impressing the group with its greenery and mini waterfalls and cool rock erosions. The cave arrived and Activities Manager sourced 3 inflated inner tyre tubes hidden in the forest. The cave was full of deep water and so those wanting to explore had to strip down to bare minimum clothing and paddle in using the inflated tyre tubes. Logistics Manager was first in, followed closely by Uncle Roddus, but, as the others teased him about later, as the water started to envelop his midriff, Logistics Manager 'Shrieked like a girl', said it was too cold and backed out as Uncle Roddus passed him, also letting out a little shriek as the not so warm water passed his neither regions. Continuing on and soon fully immersed in the water and paddling along with the aid of the tyre tube, Uncle Roddus was soon joined by Andrea and Chantal as we paddled about the cave checking out the waterfall, blocked by a large tree in the recent floods, and we then plunging ourselves into darkness to enjoy the glow worms. The rest of the party declined to get quite so wet.

Back at Ballroom, with the weather still not raining, another lengthy discussion was had as

to what the plan for the rest of the day would be, and it was finally decided to definitely stay the second night at Ballroom, thus negating the car shuffle, and abandoning the original trip plan. Activities Manager had enough activities in the area to keep us enthralled for the rest of the day and informed us that the best of the scenery was actually contained in the area we were to explore.

Leaving Ballroom again, we backtracked down the Fox to Dilemma Creek and reconnected with the Pack Track. Continuing up Dilemma, we admired the awesome limestone walls that enclosed us on both sides of the creek and more pancake rocks, some of which are in a more uplifted angle than their seaside brethren. Next we got to travel up stream in another wonderfully moss coated creek, called Waterfall Creek, to (you Gussed it) a waterfall. Photos were taken and we climbed to the top of the waterfall for more pictures and a bite to eat.

Back in Dilemma and Activities Manager had commented several times about the state of the area after what appears to have been some major flooding recently, as well as his noticing that the water levels were still higher than normal. This contributed to his slight difficulty in finding the target of our next adventure and he soon disappeared from our view as the rest of us were putting our noses into various nooks and crannies looking for a certain cave. We did find a small cave where the creek submerges to come out further down by Waterfall Creek. Activities Manager soon reappeared, finding what he was looking for and then explained to us that this excellent glow worm cave had been damaged in the floods but was still worthwhile checking out and he would guide us in two separate groups. Getting into this grotto, involved squatting down almost in the water lapping at the entrance and then waddling over some rocks blocking the entrance before wading through the narrow bit in waist deep water and then climbing up and over a large rockfall before descending into the glow worm dell. Once headlights were extinguished and our eyes adjusted and the worms also readjusted, we settled down to marvel at the awesome display of this galaxy of glowing worms. Everybody was suitably impressed.

The rest of the days activity was to continue up Dilemma and into Fossil Creek, following the Pack Track in the picturesque Fossil Creek until we got to where the track leaves the creek bed and disappeared into the forest. After encountering two wild goats in the creek bed, we reach the aforementioned destination by late afternoon. Although Activities manager recommended another waterfall about 1km further up the track, it was decided to flag this and start on the return to Ballroom.

We arrived back at Ballroom after leaving Dilemma for a late-ish dinner, after which Myra exclaimed that she was 'Attacked' by a giant eel down at the river while washing her dishes. We all rushed down, hoping to see this beast and instead saw this lovely small greenish/yellow eel of the like none of us had seen before.

A pleasant night was then had in front of a small fire, socialising, spotting the possums and rats hanging round the perimeter of the camp and consuming the large quantities of chocolate that Moss had trucked in in his pack.

On Sunday we had a longer lie in before breaking camp. Chantal discovered a rat had chewed through the front of her jacket to get at some nuts she had in a bag in a pocket. Logistics Manager, also doubling as Transport Manager, left camp earlier with Transport Under Manager to do the car unshuffle, while the rest of us finished packing and plodded off in light drizzle back out the Fox.

Our final activity, before heading back to civilisation was to play tourists again and check out the short Truman's track and rocks/beach below. Some impressive Rimu and Rata were encountered amongst the Nikau palms and the formations on the beach were very

cool.

For more photos of this trip, check out Uncle Roddus Blog:

<http://roddus.blogspot.com/2011/11/fox-riverdilemma-creek-11-13th-november.html>

Participants: Thomas Matern, Andrea Zahn, Jonathan Carr, Myra Daly, Moss Hosseinzadeh, Chantal McCarthy, Catherine Tatarniuk and Rodney Erickson

More about the CTC

Club Officers

<i>President:</i>	Warwick Dowling	981-2045	<i>Day Trip Organiser:</i>	Antony White	381-5993
<i>Senior Vice President:</i>	David Watson	981-7929	<i>Weekend Trip Organiser:</i>	Thomas Matern	385-3507
<i>Junior Vice President:</i>	Thomas Matern	385-3507	<i>Social Convenor:</i>	Alan Ross	384-6425
<i>Secretary:</i>	Chantal McCarthy	360 3752	<i>Gear Custodian:</i>	Fiona Green	359 5965
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Andrea Zahn	382 1044	<i>Editor:</i>	Richard Lobb	351-2344
<i>Club Captain:</i>	Adrian Busby	325-5001	<i>Hut Convenor:</i>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196
<i>New Members Rep:</i>	Janet Spittlehouse	981-1944			

Our Club Hut: In the Arthur's Pass township, with all the comforts of home including real showers and inside flushing loos (BYO toilet paper!), but with the mountains at the back door. 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 Dave Watson 981-7929; or if he's away, Rex Vink 352-5329; or if they're both away, Andrew Wrapson 980-6006. Hut fees are \$10 member, \$10 member's partner, \$20 non-member, \$5 kids under 12. If you find any problems or maintenance required, please tell Dave.

Equipment Hire: The Club has a range of equipment for hire. The Gear Custodian is Fiona Green, ph. 359 5965. Note: club gear assigned to you is your responsibility; please take care of it. Please make sure you put tents inside your pack. Tents attached to the outside of your pack can be easily punctured when bush bashing or even lost. This may result in serious damage to your bank account! Please air and dry tents after taking them on a trip even if they are not used, and report any damage to the gear custodian.

Rates for Gear Hire:

Tent	\$3/person/night
Ice axes, crampons	\$4 per weekend
Harnesses, snow shovel	\$4 per weekend
Large/small weekend packs	\$2 per weekend
Helmets	\$2 per day
Personal locator beacons	Free

Please have stuff for the next newsletter to the editor
(editor@ctc.org.nz) by 22 January 2012 – Thanks.